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ing jihadist Salafia (Wahabia) groups

after it recruited them from a number of

governorates and sent them to special

camps, particularly the Jubarah Camp

which contains thousands of these men

near the Saudi borders." Habra added

that governor of Sa'ada pays direct

attention to these camps and visits them

For its part, the Ministry of Interior

said that the best elements from its

Counter-Terrorism Units have been

engaged in the search for the six sur-

viving foreigners who were kidnapped

in Sa'ada since this past June. The min-

istry indicated that security apparatuses

are doing their best to track down those

who were involved in this hideous

crime renounced by all Yemenis

regardless of their political affiliations

or personal beliefs. The ministry said

also that a team of specialist investiga-

tors are working around the clock in the

field and that important information

about the crime has been revealed. The

details were given to the various

hostages' embassies, according to the

The ministry renewed its accusation

toward Houthi supporters of kidnap-

ping the foreigners and killing three of

repeatedly.

ministry.

Inside:



5

A woman among the tribes

Yemeni poor suffer "neglected" disease



Hakeem Al-Aqel: We need the support of busi-

Army surrounds Wa'ela tribe lands in search for kidnapped hostages

By: Mohammed Bin Sallam

SANA'A, July 19 — News reports said that a number of battalions from Yemeni special forces as well as other military units are being deployed in Wadi Jubarah and in other areas of the Wa'ela tribes adjacent to the Saudi bor-

A tribal source told the Yemen Times that military forces were seen moving in three fronts from Mareb, Al-Jawf and Sa'ada city and that they were heading toward Wadi Jubarah and the nearby areas belonging to Wa'ela tribes. The source, who preferred to remain anonymous, said that the military forces told citizens that they were surrounding the house of the tribal sheikh who is accused of kidnapping the six foreigners.

"We are sure that the sheikh wasn't directly involved in kidnapping the nine foreigners or the murder of three of them," said the source. "The Salafia members that were involved in kidnapping and killing the foreigners persuaded the sheikh to hide the hostages until they can find a way to protect themselves from being held accountable for the murders. The sheikh himself didn't participate in the kidnapping. He doesn't belong to any Salafia groups. In addition, he doesn't object to the existence of Christian missionary groups or any other religion in the governorate."

Nine foreigners, including a German engineer, his wife and three children, two German nurses working for the Sa'ada Hospital, a British engineer who paid a visit to the hospital and a

The Ministry of Interior said that the best elements from its Counter-Terrorism Units have been engaged in the search for the six surviving foreigners who were kidnapped in Sa'ada since this past June.

Korean teacher were kidnapped on June 12 while they were on a walk in the suburbs of Sa'ada. Sources reported that the armed group that kidnapped the foreigners is affiliated with Wahabi Salafia extremists who are opposed to the existence of Christian missionaries who have been working at the Al-Jumhuri Hospital in the capital city of

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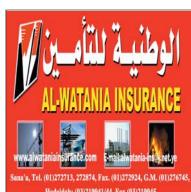
Sa'ada for 35 years.

Sheikh Saleh Habra, the spokesman for the Houthis, told the Yemen Times that the mobilization of three divisions of military - around ten thousand soldiers - and a number of special forces battalions in the east and north of the governorate are not aiming to search for the foreign hostages. "The army definitely knows where the hostages are and who kidnapped them," he said.

"The main target of this mobilization is to impose a complete siege on our supporters and to expand their military sites, which clearly shows that they are preparing for a sixth war.

"Kidnapping the foreigners in Sa'ada and killing three of them is part of a regional conspiracy that not only targets Sa'ada but the entire surrounding region," added Habra.

He accused the government of "arm-



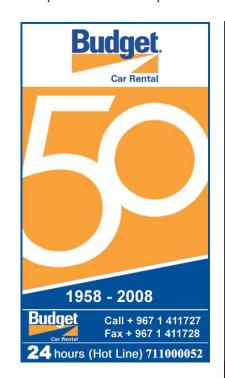






them, which the Houthis denied altogether. "The kidnapping which took place in areas where Houthis exist complicated the task of investigators to track down those who are believed to be involved in this crime," reported the ministry. "Houthi controlled areas have become a haven for murderers, those who set up road blocks and drug dealers. We are following the progress of investigations and we look positively at the results achieved so far."

Yemen has witnessed many kidnappings during the past few years. Tribesmen often kidnap western tourists to exert pressure on the government to release imprisoned relatives or establish service projects in their areas. Most foreigners kidnapped in Yemen are released without being harmed. However, four western tourists were killed by extremist Islamists while the security forces were attempting to rescue 16 foreigners kidnapped in Abyan in 1998, and a Norwegian man was killed outside of Sana'a in 2000. Last March, tribesmen in the Bani Dhabian area southeast of Sana'a kidnapped a Dutch man and his wife under gunpoint. They were released after two weeks without being harmed.











TIMES

Marib power station to operate soon

By: Mahmoud Assamiee

SANA'A, July 19 — The Marib Gas Station, with an output of 500 megawatts, will soon add its supply of energy to the National Electricity Network (NEN), thus solving the blackout problems in Yemen by the end of this month.

"The 341 megawatts of Marib will be added to the nationwide electricity services- as first stage. That will solve the current problem of power blackouts across the country," said Minister of Electricity and Energy Awadh Assuqatri.

Sources knowledgeable about energy in the country said that adding 341 megawatts to the NEN will stop the ministry from having to purchase almost 200 megawatts from the private sector.

The cost of electricity from the private sector currently costs the Yemeni government approximately USD 500,000 per day.

Assuqatri told the state-run 26 September newspaper that his ministry is going to buy a further 200 megawatts as an interim solution to cover the power shortages throughout the country.

Earlier President Ali Abdullah Saleh had stated that Marib 1 would be added to the network early 2009. But sources said problems with the Iranian Persian Company along with German company Siemens AG who are both carrying out constructing of Marib gas station, delayed the service.

Operation of Marib 1 has been

delayed several times. The last statement made about putting Marib 1 online was from Minister Assuqatri himself as well s the General Manager of General Corporation for Electricity Abdul-Mo'men Mutahar when they said the electricity generated by Marib 1 will enter the network early this month.

According to engineers at NEN, the last delay was due to using unsuitable electric cables. These cables were to be used in connecting Marib 1 to the transformer stations in Sana'a. Engineers discovered the problem of the cables while they were installing them at the Hizyaz electric station. Finding them unsuitable, electric officials are importing other professional ones.

However, these engineers do not believe that Marib 1 will be online by the end of this month. They said there is more work to be done and that the ministry will send teams of engineers from The National Electric Control in Sana'a and from other electric stations to inspect the work and check the station's readiness

They believe that the station will start operating in August.

Minister Assuqatri stated earlier to Al-Mutamar.net that the siege imposed against Iran and the capabilities of the Iranian Persian Company were behind the delay of operating the station. But reliable sources said that the Iranian Persian Company complains about Yemeni government procedures in its dealings with them and that the government plays with its commitments towards the company.

Besides Marib 1, there are other four gas stations to be constructed: two in Marib and two in Ma'abar, Dhamar governorate, with an output of 500 megawatts each.

Yemen currently depends only on 750 megawatts. 200 megawatts of this output is bought from the private sector to provide people with power but the nationwide shortage is estimated at 350 megawatts, according to Mutahar.

The annual increase in demand is 100 to 200 megawatts, said Assuqatri.

Marib 1 cost USD 268 million which was paid for by the government and the Arab Fund for Arab Social and Economic Development.

In a related matter, Yemen and the World Bank signed a treaty on Sunday for developing rural energy in Yemen. The treaty is worth USD 25 million, according to the state-run news agency Saba

The agreement was signed by Yemen's ambassador in Washington Abdul-Wahab Al-Hajry and Deputy Chairman of the World Bank for Middle East and North Africa Region Shamshad

"The treaty concerns the contribution of funds to the Rural Energy Access Project (REAP) financed through the Islamic Development Bank, the French Development Agency and the Yemeni government," said Asa'ad Al-Ashwal, the director of REAP.

Prison for one Yemeni journalist, no more writing for another

By: Khaled Al-Hilaly

SANA'A, July 19 — Despite protests from human rights observers, two Yemeni journalists were issued punishments this week, one on criminal charges, and the other by the country's new Special Press Court.

Journalist Anis Mansour Hamida, 31, of Al-Ayyam newspaper based in Aden, was sentenced to one year and two months in prison for "separatism and attacking national unity" by the Kersh Al-Qabita Trial Court, headed by Judge Hassan Mutawakil.

The Special Press Court ordered Muneer Al-Mawri, a US-based Yemeni journalist to stop writing for Yemeni news sources, based on charges of insulting the president of Yemen in an article titled "Weapons of Mass Destruction" published six months ago.

Al-Mawri said he will respect the decision of the Yemeni judiciary, and will start writing about Yemen's issues in foreign newspapers.

SANA'A, July 19 — There will be no

honeymoon for Ola Al-Shami and Sadiq

Al-Sharafi, as the latter, a human rights

activist, languishes in a national security

His bride, dressed in her white gown

and surrounded by friends and family on

Sunday evening, can only hope for his

release. At the women's party, the music

is interrupted by chants of "Where is

Al-Shami's absent husband, a human

rights activist and member of the Protect

Association for Rights and Freedoms,

was detained at 1am on Thursday for

alleged involvement in a drug smuggling

At the men's party, Al-Mortada Bin

Zaid Al-Mahatwary, founder and chair-

man of the Badr Center and preacher of

Badr Mosque center, condemns the

arrests and encourages those who wish

to march to the national security to do so.

like this," said Al-Shami, who is also a

Yemen Times reporter, said. "I want to

go in my wedding dress to the national

security prison and demand that my hus-

"I never imagined my wedding to be

By: Salma Ismail

detention center.

Sadiq?"

and Khaled Al-Hilaly

Hamida, charged with sedition, was

found guilty after a public prosecutor presented a CD that constituted "material evidence" of Hamida's participation in meetings organized by political organization, the Movement of the South

"This jail sentence is part of a major campaign by the authorities against Al-Ayyam and its journalists," Reporters without Borders (RSF) said. "After applying indirect censorship, the authorities have gone to a new level in their harassment of this independent publication. The sentence constitutes another violation of free expression by Yemen."

"This was clearly a political trial," said Hamida as he left the court, according to the RSF, before being led away to prison. "The judge just followed the instructions issued by the authorities."

The Union of Yemeni Journalists secretary-general Marwan Damaj told the RSF, "Yemen is witnessing one of the darkest developments in press freedom since 1990."

The campaign targeting journalists is purposed to cover up violations against

Detained human rights activist

misses own wedding

human rights and conceal information from the public, which is against the values of freedom, democracy and justice, according to the Yemen Observatory for Human Rights.

"Participating in peaceful gatherings, which Hamida has been accused of, is not crime or violation requires participants to be tortured, but it is legal a constitutional right," the YOHR said.

Last week protests gathered in front of Aden's governor's office in solidarity with Al-Ayyam newspaper. Protesters urged authorities to allow the newspaper to resume publication.

In the beginning of May, the Ministry of the Interior suspended the publication of Al-Ayyam, Al-Nida, Al-Masdar, Al-Watani, Al-Diyar, Al-Share', Al-Ahali and Al-Mustaqilla. The papers were accused of harming national unity. Security forces also prevented sales of Al-Ayyam.

Almost all of the suspended newspapers are now publishing again, except Al-Ayyam whose readership is mostly from south Yemen.

Balhaf shrimp mortality probably natural, says environment committee

By: Alice Hackman

SANA'A, July 19 — Contrary to previous media reports, the death of shrimp and fish reported late June near Balhaf, Shabwa, is probably linked to seasonal cold water upwellings, said a governmental environment committee who visited the site last week.

Local press previously linked shrimp mortality around the fishing village of Bir Ali to the presence of the Yemen Liquefied Natural Gas Company (Yemen LNG) plant in Balhaf Bay, a few kilometers west, saying that crude oil was observed in surrounding waters.

"Yemen LNG does not produce crude oil," said the company in a press release last Sunday.

Not only is Yemen LNG a liquefied natural gas—not oil- exporting company, according to Yemen LNG information editor Kamal Al-Wazizah, but the plant is not fully operational yet, as it is still under construction.

The company's first cargo of liquefied gas is not expected until the end of August, he said.

"Documentation of shrimp die-off dates back to well prior to construction, before any activity had commenced onsite," said Al-Wazizah. "For example, in June 2006, the phenomenon was observed when there was no marine [construction] activity on the site."

"This incident is the result of a well-known natural phenomenon that occurs in many parts of the Indian Ocean, including southern Yemen, and is not related in any way to any human or project activity," the gas company said in its press release.

The natural phenomenon Yemen LNG is pointing to are plankton blooms, which occur every year along the coast of Somalia, Yemen and Oman during the summer monsoon months, according to

From June to September, strong monsoon winds cause cold water upwellings along these countries' shores. This nutrient-rich water is ideal breeding ground for phytoplankton, microscopic plantlike organisms, but this can also in turn lead to oxygen depletion and mass fish

Fish that swim into oxygen-depleted water pockets see their metabolisms slow down then die, say scientists. Dead fish float up to the surface and are washed ashore.

Following reports in the press about the event, a team from the Environment Protection Authority (EPA) with members from the Ministry of Water and Environment, the Ministry of Fisheries, the Ministry of Oil and Minerals and the Marine Authority visited Balhaf from July 7 to 13.

One week after the reported event, they found no evidence of dead shrimp, said Dr Yahya Al-Badawi, environment manager for the gas division at the Ministry of Oil and Minerals and head of the environment committee that visits the construction site twice a month.

Local fishermen had not seen any kind of oil pollution or dead shrimp, except

for small quantities of dead shrimp in Balhalf near the plant's cooling water exit pipes, said Nadhil Al-Turaik, who is in charge of marine environment protection from land-based activity at the EPA.

"On June 26, 2009, there was mortality of shrimp in small quantities compared to 2006 and 2008 in Balhaf next to the construction site for the cooling water outfall pipes," noted the EPA report.

"I think it's a natural phenomenon, fish do not have oxygen because of the current," said Captain Salem Awadh, who has fished in Balhaf waters for the last 26 years, and says that he heard about this year's dead shrimp from two people.

"It happened a lot in 2007 and 2008 when big quantities of shrimp died," he added. "I saw them with my eyes and took some of them."

"I think this is a natural phenomenon," said Al-Turaik. "We need to analyze water and shrimp for credible information."

"We must analyze samples," agreed Miriam Tahir, Ministry of Fisheries representative on the field visit, who also said that the shrimp kill was probably a result of seasonal upwelling.

No independent tests

Dr. Saleh Salem, head of the Marine Sciences Research Center in Aden, was sent a sample to study after the shrimp deaths occurred but, he said, the sample arrived late and in poor condition.

Although he suspects pollution from a primary viewing of the sample, he has been unable to visit the site to conduct further tests.

"We need the company to cooperate with us for access to the site," he said.

"We will take our responsibility to protect the environment, and we will help the company," he said. "We want to set up an environmental monitoring system with the company."

Salem added that, from his 30 years experience in the area, June was too early for a natural fish kill, and said that these usually occur mid-July to August during which time small fish are killed, but not usually shrimp.

"[Fish mortality] involves oxygen depletion, toxins, microbiology and these mechanisms may act individually or all of them in different stages," said Dr. Adnan Al-Azri, assistant professor at the Marine Science and Fisheries department at the Sultan Qaboos University in

In [the] Arabian Sea, we do experience fish kill almost every year, most caused by oxygen depletion," he said. "[They] do occur on [the] onset of the upwelling but the major ones occur post upwelling due to nutrient influx in the coastal water."

Protecting the coral

To ensure that the gas company plant does not destroy the surrounding environment during construction, the governmental environment committee visits the Balhaf site twice a month and will next be visiting again this Tuesday, said Al-Badawi.

"Yemen LNG has a consultant company to test water and monitor corals," he said. "They monitor every month and send us a report every three months."

"Some small accidents have occurred, but they followed the problem and made transportation and conservation of damaged coral," he said. "Coral died [due to] mistakes with anchoring some boat, and they had to make transportation to a place with the same environment and conditions."

"[There are] many divers, at this time they clean the coral area after finishing construction," he said. "Divers have a machine like a [vacuum cleaner] and take off dirt and sediment over the coral."

"A program of weekly water quality sampling is in place," said Al-Wazizah.
"The last marine water quality sampling was performed in mid-June."

Compensating the fishermen

Yemen LNG said it is committed to protecting the livelihoods of the local community, including local fishermen, and compensating anybody affected by the construction of the gas plant in Balhaf Bay.

For example, to compensate the fishermen who previously used Ras Balhaf, where the gas plant is being built, as a shelter, a breakwater was built two years ago in Bil'a, said Mustafa Al-Mehdar, fishing projects coordinator at the Yemen LNG.

The company is also now setting up new fish aggregator devices to help fishermen increase their catch in nine sites, after the three that were set up last year proved to be very popular with the fishermen, he said.

"Big fish are attracted by the small fish," he said, explaining that previously unavailable fish such tuna and other larger fish were now making their way into the nets of Balhaf fishermen.

Fishermen who lost production during the construction of the Yemen LNG plant are also being compensated through the government, added Al-Mehdar.

"After the company took [Balhaf Bay], everything became forbidden," said Captain Salem Awadh, "But the company has compensated us with fish aggregators 55 miles wide and 12 miles out to sea."

Global warming and fish kills Scientists have pointed to f

Scientists have pointed to the link between climate change and increased upwellings, responsible for algae blooms and possible fish mortality, during the summer months in the Arabian Sea.

"Over the past 7 years, the western half of the Arabian Sea has witnessed record increases in phytoplankton blooms due to a year-by-year intensification of monsoonal winds," wrote Dr. Prasad Thoppil, a US-based researcher in oceanography, in 2005.

"In a [2005] study, we show that these changes are being triggered by the rapid decline and meltdown of winter-time snow over southwest Asia and the Himalayas."

band be set free."

Human rights activists and dismayed family members plan to march to the National Security Organization in protest at the detention of her bridegroom before the wedding.

"The charges are fabricated and are just a message to all human rights activists in the country that they will be charged with moral crimes," said Al-Sharafi's lawyer, Abd Al-Rab Al-Martadha

"It was timed [on his wedding night] on purpose," he said.

"We went to the General Prosecution and we asked for the case file," the lawyer said, explaining that this was how they learnt that he was arrested for drug smuggling.

"Detaining him at the national security is illegal because, according to the law, it is not allowed to detain an individual there." added Al-Mortadha.

Detained for religious beliefs

On Monday, human rights activist Muammar Al-Abdali, father of four and president of Freedom of Thought and Liberating Detainees, was also detained in Aden

Aden.
Al-Abdali was detained without due

cause, according to their family mem-

"He was arrested by the national security," said Amat Al-Latif, Al-Abdali's wife, who said he was arrested because be in Shiite.

Al-Abdali was also arrested two years ago while he was sitting his university exam. He was detained for over two months, said his wife.

"The day after his arrest, security raided our home frightening our children and searched the house," she added. "They locked me and my children in a room for six hours."

They took away a number of his Shiite religious books that had entered the country legally, according to his wife.

The constitution provides for freedom of religion, and the government generally respects this right.

Although the Yemeni constitution secures an individual's personal freedoms, there are indications of detention cases without legal basis, clear charges, or judicial sentences.

"At the end of the night, I will go back home to my family's house," Al-Shami lamented. "I haven't even spoken to him."

Despite presence of international forces, piracy attacks continue

By: Amel Al-Ariqi

SANA'A, July, 18 — Two months after being hijacked by Somali pirates, the German-owned MV Victoria and its 11-member crew were released on Saturday. The ship's owner had to pay a ransom of USD 1.8 million, according to Reuters.

Reuters reported that the 146-meter vessel, an Antigua and Barbuda flagged cargo ship, was hijacked by eight pirates in the Gulf of Aden on May 5 while on its way to the port of Jeddah.

Adrian Mihalcoiu, the Romanian representative of the International Transport Workers Federation, told media that the owners of the ship paid the ransom to free the sailors.

"They are well, although they've been under a lot of mental stress," he told the Associated Press.

However, the Hansa Stavanger, which was hijacked in April with 24 men aboard, is still under the control of pirates.

Reuters quote a pirate negotiator saying that a tugboat brought the ransom to the pirates, who fired wildly into the air to celebrate the handover of the money.

According to the UN, Somali pirates collected USD 150 million in ransom payments from ship owners last year, while overall losses from piracy were estimated at USD 13-16 billion. Losses include the soaring cost of insurance and protection for vessels, as well as the sending of ships on longer routes to avoid high risk areas.

Although 38 foreign navies represented by 16 countries currently patrol the Gulf of Aden, pirate attacks continue. The Gulf of Aden is shared by Somalia and Yemen and forms one of the world's busiest shipping lanes.

According to the International Maritime Bureau's Piracy Reporting



Somali pirates handed over to Yemen by the Indian Marine last December.

Center, piracy attacks worldwide more than doubled to 240 in the first half of 2009, as compared with 114 attacks in the first six months of 2008.

The Gulf of Aden and the east coast of Somalia accounted for 130 of this year's attacks.

"Over 5,000 people are operating as

pirates in the Gulf of Aden," said First Deputy Chief of the Russian Navy General Staff Oleg Burtsev on Saturday to Ekho Moskvy radio station. Yemen apprehended 22 Somalis

pirates after being detained in the Gulf of Aden by international naval forces. These pirates appeared before the Aden court last Wednesday, where they were accused of piracy in two separate trials. The trials, which began earlier this month, will resume on Oct. 7.

The first group, which consists of 12 Somali men, was detained by Indian forces who handed them over to Yemen in December. The state prosecutor accused them of having "chased and

opened fire on a foreign vessel."

Ten others were detained in February by a Russian warship in the Gulf of Aden and were transferred to Yemen. They face charges of attempting to hijack an unidentified foreign vessel and of possession of weapons to use in piracy attacks. All of the 22 Somalis have pleaded not guilty while their defense team denied the charges against them.

According to a government report cited Wednesday by the Yemeni national news agency Saba, piracy in the Gulf of Aden has cost Yemen USD 350 million, a sum that includes USD 200 million in losses suffered by fishermen. Other losses include the costly piracy insurance purchased for Yemeni ships.

Saba said that Yemen has secured its regional waterways despite dealing with a fragile economy, using scarce funds to enhance its marine forces by building security centers along its coast and by purchasing boats worth more than USD 150 million.



In Brief

SANA'A

Yemen to export gas in weeks

Deputy Minister of Oil and Mineral Abdullah Dares said on Thursday that the Yemen Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) project will commence gas exports from Balhaf in the coming weeks.

Dares told the weekly 26 September that the LNG project is about to be completed soon, noting that it would be the largest source of income for Yemen in the coming twenty years.

Yemen's revenues will reach \$ 30 to 50 billion in the twenty next years that will contribute to improving development and economic progress.

LNG project depends on gas produced in block No. 18 in Marib governorate, where the gas reserves reach 9.15 trillion cubic feet (TFC) in addition to 0.7 TCF of probable reserves.

The Yemen LNG project comprises new and existing upstream gas processing facilities including a 25 km, 20-inch transfer line linking the two gas processing units in the gas fields of block 18 in Marib; a 320km, 38-inch new main pipeline, which will connect the gas processing facilities to the new liquefaction facilities in Balhaf, and a spur line to transport domestic gas to the Ma'abar area of Dammar governorate.

The project is providing several thousand job opportunities during the construction phase with around 700 permanent posts and an additional 700 for contracted service providers over the lifespan of the project.

The French Total company is the project leader of the LNG project with about 39.62 percent. The share of Yemen represented by Yemen Gas Company (YGC) amounted to 16.73 percent. The other shareholders in the LNG project are Hunt with 17.22 percent, South Korean (SK) Corporation with about 9.55 percent, Korea Gas Corporation (Kogas) (6.00 percent), Hyundai Corporation (5.88%) and the General Authority for Social Security and Pensions (GASSP) with about 5.00 percent.

Yemenis waste millions of dollars,

hours on chewing, sitting Yemenis spend nearly \$ 156 million annually on chewing Qat, official documents suggest.

The News Yemen cited a professor of measurement and elite and competitive guidance and movement science at the Physical Education and Sport College in Yemen's western province of Hodeida as saying that the European Commission said 3 million Yemeni people were found unable to secure food and necessary living items for their families.

The number soared in 2002 to 5 million people and in 2008 increased but the professor did not give a specific number.

Fathi Ahmed al-Saqaf also said that Yemeni people waste about 20 million hours a day chewing Qat and away of workplaces.

Every individual's portion is estimated at 1460 hours.

Yemeni people give priority to buy Qat and tobacco while providing necessary items for their families comes second.

About a million Yemeni families depend on selling Qat to make a living.

Qat issues are reflected on water consumption as well, with the professor saying that 85% of wells in the country being used to irrigate Qat trees. On hectares being planted in Qat, al-Saqaf said 60% of Yemen's arable and irrigated land is planted in Qat. Al-Saqaf's remarks were given in a lecture on the effects of Qat and adavantges of sport delivered at the MAN-ARAT center on Tuesday.

GIA registers 80 investment projects General Investment Authority (GIA) has registered about 80 investment projects during April and May 2009 throughout the country.

The total cost of the projects is over YR 81 million and provided more than 2,500 job opportunities, Newsyemen website reported on Wednesday.

The projects included 18 service projects, 8 agricultural projects, 13 in the tourist field and 41 in the industrial field.

The capital of Sana'a ranked the first with 25 projects, followed by Aden governorate with 11 projects. Taiz governorate comes in the third position with 10 projects, the fourth governorate was Hodeidah with 7 projects and Sana'a governorate at the fifth with five projects, according to the source.

Hadramout, Ibb and Mahrah governorates have registered same number of projects with 4 projects for each, while the rest of projects have been distributed to the other governorates.

Health ministry announces new swine flu case

Ministry of Public Health and Population

announced on Thursday discovery for a new case of swine flu for a Yemeni expatriate in United States while he arrived in Sana'a International Airport.

Abdul Haqim al-Kohlani, Director of Diseases and Epidemic Observation Department at the ministry told Saba that the case was discovered while the expatriate arrived in the airport today morning, saying that required medical measures taken for him

Recently, the ministry said previous eight swine flu cases recovered and started to practice their daily life normally.

ADEN

Technical education ministry weighs new guidelines

The ministry of Technical Education and Vocational Training is weighing new guidelines for its administrative staffs as well as issuing a new law on admission, all to come in effect starting from the next year. Deputy Minister of Technical Education and Vocational Training for Quality Ebtehaj al-Kamal said the ministry would organize a workshop in August that will highlight vocational and technical education approaches at the institutes affiliated with the ministry.

British experts will take part in the event and are expected to help Yemen learn from their expertise in improving the quality of vocational and technical education.

Al-Kamal also brought up regular workshops on quality organized by the ministry with the aim to develop the capacity of the ministry's administrative

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Email: gordonblackie@qsi.org Web site: http://yem.qsi.org



Accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools (MSA)

Their News



الإغاثة الإسلامية Secours Islamique We are pleased to announce that Sana'a. Yemen has been chosen as the location for an international course in July 2009, training Accountability Co-ordinators for Islamic Relief's international offices. This initiative has emerged from a strategy developed to ensure IR operations maintain a high level of quality in rela-

tion to standards in aid work, trans-

parency, participation of local stakeholders, monitoring and evaluation and establishing complaints and feedback mechanisms. 19 delegates from the Middle East, Europe, Africa and South Asia will be attending the training which will focus on delivering quality and accountability strategies in aid opera-

Khalid Almulad Country Director of Yemen states: "I am pleased that Yemen has been chosen as the training venue for such an important event, investment in building capacity of IR staff will ensure that projects are implemented effectively and efficiently with full transparency and inclusiveness of all stakeholders. In addition, my colleagues from across the

Islamic Relief Yemen hosts international Accountability Co-ordinator Training for its offices

globe will have the opportunity to see the history of such a beautiful country".

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o tackle tribal conflicts in her country, Nadwa Al-Dawsari took the leap from journalist to director of the Partners for Sustainable Leadership program in Yemen. With an impressive background in both gender issues and journalism, she has previously worked with the United Nations' Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs, the Women's Studies Center at the University of Sana'a, and the

Her dedication in addressing tribal conflict, one of Yemen's most challenging issues, makes her one of a kind. Nadwa Al-Dawsari answered Amel Al-Ariqi's questions.



Nadwa Al-Dawsari: We have unfair prejudices and stereotypes against tribes. We tend to think that tribes are thugs who like to kill for revenge, block roads and kidnap foreigners to extract money

The blood money [for]

areas can be 44-fold

the blood money [for]

a man, and that is

forbidden to kill

women in tribal

culture.

because it is simply

a woman in tribal

Why is Partners Yemen addressing the tribal conflicts? And how do you think such conflicts are challenges to Yemen's developing democracy?

Partners Yemen is part of Partners for Democratic Change International, a network of organizations specialized in change and conflict management. Over the last 20 years, Partners launched 17 centers in Eastern Europe, Latin America and the Middle East in Yemen and Jordan. Partners has significantly enhanced the capacity and capability of thousands of civic, non governmental

organizations (ngos), municipal and national governmental institutions, and univeracademic courses in more than 50 countries in the world.

As part of its mandate, Partners Yemen focuses on tribal conflicts because understand the implications of conflicts not only to the processes of development and

democratization but also to the stability of the country.

Conflicts have almost paralyzed development efforts and prevented investment in tribal regions. The result is increased poverty, unemployment, insecurity, and lack of basic services, conditions that constitute serious challenges to any emerging democracy.

Partners Yemen has local expertise with solid background and long experience on the politics and issues related to tribal conflicts in Yemen. We also have very rich and valuable regional and international experience in this regard. Our approach relies on addressing the root

causes and the structural factors that lead to and sustain conflicts, rather than focusing on their political aspect.

We coordinate our work closely with the Ministry of Local Administration and Local Authorities. We work with local councils and local ngos based in the governorates and with community based organizations. We try to complement the work of other organizations so we focus our work on the underserved governorates [that] most organizations avoid because of security reasons.

> What are the main factors that lead to tribal clashes flaring up in Yemen?

conflicts Tribal start mainly over land and resources including water and grazing lands, as well as over development services and projects such as schools, health facilities, water projects.

In most cases conflicts are dealt with through tribal

conflict prevention and resolution systems which are very sophisticated. If attempts to resolve conflict fail, then it escalates and becomes violent. When it involves killing it falls into a cycle of revenge killing and becomes dangerous and too complicated to resolve. Sometimes, even if the original cause of conflict is resolved, the issue of revenge killing remains, sustaining the conflict.

We know about cases in which conflicts have been around for over 90 years because of revenge killing issues. That is why it is very important to work on conflicts before they become violent.

Conflict happens because the process



Al-Geshm school in Ataq Shabwa, abandoned because of tribal conflicts. Picture taken by: Naji Assemmi of the Brothers Association for Development and Social Peace in Shabwa.

of designing and implementing development projects and services is top-down, not inclusive, lacks transparency and sensitivity to tribal conflicts and tribal politics. Because of that, conflict and lack of development continue to reinforce each

Conflict leads to the destruction and closure of schools and health facilities, and to the interruption of development projects and services. At the same time, planning and implementing development projects and services without understanding the sensitivities and nature of conflict and without involving the locals in the process triggers violent conflicts.

Lack of development and the weak presence of law enforcement institutions are two major factors that provide a fertile ground for conflict to flourish and sustain [itself]. In the past, tribal conflict prevention and resolution systems maintained a reasonable level of order but, because of the transition process that Yemen is going through, these systems are increasingly less effective, contributing to the increase and escalation conflicts.

How does being a woman either help or hinder you in dealing with tribal issues?

Working in this field is challenging in general because there are a lot of sensitivities out there that you need to be aware of, but once you understand the context and have the proper channels of communication things become a lot easier.

It is very much about how you present yourself and how you are clear and transparent about who you are and what you want to do. I think being a woman gave me more access, maybe because of the fact that women are protected in tribal culture, and that they have access even during violent conflicts.

The blood money [for] a woman in tribal areas can be 44-fold the blood money [for] a man, and that is because it is simply forbidden to kill women in tribal culture.

What stereotypes exist for Yemeni tribes, either as individuals or regarding their lifestyle? And to what extent do such stereotypes influence the way of handling tribal issues?

I think we have unfair prejudices and stereotypes against tribes. We tend to think that tribes are thugs who like to kill for revenge, block roads and kidnap foreigners to extract money and resources. We don't even bother to try to explore why they resort to doing that, or to empathize with them to understand where they come from.

It is very sad to see that even the elite and most educated tend to portray tribalism as an impediment to democracy and development. Some of those people have never travelled to tribal areas or interacted with local tribal people. They make judgments based on some books and references they read. They don't try to go beyond to research why tribalism strongly exist in Yemen or what are the positive aspects of tribalism -and there are manythat can actually contribute to develop- is protecting public

ment and democratization.

I don't understand the rigid argument that says that we have to get rid of tribalism in order to be "civilized" and democratic. It just doesn't make any sense to

Can you tell us about the typical life of a member of a Yemeni tribe?

I have worked with tribesmen and women and I have built strong relationships with local people, be they tribal leaders, women, community leaders, students, or simply standard people.

I treasure these relationships that are built on trust and mutual respect. Personally, I find tribal people just like "non-tribal" people in Yemen. They might have bigger problems with regard to their living situation, but they are part of the whole system.

They participate in public life as politicians, representatives, teachers, journalists, businessmen, students, etc. They are just about everywhere.

The tribal system has continuously

been pitted against the civil system in Yemen. Moderate analysts prefer to address the advantages and disadvantages of each system. Based on your experience dealing with civil society organizations and tribes, can the two systems meet and how? Or should Yemen choose only one path?

I strongly argue that there are a lot of positive aspects in the tribal system that we need to maintain and strengthen. The formal system is not strong [enough] to replace the traditional system, and the traditional system is break-

With huge developchallenges, ment Yemen needs to integrate the traditional system into the formal system in order to address the challenges associated with the transition process.

For example, given the high unemployment and poverty rate and the deteriorating economic situation, the traditional system provides an excellent social security network. The ghorm tradition, in which members of the tribe contribute equally to individual members' cause, is a great example of that.

Another good example is the tahjeer which

places as safe havens. We understand that ending violent conflicts is a long term process, so reviving the tradition of tahjeer can be an excellent mechanism in the meantime to limit the impact of conflict by protecting public areas including schools, health facilities, project sites and roads as safe havens. This can reduce the impact of conflict on people's life.

Traditional mediation and conflict prevention systems already take a lot of burden off the court system. I think this should be strengthened and formalized. I am not talking theories here. Traditional systems have proven effective in mitigating current problem and I think efforts need to be done to strengthen this system and to respond to the challenges that increasingly limit their effectiveness. Such challenges include unemployment, increasing poverty and lack of services.

Do you think that the current Yemeni tribal lifestyle can survive global changes, like globalization and the global financial crisis?

The traditional culture is based on a set of

ethics that reinforce solidarity and coexistence between members of a tribe. between tribes and between tribes and other people.

The traditional systems and mechanism were developed to ensure those ethics are maintained and respected. They include sets of rules and regulations that govern relations at all levels and ensure enforcement of those regulations. I think if strengthened, traditional systems can reduce the negative impact of globalization and economic deterioration.

For example, social solidarity has reduced the sharp effects of increasing poverty and unemployment. Tribes also have rules that regulate usage of water and grazing land which reduces conflict over scarce resources.

I believe that any effort to bring development and strengthen democratization needs to invest in traditional systems. After all, traditional systems represent the accumulation of thousands of years of valuable experience of people who built great civilizations in this part of the







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Words of Wisdom



dangerous problem. Its future costs are enormous. It leads to stunted growth and more vulnerability. Therefore, it deserves our immediate attention. Offering food supplements in schools in poor neighborhoods should be considered. Charity organizations and NGOs, in direct or indirect partnership with the state could handle this responsibility. Malnutrition is an ssue we must address

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



A step towards an independent judiciary

ver the last few weeks, the Supreme Judiciary Council has ordered an investigation into corruption cases against 12 members of the judiciary system, following the Judiciary Inspection Authority's reports against them.

The authority has been surveying the country's various courts and prosecution institutions to assess the efficiency of Yemen's judiciary system, identify problems or violations, and people behind them.

Issues such as unduly prolonged cases, bribery, incomplete evidence and procedural mistakes are among the various problems already identified by the authority still to continue its survey for another few months.

All these cases have been announced, mostly through official state media, but without any further details. The investigation sounds very promising, especially since many intellectuals and political analysts agree that Yemen really needs an independent judiciary system. But there is no transparency. Such cases remain confidential, and neither civil society nor the media know any names, charges, or progress in these cases.

We can't therefore play our role in complementing the state's institutions and ensuring the sustainability of their efforts. Not only does this confidentiality prevent an adequate follow-up, but it also prevents a fair investigation process in case the accused is

In some cases, a political or personal grudge may be the actual reason why a certain member of the judiciary is accused of corruption or violations. And until the investigation process is open to all, such doubts will not be eliminated.

Handing over the files of 12 members of the judiciary system to the Supreme Judicial Council is not good enough, unless both the inspection authority, whose responsibility it is to investigate violations, and the council, whose responsibility is to make decisions based on their findings, are absolutely independent.

The problem is that both the inspection authority and the council are governed by the Ministry of Justice, and the council's head is appointed by the president himself.

An attempt at holding the judiciary system accountable to the people is a good sign. The mechanisms seem reasonable and need to be encouraged, but they also need to be independent in order to be legitimate and credible.

The people working in this field need to be empowered and their capacity needs to be enhanced. Members of the press and civil society should join this inspection authority, and its work should be made public. There is no point in attempting reforms if no one is going to know about them or they will not last.

Nadia Al-Sakkaf

Human Security in Arab Countries: Towards a new perspective on development

By Amat Al Alim Alsoswa

n just a few days, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) will launch the fifth volume of the Arab Human Development Report series. Entitled "Challenges to Human Security in the Arab Countries," the Report employs the wider definition of human security first introduced in the 1994 global Human Development Report - as a magnifying lens to closely examine the condition of human development in the region. In this approach, analyses transcend traditional notions of security primarily focusing on the narrow concept of state security to embrace a much broader peoplefocused concept of security. The Report claims that 'state security' and 'human security' are interconnected, mutually-reinforcing goals. Yet it stresses that the prevailing pattern of giving precedence to the former usually prevents the achievement of either goal, while a focus on ensuring human security in its multiple dimensions—a primary responsibility of the state-maximises development opportunities and reinforces the security of the state.

Observations and in-depth analyses in the Report address a multitude of threats facing human security in Arab countries, including the mounting over-exploitation of natural resources (environmental dimension); liabilities related to the role of the state in guaranteeing security (political dimension); disproportionate vulnerability among social groups (personal and community dimensions); economic volatility, poverty and unemployment (economic dimension); lack of access to basic food (food dimension); inadequacy of and unequal access to health care systems (health dimension); and foreign occupation of Arab territories, which represents the most comprehensive and systematic threat to people's security.

The human security lens employed by the Report reveals the degree of vulnerability of all Arab countries on all dimensions of human security. Despite great diversity among Arab countries, their citizens share common fundamental threats, which seriously limit their choices and ability to live with dignity and to enjoy basic rights and freedoms. . Human insecurity in Arab countries represents a major impediment to development in the region, especially in the fields of knowledge, freedoms and women's empowerment, which were identified as priority areas in the first series of Arab Human Development Report.

The Report follows in the footsteps of the first series in that a distinguished group of intellectuals and scholars possessing longstanding experience with complex developmental realities in this region conducted careful and critical analyses to determine the state of development in the region in complete independence - something that UNDP supports and cherishes. The preparation of this report witnessed significant changes such as expanding women's representation in its Advisory Board and providing Arab youth with the opportunity to have a voice in the report - made possible through three consultative youth

This year's launch will take a different form. Instead of a single event marking the end of the production process, it will serve as a platform for public dialogue -encompassing supporters and critics alike—on the report's approach and conclusions. UNDP will seek to bolster this dialogue and ensure its seriousness, diversity and intellectual pluralism, while expanding its geographic and time scope through adopting a new rolling launch modality which extends over a full year and includes a series of public debates in several Arab cities.

This series of dialogues begins with the "Beirut Dialogue," immediately following the launch before travelling eastward and westward to Alexandria, Dubai, Rabat, Doha, Tunis and Amman, where decision makers, thought leaders and civil society can scrutinize issues raised and recommendations presented in the Report to address human security in Arab countries. UNDP has entrusted the organization and management of the series of dialogues to the Cairo-based intellectual monthly magazine "Wughat Nazar" to ensure independence of the dialogue. The dialogue will continue through expert round-tables and an interactive website for a wide cyberspace audience, especially the youth who will soon be targeted through a special youth version of the report.

We are hopeful that this integrated strategy will result in inclusive ground-breaking dialogue, inciting decision makers to reorient development policies towards a peoplebased approach giving priority to people's security. We must begin by acknowledging that in these challenging times, achieving human security in Arab countries requires urgent attention.

Ms. Amat Al Alim Alsoswa serves as UN Assistant Secretary-General, Assistant Administrator and Director of the Regional Bureau

for Arab States - United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Living for loaves

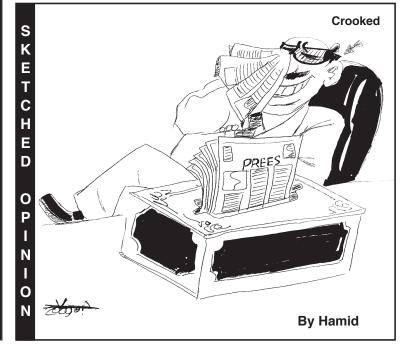
By: Abdulkreem Al-Aawage

ircumstances affect people's behaviors, thoughts, views and attitudes toward life in general. They make take into consideration that there are some things in life that are important, but that other things are even more important, even though such a view is sometimes wrong. For instance, some people have stopped reading newspapers, magazines and books, and others have even stopped watching TV, in exchange for a

An example of this is that some too.

teachers, high school students, officials and officers work on buses or in taxis to cope with the bad economic situation we live in. Some open shops or work on farms and others work on motorcycles all day long. Many people work throughout the day at the same job in the same career, leaving reading behind or failing to keep updated with current knowledge that may help them to effectively face life's problems.

Unfortunately we are all living in a nightmare of price hikes which make us indulge in such extra work, concentrating on our bellies only and forgetting that our minds need food



Such attitudes towards culture and learning create a poor society, even though some of its members are highly educated. This is because those who were always reading, writing and connected with cultural channels ended up drowning themselves in an ocean of work only to be able to buy loaves of bread. It is easy to note that their situation went from bad to worse, discovering this through their hopeless gestures, thinking styles and views of life. For example, if you meet some teachers who stopped reading, you can find that their thinking and their lifestyles are now poor because of their concentration on work alone. Teachers have done this in spite of knowing that reading can create new experiences, strategies, and plans for facing the bad economic situation.

In other words, I mean to make a balance between our bellies and brains to be able to face any difficulty and live under any bad circumstances.

It is terrible to see a teacher or an official forget English because he started hanging out with illiterate people and abandoned his reading, not caring for his own knowledge, even though they are university graduates.

We all have to put into our minds that reading, connecting with the culture and keeping abreast of current news makes us more experienced and flexible in facing life's difficulties. Therefore, we must not live on loaves of bread alone; we must live on letters as well.

COMMON SENSE

Senseless carnage What purpose does all

this blood spilling serve?

t is hard to believe that after so many years and so much senseless bloodletting, that the people who are behind such gory displays of bloodshed and destruction, last manifested by the Jakarta Ritz-Carlton Hotel bombings, and the ongoing suicide

or remote controlled bombings of

Iraq have not seen that such attacks



By: Hassan Al-Haifi

are first of all unholy, second of all frivolous and third of all selfdefeating. Moreover, those who profess to regard such barbarity as being motivated by the unbending adherence to Jihad or the struggle for the sake of Islam or Allah are no more than ignoramuses, who have lost all spiritual sense of their religion and who do not have the faintest idea of the powerful and meaningful conscientiousness that the belief in the Almighty must encompass. In all respects, these fanatical misfits have become an element of social degradation and are more resourceful to those who may find it in their interest to hinder the progress of the Moslem communities of the world. It goes without saying that such gross misrepresentations of dogmatic belief keep the Moslem World out of touch with the true dictates that underscore the true moral implications in the rhythmic prose of the Holy Quran. This Salafi/Wahhabi unforgivable waste of human life is anathema to any spiritual attachment to the Devine, Whose attributes include the Merciful, the Compassionate, the Rejuvenator of the Dead, the Giver of Life, the Taker of Life, etc. Indeed, those who profess to be taking human life so recklessly are the real danger that confronts the God-fearing Nation of Islam that centrally extends from Mauritania to the Eastern periphery of the South Seas with sizable pockets spread throughout the world.

Having said that, it is safe to assume that most Moslems throughout the world have come to realize that this Saudi Arabian exported non-genuine rendition of Islam, with its obvious Wahhabi extremism and sadistic lust for blood is unacceptable notwithstanding the billions of US Dollars the Wahhabi Establishment has invested for disseminating this horrendous distortion of Islamic dogma. Yet the merciless killings go on, as if the Wahhabi Establishment actually wants Moslems as well as non - Moslems to continue to look upon them with fear, as if fear is their only means of acceptance among the truly God fearing innocent believers of Allah, who stand helpless against the well organized and well resourced linchpins of the Wahhabi Establishment that are now well entrenched in most places of the world, in both the Moslem World and the non-Moslem World. The propagators and organizers of this vicious brutality count continuously count on considerable funding and guidance from the not so credible mentors of the Saudi Wahhabi

If one looks back at the record of these unholy activities of largely innocent civilian deaths one is bound to confront an ugly background of bloody incidents starting some two hundred and fifty years ago (see this link for a well detailed history of this: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wahhabi), in particular this segment: Saudi sponsorship

Beginning in the last years of the 18th century Bin Saud and his heirs would spend the next 140 years mounting various military campaigns to seize control of Arabia and its outlying regions, before being attacked and defeated by Ottoman forces. The invasions were justified as the destruction of the villages of polytheists as authorized in the Qur'an, even though they were attacking fellow Muslims (see Beliefs below).

One of their most famous and controversial attacks was on Karbala in 1802 (1217 AH). There, according to a Wahhabi chronicler Uthman b. Abdullah b. Bishr:

"[Wahhabis] scaled the walls, entered the city ... and killed the majority of its people in the markets and in their homes. [They] destroyed the dome placed over the grave of al-Husayn [and took] whatever they found inside the dome and its surroundings.... the grille surrounding the tomb which was encrusted with emeralds, rubies, and other jewels.... different types of property, weapons, clothing, carpets, gold, silver, precious copies of the Qur'an."[15]

Throughout their early history, the Wahhabi penchant for blood was manifested by the robbing of pilgrimage caravans going to Mecca sanctifying the lives of faithful Moslems as well as their property on account of their being non adherents ("infidels") to the Wahhabi Creed, which they misguidingly represent as the only form of acceptable Islam, notwithstanding that the Prophet Mohammed (PBAUH) had forewarned that for the Moslems, Najd is "... where the devil's horns emanate" and the fact that the Quran has warned of the real enemy of Islam being the hypocrites (those who claim adherence to Islam, with mainly surface dressing and nothing at the core of dogmatic belief).

Hassan Al-Haifi has been a Yemeni political economist and journalist for more than 20 years. He may be blogged at: http://com-senfromyem.blogspot.com

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Al-Sahwa.net, affiliated with the Islah Wednesday, June 15, 2009

Top Story

• JMP accuses ruling party of disrupting agreement

Spokesman of Joint Meeting Parties (JMP) Mohammad Al-Qanis accused the ruling General People Congress of seeking to renege on an a agreement with the opposition parties, the website reported.

He further charged GPC with stalling, disrupting dialogue and dragging the country into unknown fate.

"JMP purposed three points to settle the crisis; remove new military checkpoints in the southern provinces, release all detainees of the Southern Movement and Saada War, and lift ban on all suspended newspapers allowing their printing and publication," he went on to say.

Yemen's parliament had approved a two-year postponement of the next parliamentary elections in order to provide time to reform the electoral system. Parliament's approval of the delay comes after the GPC and JMP agreed on the two-year postponement.

On a side note, the website reported that Yemen marked last week the annual anniversary of July 7, the end of the civil war of 1994 in several governorates. The authorities tightened their grip on southern provinces in which what is called the Southern Movement arranged anti-government rallies and called for the south to be separated.

Citizen Walid Al-Yafie, was killed and Hundreds were arrested in Aden, while they were preparing to take part in a rally arranged by the Southern Movement.

Authorities largely deployed security forces in port city of Aden, randomly arrested dozens, prevented the Southern Movement from arranging the rally and cut off communication system. The team of Aljazeera Satellite Channel was put under siege inside a hotel.

In Dhala'a governorate, two protestors and two soldiers were wounded in confrontations as security forces tried to abort protests. Some protestors blocked the main road linking between Yemen's capital, Sana'a, and Aden for several hours. Dozens of protestors were also arrested on grounds of taking to streets.

Heavy shooting and teargas were used in the demonstrations to disperse the protestors who swept to streets, despite strict security measures. Security forces were largely enforced in military checkpoints and entries of Dhala.

Security officials declined to

comment on incidents, saying that protestors were cautioned against taking to streets and participating in unauthorized and illegal protests.

In Shabwa province, a rally was arranged at Azan area in which several of the Southern movement leaders delivered speeches, emphasizing that Yemen's unification was ended on July 7 in the wake of plundering lands and resources, and dismissing citizens from their positions.

In Abyan, sources said that the South Movement supporters burnt tires and clashed with the authorities' followers who were rallying to cerebrate the occasion of July 7.

In Al-Mahra province, local sources accused the authorities of obliging the government employees to take part in a pro-government rally.



Almotamar.net, affiliated with the General People Congress (ruling party)

Thursday, June 16, 2009

Top Story

• JMP impedes agreement, says GPC

People's Congress GPC Tareq Al-Shami on Sunday renewed keenness of the GPC to accelerate arrangements for dialogue with the opposition, accusing JMP of procrastination and attempting to impede the February agreement articles, the website reported. Al-Shami added that the one working

Head of Information Sector at General

on delaying and hindering the dialogue is the one that puts conditions for the dialogue to carry out what was agreed on in the agreement of 23rd of February 2009, on the basis of which there was the extension of the parliament term for two years and postponement of the parliamentary elections, once scheduled to have been held on 27 of last April.

He said, "The side that works on impeding the dialogue is that which tries to take advantage of the remaining period of the two years for exercising pressure, blackmail and creation of

Al-Shami further said that the GPC would not submit to extortion and pressures and would return to the people who granted it their confidence in different elections, adding that the people are the source of power and the GPC is the party that offered concessions for the sake of the homeland and maintaining security and stability.

He expressed his wonder about the contradictory statements and stances of

JMP that holds the authority responsible for preserving security and stability, protecting society and capturing those violating the law. In the meantime, JMP parties demand the release of outlaws, instigators of rioting and those accused of committing murder crimes and blocking roads, and advocates of secession.

These parties affirm their release as a condition for sitting on the dialogue

He reiterated keenness of the GPC on holding the dialogue and the participation of all political parties to present all those issues concerning the homeland, its development and stability.

On a side note, the website reported that President Ali Abdullah Saleh received on Saturday participants in the youth forum for Radfan districts (Al-Habilin, Al-Malah, Halmin and Habil Jabar) of Lahj governorate, which is organized by the ministry of sports and vouth for four days.

During the meeting, president Saleh delivered a speech in which he expressed sadness for the criminal incident that resulted in killing three innocent civilians in the governorate, saying that the persons behind this crime want to damage reputation of Radfan citizens.

He added that those behind these acts seek to drag the armed forces and security to armed confrontations with the sons of the homeland, reacting, "We are keen to not be dragged after that." Citizens of Radfan are revolutionists of 26 September and 14th October revolutions, president Saleh said.

He added that the separatists are not only in Radfan, Al-Dhali, Lahj or Abyan, but they are in Saada, Sana'a and other governorates.

He said that there are plots against the nation and its unity by the people who did the same plots in 1994.

In his speech, president Saleh also affirmed the important role of youths to foster development in the country, calling on for dialogue any one having political or personal issue but not to violate security of the nation.

Early Friday, separatists killed three people in the Radfan district, Lahj, while they were on their way to their store in Al-Askariava district. All three were sweets dealers coming from Al-Qabaitah district when they were intercepted by separatist groups at the Habeel Jabr area.

A prosecutor said that preliminary investigations revealed that the separatist groups shot dead a father along with his two sons and son-in-law. The father, one of his sons and son-inlow were killed immediately and the other son was seriously injured.

A local government official said the killer is identified as Ali Saif, a wanted separatist, adding a hunt for him is being

Amidst media silence, racist killings in Europe, again and again!

By: Dyab Abou Jahjah

arwa el sharbini a 32 years Pharmacist, a wife and a mother was stabbed to death last Wednesday in a court of law because of wearing the Islamic headscarf. Marwa was pregnant in her third month. This took place in the German city of Dresden. The killer is a German citizen of 28 years old who is the neighbor of the young Egyptian

The German man has been harassing Al Sharbini for long months, and calling her a "terrorist". he also allegedly removed her head scarf by force from her head on several occasions. Sherbini then filed a law suit against the man and last Wednesday he was sentenced to pay her a fine of some 700 euro, after being found guilty by a judge. His reaction was to pull knife and to stab her 18

times, Marwa Died on the spot. Her husband who rushed to save her was both stabbed by the man and shot by the police. he remained in coma for 3 days and is recovering now. Her young son Mustafa who is 3 years old was also stabbed by the man but survived.

The western media did not give any attention to the case as if it is an irrelevant fait divers that is not related to any social pattern. The fact is that these kind of racist murders have been occur-

ten years in a frightening pattern of murderous racial hatred against Muslims and Arabs.

These kind of violent acts are the result of the criminalization of Muslims and of their religion and the stigmatization of women with headscarf that is taking place all over the old continent. From laws in France banning the Hijab from public institutions to school bylaws banning it in Belgium, it is all part

ring sporadically in Europe for the last of a generalized campaign of hatred and bigotry against Muslims lead not by the far right but by the European main stream parties and media.

> Let us imagine the victim of Wednesday was a Jewish woman killed by an Arab for wearing Jewish religious clothing in Egypt, what would the reaction of the Media and public opinion be? Just contemplate that and you will understand how sick, biased and racist European society is.

It is time for minorities in Europe and especially Arabs and Muslims to unite together with other Europeans who refuse injustice. It is also time to consider these kind of attacks as terrorist attacks and deal with them as such. The perpetrators should be dealt with harshly and not acquitted or declared unfit to face trial as happened often in the past. This cannot pass.

Source: www.arabeuropean.org



المثل الحصري في اليمن لعهد المديرين المحترفين مركز التواصل للتدريب والإستشارات (رشد)

تكلفة البرنامج: 700دولار أمريكي التكلفة أعلاه تشمل الميزات: ـ الحقيبة التدريبية _ كتاب الادارة المالية .. التطبيقات والاختبارات ـ البوفيه طوال أيام البرنامج ـ رسوم الحصول على الإختبارات للحصول على شهادة CFM الدولية . شهادة CFM من معهد المديرين مصدقة ومعتمدة من جمعية أكسفورد للادارة وجمعية كمبريدج للمدراء _ بطاقة زمالة معهد المدراء المعترفين . _ شهادة من مركز التواصل للتدريب والإستشارات

IPM_USA: info@ipmedu usa IPM_USA: San Francisco CA93455 www.ipmedu.org www.ipmedu.us

IPM_YEMEN OFFICE: صنعاء ـ شارع الزبيري امام بنك اليمن والكويت خلف حلويات أبو خالد عمارة سويد للصرافة الدور الثاني TEL: 474047 FAX: 474046 Mob: 777 13 59 14 ipmye@hotmail.com www.ipmedu.org www.ipmedu.us

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معهد المدراء المعترفيين IPM-USA بالولايات المتحدة الأمريكية الآن في اليمن

من أهم الهنات الأمريكية المعتبّرف بها لاعتماد المدراء حول العالم

ونضع بين يديك باكورة أعماله في اليمن من خلال البرنامج التدريبي :

شهادة وزمالة المدير المالى المعتمد Certified Financial Manager CFM

> 8 – 20 أغسطس صنعاء. فندق شيراتون







احمل على أقوى الشهادات عالمياً:

شهادة المدير المالي المعتمد CFM من معهد المدراء المحترفين بالولايات المتحدة الأمريكيت مصدقة ومعتمدة من جمعية أكسفورد للإدارة وجمعية كمبريدج للمدراء بطاقة زمالة وعضوية في معهد المديرين المحترفينIPM.

كل ما عليك هو حضور 60 ساعم تدريبيم تعليميم تتضمن نظريات وتطبيقات وتمارين وحالات عملية ، ثم اجتياز اختبار شهادة المدير المالي المعتمد .

وانتظر بعد ذلك المكافأة الكبرى .. وهي زيادة إنتاجيتك وفاعليتك في موقعك ومؤسستك.

إعلان تمديد موعد تقديم مناقصة

المؤسسه المحلية للمياه والصرف الصحى بأمانة العاصمة مشروع شبكات الصرف الصحى بصنعاء مناقصه رفع كفاءة محطة المعالجة في صنعاء قرض الصندوق العربي (٩٩/٣٨٣)

بالاشارة لإعلان طرح المناقصة بشأن العطاء أعلاه ويحسب طلب عدد من الشركات تعلن المؤسسة المحلية للمياه والصرف الصحى بأمانة العاصمة عن تمديد الموعد النهائي لتقديم العروض الى يوم ٢٠٠٩/٠٨/٢٦ الساعة (١:٣٠) الواحده والنصف ظهرا في عنوان المؤسسة المبين أدناه.

عنوان المؤسسة المحلية للمياه والصرف الصحى:

الحصية – بحانب وزارة الصحة العامة والإسكان شارع الحصية صنعاء – الحمهورية اليمنية هاتف ۲۰۲۰۱۲۳۰ + فاکس ۲۰۲۰۱۲۳۰ + بريد الالكتروني cdteam@y.net.ye

Bid Submission Postponement Announcement

Sana a Water Supply & Sanitation Local Corporation Sana a Wastewater Networks Project Sana a Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Tender AFESD Loan No.383-99.

Reference to the previous announcement for the above mentioned Tender and as a response to the requests of some companies for extension

Sana a Water and Sanitation Local Corporation now announces that the final Bid Submission Date for the Tender is postponed till 26th Aug. 2009 at (1:30) pm at the corporation address below mentioned.

SWSLC Address:

Al-Hasaba. Beside the Ministry of Public Health & Population Al-Hasaba Street., Al-Hasaba. Sana a, Republic of Yemen Phone + 967 1230656 Fax + 967 1230656 E-mail cdteam@y.net.ye





على عيد الله صالح

رئيس الجمهورية بمناسبة الـ 17 يوليو . .

اليوم الذي دخلت فيه بالأدنا عهداً جديداً في تاريخها المعاصر يتسم بالشطور والإزدهار

> كما نهنى أبناء شعبنا ، بهنه الناسبة الغالية وكل عام وشعبنا ووطننا في خيروتقدم وإزدهار

المدير المام التنفيذي ونانبه وجميع موظفي شركة صاهر لعمليات الإستكشاف والإنتاج

We present our wantinest congratulations to

H. E. Ali Abdullah Saleh

President of the Republic On the occasion of July u

The day on whildh our country entered a new era in its contemporary litetory of development and prosperity, we congratulate our people on this memorable occasion and we wish our nation continued progress and prosperity

Executive General Manager, Deputy General Manager
and all staff of the company



شركة صافر لعمليات الاستكشاف و الإنتاج Safer Exploration and Production Operations Company (SEPOC)







Increase of Assets

Most national banks achieved remarkable extension in their banking business during 2008. The total assets at national banks increased to become 1132.9 billion Yemeni Rivals at the end of December 2008 versus 940.8 billion Yemeni Riyals at the end of 2007. The increase is 192.1 billion Yemeni Riyals and the average growth is 20.4%. The national bank's contribution to

the size of the uniform budget is 75.0% at the end of December 2008 versus 74% at the end of December 2007. Most

national banks achieved a big increase in total assets. The CAC Bank achieved the biggest increase in its total assets. They increased to 56.4 billion Yemeni Riyals at the end of December 2008. It also achieved the highest average growth among the national banks altogether, and it was 45%.

Source: CBY Report

زيادة الأصول

حققت معظم البنوك الوطنية توسعا ملحوظا في نشاطها المصرفى خلال عام ٢٠٠٨م وارتفع إجمالي الأصول لدي البنوك الوطنية إلى ١١٣٢,٩ مليار ريال في نهاية ديسمبر ٢٠٠٨ مقابل ٩٤٠,٨ مليار ريال في نهاية ديسمبر عام ۲۰۰۷ بزیادة قدرها ۱۹۲٫۱ ملیار ریال ومعدل نمو قدره ٢٠,٤٪ وبلغت نسبة مساهمة البنوك الوطنية في حجم الميزانية الموحدة ٠٠٠٪ في نهاية ديسمبر ٢٠٠٨مقابل ٧٤٪ في نهاية ديسمبر ٢٠٠٧ .. وحققت أغلب البنوك الوطنية زيادة كبيرة في إجمالي

وحقق بنك التسليف الزراعي أكبر زيادة في مجموع أصوله بلغت ٦٫٤ ه مليار ريال في نهاية ديسمبر ٢٠٠٨ وحقق أعلى معدل نمو بين البنوك مجتمعة بنسبة ٥٤٪٠

المصدر: تقرير البنك المركزى اليمنى

The CAC Bank achieved the biggest increase in Riyal. Its

Growth of Deposits

Balances of deposits in Rival increased to become 747.7 billion Yemeni Rivals at the end of December 2008 versus 587.1 billion Yemeni Riyals at the end of December 2007. The increase was 160.5 billions Yemeni Riyals and the average growth was 27.3%. Increase in balances of deposits in Riyal varied from one bank to another.

increase was 31.9 billion with 39.9% as an average growth. Deposits in foreign currencies increased from 466.2 billion Yemeni Riyals at the end of December 2007 (equivalent to 2336.8 million US dollars) to 488.4 billion Yemeni Riyals at the end of December 2008 (equivalent to 2441 million US dollars). The increase was 22.1 million Yemeni Riyals with 4.7% as an average growth. The CAC Bank achieved the biggest increase of deposits in foreign currencies; equivalent to 21.5 billion Yemeni Riyal and 58.0%

Source: CBY Report

نمو الودائع

أرصدة الودائع بالريال ارتفعت إلى ٧,٧٤٧ مليار ريال في نهاية ديسمبر ٢٠٠٨م مقابل ٥٨٧,١ مليار ريال في نهاية ديسمبر ۲۰۰۷ بزیادة قدرها ۱٦٠٫٥ ملیار ریال وبمعدل نمو ۲۷٫۳٪ اوتت الزيادة في أرصدة الودائع بالريال من بنك لآخر

وحقق بنك التسليف الزراعي أكبر زيادة بالريال بمبلغ ٣١,٩ مليار وبمعدل نمو ٣٩,٩٪ وارتفعت الودائع بالعملات الأجنبية من ۲،۲۲ کا ملیار ریال فی نهایة دیسمبر ۲۰۰۷ ما یعادل (۲۳۳٦٫۸

إلى ٨٨,٤ ك مليار ريال في نهاية ديسمبر ٢٠٠٨ (مايعادل ٤٤١ مليون مليون دولار) دولار) بزيادة قدرها ٢٢,١ مليون ريال وبمعدل نمو ٤,٧٪ وحقق بنك التسليف الزراعي أكبر زيادة لودائع العملات الأجنبية بما يعادل مبلغ ٥٨٠ مليار ريال وبمعدل نمو ٨٨٠٠٪.

المصدر: تقرير البنك المركزي اليمنى



Balances of credits, advances and finances offered by banks to different economic sectors increased to become 418.4 billion Yemeni Riyals at the end of December 2007 versus 359.7 billion Yemeni Riyals at the end of December 2007. The increase was 58.7 billion Yemeni Riyals and the average growth was 16.3%.

The CAC Bank achieved the biggest increase in offering credits and finances. Its increase was 20.9 billions with 46.5% as an average growth.

Source: CBY Report

تطور أرصحة القروض والتمويلات

ارتفعت أرصدة القروض والسلفيات والتمويلات المقدمة من البنوك العاملة للقطاعات الاقتصادية المختلفة إلى ٤١٨,٤ مليار ريال نهاية ديسمبر ٢٠٠٨ مقابل ٣٥٩,٧ مليار ريال في نهاية ديسمبر ۲۰۰۷ بزیادة قدرها ۸٫۷ ملیار ریال ومعدل نمو قدره

وحقق بنك التسليف الزراعي أكبر زيادة في عملية الإقراض والتمويلات بمقدار ٢٠,٩ مليار ومعدل نمو قدره ٦,٥ ٤٪٠

المصدر: تقرير البنك المركزي اليمنى



Yemeni poor suffer "neglected" disease

Reported by: Heather Murdock and Khaled Al-Hilaly Written by: Heather Murdock

he rural farming family § spent about YR 70,000 in Marib, but the baby just got sicker.

So, about a week and a half ago, Zaid Ahmed and his sister Nadia packed her 1 year-old son, Sayf Nasser, and his big brother, Salem, into a pickup truck and headed for Sana'a.

At the Al-Saba'een Hospital in Sana'a, Sayf was diagnosed with leishmaniasis, a disease that is curable with treatment, but according to the World Health Organization, fatal without.

It is one of about 14 diseases the WHO calls "neglected" because they are found only in the world's poorest and most remote areas. And in the Yemeni countryside, it is difficult to find a doctor who can diagnose or treat leishmaniasis.

"They gave us this treatment," said Ahmed, indicating a discarded box of medicine on the bed. "But he didn't get better there."

Sayf's family's decision to travel from Marib to Sana'a for treatment could have saved his life. But even in the capital, according to doctors, the treatment is sub-standard.

According to some doctors, the best medicine is no longer available in Yemen, and patients cannot afford to import it on their own.

Others agree, but say that the available medicine, which is imported from India and Pakistan, just doesn't

Dr. Afrah Al-Jowfi said the medicine Al-Saba'een Hospital gets for free from



world, according to the CDC.



Sayf Nasser was misdiagnosed by a hospital and a clinic in Marib before being diagnosed with leishmaniasis in Sana'a. According to the WHO, about 1 billion of the world's poorest people suffer from Neglected Tropical Diseases like leishmaniasis.

the Ministry of Health does cure her patients. But, she said, it takes twice as long to work as a British-made medicine called Pentostam.

Because many leishmaniasis patients travel long distances for treatment, lengthening their stay burdens the already-taxed families.

Longer hospital stays increase the costs of hotel rooms, missed work, and travel, Al-Jowfi said.

According to Dr. Haikal Abdualwareth at the Al-Kuwait Hospital, the medicine available to his patients through the government is not effective at all, and the good medicine, the Pentostam, is often not available to Yemeni patients at any price.

"Before, it was available, but now..." he said in an office in the hospital pediatric ward.

The children with leishmaniasis currently in his care have access to Pentostam, because doctors from Sa'ada donated a few bottles during a recent visit to Al-Kuwait hospital.

Abdualwareth said he stretches the medicine as far as he can, but he presently has a small amount, and he does not know what he will do when it is no longer available.

And, he said, although the

disease is curable, it is not entirely preventable in some areas.

The disease is spread by sand flies, which are tiny bugs, about a third the size of mosquitoes, he said. They fly silently and they usually bite at night. Often, he said, the bites are painless.

"It is impossible to prevent the sand fly," he added.

Causes and symptoms

Sometimes the bites cause skin wounds that look like volcanoes with ulcerous craters, a disease known as cutaneous leishmaniasis. This is the most common form of the disease, and it affects about 1.5 million people worldwide yearly, according to the US Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

Sometime they cause a far more dangerous, but less common disease known as visceral leishmaniasis. The symptoms include an enlarged spleen or liver, weight loss, low blood count and a high fever. This disease affects about 500,000 people worldwide, according to the CDC.

Sometimes the former disease also leads to the latter, Abdualwareth said, and both diseases can take weeks, months, or even years to show

Abdualwareth said he did not know how many people in Yemen have

leishmaniasis. But, he said, Al-Kuwait Hospital has a small but steady stream of people who travel from other parts of the country to be treated for the

He recommends that people put mosquito nets over beds and windows, and drain standing water. And despite his frustration with the medicine, he said people who show signs of symptoms should seek professional treatment.

The disease is not wide-spread in Yemen, but according to WHO maps, it can be found in the far western regions of the country.

It can also travel, according to the CDC, and evidenced by Sayf- who came from a rural area about four hours west of Sana'a.

Neglected Diseases

According to Integrated Regional Information Networks, a UN news agency, it is hard to diagnose leishmaniasis at the rural hospitals that serve the communities the disease

Also known as "black fever" or "kala azar," the WHO calls leishmaniasis a Neglected Tropical Disease.

NTDs thrive in the most remote and poorest parts of the world, but barely exist elsewhere.

They are characterized by the lack of

interest they command from the public.

Diseases like HIV and Tuberculosis cause outbreaks and large-scale deaths, which catch the attention of the media, and the international community, according to the WHO. But diseases like yaws, leprosy or leishmaniasis affect only the poorest people, and are far from the public eye.

About 80 percent of the people infected with NTDs live on less than USD 2 a day.

Also, NTDs tend to be found in areas with limited access to clean drinking water, basic sanitation and healthcare. And many people infected with one NTD are at risk of contracting another. This further complicates treatment because patients are often sick with more than one disease at a time.

"These diseases persist exclusively in the poorest and the most marginalized communities and have been largely eliminated elsewhere," reads the WHO Web site, "and thus are often forgotten."

At a 2007 conference on NTDs, Dr. Margaret Chan, the WHO director general said that leishmaniasis is

among diseases that require better research, and better health care access in rural areas, before they can be addressed effectively.

It "cannot be treated under a tree," she said, according to the conference report. "Dramatic steps forward must await the development of better diagnostics and drugs."

And while leishmaniasis is present in Yemen, especially after floods, it is not found often enough to be considered a public health crisis, according to Dr. Adel Nasser Al-Jasari, of the Ministry of Public Health and Population.

Al-Jasari also said that governmentimported medicines undergo strict scrutiny and meet the standards of several international monitoring organizations, including the WHO and the US Food and Drug Administration.

But, he said the ministry authority on the matter was Dr. Abdul Hakeem Al-Kuhlani, director of combating diseases and epidemic observation at the Ministry of Health.

Al-Kuhlani could not be reached for comment.



ترغب منظمة الأمم المتحدة للطفولة (يونيسف) في بيع الأجهزة والمواد المستعملة التالية:

۱- أجهزة حاسوب Compaq P4 عدد 35

۲- أجهزة حاسوب محمول Toshiba عدد 12

٣- مكاتب خشيية حرف L عدد 18 مقاسات مختلفة

٤- ألواح خلايا شمسية مع توابعها

ه- طابعات hp متنوعة الأحجام

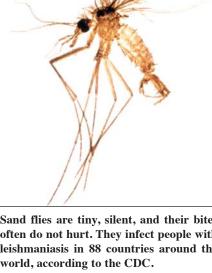
٦- قواطع و أبواب ونوافذ بالإضافة إلى كمية كبيرة من الزجاج

٧- تلفريونات

۸- منظمات کهرباء، قدرة 10 kv

٩ – مولد كهرباء ومواد أخرى

على الراغبين في الشراء التقدم لمقر المنظمة الكائن في شارعرقم ه متفرع من شيارع نواكشوط، جوار فندق وأجنحة البلازامنطقة عصر، للمعاينة واستلام شروط البيع وذلك ابتداء منتاريخ نشر هذا الإعلان ولمدة أسبوع، من الساعة التاسعة صباحا وحتى الثانية ظهرا. (للاستفسار هاتف: 01-211400)



Sand flies are tiny, silent, and their bites often do not hurt. They infect people with leishmaniasis in 88 countries around the



Invitation for Bids

Tender Advertisement no. (15) of year 2009

(One Envelope System - Technical + Financial)

The Yemen Gulf of Aden Ports Corporation — Port of Aden here announces its desire to invite bidders to Tender no. (15) for supplying sheets of iron to manufacture mooring **buoys** which will be financed from the following sources:

1- Government sources.

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The deadline for selling BDs will be on 19 AUG 2009. Bids must be submitted in sealed envelopes addressed to Yemen Gulf of Aden Ports Corporation — Port of Aden- Tawahi mentioning the project name, Tender number and name of bidder procurement department. The following documents must be contained in

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- Valid Insurance Certificate. (Insurance certificate is required only from firms with employees in Yemen who are entitled to benefits from the Public Enterprise for Social Security in Yemen)
- Valid registration and classification certificate. (In the event of an award of contract if the successful firm is not already registered it will be required to evidence registration with the concerned Entity in Yemen as a requirement forcontract effectiveness.) Samples (if required)
- valid zakat card
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A foreign bidder may provide the equivalent documents indicated in 2, 3 and 4 from its country of registration as appropriate

- The Dead line for submission and bids opening will be Sunday 11:00 Am on 23 AUG **2009**. Bids received after this deadline will be returned unopened
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Hakeem Al-Aqel: We need the support of businessmen

ine art in Yemen is a special kind of art that hasn't been closely studied yet, partly due to the fact that appreciation for it in Yemeni sociestill extremely limited. Worldwide, many people are indifferent in recognizing both the pioneers of fine art and those artists who succeed them. Here in Yemen, the government doesn't pay attention to plastic art, its concerns or the difficulties hindering its progress. Ismael Al-Ghabiri of the Yemen Times met with plastic artist Hakeem Al-Agel, advisor to the Minister of Culture for Fine art Affairs, and conducted this interview.

Which school of fine art do you

I studied a lot of art throughout my career, including at the Academic School here in Sana'a. I finished my studies in Moscow in 1994. These days I work in a special style which is to a great extent an expressional Yemeni

What is the best painting that you made and are still proud of?

All the paintings that I have made so far are experiments and I don't prefer any one of them over another. I like a painting for some time until I create a better one. But when it comes to plastic art, I am still in my own research stage so it is difficult to say.

What do you think needs to happen in order to develop fine art in Yemen?

In general, support. Some senior profes-

sionals in this art have grown old while

their paintings accumulate and are neg-

lected. We need businessmen to launch a

campaign to support this art form

because although the Culture Ministry

does contribute, its capabilities are such

that it cannot afford to pay for every-

What are the major difficulties that

The major difficulties we face are the

lack of support and infrastructure. There

are no halls for shows. We have only

one hall called the Culture House, but

this hall is also used for holding poetry,

music and folklore activities. All of

these fields compete for this hall. We

also lack infrastructure on the gover-

norate level, particularly given that there

are 400 graduates holding bachelor's,

master's and doctoral degrees in plastic

art. There are a lot of fans of this art but

No. We just receive promises. We sent

messages to the Social Fund for

Development and started holding a sus-

tainable workshop on ceramic art with

nowhere to build on its apprecaition.

Do you receive foreign support?

fine art in Yemen faces?

thing.



How do you assess the situation of fine art in Yemen?

Fine art in Yemen has special characteristics. It needs help to lift it out of the isolation that we live in here in the south of the Arabian Peninsula. Because of this, we held two meetings: The Sana'a First Arab Meeting held in 2008 and the Sana'a International Meeting in 2009. The two meetings focused on the ongoing activity in the field of fine art in Yemen. During the meetings, Yemen hosted a large number of senior Arab plastic artists both in the general exhibi-

tions and in smaller symposiums.

In the meeting held in 2008, the sub-

ject was 'the dialogue of arts.' It dis-

cussed many papers on plastic arts in

Yemen. The second meeting in 2009

was held under the title of 'Arab plastic

art: half a century of accomplishments

and questions.' During the meeting, the

Yemeni plastic artist Hashem Ali

Abdullah presented a paper on Yemeni

connected with a showcase of all differ-

ent kinds of works by Yemeni artists.

This contributed to introducing Yemeni

The two meetings were in general

plastic art.

We additionally have 12 houses for plastic arts in various governorates throughout Yemen. In every governorate we conduct training and qualifying courses supervised by professional artists. For example, in Dhamar we developed the Dhamar Art House and provided it with a graphics machine and accessories. The Taiz Fine art House is supervised by Hisham Ali and has grad-

final procedures in the Ministry of Legal

Affairs and the Ministry of Civil Service

to issue a resolution to establish an

Optical Arts Center as well as host a

Sana'a Exhibition showcasing Yemeni

plastic arts. The center will be con-

cerned with training and qualifying peo-

ple in the arts in general while the

Sana'a Exhibition will be focused on

marketing the works of Yemeni plastic

There are thousands of Yemeni plastic artists, some of who participate in training courses held abroad. Currently, there is a training course in the field of Islamic miniature art which is absent in our

I would like to point out that we host a contest for young plastic artists who come from all parts of Yemen. The Ministry of Culture awards three winners and a catalog of their works and biographies is distributed among people concerned with this kind of art. We started the contest last March and three artists received awards in addition to the jury's award. Adjudicators usually come from the Arab World.

What is the role that fine art plays concerning national issues in Yemen? Before the revolution in 1962, there was no fine art at all in the country. In the beginning, this art found its way into Yemen via the military. Fine art was a source of support for the revolution. Artists inside military camps that defended the revolution practiced fine art through posters and wall drawings. Following that, the government paid special attention to this art because it

uated a big group of artists. country.

was considered one of the fruits of the

revolution. Many artists were sent to fine art to Arab and foreign artists. including the Chinese delegation which study plastic arts in Italy and Russia and

Crows look over the city.

them. We sent messages to different groups that can afford to support this effort, but so far we haven't received any response. However, we will remain in contact with them and will keep trying to obtain support.

What about the role of the Yemeni **Plastic Artists Syndicate?**

Many activities of the syndicate have been frozen since 2003 due to lack of support. We used to issue a newspaper called Tashkeel [Painting] which was an excellent newspaper concerned with plastic art. We published 12 issues and circulated them in the Arab World. It stopped due to lack of support but it can be re-activated at any time, particularly given that there are more plastic artists these days who collectively have a variety of new cultural visions.

was particularly impressed by the high quality of Yemeni art.

Additionally, despite a shortage of support, I still believe that fine art in Yemen is gaining ground and is capable of taking on a large and important role. This is particularly true given that we started a rehabilitation and training project concerning ceramics and inscription which began last year in Egypt. We sent around eight artists to study bronze molding as well as other artists to participate in extensive training courses in the

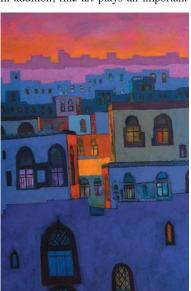
came back home holding certificates of specialization in this field. Such artists are still sent to study abroad.

Concerning national issues, fine art in Yemen concerns itself with both Arab and national issues. This year, we held three shows for Yemeni plastic artists about the siege on Gaza. We are currently preparing for a big show entitled Yemen' which will be supported by Minister of Culture Dr. Mohammed Abu Bakr Al-Muflehi who has supported plastic art. The show will be exhibited in all the governorates in about two months, and around 50 Yemeni professional artists will participate in the show.

How does a plastic artist translate the real situation that they live in into art? Fine art translates itself into all languages of the world. Upon showing paintings in any part of the world, there is no need for translators, contrary to poetry, novels and stories. This distinguishes fine art from all other kinds of

Fine art in the Arab world has many characteristics. For, example the Arab civilization is three thousand years old and throughout the Arab world, the climate changes from a city to another. Furthermore, in Sana'a itself the architecture is unique and cannot be found in any other country worldwide. Ten kilometers outside Sana'a, you can find another world. There is a variety of costumes and handcrafts throughout the country and the Arab world in general. Fine art can reflect all of this diversity and culture.

In Yemen, there are many pioneers of plastic artists who are internationally known such as Hashim Ali, Abdul Jabbar N'uman and Fu'ad Al-Futaih. There are 1,008 paintings from Yemeni plastic artists that have been registered at the Ministry of Culture since 2003. We will select a group of them to be put inside the National Museum in their Department of Contemporary Fine art so that Yemeni, Arab and foreign visitors can recognize characteristics of this art. In addition, fine art plays an important



A city in the dark.

role in child education because when children visit the museum and recognize Yemeni plastic art, they grow up with this art fixed in their minds until it becomes part of their heritage and civilization. We aim to focus on this point in the upcoming years.

Arab fine art is undergoing changes due to technology and globalization. How do you think this affects its iden-

Arab fine art has been undergoing a crisis since the beginning of the 1990s when the International Club for Plastic Art, also known as Pioneers, was established in Sharjah. A lot of money was spent on this club, which aimed to be a place where Arab and European artists could connect. It was nearly the most important club in the Arab World because it invited plastic artists from all over, including Arab and European theorists. However, the club recently changed its direction. It has now been adopted by the American University in Sharjah and Arabs don't participate in its

On the other hand, Arab plastic artists, Yemenis excluded, have become imitators of the new trends that appeared in Europe. I would like to say that when the western countries become less creative and exhaust their own creativity, they resort to the east which is considered their savior. Even during the Renaissance in Europe, orientalists resorted to the east. Therefore, orientalism was the main source for European

Are there any final comments you would like to make?

Fine art should be supported not only by the Ministry of Culture but also by the private sector. During the last exhibition of plastic art, the Yemeni businessman Toufiq Abdul Rahim bought a painting for YR 1 million.

I would like to call on all public and private institutions as well as businessmen to purchase paintings from Yemeni artists instead of purchasing from for-

FACES & TRACES

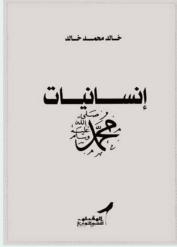
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Khalid Muhammad Khalid An unconventional religious and political reformer

By: Eyad N. Al-Samman alsammanworld@yahoo.ca

Muhammad Khalid was Egyptian teacher, a political and social reformer, an intellectual and an Islamic author. He was born on July 15, 1920 in a middle-class family in Al-Adwah, a village in Ash Sharqiyah Province, northern Egypt. Khalid learned how to read and write in his village's Kuttab (religious school attached to a mosque) and memorized a small part of the Holy Our'an. Afterwards, he joined a school outside of the mosque where he studied other sciences such as math and history. Khalid traveled to Cairo where he set to work on memorizing the entire Qur'an and at the age of 10 he enrolled as a regular student in Al-Azhar University in Cario. Khalid spent nearly 16 years at Al-Azhar studying at the primary and secondary institutes and then at the Faculty of Islamic Law starting in 1947. He graduated in 1948 with Al-Azhar's High Certificate and a specialization certificate in teaching. After graduation, Khalid worked at the Ministry of Education as an elementary school teacher. He later worked at the Department of Culture in the same ministry until 1954, when he was appointed as a counselor in the Ministry of Culture. While in this position, he managed several Centers of Islamic Heritage. He was also during this time a member of the Supreme Council of the Arts and Sciences. In 1976 and according to his wishes, Khalid left his job and retired to dedicate himself to reading and writing.

During his lifetime, Khalid authored more than thirty religious, political and sociological books. He was among the first intellectuals to hold long meetings with Gamal Abdel Nasser, then Egyptian President, to discuss the problems with democracy. In 1950, Khalid was imprisoned after publishing his



first book entitled "Min Huna Nabda'a" (From Here We Start). This controversial book advocated for representative government and socialist economic policies such as nationalizing means of production and limiting private property. Khalid also wrote in the book that Islam is a religion, not a state, which pushed the Egyptian government to ban the book. The court later issued a decision stating that they refused to confiscate the book and canceled all accusations leveled against the author in May 1950. Khalid's book entitled "Likay La Tahritho Al-Ardh" (In Order Not to Plow the Land, 1955) discussed democracy's problems through a pure Islamic perspective. But the masterpiece of Khalid's literary works is "Rijal Hawl Al-Rasool" (Men around the Messenger) which comprises five volumes containing the biographies of more than 60 companions of the Prophet Muhammad (PBUH). In this book, Khalid tackled the stories of the



messenger's prominent companions and the transformations that occurred to them after embracing Islam as a new unique religion. Those Companions of the prophet (PBUH) changed the course of human history with their undying faith, sincerity and brotherhood. Among the characters included in the book are Salmaan Al-Faarisy, Abu Dhar Al-Ghifaary, Billal Ibn Rabaah, Abu Muusaa Al-Ash'ary and 'Amr Ibn Al-'Aas.

In 1981, Khalid published his book entitled "Al-Dawlah Fi Al-Islam" (The State in Islam) in which he reviewed his last sayings about the exclusion of Islam as a religion from public affairs. He emphasized that Islam can be described as a religion and a state, a right and a revolution, a culture and a civilization and also a worship and a policy. He admitted that he made a mistake in the process of evaluating the religious state, which includes Islamic governments. "The Successors of the Messenger" is Khalid's book that discusses the lives of the Four Orthodox Caliphs and also of Umar Ibn Abd Al-Aziz who is dubbed 'The Fifth Orthodox Caliph.' Khalid's book entitled "Al-Wasaya Al-Ashr" (The Ten Commandments, 1986) contains his outspoken commandments to people that define the features of those who live noble lives in this modern era. Among Khalid's commandments in his book are: 'be courageous,' 'be virtuous,' 'be pioneering,' 'be a good friend,' 'read your word, say it and then continue your path,' 'be free in order to be fair' and 'turn your face towards God (Allah).'

In 1989, Khalid penned "Al-Islam waa Al-Dawlah" (Islam and the State) in which he declared that he had misrepresented the historical and political role of Islam and advocated political solutions closer to the ideology of the Muslim Brotherhood. Among his other reputable books which tackle social and ideological concerns about Arab and Egyptian societies are "Citizens Not Subjects" (1951), "Democracy Forever," "The Liberty Crisis in Our World" (1964), "Prophet Muhammad's Humanities," "And Abu Bakr Has Come," "In the Presence of Umar," "Farewell, Uthman," "In the Magnanimity of Ali," "Umar ibn Abdul-Aziz: Islam's Miracle," "An Interview with the Prophet (PBUH)," "Together on the Way: Prophet Muhammad and Jesus Christ," "The Caliphs of the Messenger" and "With Human Consciousness in its Journey and Destiny."

Khalid passed away on February 29, 1996 at the age of 76. Khalid was an unconventional author who espoused liberal and defiant thoughts throughout his writings. He played a significant and vital role in the structure of contemporary Arabic culture and literature for more than 30 years. He once said, "The captured liberty of the people should be returned to them, not only partially but entirely. I am not saying to do so tomorrow but to do so now. Moreover, if we will not do it, history will mention that the people who began the revolution of 1952 in Egypt are the same who hindered its progress and

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Why newspapers don't reach countryside?

li Saeed walks for around four kilometers to move from his village and Toor Al-Baha district in Lahj to buy the newspapers issued during the week. Abdulla Ahmed Hamoud seizes the opportunity of his travel to Sana a top buy his favorite newspapers and then comes back to his village in Bani Maimun, Amran. He says that reading newspapers makes him more informative and aware of events of Yemen. In addition, a journalist from Taiz told me that his friends in the village always ask him to buy them newspapers from Sana'a when he comes back

Transparency in distribution

Chippers

Rammers

According to a field media study on size of distribution of Yemen newspapers, the majority of newspapers are centered in high a ratio in Sana'a whereas they decrease notably in the

other governorates. The study that was conducted by Public Relations Department at Sana'a University's Faculty of Information shows that the highest number of the circulation size reaches 13804.

Dr. Hassan Mansour, assistant professor of media at University of Science and Technology, points out in his comment on the study that spread of newspapers is weak and their public are decreasing. He attributed this to the weak circulation and bad marketing as well as weak

capabilities of government newspapers.

In his paper entitled 'Economic Environment of Yemeni Media', Mansour says that the study didn't address the amount of newspapers circulated through annual subscriptions or distributed for free. He didn't pay attention to the numbers that some newspapers announced that they print every issue. He believes that good circulation is a dependent and important element to fund the newspaper because it reflects its power and popularity among the mass.

He further confirms that transparency is absent when it comes to the real numbers of newspapers' circulation. He points out that readers of hardware newspapers are decreasing worldwide due to the global financial crisis and inclination of society particularly youth to read news over the internet.

Good circulation

Manager od Circulation Department at Al-Thawra Corporation Press Abdul Karim Al-Halali says that the they distribute between 50-60 Yemeni and Arab magazines and newspapers in addition to press publications of Al-Thawra in all

governorates of Yemen. 'We have around 23 means of transportation that belong to the administration including 13 means inside Sana'a,' said Al-Hilali in a statement to Al-Seyasseya newspaper. 'Public and private means of transportation are used to deliver newspapers to offices of the corporation

travel to the governorates because it is difficult to find cars permanently at a specific time.

The Al-Thawra administration circulates 25-30 copies a day in all the governorates of Yemen and circulation is carried out in area where transportation services are available and centers of districts, according to Al-HJalali.

Vice-Director of Yemeni Women Journalists Forum Widad Al-Badwi points out that distribution of newspapers in Yemen didn't receive 'the spread that readers and writers want at a time when the number of newspapers issued every

day is increasing.'
'Readers in Yemeni rural areas remain marginalized by read media because newspapers don't reach them and visual media due to lack of electricity coverage,' says Al-Badwi. 'At the same time, rural areas are an open market for newspapers because they constitute over 75 percent of the population, which requires atten-

tion to delivering newspapers to these areas.'

'As I was born and brought up in village(Shar'ab Al-Salam), I talk about an experience which I lived. Newspapers reach the area only through people who travel to cities and come back with one or two issues of some newspapers which are circulated from one to another sometimes for a week,' She adds.

She agrees with findings of the study that Yemeni newspapers are restricted to main cities. She says that 'there is discrepancy in distribution from a city to another based on initiative of the newspaper and level of awareness among people.' She points out that distribution of Yemeni newspapers remains limited in spite of subscriptions with institutions and that no newspaper was able to achieve a strong number of circulation.

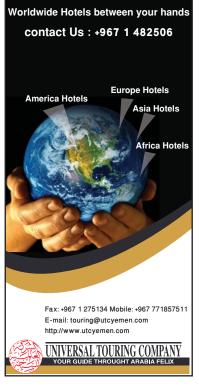
A strange phenomenon

Media expert Nashwan Al-Samiri says that it is a strange phenomenon among the whole Arab press in general that circulation of newspapers is restricted to cities and capitals of gover-norates. Therefore, readers in the Arab rural areas are deprived of news service and other services that newspapers should provide them with. Absence of press among people of rural areas makes these newspapers almost far from checking concerns and problems of citizens in these areas, contributing to reflecting their ambitions to a better life and reporting them to decision-makers in the government. It seems that this absence deprives about two thirds of the population of access to printed press, according to Al-Samiri.

He says also that the major reasons behind restriction of newspapers to cities are weakness of distribution, and neglecting the idea that press nowadays is an economic institution that should pay attention to all fields of life to succeed. He says that a big problem will remain an obstacle in front of spread of press in cities themselves. This problem is the precise or professional distribution. This requires that ambitions of newspapers head toward economic growth and expansion through taking into account all the necessary factors including circulation and reaching new markets where they may find big popularity in the large Yemeni rural areas.

Finally, finding a new reader may not be as important for leadership of newspapers as seeking an advertiser or financial support. In addition, policy of distributing Yemeni newspapers in the institutions of the different initiatives s in need of reviewing their tasks and organizing them through establishment of distribution administrations that depend on field research and continuously follow up the readers who are considered the capital.

Source: Al-Seyasseyah newspaper





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