

Criminal gangs terrorize Taiz city



Many citizens in Taiz have recently fallen victim to armed criminals who rob them, sometimes in the presence of police or security forces.

By: Emad Al-Saqqaf

TAIZ, Jan. 11 – Even with the lessening of Taiz's military presence in accordance with the Gulf Initiative, a spread of weapons coupled with a shortage of police personnel has led to a recent increase in crime.

A number of crimes have been reported since the beginning of the year, with reports of armed men breaking into homes, cars being hijacked and money extorted from citizens.

The latest reported incident was the kidnapping of a Yemeni businessman as he stood outside a sports club west of Taiz on Sunday. Witnesses recorded the kidnapers' vehicle's number (7/11592), which was then reported to the police.

The armed group attacked Arif Abdu Ahmed, who works as regional manager for Abduljaleel Radman Business Group, at 11p.m. The armed men took all his possessions and held him for five hours before releasing him unharmed.

In response to the kidnapping, the Taiz Chamber of Commerce issued a statement calling on the vice president and prime minister to quickly take measures to arrest the culprits and put an end to such crimes in the city.

Similarly, a member of the National Alliance for Taiz leaders said that the police have become useless in the face of a growing number of armed gangs loitering in the city and terrorizing people.

He said that if any force was used against the culprits by any side, the opposition and youth in the revolution squares would condemn the use of force and claim that it was a

violation of human rights, thereby severely limiting the police's ability to enforce the law.

"During the uprising, when the opposition took up arms to defend its cause against the regime, they instilled a violent culture in the city. Now we are paying the price for this, and the unemployed and criminals are exploiting the situation for personal gain," he said.

However, incidents are on the rise, including the targeting of citizens who are not related to any political party. Last week, locals in Taiz explained how armed men stopped an old man in his car in front of a police station. Facing the threat of being shot, the man surrendered the one million rials the armed men had just seen him take out of a bank.

"The soldiers in the police station did nothing while the men robbed the old man. It was sad. We now fear for our lives and know that we can't rely on the police anymore," said Suhaib Yousif, who witnessed the incident.

Another incident was reported earlier this month when a physician, Dr. Waheeb Saeed, was leaving his clinic at nine in at night when a group of armed men stopped him in his car and took everything in his possession.

"I had very important documents and around YR 70,000. I begged them to take the money and leave the documents, but they would not. I am still in shock at how unsafe our city has become and since then, I leave my office in the evening so I don't have to face such a situation again," said Dr.

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في 12 يناير

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Saeed.

The problem according to locals is that these incidents take place in public in broad daylight, and sometimes in the presence of security or police.

An officer at the 26 September Police Station in Taiz admits that they know of an armed gang at Tahrir Square that hijacks cars from the main street under gunpoint and who don't return the vehicles unless money is paid.

"They even monitor our movements; when a military vehicle approaches, they seize it by force. They have Kalashnikovs and machine guns and derive their strength through following influential figures and sheikhs," he said.

The military committee responsible for demilitarizing the city and instituting peace called on citizens not to carry weapons in the streets and to help security and police forces do their job.

"We are working on this issue and will take strict measures against anyone who thinks they are above the law or who tries to harm this country," he said.

Two million unregistered voters to be included in elections

By: Mohammed bin Sallam

SANA'A, Jan. 11 – The Supreme Committee for Elections and Referendum (SCER) has decided on specific measures to include around two million Yemenis who have become eligible to vote since the last elections in 2006 but are

not yet included on the voters' lists.

According to SCER, the new voters will only need their identification to prove they have reached 18 since 2006, such as a civilian or military ID card, passport, birth certificate or even a school or university ID card.

"Any person who does not have any of the mentioned identification documents will not be allowed to vote," said an official at SCER. "And we fear this includes the majority of the youth in rural areas, especially women who will then be excluded from this democratic process."

However, chances for fraud are minimal, according to SCER because these elections are not competitive and so there is no reason for cheating.



At least two million Yemenis have reached voting age since 2006, the problem with including them is that many do not have the required ID cards that allow them to vote.

The existing voters' registration list includes around ten million and four hundred eligible voters. The media department of the committee said it is prepared with an advocacy strategy to encourage Yemenis to participate in the coming presidential elections on Feb. 21, 2012.

The strategy, which is to be implemented at the end of this month, includes visual and audio advertising and targeted messages in various media outlets with a focus on local radio stations in the governorates.

"We will also have mass communication campaigns through field visits and open sessions targeting remote areas all around the country," said the media officer at SCER. He added that the committee would coordinate with colleges, institutes and other educational facilities to reach students who

have become eligible to vote. This includes specific educational sessions by the institution's management to talk to the students about the importance of these elections and their participation in them.

According to the Gulf Initiative mechanism, the existing voters' lists will be used after being updated in terms of deceased and repeated names. This will be done mostly at a constituency level in individual electoral centers. The initiative also talks about the population that has turned 18 since 2006 and emphasizes their inclusion in the elections through the use of any identification since there is not enough time for this group to officially register for a voting card.

Moreover, these elections will be an opportunity to create a relative census of the population in Yemen today, especially if the turnout is high.

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Social media reveals illegal execution in Dhamar

By: Abdulkareem Al-Nahari

Dhamar, Jan. 11 – Human rights activists have published a video clip showing a group of tribesmen in Al-Hada, Dhamar governorate, executing a man by shooting him in front of his family two weeks ago.

The illegal execution of the man, named locally as Mohamed Sabr, 33, took place in a village around 100km south of the capital Sana'a, in accordance with tribal laws and without the state's knowledge.

"This illegal death is a human rights violation which goes beyond enforced laws in the country and a trend where the tribe operates its norms out of judiciary institu-

tions," said a local human rights activist who asked to remain anonymous, fearing attack by the tribe.

He warned of signs that state institutions are losing control, claiming that tribesmen have reached a point where the judiciary system has no place in their norms.

A group of human rights activists in Dhamar demanded that the Interior Minister, the attorney general and the Minister of Human Rights immediately form an investigation committee and refer all persons guilty of this crime to prosecution.

They also called on international human rights organizations to support the victim's family who are now under pressure from tribes-

men not to take the case to court.

The video, which was posted on YouTube and Facebook showed tribesmen shooting the man down while his mother held onto him, begging them to release her son and not kill him.

A security official from the area told the Yemen Times that the police have yet to receive any notification about this issue or to discover the motivations behind the man's murder.

"The tribe has no right to replace the judiciary institutions and issue death sentences with no legal reference," he said. "No matter what, the government must stop anyone doing this."

Local sources confirmed that

armed tribesmen of Abu Khalaba tribe in Al-Hada district executed a man, identified as Mohamed Sabr, in front of his family.

The source said that the tribesmen carried out the execution after Sabr was accused of killing another man in a dispute over a weapon.

Local media websites quoted tribal sources in Al-Hada as saying that the dispute was over a weapon taken by militants of the tribe while participating in the clashes in Hasaba, in the north of the capital Sana'a, between Saleh's forces and armed supporters of Al-Ahmar family.

Tribal leaders in Al-Hada declined to comment.

Packages still banned from Yemen to the west

By: Mohamed Bin Sallam

SANA'A, Jan. 10 — Over a year after a Yemen-originated parcel bomb plot that made international headlines, most western countries still refuse couriered packages from the country.

"Courier companies in Yemen still receive worldwide packages, but are unable to send any parcels to Europe, Canada and Australia," Dr. Mansour Al-Absi, general manager of the DHL office in Yemen told the Yemen Times on Tuesday. "The US only allows half a kilogram of papers to be sent from here."

Other countries including Eastern Europe, Africa, Islamic and Arabic countries readily accept packages from Yemen of all sizes and weights, according to Al-Absi.

The banning on packages from Yemen to the west has been causing problems not only to businessmen and firms, but also to normal people in need of the service.

"I used to send gifts to my sister and brother who live in Europe but now I can't do it when I want, I have to wait for travelers who will agree to take something with them. It is so annoying," said Nadia Yaseen a resident in Sana'a.

International shipping and courier companies in Yemen include DHL, Aramex, FedEx, TNT and UPS. These companies were banned from sending packages to many countries around the globe after explosive parcels were found en route from Yemen to the US and other European countries in October 2010.

Today only DHL is able to send some items to a number of countries, most of the courier companies

can only receive and not send.

FedEx said that the UAE security confiscated a suspected parcel in Dubai that had come from Yemen.

"We have stopped all our operations from Yemen and we are fully cooperating with concerned authorities," said the company's spokesman Maury Lane at the time.

"The courier ban has affected our businesses big time," said Omar Rashed of the International Bank of Yemen. "For example we have been struggling for over a week to send a CD to Dubai relating to some software systems and the only way we have is send it with some travelers heading that way. Our ability to send materials is dependent on chance and this is not helpful."

At the time of explosive parcels, the US accused Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) of sending the packages. After a tip-off by American intelligence, several airports, including the US, went on high security alert.

US sources claimed that the explosive parcels were intended to be sent to Jewish synagogues in Chicago, US, and many packages en route to Britain and the UAE were also checked.

In November 2010, AQAP announced its responsibility for the parcel bomb plot in its English-language magazine Inspire, saying that each operation had cost USD 4,200.

The Yemeni government played down the news that two parcels had been seized at Dubai International Airport in the UAE: "Media reports of bombs being found in the two parcels have not been confirmed," the Yemeni government said in October 2010.



Map compiled by Fatima Al-Azzani

DHL Express in Yemen says despite the difficult situation, the company can send parcels to those countries in light grey, and can send only documents to the countries in grey. Those in dark grey will not receive anything from Yemen until further notice.

Children vulnerable in Damaj

By: Anas Rawi

SA'ADA, Jan. 11 — Over 1,200 children living in Damaj in North Yemen's Sa'ada Governorate continue to suffer the consequences of conflict between Houthis and Salafis. A Houthi blockade on the area — commenced on October 15, 2011 — has had severe economic and humanitarian consequences on the area's residents.

Five children were killed and 23 injured as a result of shelling by the Houthis in Damaj. A further four children have died as a result of dehydration, according to Soror Al-Wadee, a Salafi spokesman in Damaj.

Until now, children have not attended school, as two of the three schools in Damaj continue to be occupied by Houthis.

Damaj, home to the Sunni-Salafi minority, has a population of 15,000 people. Fierce clashes have taken place between majority Shiite-Houthis and the Sunni-Salafi minority, leaving dozens of people on both sides killed and hundreds injured.

The Houthis — who entered six

rounds of war with the government between 2004 and 2010 — are militarily advanced and have possess tanks, mortar-shells, machine guns and artillery, according to a Yemeni team of human rights activists and media members who visited the area early December.

So far the ICRC has been the only organization to travel to Damaj, according to Rabab Al-Rifai, an ICRC communications officer.

"Local and international organizations were not able to provide humanitarian aid because of the siege," Al-Rifai said.

"Farms were damaged after the Houthis have blocked the diesel and fuel access to the area," a farmer in Damaj told the Yemen Times over the phone.

Despite a suspension of active conflict after a ceasefire was brokered by a local tribal mediation committee, what's left of the blockade continues to impede the transport of humanitarian aid to the community, said Al-Rifai.

She went on to explain how the ICRC had to ask for permission from the Houthis to enter Damaj one month ago in order to provide

food and medications, including babies' milk, which wasn't available in the local market. Permission was later granted to the ICRC to enter.

The conflict in Damaj, involving the use of heavy weapons, has caused severe damage, both to property and to lives.

"When we arrived, I saw children come out of houses with big smiles on their faces, like they were in a big prison," said Mohammed Al-Ahmedi, a Yemeni journalist who visited the area last December.

Al-Wadee said that when the Ministry of Health sent needed medications three days ago, the Houthis took almost two-thirds of the aid for themselves.

Abd Al-Malik Al-Houthi, the Houthis' leader, in a telephone conversation with the Yemen Times, denied all charges leveled against by locals in Damaj.

"The road to Damaj is open and there are no obstacles for any organizations," he said.

At least 94 children have been killed and 240 others wounded by gunshots or shelling in Yemen since civil unrest began in February 2011, according to UNICEF.



Around 1,200 children in Damaj in Sa'ada, north Yemen are vulnerable to hunger and death due to ongoing sectarian conflict in the area.

Stone Age tombs discovered in Yemen

By: Malak Shaher

MAHWEET, Jan. 11 — At least 200 Paleolithic tombs were announced to have been discovered in Mahweet in 1996, according to the governorate's deputy governor Hamoud Shamlan.

Shamlan, who was the head of the Tourism Office at the time of the discovery, said that authorities wanted to keep the tombs, which contain mummies and other relics, "a secret until they got technical support to protect them."

"We located the cemetery but did not announce the news as we were afraid that the mummies would be stolen," said Shamlan.

He explained that retired members of the army and tribesmen were guarding the cemetery, which is surrounded by barbed wires.

"We decided to reveal the discovery as we need support now. The situation in Yemen is not secure and we do not want anything to be

stolen," explained Shamlan.

He added that the road to the cemeteries is not paved and that's why technical and financial support is needed in this critical time.

According to the state-run Saba News agency, the tombs date back to the prehistoric Stone Age, a period known as the Paleolithic era, which is thought to have begun over two million years ago and ended around 8,000 BC.

Mohammad Ahmad Qasem, Director of the Archeology Department at Mahweet, the cemetery was created from rectangular slots in high mountains.

The openings of the tombs are narrow but widen as you go inside, he explained. Some are just one room and others are two, depending on the number of bodies they hold. Some graves contained groups and others individuals or families.

Niches in the walls of the tombs contain pottery, funerary tools and weapons for the dead. Their plac-



Experts say more than 200 tombs were found in Mahweet.

ing inside the tombs allowed them to remain well preserved for such a long time.

According to Qasem, the burial

grounds were found in the districts of Mahweet like Shibam Kawkaban, Al-Rojom, Melhan, Hufash, Bani Sa'd and Al-Tawila.

Field Manager wanted

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The Yemeni National Council: An overview

By: Shatha Al-Harazi

Yemen's National Council is different from the others that have appeared around the Arab world since the beginning of the Arab Spring.

Yemen's National Council is unlike Libya's – set up to lead the country in its transitional period and direct its foreign policy. It is different from the Syrian National Council founded in Istanbul, Turkey, by Syrians in exile. It is not the military councils of Egypt and Tunisia that have vowed to oversee transitions without replacing the government.

To start with, Yemen's National Council was formed later than most others in the Arab world this year. The Yemeni National Council was founded on August 17, seven months after the beginning of the revolution in Yemen. When it was created, another entity, the Transitional Council, had already been formed by female activist and later Nobel Peace Prize laureate Tawakul Karman.

It all started after an assassination attempt against President Ali Abdullah Saleh on June 3. After the president fled to Saudi Arabia for treatment of his injuries, a conflict emerged among revolutionary entities in Yemen as to how best to lead the country during his absence.

The independent youth insisted on a transitional council to do this, but the Joint Meeting Parties (JMP), the traditional political opposition who were part of the revolution, were against the idea because they feared that it would lead to an escalation in violence similar to that in Benghazi, Libya.

Karman however went ahead and founded the Transitional Council on July 17. Exactly a month later, the National Council followed.

"The National Council was formed by the JMP as a direct result of Karman forming the Transitional Council, to block her way, so that they could be the main player in the country," said Sultan Al-Rada'i, the coordinator of the independent youth at Change

Square. "The JMP said that Karman's council was a stillborn, but we say that the JMP's council was a hysterical pregnancy."

He added that, when it was founded, the National Council was not the same as originally suggested. In the end, it contained more members to satisfy different groups, but the large number that was added was not taken seriously in making decisions.

"Mid-July, the JMP contacted us secretly and gave us the proposal," said Al-Rada'i. "We had a meeting. We were six representatives from the main actors in the square: one from Islah, one from the Socialists, one from the Nasserites, one from the civil society movements, one from the Houthis, and me as the independent." Al-Rida'i notes that although Islah, the Socialists, and the Nasserites are technically already part of the JMP, they were however approached as independent parties and offered remaining seats to bolster the JMP's presence in the council.

On August 17, when the National Council was formed, two main players in Yemeni politics, the Houthis and the Southern Movement, announced their withdrawal from both the JMP's National Council and Karman's Transitional Council in protest at unfair representation. The Houthis are supporters of a rebellion against the regime in the Sa'ada governorate in north Yemen, and the Southern Movement have been protesting for the independence of the south since 2007.

The Southern Movement, for example, had been allocated 35 representatives in the National Council but felt that the latter did not truly represent them, according to Al-Rada'i.

The National Council was made up of three parts: 1,500 people in a general assembly, 281 National Council members, with 35 decision makers on an executive board headed by Mohamed Basundwa, now the prime minister of the National Unity Government.

When it was formed, many protesters complained that, like Saleh's regime before it, the council had empowered tribal figures and reproduced the same power structures that had been

around for years.

The independent youth who started the revolution were almost entirely absent from the council, as the youth's share was taken up by politically-affiliated youth who were not independent although they were presented to the public as such.

When the GCC-brokered power transfer deal was later signed on November 23, the public learnt for the first time that the JMP had signed it as the National Council, rather than as a coalition of political parties.

This has made protesters believe that the only reason the council was formed in the first place was so that the deal could be signed by a body that sounded like it was backed up by the protesters, although they said that it was not.

When the deal was signed, some figures from the 281 members of the council announced their resignation in protest at not having been consulted about the deal.

"Members did not vote for this decision, everyone was surprised, the council had not gathered for almost two months!" said Al-Rada'i.

"The National Council was founded to kill the revolution," said Amar Al-Assadi, a protester in Change Square. "Protesters across the country had rejected the deal for months, and then the JMP went ahead and signed it in the name of the council."

Protesters had been opposed to a deal that would give Saleh and his follower's immunity from prosecution, as well as bring the JMP and traditional ruling party to power with no real gains for the revolutionaries.

On her Facebook page, Amal Al-Basha, a leading human rights activist and a member of the National Council, called for the council to be dissolved after a National Unity Government was set up as part of the GCC deal.

She told the Yemen Times that the council should play no more than a monitoring role: "The council should simply act as a monitor," Al-Basha told the Yemen Times, pointing out that the JMP and its partners in the end joined the regime and failed to bring about a peaceful end to the revolution.



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Another year for the people

By: Jameel Theyabi
daralhayat.com

The year 2011 would not have it otherwise; it thus registered surprises, activated revolutions, and acted in favor of the oppressed and the wronged. It is a year during which the Arab populations rebelled against the governments of the tyrants and murderers. The year 2011 insisted on ending the suffering of the Arab people within a few days, consequently ensuring the fall of dictatorships, the prosecution of tyrants and the introduction of reforms which would have never seen the light had it not been for the strong will and patience of the Arab citizens, who – for many years – were described in the media as being “the Arab street.” Moreover, this year would not leave without

seeing sheikhs and clerics issue odd and uncanny fatwas, prohibiting people from enjoying a decent and honest living, which are described by the former as being decadent.

I sense pangs of sadness and pulses of overwhelming joy when looking back at the events in 2011. I am sad when I recall the departure of friends and honest men who left us in this exceptional year, and overwhelmingly happy when I recall how Arab countries got rid of dictatorial governments and tyrannical leaders who killed and oppressed the people throughout decades.

Each among us has characteristics and names for 2011. It is thus dubbed the year of the revolutions, the year of the popular uprisings, the year of transformations, of deaths, of liberation from fear, of freedom, dignity, justice, the regaining of the popular rights and the Arab Spring. It is the year that pre-

vented the leaders from sleeping, shook the chairs beneath their feet, and forced them to flee, to hide in pits or go to prison. Who can forget the sentence uttered by the former Tunisian president to his people as he was fleeing to Jeddah: “I understood you, I understood you?”

Who can also forget the expression uttered by that elderly Tunisian who said after Ben Ali escaped: “We grew old while waiting for this historical moment?”

Who can forget the desperate attempts deployed by former Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak to remain in power, and the attempts of his regime to convince the people of what he failed to do throughout his term? He even said: “I never sought power,” at a time when he was eager to stay until the last moment.

Who can forget the “hallucinations” featured in the speeches of

the late Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi and his description of the Libyan youth as being “vermin” and “rats”? Gaddafi’s speeches combined excitement, disdain, funniness, insanity and mistrust, until he was found in a pit he was digging for his people. Among his most famous expressions heard in his first speech was “we will march by the millions to cleanse Libya inch by inch, home by home, house by house, alley by alley!” Eventually, he was taken out of a sewage pipe like a rat!

As for Syrian President Bashar Al-Assad, he delivered two lengthy speeches which were interrupted by applause, 44 times during the first speech and 20 times during the second. Both speeches failed to appease the popular disgruntlement toward his government or absorb the anger toward the practices of his regime. Hence, the bloodiest regime in the Arab world is about to

leave and will be punished sooner or later.

On the other hand, Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh’s speeches each Friday featured outsmarting and maneuvering attempts, along with contradiction between the wish to stay and the announcement of his departure from power. Each and every Friday, he thus kept mobilizing his supporters to confront his oppositionists to the point where he was detonated – along with a number of his officials – in Al-Nahdain Mosque, before finally signing the Gulf initiative.

2011 is over after it registered itself as being an exceptional year, while along with the collapse of Arab governments, Western governments also departed – the last of which being Berlusconi’s government in Italy.

2011 will remain a turning point in the history of the Arab popula-

tions and humanity. There is no doubt that 2012 will not extinguish the flame of the popular revolutions and will not diminish their spark. It will likely witness new uprisings, confrontations and tensions in this alarming region, while only the governments that have immunized their domestic arenas, granted rights and freedoms to their people, know what these people want, lack and desire, how to deal with the aspirations of the youth and handle the files of poverty and unemployment will manage to stay. The world is changing and the margins of the social networking channels are expanding, in parallel to freedom of opinion and thought. What is confirmed is the survival of the fittest, and the fact that the next few years will sweep away those who do not respect their people’s rights, choices, dignity and liberty.

Saleh must go soon

By: Abdul-Salam Al-Qarari
Yemeni radio journalist

The outgoing president Ali Abdullah Saleh should leave the country to help the transitional period run smoothly and successfully. Otherwise, the national unity government and the would-be president, Abdu Rabo Mansour Hadi, and all Yemeni people are going to be in trouble.

That foreign officials, media pundits and political analysts have agreed that Saleh stay in the country, let alone to be involved in politics, is not in the interest of Yemen. While he was in Saudi Arabia for medical treatment, US president advisor for terrorism, John Brennan, told him “it is not in your interest, nor Yemen’s interest and not in our interest to return”.

The former president of the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate, commentator Nasser Taha Mustafa, argued that Saleh has stayed to undermine the nation’s reconcili-

ation and stability. “Yemen stability requires the President’s travel.” Under this headline, in Yemen Fox, Taha wrote: “It is clear now that the continuation of the presence of the man became a hindrance to the implementation of the GCC initiative...his therapeutic travel became an absolute necessity for the success of this stage”.

Nadia Al-Sakkaf, Yemen Times’ editor-in-chief, wrote: “The new president remains a member of today’s ruling party, the General People’s Congress, which is headed by Saleh. This means politically speaking, Saleh will remain Hadi’s boss even if the latter becomes president. How ironic.”

She could rightly guess that Hadi can’t or will not be allowed to exercise his mandates as president if Saleh doesn’t leave the country, nor merely politics. If this happens, God forbidden, it means to keep the GPC as State inside the State.

Al-Sakkaf’s prediction has proved right. Yesterday Hadi was reported to have threatened to leave the capital Sana’a unless Saleh and his of-

ficials stop interfering.

Realizing this fact, Saleh himself told reporters in a press conference he held recently: “I would disappear, not for my health conditions, I’m fine, but to give the national unity government a chance to work”. He is fully aware that his presence will not be helpful.

However, his planned travel to the US sparked controversial debates and he was told he could go there for medical reasons only. He had to delay his travel due to critical situation in the country. To justify his reneging decision, the GPC’s leaderships have appealed to him to postpone his travel. He has to make one more sacrifice for the nation.

This charade was played out before, prior to the 2006 presidential elections. He had repeatedly announced that he would not contest the race. Then, he reneged in response to mass pressure. At that time, his supporters claimed he had to get the mission finished. Instead, he actually had gravely messed up the entire nation. Now, he pretends to be asked to stay to get the GCC’s

deal implemented. The opposite is perfectly true.

Saleh is no longer able to take control again but he can be a terrible spoiler. Driven by his malignance and desire for vengeance, he would trigger and fuel a malicious counterrevolution. Unfortunately, he has enough resources to do so and several factors will even make it easy.

He repeatedly hinted that he would continue to be involved in politics as president of the General Peoples Congress. He even explic-

itly said he would shift to opposition to teach his opponents how effective opposition should be. Given that his party would remain part of the national unity government, at least over the two-year transitional period, he actually intends to lead a counterrevolution.

The vast majority of politicians and activists, even youth protesters, have grudgingly accepted the GCC initiative as it saves the country from civil war or the counterrevolution that could have occurred had Saleh been ousted forcefully.

Prior to the GCC deal, the professor of politics at Sana’a University and leading veteran politician, Dr. Mohammed Abdul-Malik Al-Mutwakel, warned that the alternative of the GCC initiative was civil war. Similarly, now it is quite safe to say that the alternative to Saleh’s departure is a disturbing counterrevolution that Yemen’s fragile situation can’t afford.

So, the GCC initiative sponsors, mainly Saudi Arabia, the US and the EU should secure him a shelter and press him to go sooner not later.

The dangerous upcoming year after the Arab Spring

By: Raghida Dergham
alarabiya.net

In the beginning of the Arab Spring, the Arab youths surprised us with their courage, audacity and modernism in bringing about change.

But then we were taken by surprise by the Islamist parties who hijacked the youth uprising. The bloody manner in which the regime of Muammar Gaddafi was overthrown in Libya has prevented us from being optimistic about a better future for Libya.

We will not be able to assimilate everything that happened in 2011, and we probably do not yet know all the repercussions. The hijacking of the Arab youth awakening could only be one small event in the process of democratic change – as the advocates of the electoral process purport. But the biggest danger may yet be that this hijacking is a cunning takeover of the youth revolution, along the lines of what happened in Iran more than thirty years ago. The rest is history.

Perhaps the youths will understand what has come to pass, and draft astounding strategies to correct their course and regain control of their own future and prevent others from monopolizing it. This requires serious vigilance that would avert the euphoria of having brought about change and pursue instead an organized process that is conscious of the pitfalls ahead.

It also requires creative ideas to attract the new generation to modernity and the separation of religion and state. Finally, it requires in-depth reading of the balance of power in the Middle East, and of what may be in the mind of those who want the Arabs to be in perpetual strife and sectarian and ideological warfare, culminating with the partition of their countries.

It is very striking how the Arab awakening resulted in further cohesion, awareness and collaboration among the GCC countries. It is striking because these countries are resource-rich countries – i.e. oil and gas – and have the ability to influence commodity sales and the markets themselves. These countries woke up to the need for reform, and spoke the language of integration and union.

The GCC countries shielded themselves against the Arab Spring, even becoming a key factor in shaping it. Their strategy was to steer clear of ideologies and doctrines, while being determined to remain steadfast and unwavering, as the winds of change blew across their immediate – and non-immediate – surroundings.

In Yemen, the possibility of President Ali Abdullah Saleh receiving treatment in New York may be part of a certain agreement over the pacification of Yemen, with a view to avoid a similar fate to that of Somalia or Afghanistan. Perhaps the partition of Yemen is also in sight,

and also a plunge into poverty and misery that would quench the fires of the uprising. The end result is that Yemen did not rise up in a real revolution of change, as that would require a revolt against tribal thinking and identity – and Yemen is quite far from seeing that happen.

2012 carries a lot of uncertainty. Throughout it, feelings will erupt, not only of joy or frustration, but also of fury because people will need jobs and will need stability.

As such, some in the United States are wagering on the new rulers in Egypt needing, for instance, US aid that would be crucial to keeping them in power.

In doing so, they are prepping themselves for new ways to placate moderate Islam. Either moderate Islam changes while being in power and adapts with its need for US aid, or it fails and is then held to account by its electoral base.

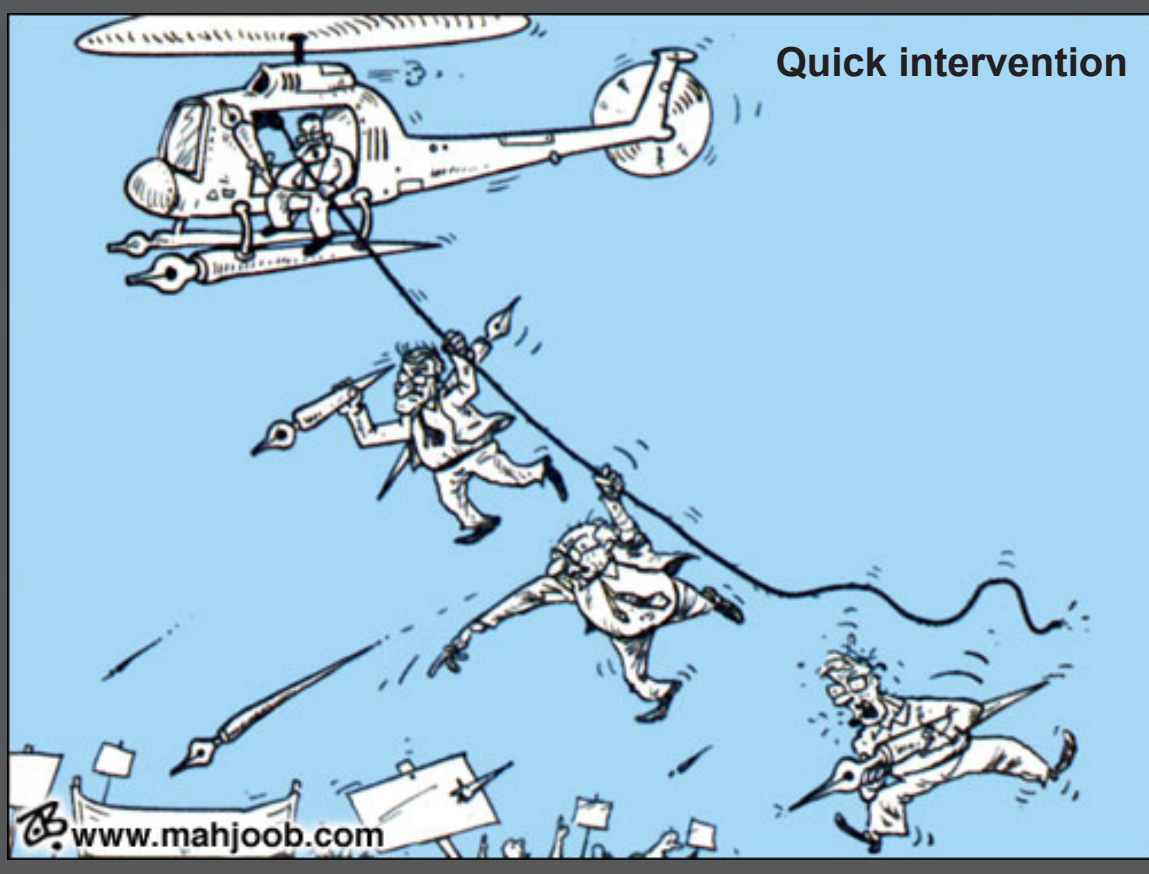
But the problem in this scenario is that the cost is high, that the people will starve and that this equation will not protect countries like Egypt from strife and partition.

Next year will be a difficult one. It is then a dangerous year after the change, unless the powers of modernity and enlightenment change course and surprise us with feats that would restore our hope in the Arab awakening.

The writer is a columnist at Dar Al Hayat, where this article was first published on Dec 30, 2011.

SKETCHED OPINION

By Hajjaj



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Economic highlights of the new cabinet's two-year plan (PART 2)

Mohamed Basundwa, Yemen's interim prime minister, made a tour of the Gulf states this week to mobilize support and seek financial assistance for the cabinet's two-year economic program. In last Thursday's issue, the Yemen Times covered the first of the government's plans to boost the economy. Today we present our second part on the economic plan. We'll keep you updated in future issues as the plan progresses.

By: Ali Saeed

The financial sector

The government's two-year program involves a number of policies to improve the country's financial management performance in an effort to contend with the deep impact of the past year's crisis.

The program aims to achieve this through reforming the public budget and adopting a number of policies to eventually prevent corruption and boost revenues.

One such policy involves the use of computerized financial systems to calculate state department and public project budgets. This policy places an emphasis on increasing workers' productivity in the financial sector to address the development and modernization of the public budget.

All public departments will then be obliged to adopt modern systems and models in public budget preparation, implementation and assessment, according to the two-year program's draft.

To this end, the government will work to develop the organizational and institutional structure of the finance ministry's headquarters and other, related facilities.

Improved and simplified finance and taxation procedures are also planned.

Revenues

Revenues from oil resources currently comprise over 70 percent of the public budget. However, World Bank reports warn that Yemen may run out of oil by 2018 if no new oil is discovered.

To fill this anticipated gap and to boost revenues, the government will see to optimize non-oil revenues, particularly by way of taxation and customs fees. This also includes revising tax and customs legislation in light of local and external developments.

Concerning taxation, the cabinet will apply 2001's sales tax law no. 19 for 2001 and its amendments and prepare to implement 2010's income tax law no. 17.

Although the sales tax law was issued in 2001, it has yet to be enforced, as traders who also worked as government officials have refused to implement it, according to Dr. Mohamed Jubran, professor of economics at Sana'a University.

The General Tax Authority will collect past-due taxes from people who refused to pay their duty tax; it will also combat tax theft.

The tax authority will have to regulate tax and customs exemptions and cancel all exemptions granted to state companies and other private businesses.

To achieve this, the government will revise tax and customs laws and finalize regulations to achieve effective collection.

Taxes revenues have been wasted for a long time because of corruption and illegal exemptions given to private firms, according to Jubran.

"Before oil exploration, the government would rely on tax revenues for expenditures and was able to cover those expenditures with a surplus," Jubran said.

In Yemen, many state-owned telecommunications, airlines, media, in-

ternet, electricity and oil companies could generate significant revenues if they were managed effectively, which would also allow them to contribute to the public budget.

To make this happen, the national unity government will intensify monitoring of state's revenues and revenue collection.

This is intended to eliminate the transfer of state revenues to private accounts, allowing all revenues to go towards the public budget.

Huge amounts of public funds currently go towards oil subsidization, both diesel and fuel, while smugglers buy the fuel at a low price and resell it on the black market, selling it for five times the sale price or smuggling it to the Horn of Africa.

In this regard, the cabinet will reconsider oil subsidies and set up a new mechanism to channel fuel subsidies to targeted groups, such as low-income families and taxi drivers.

Not all oil revenues are moved to the public budget, as huge amounts are stolen using the cost of oil barrels as an excuse. Oil barrel production costs in Yemen are the world's highest - not because such production is truly difficult or costly, but because of corruption, according to Jubran.

In 2001, one barrel in Yemen cost Yemen USD 3, according to the terms of an agreement between Yemeni and foreign oil companies. But in 2010, the cost of one barrel reached USD 17, Jubran explained.

As a result, Yemen loses USD one billion every year, with USD 14 from every oil barrel diverted to Yemeni service companies that cater to for-

eigners. These oil profits should, legally, go towards the public budget.

General expenditure

In 1994, revenues from public companies contributed about 20 percent of total public expenditures, but now contribute only 0.05 percent.

The national unity government will regulate general payments, allocate them in a transparent way, and restructure it by decreasing current expenditures in favor of the investment expenditures.

It will also work to procure finance from local and international resources to implement the GCC initiative and to sustain the implementation mechanism as well as decrease subsidies for public companies.

The cabinet will regulate the state's current expenditures and increase payments towards human capacity development programs.

In order to diversify revenues directed towards the public budget, the government will give priority to the carrying out of registered investment projects and to completing unfinished projects.

To reduce current expenditures and to generate new job opportunities for Yemeni job seekers, the Ministry of Civil Service will complete a salary list, eliminating fake names and dismissing dual job holders, those simultaneously occupying more than one post in the civil and military sectors.

Investments

The national unity government will conduct economic feasibility studies for projects, which will involve planning, follow-up and performance evaluation stages.

To improve the state of infrastructure for investment, the government will record property and infrastructure damages caused by the ongoing crisis in various ministries and pub-



The National Unity Government has promised to bring stability to the rial, which has been fluctuating for two years.

lic and private establishments.

To push the political transition forward, the national unity government will ensure a financial provision to conduct early presidential elections during the first phase of the transitional period and presidential and parliamentary elections at the end of the second phase of the transitional period.

Public budget deficit

To avoid the annual budget deficit, the government will expand and diversify financial resources, which are not subject to inflation, particularly local, and foreign aid and grants.

The government plans to accomplish this through the procurement of local and foreign funds to cover the deficit and achieve its millennium development goals by 2015.

Cash and banking sector

The Yemeni Rial has experienced acute devaluation since 2006 relative to foreign currencies, including the US Dollar, Saudi Riyal and other foreign notes.

During 2011, the value of one dol-

lar jumped past YR 240, and since December 7, when the national unity government was announced, has steadily decreased in value.

The national unity government will work towards a stable currency, recognizing this as a key need at the present time. The government will work to control inflation rates to ensure exchange rate stability and will attempt to enforce reforms of the banking sector.

The Central Bank of Yemen (CBY) will need to finance basic commodities and intervene effectively in the cash

market to maintain an acceptable exchange rate.

The CBY must also increase its effectiveness in monitoring currency exchange shops and banks to prevent exchange rate manipulation.

The government also said that the CBY would raise its supply of foreign cash and encourage Yemeni emigrants to increase remittances of foreign currencies to Yemen.

Abdullah Al-Maqtari, an MP of the Nasserite party has criticized the program for not proposing a law for regulating the exchange.

"I know one exchange shop who purchased one million dollars at a low price, only to sell for a higher cost on the cash market. So why don't you regulate this?" Al-Maqtari asked during the parliamentary session where the program's endorsement was discussed.

Between YR 500 billion and YR one trillion per year would be contributed to the national public budget if oil, gas, taxes and public companies were well managed, Jubran concluded.

Republic of Yemen Council of Ministers Economic Opportunity Fund (EOP)

The Government of Yemen represented by the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation has received a Grant from (IFAD) and co-finance from Islamic bank for Development and European Union for Economic Opportunities Fund. EOF was created by Presidential decree # 183-2010 dated 25/09/2010 as a public-private partnership working to improve the economic status of poor women and men in rural areas. The (EOF) now seeks qualified Yemeni candidates for the professional positions outlined below.

1. Internal Auditor

Key responsibilities will not be limited to:

- Audit each and every procedure implemented within EOF. Make recommendations on possible improvements for the procedures to enhance EOF financial performance and issue a report on all finding of the audit.
- Together with the EOF financial Manager and selected firm in addition to EOF key staff, finalize and implement EOF operating manuals and provide relevant training to all EOF staff.
- Audit the financial statements, accounting records and other financial and non financial registries applying accepted audit standards.
- Verify the adherence of EOF staff to AWPBs, policies, plans, procedures, laws, and fund regulations that are influential on Fund works as well as donors accounting procedures.
- Asses the efficiency and economy of the usage of resources and reports of any deviations in case they are existed.
- Revise all contracts signed with service providers, suppliers, and contractors and verifying that they apply with terms and conditions of grant / loan agreements and procurement regulations and donors guidelines.
- Create stores system and examine store books, records and documents, inventory and assure that storing system is conducted according to agreed rules and regulations.
- Coordinate with COCA to select an external auditor and facilitate the implementation of the auditing program to insure the implementation of the agreed task with in time frame.
- Assist the financial manager during the annual audit of EOF by external auditors or supervisors from donors' organizations.

Skills and qualifications

- S/he should have at least a post-graduate academic degree or equivalent in accounting systems.

- 5 years of work experience as an auditor with notional and international agencies.
- Excellent communication and English and Arabic-writing skills.
- Experiences in financial management and working with multidisciplinary teams.

2. IT Assistant

Key responsibilities will not limited to:

- Manage the data and entry and MIS system with in EOF.
- Regular maintenance and updating of EOF website.
- Prepare relevant specifications for required hardware equipments and software system as well as assisting in bids analysis intended for required equipments and it software.
- Facilitate day to day related tasks in which to insure efficient operations of both hard and soft ware systems with in EOF.
- Insure a systematic usage and movement of EOF IT assets in both office and field and keeping updated records.
- Any assigned tasks.

Skills and qualifications

S/he should have a university degree or equivalent in IT sciences and should have a relevant experiences, of which preferably working with project/programmes. S/he has coordination and implementation abilities and should be fluent in written and spoken of Arabic and English.

3. Administrative Assistant

Key responsibilities will not limited to:

- Following up EOF daily services tasks such as guards performance and work shifting, operating and maintenance of vehicles, office equipments, and EOF premises.
- Be responsible for day-to-day correspondences, information sharing and related filing ensuring that appropriate follow-up actions are taken.
- Conduct logistic arrangements for EOF missions to Yemen and render related services.
- Liaise with EOF programmes on day-to-day implementation of programme activities.
- Perform other duties as determined by EOF Executive Director.

Skills and qualifications

S/he should have a university degree in social sciences, public or business administration and or other related area. S/he should have a general experiences in general administrative issues of which preferably; experience in providing assistance in project/programme implementation and should be fluent in written and spoken English, and Arabic with Computer literacy as an essential.

4. Receptionist

Key responsibilities will not limited to:

- Receive and transfer internal and outside telephone calls and mail
- Receive and coordinate for EOF visitors and coordination for meetings with relevant EOF staff.
- Perform coping, typing tasks as per ED guidance.
- Any assigned tasks.

Skills and qualifications

S/he should have a secondary school education with relevant experiences in secretarial job. S/he should have coordination and implementation abilities and should be fluent in written and spoken of Arabic and English.

General Information

The recruitment process will be based on open competition and equal opportunity for women and men applicants. Only short-listed candidates will be informed and invited for detailed interviews.

Interested candidates should submit their applications, consisting of a cover letter and curriculum vitae (CV), to the following email address:

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Hadda Street, Previous Building of TOTAL Company.
Near German Embassy
Tele: 00 967 433919 / 18
E-mail: eopfemen@yahoo.com.uk

The deadline for submitting applications is January 25, 2012.

Aden's rich religious heritage

By: Shafee Jamal

Religious tolerance can be hard to find these days, and especially difficult to find in conservative, Islamic Yemen. But the southern port city of Aden was once a city of religious tolerance with Christians, Hindus, Jews and Muslims living and working together.

These religions, and even Magi, occupied Aden for a long time – especially during the British rule, which lasted almost 129 years (1839-1976) when Aden was a prosperous port and an important merchant center in the Middle East.

All religious sects had their own temples, churches and synagogues standing side by side with the city's mosques. While some still exist, others disappeared or fell into ruin.

Of those that remain, some potential tourist attractions are being neglected. The ruins of the Persian Temple are one of the ancient monuments of Aden city, yet few Yemeni people know of its existence. It was built on a stony hill that rising above Crater district but questions

over who built it and when remain unanswered – even the historical references issued by the University of Aden reveal little about the temple.

But the residents of Crater do remember that this ruined temple once belonged to the Magi, the followers of the ancient Persian religion of Zoroastrianism – one of the world's oldest monotheistic religions, founded by the Prophet Zoroaster or Zarathustra in ancient Iran approximately 3,500 years ago.

Zoroastrianism still exists in today's Iran and different parts of the world. At the time the temple was built, Yemen was part of the Persian Empire, which ruled many Arab and Islamic countries for centuries before Islam arrived.

But the Magi of Aden, who lived under the British rule of the city, came to it as merchants from Iran creating their own religious symbols during the middle of the 20th century.

Despite the formal negligence, the ruins of the Persian Temple still bear witness to the fact that Magis lived freely and practiced their religion tolerantly in Aden.

Non-Islamic monuments

Aden's local authority and the historical references published by the University of Aden largely ignored the city's non-Islamic ancient monuments – with the exception of the Anglican Church, which was built on top of a huge rock in Crater district during the British rule of Aden at the 19th century.

Talking about the secessionist Southern Movement, Abdulkareem Shayf, acting governor of Aden, told the Yemen Times: "With the current situation, we face more serious things and other challenges than non-Islamic monuments."

But with its unique Victorian architecture, the Crater church couldn't be ignored by the city's local authority, which recently renovated it for use as an archiving center.

In Aden's Museum, which was a palace belonging to a sultan of Lahj during the British rule, there is an old 19th century photograph that shows British families walking up the stairs towards the church to attend Sunday mass, and highlighting the importance of the building during that time.

There are four churches in Aden.

All of them were built during the British rule and two of them are still open until today because as Roman Catholic Churches, they are under the patronage of the Vatican – which explains the Vatican's flag hoisted alongside Yemeni flag on their roofs. The other two churches belonged to the Anglican Church and were closed after independence in 1967.

Old religions

Seeing children playing soccer in front of the Roman Catholic Church in Tawahi district gives you an idea about the religious tolerance that the locals are still have, but this is not the case when it comes to Yemeni visitors in Aden, whose discontent is obvious when they see any church in the city.

"A church here in Aden? This is very dangerous. Aden is an Islamic city and churches must not be here," said Abdul-Rahman Al-Qudaimi, a visitor from Sana'a. "They must demolish it," he declared, looking towards the Roman Catholic Church in Tawahi district.

Hinduism appeared in Aden with the arrival of Indian migrants – also during the British rule of the city – though only one Hindu temple still exists in Crater district. Its bricked up windows and entrance make it clear the temple has not been used for Hindu rituals in many years.

The majority of Hindus left Aden after independence in 1967 while many who remained in the city embraced Islam and converted.

Judaism in general is not un-

usual in Yemen, in fact Yemen was a Jewish state long time ago, and after the emergence of Islam, Judaism coexisted with the new faith for centuries.

But today you will not find Jews living in Aden. For a long time Jews had their own enclaves in Aden, but after the establishment of the state of Israel in 1948, sectarian clashes broke out between Muslims and Jews in the city, and as a result, most Adeni Jews migrated to Israel.

Many of the older men and women in Aden talk about how Jews were forced to migrate from the city. Abdu Salem, an elderly resident recalled the cruel treatment towards the city's Jews: "The Arab children used to catch stray cats and after tying a long piece of cloth to each cat's tail they would set it on fire and release the cats through any open windows into Jewish homes at night," he said.

"The cats start running inside the houses causing panic and in

most cases, setting Jews' homes on fire," he explained. "It was done as if it was a joke."

There are no synagogues in Aden these days. The last remaining place of worship for any remaining Jews was destroyed in the middle of 20th century. However, you can still find Jewish markings on the facades of some old buildings in the city.

Changing times

As time has passed, Aden's religious tolerance seems to have seeped away. Today the city has more extreme Islamists working hard to install hostilities among people against non-Islamic emblems – from religious intolerance to the sale of alcohol in hotels.

"Preserving these ancient monuments is important for the future, so that someone somewhere can tell the younger generations of Aden stories that start with 'once upon a time there was religious tolerance in Aden,'" the old man concluded.



The ruins of the Zoroastrian Persian Temple in Crater district of Aden.



The Roman Catholic Church in Tawahi district of Aden.



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- Issue documentation for modification of current facilities or new projects. (PFD, BFD, PID, ESD Logic Diagram and C&E diagram etc)
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The Job Holder is to:

- Draw new revisions of Process documents (PFD, BFD, PID, ESD Logic Diagram and C&E diagram) for future modifications in close coordination with Process Engineers
- Draw "Approved" revisions of Process documents based on "As-built" documents received from site
- Manage native files database
- Check with site on the implementation of modifications and prepare mark-up for "As-Built" document issuance
- Issue regularly set of PFD, BFD, PID, ESD Logic Diagram and C&E diagram for both Kharir and Atuf sites
- Assist the DO-PJC draftsman with tasks whenever time permits
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Faxed or handed-in applications are **not** considered.

Fireworks in Yemen: a day-to-day routine

Yemen has been witnessing a lot of changes and 2011 was an unforgettable year for many. During the Yemeni youth revolution, gunfire and blasts were heard on an almost daily basis as clashes erupted between pro-government and pro-revolution forces – and sometimes also in celebration.

But since July 2011, it hasn't just been gunfire and shelling that has echoed across the city; fireworks can be seen and heard almost every night.

By: Malak Shaher

It was ten at night on July 7 when all of a sudden, Nadia Ahmad, 23, of Sana'a heard huge blasts and gunfire. Her father called her and the rest of the family to hide under a big table in the living room of their house so that no one got hurt.

"I thought it was the war," she said. "We did not know what was going on until my cousin called us saying that we should not be scared because the blasts were actually fireworks."

For her, that day marked the beginning of fireworks becoming a "day-to-day" routine. In her neighborhood, people are allying Ali Abdullah Saleh, who was in power for 33 years before signing a deal to step down in November.

"It turned out that they were happy when they found out that he survived the attack against the Al-Nahdain mosque where he was

praying, and were celebrating," she said.

Ahmad said that men in her neighborhood light fireworks simply when they "feel bored".

However, fireworks began to spread across the city a month before exploding over Nadia Ahmad's home. On June 4, when President Saleh left for Saudi Arabia for treatment after being injured in the mosque attack, fireworks were set off in Change Square.

A month and three days later, army forces and government supporters shot bullets into the air and set off fireworks in almost all Yemeni provinces on hearing the news that the President would survive, according to state television.

"Fireworks cover the skies of the capital Sana'a and other Yemeni governorates to celebrate the successful surgery of President Saleh," Yemen official television channel reported, according to Xinhua news agency.



Children playing with crackers in Aden (left). In Yemen, during celebrations such as weddings and holidays, people like to express their happiness by setting off fireworks and crackers (right) but people often confuse fireworks with gunfire.



Before the crisis, the Ministry of Interior was the authority buying fireworks to set them off on national days. However, during the uprising, "things fell out of the hands of the state and people were not held accountable if they bought fireworks or even firing bullets into the open air," according to Riyadh Al-Zubair, a secretary in the minister's office.

Al-Zubair added that the ministry used to give permission, with limitations, for those who wanted to buy fireworks. "The problem in Yemen now is

gunfire, which is more dangerous. If some set fireworks off, others shoot at weddings or whenever they just feel happy."

Children are terrified

Mahmoud Mohammad, a husband and a father of four, says the sound of fireworks terrifies his children and that they shout "war, war!" when they hear them. Sometimes, they awake late at night when they hear blasts. He added that the setting off of fireworks is not a new problem, but through 2011, it became a much bigger issue.

In Mohammad's village in Taiz, women sometimes burn the remains of papers to light a fire in the stove. He said that one day a woman found a cardboard box and assuming it was empty, used it as fuel. "It was for fireworks and there were some material remaining. She put it and left it, causing a big blast," he said. "But luckily, she was away when the stove exploded."

According to a worker at one of the certified shops selling fireworks, who preferred not to be named, they only sell fireworks to those who show them invitations

for weddings. "We only sell to those who live outside the city of Sana'a. But there are other uncertified places who smuggle fireworks and sell them to people for less money," he said.

A box of fireworks is sold at their shop for YR 2,500 or USD 12 while it costs half that at a shop not certified by the Ministry of Interior.

"People are using the insecurity in the country to do whatever they want. They set off fireworks and even sometimes start fires," said Mohammad Al-Qaedi from the Ministry of Interior.

After a rich life, Al-Baidhani passes away

By: Mohammed bin Sallam

Former vice president, premier and economy minister Dr. Abdul Rahman Al-Baidhani, one of the symbols of Yemen's September 26 revolution, has died at the age of 85.

After passing away on the evening of January 1, Saba News Agency reported that Dr. Al-Baidhani's funeral ceremony was performed the Monday afternoon. It had a large turnout of Yemeni embassy staff in Cairo and Yemen's permanent del-

egation at the Arab League in addition to his family and friends and Yemeni community there.

Some 48 years ago, Yemenis were chanting "Walk tall O, Yamani, long live Al-Salal and Al-Baidhani," talking about Abdullah Al-Salal, the first post-revolution president in the former Yemen Arab Republic, and Dr. Al-Baidhani who passed away on the first day of 2012.

His other achievements included establishing the Yemeni Bank for Reconstruction and Development in Yemen and the Arab Agency for Technical Studies in Egypt and

working as a professor and a board member of the college of commerce at Banha University in Egypt.

Before the September 26 revolution, Dr. Al-Baidhani was a consultant of the Yemeni delegation to Cairo, a deputy chief of Yemen's permanent representative at the Arab League, a Plenipotentiary Minister for Yemen in former West Germany and in the Republic of Sudan as well as an economic consultant of Imam Ahmed.

An announcement from the presidency highlighted the key role that Al-Baidhani had played in Yemen.

Through his writings, regarding the removal of the imamat from power, he helped bring about many changes in Yemen. That statement said that the prominent man died "after a lifetime of hard struggle for Yemen and its progress".

It went on to say that Al-Baidhani was one of the knights in Yemeni political life and a man who held onto his convictions. Even if you disagreed with his views, it said, "you have no choice but to respect them out of respect to Yemeni people and to be fair to history."

The presidency said it wished

that Al-Baidhani's legacy of over nineteen works of research and studies would be a resource for future generations chronicling Yemen's 26 September revolution and the era that preceded it.

Some of Al-Baidhani's works include: Yemen Revolution's Dimensions, Arab Nation's Crisis and Yemeni Revolution, Yemen's Secrets and Motawakili Ruses.



أجمل التهاني وأزكى التبريكات للشابين الخلوقين

فيدل درهم ناجي & فهيمان درهم ناجي

بمناسبة دخولهما القفص الذهبي

للتزوج المبروك

المهنتون

الدوتكة
 مسير درهم تاني
 مسالي درهم تاني
 غاري درهم تاني

وجميع الأهل والأصدقاء

أجمل التهاني وأرق التبريكات نرفها للأستاذ/

محمود السامعي

بمناسبة ارتزاقه المولودة الجديدة والتي أسماه

براءة

جعلها الله قررة عين والديها وأنبتها منبتاً حسناً في كنفهما

المهنتون

كافة موظفي صحيفة يمن تايمز

الدكتور رامي التحيير
 نادية المساف

المدير العام التنفيذي
 خير الدين التسيور

ADVERTORIAL

Saffi home-economics class opened at Mohammed Saeed Anam school

The Yemen Margarine and Soap Manufacturing Company, last week opened a home economic facility named "Saffi" at Mohammed Saeed Anam late excellence private school. It was funded by Al-Hajj Ali Mohammed Saeed Anam, chairman of supervisory board top group of Hail Saeed Anam and his partner companies, in coordination with the Of-

fice of Education and the National Department of Education.

Hisham Ali Mohammed Saeed Anam, Executive Director of Yemen for the firm, said: "This activity comes with the belief of the company that women are the future, and aims to prepare the setup right, so women can manage the home economy, to preserve the bal-

ance of their budgets for food and family care."

The opening of the class is part of a plan to boost strategic goals for the company, including its social contribution to the development of society services.

He added: "We put forward ambitious marketing plans this year and for the coming years to open

more halls that can help improve social activities in communities and contribute directly the development of Yemen.

Anam indicated that the company's support would not be limited to classes; it will also support many activities including the donation of products, supporting the activities of home economics, summer programs during the school year, student activities and different festivals, and the organization of trips for the home economics students and teachers.

It is also part of the company's social responsibility towards the community.

A ceremony was included to inaugurate the hall "Saffi", which start with several paragraphs containing songs, advertising, and Sketch playwright. The ceremony was attended by Nasser Alokhal, General Director of the Youth and Sports Office, Dr. Fares Saqqaf, President of the Future Studies Center and Abdulaziz Mahyoub, Director of the Education Activities Office at Taiz governorate, and a number of educators and parents of students.

