

Over 40 Al-Qaeda militants killed in Abyan, Al-Baidha

By: Abdurrahman Anees

ABYAN, March 11 — More than 40 people were killed in air-raids carried out against Al-Qaeda militant strongholds in the governorates of Abyan and Al-Baidha on Friday evening. For its part, the Ansar Al-Shariah militant group recognized the deaths of only 17 militants.

Tribal sources affirmed that large numbers of Al-Qaeda militants were killed following violent airstrikes on Wadi Al-Makhaq in Al-Baidha and Ja'ar in Abyan.

A local source in Al-Baidha told the Yemen Times that the armed militants held a funeral for 17 of their comrades on Saturday evening. The source stated that the funeral did not include all the bodies of men killed by Yemeni and American airstrikes on Friday.

Mohamed Edrees, a tribal leader in Al-Baidha, told the Yemen Times that on Friday evening, more than 20 persons were killed during airstrikes launched against Mamdood and Dogi, two areas recognized as hideouts for armed militants.

On Friday, the governorates of Al-Baidha and Abyan witnessed similar strikes against the Ansar Al-Sharia group, which has taken complete control of Ja'ar and changed the town's name to the "Emirate of Qar."

According to several sources, the air attacks were directed at militant strongholds in Al-Makhaq, Dhabiah and Mamdood in Baidha. Ansar Al-Shariah positions in the vicinity of the October 7 Factory in Al-Makhaq were also bombed.

Dozens of soldiers are held inside the Al-Maz Company, owned by Yahya Saleh, nephew of former president Ali Abdullah Saleh.



Over 20 armed militants were killed in joint American-Yemeni airstrikes launched on Friday against areas believed to be Al-Qaeda's strongholds.

The soldiers were captured during armed confrontations in Dofas on March 4.

Sources close to Ansar Al-Sharia stated that no soldiers were wounded or killed during the recent raids. The militants have demanded that 300 Al-Qaeda militants be released in return for the release of 72 captured soldiers.

While Yemeni officials say the air-fighters used to bombard positions in Abyan and Al-Baidha were Yemeni, the militants groups have said that they were American. Locals affirmed that they heard the sounds of unmanned drone aircrafts flying before the strikes took

place.

With regard to Ansar Al-Sharia's material losses, several sources said that a number of military vehicles and pieces of equipment that had been captured by Al-Qaeda militants in clashes in Dofas were destroyed.

Official media outlets quoted the governor of Al-Baidha, Mohammad Nasser Al-Amiri, as saying that more than 30 militants - including Egyptian, Syrian, Pakistani, and Afghan nationals - were killed in the raids, which targeted terrorist elements at Wadi al-Makhaq.

In a statement published on the Defense Ministry website, the gov-

ernor of Al-Baidhaain stated that the raids were successful.

He pointed out that the strikes targeted a meeting between terrorist operatives at a camp in the region.

He added that other raids had been launched against caves that were used by terrorists as weapons and ammunition stores.

Al-Amiri indicated that some corpses had been blown apart and could not be positively identified. The governor of Al-Baidha said some bodies had been buried at Al-Zaher Cemetery, while other bodies had been transported to Abyan to be buried there.

New security plan to close Aden off from militants

By: Saleh Al-Batati

ADEN, March 11 — On Saturday, Aden's security services put into effect a plan to establish stability and protect the city from infiltration by Al-Qaeda militants from neighboring Abyan governorate.

The new security plan came one week the appointment of both a new governor and new security chief for Aden. New governor Rasheed Ali announced the security plan on Thursday. Having been approved by the military committee, the plan is set to be carried out on Saturday of this week.

Ali explained that the plan has been designed to restore security and tranquility to the coastal city of Aden.

Aden's security chief, General



Despite a newly approved security plan for Aden, unknown assailants sabotaged on Saturday morning an oil pipeline connecting oil stores in Al-Tawwahi to refineries in Al-Buraiqah.

Sadiq Haid, said the plan aims "to close Aden off from fugitive terrorist elements who fled from Abyan to Aden and to make the governorate resistant to terrorist acts."

According to state-run Saba news agency, Haid said the importance of the new plan lies in the fact that Aden is situated very close to Abyan, the center of Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP).

Aden has been badly affected by a series of terror attacks launched by AQAP militants against military bases and security checkpoints.

Growing insecurity has forced many people in the city to take up

arms to defend themselves.

Security soldiers and dozens of armored vehicles were deployed earlier this week to guard government and security facilities.

On Saturday morning — also the first day of the security plan's implementation — unknown assailants exploded oil pipelines which link Aden refineries in Buriqah to oil stores in Twahi.

An eyewitness told Yemen Times that smoke from the blast proceeded to cover the surrounding area.

The call for army restructuring

On Friday in Aden, thousands of

protesters rallied to demand that newly-elected president Abd Rabo Mansour Hadi restructure the national army.

This past Friday carried the slogan "Restructure the army to stay faithful to the martyrs." The demonstrators chanted slogans to send a message to the president about the urgent need to restructure the army.

The protesters strongly condemned the killing of soldiers by Al-Qaeda militants in Abyan last week. During the demonstration, protesters accused "remnants of Saleh's regime" of being behind the killings in Abyan.

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Wefaq organization warns against power transition failure



Left: Ahmed Al-Jua'mani, right: Abd Al-Rahman Al-Ameri

By: Ali Saeed

SANA'A, March 11 — Wefaq, a newly-established civil society organization, spoke out this week against attempts to cause Yemen's power transition deal and the implementation of the GCC initiative to fail.

"What is taking place in Abyan is an attempt to disrupt the GCC initiative and all of us must stand together against anyone who hinders the initiative's implementation," Abd Al-Rahman Al-Ameri, a Yemeni businessman and co-founder of the organization, told the Yemen Times.

Al-Ameri believes that Yemen's "silent majority" already made its position of support for the initiative clear on February 21, when citizens went to the ballot boxes and elected new President Abd Rabo Mansour Hadi.

"Hadi's validity doesn't come from the international and regionally-backed initiative only - it is now the popular consensus which was achieved on election day," he said.

On February 25, when Hadi vowed to fight terrorism in front of parliament and ambassadors from five permanent members states of

the Security Council, over 20 Republican Guard soldiers were killed in a southern presidential palace, the result of an operation Al-Qaeda claimed responsibility for.

"We demand that the new president combat terrorism and boost security and stability so that we may have a good climate for the upcoming National Dialogue Conference," Al-Ameri said.

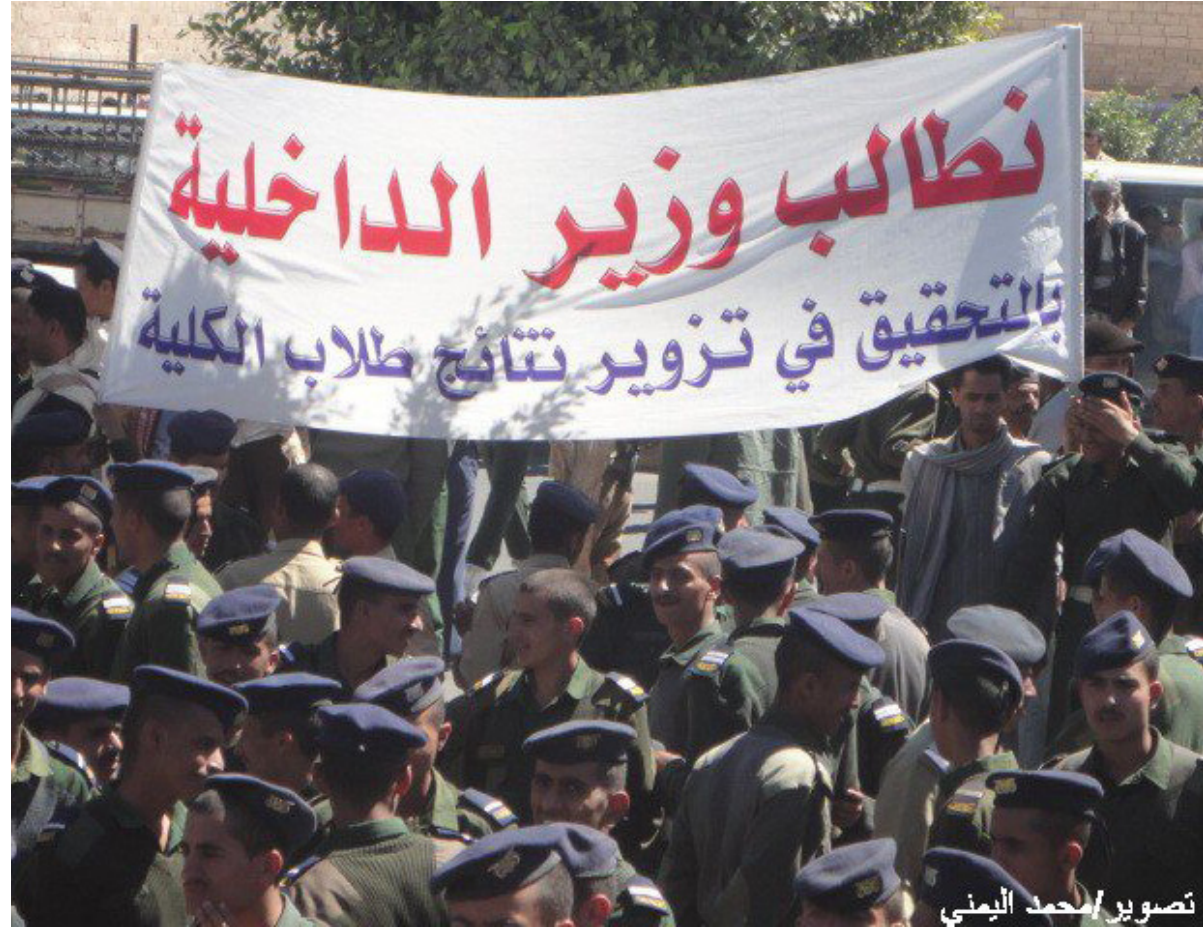
The Wefaq organization was announced on October 18, 2011, a month ahead of the formation of an interim government in line with the GCC initiative and its implementation mechanism. Al-Ameri said the organization is funded by its members and founders and that it hasn't received money from any parties.

There are currently around 5,000 members in the Wefaq organization.

"We created this organization to convey the silent majority's voice, those who seek change and a civil, modern state by way of non-violent means," said Ahmed Al-Jua'mani, a member of the organization.

"We endured a lot of troubles and we have emerged with the formation of this organization to help Yemen achieve safety," Al-Ameri concluded.

Dean of Police Academy dismissed



Hussein Al-Othari, dean of the Police academy for 27 years, was fired this week after students protested and demanded his removal.

By: Mohammed Al-Samei

SANA'A, March 11 — The Minister of Interior, Abdulqader Qahtan has fired the dean of the Police Academy, Hussein Al-Othari and replaced him with Mohammed Al-Asta'a, the senior instructor of the college, a security source told the Yemen Times on Saturday.

Qahtan attended the march organized by police academy students in front of President Hadi's residence in the capital Sana'a. He assured the students that the dean has been dismissed along with most of the other college administrators.

The students of the college op-

posed the appointment of Al-Asta'a as the new dean. The minister declared, however, that this appointment will only be temporary until the president makes an official decision in the near future appointing somebody from outside of the college.

Officers and students of the college had marched to the front of the presidential residence located on Sixty Meter Road in Sana'a demanding the dismissal of the dean.

Jameel Al-Sallami, a student, and his classmates expressed their pleasure upon hearing the response of the minister to their demand that the dean be dismissed.

They expressed the hope that a replacement from outside the college is appointed as soon as possible. They maintained that students and officers have worked very hard to achieve this result despite being assaulted by security forces.

Al-Sallami said that the protests had occurred because the students had been deprived of their rights. He said that most services were not available for students and that they had to buy their own textbook for YR 15,000.

He also said that the food in the college is bad and some expired foodstuffs are being served to stu-

dents. He added that even the police students' uniforms had not been provided by the college.

Students have been given about two weeks break until a new dean is appointed by a presidential decision, according to Al-Sallami.

Colonel Jamal Rashid, a father of one of the students, said in a statement to the Yemen Times that the police students and officers had maintained their protest and demanded the dismissal of the dean, Al-Othari, because of corruption within the college.

"Al-Othari had turned the college into his own property and had appointed people close to him in various departments and battalions," Rashid said.

He added that the dean was supposed to retire ten years ago and had now held this office for 27 years.

Students of the college had previously organized protests and demonstrations in the campus of the college demanding the dismissal of Al-Othari. The most recent protests were last Monday.

Dozens of uprisings and protests have been sweeping military and civil institutions since late Dec. 2011 demanding the resignations of leaders accused of being corrupt.

Arts and sciences colleges at Sana'a University reopened

By: Marwa Najmaldin

SANA'A, March 11 — On Saturday morning, students from two colleges at Sana'a University's old campus returned to start the first semester of 2012 after a suspension of their studies which began in February 2011.

The First Armored Division completely withdrew its troops and armored vehicles from Sana'a University's old campus on Sunday. The withdrawal came on the heels of an eleven-month-long military presence, during which defected troops occupied the space with the stated goal of protecting anti-regime protesters.

"We were stationed at the end of Change Square to protect protesters," said a division colonel who requested anonymity.

He explained that they had deployed their troops after confrontations between protesters and security forces had been reported.

"The university campus represented the best place from where troops could protect the protesters," he said.

The arts and sciences colleges, located at the old campus of Sana'a University, have a capacity of around 2,500 seats per year.

"We became lost and scattered in the alternate buildings, where

students were distributed in small groups and in different places," Safa'a Al-Domini, a third-level student at the science college, said.

She explained that some students and professors had continued to study amid the army presence at the old campus, as they had refused to attend alternative classes set up by the university administration.

"The troops completely left the campus on Sunday; now there's no soldiers at our college, sitting in our seats, sleeping in our classrooms, using the water fountain for their laundry," said Manar Mohamed, a second-year student studying English Literature.

"Even if students were given lessons in other places, the appropriate educational environment wasn't present," Manar explained. "No library, no bookshops and other such things."

Laboratories at the science college had been closed for months and alternative facilities at the Turkish institute only included classrooms.

"We find ourselves forced to imagine the results of experiments just to gain time and compensate for what we lost in the past year," fourth-year student Fahmi Al-Wesabi said.

"Now things have changed, with a return to a normal education," Al-Wesabi added.

The Latest Buzz

By: Nadia Al-Sakkaf

- ▶ A seminar on the role of women in decision making organized by Partners in Development in coordination with NDI has been concluded in Taiz.
- ▶ Aden Traffic Authority has started a security campaign with a greater presence of traffic officers on the main streets and junctions in the governorate in an attempt to organize traffic and improve road safety.
- ▶ Aden Diabetics Association in coordination with the Danish International Diabetics Association has inaugurated a training course for diabetic patients. The training which runs across four days builds the capacity of 50 medical staff of various health centers and hospitals in Aden.
- ▶ The Ministry of Culture celebrated its women employees on the occasion of International Women's Day. The celebration included sketches and singing performances.
- ▶ A capacity building workshop on modern management techniques and report writing started in Al-Mahwit for 35 participants from local council administrations. The training will last 11 days and is funded by the Social Fund for Development.
- ▶ Judges responsible for awarding the Hayel Saeed Anam Science Award for 2011 will meet on Wednesday to choose the winner from 25 science projects that have entered the competition.
- ▶ Twenty three women from Sayoun City in Hadramout concluded a one month training course on beauty and cosmetics organized by the Hadrami Cooperation Charity in cooperation with the Vocational Training and Technical Education office. The training has provided the attendees with improved skills for income generation.
- ▶ The first phase of a national immunization campaign started on Saturday across seven governorates. The campaign will last six days and will target two million children under the age of ten for measles and under the age of five for polio.
- ▶ A training course in computer literacy in Ibb governorate started on Saturday for 25 participants from local councils. The training which will last for one month is funded by the Social Fund for Development.
- ▶ All statistics of government employees in Aden governorate are currently being collected in order to be aggregated, categorized and then recorded in digital format. This project will enable concerned authorities to review qualifications and any wage grievances.
- ▶ A technical team from the Electricity Cooperation was able to repair damage to the power transport network in Marib on Thursday and Friday. The network was vandalized by armed men earlier this week.
- ▶ The branch of the Social Fund for Development in Taiz has registered 128 development projects at a total cost of 30 million USD in education, health and water to be implemented in 2012.
- ▶ Two training courses in handicrafts and home economics concluded on Friday in Al-Dhale' governorate. The courses targeted 20 teachers of literacy classes and seven volunteers over one month so as to enable them to convey those skills to their students.



Vacancy Announcement Yemeni Women Union

Yemeni Women Union is looking for a Project Coordinator for its **Strengthening Power through Family – Community Led Programs** project. The project aims to improve the quality of life of the poor and vulnerable groups (especially women ,youth and children) including the issues of environmental degradation and health risks of having qat .The project is grant from the Japanese Development Social Fund through the World Bank to be implemented in seven governorates.

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Contract: Start April 2012 – 12 months full –time contract ,with option of extension.

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- Smooth coordination with project partners and develop strong relationship with key stakeholders.
- Assess and negotiate capacity development plans with partners.
- Assist with recruitment and orientation of staff ,and conduct performance coordinator of project team.
- Ensure that financial procedures are maintain budget in liaison with Project Accountant.

Required Qualifications& Experience:

- Degree in public health social work, development ,social science or related discipline.
- 3 – 5 years managing and coordinate project and staff in development or humanitarian context ,including .
- Managing partnership and capacity building.
- Design and implementation of Monitoring and Evaluation.
- Report writing and communication tasks.
- Knowledge and experience in women ,children and youth programming.
- Fluency in Arabic and good English language skills (written and spoken).
- Excellent leadership ,team ,communication and negotiation skills ,and ability to manage stress problem solve and make decisions.

Note :

- Women are particularly encouraged to apply.

Application Procedure : Interested application are provide a letter of motivation and copy of their CV (English) by 23 March by email to :

Nojoodywu@yahoo.com , or by Fax :480490 with the subject heading "**Strengthening the Powerless Groups Project**" and the position title. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted

Al-Sosowa: "Yemen needs a cultural as well as a political transition"

Interview by Nadia Al-Sakkaf

Yemen's own Amat Al-Alim Al-Sosowa, who is currently UNDP's Assistant Secretary -General and Regional Director Regional Bureau for Arab States, is on her fourth visit to Yemen since she started working with the UN. She says it is unusual for a UN high ranking officer to visit his or her own country this frequently, but she can't help it since Yemen is special.

However, her concern for Yemen is even beyond the political transition; since she deeply understands Yemen, she realizes that the country is inevitability heading towards not only an economic but also a cultural crisis that no one seems to be taking note of.

"Tremendous conscious efforts need to be urgently made, as a priority, to readjust Yemenis from a culture of violence and instability to one of peace, reconstruction, tolerance and forgiving" said Al-Sosowa, also former Yemeni Minister of Human Rights.

Signs of social tensions are already visible in the Internally Displaced Persons' communities across the country, and are becoming more prominent in poor segments of the society.

"The main issue for me is that economic deterioration especially in the public sector where millions of state employees may not be able



Amat Al-Alim Al-Sosowa

to receive their salaries in the coming months, may lead to an unanticipated national crisis," she said.

Raising this red flag, Al-Sosowa mentioned that at least \$1.5 billion needs to be injected into the national budget without delay. This, as an immediate emergency measure should be followed by more sustainable strategies for both economic and social development.

"When it comes to development indicators, I am afraid Yemen is not only not progressing according

to the Millennium Development Goals, but it will take us years and much effort to just go back to where we were a year ago," she said.

Silver lining Despite the reality check Al-Sosowa made during her meetings with officials, diplomats, civil society, women and youth, she says there is yet much hope for Yemen.

A heartwarming experience was when she met with so many Yemeni youth both men and women coming from various governorates and

coming from diverse political and cultural backgrounds.

"It was amazing how civil and democratic the discussion was. The one hour meeting extended to three and I found myself impressed by the intellect, responsible talk and ownership those youth had towards their country," she said.

Her impression was that those are capable youth who want to be part of making the future of this country. They demanded no less than 50 percent participation in all committees of the transitional period based on the fact that youth represent more than 60 percent of the population.

"They were worried that they would be excluded as usual because decision makers are old school and used to managing politics in their traditional ways. This is why I have made it a point to convey the youth and women's concerns of being excluded to every official I meet privately and publically," said the UN Assistant Administrator.

This was the main message that she repeated throughout her visit to Yemen this time;

"The time is more than right for Yemenis in general and women and youth in particular to really translate their aspirations and engage fully so that Yemen could finally put its feet in the new era."

This attitude of inclusion needs

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to be integrated in the national dialogue and peace building mechanisms.

"Yemenis can do it [transition Yemen into recovery] on their own.

They are capable and with little help from its friends and neighbors who announce that they love Yemen, they can do it," concluded al-Sosowa.

North Sudan strengthens relations with Yemeni Islamists

By: Muaadh Al-Maqtari

SANAA, March 11 — Even though the Arab Spring did not extend to north Sudan, Sudanese leadership has begun making coalitions with Islamists both inside and outside Sudan, including with Islamists in Yemen.

While Omar Al-Bashir, president of North Sudan, is thought to be a member of the Muslim Brotherhood Movement, Sudanese opposition figure Hassan Al-Turabi represents the strongest Islamic groups in the country.

However, this hasn't prevented Al-Bashir's regime from networking with Islamic movements outside Sudan. One such action involved a visit by Sudanese presi-

dential advisor Nafa' Ali Nafa' to Yemen.

Nafa' met with representatives of the Joint Meeting Parties (JMP) opposition coalition, in particular with members of the Islah Islamic party.

Nafa' - who praised the past year's developments in Yemen and Egypt - has ignored the possibility of a Sudanese revolution or uprising. Limiting such aspirations to the nation's Christian population, Nafa' said, "Any talk about a Sudanese spring just comes down to the wishes of the people of the book."

"The status of North Sudan is good," said the president's advisor in a press conference on Friday after the conclusion of this three-day visit to Yemen.

Hassan Al-Turabi, a Sudanese Islamic opposition figure, appeared on a television news channel a few hours ahead of the press conference to warn that Sudan could become another Somalia.

Nafa' described Al-Turabi's statement as "media fuss," adding, "We know the details, and there's no way Sudan can turn it into another Somalia."

Yemen and Sudan are very similar in terms of their possession of insurgent and secessionist groups. While Yemen has Houthi rebels in Sa'ada, Sudan has a similar problem in Darfur; secessionist aspirations in south Yemen liken it to South Sudan, which separated from the country's north in February 2011.

American-Turkish delegation to invest in \$1 billion electricity project

By: Mohammed Al-Samei

Sana'a, March 11 — A delegation from the American-Turkish PEG company and its partners is expected to arrive in Sana'a on Monday in response to an invitation by Electricity Minister Saleh Sumai'a.

The three-day visit has been designed to cover a number of investment projects aimed at developing electricity service in Yemen.

The company intends to establish an electricity station with a capacity of 579-1300 MW over the next two years.

Hashim Al-Thawar, regional representative of the American-Turkish PEG said the company is willing to build an electricity station that can operate using diesel, gas or

oil, and pointed out that it intends to invest about \$1.5 billion in new electricity stations, and developing and modernizing Yemen's electricity network.

The delegation plans to expediently provide the electricity ministry with a station to cover Sana'a's electricity shortfall.

The company said it plans to present several attractive offers, options and facilities to hasten the implementation of vital projects to cover Yemen's needs.

Furthermore, the company has expressed interest in signing a contract with the Yemeni public sector as a fund partner, along with the General Electricity Corporation. An alternative is that the company will implement the project as a sole

investor, while complying with Yemeni investment law and regulations.

The foreign company will provide soft offers to pay the value of projects as the project requires funds and facilities that the budget of the government does not have.

The company intends to establish a number of technical institutes in three main Yemeni stations, to be selected by the ministry and the Public Electricity Corporation.

The institutes will train Yemeni cadres to become proficient in the most modern techniques in operating and maintaining electricity projects and stations.

According to the company, these projects will provide the public budget with \$1-2 billion annually.

Medical workers object to reinstatement of manager

By: Marwa Najmaldin

SANAA, March 11 — A group of doctors and staff at the Cancer Center at the Republican Hospital demonstrated on Sunday morning. They objected to instructions by president Hadi that former manager of the center Dr. Nadeem Muhammed Saeed be reinstated.

Saeed was dismissed late last year by the Minister of Health, Dr. Abdulkareem Rasa'a.

According to the demonstrating staff workers, the dismissal of Saeed came late, but was the fair result of charges of corruption and the smuggling of medications. The doctors and staff filed a memorandum about Saeed, which was then forwarded to president Hadi, the Prime Minister, and the Minister of Health.

For his part, Dr. Aff al-Nabihy, a consultant on tumors, said "Our demand is clear and explicit - it is that we refuse the return of the former manager Dr. Saeed, who destroyed the Cancer Center for over seven years. The center became his own, and not a public center. It was established to serve those segments of the community that most need help.

Dr. Ahmed Shamlan added that the change came suddenly and of-

ficially from the former Minister of Health. Dr. Ali al-Ashwal replaced him despite evidence of corruption against Dr. Saeed which spanned multiple years. The dismissal came, however, because of political reasons, according to the dismissed manager.

Saeed said what happened yesterday morning was the result of ten people - doctors and staff in the center - charging him and using bad words against him in an effort to bar his return to the center.

"My return came by way of the order of president Hadi, who personally viewed the official papers issued by the Ministry of Legal Affairs and the Ministry of Human Rights, which stated that the dismissal was unfair and invalid," he said.

"The former ministry was a transitional ministry. I was dismissed during that period while I was on Haj (pilgrimage). That decision is invalid according the Ministry of Labor and Human Rights, which judged that my return to the center was legitimate," he said.

"If I was involved in any form of corruption, this would not make me feel determined to return to the center...but a confidence in my history is what makes me feel determined to stay," Saeed added.



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The marginalized community of Aden (PART ONE)

Where boundaries fade and forgiveness is tradition

By: Muaad Al-Maqtari

Ragged children play in open-sewerages while others amuse themselves exploring garbage. Some of those children have never been to school while many of those who did eventually dropped out.

A little boy Sakhr, 10, dances his customized version of hip hop along with nine-year old Sua'd near one of the shacks. They had seen it on TV, which is the central entertainment source of their lives.

Sakhr lives in northern Al-Mahareeq slums in Sheikh Othman district of Aden, which is home to some 15,000 marginalized inhabitants of African origin known in Yemen as akhdam. They live in around 1,000 cottages and poorly built homes made of cardboards, leftover wood and random cement blocks.

This community is heavily discriminated against in the Yemeni society not only because of their darker skin color and poor sanitation conditions but also because of their poverty and the myths Yemenis spread about their traditions and practices.

However, Sua'd who, did not originally belong to the same mar-

ginalized community. She had been living in a proper home integrated with the mainstream Yemeni community until her father died one year ago dropping them to the lowest scale of the social ladder next to the akhdam.

Sua'd had to drop out of school so did her older sister Sumaya before moving to Al-Mahareeq. In order to support the family, their big brother, 15, is working as a street cleaner with the Municipality.

Because of the lack of integration such slums have become a taboo area for many Yemenis, who prefer not to come close sometimes for justified reasons such as armed gangs and thugs who beat-up and rob strangers.

However, having an inside contact creates a form of protection for any visitor, which is how this report was made possible.

Despite the seemingly lack of order, there is a strict hierarchy and chain of command system in the community. There is a social leader whom the locals refer to for solving their disputes.

Ironically, women from this community have more freedom than the average Yemeni woman. They have less inhibitions talking to strange men in any subject.

"Please come to the wedding of my relative. There will be singers and musicians from our community," said Um Adel Faraj a leader in the community inviting the journalist to the wedding.

She was welcoming and open to sitting with the outsiders just like the women in that community do.

Illegitimate children

On average akhdam have the same number of children, seven, as most Yemeni families. The difference is that because of poverty the entire family is usually cramped into one or two rooms.

"This creates a problem in privacy," said Salah Dabwan, head of Youth of Popular Districts Organization in Aden. This organization deals with unorganized poor communities and includes staff from the marginalized community.

"Children in these shacks can see their parents engaging in marital relations and sometimes even try to imitate what they see which causes unwanted pregnancies, and sometimes incest."

This also causes a problem of illegitimate children whose fathers are not known. The level of shame associated with illegitimate children is much less than in traditional Yemeni communities.

In fact, the community members have a moral agreement among each other not to disrespect or point fingers at each others' scandals. Although some mothers land up leaving their new born children at health centers or in public places.

Al-Amal Association, an organization focusing on developing marginalized communities created a five year project which ended 2011 to defend the right of illegitimate children to obtain official birth certificates to give them a chance to enter schools. The project was funded by CHF, and had initial support from UNICEF which was shortly disconnected.

In 2009, Al-Amal Association in coordination with Fardoos Asso-

ciation held an awareness campaign for educating the community on this issue.

"In the campaign we gathered illegitimate children and those with known fathers in the same room so that they don't feel shamed and we talked to them indiscriminately about their rights," said Adel Faraj director of the association.

Through the five year project around 5000 birth certificates for both illegitimate and children with known parents were obtained.

According to Dabwan, illegitimate children in the birth certificate are given the family names of their closest male relative such as an uncle or someone who wills to adopt them.

The akhdam consider themselves Yemenis and are considered so by law. Although it becomes very hard for them to avail ID cards because they have no fixed address. But when it comes to elections and mobilizing voters, they are given voter ID cards easily according to Dabwan.

The lack of structural education and adult supervision also leads to other problems such as offensive language which is common and the use hallucinogenic drugs and poor quality alcohol made locally called haroor.

"You can buy a 75ml bottle of haroor for only \$200 [less than 1\$]," said a man known for selling alcohol in his house at Al-Mahareeq.

However, the drugs such as diazepam are relatively more expensive as they are smuggled through the sea from other areas and could be sold to anyone with enough cash including children.

Randa's swing

In the southern part of the slum, a well dressed young lady in black abaya was helping young akhdam children into the single swing on which eight children piled on.

A scene extremely different from the despair seen earlier at the northern part of Al-Mahareeq.

She helps the little ones and com-



Randa (inset) and the children of Al-Mahareeq with their only swing.

forts those who fall. She even dusts the dirt from their clothes and wipes their noses.

When she noticed the camera she shouted warning the other children: "Journalists, Journalists..."

However, children did take note and continued playing as usual. This is when Yemen Times journalist had following conversation with the smart little girl:

Why did you shout journalists?

To draw the attention of the children playing to you so that they leave the swing and others get a turn playing. I come from outside this community. My house is near this swing and so when I have time I come to help those children.

Are there any other playgrounds around?

No. There are no parks, no gardens

no place for us to play. This swing is part of an electronic games playing area owned by businessman outside the community.

Why don't you teach them other activities such as drawing?

I tried to do that in the past, but they were drawing knives, guns and rockets, both the boys and the girls did that. It was so violent.

Why do you think they only drew that?

Because this is what they know. They have not been exposed to parks and trees and fun games. They are even living far from the sea which is one of the outlets for children in Aden.

You are a journalist; please tell the government to provide us with games, schools and parks to improve those marginalized children's behavior.



Sakhr and Sua'd the aspiring hip-hop dancers.

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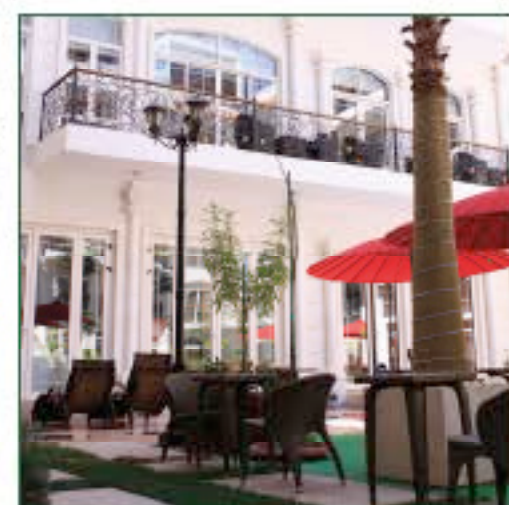
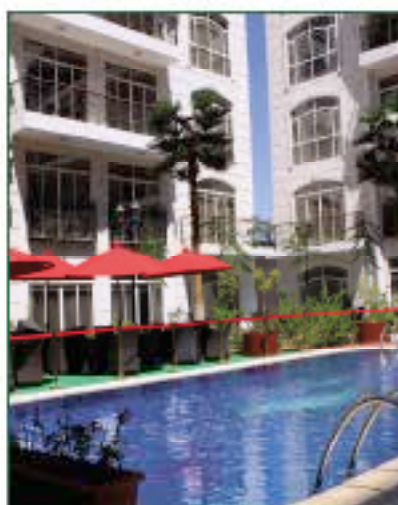
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YT vision statement



"To make Yemen a good world citizen."

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

OUR
OPINIONStarting before
the bad guys

In those exact words a friend of mine Abdulghani Al-Iryani, one of the founders of the Democratic Awakening Movement a new political party in the making, explained their work.

Currently this movement is working on the legal structure of transitional constitutional reform. His movement, whom he is chairing currently, had already been working on the case for several months including visits to established democracies such as Germany to learn from their experiences.

"We are starting before the bad guys, so that when it comes to decision making we are ready with our model for what we believe the constitution of the new Yemen should be like," he said.

By the "bad guys" he did not mean anyone in particular or rather he meant a group of people who despite change would, by habit or will, want to keep the traditional ways of managing the country.

Yemenis like Abdulghani are preparing a surprise for the bad guys by being prepared with ready studied answers backed with international expertise.

There is also Resonate Yemen, another aspiring movement, but this time it is about youth. Resonate is currently creating youth coalitions around the country, even in places like Aden where the traditional opposition is said to be resistant to being involved with the central government.

The purpose of those coalitions is to create a united voice for youth (18 to 34), who make up to 70 percent of the population, but who are usually ignored when it comes to decision making.

They too are starting before the "bad guys." And while the outreach committees of the new government should have already made progress with various groups such as youth and women, the youth are organizing themselves in a way to be visible and prepared. They have already voiced their demand of no less than 50 percent representation in all transitional committees, a request that has been sneered at by the ones in power, but applauded by civil society and the world.

However, women are still struggling and are not yet starting before the bad guys or anyone else. Somehow they are being left behind in the race to the future.

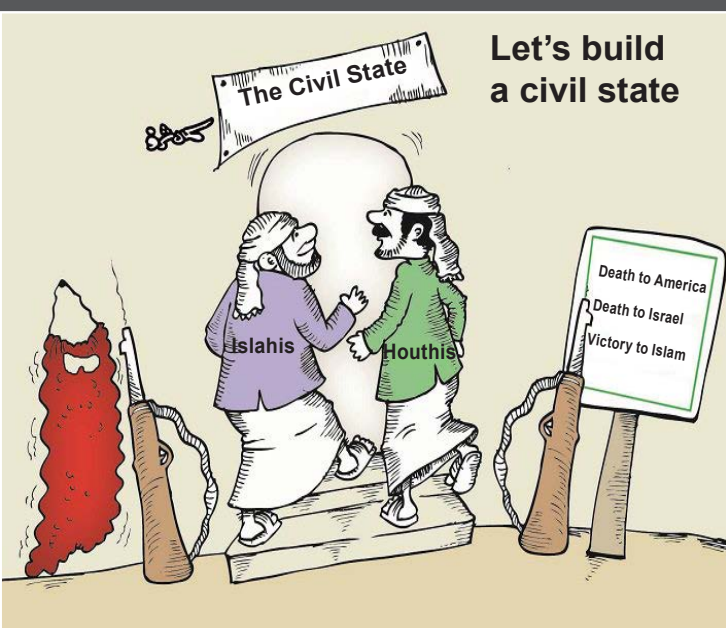
Perhaps it is because there is no real strong women's movement, or even advanced women's civil society with an ambition to have women's voice heard. Watan Coalition was one of the initiatives whose attempts kept dying even before really starting, and unfortunately the Yemeni Women's Union and the Women National Committee, despite being experienced strong arms for women, are not genuine civil society.

Nevertheless, YWU has already placed its demands for women last week and the WNC will do so on March 19. Hoping that we find a delightful surprise in that conference to find that women too will be starting before the "bad guys."

Nadia Al-Sakkaf

SKETCHED OPINION

By Kamal Sharaf



Yemen: No spring without women

By: Atiaf Alwazir
Al-Akhbar English
Feb. 14, 2012

In February 2011, Umm Hashim, a 45-year-old mother and resident of Yemen's capital Sana'a was glued to her television. For hours she watched the opposition channel Suhail broadcast images of injured protesters being rushed into the makeshift field hospital in Change Square. As tears rolled down her face, she vowed to go to Change Square and help in any way she could. Today, one year later, Umm Hashim has become one of the managers of the field hospital in Change Square who administers volunteers and checks on the medical supplies.

Women, a force in the revolution

Umm Hashim is not the only woman volunteer in Change Square. Thousands of women have actively participated in the revolution as protesters, leaders, volunteers, and supporters. Women are giving their time through volunteering in various committees, providing monetary donations, leading marches, cooking food for the protesters, supporting their spouses in the squares, and most significantly giving their life for a new Yemen.

In some instances, women's participation challenged cultural taboos. In a country where reputation is at the heart of many cultural practices, women of the revolution began challenging some of these traditions by sleeping at the square. Traditionally it is not accepted for women to sleep outside their home without a guardian. A handful of female protesters and volunteers at the medical committee spent many nights in Change Square without their male guardians.

Another interesting change is the acceptance of Tawakkul Karman's photo in public places. In a society where a woman's appearance is not commonly seen on large billboards (with the exclusion of television and business advertisements), the Nobel peace prize winner and Islah member's photo has spread throughout change square. Her image has become a new fashion brand. Tawakkul mugs, posters, clocks, pens, and key chains are sold in various corners of the square. In the midst of a male qat chew, tough traditional men chew in a tent decorated by her photo. This symbolism represents the baby steps women are taking to regain full equality and recognition in society.

For some, like Nadia, a 22-year-old volunteer in Change Square, this type of participation in the public sphere is their first. "In the early days of the revolution, my father told me that I was not allowed to go to Change Square, so I began sneaking out of the house without letting him know. I had a strong conviction that participating in the revolution is my Islamic duty. After a month, my father found out about my participation, but allowed me to continue going and said he was proud of me," she explained.

For other women such as Umm Khaled Al-Hamdani, a 35-year-old mother, her participation was life changing. She promised to continue volunteering as a way to give back to the community even after the revolution is over.

It is important, however, not to take what we see on the surface as an indication of a cultural revolution. One cannot romanticize these personalized gains nor confuse them with something greater, unless the women's movement will capitalize on them and push them further.

Instead, a deeper examination of women's rights is necessary. While some very basic cultural taboos have been challenged or questioned, none of the major cultural practices that stand in the way of women's rights were addressed. These include the selective use of religion to exclude women and the politicization of women's rights.

In addition, deep rooted cultural beliefs will take years to transform. For example, some men have proudly accepted women's participation and have showed a great deal of admiration for the women leaders of the revolution, while many feel the need to define them as "manly" in order to accept their leadership positions. Many male supporters of Karman or Boushra Al-Maqtary feel the need to describe them using masculine terminology, stating that they are "more manly than 1,000 men."

Patriarchy continues in the square

After former Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh's infamous speech denouncing the mixing of men and women, the people in the square were instantly divided on reaction methods. Certain elements in the movement reacted by "proving" that mixing does not occur in the square, something that is factually incorrect. A popular song blasted in the square called Saleh a "liar, liar" for accusing the protesters of mixing.

Others, wanted to show that there is nothing wrong with mixed marches, and attempted to do that the next day. Some of these women were then beaten by members of the square's organizational committee (controlled by Islah hardliners) and assisted by some military personnel from the First Armored Brigade, who had joined the protesters and vowed to provide protection.

None of the Islah leadership condemned the attacks and physical beating of the female activists, but when Karman won the Nobel peace prize, the Islah party used her prize in their political campaigns as an example of their promotion of women's rights. Time and time again, women's rights proved to be a political tool used by both the opposition and the ruling party with no real promotion



of women's agenda.

The selective use of religion to exclude women has not been publicly questioned or debated to the extent necessary. Recently, some Imams resorted to the use of takfir against Boushra Al-Maqtary, novelist and activist who lead the peaceful march from Taiz city to Sana'a, after an article she published titled "First Year Revolution." The Imams along with some hardliners began a campaign against her via mosque sermons, articles tarnishing her reputation, death threats, and a march to her house condemning her actions. Given Boushra's declared socialist leanings, some hardliners found her liberal background to be an easy target. This illustrates that women from a liberal background face numerous challenges not only from the state, but also from religious institutions.

On the other hand, Imams on the stage of Change Square encouraged more women to join the revolution. "You do not need the permission of your husband or father to come to the square, because this is a struggle for justice" said one Imam on stage.

However, on two different occasions, a different Imam prohibited women from marching. "My dear sisters, today is a male march, it is your duty to stay inside and protect the tents," he said. Of course not all Imams on stage were negative towards women's rights. Many other Imams encouraged women's participation, and recited various

stories of active women in Islamic history. Nevertheless, it is important to remember that both hardliners and progressive religious scholars are present and both have openly addressed women's issues from their own different perspectives.

The stage where these speeches are made is placed in the heart of the square, serving also as the media hub. As a result it is at the epicenter of internal conflict between independents and Islah hardliners controlling it. Numerous disagreements arose but with time and constant negotiations, compromises were made. What was not negotiated was the segregation between men and women in the area surrounding the stage.

At first there was no barrier between women and men near the stage. On March 8, when women celebrated international women's day, men and women were seated near each other with only a human barrier to separate them.

With time, the human barrier was replaced by a thin blue rope to separate the women's section, then a blue curtain and eventually a wooden wall and a metal door.

While some women protested this "cage," others believed it was not the time to struggle against it. One female women's rights activist from Aden said that protesting against this cage was not a priority when people are dying, adding, "It's not the time to complain about this wall, it would be too petty of us to do so now."

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Ten private TV channels compete for the Yemeni Public's attention

By: Mohammed Al-Sammei

Recently, media television competition in Yemen has significantly increased, with ten Yemeni non-governmental TV channels fiercely competing to attract the Yemeni public.

Several TV channels have already been established, while others wait to be televised in the coming months after staffs have been trained.

Most private channels operate abroad and are only allowed to open coordination offices within Yemen, Abd Al-Basit Al-Qaedi, and secretary of the Information Minister, told the Yemen Times.

At the moment, only one private channel airs in Yemen, Yemen Today. The channel is believed to belong to Ali Abdullah Saleh's son and influential military leader Ahmed Ali Saleh.

"Any private television channel which airs in Yemen is operating illegally; the law to open private televised channels has not yet been issued as it would need time for the matter to be discussed and endorsed," said Al-Qaedi.

"Until now, no licenses have been issued to open private televised channels in Yemen," he added.

Following are brief profiles of the competing channels:

Al-Saeeda variety TV

The pilot broadcast of Al-Saeeda variety TV, considered the first Yemeni non-governmental channel, began broadcasting from Cairo in August 2007. Al-Saeeda is owned by Dr. Hamid al-Shamiri, and Mukhtar Al-Gadasi serves as the channel's managing and executive director.

Al-Saeeda televises political programs and a variety of debates around the clock, hosts figures from different political parties, and also televises several live programs. Since its inception, the channel has been broadcast without interruption.

Suhail TV



The Suhail channel became particularly well-known for its opposition of Ali Abdullah Saleh's regime. It began broadcasting from London in May of 2009, and is owned by businessman Hamid al-Ahmar, a prominent leader of the Islah political party. The channel is run by Dr. Muhammed Gayzan, the channel's manager since it was first established. Suhail has had an influential role in the Yemeni revolution, which broke out in February, 2011. Most programs on Suhail concern politics, and live shows are often broadcast from "Change Squares" around the country.

Aden live TV



Aden live TV began broadcasting from London in February, 2009. It serves as an extension of the Southern Movement, which demands the secession of south Yemen from the north. The channel is currently run by Abdu Al-Nasir Al-Jafari, and broadcasts from Beirut, Lebanon.

For his part, Fathi bin Lizerg, editor-in chief of the AdenAlghad news website says that Southern Movement leader Ali Salim al-Bidh funds the channel.

Al-Aqiq TV



Al-Aqiq TV is owned by Faris al-Sanabani and was first run by Anwar Al-Ashwal. Al-Sanabani served as press secretary for former president Saleh, and Al-Ashwal, served as manager for national channel Yemen TV programming. It began broadcasting from Cairo in January, 2010.

Al-Aqiq is currently run by Hamadi al-Rajih, a correspondent for Sana'a-based Al-Ettijah TV. It broadcasts a variety of political and non-political programs. It largely tends to favor Saleh's regime, despite the fact that it has at times hosted regime opponents on its programs.

Yemen today TV



Yemen Today began its official broadcasting on January 1st 2012, following four months pilot broadcasts. Ahmed Badwilan is the channel's executive director, and it is owned by Republican Guard leader Ahmed Ali Saleh. It represents the prevailing views of the General Peoples Congress political party. Yemen FM radio is part of this channel. Media observers claim that the channel was established to serve as a media outlet for remnants of the former regime. Yemen Today TV is viewed as a primary competitor of Suhail TV.

Yemen Shabab TV



Yemen Shabab's first program was broadcast from Sana'a's Change Square in Sep-

tember, 2011. The channel's managing director, Dr. Wisam Al-Girshi, is also the spokesperson of the revolution's organizing committee. The channel is currently run by Khalid al-Sabri.

The bulk of the channel's programming has come in the form of programming covering Yemen's revolution.

Yemen Shabab was scheduled to start broadcasting in February of this year. However, financial and administrative problems hindered the channel's broadcasts and its overall success.

Azal TV



Azal TV's first broadcast came in October of 2011. The channel is owned by Sheikh Naji Al-

Shayif, a pro-Saleh sheikh. Its managing director is Saleem Al-Ward. The channel has faced difficulties because of its insufficient staff.

Al-Dhiya TV



Al-Dhiya was introduced in December of 2011, and is understood to be owned and run by members of the Houthi movement. However, Mohammed Hameed, spokesperson of the Al-Sumood (Al-Houthi) youth at Sana'a's Change Square, denied this to be true in a statement made to the Yemen Times, and said that the Houthis don't have a TV channel and that the owner of the Al-Dhiya channel is unknown to him.

Al-Masirah TV



Al-Masirah TV is owned by members of the al-Houthi movement and is scheduled to begin broadcasting soon. "Al-Masirah TV is owned by the Houthis. It is awaiting the completion of broadcast material...following which, the official broadcast date will be announced." Said the spokesperson

Al-Saha'at



Al-Saha'at TV is currently run by media specialist Mona Safwan. This month, Safwan has been training ten Yemeni media specialists to be the TV's personnel. The channel is set to begin broadcasting in the near future.

Job Vacancy

Project Administration Unit (PAU)'s Director

Yemen has received a credit from the International Development Association (IDA-World Bank) and multi-donors grant towards the cost of the Basic Education Development Project (BEDP), Fast Track Initiatives (FTI) and Secondary Education Development Girls Access Projects (SEDGAP) and intends to apply part of the proceeds of this to payment under the contract for the above mentioned post.

Ministry of Education seeks applications for this post from Qualified and experienced candidates of Yemeni nationals

The Director of the PAU will head a team of highly-qualified professionals hired to manage Donors funded projects and ensure that fiduciary requirements of all the donors are fully complied with. He/she will also assist and cooperate with MOE in overall project management. The PAU Director will report directly to the Minister of Education and will work closely with all sections/ units of the MOE, Governorate Education Offices (GEOs) and District Education Offices (DEOs) of MOE involved in the projects. He/ She will act as the secretary of the Inter Ministerial Steering Committee (IMSC).

Specific tasks:

The Director's main tasks would be to:

- Build an effective, efficient and highly motivated team ;
- Direct, coordinate and supervise all PAU staff in the performance of their respective duties and ensure the efficient functioning of the unit;
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- Foster teamwork and transfer of know-how to the MOE and its field offices.
- Insure adherence to the provisions of the Financing Agreement (FA);
- Manage the central procurement and financial management aspects of the project according to the agreed-upon work plan;
- Monitor governorate-level procurement and financial management aspects of the project;
- Finalize projects annual work plans and budget before the start of the fiscal year and submit it to MOE/IMSC for review and approval;
- Prepare quarterly project management reports (PMRs) for the MOE- IMSC and DPs, summarizing project implementation and financial status in both Arabic and English;
- Ensure maintenance of project accounts and timely preparation of interim evaluation and financial statements;
- Oversee monitoring and evaluation processes and activities;
- Consolidate Annual Reports after the end of the fiscal year, summarizing the major outputs of the project;
- Liaise with International Development Association (IDA), facilitate missions, follow-up on agreed upon action plans;
- Work in a transparent way with all concerned with project implementation; and
- Solving problems which may face working teams in implementing work plans

Personal skills / attributes

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Qualifications and Experience

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- Familiarity with project management/ project planning tools;
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- Capability to use computers and software applications;
- Ability in developing strategies, plans and action plans;

Interested whose qualifications, experiences and skills meet the post requirements must submit their CVs, along with application letter and supporting documents, during the official working hours Saturday through Wednesday (8:00 am till 3:00 pm) to the following address: Ministry of Education headquarters, Sana'a Arab League Street, Habra Zone, Minister's Office ,or send by fax to : 01 252731 or via the following e mails:

dr_razaq66@yahoo.com and anaalhomam1@edpau.org

Deadline is 4 April, 2012.

Announcement

-Required Manager of Batching Plant For Manufacturing Of ready mix concrete

Pioneer Co. in Manufacturing of ready Mix Concrete is looking for an Operational manager Of Modern Unit for Manufacturing of Ready- Mix Concrete according to The Following Conditions:

- 1) Ability of Specialized leadership to Manage the Units of Produced Constructions
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- 3) Good in English Language (Reading, Writing, Speaking).
- 4) Preferable University Graduation in Civil –Mechanical Engineering

Send C.V to

fax no: 1/274736

Email: jops@tas-emp.com

Web: www.tas-emp.com

URGENT JOB VACANCY

Job Title: Passenger Cars Sales Manager
Location: Sana'a

Leading luxuries automobile dealer, operating in Yemen, seeking to fill within its HQ in Sana'a very urgent vacancy. We are looking for a creative and innovative individual who has strong ethics, self-confident and admire distinction to fill this vacancy with following details:

Job Scope:

Manages and develops the sales team and demands as well as enables top performance within sales. He/ she defines and monitors sales targets for all products, motivates, coaches and evaluates the team, supplies guidance and ensures maximum market exploitation in accordance with global standards.

Essential Responsibilities:

- Assisting the General Manager with planning activities, in particular with volume planning and defining market targets for the sale of new vehicles, new vehicle warehouse and developing concepts and measures for optimizing stock management.
- Developing concepts to increase customer benefit, turnover and profitability in the sales sector.
- Insure optimum level of execution of sales plan in all area: volume, market target, stock, turnover, profitability, market share..etc.
- Planning and supervising media advertising, events, customer loyalty activities, and customer surveys and other measures for monitoring and boosting customer satisfaction.
- Planning, implementing and evaluating sales-promotion campaigns.
- Monitoring the local automotive market, and analyzing the competition/benchmarking
- Monitoring potential customers who locate to the area and new start-ups, and providing support for VIP and large customers in consultation with the dealership's Management
- Determining and monitoring the personnel needs of the sales department; and train & develop subordinates; set action plans & KPIs.
- Supervising cost management for sales department
- Tracking of key performance indicators (e.g. stock level, etc.) and execution of appropriate measures to improve them.
- Ensuring that customer contacts (in the dealership/showroom, from acquisition activities, customer relationship management and marketing campaigns) are consistently used to generate business
- Monitoring adherence to principal quality and support standards in the sales department
- Monitoring the level of customer satisfaction using suitable tools and developing measures to Safeguard/ increase customer satisfaction
- Other responsibilities & duties as assigned by the General Manager.

Requirements:

- University degree.
- 8 years experience in managerial position in sales at automobile company.
- Fluent in English and professional user of computer.
- Excellent Managerial and leadership skill.
- Highly ethical, self-motivated, Self-confident, analytical, problem solving, budgeting, costing capability

Qualified and eligible talents interested in applying for this vacancy should submit their professional resumes along with covering letters to:

Atten. HR Manager

Email: allevs2012@gmail.com ; NOT Later than 20th of March, 2012.

Only short listed candidates will be contacted.



العمل لمكافحة الجوع في اليمن

JOB OFFER

Action Contre la Faim (ACF), is an International Humanitarian Organization which is private, non-political, non-denomination and non-profit making. Action Contre la Faim vocation is to save lives by combating hunger, disease and those crises threatening the lives of vulnerable men, women and children. ACF currently operates in 46 countries globally and conduct programs in nutrition, food security, health, water and sanitation.

Assistant to the Country Director

Location: Sana'a with regular travel to the field

Duration: One year (renewable) with three-month probation period

MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Continuous analysis of the humanitarian context** – Responsible for collection and analysis of relevant contextual information; dissemination to relevant persons as appropriate, and contribute to the better understanding of the humanitarian situation
- Support the country director in external relations and liaison** – provide support in relationship building with relevant departments at the local, governorate and national level; provide up-to date information on administrative procedures related to key departments that ACF engage with, and participate in external meetings.
- Contribute to the production of mission reports and sitreps** – support the Country Director in the collection, review and dissemination of various mission reports and sitreps.

QUALIFICATIONS & REQUIREMENTS:

Relevant degree plus two (2) years minimum professional experience in public relations or management; Good computer knowledge (Word and Excel); Good knowledge of English language; Proficiency in written and spoken Arabic; Good organisational Skills; and flexible in travel to the field projects when required.

Qualified candidates meeting the above requirements are requested to send an application comprising a detailed CV and cover letter in English to recruitment@ye.missions-acf.org latest by 16th March 2012.



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First Deputy Minister: "Yemen intends to demarcate maritime borders with Somalia" (PART 2)

By: Mohammad Bin Sallam

With over 2000 km of coastline rich with fish, the Yemeni maritime borders with Somalia and Eritrea have increasingly become a source of tension.

Yemeni fishermen have been increasingly vulnerable to assaults by Somali pirates and Eritrean maritime guards. This has been severely affecting the livelihoods of thousands of Yemeni fishermen since fishing is their main source of income.

Abdullah Ba Sonbol talks here with Mohamed Bin Sallam of the Yemen Times on these issues with more details and insights.

What exactly is the problem between Yemen and Eritrea in the Red Sea particularly?

The basic problem between the Eritreans and us lies in their mistaken interpretation of the international court judgment concerning conventional fishing in shared water. They consider Yemeni fishermen as outsiders when they fish in international or Yemeni water near Yemeni islands, especially the Hanish Island that has been returned to Yemen in accordance with the arbitration verdict. They have not considered it as a historical right of Yemeni fishermen to fish in the water their ancestors have been fishing in for centuries.

The Eritreans say that Yemeni fishermen go too deep into Eritrean water and do not stick to the limits set. Is that true?

This is not the essence of the disagreement. Eritrean fishermen are much fewer than those of Yemen, thus our fishermen catch greater amounts of fish. They [Eritrea] have the right to prevent Yemenis from going deeper than allowed or permitted. However, they attack and provoke our fishermen in the shared water and even in our water, kidnapping and extorting money from them.

This is a unilateral action although in accordance with international arbitration. There are no permits that should be held by Yemeni or Eritrean fishermen working in shared water. The boats of the two sides are known by their size and length.



The basic problem between the Eritreans and us lies in their mistaken interpretation of the international court judgment concerning conventional fishing in shared water

We've asked the Eritreans to agree with us on a mechanism to organize shared fishing. We were close to doing that, but they hesitated, although we agreed to impose a tax on large fishing dhows and to establish an Eritrean-Yemeni fishing company at 50/50 percentage. However, the company project faltered despite the fact that two meetings were conducted and some significant steps were reached in the process. We blame the Eritrean side because they stalled and stopped the project since 2005 despite our persistence for the good of the two countries.

What about fishing in the vicinity of Socotra Archipelago? There we face a difficulty with Somalis only. However, there is no problem either in the Arabian Sea or the 200 nautical miles of economic water. We have the right in accordance with the International Convention on the Law of the Sea to fish in an area extending 12 nautical miles in our territorial water. Yemen has full jurisdiction on both the ter-



First Deputy Minister of Fishery Wealth, Abdullah Ba-Sonbol

ritorial and economic water and we have the right to use the resources there by granting permissions. The 200nm applies in the Arabian Sea except in the case of borders with Somalia where the smaller distance is divided between the two sides according to the International Law of the Sea. Yemen intends now to demarcate maritime borders with Somalia in accordance with the International Law and the only obstruction here is the lack of a central Somali government with which we can deal or agree.

Was fishing affected by last year's crisis in the country?

Of course, such events have impacted the overall production of fishing and affected the ministry's contribution to the domestic production as well as exports. This was because of the shortage in fuel and the problem with air traffic, which affected fishermen's ability to have access to and work in the ocean as they used to do.

Does the ministry have the right to have a percentage from the country's fisheries production?

Yes. According to the Fishing Law, we have ten percent of the total revenues.

How do you spend such revenues?

It is divided as follows: 60 percent for the governorates, 40 percent for the ministry's other activities especially in view of the very limited budget that is not consistent with the duties it assumes and that can be executed. The ministry's duties are limited because the budget is limited and does not meet all requirements of work, control and supervision.

The ten percent you mentioned, how much was it, say, in 2009 and 2010?

It's about YR12 million per year. As you can see, it is insignificant and most of it comes from conventional fishing, which is very undisciplined.

What about the support your ministry provides fishermen with?

The fishermen have their union or federation. As for solving their problems, we have been distribut-

ing dhows that are 50 percent financed by fishing federations. However, this has been suspended for two years now for different reasons. One of these is the principle that the more fishing boats are out there, the lower fish stock we will have in the future. So if the number of boats exceed the available limit, the fishery wealth may be depleted.

How many boats do fishermen have?

Right now, we have about 22,000 conventional fishing boats for 74,000-75,000 fishermen. We have stopped handing over boats until

up through the fishery federation.

Any concluding statements?

First of all, I reiterate my thanks to the Yemen Times. As for the troubles of the ministry, these lie in the inadequate budget. There are also the matters concerning maritime control and inspection regarding the ships that trespass our territorial water and breach our laws, something that requires coordination and orders to various agencies to do their jobs.

We suffer from a shortage in resources such as transportation means, which would facilitate internal fishery marketing and prevent price hikes. Also the ministry service centers are not sufficiently qualified to offer services to fishing dhows. This requires immediate action and the ministry has training plans for these centers that meet their requirements according to the nature of their activities.

A republican decree was issued to the effect that all offices and corporations in coastal governorates should be turned into authorities according to geographical areas. These include the Red Sea, where a new authority will replace the offices in Hodeidah, Hajja and Taiz; the Gulf of Aden, where the ministry offices in Aden, Lahj and Abyan will be replaced by one authority; the Arabian Sea area where an authority will replace the offices in Shabwa and Hadramout and al-Mahara that has the largest area (about 500 miles), which will have its own authority. The problem here is that so far no arrangements have been made to implement the decree because this requires funds, assessment and inventory taking that are not available now. As a result, we now have a problem: the offices and corporations are not the same anymore, nor are they authorities yet.

The new authorities will be assigned to practice all activities that

we conduct a study on fishery stock, which we will do during the coming five-year plan. This will help us know the size of such stock and based on this, we can specify the number of boats to hand out..



We agreed to establish an Eritrean-Yemeni fishing company at 50/50 percentage. However, the company project faltered despite the fact that two meetings were conducted and some significant steps were reached in the process. We blame the Eritrean side because they stalled and stopped the project since 2005 despite our persistence for the good of the two countries.

Are there any controls on Yemeni fishermen?

No, there are not. Control tools are very insufficient due to the lack of resources. Nevertheless, fishermen should be supervised in terms of the means they use and we should make sure that they do not harm fishery habitats or marine environment. The net openings should not be too small in order to allow small fish to escape and the nets should be of a defined type etc. However, some fishermen exploit the loose control, but we are trying to follow

are currently assumed by the ministry, and the ministry will only draw up general policies and plans and exercise control over such authorities.

We wish that during the transitional period we would be able to move forward, especially in terms of marine environment and climate change.

JOB VACANCIES

A Yemeni trading company working as an exclusive dealer of premium commercial vehicle and heavy construction machinery brands would like to invite qualified foreign or Yemeni nationals to apply for the following vacant positions:

- Service Manager**
Qualifications and Experience
 - University or technical degree in Mechanical Engineering.
 - Minimum experience of 10 years in vehicles and heavy construction machinery mechanical engineering.
 - Strong team leading skills.
 - Strong command of English Language.
 - Very good computer skills.
- Mechanic**
Qualifications and Experience
 - University or technical degree in Mechanical Engineering.
 - Minimum experience of 5 years in vehicles and heavy construction machinery mechanical engineering.
 - Good command of English Language.
 - Very good computer skills.
- Electrician**
Qualifications and Experience
 - University or technical degree in Electrical Engineering.
 - Minimum experience of 5 years in vehicles and heavy construction machinery electrical engineering.
 - Good command of English Language.
 - Very good computer skills.
- Head of accounts department**
Qualifications and Experience
 - University degree in accounts.
 - A strong financial accounting background with minimum experience of 5 years as head of accounts dept.
 - Experience of managing teams with a range of capabilities.
 - Strong finance and computer system skills.
 - Good command of both Arabic and English Languages.
- Accountant**
Qualifications and Experience
 - University degree in accounts.
 - Good financial accounting background with minimum experience of 5 years as an accountant.
 - Good finance and computer system skills.
 - Good command of both Arabic and English Languages.

Application Process
Interested candidates are requested to send their applications along with their CVs to:
Email: emacommercial@y.net.ye Fax: (+967 1) 209502



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JOB VACANCY

A reputable organization is looking for multiple Project Development Assistants to be based in Sana'a for its community engagement programming in these urban areas.

General functions: Under the direct supervision of the Coordinator, and overall supervision of the Program Manager, the incumbent will be responsible for relationship building and grant activity development for a community engagement program in Sana'a, Taizz and Aden; in particular, the incumbent will:

1. Identify potential partners through networking and outreach, and work closely with them to design and develop grant concepts and activities that fit within program objectives;
2. Develop and finalize multiple grants, on an ongoing basis, in a fast-paced and highly changeable environment;
3. Provide technical assistance to partners as required, during the grants' preparation and implementation stages, working closely with appropriate Sana'a-based staff;
4. Evaluate activity progress, and coordinate with partners, and relevant Sana'a-based staff to ensure that monitoring, real-time reporting, evaluation and final reports are provided and are satisfactory.

Required Qualification and competencies

- Bachelor's degree, with at least three years of relevant professional experience in project design, development and management of community development projects;
- At least three years of field experience in working with local organizations in assessing their technical and programmatic capacities, and in working closely with these actors on project design and implementation of small activities;
- Proven knowledge of local and international NGOs and community-based organizations in Yemen, as well as key governmental actors and stakeholders;
- Demonstrated analytical ability and understanding of local and regional context, with the ability to think creatively to develop appropriate activities;
- Strong experience in monitoring, reporting and evaluating multiple activities simultaneously;
- Personal commitment, drive for results, efficiency, flexibility, respect for diversity;
- While the position is based in Sana'a, must be able to travel as needed between urban areas, and to other areas if needed;
- Good level of computer literacy;
- Fluency in Arabic required. Proficiency in English preferred but not required.

Interested candidates should send complete resume and cover letter in English with job reference within one week from the publication date of this job advertisement via email to: pda.engagement.vn@gmail.com. Only short listed candidates will be contacted.



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- While achieving all these successful activities, and by focusing on basic products, we have extended our operations and entered a new field in 1998 by adding power production equipment and their accessory as a means to provide the best solutions for power problems in view of the significance of such utility. Building on our successful marketing plan, and in a brief period, we have moved further to install, operate and furnish most Secondary Cities with power stations. During the past years, we have concluded massive projects and contracted works with the Public Electricity Corporation and the Public Telecommunications Corporation in addition to other public and private sectors including oil and gas companies, international organizations, embassies, etc.
- In addition to our corporation work in power generators and because of our awareness of the importance of providing and extending basic services, Al-Ahlasi corporation continues to expand its commercial activities through various works in all areas especially products and basic services that meet our esteemed customers' increasing requirements. These include:
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 - Spare Parts for Gensets & Transformers
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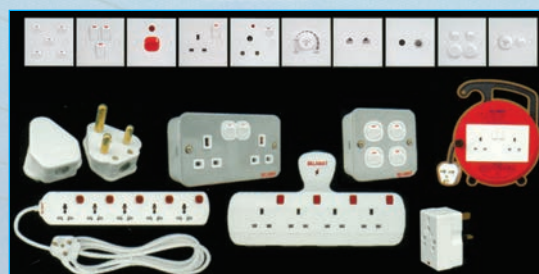
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What's new:

We have opened a new branch at Sho'oub zone in addition to that of Fajj Attan (60m Street) and have made available small European generators for use at homes and shops, as well as voltage regulators (80-260 volts) and Malaysian switches with international specifications (the Malaysian company producing such switches guarantees them for 30 years!) and the consumer can easily identify quality as follows:

- Our products are new (this means they are not recycled nor refurbished)
- The luster of the products remain even after 30 years of constant use
- The screws used with the switches are made of copper and are not electroplated
- You can see the durability of the products by throwing them hard on the ground with other products to see the difference.



Our corporation is specialized mainly in importing and marketing electrical equipment and telecommunication systems in our capacity as the exclusive agent of the most important European and Asian companies specializing in such fields. We alone provide power generators that have both international quality and highest performance while fulfilling European specifications. The motors bear international marks including Perkins, Cummins, Daewoo, F.A.M.U, Mitsubishi, Lamberdini .

- At Al-Ahlasi Corporation we preserve a level of pioneering in the after-sale area and guarantee provision of spare parts and maintenance for all generators. Our technical support teams are always ready to perform immediate maintenance services on site or at our well-equipped workshop.

Mr. Mofadal Al-Ahlasi - Commercial Manage added:

Dear Customers,

It is an honor for us as Al-Ahlasi Corporation For International Trade to communicate the market presence of our society. Loads of enthusiasm, as the birth of this work, we pursue a policy of development and quality. So we intend to thank our customers, which represent the life of any company, which enabled the achievement of current targets. The activity began with the supplying of real safe power from source and supplying of electrical products of high quality and construction.

The Charter of Al-Ahlasi is to provide the reliability, quality and safety of electric power supply to the consumers in its Jurisdiction.

Al-Ahlasi is putting efforts to make it a viable and progressive utility to take care of consumer's power demand.



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New social networking site aims to be 'Facebook for Muslims'

By: Eman El-Shenawi

A new social networking site dubbed the "Facebook for Muslims" is set to be launched in the coming months, with a goal to attract 50 million users within five years of launching.

Salamworld, based in Istanbul, is an international Islamic start-up expected to go online in July.

One of Salamworld's owners, Abdulvahed Niyazo, said that current social networks open young Muslims up to ideas they should not be exposed to.

"The content that is being used on other social networks is not very secure and full of haram [content]," Niyazo told Hürriyet Daily News. Haram means forbidden in Arabic.

"We don't want our young people to absorb all these ideas that are not familiar to them," he added.

Salamworld will therefore not include topics such as homosexuality and other practices forbidden in Muslim culture, but religiously-sensitive discussions will be allowed, Said Sadov told the Dubai-based daily newspaper, 7Days.

The site expects to tap a market



Creators say the new social networking site will be censored according to Islamic values.

where an estimated 300 million Muslims regularly surf the internet, according to the newspaper. Also, it will only need to attract 17 percent

of the online Muslim community in order to reach its goal of 50 million users, the Computer Business Review reported.

Salamworld will be available in eight different languages and aims to be a cleaner and more filtered version of the social networking heavyweight, Facebook.

"By filtering out harmful content, by making the content up-hold and respect family values, we conform to the requirements of Muslims throughout the world. At Salamworld, our aim is to overcome all political, language and cultural barriers, to open the world to Muslims. And open Muslims to the world," Niyazo told Hürriyet Daily News.

Source: Al-Arabiya News

Women take a trip with Life Makers Association



On Thursday March 8, the Life Makers Association organized a trip for a group of Yemeni women to the Jewish village in Sana'a. The trip was to celebrate International Women's Day and the seven year anniversary of the start of the Life Makers Association.

A group of women who are effective members of the association

participated in the trip. From 10 am until 5 pm they participated in many activities including discovering the historic village, sharing interesting games and expressing their feelings loudly and publicly.

This trip is in support of Yemeni women's role as effective members in society, and to motivate women and encourage them to discover historical places in Yemen.

Palestinian female writer and cancer victim appears hairless on TV

The Palestinian writer Maisa Abu Ghannam dared to appear in front of cameras hairless after she suffering from breast cancer and its hard treatment, that caused her beautiful black hair to fall out.

She tried, for a short period, to replace her hair with a wig, but she ultimately decided to challenge cancer and appear without the wig.

She took part in several TV programmes including a show titled "Good morning Arab" broadcast by MBC in which she spoke about her experience with cancer.



She daringly challenged the doctors who cautioned her about her illness and she insisted to continue living as normal. Instead of following the advice of her doctors to avoid driving and take rest, she continues to drive and take her children to school. She has further continued to prepare food for her children and maintain her house without the support of a servant.

She says she can stand firm and overcome the illness, and is calling for all men and women to take part in support of campaigns for cancer patients.

Source: maktoob.news.yahoo.com

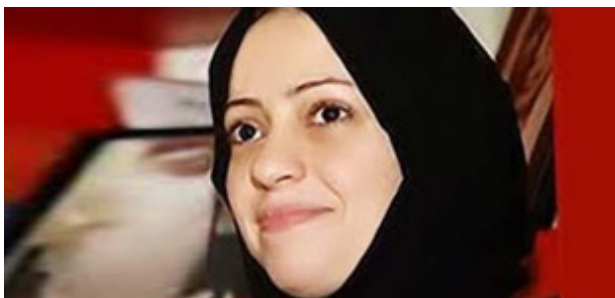
Saudi woman recognized for courage

A Saudi woman, Samer Badawi, has traveled to the US capital, Washington, to receive an International Women of Courage Award given by the US State Department to honor ten extraordinary women from all over the globe.

Badawi is a human rights activist who was physically abused by her father for 15 years. She escaped from her father in 2008, fleeing to the Protection Home, a women's shelter in Jeddah. Her father then filed a disobedience charge against her in 2009.

Badawi filed an 'adhl' charge against her father for refusing to let

her marry, and requested her father be removed as her guardian. In April 2010 when she attended court for the case, she was arrested on the dis-



obedience charge and imprisoned. In 2010, a reconciliation committee was formed by the governor

of Makkah Province to mediate between the father and his daughter to "reconcile father and daughter by making him promise not to use violence against her, and to allow her to marry." The findings of an investigation of the father found he suffered from a psychological disorder, was married to 14 wives and was a drug addict. He also said he had squandered his wealth. On Oct. 25, Badawi was released under orders of the Supreme Council of the

Judiciary.

Source: maktoob.news.yahoo.com

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