

Oil in Yemen to run out in 12 years



The local shortage of oil forced the government to bridge the gap through imports from overseas.

By: Moadh Al-Maqtari

SANA'A, April 11 — A recent report from the World Bank confirms that Yemen's oil reserves will only last for another 12 years.

The report issued in Sana'a showed that oil forms one third of the national production, three quarters of the government's income and 90 percent of the exports.

The income to Yemen from crude oil decreased last January due to acts of sabotage against the oil pipelines in Marib governorate. The local shortage of oil forced the government to bridge the gap through imports from overseas.

The Yemeni Central Bank released a special report that said the imports were being paid for by selling oil products through the Aden refineries.

In 'Yemen Scenarios 2020', a report issued by the Political Development Forum and the Friedrich Ebert German Organization, Yemeni experts warned the government not to continue its dependence on oil as a major source of income to supply development projects in Yemen. They said that oil revenues form approximately

75 percent of the revenues for the budget, but the pumping of oil has reduced to 5 percent according to official information.

Ali Alwafi, a Yemeni expert, urged the government to shift its focus away from oil exports and to improve other non-oil sectors. He said that oil makes up 92% of Yemen's exports, and as the oil runs out, so will the revenue from these exports.

Meanwhile, other experts view the efforts of the government to encourage non-oil exports as unclear. The decrease in oil production has set off alarm bells, especially now an international report has said that the oil will run out in 2025.

The Yemeni government gets about 70 percent of the budget from production sharing agreements with the foreign companies, about 63 percent of the total exports and 30 percent of national production.

The report also said that because of the ongoing internal conflicts which started in May last year, 144,000 people in the middle and south of Yemen are homeless.

The report from the World Bank stated that more than 47 percent of the population is surviving on less

than two dollars a day. Poverty levels are estimated to have increased by ten percent as a result of the global food and energy crises. Poverty has reached almost 50 percent in rural areas and over 31 percent in urban areas.

The report pointed out that the percentage of the population who can find safe drinking water does not exceed 36 percent, and that 46 percent of children under the age of five are under normal weight due to malnutrition.

Further, aquifers in major urban centers, such as the capital Sana'a, are in danger of being depleted within the next 20 years.

The population is growing at three percent per year, compared with a regional average of 1.7 percent. At the current growth rate, the population is expected to grow from 22 million to 50 million by 2035.

The report stated that nearly 50 percent of the population is under the age of fifteen and there are high rates of unemployment among the young. Women make up only 0.6 percent of the work force, and males achieve 5.9 years of education on average, while females achieve only 1.3 years on average.

Renewed clashes over Lawdar

By: Moadh Al-Maqtari

SANA'A, April 11 — Ansar Al-Sharia recommended fighting in Lawdar on Wednesday morning after being pushed out on Monday.

Military forces and the people's defence committees, local groups established to fight Ansar Al-Sharia, in the city of Lawdar had defeated Ansar Al-Sharia and drove them away after fierce clashes last Monday, which killed 90 people on both sides of the conflict.

However, since the renewed clashes a prominent official of the people's committees reported that the residents in Lawdar announced a state of alert since clashes renewed. Ansar Al-Sharia resumed continuous shelling of Lawdar starting from the south-east, adjacent to the Al-Ain area, to which Ansar Al-Sharia had withdrawn last Tuesday to protect themselves from the attacks.

The prominent official added that Yemeni warplanes launched a major attack on the Al-Ain area, focusing on strongholds where Ansar Al-Sharia has been stationed, to prevent them from connecting with remnants in Al-Ain area on the south-east entry to Lawdar.

Close coordination between the 111 Brigade of the Yemeni army and tribal leaders of the district of Lawdar have been able to free the town of Lawdar in Abyan from Ansar Al-Sharia fighters over the last three days. Fierce fighting has occurred across the district since Monday.

Jamal Hussein, a journalist based in Abyan, said that about 100 fighters from Ansar Al-Sharia were killed or wounded. Two senior leaders of the Al-Qaeda affiliated group, Ali Omar and Khalid Mohamoud Ahmed Al-Hanashi, were killed.

Hussein told the Yemen Times that the army and public committees captured at least 40 operatives of Ansar Al-Sharia. The commander of the 111 Brigade that is affiliated to the Eastern Military Region coordinated with tribal leaders of Lawdar and provided the local public committees with weapons to stage the attack.

He asserted that two vehicles of Ansar Al-Sharia were seen transferring the corpses of its fighters to Shaqrah city, located between Zinjibar and Jaar.

A senior leader of the public committees in Lawdar told the Yemen Times that Ansar Al-Sharia have only one tank positioned next to electricity building located four kilometers away from the city of Lawdar.

A field leader of the public committees, who requested anonymity, said that Ansar Al-Sharia conducted funeral processions for the killed militants in the Maeen area located about 4km from Lawdar, confirming that about 70 militants were killed. Hussein quoted eyewitnesses as saying the militant's bodies were seen in a mosque in Maeen.

According to the same source, the local public committees called on all people in Lawdar to reopen their shops on Tuesday now the militants have been driven out.

The source said that the tank controlled by Ansar Al-Sharia continued to shell the city until noon on Tuesday. One child, Omar Al-Hadad, was killed in the shelling, and six others wounded. Hussein said that eight members of the public committees were also killed by snipers firing from a house near the Lawdar electricity building.

Most parts of Lawdar district are

now under the control of the public committees after the militants were pushed back.

Elsewhere in Lawdar district, Yemenis warplanes launched strikes on Monday against a military position previously captured by Al-Qaeda. They destroyed a tank that had been captured by militant fighters.

News reports stated that the violent clashes in Lawdar district have left 30 to 40 soldiers of the 111 Brigade missing. A commander of a military unit and its staff were killed on Monday after soldiers withdrew leaving behind a tank, two vehicles, guns and a weapons store that included light and medium weapons.

A Yemeni security source affirmed that Al-Qaeda militants exploited bad weather to carry out an attack using light and medium weapons.

On Saturday military units pursued Al-Qaeda-linked militants in the Kood area near Zinjibar, killing at least 16 militants.

An Ansar Al-Sharia fighter said that "more than 50 mercenaries of the public committees" were killed on Monday in the attack to retake Lawdar city.

In a statement, Ansar Al-Sharia said that the attack resulted in the deaths of four militants and the wounding of 16 others. They also claimed to have captured a huge quantity of light and medium weapons, four tanks, three machine guns and two vehicles.

The statement also claimed that the militants had managed to take control of three military positions of the 111 Brigade, and that their forces would impose a siege on the city to storm it and "purge it of the mercenaries."

Armed tribesmen impose siege on government compound in Hajjah

By: Ahmed Daoud

SANA'A, April 11 — Armed tribesmen affiliated with the head of the General People's Congress, Fahad Dahshoosh, imposed a siege last Tuesday on the government compound in the middle of the city of Hajjah. They were protesting a decree from President Abdu Rabo Mansour Hadi, who appointed Ali Al-Qaisi as the new governor of Hajjah.

A source said that clashes broke out on Tuesday between armed men of Dahshoosh and Central Security soldiers on Tuesday afternoon. Two soldiers were wounded.

Meanwhile, leader of the Joint Meeting Parties, Ahmed Al-Arami, said that supporters of Dahshoosh were angered by Hadi's decree,

pointing out that sheiks and public figures from Hajjah, including the newly-appointed governor, had agreed to recommend Dahshoosh as governor, but he was left on the sidelines.

Al-Arami said that the armed men of Dahshoosh are centered inside the government compound, and that other armed men affiliated with the new governor are positioned outside the compound, expressing concerns about the possible outbreak of clashes if the disagreement is not resolved.

He affirmed that one armed Dahshoosh supporter and several soldiers from Central Security were wounded during the clashes.

In his turn, Fahad Dahshoosh denied that his men had imposed a siege on the government compound

and shot the security guards. "The one who shot the soldiers belongs to the Joint Meeting Parties. I'm not responsible for shooting them," he told the Yemen Times.

Concerning the presidential decree appointing Ali Ali Al-Qaisi governor of Hajja governorate, Dahshoosh said that he and some of his supporters refused the decree, but peacefully, through a sit-in in front of the government compound which they began last Tuesday.

"This decree will cause tumult among the residents of Hajja governorate. There is a prior agreement between the sheiks and prominent people in the governorate to appoint me governor, and not Al-Qaisi," he added.

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Heavy rains hit Sana'a, and flooding results

By: Ahmed Daood

SANA'A April 10 — Qasam Ahmed Al-Dharahani, the rotating head of the Joint Meeting Parties (JMP), died on Monday after he was washed away by floods in the Al-Anad area in the southern governorate of Al-Dhale'. The unexpected death of Al-Dharahani has sent shockwaves through the political sector of the country.

Hundreds of Yemenis have previously died in flash floods throughout the country and many houses have been washed away.

Mohammed Al-Kibsi, 22, a resident of Sana'a, recalls with sadness his father who passed away during last year's floods on Kholan St. in Sana'a.

"My father was working in a workshop that specialized in converting vehicles from running on petrol to gas. It was raining heavily that day and water was streaming into the workshop. My father went out to try diverting the water with a spade in his hands. While doing that, a fence collapsed on him and killed him," Al-Kibsi said.

"During his dying breath, I was looking at him, screaming and trying to rescue him. But death was much faster than me, and everyone else for that matter," added a heartbroken Al-Kibsi.

Torrential rains began early this week in Sana'a as well as in many other governorates across the country. With them came floods along main streets and through neighborhoods.

Many major cities in Yemen, including the capital Sana'a, lack effective systems of drainage to discharge the rain water. Each rainy



Photo by Ahmed Daood

season this stokes fear and panic among residents who fear that their homes may be destroyed, and that they may be drowned in the floods.

Dr. Saif Al-Hakimi, a professor in environment and earth sciences at Sana'a University, attributes the strong floods in Sana'a to the streets being asphalted or paved with stones. He argues that the water can not sink into the soil, and therefore it accumulates and is channeled with disastrous results.

There are further concerns of a potential environment disaster due to the accumulated piles of garbage in Yemeni governorates. Cleaners and garbage collectors have been on strike since last week, and rubbish has piled up across many cities.

Floods have swept trash along streets and through neighborhoods,

polluting the surface of the earth and water in wells, said Al-Hakimi. He added that contamination of the soil could increase the chances of contracting disease, especially in children.

The National Center for Meteorology (NCM) on Tuesday warned people to take precautions against thunderstorms, flash flooding, and landslides.

The director of the predictions department at the NCM, Rashid Al-Ariqi, predicted that heavy rains will continue from Sa'ada in the far north to Taiz in the south.

He said there was a possibility that the rains may extend east in the coming days towards Shabwa, Marib, and Al-Jawf governorates, and west towards the Hodeida and Taiz coasts. He urged people to take precautions.

Street cleaners renew strike after government fails to hire them

By: Mohammad Al-Samaee

SANA'A April 11 — Street cleaners in the capital Sana'a are still on strike; though Prime Minister Mohammad Salim Basindawa ordered that they be officially hired.

On Thursday, dozens of garbage trucks were parked in front of the office of the general administration of cleaning as a sign that the strike continues.

The wife of a street cleaner told the Yemen Times that her husband joined the strike ten days ago. She said that he receives YR 25,000 per month which is not enough to survive on with the current cost of living.

She said that her husband will remain on strike until the cleaners are officially hired and their salaries are raised.

Street cleaners resumed their strike last Saturday demanding a raise in their salaries, and being hired officially. The cleaners say that the government had promised them official contracts, but not fulfilled their pledge. They also accuse the government of trying to cut their already low salaries.

The streets of Sana'a are piled high with garbage, which threatens to become an environmental disaster if no solution is found soon. The recent torrential rains have only made the situation worse, with streets and neighborhoods literally



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Street cleaners resumed their strike last Saturday demanding a raise in their salaries

awash in rubbish.

Residents of Sana'a are complaining about the accumulation of garbage as a result of the strike. Many fear that if something is not done soon, diseases from the garbage will break out among the populace.

Adel Musaeed, a guard, says that garbage has been accumulated for days and asks the government to meet the demands of cleaners to avoid the consequences of the strike.

Prime Minister Mohammad

Salim Basindawa ordered the government to promptly hire the cleaners in the capital Sana'a and in other governorates.

The Yemeni News Agency (SABA) said that Basindawa ordered the government, during his meeting with representatives of the cleaners, to employ the cleaners and amend the government decision taken last week. That decision had made a provision to hire the cleaners at some point, but not immediately.

Yemeni rial appreciates against dollar, but prices remain high

By: Mohammed Al-Samie

SANA'A April 11 — Yemenis feel that their standard of living has improved a little since the national unity government was formed in December last year. The Yemeni rial has appreciated against the US dollar from a low of around YR 240 per dollar during last year's crisis, to a current rate of YR 215 per dollar.

Yemenis were happy by the appreciation in the value of the Yemeni rial, thinking that now economic conditions will improve, however, the stronger rial has not yet helped alleviate the problems of high prices and inflation.

Abdu-Raheem Al-Maes, a Yemeni citizen, said that "the Yemeni people don't evaluate the economic situation based on the appreciation or depreciation of the rial, as the majority of them are illiterate or lowly educated. The people are too busy scratching a living to monitor the fluctuations in currency."

He added that what was important for improving living standards was not the currency regaining

strength, especially as people have become accustomed to the rial continuously depreciating.

The political deadlock which dragged on for over a year has taken its toll on Yemenis' lives. Many businesses and companies closed their doors over the last year and thousands of workers were laid off. The already high unemployment rate has spiraled yet higher still.

In a survey last month, the World Food Program indicated that over five million Yemenis are now suffering from food insecurity and require urgent emergency assistance. Saed Abdul-Momin, an economic and strategic researcher, told the Yemen Times that "it is not necessarily true that commodity prices go up or down due to currency appreciation or depreciation. Prices are affected by several factors."

"However, in Yemen every appreciation of the dollar against the rial is accompanied by an increase in the price of all commodities, especially those that are imported. But the reverse is not true. When the rial bounces back, prices remain as they are or decrease only

slightly," he said.

He attributed this pattern to the weakness of national production, the dependence of the Yemeni economy on foreign imports, and traders' efforts in keeping prices high in order to yield more profits.

"During the last meeting of the General Assembly of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry to discuss the sales tax law, Hasan Al-Kabous, the chairman of the board said, 'The suspension of hundreds of tax numbers is an arbitrary measure that badly affected commercial activity. Moreover, it has had a detrimental effect on citizens' lives as it pushed up the price of commodities and led to their scarcity. As long as government agencies suffer from paralysis and disability in the face of increasingly rising prices, the people will bear the ugly brunt of high pricing,'" Abdul-Momin added.

Abdul-Momin predicts that prices will be stable for a short period of time whilst people are still uncertain about the future. After that, people will start calling for the lowering of prices, especially for the lowering of transport fares.

Voices from 'Change Square' in Sana'a

By: Ashraf Al-Muraqab

SANA'A April 10 — "Time prolongs, but our patience has no limits," says Mohammad Aseer, a revolutionary who came to 'Change Square' at the beginning of the revolution in February last year and remains there today.

Aseer and thousands of other youth in the 'Change Square' of Sana'a are still struggling to complete the goals of their revolution. They despair from time to time, but their dreams have no limit, and their hopes always renew, says Aseer to the Yemen Times.

A number of the revolution's youth insist on completing of the revolution's goals.

"No retreat. We will go forward until all our objectives are achieved," Iman Hussien, a protester at 'Change Square' in Sana'a says. "Our goals start with the departure of Saleh, do not end with the creation of a state of law, order, institutions, justice and equality. Our ambitions are even greater than that."

Many youth are still camped out in the 'freedom' and 'change squares' despite the sacrifices they have endured. They want to achieve victories for the blood of the martyrs who were killed for the sake of Yemen's dignity, and want the criminals and killers prosecuted, Radhwan Al-Haimi, a revolutionary of the Sana'a 'Change Square' told the Yemen Times.



Photo by Mohammad Al-Emad

Change Square of Sana'a are still struggling to complete the goals of their revolution

"We will not move back. We will go on until the regime is removed, and will continue the revolution in all homes and neighborhoods. Platforms of freedom and dignity will spread everywhere."

"We went to the squares as revolutionaries, and we will only return homes victorious," Ahmed Al-Barati, a member of the Change Liberators told the Yemen Times.

"We have beliefs and convictions that our revolution will ultimately win and this is the reason behind our existence in the 'Change Squares'," he added.

Marwa Al-Ariqi, an activist in the 'Change Square' of Sana'a, says that she did not vote in the last elections. She did not agree with the political settlement and power sharing between the Joint Meeting Parties and the "corrupt regime."

"I would consider myself a traitor to the blood of martyrs if I voted," she added.

"We will stay in the squares for the sake of Yemen and for our dignity," Al-Ariqi said, indicating that the political parties have no momentum without the youth in the squares.

"For more than a year we were under the heat of sun, the bitter cold at night and the heavy rain," Afra Al-Jabari, an activist in 'Change Square' says. "We have done all these for the sake of Yemen and the Yemeni people as a whole."

Parties play dirty games in the squares

Fatima Al-Aghbari, an activist in 'Change Square', says that parties have sought to use the strategy of divide and rule inside the squares. She says that they introduce doubts, make allegations and accuse some people of working as agents for the intelligence services as well as other charges.

Asked whether the residents of the neighborhood around Sana'a Uni-

versity have become annoyed about the 'Change Square', Al-Jabari, an activist said, "We owe much to the residents of this neighborhood as they have hosted us and have suffered much."

"However, I hope they do not forget our sacrifices in the squares. We sacrificed not only for ourselves, but also for the favor of the residents of this neighborhood," she added. "We suffered much and stayed under the shower of bullets, toxic gas and all kinds of weapons," she added.

"They will be proud of their sacrifices after the revolution," Amar Al-Qadasi said.

The future of the squares

"If the youth are not unified until a single name and if the parties continue to speak on our behalf, I do not think our revolution will achieve well," said Iman Hussien, a protester at the 'Change Square' in Sana'a. "We should give up our disputes and disagreements."

"The future of the squares will revive for the better, it will develop and become more flexible, and the revolutionaries will be able to overcome all their differences," Ahmed Al-Barati said.

"I am optimistic about all the results accomplished up until now, even if they were achieved slowly," Afra said.

"However, it is better to accomplish them with slowly and low losses. I am optimistic about the future of the squares," she added.

"The Yemenis did not vote for Hadi, but for change," she said, pinning hopes that the future will be better and that the power transfer will be achieved peacefully.

"That was the best way to refuse Saleh and remove him," Afra reiterated. "The polling day was like collecting signatures to dismiss Saleh."

Advertorial

MTN mobile company, Yemen, honors 100 mothers of the disabled

On Wednesday, MTN mobile company, Yemen, held a ceremony to honor a hundred distinguished mothers of the disabled.

The honoring was a declaration of their role in lightening the suffering of their sons and daughters and helping them to become successful members of society.

Ali Al-Hemi, the undersecretary of the Ministry of Education, and Fathiyya Mohammed Abdullah, the Assistant Secretary General of the Local Council of Motherhood and Childhood, attended the ceremony. In the ceremony, Najeebah Haddad, the undersecretary of the Ministry of Culture, delivered a speech in which she emphasized the importance of the ceremony because it recognizes of the indomitable spirit of

these mothers. She also pointed out that there is a woman supporting the achievements of every great man.

"Even by honoring the mothers of the disabled, we can't give them their due in full despite whatever we write or express," she said.

The undersecretary of the Ministry of Culture encouraged all companies to support the disabled because they need special care. She added that the association of the disabled needs to be made large and more capable. Further, she praised the efforts of MTN mobile company in supporting social justice associations and orphanages, and its contribution to social development.

Othman Al-Selwi, the head of the National Union of Disabled Yemenis, and Ali Al-Qushmeri, the representative of Al-Tahaddi («Challenge») association,

which takes care of handicapped people, delivered two speeches in which they called attention to the immense role which the mothers of the disabled have played in making the disabled creative and effective parts of Yemeni society.

They praised the central role which MTN mobile company played in supporting the associations and the unions of people of disabilities. They also urged private sector companies to take after MTN mobile company in supporting the associations which promote civil society in Yemen and aid disabled people.

In his turn, Malik Bassam Al-Qusa, the manager of public relations at MTN mobile company, Yemen, indicated the crucial part of mothers of the disabled in alleviating the sufferings of their chil-



dren.

He assured that the company exerted great effort to create this ceremony as a public affirmation of their sacrifice for the sake of their children.

In the ceremony, small children of the Al-Tahaddi Association and Al-Amal Association, which cares for of blind women in particular, presented several songs in honor of the mothers, and gifts were presented to the mothers.

Muna Ba Sharahil, a member of Shura Council, and Abdullah Bunian, the deputy of the Arabian Organization, a special organization for People of disabilities, attended the ceremony, along with many other heads of charitable organizations and associations.

The soft face of Shabwa's tribes

By: Maaad Al-Maqtari

Doctor Ishraq Rabe' Al-Sabae's face is well-known in Sahbwa Governorate, an area of 42,564 square kilometers, in the east of Yemen.

In a tribal area described by some people as a thriving environment for fundamental religious groups, Al-Sabae, who goes unveiled, is trying to reverse the stereotypical image about tribes created by the media. She has been working with them as gynecologist since the age of 14.

Al-Sabae, who is in charge of the Central Hospital of Attaq and the National Women's Committee in Shabwa governate, represents women from the area during political and human rights activities held inside the governorate. She affirms that though there are many female activists in the desert governorate, only oil and terrorist groups receive attention from the government.

In a meeting with Yemen Times in Sana'a in late March, Al-Sabae criticized the media coverage of Shabwa, affirming that media outlets deal with Shabwa as a stronghold of Al-Qaeda without shedding light on solutions for dealing with the militant group, which should include food, medicine and education for the 470,440 people who live in the governorate.

Al-Sabae expresses her surprise at how the government only deals with Shabwa as an Al-Qaeda-in-

affected area and ignores the diseases that claim the lives of women, children and men every year due to the lack of medicine and health care services.

She says that the Attaq Central Hospital received cases from Shabwa and other parts of Abyan and Marib, referring to the fact that it faces pressures because it can't afford to provide health services for thousands of people, particularly as the hospital lacks certain medical equipment and personnel.

Al-Sabae affirms that congenital malformations, involuntary abortion, cervical and breast cancer are serious illnesses that afflict hundreds of women who frequent the hospital.

In addition to injuries to which men are subjected during tribal conflicts and confrontations between the army and Al-Qaeda-linked groups, Al-Sabae said that many of them face infections from chronic bronchus NA, prostate and

kidney failure.

Al-Sabae attributes many diseases to contaminated water and environmental pollution resulting from the oil industry. Primary indicators of an environmental study currently underway show that there is potential that the groundwater located close to oil fields, especially in Osailan district, Shabwa, is contaminated by oil leaks.

Indicators of the environmental pollution study suggests that the emission of greenhouse gas from oil and gas fields plays a significant role in air pollution which results in infections of chronic bronchitis NA for hundreds of people.

Al-Sabae pointed out the lack of environment and health assessments of oil industries as one of the problems, stressing that the absence of a database impedes the identification of problems.

"Shabwa requires development that meets the needs of its society," she stated, pointing out that security solutions adopted by the Yemeni government do not lead to immediate or effective handling of problems.

"Shabwa doesn't need air strikes that so often kill innocent people," she added.

Al-Sabae was the only female candidate for local councils in Shabwa in the 2006 elections, competing with male candidates in Baihan district.

Though she did not win in these elections, she gained 500 votes in a race with candidates who had trib-

al and party backing, in a conservative tribal society.

Al-Sabae points out that Yemeni women are more and more capable of being active in public fields and even in the most complicated social structures, stressing that the votes she got in 2006 changed her life and encouraged her a great deal.

According to Al-Sabae, there are numerous women in Shabwa who play important political and civil roles, hinting at her role model Ietraf Ali, a deputy in the Yemeni Women's Committee. Ali attended the national conference of women with Ishraq in Sana'a held last March.

Other respected activist women, such as Lina Al-Harithi, Kholood Yahya, Najiba Shaikh, Molook Bakarkar, Fatima Faraq and Lawzah Al-Kaheeli enthusiastically work in civil society activities in Shabwa.

Ali says that there are about 167 NGOs present in Shabwa, but that that most of them are not active, and that they lack the training and qualifications to enable them to participate in meaningful decision-making and development initiatives.

The Modern Nasha'a Association, led by Al-Sabae, managed to implement a number of health and educational actions for children over the last ten years in different parts of Shabwa.



Doctor Ishraq Rabe' Al-Sabae



Tribal meeting of Al-Awaliq tribe, the indigenous mechanism to solve community problems.

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Location: Haradh
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Grave-digging a source of income for Yemenis in poverty

By: Amal Al-Yarisi

Saleh Mohsin is a grave-digger at Majel Al-Demah cemetery in the capital, Sana'a. He stays at the cemetery from the early morning until the sunset. Grave digging is his only source of employment.

"I am compelled to work. I must support my family" he said with bowed head, gripping a crook in his hand.

Thousands of Yemeni men earn their living from funeral work, including grave digging, building coffins, guarding cemeteries, and sometimes washing dead people in accordance with Islamic practice.

Saleh, 24-years-old, has ten brothers. He supports them from the income he makes as a grave-digger. His father is dead and his family depends completely on him. Saleh has a secondary school certifi-

cate, yet when Yemen Times asked him about his reasons for dropping out of school, he said, "What could I do with education? Nobody can find a job without connections. I do not want to learn, and I will remain a grave-digger until Allah provides me with solutions."

One of the problems facing Saleh is his friends' mockery of his job as a grave-digger. Yemeni society considers grave-digging abhorrent, and looks down upon those who work in the cemetery.

In addition to mocking from his friends, Saleh faces other troubles while digging, as some families of the dead ask him to change the graves, and he is often obligated to re-dig a grave.

Saleh and his friends receive YR 13,000 for each grave they dig, and divide that amount between all of them. So Saleh takes away only YR 1,300 per grave. When the dead come from a poor family, Saleh



One of the problems facing Saleh is his friends' mockery of his job as a grave-digger. Yemeni society considers grave-digging abhorrent, and looks down upon those who work in the cemetery.

makes no money at all.

When asked if he will pass on this occupation to his children, he replied optimistically that his children would be presidents or ministers, refusing the notion that his children would become grave-

diggers.

Abdullah Ali, 60-years-old, has worked as a grave-digger for twenty years. He said he is happier when there's a rise in the number of bodies to bury. Abdullah receives YR 1000 per grave, or less. Grave-

digging is his only way of making a living.

He said he did not want his sons to inherit this job, hoping that they find other ways to earn a livelihood.

"Oh God, quicken my death so that I may be rid of this work," he said dejectedly.

Majid, a cemetery guard, talked about the many challenges he faces at work. He said that he deals with the worst problems at night, pointing out that drunk people and the mentally ill enter the cemetery after dark and roam around.

"Nobody prevents them from doing that and I can't guard the entire cemetery alone. It's too big," he added. "I only receive YR 1,500 monthly in return for my protection of the cemetery, and this amount is extremely low considering my tasks and efforts."

At Majel Al-Demah, the only ones to receive those entering the cemetery are grave-diggers, who rush to speak to anyone coming in, and begin bargaining on a grave price.

There are no set prices, but most digging teams take YR 13,000 per grave, with the amount being distributed among each digger.

The area of Majel Al-Demah is now almost full, and people are beginning to have trouble finding spaces to bury new bodies for new graves.

This cemetery is located on Khawlan Street in Sana'a. Next to the cemetery, there are black markets selling cooking-gas. Mohsin Jubran, a prominent neighborhood figure, says that gas vendors enter the cemetery to toss out bottles and

garbage.

Next to the cemetery, there are public toilets. Some people, Jubran says, do not go to these toilets to avoid paying fees, and they use the cemetery.

Jubran says that the Ministry of Endowment is tasked with running Sana'a's cemeteries.

"The ministry should provide houses and salaries to grave-diggers, and refer fees paid for graves to the Endowment Ministry," he said.

"It is unbelievable that the cemetery has turned into a waste bin, and that some people enter the cemetery only to urinate and throw garbage on graves," said Jubran.

Yahya Al-Awadi, who is in charge of the cemetery endowment, has affirmed that there are no defined salaries for grave-diggers, and affirming that the guard of the cemetery receives only YR 1,500 in monthly payment.

He said "as for cemetery cleaning and the ordering of grave digging and granting of salaries for workers, it is the duty of Sana'a's officials to address."

"Not all things are in good order at the ministry, and we intend to reorder it," he added.

Perfumes, henna and other supplies are used in washing the bodies of the dead.

"We chose this job to gain rewards from Allah and money after that," said Esmael Ali, 30 years old, who owns a small shop for selling burial supplies.

"Thank God, my income is good because my shop is nearby a hospital," added Ali.



Thousands of Yemeni men earn their living from funeral work, including grave digging, building coffins, guarding cemeteries, and sometimes washing dead people in accordance with Islamic practice.

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Arab Spring turns to economic winter as unemployment increases

By: Mariam Fam & Alaa Shahine
The Daily Star Lebanon
March 30

Amir Mohammad has been sleeping outside the Libyan Embassy in Cairo awaiting a visa for a week, his bed a layer of cardboard on the sidewalk. He has given up on finding a job in Egypt and is looking for a way out.

"I'm trying to just eke out an existence in my own country, but I can't," the 30-year-old hairdresser said. "There's no work. Why did we have a revolution? We wanted better living standards, social justice and freedom. Instead, we're suffering."

The world's highest youth jobless rate left the Middle East vulnerable to the uprisings that ousted Egypt's Hosni Mubarak and three other leaders in the past year. It has got worse since then. About 1 million Egyptians lost their jobs in 2011 as the economy shrank for the first time in decades. Unemployment in Tunisia, where the revolts began, climbed above 18 percent, the central bank said in January. It was 13 percent in 2010, International Monetary Fund data show.

Finding work for people like Mohammad will be the biggest challenge for newly elected governments, highlighting the rift between soaring expectations unleashed by the revolts and the reality of economies struggling to escape recession. Failure risks another wave of unrest in a region that holds more than half the world's oil.

"The advent of democracy brought with it high, high hopes," said Raza Agha, London-based senior economist at the Royal Bank of Scotland Group Plc. "Expectations are that new governments will bring prosperity, but when you look at the fundamentals, this does not appear to be the case."

Tunisia's gross domestic product shrank 1.8 percent last year, and the government this month lowered its growth forecast for 2012 by one percentage point to 3.5 percent. Tunisia's economy hasn't contracted since 1986, according to IMF data.

Egypt's economy shrank 0.8 percent in 2011. The government pays almost 16 percent for one-year borrowing in pounds, up from less than 11 percent at the end of 2010, after four ratings cuts by Moody's Investors Service effectively shut the country out of international debt markets. While the benchmark stock index has rebounded this year, it's still almost a third below pre-revolt levels. The EGX 30 Index declined 6.6 percent this month.

The Egyptian Co. for Mobile Services, or Mobinil, the country's second-largest and oldest mobile phone operator, posted its first loss for more than a decade last year, according to data compiled by Bloomberg, as customers cut spending. Profit at Talaat Moustafa Group Holding, Egypt's biggest publicly traded real-estate developer, dropped 39 percent.

"Egypt needs growth, needs jobs, needs tourists and needs investment," said Simon Williams, chief economist at HSBC Middle East. "This is an extremely difficult set

of economic challenges for anyone to manage, let alone a newly elected post-revolutionary government facing high expectations."

Labor unions, which helped precipitate the overthrow of Mubarak and Tunisia's Zine Al-Abidine Ben Ali, are pushing successor governments to improve conditions and wages. The result in both countries has been a surge in strikes as tourism and investment decline.

Egyptians and Tunisians expecting more jobs a year from now outnumber those predicting a decline by almost four to one, according to a Middle East survey released this month by YouGov Plc and Bayt.com, a Dubai-based employment website. The only places with comparable levels of confidence were Qatar and Saudi Arabia, respectively the world's richest country and its biggest oil exporter.

Public expectations pose "a communication challenge more than anything else," said Ann Wyman, managing director at Tunis-based investment bank Maxula Bourse. "We know in economic terms you can't solve unemployment that quickly."

The task of meeting those expectations is falling to Islamist politicians. The Ennahdha party heads a coalition in Tunisia, after campaigning on promises to create 590,000 jobs by 2016 in the country of about 10 million.

Egypt's Muslim Brotherhood dominates the first post-Mubarak parliament, where its party and allies hold almost half the seats. The group has promised to create jobs by directing more investment than

the previous government toward industry, agriculture and information technology. It also proposed linking industrial subsidies to job creation.

The generals who took over from Mubarak say they'll hand power to civilians after a presidential vote due to conclude in June.

As Egypt's finance minister, one of four to hold the post since unrest began, Samir Radwan was planning to create jobs through infrastructure investments backed by a USD 3.2 billion IMF loan. He lost his job in a July reshuffle.

Radwan still backs the policy, saying in a March 9 interview that spending should begin "immediately" and that renewed unrest is a risk if the demands for "freedom and social justice" that sparked the rebellion aren't met soon.

Opposition to IMF loans among Egypt's ruling generals evaporated along with Egypt's foreign currency reserves, which have dropped more than half in the past year as the central bank shored up the pound. At USD 15.7 billion, they now cover little more than three months of imports. Egypt needs USD 11 billion in financing in two years, according to the current finance minister, Montaz Al-Saeed, who has invited an IMF delegation for talks.

Tunisia is seeking USD 5 billion this year to cover a balance of payments deficit that may reach seven percent of GDP, Central Bank Governor Mustapha Kamel Nabli said in a Jan. 27 interview in Davos, Switzerland.

To create jobs for their young populations, Arab economies need

to integrate, according to an Oxford University study published in December by Adeel Malik and Bassem Awadallah, a former Jordanian finance minister. It highlights restrictions on the movement of investment, goods and people across borders.

The result, in an Arab world with a population of 350 million, is "insignificant" levels of internal trade and regional markets that are "cut off from each other and from the rest of the world," they wrote. It can be cheaper for a Jordanian company to import from the U.K. than from nearby Lebanon, while "visa requirements for traveling within the region can sometimes be as cumbersome as the journey itself."

Hisham Ahmad, 25, said he submitted a passport to the Libyan Embassy in Cairo on Feb. 2 and came to pick up his visa 24 days later as instructed. On March 5, he was still camped outside the building, along with dozens of others. Like Mohammad, the hairdresser, he sleeps on a piece of cardboard. Many of them have worked in Libya before.

Libya is struggling to recover from its own revolt, which ended in the killing of Moammar Gadhafi in October after eight months of fighting. The eastern region, which has most of the country's oil, is seeking self-rule, raising tensions with the central interim government. Even before the uprising, unemployment was 26 percent, according to the IMF.

Oil-rich Persian Gulf nations such as Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates are also seek-

ing to create jobs as a safety valve against protests.

About 27 percent of Saudis between the age of 20 and 30 were unemployed in 2009. King Abdullah announced a USD 130 billion spending plan last year. The government is encouraging companies to hire locals, limiting opportunities for Arabs from poorer nations such as Egypt and Tunisia.

Not everybody in those countries is looking abroad for jobs. Mohammad Wahid, 24, co-founded a company in Egypt that runs errands for people, sparing them the clogged traffic. Wahid said in an interview that he expanded his workforce last year to 300 and plans to hire another 1,200 people by 2015.

"People shouldn't be afraid to jump in and to expand their business and make more profits to employ more people," he said. "If everyone gets scared, the economy will collapse. It's unlikely that foreign investments will flow in the way we want them to soon, so we have to have Egyptian investments."

Tunisian investment bank Maxula Bourse has set up a fund to develop the interior region, where protests against Ben Ali began when Mohammad Bouazizi set himself on fire.

Today Tunisia's Islamist-led government may already be vulnerable to rivals over the economy and jobs, Maxula's Wyman said. Another parliamentary election is due after the current assembly writes a constitution.

"For parties trying to beat Ennahdha, that may be the playing field they aim for," she said.

Yemen at a crossroads

Editorial
Khaleej Times Online
8 April, 2012

The recent shakeup in Yemen's powerful military is likely to consolidate President Abd Rabo Mansour Hadi's position. It will also boost confidence among the people who have to date been demanding reforms in the armed forces, because of former

president Ali Abdullah Saleh's continued influence through his hand-picked loyalists.

The fact that two top generals, including the Air Force Chief, General Mohamed Saleh Al-Ahmar who is Saleh's half brother, as well as his nephew the Presidential Guard's head, General Tarik Mohamed Abdallah Saleh, were among the officials who got sacked says a lot for the changed power dynamics in Yemen. It also sends a strong message

to Saleh who has given the impression of returning to Yemen even after agreeing to a power transfer deal, which does not take into account his return to politics.

The anger against Saleh's relatives and affiliates in the period following his departure had bred resentment and mistrust for the new setup. Even though President Hadi was Saleh's vice-president earlier, he enjoys the support of the opposition groups in government. More-

over, his win at the ballot – irrespective of the fact that he was the sole candidate – in February has given him the credibility to run office. How Hadi manages affairs will set the precedent for the course of the country's future political roadmap. It will also determine political stability that has been rocked by the anti-Saleh protests and other political and security issues following his exit.

Yemen remains fragile security-

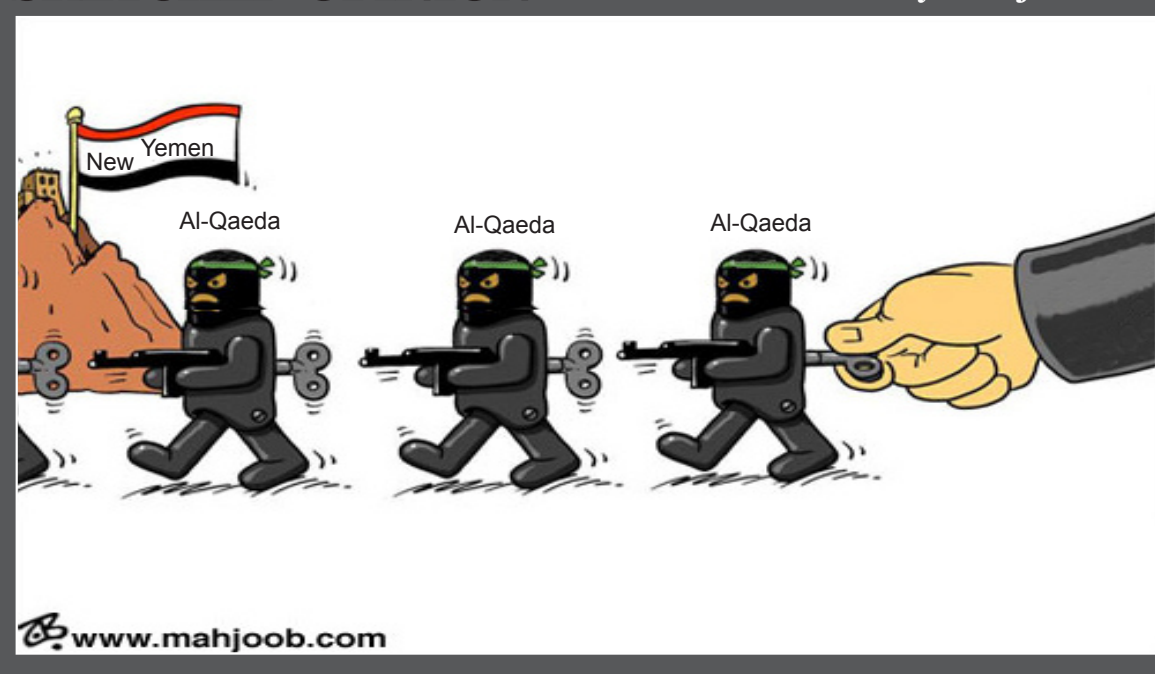
wise, facing ethnic and sectarian tensions and a virulent Al-Qaeda presence. Any further spread in instability is likely to trigger a worse security situation, something the country cannot afford. As a matter of fact, deterioration in Yemen's security can impact other Gulf states because of geographical proximity. More important is the threat of a growing terrorist presence to the region's strategic reserves of oil on ground and the energy shipping

lanes in the Gulf waters. Though Hadi may have risked starting a rebellion in the army corps with his recent decision to sack the top brass, it was much needed, given the popular opposition to these men retaining these strategic positions.

It is a good start and it is hoped that the government is able to impose its will and control and put the state institutions in order in less time than imagined.

SKETCHED OPINION

By: Mahjoob.com



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Yemeni song: reflection and expression

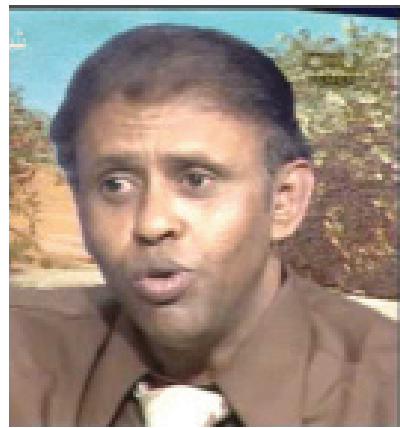
By: Amira A. Nasser

On a February evening in Sana'a's national museum, Ahmed, 25, a young musician from Hajja, sways back and forth as he plays songs from the famous singer Abu Bakr Salem. The audience sits smiling, humming along to the song that they all know by heart.

After the concert, Ahmed said that it is difficult for him to improvise while playing the classics. As for composing original songs, he finds it impossible.

According to several poets and musicians, modern Yemeni songs don't reflect real life in Yemeni society.

Fuad Al Sharjabi, an artist and founder of the Yemen Music House (YMH), said that traditional Yemeni songs have a clear and resonant identity among Yemenis. However, young Yemeni musicians these days struggle to remain loyal to tradition, while contributing something new to the country's music.



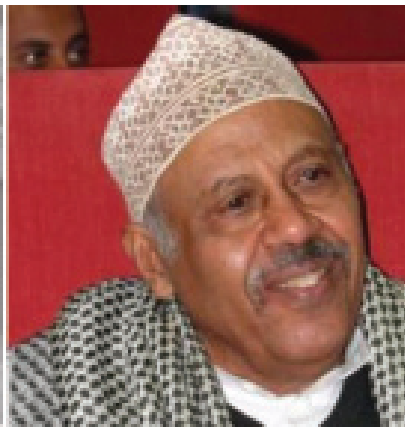
Mohammed Murshid Naji



Ali Al-Anesi



Ali Al-Semah



Ayoub Tarish

Moteher Al Aryani, Abdullah Abdulwahab Noman, Abdullah Sallam Naji, and others all enriched classic Yemeni music during its heyday in the 1960s and '70s.

He pointed out that although contemporary Yemeni songs can't stand up to the classics in terms of originality, a number of young Yemeni musicians have recently produced first-rate songs in fresh styles, such as the song Sawa Neb-

neeha ("Together we build it") by a collection of different Yemeni singers.

For her part, Samia Al-Aansi, a broadcaster at Sana'a Radio, said there is a growing chasm between traditional Yemeni songs and modern ones.

"The youth now are unable to achieve the same level of creativity that you find in the traditional songs," she said.

Love, emigration, alienation, poverty, agriculture and other themes all helped to give the original touch to traditional Yemeni songs. "The traditional Yemeni song gives clear images and presents them in an imaginative way. The music helps you capture the scene as it is, and makes you feel and live its beauty. Its poetry gives a place to the farmer and the laborer," said Abdulqader Al-Shibani, a

former broadcaster who is an expert in Yemeni cultural heritage.

The poet Mahmood Al-Hajj said the modern Yemeni song is walking through a smothering crisis, a crisis of creativity, indicating that

"Even if we are going to discuss love, there are no new ways to present that," he explained.

"Presently the number of modern songs are endless, meaningless and thus tasteless," said Al-Hajj,

adding that the majority of modern songs focus on the emotional, but use a clichéd, monotonous language.

New musical dimension

Since the Arab Spring erupted in Yemen, a dimension has appeared in contemporary Yemeni songs which recalls the old national songs of our memories.

"The contribution of the government plays a big role in developing poetry and music in Yemen through the cultural activities that it organizes," added Al-Hajj.

"Some of the new songs which appear as a reaction to the revolution, have lost the qualities of the traditional song, because of the shallow-meaning lyrics," said Fuad Al-Sharjabi.

"The young artists should be careful with choosing what they write, what they compose, and what they publish, because music is a mirror of society," Samia Al-Aansi said, adding that there are some signs of positive change in music produced by Yemeni youth.

Music bands in Yemen – a remarkable stride



Band members come from diverse provinces to perform in weddings celebrations and other festivals

By: Khalid Al-Karimi

In the recent years, the number of Yemeni music bands steadily increased despite the problems they experience in Yemen's conservative society. However, tremendous passion and talent have goaded young singers into persisting hope, for those believing that life without their music instruments is dull and mundane. Moreover, music bands are an inviting shelter for nascent melodious voices in Yemen.

The start

Conventional eminent singers such as Abu Bakr Salem Balfakeeh and Ayoub Tareh are the leading voices of Yemen and their recorded tapes are turned to spice up people's festivities for those favoring sung poetry. However, modern life has changed and traditional recorded songs are put aside in favor of young bands playing music.

Spiritual father of music bands

The 37 years old Adel Al-Shabami, who is respectfully called the 'Spiritual Father' by his young fans, remembers that the year 1992 marked a turning point in Yemen's history of music: "The beginning of my musical journey was in 1992. My beloved father, who deceased, inspired me to continue developing my music flair. I started playing the piano in the twenties. I used

to perform at schools and summer camps. Later, I learned to riff on the guitar that was challenging at the start. Praise to God, I realized profound musical improvements. As a consequence, I decided to form the first music band, Nagham. Now my sons, Mohammed and Ali, are outstanding pianists and guitarists."

Modern Yemen

"I think modernization causes to change many things in our world. Music is not an exception. The Yemeni music has moved with the times. For sure, the Western culture has its undeniable stamps. This is an obvious reason behind the appearance and evolution of the music bands in Yemen," explained Bassam Al-Bassi, manager of the band.

Band members come from diverse provinces to perform in weddings celebrations and other festivals, which pave their way. Eventually promising musicians to band together to gain musical ground according to the proverb, "birds of a feather flock together".

Customers trust

All bands agree that a brilliant performance is the decisive factor behind winning the customers' trust. "People pride in making their marriage ceremonies remarkable. So, they intend to look for the best bands. The striking performance is our objective", concludes Ali Al-Shabami.

In addition, band manager distribute small cardboard flyers on which the name of the band and mobile numbers are decoratively printed, illustrating them as famous and celebrated bands, in order to boost funding and confidence.

Handsome profits

The steady increase of music bands is a satisfactory indicator of the good profits reaped from this profession. Of course, some bands express financial hardships at the outset of their career, but eventually solve the troubles. Bassam Al-Bassi remembers his early years: "In reality, the start was financially unstable. Nowadays our financial stability is guaranteed." However, not all bands share the same experience. Kareem Ali, member of the Wama band tells that, "the commencement was rewarding, and now is carrying on even better", from the very beginning of his career.

The price for a performance varies between YR30,000 and YR60,000 depending on the financial background of the clients and the hall in which the ceremony is to be held - the bigger the hall, the more music instruments are required and thus the higher is the price.

However, the profession of a singer is not constantly profitable. "At times, bands hardly cover their daily expenses. Even the most famous bands witness a decline of income. Anyway, it is a seasonal

work," says Amar Al-Jadabi, member of the band Dala'a.

A few months ago, Yemeni music bands experienced hard times due to the political turmoil and economic imbalances. "The last eight months were the most complicated because of the rife rifts among people. Now is better. Our income has dramatically improved," points Bassam Al-Abssi out. However, he is expecting that the coming months will be more advantageous, God willing.

Cultural challenges

Being a conservative community can be a big hassle for young musicians, because religious traditions disgrace loose music which, as clerics believe, instigates evil and immorality. However, this is not an unsolvable issue tells Kareem Ali, "of course, extremely religious zealots look down upon our profession, but we can appease them by reciting theological songs accompanied with music." However, he continued, "my family sharply objected to my choice of this pro-

fession. Finally, they gave up to my resolute artistic determination. The family regarded being a singer is a disgrace." However, not all experience the same dismissive attitude toward their passion, Bassam Al-Abssi's family raised no negative stance regarding being a musician. His parents gave him the freedom to become the personality that he desired to be. "The society should deem us as artists. Being endowed with golden vocal cords is God's gift. We shall make use of it," concluded Bassam Al-Abssi.



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«تنوع»

Qat destroys family relations

By: Amal Al-Yarisi

Nothing makes Nadia Al-Sharjabi upset excepts her husband's qat habit.

Despondently, she says "When my husband chews qat

he changes completely. He gets bad-tempered, to the extent that I can't talk with him. He prefers to chew qat outside and stay out late every night, leaving me alone, waiting for him to come back, and this causes problems between us."

Nawal also has to put up with

qat's negative effects. Her husband is an government worker, but isn't highly paid. The only problem between Nawal and her husband is his qat habit. Sometimes he borrows money to buy qat, instead of taking care of his family and bringing home the necessities.

"My husband chews qat daily and spends half of his salary buying this evil plant, instead of buying us some fruit, or some toys for his children," she added.

A psychological opiate

"qat is a psychological drug because it controls the ones who chew it and is the major source of worry and confusion," said Doctor Abdullah Al-Maqtari, specialist in mental health and an addiction consultant.

Some of those who chew qat forget about their families because they care only about qat and how to get it. Sometimes, those addicted to qat fail to meet their families' basic requirements such as food and clothes, and this causes mental and physical strains on the children.

High qat prices

Ali Mohammed is the head of a family of four children. For twenty years he has been chewing qat. His wife doesn't chew qat at all.

Ali says that he feels guilty when borrowing money to buy qat while his wife and children need food. "What can I do? I can't just quit," he added.

"Sometimes, my family eats a simple lunch, usually yogurt and bread. Every day, I do my best to stop chewing qat, but I can't," he continued.

Talking about the problems



which he faces, he says that he loses his temper and hits his children when he doesn't find money to buy qat. However, after getting his hands on some he feels relieved. After chewing qat at night, however, he doesn't speak a word to his children.

Abdullah Basardah doesn't chew qat. He says that instead of blowing money to buy qat, it's better to give it to his family.

Nadia Al-Sharjabi affirmed that

her husband gets confused when he starts chewing qat, and two hours later he loses his temper and stops talking to her.

In her turn, one wife, requesting anonymity, says that the worst thing she's noticed is that chewing qat makes her husband sexually impotent. In addition, she said that after he chews qat, his breath is awful.

Doctor Al-Maqtari explained that anyone chewing qat goes through

three stages. The first one is the hyperactivity. The second stage is imagination, and finally the stage of laziness and sexual impotence.

Nadia Al-Sharjabi hopes that her husband will stop chewing qat soon so that they can live together without strain on their relationship. Ali Mohammed himself hopes that he'll be able to quit chewing qat so he won't have to borrow money, and instead put some food on his family's table.



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unite for children

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Child Protection Consultancy External Vacancy No. 20/2012

UNICEF Yemen Country Office, Sana'a, seeks highly qualified Yemeni to monitor implementation of UNICEF Child Protection supported activities and interventions within the overall Emergency Response to IDPs and vulnerable children in Haradh, other districts in Hajja governorates and Sa'ada districts adjacent to Haradh

Duration of work: 8 months
Location: Haradh District, Hajjah Governorate

Specific Tasks:

The consultant will undertake the following duties and tasks under the overall supervision of the Head of the Emergency Sub-Office in Haradh and under the technical guidance of the Child Protection Chief.

- Plan, provide technical support, monitor and ensure the implementation of the protection activities for children based on CAP and RWP:
 - Identify NGOs and community groups to partner with UNICEF for program implementation. Ensure participation of children affected by the conflict and increase in girls participation and gender equality in all the child protection supported activities and in benefiting from services.
 - Liaise with authorities to ensure they provide necessary support.
 - Monitor delivery and warehousing of supplies as well as their distribution to ensure reaching intended beneficiaries.
- Liaise with Department of Social Affairs and Department of Education and NGO partners to secure their engagement in providing protection services to IDPs and other disadvantaged groups and that they are regularly informed of UNICEF emergency program.
- Work closely with community groups, existing and newly established child protection committees and raise their awareness on child protection issues to ensure communities groups are empowered to protect their children.
- Collect data on child protection, including on grave violations and child protection concerns within the standard monitoring tools of the CPWG and conduct rapid monitoring assessments as needed.
- Prepare periodic (weekly, monthly, quarterly) reports and submit to supervisor and child protection chief in Sana'a.
- Maintain and strengthen the coordination of the child protection Working Group (CPWG) at Haradh with other, UN Agencies, Int. and national NGOs and communities, including children.
- Under the leadership of the head of the emergency sub-office support the establishment of the MRM sub group (under the CPWG) with guidance from Sana'a. Support building the capacity of partners in monitoring, reporting and responding to grave violations against children.
- Ensure systematic monitoring, verification, reporting and advocate on grave child rights violations within the framework on MRM and support the training of partners as needed in this area to ensure response to violations.

Technical Background and Experience

- University degree in Social Sciences, law or related field
- Minimum of five years' experience in development. Previous emergency work or community based experience is preferable;
- Computer skills like using word processing and spreadsheets;
- Fluency in written and spoken English and Arabic languages.

If you meet the requirements stated above, please write in confidence enclosing comprehensive curriculum vitae, duly completed United Nations Personal History form (which can be downloaded from www.unicef.org/employ) stating telephone number, email address and detailed contact address quoting the vacancy number 20/2012 to: yemenhr@unicef.org not later than 10 days from the date of this publication. For additional information on UNICEF, please visit our website: www.unicef.org

UNICEF, a smoke-free environment, is an equal opportunity employer. **Qualified females are encouraged to apply.** Only short listed candidates will be contacted.

unite for children

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Long Term Agreement for Translation and Interpretation Service External Vacancy No. 17/2012

UNICEF Yemen Country Office, Sana'a, seeks highly qualified individuals or organisation to provide Translation of documents (Arabic-English-Arabic) and Interpretation service for UNICEF Yemen

Duration of work: One year
Location: Sana'a

Specific Tasks:

- Translation of all documents and materials required to be in Arabic, from English texts provided by UNICEF, Yemen
- Translation of Arabic documents required in English by UNICEF Yemen.
- As required, travel to UNICEF Field Offices to undertake local translation services.
- As required, upon discussion with contractors, provision of interpretation services at major events and meetings.

Technical Background and Experience

- Proven written translation skills from English to Arabic and Arabic to English
- Ability to work with limited supervision, with capacity for providing own computer and email services
- Capacity to handle multiple tasks at the same time
- Strict adherence to deadlines and quality of work
- At least two year's expertise and experience in translating technical and/or legal documents
- Proven experience of working with UN, NGO, government and civil society clients

Conditions

- The contractor will be hired on an 'as-required' basis under the terms of a Long-Term Agreement (LTA) in the form of an Institutional Special Service Agreement or Individual contractor to be signed between UNICEF and the contractor. This LTA has no monetary value in its own right, and does not commit UNICEF to provide any work to the contractor following its signing. Any fees for work undertaken will be based upon those submitted in the official bid made by the contractor at the start of the selection process.
- The contractor will be paid for each piece of translation work undertaken, based on the agreed wordage fee indicated in their original bid. Wordage is based on the original text, not the translated document.
- The contractor will be based in their own office in Sana'a, and will not have access to UNICEF office space or equipment
- The contractor will undertake to ensure that it has fully functional computer and email equipment at its offices in order to meet the requirements of work provided by UNICEF.
- The contractor will ensure that its computer hardware and other systems are clear of viruses and other malicious software.
- The contractor will be required to ensure the safe electronic and physical storage of all UNICEF documents involved in translation, and ensure the safe electronic and physical transmittal of such documents. At the end of each assignment the contractor will be required to delete all electronic versions of both original and translated documents from its computers and other storage systems, and return any hard copies of such documents to UNICEF.
- UNICEF retains the right to inspect the contractor's computers and other storage systems at any time during the period of this LTA to ensure that the above requirement is being upheld.
- The contractor may not reveal, transmit or otherwise share the contents of UNICEF documents with any other party other than its own staff and then only for purposes of translation.
- On occasions when contractor is required to visit UNICEF offices in Sana'a for meetings or consultations, no travel costs or transport will be provided by UNICEF for such visits.
- The contractor must be willing to accept assignments based in UNICEF Field Offices. On these occasions, the contractor will be provided with travel to and from the Field Office as per UNICEF's normal travel arrangements.
- Local Daily Subsistence Allowance (DSA) will be paid for each night the contractor is required to stay in the location of the Field Office - DSA rates will be based on UNICEF's applicable DSA rate.
- Accommodation in the location of the Field Office will be sourced by the contractor and all costs born by the contractor.
- When interpretation work is required in Sana'a, no additional travel or subsistence costs will be provided. When interpretation work is required in UNICEF Field Office locations, the same travel and DSA arrangements as for translation work (see above) will be applied.
- The contractor may not use UNICEF's name or logo in any marketing, advertising, references or other commercial activities related to its business without the written prior permission of UNICEF.

If you meet the requirements stated above, please send your expression of interest and information about yourself or your organisation stating telephone number, email address and detailed contact address quoting the vacancy number to: [HYPERLINK "mailto:yemenhr@unicef.org"](mailto:HYPERLINKmailto:yemenhr@unicef.org) yemenhr@unicef.org not later than 10 days from the date of this publication. For additional information on UNICEF, please visit our website: www.unicef.org

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الفروع، الفيطة، ٠٥/٦١٠٣٩ - المكلا، ٠٥/٣٨٧٠٦٠ - سيون، ٠٥/٤٨٣٢٤ - شوبه، (هتق) ٠٥/٢٠٠٧٥٧

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سمير سعيد الأصبحي، بكالوريوس علوم حاسوب (جامعة صنعاء)، إجادة اللغة الانجليزية، صنعاو شارع تغز التواصل: 734517536

محمد سالم الطهيف، إنجليزي ترجمة، العلوم، 733138531

بكالوريوس صيدلة، دورة توفل من المعهد الأمريكي، خبرة في مجال التصنيع الدوائي لمدة 3 سنوات ونصف، خبرة في مجال الامداد الدوائي والمخازن والكمبيوتر. 770934957

سيارت

للبيع: سيارة BMW موديل 91، بحالة جيدة، جيد عادي لون أسود. 736336666, 777773688

للبيع: مرسيدس 500 موديل 2006 زرقاء كاملة المواصفات، هايدروليك. 777245778, 737665552

للبيع: هونداي سوناتا 2005 بيضاء، جير عادي بحالة ممتازة، مليون ريال. 712003957, 734558373

سيارة أودي A 80 موديل 1994 م للبيع للإستفاسار: 711774584

للبيع: سيارة بيجو موديل 1991 بسعر 1.750.000 قابل للتفاوض. محمد أحمد 771533817

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طلال عبدالواسع، حاصل على بكالوريوس محاسبة، دبلوم سكرتارية، دروة يمن سوفت، خبرة في مجال كهرباء الريف،

معاهد

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معهد اللتي
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شركة أمان
الجزيرة للتأمين وإعادة التأمين

مدارس

روضه واحه الأطفال
موبايل: ٧٣٣٥٥٦٤٥
مدرسة زينبو
مدارس صنعاو الدولية
مدرسة التركيزه الدولييه
مدرسة متارات

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قدس فلاي
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مستشفى الكويت

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بنك كليون
يونانيد بنك ليمتد
بنك كلك الإسلامي
بنك اليمن والكويت للتجارة والانشاءات

تأجير سيارات

زاوية (Budget)
يورب كار
هيرنز لتأجير السيارات
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ارقام مهمة

IMPORTANT Numbers

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- الجواب (م) - المبتقى (م) - صح بالانجليزي
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الكلمة المفقودة

ص ن خ ا ت

3 جوز
4 فلك
5 فهد
6 قرن
7 هنا
8 هذا
9 المجرم
10 جودو
11 دينا
12 ميهم
13 اللحم
14 للعب
15 المهن
16 دلة بن

كسرخات: 3, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12

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للك حبة رمل قصة: 15

استراحة العدد

عجائب وغرائب

اتصل لصان شابان في المانيا سهوا بالشرطة بدلا من الإسعاف وذلك بعد اصابة احدهما بجروح جراء كسر زجاج أحد محلات أجهزة المحمول، وتبين لرجال الشرطة أن الشابين كانا يحاولان السطو على المنزل

حكمة العدد

عندما تحب عدوك، يحس بتفاهته

نكتة العدد

واحد عصبي قال لخبطيته: اريد أن احكي لك قصة غريبة صارت معي، ولن تصدقها لشدة غرابيتها، ويستغلين أنني كذاب لكنني لست كذابا، بل أنتي الكاذبة وجميع من معك.. انهيها فانت طالع

لغز العدد

كانت هناك نخلة طويلة جدا جدا وكان هناك أربعة حيوانات (أسد، قرد، زرافة، سنجاب) قر الأربعة أن يتناقسوا في من يستطيع بسرعة قطف الموز. من تعتقد سريع؟

هل تعلم

هل تعلم أن أكثر الطيور حذرا هو الغراب

الحلول بالملقوب

١- ليد من الحرف القريب من الرقم (١) في الدائرة الكبيرة متجاها مع سهم مستحسنا يحدد الكلمات المناسبة من كلمات القائمة.
2- تبدأ الكلمة الثانية بأحد حرف من الكلمة السابقة.
ثم يجمع الحروف الخمسة الموضوعة في الدوائر الخمس الكبيرة على طرف النخلة وترتجاها بالتسلسل الرقمي القريب من تلك الدائرة لتمثل حل ما هو مطلوب، داخل النخلة.

باسم
بسم
توس
حزين

حساب
رابع
رسم
سبح

سوسو
كاتب
لوح
مصحح

سك
مقر
نسر
وضار

١- (٤) الحرس
٢- (٤) الحرس
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The amazing youth in the Sea of Talent competition

By: Nadia Haddash

Ten young talented people won in the first round of the 'Sea of Talent' (Bahr Al-Mawheb) competition. It was concluded last Thursday with shows of art and sport which were praised by the audience.

The competition was supported by USAID in cooperation with the Ministry of Youth and Sports. It aimed at bringing out the talents of Yemeni youth and encouraging them to be able to contribute in decision making and building a new Yemen.

Three hundred participants entered in the competition which is part of the Peace Generation Project that aims at improving Yemeni society.

"The love and encouragement I received from my supporters enabled me to continue. This competition aims at the unity of the Yemeni youth in order to keep them away from political conflicts," commented Qutaiba Namooosh, a 21 year old winner in the competition. Namooosh presented poetic verses that amazed both the audience and the judges.

"I'm a Bedouin, some are from Aden, some are from Taiz, and some are from the marginalized people, but in the competition we are all Yemeni youth," he added.

"The larger challenge for me is how to spread my talent throughout Yemen. The 'Sea of Talent' competition has opened the door for me," said Nora Abdat, an 18 year old who presented a foreign song that was praised by those in attendance and the judges committee.



A performance by Al-Amal Group of Yemeni marginalized who came among the top ten in the Sea of Talents competition

Musical bands participated in the competition too. The Amal Show Band who belong to a marginalized community won a prize and was especially liked by the audience and the judges committee.

Forty percent of the participants in the competition were from marginalized communities and they clearly proved that they are talented people.

The judges committee and the final decision

"The selection of the best partici-

pants was based on three measures which are talent, charisma and the reaction of the audience," said Khaled Kahtan, the owner of an artistic and productive association and one of the judges in the competition.

"There are many talented people in Yemen but they have been ignored. All these talents are just a very small part of the buried talents of the people in Yemen," he added.

Fuad Al-Sharjabi, the founder of the Yemeni Musical House praised

the participation of females in the competition, "They represented only 20 percent of contestants but their presence was very remarkable and they showed more talent than the males."

According to Al-Sharjabi it was a very challenging step for those girls to stand on the stage before an audience and display their talents. It required much self-confidence. She said that these talented females impressed the audience and proved that we are in an age of differences which are based only on

talent, charisma and morals, and not on gender.

Amal Ismael, an actress and a member of the judges committee, said that she came to know more about the marginalized people through this competition, and what she saw was very different from the perspective seen in society.

"Those marginalized people can change the negative view society has toward them and the audience praised them for their professional talents. They proved that they are

Yemeni citizens just like all the other Yemeni people, and that they have special abilities and talents.

Audience reaction towards the 'Sea of Talent'

The public enthusiastically attended the competition and the theatre was overbooked.

"I attended with my female friends and I'm impressed by the talents of the participants. Never did I think that the Yemeni people had such talents," said Lamia'a Al-Barq.

Further, she emphasized the importance of such competitions which teach youths how to invest their time productively instead of wasting it on chewing qat.

Maher Al-Haimi, Mohammed Al-Sagh, Murad Al-Alimi and Mohammed Al-Nahari came to back up their friend who participated in the competition.

"We came to support our friend in the singing competition. We can't express how happy we are that he is one of the top ten participants," they said. They also affirmed that this competition contributed to uniting the Yemeni youth. "Yemen is still OK," they acclaimed.

Though the media in general ignored the 'Sea of Talent' competition, it has left a good impression on the youth of Yemen, and left many thinking that effective change is possible by improving the talents of the youth.

According to one of the coordinators, the 'Sea of Talent' competition may be held again in different governorates like Aden and Taiz, but it needs more promotion to spread the word to all of Yemen's talented youth.

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