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President Saleh Speaks of a Better Future !

"I know that the future holds better fortunes for Yemen." That was the main message of President Ali Abdullah Saleh in a press conference held on Saturday morning, October 14th. The President also held out promises of much improved living conditions of the Yemeni people. "The good times are coming," he said. The President went through details of the how the leaders of the Yemeni Socialist Party conspired to plunge the country into war and "their treacherous secession plans". He said all of the country's woes and troubles today are caused by them.

The President who speaking to the press to mark the anniversary of the October 14th Revolution also indicated that there were important plans that will revitalize the city of Aden. Speaking about relations between the PGC (his party) and the Islah, who together run the present government, he insisted that the alliance was a strategic one and that the differences between them were marginal and insignificant. He also spoke highly of Yemeni-Saudi relations, and said there was progress in relations with Kuwait.

QATAR Leads the Gulf Transformation Process

Qatar looks set to lead the Gulf countries in achieving transformation that would enable it to engage the 21st century. Qatar is the first country among the GCC states to remove all kind of censorship from the press. Last week, Dr. Hamad Bin Abdulaziz Al-Kawari, Minister of Information in Qatar, announced that all journalists and editors will be left to their judgement. "His Highness the Emir, Sheikh Hamad Bin Khalifah Al-Thani, gave instructions to remove press censorship. This decision

shows the level of trust and confidence in our professionals, not least among whom are the media people," he said. Qatar also set another record by enacting a law to protect intellectual rights and patents. "This decision will help authors, artists, singers, playwrights, and other people by protecting their intellectual rights and property," the minister added. The State of Qatar was also one of the early countries to interact with the Middle East peace process.

Continues on page 11

House Moves to Enact Islamic Banks' Law Islamic Banks are Here

Yemen's first Islamic bank capitalized at one billion Yemeni Riyals has already been established. This bank expects to start operations any time soon, though the law regulating Islamic banks has not yet been enacted. That is not the only problem with this rush job bank. Its owners are far from being puritan or even good Muslims. Actually, one key shareholder of this Islamic bank, Mohammed Saif Thabit, had a recent liver transplant because his liver was damaged by too much alcohol. One diplomat here noted, "They are just using the word Islam to improve their business prospects." Two more Islamic banks are in the pipeline, the first capitalized at YR 1.5 billion Riyals, and the second at over YR 2 billion. Meanwhile, the House of Representatives is pushing ahead with the enactment of an Islamic Banks' Law. A considerable row and debate has ensued regarding how to enable the Central Bank of Yemen to regulate and supervise the activities of Islamic banks without hindering their operations. The main problem is that people who put their money with Islamic banks are investors rather than depositors, and the bank itself is a share-holder in projects rather than a creditor. Therefore, the traditional

instruments of interest rates, discounting rates, reserve requirements, etc., are not directly applicable. That is why a special law is being enacted to meet the requirements of Islamic banking. Islam prohibits usury, which is seen by some jurists today as corresponding to interest. For capital to earn money, it has to accept the risk of profit and loss. If the capital is not exposed to this risk, like in the case of ordinary deposits, then it has no right to earnings. Thus, Islamic banks theoretically invest rather than lend. Many instruments have been developed for this purpose. The famous ones are mudharaba (direct investment), musharaka (joint ventures), and murabaha (mark-up). Though these instruments are a couple of decades old, they have not evolved in an independent way. In most cases, Islamic bank instruments have closely followed the prevailing interest rates in the traditional capital markets. The Central Bank and the Yemeni government which had pleaded for a delay in enactment of the law, quickly rushed in to amend the proposed law when they discovered the law would be enacted with their input or without.

By: Al-Izzy Asselwi, Yemen Times.



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OUR VIEWPOINT

The Concept of "Mustashar"

The Regime in Yemen has made good use of the concept of "mustashar". Lately, many officials have been converted into mustashars.

Theoretically, a mustashar is an advisor or consultant. The purpose of having mustashars or advisors is to gain insight from them given their expertise and experience. In Yemen, it means a senior bureaucrat is laid off.

Over the last few months, the country's class of mustashars has grown enormously. According to one estimate, the government of Yemen now has the better of 3,500 mustashars. Few of these actually work, and many of them are individuals who have a lot of experience and knowledge.

In the rest of the world, if a person's services are not needed, he/she is either sacked or retired. If the system feels this person can make a contribution in another capacity or field, he/she is transferred accordingly. But then again, the world does not have the genius of Yemeni management. Here in Yemen, a senior bureaucrat who is not needed is appointed as mustashar. This achieves many things.

First, the rulers are not forced into making hard decisions as to what to do with influential people they want to replace. So, appointing a person as mustashar is really to put off a decision on the case.

Second, when a person is appointed as mustashar, he/she is technically still part of the system. In other words, the mustashar does not lose face completely due to the loss of their job. He technically has a new job.

Third, by appointing a person as mustashar, he/she is kept in the wings hanging in there. He/she is waiting for a new assignment as opportunities open up. Therefore, even if he/she is dismayed, he/she does not show it. Hence the beauty of appointing someone as mustashar - the regime gets rid of people without antagonizing them.

But this system can be bettered one step. What if the system actually interacts with these mustashars as real mustashars or advisors? Why not take the post of advisor seriously and really ask for the input of the 3,500 or so mustashars within the system? For example, the prime minister has some thirty mustashars associated with his office, and all ministers, chairman and other senior officials have a few. I do not know how many the president has, but I reckon there are a few.

While the concept of creating a class of mustashars offers a beautiful solution to a political dilemma, it is - the way it is practised - a tremendous loss in terms of knowledge and experience.

The Publisher
عبد العزيز الساقق

Application to Set Up (705A)

Formal application has been made to the Yemeni authorities for a group license in the name of "The Yemen International Amateur Radio Expedition". The proposed call sign is 705A (Seven Oscar Five Alpha).

The application was signed by Brendan O'Brien, Team Leader, and Roger Western, Radio Leader, both of the UK. The team also includes a German, a French, 3 Americans, and 3 Japanese radio operators.

The six-week expedition, proposed for January-February, 1996, hopes to put Yemen on the world map by providing for it international recognition amongst the three million or so amateurs of ham radio.

Mr. O'Brien had earlier met with the Prime Minister and Foreign Minister to both of whom he explained the interest in making contact from Yemen.

At another level, Martha and Carl Henson - of Georgia, USA, are presently on a visit to Yemen. Over the next three weeks of their stay here, they hope to be able to convince Yemeni officials to let them make radio contact from Yemen.

Norway Appoints Abdul Wassa Hayel Said as Its Honorary Consul in Yemen

The Royal Kingdom of Norway has formally appointed Mr. Abdul Wassa Hayel Said Anam as its honorary consul in Yemen. The King's Council has approved the nomination which was based on recommendation from the Norwegian Foreign Ministry on the submission of Norway's non-resident ambassador to Yemen, Mr. Paul Moe.

Official documentation and accreditation with the Yemeni Foreign Ministry are expected to be completed soon.

Court Decides in Favor of Al-Wahdawi

Judge Abdul-Rahman Al-Muallimi, presiding over the West Sanaa Primary Court on October 7th decided in favor of Al-Wahdawi newspaper on the lawsuit case number 182 filed against it by the Ministry of Information.

The Ministry claimed that the paper had divulged state secrets when it reported that one of the air-force planes went down in Aden, in its issue 149. The paper did run corrections in its issues 151 and 152, which the judge found as adequate and sufficient. "At the moment, Al-Wahdawi is out of circulation because of financial difficulties," explained a source at the paper.

A Mafia Arrested in Aden, Sanaa, Hajjah

Ministry of Interior sources disclosed that some 60 persons have been arrested as part of a nationwide ring of gangs involved in document forgeries, embezzlement, and other crimes.

"We have arrested 25 persons in Aden, and many more in Sanaa and Hajjah. Very soon, they will be presented for trial," indicated Colonel Mutahhar Rashad Al-Masri, Vice Minister of Interior.

"There are certain regions within the republic, such as Kisher in Hajjah, which are difficult to reach for the security forces. But the new equipment and task force has been able to overcome many difficulties," he added.

"At another level, security in the capital city improved a lot. You can see police cars at traffic intersections and other places," Mr. Al-Masri concluded.



Subscription Rates

Yemen Times welcomes new subscribers to join its long list of subscribers. We have decided to keep the same rates for 1995, which were first fixed in 1991. The one-year subscription rate, which includes the cost of newspaper, handling and delivery/first class postage:

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Yemen and Eritrea Discuss Ways to implement the joint security and fishing agreements

Last week, there were a flurry of Yemeni-Eritrean meetings in Sanaa. The occasion was the visit of an Eritrean delegation headed by Mr. Ali Saeed Abdullah, Minister of Interior. Al-Izzy Asselwi of Yemen Times met with the Eritrean official, and Mr. Ahmed Al-Basha, Yemeni Ambassador to Asmara and discussed the purpose and outcome of the visit. Interview with Eritrean Interior Minister:

Q: Could you give us a broad picture of the purpose of your visit?

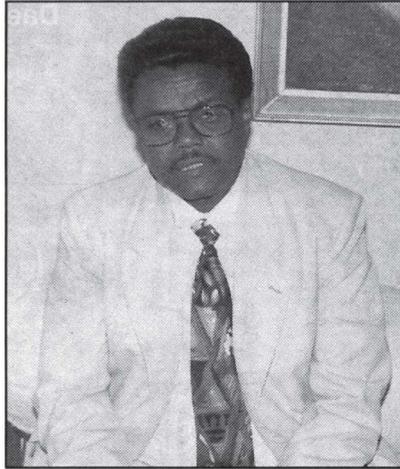
A: Over the last year, both Yemen and Eritrea were busy putting their internal structures in order. Now that most of this is done, it is time to resume bilateral and regional coordination. You will appreciate that Yemen and Eritrea enjoy a special relationship, and they are neighbors separated only by the Red Sea. We are both concerned with the security of this region, and are interested in the proper exploitation of its resources. I have also carried a letter from President Asias Afwerke to Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh.

Q: Eritrea has arrested some Yemeni fishermen. Is this one of the issues discussed?

A: I must insist this is a marginal issue. Fishermen routinely cross into the other side's territorial waters, and this kind of problem will always be with us. We have not applied the law in most cases, and were satisfied with giving notice only, because of the special relations between us. The Eritrean naval forces and coastal patrol have arrested about 100 persons on board 25 fishing boats in Eritrean territorial waters. These did not have fishing permits, and did not even have Yemeni identity cards. So they were escorted to Massawa. These were later released. We think this problem is over. But we need to enforce the laws in the future so that both sides can achieve a full and proper exploitation of their marine resources.

Q: What about the joint security agreement?

A: I have met with many Yemeni officials - including President Ali Abdullah Saleh to House Speaker Sheikh Abdullah Bin Hussain Al-Ahmar to



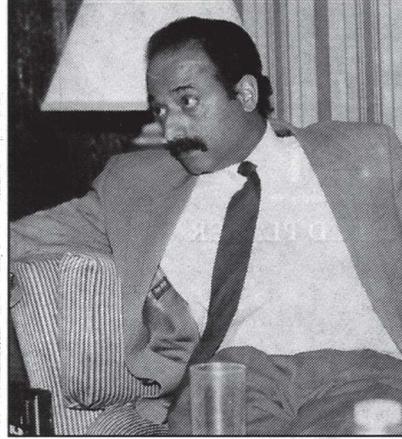
prime Minister Abdulaziz Abdulghani, and of course, Interior Minister Colonel Hussain Arab and his assistants. In all cases, we have indicated interest in full implementation of the joint security agreement. Both countries need to safeguard against any possible attempt to undermine their internal security, and we need to work together, especially since there is already a joint security agreement that provides the forum for cooperation.

Q: Have you agreed on any specific steps?

A: Yes, we have agreed on certain instruments and a general timetable. We are happy with the positive response and enthusiasm of the Yemeni officials.

Q: By the way, is there any change in the Eritrean-Sudanese relationship?

A: I am afraid there has been no change in the situation. You know our diplomatic relations are severed. This has been caused by Sudan's drive to Islamize the region according to the vision of its rulers. Let me point out that our relations with the Sudanese people are historic and will remain strong.



Interview with Yemeni Ambassador:

Q: What brings you to Sanaa?

A: I am here for the bilateral discussions between Yemen and Eritrea. I would like to say that our two peoples have mixed and lived together for centuries. So there is a lot of shared good will and understanding. The same is true at the official level given the strong personal friendship between President Ali Abdullah Saleh and President Asias Afwerke as well as the other officials.

Q: Two years ago, the two countries signed a joint security agreement. Where does it stand?

A: Yes, the Republic of Yemen was the first country to sign a joint security agreement after the new state was born. The agreement calls for cooperation in terms of exchange of information, joint efforts against sabotage and terrorism, working against smuggling and contraband, joint anti-drug efforts, joining hands against arms shipments, etc. It is a full and extensive agreement. However, we are now here to discuss the ways and means to achieve a meaningful implementation of it.

Q: Have you achieved that?

A: I can say that in the last meeting which was headed on the Yemeni side by the Interior Minister and the Vice Foreign Minister, we have reached specific steps in this regard. Eritrea was assured not to fear any problems from or through Yemen.

Q: How about the fishing problem?

A: Again here, there is an agreement regulating cooperation between the two sides. Unfortunately, there is a very long coastal stretch on both sides, and at some points, the sea is so narrow, fishermen inadvertently cross the international line. In the past, Eritrea was content with pushing back Yemeni fishermen. The two sides need to make progress in implementing the law, because they also face a more serious problem. This is the foreign vessels that come to the region and reap the marine resources, sometimes in ways that damage the prospects for continued marine life. We have experienced highly advanced but destructive fishing techniques which almost slaughter the fish. We have to join hands to stop this and other practices.

Q: What is the practical step, in this matter?

A: There are many possibilities. One simple solution is to issue fishing permits for an annual fee. Another is to work out a joint fishing system. There are many practical solutions. All we have to do is to work out a system and implement it. Towards that end, the two sides agreed that a delegation from Yemen headed by the Minister of Fisheries will visit Eritrea soon. He will carry specific proposals on this matter.

Q: How would you assess the condition of the Yemeni immigrant community in Eritrea?

A: The Yemeni immigrant community used to be a large one, but its numbers have dwindled drastically over the years. Today, the community is a small one and it is well adapted to the local culture and population. Recently, our community's association was re-activated and the Government of Eritrea has returned its premises. As you know, Eritrea is steadily returning the formerly confiscated real estate and properties.

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IMPRESSIONS FROM JAPAN

By: Ismail Al-Ghabri,
Yemen Times.

All my life, I have been hearing so many things about Japan, or rather Nippon, the Land of the Rising Sun. Yes, the first rays of every day fall on this farthest most eastern nation on our globe. I hear people speaking about it with awe, and I kept conjuring images of this country, until the Yemen Times chief editor one day said to me, "How would you like to spend three weeks in Japan?" I could not believe my ears. It was like a dream come true. "When can I go? When?" I was in Japan during the period

Land:
Japan consists of four main islands - Hokkaido, Honshu, Shikoku, and Kyushu—as well as thousands of adjacent smaller islands. The archipelago runs in an arc from north (45.33 north latitude) to south (20.25 north latitude) stretching over 3,800 kilometers. Its total land area is 377,800 square kilometers, about 0.3% of the earth's total land area.

Mountains claim 75% of Japan's land area. The chain of mountains extends along the middle of the long, narrow archipelago, dividing it into two sides, one facing the Pacific and the other facing Asia across the Sea of Japan.

Population:
Japan's total population stood at 124.8 million as of March 1994, making it the seventh most populous nation in the world. The population has more than doubled since the first national census in 1920, when it was around 56 million. Population growth has slowed down in recent years. The annual growth rate averaged 0.4% in the 1985-91 period, higher than

Europe's 0.2% but considerably lower than the world average of 1.7%.

The Japanese people are generally self-contained and are not outgoing, although the younger generations are more daring. They are hard working, and extremely polite.

Government:

It was only in November 1946, that the present Constitution was promulgated, that sovereignty was given to the people and a democratic system of government was adopted. Now the emperor is the symbol of the state, and the Diet is the supreme organ of state power.

The present system is built on the separation of powers of the three branches of government—legislative, executive, and judicial—which act to check and balance one another. For example, the House of Representatives can pass a motion of non confidence in the cabinet, while the cabinet can dissolve the Diet.

administration at the prefectural level is centered on the governor and assembly of each of the 47 prefectures. The governor and assembly members are elected directly by the residents of the prefecture. Under each prefectural government is a system of city, town, and village administrations. These municipal assemblies and mayors are also elected directly by the local residents.

Election:

Under the political reform laws passed in March 1994, a new electoral system has been introduced for the House of Representatives. It consists of a combination of single-seat constituencies and proportional representation and is intended to rectify problems arising under the

old system of medium-sized constituencies. Because a number of Liberal Democratic Party candidates had to vie in the same constituency, they were more apt to compete in distributing favors to constituents than to argue policy, leading to costly elections and countless cases of corruption.

The new system has reduced the total number of seats in the lower house from 511 to 500. Of course, 300 are elected from single-seat constituencies; for the remaining 200, the country is divided into 11 blocks and selection is made on the basis of proportional representation. In the single-seat constituencies, voters select the candidate by name; in the proportional representation blocks they choose a party.

Foreign Press Center

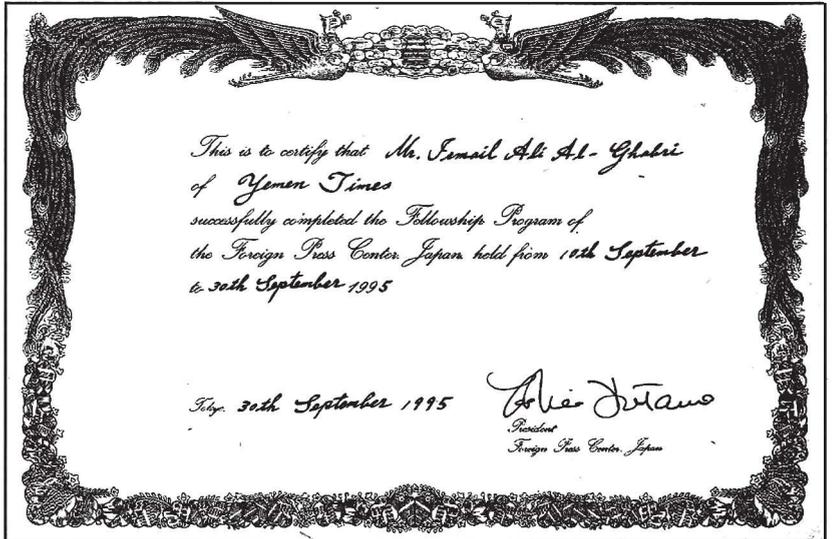
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The basic fund of FPC was donated by the Japan Newspaper Publishers and Editors Association and Keidanren (The Federation of Economic Organizations). The annual operational fund is provided by 80-odd private enterprises on an individual basis. FPC also does work commissioned by the Government, for example, translating an publishing press releases and other papers. FPC seeks to ensure that foreign journalists have ready access to the sources and facts about Japan so that they can reach their own conclusions.

On this occasion, Yemen Times nominated Sana'a Bureau Chief Ismail Al-Ghabri to participate in Fellowship program for Journalists from the Middle East which was held from Sunday, 10, September to Saturday 30, September 1995. This fellowship program sponsored by the Foreign Press Center of Japan. The program consisted of intensive orientation seminars on the politics, economy, and other aspects of Japan. It also included tours to industrial, social and cultural landmarks. In the last part of the program, the EPC arranged individual news research opportunities at fellows' requests. The participants of the 1995 FPC Fellowship program were from Bahrain, Egypt, Iran, Jordan, Lebanon, Qatar, Syria and Yemen.



Al-Ghabri with Mr. Yoshio Hatano.



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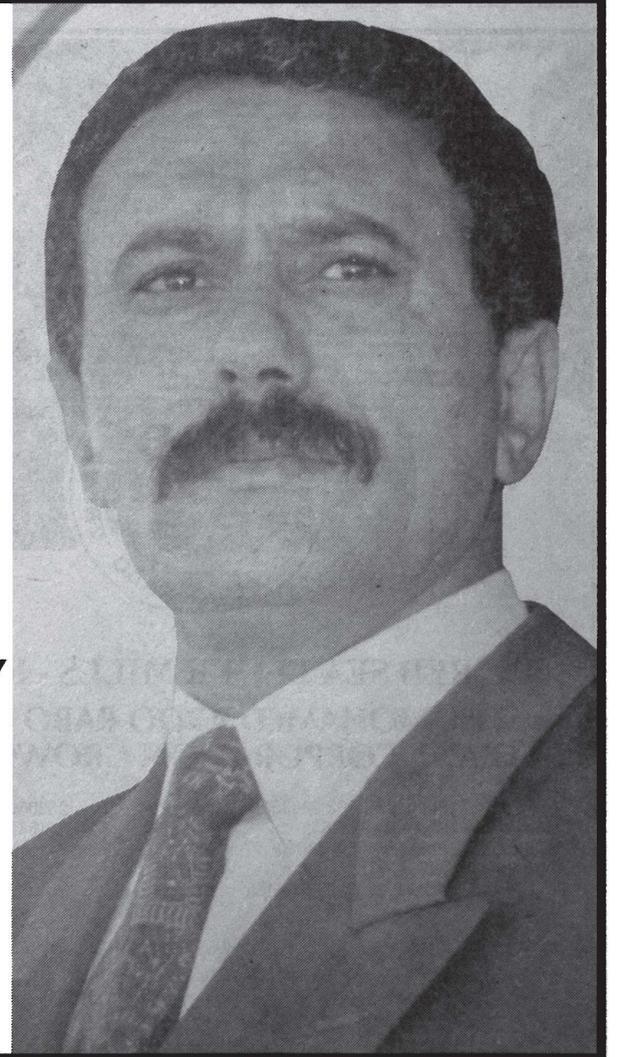
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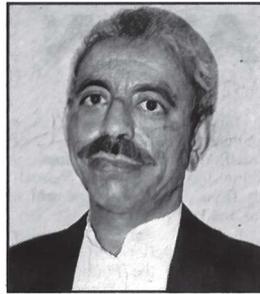
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By: Hassan Al-Haifi

Democracy In the Arab World

Though the Arabs are renowned for relying on consultations and advice before making important decisions, from as far back as pre-Islamic times, most Arab states have little or no systematic affiliation to real democratic practices. In pre-Islamic times, or the Period of Ignorance as Arab chroniclers call it, the tribe was the most important association group in the Arabian Peninsula. The tribal chief along with the heads of large families in the tribe represented the authority to whom most of the tribal issues of major significance were referred. They took the appropriate decisions, but they did engage in extended consultation. The set up was quite informal and no systematic procedures were established to determine how authority is meted out or even carried out. Often, the leadership of a particular tribe remained with a particular family or a set of groups who represented the most powerful or wealthiest families, or who gained prominence through spiritual ties of some sort as guardians of holy places or rites. The rest of the tribe accepted this as a control mechanism or regulatory reference to deal with any excesses or disputes, etc. Most of this authority became functional on an ad hoc basis, as the situation warranted, and thus was void of any operational continuity. The exceptions to this were the larger tribes which lived in the northern parts of the Peninsula (Iraq and Jordan

today) and South Arabia (Yemen) where the tribes had taken on the status of statehood, and to a large extent, the tribal chiefs had acquired the titles of "kings". Islam came to Arabia to introduce the concept of "universal nationhood" thus replacing tribal association. While the spiritual concepts of Islam are a revolution in themselves, as far as the way of life in Arabia had been going on, the teachings of the Prophet Mohammed were just as important in transforming the political and social lives of the followers of the new faith. New important guidelines that determine the relationship between the governor and the governed, which were not only revolutionary for Arabia, but for the entire world, were instilled. The new faith introduced such concepts as rights, duties, justice, freedom and social responsibility in the framework of an Islamic state and society. Though the Islamic state in Mohammed's time did not achieve full institutionalization, the political process was left to his followers to evolve as the circumstances dictated as long as they do not deviate from the main guidelines. In fact, the state that Mohammed had loosely set up in Medina after his flight from Mecca (622 AD), was itself still reliant on informal assignment of roles passed on to his close followers to deal with certain situations that confronted the new state.



Most of these were still of a military nature or involved the propagation of Islam into new areas. The first three caliphs, who assumed Mohammed's mundane authorities and who were the last reference on spiritual matters, after Mohammed's death, continued to run the new state along the guidelines set by Mohammed. But again, failure to institutionalize such guidelines in a systematic format was sufficient reason to allow a struggle for power to ensue, that eventually remained a problem confronting all Muslim states to-date. The continued inability of any of these states to achieve the stability required to withstand the continuous assaults on them and the need of rulers to keep their post by popular election, although not in the manner we would be accustomed to in these times, however, the Islamic state has grown to include the domains of what was once the Persian Empire and the Byzantine Empire. In addition the Moslem State's treasury was attractive to the ambition power seekers who had significantly increased their ability to maneuver within the state and influence its directions to suit their interest especially during the relatively long period, in which the third caliph, Uthman, was in power. The latter's old age and more susceptible attitude to clannish loyalty had

seriously become grounds for the instability that eventually led to his tragic assassination by a wild large mob of discontented "citizens", who were dissatisfied by the injustices, that Uthman's relatives had been characterized by in the administrative positions they were assigned to by Uthman, at the prodding of his relatives, in the various regions that had been incorporated into the state. Ali, the fourth Caliph, tried to undo some of the corruption and deviations that have revolved in the state and to return Islamic statehood to the guidelines set by Mohammed, but the power brokers in the state were fast organizing a "counter coup" to "avenge" Uthman's death, claiming that Ali was behind the insurrection of the masses against his predecessor (which Ali was in fact innocent of), since they knew that Ali was sure to start his caliphate by ousting them from their positions and tie-up all the corrupt hands that have been free to go into the state coffers as their owners liked. Accordingly, the Moslem State was confronted with its First Civil War, which Ali almost won, but the peace talks were to turn the near victory to a delicate stalemate, which prevented Ali from consolidating his control of the entire Moslem State before he was assassinated by a bizarre conspiracy. The bizarre conspiracy was supposed to have killed Ali, Ma'awiyah (The Omayyad Leader who contested Ali's right to the caliphate) and the latter's right hand man and brains, Amru Ibn Al A'as. The latter two were of better luck than Ali. With the death of Ali, Islamic statehood was transferred to a mundane royalty! There were individual efforts by Islamic rulers, from time to time, to return to the guidelines set by Mohammed, but again failure to institutionalize the efforts was sufficient enough reason to return to violent struggles for power, which eventually broke up the Islamic Nation to several Islamic entities, all of which failed to escape from the struggle for power syndrome instigated by the Omayyads just over 2 decades after Mohammed's death. The Arab World today, a jig saw puzzle of some 20 countries is an inheritor of this political heritage despite the significant developments in political thought and systemized political activity in the developed world, most of the Arab States still are governed by the struggle for power syndrome. Political activity of this kind has no concern for the role of the citizens in this activity and tends to look at any popular participation in such activity as "treason" or "heresy", depending on the secular/sectarian inclination, if any, the state has followed. Even those Arab states which have declared themselves to be followers of democratic platforms are still far from proving themselves anywhere near instillike modern European democracies. The sad irony is that this is also true of states, which initially adopted platforms of democracy and progressive social ideas, but in the end turned out to be even more oppressive and less equitable than the rulers (local or foreign) they were in rebellion against! The overall situation in the Arab World today is that there seems to be a large gap between the people and their rulers. The sad part is that the latter seem to be the last thing on the former's mind. Only when the people, or some of them offer an opinion or contest a particular policy or action by the rulers, do they remember that there are people they have to look after. But the

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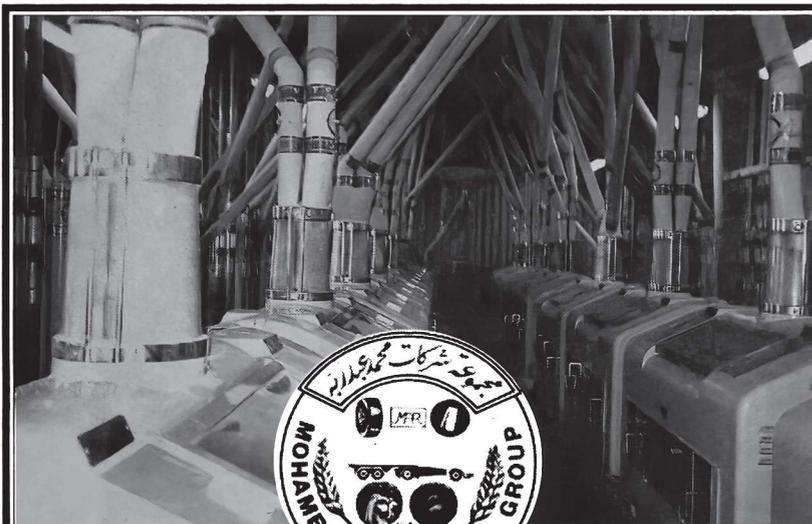
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 بورسودان: ت: ٢٦٣ - ٢٩٧٩ - ٤٤٦٥ تلکس: ٧٠٠٧١ یارن فاکس: ١٦٠

problem is that they look the wrong way, by referring the matter to the special police or propaganda organs to deal with these protests, no matter how harmless or useful these protests maybe. In most Arab states we find that the state relies on its own interpretations of democracy and national interest, all of which are tied to the interests of the rulers and nothing else! The worst part of all of this is that when an Arab state tries to pursue a course of real democratic development, it would not be surprising to find other Arab states bringing pressure on the rulers of that state to forget such daydreaming and bring an end to any effort towards such wishful thinking. Relations between the various Arab states became tied to how that particular state handles the issue of democracy and if that is not enough than it would not be surprising to find other Arab states interfering to bring chaos and havoc to that state, as we saw in Lebanon, which was once considered a model Arab state in view of the progress the country has made in institutionalizing democratic practice. There, even Israel, found good reason to intervene, since Lebanon had defied the myth that Israeli propaganda has made in the West, that it is the only true democracy in the Middle East. Today we see a great effort to quell down on democratization efforts by many Arab states. Even Egypt has gone back to the use of the infamous military tribunals against peaceful Moslem activists, like the Moslem Brotherhood, by transferring 49 "sus-

pected" members to military court martials, for the simple reason that these people are likely candidates for the forthcoming parliamentary elections. This was even opposed by declared enemies (from other political parties in Egypt) of the Moslem Brotherhood, who saw in this move by the Egyptian regime, a violation of human rights that goes beyond partisan sentiment. We also have cases where army Arab embassies rush to forward official complaints against writers, in the country where they are stationed, who may have voiced an opinion about the plight of their fellow Arabs in the country these embassies represent. This causes the rulers of the country to start measures to clamp down on free speech for the sake of "brotherly" relations. In the Republic of Yemen, we are seeing activities by the extreme elements in the ruling coalition to suggest to the government to reduce the democratic environment established with the unity of the country, because these extremists are unable to apply democratic practice to present their position or case in a convincing manner that can be accepted by the people who can understand. All that can finally be said is that the Arab leadership must start to realize that if their intentions were sincere, then a democratic environment can assure them that their positions are justified! That is probably the overriding fear that bugs most of this leadership!

Welsh-Yemeni Festival

Following a year of preparation the Welsh Yemeni Festival will be opened at the 'New Traditions' exhibition of contemporary Welsh crafts, at Dar Al Kutub, in Sana'a on Wednesday October 18th at 10.30am and run until October 28th. The exhibition of contemporary Welsh crafts, will be opened by Yahya Hussein Al-Arashi - The Minister of Culture and Tourism, Douglas Scrafton The British Ambassador, and Tim Davies - The Lord Mayor of Cardiff.

The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Cardiff are in Yemen to attend the festival, which will also include a visiting group of Welsh musicians, Lyrae Cambrensis and BBC Wales Masterchef and broadcaster Colin Pressdee with assistant Carwyn Evans, who will be performing Welsh music and preparing Welsh food at various public events and also at the Taj Sheba Hotel, each evening between October 18th - 22nd.

The Lord Mayor of Cardiff will pay a courtesy call to The Governor of Sana'a, The Mayor of Sana'a and the Minister of Culture and Tourism at their new premises opened by President Ali Abdullah Saleh last week. The Lord Mayor will also visit the Old City of Sana'a, attend a reception held at The British Embassy Residence, visit sites near Sana'a and pay a call on the new offices of the Yemeni British Friendship Society.

The Lady Mayoress Susan Davies, will visit Gallery No.1. The artists Fuad Al-Futaih and Mizhar Nizar exhibited their work in Cardiff during the Cardiff Yemeni Festival held there in 1994. The Lady Mayoress will also

visit a rehabilitation centre for handicapped women. Sheik Said Hassan Ismail leader of The Yemeni Community in Cardiff will also be visiting Yemen for the event, with other members of the Welsh Yemeni Festival Committee.

THE EXHIBITION: 'NEW TRADITIONS'

The aim of the exhibition is to entertain and encourage people to look. With its focus on domestic functional objects, it also illustrates the creativity and high quality of the revival of the crafts tradition in Wales. The works were commissioned with a Yemeni audience in mind. The exhibition was shown in Wales at 'Oriol' The Arts Council of Wales Gallery in Cardiff before travelling to Yemen and was opened by Dr Hussein Al-Amri The Yemen Ambassador to Britain, in the presence of Sir Richard Lloyd Jones, Chairman of the Arts Council of Wales and The Lord Mayor of Cardiff Tim Davies, who later invited the Welsh Yemeni Community back to The Mansion House for a dinner of Welsh and Yemeni food. The gallery Director, Jenni Spencer Davies and the exhibition curator Ralph Turner are in Sana'a to set up the

exhibition with the assistance of The British Council Director Brendan McSharry and festival coordinator Katherine Potter. Exhibition contributors: David Davies, has made traditional willow baskets. Amber Hiscott has produced a series of acid etched glass panels. Walter Keeler, a distinguished potter has produced a series of jugs. Alison Morton has made traditional linen and heringbone towels. Andrew Smith has made a forged iron basket and 18 fire irons. Tim Wade has developed the idea and design of a seat from a wooden block-like tree stump through a series of three legged stools. Photographs by Charles and Patricia Aithie relating to Wales will also be shown. On the occasion of the opening the British Government has donated new lighting as a gift to Yemen. This was supplied by Concord Ltd. and installed by Clyde Petroleum, creating a gallery space of international standing. This new permanent feature will enhance and encourage the visual arts in The Republic.

THE MUSICIANS:

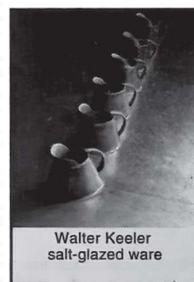
Lyrae Cambresis, Robert Evans and William Taylor with guest singer Brigitte Kloareg will play traditional music of Wales, with

ancient instruments - The crwth, the harp, voice and dance at various public events in Yemen, with many regional musicians including Hamood Al-Gunaid, who recently travelled to Wales and received third prize in the internationally renowned Folk Festival in Llangollen. The events are as follows: 18th to 22nd of October Taj Sheba Hotel, 19th October Sana'a University, 24th October - In the morning at The medical faculty at Aden University and later at 7.30 at The Palestinian Cultural Hall in Aden. On the 25th October they will make an open air performance at Tawiler Tanks at 5.00 pm. On the 26th October Lyrae Cambrensis will play at the Taiz Cultural Centre at 7.30pm where events are being assisted by Ahmed Abdul Rahman previously an active member of the Cardiff Yemeni Community when he lived there for over 35 years. The final concert will be performed in Sana'a on the 28th October at the Yemeni Cultural Centre organised by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism and Yemeni British Friendship Society whose Chairman Dr Abdullah Wali Nasher will also meet Bill Heber Percy, Chairman of the British Yemeni Society who will be visiting Yemen, with members of

WELSH CUISINE:

BBC WALES Broadcaster & Author Colin Pressdee with assistant Carwyn Evans will prepare Welsh dishes for the opening at Dar Al Kutub in association with the Taj Sheba Hotel, and later prepare menus for five evenings at the hotel.

The dishes will include Welsh Lamb with spicy dishes, laverbread, Welsh Farmhouse cheeses and others. Supporters include: The Arts Council of Wales/Oriol, The British Council, The British Embassy, The British Yemeni Society, Concord Lighting, Celtic Surveys, CPL (Bristol), Clyde Expro plc Yemen, The Embassy of the Republic of Yemen, Ffotograff, KLM Cargo, The Ministry of Culture and Tourism (Yemen), P & O Containers, Pressdee-Hunter Associates Taj Sheba Hotel (Sana'a), UNICEF, Universal Travel and Tourism, Welsh Yemeni Festival Committee, and the organising committee in Yemen. Events in both Wales and Yemen have been and will be covered by BBC Broadcasting.



Walter Keeler salt-glazed ware



Andrew Smith iron basket and fire irons



David Davies 'cynfell' willow baskets

CRICKET

IECC Win "Runners Up" position by beating L&JCC

In the last game of the 1995 League Competition IECC gained the "Runners Up" position in a closely contested game at Al-Towrah on 13 October.

Winning the toss IECC elected to bat first. Narindra and Dada opened with Dada falling to Imdad for 14 in the sixth over. At the end of the 13th over Narindra and Tahir had brought the score to 74. Tahir fell to Imdad in 22nd over for 50 with the score at 123. Imdad also had Anthoni in the same over and score for 0. Abbas fell in the last over to Ajay for 17 at 149 and IECC made a final score of 153. Imdad was the best L&JCC bowler with 3 for 28 in 5 overs. Gary and Cedric opened for L&JCC and India claimed the first wicket in the second over when Cedric was caught behind for 0. Phil joined Garry and brought the score to 39 when Phil was out LBW, bowled Abbas for 18. Steve joined



Garry and at the water break the L&JCC score was 65, only nine runs adrift at the same point. Steve was run out for 11 with the score at 78. Imdad was then run out for 6 with the score at 101. These two wickets fell to smart and intelligent returns and probably swung the match towards IECC. Ajay joined Garry who was then caught behind off Vyas in the 23rd over with the score at 122, having contributed a Captain's innings of 58. Andy was run out in the same over for 1. Ajay was unbeaten at 21 at the end of the 25th over, whilst Pete was also not out at 2, for a final score of 144, just 10 runs short of victory. Anthoni was the best IECC with 1 for 15.

Narindra was awarded "Man of the Match". Phil and Virindra were each awarded 5 points towards "Fielder of the Season". Steve was awarded the L&JCC "Plank Award".

Photographed by: Ganapathy Parameshwar

SCORES

IECC	L&JCC
Narindra, not out 49	Garry, caught behind, b. Vyas 58
Dada, bowled Imdad 14	Cedric, caught behind, b. Anthoni 0
Tahir, bowled Imdad 50	Phil, LBW, b. Abbas 18
Anthoni, bowled Imdad 0	Steve, Run Out 11
Abbas, bowled Imdad 17	Imdad, Run Out 6
Shrini, not out 2	Ajay, not out 21
Extras 21	Andy, run out 1
Total for 4 wickets 153	Pete, not out 2
Did not bat: Vyas, Agnihotri, Shrini, Hashim, Virindra and Rajeev	Extras 27
	Total for 6 wickets 144
	Did not bat: Don, Srin and Abbas

FINAL POSITIONS IN THE 1995 LEAGUE COMPETITION

Team	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Points
PCC	8	8	Nil	Nil	16
IECC	8	4	Nil	4	8
YCC	8	3	1	4	7
MRF XI	8	3	Nil	5	6
L&JCC	8	1	1	6	3

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- United Bank Limited
- Yemenia
- Yemen Intercontinental Travel (YIT)
- Yemen Kuwait Shipping
- Yemen Times
- Yemen Travel Agencies
- Universal Travel
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Announcing the Good News

The Yemeni Specialized Hospital is pioneering specialized professional medical services in Yemen by inviting highly-qualified international surgeons. Over the next few weeks, some well-known surgeons are flying into Yemen as guests of the Yemeni Specialized Hospital.

We are happy to announce that Professor Dr. Michael Lavelle-Jones, well-known British surgeon and senior lecturer at Dundee University, is going to be at the Yemeni Specialized Hospital from 22nd October till the 1st of November.

He will perform laboroscopic operations. He will also do diagnosis of chronic abdominal pain and tumors, and gall stones using laboroscopic procedures without the need for operations or surgery.

Persons interested in surgical consultation, or if you have any enquiries, or would like to book a time, or simply to ask questions, please call the management at (01) 224-963. Or you are welcome to visit the Yemeni Specialized Hospital which is located on Al-Hurriyah Street, west of Al-Mithaq Street.

ألف مبروك



في غمرة الاحتفاء بهذه الايام الخالدة الحافلة بكل اشكال ومعاني الفرح والسرور والبهجة الفاعمة للقلوب، وفي يوم الجمعة القادم ١٩٩٠/١٠/٢٠ سوف تتوقف عقارب الزمن لتشهد بضع ساعات من الفرح والابتهاج الاستثنائي الذي سينشر اريجيه ورياحينه العطرة في سماء الوطن اليمني الكبير.. حينما يدلف الشاب الخلاق

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- شوقي ومحمد ومبداالله وصدام
- عبدالسلام
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- حسين الحبشي
- العزي الصلوي
- محمد قايد العديني

THE CHAOS THEORY

By: Dr. Asa'd Al-Khafaji,
Sanaa University, Sanaa.

Introduction:

In 1776, the French mathematician Pierre Simon La Place claimed, "Give me the position and velocity of every particle in the universe, I could predict its future for the rest of time." This Laplacian dictum exhibited at the beginning of the 20th century total downfall by two striking discoveries:

I - The Quantum mechanical uncertainty principle by Heisenberg which states: There is a fundamental limitation to the accuracy with which the position and velocity of a particle can be measured, i.e. the impossibility of measuring simultaneously the exact position and momentum of an object.

II - The exponential amplification of errors due to randomness and chaotic behavior discovered by Henri Poincare' in 1903. The prediction becomes impossible and we have the phenomenon of randomness. A very small cause which escapes our notice in the initial phase triggers a considerable effect in the later phase. Consequently, people say that the effect happens due to the chance.

According to the Poincare' discovery, if a system consists of few parts (sub-systems) that interact strongly, it could exhibit unpredictable behavior. Suppose three (or more) planets were orbiting around one another and were influenced only by the force of gravity, it is impossible to predict the motion and state (future) of that system for a long period of time (long-term prediction) even if the initial position and velocity of those planets are known with great accuracy. Another example: a rock being shoved from the top of a hill. A tiny push is enough to send it rolling down moving on widely differing paths.

We note that:

- The rock is sensitive to small influences on the top of the hill.

- Any change in the direction and strength of the initial push triggers a great change in the path and the end position of the rock.

Chaotic Systems appear to behave in a random fashion. Close study, however, show chaotic

systems have an underlying order. So the chaos is really nothing but the image of the order from the opposite side.

At the beginning of 1980's, physicists flirted with the idea that the chaos phenomenon could account for the behavior of complex systems. However this discipline of philosophy could not explain yet the wide range of the dynamics exhibited by complex systems. Though it provided many mathematical tools useful for the study of complexity.

Order and disorder master together a unified world. Everywhere we find the features of turbulence, complexity, uncertainty, disorder, randomness, diversity things and processes with non-linear characters. These are the elements of the chaotic world.

Parallel to that - and not isolated from it - our world consists of things and processes with linear characters as: simplicity, certainty, determinism, prediction, causality. That could be considered the starting point of the so-called Chaos Philosophy.

Linear and Non-linear Phenomena:

Natural phenomena are either linear (i.e., a change in behavior is a simple function of the change in the initial conditions) or non-linear (i.e., change in behavior is not a simple function of the change in the initial conditions). Examples for linear phenomena are: eclipses, tidal movements, short-term planet motion, etc. The non-linear phenomena include earthquakes, heart attacks, formation of desert sand pattern and snow flakes, atmospheric movements, long-term planet motion, three-body problem, meteorologist's inability to make accurate long-term weather predictions, etc.

Unfortunately most natural systems are non-linear. Whereas linear systems tend to do only one thing well, non-linear devices may be capable of handling several tasks. Non-linear applications promises more flexibility, faster response, and usual behaviors. As we continue to investigate the non-linearity inherent in natural and physical systems, we may learn not just to live with the randomness and non-linear phenomena, not just to understand it but to master it.

Since most natural systems are non-linear, the non-linear behaving chaos is the dominant character of

the processes in the universe.

In order to get an idea of the chaotic systems and their behavior, we must first introduce some concepts and tools of the Chaos Theory. These are Attractor, Limit Cycle, Torus, Spinors, Solitons, Fractal and others.

In this article. We will not cover all these elements.

Attractors:

Attractors are geometric forms that characterize long-term behavior in the state space (phase space). An attractor is what the behavior of a system settles down to. It is what the behavior of a system is attracted to. A state space is a space representing the dynamics in any system. It is a graph in which each axis is associated with one dynamic variable; a point in a state space represents the state of the system at a given time. As the system changes, this point moves from position to another defining a trajectory or curve.

The simplest kind of attractor is a fixed point corresponding to a simple pendulum subject to friction. The pendulum always comes to the same rest position, regardless of how strongly its swinging is started.

Limited Cycle:

The next most complicated concept is called Limited Cycle, which forms a closed loop in the state space. A limit cycle describes stable oscillation, such as the motion of a pendulum clock and the beating of a heart. Compound oscillations or quasi-periodic behavior correspond to a so-called Torus attractor.

All these concepts are predictable as their behavior can be forecast as accurately as desired. Chaotic attractors, on the other hand, correspond to unpredictable motions and have a more complicated geometric form.

Entropy:

In 1865, the German physicist Rudolf-Emanuel Clausius discovered a new concept - the entropy. His goal was to distinguish between concepts of conservation and reversibility. Entropy is a function of several quantities such as pressure, volume and temperature.

For all isolated systems, the future is the direction of increasing entropy. Entropy increases when processes go in the natural direction.

Isolated systems tend toward disorder and entropy is a measure of this disorder. The entropy (disorder) of the universe increases in all natural processes.

Every housewife knows that, while it takes a lot of effort to keep the house in an orderly state; all she has to do to let it disorderly is just to do nothing.

Complexity and Self-Organized Criticality:

Our nature is not only beautiful, but also complex. The trees compete for light, water and nutrients from the soil. As each tree grows and adapts, it alters the supply of resources available to its neighbors, and in doing so, it changes its own chances for survival.

Complex systems have many agents, and each interacting with its neighbor and adapting to change. Complexity is a chaotic form in nature. Living systems as complex entities evolve toward a boundary between order and chaos.

It is from a primitive start that organic molecules, plants, animals, global ecosystems arose.

What drives the natural world toward complexity?

In 1991, Per Bak in Brookhaven NL found a class of systems that appear to evolve toward complexity. The clearest example of these systems is a pile of sand. If grains of sand are dropped onto the center of a pile, the system can exhibit three types of behavior or states: subcritical (orderly) state, critical state and super-critical state. The sand pile increases in complexity growing out of the sub-critical state and collapsing when placed in the super-critical state (random phase). As long as energy is added to the system (by dropping the grains of sand), the system will remain in the critical state, and its dynamics will never settle. The slope of the sand pile is the chaotic attractor of the dynamic complex system. No matter what you do to the system, you can perturb as much as you like, it will always return to its critical state. Complex systems adapt to and on the edge of chaos. They can carry out and coordinate the most complex behaviors and adapt most easily to build the most useful models.

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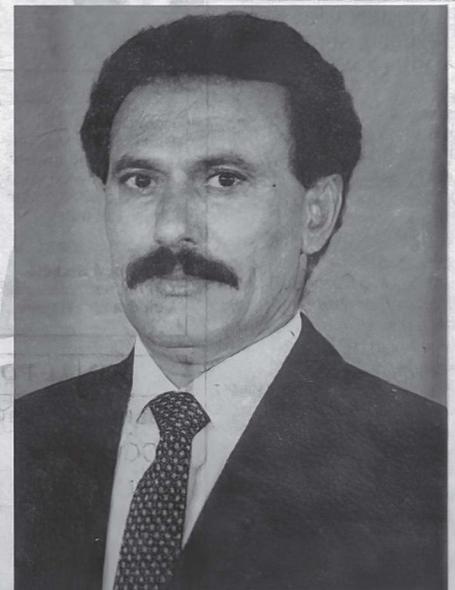


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(September/October).

Many happy returns to all.

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MANY HAPPY RETURNS TO ALL

Private Schools: Are they Really Ideal?

It is a matter of fact that parents hope their kids will have a bright and flowery future. The first thing parents think about in making this a reality is how to guarantee a first-class education for them. They seek to enrol their children in model schools of good quality education based on classes with a specific ceiling in terms of number of students, highly-qualified teachers, experienced principals, etc. And in addition, they want their children to learn foreign languages, computer skills, etc.

Since these services are not available at public schools, most fathers, especially the rich ones, turn and knock at the doors of private schools where they confidently expect all the above-services. They - without any hesitation - pay big sums of money and at the same time hope for fruitful results.

In our society, especially during the last three years, many private institutions are rapidly created. In fact, starting a private school has become a good and profitable business.

As a father, I do enthusiastically welcome and appreciate the idea of creating private schools. At least they reduce the pressure on public schools so that we may assure a better service in the government schools. In other words, the Ministry of Education will cater to the need of a smaller demand.

Unfortunately, however, the point I would like to raise here is that private schools are not really doing a good job. Let me put my point in the form of questions:

1- Do all private schools abide by the plans and requirements of the Ministry of Education?

2- Do they really possess the tools and facilities including the

fabulous features as shown on the television and press advertisements?

In think not!

As a teacher, I have visited many of these schools and found them lacking. Only a few are satisfactory. The majority of these schools are run by people who might be brilliant at business but absolutely good-for-nothing in education. To make my point, and to be more objective, I surveyed some teachers who have taught at private schools.

Fuad Al-Aswadi:

"I have decided not to teach at private schools any more. You know, I worked very hard and for long hours but they paid me very little."

Khalid Al-Muzajj:

"I don't like it because teachers are not treated well."

Abdu Hameed:

"Though I am a chemistry teacher, I was obliged to teach different subjects to young kids like Arabic, Mathematics and Islamic education."

Ahmed Omar:

"Last year I taught at a private school but I never enjoyed it. In fact, I am not a teacher. I am a commerce graduate and I accepted to teach because I had no alternative job."

In conclusion, I would like to say that establishing private schools does not mean we have finished the job. Such institutions should be prepared sufficiently and supervised well. Firstly, all the staff must be educationists. They should be also evaluated regularly by the inspection department of the Ministry. Finally, their licence should be periodically assessed.

By: Abdullah Saleh al-Hashedi
Al-Kindi Language Institute,
Taiz.

By: Ali Oumlil*

Those who call for the separation of politics from religion are nowadays faced by an opposition that views this move as an attempt towards secularism which they equate with atheism. Intentionally or rather unknowingly, the opposition thus shifts the original grounds of secularism - the civil nature of the social, legal and political law - to the level of beliefs.

The opposition presumably asserts that all that relates to the social order of things stems from the Islamic religion (*shari'a*), and that politics is purely one area of this discipline which essentially provides a centralized public authority. Islam, they further assert, provided in its cardinal days both the religious and political order. Those, as well as other claims, have no real proof in Islamic history: Islam allowed state affairs to be regulated by political principles, and, in fact, several "doctors" of Islamic jurisprudence related the political system (*Imamah*) to questions of public interest rather than religious beliefs.

However, through attempts to subjugate politics to Islamic jurisprudence, the *shari'a* spokesmen aim at presuming religious, and subsequently, political authority, as invariably they have endeavored to achieve through direct rule or by assuming a consultative position in state affairs.

The perils of religious authority in Islamic society prompted both the *shari'a* "doctors" as well as rulers to put controls on interpretation for the benefit of both parties, and in order that

religious opinion remains outside the public domain. *Shari'a* "doctors" put certain conditions for interpretation and updates of the decrees of *shari'a*, and there came a time when all interpretation activities were banned and the "doctors" of Islamic jurisprudence confined themselves to the beliefs of their doctrine leaders (*imam*). The rulers on the other hand were always keen on having their own *shari'a* "doctors" and on controlling the opinion decreed by religious leaders through the formalization and centralization of legal opinion (*fatwa*) in a state institution.

The self-styled *shari'a* "doctors" we witness today completely differ from those of the old days, i.e. those who had spent a great deal of their lives studying and teaching in Islamic universities and institutions of religious science, making of this field a profession and a way of life. The "princes" and "sheikhs" of religions nowadays consist of common school teachers, skilled laborers, and sometimes the unemployed. Not only do those new "doctors" give religious directives to their followers concerning every-day life, but they also issue legal opinion (*fatwa*) in the form of decrees that are exclusively within the jurisdiction of criminal courts. *Fatwa* is normally non-binding, but it is likely to be transformed by the "new princes and sheikhs" into power, as they issue verdicts - prohibition, blasphemy charges, and killings - to which followers hastily respond to execution.

This type of legal opinion (*fatwa*) is dangerous and is rejected for the following two

reasons:

First: Religious opinion concerning social and political matters is not basically an issue as the *shari'a* "doctors" themselves agree, specifically those concerned with the real intentions of religion ("*makassid Al-Shari'a*"), who consider social and political matters as belonging to the domain of social dealings. In other words, those are matters of public interest that incite considerations of the general good. In our view, legal opinion on public issues, social or political, should never be cited in terms of religion. Such opinion would be nothing but a political one shrouded by religious overtones.

Second: anyone issuing religious opinion that is within the jurisdiction of a state's criminal court, is evidently putting himself above and outside the law. The state's judiciary, alone, is empowered to issue decrees, the execution of which is solely the responsibility of the executive power. Groups or individuals do not possess the authority to assume powers of the judiciary or of public authorities by issuing decrees and enforcing their execution. It is essential in this respect to strive for the creation of the state that has institutions based on the principles of respect of the individual rather than allowing certain groups or individuals to appoint themselves as judges and rulers.

The independence of politics from religion should not be viewed as antagonistic to religion; it simply signifies that politics be dealt with as a human affair relating to people's

choices of their social and political systems, i.e., a social contract to be developed and modified through certain instruments and institutions. Politics should not be confused with religion, mixing what is ideologically constant with what is humanly changing.

The call for the independence of politics from religion is not meant to undercut political trends which are based on the vision of an Islamic social system, and which are entitled to assert themselves politically and democratically on the same footing as the other trends. The fact should not be overlooked, however, that those groups basically express a political trend or vision and that their message is political rather than holy, despite any religious shroud it may have.

Therefore, the possibility that several and varied opinions exist, despite any religious claims of the various messages, should be acknowledged. Any group that claims exclusive knowledge of the truth would inevitably face grinding opposition from the other groups, and a holy war (*jihad*) is likely to be waged not only against the state and the political non-religious parties but also against the other rival groups as violence and excommunication become the rule of the day. The true meaning of democracy, however, requires a struggle for its assertion to guarantee the participation and the rights of all, including the right to differ.

* Ali Oumlil, a Moroccan University Professor, is Secretary-General of the Arab Thought Forum, Amman, Jordan.

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The Indian Ocean Rim Initiative



By:
David Warburton*

In the words of hope of the Lusaka Declarations, the Indian Ocean was declared to be a Zone of Peace in 1970. Although the end of the Vietnam war was in sight, this premature suggestion preceded some of the bloodiest fighting that Africa had ever

seen and the breakup of Pakistan, aside from the two Gulf Wars, the civil wars in Yemen, Somalia, Sri Lanka, etc. The end of the Cold War promises, however, to usher in an unexpected era of stability to the countries on edge of the Indian Ocean, for the major powers now have little reason to intervene, and local conflicts must be solved locally, by the local powers, South Africa, India and Australia. The most immediate impact of the disappearance of the Soviet Union was that the white regime in South Africa lost an enemy, and India lost an ally. The end of apartheid created a completely new climate of political agreement, and India's flight from protectionism is intensifying capitalist competition in the Ocean.

While the growing economies of the Asian tigers have hitherto been oriented primarily towards Japan, Europe and the US, the newly awakened powers in India and South Africa are far keener on South-South cooperation than the ASEAN countries have hitherto been. The concept of the Indian Ocean Rim was born as the world heads into the merger of regional trading blocks, such as NAFTA and the new European Union. The attractions of an IOR block are not only the recognition of a regional identity in the sea where sea-borne trade was born three thousand years ago, but also an initial attempt at South-South cooperation involving some of the wealthiest and some of the poorest countries in the world.

Meetings have been held in Perth and Mauritius, so that at the moment, the concept of the IOR is still primarily a matter of discussion. While the governments of the region consider the goals and the prospects, private entrepreneurs from Australia have however already begun to expand their investment

horizons from their local neighbors, and are investing heavily in Tanzania, to take but one example. At the same time, Indian admirals are attending conferences on maritime activity in Cape Town, and Mauritius is on the way to establishing itself as a major off-shore financial services center. While nations such as Germany have tended to leave commerce to businessmen, almost alone among the major powers, France has pursued a very forward policy of political relations with countries of the Third World, trying to stand up for their interests, and its own. In this context it is hardly surprising that the French government has established a completely new research center in Johannesburg, South Africa, and the subject of its first conference - in mid-September - was "France, Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean". Although France was deprived of most of its Indian Ocean possessions in the half century between the end of the Seven Years War and the battle of Waterloo (1763-1815), France is well established not only across most of Africa, but also on the islands off the coast, and thus has more interest in reviving forgotten ties than does Britain which has virtually disappeared from the Ocean since the abrupt departure from Aden.

Since the British abandoned the prospect of a Middle East Command at Aden, the US has militarily remained the most important - and unrivaled - power in the Indian Ocean, but France also has a large naval presence in the Indian Ocean, and the possibility of joint patrolling could contribute substantially to an easing of local tensions, especially as the French are not viewed as a serious threat, when compared to the major powers which could and do potentially project a disproportionately large presence into the Ocean. The primary powers of the Ocean must resolve their own naval policy, and this can only be done with a clearly defined strategic policy.

One of the key problems facing the prospect of a regional organization on the scale of the Indian Ocean is the size and diversity of the interests of the participants, for the military and economic interests are not necessarily compatible or similar, while their other obligations are heavy, since most of the states in the region are tied in to several different economic and military alliances.

Although the leadership of the South African government - both black and white - have come out prominently in favour of the IOR, much of the discussion at the conference concerned details of the integration of African economies. This is one of

the major problems for southern Africa, following the appearance of the new regime, which considers itself to bear a heavy responsibility for local economic development. As American, German and Australian firms converge on Africa, it is evident that the South African government has many reasons to be concerned about the general orientation of interest and influence. It is evident that South-South solidarity will inevitably suffer if the interests of the countries of the Indian Ocean Region are torn between giving lip-service to solidarity and feeling that their commercial and political interests are best served by aligning themselves with the wealthy countries of the First World.

At present, only about 2% of world trade moves from one Indian Ocean port to another, with virtually all the connections leading to the outside world. The concept of the Indian Ocean Rim promises a politically and commercially convincing alternative to the usual pattern, since the region includes not only poverty stricken countries like Bangladesh and Mozambique, but also financial centres like Singapore and the emerging industrial states of South East Asia. Aside from these are also the promising markets of prosperous consumers in South Africa, India and Australia, which are the three powers of the region. The IOR can thus offer the countries of the Indian Ocean a serious possibility of South-South cooperation which is economically sound.

Some countries and their representatives are pessimistic because, although the expected benefits are great, the obstacles are also great. There is a clear lack of coherence and flexibility coupled with weak interfaces and a lack of consensus seeking participants. These problems deter many from viewing the idea with hope, as they fear that additional bureaucracies and regulations will strangle rather than liberate their limited potential for growth.

For many countries, however, the IOR initiative is the only hope for economic growth, since the alternatives are so dismal. Some of the poorest countries would suffer from early exposure to the rigors of unlimited world trade free of barriers and tariffs, but Yemen stands to profit more than most countries, with its excellent ports at one of the most important points on the Indian Ocean, ports which join Yemen, not only to Europe and the Pacific, but also to Singapore and Mombassa.

At present, tourism is one of the fastest growing industries in the world, and Yemen would benefit enormously if the tourist trade in the Indian Ocean were increased, and Yemeni businessmen have

proven that they are up to the task of organizing a flourishing tourist industry.

Yemen has every reason to pursue the IOR option as Yemen is also the homeland of merchants who have pursued trade and made profits throughout the Ocean for more than three thousand years. Not only did the merchants of Yemen sell incense, spices and coffee, but they also carried their Qurans to every coast of the region. Yemenis merchants and scholars have made Islam the most important religion in the Indian Ocean.

Yemen is hardly alone, for the 25-30 countries in the IOR are all joined by economic and historical ties. Although many will assert that Yemen's ties with the other countries wilted after the industrial revolution, and remain only as memories, this is not true for the Yemenis of the diaspora, who now live in homes all along the coast. This places Yemen in a unique situation, for the IOR is one of the few international clubs where there will be important Yemenis in virtually member-state, and it is also one of the few forums outside the Arab world where Yemenis are not only known, but highly respected and appreciated, and the IOR represents about 1/3 of the global population.

In reaching back to its own past, Yemen could contribute enormously to a prosperous future.

* Mr. Warburton is a scholar associated with Yemen, and a regular contributor to the Yemen Times.

Continued from page 1:
QATAR...

The State of Qatar was also the first Arab Gulf country to open an official representation in the Palestinian self-rule areas. It has also initiated talks regarding possible sales of Qatari gas to Israel, once the two countries normalize relations, at the end of the on-going Arab-Israeli peace talks.

The young leadership of the State contrasts markedly with the other Gulf countries prompting one observer to note that the country was ready for the 21st century.

In terms of foreign policy, the State of Qatar also stands out in its balanced position towards the regional and international conflicts. Such an independence has made the country stand out among the GCC countries.

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Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor

FOREIGN EMPLOYMENT IN YEMEN

INTRODUCTION

In 28th September I had been invited by a friend to join him for a Chinese meal at the Chinese restaurant at Sheraton Hotel. We started our meal by ordering two orange juice, after we finished our meal we found the accountant at the restaurant billed us YR 1400 for two orange juice and when we inquired, as we thought it must have been a mistake, we have been told the bill is correct and the oranges is fresh and imported so that is why it cost 700 each, my friend paid the bill for the meal and the orange juice, and we left the restaurant with an inside feeling that we might have been ripped off. I have a feeling that if he did his to us he must have done the same to tourists visiting our country, and I do not need to mention that tourists are a good source of economic income for Yemen.

The question that arises: Is the Ministry of Culture (Tourism Authority) keeping an eye on hotel prices and following up on how hotels are runs in Yemen?

2- Yemeni people can't speak and write foreign languages such as English.

This will give a wrong profile of the Yemeni people in the eyes of tourists.

As we all know, after the revolution, many students left the country from southern and northern regions of Yemen for farther education in other countries such as USA, UK, the Soviet Union, China and East Europe. Today Yemen is full of young men who can communicate in a foreign language such as English, Russian, and even Chinese.

This country will be better served by its own people in every field rather than importing foreign employment.

Many estates in UAE are officially run by foreigners such Indians and Philippines and these states have become Indian colonized. We do not want Yemen to follow the steps of UAE and thus become run by imported foreign employees. By: **Agmal Abdul Rahim Abdul Ghafur**

The Need Parent/School Relations

Education is an incessant process that starts from birth and continues till death. So it is one's house where one begins his life as a student, however, school governs his impulses and guides him by imparting knowledge. Hence co-operation between home and school is highly required to enable the children to face the challenges of life. Unlikely here in Yemen school and parents are grossly separated from each other.

Most of the parents are of the view that it is only the teachers and school administration who are responsible for the education activity of the students, but it is a misconception. Teachers can enrich the knowledge of the students. School Administration manage the school activities and disciplinary activities. The guidance and counselling office is responsible for guiding the students academically, socially, psychologically and vocationally.

Most of the parents never bother whether their children are doing well at their studies or not, and they do not even take the trouble of checking their school work, and their socio-disciplinary activities in the school. To make the up-bringing of the children good, the following ideas should be ingrained in the minds of both the school staff and the parents:

Parents should realize the fact that they are also as much responsible for the education of the children as the teachers are, and all teachers should never fail

to inform the parents what they feel about the activities of their children at school. There must be continued dialogue between parents and teachers and parents and school administrators.

Hassan Sherif
CANADIAN - OXY ,Sana'a

Walking Wadi Hadramaut

The idea of walking down the full length of Wadi Hadramout first came to me when I was researching the region's history for my new guidebook to the Yemen. The journey of the Ingrams' in the mid 1930's was a real adventure. Doreen Ingrams being the first Western woman beyond Tarim. But today the thought of simply getting into a 4x4 vehicle and bumping quickly down to the coast in 3 or 4 days did not interest me at all. Where is the danger? Where is the local contact? Where are the sore feet? My plan is to start at Henin, where Wadi Al-Kasr enters from the south. East of here the Wadi is well defined by a flat floor between 300 meters high cliffs, an erosion process which has taken millions of years to break through the horizontal limestone layers of the 'jol'.

One of my tasks is to visit the sites of the 'giant graves', including those in the side wadis, such as Qabr Salih in Wadi Khonab.

Through Al-Qutn and, Shibam, I will assess my fitness and equipment at Seiyun, as beyond Tarim there will be few opportunities for food supplies. The toughest section will be after Qabr Hud where the availability of water will be my main concern. The final part towards the sea at Seyhut are supposed to be very spectacular with the wady only 100m wide between vertical 'Walls. I also hope to see some of the great wealth of ruins from the incense trade. I have estimated the 500 km walk to take me about 5 weeks, including sidetrips. My recordings en-route will also form the basic of a BBC Radio travel documentary.

Watch this space to see whether I made it!

Chris Bradely

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Royal Netherlands Embassy announces that the opening hours of the Consular Section will, effective October 15, 1995, be changed to 12:00 noon till 3:00 pm.

إعلان

يسر سفارة المملكة الهولندية بصنعاء أن تعلن عن المواعيد الجديدة للقسم القنصلي بالسفارة حيث سيكون من ١٢ ظهرا وحتى ٣ عصرا ابتداء من ١٥ أكتوبر ١٩٩٥م.

من الأعماق

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وبهذه المناسبة نرفع اسمي آيات التهاني واجمل الاماني القلبية لآل غمضان عامة وللأخ يحي غمضان خاصة، متمنين له مزيدا من النجاح والتفوق في حياته العملية والعلمية.

المهنيون:

ياسين الحاج سعيد
وكافة الاهل والاصدقاء.

مبروك

اسمى آيات التهاني والتبريكات نرفها للاخ احمد علي حمادي الحكمي بمناسبة الخطوبة وقرب الزفاف فالف مبروك. المهنيون: عقيد/ عبدالله حميد علي الحكمي، ملازم/ حسن علي انيب، ملازم/ علي محمد صالح الحكمي، مساعد/ محمد علي حمادي الحكمي، ملازم/ حسن علي ناصر المجتحي، مساعد/ محسن أحمد علي الفقيه، الشيخ/ رشاد الشعوري

Expatriates in Yemen, are employed mostly in the private sector such as private companies and five star hotels. Most are Indian. When tourists visit our country they will have an idea that:-

1- Yemeni people are not well educated and therefore can't occupy jobs which require academic degrees to run office works in hotels such as accounting and book keeping.

مبروك

بقلوب تملؤها الفرحة والسعادة نهنئ ونبارك للاخ/ عبدالووالي محمد السنباني بمناسبة ارتزاقه المولود الجديد الذي أسماه عمر فالف مبروك. المهنيون: جميع أسرة السنباني عنهم/ محمد مقبل السنباني وأسرتهم

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AL-TAJAMMU'U Sana'a (Weekly) : 9-10-95 (The Yemeni Unionist Congregation)

Main Headlines:

- 1) Attempts To Move The Algerian (Al-Dhalia'a Incidents) To The Sudan
- 2) Al-Haq Party: The Religions Terrorism Incidents . . . Threaten National Peace And Security In Yemen.
- 3) The Prosecution Is Witness To The Violations (Of The Head Of Security In Al-Jarrah, Hodeidah Governorate)
- 4) Contradiction Between The Yemeni Congregation For Reform (YCG), Aden Branch and Al-Sahwa Newspaper (YCG mouthpiece)
- 5) Yemen Enters Guinness Book Of Records (For Firearm Possession/Per Person Aden Branch And Al-Sahwa Newspaper

Article Summary: The Legitimacy Of Political Parties

In its opening editorial, the paper commented on the decision by the Supreme Opposition Council for Coordination to object or contest the new standing rules, or by-laws, recently passed by the government to implement the law of the political parties and organizations (1991). The councils decision includes having the Legal Aid Center present a case of appeal against the by-laws to the Supreme Court for Constitutional Appeal. The paper is of the opinion that the by-laws make all existing political parties, including the members of the ruling coalition not conforming to the registration requirements, even if they comply with the membership rulings, and even if "they had blood test taken"! The importance of this move by the Opposition Parties is in testing the real independence of the judicial branch of the government, which

under a true democratic government would declare the by-laws unconstitutional, the paper believes.

AL-SAHWA : Sana'a (Weekly) : 12-10-95 (Yemeni Congregation For Reform(YCG))

- #### Main Headlines:
- 1) The Parliament Sets Up A Committee For Amending The Law Of The Contrat Organization For Control And Auditing (COCA)
 - 2) In Aden: A Supreme Committee For Coordination Between The YCG And The People's General Congress (Is Formed)
 - 3) Concerns And Problems That Reappear At The Beginning Of Every School Year viz a vis School Requirements (Notebooks, Supplies, etc.) Are A Heavy Burden On Those With Limited Income

Article Summary: Abdul-Majid Al-Zindani Interview

The paper interviewed Mr. Al-Zindani, the Chairman of the Consultative Council of the YCG (Party Politburo) and a strong activist in the international Islamic Puritan Movement. Highlights of the interview: "The enemies are betting on exploding a confrontation between the people and the government." "There is no excuse for violence in Yemen." "The strategic relations between the PCG and the YCG are facing or being subjected to, continuing conspiracies from the Nation's enemies." "The Islamic Movement and the state have presented a model for tolerance and reasonableness." "The YCG was a model for peaceful political activity while being an opposition party. . . Does

Yemeni Press in a Week

by: *Hassan Al-Haifi*



it make sense that it should practice violence when it is in the ruling authority?"

"The Yemeni Socialist Party declared itself "Marxist" from the beginning of its establishment. Its platform was based on atheism, looting property (nationalization), spreading vice and submitting to foreign forces (Soviet Union). The party must declare itself free from all of these by an official declaration which would include a commitment not return to its old way and regrets for all that the party has done".

"Dialogue and scholastic lectures protect the grass roots membership from corrupting ideas."

DEVELOPMENT : Sana'a (Biweekly) : 4-10-95 (Federation Of Yemeni Chambers Of Commerce And Industry)

Main Headlines:

- 1) Saudi Arabia Permits The Use Of Yemeni Labor
- 2) Heated Competition Between International Oil Companies In Search For Yemeni Oil
- 3) Investment : Between Words And Actions
- 4) The Exchange Rate Problem In The Yemeni Economy And Possible Solutions

Article Summary:

Big Oil Find

The Chairman of the Board of Canadian Occidental Oil Co. Bernard Assoutte recently visited Yemen and notified senior government officials on the progress of the company's production and

exploration activities. On the other hand knowledgeable sources stated that the real purpose of the visit was to clarify to the authorities the results of geological surveys based on scientific facts, confirmed by satellite photographs and the fruitful results of exploratory efforts. The new exploratory work has indicated that a large oil find has been made in the East Meseila area (320 km [length] x 223 km [width])

AL-HAQ : Sana'a (Weekly) : 8-10-95 (Rabitat Abna Al-Yemen)

Main Headlines:

- 1) Yemen: The Hardliners In The YCG Threaten The (Continuity Of) The Ruling Coalition
- 2) Lightning Kills A Woman And A Lamb
- 3) Armed Confrontation Between Police Chief And Landowners

Article Summary:

Power . . . And The Extremist Elements

In its editorial, the paper attacked the religious extremists or the hardliners of the Puritan Islamic activist groups in the country that are spreading terror and violence in the country for no comprehensible reason. Although these groups started their course of violence once urity was declared, the last three months saw a serious increase of their terror campaign especially in the southern and eastern provinces. This violence is not just pointed at those who disagree with the point of view of these extremists or against those who are critical of, or who

condemn them, but now it is pointed also against the authority in power to prove to the citizens that it has the power to face up to the rulers and to challenge their

authority. For this reason these extremists have decided that anyone outside their groups are heretics and society must be changed to their "puritanical" religious views by force. Thus they seek to take over power even by the nozzle of a gun, which is in complete violation of the pluralistic political system the county has embarked upon.

- 4) Establishment of an air cargo village related to the Duty Free Zone in Aden International Airport.

26 September: Sana'a (Weekly) 12-10-95 (Mouthpiece of the Armed Forces)

Main Headlines:

- 1) Republican Decrees Assigning Presidents or Chairmen For Sana'a University, Taiz U., Aden U. and Hadhramaut U.
- 2) Soon: All Port Fees in the Republic will be Unified
- 3) 6 Bids to Rehabilitate Aden Refinery
- 4) Official Min. Of Interior Source: Illegal and Suspicious Foreigners Will be Forced To leave the Country (Including Terrorists)

AL-WAHDAH : Sana'a (Weekly) : 11-10-95 (Official)

Main Headlines:

- 1) The Minister Of Trade And Provisions: There Are No Contaminated Industrial Waste (Thrown) In Our Coastal Waters
- 2) 30 Ambulances Distributed By The "Islah" Philanthropic Society. Contributed By Yemeni Expatriates In Other Countries.
- 3) From The Yemen To The Congo . . . And Finally The Comoros: The Mercenary Bob Dinar.

Article Summary:

Get Well Soon, Ahmed Al-Iriani Mr. Ahmed Mohammed Al-Iriani suffered from a stroke last week and was taken to Saudi Arabia for treatment. The chairman of the Central Organization for Control and Auditing is said to have passed the danger hurdle and is expected to fully recover soon. (The Yemen Times Editor in Chief and this Editor and all YT staff pass on their best wishes for a speedy recovery to Mr. Al-Iriani)

AL-AYYAM: Aden (Weekly) : 11-10-95 (Independent)

Main Headlines:

- 1) 700-1000 Jobs Created By The Duty Free Zone As A First Lot.
- 2) "Al-Shark Al-Awsat" Daily Newspaper To Be Printed Also In Sana'a (A London Based Saudi Paper)
- 3) A Power Generating Station For The Aden Refinery

Article Summary:

Council Of Ministers Declare Aden Port A Duty Free Port

The Council Ministers in its weekly meeting 6-9-96 declared that Aden Port should be a duty free port and the following resolutions were passed accordingly:

- 1) A resolution should be presented to the Council of Ministers by 5-10-95 for officially changing the status of the port
- 2) Approval of the Consultants drawings and suggestions for the location of the port and supporting facilities.
- 3) Transfer of the Cattex area to the Free Port Zone Authority



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تتقدم

شركة مأرب اليمنية للتأمين

بعظيم التهنتة والتبريكات للشعب اليمني الأبي

والقيادة السياسية الفذة بزعامة

الفريق علي عبدالله صالح

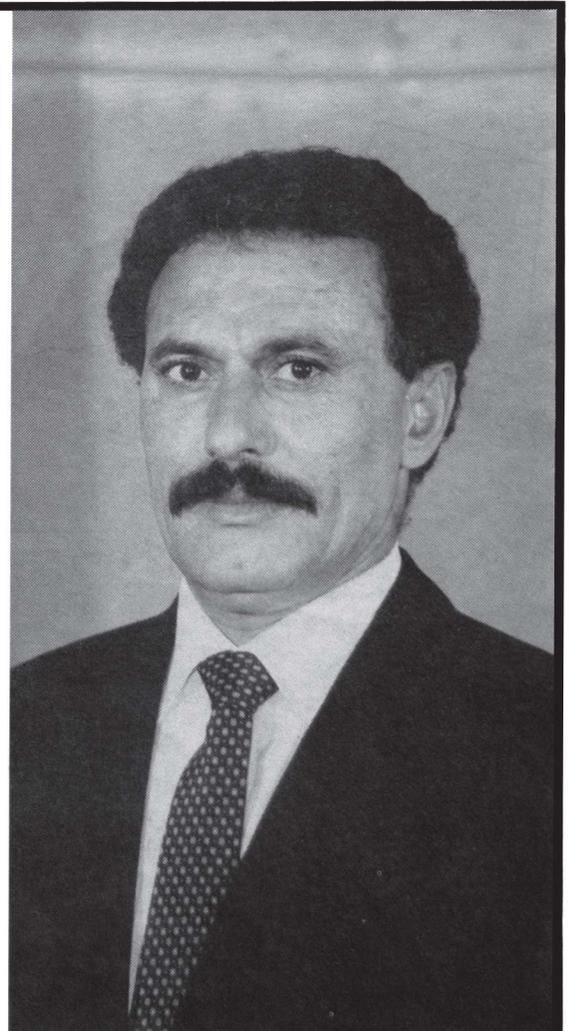
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to the Yemeni people and political leadership
on the anniversary of the Yemeni Revolution
October 14th.

Many happy returns to all.



SOMETHING IS HAPPENING AT THE ADEN MOVENPICK HOTEL

Something is happening in Aden, and the Movenpick Hotel team would like to repeat this every month. The Hawaiian Beach BBQ has been a great success. The evening's winner, after a dive in the pool, did win a trip to Cairo, Egypt. The Movenpick team is looking forward to the next party - "Venice by Night". This is an Italian event scheduled for October 27th, 1995.



NOTE:



The numbers below are as up to-date as our records show. If your number has changed, please call us at (268-661/2) for a correction. This is a courtesy service to our readers.



Emergency Police	199
Accident (Traffic)	194
Fire Brigade	191
Water Problems	171
Electricity Problems	177
Telephone Enquiries	118
Aljumbury Hospital	202192/3
Athawra Hospital	246970/9
Kuwait Hospital	203282/4
Red Crescent	203131/3
Banks:	
Yemeni Banks:	
Central Bank	274371/3
Commercial Bank Sanaa	213662-6
Hodeidah	217040-3
Int'l Bank of Yemen	272920/3
National Bank	275373
YBRD	271623/4
Branches of Foreign Banks:	
Arab Bank Ltd.	240921-29
Bank Indosuez	272801/3
United Bank Ltd	272424
Government Offices:	
Foreign Affairs	202544/7
Interior Affairs	252701/7
Immigration	250761/3
Tourism	271970/2
Inter-City Bus Co.	262111/3
TV Station	250001/03
Radio Station	200060/61
Insurance Companies:	
Y.I. & Reinsurance/Aden	273311
Marib Insurance Sanaa	206112/4
Aden:	255668
Taiz:	222162/3/4
Hodeidah:	217370/1
Yemen General Sanaa:	265191
Aden:	243909
Taiz:	221561
Hodeidah:	239184
United Insurance	01-272890-2
Taiz:	215012
Hodeidah:	217292
Aman Insurance Sanaa:	214093
Hodeidah:	03-240354

SANAA :	
1. Embassies:	
Afghanistan	217691
Algeria	209688/89
Bulgaria	217244
China	275337/340
Cuba	217304/5
Czech Republic	247946
Djibouti	245792/265469
Egypt	275848/9
Eritrea	209422
Ethiopia	208833
France	268888
Germany	413174/7/8
Hungary	248147
India	241980/1/2
Indonesia	217388
Iran	206945/8
Iraq	216681/790
Italy	265616/73409/78846
Japan	207356/208753
Jordan	413275/6/7
Korea (Dem)	232340
Korea (Rep)	245959/60
Kuwait	268887/8/9
Lebanon	203959/733
Libya	267636/4
Mauritania	216770
Morocco	247964
Netherlands	215626/7/8
Oman	208933/4
Pakistan	248813/14
Palestine	215404/5
Poland	248362
Qatar	217488/296
Romania	215579
Russia (FR)	278719
Saudi Arabia	240429/30
Somalia	208864
Sudan	247885
Syria	414892
Tunisia	240458/9
Turkey	241395

U.A.E	248777/78
U.K.	215630/33
U.S.A	238842/52
Vietnam	215985
2. Honorary Consulates:	
Austria	266725
Belgium	205925
Canada	208814
Denmark (Taiz)	04-215171/2
Finland	207018/20/21
Greece	272218
Spain	209360/207054
Sweden	207595/470
Switzerland	203534
3. International Organizations	
Care	414079
FAO	207331/607
UNDP	215505
UNHCR	204963
UNICEF	231256/7/8
WHO	252213/204
ADEN Consulates :	
China	233115
Ethiopia	231335
France	255896
Germany	232162/233607
India	233131
Iran	231893/361
Italy	232586/88
Japan	232219/233282
Libya	233611
Oman	233433/460
Palestine	232340/232717
Russian (FR)	232792/232625
Saudi Arabia	232760/232526
Slovak	233630/232101
Somalia	241421/101
U.K.	232711/12/13.
FAO Branch	233722/232146

AIR LINES

Air France	272895/6
Air India	272544
American Airlines	272836/94
Alitalia	273655
Al Yemen (HO, Aden)	231339
Al Yemen (Sana'a)	203637
Austrian Airlines	272432
British Airways Sanaa	248151/2
Aden	243475/241531
Cathay Pacific	271803
Egypt Air	275061
Ethiopian Airlines	272437
Gulf Air	265274/75, 265374
Iraqi Airlines	219431/224/5/6
Japan Airlines	219431/224/5/6
KLM	278747
Korean Airlines	272548
Kuwait Airlines	272503/4
Lufthansa	272731
Pakistan Int'l	219431/224/5/6
Philippines Airlines	272808 / 937
Rover Airlines Intl., Inc.	205779
Royal Jordanian Sana'a	275314/355
Aden	243532
Russian Airlines	74930
Sabena	285865/925
Sudan Airways	272503-5
Swiss Air	272547
Syrian Airways	272543
Universal Travel H.O.	275028/9/30

HOTELS

Sana'a (01)	
Sheraton	237500/1/2
Taj Sheba	272372/3
Plaza Suites	209074/209903/205483
Hadda Hotel	215212/4/5
Aden (02)	
Movenpick	232911
Gold Mohur	221158
Hodeidah (03)	
Bristol	239197
Ambassador	231247/50
Al Burj	75852
Taiz (04)	
The Plaza Hotel	220224/26
Yazan	217997
Marib (063)	
Bilquis Marib	2666-2371
Sadah (051)	
Al Mamoon	2203/2459
Mukalla (05)	
Hadhramaut	2060
Al-Ietemad	552493

COURIERS

Aramex / Sana'a	243-925
Aramex / Aden	255-683
Aramex / Taiz	213-489
Aramex / Hodeidah	218-168
DHL / Sana'a	248017-249878
DHL / Aden	242128
DHL / Taiz	225383
DHL / Hodeidah	217490
DHL / Mukalla	05354843
Life Express	205696
Skyack	77310
American Express	272435/6

Akiyama Keeps an Oriental Tradition Alive:

HONORING ONE'S TEACHER

It was an emotional moment. Japanese Ambassador Susumu Akiyama invited the person who had taught him Arabic to visit him and spend a week as his guest in Yemen. What the ambassador was doing was nothing new to the Japanese - paying tribute and honoring one's teacher. But it is also a tradition fast losing place in an overly materialistic world, even in the East.

Then again, Abdul-Azeem Sharaf was no ordinary teacher. The Egyptian teacher of Arabic taught as many as a hundred Japanese diplomats. Today, many of them are ambassadors and senior diplomats. "I started this in 1953, when I was approached to teach Arabic to some young diplomats who specialized on the Arab region. The experiment was successful, and has continued for over several decades," Mr. Sharaf explained.

The experiment was so successful that the teacher was invited to go to Japan and teach, which he did for eight years. At the end of this long association, the Japanese government awarded a first-class medal to Mr. Sharaf in recognition of his services and for helping bring Japan and the Arab world closer.

"I love the Japanese people and I respect their dedication and hard work. I have been associated with many nationalities, but the Japanese are special in many ways," he said.

The Egyptian teacher was shown around by his student, the ambassador. He also met with with other Japanese students of his,



including another diplomat and the representative of a Japanese company in Yemen.

"We travelled together to Taiz, Marib, Shibam and many other places," he indicated. He said, "Your country is a lovely one, and I am happy to have visited it. I have always dreamed of what Yemen was like, and now I know."

The climax of the visit came when Ambassador Akiyama threw a farewell party to his teacher. Many Arab ambassadors, leading Yemeni public figures, and others were invited. Ambassador Akiyama would make the introductions, as he

respectfully presents Abdul-Azeem Sharaf: "Ustazi" he often repeated.

The concept of honoring one's teacher/s is an old Oriental tradition. Unfortunately, this was lost in many parts of the Orient, including Yemen and the rest of the Arab World. This point came out clearly, as the Arab ambassadors jokingly asked each other when was the last time any of them honored their teachers. None remembered.

I have always respected Ambassador Akiyama. Now, I do so even more.

Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf.

معهد الفاروق للغات والكمبيوتر

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Contest No.47

مسابقة رقم ٤٧

إعداد: معهد الفاروق للغات والكمبيوتر

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 مرس ب رقم (٣٦٣٧) ، صنعاء - بالقرب من المركز الطبي الإيراني - شارع الرقاهاق - صنعاء ، تليفون ٢٠٩٧٢١ (١-٩٦٧) ، فاكس ٢١٨٢٣١

Please fill in the space and hand over your answers to the registrar of the Al-Farooq Institute by

Thursday morning. The winner will be announced in next week's issue of Yemen Times.

يرجى قطع المسابقة وتعبئة البيانات المطلوبة ثم تسليمها إلى المسجل بمعهد الفاروق في موعد أقصاه يوم الخميس.

سيعلن اسم الفائز في العدد القادم من "يمن تايمز".

Contest No. 47

1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24

Across

- Common tree-climbing rodent.
- Fairground throwing game.
- Formal discussion.
- Micro-organisms, germs.
- Require or want.
- Uncover, disclose.
- Gentler or more generous.
- Uncle's wife.
- Tortoise that lives in water.
- Power of lasting stamina.
- Consuming food.
- Junior or assistant clergyman.
- Butterfly or moth grub.

Down

- de janeiro, city in Brazil.
- Bus garage.
- Argument.
- Asian country with an international cricket side.
- Small bird known by its red breast.
- Allow, permit.
- Spend winter asleep.
- Power of lasting stamina.
- Meeting of witches.
- Turn out to be, arrive.
- Major city in Pakistan.
- Bend out of shape.
- Large striped animal.
- Spring month.
- Part of the circumference of a circle.
- Thick, black liquid used on roofs.

Correct answer for contest No. (46)

A	T	L	A	S	L	O	B	S	T	E	R
M	A	H	E	R	I	T	E	U			
N	O	T	H	I	N	G	O	T	T	E	R
E	N	E	O	N	A	A					
S	P	R	I	N	G	N	O	M	I	N	A
I	N	L	O	U	D						
A	N	G	L	E	R	P	A	R	C	E	L
A	G	U	S	T							
W	I	D	O	W	E	R	T	U	S	K	S
I	C	A	C	E	T	I	T				
T	R	E	E	S	H	E	M	L	I	N	E
C	A	T	E	N	I	P	A	K	E	N	
H	A	S	B	E	E	N	T	A	K	E	S

WINNER OF CONTEST NO 46:

Abdulfattah Al-Alimi

جائزة هذه المسابقة مقدمة من معهد الفاروق للغات والكمبيوتر
 The prize of this contest is donated by Al-Farooq Institute

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والحكومة الرشيدة ومجلس النواب
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بمناسبة عيد ثورة أكتوبر المظفرة .
متمنية لليمن كل الخير والرخاء .

The Chairman of the Board of Directors
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present their heartfelt congratulations
to the Yemeni people, political leadership,
House of Representatives and Government
on the 32nd anniversary of
the October 14th Revolution.

We wish all many happy returns,
and prosperity and progress for Yemen.

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105 for Your Dollar

On Friday, 13th October, 1995, the US dollar exchange rate stood at YR 105. The fact that the exchange went over the 100 mark, has shattered the psychological myth of holding the dollar down vis-avis the Riyal.

Many explanations were given for the run on the Riyal. One of them is that the foreign publishers and bookstores participating in the on-going book fair are converting their daily revenue and proceeds from sale of books to the dollar. Their demand is estimated at \$ 400,000, which the authorities were unable to provide at the official rate of YR 50 to the dollar. Hence, the increased demand.

This is ironic and ominous. If such a small increase in demand is able to drive up the price so much, what would happen when in about six weeks, the manufacturers and importers start scrambling for dollars to finance their imports. It is a well-known fact that many of the manufacturers and merchants are at moment running down their inventories because they are trying to pay up their bankers. Interest on loans has been increased fourfold to about 30%, two months ago. Exposed businessmen were badly hit, and they are fighting to correct their bank balances.

Shortly, however, all parties will start looking for ways to finance imports, thus adding to the demand of the dollar. That will trigger a run on the Riyal Exchange Rate. Brace for trouble!



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