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## Harmful substance sprayed at protesters

#### By: Ali Saeed and Shatha Al-Harazi

SANA'A, Oct 26 - Yemen's security forces used an unknown substance, mixed with water, to disperse protesters in Sana'a on Tuesday morning. The protesters were attempting to cross the red lines off Change Square and in front of Sana'a University, according to eyewitnesses.

"When the march reached the fish market (southeast of Change Square), government security forces used water cannons to spray protesters with a strange water, which led to some protesters being admitted to the field hospital with serious burns on their faces and backs," said Waleed Al-Amari, a protester who attended the march.

Around 15 people were taken to the field hospital with serious burns, and some are still under treatment, according to Al-Amari. The field hospital – a non-governmental entity - stated on its Facebook page that "three cases involved infection by white phosphorus, while over 200 cases were infected with other different, unknown substances".

Al-Amari, who has been camping in the square demanding the removal of President Saleh for around nine months, explained that a similar mix of liquids was used against protesters on the 18th and the 19th of September, when security forces fired water cannons filled with sewage, which caused serious wounds among protesters.

However, Abd Al-Rasheed Al-Faqih, a human rights activist who often verifies such claims by



This the third time security forces have unleashed unknown substances on protesters.

protesters and medical workers in water mixed with other materials, the field hospital, told the Yemen or possibly sewage water," said Times that "physicians who have political affiliations and work in the field hospital sometimes issue rapid judgments over the sort of substance used, and without checking.

"It is difficult to say accurately what sort substance was used. It might be white phosphorus or Al-Faqih. He added that a female doctor at the field hospital told him that some protesters had sustained first- and second-degree burns due to the use of mixed water against protesters.

Yemen's uprising erupted last February, with demands for an end to Saleh's 33-year-long regime. Hundreds of peaceful protesters have been shot dead and thousands injured throughout the nine-monthlong nationwide protests, according to Amnesty International.

Around 152 protesters were killed between September 18 and October 25, according to the field hospital. Four of them were children.



YOUR RING TONE

## **Stray shells kill** three in old city

#### By: Nadia Al-Sakkaf

SANA'A, Oct. 26 - Three men were killed on Wednesday morning when stray shells fell in the old city of Sana'a. The shelling came from the Al-Hasaba area, which has become a conflict zone since the Al-Ahmar tribal leaders, who live in the area, sided with protestors trying to

oust President Saleh's regime. The shelling hit several areas in the old city, including Al-Alami, Al-Tabari and Haraqan squares. The Shoub area adjacent to National the Security offices, headed by Ammar Saleh President Saleh's nephew, was also hit.

Officials from National the Security could not be contacted verify to whether they were targeted, though official media accused the defected army and Al-Ahmar tribes of attacks citizens.

At the same time, opposition media is denying this and saying that the attacks are coming from the

Republican Guard and other state security units.

Two of the men were killed in Al-Arami square and the third in Al-Haraqan Square while three civilians and one soldier were injured in Shoub area. The fifth floor of the Ministry of Endowment was also hit as well as a number of adjacent buildings.



This is the first time the armed conflict has killed in the old city, which is a UNESCO World Heritage site.

> UN Secretary General's special adviser on Yemen, Jamal Benomar, and the Gulf countries initiative representative Abdulalteef Al-Zaiani are said to arrive Yemen soon to follow-up on the UN Resolution 2014 that was issued last Friday demanding Saleh to surrender power.

> A ceasefire which was announced on Tuesday afternoon was supposed to pave the way for this visit and allow political dialogue on the grounds of the resolution, however the armed conflict resumed later that day making international mediation far more difficult.



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#### **AROUND THE NATION**



## Women cry for tribal protection

#### By: Amira Al-Arasi

SANA'A, Oct. 26 – Women burned their veils as they called on Yemeni tribes to protect them from attacks by the regime yesterday.

Around 800 women, some travelling from as far as Taiz 200 kilometers south west of Sana'a, burned veils and headscarves at 60 Meter Street on Wednesday.

They read a statement signed by women's alliances in Change Square before starting the fire and calling on the "honorable proud men of all Yemeni tribes" to come to their aid and end the killing of women by the regime.

Yesterday's protest came 10 days after a woman from Taiz was killed when the Republican Guards attacked an opposition protest on October 16. She is said to be the first female protestor killed since the uprising began and was shot in the head by snipers because of her political activities. Two weeks ago in Sana'a two women who were thought to be part of a mixed protest were shot in the legs by proregime snipers.

Asma'a Al-Uthari, a campaigner in Change Square, said that they began organizing this event after Aziza Al-Mahajri was killed in Taiz. The women collected nearly 400,000 veils in Taiz, which they brought to Sana'a. They wanted to call on the tribal sheikhs to help them against the regime that has killed and suppressed women and children. The

protest started at 11am on Wednesday and the burning began at noon.

"This is not a message to only the tribal sheikhs but to also all the free people in the world. We want to tell them that Yemeni women have been attacked and killed," she said. Al-Uthari added that the cover the regime has used to hide itself should be revealed.

The burning of the veil in Yemeni tradition is a cry for help used by women in tribal culture to complain of injustice. It is supposed to move men to action when they see that the women have been violated, with the veil or headscarf symbolizing women's honor.

This custom obliges the women to actually remove their veil or headscarf because she then exposes her symbolic hidden shame. However, the women in yesterday's protest did not remove their veils but instead brought additional veils to be burnt.

"What happened today is a ridiculous mockery that depicted women as helpless and weak while we are strong and revolutionary," said Wameed Shaker, a member of the Tahaluf Watan Women's Collation for Peace. She said that by doing this, the women had sidelined their role, which should have been in the forefront of action rather than crying for help.

"This is also a call for violence and war, because it is a call to the tribes as if saying 'come and protect me no matter what you do',"



Some 800 women burned their veils as they called on tribal leaders to protect them from armed attack.

she said, adding that the protest should have been more modern and civilized. While she watched protest and tried to convince the women not to go ahead with it, she heard the surrounding men mocking it and making fun of Yemen's women, added Shaker.

## Fresh violence follows Saleh and **Muhsen truce**

#### By: Shatha Al-Harazi

SANAA, Oct.26 – Loud explosions were heard in the capital following Tuesday's announcement of a truce between the conflicting parties.

According to eyewitnesses, the explosions continued in residential areas including Rubata Street, Hail Street, Al-Zubairi Street and Sofan Street.

"We kept hearing the explosions getting stronger and stronger; we can tell if it is close or far after months of suffering this situation," said Ahmed Al-Solwi, a resident of Hail Street.

The alleged truce between President Ali Abdullah Saleh's forces and the defected Major General of the First Armored Division, Ali Mohsen, began at 1500 on Tuesday, according to a statement from the Yemen Embassy in Washington.

"Announcement of a ceasefire in the capital city of Sana'a following weeks of destructive and deadly clashes. The implementation of the truce began today at 1500 hours local time, Sana'a," it read.



Shelling occured just hours after the ceasefire was agreed.

the statement.

"Furthermore, law enforcement units will be positioned at public installations and detained individuals will be released. The truce announcement has included a clear timeline for the protesters told the Yemen Times practical implementation of demilitarization process."

shelling so the truce ended.

As a result of the lack of transparency, the public lost their trust in any information they get on the military level.

Receiving news of the ceasefire,

## regime-opposition conflict

**Taiz: further deaths in** 

#### By: Emad Al-Saqqaf

TAIZ, Oct. 25 – Taiz witnessed heavy shelling in the ongoing conflict between the Republican Guard and the armed opposition throughout Tuesday, starting from the early hours of the morning. Eight people died, including a child and two women, while 25 received injuries.

The opposition initiated attacks on government and military locations around Gurra Mountain, where the state army has a military camp. Seven soldiers were killed in the conflict and seven more injured before the opposition was successful in taking over the mountain.

"The defenders of the revolution were able to gain control of Gurra Mountain and seize a number of the regime's military vehicles and equipment," said a media spokesperson from Freedom Square in Taiz. "We combed the Zaid Al-Moshiki residential compound

and removed all elements of state security."

He added that the armed opposition was able to confiscate two tanks that were stationed at the Health Institution and Al-Thawra Hospital.

Civilian causalities were caused mostly by the Republican Guard, wholaunchedtheirattacksrandomly against several locations in the city, including residential areas where armed opposition members are thought to be hiding.

Meanwhile, a security official at the Republican Guard installation in Taiz said: "The militias of the Muslim Brotherhood attacked the residential areas the same way they attacked health institutions, using all types of light and heavy weaponry

people reported dead are only the ones whose bodies had been accounted for. "There may be others under the rubble of destroyed houses; many of the injured people are in critical condition and we could lose them any minute," he said.

The battles for control of Gurra Mountain in the west of Taiz have been ongoing for the past two months, in large part over because of its strategic location overlooking the city. The mountain includes a historical monument called Al-Qahera [Cairo] Fort that was renovated by UNESCO two years ago. Currently this historical monument is being used as an active military post - as it was centuries ago - and parts of it have already been damaged in the present conflict

According to eyewitnesses, the regime's retaliation caused extreme damage in residential areas. Dr. Akram Abdulqader, from the field hospital in Taiz, said that the eight

Most residents on or near the

mountain have abandoned their homes, while others continue to remain at risk as they have nowhere else to go.

## **Eight Syrians die in Yemeni** warplane crash

#### By: Ali Saeed

SANA'A, Oct 26 – The governments of Syria and Yemen have confirmed that eight Syrian technicians died when a military cargo plane crashed on Tuesday.

The incident happened while landing at Al-Anad Military Base in Lahj, south Yemen and a Yemeni pilot also died, while his assistant was injured.

However, Yemen's army forces loyal to the revolution said in statement on Wednesday that the eight died Syrian technicians were in fact pilots. It claimed they were were brought from Syria to Yemen to quell the Yemen opposition forces after native pilots refused orders to shoot their own people.

The Syrian and Yemeni regimes claimed that the incident was a simple accident. However, the defected armored division in Yemen claimed that the Yemeni pilot, Abd Al-Aziz Al-Shami who flew the

plane had shut down the engines before landing at the military base. "The eight Syrian pilots arrived in Sana'a on Monday October 24 and after desperate attempts from the regime to move the coming Syrians to Al-Anad military base, Yemeni pilot Abd Al-Aziz Al-Shami volunteered but secretly told colleagues that they [Syrian pilots] would not reach their destination," read the statement by the Yemen's defected army.

"And on Tuesday night the revolutionary pilot Al-Shami flew the plane and shut it down in Al-Sabiha area of Lahj and the Syrian pilots were killed," the statement said.

Abdo Al-Janadi, Yemen's deputy minister of information stated that this was a falsehood by the defected First Armored Division and that "the opposition uses such allegations to gain the public and international support."

"These were just technicians who came to Yemen according to a cooperation agreement between the Arab states," Al-Janadi said. "The Yemeni air force has not been used yet against the revolution, the defected army or the tribal forces."

A solider from Yemen's elite army the Republican Guards [commanded by president Saleh's son], who requested anonymity, said that Saleh's forces have been using warplanes against the opposition tribal forces in Arhab, north Sana'a.

And the tribal forces in Arhab who have been battling Saleh's loyal forces since last May have shut down a Yemeni military plane late last September by anti-aircraft weapons.

The bodies of dead Syrians and the Yemeni pilot as well as other Yemeni military officers who were on the board during the accident are still in a hospital in Aden, Syrian according to local sources.

The statement also mentioned that a designated committee would oversee the removal of checkpoints and barricades.

"The accord highlights the importance of protecting the lives of innocent civilians by ending the armed occupation of public and private properties. In order to restore peace in the capital, armed factions are to depart the city," said

However, the ceasefire does not appear to have been implemented; just a few hours later the violence resumed in Hassaba and Sofan.

Asker Zuail, Ali Mohsen's spokesman, denied the statement. However, a source in the Division, who asked to remain anonymous, told the Yemen Times that there had been a ceasefire but the Division's allies had not known and continued

that the truce was a ruse to win time for Saleh forces to prepare for a bigger assault.

"No one knows the truth, the truce could last for two hours or two days, but for sure they will get back to fight soon" said activist Atiaf Al-Wazeer.

Before the "ceasefire" there was heavy shelling on both Tuesday and Wednesday with at least 21 deaths and many more injured in clashes and shelling around the city.

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- Keep the vehicle in good working shape and maintain the required records
- Report any vehicle damage or malfunction
- Undertake the delivery of mail, materials, and equipment.
- Undertake other duties as assigned by the supervisor

#### **Required Qualifications**

- 1. Yemeni national
- 2. Completed High School education
- 3. Excellent driving skills, a safe driving record and a current valid driving license
- 4. Previous driving working experience with NGOs or other IOs desired
- 5. Some knowledge of English
- 6. Ability to work effectively in a fast-paced, stressful environment. Must be flexible, willing to perform other duties and work irregular hours.

#### Title: Early Childhood Development Specialist

Location: Sana'a

**Terms:** Full Time Position

#### **General Description of Role**

Under the general supervision of the Project Manager, the incumbent will hold a new position and be responsible for activities related to early childhood development in community based day care centres in the refugee communities of Sana'a under a UNHCR funded Community Services Assistance to Refugees Project.

#### Main Responsibilities

- Develop and carry out training and orientation sessions for carers, mothers and outreach workers to support refugee community-based day care centres for refugees
- Develop and provide operational plans and develop short-term plans to support 30 community based day care centres
- Implement objectives and milestones as jointly determined with the project manager
- Serve as an expert in the field of infant/toddler development; program implementation and provide expertise in Early Childhood Development to IRD
- Be accountable for achieving results described in the short-term plans developed in coordination with the project manager
- Conduct regular monitoring of community based day care centres in various field locations in Sana'a
- Identify and implement appropriate ways to support refugee community based day care centres
- Map refugee community based day care centres around Sana'a
- Register children attending the daycare centres
- Collect, report and analyse data for project evaluation
- · Perform any other duties that the supervisor may assign

#### **Required Qualifications**

- 1. Good knowledge of English
- 2. Previous work experience with children
- 3. Previous experience in health and childhood development, preferably with an NGO
- 4. Ability to work effectively in a fast-paced, stressful environment. Must be flexible, willing to perform other duties and work irregular hours.
- 5. Strong interpersonal and cross-cultural skills and 'team player' attitude

Candidates are requested to apply on-line with their CV and cover letter at: **irdyemen@irdglobal.org** by **28<sup>th</sup> February**, **2010**.



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#### **Position Summary: PROGRAM MANAGER**

The qualified candidate will have at least 5 years experience in the management of food distribution including, baseline survey, training of trainers, nutrition analysis, procurement and delivery of food packages. Persons fluent in both Arabic and English are preferred.

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The successful candidate should have at least five years experience in nutritional analysis, especially childhood nutrition, and experience in collection of household nutrition information using RRA and baseline survey techniques. Experience training survey team-members as well as developing relevant training materials is essential for the position. The successful candidate will also be familiar with both WHO and government of Yemen nutrition standards. M.D. is preferred.

#### **Application Process:**

Qualified and interested candidates should send full CV, cover letter, a copy of the highest academic degree achieved, and three professional references to *ri.hr.yemen@ri.org* 

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Applications should be received on or before Thursday 3 November 2011. Only short listed candidates will be contacted.





#### **FEATURE**

## Waiting for Saleh's help: Three years in a tent



"Mr. President, no-one respects your orders. My cause is still waiting to be resolved." Naji Mohammed Al-Qulaifi has been living in a tent with his four young children since April 2008.

#### By: Shatha Al-Harazi

en meters from a gas station in Haddah Street, central Sana'a, a man has been camping in a tent with his four children since April 2008.

Naji Mohammed Al-Qulaifi is seeking justice from the state; he chose his new home of the last three years because the gas station is close to one of the homes of president Ali Abdullah Saleh.

"My cause began before any revolution," said Al-Qulaifi from his camp at the gas station. He believes that if Saleh had responded to his cause, the protests demanding that the president step down would not have happened.

Many camp in tents these days seeking rights and justice, but al-Qulaifi has a different cause, he did not join the people in their antigovernment sit-ins, and he claims he began the idea of camping to gain his rights.

In Yemen you might hear people complain that the president has full authority over in every element in the country – even people's daily lives. But although he might give orders to hire someone, return land or settle a dispute, his orders are often ignored by officials – as Al-Qulaifi's story proves.

#### Saleh's orders ignored

He told the Yemen Times that he had twice received orders from the president to turn around the injustices he and his family have faced – but each time the order came to nothing.

From his tent covered in appeals and objections, just 10 meters from a queue of 15 cars at the petrol station, Al-Qulaifi told the Yemen Times his story.

"I pray to God and cry every night to find justice," said Al-Qulaifi. "I have 'lost' two daughters and sons and above all my wife since this all

started".

Al-Qulaifi's story began after a car accident in 2001 while working as the director of roads and constrictions in Otma district. While injured, members of the local council of Otma took advantage of his absence to build illegal buildings. Two months later when Al-Qulaifi returned to work and found out, he complained to the local council. But following his complaint, the local council suspended him temporarily in 2002 and permanently in 2003.

According to Al-Qulaifi, the local council tricked him into going to the local jail to receive some papers to resume work, but when he arrived he was arrested. "When I entered the jail they closed the doors. I asked why and they said 'you are under arrest'," said Al-Qulaifi. He spent three months in jail without a warrant. On the second morning after his arrest, security forces broke into his house. "When I got out of jail I found out that security forces were occupying my yard and had built a compound."

After his release, Al-Qulaifi raised the cause with Rashad Al-Alimi, the interior minister at the time. Eventually Al-Alimi decided that Al-Qulaifi could have 10 meters of his own 30 meter yard returned to him, with 20 meters remaining as a security compound.

"My wife died of a heart attack after the security forces broke into my house, with no respect for the women inside." His sons then decided to smuggle two of his older daughters to their tribe, fearing their reputations after security occupied his yard. They left him with the four younger children, aged between four and seven, to deter him from using violence to get revenge.

And Al-Qulaifi did succeed in raising attention for his cause; twice the president stopped as he

passed by on his way home during Ramadan last year. He gave him a signed order to resolve the situation but it was not implemented.

In a bid to put an end to his protest, Al-Qulaifi was again was taken to jail – with his four children – at the beginning of this year, where they were kept for a week.

"Many police cars came took him by force when took him," said Mohammed Al-Jabry, the workshop owner at the petrol station. "At first he was resisting with his Jumbya but they managed to take it from him."

However, Al-Qulaifi has vowed to stay where he is until his cause is solved either by a new government or by president Saleh. He still receives his salary of 40,000 YR but wants his house and job back, and compensation.

**Formal system is 'ineffective'** A report by the The Hague Institute for Internationalization of Law last year found that many of Al-Qulaifi's concerns reflect the most important legal issues for Yemenis. However, it added that the formal system is seen as costly, overloaded, corrupt, inaccessible and ineffective. "This is why most Yemenis give up on claiming their rights through the official channels and resort to other means whether through mediation or arbitration or using any form of protest," it said.

And while Al-Qulaifi's might be extreme, it is yet another example of the corruption and lack of a rule of law, endemic in Yemen.

Last year Yemen ranked 146 out of 178 countries in the world corruption index, compiled each yearbyTransparencyInternational. On a scale of 1-10, with 10 being the most transparent, Yemen scored 2.2. This was a fall of eight places since 2009 when Yemen ranked 156 – and it remains to be seen how nine months of unrest has affected the situation this year.

Intensive army recruitment feeds ongoing conflict

Despite recent news of a truce between the state security and splinter army, recruitment of new soldiers from both sides has not stopped. Thousands of new recruits, mostly driven by poverty and many of whom are children, are being prepared for a feared civil war.



Arahab district on the outskirts of the city where regular battles are fought with the Salafi tribes.

The second concentrated presence is in Taiz, where the armed opposition is most active. Sources from the city's armed opposition said that the five thousand new recruits of Al-Ahmar's division are set to back up the armed conflict in Taiz. "It is supposed to be the Benghazi of Yemen. From there we will take over Sana'a," said the source.

Recruits on both sides receive minimal training before they are forces, the army's official media as well as the website of the Ministry of Defense warned that it was illegal and that any men recruited by anti-government forces would not be acknowledged by the state and should not consider themselves officially enrolled.

#### Child soldiers

Several international organizations highlighted their concern that many of new recruits are children. In an April report this year, Human Rights Watch stated that it had encountered dozens of armed

rebellion in the north were included in the UN's 2011 list of shame report. Each year the Secretary-General lists those parties to conflict who recruit and use, kill and maim or commit rape and other forms of sexual violence against children in conflict.

The UN listing stated that 15 percent of the pro-government militia were children compared to 20 percent of the Houthi rebels. While the conflict in Sa'ada, north

rebellion in the north were included in the UN's 2011 list of shame report. Each year the Secretary-General lists those parties to conflict who

> Despite the UN highlighting the risk of child soldiers being used in Yemen, the White House issued a memorandum allowing military funding to Yemen, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and Chad last month – all of which are on the UN's list of shame for recruiting child-soldiers.

Estimates predict that between 15 and 20 percent of the men involved in Yemen's armed combat are under 18.

#### By: Nadia Al-Sakkaf & Mohammed bin Sallam

rmed recruitment on both sides of the conflict has reached an unprecedented level this month with thousands of young men, many under 18, have been joining the ranks of both the official and the splinter army since April.

A source from within the defected First Armored Division said, on condition of anonymity, that at least five thousand young men had signed up during October alone.

Similarly, a source in the state's Central Security said that in anticipation of a heavy armed conflict, President Saleh had issued orders on October 18 to initiate the recruitment of thousands of Yemenis. The source said that at least 12,000 new soldiers needed to be recruited before the end of the month. The new soldiers will be recruited mostly from the governorates and deployed both in Sana'a and conflict areas elsewhere.

On Tuesday young unemployed men lined up outside the Central Security offices in Ibb city hoping to be enlisted as part of the 2,000 sliders needed to be recruited from that area. A local from Ibb said that Brigade Rashad Mutahar Al-Masri, Central Security Commander and son of Interior Minister Mutahar Al-Masri had ignored a number of recruitment requirements so as to reach his target as soon as possible.

Currently, most state army units are in Sana'a governorate, with strong focus on the three Republican Guard camps in the

sent off to the battle grounds. Bakeel Mohammed, a fresh graduate from university and one of the new recruits in the splinter army, said they had a six-day-in-camp training before given a rifle and asked to join the fight. "But I am not doing this for the money but because I am tired of this regime and believe that a peaceful way for ending it is no longer possible," he said.

"He suddenly disappeared from home after telling his sisters that he is joining the defected army," said his panicked mother. "This is my son whom I raised and nurtured, how can he throw himself into the danger just like that?"

Many of the new recruits in the splinter army have had close association with either the Eman University headed by Abdulmajid Al-Zindani, an alleged AQAP member.

"My son was doing his masters degree at the Eman University in Sana'a when I heard the news that he was killed by the state army," said the father of Mahdi Abdulghani, who joined the ranks of the splinter army this month and died in armed conflict on October 8. "He was supposed to graduate and have a life, not die for an unclear battle. Even then, the army that recruited him did not take the effort to provide for his burial and funeral service. Is that how they reward their men?" questioned Abdulghani's father.

Commenting on the increased recruitment by the opposition

soldiers who appeared to be younger than 18 in Sana'a since unrest began in February.

"On April 12, Human Rights Watch interviewed 20 soldiers in Sana'a who gave their ages as 14, 15, and 16, and said they had been serving in the army for one to two years," said the report.

The same report stated that six officers from the First Armored Division told Human Rights Watch that the unit allowed the recruitment of 15-year-olds and occasionally makes "exceptions" by recruiting younger children.

Most of the state's newly recruited youth within Sana'a were allocated to the various checkpoints within the city and at its entrance points.

"At the check point a very young man – I would not give him more than 16 years – stopped me very arrogantly and checked my car in an unprofessional manner," said Fathi Abdu, a resident in Sana'a. "He didn't seem to know what he was doing, but was enjoying the power he had to stop people and make them wait."

Ali al-Sayyaghi, a recruitment officer at the Ministry of Defense, told IRIN, the UN's news agency, that some new recruits looked younger than the date of birth on their ID cards, but said the ID card was "the only reliable document for determining the age of an applicant".

Moreover, the pro-government tribal militia and the Houthi



#### VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

UNDP Office is seeking qualified Yemeni Nationals for the following vacant position with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) :

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## **Erratum**

The Yemen Times would like to apologize to the Sheba Center for Strategic Studies and its political researcher, Aysh Awas for an error in an interview, published on Thursday 20 October, 2011 issue No. 1513 page 4 and 5.

The Yemen Times unintentionally but incorrectly wrote that the Sheba Center for Strategic Studies was a research institution run by the national security. However, the center is in fact an independent nonprofit organization dedicated to research in Yemen.





# The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, article 1





7

يولر جهيع للناس لأحر لر

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وفي أروعليه أن يعامل



'All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood'. The Universit Description of Human Nights, which 1





#### **OPINION**



## **Political power that comes** from the bottom up

By: Louise W. Knight chicagotribune.com

nen three womwere named recently to share this year's Nobel Peace Prize, well-wishers said: Isn't it wonderful that women are being honored? And the news stories all led with their gender. I heard an NPR reporter say giddily that it marked a "celebration of women!"

The Nobel Peace Prize Committee itself emphasized the gender of the awardees, so the reportorial enthusiasm is understandable. But, to me, there is a second, equally important message - that these three leaders sought to end tyranny and relied on the political power that comes from the bottom up to do so. In the two countries they come from, Liberia and Yemen, authoritarian government has long been the rule. In Yemen it still is.

Consider Tawakkul Karman. A Yemeni journalist, she first protested publicly when a corrupt tribal chief with close ties to the Saleh regime evicted a group of villagers from their land. Soon she was leading weekly protests through the organization she co-founded, Women Journalists Without Chains, and her efforts against injustice broadened to include women's rights. And when the Arab Spring came, Karman was there, ready to be a leader in the nonviolent wing of the Yemeni fight to end Saleh's tyrannical rule, a role she continues to fill at great risk to her life.

Or consider Leymah Gbowee. A social worker by training, she wit-

nappings to make child soldiers, rape, death – and in 2002 pleaded with women to organize across the ethnic and religious divisions that the war was exacerbating and to call for the fighting to stop. Naming their group The Women of Liberia Mass Action for Peace, the women rallied daily in nonviolent demonstrations at the fish market in Monrovia; then they petitioned the corrupt and tyrannical leader Charles Taylor to begin peace negotiations. When those talks stalled, the women's response, captured in the unforgettable documentary, "Pray the Devil Back to Hell," was to peacefully surround the building where the men were meeting and refuse to allow them to leave until they reached an agreement, which they finally did. Gbowee is now executive director of the Women Peace and Security Network Africa, based in Accra, Ghana.

horrors of Liberia's civil war - kid-

The third winner, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, became president of Liberia after Taylor was forced from office and democratic elections became possible. A longtime political leader, she stood up repeatedly against various corrupt and authoritarian regimes, and was repeatedly imprisoned or forced to flee the country. Maintaining her faith in the people and in democracy, Sirleaf became the nation's first woman president in 2006 with the fierce support of fish-market activists, and she has spent the years since then rebuilding the war-torn country, although the economy remains in bad shape. Her re-election depends on the results of a runoff election on Nov. 8.

To be sure, Sirleaf is an elected nessed women's suffering from the official, not a community organizer

like Gbowee and Karman. But her reliance on the people to give her power – albeit through the vote – is the same, and so is her commitment to justice and her courage in defying tyranny.

Often in recent years the Nobel Peace Prize Committee has given the prize to a person or people who, because they faced immediately daunting odds in their grassroots efforts to correct the abuses of power, could benefit from having their hands strengthened as they wrestled with history. One senses that intention here. We think of opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi in Myanmar, who received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1991, and Kenyan conservationist Wangari Maathai, who received it in 2004. And, yes, they are women, but that was not why they received the prize.

In awarding the prize this year, the Nobel Peace Prize Committee once again celebrates leaders who understand that the people themselves - the 99 percent, you might say – can use nonviolent methods to challenge those whose abuse of power leads to injustice. Every nation needs such leaders, whether they are women or men, and whether the tyrants they challenge are heads of state or, perhaps, economic tyrants. Such leaders often come to the public's attention during sit-in demonstrations. We Americans should keep our eyes open as we watch, or join, various grass-roots expressions of the popular will. There may be a Nobel Peace Prize winner in the making.

Louise W. Knight, of Evanston, is the author of "Jane Addams: Spirit in Action.'



By Hajjaj



## Washington's long hand

#### **By: James Petras Al-Ahram Weekly online**

he killing of Anwar Al-Awlaki, a US citizen, in Yemen by a CIA drone missile on September 30 has been publicised by the mass media, US President Barack Obama and the usual experts on Al-Qaeda as "a major blow to the jihadist network founded by Osama bin Laden". US officials called Al-Awlaki "the most dangerous figure in Al-Qaeda", according to the London Financial Times at the beginning of October.

There is ample evidence to suggest that the publicity surrounding the killing of Al-Awlaki has greatly exaggerated his political importance and is an attempt to cover up the declining influence of the US in the Islamic world. The US State De- munity from US Navy Seal assaults partment's declaration of a major victory serves to exaggerate US military capacity to defeat its adversaries. The assassination serves to justify Obama's arbitrary use of death squads to execute overseas US critics and adversaries by executive fiat, denying the accused elementary judicial protections. Given the paucity of evidence demonstrating Al-Awlaki's political and ideological influence among the mass movements in North Africa, the Middle East or Asia, the US intelligence agencies claim his "real influence was among Englishspeaking jihadi, some of whom he groomed personally to carry out attacks on the US." In other words, Washington's casting Al-Awlaki as an "important threat" revolves around his speeches and writings, since he had no operational role in organising suicide bomb attacks -or at least no concrete evidence has been presented up to now.

pect" he was involved in the plot that dispatched bombs in cargo aircraft from Yemen to Chicago in October 2010. US intelligence claims he provided a "theological justification" via e-mail for US army Major Nidal Malik's killing of 13 people at the Fort Hood military base. In other words, like many US philosophical writers and legal experts such as Princeton University's Michael Walzer and Harvard's Alan Dershowitz, Al-Awlaki discussed "just wars" and the "right" of violent action. If political writings and speeches of publicists are cited by an assassin as the bases for their actions, should the White House execute leading US Islamophobes like Marilyn Geller and Daniel Pipes, cited as inspiration by Norwegian mass murderer Anders Behring Brevik? Or does their Zionist affiliation provide them with imand drone missiles? Even assuming that the unsubstantiated "suspicions" of the CIA, the British agency MI6 and the Al-Qaeda "experts" are correct and Al-Awlaki had a direct or indirect hand in "terrorist action" against the US, these activities were absurdly amateurish and abject failures, certainly not a serious threat to security. The "underwear bomber" Omar Farouk Abdel-Mutallab's effort to ignite bomb materials on a flight to Detroit in December 2009 is one example. Likewise, the bombs dispatched in cargo aircraft from Yemen to Chicago in October 2010 were another bungled job.

bomb attack. He merely served to refer Abdel-Mutallab to the Al-Qaeda organisation.

Clearly, Al-Awlaki was a minor figure in Yemen's political struggles.

He was a propagandist of little influence in the mass movements during the "Arab Spring". He was an inept recruiter of English- speaking would-be bombers. The claims that he planned and "hatched" two bomb plots, reported earlier this month in the Financial Times, are refuted by the confession of one bomber and the absence of any corroboratory evidence regarding the failed cargo bombs.

The mass media inflates the importance of Al-Awlaki to the stature of a major Al-Qaeda leader and subsequently his killing as a "major psychological blow" to worldwide jihadists. This claim has no substance. But the puff pieces do have a very important propaganda purpose. Worse still, the killing of Al-Awlaki provides a justification for extra-judicial state assassinations of ideological critics of Anglo-American leaders engaged in bloody colonial wars. Let us be absolutely clear what the larger implications are of political murder by executive fiat. If the president can order the murder of a dual American-Yemeni citizen abroad on the basis of his ideological- theological beliefs, what is to stop him from ordering the same in the US? If he uses arbitrary violence to compensate for diplomatic failure abroad, what is to stop him from declaring a "heightened internal security threat" in order to suspend remaining freedoms at home and to round up critics?

## The fall of power of arms/cash and the rise of the people's power

**By: Benyameen Noone Ben Avram** 

he events that took place in Yemeni cities and towns starting by the great popular presence in the Oct 7 Friday mass and in the Oct 14 Friday masses ending in the million strong anti-regime march in Sana'a on Oct 15 is the reflection of the title

GPC is very convinced that thuggish behavior has added to its woes and will mean only that the party has to bend for public demands or follow its founder's fate, unless defected general Mohsin comes to the rescue as always by acting stupid.

Even such a stupid act may not mean much since the people know now that Mohsin has only acted at moments when the ruling group was in a bad need for such actions. of few tribes. It is time to honor If GPC moderates needed a political miracle to act in the right direction then they already have one if they want to take the side of the nation and stay on but this is their last chance and nothing will save their fate if they waste it. The rest of the world is in the same boat with GPC and needs to act now in support of a prompt removal of Saleh and installing a new leadership that is willing to listen to the youth. When the masses are betraved and ignored by the free world, their frustration would lead to the rise of violent radical alternatives. These alternatives will not be tribal or Muslim Brother ones but rather AQAP, Al-Houthis and the many micro groups spreading all over the place. The era of corruption is gone and can never be sustained while any effort to do so will neither keep it nor please the majority. It is in the interest of all including the Saudis to recognize this as a fact and act

accordingly if any war on radicalism is to be won.

The only side that will emerge winner in such a war is this public spirit of change that needs good leadership in order to win a way forward. It is time to focus all efforts on one path in Yemen that leads to civil state, progress, reconciliation and a system without Saleh and family or great influence the power of the people not of the

Breaking through a barrier after another the declared march – said to be three km long – reached the end point declaring that the power of the people is never to be defeated. The names given to the last two Fridays masses also proved that the Yemeni public opinion is fixed and clear and by honoring Al-Hamdi and the Oct Revolution, they are honoring the civil state project and the social justice.

Amidst micro wars and through deployments of security, military and thugs Yemenis of Sana'a marched demanding Saleh's departure sustaining deaths and injuries and provoking demonstrations all over the country against brutality even in areas that were loval to Saleh until the morning of Oct 15. Simply the youth and those who came to their call have finally signed the certificate that declares the 33 years long ruler as politically dead.

leader or the group.

Muslim Brothers and Ali Mohsin are resorting to the old tactics and spoiling the peaceful nature of the marches by sending troops in front and by changing the declared routes causing a split among the youth. This is again a gift for Saleh that provide him with a blood line in what he is still representing guns and divided men with toys the military man who occupied the political hill in Jul, 17, 1987.

On the side the politically dead Saleh - shocked by the cold but shaky attitudes of his political circle - called a joint military and security meeting in an attempt to invest his last resort mainly by creating fear amid the remaining ranks of the military and the security. His speech was the most confused and confusing ever, which makes it very urgent to take the actions needed to isolate him further.

The intelligence agencies "sus-

If anything, the Yemeni AQAP's hapless operational planning has served to highlight its technical incompetence.

In fact, according to Abdel-Mutallab's own admission, published on the US TV channel NBC News at the time, Al-Awlaki played no role in the planning or execution of the

The writer is a former professor of sociology at Binghamton University, New York.

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### Mothers in kitchens support Yemen's revolution

By: Ali Saeed

ulook Mohamed, mother of six in the city of Hodeida, cooks a lunch using cardboard for her children under high temperatures and with no electricity, but she is steady in her position toward Yemen's revolu-

tion against Ali Abdullah Saleh's 33-year regime and says "victory is approaching".

"The cardboard is my cooking gas, and my fan too. The regime switched off the power and made the gas disappear, think-ing that this would change our minds about the revolution. But in fact, no: this just makes us more resistant," Mohamed said.

When Yemen's uprising began last February, her son, a 2nd year university student studying economics at the University of Hodeida, was among 50 people who initially set up the antigovernment protest camp in Hodeida, remaining up to now one of the leading activists at the square.

Despite her fear that her son could be killed by pro-government thugs or security forces during marches against the regime, she still prepares cakes and other homemade foods for her son and his colleagues at Freedom Square in Ho-

cause of the repression and injustice in my area," she said. "I had to be silent otherwise, they would hurt me more. I couldn't speak my mind about wrongdoings, or they would intimidate me.'

However, her loyalty to the revolution has made her vulnerable to harmful rumors by Saleh sup-



Yemeni women have been playing a significant role in the peaceful revolution by supplying food to protesters and volunteering as security guards at women's their tents last February, she checkpoints out of Change Square.

"I stood with this revolution be- ticipating with men in protests, whereas in fact I have never attended any protest, neither with men nor with women," she added. Her son, who camps out at Change Square, withstood a kidnapping attempt by National Security Police last April while traveling from college to Hodeida's Freedom Square. "They have been scaring

my mum, for I might lose my life in the protest. A group of pro-Saleh women visited her at home and told her 'your son is going to be killed, so why don't you just call him to come back home and stop protesting'." She replied: "I have four sons and If he is killed, I will send the others to protest," relayed her son in a telephone call with the Yemen Times. "Her strong words really af-

fected me. It showed that she is aware of the revolution's goals." He added: "We want to live with dignity or die."

#### Women protect Change Square, Sana'a

The roles of Yemeni women have not been confined to cooking and supporting protesters from home. They have also been involved in protecting Change Square by volunteering at checkpoints to frisk incoming female visitors or participants for weapons as they enter the protest camp.

Lutfya Ghalab, a female protest activist, told the Yemen Times that since the uprising broke out and the youth set up and 80 other female volunteers have been guarding the 40 er

trances that lead to Sana'a's

"We are securing the square

en as well as men were offering

assistance to injured people and

patients in Change Square's field

women volunteer to prepare

Ghalab explained that other

hospital," Ghalab said.

Change Square.

for patients, as well as tea for protesters. "I think it is a duty for all of us

to support the youth revolution and put an end to dictatorship and injustice for a better future for Yemen," she said. Huda Abdullah, a leading fe-

male activist at Sana'a's Change Square, told the Yemen Times that "the role of Yemeni women in this revolution is a reflection of their significance throughout Yemen's history.

"The Yemeni woman is brave, patient, hardworking and sacrifices everything for the sake of the homeland," Abdullah said.

"I know a mother whose 20year-son was shot dead two weeks ago while he was marching and demanding the prosecution of president Saleh. When she saw him dead, she just ululated and asked that no-one cry, saying her son had achieved martyrdom."



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(1)البرنامج العام الـدورة 138 (12 نوفمبر - 14 ديسمبر، 2011)

2 ساعتان دراسية يوميا

أبام التسجيل 24 أكتوبر - 3 نوفمبر ، 2011

تخفيض خاص لخريج

الثانوية العامة

for Printed by Yemen Times Est. 

إختبارات تحديد المستوى

الأثنين 31 أكتوبر 1 نوفمبر 9 صباحاً, 3 عصراً و 5 عم الثلاثاء 2 نوفمبر 2عصراً و 5عصرا الأربعاء

(2) برنامج " الأوائل" الخاص بالإعداد الأكاديمي للغة

> **يُصْدِم** مركز تطوير التعليم والتعلم في المعهد اليحني الأمريكي للغة (يالي) برنامج خباص لخريجي الثانوية العامية الراغبين في مواصلة دراساتهم الجامعية و العبِّليا في الجامعات اليمنية والعالمية.

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(1) ساعة تطبيقية في تقوية المهارات اللغوية من 12:00 وحتى 1:00 ظهراً



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deida. He has been camping there for about eight months.

Mulook, who lives in an underdeveloped and remote area of Hodeida, found peaceful revolution to be the real solution for the oppression she has encountered in her life. She has lived under the Local Council Authority, whose members are mostly influential tribal leaders loyal to Saleh's regime.

porters. Rumors were spread that she had held a party to celebrate

"They [Saleh's supporters] kept spreading rumors about me in an effort to bend my position, but I say to them that this is our chance to retrieve our dignity," she said. "They also accused me of par-

breakfasts and other quick meals

the assassination attempt made from any potential threats. Womagainst Saleh early last June.

نتقدم بأدر التهاني والتبريكات للشاب الخلوق الأخ / عبدالله علي السهيلي بمناسبة دخوله القفص الذهبي لألوب لألوب مبروكج المهنئون نعمان الخضمى ف الصغير الخضمي & قاسم الخضمي & خالد الخضمي & أحمد الخضمي & علي الخضمي & هاني الخ وجميع الأهل والأصدقاء