

Security officials blame Al-Qaeda for attack in Rada'a

Ali Ibrahim Al-Moshki

RADAA, April 24 — In the early hours of Tuesday morning, around 60 armed men surrounded the Thalib military camp in Rada'a district and attacked the 50 soldiers who are stationed there, local sources and military officials reported. The assault lasted six hours and left four soldiers wounded and several military vehicles destroyed.

Colonel Hamoud Al-Ammari, Chief of Security in Rada'a, said he was "90 percent sure" that the attack was carried out by Al-Qaeda affiliates.

Security officials in Rada'a are on high alert.

The clashes started at 12:00 a.m. and ended at 6 a.m. The military and the armed men exchanged heavy fire, using machine guns and a bazooka. Al-Ammari said the assault ended when the presumed Al-Qaeda affiliates fled the scene.

Al-Ammari anticipates more attacks.

Security forces are checking area hospitals for any recently admitted patients, as some of the armed attackers were most likely injured in the hours-long assault.

In previous months, Rada'a has been the site of fierce confrontations between Al-Qaeda affiliates and state forces, but tribal leaders helped to mediate a truce between



Yemeni officials say they have been successful in driving out many Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) strongholds throughout the country. But, pocketed populations are still believed to be hiding in various areas including Rada'a.

the two in February.

Last week, following a three-month stay in the area, around 700 soldiers affiliated with the First Mountain Infantry Brigade—a branch of the elite Republican Guards—evacuated their barracks in the Rada'a. This move came following the recommendations of a fact-finding committee assigned by the Defense Ministry to investigate

acts of violence that broke out between soldiers and residents in the district earlier this month.

The armed men may have been attempting to test the presence of the security in Rada'a after the withdrawal of the brigade.

However, many locals say the brigade wasn't really protecting the area.

Al-Rasas said Rada'a is protecting

itself from potential future attacks.

Hussein Al-Rasas, deputy governor of Al-Beidha governorate, told Yemen Times the attack had nothing to do with the troop evacuation last week.

Mohammed Abdulla Al-Madghari, an eyewitness to the attack, said bullets sprayed the nearby buildings, but no civilians were injured.

Administrative court gives political parties filing lawsuit against Hadi a week to sort legal problems

Mohammed Al-Hassani

SANA'A, April 24 — The Administrative Court in Sana'a, which specializes in issues relating to the executive authorities of the state, announced a one-week recess during which the eight political parties that have filed a case against President Abdu Rabu Mansour Hadi must prove they are legally-recognized parties and hire a new lawyer.

The Ministry of Legal Affairs, the body that represents the president, called into question the legality of eight newly-formed parties' licenses. The ministry also said the lawyer representing them is illegitimate, as he is also a state-employee.

The eight parties—including the Arab Spring Party, the Justice and Freedom Party and the Yemeni Labor Party—filed the case in objection to their exclusion from the National Dialogue Conference's President's List, a selection of smaller political parties and independent groups which were chosen personally by the president to par-



The Administrative court has requested the political parties prove their legal status.

ticipate in the conference.

Mohammed Al-Maqtari, deputy of the state issues at the Ministry of Legal Affairs, said the parties didn't get a license from the Political Parties' Affairs Committee in Parliament prior to submitting their applications for participation in the NDC.

Abdulla Al-Anisi, the general

manager of state issues at the Ministry of Legal Affairs appeared at the hearing in place of President Abdu Rabu Mansour Hadi.

Al-Anisi said Ibrahim Bin Abood, the lawyer appointed by the eight political parties, is working as a lawyer in the government's Atomic Energy Committee and for this reason isn't eligible to advocate this case because he is a state-employee.

Al-Anesi said Bin Abood only introduced himself as a lawyer during the hearing.

Bin Abood refuted the Ministry of Legal Affairs' accusation. The eight parties are legal political parties, he told the Yemen Times. They submitted all of the appropriate documents to the Political Parties Affairs' Committee, which is responsible for accrediting all parties in the country.

There will another hearing this

coming Saturday. As per the court's request, the parties will hire a new lawyer.

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Following attacks on journalists, press freedom in Yemen at an all-time low

Nasser Al-Sakkaf

SANA'A, April 24 — The Freedom Foundation for Media Freedom, Rights and Development issued a statement on Monday saying media freedom in Yemen is at an all time low, following several assassination attempts on journalists recently. Using their own labeling system, they have called the situation "hazardous."

Since the foundation began in 2012, Khaled Al-Hamadi, the head of the organization, said they have documented a record amount of violations against journalists.

Al-Hamadi said 108 journalists have been subject to violations, including assault and the confiscation of their materials like cameras, since the beginning of 2013.

Additionally, 34 court cases have been filed against journalists.

The foundation sent their statement to the state's general prosecutor, interior minister and government security forces, asking them to help create a more hospitable environment for journalists.

Al-Hamadi pointed out that hazard levels in the foundation are divided into low, normal, middle, high and dangerous. Media freedom in Yemen is currently in the high level.

"We evaluate the level based on the kind of violations rather than their number," Al-Hamadi explained.

Fifty seven violations took place against 112 journalists in the last three months of 2012, Al-Hamadi said. However, the hazard level



The risks that journalists and other media workers face have increased since the beginning of the year.

remained in the "middle" as these offenses weren't very violent.

However, since the beginning of 2013, the number of violations has increased.

"The number is growing. The state doesn't take any measures against the assailants," Abdulla Al-Esa'i, a journalist who also works at the foundation, said.

Revolutionaries say it's time to move from squares to institutions



Yemen's 2011 popular uprisings brought scores of protesters together in camps across the nation.

Ali Ibrahim Al-Moshki

SANA'A, April 24 — The Peaceful Revolutionary Youth Council, which operates under the Organizing Committee of the Youth Revolution (OCYR), will open a headquarters' office in Sana'a on Thursday.

This comes following OCYR's announcement last week that they would be leaving Change Square, the epicenter of Yemen's pro-revolutionary forces, a majority of whom were youth.

Tawakul Karman, Noble Prize Laureate and coordinator of council,

told the Yemen Times they want to move from squares to institutions now that many of their goals including a military restructuring, which was announced two weeks ago, are accomplished.

Karman said now revolutionaries can focus their work on monitoring institutional corruption during Yemen's transitional process.

Yemen is currently in the middle of the National Dialogue Conference which is paving the way for presidential and parliamentary elections slated for February 2014.

The organization aims to work as a watchdog group by conducting studies in various governmental institutions and tracking their progress, said Fuad Al-Hodaifi, the foreign relations coordinator for the council.

"We are planning to do [field visits and festivals]," said Mane' Al-Matari, a current OCYR member.

The council which was technically established on June 8, 2011, said they plan on having elections soon for leadership positions and opening branches in other governorates.

Southern Issue Working Group moves ahead without leader

Rammah Al-Jubari

SANA'A, April 24 — The National Dialogue Conference's Southern Issue Working Group is in the middle of discussions relating to the roots of the Southern Issue—including historic economic, political, cultural and legal dimensions—despite the departure of its leader earlier this week.

The Southern Issue is a term used to encompass the grievances like the seizing of property and the loss of jobs Southerners experienced following its Civil War and eventual unity with the North in 1994.

Members from the working group, which includes representatives from the powerhouse General People Congress (GPC) and the Islah Party, have been voicing their opinions about the genesis of the issue.

Balqis Al-Lahbi, the first deputy

head of the group has been leading his committee members since prominent Hirak (Southern Movement) leader, Ahmed Bin Fareed Al-Suraima officially withdrew his participation on Saturday.

Al-Suraima told the Saudi Arabian newspaper Al-Sharq Al-Wasat on Wednesday that he will not be returning to the conference despite media speculation.

He has said he will not return unless a list of conditions are met including the implementation of the 20 Points, a list that was prepared by the National Dialogue's Technical Committee preconference to appease Southern participants. The list includes an official apology from the state to Southerners for the 1994 Civil War.

President Abdu Rabu Hadi visited the working group on Wednesday and urged its members to remember they represent the country's

population and their work must continue.

The president said he is working to meet Al-Suraima's requests.

"The majority of the 20 Points proposed by the Technical Committee have been implemented," said Yasser Al-Ruaini, the deputy secretary general of the NDC, citing the recent nation-wide army restructuring and the creation of two committees to deal with fired Southerners who lost their jobs after the civil war and those who had their property seized.

Al-Ruaini added that international mediators are also trying to encourage Al-Suraima to return.

Meanwhile, Southerners including Muthna Al-Radfani, a politician from the South continue to fundamentally object to the holding of the NDC, saying that the conference reflects primarily the interests of the North.



The working group is composed of 50 members from a variety of political groups, including 14 representatives from the Southern Movement, or Hirak.

HAND in HAND is a Radio Yemen Times social project that is working to clean up river beds in Sana'a.

This once-a-month initiative aims to tackle the problem of accumulated trash that has prevented about 80 percent of water flow from rain from entering the Al-Sila, the city's main canal.

This is the first project of many to come.

Radio Yemen Times invites you to join hands with us at 7:30 a.m. on Thursday and participate in this volunteer endeavor, which will be guided by a team of supervisors and engineers.

Radio broadcaster Amira Nasser will be in the field providing live updates for the morning show, "Sabahkum Ridha."

Co-broadcaster Amal Al-Yarisi, will be in the studio keeping you abreast of developments.

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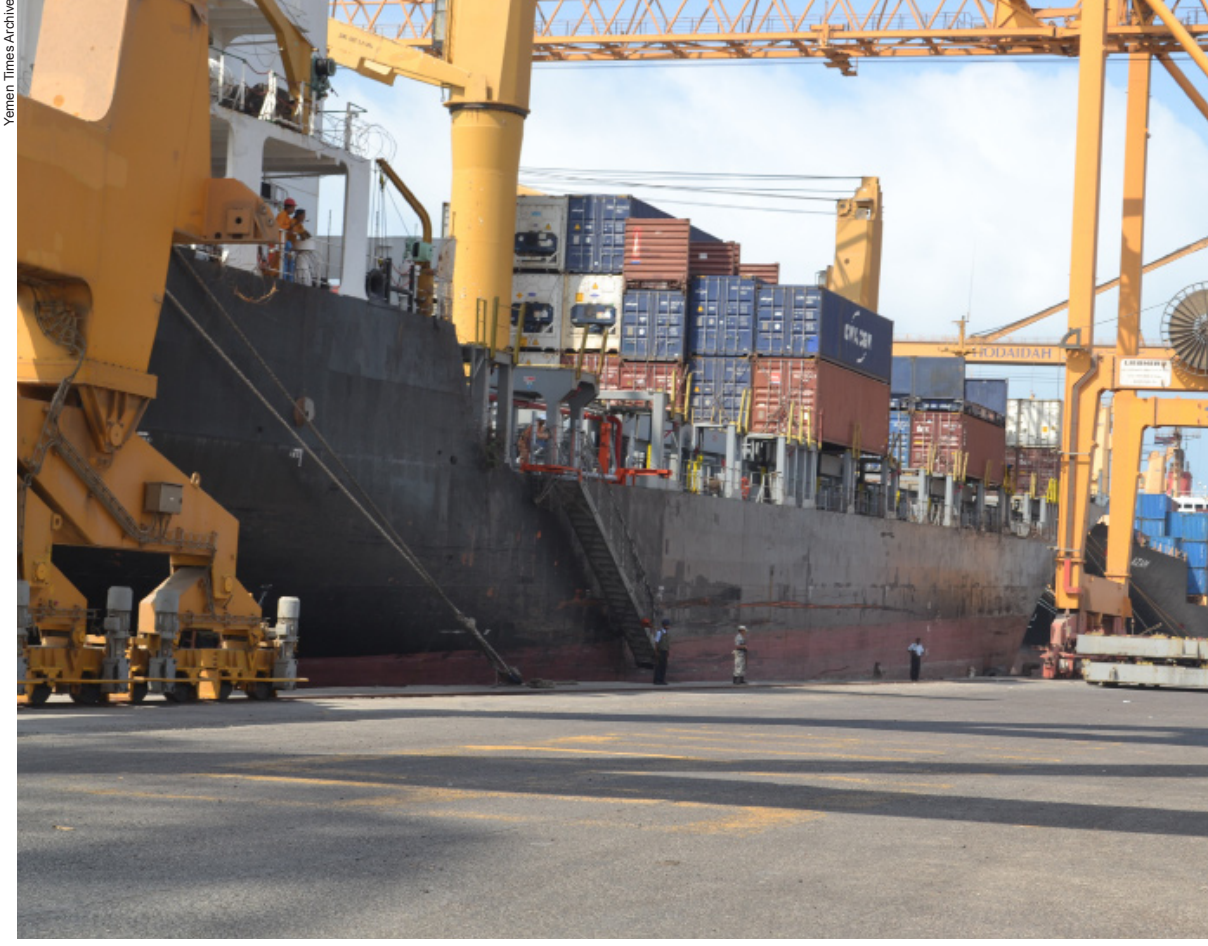
نود أن تضعوا يديكم بيدنا وتشاركوا بهذا العمل الطوعي. سيكون هناك عدد من المهندسين المشرفين، إلى جانب عمال النظافة، وأميرة ناصر المذيعة في برنامج صباحكم رضا. سيكون هناك تغطية مباشرة مع المذيعة أمل اليريسي في برنامج صباحكم رضا، أثناء تنفيذ العمل.

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If passed, new bill could encourage both domestic and international investment



Businessmen have complained about elongated procedures with customs authorities in Yemeni ports.

Mohammed Al-Hasani

The General Investment Authority (GIA) has presented a bill to the Cabinet in order to amend the current investment law created in 2010 under former President Ali Abdulla Saleh.

The GIA, which is the governmental group in charge of promot-

ing and facilitating investments in Yemen, said the bill would create a more positive and attractive atmosphere for both domestic and international investors in the hopes of boosting Yemen's economy.

The current law creates many hurdles for investors including elongated transactions and inhibits GIA's ability to make decisions without going through other gov-

ernment ministries, according to a GIA representative.

One highlight of the proposed bill is that it would allow for private investment in the transportation sector, which is currently restricted to state control, the rep added.

A source of contention between supporters of the new law and those advocating for the old one is a question of tax exemption.

"The [new] bill endorses tax exemption," said Zayd Sultan, an information assistant for GIA.

The Customs and Taxation Authorities have objected to the bill, saying it will hurt tax revenues at a time the country desperately needs them.

Sultan counters this argument saying that within time the tax exemptions will go away, but they will need to offer them to attract first time investors. In an effort to attract investors to projects in rural areas, the bill would also provide further tax breaks and offer land used for development at cheaper prices.

Economic analyst Rasheed Al-Hadad told the Yemen Times that

“

The proposed bill would allow for private investment in the transportation sector, which is currently restricted to state control.

he is pessimistic about the bill.

He says it will not really change anything as there isn't necessarily a problem with the current law, just with its implementation.

New law or not, he says, investors will still be discriminated against, providing privilege to those in power or with connections.

Lawyer Abdulaziz Al-Baghdadi thinks the timing of the bill is off as Yemen is still in its transitional phase.

"We need a new constitution and then to review the imperfect laws," he said.

After the Cabinet is done reviewing the proposed law, it will be presented to the president and then to Parliament for voting.



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After 40 years as arsenal of guns, First Armored Division to turn into a public park

Story and photos by Ali Abulohoom

Mohammed Al-Askri is from Sana'a and lives now in Sawad Hanash, a western district of the capital.

"For as long as I can remember, my house has been surrounded by soldiers," he said.

"My ears have grown accustomed to the whistle of bullets and the blasts of explosions."

Al-Askri lives next to the massive, walled headquarters of the First Armored Division (FAD), the largest contingent in Yemen's military which has been commanded by General Ali Mohsen Al-Ahmer for over 20 years.

For over four decades, the FAD has occupied a space of around 200,000 square meters in Sana'a. At the military base, they have conducted training and stored artillery. However, on April 11 of this year, a decree delivered by

President Abdu Mansour Hadi announced—along with other sweeping changes in the structure and management of Yemen's military—this base would be evacuated and turned into a public park.

"Maybe things will be different," Al-Askri said. "It will be a place of safety and flowers, not fear and gunpowder."

The space will be renamed March 21 Park, in reference to the day on which Al-Ahmer defected from the former regime, siding instead with the youth-led revolution that ousted Ali Abdullah Saleh from power.

Following his defection, violent clashes between the FAD and the Republican Guard—pro-Saleh forces, which during the revolution were commanded by Saleh's oldest son Ahmed Saleh—erupted around this area.

Many locals from Sawad Hanash district left following violent confrontations. The neighborhood became something like a battleground.

Residents only returned following the agreement brokered by the Gulf Cooperation Council in November 2011, in which Saleh agreed to step down.

Engineer Jamal Al-Husam, 45, lives in Sawad Hanash district. He said having the base there disturbs him. He doesn't like being this close to the army, hearing the military drills and worrying whether violence will break out again.

"My children and I hear nothing, just the shots of weapons," he said. "We eagerly wait to see this park."

Abdulla Al-Faek, the information assistant in the capital secretariat, said after a month or so, the military base will be vacated. As per the recent military restructure, the country has been divided into seven military regions (previously it was four) and the FAD will move outside of the capital, likely to Hodeida and Amran.

The FAD's military leadership is ready and willing to move out of the base, Al-Faek said. But some locals remain skeptical.

Al-Husam wondered aloud whether the park will actually be built. The violence of the 2011 uprising is still fresh in his mind and he is wary of empty promises.

The hill on which the military headquarters is located overlooks the capital city. Mohsen Khasroof, a retired military official, says the location was never appropriate for military base. It is too close to people's homes, he said.

The first planning meeting for the park was held on April 12. An executive committee has been set up and will be accepting bids from companies wanting to develop the park. Sana'a's Mayor Abdulqader Hilal said he cannot predict the to-



The headquarters of the FAD overlook Sawad Hanash Cemetery in which 54 people who died on Yemen's Friday of Dignity are buried. This day, March 18, is remembered as one of the bloodiest of Yemen's 2011 popular uprising. It also marked the day General Ali Mohsen Al-Ahmer defected from former President Ali Abdullah Saleh's control.



City officials have already begun planning for the future public park.

tal cost of the project.

This military base isn't the only one in Sana'a.

The Republican Guards—though they have officially been disbanded, twice—and the Aviation Forces are also stationed inside the city. Hilal said that they are seeking "proper alternatives" in order to also relocate these bases.

Hilal said that they are looking for "proper alternatives for the [other] military camps stationed in the capital city," which also include the compound of the Defense Ministry and the Republican Guards.

Hashim Al-Hindi, the general manager of parks in the capital

city, said this park will include a football field and volleyball and basketball courts. There will also be cafes and restaurants.

Since the early days of the revolution, one of the protestors' demands was the removal of military bases and camps from Sana'a.

A group of revolutionary youth created an initiative on April 12 called "Our Dreams in Our Hands." The initiative hopes to be closely involved in the development of the March 21 Park.

Al-Khatib Al-Rawhani, 28, founded the initiative and says "it is necessary that the youth take part in supervising the implementation

of the project," since the revolution itself was led by the youth.

Al-Rawhani says revolutionary groups should stop protesting and rather get involved in development programs.

Zyad Al-Jabiri, an employee in Suhail TV channel, the offices of which are in the neighborhood, said changing the headquarters of FAD into a public park bodes well for the country.

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Capacity Building

- Develop relevant training modules and capacity building guidelines for relevant media & information/PR officers within relevant line ministries and CSOs
- Conduct training of journalists and partners at national and sub national level
- Develop coaching mechanism to support skills development for both categories
- Compile report on process and outcome

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QUALIFICATION

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- Good knowledge of the political, economic and socio-cultural dynamics of the region will be useful
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Only short listed candidates will be contacted.

Arresting Yemen's brain drain

Qais Ghanem
Gulfnews.com
First Published April 23

A school mate of mine and I are writing a book titled, "Yemenis Abroad — Success Stories." This school mate of mine is Dr. Adel Aulaqi, a highly accomplished general surgeon, now living in England. We both went to Aden College, during the British rule of what was later to become the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen.

There are dozens of specialist physicians like us all over the world, mostly in the West and the Gulf region, where their expertise is clearly needed and appreciated. But, is it not true that our expertise is far more desperately needed in the places of our birth and childhood? Of course it is. And just as with this one profession, there are hundreds of diaspora Yemenis from the South and North who have chosen to live abroad — permanently. And once the children of these emigrants grow up into adults and begin to have their own children, the process becomes irreversible.

As with professional engineers and smart lawyers and skilful dentists everywhere, such people tend to be among the highest earners — merchants and corrupt officials excepted! They also tend to be respected and appreciated. So, why do they leave? We think that we have some idea why and we all have our own reasons and have personal stories to tell, but that is precisely why a comprehensive and scientific study of Yemenis abroad will hopefully give us some solid data to

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But, is it not true that our expertise is far more desperately needed in the places of our birth and childhood?

share with our countries of origin. For the problem is indeed universal. Witness the National Health Service in the U.K. and how it was prevented from collapse by the many thousands of physicians from the Indian subcontinent. Those physicians also went there for specialty training in surgery and medicine and many decided to stay on. They may share some of the reasons for doing so with Yemenis who decide to live abroad, permanently.

Speaking for myself only, I have to say that I made a genuine effort to return after specialization, albeit to the unruly North, but had to give up after four miserable years there, which even the presence of family and old childhood friends could not make up for. That was in the 1980s, when the basics of daily life were either lacking or quite rudimentary, including regular clean water supplies, electricity, phone lines, decent roads, transportation and health services. However, the most intolerable part was the lawless-

ness on the highways as well as at city traffic lights, the universal corruption, the foot dragging at government ministries at every step of the way and the total lack of accountability, which did not permit any improvement of the system. Then there were the check points at many intersections, where one or other of the very young Kalashnikov-waving soldiers would ask every driver if they were carrying weapons and where the answer would always be no. Then you would have to open the trunk, which the soldier would search and then let you go. That always happened after dark, but never in the daylight hours.

It was my daughter, nine-years-old at the time, who observed that the search never happened during the day. She was curious about why I was stopped each time, so I had to explain that the soldiers did not want "bad people" to smuggle weapons. She turned her face towards me and said: "But if anyone wanted to smuggle guns all he would have to do is load them in the car during the day, wouldn't he?"

I wrote about this before. I had to wait for two years before my appointment with the teaching staff of the faculty of medicine eventually came through, after approval by the president himself, or so I was told! In Yemeni Arabic, this is expressed with "min fawq," which literally translates into "from above!"

However, all that pales compared to the grave potential danger I experienced three times. One such dramatic occasion was when I was in my blue Volvo, driving slowly behind another car which preceded me up a very narrow and winding one-way gravel lane. We were al-

ready 50 meters up that lane. That driver then decided that he wanted to back up to the main road, instead of finishing up the lane and turning right to return to the main road. He started ordering me with rapid hand movements to back up all the way to the main road — a very tricky task, never mind that it was totally unnecessary. I did not move, assuming that he would see sense and continue driving forward. Within 30 seconds, the man was out of his car with a Kalashnikov pointing in my direction — not at all daunted by my grey striped suit and blue tie — uttering threats and profanities. As it often happened in Sana'a, a couple of men rushed in to calm him down and then politely but firmly advised me to back up, if I knew what was good for me. That was the last straw, when I decided that a drained brain was better than one oozing out of my skull!

However, we hope that the study will clearly define the reasons why these thousands of Yemenis voted with their feet and hopefully help the government to do what it can to keep the educated and trained citizens from emigrating. Unfortunately, many more people will still choose to do the same as the receiving countries usually select those who can bring expertise and skills and those are precisely the people Yemen needs.

Dr. Qais Ghanem is a retired neurologist, radio show host, poet and novelist. His two novels are Final Flight from Sana'a and Two Boys from Aden College. His non-fiction is My Arab Spring My Canada. His combined English/Arabic poetry book is From Left to Right.

YT vision statement



"To make Yemen a good world citizen."

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



OUR OPINION

The bright side of the Southern Issue's bottleneck

The Southern Issue is considered the most critical working group in the entire National Dialogue Conference (NDC) because resolving problems in the South will be key to resolving the country's political mess.

Currently the Southern Issue Working Group is suffering because their leader, who is also a Hirak (Southern Movement) member, suspended his participation earlier this week. He conditioned his return on the implementation of a number of demands relating to grievances outlined by Southerners. Most of his demands are not new, but some are farfetched and will likely be too impractical to implement.

Today many of the procedures in the Southern Issue's group are not moving along smoothly because of the absence of their leader. His departure has also created political tension.

With all the commotion going on, there may be a bright side to this complicated situation. For one, it is good to raise the issue of Southern grievances again because they have been ignored for some time. It may be an overstatement to say completely ignored, but the handling of the grievances is very slow.

Another silver lining is that it also provides evidence that the NDC is not operating isolated from the rest of the real world. Although the sessions are being held at a luxury hotel, the participants are aware there are urgent problems that need to be urgently dealt with simultaneously as the dialogue progresses.

Finally, in a way, this allows the Southern Movement time to decide what they really want. Until now, the National Dialogue has not really resonated in a lot of ways. Many thought it would ever happen. Now, it is moving on, and many people in the South and specifically in the Southern Movement are trying to identify their priorities. In other words, now they are inclined to focus on what can be accomplished and dismissing the ridiculously high ambitions that are still in the air.

The void created by the Southern Issue group's leader has allowed for others to step up. In a way, he was the most visible and dominant representative of the Southern Movement in the NDC. Although I hope he returns soon, in his absence, there is space for other potential players to join in.

Hopefully this bottleneck will be cleared up soon, so our great opportunity to make history is a guaranteed success.

Nadia Al-Sakkaf

Seeds of future wars sown by Yemen's military shake-up

Sama'a Al Hamdani
Thenational.ae
First published April 15

On April 10, Yemen's President Abdu Rabu Mansour Hadi boldly issued a decree to restructure the nation's military. The most notable achievements of this decree was dismantling former President Ali Abdullah Saleh's grip on the military by sending many of his relatives abroad as diplomats.

The decision reinforced Mr. Hadi's previous military decrees to abolish the First Armored Division led by Gen. Ali Mohsen Al-Ahmar, and the Republican Guard, led by Mr. Saleh's eldest son, Ahmed. These two units stirred the most controversy.

Still, the decree is a major gamble by Mr. Hadi, who is looking to ease the tensions that have paralyzed Yemen for the past two years. This move is aimed to define the function of the new military, but it will likely increase tensions in the long run rather than solve them.

The military structure is made up of three different powers: from the north, Gen. Mohsen, who defected from the former regime, was named the chief military adviser to

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The threat to the Houthis is highly dangerous, particularly since the Houthis tend to lash out whenever they feel cornered.

the president. As such, he will have major influence on the military. Together with the Islah party, the main opposition party in Yemen, they control almost half of the military.

Hadi, who hails from the South, controls the second large portion of the country's forces.

The last component of the military belongs to the remnants of Saleh's regime.

Based on these divisions, it is apparent that the military wasn't able to shake off former tribal influences, which leads to the conclusion that three main struggles are likely to arise due to geographical

and ideological differences.

First, the Northern powers of Gen. Mohsen and Islah could threaten the Houthis, who control a largely autonomous area on the border with Saudi Arabia. Second, the Southern powers Hadi could try to curb Hirak's separatist influence in the South. But the real struggle will manifest within the military, between the components as they strive for power and dominance.

In the past decade, the Yemeni government has fought an on-again, off-again guerrilla war against the Houthis, a Shia revivalist group. All of the six wars were spearheaded by Gen. Mohsen under Saleh's regime. But, once Saleh agreed to step down in late 2011, the conflict took on more of a sectarian character, as the Houthis increasingly clashed with tribal and religious militias linked to Islah. These two strands of anti-Houthi resistance are now coming together.

Gen. Mohsen may have lost his armored division, but he remains a key military figure in the new order. More importantly, two of his allies have been named regional commanders in the areas bordering the Houthis' stronghold in the north. As expected, the Houthis have marched against Hadi's military reshuffling, believing that

their enemies are looking to surround them and destroy them.

The threat to the Houthis is highly dangerous, particularly since the Houthis tend to lash out whenever they feel cornered.

In the South, the rest of the military will be occupied with a different conflict. The leadership of Hirak, the southern movement pushing for secession, has refused to join the National Dialogue which is now underway. Almost all of the south's leadership, including Hadi himself, belonged at some point to Yemen's Socialist Party.

Today, these leaders are divided between those who support the president, and in turn unity, and those who do not. Personal vendettas and long-standing feuds still color much of the interaction in the south.

Two scenarios are possible: First, as is the case in the past, mysterious assassinations could begin between these opposing forces. Or, the conflict could morph into several regional conflicts.

Ultimately, the lives of separatists will be in danger. The military will always support the home region of the president, Abyan, and Islahis will not hesitate to involve their militias and their hold on the military to gain control over south-

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Extension announcement Public Tender No. (3) for (2013)

Yemen Public Radio and TV Corporation announces an extension for renting a digital space on three TV channels: Aden, Saba and Al-Eman. The capacity of each channel is three megabytes on a KU-BAND digital system.

Number of tender	Cost of bidding documents	Amount Guaranteed	Deadline for submitting bidding documents	Deadline for opening envelopes
3/ 2013	YR50, 000	\$28, 000	May 6, 2013	May 13, 2013

To receive the documents via post, it costs \$100 to cover the cost of post and other administrative fees.

**Yemen Public Radio & TV Corporation Headquarters, Sana'a-Yemen,
Next to the Ministry of Public Health & Population, P.O. Box: (2182)
Fax number: 00967-1-230761. Tel: 00967-1-231181-231184-230654
Email: info@yemenrtv.net, Projects Department Tel: (00967-1-230752).**

ADVERTORIAL

"Working Towards Effective Partnerships for Social Protection"

the Social Welfare Fund and UNICEF conducted a workshop on "Sharing Experiences on Social Transfers Implementation Modalities"



22 April 2013, Sana'a, Taj Sheba Hotel — Under the slogan "Working Towards Effective Partnerships for Social Protection", the Social Welfare Fund and UNICEF conducted a workshop on "Sharing Experiences on Social Transfers Implementation Modalities". The workshop aimed to share experiences on existing cash transfers, especially focusing on four key issues:

- Programme design of the different social transfer programmes, including targeting methodologies outreach;
- Lessons learned from existing impact and process Evaluation;

- Implementation modalities at field level and Financial Inclusion of beneficiaries through the banking system in Yemen;
- Coordination Modalities at central and field level, and the important role of the cash & voucher technical working group

The workshop was attended by the Social Welfare Fund, the Social Fund for Development, UNICEF, WFP, OCHA, World Bank, OXFAM, Save the Children, Relief International, and Al-Amal Bank. National and International Experts

have presented the ongoing experiences in Yemen on conditional and non-conditional cash transfers, voucher transfers, cash for work and labour intensive work programmes. The workshop concluded with key recommendations for improving targeting to reach to the poorest households in Yemen and to establish a more coherent coordination mechanism among all agencies which is to be led by the Social Welfare Fund.



JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Oxfam, an international NGO working with others to find lasting solutions to poverty and suffering, has been working in Yemen since 1983. Oxfam announces the following vacancy for its programme

Humanitarian Programme Officer- (1 position)

Location: **Sana'a**
Contract Duration: **11 months**

The role

Assist in the preparation and monitoring of project budgeting; facilitate administrative requests; collect, analyze and disseminate data on the progress of the response on a regular basis. You will support the programme to report against objectives through regular production of Situation Reports and develop accurate and timely figures for reporting, accountability, and communications purposes. You will be coordinating inputs, writing content and collating the monthly staff newsletter; updating the system (OPAL) as required; and ensuring filing is regularly updated.

What we're looking for

We are looking for someone with experience in humanitarian work gained through professional work who has excellent organizational, administrative, and communication skills. You will have well-developed interpersonal skills, proven ability to be flexible in demanding situations, proving your resilience and ability to work under pressure in a team environment. You will have strong attention to detail, be familiar with budget preparation, demonstrate good oral and written communication skills in both English and Arabic with the ability to convey complex information (in English), and possess good computer skills.

To apply

If you believe that you have the qualifications and skills to excel in this position, please send a copy of your CV and a cover letter, clearly stating the job you are applying for and the location of the job in the email subject, to yemenjobs@oxfam.org.uk.

Closing date for applications is 08th May 2013

Please apply immediately as we will be interviewing suitable candidates before the closing date



"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 أصواتنا، 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 الإذاعات 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 وايجابية سكان صنعاء واليمن.

التأسيس

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

للاعلام 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



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Vets in Sana'a sit idle but in rural areas, local 'unlicensed' practices persist

Story by Amira Nasser

At the General Veterinary Department (GVD), the largest government-run animal hospital in Sana'a that is meant to receive and care for farm animals in the capital city and its surrounding areas, there isn't an animal to be found. The facility's clinic, a space covered by a corrugated metal roof and surrounded by cement blockades to corral livestock animals during treatment, is silent.

The two veterinarians on staff sit sipping their tea and chatting about local happenings. They say they will close at noon and say it's been a while since someone has come through with a sick animal.

According to 2008 statistics from

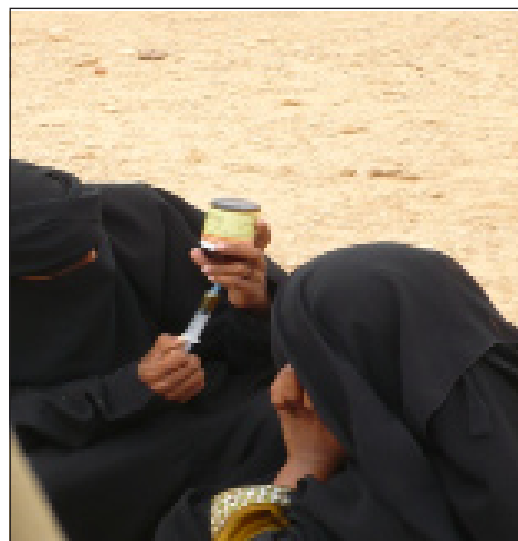
the Ministry of Agriculture there are almost 20 million livestock including cows, goats and sheep in Yemen. Although the country provides a budget of YR60 million, almost \$300,000, for animal care awareness campaigns and emphasizes its importance to assist farmers and ranchers who make their living off of livestock, vet clinics across the country, both private and public, are yearning for business.

They say a lack of understanding of quality animal husbandry practices, a lack of transportation opportunities for rural farmers to bring their animals towards care, and the unlicensed dispensing of medicine by unauthorized individuals are prohibiting their ability to provide proper care for the nation's animal population.

Sami Nassar, a former veterinar-



Vets say that by the time farmers bring their sick livestock to the clinic, often it is too late to cure the animals.



In remote areas of the country, it makes more sense for farmers to see local, unlicensed doctors.



Most of the cases brought to vets have to do with indigestion or exhaustion from hard labor.

ian who is now the training officer at the Yemeni Veterinarian Association, closed his private practice located in the Al-Rahaba area of Sana'a about five years ago.

"Farmers wouldn't usually visit it due to the lack of awareness among them about the importance of veterinary [medicine] in order to maintain the productivity of their animals," he said.

Nassar said the only time his clients would bring in their animals was when it was too late and they were too sick to cure. He said simple signs of an ill animal—like not lactating or giving birth—are ignored by farmers.

Because a majority of farmers rely on their animal stock for subsistence rather than to make a profit, the cost of using a sick animal until

it dies is less than paying for treatment and extending its life.

Ali Mohammed Yahiya, a 50-year-old goat farmer from Maghrib Ans in Dhamar, slaughters his goats if they fall sick.

"We take advantage of its meat before it dies or transmits the disease to the rest," he said.

Dr. Rashid Al-Morshidi, the director of information and communication at the GVD estimates that most farmers own between one and five animals.

Manal Mohammed, a teacher in Al-Hojaria area of Taiz, who owns seven goats that provide milk and meat for her personal consumption, said she would never take them to a veterinarian unless she was sure they had worms.

"The veterinary center isn't very

far, but it's difficult to transport animals via public means of transportation," she said.

Mohammed also engages in another practice that vets are not happy about.

She goes to unlicensed pharmacies or self-described animal doctors to get medicine.

The General Veterinary Department has offices in all of Yemen's governorates meant to serve rural populations but these clinics are suffering as well because of the emergence of the illegal dispensing of antibiotics.

Private practices there are closing as well.

"My clinic in Dhamar was bustling. I used to receive cases and I could make field visits in remote areas. But this is over now," said Mo-

ammed Al-Razihi, a vet who owns his own practice.

"Though these pharmacies don't provide the required veterinary help, they have been in a huge demand by the farmers," Al-Razihi said.

"The owners of these [unlicensed] clinics capitalize on being close to the farmers on the outskirts of the cities," he added.

Al-Morshidi doesn't think the emergence of unofficial pharmacies or individuals practicing animal medicine will slow down any time soon.

He says they have no way of controlling its growth as long as there is a demand for it.

Photos courtesy of The General Veterinary Department

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

USAID'S Yemen Monitoring and Evaluation Project (YMEP) invites Yemeni Nationals to apply for the position below.

Title: **Monitoring and Evaluation Specialist**
Duration of Assignment: **Full-time Position**
Duty Station: **Aden, Yemen with travel to other governorates**

Yemen Monitoring and Evaluation Project (YMEP) is a USAID funded project aiming to provide the USAID mission with continued, on-the ground performance monitoring, verification and evaluation of its assistance projects in Yemen. The project is implemented by International Business and Technical Consultants Inc. (IBTCI), a strategic consulting private firm with over 25 years of experience, specializing in the provision of expert advisory services to the private and public sector in global markets. YMEP seeks to establish an office in Aden to meet the project needs there and in neighboring governorates and is looking for a candidate with M&E and management capabilities to fill this position as soon as possible.

Duties and Responsibilities include but are not limited to:

- Collects information and provides reports and analysis on rehabilitation and recovery progress and activities in Abyan, Aden and Lahj
- Provides M&E third-party monitoring for all ongoing USAID-funded activities
- Prepares written monitoring reports after field monitoring visits
- Works closely with the MOPIC and IRD POC in charge of the technical transition to MOPIC of the Damage and Needs Database (developed by IRD); and continue to monitor use thereafter to ensure data is collected with frequency and accuracy.
- Prepares written updates and reports on progress of rehabilitation of structures and infrastructure in the Damage and Needs Database.
- Participates in sector working groups and UN Clusters active in the southern governorates and reports back on these meetings on a regular basis.
- Engages in frequent and regular communication with the Director of the Abyan Reconstruction Fund and with the offices of Governors of the three governorates, and reports back on these meetings in writing
- Collects information and prepares written reports on changing needs in the recovery sector – to include humanitarian needs, rehabilitation of buildings and infrastructure, education, health, nutrition, agriculture, and economic recovery.
- Prepares a weekly summary of all activities undertaken, along with planning for following week and submits weekly to the YMEP Sana'a office
- Communicates regularly via phone, email, and occasionally in person with YMEP COP and YMEP Senior M&E Specialist and responds to USAID requests as needed in close coordination (or consultation) with YMEP COP.

Qualifications:

- University degree (MA/MS) in a technical science or social science with coursework in regional development, program management, and communication.
- 5 years of field experience relevant to development including at least two in some aspect of M&E or analysis-based tasks upon which the candidate was also required to report in writing
- Have sufficient IT experience to perform data analysis and monitoring of databases and a good level of experience in MS Word, Excel and PPT, and preferably in research and database related software (such as Epi Info, SPSS, Access, etc.)
- Excellent analytical skills
- Excellent communication skills, writing and speaking skills in English as well as Arabic.
- Capable of working independently and responsibly.
- Proactive in meeting people, gathering information, and recommending solutions if problems arise.

Please send your cover letter, a detailed CV and 3 references by email to HRYMEP@YAHOO.COM Response will only be made to shortlisted candidates. The deadline for receiving applications is extended to April 30th, 2013 by 5 pm.

Republic of Yemen

Ministry of Water and Environment
Water Sector Support Project (WSSP)
Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Sub-Sector
Project Management Unit (PMU)

Grant No.: H449-RY

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (CONSULTING SERVICES – FIRMS SELECTION)

Assignment Title:

Review and Update of Detail Designs & Preparation of Final Tender Documents, and Construction Supervision for Al-Qaida Wastewater Network and Treatment Plant.

Reference No.: QADCS-1AB

This request for expression of interest follows the General procurement Notice for this project that appeared in UNDB.

The Republic of Yemen has received financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Water Sector Support Project - Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Sub-Sector, and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The consulting services ("the Services") include Review and Update of Detail Designs & Preparation of Final Tender Documents, and Construction Supervision for Al-Qaida Wastewater Network and Treatment Plant (The estimated assignment period is 18 months and expected to be started in July 2013).

The Project Management Unit of Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Sub-Sector, the Ministry of Water and Environment now invite eligible consultants firm to indicate their interest in providing the services. Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified and have the relevant qualifications and experience to perform the services (brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc.). Consultants may associate to enhance their qualifications.

The shortlisting criteria are as follows:

- To have a successful experience as a consulting firm in engineering design and supervision for at least 10 years.
- To have a successful experience as a consulting firm over the last five years in the execution of at least two assignments in similar nature and size.

A consultant will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank's *Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers* (May 2004 and revised in October 2006).

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the QCBS method set out in the Consultant Guidelines.

Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours between 9:00 am and 14:30 pm (Yemen Local Time).

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below not later than May 25, 2013

The EOI is preferred to be delivered in one original and two hard copies in addition to one soft copy

Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Project
Abdul Raqeeb Ali Ghanim Villa, No.33-AlSermi Street,
North Al-Dewan Restaurant,
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Students beat up professor in dispute over academic policy



Sana'a University's Student Union held a press conference on Monday to address several ongoing issues at the university including the most recent attack on a professor.

Story and photo by Rammah Al-Jubari

A group of Sana'a University students allegedly assaulted Dr. Hassn Sulaiman, the deputy dean of the Agriculture College on Sunday. Suleiman is now recovering in the hospital.

Sulaiman was beaten and kicked to the ground, Dr. Jalal Awdah, dean of the Agriculture College, said. His assailants also took his cell phone.

Prior to the assault, Sulaiman had been using his cell-phone to take photos of his alleged attackers, who were staging a protest in front of the Agriculture College.

Awdah accused Redhwan Mas'ood, head of the Student Union of being one of Suleiman's assailants.

Mas'ood denied attacking Sulaiman. Mas'ood said he tried to prevent Suleiman from taking photos.

"Then, Sulaiman slapped me. The [other] students defended me," Mas'ood said.

Students have been protesting for the past month at the Agriculture College, which is one of over a dozen colleges

that are a part of Sana'a University.

Demonstrators have been calling for a change in academic policy, specifically demanding that faculty allow students who have failed four courses—which normally would mean that they have to stay back one grade—to still be able to graduate to the next class.

Awdah said that following this recent attack the college will take this case outside of the school and bring in the police.

The College Council, the highest body at the college that makes decisions, held a special meeting on Monday and decided to "halt all studying," which means after the upcoming exams, the College of Agriculture won't be resuming classes next semester.

Dr. Abdulla Al-Azazi, head of the Teaching Staff Syndicate at Sana'a University, called the protestors "criminals."

Earlier this month, three student protestors were suspended from the college for disrupting classes. Ashwaq Al-Jarbani was one of those students. She said that she did nothing wrong and was acting within her rights, protesting the administration's policy.

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Scant profits and social stigma accompany female street vendors

Story and photos by
Ryam Al-Qadi

In the roundabouts and major street crossings scattered throughout Yemen's capital Sana'a, lines of cars, trucks and small public buses known as debabs come to a halt as traffic cops acting as street lights direct a cacophony of horns. For street vendors, stalled drivers and passengers provide a cap-

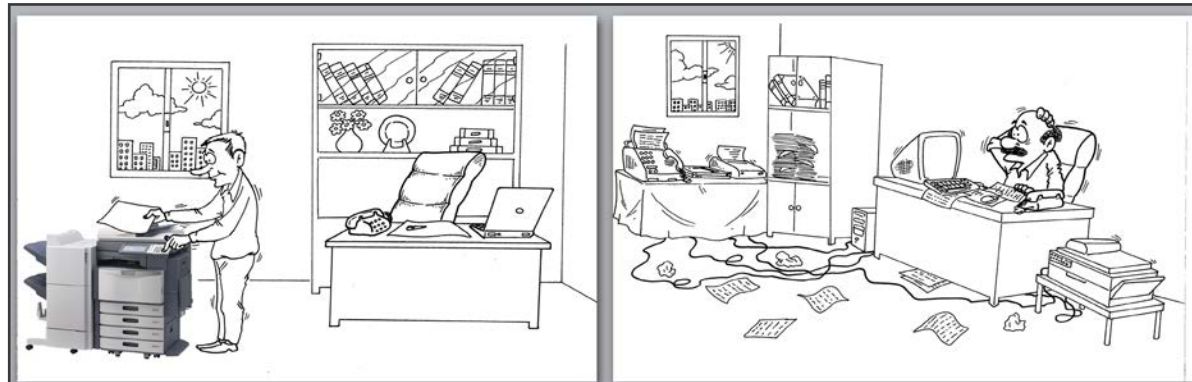
tive audience, who may be willing to throw out the loose change they have for the small items the vendors carry.

A knock on a car's widow is not only an expected occurrence but one that is so perfunctory that many motorists do not even turn their head to notice a vendor's hand pressed against the glass displaying cheap items like gum, water bottles and socks.

Although this small entrepre-

neurial practice is common place in Sana'a, one thing that motorists say they have seen change in recent years, is an increased presence of women, typically covered from head to toe in their black abayas and niqabs (face veils), selling goods in the streets.

"Although I make low profits, I'm forced to work," said Taqwa Al-Thulaia, a 70-year-old woman, who says she finds it hard to move between her cars with the small pack-



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Women sell goods—like tissues, flowers and socks—on main thoroughfares and busy intersections in Sana'a.

ages of tissue she sells for about YR 100, roughly 50 cents.

While there are days that go by where she only sells a few, earning on average a total revenue of YR100 per day, Al-Thulaia continues to solicit business from passing vehicles. No one else would hire her without qualifications at her age, she explained.

"My husband died, and I have four daughters studying at Sana'a University," she said before racing another woman, also selling tissues, to a passing car in a city roundabout.

Women of all different ages, from children to the elderly, are spending their days in the streets trying to make money despite a social stigma associated with females doing such work.

"This is against the traditions and customs of the Yemeni society, and we aren't happy to see women working in streets," said Mahmoud Al-Ghazali, a 27-year-old father of two in Sana'a.

For some, in order to circumnavigate the shame associate with women working in the streets, the practice of street vending becomes a family affair.

At Al-Qiyada Roundabout, which is located near a commercial center, women like Fatima Abdulla work beside their family members including husbands and children. No one would have any idea that the group was related as they pass their days separated in order to cover more area and increase sales.

"I sell boxes of tissue and my children sell car ornaments," said Abdulla. "At the end of the day we take home YR1,000 [about \$5] or YR1,500 [\$7.50]. Sometimes we make YR2,000 [\$10]."

Abdulla is not ashamed of her work, but other female street vendors would never tell anyone besides their family how they earn money.

One female who spoke on the condition of anonymity said only her husband who sells bottles of water in a neighboring roundabout knows about her profession.

"I'm proud of myself because I work. I don't beg people to give me money," she said. "But I'm afraid my [other] family will know about my work."

Because street vending is not regulated or tracked in any way, officials say it can be a hard issue to tackle.

"We don't know how many [fe-

male vendors] there are but we realize that the number is increasing," said Abdu Mohammed Al-Hakimi, first deputy of the Ministry of Social Affairs.

Without knowing numbers, Al-

in Yemen, Dr. Najat Saem, a social psychology professor at Sana'a University, said it's a quick way to make money for people who may not have any education.

However, she says women stand-



When traffic slows to a crawl, street vendors go from window to window.



Taqwa, a 70-year-old widow with four daughters, says the work can be unforgiving.

Hakimi says the small solutions his ministry can offer—like providing YR6,000, around \$30, annually to 1.5 million families—is insufficient. "Female vendors in roundabouts are reflective of poverty in the Yemeni society," said Najeeb Al-Selwi, a 35-year-old employee at the General Book Authority, who likens the practice to begging.

Most professionals understand why women are turning to street vending.

With very few jobs to go around

ing on Sana'a's street corners and roundabouts are not safe.

"They may be exposed to harassment," she said.

For many, it's a reality that is better than going hungry.

One 10-year-old girl, originally from Hoedeida, sells tissues at Al-malia roundabout. She says she must try and sell all that she can. Her family counts on her to bring money home.

"Sometimes I'm obliged to work even after the sunset," she says.

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