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Extremist cell implicated in Al-Sabeen bombing arrests

Amal Al-Yarisi

SANA'A, July 1 — Members of the extremist cell said to have engineered the May 21 Al-Sabeen bombing has been captured, head of national security Ali Mohammed Al-Anisi said.

"Security forces captured the terrorist cell, which plotted the murder of several soldiers in a heinous incident in Al-Sabeen," Mahdi Al-Jarbani, the Battalion 14 leader of the Central Security, said.

On May 21, a suicide bomber blew himself up during the military parade on May 21 in Sana'a's Al-Sabeen Square, killing himself and approximately 100 soldiers.

Numerous others were injured.

Al-Jarbani said the captives are being questioned, and details will be garnered about how the square was infiltrated. "Their names will be declared," he said.

The state-run 26 September newspaper quoted Al-Anisi as saying the security personnel caught the terrorist cell, self-dubbed as Ansar Al-Sharia.

26 September reported that Al-Anisi gave no details regarding the captured militants. However, he said security personnel have executed qualitative operations against militants in the past, and targeted operations would carry on wherever they go.

Ayish Awas, a political analyst, said to 26 September that names will not be published because this could influence the investigation process, indicating the publication could help other suspects hide.

"It is difficult to forget this crime because of the number of casualties and the crime's location," Awas said. "This puts the government and the decision makers under constant pressure until they detect the identity of attackers."

Awas said fingers will be pointed at decision-makers if there are any indications of procrastination toward addressing the capture of the militants and toward the bombing itself.



“Security forces captured the terrorist cell, which plotted the murder of several soldiers in a heinous incident in Al-Sabeen.”

Complaints about power outages despite works on Marib Power Station

Mohammed Al-Samie & Amal Al-Yarisi

SANA'A, July 1 — Following one month of service failure while crews repaired sabotaged facilities, the Marib Power Station is back online.

However, even with increased electricity production, power outages continue to occur daily in Sana'a and other governorates.

Mohammed Al-Shaibani, general director of the power supply lines, said, "The station is operating again after securing the Al-Jada'an area of Marib by the military. They will remain in the area until they have captured all saboteurs."

Al-Shaibani said the decision was made to operate on the station because students need electricity to study for high school exams.

Sana'a and other governorates were completely without electricity for several days. Many Yemenis complained about how it negatively affected their daily lives.

Ahmed Makki, manager of Al-Makha restaurant in Sana'a, said, "The continuous power outages affected our restaurant negatively,

especially as we couldn't use our refrigerators to keep our vegetables fresh."

He said generators are inadequate because the power was out for a full 20 hours a day.

"We demand that the Ministry of Electricity and the Ministry of Interior work together to end these

acts that cause power outages and affect Yemenis negatively," Makki said.

Rani Naji, an employee at an automotive parts store, said employees stopped working because of the power outage.

"I decided not to go to work due to the ongoing power outages;

generators aren't adequate."

He said he used Internet cafes to finish work and to send reports and orders for the store.

"They are forced to stop work until electricity returns because employers can't afford generators all day," Abdulrahman Al-Ahmadi, a construction contractor, said.

Republican Guard commander abducted, sparks tension between Khawlan and Sanhan

Ahmed Dawood

SANA'A, July 1 — After Thursday's abduction of Brigadier General Murad Al-Awbali, commander of the Republican Guard 62nd Brigade, an atmosphere of tension has prevailed between the Khawlan and Sanhan tribes, which are east of Sana'a.

Mohammed Murad Al-Awbali, son of the abducted commander and sheikh of the village of Bait Al-Jaki in Sanhan, said his father went to Khawlan, 30 km from Sana'a, on an official mission.

The commander was ambushed by armed men from the Khawlan tribe. The men wore the military clothing of the Republican Guards and the First Armored Division. According to Mohammed Al-Awbali, the gunmen took his father

to an unknown location.

Following the abduction, the Sana'a-Khawlan road witnessed a surge of resistance by the Sanhan tribe, located in the hometown of former President Ali Abdullah Saleh and from where the kidnapped commander hails.

The tribesmen set up several checkpoints forbidding members of the Khawlan tribe to enter or leave Sana'a.

Saleh Abdullah, a resident of the Sahman village in Khawlan Al-Tial district, said he couldn't go to Sana'a on Saturday because of checkpoints run by Sanhan tribesmen.

He said Sanhan detained approximately 24 locals from Khawlan in order to pressure the kidnappers to release Murad Al-Awbali.

Abdullah said Sanhan tribesmen

focused in particular on locals from Qarwa village, to which the kidnappers belong.

For his part, Murad Al-Awbali's son said he had abducted more than 100 locals from Khawlan. He said they would be detained pending his father's release.

He said some sheikhs from the two tribes are mediating the release the abducted commander. Sheikhs Ali Maksa from Sanhan and Mohammed Naji Al-Ghadir, a leading figure in Khawlan, have so far unsuccessfully attempted to mediate, according to Mohammed Al-Awbali.

The abducted commander participated Republican Guard actions in Arhab. He fought against the armed, tribal opposition who sided with the popular uprising against former president Ali

Abdullah Saleh. He also led the 2011 Republican Guard military campaign in Taiz against pro-democracy protesters demanding the former regime's end.

The kidnappers issued a statement identifying themselves as a group of military personnel who sided with the revolution. They claimed that salaries had been cut, and despite repeated calls to the Defense Ministry to pay their salaries, there was no response.

They demanded the Republican Guard leadership apologize for false accusations and rumors broadcasted on the T.V. station Yemen Today and in its sister newspaper.

Former president Saleh's son, Ahmed Ali Abdullah Saleh—who commands the Republican Guard—owns both outlets.

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Aden University employees continue protests for second week

Ghaida Al-Ariqi

ADEN, July 1 — Administrative staff at Aden University have continued their comprehensive strike for the second week.

Workers closed the University Presidency Gate in protest against their salaries, which are lower than their counterparts at Sana'a University.

The strikers also demanded the official hiring of almost 200 workers who have been working on contracts; this also occurs with employees at Sana'a University.

Yasser Basarda, the assistant general secretary of Aden University, challenged the employees and demanded proof that employees of Sana'a University have a higher salary by an estimated 50 percent, or even that they are officially hired.

Lutfi Bakhwar, the general secretary of the Aden University Employees Union, said the strike and the closing of the University Presidency will continue until their grievance is addressed.

"Our demand is the official hiring of 196 employees. The total number of employees is 600," he said.

He went on to claim that their demands for positions of seniority, which are now held by teaching staff, had basis in "the laws of the university that disallow the academicians to be in charge of these positions."

"We want to reorganise the university administration, just as is occurring at universities throughout Yemen," he said.

Muheeb Shaef, information assistant in the Labor Syndicate at Aden University, said continuous inattention, as well as negative responses, have been clear. The managers and the university administration have threatened to force the employees to stop their strike despite its legal legitimacy, Shaef said.

Shaef said that the general secretary of the syndicate met with the syndicate's members in order to enter meaningful negotiation.

"We agreed that we will lessen the strike hours as long as our demands are met."

He called on Prime Minister Mohammed Salem Basindwa to pay attention to the issues at Aden University. The syndicate

demanded the prime minister, as well as the ministers' council, create a ministerial committee to address problems at the university.

Basarda affirmed that there was an agreement Feb. 28, 2011, with regard to the supervising and administrative positions.

"The strikers demanded things that the university is unable to achieve," he said. "The syndicate committee does not accept dialogue, and they show no cooperation."

"The majority of the members of the committees are from the syndicate. The committees' work started three weeks ago since the start of the protests. However, the syndicate rashly staged the strike."

The syndicate held a public meeting in which a pool of employees and journalists were in attendance. The syndicate demanded in a statement that university leadership have a debate to prove who is right, either the university or the syndicate.

"If the university leadership proves right and the employees are wrong, we will immediately defer the strike," the statement read. "If the opposite, they should instantly submit their resignation."



Workers shut down the University Presidency Gate in protest against their salaries.

Saudi Arabia offers money for diplomat's release

Muaad Al-Maqtari

SANAA, June 27 — A source close to the governor of Abyan who refused to publish his name said Swiss woman Sylvia Abrahath and Saudi diplomat Abdullah Al-Khalidi, both of whom are being held hostage by Ansar Al-Sharia, are still alive.

The two were separately abducted in March.

Abrahath was transferred from Azzan, in Shabwa, to Ja'ar a month ago, the source said. She was then moved to Hadramout because she could not adjust to the food she was given while held at Al-Maraqisha Mountain. According to the source, living in a small village in Hadramout is easier for her than living with a nomadic family in Abyan.

The source said Saudi intelligence is doing its best, in cooperation

with tribal sheikhs, to free the kidnapped consul.

He said Saudi intelligence offered SR five million to Al-Qaeda for his release, plus an additional SR one million for the mediators and those who secure Al-Khalidi's release.

Ansar Al-Sharia, an Al-Qaeda-affiliate, has released all captives held during the conflict in Abyan except for the Swiss woman and the Saudi consul.

Local newspaper Al-Shara reported that a source close to Ansar Al-Sharia said Saudi intelligence officers met with some Al-Qaeda leaders. The former said Saudi Arabia is embarrassed to publicly comply with Al-Qaeda's demands to release Al-Qaeda prisoners in Saudi Arabia in exchange for the return of their kidnapped consul.

The source said Saudi officers paid visits to Ataq, the capital of

Shabwa governorate, multiple times to negotiate with Al-Qaeda. The meetings were organized by tribal figures.

Some local and regional media outlets reported that the Saudi consul was killed along with four others last month in the house of the general security manager in Zinjibar district. However, the governor of Abyan, Jamal Al-Aqil, denied the reports.

Al-Aqil told the state-run Saba News Agency that reports detailing the killing of the Saudi consul in Zinjibar district are untrue, and the bodies of those killed are Yemeni.

The Swiss woman was kidnapped by armed tribesmen in mid-March in Hodeida and on April 2 was handed over to Al-Qaeda militants in Shabwa.

In April, Ansar Al-Sharia also kidnapped a French aid worker

working for the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Aden.

Last week, some media outlets reported the murder of Hussein Saleh Al-Yazeedi, an advisor to the head office of the ICRC in Aden while negotiating with Ansar Al-Sharia for the release of the abducted doctor.

Reports indicated Al-Yazeedi was killed after a U.S. airstrike killed 13 Al-Qaeda members in the Al-Mahafid district north of Abyan.

However, ICRC's spokeswoman in Yemen, Deeba Fakhr, said Al-Yazeedi was not involved in the negotiating process to release the hostage.

An ICRC statement read that the committee was shocked by Al-Yazeedi's death. He working on humanitarian projects in the north of Abyan.

Aden complex targeted by 'thieves and highwaymen'

Ghaida Al-Ariqi

SANAA, July 1 — On Thursday, a grenade exploded outside an Aden governorate compound in Al-Ma'ala, wounding an on-duty Central Security Forces soldier. No building damages were reported.

"The perpetrators are a group of thieves and highwaymen who are blacklisted," Abdul Nasser Al-Sakkaf, head of Al-Ma'ala's police station, said. "The assault was executed by three persons who boarded a Hilux model car."

Anwar Al-Sulaihi, Aden governorate's Operations Authority manager, said, "A grenade was thrown after midnight last Thursday ... There was a resounding

blast inside."

Al-Sulaihi said the perpetrators have not been identified.

"There was no former threat by a particular person because attacks happen at nighttime," he said. "The purpose was only terror and sabotage. The forensic department attended the location once notified, and investigations are now in progress to identify the perpetrators."

He said similar incidents occurred two weeks ago and three months ago, with no injuries or damages reported.

"Once notified by the Operations Authority in Aden governorate, we hurried to the incident to investigate and take pictures," Al-Sakkaf said.

Campaign combats pornography channels in Sana'a hotels

Samar Qaed

SANAA, July 1 — On Friday, Sana'a security services launched a campaign to combat pornography channels in Sana'a hotels.

The campaign will continue until the end of Ramadan, according to Moaen Al-Jawfi, an officer involved in the crackdown. Al-Jawfi said the campaign discovered more than 250 culpable hotels in the Al-Sabeen and Al-Asbahi areas

and referred them to the Press and Publication Court.

A source from the judicial court who requested anonymity said the Press and Publication Court does not take action against hotels unless local residents complain specifically about the pornographic channels in the hotels. The General Prosecution to Sana'a security services gave orders after receiving several complaints.

"If a complaint against a hotel

proves to be true, a case against the hotel is filed and all its electronic devices are taken before its closure," the source said.

Most visitors to these hotels are young Yemenis. Dr. Salah Al-Deen Al-Jomae, a consultant and an academic at Sana'a and Amran universities, said the pornographic websites and channels in hotels and internet cafes affect people religiously and morally.

Al-Jomae said these channels

aim to intellectually affect youth and to destroy them. He claimed such channels cause people to think sexually all the time and affects marital relations.

"People who watch these channels think that all girls are like the girls in porno movies," he said. "Most viewers are teenagers and students. This negatively affects their studies. Instead of paying attention to their lessons, they resort to watching these channels."

Parallel system tuition fees decreased at Sana'a University

Mohammed Al-Samei

SANAA, July 1 — Sana'a University will decrease tuition costs for parallel system students and widen the enrollment capacity for students who study at their own expense starting in the 2012-2013 academic year.

President Abdu Rabu Mansour Hadi announced the changes Saturday.

"Tuition fees have been cut for parallel system students; 50 percent for seniors, 40 percent

for freshmen and 20 percent for those taking night classes," Rector Ahmed Basarda said.

He said University of Sana'a students expressed pleasure about the change, as it was in response to student requests for lower tuition fees.

"The university is not pleased with the parallel system; however, it will use it to develop university laboratories and a source of income, particularly during this year, as the finance ministry has taken YR 2 billion out of this year's university

budget," Basarda said.

The president's decree increased enrollment, adding 80 slots at the College of Medicine, 30 at the College of Dentistry, 60 at the College of Pharmacy, 250 at the College of Engineering and 50 at the College of Computer Sciences.

Months ago, university students staged protests demanding the end of tuition fees and the election of new Students' Union leadership.

Mohammed Al-Hawsali, a parallel system student at the College of Mass Communication,

said he did not approve of the decision because he was expecting the complete abolition of fees.

"Students sparked a revolution calling for free education," Al-Hawsali said. "I was surprised to read the president only ordered a 20 percent cut in tuition."

Student Wafeek Al-Shrabee agreed.

"We thought the decrease would be more substantial," he said. "More like a two-thirds reduction. A twenty percent discount is small and unsatisfactory."

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USAID launches solar energy project in Aden

Eman Tuhma

ADEN, July 1 — A solar energy generation project was launched last week in Al-Twahi district in Aden with funding from the U.S. Agency for International Development.

Yemen has been witnessing widespread and frequent power outages with increasing cases of sabotage against electricity wires and towers. This is particularly true at the Marib station, which provides many Yemeni cities, including Sana'a, with large portions of power.

The \$14,500 solar project in Aden came in line with the Activating Youth project, introduced by AMIDEAST. The project includes eight solar panels and eight batteries, which generate approximately 3,000 kilowatts.

The generated power will be used to provide electricity to Al-Rawda Sport Club in Al-Tawhai district and other schools in the same district, such as Al-Mulla and Khawr Makrs.

The project began in January of

last year and will continue until December 2012 as one of the power projects aimed at contributing to Yemen's development.

Dr. Saleh Sumei, the electricity minister, said, "Establishing such vital projects that provide society with a clean source of energy generation is very important."

He hoped that such projects will target all governorates because they help support the youth abilities and improve their talents.

"Resolving the electricity problem will come soon," Sumei said. "It will take two phases, particularly in Aden, Hodeida and the coastal areas in general. The coastal areas suffer a lot."

He said that in the current phase, electricity equipment will be fixed in order to protect the power infrastructure from saboteurs.

The government hopes to alleviate power outage problems by purchasing electricity from the private sector. According to the minister, though, this will be expensive.

From 2006 to 2012, the government spent approximately



Sunny delight: The project for solar power will generate 3,000 kilowatts of energy.

\$600 million on hired power.

Purchasing generators is a short term option which could provide 400 megawatts immediately, Sumei said.

He said 60 megawatts have already been promised for use in Aden. This purchased power for Aden is expected to start operating in the coming week.

Samid Al-Samei, an Aden local, said mosque preachers in Aden condemn the repetitive power

outages in all Aden districts.

"The lack of electricity has become a nightmare that affects all of us," he said.

Preachers called for the end of citizens' suffering, indicating that they are fed up with empty promises.

"Locals would like to see tangible solutions in order to improve the situation and alleviate their suffering," preachers in Aden said during Friday's sermons.

Minister relocates two Military Hospital doctors

Samar Qaed

SANAA, July 1 — Yemeni Minister of Defense Mohammed Nasser Ahmed has moved two doctors from the Military Hospital, which belongs to the Ministry of Defense, to the Ministry of Health.

The two doctors in question, Dr. Tamim Hamoud Al-Shami and Dr. Osama Ahmed Abdulqader, are spokesmen for the hospital's doctors, who have been protesting for increased salaries.

Al-Shami questioned the reasons behind his transition, saying, "The administration of the Military

Hospital informed the Minister of Defense that we are uncommitted, seditious and tend to create disorder in the hospital."

He also said, "They stopped paying our salaries four months ago and prevented us from entering the hospital."

Al-Shami claimed the transfer was illegal, as they weren't warned of the move in advance. Abdulqader was also relocated, a move which happened while he was abroad with his son who was undergoing a medical operation.

According to Dr. Mokhtar Al-Haddi, who works in the

hospital, Al-Shami had received much publicity in response to his outspoken demands for doctors' rights. As a result, he lost the support of the hospital's administration, the Ministry of Defense and the chief of staff.

"Due to Al-Shami's demands, we now have some rights," Al-Haddi said. "He also formed the Supreme Medical Council, but the Ministry of Defense refused it because it would have been composed of doctors elected by the other doctors in the hospital."

It is likely, said Al-Haddi, that Al-Shami will be referred to

the Military Justice Council to determine the outcome of the dispute.

"Al-Shami was kidnapped in front of the hospital's door by the Military Intelligence," Al-Haddi said.

He said other doctors were threatened with similar treatment were they to continue to demand adequate rights.

Al-Shami said he was not summoned by Military Intelligence in the hospital but was kidnapped arbitrarily.

It has been reported that doctors' struggles for rights in the Military

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Abdulwahab Al-Homaiqani, secretary-general of the Yemeni Rashad Union to the Yemen Times

“Salafis aren't against politics, but they are against separating it from religion.”

Ahmed Dawood

The Yemeni Rashad Union is the first Yemeni Salafi party. It was officially declared June 17 after a large Salafi conference in mid-March expressing their willingness to take part in Yemen's politics.

Ahmed Dawood of the Yemen Times met Abdulwahab Al-Homaiqani, secretary-general of the Yemeni Rashad Union and conducted the following interview.



Abdulwahab Al-Homaiqani, secretary-general of the Yemeni Rashad Union

It is widely acknowledged that Salafis are against any form of political action. However, you surprised a lot of people by announcing the creation of the Yemeni Rashad Union, the first Salafi political party in Yemen. What is the aim of this party?

Firstly, I want to emphasize that Salafis are not against political action. We believe that the separation of politics and religion is secularism, and this is against Islam.

We think that politics are an intrinsic part of the Islamic laws which permeate throughout all aspects of life. Islam has given us laws for everything, politics included.

Salafis isolated themselves from politics. As a result, they neither formed a political party nor participate in elections. However, to suggest that we boycotted political action is misinformed. We support some parties, criticize others; this is political action.

Why did you choose this time to announce the union?

In fact, several things happened both inside and outside Yemen, which forced the Salafis to reconsider their attitudes toward politics. For example, there are several different conceptions of what is meant by 'democracy'. Some understand democracy as granting humans the prerogative to set laws; this is prohibited since Islam has given us laws for everything. Others understand it as the right to choose who will rule them as well as the right to remove or prosecute this person. Clearly, it was better to refuse both sides of democracy.

Now, though, Salafis have started to understand the real meaning of democracy. We believe that people have the right to choose or remove whosoever they want.

What is the best way for people to choose their president?

We support any method, on condition that it is impartial and free of cheating.

During the presidential elections in 2006, some Salafi clerks condemned the elections, claiming that it directly disobeyed the president.

We have to take all Salafis into

consideration. Some Salafis still refuse to participate in political dealings. They believe that people must obey their ruler without condition; this is very strange. The teachings of Islam stipulate that people have to protest against unfair rulers.

Why are you only concerned with Salafis?

This isn't true. The people who created the Yemeni Rashad Union are Salafi clerks, but that doesn't necessarily mean that we only accept Salafis. The union is established for all Yemenis. Anyone can join us. We have our own principles, and whoever

subscribes to them is welcome to join us.

Does internal disagreement affect decisions made by the union?

No. The union did hold its introductory meeting without 40 of the founding members, but they had various excuses. Only a few of the members were absent because they didn't like the view of the union. The elections were transparent, held in front of all people, and with a special committee in attendance.

So, it's a mix between the promotion of Islamic principles and political action?

Yes. When taking decisions, all members have to adhere to the rules of the union. Any member can participate and all are equal. But during studying, clerics have the right to decide.

Salafi clerics are new to the principle that all people are equal in rights and duties. In time, though, they will get used to it.

Are you thinking of separating these two issues?

At the time of establishing the union, there were different views. Some Salafis, including me, believed that the union must be a separated institution with special principles, members and systems. However, other Salafis believe that the union must be run by clerics.

The leaders of the union overcame this dispute, and now we have our own system. No one, outside of this system, is allowed to intervene. But we take advice from others even if they are opposed to us.

Some people say that the union has failed from the start. What do you think?

I disagree. The Yemeni Rashad Union is the only union, among the unions and political parties announced recently, that has a sizeable number of members and is present on the political scene.

Though the union is newly established, we are participating in the National Dialogue Conference. We met the Communication Committee and now we have many young members who depend on the union. Only five members have withdrawn

from the union since its establishment so far.

What do you think have been the benefits of the uprising in Yemen?

It is without doubt that the revolution achieved several things. We can't say that the youth who died were killed in vain. It is also wrong to suggest that its only success was the toppling of the resilient president.

Nowadays, we have a new president, and after two years, we will choose another one. This is the most important achievement of the revolution.

What is your view regarding the Gulf Initiative and its implementation mechanism?

I have said in several interviews previously that we believe the Gulf 'Initiative' to be a conspiracy, not an initiative. We completely reject it because it served internal and external interests without paying attention to demands of the Yemenis. However, our rejection of the initiative doesn't mean that we won't deal with it.

Do you agree with the Houthis that the Gulf Initiative is a conspiracy against the revolution?

Why not? We have our own prin-

ciples and will agree with whoever says the truth, be they Houthis or any other parties.

What is your attitude toward Ansar Al-Sharia?

We agree with Ansar Al-Sharia's belief in the implementation of the Islamic Sharia laws. However, we and all Yemeni scholars disagree with their policies of killing soldiers, controlling areas and forcing tens of thousands of people out of their homes. We also disagree with them because they didn't listen to clerks.

We call upon them to participate in the National Dialogue Conference, put down arms and stop vio-

lence. Moreover, we call upon the state to start dialogue with them and choose a peaceful way in dealing with them, away from foreign interference. They have all the rights Yemenis have if they stopped violence and obeyed the state.

Salafis are accused of looking down upon women. What do you think?

This isn't right. Salafis follow teachings of the Holy Qur'an and Sunna. Women have the same rights and duties of men but there are a few differences between them. These are specified in the Sharia and we adhere to them.

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Yemenis consider how Morsi's election will affect local scene



On Friday, Change Square protesters celebrated Morsi's win as a victory for Egypt's revolution.

Mohammed Al-Samei

Hours after Muslim Brotherhood's Mohammed Morsi was elected as Egypt's head of state June 24, Yemenis across the country celebrated.

In Sana'a and in other Yemeni governorates, people celebrated the election results. Yemeni President Abdu Rabu Mansour Hadi and former President Ali Abdullah Saleh congratulated Morsi.

People in buses, streets, cafes and universities discussed Morsi

and how his Muslim Brotherhood backing and participation in the revolution in Egypt will affect other Arab and Islamic nations.

Politicians said the Egyptian elections will affect the political scene in Yemen, as the two countries are quite similar politically.

Faris Al-Hemiari, an independent journalist, said Morsi's win is a success for all who took to the streets protesting against the presidents of Yemen, Egypt, Libya and Syria.

"I think the course of the Egyptian elections will directly affect the upcoming phase in Yemen," Al-

Hemiari said.

"Yemen follows everything that happens in Egypt, and successful Egyptian figures inspire many Yemenis."

Al-Hemiari said the success of the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt will encourage the Muslim Brotherhood in Yemen, represented by the Islah party, to follow the same path to the presidency after a two-year transitional period.

"Some young leaders in the Islah party disagree with their colleagues about important issues," Al-Hemiari said. "This may hinder the Muslim Brotherhood in Yemen

from winning the presidency."

He added that young people from the Muslim Brotherhood, who played an essential part in the revolution, must be represented in the government.

Mohammed Aish, a political analyst, said, "Yemeni politics differ from Egyptian politics; however, Morsi's success may encourage the Islah Party in Yemen to pursue the presidency."

"I fear Morsi's win will affect the Muslim Brotherhood in Yemen negatively. They will attempt to achieve the same thing in Yemen, but because the Yemeni situation is very complicated, their attempt will be of no use."

Marib Al-Ward, a journalist affiliated with the Islah party, said, "Morsi's success is a pivotal point between two periods: a period of dictatorship and a period of giving authority for people."

"Morsi's win will greatly impact the Yemeni revolution. It will encourage youth to continue their revolution until all their goals are achieved."

Al-Ward said Morsi's success will be an inspiration to all marginalized Yemeni groups, particularly southerners. Both Yemen's president and prime minister are from what was formerly South Yemen.

"Morsi's success is a victory for democracy and equality," he said. "It is a step toward the revolution's goal of constructing a modern civil state. The election will bring in a new period in the relations between Egypt and Yemen."

Mohammed Saeed, a young revolutionary in Yemen, said Morsi shouldn't have won, as it gives the Muslim Brotherhood control of the whole government.

He said Morsi's win will encour-

age the Muslim Brotherhood in Yemen to control everything and marginalize those unaffiliated with them.

Bilal Al-Thamna, a young Yemeni man from the Beida'a governorate, said the election results will affect the Yemeni political scene. He said it sends the message to supporters of the former regime that it is very difficult to return to power.

Al-Thamna said Saleh's loyalists were encouraged by the possibility that the candidate from the former regime might win the Egyptian elections, as they hope for a similar result in Yemen during their own

elections. Morsi's win was definitely a blow to morale.

Ilham Al-Hadabi, an activist in Sana'a's Change Square, said, "The result of the Egyptian election will affect not only Yemen but the greater Arab and entire world because of Egypt's strategic political and geographical position."

Al-Hadabi added, "The Egyptian elections will greatly affect Yemen as Morsi represents the Muslim Brotherhood and his success is also a success for the Muslim Brotherhood in Yemen. People who belong to the General People's Congress here won't like this result."

SANA'A BRITISH SCHOOL



Sana'a British School joins global community of Cambridge schools

Sana'a British School, SBS, has been awarded Cambridge International School status by University of Cambridge International Examinations and is now approved to offer Cambridge programmes and qualifications, including:

1. Cambridge Primary Checkpoint,
2. Cambridge Secondary Checkpoint,
3. Cambridge IGCSE and Cambridge O Level
4. Cambridge International AS and A Level.

University of Cambridge International Examinations is the world's largest provider of international education programmes and qualifications for 5 to 19 year olds. It is part of the University of Cambridge, one of the world's top universities and trusted for excellence in education. Cambridge programmes and qualifications are taught in more than 9000 schools in over 160 countries.

Ann Puntis, Chief Executive of University of Cambridge International Examinations, said: "We are delighted to announce that Sana'a British School has joined our global community of Cambridge schools. We look forward to a long and productive relationship which will be of great benefit to learners throughout the region."

Cambridge programmes and qualifications are recognised and valued by universities and employers around the world. Cambridge helps schools deliver the best education possible by providing comprehensive support, including teacher training, classroom resources and membership of a global learning community.



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Making a crucial difference

Khaleej Times Editorial
First published June 30

The United Arab Emirates is stepping up momentum to addressing one of the worst humanitarian crises faced by Yemen.

According to reports, food supplies are running drastically short in Yemen, and one in every three children is severely malnourished. Reportedly, close to 45 per cent of the entire population of the country is facing acute food shortage.

Whatever be the reasons for the crisis, what cannot be ignored is the impact of the food shortages on Yemenis, especially on children and women. International agencies warn that a near-famine situation is looming, compounded by chances of massive outbreaks of diseases such as cholera.

Safe drinking water is in short supply in several regions and food that is essential for mere sustenance is hard to come by for many vulnerable sections of the society.

The UAE has never shied away from extending its support to

countries in need. From supporting the victims of the devastating flood in Pakistan to committing itself to the Millennium Development Goals, the nation has always demonstrated its caring side, transcending all differences in the process.

In fact, the immediacy with which the UAE responds to humanitarian situations is a mark of the country's thought-leadership and the growing international role it plays in matters that affect the wider humanity.

In 2009, the UAE was identified as the 14th most generous donor nation in the world by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, based on the foreign aid provided by the country as a proportion of its gross national income.

The UAE has donated more than Dh163 billion in the four decades since its formation to address hunger and poverty across the world — making the country one of the largest donors of aid in the Arab world. Global Humanitarian Assistance, which monitors charitable aid from governments, placed

the UAE as the only non-Western nation in the global top 10 humanitarian aid donors per head of population in 2010.

While there has been extensive public support to charity initiatives undertaken by the country, the Government has been at the helm of it, leading by example, providing generous sums to support development programmes and make a difference to people who need.

This is further underlined by charity programmes undertaken by the UAE Office for the Coordination of Foreign Aid, and the Dubai Cares initiative, which today serves as a model for how people can work together to address pressing challenges such as illiteracy.

As part of the campaign to assist Yemen in tiding over one of its grave national concerns, the UAE is hosting a range of activities, especially under Red Crescent Authority. A telethon is also being planned and it is for every individual who cares for humanity to be part of such efforts. Remember that a little act of kindness can potentially save the life of a child.

Stanley McChrystal's Complicated Love Affair with Drones

By John Hudson
theatlantic.com
First published June 30

Prior to receiving a standing ovation before an elite crowd at the Aspen Ideas Festival, retired U.S. General Stanley McChrystal gave a blunt endorsement of the U.S. drone war: "We should be using drones a lot."

It seemed like a straightforward affirmation of the Obama administration's use of predator drones, but an interesting thing happened as soon as the words left his mouth: He walked them back. "We need to understand what drones are not."

Few people are more intimately familiar with the secretive and highly lethal program than McChrystal, who, as head of the military's Special Operations Command, oversaw a dramatic escalation of drone strikes in Afghanistan prior to his infamous departure from the military for trashing the Obama administration in an interview with Rolling Stone. Now, as the drone wars face increasing media scrutiny, it appears that McChrystal also has his doubts.

"I hope we won't be a country that uses [drones] to the exclusion of" trained personnel on the

ground, he said. He noted the importance of U.S. forces living in foreign countries and learning the local languages. To hit home his point, he described a chilling account of the wrongful execution of a civilian farmer in Afghanistan by a U.S. drone strike. "We fired a missile and killed him and found out he was a farmer," McChrystal said. After the assassination, McChrystal replayed the event to Afghan President Hamid Karzai on a laptop who told McChrystal the farmer was engaged in routine irrigation work just prior to the missile strike—an activity the U.S. military should've been familiar with. "You have to know these sorts of things," McChrystal told the crowd.

McChrystal seemed to suggest that the war on Islamic militants couldn't be fought solely from the skies, which should be worrying for non-interventionists observing the U.S. drone war in Yemen. According to a blockbuster article by The Washington Post's Sudarshan Raghavan in May, as many as 21 missile attacks were launched on suspected Al-Qaeda militants in southern Yemen since January and the unforeseen ramifications of those attacks have been significant:

An unintended consequence of

the attacks has been a marked radicalization of the local population. The evidence of radicalization emerged in more than 20 interviews with tribal leaders, victims' relatives, human rights activists and officials from four provinces in southern Yemen where U.S. strikes have targeted suspected militants. They described a strong shift in sentiment toward militants affiliated with the transnational network's most active wing, al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, or AQAP.

"The drone strikes have not helped either the United States or Yemen," said Sultan al-Barakani, who was a top adviser to former president Ali Abdullah Saleh.

It's long been known that the CIA and the U.S. military have been deeply involved in coordinating the drone attacks in Yemen. However, with the concerns McChrystal conveyed today it sounds as if a larger on-the-ground contingent is necessary to prevent the kinds of mistakes and blowback so common in the Afghanistan drone war experience. If we can't fight Al-Qaeda solely from the skies, where will that lead us in Yemen?

SKETCHED OPINION

By Rashad Al-Samei

Saudi Embassy closing in response to kidnapping of Saudi official

We are being smuggled across the border to Saudi Arabia. I don't know whether our pilgrimage is legal or not!





FULL TIME POSITIONS ANNOUNCEMENT :

Numerous posts based in Aden

Mercy Corps (MC) is an International non-profit, non-governmental (NGO) humanitarian relief and development organization working in more than 40 countries around the world.

Positions: Project Officer – Emergency Assistance for IDPs and host communities
Project Assistant – Emergency Assistance for IDPs and host communities
Site Engineer – Emergency Assistance for IDPs and host communities
M&E Officer – Emergency Assistance for IDPs and host communities
M&E Assistant – Emergency Assistance for IDPs and host communities
Hygiene Promotion Mobilizers – Emergency Assistance for IDPs and host communities
Operations Assistant - Emergency Assistance for IDPs and host communities

Positions: Project Officer
Reference Number: ADE_PO2012

GENERAL POSITION SUMMARY: The Project Officer is the senior national program person in the field office. He/she will supervise Project Assistants. He/she will have primary responsibility for ensuring that program deliverables are met in the geographic zone and the quality of the program is high.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Minimum of 3 years of work experience preferably with an international organization
- Technical knowledge and experience for the specific job
- Understanding of the social, political and economic context of Aden & Lahj.
- Strong leadership, organizational and management skills

Positions: Project Assistant
Reference Number: ADE_PA2012

GENERAL POSITION SUMMARY: The Project Assistant will be responsible for the day to day management of the program under the supervision of the project officer and in coordination with the M&E and operations team.

REQUIREMENTS:

- A university degree is required.
- Ability to close follow procedures and document work.
- Strong organizational skills and ability to multi-task.

Positions: Hygiene Promotion Mobilizers
Reference Number: ADE_CHM2012

GENERAL POSITION SUMMARY: The Hygiene Promotion Mobilizers assist the Program Manager in establishing and carrying out environment and hygiene promotion strategy for the areas of intervention

REQUIREMENTS:

- Bachelors' degree in Public Health, Communications or related field
- Prior NGO, government, or institution experience
- Experience developing training programs and materials

Position: Monitoring and Evaluation Officer
Reference Number: ADE_M&EO2012

GENERAL POSITION SUMMARY: The ME Officer will assist in the development of monitoring and evaluation strategies and tools. He/she will collect and analyze relevant data to measure program impact.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Two years' experience in program monitoring and evaluation within an international NGO Practical and theoretical knowledge in program monitoring and data collection methods.
- Advanced computer skills in MS Office programs. Excellent skills in statistics and SPSS.

Positions: Monitoring and Evaluation Assistant
Reference Number: ADE_M&EA2012

GENERAL POSITION SUMMARY: The M&E Assistant will assist in the development of monitoring and evaluation strategies and tools. He/she will collect and analyze relevant data to measure program impact.

REQUIREMENTS:

- A university degree in relevant field is required.
- Experience working within an international NGO is preferred.
- Understanding of the social, political and economic context of Aden, Lahj and Abyan

Position: Operations Assistant
Reference Number: ADE_OPS2012

GENERAL POSITION SUMMARY: He/she is responsible for coordinating the day to day functioning of Mercy Corps' procurement, administrative, logistics and management functions

REQUIREMENTS:

- Minimum of 1 year experience in supply chain management; international business or related field.

Position: Driver
Reference Number: ADE_DRV2012

GENERAL POSITION SUMMARY: The Driver will work within the Logistics department of Operational Support structure, committed to provide reliable and compliant support to program activities in order to achieve efficient service to program beneficiaries.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Valid driver's license and experience driving 4x4 vehicles.
- Must respect and adhere to all safety and traffic rules.

SUCCESS FACTORS FOR ALL POSITIONS:

- ✓ University degree in a field relevant to the position
- ✓ Excellent oral and written English skills
- ✓ Strong communication and organization skills.
- ✓ Demonstrated ability to multi-task, meet deadlines.
- ✓ Professional standard of accounting and financial ethics.
- ✓ Willingness and ability to work in difficult situations.
- ✓ Strong computer skills in MS Office programs, particularly Excel
- ✓ Excellent interpersonal skills.

HOW TO APPLY:
 Interested candidates are encouraged to submit a one page cover letter and their CV in English by email to recruiting@ye.mercycorps.org no later than July 7, 2012. **All applications must include the vacancy reference number in the subject line of their e-mail message.** Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

Mercy Corps is an equal opportunity organization and we encourage women to apply to these positions.



VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

UNDP invites qualified Yemeni Nationals to apply For the following Consultancy post with the Community-Driven Early Recovery Project in Sa'ada:

Civil Engineer

If you are interested in the above Consultancy post please review the Terms of Reference and requirements by visiting our website at

<http://jobs.undp.org>

Only online applications will be accepted
The deadline for receiving applications is **11th July 2012**

WANTED EXPERIENCED CONTRACTORS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF SUBSTATION & TRANSMISSION LINE

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Email: search.contractors@gmail.com

SPECIFIC PROCUREMENT NOTICE

COUNTRY: **Republic of Yemen**

NAME OF PROJECT: **Rain fed Agriculture and Livestock Project (RALP).**

Sector: **Agriculture.**

Brief Description of Works: **Construction works of AL- mocha quarantine at Al -mocha district in Taiz governorate**

Credit No. **4220-YEM**

Project ID No. **P089259**

Bid No. **RALP/AQF/PW/ICB/01/2012**

The Republic of Yemen has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Rain fed Agriculture and Livestock Project (RALP) and it intends to apply part of the proceeds toward payments under the contract for Construction works of AL- Mocha quarantine at Al -Mocha district in Taiz Governorate

The Rain fed Agriculture and Livestock Project (RALP) now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for Construction works of AL- Mocha quarantine at Al -Mocha district in Taiz Governorate. The project is to host Al-Mocha Quarantine building and its support facilities including Administration building, Laboratory building, Housing building, Security building (4), Fodder store, Car wash station, Rumps room, big barns, Reception barns, Download and deportation barns of livestock, Temporary reservation, Rejected livestock, Dry tank, Inspection area and baths, Ground tank, Upper reservoir, Rainwater dowsing tank, Burial pits and fertilization, General location works.

The Project will include approximately the following major works items (i) 76 00M3 of Earth works; (ii) 2000 M2 of plain concretes; (iii) 7000 M3 of Reinforcement concretes; (iv) 1500 M2 of stone building works; (v) 2000 M2 of Automatic Vacuum building works; (vi) 6000 M of metal works; and (vii) 5000 M of Polyethylene etc.

The construction period is: [15months]. Qualifications requirements may be seen in the bid documents

Bidding will be conducted through the international competitive bidding procedures as specified in the World Bank's *Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits*, (January 2011), and is open to all eligible bidders as defined in the guidelines.

Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the bidding documents from the Rainfed Agriculture and Livestock Project (RALP) at the address below during office hours from 8.00 AM to 3.00 PM. A complete set of bidding documents in English may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee of US\$200. The method of payment will be in cash or cashier's check. The document may be collected in person or will be sent by courier service.

All bids must be accompanied by a bid security of **US\$ 84000** or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency valid for a period of 28 days beyond the validity period of the bid and be delivered to the address below by 11: am on **14 August, 2012**. Electronic bidding will not be permitted and Late bids will be rejected.

The bids will be opened immediately thereafter, in the presence of bidders' representatives, who choose to attend, at the address below. Bidders must fill all documents including inter-alia the Price Schedule, sign and seal where appropriate.

The address referred to above is:

Rain fed Agriculture and Livestock Project (RALP) Project Support Unit(PSU)

Attn: Mrs. Bilquis Anwar A. Sattar, Director of Project Support Unit.

Abu Baker Al Sedeek Street (In front of the Yemen Japanese Friendship Association).

SANA,A Republic of Yemen.

Tel: **+967-1 -450 472- 441770.**

Fax: **+967-1-441768.**

E-mail: ralp@yemen.net.



Yemen Red Crescent Society Vacancy

The Yemen Red Crescent Society (YRCS) invites Yemeni Nationals to apply for the vacant 4 jobs: **First Aid Programme Field Officer** – based in YRCS branches (governorates): **Sana'a, Aden, Hadhramout (Sayiun) and Taiz** and Reporting to the First Aid Programme Officer, the position holders will be responsible for the implementation of the First Aid (FA) Programme at branch level with providing technical and support to the FA program volunteers. The First Aid Programme Field Officer will be responsible for close collaboration and coordination between the FA local authorities at governorate and district level, other local organizations and partners working in the district. The FA Programme Officer will keep the branch management and local governorate bodies informed about the progress of the FA Programme.

Main Tasks:

- Develops and manages YRCS FA activities throughout branch/district
- Participates in the process of programme design
- Responsible for implementation and reporting of his area of Responsibilities
- Supports FA Trainers and volunteers in implementation and monitoring in coordination with the respective branch management
- Supervises FA training for YRCS volunteers and targeted community groups and coaching YRCS trainers at the community level through the branch FA trainers.
- Contributes to modifying and updating YRCS FA manual and integrates other methodologies where added value is seen (ie. CBHFA)
- Monitors, evaluates and documents lessons learned during the development and implementation of the activities.
- Actively contributes to the Commercial FA feasibility study and forms the results, develops action plan taking into consideration the reality at branch level
- Technically supports of ERTs' training at and branch level
- Implements recommendations from ERTs' review from 2011
- Reports to HQ on ERT effectiveness at branch level
- Leads coordination with local partners and stakeholders on support mechanisms
- Actively seeks out areas for YRCS FA teams to more actively support wider civil society in FA services

Successful applicant should fulfill the following requirements:

- Up-to date Instructor Certificate by a recognized institution
- At least 2-years experience in FA training and instruction
- Experience in programme management
- Health background an asset
- Knowledge of the voluntary sector and/or RC/RC an asset

Contract:

- One year contract with possibility of extension
- Full time based in the concerned branch with frequent visits to districts.
- Salary, according to YRCS salary scale.

Applicants should submit their CVs with a cover letter (indicating the governorate) to email address: salhabshi2004ster@gmail.com not later than Wednesday July 11th. at 03: 00 PM. **Female applicants are encouraged to apply.** Only short listed candidates will be contacted for interview.



Yemen Red Crescent Society Vacancy

The Yemen Red Crescent Society (YRCS) invites Yemeni Nationals to apply for the vacant job: **First Aid Programme Officer** - based in Sana'a, YRCS Head Quarters (HQ). Reporting to the Health & Care coordinator, the position holders will be responsible for management and implementation of the First Aid (FA) Programme at HQ and branch level with providing technical and managerial support to the FA program field officers. The First Aid Programme Officer will be responsible for close collaboration and coordination between the FA Programme field officers, authorities and other organizations and partners working at national and governorate levels. The FA Programme Officer will keep the YRCS HQ and governorate bodies informed about the progress of the FA Programme.

Main Tasks:

- Leads the process of programme design.
- Plays Leading role in the process of developing YRCS FA policy in close coordination With First Aid Working Group (FAWG).
- Contributes to YRCS strategy formulation process.
- Contributes actively to the process of developing YRCS FA strategy
- Leads the development process of the YRCS FA Training guidelines.
- Responsible for overall Programme implementation and reporting.
- Supports FA field officers in the implementation and monitoring and coordination with the respective branch management.
- Supervises FA training for YRCS volunteers and targeted community groups and coaching YRCS trainers at the branch level through the branch field officers.
- Develops standard YRCS kits for FA materials to branches.
- Responsible of modifying and updating YRCS FA manual and integrating other methodologies where added value is seen (ie. CBHFA).
- Monitors, evaluates and documents lessons learned during the development and implementation of the activities.
- Establishes Commercial FA project as a component within FA programme.
- Develops YRCS FA Commercial guidelines.
- Facilitates the training of Emergency Response Teams (ERTs) in coordination with Disaster Management Department (DM).
- Monitors the performance of ERTs in the field in terms with the FA programme.
- Leads FA coordination with movement partners and external stakeholders on support mechanisms
- Coordinates with the governmental and non-governmental bodies on supporting national FA initiatives (i.e. FA national network)

Successful applicant should fulfill the following requirements:

- Bachelor degree in a relevant field.
- Up-to date Instructor Certificate by a recognized institution
- At least 3-years experience in FA training and instruction
- Experience in programme management
- Health background an asset
- Knowledge of the voluntary sector and/or RC/RC an asset
- Fluent English and Good computer and reporting skills.

Contract:

- One year contract with possibility of extension
- Full time based in Sana'a with frequent visits to branches.
- Salary, according to YRCS salary scale.

Applicants should submit their CVs with a cover letter to email address: salhabshi2004ster@gmail.com not later than Wednesday July 11th. at 03: 00 PM. **Female applicants are encouraged to apply.** Only short listed candidates will be contacted for interview.

35 years later, Al-Hamdi's holdings donated to Army Museum

Ashraf Al-Moraqab

Dhi Yazan Ibraheem Al-Hamdi, the youngest son of Ibrahim Al-Hamdi, former president of the former Yemen Arab Republic, gave his father's holdings to the Army Museum on Tuesday. Ibrahim Al-Hamdi was assassinated 35 years ago.

The ex-president's son praised museum administration efforts to document the president's things.

"These holdings are the most valuable things of my father," Dhi Yazan

Ibraheem Al-Hamdi said.

Colonel Mohammed Jwaider, director of the Army Museum, received the holdings and praised the Al-Hamdi family's cooperation and decision to give the artifacts to the museum.

Abdulmalik Ali Al-Matari, director of the museum's Planning and Relations Department, said, "The administration of the museum contacted all families of previous presidents who ruled Yemen after the revolution to document this important historical period."

Al-Matari said the chronological

order of presidents who ruled Yemen will be presented in 22 May Hall.

Ibrahim Al-Hamdi was the third president after the 1962 toppling of the imam. He was in office from June 13, 1973, until his assassination on Oct. 11, 1977.

He was born in Qa'taba, Ibb governorate, in 1943. Instead of finishing his studies, he joined the Aviation College, later working with his father in a Dhamar court during the rule of Imam Ahmed Hameed Al-Deen. During the rule of President Abdullah Al-Salal, he became leader of the Shock troops, known as El-

Saaqah military unit.

On June 13, 1974, he led a military coup in the Yemen Arab Republic that overthrew President Abdul Rahman al-Iryani. Following the coup, he planned to end tribal loyalty and Yemen's medieval social classes by proclaiming all Yemenis as equal. In that same vein, he fired several sheikhs holding high positions in the army and state.

The donated pieces will be presented in a special exhibit that will include a collection of holdings belonging to other presidents who ruled Yemen.



Ibrahim Al-Hamdi was president of Yemen from 1973 to 1977.

Vacancy Announcement

Multinational oil field chemical Company plans to recruit Yemeni national ambitious to work as chemical engineer at oil fields on a rotational basis

Qualifications:

1. University degree in chemical engineering or chemistry.
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Pushing forward despite handicaps



Despite his hand disability, Mohammed Al-Ali is skilled at using computers.



Ashwaq Abdu Al-Marashi, who lost a leg and has a disabled hand, makes her own handicrafts.

Story and pictures by
Nadia Haddash

Although some people are born with disabilities, their handicaps have not prevented them from accomplishing their goals to reach to the pinnacles of their careers and their lives.

Dreams realized despite obstacles

While playing in the Al-Wadi mountain in Damt, a landmine detonated and blew off one of 18-year-old Ashwaq Abdu Al-Marashi's legs. Her left hand was also injured. She was 12. Now, she cannot move.

"I suffered a lot in the beginning," she said. "I felt frustrated as people's looks toward me changed. I used to remain at home all the time, and I prefer to stay in the village. Yet, my family and friends supported me to live as other people do. Thus, I registered at the Landmines Survivors

Association."

She went on to say, "When I was a little; my dream was to finish my studies and master the English language and computer skills. I dreamed of studying at college, majoring in financial administration and then getting married. But since becoming disabled, I have new ambitions that I'd like to achieve. I have learned some skills such as writing, acting and sewing after I took some training courses in the association."

Al-Marashi participated in many local and international festivals such as a festival in Dubai. She came second in the festival's writing-acting competition. This summer, she will participate in festivals in India and Thailand. Locally, she participated in many festivals, winning numerous awards.

"I thought I would be a burden on my family and society, yet I came to realize that a soul and mind's impairment cannot be an excuse not to realize our objectives."

"I am proud of myself because I have achieved a lot," she said, smiling. "And I am still intent on realizing my dreams. I am a hard-working, smart pupil in school. I am sure I will execute my plan regarding English language mastery and enrollment at college studying financial administration. I will open a private company. Anyways, I trust my God and my abilities, and I don't care about people's degrading looks toward me."

Mohammed Al-Tam was born blind. Growing up with his eight brothers, he saw nothing. Yet, despite difficulties, he gained a position in his community as an Arabic language teacher and a novelist.

"My life was not easy since my birth," he said. "I faced social and familial problems. I felt I was a burden on them. My will broke all the social barriers and restrictions. I completed my studies, and I enrolled at college, studying in the Arabic department. I was on the top.

"In 2009, I got a teaching job as an Arabic language teacher. This job was not enough. I have been acting since childhood in festivals in the role of the hero. Taha Hussein and Abdullah Al-Baradooni have inspired me. Of course, I am blind, but my heart isn't."

Thinking about the future, Al-Tam said his next step is to study for his master's and, eventually, his doctorate.

"God willing. Now I am working on this plan."

Aspiring for fame

Tayseer Matar, 27, is partially blind. She wants prove herself in a society that she said thinks those with handicaps cannot work.

A media specialist in Aman Disabled Rehabilitation Association, she said it is by the virtue of God and family that she overcame hurdles.

She remembered that when she decided to specialize in media, many people objected.

"They thought media is not fit for me due to being handicapped. I went against all suggestions and studied media."

Matar said she has become a media specialist in the field of electronic media administration. She is also a journalist in the association's magazine, in addition to writing and reciting poems. She wrote short stories such as the two-part "Salma in the Oasis of Hope." Her work has been featured in various competitions, including one in Saudi Arabia.

Currently, she performs poems and songs. She studies English because she aspires to be a translator.

"I am working to improve my English so that I will be able to study in India. I want to be famous; I will achieve my objective."

Mohammed Al-Ali, 13, lost both hands and injured one eye in a landmine blast in Sirf four years ago. At 13, he said his deformities would not hinder his success. He

said he believes no obstacle can block him.

"I like football and billiards," he said. "I always play with my friends. As for football matches, I am a fan of the Barcelona team. I dream of being a famous professional soccer player in the future. I want to be on an excellent football team. I like to use the computer. Although my hands were cut in the landmine blast, I surf the net daily and draw."

Mohammed Ali Al-Shajani, head of the Landmines Survivors Association, said Al-Ali is always a hardworking, smart student.

"Al-Ali always initiates goodwill, and he does not care about what people say about him," Al-Shajani said. "I think he will be a successful footballer in the future."

Al-Marashi, Matar, Al-Tam and Al-Ali are united by a strong will, though they have different ambitions. Each one wants to leave traces of their lives with family in particular and society in general.

NBY Annual Staffs Honoring Ceremony 2012



Mr. Essam Ahmed Alawi Al-sakkaf, the general manager of NBY

Under the patronage of His Excellency Dr. Sakhar Ahmed Alwajeih, Minister of finance, Mr. Ahmed Obaid Al-Fadhli, deputy minister of finance, acting chairman of NBY and Mr. Essam Ahmed Alawi Al-sakkaf, the general manager of NBY - National Bank of Yemen (NBY), celebrated its annual honoring for the year 2012 on Tuesday 26 June, 2012, on the occasion of the international Labour Day.

On this occasion 147 staffs including Males and females were honored 74 of them excellent staff, branch managers section heads and department heads and

73 retired staffs from the first generation and the families of the deceased staff in honour and acknowledgement of their great efforts and achievements contributed in the establishment of this high financial and economical edifice of the National Bank of Yemen.

The general manager Mr. Essam Ahmed Alawi Al-Sakkaf, his speech said that this honouring procedure is an annual practice after the confirmation of the financial statements - and in such a day of each year we honour the excellent ones and farewell the retiring persons and meet with our teachers from whom we learnt in the school of the NBY in acknowledgement of what they achieved confirming to them that we shall follow the same path.

The GM added that despite the circumstances prevailed the last year, NBY was able to preserve its achievements in the market and achieve stability because of the condensation of the board of directors and the executive managements and the staff - and the reaction of our customers in the market - all these contributed to the continuation of our path.

The GM disclosed the plans, works and the achievement the bank is going to put forward in the coming period, pointing to the continuation of the moderations and development project and the introduction of mechanized system and setting up

long courses to qualify the second generation of staffs considering them the seeds who will procure the responsibility of NBY in the future - All these could not be achieved unless the proper growth rates of the NBY is procured that it continue in the market.

The GM said that we feel pleasure in the affiliations of the staff with the bank and this is the basis for achieving the rate of the successes achieved by NBY - and wish that these feelings shall prevail as we are going to open new branches hoping that that the circumstances should assist us in wide spreading and flourishing the performance of NBY.

The GM concluded his speech by rendering his thanks to the board of directors, the executive management of the bank and all the staffs by whom and with all these progressives has been achieved and by whom and with them shall achieve further progressive and success.

The financial and administration manager Dr. Ahmed Ali Omer Ben Sunker said that this honouring is the annual procedure NBY has been performing since 2005 and NBY is the first institution in the Republic of Yemen to initiate such practice in line with humanitarian bonds with its previous and current staffs, so that the total number of honoured staff during the previous years I came to the excess of

1000 staff - current and retired - and this is considered to be a qualitative transformation in dealing with the staffs who perform great works in NBY.

Numerous speeches have been given on this occasion. For the staffs by Mr. Fares Ahmed al-qaiti representing NBY staff union - for the retired staffs by Mr. Jawad Al- Alas - All of them appreciated the management of NBY for continuing these annual practices and taking care of the staff humanitarially, professionally and qualificationally - the given speeches reflected the cooperation between the management of the NBY and staff union - and the efforts made in preserving the achievements of NBY which is considered to be one of the first banks in Yemen.

At the conclusion of the ceremony the honoring certificates were distributed - beginning with the first generation of NBY retired staff -and families of the deceased staff -the excellent staffs and those retiring during 2012.

Finally the GM rendered his thanks and gratuitous to the staffs for their excellent performance during the year. He congratulated to the political leads represented by the president Gen. Abdo Raboh Mansoor Hadi and the People of Yemen.

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Sad faces in the Sana'a Zoo

Story by Ahlam Mohsen
Photos by Nicholas Linn

On the outskirts of Sana'a, in a government-run zoo, families with young children admire the city's collection of caged wild animals, many donated to the zoo from former President Ali Abdullah Saleh's private collection. As children eagerly gather around the baboons to lavish them with popcorn, mothers whisper about whether or not the animals look underfed.

Questionable care

According to a report by the Environment Protection Authority and the Breeding Centre for Endangered Arabian Wildlife, animals at the Sana'a Zoo face "overstocking, poor handling and lack of preventative medicine," which compromises their welfare.

Although the report concludes that most of the animals have reasonable diets, there are numerous documented cases of neglect and improper care.

Three gazelles suffered from interdigital necrobacillosis, an inflammation of the skin and tissues. Hyenas, who in the wild are active hunters that kill up to 95 percent of their food, appear lethargic and uninterested while in "old, small, temporary cages, which housed single hyenas [sic]... and were considered most unsuitable," according to the report.

Carnivores are fed poultry and meat—more than necessary—resulting in digestive issues. At least one lion suffered from ingrown claws. Reptiles, according to the report, appeared not to have eaten "since arrival in captivity."



Cheetah looks at the world beyond the cage where he is confined.

Conservation of threatened species

The report lists numerous animals that have become extinct in Yemen, many in the past 50 years. They include the Queen of Sheba's gazelle, the Saudi gazelle and the Arabian oryx.

It concludes that zoos are necessary for the conservation of threatened species.

According to the report, however, animals bred at the zoo have very low survival rates, whether raised by the mother or hand-raised. Chances of survival after release back into the wild are even less promising.

Sana'a Zoo is not one of the 1,200 zoos worldwide registered for captive breeding and wildlife conservation. Additionally, only two percent of endangered species are registered in captive breeding and wildlife programs, according to a 1994 report by the World Society for the Protection of Animals.

In Yemen, where unemployment is rampant and nearly half the population lives on less than two dollars a day, villagers trap animals to sell to zoos. Many captured animals have injuries from their captures; broken legs from traps are common. Although Sana'a Zoo has a policy of not purchasing animals

injured in capture, the trapping of animals by villagers hoping to make money contributes to the declining population of numerous species, undermining conservation efforts, zoo critics say.

Education or Entertainment?

Um Mohamed brings her children to the Sana'a Zoo two or three times a year.

"I want them to see and learn about the animals," she says. "This is their favorite place."

Her six-year-old daughter, Neeju, knows one of the lions by name.

"Sumaya, Wake up! She is very lazy today," Neeju says.

Sumaya, collapsed on a concrete slab, is rather indifferent to Neeju's existence. She is one of six lions in the cage, the loner of the group, off by herself.

Although signs detail each species origin and Latin name, few parents pay attention to them, and children appear uninterested.

Zoo critics contend that their purpose is primarily entertainment, not education.

Zoochosis

Zoochosis, a term coined by the late Bill Travers of the Born Free Foundation, refers to the abnormal and obsessive behavior of captive animals, including "repeated pacing, rocking, vomiting and even self-mutilation."

In addition to the 19 percent of carnivores at the zoo with injuries from cage mates, more than 12 percent had self-inflicted or stress-related injuries, according to the zoo report.

American animal rights group Mercy for Animals reports that chimpanzees often bite their own limbs from the stress induced by captivity.

"Their hands were unrecognizable from all the scar tissue," one chimpanzee manager said.

Big cats and primates are known to bang their heads against bars and walls. Primates can be seen hugging their knees and rocking back and forth, "a recognized symptom of mental illness in human beings," according to Circus Watch.

The Sana'a Zoo report counted ten cases of carnivores with fractured teeth resulting from "stress-induced biting of cage-bars."

Two gazelles had limb fractures from running into fences, according to the report.

All leopard cubs are taken from their mothers at birth because the stress of captivity often leads mothers to kill their young. Efforts at hand-raising the cubs have been unsuccessful—every cub at the zoo has died.

Zoo critics maintain that zoos, where animals are denied everything natural to them, are no place for animals.



Lion's world framed by bars.



The Sana'a Zoo has an eclectic collection of animals.



HEALTH WATCH



By: Dr. Siva

This weekly column disseminates health information to readers in Yemen and beyond. Dr. Siva currently works at Aden Refinery Company Hospital. Lifestyle diseases and cancer prevention are his special interests. Complementary medicine and naturopathy are his passions.

Have a doubt? Ask the specialists (Part 2)

Fighting ENT infections

Allergies are caused by exposure to allergens in the environment. People react to these allergens differently. The symptoms are usually nasal, such as sneezing, or in the throat, such as a chronic coughing.

How to prevent allergies:

- Allergens in bedsheets occur most commonly. Wash sheets frequently in hot water, and dry them in the sun.
- Use non-allergenic pillows, duvets and mattresses. Most furnishing stores stock them.
- Avoid pets who shed—if you have them, make sure they do not come into the bedroom or sleep on your bed.
- To avoid dust in the house; substitute dusting with mopping and sweeping with vacuum cleaning.
- If your house is on a main road or adjacent to traffic, keep doors and windows closed to keep pollutants from coming in. Fit windows and doors with proper frames so that air pollutants do not enter.
- Avoid keeping flowering plants indoors.
- If you're on a motorcycle, then be sure to wear a face mask. This can be either a large handkerchief or a rectangular piece of cloth tied behind your head—much like a surgeon's mask.

Ear, Nose and Throat Infections

ENT infections are ubiquitous and affect everyone, from children to the elderly. Symptoms usually manifest themselves in the nose (thick nasal discharge with cheek pain, headaches, and fever), in the throat (pain or difficulty swallowing, throat swelling) or in the ear (pain, loss of hearing, swelling behind the ear).

To prevent infections

- At the first sign of a cold, use steam inhalation to clear out mucus.
- Use ear plugs while swimming to prevent "swimmer's ear"—an external ear infection.
- Early on, sore throats and infections can be managed by simply gargling with a saline solution. Mix half a teaspoon of salt in half a glass of warm water and gargle two to three times a day. This helps wash away the local infection.
- If you have a low immune system, avoid closed or crowded areas where people cough, spit or sneeze. You are more likely to become infected in those situations.
- Treat children with colds early; otherwise, they could develop an ear infection.
- If you have a bad cold, avoid air travel since this can make the infection worse. It often ends up spreading to your sinuses or ears.

Coping with Asthma

There's no cure for asthma, but it can be easily controlled to let the asthmatic can live a normal life. Here's how:

- Accept it: Patients don't like to be told they have asthma, and doctors know this. Many try to explain the diagnosis by using other words like "bronchitis" or "chest congestion." This only delays proper treatment. My advice is to accept the diagnosis and to start looking for practical solutions.
- Have the right attitude: A person with poor vision could choose to be angry that he has to wear glasses. Or he could be happy there are simple solutions. It's all about attitude. It's the same with asthma. Asthma medications and inhalers are easy to use and help patients breathe normally.
- Explore alternative healing: Alternatives like yoga, homeopathy and naturopathy have something to offer asthmatics. While they don't help all patients equally, it wouldn't hurt to try a few different methods; however, my advice would be to not suddenly end regular treatments.
- Keep your expectations realistic: Adults rarely outgrow asthma. This is largely determined by genes which we have no control over. Environmental control and diet regulation help. If a child outgrows asthma, it will happen over years and not days, weeks or months. With proper medication, the asthmatic is usually well controlled in the sense that there are no ongoing symptoms or activity limitations. However, with seasonal changes or with a viral infection, some symptoms will appear. This is not unexpected. A slight increase in medication will usually bring things back to normal.
- Care, don't pamper: Mothers sometimes try to overcompensate caring for an asthmatic child by overpampering. This never helps. In fact, it creates further difficulties as the child starts using asthma, sometimes subconsciously, to get his or her way.
- Be a sport: The asthmatic easily becomes breathless and is usually not involved in sports. But with proper control of asthma, the person can and should have a normal life, including sports participation. Sports involving bursts of activity are usually better than prolonged exertion like long-distance running. Swimming is usually good.
- Watch your diet: Diet can affect asthma in many ways. Some foods like peanuts, chilled beer and sea-food can immediately cause an attack. Others, like fried snacks, preservatives and certain ingredients in Chinese food promote allergies. Some foods cause acid reflux and night-time symptoms. Examples are rice or curd at night, fried food and desserts anytime. Foods that help fight asthma and allergies are those rich in antioxidants such as fruits and leafy vegetables, Vitamin C and magnesium.
- Master your emotions: Anger, frustration and depression are some common emotions that make asthma worse. Many patients classified with "difficult to control asthma" have underlying psychological issues. These must be addressed. Asthma patients who are generally optimistic tend to respond better to treatment.

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TOTAL Enhances Support to Civil Society Organizations in Yemen



As part of the broad initiatives in sustainable human development adopted by TOTAL E&P Yemen, a ceremony was held Wednesday at Al-Aman Organization for Blind Women Care to deliver a bus sup-

plied by the company. The ceremony was attended by Mr. Abdullah Al-Basheeri, honorary President of Al-Aman Organization, and Mr. Hatem Nuseibeh, Managing Director of TOTAL E&P Yemen. It signified a chance for blind women to express their ap-

preciation for TOTAL E&P Yemen and whoever offers help to them in their struggles through the visual disability. TOTAL E&P Yemen delivered a bus that will help facilitate many of the organization's activities, including the transportation of blind

women from Sana'a and outskirts to and from the organization's campus. Mr. Nuseibeh gave a speech in the ceremony and said, "Thank you to this great organization for having TOTAL as a contributor to the activities executed in the service of

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blind women who should be treated and should act as any other members of the society." Impressed by the way the Al-Aman Organization is run, Mr. Nuseibeh requested the Organization to nominate one of the blind women they care for to be an employee of TOTAL E&P Yemen; getting by this the initiative TOTAL E&P Yemen as the first petroleum company

employing Yemenis with visual impairment. Mr. Al-Basheeri extended in a speech "sincere thanks to TOTAL" for supplying the bus and requested that "other petroleum companies follow this example and support civil society organizations such as Al-Aman that exerts efforts in the service of blind women in the country."

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