

## Following fresh clashes in Rada'a, Defense Ministry launches fact-finding mission with local sheikhs



Though the Republican Guards were officially disbanded in December, their continued presence in Rada'a has been the source of tensions.

### Ali Ibrahim Al-Moshki

RADAA, April 10 — The Defense Minister Mohammed Nasser-Ahmed established a fact-finding committee on Tuesday composed of government representatives and sheikhs in the Rada'a district of Al-Baida'a governorate, located southeast of Sana'a, to investigate

clashes that broke out between military forces and residents of the area.

For about ten hours the two sides exchanged gunfire, killing four soldiers and three residents and injuring 13 others, officials said.

The clashes are believed to have broken out because of tensions surrounding the presence of Re-

publican Guards in the area. "It's not appropriate for these forces to remain there, the Ministry of Defense should replace them immediately with security forces," said Sinan Jar'on, the deputy governor of Al-Baida'a governorate, which contains Rada'a district.

The Guards are there as leftovers from a campaign that took

place months ago in which state forces bombed and overtook the area in an attempt to drive out what were believed to have been Al-Qaeda affiliates. Tribal mediations followed, prompting the state campaign to come to an end.

But since that time, locals report ongoing instability during the day in their relations with the estimated 150 Republican Guards.

Hamoud Al-Ameri, Rada'a's Security Chief, said the men are accused of blackmailing and threatening residents.

"We are on red alert and have orders to deal with an iron fist with whomever creates panic and disorder in the city—either residents or Republican Guards Forces," said Al-Ameri.

Although he couldn't offer any further details, Al-Ameri said, "[The guards] will be deported soon."

Jar'on said the defense minister gave orders last week to replace the Republican Guard forces with Central Security men.

The Republican Guard was technically dissolved in December per President Abdu Rabu Mansour Hadi's orders to restructure the army.

Hundreds of people died in the airstrikes in Rada'a that began in late January.

**LEGADOR**  
a taste to adore!  
www.legador.com

**Al-Jazeera Insurance & Reinsurance**

Head Office:  
Sana'a - Faj Attan - P.O.Box: 1376  
Tel.: +967-1- 428809/4250 12/13  
Fax: +967-1- 418369

Aden Branch: Al-Mulla St.  
Tel.: +967-2- 243101  
Fax: +967-2- 243202

Hodeidah Branch:  
Tel.: +967-3- 248011  
Fax: +967-3- 248010

Al-Mukalla Branch:  
Tel.: +967-5- 307187  
Fax: +967-5- 307188

www.al-jazeeraair.com - aljazeeraair@y.net.ye - info@al-jazeeraair.com

**KFC** pleasureable taste  
مشقة المنار

**pepsi**

## Hilal gets four new deputies

### Ali Ibrahim Al-Moshki

SANAA, April 10 — Four deputies have been appointed to assist Mayor Adullkadir Hilal in his role as Sana'a's mayor.

Mohammed Abdulaziz and Hussein Ahmed Al-Murtani were appointed the general deputies of the Capital Secretariat, a role directly below the mayor whose

duties include taking on corruption and helping the mayor's ongoing cleaning campaign.

Mohammed Yahya Al-Durafi is now the deputy for financial affairs and Maeen Hashim Al-Mahakiri the deputy for resource development and public works.

The deputies were hand-picked by Hilal and chosen based on their reputations said Abdulla

Al-Faek, the general manager of the Mayor's office.

Al-Faek said the move is a part of the Capital Secretariat's efforts to improve his administration.

In February, Hilal created a plan to rotate employees through different leadership positions to create motivation and friendly competition amongst workers.

**National Cement Bozzolana Works on:**

- Reduce the corrosion of iron used in the buildings.
- Resistant thermal cracks and fissures in buildings.
- Increase the resistance of the building to store salts and acids.
- Increase the strength of concrete particles cohesion.
- Increase the life span of the building because of the increased age of building materials.

Less Cost ..... Long Age

Tel : +967 (2) 510800 +967(2) 510800 تلفون  
Fax : +967 (2) 510840 +967(2) 510840 فاكس  
P.O.Box: 10001 lahj هـ.ب: 10001 الهج  
www.nccyemen.com Email: cement@nccyemen.com

**Fulfill your Dreams a Scratchful of Surprises**

YR 50,000  
YR 500,000  
YR 1,000,000

• Scratchful of Surprises is a new offer from SabaFon for prepaid and postpaid subscribers  
• Recharge with one Extra card during the month to enter 10 draws on 10 cash prizes of 50,000 YER.  
• Recharge with two Extra cards during the month to enter 3 draws on 3 cash prizes of 500,000 YER.  
• Recharge with three or more Extra cards during the month to enter the draw on a cash prize of 1,000,000 YER.  
• That's not all! Even more from SabaFon, recharge with two Extra cards or more to enter the grand draw on a Porsche, Vera Cruise, or Santa Fee car every month.  
• The line must be registered under the name of line user.  
• Prize must be received by the winner himself.  
• Prize to be received within 2 weeks from day winner is contacted by the company.  
Increase your winning chances with every recharge of Extra scratch card  
For more information, please send 80 to 211 for free. **Yemen's first and largest mobile operator.**

SABAFON  
Heritage meets communication

يطور أداء المحرك لمستوى أعلى

توفر زيوت المحرك موبيل أداءً قوياً وحماية ممتدة لجموعة أوسع من السيارات.

مزيد من المعلومات، يرجى زيارة:  
www.mobil.com و www.yemlub.com

**Mobil Super**  
20W-50  
Extra High Performance Motor Oil  
XHP

الهيئة للتسويق زيوت موبيل (اليابون)  
صنعاء - تلفون: 1 469680/1/2/3/4  
فاكس: 1 469145 ص.ب: 3516

## Attacks in Marib governorate leave country without power, again



of carrying out the attacks as he had threatened to do so days earlier.

The Saba News Agency quoted officials in Marib saying Al-Hweik was upset about people from Marib not getting bids for projects there, furthering unemployment in the area.

"How long will we continue to build and others continue to sabotage?" asked Abdulrahman Saif, the general manager of the Public Electricity Corporation, who said security authorities do not do enough to protect electrical infrastructure.

In 2012, 78 attacks were reported on electrical lines.

In 2011, Saif says his corporation lost YR38 billion (about \$150 million) due to attacks.

On Tuesday, the corporation asked the Defense and Interior Ministries to take no more than a week to arrest the accused.

Tribesmen are also accused of blowing up the main oil pipeline connecting oil fields in Marib to Sana'a on Monday.

Local tribesmen are suspected to have been responsible for the most recent attack.

### Rammah Al-Jubari

tained two consecutive attacks on Monday and Tuesday, knocking out power for much of the country including Sana'a.

MARIB, April 10 — Power lines in the Al-Damashika and Al-Junaid areas of Marib governorate sus-

Locals have accused Hassan Makhout Al-Hweik, a local tribesmen

## Yemeni journalist fined for article slamming government spending

### Mohammed Al-Hasani

SANAA, April 10 — The Yemeni Journalists Syndicate its concern by what it sees as increasing violations against journalists. In a statement issued Tuesday, the syndicate said it received complaints from several journalists who experienced threats while on the job.

Last Tuesday, Hosam Ashor, an employee in Al-Neda'a Newspaper and a radio broadcaster, was sentenced to three months imprisonment and fined \$1,500 for an article he published, accusing a public official of corruption and misuse of government funds. Ashor was found guilty of libel, but the sentence has been suspended.

Ashor published a report in Al-Neda Newspaper on May 3 in which he criticized Faiza Faraj Thabet, the head of the Reconstruction Fund—a government organization which has been tasked with repairing flood damages in Hadramout—for wasting millions of riyals.

"Malicious accusations were directed against me to prevent me from writing about corruption cases," Ashor said. "My story didn't contain any abuse but was a clear complaint, written by a patriotic citizen."

Ashor told the Yemen Times that the sources and documents he used to write his report were "100 percent true."

In the most current index compiled by Reporters Without Borders, Yemen ranked 167 in a list of 179 countries, in terms of global freedoms for journalists. Yemen



was described as one of the most dangerous countries for journalists. In 2012, there were 135 reported cases of abuse against journalists in Yemen.

Ashraf Arifi, a human rights activist and journalist, called Ashor's case a "direct attack" against all media professionals. This trial is meant as a "warning message" to journalists to not publish articles about corruption in Yemen, Arifi said.

Mohammad Al-Odaini, the head of the Rights Protection and Freedom for Journalism Center, also condemned Ashor's trial.

In related news, Mohammad A'ysh, editor-in-chief of Al-Ola daily newspaper, said this past week he received more than 30 threatening messages on his cell phone, sent from local and international numbers. Someone wrote they would cut off of his hands and tongue in response to different articles that were published, A'ysh said.

Arifi said it may feel like Yemenis are experiencing more freedoms post-revolution. But journalists are still threatened regularly, he said, "even with the openness we live these days."

## After car chase, YR30 million recovered in Aden robbery



After an armed robbery in Aden, exchange companies nationwide have intensified security measures.

### Nasser Al-Sakkaf

ADEN, April 10 — Security authorities in Aden recovered YR30 million, about \$140,000, that was stolen from an Al-Kuraimi Exchange Company, car that was allegedly robbed by an armed group of men as the company left a bank on Monday.

The company's car was transporting YR50 million, about \$232,558, when the armed men opened fire on the vehicle and stole the entire YR50 million, leaving one exchange employee injured,

according to Omar bin Hulais, a security spokesperson in Aden.

Security forces were alerted at around 12 p.m. and after a six-hour long search, the men were spotted driving a Hilux car. After a brief chase the suspects fled the car, taking YR20 million with them.

The perpetrators are still at large, Hulais said.

Aden has recently been the site of much instability due to Southern movement protests and assassination attempts. Investors say it is becoming harder to launch

projects or move their capital from one place to another.

Two months ago, an armed group of men stole \$186,046 after stopping a car from the Bin Awadh Exchange Company.

Hulais said exchange companies should inform security before moving money from one place to another.

Yasser Sifian, the manager of Al-Kuraimi Exchange Company in Sana'a, confirmed the amount of money stolen on Monday but decline to give any further comment.

## The Ministry of Education takes stand on cheating in schools



Teachers sometimes accept money from students in exchange for allowing them to cheat.

### Nasser Al-Sakkaf

SANAA, April 10 - On Sunday, the Ministry of Education unveiled new procedures to combat the widespread practice of cheating in high schools across the country. The new set of academic standards will go into effect for the coming final exams, which are held in June.

Shukri Al-Hanani, the examinations general manager at the Education Ministry, said these procedures include providing different versions of exam sheets in every hall and cracking down on those caught cheating.

Cheating is a huge problem in

schools all over the country, Mohammed Al-Rumaim a teacher from Taiz said. Some of the students think that "it is their right to cheat."

But it's not just the students who are violating academic codes.

Some teachers accept bribes from students who ask to carry answers into the exams, Al-Rumaim said.

Al-Hanani said new penalties will be administered for anyone who commits violations—including students, supervisors, or even the heads of the examination centers—but did not say what those penalties would be.

Some students have attacked their teachers if they don't allow them to cheat or copy answers from one another. Last year, examination halls in the Al-Kakiri School in Taiz were shut down because of violations, Jamal Saeed, a teacher in the school, said.

Al-Rumaim said cheating is especially prevalent in rural areas, where schools may be underfunded.

As long as the heads of the examination centers are accepting bribes, Saeed predicted, it will be impossible to implement any new rules. The cheating will continue, he said.

## NDC Update

- After a week-long recess, the conference's participants will convene on Saturday in their nine smaller working groups.
- President Abdu Rabu Mansour Hadi is working on replacing the names of at least five National Dialogue Conference's participants such as Noble Peace Prize Winner Tawakkol Karman and member of Parliament Ahmed Saif Hashid who declined to participate in the conference. Names will be made public on Saturday.
- After failed negotiations between the Islah and Houthis leaders about who will head the Sa'ada working group, President Hadi said he will announce the group's leader by Saturday.
- Former Prime Minister of the South Haidar Al-Attas, a Hirak leader abroad, announced he will join the conference.
- This week NDC briefs will be broadcasted on all state-run and private television stations explaining NDC processes to the public.
- An NDC mass communication awareness campaign will start next week. It will disseminate information to religious leaders and teachers about the NDC, who are expected to in turn do their own outreach.



## Elections authority short on money and time to prepare for 2014 voting

Mohammed Al-Hasani

SANA'A, April 10 - The Supreme Commission of Elections and Referendum (SCER) said preparations for the country's new electronic voter database registry are facing speed bumps.

The Commission announced setbacks like a delay in the release of funds for the project and a limited time frame for implementation at a meeting recently with representatives from Parliament and the United Nations Special Envoy to Yemen, Jamal Benomar.

The new system, which was stipulated by the Gulf Cooperation Council's Initiative as part of Yemen's transitional process to pave the way for presidential and parliamentary elections in early 2014, has to transfer the already 3 million registered Yemenis to a central digital file. With the support of the United Nations Development Fund (UNDP), the estimated \$23 million project will include thumb-print machines to identify voters.

Abdulla Sabri, a leading figure in the Joint Meeting Parties (JMP), said the old registry, which relied on manually thumb printing everyone in large books, was marred by forgery and mistakes. It allowed room for people to vote more than once in different governorates as it was not centrally tracked.

Many are afraid this overhaul will not be ready by its December deadline.

"I think the time is not enough," said Dr. Nabeel Al-sharjabi a political science professor at Hodeida University.



Voters are supposed to be able to electronically register for Yemen's national elections slated for February 2014 but the move from paper registry is facing challenges.

Abdulmunem Al-Eryani, the head of the media department at the SCER, said the Yemeni government is in charge of training system operators and creating regulatory committees, a task they are having trouble funding.

The UNDP and European Union will be paying for the new computers but SCER is in charge of finding Yemeni companies to commission the project. They will be opening bids for the project on April 17.

## Activists stage protest in solidarity with kidnapped foreigners in Yemen

Rammah Al-Jubari

SANA'A, April 10 - On Monday, over 20 protesters—including members of Activists for the Sake of Yemen and other organizations—gathered outside of the European Union Mission office for the second week in a row. They carried signs and chanted, expressing their opposition to the practice of kidnapping foreigner tourists and students, a tactic that Yemeni tribes and Al-Qaeda groups have used to extort money from the government.

These kidnappings, the protesters said in a released statement, reflect neither the values of Yemeni culture nor Islam. Foreigners should be treated as honored guests, the protesters said.

The activists said they are lobbying the government and the concerned authorities to step in and work towards the release of the detainees and return them to their home countries. The protesters called on officials from the Interior Ministry to resign if they are incapable of freeing the hostages.

Arwa Othman, a human rights activist and a member of the National Dialogue Conference was at the demonstration on Monday.

"[These kidnappings] distort Yemen's image and defame all Yemenis," Othman said.

Yemenis should be known for other characteristics, like being "humble and wise," she said.

Yemen has seen a number of kidnappings carried out by both armed tribes and Al-Qaeda forces, in which foreigners have been used as hostages to extort money.

Yemen's recent spate of kidnappings—coupled with the uprising of 2011—has caused the country's tourism industry to take a huge hit, Fatima Al-Huraibi, the executive manager of the Promotion Council of the Ministry of Tourism, said.



Protestors say the kidnappings are ruining chances of Yemen's tourism industry from ever recovering.

Yemen is home to many historic sites, Al-Huraibi said, and should be a tourist destination, but terrorist operations and other violence stand as barriers to travel.

Socotra is one of the few places that tourists feel safe still, Al-Huraibi said, as there have been no kidnappings or suicide attacks reported on the remote archipelago in the Indian Ocean.

Sheikh Talib bin Darkam, a tribal leader from the northern gov-

ernorate of Marib—where many kidnappings have taken place—said he's opposed to kidnapping.

Darkam condemned the government for meeting the demands of the kidnappers, which he said will "encourage them to carry out further abductions in order to gain more money."

The Austrian Dominik Neubauer and a Finnish couple were abducted three months ago from the center of the capital city. Their whereabouts remain unknown. A video surfaced last month of Neubauer in which he begs his country and the Yemeni government to rescue him. He said he would be killed within a week if his kidnappers' demands were not met.

### نادي ضباط الشرطة

### Police Officers Club

**يفتح ابوابه للجميع**  
Opens its doors for all

- استعداد تام للحضرات الداخلية والخارجية
- تقديم أفضل وأشهى المأكولات البينية - الشرقية - الغربية
- تقديم خاص لخدمة زبائن WiFi
- مراسم وبروتوكولات دولية
- قاعة خاصة لكبرى الضيوف ورجال الأعمال
- قاعة خاصة لعائلات
- منحبه شهي بمواصفات خاصة
- صالة رياضية خاصة للتدريب البدني عاليه المواصفات
- نادي صحي متكامل
- كادر تدريبي عالي المستوى
- تم توفير خدمة الواي فاي

**رياضة وترفيه**  
Sports and entertainment

**اعلان**

**نحتاج اخصائي علاج طبيعي**  
مع خبرة في مجال الاسعافات الأولية  
للعمل في قسم العلاج الطبيعي لفترة محدودة

**استضافة المناسبات والحفلات**  
Hosting occasions and parties

**قاعة خاصة للمؤتمرات والفعاليات**  
Special hall for conferences and festivals

**مساحات خضراء خاصة بالعائلات**  
Small Parks for Families

- Full services for inside and outside parties
- Provides the best and the most delicious Yemeni, Ezbeki and International food
- Special team dedicated for VIPs
- International occasions and parties
- Special hall for VIPs
- Special hall for families
- Water pool
- Special gym for physiotherapy
- Full equipped sports facilities
- Coffee shop
- Wireless services

صندوق - شارع كلية الشرطة  
الإستعلامات: 01 2412340  
تليفونكس: 01 517108  
Sana'a - Police Academy Street  
For more information, call 012412340  
Fax: 01517108  
www.policlub-ya.com  
info@policlub-ya.com

## Chicago USA

The windy city of soul  
Commencing 10th of April 2013.

Feel the heartbeat of the city as you enjoy legendary jazz clubs and inviting restaurants. With its scenic lakeside location, world-class cultural offerings and the famous Route 66, every journey will enrich you. Fly to Chicago with Qatar Airways and experience award-winning service with the World's Best Airline.

For more information or promotional offers, please visit [qatarairways.com](http://qatarairways.com)

World's 5-star airline

**QATAR AIRWAYS**

# Turkish public diplomacy faces challenge in Yemen

**Pinar Tremblay**  
Al-monitor.com  
First Published March 27

**D**id you know Yemeni Kurds support Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan's peace efforts with the Kurdistan Workers Party? The March 6 tweets from Yasin Aktay, a prominent pro-Justice and Development Party (AKP) pundit, say they do.

Aktay was in Yemen on a diplomatic trip when he tweeted that Yemeni Kurds yearn for Turkey as their "motherland" and that they advise Turkish Kurds to stand by Erdogan, "wherever he is standing." Reading Aktay's tweets and their baffled replies, I could not help but wonder what Turks are doing in Yemen.

Although I prefer to refrain from using the tainted term "neo-Ottomanism" when talking about Yemeni-Turkish relations of the last decade, rhetoric about "shared history and culture" generally masks the Turkish presence in Yemen. Indeed, from a scholarly perspective, there is plenty of naïve and idealistic rhetoric, but little rational explanation, in the framing of Turkish relations with Yemen. Much of the blame falls on the inept and amateurish style of Public Diplomacy Office in Ankara — neo-Ottoman diplomacy.

In the last decade, the AKP's "here and there" activism, especially (but not exclusively) in former Ottoman lands, has kept bureaucrats on their toes. Yemen today seems to have little friction between career diplomats and AKP's youth activists and party-nominated "advisers." Every day a flock of Turkish academics, journalists and pundits tweet their "hug a Yemeni, buy a jambiya" photos from Sana'a. Quarrels have erupted on social media over whether chewing qat is halal.

Just a quick look at trade data shows that Turkey barely imports anything from Yemen, but Turkish exports to Yemen have doubled since 2009 — more than Turkey's exports to Bahrain, Kuwait or Oman. Since 2008, Turkish aid to Yemen has been quite intense. The Turkish Cooperation and International Development Agency, which opened a coordination office in Sana'a in June 2012, has been active in coordinating aid in the health, education and transporta-

tion fields. There have been high-level visits since 2010, including the January 2011 visit of President Abdullah Gul, the October 2012 visit of Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu and the February 2013 visit of intelligence head Hakan Fidan to Sana'a. Yemen has a Turkish school, and Turkey extends scholarships for college students to study in Turkey. Turkey has promised financial aid, and Kimse Yok Mu and other Turkish NGOs have delivered food to Yemen.

But not all Yemenis appreci-

ate these Turkish efforts. Indeed, a group of parliamentarians asked the Yemeni government to sever diplomatic relations with Turkey in December 2012. When events cannot be verified through independent sources, rumors spread. The Middle East, where even the simplest government matters are shielded behind a veil of secrecy, provides fertile ground for conspiracy theories. Successful public diplomacy should minimize unwarranted doubts and rumors.

Yemen is a poor, war-torn coun-

try with strong tribal influence over its politics. Yemen has experienced a somewhat successful wave of revolution and a change in government, but it continues to face its hardest struggles, with poverty and terror networks, particularly Al-Qaeda. The Yemeni revolution did not quite make the same emotional headlines in Turkey as those in Tunisia, Egypt or Syria.

The AKP government hasn't been vocal about the most notorious Yemeni security concerns, such as Al-Qaeda's networks, U.S. drone

Foreign Ministry denied any government involvement. In November 2012, another weapons shipment was discovered in Aden. The ship had been loaded with guns in the Turkish port of Mersin. The Turkish government has denied any involvement, and no charges have yet been pressed against any individuals or companies.

As there have been several targeted killings in Yemen, Kifah, a Yemeni NGO established to combat terrorism, has demanded that the Turkish government release the names of individuals responsible for the weapons. If the names are not released, Kifah has threatened to petition the International Criminal Court to prosecute the Turkish government. Their concern is not just over the weapons shipment, but also that these Turkish weapons have been used in assassinations. These are serious charges.

Vivian Salama explains the rifts in Yemen eloquently. Three main groups could be the recipients of these weapons. The first two are the Houthis Shia rebels and the Southern separatist movement, Hiraq. Both the Houthis and Hiraq are known to have good relations with Iran. The third is a prominent businessman, Hamid Al-Ahmar, also a leading member of the Islah party, the Yemeni Muslim Brotherhood. Islah is known to have good relations with Turkey's ruling party. While Islah members blame Iran for the weapons flow, other groups point to Turkey. Kifah has blamed Turkey for providing the weapons, but also accuses Iran and the United States of trying to further destabilize Yemen.

The Yemeni issue in Turkey's foreign policy supports the argument that the spotless reputation of the neo-Ottomans is a myth. Turkey's involvement in several countries has gone beyond the calculations of the Turkish state, and coordination efforts have fallen behind the passionate activities of the NGOs, businessmen and even newly created government agencies. Turkish public diplomacy has a lot of catching up to do to generate a positive image of Turkey among Yemenis. The moral clarity of neo-Ottomanist public relations leads to strategic folly, despite Turkey's sincere humanitarian efforts in Yemen. Indeed, Turkish public diplomacy resembles the Yemeni Kurds of Aktay's tweets. Yes, it exists, but its effectiveness is questionable to say the least.

## YT vision statement



**"To make Yemen a good world citizen."**

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



## OUR OPINION

### An army out of control

**T**he last safety line of any country is its army. Egypt's army was the sole entity that ushered the country out of 2011's political and social tensions. If it wasn't for the army's involvement, no one knows how the Egyptian revolution would have turned out.

Syria is also an example of how an army can play a significant role in building or destroying a country. Now there are two armies in Syria. Each one is being fed weapons and men to fight the bloody battles that have killed an estimated 70,000 people. Although, this United Nations figure remains controversial and some question whether it is politically motivated.

In Yemen, the single most visible example of a safety line during our version of the Arab Spring was when the First Armored Division sided with protestors and worked to protect them by creating a defense line around Change Square, the pro-revolution hub.

More recently, President Abdu Rabu Mansour Hadi began a national inspection of various army units to determine the actual size of Yemen's army and its level of preparedness. The results were not surprising. He discovered more than one third of the army listed on paper does not exist in real life.

However, the problem today is more than just an inaccurate number of soldiers. The way the army has been managed for the past three decades is a matter of tribal and personal loyalty. A chain of command, which is the backbone of any military institution, doesn't exist in Yemen. For example, soldiers in a particular unit would answer to a commander in another unit or even a tribal sheikh instead of their direct commander. Moreover, the ranks are not based on merit. This has caused a lot of resentment especially among those who have served a long time and have not been promoted because they do have connections with anyone in power.

With the army's new structure, the old balance of commanders and soldiers has been shaken. Hadi theoretically removed Ahmed Ali as the head of the Republican Guards and Ali Muhsin from the First Armored Division. Some of the military units in the Republican Guards refused to even allow their newly-appointed commanders to enter their camps. Others simply refuse to obey their commands.

Having at least two army units of at least 7,000 soldiers without a commander is very dangerous. Soldiers left to their own devices could easily create havoc. A lack of loyalty and lots of weapons are a lethal combination.

It's difficult to change a system that took 30 years to build overnight, but we cannot afford a situation of chaos. Yemen simply cannot take another hit on the head.

**Nadia Al-Sakkaf**

# Saudi can play a role in building a stronger Yemen

**Thenational.ae**  
First Published April 8

**S**audi Arabia deported about 20,000 Yemenis in just a few weeks before suspending on Saturday the expulsion of all expatriates who lack the proper up-to-date paperwork. Now foreigners have three months to get their papers in order.

After that, up to 300,000 Yemenis, plus an unknown number of Indians, Pakistanis

and others, face deportation. The Yemeni and Indian governments have expressed concern.

The official about-face came amid employer complaints about sudden labor shortages. Between deportations and workers going into hiding, staffing at the port of Jeddah, for example, reportedly fell by 80 percent.

The clumsy haste of implementation is unfortunate, but the Saudi action supports a legitimate national goal - cutting the jobless rate, officially 12.2

percent but believed to be much higher among young people. The deportation plan dovetails with other Saudization efforts, a series of measures that have been given steadily greater emphasis recently.

However, the kingdom also has an important national interest in managing relations with Yemen, its neighbor along a border that runs for 1,800km. Remittances from Yemenis in Saudi Arabia - totaling about \$2 billion last year - are a vital source of income for Yemen,

whose 25 million people are the poorest in the Mena region and among the poorest in the world.

Yemen's tangled politics and lack of unity contribute directly to that poverty. Unfortunately, the region has not always promoted policies that will improve Yemen's standing. Saudi can lead the way in changing this.

A strong, unified Yemen will only emerge when its economy is mature enough to attract long-term outside investment. Though Yemen's political stability has improved

since its former strongmen, Ali Abdullah Saleh, stepped down last year, and its economy has shown signs of a rebound, foreign funds are still desperately needed.

At present, Saudi subsidies, paid directly to tribal and factional leaders, are estimated at up to \$4 billion annually - double the amount of remittances, and so a source of considerable influence. What Yemen needs more than handouts, however, are investments in sectors such as manufacturing and energy that

will create jobs, and foster stability. Saudi's industries could play a major role in that investment.

The expulsion from Saudi Arabia of hundreds of thousands of Yemeni workers, most of whom will be hard-pressed to find jobs at home, could hurt Yemen, economically or politically. The Saudis, then, must find a way to reconcile two competing national interests: improving the domestic job situation and keeping Yemen from tipping any further towards unmanaged chaos, or division.

**YEMEN TIMES**  
www.yementimes.com

First Political English Newspaper in Yemen. Founded in 1991 by Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf

Tel: +967 (1) 268-661

Fax: +967 (1) 268-276

P.O. Box 2579, Sana'a, Yemen

Letters: ytreaders.view@gmail.com

**ADVERTISEMENTS:**

Tel: +967 (1) 510306

Email: adsyemen@yahoo.com

**Publisher & Editor-in-Chief**  
Nadia Abdulaziz Al-Sakkaf

**Senior Reporter**  
Mohammed bin Sallam

#### Editorial Staff

Amal Al-Yarisi  
amal.mansoor12@gmail.com

Amira Nasser  
amira.nasser2010@gmail.com

**CEO**  
Khair Aldin Al Nsour

**Managing Editor Assistant**  
Sadeq Al-Wesabi  
sadeqalwesabi@hotmail.com

Bassam Al-Khamiri  
bassam.alkhameri@gmail.com

Khalid Al-Karimi  
khalidmohamada@yahoo.com

**Head of Design Dept.**  
Ramzy Alawi Al-Saqqaf

Samar Qaed  
samar.qaed@hotmail.com

Sam Kestenbaum  
kestbaum.yt@gmail.com

#### Offices

**Taiz Bureau:**  
Imad Ahmed Al-Saqqaf  
Tel: +967 (4) 217-156,  
Telefax: +967 (4) 217157  
P.O.Box: 5086, Taiz  
Email: yttaiz@y.net.ye

#### Subscriptions

For subscription rates and related information please contact Majdi Al-Saqqaf. Subscription and Distribution Manager, on 268661/2 ext 204 or mobile: 711998995, email: majdi\_saqqaf@yahoo.com

#### Policies:

- All opinion articles that have not been written by Yemen Times staff on the Opinion, Op-Ed and Youth pages do not necessarily represent the newspaper's opinion and hence YT could not be held accountable for their consequences.  
- Letters to the Editor must include your name, mailing address, or email address. The editor reserves the right to edit all submissions for clarity, style, and length.  
- Submissions will not be returned to the writer under any circumstance.  
- For information on advertising, contact the advertising department at any of the Yemen Times' offices

# Poor electricity cables in Hodeida leave one child dead

Story and photo by  
**Ali Ibrahim Al-Moshki**

HODEIDA, April 10 — Yemen's Public Electricity Corporation announced on Monday that they would be mounting a nationwide campaign to repair worn-out electrical cables.

This decision came following the death of nine-year-old Bakr Khalid Mohammad Salem, who was electrocuted to death after power cables fell on him in Al-Khokha district of Hodeida last Thursday.

Protests spread after the boy's death, Abdulrahman Hajar, deputy director of Hodeida branch of the Public Electricity Corporation said.

In comparison to other Yemeni governorates, Hodeida has the largest number of dilapidated power lines, Hajar said. They were installed 15 years ago and

have received little maintenance since then.

Engineer Harith Al-Omari, the deputy of Yemen's Public Electricity Corporation, told the Yemen Times that repairing the electrical infrastructure in Hodeida would cost \$92 million. About \$500 million have been allocated to improve electricity wires nationwide, Al-Omari said. The repairs will start in Sana'a, Aden, Hodeida and Taiz as these are the most populous governorates. Within those regions, neighborhoods are selected for development based on their population density.

The campaign had been in the works before the death of the Salem, but the young boy's death has made the problem of decaying electrical infrastructure more urgent.

Al-Omari said Yemen's Ministry of Electricity and Energy

is working with the Ministry of Planning and International Corporation, discussing the possibility of allocating funds to repair the electricity system out of the grants provided by the Friends of Yemen Conference, which took place in London last month.

"We started repairing electricity networks in the governorates at the beginning of 2013," Khalid Al-Ademi, Director of the Technical Department and Distribution at the Electricity Corporation in Hodeida, said.

"We finished working in two neighborhoods, such as Aloqia neighborhood, and established new transformers, wires and high and low pressure cables."

"There are seven electricity stations in Hodeida, and we will add nine other stations, each producing 20 megawatts of electricity."



# Fewer rape crimes this year than last

Mohammed Al-Hasani

SANA'A, April 10 — Fewer rapes occurred in 2012 than the year before, the Ministry of Interior reported. Rape crimes have decreased by around seven percent, meaning there were ten fewer reported instances of rape this past year than in 2011.

Mohammed Al-Maweri, the spokesman for the ministry, said their statistics were compiled based on several security reports provided by police stations in Sana'a and other governorates.

The report pointed out these crimes took place in 70 districts and 18 governorates throughout

the country. Twenty-nine of these crimes happened in Hodeida, 28 in Sana'a, 16 in Taiz and the rest took place in other governorates. There were no reported rape crimes that happened in Abyan, Raima and Sa'ada governorate.

Belquis Al-Lahbi, a human rights activist, said she is skeptical about the findings of the report.

"I don't think there has been a reduction in rape crimes," she said.

"We [have to] take into consideration that many people don't inform the security authorities about rape," she said. There is a general distrust of authori-

ties and the judicial process, she said.

"How could the number of crimes be fewer? The situation is the same, the security and judiciary authorities were—and still are—in a bad condition," she said. "The media presents rape crimes as scandals [or] entertainment, instead of looking for solutions."


Dr. Faten Abdu Mohammed, a professor of psychology at Sana'a University sees this drop in the number of instances of rape as a positive outcome of the revolution which began in 2011.

"These statistics indicate that the Yemeni youth have devel-

oped their way of thinking," she said. "In spite of the difficult political and economic situations, they are [now] more aware of their social responsibilities."

The Ministry of Interior found that there were 145 reported cases of rape in 2011. In 2012, that number dropped to 135. Victims this year included 104 minors and in 130 of those 135 cases of rape, it was reported that the perpetrators were caught. The punishment for rape in Yemen can vary. According to Article 269 of the Yemeni penal code, the perpetrator can serve anywhere from two to 15 years in prison.





**Jannah Hunt Oil Company (JHOC) is currently recruiting for the position of**

## Instrument Technician

**LOCATION:**  
Field – 28/28.

**JOB SUMMARY:**  
Responsible for the instrumentation maintenance and repair of all JHOC instruments, meters, and gauges.

**MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- Responsible for the repair and maintenance of meters, relief valves, pneumatic and electronic controls, level controllers, pressure controllers, and temperature controllers.
- Assists Lead Instrument Tech with the ordering of spare parts and supplies needed in the repair and maintenance of all instrumentation.
- Must be able to update and read drawings of instrument systems.
- Upload/download diagnostic information from various equipment.
- Assist mechanics and electricians while working in close quarters on various types of equipment.
- Attends monthly safety meetings.

**MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:**

**Experience:**  
Minimum of 5 years Experience in the oil and gas industry.

**Education/Skills:**

- Engineering Degree in Electrical or Instrumentation
- Very good knowledge in English.
- Very good computer skills.
- Must have a general knowledge of PLC, SCADA and data transmission systems and how they interact with the control room drivers.
- Must be able to complete unsupervised work in a professional workman like manner.

IF YOU MEET THE ABOVE REQUIREMENTS PLEASE E-MAIL YOUR CV. TO THE FOLLOWING E-MAIL ADDRESS. PLEASE NOTE WE WILL ONLY ACCEPT CV'S THROUGH E-MAIL SUBMISSION:

[jannahrecruiter@jhocyemen.com](mailto:jannahrecruiter@jhocyemen.com)

ALL CANDIDTES MUST BE YEMENI NATIONALS – DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING YOUR CV. FOR THIS POSITION IS **April 25, 2013**  
ONLY SHORTLISTED CANDIDATES WILL BE INTERVIEWED.

## Sana'a Water and Sanitation Local Corporation

### Project Management Unit (PMU) Sana'a Sanitation Networks Project

**SELECTION OF CONSULTANTS  
REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST**

**THE CONSTRUCTION OF SANA'A SANITATION NETWORKS PROJECT  
PHASE IV**

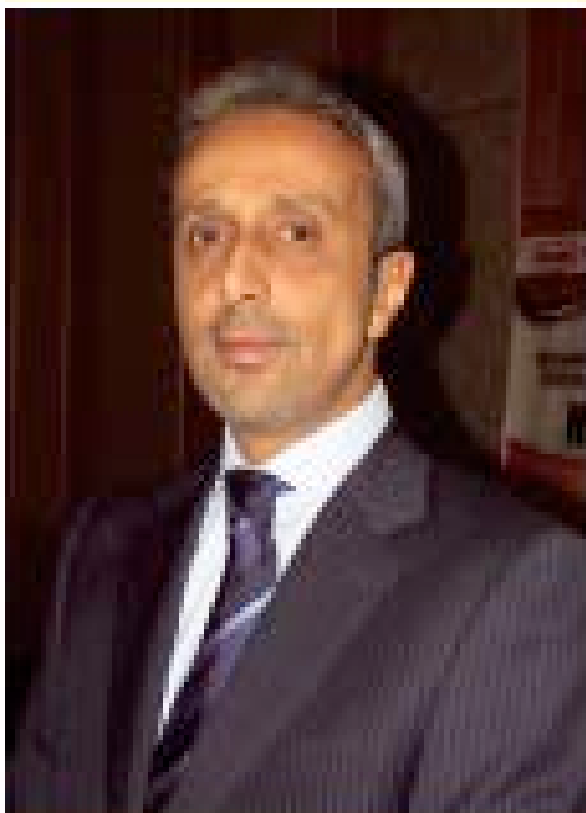
- The Sana'a Water and Sanitation Local Corporation (SWSLC), Project Management Unit (PMU), has received a loan from the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development to finance the implementation the remaining of Sana'a Sanitation Networks Project.
- The services include analyses and evaluation of bids with making recommendations on awarding contracts , in addition to supervision the implementation of contracts for the period (30) months for the following contracts:-
  - Contract No.19 Southern Areas trunk sewer with pump station.
  - Contract No.22 Sanitation Networks for Al sonaina & Asser.
  - Contract No.27 Sanitation Networks for North Al-Rawdah.
  - Contract No.32 Sanitation Networks for Omer Bin Abdulaziz with trunk line.
  - Contract No.31 Sanitation Networks for Thahban.
  - Contract No.35 Sanitation Networks for Areas ( Al-Nahadah, Al-lowaz and Residential city officers,.....)
  - Other Areas.
- The SWSLC-PMU now invites eligible consultants to indicate their interest in providing the services mentioned above. Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services(brochures, descriptin of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions,availability of appropriate skills among staff,etc.) Consultants may associate (J.V) to enhance their qualification.
- Aqualified consultant will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the high tender board's manual for the procurement of Consultants Services.
- Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below:
- The documents must be submitted for the Construction of Sana'a Sanitatin Network Project-Phase IV' also the name of company and address including Tel. and Fax No. should be stated clear.The documents will not be accepted under any circumstances later than date11/5/2013at 12:00 noon local time

**Sana'a Water and Sanitation Local Corporation  
Eng. Ibrahim Al-Mahdi  
General Maneger  
Al-Itha'a Street – near Ministry of Health  
Tel. +967 1 250162  
Fax. +967 1 250174**

# Veedol ENGINE OIL IN YEMENI MARKETS

## Partnership between Tehama Trading Company and Tidewater Petroleum

**تَهَامَا**  
**Tehama**



**Mr. Omar Thabet**  
General Manager  
Tehama Trading Company

On behalf of Tehama Trading Company I would like to thank all the participants for their valuable presence during the launch of Veedol product. Being one of the leading engineering houses, TEHAMA is pleased to have launched a world leading oil brand "Veedol" in ROY. I am sure with the addition of VEEDOL product we will be able to further strengthen our Product support services. With the Supply & Chain network in place, we want to assure all our customers a better and faster delivery of all Veedol products across Republic of Yemen.

**Mr. S. Ramesh**  
General Manager  
Tehama Trading Company



We would like to express our happiness and pride in this partnership with Veedol giant company the international trademark for lubricants for more than a century. Our choice of such quality products is not new in Yemen because we in Tehama Trading are providing our clients with the best services and products and have a wide base of customers and trusted agents in the fuel and diesel engine sector. We also have a wide net-work of branches and agents in Hodeidah, Sana'a, Mukalla, Aden and Taiz in order to spread this great product and provide our customers with best services around the country. I would like to thank everyone for coming to celebrate this new success and continue to provide delivering the best

**Our choice of such quality products is not new in Yemen**

### THE PROFESSIONAL'S CHOICE



The oil companies rely on and high quality engine oil for their vehicles in Tehama Trading Company for several years. We are pleased to have launched this world leading engine oil which is available in all major cities in Yemen.



**Mr. Fadhl M.A. Thabet**  
Star Cement Co. L.L.C.

### Message from Mr. Fadhl Thabet CEO Star Cements Yemen Operation

At the outset I would like to thank TEHAMA management for inviting me to the auspicious launch of VEEDOL lubricants in Republic of Yemen and the hospitality extended to me and all the participants during the launch program. Being in the business of engineering products for the past 4 decades, I am sure addition of VEEDOL products will enhance TEHAMA's Product Support Services further. We at Star Cement wish Tehama a great success and are confident that Tehama will endure all their effort to continue their good services to all the customers in ROY.

**تَهَامَا**  
**Tehama Trading**

**Tehama Trading Co., Aden, Hodeidah, Mukalla, Sana'a, Taiz**

Tel: +967 5 224404 (Aden) AL+967 71 1194101 Fax: +967 5 224405 Web: www.tehama.com.ye Email: tehad@tehama.com.ye

# Facebook users assume new identities online

Story and photos by **Ali Abulhoon**

About 15 percent of Yemen's population—around 3,600,000 people—have access to the Internet and 600,000 of them are Facebook users, according to Socialbackers, a website specializing in social media analytics. Facebook was founded in 2005 and is used by over one billion people worldwide. Users agree it's a free and easy way to stay connected with friends and maybe make new ones.

But not all Yemenis on Facebook

are who they say they are.

Because of social stigmas, some Yemenis, including many women, public figures and activists, choose instead to register with fake profile pictures and usernames, allowing for a freedom of self-expression they might not have otherwise.

Facebook has become a site where people are able to create new online identities, Dr. Amal Hussein, from the Center of Human Psychology in Sana'a, says, and—at least temporarily—feel like someone else.

### Women

In Yemeni society, where few women step outside of the home without

covering their bodies and faces with abayas and sometimes the niqab, or veil, perhaps it's not surprising that few women are discouraged from posting pictures of themselves online.

"I have a very conservative family. [They] hardly accepted me being enrolled in university," Fatima Al-Jabri, a 21-year-old student at Sana'a University, says. "What would happen if they knew I had a Facebook account, [and was] chatting with young men and strangers?"

Al-Jabri keeps her Facebook use a secret from her family and doesn't post any pictures of herself. Very

few of her friends have the courage to use their real names online, she says.

### Public figures and professionals

Kamal Ali, a Yemeni actor from Sana'a, has two Facebook accounts—one he uses professionally and the other he uses to express his private thoughts, what "is hidden inside," he says.

"As an actor in Yemen, I am supposed to behave in a way that keeps my personality respected by my fans," he says. "I can't chat and date girls."

That's what his second account is



Young Yemeni men spend hours a day browsing their facebook accounts at local cafes.



People will have two facebook accounts, one for their 'true' selves and one for the rest of the world.

for.

Mohammed Mahdi, an employee at Al-Thoura newspaper, said he uses a different profile picture and username on Facebook so that he can vent frustrations about his manager at work, who he calls "arrogant" and "unjust." In person, he would never say these things, but online he can insult as much as he wants.

### Blasphemy

Article 259 of the Yemeni criminal code states that anyone who "denounces the religion of Islam, will receive the death penalty after being asked to repent three times and after having received a respite of 30 days."

After Ali Al-Saidi posted some of his writings—analysis of Quranic verse—on his Facebook page, there was public outrage. He was called an "infidel" and brought to court.

Something similar happened to Bushra Al-Maqtari, the Yemeni activist—and recipient of the Francoid Giraud Peace and Global Awareness

Prize—who played a prominent role in the 2011 revolution.

"God is not in Khadar," Maqtari wrote on Facebook, referring to the town on the outskirts of Sana'a where revolutionaries were attacked by state forces during the revolution. A campaign was launched against her. People who had previously been in support of the activist turned against her, calling her "blasphemous" because she implied that God was not omnipotent.

Both Maqtari and Al-Saidi were using their real names online. Sam Sa'ad, a writer and activist from Sana'a, decided he would stay anonymous to better express his ideas about God, destiny and the role of religion in society, he says.

Yemeni society, which he described as conservative, would not accept his ideas if he expressed them openly.

"I have some ideas that can't be revealed in such a backward society," he says. "I use a fake profile and share them with the kind of people who respect the way I think."



World Health Organization

## VACANCY NOTICE NO06/2012

**TITLE:** Driver  
**GRADE:** G-2  
**OFFICIAL STATION (COUNTRY):** Yemen-Sana'a  
**ORGANIZATIONAL:** Regional Office for the Eastern Mediterranean (EMRO)  
**LOCATION/UNIT:** Office of the WHO Representative,

**OBJECTIVES OF THE PROGRAMME:**  
 To ensure that effective WHO country presence is established to implement WHO country cooperation strategies that are aligned with Member State's health and development agendas, and harmonized with the United Nations country teams.

**THE SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATE WILL:**  
 Under the general supervision of the head of the office and the administrative officer, the incumbent performs administrative support functions as indicated by the requirements and the structure of WRO. He performs the following duties:

- Drives office vehicles for transport of authorized personnel to different destinations, including field visits. Meeting official personnel and visitors at the airport, assisting with basic visa and customs formalities arrangements, as required.
- Delivery/collection and customs clearance of official incoming and outgoing pouches and transportation of documents, hand-delivery of mail, parcels and other heavy items to or from UN Agencies, Ministries, Embassies, Universities, airport, etc.
- Responsible for the day-to-day maintenance of the vehicle, checks fuel, oil, battery, breaks, tyres, etc.. Performs minor repairs and arrange for other repairs, ensures the proper functioning and cleanliness of the vehicle.
- Logs official trips, daily mileage, fuel consumption, oil changes, greasing, etc.
- Procures minor supplies for WR's Office, obtaining invoices for local purchase and arranges to pay office telephone and other bills, as required.
- Performs messengerial services within the office, if needed and perform other related duties.

- Achievement Activities Include:**
- Services rendered in a timely and accurate manner and office car well maintained.
  - Maintaining all the required documents/supplies up to date; including vehicle insurance, license, registration, logs, office directory, first aid kit, and necessary spare parts in the assigned vehicle;
  - Following the steps required by WHO rules and regulations in case of involvement in an accident.

- QUALIFICATIONS REQUIRED:**
- Education equivalent to eight years in school (primary)
  - Must possess a valid professional driving license for light and heavy vehicles.
  - At least five years experience in similar function..
  - Good knowledge of Arabic and English language will be an asset .

Please note that CVs Must be detailed.

**CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATIONS:** 25 April 2013

**APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE MADE IN WRITING (ON FORM WHO 1.2) AND SENT TO:**

World Health Organization, Al Hasaba area,  
 Ministry of Health and Population building  
 PO BOX 543 , Sanaa , Republic of Yemen  
 TEL: 01 252213  
 FAX: 01 251612

ONLY CANDIDATES UNDER SERIOUS CONSIDERATION WILL BE CONTACTED FOR INTERVIEW AND TEST. ANY APPOINTMENT/EXTENSION OF APPOINTMENT IS SUBJECT TO WHO STAFF REGULATIONS, STAFF RULES AND MANUAL.



Over the past 15 years, DNO Yemen AS, with its country headquarters in Sana'a and its Field Operations in the Hadramout Governorate, has played an important role in the onshore Exploration and Production of Oil and Gas in the Republic of Yemen.

## PROCUREMENT & LOGISTICS SUPERVISOR

Sana'a Based

Yemeni Oil Production Operations



Recent organisational changes have created an opportunity for an experienced professional to join our operations in Yemen as a "Procurement & Logistics Supervisor"

Reporting to the General Manager and supported by a team of Logistics & Customs Representatives and warehousemen, the successful candidate will ideally have a minimum of ten years proven international purchasing experience, with at least five years equipment and materials experience of oil and/or gas production operations. Experience with operational logistics would be an added bonus.

If you, in addition to meeting above specification, have been educated to recognized Higher Education standards and can demonstrate superior Microsoft Office IT and English language skills, we would be pleased to hear from you.

### Yemeni Nationals Only

Should you wish to further develop your career within our Supply Chain Operations, please in the first instance, e-mail your resume, along with an introductory letter, detailing why you feel you should be considered for this position to:- careers@dnoyemen.no

Please specify Procurement & Logistics Supervisor in the "Subject" box and attach one integrated MS Word file. Applications with attachments in excess of 1MB in size cannot be accepted. We regret that we can only respond to those applicants who meet the above criteria.

SUPPORTING REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH, POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT IN YEMEN



# VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The UNFPA Country Office in Yemen, Sana'a, is looking to fill the post of:

## Administrative Assistant

Unit: Operations, Post Level: G-5

### 1. Organizational Location

The Assistant position is located in a Country Office (CO). Under the direct supervision of the International Operations Manager and overall guidance of the Representative and Deputy Representative, the Assistant provides administrative and secretarial support, logistical follow up; human resources support by maintaining full confidentiality in all aspects of assignment, maintenance of protocol procedures, information flow and follow up on deadlines and commitments made

### 2. Job Purpose

The incumbent performs senior level administrative, and secretarial support to the Yemen country office in close collaboration with the members of the Operations unit. The incumbent also provides organizational functions of the office in terms of: providing effective communications support to the office; ensure facilitation of knowledge building and management and logistical support.

### 3. Major Activities/Expected Results

- Supports operational requirements of programme/ project inputs under national execution in terms of personnel, sub-contracts, equipment, fellowships, study tours, and other programme and project-related events to facilitate programme/ project delivery.
- Reviews and processes payment requests (raising requisitions) and initiates payment procedures for office and project equipment, supplies and services in a transparent and time-effective manner using Atlas system;
- Supports management of petty cash within office and ensures transparent, accountable and correct transaction as well as provides accurate reporting;
- Contributes to the smooth running of the office by ensuring provision and maintenance of services and supplies following-up processes and maintaining up-to-date inventory and records.
- Supports human resources work, working closely with Admin Associate to ensure timely and transparent recruitment process, management of staff annual leave, visa process, new staff set up, and consultant travels.
- Maintains an office filing system within the respective area of Operations work and assist in archiving, and maintain

up-to-date electronic data file, working closely with Security Focal Point (Local Security Assistant), IT Associate and Admin Associate (staff list, organogram, staff security information, attendance log;

- Undertake logistical administrative and financial arrangements, as per the office needs and in frequent consultation with the IOM;
- Ensure optimal communication flows between the members of the Operations Unit and the IOM and other Units (SROs, and HQs where appropriate) as well as external counterparts, through effective use of written, verbal and electronic communication;
- Perform any other duties, as may be required by the IOM.

### 4. Work Relations

Internal partners include other staff in the office of the UNFPA Yemen Country Office; close collaboration with the Personal Assistant to the Representative, members of the Operations and Programme Unit, RO and HQs to resolve procedural and administrative issues and region specific issues.

External partners include Vendors, other UN agencies, government counterparts, as well as NGOs.

### 5. Job Requirements

#### Knowledge and Experience:

- Completed university degree in Management or any related field.
- 5 years previous experience in secretarial/administrative functions;
- Some experience in research assistance;
- Previous experience in the UN an advantage, and knowledge of protocol;

- Strong interpersonal and organizational skills;
- Computer literacy - Word, Excel, Power-point, etc., and good knowledge of Atlas/PeopleSoft;
- Good writing and communication skills.

#### Required Competencies:

##### Core Competencies:

- Values
- Integrity/Commitment to mandate
- Knowledge sharing/ Continuous learning.
- Valuing diversity
- Managing Relationships
- Working in teams
- Communicating information and ideas
- Conflict and self-management
- Working with people
- Empowerment/Developing people/Performance management
- Personal Leadership and Effectiveness
- Analytical and strategic thinking
- Results orientation/Commitment to excellence

##### Functional competencies:

- Logistical support
- Managing data, documents, correspondence and reports
- Managing information and workflow
- Planning, organizing and multi-tasking
- Job knowledge/technical expertise

##### Languages:

Fluency in English is required. Working knowledge of another official UN language is desirable.

UNFPA offers an attractive compensation package commensurate with experience.

#### ADDRESS:

Please send your application to UNFPA address along with a covering letter including **P11 FORM** which can be downloaded from <http://yemen.unfpa.org/P11.doc>

UNFPA  
Faj Attan behind Alwi al-Salami  
P.O. Box 7272, Sana'a ,

Please note that only short listed candidates will be considered and notified

**Deadline for applications: 19 April 2013**



## "راديو يمن تايمز"

العمل في هذا المشروع في بداية ٢٠١٢، والذي كان تأسيسه من اهم رؤى مؤسس يمن تايمز الراحل، بروفيسور عبد العزيز السقاف. ولذلك سعت نادبة السقاف وهي رئيس تحرير صحيفة يمن تايمز الى تحقيق فكرة البرفسور الراحل، من خلال تأسيس راديو يمن تايمز بمشاركة الكثير من المتطوعين والداعمين ومن امن باهمية الاعلام المستقل ودور الاذاعات المجتمعية. وتعد جزءا من اصواتنا، وهذا الأخير هو برنامج دولي يدعم تأسيس الإذاعات المجتمعية في دول الربيع العربي. حيث يتمحور هذا البرنامج حول العرب الذين سعوا لانه تكون أصواتهم المستقلة مسموعة، بعيدا عن الاحتكارات الحكومية، أو التجارية، بحيث تكون نقطة انطلاق جديدة لكل من يريد الخوض في تجربة الاذاعات المجتمعية المستقلة.

اللغة الانجليزية والعربية والاميين بشكل مباشر والذين وللأسف يشكلون نسبة كبيرة من سكان اليمن. ويسعى ايضا لاجاد فضاءات جديدة لحرية الراي والتعبير في اليمن ومجتمع مدينة صنعاء ليكون منير راديو يمنز تايمز صوت من لا صوت لهم وليعزز مفاهيم الديمقراطية وحرية الراي والتعبير من خلال دوراته برامجية متنوعة تعالج قضايا المرأة والطفل وحقوق الانسان وتدافع عن الحريات من خلال باقة برامجها المتنوعة والتي تخاطب بروح شبابية واجبائية سكان صنعاء واليمن.

#### التأسيس

"راديو يمن تايمز" هو أول إذاعة مجتمعية في صنعاء، حيث بدأ

للإعلام دور كبير ومهم في الدعوة للتغيير السلمي ، ولكن الصراع اعتاد ان يترك اثرا سلبيا واضحا على طابع استقلال الاعلام مما اثر بشكل مباشر على معايير اساسية مثل الحيادية والموضوعية. وهنا يسعى "راديو يمن تايمز" لتعزز من دور مؤسساتها الاعلامية المستقلة لتصل الى كل من لا تصل اليه صحيفة اليمن تايمز لتكون من الاذاعات الرائدة في اليمن على الرغم من عدم وجود قوانين ناظمة لعمل الاذاعات الخاصة في اليمن.

#### اهدافنا

يعمل "راديو يمن تايمز" على طرح للجمهور اليمني وجهة نظر جديدة واعلاما جديدا يعايش قضايا المواطنين الذين يجيدون



راديو يمن تايمز  
كلامك يوصل



<http://facebook.com/RadioYemenTimes>



[WWW.RadioYemenTimes.com](http://WWW.RadioYemenTimes.com)



01 244 226

01 244 227



# Sana'a's shisha vendors introduce electric fumes

Story and photos by Amira Nasser

**N**atheer Al-Duba'i had been a smoker for 25 years, over half of his life. He used to smoke two and a half boxes—around 50 cigarettes—a day. However, eight months ago, he started using an “electronic

shisha,” and gradually was able to give up smoking.

Electronic shisha is unlike the traditional water pipe, used to smoke flavored tobacco in a number of ways—including its shape and dimensions. It's much smaller, about the size of a pen. But the most crucial difference is this shisha is tobacco-free.

“I used to have a chronic mi-

graine and a bad cough at night,” Al-Duba'i said. “People around me were always annoyed by the smell of the cigarettes. I got rid of all these things once I started using the electronic shisha.”

The electronic shisha is sold at smoke shops throughout the capital, and it offers the user an experience something like smoking, as artificial smoke is released after inhaling. There is a light, synthetic flavor. In the shops that sell the mock shisha, sometimes they're advertised as an aid to quit smoking.

But do they really work?

Doctor Mohammed Al-Khawlani, director of the National Anti-Smoking Program at Yemen's Ministry of Health says no. He conducted research—in cooperation with the World Health Organization—looking into the alleged benefits of electronic smoking devices. Their research focused on the electronic cigarette, a similar product—tobacco and nicotine-free—which was allegedly helping people quit their tobacco habit.

“The research indicated that these products do not help people give up smoking, and they are produced by companies looking to make a profit,” he said. In fact, Al-Khawlani found, the synthetic flavors used in the electronic devices may contain “high-risk substances” that could have other adverse affects on the users.

No ministry in Yemen is taking responsibility for monitoring the health risks of the electronic shisha.

“It is not the business of the Ministry of Health to license these products,” Al-Khawlani said. “The ministry sent a memorandum to the Ministry of Trade and Industry to deal with [this issue]. Warnings should be inscribed on the packages.”



A local merchant demonstrates how the synthetic shisha produces artificial smoke.



The Ministry of Health does not regulate the product.



People say electronic shisha has helped them quit smoking.

Khaled Al-Khawlani, the manager of Trade and Industry office in the capital city, said they don't have any records of electronic shisha use. The Yemeni Standardization and Metrology Organization should, he said. But a representative of the Yemeni Standardization and Metrology Organization (YSMO), also said electronic shisha does not fall under their jurisdiction.

Abu Al-Hassan Al-Nehari, director of the Quality Assurance Department at YSMO said because it's not technically a consumable commodity, it is not their business.

Nadeem Al-Ariqi imports electronic shisha models from New Jersey, but they are originally produced in China, he said. Al-Ariqi

started importing the devices eight months ago, he said.

“We don't have any license, either from the Ministry of Public Health or the Trade and Industry Office to sell electronic shisha,” he said. “But the demand for them is increasing.”

Al-Ariqi dismisses concerns about the shishas' potential health risks. “I [would] never sell something that damages people's health,” he said.

Natheer Al-Dubaei smokes the electronic shisha twice a day. He likes the synthetic smoke that comes out of the shisha, and the fact that it's not burning tobacco. This small vial of tobacco can be smoked ten to 15 times, Al-Dubai

said. Salwa, a 25-year old woman, agreed.

“It is light and has excellent flavor as well as an elegant design, she said.”

Electronic shisha costs YR8,000, about \$37, in the shop. The synthetic, flavored tobacco is sold separately. Some shop owners make their own flavors and sell them in unlabeled vials but were unwilling to provide their exact ingredients, viewing this as a trade secret.

Sadam Al-Jaboubi is a vendor in a smoke shop on Sana'a's Hadda Street says he sells around five electronic shishas a week, but says the traditional shisha is still more popular by far.



## EXTERNAL VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT #16/2013

If you are a committed, creative Yemeni professional and are passionate about making a lasting difference for children, the world's leading child rights organization UNICEF would like to hear from you.

**Title of post:** Health & Nutrition Officer  
**Level:** NOA  
**Type of Contract:** Temporary Appointment  
**Duty Station:** Sana'a  
**Duration:** 364 days

### MAIN DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

1. Collects and analyzes data for the Situation Analysis, Nutrition and Health project planning, management, monitoring and evaluation purposes. Analyzes programme implementation reports and evaluates against established programme recommendations and plans of action. Prepares tables, graphs and other statistical data. Reports outcome of analysis and proposes corrective actions.
2. Works directly with local councils, communities and vulnerable groups to implement the related programme interventions. Undertakes ongoing visits to UNICEF project sites, assesses local conditions and resources, and monitors UNICEF inputs. Communicates with local counterpart authorities on project feasibility and effectiveness including monitoring the flow of supply and other non-supply assistance.
3. Undertakes follow-up action on programme implementation activities, contributes to teamwork building, and prepares relevant reports. Drafts changes in programme work plans as required.
4. Attends technical cooperation meetings, prepares notes and undertakes follow-up action and coordination related to programme implementation and monitoring.
5. Assists in identification and selection of technical supplies and equipment.
6. Assists in the preparation of the country programme recommendation by drafting CPSS, PSS and other relevant documentation ensuring accuracy and consistency with established rules and regulations. Maintains the computerized programme system database and submits relevant reports
7. Selects and compiles training and orientation materials for those involved in programme implementation, including donor and media visits.
8. Evaluates and analyzes financial and supply reports to ensure appropriateness of documentation, expenditures are within allotments, data is consistent with PIDB. Reports to the Supervisor and/or Head of Office the outcome of reviews.
9. Drafts relevant sections of reports (required for donors, management, annual reports, etc.)

### MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

**Education:** University degree in Social Sciences, nutrition and/ or health or related technical field.  
**Work Experience:** Two years progressively responsible experience in programme design, administration, monitoring and evaluation or related field.  
**Language:** Fluency in English and Arabic is required.

### COMPETENCIES REQUIRED:

- i) Core Values (Required)
- Commitment
  - Diversity and Inclusion
  - Integrity
- ii) Core Competencies (Required)
- Communication
  - Working with People
  - Drive for Results

### Functional Competencies (Required)

- Formulating Strategies and Concepts
- Analyzing
- Applying Technical Expertise
- Learning and Researching
- Planning and Organizing

If you meet the requirements stated above, please send your application, enclosing comprehensive curriculum vitae, duly completed United Nations Personal History form (which can be downloaded from [www.unicef.org/employ](http://www.unicef.org/employ)) stating telephone number, email address and detailed contact address quoting the vacancy number to: [yemenhr@unicef.org](mailto:yemenhr@unicef.org) not later than **24 APRIL 2013**. Please mention the vacancy number in the subject line of your application. For additional information on UNICEF, please visit our website: [www.unicef.org](http://www.unicef.org)

UNICEF, is committed to diversity and inclusion within its workforce, and encourages qualified female and male candidates, including persons living with disabilities, to apply to become a part of our organisation. UNICEF is a smoke-free environment.

Only short listed candidates will be contacted.



# OXFAM

## INVITATION TO TENDER

### FOR SUPPLY OF VARIOUS HARDWARE MATERIALS, SUBMERSIBLE PUMP WITH GENERATOR AND ACCESSORIES, CONSTRUCTION OF RC WATER TANK AND REHABILITATION OF GENERATOR ROOM, CONSTRUCTION OF RAIN WATER HARVESTING TANKS AND CONCRETE TANK

Oxfam is a development, relief and campaigning organisation dedicated to finding lasting solutions to poverty and suffering around the world. We believe that every human being is entitled to a life of dignity and opportunity; and we work with poor communities, local partner organisations, volunteers, and supporters to help this become a reality. Oxfam's global programme includes three types of intervention – humanitarian response, development work, and campaigning.

Oxfam is inviting competent, professional and well established water engineering contractors' hardware, and submersible pump suppliers to submit bids for the following tenders:

1. TENDER REF: REQ 5051 Supply of various GI pipes in different sizes in Haydan District, Sa'ada
2. TENDER REF: REQ 5192 Supply of various GI pipes and sockets in Sa'ada District
3. TENDER REF: REQ 5190 Construction of RC Tank (Tower) of size 60m3 in Al Jabajeb in Sa'ada District
4. TENDER REF: REQ 5191 Supply of submersible pump with motor and all accessories (control panel, sensor, cable etc) and 120KW diesel generator in Al Jabajeb in Sa'ada District
5. TENDER REF: REQ 5058 Rehabilitation of a generator room, a reinforced concrete tank size 100m3 in Haydan in Sa'ada District.
6. TENDER REF: 5076 Construction of rain water harvesting tank, of capacity of 900m3 in Al Fadel in Hydan District Sa'ada.
7. TENDER REF: 5075 Construction of rain water harvesting tank, of capacity of 600m3 in Jamaa't Ben Fadel in Hydan District Sa'ada.
8. TENDER REF: 5077 Construction of rain water harvesting tank, of capacity of 600m3 in Al Aljaradi Jamaa't Ben Fadel in Hydan District Sa'ada.

Owing to the urgency of the above works suppliers and contractors must be in a position to start work or deliver the required materials within 7 days after contract has been awarded. Penalties will apply on failure to meet the specified deadline.

Applicant details will be recorded and only those applicants who submit the required documentation on time will be accepted as valid submissions to the bidding process. Contractors will be required to submit their bids in sealed envelopes.

### Submission must also include:

- a) Company profile including copies of original documents defining the legal status of the company, trade licence, place of registration and principal place of business.
- b) Evidence of previous experience in similar business carried out in the last one year including the project values.
- c) **MUST** enclose evidence of being tax payer to the government by attaching copies of **Tax compliance** and all relevant business **licence** all must be valid documents.
- d) Details of work in hand and contractual commitments and names address of the clients who may be contracted for further information.
- e) Present capability including the period within which works can be started if awarded the tender.
- f) You may wish to provide any other information in support of the company.

Oxfam reserves the right to accept or reject any part of the entire tender process without assigning any reason for acceptance or rejection.

Full tender documents are available from our offices as below:

1. Oxfam Office in Sana'a around Diplomatic area, Hadda Tel No: 01-444568/9
2. Harad office close to Lylia Dubai Hotel Off Harad Highway Tel No: 07-245420
3. Sa'ada office Tel No: 07-513156.

# Women victimized by Yemeni 'exchange marriages'

Abdulrahman Shamlan  
First Published April 7

Women living in areas of rural Yemen are increasingly losing their say regarding whom they marry as they become caught-up in the widespread phenomenon of 'exchange marriages,' in which money and family ties outweigh romance.

The expression rises from the phenomenon of spouses from two families being traded in what is essentially more of a business arrangement than a traditional marriage, Dr. Abdul-Baqi Shamsan, professor of sociology at Sana'a University, explained.

Shamsan told The Media Line that the main victim of this type of marriage is the woman. "In such exchange marriages, the women are dealt with as commodities by the family's or group's elders, who strip them of their right to choose their life partners," he said.

Poverty and tribal traditions push many people into marrying-off their children this way in order to avoid paying unaffordable high dowries or to strengthen ties between the families involved. But the prospect of these marriages ending in divorce is very high because usually if one couple breaks up, the other would most likely follow suit. Even if they don't, the family-members from the second couple often intervene to end the second union as well.

So when Maha Saleh Al-Kawlani, 25, came home in tears and told her brother Mohammed that her husband Fuad had divorced and but kept their 18-month-old son with him, her family, which considered the divorce to be an act of ultimate disrespect to them, reacted with outrage.

Just a few days after his sister Maha's divorce, Mohammed, seeking to get even with his brother-in-law for dishonoring his family, divorced his wife and Fuad's sister Jamila, keeping their two-year-old daughter with him.

"From the time we got married, the family problems never stopped...Our marriages were dependent upon each other," Mohammed told The Media Line.

Their exchange marriage, which had been arranged by Mohammed's father Saleh Al-Kawlani and his father-in-law three years earlier, according to Shamsan never stood much of a chance because, he said, "exchange marriages are not based on acceptance, love and respect. Whenever one couple doesn't get along and breaks up, the other part of the business deal is that the other couple will likely break up as well."

A similar story exposing the hazards of exchange marriages was told by translator Abdulalam Rajeh, 35, who married his cousin 12 years ago, and in turn, two of his cousins married two of his sisters. Rajeh said his father and uncle arranged their marriages, but nevertheless asked the would-be brides and grooms for their opinions.

"Unfortunately, most of the family problems that my wife and I experienced stemmed from external factors. For instance, if my sister and her husband quarreled, our marriage would be affected," Rajeh recounted.

The father of six, Rajeh said his wife was taken forcibly from him by her father to her father's house more than once after Rajeh's sister went to Rajeh's family's home because of quarrels with her husband.

"Sometimes we had problems and the other couple was adversely affected," he said, adding, "Indeed, problems from the exchange mar-



There are no statistics about exchange marriages, but scholars say the number of instances are much higher in rural areas.

riage sent my marriage to the verge of collapse more than once."

Things became so bad that he divorced his wife four years ago. "But my love for my kids and my wife; and my determination not to break up this family," led him to take her back, he explained to The Media Line.

According to Islamic law, a husband can be re-married to his ex-wife if he divorced her once or twice, but after the third divorce she must first be married to another man in order for her original husband to marry her again. This time, Rajeh said he took no chances, making an agreement with his uncle and brother-in-law that if one couple had problems, this must not have any effect at all on the other couple.

"However, I still feel that my marriage is not based on a firm foundation and is therefore prone to collapse at any time," Rajeh raved. "Though the interference of families in our marriages has significantly decreased since the agreement, it still sometimes comes into play."

Rajeh's wife, 30-year old Shams Ahmed, told The Media Line that, "Exchange marriages simply mean unending problems [usually] resulting from other people's actions which we have nothing to do with."

While there are no statistics on how many people are involved in exchange marriages, Abdulmalik Salah, a sociologist at the Yemen Center for Social Studies and Research Labor, told The Media Line that, "According to our knowledge of Yemeni society, we can say it's a widespread phenomenon in the rural areas, especially in poverty-stricken ones." Such areas constitute around 70 percent of the country." According to Salah, some 60 per cent of couples marrying this way end up divorcing.

Salah said that the factors be-

hind this widespread phenomenon include the harsh economic conditions, the high illiteracy rates among people in the rural areas, and their lack of religious understanding. Exchange marriage is actually prohibited in Islam, so Salah says that some people agree to pay low dowries to each other in order to get around this religious prohibition. For example, what might have been an expected dowry of \$5,000 might instead end up no more than \$100, according to Salah.

Shamsan agreed with Salah, adding that, "Some tribal people adopt this form of marriage in order to strengthen the bonds between their families; or uses it in an attempt to extend their influence." However, he said this often backfires as the relationship between the two groups or tribes involved in the exchange marriage turns sour when because of the divorce of one or both of the couples.

Indeed, Mohammed's father, Saleh Al-Kawlani, told The Media Line that, "The good relationship that I used to share with my cousin Ali turned into animosity after we married our children in an exchange marriage. Now, we don't even say 'Hi' when we cross the road."

Mohammed himself hopes to put the whole experience behind him by marrying again, but stressed he would "never, ever marry or let any members of the family get married in an exchange marriage."

His father agreed, saying, "I should never have arranged such marriages for my children. I had heard a lot about the ill-effects of exchange marriage, but I did not believe them before. I would never accept my children marrying in this way — ever again."

Republished with permission from The Media Line

## صناع القرار للتنمية البشرية

وبالشراكة مع المركز الكندي للتنمية البشرية - كندا - مونتريال - التابع للدكتور إبراهيم الفضي

### يقدمون البرنامج التدريبي

## دبلوم إدارة المستشفيات والمرافق الطبية

### Diploma in Hospitals Management & Medical Facilities

د سامي سمير  
مدير المستشفى اليمني الألماني

أ/ حذيفة العمقي  
مؤسس ورئيس مجلس إدارة صناع القرار للتنمية البشرية

د حسيني الجوشعبي  
المجلس الأعلى للتعليم الطبي جامعة UST

### مع نخبة من الكوادر التدريبية المتميزة

د/ خالد الحجاجي  
مدرّب السلوك الإنساني

أ/ أحمد الجومري  
مدرّب الإدارة والجودة

### البرامج التدريبية التي ستخللها الجلبوم

- 1- الأساليب الحديثة في إدارة المستشفيات.
- 2- إدارة الموارد البشرية داخل المستشفى.
- 3- المهنية في ممارسة الطب.
- 4- إدارة أقسام الطوارئ.
- 5- إدارة الصيدلانية.
- 6- إدارة قسم العلاقات العامة.
- 7- إدارة المختبرات والمعامل الطبية.
- 8- فن التعامل مع المرضى والزوار والمرافقين.

أحجز مقعدك الآن واختر الفترة التي تناسبك

ابتداءً من الإثنين 15 أبريل - الأربعاء 24 أبريل 2013

(الفترة الأولى: من 4 - 6 مساءً) (الفترة الثانية: من 7 - 9 مساءً)

سيقام البرنامج في قاعة المستشفى اليمني الأثاني - حدة - جولة الصباحي

رسوم الاشتراك (50\$) فقط أو ما يعادلها بالريال اليمني. - يمنح المشارك شهادة دبلومة معتمدة من المركز الكندي للتنمية البشرية - كندا - مونتريال - التابع للدكتور إبراهيم الفضي. - يمنح المشارك 8 شهادات باللغة العربية والإنجليزية (شهادة خاصة بكل برنامج على حدة) معتمدة من صناع القرار للتنمية البشرية.

للتسجيل والحجز: (+967 777893946) (+967 712420406) (+967 7381057823) (+967 44453701)

المقر الجديد لصناع القرار: صنعاء - حدة - جولة ريماس - جوار مطاعم الخيمة - نهاية الشارع

الدوام الرسمي: من 8 صباحاً إلى 8 مساءً

## صناع القرار للتنمية البشرية

الوكيل الحضري في اليمن للمركز الكندي للتنمية البشرية - مونتريال - كندا التابع للدكتور إبراهيم الفضي رحمه الله

إلى كل أحبنا في الوطن العربي والعالم الإسلامي أنتم على موعد مع الحدث التدريبي والسياحي الأول من نوعه في فلسطين الحبيبة (مدينة غزة)

آخر موعد للتسجيل 15 أبريل 2013م

### الملتقى التدريبي الشبابي الأول - غزة

### مع المحاضر والمدرّب الدولي الأستاذ/ حذيفة العمقي

الذي درب أكثر من 40,000 شخص في العديد من الدول العربية والإسلامية

حيث سيخلل الملتقى البرامج التدريبية التالية:

1 إستراتيجية القيادة الحديثة

2 ثورة العقل

3 فن الاتكيت وخدمة العملاء وكيفية المحافظة عليهم

4 أيقظ العملاق الذي بداخلك

5 كيف تحدد أهدافك وتحققها

6 قوة الطاقة البشرية

- يمنح المشارك 3 شهادات دولية معتمدة من المركز الكندي للتنمية البشرية - كندا - التابع للدكتور إبراهيم الفضي رحمه الله. - يمنح المشارك 3 شهادات أخرى باللغة العربية واللغة الإنجليزية معتمدة من صناع القرار للتنمية البشرية. - رسوم الاشتراك 1300\$ فقط وستكون هذه الرسوم شاملة للاتي:

- 1- تذاكر السفر جواً ذهاباً وإياباً إلى مصر.
- 2- الاستقبال في مطار القاهرة والنقل إلى مونتريال.
- 3- الإقامة في فندق 5 نجوم - في مدينة غزة.
- 4- وجبات الإفطار والغداء والعشاء.
- 5- رسوم التدريب وجميع الشرائح.
- 6- الرحلات السياحية وشهادة الزيارات للعديد من الجهات في غزة وعلى رأسها (زيارة خاصة للدكتور اسماعيل هنية والجامعة الإسلامية ومنزل أسرة الشيخ أحمد ياسين) وأماكن أخرى.

- المطلوب من المشارك أو المشاركة: - صورة جواز السفر - صورتين شخصية 6x4 - رسوم الاشتراك.

للتسجيل والحجز: (+967 777893946) (+967 712420406) (+967 7381057823) (+967 44453701)

المقر الجديد لصناع القرار: صنعاء - حدة - جولة ريماس - جوار مطاعم الخيمة - نهاية الشارع

الدوام الرسمي: من 8 صباحاً إلى 8 مساءً



# Mocha Port: Can it rise again?



Once a prominent port in this country, Mocha has fallen into disrepair in recent years.



New plans to revive the harbor—including building warehouses, paving new roads and stepping up security—have been unveiled, but funding is still an issue.

**Ryam Al-Qadi  
Ali Abulohoom**

**M**ocha, a coastal city in Yemen with a population of 12,000, was once the home

of a thriving commercial port that dates back centuries. Located along the Red Sea, it was internationally known for its coffee trade and other commodities like incense.

But, the once-flourishing area has been trapped in a state of decline for decades, which historians

say began shortly after the British switched their trade operations from Mocha Port to Aden Port—Yemen's current commercial sea hub which is also struggling to regain economic prosperity—in the late 19th century. The establishment of Hoedeida Port in 1961 also ab-

sorbed Mocha's trading business.

"[Mocha] has become a port for importing cows and goats instead of being a main port for industrial, commercial and agricultural commodities," said Mohammed Ahmed Sabr, the director of Mocha Port, who was appointed to his position in January and has the daunting job of reviving the area's economic potential.

On Saturday, Sabr made the bold and over-due move of officially handing the port's security over to the nation's coast guard after a long tenure of random military brigades running it without state intervention.

"The former regime handed the port over to a failed administration and military authorities," said Mustafa Nassr, the head of Studies and Economic Media Center.

"Those people used to blackmail merchants," said Mahyoub Swaedan, a businessman from Mocha Port, which he said has caused merchants to migrate away from Mocha.

These military and other influential figures are accused of imposing unauthorized tariffs on locals.

According to one local from the area who asked to remain anonymous, troops used to greet incoming ships, including ones accused of smuggling weapons, and charge them anywhere from YR30,000 (\$140) to YR50,000 (\$233).

Although Swaedan and others have expressed their optimism about Sabr's latest move, saying fair taxation practices will follow, the port has its work cut out for it if it wants to restore its former glory.

In 1994 Mocha Port housed more than 120 commercial storage spaces for goods coming and going, now there are none, according to Ahmed Mokaibr, a local merchant.

He and others say there is a vicious cycle inhibiting the port's development. As the area's infrastructure crumbles due to government neglect, more and more merchants leave and head for better economic opportunities in Aden or Hodeida.

Abduljabar Al-Nwba is a well-known merchant in Mocha city and one of the few who has weathered the port's steady deterioration. He still exports raisins, oils, and milk produced by local factories but he understands why others want to leave.

"I don't earn too much but [I can]

provide subsistence for my family," he said.

Al-Nuba says he is clinging to the port as he has "nowhere else to go."

He has seen friends go and be-

Saeed Shamakh, an economic analyst.

But Shamakh thinks the loans would be hard to come by in Yemen's current transitional period. He says most countries will only

**Whatever the customer size, NEC have the right system**

**Global Financial Institution (80,000 extensions multisite)**

**Luxury Hotel (200 extensions)**

**Independent Estate Agent (10 extensions)**

**NEC Empowered by Innovation**

**شركة ناتكو لتقنية المعلومات المحدودة**  
فروعنا منتشرة في كل من محافظات ( صنعاء - عدن - تعز - الحديدة )

صنعاء: فرع طراد: 01-2113732 01-2181223 01-218121  
صنعاء: فرع حدا: 01-464473/74 01-464475  
بريد إلكتروني: natco.bic2@yem.net.ye E-mail: natco.bic2@yem.net.ye  
عدن: 04-286086 04-286087  
الحديدة: 03-206857 03-206857  
06-314873 06-3148776 03-206857

**natco**  
Innovation Technology



Mohammed Ahmed Sabr began his job as Mocha Port's director in January.

believes the port will never attract more merchants as long as it lacks basic services like costal sidewalks, equipment and machinery.

Sabr and his team are also trying to help merchants like Al-Nuba. He is also working on a new strategy that will pave roads near the port and expand lanes for docking ships, which he says could attract larger vessels.

Sabr's new plan also includes building warehouses for commodities and security procedures to prevent potential smuggling. But, it all comes at a cost, an estimated \$35 million.

"The reconciliation government should take advantage of loans or financial grants in order to invest in development projects," said Ahmed

loan Yemen money pending the success of the National Dialogue Conference, Yemen's reconciliatory talks that are expected to establish a new state order and pave the way for elections in early 2014.

Sabr and his team are still trying. They have offered a five percent customs discount fee on Aden's and Hodeida's tariffs in order to attract merchants.

If Sabr's plans do materialize, Shamakh says the port could create countless job opportunities in terms of construction and port maintenance and give Yemen's struggling economy a needed boost.

Nassr also believes it could lead to the creation of industrial cities near the port which could step-up commerce that much more.