

Inside:



3

Sheer enthusiasm improves rial value



7

Palestinian unity raises new problems as it solves others



8

Mostafa Nasr: "Nobody knows anything about Yemen's cash reserves except president and his inner circle"

Saleh declines signing GCC initiative as Yemen's president

By Nadia Al-Sakkaf and Mohammed Bin Sallam

SANA'A, May 1 — In a move that bewildered his friends and angered his opponents President Saleh refused to sign the GCC power transfer initiative, in which his party coordinated with GCC representatives and the international community in order to reach an agreement between him and the opposition parties.

"President Saleh refused to sign the document on Saturday and the Secretary General of the Gulf Cooperation Council, Abdullah Al-Zayati, has left the country with the un-signed document," said Mohammed Basundawa, current chairman of the Joint Meeting Parties.

He added that there is still time until Sunday night for Saleh to sign.

Instead of meeting with the Sec. Gen. in person, Saleh sent several high ranking members of the ruling GPC party to inform the secretary that he still had some reservations about signing the deal.

Saleh pledged his support for the

GCC initiative last week. Yemen's political coalition bloc, the Joint Meeting Parties (JMP), then stated that they tentatively accepted the deal as well. Saleh, the GPC, and the JMP have all expressed reservations about signing the power transfer initiative.

Protesters around Yemen have expressed disapproval for the initiative since its inception, demanding that the president and his family stand trial for what they deem to be crimes against humanity carried out on the Yemeni people by the regime.

According to diplomatic sources there are already frenzied phone calls and negotiations back and forth aimed at convincing Saleh to sign.

The initiative which was finally agreed upon by the JMP opposition stated that once the two sides, the Ruling party and opposition, sign the agreement, a national coalition government is to be formed representing all stakeholders in today's political scene. Within one month of forming this government the president hands over his resignation.

The Yemen Times sources say that

Saleh demanded before this development of events that signing of the agreement takes place in Sana'a instead of Riyadh because he feared a coup would take place during his absence.

The GCC agreed to his new stipulation and brought the document to Sana'a. He then refused to sign and said he will sign it in his position as head of the ruling party not the president. This happened after he failed to convince the gulf countries to accept that his political advisor Abdulkarim Al-Eryani sign it on his behalf.

Early signs from the gulf countries reactions show dismay at Saleh's position and insistence that he comply with the earlier terms and sign as Yemen's president.

Moreover, the protestors in Change Square commented that they are waiting to see what happens while making plans for escalation of protests on Monday.

The JMP has decided not to go to Riyadh to sign the agreement following the president's refusal, adding further stumbling blocks in the implementation of an already tentative deal.



As protests drag on throughout the country demanding that President Saleh resign from power, over 150 Yemenis have been killed.

Youth escalation plans change after Aden attack

By: Shatha Al-Harazi

SANA'A, May 1st — Pro-democracy protesters demonstrating in Change Squares across Yemen have promised to escalate the revolution so as to put an end to President Ali Abdullah Saleh's regime by the end of this month. However, as escalation takes place, protesters are facing ever more violent opposition from the government's security forces.

The plans of action that protesters talk about today are not all that different from what was being discussed two weeks ago: escalating the civil disobedience campaign, organizing more

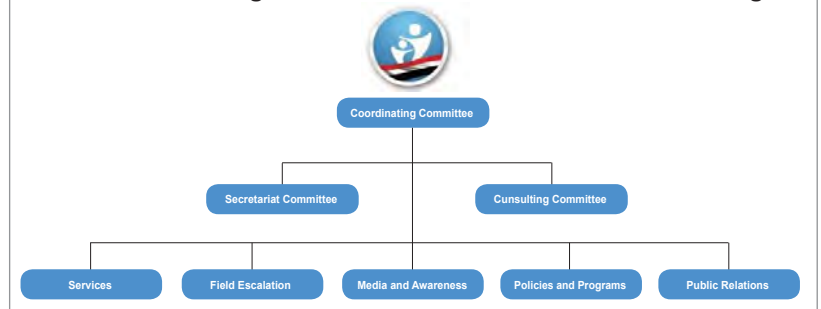
marches and potentially moving on the Presidential Palace.

One Facebook group called "From Here Change Will Start" has started advocating vigorously for a march on the Presidential Palace, no matter what the potential loss.

The group's plan suggests that 300,000 protesters in Sana'a march on the palace from three different sides. The fourth side would be kept clear as an emergency exit, as clashes with pro-government "thugs" are to be expected.

Meanwhile, a further 100,000 protesters would break into the Yemeni state television building, so as to "...

The organizational structure of The Coordinating Council of the Youth Revolution of Change



provide the revolution's media crew with a safe atmosphere for live broadcasts from a Yemeni channel that belongs to the people."

Although the protesters have always remained committed to the principles

of peaceful revolution, this plan would provide for 50,000 pro-democracy snipers whose task would be to protect the demonstrators from pro-government thugs.

Continued on page 3

Best Performance. Lowest Consumption. No Compromise. Siemens.

Save time, money, electricity and water Siemens Efficient Home Appliances. At Siemens, we are committed to playing our part in saving energy by providing innovative products. We believe, that high-performance appliances and low energy-consumption are by no means mutually exclusive. The new range of washing machines at Siemens ranked topmost in energy and washing, i.e., an A+ ranking for economizing energy. Siemens washing machines can consume water as less as 41 liters and for special programs it can go down to 35 liters. Our washing machines also comprise of special features like antiStain automatic and low detection that acts as a detergent quantity advisor.

www.siemens-nocompromise.com

The future moving in. SIEMENS

Sole Agent In Yemen: Zawia Trading & Electronics
Sana'a Showrooms: Tel: 01-506 375, 01-217 375, Aden Showrooms: Tel: 01-506 375, 01-217 375, Email: mhzwia@y.net.ye Web: www.siemens-home.ae

IN OUTSTANDING SKILLS WE TRUST

TRUST YEMEN

Yemen Insurance Co. (P.L.C.)
P.O. Box 24000, Sana'a
Tel: +967 1 4200000
Fax: +967 1 4200000
www.trustyemen.com

برامج التكافل للتأمين الهندسي

نوفر أنواع متعددة من المنتجات المتعلقة بالأعمال الهندسية مثل:

- تأمّن أخطار المقاولين
- تأمّن أخطار التركيب
- تأمّن الآب ومعدات المقاولين
- تأمّن الأختار الإلكترونية
- تأمّن عطب المباني
- تأمّن الحاديات وأنواع اخرى متعددة بناءً على صيغ الأختار الفردية

الرقم الحار: 800 555 555
01 214 012
e-mail: uicyemen@uicyemen.com
www.uicyemen.com

ROYAL refrigerators

الجودة والجمال...

Artes Trading Co. Ltd.
Head Office: Tel: 01 - 400445/6
Showrooms and Branches:
Sana'a: STC, Tel: 01-448487
Aden: Aden Mall, Tel: 02-263110/1

Al Halki Trading Stores
Taiz - 26 September St.
Tel: 04 -238337/8 - Fax: 04-238312

Our giving has no limits with Jawaher Commercial Account 2011

84 luxury cars

And more than 4000 valuable prizes

7 cars every month

In addition to the Dream House at the end of the year

البنك التجاري اليمني
Yemen Commercial Bank
الرقم المجاني: 800 8000
الرقم الكلي: 01-299988
www.ycb.com.ye

Jt i Jumaan Trading & Investment Co.

شركة جعفان للتجارة والاستثمار

Sana'a, Republic of Yemen - Al Tahrir St.
P.O. Box: 2765
Tel: +967 1 27232/3/4 - 480441/2/3
Fax: +967 1 274185
E-mail: majcorp@yemen.net.ye
Website: www.jumaanco.com

Compact Design
Excellent Performance
Low Fuel Consumption
Easy Maintenance

Marine Diesel Engine DAEWOO-DOOSAN

Aden residents fear use of foreign mercenaries

ADEN, (IRIN) - The UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) says it is concerned by opposition media reports alleging the Yemen government is recruiting Somali refugees as mercenaries to help put down a growing protest movement demanding the resignation of President Ali Abdullah Saleh.

Hala al-Horany, UNHCR protection officer in the southern city of Aden, said the agency had investigated and talked extensively to refugee leaders, but was unable to find even a single anecdotal case of government recruitment among the large Somali refugee population.

"We are concerned about this situation and are still following up as this has serious implications for the protection of refugees in the short and long term," Horany told IRIN. "We have also conducted awareness-raising in the communities and warned them against even participating in demonstrations, let alone mercenary activity."

The mercenary allegations were reported in opposition media, including TV channel Aden Live, and according to UNHCR had also surfaced on social networks like Facebook. They echo reports from Libya that embattled leader Muammar Gaddafi had recruited foreign fighters, resulting in the persecution of migrants and workers from sub-Saharan Africa accused - by Gaddafi opponents - of supporting the regime.

Hali Mahaji Abdi, a community service worker with the development agency ADRA in Basateen, a predominantly Somali-populated district of Aden, told IRIN she had not heard any rumours of recruitment, but dismissed the idea: "There is war in Somalia and we have found freedom in Yemen, how can Somalis come and fight in Yemen?"

There are an estimated 181,561 Somali refugees in Yemen, most of them urban-based and granted prima facie refugee status by a government that has adopted an open door policy. Somalia has been riven by conflict since the

ousting of former president Siad Barre in 1991.

While anti-government protesters in Aden complain bitterly over the alleged heavy-handedness of the security forces in clashes that have left over 20 dead since 16 February, nobody IRIN spoke to mentioned the threat of Somali mercenaries.

There was consensus that if recruitment and training was under way it would happen in the remote and mountainous Abyan region in the south, where al-Qaeda is active, and the government has several military bases.

Protests threaten Somali livelihoods

Saleh is facing growing countrywide opposition to his 32-year rule, particularly among the youth demanding more jobs, a fairer distribution of wealth, and an end to corruption. In Aden, protesters have occupied streets in several districts, throwing up barricades during disturbances, paralysing large parts of the city.

That poses problems for Somali refugees who are allowed to work in Yemen, but typically rely on day-to-day earnings as car washers, housemaids or beggars.

"Six or seven people rent one room and they try and manage, but rent is expensive [about US\$35 per month]. Some women can't go out to work, or come back early for fear of the demonstrations," said Nasha Omar of INTERSOS, an NGO that runs a drop-in centre for refugees in Basateen.

Al-Horany said ADRA has been asked to "be more inclusive" in terms of the targeting of its financial support to refugees, to help deal with any increase in needs.

"As anything could happen, we are updating our contingency plan and training the refugees and helping them

Two protesters killed by republican guards in Aden

SANAA/ADEN, April 30 (Xinhua) — At least two anti-government protesters were killed and dozens were wounded when Yemeni Republican Guard's forces stormed a main square of the protesters demanding president's immediate ouster in southern port city of Aden on Saturday, witnesses said.

"Security forces of the Republican Guards backed by tanks and armored vehicles stormed Shuhada Square in Al-Mansura city in Aden earlier the day, killing two protesters and wounding dozens," one of the witnesses told Xinhua.

The forces managed to break into the square and evict the protesters by firing live bullets, said the eyewitness, adding that the forces set a number of tents on fire and arrested many protesters.

Heavy fire was heard at al-sigen street and the protesters rushed away to avoid being killed by the army forces, an organizer of the protests said.

Local medics told Xinhua that the injuries were in protesters' heads, chests and legs.



A road is blocked by anti-government protesters in Aden, southern Yemen, April 26, 2011. Four protesters were shot injured when the police forces opened fire to attempt to put down the protest on Tuesday, a local police official told Xinhua.

Almost all districts of Aden witnessed Saturday a full-scale civil disobedience

since the early morning, in which nearly all shops, schools and transport were shut down at the request of the youth-

led protesters, who rejected an initiative brokered by the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC).

Earlier the day, a police officer was shot dead and another two policemen were injured in clashes with gunmen believed to be the separatists of Southern Movement in Al-Mansoura city in Aden, a local security official said.

The commander of al-Mansoura police station along with one soldier were killed, and two others were seriously injured in clashes with armed separatists on Saturday in Yemen's southern port city of Aden, a local security official said.

The gunmen of separatist Southern Movement opened fire on a security patrol which was trying to remove barriers and barricades set by the anti-government protesters in al-Mansoura district, the official told Xinhua, who asked to be anonymous,

Local press freedom thrives amid crackdowns on foreign journalists

By: **Jeb Boone and Shatha Al-Harazi**

SANAA, May 1 — As the eye of the international community is focused on the Arab World in their coverage of mass uprisings in the region, the Yemeni government has carried out major crackdowns on the presence of foreign press in Yemen.

However, as deportations of journalists continue in Yemen, local journalists have been witness to the freest press environment in the country since the arrest and imprisonment of journalist Abdul-Elah Haidar Shaye.

Shaye, who the government claims has ties to Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, was due to be released as part of

a package of concessions made to protesters by president Saleh. However, on orders of US President Barack Obama, Saleh quickly revoked that concession. Inside Change Square in Sana'a, more than 40 anti-government independent newspapers are in continual circulation and given out to denizens of the square at no cost.

Two of Yemen's most prominent and independent online news agencies, Marib Press and Al-Masdar Online, have been struggling with keep their websites functioning as protests rage across the country. However, in spite of the on-line crackdown, journalists working for these agencies have been able to operate more freely than ever in their on the ground reporting.

"The website is blocked but it seems that the people at Yemen Net don't know how to block a website properly. We at Al-Masdar haven't been bothered too much, we do our usual work and we use all the methods to make the website available, including Facebook and Twitter," said Editor-in-Chief of Al-Masdar Online, Sameer Jubran.

Four foreign freelance journalists and four Al-Jazeera reporters have been deported from Yemen beginning on March 14th and have continued up through this week.

On 9 April, the Yemeni government revoked Al-Jazeera's license to operate in the country and closed their offices permanently, even melting sealing wax over the door for added dramatic effect.

"An official information source has explained that this final action came after the persistence of Al-Jazeera in implementation of a sabotage scheme aimed to inciting strife, hatred and fighting in a number of provinces of Yemen," according to state run Saba news.

President Saleh has also argued that foreign conspirators are out to remove him from power and that Al-Jazeera and other foreign journalists and agencies are part of the conspiracy.

"Taken together, the government's longstanding practice of violent repression and its new legalistic tactics are creating the worst climate for press freedom since the country's unification in 1990," CPJ's Mohamed Abdel Dayem writes.

REPUBLIC OF YEMEN
MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH AND POPULATION
HEALTH POPULATION PROJECT (HPP)
PROJECT ADMINISTRATION UNIT (PAU)
Announcing Vacancy for the Post of Executive Secretary - RFP # (2) - 2011

The Health and Population Project, seeks applicants for the position of Executive Secretary at the Project Administration Unit (PAU) who will work under the direct supervision of the Project Manager. The Executive Secretary will report and be accountable to the Project Manager, and will work closely with other PAU staff, relevant departments of the Ministry of Public Health and Population, and all other relevant/ related parties or organizations as necessary.

SPECIFIC DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The Executive Secretary will be responsible for the following:

- Under the supervision of the (PAU) manager the executive secretary will provide overall office management for the (PAU).
- Act as the focal point for all dialogues, monitor project activities and follow up on all pending matters with relevant bodies and parties.
- Provide administrative and secretarial support to the (PAU) manager and (PAU) staff including but not limited to verbal and written communication, documentation and archiving.
- Ensure high quality and appropriateness of outgoing correspondence, communication and other related documents/paperwork.
- Manage the filing system, records, and security of all (PAU) documents.
- Schedule appointments of the (PAU) manager and (PAU) staff and handle the logistics of conferences and workshops.
- Monitor, regulate and supervise the daily attendance of (PAU) employees and generate a monthly report on this.
- Write the minutes (PAU) meetings or other meetings as required by the (PAU) manager.
- Ensure that the (PAU) has an adequate stock of office supplies, stationary, consumables, reinforcements, etc.
- Provide support to visiting specialists and IDA missions.
- Manage, implement and supervise all the day-to-day work of the (PAU) such as repairs and maintenance.

REQUIRED QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

- A minimum of bachelor's degree or equivalent.
- A minimum of bachelor's degree or equivalent.
- A minimum of five years' experience in executive office management.
- Very good experience with computers and office software and programs.
- Fluent in Arabic and English.
- The ability to supervise and motivate others to achieve positive results.
- Very good interpersonal and communication skills.
- Previous work experience with international organizations and preferably with the World Bank projects.

Applications with CV's, and copies of supporting documents should be submitted to the Project Administration Unit by 12th May 2011 to the address below:

Ministry of Public Health and Population - Program's Building
Attn: Dr. Ali Jabbar, Project Manager - Project Administration Unit
Al-Haramiah - Marada Street - Sana'a - Republic of Yemen
Tel: +967 1 234572 - Fax: +967 1 234539
E-mail: ajabbar@yphm.gov.ye

Republic of Yemen
Ministry of Water and Environment
Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation
Water Sector Support Program
VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The Water Sector Support Program (WSSP) is a multi-donor initiative designed to support the implementation of the National Water Sector Strategy and Investment Plan (NWSSEIP). WSSP will provide funds of about US\$340 million on a three-year basis over a five year period (2009-2014) to be financed from the Government of Yemen and their Development Partners (WP - Germany - Netherlands).

New to the Ministry of Water and Environment/ Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation invite Qualified and experienced local specialists to apply for the post of: **WSSP Team Leader for the Coordination Secretariat (CS)**.

Tasks and Responsibilities:

Under the supervision of the Inter-Ministerial Steering Committee, chaired by H.E. The Minister of Planning and International Cooperation, observing the legal, administrative, financial directives, and adhering to the project's rules and procedures included in the Project Implementation Manual (PIM), the selected Team Leader's scope of work includes, but is not limited to, the following during the life of the project:

- Serve as Secretariat to the I-MSC, prepare relevant agenda and call for meetings of the I-MSC and call for meetings of the PIMC (Program Management Committee) according to the proposed agenda mentioned in AOP/CS or as needed;
- Act as WSSP Coordinator for all program aspects during implementation (including procurement, financial management, M&E, Social and environmental management, and anti-corruption activities);
- Coordinate M&E inputs to the WSSP;
- Manage the team at the Coordination Secretariat which will include Internal Auditor; an M&E Specialist; a Social and Environment Specialist; and others as necessary;
- Review and update as needed all project related documents, including among others, PIM and AOPs;
- Lead the efforts in running the Project Implementation Manual as necessary and preparation of Annual Operating Plan consistent with the Project Appraisal Documents and the Financial Agreements;
- Support NWRA, GAKWSE, NIPMAI and the Urban P&U in preparation of AOP following a basin planning approach;
- Support NWRA, GAKWSE, NIPMAI and the Urban P&U in implementation of WSSP activities as outlined in the PIM and the Annual Operating Plan;
- Assist in timely preparing, finalizing and submitting the Annual Operating Plan for the subsequent years to I-MSC for approval - consistent with the processes described in the PIM;
- On an annual basis, review the administrative plans and furnish same to the development Partners within 10 days thereafter;
- Ensure that financial terms negotiated by I-MSC for participation in the Supervision sub-agreement between GoY and Development Partners;
- Lead the review and finalization process for the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between GoY and Development Partners;
- Develop TORs for review management contracts to be used to support the CS and sub-sector components as needed;
- Conduct overall project progress reviews and site visits in coordination with the implementing activities as necessary;
- Ensure that the appropriate PIM, Annual Operating Plans and all Financial and Procurement arrangements, and Sub-agreements are followed;
- Act as principal counterpart from the GoY side to Development Partners co-financing the program; and
- Actively participate in quarterly meetings of the I-MSC as secretariat, and monthly meetings with implementing activities in agreed locations.

Qualifications and Requirements:

- Advanced degree (Master and above) in engineering, water, environment, natural resources, and/or related fields;
- Over 15 years relevant experience of which at least 10 years is in the management position;
- Relevant experience with water institutions and stakeholders;
- Good knowledge of international procurement principles;
- Demonstrated experience in team leadership and complex project management; and
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills in Arabic and English.

Duration of assignment:

Initially for probation period of three months, then annual contracts will be offered thereafter.

Applications accompanied by CVs and supporting documents shall be delivered to the project address as follows:

The Water Sector Support Program (WSSP) Coordinating Secretariat (CS) Office
Western Ring Road (Old Residence of Dr. AbdulKarim Al-Bryuti-Sana'a opposite of MAM Show Room
Phone: (+967) 1-40000/200040
Fax: (+967) 1-400001
E-mail: wssp-cs@yemenvet.gov.ye or wssp@yemenvet.gov.ye
Latest Date for receiving application is (14 May 2011)

Sheer enthusiasm improves rial value



Strikes at two national oil refineries have resulted in a serious fuel shortage and long queues at Yemeni gas stations

By: Nadia Al-Sakkaf

SANA'A, May 1st – The value of the Yemeni rial has improved during the past week, simply because Yemenis had hoped the political situation would improve after the ruling party signed the Gulf initiative with opposition counter-

parts on Monday, May 2nd, 2011.

“There is no direct economic factor that would explain why the currency improved suddenly. It is the sheer attitude of the people, who thought things were going to get better,” said the manager of Masoud Exchange at Baghdad Street.

There are, however, unconfirmed reports that certain amounts of hard cur-

rency have recently been pumped into the country, most probably by the government of Saudi Arabia.

After reaching an exchange rate of YR 250 per US dollar last month (and even higher on the black market), today the dollar is at YR 219.

However, early news that President Saleh will not sign the Gulf agreement

could potentially devalue the currency to an even worse rate than was experienced last month.

The rial has already lost 12 percent of its value, especially since the Central Bank began printing new batches of YR 1,000 notes last year without adequate financial cover.

The Yemeni government has also withdrawn millions from the foreign reserves, which have been depleted by two billion dollars over the last two years – to around five billion dollars in March 2011.

Moreover, the national income has begun deteriorating on account of oil production having significantly slowed down or stopped due to the political instability.

A shortage of fuel is already being experienced today. Tens of cars have been queuing over the past two days so as to refill their tanks.

The shortage has been caused by strikes in two of the national oil refineries, Safer in Marib and Aden Refinery.

But in spite of these strikes, “They [the government] would never think of raising the fuel prices. Otherwise, there would be another revolution,” said one worker attending a National Oil Company gas station on 60 Meters Road.

According to the Central Bank, most of Yemen’s assets outside of the country are in the form of investments or fixed assets and cannot be liquidated easily.

This means that even with a change of government, Yemen’s assets are relatively well-protected, especially when compared to the bank’s other government account that the regime has been using to stabilize the political situation.

Economic experts had warned on earlier occasions that the national budget deficit of 27 percent in 2010 would have grave consequences this year. These warnings were made before the current political instability, which means that the ramifications are even worse.

Economist Fuad Al-Khawlani said last year that the government may face a situation in 2011 in which it cannot pay government employees’ salaries.

Survey: Yemeni’s faith in government goes down

By: The Yemen Times Staff

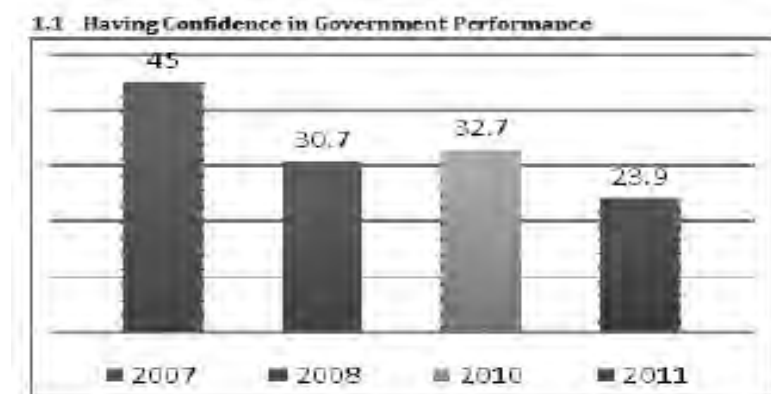
SANA'A, May 1 – The number of Yemenis dissatisfied by the living conditions has increased through the last three years to reach more than 56%, while the percentage of Yemenis who felt their living is getting better did not exceed one third of the polled Yemenis.

The survey which was just announced by the Yemen Polling Center questioned over 700 men and women above 18 years of age in 20 Yemeni governorates.

According to YPC, the purpose of the survey is to compare the attitudes of Yemeni citizens towards public policy and their assessment of the performance of public institutions during the same period.

Around 60 of the sampled people said they were dissatisfied with the education services and more than 76 were not happy with the health services.

Moreover, the survey showed that Yemen’s confidence in the police has dramatically gone down between 2010



when it was 47 percent to around 38 percent this year.

The confidence in the army has not changed much across the years since 2007 as it varied between 69.3 percent who have confidence in the army in 2007 to 60.4 percent in 2011.

Even confidence in the electoral process went down as this year more than two thirds of Yemenis feel that they cannot trust the electoral process.

In 2009 there was a boost in the at-

titude towards government as the satisfaction with it was near 50 percent. This is probably due to the political agreement between government and opposition in this year that was accompanied by a huge pro government media and public campaign.

Yet by January 2011 confidence in the county’s leadership had significantly dropped from more than 66 percent in 2010 to less than 40 percent this year.

Continued from Page 1

Youth escalation plans change after Aden attack

Another 30,000 protesters would be assigned to the capturing of hospitals and ambulances, so as to secure medical support for all those who are injured. This group would also seize restaurants, so as to provide protesters with food and water.

Many protesters in Sana’a are supportive of such plans, believing that the revolution cannot viably continue as it is right now.

“Eventually, we will have to march,” said one protester at Sana’a University’s Change Square. “This will lead to one of two scenarios: either the situation will explode and he [President Saleh] will react like Qaddafi, or we will take over the palace.”

Huda Al-Atas is an activist who agrees that a march on the Presidential Palace is necessary, but that now is not an appropriate time.

“Now, I think there is a greater need for more people to join the square. There are other steps that we must take before jumping to a march,” said Al-Atas.

Thus far, Aden is the city that has been most successful in applying the principles of civil disobedience.

Every Saturday and Wednesday, some 80 percent of the city shuts down in protest against the Saleh regime. Moreover, protesters recently agreed to create a third day of civil disobedience in the week.

On Saturday, clashes were reported in Al-Mansoura district between military and pro-democracy protesters. At least six demonstrators were shot to death.

“The military insists upon an end to all civil disobedience. This is why there is an increase in violence on the days that disobedience takes place. On Saturday, they left six dead. Last Wednesday, one was killed,” said Abdurrahman Aness, a journalist and political activist based in Aden.

Although it is quiet today, the camp in Al-Mansoura district witnessed one of its most brutal assaults yesterday. The camp is usually home to approximately 8,000 protesters, but fortunately there were only 1,500-some present at the time of the attack.

The assault damaged residential homes and private vehicles. Because of this, Aness told the Yemen Times that support for civil disobedience might decrease – contrary to what is being planned.

Although some violence was

reported at a state police station, Aness confirmed that Aden’s peaceful protesters resolutely deny any relationship with the armed assailants.

Waleed Al-Amari, a political officer of the revolution at Sana’a University’s Change Square, told the Yemen Times that the attacks in Aden have forced a revision of escalation plans.

“One thing that we might do to escalate things is to ask some of the protesters in Taiz to join the Change Square in Sana’a, so that we appear more unified and strong,” said Al-Amari.

Al-Amari, who previously told the Yemen Times that one of the main escalation plans is to target vital ministries, also said that the protesters might block ministerial buildings for a certain number of hours every day, so as to prevent anyone from getting in or out. This would temporarily paralyze state machinery.

According to Al-Amari, the youth at Change Square are confident regarding their newest escalation plans. However, they are unable to announce their initiatives to the public at this moment, as any revelation would allow the government to better mobilize and protect itself.

SANAA INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



PROVIDING A HIGH QUALITY EDUCATION FOR 35 YEARS

A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE

Beautiful purpose-built facilities on a spacious 34 acre site in a countryside setting. Sports facilities include soccer and softball fields, basketball and tennis courts. Large indoor multi-purpose area for volleyball, basketball, badminton, gymnastics, table tennis, musical and dramatic productions. Bus service available.

Main Campus

- Performance-Based curriculum for 5 years of age through secondary school
- Personalized education/small class sizes run by highly qualified & experienced teachers
- Over 40 computers available for student use, and computer instruction for all ages
- Extensive after school activity program involving music, art, craft, drama, & sports
- Advanced Placement (AP) college level courses available for qualified students
- Graduates attend American, Canadian, European, and Middle Eastern universities

SIS Pre-School

- Specific age appropriate experiences for 2, 3 and 4 year olds
- Attractive premises near the French Embassy including a garden and play area
- Certified experienced British teacher assisted by paraprofessionals
- School hours are from 7:55 a.m. to 12:00 noon (Saturday through Wednesday)
- Arabic program from 12:00 noon – 2:30 p.m.

Box 2002, Sanaa, Yemen Phone: 370 191-2 Fax: 370 193
Email: sanaa@Qsi.org Website: www.qsi.org

SIS Accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools (MSA)
Member of Quality Schools International



JOB OPENING

SAFER EXPLORATION & PRODUCTION OPERATIONS COMPANY (“SEPOC”)

SEPOC is the Republic of Yemen’s leading national Oil and Gas Company. It is the upstream Operator of Yemen’s premier Marib Block (18).

SEPOC is currently seeking to recruit for the following vacancy talented, qualified and dedicated professionals who desire a fulfilling and rewarding career with a growing and outstanding organization:

Job Title: Oracle Financial Consultant - EBS

Description:

The Oracle Financial Consultant is responsible for financial assessment and configuration of Oracle Application Financial implementation. The primary tasks for this role include configuring Oracle Financial EBS software to meet business needs and the business process requirements in the financial area, recommend a configuration approach and provide depth of skills for configuration activities, direct configuration and testing activities, work with business financial team members and document key business decisions and the rationale behind configuration settings for future reference and review.

Requirements:

Education & qualifications	Post Graduate Commerce Degree - Any Specialization.
Skills / Abilities	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Experience in Business Process Optimization, Improvement or Re-engineering 2. Understanding implicit requirements in functional specifications and making a thorough content validation. 3. Strong organizational, multi-tasking, and time-management skills. 5. Complete functional designs and review technical designs for custom reports, interfaces or extensions impacting the financials area. 6. Technical knowledge of using Toad / Oracle Developer will be considered a plus point.
Work Experience	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Experience in General Accounting, Accounts Receivable, Accounts Payable, Cash Management, Fixed Assets & Consolidation. Job Cost, Project Costing. 2. Implementation and support on Oracle Financial 12.0.6 or above. 3. 5- years of experience in Implementing Oracle E-Business suite. 4. Should have implemented, witnessed and participated in three to four full Oracle Financials implementation (GL, AP, AR, Cash management, Fixed Assets) 5. Team member in two implementations, but should be a team leader in at least two implementations

Other job details of the above positions are posted on ‘Careers’ at SAFER’S Website:

www.sepocye.com . To apply and process your application and CVs for the above positions, please visit SAFER’S Website.

Applications must be submitted online no later than **May 11th, 2011** . Faxed, mailed, or handed applications **will not** be considered.

ONLY shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

Qadas Fly holds festive lunch

Khalid Al-Qadas, Chairman of Qadas Fly, and Masroor Siddiqui, Director of Qadas Fly held a festive lunch at Mumbar Restaurant in honor of Malaysian Ambassador Abdul Samad Othman and going Counsellor Hamdan Abdullah. The lunch was attended by a number of diplomats, airline executives and friends.



URGENTLY REQUIRED TO WORK IN RIYADH, SAUDI ARABIA

SALES ADMINISTRATOR

for a leading trading firm in the field of Pipes, Fittings, Valves and etc with Bachelors Degree in Engineering, Computers or else and good command of English language, both written and Communication. Able to work with minimum of supervision. Minimum 5 Years experience as Sales Administrator in trading firm.

ALL QUALIFIED APPLICANTS MAY APPLY WITHIN 5 DAYS ENCLOSING CV WITH COPIES OF CERTIFICATES AND A RECENT COLOUR PHOTOGRAPH TO:

current.jobs11@yahoo.com

Announcement of Second Extension for Public Tender No. (1) of 2011

Yemen Public Radio & TV Corp. here announces its desire to extend date of envelopes opening for Tender No. (1/2011) for supplying, installing, testing, commissioning, hand-over and guarantee of high quality TV studio equipment (Turnkey) for Aden Satellite Channel.



Bids shall be submitted to the Secretariat of Tenders and Auctions Committee in Yemen Public Radio & TV Corp's Headquarters not later than 11:00 am on Wednesday 18/05/2011. Bid received after the deadline for submission will be returned unopened.

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

Good Luck !

تمديد فتح مظاريف المناقصة العامة رقم (1 / 2011 م) للمرة الثانية

تعلم المؤسسة العامة اليمنية للإذاعة والتلفزيون عن رغبتها في إعادة تمديد موعد فتح مظاريف المناقصة العامة رقم (1 / 2011 م) بشأن توريد وتركيب وفحص وإجازة وتشغيل وتسليم وضمان أستوديو تلفزيوني إنتاجي متكامل عالي الجودة (تسليم مفتاح) لقناة عدن الفضائية وذلك إلى يوم الأربعاء الموافق 18/05/2011م الساعة الحادية عشرة صباحاً بالمقر الرئيسي بالمؤسسة - مكتب رئيس مجلس الإدارة - الدور الثالث- بحضور مندوبي الشركات أو من يمثلهم.



FULBRIGHT

AMIDEAST
اميد إيست

STUDY IN THE USA! MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMS

The U.S. Department of State, through the U.S. Embassy and AMIDEAST, is pleased to announce that applications are now being accepted for master's degree studies in the United States under the J. William Fulbright Scholarship Program. Applications are for Fulbright grants beginning August 2012. Fulbright grants provide funding for two years of master's degree study in the U.S. in all fields except computer science, engineering, dentistry, medicine or medical fields, nursing, and pharmacy.

Qualified applicants must have:

- A Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science (four- or five-year degree) from an accredited institution awarded at least one year prior to application;
- Demonstrated ability to undertake advanced studies, with a B.A. or B.S. grade point average equivalent to at least a 3.20 of 4.00 scale;
- Strong English language skills; and
- Preferred: At least one year of paid or voluntary work experience (minimum of two years for applicants to masters of business administration programs only).

Applicants must also be Yemeni citizens **currently residing and working in Yemen**. Dual nationals are ineligible for Fulbright grants.

To obtain detailed application instructions and to receive further program details, please visit <http://www.amideast.org/yemen/academic-and-cultural-exchange/fulbright-foreign-student-program> or contact AMIDEAST at:

► AMIDEAST Sana'a: Off Algiers St., (behind Tunisian Embassy), Sana'a.

Tel/Fax: 01-400-279/80/81. GSM: 711416660/733033334.

E-mail: sanaa@amideast.org. Contact: Amal Al-Wazir.

► AMIDEAST Aden: 162 Miswat St., Khormaksar, Aden.

Tel/Fax: 02-235-069/070/071. GSM: 711421313/733265352.

E-mail: aden@amideast.org. Contact: Gehan Adam.

Complete application submissions must include:

1. Submission of online Fulbright Application Form, available at: <https://apply.embark.com/student/fulbright/international/20/> by June 8, 2011, which also includes:
 - a. Copies of all university transcripts and diplomas. Transcripts in any language other than English or Arabic must be accompanied by official translations.
 - b. TWO essays typed and prepared in ENGLISH
 - c. THREE letters of recommendation in ENGLISH from individuals familiar with the applicant's academic and professional achievements.
 - d. Curriculum Vitae.
 - e. Either a valid International TOEFL® or Institutional TOEFL® Program (ITP TOEFL®) score equivalent to at least a 550 (or 80 iBT). Test scores may not be older than two years from date of application.
2. Submission of the application's signature page and original TOEFL score report to the AMIDEAST offices in Aden or Sanaa by the application deadline below.

NOTE: Applicants who do not have a valid International TOEFL® score should contact AMIDEAST immediately to arrange for the ITP TOEFL® examination. The last ITP examinations before the application deadline will be administered on May 30 in Aden and June 6 in Sanaa.

COMPLETED APPLICATION MUST BE SUBMITTED ONLINE AND REQUIRED DOCUMENTS MUST BE BROUGHT TO THE AMIDEAST OFFICES IN ADEN OR SANA'A NO LATER THAN 4 P.M. ON JUNE 8, 2011.

Get much
more
than you pay for.



Scratch card	FREE minutes	FREE SMS
Budget Plus	0	10
Extra Plus	10	10
Bronze	20	30

Scratch cards offer for prepaid subscribers

Recharge your line with any scratch cards mentioned in the table above and get free minutes and SMS

- The validity of the free minutes and SMS is 3 days to be used within network
- For inquiry about the Free minutes, please dial *400*4#
- For inquiry about the Free SMS, please dial *500*4#
- This offer is valid for all prepaid subscribers except groups

For more information, call 211 or visit www.sabafon.com

Yemen's first and largest mobile operator



سابافون
SABAFON

Heritage meets communication

Political talk takes over Yemeni women's lives

By: Shatha Al-Harazi

The political crisis that has gripped Yemen since the beginning of February has begun to pervade every aspect of Yemeni life — even weddings.

These celebrations are usually special opportunities for Yemeni women to wear their best dresses, to paint their faces in makeup, to spend time dancing and to congratulate the bride.

Brides will often take great pains to arrange even the smallest details of their wedding. Female guests on the bride's side will spend most of the wedding night gossiping about the bride's dress, her makeup, the hall, the food and the songs. Other guests may recall their own weddings and compare it to the one they are attending. They will also discuss the event's cost.

Nowadays, wedding discussions have become as political as those held in the street.

"If I knew the political situation would be like this, I would have postponed my wedding so that I wouldn't waste money on arrangements and preparations that people won't even notice," said Saud Al-Ariki, a bride who had arranged for her wedding to take place in May.

As is tradition for guests at a Yemeni wedding, women will ululate for the bride whenever someone mentions her name, so as to express their happiness.

Today, so as to encourage women to ululate, other guests may call out the bride's political position, which causes other likeminded supporters to erupt in cheers. For example, one of the guests may shout loudly across the hall, "Whoever is for the collapse of the regime, ululate for the bride!",

while another will respond to this provocation by shouting, "Whoever is with Ali Abdullah Saleh, ululate for the bride!"

"It is huge fun to have this kind of political discussion, especially when the majority of the women at the wedding are backing you up," said Fatima Ahmed, a guest at a recent wedding.

"Weddings now have a new sort of spirit," she continued, "though some people do get angry when you don't agree with their opinion. But at least it's a way of practicing democracy and freedom of expression in the simplest of times."

Some women actually can't stand this kind of discussion and feelings are sometimes hurt: "One of the pro-Saleh guests [at the wedding I recently attended] started to make the discussion personal and began to attack us. She then left in a huff because of the conversation," said Ahmed.

Weddings are not the only events in Yemeni women's lives that have become more politicized. Women's qat-chewing sessions are becoming just as political as men's, though some women are more tolerant of such talk than others.

"A friend of mine who started shouting for the dismantling of the regime told me that her best friend kicked her out of a qat chew at a pro-government friend's house. Socially, this is a big shame that might not be forgivable," said Sawan Al-Ariqi.

One pro-democracy protester told the Yemen Times that, "My friend slapped me on the face and I slapped her back twice. I'm anti-government and she is pro. We should at least be able to respect our differences and our opposite points of view."

Fortunately, some female qat-chewers see political discussion in a more

positive light.

"It's always political talk these days," said Saba Al-Sermi, a regular hostess of women's qat chews. "It's good to explore how people think and see the world. Political knowledge would never be cultivated this way if it were not for the revolution."

Even in schools, conversation and gossip has become political.

According to 16-year old pro-democracy protester Heba Salah, pro-government friends will call her every Friday so as to tease her about how many "millions" have gathered at Al-Sabaen Square in support of President Saleh. Likewise, other friends will call to congratulate her on the number of protesters at Sana'a University's Change Square.

Two weeks ago, Salah started spreading the idea of civil disobedience, telling her classmates to stop attending school until the regime collapses.

"One of the classes actually responded to my idea," said Salah. "Most of its students stopped attending class and some began to protest in the schoolyard. Then the idea spread and even some of the teachers joined us!"

Salah then started a Facebook page calling upon her school to suspend all teaching until President Saleh steps down. The school reacted positively to her campaign and gave the students a "vacation" until the political situation improved.

But according to Salah, "The pro-government families didn't like this. They put pressure on the head of the school to re-start all teaching. The school was also contacted by the Ministry of Education, which threatened to take its license away. So in the end, the director had to re-open all classes."

HEALTH WATCH

By: Dr. Siva

This weekly column disseminates health information to readers in Yemen and beyond. Dr. Siva currently works at Aden Refinery Company Hospital. Lifestyle, diseases and cancer prevention are his special interests. Complementary medicine and naturopathy are his passions.



Crying baby: What to do when your newborn cries

Newborn crying jags are inevitable, but a crying baby can test your patience all the same. Here's help soothing a crying baby — and renewing your ability to handle the tears.

The dream: Your baby sleeps through the night after just a few weeks, gurgles happily while you run errands and only fusses when hunger strikes.

The reality: Your baby's favorite play-time is after the 2 a.m. feeding. Crankiness peaks when you're out and about. You had no idea a crying baby could keep the tears flowing for so long.

Sounds familiar? In any given day, the average newborn cries for one to four hours. Find out why babies cry — and how to handle a crying baby.

Decoding the tears

A crying baby is trying to tell you something. Your job is to figure out why your baby is crying and what — if anything — you can do about it.

Consider what your baby could be thinking:

- **I'm hungry.** Most newborns eat every few hours round-the-clock. Some babies become frantic when hunger strikes. They might get so worked up by the time the feeding begins that they gulp air with the milk, which can cause spitting up, trapped gas and more crying. To avoid such frenzy, respond to early signs of hunger. If your baby begins to gulp during the feeding, take a break.
- **I need to burp.** During and after each feeding, take time to burp your baby.
- **I'm wet.** For some babies, a wet or soiled diaper is a surefire way to trigger tears. Gas or indigestion can have the same effect. Check your baby's diaper often to make sure it's clean and dry.
- **I'm tired.** Tired babies are often fussy — and your baby might need more

sleep than you think. Newborns often sleep up to 16 hours a day. Some newborns sleep even more.

- **I'd rather be bundled.** Some babies feel most secure in a swaddle wrap. Snugly wrap your baby in a receiving blanket or other small, lightweight blanket.
- **I want to move.** Sometimes a rocking session or walk through the house is enough to soothe a crying baby. In other cases, a change of position is all that's needed. Keeping safety precautions in mind, try a baby swing or vibrating infant seat. Weather permitting, head outdoors with the stroller. You might even want to buckle up for a ride in the car.
- **I'm lonely.** Sometimes simply seeing you, hearing your voice or being cuddled can stop the tears. Gentle massage or light pats on the back might soothe a crying baby, too.
- **I'm hot.** A baby who's too hot is likely to be uncomfortable. The same goes for a baby who's too cold. Add or remove a layer of clothing as needed.
- **I want to suck on something.** Sucking is a natural reflex. For many babies, it's a comforting, soothing activity. If your baby isn't hungry, try a clean finger or pacifier.
- **I've had enough.** Too much noise, movement or visual stimulation might drive your baby to tears. Move to a calmer environment or place your baby in the crib. White noise — such as a recording of ocean waves or the monotonous sound of an electric fan or vacuum cleaner — might help your crying baby relax.
- **It's just that time of day.** Many babies have predictable periods of fussiness during the day. This kind of crying can help your baby get rid of excess energy. There may be little you can do but comfort your baby as the crying runs its course.
- **My tummy hurts.** If you're breast-feed-

ing your baby, the flavor of the milk might change in response to what you eat and drink. If you suspect that a certain food or drink is making your baby fussier than usual, avoid it for several days to see if it makes a difference.

- **My ear is aching.** Severe pain in the ear is one of the important causes of excessive crying. Parents can get a hint if the child takes this hand towards one of the ears. Consult your doctor immediately.

Over time you might be able to identify your baby's needs by the way he or she is crying. For example, a hungry cry might be short and low-pitched, while a cry of pain might be a sudden, long, high-pitched shriek. Picking up on any patterns can help you better respond to your baby's cries.

Crying it out

If you've tried everything and your baby is still upset, consider letting your baby cry it out. While listening to your baby wail can be agonizing, keep in mind that some babies can't fall asleep without crying. Your baby might go to sleep more quickly if left to cry for a little while.

Conclusion

If you are able to identify any of the above listed reasons, appropriate measures can be taken. However, if the child continues to cry for prolonged periods and is not comforted by cuddling, rocking, carrying around on your shoulders, change of scene or atmosphere, toys, singing etc. call on your doctor immediately. Your child may be really sick.

Babies do not cry without reason. It may be a minor discomfort or a serious illness. Parents must look into the various possibilities.

Children have only one language to speak — crying. It is up to the parents to understand this language. With practice and observation the mother can diagnose the reason of crying.

The new arrival A 320



Buy One Avail Second At 50%

Yemenia  اليمنية
Yemen Airways الخطوط الجوية اليمنية

الضيافة العربية الأصيلة
Genuine Arabian Hospitality

www.yemenia.com

For more information
please call :01- 250 800 - Toll free: 800 1000

YT vision statement



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

**"To make Yemen
a good world
citizen."**

OUR
OPINIONWhy independent
media matters

Now that we are marking World Press Freedom Day, celebrated every year on May 3rd, it would be an interesting time to look back at Yemen's press freedom and assess how far we have – or have not – come.

Unfortunately, most of Yemen's media is heavily politicized and this confuses readers. Most newspapers, websites and television stations have their own agenda, and unless we know the particular background of a media outlet, it is very difficult to filter through the news to reach conclusions regarding what is actually happening.

This is why we need independent media, today more than ever.

Independent media outlets, such as the Yemen Times, do not hold any political bias that would alter the facts so as to serve the interests of the publishers. We at the Yemen Times strive to provide readers with an alternative voice that is based on credible facts and quality investigative journalism.

Look at what is happening in Yemen today. There are a myriad conflicting media statements regarding whether President Saleh is going to sign the Gulf initiative or not. If we read the state-run newspaper, we are led to believe that preparations are already in place for the actual signing ceremony. If we read the opposition newspapers, we are told to expect a collapse in the dialogue process and an escalation of political tension.

Regardless of how accurate any of these reports actually are – and indeed, they could all be true – they do not give readers the knowledge they are looking for.

Readers or television audiences need to understand the bigger picture and how they will be affected in the future by events happening today.

As we mark World Press Freedom Day in this burdened country, it is important to remember the sacrifices that free media have made in Yemen and the independent journalists who are continuously struggling to do their job.

Nadia Al-Sakkaf

Yemen falling

By: Rick Moran

A potential agreement brokered by the Gulf Cooperation Council between Yemen's embattled President Ali Abdullah Saleh and his opponents was rejected on Sunday pending substantial alterations to the pact. Now, with chances for a peaceful resolution to the crisis fading, fears are growing in Washington and Saudi Arabia that Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) will have even more freedom to carry out attacks against America and its allies. Perhaps most troubling of all, a quick end to the chaos may result in a government that is unwilling to cooperate with the United States in its battle against AQAP terrorists, who are based in Yemen's northern provinces bordering Saudi Arabia.

The putative agreement negotiated by the Saudi-led GCC would have required Saleh to leave office in 30 days, transferring power to his Vice President in exchange for the legislature passing a measure that would have given the president and his family immunity from prosecution.

But the opposition — the Joint Meeting Parties or JMP — while agreeing in principle to the outline of the deal, has rejected some of the details. The agreement calls for protestors to cease their demonstrations immediately — something the opposition parties sensibly protest is beyond their power. There is a large and influential youth movement that dominates the Yemeni streets and they say they won't leave until Saleh is out of power. "This is the most productive solution for the Joint Meeting Par-

ties, not for us," says Adel al-Surabi, a leader of Sanaa's opposition youth movement.

But the level of distrust for Saleh's motives is so high that it has resulted in other elements of the pact being rejected, including a stipulation that the parliament, dominated by Saleh's party, would have the option of accepting or rejecting the president's resignation. The bottom line is that no one can be sure that Saleh won't find a way to finagle his way into somehow staying in power. Thus, the death knell for the GCC agreement.

This is bad news for Saudi Arabia who greatly fears the unrest on its border. Last month, the Kingdom announced the arrest of more than 100 suspected terrorists, many of them from Yemen. The terrorists were plotting to blow up key oil installations and other sensitive targets. The arrests were made after an investigation that grew out of a shoot out on the Yemen border where two militants were killed. According to information released by the Saudis, several of the terror suspects were in email contact with AQAP, and were in the initial stages of plotting to attack economic and security targets.

The Saudis have a direct stake in finding a peaceful outcome in Yemen. But America's interest in guiding Yemen out of this morass toward stability is no less urgent. For 15 years, President Saleh has successfully parlayed America's desire to fight terrorism into aid for his regime and a hammer that he could use against the opposition. Many in Yemen wonder just how serious the al-Qaeda threat truly is, as Saleh has used terrorism as an excuse to undertake several crackdowns on those wanting democratic change. And while Saleh is considered a strong ally

in the war on terror, a debate has raged in Washington for years about his real value, given his autocratic nature and his less than persistent efforts to attack the terrorists ensclosed in the mountainous Northern provinces.

Nevertheless, Saleh has allowed our drones to attack al-Qaeda targets, given permission for special forces to train Yemeni counterterrorism units, and gone over to the offense in the battle against AQAP. All of this is now by the boards as Saleh has entrenched and withdrawn his army and the counterterror forces, concentrating them around the capitol of Sanaa. He has also forbidden drone strikes. This has given AQAP the opening it needed and the terrorists have now moved into towns and villages, filling the void left by the army and police.

AQAP has reportedly taken over a town in Abyan province and declared an "Islamic Emirate." Most observers scoff at the idea of an independent al-Qaeda emirate, but the AQAP move demonstrates that the chaos roiling the streets and provinces of Yemen is benefiting the terrorists as Saleh's control of the country continues to shrink to Sanaa and a few other urban centers.

In addition to AQAP in the north, there is another insurgency in the formerly independent south. Separatists there have also taken advantage of the chaos to push into areas formerly controlled by the central government. It would appear that the longer the political crisis goes on in Sanaa, the more advantageous the situation will be for AQAP and the Iranian backed Houthi rebellion in the north, and the separatists in the south.

What has the Obama administration done about the situation? As in Egypt,

they have abandoned a long-time ally, while pushing for "reforms." On April 5, the White House released a statement condemning the violence in Yemen and calling on President Saleh to step down. Privately, they were hoping that Saleh could broker a deal that would have him remain in power in some capacity. Richard Fontaine of Foreign Policy Magazine believes that a "best case scenario" would see a situation where "Yemeni politics could reach a more stable footing and, through a new openness, undermine the appeal of extremism." Fontaine also hopes that "Washington might pursue a broad relationship that extends beyond security cooperation and aid to active support of a budding democracy." Out of this relationship might be forged a new counterterrorism dynamic based on a more stable foundation than the mercurial Saleh.

But the collapse of the GCC agreement makes that scenario a remote possibility. Hundreds of thousands of protestors were in the street on Sunday calling for Saleh's immediate departure. Meanwhile, the GCC announced that it would conduct no more negotiations; the two sides must accept the agreed framework.

Saleh may not have a choice in a few days. The army is far from loyal and the possibility of civil war grows by the hour. A Sanaa-based political analyst, Abdel Ghani, believes "If this is the end, then Yemen is facing a major crisis. After all these negotiations we've exhausted all of our potential mediators. If we don't have a solution now, then violence will be the next logical step."

And only Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula will be the beneficiary.

The new Pan-Arabism

Political pan-Arabism was a failure. Will poplar pan-Arabism be more successful? Will Arab solidarity be more than an empty slogan? Three developments are necessary at this historic moment if the Arab Revolution is to succeed.

By Patrick Seale
for Middle East Online

Let us dream for a moment. Although the future is uncertain and danger still lurks at every street corner, Arab society could be experiencing an inspiring moment of renewal. Spreading with contagious euphoria across the Middle East, popular uprisings are providing the Arabs with an immense opportunity, such as occurs rarely, perhaps only in every three or four generations. The opportunity must not be squandered.

Although much blood has been spilled — in Tunisia, Egypt, Libya, Yemen, Bahrain, Syria and elsewhere — fresh blood has, at the same time, been infused into a senile and decaying political system.

Heavy-handed methods of repression and coercion are being swept away, which for decades condemned the Arabs to stagnation and backwardness. A surge of "people power" is dismantling the suffocating controls of the Arab security state. The Arabs are being freed from captivity.

Right across the region, the young and the not-so-young are united in long-stifed aspirations. Formulating the same demands for political freedom, economic opportunity and, above all, dignity, they call out to each other across national boundaries, copying each other, drawing encouragement from each other's experience. The Arab peoples are responding to each other as never before.

Satellite television and internet communications have undoubtedly succeeded in creating a sense of community, informing Arab societies about each other, ventilating common problems, linking Maghreb to Mashrek. Social networks such as Facebook, YouTube and Twitter have also played a role in bringing the Arabs together. Had it not been for such new inventions, the spark lit in Tunisia by the self-immolation of a young street vendor might not have set fire to the combustible, pent-up grievances of Egypt, which in turn inspired revolts in Libya, Yemen, Syria and elsewhere.

But something more profound is at work. As autocracies are brought down, the region seems to be experiencing a new pan-Arab moment. More genuine than that promoted in the past by individual leaders such as Gamal Abd al-Nasser or his rivals in the Ba'th party, this incipient pan-Arabism is a union of peoples, rather than a union of leaders for their own geopolitical ambitions. Political pan-Arabism was a failure. Will poplar pan-Arabism be more successful? Will Arab solidarity be more than an empty slogan?

In the coming weeks and months, there will clearly be an opportunity for the Arabs to recover their corporate voice and their corporate power, an op-

portunity to overcome their internal disputes and resolve their external conflicts, an opportunity to promote Arab causes, an opportunity to rid themselves of foreign predators and take their destiny into their own hands. But will they seize it? Will new leaders emerge with the vision to lead their peoples out of the failures of the past and towards new horizons?

The last time something of this nature happened was a century ago when the Ottoman Empire was defeated in the First World War. After four centuries of Ottoman rule, some Arabs saw in the Empire's collapse an opportunity for a national awakening. Demands were formulated for freedom, self-determination and unity. But the nascent Arab nationalism of the time was brutally crushed — by the imperial ambitions of Britain and France; by the quest for statehood of the Zionist movement, which flourished under British protection; and also, it must be said, by Arab rivalries, which remain to this day a source of weakness and paralysis.

The fathers and grandfathers of the present generation fought for freedom from the colonial powers — in Egypt, Iraq, and South Yemen against the British; in Syria and across North Africa against the French; in Libya against the Italians; in Palestine against the Zionists. But today's revolution is primarily against internal rather than external colonists.

The post-revolutionary period is bound to be chaotic. There will be instability, fierce fighting while new political parties are formed and new forces take shape, even attempts here and there at counter-revolution. Faced with popular uprisings, those Arab rulers still in place will inevitably look to their defences. But they should not miss the import of what is happening. They should embrace the new trend rather than fight it.

It seems to me, and no doubt to many other observers, that three developments are necessary at this historic moment if the Arab Revolution is to succeed.

The first is that those Arab monarchies which have so far been spared popular uprisings must themselves introduce and implement far-reaching reforms. Ruling families need to open their ranks to ordinary citizens; representative institutions

need to be created; shouracouncils or parliaments must be given real responsibility; accountability insisted upon; corruption curbed; arbitrary arrest and police brutality ended. In a word, power must be shared and the people's energies harnessed for the common good.

A second development will be even more difficult to bring about, but is perhaps even more important. Sectarianism is the curse of Arab societies. What does it matter if an Arab man or woman is a Sunni or a Shi'i, an Alawi, an Ismaili or a Derzi, a Christian or a Muslim? Political and religious authorities across the region should make a resolute attempt to consign sectarian differences and conflicts to history. What alone matters is that Arabs — whether male or female, rich or poor, and whatever their backgrounds or religious beliefs — should feel and behave as Arab citizens. It is surely time to launch an Arab Union based on common citizenship to match the European Union, which the Europeans managed to create over the past half-century.

A third necessary development is a recognition that oil wealth belongs not just to a few privileged Arabs but to all of them. It must be shared across the region. Generosity is, after all, the greatest of Arab virtues. The oil-poor countries will need help from their richer brothers. Solidarity is meaningless if it is not backed with cash.

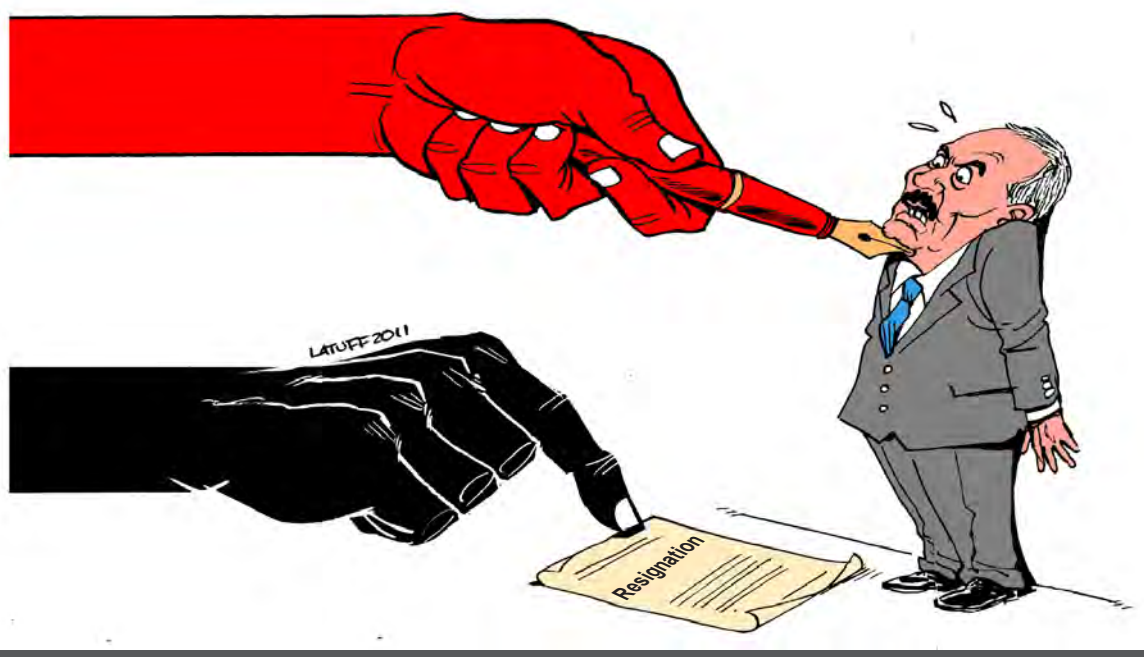
Just as Western Europe pumped billions into the poorer parts of Eastern Europe after the Soviet collapse, so the oil-rich Arabs must urgently come to the aid of their poorer neighbours. With oil prices at near-record levels, it is a scandal that the great majority of Arabs still scrape a living on two dollars a day or less.

Youth unemployment is the number one problem of the Arab world. In country after country it has been the real motor of the revolution. A great bank or fund needs to be set up which, by tapping into Arab sovereign wealth funds, would be dedicated to creating jobs across the region. Countries like Egypt, Tunisia, Yemen, Syria and others, need massive aid, well-directed and managed, if the democratic movement is not to collapse in disillusion and despair.

If it does, no one will be spared.

SKETCHED OPINION

By: Carlos Latuff



YEMEN TIMES
www.yementimes.com

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

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

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

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

CEO
Khair Aldin Al Nsour

Editors
Jeb Boone
Ross West
Iona Craig (Web Editor)

Senior Reporter
Mohammed bin Sallam

Head of Design Dept.
Ramzy Alawi Al-Saqqaf

Editorial Staff
Ali Saeed
Malak Shaher
Sadeq Al-Wesabi
Shatha Al-Harazi

Offices

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

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

Subscriptions

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

Policies:

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

Palestinian unity raises new problems as it solves others

Security, foreign aid and prospects for a Palestinian state could be jeopardized

By: David E. Miller
For the Media Line

The memorandum signed by the Fatah and Hamas movements on Wednesday, aimed at ending a four-year-old political division, creates as many problems as it solves, experts warned.

The agreement calls for an interim Palestinian government of technocrats, followed by presidential and parliamentary elections one year after the agreement is signed on May 4. But the agreement leaves out a lot of critical issues to the Palestinian future, including Palestinian statehood, the peace talks between Israel and the Palestinians, control of security forces and the future of Western financial aid to the Palestinian Authority (PA).

Although Fatah and Hamas have been bitter enemies, Palestinian analysts said they were optimistic the agreement would be implemented. The fact that Israel and the U.S. oppose an agreement with Hamas, which they designated a terrorist organization, counts for little these days in Palestinian decision making, said Sameeh Hamoudeh, a political scientist at Bir Zeit University in Ramallah.

"Fatah has despaired of international approval," Hamoudeh told The Media Line. "Today Fatah is more inclined to please the Arab world, which has pushed for a compromise."

Statehood

One of the main stumbling blocks facing Mahmoud Abbas, the president of the Fatah-controlled PA, in his bid for international recognition of Palestinian statehood has been the lack of political control over the Hamas-ruled Gaza Strip. With a unity agreement in hand, Abbas will be able to come to the world as president of a single Palestinian entity, as prescribed by the Oslo accords signed with Israel.

But there is a drawback: Abbas and his prime minister, Salam Fayyad, have been working for the past two years to bring Palestinian institutions up to international standards for good government. This month the UN and the International Monetary Fund both gave the PA a seal of approval. Now with Hamas sharing power, the PA will have a harder case for saying it is meeting the benchmarks.

Palestinian analysts said, however, they are optimistic Abbas can get around the good government problem because the unity agreement calls for the joint cabinet to be filled by technocrats, rather than movement activists, Mkhaimar Abusada, a political scientist at Al-Azhar University in Gaza, told The Media Line.

"It will not be a factional government, but a professional one," he said.

Peace Talks

Following the unity deal, the prospect of resuming negotiations between Israel and the PA seem more distant than ever before. Israeli Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu said immediately after the unity accord was announced that the PA would have to choose between peace with Israel and peace with Hamas. Israeli Foreign Minister Avigdor Lieberman warned on Army Radio on Thursday that Palestinian unity would inevitably lead to a Hamas takeover of the West Bank.

For its part, Hamas also declared that negotiations could not take place in the coming year while an interim government is in power before elections are held. "Our program does not include negotiations with Israel or recognizing it," Gaza-based Hamas leader Mahmoud Al-Zahar told Reuters.

But Abusada said Palestinian unity could actually revive the frozen peace process. Hamas, he predicted, will agree to be part of the framework of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), the umbrella group of Palestin-

ian movements officially charged with conducting talks with Israel.

"Palestinian unity will push Israel to negotiate," he said. "Israel has so far used Palestinian division as a pretext not to negotiate. Now it has no excuse."

But, taking the line that the Palestinians are no longer so interested in pleasing the West, Hamoudeh of Bir Zeit said he thought unity removed any prospects for negotiations. "The peace process is a dead body," he said. "Only if the Palestinians display a tough stance will Israel eventually soften."

Security

The security issue is probably the greatest unknown element of the unity deal. Hamas' reluctance to integrate the security apparatus it has built in Gaza into the PA security forces was one of the main factors that impeded an agreement until now. As part of the agreement, Hamas has demanded to establish a "high security committee" by presidential decree, but the committee's responsibilities remained unclear.

Commenting on the security question, Fatah official Azzam Al-Ahmad, who brokered the deal on behalf of Abbas was extremely vague. "We have a law governing service in the security forces," he told the Palestinian daily Al-Ayyam. "We [Fatah and Hamas] have reached an understanding between us, but [Palestinian] law is still paramount."

Sabri Saidam, a senior Fatah member and adviser to Abbas, said security issues would not be dealt with immediately. "The issue will be left until post-elections and post formation of the government," he told The Media Line.

Abusada said Hamas is interested in maintaining a ceasefire along the Gaza border with Israel, adding that although direct security coordination did not exist between Israel and Hamas, indirect contact could be maintained through third parties.

"Over the past two years Hamas has shown its commitment to calm," he said.

Hamoudeh said that following reconciliation, security coordination with



Palestinians take part in a rally calling for reconciliation between the rival Palestinian leading factions Fatah and Hamas in Gaza City on March 15, 2011. Thousands of Palestinians went to streets Tuesday to demonstrate against the division and calling for national unity.

Israel will be of less importance, since Hamas' violent resistance will die down. "Today's security coordination serves Israel alone," he said. "From now on the PA will focus on running the daily lives of Palestinians as the armed resistance loses its legitimacy."

Western Aid

The Palestinian Authority relies heavily on foreign aid, scheduled to receive close to one billion dollars in American and European foreign aid in 2011. The aid is not only critical for financing the PA but has given a lift to the West Bank economy, which remains otherwise hamstrung by political uncertainty and Israeli controls of the movement of people and goods.

The Quartet, a diplomatic framework

comprised of the U.S., the European Union, the United Nations and Russia, has conditioned the removal of Hamas from its terrorist list on the latter's recognition of Israel, its acceptance of previous agreements signed between the PLO and Israel, and stopping cross-border violence.

A new unity government could jeopardize Western funding of the Palestinian Authority, but Saidam, Abbas' adviser, said so long as the interim government functioned under Abbas' mandate and acknowledged previous agreements with Israel, international funding of the PA would continue.

On Wednesday, U.S. Democratic Congressmen Gary Ackerman and Nita M. Lowey threatened to cut American funding to the PA following the unity

agreement which did not force Hamas to recognize Israel.

"A unity government with Hamas would put U.S. assistance and support at risk," said Lowey, who serves on the House Foreign Aid subcommittee. "I strongly urge the leadership of the Palestinian Authority to reconsider forming a unity government with Hamas and to instead return to negotiations with Israel."

Hamoudeh said Congress would be wise to support Palestinian unity rather than unconditionally adopt Israel's rejectionist stance.

"You cannot exclude a large chunk of the Palestinian people," he said. "Hamas is part of the solution. The PA will never return to the armed struggle, but Hamas will be forced to compromise."

Daily Mail launches weird attack on Obama's father



By: Jason Linkins
for The Huffington Post

Here's a clever thing the U.K.'s Daily Mail did in response to the release of President Barack Obama's long-form birth certificate: a brief little item on how Obama's father was a "slippery character." Says the Daily Mail, "With a father like this, it is little wonder President Obama did not want to release his full birth certificate" -- well, o-kay! (Naturally, this story was picked up this morning by Fox Nation.)

Gathered in this brief are a range of things attesting to the senior Obama's youthful shadiness, including a whiff of polygamy and the fact that his University of Hawaii student advisor noted that he was chasing a lot of tail at college and "cautioned him about his playboy ways." It's implied that the former charge was briefly considered "as a grounds to deny him a visa extension;" the latter basically describes almost every man you ever met at college.

But here's where they go off the rails:

Obama senior married Stanley Ann Dunham, a white student from Kansas, not only when he was said to have already been married to a woman in Kenya, but at a time when interracial marriages were still illegal in many parts of the U.S.

According to the Daily Mail, this is part of "new, rather more interesting side" of Obama's life that has just "emerged." But the implication that Obama was delaying the release of his birth certificate in order to keep the world from finding out about his father's polygamist past is quite daft. This was already widely known. Here is Nicholas Kristof's column from December 4, 2008:

Obama's late grandfather is said to have been the first person in the area to wear Western clothes rather than just a loincloth. For a time he converted to Christianity and adopted the family name Johnson.

Later he converted to Islam, taking four wives. Obama's father, who apparently converted to Catholicism while attending a Roman Catholic school, was also polygamous in keeping with local custom, taking an informal Kenyan wife

who preceded Obama's mother but remained a consort, according to accounts by local people and the senator himself.

Of course, what's even more amusing is the implication that part of what makes Obama's father a "slippery character" is that he married a white woman, in open defiance of old laws forbidding interracial marriage that are now generally held to be embarrassingly racist.

Ironically, the aforementioned Kristof piece basically predicted that articles like this one from the Daily Mail would circulate, forever:

Frankly, I worry that enemies of Obama will seize upon details like his grandfather's Islamic faith or his father's polygamy to portray him as an alien or a threat to American values. But snobbishness and paranoia ill-become a nation of immigrants, where one of our truest values is to judge people by their own merits, not their pedigrees. If we call ourselves a land of opportunity, then Obama's heritage doesn't threaten American values but showcases them.

Yeah, sure, but now that we know that Obama is a biracial anchor baby for racial tolerance, surely he can be impeached, or something.

Middle East economies face specter of rising food prices

Worried about unrest, IMF gives pass to governments to boost subsidies

By: David Rosenberg
For The Media Line

The economies of the Middle East face a daunting near-term challenge of containing the impact of rising food and energy prices without busting their budgets or setting off another round of unrest, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) warned in a report on the region.

With turmoil besetting so much of the region, the IMF conceded that the fiscal restraint it usually urges on governments might not be practical for now and gave its backing to the subsidies and make-work programs initiated in the face of mass protests. But it warned that policy would have to transition quickly to measures that spur economic growth and create productive employment.

"Many countries in the region have increased subsidies for food and fuel because increasing prices of food and fuel affect households, some of whom spend 50% of their incomes on these products," Masood Ahmed, director of the Middle East and Central Asia Department, said in a podcast released Wednesday. "This is perfectly understandable in the short run to preserve social cohesion. But over the longer term the answer lies in moving away from generalized subsidies."

Unrest has toppled the leaders of Tunisia and Egypt in the past three months and threatens strongmen in Libya, Syria and Yemen, spurring governments to look for palliatives for joblessness and inflation. But subsidies and job programs saddle them with extra costs they can't afford and do little to address long-term problems of poverty and un-

employment.

Economic growth across the Middle East and North Africa, including Afghanistan and Pakistan, will reach 3.9% this year, the IMF forecast -- the same pace as in 2010 but among the lowest in more than a decade. Increasing oil prices have helped divide the region into winners and losers, with the price of benchmark Brent crude rising 22% since unrest broke out in Libya on February 15.

As a result, oil exporters will enjoy fairly strong growth of 4.9% on average, but among non-oil countries -- the ones hit hardest by unrest -- growth will slump to half its level of the last two years to just 2.3%, the IMF said.

The IMF said the sluggish growth will be accompanied by accelerating inflation, with consumer prices expected to rise 10.8% this year, compared with an average of 7.2% over the last decade. Both oil and non-oil economies will feel the impact of higher prices, but only the richer economies have the financial resources to cope with it, the IMF.

The Middle East is especially vulnerable to the global increase in food prices because the region imports so much of its food and because widespread poverty means that a big portion of a family's income goes to purchasing food. On average, food accounts for about 36% of the basket of products and services used to calculate inflation, according to the IMF.

Subsidizing the cost of bread, cooking oil, gasoline and other basic items has been the preferred tool among Middle East governments for helping the poor. The International Energy Agency estimates that the Middle East and North Africa accounted for almost two-thirds

of global petroleum price subsidies in 2009. Seventeen out of the region's 22 countries subsidize food. The IMF estimated that this all comes at a cost of \$200 billion annually, or almost 8% of the region's GDP in 2010.

That is likely to go up with no program put into place this year in response to unrest. Egypt, for instance, has increased subsidies for wheat imports, Jordan has announced cuts to taxes on fuel and foodstuffs, and Lebanon slashed the excise tax on gasoline by about 55%.

"This increase in public spending can help to moderate the effect on growth, but it is going to strain their budgets," Ahmed said about non-oil economies. "As a group their budget deficits are going to increase to over \$40 billion this year."

The increases will not only put a strain on state budgets but will encourage wastefulness, boosting countries' import bills and fueling inflation, the IMF warned. The region's non-oil economies, which lack the cushion of higher petroleum prices, are likely to see their current account deficit widen to 4.1% of GDP this year while the budget deficit widens to 6.8%, the IMF predicted.

The troubles don't end there. The region's high level of unemployment -- which together with inflation is widely seen as a major factor behind the Arab Spring -- remains a long-term problem demanding wide-ranging reforms in education and regulations designed to encourage private enterprise.

In 2008, unemployment rates in Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Syria, and Tunisia averaged 11%, the highest regional rate worldwide. It blamed the joblessness on rapid population growth, which makes it hard for economies to generate enough jobs, as well as a mismatch between people's skills and the needs of employers.

Mostafa Nasr speaks to the Yemen Times:

“Nobody knows anything about Yemen’s cash reserves except president and his inner circle”

By: Sadeq Al-Wesabi

The current political crisis in Yemen has begun forcing an already weak economy closer and closer to collapse. Many public and private sector institutions are already being affected negatively by the ongoing protests across the country and President Saleh’s refusal to sign the GCC power transfer initiative.

Mostafa Nasr, head of the Studies in the Economy and Media Center (SEMC) spoke to the Yemen Times about the current economic situation and about the possible economic future of the country following the departure of President Saleh.

SEMC is a non-profit organization, established in 2008 and specializes in studies of the economy and media. The center works towards the education of citizens on how to improve upon and establish a transparent and successful economic system. The center also works towards the education of using the media to promote economic achievement.

During the Yemen’s current political crisis, SEMC has held several conferences and symposia about the economic situation and the possible economic scenario after the president’s departure.

“Yemen has witnessed a large amount of economic stagnation due to the determination of the president Saleh to stay in power,” Nasr said. “Most economic sectors such as tourism, construction, banking and oil have suspended all business and production.”

According to Nasr, the president’s insistence on staying in power is negatively affecting Yemen’s economy. “His stubbornness will lead Yemen to economic collapse,” said Nasr.

In spite of all this, Nasr said that Yemen’s economy is still somewhat functional. However, he indicated that the current functionality of the Yemeni economy will not last much longer. “Food prices have already begun increasing and there is a massive shortage of foreign currency, especially the dollar.”

“Yemen may witness an oil crisis due to stoppage of production and supply of Aden’s refineries,” he said.



Mostafa Nasr

“Yemen’s hard currency supplies have been depleted to worrying levels. This is a dangerous indicator. The government is depleting Yemen’s reserves of hard currency,” Nasr revealed.

He also said that there is confusion over the real amount of foreign currency reserves. “Nobody knows about that except the president and his inner circle,” he said.

Nasr revealed that there are plans of transferring a large amount of investments to private accounts, indicating that the Central Bank of Yemen isn’t subjected to observation and accountability.

“Yemen’s gold reserves were also moved from the central bank and moved to several other locations,” he revealed.

According to Nasr, Yemenis will inherit from president Saleh and his regime a heavy legacy of failure. “They will inherit unfair business practices in the oil and gas sectors. They will inherit a population of with 47% live below the poverty

line. They will inherit an unemployment rate exceeding 37%. They will inherit a failed economic administration and they will inherit awful health and education services.”

“Yemenis face several challenges after the departure of the president such as a water crisis and a poor and fragmented administrative structure,” he said.

According to Nasr, it will be difficult for a new government to develop the economy unless the president leaves immediately. He said that the economic situation in Yemen at this stage [after the president’s departure] will face many difficulties and challenges.

“This stage in the country’s economic development needs the steadfast efforts of all Yemenis, national and international NGOs and foreign countries,” Nasr said.

He said that Yemen will need real support from the US, Gulf countries and the EU to recover from an already dire economic situation.

Economic Challenges

According to Nasr, the most important challenge for Yemenis after the departure of the removal of corrupt officials.

“Yemen doesn’t lack economic resources. Our problem is absence of good governance and honest officials. Unfortunately, there is a systematic waste of wealth by this regime,” he said.

“One of the most important aims of this revolution is combating corruption and reordering the priorities of the national economy,” he added.

Nasr indicated that Yemen has many professional and skilled citizens that have been marginalized during the president’s



More than 40 percent of Yemenis are poor. Poverty and dissatisfaction with living conditions have driven many Yemenis to the anti-government protest regardless of their political orientation.

regime.

“The current regime has wasted gas and oil wealth. It was also never able to capitalize on fishery wealth and material resources,” he said.

Current regime has wasted gas and oil wealth and has not been able to capitalize on fishery and material resource wealth

When asked about his opinion concerning the recruitment of more than 50,000 employees by the government

last week, he said, “This is a funny trick from president Saleh who is desperately trying to appease protesters who demand his ouster.”

“It’s impossible to employ this number of people, especially with these dire economic circumstances that Yemen deals with,” he said.

“The president and his corrupt regime don’t realize that employees demand his ouster along with the unemployed,” he said.

Nasr said that economic reforms need a political reform. He pointed out that the reason behind the failure of the Yemeni economy is political instability.

Economic plan for the future

Nasr said that the SEMC works with professional economists to prepare a new Yemeni economic vision for a new Yemen.

“It’s not difficult to prepare a new economic vision. The difficult thing is the absence of a government that can develop Yemen economically,” he said.

“Unfortunately, the current regime thrives on corruption and the hiring and rewarding of corrupt officials,” he said.

Economic priorities

Speaking about economic priorities after departure of the president, Nasr said, “The most important economic priorities at this time is reconsidering the signed conventions on oil and gas, finding a solution for poverty and unemployment and involving the private sector in developing the economy.”

“We should reform the system of local governance, think about more strategic project and find solutions for the water and electricity crises.”

The new arrival A 320



Buy Two Tickets Avail One free

Yemenia اليمنية
Yemen Airways الخطوط الجوية اليمنية
الضيافة العربية الأصيلة
Genuine Arabian Hospitality

www.yemenia.com

For more information
please call :01 - 250 800 - Toll free: 800 1000

The Green City



At instalments for a period of

7

YEARS

**Villas and Residential Flats
of different areas**

Possess for a better life



ID Media Group (712299185)

Al-Hamdani for Trade and Realestate Investment Co. HD

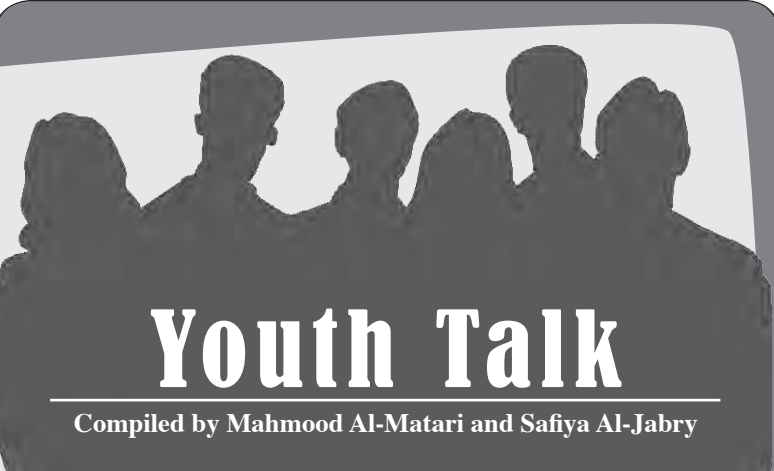
Republic of Yemen - aden - Residential Green City - Tel.: 00967 2 355111 - Fax: 00967 2 355115

Mobail: 777355111

Sana'a West of the Presidential Palace - Tel.: 00967 1 424321 - Fax: 00967 1 424323

Mobail: 777355000

www.alhmdani.com



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:

Women participate in both pro-government and anti-government demonstrations. What are your opinions regarding this?

Eyad Al-Mathihai

I think it's better for women not to attend either the pro-president or pro-change demonstrations, because our culture isn't that open yet.

Noha Yazeed

In my opinion, for sure it's her right to be a part of the ongoing situation! But not to protest amongst the men. There should be a private place [at protests] for women.

Haitham Ahmed Al-Shamiri

Yemeni women have always been seen as useless members of Yemeni society. But the peaceful youth revolution has proven that there is no difference between women and men, as long as women are aware of what they're doing. It also means that Yemeni women have their own vision of the future and they're determined to set their own targets so as to achieve it.

Malak Shaher

I believe that women have the right to participate in all fields of life, since they are citizens who have the same rights as men. Neither tradition nor the people can say that it is not a woman's right to participate. Recently, people have been talking maliciously about the women protesters. For me, I prefer to stay at home than to take to the streets and have my reputation sullied.

Muammar Al-Ghubari

Women ruled Yemen in the past, with great success and for a long time. Today, they continue to play an important role in the political process. This is why we have seen women participating on both sides of the political spectrum. I myself highly respect and appreciate the women of both camps.

Amani Al-Sanawi

Yemeni women must fight for their rights by participating and by contributing to development in the country. The strengthening of women's participation in all spheres of life has become a major issue in international development discourse. Socio-economic development cannot be fully achieved without the active participation of women, especially at the decision-making level.

Aamer Mohammed Al-Dibyani

In my opinion, the participation of Yemeni women in demonstrations – be they pro-government or anti-government – reflects their political awareness and their desire to change the future for the better. But a woman's participation in demonstrations and protests must be within the bounds of chastity and politeness.

Salman Ayash

I think that if the Yemeni constitution allows women to participate in elections, no one can prevent them from participating in demonstrations, either with or against the regime. They are entitled to express their opinions just like the rest of Yemen's citizens. I personally think that the women in Change Square are right because they want to overthrow the corrupt regime.

Abdulrahman Al-Sanawi

Yemeni women have acquired a legitimate space in rural political institutions that has allowed to raise their marginalized position, though they are still treated as if they were a minority. Merely have women present on councils does not automatically mean that their interests in the community are represented. Without women's needs and interests being taken into account – and without the opportunity for them to participate in and influence decision-making – development and sustainability will not come. Having women in leadership positions is also an important step in changing the male-dominated political agenda.

Khalid Al-Karimi

Undoubtedly, women are an integral part of society that no person can ignore. Presently, Yemeni women have taken part in the ongoing demonstrations and sit-ins, almost as if to tell Yemen's male-dominated community, "We are equal. Our voices are of the same significance." Whether with or against the Presidential Palace, they are all bellowing rage or support simultaneously. It is the Yemeni woman's best opportunity to stand out. Do not miss it!

Next Week's Question:

as a Yemeni, do you accept external intervention into Yemen affairs (including, for example, the Gulf initiative)?

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!



Hundreds of thousands of anti-government protesters took to the streets last Friday in a day that was designated as "Loyalty to the Martyrs" Friday.

Photo by Mohammed Al-Emad

Freedom isn't free in Yemen

By: Abubakr Al-Shamahi

On Wednesday, the Yemeni government committed its worst act of violence upon protesters since the deaths of 52 protesters on March 18, killing at least 11 protesters in a march as it passed by the May 22 Stadium.

There has been a large security deployment around the streets of Sana'a over the last few days, after the youth coalition in Change Square completely rejected the Gulf initiative that would give, amongst other things, Saleh immunity from prosecution.

Calls had been growing for a march on the Presidential Palace, with the popular chant, 'the people want the downfall of the regime', morphing into 'the people want to march on the palace'.

The authorities are very frightened by this possible escalation and, when the protesters announced on Tuesday that they were to march to the palace, one of the main routes in Sana'a was completely blocked to prevent them passing. The planned protest itself turned out to be a trick designed to throw the authorities.

The protesters carried on their tricks on Wednesday. What was again billed as a march to the palace instead turned the other way, and marched towards the state television headquarters.

The march in itself felt a lot more organised than previous marches. A car led the march, which consisted of a couple of hundred thousand people, and blared out anti-government music. The protesters were encouraged to march in rows and link arms.

The march was largely uneventful, even quite quiet, until it reached Amran roundabout, an area with a large security deployment. Walking past the large roundabout the protesters began to chant directly at the security forces, referring to their poor wages, and accusing the regime of being the cause of this.

The soldiers stood passive. Did they know what was coming for the protesters around the corner? Passing by the flyover, they began to approach the May 22 Stadium, where a protest camp for apparent 'third way' campaigners is located. Many accuse this third, supposedly middle-ground camp, of being a tool of the regime.

Just as the front of the march began to pass by the stadium, the shots began to ring out. At first sporadic, it soon became clear that there was a sustained attack being propagated. Within minutes the first casualties were being carried out, bloodied.

When the protesters first heard the sustained gunfire many turned to leave. However, a few men decided to take things into their own hands. They shouted for everyone to stay, "hold your

ground, don't run." The words seem to have had an effect. Instead of running away, the crowds moved forward.

Men began to pray. Others, battle-experienced, moved to break up large rocks. The rocks began to fly.

The sky seemed to be filled with rocks, all flying at the stadium's entrance. Something was on fire, the protesters had started to use Molotov's. In the midst of all this, the snipers could clearly be seen. On the rooftops of several buildings they were raining down bullets on the protesters. The area in front of the stadium is an open road, with buildings from all sides. The protesters were sitting ducks.

Blood could quite clearly be seen on the floor and on the walls, marking where people had fallen. The gunfire continued to ring out, but different sounds were starting to be heard. Much more rapid gunfire than what would be expected from the snipers. It seemed that an array of weapons was being used by the Yemeni state to fire on its people.

The protesters kept on moving forward, attempting to carry on past the stadium. They had mostly gathered at the furthest part of the road from the stadium, ducking, whilst moving forward. Scared, there was the threat of a crush as people tried to push against each other, but they eventually settled.

The protesters fear quickly turned into something else, anger. It was as

if they had realised that the fear would not get them anywhere. As the anger increased, the crowd grew louder, calling to God, and still chanting "silmiya, silmiya." This is coming from Yemenis, a people who apparently shelter terrorists and are inherently violent.

Yemenis continue to prove this wrong. Shouts of "yalla ya shabab," literally "c'mon lads." The protesters responded by moving forward. Eventually, sections had managed to get away from the shooting. The crowds were angry, yet, as they passed a shack carrying Saleh's picture and ruling party flags, they simply carried on walking past.

The worst of the rage came as the crowds passed the state television compound. A cameraman could clearly be seen filming the crowds, later on that evening state television news would describe the crowds of hundreds of thousands as an illegal mob.

News began to filter through that the security forces had kidnapped people, their fate unknown. One of the dead was a 14 year old child. All of the dead had been hit in the head or torso, apart from one who had been run over by a water truck.

The protesters were weary as they approached Change Square, at the end of a 10km march were they faced snipers and machine guns. However, here was one final act of defiance. As they trudged in they chanted in unison, "we're not tired, freedom isn't free."





شركة النقل البري اليمني
وغير مكاتبها ..
.. أن تصممكم
وتمربكم على ركب اسطولها الحديث وعمالها المنتظمين وعلى
بساط الإرافة تدومكم الى ما بيننا لنشد الزمالات فما صابا وما وسيا، ابتداء من:
صفا - الطيطة - الكلال - سيهون - شوهة - والموودة
الطيطة - الكلال - عدن - نهر - والمكس

صناعة الإدارة العامة: ٢٦١١٥٧ - ٤٨٠٤٣١
الفرع: الفيظفة: ٠٥/٦١٠٣٩ - المكلا: ٠٥/٣٧٨٠٦٠ - سيهون: ٠٥/٤٠٨٣٤٢ - شوهة: (صنع) ٠٥/٢٠٧٥٧

Job Seekers

Indian National, master degree in commerce above 15 years experience as senior level in commercial office manager, marketing, project stc. ready to join immediately with good companies. 711445354

Bachelor of accountancy from Sana'a University diploma of secretary and computer courses in the English good in writing and specking, store keeper for 3 years inventory control and purchasing follow up for 6 years site administrator for one year. 733409652

Bachelor degree in English,

computer diploma, have an experience for 5 years in the following fields: secretary and administration, sales and marketing, logistics and special courses in French language. 777565320 mohammed_ismail18@yahoo.com

Faisal Qasem, working as a translator for 12 year and business letters. I want a part time job as a translator. Contact: 777 187 490 or 777 679 057

Fawaz Al-Sabri, Bachelor degree of E, diploma in accounting, d. in computer, Trading correspondence and Yemen soft program, Tow years experience of accounting, one years experiences of teaching. I'd like to work in anything of me specialization. Tel: 733298154 Email: fawaz.alsabri@yahoo.com

Teaching Japanese Language in Sana'a and Freelance Japanese inter prater. Please call: 736876882

Bachelor in English language I have experience in Business correspondence administration work For contact /734510405

Gamal, Bachelor degree of English, diploma in marketing,

diploma in computer secretarial & Experiences as a treasurer. I would like to work in any ares of my specialization. 777004207

Mahmood bachelor degree in English, computer and marketing courses one year experience in the United Insurance company in Taiz as a promoter. mahmoodhizam@yahoo.com. 713405946

Bachelor of computer science - India & years experience in desktop application programming 733300597

RadFan Haza'a. Police officer. Excellent English. work as police supervisor, participated in peacekeeping forces of U.N as international supervisor. Desire for working as bodyguard or security officer in any embassy. Contact: 733312226

Bachelor in Radio and T.V media from Aden university many of professional capacity in the T.V-Radio Productions. computer skills Contact : 735869554

Diploma in business, 5 years experience in accounts & correspondent. fluent in English, computer skills. Contact: 735627704

Doplama degree in English, I would like to work with an foreign company even as adriver. Yazeedready@yahoo.com 700001870-733498650

BA in English Faculty of Arts Taiz University Tofel 557, Diploma of computer secretary fast typist. Sana'a 713900528

Master diploma in (English) is seeking a job in Sana'a Long experience in teaching English. 777584644 - 733496587

Qualified translator - entrap English /Arabic and vice-versa Jamal - 733245514

Free lance translator High skilled expert. Mammon - 736913669

Professional English teacher, all levels. Aden. 771433797, 734201785

Nadia Mukhtar - single, native Indian, obtained English and secretary diploma with Excellent grade, experienced in graphics, commercial correspondence, translation, excellent communication skills, wants to work in Taiz mobile: 771648313

Diploma in civil Engineering 3 years, Experience in Road survey. Good knowledge of English, computer skills. Taiz: 734383275

Bachelor of information technology from the University of science and technology Grade: Excellent with honors from the first installment holds a certificate of the best graduation project. Experience in programming + maintenance + network + web design (electronic pages) with skills in operating systems. Proficiency in English language. 770406290-734442010

Hold a BA in management information systems at the Modern Academy, an equivalent diploma Bachelor from Cairo University, Diploma in Network Engineering, MCSE and MCSA, Diploma of computer network, skills in the Microsoft office, the English speaking is average, I would like to join a team work at any reputable private company or Administrative work in Oil sector, contact mobil:737357853

Job Vacancy

Bachelor of Economics (BA Economics) and master of sociology (MA, Sociology) past graduation in computer application (P.G.D.A) Excellent command over written. Spoken English. 4 years Glut Experience in

secretary, store keeper. SUNIL near University of Science & Technology Hospital. 713430545

Lessons at Home, evening classes in English, math, book keeping & accounting. Reasonable rates. Qualified & experienced teachers. bashuaib@yahoo.com 736567517

Marketing officer institute of development impact CV please send to fax number 454077

Hold a BA in management information systems at the Modern Academy, an equivalent diploma Bachelor from Cairo University, Diploma in Network Engineering, MCSE and MCSA, Diploma of COMPTIA Network, skills in the Microsoft office, the English speaking is average, I would like to join a team work at any reputable private company or Administrative work in Oil sector, contact 737357853. Ali AL-Hemyari Female Secretary required for foreign construction company in Diplomatic Area Sana'a working Gujar.yfa@gmail.com

A two-story building located between Hail st and ring road. Total of 6 rooms, 4 toilet, a kitchen and two halls. 777960925

For Sale

Brand / Hyundai Vehicle model / Centnal Calar /Black / gray Year / 2005 To conctect Tel/ 735229229/ 7141414414/ 735229229

Toyota "Echo" 2001 custom duty paid color - silver, was used 5 years in Dubai 4.5 in Sana'a the second owner good condition, wheels, battery - new air conditioner, radio, cassette player Extra - some presents for a car. Price: 4,800 \$ (American \$) Contact: 01-621412 mob:711673699

BedRoom (used) contains of (double Bed, wardrobe, Hairdo, Extension drawers and Bed Brushes.) Mobile:777395261

CANON Power shot SX130 IS. Digital Camera new, 12x700m, 12.Imp, HD Movie. Included, 4gb memory, Tripod, Pouch, Battery charger. Contact:733219800

Mobile Nokia N95 in excellent Condition with its original box and accessories made in Finland Price 200\$ contact:733416400

Toyota Corola XLI Engine 1300cc; 18.494 km; custom duty paid; Delivery as new in Mei 2007, first owner, nice and neat condition Already equipped double din (radio casserre and CD player), power for four speakers, two tweeters; central door locked with alarm Diplomatic register; price: US\$ 10,700 Contact: gunstock_47@hotmail.com;734751029 (for English speaker); 733312183 (for Arabic speaker)

3 Shirazi cats - Age: 3 months - Original breed - Beautiful colors white - orange & Light beige. 734476002

I MAC, Intel-based processor, 2.66GHZ, windows &MAC compatible,20 inch 16:10 wide screen, 320 GB HDD.2GB DDR3 RAM. 773500399

For Lease

New offices are available for rent at Aman Tower - Zubairy street 735870015

We have apartement for rent consists of three rooms, one kitchen, two bathroomes and a hall. Location in Mujahad street. Contact: 711140184

Appartment without furnture. contains 3 bedroom, hall, 2bathrooms, kitchen. Abo Ali: 777448617

New apartments for rent at Hadda. Sabaa Bank buildings 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms and a Diwan 733869522 - 770567930

New building, First grand floor an apartments with 4 rooms, hall, 2 bathrooms, Kitchen. Second floor 2 apartments each apartments with 2 rooms, hall, 2 bathrooms, Kitchen. Location: Taiz street, Sana'a 777960925

Cargo

Trans Global Logistics & Services Ltd.

We bring your World Closer

- Air/Sea/Land forwarding.
- Packing/Land Transportation.
- International door to door services.
- Warehousing /Logistical planning.
- Customs clearance/Local Visa/Documentation handling.
- Real Estate Services.
- Ticketing Reservations & General Tourism Services.
- Courier Services.

Tel:-967-1-444226/440460
Fax:-967-1-445696
P.O.Box 16884, Sana'a Rep.of Yemen
Email:transglobal@yemen.net.ye
Email:transglobal2@yemen.net.ye
Website:www.transglobalyemen.com

Coupon for Free Classified Ads. (All Personal Ads - All Free of Cost)

For Sale Required Available For Lease
For Hire/Rent Job Require Situation Vacant Others

Details: _____

Contact Address: _____

Please cut this coupon and send it to **Yemen Times**
fax: 268276 or P.O. Box 2579 - Sana'a
For more info. contact: 268661/2/3

IMPORTANT Numbers

Electricity problems 177, Emergency Police 199, Fire Brigade 191, Water Problems 171, Telephone enquires 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 282061, Tourism 254632, TV Station 332001/2, Red Crescent 283131/3, Tel-Yemen 7522202, Yast 7522227

AIRLINES

Continental Airline 278668/283082
Egypt Air 273452/273061
Qatar Air ways Fax: 506038, Tel:506030/5

BANKS

Yemen Gulf Bank Tel: 967-1-260823 Fax:260824
02 - 270347 fax 02 - 237824

Shamil Bank of Yemen & Bahrain
Tel. 264775 264702. Fax. 264703,503350

Yemeni Banks:
Central Bank 274314/1
Yemen Commercial Bank Tel: 01 277224
01 277291
International Bank of Yemen 01 407030
Arab Bank 01 276585/2
CAC Bank 01 563813

FORD/HYUNDAI 267791
MERCEDES-BENZ 01 - 330080
NISSAN Hodeidah: 200150/49
Sana'a: 400269

OPEL / GM 203075
SUZUKI 02 - 340000
TOYOTA 445362/3

COMPUTER EDUCATION AND INSTITUTES

Computer Education Aden: 02-237199
Infinit Education 01-444553
NIIT Quality Computer Education 445518/7-442073
British Institute for Languages & Computer 266222 - Fax: 514755
YALI 01-448039
ALTI 01-274221
Ecoed 01-537871

Al-Amal Bank 01-449731
Qatar International Bank 01-517544
Yemeni Bank for Reconstruction and Development 01-271601
Saba's Islamic Bank 01-286506
Calyon Bank 01-274371
United Bank Limited 01-407540
CAC Islamic Bank 01-538901
Yemen and Kuwait Bank for Trade and Investment 01-209451

CAR RENTAL

Budget Tel: 01 309618 / 506372
Fax: 01240958
Tel: 01 270751
Tel: 01 270804

Europe Car Tel: 01 270751
Tel: 01 270804

CAR SHOWROOMS & SPARE PARTS

FORD/HYUNDAI 267791
MERCEDES-BENZ 01 - 330080
NISSAN Hodeidah: 200150/49
Sana'a: 400269

OPEL / GM 203075
SUZUKI 02 - 340000
TOYOTA 445362/3

MALI 01-441036
Horizon 01-448573

COURIERS

FedEx Express
Sana'a 01 440 170 Aden 02 245 626
Hodiadh 03 226 975 Taiz 04 205 780

USP 01-416751

FREIGHT FORWARDERS

M&M Logistics & Aviation Services 01 531221/531231
Al-Naeim Cargo Forwarders 407905
World Link 01 444550/441935
YEMPAC Cargo 01-447126
Mas Freight International 01-429671
Mareh Travel and Tourism - Cargo Division 01-441126
Sas Cargo Services 01-472192/3

HOSPITALS

Modern German Hospital 600000/602008
E-mail:filz@pena@hotmail.com Fax: 601889
Al-Jumhury Hospital 01 274286/87
Hadda Hospital 01 412981
Al-Thawra Hospital 01-444936
Al-Ahli Modern Hospital 01-424765
Al-Ahli Modern Hospital 01-444936
Science and Technology Hospital 01-500000
Al-Kuwait Hospital 01-283283
Sudni-German Hospital 01-313333
Azal Hospital 01-200000

HOTELS

L'AZURDE suites hotel 01-432020/3040

Versailles Hotel 01-425970/1/2
Sheraton Hotel 01 237500
Movepick Hotel 01 546666
Fax: 01 546000
01 272372
01 449871
01-630494
01-212544
01-418546

Sheba Hotel 01 272372
Relax-Im Hotel 01 449871
Gulf Tourist Hotel and Suits 01-630494
Mecure Hotel 01-212544
Shammar Hotel 01-418546

INSURANCE COMPANIES

UNITED INSURANCE Tel: 01/555 555
Free Number: 800 55 55

Al-Watania Insurance (Y.S.C.)
Sana'a 272113/874 Aden: 243490-242476
Taiz 250029 Hodeidah 219941/406
Marib Insurance Sana'a: 206129/8/13
Aden: 255668
Taiz:240927/34
Hodeidah: 219545/8

Yemen Islamic Insurance Co. Sana'a 284193,
5 lines, Taiz: 258881, Aden: 244280

Yemen Insurance company Sana'a: 272806/ 272962/43,
Aden: 247617
Taiz: 250345, Mukalla: 304292, Hodeidah: 261839/17

Aman Insurance 01-214093

RESTAURANT

Al-Shaibani Restaurants Super Deluxe Tel: 01 505290
01 266375
Fax: 01 267619

SCHOOLS

Rainbow Pre-School Tel: 414026 / 424433
Juniors' Oasis kindergartan

Telfax :01- 470250 - Mobile/734522225
Sana'a International School Tel: 01 370191/2
Fax 370193

International Turkish Schools Sana'a 448258/9
Taiz 205593
Al-Majd Yemen School Tel: 206159
Manarat Schools 01-410011

SUPERMARKET

AL-JANDUL Supermarket. Tel: 01-422610

TRANSLATIONS

Urwa Wautqa Int. Auth. Trans. Arabic-English-French
-German-Russian-Italian- Spanish-Polish-Dutch- Iranian-
Turkish-Eriterea-Amharic. Tel: 01-240515

TRAVEL

Sky Travel & Tourism 01-535080/83
02-221270
444118
Falcon Holidays 444118
Al-Naeim Travel 270750
Universal Business Travel Center 441158/9/60
Qadas Fly 01-280777

UNIVERSITIES

American World University, Rep. by IS academy
Tel. 01 - 535700 - 733061203 Fax: 535702
University of Applied and Social Science
Sana'a: 412442 Fax: 412441
Aden: 234533 / 234960

Queen Arwa University Tel: 449971/2
Sana'a University Tel: 250553/4/5
Alandalus University Tel:675567
Fax:675885

MINISTRIES

Presidency 01-290200
Prime Minister 01-490 800
Ministry of Public Works and Highways 01-545132
Ministry of Awqaf and Guidance 01-274439
Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research 01-535031
Ministry of Fisheries 01-268583
Ministry of Culture 01-274640
Ministry of Civil Service and Insurance 01-294579
Ministry of Defence 01-276404
Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation 01-282963
Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour 01-262809
Ministry of Legal Affairs 01-402213
Ministry of Public Health and Population 01-252211
Ministry of Youth and Sports w01-472913
Ministry of Industry and Trade 01-235462
Ministry of Justice 01-265612
Ministry of Tourism 01-220050
Ministry of Expatriates 01-402254
Ministry of Petroleum and Minerals 01-202309
Ministry of Internal Affairs 01-289577
Ministry of Transport 01-260900
Ministry of Human Rights 01-444831
Ministry of Communications and Information Technology 01-331460
Ministry of Local Administration 01-227242
Ministry of Information 01-274008
Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation 01-250101
Ministry of Education 01-232732
Ministry of Foreign Affairs 01-537914
Ministry of the Interior 01-332701
Ministry of Finance 01-260365
Ministry of Transportation 01-202257
Ministry of Water and Environment 01-418289
Ministry of Electricity 01-326196

To have your number listed please
contact: 268661 - Fax: 268276

COLOP
self-inking stamps اختتام ذاتية التحبير كولاوب

Exclusive Agents:
Thabet Son Corporation
Tel.: +967 1 269924 Fax.: +967 1 269928 - Sana'a - Mujahed St. - Beside - Al-Saedy Grocery

YEMEN TIMES

Yemen's first and most widely-read English-language newspaper

جزء لا يتجزأ من مكتبك

IDEAL

ASHBAMI AGENCIES

Women's movement pioneers female role in a new Yemen

The Watan Coalition, an activist women's network, which started over five years ago is working tirelessly to ensure that women are included as key contributors in the political and socio-economic changes sweeping the country.

By: Nadia Al-Sakkaf

There were over 40 women in the room and only three men. The men felt they were a minority although they were present because of their support for women's issues. The women came from various political and cultural backgrounds but they all had one issue in common: Making a place for women in the new Yemen.

It all started when members of Watan Coalition, Women for Social Peace Yemeni, began taking shape in the past six years. They realized that the country's political transition is an opportunity for women. After all, women had been an integral part of the revolution in the making if not its leaders.

Not so long ago, activist Bilqis Al-Lahabi cried out, "Saleh threatens us with Somalization, Talibanization and Iraqization of Yemen - so here we are threatening him with Tunisization instead!"

Although the coalition does not have a formal structure or clear leadership as such, it began in 2005 to endorse women's political participation in Yemen. The coalition defines itself as a group of Yemeni Women that become active during critical political moments through addressing public opinion, conducting campaigns, and mobilizing the voice of women.

"The Watan Coalition believes that women are one of the primary pillars in policy making and indispensable in creating balance with social and political peace," reads their Facebook profile who has more than 640 followers.

Documenting demands

Since women have been able to make their participation very recognizable



Women at change square have played a crucial role in protests across Yemen, pioneering the role of women in the future of Yemeni society and politics

and get the admission of men of the importance of their roles in the political scene. The Watan Coalition has come out with a demands document which they intend to use as an advocacy tool during and after the revolution.

The document entitled "It is time for equality" narrates the contribution of Yemeni women to the revolution much more than many of the other women in other revolutions.

"Our revolution has broken every stereotype there is concerning Yemeni women," said Hooria Mashour, activist and member of the coalition. "Even the men have accepted women's participation and leadership in the revolution grounds of Change Square."

Tawakul Karman director of Women Journalists Without Chains, has become an icon in Yemen's revolution as she lead marches from the very beginning followed by men. She would stand at the stage in the square and chant against the regime and thousands of men would willingly repeat after her.

Watan's document emphasized on marking and documenting the contribution of women in the revolution but even more importantly, their role in the

stages to come.

The document has three main priorities: Involving women in all political dialogue aiming at reaching a solution for today's political crisis, demanding no less than 30% of women should be part of all transitional bodies and organizations that will create the platform for the next phase through preparing for elections and constitutional referendum, and emphasizing that women are equal to men in duties and rights in the constitution and all national legislation and all forms of legal discrimination against women should be eliminated.

But Yemeni women need to put their act together and make sure that they have a solid plan for the three phases defined by the coalition: The revolution, the transition and rebuilding the nation according to activist Jamila Ali Raja.

"We need to understand the priorities or demands of Yemeni women in these three phases and come up with an advocacy plan to make them happen," she said.

The main purpose of the document according to activist Maha Awadh is to make women's development a political

priority not a by-product of development or something politicians will look into after they have finished dealing with political matters.

"We need to put women on the political map as a priority in all talks, negotiations and mandates," she said.

Fighting the backlash

Although revolutionary passion is infectious and both Yemeni men and women feel involved, there are some actions that taint the picture and remind Yemeni women that there is still an up-

CONSOLIDATED CONTRACTORS GROUP S.A.L OFFSHORE (CCC)

CONSTRUCTION OF MECHANICAL AND HEAVY CIVIL PROJECTS

- Petrochemical plants, refineries.
- Heavy, light industrial plants.
- Power and desalination plants.
- Fuel and water storage tanks.
- Oil fields ancillary installations.
- Air purification for industry.
- Marine docks, harbours, deep sea berths & refinery terminals.
- Offshore structures and underwater works.
- Pipelines construction and maintenance.
- Prefabricated accommodation & office facilities.
- Sewage treatment plants & collection networks.
- Airports, roads, highways, bridges & fly-overs.
- High quality buildings & sports complexes.
- Water treatment plants, reservoirs & distribution systems.

Sanaa
Tel: (967-1) 441638
Fax: (967-1) 441630
E-Mail: ccc@cccyemen.com

Aden
Tel: (967-2) 377328
Fax: (967-2) 377716
E-Mail: cccaden@y.net.ye

hill way to go before women are really considered equal.

"The Watan Coalition has a long term mandate that emphasizes on aligning local laws to the international conventions of women's rights. We aim to create a modern state with institutions and rule of law that respects all its citizens regardless of gender or race or religion," said member of the coalition Tahani Al-Khaiba.

Realizing the size of the task in hand, the activists understand they need to work together in the proactive way not a reactive one.

"There will be a backlash. There will be an anti-revolutionary war against change and we need to be mindful of it and decide in advance how we will deal with it in order not to allow our issues a setback," said Nabila Al-Zubair activist and writer.

The activists met in a session last week and decided on a general framework for their interventions. The docu-

ment was accepted in its general form as an advocacy tool for women during the revolution and the next stages.

Moreover, the activists divided into three groups taking up the challenge to identify women's key issues in each of the three stages: revolution, transition, rebuilding Yemen. They will carry out further activities to come up with an action plan and projects list that could be implemented to endorse women's rights in Yemen today and tomorrow.

4U

For more information on The Watan Coalition visit their Facebook profile <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Watan-Coalition/190400770991968> or email Watan4women@yahoo.com

Pentel MAXIFLO
WHITE BOARD MARKER

BUY THE ORIGINAL
Beware of Imitation

Odorless Ink
Writes 3 Times Longer...

Pentel MAXIFLO Super Long Writing Distance Xylene & Toluene-Free WHITE BOARD MARKER

PUSH BUTTON-TYPE BOARD MARKER

MADE IN JAPAN

Designed Specially to Suit Extreme Climatic Conditions of the Middle East

ACDelco
Maintenance Free
PSI (AGM) Car and Truck Battery

صممت خصيصاً لتتحمل الظروف المناخية القاسية للشرق الأوسط

Ramzi Saeed Parts and Batteries
رمزي سعيد لقطع الغيار والبطاريات

Sana's Main branch:
Address: - Taiz Areet
Tel: 00967 | 628757 - Fax: 00967 | 628756

Sana'a Branch:
Address: - Zubairy Street - Telefax: 00967 | 214575

Taiz Branch:
Address: - Al-Hawban Street - Telefax: 00967 | 273897

Aden Branch: Address: Al-Shaikh Othman Street - Telefax: 00967 | 235708

A Battery For All Cars

بطارية لكل سيارة

www.metcotrading.com

الطاقة الحقيقية

SHARK ENERGY DRINK

250 ml (8.4 fl oz)

Printed by Yemen Times Est. for Press, Printing & Publication
طبعت في مساهمات مؤسسة - يمين تايمز للصحافة والطباعة والنشر