

## Yemen Times honored by Business for Peace Foundation

### Yemen Times Staff

The Yemen Times is proud to announce the paper's Editor-in-Chief Nadia Al-Sakkaf received one of the Business for Peace Award from the Business for Peace Foundation on Tuesday at the Akershus Nobel Prize Fortress in Oslo, Norway.

"The award is presented to influential business leaders who through their achievements have demonstrated the benefits of a constructive relationship between business and society," Per Leif Saxegaard, Chairman of the Foundation, explained.

"We believe this is crucial in fostering conditions that lead to peace and stability instead of conflict."

Al-Sakkaf was one of five honorees chosen by a pool of nominees from over 50 countries who were nominated by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and International Chamber of Commerce.

UNDP and a pool of past Nobel Prize winners in Peace and Economics choose the recipients.

In accordance with this year's award ceremony theme, "Business in Fragile Environments," UNDP says Al-Sakkaf exemplifies a leader in the private sector who has demonstrated transformative and positive change through ethical business practices.

The Yemen Times was found in 1991 by Al-Sakkaf's father Abdulaziz as the first independent English-language newspaper in Yemen.

Al-Sakkaf is credited in helping Yemen Times carry on its legacy in the community as



a transparent news source and one that promotes equality amongst its staff, which includes young female journalists.

In 2012, the Yemen Times established Yemen's first community radio station.

Recipients from Pakistan, the United States, Brazil and Denmark were also awarded in Oslo.

The Yemen Times also received the Freedom of the Press Award in 1995 from the National Press Club, the Middle East Publishing Conference Lifetime Achievement award in 2006, the Free Media Pioneer Award from the International Press Institute in 2006, the Gebran Tueni Award in 2006 from the World Association of Newspapers and an honor from the Yemeni Journalist Syndicate in 2012.



Nadia Al-Sakkaf accepted the Business for Peace Award on behalf of the Yemen Times in Oslo Norway. She was one of five recipients running businesses dedicated to ethical practices.

## Sukhoi plane's explosion was no accident, Air Force officials say

### Data from plane's black box shows there was no malfunction

Story and photo by Ali Ibrahim Al-Moshki

SANA'A, May 15 — Sources in the Yemeni Air Forces revealed Wednesday that the black box from the military plane which exploded on Monday in the Bait Baws area of Sana'a, killing the pilot, has been unearthed from the crash site.

Initial investigations have ruled out the possibility of an electronic or mechanical malfunction in the Sukhoi 22.

Abdulrahman Al-Helali, the spokesperson for the Air Force told the Yemen Times the crash was either caused by an explosive device or gunshots, fired at the body of the plane.

Al-Helali said the black box was found on Wednesday morning, buried beneath wreckage at the site.

"Minutes before the accident, we were in touch with the pilot, and he

did not complain about any technical default," Al-Helali added.

Al-Helali said the plane was returning from a mission in Marib, when it exploded, plummeting to the ground in a residential area.

Thousands of citizens gathered at the scene of the crash on Monday morning, many before any officials were on the scene.

Residents there called for the evacuation of the Air Force, military camps and military airports from Yemen's major cities. In response, police shot their guns in the air, to disperse the crowd.

Jamal Al-Radaei, an eyewitness and an owner of an affected house, said he heard a loud explosion on Monday morning. He felt his four-story house shake underneath his feet.

His windows shattered and the upper part of the house was left burnt.

Al-Radaei said he saw the plane wheeling out of control in the sky before it exploded, splintering into pieces and falling to the street.

He also said the shrapnel hit many neighboring houses. Al-Radaei's house caught on fire. Later, the fire was put out, he said.



The plane's pilot died in the crash. A reported 22 people were injured.

This is the third military plane to crash in Sana'a in the past year.

Following the crashes, President Abdu Rabu Mansour Hadi ordered a ban on military trainings over Sana'a.

These last two accidents claimed 19 lives.

Pilot Hani Al-Aghbari, the de-

ceased pilot, was from Taiz governorate and graduated in 2002 from the Aviation and Air Defense Academy.

Aba'd Research and Studies Center indicated that Yemen has 156 military planes in total, spread over six military bases in the country.

## IRCC workers kidnapped

### Officials in Jaar are searching for three aid workers kidnapped on Monday

Nasser Al-Sakkaf

ABYAN, May 15 — A Swiss man, a Kenyan national and a Yemeni translator working for the International Red Crescent Committee (IRCC) were kidnapped by alleged armed tribesmen on Monday in the Al-Maraqesha area in the Jaar district of the southern governorate of Abyan.

Deeba Fakhr, the spokesperson for the IRCC in the Middle East, said the three employees were in the area on an official mission but declined to give any more information, including the names of the victims.

Brigadier General Mohammed Bin Mohammed, head of the Intelligence Department in Abyan, said the three were kidnapped by the Al-Maraqesha tribe.

There are allegations that the trio went to meet with the tribe to

thank them for the release of two Indian nationals who also worked for the organization who were kidnapped May 8 and released the same day.

On their way back, their car was stopped and the kidnapping took place.

"The Yemeni translator and the Kenyan were [allowed to leave by the tribesmen] but they refused to leave their Swiss [companion]," Mohammed said.

Mohammed speculated that the abducted foreigners will be used as a means to apply pressure to the Yemeni government in exchange for a tribal grievance.

Checkpoints have been put into place along roads since the kidnapping in order to search for the possible movement of the kidnapped victims.

Abdulatif Al-Sayd, the head of a local popular committee—a group of civilian fighters who back the state military—said that they plan to help mediate to release of the foreigners.

Two Egyptian engineers working in the Cement Factory in Abyan were kidnapped last week also by men allegedly belonging to the Al-Maraqesha tribe.

Their whereabouts are unknown, officials say.

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## Three arrested and one killed in Al-Qaeda raid in Aden



Plans for an attack were foiled, security forces say, after bombs and explosive belts were confiscated.

### Ali Ibrahim Al-Moshki

ADEN, May 15 — Security forces said Tuesday the three alleged Al-Qaeda affiliates that were arrested on Sunday in a raid in the Al-Mansura district of Aden were referred to the General Prosecutor for investigation, adding that preliminary investigations reveal they were planning to carry out a terrorist attack in the area.

Brigadier General Sadeq Haid, Aden's Security Chief, said while trying to make the arrests, the state's counterterrorism forces exchanged gunfire with the believed

Al-Qaeda affiliates. One man wearing two explosive belts was shot dead. He has been identified as Yasser Ahmed Tarmom.

The other three men involved in the clashes were arrested.

Haid said the men in custody were found with an undisclosed number of bombs and about ten explosive belts. It is believed the devices were going to be used for the assassinations of leading figures in the governorate and on government facilities, Haid said, but provided no further information into investigations.

The state's counterterrorism

forces acted in coordination with security in Aden, Haid said. They had been following the alleged ring of Al-Qaeda affiliates for a week before Sunday's clashes.

Residents in Aden expressed optimism about this arrest and the state's ongoing battle against Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula.

"We notice that the security level in terms of combating terrorism is improving day by day," said Haithm Al-Hassani, a resident in Al-Mansura. "It's said the security level is deteriorating in several governorates. So, it's nice see this achievement."

## NDC group visits prison, finds political captives

### Mohammed Al-Hassani

SANA'A, May 15 — The director of the Central Prison in Sana'a, Colonel Mutahar Al-Shu'ibi, has denied reports by the Rights and Freedoms Working Group of National Dialogue Conference (NDC)—Yemen's ongoing reconciliation talks—that there are currently six political prisoners at the facility being held unlawfully.

The Rights and Freedoms Working Group visited the prison on Monday as part of their field visits designed to give NDC participants firsthand experience in some of the issues they are discussing. The working group was evaluating prison conditions and were allowed to meet individually with prisoners.

Dr. Lamia' Sharaf Al-Deen, a Rights and Freedoms working group member, said the group is putting the story of the six prisoners in a report they are preparing to be presented at the confer-

ence. Al-Deen says the men have been in prison for 28 years and were forcibly disappeared due to political affiliations.

Ali Al-Bujairi, also a member of the committee, said the six prisoners are from Al-Baida'a, which was located on the borders between North and South Yemen before the country was united in 1990.

"They were imprisoned due to their affiliation with the National Front," Al-Bujairi said, referring to an armed faction that was formed in the '80s and believed to have been created to take down former President Ali Abdulla Saleh.

However, Al-Shu'ibi has denied this information.

"This is totally false," he said. Al-Shu'ibi said the six men belong to the same family and they are in prison for killing four of their cousins.

The report prepared by the NDC working group also contains information of several other prison infractions.

## JMP and GPC butt heads over bill

### Mohammed Al-Hassani

SANA'A, May 15 — A disagreement between the General People's Congress (GPC) and the Joint Meeting Parties (JMP) over a bill proposed to change guidelines relating to university officials' appointments culminated in the JMP walking out of sessions.

Since Sunday, Parliament has continued to hold sessions without JMP officials present.

The majority of Parliament is currently in the hands of the GPC, former President Ali Abdullah Saleh's party.

In their latest dispute, the majority of the GPC members voted against amendments that would change the way university rectors are appointed to their positions. Under current law, rectors are appointed via presidential decree.

JMP parliamentarians have said this is a way for the GPC to keep

officials they accuse of corruption in positions of power in public universities.

The current higher education law stipulates the rector of public universities is appointed according to presidential appointments.

The proposed university bill calls for elections for university rectors, their deputies, general secretaries, deans and department heads within the universities, which has garnered a lot of support from university academics.

"Parliament has no legitimacy as long as it continues to hold its meeting separately [in the absence of the JMP]," said Zaid Al-Shami, the head of the JMP in Parliament. "Parliament sessions are no more than partisan meetings."

Regarding the attempts of the JMP to topple the head of the parliament, he said, "The issue is not personal. However, it is matter if violating the internal regulation."

## Soldier and tribesmen killed in Marib clashes

### Rammah Al-Jubari

MARIB, May 15 — A military committee, including the members from the Defense and Interior Ministries, assigned a sub-committee to resolve ongoing conflict in Marib, which had been escalating over the past weeks.

This comes following armed clashes, which flared anew in the eastern governorate of Marib on Monday between soldiers from the Third Infantry Brigade and tribesmen from the prominent tribe of Murad, leaving two men dead.

Tribesmen attacked a military vehicle affiliated with the Third Brigade, Mohammed Salman, the spokesperson of the Third Infantry Brigade, said. Salman said the brigade defended themselves.

Two weeks ago, the Third Infantry Brigade rebelled against their regional superiors when they established makeshift military checkpoints throughout the capital city of the governorate, also called Marib. Brigade members said they



The Third Infantry Brigade includes 2,000 soldiers.

were searching for Al-Qaeda affiliates who had previously killed soldiers from the brigade.

After this renegade action, no action was taken against them, despite the fact that a brigade of the military police—whose function is to police within military ranks—is also based in the area.

Mujali Turaik, the chief of staff of the Fourth Military Police Battalion, was killed near a checkpoint operated by Third Infantry Brigade on Saturday.

## IN BRIEF

Central Security Forces have been working with a private businessman—the leaseholder of a government-owned market in Aden—to illegally detain vendors and shop owners who are late on their rent, HOOD, a Yemeni human rights organization, determined after a recent investigation. Vendors at the state-operated Cairo Market have been detained and beaten, a representative of HOOD told the Yemen Times. An administrative employee at the market denied all accusations. (S.A.)

Marine forces confiscated a shipment of smuggled pesticides on Monday in international waters near Yemen's Myon Island coming from Djibouti. Mohammed Ahmed Saber, the director of the Mocha Port—a former hub of maritime activity on the Red Sea—said that the shipment was brought to the port to be checked by the military and security officials. Five sailors were arrested. (R.A.)

On Tuesday, an officer was killed and three others were injured in Sa'ada as they were demining an area in Razeh district. Brigadier Ali Al-Qadri, the head of Yemen Executive Mine Action Center said the mines were likely set by the government, leftovers from battles fought against Houthi groups, which began in 2004 and lasted till 2009. It's estimated thousands of landmines still lie undetonated in these areas. Al-Qadri said they have lost 25 staff members since 2004 in similar incidents. Forty have been injured, some seriously. (R.A.)

Reporting by: Samar Al-Ariqi and Rammah Al-Jubari

"The leadership of the JMP should calm down and stop the unjustified media escalation," Ahmed Al-Khawlani, a GPC parliamentarian said. "If they are not satisfied, there are elections. The party that gets the majority [can] pass what it wants."

### CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS:

For [Training on Online Publishing](#) - 25-29 May 2013 (training days could be changed to 1-5 June 2013), Sana'a, Yemen.

This training aims to build the capacity of the Yemeni online journalists to develop their technical skills, so they are better equipped to report in more credible manner.

The specific areas of focus will be:

- ◆ Ethics and credibility in online journalism,
- ◆ Rules for copyright and ownership for online publishing,
- ◆ Info-graphics
- ◆ Information gathering from internet and verifying it
- ◆ Multimedia reporting, Digital storytelling - to produce stories using audio, video, photos and web design tools.
- ◆ Basics on designing a web-page, new internet based technologies to produce web-related content

### Criteria for Participation:

This call is for eligible **mid-career journalists** in Yemen who are already publishing their contents, and are interested to keep up with the new trend in the rapidly evolving field of online journalism. Candidates currently employed by a (online) media organization in Yemen will need to have full support from of their employer to participate in this training program. In case of a free-lancer, the candidate must be able to demonstrate the track record and commitment to continue work in this field.

The applicants who do to meet the criteria mentioned above will not be selected.

The training will be conducted in English, but Equal Access will arrange for a translator as per the need of the participants. The participant must be able to attend the full training program and be highly motivated to participate in the training and in follow up activities.

Interested candidates are requested to send in their **application in English**, with contact information and **updated CV** to [eayemenjobs@gmail.com](mailto:eayemenjobs@gmail.com); no later than 20<sup>th</sup> May 2013. Please also include a 'motivation letter' with your application **to demonstrate your commitment to the training program and your work as an online journalist in Yemen**.

No participation fee is requested. However, the participants are requested to bring their own laptops during the training. Few laptops may also be made available by Equal Access for the participants for training duration who are not able to bring their own. **Females and candidates from rural governorates of Yemen are highly encouraged to apply.**

**Dear readership** Over half of Yemeni children under 5 years of age are physically stunted. Forty-three percent of them are underweight. Fifteen percent of them suffer from emaciation. Others Yemeni children live with anemia, rickets and poor immune systems.

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**OXFAM**

**JOB ANNOUNCEMENT**

Oxfam, an international NGO working with others to find lasting solutions to poverty and injustice, has been working in Yemen since 1983. Oxfam announces the following vacancies for its Humanitarian Programme

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**Location:** Haradh  
**Contract Duration:** 3 months

**The role**

You will be working closely with the Public Health Engineer Team Leader to identify, design and construct water and sanitation facilities that meet community needs. In some instances, this may involve re-commissioning existing systems. But in many cases you'll need to create everything from ground up, including the means of abstraction, storage, treatment and distribution of water as well as excreta and refuse disposal, vector control and drainage at the field level. You will set up programme impact/process monitoring systems and collect relevant secondary data relating to disease patterns, facilities and government programmes.

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**Location:** Haradh  
**Contract Duration:** 6 months

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**What we're looking for**

We are looking for people with at least three years experience in purchasing, warehousing, and vehicle management administration. Any additional experience in emergency relief would obviously be an advantage, proving your resilience and ability to maintain teamwork under pressure. You will have excellent diplomatic, tact and negotiating skills, as well as oral and written communication skills in both English and Arabic, and will possess good computer skills.

**To apply**

If you believe that you have the qualifications and skills to excel in either of these positions, please send a copy of your CV and a cover letter, clearly stating the job and the location of the job you are applying for in the email subject, to [yemenjobs@oxfam.org.uk](mailto:yemenjobs@oxfam.org.uk).

**Closing date for applications is 29<sup>th</sup> May 2013**



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For the coming academic year, we are accepting applications for the following subjects:

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- English Language •Mathematics
- Sciences (Biology, Chemistry, Physics)
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- Qur'an • Islamic Education • Arabic Language • Social Studies

Applicants to the either section should be self-motivated and creative teachers, preferably with a minimum of five years teaching experience. Applicants to the English Section should preferably have near-native English fluency in all language areas, and at least three years' experience with Checkpoint, IGCSE, AS-Level or similar syllabuses.

Interested candidates are encouraged to visit the school, located behind the Shahrn Hotel, to complete an application, including a copy of their Curriculum Vitae and a photograph. Alternatively, candidates can contact the school for more information:

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Imported perfume vs. local fragrance

# Yemen grows sweet-smelling flowers, but exports most of them

Story and photos by  
Ali Abulohoom

Passing by one of the perfume stores that are spread throughout Sana'a, a sweet fragrance wafts out onto the street. Inside, perfume bottles are neatly classified on mirrored

shelves. They're sold in two forms—oil, which is usually cheaper, and in spray-canisters.

In decades before, most of this perfume was made domestically, and out of natural ingredients, like flowers, fruit and herbs.

Today, most of the perfume is factory-made and imported. It's much cheaper.

Rasheed Al-Haddad, an economics analyst, says that European countries famous for their perfume—like France—will often import seeds of fragrant flowers from Yemen (and other parts of the Arab world) plant them, extract the scent and resell the perfume to Yemen.

Al-Haddad regrets the fact that Yemen imports almost all of its perfume.

"Jasmine flowers are grown in Hodeida governorate and screw-pine flowers grow in Lahj. These two kinds of flowers can be used to make local perfumes," Al-Haddad said. "And it's inexpensive to grow them."

"We could be building factories in these two governorates, but [we haven't]. We continue to depend on imported perfumes," he said.

Perfume bottles, neatly organized, line the shelves of Al-Masri Ikhwan's shop on Hael Street. The store is owned by Khalil Al-Masri, a Syrian who now lives in Yemen.

Al-Masri estimates that putting together a perfume factory, depending on its production capacity, could cost anywhere from \$100,000 to \$1 million—an astronomical amount of money for most Yemenis.

Natural perfumes take a long time to prepare. It is not a quick process, but labor intensive.

Al-Masri explained the process for making perfume.

"Perfumes undergo three phases. In the first one, flowers are dried for about a month. Then, the percolation phase begins, which takes between three to six months," Al-Masri says. "Eventually, [the perfume enters the] fermentation phase that takes between three months to five years."

Al-Masri's operates a perfume factory in Syria but is planning on opening a branch in Yemen. He said the natural perfumes are expensive because they don't contain chemical materials like the imported ones, adding the natural perfumes



This merchant takes essential oils and mixes them with artificial fragrances contained in the machine pictured above.



The sale of artificial perfumes continues to out pace that of natural ones because of its comparatively cheap price, vendors say.



Khalil Al-Masri keeps his stock of natural perfumes behind him. He explains it can take up to five years to prepare the natural kind, a time-frame many just do not have the patience for.

contain high proportion of natural flowers' extracts as well as the perfumes extracted from Sandalwood.

"The artificial perfumes contain 15 percent of artificial odors and 5 percent of natural flowers' extracts," he added.

Natural perfumes are named after the ingredients that go into them: jasmine, lily, basil and fruits. Men and women buy them.

However, natural perfumes aren't nearly as popular as the artificial ones due to their high price. They're much more expensive. A 100 milliliter bottle of natural perfumes could be sold for \$100 to \$250, the artificial ones go for as

little as \$5 (on the high end, they can also be found selling for \$150).

Al-Masri states what may be obvious, "The financial situation of customers decides the perfume they select."

Mustfa Al-Dubaei, 31, a perfume merchant in Al-Tahrir district of Sana'a, said he imports high-end perfumes from Dubai. Other shop owners import brands like Dior from France, Italy, Germany and Spain.

Abdulghani Al-Sudais is a 30-year-old perfume vendor in Sana'a. Every day he sets up a stand at the entrance of Remas restaurant on Hadda Street.

Al-Sudais said he sells oil perfumes he has made himself, mixing ingredient and creating his own concoctions. He tries to model the scents on the international brands, which he says are more popular.

Hadad said the local perfume factories could have high economic revenues, mitigate unemployment and will provide local production of perfumes.

Flowers, like roses and jasmine, and sandalwood are harvested from Yemen and exported.

"Yemen now has a market for international products—but we don't realize that we're the ones with the crude material," Hadad said.

## Fake gold, sometimes preferable to the real stuff

Story and photos by  
Amal Al-Yarisi

At the Musheer Shop on Jamal Street, a busy commercial road in Sana'a, rings, necklaces and belts glitter in their display case.

At first glance they jewelry appears to be the genuine, real stuff that has been used for thousands of years in countries all over the world to make jewelry—gold. But it is not. The displayed items are fake and representative of an increasing trend to coat other metals like copper and silver with a coating of gold-colored paint to make them appear authentic.

"The more deteriorated the economic situation gets, the greater the demand for this 'fake gold' is," said Musheer Omar, a 27-year-old who has been working in his father's shop on Jamal Street for 12 years. "People have the right to dream of having the gold even if it is false."

Omar says they only began the practice of coating jewelry with yellow paint at their shop four years ago. Gold jewelry is very popular

among women, especially at social occasions including weddings. This provides women an opportunity to show off even if they cannot afford the real stuff, Omar says.

"We want to decorate ourselves with gold-colored accessories. It has become common among lots of women," said Fatima Alrimi, a local shopper who says she would never be able to afford jewelry if it wasn't fake.

Because the gold color fades after about six months, Omar keeps his

customers coming back.

"Lots of people return to dye their metals again after their color pales," he said.

At Omar's shop a fake gold necklace sells for YR1,000, about \$5. In comparison, he says a real gold necklace would be about 10 times that price.

A majority of these jewelry shops specializing in fake gold know their audiences. They cater to lower income people and the young, says Mohammed Al-Shami, a jewelry

shop owner in Shumaila Market,

"The price of gold nowadays is not suitable for their living circumstances," said Abdulrahman Ali, a student at Sana'a University, who is happy to have the option to buy fake gold.

Yemeni men are expected to offer Yemeni women a lump sum of money to be spent on gold jewelry as a part of the traditional dowry offered for marriage. Although it depends on the part of the country—urban areas pay more—an expectation of a gold offering in Sana'a from an employed man can range on average from YR 200,000 to YR 1 million or \$1,000 to over \$4,000.

This is worrying for some men who will not be able to meet the expectation.

"I could not get married because I cannot afford the price of gold," Ali said.

Even the cheaper price of fake gold isn't enough to lure Ali away from waiting until he can afford genuine gold. He said it would be too shameful to buy his future bride fake jewelry.

One local man learned this the hard way.

Amal Noman, a private sector employee, re-



Not all that glitters is gold—but many customers don't mind if they're buying gold-coated copper rings. They're much cheaper.

counts how her sister was deceived and given fake gold as a part of her dowry.

"We felt happy when my sister was given her gold during her wedding," she said.

Then a year later the family found out that the YR 400,000 the man had supposedly spent on rings, bracelets and belts for his wife were not genuine.

The couple later divorced Noman said. While Noman doesn't see anything wrong with fake gold jewelry she says it should never be used in a deceiving way.

But for vendors like Al-Shami, they understand what they are doing is a business.

"I have coated lots of metal rings with gold," he said. "This is my work."



Rings, necklaces and belt buckles covered in gold paint will lose their color over time.



# Frequent power cuts drive Yemeni girls to establish solar-powered appliances company

Story and photos by Samar Qaed

It all began on a rainy day in Sana'a when the electricity flickered out.

Bian Al-Rimi saw her brother leaving the house with an umbrella and flashlight in hand, and inspiration struck.

"I told my friends—we can make umbrellas with flashlights inside. I also told my father about the idea, and he liked it. After that, we presented the idea to Injaz Yemen and got approval one week later," Al-Rimi said.

The idea to power the light bulbs with solar energy came later.

Injaz Association is a nonprofit organization with a branch in Yemen. They receive significant funding from USAID and work with a group of local partners. Majed Al-Shmiri, the CEO of Injaz Association's branch in Yemen, called the girls' project "superb."

"[Injaz] suggested using large umbrellas that can be used in restaurants and parks and by street vendors too," Al-Rimi said.

This idea is this: an umbrella is

fitted with a solar panel connected to a light bulb which is fastened inside. The panel takes in the sunlight and turns it into electric power that lights the bulb.

Over the summer, the girls further developed their ideas in a course organized by Injaz and in coordination with Yemen's Ministry of Education. They came up with a name for themselves: Creative Generation.

After the training and putting their ideas into action, the girls came in first in two competitions for young entrepreneurs—organized by Injaz—in Sana'a in September 2012 and in Qatar in November 2012.

But funding was still an issue. The girls came up with more ideas but were still dependent on Injaz for funding. You can't create these solar-powered umbrellas for free, they said.

Thankfully for them, they just received \$15,000 grant to establish their own company from the phone company MTN.

"We screamed and jumped up with joy when we heard the news," Amani Al-Qershi, one of the inventors, said.

"We regained the old enthusiasm we had in the beginning," said Al-Qershi.

Dome Company, Almaz Group, Hadda Valley School, Yemen Observer and MTN run the directorate of Injaz Association's branch in Yemen.

Ali Abdulwarith, deputy CEO of MTN, said MTN supported the girls during their training last year and will continue to support them until their appliance company is fully formed, which is expected to take four months. After that, they'll have to look for other investors.

"Solar-powered devices are in demand due to the deteriorating situation of electricity in Yemen, and we will see how the project develops and provide the needed advice," Abdulwarith said.

Al-Rimi said she never expected to reach this stage and establish a company. It was always just a dream.

Yusra Rashid, another inventor, admits they would sometimes skip class to work on the inventions.

"In the beginning we gathered in the school yard, any empty school or even in corridors inside the



After receiving a \$15,000 grant to start their own company, the girls say they "jumped for joy."

school but later, the school gave us an empty room to work in," Rashid remembers.

Al-Yusfi said they were lucky

too, adding that "Once we went to electricity equipment stores to ask about solar panels and accidentally met an engineer interested in solar power, named Munsar Al-Wahbani. We told him about our idea, and he was enthusiastic to help."

Al-Wahbani said he knew the girls would succeed due to their enthusiasm and ambition.

"I really liked the idea," Al-Wahbani said. "I started to go to the school to help the girls."

"Utilizing my experience in electric devices, I opened bulbs and fans and the girls added the solar panels," he added.

Al-Rimi said several people have bought their products, adding

they have made seven umbrellas and three fans. They've been busy studying, she explained. Otherwise they'd have made more.

"We'll make more after the final exams. We've got plans to make tents, heaters and sensors," she said.

The girls said this most recent grant will really help. But they have to keep looking for more investors.

When Wafa Al-Rimi signed the agreement with the Injaz Association at a press conference last week, surrounded by journalists and other officials, she said that it felt momentous.

"I feel that I'm a businesswoman now," she said.



The girls are busy getting their solar appliances business off the ground with fans and their original idea of umbrellas with solar-powered light bulbs. They are still in school so all projects must be done between classes.



**SUPPORTING REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH, POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT IN YEMEN**

صندوق الأمم المتحدة للسكان

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

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**Unit: Operations**  
**Post Level: GS-2**  
**Duration: One Year with possible extension**

Under the direct supervision of the Administrative Associate, the immediate duties and responsibilities of the incumbent will be, but not limited to, the following:-

**Duties & Responsibilities:**

- Drives for the staff of the office and other high-ranking officials and missions as per schedules and plans agreed and communicated to the incumbent on the daily basis. Carries out all assignments requested by the supervisor;
- Responsible for the day to day maintenance of the assigned vehicle, checks oil, water, battery, brakes, tires etc., performs minor repairs and arranges for other repairs when necessary and ensures that the vehicle is kept clean;
- Logs official trips, daily mileage, gas consumption, oil change, greasing etc.,
- Collects and delivers mail and documents when required and across the UN agencies, donors, missions government, civil society etc ;
- In emergency deliver documents and important posts to the staff/management when in meetings or/and working from home;
- Ensures that the steps required by rules and regulations are taken in case of involvement in an accident;
- Takes part as per need in the logistics activity in the office, like packing, moving documents, unloading trucks and cars assisting the programme staff with materials preparation/printing and delivering to the place of conferences, workshops etc..
- Helps in any other office work per request and performs any other duties as required.

**Minimum Qualifications/Competencies:**

- Secondary level education and valid driving license.
- Knowledge of traffic rules and regulations and chauffeur courtesies, be punctuate and have a good sense of timing as well as skills in minor vehicle repair;
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Please note that only candidates who fulfil the above requirements will be considered and notified



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**Post Title:** Programme Assistant  
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**MAIN DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

1. Follow up requests from partners and process financial cash advances transactions through the UNICEF financial system ensuring accuracy and timeliness and follow up on accounting documents.
2. Review supply requests from counterparts and support procurement process for health and nutrition programme supplies and services and process transactions
3. Regular monitor financial utilization using available monitoring systems such as SAP and present these to the monthly section meeting and advice the head of section on the status of program funds and closely monitoring of funds expiry, outstanding Direct Cash Transfers and donor conditions
4. Arrange and provide administrative/logistics support to review and emergency coordination meetings/workshops including cluster coordination meetings, conferences, workshops both internal and external, some involving high ranking officials, and takes minutes and/or notes at meetings.
5. Contributes to the preparation of reports, project documents and submissions to governments by providing information, preparing tables and drafting relatively routine sections. Prepares background information for use in discussions with governments and other organizations. Participates in the briefing and debriefing of project personnel.
6. Performs other duties, as required.

**MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS**

Completion of secondary education, preferably supplemented by technical or university courses in a field related to the work of the organization. Six years of progressively responsible clerical or administrative work, of which at least one year is closely related to support of programme activities.

- Computer literacy with database management, knowledge of spreadsheet and word processing required.
- Good oral and written communication skills
- Excellent time management and organizing skills.
- Good knowledge of administrative rules & regulations.
- Ability to work effectively and harmoniously in an international and multicultural environment is desirable.
- Good interpersonal skills
- Initiative, passion and commitment to UNICEF's mission and professional values

**LANGUAGE**

Very good knowledge of English. Knowledge of local language of the duty station is desirable.

**COMPETENCIES REQUIRED**

- i) Core Values**
- Commitment
  - Diversity and Inclusion
  - Integrity
- ii) Core Competencies**
- Communication
  - Working with People
  - Drive for Results
- ii) Functional Competencies**
- Analyzing
  - Applying Technical Expertise
  - Following instructions & procedures
  - Planning & 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 **29 May 2013**. 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





# Nakba Day 2013

## AN ONGOING DISPLACEMENT THE FORCED EXILE OF THE PALESTINIANS

**1922 LAND OWNERSHIP DISTRIBUTION**

IN 1922, **750,000 PEOPLE** LIVED IN THE TERRITORY OF THE BRITISH MANDATE, INCLUDING **84,000 OF JEWISH FAITH.**

**1922 POPULATION PALESTINIAN 670,000 JEWISH 84,000**

**1948 LAND OWNERSHIP DISTRIBUTION**

BETWEEN 1918 AND 1948 **480,000 JEWISH PEOPLE** SETTLED.

IN 1948, **750,000, OR OVER 50% OF THE PALESTINIAN POPULATION** ARE DISPLACED.

**1948 POPULATION PALESTINIAN 1,070,000 JEWISH 720,000**

**1967 LAND OWNERSHIP DISTRIBUTION**

BETWEEN 1948 AND 1967 **1.3 MILLION JEWISH PEOPLE** SETTLED.

IN THE 1967 WAR **440,000 PALESTINIANS** ARE DISPLACED. BY 1967 **1.1 MILLION PALESTINIANS** ARE LIVING IN EXILE.

**1967 POPULATION PALESTINIAN 1,280,000 JEWISH 2,380,000**

**2008 LAND OWNERSHIP DISTRIBUTION**

BETWEEN 1967 AND 2008 **1.8 MILLION JEWISH PEOPLE** SETTLED.

AFTER 1967 **240,000 PALESTINIAN RESIDENCES** REVOKED. BY 2008 **5.3 MILLION PALESTINIANS** ARE LIVING IN EXILE.

**2008 POPULATION PALESTINIAN 5,120,000 JEWISH 5,610,000**

**2010 LAND OWNERSHIP DISTRIBUTION**

IN 2010, **100,000 ISRAELI SETTLERS** DISPLACED **100,000 PALESTINIANS** IN EXILE.

**2010 POPULATION PALESTINIAN 5,120,000 JEWISH 5,610,000**

**QUOTE SOURCES**

Moshe Sharett, Minister of Israel, 1944: "WE HAVE FORGOTTEN THAT WE HAVE NOT COME TO AN EMPTY LAND TO INHERIT IT, BUT WE HAVE COME TO CONQUER A COUNTRY FROM PEOPLE INHABITING IT."

David Ben-Gurion, First Prime Minister of Israel, 1948: "THE ARABS OF THE LAND OF ISRAEL HAVE ONLY ONE FUNCTION TRANSFER LEFT TO THEM— TO RUN AWAY."

Moshe Dayan, Former Defense Minister of Israel, 1967: "HOUSES WERE DESTROYED NOT IN RETALIATION BUT AS PUNISHMENT. AND IN ORDER TO CHASE AWAY THE INHABITANTS."

Binyamin Netanyahu, Current Prime Minister of Israel, 2009: "[THE PALESTINIANS] MUST PERMANENTLY ABANDON THEIR DEMAND TO SETTLE THE OFFSPRING OF REFUGEES WITHIN THE BORDERS OF ISRAEL."

Ilan Pappé, British Historian, 2010: "IN A NUTSHELL, ZIONISM IS AN ATTEMPT TO TAKE A RELIGION, A CULTURE, LAND CONDENSED INTO AN ETHNIC IDENTITY IN A COLONIALIST CONTEXT."

**MAP AND DATA SOURCES**

Maps show Jewish-owned land up to 1948 and Israeli Jewish State land and Jewish National Fund land thereafter. MAPS ADAPTED FROM: Harel Shoshan, 2010. Atlas of the Conflict: Israel-Palestine. FTI Team, 2012. Map of the West Bank, Settlements and the Separation Barrier. POPULATION DATA COMPILED FROM: Palestinian Central Bureau of Statistics. http://www.pCBS.gov.ps Israeli Central Bureau of Statistics. http://www.cbs.gov.il

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**LAND STATUS AND POPULATION**

ISRAELI / JEWISH PALESTINIAN

100,000 ISRAELI SETTLERS 100,000 PALESTINIANS 100,000 PALESTINIANS IN EXILE

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### YT vision statement



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

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



### OUR OPINION

## Yemeni women rock!

I am writing this from Oslo, which is said to be the best place for women. Coming from Yemen, where it is said to be the worst place for women, makes me reflect.

I am in Oslo receiving the most prestigious prize there is for businesses working towards the development of their communities. I can stand in the same place where Noble Peace laureates receive their awards and feel proud.

The master of ceremonies asked me: "What message do you have for the world from Oslo?" I remember that just last year Tawakkul Karman stood in this same place to receive her award. On an impulse, I said, "I want the world to know, Yemeni women rock!"

And we do.

Yemeni women are now changing the way they are perceived, and the legacy they will pass on to their daughters and granddaughters. Not only is the county in transition—the status of Yemeni women is in transition all at the same time.

There are more Yemeni women in positions of power today than ever before, and the good news is that this is not seen as unusual in the community. I suppose it has taken a lot of time, but finally some light bulb hidden in the dark corners of society's collective brain went off, and we realized: Yemeni women rock!

There is great, still untapped, potential for the women of Yemen. Once we fully realize this—which we have now begun to—we will easily improve the economy in a much shorter time than if women are excluded from the organized workforce.

Despite the fact that women's percentage in the labor force is below 20 percent, the unemployment rate for women in Yemen is much lower than that of men. This means that employers are considering women more reliable and productive. It also means it is very likely that if more women are educated, they will get jobs.

Some Yemeni men complain women are taking their jobs. I think if men showed up for work on time and did what they were expected to do, they would not have anything to complain about.

I write from Oslo feeling proud, accomplished and very optimistic. I know there is a long road ahead and the journey for Yemen to become one of the best places for women to live could take decades—but I take comfort knowing that at least we started.

Nadia Al-Sakkaf

## Commemorating the Nakba

Audrey Bloomfield  
Policymic.com  
First Published May 15

May 15 marks the commemoration of Nakba Day.

The Nakba, which means "the catastrophe" in Arabic, refers to the forcible expulsion of 700,000-800,000 Palestinians from their land in the time leading up to and following the creation of the state of Israel in 1948.

Contrary to claims that the Palestinians decided to leave, author and journalist Ben White points out that "those who left did not do so of their own volition."

The cleansing of Palestinians from Palestine was part of deliberate strategy on the part of Zionist leaders. According to University of Exeter Professor Ilan Pappé, "Zionist leaders decided that the best means of making the vision of a Jewish Palestine possible was by forcefully dispossessing the Palestinians from their homeland."

Although it took place 65 years ago, the

Nakba is still relevant given that, as the Institute for Middle East Understanding (IMEU) points out, it "is the source of the still-unresolved Palestinian refugee problem." Israel still refuses to adhere to the internationally recognized right of return for Palestinian refugees.

Despite its continued relevance, or perhaps because of it, Noam Sheizaf argues in 972 Magazine that recently "a trend of Nakba-denial has emerged in Jewish-Israeli political circles."

In 2011, Israel passed a law which authorized the government to withdraw funding from any organization that commemorates the Nakba. The chairman of the Committee on Civic Studies in the Education Ministry, Professor Asher Cohen of Bar-Ilan University, recently argued the Nakba is not taught in the curriculum of civic studies or history in the Israeli school system because they deal with facts and not narratives.

The Nakba, however, is not simply an important part of the narrative of the ongoing Israeli occupation of Palestine, it is also fact.



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فرع عدن: ٠٢/٢٥٢٤٥٦	
فرع الحديدة: ٠٣/٢٠١٤٧٤	
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فندق شهران - صنعاء	٠١/٤١٨٢٢٠

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### مطاعم

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تلفون: ٠١٠٥٧٢٦٢ - ١٠٠٩٣٥٠٥ - فاكس: ٩١٦٧١٢

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### مراكز تدريب وتعليم الكمبيوتر

NIIT لتعليم الكمبيوتر

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### عقارات

- للبيع: مرسيدس 500 موديل 2006 زرقاء كاملة، المواصلات، هايديروليك. 777245778
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### بحوث عن وظيفة

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- مطلوب مندوبين مبيعات مواد غذائية، المؤهل لا يقل عن الثانوية العامة، رخصة قيادة سارية المفعول، خبرة لاتقل عن سنة في نفس المجال، يرجى إرسال السيرة الذاتية على فاكس رقم: 01-261262 أو التواصل على الرقم 01-510788
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Seen all over the world, auto rickshaws are now popular in Sana'a

# Tok-toks, gaining speed but angering officials

Story and photos by Samar Qaed

**A**nwar Al-Faqeh starts his day every morning by getting into his motorized vehicle to start picking up passengers in the streets. His vehicle isn't the typical minibus known as a "debab" or one of the thousands of motorcycles that quickly dodge traffic in Yemen's capital Sana'a. Al-Faqeh's transport has three wheels and is characterized by its big yellow covering. Al-Faqeh drives a tok-tok, an auto rickshaw that has been used ubiquitously all over Asia for the last 50 years.

Tok-toks originally came to Yemen in 2000 in small numbers. They were used by restaurants to make deliveries but this past March their presence on the road increased as they were introduced as a means of public transportation by a local company.

The Gazelle Transportation Company, which formed this year imports the tiny vehicles from China. They say there are currently 120 tok-toks roaming the streets of Sana'a.

Al-Faqeh says the passengers who venture to ride with him pepper him with questions about the



These tiny auto rickshaws first appeared in Sana'a over a decade ago. The models in Yemen are painted bright yellow and are spotted easily from afar.

new transport. They want to know how fast it can go and where these vehicles come from.

He happily answers 60 kilometers per hour as he gathers customers at the Remas roundabout which is located off of a well-known thoroughfare in Sana'a. This area has become somewhat of a hub for tok-toks, especially in the afternoon hours.

"My work driving a tok-tok is better now than my past work," said Al-Faqeh, who used to be a bus driver.

The Gazelle Company rents tok-toks to drivers for YR1,800, about \$8, a day.

Al-Faqeh says business is good.

He makes YR4,000 to YR5,000 (\$18 to \$23) a day. He and others drivers have capitalized on people's curiosity of the vehicles.

Though many are enthusiastic to take the mini taxis for a spin, others are worried about the vehicles' ability to protect them in accidents. "I tried the tok-tok, and I found it without a safety belt and its frame is weak," said local resident Abdulfatah Al-Hamadi, who worries it would implode in an accident.

Akram Al-Sharjabi suggested only allowing tok-toks to operate in Sana'a's Old City, which is walled in and where traffic is a controversy.

The Old City has narrow streets which are ideal for small vehicles,

Al-Hamadi said.

Another issue of concern for some is a lack of privacy for women, something that is valued in Yemeni society.

"When women board tok-toks, bystanders watch and comment because it is open and unprotected," said Mansour Al-Haj, a local in the capital city.

Government ministries are torn about allowing tok-toks in Sana'a. Several months ago the capital secretariat discussed solutions to curbing the number of motorcycles in use in Yemen as they were being used in an unprecedented number of assassinations and linked to a high number of traffic accidents.

Among the suggestions put forward to rid the city of its dependence on motorcycles was to bring in tok-toks.

But, right now, the Gazelle Transportation Company is at odds with the Traffic Department in Sana'a due to the licensing of the vehicles.

Although the Gazelle Company says they are operating within the law and applied for 60 licenses for their drivers from the traffic department, the traffic department is upset because they say they were deceived by the company and issued them motorcycle licenses.

Part of the problem is that tok-tok are so new there isn't an official license for them yet.

About half of the tok-tok drivers like Al-Faqeh are former bus drivers and are just using those old licenses—the other half have the motorcycleists' licenses that the Traffic Department unknowingly issued.

For the Gazelle Company that is good enough, but for city officials, it isn't.

Colonel Abdulkareem Al-Jaefi, the traffic manager in Sana'a, expressed his dissatisfaction with tok-toks as a means of public transportation.

"Tok-toks have been imported to Yemen and brought to the streets haphazardly," he said.

Al-Jaefi said the Gazelle Company should never have received motorists' licenses and should have waited for the traffic department to create restrictions and rules for their use.

In order to create such restrictions the traffic department must wait for the capital secretariat to permit them to do so, something that could be a lengthy process, officials say.

So with no law technically telling them they cannot operate the little yellow vehicles continue to pick up passengers.

"If the capital secretariat wants to determine special places for the movement of tok-tok, we will comply with that," said Mutahr Al-Qadi, the executive manager of the Gazelle Company.

"We have no objection to keep everything organized. But [for now] we will continue to work on all the streets of the capital city."

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Tok-toks are imported from China and are found all over Asia and the Middle East.