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New window for future Yemeni entrepreneurs

By: Nadia Al-Sakkaf

TAIZ, Oct. 4 — Sara realized early on that a university degree does not guarantee a job and will not help her poor family, so she decided to do something else. She came to the Youth Center a year ago and enrolled in a sewing training course, and another on project management. Today she has her own business and her work is well known in the area. She now is her own boss and her company is a valuable source of income for her poor family.

Just like Sara, young people in Taiz and Hodeidah now have the chance to start up their own businesses successfully with the help of a database called the Youth Bank, a recent initiative by the Youth Center. The center has already trained 30 young men and women from Taiz to build small businesses and in the coming weeks 24 youth from Hodeidah will also complete their training in this issue.

"We give the youth tools by which they can make a better future for them-

selves. We give them information and guidance from A to Z on starting their own businesses. All they need to do is want to learn and have an idea or talent," said director of the center Abdullah Sallam.

The Youth Bank includes information on various phases of starting up a business, such as where to get the start-up money, credit applications, and where to learn new skills that will help them succeed in the business. The second part of this initiative is the actual training on project management. Students learn how to create a feasibility study, evaluating success and refine a business plan.

According to Sallam, some of the youth who come to them have tried on their own to establish small businesses but failed because they either did not know how to market their business or because they could not handle the finances. "It's a complete cycle," he said, "An entrepreneur has to have various skills whether financial, marketing, communication... and not just the skill or the money."

Abeer Ghamdhan is the program manager at the center. She remembers several stories of young men and women whose lives have changed because they have had the opportunity to market their products or skills.

"I myself had gone through the training, and another for training of trainers. I know firsthand that it works. Along with my job at the center I have my own private business," she said.

The initiative is still in its primary phase and has much potential for expansion. Scope for improvement includes giving the youth detailed



Members of the Youth Center hold a Youth Court session, which is a mock-trial, intended to explore issues that concern Yemeni youth.

career development advice and guiding them through their venture. Currently, the initiative only provides the youth with general information and training on project management.

Over 46 active state training offices and centers based in Taiz are registered with the Youth Bank. They include vocational training centers on carpentry, computer maintenance, languages, accountancy, geo-surveys, sewing and

handicrafts among other vocations.

The team working on this project is surveying both the government and private sector in both Taiz and Hodeidah to create a more comprehensive list of where the youth can learn skills. The Youth Bank will eventually publish details such as fees, opening hours, available courses and locations so that the interested youth can plan their entrepreneurship.

Training on project management in Taiz is conducted by the Youth Center's professional team and on the center's premises. However, in Hodeidah, a partnership with Naseej's MDG's education project was established. Naseej-Community Youth Development Initiative (CYDI) is a regional program funded by the Ford Foundation and managed by Save the Children in collaboration with a Regional Advisory Committee (RAC) that consists of a number of development practitioners from the Arab World. Naseej focuses on five Arab countries: Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine and Yemen, and reaches all

the Arab countries through its other activities.

"We don't take any money from the youth in return for the information or the training. We thought at this stage what we want to do is provide as many youth as we can with the knowledge and skills so that they succeed and have a better life. We may consider taking some nominal fees from the vocational training centers or the credit banks and organizations in the future, but not from the youth," explained Sallam.

As the initiative finds success among youth in Taiz and Hodeidah, its management hopes to expand to ten governorates across the country. The initiative also has a website to be released in the coming months in Arabic for those who want access to the information available through the Youth Bank and cannot reach the center.

The Youth Center is a non-governmental voluntary organization working for youth. It aims at defending youths' rights, raising awareness among youth and building their capacity through training, seminars and public activities.

The center has a training program on vocational skills, project management, languages including sign language and human rights. It targets college students, youth unions and unemployed youth in Taiz and around the country and has special focus on educating youth in democracy process through awareness sessions on elections and political participation. One of the unique activities of the center is the Youth Court, whereby the youth create an artificial court and judge authorities on issues that affect the youth's future. The latest youth court was on the issue of vocational training and education in the presence of the general manager of the vocational training office in Taiz and the governorate's vice governor.

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More devaluation expected for Yemeni Riyal

By: Ali Saeed

SANA'A, Oct. 4 — The Yemeni Riyal is predicted to be less valuable against other currencies due to the current actions of the Central Bank of Yemen, according to the Yemeni Studies and Economic Media Center.

"The Central bank of Yemen recently pumped out large amounts of YR 100 and YR 50 notes into markets, and also is planning to print new notes of the YR that will lead to more inflation," said the center.

"Pumping out large amounts of YR 100 and YR 50 into markets without associated economic growth and production will definitely weaken the value of Yemeni currency and increase price hikes," added the center.

The center also pointed out that it was informed from private sources that the bank will put in markets new category, the YR 250, and will convert the YR 50 from banknote into a coin.

"The Central Bank of Yemen (CBY) suffers from many drawbacks, as a result of Yemeni exports decreasing against imports increasing in Yemen," indicated the center.

"The YR is facing a difficult challenge now, as Yemen's reserve of foreign cash decreased to USD 6.7 billion in 2009 compared to USD 8.4 billion in 2008," said the center.

The center demanded the CBY to review how it handles cash, stop

reserves from diminishing, reconsider the policy of budget expenses, attract more foreign investments to the country and activate vital sectors such as fish and tourism.

Moreover, the center predicted that the exchange rate of YR one will fall back to YR 210 per USD if the bank continues to pump more cash to the market.

Now the exchange rate of USD one is YR 205.

The center expressed its disbelief in the ability of the CBY to control the price of the exchange, saying that it would aggravate the bad economic situations in the country.

Additionally, the center criticized the CBY for not creating awareness among people about the importance of banknote currency, and the fact that the Yemeni government intentionally burns notes valued around YR 6 billion every year, according to the CBY statistic.

Burning the money, the center said, is bad for the economy, and for the society.

"Burning YR 6 billion requires awareness campaigns for citizens to respect banknotes, since the currency is part of the national identity and any scratch or dealing with it in negative manner reflects civilization moving backward for individuals and society," said the center.

However, Dr. Mohammed Jubran, professor of economics at Sana'a



"Corruption and stealing tax money is behind local currency devaluation not printing new category," said Dr. Mohammed Jubran, a professor of economics at Sana'a University.

University, said the bank's actions were not as responsible for to the devaluation of local currency against foreign currencies.

"Printing new bills or pumping bills into markets is considered to be one reason behind the devaluation of the local currency, but its effect is often not huge- especially if the newly printed currency is just for local consumption," said the professor.

"The recent increase of the USD against the YR a few months ago was due to the absence of a clear cash policy that controls the liquidity in the market," explained the professor.

"If there was a clear cash policy,

we would know when the currency value will increase and decrease," said Jubran.

Additionally, added Jubran, the government does not have a system for proper tax collection.

"Stealing tax money, bribery and corruption are the main reasons of the devaluation of our national currency since the beginning of the millennium," clarified Jubran.

"When corrupted officials obtain liquidity, they immediately go to the market to buy the USD and then remit it abroad to cover themselves," said Jubran.

The absence of industry policy and trade policy in the country also

contributed to the increase of the exchange rate of the USD against the YR, according to the professor.

"Because no regulations for industry and trade, importing is done randomly and that leads to high demand for USD," said Jubran.

To make the local currency stable against the foreign exchange rate, the professor recommended the CBY apply its observation tools, either through cash policy, profit value or discount value.

The professor also recommended the CBY observe private banks, and currency exchange and transfer shops to control the smuggling of foreign cash abroad.

"The state also has to carry out its duty in setting up clear industrial and financial policy that is based on combating all kinds of corruption," pointed out Jubran.

"Beside that, the state has to adopt a tax collecting policy that assures the increasing of the budget revenues and minimizes the stealing of tax money, which exceeds YR 1 trillion every year," said the professor.

"If 50 percent of that amount was collected properly, a stable economic situation would be accomplished and that would bring about an economic revival, and that would lead to stable economic and political situation," concluded the professor.

Germany 20 years after the fall of the Berlin Wall

By: Nadia Al-Sakkaf

SANA'A, Oct. 4 — On Nov. 9, 1981, thousands of Germans gathered near Checkpoint Charlie, transforming the 100 meters of no man's land known as "the death strip" between the Berlin wall and a parallel fence further inside East Berlin into an area of celebration. Since that day, and every year Germany, celebrates this occasion, and will soon mark the 20th anniversary of the fall of the wall. And earlier this week, on Oct. 3, Germany celebrated 19 years of German unity.

Consequently, the German embassy in Yemen held a press conference for the occasion, while displaying a locally made cement wall as a replica of the actual wall which was torn down by the sheer will of Germans twenty years ago.

"This shows that walls cannot replace politics," said Ambassador Michael Klor-Berchtold.

Since then, the Federal Republic of Germany has spent 1.5 trillion Euros to strengthen its unity. Most of the money was spent to provide citizens from the former German Democratic Republic [East Germany] with social benefits such as pensions, health care and employment opportunities.

Another 300 billion Euros were spent on infrastructure and private business development in former GDR areas and Germans still pay a solidarity tax, which is deducted from their salaries to fund projects that strengthen the German unity.

"Even after all this money, and 20 years, there are still some mental walls separating Germans from the east and west. Unification is a gradual process," said Klor-Berchtold.



The German ambassador described the Berlin Wall to journalists: "The real wall was this thick and this high, and for twenty eight years Germans in West Berlin were isolated from the world."

German elections

On Sept. 27, Germans elected Angela Merkel again as chancellor, but in a new coalition with the Free Democratic Party. This was seen by politicians as a welcomed change from the previous grand coalition which included Merkel's Conservative Christian Party and the Social Democrats, two parties which are considered ideological opposites.

Election polls in Germany show that the attitude and political inclinations of Germans around the country have changed, as people are identifying themselves with political parties they do not traditionally vote for.

"The latest elections show that Germany has a stable democracy, especially as the opposition party accepted the results as soon as they were announced. People changing their political inclinations only shows that Germans vote for the parties they feel represent their best interest regardless of east or west," the ambassador said.

Geographic orientations of citizens in Germany no longer play a strong role in their political inclinations as they used to do in the past, which is yet another indication of unity and political stability.

According to Klor-Berchtold, having a center-right government will not change German's foreign affairs as they are "continuous and do not change radically with the change of governments." However, some people within Germany say that this new government will have a slightly different attitude towards issues in the Middle East such as the Palestinian-Israeli conflict and German troops in Afghanistan.

"I don't think we will see a significant change in Germany's international relations, however, we shall see about this in the months to come," he said.

Egyptian teachers to return to Yemeni schools

By: Khaled Al-Hilaly

SANA'A, Oct. 4 — After almost 20 years of decreasing numbers of Egyptian teachers working in Yemen, educators from both countries are discussing in Cairo a suggestion to bring Egyptian teachers back into Yemeni schools.

Deputy Minister of Education, Mohammad Hadi Tawaf, said in a statement to the Al-Thawrah Net that the purpose of his current visit to Egypt is to discuss the possibility of the return of Egyptian teachers to Yemen.

He added that this step is a part of a strategy of the Ministry of Education to improve the quality of the country's education.

Ahmad Al-Rabahi, the head of the Yemeni Teachers' Syndicate, said he appreciated the role of foreign teachers, including Egyptians, in the education development of Yemen in the 1960s and 70s.

He attributed the reasons behind the past positive and influential roles of Egyptian teachers in Yemen to the small population at that time, the high salaries they used to have compared to Yemeni teachers and the amount of experience they brought to the job.

"It is strange and questionable to bring Egyptian teachers to teach in Yemen while tens of thousands of students graduate from faculties of education in the different governorates," he added.

Al-Rabahi said he wondered what made the Ministry of Education want to bring Egyptian teachers to Yemen.

"Is it the lack of teachers in some school subject specializations? Or to cover the remote areas where Yemeni teachers don't usually settle down?" he asked.

Yemeni teachers do not like to work in remote areas because they do not receive incentives and advantages from working there, he added.

Media reports said that the ministry will bring Egyptian teachers to Yemeni schools to spread tolerance and moderation, reject extremism and violence in the Yemeni society, especially the youth as well as instilling national noble values.

Al-Rabahi said that this statement accuses Yemeni teachers of extremism.

"We totally refuse that," he said "Yemeni teachers are moderate and if some deviated, this would not be a rule and it happens in all societies."

In the mid 1980s there were around 20,000 foreign teachers were working in former Yemen Arab Republic, mostly, teachers from Egypt and Sudan. In the year 2000, there were 6,160 non-Yemeni teachers.

After the Gulf War in 1990, Kuwait withdrew its financial support for education in Yemen, so the number of foreign teachers decreased. Yemen had received about one million Egyptian teachers, in all subjects and the Egyptian school curriculum has been taught in Yemen for over twenty years. Currently, In Yemen, Egyptian school teachers receive about \$500 per month.

YJS, IFJ launch Ethical Journalism Initiative, announce IJF's National Committee

By: Mahmoud Assamiee

SANA'A, Oct. 4 — The Yemeni Journalist Syndicate (YJS) and International Federation for Journalists (IFJ) launched on Wednesday the Ethical Journalism Initiative and announced the creation of the IFJ's National Committee.

The initiative is considered the first document defining the work of journalist in Yemen, rules he must abide by and his rights to practice his job as required without troubles and problems.

The document, which was written by the IFJ, sets three main guidelines for

journalists: tell the truth, be independent and impartial and pay attention to the humanitarian aspects of the work so as not to cause any harm to others.

The initiative aims at encouraging and promoting journalism, and the idea that journalism can be a positive force in society. It also aims at defining the correct way to practice journalism and includes practical suggestions to promote journalism, manage media institutions and enhancing relations between media and society.

The document says that ethical journalism serves public interests. It gives rights to those who work in field of media, including the right to include

morals and ethics in their work. The document also is intended to create coalitions inside the media to defend specific journalism.

The head of the YJS, Yasin al-Masoudi, said that this initiative is not a list of new restrictions imposed on journalists, rather journalists will benefit from it because it attempts to ensure their rights and demands that concerned bodied ease the job of journalists.

Deputy Minister of Information Mohammad Shaher, whose speech and presence was not welcomed by journalists, announced the ministry's welcoming of the initiative. Shaher talked

about how some journalists do not tell the truth.

He said the government did not seize the eight newspapers lead by Al-Ayyam, just because it has the authority to do so, but because the papers are forums for spreading hatred and harming Yemen's unity.

The head of the IFJ, Jim Boumelha, said the initiative will help journalists to do their job within a legal frame and works on building coalitions supporting journalists.

He called for a strong journalist syndicate, saying "We want strong journalists and they will get all the support they need from the IFJ."

The committee is composed of 15 members, chosen by the IFJ and the YJS. They are former heads of the syndicates, lawyers, chief editors and prominent writers. They are, Yasin al-Maso'di, Nasr Taha Mustafa, Abdulbari Taher, Mahboub Ali, Whathiq Shathily, Dr. Raoufa Hasan, Fathia Abdul-Wase'a, Abdullah Rajeh, Huriah Mashoor, Ez-Uliddin al-Asbahi, Huda Ablan, Nadi al-Sakkaf, Abdul-Halim Saif, Sadiq Nasher and Dr. Khaled Assoufi.

The committee's job will be to supervise journalists' performance and their commitment to ethical journalism. But they have not met yet to elect a head

and deputies.

While some journalists expressed their dissatisfaction about choosing the members without elections, others suggested that young people lead the committee.

Some journalists believe that these ethics will not be applied and some media outlets will not commit to it.

"Talking about these ethics without strict measures to apply them is worthless," said prominent writer Sami Ghaleb. "Those who work for government media outlets such as broadcasters and those who work for political parties will not be committed to journalism ethics."



Another success story from Turkish International Schools

A student of Turkish International Schools got the first position in the secondary level education of the academic year 2008/2009. The secondary exam results announced recently confirmed Salahaddin Davod Al-Misbahhi with the highest score among the 270,000 students who took the exam this year.

Salahaddin joined the Turkish International Schools in 2005 after passing an exam and has studied at Turkish International schools for free throughout his secondary education. **Talented students can get scholarships and can study free at Turkish International Schools if they pass the school exams.**

Salahaddin won the gold medal at Sana'a Computer Project Competition and he was awarded the second position at the National Computer Project Competition in 2008.

Salahaddin was also awarded with a free flight ticket to Turkey sponsored by Turkish Airlines along with other several presents. His friends who got high positions and ranked in the first 10 were also awarded.

The Turkish International School (TIS) ensures that all its students are provided with best educational tools and environment and are encouraged to excel in their education. The syllabus taught in the schools includes the standard



government syllabus as well special modern curricula to prepare the students for the best opportunities in the world. Social subjects are according to the Ministry of Education's curricula and science subjects are according to international standards and taught by established Turkish teachers.

TIS offers international quality education for youngsters starting from nursery until the end of Secondary school.

Participating and winning best positions at International Science Olympiads it has become a tradition for TIS students to be at the top. At least 50 percent of the students from TIS obtained percentages of at least 90 percent and above.

Turkish International Schools operate in three cities in Yemen: Sana'a, Taiz and Aden. Currently in Sana'a there are three branches: Nursery (opened this year), Junior Section and Senior Section.

Having a strong science and language educational background TIS graduates can easily continue their university education in Yemen and abroad without taking the preparatory classes of well-known universities in Turkey, Europe, the United States and other developed countries.

The school also encourages extracurricular activities of the students and their sense of society and patriotism to their country.



Turkish International Schools' success stories:

1. In 2004 the school won a Bronze Medal from International Computer Project Olympiads.
2. In 2006 the school won a Gold Medal from International Environment Project Olympiads, Turkey
3. In 2007 the school won a Silver Medal from 5th International Turkish Language Competitions

where more than 100 countries participated.

4. In 2008 the school won a Silver Medal at National Computer Project Competitions.
5. In 2008 the school obtained 3rd position at International Environment Project Olympiads, Turkey. (Taiz branch)
6. In 2008 the school obtained 3rd position at International Computer Project Olympiads, Turkmenistan. (Taiz branch)



This year Turkish International Schools took several measures and prevention methods against H1N1 flu. Starting from the official opening date of the schools a medical team will monitor and control all students' entrances to the schools every morning and will continue this monitoring for two months. The registration at the schools will be open until 15th of October.

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SANA'A

Yemen to represent MENA in meetings of WB's DC and IPCC

Yemen is to represent Middle East and North Africa (MENA) in the meetings of the World Bank (WB)'s Development Committee (DC), the UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and Renewable Energy Fund.

Minister of Planning and International Cooperation Abdul-Karim al-Arhabi said that Yemen has been chosen as a representative for MENA in the special meetings of DC, IPCC and the Renewable Energy Fund within the annual meetings of the World Bank Group and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Speaking to Saba, Al-Arhabi affirmed that choosing Yemen represents the international appreciation for Yemen's achievements in field of applying reforms as well as its effective role in enhancing the regional stability.

He pointed out that the WB's DC hold semiannual meetings for discussing the developments in the regional and international levels and making visions and special mechanisms to support the World's poorest countries.

A Yemeni delegation headed by al-Arhabi is to take part in the annual meetings of the WB Group and IMF to be held in Istanbul on 4-8 October, 2009.

Arab League Secretary General due in Yemen next week

Secretary-general of the Arab League Amr Moussa is due in Yemen next week for a few-day visit in which he will meet President Ali Abdullah Saleh and senior Yemeni officials, according to the September 26 website.

Moussa will also hold talks on the latest developments in Iraq, Somalia and Palestine as well as several issues related to Arab league activities to boost Arab solidarity.

Vice President back home after Sudan trip

Vice President Abdu Rabu Mansour Hadi returned home on Thursday after a Sudan visit during which he attended the third congress of Sudan's ruling party.

In the event, Hadi delivered a speech highlighting the bilateral relationship between Yemen and Sudan, urging more cooperation between the two brotherly states.

He stressed the importance of the conference, saying it came at a time when Arab and regional nations should work hard to boost cooperation to face standing challenges.

He hoped that Sudan's ruling party strengthen its ties with the ruling party in Yemen.

Hadi also highlighted accomplishments by the Sudanese government, praising the development level and wishing further progress for Sudan.

On his visit, Hadi met with his Sudanese counterpart Ali Othman Taha. The two discussed several topics including the activation of the Yemeni-Sudanese Committee in an attempt to boost the bilateral trade.

Hadi also met with Sudanese minister of Irrigation and Water Resources Kamal Ali Mohammed. The meeting discussed the possibility of investment in the agricultural sector in both states.

Over 40 Somali refugees debark in Hadramout

Security services in Al-Dais district in Hadramout province said that 43 Somali refugees have debarked in the district, Interior Ministry reported on Thursday.

The security services gathered the Somali refugees and delivered them to the UNHCR's representative in the province.

In the same regard, the security services in Thubab district, Taiz province, said that six Somali refugees arrived in the district's coast last Wednesday.

The arrived refugees were gathered from the coast in cooperation with the Red Crescent Society and transferred to the main camp of Somali refugees in Kharaz area, Lahj province.

According to the Yemeni official statistics, more than 800,000 Somali refugees are in Yemen. However, the UNHCR estimated number of the refugees from Somalia at 160,000.

Yemeni security official survives from assassination attempt

A high-rank official in the Political Security Agency (PSA) has survived from an assassination attempt in Abyan governorate, an official source in the Interior Ministry said on Thursday.

The source said that separatists said to be belonging to Tariq al-Fadhli, one of the Southern Movement leaders, have fired the first official of the PSA in

Aden, Abyan and Lahj governorates Nasir Mansour Hadi, a brother of Vice-President Abdu Rabo Mansour Hadi, in Zinjubar city of Abyan governorate.

The attack resulted in injuring two of Hadi's escorts, one of them seriously.

The source affirmed that two people were arrested in connection with the assassination attempt.

Violent anti-government protests have engulfed cities in Yemen's southern provinces in recent months, leaving dozens of casualties among protesters and security forces.

North and South Yemen were united in 1990. In 1994, southern leaders announced the secession of the south and battled northern forces for 10 weeks in a civil war that ended in their defeat.

TAIZ

Over 60 Ethiopians arrested as sneaking into Yemeni territories

Security authorities in Taiz governorate have captured 69 Ethiopians, including 31 women, who entered Yemeni lands illegally via sea, Interior Ministry has reported.

Security forces have captured also three Yemenis were driving the cars the Ethiopians sneaked in.

The Ethiopians and the drivers are investigated.

A boat has disembarked on Thubab coast of Taiz governorate about 116 Somalis, including 46 women, the security authorities in Taiz said, adding that they have been gathered and sent to the refugees' camp in Kharaz area of Lahj governorate.

During last September, about 500 Ethiopians have sneaked into the country, while the Somali refugees, who reached Yemen, were 3615 at the same period

HODIEDAH

Eritrean pirates release 12 Yemeni fishermen

Eritrean pirates have released twelve Yemeni fishermen after being captured for two days.

The fishermen have arrived in Al-Estiyad port in Hodeidah governorate, the media center of Interior ministry has reported.

The fishermen said they were intercepted by an Armed Eritrean boat while fishing in international waters in the Red Sea and taken by force to Eritrea.

We stayed there for two days and were deported empty-handed on a Yemeni fishing boat, they told the police.

An investigation into the attack which came within a series of harassing attacks by the Eritrean against the Yemeni fishing boats was launched.

Many Yemeni fishermen were seized by the Eritrean pirates in recent months and deported after their boats and other properties were confiscated.

ADEN

228 suggested investment project in Aden during 2010

Around 228 suggested investment projects in coming year at sum of YR 3.5 billion in Aden, according to office of the ministry of planning and international cooperation in Aden province.

It is worth mentioning that Aden would host Investment Conference "Aden... Yemen's Gate to World" which would be held in the 11 - 12 of November.

It is organized by Aden Commercial and Industrial Chamber, Aden Free Zone, the General Authority of Investment and Aden local authority.

The conference aims at ill discussing a number of development strategies to improve Aden city and the role of free zones.

Yemen to attend Riyadh symposium on disaster management

A delegation from the Civil Defense flew on Thursday to Saudi Arabia for an international symposium on disaster management.

The event will take place in capital Riyadh on 3-6 October.

Aden-based director of Civil Defense Mohammed Abdu Haider said the participation of Yemen in the symposium comes in response to the invitation of the Saudi Civil Defense.

Academics, experts in disaster management, press and international and regional organization representatives are expected at the meeting to discuss several topics highlighting how to face disasters and coordinate to control them, he said.

On the visit, the Yemeni delegation will meet with a number of participating delegations to discuss cooperation between each country of them and Yemen, he added.



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Their News

Exceed postpones classes following government regulation

In line with the Yemeni government's decision to postpone classes in public and private schools due to the spreading of the H1N1 virus, Exceed language Center has also moved the coming term - Term 17 - back one week. It will begin on October 10 and will end on November 11. Term 17 will continue to be a 5-week term with classes scheduled at the same times and each class will last 2 hours a day.

Registration will continue starting Saturday, October 3 thru Thursday, October 8 and during the first week of the term.

Also in line with the preventative measures that the government - represented by the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Education - has planned to implement in schools and universities to hinder the spread of the virus, Exceed has opened a medical clinic inside the institute. In addition, Exceed will have professional medical assistants at the institute during all working hours and the staff at the institute will be trained to be able to monitor students which will help prevent the spreading of the virus.

Youth Exchange and Study program (YES)

The U.S. Embassy in Sana'a and AMIDEAST are pleased to announce a one-year scholarship for secondary school students in Yemen - the prestigious Youth Exchange and Study (YES) Program.

To be eligible, you must:
-Have a very good or excellent academic record and at least a "good" in core subjects for the past three years and in the year preceding travel.

-Demonstrate flexibility and a commitment to cross-cultural understanding.

-Be at least 15 years old by August 1, 2010 and no older than 18.5 by August 1, 2011.

-Be entering grades 9, 10 or 11.

-Be able to achieve a score of 50 on the Secondary Level English Proficiency (SLEP) test.

-Be committed to pre-departure activities, including EL study, community service activities, and skills training, starting in December 2009 and continuing until July 2010.

-Not be a U.S. citizen or U.S.

permanent resident.

Please contact our offices for more info:

AMIDEAST Sana'a: Off Algiers (by Tunisian Embassy), Sana'a.

Telefax: (01) 400-279/80/81.

E-mail: advising-sanaa@amideast.org

Contact: Ms. Addie Byrum

AMIDEAST Aden: 162 Miswat Street, Khormaksar, Aden

Telefax: (02) 235-069/70/71.

E-mail: gadam@amideast.org

Contact: Ms. Gehan Adam.

The British Chevening Scholarships Programme

The British Council invites applications for Chevening Scholarship Program funded by the Foreign & Commonwealth Office. This highly-competitive scheme offers full-time Masters degree scholarships for study in the UK to Yemeni women and men who will play a key role in promoting Yemen's political, economic & social development.

Applicants, who must be Yemenis, should have a university degree and very good written and spoken English. Candidates will be selected on the basis of their potential and motivation to rise to positions of leadership.

The deadline for applications is 4 November 2009.

Applicants must fill in the online application form available via the following link:
https://www.chevening.fco.gov.uk/Cheveningapplications/ca_start.aspx

To complete the e-Chevening application form you will require details of your qualifications and past experience as well as the contact details of two referees. You will also be required to complete a personal statement describing why you wish to study in the UK and how you expect to benefit from your proposed qualification. Please note that you do not need to send any document at the application stage but should you be called to an interview, you will be required to bring original reference letters from your designated referees, together with your original certificates for the qualifications you record.

For further information on the scholarship visit www.britishcouncil.org/learning-funding-your-studies-chevening.htm, and for any enquiries contact us on Tel: 01 448356 or email information@ye.britishcouncil.org.

India's Press Boom on Agenda of World Newspaper Summit Meetings

The secrets of the world's highest read daily newspaper - with a certified print audience of an astonishing 54.5 million - will be among the fascinating "local" stories to be told as the world's press gathers for its summit meetings in India in December.

Dainik Jagran, which tops the newspaper planet's readership league, is only one example of a newspaper industry which continues to grow in leaps and bounds.

Developing literacy and wealth are part but far from all the story: Great credit needs also to be given to Indian newspaper professionals, who are re-inventing the newspaper to keep it vibrant and compelling in the digital age.

Their strategies will be examined in depth when the World Newspaper Congress, World Editors Forum and Info Services Expo 2009 come to Hyderabad, India, from 30 November to 3 December next.

Although broadband and mobile are booming in India, print newspapers are growing right along with them. The country has more daily newspapers than any other nation and leads in paid-for daily circulation, surpassing China for the first time in 2008. Twenty of the world's 100 largest newspapers are Indian. Newspaper circulation rose a further 8 percent last year.

Participants at the Congress, Forum and Expo, the annual summit meetings of the world's press, will hear from the publishers and editors of some of India's most innovative companies, including: Mahendra Mohan Gupta,

Chairman/Managing Director and Managing Editor, and Sanjay Gupta, CEO and Editor-in-Chief, of Jagran Prakashan (Dainik Jagran); Ravi Dhariwal, CEO for Publishing of Bennett, Coleman & Co. (Times Group); Jaideep Bose, Editor-in-chief, of the Times of India; Tariq Ansari, Managing Director of Mid-Day Infomedia; Harinder Baweja, Co-Editor-in-Chief of Tehelka; Aroon Purie, Chairman & Editor-in-Chief of India Today; and many others.

Full details of the presentations and other information can be found at http://www.wanindia2009.com

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To work with the IT team and provide a combination of on-site low-level requirements gathering, understanding Departments' needs, and working with the IT Applications Specialist and IT Supervisor to come up with viable MS-SharePoint solutions. Majority of the day will be spent working on MS-SharePoint development and administration projects that are assigned by the IT Applications Specialist and agreed upon by the IT Supervisor.

Job Duties:

- a. The incumbent shall:
1. Come up with unique approaches to solve development issues and aid in creating solutions and solving technical problems.
 2. Have input into creating technical solutions for design or functionality of web or database applications.
 3. Follow Canadian Nexen's coding and documentation standards.
 4. Take a key role in technical strategy formulation, testing and defining development standards.
 5. Assist in the development of frameworks for implementing MS-SharePoint solutions.
 6. Perform other duties that may occur from time to time as assigned by the IT Applications Specialist or IT Supervisor.

Minimum Requirements:

- Minimum of 2 years of overall development experience. Minimum of 1.5 years of .NET development experience. A background and understanding of MS-SharePoint Portal or WSS (either installation or customization of both/each product.)
- Bachelor's Degree in Information Technology or Computer Science.
- MCTS in Windows SharePoint Services or Microsoft Office SharePoint Server.
- Advanced knowledge of HTML, Cascaded Style Sheets and ASP.NET development, MS-SharePoint development, Event Handlers and Workflow. Experience in developing Web parts customizing MS-SharePoint Portal or WSS
- Knowledge of some server-side programming, databases and XML. Structured approach to software design and development.
- Deep understanding and experience of the Systems Development Life Cycle methodology (SDLC).
- Excellent experience with MS SQL Server.
- Familiarity with Web Services, InfoPath, WebParts, AJAX, and Active Directory is a plus.
- Extensive experience in web production or programming environment.
- Knowledge of server-side programming and databases development, deep understanding of at least 3 of the following items: MS-SharePoint, .Net, C#, Microsoft SQL Server, Web Development and Client Server Development.

- ❖ To Apply for this Job please apply to: recruiting_yemsana@nexeninc.com
- ❖ Applications **should be submitted NO later than October 20th, 2009**. Faxed applications will not be considered.
- ❖ Make sure that you mention the job title you are applying for in the email subject.
- ❖ Only short listed candidates will be contacted.



Position Opening Tracing Coordinator

The Yemen Red Crescent Society headquarter (HQ) has an opening for an experienced and qualified Individual to assume the position of Tracing Coordinator in the Organization's HQ in Sana'a.

The successful candidate will be responsible for coordinating countrywide efforts to Restore Family Links (RFL). RFL entails searching for missing family members, restoring and maintaining family links for those who have lost contact with, or have no news of, their loved ones as a consequence of armed conflict or other situations of violence, natural or man-made disasters or other circumstances requiring a humanitarian response.

Requirements

- Yemeni Citizen, holder of a national ID Card
- Excellent knowledge of the English language (Spoken & Written)
- Field Experience in humanitarian work.
- Excellent administrative skills including budgeting and monitoring expenditures.
- Proficient use of information technology and effective computer skills
- Ability to develop and maintain good working relationships.
- Capable of implementing training programs within area of expertise.
- Willing to travel within country and abroad.

Candidates meeting the above Criteria please send your resume with a covering letter, copies of certificates and working experience by **15 October 2009** to the following address:

Yemen Red Crescent Society Headquarters
26 September Street Building no. 10, Second floor
Att : Mr. Mohamed Yahya Sawlan
Disaster Management Coordinator
Tel /fax : 01 485 416
Email : mohamed.sawlan@ifrc.org

اعلان من جمعية الهلال الاحمر اليمني وظيفة شاغرة: منسق روابط عائلية

تعلم جمعية الهلال الاحمر اليمني عن وجود وظيفة شاغرة مفتوحة لذوي المؤهلات والخبرة لتولي وظيفة منسق خدمات البحث عن المفقودين في المركز الرئيسي بصنعاء وحسب الشروط التالية:

المرشح الفاضل سيكون مسؤولاً عن تنسيق الجهود عبر البلاد في مجال إعادة الروابط العائلية.

إن إعادة الروابط العائلية تستلزم البحث عن المفقودين من أفراد الأسرة، وإعادة الروابط العائلية والحفاظ عليها بالنسبة لأولئك الذين فقدوا كل اتصال مع ذويهم، أو لم تصلهم أخبار عنهم نتيجة للنزاعات المسلحة أو حالات العنف الأخرى أو الكوارث الطبيعية أو الكوارث التي يصنعها الإنسان أو غيرها من الحالات التي تتطلب استجابات إنسانية.

الشروط المطلوبة:

- أن يكون يمني الجنسية وحائزاً على البطاقة الشخصية
- أن يجيد اللغة الإنجليزية تماماً (كتابة ومحادثة)
- أن تكون لديه خبرة في مجال العمل الإنساني
- أن تكون لديه مهارات إدارية بما في ذلك إعداد الميزانيات وضبط المصاريف
- أن يكون ذا خبرة في استعمال تكنولوجيا المعلومات وذا مهارات فعلية في استعمال الحاسوب (الكمبيوتر)
- أن يكون قادراً على إنشاء علاقات عمل جيدة والمحافظة عليها
- أن يكون قادراً على تنفيذ برامج تدريبية في مجال الاختصاص
- أن تكون لديه رغبة في السفر داخل البلد وخارج

يرجى ممن تتوفر فيه المهارات والمؤهلات المطلوبة:

تقديم السيرة الذاتية مع رسالة مصاحبة ونسخة من الشهادات الدراسية وشهادات العمل وذلك قبل تاريخ ١٥ أكتوبر ٢٠٠٩ إلى العنوان التالي:

جمعية الهلال الاحمر اليمني ؟ المركز الرئيسي بصنعاء الكائن في شارع ٢٦ سبتمبر عماره رقم ١٠ الطابق الثاني
عناية الاخ ت محمد يحي صولان - منسق ادارة الكوارث
الهاتف/الفاكس ٠١٤٨٥٤١٦
البريد الالكتروني mohamed.sawlan@ifrc.org

Invitation for Prequalification

Country: Republic of Yemen
Project: Dhamar — Alhussainiah Road Project Section II
1- Part (A1+ A2) Byt Alkabodi — Addan — Bani Muslim Branch- Souq Al-Thalooth (51 Km)
2- Part (B1) Addan — Al-Nahia Branch- Souq Al Thalooth (24 Km)
3- Part (B2, B3) Souq Al-Thalooth- BaitAlbaadani — Al-Mishrafa (40 Km)
In Dhamar Governorate, Republic of Yemen

Loan/Credit No: Loan. No.445/2003

The Government of the Republic of Yemen has received a Grant/Loan toward the cost of Dhamar — Alhussainiah Road Project Section II, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this [Loan No.445/2003] to payments under the contract for construction of Dhamar — Alhussainiah Road Project Section II. The Ministry of Public Works and Highways intends to prequalify contractors for the construction of the above mentioned projects. The projects are:

1- Part (A1+ A2) Byt Alkabodi — Addan — Bani Muslim Branch- Souq Al-Thalooth (51 Km)

The typical cross section of the road consists 7.00 m paved single carriageway of 2 lanes and 2 x 1-1.5 m earth shoulders as shown in the Tender Drawings. The pavement thickness consists of 5 cm bituminous base course over 15 cm granular base course.

The project consists of the following major work items:

- ¥ More than 1,600,000.0 m³ of Earthwork
- ¥ More than 55,000 m³ of Masonry work
- ¥ More than 174,000.0 m³ of sub-base and base course
- ¥ More than 18,500.0 m³ of hot mix asphalt concrete

2- Part (B1) Addan — Al-Nahia Branch- Souq AlThalooth (24 Km)

The typical cross section of the road consists 7.00 m paved single carriageway of 2 lanes and 2 x 1-1.5 m earth shoulders as shown in the Tender Drawings. The pavement thickness consists of 5 cm bituminous base course over 15 cm granular base course.

The project consists of the following major work items:

- ¥ More than 1,300,000.0 m³ of Earthwork
- ¥ More than 23,000 m³ of Masonry work
- ¥ More than 29,000.0 m³ of sub-base and base course
- ¥ More than 8,400.0 m³ of hot mix asphalt concrete

3- Part (B2, B3) Souq Al-Thalooth- BaitAlbaadani — Al-Mishrafa (40 Km)

The typical cross section of the road consists 7.00 m paved single carriageway of 2 lanes and 2 _ 1-1.5 m earth shoulders as shown in the Tender Drawings. The pavement thickness consists of 5 cm bituminous base course over 15 cm granular base course.

The project consists of the following major work items:

- ¥ More than 1,500,000.0 m³ of Earthwork
- ¥ More than 52,000 m³ of Masonry work
- ¥ More than 71,000.0 m³ of sub-base and base course
- ¥ More than 14,400.0 m³ of hot mix asphalt concrete

It is expected that invitations for bid will be made in **Dec. 2009**.

Prequalification will be conducted through prequalification procedures specified in the Guidelines for procurement of works for the borrowers of the Development Institutions, Members of the Cooperation Group, First Edition, 1995, and is open to all bidders from eligible source countries, as defined in the guidelines.

Interested eligible applicants may obtain further information from and inspect the prequalification document at the **Ministry of Public Works and Highways** from **8:30AM to 2:00 PM, Saturday-Wednesday**, at the address below. A complete set of the prequalification document in **English** may be obtained by interested applicants (a) on the submission of a written application to the address below at no charge, but a **US\$50.00** courier charges is required for overseas delivery, from the following address:

Ministry of Public Works and Highways
Internationally Funded Projects Implementation Unit (IFPIU)
Nuqum, Next to Berlin Public Park
MPWH Head Offices Building, 3rd Floor
Sana'a, Republic of Yemen
Tel: + 967 1 545164
Fax: + 967 1 546134
Email: ifrpui@yemen.net.ye
Attention: The Director,IFPIU, MPWH

The deadline for application submission is: **11:00 AM, Wed.11 Nov., 2009**
Applications for prequalification should be submitted in sealed envelopes, delivered to the address above by **11:00 AM, Wed.11 Nov.,2009**, and be clearly marked Application to Prequalify for **The Construction of Dhamar — Alhussainiah Road Project Section II**

Rubbish Art

Plastic bags and barbie dolls may not sound like ideal subjects for art, but the creative approach of Photographic artist Chris Jordan has inspired waves of media attention. He speaks candidly with Remona Aly about waking up to a glaring reality.

You can curse the darkness or you can light a candle. That's what someone said to him once, and this flicker of hope made more sense to him now than it would have done even a decade ago. He tells me he had been asleep all his life up until six years ago. It was right in front of his nose, affecting him more profoundly than he imagined, yet he could not, did not want to, acknowledge it.

But I am getting ahead of myself. Just as in this world and what we make of it, we are running when we should be walking. We should need less, when all we crave is more and more. The 'he' I speak of is a man whose life is now committed to waking people up, to making us see what is right in front of our eyes. For the last six years of his life, Chris Jordan has grasped, through his photographic art, the collective impact mankind has on this planet. How many photographers will point their cameras towards landfills, take images of plastic bottle piles, of scores of aluminium cans, of the rubbish people throw away to remain out of sight, and 'recycle' them as informative art? What is it that makes him carry on with unwavering commitment in the face of such a daunting, mammoth phenomenon itself? Chris says the path he took was almost 'accidental'. Others might call it fate.

It is inevitable that Chris can be described as a very 'down to earth' kind of guy. A retired lawyer, but active photographer-artist, he resides in Washington, United States. His artistic parentage – his father is a photographer and his mother, a water colour painter – lends the turning point in his life a prophetic air. One day, his attention was drawn to the colour in a huge pile of garbage, which appeared to him as an impressionist painting, so he got his camera out and captured his shot. A friend later saw the image and began talking of consumerism, something Chris hadn't wanted to convey at all. For 20 years, he had been taking pictures that 'looked pretty', but had no meaning. That was all to change.

"I discovered to my astonishment that there had been people awake to this issue for hundreds of years. They had been warning us about the damaging effect of over-consumption on our environment, on our culture and our individual spirits. For me, it was like waking up to the Matrix." Chris is no environmentalist; this is no tirade. It's a measured, logical presentation of facts and numbers that smother the earth, statistics we each contribute towards. And Chris certainly doesn't want to lay on a guilt trip. Rather, he wants to affect an awakening. His growing fascination

with the subject of consumerism paralleled an increasing alarm over its consequences. The more he read about the price the planet had to pay, the more he realised he had been a "very unhappy, angry and alienated American". It became clear to him very quickly that the pursuit of happiness was not derived from materialism. He had been sucked into a pattern of psychological consumerism that is dictated to many of us. The social conditioning of having the newest mobile or the latest laptop is creating a dissatisfied society, as each item is relentlessly replaced in a continuous conveyor belt of consumerism. This was the cycle Chris broke away from – he no longer wished to live in denial.

"When you ask yourself, what difference can I possibly make? What if I clean up my act but no one else does, how then can the world be healed? – you can never make a difference. It's a persuasive argument we all feed ourselves. But the problem is when hundreds of millions of people act that way, then you have a catastrophe on your hands." It's an old adage that the flutter of a butterfly's wing can cause a storm on the other side of the world. Rather than allowing ourselves to be blended into the masses like some giant indecipherable blur, Chris tries to bring focus to an otherwise inconceivable problem. "We live in this huge, incomprehensible, dynamic system which is our world of 6.7 billion people. The only way we can find out about this phenomenon is through statistics which are dry, incomprehensible, emotionless numbers, so we have a tendency of becoming detached from the issues. That is the reason for my *Running the Numbers* series, which translates overwhelming numbers into a more universal, visual language to allow a personal connection with profoundly important issues."

At first sight, for example, one work depicts a kaleidoscope of black shapes encircling the earth, but on closer inspection, it reveals the black shapes are in fact thousands of barrels of oil, and what appeared to be the earth is actually the rusty top of one of the containers. Every two minutes, 28,000 barrels of oil at 42 gallons each are consumed by gas guzzlers in the US, and the sheer gravity of issues like this is something Chris wishes to convey in an intriguing way to make people stop and think.

"It is astonishing that the average American person uses 30 times more resources than the average Chinese person. The US is 6% of the world's population, yet we use a third of the world's petroleum, a third of the world's wood, and we produce a third of the world's greenhouse gases." Chris trips off the

facts effortlessly, but not without fully comprehending their effects. He has said this before, not just to one person, but to packed audiences in their hundreds, even thousands. Yet it still feels like he is saying it for the first time, with just as much sincerity and spirit if not more than that initial revelation. In fact, Chris has just returned from a trip to Brisbane, Australia where he performed an intense session of media interviews, school workshops and talks. His work means he has to travel extensively, and the gravity of his work certainly hasn't compromised his sense of humour, as is evident now when I mention his carbon footprint. "I go halfway around the world to show my picture on jet trails," he jokes. "Talk about carbon emissions."

His website peaking at 250,000 hits a month is proof of a man who is really reaching people, awakening each to their individual responsibility. His online videos get up to 27,000 viewers. Something catches my attention in one, when he highlights the culpability that consumerism has in causing something much darker: in the middle of his speech Chris begins to talk about terrorism. I draw him in, asking if he believes consumerism is a breeding ground for terrorism. "I absolutely believe that," he asserts emphatically. "I think it is no coincidence that al-Qaeda goes after the United States. America is such an exploitive country. We have been exploiting resources and cultures all over the world for centuries. Questioning why they are angry at us is not something that is being addressed in American culture, but it needs to be." Indeed, Chris raises the question head on, in a harrowing yet brave piece of work entitled *Constitution* which appears to display the words 'We the People', but the detail exposes 83,000 Abu Ghraib prisoner photographs, equal to the number of people arrested and held at US-run detention facilities without trial, during the Bush Administration's 'war on terror'.

So it is not without good reason that Chris calls it a "frightening thing" when other countries seek to climb the material ladder, taking their lead from the US. He tells me of schools in India, China and Africa that teach the western way of life is the better way of life. The result is that those children who would have been taught the traditional craft of farming are instead setting their sights on the big city. "They move away from this centuries-old agrarian lifestyle that's deeply connected to the earth and the surrounding communities, and instead the only thing they are qualified to do is work as a clerk in the big city somewhere, thinking they have improved their life. So this is where that education has got them – a ticket into the nastiness of urban chaos."

I mention the Islamic understanding that the wealthiest of souls are those who are content with what they have. It strikes a chord with Chris. "That's beau-



Depicts 106,000 aluminum cans, the number used in the US every thirty seconds

tiful," he remarks. "It's one of the things that is a common thread in the world's spiritual practices. It's the philosophy of knowing oneself and being kind to others, rather than focusing on greed for material wealth. In America that is where we have got ourselves lost. We are one of the richest countries in the world and we are also one of the unhappiest. There is a much deeper purpose to being in this world. It lies in reconnecting to the earth, with each other, with other species. That's where true happiness lies."

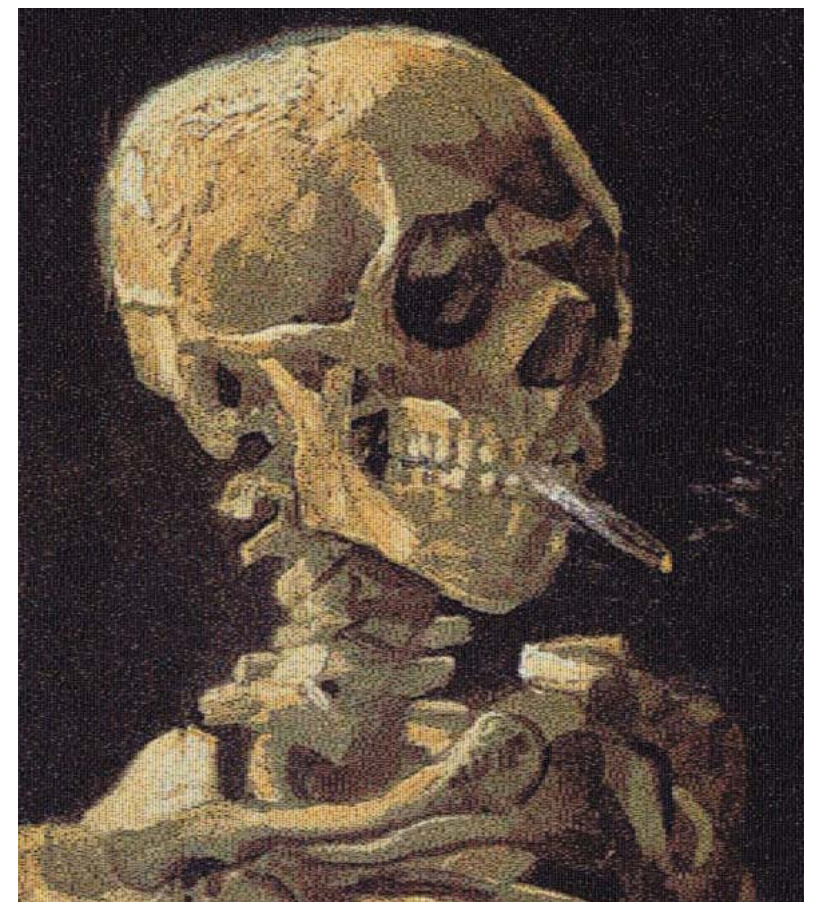
Even though his line of work might cause disillusionment and a sense of futility, for Chris it is not an option. And that conviction of hope and expectation of change lies in its feasibility. "I have this naive idea in my mind that I cannot let go of," he enlightens me, "and that is we could fix this overnight if we wanted to." He refers to a recent report by the UN which discloses how much it would cost to feed all the hungry people on earth, and to bring clean water and healthcare to the 1.2 billion people who lack it. The total expense would be less than 5% of the world's military budget, almost half of which is spent by the US. "It is so tantalising to see, sitting out there just beyond our grasp, solutions that would make the world a magical and joyful place for everyone. I am beginning to experience things in my life that I never thought I would, like a dawning sense of inner peace and even some happiness. So in that way, yes I am hopeful."

Throughout his fluid rhetoric, there is little hint of cynicism in Chris's voice.

His case is put eloquently, his logic nothing less than viable, thus his quest is all the more worth pursuing. Even though he is acutely aware of the slow motion apocalypse that mankind has affected, while we cannot reverse the

damage caused, we can certainly harness its reins. We might be engulfed by the darkness, but lighting a candle has never been so vital.

www.chrisjordan.com



Skull With Cigarette, Depicts 200,000 packs of cigarettes, equal to the number of Americans who die from cigarette smoking every six months [based on a painting by Van Gogh]



Depicts 28,000 42-gallon barrels, the amount of oil consumed in the United States every two minutes (equal to the flow of a medium-sized river).



Depicts two million plastic beverage bottles, the number used in the US every five minutes.

The beauty of natural henna and the disasters of black henna

By: Minal S. Taiz
For the Yemen Times

As a child I was fascinated with hand decorations made with beautiful red henna. I remember my aunts, neighbors and cousins taking an extract of okra, red tea, and katthha powder and mixing these extracts with henna and a little water and then soaking the mix overnight. Then a lovely design would be made with the thin, fine henna paste.

When my hands were decorated with henna, I was always impatient for morning, and the beautiful deep orange-red designs of henna. But, gone are those days when pure and genuine products are used.

Today, red henna has been replaced with black henna, which is full of harmful chemicals. Black henna tattoos consist of a chemical called para-phenylenediamine, which is also used to dye hair black.

Fatima, a teenager, and a chirpy and bubbly girl, went to a local fun-fair, where she was painted with instant henna. Like any other girl of her age, she was tempted to decorate her hands with henna. Unfortunately, as she disliked the red henna, she opted for the black henna, unaware of what dangers lied ahead.

Fatima was excited about her new beautiful henna design and ran around showing her pretty hands to her friends.

Little did the poor, innocent girl realize that the same henna would land her in a disaster! The next day, she started complaining about her itching henna, which in turn became red and painful.

Fatima had to attend a friend's wedding with her hands in bandage because she was too embarrassed to attend a party with her injured hands exposed. The poor girl's henna design was swollen, painful, and itchy.

She was also too shy to interact with her colleagues because of her swollen hands, which looked similar to those of a burn patient.

"Had I known earlier, I never would have plunged into this henna attraction and will never go for the same in the near future," Fatima said.

She also said that she wants each individual to know about her unfortunate experience. She wants potential victims to be cautioned about the ill effects of this poisonous, yet pretty black henna.

A study shows that if your skin is sensitive and you have had an encounter with para-phenylenediamine, the allergy is permanent.

First, the skin where the black henna is used begins to itch in the initial stages. Later, the itching may turn to swelling and gradually it becomes very painful. The reaction could start immediately post application and might last until about ten days. The side effects of para-phenylenediamine black henna can take a serious



turn, ranging from the itching of the skin, to death. The scars which para-phenylenediamine henna leaves behind may also be permanent.

Henna is not black, and will never result in a black stain on the skin, nor will henna ever require you to take a trip to your doctor or emergency room with frightening, painful side effects. Labeling a poisonous product as 'black henna' gives the illusion of safety. Nothing could

be further from the truth. The toxic chemicals in the black henna go beyond the skin layers, finally entering the blood stream.

Any reputable Henna artist is happy to tell a customer the exact ingredients in their paste. There are usually only four: henna, lemon, sugar and quality essential oil. Black henna users won't tell you what is in their mix.

Henna is applied using a cone and it



produces a deep orange-red color when it dries. Black henna is black on application and also remains black when it dries up. Natural henna is safe to use and has been a traditional custom in many countries.

Henna also has many beneficial medical applications. One use is in safely and accurately marking locations for repeated radiotherapy treatments as henna marks reliably last much longer than ink markers and can be easily re-applied as they fade.

There is also a chemotherapy drug with potentially significant side effects that causes a severe burning sensation of the hands and feet. Users have found that henna applications can minimize these effects and they are spreading in the world.

Well folks, now that you know the dangers of black instant henna and the traditional natural henna, what do you think? Which one would you prefer?

When the wall came down: the Berlin wall and the fall of communism

By: Serge Schmemann

November 9, 1989. A chilly evening in West Berlin. I was in my hotel room, writing furiously on my laptop. The stories were breaking fast. The Communist government in East Germany was in crisis. All through the autumn, East Germans had been fleeing their country in droves through Hungary and Czechoslovakia. Even greater numbers had been holding regular marches in East German cities, demanding reform. The government's authority was crumbling. Every day there were new changes, new announcements, new surprises.

I had just returned from a press conference in East Berlin, at which the Communist leaders had announced new travel regulations for East Germans who wanted to visit the West. That was big news: up to then, the majority of East Germans, like most Eastern Europeans, had been prevented from leaving the East. It was a good story, probably page one, so when somebody knocked on the door around midnight, I was annoyed. It was my assistant from East Berlin, Victor Homola.

"I'm busy, Victor," I barked, "grab

something from the mini-bar and wait."

"But Serge..."

"Not now! Not now..."

Then it struck me: Victor? He was an East German! He wasn't allowed to cross into the West; he'd never even been to the West.

"Victor! What on earth are you doing here?"

"That's what I'm trying to tell you, Serge! The wall is down!"

That began one of the most exciting stories I've covered as a foreign correspondent: the fall of the Berlin Wall. For many, the event has come to represent the end of forty years in which Eastern Europe was held captive by the Soviet Union. But it was not only a political story. It was also an intensely human story, about people rising up to break down a wall that had kept them brutally apart—a wall that had divided Germany, and all of Europe, into a free and democratic West, and an East that lived under dictatorship. It was about people choosing freedom.

I grabbed my West German assistant, Tom Seibert, and with Victor we jumped into a taxi. The streets near the Berlin Wall were quickly filling with celebrating Germans and the police were trying to divert traffic. The taxi driver, a big woman with a bigger voice, was yelling out the window, "Ich habe hier



The Berlin Wall was finally taken down on November 9th, 1989. Celebrations of the fall of the Berlin Wall were seen on television everywhere.

drei Pressefritzen!"—"I have three press guys here!"—and the police waved us through. We drove right up to the most important stretch of the wall—the spot where it passed by the Brandenburg Gate, once the very center of Berlin.

The Berlin Wall was a frightening sight, a 12-foot high concrete barrier that divided one of the major cities of Europe right in half. It did more than that—since West Berlin was deep inside East Germany, the wall actually ran all around it, creating a large, urban island of the free, democratic, and brightly lit West right inside the tightly controlled, Communist-ruled East. The worlds inside and outside the wall were completely different—within its wall, West Berlin looked like any large Western city. Shiny Mercedes and BMW sedans cruised the neon-lit "Ku-damm," the grand Kurfürstendamm boulevard; store windows displayed the latest in fashions; restaurants and nightclubs were open late into the night. West Berlin had theaters, museums, a university, skyscrapers, an airport, a lake, rivers, canals, parks, even a zoo. West Berliners could easily go to West Germany, or anywhere else in West Europe, so they felt free and secure inside their walled-in island. On the East German side of the wall, large blocks of anonymous apartment buildings loomed. There were far fewer shops, and everything seemed grayer and poorer. The East Germans heated their buildings with poor-quality coal, so buildings were covered with soot, and old tramways clattered through the city. Still, parts of East Berlin had retained the old-fashioned charm of a Central European city, recalling old black-and-white spy

movies.

In fact, life in East Berlin was better than in Moscow and many other East European cities. But the East Germans were always aware of the bright lights in the Western island in their midst. West Germany deliberately aimed radio and television signals eastward, so it was easy for most East Germans to receive them. East German teenagers were more savvy about what was happening in the West than teenagers in other parts of Eastern Europe—and because of that they were much more frustrated. Though it was West Berlin that was encircled, many East German children grew up thinking the wall was around them.

The wall itself reflected the difference between the two governments it divided—from the Eastern side, it was like a prison wall, with watchtowers and glaring lights; from the West, or from inside, it was covered with bright and ever-changing graffiti.

Before Berlin was divided, the Brandenburg Gate had been the city's most famous landmark. Now, the Gate was actually part of the Berlin Wall. The main wall ran past it on the West side, while police barriers on the east formed a no-man's land around it. For decades, trying to cross that no-man's land had meant possible death or imprisonment for East Germans.

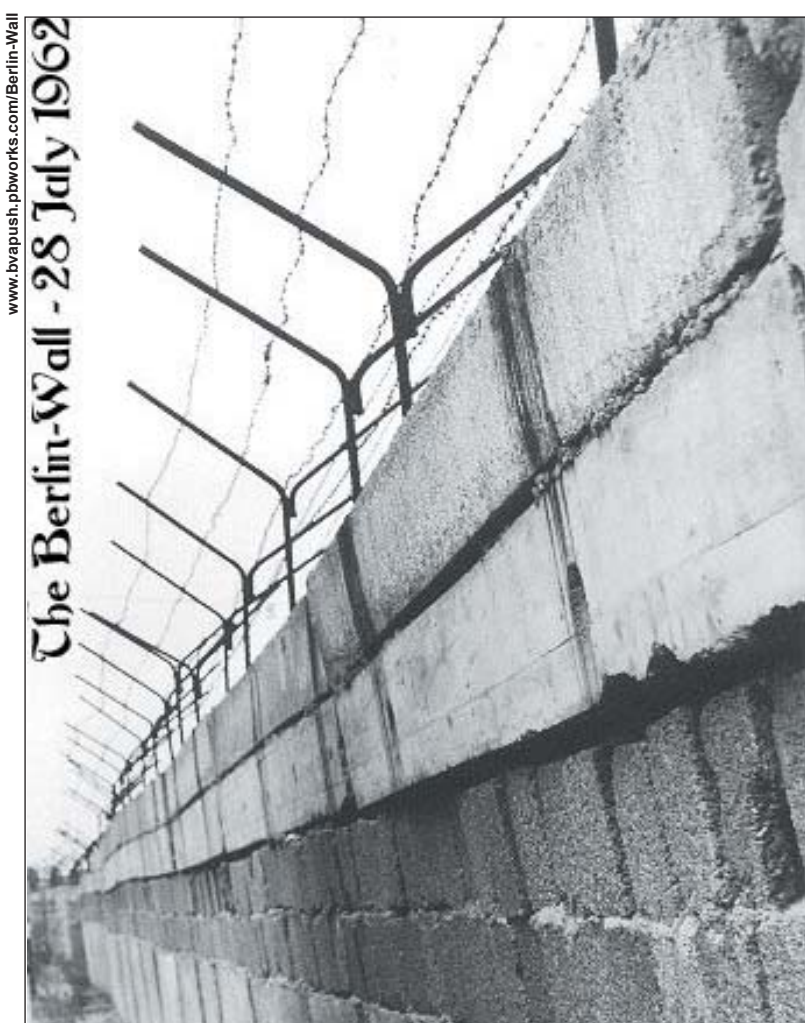
Now, joyful East Berliners were scaling the barriers and running to the wall. On our side, West Germans were climbing up on top of the wall and reaching down to haul up their eastern cousins. An observation platform on the western side, built so visitors could look at the Brandenburg Gate, was full of dancing people.

and more and more West Germans gathered to greet them with tears and champagne. For 30 years, these people had dreamed of the day when they could be together again. Tom, a university student from Bonn who was my interpreter and assistant in West Germany, was seized by the excitement and started climbing up the wall to join the party.

I grabbed him by the foot and yelled, "Not tonight! Tonight we work. Tomorrow we celebrate!" And work we did. It was close to 5 a.m. when we finished filing the stories. The historic front page of the next day's New York Times had my story with a picture across the whole page of people dancing in front of the Brandenburg Gate. Over it, the huge headline read: "EAST GERMANY OPENS FRONTIER TO THE WEST FOR MIGRATION OR TRAVEL: THOUSANDS CROSS."

In the popular German tabloid, B.Z., a headline screamed, "Die Mauer ist Weg! Berlin ist wieder Berlin!"—"The Wall is Gone! Berlin is again Berlin!"

Excerpt from *When the Wall Came Down: The Berlin Wall and the Fall of Communism*, by Serge Schmemann. *The New York Times*.



A photograph from the Berlin Wall, July 28, 1962.

CORRIGENDUM 1



Contracting Authority:

European Community, represented by the European Commission in Jordan on behalf of and for the Republic of Yemen

Supply of IT Equipment and Office Furniture
Reference: EuropeAid/129071/L/SUP/YE

INSTEAD OF

1. Deadline for submission of tenders

Saturday 17th of October, 2009, 11:00 hrs

Any tender received after this deadline will not be considered.

2. Tender opening session

Saturday 17th of October, 2009, 12:00 hrs at The Delegation of the European Commission to the Republic of Yemen, House #12, Junction of street # 1&16, opposite Hawai club, P.O.Box: 11408, Sana'a, Republic of Yemen

TO BECOME:

3. Deadline for submission of tenders

Saturday 24th of October, 2009, 11:00 hrs

Any tender received after this deadline will not be considered.

4. Tender opening session

Saturday 24th of October, 2009, 12:00 hrs at The Delegation of the European Commission to the Republic of Yemen, House #12, Junction of street # 1&16, opposite Hawai club, P.O.Box: 11408, Sana'a, Republic of Yemen

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Words of Wisdom



The fall-out from technology 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



OUR OPINION

Lessons learnt from German elections

I have recently been to Germany, where I took part in a program designed to allow journalists from all around the world observe the German elections. The program funded by the Federal Foreign Office and organized by the Goethe Institute. Around 25 journalists were in my group.

We met with several individuals and organizations concerned with the elections such as political party representatives, officials responsible for organizing the elections, media and civil society organizations. We had the opportunity to ask questions and were given intensive lessons on German politics.

One thing is certain: the German democracy is extremely different than what we call democracy in Yemen. Sometimes I was so overwhelmed by the elegance and sophistication of the whole process that I got depressed.

"When will my country ever reach this level?!" I would exclaim.

Friends from Germany consoled me by saying that the current system in Germany is a result of a 300 year journey. In my mind, I was saying Yemen cannot afford to wait 300 years in order to be democratic.

The German parliamentary elections are quite complex. There are elections on state level, and the federal level, which is also known as the Bundestag. Currently, Germany is experiencing a new situation, where there are five strong political parties competing for votes. And the government, as a result of the elections last Sunday, is now composed of a coalition between the strongest party, the conservative Christian Democratic Union, the Christian Social Union and the liberal the Free Democratic Party.

Regardless of who came to power or how they did it, this is not the point. There are a number of key observations that I concluded from this experience, and I would like to share them with you.

Knowing the people

Although it seems basic, I was impressed that every German citizen is registered with the state. Once a citizen reaches 18, he or she receives a letter describing their right to vote and the location of their polling station. We have no idea how many Yemenis there are, and at least half the people in Yemen don't have a birth certificate. Their ages remains more or less guesswork.

Referendums are also a part of people's lives, and the state has several votes each year, which gives locals the chance to decide on issues of concern to them. This year, the state of Berlin had two local referendums: one on whether parking in some areas should be free or paid, and another about teaching religion in schools.

Respectful campaigning

The campaigning posters were of a fixed size and placed only on electricity polls or on stands in designated areas in parks. Placing signs in these places was free, but campaigns had to pay for larger banners on the road sides. There were no posters pasted on walls, cars, or houses. There were no paper or cloth banners hanging from one side of the street to the other. There were no noisy cars with microphones patrolling the streets singing the praises of a party or a candidate. The campaign rallies were joyful and celebrative. There were balloons, music and even roses. And on the elections day voting was civil, organized and smooth. In fact, I saw no queues and no people trying to interfere with the voting process or convince the citizens to vote for a certain person or party.

Change is inevitable

People in Germany know they have a choice, and that their votes will lead a certain party or person to be in power. They decide whether they liked operations of the previous governments or not. Every four years, it is possible to change the government. New coalitions are made and politicians cannot get away with unfulfilled promises. In Germany, what people think matters. The idea of change happening so smoothly suited me, especially since in Yemen the only president I have known is Ali Abdullah Saleh, who has been ruling the country since 1978.

Nadia Al-Sakkaf

Al-Houthis' evil tree must be uprooted

By: Mofeed Al-gaad Mofeed336@yahoo.com

It is painful view to see a war in our peaceful country Yemen during the holy month of Ramadan. Undeniably, Abdalmalik Al-Houthi and his followers are the cause behind the savage war in Sadaa governorate which corrupted the peace and shook the stability of our homeland.

The Yemeni government represented by Ali Abdullah salah, the Yemeni president, deal with Al-Houthis peacefully, using peaceful ways to solve the problem rationally.

Ali Abdullah salah released a large number of Al-Houthis from the jail, giving them chance to repent and uproot the evil thoughts from their corrupted minds. Yet, Al-Houthis rebelled more and more, exploiting the ceasefire to rebuild themselves and provide their men with sophisticated weapons. Above all, Al-Houthis want to spread corruption in our blessed Yemen via kidnapping tourists, raping girls, killing children and woman, giving some religious principles and burning the green farms. For this reason, the president Ali Abdullah salah declared the sixth war in sadaa province against Al-Houthis, aiming at uprooting the evil tree of Al-Houthis from the fertile soil of Yemen. This savage group reflects to the outside world a bad picture of Yemen, spreading corruption in the stabilized Yemen, so the war against those rebels isn't only declared by the president salah but also by all sections of Yemeni society.

Most importantly, Al-Houthis claim that they are fighting the corruption which is spread by the DIS-BELIEVERS. Al-Houthi,s fighters describe themselves as Al-Mujahedeen and unfortunately they

succeeded to persuade large number of uneducated residents in sada governorate, planting evil thoughts in their sick minds. This is what Al-Houthis claim but if we look at the matter through the mind's eye we will see something quite different. Al-Houthis have been committed all kinds of crimes such as destroying homes, killing innocent children and elderly people, burning the fruitful trees, changing the Islamic text-books of schools and so on. To prove that let us read and listen to sada residents who are revealing their problems to the mass media. The above mentioned crimes are stated to the Yemeni channel by many eye-witness; a woman revealed to the Yemeni channel that "Al-Houthis killed my husband and my three sons because they just refused to follow them." Al-houthi's fighters who consider themselves mujahedeen are allowed to commit adultery crime, because they are Al-Houthi's mujahedeen." She added. There are numerable eye-witnesses who prove Al-Houthis' crimes but the time and space won't allow me to mentioned them all.

I wonder how Al-Houthis describe themselves as Al-mujahedeen? The holly Quran and the sona of our prophet Mohammed (PBUH) condemn all the illegal actions of Al-Houthis. Allah in holly Quran orders us to obey our leader. Our prophet Mohammed also recommended us to obey our leader even if he has weak character. Thus Al-Houthis disobeyed the holly Quran and the Islamic sona when they disobeyed their leader and spread corruption in an Islamic country.

In brief, Al-Houthis are evil men want to shake stability and security of our peaceful country YEMEN. They wear the mask of Al-jihad in order to attract to their side a large number of Yemeni people, so we should be careful about their evil plots and fight them fiercely till they give up.

Can Yemen Survive a Long War?

By: Abdul Rahman Al-Rashed

Is Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh's statement that he would not give in to the Huthists even if the war lasted five or six years an exaggeration? Or could the war possibly last long in these rough mountainous areas?

The fact is that no one can tolerate a long war, no matter what their capabilities are. An example; a superpower, such as the United States, did not endure any war that went beyond five years, and Yemen itself has a history of long failed wars. The Turks left Yemen after they lost hope of winning the war against it, and [late Egyptian President] Abdul-Nasser was unable to move deep into Yemen and preferred a withdrawal in defeat to the continuation of the war.

Fighting tribes or rebels like the Huthists in their own areas is an extremely difficult task. This kind of wars needs more than an army fully equipped with modern weapons. It needs an effective political management in the battle zones to attract all parties there to the government's side and cooperate with them in the fight against the rebels.

However, if the government forces do not manage to defeat the rebels in the next few months, it will be difficult for them to bring these rebels under their control for many years. The Yemeni president knows that he faces the greatest challenge to him, not since the unification of Yemen, as is currently said, but since the establishment of the republic. He knows that this group does not operate alone, that it receives help from abroad, and that this fighting is part of a regional war.

More seriously, this group has a political plan the target of which is the capital, Sanaa, and it does not

want to remain in the caves of the mountains where it currently deploys. The group's failed attack on the City of Sa'dah on the Id [al-Fitr] day was only a step in the direction of Sanaa.

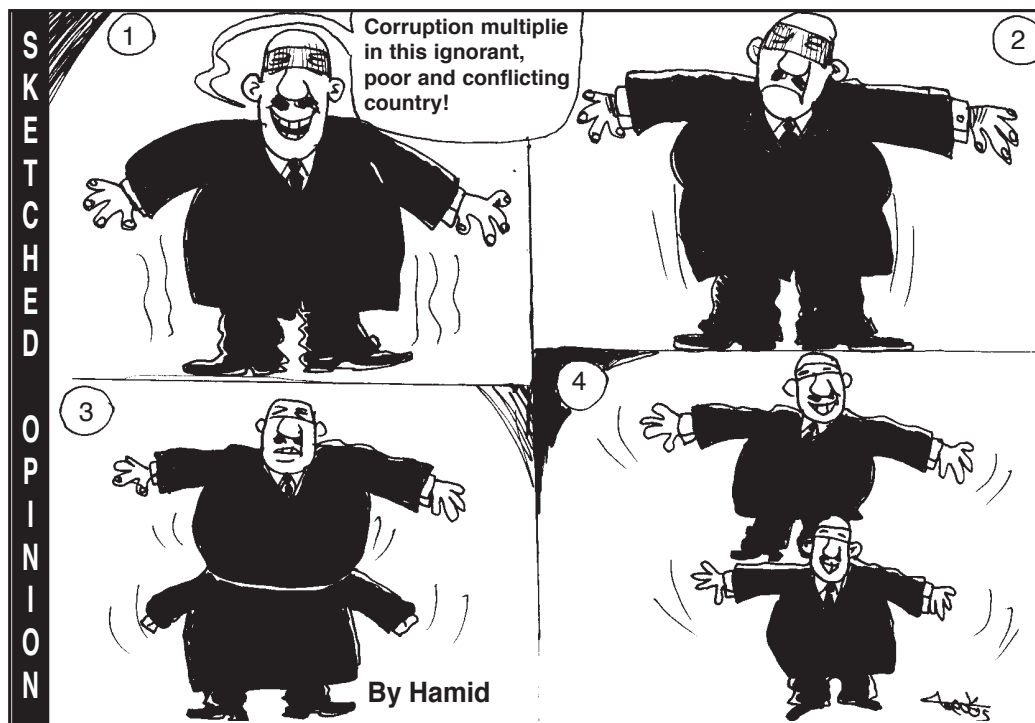
Therefore, the president was right when he said that he prefers war to making concessions, so long as the Huthists' demands are unrealistic and fundamentally affect the existence of the regime. The Huthist movement rejects the regime and seeks to take its place.

While acknowledging that currently there are no options, other than war, after the failure of all mediation efforts and violation of agreements, the president has ammunition, which is not less important than his military power. It is his rich experience of dealing with the tribes and his relations with them. This experience and relations may play a complementary role in isolating and destroying the rebels, which is a task that the army cannot perform alone in these difficult areas.

For their part, the Huthists tried to win the tribes over but did not make much success. They know very well that they need to achieve moral victories, such as the occupation of the City of Sa'dah. Their attack to occupy it failed. The aim behind this attack was to convince the population in the area that they are a force that resembles Taliban in Afghanistan, a force able to establish its own kingdom and be a difficult number that politicians both at home and abroad cannot ignore.

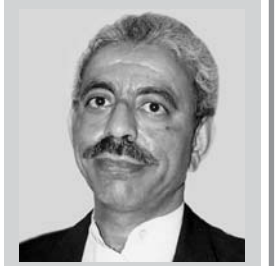
However, the Huthists' failure up until now to advance makes them just a rebel clique and a failed project, and an alliance can be built against them.

The general manager of Al-Arabiya television. Mr. Al Rashed is also the former editor-in-chief of Asharq Al-Awsat



COMMON SENSE

For Yemen: It is a changing world indeed



By: Hassan Al-Haifi

The most unusual phenomenon cannot be overlooked these days as the forces of evil and human domination seek to impress upon us that their logic is the only acceptable logic even if it defies all acceptable norms to humankind. This is the case with the international Zionist Establishment and its right wing backers throughout the world. Never mind that the latter have brought the entire world to a state of ridiculous disharmony and confusion; death is all right as long as it serves their cause. What that cause is, is not really relevant. All that matters is that it satisfies their lustful whims for power and domination and fills their pockets with the spoils of the toils of others. Never mind that they have forgotten that this world is made for all to enjoy and to reflect God's righteous will and testament. It does not mean that the Promised Land is a free turf to be meted out to the worst of mankind to spoil its spiritual aura and impose their dogma of hate, repression, chauvinism and sheer arrogance. This is how the Zionist Establishment of this world view Palestine and serve contempt on anyone who dares to speak his conscience and his mind on the horrors of this criminal establishment that seeks to destroy any hope of humankind living in peace and harmony and ending all reasons for human conflict. On the contrary, this Zionist Establishment seeks to twist all the truth that mankind should be entitled to know and impose a world reality that is to their liking and in conformity to their lustful inclinations, as evil and gorily bloody as these inclinations maybe. They will twist the world and tell one that Semitism or its anti-thesis, anti-Semitism is directed against them. If that was not enough they will tell one that even if God-fearing conscientious Jews of the likes of Judge Goldstone, Jennifer Lowenstein, Rabbi Weiss and so many others state Zionism is not in harmony with human instinct. Even Uri Avenery (author of *Israel without Zionism*) dares to condemn the evil doings of this Zionist Establishment, whether in the Holy Land or elsewhere in this world, then they must be prepared to be labeled misfits and criminal outcasts that deserve to be crucified 9 meters high for their blasphemous sayings against the Chosen People who are giving deeds of authority and a mandate to reek havoc anywhere, if it serves the Zionist cause. So many other Jews and Gentiles have sought to point out that there are limits to human greed and arrogance, no matter what clout it covers itself with. Ask Rachel Corrie what a Zionist tractor-shovel did to her for trying to say: "You can't destroy people's homes to be able to steal their land!" They answered rather mercilessly: "Yes we can and we will destroy you along the way as well". They even had the audacity of mockingly calling Rachel a pancake for laughs. These inhumane degenerates have no place in this Earth, if we are to see a brighter world for our children. Other Gentile victims of this hatemongering include the late President of the United States, Jimmy Carter who they have forgotten had given the Israelis Camp David and of course one cannot forget the authors of the Israel Lobby study, Stephen Walt and John Mearsheimer, who to this day are the targets of witch hunting tactics as can only employed by the AIPAC crowd in Washington and other academic and political circles.

Just read some of the hoax that this ugly demonic establishment seeks to make of the truly conscientious effort of Judge Goldstone and his United Nations Commission on the Gaza Raid by the Israeli Military late last year, early this year. The first one that hit me as classic twisting and turning of the facts as only the IZE could put on print; "Goldstone report: the rebuttal". It can be found here: (<http://samsonblinded.org/blog/goldstone-report-the-rebuttal.htm>) and it is just amazingly Zionist that one would rather not add any further comments lest the English language become saturated with innuendos and *ugly speech* (a new 1984 syntax phrase) as only the Zionist Establishment could come up with. This is how the rebuttal characterized the Commission: "The UN commission was composed of professional human rights advocates, none of whom were experienced in military or anti-terrorism realities. To cover that glaring gap, the commission included one Colonel Travers, a human rights activist with no meaningful wartime experience." Of course by such a saying, the rebuttal authors are telling us that they have all the experience and expertise in the world and are in a position to tear down any heavenly sent mission sent to deliver the world from Zionist intrigue and chauvinism. To these people, who is Rabbi Weiss, Jennifer Lowenstein, Judge Goldstone and anyone who dares to speak such things as truth, facts and show all the pictures and videos that confirm every word in their report?

In addition we have this great taste of hogwash: "The Goldstone commission takes for an axiom a highly debatable point that "Israel continues to be duty-bound under the Fourth Geneva Convention... to ensure the supply of foodstuff, medical and hospital items and others to meet the humanitarian needs of the population of the Gaza Strip without qualification (page 10)." Despite certain unresolved technicalities, Israel ended her occupation of Gaza four years ago, and like any other sovereign state is *under no obligation* to open her borders for cargo transit to any other country." Israel is never under any obligation to do anything it does not want to do! That is permanent Israeli logic. Never mind that all the entrances to Gaza are controlled by the devilish IDF and never mind that the Israeli Navy or Coast Guard prevented all humanitarian assistance from reaching Gaza from the sea, to which Gaza has a sizable outlet. This observer suffices with this leaving the rest to the reader to pass judgment on the most dangerous criminal establishment that has reigned in this Earth.

One should however point out the sadness that our very own Mahmoud Abbass, PLO Chairman, the Saudi Government and many others on "our side" stressed for delay against any further action by the United Nations for immediate criminal proceedings as requested by the Commission against the violators of human rights indicated in the Goldstone Report. How sad that our very own are driven by their own greed for money, power without popular mandate and sheer impotence.

Hassan Al-Haifi has been a Yemeni political economist and journalist for more than 20 years. He may be blogged at: <http://comsenfromyem.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: yteditor@gmail.com
Advertisement: ads@yementimes.com

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

CEO
Khair Aldin Al Nsour

Managing Editor
Amel Al-Ariqi

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Alice Hackman
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Head of News Dept.
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Head of Design Dept.
Ramzy Alawi Al-Saqqaf

Editorial Staff

Ali Saeed Mahmoud Assamiee
Khaled Al-Hilaly Mariem Al-Yameni

Offices

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

Taiz Bureau:
Imad Ahmed Al-Saqqaf
Tel: +967 (4) 217-156,
Telefax: +967 (4) 217157
P.O.Box: 5086, Taiz
Email: ytaiz@y.net.ye

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Yemen Press Review



Al-Sharea Independent Weekly
Saturday, Oct. 3, 2009

Main Headlines

- Government unable to fulfill obligations before international community, says Human Rights Observatory Director
- Ongoing clashes in Saada time with renewed confrontations in south

Fierce clashes between the government troops and Houthi gunmen continued over the past two days, leaving dozens killed or injured, the weekly reported, adding that both warring parties release statements with each claiming to have defeated the other.

While military announced that they have killed scores of Houthi fighters, the latter said that they took over several strategic military positions, particularly in the Harf Sufyan district of Amran governorate.

According to the weekly, Houthis wage guerrilla wars against government troops in the volatile Saada province. Houthis are engaged in a non-equivalent war as they face heavy military ordinance and sophisticated air weapons. On the other hand, the State faces guerrilla wars without any specific address, thereby finding it increasing difficult to eliminate rebellion.

Sources are of the opinion that the army members must hunt Houthis on mountaintops, as well as on the top of hills, in order not to waste their ammunition firing at unfeasible targets.

The weekly quoted the sources as saying that the army suffered heavy losses in personnel and property in offensives launched by Houthis. Images for losses were displayed by Houthis website, as well as other websites worldwide.



Al-Sahwa weekly, mouthpiece of the Islah Party
Thursday, Oct. 1, 2009

Main Headlines

- 160 dengue fever cases in Taiz, Health authorities say they lack resources
- Army captures Somalis backing Houthis in their fight with the government

The armed forces captured seven Somalis, who joined Houthi rebels in their fight with the government, the weekly quoted a local source as saying. The source added that Somalis were captured along with another 20 rebels.

The source clarified that the Africans have connections with Somali Jihadist groups supported by Iranian and Eritrean intelligence agencies.

The paper pointed out that the government accuses rebels of planning to restore the Rule of Imamate, which was overthrown by the 1962 September 26 Revolution, as well as of being backed by Iran, but the rebels denied both allegations.

According to the weekly, armed clashes broke out on Monday between security forces and southern movement members in the southern province of Abyan. It quoted local sources as saying that heavy shelling and gunfire continued for over an hour in the town.

Clashes broke out in the south at a time the government troops are engaged in a fight with Saada rebels, led by Shiite militant Abdulmalik Al-Houthi near the border with Saudi Arabia. Fighting has since spread to neighboring Amran.

Yemen has witnessed fierce fighting in northern provinces since the government launched its 'Scorched Earth' operation against Zaidi Shia fighters last month.



26 September Weekly, Organ of Yemeni Army
Thursday, Oct. 1, 2009

Main Headlines

- President Saleh gives free land plots to staff in Aden
- Al-Houthi's son urges Yemeni people

to back the government, end sedition

Abdullah Hussein Badraddin Al-Houthi urged all Yemeni people in restive Saada and other governorates to back the government in its war against rebels to stamp out the sedition in Sa'ada and restore security and stability to the volatile province, the weekly reported.

In a message published in the weekly's latest issue on Thursday, Abdullah al-Houthi called on all Yemeni people to face various seditions and uproot them to preserve this great nation.

The weekly quoted him as saying, "We should not look at the current war as a state's war only since the sedition expands...I want to tell those betting that the sedition would win that will lose and incur a shame on themselves as a result of their wrong betting."

According to the weekly, an official military source said dozens of rebels were killed or injured Wednesday in intermittent clashes with security and armed troops as they were trying to sneak into Harf Sufyan and some areas in Sa'ada to launch attacks against civilians living in these areas.

28 rebels were killed and their weapons were destroyed while attempting to infiltrate into Aal Uqab area, the source said, adding the army has drove back groups of rebels in Malahidh, al-Husamah and Wadi al-Jaraab in which they [rebels] suffered big losses and many of their vehicles were burned.

The source went on to say that a spe-

cialized engineering unit has unearthed 16 mines of different sizes during a clearing operation on the Sa'ada-Ain road. Stocks of a rocket-propelled grenade (also known as RPG or Rocket Launcher) were also uncovered.

The weekly quoted a security source in Sa'ada city as saying on Wednesday that 11 rebels have been caught inside a cell as they were preparing to carry out criminal offenses and assaults against civilians.

The source revealed that three civilians were killed and many others injured as rebels in the old city fired mortar shells at them.



Al-Ahale Independent Weekly
Tuesday, Sept. 29, 2009

Main Headlines

- Land disputes resume in Lahj province
- Army advances to open Sanaa-Saada Highway
- International alliance supports Yemen's unity and stability

The United States and its top Arab allies have shown concern over the dire situation in Yemen, expressing their strong support for the government of President Ali Abdullah Saleh, as well as Yemen's unity, security and stability, the weekly reported, adding that the

U.S. allies also recommended sincere efforts for conducting a peaceful dialogue to resolve the Saada conflict.

According to the weekly, the US Department of State and foreign ministries of its Arab allies reaffirmed their support for those economic and political reforms, currently carried out by Yemeni government.

This came during a meeting attended by US Secretary of State Hilary Clinton and her counterparts in Gulf Cooperation Council's member states, as well as foreign ministers of Egypt, Iraq and Jordan, the weekly added.

In the same context, the authorities in Sanaa announced formation of a national committee for popular support. The committee is tasked to defend national interests in Yemen, organize popular support, and back military and security personnel.

According to the weekly, Spokesman of Houthis Mohammed Abdussalam told Newsyemen.net that confrontations in Amran's Harf Sufyan helped them expand their control over a larger area and open fighting fronts in several strategic positions.

Abdussalam pointed out that Baqim district is still under their control, adding that fierce clashes continue in the area. He added that Houthi fighters focus on Harf Sufyan District, which, according to him, is a strategic area connecting four governorates together.

Abdussalam maintained that Houthi gunmen are ready to clash with the army until they score a historical victory.

A new US perspective on Middle East peace

By: Hussein Ibish

Under US President Barack Obama's Administration, the United States has vigorously re-engaged in the Israeli-Palestinian peace process and made commitment to Palestinian statehood a national security and foreign policy priority. Obama has said that it is "absolutely crucial" to American interests to resolve the conflict, and appears determined to persist despite all difficulties and obstacles.

There are several crucial reasons for this intensification.

First, while the benefits to American interests of ending the conflict have been clear for many years, the substantial costs to the United States of failing to secure a peace agreement are becoming more widely understood. The conflict has

become an exceptionally powerful weapon in the hands of fanatics throughout the Middle East, fuelling anti-American sentiment throughout the region. The administration has understood that ending Israel's occupation would be a singularly effective counterattack against extremism.

Second, the Obama Administration is taking a more holistic approach to retooling the American relationship with the region, compared to its predecessors. Rather than viewing each relationship and problem independently, and dealing with them on a case-specific and usually bilateral basis, this administration understands they are both independent and interconnected.

Third, it has become increasingly clear to many American friends of Israel, including numerous prominent Jewish Americans, that a peace

agreement with the Palestinians and an end to the occupation is not only in the United States' national interest, it is also in Israel's interest. If it persists with the occupation, Israel can be meaningfully neither Jewish nor democratic, and will not know either peace or regional acceptance. This understanding has allowed many prominent Jewish Democrats, including key members of Congress, to support Obama's push for an Israeli settlement freeze.

Indeed, Obama's initial strategy for advancing the peace process was to secure Israel's implementation of its commitment under the roadmap for peace, issued under former US President George W. Bush, to freeze settlement activity in the occupied territories. Obama was also trying to secure diplomatic gestures from Arab states as a reciprocal move.

Obama met with only partial success on both sides, with Israel

reportedly agreeing to a temporary settlement freeze in the West Bank, but not in occupied East Jerusalem. At the tripartite UN meeting between Israeli, Palestinian and American leaders on 22 September, Obama made it clear that he did not accept this proposed compromise on settlements by Israel, but was setting the issue aside for now and moving forward on permanent status talks.

While previous administrations would almost certainly have embraced the proposed Israeli compromise, Obama continues to reject the legitimacy of Israeli settlement activity and has left the issue unresolved.

At his UN General Assembly speech the following day, Obama laid out a number of stipulations for the negotiations that strongly favour the Palestinian position, pledging to "end the occupation that began in 1967" and insisted, above all, that the status

of Jerusalem is to be addressed by new talks.

Including Jerusalem in the talks runs directly counter to Israeli positions and strongly reinforces the Palestinian view that the city must be the capital of any Palestinian state. It is a central question that cannot be ignored. Perhaps even more than settlements, this issue will prove extremely challenging for Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, especially given his coalition partners' uncompromising stance on Jerusalem.

Ultimately, the main message senior administration officials, including Obama and Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, are sending is that the administration is "determined" to achieve a two-state peace agreement.

This determination, a willingness to take political hits and keep on going, was evident in Obama's words

at this week's UN General Assembly meeting when he declared, "...Even though there will be setbacks, and false starts and tough days—I will not waiver in my pursuit of peace." Any party counting on wearing down, waiting out or chasing this administration away from negotiations must now seriously reconsider its strategy.

Hussein Ibish is a senior fellow at the American Task Force on Palestine and author of What's Wrong with the One-State Agenda?. He blogs at www.ibishblog.com. This article is part of a series analysing Western policies in the Muslim world written for the Common Ground News Service (CGNews).

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Saudi Arabia and Morocco, eight years after 9/11

Tariq A. Al-Maena and Mohsine El Ahmadi
A language of tolerance in Saudi Arabia by Tariq A. Al-Maena

Jeddah - Saudi Arabia received a massive jolt in 2001 when it was widely reported that 15 of the 19 suspected 9/11 perpetrators were sons of its soil. In the days and weeks that followed, practically every Saudi felt they had become a suspect on the world's stage.

US President George W. Bush did not help matters much by announcing his "crusade", with the ensuing backlash in some quarters of the Saudi Kingdom resulting in increased admiration for the cavalier Osama Bin Laden who thumbed his nose at the United States. Al Qaeda became a household word, and faced with perceived aggressive US policies in the region, recruits to this increasingly well-known organisation were not difficult to find.

But by 2003, the tide began to turn as these misfits wreaked indiscriminate death and destruction on their own soil. Over 30

government and civilian facilities were targeted in the years following 9/11 leaving behind innocent victims, many of them Saudis. An increasing number of Saudis soon began to see Al Qaeda as callous in its destruction and as a vehicle for further oppression of Arabs and Muslims.

To crack down on the violence, the government of Saudi Arabia began taking proactive steps to curb Al Qaeda's activities with mass arrests of suspected terrorists. Since 9/11, it has also allowed free access to law enforcement agencies across the world in ongoing attempts to combat terrorism. Exchange of information between Saudi Arabia and other countries, unthinkable in the past, became the norm as an era of more affirmations and less denial took over.

In a softer approach to combating terrorism, Saudi Arabia—home of two of the holiest sites for Muslims—embarked on a series of three interfaith summits starting in 2008 to create understanding between the world's religious communities, with the goal of lessening religiously fuelled extremist ideologies both within the country and abroad. A

fourth summit is scheduled later this month in Geneva.

Focusing on the country's own religious community, King Abdullah also advised mosque leaders and clerics to preach the language of tolerance rather than that of confrontation. Friday prayer sermons were reviewed and over 1,500 clerics were sent for "re-education" in Islamic teaching. The king's message of tolerance was beginning to take hold.

And in an attempt to discourage radicalism from a young age, schoolbooks were analysed by a Saudi royal study group, beginning in 2004, for inflammatory passages that had the potential to fuel divisions between adherents of different beliefs and overshadow the open-mindedness within Islam towards other faiths. All suspect passages were removed in a curriculum that continues to be revised under a new leadership at the Ministry of Education.

Saudis are helping to combat terrorism globally, but we must also tackle it first in our own backyard. The fight continues.

Targeting root causes of extremism in Morocco by Mohsine El Ahmadi

Washington, DC - After 9/11 and the 2003 Casablanca bombing, Morocco began to rethink its counterterrorism approach. Not only were they facing threats from within, but as a key ally to the United States in the war against Al Qaeda, external threats also became a very real concern.

Parallel to furthering its cooperation with other states in the region through the exchange of information, a new social policy was developed by the Moroccan government to target the factors—living conditions, despair and religious influences—that were propelling high-risk youth toward extremist ideologies.

As part of a new ambitious long-term National Human Development Initiative (INDH), launched by King Mohammed VI in 2005 to improve the conditions of poor and vulnerable groups in Morocco, there has been a focus on improving the economy and infrastructure in Morocco. Distribution of water and electricity, the development of schools and the

improvement of slums like Sidi Moumen, from where the Casablanca bombers came, have been priorities for the government.

Another government-funded effort to help youth build confidence and succeed socially and economically is Mukawalaty, a project that began in 2006 and provides youth with the professional training and loans necessary to become small business owners. Since 2006, 1,114 projects have been approved, with recent state university graduates being the primary recipients.

Additionally, since some young people are indoctrinated in mosques by sheikhs with narrow and hateful interpretations of the Qur'an, a new policy, "The Reformation of the Religious Field", was crafted in 2004 to educate new imams and spiritual guides, some of whom work in the most at-risk communities in the country, and to provide them with a more mainstream religious and cultural framework.

Alongside this programme, which started in 2004, the Moroccan Ministry of Islamic Affairs has trained, qualified and certified about

520 imams and spiritual guides while enrolling them as government officials with a salary. They have been placed in up to 40,000 mosques throughout the country to provide religious counselling and other such services to Moroccans.

Since 2003, there have been no successful terrorist incidents in Morocco, which suggests that this multi-pronged policy has thus far helped the government to reduce popular support for extremists and prevent radicalism from spreading. Hopefully, with continued emphasis on the roots of terrorism, even the motivation for such attacks will cease to exist.

Dr. Mohsine El Ahmadi is a visiting scholar at Georgetown University in Washington, DC. Tariq A. Al-Maena (talmaena@gmail.com) is a Saudi socio-political commentator. This article was written for the Common Ground News Service (CGNews).

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The Arab Music Channel 4Shbab

Music for the young that is pleasing to God

4Shbab, the first commercial Islamic music channel in the Arab world, has set itself the task of providing young people with information and entertainment that are in line with Islamic values. Amira El Ahl visited the broadcaster in Cairo to find out more

By: Amira El Ahl

The man on the screen is young, handsome and lives in a large modern house with a garden. He smiles when his son comes running towards him. In the background and slightly out of focus, the mother of the child can be seen cooking and cleaning.

She smiles serenely, completing the picture of perfect family happiness. Although she is chastely dressed and wears a veil, she quickly disappears from view. After all, women rarely make an appearance in the videos that are shown on the young people's music channel 4Shbab. When they do, they appear as modestly dressed extras in the background. That's as far as it goes. And there is no question of them singing – a practice that is forbidden by the strict edicts of Wahabi Islam.

Virtuous messages relayed by satellite

The modest music video is running on the plasma screen that hangs in the office of the Egyptian man behind 4Shbab (which translates as "for young people"). Since broadcasting began at the end of December 2008, Ahmed Abu Heiba's music channel can be received by satellite all over the world.

Abu Heiba is religious, but by no means either fanatical or an extremist. He wears a short-sleeved shirt and jeans and shakes hands with his female guests – something that Muslims who adhere to a strict inter-

pretation of Islam would never do. The only outward sign that Abu Heiba takes his religion very seriously is his "Zebiba", a dark bump caused by rubbing the forehead on a prayer mat.

In Egypt in particular, this bump, the result of regular prayer, is considered a sign of deep religiousness. Abu Heiba's office, which is situated in the Mohandessin district in central Cairo, is modern. 4Shbab runs non-stop on the plasma screen on the wall.

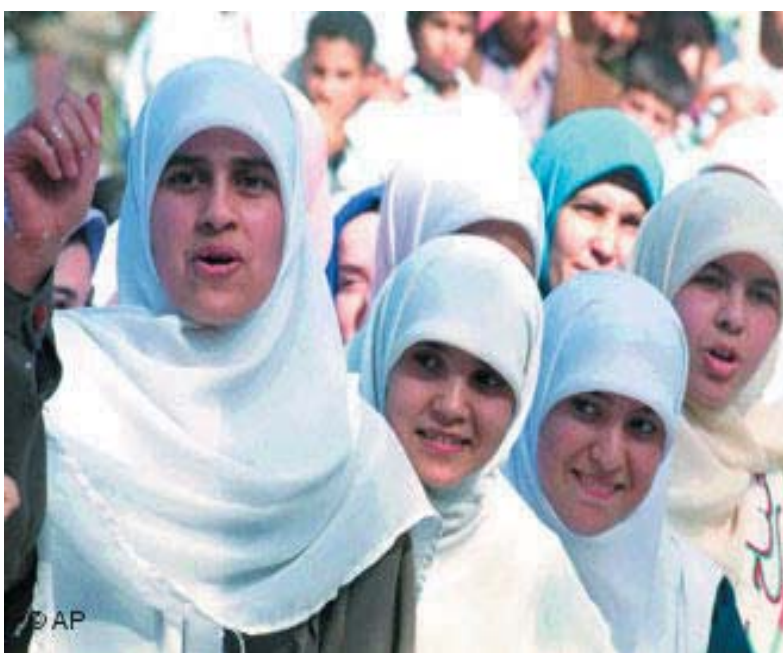
Music television in line with Islamic principles

"I wanted to create a music channel with Islamic appeal," explains the 41-year-old. The aim is to bring young people closer to religion in an entertaining manner, through hip-hop, rap and pop music. "We don't want to preach, and most song texts are not religious," he adds.

Abu Heiba's goal in setting up 4Shbab was to bring young people back on the right path, entice them away from channels like Rotana, Melody and Mesika, which he feels are corrupting Arab youths. These channels show music videos that are no less explicit than those shown on western music television.

Stars like Nancy Agram and Haifa Wahby sing of love and wear revealing outfits, red lipstick, short skirts and crop tops with plunging necklines. Here too, just like on MTV or the German music channel Viva, "sex sells".

In order to advertise his music channel with an Islamic touch,



A rarity on 4Shbab: women rarely make an appearance on the music channel because of the conservative attitudes of its financial backers

Ahmed Abu Heiba, who has five children, made a documentary about the major music channels, which are extremely popular in the Arab world. "I collected the most provocative videos. Everyone can see that they are unacceptable and are not compatible with the Islamic systems of values," he says.

Women: a rarity on 4Shbab

He toured the Arab world, showing his documentary everywhere he went, and found financial backers on the Arab peninsula. The money for the project comes from Saudi Arabia and Kuwait; the programmes are produced in Bahrain.

These links undoubtedly have a lot to do with the fact that women rarely make an appearance on 4Shbab. The investors from the Gulf would like the channel to remain "free of women". Despite the fact that the

away from the corrupting influence of other music channels.

Stiff competition

But that could be difficult. There are about 800 satellite television channels, more than 55 of which are dedicated to music. Despite the general tendency towards more religiousness, channels like Rotana and Melody have millions of viewers. What's more, although Ahmed Abu Heiba has invested heavily in a marketing campaign, 4Shbab is virtually unknown in Egypt.

The 14 year-old Karim and his friends watch the music videos of Arab stars almost every day, but they have never heard of Abu Heiba's channel. "Who wants to watch music videos with no women in them?" asks Karim, laughing.

Even Fatma has never heard of 4Shbab, although one might be forgiven for expecting her to know more about it than the boys. Fatma is a young teacher; she is also devout, wears the veil and is firmly convinced that women should not sing. She regularly surfs the net, is well-read and interested in what goes on in the world, but she has never heard of 4Shbab. "The idea is good," she says, adding that she intends to find out more about it on the Internet.

4Shbab not only broadcasts music videos, but also talk shows. Abu Heiba has a live television show every Sunday evening during which he talks about the lives of young Muslims abroad.

Lively TV debates after the Sherbini murder

During a trip to London, Abu Heiba interviewed young women who spoke to him about his experiences as Muslims who wear headscarves in Europe. Recently, one of his shows focussed exclusively on the murder of a young Egyptian woman, Marwa

al-Sherbini, in a Dresden court room in early July.

He spoke to a German man about Islam in Europe and received countless live calls from women. All of them complained of discrimination in Europe. "We are not allowed to wear the headscarf in Europe!" many of them claimed.

The claims made by the German guest that everyone in Germany is allowed to practice their religion freely had no effect. Again and again, references were made to French President Nicolas Sarkozy, who spoke out against the Niqab, the veil that covers the face.

"Do not offend moral sensitivities"

"More than 70 per cent of our viewers are women," says Ahmed Abu Heiba. They like the fact that women rarely make an appearance on the channel. "It means that they can leave the television running in the background when the children are at home," he explains. He goes on to say that the channel is family-friendly because it is not objectionable and does not offend moral sensitivities.

The viewer's darling is undoubtedly the English singer Sami Youssef, who has become a huge star.

There are not very many Islamic singers, which is why Ahmed Abu Heiba is always searching for new talent. The only way that 4Shbab has a chance of getting a foothold on the fiercely competitive music television market and making a profit is to come up with a steady stream of new faces and formats.

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Amira El Ahl spent two years as Egypt correspondent for the German news magazine SPIEGEL. She has been working as a freelance correspondent in the Middle East since 2008



Invitation for General Bid No. (16) for the year 2009

The TV and Radio General Corporation declared its interest in inviting for general bid number (16) with a hundred percent governmental funding for the year 2009 for:

Importing, fixing, licensing, testing, operating and guaranteeing two power generators for Sa'ada local broadcasting station.

All the interested importers and specialized companies must apply with their written request for this bid during the official work time to the following address:

**The TV and Radio General Corporation
General Administration for Projects
Tel: (01/ 230752)**

Cost for buying the bid documents (US\$ 200) non refundable.
The deadline of selling the documents is: 27/10/2009.

The bids must be presented in a red wax sealed envelopes to the bids and tenders committee's secretariat at the corporation. The names of the bidding company and of the project along with the tender number and the bidder's name must be written on the envelop, which should contain the following documents:

1. An unconditional bank guarantee of (US 2,500\$) valid for 120 days as of the date of bid opening or a cashable check.
2. A copy of valid tax certificate for the year 2009 (feign bidders with no existing business activities in Yemen may furnish a copy of equivalent VAT registration document from their home countries).
3. A copy of valid insurance certificate for the year 2009 (insurance certificate is required only from firms with employees in Yemen who are entitled to benefit from the Public Enterprise for Social Security in Yemen).
4. A copy of valid registration and classification for the year 2009.
5. A copy of valid Zakat certificate for the year 2009.
6. A copy of valid commercial registration valid for the year 2009.
7. A copy of valid profession license certificate for the year 2009.
8. A copy of valid sales tax registration certificate for the year 2009.
9. Interested applicants in this bid may review the tender documents before purchasing it during the official working hours for twenty days starting from the date of the first announcement

The deadline for receiving the proposals is at 11:00 am on Sunday 1/11/2009 at the corporation's main premises.



Invitation for General Bid No. (17) for the year 2009

The TV and Radio General Corporation declared its interest in inviting for general bid number (17) with a hundred percent governmental funding for the year 2009 for:

Importing, fixing, licensing, testing, operating and guaranteeing Tape less mobile TV cameras.

All the interested importers and specialized companies must apply with their written request for this bid during the official work time to the following address:

**The TV and Radio General Corporation
General Administration for Projects
Tel: (01/ 230752)**

Cost for buying the bid documents (US\$ 100) non refundable.
The deadline of selling the documents is: 27/10/2009.

The bids must be presented in a red wax sealed envelopes to the bids and tenders committee's secretariat at the corporation. The names of the bidding company and of the project along with the tender number and the bidder's name must be written on the envelop, which should contain the following documents:

1. An unconditional bank guarantee of (US 2,300\$) valid for 120 days as of the date of bid opening or a cashable check.
2. A copy of valid tax certificate for the year 2009 (feign bidders with no existing business activities in Yemen may furnish a copy of equivalent VAT registration document from their home countries).
3. A copy of valid insurance certificate for the year 2009 (insurance certificate is required only from firms with employees in Yemen who are entitled to benefit from the Public Enterprise for Social Security in Yemen).
4. A copy of valid registration and classification for the year 2009.
5. A copy of valid Zakat certificate for the year 2009.
6. A copy of valid commercial registration valid for the year 2009.
7. A copy of valid profession license certificate for the year 2009.
8. A copy of valid sales tax registration certificate for the year 2009.
9. Interested applicants in this bid may review the tender documents before purchasing it during the official working hours for twenty days starting from the date of the first announcement

The deadline for receiving the proposals is at 11:00 am on Sunday 1/11/2009 at the corporation's main premises.

Al-Qaeda chronicles in Yemen

By: Abdul Elah H. Shai'a
abdulela@gmail.com
Marib Press

About two weeks before 8th anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks, Al-Qaeda carried out an attempted assassination of Prince Mohammed bin Naif, a Saudi and regional security personality in his Jeddah palace.

The operation, which was the most daring in the region, reminded us of the controversy about the magnitude of this organization in the Arabia Peninsula, and the repeated statements about the possibility of it being curtailed, eradicated and/or weakened.

Al-Qaeda progress in Yemen

Al-Qaeda in Yemen used to follow the organization's central leadership until Abu Ali Al-Harethi, 42, was elected to be its first local commander. The central leadership was planning to move Osama bin Laden to Yemen, but the Sept. 11 attacks accelerated the killing a local leader. Cells were then scrutinized and members were killed or detained between 2002 and 2006.

Al-Qaeda in Yemen then restricted its interest to hot spots in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Somalia. It worked to spread ideas, news and media materials about the organization. It also made Yemen a transit and logistical terminal for such fronts.

February 3, 2006 was a historical day for the organization in Yemen, when 23 Al-Qaeda members (including suspected Al-Qaeda leading figures) prisoners escaped from the main Political Security Prison. Al-Qaeda then organized its cells under a new leader, namely, Abu Bassir Nasser A. Al-Wahaishi, 33, who had been elected in prison. The escape was accomplished by digging a 45 meter long and 5 meter deep tunnel in less than two months.

The new command set up training camps and extended communication channels with all Al-Qaeda branches around the world, including the central command in Afghanistan. Al-Qaeda members raced to pay homage to the new leadership after it was commended by Ayman's Al-Zawahiri, the central organization's second-in-command's speech of November 2008.

The new leadership focused on Yemeni society, but carried out four operations, the most notable of which was the attack on the American embassy in Sana'a in September 2008. One 18-year-old American woman and 18 Yemenis were killed.

The organization formed a legislative committee and a bomb-making team that has designed highly explosive materials that were hidden inside the body of the man who attempted to assassinate the Saudi prince, in addition to setting up an organizational and training team.

The new authority paid attention to propaganda and established a media department with advanced technology that produced promotional documentaries, audio materials and a bimonthly publication called Sada Al-Malahem, as well as booklets and statements about what is happening in the field. It has also documented the organizations field work and training.

The releases of the Arabian Al-Qaeda included a film in 2007 called "Badr Al-Yemen" (Moon of Yemen), which is in two parts and chronicles the attempt to strike oil sites in Yemen. It also produced two audio cassettes by Abu Bassir called "Wa'adun Sadeq" (Truthful Pledge), and another cassette by the military commander Abu Huraira Al-Sanani (Ferat Al-Tafawudh ma'a Al-Hukuma).

The year 2008 also witnessed the birth of Al-Malahem Media Foundation that initiated its work with the above-mentioned magazine and one film Guantanamo Al-Yemen on the second anniversary of escaping from prison. The film was about Yemeni prisons and, by the end of that year, a cassette was issued intended to justify the attack on the US Embassy.

The year 2009 has had the lion's share of documentaries and publications issued. Hona Nabd'a was called "Fii Al-Quds Naltaqi" (We Begin and in Jerusalem we Will Meet), that showed



For 21 years, al-Qaeda has survived and spurred dozens of smaller clones. This 'success' reflects the enabling conditions that breed militants and militancy.

the new leadership after the Yemen-Saudi organizations merged followed by Qisasun A'adel (Fair Punishment) that documented the assassination of some local counterterrorism leaders. Then there was a film series, "Fuzto wa Rabba Al-Qa'aba," (I have won by the God of Qa'aba 1) that included verbal wills of the assailants of Korean tourists, "Ghazwat Al-Forqan" (Al-Forqan Conquest) showing the attack on the American embassy in Sana'a, including the advice of the assailants. And there is Marakat Mareb (Mareb battle) showing the engagement of Republican Guard with the Al-Qaeda in Mareb, 170km to the north of Sana'a. Moreover, 10 issues of Sada Al-Malahem (issued every two Hejri months) were released and the attractive publications contained well-written and well-selected topics. Two books were also issued: "Kasr Taghot Al-Yaman wa Nethmehi Al-Dimoghrai" (breaking Yemen's idol and his democratic regime), while the other was a study entitled "Al-Qawl Al-Surah Fi Istehdaf Al-Soyah" (The Straight Forward say on Targeting Tourists).

An audio cassette, "Ila Ahlina fi Al-Janoub" (To Our People in the South), by the organization's commander stating its position on a local political issue: the Southern Movement in which he announced al-Qaeda's support for the demonstrators who oppose "Sana'a oppressive regime" but without calling for a southern or northern Yemen "because all are one and the same in Allah's religion."

The cassette made a psychological breakthrough among people in the south that resulted in Al-Qaeda growing and the spread of its media message. The organization's stance was further consolidated by a statement issued by Tareq Al-Fadhli who said, "Those who stand by us, we will stand by them" on the Al-Arabia space channel.

Al-Qaeda media successes in creating a harmonized relationship with private and partisan media resulted in the latter's interviewing the organization leader and thus spreading its reputation and letting the public opinion and the elite engage in discussions and dialogue with it.

The fresh command managed to take the organization up to the regional level and the most significant step was reorganizing it at the Arabia after its youth flocked from Saudi Arabia and joined the coalition that turned later into the new regional command.

Al-Qaeda in royal palace

Since announcing a regional command in January 2009 under the name Jihad Al-Qaeda Organization in Arabia, Al-Qaeda has sought to prove its regional role by showing the new leadership included Saudi's like the second-in-command, Saeed Ali Al-Shehri and field commander, Mohammed Al-Ofi,

who later tuned himself in to the Saudi security. Al-Ofi had appeared on a televised film, threatening to send Al-Mabadi (one of the bombers of Al-Mohaya in Riyadh in 2003) to Prince Naif Sr., the Saudi Minister of Interior. The bomb did not reach the father, but the prince's son, also a prince. There was no mistake: the plan would not to kill Prince Naif, who had handed down the terror file to his son, Mohammed, but eliminate the son, who used to be described as the "Terrorism Conqueror."

Al-Qaeda meant for its operation to replicate the situation in Yemen where there is a powerless central authority, the regime opponents have outnumbered its supporters and pressure is exerted by local, regional and international parties.

Applying the Yemeni situation to Saudi Arabia would pave the way for Al-Qaeda to extend its activities to Syria, Lebanon, Iraq and their Arab neighbors as a part of a scheme announced by the organization to liberate Palestine as shown the above-mentioned film.

Since the organization official declaration in Saudi Arabia in May 2003, Yemen has been moving from one role to another. At one time it provided logistical services, including training, transport to hot spots, securing communications and arming or harboring the regional command as it has been the case recently, or the central command of Osama bin Laden as it is expected in the future.

Awe and terror

The operation has established Al-Qaeda's presence in the Arabian Peninsula regionally and internationally at the security and media levels, especially because the complicated explosives and the detonation method are still a mystery that might not be deciphered soon. There is also the success of the suicide bomber who passed security check and managed to set off at the desired spot and thus injuring the prince, if only slightly.

The phone call between the bomber and the prince (broadcasted by Saudi official media) showed the attacker's outstanding dexterity at maneuvering, self-composure and control over the conversation as to persuade the prince to meet him in person and even send his own plane to bring the assaulter to his palace.

The action was introduced on the press in a manner that escaped the security and intelligence experts and their analysts when Al-Qaeda issued a statement about Katibat al-Ahwal (the Battalion of Fright) that included people with bobby-trapped belts and vehicles and explosives that could not be detected by conventional explosive detectors. This applied to Abdullah Tale'a Asseri, 24, the Saudi who carried out the attempted killing of Prince Mohammed bin Naif. Al-Qaeda said at the time that such battalion was intended for "reap-

ing the souls of security officials."

The second sign was a documentary last June about fair punishments in which al-Qaeda boasted about slaying local security leaders who played key roles in the "terrorism war" and hunting down Al-Qaeda elements.

The Yemeni military officials Hamoud Qusaila and Mohammed Rabeesh were killed, after had helped the Americans to disassemble the organization and arrest and kill its leaders, the most prominent of whom was Al-Qaeda's first leader in Yemen, Abu Ali Al-Harethi and his companions early in November 2002 in Marib, 170 kilometers to the northeast of Sana'a, by a pilotless aircraft the Predator that belonged to the CIA.

Officer Rabeesh was killed in Marib in October 2008 in a creative way; he was given a booby-trapped envelope as a present that seemed to be sent by security on the occasion Yemeni national days of September, October and November.

Qusaila, on the other hand, was killed in 2007 in the same manner of the attempt assassination of Naif. Some Al-Qaeda members convinced Qusaila that they would wish to turn themselves in and help him to get to Al-Qaeda chiefs.

In the attempted bombing of prince Naif, Al-Qaeda used the two methods: infiltration for delivery and creation.

The prince's response to Asseri (one of the 85 persons on the list of most wanted) by sending him his plane was based on a previous surrender by Mohammed Al-Ofi, another member of the 85 most wanted persons, when gave himself in without any effort on the part of either Saudi or Yemeni authorities, and with his decision. This reassured Saudi authorities and Al-Qaeda jumped at the opportunity.

The first step of the failed murder of the prince was actually Al-Ofi's surrender, although there are no material signs that this had been plotted by Al-Qaeda. But the process contributed to creating ambitions that enabled the organization to go to the prince's palace and thus got around his security cleverness and experience in dealing with terrorism.

The unsuccessful bombing will be a source of terror until the explosives and mechanism of bombing are discovered, otherwise repetition of the operation against any person or target in the world is still possible. Al-Qaeda had proved that it is a few steps ahead of its enemies as shown in the Sept. 2001, and other attacks like July 2005 in London and the operation of black Wednesday in August 2009 when booby-trapped trucks belonging to Iraq Islamic State (and Al-Qaeda as one of its components) broke through Baghdad Green Zone, the most fortified area and killed and injured hundreds including high-ranking military, security and civil officials.



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City	Venue	Date	Time
Sana'a	Cultural Centre, Al-Etha'ah (Radio) Street.	Wednesday, 7th October, 2009	7.00 PM
Taiz	Cultural Centre Hall	Thursday, 8th October, 2009	7.00 PM
Aden	Palestine Hall.	Friday, 9th October, 2009	7.00 PM



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Applicants, who must be Yemenis, should have a university degree and very good written and spoken English. Candidates will be selected on the basis of their potential and motivation to rise to positions of authority.

The deadline for applications is **4 November 2009.**

Applicants must fill in the online application form available via the following link: https://www.chevening.fco.gov.uk/Cheveningapplications/ca_start.aspx. To complete the e-Chevening application form you will require details of your qualifications and past experience as well as the contact details of two referees. You will also be required to complete a personal statement describing why you wish to study in the UK and how you expect to benefit from your proposed qualification. Please note that you do not need to send any document at the application stage but should you be called to an interview, you will be required to bring original reference letters from your designated referees, together with your original certificates for the qualifications you record.

For further information on the scholarship visit www.britishcouncil.org/me-learning-funding-your-studies-chevening.htm, and for any enquiries contact us on Tel: 01 448356 or email information@ye.britishcouncil.org.

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زمام ولادي (Spider-man)
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زمام رياضية (Hot Wheels)
حافظات برودة (كبير)
زمام مزوج (ناظور)
زمام (صور متحركة)
زمام بتصاميم أنيقة
أطقم زمام مع حافظات طعام (البرو عجل)
شنط ولادي جانبي
شنط ولادي متنوعة
سبورات أطفال مغلقة
حاصلات أطفال جديدة
أطقم زمام مع حافظات طعام
شنط أطفال (حضانة)
شنط رياضية
أطقم حبر متنوعة
مقالم قماش ومعين جديدة
أطقم رصاص ميكانيكي وعادي
أقلام جاف متنوعة
أقلام سائلة (اكتب وامسح)
مقالم (أشكال جديدة وجذابة)
أطقم حبر متنوعة
مقالم قماش ومعين جديدة
دفاتر مواضيع وعادي أبو جر
دفاتر مدرسية مجلد وعادي متنوعة
أقلام رصاص ميكانيكي وعادي
أقلام جاف متنوعة
أقلام سائلة (اكتب وامسح)
مقالم (أشكال جديدة وجذابة)
أطقم حبر متنوعة
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الوان خشبي وسائل
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مقالم (شخصيات كرتونية)
برليات بأشكال جذابة
صلصال بأشكال مختلفة ومميزة
وسائل تعليمية وترفيهية

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Climbing for water

By: Ali Saeed

As winter approaches, drought is expected to hit the Melhan district in the Mahwit governorate, where around 90 thousand people depend on rainwater and springs.

The Yemen Times visited the district, and the 1,500 meter high mountain that children and women climb in order to provide water for their families.

It was morning and the weather was sunny. It is calm and you can't hear any noise except birds' singing and the shouting of women and children next to the spring.

"We store rainwater during summer in underground cisterns and depend on that for the whole year, but if no rain falls during the season, we resort to climbing difficult mountains to bring water from the spring there," said

Mohammed Yahya, a citizen in Bani Mulaik village.

"Not all residents here have underground cisterns. There are many families who do not have and depend on charity water from families who have cisterns," he added.

There is no road to the spring, but the feet of the women and children fetching water have carved out a narrow path to the spring.

The trip to the spring is dangerous, as the way is muddy and stony, making pedestrians slip. Injuries from falls, and even deaths have been reported from this and other nearby mountains when unlucky water carriers lose their balance in the rough peaks.

"It is scary to walk here and many girls and children slipped down and were seriously wounded, because the mountain is very difficult to climb," said Sadam, who is a secondary school student and provides his family with water from the spring.

Children carry the water in different sized containers on their shoulders and backs, while women carry the water in 20-liter jerry-cans on their heads.

Because of the conservative culture in the village, the Yemen Times was not able to interview any one of the women who on the mountain bringing the water from the spring.

The water crisis in the district has also reduced enrollment in schools, particularly by girls. Only 24 percent of girls in the governorate go to school, according to the Central Statistics Organization

People in the area, especially in the Bani Mulaik village are frustrated about the water. This village is among many in the rural area that has no water supply network, and no sewers.

Only 45 percent of the population in rural areas has access to save water, and 21 percent has adequate sanitation facilities, according to the Minister of Water and Environment.

Bringing water from the spring and carrying jerry cans on heads and shoulders lead to many problems especially for children.

"I and my two brothers used to bring water from the spring at night at 3:00 a.m., because at this time the spring would not be overcrowded. But carrying the water on our backs caused wounds and staying up at night to bring water forced us to be absent from school," said one of children who was standing at the spring.

Disputes over water

Due to the shortage of rainwater this year, the Melhan district's residents are not irrigating their farms, which grow corn, wheat, and qat. Instead, they use all the available water in the home for drinking, washing, and for the animals.

The spring has also caused conflicts over the water and many disputes have been reported to the local council and the police. The water flowing from the spring is minimal, while the number of people is huge.

Useless local council

This situation has forced some of the villagers of Bani Mulaik to move to the cities instead of staying in the village and fighting for water.

"Water is life's vessel and if the government wants to help us, it should first create a water project, so people can continue to live in the countryside, otherwise people will move to the cities," said Yahya.

"Unfortunately, local council officials in the district are ignorant and do not understand their jobs properly," he complained.

There is only one water project in the whole district and no others are planned, while the local council and the office of the General Authority for Rural Area Water Projects in Mahwit exchange accusations.

"The local council in the district of Melhan is totally absent and officials of the council there are thieves," said Mohammed Al-Nozaili, the director of the authority.

"The responsibility of General Authority for Rural Area Water is to plan, and the local council has to implement these projects and distribute them to the needed areas, but for the local council officials have no job except is to steal the money for projects," added the director.

"When we send the local council in the district an application for a water project... they do not cooperate with us," said Al-Nozaili.

"The problem with the local council in the Melhan district is that the council's members are tribesmen, uneducated and uncooperative," Al-Nozaili concluded.

A local council member in the district said that the government pays no attention to water projects because "its busy fighting the rebels in Sa'ada."

The absence of cooperation between the local council and the General Authority for Rural Area Water Office, make NGOs heisting to start water project there.

The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), which is the only NGO that has the only planned water project in the Mahwit governorate, hasn't yet started any project in the area.



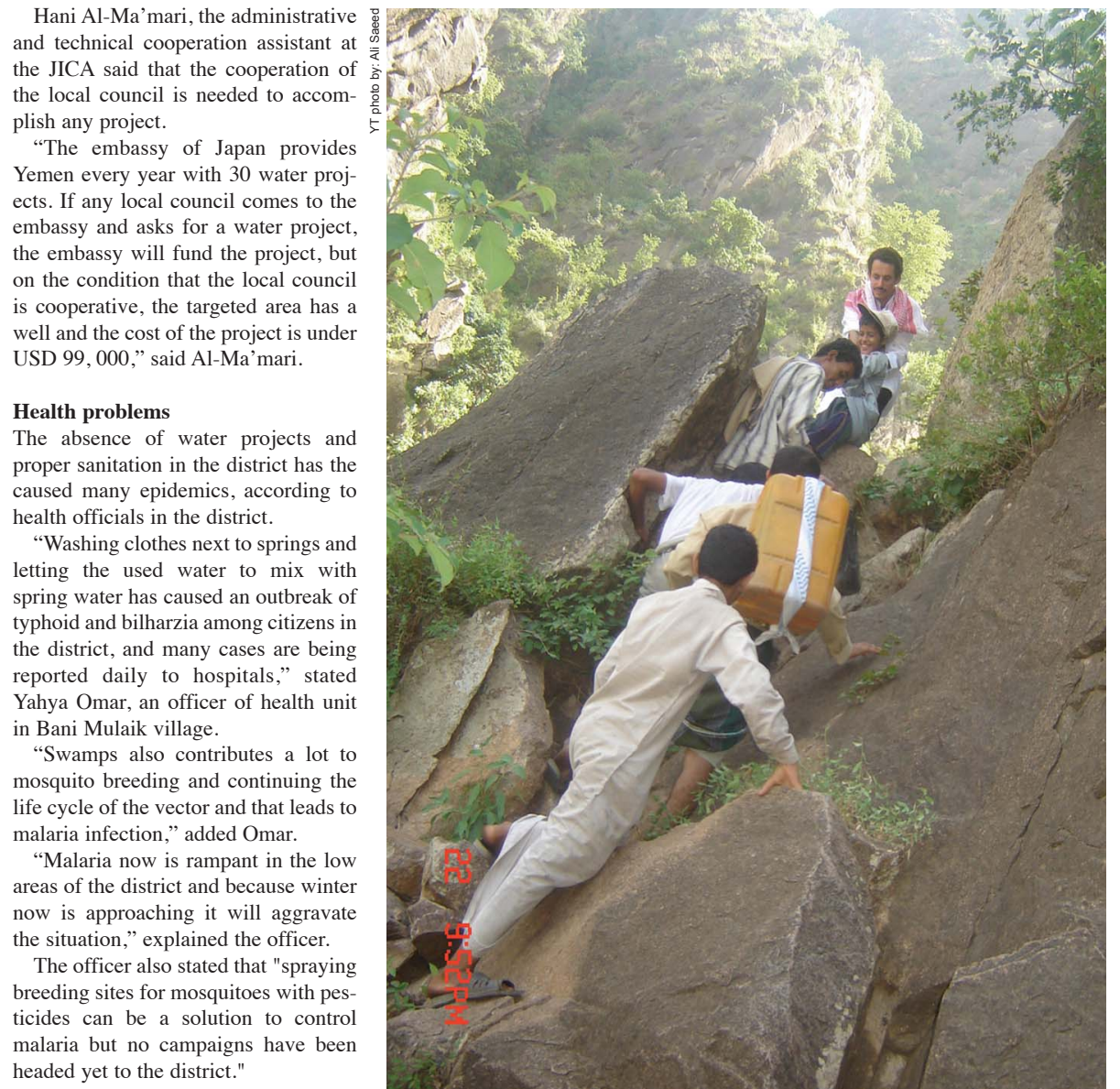
The water crisis in the district has forced many children not to go to school, particularly girls. Only 24 percent of the girls in the district attend school, according to the CSO.



Children often carry water instead of attending school.



Women and children often slip and can be seriously wounded because the mountain is difficult to climb.





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Book Review

Islamic and/or Middle Eastern law?

By: John Donohue

The answer is that "Islamic law is set in history against a wide Middle Eastern legal continuum that starts with Hammurabi and acquires a unique profile in the various manifestations of the law in the classical Islamic age."

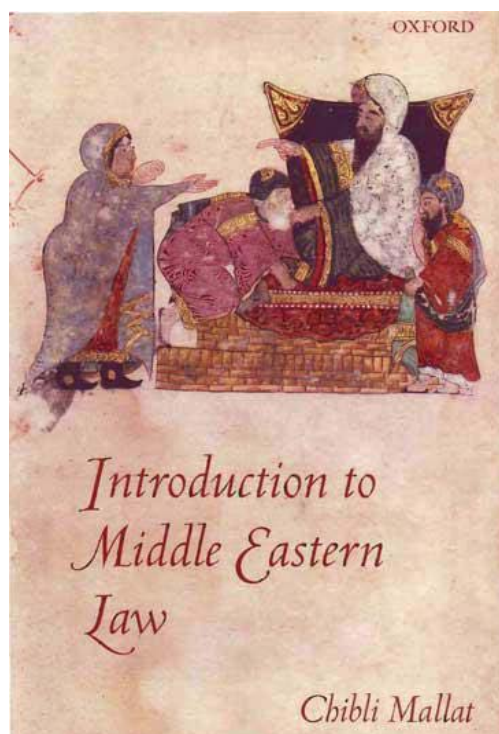
The author's three-decade studies and research at various universities (University of London, Princeton and Yale, and now at Saint Joseph's University in Beirut and the University of Utah) have convinced him that the various manifestations of law in the region blend together to form a "family" of law much as Civil Law and Common Law form "families" in the West.

The book is divided into an Introduction, followed by a historical chapter on the formation of Middle Eastern law, then a section on public law, another on private law and a conclusion. The formation of Middle Eastern law takes up about one third of the book, the rest is devoted to the modern period, with a particular focus on Islamic law.

This book with its broad range of legal detail represents the work of a lifetime, even though it appears that Mallat is still in his prime. His unremitting research, focusing on case law, fully bolsters his basic insight and sweeps aside the prevalent stereotypes of a static Islamic law dispensing arbitrary "Qadi justice."

The introduction on the Autonomy of Middle Eastern law and the first chapter on its formation establish the specificity of this law: collective responsibility, commenda (joint venture) contracts, polygamy and divorce, and agnate inheritance, for example, are not only Islamic but are found in Hammurabi as well as in the Syro-Roman Code of the 5th century.

The development of classical Islamic law, its sources and institutions within this continuum, is presented through an analytic sampling of sharia-fiqh compendia, custom, and literary and historical texts, especially the works of Sarakhshi (d. 1097) and Kasani (d. 1191) wherein development is found in the increasing refinement of style. Then the legal registers of Tripoli (Lebanon) that provide details of the daily working of the judicial system in the 17th century along with collections of fatwas indicate clearly the growth and change of legal doctrine in the schools of law. All of which leads to considering the so called "sources" of Islamic law in a different light: "Sources" should be understood in a less formalistic sense, so that the approach to law in Middle Eastern history takes into account a wealth of primarily written documents which, all together, form the rich and



complex culture of Middle Eastern law.

Mallat offers a rough periodization of Middle Eastern law corresponding to three linguistic blocs: 3000 BC to 1000 BC, the Akkadian-Sumerian period, of which the most significant text is Hammurabi's Code with Akkadian as the lingua franca; 1000 BC to 500 AD, the Assyrian-Syriac period, crowned in the fifth century by the Syro-Roman Code, with Syriac-Aramaic as the lingua franca; late 6th century to present, the Islamic period with the sharia and Arabic as the lingua franca. Undoubtedly this schema will be revised as studies of Middle Eastern law advance. The Islamic period can be divided into periods following Mallat's tripartite exposition of the terms for law: the age of the sharia (the first two centuries), the age of fiqh (with the crystallization of the epigones and the passage to summaries) and the age of qanun (Ottoman statutes as the antecedent of the systematic codification of law by legal codes).

The section on Public Law is introduced by an historical primer to better appreciate the spirit with which modern history has infused Middle Eastern law during the past two centuries: the 1798 invasion by Napoleon; the 1920 end of the Ottoman Empire and the era of oil law and nation-states and the six Arab-Israeli wars from 1948 to 2006. These wars in Mallat's view have wrecked the rule of both international and domestic law. "The military strength of the Israeli state has ensured that law is allowed minimal impact on conflict, and that force governs the two issues central to the contending peoples, land ownership and refugee status ... Might as right has translated domestically in the Arab world as the dominance of crude power, typically by the army or

... a party or sect." The period is also characterized by the phenomenon of sectarian religious law, introduced by the creation of Israel and Pakistan and the revolution in Iran. Over against the liberal age which dominated the first half of the 20th century, a sub-type of legal logic emerged on the basis of religious affiliation.

Mallat also considers the suicide attacks of September 2001 as a defining moment, since on that day the history of the Middle East became part of the domestic history of the US. The aftermath raises the question: will violence continue to rule the Middle East and by extension the world? Can Middle Eastern and Western law find a common language in the midst of violence? In the following chapters Mallat attempts to provide some answers since the era now emerging "suggests a far more intricate common destiny between the Middle East and the rest of the world."

Constitutions exist in all the states except Saudi Arabia and Israel and constitutional review is making halting progress in the region despite the sterile debate on whether or not Islam is compatible with democracy. Nonetheless, Islam is a differentiating factor in the constitutional framework of the Middle East. Islamic law and the corresponding Jewish and Christian laws are personal, not territorial, and communitarianism is a pervasive trait in the region. Mallat argues that some constitutional arrangement should be made to accommodate this factor.

Judicial review is hampered by a lack of systematic reporting and the rejection in theory of precedent in both the Islamic and the civil law system. The independence of the judiciary is often undermined by the executive with the result that the rule by law rather than the rule of law is more often the outcome. Cases from Kuwait, Morocco, Yemen, Iraq and Israel illustrate the tendency.

While public law "is a field of great frustration for lawyers, judges, and the litigant," the same is not true of civil law. Under this rubric, Mallat presents the legislative monument of Ottoman jurists – the Majalla, which held sway up through the first half the 20th century in most Arab countries and is still in force in the Occupied Territories. A Shiite version based on Jaafarite tradition was codified in Iran and is still in force, but a little known commentary on the Majalla from the Shiite scholar Muhammad Husayn Kashif al-Ghataa was sidelined in Iraq in the early part of the 20th century. The Majalla uses the classical terminology of Islamic law. The other

great monument of modern Islamic codification, the Egyptian Civil Code redacted by a committee under Abd al-Razzaq al-Sanhuri in 1949, was less particular about classical terminology and consequently is judged by some as "estranged" from Islamic law. But Mallat's detailed analysis indicates that such criticism touches style rather than substance.

In the case of commercial law, the Islamic tradition was ignored. Today it appears that tradition is demanding compensation in the form of a rise in arbitration and Islamic banking. Here Mallat puts forward another Shiite scholar, Muhammad Baqir al-Sadr, assassinated in 1980 in Iraq, whose notes on Islamic banking and his book Our Economy present an "Islamic economic school."

The chapter on family shows in contrast the continuing importance of classical 'personal status' laws, and argues, through case-law and legislation, that the trend over the past two centuries can only be understood as a search for an increased equality between women and men.

All in all, Mallat's book illustrates his profound respect for the Middle Eastern and especially the Islamic legal tradition. The work belies the stereotyped clichés concerning Islamic law as an obstacle to development and modernization. The problem is not legal, it is political. Let me close with a quote from this extraordinary study: "The name of the game has been rule by law instead of rule of law ... The disappointment is strongest for rule of law advocates who have become frustrated with their own call for democracy, a universal call which they were hoping to see extended to the region after the collapse of the Berlin wall and the democratization achievements in many parts of the world. The Muslim Middle East (here including Israel as a country that rules over the lives of Muslims more numerous than its Jewish population) remains by and large a notable exception to the rise of democracy across the planet."

Books on law are usually for specialists and are dry reading. Not so this book. Mallat presents enough general information in familiar concepts to make the greater part of the book delightful reading for anyone interested in the region.

John Donohue, a Professor at Saint Joseph's University, has taught in Baghdad, Beirut and Georgetown over the past five decades. His latest book is *The Buwayhid Dynasty in Iraq 334H/945 To 403H/1012: Shaping Institutions for the Future, Brill, Leiden 2003*. Chibli Mallat's *Introduction to Middle Eastern Law* was published by Oxford University Press in 2007, paperback edition 2009.

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(An Academic Educator and Intellect for Yemeni Generations)By: Eyad N. Al-Samman •
alsammanworld@yahoo.com

Ghanim, Muhammad Abdo, was a Yemeni poet, playwright, lyricist, researcher, educationist, lecturer and diplomat. He was born on January 15, 1912 in Crater Quarter, Aden City, Yemen. He earned his primary and secondary certificates from Aden's regular schools. He then traveled to Beirut, Lebanon, and enrolled in the American University and graduated in 1936 holding a Bachelor's Degree in Arts. He worked as a teacher for both Arabic and English languages in Aden's high schools from 1937 to 1941. Then Ghanim worked as the assistant officer of the education department in Aden from 1941 to 1945 and was promoted later to be the officer of education for all educational stages in Aden and held this position until 1956. He traveled to London, England, to study a high diploma in education in 1949 from London University. Starting from 1956, Ghanim worked in the educational department and made gradual progress to be appointed manager of education department in Aden in 1960. He got his optional retirement and moved to London, England, to receive another bachelor degree in 1963 and also his Ph.D. degree in 1969 in Arabic Literature from London University. During the 1960s, Ghanim worked as the chairman of the board for the Aden port and in 1973 he traveled to Djibouti to work there for one year. He then moved to Khartoum, Sudan, to lecture in its university from 1974 to 1977. He returned to Sana'a and was appointed dean of Education College in Sana'a University from 1977 to 1980. Ghanim was also nominated to be the cultural counselor in the Yemeni embassy in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates from 1980 to 1984. During the 1980s, Ghanim worked as the counselor of Sana'a University's dean and later he was the dean of the first college of high education in Sana'a University until 1993.

Ghanim is considered one of the prominent intellectuals in the contemporary literary movement of Yemen. He was one of the first academic persons who had graduated holding a bachelor's degree in Arts not in Yemen but in the whole Arabian Peninsula in 1936. He wrote more than 20 literary books included divans, dramas, prosa-



Aden City. Ghanim's second divan entitled "Mawj wa Sakhr" (Waves and Rocks, 1962) which included several pomes about foreign places the poet himself had visited or thought about such as "In Hargeysa", "Night of Paris", "Kilimanjaro" and "On the Rhine's Banks." The divan's other pomes tackled various religious, social, literary and romantic issues like "The Prophet's Birth Anniversary", "Shakespeare", "On the Name of Allah", "Hymn", "The Adeni Pen", "Sawsan" and "Nizar." His other divans included "Until it Dawns" (1970), "In the Life's Procession" (1973), "Fee Al-Markabah" (1979), "Muhammad Abdo Ghanim's Divan" (1981) and "The Sixth Wave" (1985). Ghanim's last divan was published posthumously in 1999 and entitled "Al-Anamil Al-Jaffah" (The Arid Fingertips). Among this divan's 53 pomes are 18 pomes which had never been published before and written entirely in classical Arabic.

Ghanim's dramatic works include five historic dramas the first one was entitled "Saif bin Thee Yazan" and published in 1964. This historic poetic drama tackles the Yemeni struggle against Christian Abyssinians living and reigning Yemen. The drama ended when Saif bin Thee Yazan succeeded in ousting the Abyssinians from Yemen and killed their leader, Abrahah Al-Ashram. Among his other dramas are "Queen Arwaa" (1976), "Amir ibn Abdul-Wahhab" (1976), "Faris Bani Zubaid: Amro ibn Ma'adi Yakrob Al-Zubaidi" (1984), "Ali ibn Al-Fadhli" (1999) and "The Red Rebel" (published posthumously in 1999). Ghanim's also poetized more than 50 lyric poems performed by several Yemeni and Arab singers such as Ahmed Qasim, Fursan Khalifa, Ayyob Tarish, Hiyam Yunis and Fathiya Al-Saghair. His other literary books include "Grammars of Aden's Colloquial Language in English" (1943), "Aden's Colloquial Language in English for Beginners" (1955), "Shi'ar Al-Ghina' Al-Sana'ani" (Sana'ani Lyric Poetry, 1973) and "With Poets in Abbasid Era" (1985). He also criticized textually two books entitled "Zaman Al-Siba" (Time of Youth, 1981) and "Sana'a Hawat Kol Fann" (Sana'a has been Comprising All Arts, 1983).

Ghanim received many prestigious awards among them are the first award for poetry from Al-Arwah Al-Wuthqa Society in Beirut in 1936, five international awards from the British Broadcasting Corporation during the 1940s, two decorations from Queen Elizabeth in 1955 and in 1961 for his endeavors regarding education and the decoration of Literature and Arts in Aden in 1989. Recently, he was also honored by the Yemeni Union for Authors and Writers in 2007.

Ghanim passed away in August 9, 1994, at the age of 82 and was buried in Sana'a. He was a unique pioneer among others and left his remarkable impressions in the Yemeni contemporary cultural, literary, educational and academic life. With his original literary oeuvre, Ghanim was a great national poet and also an eminent social intellect who tackled literarily many social, nationalist and revolutionary aspects during his life and expressed poetically the thoughts of other marginalized people in Yemen.

Traveler's adventure in Bayt Baws



By: Gaar Adams

Bayt Baws, an ancient, nearly-abandoned mountaintop village right outside of Sana'a certainly has a reputation that precedes it. Despite being nearly 2,000 years old, a testament to the mighty Sabaeans, and the site of some of the best views for kilometers around, it's mostly known as the sight of recent upheaval and vio-

lence.

Less than twenty years ago, the area was inhabited by people who worked the farms at the bottom of the mountain. Unfortunately, after North and South Yemen became one in 1990, property value around Sana'a went too high for the meager landowners who had to sell their land and move.

The area around Bayt Baws (now being developed as Sana'a creeps southward) is also famous for being



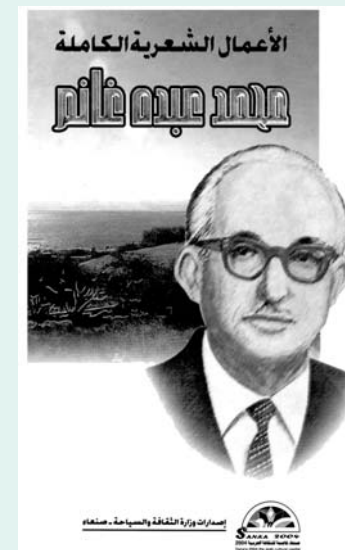
the former place of inhabitation for the (also former) Yemeni Jewish population. Then, mostly recently, Bayt Baws was the site of a tribal kidnapping of a German family less than a year ago.

Much like Dar al-Hajar, Bayt Baws was one of those close destinations that I always figured I would travel to soon, but just never got around to doing. I actually didn't take the short jaunt south until my second last day in Yemen. Here's a

view of the ancient village as I made my way up to mountain. It was quite the intense (steep) walk.

Most of the smatterings of houses have been abandoned, but even in the early hour (We arrived at 6:00 a.m.) I could hear the rustling of a few people.

However, most of the buildings were crumbling and open, and we made our way inside a couple. Bayt Baws provides incredible views in all directions.



ic works, lyric poets and he translated other literary pieces into English. Ghanim started poetizing while his study in the American University in Beirut during the 1930s. Under the pen name "Sada Sirah" (Sira's Echo), Ghanim published many poems in "Fatat Al-Jazeera" (The Arabian Peninsula's Girl) and "Al-Afkar" (The Ideas) newspapers. His first divan was published in 1944 in Aden and entitled "Ala Al-Shati'a Al-Mashoor" (On the Bewitched Beach). The divan included 32 pomes and divided into three parts which tackled the poet's sensations regarding love, beauty human relationships and other landmarks of

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EVERY ONE Campaign children's lives

By: Yemen Times Staff

For every 1000 live births, 73 Yemeni children under five die because of diseases and malnutrition. These deaths could be easily prevented with better nutrition and awareness. This is one of the highest rates in the world and as Yemen committed to the Millennium Development Goals and pledged to decrease infant and child mortality by two thirds by the year 2015.

Many children in Yemen are born at home, without a trained person being present. The risk of something going wrong during birth is high and many children die during or shortly after birth.

To assist the Yemeni government

with this pledge, Save the Children launched its EVERY ONE Campaign to Reduce and Child Mortality in Yemen as a part of its campaign world-wide.

The EVERY ONE campaign aims to save the lives of 500,000 children around the world over the next five years and create lasting benefits for many generations to come. Yemen is today joining nearly 40 other countries around the world to raise the profile of this important issue. Save the Children is committed to launching this campaign in partnership with members of the Yemeni Children Parliament. Students will play an important role in raising awareness of their peers and communities on the rights of Every One child to survival.

This week Save the Children will

launch the campaign with a session for Children Parliament members to advocate for the child right to be saved and encourage the government to move forward for children's benefit. Field visits are organized for the children from four communities in two governorates in Sana'a and Aden in which children wearing dates around their neck as a symbol that infants are the seed of their communities so they have to be protected from disease and malnutrition.

Another important fact is that only 12 percent of children in Yemen are exclusively breastfed until they are 6 months of age. This contributes to high level of malnutrition in young children - almost one in every two children is underweight. This makes them more likely to get diseases such as



diarrhea and pneumonia, which are among the major causes of child death in Yemen.

Andrew Moore, the Country Director of Save the Children stated "Too many children - nearly 9 million annually under the age of five - die needlessly as a result of totally treatable or preventable diseases. It is Every Ones responsibility to prevent these deaths and Save the Children will work with the children, government and communities of Yemen to reduce the number of preventable under 5 deaths.



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