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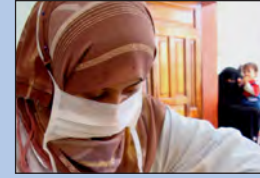
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Tens of Thousands mourn those killed in Sana'a in a defiant display of grief



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Dr. Abdulqawi Al-Shameeri "Thugs destroyed ambulances and beat up female medics"



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Yemeni women face education and employment challenges

GPC resignations continue amidst growing protests

By: Sadeq Al-Wesabi

SANA'A, Mar. 20—More members of the ruling General People's Congress (GPC) have resigned the last three days in condemnation of the crackdown on pro-democracy protesters outside Sana'a University last Friday, including Yemen's ambassador to the UN, Abdullah Al-Saidi.

Those figures that have resigned include the Ministers of Human Rights and Tourism, the head of State-run Saba News Agency, many academics and sheikhs. Several different officials and employees in the public sector have also resigned after the attack that was described as a massacre and left at least 52 dead and about 600 wounded.

Resigned officials have severely criticized the violent crackdown on peaceful protesters by security forces and pro-government thugs, calling for president Saleh to step down immediately.

The recent resignations came after many several other ruling party offi-



Huda al-Ban, Minister of Human rights and one of Yemen's only two female ministers resigned today in condemnation of violence against pro-democracy demonstrators

cialists stepped down in protest earlier this week. Yemeni observers and analysts indicate that the number of resignations from the GPC will increase in the days to come.

These resignations coincide with international and national condemnation for 'heinous crimes' by security forces and government loyalists

against pro-democracy protesters.

Ali Al-Jaradi, a political analyst and editor-in-chief of Al-Ahali newspaper told the Yemen Times that there is no ruling party in Yemen, implying that the president controls all decisions in the party and other members and leaders have no ability to make

Continued on page 2

Military court begins investigation into Friday's bloodbath



Three pro-democracy demonstrators that were killed in last Friday's violence. All three were killed by highly accurate shots to the head by snipers.

By: Shatha Al-Harazi

Sana'a, Mar. 20 – A military prosecution has begun interrogating some of those accused of firing upon protesters on Friday, the Yemen Times has learned. A source which asked to remain anonymous said that only military personnel were present at the investigation session on Sunday which was organized by President Saleh to probe those implicated with Friday's onslaught which left at over 40 protesters dead.

"Military prosecutions are usually only for cases which involve members of the armed forces, which makes it possible to think the attackers are part of Yemen's army," said Abdul Rahman Barman, activist and lawyer.

Meanwhile, Yemen's General Prosecutor, Abdullah Al-Olofi, who went to the scene of the attack to investigate the murders, was forced to hide in an ambulance after being met by a crowd of angry demonstrators.

Riot police surrounding Sana'a

Continued on page 2

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Tens of Thousands mourn those killed in Sana'a in a defiant display of grief



Two of over 40 people that were killed in last Friday's violence. One protester mentioned that the morgue at the nearby hospital where bodies were taken was overflowing



Bodies of those killed last Friday were carried from the Science and Technology University Hospital to the protest camp in front of Sana'a University

By: Jeb Boone

SANA'A, March 20 — Fighter jets soared overhead as thousands of pro-democracy demonstrators carried the bodies of their martyrs through the streets of Sana'a.

The funeral marched stretched for nearly a mile as the bodies of more than 40 anti-government protesters that were killed in last Friday's slaughter were carried to "Change Square" in front of Sana'a University.

Thousands marched through the streets hoisting placards with photos of the "martyrs of the revolution", chanting, "The martyrs are the beloved of God."

"This is the systematic murder of political dissidents," said one flustered demonstrator. "They are coming for us," he added.

Wrapped in Yemeni flags, bodies were carried from a morgue and released to their families waiting with crowds to march their dead loved ones to their graves.

Portraits of the dead were put up along roads leading away from the hospital where the bodies were being carried. The funeral marched stretch for almost half a mile as body after body was carried out of the hospital and towards Sana'a University.

Audha Saleh Abdul Gowi, a 22 year old student, was one of those shot by snipers last Friday. His cousin, Waleed Audh, hung a huge portrait of his friend and cousin on the side of his car. "He was shot in the side, the shoulder, and the leg," said Audh, solemnly.

"Ali Saleh [the president], the murderer, is the enemy of God," chanted thousands of grieving protesters.

More than 75,000 people gathered at the center of the anti-government protest at Sana'a University to mourn the dead.

After prayers were held for the dead in front of Sana'a University, bodies were buried in a nearby cemetery or taken by their families. Many of those killed were tribesman from villages in Arhab and Amran, two very powerful tribes in

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northern Yemen. The men killed from those tribes will be taken back to the countryside and buried in their villages.

Resignations continue

Following the resignation of Yemen's ambassador to Lebanon Faisal Amin al-Ras yesterday, more prominent political figures are resigning in condemnation of last Friday's "massacre" of anti-government demonstrators.

In a move similar to the early days of Libya's revolution, Yemen's ambassador to the UN Abdullah al-Saeed has resigned in protest. Joining in his resignation is one of only two female ministers in the

government of Yemen, Minister of Human Rights Huda al-Ban. Her deputy, Ali Saleh Taisir, also resigned in reaction to what they termed as an "excessive" use of violence against peaceful demonstrators.

Sadeq al-Ahmar, one of Yemen's most powerful tribal Sheikhs, also joined protesters today in demanding that President Saleh relinquishes power. The al-Ahmar family is made up of nine brothers, all of which have considerable power and influence in Yemen's enormous Hashid tribal confederation. Sadeq is the oldest and most influential of these nine brothers.

Yemen imports cooking gas as local supply is cut

By: Ali Saeed

SANA'A, March 20- The Yemeni government said on Sunday that a ship carrying around 6,400 tons of cooking gas is on its way to Yemen's shores.

This shipment will ease the acute shortage of gas in the country caused by the suspension of the local supply from Marib due to the ongoing unrest in the country, Mohamed Al-Bawsani, director of the technical department at the Yemen Gas Company, a state-owned company responsible for the marketing and supply of cooking gas.

The Safer cooking gas plant in Marib and Aden oil refineries fill Yemen's domestic supply of cooking gas. According to the director, whenever there is a crisis, Yemen resorts to imports.

"Trucks supplying gas cylinders from Safer to Sana'a and from Sana'a to other cities were suspended from bringing gas due to the unrest in the country," he said.

Al-Bawsani explained that the company has stores of cooking gas cylinders stockpiled in the capital Sana'a and other Yemeni cities to face similar shortages. At the moment the company, distributes the gas itself directly to citizens in its shops around various cities.

He highlighted that the company is looking for an alternative supply to use until the nationwide uprising is over.

Mohamed Hassan, a citizen in Sana'a city told the Yemen Times that he has been looking for gas for a week and could not find any. He claims that gas shops in Sana'a are running out of gas



The gas shortage is an old problem in Yemen, but this time with the unrest in the country, it caused panic among citizens. The Yemen Gas Company said that now there is a ship on its way to Yemen carrying 6,400 tons of gas to cover the current need.

cylinders.

"I went to several gas shops in my area, but there was nothing," Hassan said.

Abdo Al-Hubaishi, a gas shop owner in Sana'a said that his shop has been short of gas for more than a week. He is now waiting for the gas company to provide him with supplies so his customers can obtain gas in his neighborhood.

Um Khaleel, a housewife in Hodeida told the Yemen Times that she has been looking for gas for two weeks ago and

could not find any.

"The gas suppliers here distribute only to a few people and many citizens are left without gas for their homes," she said.

Al-Bawsani said that this shortage has caused a panic among citizens and has resulted in an increase in demand for gas nationwide.

"Some people want to buy more than they need. We have seen some people who usually buy two cylinders and now want to buy seven," he said.

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The Academy for Education Development, an independent, nonprofit organization, is seeking candidates for MEPI Student Councils Project, based in Sana'a, as follows:

2 Educational local consultant: 1 Female and 1 Male

SCOPE OF WORK :

The selected consultant (s) will carry out the following tasks under Phase III of the Student Councils Project:

- Participate in the design, reviewing and writing up the student council trainees and trainers' manual
- Assist with carrying out the training of MoE master trainers at the national level and the MoE staff at the governorate levels
- Attend training workshops when master MoE trainers begin training other trainers (at the governorate and/or district level) to ensure quality control
- Maintain contact with trained MoE officials to ensure they are conducting trainings as scheduled and to offer assistance and/or provide evaluations of the workshops
- Participate in the training of the Student Council Ambassadors (including students, parents, and faculty members)
- Assist Student Ambassador teams in scheduling visits to other governorates to perform their outreach duties
- Participate in parent council trainings that foster partnerships with student councils
- Participate in summer centers to build awareness about the student councils program
- Carry out other tasks, as needed, by the student councils project staff

ESSENTIAL SKILLS:

- University or graduate-level academic background (preferably in education or youth development)
- Experience working in the education sector and/or implementing community-based civic participation projects
- Excellent written and oral communication skills
- Established technical expertise in youth programming and development
- Experience in performing similar technical assistance and training programs in schools
- Not less than five years experience in training .
- Working Experience in the education sector and/or implementing community-based civic participation projects
- Readiness to work regularly in Sana'a and willing the capital to other governorates / districts
- Experience in performing similar technical assistance and training programs in schools

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Invitation for Public Tender No. (3) Of [2011]



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Specialized and Eligible suppliers who are willing to participate in this Tender shall submit their written applications during the official working hours to:

Yemen Public Radio & TV Corp's Head Quarter,
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Al-Hasaba Area, Beside the Ministry of Public Health & Population
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Tel: 00976-1-231184/230752
Fax: 00976-1-230761

To receive Bidding Documents for an amount [YR 10,000] Ten thousand Y R, non-refundable. The deadline for selling Bidding Documents will be on Wednesday [12 / 04 /2011].

Bids shall be submitted to Yemen Public Radio & TV Corp (YCRTV) in an envelope sealed with red wax indicating Tender No., and the date and time of Bid opening. The following documents must be contained in the bid:

- 1- An unconditional Bank Guarantee for a lump sum amount) of (YR 200,000). Bank guarantee has to be in the form provided in the bidding documents and valid for 120 days from date of Bid Opening. Bank guarantee may be substituted with a payable cheque.
- 2- Valid tax certificate for the Year 2011 .
- 3- Valid Insurance Certificate for the Year 2011.
- 4- A copy of Zakat Registration Card for the year 2011.
- 5- A copy of Registration & Classification Card for the year 2011.
- 6- A copy of Sales Tax Registration Card for the year 2011.
- 7- A copy of a valid Profession License.
- 8- Prospective bidders may inspect Bidding Documents before purchasing during the working hours no later than 20 days from the date of Tender announcement.

Bids shall be submitted to the Secretariat of Tenders and Auctions Committee in Yemen Public Radio & TV Corp's Head Quarter not later than [11:00 am] on Sunday 17/April/2011]. Bids received after the deadline for submission will be returned un-opened.

Bid Opening will take place at Chairman of Board office, 3rd Floor, Public Radio & TV Corp's Head Quarter, in presence of bidders or their authorized representatives.

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- b. Develops a clear structured process to incorporate their existing plan and goals into a more effective and efficient system.
- c. Consults with department teams to assess needs and develop an understanding of their operations and business processes and sort out the challenging within each department to improve the organizational effectiveness and business solutions.
- d. Works with internal leaders and HR professionals to identify key issues to ensure the successful implementation of management change and fostering the effectiveness and efficiency.
- e. Works closely with the Corporate Office for Organizational Development / Effectiveness and Talent Management.
- f. Designs and facilitates small and medium size group interventions, especially in the areas of team development, team communication and change management. This may include such activities as leadership coaching, focus group discussions, gap analysis, team building exercises, strategic thinking skills, succession planning, mentoring, 360 degree feedback, behavioural assessment techniques, team retreats and educational trainings.
- g. Provides direction, support and guidance to various stakeholder groups / entities as required in the launch and implementation of corporate initiatives (e.g., Fair Process Leadership / Change Management / Pay for Performance Management).

Minimum Requirements:

- a. University degree (Administrative, English, Economic or similar related degrees).
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Dr. Abdulqawi Al-Shameeri to the Yemen Times

“Thugs destroyed ambulances and beat up female medics”

By: Sadeq Al-Wesabi

Doctors and medics are facing increasing resistance from security forces as they attempt to reach those wounded at Tagheer Square by Sana'a University. Speaking to the Yemen Times, Dr. Abdulqawi Al-Shameeri, the secretary-general of the Yemeni Doctors and Pharmacist's Syndicate, said that the role of the syndicate in this revolution is critical.

“Most workers in the health sector have taken part in this revolution. They are enthusiastic about helping injured protesters in unbelievable way,” Al-Shameeri said. “All doctors and medics are important partners in helping people at the sit-in.”

The syndicate, in collaboration with Private Hospitals Union and Yemeni Charity Medical Association, provides protesters and the injured with medical services and medicines.

He said that ambulance workers have been repeatedly attacked by baltigiya, plain-clothed government loy-

alists, preventing them from reaching the injured.

“They have destroyed ambulances and beat up female medics who came voluntarily to help people there. Police also arrested an ambulance crew working for the Red Cross,” he said.

Al-Shameeri said that security forces falsely accused medical staff of detonating a bomb in the square. “It's shameful to accuse those selfless volunteers of doing such a thing. Those medics were only there to help people.”

He also indicated that a Dr. Shawqi Abdul Qafi was detained until very recently. Moreover, Dr. Hosni Al-Jawshai has received numerous death threats and Dr. Mutahar Al-Ashwal was kidnapped by unknown criminals as he was on his way to the protest to aid in the treatment of the wounded there.

Last Saturday, March 12th, hundreds of doctors came to treat injured people without orders from the syndicate.

“I have never seen such cooperation among doctors and medics in my life. They selflessly offer themselves and their services to injured protesters and do their very best to help them,” he

said.

Officials from a number of private hospitals in Yemen have declared that they are ready to receive all the injured from sit-ins and treat them free of charge.

“Unfortunately, the thugs who prevent us from treating the injured are protected by security forces,” he explained.

“Yes to dialogue, yes to stability... these expressions are written on thugs' sticks but they use these sticks to beat medics and doctors,” he added.

According to Al-Shameeri, the field hospital in Change Square has X-ray machines, anesthesia machines and operations room run by medics who are working day and night for protesters.

“There are many anonymous benefactors who provide the field hospital and medical tents with money and medicines. Also, many pharmaceutical companies have declared their willingness to support the revolutions in the governorates by providing them with different medications, free of charge,” he said.

He indicated that hospitals in Sana'a have been receiving many serious cases from different governorates due to lack of health services in those governorates, calling for all doctors and medics to help people and take part in light of such critical circumstances.

Poisonous gases

“Until now, we have not been able to find an antidote for the poisonous gases that were fired by riot police on peaceful protesters,” he said.

“CN, CS, CR and OC are kinds of gases that used by riot police to disperse protesters. I've searched about these gases and I discovered that these kinds of gases do indeed incapacitate people,” he explained.

According to Al-Shameeri, there is a difference between these poisonous gases and tear gas. He said that protesters can recover from tear gas easily and quickly by rubbing their eyes with wet towel.

“The Health Ministry claimed that these gases are not poisonous although they didn't take blood samples to examine them,” he said.



Dr. Abdulqawi Al-Shameeri

Yemen's blind: From darkness to light

By: Mahmood Al-Matari

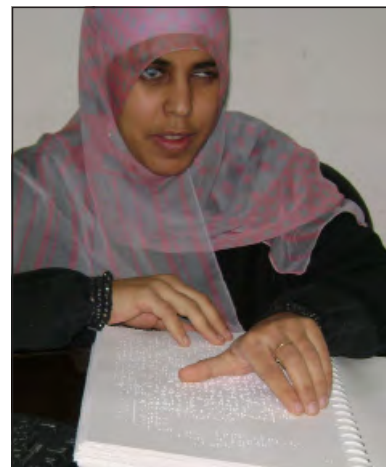
“I lost my sight when I was child, I was fighting with my brother and he threw a stone at my head. From that day forward, I haven't been able to see,” said Nassim Al-Obal a 20 year-old secondary school student.

Nassim's life changed dramatically after she was blinded. “I was always sitting at home afraid and shy, imagining all the people mocking me behind my back.”

After joining the Aman organization Nassim says that despite being blind she is more confident than others in her village because now she has the ‘power of education.’

Relying largely on personal effort and little material support, the Aman Organization, provides accommodation for 65 blind women and looks after a further 860, a number that continues to increase every year.

The organization was founded by Fa-



Jwahr Al-Muhjami, a blind university student reading her book

blind people after we train them or after they graduate from university because we believe in them,” said Al-Absi.

There were only 15 blind students registered in Yemeni schools in 1997. Now there are 115 students spread across fifty-five schools.

According to Najla Hizam, an employee who helps integrate blind students into schools some schools are apprehensive about taking their students.

“Some schools refuse the blind because they believe they are not able to study like others.”

But according to Nassim Al-Obal, she feels welcome in her school.

“I do not feel any difference now because all the students here and most of the employees are blind like me. Even if I go outside I feel like others,” said Al-Obal.

She added that she spend her free time on writing stories or reading Holy Quran and sometimes listening to the news on TV.

“My wish is to finish studying and

tima Al-A'aql in 1999 with the aim of caring for seven blind students, teach them, integrating them into different schools, and defending their rights.

Al-Aman helps blind students from the moment they start school to the day they graduate, providing them with learning equipment such as Braille books, computers, and diction programs, as well as teaching them how to write stories and poems.

“These activities help fill what would otherwise be empty time,” said Taiseer Yaheha Matar, activity organiser.

“Integrating blind students in schools is very important because the management believes that there is no difference between blind people and other students,” said Ausan Al-Absi, director of the organization's integration office, who is himself blind.

She said they offer many other things for the blind like accommodation, health and social services, and social security for every student.

“We inform families and the society at-large about the condition of blind people through distributing brochures. The organization also employs all the



Shrouq Al-Rda'ai a blind media university student

became a teacher for other blind people whose families refuse to let them go to school,” said Al-Obal.

Shrouq Al-Rda'ai is a blind media university student who works as director of public relations in the organization.

“I once thought that I was the only blind person in this world,” she said.

Shrouq was born blind. At the age of nine she joined Al-Aman. While she found difficulties at the beginning and longed to return home she soon felt empowered and discovered a passion for learning.

“Integrating in school has changed my life, the students at the school thought that I was from a different world,” said Al-Rda'ai.

“Al-Aman has taken me from the darkness to the light, I would like to turn the handicapped from frustrated and depressed people to qualified citizens ready to serve their country.”



Blind students using computers in the computer lab



Nassim Al-Obal, writing on her notebook by Braille



A Braille printer



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Please apply immediately as we will be interviewing suitable candidates before the closing date

Yemeni women face education and employment challenges

Compared to around two thirds of men, only half of Yemeni women believe they have the freedom to choose education or career paths. Gallup's surveys of 15- to 29-year-old Yemenis for the Silatech Index in 2009 and 2010 reveal the following details in this issue.

By: Nicole Naurath and Julie Ray

Rising poverty and high unemployment limit the choices young men and women in Yemen can make about their vocations. Although majorities are still satisfied with their personal freedom to decide what they do with their lives the differences between men and women in Yemen are clearly visible.

Gallup's surveys of 15- to 29-year-old Yemenis for the Silatech Index in 2009 and 2010 found 71 percent of young men and 54 percent of young women were satisfied with their freedom to choose their own destiny. The gender gap, however, underscores different challenges young Yemeni women face.

"Given the recent unrest in Yemen, it's important to note that these data pre-date the still unfolding situation and that this question assesses people's feelings about their freedom to explore their own paths in life, more so than how they feel about the level of freedom in their country as a

whole," explained the research.

Lubna is today a married Yemeni woman from Sana'a and a mother of five children. She barely completed her high school before she was married off to a relative.

"I was the top student of my class. My teachers anticipated a great future for me. I too dared to dream of becoming a doctor or an engineer but all came to an end when I graduated from school sixteen years ago," she said bitterly. "It did not make a difference to my father that I was the top student of my class. In our family university education was not acceptable during my time. Now things have changed."

Some of Lubna's younger sisters are in university, and she vows that all her daughters will have the careers of their choices.

Ramzya Al-Eryani director of the Yemeni Women's Union says that the situation of Yemeni women has changed today, although there are some challenges that affect both men and women's ability to make choices about their lives.

In this country, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with your freedom to choose what you do with your life?

Asked of Yemeni nationals aged 15 to 29

	Young men	Young women
Satisfied	71%	54%
Dissatisfied	28%	40%

Based on aggregated data from surveys in 2009 and 2010
GALLUP

Yemen has made positive steps toward the Millennium Development Goal of promoting gender equality and empowering women. However, a great deal of work remains before the country bridges the still-wide chasms in young women's access to education, their participation in the workforce, and political participation.

The United Nations' Development Programme reported in 2010 that female school enrollment rates have steadily improved, as has the awareness of how important education is for girls, but education remains elusive for many young Yemeni women.

Seventeen percent of young women, for example, said they have a secondary education; this is in sharp contrast to nearly half of young Yemeni men (47 percent) with the same level of education. The vast majority of young Yemeni women (81 percent) Gallup surveyed said they have elementary educations or less schooling, compared with nearly half of young Yemeni men (48 percent) in the same situation.

Studies conducted in Yemen by the Status of Women in the Middle East and North Africa Project (SWMENA) in 2010 suggest many young women and young men desire more education than they are getting.

Three in 10 young men (30 percent) between the ages of 18 and 24 and less than one-quarter of young women (23 percent) said they have all the education they want. More than one-third of young women (36 percent) and more than half of young men (55 percent) said they would like to complete a college or graduate degree.

The SWMENA survey also suggests that young women's career aspirations are related to their education. Nearly one-quarter of women younger than age 25 without any formal schooling intend to pursue a career, considerably lower than the 41 percent who have completed primary school who plan to do the same. Nearly three in four (74 percent) of those who have finished secondary school would like to seek a career.

Tawfeek Ahmed had to let go of his dream in travelling abroad to perfect his English in order to run the family auto maintenance workshop.

"It was good money, and there was no one in the family who can do it. My father needed me and I had to either let my family down or postpone my dream

indefinitely," said Tawfeek. "Naturally I chose the later."

Perhaps hampered by their relative lack of education in addition to other economic and cultural barriers, Gallup found young Yemeni women's participation in the workforce was low in 2010. Eighty-two percent of young women were out of the workforce -- meaning they were not employed in the last seven days, neither for an employer nor for themselves and were not looking for work, and/or were not available to start work. In contrast, 27 percent of young men were out of the workforce.

It's possible that many young Yemeni women who were not in the workforce were full-time students, disabled, or homemakers, but the latter is more likely because 48 percent of the 15- to 29-year-old women surveyed were married.

Further, these young women already had an average of four children younger than age 15 living in their households.

Implications

Despite gains on the education front, as of 2010, Yemen is still not on track to meet the Millennium Development Goal of eliminating gender disparities in primary, secondary, and higher education by 2015. These disparities, so evident in Gallup's data, may be keeping young Yemeni women from getting the education they desire and is potentially limiting their career opportunities. This, in turn, may be fueling young Yemeni women's frustrations with the freedom they have to choose what they do with their lives.



Yemeni women especially in the urban areas have become more empowered and are increasingly able to make the career choices they want.
YT Photo by Amira Al-Sharif

Economic and social obstacles line young Yemeni women's paths to education, but investing in young women's education is also an investment in Yemen's future generations. Half of young men (50 percent) and 57 percent of young women believe children in their country do not get the chance to learn and grow every day. If women, as the primary caregivers, are educated, they can model this for their children and siblings and improve their chances.

What is your highest completed level of education?

Asked of Yemeni nationals aged 15 to 29

	Young men	Young women
Completed elementary education or less	48%	81%
Secondary education and some education beyond secondary education	47%	17%
Completed four years of education beyond high school and/or received a four-year college degree	5%	2%

Based on aggregated data from surveys in 2009 and 2010
GALLUP

Young Yemenis' Employment Status in 2010

Asked of Yemeni nationals aged 15 to 29

	Young men	Young women
Employed full time for an employer	14%	1%
Employed full time for self	27%	2%
Employed part time do not want full time	3%	5%
Unemployed	15%	3%
Employed part time, want full time	14%	7%
Out of workforce	27%	82%

Based on aggregated data from surveys in 2010
GALLUP

Economists call on peaceful transfer of power

By: Ali Saeed

Prominent Yemeni economists this week have called on all political powers in the country to work in "an urgent peaceful transition of power to preserve the national economy from any potential disasters."

Following the ouster of Tunisian President Bin Ali and Egyptian President Mubarak, anti-government demonstrations have taken place throughout major cities across Yemen for more than a month.

These nationwide anti-government protesters have refused all political concessions from Saleh, demanding nothing less than the end of his 33 year stranglehold on power in the country. Anti-government protests have recently witness a horrifying level of violence against them from pro-government thugs and plainclothes soldiers.

Adel Al-Ashtal, a prominent economist at the General Investment Authority told the Yemen Times that, "The length of political and social unrest can have dire consequences in the country's economic sector."

"The continuation of these demonstrations is not healthy for the economy," he explained.

"Presently, all business in the country has been suspended and no new investments will begin as all businessmen and members of the parliament are busy with the current unrest and its potential consequences," said Al-Ashtal.

He highlighted that businessmen and people in general at this time in Yemen are living in a period of uncertainty and it is difficult to predict what is going to happen economically.

He insisted that a peaceful transfer of power must be negotiated between political blocs and protesters to avoid economic collapse.

"We want to preserve the nation's economic stability. We must seek an end to this crisis," he said.

He added that Yemen has several economic challenges and any transfer of power should be done within the framework of maintaining recent economic gains accomplished with the aid of the GPC government.

"Yemeni wisdom must win out against irrationality in order to bring an end to bloodshed. This must be done by adopting measures for a peaceful transition of power," said Al-Ashtal.

Dr. Mohamed Jubran, professor of economics at Sana'a University spoke to the Yemen Times from the academ-

ics tent at "Change Square" in Sana'a where thousands of Yemenis have been protesting for more than a month demanding the removal of the regime.

"Many expected that Yemen's anti-regime protests would have been violent, but in reality protesters showed good sense and until now all the anti-government protests nationwide have been very peaceful," said Jubran.

He indicated that these protests until now, "Have not caused any kind of looting or damage to public or private property. Nothing will harm the Yemeni economy more than the regime refusing to relinquish power."

He explained that protests can only affect the production and manufacturing sectors of the economy considering that many people have left their jobs and joined the protests. Others have gone on strike.

"The longer this regime refuses to step down, the more I worry about the condition of our national economy," he said.

"All international donors who want to see a safe and economically stable Yemen should pressure Saleh to resign immediately. He has no chance left for dialog with leaders of this revolution now that he has used excessive violence against the people," said Jubran.



إعلان تمديد مناقصة



الجمهورية اليمنية
وزارة الاتصالات وتقنية المعلومات
الشركة اليمنية للاتصالات الدولية المحدودة (تيليمن)

تعلن وزارة الاتصالات وتقنية المعلومات - الشركة اليمنية للاتصالات الدولية (تيليمن) عن تمديد موعد فتح مظاريف المناقصة العامة الدولية التالية:

رقم المناقصة	اسم المشروع
مناقصة رقم (TY/11/01) لإدارة وتشغيل الشركة اليمنية للاتصالات الدولية المحدودة (تيليمن)	مشروع إدارة وتشغيل شركة تيليمن

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- آخر موعد لاستلام العطاءات (الفنية والمالية) وفتح المظاريف الفنية هو الساعة الحادية عشر صباحاً من يوم الثلاثاء الموافق ٥ / إبريل / ٢٠١١ م.

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إدارة العامة، الدور الرابع، صالة الاجتماعات
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مع الالتزام بنفس الشروط السابقة الواردة في الاعلان.

Bid Extension Announcement

Republic of Yemen
Ministry of Telecommunications and Information Technology
Yemen International Telecommunications Company Limited (TeleYemen)

The Ministry of Telecommunications and Information Technology- Yemen International Telecommunications Company Limited (TeleYemen) announces the extension of the following International Bid:

Bid No.	Project Name
Bid No (TY01/2011) for the Management and Operating of Yemen International Telecommunication Company Limited (TeleYemen)	Management and Operating of TeleYemen Project

The project is self-financed by Yemen International Telecommunications Company Limited (TeleYemen).
Deadline for submission: -
The deadline for bids submission (Technical and Financial) and opening of technical bids will be on Tuesday 5th April, 2011 at 011:00 a.m.
□ **Technical proposals will be opened at the following address:**
Yemen International Telecommunications Company Limited (TeleYemen)
Headquarter
4th Floor's, Conference Room
26 of September St.
Sana'a - Republic of Yemen
□ **Interested bidders can review the bid documents before purchasing during official working hours within the selling period of the bid documents until 31st March 2011.**
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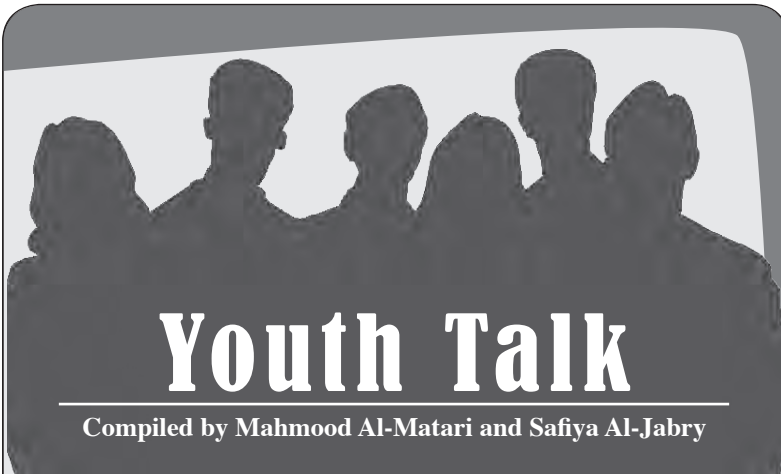
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Youth Talk

Compiled by Mahmood Al-Matari and Safiya Al-Jabry

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 here.

This week's question:

As a member of the youth, what is your opinion of the ongoing protests in Yemen?

Taha Muthana

I think that all Yemenis play a part in these protests, whether directly or indirectly. For me, as a youth, I think I should first know and understand what the recent situation is then know what the community needs before taking any steps. I believe that I am responsible for making my own decisions because Allah has given all of us the will and power to speak for ourselves. Sitting around and discussing the recent situation is not doing me any good, so I'm taking a stand to think about the future of my country and to do something about it.

Wala'a Almakari

My awareness towards the current crisis in Yemen is increasing by the day as our president keeps on dragging us toward a tragedy of endless civil war instead of attempting to compromise. I think the president has to vow not to run in the next presidential election in 2013. Saleh's reign, which seems like a horrible nightmare, has to end soon in order to get rid of oppression, corruption, inequality, poverty and savageness. Yemen is at risk of civil war; therefore, I think we all have to look before we leap.

Najeeb Othman, Student

I believe we do need change in our country but not through violence and protests. Violence will only lead to civil war and bigger problems. I think demonstrating will only destroy the country we all love so much without solving any problems.

Najat Ahmed

I do not want to simply be a spectator when my country is in the process of making history. I want to have a deep understanding of what is going on, make up my own mind on what I think is right for the future of my country and follow that.

Saddam Al-Samadi

First of all, I admire your great effort making Yemeni society more open-minded about what is happening around and I wish you the best.

I'm looking on the bright side of the world rather than the dark side. Yemenis are dreaming of a better country in which there will be equality of power among all parties rather than having power specified to one party. Soon, power will be in the hands of those who have devoted their lives so that Yemen can raise its flag high in the sky of liberty. I believe that the invisible is not impossible.

Fahd Ahmed

I think the ongoing protests in Yemen are a part of Arab revolution and a result of suffering from citizens. Protesters in freedom squares of many Arab cities are expressing their thirst for freedom and change. Yemenis want to get back their dignity that they believe they have lacked for the past 33 years. As a youth, I believe in revolution which has proven that oppression cannot stop the winds of freedom and the light of justice.

Abdulmajeed Zobilah, Student

Some people are afraid of the revolution and change, thinking it will cause more problems in the country. In my opinion, the time for change is now and not any time in the future if we want to have a better country.

Nabil Ahmed Saeed

In my opinion ongoing protests are a result of poverty and unemployment in Yemen. Fresh university graduates find themselves in a huge vacuum of idleness after years of studying. I am one of those people demonstrating in hopes of having our demands met in order to have decent lives in the future.

Next Week's Question:

What are your hopes and dreams for the future of 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!



A Yemeni female doctor at the field hospital at Change-Square at the anti-president protest area. Women have been an integral part of the protests for and against the president, not only as protestors but also as supporters one way or the other.

Photo by AbdulRahman H. Jaber

President Saleh's speech through a Yemeni emigrant's eyes

By: Mofeed Al-Gaad
mofeed336@yahoo.com

Homeland is dear to the heart, and it is dearest to the emigrant's heart who has been deprived of his homeland for long years. It is said that Yemeni land is the mother who delivered the original Arabs. And one whose roots do not lead him to Yemen is not an original Arab, who is well-known for his generosity, kindness, loyalty, and true promises. However, Yemeni emigrants no longer hold a position of honor among his Arabic brothers, and have become overwhelmed by a sense of sorrow and sadness because of the bad news coming out from his homeland.

A while ago President Saleh delivered a speech in front of his security and military forces. For the first time President Saleh delivered a speech on the current situation. His speech revealed that the situation in Yemen is not stable and that Yemeni society is living in a state of chaos nowadays. Speeches delivered by opposition leaders also revealed that Yemen isn't in good health and that the situation in Yemen is going from bad to worse. Therefore we emigrants feel a sense of sorrow and disappointment towards our homeland. In addition to the problems of life in another country and the deprivation of not seeing relatives and friends, the Yemeni emigrant has to carry on his shoulders the bad news and disappointed expectations of his home-

land.

Actually, the president's speech was very valuable and appreciated by all when he declared that "We are against succession. We are in favor of change." We felt a sense of relief and happiness because of those happy promises, but later we became afraid of this happiness because the majority of Arab leaders do not transfer their words into action. They say something and do something else as if they believe in an idiom that says "Words speak louder than actions." Despite this, we still have a firm confidence in our Arab leaders in general, and in our President Ali Abdullah Saleh in particular, who has really attained for us many glorious achievements. At least we should love him for his frank speech,

in which he admitted that there is corruption and unfaithful leaders in the ruling party. But we as Yemeni people should deter them from exploiting their official positions to fulfill their personal interests. Dear Yemeni reader, Yemen is our kindest mother. She can dispense with us when she is healthy, but know that when she is sick she is in need of our help. So we should put out our hands to help her to stand as a huge fruitful tree, and provide us with its blessed fruits. I hope my voice has reached through Yemen to those Yemenis out of the country. The last word I can say here is thank you President Saleh for your speech, that gave us a glimpse of hope among the gloom. I pray to Allah to keep Yemen both stable and peaceful.

Dreams and the demon

By: Afeef Al-Hazzami
Translated by:
Mohammad Al-Hakimi

Zahra was a beautiful and highbrow lady who had just been married to Dr. Nabil. She was brought to live with him in his village. Zahra was beside herself with joy. She had just finished her college years and looked forward to a rewarding career side-by-side with her husband who worked for a hospital there. Thus she had envisaged her future and had actively aspired for this all of her life.

Nabil began to work in the city after he finished his obligatory service in the village, leaving his wife behind. He was in the habit of returning back to his village on weekends. Zahra asked him to rent a house for them both in the city so that she might have the opportunity to change her place and work in the city, but Nabil ignored her proposal. This made her more insistent in her demand. The fall out was that Nabil was unable

to evade the issue and revealed his mind to her. He told her that that he did not approve of the idea of her going to work. He would prefer that she stayed at home as a housewife.

Zahra felt as if she had skipped a heartbeat due to this inglorious decision, and felt extremely upset. She felt as though her wings were being clipped. This was followed by an argument that heated up, little by little, and ended with Nabil belittling his wife and Zahra walking out of the room crying. She couldn't sleep all night long. She began to think with regret of her past life. She remembered the day of her betrothal to Nabil whom she now realized she didn't know well. She had learnt that he was a doctor who had just come from abroad where he was studying medicine, and that was all she knew. She accepted him with little consideration, believing that she would never face problems, like this one, frustrating their domestic life.

Memories of another ex-colleague came back to her mind. That young man had fallen in love with her and

had done his best to get close to her. However, she treated him with discretion as with any other colleague in her college, irrespective of the fact that she fell something strong was pulling her to his side.

Nabil was prevailed upon to take her to her father's house. She told her father the story. Then her father tried to work on Nabil to be reasonable and human in his judgment, however her husband persisted in his stand.

After some time Zahra was sent to her husband's house at her fathers behest. Thus came to an end the cherished dream of Zahra, and the future she had all along nursed was shattered into pieces. With it lay dead everything she had thought of achieving as a woman with her significant other in society and life as a whole.

Zahra returned back home with her husband. In the course of time, they had a baby girl who they named Nada. But the treatment she received at the house of her husband worsened day by day. He used to spend a long time away from

the house. Zahra's health deteriorated, and she suffered bouts of depression and convulsions on and off.

One day her father came to see her. He felt very disturbed to find how much his daughter had changed. She narrated her plight to him and she was brought back to her father's place of residence.

Her father went to the hospital to find Nabil and he was told that Nabil was celebrating his honeymoon. The father was extremely put off by this piece of information, particularly when he learnt that Nabil had been married a second time to the hospital manager's daughter. He took his address and went there. When he arrived he knocked on the door violently and Nabil came out, furious. He followed crossed all the fundamental decencies and culminated in a very depressive outcome for the former wife. Zahra lay desolate and rejected, begging for an explanation. Her father collected many people and revealed to them the betraying and treacherous man Nabil, who was dead to all sense of pity and loyalty.

The new hope

By: Kais Al-Iriani
kaliriani@gmail.com

Suddenly, the flowers are blooming, the birds are singing, and women are trilling "Yeli li li". In the middle of the winter, the sun shines like no other time, and the stagnant waters have started to move, announcing the start of new life.

2011 comes with new hopes, new hopes for all of us. It started in Tunis,

moving to Egypt, but we all feel it around the Arab World. To those of us who felt, for a long time, that our life is losing its beauty. To those who were struggling through life because we are fed up with corruption and injustice. To those who felt hopeless, in a world that is going the wrong way. This is a new dawn!

The sun decided to rise, to kill the darkness inside us. The voices of young men and women are filling our life with joy and excitement. Now we

say: we have a future, and we will work for it. The "facebook" generation that was accused of being careless, that we felt will ruin the future, has proved us wrong. History is made here. In less than a month two revolutions are shaping our future and it is not over yet.

The legitimacy of the revolutionary regimes that have been ruling our world for decades is falling apart. The regimes that do not bother to know about their own people are falling. A

new world of freedom is forming in front of our eyes. A world where Arabs can be proud of themselves and their nation.

There is no revolutionary council, no leader, except for the people. There isn't even a single gun needed.

Now is the time to believe in ourselves. Never give up! Injustice has no room in our world, but we must take a position. We must say no and resist. We must seize the moment.

It all starts here, with you and me...

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Saturday	2150	0001	Sana'a / Rome / Frankfurt / Rome / Sana'a	A-310	YF-740/1
	0005		Jakarta / Kuala Lumpur / Dubai / Sana'a	A-330	YF-865
	0445	0015	Sana'a / Addis Ababa / Sana'a	B-738	YF-664/5
	1330	0100	Sana'a / Djibouti / Moroni / Djibouti / Sana'a	A-310	YF-626/7
	0640	0240	Sana'a / Jeddah / Sana'a	B-738	YF-514/5
	1600	0700	Sana'a / Sayoun / Abu Dhabi / Sayoun / Sana'a	B-738	YF-816/7
	1730	0930	Sana'a / Taiz / Riyadh / Aden / Sana'a	B-738	YF-534/5
	1650	1025	Sana'a / Mukalla / Jeddah / Sana'a	B-738	YF-510/1
	1845	1045	Sana'a / Cairo / Sana'a	A-310	YF-602/3
	1800		Sana'a / Dubai / Kuala Lumpur / Jakarta	A-330	YF-862
Sunday	0645	1935	Sana'a / Aden / Mumbey / Sana'a	B-738	YF-854/5
	0300	2300	Sana'a / Jeddah / Sana'a	B-738	YF-518/9
	0830	2300	Sana'a / Dar Al-Salam / Nairobi / Sana'a	B-738	YF-670
	0445	0015	Sana'a / Addis Ababa / Sana'a	B-738	YF-622/3
	0350	0030	Sana'a / Asmara / Sana'a	A-310	YF-630/1
	0645	0240	Sana'a / Jeddah / Sana'a	B-738	YF-514/5
	1750	0800	Sana'a / Aden / Dubai / Aden / Sana'a	B-738	YF-852/3
	2130	0900	Sana'a / Djibouti / Moroni / Djibouti / Sana'a	A-310	YF-628/9
	1945	0930	Sana'a / Taiz / Cairo / Hodeidah / Sana'a	B-738	YF-602/3
	1540	1000	Sana'a / Jeddah / Taiz / Sana'a	B-738	YF-502/3
Monday	2120		Kuala Lumpur / Jakarta / Dubai / Sana'a	A-330	YF-863
	2359	1430	Sana'a / Beirut / Amman / Sana'a	A-310	YF-643
	0645	1935	Sana'a / Aden / Mumbey / Sana'a	B-738	YF-854/5
	0230	2230	Sana'a / Jeddah / Sana'a	B-738	YF-508/9
	0645	2300	Sana'a / Damascus / Sana'a	A-310	YF-650/1
	1955	0001	Sana'a / Cairo / Paris / Cairo / Sana'a	B-738	YF-748/9
	0630	0130	Sana'a / Khartoum / Sana'a	B-738	YF-623/3
	0700	0300	Sana'a / Jeddah / Sana'a	B-738	YF-514/5
	0915	0800	Sana'a / Dubai / Guangzhou / Dubai / Sana'a	A-330	YF-888/9
	1930	1000	Sana'a / Dar Al-Salam / Nairobi / Sana'a	B-738	YF-670
Tuesday	2000	1020	Sana'a / Aden / Abu Dhabi / Aden / Sana'a	A-310	YF-812/3
	2340	1100	Sana'a / Mukalla / Cairo / Mukalla / Sana'a	B-738	YF-602/3
	1500	1100	Sana'a / Jeddah / Sana'a	B-738	YF-506/7
	2200	1730	Sana'a / Addis Ababa / Sana'a	B-738	YF-624/5
	2150	1830	Sana'a / Asmara / Sana'a	B-738	YF-630/1
	0645	2100	Sana'a / Mumbey / Sana'a	B-738	YF-854/5
	2110		Sana'a / Dubai / Jakarta	A-330	YF-864
	0230	2230	Sana'a / Jeddah / Sana'a	A-310	YF-520/1
	2150	0001	Sana'a / Rome / Frankfurt / Rome / Sana'a	A-310	YF-740/1
	1300	0100	Sana'a / Djibouti / Moroni / Djibouti / Sana'a	A-310	YF-626/7
Wednesday	0645	0240	Sana'a / Jeddah / Sana'a	B-738	YF-514/5
	1900	0800	Sana'a / Hodeidah / Cairo / Aden / Sana'a	B-738	YF-602/3
	1930	1000	Sana'a / Amman / Beirut / Sana'a	A-310	YF-642
	1635	0720	Sana'a / Mukalla / Dubai / Mukalla / Sana'a	B-738	YF-802/3
	1845	1100	Sana'a / Damascus / Sana'a	B-738	YF-644/5
	1755	1115	Sana'a / Aden / Riyadh / Sana'a	B-738	YF-532/3
	1900	1500	Sana'a / Jeddah / Sana'a	A-310	YF-506/7
	2255		Jakarta / Dubai / Sana'a	A-330	YF-865
	0600	2030	Sana'a / Nairobi / Dar Al-Salam / Sana'a	B-738	YF-671
	0245	2045	Sana'a / Aden / Jeddah / Sana'a	B-738	YF-518/9
Thursday	0810	2100	Sana'a / Mumbey / Aden / Sana'a	B-738	YF-854/5
	0250	2330	Sana'a / Asmara / Sana'a	A-310	YF-630/1
	0415	2345	Sana'a / Addis Ababa / Sana'a	A-310	YF-622/3
	0530	0030	Sana'a / Khartoum / Sana'a	B-738	YF-623/3
	0920	0245	Sana'a / Jeddah / Sana'a	B-738	YF-514/5
	0915	0800	Sana'a / Dubai / Guangzhou / Dubai / Sana'a	A-330	YF-888/9
	1630	1020	Sana'a / Riyadh / Taiz / Sana'a	B-738	YF-532/3
	1815	1030	Sana'a / Damascus / Sana'a	A-310	YF-644/5
	1845	1045	Sana'a / Cairo / Sana'a	A-310	YF-602/3
	1835	1100	Sana'a / Taiz / Jeddah / Aden / Sana'a	B-738	YF-512/3
Friday	2210	1405	Sana'a / Doha / Kuwait / Sana'a	B-738	YF-824
	2310	1430	Sana'a / Bahrain / Dubai / Sana'a	B-738	YF-868
	2005		Sana'a / Dubai / Jakarta / Kuala Lumpur	A-330	YF-862
	0100	2100	Sana'a / Jeddah / Sana'a	B-738	YF-520/1
	0600	0130	Sana'a / Addis Ababa / Sana'a	A-310	YF-622/3
	1700	0600	Sana'a / Aden / Cairo / Taiz / Sana'a	B-738	YF-602/3
	1545	0700	Sana'a / Sayoun / Jeddah / Sayoun / Sana'a	B-738	YF-500/1
	2230	1030	Sana'a / Djibouti / Moroni / Djibouti / Sana'a	A-310	YF-628/9
	2000	1010	Sana'a / Aden / Dubai / Aden / Sana'a	B-738	YF-852/3
	1940	1030	Sana'a / Mukalla / Abu Dhabi / Mukalla / Sana'a	A-310	YF-814/5
Saturday	2340		Jakarta / Kuala Lumpur / Dubai / Sana'a	A-330	YF-863
	1830	1430	Sana'a / Jeddah / Sana'a	B-738	YF-506/7
	0645	2100	Sana'a / Mumbey / Sana'a	B-738	YF-854/5
	2130		Sana'a / Dubai / Jakarta / Kuala Lumpur	A-330	YF-864
	2359	2000	Sana'a / Jeddah / Sana'a	B-738	YF-518/9
	0200	2240	Sana'a / Asmara / Sana'a	B-738	YF-634/5
	1955	0001	Sana'a / Cairo / Paris / Cairo / Sana'a	B-738	YF-748/9
	0700	0100	Sana'a / Jeddah / Aden / Sana'a	A-310	YF-514/5
	0600	0100	Sana'a / Khartoum / Sana'a	B-738	YF-623/3
	0600	0130	Sana'a / Addis Ababa / Sana'a	A-310	YF-622/3
Sunday	1700	0730	Sana'a / Beirut / Amman / Sana'a	A-310	YF-643
	1705	0845	Sana'a / Dubai / Bahrain / Sana'a	B-738	YF-821
	1310	0830	Sana'a / Riyadh / Sana'a	B-738	YF-532/3
	1745	0935	Sana'a / Kuwait / Doha / Sana'a	B-738	YF-825
	2030	1045	Sana'a / Cairo / Aden / Sana'a	A-310	YF-602/3
	1700	1300	Sana'a / Jeddah / Sana'a	B-738	YF-506/7
	1900		Sana'a / Mukalla	B-738	YF-507
	2205	1845	Sana'a / Asmara / Sana'a	A-310	YF-630/1
	0230	2030	Sana'a / Aden / Jeddah / Sana'a	B-738	YF-520/1
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0845	2300	Sana'a / Mumbey / Sana'a	B-738	YF-856/7	

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Electricity problems 177, Emergency Police 199, Fire Brigade 191, Water Problems 171, Telephone enquiries 118, Accident (Traffic) 194, Foreign Affairs, 2025447, Interior Affairs 252791/7, Immigration 250761/3, Inter-City Bus Co. 262111/3, Ministry of Communication 325110/1/2/3, Radio Station 262061, Tourism 254032, TV Station 332001/2, Red Crescent 283131/3, Tel-Yemen 7522202, Yasat 7522227

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جزء لا يتجزأ من مكتبك
ASHBAMI AGENCIES
IDEAL

A golden cage for those who dare...

By: Hanan Zakarya

In Yemen, weddings consist of two parties: one for the groom and one for the bride. As such, Yemenis experience twice as much happiness during the wedding celebration, but they also spend about twice as much to make it happen.

Guests only see the beautiful hall, the charming lamps in the streets, the roses, and the smiles of the groom and the bride. Yet there is a great deal of difficulty and preparation involved in creating such a perfect moment.

A wealthy family may spend up to YR 10 million on a single wedding. These expenses include YR 3 million to rent and decorate



Extravagant wedding hall decorations are some of the most costly wedding expenses

the hall, YR 1 million to print the invitation cards, YR 30,000 to decorate the wedding vehicle, YR 300,000 to 500,000 for the bride's dress... The list is endless.

On the other hand, middle income families will typically spend up to YR 1.5 million on a wedding. This figure covers the bride's jewelry (YR 500,000), the bride's dress (YR 150,000 to YR 330,000), the wedding cake (YR 80,000), the printing of invitations (YR 50,000), food and drink (YR 200,000), the hired band (YR 70,000 to 150,000), etc.

But don't panic, guys and girls! You can still organize a fabulous wedding for a far lower price. For example, some low-income Yemeni families do not spend more than YR 500,000 to 600,000 on a marital event. In such cases, a bride's dress may cost no more than YR 40,000. The printing of invitations can cost as little as YR 10,000 and adequate halls can be rented for between YR 40,000 and 50,000. In fact, some families choose to host weddings in their own home. These ceremonies tend to be very simple, but also very intimate and beautiful. Weddings held in the home have their own particular appeal, as they allow for greater participation on the part of neighbors and family friends.

Ashgan's wedding will be held in two months. She was asked by the Yemen Times whether she considered it important to spend a lot of money on a wedding and why. She responded by saying, "Yes, it is very important for the bride to have an expensive, charming, beautiful wedding, because it only happens once in a lifetime. It

must be special and unforgettable."

Ibrahim Al-Sha'arani, a young man from Ibb who has just married, said, "I paid YR 600,000 for my wedding. I had a simple party at my house. I spent YR 10,000 alone on qat. The wedding didn't cost me a lot and weddings don't have to be expensive."

Wathnan, a businessman who sells wedding dresses, told the Yemen Times that, "If a family has money, why not spend it? A groom may pay up to YR 5 million on qat alone!"

Mrs. Lool, a Yemeni woman of nearly 70 years, told the Yemen Times what weddings used to be like in the past: "A bride's accoutrements included a scarf and a dress, silken trousers, fresh basil and jewelry made of coral. Brides never wore shoes, however. Shoes were a luxury. If a bride's parents had money, only then would they buy her shoes. The bride would most often walk to her husband's house in her bare feet or on the back of a camel. She would celebrate her wedding at home or on the roof of her home, if there were enough space. Likewise, the groom would celebrate his wedding at home, in the family diwan [i.e. salon]."

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