



Sheikh Al-Moayad coming home

By: Ali Saeed

SANA'A, Aug 9 - After having languished in a US prison since 2003, Sheikh Mohammed Al-Moayad, 60, and his bodyguard Mohamed Zayed are expected to arrive in Yemen on Monday.

"The president [Ali Abdullah Saleh] personally called us to inform of our father's return," said Zakraya Al-Moayad, the middle son of Sheikh Al-Moavad.

"We also received a call today from the Yemeni Embassy in Washington that said he will arrive tomorrow [Monday] at 5 pm," he added.

Sheikh Al-Moayad, who was a prominent imam at a mosque in Sana'a and ran a charity organization, is suffering from a number of ailments according to his son.

Budget

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The US Department of Justice announced on Friday that the defendant Mohammed Ali Hassan Al-Moayad and the co-defendant and assistant Mohammed Zayed will be deported to Yemen but had not specified a time.

Sheikh Al-Moayad is expected to come home to a warm welcome. "The whole family, including his four sons and 3 daughters will meet him at Sana'a airport," Zakraya said. "We always expected that our father would return one day."

The last time the family spoke to him was two months ago. His wife spoke to him after she underwent a medical operation abroad.

Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr. Abu Bakr Al-Qirbi stated on Saturday that the return of Al-Moayad depended on his health, adding that Al-Moayad was

admitted to a US hospital Saturday to undergo medical examination.

Moayad's trial lawyer, William H. Goodman, said his client will return home a hero and that he was known for his work with the poor, reported the Washington Post. Al-Moayad was popular in Yemen for his charity work and was known amongst orphans and the poor as 'father of the orphans.' He used to run his own charity in Yemen called Al-Ehsan Charity Organization.

In Yemen, thousands of people have repeatedly staged demonstrations in solidarity with Sheikh Al-Moayad and Zayed. They have asked for justice in this case and stressed that the two men have no links to terrorism.

They have also considered Al-Moayad's support of Hamas as something common in Yemen where people openly support Palestinians against Israeli occupation.

Mohammed Zayed's wife Rajaa said, "I am also relieved that my husband is coming back." They have three children together, two daughters and a son. She added that she would like to receive him at the airport but wasn't sure if she would be allowed to.

The progress in the case came after the Court of Appeals in New York on Friday reduced the 75 year sentence pronounced in 2005 to six years after he was found guilty for financially supporting the democratically elected Hamas and Al-Qaeda groups, which the US considers to be terrorist groups. This charge held a six year sentence, which both have served.

Mohammed Zayed, who was serving a 45 year sentence before the reversal, will also be deported to Yemen.

The six year sentences were counted from the date of arrest on Jan 10, 2003, in Frankfurt, Germany.

Allegations and arrest

Lured to Germany by a Yemeni FBI

agent, Sheikh Al-Moayad thought he was securing donations for the democratically-elected Hamas. "Al-Moayad and Zayed were arrested

Germany's Bundeskriminalamt (BKA) at the request of the US Department of Justice and the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI)," according to an online report by the US Department of Justice. "The investigations focused on Al-

Moayad's supply of money, recruits, weapons and communication equipment to Al-Qaeda, Hamas and other Islamic extremist groups," said the report.

"The investigations revealed that Al-Moayad, an official in the Islah political party in Yemen and the Imam, or spiritual leader, of the Al-Ehsan mosque in Sana'a, has substantial and direct ties to Osama Bin Laden and Al-Qaeda," the report noted.

"The allegations against Zayed were that he joined Al-Moayad at meetings with confidential informants in Frankfurt, Germany, in January 2003, and swore to Allah that a financial contribution to Al-Moayad would be used for its intended purposes, which are to support the mujahedeen fighters of Al-Qaeda and Hamas," pointed out the report.

Moreover, the report explained that Al-Moayad and Zayed were charged with violating section 2339B of Title 18 of the United States Code, which prohibits anyone from knowingly providing or conspiring to provide material support to a foreign terrorist organization (FTO).

However, in Yemen, supporting the democratically elected Hamas is permissible by law and many imams and charity organizations openly support Hamas. According to the report, Al-Qaeda was designated as an FTO by the United States in October 1999 and Hamas, although a democratically elected government, has been designated as a foreign terrorist organization since 1997.



Al-Moayad known as 'father of orphans' had headed Al-Ehsan Charity Organization.

Human rights organizations in Yemen welcomed the deportation decision.

"We are very happy that Al-Moayad and his assistant Zayed will come back home to their families," said Khalid Al-Ansi, Executive Director of the National Organization for Defending Human Rights, known as HOOD.

This step is for the interest of the present administration of the US under the leadership of Obama," added Al-Ansi.

Al-Moayad is considered a prominent social figure in Yemen and his arrest along with his assistant raised anger in the Yemeni streets against the American procedures that were taken against him. Al-Moayad was transferred after his arrest in Frankfurt, Germany to a Colorado prison in America in 2003. From that date until the deportation decision, he was tried with the charges of supporting Islamic extremist groups.

In Yemen, public committees were set up to defend the case of Al-Moayad and his assistant Zayed.

The Yemeni Embassy in Washington released a statement saying "the fair and just resolution" of the case is "an important step in further reinforcing" bilateral relations











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2 10 August, 2009

Around the Nation



Repeated promises to operate Mareb one

By: Mahmoud Assamiee

SANA'A, Aug 9 – Some tribes in Mareb governorate were behind the delay of launching and operating the first phase of Mareb Electric Gas Station, said an official at the Ministry of Electricity and Energy. When it comes online, the station, located roughly 173 kilometers northeast of the capital Sana'a, will have an output of 340 megawatts.

The Ministry of Electricity and Energy's information specialist Muhareb Abu Ghanem said the station started its trial run on July 22 and will enter service some time during the forthcoming days. However, he added that the ministry is facing many problems in constructing transformers and operating the station. Tribesmen from Mareb Governorate fire at transformers conductors repeatedly and create problems over compensation for their lands on which electric towers are installed.

Abu Ghanem, who stated that repairing damaged cables is costly and time consuming, made it clear that the government gave land owners fair compensation. Some of them however, encouraged by their sheikhs, are creating problems to blackmail the ministry. "The ministry is facing difficulties in dealing with them because of their tribal mentality," Abu Ghanem commented.

Another source said that the ministry is facing another related problem with land owners in the Bani Al-Harith area, north of the capital Sana'a, where a transformer station has been built to receive electricity from Mareb one and distribute it to Sana'a. Some farmers there refuse to take compensation for their lands.

Abu Ghanem said Mareb will be the first governorate to benefit from the increased electricity. The electricity will be operated there first before any other governorate, even in remote areas of Mareb. "If there is only one house in a far away area, electricity will be extended to it," he noted.

Abu Ghanem said that operating the station will greatly help in getting rid of part of the 200 megawatts of purchased electricity from private companies, which costs the ministry USD 5 million a day. It will also help to ease pressure on existing electric stations that operate on diesel. Diesel fuel for these stations costs the country USD 2 million daily, according to media reports.

Concerning electric blackouts, Abu Ghanem said that operating the station will greatly decrease greatly power blackouts throughout the country. But he did not confirm reports stating that there will be one blackout lasting only for half an hour every 48 hours. These days, there are almost six hours of blackouts every 24 hours in Sana'a alone, while some governorates may suffer more than 12 hours of blackouts per day.

construction and increasing numbers of factories and workshops. The current shortage is 300 megawatt.

Yemen depends on diesel stations that were built in 1986 for its energy. Since that time, according to Abu Ghanem, no new station has been built to cover the increasing daily need for energy. This forced the government to resort to using rented, private stations which entered service in 2006.

Because electricity covers only 40 percent of rural areas and 70 percent of urban areas, demand for electricity is great. In addition, some governorates like Mahra, Hadramout and Sayoon are still not connected to the National Electric Network. Mareb one will be added to the network in its current state that covers 18 total governorates.

Promises

Government spokesman Hassan Allowzi stated on Tuesday after the cabinet's weekly meeting that Mareb one will enter service before the advent of the holy month of Ramadan, which will be at the end of August this year. This is the fourth promise made by the government concerning when Mareb one will enter service, and people are waiting to see if it will be honored.

During the last weekly meeting, the cabinet approved the strategic plan for the years 2010 to 2012 for improving the electricity sector. It also approved the strategic plan for the year 2025 for the same purpose, reported the state-run Yemen News Agency Saba.

The 2010-2012 plan, which costs USD 2.9 billion, aims at creating 1,500 additional megawatts for the country by carrying out 46 different projects. These include constructing electricity stations operating by gas, new transformers and rural electricity projects.

The second plan for 2025 seeks to carry out additional projects by the government and the private sector with a total investment cost of USD 1.85 billion. The plan considers the renewable energy like wind energy and geothermal energy to generate 15 per cent of electricity.

The two plans both aim at easing the current electricity shortage and keeping pace with the increasing demand for energy.

Last month the Yemeni parliament summoned the Minister of Electricity and Energy Awadh Al-Suqatri to ask him about the repeated blackouts and electricity projects, according to parliament member Abdul-Bari Dughaish. Al-Suqatri pledged to the parliament that Mareb one would enter into service last July and accordingly electricity problems like repeated blackouts will be relatively few, but the minister failed to fulfill his commitment The ministry's failure to honor its commitment to operate the station comes after two previous promises made by government to operate the station. The first promise was to operate the station in January this year and the second one was in June.

Regional human rights network trains advocates

By: Mohammed bin Sallam

SANA'A, Aug. 8 — Twenty human rights advocates from Yemen, Bahrain, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Oman and UAE gathered in Sana'a this week for a 10 day training course focused on advocacy tools and lobbying techniques.

This training is the last of five similar courses within a regional program funded by the Foundation for the Future and organized by the Human Rights Information and Training Center (HRITC) based in Yemen. In total, 140 activists from the seven countries have received intense trainings in Lebanon, Yemen, Qatar and Bahrain over the last two years. Twenty- four from each training- were selected to become human rights trainers.

The program, called, "Regional Network for Human Rights Activists and Freedom of Expression in Gulf States and Yemen" aims at building a regional team of human rights activists, continuing activity in various countries and enhancing the capacity of NGOs through the exchange of experiences and capabilities.

"This program is only an example of how important it is for civil society to be active and integrated in the reform process of any country," said Deputy Minister for Human rights, Ali Taiseer, at the launch of the program last



After two years of training and four training courses for 140 participants from seven the gulf countries and Yemen, only 20 were selected for the training of trainers course this week in Sana'a.

Saturday.

Director of the foundation Muneer Ali explained that it was created in 2005 in response to calls by regionally based civil society organizations for mechanisms to support the people of the Middle East and North Africa in their efforts to strengthen democracy

and participation, this achieve a region in which everyone enjoys freedom and human rights as endorsed by international human rights conventions.

Ezalddin Al-Asbahi, director of HRITC, emphasized on the importance of creating good trainers with excellent skills around the region in order to generate the next generation of human rights activists.

"We make sure that the trainers are equipped with adequate tools and skills to be able to convey the messages in a way that promotes and strengthens the civil society in those seven countries," he said.

Aden newspaper editor threatened

By: Yemen Times Staff

ADEN, Aug. 9 — The Yemeni Journalists Syndicate (YJS) in Aden has condemned the harassment of Aiman Mohammed Nasser, the editorin-chief of Al-Tariq, a bi-weekly newspaper published in Aden.

The syndicate received a complaint from the editor-in-chief saying that he had received threats and was illegally summoned to court, said the syndicate in a statement.

"Administrative Staff of Aden YJS Branch declares its strong solidarity with Nasser and denounce all those illegal practices, threats and intimidations practiced against the editor with the intention of shutting up the media in Aden," it said.

"This came just a few days after daily newspaper Al-Ayyam was closed down," it said.

In the beginning of May, the Ministry of the Information suspended the publication of Al-Ayyam, Al-Nida, Al-Masdar, Al-Watani, Al-Diyar, Al-Share', Al-Ahali and Al-Mustaqilla, following their coverage of the unrest at the southern governorates.

The papers were accused of harming national unity. Although some of these newspapers were allowed to re-publish, security forces prevented sales of Al-Ayyam.



few months. "The newspaper faced threats after it published photos of those killed in protests that took place in the southern governorates over the past months," he noted, adding that the government wanted to control the media in the southern governorates.

The newspaper, issued twice a week on Mondays and Thursdays has distributed nearly 30,000 copies, covering the deaths of demonstrators in the recent protests.

"It is our honor to support the oppressed," Nasser said, saying that his establish a special court to deal exclusively with press-related offenses following the media coverage of the unrest in the south of Yemen.

The Minister of Information supported the establishing of the court calling for "supporting national unity and rejecting any mean calls for separation and root hatred."

"Some influential government officials are responsible for the spread of hatred among people of Yemen," Nasser commented, denying allegations that his paper sparks hatred.

Summoned to court

The newspaper is currently facing charges of harming the national unity in two separate cases, the most recent of which was filed by a military court judge demanding the newspaper be closed down.

Nasser labeled the lawsuit as fabricated since it was filed by the same judge, who issued an unjust ruling against members of the Southern Movement. The judge was unavailable to comment.

Nasser expressed concern over any procedures that may be taken by the Sana'a-based Press and Publications Court against him.

US support

Officials from the United States Embassy in Sana'a recently visited the staff of Al-Ayyam and Al-Tariq newspapers in Aden.

During the meetings, the American officials reiterated the support of the United States government for "the role of independent and responsible media in Yemen."

They also expressed concern regarding measures taken recently by the Government of Yemen to impede the operations of several newspapers.

"Responsible and independent media perform an essential function in a democratic society by providing timely information and analysis of events that affect the lives of its citizens," said a press release from the US embassy in Yemen.

"The obstruction of press freedom and imprisonment of journalists deprive people of this fundamental right and undermine a core principle of democracy," it said.

The Aden YJS Branch, Arab Journalists Union and International Federation of Journalists expressed solidarity with Nasser.

Abu Ghanem said that the current country's need for electricity is 1,000 megawatts, but the demand is going to increase every year due to expanding Nasser said he was threatened and harassed because of conducting media coverage on what happened in the southern governorates over the past paper will continue to cover all events taking place on the ground despite threats and official fools.

Nasser has been summoned by police many times over his newspaper coverage.

In May the government decided to

"I have no doubt in the integrity of the judiciary, but the currently worsening situation as a result of events in the southern governorates has made me concerned about my personal safety," Nasser said. "Any trial may cost me a lot." They demanded security authorities in Aden provide adequate protection to the editor-in-chief, his family and all members of staff at the newspaper, and urged civil society organizations and human rights groups to stand in solidarity with Nasser.

Government battles to regulate small arms

SANA'A, Aug 5 – (IRIN) - The Yemeni government is struggling to control the spread of small arms in major cities, despite the two-year-old ban on firearms.

The Interior Ministry's July 2007 ban "somewhat resulted in the disappearance of guns in the capital [Sanaa] and other main cities like Taiz, Ibb and Dhamar only", Khalid al-Ansi, a lawyer at the National Organization for Defending Rights and Freedoms, told IRIN in Sanaa. The move, however, does not help in disarming people as they mostly keep guns at home or hide them when passing through security checkpoints, Al-Ansi said.

"The availability of small arms among citizens exacerbated the issue of revenge killings, and lack of public awareness hinders government and civil society efforts to control the spread of arms," Al-Ansi said.

Some, like Shayef Taher, a resident of a Sanaa suburb called Qaa al-Qaidhi, about 25km out of town, are reluctant to give up their guns due to personal safety concerns.

"I am against the government's anti-

arms law... I train my children and wife in how to use guns to protect our home from thieves in my absence," Taher said. Mohammed Ahmad, a garment seller in Sanaa's Shumaila market, said there were some shopkeepers in the market selling pistols and other small guns. "They sell daggers, belts and silver jewellery at their shops to mislead any security patrols in the area. They contact gun buyers by phone," he said.

According to Abdul-Rahman al-Marwani, chairman of Dar Al-Salam Organization, a local NGO tackling the culture of violence, gun shops in the outskirts of Sanaa resumed selling arms to citizens just a few months after the ban was enforced. Many of those shops are in Jehan, 30km southeast of Sanaa, and Arhab, 40km north of Sanaa, he said. "There are 13 weapon markets with hundreds of shops nationwide."

The Yemeni parliament on 27 July traded accusations with the cabinet over the worsening security situation as kidnappings and armed conflicts were increasing, despite heightened security measures to limit the spread of weapons. The cabinet lashed out at MPs from tribal areas opposing the enforcement of the arms ban. Bearing firearms is part of the tribal culture and "a tribesman can give up everything except his gun", according to some community leaders.

At least 1,200 individuals are either killed or injured by arms misuse annually, said Al-Marwani.

He maintained that citizens did not trust the judiciary and security authorities in settling their disputes, pointing out that some citizens took the law into their own hands because of the ineffectual judiciary system and security apparatus. A recent survey by the Dar Al-Salam Organization indicates there are more than nine million small arms in Yemen owned by state personnel, tribesmen and vendors.

"We face difficulties disarming people due to complicated revenge killing issues, some of which date back more than 50 years, particularly in the provinces of Mareb, Shabwa and Al-Jawf," Lutf Nisari, an official at the Interior Ministry's Investigation Bureau, conceded. "Recent anti-arm campaigns [were] effective and reduced crime rates in the capital city only."

Seyaj calls for investigating the murder of a 5-year-old girl

By: Mohammed bin Sallam

SANA'A, Aug 9 – Seyaj Organization for Childhood Protection strongly condemned the kidnapping and rape of a 5year-old child girl in Taiz governorate. In a statement circulated to the various media outlets, Seyaj Organization declared its strong legal support to the family of the victim. It nominated Ali Saeed Sadeeq, media officer at the Taiz-based branch of the Yemeni Lawyers Syndicate, as the defenseadvocate for the family.

According to information obtained from the victim's family and security officials, the child was kidnapped, raped, killed, disfigured and thrown on the fourth floor of Al-Mudhafar district's Traffic Department in Taiz on Friday. Five people were detained in connection with the crime.

The organization thanked security officials and those who helped in arresting the five defendants, warning the relevant authorities against being lenient with the perpetrators. It demanded the judiciary to pay special attention to the issue.

Seyaj Organization called on relevant agencies in Taiz to accelerate the investigation of the crime and refer the perpetrators to the judiciary. It warned against a potential spread of sexual assault against children in Yemen.

The organization demanded that the public prosecution and the Ministry of the Interior provide modern technological devices that help to identify DNA. It also demanded that they develop the skills and knowledge of security personnel and prosecution staff to be more capable in dealing with honor crimes. On a related note, the organization marked on Wednesday the first anniversary of its establishment in the presence of activists and government officials concerned with human rights and civil freedoms.

At the ceremony, the organization, represented by its chairman Ahmad Al-Qurashi, awarded several national figures and institutions that support its activities. Those honored included the late Sheikh Abdullah Bin Hussein Al-Ahmar, chairman of Yemen News Agency Nasr Taha Mustafa, as well as Save the Children Sweden and Al-Saeed Satellite Channel.

The organization also awarded Abdurrahman Al-Shamiri as the first businessman to give a donation for the establishment of the organization and Aljazeera Brothers of Exchange as the first company in the private sector assisting Seyaj Organization. Cooperative Agricultural Credit Bank (CAC Bank) was awarded as the first bank offering support.

Two of Seyaj's staff members, Nora Al-Amoudi and Ibrahim Al-Zailai, received honors in recognition of their excellent performance and commitment.

Seyaj Organization was established by decree from the Yemeni Cabinet one year ago. It was recently selected as a member of the national committee in charge of developing Yemen's human rights strategy, which was established by cabinet decree no. 30 of 2009.



Around the Nation

In Brief

SANA'A

Govt promises to offer 60 mln m_ of lands for investment projects

The government has pledged to offer 60 million square meters of lands in coming two years for setting up investment projects.

An official at the cabinet told News Yemen that the government promised in its annual report- presented recently to the parliament- to offer required lands for carrying out investments in field of building housing units for limited incomes citizens and agricultural lands for youths.

The official added that the government would carry out a survey for good lands for investment in coordination with local authority in ten governorates.

Germany to be 'guest of honor' at Yemen book fair

Germany has accepted to be the guest of honor at the 26th international book fair to be held from October 22 to 2 November in Yemen's capital, Sana'a.

Chairman of the Book Authority Faris al-Saqaf said the authority will start from this fair to invite a country to be a guest of honor, a move which comes after the idea has showed to be useful to boosting book fairs and promoting cultural relations between countries across the world

Choosing Germany comes because of the deep-rooted cultural ties between it and Yemen, he added.

At the fair, German intellectuals and writers will highlight their country's history and 40-year cooperation between Germany and Yemen as well as the history of the Sana'a Old City and Germany's capital, Berlin.

More than 300 publishing houses from Yemen, the Arab World and other world states are expected at the fair.

Projects management training course concluded in Aden

A training course on projects' management concluded on Friday in Aden governorate.

The four-day training course was organized by Yemen Center for Human Rights Studies (YCHRS) in collaboration with International Future Institution. It aimed to instruct 30 participants from governorates of Aden, Lahj, Abyan, Dalei and Shabwa with information on the human rights concept in addition to build their organizing capacities. It also intended to acquaint the partic-

ipants with means to provide legal assistance, manage projects and spread human rights culture.

The training course is a part of a training program targets five governorates, director of spread human rights culture project Samah Jamil said.

She said that after the course, a team work will be formed to spread human rights culture in the five governorates.

HODEIDAH Yemen captures 38 African immi-

grants Security services have captured in Hodeidah province 37 Africans charged of illegal entry into Yemen.

According to security sources, the arrested Africans included 20 Sudanese, 13 Nigerians and three Somalis. The sources said that the investigation had revealed that they have slipped to Yemen in order to enter into Saudi Arabia.

Meanwhile, 58 Somali refugees, including 28 women, have reached Taiz province's coast. Security forces have sent them to the Kharaz refugee camp located in Lahj province, southern Yemen.

The ongoing fighting in Somalia is pushing thousands of Somali civilians to risk their lives to cross the Gulf of Aden and seek asylum in Yemen.

In 2008, more than 50,000 new arrivals reached Yemen's shores - a 70 percent increase from 2007. The trend has continued during the first six months of 2009 with around 30,000 new arrivals - the total for the whole of 2007. It's a dangerous journey.

More than 1,000 drowned en route in 2008 as they were thrown overboard or forced to disembark too far from the shore by unscrupulous smugglers. So far this year, almost 300 have died or gone missing.

The smuggling phenomenon places

increasing strain on Yemen's limited resources and poses more challenges to the Government's efforts to balance its obligations under international law with the need to protect the country from illegal entry.

Yemen recognizes Somalis as refugees on a prima facie basis. Somali refugees are given the option of shelter at the Kharaz refugee camp.

There are some 13,000 mainly Somali refugees living in the camp which is fully serviced by UNHCR in co-operation with other UN agencies as well as local and international NGOs. In addition to the camp population, there are tens of thousands of refugees who have opted to stay in urban areas around the country.

AMRAN Tourist rock village to be built in

Amran Director of Tourism Office in Amran governorate Mohammed Mafa has said that a project of the rock village would be set up at sum of YR 200 million.

Mafa told Saba that the project includes tourist wings with facilities, considering it as one of key projects of infrastructure for tourism in the governorate.

He said that Maswar district has been chosen to be a center for Gliding after a successful experiment done by a French team of French Aviation Institute.

Mafa said that the French team voiced readiness to train youths on this sport.

HAJJAH

Press course on problem of child trafficking concluded

A training course on the press coverage of child trafficking and labor was concluded in Hajjah province, northern Yemen.

The course was organized by the project of the alternatives of child labor through education and sustainable services "Access Plus" in cooperation with the Ministry of Information and a Program of CH F.

The five-day course was attended by

20 journalists who received a number of media skills that are in harmony with their coverage to this problem as well as numerical information on the problem of child trafficking and government and non-government efforts to eradicate this phenomenon.

According to official sources, children who are trafficked to Saudi Arabia are often subjected to sexual harassment. insults, beatings, prostitution and are sometimes killed. Trafficked children are usually teenagers.

Children who are repatriated from Saudi Arabia are often sent to a reception centre at Haradh border area.

Child trafficking is mainly associated with poverty. About 43 percent of Yemen's 23 million inhabitants, half of whom are children under 15, live below the poverty line. Almost all children who are trafficked go to oil-rich Saudi Arabia to make money.

Most trafficked children come from the particularly poor northwestern governorates of Hajjah, al-Mahweet, Amran and Saada

Yemeni and Saudi officials have signed an agreement in which Saudi authorities have agreed to officially hand back trafficked children to Yemen.

DHAMAR

Dhamar governor talks to Dutch ambassador

discussed on Thursday with the Dutch ambassador to Sana'a Harry Buikema cooperation aspects in the health field as well as what the embassy provides for health improvement in the governorate. The meeting reviewed efforts of through the implementation of reproduc-

The governor affirmed the depth relations between the two countries and

Dutch support offered for the governorate. He highly valued the Dutch contributions to the health sector in Dhamar.

praised successes achieved in promoting

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health services and building capacities of health cadres, affirming continuation of his country to support health sector in the governorate during the coming years.

HADRAMOUT

WB-financed port cities 2nd phase projects reviewed

Yemen and Word Bank (WB) reviewed on Wednesday projects which the WB is to implement within the second phase of the port cities development program at a cost of \$35 million.

Hadramout governor Salem al-Khanbashi was briefed by the WB's delwhich included Hadramout, Aden and Hodeidah governorates. The preparation for the second stage as well as the projects which will be

egation head on the Bank's projects

included such as the rehabilitation of Mukalla International Airport at \$6.3 million, in addition to rehabilitating Mukalla Port and the city's old shops.

The governor talked about major projects to be included under the Program, coming on top by implementing an information center in the province and completing Maternity and Children Hospital second phase project in Mukalla beside other projects.

JOB VACANCY Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany HUMANITÀRIAN FORUM Humanitarian Forum (a British NGO) is announcing the following vacancy: **Position:** Director Location: Sana a-Yemen **Reference:** HF/DY/050809 **Overall Scope:**

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development partnership as well as the

For his part, the Dutch ambassador

Governor of Dhamar Yahya al-Omari

its growth as an organization. The Director will be responsible for developing a stronger local network. He /She will act as the interface between the civil society sector, the local authorities, stakeholders and the international development community. He /She will advocate/promote the organizational objectives to promote and galvanize local and international support. In light of these responsibilities, the director will have three major functions:

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- Support the local Board and working groups;
- Plan and implement work on the modules;
- Provide leadership in these and other areas: the creation of strategic, tactical, and financial plans; developing goals and measuring performance to the approved goals; organizational development; liaison to the public, government, affiliated organizations, and other stakeholders; develop member services and member development; the development of the initiative s staff

Requirements:

- University degree; Masters degree in a relevant area preferred
- 5 years experience in NGOs
- Designing and implementing training ٠
- Experience of obtaining funds from Governments, trusts and foundations
- Evidence of designing project proposals for successful submission to donors, including narrative, logframes and budgets
- Oral and written fluency in Arabic; good standard of written and spoken English
- Proven abilities for the establishment and maintenance of relevant networks and contacts, ٠ domestically and overseas
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills with the capability to effectively communicate across all levels and all disciplines with ease
- Ability to write papers and reports for consideration by or presentation to meetings involving senior level internal or external contacts
- ٠ A strong negotiator with proven skills in gaining agreement
- Understanding of International and Multilateral organizations and NGOs •
- Experience and understanding of both western and Islamic cultures ٠

Please send copy of your CV latest 19th August 2009.

To apply for this position please send a copy of your CV together with a covering letter that demonstrates how your skills and experience match those outlined in the job description. You should email it to recruitment@humanitarianforum.org by 19 August. Interviews will be within 6 weeks of this date.

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- languages: Arabic (mothertongue) and good command of both English and German;
- IT-knowledge (Open Office, Thunderbird, Internet);
- organizational skills
- university degree and several years of work experience

post description:

assistant to the Head of Economic Affairs as well as Head of Development Affairs of the German Embassy with responsibility for

- assistance in micro projects and other development projects;
- contact to local companies for bilateral economic relations;
- assistance in organizing and coordinating visits of official delegations;
- work translations, both written and oral;

- applications from female candidates are particularly welcome -

Applications should be submitted in English or German and include C.V., recommendation letters from former employers, school and university diplomas plus photograph. Documents in Arabic must be accompanied by an English or German translation.

Please submit your application by 23rd August 2009, to:

German Embassy; P.O. Box 41, Sana'a Attn. Mrs. Anja Zougouari

Shortlisted candidates will be contacted for an interview.

Postanscnrift: Embassy of the Federal Republic of German P.O.Box 41 + 2562 Sanaa / Republic of Yemen

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Interview

Japanese Ambassador Masakazu Toshikage to Yemen Times: "Yemen needs more aid, and to absorb it, it needs more capacity building."

Ambassador Masakazu Toshikage was posted to Yemen two and half years ago. During this time he visited many Yemeni cities and met with many Yemenis. He considers the Yemeni people to be friendly and humble, and Yemen itself as a country of great potential that deserves to be assisted. Perhaps this is why during his post as ambassador, Japan's aid to Yemen has doubled and new projects between the two countries have emerged. Nadia Al-Sakkaf interviewed Toshikage about Yemeni-Japanese relations and other related issues.

-love visiting places, both historic and natural, and I have been to Aden, Taiz, Hadramout, and many other governorates. I have even been to Mareb more than once, the last time in early 2008 with my wife, to see the Sheba Temple and Mareb dam," said Ambassador Masakazu Toshikage about his tourism adventures in Yemen. He has visited almost half the country and Mareb was a frequent destination until the kidnapping of two Japanese tourists in May 2008. Although the kidnapping as such did not last more than eight hours, the incident has left its mark on the governorate, labeling it a risky area. Nevertheless, the Japanese embassy cannot keep its citizens from visiting Mareb or any other place in Yemen for that matter. "We advise them to defer their travel or think very seriously about the security threats before deciding to goto any risky areas, and since we cannot impose our travel advisory, we leave a final decision to them," the ambassador said.

EMEN

There are fourteen young Japanese development volunteers working at various local communities in Sana'a, Aden and Taiz Governorates. And the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)maintains records of their wellbeing and movements.

Unlike people who work at the JICA office in Sana'a, who are experts working for the country's central government, the volunteers are working for local governments and communities to transfer technology and vocational skills at local levels.

els. "We are sometimes concerned about their security because they are totally on their own, but we trust that they are aware of the environment around them, and JICA communicates with them regularly," said Toshikage.

Yemen and Japan

Yemen's relations with Japan likely date back to 1938 when Prince Al-Hussein Yahya Bin Hameed Al-Dein visited Japan and delivered an official letter from King Hahya Bin Hameed Al-Dein to then Showa Emperor of Japan. In 1960, the Emperor Akihito of Japan, then Crown Prince, paid a visit to Aden on a tour abroad. Having survived through the time of North and South Yemen's existence as two separate countries, Japan-Yemen relations remained robust and developed further after unification in 1990.

President Ali Abdullah Saleh paid official visits to Japan in March 1999 and in November 2005. Today, the two countries' relations remain close and are deemed appropriate for the country's social and economic development. The merit of this program is to enable small farmers to obtain necessary agricultural equipment and materials at substantially lower prices and at the same time provide the Yemeni Government with additional funds for development projects. As the implementing agency of Japan's Official Development Aid (ODA), JICA monitors all process of program implementation while the Yemeni Government is required to obtain approval from the Japanese Government on the use of the funds made available.

In 2008 via the 2KR Program, Japan provided a total of 225 tractors to agricultural cooperatives in 21 governorates. The distribution of these tractors was completed by the end of the year.

The Japanese government also provides aid to Yemen indirectly through various million dollar funds via international organizations that are earmarked for Yemen or are otherwise requested by the Japanese Government to be used for specific projects in Yemen.

During the fiscal year April 2009 to March 2010, Japan's grassroots aid to Yemen is expected to reach USD 1.5 million and will assist 18 projects across the country. Unlike official development aid that goes through the government via bilateral agreements, this aid goes directly to the local communities with funding that could reach up to USD 100,000 per project.

Toshikage believes that Yemen as a country needs more aid and international assistance as much as it needs capacity building to deal with its challenges. "Yemen needs more aid and to absorb it, it needs more capacity building," he noted.

Japan's aid to Yemen includes the development of rural water supplies, provision of agricultural equipment to underprivileged farmers, construction of school buildings, development of technical education and vocational training, promotion of mother and child nutrition and health, and humanitarian assistance for African refugees in Yemen. It also includes financing a new type of project to promote the fight against global warming under the 'Cool Earth Partnership Program.'

In the face of global warming, all countries, whether developed or developing, need to cooperate in reducing greenhouse gas emission worldwide. In January 2008 at the Davos Economic Conference, then Japan's Prime Minister Yasuo Fukuda announced Japan's 'Cool Earth Partnership Initiative' under which assistance is provided to developing countries willing to cooperate in the reduction of CO2 and other greenhouse gas emissions through energy saving and other appropriate measures In July 2008, the Government of Yemen expressed its willingness to participate in this initiative and later submitted to the Japanese Government its funding request for installation, as a pilot project, of solar panels at some general hospitals in Yemen. Based on recent findings of a JICA survey mission to Yemen, the Japanese Government is currently working toward financing the provision of solar panels to general hospitals in Aden and/or Sana'a for Japanese fiscal year 2009.



has the capacity required to spend the aid dispersed to it in an effective and efficient way to promote its development. We do have some concern about this capacity in the government and we feel it is important to promote better coordination between the various ministries and streamline decision-making process within the ministries.," he said.

Some of the aid projects are directed towards building the capacity of government employees in various sectors, especially those dealing with people's needs such as police and law enforcement officers.

"Yet eventually good governance is a responsibility the Yemeni government has to take by itself, and we would be happy to consider any request for technical assistance in this matter if requested with a concrete project proposal," commented Toshikage.

Although Japan does not have any good governance programs on the policy level as such, according to the ambassador, the Japanese Government and Japan International Cooperation Agency are accountable to Japan's taxpayers for the effective and efficient implementation of development projects in Yemen. To ensure such accountability and to make sure that all projects are implemented so that they achieve the intended purposes within the prescribed timeframe. Japan works very closely with its Yemeni counterparts throughout the whole process of project appraisal, formation, implementation and post-project evaluation. Therefore there is no room for excessive delay of delivery or for any irregularities in the implementation of projects in Yemen.

Culture exchange

In the last two years, around 24 Yemeni youths between the ages of 18 and 30 got selected for the trip of a lifetime through the 'Youthship' program funded by the Japanese government. Youth from all around the world gather for a two month journey starting in Japan and then travel by boat to several Asian countries. In Japan they learn about the Japanese culture and visit important places in order to be acquainted with Japanese history and traditions. On board there are several Japanese school students study English since their fifth grade, and, the youth are increasingly interested in English as a language to link them with others from around the world for better communication with other cultures. Now many English teachers in Japanese schools are native speakers of English, and this new trend is supposed to help Japanese students master the language better.

Japan and the world

Increasingly Japan has been playing an important role around the world in an attempt to promote world peace and development, especially in poor countries. Japan donated around 0.17 percent of its Gross National Income (GNI) in 2007 to poor countries around the world. Being the second largest economy in the world, according to 2007 statistics, Japan donated the very large total of around USD 7.68 billion to developing countries. This figure is likely to have increased in subsequent years. Africa is now the biggest recipient of Japan's aid, followed by Asia, Latin America and the Middle East.

"The objective of Japan's Official Development Aid (ODA) is to contribute to the peace and development of the international community. This objective is to be pursued by supporting the self-help efforts of developing countries based on good governance. Also, full-attention has to be paid to prevent any use of ODA for military purposes as well as to promoting the democratization of developing countries. Our ODA programs for Yemen too are governed by these policy objectives," commented the ambassador.

Japan is participating in the Gulf of Aden security patrol by providing two naval vessels and two patrol aircrafts of Japan Maritime Self-Defense Forces.

"We have a base in Djibouti because of its logistical convenience as many naval facilities exist there. There is a readily fixed infrastructure to support it and it helps efforts in the maritime safety of the region," he said.

In this regard, Japan is considering whether to provide Yemen with patrol vessels for its coast guard according to a request submitted by the Yemeni government in November 2008. In April and May 2009, a survey mission from Japan visited Yemen to discuss details of the project and Yemen's requirements if Japan decides to go ahead with this project.

"As a responsible member of the international community, Japan has been actively contributing to the global fight against piracy in the waters off the coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden by playing a leading role in international discussions at such forums as the International Contact Group which was established in line with the UN Security Council resolutions," said Toshikage.

Japan will chair the next International Contact Group meeting which will be held in New York in this September.

The naval vessels came to the Gulf of Aden the end of March this year to join international partners to enhance maritime security by navy patrols and escorting operations. In addition, Japan deployed two P-3C maritime patrol aircrafts to the Gulf of Aden since mid-June. With new legislation of the 'Anti-Piracy Bill' in June, Japan's Self-Defense Forces are now authorized to protect any ships from pirates regardless of their flag or affiliated state.

In the past two years, Japan provided the International Organization of Migration (IOM) and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) with a total of USD 67 million to help enhance the capacity of Somali TFG (Transitional Federal Government) for maintaining security and order in the area and strengthening border control in Somalia.

In April, Japan announced that it will contribute USD 1.4 million for establishing International Maritime Organization (IMO) regional information and training centers and will provide another USD 2.2 million for additional support for Somalia.

In a mid to long term response to the maritime security threats, Japan considers it important to strengthen the security response capability of the coastal states. JICA therefore started to offer training courses in Japan since last year for officers of the Yemeni Coast Guard. It also sent a survey mission to Yemen in April and May this year to explore the possibility of further assistance to Yemen, including the provision of patrol ships to the coast guard in Yemen.

Japan also is attempting to play a role to promote peace in the Middle East, mainly in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, starting what is known as the 'Corridor for Peace and Prosperity' initiative in 2006.

"The Middle East peace process is crucial to achieving peace and stability in the region and the international community as a whole. Japan has, therefore, been playing its role in prompting dialogues and fostering confidence building between the Palestinian Authority and Israel and also in providing Palestinian people with humanitarian assistance. We are trying to facilitate the establishment of a self-sustainable Palestinian economy," said the ambassador.

The Corridor for Peace and Prosperity initiative is designed to construct an agroindustrial park in the southern part of Jericho and facilitate inland transportation of processed agricultural goods from the West Bank to the Gulf States and elsewhere via Jordan.

According to Ambassador Toshikage, preparation is under way mainly through ministerial level meetings between the Palestinian Authority, Israel, Jordan and Japan. In November 2008, JICA completed a feasibility study of the whole peace corridor project and is working on a pilot project in the region.



advancing as Japan's official development aid to Yemen is on the rise. The two countries' relations are becoming multifaceted to include cultural exchange and other activities that promote better understanding between the people of Japan and Yemen.

Japan's yearly development aid to Yemen was estimated at an average of USD 20 million until this year when it is likely to jump to nearly USD 40 million.

"Unlike many other donors, the Japanese Government did not pledge multi-year contributions to Yemen at the London CG Conference in 2006 because of our single year budget system. However, Japan has since disbursed an average of USD 20 million every year to finance various grants and technical assistance projects in Yemen, primarily in various areas of basic human needs. Most recently, our aid has focused on three different areas of human resource development, health and medical services, and improvement of social and economic infrastructure," commented the ambassador.

One of the projects funded by Japan is directed to underprivileged farmers, often called the '2KR Program.' This program is designed to help developing countries boost production of crops by providing funds to purchase agricultural equipment and materials. With prior consent by the Japanese Government, the Yemeni Government is able to purchase such equipment and materials of their choice at international market price and then sell them to small Yemeni farmers or their local agricultural cooperatives at affordable, lower prices.

The funds retrieved by sale of this equipment are used by the Yemeni Government to finance specific projects

Helping Yemen's stability

"Yemen is faced with a multiple challenge on three fronts, namely safeguarding the country's unity, consolidating good governance and accelerating social and economic development," said Toshikage.

According to Toshikage, the ultimate root for the uncertainties Yemen is facing are poverty and underdevelopment. This is why the Japanese Government supports Yemen's efforts to face these serious challenges through aid that would enhance its economic conditions.

Not only does Japanese assistance come in terms of financial grants, but it also includes technical support in terms of training and capacity building, whether in the ministries and other decision making bodies or in the vocational and technical education institutes.

Judging from experiences in the past years, the share of technical capacity building will probably be between 20 to 25 percent of the total aid for this year again, estimated the ambassador.

"At the same time, it is extremely important that the Yemeni government

activities which each country presents to introduce its culture to others.

"The Yemeni group has been known to be one of the best providers of activities, and every year they present folk songs and other features of Yemeni Culture to others while on the boat. Interested candidates just fill in an application, and if selected Japan takes care of every expense," he said.

Japan also supports Yemenis who are seeking higher education in Japan through a limited number of scholarships. This year three students are estimated to study for their masters' degree in Japan. Currently there are six Yemeni students in Japan who are continuing their studies in graduate and post graduate studies in various disciplines.

Even those who were not lucky enough to be selected on this trip can still become familiar with Japan through its cultural week that takes place every year in Sana'a since 2007 in cooperation with the Yemeni Ministry of Culture. The cultural week this year will be in early November. "We work closely with the Japan Foundation, the Yemeni Ministry of Culture, the Yemen-Japan Friendship Association, local universities and the business community to prepare a variety of cultural events that will take place during the week. This year's program would include the demonstration of Japanese martial arts, an exhibit of other traditional arts, and films," said Toshikage.

The last international event Yemen participated in Japan was the 2006 Aichi Expo when Yemeni businessmen presented traditional items made in Yemen to the Japanese and international audience. The Yemeni embassy in Japan carries out cultural events to occasionally introduce Yemen to Japan.

Advertisement





Job Vacancy

The Embassy of the United States of America announces for immediate job opening within its organization.

Alumni Coordinator

Under the supervision of the Public Affairs Officer, and in consultation with and direction from the Office of Alumni Affairs in Washington, the LES for Alumni Outreach and Programs is responsible for promoting greater contact with and cooperation among alumni of US-sponsored exchange programs. The Alumni Coordinator is responsible for developing and implementing a comprehensive strategic plan for alumni outreach and activities.

Qualifications:

Education: Bachelors degree in the liberal arts, education, social sciences, international relations or related fields.

Prior Work Experience: Three to five years progressively responsible experience in programming activities, international relations or related field, preferably in a bilingual setting.

Language Proficiency: Level IV English (fluent) in both spoken and written English and Arabic.

Knowledge:

- Thorough knowledge of US-sponsored exchange programs, including their history, target audience and goals/purpose.
- Thorough knowledge of American culture and educational system. Thorough understanding of outreach strategies for working with a wide range of Embassy contacts (i.e. students, professionals, politicians, etc.)
- Ability to think strategically about how alumni programming supports the Embassy s goals.

Skills and Abilities: Must design activities that will be of interest to our alumni, an extremely diverse group in terms of age, profession, and interests.

Grade/Salary: FSN-09 (Full Performance Level) US\$ 12,882 Starting Salary plus US\$ 2,500 in benefits and allowances.

Detailed Position Description is available at the http://yemen.usembassy.gov/yemen/vacancies.html

How to apply: Interested applicants should complete OF-612 or submit a current C.V. (with awards, recommendation letters, copies of degrees earned) that addresses the qualification requirements of the position as listed above and contact the Embassy Human Resources, American Embassy, Dhahr Himyar Street, Sanaa. Fax No. 303-182, or email: hrsanaa@state.gov no later than August 22, 2009.

* NOTE: ALL ORDINARILY RESIDENT APPLICANTS MUST BE RESIDING IN COUNTRY AND HAVE THE REQUIRED WORK AND RESIDENCY PERMITS TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR CONSIDERATION.

The ministry of Transport and the Yemeni Port **Corporations (Yemen Gulf of Aden Ports Corporation, Yemen Red Sea Ports Corporation,** and Yemen Arabian Sea Ports Corporation) are pleased to announce that a Decree by the Minister of Transport no. 108 of 2009 Concerning Rules and **Regulations in Yemen Ports has been issued. A** copy of such Decree is available and accessible at all Yemeni Port Corporations and their sub-offices. Below is an outline of the Decree:

PART I: REGULATIONS FOR Condition of towage VESSELS AT PORTS, comprises 5 Towage contract Special services in emergencies

- 3 Power of the port authority
- Orders to be obeyed Vessel s fire fighting equipment 5
- 6 Fire precautions: electrical
- equipment Other fire precautions
- 8 Fire on vessels
- 9 Emergency precautions
- 10 Permission for repair works\
- 11 Entering and repairing of vessels tanks
- 12 Port fire hydrants and appliances

Chapter 8: LOADING AND/OR DISCHARGING VESSELS

- Documents and clearances required
- 2 Permission, exemption, and cancellation there

Invitation **for Pre-Qualification**



Safer Exploration and Production Operations Company (SEPOC) here announces its desire to pre-qualify Contractors or firms for

RAS ISSA OIL STORAGE TANKS & TERMINAL PROJECT

The works consist of the following:

ENGINEERING, DESIGN, PROCUREMENT & CONSTRUCTION (EPC) / INSTALATION / ERECTION, TESTING, TRIAL RUNS AND COMMISSIONING (ONSHORE AND OFFSHORE WORKS)

Prequalification will be conducted through prequalification procedures specified in the documents and it is open to all contractors or firms.

Applicants may obtain further information from SEPOC Contracts & Tenders Department, and inspect the prequalification documents during the official working hours at SEPOC Main Office address as detailed below. A complete set of the pre-qualification document in English can be collected as a free of cost from our SEPOC Contracts & Tenders Department or can be downloaded from our website or from High Tender Board website (www.htb.gov.ye) by the interested applicants on or before 18.08.2009

The submission of pregualification documents shall be to our SEPOC Contracts & Tenders Department not later than 3.00 p.m. on 15.09.2009. The procedure for submission of documents shall be referred in the Instruction to Applicants section I- Item 31.0.

Applications for prequalification should be submitted in sealed envelopes, delivered to the address below, and be clearly marked on the top of envelope as Application to Prequalify for RAS ISSA OIL STORAGE TANKS & TERMINAL PROJECT - SEPOC / ENG -2009- 003.1

Only the pre-qualified applicants will be called to participate in the forthcoming tender (Technical --First stage of the tender)

Republic of Yemen Safer Exploration and Production Operations Company (SEPOC) Attention: Contracts and Tenders Manager P.O. Box-481, Sana a, Republic of Yemen City: SANA A Postal Code: 481 Country: YEMEN Telephone: 00967 1 416080, Ext. (2418) Facsimile number: 00967 1 415884 Web site: http://www.sepocye.com

Electronic mail address: kmigdad@sepocye.com

2

3

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6

- Obligation to carry a copy of this Terms of payment for shipping 5 and discharging services
- regulations Additional definitions
- 4 Authorized persons

2

- Responsibility of individuals 5
- Force meaiure 6

2 Driving license

Vehicles license

Chapter 2: LICENSES AND PERMITS FOR PORT SERVICES

- General Licensing the ship s agent 2 3 Licensing all ship suppliers (except fuel of all types
- Chapter 3: ROAD TRAFFIC AT PORT
- 8 Documents 1 Port entry or exit permit 9 Delivery of goods
 - 10 Overdue containers or trailers

Container control systems.

Chapter 7: CONTAINER AND RO-

Ro-Ro facilities and operation

- 3 Additional definitions
- 2 Responsibilities

Legal obligations

Additional definitions

Allocation of berths

General restrictions and

Dates of claims

Advance notice

RO OPERATIONS

limitations.

Safety

- Containers loaded in
- excess of
- 10 Inspection 11 Handling of dangerous goods

8 Fire fighting

9

12 Safety of personnel

Unauthorized persons

- 13 Weather conditions
- 14 Limitation of the quantity

15 Storage of dangerous goods

- 16 Vehicles
- 17 Harbour craft 18 Exceptions

Chapter 3: SPECIAL SAFETY **REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO**

- TANKERS Application
- Classification and other

	or distress				
	of distress	3 Valid cargo gear certificate	4 Vehicle status	rated weight capacity	certificates
Chapter 1: GENERAL PROVISIONS		4 Survey of cargo	5 Traffic signals and barriers	12 Dangerous and hazardous	5 Arrival
1 Authority to enforce port	Chapter 5: BERTHING,	5 Working hours and labour	6 Traffic rules	articles	6 Port entry
regulations	UNBERTHING AND SHIFTING OF	6 Safety regulations	7 Parking and parking lots	13 Rejection of containers, trailers	7 Berthing
2 The jurisdiction of these	VESSELS	7 Working and supervision	8 Safety instructions	and goods	8 Fire precautions
regulations	1 Allocation of berths	8 Heavy lifts and floating vessels	9 Removal of goods falling from	14 Removal of objectionable goods,	9 Emergency plan
3 Application	2 Mooring of vessels	9 Passenger and pilgrim vessels	vehicles	containers or trailers	10 Loading/discharging plan
4 Obligation to carry a copy of the	3 Rat guards	10 Embarking and disembarking of	10 Accidents reporting	15 Payment of invoices	11 Precautions before cargo
port regulations on board	4 Access to and egress from	passengers		16 Liabilities	handling
5 Definitions	vessels	11 General regulations for cargo	Chapter 4: WIRELESS	17 Force majeure	12 Loading of cargo
6 Authorized persons	5 Changing the berth	stowage and handling	COMMUNICATIONS	18 Transhipment	13 Supervision
7 Responsibility of individuals	6 Engine repairs	12 Valuable goods	1 Permits		14 Incidents
8 Force measure	7 Minimum number of crew	13 Livestock	2 Approved wireless	Chapter 8: PREVENTION OF	15 Ballast and slops
	8 operations not allowed alongside	14 Unitization of timber	communication equipment	ACCIDENTS	16 Tank cleaning and gas-freeing
Chapter 2: ARRIVAL AND	berths	15 Bagged cement, lime, gypsum	3 Testing wireless communication	1 General regulations	17 Special purpose tankers
DEPARTURE OF VESSELS	9 Traffic control	and similarly packaged cargo	devices	2 Safety in loading and discharging	18 Supply of bunker fuel
1 Notification to the port	10 Accidents and damage	16 Damaged packages	4 Allowed frequencies	vessels	19 Supply of bunker fuel prohibited
management	11 Responsibility	17 Transhipment and transfer of	5 Channel 16 vhf	3 Mobile or travelling cranes	20 Bunker fuel supply register
2 Vessels failing to give required	11 Reeponoionity	cargo	6 Using (vhf) and other wireless	ashore	21 Safety check list
information	Chapter 6: SAFETY CONDUCT AT	18 Grain cargoes	communication devices	4 Hooks, wires, ropes, chains and	22 Recommendations concerning
3 Permission to enter port	THE BERTH	16 Grain Cargoes			
4 Registration for berthing	1 Turning of propellers		7 Prohibiting access to pilotage	gear constructed therewith	crude oil containing hydrogen
5 Priority for berthing	2 Signs on the shipsides	Chapter 9: VESSELS AND	and control center at the port	5 Fork-lifts and other similar	sulphide
6 Documents required	3 Lost equipment or cargo	MARINE CRAFT IN DISTRESS,	8 Violations	equipment based ashore	
7 Exempted vessels	4 Diving operations	STRANDED, SUNK OR			CHAPTER 4: VIOLATIONS AND
		ABANDONED	Chapter 5: SAFETY AND ORDER	Chapter 9: VIOLATIONS AND	FINES
8 Signals on approach9 The flag of the port state		1 Reporting of incidents	AT PORTS	FINES	
10 Disembarkation of passengers		2 Initial action by those involved or	1 Entry into the port area.		Article 2 of this Decree provided that
		nearby	2 Holding an entry permit to the		the above Rules and Regulations
11 Traffic control	8 Fumigation	3 Initial action by the port	port.	PART III: REGULATIONS FOR	shall be applicable to all ships,
12 Vessels draft and stability	9 Preventing pollution	management	3 Theft and smuggling.	PORT SAFETY and comprises of:	companies, individuals and
13 Departures of vessels	10 Oil pollution defense plans	4 Grounded vessels	4 Fillings removal.		institutions that enter, use or benefit
	11 Marine craft operations within	5 Port management in command	5 Commercial activities in the port	Chapter 1: PRELIMINARY	from any commercial ports affiliated
Chapter 3: PILOTAGE	port limits	6 Risk and expense	area.	1 Application	with any of the Yemeni Port
1 Pilotage compulsory	12 Accidents	7 Abandoned vessels	6 Advertisement.	2 Responsibility	Corporations.
2 Exempted vessels	13 Distress and other sound signals	8 Safeguard of salvaged goods and	7 Damage prevention of port		
3 Pilot signals	14 Use of wireless equipment	equipment	properties.	Chapter 2: GENERAL SAFETY	Article 3 of it provided that these
4 Approaching pilot boat and	15 Conduct of the crew	9 Liability	8 Safe operating loads.	REGULATIONS PERTAINING TO	Rules and Regulations shall be
boarding a pilot	16 Life-saving appliances		9 Keeping the port area clean	DANGEROUS GOODS	effective after 90 days as from the
5 Information to the pilot	17 Boarding a vessel	Chapter 10: LIST OF VIOLATIONS		1 Acceptance of dangerous goods	date of issuing this resolution and be
6 Responsibility during pilotage	18 Photography prohibited	AND FINES	Chapter 6: CARGO HANDLING,	in port area	published in the Official Gazette.
7 Overcarrying pilots	19 Swimming and fishing prohibited		STORAGE AND DELIVERY	2 Special documents for dangerous	
8 Equipment requirements	20 Restrictions on use of launches		1 General rules	goods	The Decree was issued on 20 July
9 Certificate for exempted ships.	21 Smoking prohibited	PART II: REGULATIONS FOR	2 Receipt and delivery of imported	3 Classification, labelling and	2009 at the Ministry of Transport in
		PORT OPERATION and	cargo	properties of dangerous goods	both Arabic and English, and it falls in
Chapter 4: TOWAGE	Chapter 7: FIRE PRECAUTIONS	comprises of:	3 Receipt and loading exported	4 Signals	harmony with rules and regulations
1 Tugs compulsory	AND FIRE FIGHTING		cargo	5 Communications	applicable to the GCC ports. It is
2 Notice required	1 Naked lights and open fire	Chapter 1: PRELIMINARY	4 Checking cargo descriptions and	6 Emergency services	made of 219 items over 162 pages.
3 Towing lines	2 Fire detection	1 Application	weights	7 Emergency procedures	





RAMADHAN KAREEM



الأخ/ حسين محمد العمري المستشار السياسي في السفارة الأردنية لوفاة المغفور له بإذن الله تعالى/ والده الحاج/ محمد مصطفى محمد العمري الحاج/ محمد مصطفى محمد العمري مائلين الله العلي القدير أن يتغمد الفقيد بواسع رحمته ومغفرته وأن يسكنه فسيح جناته و يُلهم أهله و ذويه الصبر والسلوان ... إنا لله وإنا إليه راجعون أهله و ذويه الصبر والسلوان ... إنا لله وإنا إليه راجعون رئيس النادي الأردني وأعضاء الهيئة الإدارية وجميع منتسبي النادي

Opinion



Words of Wisdom They are not qualified to lead the country



advances, notably globalization, is clearly ahead of us. We need to grapple with this and the sooner we assess the issues and decide on what we need to do, the better prepared we will be. A main component of globalization is liberalization.

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



Hameed Al-Ahmar on Al-Jazeera



s always, Sheikh Hameed Al-Ahmar's public statements caused a stir among many viewers who watched his interview on Al-Jazeera Arabic

Some people accused him of looking for fame through his ever cunning answers trying to pose as an angle when everyone else is seeking their best interest on the expense of the national welfare

Yet some, including myself, have realized that in less than three years, Al-Ahmar has developed remarkable communication skills and leadership talent. He is able to answer questions and accusations diplomatically and with strength.

The journalist interviewing Al-Ahmar asked several intelligent questions, but she missed other points that could have been helpful to the Yemeni people. Many questions were left unasked, and many were repeatedly asked, even though she had already had the answers.

I met Al-Ahmar in 2004, and had an amicable conversation with him at his office. He was ambitious, and envisioned a map of a transformed Yemen emerging in the next few years. He was a young man trying to identify his mission and the tools he would need to accomplish it.

Most likely his connection to the Englishlanguage newspaper, the Yemen Post, and definitely his interviews on Yemeni and international media helped prepare him for public speaking and leadership.

What impressed me was how well spoken and composed he was. Most of the prominent men and women in Yemen are a mess when they speak in public. Even the presidential nominee in 2006, Faisal bin Shamlan, was disappointing in his command of the Arabic language and other communication skills.

President Ali Abdullah Saleh also has weak grammar skills, but he makes up for it with his strong intimidating presence, and sharp remarks and responses.

By: Ahmed Al-Zaraqa

s a general rule, Yemeni political parties shirk responsibility their towards internal crises and political failures regarding dialogue with each other. Even when dialogue does take place, it doesn't lead to any real solutions for problems that harm the homeland. It certainly doesn't result in any remedies that can be accepted by all parties. Across modern Yemeni history, Yemenis have proved to be utter failures in dialogue, although they excel in determining the major outlines for the dialogue and draft agreements. Following them is another matter.

The different rounds of dialogue conducted between the varying political parties, between the government and syndicates, unions or even foreign bodies have all failed.

Although all Yemeni political parties demand that the dialogue be conducted, it hasn't turned into a culture of Yemeni politics just yet. Yemeni-Yemeni dialogues very often condition that a third foreign party should be available to support their agreements. This is part of a long legacy since the first days of the Yemeni revolution that broke out on Sept 26, 1962. At that time, Saudi Arabia and Egypt dominated the two Yemeni parties, the republic and monarchy respectively. The two countries negotiated away from the Yemeni warring parties and reached a reconciliation that didn't meet the aspirations of Yemenis. The crisis didn't end until these two countries stopped partially intervening in Yemeni affairs. After that, the Yemeni parties sat around one table and conducted a dialogue that resulted in a national government in which both the republicans and supporters of the monarchy participated.

However, Yemeni parties continued calling on foreign bodies to intervene until the period that preceded the establishment of Yemeni unity. Cairo, Tripoli and Kuwait as well as other

countries played a major role in sponsoring dialogues until unity was finally achieved.

Rounds of dialogue in the Yemeni mentality are associated with the existence of a crisis. This concept is sometimes wrong because dialogue should be conducted in different times, both in peace and in war, as long as all Yemeni political parties confirm that there is a crisis in Yemeni politics that needs an immediate solution. This crisis requires that efforts of all parties should be accelerated to find solutions to it because the government and opposition together are considered part of the political entity of the homeland. Without cooperating with each other, the homeland will not settle.

The solution should be national and all political parties should participate to come up with an agreed-upon vision toward all problems that impede change. They should also work together to correct the defects for the sake of a homeland that contains all Yemenis. However, it is obvious that the main players in the Yemeni political arena haven't reached a state of political maturity that makes them feel politically and morally responsible to this country that has been wasted by unjustified bloody conflicts. Based on society's awareness, dialogue is connected with the existence of a crisis that ends in war, as happened in 1994. This war broke out because Yemeni parties shirked the commitment to the results of the dialogue conducted during the political crisis following the 1993 election. That dialogue resulted in an agreement under Arab and international auspices. However, Yemeni parties avoided their responsibility to follow that agreement, even though its terms contained their demands. Instead, they resorted to force. Following the war, the victorious party buried the agreement completely.

Since that time, the ruling elite and the opposition both evade sitting around the dialogue table. They exchange accusations in public and each party claims that the other hinders

conducting dialogue and a way out to political crises in the country. However, supporters of both the ruling and the opposition parties meet with each other to chew qat and exchange jokes, as if they pay attention to problems of the country and exchange accusations just to attract attention of the media. The political parties don't specify their stands transparently toward issues of corruption and defects of the ruling regime.

Since the parliamentary elections scheduled last April were postponed, parties of the agreement have been refusing to meet or carry out a timetable for their dialogue. Instead, they mislead the public with regard to the reasons that hinder any practical procedures taken to solve issues of disagreement that threaten Yemen.

Both the ruling party and the opposition resort to lateral dialogues, as happened in the National Consultative Meeting supported by Sheikh Hameed Al-Ahmar and the General Meeting Parties (JMP). This meeting neglected major national issues and political parties that play a major role in Yemen. It revealed disagreements within components of the JMP. Furthermore, it appeared like an attempt to form an alternative political front to embarrass the government that wasn't invited to attend. The JMP didn't pay attention to recommendations of the meeting due to disagreements that resulted from Sheikh Al-Ahmar's dominance over activities.

Evading conducting a comprehensive national dialogue with participation from all Yemenis from different political and intellectual groups reveals the fact that the active political parties in both the government and the opposition are not qualified to lead the country. They have their own projects and narrow political calculations that harm the country and never qualify them to be part of the solution, as they are the actual reason behind the crises in Yemen.

Source: newsyemen.net

The Arab negativity toward Yemen and Somalia

By: Mutlaq Musa'ed Al-Ajmi

ecessionists, Houthis and Houthi supporters and Al-Qaeda followers are destroying Yemen. They are exploiting the fragility of the security situation which resulted from the weak economic situation in the country. They aim to split Yemen through provoking sedition, wars, terrorism and acts of sabotage. They further aim to threaten the security and stability of the state and society of Yemen that was happy but has since moved far away from happiness due to these destroyers.

The Arab leaders, their tremendous armies, the intelligence apparatuses, the Arab League and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) are largeism! ly ignoring what is going on in Yemen as if it doesn't concern them. It is as if there are no mid-term or long-term

negative reflections on their own domestic situations, which incidentally are not free from weaknesses themselves. Who is the Arab official who can take the initiative to move quickly? Who will be able to reach out to Yemen to follow up the situation there closely and offer the required and urgent support and assistance?

None of the Arabs have taken up this critical position. Only General David Petraeus, commander of the US Central Command, reached out to Yemen during the apex of the recent and ongoing incidents. He met with Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh and announced Washington's support not Arab support - to Yemen's unity and stability, further announcing cooperation with Yemen to combat terror-

didn't tire themselves out going to Yemen. They didn't bother to scrutinize the serious level of the risks that are threatening the unity and security of Yemen and the stability of its people. They didn't go there to discover the substantial reasons behind these incidents and report to the Arab leaders to bring them into the picture of the situation in Yemen!

Additionally, Arab leaders are completely ignoring what is going on in Somalia every day. Tens of thousands of children, women and innocent people are fleeing their ruined houses to face the unknown due to criminal gangs that have no mercy. These gangs are committing their criminal and forbidden acts to assume power, not for the sake of legitimate objectives as they pretend to do through their false

COMMON SENSE

The PLO: A state or an outdated organization

he death of the former brave Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat was really a symbolic sign that indeed the Palestine Liberation Organization had breathed its last breath as a purposeful organization with effective realism. It is also apparent that the PLO is finding it difficult to prove that it can actually convincingly claim to



be a refection of the feelings and aspirations of the Palestinian people. For sure, the dynamic and sincere character of Yasser Arafat proved to be an awesome unforgettable influence in maintaining the recognition of the PLO as a viable representation of Palestinian political inclinations both locally in the Palestinian arena and internationally.

One obviously feels the charismatic void left by the absence of the boisterous and gutsy voice of the late Yasser Arafat, whose death remains a mystery to this dav (http://enduringamerica.com/tag/farouk-al-kaddoumi/), when listening to the current PLO leader of the PLO and the Secretary General of Al-Fath (Al-Fatah), Mahmud Abbas, making the closing statement of the Sixth Conference of Al-Fath, the leading body politic in the now fragile PLO. It is now almost useless to think that Fath can carry on as the leading voice of the Palestinians and the claimant to represent the effective wing of Palestine resistance, not to mention the body politic of the Palestinian people When taking into consideration what Farouk Kaddoumi revealed about a month ago (see previous link), the observer becomes more inclined to think that the current PLO leadership has lost purpose altogether for their existence as a force to be reckoned with in determining the fate of the Palestinian people. Surely, the death of Yasser Arafat should have been a clear symbol of the lack of faith in its own platform, if it worked for the removal of its founder and last holder of the flag of resistance in its nationalistic manifestation.

At the same time, it is clear that the Palestinians have indeed found the alternative to the void left by the passing of Yasser Arafat and the ineffectiveness of the national resistance movement without a dogmatic appeal to fulfill the spiritual vacuum that the PLO is facing. Hamas has proven itself to be a dynamic force in the body politic of the Palestinian people. More importantly, this dynamic political organization has proven to the world that indeed the Palestinians alone are actually able to stand steadfast against the might of the Israeli Offense Forces (the IDF has always been a misnomer for this terror machine, which outranks all terrorist organizations). For the second time in a decade, an Arab force was able to keep the Israeli forces from any effective incursions into Arab territory. Relying on the same perseverance and adherence to faith previously shown by Hezbollah in Lebanon, Hamas with even less of the wherewithal possessed by the former withstood the Israeli forces for more than three weeks late last year/ earlier this year. To this day, Fatah or the PLO has never shown any strength in holding back Israeli forces, since the brave stance shown by Arafat in his besieged enclave in Ramallah, in which Yasser Arafat bravely withstood every effort by the Israelis to drive him out of the West Bank altogether, let alone out of Ramallah for more than half a decade.

The US Congress and Palestine

One is not sure whether US Congressmen and Congresswomen (in both the House of Representatives and Congress) have caught up with the times, when evaluating the true nature of Israeli intransigence and obstinacy. This is made the more apparent by the inability of US politicians to learn to override the pestering lobby of organizations like the American Israeli Political Affairs Committee (AIPAC). For what reason does the US Congress find itself compelled to determine where the still illegitimate occupier of Jerusalem should have its capital? For sure, most of the US Congressmen and Congresswomen are still insisting on viewing the Israeli lobby as the foundation stone for American national political prominence, a myth that was proven wrong by the lack of reliance (at least on the surface) of the prominence of Barack Obama in his quick rise to the American national political theater. Surely, the recent decision by the US Congress to tell the world that the Israeli capital should be in Jerusalem, etc does not lend credence to the US national policy of remaining "impartial" in promoting peace in the region, or at least help the US Government in projecting such an image. This only helps to reinforce the general contention amongst the Arab and Moslem populations of the world that the US is not going to succeed in its efforts to bring a "just and lasting peace" in the region. In fact it seems that the US Congress sis more swayed by the Israeli right wing than the desire to fulfill what is more appropriate for the national interests of the United States.

Until Al-Ahmar showed up, I never heard a well spoken Yemeni leader. I do not necessarily agree with everything he said, but it was consoling to finally hear someone, especially someone from a tribal background, with common sense, composure and elegance representing Yemen politically.

Some speakers representing the government, the opposition or even the secessionist movements have embarrassed me with their lack of eloquence.

Some were so bad that I could not watch the whole interview or debate.

Regardless of the some of my apposing opinions, it is comforting to know that he is on the political scene, and hopefully a part of the future of Yemen.

We need fresh, young intelligent voices, and we need many of them.

He has his flaws, but at least he can talk. And for a start, that is good enough for me.

Nadia Al-Sakkaf

Even Amr Moussa, the Arab League slogans. Secretary-General, and Abdul Rahamal Apart from the problems on the land, Attiyah, the GCC Secretary-General,

gangs of piracy in the seas surrounding Somalia are seizing trade ships to extort people and obtain high ransoms in return for releasing these ships and their crews. If it weren't for the international efforts that are currently being exerted, piracy wouldn't have decreased. Arabs are still just ignoring

> of Somalia, but they do nothing! The Arab comprehensive negativity, retraction and deliberate inactivation of Arab supportive institutions and joint conventions invite the enemies inside and outside the Arab world to act against the security and stability of Arab countries and societies. This hostile movement that expresses illegitimate greed and aspiration harms countries that suffer from fragile economic and security conditions. Will Arabs move to prevent these risks? We hope so, but we are not waiting!

what is going on both on land and sea

Source: Alwaten, Kuwait

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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Tel: +967 (1) 268-661 Fax: +967 (1) 268-276 P.O. Box 2579, Sana'a, Yemen E-mail: yteditor@gmail.com Letters: vteditor@gmail.com Advertisement: ads@yementimes.com

Publisher & Editor-in-Chief Nadia Abdulaziz Al-Sakkaf

Khair Aldin Al Nsour

Managing Editor Amel Al-Ariqi

Copy Editor Editor Alice Hackman Salma Ismail Heather Murdock

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Editorial Staff Ali Saeed Mahmoud Assamiee Jamal Al-Najjar Mariem Al-Yameni Khaled Al-Hilaly Ola Al-Shami

Offices

Aden Bureau: Ridhwan Alawi Ahmed Tel: +967 (2) 347-057, 346596 Fax: +967 (2) 347056 Email: ytaden@y.net.ye

Subscription rates:

Taiz Bureau:

Imad Ahmed Al-Saqqaf

Tel: +967 (4) 217-156,

P.O.Box: 5086, Taiz

Email: yttaiz@y.net.ye

Telefax: +967 (4) 217157

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Press Review / Op-Ed





Al-Sahwa.net, affiliated with the Islah Partv Saturday August 8, 2009

Top Story

• Opposition leader urges President to step down

Yemen's opposition senior leader and Member of Parliament Hamid Al-Ahmer has urged President Ali Abdullah Saleh to step down, hand over power to his vice-president Abdu Rabo Mansour Hadi and set an appointment to elect a new president, the website reported.

In an interview with alJazeera Satellite Channel, he emphasized that Yemen's opposition seeks to create a fair democratic rule that could achieve the ambitions of Yemenis.

He pointed out that the agreement of Yemen's unification signed in 1990 included the principles of democracy and the peaceful transfer of power, stressing that all Yemenis would stand against oppression and secession calls.

He criticized the appointments of the president's relatives in military positions, considering that a massive treason for which the president might questioned.

Al-Ahmar further praised the Saudi and Qatari efforts to solve the Saada issue, accusing the authorities of creating hurdles to the Qatari mediation

On a side note, the website reported

that Yemeni politicians called at a symposium titled "Political reform between initiatives and real changes" the ruling General People's Congress to talk with all political parties in order to solve Yemen's numerous crises

The participants unanimously agreed that there are dangerous crises which could jeopardize the state if all political players do not undertake responsibility in dealing with it.

The participants said that dialogue should include leaders of Yemeni opposition parties, the South Movement members and Al-Houthi rebels, provided that the dialogue takes place under international supervision.

They stressed that the dialogue would rest on comprehensive local governance, pointing out that using force against peaceful protests could shift them to be violent, the website went on to say.

It noted that that participants further called the ruling and Al-Houthi rebels to immediately cease fighting and come to the dialogue table.

Al-tagheer.com, an independent news website

Tuesday, August 4, 2009

Top Story

Former Yemeni President urges Gulf States to intervene in solving South Yemen issue

Former Yemeni President Ali Nasser Mohammed urged Gulf States to intervene in suggesting workable solutions to the issue of South Yemen before the country becomes like Somalia, the website reported.

Giving a statement during a symposium held by Arab-European Studies Center, headquartered in Paris, on whether there is a plan to re-divide Yemen, Mohammed said, "Nobody concerned about Yemen or its people would like to see Yemen divided. It is remorseful to predict fragmentation of Yemen and its becoming smaller states where people fight against each other from street to street and from door to door."

According to Mohammed, there are many Yemeni politicians, academics and analysts who warned against this issue, and such warnings aim to draw the attention of the top decision maker in Yemen (President of the Republic) to pressing problems taking place on the ground.

Mohammed added that those wanting Yemen to fragment are the ones who never admit crises on the ground. Those are not concerned about national calls and initiatives to solve pressing problems in the nation. The current turmoil in Yemen drags the entire homeland toward the unknown.

The former leader indicated that Yemen is an integral part of the region and it has strategic location, which is why all states of the region show concern about what takes place in its territory. He recommended neighboring states to play an effective political role in resolving the escalating issue of South Yemen and help the homeland avoid becoming like Somalia. He suggested that the issue can be treated via serious, responsible and comprehensive dialogue that mustn't exclude any political party, most notably as the

issue of South Yemen is, in essence, related with the national unity that is undergoing its worst stages in history.



Al-Ahale.net, an independent news website Wednesday, August 5, 2009

Top Story

Danger description: What happens in South Yemen is extension for 1994 Civil War

There are dangerous indicators sent out by the most recent confrontations that claimed several lives and injured many others in Zunjubar district of Abyan governorate. The events warn of a potential catastrophe, which is impossible for anyone to predict how dangerous it will be, the website reported.

What happened on the ground reveals that one of both conflicting sides was in extreme hurry to foment the fighting and help the scene of bloodshed, killing and devastation worsen. The scene raised concern among international humanitarian organizations, rights and political groups and the international community.

From a different perspective, what happened in Abyan is another interpretation preceding internal conflicts between members of the regime and liquidations the price of which would be paid by Yemeni number of suspects, who were

people.

Danger of the matter remains high in the possibility of breakout of a new war through a wider scope, the consequences of which are still unpredictable. Escalating political congestions in the southern and eastern governments will be the source fueling potential massive fighting in the country.

People have no hope in the government to deal with wars after it failed to control untrained Houthi fighters. How is it possible for the government to subdue southern movement members, most of whom were senior leaders in the armed forces in the once known as Army of South Yemen?

The website described critical events occurring in the south as extension of the 1994 Civil War. They are part of a strategy containing a military vision to wage a war against certain members after several concessions made by the government failed to satisfy them.



26September.net, affiliated with Yemeni army Thursday, August 6, 2009

Top Story

Suspects arrested over attack of military truck Security authorities have arrested a involved in the attack that targeted an army personnel carrier last Thursday in the area of Al Shabwan of Marib province, the website reported.

It quoted a local source in Marib province as saying the attack left one soldier dead and another three wounded. The source, however, declined to reveal the number of suspects arrested under the allegation to maintain progress of the investigation with them and complete the arrest campaign, targeting the most wanted individuals involved in the attack.

The source told 26 Sept.net that the security forces still continue surrounding and chasing the main wanted elements in more areas of the Wadi Obeida until they are captured and then bring them to court to be punished for what they did.

On a side note, the website quoted Interior Ministry's announcement that more than 50 suspects wanted for various security cases have been arrested across the country's provinces in the last month of July.

The ministry highlighted that the arrest of 50 wanted is based on a full coordination between deferent security units and the ministry's plan that is currently being executed in all governorates.

According to the Ministry, 30 of the individuals being held are charged with murder and some were fugitives for many years. It reiterated that the remaining 20 are being held on charges of highway robbery, kidnapping and other crimes. They have all been transferred to the relevant judicial courts for trials.

Deadly attack on Tel Aviv LGBT center: terror, not murder

On Saturday night, a masked gunman entered the Israeli LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender) Association's center in Tel Aviv, opening fire with an M-16 on the participants of an Israeli Gay Youth event. 2 people were killed and 15 people, mostly minors, were injured-including six with serious injuries. The unknown attacker fled on foot and remains at large. Meanwhile, the gay community in Israel warned that Israel's reputation for tolerance was seriously undermined by the incident.

By: Emily Dische-Becker

he Israeli media quoted police reports yesterday saying that there was "no terror motive" behind the incident. presumably meaning that Palestinian involvement was not suspected in the attack.

The gay community condemned the "hate crime" as did leader of the opposition, Tzipi Livni, and Israel's only openly gay Knesset member, Nitzan Horowitz. Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and President Simon Peres both condemned the attack as "murder."

was seriously undermined by the incident. Mike Hamel, the head of the Aguda, Israel's Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender (LGBT) and organization said, "We have joined the list of 'civilized' countries in which hatred is the standard... Elements represented by [Shas leaders] Eli Yishai and Benizri that are fostering hatred are still stronger than the increasingly favorable attitude toward homosexuality."



homosexuals, transgenders. This idyllic state which and/or sexual abuse." we wanted so badly to believe in

and have suffered some sort of physical

Regionally, the shooting is one the most deadly vigilante attacks against homosexuals outside of Iraq, where at least 25 young men have been murdered by militiamen in 2009 for suspected homosexuality. Iraqi human rights groups have accused clerics of inciting violence against homosexuals. The head of Israel's LGBT organization has also insinuated that the attack in Tel Aviv was committed as a result of religious parties' incitement. In 2005, an Orthodox Jewish man stabbed three participants in Jerusalem's Gay Pride parade.

Anti-Iran campaign 'down the drain?'

Notably absent from an editorial by Yossi Sarid in Haaretz, entitled "Gay center shooting is reminder of Israel's hollow tolerance," was any mention of other pervasive forms of intolerance - particularly, discrimination against Palestinians inside Israel, who are the target of regular incitement from across the Israeli political spectrum. The editorial, in addition, lamented that the attack on the gay rights center would overshadow Israel's campaign against Iran. It read, "The anti-Iranian campaign

has now been short-circuited and poured down the drain. Here they don't just shoot the prime minister. They also shoot homosexuals."

The disappointment voiced by Sarid comes on the heels of a Haaretz report earlier this year, announcing that Israel was recruiting its gay community for a PR campaign against Iran. Dozens of suspected homosexuals have been convicted and executed in Iran in the past 30 years, including five minors in the past four years.

"The new campaign, to be overseen by the Foreign Ministry, aims to appeal to people who are less concerned with Iran's nuclear aspirations and more fearful of its human rights abuses and mistreatment of minorities, including the gay and lesbian community. The campaign plans to recruit the international gay community, which

lesbians

Israel's reputation as 'haven for GLBT' (LGBT) damaged

The gay community in Israel warned that Israel's reputation for tolerance

Adir Steiner, coordinator of Tel Aviv gay pride events, received the news of the shooting while in Copenhagen as a representative of Tel Aviv to the World Outgames - "a sporting and cultural event hosted by the gay community."

"Over the past week we have painted Israel on every possible podium as a wonderful place for

range missiles. Still others arise from

exploded in our faces," he said.

Ynet News reported, "In the aftermath, representatives of the gay community have met with Social Affairs Ministry officials and presented them with daunting information: According to their data, 80% of gay teens have been subject to verbal abuse due to their sexual orientation and about half of them

Incitement by religious clerics, from Iraq to Tel Aviv

Israel revoked a ban on consensual same-sex acts in 1988 (existing from the British mandate era), and later passed anti-discrimination laws aimed to protect the rights of LGBT citizens. In 2005, the Israeli Supreme Court ruled that same-sex couples could adopt children.

President Mahmoud Iranian Ahmadinejad dismissed in 2007 when he said there were no homosexuals living in his country."

While the Israeli media did connect the dots between religious incitement and Saturday's attack on the LGBT center, it is unlikely that this incident will dampen Israel's appetite for selfpromotion as a haven for tolerance.

My plan to drop the bomb

By: Ban Ki-moon

destruction of he Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945 marked an end and a beginning. The close of the Second World War ushered in a Cold War, with a precarious peace based on the threat of mutually assured destruction.

Today the world is at another turning point. The assumption that nuclear weapons are indispensable to keeping the peace is crumbling. Disarmament is back on the global agenda – and not a moment too soon. A groundswell of new international initiatives will soon emerge to move this agenda forward.

The Cold War's end, twenty years ago this autumn, was supposed to provide a peace dividend. Instead, we find ourselves still facing serious nuclear threats. Some stem from the persistence of more than 20,000 nuclear weapons and the contagious doctrine of nuclear deterrence. Others relate to nuclear tests-more than a dozen in the post-Cold War era, aggravated by the constant testing of longconcerns that more countries or even terrorists might be seeking the bomb. For decades, we believed that the terrible effects of nuclear weapons would be sufficient to prevent their use. The superpowers were likened to a pair of scorpions in a bottle, each knowing a first strike would be suicidal. Today's expanding nest of scorpions, however, means that no one is safe. The Presidents of the Russian Federation and the United Statesholders of the largest nuclear arsenals-recognize this. They have endorsed the goal of a world free of nuclear weapons, most recently at their Moscow summit, and are seeking new reductions.

Many efforts are underway worldwide to achieve this goal. Earlier this year, the 65-member Conference on Disarmament-the forum that produces multilateral disarmament treaties-broke a deadlock and agreed to negotiations on a fissile material treaty. Other issues it will discuss include nuclear disarmament and security assurances for non-nuclear-

weapon states.

In addition, Australia and Japan have launched a major international commission on nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament. My own multimedia "WMD-WeMustDisarm!" campaign, which will culminate on the International Day of Peace (21 September), will reinforce growing calls for disarmament by former statesmen and grassroots campaigns, such as "Global Zero." These calls will get a further boost in September when civil society groups gather in Mexico City for a UN-sponsored conference on disarmament and development.

Though the UN has been working on disarmament since 1946, two treaties negotiated under UN auspices are now commanding the world's attention. Also in September, countries that have signed the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) will meet at the UN to consider ways to promote its early entry into force. North Korea's nuclear tests, its missile launches and its threats of further provocation lend new urgency to this cause.

Next May, the UN will also host a major five-year review conference involving the parties to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). which will examine the state of the treaty's "grand bargain" of disarmament, non-proliferation and the peaceful use of nuclear energy. If the CTBT can enter into force, and if the NPT review conference makes progress, the world would be off to a good start on its journey to a world free of nuclear weapons.

My own five-point plan to achieve this goal begins with a call for the NPT Parties to pursue negotiations in good faith-as required by the treaty-on nuclear disarmament, either through a new convention or through a series of mutually reinforcing instruments backed by a credible system of verification. Disarmament must be reliably verified .

Second, I urged the Security Council to consider other ways to strengthen security in the disarmament process, and to assure non-nuclearweapon states against nuclear weapons threats. I proposed to the Council that

it convene a summit on nuclear disarmament, and I urged non-NPT states to freeze their own weapon capabilities and make their own disarmament commitments. Disarmament must enhance security .

My third proposal relates to the rule of law. Universal membership in multilateral treaties is key, as are regional nuclear-weapon-free zones and a new treaty on fissile materials. President Barack Obama's support for US ratification of the CTBT is welcome - the treaty only needs a few more ratifications to enter into force. Disarmament must be rooted in legal obligations.

My fourth point addresses accountability and transparency. Countries with nuclear weapons should publish more information about what they are doing to fulfill their disarmament commitments. While most of these countries have revealed some details about their weapons programs, we still do not know how many nuclear weapons exist worldwide. The UN Secretariat could serve as a repository for such data. Disarmament must be visible to the public .

Finally, I am urging progress in eliminating other weapons of mass destruction and limiting missiles, space weapons and conventional arms - all of which are needed for a nuclear-weapon-free world. Disarmament must anticipate emerging dangers from other weapons .

This, then, is my plan to drop the bomb. Global security challenges are serious enough without the risks from nuclear weapons or their acquisition by additional states or non-state actors. Of course, strategic stability, trust among nations, and the settlement of regional conflicts would all help to advance the process of disarmament. Yet disarmament has its own contributions to make in serving these goals and should not be postponed.

It will restore hope for a more peaceful, secure and prosperous future. It deserves everybody's support.

Ban Ki-moon is Secretary-General of the United Nations. Copyright: Project Syndicate, 2009. www.project-syndicate.org

Advertisement





Summer Training Program for SUMMER STUDENTS IN THE RESERVOIR DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT, CANADIAN NEXEN PETROLEUM YEMEN Yemeni Nationals Only

Canadian Nexen is now recruiting SUMMER STUDENTS for 2010 summer vacation in our Reservoir Development Department in Sana'a office. Petroleum, Chemical, Mechanical or Manufacturing Engineering Students who will be graduated in the year 2011 are welcome to apply. Trainees will be introduced to the Masila operation and will be enrolled full-time into programs designed to meet Canadian Nexen's future business needs.

Successful applicants will train with our Petroleum Engineers and Geologists using industry leading software that Canadian Nexen has purchased. The training program is for a period of 3 months starting from July 1st, 2010 until September 30th, 2010.

Summer Students will be expected to study and work toward becoming proficient in the knowledge of designated discipline and will learn about safety standards in all areas of Oilfield Operations.

For more information about the candidates minimum requirements please see the attached job descriptions for the Petroleum Engineers Summer Students.

Summer Student Petroleum Engineer Sana'a office

Job Duties:

- a) Learn Oilfield Manager and ECLIPSE software to provide support to the asset team.
- b) Train with the Petroleum Engineers to maintain the petroleum engineer data base.
- Review water flood data and recommend changes to the Injection production ratios if required to the Asset team.
- d) Provides support to the Asset Team to prepare the monthly production and injection forecasts.
- Maintain close communication and coordination with the Asset team members.
- f) Support the Asset Team Lead in preparing presentations and reports for our partners and the government.
- g) Actively participate in technical meetings as required.

Minimum Requirements:

- a) Completion of the third year of a B.Sc. or first year M.Sc. in Petroleum, Chemical, Mechanical or Manufacturing Engineering with an average of 75% and above.
- b) Experience with data base applications is desirable.
- c) Exposure to oil field operations will be useful.
- d) Excellent presentation, team, and interpersonal relations skills is required.
- e) Excellent knowledge of written and spoken English is required.
- f) Students must provide a proof that they are in the 3rd academic year or first year M.Sc. mentioned in (a).
- To Apply for this Students Summer Program, please apply to: recruiting _yemsana@nexeninc.com
- Please be sure that your CV contains all the needed personal and qualification information.
- Make sure that you mention the Summer Training Program you are interested in the email subject
- Applications <u>should be submitted</u> NO later than <u>August 17th, 2009</u>. Faxed applications will not be considered. Canadian Nexen will contact candidates selected for an interview & testing by early October 2009. If a Canadian Nexen recruiter has not contacted you by that date your application has not been successful.
- Only short listed candidates will be contacted.



Canadian Nexen is now recruiting SUMMER STUDENTS for 2010 summer vacation in our Reservoir Development Department in Sana'a office. Geology students who will graduate in the year 2011 are welcome to apply. Trainees will be introduced to the Masila operation and will be enrolled full-time into programs designed to meet Canadian Nexen's future business needs.

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Summer Students will be expected to study and work toward becoming proficient in the knowledge of designated discipline and will learn about safety standards in all areas of Oilfield Operations.

For more information about the candidates minimum requirements please see the attached job descriptions for the Geologist Summer Students.

Summer Student Geologist – Sana'a office

Job Duties:

- a) Receives instruction in Geological software such as Petrel, Openworks, Geology, and Petrosys to apply them to geological work assignments.
- b) Assists geoscientists and analysts with the maintenance of the geological data base.
- Constructs geological maps from well logs and seismic data, under the direction and guidance of senior Geology staff.
- d) Assists with geological model development from well logs, geophysics, cross-sections, and maps.
- e) Assists Geologists with updating the asset management plan geological information.
- f) Assists with hydrocarbon resource size estimates in generated prospects and related risk assessments.
- g) Assists the multi-disciplinary team by following development well drilling operations to evaluate results.
- h) Maintain close communication and coordination with the others on the multidisciplinary asset team.
- Support the Asset Team Lead in preparing presentations and reports for our partners and the government.
- j) Actively participate in technical meetings as required.

Minimum Requirements:

- a) Completion of the third year of a B.Sc. in Geology or first year of a M.Sc in Geology with an average of 75% and above.
- b) Experience with data base applications is desirable.
- c) Exposure to oil field drilling or operations will be useful.
- d) Excellent presentation, team, and interpersonal relations skills is required.
- e) Excellent knowledge of written and spoken English is required.
- f) Students must provide a proof that they are in the 3rd academic year or first year M.Sc. mentioned in (a).
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- Applications <u>should be submitted</u> NO later than <u>August 17th, 2009</u>. Faxed applications will not be considered. Canadian Nexen will contact candidates selected for an interview & testing by early October 2009. If a Canadian Nexen recruiter has not contacted you by that date your application has not been successful.
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- of materials/equipment required for Company Operations. Comply with the Company Procurement & Logistics and HSEQ Procedures Ensure compliance with MOM/PEPA Procurement policies/procedures Obtain from the Operating Committee approval of bidders lists and approval of purchases / contracts in accordance with the agreed thresholds. Inform and keep updated, all departments on Procurement matters critical to Operations Plan the assignment of work for the most efficient use of personnel and resources

- During absence of P&L Manager act as his designate Maintains approved vendor / bidders list for materials/services
- Prepare Tenders and Quotations in accordance with Company procedures for the required materials or services
- Evaluate Tenders and Quotations and recommend vendor for order/contract placemen
- Supervises preparation of Purchase/Service Orders
- Advise Logistics Supervisor of any contractual conditions with vendors that could impact shipping of materials/ equipment Advise Logistics Supervisor of any contractual conditions with vendors that could impact shipping of materials/ equipment Preparation of procurement documents prior to submission to the Operating Committee and PEPA Follow up on approval of procurement documents with the Operating Committee and PEPA
- Be proactive, identify and bring to the attention of the P&L Manager, any potential problems which could delay purchase of materials/ equipment and could have an adverse effect on Operations by non placement of orders /contracts
- Development of subordinates
- Conduct negotiations with vendors through to order/contract award ldentify new sources of supply for materials and equipment
- Liaise and follow up with all vendors on contract perfe
- Monitor the Procurement processes, to ensure cost effective and timely acquisition equipment/materials and services for Operations Prepare reports and inform P& L Manager on procurement related activities
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NISSAN

12 10 August, 2009

Health

Experts urge more Yemeni mothers to breastfeed

By: Alice Hackman

hen Engad Hadi, 21, from Sana'a, first gave birth at the age of 18, she tried feeding her baby both breast milk and one of the infant milk formulas widely available on the Yemeni # markets.

When the child preferred the powder milk, she decided not to breastfeed.

She is now mother for the second time, and has decided to feed her baby with her own milk.

"I now breastfeed because it is better and healthier," she said.

As the globe marked World Breastfeeding Week last week, the United Nations' Children Fund's office in Sana'a has called for more breastfeeding campaigns, noting that the rate of exclusive breastfeeding in Yemen is one of the lowest in the region.

"This is lack of awareness on the importance of breastfeeding," said Nasser Ur-Rahman, chief information officer at UNICEF.

Only 12 percent of mothers breastfeed their babies without any other source of food for the first six months in Yemen, according to the latest UNICEF statistics, and the rate is the lowest in the region with Sudan and Djibouti, said Ur-Rahman

"Exclusive breastfeeding is recommended up to 6 months of age, with continued breastfeeding along with appropriate complementary foods up to 2 years of age or beyond," according to the World Health Organization (WHO).

Aggressive marketing campaigns powdered milk makers, the trend of urbanization with more women entering the workforce, and a lack of family or social support in helping with a mother's workload are some of the reasons behind this low rate, according to Ur-Rahman.

In particular, as urbanization catches up even in rural areas, and more women enter the workforce, less working mothers breastfeed their babies because their employers do not always provide a room in which to do so, said Ur-Rahman. The alternative is infant formula.

Fatima Ahmed, 30, from Sana'a, is the mother of four children. Although she believes that breast milk is much better for the child than powder milk, her studies and job have meant that she has had to buy powder milk to feed her babies when she was at high school, university and at work.

She, however, continued to breastfeed them whenever she could, so that they could benefit from the antibodies in her milk, and says that they all preferred being breastfed to the plastic bottle.

"They don't provide any suitable place at work, but if facilities were available we would breastfeed more," said the English teacher. "After birth, we get 40 days and then we are back at work, unless we want to take our yearly holiday on top of that."

The WHO recommends that a new mother should have at least 16 weeks, about 112 days, of absence from work



kets.

the milk formula suddenly becomes

unavailable, a mother may have stopped

producing enough milk to feed her child.

A 1981 international code prohibits all

milk powder manufacturers from promot-

ing breast milk substitutes or distributing

free samples to pregnant women, mothers

or their families, according to the WHO.

It also says that all milk powder labels

must state the benefits of breastfeeding

tions do take place, according to Ur-

Rahman. It is normal for manufacturers to

seek out developing countries such as

Yemen that lack effective legislation and

law enforcement as attractive new mar-

But some educated mothers are refusing

to listen to the milk powder companies,

preferring breastfeeding unless they real-

ly are unable to nurse their children for

When she was studying, Najad Al-

Jafari, 26, from Sana'a, left her new-born

child with her mother who lived near the

university and ran home to feed her when-

Al-Jafari said that her brothers' wives

"There are three girls at home and they

Um Mohsin, 28, is the mother of three.

A university graduate, she breastfed two

of her three children for a year and a half.

She stopped breastfeeding the second

child after six months because she was

"It's medically proven to be better," she

A 26-year-old university graduate, who

asked to remain anonymous, started

breastfeeding her 1-year-old girl a day

after she was born. When she returned to

work four months later, her mother gave

the child powdered milk from a bottle, but

she has continues to breastfeed her until

this day, sometimes up to five times a day.

said. "She prefers my milk and doesn't

like the other kind, but has to take it while

have a positive correlation with the early

initiation of breastfeeding, noted a 2006

UNICEF Multi Indicator Cluster Survey

"It's easier for me, better for her," she

Women's educational level appears to

ever she had a break between lectures.

Yemen approved the code, but viola-

and the health risks of substitutes.

Return to breast milk

medical reasons.

also breastfeed.

all breastfeed," she said.

pregnant with the third.

said.

I'm at work."

healthy, but nothing is better than a mother's milk to give a child a head start in life, said Ur-Rahman.

"Mother's milk is best for any baby and its nutritional value is unparalleled," he said.

"A mother's milk is fresh, clean and economical," said Dr. Amal Maknon, a gynecologist at the Marie Stopes family planning clinic in Sana'a. "It boosts the baby's immune system, protects against gastroenteritis [stomach flu] and creates a tender bond between a mother and child."

"A baby may prefer the powder milk to the mother's milk because it is sweeter, but a mother's milk is always better," she explained.

Some mothers, especially in the capital, have jobs and prefer milk powder for their baby because they are not always at home. But even then, the mother should try to breastfeed whenever she can, and only use infant formula when necessary.

Perfect food

"The first milk is the best thing to protect a child from illnesses," said Maknon. "It is much richer in fats, vitamins and proteins."

Colostrum, the yellowish, sticky breast milk produced at the end of pregnancy, is the perfect food for the newborn, and feeding should be initiated within the first hour after birth, according to the WHO.

When a pregnant woman comes into her clinic, Maknon explains to her the importance of breastfeeding her child. She shows her how to ensure she has a continuous flow of milk and how to hold the baby properly.

"Some of the women say that they used to throw away their first milk [colostrum] because it didn't look good," she said. "Because of this, the children of Yemen have gastroenteritis, and pneumonia."

With exclusive breastfeeding, a child is 6 to 25 times less likely to die of diarrhea, said Ur-Rahman.

Breastfeeding is especially important for a baby with diarrhea, as it is losing fluids and needs them to be replaced through breast milk, he added. Out of ignorance, some mothers stop all breast milk and fluids when their child has diarrhea, when they should be doing the exact opposite.

Breast milk contains antibodies that help protect infants from common childhood illnesses - such as diarrhea and pneumonia, the two primary causes of child mortality worldwide, according to the WHO.

report on Yemen. Three out of 10 children are breastfed within one hour of being born and 65 percent of children are breastfed within one day, it added.

"Some women stop having their period, others don't at all," said Um Mohsin, who fell pregnant while she was breastfeeding her second child.

Hadi, mother of two, does not believe in this method of contraception, but Um Tariq, 40, mother of five children ages 20, 19, 13, 11 and 1, says the method works for around two years.

When a mother is exclusively breastfeeding and has not had a return of her period, it is known as the lactational amenorrhea method of birth control. But this is only a temporary method of family planning for the first six moths, says public health and development organization Family Health International. Studies in Chili,

Philippines indicate a less than 1 percent failure rate of the method, says the organization.

work as a contraceptive, Maknon, who

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rent, food and transport," she says. "How

Because she only has one son, she can

afford to educate him well. He is studying

English so that he can travel outside of the

country to Yemen to study, perhaps to

"Most men do not understand the

become a doctor or an engineer.

"Learning through Playing"

am I supposed to have more children?"

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importance of family planning," she said. "They want their name, their support, their tribe."

Have a few children and look after them well, she said.

Part of giving children a head start in life is breastfeeding.

Pakistan and the Breastfeeding can

but only in some cases, said worked in rural Sana'a, Mahwit and Hajja for over 10 years as a doctor in a mobile clinic.

"Out in rural areas, they breastfeed a lot

afford the powder milk.

Family planning services

are not available, and

they have a lot of chil-

Maknon has an 11-year-

old boy who she breast-

fed for two years after he

was born. He doesn't

have any brothers or sis-

ters because, although his

mother has been working

as a doctor for over 14

years, she says she still

has no house and no car.

Plan a lucky few

dren.'

more," she said, "They are poorer and cannot

after delivery, to be able to rest and breastfeed her child.

By Yemeni labor law, an employer must give his female employees 60 days fully-paid maternity leave and must not make her work in during this time.

Moreover, a female worker may not be made to work overtime during the six months after returning from maternity leave, and she must not work more than five hours a day until the end of this period if she is breastfeeding, according to the law.

Powder milk companies tell families that their product is more nutritious and

Tempting milk powder

"Infant formula does not contain the antibodies found in breast milk and is linked to some risks, such as water-borne diseases that arise from mixing powdered formula with unsafe water," says the WHO.

Only 66 percent of Yemenis use improved water sources, according to the 2009 UNICEF State of the World's Children report.

Malnutrition can also result from overdiluting the infant milk formula to "stretch" supplies, warns the WHO.

Frequent breastfeeding maintains the Not a contraceptive

Breastfeeding can also benefits mothers, according to the WHO. It reduces the risk of breast and ovarian cancer later in life, helps women return to their pre-pregnancy weight faster, and lowers rates of obesity.

Exclusive breastfeeding can also naturally induce a lack of menstruation, and act as a natural -though not fail-safemethod of birth control, advises the WHO.



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Culture

Popular poetry in Yemen

By: Ismael Al-Ghabiri

opular poetry in Yemen is the voice of the homeland, the expression of its soul, and reflection of its ancient traditions. It is an innovative vehicle to express feelings, aspirations and wisdom.

Popular poems usually do not follow standard Arabic poetry rules, and are found in other Arab countries beside Yemen

In Egypt, Palestine, Jordan, Syria and Lebanon, the form is called zajal poetry and in the Gulf countries nabati poetry. In Yemen, it is called humaini, popular or colloquial poetry. All these names are used to distinguish popular from standard poetry.

Some writers say the name "humaini" was taken from the Himyarites. In his book Humaini Poetry: Origins and Pioneers, Abduljabbar No'man wrote that the poetical form was named after a village called Al-Humaina between Taiz and Hodeida

Colloquial poetry has often been said to be a voice for the nation because its language is that of people who do not tend to follow grammar rules when they speak.

Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Maqaleh, famous poet and head of Yemen Studies and Research Center, said that poetry that doesn't follow grammar rules is called colloquial poetry. He believes that some people call it popular instead of colloquial poetry, because the word "colloquial" implies illiteracy and backwardness in Arabic.



own poems and songs to express different aspects of life including happy and sad occasions, work, travelling, rest, peace and war

Poets express themselves in response to an event or issue. They compose poetry when they receive a guest and when they want to express their pride. Even when they look after their goats, they compose poetry that depicts their life in mountains and valleys.

Further, people recite folklore poems as they plow their lands, sow their seeds, or harvest their crop. Such poems are

used to encourage people to work and solve their differences and tribal disputes.

Poetry serves the tribe

Abdullah Al-Bar, Head of the Yemeni Writers and Intellectuals Union, says poets of the tribal community focus on high values in their poetry to serve the objectives and aspirations of the tribe. They use poetry to guide and give advice to people, install good values in their minds and spread virtue, as well as urge hem to live by moral standards. In addition, their popular poems talk about their life experiences so that others can benefit from them. People like these poems because they reflect both their feelings as well as noble values

Revolutionary poets Director of Popular Poets

Association Amin Al-Sharafi explains that popular poetry is appreciated widely throughout all layers of society because it conveys the states of war and peace in the country

He points out that the revolutions of 1962 and 1967 were the results of the people's aspirations. They were the hope of late struggling poets such as Ali Naser Al-Qarda'e and Zaid Al-Moushiki, as well as Mohammed Mahmoud Al-Zubairi who addressed the society's intelligentsia in poetry at the time.

He adds that Yemeni unity realized the dream of Yemen's poets.

Poetry on television

Popular poetry in Yemen is considered one of the pillars of the people's culture. It has been the most prevalent part of literature among people.

It has wide grassroots that expand through all means of communication, which accounts for the great attention that satellite channels pay to popular poetry not only in Yemen but also in all Gulf countries through poetry competitions

Furthermore, popular poets have a great prestige in the Yemeni tribe. Poets are considered the spokesmen of tribes. Every tribe has its own poet who is a source of its pride. People boast of the poets who are more influential in the society and more agonizing to their rivals.

Alchemists of the word

Al-Baradoni, the Yemeni famous poet, said that most poets, particularly the elderly, were illiterate due to lack of schools in their time.

Some of them could hardly receive some education on reading and writing through studying in primitive schools called katateeb which were the only available means of education in the past. He added that only a few poets received classical education abroad, instead composing poetry by nature.

Popular poetry is considered to be a record of Yemeni society. It has achieved more changes on the level of the national events than did standard poetry. This is because popular poets interact with people and embody them through their poems.

American Institute of Yemeni Studies reopens library to public

By: Manal Siraj

ast Sunday, Aug. 2, the American Institute of Yemeni Studies (AIYS) officially reopened its library to the public. The opening was held in conjunction with a lecture given by Dr. Sophia Pandya, entitled "Religious Change Among Yemeni Women: The New Popularity of Amr Khaled."

The lecture is intended to be the first in a series hosted by AIYS, and visiting scholars are invited to come to the institute to talk about past research and other Yemeni related topics. The hope is that the series will be a dialogue between researchers and other interested parties that fosters a sense of community among intellectuals in Yemen, as opposed to creating yet another schoolroom where people sit and listen.

Pandya is a current resident at AIYS and assistant professor at California State University, Long Beach. Her past research in Yemen involved the effect of popular television preachers on women's religious practices here in Sana'a. Pandya has been coming to Yemen on and off for ten years and has spent much of her time here interviewing women about their religious practices, particularly the new generation of Yemeni women who read, write, and work outside the home. During the lecture, Pandya played a clip about Amr Khaled for those in attendance who were not familiar with the popular television preacher. "Amr Khaled has encouraged thousands of woman to don the hijab," Pandya said during the lecture. "But he discourages the nigab. On a trip to Yemen he talked about how he was standing in front of a group of women who were wearing the niqab and said that he felt like he couldn't breathe! Elsewhere he's seen as a conservative but here in Yemen he's more radical."



The recently opened library features guest lectures, soviet maps, and government school books.

lect.

The New Building

and articles. A computer is designated for JSTOR use.

Costs involved with services at AIYS are not profit-based, but are rather charged in an effort to keep these services running. Several months ago, a power surge comfortably into its new home. Formerly blew out the scanner, proving that operat-

Library hours are currently Saturday, Sunday, and Wednesday from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm, and Monday and Tuesday from 11:30 pm to 6:00 pm. The library will remain open for Ramadan but with shortened hours. There are plans to open the library for one evening per week during Ramadan depending on the demand.

Publications housed in the library focus on scholarly work related to Yemen over the past 100 years. Anything published on or about Yemen has been slowly gathered by AIYS for decades, offering an eclectic collection for the curious visitor. Those wishing to research a particular topic concerning Yemen will find what they're looking for in the library, from Adeni law in the 1950's to the history of Yemeni poetry to archaeological projects conducted throughout Yemen. There are even some novels written about Yemen that are available for casual enjoyment.

In addition, AIYS has rare maps of Yemen made by the Soviets as well as declassified British documents on their activities in Yemen over the years. There are also a large number of government documents available, from five year plans for development since the 1970's to textbooks produced by the government for Yemeni schoolchildren. AIYS is also developing a list of other libraries in and around Sana'a available for public use if a researcher is looking for a book that is not found in the institute's library. The one thing the library is weak on is American history. This is because the original intention of AIYS was to be a center for Yemeni studies - not American studies. To that end, far from being merely another foreign institution in Yemen, AIYS extends itself to Yemenis as much as it does to foreigners here in Yemen, offering a yearly USD 2,000 research grant to Yemenis. The stipulation is that the research must be conducted in Yemen but other than that the field is wide open. Over the years, research has been conducted with this funding on topics as varied as potato crop blight in Yemen to edu-



Faces & Traces is a cultural series of concise biographies of local or international famous and obscure personalities in fields such as literature, arts, culture and religion in which these individuals contribute affirmatively. It is a short journey in contemporary history, attempting to tackle numerous effective characters in human civilization.

Asimov, Isaac (A Prolific and Polymathic **American Writer**)

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

simov, Isaac, was an

American novelist, short-story writer. essayist, historian, biochemist, textbook writer and humorist. Asimov was born in January 2, 1920 in Petrovichi in Smolensk Oblast, Russia. Asimov immigrated with his family to the United States in 1923 and was naturalized in 1928. Growing up in Brooklyn, New York, Asimov taught himself to read at the age of five. He skipped several grades and received a high-school diploma from Boys' High School when he was 15. In 1939, Asimov graduated from Columbia University with a Bachelor of Science degree, and earned an M.A. in 1941 and a Ph.D. in chemistry there in 1948. In between, he spent three years during World War II working as a civilian at the Philadelphia Navy Yard's Naval Air Experimental Station. After the war ended, Asimov was enlisted in the U.S. Army, serving for just nine months before receiving an honorable discharge. In 1949, he taught biochemistry at Boston University's School of Medicine and was made an associate professor of biochemistry in 1955 and a professor in 1979.

Asimov is widely considered one of the best-known writers of the science-fiction genre. He was also one of the most prolific writers of all time, having written more than 500 books and estimated 9,000 letters and postcards. Beside his eminent works in science fiction, his other nonfiction works dealt with sociology, ancient and modern history, mathematics and science. He also wrote mysteries, as well as critically acclaimed books about the Holy Bible, physics, chemistry, biology, astronomy, limericks, humor, Shakespeare and comic operas.

Asimov wrote his first science-fiction story, "Cosmic Corkscrew", in 1937. His story entitled "Marooned off Vista" was sold to a magazine in 1938 and it appeared in the March 1939 issue. In 1941, Asimov wrote his



other renowned science-fiction works are "I, Robot" (1950), in which he invented his famous Three Laws of Robotics, which govern the relation of robots to their human masters.

In the field of mystery, Asimov wrote a novel entitled "Murder at the A.B.A." (1976) in which he himself was a character. Among his other mysterious short-story collections are "Tales of the Black Widowers" (1974), "Casebook of the Black Widowers" (1980), "Banquets of the Black Widowers" (1984) and "Puzzles of the Black Widowers" (1990)

Asimov also wrote many nonfiction works and magazine articles on a wide range of subjects and was the editorial director of a magazine named after him in 1977 -Asimov's Science Fiction Magazine- for which he wrote the editorial in each issue. In the field of history and starting from the 1960s, Asimov wrote 14 history books, most notably "The Greeks Adventure" (1965), "The Roman Republic" (1966), "The Egyptians" (1967) and "The Near East: 10,000 Years of History" (1968). Among his other works in this field are "The Land of Canaan" (1971), "The Golden Door" (1977), "Asimov's Chronology of the World" (1991) and "Ferdinand Magellan: Opening the Door to World Exploration" (1991). Some of his works in mathematics include "Realm of Numbers" (1959), "Realm of Algebra" (1961) and "History of Mathematics" (1989). In Astronomy, some of Asimov's works include "The Clock We Live On" (1959), "ABC's of Space" (1969), "Our World in Space" (1974), "Quasars, Pulsars and Black Holes" (1988) and "How Do

Pandya also noted that in recent years here in Sana'a she's noticed more and more women taking off the niqab in favor of the hijab alone, although whether or not it's because of Amr Khaled's influence is difficult to tell

"Sophia had a very engaging delivery it wasn't a stiff, formal lecture but rather an enthusiastic conversation with her audience," said Katherine Hennessey, who was in attendance. Many people came up to Pandya after the lecture to talk and ask questions as guests were served tea and juice as well as a selection of sweets.

Guests were also invited to wander through the library's shelves and take a look at what AIYS has to offer. Far from just books, AIYS is a functioning office space complete with a printer, scanner, and other various office supplies available to the public for as little YR 20, depending on what is used. Wireless internet is free for those who bring their laptops. Access to JSTOR is also available, which is an online database of thousands of journals

ing an institution in Yemen offers a sharp learning curve for the then-new Resident Director Stephen Steinbeiser, who was unavailable for comment.

What is AIYS?

The plan is that as the lecture series progresses, it will help to encourage people to use AIYS' library and its services - a library that is little known in Sana'a, largely because AIYS itself is a mostly unknown entity despite its having been around and active for decades.

In fact, AIYS has been in Sana'a since 1978 with the intent to promote pre- and post-doctoral research and scholarly and cultural exchange between the United States and Yemen. Having moved several times during its more than 30 year existence, the institute recently purchased its own building in Sana'a and has taken the last couple years to renovate and move in.

AIYS has been involved in several projects in Yemen throughout its existence in the country, most notably the renovation of the Amiriya Madrasa in Rada, one of the largest monuments in Yemen. In the 1980s, the Amiriya was in a very advanced state of disintegration. Restoration work was undertaken starting in the early 80s using only traditional methods. The work was finally completed in 2005. Many players were involved in the restoration process and funding came from all over the world, such as from the Netherlands and Yemeni governments, the Italian firm CCA, and the US Department of State's Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation.

Non-Yemeni government funding for this restoration project was administered through AIYS. Today, visitors are encouraged to tour this fabulously ornate monument with its vibrant frescos whose colors a typical Sana'ani house meant for a large family, the building was transformed into individual rooms available for rent for visiting scholars and language students, a kitchen for residents' use, a set of offices, plenty of workspace, and a large room to hold AIYS' collection of books.

are still vibrant, dispite 500 years of neg-

Back in Sana'a, AIYS has settled quite

Additionally, the building boasts a series of gardens that are still in their beginning stages but are intended to grow as AIYS does over the coming years. Tucked in a back corner of one of Sana'a's many alleyways, anyone is welcome to come and enjoy a cup of tea among the sunflowers and escape from the busy streets.

Previous buildings that AIYS rented in Sana'a weren't big enough for the institute's or visiting scholars' needs. There was no room to display the collection of books and journals that number in the thousands. Many books were held in storage in boxes, uncataloged and forgotten about.

Some of the books did not see the light of day for more than two decades. This created an organizational problem that took more than a year to overcome, as AIYS had many more books than was suspected.

AIYS' Library

Today, the library, with its more than 260 shelves of books, maps, journals and offprints, is open for business. AIYS' new building offers ample research and study space for visitors and residents alike. The aim is to foster a quiet study area here in Sana'a where Yemenis and foreigners alike can come and meet other likeminded scholars from all over the world to discuss research and other scholarly interests.

It is hoped that the library as well as the lecture series will help to foster this environment by enticing people to come visit.

Sana'a. Security concerns coming from the US have unfortunately had an effect on this AIYS initiative, forcing AIYS to delay funding for this year's grants as a result of the travel warning the US State Department placed against Yemen, freezing some of AIYS' assets.

cational movements among youth in

Regardless of the current security climate in the country, AIYS is an institution that has seen a lot in its 30 years of existence, and is likely to be around for many years to come.

4U

If you d like more information about the library, the lecture series, or anything else about AIYS, please contact the institute at AIYSLibrary@gmail.com



social science-fiction story called "Nightfall" which has been described as one of the most famous science-fiction stories of all time. In 1942 he published the first of his "Foundation Trilogy" which consists of "Foundation", "Foundation and Empire" (1952) and "Second Foundation" (1953). The trilogy recounts the collapse and rebirth of a vast interstellar empire in a universe of the future. "Foundation's Edge" (1982) was Asimov's sequel to the "Foundation Trilogy" and it won a Hugo Award in 1983 as the best science-fiction novel of the year. His story entitled "The Last Question" (1956) discusses the ability of humankind to cope with and potentially reverse the process of entropy.

Asimov produced several autobiographical works, including "In Memory Yet Green" (1979) and "In Joy Still Felt" (1980). His final memoir, "I, Asimov: A Memoir", is the most confessional and was published posthumously in 1994. Among his

Stars Twinkle?" (1991). His books in chemistry and physics include titles like "Chemistry and Human Health" (1956), "The Genetic Code" (1963), "How Did We Find Out About Photosynthesis?" (1989), "Inside the Atom" (1956; revised in 1966), "Light" (1970), "Worlds within Worlds" (1972) and "Robots, Machines in Man's Image" (1985).

Asimov's interest in literature was expressed in several literary works including "Asimov's Guide to Shakespeare" (1970), "Asimov's Annotated Paradise Lost" (1974) and "The Annotated Gulliver's Travels" (1980). In the regard of the Holy Bible, he penned several books such as "Asimov's Guide to the Bible" (1969), "The Story of Ruth" (1972) and "Animals of the Bible" (1978).

During his life, Asimov received many high-status awards such as Thomas Alva Edison Foundation Award (1957), Best All-time Novel Series Hugo Award (1966), Nebula Award for the Best Novelette for "The Bicentennial Man" (1977), Hugo Award for best nonfiction for "I, Asimov: A Memoir" (1995) and he was also conceded 14 honorary doctorate degrees from various universities

Asimov died on April 6, 1992 in New York City at the age of 72. Asimov always put distinctive, memorable characters at the heart of his stories no matter how vast his scope. He also told his tales with flawless and clear prose. Asimov once said: "I have been fortunate to be born with a restless and efficient brain, with a capacity for clear thought and an ability to put that thought into words."

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10 August, 2009



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Board meeting

The Yemen Times board of directors and the children of its founder, the late Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf met with the staff last Saturday at a special meeting. During this session, Yemen Times CEO Khairaldin Al-Nsour introduced the members of the board of directors to those staff members who did not know them. Each board member talked briefly about their impressions of the work done at the paper, and congratulated the staff for their hard work and achievements.

"You know where to find us, and we welcome any feedback from you at any time," said Walid Al-Saqqaf, be member of the board and former editor-in-chief.

The introductions were followed by a question and answer session in which the staff talked about their concerns. Following the discussion, a number of Yemen Times employees were given a certification of merit and



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a gift Swiss watch in appreciation of their hard work and contribution to the paper. All staff was then invited to lunch at the Shaibani restaurant.

Team building exercise

Yemen Times editorial staff had a team building session last Thursday whereby the learnt more about each other and their associations within the editorial team. Fun games and open discussions helped the staff open up and learn to trust each other.

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