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# Inside:





Hī MP Ali Al-Ansi: "Yemenis have united against the corrupt regime"



Gender analysis of young Arab's

# Yemeni youth movements consolidate

By: Nadia Al-Sakkaf

SANA'A, March 13 - The United States is concerned that there is no clear alternative or transition plan should Saleh's regime collapse. It believes that his departure will lead to chaos and instability in Yemen.

This view was conveyed by US ambassador to Yemen Gerald M. Feierstein, who reiterated his country's position on Yemeni affairs in a meeting with selective media outlets on Saturday.

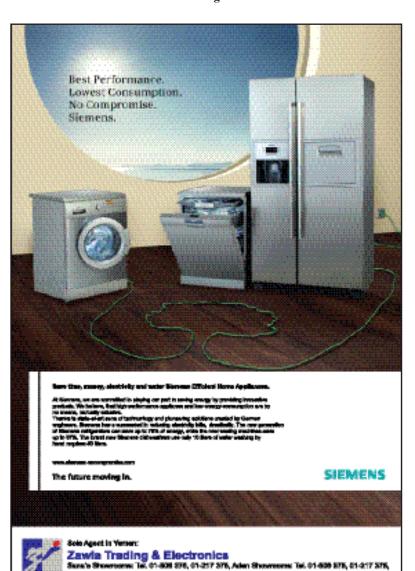
"Our problem is that the [Yemeni] people are demanding [the ouster of Saleh] without any idea how they will manage the government and prevent a disaster for the Yemeni people," said Feierstein.

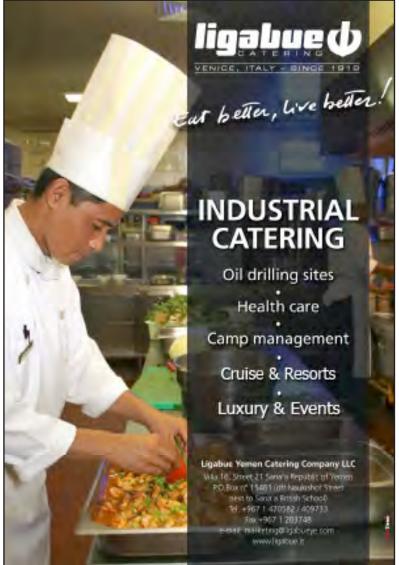
He said that his office has not received any concrete proposals by either the opposition parties or the prodemocracy youth protesters at Sana'a University explaining how the country will be managed during a transition period and how the new president will come to power.

"The people in the streets need to give us something to work with," said



The medical committee is just one of the several committees organized by youth protesters that are managing the demonstrations at Sana'a University. These youth movements are now issuing press releases and plans for a new government.





Meanwhile, one day after Feierstein's meeting with the media, a coordination council established by youth protestors at Sana'a University issued a list of seven conditions that must be met if the demonstrations are to be brought to a close. These seven demands are also meant to serve as the basis for a national political program in a post-Saleh era.

The first two conditions are the immediate removal of Saleh, his family, his close relatives and his subordinates from power, and the subsequent formation of a temporary presidential council made up of representatives drawn from Yemen's four main political powers (as well as a fifth representative appointed by the national security and military establishment).

This council will oversee the implementation of the five remaining demands on the list, which include amending the constitution so as to transfer power to the parliament, approving the proportional list system as the means of forming executive power and a unity government, conducting free and fair parliamentary and presidential elections after reforming the voter registrar and electoral system, bringing to justice all those who have been involved in attacks against protestors - including those who planned, managed, facilitated or funded the violence - and finally, removing corrupt members of the former regime from government and administrative bodies.

A member of the coordination council who requested to remain anonymous said that the university protestors are currently putting together a full-fledged political program, to be submitted to the Friends of Yemen in the hopes of garnering international support for a new regime.

They want to inform the Friends

of Yemen that their planned meeting in Riyadh will be illegitimate, as the current regime does not represent the Yemeni people or their interests" said the source.

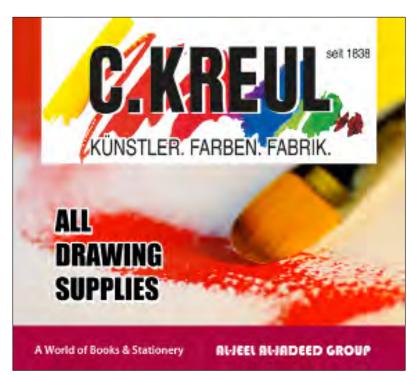
The proposal is still in draft form but there are efforts – assisted by activists, analysts and university professors – to finalize it soon. They are also working to resolve various disputes amongst the youth groups, such as who the four representatives in the transitional presidential council will be.

Speculation from "Change Square" in front of Sana'a University suggests that the four representatives will include one youth member, one tribal member, one JMP member and one GPC member. It is also rumoured that Ali Muhsin Al-Ahmar will be included as the military representative.

Although the coordination council is not the direct representative of all protestors at the university, many are represented by two sister entities: the Revolutionary Coalition of Youth for Peaceful Change (which includes 12 organizations under its umbrella) and the Organization of Liberal Yemeni Youth. All statements made thus far reflect a consensus amongst all three organizations over the seven-point plan. As such, the plan may be considered an accurate representation of the protestors' collective opinion.

On the sidelines, there is also an ongoing public education campaign in Change Square whereby activists are explaining the rights guaranteed by the constitution to other protestors from various backgrounds, including tribesmen. Other topics of discussion include the importance and leverage of peaceful protests, and the different chemicals and attack tactics that may be used against protestors.

Continued on page 2







\* Tel. 01-609 S75, 61-917 S75,



## Former GPC MP attacked following resignation

Story and photos by Sadeq Al-Wesabi

SANA'A, Mar. 13 — Last Wednesday, ten days after his resignation from the ruling party, Mohammed Abdullah Al-Qadhi's house was attacked by sol-

The Yemen Times visited Al-Oadhi's home on Friday to interview him about the attack

The house was full of sheikhs, MPs and other individuals who had gathered to declare their solidarity with him. Although Al-Qadhi used to travel without the protection of bodyguards, his home is now surrounded by heavy security and armed personnel.

Opposition and independent MPs condemned the attack on Al-Qadhi's house, indicating in a public statement that the assault took place because of the former MP's stance against the regime and his resignation from the

"I was in my home with my friends and suddenly heard shots being fired

following the shooting

at my house. I rushed to see what was happening and I saw my guards shoot at some attackers, but I asked them to stop shooting," he told the Yemen Times.

Al-Qadhi indicated that he wished to speak with the attackers so as to determine what they wanted, but they refused to converse. "I moved my soldiers inside and sent one of my secretaries to figure out the motive behind their attack.'

"My brother and one of my soldiers were shot by them and they are in a hospital now," he said.

"I think that one of the president's sons sent those soldiers to attack my house," added Al-Qahdi.

Before his resignation, Al-Qadhi was an outspoken figure within the GPC who would often disagree with his fellow party members. "I was always giving different opinions and was always seen by the GPC as a sort opponent."

He said that he chose to announce his resignation at this time on account of the recent killing of peaceful prodemocracy demonstrators in different



governorates

Al-Qadhi criticized the sending of pro-government thugs to peaceful demonstrations. "This new strategy of the government will lead to more violence," he said.

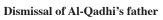
"The president's supporters are not honest. In Yemen, economic factors play a big role and anybody can recruit some poor people to do whatever they want in exchange for money," he said.

dent's recent concessions are utterly ineffective at this stage. "If he had offered these concessions one year ago, it would have been a heroic gesture and all Yemenis would have liked him," he explained.

He said that president's new initiative has come only after hundreds of thousands of people have resorted to

"President Saleh thinks that Yemen is convince him that most Yemenis hate him," he said.

In Al-Qadhi's opinion, "The revolution will start in Taiz. People there are more educated, more organized and stronger."



Al-Qadhi's father was the commander of a military unit between Lahj and Al-Habeelain who was recently dismissed from his position.

press pro-democracy demonstrators in Aden, he refused. He was then suddenly dismissed by the government,"

"There may be a link between my



"There will be more resignations from the GPC for the same reason," he

Al-Qadhi believes that the presi-

street protests demanding his ouster.

nothing without him. He believes that all Yemenis love him. It's not easy to

"When asked to send soldiers to rehe said.

resignation and dismissal of my father," he added.

## Continued from Page 1

Just a few of the bullet holes along the outer wall of Al-Qadhi's home.

Armed guards and sandbags can be found outside of Al-Qadhi's house

#### Yemeni youth movements consolidate

The education campaign is one of many activities taking place at the protest area which indicate a sense of coordination, organization and a united front by the protestors.

Moreover, on its Facebook page (www.facebook.com/CCYRC), the coordination council clearly states that dialogue with President Saleh is out of the question, as the council's main objective is to end the current regime.

The Yemeni Revolution Coalition is also active on Facebook and Twitter (www.facebook.com/Yemen. Revolution; www.twitter.com/YERevolutions), and is engaged with other media outlets including newspapers, websites, SMS news, and international email correspondence reflecting the youth's messages, positions, and latest news.

However, the US ambassador continued to urge Yemenis to give Saleh another chance and to sit with him at the negotiating table. He claimed that street protests will not achieve anything, as they are blocking dialogue and causing the deaths of innocent

Realizing that many Yemenis question Saleh's credibility on the basis of past experiences, Feierstein insisted that the situation today has changed. He urged the JMP opposition coalition

to test Saleh's sincerity at the negotiat- However, the embassy has said that it ing table and to agree upon a plan of action that includes milestones to track the progress of proposed reforms

According to Gregory Johnsen, former Fulbright Fellow in Yemen and Ph.D. candidate at Princeton's Near Eastern Studies Department, "The US is calling on the JMP to do something that it can't possibly do at this moment in Yemen. It is impossible for the JMP to be seen as giving Saleh a lifeline. The JMP has little support as it is in Yemen and negotiating with Saleh would only destroy what little popular support it does have."

#### **Anticipating the worst**

The US embassy has repeatedly called for its citizens in Yemen to leave the country. In its latest travel warning, dated March 6th, the State Department warned US citizens of the high threat to personal security in Yemen due to terrorist activities and civil unrest.

Although he admits that there is no immediate threat to US citizens today, the US ambassador said that this warning is a precautionary measure taken against the backdrop of potential disaster or even civil war, which may break out if the two parties - the GPC and the JMP – continue to maintain their hard line positions.

There are between 70,000 to 80,000 Americans in Yemen, most of whom are Yemenis with dual citizenship. would provide evacuation assistance to all those who request it.

Ambassador Feierstein believes that the potential for violence in Yemen is even worse than in Libya, considering that most Yemenis own weapons. Weak state institutions coupled with the risk of using arms is a significant

However, in a recent interview with Yemen Times Shiekh Hameed Al-Ahmar, member of the dialogue committee that includes the JMP and the GPC, contradicted this notion by stating that the presence of arms could be seen as a balancing factor that might possibly prevent a civil war from taking place.

Ambassador Feierstein also emphasized that Yemenis should worry about the economic situation in addition to escalating political instability.

"We do have security concerns, but we also have serious concerns on the direction of the Yemeni economy. While the government is focused on political issues, Yemen's economy is going to face huge challenges," he said.

He added that because political issues are not been properly addressed through dialogue at present, there will also be problems in addressing critical economic challenges, such as rising food and fuel prices, the budget deficit and continuing economic uncertainty.

#### **VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) invites Yemeni Nationals to apply for the following positions with "The Local Governance Support Programme"



Title: Communication Specialist Type of Contract: Service Contract - SB5 Duration of Assignment: 1 year renewable Duty Station: Sana'a, Yemen

#### Responsibilities:

- Preparation and conduct, in close collaboration with MOLA, of stakeholder analysis and communications needs assessments for National Programme implementation and LGSP
- Designing, in collaboration with MOLA, of a comprehensive communication strategy and annual communication and outreach plans in support of LGSP and the National Programme for the central and local levels
- Analysis of requirements and synthesis of proposals on ways to integrate advocacy and communication strategies into all aspects of
- the National Programme and LGSP programmatic interventions during programme formulation.

  Promotion and dissemination, in the framework of the project, of UNDP corporate advocacy materials for launching flagship initiatives and publications such as the Human Development Report, results of MDGs and others, focusing on dissemination of this information
- Support to the advocacy and knowledge-sharing/communication initiatives of national counterparts to mobilise stakeholders that are critical to implement the reforms proposed in the NSTLG (including local stakeholders)
- Identification of storylines for publications in UNDP publications and local media and drafting of substantive articles contributing to debates on decentralization and local governance.
- Organization and implementation of joint UN information campaigns (UN Day, World AIDS Day, Anti-Corruption Day, etc.)
- Ensured access for journalists to subject matter experts. Dissemination of communication materials and media mobilisation through a regularly updated and populated contact database.
- Establishing and maintaining links with different media (including identifying local governance/decentralization focal points in the media), building the capacity of the media focal points to communicate local governance/decentralization issues.
- Analysis of MOLA institutional, organizational and individual capacity needs in communications and public relations Organization and facilitation of capacity development and training events for the relevant staff in governorates and districts to support implementation of the National Programme
- Provision of technical advice, coaching and mentoring to MOLA staff and governorates and districts in the designing and implementation of local communications strategies and plans in support of NSTLG and the National Programme
- Timely specialist advice on the available knowledge repositories and learning resources in public relations and communications for MOLA and other key ministries engaged in implementation of the National Programm

- Master's degree in development, media relations, journalism, publishing or related field
- At least 5 years of relevant experience at the national or international level in public relations, communications or advocacy, preferably in the governance or development context.
- Experience in the use of specialized publishing software, such as MS Publisher, Adobe Photoshop, MS Movie Maker and such like. Fluency in English and Arabic.

Title: Gender Specialist Type of Contract: Service Contract - SB5 Duration of Assignment: 1 year renewable Duty Station: Sana'a, Yemen

#### Responsibilities:

- Technical support to mainstream gender in the National Programme design and implementation
- Provide support to the GWD and WNC to contribute to the design and implementation of National Programme based on analysis to ensure that the Programme adequately addresses gender issues
- Technical support to mainstreaming gender in the local governance legal framework and policies
- Support to the GWD, WNC, women organizations, to participate in the Legal Reform Group and mainstream gender in the constitutional amendments, new LG law, its executive by laws and policies Technical support to GWD in MOLA and GDWA to mainstream gender in all issues related to local governance reform in context of
- Support GWD to provide inputs in MOLA's planning process to ensure gender -sensitive and responsive planning, based on analysis
- Support capacity building in awareness raising and advocacy on women's participation for GWD and General Directorates for Women's Affairs (GDWA) at Governorate Level

Identification of issues and risks relating to gender in local governance and development and submission of timely and comprehensive

- proposals and recommendations to the LGSP management on how these issues should be addressed Design and conduct of capacity building and capacity development programmes, including workshops, seminars and other activities to support gender mainstreaming for the national counterparts and LGSP staff in the context of the National Programme and LGSP
- Timely specialist advice on the available knowledge repositories and learning resources in gender, gender mainstreaming and women empowerment for MOLA and other key ministries engaged in implementation of the National Programm
- Support to the development and introduction of manuals and guidelines to promote gender-responsive local governance and development at the governorate and district levels
- Support to establish and make functional the Community of Practice for Gender in Local Development at the MOLA, including development of mechanisms and systems to ensure regular knowledge building and sharing between relevant stakeholders at the subnational level
- Identification and synthesis of best practices and lessons learned in gender mainstreaming directly linked to LGSP programme goals; production and dissemination of best practices and lessons learned papers
- Creation of partnerships with key government partners and local authorities at the central and local levels, to ensure their engagement and relevant input in gender mainstreaming and women empowerment

  Close collaboration with UN Women and other UN agencies to develop proposals for joint programmatic planning and implementation,
- including joint funding for gender mainstreaming for local development programmes and projects.
- Liaising with the UNDP Country Office gender focal point, civil society groups, academic networks and external specialists for advisory services, and sharing of information/best practices

#### Qualifications:

- Master's Degree or equivalent in Gender, Development Studies, Public Administration, Law or related field. Courses in gender studies, gender analysis and/or gender mainstreaming desirable
- 5 years of relevant experience in dealing with issues of women's rights and gender mainstreaming within public institutions, UN agencies and/or international system.
- Good knowledge of governance and development issues at the local level in Yemen. Fluency in English and Arabic

Title: Statistics Specialist Type of Contract: Service Contract - SB5 Duration of Assignment: 1 year renewable Duty Station: Sana'a, Yemen

#### Responsibilities:

- Technical Assistance to the General Department for Planning and Statistics, MOLA to develop guidelines for local governance data collection and analysis at local levels
- Assistance to the Performance Measurement and Evaluation Specialist to design and implement national M&E strategies for Local Governance, such as local development information system (LDIS), a functional system for performance assessment of local
- Support Performance Measurement and Evaluation Specialist and the National IT and Database Specialist in designing and establishing the LDIS and LGPAS databases and software
- Designing systems for collection and analysis of gender disaggregated data at the local level (including baseline data on local development, development and service delivery needs and costs at district level) to feed into national M&E strategies for Local Governance (LDIS and LGPAS), in close coordination with the Performance Measurement and Evaluation Specialist, National IT and Database specialist and the General Department for Planning and Statistics in MOLA, the General Women Department (GWD) in MOLA and with participation of LGUs
- Support to piloting this system in a number of target districts and provide on job training, mentoring and accompanying support to LGUs for collection and analysis of gender disaggregated data at the local level
- by LGAs to identify clear quality criteria for service provision Coordinate with and support other relevant LGSP components to collect primary and secondary data on local development and its

Support to a study on the quality of local services (in education, health, water management, agriculture extension/fisheries) provided

- Identification of relevant monitoring and evaluation issues and risks related to local development and submission of timely and comprehensive proposals and recommendations to the LGSP management on how these issues should be addressed
- Design and deliver capacity building and capacity development programmes on M&E, data collection and analysis, such as workshops, seminars and other activities for national counterparts, LGUs
- Support to the development and introduction of manuals and guidelines to introduce quality data collection and statistical systems for
- Identification and synthesis of best practices and lessons learned in, data collection and analysis procedures linked to LGSP programme goals; production and dissemination of best practices and lessons learned papers

- Master's Degree or equivalent in Statistics, Social Sciences, Development Studies, Public Administration or related field is required. Courses in statistics and application of statistical methods for public administration desirable.
- 5 years of relevant experience in monitoring and evaluation within public institutions, UN agencies and/or international system, with
- focus on data collection and analysis using statistical procedures. Experience in the design, conduct and analysis of surveys is desirable.
- Good knowledge of governance and development issues at the local level in Yemen. Fluency in English and Arabic.

Monthly Salary for the above posts is approximately \$1,700

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The deadline for receiving applications is March 24, 2011

For further details on the job description and online application, please visit our website at

http://jobs.undp.org Response will only be made to short listed candidates

## Al-Zindani flees Sana'a

By: Ali Saeed

SANA'A, March 13 - A source close to Sheikh Abdul Majeed Al-Zindani told the Yemen Times that Al-Zindani moved from Sana'a to his hometown in Arhab district on Saturday as pro-democracy demonstrations grow nationwide. Arhab district is approximately 20 km to the north of the capital.

Hood Abu Ras, a spokesman at Al-Zindani's office in Sana'a, said that this move was made in response to soldiers who have "started killing protesters to disperse them in the name of Al-Zindani." A week ago, Al-Zindani also made a statement on state television describing demonstrations as "illegal". His office claims that his statement was taken out of context.

On Saturday, the 26 September newspaper, a state-owned news service, sent out text messages quoting the US am-



Sheikh Abdul Majeed Al-Zindani

bassador to Yemen, who has asserted that Al-Zindani is still considered a wanted terrorist by the US and UN.

The Yemeni government began this media campaign against Al-Zindani

following a statement in which he announced his support for the pro-democracy demonstrations two weeks ago.

Al-Zindani remains a wanted terrorist by the US in spite of the fact that he leads the Islah Party Shura Council, a large wing within Yemen's Islamist political party.

In a recent press conference, US ambassador to Yemen Gerald Feierstein said that his government would have a problem with Yemen if Al-Zindani was elected as president or became involved in any new government.

"What we would like to see in Yemen are free and fair elections. In Palestine, we have a problem with Hamas because they are a terrorist organization. As you know, Abdul Majeed Al-Zindani is considered to be a terrorist by the United States and the United Nations. So would we have a problem if he were elected president? Absolutely," said Feierstein.

A Yemeni political analyst has said that the Yemeni regime has exploited the US ambassador's quote, which was taken from an interview conducted by the Saba News Agency and published on Saturday.

"When he [Al-Zindani] was in the presidential palace, they [the Yemeni government] gave him their full support. But when he sided with the antigovernment protests, they began campaigning against him," he said.

Al-Zindani is the one of the most powerful and vocal religious scholars in the country. He is also the rector and founder of Iman University, a religious school based in Sana'a that is attended by more than 5,000 students.

According to local Arabic press, social figures and tribal leaders in Arhab are now taking orders from Al-Zin-

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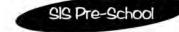
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took him to the military hospital and in-

after a mediator got involved." The Yemen Times was also told that one Yemeni migrant in the UK has recently donated technical devices and medicine to be used at the university mosque field hospital.

terrogated him, and he was only let go

The Science and Technology hospital was one of the recipients of Sana'a University's worst injuries, including individuals who had been severely gassed. Doctors at the hospital are still unable to confirm what kind of gas was used, as they are still working hard to manage the actual symptoms of exposure. However, because the gas' composition has not yet been identified, treatment

has proven difficult. In a press conference on Thursday, the Minister of Health and Population denied that nerve gas had been used to disperse pro-democracy protesters. Minister Abdulkareem Rasea' said a committee had been created to investigate the composition and provenance of the gas. The group has already managed to screen several injured people and the tests have confirmed that the gas was a combination of CN and CS, neither of which are "internationally forbidden" variations of tear gas, ac-

cording to Rasea'. Dr. Shaher Al-Absi, a physician working at the mosque field hospital, said that Rasae's comments were unacceptable. "He is not supposed to say the things that he has said while sitting

gas immediately after it was used. It's impossible to determine whether a gas is of an 'internationally forbidden' variety when performing clinical tests a full day later," explained Al-Absi.

One of the pro-democracy medical committee doctors told the Yemen Times that physicians are being targeted by security as well. "When they first began their attack, we attempted to move a medical tent nearer to the clashes, so as to ensure rapid treatment. A security vehicle crashed into the tent and destroyed all of the devices and drugs within it. Fortunately, we managed to escape.'

One of the protesters who was injured at Sana'a University had been shot in the head by a sniper in the early hours of Saturday morning. Eyewitnesses told the Yemen Times that six armored vehicles left the Central Security building at midnight, in the direction of Change Square. Security surrounded the area but no violence was used until Saturday morning.

"They attacked us while we were praying. The youth were careful and we were all expecting them to attack, but we didn't know exactly when," said one female protester who witnessed the attack.

The pro-democracy protesters were forced to break the pavement into small rocks so as to fend off security guards. The security then employed the same gas that had been used on Tuesday's attack, which is still widely suspected to

## More protesters killed at Sana'a University as UK, UN condemn violence



Many of those suffering from suffocation after being gassed were taken to the a field hospital set up in a mosque next to Sana'a University.

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Candidates must have an M.D. in medicine with at least three

years experience in gynecology and reproductive health

Please email your CV to info@interactionyemen.org

#### By: Shatha Al-Harazi

SANA'A, Mar. 13 - Two pro-democracy protesters were killed in the capital last Saturday while security forces attempted to disperse demonstrations around Sana'a University campus. The field hospital that has been established at the university mosque reported a further 30 serious injuries by gunfire, 100 injuries by rocks and clubs, and over 1,000 victims of gas inhalation. According to doctors and protesters, security forces also employed "boiling water" to dispel the crowds. On March 13th, 10 were seriously injured following attacks by National Security forces at Sana'a University. The protest security committee arrested four in connection to the attack. Four eyes witnesses confirmed that snipers shot from rooftops while protesters were praying. Following these attacks, large numbers of security forces have surrounded the entrances to the protest encampment.

Three buses from Al-Thoura public hospital were dispatched to offer assistance on campus. "The hospital tried to prevent the doctors from going, but they wanted to do their duty," said Dr. Waseem Al-Qurashi.

Child protection officer:

Community specialist

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health Female Doctor

General conditions

Dr. Nashwan al-Awlaqi was also arrested by National Security forces on Saturday, March 12th for taking pictures of the wounded from his home

The international community has condemned the use of violence against Yemeni protesters. In particular, the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Ban Ki-Moon, has expressed concern regarding the continued deterioration of the Yemeni situation.

The EU High Representative, Catherine Ashton, has called upon President Saleh, "To stand by his commitments announced on March 10th, to immediately take the necessary measures to ensure the protection of demonstrators and to uphold their right to assemble freely. The Yemeni government is accountable for the welfare and safety of

UK Foreign Secretary William Hague condemned the "unacceptable" violence directed against demonstrators at Sana'a University and called upon all British citizens to leave the country immediately.

The International Union of Muslims also published a statement condemning the killing of Yemeni protesters and affirming their support for the Yemeni



Soldiers fired tear gas and live rounds at pro-democracy demonstrators last Saturday as fighting raged for hours

people, so long as they continue to articulate their demands peacefully.

Abdulrahman Barman, human rights activist from the National Organization for Defending Rights and Freedoms (HOOD) and legal representative of the protesters, has confirmed that HOOD has received many complaints regarding security forces abducting injured patients from hospitals.

"Two wounded individuals at the Saudi German hospital were arrested by national security who arrived in civilian clothing," said Barman. "The hospital is morally and professionally responsible for their arrest, as they shouldn't

the premises illegally." Barman also confirmed that several injured people from Tuesday's government attack were taken by force from Al-Thoura hospital.

HOOD told the Yemen Times that the organization also receives complaints suggesting that security forces have been using ambulances to "kidnap" protesters. "We reported that one recently injured person who was abducted by security forces driving an ambulance was actually beaten further, in spite of the fact that he was already suffering from injuries," explained Salim Allaw, a lawyer from HOOD who chose to represent allow any patient to be removed from the aforementioned individual. "They as a minister. He should have tested the have been a nerve agent.



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## **JOB VACANCY**

Ministry of Public Health & Population (National Health Demographic Survey Department) are seeking for a qualified candidates to join their team in the position of **Accountant**, this opportunity is temporary position (for 17 months) based in Sana'a.

#### Background

The increasing understanding of the importance of social dimensions in general and the health and population dimensions in particular in development resulted in the increasing need for appropriator information on several social attributes. This information is essential so to enable policy makers of better understanding the nature, direct and indirect relations between different variables. It becomes crucial to provide information that help in developing objectives and assessing progress taking into account the interlinked relations between different sectors. Development is necessarily a multi sectoral process requiring information on different socioeconomic and demographic aspects for policy formulation for each sector. Ministry of Public Health & Population and donors implemented this project to get all data according to Health and demographic indicators.

#### Accountant tasks:

- 1. Follow up funding sources and approval of the budget
- 2. Follow up financiers, identify and classify survey expenditures
- 3. Prepare discharge documents and account review
- 4. Disburse remunerations of those working in the survey as per the financial regulation
- 5. Prepare a weekly financial report showing expenditures and balance
- ${\bf 6.}\ \ {\bf Develop\ financial\ regulation\ in\ coordination\ with\ survey\ technical\ management}$

The ideal candidate should fulfill the following requirements:

#### **Professional Qualifications:**

The professional qualifications of the consultant should be as follows:

- 1. Yemeni nationality
- Academic qualification of BA in Accounting
- 3. A minimum of 3 years experience in working with surveys projects
- 4. Proficiency in written and spoken English and prepare financial reports in English language.
- 5. Competency in relevant computer applications
- 6. Familiarity with the government and donors financial and accounting procedures and guidelines

Interested candidates should submit their applications, consisting of a cover letter and curriculum vitae (CV), to the following address:

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### MP Ali Al-Ansi speaks to the Yemen Times

# "Yemenis have united against the corrupt regime"

Ali Al-Ansi is one of many MPs who have joined together in boycotting parliament's current session due to what they claim to be an 'obstinate government'.

Al-Ansi is from the Islah party and known for his strong stance against the regime and against corruption. Al-Ansi spoke to the Yemen Time about the recent events and the current situation in parliament.

By: Sadeq Al-Wesabi

#### Why are you boycotting the current parliamentary session?

The Yemeni parliament is dying. It suffers from a deep split among members due to the abuse and corruption of the ruling party.

Several MPs have resigned from the GPC as of late and I expect that the number of resignations increase in the following days.

Most Yemenis are demanding the ouster of the regime. This effectively strips the parliament of its power. This makes it unacceptable for the parliament to make or amend laws.

Parliament only serves to provoke Yemenis.

#### You just returned from Change Square, the focal point of pro-democracy protests in Sana'a, what was your impression of the sit-in?

I've seen all kinds of people there. There are Youth, children, women, old men, tribesmen, and students gathering peacefully demanding their rights. They are really making an inspiring, heroic effort.

There is a considerable sense of political awareness among protesters and even among secondary school students who have been chanting against the president. They have no illusions about the goals of the current regime.

Some protesters complain that the Islah party has exploited youth ef-

#### forts for their own interest?

I can confirm that the sit-in at Change Square is not controlled by any party. Opposition parties are only part of the

#### How could protesters at change square improve their strategy to change the regime?

I have advised some of the protesters to use more polite language when referring to officials.

#### How do you feel about the high level of military and police surrounding the demonstration?

The state is using the military to provoke Yemenis. There are anti-aircraft weapons and concrete barriers in

These measures aim to dissuade and scare Yemenis from protesting, not to protect them.

#### How do you evaluate the ruling party's large showing of support in recent days?

The ruling party depends on people who are economically and socially influential. Most of these people have joined the GPC simply for personal gain.

The GPC exploits students, government employees, and soldiers. The rob Yemen of our promising young people and in doing so rob Yemen of its fu-

Unfortunately, the GPC uses the carrot and stick approach. It spends millions from the national treasury to



MP Ali Al-Ansi: "The president's inner circle should make a plan of smooth exit for president"

gather thugs and poor people to demonstrate for them. They claim that those people and thugs are supporters of the president and stability. However, there plan to fake popular support for the GPC has failed. Most Yemenis stand against the regime.

If the revolution is achieved in Yemen, supporters of the president will come out and reveal that they were forced to support the regime. The same happened in Egypt.

How do opposition MPs feel about

MPs are with Yemenis and with their legal demands.

#### Anti-government protesters are always described as vandals, anarchist and mobs by the ruling party and government media. How do you feel about this?

On the contrary, peaceful protests will create more stability. The president plays the terrorism card but people have realized that this scare tactic is a lie.

Arab leaders attempt to legitimize their own rule through fighting Al-Qaeda. However, there presence is often exaggerated.

Where is Al-Qaeda now? Why has Al-Qaeda disappeared now? That's proof that Yemen has no Al-Qaeda

Yemenis are able to protect their country from terrorism themselves.

In Egypt, police and government media described anti-government protesters as vandals and brutes. Unfortunately, our officials are repeating the same mistakes. Yemeni officials have not learned what Egypt has taught the rest of the Arab world.

The president's inner circle should begin planning a smooth exit for

#### What's your opinion about religious scholars' views on the sit-ins?

I highly commend some scholars for their positive stance on sit-ins.

#### The president was betting on those scholars to support him. Are there any new strategies the president will use to bolster his support?

The president failed to recognize that opposition parties were willing to work with him. His arrogance has caused the

I'm afraid that the president will reach a level of anger that will cause him to use violence against peaceful

The president always says that change is inevitable but has forgotten that Yemenis want to change him.

The President hasn't made real changes in policy and the government. He didn't even dismiss his relatives from high positions in the military. This proves that he isn't serious about change in Yemen.

The president should ask himself about consecutive resignations from his party and about his declining popu-

He deals with Yemenis as an owner of Yemen, the sole preserver of unity, the man that creates oil revenue and a miracle worker. He is reaping now what he has sown.

How will resignations from the GPC affect the future of the ruling party and the president?

The recent resigned MPs are prominent and have political power. They have shocked the GPC and of course they will highly affect the party.

#### Is it possible to engage in dialogue with the ruling party at this point?

The time for negotiation is over. We made many agreements and the president, and, in his stubbornness, has refused to implement them. Yemenis will only be satisfied with the resignation of Ali Abdullah Saleh, nothing less.

#### Some Yemenis are afraid that a civil war will break out?

Some Yemeni officials who personally benefit from the regime want Yemen to suffer through a civil war. I call on the president to resign as to avoid such bloodshed.

#### Will crackdowns on peaceful protesters lessen their numbers?

No. the violence against peaceful and legal sit-ins will increase the number of protesters and only serve to bring us closer to the regime's ouster.

## Playing big brother to Yemen, Saudis breed resentment

#### Antipathy to the kingdom runs high as demonstrators seek to topple Saleh

By: Judith Spiegel The Media Line

there is anything that symbolwealthy neighbor, Saudi Arabia, it's the matter of Yemeni brides.

For many young Saudi men the costs of a dowry and wedding to a local woman is prohibitively expensive. So, they trek down to Yemen to find a bride, or since Sanaa tightened up visa restrictions in the past year, invite a woman and her father to Saudi Arabia to find a partner.

"A Yemeni wife is much cheaper" says Karam Taher, a 22-year-old Yemeni who is now studying in Sanaa but has lived most of his life in Saudi Arabia. The dowry for a Saudi runs about \$20,000, and then there's the costs of providing her with gold jewelry and hosting a wedding party that can run to \$100,000. "In Yemen they can have a wife and a very elaborate wedding for much less.'

In impoverished Yemen, fathers are all too willing to marry off their daughters for more than they could ever hope to get from a Yemeni man. But the women herself often ends up a loser. The Saudi husband enjoys his bargainbasement bride for a few months and then abandons her to the streets or prostitution, according to the U.S. State Department's 2010 report on human

As Yemen's president, Ali Abdullah Saleh, battles to preserve his 32-yearold rule, the antipathy many Yemenis feel for their neighbor to the north factors into the equation. Riyadh is determined to stop the spread of antigovernment sentiment that has infected Bahrain, Oman and Yemen. But meddling too much in its neighbor's internal affairs could backfire.

"The Saudis see Yemen as their backyard. They want to be the only foreign power that has influence there," Gregoizes the uneasy relationship ry Gaus, professor of Political Science between poverty-stricken Ye- at the University of Vermont and author men and its bigger, enormously of a book on Saudi-Yemen Relations, told The Media Line. "They see it as a place from which their enemies can pressure their country."

> In the 1960s, it was Egyptian President Gamal Abdul Nasser, who dispatched troops to fight in Yemen's civil war and then in the 1970s and 1980s, it was the Soviet Union in South Yemen. Nowadays, the Saudi kingdom fears Al-Qaeda and Iran gaining a foothold in the chaos.

> While Saudi Arabia has a tradition of trying to influence Yemen, Yemen has just as often resisted even if the two sides are hardly equals even if the two have roughly the same size populations. Saudi Arabia, with a fifth of the world's oil reserves has a per capita gross domestic product of \$24,200, almost 10 times Yemen's \$2,600.

In Yemen's last civil war, in the 1990s, the Saudis supported the southern secessionist movement and when Saleh took Iraq's side in the first Gulf War in 1991, Saudi Arabia wreaked revenge, revoking residence rights of Yemeni migrants and forcing hundreds of thousands of them to return home. Yemen not only lost the remittance income, but had to provide housing, food

Gaus cites rumors that Saleh receives \$2 billion a year in aid from Riyadh, but he says he believes that figure is inflated. Such support is unlikely to be of much help to the embattled president.

"In the current situation they are happy to support Saleh, but how much they can do is in question. They can give him some money, but they can't really help him out militarily against the protests in



Demonstrator carrying photo of Ibrahim Al-Hamdi former president of Yemen who is recognized for his good rule.

Many Yemenis believe Saudi Arabia had a hand in the killing Ibrahim Al-Hamdi, the ultra-popular president who ruled North Yemen from 1974 un-

Who killed him and why has never been officially clarified, but most Yemenis have no doubt about the reason: He was working to make Yemen a prosperous and democratic country, and the Saudis did not want such a backyard, many believe. These days demonstrators seeking to topple Saleh often carry photos of Al-Hamdi.

Since around 2000, however, the Saudis have seemed to make their peace with Saleh, who they now see him as the least bad option, says Gaus. Now their man is in deep trouble.

"Just when they kind of came to terms with dealing with Saleh and a united Yemen, the guy seems to be in real trouble," he says. "The Saudis as a default position do not like upheaval, and upheaval in Yemen is something that they think foreign powers [Iran] might be able to exploit."

Nevertheless, for Yemenis, the Saudi kingdom can do no good. The Jeddah Treaty of 2000, which finally drew an exact border between the two countries after centuries of disputes and wars, is resented by many in. Parts of what many regard as northern Yemen was incorporated in Saudi Arabia.

"He sold our land and our people to the Saudis and he received \$7 billion in his Swiss bank account for it," says Abdulrab Ahmed, who lived in the king-

Demonstrator with sign "Go to K.S.A." dom from 1982 until 1990 and from 2000 until 2009 when he was deported and these days participates in the protests against Saleh. "They treat Yemenis like slaves," he told The Media Line.

Even the fact the Yemenis rely on Saudi Arabia for jobs does little to assuage popular resentment. Gaus says that there are now hundreds of thousands Yemeni's working again in Saudi Arabia. "They tend to have decent jobs, better than many of the South Asians, running stores and being plumbers and the like," he says. "They're not treated that well by the authorities, but no worse than other foreigners and better than some. They certainly have better jobs than they could find in Yemen".

But, like all foreigners in Saudi Arabia, Yemenis need sponsors to support their stay in the kingdom. These sponsors can make life difficult. As they did in Abdulrab's case. "My sponsor only wanted to cooperate in extending my residence permit if I would marry my daughter off to him. I refused. He took over my shop and the Saudi authorities deported me." Indeed, in the streets of Sanaa, many

believe Saudi Arabia is the reason for many of Yemen's problems.

"Saudi Arabia is afraid of Yemen because a strong Yemen with a truly democratic republican system would threaten their oppressive kingdom", says Muna Safwan, 33, a journalist and one of the regular female demonstrators at Sanaa University. "This is why they support Ali Abdullah Saleh and the tribes -- to keep Yemen the way it is."

#### YT vision statement



"To make Yemen a good world citizen."

Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf, Founder of Yemen Times

# (1951 - 1999)



## Is Saleh going to announce a state of emergency?

onsidering the alternatives he's got and the unwavering attitude of opposition parties, will Saleh go ahead and exercise his right as president to issue a state of emergency in Yemen? Item number 17 of article 119 of the Yemeni constitution states that the president has the unilateral right to declare a state of emergency. Article 121 details this right according to Yemeni law:

"The president can declare a state of emergency in one of three situations: Natural disaster, war and internal conflict. Within one week of the declaration the president has to get the approval of at least two thirds of the parliament, who will decide how long the state of emergency should last."

The constitution also states that if the emergency is announced while there is no legitimate parliament, the previous parliament is called back to approve or disregard the emergency declaration request. This remains an option. After a week of intensive closeddoor meetings and continuous consultation, Saleh's relatively good recommendations have faced continuous rejection.

On Thursday, Saleh proposed a new constitution that would change Yemen's current political structure into a parliamentary system, similar to those found in the United Kingdom and India. He also promised parliamentary elections and a constitutional referendum by the end of this year (or early 2012 at the latest), so as to initiate the separation of legislative and executive powers.

But again, his concessions were rejected.

It seems there is a huge disconnect between Saleh, the opposition parties and the protesters in the streets. Let's analyze the situation:

- Saleh agreed not to run for office again in 2013 and not to support his son as a presidential candidate. He promised more representation for demographic minorities and opposition parties in government. He promised free and fair elections... One might rightly ask, what more could the opposition ask for?
- In reality, the opposition is demanding Saleh's immediate departure. As a concession, he might be allowed to stay in office until 2013, but his sons and relatives would have to be removed straightaway from all positions of power.
- His reaction to this ultimatum has been that everyone both himself and his entire family - will leave politics by 2013. He has also continued to make concessions so as to win greater support, but this has been in vain.

The problem here can be summed up in one word: credibility. I have met with many of the opposition party leaders, as well as with members of the international community, and they are all asking one and the same question: is Saleh really sincere? What makes it most difficult to believe him is the action on the ground, taken by state security and its supporters against unarmed protestors. Now that Saleh has unsuccessfully used one of the last tricks in his book, he can do one of three things:

- The first is to actually give up his office before the end of his term and arrange for a smooth transition of power.
- The second is to offer the opposition and the streets some legitiby removing some of his sons and relatives from positions of power, and by pledging once again to leave at the end of his term in 2013.
- His third option is to continue looking for more ways to buy time, without relinquishing any of his or his family's powers.
- This third option would require addressing the increasingly massive protests that are being waged against him. He might be tempted to exercise his right and declare a state of emergency. Seeing as how his party currently commands 79 percent of the parliament, he could easily do it.

The state of emergency would allow him to enforce curfews, arrest citizens without making recourse to the normal judiciary process, etc. In other words, during a state of emergency, the rights of the individual take a back seat to the welfare of the nation, as seen by the people in power.

There are an endless number of legal means during a state of emergency to make the lives of ordinary citizens very difficult and to suspend the normal activities of life.

Naturally, it really isn't in Yemen's best interest to have a state of emergency. Nor is it in Yemen's best interest to be in a prolonged state of social tension and protest. But it is also not in Yemen's best interest to have a ruler who runs government forever and who appoints his family members to the most powerful and key positions.

The question remains whether Saleh will eventually realize that the opposition's demands are more than just words, and whether he will find the courage to face his family and save Yemen from more

Nadia Al-Sakkaf

## Yemen: Rumors of war

he possibility of violence, and even civil war, loomed larger over Yemen on Sunday, as opposition leaders announced that they would join a mass protest against President Ali Abdullah Saleh, who has ruled the country since 1978. In typically florid remarks published Sunday, Saleh vowed to resist the protesters "with every drop of

The confrontation shaped up after the announcement by the main Yemeni coalition opposed to Saleh, the Joint Meeting Parties, or J.M.P., that on Tuesday it would join the young Yemenis who have been pouring into the streets to demand Saleh's ouster. The J.M.P. contains Islah, the country's main Islamist party, and the declaration portends demonstrations larger than any that have filled Yemen's streets so far.

But there are even more troubling portents, and they are beginning to worry Yemen's political elite. The fear, expressed by Yemenis in interviews this week, is that the country's well established tradition of political violence may soon resurface.

The main causes for concern are indications that the Al-Ahmars, the Yemeni family regarded as Saleh's main rivals, may be preparing for a confrontation-and maybe even a violent one. In the past several days, members of the Al-Ahmar family, who have so far stayed out of the demonstrations, have begun hinting that they are prepared to take on Saleh in the streets. Together, four Al-Ahmar brothers form the most significant bulwark against Saleh. They include Sadiq, the head of the Hashid tribal confederation, the president's own tribe and the most powerful in Yemen; Hamir, the deputy speaker of Parliament; Hussein, a powerful tribal leader; and, most significant of all, Hamid, who wants Saleh's job.

On Saturday, Hussein Al-Ahmar urged a gath-

ering of several thousand fellow tribesmen to push for the overthrow of Saleh. "I'm announcing my resignation from the ruling party, party of corruption, and my joining of the revolution of young people until this regime is toppled," he said.

The concern, expressed among Yemenis here, is that the Al-Ahmars will call out their loyal tribesmen to use force to help them push Saleh out. Most Yemenis are armed, and the Al-Ahmars are believed to be able to call on tens of thousands of tribesmen to rally to their cause. If the battle were joined, and Saleh called out Yemen's armed forces, some Yemenis estimate that a significant number of soldiers would probably defect to the Ahmar side. That would mean civil war, something the country has experienced before, in

"Unless something changes, things will definitely move toward violence," said Abdul-Ghani Al-Irvani, a prominent Yemeni.

In the middle of these two forces—the Saleh regime and the tribes around the Al-Ahmarsare the young people in the streets. Most of them have been calling for Saleh to quit. But it's hard to imagine that many of the demonstrators—who have showed remarkable restraint so far-would favor an outbreak of violence.

The surest way to heading off a violent confrontation between Saleh and the Ahmars would be for the president to cut a deal with the formal political opposition. For their part, Yemen's opposition leaders have been wary of making such a deal, lest they lose credibility with the protesters. For this reason, it would seem that the burden is on Saleh to make significant concessions to give the opposition the political cover it needs to reach

How likely is that? Nobody knows. But after thirty-three years in power, Saleh is not a person used to compromising much with his enemies. He used to crushing them— sometimes in the

## Bridges on the road to a stronger Yemen

**National Editorial** 

n the two decades since the birth of modern Yemen, its diversity has often been more of a burden than a blessing. North and South Yemen came together in 1990 but developing a programme of national reform to bridge the country's many different interests has been an ongoing challenge for the Yemeni president Ali Abdullah

As thousands protested in Yemen yesterday, both its diversity and differences were on display. In Sana'a's Tahrir Square there were secular socialists, members of the Islamist Islah party, unemployed youth, and students from Sana'a University, all calling for reform. Pro-government demonstrators marched nearby. The protests were not limited to the capital. In Yemen's southern region, rich in oil and gas, the distribution of the country's resources has long been at the centre of debate. And while there were few protests in northern parts of the country, a battle against the Houthi movement is ongoing.

Mr Saleh announced on Wednesday that he would not seek re-election for president in 2013 but that was not enough to prevent yesterday's protests. And clearly, addressing the country's challenges involves more than one man, as some demonstrators in Sana'a were keen to observe. "We are calling for change," the leader of an umbrella organisation for Yemen's opposition groups, Mohammed Al Mutawakal, told moving toward real democracy."

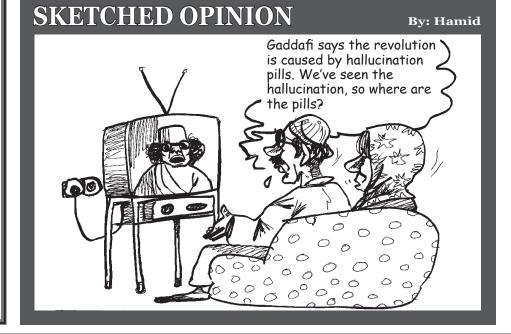
It is also about development. At the centre of Yemen's difficulties are a growing population and dwindling resources. Two-thirds of the population is under the age of 25. Rural poverty has caused mass migration to the country's bigger cities, where more people compete for fewer resources.

Mr Saleh has tried to stimulate growth and distribute wealth with fuel subsidies but they have had unintended consequences. Rather than create jobs or a higher standard of living for the poor, subsidies made it easier for the wealthiest Yemenis to pump water out of the country's aquifers, as James Spencer explained in these pages last month.

None of Yemen's problems, nor their solutions, fit neatly within any of the slogans shouted at yesterday's demonstrations. Reform of the country's political infrastructure is required to bring its many different interests to the table and to diffuse its many tensions. Improvements to the country's physical infrastructure are just as important. It is the disconnect of so many Yemenis from the global economy, and their isolation from their countrymen, that has allowed groups such as al Qa'eda to operate in the country. The building of roads and bridges will prove a far more effective remedy against this problem than any bombing campaign. It is these kinds of national projects that should be at the top of the list for Yemen's donors.

No matter who is in charge of the country, only a long-term commitment to improved governance many different interests and challenges.

## journalists. "It's not about specific people, it's about and stronger infrastructure can address Yemen's



## **COMMON SENSE**

## Mr. President: Yemen is not a slaughterhouse for you and your kin

or thirty-three years, Ali Abdullah Saleh and his band of thugs has been allowed to turn this decent and peace loving country into a bloodbath for the President and his team of mobsters so that they can take possession of all its resources and to bleed it out of every cell of conscientiousness. Mr. Saleh and his band of highway robbers and hired killers have turned murder, theft and sheer gut force as the only way to rule a once peaceful God-fearing nation and make it subservient to no more than cutthroat butchers. For more than three decades, Saleh and his gang continue to insist that mob rule is the



By: Hassan Al-Haifi

only way to ensure that Saleh and his mobsters can escape from any accountability for all the evil they have introduced into a once innocent society as if this nation was a piece of cake they can devour, without even having to wash their hands from all the blood they have shed to get Saleh to his throne and

What happened last Sunday morning in the heart of the City of Sana'a – the traditional City of Peace – surely is not the behavior of sensible men of state, but the behavior of hungry vampires thirsty for the blood of humankind to satisfy their unquenchable urge to see their fellow citizens begging for their mercy to have their lives spared. For a third of a century, the regime spent all the resources of the country to amass every conceivable tool of death and destruction to ensure its infinite longevity – and deprive their people from even achieving subsistent existence. This regime and its filthy "official" mouthpieces continued to twist the facts to suit their unabashed exploitation of the goodness of their people and good faith that these people once had (for a very short while indeed), only to turn around and explain their failure to carry out their end of the social contract on the lack of respect that their people have for their deified existence. For thirty three years, Saleh continued to kill, maim and displace his countrymen not just by individuals but en masse, with scores of massacres that have spanned the length and width of Yemen to the point that have driven even "great powers" like the United States to do his killing for him, while he would unabashedly take the credit for such unholy deeds. On the eve of the massacre on the Square of Change (last Friday night), reports were coming to this observer that the thugs of the regime and disguised security men were being deployed in all the streets branching out of the Street of Change and driving even residents in the interior of the streets away and preventing them from returning to their homes until they paid bribes to these thugs. This is the kind of society Ali Abdullah Saleh has created in Yemen, where terror is the rule and not the exception, nor is it the work of bands of so called Al-Qaeda murderers. After all, it is Saleh, who has a perpetual love affair with Al-Qaeda and extremism and who uses this booby man skillfully to embezzle the United States and the other gullible western powers of all the armaments and legitimacy he needs to keep his tight grip on his people.

It is impossible to believe that President Barak Obama would send ambassadors to this country, who are unable to see that Ali Abdullah Saleh is the major terrorist of the region only half way equaled by Muammar Qadhafi and Omar Al-Bashir, both of who also insist that they have the right to irrigate the lands they purport to rule with the blood of their subjects to guarantee the perpetuity of this right. Mr. President, it is bad enough that your administration takes its very slow time in assessing the enormous harm that these masters of death, destruction and mayhem are doing not only to the interests of the United States, but to the peace and tranquility of the entire world. Mr. President, please be informed that it is these men who are responsible for nurturing the "terrorism" you appear to dread and it is they and their Saudi mentors who brought terrorism to your turf at the World Trade Center and your Ministry of Defense, the Pentagon. It is Saleh and his security apparatus that have made Yemenis incapable of voicing even the weakest complaint against the pilferage of the Presidents' relatives of the state treasury and all the resources of the land, while half of their countrymen live below the world poverty line of less than US \$ 2 a day. If that is not enough, it is the Saleh regime that then takes advantage of the misery of these destitute fellow countrymen and hire them out as armed "loyalists" to support his security machine in its various manifestations, as they storm the tents of peaceful unarmed demonstrators and rain these courageous sincere hopeless youth of Yemen, hungry for freedom and a decent life, with bullets and lethal gases of unknown origin and assault them with the latest state of the art torture utensils. If this is what Ali Abdulla Saleh wants us to remember him by when he leaves (now or tomorrow), he is mistaken, because tyrants of his like are usually thrown into the garbage bins of history and lauded with curses every time their names are mentioned.

By the way, it is worth passing a note of congratulations to the recent appointments of the Yemen Embassy in Washington, all of whom are sons and nieces of His Excellency the President. Such appointments are understandable, since it would not be appropriate for such young children of the ruling family to be witnesses to the murderous exploits of their fathers and uncles as they guarantee the smooth takeover of every meaningful position in Government to their close of kin at home and as they eliminate the true patriotic youth of the country, who are guilty of nothing except saying, "Mr. Saleh, enough is enough; for God's sake, if you truly believe in the Al-Mighty, pack your bags and leave us with some peaceful moments to cherish for a change".

As these words are written, the thugs of His Excellency's regime continue their murderous attack on the proud and patriotic youth of Yemen, in Sana'a and the brave cities of Ta'ez, Aden, Sa'ada and Mukalla, who thought that there is still some respect in this world for the people who struggle and sacrifice their lives so they and their fellow citizens can live free and with dignity. But the story seems to be the same from Wisconsin to Capitol Hill to the streets of Zawiya, it is the rule of the gun that is respected and allowed to prevail even if the whole country is turned into a slaughterhouse.

Hassan Al-Haifi has been a Yemeni political economist and journalist for more than 20 years. His blog may be read at: http://com-senfromyem.blog-

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## Israeli computer game helps Alzheimer's patients retain memory

By: Arieh O'Sullivan The Media Line

disease grows, experts look for ways to slow its prog-Immaculately dressed elderly men and women shuffle into the main hall and take their seats at the tables. some smiling and jabbering away, others more subdued with a vacant look in their eyes, as they begin their day at an Alzheim-

s incidence of the incurable

er's day care center in Jerusalem. "Staying at home kills these people," said Motti Zelikovitch, director-general of Melabev, Israel leading organization caring for individuals with Alzheimer's disease. "The center is better because you're forced to get out of their home, you have to dress nicely. You come. You see your friends. Even if you don't remember your friend from one day to the next, you see them and that helps.

One-by-one, the men and women are led to a computer room where they sit in front of a screen and play a new game designed to maintain and improve memory in people afflicted early- and middle-stage Alzheimer's. Alzheimer's disease causes loss of memory and other cognitive functions, and, ultimately, death.

"You're going to build a circle with three pieces, so which piece goes over here?" an instructor asks one patient. The woman, an elderly immigrant from Switzerland, begins using the computer to assemble the

While there is no cure for Alzheimer's,

Israeli researchers have developed a computer game that say can slow down the progress of the disease. It's called Savyon, and Israel hopes to export it to treat Alzheimer's patients around the world.

It is for innovations like these that the Alzheimer's Foundation International (AFI) has come to Israel. The organization recently signed an agreement to include Israel's Alzheimer's Foundation as one of its members in an effort to boost research and share best practices related to treatment and care.

"Alzheimer's is horrendous and it is the one thing that all nations share at this moment. It is the one situation that is causing the most turmoil for governments, for organizations and also for families all over," Eric Hall, AFI's chief executive officer, told The Media Line.

"Regrettably, there's no cure, so in the meantime care becomes a priority and programs and services are really necessary. Support resources for family members are really important," Hall said. "What the AFI hopes to do is to move from country to country and gather resources that then can be made available in a greater way to a community."

The Alzheimer's population is growing in developed countries as baby boomers enter old age and the elderly population grows, according to Hall,. Some11,000 Americans turn 65 everyday, and one in eight will be afflicted by Alzheimer's. It is estimated that 35.6 million people worldwide have dementia, and the incidence is expected to increase to 115 million by 2050. An estimated five million Americans

suffer from the disease while in Israel there are some 200,000 diagnosed patients. Zelikovitch estimates that another 200,000 cases are undetected.

"Alzheimer's is truly going to be a pandemic in most countries, where mortality occurs in peoples' seventies, eighties and nineties," Hall said. "It's a disease that doesn't discriminate. It's a crisis. And, with the absence of a cure, we really need to figure out how we are going to recognize its impact. AFI's vision is simply that no one country, no one government can do this by themselves and that perhaps a unified international effort is the most beneficial."

The AFI has a vision to boost awareness of the disease and to scour the world to look for better treatment and innovations that can be shared. From Jerusalem, Hall was to travel to France to examine their treatment practices and possible innova-

The Israeli Savyon computer program is currently available in Hebrew, English, Spanish, French and Greek. Developed over a decade at Ben Gurion University of the Negev, the program looks much like a child's mathematical tutorial. But, researchers say, it is specifically designed to spark the brains of Alzheimer's patients.

"If a patient works with this computer program two or three times a week for half an hour at a time, Alzheimer's can be stabilized or slowed down. It' not going to go away, but it can be stabilized or slowed," Zelikovitch told The Media Line.

Melabev operates some 10 daycare centers across Israel, which offer treatment in a variety of languages to deal with the

tendency of Alzheimer's victims to return

to their mother tongue. Suffers are given

music, art and gardening therapy. Staffers

also help with their grooming and physical

care, giving family members a welcomed respite from the chore. "I love coming here," said an exuberant Rose, 86. "I come regularly. I meet people who are interested in the same things I am interested in. Nobody is gossiping against anybody. We all enjoy the presence. They prepare us with such nice speeches. It

lifts my day, instead of sitting around and

watching the boob-tube, or eating, or all the things you do to keep busy."

One of the major cultural problems with Alzheimer's is the stigma that goes with it. While this has been reduced among the general population, there are still communities who try to hide it, in particular Arabs and ultra-Orthodox Jews in Israel.

Zelikovitch said his organization would soon be opening its first Arabic-language center. In Arab culture, the elderly are cared for at home out of a tradition of respect, but this means they don't benefit from expert

guidance and advice. In ultra-Orthodox communities, medical conditions tend to be hidden so as not to harm marriage opportunities for the next generation.

These stigmas also exist worldwide. Hall said advocacy programs like National Memory Screening Day and telethons have made Alzheimer's "a little more palatable, accessible to a population that is terrified, fearful. There is an enormous amount of stigma that surrounds this disease. Those are some of the things we all share in every single country that I've gone to.'



## Harassmap lets women cyclists in Cairo report abuse via SMS

By: Inji El Abd The Green Prophet

ansportation is a large contributor to air-pollution. Today, the whole world is shifting towards more sustainable means of transportation. While in most countries men and women are equally active in such a movement, in more traditional societies, women are denied the right to a safe street where they can walk or use their bicycles instead of driving cars, and thus have a larger carbon footprint. Egypt is one of those countries and I am one of

In the early days of the cycling movement in Cairo, a friend and me, both working in the filed of sustainable development, got all analytical about it and decided to explore the reasons that got people cycling and the reasons that discouraged them from

From our surveys we found that, in part, some women could not use bicycle in their daily commutes due to widespread harassment on Cairo streets.

Most found themselves confined to the weekly Friday rides when streets were emptier, resorting cycling merely as an urban

sport. Even on Fridays they could not ride alone, and had to tag along with a group of friends, preferably male.

To the surprise of many, on Fridays 60 percent of the cyclists are girls from all walks of life, adorning sportswear, urban wear, veils, helmets and t-shirts saying diverse messages. Also, a few brave women have ventured on weekdays on their own to cycle to their workplace in spite of harass-

While regular street harassment is offensive and psychologically disturbing, harassing cyclists could kill. The cyclists could lose balance if frightened or grabbed, and sometimes causing this unbalance is even the harasser's intention. Many members of the cycling clubs have experienced harassment and some have refrained from using their bicycles the following week.

#### Reclaiming women's right to safe streets

To provide its women members with a safer riding experience, the Cairo Cycler's Club (CCC) has partnered with two antiharassment initiatives. The first, Harassmap has put in place a system for reporting incidences of sexual harassment via SMS messaging. By mapping these reports online, the initiative will act as an advocacy, pre-



Do women in Cairo have bigger carbon footprints because they are afraid to ride their bikes?

vention, and response tool, highlighting the severity and pervasiveness of the problem.

The second, 678, the movie (screener in Arabic above), is a docudrama shedding light on the issue of sexual harassment and its root causes. CCC is planning an awareness raising event with Harassmap & 678 in the near future, to advocate for safe streets.

Press Release

## Nissan Launches the 2011 Model Year Nissan (MICRA)

Republic of Yemen (March 09, 2011): Tehama Trading Co., is announcing the launch of Nissan's breakthrough new small car, the all-new 4th generation Nissan MICRA.

Micra is set to lead in its class as a fuel-efficient and eco-friendly city car which will be priced positioned in Yemen below the Sunny sedan. Micra is expected to make a big impression as a refreshing new compact runabout with key attributes such as reliability, style, accessibility and maneuverability, and is bound to be enjoyed by a wide range of customers in various cities across the country.

#### Body and Chassis designed for agile and exhilarating driving.

- · Built on Nissan's newly developed V-Platform where V stands for versatility the new Micra offers excellent ride comfort and easy handling.
- · Functional design and aerodynamics give a well-rounded and sprightly performance. • Compliant on stringent passenger safety standards for front and side impact under the United
- Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE regulation 94 and 95).

#### Compact and Dynamic Design

- Internationally appealing design targets a broad spectrum of people worldwide, satisfying multiple needs in one package.
- · Compact and robust body Class-leading quality of design, inside and out. · Luxurious look and feel that elevates the sense of status - a compact car that boasts plenty
- of design flare
- Designed with functionality in mind

#### All-new fuel-efficient engine

- A new compact, lightweight 1.2-liter 3 cylinder engine, 10% lighter than previous Micra engines.
- Delivers the best combination of fuel efficiency. C02 emissions reduction and performance.

#### Overview

Taking up the challenge of developing a competitively priced compact car with the highest standards in quality and performance, the all-new Micra was developed under an all-new production and engineering process. It has been conceived, designed and adapted to meet the demands of customers from almost every region of the world, encompassing their vastly different needs and tastes.

The first generation March was introduced in Japan in 1982. The fourth generation of this iconic city car will be produced in four countries (Thailand, India, China and Mexico) and sold in approximately 160 countries worldwide including the Republic of Yeman

#### • Key Features of the New Micra:

#### New Engine

- The Micra features the newly developed 'HR-12' power train, a 1,2-liter, 3 cylinder petrol engine with valve timing control (VTC). Power is rated at 59kW (80PS), with a torque output of
- $\bullet \ \ \text{The engine achieves sufficient power and class-leading fuel economy while C02 emissions}$ are excellent for a base petrol engine with only 115g/km.
- · Models will be equipped with either a standard 5-speed short-throw manual gearbox or a 4

speed automatic transmission, enabling the 1.2 liter engine to achieve the fuel economy of a 1.0-liter car but with brisker acceleration

#### · Chassis and Suspension

- Thanks to the rigidity of the all-new V-Platform, the suspension design works more efficiently from a solid basis, steering is more accurate, precise and provides good feel and turn-in.
- · With its robust lightweight chassis and finely honed spring and damper rates, the Micra's well known characteristic agility, maneuverability and responsiveness has been retained with roll, pitch and dive kept to a minimum giving increased driver confidence.

#### · Body and Safety Performance

- ullet A great deal of attention was paid in providing a strong structure which affords occupants greater protection in the event of an impact.
- · Designed to absorb the forces of impact thanks to the sophisticated crumple zone at the front of the car while maintaining cabin integrity with its highly reinforced body shell.
- · As with a majority of Nissan vehicles, the new Micra is equipped with a Brake Fail-safe system, to prevent any unintended acceleration.

#### · Comfort, function and equipment

- · Superb driving visibility and a class-topping turning radius of 4.5m, to make driving and parking as easy and convenient as possible.
- · Micra will offer equipment and technological innovations which are designed to simplify dayto-day life for its owners
- · On the security side, the car is also fitted with a speed-sensitive automatic door locking

#### · Exterior design and packaging

- · With a global charm, the new Micra has an appeal that attracts many people around the world, both men and women, young and old.
- Its cleverly designed double-layer integrated grille delivers a stylish and high quality look.An enhanced road presence comes from its high, accented waistline with strong round contours that generate a feeling of robustness and heightened passenger safety.
- Raised front fender lines make it easier for drivers to see the front corners of the car. A lowered center of gravity and positioning of the tires at the extreme corners, with minimal overhang, stretches the wheelbase and widen the tread, giving a bolder stance and greater stability.
- The boomerang-shaped roof-line grooves work to reduce resonance in the cabin making the car very comfortable at any speed. This new roof design combined with the subtle builtin lip spoiler together minimizes drag, improving fuel economy and reducing emissions. Its redesigned underbody improves airflow and maximizes down force and with the superb suspension system, offer high-speed stability

#### · Interior Design

· Inside, creating a similar design flair as the exterior, Nissan has employed a "connected cocoon" design, with a dashboard that takes on a "twin bubble" theme complimenting the circular instrumentation binnacle and similarly shaped passenger side glove box compartment,



making the cabin look modern and stylish.

- The three-pronged meter layout speedometer, tachometer and incidentals on the
- · Convenience for storage is found throughout the car with a double-layered glove box, large upper storage area and cubby holes are within easy reach, including the center consoles and
- Thanks to its wheel-at-each-corner stance, its wheelbase has 2450mm, giving a more

#### • The Nissan Way: Designed in Japan, Built Overseas

- · Production engineers from overseas plants were invited to learn the state-of-the-art Nissan Production Way at Global Production Engineering Centre (GPEC), Zama, Japan to assist them in the procedures in making the Micra a truly global compact car.
- · Designed in Nissan's Global Production Engineering Centre (GPEC) in Zama, Japan with the highest standards with an emphasis to manufacture locally overseas.
- · Maintaining Nissan's standard for high quality while optimizing local production methods with 85% localization rate, a critical factor for building a world-class competitive car
- . Micra is being manufactured in four locations (Thailand, India, China and Mexico) and to be
- sold in approximately 160 countries worldwide.

#### **About Tehama Trading Company:**

Nissan is a leading automotive brand in the R.O.Yemen. It boasts one of the most popular and successful vehicle line-ups in the region. Nissan operations cover 5 cities across the region making it one of the largest representations in the R.O.Yemen

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# Gender analysis of young Arab's migration dream

Within the Arab League, young men (41 percent) have a greater desire to emigrate than young women (26 percent). In Yemen, half of the men want to move permanently compared to about one quarter of Yemeni women. Millions of young people worldwide would move away from their countries permanently if they had the opportunity, yet the only region of the world yielding a gender difference in desires to emigrate is the Arab League.

By: Sofia Kluch and Jessica Stutzman

lthough Ali Mohamed was born in Yemen he lived most of his life in the USA. He came to Yemen to get married and do research for his graduate school. However, he is today settled with his wife and young children in the States which he calls his second home and where he is building a career. To him, the USA represents a work and flourishing opportunity while Yemen represents culture and a chance to give back to the community.

"When my children become a little older, I want to return to Yemen. And then I plan on opening a business and an NGO to help disabled children," said Mohammed.

While a majority of young Yemenis (66 percent) would like to continue to live in Yemen, 33 percent say they would leave if given the opportunity to live abroad permanently, according to the 2010 Silatech Index Wave 3 rebelieves that she has two home countries but if given the chance she would rather live in the states.

"I feel there is more freedom and opportunity there for women than in Yemen," she says.

This is not only about Yemenis who are unemployed or with low education who feel that leaving Yemen would solve their problems. Even more than half of those with fulltime jobs wanted to move permanently. Young Yemenis with the lowest levels of education are the most likely to express the desire to

Aside from demographic differences between the people who would like to emigrate and those who would rather stay, attitudinal differences exist as well. It is clear that young people who would like to emigrate are experiencing tougher economic hardship than other young people.

They are more likely to express dissatisfaction with their standard of living and to say that their standard of living is getting worse. About half (53 percent) of young Yemenis who express a



Young Yemenis at Sabeen Park promoting voluntary work. Unemployment, difficult living conditions and lack of growth opportunity drives many Yemeni men and women to leave Yemen sometimes permanently to other countries.

permanently.

Arab League European Union US/Canada Other Country Women-Bementary education

leased in late November 2010.

The study revealed that half of the Yemeni men interested in migrating want to move permanently, compared with about one-quarter of young wom-

Anwar is a 16 year old high school Yemeni student who was brought up desire to leave permanently say there were times during the last 12 months when they did not have enough money for food, compared with 40 percent of those who do not wish to leave.

When asked about the economy in the city or area where they live, 78 percent of potential emigrants say condi-

percent of those who do not want to leave Yemen. Potential emigrants are much more likely to say that conditions are getting worse, compared with those who do not want to emigrate (60 percent vs. 47 percent respectively).

And when asked about the economy of the country, potential emigrants are even less optimistic:

Around 66 percent see it as getting worse, compared with 55 percent of young Yemenis who do not want to

Potential emigrants show more willingness than young Yemenis who prefer to stay in the country to do what it takes to change their employment situation. When asked what they would be willing to do if they were out of work for more than six months, potential emigrants would be more likely to take a job beneath their skill set (71 percent vs. 57 percent), retrain in a different career field (71 percent vs. 59 percent), relocate to another city within Yemen cate to another country (84 percent vs.

The stress of the economy and unemployment among young Yemenis who would like to leave the country is surely taking a toll on them emotionally. Forty two percent say that they did not feel well-rested the day before the survey. Forty-one percent also say they experienced a lot of worry, and 44 percent did not experience a lot of enjoyment. About half (52 percent) of the people who would like to move abroad permanently report feeling stress.

#### **Gender differences**

There is little difference between young men's and women's desires to move to another country permanently in most regions of the world. Young Arabs are unique in that they live in the only region where there is a significant difference between young men's and young women's desires to migrate permanently to another country.

According to Gallup's findings, millions of young people worldwide would move away from their countries permanently if they had the opportunity. Analyses from the Silatech Index suggest that this holds true for young people aged 15 to 29 from countries in the Arab League. This finding highlights a distinct gender gap between young men and women in this region, with young men (41 percent) having a greater desire to emigrate than young women (26 percent).

The gender divide is most evident among elementary-educated young men (44 percent) and women (24 percent), but it also holds among secondary-educated young men and women level education (four

years past high school or a college degree) that the gender disparity fades. Among young men and women who have completed years of education beyond high school and/or received a four-year college degree, there is no gender gap in migration -- the two groups are statistically equal.

Though there are similarities in migra-

tion desires among young Arabs with women depending on the current ecoyoung men and women in the area do not necessarily desire to relocate permanently to the same destinations.

Education plays an important role in where potential emigrants would like to go. Young, highly educated women are more likely than their male counterparts to desire to emigrate to countries within the Arab League. Half of young educated women (52 percent) prefer to move within the Arab League, compared with 29 percent of highly educated young Arab men. Twentyfour percent of highly educated young women cite Saudi Arabia as their desired destination and another 13 percent name the United Arab Emirates.

When comparing all possible countries, young Arabs are most likely to want to go to France, the United States, and Saudi Arabia. While young men and women express similar desires to emigrate to France and the United States, in comparison, a significantly larger proportion of young Arab women are more likely to identify Saudi Arabia as a destination of choice.

Even amid those young Arabs who are less educated, Saudi Arabia attracts a disproportionate number of potential emigrants. Half of young Arabs with an elementary education who desire to emigrate express a desire to move to Saudi Arabia. Saudi Arabia appears to stand alone in that it attracts more young women than men from the region, and a wide group of potential emigrants including highly educated women, as well as those from the opposite end of the education spectrum.

In spite of highly educated women

expressing an inclination to emigrate within the Arab League, a significant in Arab League countries. It is when number of young men and women examining young Arabs with a higher- would like to move permanently to another region.

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Yemenis with an elementary level of education or less are far more likely than all other young Yemenis to express the desire to leave the country

> young men and For this analysis, countries across the Arab League were classified into three groups (high, medium, and low-

time are more likely than young women not employed part time to want to stay in their home countries. Among the low-GDP countries, young women who believe that now is a good time to find a job and those who rate economic conditions as good or excellent are more likely to want to stay than young women who say the opposite. As such, economic opportunities and a sense of connection to one's community are crucial to motivate young Arabs to use their talents in their home countries.

#### **Implications**

While emigration is not something to fear per se, taking steps to engage a country's best and brightest encourages talent and resources to continue to filter back into domestic economies. Although young men are more likely than young women to desire to emigrate, in highly educated groups and within high-GDP countries this gender gap disappears. This confirms that it a political or cultural choice. Half of college-educated women who desire to emigrate would like to do so to another Arab League country; roughly 3 in 10



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### income) based on GDP per capita esti-Percentage Who Would Like to Move Permanently to Another Country 30% Men ■Warner 20% Elementary mates from the International Monetary highly educated men would like stay in the Arab League. Engaging and maxi-

Young men in the low-GDP country groups who rate living conditions as good or excellent are more likely to want to stay in their home country. Among the low-GDP group, being employed full time and having helped a stranger are both associated with young men preferring to stay in their home country. Though not found in the low-GDP group, having Internet access in one's community is a predictor for young men in the medium-GDP group to want to stay in their home countries.

Young women, however, focus on the economy. Women from medium-GDP countries who are employed part mizing on the talents of young, educated Arabs in their home countries will be paramount to the continued economic growth and social development of countries throughout the region.

The keys to motivating young people to stay in their home countries are as straightforward as their reasons to leave -- increasing economic opportunities, economic integration into their societies, and higher levels of civic engagement with their communities. Meeting the needs of these ambitious young people is an important step in each society reaping the benefits of the skills and talents inherent in their young citizens.



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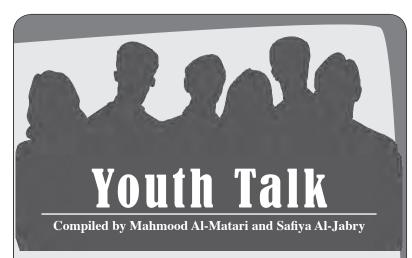
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**Readers View 10** 14 March, 2011



In this section we talk to young people about their concerns, hopes and dreams. Every week we hit the streets and share what young people have to say right

This week's question:

#### How do you think tribalism affect the people in Yemen?

#### Khadija Abdulhakim

I think your tribe consists of your ancestry and the name you carry. Although, I don't think that it should be a reason for a person to feel superior or feel the need to be treated better than others just because they belong to a certain tribe.

#### Safaa Ahmed

Tribalism does affect the Yemeni people in the sense that it gives people a feeling of superiority or inferiority according to their tribal names. Recently there was a published story of a man who was denied marrying a girl he loved just because he belonged to an inferior tribe. It's a societal perception that started thousands of years ago and in my opinion, will not fade any time soon.

#### **Fahd Ahmed**

Tribalism has a huge effect on Yemenis because of the existence of so many tribes. Each tribe has a specific rank which people take into great consideration. Everyone takes pride on their tribes and it makes them differentiate between people. People judge each other based on their tribes. In my opinion, I think this mentality forces people to look negatively upon others.

#### Yemeni girl

In my opinion, tribalism affects Yemenis in a positive way. Believing in it preserves the moral norms and traditions of families. It makes people proud of their ancestry.

#### **Mohammed Barakat**

In my opinion, tribalism in Yemen is more powerful than politics. Sometimes I feel like tribalism controls most things in Yemen. I guess people over here still believe in tribal leaders in problem solving and advice.

#### Nabeel Ahmed Saeed Fara`a

The new generation tries to erase and refuse tribalism but end up resorting to tribal leaders (Sheikhs) to achieve their interests because of their powerful influence on the society.

#### Ghamdan Abdullah Hassan

In my opinion, tribalism is the main reason for corruption in Yemen.

#### Abduljaleel Al-Salimi

Tribalism gives Yemenis a negative concept on how to treat others. It gives tribal leaders the power of being superior to others and they look down on those considered inferior to them.

#### Hani Al-Raudi

Tribalism lets people know where they come from and trace their ancestry. This helps them live up to the expected family norms and traditions. If people don't believe in tribalism, they'll end up losing their beliefs.

#### **Next Week's Question:**

#### As a youth, what is your part/opinion on the ongoing protests in Yemen?

Follow this section for a new question every week and feel free to reply with your answers or feedback by sending an e-mail to ytyouth@gmail.com

So this is your chance to share your humorous stories, poems or opinions with other young readers!

#### **Land of Wisdom**

By: Abdulnasser Al-Abdali abdul\_nasser12@yahoo.com

So full of attractions, don't you believe me!? It attracts the eye when you see Protected by the hands of unity Famous for producing honey A good example of beauty and history With acute people unique in

And work together as one big family So a lot of people when they come

and see Love Yemen more than any other country

And consider it a tourism story That can remain forever in memory So I love Yemen and feel so happy To say it's name whatever it can be.

## **Arab youth leading** the change

By: Fuad Hazaea alsharabifuad@yahoo.com

outh are the leaders of the future and the potential treasure of their nations. In the Arab World, however, the youth were intentionally ignored and marginalized. Our Arab regimes did not make room for the youth and their ambitions. The majority face tremendous challenges. Life conditions are very hard for many of them. The minority who can maintain their basic needs find it challenging to live decently, to find a good education and then a rewarding job.

In the information era, the Arab youth started to share their problems and discuss possible solutions on social media sites. The youth thirsty for freedom and change found a secure environment on social media to organize themselves, increase the number of their supporters and mobilize each other. The freedom squares in many cities were the right places to invest in these abstract plans and ideas developed on this or that website. These plans were a scheme to face the dictators, break the wall of silence and lead the change. The

youth's courage and determination mobilized millions of people from all walks of life to join and support their initiatives and demands. Millions of citizens in the freedom squares in this or that Arab country portrayed a picture of unity and will. It is a unity against corruption, misrule and oppression.

Millions of citizens have already forced the dictators of Tunisia and Egypt to step down. Other Arab countries are moving in the same path. The other dictators do not seem to hear and understand the chanting voices of millions of citizens in these freedom squares. To either leave by choice or be forced to leave. These revolutions cannot be stopped by any means. It is only a matter of time until we see the birth of new revolutions and new eras in these countries. These revolutions have proven that oppression cannot block the winds of freedom and the lights of justice. A war has been declared by the Arab youth against corruption, oppression, injustice, inequality and enslavement. This war will not end until the rest of the Arab dictators leave their thrones. Do you not understand, dictators? Leave, otherwise... you know!

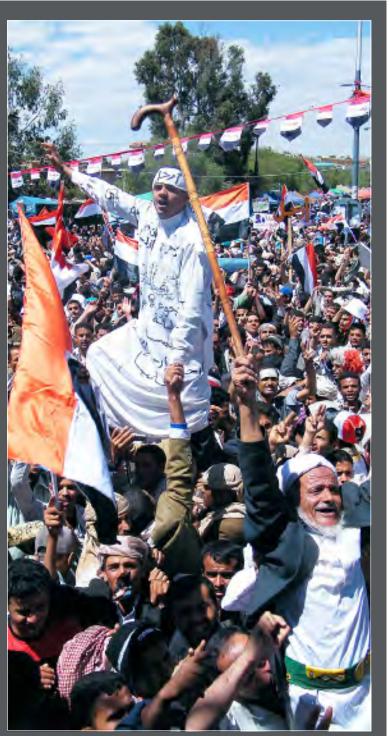
## The day of sadness

By: Naji Gazali naji734@gmail.com

hile we were verv excited to have our day of anger like our brothers and sisters in Tunisia and Egypt on the third of February, such a day of anger was never allowed to happen. Even the place where the protest was supposed to happened was removed, fearing that the place name - Liberation Square or Al-Tahrir - may energize the people stemming from the ongoing heroic demonstration in the same square in Egypt. Our day of anger was killed before its birth. I was saddened more by the number of the demonstrators who came out, compared to the Baltajeeh government supporters who chanted without any regard to the 20 million Yemenis who are fed up with Ali and his regime "we deserve none as a leader but ALI" (malana illa ali). I could not believe what I was hearing. By the same token, the antigovernment demonstrators were not as bold and decisive in their message the pro government ones The default message that has been raging from Tunisia to Egypt was not echoed in our day of anger. That slogan that I am teaching my year old daughter (alsh3ab youreed isqat alnizam) translated as "The people want to rid off the regime." Such beautiful slogans have succeeded in Tunisia and will succeed in Egypt in the coming days, yet we were promised some adjustments, a concession here and there, but the regime continued to get wiser, bolder, more deceiving, and flexible as long as it remained on top of us by any means - even democratically.

When you cool and mitigate the burning pains of the people by promising them radical changes, and showing unprecedented willingness and flexibility that goes beyond expectation, it only proves the continuous shrewdness and cunning of this regime. I believed the president promises and declarations he made one day ahead of the already planned demonstration were only to lessen our anger and possibly sedate our pains at least for one day. It was a smart move by Saleh to tell the people "I understand you" before the storm, rather than saying it after the storm like Ben-Ali of Tunisia. The Yemenis need this regime to collapse from top down, because it has failed to represent them. We don't need a genius to find out that our government is run by one family, and who ever thinks otherwise is either blind or is benefiting from this regime. Saleh has an infinite control

over all branches of the government, which is translating and will continue to translate into mass corruption and a definite demise of our country. We need a real separation of powers in the government, an independent court system that is not controlled by the president and we need legislators who listen to the people, not to the president. We are still angry Mr. President, despite all the nice and down to earth speech that you delivered to avert and inhibit our pain.



Last Friday, at least 50 thousand anti-government demonstrators gathered in front of Sana'a University for prayers. All ages, young and old, were praying for Saleh's ouster together.

YT Photo by Iona Craig



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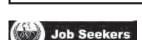
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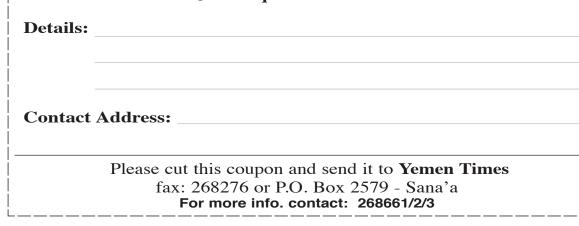
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	0005 0445	0015	Sana'a/ Addis Ababa/ Sana'a	A-330 B-738	IY-865 IY664/5
S	1330	0100	Sana'a/ Djibouti / Moroni/ Djibouti/ Sana'a	A-310	IY-626/7
	0640	0240	Sana'a/ Jedda / Sana'a	B-738	IY-514/5
Ē	1600	0700	Sana'a/ Sayoun/ Abu Dhabi/ Sayoun / Sana'a	B-738	IY-816/7
Saturday	1730	0930	Sana'a/Taiz/ Riyadh/ Aden/ Sana'a Sana'a/Mukalla/Jedda/ Sana'a	B-738	IY-534/5
	1650 1845	1025 1045	Sana'a/ Cairo/ Sana'a	B-738 A-310	IY-510/1 IY-602/3
		1800	Sana'a/ Dubai/ Kuala Lumpur/ Jakarta	A-330	IY-862
	0645	1935	Sana'a/ Aden/ Mumbey/ Sana'a	B-738	IY-854/5
	0300	2300	Sana'a/ Jedda/ Sana'a	B-738	IY-518/9
	0830 Arr.	2300 Dep.	Sana'a/ Dar Al-Salam / Nairobi/ Sana'a  Route	B-738 Model	IY-670 Flight
Sunday	0445	0015	Sana'a/ Addis Ababa/ Sana'a	B-738	IY-622/3
	0350	0030	Sana'a/ Asmara/ Sana'a	A-310	IY-630/1
	0645	0240	Sana'a/ Jedda/ Sana'a	B-738	IY-514/5
	1750	0800	Sana'a/ Aden/ Dubai/ Aden/ Sana'a	B-738	IY-852/3
	2130 1945	0900	Sana'a/ Djibouti /Moroni/ Djibouti/ Sana'a Sana'a/ Taiz/ Cairo/ Hodeidah/ Sana'a	A-310 B-738	IY-628/9 IY-602/3
	1540	1000	Sana'a/ Jedda/ Taiz/ Sana'a	B-738	IY-502/3
	2120		Kuala Lumpur/ Jakarta / Dubai/ Sana'a	A-330	IY-863
	2359	1430	Sana'a/ Beirut / Amman / Sana'a	A-310	IY-643
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	0230 0645	2300	Sana'a/ Jedda/ Sana'a Sana'a/ Damascus/ Sana'a	B-738 A-310	IY-508/9 IY-650/1
Monday	Arr.	Dep.	Route	Model	Flight
	1955	0001	Sana'a/ Cairo/ Paris/ Cairo/ Sana'a	B-738	IY-748/9
	0630	0130	Sana'a/ Khartoum / Sana'a	B-738	IY-632/3
	0700	0300	Sana'a/ Jedda/ Sana'a	B-738	IY-514/5
	0915 1930	1000	Sana'a/ Dubai/ Guangzhou/ Dubai / Sana'a Sana'a/ Dar Al-Salam / Nairobi/ Sana'a	A-330 B-738	IY-888/9 IY-670
	2000	1020	Sana'a/ Aden/ Abu Dhabi/ Aden/ Sana'a	A-310	IY-812/3
	2340	1100	Sana'a/Mukalla/ Cairo/Mukalla/ Sana'a	B-738	IY-602/3
<	1500	1100	Sana'a/ Jedda/ Sana'a	B-738	IY-506/7
	2200	1730	Sana'a/ Addis Ababa/ Sana'a	B-738	IY-624/5
	2150 0645	1830 2100	Sana'a/ Asmara/ Sana'a Sana'a/ Mumbey/ Sana'a	B-738 B-738	IY-630/1 IY-854/5
	0045	2110	Sana'a/ Dubai/ Jakarta	A-330	IY-864
	0230	2230	Sana'a/ Jedda/ Sana'a	A-310	IY-520/1
	Arr.	Dep.	Route	Model	Flight
	2150	0001	Sana'a/ Rome / Frankfurt / Rome / Sana'a	A-310	IY-740/1
	1300 0645	0100	Sana'a/ Djibouti/Moroni / Djibouti/ Sana'a Sana'a / Jedda / Sana'a	A-310 B-738	IY-626/7 IY-514/5
Tuesday	1900	0800	Sana'a/Hodeidah / Cairo/ Aden / Sana'a	B-738	IY-602/3
	1930	1000	Sana'a/ Amman/ Beirut / Sana'a	A-310	IY-642
	1635	0720	Sana'a/ Mukalla/ Dubai/ Mukalla/ Sana'a	B-738	IY-802/3
	1845	1100	Sana'a/ Damascus/ Sana'a	B-738	IY-644/5
	1755 1900	1115 1500	Sana'a/Aden/ Riyadh/ Sana'a Sana'a/ Jedda/ Sana'a	B-738 A-310	IY-532/3 IY-506/7
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	0600	2030	Sana'a/ Nairobi/ Dar Al-Salam / Sana'a	B-738	IY-671
	0245	2045	Sana'a/Aden/ Jedda/ Sana'a	B-738	IY-518/9
	0810	2100	Sana'a/ Mumbey/ Aden/ Sana'a	B-738	IY-854/5
	0250 0415	2330	Sana'a/ Asmara/ Sana'a Sana'a/ Addis Ababa/ Sana'a	A-310 A-310	IY-630/1 IY622/3
¥	Arr.	Dep.	Route	Model	Flight
	0530	0030	Sana'a/Khartoum/ Sana'a	B-738	IY-632/3
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	Arr.	Dep.	Route	Model	Flight
	0600	0130	Sana'a/ Addis Ababa/ Sana'a	A-310	IY-622/3
	1700	0600	Sana'a/Aden/ Cairo / Taiz/ Sana'a	B-738	IY-602/3
	1545 2230	0700 1030	Sana'a/ Sayoun/ Jedda/ Sayoun/ Sana'a Sana'a/ Djibouti / Moroni / Djibouti / Sana'a	B-738 A-310	IY-500/1 IY-628/9
‡	2000	1010	Sana'a/ Aden/ Dubai/ Aden/ Sana'a	B-738	IY-852/3
urs	1940	1030	Sana'a/ Mukalla/ Abu Dhabi / Mukalla/ Sana'a	A-310	IY-814/5
Thursday	2340		Jakarta / Kuala Lumpur/ Dubai/ Sana'a	A-330	IY-863
•	1830	1430	Sana'a / Jedda / Sana'a	B-738	IY-506/7
	0645	2100	Sana'a/ Mumbey/ Sana'a	B-738	IY-854/5
	2359	2130 2000	Sana'a/ Dubai/ Jakarta / Kuala Lumpur Sana'a/ Jedda / Sana'a	A-330 B-738	IY-864 IY-518/9
	0200	2240	Sana'a/ Asmara / Sana'a	B-738	IY-634/5
	Arr.	Dep.	Route	Model	Flight
	1955	0001	Sana'a/ Cairo / Paris / Cairo / Sana'a	B-738	IY-748/9
	0700	0100	Sana'a/ Jedda / Aden / Sana'a	A-310	IY-514/5
	0600	0100 0130	Sana'a / Khartoum / Sana'a Sana'a/ Addis Ababa/ Sana'a	B-738 A-310	IY-632/3 IY-622/3
	1700	0730	Sana'a/ Beirut / Amman / Sana'a	A-310	IY-643
Friday	1705	0845	Sana'a / Dubai / Bahrain / Sana'a	B-738	IY-821
	1310	0830	Sana'a/ Riyadh/ Sana'a	B-738	IY-532/3
	1745	0935	Sana'a/ Kuwait / Doha / Sana'a	B-738	IY-825
	2030 1700	1045 1300	Sana'a/ Cairo /Aden/ Sana'a Sana'a/ Jedda/ Sana'a	A-310 B-738	IY-602/3 IY-506/7
	1/00	1900	Sana'a/Mukalla	B-738	IY-506//
	2205	1845	Sana'a/ Asmara/ Sana'a	A-310	IY-630/1
	0230	2030	Sana'a / Aden / Jedda / Sana'a	B-738	IY-520/1
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## Putting Yemeni politics in context



It has certainly been a fascinating time to be living in Yemen and the Middle East as a whole. Last Thursday, YCMES students were invited to the offices of the Yemen Times, the country's largest English language newspaper, to learn more about the current political situation as well as the ways in which journalists have been addressing it.

Nadia Sakkaf, president of the paper, treated us to a wonderful afternoon. We first toured the facilities and learned how the 70,000 twice-weekly issues of the paper are printed and distributed throughout the country. We then settled into a question and answer session with herself, managing editor Jeb Boone, and the director of the government's Tourist Police, Dr. Musaid Az-Zahri (who kindly answered questions about travel and visa issues). Below is a small sample of the wide-ranging topics of discussion.

With Dr. Az-Zahri

an you elaborate on the current security situation in Yemen? Is it safe for people to travel and visit?

Yes, the majority of Yemen is incredibly safe despite the current protests. We have a map on which you can clearly see the security situation in different during the day). We do our best to acprovinces. commodate your needs, so even if you

#### A map of the security situation in Yemen's provinces

In more unstable areas, we require that you travel with a couple armed guards. This service is provided without charge by the Yemeni government (although we suggest you buy the guards food

during the day). We do our best to accommodate your needs, so even if you were intent on traveling to say, Marib, it would be possible to arrange an escort

## What is your vision for the future of tourism in Yemen?

We are currently enacting a 5 year plan. Our bureau considers a tourist anyone who stays for more than 24 hours but less than a year, so we are in reality in charge of both tourists and short term residents. We are hoping to move beyond the antiquated image of Yemen as a dangerous country, a haven for terrorists, and focus on the myriad of

terrorists, and focus on the myriad of attractions Yemen holds for tourists. We have 5 UNESCO World Heritage Sites, including Socotra, the Old City, and Shebam. We have mountains, desert, and miles of oceanfront. Our history stretches back over 10,000 years. Yemen is one of the great untapped tourism jewels, and we hope to expand on this in upcoming years.

#### With Nadia Sakkaf

## Everybody is wondering, politically, is Yemen "next"?

I don't think so. Libya is a country of 5 million. Yemen has 25 million citizens. In Yemen we have relative freedom of the press and marginal political freedom in the form of opposition parties. This lets off some steam.

#### What was your impetus to publish in English rather than Arabic?

in English rather than Arabic? Yemen Times started as a change agency, not as an unbiased paper. Because we are published in English, we have greater influence with potential donors and other outsiders who could contribute to building Yemen's infrastructure. We acknowledge that our audience is invariably more educated and international – if we wanted to reach into rural areas, for instance.



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Aden Brunch- Address Al-Shalb Other Street - Telefox: 00957 2 357508 we would have used radio. In addition, we have more political freedom when working in English. Writing in English fills a gap and acts as a bridge, making Yemeni affairs accessible to the wider world.

## How free are you really in your reporting? Are there any 'red lines' you can't cross?

We say a lot of things, and we say them quite strongly. But we are in English, and our president is female...this perhaps stems some of the most potentially harsh repercussions. We also make sure that, when taking a stand on an issue, we are employing constructive criticism. We need to make sure that we are not associated with any political party, because we are not, and simply bashing the current system could make us appear partisans.

What is your take on the role youth are playing in the current protests? It is good, of course, and Yemeni society will never be the same. However,

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there are currently no formal representatives speaking on behalf of young people, and this may prove challenging when it comes to negotiating concrete changes. There are currently 5 student

representatives who are meeting with the president today, but they are not formally speaking on behalf of others. Still, it's a start.

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# You mentioned earlier that radio, not newspaper, is the most penetrating media in the country. Can you elaborate on that?

This is in part because of the difficulty it would take to distribute physical paper to the far flung parts of the country. It is also, of course, indicative of the fact that many cannot read but are still engaged in their country's affairs. I remember one time there was a large birth control initiative in some rural districts that was failing miserably. President Saleh got on the radio and spoke in support of contraceptives. In the following weeks there was a noticeable move towards accepting and even asking for contraceptives, because 'Saleh told me on the radio'.





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