

University students demand separation of education and politics in new protest

Story and photos by Ashraf Al-Muraqab

SANAA, Sept. 3 — Sana'a University students staged a demonstration Wednesday demanding that studies resume separate from the political conflict currently inundating the university. Students also continued to refuse the presence of military personnel on the university campus.

Mohammed Al-Hawsaly, a student protestor, said students are continually the victims of political

conflict at the university. This new demonstration coincided with media reports that Doctor Majdi Aqlan refused Prime Minister Mohammed Basindawa's decree appointing him as acting rector of the university. Reports suggest Basindawa appointed Doctor Abdulhakeem Al-Sharjabi after Aqlan turned down the post. Doctor Abdulla Al-Azazi, head of the Teaching Staff Syndicate at the university, told the Yemen Times the syndicate will soon meet with President Abdu Rabu Mansour

Hadi to discuss the situation at Sana'a University, adding that the teaching staff supports amending the university law to hold elections. Hadi is currently out of the country on a tour of western nations.

Doctor Abdulhakeem Al-Sharjabi, the acting rector, asserted the importance of resuming the educational process at the university, which was affected negatively due to the strike that was started by teaching staff two weeks ago.

In a television interview Tuesday, Al-Sharjabi said the educational deterioration Sana'a University is currently witnessing is something he has never seen. He said it is very essential to improve education levels in accordance with Sana'a University's reputation as the biggest and oldest educational edifice.

"Disagreement arose between the teaching staff at Sana'a University, and it is important to settle this disagreement for the advantage of students," he said.

Al-Sharjabi called on the teaching staff, employees and the Student Union to work together for the good of the university, requesting they give priority to public interest. He said he'll deal with each group separately, and he will solve the problems with full cooperation by everyone involved.

In a meeting held in Sabeen Square, Doctor Ahmed Basarda, the dismissed rector, called on the prime minister to end all acts of violence happening inside the university, to punish whomever pays money to people from outside the



Students carry signs and chant outside Sana'a University. Protestors complain the school's politics are interfering with their education and want classes to resume despite a teacher strike.



The Student Union sits vacant. University officials are currently negotiating an end to the protests.

university to create chaos and to provide security for the employees at Sana'a University to have suitable place to study.

Basarda deemed the prime minister's decree appointing a new rector as a derogation of President Hadi's decrees. He said it was aimed to undermine political compromise as well as to negatively affect university education, employees and students by giving the authority of the university to a certain political party, which is considered a violation of the law and the constitution.

Mareb Gas Power Station powerless again

Story by Amal Al-Yarisi

SANAA, Sept. 3 — The Mareb Gas Power Station is once again out of order following Tuesday's attacks by armed tribesmen.

Mohammed Al-Shaibani, the general manger of the electricity transportation lines at the Public Electricity Corporation, said the electric technical teams continue to hold negotiations with Al-Shabwan tribes in Mareb in order to fix the damages Mareb Gas Power Station sustained Tuesday.

Following Tuesday's attacks, the Mareb Gas Power Station was

damaged enough to stop operating, which led to repetitive power outages in numerous governorates, particularly in Sana'a.

For his part, Mohammed Al-Jadasi, a local from Mareb, said people affiliated with Al Shabwan tribes in Al-Wadi district attacked the electricity lines Tuesday afternoon around 2 p.m.

The attack, he said, was to protest the capital punishment verdict handed down by the Specialized Yemeni Criminal Court to Mubark Al-Shabwani, who belongs to Al Shabwan tribe.

Al-Shabwani is accused of being

affiliated with Al-Qaeda, an extremist organization prevalent in Yemen.

On Tuesday, the Specialized Yemeni Criminal Court sentenced Al-Shabwani and Mansour Daleel to death. Both of them were convicted of being involved with the engineering of criminal acts against security and military figures.

Al Shabwan tribes signed a petition last March stating that anyone incriminated for destructive acts against electricity infrastructure would be fined one million riyals, according to Al-Masdar online website.

Al-Shaibani said the assaults caused damage to the station, to the electricity machines and to the entire electric system in the station.

He added the electricity towers were attacked 38 times in 2012.

The Public Electricity Corporation in Yemen suffered a loss of more than 33 billion riyals because of the regular attacks on the Mareb powerline, according to a report released by the corporation.

The Sana'a-Mareb electricity transportation lines have been subjected to 140 attacks since 2010, the report found.

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Release expected soon for the 5 Yemeni soldiers currently detained in Syria

Mohammed Al-Samei

SANAA, Sept. 2 – Abdulrahman Barman, a lawyer at the HOOD Organization, a Yemeni human rights group, said three of the five Yemeni soldiers currently detained in Syria would be released as soon as possible, refuting that the soldiers have a connection to the Syrian regime.

“The organization contacted Syrian organizations and activists in order to help release the detainees,” Barman said.

Barman said the detainees are Yemeni students who were officially sent to study at Al-Asa’ad Military Academy in Halb. It is unsubstantiated that they were in Syria to side with Syrian President Bashar Al-Assad’s regime, he added.

He questioned the validity of news reports reporting that the Yemeni government sent these soldiers to Syria, asserting that those who captured them have no relation to the Free Syrian Army, the country’s main armed opposition group. Barman said the Yemeni soldiers were forced to declare they’re allegiance to fight for Assad’s regime.

“The militant groups that arrested them threatened to execute them, yet they say they will hand

them over as soon as possible,” he said.

A group calling itself “The Front of Triumph” had declared it detained the five Yemeni officers in Syria.

Video footage available on various websites shows five people under a black flag—on which “The Front of Triumph” is written. The footage suggests that the five officers are Yemenis who were arrested, with their military identification cards, in the southern part of Syria.

Those five people appeared to say they were in Halb, south of Syria, which has been witnessing fierce confrontations between the regime’s military forces and opposition militants.

“I came to Syria in line with planned coordination between the Yemeni and the Syrian government to crack down on the Syrian revolution,” one of the detainees said on the video.

On Monday, a source at the Ministry of Defense confirmed to the Defense Ministry-based September Net news website that the Yemeni officers, who were kidnapped at the hands of an armed group in Syria, were sent to study at the Al-Assad Military Studies Academy in Aleppo two years ago and not to

back President Assad’s regime, as the group alleged.

The source denied that the officers are connected with the current uprising in Syria.

In the same interview, the source added that the officers, Lieutenant Colonel Mohammed Abdu Hizam Al-Mulaiki, Lieutenant Colonel Ali Hassan Ahmed Salama, Captain Hani Saleh Hussein Nizar, Lieutenant Hassan Mohammed Ali Al-waheeb and Lieutenant Ahmed Ali Radman, were returning to Yemen after finishing their bachelor’s degrees.

He said the officers were kidnapped at the outset of September in Idlib, located between Damascus and Aleppo, as they were traveling to Damascus.

The officers were forced to drive from Aleppo to Damascus because of the flight cancellations at Aleppo Airport, he said.

The source indicated that the Defense Ministry sent an official letter to the head of the Red Cross in Yemen to intervene and help the officers.

The source asserted that the Defense ministry, in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, is exerting its utmost efforts to secure the release of the officers as soon as possible.

6 sailors disappear from Yemeni waters

Amira Nasser

HODEIDA, Sept. 3 – Six Yemeni sailors disappeared 15 days ago out of Yemeni waters, and there is now new information about what happened to them.

The sailors vanished after they voyaged out from Al-Khookha, according to the Yemen Coast Guard.

Brigadier Ali Rafe, head of the Yemen Coast Guard, told the Yemen Times that a group of six sailors were about to be blown out from Yemeni territorial waters and into Sudanese waters because of the changes in weather conditions.

Rafe said there is currently contact between Yemen’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Sudanese government to resolve this issue and work to bring the sailors back home.

“Sudanese authorities are very strict because these are their territorial waters, and the matter is now in the hands of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs,” he said.

The Sudanese Embassy in Sana’a was unreachable for comment.

Ali Al-Nahari, head fisherman in Hodeida, said there are a lot of obstacles faced by Yemeni fishermen, especially when foreign boats enter Yemeni territorial waters.

He said this matter reduces the amount of sea wealth possessed by Yemen; therefore, Yemeni fishermen are forced to leave Yemeni



Yemeni fishermen are often forced to leave Yemeni waters to search for catch.

territorial waters in search of fish to catch. This can cause problems if and when foreign governments in foreign waters catch them.

“There are about 700 boats and 200 fishermen who’ve been captured—who were caught boating in the Red Sea beach in Eritrea,” he added.

The Customs Authority denies study claiming internal fraud and corruption

Samar Qaed

SANAA, Sept. 3 – Abdulrazaq Al-Mirani, deputy assistant of Customs Affairs and Smuggling Combat at the Customs Authority, denied any truth to a study recently published by the Media Economic Center for Studies indicating that 90 percent of customs and tax revenues are lost at ports due to fraudulent processes carried out by merchants and customs employees.

Al-Mirani said the news is unfounded because the Customs Authority currently hinges on modern calculation systems, and customs revenues reached 60 percent this year.

“However, a report released by the MECS indicated that 90 percent of customs revenues are not

authentic. This is untrue and contradictory to the increase of the customs revenues.”

Al-Mirani said the Customs Authority is preparing a suitable reply and will summon the center to court for publishing the news.

“The authority will hold a press conference revealing to the public the yearly increase of revenue.”

For his part, Mustaf Nasr, head of the center, said he had documents to prove the incrimination of many merchants and others responsible for customs; the documents prove the forging of purchase and selling documents of imported products and goods, Nasr said.

“This is the first issue we published against the Customs Authority,” Nasr said. “We have a string of documents in terms of corruption

at the authority. The documents will be published later.”

The documents prove the majority of merchants and others responsible for customs resort to pricing goods and products no higher than ten percent different from their true price for the purpose of manipulating customs and tax fees, according to Nasr.

He said the documents show the Customs Authority accepts inauthentic documents presented by some importers who hide the genuine prices of goods, in addition to the neglect of examining procedures by specialists at the Inspection Department.

Nasr said the Customs Authority itself accepted the entrance of goods with false prices, contradicting what is publicly revealed each year.

Marginalized ‘Akhdam’ receive no government support at conference



Hundreds of participants attended the conference, but government officials were noticeably absent.

Story and photo by Sdaq Al-Wesabi

SANAA, Sept. 3 – Hundreds of marginalized people, known as “Akhdam,” held their first national conference in Sana’a on Wednesday. The disenfranchised group used the opportunity to demand their right to be a part of the upcoming National Dialogue.

Hundreds of participants, NGOs and human rights activists attended the conference but government officials were noticeably absent despite an open invitation. A major aim of the event was to put pressure on politicians to involve the marginalized community more in the decision-making process.

The head of the National Union for the Marginalized, Noman Qaed, said, “We represent more than 3 million Yemenis and ex-

cluding us from the Technical Committee for the National Dialogue contradicts the objectives of the Gulf initiative.”

Dr. Adel Al-Shuja’a, an academic at Sana’a University and advocate for conference attendees, also condemned the government’s apathy towards the akhdam. He said the event may embarrass political parties, especially if the participants can create a new national platform that involves them.

“Those people are the most subjugated and the most proactive community in Yemen,” said Al-Shuja’a. “Unfortunately, the government doesn’t care about the marginalized, and the absence of the government at this conference is a proof they have no vision.”

The academic advocate also believes the marginalized community is unbelievably valuable to society’s future.

“They have a lot of ideas and goals that will contribute to improving the situation in Yemen,” Al-Shuja’a said.

Qaed also expressed his frustration at the marginalized’s perceived social positions.

“Unfortunately, all political parties see us as sweeper and cleaning workers,” he said. “They don’t give us our rights. We want to take our rights peacefully and not by weapon.”

Abdul-Ghani Al-Sabri, an active member of the akhdam community, agreed with Qaed, stating that his people need is to be empowered politically, socially and economically.

“Our voice will be heard. Government negligence will not hinder us,” Al-Sabri said. “It’s not acceptable to ignore us. We are a power. We are a very big community.”

Explosive device defused near police station in Bab Al-Yemen, no injuries

Mohammed Al-Samei

SANAA, Sept. 3 – A team of military engineers on Wednesday defused a 1.5 kg TNT explosive device planted 30 meters east of a police station in the Bab Al-Yemen area of Sana’a.

Recently, explosive devices placed by anonymous persons in different areas of Sana’a have become increasingly commonplace. Targets have included both national and international facilities.

A security source told the Defense Ministry-based 26 September Net news site that the bomb was found inside a box of tissues and was timed to go off at 11 a.m. by way of remote operation.

General Ali Mohsen Obaid, spokesman of the Military Committee, told the Yemen Times that anonymous people, most likely affiliated with Ansar Al-Sharia, started planting explosive devices in different areas of Sana’a recently in order to create chaos.

Ansar Al-Sharia is a militant group considered to be affiliated with Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP).

Obaid said investigations are active to discover who is responsible for operations such as Wednesday’s attempted bombing as well as the assassination attempt on Defense Minister Mohammed Nasser Ahmed near the Yemeni Cabinet on Aug. 11.

On Sept. 26, the Ministry of Interior announced that the security apparatus foiled an attempt to detonate an explosive device near the German Embassy in Sana’a.

A security source at the Interior Ministry said in a press conference, “The security apparatus found a 12 kg bomb planted near the German Embassy and deactivated it.”

On Sept. 21, Sana’a Security Apparatus foiled an explosive device put in a school near the Presidential Compound.

A security source at the Martyr Abdulrazaq’s School, located near Al-Sabeen Hospital, said he found a bomb thrown among trees in the school and informed the security apparatus to deactivate it.

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Feuding tribesmen intimidate checkpoint-area residents

Story by Ahmed Dawood
Photo by Ashraf Al-Muraqab

Ali Haider never expected his father would die in a tribal conflict between the Khawalan and Sanhan districts, both located near Sana'a, and well-known for their violence against each other.

But, seven years ago, the 27-year-old's father and resident of Khawalan, was driving quickly through a neighborhood in Sanhan for a brief trip to Sana'a, when he was confronted by armed men in the district. Haider's father refused to stop at a tribal checkpoint erected by the self-elected guards. Consequently, the guards opened fire on the unsuspecting driver, shooting him dead.

Now each emerging tribal checkpoint reminds Haider, who currently lives with his five siblings and mother, of his father's memory.

Unfortunately, Haider's tale is a common one amongst many residents of Sana'a's villages, who are subject to violence from warring tribes. During times of high conflict, tribesmen will set-up checkpoints to terrorize neighboring tribes by means of theft, kidnapping and murder.

The largely traditional districts of Khawalan, located 40 kilometers outside of Sana'a, and Sanhan, 20 kilometers from the capital city, in particular have a long history of contention. Locals attribute the disputes to revenge, but most are unclear as to the origins of the conflict.

Most recently, in June, relations deteriorated when armed tribesmen



Armed tribesmen gather on a street in Hasaba to assert their authority. The emergence of recent checkpoints have caused chaos for many locals, inhibiting their daily lives.

from Khawlan, kidnapped Murad Al-Awbali, an influential figure in the Republican Guard and member of the Sanhan tribe.

Despite Al-Awbali's prominence in the military, the government did not intervene on behalf of his release. The state's lack of action caused Al-Awbali's son to engineer several checkpoints along the route from Khawlan to Sana'a, inhibiting local travel to the capital city.

It is also rumored that Al-Awbali's revenge-seeking son kidnapped over 50 locals from Sanhan in an at-

tempt to leverage the release of his father.

Al-Awbali has since been released and the warring communities have seen a brief dip in the emergence of new checkpoints.

However, due to a lack of government security intervention, the tribes continue to antagonize territorial roads, primarily at the detriment to uninvolved community members.

Khaleel Al-Laei, a local from Sahman village in Khawlan, said he was subject to many problems due to

the checkpoints. He said he was unable to enter Sana'a to complete his university studies while he remained stuck for over a week in the village because a checkpoint made his journey impassable.

Fabdullah Al-Hiweishi also said the checkpoints have affected him in a personal way. He recalls being unable to travel to Khawlan from Sana'a to mourn the loss of a relative who had died there because tribesmen made him turn around and return to the city.

Waleed Al-Jabr, a journalist,

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compared the tribal checkpoints to being in jail, saying he cannot move freely when the tribes decided to construct the illegal passageways.

However, Abdulghani Jameel, Governor of Sana'a, says efforts are being made to eliminate these road blocks.

"Last week, the tribes agreed to sign a document to end the tribal checkpoints," Jameel said. He also indicated the potential treaty received an overall positive response from the community.

Jameel added that the security

administration will be sending military vehicles to curb the checkpoints and that violators will be held strictly accountable for their actions.

Ali Saleh Al-Laei, a leading sheikh from Khawlan, said this is one step in the right direction and hopes for a continued optimistic reaction from locals.

The sheikh further called for an increased focus on education and health in the area, where such matters have been long neglected, so that the tribes will not be compelled to continue fighting.

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OUR OPINION

Yemeni male savages

This editorial is going to offend many of my countrymen. Nevertheless, things must be told and solutions must be found.

Visiting my dentist the other day, I heard two shocking stories about vicious Yemeni male behavior. She heard the stories firsthand from the mouths of the victims during her shift at a government health center located on the outskirts of Sana'a.

The first was the story of a Yemeni man from Amran who threw his three-month-old daughter against a wall because her crying kept him awake at night.

The second story was of a woman who, after delivering her second child at home according to the traditions of her tribe, suffered from severe vaginal tears. Her husband would not allow her to go to the hospital for stitches, and after two years, her wounds were severe enough that she had complications even going to the bathroom. Ironically, the reason she was visiting the health center was because her husband was wondering why she wasn't getting pregnant. After all, he is doing his part, right?

One way to really get a feel of any society's pulse is to listen to the stories in a health clinic waiting room. People will come with their grief and their true stories of suffering. The extent of cruelty and savageness in our Yemeni society is extreme, especially at the hands of its men.

My question—which is also an appeal to all the lawyers and activists who understand the Yemeni system—is: is there anyway for the law, for society or even for individuals to hold these criminals accountable?

Who can those abused wives and mothers turn to so that justice can be done? Their parents are usually—if not always—unsupportive because otherwise the women would not have endured such a miserable life for even one second.

Is there a way some government or nongovernment agency can be informed of such abuses and take strict action against these evil men? Or should we try and play God by taking matters into our own hands as the "righteous ones" in the society? Should we form a secret group of citizen police outside the legal system and, after investigating the incidents, dispatch our secret men and women to avenge these women?

If we do this, where do we stop? What does justice mean? Is it enough to slam that father against the wall for what he has done to his infant, or do we also break a leg? We can leave a message saying we are God's sent angels, and this is for what you have done to your child, but how can we guarantee he does not go back home and put a bullet into both the mother and the child's heads?

So many dark thoughts, but this is a reality in our society, and we have to do something about it. Cruelty must not be endured, and these monsters must not be allowed to not only get away with their crimes but also to thrive in this nation.

Action needs to be taken now. Let's start a project that would revive humanity in our society.

Nadia Al-Sakkaf

A dangerous new world of drones

Peter Bergen and Jennifer Rowland
CNN.com
First published Oct. 2

A decade ago, the United States had a virtual monopoly on drones. Not anymore. According to data compiled by the New America Foundation, more than 70 countries now own some type of drone, though just a small number of those nations possess armed drone aircraft.

The explosion in drone technology promises to change the way nations conduct war and threatens to begin a new arms race as governments scramble to counterbalance their adversaries.

Late last month, China announced that it would use surveillance drones to monitor a group of uninhabited islands in the South China Sea that are controlled by Japan but claimed by China and Taiwan.

In August 2010, Iran unveiled what it claimed was its first armed drone. And on Tuesday, the country's military chief, Gen. Amir Ali Hajizadeh, disclosed details of a new long-range drone that he said can fly 2,000 kilometers (1,250 miles), which puts Tel Aviv easily in range.

But without an international framework governing the use of drone attacks, the United States is setting a dangerous precedent for other nations with its aggressive and secretive drone programs in Pakistan and Yemen, which are aimed at suspected members of Al-Qaeda and their allies.

Just as the U.S. government justifies its drone strikes with the argument that it is at war with Al-Qaeda and its affiliates, one could imagine that India in the not too distant future might launch such attacks against suspected terrorists in Kashmir, or China might strike Uighur separatists in western China, or Iran might attack Baluchi nationalists along its border with Pakistan.

This moment may almost be here. China took the United States by surprise in November 2010 at the Zhuhai Air Show, where it unveiled 25 drone models, some of which were outfitted with the capability to fire missiles.

It remains unclear just how many of China's drones are operational and how many of them are still in development, but China is intent on catching up with the United States' rapidly expanding drone arsenal.

When President George W. Bush declared a "War on Terror" 11 years ago, the Pentagon had fewer than 50 drones.

Now, it has around 7,500. As Bush embarked on that war, the United States had never used armed drones in combat. The first U.S. armed drone attack, which appears to be the first such strike ever, took place in mid-November 2001 and killed the military commander of Al-Qaeda, Mohammed Atef, in Afghanistan.

Since then, the CIA has used drones equipped with bombs and missiles hundreds of times to target suspected militants in Pakistan and Yemen.

Only the United States, United Kingdom and Israel are known to have launched drone strikes against their adversaries, although other members of the International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan, such as Australia, have "borrowed" drones from Israel for use in the war there.

Drone technology is proliferating rapidly. A 2011 study estimated that there were around 680 active drone development programs run by governments, companies and research institutes around the world, compared with just 195 in 2005.

In 2010, U.S.-based General Atomics received export licenses to sell unarmed versions of the Predator drone to Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Morocco

and the United Arab Emirates. And in March, the U.S. government agreed to arm Italy's six Reaper drones but rejected a request from Turkey to purchase armed Predator drones.

An official in Turkey's Defense Ministry said in July that Turkey planned to arm its own domestically produced drone, the Anka.

Israel is the world's largest exporter of drones and drone technology, and the state-owned Israeli Aerospace Industries has sold to countries as varied as Nigeria, Russia and Mexico.

Building drones, particularly armed drones, takes sophisticated technology and specific weaponry, but governments are increasingly willing to invest the necessary time and money to either buy or develop them, as armed drones are increasingly seen as an integral part of modern warfare.

Sweden, Greece, Switzerland, Spain, Italy and France are working on a joint project through state-owned aeronautical companies and are in the final stages of developing an advanced armed drone prototype called the Dassault nEUron, from which the France plans to derive armed drones for its air force.

And Pakistani authorities have long tried to persuade the United States to give them armed Predator drones, while India owns an armed Israeli drone designed to detect and destroy enemy radar, though it does not yet have drones capable of striking other targets.

The Teal Group, a defense

consulting firm in Virginia, estimated in June that the global market for the research, development and procurement of armed drones will just about double in the next decade, from \$6.6 billion to \$11.4 billion.

States are not alone in their quest for drones. Insurgent groups, too, are moving to acquire this technology. Last year, Libyan opposition forces trying to overthrow the dictator Moammar Gadhafi bought a sophisticated surveillance drone from a Canadian company for which they paid in the low six figures.

You can even buy your own tiny drone on Amazon for \$250. (And for an extra \$3.99, you can get next-day shipping.)

As drone technology becomes more widely accessible, it is only a matter of time before well-financed drug cartels acquire them. And you can imagine a day in the not too distant future where armed drones are used to settle personal vendettas.

Given the relatively low costs of drones -- already far cheaper than the costs of a fighter jet and of training a fighter jet pilot -- armed drones will play a key role in future conflicts.

While the drone industry thrives and more companies, research institutes and nations jump on board the drone bandwagon, the United States is setting a powerful international norm about the use of armed drones, which it uses for pre-emptive attacks against presumed terrorists in Pakistan and Yemen. It is these kinds of drone strikes that

are controversial; the use of drones in a conventional war is not much different than a manned aircraft that drops bombs or fires missiles.

According to figures compiled by the New America Foundation, drone attacks aimed at suspected militants are estimated to have killed between 1,900 and 3,200 people in Pakistan over the past eight years.

While there has been considerable discussion of the legality of such strikes in a number of U.S. law schools, there has been almost no substantive public discussion about drone attacks among policymakers at the international level.

The time has come for some kind of international convention on the legal framework surrounding the uses of such weapons, which promise to shape the warfare of the future as much as tanks and bombers did during the 20th century.

Peter Bergen, CNN's national security analyst, is director of the national security studies program at the New America Foundation, a Washington-based think tank that seeks innovative solutions across the ideological spectrum, and the author of the new book "Manhunt: The Ten-Year Search for Bin Laden -- From 9/11 to Abbottabad." Jennifer Rowland is a program associate at the New America Foundation

(Fatima Mustafa and Farhad Peikar contributed to the research for this article.)



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Republic of Yemen
Council of Ministers
Economic Opportunities Fund (EOF)
Vacancies Announcements

The Government of Yemen, represented by the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MOPIC), has received a Grant from IFAD and co-finance from the Islamic Bank for Development and the European Union for the Economic Opportunities Fund (EOF). EOF was created by Presidential Decree # 183-2010 dated 25/09/2010 as a public-private partnership working to improve the economic status of poor women and men in rural areas. Currently, EOF seeks a qualified Yemeni candidate for the following positions at EOF offices.

1. Policy Advisor

Within the framework, as described above, the Policy Advisor will operate under the overall supervision and the guidance of the CEO of the EOF, and he/she will assist the EOF's CEO in the implementation of all activities that are related to policy development within the EOF's programmes/projects. And, he/she will work closely with the counterparts at EOF as assigned, and will also be responsible for all legal and regulatory aspects of EOF and will pronounce on the completeness and accuracy of the same. Further, he/she will be responsible for recommending standard contracting provisions and drafting and reviewing of EOF agreements and their compliance with regulatory requirements.

Duties and Responsibilities:

Within the framework of the programmes, as described above, he/she will be responsible for the following:

- Prepare a working paper on each policy to be implemented after consultation with the relevant authorities and all stakeholders;
- Prepare a synthesis of the legal framework for each activity to be undertaken by the EOF which requires an adjustment in the current policy, laws and regulations;
- Discuss with all relevant stakeholders on all issues pertained to the new draft and to the changes to be made to the current legislation;
- Draft any new Law, regulation, decree resulting from a project activity to be submitted to the relevant authority, in close coordination the relevant authority itself;
- Prepare and Provide expert advice and guidance in preparation of EOF Law; and ensure that it is compliant/aligned with other relevant legislation that could affect or influence the work of EOF management;
- Maintain contact with all regulatory agencies to ensure the EOF is kept fully advised; and
- Liaise with donors/partners on all legal and regulatory matters pertaining to their programmes;
- Contribute to the formulation of EOF regulations (specifically relating to the funding, and financial management of programmes) and provide technical support to all the units in EOF for its compliance and enforcement;
- Organize seminars, workshops, study tours, visits of international experts in the above whenever necessary;
- Ensure implementation of all activities related to policy dialogue and development in accordance with the EOF's Annual Work Plan and Budget;
- Assist each Office and Unit manager with policy dialogue issues and provide relevant technical paper.
- Contribute to the development of the EOF's Management Information System in terms of developing a database of relevant legislative and regulatory material, global best practice and development of standardized contractual provisions and security documents;
- Provide written opinions on legal and regulatory matters related to EOF's programme development; and assist in its legal/regulatory queries and issues;
- Assessment of legal options of the EOF and advise EOF's CEO on decision-making and approval processes; and
- Undertake any other related tasks at the request of EOF's CEO.

Qualifications:

- Masters degree in Law with a minimum of 10 years relevant experience as above (viz. policy development and planning, institutional development and advisory services etc.). A bachelors degree in similar with 12 to 14 years of experience is accepted in lieu of the above.
- Strong and demonstrated similar work experience in a ministry or a public institution at the central and local levels and/or as an independent advisor;
- Sound knowledge of organizational, administrative and legislative policies and procedures with respect to the Yemeni government institutions and/or organizations, and familiarity with the requirements externally funded projects;
- Working experience in drafting institutional laws and regulations, agreements, contracts; and corporate finance and project finance management.
- Negotiation skills and a good capacity to anticipate future issues and to think beyond the framework;
- Full working knowledge of Arabic and English, including excellent drafting and presentation skills, excellent communication skills;
- Leadership and team building qualities and experience;
- Excellent computer skills, including full working knowledge of standard word processing, spreadsheet and presentation packages.

2. Coordinator (EOF South office, Aden):

Within the framework, as described above, the Coordinator will operate and work under the direct supervision of the EOF's Mobilization Team Leader (MTL), and reports to the MTL and through MTL to the CEO of the EOF. Also, he/she will provide leadership and manages the programmes in Aden office in accordance with the mission, values and strategic objectives of the EOF.

Duties and Responsibilities:

Within the framework of the programmes, as described above, he/she will be responsible for the following:

- Under the supervision of EOF's Mobilization Team Leader, lead and guide the 'mobilization team' programme implementation in EOF's south office in Aden and accordingly administer day-to-day operations in accordance with provisions and mandate of the EOF;
- Under the guidance EOF's Mobilization Team Leader, ensure that Annual Work Plans and Budgets (AWPBs) for Aden target regions are prepared in line with the programme's and submitted in time to the EOF HQ in Sana'a in compliance EOF requirements and the programme's M&E system;
- Prepare the work plan, quarterly, progress, annual reports and Terminal reports, in coordination with the staff assigned. The quarterly/annual progress reports shall also include how funds were utilized against the activities and also the activities to be carried out during the following quarter/year, as well as required funds;
- Provide general guidance and support to the national and international consultants to conduct the studies as related to the programmes;
- Undertake information campaigns in the programme's area of operation, providing detailed information to male and female target group members of the possibilities offered by the programme and the mechanisms and procedures for participating;
- Coordinate with the communities, helping them establish formal associations in the region as necessary ensuring their full involvement in the design and management of the improved supply systems under the EOF's programme thematic areas;
- Implement the programme's gender mainstreaming approach and actively work towards increasing participants' understanding and appreciation of women's role in the economy; ensure that as many women as possible are included in producers' groups, that women are trained and actively participate in the management bodies of producer organizations; that micro enterprises suitable for women are given adequate support to ensure that they become commercially viable and real profit-making market-led institutions;
- In line with the EOF's programme activities, organize and partly implement training for the producers' groups (coffee, vegetable, honey, other crop producers, fisheries etc) as well as for individual micro- and small entrepreneurs with the support from senior programme staff and experts;
- In accordance with the EOF's programmes, identify suitable individuals and groups for micro- and small enterprise activities; support the formation of groups (particularly for loan guarantees) and ensure that beneficiaries and participants have the entrepreneurial and technical skills and talent necessary to give their enterprises a good likelihood of success;
- Closely support potential micro-entrepreneurs in the preparation of feasibility stud-

- ies and business plans;
- Follow up regularly on all project participants in the area of operations and provide them with the necessary support, or ensure that this support is made available from other programme sources when they are unable to provide solutions themselves;
- Follow up the performance of project related institutions (field presence of the value chain and other processor representatives, visits of the micro- finance institutions and other finance service providers and any other institution working in the project area on behalf of the project) and report to senior project management;
- Organize annual participatory evaluation meetings at the level of each project area; and provide substantive reports on their work biannually, in line with the requirements of the M&E system;
- Undertake any other related tasks at the request of EOF's CEO.

Qualifications:

- Masters degree in rural development, social development, agronomy, fisheries, business administration or public administration or relevant field with a minimum of 5 years experience. A bachelors degree in similar with 7 to 9 years of experience is accepted in lieu of the above;
- Strong and demonstrated similar work experience, in particular working with the producer's associations and community based organizations in rural and community development;
- Working experience in development planning and experience from development projects/programmes will be an advantage;
- Significant experience in project management gained with international organizations or in the public or private sectors;
- Full working knowledge of Arabic and English, including excellent drafting and presentation skills, excellent communication skills;
- Leadership and team building qualities and experience;
- Excellent computer skills, including full working knowledge of standard word processing, spreadsheet and presentation packages.
- Mature and willing and able to work long hours in remote locations.

3) Accountant.

The Accountant will be responsible for the overall accounting recordings and documenting of the daily accounting operations of the EOF programmes without any delay and will report to the EOF Financial Manager.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- To work as a member of the accounting team, under the supervision of the financial manger.
- To administer the day-to-day Accounting activities, including data entry and documentation.
- Make sure that daily accounting data have been entered into the computerized system
- To assist in the preparation of financial statements, budget & forecast financials, variance, and other reports.
- To assist in completing reconciliations (bank, or other), and Fixed asset register.
- To assist with preparation for quarterly reviews and annual audits.
- To help in monitoring expenditure based on budgets
- To facilitate the preparation of periodical Management Information Reports (MIR)
- To process all documents and maintain supporting records under his review accurately and timely
- To provide financial information through regular generation of reports
- To provide accurate, timely and relevant financial information.
- To maintain, organize & complete source document files, ensuring compliance with policies & procedures.
- To help in monitoring income and expenditure versus budget and previous year
- To ensure smooth flow of daily operational accounting and documentation.
- Assist with the preparation of documentation for audit reviews.
- Establish, maintain, and coordinate the implementation of accounting system and accounting control procedures.
- Other duties as assigned by the FM.

Qualifications

- Recognized accounting qualifications;
- Minimum of five years experience in accounting data entry and operation execution, financial planning and management, budgeting with public or private sector organization;
- A good knowledge of computer applications;
- Familiarity with Government financial procedures;
- Familiarity with the accounting procedures requirements of externally funded projects
- Proficient in written and spoken English.

4) Procurement Assistant

The Procurement officer will have relevant experience with financial procurement management of internationally funded projects in the country. The incumbent will work under the overall direction of the EOF Chief Procurement Officer. The principal duties of the post will be to assume procurement management responsibilities for Fisheries Investment Project (FIP).

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Procure civil works, goods and services in line with the IFAD Procurement Guidelines; this will entail establishment of the procedures for procurement of civil works, goods and services entailed to FIP.
- Participate in the preparation of the FIP procurement plans and their inclusion into AWPB;
- Monitor the implementation and carryout the updating of the procurement plan in order to meet the programme's emerging needs;
- Participate in oversee payments to suppliers and service providers.
- Any related task...

Qualifications:

- Recognized accountancy, economics or business qualification;
- Minimum of eight years relevant experience in public or private sector organization;
- A good knowledge of computer applications; the specialist must have working experience in computer Excel, Word and related programmes;
- Familiarity with the procurement procedures of international financial institutions;
- Proficient in written and spoken English.

Application Process: Interested qualified candidates are encouraged to apply for these positions by sending the detailed CV and a cover letter in English to the following email address: EOFRecruitment@eofyemen.org or eofyemen@yahoo.co.uk, and by clearly mentioning the position applying for in the email subject line.

The deadline for the application is **15.10.2012, Friday.**

EOF is an equal opportunity employer. Qualified female candidates and people with disabilities, and minorities are highly encouraged to apply. All applications will be treated with strictest confidence.

الجمهورية اليمنية رئاسة مجلس الوزراء صندوق الفرص الاقتصادية

إعلان طلب استشاريين فرديين للقيام بدراسات الجوى - التصاميم الهندسية - الأشرفاء على إنشاء السدود الصغيرة خزانات حصاد المياه وتجميع مياه العيون والأبار، شبكات انابيب لنقل وتوزيع مياه الري، نظام الري الحثلي بالتنقيط للمواقع المختارة في مناطق عمل الصندوق .

حصلت الجمهورية اليمنية ممثلة بوزارة التخطيط والتعاون الدولي على تمويل مشترك من كل من الصندوق الدولي للتنمية الزراعية (إيفاد) والبنك الاسلامي للتنمية والاتحاد الاوروبي وكذلك الجانب الحكومي وذلك لتنفيذ برنامج الفرص الاقتصادية ضمن

صندوق الفرص الاقتصادية، ويهدف البرنامج إلى تحسين الوضع الاقتصادي لكل من الفقراء والفقيرات الريفيين من خلال خلق فرص اقتصادية تتوافق مع منهجية القطاع الخاص، ويأتي برنامج الفرص الاقتصادية ضمن برامج أخرى تحت إدارة صندوق الفرص الاقتصادية الذي تم إنشاؤه حسب القرار الجمهوري رقم (183) لسنة (2010) وسيعمل الصندوق بمشاركة كل من القطاع العام والخاص.

سيعمل برنامج الفرص الاقتصادية في المناطق الريفية المستهدفة ضمن محافظات صنعاء، عمران، ذمار، اب، تعز، الحديدة، لحج، إبين، ويهدف مكون البنية التحتية الاقتصادية أحد المكونات الاستثمارية التي ستساهم في تحقيق الأهداف المرجوة من هذا البرنامج حيث ستقوم بتمويل تنفيذ السدود الصغيرة لحصاد مياه الأمطار - خزانات تجميع مياه العيون أو الأبار وتتضمن هذه المنشآت تمديد شبكات مواسير لنقل وتوزيع مياه الري حتى أطراف حقول البن كمحصول رئيسي ضمن أهداف البرنامج مع إمكانية إضافة محاصيل مصاحبه مثل الخضروات والفواكه في أطار مناطق محصول البن كما ستتضمن الأعمال استبدال شبكات النقل والتوزيع لمياه الري بواسطة القنوات المفتوحة من المنشآت القائمة بشبكات نقل وتوزيع بالانابيب حيث يهدف الدعم الفني لمزايعي محصول البن أو الخضروات والفواكه إلى الدفع إلى تبني نظم الري الحثلي باستخدام تقنية الري بالتنقيط، وتشتمل الخدمات الاستشارية المطلوبة التالي:

- أعداد دراسة الجدوى للسدود الصغيرة وخزانات حصاد المياه وتجميع مياه العيون والأبار - شبكات انابيب لنقل وتوزيع مياه الري - نظام الري الحثلي (التنقيط - الفقاعي ...) ضمن مناطق عمل الصندوق.
- لاعادة للتصاميم الهندسية والمسوحات والأشرفاء على تنفيذ: (سدود صغيرة، خزانات تجميع مياه العيون والأبار، شبكات انابيب لنقل وتوزيع مياه الري، نظام الري الحثلي بالتنقيط للمناطق المستهدفة.

الصندوق بصدد تأسيس قاعدة بيانات للاستشاريين المؤهلين في المجالات المذكورة أعلاه لتعاقد معهم لتقديم الخدمة المطلوبة وفق الحاجة وبحسب منهجية الصندوق.

فعلى الاستشاريين الفرديين المتخصصين في المجالات التالية:

- هندسة مدنية
- هندسة ري
- هيدرولوجيا
- جيولوجيا
- بيئة
- مساحه
- اراضي ومياه
- اقتصاد زراعي

التقدم بطلبات التعبير عن الاهتمام مصحوبة بالسيرة الذاتية إلى عنوان الصندوق الموضح أدناه خلال اوقات الدوام الرسمي . مع ارفاق كافة المعلومات والوثائق التي تؤكد أهلية الاستشاري للقيام بالخدمات المطلوبة مثل (صور المؤهلات الجامعية، شهادات التدريب والخبرة، أي وثائق أخرى تؤكد أهلية الاستشاري)

سيتم اختيار الاستشاريين المؤهلين وفقاً لاسس ومعايير التاهيل الموضحة في الدليل الإرشادي للمشترتين التابع للبنك الاسلامي للتنمية والصندوق الدولي للتنمية الزراعية - إيفاد.

يمكن للاستشاريين الراغبين في الحصول على معلومات إضافية التواصل على العنوان أدناه خلال ساعات الدوام الرسمي. مع العلم ان اخر موعد لاستلام الملفات هو يوم 25 اكتوبر 2012م

صندوق الفرص الاقتصادية - صنعاء

جوار السفارة الألمانية - مبنى شركة توتال سابقاً

تلفون (9/433918/01) - بريد إلكتروني: EOFprocurement@eofyemen.org

إعلان عن طلب ابراء الرغبة في المشاركة من قبل وسطاء و مصري الاسماك

حصلت الجمهورية اليمنية على تمويل مشترك من كل من الصندوق الدولي للتنمية الزراعية (إيفاد) والبنك الاسلامي للتنمية والاتحاد الاوروبي وكذلك الجانب الحكومي وذلك لإنشاء صندوق الفرص الاقتصادية، ويهدف الصندوق إلى تحسين الوضع الاقتصادي لكل من الفقراء والفقيرات الريفيين من خلال خلق فرص اقتصادية تسير وفق منهجية القطاع الخاص، ويأتي برنامج الاستثمار السمي ضمن برامج أخرى قائمة تحت إدارة صندوق الفرص الاقتصادية الذي تم إنشاؤه حسب القرار الجمهوري رقم (183) لسنة (2012) وسيعمل الصندوق بمشاركة كل من القطاع العام والخاص.

يقوم برنامج الاستثمار السمي بمبادرة وطنية لتنمية سلسلة القيمة السمكية بهدف زيادة دخل الصيادين والوسطاء والمصدرين (الوسطاء هم الذين يقومون بشراء ومعاملة وبيع الاسماك على مستوى الداخل والخارج)، وكجزء من هذه المبادرة فإن البرنامج يرغب بالتعاون مع عدد من الوسطاء والمصدرين للاسماك من الراغبين في التعاون في هذا المجال.

المعايير الرئيسية لاختيار الوسطاء/ المصدرين ستكون على النحو التالي:

- استكمال بيانات التاهيل والوثائق الرسمية اللازمة للوسطاء ومصدري الاسماك والمنتجات السمكية.

- الخبرة: وتشتمل الخبرة في المجالات التالية:

- (1) تجهيز وتصدير الاسماك لا سيما الخبرة في مجال مطابقة جودة الاسماك مع المعايير الوطنية والدولية والمعاملات القياسية.
- (2) الخبرة في العمل مع الصيادين والجمعيات التعاونية السمكية على اساس تعاقدى؛
- الشفافية: الشفافية في التسعيرة وأجراء المعاملات المالية؛
- التعاقد العادل: استعداد الوسيط / المصدر لإبرام العقود مع جمعيات الصيادين؛
- المشاركة في اجور مدير سلسلة الامداد: استعداد الوسيط / المصدر لتوظيف والمشاركة في دفع رواتب مدير سلسلة الامداد (التكوين) الذي سيعمل معه، في البداية سيقوم الصندوق بالمساهمة في دفع راتب مدير سلسلة الامداد بالمشاركة مع الوسيط / المصدر.
- الموقع الجغرافي: يجب ان يكون الوسيط او المصدر في المناطق القريبة للمواقع المحتمل إقامة مراكز انزال متعاملة والمناطق المحتملة لإقامة مشاريع الاستزراع السمكي.

وعليه فإن برنامج الاستثمار السمي في صندوق الفرص الاقتصادية يدعو الوسطاء / المصدرين المهتمين والراغبين بالمشاركة في هذا البرنامج لتقديم طلبات ابراء رغبة المشاركة في هذا البرنامج إلى مقر الصندوق، كما ينبغي ان يشمل طلب الرغبة في المشاركة على معلومات عامة بخصوص الأنشطة التجارية للوسيط / المصدر، مثل الموقع، سنوات العمل، والإنتاجية التقريبية السنوية من الاسماك التي يتعامل معها، وتقديم ما يؤكد مطابقتها للمعايير المذكورة أعلاه. وسوف يتم التعامل مع جميع المعلومات التي وردت إلى البرنامج بسرية كاملة ولن يتم عرضها على أي طرف ثالث دون موافقة الوسيط/المصدر.

كيفية تقديم الطلبات

سيكون اخر موعد لتقديم طلبات الرغبة في المشاركة هو يوم 25 اكتوبر 2012 وسوف يقوم صندوق الفرص الاقتصادية باختيار القائمة المختصرة من الوسطاء/ المصدرين خلال فترة 12 يوماً من تاريخ استلام الطلبات. تقدم الطلبات في ظروف محتومة بختم الوسيط او المصدر موضحاً عليها عنوان مقدم الطلب واضحا ومكتملا.

يمكن الحصول على مزيد من المعلومات حول هذا البرنامج والاستفسار حول تقديم طلبات الرغبة في المشاركة عن طريق الاتصال بصندوق الفرص الاقتصادية، شارع توتال المتفرع من شارع حدة، مبنى شركة توتال سابقاً امام جامع النور جوار السفارة الألمانية، تلفون رقم (8/433919/433921) فاكس (433921) او عبر البريد الإلكتروني

EOFprocurement@eofyemen.org OR eofyemen@yahoo.co.uk

شروط عامة

صندوق الفرص الاقتصادية يحتفظ لنفسه بحق عدم اختيار أي طلب في التعبير عن المشاركة لإدراجه ضمن القائمة المختصرة، وسيتم تقييم الطلبات من قبل الصندوق حسب معايير، مع الأخذ بعين الاعتبار المعايير الأساسية المذكورة أعلاه.

× في حالة الاحتياج إلى معلومات تكملية سيقوم برنامج الاستثمار السمي بالتواصل مع مقدمي الطلبات لتقديم هذه المعلومات مع العلم انه في حالة طلب أي معلومات تكملية أو طلب عرض أكثر تفصيلاً أو إجراء أي مناقشات قد تلي ذلك فإن ذلك سيكون بغرض النقاش حول العرض فقط ولا يعني أنه سوف يتم اختيار العرض المقدم من الوسيط او المصدر او انه سوف يتلقى الدعم المطلوب من الصندوق.

× صندوق الفرص الاقتصادية غير ملزم بتقديم أي تفسير أو تبرير للمتقدمين عن أسباب رفض طلباتهم و/ أو لماذا لم يتم اختيارهم وإدراجهم في القائمة المختصرة. ولن تشر القائمة المختصرة للجميع كما أن نتائج عملية الاختيار لن تكون قابلة للإعادة حيث سيقوم الصندوق بإخطار المتقدمين كتابياً (أو عن طريق البريد الإلكتروني) عن قبول عروضهم أو عدم قبولها.

× جميع التكاليف والنفقات المترتبة عن تقديم طلبات الرغبة في المشاركة (بما في ذلك طلب الصندوق لمعلومات تكملية و/ أو عروض أكثر تفصيلاً)

ستكون على نفقة مقدم الطلب فقط وليس على الصندوق أي تعويضات أو مطالبات مالية بهذا الخصوص .

“The Walls Remember” graffiti puts a face to Yemen’s forcibly disappeared

Story and photos by
Nadia Haddash

Murad Sobay, a Yemeni artist, is helping to revive the issue of Yemenis who have forcibly disappeared by carrying out a campaign called “The Walls Remember.” He drew the faces of those who have disappeared in addition to illustrating the place and the date of each disappearance in two languages, namely Arabic and English.

According to Amnesty International, an enforced disappearance is when “a person is arrested, de-

tained or abducted by the state or agents acting for the state, who then deny that the person it being held or conceal their whereabouts, placing them outside the protection of the law.”

Amnesty’s website indicates that enforced disappearances are crimes based on international law.

“I heard of those disappeared, but I did not know about them in depth,” Sobay said. “After I read a lengthy report published by Al-Nida newspaper in 2007, I was astonished to find a society living among us called the disappeared. We evade talking over this issue under the pretext that we are busy with our daily problems.”

Regarding his campaign, in an interview with the Yemen Times he said “The Walls Remember” is a humanitarian campaign that belongs to no political party in order to help the relatives of the disappeared know about their true fate.

It is common for disappeared persons to never be released, meaning their families might not learn what happened to their loved ones, according to Amnesty.

“The Walls Remember” is a technical campaign that aims to deliver a message,” Sobay continued. “The message is that if Yemenis would not remember the suffering and the pains of the disappeared throughout these long years, the walls will remember and stand by them.”

A separate campaign—“Color Your Wall”—which was initiated months ago in order to beautify the walls in the capital city, is different from “The Walls Remember.” He said the latter attracts professional artists to illustrate details about the disappeared as a token of respect. He hopes this new campaign will spread nationwide just like the former campaign.

Expressing his stance toward the reaction of media outlets in Yemen, Sobay said, “Media in Yemen prefers to cover firing issues such as gunfire rather than to focus on a painting issue. The foreign agencies like Reuters and Agence



All the way down the road, the walls are painted with the faces of Yemenis who were forcibly detained over the years.

France-Presse were more reactive and serious toward “The Walls Remember” campaign.”

Concerning some of his graffiti that was painted over and defiled, including how some people didn’t accept the artwork, Sobay said, “Those who distorted the graffiti confessed that they want to hide the truth. They can’t afford to be looking at the photos of their victims every now and then when they pass by. Consequently, they resorted to altering the graffiti under the cover of darkness, thinking that they can hide the truth.”

“But they are wrong,” he continued. “They distort the graffiti

at night, and we draw other ones during the day. All artists, relatives of the detainees and their friends continue drawing the victims’ photos on walls in streets to make them memorable and to be witnesses of a period when the most prominent victims were human beings.”

Regarding Yemenis’ reaction toward the campaign, Sobay said the detainees’ relatives were the first to react to the campaign.

“Several families were encouraged to give us information about the detainees,” he said. “They came while we were drawing on walls and gave accurate details about the detainees. The people reacted posi-

tively toward the idea, but usually people accept new ideas gradually.”

Sobay asserted that the 16 faces plastered on the wall belong to people who have been detained for many years in incidents that happened between the 1960s and 1990s. The detainees include activists, journalists, intellectuals, partisan leaders and military leaders. They were, during their times, effective members of Yemeni society.

“The first graffiti we drew belonged to Abdulaziz Awn and Ali Khan, two Yemenis who were detained at the end of 70s during the last century, and their fate is unidentified so far.”



Some Yemenis have been missing for upwards of 40 years.



When people paint over the faces, Sobay simply repaints.

Professional Position Announcement Program Manager

The Promoting Youth Civic Engagement project is seeking a program manager who may supervise the implementation and management of the proposed phase 2 of this project for engaging youth in their communities through youth centers and with non-traditional actors. Phase 2 will be approximately 12 months long.

The program manager will:

- Provide ongoing program management, monitoring and administration of the project teams across the various field locations;
- Ensure project implementation strategies comply with the project approach;
- Ensure that program implementation is responsive to communities and partners and consistent with the project guidelines, quality standards and strategic approach;
- Ensure compliance by all staff, service providers and other contractors to office and project policies and procedures;
- Support a work environment of mutual respect where team members strive to achieve excellence;
- Promote accountability, communicate expectations and provide constructive feedback via regular meetings and performance reviews;
- Provide team members with information, tools and other resources to improve performance and reach objectives;
- Supervise the weekly, monthly, quarterly and other periodic financial reporting;
- Oversee the transparent procurement of goods and services according to donor rules and regulations;
- Ensure compliance with all donor policies and procedures regarding procurement are properly followed and adhered to; and
- Respond to requests from the HQ Contracts Manager.

Qualifications:

- A BA in business, economics, international studies or related field.
- A minimum of 5 years’ experience working in an international environment and with management responsibility.
- Experience supervising an international staff with consultants.
- Experience with M&E systems.
- Proficiency in English is required.
- Proficiency in Arabic is not required but will facilitate work.

Applications are accepted online at www.yemenjobs.org through October 31, 2012. Online applications should include three items: (1) a cover letter with salary expectations, (2) a detailed resume, and (3) at least one reference letter. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted for interviews, and interviews will occur on a rolling basis; thus early application submissions are encouraged.

Professional Position Announcement Finance and Administrative Officer

The Promoting Youth Civic Engagement project is seeking a finance and administrative officer who will manage the accounting and administrative responsibilities of the proposed phase 2 of this project for engaging youth in their communities through youth centers and with non-traditional actors. Phase 2 will be approximately 12 months long.

The Finance and Administrative Officer will:

- Conduct the weekly, monthly, quarterly and other periodic financial reporting;
- Review the weekly and monthly cash position statements;
- Supervise the reconciliation and monitoring of all accounts;
- Prepare and review all vouchers and verify and approve administrative expenses;
- Manage daily operations of the project office ensuring proper facility operations, cleanliness and security;
- Ensures compliance by all staff, service providers and other contractors to office and project policies and procedures;
- Monitor staff leave balances and leave requests;
- Conduct inventory review of all project assets and equipment;
- Approve and supervise staff timesheets;
- Review travel reports per Yemen office guidelines;
- Ensure coordination with the program units;
- Identify reliable vendors for project operations;
- Negotiate contracts, leases and purchase orders to meet anticipated and expected needs of the operation according to HQ forms;
- Supervise contracts and service agreements for administrative equipment, IT, facilities, security, and other vendors and work towards solutions for issues in these areas; and
- Oversee the transparent procurement of goods and services according to donor (USAID) rules and regulations.

Qualifications:

- Accounting or business administration degree;
- Direct experience with USAID and other donor-funded programs at an international NGO dealing with administration, personnel, finance, accounting, and facilities;
- Online information management experience;
- Significant spreadsheet and word processing experience;
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills in English and Arabic;
- Ability to handle multiple tasks with ease;
- Ability to work as a team member as well as independently; and
- Demonstrated supervisory experience.

Preferred Skills and Experience:

- Experience with accounting software such as Intuit QuickBooks or Sage Peachtree.
- At least five years’ direct administrative and financial management experience.

Applications are accepted online at www.yemenjobs.org through October 31, 2012. Online applications should include three items: (1) a cover letter with salary expectations, (2) a detailed resume, and (3) at least one reference letter. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted for interviews, and interviews will occur on a rolling basis; thus early application submissions are encouraged.

Lahj students resume studies after IDPs move out of schools



Students celebrate their return to their classrooms after a long absence during which IDPs were living in the schools.

Story and photos by Sadeq Al-Wesabi

Thousands of students in Lahj governorate, located approximately 320 km south of Sana'a, returned

again to their schools after they've stopped studying for more than one year due to Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) residing in their schools.

In the past year, more than 20,000 IDPs flowed into Lahj governorate, fleeing the fierce fighting

between government troops and Al-Qaeda militants in Abyan, with most of them living in schools.

However, this past week, the students of Asma'a School in Lahj gathered to celebrate their return to the school and regular classes amid a cheerful environment.

Lahj schools are considered the oldest schools in Yemen. Despite poverty, the children in this governorate say they are eager to learn.

At the end of last September, technical committees formed by the Executive Unit for displaced persons performed the biggest operation in history to evacuate IDPs from are schools.

Yemen Times visited Asma'a School in Lahj while students celebrated their return to their beloved school under the scorching sun.

"We returned ... we returned... to our beloved school we returned..." four female students sang enthusiastically during the celebration.

Amal Al-Basri, 13, a student at the Asma'a School, was thrilled to see her school open again. She was excited to be in class again, even though basics such as chairs remained unavailable for use.

"I have no objection to sit on the floor and study in hot weather without fans," she said. "The most important thing is that I could return to my school."

During the celebration, the students kept clapping, cheering and whistling. They said they were again returning to school after they has already lost hope in resuming their studies.

Dr. Hisham Al-Saqqaf, the head of the Education Office in Lahj, told the Yemen Times that the students in all the schools in the governorate were indescribably joyful when they returned to their school. Al-Saqqaf said the turnout of the students was larger than expected.

He said 22 schools in the governorate need urgent renovations and repairs.

"Chairs, fans, windows and classes had been broken," he said. "Even bathrooms were damaged."

"We have been working intensively to renovate the schools," he said, adding that UNICEF and various other organizations have provided these schools with chairs and equipment. However, he said that, though they have received aid from organizations, the schools still need a many basic classroom and educational necessities.

Amira Mohammed, an 11-year-old student at Asma'a School, said her school has totally changed to be worse, but these changes didn't depress her.

"I feel I'm at home now," she said. "I don't care about the condition of my school. It's enough for me to re-

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Studies were halted for more than one year because of all the IDPs that fled to schoolhouses across the governorate.



Girls sing and dance as they welcome in the new school year.



The Asma'a School hosted some of the 20,000 IPS in Lahj.

turn to it again."

Rodhiya Al-Jawi, a social supervisor at the school, said that as the last groups of IDPs left the school, the students immediately and eagerly awaited their return to their classrooms.

"The students are thrilled to pieces, though the school lacks curricula, chairs, light for classes, electricity, fans and several services," she said. "We face different difficulties, and concerned bodies don't respond positively to our problems. However, we will revive

our school with our determination."

Al-Jawi said it's not only Asma'a School that suffers from different problems. She indicated that several schools in Lahj governorate are ramshackle and lack furniture, labs, proper classes and specialized teachers. Moreover, the classes suffer from a high density of students.

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