

Debates on the legitimacy of Saleh as president

By: Mohammed bin Sallam

SANA'A, Aug 7 — Last Thursday, August 4, 2011, marked 60 days since President Saleh's departure to Saudi Arabia following an attempted assassination in which he escaped with major injuries. According to article number 116 of the Yemeni constitution, if the president is incapable of carrying out his duties as president for a period of 60 days, his authority is transferred to the vice president or the speaker of parliament, should the vice president be incapable of assuming authority or does not exist.

"The president's constitutional leave of absence has ended and he is no longer capable of running the country," said Mohammed Ba Sundowa head of the preparatory committee for the national dialogue and a member of the opposition coalition known as the Joint Meeting Parties.

The constitution also stipulates that a new president must be elected within 60 days after the temporary government headed either by the VP or the speaker of parliament is in place.

"The Yemeni constitution did not tackle the situation in which several high level posts are vacant. Yet this is what has happened in June 3rd, 2011 when the president, prime minister, speaker of parliament and president of shoura council were all rendered

incapable in one attack," said Khalid Al-Mawri a lawyer at the Appeal Court to Xinhua News Agency.

The attack which took place at the Al-Nahdeen Mosque in the presidential palace claimed the life of 12 people and further injured around 87 people.

So far, the vice president who was given the authority to run the country in the absence of the president has not announced a time table for new elections. This is the procedure that has been stipulated by the constitution.

However, loyalists to the regime claim that the president was not incapable of running the country and he has received several diplomats and met with officials whilst being treated in Saudi Arabia.

"The debate around the president's legitimacy after 60 days of his attack is futile. In fact those who raise this issue are the main suspects in the assassination attempt against the president. They are using his absence to present unconstitutional suggestions," said Ahmed Al-Sofi media advisor to the president.

He added that article 116 of the constitution talks about complete disability of the president which is not the case since he is making decisions and meeting important people from his treatment place in Riyadh. And his presence in the country was never

YT Photo by Yousef Aljain



The number of protestors in Sana'a's Change Square decreases gradually although the protestors are still holding on until a breakthrough in the political stagnation takes place.

a condition to his legitimacy as president.

"The president will be leaving the hospital soon but he will remain in Riyadh as a guest of the Saudi government. The prime minister has already left the hospital and is now living in Riyadh until he recovers completely," said Al-Sofi.

"The president's duties go beyond receiving guests and talking to diplomats. It includes the running of the whole country from official premises

such as the republican or presidential palace," said Lawyer Sultan Al-Jaradi, a consultant in the Legal Affairs Ministry.

There have been several attempts to break the political standstill by opposition groups such as the revolution's youth in change square in Sana'a who announced a presidential transitional council, and the opposition coalition Joint Meeting Parties who also announced a national council.

Both councils were supposed to be

alternatives for the government or the parliament in order to allow for the transition of the country and prepare for new parliamentary elections or amending the constitution.

So far these two attempts have failed because to bring about change as those involved have no control over any institutions neither do they have any legitimate support.

However, Ba Sundowa said that by the end of this week several opposition groups will form the structure of

the national council and take steps for its creation and that by the end of the month the names of its members who will be nominated by the opposition groups, will be announced.

Moreover, according to Dr. Mohammed Al-Mutawakil, a leading member of the JMP, there is a chance that members of the Presidential Transitional Council will be accommodated in the national council which means the two attempts will merge into one council.

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Opposition-State armed conflict continues in Taiz

By: Emad Al-Saqqaf

TAIZ, Aug 7 — One citizen was killed and two soldiers were wounded in violent confrontations, on Saturday evening, between armed tribesmen loyal to the revolution on the one side and the Republican Guards and Central Security Forces on the other side. The event took place on Jamal Street in the heart of Taiz city.

"I was scared of the extensive shooting I heard as I was coming back from the market with my little daughter. We saw a number of armed men attacking a military vehicle that belongs to the military police which was stationed in front of Deluxe Hotel in Jamal Street," an eyewitness told the Yemen Times.

"Both sides have exchanged fire randomly and extensively which has terrified those who were present at the time. This has led to the killing of Naser Al-Qumairi, an employee at the antiques office and two soldiers," said the eyewitness "My daughter has seen

this horror movie. She's young and was panicking and I fear this may affect her psychologically."

A security source told the Yemen Times that the "Militias of the Joint Meeting Parties (JMP) particularly the Muslim Brotherhood (Islah Party) have attacked a military vehicle protecting the police. This has led to the injuring of two soldiers, the damage of the vehicle, the killing of one citizen and the wounding of others."

He added that the opposition forces have also shelled the telecommunication and education offices in the city.

"These repeated attacks by the JMP's militias are just provocative moves in order to entice the security forces into using violence," said the security source.

The attack took place amidst constant violence on the Al-Sateen Road between the opposition armed men and the regime's forces. The a leading member of the revolution's protection committee in Taiz said the new secu-

riety checkpoints as a mere tactic by the regime that would prevent armed men from coming from the rural areas of Shara'ab district to the city. The regime on the other hand views these checkpoints as security cordon to protect the city.

Local sources told the Yemen Times that armed groups have attacked the military checkpoints on Sunday morning and many were shot dead and injured. Both sides sustained casualties.

This followed a failed attempt carried out last week by armed men who came from different governorates in large numbers to take control of Taiz airport. The armed men affiliated with the opposition succeeded in taking control of some military equipment and controlled Al-Sateen Road.

Local citizens living in the same area told the Yemen Times that the "Forces of the Republican Guards with support from armored vehicles of the Third Brigade belonging to the Khaled Military Camp, affiliated to the Min-

istry of Defense, have attacked the armed men and destroyed the military equipment that had been taken by the armed men."

They added that clashes have resulted in the killing of seven soldiers and 30 armed men and the injuring of 25 others. Four houses in the area were also damaged.

The local authorities said that they arrested some military officers who reside in the area under the suspicion of preparing plots against the state and they will announce details of the plots soon.

The armed conflict in Taiz erupted late May between anti-regime tribesmen and Saleh's forces after security forces stormed the opposition protest camp and killed over 50 protesters. They also set fire to their tents.

This came amidst the six-month nationwide uprising against Saleh's 33-year rule which began peacefully last February inspired by the Tunisian and Egyptian revolutions.

Renewed fears of civil war back post Al-Hasaba returning clashes

By: Shatha Al-Harazi

SANA'A, Aug 6 — Residents of Al-Hasaba area in Sana'a conveyed their fear at a civil war breaking out in the capital city after clashes in there are took place between Al-Hamar tribe and Republican Guards on Saturday. This is the second time the area witnesses armed conflict which erupted the first time end of May this year. However, this time the First Armored Division of the defected military leader General Ali Mushin Al-Ahmar's headquarters between Al-Hasaba and the 60 meters road was also attacked by rockets on Friday.

Some online Yemeni media sites reported that the shelling against the first armored Division stopped when major general of the division, Ali Muhsen, threatened to attack the presidential palace, the division told the Yemen Times that this threat was not true.

"We will never use violence, this is what they [the regime] want to lead us to, a civil war" said Major Colonel Abdalsalam Al-Aliani of the division. "Although their rockets reached the division still we are committed to the peaceful revolution and will not use violence."

The clashes between the Republican Guards and Hashid confederation tribes headed by Sheikh Sadeq Al-Ahmer in Al-Hasaba continued for two days Friday and Saturday and are reported to have stopped now.

The clashes in the neighborhood forced some families out of their houses seeking safety elsewhere while others felt helpless believing that if the civil war started nowhere in Sana'a will be safe. "We are tired of leaving our houses and returning back to them every time there is conflict. We are tired of running for our lives trying to avoid

the unavoidable war," said Abdurrahman Al-Sumaini, one of al-Hasaba residents.

Sings of the clashes began on Thursday at Ghuthim market near to the Television neighborhood; three tribesmen were injured, each party accuses the other of starting it. Residents of the area told the Yemen Times that some tribesmen who belong to Hemiar Al-Ahmer, the deputy of the parliament's speaker and sheikh Sadiq's brother, stole two state armored vehicles near Ghuthim market which led the Republican Guards to react by shelling Hemiar's house in sofan area near Al-Hasaba.

"On Friday, the attack on Hemiar al-Ahmar's house started from five o'clock until quarter pass six "said one of the residents.

"They [the Republican Guards] used RBG and heavy machine guns, we [the


residents] got used to it by now" said al-Sumini.

Official news agency, Saba net, denied any clashes in Al-Hasaba. A security source told Saba that armed gangs belongs to Al-Ahmer had attacked a checkpoint in Sana'a.

"If these bands continue carrying out their criminal and subversive acts, the security officers will do duty to preserve the security and stability of the community," said the source.

Residents reported that the conflicting parties managed to have a truce to stop the conflict that actually stopped on Friday after 7:00 pm. According to Othman Al-Swati on of Al-Ahmer's men, the truce was to the Republican Guards to stop shelling after Al-Ahmer tribesmen give back the stolen vehicles.

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YEMEN: Warnings of "Somalization"



Spread of arms contribute to scourge of violence in Yemen's heavily armed society

SANA'A, 4 Aug 2011 (IRIN) — As violence in Yemen continues and the death toll mounts, observers see not only threats to the country's emerging democracy, but also the possibility of all-out civil war.

"What is happening in Yemen is no longer a peaceful revolution. It is rather a conflict for power between [President] Saleh and the opposition alliance [JMP], which dates back to 2006, after the latter challenged the election results which gave Saleh a third mandate, claiming it was manipulated," says Mujeeb Abdurrahman a political scientist at Hodeidah University.

"We fear that violence may put an end to the emerging democratic experience Yemen has seen since 1993," he told IRIN.

Even the UN, which sent an envoy to Yemen to assess the situation, agrees that if something is not done quickly to implement a viable transfer of power, there could be very serious consequences.

"Yemen's political leaders have two options: either to reach an agreement accepted by all to start necessary steps for a practical transition period, or to face collapse and 'Somalization' of the country," UN Envoy to Yemen Jamal Bin Omar said at a Sana'a press conference on 29 July.

On 30 July, at least 250 people were reportedly killed in clashes between opposition gunmen and Republican Guards in Arhab District, 20km north of Sana'a; and at least 40 others were killed in fighting in Abyan Governorate between armed militants and government troops. Dozens of others have been killed or injured in similar clashes in Taiz Governorate, 250km south of Sana'a.

The economy has lost US\$13 billion over the past six months, and the number of poor people has gone up from seven to nine million (out of a population of 23 million), according to local think-tank Studies and Economic Media Centre.

More people displaced

The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) puts the number of displaced people in Abyan at more than 80,000 in mid-July, and this is in addition to the 300,000 from earlier conflicts between the government and Houthi-led Shia rebels in Sa'dah and Amran governorates.

Amid rumours that Saleh could be back (from Saudi Arabia where he is ostensibly undergoing medical treatment) in the first week of August, Sheikh Sadeq al-Ahmar, who leads the powerful Hashid Tribal Confederation, warned on 31 July that "Saleh will no longer rule us as long as I am still alive."

The announcement is being seen by observers as an early warning of large-scale clashes between pro- and anti-government forces.

"The people are divided... the army is divided and tribal leaders are divided... Neither party can defeat the other except through ballot boxes in free and fair elections, Mohammed al-Ruaini, a leading lawyer and a former member of parliament, told IRIN in Sana'a; he also warned of the danger of civil war.

Meanwhile, Abbas al-Musawa, a still serving Yemeni diplomat in Lebanon, suggests that an early presidential vote, excluding Saleh and his relatives and "supervised by the UN, the Gulf Cooperation Council, the USA and the European Union to ensure its integrity and transparency" is the only chance the country has of overcoming the current turmoil.

JMP, backed by young protesters, insist that Saleh must quit and hand all powers to his vice-president, Abdurabu Mansour Hadi, before any talk of fresh elections.

Since his departure for Saudi Arabia in early June, Saleh has managed to cling on to power thanks in part to his son Ahmad, who commands 23 Republican Guard divisions and around 40 percent of the army.





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Change and freedom squares in Yemen (part 2)

The Tunisian and Egyptian revolutions have inspired Yemenis to take to the streets and create their own squares of popular uprising, demanding an end to Saleh's 33-year rule and the establishment of rule of law.

The number of protesters increased day after day and the squares also expanded and increased to turn the whole country into one unified square with one objective: that "Saleh's regime must leave and a good regime with real democracy must come."

The Yemen Times presents here a detailed profile of each square, including how the square was created, who is in the square, and female participation.

By: Amira Al-Arasi

Revolution and Change square in Hodeida

The square sits in the heart of Hodeida city in Al-Sha'ab garden. "On Feb 13th we used to go to the square, our numbers were small, not more than 60 persons. We were holding symposiums and activities and would later return home. It was only a week later that we started real protest. We announced the location as the protest space in a local newspaper and on speakers on street," said Yahya Al-Qadi, the spokesman of the square.

The protest began with around five tents. There were no fences, but there are three ports. The first and biggest is the western port, which leads to the Al-Mina'a Street; the governorate office is in the north, the eastern direction of the protest square leads up to the garden and a number of hotels overlook the square from the southern direction.

At the beginning of the revolution, the number of protesters jumped to around 40,000 protesters and the numbers swelled on Fridays. The heat brings a different story: the number has decreased to 30 percent due to the high temperature. (It is after all a coastal land and the economic situation is dire as it is the poorest governorate in the country.

In this governorate, everything is sold in small quantities to enable households to afford daily food. For example they buy cooking oil in a plastic bag with YR 30 and half a kilo of sugar and 20 gm tea and so on.

The women have no tents in this square, but they participate in demonstrations and marches from 4:00pm to

8:00 pm because of the high temperature.

The Hodeida Revolutionary Square in the garden has been vulnerable to several attacks by the security forces and at times by policemen in plain clothes or armed paid thugs loyal to Saleh's regime.

The square is not like other squares around the country. It is the only square that does not have any tribal support or elements.

Analysts said this is because most influential tribal leaders in this governorate have interests with Saleh's regime and if this regime left they too would lose the benefits they enjoy under Saleh's rule.

Most tribal leaders in this area still practice feudalism and impose it upon the citizens due to the lack of state rule. The youth forms the majority of the three million population of the governorate and two thirds of the people live in rural area and one third in the urban.

Unlike other northern areas of Yemen, guns and weapons are not popular among the people of Hodeida and they are very simple and peaceful. Most people in this coastal area work in agriculture, animal husbandry and some in fishing.

Hodeida which is on the Red Sea has been and still is the main port of North Yemen for international import and export.

Change Square in Al-Muklla-Hadramout

The square is located in Al-Sayla area known as Dawar Al-Dalla in the heart of Al-Muklla city, close to the governorate administration.



Anti regime demonstration in Hodeidah

"We started protesting here in March. There was a reaction from the people here against what took place in Sana'a and Taiz – the faceoff between the protesters and security forces – particularly the one against the freedom square in Taiz that contributed to mobilization," said Faysal Ba Jahaw, a protest activist in Al-Muklla.

"This has strongly pushed the people to carry forth with the revolution. They know they have rights that must be implemented and so they took to streets to protest," he said.

There used to be between 3,000-

5,000 protesters in this square in four tents which were confiscated later by the security forces. The nationwide economic crisis caused by the fuel shortage that pushed up the cost of transportation fare and the continuation of the revolution in the heat has pushed the number of protesters down, according to Ba Jahaw.

However the number is on rise during Fridays. It has been reported that many people perform the Friday prayer at the square instead of going to mosques.

The women participate only in demonstrations and marches and do not pro-

test or camp out due to social traditions that restrict the movement of women outside their homes, according to Jahaw.

The square has three ports, the main one, which leads to outside Al-Muklla on the airport road, the second leads to the port, and the third takes you to the sub-streets of the city.

The total population of Hadramout in both rural and urban areas is around one and a half million. This governorate which is over 1,000 km east of the capital Sana'a was one of the southern governorates under the socialist regime in

south Yemen before the unity in 1990.

Since 2007 until Feb 2011, many people in Hadramout have been taking to streets demanding the separation of south Yemen from the central state in Sana'a. They have formed their own political entity known as the southern movement.

But this call began to go down with the inspiration of the Tunisian and Egyptian revolutions which brought the rule of two Arab dictators to end in less than a month. So the separation call disappeared and the call for good governance and civil state of rule came out.



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- Education:** Possession of a minimum of a Masters level degree in Political Science, Social Science, Humanities or related field is required.
- Prior Work Experience:** At least 10 years post-graduate experience in democracy and governance development with demonstrated increasing responsibility for managing, analyzing, and coordinating projects is required. At least four years working in a developing country addressing DG and/or conflict mitigation issues is also required. Significant experience with USAID or another major international development/donor organization is an advantage.
- Language Proficiency:** English and Arabic level IV (Fluent) in reading, writing and speaking are required.
- Knowledge:** Must be knowledgeable and proficient in relevant sub-sector issues, including but not limited to: local governance, anti-corruption, DG policy, conflict, and civil society. Incumbent must understand the processes of DG strategizing, program design and development, DG program management and oversight and fundamental approaches to DG program monitoring and evaluation. S/he demonstrates a nuanced understanding of the DG-related challenges, opportunities, and socio/political/cultural environments within Yemen. Understanding of and past experience with USAID policies, procedures, regulations, and reporting requirements are highly required.
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YT vision statement



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

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

OUR
OPINIONYemenis'
schizophrenia

I have finally come to a conclusion as to what is wrong with Yemenis... we are all schizophrenic! We have double personalities and some of us have unlimited alter egos which we summon according to the situation.

How else would you explain how we as people would easily give up our lives and fight for freedom when it comes to politics and not utter a word when our very basic rights such as water, electricity, fuel or even security are violated repeatedly?

The first thing we must understand about our situation is that it is a disease that could be treated. We just need shrinks and many pills. Unfortunately this is not even remotely possible because we don't have any basic health care services and we would rather buy qat than any medicine. By the way, doctors have reported that qat increases hallucinations and other psychiatric diseases. So there you go, another proof that Yemenis especially those who chew qat are schizophrenic.

Still not convinced? Ok, let's take a totally different example, let's take the issue of how Yemeni men's deal with women. A Yemeni man typically treats his female co-worker or project partner totally the opposite of how he would treat his wife, sister or daughter. For example, he would encourage his colleague to work and even support her in her activities but he would deprive his daughter from going to college or his wife from even going to work. If this is not schizophrenic then I don't know what is!

You want another example? Ok, how about the fact that Yemenis were ok about having to queue for days to buy fuel, or buy it from the black market for 6 times its price, but then when better quality fuel was made available and accessible by the state for double the old quality type's price they went nuts? It's like it is ok to buy it illegally for six times its price but if it is legally available at the standard international price Yemenis have a problem.

Yemenis also have a problem when it comes to budgeting and domestic economics. Now we are going through tough financial times and the prices of general commodities are sky rocketing yet Yemenis would sell their souls to buy unnecessary items in order to keep up with Ramadan habits of spending and eating. They complain that there is no money to buy things and the shops are crowded with people buying ridiculous things.

I don't blame my people... something must have gone terribly wrong when our great grandfather was conceived... maybe the pregnancy was exposed to some radiation that twisted our logic and decision making process genes. Or maybe there is something in the water we drink that makes us so... schizophrenic.

Nevertheless, this is a very serious problem. Yemenis today across the country pay exaggerated electricity bills while we receive power for only one hour a day. We would rather buy generators and spend money buying fuel than demand that we as citizens are respected and provided with basic services such as power.

This is very surprising coming from people who are protesting for the sixth month in a row demanding political change. Many youth are willing to stay in the streets under the rain and sleep in tents until there is a change in the regime. They are following political directives from opposition parties or their own coalitions in demand for a better regime. But our schizophrenia does not allow us to see that changing a regime for the sake of changing a regime is not going to help anything.

Until we understand fully why as Yemenis we want a change in the system and how this change should impact our daily life and provide us a more dignified life as respected citizens there will be no progress at any front.

Nadia Al-Sakkaf

No democracy in Yemen

Citizens have no access to basic necessities while the Saleh regime spends millions of dollars on PR campaigns to polish its image

By Khaled Al Ziadi
Gulf News

The advent of Ramadan seems to have only made the Yemeni youth more confident. They are demanding their right to determine their destiny and bring about democracy in Yemen. Tribal leaders have been proactive in declaring their support for the alliance of pro-revolution tribes on July 30.

This alliance is led by Shaikh Sadeq Al Ahmar, head of Yemen's largest tribe, the Hashid, which extended critical support to the formation of the Transitional Council last week.

This move negated the futile process of discussing the power transfer between the regime of Ali Abdullah Saleh and the Joint Meeting Parties (JMP). It is obvious that Saleh and the ruling party are more interested in political theatrics than implementing the GCC initiative, which had the backing of the

international community.

There are no changes in the government position towards the GCC initiative. The regime insists on imposing fake democracy on the people, and worsening the political turmoil in Yemen.

I strongly agree with Abdul Al Janadi, the Yemeni deputy minister of information, who in a letter to the editor, published in the July 31 edition of Gulf News in response to my previous article, asked a simple question: 'Why does a democracy need a revolution?' But I would simply ask him: 'Does democracy exist in Yemen?' It is well known that it is a dictatorship, and that is the reason the youth, and not extremists, have been protesting peacefully on the streets for more than five months.

They are on the streets — day and night — to achieve the most prominent democratic values: justice, equality and freedom from the dictatorship of the ruling family in Yemen.

If the notion of democracy had existed in Yemen, Saleh would have stepped down long ago. He would not have ruled the country for 33 years, and would not have tried to pave the way for his son to take over. Also, Saleh must be subjected

to criminal prosecution for many massacres.

Let me remind the Yemeni official bragging about democracy in Yemen that in March this year more than 52 peaceful protesters were massacred in Sana'a.

In May, at least 50 peaceful demonstrators were murdered in Taiz, including physically challenged people who were burnt to death in their tents. More than 100,000 Yemeni families fled Sana'a, Taiz, Abyan and Arhab seeking help and shelter from the United Nations agency working in Yemen. They have become refugees in their own country.

Yemen is in chaos and there is no evidence of democracy in the country. Human rights violations are rife. No country in which the regime shuts down newspapers, arrests writers, assassinates opposition figures, and fires rockets at the homes of its political opponents can claim to be a democracy.

Only a fake democracy exists in Yemen, where one family controls the army, the air force, the Presidential Guard, the Central Security Forces, the counterterrorism unit, and the National Security Bureau. In democratic countries, state resources cannot be mo-

nopolised by the president's family. It is well known that Yemen's oil resources are controlled by Saleh's regime and his family.

Unfortunately, the Yemeni government is also taking advantage of Saudi and UAE oil aid; Saudi Arabia has donated three million barrels of crude oil while the UAE also donated three million barrels of oil and 40,000 tonnes of diesel to help people in Yemen. But, unfortunately, the black market in oil is booming in Sana'a.

The government is continuing its policy of punishing its people for protesting by creating an economic crisis that worsens their living conditions. It's difficult to describe how most Yemenis live in poverty. They do not even have access to basic necessities, while the government spends millions of dollars on PR agencies in the UK and US to polish the image of its "democracy".

The international community should not give direct support to the Saleh regime, which is unwilling to change its confrontational approach. It is particularly important to support the revolutionaries who want to make Yemen stable and ensure a prosperous future for all peoples of the region.

When will Yemen's night really end?

By: Gabriele vom Bruck

Yemen's President Ali Abdullah Saleh might be forgiven for refusing, on 22 May, to sign a Gulf Cooperation Council-brokered agreement obliging him to rescind power within a month. The date marked the twenty-first anniversary of the unification of his Yemen Arab Republic (YAR) and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (PDRY) in the south — the highlight of his political career. However, this was the third time he failed to confront the inevitable, so failing to ease the dangerous impasse in the country he has ruled for over three decades. Yemen, as Amnesty International warns, is "on a knife-edge".

Thus far, the country has been spared another devastating war, one potentially bloodier than those fought since unification in 1990. In the capital Sana, in spite of daily harassment, tear gas, beatings and killings by security forces, the protests have for the main part remained peaceful, even after the killing of over fifty protesters on 18 March. In the southern city of Taiz, where security forces destroyed protesters' tents, killing dozens of them on 30 May, "Martyrs' Square" — recently renamed "Freedom Square" — has again become testimony to the city's martyrs. There are daily clashes in the southern provinces (in the former PDRY); five provinces in various parts of the country are no longer under government control. Since the attack on Saleh's palace mosque on 3 June which compelled him to seek medical treatment in Saudi Arabia, there has been a power sharing of sorts. Vice President Abdu Rabu Mansour Hadi has become acting head of state, but Saleh's eldest son Ahmad has moved into the palace and the government insists that Saleh will return and rule until the end of his term in office in 2013. Amid continuing deadly clashes in several areas and a looming humanitarian crisis, a political transition process is urgently needed.

The current crisis follows the trajectory of Saleh's rule: the president is not known for seeking peaceful solutions to political crises. He has relied on "divide and rule" tactics to neutralise threats to his authority, and on a patronage system that permeates all sectors of government and society. The political elite exercises authority through extra-constitutional means and controls a substantial part of the business sector. The provision of public

services to provinces has often been made dependent on political loyalty — a policy which has served to perpetuate historical grievances and antagonism. Even where obvious solutions were available to some of the country's more entrenched problems, the political will was lacking. Yet western nations offered support to Saleh's regime even as he lost legitimacy among his people. In the past months the regime, as well as western diplomacy, has been challenged in the streets of Yemen's towns and cities. US foreign secretary Hillary Clinton's statement on 2 June 2011 that "if it wasn't obvious before it certainly should be now that [Saleh's] presence remains a source of great conflict" reads like an embarrassing admission of past misjudgement. In 2010, the so-called "Friends of Yemen" was established, a group made up of 20 countries determined to improve Yemen's capacity to maintain security and increase and coordinate foreign assistance. The tragic irony of the project was that it sought to stabilise a country that had been systematically destabilised by its leader.

Square of dignity

Nowadays, Yemen's capital is divided by checkpoints manned by rival factions of the army, some of them allied with militias loyal to tribal leaders. Fearful residents argue that this stand-off is reminiscent of events in 1994 which marked the end of a promising period of liberalisation which had begun in 1990. The armies of the former YAR and the PDRY confronted and eventually fought each other, leaving thousands dead. Yemen's democratic experiment, strained by economic downturn and the two former leaders' ambition to outsmart each other, was doomed to failure.

Saleh, emboldened by his victory over the south, now exercised power over a territory which was last ruled over as a united polity in the 17th century. Instead of investing in institution building and national unity, he created and exploited divisions among potential rivals. The following decades were marked by the accumulation of power within a narrowly defined circle of trusted men (many from the Hashid tribal confederation), repression of civil liberties, and war.

Regionally focused demonstrations in northern and southern Yemen since 2003 have escalated into nation-wide anti-regime protests modelled on those in Tunisia and Egypt, and the army's loyalties have been divided. Troops

commanded by Yemen's top general, Ali Muhsin al-Ahmar, the most high profile government official to have defected after the March 18 massacre, now protect street protesters. Seasoned Yemeni political analysts have long predicted that the fall of Saleh's regime would be caused by internal rivalries. Rumours persist that the recent assassination attempt on Saleh's life was an insider job. Indeed, events over the past years go some way to explain the current crisis — increasing intra-elite rivalry, the thorny issue of "dynastic" succession, the regime's ambivalent accommodation with jihadis of various kinds, and western foreign policy that prioritised its own interests even in the face of mounting opposition to Saleh's regime.

However, the main drivers of regime change seem to be those who have taken to the streets since January, among them many young people. The unemployment rate among the young exceeds 50%. Disillusioned with the opposition parties which make up the Joint Meeting Parties (JMP), an alliance of six parties, they demand fundamental political reform. Since the protests began, they have asked for national dignity, transparency in governance, civic freedoms and better economic opportunity.

Women, some of whom had already been demonstrating in recent years in front of the Political Security Office asking for the release of their relatives, have been among the most outspoken. Tawakkul Karman, head of the NGO Women Journalists without Chains, maintains that "we will make the revolution, or we will die trying".

Karman and other activists boldly invited the southern opposition, Zaydi rebel forces (Huthis), trade unions, the army, civil society organisations and tribal leaders to join the demonstrations. Saleh, in an apparent effort to discredit the protesters and remove women from the republican guard's firing line (women's deaths would create even more outcry among the population), argued that ikhtilat (the mixing of men and women protesters) was un-Islamic. His speech was interpreted as an encouragement to radical elements to cause divisions — and some women who were marching side by side with the men were beaten by guards associated with Islah, a moderate Islamist party composed of Muslim Brothers and Salafis. The women complained that Saleh had offended them, and five thousand of them then demonstrated in Sana on 16 April.

In view of the moral codes in northern Yemen prohibiting communication among unrelated men and women except in places such as universities, cross-gender political debates in the square have been as important as those among the young who have spent weeks in tent cities modelled on those which first appeared in Cairo's Tahrir Square. At one entrance a large poster welcomes people "to the first kilometre of dignity"; another reads "Welcome to the land of liberty". Karman herself claims that the "Yemeni revolution has succeeded in bringing about the unity the regime has failed to achieve."

The Saudis consider Yemen their own backyard, and whether or not they can maintain its patronage network will depend on who is in charge in Sana. By linking patronage to demands for promoting their brand of Islam and for fighting the Huthis in the northern parts of the country, the Saudis have raised the spectre of sectarian violence in an already volatile area which since 2010 has made enormous efforts towards self-pacification. As far as the current power struggle in Yemen is concerned, they are favourably disposed towards Gen. Ali Muhsin and Hamid al-Ahmar. They seem not to categorise Islah like other Muslim Brotherhood-dominated parties in Egypt and Gaza. Presumably the Saudis, who have made generous financial contributions to Islah, assume that it will remain loyal to them. But in the long run, the idea of a government headed by Islamists who might assert their independence, rivalry or even opposition to the kingdom may not seem such a palatable option. Surely Saudi Arabia would, above all, favour the establishment of a Sunni monarchy at its southern border. Yet in Yemen, there is little historical precedent for it.

Yemen is at the most critical junction since the overthrow of the imamate in the north and British rule in the south. Tawakkul Karman has recently spoken of its "unfinished revolution". Yemeni citizens are anxiously asking where and when it will end, and what price they will have to pay for it to succeed. Shortly after the explosion at Saleh's compound, one of his political advisors ended a long discussion about Yemen's future trajectories with a wry comment: "I feel sorry for the one who will succeed him. There's nothing left for him in the country." Even if the transfer of power comes about peacefully, the conflux of political and economic challenges might yet overwhelm Saleh's successor.

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Oman sets Middle East's responsible tourism trend

By: Mohammed Almasri
Global Arab Network

Sultanate of Oman and Jordan lead the way in the Middle East for the development of responsible tourism and are model examples for others in the region to follow, an industry expert says. Justin Francis, co-founder of the pioneering travel website, responsibletravel.com, says Oman and Jordan have been consistently active in implementing sustainable strategies for tourism promotion in a region with "brilliant opportunities" to capitalise on.

Oman's embrace of 'responsible tourism' as the bedrock philosophy of its tourism development strategy was reaffirmed at the 4th International Conference on Responsible Tourism held in Muscat last October. A number of international organizations participated in the event aimed at supporting the Sultanate's effort in pursuing a sustainable path to tourism development.

Accordingly, tourism development in a number of locations deemed ecologically unique and fragile will be based on responsible tourism practices. These locations include Jabal al Akhdar — home to remarkable biodiversity, Ras al Jinz — a coastal swathe well-known for its marine and natural ecology, and



the Jiddat al Harasis — a largely barren desertscape, but nevertheless a habitat for endangered and protected species, notably the Arabian Oryx.

"Oman has a commendable approach to embracing responsible tourism and has been working to promote that for a number of years", said Francis, who will address delegates at the second

World Green Tourism conference in Abu Dhabi in December. "Similarly, Jordan has made great strides forward in terms of its commitment to responsible tourism. We have worked closely with the country in developing a guide to Jordan and it has a wealth of local stories to tell, and is embracing them". Francis will spotlight current con-

sumer trends in travel related to responsible tourism when he joins an international line-up of speakers at the World Green Tourism conference taking place at Abu Dhabi National Exhibition Centre (ADNEC) from December 5-7. Organised by Streamline Marketing Group, World Green Tourism, the first commercial conference and exhibition

specifically for the sustainable tourism sector, is hosted by the Abu Dhabi Tourism Authority (ADTA) and the Environment Agency Abu Dhabi.

In 2001, inspired by a village elder on a visit to Kawaza village in Zambia, Francis wrote his MSc dissertation on establishing a portal for responsible travel. He launched responsibletravel.com a year later as "the first business in the world to talk about responsible travel and tourism." His backers included the late Dame Anita Roddick, environmental campaigner and founder of The Body Shop. His UK-based organisation has since worked with hundreds of tourism businesses to screen them for the site, and to help them improve their policies.

In 2004, Francis founded the world's largest award scheme for responsible holidays, the Virgin Holidays Responsible Tourism Awards. Since its inception in 2004 more than 11,000 nominations have been received from the public, highlighting the importance of the way consumer trends impact the future direction of the tourism industry. Francis also devised successful campaigns to persuade travel giants Thomson Holidays, Thomas Cook and MyTravel to publish policies for responsible tourism.

"For countries in the Middle East, as in any destination, if there is a real desire from organisations, tourism pro-

viders and opinion formers, a lot can be achieved" said Francis. "There's a very strong foundation for some brilliant opportunities moving forward and we need to focus on those". The commitment to preserving the natural and cultural heritage in the region was highlighted recently with Jordan's Wadi Rum, the ancient villages of Northern Syria and the cultural sites of Al Ain in the UAE being granted world heritage status by Unesco. Wadi Rum joined three other sites in Jordan, Petra, Quseir Amra and Um er-Rasas, on the Unesco list.

"The Middle East, as with all tourism destinations around the world, has an important role to play in the future development of sustainable tourism", Francis added. "The announcements of Al Ain, Wadi Rum and the ancient villages in Syria as Unesco world heritage sites are examples of the work that has already been put into preserving their proud cultural heritage."

As with most Middle East countries, tourism is a crucial element to economic growth in Oman and Jordan. According to the World Travel and Tourism Council, the expected contribution from travel and tourism to Oman's GDP for 2011 is \$1.9 billion (three per cent of GDP), generating 35,000 jobs directly (3.2 per cent of total employment). The country is expected to attract 1.2 million international tourists.

Egyptians unite behind Mubarak's trail but increasingly fed up with protesting liberals

By: Joseph Mayton
The Media Line

CAIRO, Egypt — Cheers went up at the local café as the crowd applauded and watched on television former President Hosni Mubarak being wheeled into his courtroom cage, locked up like a dog.

This trial of the man who ruled Egypt for nearly three decades was going to be as popular as a World Cup

football final, with people tuning into their radios or crowding around televisions as the streets wind down to a standstill.

Ironically, it also rallied many Egyptians around the Supreme Council of Armed Forces for conducting the monumental trial, as liberal activists, so instrumental in brining Mubarak down, have been shunted aside.

"We are all one and we support the military in preserving the revolution and really showing that they are part-

ners in this struggle to make Egypt a good country," said Reda Yussif, a uniformed police officer, who added that he has no love for his former bosses.

"We were used and now we can be one with the people," Yussif told The Media Line.

Ahmed, a 26-year-old waiter at the cafe, told The Media Line that he was excited to see the man "responsible for our bad state" put on trial. He argued that all his friends and family were "behind the military's continued push to have justice and honor upheld in the country."

"Mubarak was our president and we are going to give him justice for killing us and making Egypt a poor country," added Ahmed.

For the pro-democracy, social media-savvy liberals, who have been denouncing the military's actions in recent weeks, the Mubarak's trial could not have come at a worse time.

Egyptians are craving the restoration of law and order are united once again, but instead of rallying behind the call

for an end to military rule and justice for those who tried to violently suppress the revolution, they have united behind the military.

Earlier this week, large crowds supported the military's no nonsense attitude toward demonstrators with it roughly dispersed protesters who had been holding a month-long sit in Tahrir Square, arresting at least 80 people.

Remnants of the liberal protestors continued to demonstrate despite the popularly supported crack down on Monday at Tharir Square. As the trail began, they protested in front of the Abdeen courthouse against the continued detention of those arrested in the raids and chanted anti-military slogans.

But the continued belligerent behavior of pro-democracy protesters struck a nerve that raised the ire of the average Egyptian in the street. They dismissed the talk of the protesters who claimed it was through their demonstrations in July that led the country to the trail of Mubarak and his sons for corruption and murder. More than 800 people were

killed in the uprising.

Recent university graduate Mona Abdel-Rahman, 22, said the protesters were missing the reality on the ground.

"People want to support them, but the military is too popular, so when they go out and demonstrate against the Supreme Council of Armed Forces it causes people to hate them and it is hurting the cause of creating an Egypt that truly is for all," Abdel-Rahman told The Media Line.

Hers was a minority voice among Egyptians who largely believe the liberal left is being more destructive than positive as the country heads toward national elections in November. She called on the activists to take their message directly to the people.

"They need to talk with the people, not at them. The continued protests are hurting their cause and making people angry. I don't understand why they continue," she said.

The trial brought this waning support for the liberal movement to a head,

particularly in light of a strengthening Islamism movement. For the liberals, it was yet another sign that they were being pushed aside by the military that has won overwhelming support of the majority.

Ultimately, the vast bulk of Egyptians want the country to return to some form of normalcy, not to mention improved economic conditions. The military has caught on to this popular sentiment and navigated perfectly, achieving near unanimous support for their role in the coming future of Egypt.

"The military is the only one supporting the revolution right now so we know that Egypt will be strong and democratic," said Tarik, a 29-year-old self-proclaimed liberal activist who hopes for a secular country.

Asked about the violence reported at the hands of the military, he summed up the sentiments of many here: "The military is not Mubarak and we know that the activists are just trying to steal the country for their own cause."



EMBASSY OF INDIA, SANA'A INDEPENDENCE DAY, 2011

The Embassy of India, Sana'a cordially invites all Indian nationals in the Republic of Yemen, along with their families, to join in the celebrations of the 65th Independence Day of India on Monday, the 15th August, 2011 at the Embassy premises (Off Street No. 24, Near Y Building, Haddah Zone, Sana'a). They are requested to assemble at the Embassy by 0845 hours, as the flag hoisting ceremony would take place sharply at 0900 hours.

[Mobile phones / bags etc. are not allowed inside the premises.]



BRITISH EMBASSY - SANA'A Furniture Sale – Companies Only

The British Embassy has several house packs and would like to sell them to furniture companies. All interested companies must call this number +967 733 256 633 to provide the company information and get the date and time to see the furniture before submitting their bids.

All interested companies should address their bids in a closed envelope to

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Sale of furniture bid
British Embassy, Sana'a

Deadline: 11 August 2011.

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Deadline for submission of proposals 15 August 2011

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Letter of support to Yemen Times and Yemen

By: Aviva Klein-Franke
Aviva.Klein-Franke@gmx.de

Dear Nadia and Yemen Time staff

I really appreciate yours and your teams' journalistic job. God bless you all. The important work you do is not without a danger.

Your team has a holy mission to report to the world what is happening

in Yemen in real time. It is needed to get information about the demonstrations and the actors behind. This is a vital task. You introduce to the world how the life in Yemen, its culture and values.

It is important to show to the world the human portraits of the demonstration. How the revolt broke out, what role the women's organization is playing and which other groups are involved. It is amazing, that so many women demon-

strate and are tolerated and encouraged by the folk. Please, report to us who are the others activists behind and about those who are supporting the demonstrators.

We hear in Germany that there is also side-affect due the demonstrations. Many people in the city, in the rural areas and among the tribes from the north and from the east of the country are suffering from food shortages. The poor people became poorer and they are looking for ways to feed their families. It is important to demonstrate it with examples.

Your people must have civil courage to march on the street and demonstrate. Their situation is so desperate that they are ready to take risk on their life. They do not care for their fate because they do not see other way out of their poor situation and they know they are not loosing much from the little they have.

Tension and conflict between the rulers exists also in Europe, but the freedom in speech and to demonstrate is highly respected here.

I wish and pray that this revolution in Yemen will end without bloodshed, that the nation will solve the problems in good spirit, that all groups will sit together to look for ways for transferring the political power. I wish that the conflict will end so that each side would be able to look straight in the eye of the other in the future. You know it is not bad altogether what was achieved in Yemen in last 15 years. Certainly it is not enough and of course there are many ways to improve the system. I think president Salih was able to modernize the country. Although you have many natural resources, your country is poor. The infrastructure in the country was improved and a lot was done. Of course there are problems in the country, poverty and unemployment. But such problems existed also in Europe. The topographical structure of your country does not make it easy to assume electric power poles everywhere. Yet things were done, maybe a little bit late. Yemen is a poor country and does not receive much income tax from its residents. Education is the best investment for a country. Despite of the economy situation in the country, the government did something positive toward national education policy. The government pub-

lished a bill that all children from 6 years old must visit school. I lived in the Old City of Sana'a and in other areas. I saw the children each morning on their way to schools, their dress is clean and seems to be happy.

There is a proverb saying: You see details as outsider better than the locals. Means, the outsider who comes often to visit your country sees the progress done in the interim. A foreigner has another perspective to value the progress in the country he visits, contrary is by the locals, who in daily life missed the oversight to define the changes or to point the focus of the spot.

When I first visited Yemen, about fifteen years ago (since I visited your country more six times), I realized that Yemen stood on its way to modernity. I did not see a lot of traffic lights in the streets. The garbage was thrown around, and the public transportation was not regularly, rather neglected and very wild on the roads. I also remember that I could not communicate outside Yemen. Pay phones were not available and I had to look for five-star hotels to phone abroad. I had to pay five times higher rate to get this service. It was also a problem to convert foreign currency. Tourist could not pay in checks from abroad. The banks and money institutes did not receive Traveler Checks. Only the bank of Yemen did it but it was open only few hours a day. There was one travel agency office in Sana'a, who converted for the tourist the American Express checks against riyal in bad possible rate. I noticed for my next visit to bring cash money and notes to convert them in the market.

It is amazing how Yemenis are thirsting for knowledge, for progress and technology.

In my second visit I noticed the progress which was achieved. Shops with Telephone-cabins were scattered all over the city of Sana'a. It was not a problem anymore to communicate with the outer world. The traffic on the streets was less wild and the public transportation was improved. The streets were less messy. There were more and more traffic lights and traffic policeman makes sure that people cross the road only in the crossings line for pedestrian.

Since 2005, to my surprise I saw a lot of shops with internet services or internet cafes, not only for tourists. Many locals and especially teenager were sitting next to the old ones and learning the new technology.

Seven years ago there were not many restaurants for tourist and the tourist had to go to hotels for meals. Now a day there are many restaurants among them very fine ones.

In 2007 I saw more peoples, adults and youth, with mobile phone. 10 years ago many of them had biper, then gsm, now mobile phone from the latest model.

I realized also that the country investigated in the infrastructure, more multi-line streets in the cities, better quality roads were built to the south and the north of the country.

I remember ten years ago when it got dark, we had to carry candles and matches with us everywhere we went, because often was happened a power failure that lasted for hours and we had to find our ways in the darkness. Today many towns and villages are connected by electrical current power and short circuit is not often happened as before.

When I first came to Yemen, the people had brought the water from the well outside their homes or they had a well in their courtyard. In 2007, I've seen that big water-containers were placed in the courtyard of the houses. Now, water ran from the tap in the kitchen or the bathroom.

So I think the media cannot just denounce and discredit the existing of the leaders and their deeds for the nation. It is important to show what progress made under this regime. You the journalists belonged to the folk on the one hand, but you have also the tools to be a guide and present things in a balanced way.

Dear Nadia, Be strong and keep your staff well off. Take care of yourself. Continue to be active by reporting the events in this revolt Era. We are with you in our thoughts and our prayers. In the near future the conflict would turn positive and the good days will come to Yemen. You will have again many tourists coming to visit your wonderful country.

The Journalists, who are reporting from the streets and interviewing people about their hope and aims are giving a detailed portrait of the demonstrators, men, women, students, unemployed, etc. They are on a holy mission and should be blessed. I would like to strengthen your hands and bless you all for your courage.



Part of the "makhdara", Zabeed: The makhdara is a place which built temporary for wedding parties events. They usually spend 2-4 days to set it up. People use it just to chew qat and they normally use it for 2 days, One for males and the other for females.
Photo by Abdulrahman Jaber



World Health
Organization

Vacancy Notice No: EMRO/11/TA86

Title: National Professional Officer -
Position no. 327613
Grade: NO-B
Contract type: Temporary appointment
Duration of contract: Temporary position for one year
Duty Station: Aden, Yemen
Application Dead line: 20 August 2011

OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMME :

To strengthen WHO's presence in Aden which ensures close follow up for the Extended Programme on Immunization (EPI), Basic Development Needs (BDN), Polio Eradication, School Health and other programmes in the Eastern and Southern governorates and strengthen the monitoring mechanisms.

Description of duties:

Purpose of the post:

To supervise the implementation of WHO programmes in Aden and the Eastern and Southern governorates in Yemen and represent WHO among UN agencies and other development partners present in Aden.

Summary of Assigned Duties:

Under the direct supervision of WR and technical guidance of ARD, the incumbent will perform the following duties:

1. Maintain and strengthen the collaboration between WHO Representative Office (WRO) and the Ministry of Public Health and Population .
2. Coordinate WHO supported activities with national counterparts.
3. Work as liaison officer between WRO and DGs of health services in the related governorates as well as bilateral development partners functioning in these governorates.
4. Prepare technical reports, materials and correspondence relating to WHO collaborative programmes .
5. Represent WHO in all development partners, UN agencies, NGOs meetings taking place in Aden and report to WR accordingly.
6. Maintain records of all requests, correspondences, and activities taking place in the targeted governorates and submit regular reports as directed.
7. Perform supervisory and administrative duties as the Head of the sub-office.

Education:

- Essential: University Degree in Medicine- Desirable: Masters degree in Public Health.

Experience:

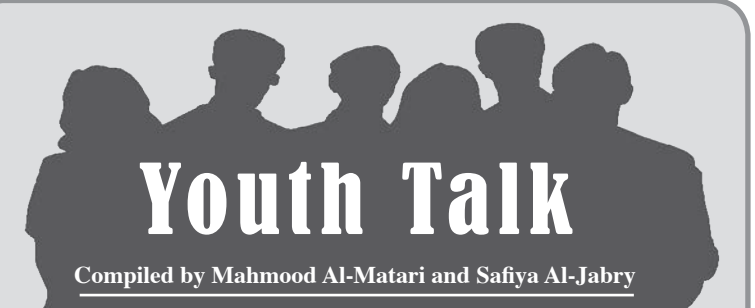
- Essential: At least 2 years experience in the area of public health at the national level.

Languages:

- Excellent knowledge of English and local language.

POST IS OPEN FOR LOCAL RECRUITMENT ONLY. APPLICANTS MUST BE NATIONAL OF THE COUNTRY OF ASSIGNMENT.

All applicants have to apply online at the following address <http://www.who.int/employment>



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:

How are you planning to welcome and cherish the Holy month of Ramadhan this year?

Taha Yahya

With the economic crisis and rising prices, everything appears to be terrifying to most people especially during the Holy month. Ramadan teaches us to be patient and be kind to others. I'm positive towards overcoming economic problems. I remember during every Ramadan we have a lot of electricity, water, gas shortages and although they are painful circumstances, they continue to teach me how freedom is very precious.

During this Ramadan, I'm planning to strengthen my relation with Allah and mend my relationship with people I've missed due to our differing views about the revolution and the President. I think we all seriously need to return to Allah, The Only One Who has the solution to this terrible situation.

Amina AbdulWahab

Ramadan usually comes with its own spirit that lightens up every Muslim heart and soul. We all prepare for it and turn ourselves to Allah the almighty and pray to Him and read more of The Holy Quraan. This Ramadan is the same as any other except for the power cut-offs that lead us to read the Quraan and perform our prayers in darkness.

Wael Jaffar

This is a Holy month for all Muslims, a month of light and peace. Allah made it that way. We prepare for it, we cherish it and we love it. Our government is punishing us during this month to make it a painful one but it's not, it is still the Holy month of Ramadan and whoever is responsible for the shortages and rising prices will one day be held accountable for it.

Mustafa Al-Shoba

Ramadan is a Holy guest to all Muslims around the globe. All of us are welcoming it by doing good deeds and returning to Allah and keeping away from all evil that will hurt this dear guest of ours.

Yusra Ibrahim

We usually cherish Ramadan and prepare for it well by doing good deeds and performing our prayers which bring us closer to Allah. We also enjoy family gatherings but this time most of the families have travelled outside the city including a big part of mine and it makes it a bit empty for us. I miss those family gatherings and I also miss sitting in light!!!

Abdulnasser Al-Abdali

I cannot think much about welcoming Ramadan this year, I am thinking of what I can do for my country because I'm worried about it's future. I pray that Allah will bring the Ramadan with blessings so we can celebrate it delightfully and I pray to see Arabia Felix airlines succeed always.

Reham

Ramadan shines in our hearts and it makes us feel closer to Allah and closer to the people we love. For me Ramadan is always about Ibadah (Prayers and supplication), and about visiting my relatives and friends after breakfast but this time with the long hours of electricity cut-offs, I find myself stuck at home. Thanks to our lovely government!

Next Week's Question:

How has the lack of electricity affected your life especially during Ramadan?

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 yt youth@gmail.com. So this is your chance to share your humorous stories, poems or opinions with other young readers!

Help we are under house arrest

By: Art lee Magno
artlee.magno@yahoo.com

May I ask your help to inform the concern authority to help us (Arturo Magno, Jose Magno Jr., Alfredo Queros, Filipinos) in our situation here in Villa 16, street 21 (off nouskishot st., next to Sana'a British School). This Measar co. is holding us since June 1, 2011 just because of the problem of the of Raja Measar, owner of the Measar Co. to Ligabue Catering which we are working to Mr. Vito De Angelis, Italian and General manager of Ligabue Catering. It happens that He is the son-in-law Of Mr. Jose Magno Jr. and brother-in-law of Mr. Arturo Magno. They are collecting

about 600,000 US Dollar to Ligabue since MR. Vito De Angelis is the General Manager, so The Measar co. is after him. For this reason, The Measar co. use us as a weapon against Vito. They make us as a HUMAN COLLATERAL OR LEVERAGE. But we do not know anything about their transaction to Measar CO.

We arrive here in Sana'a last March 23, 2011 and the problem of the two companies starts first week of April. Unfortunately, Mr. Vito De Angelis did not come in Sana'a since April, 2011. That's why Measar Co. hold us and get our passports. The Measar Co. is asking for certain amount to release us.. Please help us. Here is my contact no. 712-746-703



Yemen Red Crescent Society Vacancy

The Yemen Red Crescent Society (YRCS) invites Yemeni Nationals to apply for the vacant job: **Water and Sanitation program officer** based in Sana'a YRCS headquarters. The position holder will be responsible of the overall technical support in the area of Water and Sanitation to the CBHD program staff and management in the implementation of CBHD program in four YRCS branches (Hodeida, Ibb, Mahweet and Seyoun). He/She will act as a link with related stakeholders to ensure that there is adequate information flow and progressive implementation of programs' work plans.

Main Tasks

- Responsible for the technical design, quality assurance in line with the countries water and sanitation standards, implementation and training on water and sanitation components of the CBHD programme in branches, sub-branches and project areas.
- Support the CBHD delegate and the Health and Care coordinator for developing a well functioning team with a good team spirit to implement the CBHD programme in governorates where CBHD is implemented.
- Ensure accountability of human, material and financial resources related to the CBHD programme at all levels (community, district, governorate and headquarters).
- Supporting the CBHD delegate for preparation of detailed annual plans of action and corresponding budget; to be reviewed every quarter and submitted to the YRCS headquarters and the supporting national societies through the programme Steering Committees (SCs) in a timely manner.
- In consultation with the Health and Care coordinator Ensure that programme implementation is in accordance with the YRCS, the Federation, the

supporting national societies and GoY policies and guidelines.

- Promote and assist in the development and/or introduction of new approaches, methods and practices in programme implementation, monitoring and evaluation.
- Facilitate and provide technical assistance to programme development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation at all levels (community, district, governorate and headquarters).
- Support the CBHD delegate and the health and care coordinator to ensure the implementation of appropriate monitoring tools, analyse the data and if necessary take corrective measures to ensure that immediate objectives are being achieved.
- Provide input to the YRCS process of developing training curriculum and materials, technical standards and designs and corresponding budget or bill of quantities.
- Undertake on the job training of programme employed staff and volunteers through all stages of the process (programme development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation).
- Establish a close contact to and promote that all stakeholders at all levels are involved to ensure a smooth implementation and achievement of objectives.
- Undertake regular and frequent support and monitoring visits to the project sites and participate in periodic reviews and evaluations (internal as well as external).
- Support the Program delegate and the Health and Care coordinator to ensure coordination and collaboration with relevant government and non-governmental organizations to avoid development of parallel structures and to ensure long term sustainability of initiated activities.
- Any other tasks relevant to the CBHD programme

as assigned by the Program delegate and the Health and Care coordinator.

Successful applicant should fulfill the following requirements:

- University education in Civil or water and sanitation engineering or relevant technical field
- A minimum of 3 years working experience in water and sanitation.
- Familiar with participatory approaches such as PHAST (participatory Hygiene and sanitation Transformation).
- Demonstrated ability of analyzing and reporting.
- Demonstrated ability of working in multicultural environment.
- Proven skills in working as part of a team.
- Fluent English and good computer operating skills.

Contract:

- One year contract with possibility of extension
- Full time based in Sana'a with frequent visits to project areas.
- Salary, according to YRCS salary scale.

Applicants should submit their CVs with a cover letter to email address: dr_alhamzi@yahoo.com, not later than **25 - 8 - 2011**.

Females are encouraged to apply. Only short listed candidates will be contacted for interview.

أسمى تهانينا وأزكى تبريكاتنا
للقيادة السياسية الحكيمة
ممثلة بفضامة الأخ /
عشاي عبد الله عيسى
رئيس الجمهورية
وإلى كافة أبناء شعبنا اليمني العظيم
بمناسبة حلول شهر رمضان الكريم
وكل عام ويمنا الحبيب في تقدم وازدهار
جميع العاملين في الخطوط الجوية اليمنية
عنهم الكابتن عبدالخالق صالح القاضي
رئيس مجلس الإدارة



Crisis in Yemen: Children Suffering from Malnutrition

By: William Lambers

Yemen is living in peril with dangerous political instability, and violence in the south between the government and suspected Al-Qaeda militants.

But for a newborn child in Yemen, the greatest danger lies in lack of nutrition, for their future hinges on whether they can receive it.

The first 1000 days of life are the critical window for children. If they do not receive the right foods, they can suffer lasting physical and mental damage. If this irreversible damage occurs, it will mean stunted growth, increased health problems, and an inability to learn. If you have this occurring in a country, you cannot progress.

There are 450,000 children under five suffering from acute malnutrition and another 360,000 suffering from moderate acute malnutrition. These are different levels of the basic threat of malnutrition.

The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) reports: "Half of Yemen's children are chronically malnourished and 1 out of 10 does not live to reach the age of five. Such emergency levels of chronic malnutrition - or stunting - are second globally only to Afghanistan, the proportion of underweight children is the third highest in the world after India and Bangladesh."

Enter Plumpy'nut. This is a special peanut paste that if given to children can rescue them from the potentially deadly malnutrition. It is desperately needed in Yemen. But not enough funding is provided to aid agencies for this to happen. Child hunger issues are often the victims of policy planning by the international community. Not enough emphasis is given.

Dr. Wisam Al-timimi of UNICEF says: "We are planning to reach 36,000 severely acute malnourished children" at a cost of US\$ 4.6 million. But there are 90,000 such cases of severely malnourished children in the country. More funding and resources would be needed to reach all of them. These are the most severe cases. Many other children are suffering from malnutrition. "If these Yemeni infants do not get proper nutrition, they suffer lasting physical and mental damage. They are scarred for life.

Tragically, this is often the case in Yemen, the poorest country in the Middle East.

This week Hedinn Halldorsson of UNICEF profiles one of the physicians on the front line of the struggle to save Yemen's children. Dr. Rajia Sharhan is UNICEF's nutrition officer running therapeutic feeding centres. Families are so poor in Yemen, they are even forced to do the unthinkable.

Dr. Sharhan says, "For poor families, letting a child die is, sadly, one of the options they sometimes resort to." Sharhan also explains how crucial it is for Yemen's physicians to be properly trained to treat malnutrition.

Halldorsson writes, "At the therapeutic feeding centre at a large hospital in the capital, Sana'a, the mothers and grandmothers of six young patients all tell the same story. They say recent months have been particularly difficult due to Yemen's political conflict, that they have no source of income or food." An impoverished country like Yemen is not well-suited to absorb this prolonged political strife.

Dr. Sharhan says, "I often feel that I am in a vicious cycle. We treat one child and then watch new ones being brought in." This is the struggle facing Yemen that often misses the headlines and news bytes. But children suffering is unacceptable and we have to do something about it.

The international community can help. The rehabilitation of malnourished children is a top priority in order to save a generation of youth. The future of Yemen is impacted by the rampant malnutrition and poverty in the population. In my previous article I mentioned how plumpy'nut supplies for all children in Yemen could make a huge difference. It would not even cost that much for the international community to come through.

There was once a time when one could buy a CARE package and send it to a country where children were suffering so much. I think people would like to do that today with Yemen. Maybe it's this kind of initiative that would move the government leaders to follow.

This is an area where we can actually help Yemen relatively quickly. We have UNICEF, the World Food Programme, Save the Children, and others on the ground ready to work with Yemen and solve this crisis. They just need the support of the international community. All it takes is for a few in power to decide to take action to save the children and save Yemen.



A therapeutic feeding centre in al-Mazrak displacement camp treats children suffering from severe acute malnutrition. According to UNICEF's latest State of the World's Children report, 58 per cent of children in Yemen suffer from moderate and severe stunting and 15 per cent of under-fives suffer from moderate and severe wasting; 46 per cent are underweight.



Malnutrition is chronic in Yemen. Nearly half of children aged six months to five years in five districts in the northern governorate of Sa'ada were suffering from Global Acute Malnutrition in 2010, a figure not seen in many places in the world.



A young boy is screened for malnutrition in a clinic in Ibb governorate in western Yemen. More than half the children in the country suffer from chronic undernutrition.

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.

An overview of cholesterol

High cholesterol is a major risk factor for heart disease, the leading cause of death among men and women in Yemen. Although high cholesterol levels can be inherited, lifestyle plays a big role in our health as well: People who are physically inactive are twice as likely to develop heart disease as individuals who exercise regularly.

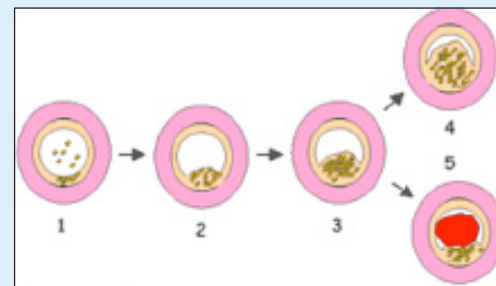
Cholesterol is a soft, waxy fat particle (lipid) that circulates in the blood. It is produced in the liver and is the most common steroid in the body. Cholesterol is a building block for cell membranes and it is essential in the formation of bile (which aids in the digestion of fats), vitamin D, and other steroids and hormones (e.g., progesterone, estrogen, testosterone).

The liver produces most of the cholesterol the body needs; however, many popular foods contain cholesterol and substances used by the liver to produce cholesterol. A high intake of these foods can increase the level of cholesterol in the blood.

High cholesterol (hypercholesterolemia) can cause the formation and accumulation of plaque deposits in the arteries. A plaque is composed of cholesterol, other fatty substances, fibrous tissue, and calcium. When it builds up in the arteries, it results in atherosclerosis, or coronary heart disease (CHD). Atherosclerosis can lead to plaque ruptures and blockages in the arteries, which increase the risk for heart attack, stroke, circulation problems and death.

The development of plaques and blockages in the arteries involves several steps.

1. When the innermost lining of the arteries (endothelium) is damaged, cholesterol particles deposit into the damaged wall and form plaques (see figure below).
2. More cholesterol and other substances incorporate into the plaque and the plaque grows, narrowing the artery (Step 2).
3. Plaque deposits can grow large enough to interfere with blood flow through the artery (called a blockage) (Step 3-4). When the arteries supplying the heart with blood (coronary arteries) are blocked, chest pain (angina) may occur; when arteries in the legs are blocked, leg pain or cramping ensues; when arteries supplying the brain with blood are blocked, stroke follows.
4. If a plaque ruptures or tears, a blood clot may develop on top of it (Step 5). If a blood clot completely blocks blood flow through a coronary artery, heart attack (myocardial infarction) happens; if an artery supplying blood to the brain is completely blocked, it ends in a stroke.



Exercises to lower your cholesterol

You don't need to run a marathon to reap the cholesterol-lowering benefits of exercise. Try these enjoyable fitness activities that help battle high cholesterol.

Engaging in moderate-intensity aerobic activity — exercises that raise your heart rate — for at least two and a half hours each week combats high cholesterol and reduces your risk for heart disease.

Why exercise works

Regular physical fitness can raise your "good" (HDL) cholesterol levels and lower your levels of triglycerides, a kind of fat carried in the bloodstream.

Additionally, individuals who exercise regularly typically have a lower body fat ratio, which also is associated with lower cholesterol and triglycerides. You will start to see improvement in your cholesterol levels within a month of beginning a fitness program. With exercise alone, you can expect to lower your LDL ("bad") cholesterol by 10 to 15 percent.

Top cholesterol-lowering exercises

You don't have to be an athlete to enjoy the many benefits of exercise. High cholesterol can be lowered with even short bouts of moderate activity. Examples of moderate-intensity aerobic exercises include:

- Jogging
- Bicycling
- Tennis, foot ball or other games
- Brisk walking

But anything that you enjoy, and that gets your heart pumping, counts. The key is finding something you enjoy so that you stick with it and have a good time.

A regular exercise program should consist of moderate aerobic activity, for at least 30 minutes a day, five or more days a week. Moderate activity means you should target 50 to 85 percent of your maximum heart rate. If you have difficulty setting aside 30 minutes a day for exercising, you can still benefit from physical activity by breaking up the 30-minute goal into 10- or 15-minute segments throughout the day.

To get the most from your exercise program, perform activities that are the equivalent of running 20 miles a week. Movement of the big muscles on a regular and prolonged basis is essential. You can even use exercise machines or do arm and leg movements while sitting in a chair.

Tips to Incorporate Fitness into Your Day

If weight-bearing exercises like jogging cause too much pressure on your joints, try swimming, brisk walking or yoga for an effective cardio workout. Brisk walking for 30 minutes or normal walking for 45 minutes will suit the young and old. For women simple household work like cleaning and mopping the floor, vacuuming and washing clothes and vessels add an additional dose of exercise!

Even gardening, housework, and taking the stairs instead of the elevator can provide cardiovascular benefits if done on a regular basis. Remember to consult a doctor before you resort to these exercises.

Keep in mind that picking activities you enjoy — and that offer you a bit of a challenge — is crucial to getting the most out of your fitness program. You also have to make the commitment to stay active on a regular basis. But once you do, you'll start to see the results: Improved cholesterol levels and a better-toned body as well.

We'll talk about 'Effects of food on cholesterol' in another issue of 'Yemen Times'.

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