



Thursday, 19 March, 2015 • Issue No. 1869 • Price 50 Yemeni Riyals www.yementimes.com • Founded in 1991 by Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf

News Yemen's largest power plant in need of urgent repairs: 'Could stop at any point'

**Vox Pop** Friday of Dignity four years on: What's changed? Page 2 Page 3

Report Equestrian sport **Vox Pop** in Yemen: For the elite?

Page 4

**Our Opinion** On anniversary of Friday of Dignity massacre, the killing of Abdul Karim Al-Khaiwani Page 5 **Photo Essay** Majority of Yemeni minors lack birth certificates Page 6



BUSINESS

FOR PEACE

AWARD

# Houthi journalist assassinated in Sana'a

### Ali Ibrahim Al-Moshki

SANA'A, March 18-Prominent journalist and leading Houthi activist Abdul Karim Al-Khaiwani was assassinated in the capital Sana'a on Wednesday.

Al-Khaiwani was shot in the head by two men on a motorcycle at about 11:00 a.m., near to his house on Hayal Street.

Mohammad Al-Bukhaiti, a member of the Houthi Political Office in Sana'a, said the assailants fled the scene while Al-Khaiwani was taken

to the Science and Technology Hospital on Al-Siteen Street.

Originally from Taiz governorate, Al-Khaiwani is a member of the Houthi Revolutionary Committee and served as a representative for the group at the National Dialogue Conference.

On Feb. 6 Al-Khaiwani presented the Houthis' constitutional declaration at the Republican Palace, which essentially formalized the militant group's coup.

He had previously worked as head of the political department for Al-Haq Party, and served as editorin-chief for its Al-Ummah newspaper, a position he has also filled for Al-Shora newspaper.

Al-Khaiwani is perhaps best known for his outspoken criticism of Ali Abdullah Saleh's former regime, and its wars in Sa'ada in particular. He was imprisoned on a number of occasions following his first arrest in 2004. Sentenced to six years in 2008, he was pardoned by Saleh after Amnesty International brought attention to his case. Al-Khaiwani was prevented from



Abdul Karim Al-Khaiwani

leaving Yemen until 2011, when he became a prominent figure in the country's uprising against Saleh's government.





Houthis prevent minister from traveling despite ending house arrest

# Ali Ibrahim Al-Moshki

SANA'A, March 18-Armed Houthis at Sana'a International Airport prevented Mohammad Al-Maitami, the former minister of planning and international cooperation, from leaving the country on Tuesday.

The Houthis announced the day prior that the prime minister and all members of the former Cabinet would be released from house arrest and were free to move within or outside the country as they please.

A source who spoke directly with Al-Maitami, who chose to remain anonymous, said the former minister intended to travel to Amman, Jordan, in order to accompany a relative seeking medical treatment

there Al-Maitami had his passport confiscated at the airport and only had it returned once he was brought back to his house, said the source, adding that he was not placed back under house arrest.

Khalid Al-Shaef, director of Sana'a International Airport, confirmed the former minister was prevented from traveling, but said he has no further details as the Houthis are the responsible party.

"We have no orders saying that we should allow or disallow ministers

or any political figures from leaving through the airport," he added.

Al-Shaef confirmed that the men who prevented Al-Maitami from traveling were Houthis. Following the group's takeover of the capital on Sept. 21, a number of Houthi militants were incorporated into the airport's security.

There are some things that happen in the airport that I am personally unaware of because they are overseen by representatives from Ansar Allah [the Houthis]," said Al-Shaef.

Houthi Political Office members Mohammad Al-Bukhaiti and Ali Al-Qahoom refused to comment on



Mohammad Al-Maitami had his passport confiscated by armed Houthis at the airport.

## the incident.

Mohammad Al-Maitami comes from Ibb governorate in southern Yemen, and identifies as being politically independent.

The Houthis announced on Monday morning the lifting of house arrests imposed on former Prime Minister Khaled Bahah and members of his Cabinet. Bahah had been under house arrest for close to two months, while others were prevented from leaving the capital Sana'a.



توفرزيوت الحرك موبيل أداءً قويّاً وحماية مييزة لجموعة أوسع

لمزيد من المعلومات ، يرجى زيارة:

Mobil Υνεπιυβ

ليمنية لتسويق زيوت إسو و موبيل (يملوب) صنعاء - تلفون: 469680/1/2/3/4 1 967+ فاکس : 469145 1 967+ ص.ب: 3516

من السيارات.





Friday of Dignity four years on: On March 18, four years after the Friday of Dignity massacre that left around 50 dead and hundreds wounded, Houthis demonstrated at Dignity Roundabout, where a memorial stands. The Houthis, many of whom were armed, raised photos of their leader Abdulmalik Al-Houthi

The group itself has violently cracked down on peaceful protesters. The Yemen Times took to the streets to ask locals what has changed since that day four years ago [see page 3].

Photo by Nasser Al-Sakkaf

Bahah's press secretary, Mohammad Bafadhel, said, "I find this behavior very strange because the Houthis announced freedom of travel inside and outside Yemen to all ministers.

Bahah is still in Sana'a and will travel this week to Hadramout governorate where a large celebration will be held to receive him, Bafadhel told the Yemen Times. He is due to fly to Canada to meet with his family soon after.

Rajeh Badi, former spokesperson

for the resigned Cabinet, confirmed that the technocratic government will not act as a caretaker government and Bahah will not withdraw the resignation he issued on Jan. 22.

"Bahah refused to withdraw his resignation or even work in a caretaker government while the capital and state institutions remain under the control of an armed militia," Badi said.

16 – 19 yea

Cambridge Int AS and A Leve

Cambridge Pre-U



As Cambridge International E ion Centre SBS is ready to offer you the chance to enrol your students in the June 2015 and November 2015 for the following exams: **Primary Checkpoint**  Secondary Checkpoint IGCSE and O Level · AS and A Level For further information and registrat

Mrs. Afrah Al Sayani (CIE Examintaion Officer) UNIVERSITY of CAMBRIDGE

Cambridge International Sc

P.O.Box 15546 , No 18, St 21 (off Nouakchoott st) . Tel: (967-1) 203 950. Fax: (967-1) 206 134 Website: www.sbsyemen.org . Email : afrah\_al\_sayani@yahoo.com

# Around The Nation



# Yemen's largest power plant in need of urgent repairs: 'Could stop at any point'

## Ali Ibrahim Al-Moshki

SANA'A, March 17–Yemen's largest power plant will, at most, run for 1.8 years before completely ending operations if urgent maintenance on deteriorating parts is not carried out. The plant provides power for 40 percent of the country.

The General Corporation for Electricity warned on Tuesday that the 1.8-year figure, about 16,000 hours, is the maximum amount of time the country has, and that the gas-operated plant, based in Marib, could stop operating at any point.

The plant began operating in 2009 and has been repeatedly attacked. Those attacks increased in the aftermath of Yemen's 2011 uprising.

Rashed Abdulalwali, the general manager of the corporation, said the plant is in danger of going out of service very soon, "which will be a real disaster."

"The plant is in bad condition, and if we do not carry out the necessary maintenance and secure replacement parts, we will be in dangerous risk of shutting down," he added.

The corporation is currently working with the Ministry of Finance to release funds allocated for maintenance, according to Abdulalwali.

Taha Al-Zubair, a media officer at the corporation, said that while the plant is projected to run for



The gas-operated plant in Marib governorate supplies approximatley 40 percent of Yemen's energy needs. Experts estimate it will be out of use within 16,000 hours at most unless urgent repairs are made.

another 16,000 hours, without replacement parts at hand "it could stop in ten or 100 hours."

Al-Zubair said the total cost of the needed replacement parts is over \$40 million. Buying even half the parts, he said, would go a long way toward keeping the plant afloat.

"Negotiations are ongoing between the ministries of electricity and finance," he said. "A year ago, the German company Siemens agreed to sell parts to Yemen for

a cost of \$28 million. The year has ended and we have still not purchased the parts. The company is threatening to sell the parts we need to someone else.'

A source at the Ministry of Interior, who declined to be identified, said the ministry is lacking funds for the maintenance because of the current political situation in the country. The source said it could not pay for the parts in one lump sum, but payment in installments might be an option.

# **Newly appointed Islah** delegates withdraw from talks

### Ali Aboluhom

SANA'A, March 18–Four recently-appointed Islah Party delegates withdrew from the national dialogue in Sana'a on Tuesday. Three of the members were released from weeks of captivity only hours earlier, while the other was released from house arrest the day prior.

Mohammad Al-Saadi, Ali Al-Hadma, Anwar Al-Himyari, and Habib Al-Ariqi were nominated as representatives by Islah on Sun-

low delegates attended Tuesday's session at the Movenpick Hotel before deciding to withdraw that evening. He said UN Special Envoy Jamal Benomar welcomed their attendance and sympathized with their incarceration.

Al-Hadma said he and his colleagues continue to support the party, but feel they can be more effective in other roles. "We are accustomed to working on the revolutionary front, organizing protests and other activities to help us reach our goals of freeing the capital and other governorates from Houthi control and returning the country to stability," he said. The General Secretariat of the Islah Party has accepted the group's resignation. Assistant-Secretary General Mohammad Qahtan and Mohammad Alaw, director of the party's Legal Department, were assigned in their place on Wednesday. Qahtan was chosen to represent the party two months earlier as a replacement for Secretary General Abdulwahab Al-Anesi, who left the country for medical treatment. Qahtan was briefly detained in late-February while in Ibb governorate, allegedly on route to Aden to meet with Hadi. Al-Hadma described the charges brought against him and his colleagues as being politically

driven. "Houthis use terrorist links as a ploy against their opponents. Islah is a legitimate party that has participated peacefully in the political process ever since it was founded in the early 1980s, there is no evidence whatsoever implicating any of its members," he said.

The group's nomination had been characterized as a provocation by the Houthis, used as a means to bring about their release.

Mohammad Al-Bukhaiti, a member of the Houthi Political Office, said the group's sudden withdrawal was an interference with the national dialogue. Speaking of their release on Tuesday, he said, "Yemen is going through a critical period and we waived their sentences to help the political transition run smoothly."

# Southern militia refuses to release kidnapped soldiers in Lahj

## Ali Ibrahim Al-Moshki

SANA'A, March 17–Members of the National Southern Resistance in Lahj governorate are refusing to release nine members of the 201st Armored Brigade kidnapped over a month ago, despite most of their demands being met.

A militant branch of the Southern Movement, the National Southern Resistance kidnapped 12 members of the brigade in the Al-Hamra village of Radfan district on Feb. 15. Three of the men were later released, but the kidnappers say they will only return the remaining men once all their demands are met.

Members of the group laid out their demands in late February. They called for 200 locals from Radfan to be incorporated into the 201st Armored Brigade and its leadership handed to a local officer, for soldiers and officers forced into retirement in 1994 to be reinstated, and for the removal of five recentlyestablished military checkpoints in the district.

Colonel Naji Al-Arashi, chiefof-staff for the 201st brigade, said the demands are unreasonable but has agreed to many of them. "Their demands are quite impossible to meet but we have agreed to most of

them for the sake of peace and to ensure our men are safely returned, but now they are preparing new demands," he said. "Its shows they are not really serious about finding a compromise, they want war."

Al-Arashi said his brigade agreed last Thursday, on March 12, to meet all but two of the kidnappers' demands. The colonel has refused to incorporate 200 new members into his brigade or to hand over one of the five checkpoints, which is set up on a road connecting the district with Al-Dhale governorate.

"With regards to the incorporation of 200 men, we said we don't have the means for it and suggested they join new military units being formed under [Abdu Rabu Mansour] Hadi in Aden, but they insist on joining our brigade," he told the Yemen Times.

Responding in a press release on Tuesday, members of the National Southern Resistance said the kidnapped men would not be released until all of the group's conditions are met, threatening to end negotiations indefinitely if an agreement is not reached.

Abdullah Al-Malahi, a member the group, threatened "war against the brigade and the army" and said it would be "a step towards inde-

#### pendence for the south." He told the Yemen Times that, while other demands had been agreed to, the incorporation of 200 locals into the brigade was their primary objective.

According to Colonel Al-Arashi, three of the kidnapped men were earlier released "because they are southern officers from Lahj governorate, while the rest are northerners."

Al-Malahi denied the colonel's explanation, saying instead that 'the brigade did not bother to ask us about the health of our southern prisoners, they have only shown concern about the other nine men, so we decided to release them."

Radfan district has seen a deterioration of security in recent weeks. Security forces have been deployed throughout the area, with men from the National Southern Resistance taking up positions in surrounding mountains on Feb. 15. Several deaths were reported on both sides when clashes broke out in the areas of Malah and Al-Habilain at the end of February and early March.

Lahj's Radfan district is remembered for its pivotal role in the Oct. 14 revolution of 1963, where resistance to British rule was first mobilized.

# As gas fire continues in Sana'a village, locals demand government compensation

on the

ries

made

dents.

digger,

# Nasser Al-Sakkaf

SANA'A, March 18-Locals of Shokran village, in Sana'a governorates's Al-Tayal district, are demanding compensation from the government over injuries and damage caused when a well caught fire Sunday.

Local residents began drilling into the well last week, which is said to have run dry about twenty years ago. Having dug more than 940 meters, the well burst into flames that were carried to ground level with a powerful stream of water.

Over 20 men standing around the well were injured in the explosion. The drilling equipment was also damaged by the flames, which have continued burning since Sunday.

Initial tests carried out by the Pe- Al-Hazimi said. troleum Exploration and Production Authority (PEPA) on Tuesday have confirmed the presence of natural gas, according to Adel Al-Hazmi, the authority's head. Further tests will be needed to determine whether there is a sizeable quantity of gas stored beneath the well, but local residents are demanding compensation before testing can go ahead. Abdullah Al-Aizary, a resident and eyewitness to the explosion, said locals will not allow PEPA or other government authorities into the area until the state compensates those injured in the blast and pays for damages caused to the drilling machine. He denied reports that a sum of YR2 billion (\$9 million) is being demanded.



Three of the delegates, as well as party member Mohammed Al-Sabri who was not part of the team, were accused by the Houthis of having links with Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP), and were kidnapped by the group on March 1. The charges have been strenuously denied by the party and its supporters, and no evidence has been made public.

Al-Saadi, who had served as minister of industry and trade before the resignation of Cabinet on Jan. 22, had been under house arrest for three weeks until the Houthis announced Monday that all members of Cabinet are free to travel within and outside the country.

Al-Hadma, a member of Islah's Student Department, told the Yemen Times that he and his fel-

Alaw confirmed that he and Qahtan resumed negotiations on Wednesday following the group's withdrawal.

Speaking on Tuesday, Hadi described ongoing talks in Sana'a as "illegal" so long as the capital remains under Houthi control. Islah spokesman Abdulmalik Shamsan said his party continues to recognize Hadi as Yemen's legitimate president and is free to voice his opinion, but said the party "believes in dialogue as a humanitarian principle, and will engage in talks regardless of the outcome."

According to Al-Hazmi, PEPA, a body within the Ministry of Oil

be seen whether authorilocal ties and villagers will reach



from PEPA are waiting for the flame to be put out and an exploratory well to be dug in the vicinity of the well.

Mohammad Jubran, professor of economics at Sana'a University, said Al-Tayal district's close proximity to the gas-rich Marib governorate makes it likely to have a considerable quantity of gas.

"There are fears that clashes might break out between citizens in the area because of the locals' lack of awareness-they think the well and Minerals, will prepare a report is private property, not publicly

Locals and nearby residents have flocked to the well to catch a glimpse of the fire.

#### owned," he added.

On Tuesday, the color of the flame changed from red to bluesomething PEPA head Al-Hazmi called "normal."

"People are still coming to the area from various places to see the flame coming from the well, some are chewing qat there," said Al-Aizary, adding that the flame has turned into a tourist attraction.

Fearing more explosions, Al-Hazmi has also warned citizens from going near the well until it is inspected by authorities.

# **59** Ethiopians added to growing number of imprisoned immigrants

#### Khalid Al-Karimi

SANA'A, March 17–Security forces in Taiz governorate detained 59 Ethiopian nationals attempting to enter Yemen illegally on Monday, days after another 53 were captured in Mocha district.

The migrants were found in areas between the districts of Mocha and Dubab, according to Anees

Al-Shamiri, the manager of the security office in Mocha district. He said the group, 27 of whom were women, have been transferred to Taiz Central Prison pending deportation.

On March 10 a task force from the 35th Armored Brigade detained 53 Ethiopian nationals in the governorate. They are also currently being held in Taiz Central Prison.

Colonel Mohammed Naef, there are now 224 immigrants being held in the prison.

New arrivals are screened by the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) and its partners when being incarcerated. "Asylum seekers are identified and released by the authorities in the spirit of Yemen's international obligations

According to the prison's director, to refugees and asylum seekers," explained Mogib Abdullah, senior communications and public information assistant for the UNHCR.

Abdullah added that the 59 Ethiopians detained on Monday have already been identified by the agency as economic migrants. He said his agency does not coordinate or involve itself in any way with the

return of migrants who do not fall under its mandate.

Pending confirmation from the Taiz Security Administration and the Immigration, Passport and Naturalization Authority (IPNA) in Sana'a, Naef expects the new arrivals to be deported within a month.

However, the likelihood they will be deported within this timeframe is uncertain, as only 60 percent of illegal immigrants detained in 2014 have been deported, according to a source within the IPNA.

An estimated 91,592 immigrants arrived on Yemen's coastlines in 2014. Two hundred and forty-six people died making the journey last year, more than the previous four years combined, according to the UNHCR.



Vox Pop

# Friday of Dignity four years on: What's changed?

### Fawzia Al-Swaidi

was the single deadliest day in Yemen's 2011 uprising. Four years ago, on March 18, close to 50 protesters were shot dead and hundreds were wounded. Remem-

bered as the Friday of Dignity, the massacre lives on in many Yemenis minds as the pinnacle of former President Ali Abdullah Saleh's brutal crackdown on peaceful protesters.

praying near the capital's Change fairly investigated. "The previous

Square, the epicenter of the protest movement, men dressed in civilian clothes stationed atop roofs and inside buildings opened fire indiscriminately.

Top officials, though implicated As tens of thousands finished in the atrocity, have never been

government's criminal investigation was fraught with political interference and ignored evidence implicating government officials," a February 2013 report by Human Rights Watch reads.

Four years on, another president has come and gone and a militant

group now controls the capital. The between the treatment of peaceful Houthis have attacked, kidnapped, tortured, and even killed activists in recent months.

On the anniversary of the Friday of Dignity massacre, the Yemen Times took to the streets to ask locals what difference, if any, they see protesters by Saleh's regime and the Houthis.

The Yemen Times spoke with residents near Change Square, including at Dignity Roundabout, the site of the massacre, where Houthi supporters held a demonstration.

## Ahmed Al-Gaadabi, 40, shop owner who attended the pro-Houthi rally

I live near to Change Square and the demonstrations there haven't stopped since 2011. It is a good thing to see the protests change from one side to the other in the same area. The square is used by different sides to express their opinions, and this is evidence that no one controls the demonstrations these days.



# Suhaia Al-Asbahi, 23, youth activist

There is no difference between the two regimes. Like the former regime, the current one oppresses, attacks and detains protesters. They don't have the right to do so. I am sure the current regime will not last, its final day is approaching.





### Bassam Al-Attab, 32, artist

The former regime didn't treat protesters as bad as the current one is doing. The former regime opened fire on protesters but now the Houthis are leading the country to a sectarian conflict that will destroy everything. I am afraid that the coming days will be much worse since the conflict is going to be of a sectarian nature.



## Samir Al-Badri, 29, human rights activist

The former regime used legal tools like tear gas to disperse protests. We were not attacked from behind in the days of the former regime. What is happening today is the partners of the Feb. 11 revolution [the Houthis] are attacking their partners. They forgot what the former regime did to them. They are doing the same thing and maybe worse. I talked to Al-Arabia TV about the Houthis' violations against anyone who opposes them and directly afterwards I was arrested by them.

# Hasan Faye, 27, bus driver who attended the pro-Houthi rally

Friday of Dignity was the birth of freedom. After that day fear left the hearts of people and they became able to express their opinions in any way, and this is better than the past as people used to be afraid of taking to the streets. These days you can see demonstrations every week, at least, which means that today there is more freedom than in the past.



# **Invitation for Prequalification**

**Republic of Yemen** Sanaa' Water Supply Enhancement Project IDB Loan Financing No.: 2-YAR -0094 Brief Description of Works

The Republic of Yemen has received a loan from the Islamic Development Bank (IDB)toward the cost of Sanaa' Water Supply Enhancement Project, And it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan to payments for the two areas, No. SANCW-8N and SANCW-11, under this project.

The Sana'a Water and Sanitation Local Corp. intend to prequalify contractors and/or firms for the said project. The description of the two areas and the scope of works are as follows:





# Najran Al-Jibri, 22, poet

The difference is that the former regime practiced a republican oppression while the current regime is practicing a royal one. The former regime oppressed protesters in a less cruel way. It allowed people to have a say but it prevented them from occupying government institutions. While the current regime doesn't allow this and oppresses any protests at all. My message to the Houthis is that if they consider themselves revolutionaries they are mistaken because they don't represent the Yemeni people, they are just using religion for political ends.

## Saleh Al-Radaie, 28, Sana'a University student

There is no difference between the regime of the former president and the regime of the militias. Both regimes violate human rights and attack protests. The only difference between them is that the former regime had legitimacy, but the militias' regime is worse since it has no legitimacy. The militias' regime treats protesters in a cruel way that represents a typical barbaric militia.



## SANCW-8N Project Area

The area is located in Sad Shuoub zone, east of al-Jiraf zone and it lies between the Airport Road and Sa'ela Shuoub zone. It is considered a residential area with few commercial activities and governmental offices. The area is about 100 ha.

## SANCW – 11 Project Area

The area covers Haddah and Faj Ottan with significant commercial, medical, institutional and governmental activities. The area of the project is about 620 ha.

The project scope includes installation of approximately 460 Km of pipes work of various diameters ranging from 25 mm up to 400 mm in the areas 11 and 8N.with approximately 100,000 house connections. In addition, the project includes drilling of two wells with necessary testing in the east part of Al Jeraf (in area 8).

Prequalification will be conducted through prequalification procedures specified in the Guidelines for Procurement of Goods and Works under Islamic Development Bank Financing, May 2009, and is open to all bidders from eligible source member countries, as defined in the guidelines.

Eligible Contractors from IDB member countries may also express interest in the form of association (e.g. a joint-venture) to be validated by either an agreement or a letter of intent for agreement among members of the association with lead contractor from IDB member countries to enhance their qualification.

Interested eligible applicants may obtain further information and collect the document (in English) from the Sana'a Water and Sanitation Local Corp. from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. upon the submission of written application to the address below.

Applications for prequalification should be submitted in sealed envelopes, delivered to the address below by [Date: 14-5-2015 Time: 11:30 a.m], and be clearly marked "Application to Prequalify for Sanaa' Water Supply Enhancement Project, areas No. SANCW-8N and SANCW-11.

Sana'a Water and Sanitation Local Corp Attn: Eng. Ali Jadel (PMU Manager) Republic of Yemen- Sana'a Al-hasaba- Near Ministry of Health Tel: +967-1-563747 Mobile: +967-771 000 047 E-mail:alijadel@gmail.com

# Report



Story and photo by **Ali Aboluhom** 

ohammad Al-Dalei is only eight years old but has been riding horses at the police academy stables in Sana'a for two years. Because of his father Ali's work with the police force, Mohammad is given privileged access to horses and a trainer, something far beyond the reach of all but a very select class of Yemenis.

Al-Dalei is one of just 150 participants to have taken part in the annual national horse riding competition, which concluded on Feb. 24 and was organized by the Yemeni Association of Equestrians (YAE). Prior to the 2011 uprising and subsequent instability, the association sponsored up to five competitions per year.

The YAE is viewed by some as an elitist organization closed to all but the wealthiest and most connected of Yemenis. Unless one works in a horse stable, with the police or military, only those able to pay expensive membership fees are granted access.

The YAE was established in 1993 by Abdulghani Al-Wajeeh with nine members headed by Mohsen Al-Bahr. Since 2008 the association has been run by Hashid Al-Ahmar, son of Sheikh Abdullah Al-Ahmar, until he fled the country following the Houthis' takeover of the capital last September.

Yahia Omar, a member of the YAE, says nearly all competitors are the sons and relatives of current members, themselves drawn from the military establishment and other privileged circles. Nonetheless, he says, "it has nothing to do with nepotism, it is just a sport that struggles to gain popularity in a country like Yemen."

Omar points to the limited number of horse clubs and their "excessive" membership fees, usually around \$200, as reason behind the sport's limited supporters.

Before Yemen's protracted political crisis erupted in 2011, however, the YAE had seen an increase in clubs between 2000 and 2006.

Opened in 2000, the Capital Horse Club in Sana'a remains the largest in Yemen with 80 horses. opened their doors to relatives of staff in 1994 and began taking part in YAE competitions that year.

Al-Wajeeh suggested opening academy stables to the public in 1994, although the idea has been resisted by their members and competitors in YAE events are almost entirely composed of officers' relatives like Al-Dalei.

With a long-established tradition and extensive facilities, the academies continue to provide horses originally imported from Egypt and elsewhere in the region—and expertise to other stables that have opened more recently in the country.

In spite of current difficulties, Moad Al-Khamisi, the executive manager of YAE, is pleased with the sport's development in recent years. "Competitions have increased year by year, and four new age categories have been added to events once limited to two for children and adults, and now women are competing as well," he said.

Competitive categories are divided between buds (aged 6 to 10), cubs (10 to 14), juniors (14 to 18) and adults. In this year's competition, 26 riders from the bud category and 25 cubs took part, with first place for the juniors going to Elias Al-Khamisi, Moad's eldest son.

Al-Wajeeh, whose son and daughter are also competitors, is adamant that favoritism has nothing to do with who competes or does well in the event. He says children are keen to emulate their fathers, adding that "it is rare to find someone involved in equestrian sport without being oriented by their fathers or relatives."

Yahya Hussein, 12, was enrolled in the Capital Club at age eight by his uncle, who works there as coach. "I used to accompany him to work and was amazed at how he controls the horses, I wanted to be like him and now I am fulfilling my dream," he said.

Other young riders, like 14-yearold Mohammad Saad Al-Tawki, who trains at the war academy, feel they have a natural drive. "I've always dreamt of being a competitive rider, I think it has more to do with the history behind horse riding and heroic stories I was told," he said, adding that his parents had been opposed to his "expensive and dangerous" hobby. This year's competition was hosted by the Capital Club in Sana'a and involved members from the academies and other private clubs in Sana'a, in addition to the Al-Rad Stable in Hodeida. As of 2008, with funding from Al-Ahmar, first placed winners have received a cash prize of YR400,000 (\$2,000), up from YR50,000 (\$250) awarded before he took control.



One hundred and fifty competitors took part in this year's competition.

التأسيس

المجتمعية المستقلة.

"راديو يمن تايمز" هو أول إذاعة مجتمعية في

حيث بدأ العمل في هذا المشروع في بداية 2012، والذي

كان تأسيسه من أهم رؤى مؤسسٌ يمن تايمز الراحل،

البروفسور عبد العزيز السقاف. ولذلك سعت الأستاذة /

نادية السقاف رئيس تحرير صحيفة يمن تايمز إلى تحقيق

فكرة المؤسس الراحل، من خلال تأسيس راديو يمن تايمز

بمشاركة الكثير من المتطوعين والداعمين ومن آمن

وتعد إذاعة يمن تايمز جزء من مشروع أصواتنا، و هو

برنامج دولى يدعم تأسيس الإذاعات المجتمعية في دول

الربيع العربي. حيث يتمحور هذا البرنامج حول العرب

الذين سعوا لأن تكون أصواتهم المستقلة مسموعة، بعيداً

عن الاحتكارات الحكومية، أو التجارية، بحيث تكون نقطة

انطلاق جديدة لكل من يريد الخوض في تجربة الإذاعات

FM

رادیو یمن تایمز

الإذاعة المجتمعية

الأولى في اليمن

بأهمية الإعلام المستقل ودور الإذاعات المجتٍمعية.



# رؤيتنا

للإعلام دور كبير ومهم في الدعوة للتغيير السلمي فهو ركيزة من ركائز التغيير نحو الأفضل, ولكن الصراعات السياسية اعتادت أن تفرض أجنداتها على المؤسسات الإعلامية مما يخلق أثراً سلبياً واضحاً على طابع استقلال الإعلام و أثّر بشكل مباشر على معايير أساسية مثل الحيادية والموضوعية.

BUSINESS FOR PEACE

AWARD

وهنا تسعى " إذاعة يمن تايمز" لتعزز من دور مؤسستها الاعلامية المستقلة لتصل إلى كل من لا تصل إليه عبر صحيفتها لتكون من الإذاعات الرائدة في اليمن التي جعلت من الحياد والإستقلال سياسة خاصة لها مواصلة بذلك سمعتها الحسنة التي استطاعت أن تفرضها من خلال سياسة الصحيفة على الرغم من عدم وجود قوانين منظمة لعمل الإذاعات الخاصة في اليمن.

# أهدافنا

يعمل "راديو يمن تايمز" على طرح وجهات نظر جديدة وموضوعات هامة للجمهور اليمني ويعايش قضايا المواطنين الذين يجيدون اللغة الانجليزية والعربية والأميين بشكل مباشر.

ويسعى أيضا لإيجاد فضاءات جديدة لحرية الرأي والتعبير في اليمن عامة وفي العاصمة صنعاء خاصة ليكون راديو يمن تايمز «صوت من لا صوت لهم» وليعزز مفاهيم الديمقراطية وحرية الرأي والتعبير من خلال دوراته البرامجية المتنوعة التي تعالج قضايا المرأة والطفل وحقوق الإنسان وتدافع عن الحريات بواسطة إعلامها الهادف وبرامجها المتعددة والتي تخاطب بشفافية وموضوعية كل مستمعيها وتتسم بروح شبابية وإيجابية واضحة لكل من يتابعها سواء سكان صنعاء أو اليمن.

كلامك يوصل

- 🔇 Tel.: 9199
- SMS: 8808
- facebook.com/radioyementimes
- twitter.com/RadioYemenTimes

Five additional clubs opened in the governorate in the following six years, the largest of which is the Al-Ahmar Horse Stable. Opened by Sheikh Al-Ahmar in 2002, it currently houses 50 horses.

There are now fifteen horse clubs nationwide, including those of the police and war academies. Once the only horse training facilities in existence, exclusive to members of the police and military, the academies



Young riders and their horses warm up before entering the annual YAE competition at the Capital Club in Sana'a.

New Horizons<sup>®</sup> English Learning Centers

**CHOOSE** 

LEARN

SUCCEED



Sana'a - AL-Geria StreetTel:01 468 002Fax:01 468 192Aden - Khor Maksr,Near Ba-Huda bulidingTel:02 237 937Taiz - Hawdh ALashrafTel:04 213 168





"To make Yemen a good world citizen." Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf, (1951 - 1999) Founder of Yemen Times



# **OUR OPINION**

**On anniversary** of Friday of Dignity massacre, the killing of **Abdul Karim** Al-Khaiwani

he Yemen Times newsroom is still processing the news that journalist Abdul Karim Al-Khaiwani was assassinated Wednesday morning. The symbolism behind assassinating him on the fourth anniversary of the Friday of Dignity massacre isn't lost on us.

That day, March 18, 2011, was the turning point of the uprising. The gunning-down in cold blood of close to 50 protestors by snipers on roof-tops ultimately led to Saleh's fall. Today in Sana'a, we live under the rule of the Houthis, the people Saleh led six wars against from 2004 to 2010. That Al-Khaiwani survived the Saleh era only to be killed during the rule of the people he championed seems an especially cruel irony.

That those people entered a marriage of convenience with the man that bombed them and jailed Al-Khaiwani had to leave him feeling conflicted.

We don't know who killed Al-Khaiwani, and we likely never will. Officials will tell us, like they always do, that investigations are "ongoing." In the neantime, there will be more

# Can you be an Islamist and a feminist?

#### Madawi Al-Rasheed al-monitor.com

First published March 12

are diametrically opposed worldviews. Arguably, Islamism is accused of sabotaging women's emancipation, while feminism strives to liberate women from the constraints of patriarchy. Although both have gender at the heart of their activism and projects, being an Islamist and being a feminist are different matters. Many believe a combination of the two is implausible, but it is, however, possible if one is prepared to accept that there are multiple feminisms and Islamisms in the world today.

slamism and feminism

Feminism, a movement with its origins in the struggle of women in the West for political, economic and social equality, has today fractured into multiple camps. There are, for example, the older feminists with roots in radical feminism who wanted to free women not only from entrenched religious, legal and political constraints, but also from the newer exploitation associated with capitalism, hyperneoliberalism and the consumer femininity of cosmetic surgery and shopping. This position is now giving way to a kind of liberal feminism in which women are drawn into liberal economic precincts as a show of fulfilling themselves.

When Western feminists looked toward their sisters in other cultures, they were baffled by the persistent exclusion of women, their covered bodies and their inability to challenge masculine domination. They vowed to liberate these women in ways that would put them on similar footing with their counterparts in the West. That project was rather dubious to start with, given its association with older colonial discourses, Orientalist positions and messianic undertones targeting women, especially in the Muslim world.

A few feminists came to the realization that women are not an undifferentiated homogenous mass, but the products of class, race, ethnicity and other hierarchies and affiliations. They acknowledged that a universal globalized feminism associated with international domination and inequality between nations might not solve the problem of exclusion across cultures and deliver the desired equality.

Lila Abu-Lughod, an anthropology professor at Columbia University, argues that women experience structures of domination differently and according to these dividing lines. A black woman in a Lagos shantytown, or a neglected area of a Western capital for that matter, must deal with added constraints from discrimination and marginalization, that middle-class women, white and black, may not experience to the same intensity or degree. Similarly, a Muslim woman in a poor neighborhood of Riyadh experiences gender discrimination in ways different from those of her sister who happens to be a businesswoman.

The appropriation of liberating Muslim women, common in US foreign policy discourse and among global feminists, only complicates matters and creates backlash. Yes, there are general legal constraints and structural barriers under which women around the world live, but their inequality is not comparable. In Saudi Arabia, driving a car might be important to a middle-class working mother, but for a poor woman the question is whether she has personal resources to be able to buy a car rather than whether she wants to be behind the wheel. One feminism for all is an illusion, and if it is imported readymade from elsewhere, it will prove to be counter-productive.

There is a segment of mainstream Islamism that wants to return to Islam and liberate women in its own way by drawing on new interpretations of Islamic texts. Among proponents of this kind of Islamism, one finds such groups as the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt, Ennahda in Tunisia, mainstream Saudi Islamism, Hamas in Gaza, Islamists in the West and Jammate-Islami in Pakistan among others. These groups offer women a space in their activism.

Thus in Saudi Arabia, some women have found refuge in the Islamist promise to liberate them from exclusion stemming from strict tribal codes, cultural norms and other masculine bigotries. They enlisted as preachers of equality, however, within an Islamic framework, not a global feminist discourse. These women reject the UN-sponsored Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) on the ground that it trivializes the family under the guise of absolute equality between men and women. Instead, Islamist women have called for complementarity, in which gender roles, motherhood, family and traditional women's positions in society are respected.

These same women criticize religious interpretations that exclude them on the basis of texts interpreted by male scholars internalizing patriarchy. Key to this movement of Islamist feminists is attributing injustices to cultural and tribal codes and absolving Islam of any responsibility for them. They resist mixing gender roles and call for separate but equal spaces of action in which they contribute to society in their own way, the ultimate objective being the preservation of family and community.

Such women see themselves as bearers of authenticity and guardians of tradition. They cite the Quran to prove that God gave them rights and responsibilities, just as it does men, but believe that society has hijacked their autonomy. They want to contribute to society not as atomized free women, but as women in a community building a future for themselves, their children and their nation.

Of course, their country should be pious and respectful of them as women. Some want to drive, but others do not. More important, they want the state and society to honor their inheritance and custody rights as prescribed by Sharia. They want recognition of their contribution and rights under Islamic law, believed to be sabotaged by men, and a space staked out for their engagement in society and nation building. These women also want to continue to receive salaries when they take leave to raise children. Some have demanded this from the state, which has thus far ignored their calls. They also want better educational infrastructures for women and broader job opportunities, including in government and with the religious police.

Is this feminism? It depends on your definition of feminism. The movement is as diverse as Islamism itself. This kind of Islamist feminism is neither anachronistic nor progressive. It is simply an attempt to articulate solutions to a deep and persistent problem, namely, the exclusion and marginalization of Muslim women in countries like. among others, Saudi Arabia.

In some Islamist movements, among them the Saudi Wahhabis and the ideologues of the Islamic State (IS) in Syria and Iraq, the pietv of women as the symbol of the nation's authenticity must be upheld. Women must remain in their "natural" position in society, which is as producers of future generations of the pious nation. They also must be segregated in fulfilling the roles suitable to their nature, that is, raising children and educating them in schools.

The women in these societies might call for more jobs that suit their "female nature," but they will take such positions only if their guardians allow them to do so. In this worldview, women have no legal persona. They must always be guarded by their male relatives. Even their employment and education are the prerogative of these guardians. In Saudi Arabia, the state enforces this injunction and has resisted changes to it, lest the legitimizing clerics of the realm withdraw their support. Pious women can be employed to discipline other women, but under no circumstance should they have authority over men. They can have their own study circles to memorize the Quran, preach good conduct and monitor dissent by other women.

Neither the Wahhabis nor IS has time for feminism, whether Islamist or secular. They deny the existence of a "woman question," considering it to be a Western conspiracy to corrupt pious Muslim females. They are particularly allergic to mixing gender roles, which they contend have been defined by God, so they chase the "boyat," the young girls who dress in a masculine fashion, and homosexuals. who are messing with God's natural law.

At the same time, they do not accept any limitations on marrying four women. In their view, polygamy, which in some instances amounts to nothing more than promiscuity, is legitimatized through the word of God, as the Quran pronounces it permissible. Some Muslim scholars have nonetheless found restricting polygamy an acceptable practice, applying conditions to the ability of men to marry multiple women. The Wahhabis and their counterparts in Raqqa, however, adhere to literal interpretations of the Quran that ignore reason, historical circumstances and religious reasoning (ijtihad).

All the above trends, including the neoliberal feminist movement, are of course obsessed with the female body, the ultimate symbol of nature. They all appropriate this body for their own agenda, seeking to inscribe their ideology on it.

The consumer femininity of late modernity and its obsession with the groomed, perfumed and sometimes and rogynous female body coexists with the veiled and concealed Muslim woman's body. Identity is to be inscribed on the flesh, whether uncovered or concealed. The late feminism of the Femen type wants the flesh uncovered to make a statement. In contrast, Islamist feminists want it totally concealed from the gaze of men, especially those of preying foreigners and their hidden agendas.

No doubt, this is an era of images and sound, and therefore identities are also anchored in visual symbols. The free modern woman must demonstrate her freedom and status with a huge designer handbag, constraining but elegant-looking high heels and a swishy miniskirt. On the other hand, the pious and committed Muslim woman must enter the danger-filled public space fully covered in modest Islamic garb, available from specialty shops selling the latest in Islamic fashion.

Opinion

Turkey is one of the most developed markets of this Islamist consumerist sector. Colors and styles have both been developed to suit the modern Islamist woman, who is educated, working and elegant. Emine Erdogan, the Turkish president's wife, is but one example.

The extreme Islamist position, common in Saudi Arabia, insists on homogenizing Islamic dress worn in public. So there is only one style-the black abaya (cloak) and the niqab (face covering). In Afghanistan, it is the widely recognizable blue burqa. Both dress codes conceal identity, but at the same time reveal it in a twisted logic. The garb eliminates any sign of a sexual body, hiding curves, contours and even fingers and toes, reducing women to shades of black and blue.

The radical gender agendas of Saudi Arabia, IS and the Taliban are on the fringes of Islamism, although strong and pervasive, especially the Saudi version, which is supported and enforced by the regime. It can never be reconciled with feminism. Meanwhile, mainstream Islamists elsewhereincluding in North Africa and Indonesia and other Asian locations-have succeeded in stretching Islamic interpretations to accommodate change.

The women of these Islamisms have been incorporated into the economy, politics, education, media and other sectors of society. Their Islamism speaks to urban, educated and working women, who endorse their programs and fulfill their own individual projects within the spaces provided them. They offer an alternative to the aggressive approach of one feminism fits all. This brand of feminism might be a step toward recognizing Islam's woman question and offering emancipation that is culturally sensitive to local milieus.

Secular feminists will be horrified by this conclusion, but Islamist feminism should be given a chance to evolve in places that totally reject feminisms tied to the international expansion of Western powers. One must recognize that certain things, among them gender inequality, are too complex to be addressed by one proposed solution or vision, especially those that follow along the same paths of military tanks and fighter jets.

assassinations, and more investigations, but few answers.

Those answers are held hostage by the country's ceaselessly fragile political atmosphere. On the anniversary of the Friday of Dignity massacre, we still wait for the authorities to investigate what happened in Change Square four years ago. It didn't happen under Hadi, and with the GPC-Houthi alliance, it's unlikely to happen under the Houthis.

We're now down another moderate voice in the country, a voice we desperately need, one that called for accountability.

We had no transitional justice, we have no transition, and now we have no Al-Khaiwani.

**Yemen Times** 

# Yemeni political dialogue in Riyadh?

#### **Gabriele Vom Bruck** MFRIP First published March 16

n March 10, the sixnation Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) invited rival Yemeni factions to hold peace talks in Riyadh, the Saudi Royal Court announced.

The Saudis know only too well that the leadership of Ansar Allah, or the Houthi movement, will be reticent about taking part in negotiations with president-inwaiting Abdu Rabu Mansour Hadi and other Yemeni politicians in their capital-not least because Saudi Arabian forces killed dozens of Houthi-affiliated civilians and their neighbors in air raids across

the border in 2009-2010. The kingdom has declared Ansar Allah a terrorist organization. When the Houthis left the interim government in Sana'a no choice but to resign, Riyadh suspended payments on its huge aid package to Yemen. Until recently talks between the Saudis and the Houthis happened through indirect channels. Such contacts have existed since the ceasefire agreement of 2010 but Ansar Allah's leader Abdulmalik Al-Houthi officially acknowledged them only on March 15. It is not clear whether the Saudis' redirection of "aid" to certain political stakeholders in Aden-designated by the Gulf states as Yemen's interim capital—means that they have also stopped paying the Houthis to police the border.

Saudi Arabia has sponsored salafi institutions that have labeled the Zaydi Shia of Yemen as heretics since the 1970s. Its state-run media have attacked the Houthis, a Zaydi movement, on a daily basis. The House of Saud hardly qualifies as a bona fide negotiator. It sees its mission in Yemen as kingmaker rather than facilitator of talks between opposing factions. Saudi Arabia is not interested in guaranteeing the Houthis a fair share of power in a future government. Let's not forget that the so-called GCC initiative was designed to keep the "revolutionary youth" and the Houthis out of the political process following the departure of Ali Abdullah Saleh from the presidency.

The Omani capital of Muscat would be a more appropriate venue

for talks between the Houthis and opposition groups that formed a new national alliance on March 14. This alliance is to replace the Joint Meeting Parties that aimed to overthrow Saleh. Oman has no record of direct interference in Yemeni affairs, and has good relations with all the political factions there, as well as with Saudi Arabia and Iran.

The Saudis' proposal to hold talks in Rivadh might be a strategic ploy enabling them to blame the Houthis for rejecting a political settlement in the event of wide-ranging hostilities. April Longley Alley of the International Crisis Group appears to believe that the Saudis themselves may not even be interested in peace. She recently argued at the Council on Foreign Relations

that "it [Saudi Arabia] is aggressive in attempts to diplomatically isolate the Houthis and supports groups that will confront them militarily. It looks like Saudi Arabia is on the warpath." By arming the Houthis' rivals, whose weapons might fall into the hands of Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, Saudi Arabia seems to envision a scenario akin to Syria and Iraq, where its enemies are fighting each other. Greater instability and civil war in Yemen may not work in the Saudis' favor, however. The visit of a delegation carrying a letter from King Salman to Ansar Allah's leader, shortly after the Houthis held military exercises near the Saudi Arabian border on March 11, suggests that the Saudis have reached this conclusion themselves.

WWW.yementimes.com First Political English Newspaper in Yemen. Founded in 1991 by Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf Tel: +967 (1) 268-661 Fax: +967 (1) 268-276		General Manager Rasheed Al-Saqqaf Security Reporter Ali Ibrahim Al-Moshki	Deputy Editor-in-Chief Ahlam Mohsen Senior Rej Mohammed b	1	Assistant Managing Editor Nasser Al-Sakkaf Head of Design Dept. Ramzy Alawi	Offices           Taiz Bureau:           Imad Ahmed Al-Saqqaf           Tel: +967 (4) 217-156,           Telefax: +967 (4) 217157           P.O.Box: 5086, Taiz           Email: yttaiz@y.net.ye           Subscriptions	Policies: - All opinion articles that have not been written by Yemen Times staff on the Opinion, Op-Ed and Youth pages do not necessarily represent the newspaper's opinion and hence YT could not be held accountable for their consequences. - Letters to the Editor must include your name, mailing address, or email address. The editor reserves the right to edit all
P.O. Box 2579, Sana'a, Yemen Letters: ytreaders.view@gmail.com		Editorial Staff				For supscription rates and related informa-	submissions for clarity, style, and length. - Submissions will not be returned to the
ADVERTISEMENTS: Tel: +967 (1) 510306 Email: adsyemen@yahoo.com	BUSINESS For <u>Peace</u> Award	Ali Mohsen Aboluhom Bassam Al-Khamiri	Fareed Al- Khalid Al-		Shannon Mckimmin Yasser Rayes	tion please contact Majdi Al-Saqqaf, Subscription and Distribution Manager, on 268661/2 ext 204 or mobile: 711998995, email: majdi_saqqaf@yahoo.com	writer under any circumstance. - For information on advertising, contact the advertising department at any of the Yemen Times' offices

19 March, 2015

# Report



# **Majority of Yemeni minors lack birth certificates**

### Bassam Al-Khameri

or many people around the world, a birth certificate is a person's first legal recognition by the state that they exist. In Yemen, 83 percent of minors remain without one, leaving them vulnerable to a number of abuses.

For parents, the first time most are asked to produce a birth certificate for their children is when they register them for school. Registration for first grade begins in Yemen at age six.

Abdulnasser Al-Jaberi, 45, is a mechanic and owns a car shop. He is also the father of seven, and says he gets birth certificates for his children right before they begin primary school.

"Why should I get these certificates right after they are born when I don't need them until they register for school?" he asked.

A lack of Civil Status Authority offices in rural areas complicates the registration process, forcing families to put it off until they can no longer do so.

Often, children who never attend schools will not bother with getting their certificates.

Saeed Saleh Othman, a 30-yearold street vendor in Sana'a, does not have a birth certificate. Othman was born in a rural village in Wesab district, Dhamar governorate. His parents never registered his birth and he never attended school. Instead he travelled to Sana'a at an early age to work and help support his family.

"At that time people weren't aware about the importance of birth certificates and other official documents. I didn't get a certificate like other students because I never attended school. I came to Sana'a when I was eight to work and help my father," Othman said.

Officials at the Civil Registration Authority say that applying for a



According to a 2013 report by Human Rights Watch, only 22 percent of births were registered in Yemen between 2000 and 2010.

birth certificate years after a child is born has become the norm in Yemen.

Colonel Ahmed Al-Harazi, office manager for the deputy head of the Civil Registration Authority, told the Yemen Times that most people come to claim a certificate once an occasion requesting one arrives.

"Many people come to us and request birth certificates for their children who were born years ago and want to start school. Several of those people don't even know the exact date of birth for their children," he said.

"Parents are unaware that without birth certificates their children lose several of their rights and may face problems in the future," he added.

He says the Civil Registration Authority has established registration units in all public hospitals to help HRW's report said the lack of birth alleviate the problem, "but people

still leave these hospitals after their children are born without registering."

A March 2013 report by Human Rights Watch (HRW) entitled, "Look at Us with a Merciful Eye: Juvenile Offenders Awaiting Execution in Yemen," said that Yemen has one of the lowest birth registration rates in the world.

"Between 2000 and 2010, the state registered only 22 percent of all births," read the report.

Soraya Abu Monassar, a child protection officer at the UN Children's Agency (UNICEF), told the Yemen Times that the latest nationwide survey conducted by UNICEF in 2013 indicated that 83 percent of children lack birth certificates.

### **Risks to children without birth** certificates

certificates posed an increased risk

against juvenile offenders.

"Most juvenile offenders lack official birth certificates to prove their age. Yemen's judiciary lacks impartial and accurate mechanisms to determine the age of youths in criminal proceedings, increasing the risk that juveniles are sentenced to death," added the report.

According to HRW, while prosecutors ordered forensic examinations in some cases, the tests, "relied on error-prone and outdated methods. In some cases, both prosecutors and defense lawyers ordered age examinations that yielded different results, but courts relied on the prosecution's examinations that estimated defendants were over 18."

Ahmed Al-Qershi, head of Seyaj Organization for Childhood Protection, said that both parents and the Civil Registration Authority in Yemen are to be blamed for this issue.



Children in Yemen are only required to register with the government when they enrol at school, which begins at age 6. Those who do not receive an education can go a lifetime without certification.

"While most parents are unaware of the importance of such official documents, the concerned bodies fail to take the issue seriously," Al-Qershi said. He says registration at the time of birth should be mandatory and come with fines for those who fail to do so.

Regarding juvenile offenders who lack birth certificates, Al-Qershi said that the Seyaj Organization has recorded 52 juvenile offenders nationwide who face execution because they lack birth certificates that prove their age.

"Those convicted of murder while still children are unable to prove they were under 18 years of age at the time of the crime and have received death sentences.'

Because many registrations occur years after the child was born, some parents register their children as older than they actually are, in order to enroll them in the military, Al-Qershi claims.

#### Project to promote birth registration

In September 2013, UNICEF, the European Union and the Civil Registration Authority launched the project "Promoting Equity and Legal Identity for Children in Yemen by Improving Civil Registration."

The project aims to offer birth certificates to the largest possible number of children in Yemen.

Abu Monassar told the Yemen Times that the four-year project aims to improve birth registration in order to promote equity among the population and legal identity for children.

"[Through this initiative], about 51 children in rural areas in Yemen were registered and received birth certificates in 2014. Children in several governorates such as Hodeida, Taiz, Lahj, Al-Dhale, Sana'a, Sa'ada and Al-Mahweet were targeted, she said.

On Feb. 8, 2015, the project launched a campaign to offer free birth certificates for children in five rural districts of Sana'a governorate, including Al-Teyal, Khawlan, Al-Aroush, Nihm and Manakhat Haraz.

Abdullah Mohsen Daban, deputy governor of Sana'a governorate, told the Defense Ministry's September 26 news website that the campaign eases the process of getting birth certificates for children living in rural areas.



# إعلانات مبوبة

19 March, 2015



	<b>C f</b>	. f
<ul> <li>بكالوريوس</li> <li>انجليزية خ</li> <li>المحاسبة ر</li> </ul>		r free classified ads ds are free of charge)
اعوام مدير 5587876 الرخصة الا الآلي, خبرة لأكثر من / العمل في اللغة الانج	<ul> <li>For Sale</li> <li>Buying</li> <li>Housing available</li> <li>Housing wanted</li> <li>Details:</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Job vacancies</li> <li>Job seekers</li> <li>Other</li> </ul>
• بكالريوس دبلوم كمب مراسلات ت العمل في 3778849		
<ul> <li>هندية الأم</li> <li>دبلوم انجا</li> <li>بتقدير مم</li> <li>الجرافيكس</li> <li>والمراسلان</li> <li>خبرة في المراسعات.</li> <li>والمبيعات.</li> <li>6653489</li> </ul>	Contact Address:	
اً ۲ يوسف علي ۲ تقنية معلو ۲ 20206	Please cut th	is coupon and send it to

**Yemen Times** Fax: 268276 or P.O. Box 2579 - Sana'a For more info. call 268661/2/3

وزارة الداخلية

وزارة المالية

وزارة المواصلات

وزارة الكهرباء

وزارة المياه والبيئة

🤜 بنك اليمن والخليج

بنك التضامن الإسلامى

مصرف اليمن البحرين الشامل - الستين الغربي

البنك التجاري

بنك اليمن الدولى

ناع التساية، النداء

البنك العربي

- ں تجارة, دبلوم لغة برة 15 عاما في والمراجعة, منها 5 ِ مالى. 770080443,73
- لغة انجليزية, دولية لقيادة الحاسب ة في مجال التدريب 7 سنوات يرغب فى أى مجال يتطلب ليزية. 736974711
  - -لغة انجليزية -يوتر - خبرة جارية سنتين. يرغب الفترة الصباحية. 73
- سل حاصلة على ليزى وسكرتارية تاز لديها خبرة في ل والترجمة ت التجارية, لديها دارة التسويق تريد العمل في تعز. 73
- ، الرازقي مهندس ومات وحاسوب 771293966

. 1/ ٣٣٢٧. 1

.1/77.770

. 1/7.7770V

. 1/211709

.1/877197

. 1 / 77 . 177

ف :٤ ٢٢، ٢٦/١٠ عدن ۲۷،۳٤۷/۸/۹ ۲۷، ف: ٤ ٢٨٧٣٢ /٢ ،

ف: ۲۰۳۲۷۱ /۱۰

ف: ۱/۲۷۷۲۹۱

. 1/08A817- VV

. 1/2. V. T.

. 1/7770/0/7 . 1/074114

. 1/ 77775

♦ معتز عبداللطيف حداد -مهندس تقنية معلومات

الىنوك

# وحاسوب 733984178

- بكالريوس محاسبة, خبرة فى الحسابات والمراجعة لمدة 8 سنوات, دبلوم كمبيوتر, الاصدار السادس من يمن سوفت وكذك نظام الأونكس برو الشامل. 770705472, 733079882
- ◄ مهندس مدنی, خبرة سنتين, لغة انجليزية ممتازة. 777055889
- بكالريوس ترجمة جامعة صنعاء - خبرة في المراسلات التجارية والأعمال الادارية أكثر من 6 سنوات - يرغب في العمل في الفترة المسائية فقط. 777991248
- بكالريوس لغة انجليزية خبرة سنتين في مجال التدريس . اجادة استخدام الكمبيوتر والانترنت. 772663229
- بكالوريوس محاسبه وإدارة أعمال ودبلوم لغة إنجليزية، خبرة طويلة في إدارة الحسابات والمراسلات التجارية باللغتين العربية والإنجليزية في اليمن والسعودية، مستعد للعمل فوراً، جوال: 715608677
- ♦ مدرس متخصص يرغب في اعطاء دروس خصوصية للصف التاسع في الرياضيات والعربي



- والانجليزي والعلوم لطلاب المدارس الحكومية. 734680597
- ♦ مهندس شبکات, شهادة بكالريوس في الاتصالات والشبكات وشهادة Sisco في مجال الشبكات مستعد للعمل فورا. 770497062



- ♦ مكتب خدمات في صنعاء بحاجة إلى مختص تسويق وعلاقات عامة. يحمل مؤهل وخبرة سنتين على الاقل مع اجادة اللغة الانجليزية كتابة ونطقا. yementmsoffice@gmail. com
- ▶ تعلن الدار الاستشارية عن حاجتها ل 3 مراجعی حسابات خبرة لا تقل عن 3 سنوات, سكرتيرة تجيد اللغة الانجليزية

.1/72797V-77

· 1/7VE7A7-AV

. \ / ٦ . . . . . ف: ۱/٦،۱۸۸۹ . 1/ 222977

. \/0....

. 1/7 . 77 . 7

فندق تاج صيدة رزدينس

وخبرة 3 سنوات. ارسل السيرة الذاتية إلى @cha\_yemen yahoo.com

- ▶ المركز الكندى للتدريب وتنمية القدرات بحاجة إلى سكرتارية وادارة شؤون الطلاب. لتفاصيل اكثير اتصل على ت: 406448, 467588, فاكس: 406437
- ۸ مطلوب مدرسین للعمل فی المدارس التركية اليمنية لكافة التخصصات العلمية والأدبية القسم العلمى قسم انجليزى حاصلين على بكالريوس كحد أدنى مع خبرة 3 سنوات. ت: 525121, فاكس: 525124



◄ قطعة أرض للبيع في عدن مساحتها 240 متر مربع, أوراق قانونية, وبها أساسات و14 عمود مسلح. 734696159

. 1/277.7.



١VV	طوارىء الكهرباء
1 🗸 1	طوارىء المياه
199	طوارىء الشرطه
11A	الإستعلامات
191	الإطفاء
192	حوادث (المرور)
. 1/707V. 1/V	الشئون الداخليه
. 1/T . TOEE/V	الشئون الخارجيه
. 1 / 7 0 . V 7 1 / T	الهجرة
. 1 / TTT 1 / T	التلفزيون
. 1 / 7 . ۳ 1 ۳ 1 / ۳	الصليب الاحمر

. 2/ 211911	إب		
.0/ 3.7751	المكلا		
.0/ 7.7777	شبوه		
.0/ 2. 7719	سيئون		
VVVVAA٦٦.	بلحاف		
.0/ 77. 291	سقطرى		
.1/217V01		UPS	
· 1- 2 2 1 · 97/V/A		DHL	
	نمحن وتوصيل	λ. υ	
.9771 281889	العامة	مركز الندى للخدمات	
فاکس: ٤٣١٣٤٠			
alnada <b>2</b> @yemen.	net.ye		
. 1/081881	M&M Logistics &	Aviation Services	
071771-			
. 1/ 778979	لعاء	العالمية للشحن - صن	
مستشفيات			

• 1/22• 5• 0/V-12	العالمية للفندقة - صنعاء
. 1/21/27.	فندق شهران - صنعاء
• \ / E • 7 7 7 \ , E • 7 7 ٨ ١	فندق وأجنحة التاج الملكي
عد	معاه
. 1 / 2 2 0 2 1 7 / 7 / 2	معهد يالي
. 1/772771	معهد التي
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
وتر ف: ١/٥٥٧٤١٥	المعهد البريطاني للغات والكمبير
وتر ف: ۱/۵۷۶۱۵، ۱/۵۳۷۸۷۱	المعهد البريطاني للغات والكمبير معهد اكسيد
	**

المتحدة للتأمين	• \ / 000000
الوطنية للتأمين	• 1/777972
الشركة اليمنية الإسلامية للتأمين	
وإعادة التأمين	. 1 / 7
شركة أمان	. 1/712.97
الجزيرة للتأمين وإعادة التأمين	. 1/27/1.9
الشركة اليمنية القطرية للتأمين	55275./1/7
	فاکس: ٤٤٨٣٣٩

• 1 / 7 \ 7 • 7 1	لإذاعة
-------------------	--------

# الوزارات

. 1/79.7	رئاسة الجمهورية
. 1/29	رئاسة الوزراء
. 1/020177	وزارة الاشغال العامة والطرق
. 1/7 V E E T 9	وزارة الاوقاف والارشاد
. 1/070. 71	وزارة التعليم العالي والبحث العلمي
. 1/77/0/7	وزارة الثروة السمكية
. 1/7 8 2 2 .	وزارة الثقافة
. 1/792019	وزارة الخدمة المدنية والتامينات
. 1/777 . 2	وزارة الدفاع
• 1/7/7974	وزارة الزراعة والري
. 1/7777.9	وزارة الشئون الاجتماعية والعمل
. 1/2.7717	وزارة الشئون القانونية
. 1/707711	وزارة الصحة العامة والسكان
. 1/277917	وزارة الشباب والرياضة
. 1/270277	وزارة الصناعة والتجارة
. 1/177017	وزارة العدل
. 1/770.	وزارة السياحة
. 1/2.7702	وزارة المغتربين
. 1/7 . 77 . 9/1 .	وزارة النفط والمعادن
. 1/7/90//	وزارة شئون الداخلية
. 1/77.9.7	وزارة النقل
• 1/222871	وزارة حقوق الانسان
. 1/77127.	وزارة الاتصالات وتقنية المعلومات
• 1/7777 57	وزارة الادارة المحلية
. 1/7 ٧ 2 ٨	وزارة الاعلام
. 1/70.1.1	وزارة التخطيط والتعاون الدولى
. 1/707V77	وزارة التربية والتعليم
. 1/077912	وزارة الخارجية

لمك المستيف الزراعي	
بنك المركزي	• 1/ 788712
نك الامل	. 1/229771
بنك القطري الدولي	. 1/01 V0 E E
نك اليمني للانشاء والتعمير	. 1 / 7 7 1 7 . 1
نك سبا الأسلامي	. 1 / 7 / 7 0 . 7
نك كاليون	. 1/772771
ونايتد بنك لميتد	. \ / E . VO E .
نك كاك الاسلامي	. 1/07/9 . 1
نك اليمن والكويت للتجارة والان	. 1/7 . 9 2 0 1

# تأجير سيارات

زاوية ( Budget)	. 1/0. 7888
	ف: ١/٢٤،٩٥٨،
يورب کار	. 1/7 V. VO 1
	فرع شیرتون ۰۹۸۵٤٥/۰۱
	فرع عدن ۲/۲٤٥٦٢٥.
هيرتز لتأجير السيارات	صنعاء ۲۰۹٤،۲۰۹
	فرع شیراتون ۰۱/۵۸۹۵٤۵
	عدن ۲٤٥٦٢٥-۲،

م الكمبيوتر	مراكز تدريب وتعليه	2
1/220011/1	تعليم الكمبيوتر	NII ك
يع	البريد السر	
1/ 22.12.	صنعاء 🗲	dEx
7/720777	Federal Ex	press
r/ 1119V0	الحديده	
2/ 7.0 VA.	تعز	

		ö	الثور	تشفى	مس
	ري	ھور	الجم	تشفى	مس
عديث	ي الد	مان	الال	ستشفر	المد

المستشفى الاهلى الحديث مستشفى العلوم والتكنولوجيا مستشفى الكويت

# شركات طيران

1/ 202020	طيران اليمنية
فرع تعز : ١/٢١٧١٢٦	
فرع عدن: ۲/۲٥۲٤٥٦	
فرع الحديدة : ٣/٢٠١٤٧٤	
. 1/070707 . 1/70	لسعيدة
1/22227	لإماراتية
1/277997	لإثيوبية
. 1/7 1 7 2	لألمانية (لوفتهانزا)
1/2209V7	لتركية
1/0.708	لسعودية
. 1/0.7.7.	لقطرية
1/22.977	طيران الخليج
N/EET.TE/0/V	طيران الأردنية - صنعاء
1/22770	طيران الاتحاد
1/22700.	طيران دبي

	فنادق
1/717022-77	فندق میرکیور صنعاء
عدن ۲/۳۲۸٦٦٦ ۱/٤١٨٥٤٥/٧	فندق شمر
1/021111	<u>فندق</u> موفمبیك
ف: ۲۰۰۰۶۹۰۱	
1/277.7./7./2.	فندق لازوردي

# مدارس **~1 + 1** ···

تلفاکس: ، ۶ ۸ ۸ ۶ ۶ / ۱ ،	روضة واحة الأطفال	
موبایل: ۷۳۳٤٥٥٦٤٥		
. 1/212.77	مدرسة ريـنبو	
• 1/272287		
. 1/77. 191/7	مدارس صنعاء الدولية	
ف :۲۷۰۱۹۳		
. 1/22/20/19	مدرسة التركيه الدوليه	
. 1 / 3	مدرسة منارات	
ریات	ف <i>س</i>	
. 1/7	قدس فلاي	
۰۱/ ۵۳۵۰۸۰ عدن ۲۲۱۲۷۰	سكاي للسفريات والسياحة	
• ٢/	**	
55511A	عطلات الصقر	
22770.	مركز أعمال الصقر	
• 1- 5 5 1 1 0 1/09/7 •	العالميه للسفريات والسياحه	

# مطاعم

عبده الشيباني)	مطعم ومخبازة الشيباني (باسم محمد
فاکس : ۹۱٦٧٦٢	تلفون : ۱۰ ۵۷۳٦٦۲ - ۱۰
517291	مطعم منابو الياباني
281999	فطيرتي



Yemen's first and most widely-read English-language newspaper

ستار نت تکنولوجی وکیل معتمد Star Net Technology Authorized Agent



**CONSOLIDATED CONTRACTORS** 

**GROUP S.A.L OFFSHORE (CCC)** 

Offshore structures and underwater works.

Prefabricated accommodation & office facilities.

Sewage treatment plants & collection networks.

Airports, roads, highways, bridges & fly-overs.

Water treatment plants, reservoirs & distribution

Tel: (967-2) 377328

Fax: (967-2) 377716

E-Mail: cccaden@y.net.ye

🔁 High quality buildings & sports complexes.

Aden

Pipelines construction and maintenance.

CONSTRUCTION OF MECHANICAL

AND HEAVY CIVIL PROJECTS

systems

center almiat 208863/733050607 www.starnet-tec.com

Petrochemical plants, refineries.

Heavy, light industrial plants.

Fuel and water storage tanks.

Oil fields ancillary installations.

Air purification for industry

berths & refinery terminals.

Tel: (967-1) 441638

Fax: (967-1) 441630

E-Mail: ccc@cccyemen.com

Sanaa

Marine docks, harbours, deep sea

Power and desalination plants.

## ANALYSIS

# What is not being discussed about Libya

## **Hafed Al-Ghwell** aljazeera.com

First published March 16

he UN Special Envoy to Libya, Bernardino Leon, has been trying to herd the scattered Libyan politicians of all political shades around the table in order to negotiate a peace treaty of sorts, put an end to the fighting, and establish a unity government that can keep the country together and enable it to serve as a credible member of the international community and a trustworthy recipient of international assistance.

He began several months ago with an initial round of talks between the old expired General National Congress (GNC) in Tripoli and the newly elected, albeit legally and electorally controversial, House of Representatives (HoR) in Tobruk.

The discussions were later moved to Geneva with an expanded list of participants representing a larger set of groups and antagonists, including representatives of local municipalities. A little over a week ago, the discussion in Morocco finally revolved around the central question of a unity government. Participants then went home to discuss the proposal with their respective political groups, and returned to Morocco at the end of last week to finalize an agreement. This plan was not realized, as the HoR asked for a delay until the end of this week.

### **Bizarre Libyan stage**

In the meantime, Leon, in partnership with the Algerian government, held a round of discussions with various hand-selected representatives of the one-man-shows parading around the bizarre Libyan stage



Fighters from Misrata move towards ISIL positions near Sirte.

political parties. Most of these do not, in fact, represent anyone other than themselves and do not have seats in the HoR or the GNC, or even in local governments.

But don't despair. Many other groups and forces are also not represented and have not been consulted in the UN-sponsored Libya dialogue; in fact, the majority of Libyans are not involved in this process in any way.

All eyes are now focused on this week's supposed official rounds in Morocco, scheduled to take place this Thursday, and whether or not they will be able to produce a framework for a unity government and decide who should head it.

The problem, of course, is that we have all been there before with,

as civil society organizations and depending on how they are counted, as many as six temporary and transitional prime ministers and governments since 2011-one of which was elected but did not take office after the government line-up of Mustafa Abushagour was rejected in 2013 by a strange alliance (National Forces Alliance) between the Muslim Brotherhood and their enemies.

> Another Cabinet, headed by Ahmed Metaig, was legally challenged by foes before an obscure and toothless supreme court that was brought to life for that purpose, much to the surprise of many Libyans who had never heard before that they actually had a supreme court.

The problem has always been, not so much forming a government, but rather the ability of any government thus far to actually rule and exercise power and a monopoly on the use of force in the country.

As everyone on the planet has already heard, multiple Libyan governments in the past four years had their offices sacked; ministers faced militias with guns in their offices and signed all kinds of decrees in order to save their own skins; and a sitting prime minister was kidnapped from his five-star hotel room and then complained publicly that even his underwear had been stolen in the process.

## Mercy of armed militias

Thus far, Libyan governments have been living under the mercy of armed militias and criminal gangs; with no real regular army to speak of, Libyans jokingly say, "The Liby-

an Army is the 10th strongest army in Libya."

In this circus, no one is holding their breath in the hope that the Thursday meeting in Morocco will actually produce anything more than something that the UN can claim as a "success in the long process of international diplomatic efforts" before the camera.

This pessimism is due in large part to two key missing ingredients in the process. The first is the lack of a complete package, a new road map, and a hard restart of the entire Libyan transition, after four years of total failures, that will ensure that any new government can count on international assistance and perhaps even a military force to protect its members and secure the urban centers of Libya, including the capital, Tripoli, Benghazi, Misrata and Bank Group.

Sabha.

The second reason has to do with those who have been excluded from the entire Libya transition and UN process, namely, the estimated two million exiles scattered between Egypt, Tunisia, the UAE, Jordan, and Turkey, most of whom are former allies and officials of the late Muammar Gaddafi

Thus, we are left to wonder how excluding 25 percent of the population will help rebuild Libya, given all that we have learned from the ongoing saga in Iraq.

Hafed Al-Ghwell is a senior nonresident Fellow with the Rafik Hariri Center at the Atlantic Council in Washington DC and former adviser to the Dean of the Board of Executive Directors of the World

# After Israel's elections, what prospects for Middle East peace process?

Kate Shuttleworth and Joe Dyke IRIN First published March 18

hortly before Israel's elections on Tuesday, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu declared that as long as he remained in power there would be no independent Palestinian state. "Whoever moves to establish a Palestinian state or intends to withdraw from territory is simply yielding territory for radical Islamic terrorist attacks against Israel," he said. The announcement was a major part of a strategy that saw Netanyahu rise from polling several points behind the more liberal Zionist Union a few days before the vote to surprise election victory and a likely fourth term in office. While the election was fought more over economics than relations with the Palestinians, where does his explicit rejection of the two-state solution leave the peace process?

little interest in an independent Palestinian state. While Israeli and Palestinian officials continue to pay lip service to American-led peace talks, there have been no signifi-

they had long feared—that he has er the next government would be willing to support an independent Palestinian state in any form.

Critics also allege that Netanyahu's party used the fear of the Arab vote to drum up support. The Joint cant breakthroughs in recent years. List, a coalition of four predomi-Some fear his comment was merely nantly Arab parties, had a major breakthrough at this election—becoming the third largest bloc in the Knesset.

Israeli citizens," Abu Rass said. "These kinds of statements from Netanyahu widen the gaps between Arabs and Jews and worsen the ethnic discourse and do not contribute to democracy."

Going it alone?

nounced their intention to join the International Criminal Court, with their accession due to be confirmed on April 1. This comes after numerous attempts to gain recognition of Palestine at the United Nations, with resolutions in the Security Council vetoed by the United States. Saed Erekat, chief Palestinian negotiator during the last round of talks, announced that Netanyahu's victory made the need for the Palestinians to pursue an international approach to independence more important. "Now, more than ever, the international community must act. It must rally behind Palestinian efforts to internationalize our struggle for dignity and freedom through the International Criminal Court and through all other peaceful means," he said. "The Palestinians will not go through any process now [after Netanyahu's statement]," Shaikh said. "They will be looking for international action now. They are forced to start a process that has not got internationally-backed parameters." The European diplomat said foreign diplomats were increasingly in agreement that direct Israeli-Palestinian talks are unlikely to yield re-

sults. "The two-state solution needs stronger international engagement, it will not come from a bilateral process," he said.

The European Union has already announced its commitment to working with the new government on the peace process, but the diplomat added that there was increasing support within European countries for bringing the Palestinian issue back to the "Security Council with broader support." That could force the US into a corner. Shaikh said the US would have to decide whether it was seriously looking to pressure Israel into concessions, or merely looking to maintain the status quo. "The only other way [for a peace process to move forward] is for the US to insist on it, put down parameters," he said. This could begin with the "US withdrawing its veto within the Security Council on certain measures and could go into a phase of taking more positive action," he said.

#### **Backing down**

For some, Netanyahu's statement was merely a reflection of what

a blunt statement of what was in fact unspoken policy.

"Netanyahu's statement confirms the view that he and the former government did not seriously engage in a peace process," one European diplomat told IRIN.

Yet since the election victory, Netanyahu's allies have sought to row back on the statement.

Tzachi Hanegbi of Netanyahu's Likud party and the deputy foreign minister in the previous government, told IRIN that Likud was still committed to negotiations with the Palestinians.

"I believe the [new] administration will make an effort to renew the negotiations. We will be very delighted to renew the negotiations, we believe it's in the interests of both people, the Israelis and the Palestinians, to have a dialogue and discuss and to try and find a common denominator in the issues that are so crucial to both people."

He refused to be drawn on wheth-

In an apparent attempt to get out the Jewish vote, Netanyahu warned that Arabs were voting in their "droves.'

Ahmed Tibi, a Joint List parliamentarian, said that Netanyahu's victory meant little change would be forthcoming. "It seems that the Israeli Jewish public did not want to change the reality. We wanted Israel to change its reality and cooperate with democratic process," he said.

Netanyahu's approach has also contributed to increasingly tense relations between Israeli Jews and Arabs, said Dr. Thabet Abu Rass, co-executive director of the Abraham Fund-which advocates co-existence between the communities.

"Nobody has a right to incite against Arabs and Netanyahu is supposed to represent all citizens, including the 20 percent of Arab

Netanyahu's choice of coalition partners is likely to influence whether he formally engages with the peace process in the coming months. He has said that it could take several weeks to form a government.

Salman Shaikh, director at the Brookings Center Doha think tank, said that if Netanyahu's Likud party were to form an alliance with the Zionist Union then he would have to commit to a breakthrough in the peace process as it was a key part of the latter's campaign. "But I don't think that is going to happen-[Netanyahu] would need to back down on his promises," he said.

In the absence of such an alliance, there appears little impetus for serious bilateral talks between Israeli and Palestinian negotiators.

This could encourage the Palestinians to ramp up their attempts at international recognition, rather than through direct negotiations. Last year the Palestinians an-

"We are going to see this thing move into the international domain and the big question is what will the US do?"

Republished with permission from IRIN.

