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Monday, 20 January 2003 - VOL. 13 • Issue No. 619 • Price 30 Yemeni Riyals • Founded in 1991 by Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saggaf

















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Passing of Yahya Mohammed al-Mutawakkil a huge loss for Yemen

By FAROUQ AL-KAMALI YEMEN TIMES STAFF AND NEWS SERVICES

Yemen has lost another statesman.

Still reeling from the Dec. 28 assassination of prominent opposition figure Jarallah Omar, the country must now deal with the Jan. 12 traffic death of Yahya Mohammed al-Mutawakkil, the deputy secretary general of Yemen's ruling party.

By all accounts, it's a catastrophe for both his family and the people of Yemen. Al-Mutawakkil, 60, was the third most

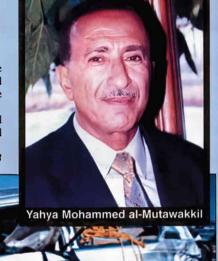
In this issue: 12 pages of condolences

powerful man in the country.

He was a patriot who struggled for the Yemeni revolution since its beginning and devoted his life for four decades to the cause of Yemen's development and prosperity.

He was known for his noble behavior and high morals and that gave him the love and respect of many.

Continued on page 3



The crumpled car in which Yayha Mohammed al-Mutawakil was killed. (Photo courtesy of ATTARIQ WEEKLY)

U.S may lead Yemen in extradition bid

Germany still holds al-Qaeda suspects

BY REUTERS AND YEMEN TIMES STAFF

FRANKFURT - A German court ordered on Tuesday that two Yemeni citizens suspected of links to the al Qaeda network be detained in custody pending an official extradition request by the United

German anti-terrorism officials have said the men, arrested last week in a Frankfurt hotel on a U.S. request, are Sheikh Mohammed Ali Hassan al-Mouayad and Mohammed Moshen Yahya Zayed. U.S. justice authorities say the two are al Qaeda supporters, but have not linked them directly with the September 11 attacks.

The Frankfurt regional court said in statement Tuesday that the two men would fund-raiser for al Qaeda but not a financial

be held pending the delivery of an official extradition request from the United States, which must be received within 60 days.

The court said it would then have to rule again on how long the men should continue to be held and rule on the extradition request itself, although the final say on whether to extradite the men rested with the German government. The court said public hearings were unusual in extradition proceedings.

Yemeni officials have also said they have asked for the two suspects' extradition and would interrogate them as soon as they returned home.

U.S. officials have said Sheikh Mohammed Ali al-Mouayad, a preacher at Al Ihsan Mosque, one of the main mosques in Yemen's capital Sanaa, is a significant

official for al Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden.

al-Mouayad, Ahmed Sheikh Mohammed's son, told Reuters in Sanaa his father had left for Frankfurt with his aide Mohammed Yahya Zayed for medical treatment and denied his father was connected to "any terrorist groups."

Yemeni officials in Sanaa said both men were members of the Islah party. Islah party members denounced their arrest and said they had no connection to al Qaeda.

An extradition request by the United States could cause a legal battle with Germany, as German law does not allow the extradition of suspects if they could face the death penalty in the state to which they are

Continued on page 3



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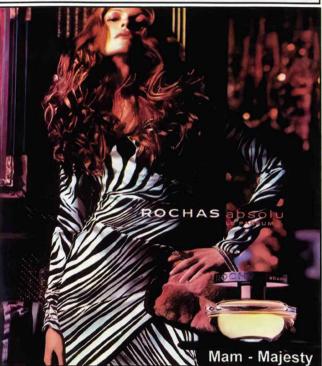


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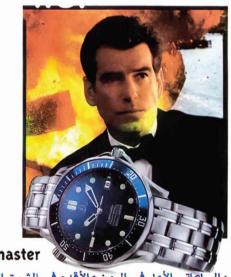
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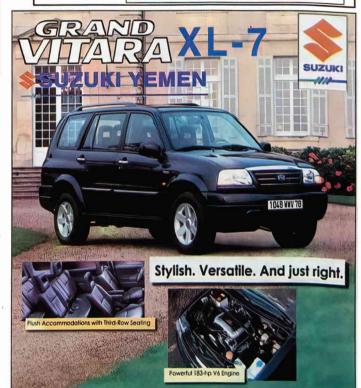
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2,000 protest against ongoing US threats to Iraq

Massive anger

BY MOHAMMED AL-QADHI YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Hundreds of people including representatives of Arab political parties staged a demonstration in in Sanaa on Saturday to protest the potential U.S. strike against Baghdad.

The protestors went to the UN office in Sana'a where they expressed their anger.

The demonstrators, estimated at 2,000 people carried banners condemning the US potential military attack against Iraq. Several leaders from the Ba'ath party in Syria, Jordan, Egypt, Sudan, Lebanon and the ruling GPC as well as opposition parties in Yemen took part in the protest.

Dozens of women participated as well. The protestors warned that any military operation against Iraq will invite counter attacks against US interests everywhere. A joint statement issued by Arab and Yemeni political parties denounced threats to strike Iraq and said that all Arabs will be obliged to defend the Arab state if war takes place. It warned against the use of the UN Resolution 1441 as a

attack. stressed that the military option will be catastrophic.

The statement added that the attack aims to destroy all strong countries, the condemning cooperation with the US by some Arab states.

It called upon the international community for lifting the economic embargo imposed on Iraq and allowing Arab volunteers to take part in defending Baghdad in case of a war.

It demanded the UN to stop US threats and called upon Arab companies and investors to boycott products of attacking countries. It also demanded the suspension of all forms of normalization of relationships with Israel.

The protestors handed over a message to be delivered to the UN Secretary General Kofi Annan through the UN resident representative in Sana'a, James Rawley.

Meanwhile, Yemeni official news-





papers harshly criticized US threats to strike Iraq and pointed out that the war will be catastrophic to peace and stability for the whole world. It is expected that even greater rallies will take place in the coming weeks, especially as the US military build-up in the gulf continues.

Somalian crisis

Eighty die trying to reach Yemen

More than 80 Somali refugees are eared dead after their boat caught fire and sank off Yemen earlier this month, U.N. refugee official says.

James Alemi, local official for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), said on Wednesday a nearby vessel rescued 23 Somalis and Ethiopians from the boat which was carrying up to 120 people on January 4 in the Gulf of Aden.

"According to those rescued, there as an explosion in the engine room which caused a fire. It seems some people panicked and jumped from the overloaded boat," he told Reuters,

adding that no trace has been found of the missing.

Yemen is among the main destinations for Somalis fleeing their war-torn

Somalia descended into chaos in 1991 following the ousting of dictator Mohammed Siad Barre, and is now split between rival warlords and a transitional government in the capital Mogadishu.

Nabeel Moussa, another UNHCR official, said the Yemen authorities have registered 43,000 Somali refugees who entered Yemen illegally. and thousands more are yet to be regis-

Readers' Voice

Yemen Times is reintroducing a popular feature "Readers' Voice" - formerly known as YT Opinion Poll.

This is your opportunity to have a say on world and local

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION:

Will a U.S. led war against Iraq begin between now and the end of March?

LAST WEEK'S QUESTION:

Do you think that arresting 60year old Sheikh Mohammed al-Mouavad is in indicator of US frustration?

Answers:

Yes (%26)(%21) I don't know

Go to our website at: yementimes.com/#poll and have your voice heard!

Promoting Yemen's tourism

Preparations are in full swing to hold the Yemeni Civilization exhibition in Spain.

The 26 September weekly newspaper said that the exhibition is to be launched in the capital of Spain on Feb. 5. It will last for three months and will include more than 600 pieces of

The exhibition is geared to help promote tourism industry in Yemen.

It is expected that a number of Europeans will also offer their collections of Yemeni antiquities.

Meanwhile, the Yemeni-German Archaeological Expedition is working in the historical city of Sirwah in Marib governorate, 173 km east of

Research is being conducted on this historical city which was the first capital to the Kingdom of Sheba. It is one of the key tourist historical attractions in Yemen.

At the end of this year, a facility is to be built instead of moving the antiquities to the capital or any other city in the republic.

The facility will be used for protecting the historical engravings which are easily damaged by humidity, winds, rains and heat of the sun.

Ba'ath conference wraps up



BY MOHAMMED BIN SALLAM YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Under the motto, "Jerusalem is the Nation's Jihad Link and its Civilized Revival," the Arab Baath Socialist Party held its third conference in Sana'a Thursday, calling for the rejection of acts of sabotage and terror and fighting attempts aimed at destabilizing Yemen's security.

A speech delivered by the Secretary of the Ba'ath Party, Dr. Qasem Sallam centered on the Palestinian issue after holding several extensive meetings related to the national, regional and international issues.

Around 1,200 Ba'ath members and more than 3200 citizens from various governorates attended in the conference.

The party has issued at the closing session a statement of decisions and instructions, along with the party's attitude towards those issues.

At the national level, the statement deals with local issues describing them

The statement called for mustering efforts to reform the economic and development program. It also called for enlarging the domestic production base and protection of Yemeni domestic agricultural and industrial production.

The statement emphasized on defending Yemen's unity and the freedom of Yemen's independence and its national sovereignty

The statement focused on struggle and persistence to enhance the state of order and law and to consolidate the peaceful transfer of power.

The Ba'ath Party has called for encountering ethnic and clannish fanaticism, sectarianism, and settling disputes through constructive dialogue and peaceful democratic means.

At the regional level the Ba'ath Party has called on all the political parties and mass organizations to shoulder their responsibility for performing their role throughout all Arab countries to encounter the probable US-led war against Iraq.

The statement has called for adopting a nationwide campaign for boycotting British, Jewish and American

It has further called for activating the role of the Arab Joint Defense Pact and the Arab League Charter and called for lifting the embargo imposed on Iraq.

The statement has called for activating dialogue between the national movements and Islamic movements within the Arab region for establishing links among nations.

"There should be a clear definition for Jihad, considering it as a right to defend its rights and sovereignty. It is the right that is ensured and guaranteed by the international charters and legis-

Leaders and representatives of Arab political parties and organizations who had taken part in the conference had

confirmed their rejection of the American-British aggression on Iraq and condemned the Zionist crimes against their Palestinian brethren. They demanded the Arab League and Arab regimes to perform their roles in confronting the American-British-Zionist attack against Iraq and Palestine.

At the international level, participants demanded the rejection of unipole dominance.

Dr. Qasem Sallam has been re-elected as a secretary for the Ba'ath Party in Yemen and Mr. Abdulwahed Howash, as a deputy security.

In addition to this, 10 Ba'ath Party members were elected as members of Yemen leadership of the party.

Al-Hitar denies he linked Zindani to Cole attack

MOHAMMED AL-QADHI YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Judge Hamoud al-Hitar, a member of the Yemeni Supreme Court, has strongly denied that he said Sheikh Abudlmajeed al-Zindani or any other political or religious figure is involved in the USS Cole suicide attack.

His denial comes after the Los Angelos Times quoted al-Hitar last Wednesday as saying that prisoners held in connection with the Cole attack told local authorities that al-Zindani issued a decree ordering the strike.

Al-Hitar, head of the committee that's now holding dialogue with Yemeni Afghans in prisons, refuted the allegation and said Saturday that he did talk

about the involvement of any political or religious figure in the Cole attack.

The USS Cole exploded on October 12, 2000 in Aden, where 17 US sailors were killed and 39 others injured.

He pointed out that he did not talk with the US newspaper editor at all about al-Zindani, head of Islah Shura Council and rector of al-Eman University, and his involvement in the

The US newspaper reported that al-Hitar said "the government had not investigated the allegations against Sheikh Abdul Majeed al-Zindani to confirm whether he did issue such a religious order, or fatwa, targeting the warship Cole," adding, "People suspected in the Cole case have said they

acted according to a fatwa by Sheik Abdul Majeed.'

Al-Hitar pointed out in a statement to The Times read in English by his daughter, "However, I cannot verify if it was done according to a fatwa by Abdul

Yemen Times tried to get al-Zindani to comment on these allegations but it could not get through.

However, Islah spokesman Hamoud Hashim al-Tharihi flatly, according to the US newspaper, denied the allega-

"The allegations - and the government's reluctance to investigate, or at least to acknowledge that it is investigating - demonstrate the extraordinary challenges facing Yemen and U.S. officials trying to fight terrorism here," the US newspaper said.

"Authorities can expect greater opposition if they try to extradite, arrest or even question someone of Zindani's stature," it added.

The LA Times said Zindani is a former teacher and confidant of Osama bin Laden and that his radical anti-American, anti-Jewish brand of Islam not only had been tolerated until recently by the central government but was also rewarded with money, authority and legitimacy.

Zindani, who fought against Soviet forces in Afghanistan in the 1980s. played a central role in helping end a civil war in Yemen in 1994.

"The United States has long wanted

to question Zindani in connection with the Cole attack, but authorities here said that the prisoners' statements are the first evidence that has surfaced in Yemen that might connect Zindani with the blast," the newspaper added.

The U.S. Embassy in Sana declined to comment, saying only that the investigation into the incident is continuing.

Zindani appeared on Yemen TV last week preaching against fanaticism and terrorism. He denounced terrorist acts and said they had nothing to do with







The same US newspaper said that after the Cole bombing that Zindani and other prominent figures in the government had connections with the incident.

Continued from Page 1

Another loss

Al-Mutawakkil was traveling in a convoy from the southern port of Aden to Lahj district, about 185 miles south of the capital Sana'a, when the crash occurred.

Several other people accompanying al-Mutawakkil were also killed, and several others were injured, including Gen. Ezzeddin al-Muathin, a leading member of the ruling General People's Congress.

A government official, speaking on condition of anonymity, said three people traveling with al-Mutawakkil died. It was unclear what caused the accident. An investigation has been launched to discover its cause.

Born in 1942, al-Mutawakkil graduated from Yemen's military academy in 1962. He served as Interior Minister in several cabinets between 1977 and 1993 and was also Yemen's ambassador to the United States during the early 1980s.

Al-Mutawakkil was survived by his wife, son and daughter.

A group of specialists will go to Lahj District soon to investigate the Jan. 13 accident that took place at 8:30 am on a highway between Bi'r Naser and Fifth Brigade Camp north

Sources say that the cause of the accident could be either a technical error or excess speed which caused the car to deviate from the main road and roll over several times.

General Al-Mutwakil was on his way to attend a GPC leadership's assembly at Al-Husaiani guest house to talk about elections preparations.

Citizens of that area rushed to aid when the accident took place, but al-Mutwakil was already dead.

The Yemen Times has met a number of people who knew him to find out more about what people are feel-

Matloop Atef al-Sharafi, the head of board directors in the Saba International for Navigation and Investment Company Limited, says "Yahya was not ordinary man but he was a brave and prominent leader that his name linked with the most crucial achievements in the Yemeni society: that is 26 September Revolution and the Yemeni unification of 1990."

He added "Al-Mutawakkil had a long history of struggling and challenging things, working silently and quietly in different circumstances and conditions and locations for sake of freedom and independence and dignity and prosperity of his nation."

Al-Mutawakkil was known a modest person with good-manner. In a visit that president of republic has paid to Hodeidah city in the end of

last December, I sat continuously with the late al-Mutawakkil for four hours in which I observed him. Those few hours gave me an opportunity to discover a nobleman who has good spirit full with love for people and country. He was quiet and good at speaking and listening. He amazed you with his logic and spoken word.

Al-Mutawakkil's passing away is really representing a grievous loss for the country. And for the General People Congress, it's a loss of a great national and politician. His passing away represents a big calamity as men like him are rare and no one can replace them. Mercy on the late and condolence for his family and beloved people."

Dr. Hussein al-Eryani, Taiz University Rector, said "No doubt that al-Mutawakkil's passing away in these difficult circumstances represents a great loss for the nation as he was known for his honest stands and his good dealing with cases. He was a listener rather than speaker and if he spoke, he spoke about the love he had for his country.'

Faisal Saeed Fare'a, the general manager of al-Saeed for Science and Culture Foundation, said "It seems that we are in a time when we lose many of our prominent men, starting with Jarallah Omar and now al-Mutawakkil.

"The fact is that al-Mutawakkil played important roles in Yemen's history, as he always served national causes. He was a link between the political forces, for he had an open future vision for all people. He passed away in a time the country was in dire need of him. With losing him I feel that we lose one of the few farsighted and intellectual persons who have a library of precious books that gave him vision and experiences.

"I met him when he paid a visit to our foundation four days before his sudden and painful departure. He walked around in the foundation and talked intimately, warmly about this project considered it as civilized one pointing to the importance of taking care of our heritage and history. We had future appointment with him, but fate was quicker and snatched him in that painful traffic accident."

Abdu al-Wahab Magaless, Sheik and intellectual, said, "Al-Mutawakkil was a first-class politician as well as a cultured person who was known to have noble morals, and brave and prominent stands that served Yemen since his infancy. His death is a big loss for General Peoples Congress party and for the

Germany still holds al-Qaeda suspects

In November, Berlin only agreed to cooperate in the U.S. trial of French national Zacarias Moussaoui, charged over the September 11 attacks, after Washington assured Germany their evidence would not be used to obtain the death penalty.

Germany was an important launch pad for the September 11, 2001, hijacked airliner attacks on the United States blamed on al Qaeda. Three of the four pilots lived in the northern port city of Hamburg in the

Yemen, the ancestral home of bin Laden, is seen in the West as a haven for Muslim militants, including the al Qaeda network.

Meanwhile, it's been reported that the arrested sheikh Ali al-Mouyad told Yemen's ambassador to Germany — Muhiyyieddin Al-Dhabi - that he was invited to Germany to receive financial aid, according to weekly 26 September.

"Al-Mouyad said that a Yemeni person, whose name was mentioned, told him that an American Muslim named 'Saeed' was willing to provide him with financial assistance to be spent on charity for Yemen. He said that the person said he would only give the money if al-Mouyad would

travel either to Germany or the US for this reason," said the newspaper.

Hence al-Mouyad said that he traveled to Germany only for this purpose and indeed met with 'Saeed', who gave him a check notebook two days before his arrest and told him that he can withdraw any amount he needs on a monthly basis. He also noted that the Yemeni person had disappeared following that," added the

The Yemeni government has reiterated its demand to hand over the arrested sheikh and his companion to Yemeni authorities according to international law.

At the same time intensified efforts are currently being exerted on the government by many Islah and religious affiliates to pressure the government to bring him back to Yemen.

"We thank the Yemeni government for its initial reaction concerning the arrest of Al-Mouyad in Germany," the preacher of Al-Ihsan mosque said

Several small rallies took place in various areas in Sana'a in support of al-Mouyad and a petition was launched to collect as many signatures from the people as possible and deliver them to the government.

Italians help

Conference on fighting diabetes across Yemen

REDHWAN AL-SAOOAF ADEN BRANCH

The 3rd Italian-Yemeni Conference was concluded last Thursday at Aden Hotel after 2-day meetings discussing diabetics, its effects on heart diseases and its relation to other diseases like ENT, eye and kidney.

Eighteen working papers were presented by eighteen Yemeni specialists from Yemeni universities and 16 Italian specialists coming for various Italian universities, and more than 300 attendants were present at the conference.

In the inauguration, Dr. Abdulnasir Al-Muniabari Minister of health and population delivered a welcoming speech, indicating the great benefits expected from the conference and reflected on the good relations between Yemen and Italy. He emphasized that this conference will develop the medical exchange between the two countries and in other fields, hoping that the conference could offer some solutions to many medical problems existing in the Yemeni society.

Taha Ahmed Ghanim, governor of Aden, expressed in his speech his hope that the conference would be able to address the diabetic problem in Yemen

and result in some guidance in tackling

problem locally. He pointed to the governmental efforts in executing such projects under the wise patronage of President Ali Abdulla Saleh.

Dr. Abbas Zabarah Secretary General of the Yemeni-Italian Friendship Society expressed his pleasure with the conference, indicating that it has come after persistent efforts by members of the society from both sides, as well as the ministry of health and the Italian embassy in Sana'a. He also expressed his concern that the disease has spread widely in Yemen and in the world in general.

The Italian ambassador Mr. Giacomo Sanfelice di Monteforte conveyed his thanks to the participants and the contributors to the success of the conference, and mentioned that this is a chance for expertise exchange between the two countries. Mr. Sanfelice confirmed his country's support for such activities and for Yemen in general and pointed out that Italy would provide medical assistance to Yemen and support in facing diabetic disease. The conference is considered a progressing step in combating diabetic diseases in Yemen and its influences to



New export credit from Saudi Arabia

MOHAMMED AL-MASANI YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Saudi Fund for Development has agreed to offer credit facilities to finance Yemeni national exports with YR 12.2 mil-

Ebraheem Mohammed al-Mefleh, general manager for the exports program, representative of SFD, Ahmed alof directors of National Bank for Trade and Commerce.

Hussein Fadhl, general manager of Yemeni Bank for Reconstruction and Development and Amer Togan, Sheba Islamic Bank assistant general manger for investment were the Yemeni representatives of the Yemeni who signed the deal with the Saudis on Jan. 8.

It's believed that the credit lines will enhance trade between the two countries now estimated at YR 65 million.

The credit also aims at giving Saudi exporters confidence in their exports to Yemeni markets and also lessen the difficulty of repayment.

The assigned agreements require

sums go to the three banks to finance the Yemeni exporters who want to buy

Saudi products. This is the seventh agreement

involving Yemen, after it has made similar deals with other Arab banks like Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Algeria and Tunisia.

The Saudi ambassador in Sana'a, Mohammed Mardas al-Katani, and Ali al-Sykhi, the deputy minister of industry, along with Abdu Ellah al-Mamari and Ms Eman Kamal Hassan from the National Bank and a number of Yemeni-Saudi businessmen took part

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Taj puts on great show...

Taj Sheba produced an event extraordinaire during this New Years Eve on the Bilquis terrace, which was transformed into a "Pirates Harbor" where over 150 guests partied to bring

Beauticians dressed up all guests like "pirates" before they entered the harbor, to get into the mood that the theme had to offer.

It has been a long time since Sana'a has seen a show of such splendor with Captain Cook and non-stop music from the new "Sequence Band" getting the audience swaying into the wee hours of the morning.

A big bang at the stroke of midnight ushered in the New Year, and the air was filled with glitters and artificial snow, much to the awe of the crowd on the dance floor.

There were prizes and surprises for all. A show by the band Mr. Joe Faroquer was judged the best dressed Scottish Pirate of the evening.

Mr.& Mrs. Niksic and Mr. Ashammi won Airline tickets to Cairo and Damascus sponsored by Yemenia.

Kudos to chef Vijay for the wonderful spread at the poolside lawns, prepared to take into consideration the various nationalities that attended the

Truly the Taj Sheba team put on an extravaganza. There's plenty to look forward to for the people of Sana'a at the Taj Sheba's upcoming "Italian

...it helps orphans

Meanwhile the General Manager of the Taj Sheba Hotel, Rohit Khosla along with a team of about 100 employees from the hotel visited the Orphanage at Taiz Road on Jan. 1 to feed about 100 residents,

The project was in line with the core values followed by the Taj Group in India.

The team served the children with great enthusiasm and the children were delighted with the warmth and hospitality they received.

This is a good way to start the New Year and we wish the team at Taj



endeavors.

Al-Afif cultural program for 2003

Al-Afif Cultural Foundation has announced its program for the year 2003 that contains a number of activities such as various cultural lectures, discussion meetings, and cultural nights for poetry, stories, music and

Ceremonies also will include:

- Exhibition opening ceremony - Al-Afif 2003 prize giving

- Cultural program 2003 conclusion ceremony

EU allocates additional 1.59 million for more community projects

In the past year the Yemeni government started the implementation of its poverty alleviation strategy.

Nevertheless, the humanitarian needs of the Yemeni population are still extensive. Today, a quarter of the population lives below the poverty line and more than a third has no

access to safe drinking water. "Therefore, the European Commission's Humanitarian Office

has recently allocated an additional amount of 1.59 million for four projects focusing on the most immediate needs of certain deprived communities in rural areas", explained Mr. Rainer Schierhorst, head of the European Commission's Office in

The funds will be used for the following four projects:

- Emergency Assistance For Water

Supply In Taiz Governorate, Districts Of Al-Mokha And Wazaieh, implemented by the French NGO DIA

- Emergency assistance to basic health services in the Tihama Strip, implemented by the Italian NGO

Post-crisis reconstruction and rehabilitation operation in favor of the victims of the hurricane in al-Mahra governorate, implemented by UNICEF

- Rehabilitating and restoring maternal and child health care services in Dhale' governorate, implemented by the Italian NGO Coopi This new decision brings the total

amount allocated to Yemen by the European Commission's Humanitarian Office since 1998 to some _ 8 million, whereas the total funds allocated by the European Commission to Yemen amount to some 25 million per year.

TIMES

Dome Trading and Contracting Company LTD. Holds a Seminar on Corrosion and Cathodic Protection

Dome

Dome Trading and Contracting Company, Yemen, and Amran Establishment Oman, are grateful for the opportunity of holding a seminar for the

engineers and technicians of Yemen Hunt Oil Company and the Ministry of Oil and Mineral Resources titled Introduction to Corrosion and Cathodic Protection

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Attendees at the seminar



The subject generated a lot of interest among the attendees



Class in session Introduction to Corrosion and Cathodic Protection



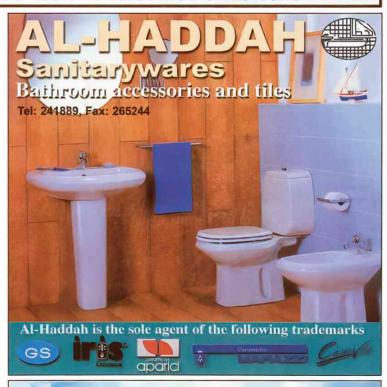
















Prominent sheikh speaks

Yemen's tribal conflicts: An insider's view

errorism around the world including in Yemen is still going on. But the difference between terrorism and what is actually a civilian crime is still the topic of argument. And the so called war against terrorism has become the apprehension of those in positions of authority places, whether that's government of even tribes.

Shiekh Naji Ali Al-Zaidi, one of the prominent Sheiksh of Jihm Tribe and a top security commander, was interviewed by the Yemen Times to give more information about what is going on in Yemen's tribal scene. Here is an edited version of his conversation with Times writer Hassan Azaedi.

Q: How do the tribes think co-operation with the government against terrorism should be carried out?

A: First of all I want to state that tribes of Marib have been cooperating among each other since long ago, not just now. When it comes to security, tribes have a moral pact among them to ensure stability in the region and eliminate threatening elements from the tribal communities. As for now, we know that there isn't any internationally wanted fanatic figure in Marib. There may be some of our own people who have radical beliefs but the tribes themselves will oppose those if it was found that they could pose a possible threat to security

What we do not like or approve of is the media using these names and exaggerating the danger and hence negatively affecting tribal society and the country's reputation as a whole.

Q: Extremist don't have to belong to Al-Qaeda organization to pose as a threat. Shouldn't you take in mind such people as well?

A: President Ali Abdullah Saleh in his last invitation encouraged rehabilitating these people and making them good citizens through reason and conversation before trying any other measures with them. Terrorism should not be fought through terrorism otherwise it will be a vicious circle and killing that will never end. Yemeni people are Muslim people and they do not need to be fundamentalists to be so, and we do not need foreign forces interfering with for from the authorities, is not to let external sides get involved in our deci-



Shiekh Naji Ali Al-Zaidi

Q: Tribes keep huge amounts of armaments. Why? And when do you think this will end?

A: Tribes have been this way for ages and this does not cause harm to security or stability of the country. In fact this is a way of ensuring stability in our region, when emergency arises, we are the first to stand by the government army, coming forth with our men and weapons against external threats.

As for the question of when will we give this up, well, the truth is that we don't want to give it up. Who wants to

be a source of his own ruin? We know that through arms charging we cause ourselves more harm than we cause others. But the way the tribal community is built and the domination of revenge killing and similar trends in this society forces us to arm ourselves.

Q: So when do you think they will let go of these weapons?

A: When there is stability and security in the country and there are no unnatural life threats, then tribes will be the first to put down their weapons. But I am sure that the country still needs us in that way. We are a reserve for the army. Like in 1994, the tribes came and stood side by side with the national forces in

Q: What are the reasons behind such tribal phenomena such as revenge killings, causing many eternal conflicts like that between your tribe and that of Jed'an?

A: Mostly such conflicts have to do with border disputes. The fighting you are talking about is an imposed war. What must be understood however is that such fights are not in the interest of any of the fighting parties. In fact it to the development of our country.

Q: Then why do you not call for a

truce between you and the other people instead of the endless shedding of blood?

A: We always call for peace treaties and truces between us and all tribes, especially those whom we are in conflict with, in spite of what we may lose or face in the process. Jed'an tribe has killed eight people from our people, and there are government security barriers protecting that tribe. And these barriers make it difficult for us to reach them and to find an agreement with them or a midway. But if there is any peace proposal, then I will support it.

Q: Why should the security barriers be an obstacle against negotiation when you are the sheik of your tribe and when there are many tribes that are willing to intermediate?

A: People of Jahm tribe feel that there are decision-making authorities siding by the other tribe. And that stands in the way of negotiation. Any intermediater must be neutral and not be biased to any side. I don't want to go into details in this topic. We all are brothers and we should cooperate to stop such evil trends and revenge killings.

Q: Do you think that the political parties have influenced the tribes and their domination in the tribal society?

A: Yes, I see a great influence of the political parties or the political pluralism on our tribal norms, and on the relations between the different tribes. The political leadership and the political interests started interfering in the local tribal wars in the region. Also we fear the external influence from outside the country.

Q: The latest incidents that took place in your area has resulted in the damage of your homes particularly after the German engineer was kidnapped?

A: As a matter of fact, what has been conducted by the military men was against the law. I demand the concerned bodies to disclose the motives behind the kidnapping incidents and the criminals to be stood trial.

only benefits those elements that wish our internal affairs. What we really hope in the country to destroy our nation and cause hurdles



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Changes suggested for Arab pact

Updating human rights

By YEMEN TIMES STAFF TAIZ BUREAU

number of Arab experts and representatives of non-governmental organizations in the Arab states met in Sana'a December 21 and 22 to discuss updating the Arab Pact on Human rights.

It was a follow-up to previous meetings held by Arab Centre on International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights Education with Leon University, France, Amman in October and a symposium organized by Arab Sisters' Forum for human rights and HRITC in Sana'a in

About 70 participants attended the most recent seminar, coming from Yemen, Egypt, Jordan, Palestine, Syria, Morocco, Tunis, Algeria, UAE, Kuwait, Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, and Sudan

Mahmoud Rashid, the Arab League representative and chairperson of the Human Rights Department in the Arab League also attended.

Three working committees were formed:

- 1. Civil and Political Rights Committee.
- 2. Economic, Social and Cultural
- Rights Committee. 3. Protection Mechanisms Committee.

The committees' drafted several rec-

ommendations as follows:

Changes to political and civil rights:

1. whenever exception clause is stated in the Pact that refer to "the law or within the limit of the law", such exception clause shall be cancelled as it represent a constrain to the right, otherwise the following phrase shall be added "the law that a democratic society and the state of institutions requires, provided that such law will not undermine the natural human rights".

article (3) shall remain as it

was stipulated in the Pact. article (4,a); to be cancelled from the Pact; as for clause (b), the following phrase "officially declared and the state party shall take the measurements that correspond to the potential risks, provided that such measures shall be removed immediately when such risks does not exist, declare of emergency state shall not allow by any means the dispensation from any other obligations stipulated in this Pact and in the international law, state of emergency shall not entail any discrimination based on the race or sex or color or religion or language or social origin", shall be added after "state of public emergency" phrase. Clause (c), the following phrase "related to the right of life, religious freedom and the right of legal personality" shall be added after the phrase "and guarantees related to", with reference to be made to relevant articles in

4. article (5), must distinguish between the right of life and the right of personal integrity (safety), no person shall be deprived from his freedom by arrest or inspection or detention, unless on the basis of judicial order, and such person has the right to seek lawyer assistance.

5. article (6), the following phrase "personal punishment", shall be added after the phrase "issuance of this text".

6. article (7), a phrase clarifying that the trial is legal and before the concerned, ordinary and unbiased court; shall be added.

7. article (8), the word "or inspection" shall be inserted after the word "or detention", and at the end of the article, the phrase "within 24 hours, and any detainee shall have the right to seek lawyer assistance, otherwise the failure to do so shall invalidate such procedures" shall be added after the phrase "without delay".

8. article (9), new clause stating that "all people are equal in front of the law, and the state party shall guarantee the independence of justice and bar", shall be

9. articles (10,11,12), death sentence shall be cancelled, as a general principle, however the Arab League may consider that such proposed amendment shall not be included in the Pact, rather to be included in a special protocol, meanwhile, we recommend the following:

-article (10), the phrase "the right to appeal and countermand" shall be added. -Article (11), to add the phrase "or

before extraordinary justice", after the phrase "political crime". -Article (12): the following sentences

shall be added 1. "death sentence for pregnant women shall be postponed for two years after the

delivery". 2. "no person whose age exceeded 75

years shall be sentenced with death". 10. article (13), the following sentences shall be added:

1. the principle that no crime shall remain unpunished due to the course of

2. no impunity for torture crime perpet-

3. the right of reparation for the victims of such acts by the state party and the perpetuators of torture crimes, the state shall guarantee the rehabilitation of the victims of physical and psychological torture.

4. torture is a punishable crime by the law and the punishment shall be deterrent

11. article (15), the following phrase shall be added "accused person shall be provided with all needed guarantees to defend himself, by himself or by a lawyer that he assign and in a public trial, and the court shall assign a lawyer for the accused person free of charges in case he is unable to pay lawyer fees".

"UN minimum standard of treating prisoners shall be observed".

"Punishment imposed and executed on juvenile shall consider their reform and rehabilitation".

12. article (16), the phrase "the right of reparation in case of judicial misjudge", shall be added.

13. article (18), the article shall be rephrased as follows "every person has the right of legal personality'

14. article (19), the phrase "the principle of citizen in administrating political affairs of his country, this includes the right of free, fair and secret ballot election, and the citizen right to contest and vote in the elections on an indiscriminately basis, the state party shall ensure women right of political participation in all its forms, and in a way that achieve equality.

15. articles (20, 21, 22), related to freedom of transportation, the following phrase shall be added "each citizen of the state party has the right to refer to the judiciary system and claim reparation, when constrains were imposed on exercising

16. article (23), shall be amended as follows: "each citizen has the right to refuge to another country escaping suppression, or if his right of life is jeopard-, ized, the state parties shall ensure that no refugees or asylum seekers shall be extradited to their countries or any other coun-

17. article (24), shall be amended to read as follows "the state parties shall guarantee not to withdraw their citizens' nationality under whatever conditions. and they shall also guarantee not to prevent them from acquiring any other nationality, the children shall have the right to acquire their parents' nationality (their father and mother), automatically with consideration to be given to the best interest of children".

article (25), the following 18. phrase shall be added to the article "no citizen's money or property shall be confiscated without final court verdict".

article (26), the following phrase shall be added "the state parties shall guarantee citizens' freedom of expression, communication, receiving and dissemination of information with all means, and in a way that ensure fairness and transparency", the word "creed" shall be replaced with "freedom of believe, ideology and opinion".

article (28), the phrase "unless so required by the national security requirements... to the end of the paragraph, shall be deleted and the phrase "the state parties shall ensure to their citizens and to foreigners residing there, the right of peaceful expression of their demands".

21. article (33) of the Pact shall come under the part related to the political and civil rights, as it is concerned with the public profession/service, and shall read as follows "each citizen has the right to participate in administrating the public affairs of his country and the right to occupy public service profession, furthermore the state parties shall ensure the peaceful transition of power".

22. the following articles shall be

added to the Pact

- 1. freedom of formation of political and non-political organizations, by notifying only.
- 2. Prohibit all forms of slavery, and to criminalize sexual exploitation of women
- 3. state parties shall ensure the principle of independent and judiciary system.

To be continued next week



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1st national conference on controversial issue female circumcision:

Brutally harmful

The first national conference for girls health project entitled "Circumcision is Harmful for Girls and Women" kicked off Dec. 30 in Aden University Hall.

The conference aimed at coming up with a number of suggestions and recommendations to limit socially and physically harmful consequences that accompany this phenomenon.

It focused on rural areas in which circumcision is widespread and also attempted to include the mass media in raising awareness about this phenome-

The opening ceremony was attended by Taha Ahmed Ghanem, Aden governor, Dr. Saleh Ali Basara, Aden University rector, Deputy of the Aden

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

As part of its plan to go high-tech,

the Yemeni government has inaugurat-

ed www.yemen.gov.ye, its official web

the general manager of the telecommu-

nication authority, said that the author-

ity inaugurated the web site for e-gov-

The project to help bring the govern-

According to Abdu al-Malek al-

Mulemee, the minister of communica-

tion, preparation for this web site has

started six months ago through several

The inauguration of this web site

comes in the framework of a national

program of information technology

ministries.

ment into wireless communications

Engineer Kamal Hussein al-Gabri,

Government web site

Moving on-line

governor, the manager of the health office in Aden, Ms. Fawzia Hamed, director of the project for girls health, Dr. Suhear Talba, the regional coordinator, Ms. Raheeda al-Hamadani, and the head of the women national com-

Fourteen participants from a number of governorates of republic along with experts and doctors focused on the healthy, physical and social damages of the circumcision, and relayed various experiences and surveys.

Ms Shafiqa Abdu Ahmed, specialist in nursing and delivery, pointed out that the circumcision problem, which is done under pretext protecting girl purity, is considered one of the traditions and norms has no religious and

legitimate relation or connection at all.

"In my opinion, purity comes from through parents' good education and discipline and observation for their children, not through slicing the organ of a body, which is considered an atrocious interference in God's creation," she said.

"In my opinion, this phenomenon is considered one of the shapes of violence and discrimination against women and one of the traditions that disgraces women' dignity and humanity and it should be considered a mistake, sin and crime" she added.

"I would like to confirm that circumcision for female is believed an aggression particularly on the girl physically, psychologically and socially, and on the society in general. There is a lot of suffering that accompany the girl since birth until being a wife and mother bearing the bleeding and agony that accompanied this operation.

"The bleeding sometimes can be controlled and sometimes cannot that causing the death in most cases. Besides there are damages that appear later on such as frequent inflammation in the same area or continuos infection that can reach to the inner genitals like pelvis' and finding scares and agglutination that woman suffers from all her life that will prevent her to sexually response and have pleasure that creating problems among the couples and disconnect the family relations," said

Abu Asem on the

Tribal sources have told the Yemen Times that Yemen's central security have been in Mareb close to the Horiab al-Karamesh area, and it's believed they're tracking Abu Asem, one of the al-Qaeda network wanted elements, had passed through.

Other sources point out that Asem has been moving in the mountains area of the governorate after his departure from Al-Jawf to Mareb last month.

The forces has attempted to arrest Abu Asem but they cannot pinpoint his whereabouts as he is moving constantly, unlike Abu Ali al-Harithi who was assassinated with six fellows by an predator drone plane two months ago.

Abu Asem was close to the place that Abu Ali al-Harithi was killed, but has moved.

The sources mentioned that Asem, who has extensive financial support, can hide for a long time.

Recently, a decision has been issued by President Ali Abduallah Saleh to release 30 extremists, who were central security prisoners in charged of extremism, after they announced repentance.

Al-Osbu newspaper mentioned last Thursday that security forces detained about 120 persons described as Islamic extremists, who were arrested after that assassination of Jarallah Omar and the American aid workers in Jibla.

USAID office reopening soon

A delegation from the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is currently in Yemen for the final steps to reopen its Yemen USAID office and define future program goals.

USAID is expected to continue to support the Poverty Reduction Strategy and to provide assistance in vital areas such as health and education, all based on the US government commitment to enhance the welfare of the Yemeni people. This emphasizes

the importance that the U.S. government accords to development as a necessary companion to security meas-

Since the 1960s, USAID has carried out numerous development programs in Yemen, such as road-building, water projects, building of schools, agricultural research and mineral surveys, NGO development, legislative and judicial reform, university scholarships and health training.

al-Nasser al-Munaibari, Minister of Health and Population and Taha

A regional center for fighting tuberculosis is to be built by December, 2003 in the southern governorate's al-Mansora area.

Ahmed Ghanem, Aden governor, on

It's being made possible with the help of Japanese aid.

Dr. al-Munaibari said during an announcement ceremony that "on behalf of all the employees of the ministry and its branches in the different governorates in the republic and in the local and executive authority in Aden, I greatly thank the Japanese government for the constant support for Yemen in the health

This project will offer services in fighting tuberculosis. Its services will not restrict on the Aden citizens.

The Japanese ambassador also said, "I am honored by attending the inauguration ceremony. The Yemeni government has exerted efforts to fight this disease."

He added that the Japan support comes through the International Cooperation Agency JICA.

There are an estimated 350 cases of tuberculosis cases in Aden alone.

Abdu al-Kareem Shaif, the secretary-general for the local council and Kharama al-Raee, deputy of the health ministry, along with Nasser al-Ahwar, the general manager of health and population office attended the ceremony as well.



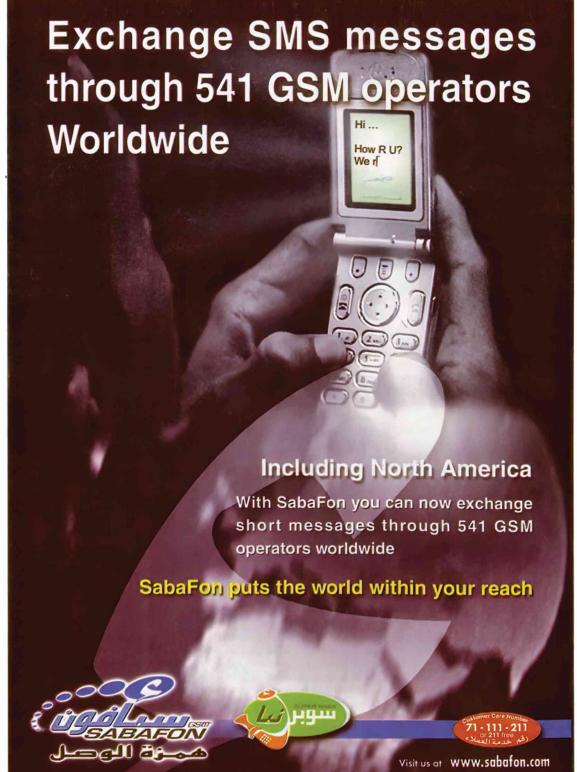
Tuberculosis center to be built The Japanese government supports A new project to fight tuberculosis Yemen in various fields. in Yemen was announced by Dr. Abdu

It contains information and data for each ministry as well as links through which users can get local and international news and electronic services, such as getting a telephone directory for members, results of the general secondary school, news from Yemen's parliament along with news of ministers and international personalities in

addition to another services The web site also has a connection to get information about President Ali Abduallah Saleh, such as his biography, plus and his role in modern Yemeni history.

The second phase of the information technology program will include a number of services that will be made available online, rather than only in ministry offices.





Maldives

Maldivean royal searches for Yemeni roots



By IRENA KNEHTL* FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

he Maldives are a string of attols in the Indian Ocean, a thousand islands nobody could count accurately. They emerge from beyond endless blue horizons. Like a fine rain from a thick cloud. A veil of peace and serenity. Like round crescent moon of the new month in the sky. A pond of water lily leaves adrift in the mid ocean heavy with history. Their destiny has not been written in a single book, but that it should unfold wave after wave to the rhythm of the ocean. Here one can walk along the beach on the wet sand and under a radiant moon. The wind from the sea is heavy with cries and smell. Faint smell of incense floats around. It seems out all the lands where one had sojourned and sustained, for while, most pleasures and honors. A mini world of its own.

Maldives in the Indian Ocean

The Maldivian archipelago lays in the most strategic position for any navigator who wanted to round the southern point of Asia. The 64 km strait between India and Sri Lanka was full of reefs and too shallow to permit safe sailing. To get around the Indian subcontinent sailing vessels had to go so far south that they also rounded Sri Lanka, and then they would inevitably have to force a passage through the long chain of the Maldive Islands.

The Maldives lay there as a treacherous barrier. No admiral could have planned a better strategic line, if he had wanted to chain off with mines a sailing route obligatory for any mariner who wanted to sail east or west past the southern point of Asia. The early navigators did not know weather they will encounter death or glory. Death will come and then the waves of the sea, they may have thought. They no longer saw land, nor sun, nor the end of the journey it seemed.

The islands are so low above the waves that, were it not for the tall

coconut palms they would be invisible until the ship was cough in the surf. Only near the southern end of this long coral barricade there the channel open in two which permit safe passage through one side of India to the other. The dots on the map became alive, green jade necklaces, and scattered emerald jewelry placed on ocean blue, velvet and cloudless tropical sky. Total some 1,190 Majid AbdulWahab islands. In fact nobody knows

for sure for some islets grow out of submerged reefs, and others are eaten away piecemeal by the ocean and disappear. Only 202 of the islands are inhabited although other have the ruins of former habitation.

Ancient maritime station

Maldives was another of the maritime way stations for some great seafaring civilizations. Also the Maldive voyages to distant lands were certainly not the result of mere hazard. Some descendants of old local builders and seafarers there still possess knowledge of ports around the ocean that surrounded their own micro world. Ports in India, Yemen, and Somalia were well

As early as in the 7th century Arabs, mostly Southern Arab, established an oversea trading center in Calicut. The island of Zanzibar, on the other side of the Indian Ocean, for example was part of the pre Islamic Kingdom of Saba from 115 BC to 525 BC, also known as Sheba. The Sabeans were a maritime people, with a large kingdom in Yemen and used the seasonal monsoon winds to travel regularly to and from Zanzibar. They sailed south between November to February, during the Northeast Monsoon, carrying beads, the Chinese porcelain and clothes.

Between March and September, they returned to north on the Southwest Monsoon, carrying food grains, mangroves poles for timber, spices, gold from Sofala, ivory and ebony. It is now suggested that Sabeans may have called on Maldive islands, or possessed knowledge of Maldivian archipelago.





Bodufenvalhugey Seedi aged 72

Europeans were the late comers in this ocean. They were only very late visitors to an old maritime Maldivian sultanate. The sun and the monsoon winds had sent the early voyagers from Southern Arabia on the first expeditions into these open parts of the Indian

The sun suggested the best place to search and the monsoon the best time to come. Seen from afar the Arab dhows may have looked like a procession, from close, it a village, with its stories, jokes, nick names, intrigues, conflicts, nights of singing and poetry, a village for which all lands are far away, even the land one comes from or the land one would be crossing. Riches consists not in the things one possesses but in the things one can do without, they chant-

Cowrie shells islands

The wealth of the people of these islands is constituted by cowrie shells. After woods the Arabs had started to take over the ancient trade routes off the coasts of India when Sulaiman, the merchant in the period AD 850 to 900 recorded how travelers had visited the Maldives and witnessed the importance of the cowrie shells. The islanders sell them for rice to the people of Bengal, where they are used for money he writes. They are sold in the same way to the people of Yemen who use them for ship ballast in place of sand. The Arabs, in particular, southern Arabs, have taken over the trade in Maldive cowries up the Tigries river, and to the caravan routes beyond.

The geography, the location of these Maldive islands perhaps combined with the cowrie shells, had made them an important port of call or transit station for advanced civilizations navigating the Indian Ocean. The highway brought knowledge and riches, the sea provided provided protection and liberty. The ruler of these cowrie islands was customarily a queen.

The Maldivians feel strong ties and a sense of debt to the Arabs for the faith and subsequent cultural revolution - for

that magic year of AD 1153 had brought them. when their kings in Male adopted Islam. The population of the islands, however, adopted Islam half a century. The Arabs brought light in a world of shadow. The introduction of Islam over eight centuries ago marked the beginning of the present era.

Ibn Battuta came to the Maldives in 1343. I resolved to go to the Dhibat AlMahal, the Arab name for Maldive islands, he writes in his Rihla. These islands are among the wonders of the world. Export from the islands are fish, coconuts, fabrics, and cotton turbans. Export are also vessels of copper, cowries, coir, Ibn Batutta writes further. This cordage is used for joining the boards of ships, and is also exported to China, Yemen and India. Slaves were brought from Hadramaut twelve generations ago to serve as a selected bodyguard for the Sultan in Male.

Merchandise from the world

Ships carrying cargo between ports in China, India, and Yemen could load and unload in the Maldives almost any merchandise from all over the world, glittering brocade, pearls and precious stones. The history further records how all lines of maritime commerce from China, Indonesia, and India drew together until the tip of South India was rounded and the Maldives were passed. Then they diverged again with different destinations.

Most ships from the east, however upon passing the Maldives would first call at the important harbor of Calicut in the south west India. From there they

would either strike westward across the Indian Ocean for Yemen and the Red Sea, or call at the other flourishing ports northwards to Cambay and the Indus valley, and across to the Harmouz straits. What landed at Aden in Yemen was carried up the Red Sea for delivery to merchants in Jeddah or Cairo.

The people of Maldives with their favorable location as a midway station were able to furnish water and fresh provisions, benefited greatly from this intercontinental trade in which they themselves took part. They brought their own cowries, and smoked fish to ports as far as Bengal and Yemen. The Arab traveler Abdul Razzak records Maldive merchants among those visiting important port of Calicut and ocean is and always was an open road since man began to build ships.

Hormus during his visit there in 1442. Import and expthat is what the ships permitted, and how civilization began. The Maldivians settled at a crossroad of all the maritime nations knew that

* Irena Knehtl is an economist and writer. She has been involved in the Indian Ocean dialogue for economic cooperation and exploring economic

This is part of a larger undertaking tracing Yemeni contacts throughout the Indian Ocean and South East Asia. For further suggestions and com-

ments contact The Yemen Times.

cooperation among Red Sea countries.

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Continuing Iraq saga

U.N. inspectors launch fresh arms searches

BAGHDAD, Jan 18 (Reuters) - U.N. arms experts pushed ahead with a hunt for banned weapons in Iraq on Saturday, inspecting at least seven sites on the eve of a crucial visit to Baghdad by top inspectors.

Weapons inspections, now in their eighth week, have intensified this month ahead of a report to the U.N. Security Council on January 27 on the experts' findings and on Iraq's cooperation with them

The report could be key to any decision on launching a U.S. military invasion of the oil-rich country if Baghdad was found in "material breach" of a November U.N. Security Council resolution.

Iraqi officials said inspection teams swooped on Baghdad University, a state-run food testing laboratory on the northern outskirts of the capital, and the Qaaqaa and Naaman state companies.

A team visited another college in the town of Kufa, 150 km (90 miles) south of Baghdad.

The U.N. Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC) experts at the laboratory, which is run by the trade ministry's State Company for Food Testing, were lead by senior inspector Dimitri Perricos.

Wearing blue U.N. caps, about half a dozen inspectors scoured the vicinity of the lab and checked a trailer parked within its perimeter. There was construction work inside the sight.

It was not clear what the experts were looking for. Armed Iraqi guards stopped journalists from entering the facility and inspectors did not speak to reporter

Witnesses said inspectors also went to a farm 40 km (25 miles) south of Baghdad.

Chief inspector Hans Blix and head of the U.N. nuclear watchdog agency Mohamed ElBaradei start a two-day visit to Baghdad on Sunday.

They have said they would confront Iraqi officials with big gaps in the 12,000-page weapons declaration Iraq submitted to the United Nations in December and demand more cooperation with the inspectors. Iraq says it has no nuclear, chemical or biological weapons.

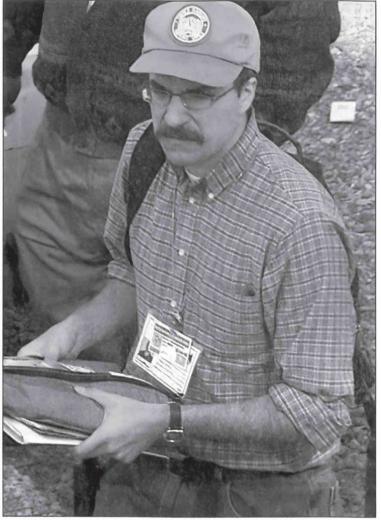
On Thursday, the inspectors found empty chemical warheads, causing a stir which Iraq dismissed as a "storm in a teacup".

A White House spokesman on Friday described the find as "troubling and serious" but Blix said the cache was not necessarily significant. Experts took samples away for testing.

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) experts, carrying out nuclear weapons inspections, were pouring over documents obtained from the house of an Iraqi scientist during a surprise inspection there this week.

Scores of Iraqi journalists held a noisy protest against the United States outside U.N. offices in Baghdad for the second consecutive day on Saturday.

The demonstration was the latest in a series of anti-war activities which have included solidarity visits by Westerners as Washington assembles forces in the Gulf ahead of a possible attack on Iraq.



A U.S. weapons inspector carries files and samples collected from the State Company for Food Testing laboratories in Baghdad Jan 18. U.N arms experts pushed ahead with a hunt for banned weapons in Iraq on Saturday inspecting at least five sites, one of which was the laboratory, on the eve of a crucial visit to Baghdad by top inspectors.

Israelis kill Palestinian after settlement raid

HEBRON, West Bank, Jan 18 (Reuters) - Israeli troops on Saturday killed a Palestinian outside Hebron who carried out a deadly Sabbath attack on a Jewish settlement near the divided West Bank city, the army said.

In Tulkarm, another West Bank city subjected to Israeli crackdowns during a 27-month-old Palestinian uprising, soldiers shot and wounded two locals who attacked them with pipe bombs. The weekend violence coincided with a heightened Israeli military sweep for suspected Palestinian militants amid fears of a surge of hostility ahead of Israel's general election on January 28.

On Friday night, Palestinian gunmen opened fire on a home near the Givat Harsina settlement where a family with five children were celebrating the Jewish Sabbath. The father was killed and three other people wounded.

An armed settler inside the home killed one of the gunmen, and his partner fled, the army said. Soldiers gave chase.

"Early this morning our forces tracked the terrorist down near Givat Harsina and shot him dead. He was found to be wearing combat webbing with rifle clips inside," an army spokesman said. Palestinian medical officials in Hebron said the army had handed over the man's body, but that his identity was not immediately known.

Hamas, an Islamic group sworn to Israel's destruction, claimed responsibility for the settlement attack. Hebron, where Israeli soldiers guard a handful of small settlements in the heart of the predominantly Palestinian city, has been a flash-

point for violence in the Palestinian revolt in which 1.784 Palestinians and 695 Israelis have been killed.

On Wednesday, Israel closed Hebron University — also known as Islamic University — and the city's Polytechnic Institute, calling them a "hotbed for terror attacks".

Students marched through Hebron on Saturday, chanting "education is a human right", and broke through Hebron University's locked gates.

Sharon's tough appeal wining through

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's right-wing Likud party leads opinion polls ahead of the election. He has taken a tough stance on the Palestinian uprising and rules out peace talks until violence ends. Analysts attribute Sharon's appeal—which has survived a Likud funding scandal—to voter jitters over the security situation, especially as a U.S.-led war against Iraq looms.

Sharon's main rival, Amram Mitzna, the leader of the centre-left Labour party, favours holding negotiations and evacuating settlements regardless of the state of hostilities.

The international community regards the settlements as illegal under international law. Israel disputes this. "It is not possible to win out the situation we are now in solely through the use of force," Mitzna told Army Radio on Saturday.

In Tulkarm, Palestinian medical officials and witnesses said troops shot and wounded two young men who lobbed pipe bombs at an army patrol. The army confirmed its troops shot two men after coming under attack, and said it suffered no casualties.

Libya's Gaddafi meets Iraqi envoy as Mubarak arrives

TRIPOLI, Jan 18 (Reuters) - Libyan leader Muammar Gaddafi on Saturday met Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Tareq Aziz, who toured the North African region to drum up support for Baghdad in its stand-off with Washington, state media said.

Libyan state news agency Jana said Aziz delivered a message from Iraqi President Saddam Hussein "explaining the situation in Iraq". It gave no further details.

A Libyan official said Aziz left Libya, hours before Egyptian President 'Josni Mubarak arrived there.

Aziz's departure quashed rumours by diplomats that he might hold a three-person meeting in Libya over the Iraqi crisi

Aziz, who visited Algeria, Tunisia and Morocco this week before travelling to Libya, was one of top Iraqi officials dispatched to Arab capitals to rally support around Baghdad in its showdown with Washington.

The United States accuses Baghdad of hiding weapons of mass destruction and is massing troops in the Gulf. Iraq, currently being searched for banned weapons by U.N. arms inspectors, denies Washington's accusations.

Diplomatic sources said Mubarak's trip to Libya was part of an Arab effort to avoid a war in Iraq, which Mubarak and other Middle Eastern leaders have said would destabilise the region.



Syria seeks meeting of Iraq's neighbours agency

DAMASCUS, Jan 18 (Reuters) -Syria is seeking a meeting of the foreign ministers of Iraq's neighbours to discuss ways to avert a possible U.S.led attack on Baghdad, the official Syrian news agency said on Saturday.

Damascus has offered to host the meeting that could lead to a summit in Ankara of the leaders of Syria, Iran, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Kuwait and Turkey, the Syrian Arab News Agency reported.

The United States has asked several of these countries for assistance to launch a potential attack on Iraq, which it accuses of developing weapons of mass destruction. Most of Iraq's neighbours staunchly oppose any attack.

The agency quoted a foreign ministry spokesman as saying that Foreign Minister Farouq al-Shara would visit Saudi Arabia and Iran on Saturday and Sunday to discuss the proposal

"If the ministerial meeting reaches tangible results and common ground, it could lead to a summit in Ankara to a discuss a peaceful solution to the crisis," it said.

NATO-member Turkey says it has invited the leaders of Syria, Jordan, Egypt, Iran and Saudi Arabia to Ankara next week for a summit to discuss ways to avoid conflict.

Turkey is a close ally of Washington but opposes war with Iraq and said on Friday it could make only a limited contribution to any U.S.-led attack on its southern neighbour.

Saddam exile not on agenda of regional talks Egypt

CAIRO, Jan 18 (Reuters) - Egypt said on Saturday that a meeting called by Turkey next week to discuss ways of avoiding an Iraq war would not touch on the idea that the Iraqi president might step down and go into exile to avoid a conflict.

Turkey said on Thursday it had invited the leaders of Syria, Jordan, Egypt, Iran and Saudi Arabia to Ankara next week. Maher said the invited countries were still discussing who would attend the meeting and where it would be held.

Iraqi officials have dismissed reports

that Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, accused by Washington of hiding weapons of mass destruction, was negotiating exile in a sympathetic state.

"What's been said about Iraqi President Saddam Hussein stepping down will not be suggested at all in this meeting," Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed Maher told reporters in Cairo.

"Egypt has accepted the invitation to take part in this meeting in principle," Maher said.

Egypt, Turkey and Saudi Arabia have

Middle East. The United States is massing troops in the Gulf and has threatened to overthrow Saddam because of his alleged pursuit of weapons of mass destruction.

Earlier this month, Turkish Prime Minister Abdullah Gul visited several regional capitals, including Cairo, in an effort to build consensus for a peaceful end to the stand-off between Washington and Baghdad, which denies charges it is concealing weapons of mass destruction.

Turkish peace activists demonstrate at US embassy

ANKARA, Jan. 17 (Xinhua) — Some 500 peace activists gathered in front of the US Embassy to Turkey here Friday in protest against a possible war on Iraq, reported the Anatolian News Agency.

The protesters, organized by Ankara Anti-War Platform, placed a black wreath before the embassy's compound to show their anger against the United States.

Ender Buyukculha, Human Rights Association Ankara Branch Chairman and

2002

Platform Spokesman, read a letter prepared by non-governmental organizations to be sent to the US embassy.

Buyukculha said that they were uneasily watching the preparations of the American government and other supporter governments to launch operation against Iraq and the Middle East as a whole.

He denounced that the United States had no rightful reason for an operation against Iraq, noting that the American government was a power which had the largest amount of mass destruction weapons and has set up and supported anti-democratic regimes until now.

The peace activists condemn the United States for making efforts to drag Turkey into this humanity crime and exerting its political and economic pressures on Turkey, Buyukculha said.

He stressed that whatever the response of the Turkish government was, the Turkish people would not want war by any means.

Lebanon
sees two
percent
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BEIRUT
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BEIRUT, Jan. 18 (Xinhua) — Lebanese economy grew by 2 percent in 2002, the Finance Ministry said in a statement issued on Saturday.

The statement said most sectors experienced growth last year because of government measures for economic promotion.

The value-added tax, which was implemented in February 2002, generated revenue of more than 600 million US dollars, exceeding the target of 500 million dollars.

million dollars.

The government-brought in revenues of 3.26 billion dollars in 2002 com-

pared to 2.46 billion dollars in 2001, while the expenditure in the same period jumped to 5.2 billion dollars from 4.76 billion dollars.

The monetary situation was also improved dramatically after the Paris II donor conference in November last year, during which Lebanon succeeded in gaining 4.4 billion dollars of soft loan pledged by donor states and institutes.

The gross public debt in 2002 rose by 12.9 percent to 32.17 billion dollars from 28.4 billion dollars in 2001, and the government paid about 3 billion dollars to debt service.

Within one year

Karzai to get Afghan guards

KABUL, Jan 18 (Reuters) - Afghan bodyguards will replace the U.S. security men protecting President Hamid Karzai within a year, an Afghan official said on

Presidential spokesman Sayed Fazl Akbar told Reuters the move would take between six months to a year and that about 150 Afghans would be trained by the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Diplomatic Security.

"A few days ago, 52 bodyguards graduated after two weeks of training," he said.

"This group and other graduates will jointly work with the American bodyguards until the end of the training, after which Karzai will be fully protected by the Afghans.

Karzai, installed in power after a U.S.led coalition ousted the Taliban regime from power in late 2001, has been protected by about 50 members of the State Department's Diplomatic Security Service since November, when they replaced U.S. Special Forces doing the

Dozens of Afghan guards are also in the protection force

Akbar described the replacement of the American bodyguards with Afghans as a planned affair and said it did not imply any change in Washington's support for Karzai's government.

He also said the move was not linked to reports of growing anger among Afghans because of Karzai's protection by U.S.

The 45-year-old western educated Karzai was saved by his U.S. bodyguards when two gunmen opened fire at him last year in the southern city of Kandahar, the main bastion of the Taliban.

Worldwide movement

Thousands in Asia protest against Iraq war

TOKYO, Jan 18 (Reuters) - Thousands of Japanese gathered in central Tokyo on Saturday to oppose a U.S.-led attack on Iraq in one of a series of demonstrations scheduled to take place around the world.

After a concert in a city park, demonstrators took to nearby streets. Some wore traditional costumes, others masks representing U.S. President George W. Bush.

Elsewhere, protesters began gathering in the United States and school children in Pakistan joined a human chain to express their opposition to any war. Protests were also planned in Britain and elsewhere in Europe.

"I cannot forgive (America's) aggressive attitude," Koki Okazaki, a 16-yearold Tokyo demonstrator, said. "It would be an awful thing if Japan were to take part in the war."

Banners carried by Japanese protesters carried slogans such as "Why Iraq?" and "War is not the answer"

One poster depicted Bush as a kimonoclad Japanese warlord, with Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi and British Prime Minister Tony Blair as his retain-

"Is it really all right to follow Bush?" the slogan asked.

Although Japan's pacifist constitution bars it from taking an active part in any military action outside its borders, it is expected to find ways to back its most important ally in the event of an attack.

Police said more than 4,000 protesters turned out in Tokyo.

In the Pakistani city of Rawalpindi, a few thousand people, many of them school children, formed a human chain to condemn a possible attack on Iraq.

"We demand the United States stop acting unilaterally to impose its economic agenda on the world," said Ayesha Amir Ali, a woman participant of the

Pakistan's religious right has staged several anti-U.S. protests in recent weeks, but they have drawn a few thousand people at best.

Anti-war activists gathered in Washington and San Francisco early on Saturday for mass demonstrations asking the White House to back down and let U.N. weapons inspections run their

Organisers said they expected tens of thousands of people to turn out for the largest showing of U.S. anti-war sentiment since Bush began making a case for attacking Baghdad last year.

AMERICAN PEACE MOVEMENT

Organisers say the deployment of U.S. troops to the Gulf, and widespread speculation that a January 27 report by U.N. arms inspectors could serve as a trigger for war, had lit a fire under the American peace movement.

"Bush has said that he intends to launch a pre-emptive war, and now he's facing the most formidable obstacle. which is a pre-emptive anti-war movement," said Washington lawyer Mara Verheyden-Hilliard, a protest organiser.

The Washington rally will feature such speakers as actress Jessica Lange, Vietnam War veteran and "Born on the Fourth of July" author Ron Kovic, and civil rights leader Jesse Jackson.

In San Francisco, actor and activist Martin Sheen was expected to address a rally outside City Hall.

Though U.S. opinion polls have shown broad support for ousting Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, a Pew Research Center survey this week showed that for many, that support would require proof of a threat from Iraq.



Demonstrators protest possible U.S. attack on Iraq in central Tokyo Jan 18. More than 5,000 protesters rallied in the Japanese capital to voice their opposition to any U.S. attack on Iraq in one of the earliest waves of demonstrations set to take place in more than 25 countries around the world. Reuters

One dead in environmental catastrophe

Bush fires rage in Australian capital

Bush fires raged out of control in the Australian capital Canberra on Saturday, killing at least one person and setting as many as 100 homes aflame.

Officials said the entire city, home to 300,000 people, was at risk.

A pall of smoke blocked out the sun for most of the day as fires on five fronts swept into the suburbs. Thousands of people were evacuated and the national parliament was blanketed with ash.

By nightfall, the flames spread to new areas leading to the evacauation of a centre where residents who had fled their homes earlier were being housed.

The Canberra Hospital, about four km (two miles) from the fires, lost power supply. More than 20 people were being treated there for burns and smoke inhalation, while two burn victims were evacuated by air to Sydney, about 300 kms (185 miles) north.

"No area of Canberra is immune from this emergency, everyone should be filling their bath tubs with water in case of spot fires," New South Wales Rural Fire brigade spokesman Cameron Wade told Australian Broadcasting Corp radio.

"It's been pitch black since half-past three... the sky is really red, the only light we've got is from the fires," Sarah Leheny told Reuters from one of 28 suburbs preparing to evacuate.

Fanned by 38 degree Celsius (100 Fahrenheit) heat and high winds, one fire burning in a national park south of the city moved into the capital's west-

Emergency officials confirmed 60 houses had been destroyed by 9 p.m. (1000 GMT), while dozens more continued to burn and thousands of people had been evacuated to five centres.

The Australian Federal Police said one man died of smoke inhalation in the first suburb overtaken by flames.

One of the worst droughts in a century has turned Australia's fire-prone bushland into a tinder box.

In the weeks before Christmas, at least one man died defending his home as fierce fires raged around Sydney, forcing hundreds to evacuate and engulfing at least 20 houses.

On Saturday, the worst fires in 50 years were also sweeping out of control through the Snowy Mountains southwest of Canberra, officials said. The country's main mountain resort of Thredbo had been evacuated.

LOOTING, SUSPICIOUS FIRES

In Canberra, officials declared a state of emergency as smoke blocked out the sun and residents rushed home to hose down roofs and fight dozens of small fires that broke out from falling ash and

The chief minister of the Australian Capital Territory, John Stanhope, said the fires could worsen on Sunday as hot and windy weather was predicted after cooler temperatures overnight.

"At this stage it is not necessarily over. It may be that we have to go through this experience again, perhaps later this evening or tomorrow," he told a late-night news conference.

Emergency officials said a handful of looters were seen scavenging houses in the smoky suburbs, and fire officials were investigating the "suspicious nature" of some of the spot fires.

The sprawling capital has been hit by drought for months, but the speed of the fire's spread took residents by sur-

In many areas, residents were preparing to face the flames alone, as firefighters struggled to keep up with the fire fronts.

"We've closed doors and windows, (we're) filling gutters and getting buckets of water and bathtubs ready," said

While hundreds of foreign diplomats live in Canberra, parliament is not in session and the prime minister and most federal politicians are out of the city for the summer.

In the Snowy Mountains, more than 1,000 people, most of them tourists, were evacuated as blazes closed in on Thredbo, which nestles under Mount Kosciuszko, Australia's highest peak at 2,228 metres (7,310 ft).

"The Snowy Mountains is probably facing its worst threat in half a century," said New South Wales state Rural Fire Service Commissioner Phil

At least 1,000 fire fighters tackling outbreaks across 80,000 hectares (197,700 acres) of the mountains were being pulled back because conditions were too dangerous.

Thredbo is a popular bush walking centre in summer. In winter, snow boarders and skiers flock to its slopes.



A house burns after being engulfed by a bushfire in the Canberra suburb of Duffy Jan 18. Fifty to 100 homes were burning in the Australian capital on Saturday and one person was killed as "firestorm" conditions broke out, pushing forest fires into Canberra suburbs and pouring ash and smoke over parliament.



JOB OPPORTUNITY

Yemen Hunt Oil Company is currently seeking experienced personnel to work on "FSO SAFER". The successful candidate will be required to perform these tasks at the ship on a rotational schedule (28 days on / 28 days off).

Minimum Requirements:

- Must have completed City and Guilds or Equivalent.
- Must have at least 5 years experience on Ships, Shipyards or Stream Plants including boilers steam turbines and crude oil piping and valves.
- Must be able to use workshop tools and equipment (e.g. Lathe and Threading Machines, etc.)
- Must be able to work in a team and alone as instructed by the Supervisor.
- Must be able to work safely as per Work Permit System.
- Must speak and write English.
- Must be physically in a good shape.

Main Responsibilities:

To work on the FSO SAFER to carry out overhauls to pumps (steam or electrical), motorized hydraulic, air or manual operated valves, Steam Turbines, Compressors etc. and to use Lathes to fabricate required spares if needed.

All Candidates must be YEMENI NATIONALS Deadline for the application: January 31, 2003.

If you meet the above requirements, please forward your resume only to:

YEMEN HUNT OIL COMPANY **Attn: Human Resources Manager** P. O. Box 481 \mathbf{Or} Fax: 1-416 898 Sana'a, Republic of Yemen

Please do not phone us. We will call you for an interview if you are a successful candidate.

TIMES

On continuing national crisis

Ivory Coast talks make headway

PARIS (Reuters) - A peace conference aimed at halting the four-month war in Ivory Coast advanced on Friday as delegates said they agreed to review strict citizenship clauses, a major source of grievance in the ethnically diverse country.

But participants said the core issue of early elections demanded by rebel chiefs and opponents of President Laurent Gbagbo would not be tackled until Monday, as a January 24 deadline nears for a peace accord set by talks host and ex-colonial power France.

After reports of clashes in Ivory Coast on Thursday, all sides said calm had returned to the frontline of a war that has killed hundreds in the pivotal West African country after a failed September 19 coup.

In the first sign of progress since talks started near Paris on Wednesday, delegates said they had broadly agreed there was a need to re-examine how to apply existing laws on Ivorian nationality in a country where a quarter of the 16 million population are immigrants.

"Everyone agreed there has been a historic injustice that needs repairing," one delegate from the main rebel group, the Patriotic Movement of Ivory Coast, said of the way that long-standing nationality were currently applied.

"What we have to debate now, is how we do that," added the delegate, saying discussions would continue on Saturday. Other delegates confirmed an "agreement in principle" that the application of nationality laws needed reviewing rather than the laws themselves.

At issue are arrangements such as an identity card scheme launched last



A rebel soldier from the Movement for Justice and Peace mans a check point in Facobli near Man, in the western portion of the Ivory Coast Jan 17, behind a portrait of the Ivorian's first president Felix Houphouet Boigny. France played down fresh violence in Ivory Coast but warned warring factions not to endanger peace talks it is hosting in the hope of ending a bloody four-month conflict.

year that Gbagbo's opponents say make second-class citizens of those people who have opted for Ivorian nationality rather than those who have it automatically through blood lineage. The largely bloodline-based nationality clauses have been used to disqualify politicians including exiled ex-Prime Minister Alassane Ouattara, who is excluded from presidential and parliamentary elections on court rulings that his roots lie in Burkina Faso. FRANCE MAINTAINS THE PRESSURE

Ten delegations representing

Gbagbo's ruling party, opposition parties and rebel groups disputing his election in 2000 are taking part in a scheduled nine days of talks at France's National Rugby Center on a country estate south of Paris.

France, which holds sway not least because its 2,500 troops on the ground are vital in containing the conflict, has urged the delegates to produce an accord in time for a January 25-26 summit of African leaders.

The conflict in the world's largest cocoa producer is seen as threatening the stability of the entire West African region if unchecked. France is also keen to protect some 20,000 expatriates living there and safeguard substantial commercial interests.

"We know there is a Paris 1. There won't be a Paris 2," noted one diplomatic source, using the nickname adopted for the negotiations.

Yet progress on nationality, while a core issue, would not be enough in itself to secure an accord.

Rebels demanded before the talks that Gbagbo must step down and insisted early polls were the only way to end the war.

Gbagbo, not due himself to attend the negotiations, has rejected such demands, although he has acknowledged the shape of his government will have to change following any peace deal and before new elections scheduled for 2005.

"We haven't touched yet on the truly political issues," said one delegate, citing the calls for early elections and Gbagbo's own demand that the insurgents immediately disarm.

"They are the really tough political issues we shall get stuck into on Monday," the source added.

Iranians wanted talks with U.S

Iranian reformist released on bail

TEHRAN, Jan 18 (Reuters) - Iran's hardline judiciary has freed on bail a prominent reformist pollster jailed after publishing a survey which showed most Iranians wanted talks with arch-foe the United States, his lawyer said on Saturday.

Behrouz Geranpayeh, head of the Research Institute of Public Opinion, was arrested after the release of a survey in September which showed three-quarters of Iranians favoured the country resuming talks with Washington.

"He was released on 1.3 billion rials (\$162,500) bail on Wednesday," his lawyer Ramazan Haji-Mashhadi told Reuters by telephone.

"He will remain free until the court issues the final ruling for him." He gave no further details.

Geranpayeh went on trial in December on charges of acting against national security and selling classified information to foreign nationals.

The trial marked a new battle-ground between reformists allied to moderate President Mohammad Khatami and powerful conservatives who have blocked his attempts to create more democratic and open government in the Islamic Republic. Two other pollsters from another polling centre, Ayandeh, are still in custody on charges of selling information to U.S.-based polling company Gallup and carrying out secret meetings with foreign diplomats.

Charges rejected

Khatami's government has rejected the charges against the pollsters, arguing that their polling companies were legitimate and their activities had been cleared by the intelligence and foreign ministries.

Analysts had expected the pollsters' trial, which has enveloped some of Khatami's closest allies, to produce courtroom drama with the defendants vigorously denying the charges.

But to the surprise of many, the pollsters have largely apologised for their actions, while insisting they had not broken any law.

Washington broke ties with Iran after radical students stormed the U.S. embassy in Tehran in 1979 and held dozens of diplomats hostage for 444 days.

Any suggestion of talks with Washington is highly sensitive in Iran, but some reformists have recently broken the taboo by saying improving ties is better than being the next target of Washington which has branded Iran part of an "axis of evil" with Iraq and North Korea.

Kuwait arrests man accused of spying for Iraq

KUWAIT, Jan 18 (Reuters) - A Kuwaiti man has been arrested on suspicion of spying for Iraq, a Kuwaiti Interior Ministry official said on Saturday, in the latest incident to inflame tension between the two Gulf War foes.

The Interior Ministry said Mohammad Hamad Fahd al-Juway'id, a 40-year-old sergeant in Kuwait's National Guard, had monitored the movements of senior Kuwaiti officials and given Iraq secret security information which could aid terrorist attacks.

"Undoubtedly this criminal act will be punishable after reference of the detainee to the competent authorities according to standing regulations and laws," a ministry statement said.

Kuwaiti officials have said they believe Iraqi spies and sleeper cells are active in the country. Iraq invaded Kuwait in 1990 and occupied the country for seven months before being driven out by U.S.-led forces in Operation Desert Storm.

With Iraq facing another U.S.led attack unless it proves it has disarmed weapons of mass destruction, Kuwait has stepped up security and told citizens to be vigilant. Kuwait said in November it

had broken up a cell linked to Osama bin Laden's al Qaeda network. Officials said the cell had been planning a car bomb attack on a hotel in Yemen.

Four people were arrested and a court is due to issue its verdict on them on February 3.

Kuwait is a key ally of Washington in the region and is likely to be the main launch pad for any land attack on Iraq. More than 15,000 U.S. troops are in the country and more are arriving every week as the U.S. military buildup gathers pace.

Some Kuwaitis are concerned by the heavy U.S. presence in their country, and analysts say there is growing anti-American feeling, particularly over U.S. policy towards Israel. U.S. troops in the country have been the target of sporadic attacks.

In November, a Kuwaiti policeman shot and seriously wounded two U.S. soldiers on a highway south of Kuwait City, and the previous month two Kuwaitis attacked U.S. Marines, killing one.

Miss World violence

Journalist says she's been used as 'scapegoat'

LONDON, Jan 18 (Reuters) The journalist whose article on last
year's Miss World pageant sparked
deadly riots in Nigeria said on
Saturday she was being used as a
scapegoat for sectarian violence
which killed 200 people.

"Politicians are blaming me instead of asking themselves why do we have this anger that is so easy to set alight," Isioma Daniel told Britain's BBC radio in an interview.

The 21-year-old incensed Muslims in November by writing in ThisDay newspaper that the Prophet Mohammad would have approved of Miss World and might have taken

LONDON, Jan 18 (Reuters) - one of the beauty queens as his bride. something and you immediately journalist whose article on last Muslim-Christian riots broke out think it gives you the right to go out

in the northen city of Kaduna. Daniel said she was wracked with guilt at first but came to the conclusion she was not alone to blame for the deaths.

"When the riots started I was still

in Nigeria and I was very upset, I felt bad, I felt very guilty because something I'd written was causing all this havoc. But my guilt sort of went away," Daniel said.

"Eventually I thought to myself, this is ridiculous, they're taking this thing overboard," she said. "There's no reason why someone should write think it gives you the right to go out and kill innocent people."
"Unfortunately I gave them that excuse," she said. "No matter what I wrote, they can't say they have the moral upper ground if they go out and start killing innocent people. They are more in the wrong than I was."

Daniel fled Nigeria after the conservative Zamfara state issued a fatwa, an Islamic legal ruling, calling on Muslims to kill her.

Asked what her future plans were, Daniel said she hoped some day to be able to put the nightmare behind her.

Prince denies it

Saudi pushing for coup?

RIYADH, Jan 18 (Reuters) - Saudi Arabia's intelligence chief denied on Saturday reports that his country had proposed an amnesty for Iraqi generals close to President Saddam Hussein to encourage a coup against

"This talk is totally baseless. The kingdom would not interfere in the internal affairs of Iraq and has no contacts with Iraqis inside or outside," Prince Nawaf bin Abdul-Aziz told the daily Okaz newspaper.

He was denying media reports that the oil-rich kingdom had proposed a plan requiring a U.N. Security Council resolution declaring an amnesty to all but the most prominent Iraqi officials.

A senior Gulf diplomat with close contacts with Saudi rulers said on Thursday the idea would be to

encourage a last-minute coup against Saddam and avert war.

The Saudi proposal was first reported on Thursday by Time magazine on its Web site, www.time.com. Time said the suggested U.N. resolution would offer amnesty to all but 100 to 120 of the top brass in Iraq.

The United States is massing troops around Iraq and has threatened to overthrow Saddam by force if he does not comply with a November U.N. resolution demanding he give up any nuclear, chemical or biological weapons Iraq may have.

The Gulf diplomat said the Saudis would promote their idea next week at a summit meeting in Turkey, where the leaders of Egypt, Iran, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Syria and Turkey are expected to discuss ways of averting a U.S. attack.

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The World Bank's overview

Yemen's last quarter suffers

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

he World Bank has given its latest quarterly update on highlighting major economic and policy developments in Yemen. Following is its first part

(i) Key Policy Developments:

Following the successful conclusion of the Consultative Group Meeting for Yemen in Paris last October, government policy efforts focused on preparations of the 2003 budget (the first after the preparation of the Poverty Reduction Strategy-PRSP), expediting accession to the WTO, voter registration and preparations for the April 2003 elections, tackling the adverse effects of the attack on the French oil tanker, and enhancing domestic securi-

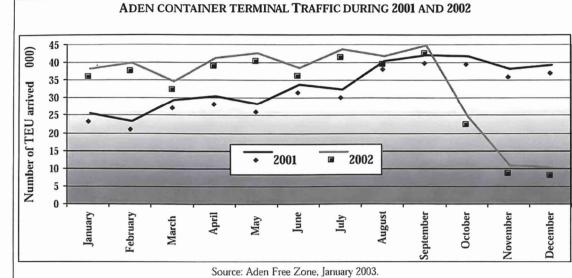
After the approval of a budgetary supplement for 2002 by the Parliament and the President, the Parliament's Budget Committee had extensive discussions of the 2003 budget and the Parliament endorsed the budget in the last day of the year. In October 2002, Yemen submitted its Memorandum on Foreign Trade Regime (MFTR) to the WTO, which is an important step in the country's effort to join the WTO. Voter registration was completed without major difficulties in the last quarter of 2002.

The Supreme Elections Committee confirmed that 8.1 million citizens had registered (42% females) and that it has made good progress in electronic recording (computerization) of the voter names and by the end of the year more than 5 million voters were entered and verified. The whole process is expected to be completed by the end of January 2003.

Government efforts to enhance domestic security increased following the attack on the French oil tanker "Limburg" in October and the shooting on a helicopter operated by the Hunt Oil Company in November. In collaboration with the US government, six terrorist suspects were killed in Marib Governorate

However, the tragic incidents of assassination of the Assistant Secretary-General of Yemen's Socialist Party (YSP), Mr. Jar Allah Omer, and the killing of three American physicians in Jibla Hospital, Ibb Governorate, overshadowed political debate.

The acts were widely denounced by all political parties. President Saleh strongly condemned both attacks and affirmed Yemen's strong resolve to eradicate terrorism and to enhance domestic security given the very adverse repercussions of terrorism on the Yemeni economy during the last four years.



The mechanism for implementation, monitoring and follow-up of the PRSP was established by the Cabinet decree No. 294/2002. It set up a ministerial committee, chaired by the Deputy Premier, to oversee the execution of the PRSP. A Technical Committee, chaired by Vice-Minister of Planning will monitor the implementation of the strategy. Finally, a Technical Unit for Poverty Monitoring will also be formed in the Ministry of Planning and Development.

(ii) Economic Developments:

A budgetary supplement of YR 100.9 billion for the 2002 budget was authorized by a presidential decree (No. 47/2002). About YR 59.3 billion of the allocation was earmarked for current spending, YR 17.3 billion for unclassified spending and YR 40.5 billion for capital and investment spend-

The decree emphasized the budgetary supplement should not add to the deficit already approved for the year and is to be financed from additional revenues which accrued in the course of 2002.

The Cabinet and Parliament approved the general budget for the year 2003 in November and December respectively. Total revenues have been estimated at YR 604 billion (including grants, aid, and capital revenues) in comparison with YR 482 billion in 2002. Total projected fiscal spending in 2003 totaled YR 668 billion, in comparison with YR 531 billion in 2002. Significant increases in the allocation for investment spending and maintenance are the major features of the 2003 budget. Total projected fiscal deficit is YR 64 billion (3.9% of GDP).

In its continuous efforts to pursue administrative and civil service modernization, the Cabinet endorsed in November 2002 the proposal to rationalize and reduce the number of Higher Supreme Councils from 24 to 4. The newly proposed councils include: (i)

the Higher Council for Economic Development; (ii) the Higher Council for Social Development; (iii) the Higher Council for Education, and; (iv) the Higher Council for Administrative Development. The Cabinet set up an ad hoc committee headed by the Prime Minister and the Minister of Finance to prepare the regulations for these councils.

The Cabinet announced its decision to sell the Public Transportation Corporation to the private sector in a bid to expand the implementation of the privatization program. The privatization will take place through a public auction. The Cabinet transferred financial and accounting irregularities committed in the Corporation to the Central Organization for Control and Audit (COCA) to take the necessary

Economic growth in 2002 is expected to be higher than the 3.3% achieved in the previous year. The 2003 budget document states that GDP growth in 2002 is estimated at 4.2%, and projects the same level in 2003. Other macroeconomic indicators projected in the budget documents include unemployment, which is forecast to fall slightly from 11.4% in 2002 to 11% in 2003. Interest rates remained virtually unchanged for more than a year and the exchange rate continued its gradual depreciation (4.2% in 2002).

Monetary policy eased in the second half of 2002 and monetary aggregates (broad and narrow money) increased rapidly during this period. The rate of growth of broad money has been above 20% in the period July-November 2002 (year-on-year). For the whole year, M2 is projected to increase by about 16% as targeted by the Central Bank of Yemen. Inflation rates, however, started to decline in the last quarter of 2002. For the whole year, average inflation rate is projected to increase slightly to 16% up from 11.9% in 2001.

It is projected by the government to

stabilize at about 7% in 2003 (see Flash Indicators). Moreover, the favorable oil prices and rise in oil production have led to a significant increase in foreign exchange reserves to about US\$ 4.2 billion at end-November 2002 (covering about a year and half of imports).

Other Economic News

· About 622 container carriers arrived in Aden Container Terminal during January-October 2002, and the total number of containers unloaded in the port of Aden reached 381,599.

• Export revenues (in Yemeni Rials) increased by 56% in January-October 2002 mainly from exports of cotton, honey and vegetables and fruit.

· Initial estimates of the damage and economic losses incurred by Yemen from the explosion of the French oil tanker "Limburg" in last October put total costs of about US\$ 25 million. The major losses stem from (i) raising of insurance premiums for ships visiting Yemen which forced two international shipping companies to wind up their activities in Yemen; (ii) largescale losses sustained by local fishermen who used to produce annually about 18 million kg of fish; (iii) negative impact on coastal and natural resources of algae, coral reefs, and maritime plants; and (iv) pollution of the beaches. Resulting pollution has covered 130 km in the direction of Bir Ali. The cost of cleaning and rehabilitation of the shores is estimated at US\$ 700,000 in addition to US\$ 300,000 needed for equipment purchases and technical expertise.

· The Hood Oil Investment is considering building a US\$ 235 million oil refinery in Ras Essa in Al-Hodeidah governorate. The refinery is expected to process 45,000 barrels of crude oil per day from the Hunt Oil concession in Marib and Jannah Hunt Oil concession in Marib and Shabwah.

• TransGlobe Energy Corporation announced a successful digging of a discovery well at Tasour 7 (Block 3) in Hadhramout.

Development in the Aden Container Termainl after the explosion of the Limburg tanker

The facility of Aden Container Terminal (ACT) was inaugurated in March 1999. It is co-operated by the Port of Singapore Authority and Aden Free Zone. The annual handling capacity of ACT is 500,000 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEUs). The ACT handled a total of 80,000 TEUs in 1999 and about 248,000 TEUs in 2000.

In 2001, the handing ability of ACT increased by more than 52% (reaching 377,000 TEUs). The remarkable increase in activities in 2000 and 2001 improved the competitiveness of Aden in comparison with other regional ports such as Salalah in Oman and Jebel Ali in the UAE. In 2001, Salalah handled TEUs 1.1 million while Jebel Ali port handled TEUs 3.5 million. The closer location of Aden from the main shipping routes between Europe and Asia, the ACT has a great advantage over other ports. Security concerns about Yemeni ports, however, hinder ACT's ability to attract more customers during the last two years. The attack on the USS Cole and the recent explosion of the Limburg French oil tanker greatly impact traffic in the Aden port.

By the end of December 2002, the number of TEUs handled by ACT was 383,355 representing a 1.6% increase over handling in 2001. Furthermore, handling plummeted considerably after the attack on Limburg on 6 October 2002. The number of TEUs handled declined by 81% from 42,502 TEUs in September 2002 to only 8,064 in December 2002. Before the incidence, performance of ACT was on an increasing trend. During the first nine months of 2002, handling activities were more than 30% higher over the same period in 2001.

In addition to increasing security concerns about safety in the Yemeni ports, the incident also led to a sharp increase in the insurance premiums for any ship loading to Yemen. Since October 2002, the Government of Yemen (GoY) increased its effort towards improving security in the ports. It established a committee chaired by Deputy Primer and Minister of Finance to study the impact of the increases of insurance rates upon ships loading to Yemeni ports and to recommend mitigation measures. The Cabinet approved a draft law on January 7 th 2003 containing a number of measures to reduce insurance costs. In addition, security in the Yemeni ports has increased markedly and efforts are underway to strengthen the coastal guards.

The Road Ahead

Building good reputations

By RAIDAN A. AL-SAQQAF r_saggaf@hotmail.com

always make it a point to ensure the satisfaction of the other party they do business with? They know that every deal they close and every business transaction they make involves more than profits and growth, it involves reputation. And that reputation will help the business organization get

hy do businessmen

nore business in the future. In other words if you want to maintain your customers and make new ones you have to build and maintain a strong reputation about your business and your servces. Nowadays the competition has gone beyond the market to the minds and perceptions of the customers, because they associate themselves with those business firms that have a good reputation.

No doubt, businesses, in order to survive and thrive, have to build a strong reputation. This requires four main steps Demonstrating skills, adhering to a high standard of behavior, caring about others and knowing the organizational purpose and mission.

Demonstrating skills involves showing excellent technical skills and expanding the organization's capabilities continuously. For example many automobile importers in Yemen import the technology but they do not have the skills and capacity to maintain it, which has resulted in a bad reputation for their after-sales

Also working hard is critical for building a reputation. Communicating that you work hard to your customers has a great effect on your reputation. But be careful that you don't blow your horn too much nor work in the dark.

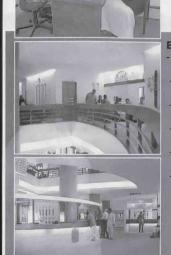
Adhering to a high standard in behavior means professionalism. That includes neat presentation of ideas, good time management, proper communication with your customers, handling responsibilities efficiently and effectively and more. In other words when you do something, do it right and give it the best that you can in order to ensure professional-

Caring about others includes excellent people management. People include everybody from employees, suppliers, distributors and customers to everyone that the business interacts with. It also involves making people like you. That can be through listening to their problems and willingness to walk that extra mile for them. Make it a point to be friendly with every body because that somebody will help in building a good reputation for you today and might as well bring you big business in the future.

Knowing your purpose is of great importance because everything else is just an activity or a short term goal that are set in order to be in support of the broad purpose or mission. Because it is your purpose which will make your

Remember: Combining high standards of professional behavior with a caring attitude towards people and business will make your contributions to them more visible and that will in turn build a good reputation for the business.

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Words of Wisdom



A person with integrity would have a minimum level of conscience to guide him/her out of activities that inflict damage to others, let alone to society at large. Therefore, the fact that many highly educated Yemenis end up as corrupt parasites who are responsible for much of the suffering of the people proves that a high level educational certificate is not enough.

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



OUR OPINION

Another noble man dies

ust a few weeks after the death of Jarallah Omer, the second most powerful man in the Yemeni Socialist Party (YSP), we are now shocked with the news of the death of yet another honorable person who has contributed greatly to Yemen in all forms.

That person is Brigadier Yahya Al-Mutawakkil. Despite his might and strength as a key figure in the country's ruling party, he was known as a humble man with balanced views in politics. He was a man of principles and would agree with those who opposed him if he knew their view was right. Unlike many powerful politicians today, he was flexible and would listen to other opinions.

We as Yemenis will miss him very much as he was able to gain the respect and admiration of many people of various political, social, and ethnic groups of the community.

Al-Mutawakkil knew that we are in an era that requires more tolerance and understanding of various opinions presented, no matter how extreme they can be. We cannot and should not reject another simply because of his or her opinions. Rather, we should try to find common ground.

This was the ideology of the man who was once described by one of his closest friends as "a man of balance and wisdom." He along with Dr. Abdulkareem al-Iryani have been the driving forces and dynamos of the ruling party. Now the GPC will need to find alternatives and raise a young generation that can help promote its 'balanced' ideas even more.

It's no doubt that the demise of al-Mutawakkil is not only a loss for the GPC but it is also a loss for all Yemenis alike. He was an understanding man for all Yemenis from different political groups and affiliations.

Let us all pray for God to give his soul rest in heaven, along with martyr Jarallah Omer who will also live in our memories for years to come.

The Editor



Independent Cultural, Economic & Political Weekly First English Newspaper in Yemen, founded in 1991 by Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf

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TIMES

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Is the media responsible?



By Dr. ABDULLAH AL-ZALAB Dean of Mass Media Training and Qualifying Institute

he so-called US-led war on terror has affected media all over the world and Yemen's media - both official and non-official, has not been an exception.

Rather, it has been used as a tool for an emotional mobilization against US policies towards Arabs. This has nothing to do with press professionalism.

Material of the radio and TV stations as well as the printed press have played the same role as that of the mosque preachers in mobilizing public antagonism against the US and its policies. They do not differentiate between the government and the people. They all wish an end to the US people despite their religion and political stands.

This irrational, biased and opportunist speech has raised hostility and antagonized the Yemeni public opinion against US policy in the region. As a result, it has produced some Yemeni extremists and fanatics who are hostile to anything related to the US.

The outcome is Jibla's heinous crime

against the US aid workers as well as the assassination of Jarallah Omar, one of the most outstanding and liberal politicians in the country. What a pity.

If we look at the target of such terrorist operations, we will be able to recognize we/are facing an organized crime that wants to target the whole society and its interests and stability. Regardless of the real motives of the perpetrators, we can not escape blaming media and its operators who should be held accountable for this mistaken mobilization of youngsters.

Why target a prominent leader in the socialist party while opening the Islah's conference despite the close contact of the two parties? And why only Jarallah, who fought during his life for tolerance, anti-terrorism, and dialogue between all people of different thoughts and ideas?

Why the US doctors? Is it because of being Americans? Or is it because they have taken the trouble of coming to Yemen to help its impoverished and needy people? Is this the way we pay them back? How shall we meet the world with such a disgusting behavior?

How should we ask the US people to stand by us and pressure their government to stop siding with Israel and supporting it? The first loser in such a battle is Yemen and Islam as a religion.

Yemen which is the country of wisdom and faith will shown in the international media and in this critical time in particular as a heaven for terrorism and fanaticism. The anti-Islam forces will use such incidents to continue tarnishing the image of Islam which is actually a religion of peace, tolerance and balance. Islam abhors and denounces killing, considering it a

Like all other Arab countries, Yemen is passing through a very critical situation, necessitating that all media people, mosque preachers, politicians, and opinion makers should be cautious and rational in addressing the public. They should prioritize the interests of the country and its future, leaving behind their own interests.

They should understand well that a word said in any occasion can be of very devastating consequences to all. It is very influential.

In such exceptional period of time, we should all join hands to fight against terrorism. This responsibility is not restricted to security men or government officials, but it is the business of all of us. Therefore, we must not deal with it indifferently or keep watching only. Rather, we should all denounce terrorism and declare that it has no place in our country.

Respect half-breeds who are. . .

Born with a country

TEWFICK AABDULAH ALI MOHADI E-mail:tomyunion@yahoo.com

ong a go, our grandfathers and grandmothers traveled thousands of miles away from their villages and bore our fathers in the societies where they settled.

At those times there were no political boundaries between nations as the situation is nowadays, no strict immigration policy, and no need to pass through the sophisticated asylum status procedures. Our fathers brought us to life through our indigenous mothers who are totally foreigners. Both societies, the one to which our fathers belong and the one our mothers do, called us later, "halfbreeds" (Muwallad). I don't know if it is a biological name.

Left alone

Today, in the time of globalization, when the whole world is considered as one village, we the half-cast community, are facing a lot of problems to have an ID card, passport, and a peaceful environment in our job areas. Just because we are born of two different societies, we are left alone to face a helpless long bureaucracy. I only believe, Allah is too right, when He creates us that way. He has always the best reasons before He does something comes to being.

We, the people who travel from mother's country to father's country, we know in heart, the breathless process to have a lesypassé (Murruor) in the embassy of Yemen accredited in any foreign countries.

After we arrived here, the second long bureaucracy procedure will start all over again. We are questioned a lot of things, which is totally beyond our power. Sometimes, they need us to deliver the former old passport, which the Yemen Embassy in mother's country retained in return of the lesypassé. Here at the immigration authority, the staff and the supervisors precisely know that, Arabic is not our mother tongue, but they need us to learn it and speak it over night.

In the Immigration Authority, most are good, flexible, experienced, understanding and tolerant people. But some are still untouchable. The only word they know is the word " No!

They are all checking exhaustively and repetitively the documents provided by the half-breed applicants before they issue the passport. Literally they check our papers several times again and again and even again. They are even hesitating their own handwriting and may cancel all of a sudden what they did minutes ago. Nothing is believed till you have your passport in your hand and walk away from the yard. While you are walking to the gateway, a policeman may call you from behind and say to you "return the passport your document is unfit!

We know the bottom line of all this is, about surveillance, the security concern. The government may plan to identify and filter those, who are seeking for getting a passport while they are not Yemenis. It is something good to brush our foreign policies in this regard. I appreciate the Ali Abdulah administration that he is working hard on blocking the access to the wrong people to possess a Yemeni passport.

To keep the image of Yemen in the outside world, this is a conditional policy undertaken by the president current-

Where do we belong?

The policy is good, as long as we are all working for prosperous Yemen. But, in the name of security concern, the fate of the half-breed community may be marginalized whenever bad situations after bad situations occur.

I would like to say something important to the Yemen congress: " if we, the Yemeni half-breed community, are not given a citizenship in the countries of our mother's, and if we are still feeling small in our father's country to apply for passport, do you mean that, we are the people, who are born without a country?"

We are hearing from the public

rumors that, it is still the president who is fighting for our right. Leave alone our bloodlines, we are contributing a lot to the Yemen economy. Today, even the EU- member states are giving international protection, work permits, residency permits and then an international passport to emigrants who are flowing like a river in to their countries in a dynamic basis.

We are not emigrants. It is your own people who migrated and brought us to life in the courses of their travels. We are rather re-settlers. Yemen is your country and our country.

We need to develop the nature of globalization with other societies for our own economic benefit. And we need to accept the nature of resettlement to our own blood. The Jewish people are collecting individuals from the entire world whenever they get a sort of legend history related with them. Americans give citizenship in a Diversity Visa.

Speaking about the president

Yemen is an Arab and a Muslim nation. Under Ali Abdullah leadership, we respect our neighbors, we work with the international community and we develop the trend of the import / export, to possess the benefit of positive trade

The president's economic reform is motivating privatization and investment and that has been showing a good result bit by bit. He believes in free economy and he complies with the culture of globalization, he is holding and caring the entire society according to its culture and needs. He is a popular leader due to this very nature of his. Without any exaggeration, we are proud of his leadership! He is both modern and traditionalist! And that, it has to be.

We hope, the Yemen half-caste society will be getting a better treatment in any governmental institutions and will have a chance to contribute to the country's economy flexibly.

A man without a country is bad, but it is worse when a country is left out without its own people.

COMMON SENSE By Hassan Al-Haifi

Yahya Al-Mutawakkil:

A different breed of man

n the space of a month. Yemen has lost two great national heroes, leaving a great void in the hopes of many Yemenis yearning for a change for the better, Yemenis saw in these two men, first Jarullah Omer and now the incomparable Yahya Al-Mutawakkil, their work in government for justice and fair play.

Though Yahya Al-Mutawakkil was one of those political and military personalities that never sought the limelight, his deeds are written all over the faces of the hundreds of thousands who gathered on Zubeiri Road to get a last glimpse of the man, who was to them the true symbol of heroism and chivalry and humility that they wished to see in every political figure of stature. Amidst all the corruption and injustice that has fallen on Yemen all these sad years of oppression and foreign intervention in the affairs of Yemen, Yahya Al-Mutawakkil stood out among all the great national leaders for his uncompromising patriotism and defense of civil liberties and human rights. He promoted equitable enforcement of the law when all the others shied away from standing up for the rights of the people out of fear for their safety, or out of fear of loosing their place among the elite. Yahya Al-Mutawakkil was not only a member of the elite, but in fact was the elite, as it should be in all its manifestations.

What can one recall about this phenomenal personality in the Yemeni political environment? The truth of the matter is that no one can come up with enough words to pay tribute to such an outstanding character, of impeccable cleanliness. He was courageous. But then this courage takes its significance not just on the battlefields of the struggle for national liberation and freedom from the oppressive regimes that prevailed in this homeland of ours, but in the political arena as a minister of many portfolios that involved the security and well-being of the people of Yemen. Time and again did Yahya speak out against all the officials who exceeded the limits of their authorities at the expense of public interest. Time and again did Yahya Al-Mutawakkil insist that the law should first be enforced against all those people in the political and social elite who roamed around the country with armed guards protecting them left and right against enemies they themselves created by their own selfish ambitions and greed. Yet, even those devious elite could not help but remember that to them Yahya Al-Mutawakkil was a man they should listen to and understand, because he was a man who spoke with reasonable justifications for all his wisdom. Furthermore, his behavior and conduct was a full reflection of the principles he lived by and advocated for with all his military and later political might.

He was a man of war and a man of peace. In fact Mr. Muhsin Al-Ainy could find no other person in Yemen to go with him to Saudi Arabia in 1970 and work out a settlement of the civil war that broke the back of Yemen for eight years prior to that, except the late Yahya Al-Mutawakkil, who revealed his astute political and diplomatic at that early period of his diplomatic career, after having proven himself a legendary hero in the battlefield for safeguarding Yemen.

But then, despite all this glorious military and diplomatic record, Yahya Al-Mutawakkil will always be remembered for his mild manners and humility where he could be seen talking with people at every level of societv with the same tone and modesty. He never tried to offend anyone. Even when the political and sometimes military atmosphere was tense and shaky, Yahya Al-Mutawakkil was able to soften the climate and bring feuding factions closer to compromise, even if it meant that he would have to end up forfeiting some of his own personal stature.

For Yahva Al-Mutawakkil, Yemen stood above all per sonal ambitions. For Yahya Al-Mutawakkil, the people of Yemen always deserved more than all the misery and plight that they have been subjected to. Yahya Al-Mutawakkil was sought after by all the regimes that prevailed in Yemen, because he provided that cushion of safety, these regimes needed, especially when the odds began to turn against them. President Ali Abdullah Saleh was the first to realize the grave tragedy that befell Yemen at the untimely loss of this great hero of the Yemeni nationalist movement, when he ordered that Yemen's grief should be a reflection of his own personal sadness at the loss of such a great man. In fact to all Yemenis, the loss of Yahya Al-Mutawakkil could never be compensated for. The grief will hang all over Yemen for years to come.

Cetters to the Editor

A message to Yemenis s the Bush administra-Ation continues its tragic march towards war on Iraq, I want to express my sorrow

and apologies at the behav-

ior of my government. I don't want war. Many, many people I know don't want war. Even the CIA thinks it's a bad idea, and still the US government con-

tinues with its plans. If I, as part of the anti-war movement, fail to stop this war from happening, please accept my most heartfelt apologies, and know that I

will continue to work to try to end the violence as quickly as possible. I wish you nothing but love, joy, and

Kathryn Blume kablume@mindspring.com

The killed **American Baptists**

he Baptist medical mis-■ sionaries killed Yemen were always very practical people. If you were going to be around for a while, they would want to know your blood type and what you wanted them to do Letters to the Editor

For Dr Martha Myers and Bill Koehn it was to join two other American doctors who came to Yemen in 1947 and never left. Their tragic deaths are a reminder that the war for peace also has its casualties.

Humanitarian workers and missionaries have always been safe in Yemen. They have been afforded the protection and sponsorship of the government. More importantly they have been given the protection of the local tribes and the people they serve.

But the tribal code that would normally protect them from harm does not apply in this new Islamic radicalism. It is in a sense a breakdown of Yemeni culture and a dishonor on the tribe of Jibla.

The missionaries in Yemen were aware of the dangers but decided to stay because of their devotion to the people of Yemen. The remaining missionaries in Yemen have not evacuated and I suspect they would not want to abandon their

Letters to the Editor

friends buried on the hillside of Jibla. Peace has a price and it is

called love. Thomas Richard vze4twpd@verizon.net

Good fight

You are to be commend-ed for fighting the 'good fight.' It must be difficult to see what could be possible if your countrymen would unite to produce a better Yemen. But like here in the US, the lawyers seem to be standing in your way. Do not give up. Reach the

common people of your country and educate them so that they will not be swayed by smooth talking politicians. If you can show them that you are the voice of reason, they will look to you for leadership and lend their support to the right side of your country's issues. The loss of your friend must have been devastating to you. It is my hope that his assassination will not be the end of his heroic struggle for his people.

Gary B. GaryB67350@aol.com

Bush eyes Iraq, but . . .

North Korea gets in way

By LINDA S. HEARD THE GULF NEWS

recent political cartoon in a British tabloid depicted Saddam Hussain at his desk, newspaper in hand. He tells an aide that he would hate to be in the shoes of George W. Bush. Wouldn't we all?

Just when the self-styled leader of the free world thought he had the "attack Iraq" scenario all worked out, and had positioned most of his troops, weaponry, planes and warships in theatre, North Korea pops up from relative obscurity to ruin the best laid plans of the president's

After all, wouldn't it be absurd for someone to wave aside a powerful and bellicose enemy at the front door (in this case North Korea), while cleaning his shotgun to finish off a poorer, weaker neighbour, who doesn't want to fight - Iraq?

"Evil"

Let's face it, the North Korean leader's timing couldn't be worse from Bush's point of view. How inconsiderate of President Kim Jong-il to announce that not only does he have a secret nuclear programme. He also has the nerve to expel IAEA inspectors, pull out of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty and now we learn that he intends to resume the testing of his long-range missiles.

Some U.S. detractors might be tempted to lay the blame for the North Korean action at the feet of Washington. Not only did the U.S. renege on its 1994 agreement with North Korea to build two light water reactors, Bush derided the South Korean president's "Sunshine Policy" soon after taking office before labelling North Korea

America's confiscation, albeit temporary, of a North Korean vessel carrying a legitimate missile shipment to Yemen was construed by Pyongyang as a hostile act too, as was Defence Secretary Donald

reparations for the United

States' planned military oper-

ation against Iraq are moving

full-speed ahead. It seems

that unless something hap-

pens to reduce the tension between the

United States and Iraq, there will be war

Inevitably, that war will cost the lives

of tens of thousands of people in the

Middle East, including innocent civil-

ians. Many soldiers from the U.S and

Iraq armies will be killed, and their fam-

will also be brought on the economies of

the countries in the region. Poverty and

all the difficulties that stem from it will

There is no doubt that the prevention

of this approaching disaster is the hope

and desire of every person of good con-

science. In fact, many individuals and

civil society organizations all over the

world are today saying "No to war" and

encouraging their own governments to

take initiatives to prevent such a clash.

A wide community of opinion shapers

within the United states maintain that

the problem needs to be resolved by

to be backed up by a concrete solution.

Let us first briefly look to how we can

First, it is clear that following the

September 11 terrorist attacks, the

United States entered a state of alarm,

declared war on terrorism and those

administrations it perceived as being

connected to it, and is totally deter-

Second, after the Taliban regime in

Afghanistan, the main target in this war

was set out as Saddam Hussein's regime

in Iraq. Even if there is room for debate

whether Saddam Hussein really has

built nuclear or chemical weapons that

regime is now firmly on the U.S admin-

Yet all these demands for peace need

Unless war is prevented, great harm

By HARUN YAHYA

in the Middle East.

ilies will suffer terribly.

increase.

peaceful means.

find find such a solution.

mined on the issue.

Rumsfeld's boast that the U.S. was capable of waging war on two fronts simultaneous-

Bad relationship

Since the North Korean admission, the White House has refused dialogue with Pyongyang and stopped much-needed fuel shipments. Such is North Korea's mistrust of the Bush administration it resorted to sending a delegation to meet with Bill Richardson, a veteran of the Clinton administration, who is now New Mexico's governor, to discuss the worsening North Korean/U.S. relationship.

Richardson holds no portfolio for such discussions and isn't a member of the Bush team but North Korea has dealt with him before and has now asked for his help to avert a looming global disaster. Richardson said the talks were positive and he had been assured that the North Koreans have no intention of manufacturing nuclear weapons.

Richardson's statement doesn't exactly gel with the rhetoric from various North Korean leaders talking to an anti-American rally of more than one million on Saturday. They said that if any country violated the sovereignty of North Korea, the North would seek "revenge with

Earlier the North Koreans had said that if the UN were to impose sanctions on their country they would consider this action a "declaration of war". North Korea's neighbours Japan and the South are not amused.

Head of the United Nation's team of weapons inspectors Dr. Hans Blix and his colleague Mohamed El Baradei of the IAEA would no doubt be perceived by Bush as having let down the White House side too. Their band of seekers and peepers have visited more than 200 sensitive sites many of which were designated sure certes to harbour weapons of mass destruction by the American and British intelligence communities. What did they find? Nothing at

istration's black list, and it does not

Third, unless there is a radical change

in the present situation, the United

States will strike at Iraq. The decision

that the United States has gone on the

offensive against Saddam Hussein's

regime in that country. As President

Bush and other officials have repeatedly

stressed. Saddam's administration has to

For that reason, the most realistic for-

mula to preventing war is for Saddam's

administration to end before the war

starts. The only way for that to happen is

for Saddam Hussein to step down before

What is noteworthy here is the fact

has long since been taken.

come to an end.

the onset of war.

appear possible that this can change.

To be fair, an unusually beaming Blix did say that while Iraq was co-operating in all respects with UN Resolution 1441, it wasn't being proactive enough. In other words, Saddam Hussain hasn't said: "Sorry guys. You were right after all. Just dig under that palm tree where you will find my secret stock of plutonium, uranium, smallpox and anthrax."

Such a statement would, of course, be milk and honey to the ears of the Potamac hawks, then able to validate their singular stance vis-à-vis Iraq in the eyes of the world community.

As it is, the world is becoming increasing sceptical as to the American president's claims, sounding more and more spurious as the weeks progress. Some say that the warmongers in the administration are at risk of missing their window of opportunity. If they don't find a pretext to start the action in the next few months, the scorching summer heat will be on the horizon.

Even though Donald Rumsfeld has signed orders sending yet more American troops to the Gulf, the voices of his critics are becoming increasingly vociferous in their opposition to war. The Arab world opposes any attack on Baghdad almost to a man with Arab League Head Amr Moussa's warning that such would open the gates of hell ringing in their ears.

Germany makes the right diplomatic noises but in truth wants nothing to do with a war, while France and Russia are more than reluctant to sanction an attack. China stands ominously on the sidelines with regard to both Iraq and North Korea.

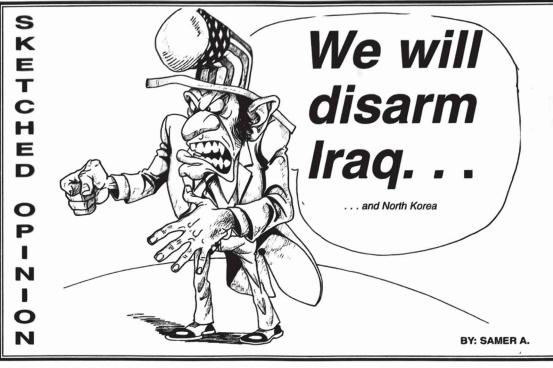
The European Union, with Greece holding the rotating presidency, is all set to send a delegation around the Arab world next month in an attempt to avert conflict. When the American Ambassador to the UN John Negroponte was asked to comment on this European initiative, he refused to do so but the dismissive expression on his face spoke volumes.

Drums of war

For peace

Saddam must step down

Turkey, a long time ally of the U.S., is



still prevaricating as to its role in the potential upcoming conflict. There are divisions within its armed forces as to their level of involvement as well as disagreements between the generals and the politicians. Turkey's Prime Minister Abdullah Gul is currently touring the Arab world attempting to drum up a unified anti-war coalition.

Never mind! George Bush can still count on his good friends British Prime Minister Tony Blair and Ariel Sharon, the Israeli leader, right? They will stand by him through thick and thin.

Or will they? Blair appears to be trying to gently extricate himself from any adventurism in the Gulf given the negative climate among his people and throughout his own political party. Following the recent UN meeting on the subject of Iraq, addressed by Blix and El Baradei, Blair said that the weapons inspectors need more time and space and there were reports that he has asked the U.S. to push back any thoughts of war until next autumn.

Blair is also not happy with Washington's lack of support when it was asked to put pressure on the Israeli government to allow the Palestinian leadership to attend pre-arranged discussions in London.

Bush's buddy Ariel Sharon may not be in office for much longer to lend support to America's war. The televised vision of a red-faced, blustering Sharon trying to defend himself and his sons from accusations of receiving illegal foreign loans did not inspire voter-confidence.

Figure of fun

The ranting went on for so long and was so critical of the Labor Party's new leader Amram Mitzna that the network pulled the plug on their Prime Minister at the behest of a Supreme Court judge, who termed the broadcast electoral propaganda. The following day saw support for the Likud Party sink to a low of 42 per cent, while politicians jumped on the bandwagon in some cases labeling Sharon "a mafia leader"

Israel's television got in on the act with a skit showing Israel's prime minister as a kind of Pied Piper, leaping ahead of a flock of sheep, each sheep with a human face, curiously resembling other scandal tainted political figures. Often referred to as Teflon Man in Israel, Sharon has now become a figure of fun.

If Amram Mitzna succeeds in ousting Sharon, he is unlikely to willingly support Bush and his call to war. Mitzna is committed to dismantling the settlements and returning to the peace table. Unlike Sharon, he has no plans to use the cover of a war with Iraq to attack Syria and Lebanon or to drive the West Bank Palestinians across the Jordan River. Mitzna, wants a peaceful resolution and amicable dialogue with the leaders of the Arab world, an ambition, which regional hostilities would thwart.

The feeling of being thwarted must be prevalent in the halls of the White House and the Pentagon these days. The impetus for an invasion of Iraq is being eroded both within the United States and without.

American politicians and the general public are showing reluctance to being fobbed off with jingoistic rhetoric and are instead, demanding answers. They want to know what is the real reason for targeting Iraq when the most vocal enemy at the door is North Korea. Don't we all.

The danger is that Washington's determined warmongers, faced with a glaring lack of evidence with which to back up their accusations, could be tempted to manufacture a smoking gun where none

If Iraqi nuclear scientists are taken with their families to Cyprus for interrogation, as planned, they may have an ideal opportunity to do so. We can only hope that the world's leaders will not be easily taken in.

The writer is a specialist writer on Middle East affairs

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A three- stage peace plan

In order for this formula to come about, the United States and the international community have to put forward a plan that is acceptable to Saddam.

There is one point in particular that must not be ignored: that is the fact that Saddam has a wife and children, a family. In all probability he is not at all happy with the situation facing his country and people. Yet he may unable to arrive at a healthy decision on account of concerns for his own and his family's safety.

For that reason, if that safety is guaranteed, then it is clear that Saddam will have to wish to see a terrible slaughter that will cost tens of thousands of Arab lives. In that light, the following elements must be included in the plan that needs to be put to Saddam:

1. Saddam must be allowed to leave Iraq and settle in friendly Arab country, in security and with certain assets, in an honorable manner and without being declared a traitor, and in such manner as to ensure his own and his family's safety. It must be guaranteed that he will be able to spend the rest of his life in comfort, with his family, in that Arab country.

2. Following Saddam Hussein's abdication, a technocratic government consisting of moderate and independent figures must be set up in Iraq. That government must react positively to the international community's demands for disarmament, and must seek a solution to the urgent problems facing the country. The embargo and sanctions against

Iraq must be lifted, and with assistance from the international community a regeneration program must quickly be initiated. The suffering of the Iraq people, who have lived in terrible misery and poverty ever since the 1980s, must be brought to an end as a matter of

3. The necessary legal and institutional changes must be brought into place to allow Iraq to become a democratic state of law. A constitutional order that respects the right of all ethnic and religious groups living in the country, and that allows them to live together under one roof in peace and security must be established. Later still, free elections must be held, and Iraq must take its place in the world as a respected member of the community of nations.

If Saddam Hussein takes the common sense approach and prevents war by stepping down, then he will have done the people of Iraq one of the greatest services possible, and will go down in history as a hero. We need to be aware that according to Islam, the greatest heroism lies in winning the "Great Jihad" (Jihad al- Nafs) - in other words in conquering one's own desires. Power is a desire that is hard for many people to forsake.

Honor

A leader who foregoes power for the sake of the safety and happiness of his people thus wins that

"Great Jihad" and behaves in the most honorrable manner possible.

If he does step down from power and leaves Iraq with honor in tact, he will have prevented a war that would cost the lives of thousands, tens of thousands of Iraqis. Babies and defenseless women and old people who would otherwise have died under the bombs will be saved, cities will not be razed and country will not ruined. He will prevent the people of Iraq from suffering a terrible disaster for the sake of a war that cannot possible be won.

If he makes that sacrifice, the world will regard him not as a leader who led his people to death and suffering, but as one who gave up everything for their sake. Even more importantly, their is no doubt that such behavior will please

In the Qur'an, God reveals that saving just one person from death is as much a good deed as saving all of mankind .If anyone gives life to anther person, it is as if he had given life to all mankind....(Our'an, 5.32) If Saddam Hussein allows the war to be prevented, he will have saved not one life but many. We must not forget that the outbreak of war on earth is displeasing to God. We are told in the Qur'an that war is a great evil, that it represents corruption, and that God does not love the corrupt.

"Each time they kindle the fire of war, God extinguishes it. They rush about the earth corrupting it . God does not love corrupters." (Qur'an,5:64)

In another verse, God calls all people to peace:

"O you who believe! Enter absolutely into peace(Islam). Do not follow in the footsteps of Satan. He is an outright enemy to you." (Qur'an,2:208)

In short, supporting peace and bringing it about is a great duty of all Muslims.

At this point we need to make clear the words of the Bible to show the way to the American people on this issue, also oppose war. In many places the Bible advises Christians to treat others with compassion and to love even their enemies. The Americans, too, must choose to resolve the issue by peaceful

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Arabian Sea coastline has big tourist potential

By MAHYOUB AL -KAMALI YEMEN TIMES STAFF

he shores of the Arabian Sea coasts are known by their tourist potential due to a convenient environment for establishing recreational and cultural tourist facilities. This is true especially in the area extending from Ras Dharba on the Yemeni-Omani borders to the Alam area in the outskirts of Aden governorate.

This coast that possesses tourist attraction needs a governmental understanding of the significance of tourist investment in Yemen. This should include conducting an all-out study of economic feasibilities of investment in coastal areas and the building of integrated tourist centre.

Building such centers would help communities in the coastal regions natural environment and historical

One attraction is the abundance of green turtles that are threatened by extinction in the world and need protection and preservation. Some of these turtles have been affected due to building a road in the eastern coast of

Sources at the State Authority for Tourist Development say the road has inflicted damage to two out three areas where green turtles reproduce. The road has used three coastal areas the authority has already designed to use for building full tourist centre.

Humid areas along the coast is also a factor considered important for the habitat of birds migrating from north

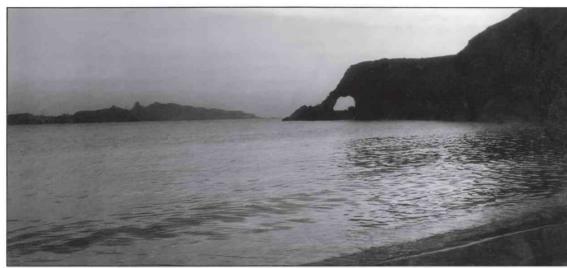
On the shore of al-Muhra governorate, there are two big graveyards that appear to be for Christians. It is

and also could act as protection for believed that the Portuguese soldiers who had fought fierce battles against the national resistance during the 15th and 16th centuries were buried in these two cemeteries that constitute historical landmarks to be visited by Christian tourists.

> The first cemetery is 45 km to the south of Ghadha area at Khalfout and the second is around 100 km to the east of Ghadha at Damqout.

> Among the tourist islands on shores of the Arabian Sea there are six isles facing the port and Bir Ali in Shabwa governorate which is the biggest settlement for semi-resident birds in the Arab peninsula and attracts amateurs of ecotourism.

> The process of organizing tourism on the Arabian Sea needs feasibility studies of investment opportunities and encouragement of private sector capitals for the implementation of tourist projects.



Elephant bay, Aden









'He whose wife wears the trousers will hit his neighbour's wife!'

M - How does that Yemeni proverb go, Mus'ida?

Ma - Go on, tell me!

M - The proverb goes, 'He whose wife

Ma - Oh yes! 'He whose wife wears the trousers will hit his neighbour's wife." And I'll tell you what! I hadn't heard of any Yemeni or Arab tribesman hitting his reighbour's wife until your nephew ame to set himself up and live in our neighbourhood!

M - Look, I'm talking to you about proverbs so you can gain from life's experiences, I'm not asking you to make a song and dance!

Ma - But that's precisely what I want to do! People who were on the scene said that your nephew pulled his neighbour's wife's sitara, and that is very wrong. I've never heard of any Yemeni or Arab tribesman doing something like that before! You'd better go and see what you can do, before those hypocrites and people with their own agendas make mountains out of molehills, and then step to the side to let us clear up the

M - Look, it's got nothing to do with me. It's between them. Since it wasn't me who grabbed at our neighbour's wife's sitara, you needn't worry. People are responsible for their own actions.

Ma - That's all very well, but the woman's husband, children and brothers are not going to accept that slight on their female relative, and they're not going to stay quiet about it either. And you won't be able to slide out of defending your nephew when they come up to accuse him!

M - Anyone who heard you would say you'd become the district governor,

Ma - It's nothing to do with the district governor, but I'm going to give my brothso that you can take it to that woman's family and tell them you're leaving it with them in recompense for what your nephew did.

M - May God help you, Mus'ida!

Ma - And God give you strength and help you to gird your loins for the sake of your nephew!

M - First you'd better understand the situation properly, and make sure you're in full control of the facts before you leap to conclusions. My nephew has tribal blood and knows the meaning of tribal duties, values and honour and the need to stick to them. He wouldn't dream of taking a passing look at his neighbour's wife, let alone grab at her sitara!

Ma - So what on earth can we do about those witnesses who swear that your nephew grabbed at his neighbour's wife's sitara without any sense of

M - I've no idea. God alone knows the unseen and is the only true witness. People are all different. Testifying to something is one of the things we'll be asked about in front of our maker, and woe betide those who bear false witness on the Day of Reckoning, But there is something I want to know what's behind this disagreement between my nephew and his neigh-

Ma - You've asked me before, and I've told you it's because of the children and

Ma - The houses are full of children. God preserve them from evil!

Ma - They've got nowhere to play apart from the street, and your nephew's wife. who hasn't got any children of her own, blew up at the children. She said she likes her peace and quiet and that the children were annoying her. So, as I told you, she got really cross with them. One day she shouted at them, another day she cursed them and their parents, another day she accused them of being rude and badly brought up. The last time, though, she went and hit the son of that particular neighbour in the middle of the street. According to her, he'd shot the ball at the window and given her the shock of her life!

M - Peace be upon the Prophet! Ma - The peace of God be upon him

and all his family and companions!

M - And I'll tell you what happened after that! The neighbour heard her son crying and leapt to his defence. The sound of people arguing and shouting brought the women and children of the neighbourhood to see what all the noise was about. My nephew ran to drag his wife back into the house away from all the noise in the street, and when he took hold of her, he accidentally grabbed the neighbour's wife's sitara. She screamed out and got the people present to bear witness, and those false witnesses certainly didn't let her down! And you go leaping to conclusions and want to get me involved alongside my nephew, and make it appear that we're in the wrong! The whole thing is quite ridiculous and has got completely out of handl

Added in the English translation.

Taiz: tourism hotspot

A beauty of a city

By FUAD QAID SAEED

aiz is a beautiful large city which occupies a strategic position in Yemen, the Felix Arabia of the Middle

It has many qualities, which make it more distinguished than the other cities

It's full of creative beauty and captivating and attractive scenes which fascinate and attract tourists.

It is also distinguished by its fantastic weather which helps to warm the hearts of the visitors.

Moreover this city is known for its unique wealth of historical monuments and antiquities which reflect the ancient civilization of Yemen. It also draws streams of tourists who come to enjoy the beauty of this fascinating

There are many historical attractions and beautiful scenes which spread from the countryside of the Taiz region to the center of the city. They cannot all be counted, but one of the famous and beautiful places includes the high mountains such as Saber Mountain which touches the clouds.

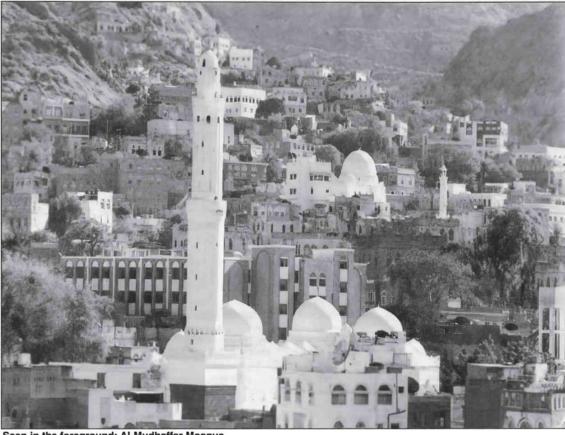
Then there are old buildings such as, al-Immam museum, Albab alAlkabeer Cairo and Sala Palace. The old mosques include Aiashrafia Mosque, al-Modarfer Mosque and Moad Bin Gabal Mosque.

Valleys and rivers include the Widi al- Dabab and the Nahre Albarakin in the Turba area.

There are also new monumental places such as Montazah Zaid in Saber Mountain and the animal zoo in the al-

There are beautiful green scenes such as the scenes of the countryside.

Taiz is as beautiful as a young lady wearing a beautiful dress decorated with the best colors. This makes its visitors fascinated by its beauty.



Seen in the foreground: Al-Mudhaffar Mosque

Much Fie on Pain



А РОЕМ ВУ МОНАММЕР NOMAN AL-HAKIMI, albahoot@myself.com

In vain those words speak shall long they pine and peak!? My calls have reached no world This heart has grown but weak

Oh speak of moon, for thee I seek O stars of noon, dust off thy reek Stand by thee, get sight of light Defame insult, discard that leek!

That fame had gone to drain That dawn but shown in vain They've come to fleer at thee You've come to prove insane

As frail, those words and leaves As souls, O slaves of thieves Oh still you claim of sighs But sip all night's grieves

How cruel you moan afraid How large you grate in bed As bird in cage you sing What a shame to cry and shed

So loud the cries of pain So much my land does gain Does wait for a world of hope But alas! Does wane and wane

Shall long we fly asleep?! Admit all woes and weep It was but some we've got "As this you sow you reap"

O thee insane, unite the brain Do try to flee that cause of bane Mortgage all hopes to dream's chief Much fie on pain, much peace o rain!

For land does sing this song Does ring it's dawn and bong Till those unfair get low Get down to cry for long

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They protect us from pathogenic agents and alleviate symptoms of maladies

Germs to the rescue

By MICHELE L. TRANKINA THE WORLD & I

(The second in a two-part series)

n exchange for the health benefits that they provide the host, these microbes receive the benefit of "free room and board." They get a place to live and reproduce, as well as nutrients in the form of partially digested and undigested food residues that enter the colon. They thus have a symbiotic relationship with humans.

Benefiting a baby

Usually, a newborn acquires microorganisms in its GI tract during vaginal birth. Collective information from many researchers indicates the existence of 18 bacterial genera in the lower reproductive tract of pregnant women. It has been suggested that a pregnant woman take supplements of probiotics, particularly during the last trimester of pregnancy, so that her child may be born with its gut microflora already in place.

Under certain circumstances, a newborn's gut may not receive a natural inoculation of beneficial microflora. For instance, babies delivered by Caesarean section, those born prematurely, and those requiring hospital care beyond the first few days of life have benefited when their feedings have been supplemented with probiotics.

Extensive studies on the colonization of the neonatal gut (under normal conditions) have shown that there is a specific order in which microbial species appear. Among the first groups to take up residence are bacteria that produce lactic acid upon digesting lactose, the milk sugar. These bacteria are unscathed by the action of stomach acid. Other early settlers are coliforms (particularly Escherichia coli) and streptococci.



cient numbers of friendly microbes, its lining may be attacked by pathogens and any may become inflamed. As a result, the immune system may react, leading to such problems as eczema.

After weaning and the introduction of solid food, which is recommended at about six months of age, the number of anaerobic bacteria increases. By the age of two, the configuration of intestinal microbial species is roughly that of an

The baby needs friendly bacteria to colonize its gut so that the mucosal lining will function as a tight seal, selectively allowing certain molecules to enter is cells while excluding others. In addition, the bacteria stimulate the baby's immune system. Without this challenge, the initiation of immune function would be problematic. Experiments have shown that when animals have been rendered gnotobiotic (germ free), their spleen and lymph nodes - organs of the immune system have developed poorly. Other studies with nonhuman mammals have found that colonization of their gut with friendly flora has stimulated the production of circulating antibodies, thus providing a "jump start" for immune func-

A breast-fed infant derives many benefits, one of which is that breast milk

contains bifidus factor, a substance that promotes the growth of bifidobacteria in the child's colon, giving the child a greater ability to stave off infections as compared with bottle-fed infants. The numbers of harmful bacterial species (particularly of the genus Clostridium) are lower in feces of breast-fed infants than in those who are bottle fed. Breast milk also contains lactoferrin, an ironbinding protein that may facilitate the growth of bifidobacteria by helping to meet their nutritional requirement for iron. By supporting friendly flora, lactoferrin appears to act against pathogens.

Restoring the balance with probiotics

The best-documented health benefit of probiotic products is in alleviating acute and chronic diarrhea, including that induced by viruses, bacteria, and medications. The probiotic bacteria must be administered in sufficient quantities, and their efficiency often depends on the genera and species used.

Most of the success has been achieved in treating infants suffering from rotavirus infection, which manifests as severe diarrhea and vomiting (also known as gastroenteritis). Diarrhea can be life threatening for children because of their low body weight and the possibility of rapid dehydration and loss of electrolytes. Gastroenteritis is a primary cause of illness and mortality in children around the world.

Studies indicate that Lactobacillus rhamnosus GG (Lactobascillus GG) is the most effective probiotic agent in shortening the duration of rotavirus infection. Other probiotics, including Bifidobacterium bifidum Streptococcus thermophilus, are being scrutinized for their ability to prevent rotaviral diarrhea. When these and other probiotic species were added to formula given to hospitalized children, the results were quite promising, including decreased occurrence of diarrhea and reduced levels of rotavirus in their stool.

Only a few formal studies have been conducted on the prophylactic use of probiotics. They suggest that Lactobacillus GG may prevent antibiotic-induced diarrhea. In addition, numerous anecdotal accounts and my own clinical experience support the use of probiotic products or live-culture yogurt to prevent diarrhea during and after antibiotic therapy.

Likewise, there have been some studies of probiotic use among patients receiving anti-cancer chemotherapy, radiation therapy, or steroid treatment. Here again, evidence of the benefits of restoring microbial equilibrium points to the need for more clinical research. In the meantime, those of us who have witnessed improvements believe in the efficacy of probiotics and will continue to recommend them when appropriate.

Newborns depend on milk as their only food. Fortunately, they have the natural ability to digest lctose with the enzyme lactase (also known as ?-galactosidase). This ability, however, may be temporarily hampered by various situations, including protracted diarrhea, malnutrition, intestinal viruses and parasites, and some GI diseases. In addition, lactase activity may decrease with age, based on the person's ethnicity. In such cases, the undigested lactose is fermented by bacteria in the colon, leading to the syndrome of lactose intolerance which includes abdominal bloating, cramping, flatulence, nausea, and diarrhea. This problem can be alleviated by live-culture dairy products or probiotic supplements containing Thermophilus and strains of Lactobacillus (such as L. bulgaricus), which provide lactase to the deficient

Irritable bowel syndrome is characterized by abdominal discomfort, bloating, cramping, diarrhea, or constipation for a period of at least three months. Yet, because no structural defects in the gut are apparent, this syndrome is often dismissed as psychogenic. Clinical data and numerous anecdotal accounts attest to the usefulness of probiotics and nonprobiotic natural strategies to alleviate symptoms. Other GI conditions that may



To preserve good health, a person needs foods such as yogurt, which contains bacteria that strengthen the colon lining and protect it from a attack by armful agents

respond to probiotic therapy include constipation and ulcers caused by infection with the bacterium Helicobacter

There is clinical evidence that lactobacilli and bifidobacteria probiotics may decrease food hypersensitivities and their accompanying hives and skin inflammations, including eczema. Allergic reactions to foods develop in 2-8 percent of infants and children and less than 2 percent of adults. The higher incidence early in life is logical, considering that the immune system is "under construction." Not surprisingly, the incidence of food allergies is lower in breast-fed infants compared with those who are formula fed.

Food allergies often occur in children with histories of frequent antibiotic use - for ear and sinus infections, for example. The traditional strategy for dealing with these allergies is a strict diet, with consequent problems of compliance. and finding alternative sources of n. A much simpler and more effective strategy is to administer probiotics, thereby replacing intestinal microflora that were annihilated by the antibiotics. We also need to reevaluate the extensive use of antibiotic therapy in the first place.

There is also some evidence that pr biotic microorganisms may play a role in "defusing" carcinogens in the colon by binding to them and preventing carcinogen formation by certain types of pathogens. If these effects are confirmed by further studies, then it is possible that probiotics may reduce the rate of genetic mutations in colon cells and lower the incidence of tumors. Beneficial microflora may be useful in decreasing serum cholesterol concentrations by breaking down bile acids, whose main component is cholesterol.

Some researchers are investigating the role of prebiotics-substances that forster the growth and improve the viability of intestinal miroflora. Prebiotics are generally carbohydrates, such as FOS (fructooligosaccharides), that serve as food for the bacteria but are not digestible by the host. Thus, prbiotic supplements typically include a prebiotic component mixed with beneficial flora, thereby delivering the microorganisms along with an energy source that lengthens their lifetime in the GI

There is also interest in supplementing nonfermented foods and infant formulas with probiotic bacteria to create products with benefits beyond nutrition.

These have been termed functional foods. Before such foods become practical, however, they must meet the criteria of microbial viability and be palatable.

The assorted benefits of probiotics can be placed in three categories: proven, probable, and potential. In all cases, additional clinical trials are necessary to provide unequivocal evidence that probiotic foods and supplements are useful in preventing or alleviating various health problems. Equally important are basic science studies using the techniques of molecular biology to identify specific strains of beneficial bacteria



Foods produced by fermentation with probiotic bacteria include pickled

cucumbers, sauerkraut, and brined olives.

Growing 'friendly' germs

The growth of beneficial bacteria in the colon is influenced by diverse factors that have been classified as extrinsic and intrinsic. The most influential extrinsic factors are related to the host's diet. For instance, it is useful to supplement one's diet with prebiotics - products that support the growth and colonization of probiotic microorganisms. On the other hand, negative extrinsic influences include antibiotics, steroids, chemotherapy, or radiation therapy, all of which reduce the populations of colon microflora.

Intrinsic factors are related to idio syncrasies of the host's intestinal environment. For instance, temperature and pH conditions may dictate which microorganisms flourish and which do not. Other conditions regulate the binding of microbes to receptors on the lining of the colon. The presence of bile acids and relatively faster movement of material through the small intestine make it more difficult for microbes to take up permanent residence there than in the colon.

Benefits of probiotic microbs

Several species of probiotic microorganisms have been clinically tested, and their beneficial effects have been documented. Some of the results are as

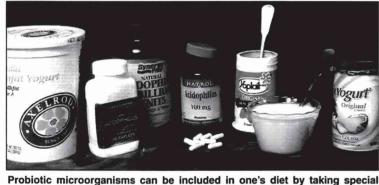
- Lactobacillus rhamnosus GG. This species has been found valuable in preventing and treating rotavirus diarrhea and in preventing diarrhea resulting from antibiotic therapy. It is also useful in fighting certain carcinogenic bacteria and alleviating symptoms of Crohn's disease.
- Lactobacillus acidophilus LC1. This bacterial strain, which adheres to human mucosal cells, supports the immune system and helps restore equilibrium of microflora
- in the colon. Lactobacillus
- acidophilus. NCFO1748. This strain is useful in, treating constipation and preventing diarrhea associated with radiation treatment.
- Bifidobacterium bifidum. This bacterium has been found beneficial for the treatment of viral diarrhea especially that caused by rotavirus), and it helps bring colon microflora back in equilibrium.

(Information taken from "The Coming Age of Probiotics," Y.-K Lee and S. Salminen, Tends in Food Science Tehcnology, 1995, vol. 6, pp.

and their mechanisms of action. The results should allow a more tailored approach to treatment and design of probiotic foods and supplements. Given such a wide array of possible

uses and absence of side effects, it is incumbent upon physicians to learn about the role of probiotics in treating a variety of medical problems. Those of us who already appreciate the benefits of probiotics might say that their presence in the colon is a key to good health.

Michele L. Trankina is professor of biological sciences at St. mary's University and adjunct associate professor of physiology at the University of Texas health Science Center, both in San Antonio. She is a nutritional consultant, the author of numerous articles, and the recipient of various awards for excellence in teaching, writing, and community service.



supplements or eating yogurt that contains active cultures.

movimondo VACANCY

MOVIMONDO (Italian NGO) announces for a job opening within its

"Assistant Project Coordinator"

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Doing interpretation and written translations between English and Arabic.
- Keeping contacts with local partners and local authorities.
- Assisting in the general management of the office.
- Keeping all project documents in a retrievable manner. Providing secretarial typing and clerical work for the office.
- Performing any other duties related to the office work and as assigned by the Country Rep and/or the Project Coordinator.

Desired Qualifications:

University degree in management or any **Education:**

equivalent field.

Prior Work: Proven experience in similar office environment. Language Abilities: Proficient English Language skills; including excellent translation skills between Arabic and

English.

Skills & Abilities: Computer literate; must be very good at Word &

Excel. Good knowledge of basic accounts in addition to good communication skills.

A valid Yemeni driving license is a must.

How to apply:

Interested applicants who meet the required qualification may send their CVs with a letter of application addressed to the Admin. Officer to the following address: MOVIMONDO - YEMEN, P. O. Box: 12659 Al-Jama'a. Or fax them at: 447839 no later than January 30, 2003.

Yemen, the two events are meant for out-

flanking Yemen's future. If it is impera-

tive for us to find our future hostage of

those events, we should thus be quick in

dealing with them with full responsibility

and comprehensive understanding of

how to act at political, economic and mil-

Looking around us, we would find out

that Yemen has become militarily and

politically surrounded with American

military bases and navy fleets. If we

deeply comprehend this politically bitter

reality, we would find out that danger is

approaching Yemen's should now dis-

card all past differences for the sake of

Yemen and Yemeni generations future.

Local Press



Al-Sahwa weekly, 16 Jan 2003.

Main headlines:

- Islah party expresses condolences on the decease of late al- Mutawakil
- Sheikh al- Mouyad and companion
- under arrest in Germany YSP Secretary-General: JMP, Choice
- of the future "Al-Wahdawi" trial postponed

Mr. Ahmed Othman calls in an article on all to fiercely fight terror, whether committed by an individual or a group. He says terror could not hide its ugly face behind slogans of religion, or patriotism, or world peace or war on terror.

All the Yemenis have at these circumstances, to demand persistently for proper investigation into terror and holding just trial of the terror that claimed life of American medical doctors in Jibla and also the terror to which Sheikh al-Mouvad was exposed to in Germany, because Sheikh al-Mouyad is not a terrorist.

The state should seriously carry out its duty in protecting its citizens and the political force should follow up the terror against al- Mouyad as a Yemeni citizen and prominent social figure.



Al-Wahdawi weekly, organ of Unionist organization, 14 Jan.2002.

Main headlines:

- Threatening letters to American in
- Foreign embassies transfer Yemeni Jews to Israel
- Nasserite organization, Nationalist
- bodies, mourn the late al- Mutawakil - Intensified security reinforcements in
- Ma`madan - Nationalist Baath party holds its con-
- gress - First session to try al- Mouyad in
- Germany
- Nasserite organization calls for national dialogue

- "Al-wahdawi" before court on three publication charges

Columnist Ali al-Saqqaf writes that hardly two weeks elapsed on the sudden departure of martyr Jarallah Omar, assistant secretary general of the Yemen socialist party, we have been shocked by death of the late Yahya al-Mutawakil, assistant secretary-General of the General People's Congress Party in a car accident on 13 January 2003.

Departure of al- Mutawakil has added to sadness of the Yemeni and deepened their wounds.

The two men are of the most prominent political leader who possess big amount of balance and openness towards other owing to their political experience over decades of political action. Immediately after the death of Jarallah Omar a question loomed on what would be after his martyrdom and now the same question pops up after the death of al-Mutawakil.

The question is about destiny and future of the country. The question stems from keenness on the homeland and its future amidst the disasters and afflictions. Corruption and economic deterioration.



Al-Jamaheer weekly, organ of the Arab Baath Socialist party, 12 Jan.2003.

Main headlines:

- Yemeni-Saudi border Demarcation
- Company, stops its work The pentagon dispatches 35,000 sol-
- diers to the Gulf region Security authorities arrests tens with-
- out specific charges French team to watch inspections in
- Jordanian- British joint military maneuvers this month
- Saudi citizen opens fire on worshippers in a mosque in Kharg City Riyadh
- Arab league secretary- general holds international community responsible for the Zionist terrorism
- Director-general in Hajjah punishes two female employees by cutting their
- India refuses American aid

destruction weapons

Editor in chief of the newspaper says the balanced information political address is that which understands reality and deals with objectively and rationally. It acts within what is constant and what is changeable according to strategic and principled contexts. The writer describes the domestic information political address as imbalance, deals with reaction and ushers domination of the political decision along with attaching charges to the other opinion. The author sees that the successful information political address should possess certain characteristics.

1. It should stand on national and pan-Arab constants in keeping pace with present and future variables

2. It must found channels and a body for dialogue leading to consultation on all issues and dealing with them according to a unified vision enhances the political decision, preserves the interest and removes political congestion.

3. Should make the people aware of the real dangers threatening their nation and their stability and to create preparedness for facing the worst circumstances.



Main headlines:

-GPC's assistant secretary-general Yahya al- Mutawakil, killed in car accident

- -Criminal investigation and traffic police examine al-Mutawakil's car
- Despite the president's, Hamadani House workers without wages
- Investors dismayed over customs

Columnist Wathiq Shathili writes on unemployment phenomenon saying the talk on this phenomenon and necessity of finding job opportunities for the unemployed labor would not stop as long as it is still living amid our society. All the rights we brag about as human rights and rights to good food and lodging, medical services and education, would be futile if the rights to work and earn a fixed income is not available. To say the unemployed outnumber available job opportunities, is only one of many other facts

governing the subject of the unemployed people and possibility of employing all or some of them. The important question is that we show no care about it and do not discuss it. It is not enough to declare the desire and plans for employment of jobless people, there must be some practical steps and measures.



RAY weekly, organ of sons of Yemen leagues 14 Jan. 2003.

Main headlines:

- Al- Jifri, Bin Farid send condolences to the president and the late al- Mouyad and Zaid to Washington
- Implementation of Yemen's joining of the GCC, discussed
- American Development Office in Yemen, re-opened
- Yemeni citizen holding American nationality admits link to al-Qaeda

Mr. Fawzi al- Kahili says in an article that one of the phenomena, perhaps unique in Yemen, is to hear from medium leaderships from the ruling party curse corruption and wish the discharge of officials.

Unfortunately, the opposition parties seem to enable before the corruption octopus. The period that remain before the scheduled date of the parliamentary elections in April 2003, indicates that the corrupt would redouble their efforts to win and dominate the parliament seats and thus have a sway over most of the country's riches during another five

The time, however, is not too late for reformers from among partisans, independents, especially the intellectuals, journalists and politicians to embark on awareness campaign among the people urging them to support opposition parties and to vote for them in the coming elec-



Al-Mithaq, organ of the General People's Congress party (GPC), 13 Jan.2003.

Main headlines:

- President Ali Abdullah Saleh: GPC does not intend to dominate power, partnership through ballot boxes
- As being accomplices in same plot: killers of Jarallah Omer and American physicians to be tried together
- Dr. al-Eryani informs NDI director on Yemen's preparations for upcoming elections

In his column, Dr. Abdulaziz al-Magalih affirms there are many questions dictated by the current Arab political reality, but the most urgent one is how the Arab nation would play her role in this critical turning point at a time in each of Arab countries there are countless problems need to be addressed. These problems consume the Arabs minds and act as a barrier preventing them from doing something to confront the detrimental possibilities. It has become sure that their detrimental possibilities would not be confined to one country without spilling their damage to the others. Consequences of any predicted to the long-term war in the region would lead its people to a labyrinth so difficult to come out from peacefully. It seems that Arab information media are incapable of presenting solutions and no longer able to face other information offensive. The main question remains asking about when would the sons of this nation be able to rectify the big mistake represented by division, which is the origin of other mistakes and

Al- Shomoa week-

ly, 16 Jan.2003.

Main headlines:

Al-Mouyad, persuaded by a Yemeni

German investments in Yemen, still

Despite Yemen oil good quality, the

government enable to market it com-

The newspaper's editorial says it is

obvious that the U.S. war against Iraq

does not target only Iraq, it is aims at the

Arab and Islamic nation as a whole. As

the expected war coincides with time of

holding parliamentary elections in

personality working U.S. C/A

mercially

Main headlines: al- Mutawakil

itary levels.

Al-Balagh weekly, 14 Jan. 2003.

- Yemen mourns departure of late Yahya
- Following arrest of Sheikh al-Mouyad, America sends coded messages to Islah
- German Court considers handing over al- Mouyad to America or returns him to Yemen
- Large- scale security plan to encounter terror
- Strict security measures around embassies

Al-Balagh editorial mentions that terror file has recently been witnessing dangerous speed and developments embodied by German authorities arrest of Sheikh Mohammed al-Mouvad and his companion on charge of offering support for al-Qaeda organization.

That measure has constituted a dangerous development owing to its impact on Yemen's bilateral relations with Germany and with the U.S. The seriousness of the event also stems from the high position Sheikh al- Mouyad occupies at the Islah

The Yemeni government's immediate action in this regard and its demand for the return of al-Mouvad comes to avoid any complications and also as part of the government's care for all its citizens regardless of their political affiliations.

World Press

Major news items in leading international newspapers Provided by Xinhua

Egypt

Al Ahram

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak inaugurates the 35th Cairo International Book Fair on Thursday at Mediant Nassr, a Cairo neighbor-The event is the second largest in the world after the Frankfurt book fair. Some 97 countries will take part in this year's fair, which will run until Feb. 6.

Al Akhbar

Tens of member of the international anti-war "women in Black" organization on Friday assembled near the US Embassy in Cairo to condemn the US, Israel and the racist Western campaign against the Arab world.

Al Gomhuria

President Mubarak will head a committee comprising a number of heads of state along with senior world officials for providing necessary support to a New Egyptian Museum, as what has been done in the 1960s for saving Nubian monu-

The giant project will take about five years and will be the biggest museum in the world.

ments.

Egyptian Mail

Egypt has officially received an invitation from Turkey to attend a summit meeting next week to discuss ways of resolving the Iraqi crisis peacefully.

Britain

The Financial Times

university funding, Downing Street and the Department for Education and Skills are confident the government is on course to publish a white paper next Wednesday and that it will spell out a preferred option for implementing "top-up" tuition fees.

The Guardian

The deputy prime minister, John Prescott, is to appeal to firefighters' leaders on Monday to pull back from a new wave of strikes as Downing Street hawks argue for a ban on further industrial action.

The Daily Telegraph

A North African man accused of

court for the first time yesterday

stabbing a Special Branch detec-Despite talk of cabinet rift over tive to death during an anti-terrorist raid in Manchester appeared in

The Independent British Prime Minister Tony Blair will press ahead with controversial plans to allow universities to charge top-up fees by overruling a lastminute attempt by the Chancellor Gordon Brown to block the move.

amid heavy security.

The Times

British Prime Minister Tony Blair urged the United Nations weapons inspectors yesterday to step up the pace and become more intrusive in their efforts to track down President Saddam Hussein's deadly arsenal.

U.S.A

The New York Times

The Bush administration and the United Nations weapons inspectors differed sharply Friday on the effort to disarm Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, with the inspectors saying they needed more time, possibly months, while the White House said evidence was rapidly

In a widening rift within the US Olympic Committee over conflict of interest charges against its chief executive, Oloyd D. Ward, three members of the organization's ethics committee resigned Friday.

Their action brings to five the number of officials who have stepped down since Monday, when Ward was cleared

Pakistan

The News

and disgrace Pakistani citizens in its

drive for registration of foreign nation-

als, Foreign Minister Khurshid

Mehmood Kasuri said in Islamabad on

Pakistan Observer

bulent region of South Asia, Pakistani

President General Pervez Musharraf

will pay a three-day official visit to the

Russian Federation at the invitation of

President Vladimir Putin from Feb. 4.

The Statesman

Mehmood Kasuri said on Friday that

Pakistan was in favor of a peaceful res-

olution of the issue of Iraqi weapons of

mass destruction in line with the UN

Foreign Minister

Security Council resolutions.

Khurshid

As a sign of a good omen for the tur-

Friday

The United States should not harass

of committing ethical violations

The Washington Post Marking the 12th anniversary of the start of the US-led war that evicted Iraqi army from Kuwait in 1991, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein vowed on national television Friday that his solould triumph if there is military confrontation with US troops, whom he likened to 13th-century

Mongol invaders who leveled Baghdad. US National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice announced Friday that she believes race can be used as a factor in college admissions, going beyond President George W. Bush on a central question in his affirmative action

India

The Indian Express

Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee on Friday made a strong case for encouraging more savings in the domestic market and channelizing these savings in productive investments.

The Hindu

Temperatures stayed below normal at many places in northern, central and eastern regions on Friday when the unrelenting cold wave claimed 31 more lives, pushing the death toll over the country to 540 this winter.

The Economic Times

Locking horns for a major order estimated at 2 billion US dollars, Boeing and Airbus have submitted their final bids for supply of 17 long-range aircraft to Air India. The deal pits Boeing's B777-200ER against Airbus' A340-300 version.

Arab News - Khalil's cartoon

Kenya **Daily Nation**

The Kenyan government Friday announced an immediate spending freeze on all major public projects to enable it to scrutinize questionable contracts for which the last government allocated millions of US dollars in the current budget.

East African Standard

The International Monetary Fund will resume financial assistance to Kenya in July on the back of the government's continued fight against corruption and strengthening gover-

Philippine

Manila Bulletin

United States President George W. Bush has hailed Philippine President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo's decision not to run in the 2004 presidential elections as he invited her to visit Washington early this year to discuss further US support to her vision of building a strong country for the Philippines.

The Philippine Star

President Arroyo said Friday that she favors amending the Constitution through a constitutional convention, whose delegates will be elected in the May 2004 elections.

نهنئ الشاب/ صفوان انور عبد الرحيم بيشو بمناسبة حصوله على شهادة البكالوريوس من جامعة عدن بدرجة «جيد جداً» في مجال المحاسبة فألف الف مبروك...

المهنئون: محمد حسن علي، أوسان انور عبد الرحمن، صادق عبد الولى زيد، وضاح محمد حسن، محمد يحى على، فوزي عزي.

Batistuta's last chance

By Simon Evans

CORTINA D'AMPEZZO, Italy, Jan 17 (Reuters) - Gabriel Batistuta was born in the Argentine town of Reconquista and conquer again is exactly what Inter Milan are hoping the 33-year-old will be able to do at the San Siro stadium.

Inter's move to secure Batistuta in a loan deal from Roma may have been motivated simply by the urgent need to replace the injured Hernan Crespo but it also hands the former Fiorentina striker a chance to end his career in

Until his compatriot Crespo ripped his hamstring in last Sunday's win over Modena, Batistuta looked set to see out the rest of his contract at troubled Roma on the bench before a free transfer, probably outside Italy, in the close season.

That would have been a sad way for an outstanding footballer, Argentina's all-time top scorer, and greatly respected man to have finished a career that has been as proud as it has been prolif-

Two-and-a-half years ago Roma president Franco Sensi paid \$33.8 million to Fiorentina to lure Batistuta to the capital and, while judging value for money in a time of shrinking transfer fees is nearly impossible, the deal certainly delivered on its promise.

After nine years in Florence in which an Italian Cup was the only medal Batistuta won, Roma offered the striker a realistic chance to win a 'scudetto' before retiring.

Roma themselves had waited 18 years for a league title and the combination of Batistuta with their homegrown playmaker Francesco Totti looked a sure bet to end their barren

The arrangement worked instantly - 20 goals in 28 matches from the Argentine helped Roma beat Juventus into top spot and sent the capital into a

Already established as one of the world's top strikers Batistuta could easily have chosen a lucrative move elsewhere, but instead his goals helped return the Florence club to the top flight and ensured him a place in the heart of every Florentine.

So admired was 'Batigol' that the Fiorentina fans erected an improvised statue to him behind the stands and when rumours began that he was to finally leave the club fans camped outside his villa all night with banners urging him to stay.

The affection was returned and after a hat-trick in his final match for La Viola, Batistuta broke down in tears in front of the supporters.

Even now, after Fiorentina's bankruptcy left the city to start from scratch with a new club in Serie C2 Florentia, there remain many supporters convinced Batistuta will one day return as player, coach, or more likely president, to help the club restore top flight football to the Tuscan city.

But before such romantic ideas can be considered Batistuta has one last bit of hard business to take care of.

As at Fiorentina and Roma, he finds himself again at a club where success is long overdue.

Inter have not won the Serie A title since 1989 and suffered the agony last season of the scudetto slipping through their grip on the final day of the sea-

Cuper has assembled a tough, hardworking and effective side built around solid defence, a grafting midfield and the powerful strikeforce of Italy's Christian Vieri and Crespo. That blend has put them joint-top of Serie A with rivals AC Milan.

But last week's injury to Crespo exposed the lack of cover in Cuper's attack and raised fears that fate had again turned against Inter and their long-suffering supporters.

Who better then to turn to than the man from Reconquista?

> (Mar 21 - Apr 19) You'll be up for some fun with family, friends or your

Taurus (Apr 20 - May 20)

lover today. You will be in a

do-it-yourself mood, so lots can be accomplished. Ask

Emotional upset will get

you down if you aren't willing to compromise

Explain your reasons, but

be willing to see the other

If you go out with friends,

pay if you haven't put

some money away for an

rampage today if things

don't get done around the

house. Relax. Don't cause

stress, grief and discord

your spending Unexpected

on the

(May 21 - Jun 20)

(Jun 21 - Jul 22)

You may be

over a little dirt

Overheard making offensive remarks about Sri Lankans

lehmann hanned

ADELAIDE, Australia (Reuters) Australia's Darren Lehmann has been suspended for five one-day internationals over his racist outburst in a recent match with Sri Lanka, according to the International Cricket Council (ICC).

The batsman became the first player ever to be suspended worldwide for being found guilty of breaching the ICC's strict code of conduct rules on racial vilification during Wednesday's game in Brisbane.

ICC match referee Clive Lloyd said Lehmann could have been given an eight-match ban but received a lesser penalty because of his previous good record and because he had apologised to the Sri Lankan team.

"Darren's comments could be interpreted as deeply offensive and I do not think that we can condone such things in sport or life in general," Lloyd said on Saturday.

"He does have an impeccable record but the point is we have a code of conduct and we must abide by it."

Lehmann's ban means he will miss the rest of the triangular one-day series with Sri Lanka and England, and possibly Australia's first game at the World Cup in southern Africa.

The Yorkshire and South Australia captain was found guilty after a threehour hearing in Adelaide on Saturday

The 32-year-old, reading from a prepared statement, told reporters he would not appeal against the decision.

"I accept the penalty handed down and would like to say once again how regretful I am that the incident took place," said Lehmann.

"I meant no offence by my comments and again would like to apologise for making them. I would also like to thank the Sri Lankan team for their support and understanding in this mat-

Lehmann was reported to Lloyd after he was overheard making an offensive remark about the Sri Lankans when he was alone in the dressing room after being dismissed.

He immediately apologised to the Sri Lankans for his outburst then provided a formal, written apology once the match was over.

The Sri Lankans said they had accepted Lehmann's apology and did not wish to take the matter further, but the ICC decided to charge him any-

The Sri Lankan coach Dav Whatmore told the hearing his players held Lehmann in high regard and did not want to see him suspended.

"I don't think we wanted to make an example of anybody, the point is we have to abide by a code and it doesn't matter who you are," Lloyd said.

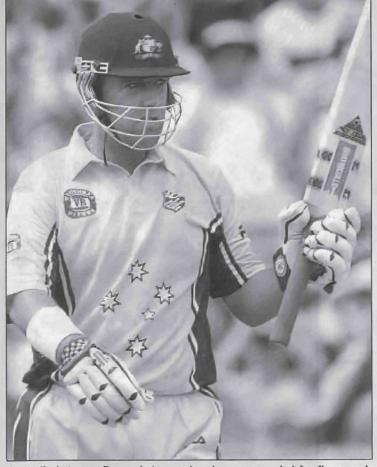
"As sportsmen we have to show the way, we have to be above those sort of things.

Lehmann's lawyer Greg Griffin said the left-handed batsman should not be branded as a racist.

"(It) is an unfortunate outburst for which he has paid a very high price,' Griffin said.

"This was a comment not made to any person and was made basically to

"Darren is not a racist, he doesn't have a racist bone in his body and that's why it was so important the Sri Lankans were so solid in...support of



Australia batsman Darren Lehmann has been suspended for five one-day internationals after breaching the sport's racial vilification laws, the International Cricket Council (ICC) announced January 18. Lehmann became the first player ever to be suspended worldwide under the code after he was overheard making offensive comments during a match against Sri Lanka **REUTERS/Jon Buckle/File Photo**

Sato back on track with BAR

BARCELONA, Jan 17 (Reuters) -Takuma Sato got back in a Formula One car for the first time since the end of the 2002 season when the former Jordan driver began testing duties with BAR on Friday.

The Japanese, an emotional fifth in the season-ending Japanese Grand Prix but released by Jordan to take up a role as test driver at Honda-powered BAR, completed 44 laps at the Circuit de Catalunya in the 2003 car.

He said he was very impressed with the new car, launched in Barcelona on Tuesday, and played down suggestions that it was hard to see out of.

"For me it was like heaven. You don't know what the Jordan was like," the Autosport website quoted him as saying.

"I'm lying down so much in this car but visibility is no problem. In the Jordan, I couldn't see.

Jordan to stay with Bridgestone for 2003

Jordan Formula One team will use Bridgestone tyres in 2003 for a fifth successive season, both parties said in a statement on Friday.

"The Jordan Ford EJ13 package, with the chassis from Henri Durand and Gary Anderson, combined with Ford

Cosworth RS power and Bridgestone tyres, is going to be a strong contender," said Eddie Jordan in a statement.

Jordan have yet to announce a launch date, title sponsor or second driver but the new car made its track debut this week with Italian Giancarlo Fisichella at the wheel





THE LAST **WORD IN ASTROLOGY BY Eugenia Last**



(Jul 23 - Aug 22) Try to be as precise as possible if you don't want find yourself being questioned. A good friend will be able to help you see your present situation clearly. Don't hesitate to ask for help.



(Aug 23 - Sep 22) Making a decision today will only lead to changes that you can't deal with later. Spend time doing things that will make you feel better about yourself.



(Sept 23 - Oct 22) This is not the day to sit whatever activities are going on vour community. You will meet interesting new people who will spark some good ideas.



(Oct 23 - Nov 21) A trip may be in order to straighten out a situation that someone can't handle. Helping others will bring you great pleasure. You will be proud of yourself and your ability to serve



(Nov 22 - Dec 21) This will be a good day to talk about your plans. Not everyone will agree, but the feedback you get will be valuable when you make your final decision.



Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)

Things may appear to be up in the air today, but patience will pay off. Bide your time and let others make the mistakes. Sort out what it is you want in the future.



Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)

Depression will set in if you haven't done what you know is best for you. If you have let someone else influence you, resentment is likely to follow. Talk about what you want for a change.



Pisces (Feb 19 - Mar 20) If you have led someone to believe something that isn't entirely true, you'll feel stressed. Set the record straight before things go

any further.

7-	Day	Weat	her Fo	oreca	st
Sana'a			Aden		
Day	Hi	Lo	Day	Hi	Lo
Mon			Mon		
	25	4	-	29	22
Tue			Tue		
-	25	4	-	29	21
Wed			Wed		
-	25	5	•	28	21
Thu	-14		Thu		
-	25	5	-	28	19
Fri			Fri		
-	24	5	-	31	18
Sat			Sat		
-	25	5	-	29	18
Sun			Sun		
-	25	5	-	29	18















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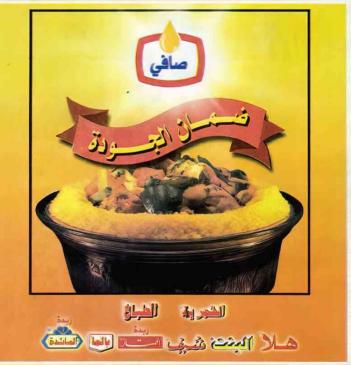








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Abdulwahed M. Noman & Sons Estb. (The Popular Store)

you can



الفائزالأول: 1،000،000 رياك الفائز الثاني: 200،000 رياك الفائز من الثالث وحنى الخلمس: 100،000 رياك بالإضافة إلى العديد من الجوائز

الأخرى بمئات الآلاف



















الشركة اليمنية العامة للتأمين (شمي) إحدى مجموعة شركات أحوان ثابت Yemen General Insurance Co. S.Y.C

A member of Thabet Brothers Group Tel. +967-3-219880/1/2, Fax. +967-3-211718











سوق عدن الدولي

ADEN INTERNATIONAL MARKE



Questions for VOL. 13, Issue 619

Check the right answer

☐ Yemen Gulf Bank

☐ Heaters

☐ Both answers

from France Saudi Arabia

Brazil

☐ Aden

☐ Hodiedah

☐ Aden
☐ Sana'a

☐ International Bank of Yemen

10-Superem chickens has a trade mark

11-Yemen Stores for Fruit and Meat, (Y.S.C) is one of the Thabet Brothers Group where its main office is in: ☐ Hodeidah

12-Where is the headquarters of Suzuki-Yemen, member of Bamaaroof Group located?

13- When did the final big draw for Sony

levels. How many branches in Yemen

Ramadhan discount finish?

December 12

does Videocon have?

- A prominent political figure died in a horrible traffic incident on January

 8- Which bank in Yemen that has the motto "a bank for everyone"?
- Jara Allah Omar ☐ Brigadier Yaya al-Mutawakkil Mohammed Abdulwali
- The Yemen Times will celebrate its
- ☐ February 24, 2003 February 26, 2003
- ☐ February 27, 2003
- 3- Safi festivals prizes include
- Gold girdles
- 4- Al-Watani Milk in Yemen is known
- as:
- 5- One of the following is produced by the General Industries & Packages Company is:

 Al-Abtal Chocolates
- ☐ Abu Walad Choco Wafer
- 6- Choco Wafer's trade mark is:
- ☐ Teashop

- ☐ October 14 2002
- ☐ Konoz ☐ Al-Basha 7- The Aden International market has
- been recently inaugurated on

 ☐ November 30 2002
- ☐ 13 branches Name: Age: ID number: City: Tel:

Please write clearly

استلة المسابقة للعدد ١٦٩ - السنة ١٣

اختر الإحابة الصحيحة

🗖 كناسات - قلايات شي

🗆 فرنسية 🗖 بـرازيلية

١١ - شركة المخازن البمنية للقواكه واللحوم والنجارة "إحدى شركات مجموعة إخوان ثابت مركزها الرئيسي في 🗆 عنن

🗖 صنعاء ١٢- اين پلع مقر سوزوكي اليمن-عضو مجموعه 🗖 الحديدة

🗖 عنن 🗖 مسعاء 🗖 ۱۲ دیستبر 🗖 ۱۱ بیسمبر

🗖 ۱۹ دیسمبر - **الاستفسار 112**1680 14- Videocon seeks to present and distribute its products to citizens of all

منتماتها على اكبر مستوى. فكم فرعاً لها في الجمهورية؛ 🗆 ۱۱ نوع 🗆 ۱۲ فرع 🗖 ۱۲ لوع

Competition

Millions

ؤسف في 13 بناير 2003 هو

🗖 دویات 🗖 كل ما سيق

2003 فيراير 2003 🗖 27 فبرابر 2003

🛘 الهناء 🗖 العملة

🗖 شوكولاتة الأبطال 🗆 ايبووند 🗆 شوكو ويضر

سوق عدن الدولي من أكبر الأسواق في عدن تم إفتتاحه مؤخرا

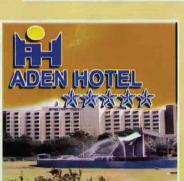
> 🗖 البلك اليملي الإنشاء والتعمير ☐ بلك اليمن والخليج 🗖 بنك اليمن الدولي

> > الإسم:

قم الثلفون:

الرجاء الكتابة بخط واضح











Associate Professor College of Education, Mahweet ramakantasahu@yahoo.com Tel: 73889013

Dr. Ramakanta Sahu

I. What to Say

Situations and Expressions (38): **Expressing contrast and concession**

ontrast involves 'showing difference which is clearly seen when unlike things are put together'. Concession, on the other hand, is the act of admitting, granting or allowing a point or a difference of opinion, especially after discussion or an argument.In normal conversation, sometimes we need to express a concession. A person's broadness and flexibility of mind is indicated by his ability to respect others viewpoints. So, we should have some knowledge about how to express contrast and concession in discourse.

Here are a few suggested ways.

- You may think that I dislike chewing qat, but it is not true at all.
- Inspite of his arrogance, I gave him a patient
- Despite my busy schedule, I shall attend your
- Inspite of the fact that I'm hard pressed for time, I shall help you with your difficulties. Although he is poor, he is honest.
- Regardless of the fact that tomorrow is the exam, I shall find some time to explain the
- However bitter our relationship may be, nothing prevents me from showing simple acts of courtesy to you.
- The inclement weather notwithstanding, we have to go to the market to buy medicines.
- Whatever may be said to the contrary, the fact Even the worst of his enemies would agree that
- he has the best of intentions.
- There may be counter arguments, yet you have
- No matter how many objections his opponents put forth, there is sense in what he says.
- Be not worried about voices. No one can deny the correctness of your decision.
- Dogs bark, but the caravan moves on.
- What you're saying sounds perfectly logical, although a trifle impracticable.
- Granted that the course is tough, but it is rewarding in the long run. Sorry for interruption, but we have something
- urgent to deliver.
- This is very important; other things can wait.
- circumstances are unfavorable; nevertheless he marches forward with an unconquerable will.
- He has a fragile health; nonetheless he is endowed with an irrepressible urge to forge ahead.

II. How to say it

Correct errors, if any, in the following sentences

- 1. He resigned to the will of God.
- 2. I have read Shakespeare's works who was a great dramatist.
- Let you and I solve the problem.
- One of them has given up one's studies. One shouldn't waste his time.

Solutions to last week's questions

- 1. He is working hard with a view to winning this match
- 2. I look forward to meeting an old friend next
- month. He prides himself on his wealth.
- She absented herself from her class
- 5. The dog of Saif who is my friend has died.

III. Increase your word power How to express it in one word

- Twist out of the truth.
- Draw away a person's attention from something. Violently upset in mind.
- State of being no longer in use.

Close

Coins

Coding

Collection

Confirm

Corner

Costs

Curbs

District

Envelope

Express

Fastest

Figures

ANSWER NEXT WEEK

First

Flyer

Days

Countries

Account

Address

Assistants

Area

Bags

Bond

Books

Boxes

Bulk

Buyer

Cards

Carrier

Carton

Cents

Class

Charges

Care

Word or metrical foot consisting of two

Answers to last week's questions

- 1. Cut up parts of an animal body, plant, etc. in order to study its structure: dissect (vt)
- Distribute or spread ideas widely: disseminate
- Long, written treatment of a subject written for a higher university degree: dissertation (n)
- To hide one's true feelings, thoughts, or plans: dissimulate (vt) or dissemble (vt)
- Something that can not be dissolved or disintegrated: dissoluble (adj)

B) Foreign phrases and expressions Use the following foreign expressions in sentences:

1. a la carte; 2. alma mater; 3. anno domini; 4. ante meridiem

Answers to last week's questions

- ad infinitum (Lat) (without limit): The Palestinians are being subjected to misery ad infinitum by Israel.
- ad interim (Lat) (in the mean time): The government has granted an ad-interim relief to the cyclone victims.
- ad libitum (Lat) (to any extent that is desired): In western countries opportunities are ad libitum to harness an individual's potential.
- ad nauseum (adv. Lat) (to the point of being disgusted): We are fed up with your complaints ad nauseum
- ad valorem (Lat) (taxes in proportion to the estimated value of goods): You have to pay duties ad valorem on the imported goods.

C) Words commonly confounded Bring about differences in meaning of the following pairs of words

- Cavalry, infantry
- Cease, seize
- Ceiling, shilling Ceiling, roof
- Cell, shell

Answers to last week's questions:

- cast (vt) (to give vote): All eligible voters should exercise their franchise and cast votes for their chosen candidates. caste (n) (a hereditary social class): Caste
- system still prevails in India. casual (adj) (careless, unmethodical): He is a
- very casual person. causal (adj) (of cause and effect): There is no
- causal connection between the two events. casualty (n) (person killed or seriously injured in an accident): Luckily there was no casualty in
 - causality (n) (relation of cause and effect): The law of causality says that all effects have a
- categorial (adj) (relating to a category): 'Noun', 'adjective', etc. are categorial labels. categorical (adj) (an unconditional and explicit statement): I want a categorical reply from you
- on this matter. caught (vt) (past participle of the verb ('catch'): I am caught between two horns of a dilemma. cut (vt) (divide or separate): He cut the apple

Idioms and phrases

Use the following phrases in sentences so as to illustrate their meaning:

- on behalf of
- behave oneself
- put somebody on his best behavior
- lag behind
- 5. come into being

Answers to last week's questions

by DAVID OUELLET

take to one's bed (stay in bed because of illness): He has taken to his bed consequent upon prolonged illness.

THE POST OFFICE

- 2. have a bee in one's bonnet (be obsessed with an idea): He has a bee in his bonnet about fast
- 3. make a beeline for (go towards quickly): If Yemen's tourist potential is well-publicized, there will be a beeline for the astounding tourist spots here.
- beg off (ask to be excused): Let's not wait for him as he has begged off.
- 5. to begin with (in the first place): Let's reward him; to begin with, he is sincere; secondly, he is well-motivated.

IV. Grammar and composition A) Grammar

Complete the following sentences with in order to in order for

- speak a foreign language well, it's a good idea to use the language as often as possible.
- a movie to be entertaining, it has to have good actors and an interesting story.
- succeed in any job, you have to work
- cultivate good reading habits, one should be interested in books. a restaurant to be popular, it has to make
- available delicious food at reasonable prices/ a book to be successful, it needs to be well written and informative.

Answers to last week's questions

- The trouble with him is that he never turns up on time for the lecture. (arrives)
- Hajer, I'd like you to look into this compliant.
- The bomb went off with a loud bang. (exploded) As he was walking along the street, a dog
- suddenly went in for him. (attacked) You can't have a sandwich. We have run out of bread. (exhausted the supply of)
- Due to the heavy rains, the meeting had to called off. (cancelled)

B) Composition

Expand the idea contained in the proverb: "A rolling stone gathers no moss".

Answers to last week's question (please refer to the passage published in the previous issue)

Topic sentence: Forests are our most important natural resource.

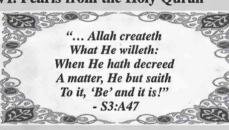
This opening sentence contains the main idea in the form of a general statement or proposition. The remaining sentences provide supporting details which help to develop the main idea. Here, the details take the form of examples which illustrate the main idea. Each sentence in the paragraph, after the opening sentence, provides a new example.

The structure of the paragraph can be shown in the outline given below:

Proposition (general statement: 'Forests are our most important natural resources'. Supporting details (examples to show the

- importance of forests): provide timber, firewood, etc.;
- 2. contribute oxygen to the atmosphere;
- 3. bring rains and prevents floods; 4. control the climate;
- 5. provide shelter to animals.

VI. Pearls from the Holy Quran



VI. Words of Wisdom

D T O C H A R G E S K S T R O P M I S S S E R U G I F A D D R E S S M S E K I H

RKRNTRANSPORTATIONOI

"A cheerful look makes a dish a feast." -George Herbert

Solution: 10 letters

Teaching the 'Direct Method'



DR. BUSHRA S. M. AL-NOORI, Associate Professor of English Head of English Department, Faculty of Education Mahweet noori88@hotmail.com

he direct method is one of the leading methods for teaching a foreign language

The Direct Method lacks a solid

Theoretical background

theoretical back-up in applied linguistics as well as a thorough methodological basis, i.e., there is no control over the context and grading of the course. Teachers are completely free to use as much of the foreign language as they like and in any order depending on their skills. The learning of a foreign language is viewed as parallel to first language acquisition. This requires emphasis on the use of the foreign language, avoiding the mother tongue. Learning process is interpreted in terms of 'associations psychology.'

This means direct association between forms and meanings in the target language. A language is learnt by using it actively in the classroom. This principle is derived from Pavlov's theory.

The emphasis is on direct association of language with objects and persons of immediate environment.

Objectives

The Direct Method aims at learning a foreign language, to communicate and be able to think in the target language.

Principles

The principles of the Direct 9. Method are:

- 1. The native language is not permitted and the instructions are given in the target language. 2. Language is primarily speech;
- speech and reading comprehension are taught, students study common everyday speech in the target language. Writing is an important skill. Self-correction facilitates lan-
- guage learning. Reading skill is developed through practice along with the

skill of speaking.

directly with the target language. Opportunities are given to students to use the target language in

Meaning is to be connected

- a real context. Students are encouraged to think in the target language.
- Grammar is taught inductively. Vocabulary is emphasized more
- than grammar.
- 10. New teaching points are introduced orally.
- . Asking questions is an important technique.
- 12. Culture consists of fine arts, cultural values, history of the people who speak the target language and the geography of their country, and information about daily

lives of the speakers of that lan-

- guage. 13. The teacher and students are partners in the teaching learning process, the interaction is initiated by the teacher.
- 14. The syllabus is based on situations or topics.
- 15. The assumption of this method is that 'Older students should learn in the sme way as a child learns his mother tongue.

Techniques

The techniques used in presenting a lesson according to the Direct Method

- 1. Students read the passage aloud. Students ask questions about the
- new items. Students correct their errors. The teacher dictates a part of the
- material to the students. Students are asked to make sentences using new words.
- 6. Some conversational activities are used by the teacher. 7. Students are encouraged to induce grammatical rules.
- 8. Fill in the blanks exercises are Concrete vocabulary is taught

through demonstration, objects

and pictures, abstract vocabulary

- are taught by association of ideas. 10. Students write a paragraph in their own words on a topic discussed in the class.
- 11. Students are asked about the new items

Some American language educators such as Hester & Diller have interpreted the Direct Method as a cognitive or rationalist method which emphasize, foreign language use without translation in the language classroom. Grammatical explanation is not avoided, but greater emphasis is laid in language use in genuine acts of communication rather than on language drill.

- Tick the most appropriate answers 1. Which is the lowest level of the
- atmosphere of the earth?
- a) Troposphere b) Stratosphere
- d) None of these 2. Which of the following is not a fungus?
- b) Morchella
- d) Sargassum 3. The degeneracy of the genetic code
- means that a) the same amino acid may be coded by two
- b) the same code may code for more than one amino acid
- all the living organisms on the earth have the same codes
- or more codes
- d) genetic code varies in different organisms

Thoughts on the Independence day



We just have to go on

Sharing everybody's dream.

(On the occasion of the 35th anniversary of Independence) Spread the message widely Let the whole world know about it. No more pain we feel. And that's for real. All the fear has gone

Reviving Yemen's glory is all we seek

Without pretence Rana Hasan Scientific section Secondary school 4. Lab test for AIDS is actually a test for a) HIV organism in the blood

- b) Specific antigen in the blood c) Certain toxins produced by the HIV virus d) Specific antibodies in the blood against
- HIV virus 5. What does the acronym RADIUS stand
- Answers to Times Quiz (51) 1. Pipermint flavor is extracted from bark of
- 2. Crystallography refers to the analysis of x-ray spectra of elements and the study of crystal structure. 3. Some animals sleep throughout the
- summer in the dry areas of the world. This is called Aestivation. A quadrant can be defined as a piece of land marked off for the study of plants
- and animals. The abbreviation FIPS stands for Federal information Processing Standard

Waiting for morning



Waiting for morning !! For the sun-rising and the new-coming day. Rest !! not in my life's dictionary Happiness, Oh, it escaped away ...! Since the ice-ages. Perhaps, it will not come-back again I think, it flew to unknown places Before the first shout I had given And before the first sight I sent

People grow quite sleepy at night

Except me, staying suspicious.

When I came to life Saddam Moh'd AL-Zaidi Faculty of Education. Al Mahweet

note to our readers

With the Issue No 618, we have modified the format of Improve Your English to make it a richer and a more effective learning experience. We have plans to include more new iems in future, as well We await your responses to our efforts

Wish you all a very happy and academically rewarding New Year, 2003

Dr. Ramakanta Sahu

WONDERWORD

HOW TO PLAY: First read the list of words, then look at the puzzle. The words are in all directions vertically, horizontally, diagonally, backward. Circle each letter of a word found and strike it off the list. The letters are often used more than once, so do not cross them out. It is best to find the big words first. When you find all the words listed in the clues, you'll have a number of letters left over that spell the Wonderword.

CLUES

Full Online Help Hikes Hold **Imports** Insurance Jets **Jitneys** Labels Lines

Local

Lock

Loss

Lost

Market

Name

Neighborhood

Open Outlet Overseas Oversize Personal Realty Region Registered Reply

Return

Route

Sales

Sort

Second

Shipping

Staffed Stamp Sticker Street Stuffed Tariff Taxes Trace Truck

Transportation

Trust Wait Work

Last Week's Answer: Developer

E R R E A L T Y D S W T T R L O K L V P Y A J I T N E Y S E I S U D B C D K E P U M E G T S E T S A F S E E O A C I R I B E T H S S I E W L T F T L T U G N S N PLSBCNNGYCFUAAREDSEG ALROOITEEUORRTNIEUAE CUERLORATREUEESTSRSZ C|F|L|H|L|C|P|S|X|G|A|C|N|T|P|T|S|A|T|I O C D O E E N E I E O C R T N L L N E S U O O O C O P O N N S I O E R E Y C P R NSLDTANEFTCSCOSIAEOE T T S R I F L I R T A A S T R R E N L V LSAIONRBSSRRIETDLSEO O C V A N M G E U R O C I R R I E S V D SDRACEXRILKNOFNPSRNA TEMDNOCESEKSAEFOXOEY AEIEBSRNRUTERLLABELS

Microsoft falls on lower sales

Corp. MSFT.O shares extended losses on Friday, falling more than 7 percent after the software giant lowered its earnings forecast and even though it announced its first dividends and a two-for-one stock split.

"People hit the shares because guidance was lowered," said Jeff Van Rhee. analyst at Investee Inc., which buys and sells Microsoft shares for investors but does not seek investment banking business with the Redmond. Washington-based company. Van Rhee does not own Microsoft stock.

The world's largest software maker lowered its revenue outlook after the market closed on Thursday, saying it expected revenue of \$31.9 billion to \$32.1 billion for the fiscal year ending June 30. That's down from a previous range of \$32.2 billion to \$32.6 billion. Analysts polled by Thomson First Call. on average, had forecast \$32.5 billion.

Microsoft shares fell \$3.89, or 7.03 percent, to close at \$51.46 on Nasdaq. extending a slide that began in afterhours trade on Thursday. That erased nearly all of this month's rally. The stock peaked at \$57.32 on Jan. 15.

Other technology stocks fell in reaction to the industry leader's slide. International Business Machines Corp. IBM.N was down 5.52 percent at \$81.30 and Cisco Systems Inc. CSCO.O was down 5.17 percent at \$14.13 while the tech-laced Nasdaq Composite Index was down nearly 3

In a surprise move, Microsoft said it would start paying dividends for the first time since going public in 1986. declaring a pre-split annual dividend of 16 cents per share.

The maker of the Windows operating system and the Xbox game machine also announced record sales and unexpectedly strong profit gains for the quarter ended Dec. 31.

While both announcements were positive, analysts said the market was more focused on Microsoft's bearish

"The first thing people looked at was the reduction in forward guidance." Van Rhee said.

Microsoft Chief Financial Officer John Connors said in a conference call Thursday that conditions in the personal computer industry continue to be "soft," although Microsoft stood by its forecast for PC shipments to grow in the "low- to mid-single digits," on a percentage basis, for its business year.

"I don't think that technology stocks can perform as well as the overall market in this environment, given the higher valuations and the lack of information on economic recovery." said Goldman Sachs software analyst Tom Berquist.

Microsoft narrowed the range of its earnings-per-share estimate for the fiscal year, to between \$1.90 and \$1.93, from between \$1.89 and \$1.95 previ-

Microsoft forecast third-quarter revenue of \$7.7 billion to \$7.8 billion, just below the First Call consensus of \$7.96 billion, but above the \$7.25 billion in the year-ago period.

For the second quarter ended Dec. 31. Microsoft beat expectations. reporting a net profit of \$2.55 billion. or 47 cents per share, up from \$2.28 billion, or 41 cents per share, in the year-ago period.

The results included such items as a litigation charge of S210 million, or 3 cents per share, a \$282 million investment impairment charge, and a S126 million tax benefit.

Second-quarter revenue reached a record \$8.54 billion, within Microsoft's own estimated range and up 10 percent from \$7.74 billion a year

Microsoft introduces CD copy-protection 'Fix'

BY BERNHARD WARNER

CANNES. France (Reuters) -Microsoft Corp. MSFT.O announced on Saturday the introduction of new digital rights software aimed at helping music labels control unauthorized copying of CDs, one of the biggest thorns in the ailing industry's side.

Stung by the common practice of consumers copying, or "burning," new versions of a store-bought CD onto recordable CDs. music companies have invested heavily in copy-protection technologies that have mainly backfired or annoyed customers.

For example, most copy-proof CDs are designed so that they cannot be played on a PC, but often this prevents playback on portable devices and car stereos too.

Last year, some resourceful software enthusiasts cracked Sony Music's 6758.T proprietary technology simply by scribbling a magic marker pen around the edges of the disc, thus enabling playback on any device.

Microsoft believes it may have come up with a solution. The new software is called the Windows Media Data Session Toolkit.

It enables music labels to lay songs onto a copy-controlled CD in multiple layers, one that would permit normal playback on a stereo and a PC.

\$500 million investment

The PC layer, laid digitally on the

same disc, can be modified by the content provider, so that they could prevent, for example, burning songs onto another CD, said David Fester, general manager, digital media entertainment for Microsoft.

Universal Music EAUG.PA and EMI EMI.L. two of the biggest record labels in the world, "are very excited about this because it enables the industry to build a CD with their own protections built in," he said, speaking at the Midem music conference in southern France.

Microsoft has invested \$500 million in digital rights management, or DRM. for music, Fester said. The Toolkit was co-developed with technology part-Phoenix-based SunnComm Technologies and France's MPO International Group, he added.

Microsoft is making a concerted push into DRM, a hotly contested new

Technology and media companies. such as Microsoft, Sony, Philips PHG.AS and Real Networks RNWK.O, are looking to build a business out of securing copyright protections across the Internet and other digital media.

Microsoft has discussed plans for an upcoming operating system, codenamed "Palladium," that will seek to put user controls on all bits of information they store on a computer document, from medical records to billing

Music industry to hit the problem at its source

ISPs must pay up for music-swapping

BY BERNHARD WARNER, EUROPEAN INTERNET CORRESPONDENT

CANNES, France (Reuters) - A top music executive said on Saturday that telecommunications companies and Internet service providers (ISPs) will be asked to pay up for giving their customers access to free song-swapping

The music industry is in a tailspin with global sales of CDs expected to fall six percent in 2003, its fourth consecutive annual decline. A major culprit, industry watchers say, is online

Now, the industry wants to hit the problem at its source - Internet serv-

"We will hold ISPs more accountable." said Hillary Rosen, chairman and CEO the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA), in her keynote speech at the Midem music conference on the French Riviera.

"Let's face it. They know there's a lot of demand for broadband simply because of the availability (of file-shar-

ing)," Rosen said.

As broadband access in homes has increased across the Western world, so has the activity on file-sharing servic-

Impossible to enforce

The RIAA is a powerful trade body that has taken a number of file-swapping services, including the now defunct Napster, to court in an effort to shut them down.

Rosen suggested one possible scenario for recouping lost sales from online piracy would be to impose a type of fee on ISPs that could be passed on to their customers who frequent these file-swapping services.

Mario Mariani, senior vice president of media and access at Tiscali. Europe's third largest ISP, dismissed the notion, calling it impossible to

"The peer-to-peer sites are impossible to fight. In any given network, peer-to-peer traffic is between 30 and 60 percent of total traffic. We technically cannot control such traffic." he

Rosen's other suggestions for fighting online piracy were more conciliato-

She urged the major music labels. which include Sony Music, Warner Music, EMI, Universal Music and Bertelsmann's BMG, to ease licensing restrictions, develop digital copyright protections for music, and invest more in promoting subscription download

Pressplay and MusicNet, the online services backed by the majors, plus independent legitimate services such as Britain's Wippit.com, sounded somewhat optimistic about their longterm chances to derail free services such as Kazaa and Morpheus.

But they also acknowledged they cannot compete with the "free" players until the labels clear up the licensing morass that keeps new songs from being distributed online for a fee.

Officials from Pressplay and MusicNet, which are in their second

year in operation, declined to disclose how many customers they have.

"We haven't really started yet," said Alan McGlade, CEO of MusicNet. when asked about his subscriber base.

Michael Bebel. CEO of Pressplay, said his customers tally is in the tens of thousands. He added that the firm, backed by Universal and Sony, could expand into Canada in the first half of the year, its second market after the U.S. He didn't have a timeframe for

Meanwhile, Kazaa and Morpheus claim tens of millions of registered users who download a wide variety of tracks for free.

Rosen hailed a recent U.S. court decision which ruled that Kazaa, operated by Australian-based technology firm Sharman Networks, could be tried in America, as an important legal step to halting the activities of file-sharing

"It's clear to me these companies are profiting to the tune of millions and millions of dollars. They must be held accountable," Rosen said.

Classic games get new life on the web

BY DANIEL SORID

NEW YORK (Reuters) - They were the classics of computing and game playing — Commodore 64. Atari 2600 and the Amiga — but have long since been relegated to the attic to make room for PlayStations and Pentiumpowered PCs

On the Web, however, these classic systems live on and favorite old games can be plucked in an instant. Free-touse software can recreate the look and feel of them on any personal comput-

Classic Gaming (http://www.classicgaming.com), the mission is "to reunite gamers with their favorite games of old." or, as they put it in their guide for new users, to deliver "the quarter-munching. dotgobbling, incredibly fun games of yes-

The site is a great launching point for downloading the key components of any classic system. The software that actually recreates the old games is called an emulator, which gets your computer to pretend it is an Atari or some other old system. Emulators for 19 different systems can be found on Classic Gaming.

With the emulator installed on the computer, it's then just a matter of finding the games to play. Compared to modern video games, classic games are incredibly small. Pitfall. the revered game for the Atari 2600, is only three kilobytes. By comparison, a Microsoft Word document that has only two words is 19 kilobytes.

The small size of the games which in classing gaming speak are called ROMs - makes playing old games easy for anyone with even a slow Internet connection. Decades ago, video games had to be written with a very limited amount of space in mind, because kilobytes were scarce.

Crossing the line

With hundreds of free video games to choose from, classic gamers can quickly jump from Atari to Colecovision to areade classics. But one can easily cross into a gray area in terms of whether classic gaming

According to Classic Gaming, emulator software is legal. But the games. or ROMs, are "technically copyrighted but are not making anyone money or being sold." The site only offers games for discontinued game systems. generally from before 1992.

But on some gaming Web sites. emulators are available for current-day game systems. The eagle-eyed game makers are noticing, and are asking that copyrights be respected. The owners of ROMNation (http://www.romnation.net) recently took down around a dozen video games, including Grand Theft Auto and Frogger, after they got a letter saying they were infringing on copyrights.

One novel way to circumvent legal issues is to play so-called new classics: New games to be played on old On (http://www.atariage.com), a site for fanatics of the classic Atari systems. one can find "Space Instigators," a version of the arcade game Space Invaders that "is much more faithful" to the original than the Atari version.

Finding your games

If you remember an old game and want a quick way to find it, turn to the Emulator Supersite (http://www.rom-emulatorsupersite.com/index.php). One can search through hundreds of games on a wider range of systems. This page also offers a link to emulators for PlayStation 2, the latest game system from Sony Corp. 6758.T

A number of popular sites can be found on the Top 50 Emulation Sites page (http://www.top50emu.com).

Once the games are downloaded, it can sometimes take some effort to get them to work. Emulator software is free, and thus lacks the technical support of commercial software. But help is easily found on message boards. where a very active community of classic gamers check in.

Point your browser to Emutalk (http://www.emutalk.net), a popular discussion site. The chat ranges from technical talk to basic help on getting emulators to work.

EU denies U.S. charge of 'immoral' biotechpolicy

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - A meeting. transatlantic war of words over the . European Union's moratorium on genetically modified crops heated up on Friday as top EU aides accused the United States of spreading rumors about Europe's aid policies.

In a letter to the Wall Street Journal. EU Trade Commissioner Pascal Lamy denied either the EU or individual member states made their aid for African countries contingent on those nations banning genetically modified

"We very much regret that U.S. officials are peddling this rumor, and even more that you gave credence to it without checking with the EU." Lamy

The letter responded to a recent WSJ opinion piece praising U.S. Trade Representative Robert Zoellick for his criticism of Europe's "immoral" stance on genetically modified crops. It was also signed by EU

Agriculture Commissioner Franz Fischler. Development Humanitarian Aid Commissioner Poul Nielsen. Health and Consumer Protection Commissioner David Byrne, Environment Commissioner Margot Wallstrom and External Relations Commissioner Chris Patten. Last week. Zoellick said U.S.

patience with the EU's four-year-old moratorium on the approval of genetically modified crops was running out. and that he now favored taking Brussels to the World Trade Organization to end the ban.

Zoellick also told reporters the United States had received information that some EU member states had told developing countries that they could not use biotechnology food products if they want to continue receiving assistance.

"I find it immoral that people are not being supplied with food to live in Africa because people have invented dangers about biotechnology," he said.

Zoellick repeated the charge in interviews this week in Africa, where he was attending a trade ministers

"When I was in Africa (last year) a couple of African ministers told me of actions by (EU) member states, not the (European) Commission, but member states, that in various ways were trying to stop them from biotechnology development and using aid to do that." Zoellick said.

"I have mentioned this to my friend, Commissioner Lamy. I know it is not his view, but all I can do is report what I have been told by some of the African ministers. And I think it is extremely sad and disturbing," he said.

U.S. farmers say they have lost hundreds of millions of dollar of sales because of the EU's moratorium.

The United States is a major producer of biotech foods, with about 70 percent of soybeans and more than 25 percent of corn grown from genetically modified seeds. The biotech company Monsanto Co. hopes to bring biotech wheat to market.

Concern about maintaining good trade relations with the EU apparently was one factor in Zambia's decision last year not to accept genetically modified corn under U.S. food aid

Lamy denied the EU has used its influence to persuade African nations not to accept genetically modified

"The EU has never suggested to African governments that GM (genetically modified) foods are unsafe - in fact, we made available to them our scientific research for the GM varieties we have approved. Neither has it said that GM should not be allowed into their countries," he said.

President Bush's cabinet is expected to meet later this month to decide whether to launch a WTO case against the EU. Brussels argues the move would be counterproductive because the EU is already moving to lift its moratorium.

The U.S. Trade Representative's office had no immediate reaction to the EU accusation it was spreading "unsubstantiated" rumors.

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■ للايجار: بيت ؛ غرف، حمامين مطبخ تصميع داخلي لوكس. والسعر ٢٠٠٠٠ الى . . . ٢٥ ريالاً، قابل للتفاوض، شارع مزفلت في

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■ محمد احمد المحفدي: خبرة في مجال التصوير الفوتوغرافي، يجيد التعامل مع الكمبيوتر، انجليزية متوسطة. ص.ب: ١١٥٥ almahfadi 505@yahoo.com احمد سعد الذبحاني: سائق، مراسل، وايتر مطعم، مراقب وقت، يجيد اللغة الانجليزية نطقاً،

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٤٧٤٨٤٧٤ . فاكس: ٥٧٤٨٤٧ raed260@yahoo.com ■ يعلن ادمكس لخدمات الدعامة والتسويق والتوظيف عن حاجته الى موظفين للعمل كمندوبين سدانسن، (مع ادمكس، زيادة

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Unique wildlife calls Yemen home

By Mahyoub al-Kamali Yemen Times Staff

emen is gifted with rare wildlife in the Arab Peninsula.

Preserving and protecting the wildlife constitutes a tourist and economical resource for the country. This will make the country a magnet for environmental studies and scientific research.

Field visits and surveys have indicated that around 70 species of wildlife are found in Yemen where other countries don't have the same.

Five kinds of Gazelles are found in Yemen such as, the Arab Gazelle which lives in the acacia and savanna environment.

In the eastern regions of the country, animals such as the ibex live in the mountain slopes.

Monkeys still live in groups in different areas and near water springs. But the majority of monkeys are extinct due to the water scarcity.

Among the common animals that have been found is the red fox and stripped hyena that feeds on the meat the dead animals.

Four other kinds of foxes are found in Yemen, such as the sand fox which has a very long ears and has a very small body. Five species of wild cats are under the threat of extinction along with the Arabic tiger in some of the rocky mountain slopes.

The presenters of the National Biodiversity Plan said that the leopard in Yemen might now be extinct. It has been last seen in 1963 in Meetan Valley in the south of country.

Arabian Golden Sparrow

h the Birds

Yemen is regarded as one of those countries that is rich in bird life. More than 363 different kinds of birds have been recorded in Yemen. This is attributed to the biological and climate bio-diversity.

Among them are the Abu Manjal bird which can be found around the city of Taiz and the white seabird which can be found in the coastal areas.

There are other different kinds of birds such as the eagle.

Yemeni bird life has gained the focus of the attention of those interested in birds.

The majority of birds live in the mountain heights, including the nightingale, Arabian golden sparrow and Philby's rock partridge

Five seabirds have been recorded in Yemen such as, red-beak tropical bird and the seabird which can be found on the Red Sea and on coasts of the Yemeni islands.

Around 220 migratory birds have been recorded in Yemen during the winter season.

Different rare bird species live in the fresh water, such as ducks and grebes.

The concerned bodies interested in the biological bio-diversity have to realize the great significance of the wildlife considering it is part of Yemen's identity.



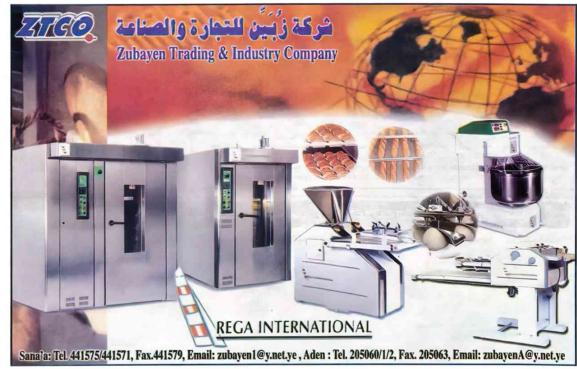


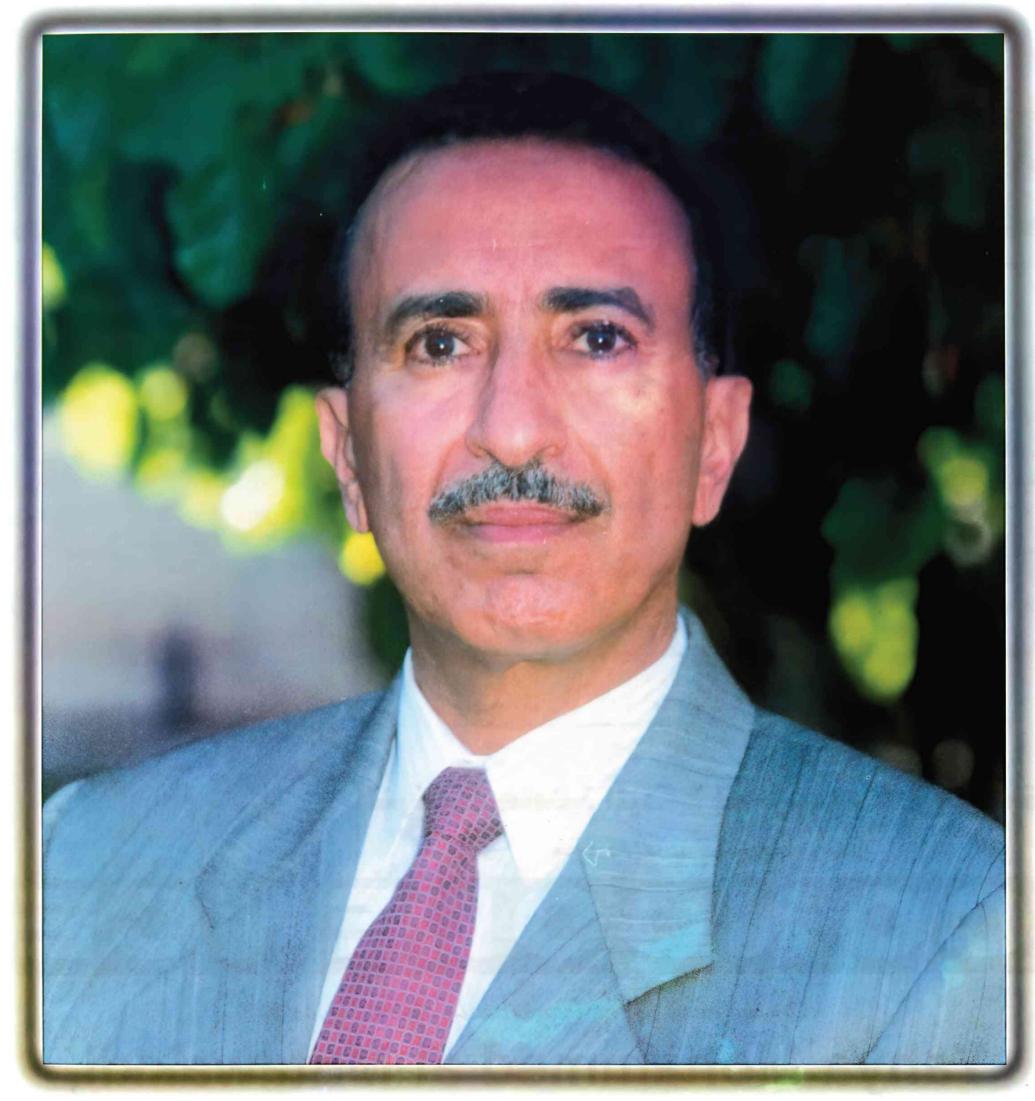
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- كان عضوا في مجلس الدفاع ومديراً لمكتب القائد العام للقوات
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 - تولى قائداً للواء صعدة عام 1970م.
 - عين عضوا للمجلس الوطني عام 1970م.
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- عين سفيراً لليمن في الولايات المتحدة الامريكية خلال 1976-
- عين سفيراً لليمن في فرنسا من عام 1982-1985م.
- عين محافظاً لمحافظة إب من عام 1985-1988م
- عين عضوا بالمجس الاستشاري من 1988 1991م.
- من ابرز قيادات المؤتمر الشعبي العام حيث كان عضوا في اللجنة الدائمة للمؤتمر منذ عام 1988م، ومديراً لمعهد الميثاق 1988م.
- عين وزير للداخلية عام 1993-1994م، وانتخب اميناً عاماً مساعداً للمؤتمر في نفس العام.
 - عين عضواً بمجلس الشوري منذ عام 2001م.





البقـــاء للـــه

المالي المنظمة المنظمة

بحزن شديد وبقلوب مؤمنة بقضاء الله وقدره تلقينا نبأ وفاة المناضل الوطني الكبير/

اللواء/ يحبي محمد المتوكل

الأمين العام المساعد للمؤتمر الشعبي العام، عضو المجلس الإستشاري

إثر حادث مروري أليم

وبهذا الرحيل المفاجئ تكون اليمن قد خسرت مناضلاً جسوراً وقيادياً بارزاً وشخصية وطنية نبيلة مشهوداً لها بالكفاءة والأخلاص والتفاني في أداء الواجب وخدمة الوطن وإزاء هذا المصاب الجلل والفاجعة الأليمة التي حلت بالوطن والأمة، لايسعنا إلا أن نتقدم بصادق العزاء وعظيم المواساة لقيادتنا السياسية الحكيمة ممثلة بالزعيم الرمز

المشير/ على عبد الله صالح

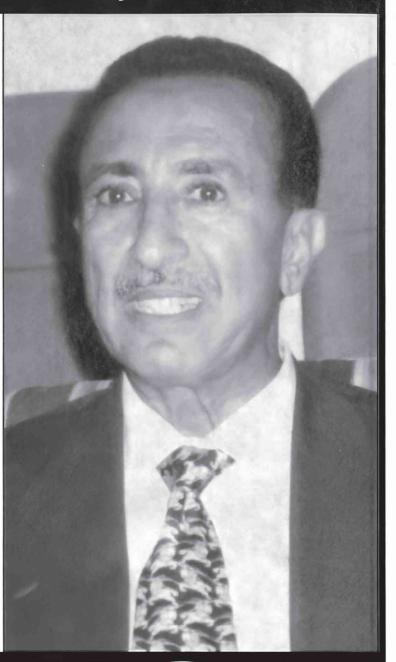
وإلى أبناء الفقيد وقيادات وكوادر المؤتمر الشعبي العام وإلى كافة أبناء الشعب اليمني سائلين المولى عز وجل أن يتغمد الفقيد بواسع رحمته ويلهم اهله وذويه الصبر والسلوان وأن لا يريهم مكروها بعده أنه سميع مجيب

«إن لله وإنا إليه راجعوة»

(الأسيفوي:

الشركة التضامنية اليمنية للمشروبات الفازية (يبكو)

محمد علي درهم - رئيس مجلس الإدارة



CONDOLENCE

On the news of the tragic death of the brigadier,

Yahya Mohammed al-Mutawakkil,

the General Secretary Assistant of the General People's Congress and a member at Shura Council, we express our deepest condolences to His Excellency, the President

Ali Abdullah Saleh,

the late's sons, his brothers, the GPC members and all Yemenis for the sad demise of this patriot who devoted his life to struggle for the revolution, republican regime and unity.

He supported stability, progress and freedom of people.

We pray to Almighty Lord to rest his soul in peace in heaven and bestow his family, relatives and friends courage and strength to bear this great loss. Amen.

YEMEN UNITED BEVERAGES CO.

(YUBCO)

البقــاء للــاه

المنظم ال



اللواء/ يحيي محمد المتوكل

الأمين العام المساعد للمؤتمر الشعبي العام، عضو المجلس الإستشاري

إثر حادث مروري مروع

وبهذا الرحيل المفاجئ تكون اليمن قد خسرت مناضلاً جسوراً وقيادياً بارزاً وشخصية وطنية نبيلة مشهوداً لها بالكفاءة والأخلاص والتفاني في أداء الواجب وخدمة الوطن.

وإزاء هذا المصاب الجلل والفاجعة الأليمة التي حلت بالوطن والأمة، لايسعنا إلا أن نتقدم بصادق العزاء وعظيم المواساة لقيادتنا السياسية الحكيمة ممثلة بالزعيم الرمز

المشير/ علي عبد الله صالح

وإلى أبناء الفقيد وإلى قيادات وكوادر المؤتمر الشعبي العام وإلى كافة أبناء الشعب اليمني سائلين المولى عز وجل أن يتغمد الفقيد بواسع رحمته ويلهم اهله وذويه الصبر والسلوان وأن لا يريهم مكروها بعدخ أنه سميع مجيب (إلى للم وإنا للم ولم والمناطقة المناطقة المناط

(الأسيفوة:

شركة سبأ العالمية للملاحة وإستثمار المشاريع المحدودة

مطلوب عاطف الشرقي

رئيس مجلس الإدارة

CONDOLENCE

On the news of the tragic death of the brigadier,

Yahya Mohammed al-Mutawakkil,

the General Secretary Assisstant of the General People's Congress and a member at Shura Council, we express our deepest condolences to His Excellency, the President

Ali Abdullah Saleh,

the late's sons, his brothers, the GPC members and all Yemenis for the sad demise of this patriot who devoted his life to struggle for the revolution, republican regime and unity.

He supported stability, progress and freedom of people.

We pray to Almighty Lord to rest his soul in peace in heaven and bestow his family, relatives and friends courage and strength to bear this great loss. Amen.

Saba International Shipping & Project Investment Co., Ltd

represented by the Chairman of the Board of Directors

Mr. Matloob Atef al-Sharqi



((با رأيها النفس المعلمية الرجعي الي ربك راضية مرضية فاوخلي في مجاوي والوخلي

CONDOLENCE

DNO Yemen

With deep sorrow and grief **DNO** Yemen and all the Company's staff extend their deep sympathy and condolences to

H.E. President/

Ali Abdullah Saleh

on the death of

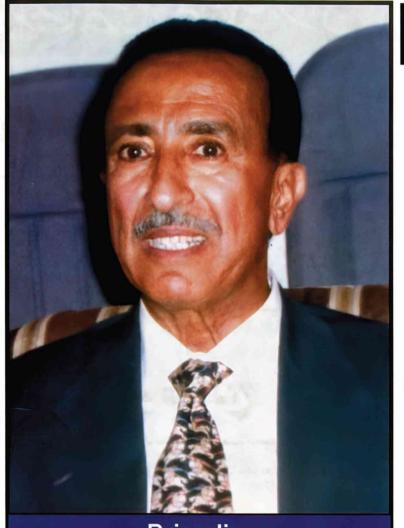
Brigadier

Yahya al-Mutawakkil,

the Secretary General Assistant of the General People's Congress.

We pray to Almighty Allah to rest his soul in Peace.





Brigadier Yahya al-Mutawakkil

البقساء للسه

ببالغ الحزن والأسى تتقدم

DNO Yemen

وكافة موظفيها ومنتسبيها بأحر التعازي القلبية وعظيم المواساة الى رئيس الجمهورية فخامة الأخ/

على عبد الله صالح

وإلى أبناءالفقيد واخوانه في وفاة المغفور له -بإذن الله تعالى-

فقيد الوطن اللواء/ يحي المتوكل

الأمين العام المساعد للمؤتمر الشعبى العام مبتهلين إلى المولى عز وجل ان يتغمد الفقيد بواسع رحمته وغفرانه، وأن يسكنه فسيح جناته، ويعصم قلوب الجميع بالصبر والسلوان، «إنا لله وإنا إليه راجعون»







Sun Temple Group for Services

represented by the Chairman of the Group:

Mr. Hassan Rubeya Bin Ghuraib, & General Manager of the Group Mr. Aziz Rubeya Bin Ghuraib.

present their heartiest condolences to the president of the Republic of Yemen,

H.E. Field Marshal,

Ali Abdullah Saleh

and to all the GPC leaderships, the late's sons, his brothers, and all Yemenis for the sad demise of this patriot who devoted his life to struggle for the revolution, republican regime and unity.

on the death of Brigadier

Yahya M. al-Mutawakkil,

the Secretary General Assistant of the General People's Congress. We pray to Almighty Lord to rest his soul in peace in heaven and bestow his family, relatives and friends courage and strength to bear this great loss.



Brigadier Yahya al-Mutawakkil



ممثلة بالأستاذ/ حسن ربيع بن غريب رئيس المجموعة و الأستاذ/ عزيز ربيع بن غريب مدير عام المجموعة يتقدمون بأحر التعازي وأصدق المواساة الى فخامة الأخ/

على عبد الله صالح - رأي الجهورة والى أبناءالفقيد واخوانه في وفاة المغفور له -بإذن الله تعالى- فقيد الوطن

اللواء/يحي محمد المتوكل

الأمين العام المساعد للمؤتمر الشعبى العام

الذي أفني حياته في النضال من أجل الثورة والنظام الجمهوري والوحدة اليمنية وإنتصار إرادة الشعب في الحرية والتقدم والإستقرار وبهذا المصاب الجلل لا يسعنا إلا أن نتقدم بالتعازي إلى أبناء الفقيد وأخوانه وكافة أبناء شعبنا اليمني

مبتهلين إلى المولى عز وجل ان يتغمد الفقيد بواسع رحمته وغفرانه، وأن يسكنه فسيح جناته، ويعصم قلوب الجميع بالصبر والسلوان،

((إن لله وإنا إليه راجعوة))

Head Office: P.O. Box. 12402 Sana'a ROY Tel. +967 01 446215/447736,

Mobile: +967 71104335, Fax. 967 1 446216, Ernail. <u>hrgco@y.net.ye</u>

Marib Office: P.O. Box. 97609 Marib, ROY Marib Yard: + 967 6 302019, Tel. +967 6 301206 Pager. 5810040,

Fax. +967 6 302997



فرع مارب ، ص .ب 97609 مارب الموقع هاتف: 967 1 302019 +، +967 1 301206 بيجر، 5810040 فاكس: 967 1 302997 +967

المكتب الرئيسي ص.ب 12402 ماتف: 447736/446215 +967 جوال: 71104335 +967 فاكس: 446216 1 967+ بريد إلكتروني: hrgco@y.net.ye



((وبيئر الصابرين الزين إول أصابتهم مصببة قالول: إنا لله وأنا إليه راجعوة))) صدة الله العظيم

النقاء للسه

بقلوب مؤمنة بقضاء الله وقدره تلقبنا نبأ وفاة المغفور له -ياذن الله تعالى-

اللواء/ يحي المذوكل الأمبن العام المساعد للمؤتمر الشعبي العام إثـر حـادث مـروري مؤسـف وبهذا المصاب الجلل ننقدم بأحر النعازي وأصدق المواساة

إلىٰ الأخ/ علي عبد الله صالح رئبس الجمهورية وإلىٰ المهندس/ محمد يحى المأوكل

وإلى أسرة الفقيد وكافة ابناء الشعب البهني سائلبن المولى عز وجل أن ينغمد الفقيد بواسع رحمنه ويلهم اهله وذويه الصبر والسلوان «إنا لله وإنا إليه راجعون»

مؤسسة عبدالواحد محمد نعمان وأولاده (محلات المشهور) (وكيل منتجات كانون)

CONDOLENCE

We are deeply sorrowed and tremendously shocked by the sudden demise of **Brigadier General Yahya al-Mutawakkil**,

the Secretary General Assistant of the General People's Congress.

Mr. al-Mutawakkil shall be remembered for his compassionate and loving human nature.

We present our sincere and heartfelt condolences to the President of the Republic,

Ali Abdullah Saleh

and to

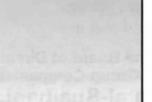
Mr. Mohammed Yahya al-Mutawakkil

And his family and lovers and to the hole Yemeni nation.

May his soul rest in peace.

Abdulwahed M. Noman & Sons Establishment Ltd. (The Popular Store)
(Canon Sole Agent)





((ويتم الصابرين النزين إبوا أصابتهم مصيبة قالول: إنا لله وأرنا إليه راجعوة))

صدق الله العظيم

البقاءلله البقاءاله



بقلوب مؤمنة بقضاء الله وقدره تلقينا نبأ وفاة المغفور له -بإذن الله تعالى-

اللواء/ يحي المتوكل

الأمين العام المساعد للمؤتمر الشعبي العام إثر حادث مروري مؤسف وبهذا المصاب الجلل نتقدم بأحر التعازي وأصدق المواساة إلى الأخ/

علي عبد الله صالح رئيس الجمهورية

وإلى المهندس/

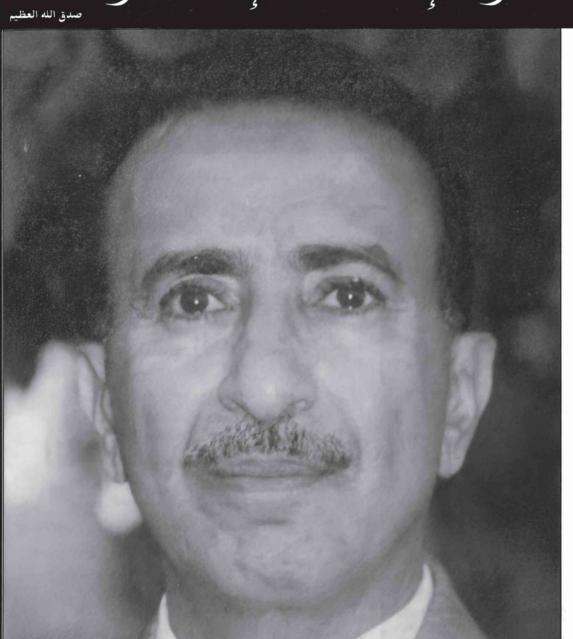
محمد يحي المتوكل

والى أسرة الفقيد وكافة ابناء الشعب اليمني سائلين المولى عزوجل أن يتغمد الفقيد بواسع رحمته ويلهم اهله وذويه الصبر والسلوان

((إنا لله وإنا (ليه راجعوة))

منصور عبد الجليل عبد الرب - محافظ محافظة لحج، العميد ركن/ د. محسن احمد علي -مدير عام امن محافظة لحج، مقدم، عبد السلام لطف الرضي - مدير مباحث محافظة لحج -عقيد/ عبد الهادي محمد غالب - مدير مباحث محافظة عدن

((وبشر (العابريه (الزبه إذا رأصابته مصيبة قالول: إنا لله ورأنا إليه راجعوة))



بقلوب مؤمنة بقضاء الله وقدره تلقينا نبأ وفاة المغفور له -بإذن الله تعالى-

اللواء/ يحي المتوكل

الأمين العام المساعد للمؤتمر الشعبي العام الأمين العام المساعد للمؤتمر الشعبي العام إثر حادث مروري مؤسف وبهذا المصاب الجلل نتقدم بأحر التعازي وأصدق المواساة إلى الأخ/

علي عبد الله صالح رئيس الجمهورية

وإلى المهندس/

محمد يحي المتوكل

وإلى أسرة الفقيد وكافة ابناء الشعب اليمني سائلين المولى عزوجل أن يتغمد الفقيد بواسع رحمته ويلهم اهله وذويه الصبر والسلوان

«(إِنَا لَلْهُ وَإِنَا إِلِيْهُ رَاجِعُوهُ)»

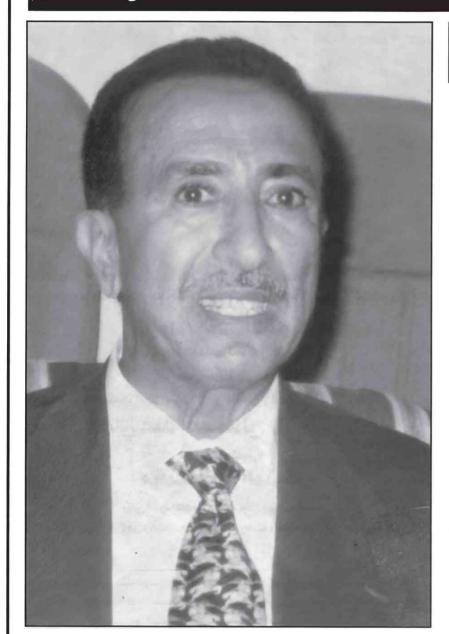
طه احمد غانم، محافظ محافظة عدن، عبد الكريم شائف، الامين العام للمجلس المحلي، محمد صالح طريق، مدير امن محافظة عدن





((وبشر الصابرين الزين إذا الصابيم مصيبة قالوا: إنا لله والنا إليه راجعوى))

صدق الله العظيم



CONDOLENCE

We are deeply sorrowed by the sudden demise of

Brigadier General Yahya al-Mutawakkil,

the Secretary General Assistant of the General People's Congress.

Mr. al-Mutawakkil shall be remembered for his compassionate and loving human nature.

We present our sincere and heartfelt condolences to the President of the Republic,

Ali Abdullah Saleh

Mr. Mohammed Yahya al-Mutawakkil

And his family and lovers and to the hole Yemeni nation.

May his soul rest in peace.

The Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Universal Group Companies,

Mr. Alwan al-Shaibani,

Executive General Director,
Mr. Omar M. Omar

البقاء لله

بقلوب مؤمنة بقضاء الله وقدره تلقينا نبأ وفاة المغفور له -بإذن الله تعالى-

اللبواء/ يمبى المتبوكل

الأمين العام المساعد للمؤتمر الشعبى العام

إتسر حادث مسروري مؤسف

وبهذا المصاب الجلل نتقدم بأحر التعازي وأصدق المواساة

إلى الاخ/ علي عبد الله صالح

رئيس الجمهورية

وإلى المهندس/

محمد يحي المتوكيل

وإلى أسرة الفقيد وكافة ابناء الشعب اليمني سائلين المولى عز وجل أن يتغمد الفقيد بواسع رحمته ويلهم اهله وذويه الصبر والسلوان

«إن لله وإن إليه راجعوة))

المعسزون:

مجموعة شركات العالمية،

الاستاذ/ علوان الشيباني - رئيس مجلس الادارة الأستاذ/ عمر محمد عمر - المدير العام التنفيذي

((با رأيها النفس المعلمية الرجعي الي ربك راضية مرضية فاهخلي في مجباهي والهجلي جنتي))

صدق الله العظيم

CONDOLENCE

Aden University

With deep sorrow and grief

Aden University

Yemen and all the University's staff extend their deep sympathy and condolences to

H.E. President/

Ali Abdullah Saleh

on the death of

Brigadier

Yahya al-Mutawakkil,

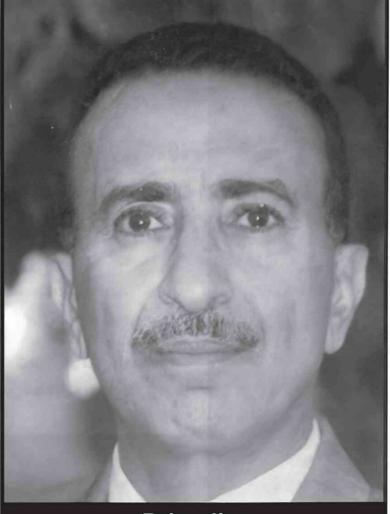
the Secretary General Assistant of the General People's Congress.

We pray to Almighty Allah to rest his soul in Peace.



Dr. Saleh Ba Surrah

Head of Aden University



Brigadier
Yahya al-Mutawakkil

البقساء للسه

ببالغ الحزن والأسى تتقدم

جامعة عدن

وكافة موظفيها ومنتسبيها بأحر التعازي القلبية وعظيم المواساة الى رئيس الجمهورية فخامة الأخ/

على عبد الله صالح

وإلى أبناء الفقيد واخوانه في وفاة المغفور له - باذن الله تعالى - فقيد الوطن

اللواء / يحي المتوكل

الأمين العام المساعد للمؤتمر الشعبي العام

مبتهلين إلى المولى عز وجل ان يتغمد الفقيد بواسع رحمته وغفرانه، وأن يسكنه فسيح جناته، ويعصم قلوب الجميع بالصبر والسلوان،

«إِنَّا لَلَّهُ وَإِنَّا إِلَيْهُ رَاجِعُوهُ»

د. صالح باصرة رئيس جامعة عدن

Excerpts from Brigadier Yahya Al-Mutawakkil's life

o doubt, the life of Brigadier Yahya Mohammed Al-Mutawakkil was full of shining moments that revealed his courage and wisdom. He was a brave soldier, a wise leader, and a humble person.

Here, in this supplement on Al-Mutawakkil, we present a few shining moments from his life.

On the 25th of September 1961, Yahya Al-Mutawakkil along with Mohammed Hassan Al-Amri received a number of scuttles full of explosives and ammunition and transported them to the Free Officers Organization led by Ali Abdulmughni and Mohammed Mutahhar. He was among those on the frontline during the battle on the 26th of September 1962 against the Imam during the attack against Dar Al-Bashair and the Imam's other buildings.

On the 29th of the same month, he led a military campaign that headed for the northern and western areas of the country through the routes of Amran, Raida, Khamir and Hauth. He continued his campaign, which was later joined by Sheikh Abdullah bin Hussein Al-Ahmar and Hashid tribes, and engaged in a pitched battle before entering Al-Qafla, where he continued to Shahara then to Washaha where the Imam's center there fell into the hands of the republicans.

By then, Yahya's brother Ahmed Al-Mutawakkil had fallen in the hands of Imam Badr, who was preparing them to be executed along with other revolutionaries captured at the time. The attack led by Yahya Al-Mutawakkil resulted in the destruction of the center, where his brother was held, resulting in his freedom along with all other fighters, who were able to escape death narrowly.

He continued his campaign resulting in the defeat and retreat of the Imam forces.

In February 1963, Al-Mutwakkil led yet another campaign against what was left of the Imamate regime causing their retreat to the mountain of Al-Ahnum, but the battle resulted in his severe injury, after which he was taken to Cairo for treatment.

After healing from his wounds in September 1963, he along with four other officers left to the USSR to pursue their academic studies.

In 1965, he graduated with a degree equivalent to MA in military studies. In the end of 1965 he was appointed as the manager of a circle of military establishments, and was in 1966 promoted to become the General Manager of the department of military and army training.



In September 1966, he joined the Yemeni government and command of the army in the confrontation with the Egyptian leadership because of the return of Al-Sallal from Taiz, while there was unanimity inside the government on his non-return. He, along with government and army leadership, was moved to Egypt where he was imprisoned in the military prison after being accused of rebelling against Al-Sallal. He stayed in prison from October 1967 until he returned with the government to Sanaa participate in the 5 November movement as he was a member of the military leadership of the movement.

After Al-Amri returned from Egypt and after he was appointed as the Prime Minister, he appointed Al-Mutawakkil as his office manager after he was a member of the defence council. He then participated in the 70-day war around Sanaa alongside Al-Amri and the Republic Guards.

At the end of 1968, he was appointed as a member of the national council on behalf of the military forces along with General Abdulkarim Al-Sukkari.

In 1969 he held the post of deputy commander in Chief of the armed forces for financial and administrative affairs.

At the end of 1969 he returned to the national council after he resigned from his post after the return of Al-Amri as the general commander of the army.

In 1970, he left to Saudi Arabia along with Prime Minister Muhsin Al-Aini and Foreign Minister to attend the first conference of Islamic nations. At the time, Saudi Arabia did not recognize Yemen as a sovereign state. In this particular conference, an agreement between Yemen and Saudi Arabia was reached to start negotiations to end the Yemeni-Saudi dispute and to end the war between republicans and monarchists.

In June 1970, Al-Mutawakkil left to Saudi Arabia to complete what

was pending in the Yemeni-Saudi mentioned agreement, which mentioned that Yemen would accept the return of all monarchists to Yemen except Hameeduddin in return of having Saudi Arabia recognize the Yemen Arab Republic. Indeed, the agreement was reached, thereafter Yemen was recognized by neighboring kingdom.

In 1971, Yahya was appointed as ambassador of Yemen to Egypt and

Libya and in 1967 he participated in the June movement and returned as a member of the leadership council and as the Minister of Interior.

In June 1975, his resignation from the last posts was accepted and in 1976 he flew to the USA to become Yemen's ambassador there and non-resident Ambassador of Yemen to Mexico and Canada.

In 1981 he become Yemen's ambassador to France and returned following his resignation in 1982 to his homeland in Yemen.

He worked in 1985 as the governor of lbb and the next year he nominated himself during the third congress of the General People's Congress in Taiz. He then became a member of the permanent committee of the GPC.

In 1988 he worked as a member of the consultative council and was elected as a member of the general committee of the GPC and manager of Al-Mithaq Institute.

During 1990-1993 he was appointed as the head of the political office of the GPC. He was actively involved during this period as part of his work at the consultative council to consolidate unity by bringing the Yemeni Socialist Party, Islah, and the GPC closer together.

In1993 he was appointed as the Minister of Interior for the coalition government of the three parties under the leadership of Haidar Abubakr Al-Attas.

He resumed his post as the Minister of Interior following the 1994 civil war in Yemen as part of the new Islah-GPC government.

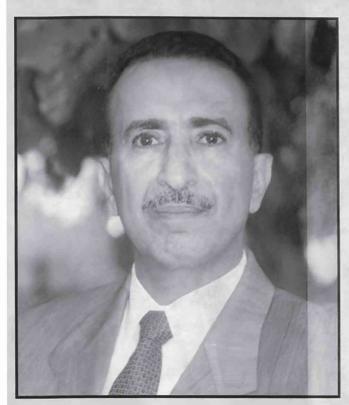
In 1995 he resigned from his post as Minister of Interior due to his deteriorating health conditions and became the advisor to the President.

He received 2nd class unity medal and was promoted to Brigadier General in 1994.

Al-Mutawakkil was posted in the consultative council in 1998 and was posted in the Shura council in 2000.

Brigadier Yahya Mohammed al-Mutawakil: Biography

20 January, 2003



- · Born in Shahara, Hajja, 28 May 1942.
- Graduated from Airforce Academy in 1961 and finished a Military Staff course in the Soviet Union in 1965.
- Joined Free Officers Organisation in 1961 and effectively participated in the outbreak of 26 September Revolution in 1962.
- Assumed the military command of the North-Western region during the period 1962-1963.
- Assumed administration of educational institutions of the armed forces in 1965-1966.
- Member of Defense Council and director of Armed Forces Commander in Chief office, 1967-1968 and Deputy Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces in 1969.
- · Commander of Sa'da army brigade in 1970.
- appointed member of the National Council in 1970.
- · Yemen's ambassador to Egypt, 1971-1974.
- Appointed member of Command Council and interior minister, 1974-1975.
- Yemen's ambassador to the United States of America, 1976-1981.
- Yemen's ambassador to France, 1982-1985.
- Governor of the Governorate of lbb, 1985-1988.
- Appointed as member of the Consultative Council, 1988-1991.
- He is one of the most outstanding leaders of the General People's Congress party. He was member of the General Committee of the GPC since 1988 and director of al-Mithaq Institute in 1988
- Elected as chairman of the GPC's Political Office in the period 1990-1993.
- In 1993-1994 he occupied the post of interior minister.
- In 1995 he was appointed advisor to the president of the republic and was elected assistant secretary-general of the GPC in the same year.
- He has been appointed member of the Shoura Council since 2001.

((وبشر (لصابرين (لزبن إذر أصابته مصيبة قالول: إنا لله ورأنا إليه راجعون))

صدق الله العظيم



CONDOLENCE

We are deeply sorrowed by the sudden demise of

Brigadier General Yahya al-Mutawakkil,

the Secretary General Assistant of the General People's Congress.

Mr. al-Mutawakkil shall be remembered for his compassionate and loving human nature.

We present our sincere and heartfelt condolences to the President of the Republic,

Ali Abdullah Saleh

and to

Mr. Mohammed Yahya al-Mutawakkil

And his family and lovers and to the hole Yemeni nation.

May his soul rest in peace.

United Company for Industrial Metals

General Manager, Mr. Hamdo Abdulkareem

البقساء للسه

بقلوب مؤمنة بقضاء الله وقدره تلقينا نبأ وفاة المغفور له -بإذن الله تعالى-

اللواء/ يحيى المتوكل

الأمين العام المساعد للمؤتمر الشعبي العام

إثسر حادث مسروري مؤسف

وبهذا المصاب الجلل نتقدم بأحر التعازي وأصدق المواساة

إلى الاخ/ علي عبد الله صالح

رئيس الجمهورية

وإلى المهندس/

محمد يحي المتوكل

وإلى أسرة الفقيد وكافة ابناء الشعب اليمني سانلين المولى عز وجل أن يتغمد الفقيد بواسع رحمته ويلهم اهله وذويه الصبر والسلوان «إنا لله وإنا إليه راجعون»

الشركة المتحدة للصناعات المعدنية

الأستاذ/ حمدو عبد الكريم - المدير العام

ننقدم بخالص العزاء والمواساة إلى كل من

الأخ محمد يحبى المنوكل، والسفبر أحمد محمد المنوكل وجميع آل المنوكل، والوالد محمد محمد المنصور، وجميع آل المنوكل وغيرهم من الحرس والمرافقين وجميع آل المنصور، وجميع أهالي الشهداء الذين توفوا في الحادث الألبم من ببت المنوكل وغيرهم من الحرس والمرافقين

لوفاة الأخ المناضل الكببر اللواء يحبئ محمد المنوكل والأخ مطهر المنوكل وجميع من كثبت لهم الشهادة مع هذا المناضل العزيز

تغمدهم الله جمعا بواسع رحمنه وأسكنهم فسبح جناته، وإنا لله وإنا إلبه راجعون

الأسبفون

الوالد العلامة محمد حسن الحبفي، والأسناذ محسن العبني والأسناذ على العبني والمهندس أحمد العبني وجمع آل العبني ووالوالد على حسن الحبفي، والأسناذ محمد جباري وجمع آل جباري وحسن محمد الحبفي والأسناذ محمد محمد مطهر، والأخ عبدالله الحبفي وجمع آل الحبفي، والدكنور محمد محمد مطهر، والأخ حسن عبدالقادر وجمع آل عبدالقادر، والأخ عبدالله الحمد على أبو طالب وجمع آل أبو طالب، والأخ على الحبلة، والوالد لطف الروضي، وهمه أل العمدي، والأخ على العمدي وجمع آل العمدي، والأخ محمد أحمد حميد الدين، والأخ على شريع









((با رأيها النفس العلمية ارجعي الى ربك راضية مرضية فاوخلي في مجباوي والوخلي جنتي))

صدق الله العظي

CONDOLENCES

LIMITED

With deep sorrow and grief **DOVE ENERGY LIMITED**

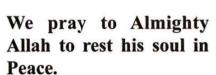
Management and staff extend their sympathy and condolences to

H.E. President ALI ABDULLAH SALEH

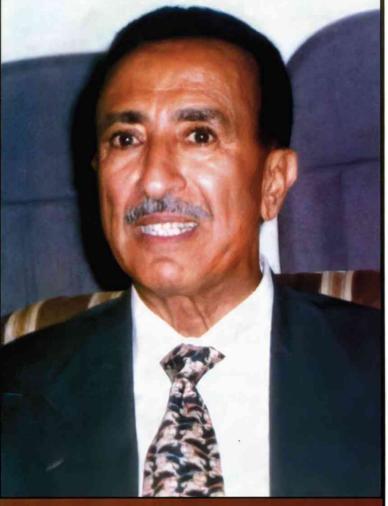
> on the death of **BRIGADIER**

YAHYA AL-MUTAWAKKIL

the Secretary General Assistant of the General People's Congress.







Brigadier Yahya al-Mutawakkil

البقاء لله

ببالغ الحزن والأسى تتقدم

DOVE ENERGY LIMITED

وكافة موظفيها ومنتسبيها بأحر التعازي القلبية وعظيم المواساة الى رئيس الجمهورية فخامة الأخ/

علي عبد الله صالح

وإلى أبناءالفقيد واخوانه في وفاة المغفور له -بإذن الله تعالى-

فقيد الوطن اللواء/ يحي المتوكل

الأمين العام المساعد للمؤتمر الشعبى العام



مبتهلين إلى المولى عز وجل ان يتغمد الفقيد بواسع رحمته وغفرانه، وأن يسكنه فسيح جناته، ويعصم قلوب الجميع بالصبر والسلوان،

«إن لله وإن إليه راجعوة»

١١ ويم (العابريه النزيه إذا أصابته معيبة قالول: إنا لله وأنا إليه راجعوف))

صدق الله العظي

CONDOLENCE

We are deeply sorrowed by the sudden demise of

Brigadier Yahya al-Mutawakkil,

the Secretary General Assistant of the General People's Congress. Mr. al-Mutawakkil shall be remembered for his compassionate and loving human nature.

Nabors Drilling International Ltd.

presents its sincere and heartfelt condolences to the President of the Republic,

Ali Abdullah Saleh and to

Mr. Mohammed Yahya al-Mutawakkil

And his family and lovers and to the hole Yemeni nation. May his soul rest in peace.

Nabors Drilling International Ltd





Brigadier Yahya al-Mutawakkil

بقلوب مؤمنة بقضاء الله وقدره تلقينا نبأ وفاة المغفور له -بإذن الله تعالى-

اللبواء / يحبي المتبوكل

الأمين العام المساعد للمؤتمر الشعبى العام

إنسر هادث مسروري مؤسف

وبهذا المصاب الجلل تتقدم شركة نيبرس درلنج إنترناشيونال لميتد بأحر التعازي وأصدق المواساة

رئيس الجمهورية وإلى المهندس/

د يحي المتو

وإلى أسرة الفقيد وكافة ابناء الشعب اليمنى سائلين المولى عز وجل أن يتغمد الفقيد بواسع رحمته ويلهم اهله وذويه الصبر والسلوان

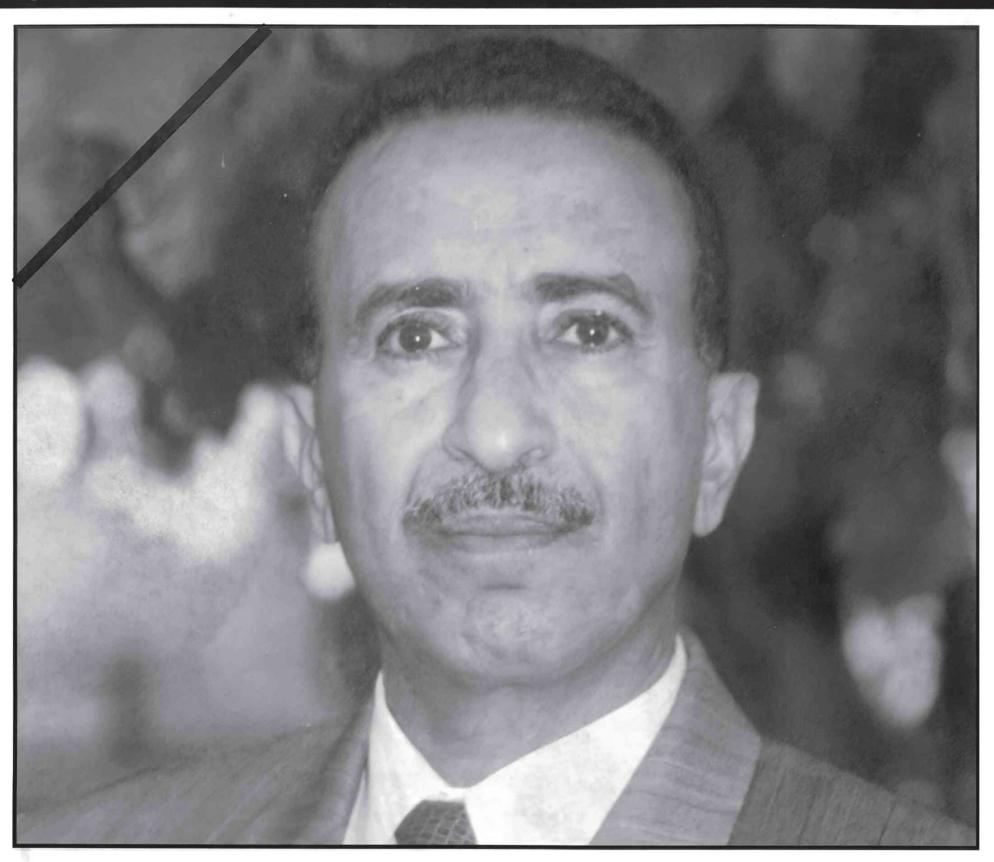
«إن لله وإنا إليه راجعوى»





((با رأيها النفس المعلمينة الرجعي الى ربك راضية مرضية فاوخلي في مجاوي والوخلي جنتي))

صدق الله العظيم



بقلوب مفعمة بالاسي والحزن تلقينا نبأ وفاة المغفور له -بإذن الله تعالى-

اللواء/ يحي المتوكل

مستشار رئيس الجمهورية، الامين العام المساعد للمؤتمر الشعبي العام الذي انتقل الى جوار ربه الاسبوع الماضي اثر حادث مروري مؤسف ونحن إذ نشاطر اهله وذويه هذا المصاب الجلل، نعزي الأخ/

محمد يحي المتوكل و علي يحي المتوكل وكافة آل المتوكل

سائلين المولى عز وجل ان يتغمد الفقيد بواسع رحمته، وأن يسكنه فسيح جناته، ويعصم قلوب الجميع بالصبر والسلوان، ((إنا للم وإنا اللم والموادم والم

الاسيفون:

الأستاذ/محمد حسين الحرازي- رئيس مجلس ادارة مجموعة شركات العربية وكافة المدراء والموظفين العاملين بالمجموعة

المنظمة المنظم

CONDOLENCE

Hearing the grievous sudden demise of the great national patriot Brigadier General,

Yahya al-Mutawakkil,

the Secretary General Assistant of the General People's Congress, GPC and a member at the Shura Council, we present our heartiest condolences to the president of the Republic of Yemen,

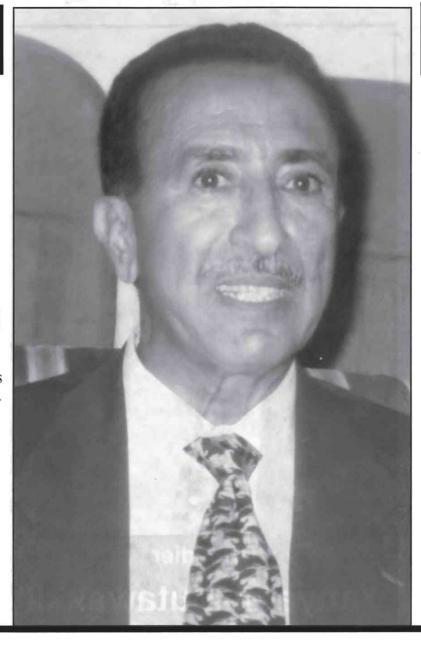
H. E. Field Marshal,

Ali Abdullah Saleh

and to all the GPC leaderships, the late's sons, his brothers, and all Yemenis for the sad demisehe of this patriot who devoted his life to struggle for the revolution, republican regime and unity.

We pray to Almighty Lord to rest his soul in peace in heaven and bestow his family, relatives and friends courage and strength to bear this great loss. Amen.

Tawfeek Abduraheem Motahhar, Fathi Tawfeek A.Motahhar & Moh'd Tawfeek A.Motahhar



البقاء لله

بقلوب مؤمنة بقضاء الله وقدره تلقينا نبأ الحادث المروري الأليم الذي أودى بحياة المناضل الكبير

اللبواء /يمبي محمد المتبوكل

الأمين العام المساعد للمؤتمر الشعبي العام، عضو المجلس الإستشاري و بهذا المصاب الجلل لايسعنا إلا أن نتقدم بصادق العزاء والمواساة للقيادة الساسية الحكيمة ممثلة بالزعيم الرمز

علي عبد الله صالح

رئيس الجمهورية

وإلى قيادات وكوادر المؤتمر الشعبى العام وأبناء الفقيد وأسرته الكريمة وكافة آل المتوكل والشعب اليمني سائلين المولى عز وجل أن يتغمد الفقيد بواسع رحمته ويلهم اهله وذويه الصبر والسلوان

«إن لله وإن إليه راجعوه»

الأسيفون:

توفيق عبدالرحيم مظهر، فتحي توفيق عبدالرحيم ومحمد توفيق عبدالرحيم

البقــاء للــاه

المنافق والمنافق المنافق المنا

بحزن شديد وبقلوب مؤمنة بقضاء الله وقدره تلقينا نبأ وفاة المناضل الوطني الكبير/

اللواء/ يحيى المتوكل

الأمين العام المساعد للمؤتمر الشعبي العام، عضو المجلس الإستشاري

إثر حادث مرور ي مروع

وبهذا الرحيل المفاجئ تكون اليمن قد خسرت مناضلا `جسورا وقياديا بارزا وشخصية وطنية نبيلةمشهودا لها بالكفادة والأخلاص والتفاني في أداء الواجب وخدمة الوطن وإزاء هذا المصاب الجلل والفاجعة الأليمة التي حلت بالوطن والأمة، لايسعنا إلا أن نتقدم بصادق العزاء وعظيم المواساة لقيادتنا السياسية الحكيمة ممثلة بالزعيم الرمز

المشير/ علي عبد الله صالح

وإلى أبناء الفقيد وقيادات وكوادر المؤتمر الشعبي العام وأبناء الشعب اليمني وإلى أسرة الفقيد وكافة أبناء الشعب اليمني سائلين المولى عز وجل أن يتغمد الفقيد بواسع رحمته ويلهم اهله وذويه الصبر والسلوان وأن لا يريهم مكروها بعد أنه سميع محبول المعرف عن المعرف المعرف عند وينا للم وإنا للم وإنا للم وإنا الله وزنا الله وإنا الله وزنا الله وزنا الله وزنا الله وزنا الله وإنا الله وزنا اله وزنا الله وزنا

(الأسيفوى:

اللواء / رشيست احمد جرهسوم د/ محمست احمد جرهسوم

