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Tribal conference to find solutions for Yemen

By: Mohammed bin Sallam and Sadeq Al-Wesabi

SANA'A. Aug 17 — The largest tribal congregation of Yemen ever was held on Tuesday Aug. 16 in Sana'a with the aim of finding a tribal solution for Yemen's crises where politicians have failed.

Shiekh Sultan Al-Barakani assistant general secretary of the General People's Congress said that it is time for the tribes to take action and play their role in saving Yemen.

"Where political parties have failed the tribal structures of Yemen will make a difference, and the religious scholars and perhaps the independent youth if they chose to be emancipated from the control of the opposition parties," he said.

At the conference which was attended by more than 5,000 Sheikhs mostly loyal to the regime, President Saleh delivered a speech from Riyadh where he is receiving medical treatment. The president warned countries supposedly supporting opposition elements in Yemen and addressed the nation that he

will be coming soon and the only solution for Yemenis is early elections.

However, the tribal conference although resulted in the configuration of several sub groups and a recommendation for a roadmap that is yet to be detailed, seems to have disappointed many Yemenis. The disappointed was coupled with apprehension especially since the president's speech was aiming towards aggression than peace and reconciliation demanding the removal of all signs of protest before any reform can happen.

About 280 Yemeni lawyers criticized Saleh's speech, describing it as a declaration of war against Yemenis. Moreover, political analysts and observers said that the tribes' conference was held as a reaction of establishing national council by the opposition.

"Youth's revolution has been stolen by opportunists and bandits," said the president, adding that reaching power should be done through ballet boxes not through coupe, insults or irresponsible

Saleh attacked opposing Islah Party,

saying: "There is a political party within so-called the Joint Meeting Parties claim that it is islamic party but where is Islam from you and what have you done for Islam? You distort Islam and annoyed Yemenis through your actions."

He accused the Islah Party of inciting youth to attack on military camps, indicating that those attackers are belong to religious Sheikh Abdulmajeed Al-Zandani.

Saleh called for the opposition to hold early election instead of establishing new national council or transitional presidential council.

"When we talk about power transition peacefully and smoothly we are ready to transfer the power to vice president but the important thing is will you take the gunmen away? Will you take trenches away? Will you stop banditry? Will you stop revenges?" said Saleh.

Legal Committee in the change square in Sana'a stated that Saleh's speech is dangerous precedent, calling for international community, including UN Security Council and Supreme Council for Human Rights to intervene urgently to stop Saleh's provocative speeches and prevent him from returning to Yemen to avoid war and agitation.

The statement said that establishing tribal entity in this time means that the regime wants to justify more crimes in the next days in the name of tribes and civilians.

Angry reactions to the speech

In response to Saleh's speech, Sultan Al-Atwani from the opposing Joint Meeting Parties (JMP) said that president Saleh intended from his speech to drag Yemen into civil war.

"President lost the power and he is no longer part of political game," he said.

Al-Atwani wondered how Saudi Arabia allowed Saleh to deliver such speech from their land. "It's unacceptable for Saleh to talk and threat Yemenis inside Saudi Arabia,"

Shadi Yaseen, one of the anti-regime protesters told the Yemen Times that president declared his war against Yemenis through his provocative speech.

"He tried to be strong and tried to



The president appears healthy and determinant in his latest speech to the nation.

convince people that he is able to take power again," said Yaseen.

One of the pro-democracy protesters in Hodeida governorate was shot dead and about 22 were injured when so-

called thugs and loyalists to president

Saleh attacked fired on protesters in the Hodeida's change square.

Witnesses said that those gunmen were also firing in the air after Saleh's speech to scare people and threat peaceful protesters.

JMP's National Council surrounded by confusion

By: Shatha Al-Harazi

SANA'A, Aug 17 — Leaders of the opposition parties coalition: The Joint Meeting Parties, the National Dialogue Committee, National figures and Parliamentarians, held a conference on Wednesday afternoon to announce the formation of the National Council that would lead to the next stage of the peaceful revolution.

The announcement of the council comes one month after the announcement of the transitional council by activists defected from the Joint Meeting Parties. The announcement included 142 members include Major General Ali Mohsen al-Ahmer and three of Al-Ahmer sons (Sadeq, Hameed and Himiar). It also includes some of those who rejected the council such as Tawakkol

Karman, who announced the Presidential Transitional Council a month ago.

Although the National council succeeded in collecting an amalgamation of powerful groups it left out two of the main strategic players: the Houthis (who waged a six year war with regime) and the southern Movement (who initiated the Idea of peaceful demonstrations five years ago).

However, the JMP leaders announced them as part of the Council, the Houthis have confirmed to the Yemen Times that they have rejected their participation due to different reasons. "One of the reasons is that the positions that the representatives were chosen upon were not fair," said Ali al-Emad, the spokesman of Houthies at change Square and one of the Houthies that were mentioned in the National council's members. "There are

some forces at the square like the independent youth, Houthis and the southern movement that were not given the right percentage of representation," Al-Emad said. Further he stated that the representation of the National council was upon personal relationship and wealth and not based upon revolutionary credentials, such as giving more representation to the tribal allies. This in turn leads to a situation similar to that which was prevalent before the revolution.

Al-Emad also said that the council tasks are yet not clear; "would the council be the only framework for its member actions or can the JMP can still go ahead with their negotiations and initiative with Saleh" asked Al-Emad.

This will be the second time the Houthis aren't represented in any revolutionary council; however they continue to work on gaining allies that have rejected the National Council such as some of the southern Movement Factions who demand 50% of the council's representation.

Activist Khalid al-Ansi is one member of the coalition that announced the Transitional council on July 16; he repeated his rejection of the National Council. He said that the problem with this council is that it is dominated by the Islah party and does not seem as a step forward.

"Is this council a revolutionary council or a political one?" asked Al-Anisi. "The JMP announced their solidarity to the revolution but it hasn't turned this into actions and therefore they are not a component of the revolution."

Moreover, eleven coalitions from change square came together as an al-

liance that has eight branches in other governorates. "We blessed this step of forming a National Council but we decline being a part of it," said Amen Dabwan, a member of the February Independent Revolutionaries Alliance. "We chose to be a monitor entity instead of participating one. Everything around it is mysterious," he added.

The JMP intentions of forming the National council is still a concern for many of the Change square protesters and even of the council members themselves. Intesar al-Qadhi, a member of the National Council representing the Mareb governorate women, told the Yemen Times that although she accepted membership to the Council, things are not clear for her; she considers this step a test. "So far nothing matches my ambitions, we as independent youth always

wanted to work as partners in making decisions with the JMP: if they formed this Council and give us representation to take advantage of us then we won't accept it, we will find our own way then," said Intesar al-Qadhi.

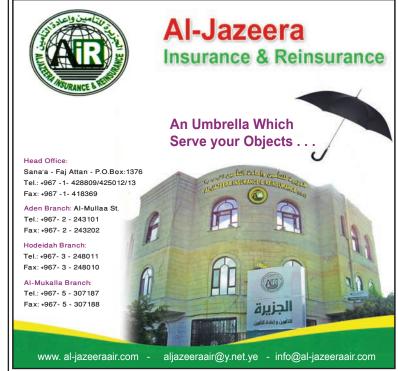
The conference was held at the Sana'a University, protected by dozens from the First armored Division forces; a few of their armored vehicles were stationed inside the university. The Division proved that they control the area starting from the northern Seteen.

The conference was a constituent meeting held to explain the components of the National Council. Earlier, these components were unclear even to the members. The council consists of three components: Firstly: the National Assembly of the public Revolution's Forces, contents of "all" the parties and components of the National coalition such as the Youth of the revolution, military leaders, chamber of commerce, Yemeni scientists association, Parliamentarian, Civil society organizations, the tribal allies, Southern Provinces' sons Forum.

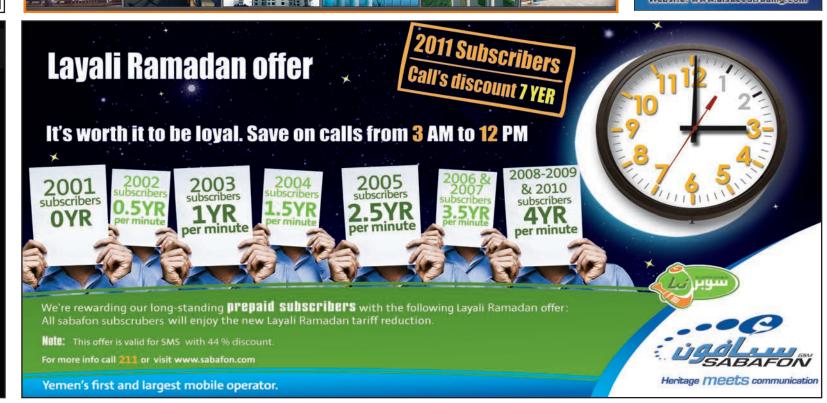
The second being the National Council of Peaceful Revolution Forces. Finally, the third is the Executive Body of the National Council which contains of the head of the National council and 20 of its members that will be selected by the Council, and they will be the direct leaders of the revolution.











Ten years on, Al-Qaeda wounded but not slain

ABYAN, Aug 17 (AsiaOne) - Ten years after the 9/11 attacks triggered a massive operation against Al-Qaeda, the group is battered and its historic leader is dead but offshoots in Yemen and North Africa remain a potent threat.

Some officials and experts were quick to hail the killing of the terror network's iconic supremo Osama bin Laden in May as the beginning of the end for Al-Qaeda but others warned it was too early to claim victory.

"Core Al-Qaeda is in the ropes. They are at a weaker point than they have ever been," said Michael Leiter, former head of the US National Counterterrorism Centre (NCTC).

"We're within reach of strategically defeating Al-Qaeda," US Defence Secretary Leon Panetta last month told reporters travelling with him to Afghanistan, where the group developed in the late 1980s.

Bin Laden's death ended one of the most high-profile manhunts in history and struck at the heart of a group which relentless and deadly US drone raids against its Pakistani hideouts had already put on the back foot.

Bin Laden was replaced by his longtime lieutenant and ideologue Ayman al-Zawahiri.

In a string of Internet messages, the Egyptian has insisted Al-Qaeda was undeterred and issued fresh calls for global jihad (holy war), but experts note that he lacks the aura and charisma of his Saudi predecessor.

French Al-Qaeda expert Jean-Pierre Filiu argued that the succession at the helm of the terror network had not been a smooth affair.

"The Yemeni branch, Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, has formally declared its allegiance, but the Iraqi branch and Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb only welcomed his appointment through their spokespersons," he

"This is evidence that very serious tensions remain within the jihadi movement, pitting notably the Egyptians and possibly the Yemenis against the Iraqis and the North Africans," Filiu explained.

While Al-Qaeda Central's control over its so-called franchises in the rest of the world appears on the wane, some of these regional offshoots, which had previously proclaimed their allegiance to bin Laden, are fully operational.

In Yemen, Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula is on the offensive and has taken advantage of the anarchy prevailing in the country to make territorial gains and create sanctuaries.

"Yemen is a vast territory where local tribes have widely coalesced with jihadists," said Dominique Thomas, an expert on Islamism at Paris's School for Advanced Studies in the Social Sci-

"It's fertile ground for them, they can train and prepare foreign operations from there," he said. "They are expanding. Their leaders are in safe places and the only threat would be a US drone at-

In Africa's vast Sahel expanse, Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb is operating under very limited pressure from regional states that have measly firepower and are poorly coordinated.

Its fighters hold foreign hostages, who are sporadically released for huge ransoms, and launch attacks against local forces but they have not yet been able to operate beyond their desert haven.

The Islamic State of Iraq, an umbrella for several insurgents groups that is affiliated to Al-Qaeda, has suffered several setbacks but it showed it was still a tangible threat when attacks in more than a dozen cities killed 74 people nationwide on August 15.

Beyond the danger posed by armed groups working for the spread of global jihad, a less predictable threat is growing: that of self-radicalised militants who turn to jihad on the Internet and are often invisible until it's too late.

"It's a different sort of threat. It's not the same size as 9/11, but you don't need another 9/11 to have an enormous impact on a country, or a geopolitical effect," said Leiter.

The expert argued that the shockwaves Norwegian rightwing extremist Anders Behring Breivik sent across Norway and the entire region with his deadly July 22 "lone wolf" massacre proved the point.

"Look at the tragedy in Norway: look at what it will do to most of Europe. Small events can have strategic im-

Republican guards send military enforcements to **Arhab**

By: Ali Saeed

SANA'A, Aug 17 — The republican guards, the elite of Yemen's army and commanded by president's son brigadier general Ahmed Ali Abdullah Saleh, have sent new military equipment to the war-torn area of Arhab, 30 km north the capital Sana'a, evewitnesses told local news website on Tuesday.

The tribal area experiences around three-months of armed conflict between Saleh's loyal army and opposition tribesmen mainly from the Islah Islamic Party.

"Over 45 tanks and other armored vehicles were seen entering some villages of Arhab on early Tuesday morning," the local independent news website Marebpress.net quoted an eyewitness on Wednesday.

Other local sources said that the warplanes of the republican guards have shelled some villages with missiles which caused the deaths of 17 people, mostly women and children.

A solider from the republican guards, who requested his name be kept anonymous, in one of fighting brigades in the area confirmed to the Yemen Times that their forces do "use warplanes against positions that shells of canons come from targeting military camps of the republican guards.

Around 9 tribal militants were killed and others were wounded in these warplanes attacks, according to the eyewit-

Yemen's deputy minister of information, Abdo Al-Janadi said in a recent press conference that the government is fighting the opposition tribesmen in Arhab "because they [tribesmen] want to occupy the military camps of the republican guards.'

All of these confrontations are taking place in the Shiab area of Arhab: locals say that they have seen five tanks

Sheikh Abd Al-Jaleel Sinan, the tribal leader of the Arhab tribe who has been leading mediation efforts to restore peace in his area since the war erupted, has threatened (on Monday) to head to the UN Office in Sana'a with his people to disclose the details of their arbitration and names of those who hinder peace in the district.

This action by Sinan came after over 40 people were killed on both sides in battles that broke out early Monday morning over a military base belonging to the tribesmen who use it for attacking surrounding military camps of the republican guards.

"Around 24 people from the opposition tribesmen were killed earlier this morning and a similar number of re-

dullah Salah, who is still in Saudi Arabia

where he was treated in hospital after an

attack against him, has refused to relin-

quish power, despite six months of upris-

ings against the president. In 2009, after

an attack against a Jewish citizen, Saleh

ordered that Jews in Yemen be given ex-

publican guards' soldiers were also shot dead in fighting over the military base," said Sinan. "The republican guards have taken control of the military site," he elaborated.

Around 8.000 people live in the Al-Shiab area of Arhab where the fighting is taking place. "All of these people do not want war. It is only the scattered armed groups of the Islah opposition party in the area that are involved in the fighting," said the tribal leader who is a member of the ruling General Peoples' Congress (GPC).

Sinan who is a respected figure both by people of the tribe and by the opposition and supporters of the regime -- said that the tribe will organize a march to the UN office calling for an end to the war.

"We have been working on mediation for three months with no results on either sides. If the battles are not stopped, we will demonstrate in front of the UN office and explain the facts to them, about our work and also about who is hindering peace in the area," he

Last week, the tribal leader told the Yemen Times that he has conveyed some proposed points of a ceasefire suggested by defected general Ali Mohsen Al-Ahmar to brigadier general Ahmed Ali Abdullah Saleh who had said that the mediation committee should discuss it with the acting president Abd Rabo Hadi and reply back.

"Until now there has been no answer from him," said Sinan.

The armed conflict in Arhab district broke out three months ago after some units of the Republican Guards attempted to move from their camps into the city of Sana'a. This provoked a violent response from local opposition tribesmen who claimed this force would be used against anti-regime protesters in the capital, or against the First Armored Division that had sided with the protesters.

The conflict zone of Arhab is an important military position to the capital Sana'a as the Sana'a International Airport located in this area and it is also as the gate to Sana'a city. Therefore, if the three military camps of the Republican Guards located there fell into the hands of opposition, this means Sana'a wil I be under the control of the opposition, according to Mohsen Al-Zubairy, a tribal leader in Arhab

The Republican Guards body, which is still loyal to Saleh's regime amidst the six-month nationwide protests demanding an end to Saleh's regime, is the most-well-equipped and trained forces of Yemen's army and its number forms a-third of the national army.

Al Qaeda in Yemen alienates local jihaddists

By: Jane Novak The Examiner

SANA'A, Aug 17 — Local jihaddists in Abyan, Yemen are fighting their former allies, al Qaeda militants from other countries and other Yemeni provinces, for control of Ja'ar City. The combined group, which calls itself "Ansar al Shariah," has been in control of areas of Abyan since May when the military withdrew.

Clashes between local jihaddists and al Qaeda erupted Monday morning, al Teef reported. The local militants' commander, Abullatif Al Sayed, tried to expel the non-resident terrorists who had earlier joined their operations for control of the province. Many came from Marib and are linked to al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP). The gun battle that ensued raged for hours and the number of casualties is unknown.

Al Sayed objected to the "vast destruction" and "looting" that the AQAP members inflicted on the city.

In May, President Saleh warned of an al Oaeda take over if he was removed from power. Days later military units withdrew from Abyan, leaving behind a vast cache of weapons. Extremists from across the country moved in to seize control of the capital Zinjibar and other cities including Ja'ar, using the state's abandoned arms. The group branded itself as Ansar al Sharia, and declared the establishment of an Islamic Emirate.

AQAP touted the battles in Abyan in the last issue of its magazine, Inspire, and noted the deaths of long time jihaddists Ali Abdullah al Harithi and Ammar al Waeli in a June 3rd US air strike

The 25th Mechanized Brigade, stationed near Zinjibar, was ordered by the Defense Ministry to surrender twice but refused. The Yemeni military made no progress against the insurgents for two

Yemen's US trained elite counter-

terror units were not deployed against the terrorists in Abyan but against unarmed vouthful revolutionaries across the nation. Millions of Yemenis have been protesting since February for the removal of the entire Saleh regime and the establishment of a transitional council. Opposition parties said the council will be announced on August 17.

As a result of the stalemate in Abyan and the devastating humanitarian crisis that unfolded-100,000 residents fled the fighting—an estimated 1600 tribesmen joined in support of the 25th Mechanized to engage the militants. The ad hoc force wrested control of Lauder and parts of Zinjibar from the jihaddists. In July, Yemen's Air Force "accidentally" bombed the tribesmen, killing nine along with two military commanders.

The stance of the local tribesmen against the jihaddist forces exacerbated the divisions among them, SaadaAden website noted. The local jihaddists accused AQAP of creating "overwhelming discontent" among the population in "a war without limits."

The local jihaddists, as distinct from al Qaeda, have no transnational coordination, support or goals and never pledged loyalty to any external entity or person (except President Saleh). This group first emerged as the Aden Abyan Islamic Army in the 1990's and long aspired to an Islamic Emirate in Abyan. The group tried to impose a Taliban style government and murdered four suspected homosexuals when they were last in control of Ja'ar in 2009. At that time, they called themselves Jamaat al Jihad or the Jihad group.

However leader Khalidabdul al Nabi's call for an Islamic Emirate in December 2009 produced some skepticism as he has had a long, mutually beneficial relationship with the state and bounces between playing the terrorist villain and reformed jihaddist as needed by Saleh.

Elections committee waiting for political peace to start working

By: Mohammed bin Sallam

SANA'A, Aug 16 — Despite the fact that the SCER has been reformed in December last year to be comprised of well known judges, the committee has not been able to achieve much because of the political deadlock.

The committee's plans for this year was supposed to cover administrative and logistical preparation for the parliamentary elections yet to come. Some of these tasks are very technical such as approving the forms for monitoring the elections, creating a database for international and local observers, approving the schedule for elections across the country and the most important is updating and approving the voters' lists.

"There are hardly any activities in

the committee, sometimes even the receptionist is not there to take calls because there is no progress especially these days in Ramadan," said a personnel in the committee.

who requested to remain anony-

Representatives from SECR explained that the committee hesitates before taking any concrete actions in any of the pending projects in fear that all the efforts will be rejected by the op-

"We can't even update the voters lists because many opposition groups will reject our work especially since they were not involved in the beginning. This is why all we do now is wait and see," said SCER voters committee staff member who requested to remain anonymous.

However, according to International Foundation for Electoral Systems, the new SCER has the confidence of the GPC ruling party and the JMP coalition of the opposition.

"In the past, allegations by the JMP that previous members of the SCER acted in ways that were biased towards the GPC deteriorated political trust in the integrity of the electoral process to the point where some members appointed to the previous SCER refused to take up their positions," read a June 2011 IFES report on the transition in

Perhaps one of the only projects being implemented at SCER currently is the EC_UNDP Joint Elections Assistance Project with a total budget of

more than five million dollars. This project aims at supporting the electoral institutions and processes, supporting legal reforms and women's political empowerment. Only the activities of the project partnered with civil society organizations are being implemented.

Judge Mohammed Al-Hakimi, chair of SCER said earlier this year that the committee started implementing an electronic database system for all local and international observers of the elections and their roles during the electoral process. The observers accordingly will be issued ID cards to facilitate their monitoring work.

However, with no date for elections set in sight, the database and all other projects the committee had started remain at a standstill.

Yemen's remaining Jews caught in conflict between government and rebels



Yemenis Jews from Raida Amran. The remaining community has declined to less than 300 members who are spread across the country

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AMRAN, Aug 17 (WJN) — Groups of Yemeni Jews are reportedly fleeing their homes as the conflict between the government and rebels, including those backed by the terror network al-Qaeda, shows no sign of subsiding, according to an article in the 'Yemen Post'. Seven Years experience as Sales Administrator in trading firm. Jews from the Amran province have already left and another eight are planning to go as soon as possible. It is unclear where they they are headed. Yemen's long-time president Ali Ab-

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tra security and some were offered free accomadation in the capital Sana'a. Yemen was once home to a thriving

Jewish population, but since 1948 almost all of its 60,000 Jews left the country. Between June 1949 and September 1950, the overwhelming majority was brought to Israel in Operation Magic Carpet. The remaining community has declined to less than 300 members who are spread across the country. Over the past years, many have attempted to leave Yemen and start new lives in the West. A tiny community still exists in the town of Bayt Harash. It has a rabbi, a functioning synagogue and a mikvah. A small Jewish enclave also prevails in the town of Raydah, around 45 miles north



The Arab Spring's promise is wilting

By: Dilip Hiro The Daily Star

scorching summer bakes the Middle East and North Africa, the promise of the Arab Spring is wilting. While street protests continue and battles on three frontlines rage in Libya, the old order shows only bearable fissures. The hope of a clean sweep of democratic revolution toppling authoritarian regimes is receding, as an increasing number of Egyptian protesters wonder if they weren't hapless pawns in the soft coup that the Supreme Council of the Armed Force (SCAF) carried out against President Hosni Mubarak. The past six months show that regime change doesn't mean revolution.

Regime change is only a first step toward replacing the foundations that supported the previous regime. How soon and how radically these foundations are altered depends on the strength and clarity of the leaderships of the revolutionary movement, often consisting of disparate elements that coalesce to achieve the shared goal of changing the status

When the flight of the authoritarian Tunisian President Zine al-Abidine Ben Ali after a mere four weeks of peaceful protest triggered a mass uprising in Egypt, the world was electrified. Hopes arose in Western capitals that the wave of popular demand for democracy would sweep the region. Yet, while the gains made in Tunisia and Egypt remain to be consolidated, the democracy wave has hit barriers in Syria and Yemen; civil war in Libya remains stalemated.

What constituted a radical break in the region's recent history was the loss of citizens' fear of the security forces, achieved by assembling large numbers in vast squares. Friday prayers continue to provide opportunity for staging massive demonstrations. No Arab government dares to ban the communal Friday prayer enjoined for Muslim men by the

The seminal event of self-immolation by Muhammad Bouazizi in Tunisia occurred on a Friday, Dec. 17, 2010, drawing more attention than it would have done on any other day of the week. On a Friday four weeks later, skirmishes between protesters, pouring out of mosques after the weekly prayers, and security forces became so bloody that Ben Ali fled.

In Egypt the protesting crowds grew exponentially on Jan. 28, a Friday, with opposition leaders declaring the following Friday the "Day of Departure" for Mubarak. He stepped down a week later. Fiery sermonizing after Friday prayers by the preacher at the main mosque of the Syrian city of Deraa triggered protests there, which then spread.

By deploying Facebook and Twitter, the disparate, atomized opposition could stage large anti-regime demonstrations. Use of social media continues on varying scales in Yemen, Egypt and Syria. The Internet is such an integral part of business and industry in the region that no government can afford to close it down for

double-edged. Witness, for instance, the emergence of the Syrian Electronic Army, disabling opposition websites and hacking into Facebook pages of dissidents. After the much publicized July visit to Hama by the U.S. ambassador to Syria, Robert Ford, it hacked into the U.S. Embas-

But this instrument is proving to be

sy's Facebook page and posted progovernment slogans.

This is one reason why the regime of President Bashar Assad has withstood four-month-long pressure from the street. The key reason, however, is the continuing loyalty of the military high command to Assad based on their common affiliation to the Alawite sect. By lifting emergency rule and allowing demonstrations cleared by the authorities in advance. the regime has enabled its backers to argue that Assad is a reformer. Many Syrians also fear that if their country were to adopt the sort of democracy the U.S. brought to Iraq, Syria, too, would descend into a debilitating inter-sectarian civil war.

The defection of senior generals in Tunisia and Egypt brought about the downfall of their presidents. Where the military command is divided, as in Yemen, a stalemate has resulted.

Though freedom of assembly was won by the sacrifices made by the opposition, it has lost the monopoly it enjoyed initially. Emulating their rivals, regime supporters in Syria and Yemen also have taken to the streets. Even in Egypt, where revolution is supposed to have triumphed, pro-democracy activists are now realizing it was naïve to accept at face value the commitment to social justice, civil liberties and democracy from the SCAF, headed by Field Marshal Mohammad Hussein Tantawi, Mubarak's defense minister for 20 years.

After five eventful months it is dawning upon the leaders of the Tahrir Square sit-in that the SCAF has a vested interest in preserving as much of the political-economic structure of the Mubarak era as it can. Under the tutelage of President Anwar Sadat and Mubarak, the military acquired farms, factories and hotels. Estimates of its assets vary from 10 to 30 percent of the economy.

Those who have taken to the streets in Cairo are rightly targeting the SCAF. During a recent march on the Defense Ministry, protesters were assaulted by pro-SCAF thugs wielding knives, swords and Molotov cocktails. On Aug. 1, the SCAF promulgated a decree banning protests. Army troops fired in the air to disperse the three-week long sit-in by peaceful protesters.

The de facto freedom of association in Egypt has led to a mushrooming of political factions, enlarging the SCAF's margin of maneuver. The supreme council has the power to set the agenda and play one group of politicians against another.

The young, secular initiators of the street protest are now realizing the vast gap existing between their success in assembling crowds and establishing political parties, grounded in a practical ideology with a nationwide network. To their dismay, they find that they cannot match the Muslim Brotherhood. Those who raise the prospect of an alliance between the Brotherhood and the SCAF are overlooking the fact that it was the military in Algeria that brutally crushed the Islamic Salvation Front after it won four-fifths of the parliamentary seats in the first round in December 1991. Aware of the subsequent decade-long bloody chapter in the Algerian history, Brotherhood leaders have decided to contest less than 50 percent of the parliamentary seats if and when elections are held.

The final test of a democratic system is the subservience of the military to the elected civilian authorities. Revolutionaries are discovering that overthrowing dictators is perhaps the easiest part of a longer struggle.

The Somali famine: Hunger and power

By: Chandra Muzaffar JUST Commentary

nce again, the world is witness to a horrendous catastrophe in Somalia and in other parts of the Horn of Africa which some journalists now describe as "The Horn of Hunger."

The famine that has hit the region has already claimed the lives of 29,000 Somali children under 5 years in the past three months. 12 million people need food aid. The UN has requested 2.4 billion US dollars from member states. It has raised only half that amount so far.

We can all do much more to help the people of Somalia and the region. Rich countries in particular have a moral obligation to assist the starving and suffering Somalis. For wealthy Muslims, the pain and ordeal of the Somalis --- who are mostly Muslims--carries a special message since this is the month of Ramadan when Muslims all over the world observe the dawn to dusk annual fast. If one of the purposes of the fast is to develop empathy for the poor and hungry, the catastrophe in Somalia offers an opportunity for the wealthy to donate generously to the UN's food aid programme.

In this regard, it is significant that ordinary individuals and communities have responded to the Somali catastrophe in a spirit of solidarity that is most touching. An 11 year-old schoolboy in Ghana, Andrew Adansi-Bonnah, has launched a campaign to raise 20 million Ghanaian cedis (about 13 million dollars) to "Save Somali Children from Hunger." A charity in Gaza, Palestine has named its campaign, "From Gaza: hand in hand to save the children of Somalia." When a people with such limited means of sustenance who are amongst the most dispossessed on earth, are ever ready to sacrifice for a people who are in an even worse situation than them, it gives hope to hu-

While we demonstrate our commitment to the plight of the Somali people, we should also try to understand the root causes of the famine. The drought, highlighted by the media, is undoubtedly a cause. But it is not the only cause. Somalia does not have a functioning government. For the better part of the last 20 years since the ouster of President Said Barre, it has seen nothing but lawlessness and anarchy. If it had a government that

exercised authority and power, there may not be any mass starvation. In the mid-seventies, there was also a prolonged drought in Somalia but it did not lead to widespread hunger because there was a government that acted quickly.

Somalia's famine is also due in part to constant foreign intervention and interference in its internal affairs. Under the guise of the UN's humanitarian intervention programme, the United States sought to determine the direction of Somalia's inter-clan politics in 1992 and 1993. Somalia's oil potential, it is alleged, was one of the two underlying motives, the other being the geostrategic significance of the Horn of Africa. US intervention failed miserably leading to even greater

After the Al-Qaeda dual embassy bombings in Kenya and Tanzania in 1998 and the 9-11 episode in 2001, the US once again stuck its finger in the Somali pie. It provided material support to the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) in order to stem the growing popularity of the Union of Islamic Courts (UIC). The UIC in fact succeeded in establishing a fairly stable government in 2006 which guaranteed law and order for a short while. But the US, working hand- in- glove with the government of Ethiopia, overthrew the Islamic group alleging that it had Al-Qaeda links. Remnants from the UIC formed a mass guerrilla movement which controls large parts of the country and even captured most of the capital, Mogadishu, in May 2009. The on-going civil war is a huge impediment to the delivery of food supplies to the starving.

Food delivery has been further compromised by an earlier US-UN imposed blockade of areas under the control of one of the militant offshoots of the UIC, Al-Shabaab. The Al-Shabaab, in turn, has prevented international food aid agencies from reaching its strongholds for fear of losing control over them. Needless to say, it is the poor and hungry who are the victims of this tussle for power.

Somalia underscores the vital importance of an effective functioning government capable of looking after its people that is not, at the same time, the pawn of foreign powers.

Dr. Chandra Muzaffar is President of the International Movement for a Just World (JUST) and Professor of Global Studies, Universiti Sains Malaysia.

World still a silent witness

By: Dr Musa A Keilani **Gulf Today**

s there room for negotiated settlements to the crises in Libya, Syria and Yemen? Hardly likely. The autocratic regimes of Muammar Qadhafi of Libya, Bashar Al Assad of Syria and Ali Abdullah Saleh of Yemen have already taken their respective conflicts far beyond the point of no return.

All three of them have proved that they would stop at nothing to ensure their survival even if it meant slaughtering the very people that they were supposed to protect.

In Libya, the civil war is getting protracted, with Oadhafi determined never to step down from power and to take as many people with him when he meets his end. It is only a matter of time before that happens since Western leaders have staked themselves in the quest to get rid of Qadhafi and they simply cannot afford to make any compromise that would see Qadhafi continuing in power.

It would also be a mockery of international justice to allow the Libyan strongman to maintain his repressive reign after having clearly established that more than 40 years of power has gone into his head to the point that spilling his own people's blood means nothing to him as long as he ensures his survival.

For someone like Qadhafi, it is unimaginable that anyone would dare question his rule of the country let alone put up an armed challenge.

In the case of Yemen, it is a foregone conclusion that Saleh, who is said to be recovering in Saudi Arabia after he was wounded in an attack on his presidential compound in Sanaa,

Short of a dramatic (but unlikely) turn of events, Saleh will never set foot in his homeland. The strongest and most influential tribal leader has taken it upon himself to ensure that there would be no return to the status quo ante before the anti-Saleh revolt erupted.

Saleh will never be able to resume his manipulation of tribal affiliations and rivalries to suit his interests.

The West, particularly the US, is treading a fine line in Yemen because of the perceived strength of the Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula there. Ideally, the US would have liked to see Saleh making some concessions to the democracy activists and continue in power and as an ally in the fight against Al Qaeda, where, it seems, the Yemeni strongman was taking Washington for a ride. He manipulated things to project himself as the last bulwark against Al Qaeda and to instill Western fears that his demise would mean Al Qaeda taking over Yemen and turning it into another pre-2001 Afghanistan.

The West has grown wiser to Saleh's game. The US is engaged in an exercise to ensure that whoever replaces Saleh will not only be American friendly but will also listen to and obey Washington when it comes to fighting Al Qaeda.

No doubt, Washington will be successful to a fair degree to bring that about in Yemen. It is only a matter of time before the cronies hanging on to Saleh realise that the game is up and they have to take some serious decisions. They might want to strike deals with the US to ensure their survival,

but the tribal and opposition forces at work would oppose any such compromise.

So it is definitely curtains for Saleh and his regime as is the case for Qadhafi. In the meantime, Washington would set the scenario where Saleh's successor would address US concerns about Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula.

It is a totally different kettle of fish in Syria, given the country's location and its role as one of the key players in the Arab-Israeli conflict. Washington stayed away from calling for regime change in Syria for weeks and advocated a negotiated solution to the conflict that pits the Assad regime against pro-democracy activists

Assad has made a series of political moves but his foes know that these are cosmetic and only aim at buying time. They know that it would be fatal for them to be lured into making any deal with the regime, and they are determined not to back down.

Unlike Qadhafi and Saleh, Assad's security forces are not fighting armed rebels but peaceful protesters who no longer feel they should remain the tame subjects of a regime that has always repressed them. The regime's forces are on a war footing and are attacking demonstrators with no questions asked and killing and maiming people as if with impunity. This will continue until such time that the Syrian regime is convinced that it has taken the steam out of the pro-democracy movement.

The West has limited options to deal with the Syrian regime.

Washington would prefer to seen the Assad regime continue in power. The reasons are several. Bashar Al

Assad has followed in the footsteps of his late father Hafez and ensured that his country's Golan confrontation line with Israel remained calm. The recent flare-ups in the Golan where Palestinians and Syria tried to cross the cease-fire line were an exception, but they should be seen not only as a tactic to divert attention from the civil rebellion in the country but also as a warning to Israel that things would not be the same if the Assad regime

Of course, Israel knows this well and it would also prefer to see a continuation of the Assad regime, and that is one of the key reasons why the US had been cautious in its approach to the Syrian crisis. Other considerations have to do with the possible impacts of a regime change in Syria on the regional scene.

Jordan has its own concerns; so do Syria's other neighbours - Turkey, Iraq and Lebanon. The Palestinians are closely watching the developments in Syria because whatever happens at the leadership level in Damascus will have a direct bearing on their options while dealing with Israel in their quest for independent statehood.

In the meantime, the reality on the ground remains that no one seems to be able to influence the course of events away from violence.

The regimes in Tripoli, Sanaa and Damascus are aware that they are fighting for their life and simply could not afford failure since it would mean their end. The world at large will have to remain a mute witness to whatever will unfold.

The author, a former jordanian ambassador, is the chief editor of Al Urdun weekly in Amman

Yemen Special: Al-Qaeda making ricin

By: James Miller **EA WOrld View**

ou might have thought it was safe to wander back into the world now that Osama bin Laden is dead. But then you haven't noticed, amidst political instability in Yemen, the convergence of interest between the Yemeni regime and US counter-terrorism officials..

American counterterrorism officials are increasingly concerned that the most dangerous regional arm of Al Qaeda is trying to produce the lethal poison ricin, to be packed around small explosives for attacks against the United States.

For more than a year, according

to classified intelligence reports, Al Qaeda's affiliate in Yemen has been making efforts to acquire large quantities of castor beans, which are required to produce ricin, a white, powdery toxin that is so deadly that just a speck can kill if it is inhaled or reaches the bloodstream.

Intelligence officials say they have collected evidence that Qaeda operatives are trying to move castor beans and processing agents to a hideaway in Shabwa Province, in one of Yemen's rugged tribal areas controlled by insurgents. The officials say the evidence points to efforts to secretly concoct batches of the poison, pack them around small explosives, and then try to explode them in contained spaces, like a shopping mall, an airport or a subway station.

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Solar cookers and grass roots education at the Barefoot College



By: Samantha Downing Pitch Fork Design

t's hard to believe that a year has passed since we visited the Barefoot College in Tiloniya, Rajasthan. Desperate to break off from the tourist trail, we travelled by bus from the Pushkar camel fair, onto a train from Ajmer to Kishangarh, then jumped into a jeep for the last leg to Tiloniya. Tiloniya is a tiny town, and the train stops only once a day. There is no problem finding the Barefoot College, especially if one of the residents has jumped off the jeep with you.

Set up in 1972 by Bunker Roy, the Barefoot College is a home-grown NGO with a beautiful philosophy and effective world-changing approaches. The barefoot concept was best summed up by resident, Ram Nivas, who told the story of the beginnings of the Barefoot College radio station. A local man,

Raju, had discovered upon rewiring his transistor, that it was able to pick up the signal from his cb radio. Experimentation led him to set up a local radio station, Raju Radio, which featured local news, reports of missing water buffalo and musical requests from the community. When the media bureaucracy got wind of Raju Radio, operating without a licence, they shut him down. Raju now works at the Barefoot College radio station, in a studio lined with recycled egg cartons for soundproofing. He is the classic example of a Barefoot engineer, with minimal schooling, a head for innovation, using what he has available to create useful tools for his community.

Situated in the Rajasthan desert, Tiloniya receives an average of 400mm of rainfall annually, all of which falls in a period of four days. In the last few years they have received little more than 200mm annual rainfall. Across Rajasthan water issues are at crisis point. With years of drought, well water



is increasingly brackish and the water table is rapidly sinking. Barefoot College is working on this in a number of capacities. The entire college is situated on underground water tanks which collect thousands of litres of water annually. This was the only place in India in which we drank the water directly from the well, with no further purification required. They are implementing education programs on rainwater harvesting in villages through puppet shows and theatre. The puppet workshop was a sight to be seen. There were puppets of animals, political figures, there was even a puppet of the founder, Bunker Roy in the mix.

One of the most impressive of their projects is the solar barefoot engineer program. While we visited, a group of women from African villages without electricity were spending six months training as solar engineers. They would return home to set up solar electricity workshops to run solar lanterns for their

villages, with the capacity to wire and repair any part of the system that broke down. This is all funded and run by a home-grown NGO in India and it works. It works because the people setting up and maintaining the systems have both the skills and the interest to keep it going. Impressed yet? There are a number of other programs running across the College. A recycling workshop uses paper and other recycled materialss to create toys, tools and bags for the Barefoot College gift shop. I particularly liked this simple maths tool that was used in one of the evening school programs.

My favourite program by far at the Barefoot College was the manufacture of solar cookers. Three times a day I sampled the meals cooked with the solar cookers, experiencing the joy they created through sight, smell and taste along with an appreciation of their engineering. The solar cookers are constructed from materials that are readily available at the local marketplace. The



mirrors are individually cut from glass and painted with reflective paint before being wired onto the frame. Recycled bike cogs are used to create a clockwork system that allows the cooker to follow the path of the sun from morning to night.

The parabolic shape of the cooker focuses the sun's energy onto the cooktop for cooking rice and stews in pots or frying in a pan. Every now and again I'd walk across the path of the focused rays, forgetting their power. Ouch, hot! Sensibly, the specifications for building these cookers was written to scale on the floor of the workshop.

These cookers are manufactured for sale by women at the Barefoot College, creating both livelihood and an alternative to cooking using wood-burning stoves

Not much food is grown locally, due to the dimishing rainfall in this area. All grey water at the Barefoot College is put into groundwater recharge, and the overflow from the well is channeled to a small pond for water buffalo. A local tree, Babul, which I later identified as Babul Acacia Nilotica also has medicinal properties. A very spiky tree, I saw the branches wrapped around trees in the college to protect them from grazing goats

The Barefoot College also runs a small hospital which places great value in preventative homeopathic medicine and a shop selling handcrafts by local artisans. We heard a lot about Neem and its medicinal and dental uses. The Barefoot College provide accommodation and three meals a day, along with chai in the evening. There is a comprehensive library on site which is the perfect place to laze around on those hot Rajasthani afternoons. They'll show you around all their workshops and there is much cricket and fun to be had in the evenings if you seek it out. For 2000 rupees per person per night. See more at their website.

Jordanian King promises reform to skeptical public

Constitutional amendments not enough to quell popular mistrust in regime, analysts and politicians say

By: David E. Miller The Media Line

ordan's King Abdullah said he would adopt a series of constitutional amendments that will decrease his power and make government more accountable to the people. But local politicians and experts say the reforms may be too little and too late.

"The wall of fear has fallen," Basel Burgan, an Amman pharmacist and social activist told The Media Line. "People are no longer scared to speak their minds. If His Majesty the King does not speed up the reform process, more and more people will take to the

streets.

On Sunday, a Constitutional Review Committee established by the King in April ceremonially submitted a document containing 42 revisions to the constitution of 1952. The proposed changes call for increasing Jordan's balance of power and widening civil liberties

One amendment will empower the parliament to appoint the prime minister, rather than have him personally chosen by the King. At present, elections may be postponed indefinitely after a parliament is dissolved by the King. A constitutional amendment will limit the interim period to four months.

"There is an overwhelming consensus in Jordan that this move is historically significant, strengthening the separation of power and reducing the King's prerogatives," Assaf David, an

expert on Jordan at Jerusalem's Truman Institute for the Advancement of Peace, told The Media Line. "The question is will it be enough. Three months ago it may have been, but today there's a predominant sense of nihilism and mistrust."

Weekly demonstrations demanding political reform erupted in Jordan in January, but were milder that protest movements elsewhere in the Arab world which demanded regime change. A sluggish response by the King to the reform demands coupled by police violence against protesters has pushed many Jordanians to mistrust any government initiative.

"The amendments are a positive step, but are void of real change that could have been included," Hamza Mansour, Secretary General of the Islamic Action Front, the political wing of the Muslim Brotherhood, told The Media Line. "In all modern states, the Senate is elected by the people and not appointed from above."

Ten Jordanians were injured in a pro-reform protest in the southern city of Karak on August 12. The unarmed youth demonstrators blamed the government for unleashing pro-regime thugs who attacked them with sticks and knives, independent news agency Ammon News reported.

"People have lost faith in the entire political system," Fatima Smadi, a journalism professor and political columnist with the independent daily Al-Arab Al-Yawm, told The Media Line. "The regime talks about reforms and then sends thugs to disperse protest-

Smadi said that deliberations on the constitutional amendments should have included representatives of the Iordanian public and not held "behind closed doors." She added that many in Jordan believe the amendments should be voted on in a national referendum rather than ratified by parliament alone, since the public completely mistrusts the current parliament.

"These amendments are important enough to be put to a public vote," she said.

The parliament is expected to endorse the amendments within one month, and the King has promised to implement the recommendations by the end of the year.

Some of the amendments strengthen the civil nature of the political and electoral processes. A new constitutional court will be created to replace the weaker Higher Council for the Interpretation of the Constitution, as well as an independent commission to oversee elections. Civilians will only be tried before civil, not military courts and provisional laws will only be enacted in extreme cases.

But the tribal public that demonstrated in Karak on Friday, formerly the linchpin of King Abdullah's political stability, went as far as attacking the King personally; a red line in a Kingdom where criticism of the royal family is punishable by up to three years in prison. Two Jordanian students were arrested in July 2010 for criticizing the King online

"In Karak protesters mentioned the King's gambling problem," David, the Jordan expert, said. "This is something unheard of in Jordan's tribal periphery."

Interior Minister Mazen A-Saket criticized the Karak demonstrators' slogans against the King on Monday, but said they would not be arrested.

"We have laws and civil courts," he told Al-Arab Al-Yawm daily.





Yemenis unhappy with Ramadan programs

By: Sadeq Al-Wesabi

very Ramadan, Yemen's TV channels compete to present a different and distinguished programs schedule.

But this year, seven Yemeni channels failed to satisfy viewers who were "depressed" about the poor programs on offer; they said the announcers were not skilled enough to do their jobs.

Viewers told the Yemen Times that this Ramadan programs have focused on settling accounts between the regime and opposition - serious programs were absent this year.

In the past, Ramadan programs and series were more interesting and effective, complained viewers.

Actor and artistic producer Nader Al-Madh'haji expressed his dissatisfaction with the series and programs on all seven Yemeni channels.

Al-Madh'haji didn't participate in any productions this year because of an absence of good content and artistic programs.

He said that while the Arabic channels compete during Ramadan to present new and creative programs, Yemen's channels simply present silly shows.

"This year programs and series on Yemen's channels have provoked Yemenis and depressed them. Repeated power cuts became the rescuer of Yemenis from these provocative programs," he said. "A blessing in disguise."

"It makes me nervous when I watch Ramadan programs this year. Unfor-



tunately, we are getting worse in our drama and our production in general," he said.

Regarding TV series on the seven channels, Al-Madh'haji criticized the absence of interesting scenarios and skilled actors and actress, pointing out that the events of some TV series are fragmented

"The actors and actresses were not successful this year and they were acting without must professionalism," he

"There are few programs that deserve watching. But even those programs need some changes and development," he added

Mostafa Al-Abdali, 29, a citizen in

Sana'a said there are no worthy programs this Ramadan.

"During Ramadan I have time to watch TV and I want to see something different every Ramadan. Unfortunately, the programs this year were the worst," he said.

"These channels could have benefited from the uprising in Yemen to make extraordinary programs and series. They really let us down."

"It's better for me to watch other Arabic channels," he said.

Sharp criticism on Facebook The poor performance of Vern

The poor performance of Yemen's channels this year led many Yemenis to make critical comments, while many

even called for a boycott of some programs and presenters.

Ahlam Al-Bosata'a (the poor dreams) is one of the programs that angered many Yemenis who said it humiliated poor people.

The presenter gives a little money from Al-Saleh Charity to poor people, one of the charities belonging to president Saleh

But many viewers said the aim of program is to promote Al-Saleh charity, which was established using Yemenis' money.

"The program exploits poor people and depicts them as beggars," said journalist Saddam Al-Kamali. "They trade in the poor's dreams."

"It's unacceptable to insult Yemenis in this way."

Clowning around?

The series on state-run channels depicts the opposing people as awful whereas those on the opposition channel Suhail focus on issues of injustice and repression by the regime and its officials.

Ahmed Abdurrahman, one of the local TV critics slammed some series, describing certain actors as clowns.

Hammy Hammak-3 (My concern is yours) is the most popular series on opposition Al-Saeeda channel, depicting injustice and inequality in one of the villages in Tihama.

"It's the best series because it focuses on real issues without fear," said Muadh Thabet a local from Sana'a. "We need programs and series that focus on our problems. We don't want clowning or series that support corrupt regimes."

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.

Health problems of air travel

ir travel is one of the safest and most convenient modes of transport. Millions of passengers around the world choose this mode. The availability of cheap airline tickets has further increased the affordability of air travel. Earlier considered to be a vanity, air travel is becoming more and more commonplace these days.

Millions of people travel by air each year and majority of them do not complain about any sort of side effects. However, some of them do experience the "wrath" of air travel. Reduced atmospheric pressure, minimum oxygen levels, noise, vibration, and proximity to sub zero temperatures can create havoc to health. Let's check out what an air travel can cause to you:



1. Deep Vein Thrombosis (DVT): Deep vein thrombosis (DVT) is a condition in which blood clots (thrombus) form in deep veins, such as those in the legs. It can sometime occur during long flights due to inactivity. Long periods of immobility can cause blood clotting in the legs. The lungs can be affected in the same way and this can lead to arterial blockage.

Prevention: It's important to move around the cabin, especially on long flights, as this squeezes the blood vessels and prevents the formation of blood clots. This will also keep your blood circulation up. If it is difficult to move around then curl or press your toes down often throughout your trip. Crossing the legs should definitely be avoided.

2. Jet Lag: While traveling through multiple time zones, your body clock gets disrupted, causing an acute problem called jet lag. These changes in time zones confuse your body's inner clock and produce biochemical changes. The effect increases with the number of time zones crossed. The symptoms of jet lag can vary but may include fatigue, irritability, headaches, upset stomach, diarrhea and sleep disturbance (such as daytime drowsiness, insomnia or waking early).

Prevention: Change your time table few days before leaving to suit the destination. Consider going to bed earlier than usual if you are traveling east; if traveling west, go to bed later than usual. While at the destination, soak up natural sunlight to cue your body that it is time to be awake, or spend your first day in well-lighted places. It has been shown that bright light can help to reset circadian rhythms.

3. Airplane Ear: Barotrauma or airplane ear occurs when the air pressure in your middle ear (more specifically, the Eustachian tube) and the air pressure in your environment are out of balance. This specially happens when the airplane climbs sharply or descends for a landing.

Prevention: Chewing a piece of gum or sucking a candy during takeoff and landing can help with the problem by activating the muscle that opens the Eustachian tube. Yawning is even better since it's a strong activator of that muscle. Also, drink plenty of water to remain hydrated, and avoid caffeine and alcohol.

4. Motion Sickness: Motion sickness can occur when the airplane turns sharply. The inner ear fluid mechanisms can be affected, producing the unpleasant symptoms of increased salivation, dizziness, nausea, sweating and vomiting.

Prevention: Choose an aisle seat over the wings as this will reduce the motion felt. Turn the air vent flow toward your face. Eat light meals or snacks before and during your flight. Also, avoid reading as reading will have your eyes fixed on a stationery object, yet your body feels the motions. This can trigger confusion and a sudden onset of motion sickness.

5. Breathing Problems: The cabin pressure is significantly lower than the atmospheric pressure, and so, you breathe less oxygen compared to what you inhale while you are on the ground. This can lead to a drop in your oxygen saturation and can eventually lead to breathing problems.

Prevention: Keep the air vent open and try taking deep breaths. Avoid wearing tight fitting outfits during long flights. If you are having trouble breathing, use the oxygen mask

6. Cough: Allergens, dry air, fumes and ozone in the cabin air may cause coughing problems during an air travel.

Prevention: Try to suck on a candy or keep a sugar cube in your mouth. Also, stay hydrated by drinking a lot of water.

7. Dehydration

The air inside the plane is dry and the cabin air conditioners further remove moisture from the cabin air (the humidity level is generally below 25%). This causes your mouth, throat, eyes and skin to become extremely dehydrated.

Prevention: Make sure you drink plenty of water or fruit juice regularly. Also, avoid alcohol and caffeine.

8. Headaches: Dry air, low humidity levels, extreme fatigue and odors lead to the risk of migraine and other types of headaches.

Prevention: Get up and move around the cabin to increase blood circulation. As dehydration can set in headache, keep yourself well hydrated, and avoid alcohol and caffeine. In severe cases, some mild painkillers can be taken for temporary relief

9. Infection: You spend long hours with other passengers in an enclosed environment and this way, you increase your chances of getting infected with contagious diseases.

Prevention: Start boosting your immune system three days before your trip by eating vitamin C rich food such as oranges, guava etc. You can also take proper vaccination before traveling. If you want to be extra protective, wear a mask to cover your nose and mouth to avoid inhaling disease causing bacteria.

10. Radiation: In most international flights, your body is exposed to some degrees of radiation from cosmic rays from space. Flight personnel are exposed to a greater risk of development of breast cancer in comparison to the general population.

Prevention: Wear an outfit which covers most of the skin and body.

Air travel is not without its risks, but there's no need to hang up your wings! The more you travel, the more your body gets adjusted to the problems. If you are facing some acute problems after a flight, make no delay in getting yourself checked

Power sharing most applicable solution to Yemen crisis



Government supporters holding the portraits of President Ali Abdullah Saleh gather near the Presidential Palace in Sanaa, Yemen, on July 29, 2011. Hundreds of thousands of anti-government and pro-government demonstrators staged demonstrations respectively in Sanaa on Friday.

By: Fuad Rajeh Wang Qiuyun

emeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh is facing mounting external pressure to sign a Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)-brokered power transition deal and has been warned not to return to his country.

Observers argued that Saleh's political career has ended and his return is of no significance, saying that a national unity government has become the most applicable solution to the Yemeni crisis.

Saleh, convalescing in Saudi Arabia after surgeries for burns he suffered in an assassination attempt inside his compound in Sanaa on June 3, was reported to have decided not to come back home,

with some reports saying he was persuaded by Saudi and U.S. officials.

"The return of Saleh is no longer important as if he has been working over the past years to enable his son to stay after he leaves," said Abdul Ghanial-Maweri, a political analyst in Sanaa.

The government dismissed the reports that Saleh would not return to Yemen and insists that he will come back after recuperation. Only the Yemeni people can decide who rules them and the international community is only pushing the Yemeni parties to hold a constructive dialogue, not holding back the president, ruling party officials

"Saleh's departure for treatment in Saudi Arabia after the June bomb was a secure, political exit for him. His return will explode the situation in Yemen," said Faris al-Saqqaf, head of the Future Studies Center, adding that the health and security status of Saleh will not help him rule again.

"Recent pressure on Saleh to sign the GCC-brokered power transition deal and warnings not to return home meant one thing: the international community has decided to pull Saleh out of politics to start an immediate power transfer in his country and reconcile all parties including the ruling party," al-Saqqaf

"Hence, any agreement in the future will be based on the reconciliation among all political forces in Yemen," he said.

Meanwhile, talk about the GCC plan has reemerged in Riyadh mediated by the Saudi government and UN envoy.

Opposition officials affirmed that their demands have not changed: a power transfer and an army and security restructuring first and then dialogue and the ballot boxes.

"We need a national army to protect our agreement, because we can't rely on the international community or external guarantees to do that," said Muhammad Abdul Malik al-Mutawakil, a senior leader of the Yemeni opposition coalition Joint Meeting Parties.

Observers also said that the stay of Saleh in Saudi Arabia is part of his victory against the people calling for his ouster, as others argued that Saleh has been and will continue to be a card in the hands of the Saudis.

"A national unity government according to the GCC plan seems to be the best solution to lifting Yemen out of its problems, though I believe that Saleh will continue to rule Yemen from Saudi Arabia after he leaves," said Anis Mansour, an Aden-based political analyst.

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- مدرس لغة إنجليزي (مدرسة معهد خصوصى) صنعاء الأمانة. 712577448
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- بكالوريوس ترجمه خبره في المراسلات التجاريه أكثر من خمس سنوات' أرغب فى العمل بفتره مسائيه فقط. 777991248
- مدرس إنجليزي أو رياصيات أو فيزياءٍ أو كيمياء يرغب متى أن يعطى دروسا خصوصيه للمرحله الأساسيه والثانويه. 771592257
- مدرس لغه إنجليزية يجيد التعامل مع الحاسب الألي، يجيد المراسلات التجاريه ومستعد للسفر للخارج للعمل كمترجم للتجار كذلك يجيد الهندية.
- بكالوريوس تجارة تخصص محاسبة + دبلوم اللغة الانجليزية، خبرة في المحاسبة والمراجعة لمدة 15 سنة. على استعداد للعمل في أي محافظة. 735587876
- سليم السويدي بكالوريوس علاقات عامه - دبلوم إدارة أعمال - دبلوم لغة إنجليزية - خبرة في إدارة الأعمال المدنية ومراسلة الشركات الأمنية. 712129138
- بكالوريس محاسبه إجادة اللغه الانجليزيه كتابة ونطقا, دبلوم سكرتاريه كمبيوتر خبره 7 سنوات في المحاسبه. 733409652
- بكالوريس إعلام من جامعة عدن قدرات مختلفه في مجال العمل الاعلامي يرغب في العمل لدى أي موسسه إعلاميه. 735869554
- حاصل على دبلٍوم برمجه حاسوب بتقدير جيد جداً دارس شبكات سيسكو CCNA+شبكات مايكروسوفت MCSE+(Server+ وحاصل على

طوارىء الكهرباء

طوارىء الشرطه

طوارىء المياه

لإستعلامات

عوادث (المرور) لشئون الداخليه

الشئون الخارجيه

الصليب الأجور

رئاسة الجمهورية

وزارة الاوقاف والارشاد

وزارة الثروة السمكية

وزارة الزراعة والري

وزارة الشئون القانونية

وزارة الشباب والرياضة

وزارة الصناعة والتجارة

وزارة الاشغال العامة والطرق

وزارة الخدمة المدنية والتامينات

وزارة الشئون الاجتماعية والعمل

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وزارة الصحة العامة والسكان

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وزارة النقل

وزارة السياحة

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وزارة شئون الداخلية

لإطفاء

لهجرة التلفزيون

لاذاعة

أو أجنبية. 714663402

دبلوم تسويق وعلاقات عامه+مساعد

إداري ،خبره سنتين شبكات ومسئول

جمال، بكالوريوس لغة إنجليزية، دبلوم

تسويق، دبلوم سكرتارية في الكمبيوتر،

خبرة أمين صندوق، يبحث عن أي عمل

في مجال التخصص. 7770044207

ومعلومات إدارية من مودرن أكاديمي

القاهرة، دبلوم في هندسة الشبكات

MCSE ودبلوم MCSA

النفط. 737357853

وشهادة معادلة بكالوريوس من جامعهة

COMPTIA Network، مهارات فی ال Microsoft office، اللغة

الإنجليزية متوسط، أود الإنضمام بفريق

ليسانس أداب E لدية شهادات خبرة في

التجارية والترجمة يرغب في العمل لدى

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• حاصل على بكالورس Eتربية +

مجال العمل الإدارة والمراسلات

منظمة أو شركة. 771913099

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تسويق في الشركة الوطنيه لصناعة

الأسفنج والبلاستيك -دورات النظام

المحاسبي- دوره في التنميه البشريه-

التسويق الإداره- دوره في التخطيط.

• بكالوريوس تسويق وإدارة إنتاج جامعه

العلوم والتكنولوجيا - تعز - خبرة

والترويج وإعداد الخطط الترويجية

• سودانی، بکالوریوس محاسبة خبرة

• خبرة عشرون سنة سائق في شركة

أرمكو والسفارة الامريكية في

الإنجليزية.-771965689

عمل إداري. 700341587

• مدرس متخصص في تدريس اللغة

العربية والإنجليزية - خبرة في مجال

إعطاء دروس خاصة الصف التاسع

والثالث الثانوي وبأسعار مناسبة.

• عبدالله محمد مسعود،تمهیدی ماجستیر

لغة إنجليزية -جامعة صنعاء - 4

سنوات تدريبية في مدارس ومعاهد

لغات. 733496587 - 777584644

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البلد يرغب في العمل في أي هيئة محلية

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التدريس والإشراف التربوي، يرغب في

واسعة في حسابات الشركات وشركات

المقاولات + بكالوريوس لغة إنجليزية.

السعودية، وفي اليمن في مشاريع مياه

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و عالمة الصوفى - خريجة شريعة وقانون

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والتسويقية في مجموعة هائل سعيد

خمس سنوات في البحوث التسويقية

دوره فوتوشوب- دوره في مجال

تعز 770599659

أنعم. 777765309

712500512

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غرفة التحكم. 711439595

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- سيارات مستعملة من كافة الأحجام والموديلات للبيع. حالة جيدة مع سجل صيانة، استخدمت في السفارات والشركات الأجنبية. 714700805
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- مرسيديس ML320 موديل 2000-99 فتحه بأنوراما - أتوماتيك لون فضى -أمريكي - كراسي جلد متحركه شاشات خلفيه-بسعر مغري.

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- للبيع سيارة سوناتا أجرة موديل 777955508 -700198874 -2006

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- 777201079-733677848 • أرض عشاش حدة مساحة 30لبنه عشارى على شارع 12م بصمة الشرق معمده أوراقها في السجل العقاري ومسورة ومبوبة. صنعاء - شارع 45 المسمى شارع اللواء محمد عبدالله

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- منزل مكون من ثمان لبن في شارع الزراعه والسعر مغري. للتواصل: 777726176
- باص 7 راكب نقل 2, سعر مناسب قابل للتفاوض وهو في حاله جيده موديل 1997م. على عبد الغيل ت: 771533817
- شراء هيلوكس غماره جديد وفي حاله جيده خالص من الجمارك وبسعر معقول ومناسب للتواصل: محمد أحمد الطلوفين. 771533817
- للإيجار شقه خلف البنك التجارى بشارع الزبيري عباره عن ثلاث عرف وصاله كبيره مسلح دور ثانى وبسعر مناسب.: محمد شرف 770254854 - 733808087
- للبيع أرض في عشاش حدة مساحة 30 لبنه عشاري على شارع 12م جهة الشرق معمدة أوراقها في السجل العقارى ومسورة ومبوبة 733677848-777201079



• 4 قطط شيرازية عمر 45 يوم، سلالة نقية، ألوان جميلة (أبيض بيج، كراميل) عيون ملونة. 734476002

الفروع : الغيظة: ١٥/٦١٠٠٣٩ - المكلا: ٥٥/٣٠٧٨٠٦ - سيون: ١٥/٤٠٨٣٤٢ - شبوة: (عتق)٢٠٠٧٥٧٠ -عندما نتضح الرؤيا .. فأعلم انها طبحت بمطابع يمن تايمز

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قص هذا الكوبون وارسله إلى صحيفة بمن نابمز على فاكس ١٦٨٢٧ او على صندوق بريد ٢٥٧٩ - صنعاء لمزيد من المعلومات اتصل ب (ت ٢٦٨٦٦١/٢/٣)

.1/27127. وزارة الاتصالات وتقنية المعلومات .1/777727 وزارة الادارة المحلية صنعاء ۱۰٬۳۸۲۶، . 1/7 7 2 . . . A وزارة الاعلام وزارة التخطيط والتعاون الدولي بتك لتعليم الكمييوتر(تركيز عل ف: ۲۰۷٤۱۹ ف . الانترنت، مناهج، تجارة الكترونية) .1/٢0.1.1 عدن ۱۹۹۹۲۲۰۰ وزارة التربية والتعليم .1/404744 شهادة ايزو ١. .1/047918 تعز ۲٥،۳٤٣ ع .1/444. لمكلاء ٢٩٤٧،٣ ٥٠ .1 400555 Infinite Education .1/47.470 £ £ 7 . V 7 . £ £ 0 0 1 1 / V .1/7.7770 NIIT لتعليم الكمبيوتر .1/211719

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فندق میرکیور صنعاء فندق شمر فندق شیراتون فندق موفمبیك	۲۲-۷۲۶۲3۲ ۱، عدن ۲۲۲۸۲۲۲۰ عدن ۷/۵۸۵۲۵۶ ۲۲۷۰۰ ۲۲۲۲۵۵ ۵:۰۰۰۲۵۵	روضة واحة الأطفال	تلفاکس:۲۰۰۰ موبایل: ۷۳٤٥۲۲۲۲٥ ۱۱٤۰۲٦ ۲۱٤٤۳۳ ،
فندق میرکیور صنعاء فندق شمر فندق شیراتون فندق موفمبیك فندق فرساي	۱۲-۷۲۶۲۶۲۰ عدن ۲۲۲۸۲۲۲۰ عدن ۷/۰۵۶۸۲۶ ۲۲۷۰۰ ۵۲:۰۰۰۲۶۰ ۵۵:۰۰۰۲۶۲۰	روضة واحة الأطفال مدرسة ريـنبو	تلفاکس:۲۰۰۰ موبایل: ۷۳٤٥۲۲۲۲۵ ۱۱۶۰۲۳ ، ۲۲۶۶۳۳ ،
فندق میرکیور صنعاء فندق شمر فندق شیراتون فندق موفمبیك فندق فرساي فندق شرساي	۱۰-۱۳۶۶۶۲۱۰ عدن ۱۳۲۸۲۲۲۰ عدن ۱۳۸۵۶۲۶۶ عدن ۱۳۲۶۶۰ ۱۳۶۶۶۰ ۵:۰۰۰۶۶۰ ۲/۲۰۷۶۲۲۲	روضة واحة الأطفال مدرسة ريـنبو مدارس صنعاء الدولية	تلفاکس:۲۰۰۰ مولیل: ۷۲۶۰۲۲۲۰ ۲۰۰۱ : ۱ ۲۲۶۶۲۳ ۲۲۷۰۱۹۱۲
فندق میرکیور صنعاء فندق شمر فندق شیراتون فندق موفمبیك فندق فرساي فندق سبا فندق ریلاکس ان	۱۲-۷۲۶۲۶۲۰ عدن ۲۲۲۸۲۲۲۰ عدن ۷/٥٥٥٨۱۶ عدن ۲۰۷۶۲۰ ۱۳۶۲۶۰ ۵:۰۰۰۶۵ ۲/۱/۷۶۰۲۶	روضة واحة الأطفال مدرسة ريـنبو مدارس صنعاء الدولية مدرسة التركيه الدوليه	تلفاکس:۲۰۰۰ موبایل: ۲۲۶۲۲۰ ۱۹۱۳ - ۱۹۱۳ ۱۹۲۲:۲۲ ۱۳۷۰۱۹۱/۲ ۱۳۷۰۱۹۲۰
فندق ميركيور صنعاء فندق شيراتون فندق موفمبيك فندق فرساي فندق سبأ فندق ريلاكس ان فندق زيلاكس ان	۱۱ ۲۲۹۲۶۲۲ . عدن ۲۲۲۸۲۲۲ ۲ . عدن ۲۲۷۰۰ ۲ . ۲۲۲۰ ۵ . ۵:۰۰۰ ۲ . ۵:۰۰۰ ۲ . ۲۷۲۲۷ ۲ . ۲۷۲۲۷ ۲ . ٤٤٩٨٧١ ۲ .	روضة واحة الأطفال مدرسة ريـنبو مدارس صنعاء الدولية مدرسة التركيه الدوليه مدرسة الماجد اليمنيه	تلفاکس:۲۰۲۰۰ موبایل: ۲۲۲۲۶۰ ۱۹۶۳۰ ۱۹۶۳۰ ۱۹۳۰/۲۲ ۵: ۲۷۰۱۹۲۱ ۱۳۷۰۱۹۲۱
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فندق ميركيور صنعاء فندق شمر فندق شيراتون فندق فرساي فندق ريلاكس ان فندق ريلاكس ان فندق تاج صيدة رزدينس لعالمية للفندقة - صنعاء	۱۰ ۲۶۹۶۲۲۰ ۲۰ ۲۲۲۲۲۲۰ ۲۰ ۲۲۲۲۲۰ ۲۰ ۲۲۲۲۲۰ ۲۰ ۲۲۲۲۲۰ ۲۰	روضة واحة الأطفال مدرسة ريـنبو مدارس صنعاء الدولية مدرسة التركيه الدوليه مدرسة الماجد اليمنيه مدرسة منارات	تلفاکس:۱۳۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰
فندق ميركيور صنعاء فندق شمر فندق موفمبيك فندق فرساي فندق ريلاكس ان فندق ريلاكس ان فندق تاج صيدة رزدينس	۱۲-۷۲۹۲۶ ۱۰ عدن ۲۲۲۸۲۲ ۲۰ عدن ۱۲۲۸۲۲ ۲۰ ۲۲۷۰ ۰۰ ۵۵:۰۰۰۲ ۵۰ ۵۰:۰۰۰۲ ۲۰۲۷ ۲۰ ۲۷۲۷۲ ۲۰۲۲ ۲۰۲۲ ۲۰ ۲۲۲۰۲ ۲۰۲۲ ۲۰۲	روضة واحة الأطفال مدرسة ريـنبو مدارس صنعاء الدولية مدرسة التركيه الدوليه مدرسة الماجد اليمنيه مدرسة منارات	تلفاکس:۱۳۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰۰
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النسيم للسفريات

العالميه للسفريات والسياحه

عدن ۲۲۱۲۷۰ ۰۲

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<u>مطاعم</u>

مطعم ومخبازة الشيبانى (باسم محمد عبده الشيبانى

تلفون: ۱۰٬۹۲۰۰۰ - ۱۰٬۹۲۰۰۰ فاکس: ۹۱۳۷۳۲

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Mohsen Al-Aghbari



By: Shatha Al-Harazi

halid Rajeh, one of the first noticeable faces at change Square, witnessed violence against the antigovernment protesters since January, even prior to the protesters campus.

Although Rajeh is a member of the Islamist Party, Islah, the largest opposition party, he stands on the side of the Independent youth

Khalid's is the tired voice shoutshouting with his exhausted voice?

in what he is doing at change square; in fact one of his brothers was one of "Friday of dignity, March 18" injured. He has now

regime's thugs," said Khalid.

The first Friday before the sit-in at the campus started Khalid and his friend had big clashes with thugs; these were followed by another set of clashes on Saturday that left some of their friends injured. These were the biggest scuffles since they started their marches and that's when it was decided that the Yemeni Revolution needs a sit-in campus.

when we had two clashes with the

"Before the political parties ordered their followers to join the protest we started to organize things down there," said Khalid. "Back then we were just five young people who came together and tried to put to operation the benefits from the Egyptian revolution. That is how we organized the square. The five of us are members of political parties, so we used our organizing skills to organize the protest," he said. Khalid elaborated, "we blocked two roads and left two open for cars. We started to collect money and pay for simple food at night. More people joined in and we contacted our friends and told them we were organized."

Khalid is known for his courage

threatening phone call; that his

stopping "inciting people on the

it by simply marching on to the

Square's stage", Khalid reacted to

stage and sharing the details of the

ting off my head if I left this stage"

He used to work as a camera-

man for a private film producing

ful revolution. It is for this very

at a Medical institute where he is a

third grade student in pharmacy.

Khalid can now recognize the

thugs after the many clashes with

Tahreer Square when the ex-Egyp

tian president stepped down and

Yemenis proceeded to Tahreer

to celebrate the revolution with

far? "At the beginning we used

to march without even obtaining

the party's permission. But then

But what has been achieved thus

Egypt.

them. This stretches back to al-

head would be cut off if he did not

After that night the protesters just grew and the number reached more than 2000. The five members emerged with five committees to organize: financial, security and media amongst other things. Khalid became well-known at the square although he lost his Job. But he had a better one now as he works as a cameraman for Suhil, the main opposition channel. It is this channel that dedicated their time to cover events from Change Square. He also freelances for CNN, Al-Arabia and an Iranian channel.

Khalid documents the Yemeni

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revolution by videos and he makes sure he has the best view for any march or event the protesters are intending. He went as far as renting a room at the fifth floor of a hotel; his rationale was that should the march come under attack he would have the best angle to cover the events. "Some thugs saw me holding the camera from the window so they shot at the window but I managed to escape. But many bullets were found in

Khalid believes that the Yemeni revolution is not only against the regime it's also against ignorance that most Yemenis suffer from. For example, if one tribal sheikh announced his support to the

regime, his fellows will be counted with him even if they support the revolution deep inside. "Only by spreading peace and knowledge will we counter ignorance" said Khaled.

Khaled said no matter how events change, the protesters will remain peaceful. "March 18th is evidence, he says. Nothing can be harder than that day, but we only replied with rocks and nothing else," he said.

"The youth and the party have come to one decision but earlier on the party tried to control the youth. That tactic was indeed wrong," said Khalid whilst speaking of his own party, the Islah party.

whenever they disagree with the

ing, chanting, "people want to withdraw the Regime". The gathered crowd used used to enquire; who is this guy dying on the stage

His entire family supports him

the hotel," Khalid explained.

