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## National anti-terrorism strategy under preparation

By: Ali Saeed

SANA'A, FEB. 9 — The Ministry of Endowment and Guidance, along with other relevant ministries, is working on a national strategy to protect Yemeni youth against extremist ideologies, according to Judge Hamood Al-Hitar, Minister of Endowment.

"Respect for the Holy Quran, the Sunna, the Constitution of Yemen, executive laws, upholding the unity of Yemen, moderation and tolerance are the main pillars of the strategy," Al-Hitar told the Yemen Times.

A technical team, comprised of a group of selected experts from the Ministry of Education, Ministry of Higher Education, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Youth, Ministry of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Human Rights, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Technical Education, Ministry of Information, and the Ministry of Endowment and Guidance are involved in formulating the draft strategy.

"The key points of the strategy will be reflected in the plans, programs and curricula of the concerned ministries," said Al-Hitar.

The initiative, which aims to reinforce patriotism among Yemen's youth, comes in response to youth being influenced by Al-Qaeda, directly or via websites on the Internet.

Following the failed attempt by a Nigerian citizen to blow up a Detroit-bound airplane on Christmas day, intensive international media coverage has portrayed Yemen as a stronghold for Al-Qaeda.

The 23-year-old who tried to carry out the attack is said to have received training from the Al-Qaeda in Yemen. The recent concern of some western

countries over Yemen becoming a failed state and a haven for terrorists led to the London conference, called for by the British Prime Minister Gordon Brown.

The two-hour meeting, held on January 28, was looked upon with apprehension by many Yemenis.

Before the London conference, around 150 Yemeni scholars issued a fatwa (religious statement) warning foreign powers against any military intervention in Yemen, saying that if the US sent troops to Yemen, they would call for jihad.



Yemen's Anti-Terrorism Unit performs a drill for journalists. Yemen seeks financial assistance from the west to crack down Al-Qaeda in Yemen, but experts say that military intervention with Al-Qaeda could backfire.

## Hodeida most affected by fuel price increase

By: Ghamdan Abu Ali  
 For the Yemen Times

HODEIDA, FEB. 10 — Despite protests against increased fuel prices, the bus drivers of Hodeida city, one of the poorest governorates in Yemen, have grudgingly resumed their daily work as usual.

"We have no choice but to surrender, the traffic administration arrested six bus drivers when they attempted to raise the passenger fees as a response to increased fuel prices," said a public transport minibus driver in the city.

Hodeida bus drivers were the only ones who actually protested against the increase price of fuel in Yemen by more than 8 percent to reach YR 65 (around 31 US cents) per liter, compared to YR 60 (29 US cents) earlier.

Hundreds of bus drivers for internal transport in Hodeida protested on February 2 against the new increase in fuel prices set by the government.

They went on strike and caused confusion among passengers whose routine was disturbed due to the lack of cheap public transportation.

Per ride, a passenger in Hodeida pays YR 20 (about 10 US cents), which is relatively cheap in Yemen compared to taxis.

Some bus drivers attempted to increase the fare following the 8.3 percent increase in fuel prices which came along an 11 percent increase in the price of diesel from YR 35 to YR 39 per liter.

They increased the bus fare to YR 30, but could not pull it off as the traffic authorities closely monitored the prices and prevented this increase.

During the course of the last week, six bus drivers were arrested and let

go in the same day as a warning for not following state orders to carry out operations as normal.

"The increase in the price of oil derivatives came at the wrong time, because the people do not need any more problems," said a representative of the Bus Drivers' Syndicate in Hodeida.

"This increase was not necessary and it will affect our jobs," he added.

They protestors demanded the government review the new price of the oil derivatives and held them accountable for any consequences of applying this decision, without bearing in mind the poor living standards of citizens.

Living in one of the poorest areas in Yemen, the slightest increase in any commodity price significantly affects the residents of Hodeida. Most live of less than USD 2 a day, and generally purchase items for small amounts to use on a day-to-day basis.

"A YR 10 increase in the cost of daily transportation for Hodeida resident would mean taking this money away from other essential payments. We could be forced to cut down on our general daily expenses to afford this increase," said Ali Mohammed a local from Hodeida city.

For instance, a regular daily shopping list of an average person in Hodeida would include: YR 20 for cooking oil, YR 10 for tea and YR 30 for sugar.

Distraught at not being able to raise the bus fares, the Bus Drivers' Syndicate in Hodeida called for another strike especially as traffic administration representatives closely monitored the fares. However, no new strike took place, and bus drivers resumed their work normally.

### Gradually lifting oil subsidies

These new fuel prices became effective on Sunday, January 31, according to a statement by the government run Yemen Petroleum Company.

The Yemen Petroleum Company distributed a statement to all fuel stations to standardize this new price.

The government used to subsidize oil derivatives in order to make citizens of low income able to buy this commodity but the government has been trying to abolish this subsidy since 2005.

In 2005, the government postponed lifting the subsidy after 22 people were killed and hundreds were wounded in riots caused by the price hikes.

"The government justifies these measures by saying they are part of the economic reforms program," said Mostafa Nasr, Chairman of the Studies and Economic Media Center.

Income from oil production constitutes 70 to 75 percent of government revenue and about 90 percent of exports. In 1997, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) approved two programs to increase Yemen's credit significantly: the enhanced structural adjustment facility (now known as the poverty reduction and growth facility, or PRGF) and the extended funding facility (EFF).

In the ensuing years, Yemen's government attempted to implement recommended reforms—reducing the civil service payroll, eliminating diesel and other subsidies, lowering defense spending, introducing a general sales tax, and privatizing state-run industries. However, limited progress led the IMF to suspend funding



The Bus Drivers Syndicate in Hodeida organized a strike on February 2 protesting the 8.3 percent increase in the price of petrol, but it did not produce results and drivers went back to work as normal the following day.

between 1999 and 2001.

Yemen's budget is strained by fuel subsidies, especially imported diesel, which cost it more than USD 2 billion in 2009. Moreover, the current fall in oil production results in a big decline in the volume of exports by the government. According to economic experts from the IMF, without a significant adjustment in expenditures,

the overall budget deficit is likely to increase by approximately the magnitude of the loss in oil revenues.

With gradual subsidy abolition, however, the pace of widening in fiscal deficit is particularly slowed with the eventual level of deficit in 2010 around 12 percent of GDP, a third smaller than without subsidy removal.

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Houthis confirm withdrawal from Saudi land

## The Saudi air force continue air raids on Houthi areas

By: Mohammad Bin Salam

SA'ADA, FEB.10 — The Yemeni government confirmed that it will not stop air raids against Houthis unless they accept the six conditions presented earlier.

Informed sources said that the National Defence Council held a meeting, which was headed by President Saleh, to discuss the reply of the Houthis over the practicalities attached to the six conditions suggested by the government, in order to stop the war in Sa'ada. Sources said that Houthis want to cancel the application of these six conditions and forming a new mechanism in the presence of Houthis representatives so that they

can be consulted about the way each condition should be carried out.

As for the five committees the government suggested to manage the ceasefire, the sources added that the Houthis have stipulated that the balance of their representatives in these committees should be even with the number of the representatives of the government.

They also are asking that the Joint Meeting Parties (JMP) representatives should take no part in the negotiations between the Houthis and the government, unless the Houthis are given the right to choose representatives from JMP. These representatives' task will be to settle any dispute arising between Houthis

and the government.

The conflict between the Houthis and the Yemeni-Saudi forces is still continuing, according to tribal sources. These same sources said that the Saudi air force is launching air raids on Houthi areas and are providing the Yemeni Government forces with both weapons and food rations. Houthis have stated on their website, Al-Manbar Net, that the Saudi forces are still heavily striking Houthi sites.

The Saudi air force carried out 33 air raids last Tuesday on Houthis sites and around 120 air raids on adjacent areas. This is according to the Houthis.

The website also mentioned that two of the air raids by Saudi forces were to

support Yemeni paratroopers who were on the Mount of Sama' overlooking the Sa'ada governorate. In the confrontations with the Yemeni forces, 10 Yemeni troops were killed and 18 were injured because they tried to abort a covert Houthi attempt in Tabat Al-Ghabra and the Mount of Shohada'a.

A report on the Yemeni army website, September 26th, said that the army destroyed Houthis sites in Mehwar Sufian and Al-Dahaliz. They also crippled covert Houthi attempts to infiltrate areas like Al-Za'la'a. The army strikes against the Houthis were described as decisive in the Mountains of Al-Masfooh and Safah in Al-Malaheeth, in the Sa'ada area.

The Houthis, however, denied such operations were carried out by the Yemeni army and claimed that they could cripple this Yemeni army action and could also storm a military Yemeni site in Tabat Al-Baida'a in Sa'ada.

The spokesman for the Houthis, Saleh Habra, stated that the Yemeni army is imposing a siege on more than 700 thousand people in Sa'ada. He accuses some international human rights organizations of being influenced by the USA because their actions are biased.

Habra also accuses the government of taking the internationally provided materials earmarked for the displaced people and giving it to the army in Sa'ada.

"Most of the sites of the army which were taken by the Houthis were found to have many supplies from international organizations," he explained.

Hassan Zaid Ameen, the General Secretary of Al-Haq Party and the mediator between President Saleh and the Houthis, said that he has given up his role as a mediator when he gave the letter of submission of Abdul Malek Al-Houthi over to President Saleh.

"I quit my role as a mediator because my phone calls were recorded. Some people have tried to use them to damage the relationship between President Saleh and King Abdullah Bin Abdul Aziz," Zaid explained.

## Study: Most Yemenis are not aware of their basic rights

In a first of its kind survey in Yemen, the Yemeni Polling Center interviewed a thousand Yemenis from eleven governorates on their perception of rights based civil society, and whether they value it in relation to defending their basic rights. Most interviewees were confused on the role of civil society or that they as citizens were deprived of their basic rights.

By: Nadia Al-Sakkaf

SANA'A, FEB. 10 — For Yemeni people, the phrase (human rights) brings to mind other phrases that are repeated by the media in the same context. However, there is no full perception of their connotations or what rights they include except for a small percentage of people. This was one of the many findings of a survey conducted by the Yemeni Polling Center in collaboration with the Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI) in 2009 with the aim of identifying the status and image of civil society organizations concerned with human rights as well as their relation to society. The survey interviewed 502 men and 498 women, between the ages 18 to 35 which is a representation of the largest age group in Yemen.

Of the interesting findings the study concluded is that about 6.7 percent never heard of the expressions "human

rights" or "rights and freedoms". This could be explained according to the illiteracy rate of the interviewed population as almost 24 percent of the targeted persons said they were illiterate and 8.2 percent stated that they had not received any formal education (can read and write).

Most respondents said that they are not employed. Around 52.5 percent stated they were jobless of whom 81.7 percent were women (since most women are housewives in Yemen) and 23.5 percent were men. The right to job opportunities was one of the mentioned violated rights. Most interviewees admitted that they feel their rights are violated in Yemen. Some said only some rights are protected while others said that rights are protected for a selected group of people only. The right to education was considered a protected right by most (77 percent) followed by the right to elect local council members, elect

Table 12: Party to which abused people go			
Answer	Male	Female	Total
Authorities	52.9	55.8	54.0
Sheikhs/head of zone/tribe	34.7	31.2	33.5
Religious scholars	2.2	5.2	3.3
Friends	2.9	3.9	3.3
I leave it to the family senior members	4.3	10.4	6.5
The party I belong to	1.4	0.0	0.9
Human rights organizations	1.4	0.0	0.9
Media	1.4	0.0	0.9
I wait until the problem solves itself	4.3	3.9	4.2
I don't know	0.7	0.0	0.5
No comment	0.7	0.0	0.5

parliament members, to join political parties (mostly men) and religious groups' right to practice their rituals. The right to basic services such as education and health care came first with 95.2 percent as a priority concern to be adopted by human rights organizations. Moreover, women were more interested in defending their own rights such as the right to education or to work for women. But in general, political rights were more important to men (86.7 percent) than to women (74.3 percent).

### The government: Protector or abuser?

Although the respondents consider government institutions as the main civil rights violators, they still turn to them for justice. More than half of the surveyed whose rights had been abused said that they first resorted to government institutions despite the fact that these institutions could restore the rights of only 28.4 percent. Up to 59 percent stated that government agencies were most capable of protecting their civil rights even though most of the

respondents did not understand what civil rights were. Around 60 percent noted that should their rights be abused they would resort to government agencies and 44 percent said they would seek tribal arbitration should the involvement of government institutions fail.

Regarding perception of the role of human rights organizations, less than one percent of the people whose rights had been abused and only 7.2 percent of the surveyed said they would think about seeking such organizations' help as a second choice in case their first choices did not work. Human rights organizations came fourth (8.8 percent) as to the institutions most capable of protecting human rights issues. Although the interviewees had heard of a number of human rights violation cases (49.3 percent), such knowledge was generic and they had it from qat-chewing sessions and newspapers. Less than 27 percent said they had heard about such cases in their locality. From a list of the most important issues in Yemen, the cases spotlighted by human rights organizations and the media had

What comes to mind when you hear about human rights or human rights and freedoms?			
Answer	Male	Female	Total
Democracy	25.7	15.3	20.5
Freedom of expression	27.7	18.7	23.2
Justice	30.9	25.5	28.2
Equality	22.9	21.3	22.1
Security	13.1	11.2	12.2
Right to education	9.0	15.9	12.4
Right to work	7.2	10.0	8.6
All or most of the above	22.9	31.9	27.4
Western ideas	3.2	2.0	2.6
I don't care/ This does not stir anything	7.6	10.4	9.0
Never heard of this	4.0	9.4	6.7
Other	4.6	2.6	3.6
I don't know	2.8	2.8	2.8

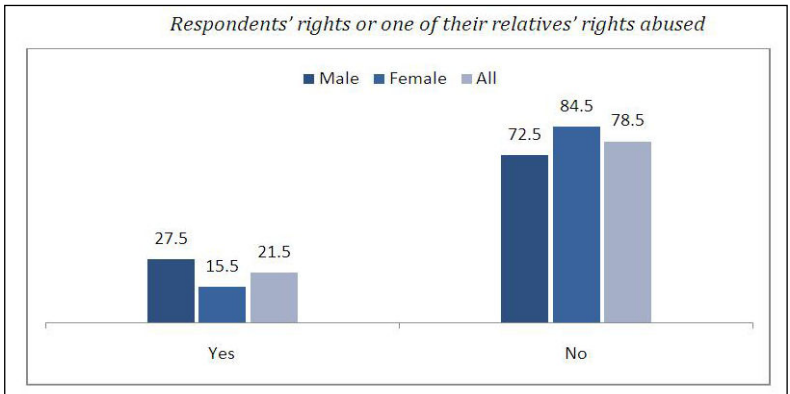
a good percentage of familiarity with the interviewed persons compared to other cases.

Al-Ja'ashen is a sub district in Ibb and where an influential Sheikh is claimed to force residents out of their homes unless they abide by his strict conditions and pay the levied sums of money. The Ja'ashin case, for instance, was known to 34.4 percent, insolvent prisoners and cases of forcibly abducted persons were both known to 44 percent. Despite a high percentage of familiarity with other cases in which human rights organizations had been involved, only few respondents pointed out such organizations when asked about who had advocated for such cases. Only 9.6 percent of those who had heard of and followed up the Al-Ja'ashen issue mentioned that human rights organizations had adopted it. About 40 percent said such organizations were present in the case of early marriage. About 30.7 percent said that human rights organizations were present in the case of insolvent prisoners.

As it is, only 26.5 percent said they are familiar with human rights

organizations, and 24.9 of them heard about these organizations from qat-chewing sessions, relatives and friends, 20.8 percent from Arab media and 18.5 percent knew about them through newspapers. However, only 12.1 percent of the interviewees knowing human rights organizations stated that these organizations had offices in their areas and when asked about the names of such organizations, most of them indicated names of institutions and societies not related to human rights.

Ironically, although many Yemenis are not familiar with human rights organizations or their activities, over 80 percent of the surveyed said these organizations are important in Yemen, 13.2 percent noted they were relatively important and 5.7 percent said they were not important.



## Third country resettlement slowing - UNHCR

SANAA, FEB. 1 (IRIN) - Deteriorating security in Yemen since August 2009 has negatively affected efforts by the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) and recipient governments to resettle refugees. Some third country governments were reluctant to send missions to Yemen to process resettlement cases, UNHCR external relations officer in Sanaa Andrew Knight told IRIN.

He said only 74 persons had left Yemen for resettlement in other countries between August and December 2009, and feared this heralded "just the beginning of the slowdown".

Thousands of refugees needed to be resettled in third countries, he said.

In recent months Yemen has seen a flare-up in fighting with Houthi-led Shia rebels in the north, political unrest in the south and a growing threat from al-Qaeda militants in the east.

A UNHCR Yemen Factsheet dated December 2009 said 375 refugees, mainly from Somalia and Iraq, had been resettled in third countries since the beginning of 2009.

UNHCR had aimed to submit 650 cases for resettlement in 2009, Knight said, adding: "A significant portion of refugees are seeking resettlement due to the lack of local integration prospects for many, and lack of opportunities for voluntary repatriation."

According to UNHCR, there are three options for refugees: voluntary repatriation; local integration; or resettlement in a third country.

### Identifying the most vulnerable

One of UNHCR's main roles is to identify vulnerable cases (for example, those who face protection problems in their country of asylum) and refer them



Mohammed Othman from the Oromia region of Ethiopia holds a medical report recommending that he should go abroad for treatment.

to third countries. "It is the third country which decides whether to accept a refugee for resettlement," Knight said.

Knight said other criteria for resettlement included whether vulnerable refugees were single women, unaccompanied children, the elderly, survivors of violence and torture, or those with serious medical conditions that could not be treated in the country of asylum.

He said USA and Canada had received the most refugees from Yemen, followed by Sweden, Norway and the UK. "Portugal has also recently expressed an interest in receiving refugees from Yemen," he said.

According to UNHCR, there were 170,854 registered refugees in Yemen by the end of 2009, most of whom came

from the Horn of Africa, fleeing conflict, drought and/or poverty. On 18 January 2009, the government announced a two-month refugee-registration deadline.

### Homeless, sick, deprived

"Women and children constitute the majority of Somali refugees in Yemen. Some mothers work for YR 20,000 [about US\$95] a month, which is not enough for a family to pay the rent and cover basic necessities. They endure very poor living conditions and their children are deprived of education," Mohammed Abdi Adam, chairman of the Somali Refugee Community Development Committee (SRCDC) in Yemen, told IRIN.

"For the past three months I have

been claiming resettlement in the US where I can get shelter for me and my six children," Fatma Ahmad, a 32-year-old Somali refugee, told IRIN.

"We have no home. We live with friends in an apartment in Hayel Street, western Sanaa. My husband is jailed in Hodeida city [northern Yemen], leaving us without a breadwinner," she said.

Holding a medical report in his hand, 45-year-old Mohammed Othman from the Oromia region of Ethiopia told IRIN: "I have chronic problems in my collar-bone and backbone and my condition is getting worse by the day... In this report, local doctors recommended that I should travel abroad for treatment due to lack of expertise and money in Yemen," Othman said.

## Governance training for civil society

By: Mahmoud Assamiee

SANA'A, Feb. 07 — Islamic Relief Yemen (IRY) set out on Saturday, a training course for Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in the field of good governance, performance management and project cycle management.

This training course is part of series of courses included in a two-year project being carried out by IRY to strengthen CSOs in Yemen. The program is supported by the European Commission and Islamic Relief Worldwide.

The course, which will last for eleven days, aims at qualifying 20 participants representing CSOs, based in Sana'a, with the skills needed to manage development projects and build CSOs' capabilities to be able to communicate with other local or foreign organizations in order to get the support needed to carry out their projects.

The governance and performance management training aims to deepen the understanding and implementation of local associations for the mechanisms that ensure good internal governance and effective performance in order to develop non government organizations towards gaining meaningful achievement of their organizational goals.

Meanwhile, this training will also provide participants with the practical knowledge and skills to enable them to design and manage successful development projects.

"Building capabilities of CSOs is very important to polish their skills so that they are able to negotiate and build communication bridges with organizations," stated Khaled Al-Mulad, the

Country Director of IR Yemen.

Like all of our training courses, he said, these new courses have been designed to help the management and staff of the local partners to ensure that they have the best skills possible to run their organizations.

He added, "Our project is very much concerned with improving the transparency and accountability of the local associations as well as improving their skills in developing and managing innovative projects that address the plight of marginalized sectors in Yemen".

For her part, Director of Civil Society Organization Project, Joy Jakosalem, clarified that the course is divided into two parts; a three-day course in the study of good governance and an eight-day course in the study of managing development projects.

The trainers are Mohammad Abdul-Hafiz Qotp and Iman Anwar from the Academic Small Project Development Center in Egypt.

Islamic Relief is an international aid agency with its headquarters in Birmingham, UK. It operates in 26 countries in Africa, Asia, the Middle East and Eastern Europe responding to emergencies and supporting sustainable development in vulnerable communities.

Islamic Relief Yemen has been in operation in Yemen since 1998. To date, IRY has implemented various projects ranging from water and sanitation, health, orphans support, child protection, emergency response, conflict solution and peace building. It also carried out training courses to 84 organizations in the study of health, management and good governance.

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More information on Yemeni Polling Center could be found at: [www.yemenpolling.com](http://www.yemenpolling.com)



## In Brief

**HAIJJAH****Two African immigrants' smugglers arrested**

Security forces in Hajjah governorate have arrested two persons accused of smuggling African immigrants into Yemen territories, Interior Ministry has said. Security sources said that police arrested one of the men, aged 30, in Harad area in Hajjah governorate while the other one, aged 30, was arrested in Shara'ab district in Taiz governorate.

This arrest comes within the Yemeni security authorities efforts to reduce illegal immigration from the Horn of Africa. In related news, police have already arrested 30 suspects of smuggling emigrants from the Horn of Africa to Yemen.

**SANA'A****Yemen seeks Indian support for technology sciences museum**

Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research Saleh Ba-Surrah discussed on Monday with the Indian ambassador to Sana'a Praveen Verma the possibility to sign a bilateral agreement between Yemen and India in the field of higher education and scientific research.

The two sides also discussed schol-

arships presented by India embassy in Yemen as well as criteria and conditions applied in this regard, in addition to the importance of the ministry to be notified to know who are selected for the scholarships.

They dealt with the importance of exchanging professors between the Yemeni and Indian universities as well as the participation in symposiums and conferences held by the two countries. The minister invited, during the meeting, his Indian counterpart and rectors of Indian universities to visit Yemen.

They discussed the possibility of India to contribute to supporting the national museum for technology sciences, set to start works of implementation during the current year. Worth to mention that the project is currently funded by Abu Dhabi Fund for Development at \$13 million and the Yemeni government at \$4.

**Turkey to fund project of supplying Sana'a handicraft institute with new tools**

A Turkish team is studying a project of supplying the handicraft institute in Sana'a capital with modern requirements in order to enable the institute to meet needs of the labor market. The project would

be funded by the Turkish government. Minister of Technical Education and Vocational Training Ibrahim Hajri held a meeting with the team who is currently visiting Yemen to discuss the study over the project.

The minister said that the team would receive all facilities to do their task in preparing the study to carry out the project as soon as possible, praising the historical Yemeni-Turkish ties.

The Turkish team affirmed concern of enhancing aspects of the cooperation with Yemen in field of technical education, saying that the project would be opened during the expected visit for the Turkish president to Yemen in autumn of 2010.

**LAHJ****Yemen, CHF review projects needed in Lahj**

Yemen and CHF International of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) reviewed here on Tuesday Lahj province need projects. These projects aim at creating a large social development on Lahj governorate level in public health, education, roads, water, sanitation, agriculture, irrigation and social welfare.

During his meeting with CHF pro-

gram manager Daniel Cruz, Lahj Governor Muhasen Ali al-Naqib said that the governorate has prepared a comprehensive study on the major needs of Lahj in the development and service projects.

He also noted to the importance of obligating the international organizations to work on the basis of development plans on the representation of the basic requirement of the governorate.

The meeting reviewed projects which the CHF program is to implement in the governorate. The CHF manager talked about the project's goals, which will target local councils' leaders for promoting the community participation. The project extends at the minimum for three years with allocation of \$80 million and for five years with allocation of \$125 million, he said.

**ABYAN****Over 160 Africans held in Yemen**

Security authorities have managed to arrest about 168 Africans, 101 were Ethiopians, in province of Abyan, Taiz, Hadramout and Raymah, Interior Ministry said on Tuesday.

In Abyan province, about 93 Ethiopians, six of them were women, and 17 Somali refugees, including sev-

en women and two children, all of them were arrested in Ahwar coast. On the other hand, security authorities in Taiz province have arrested eight Ethiopians in Ataezyah district, who have entered the country illegally.

In Hadramout province, security authorities said that about 34 Somalia refugees including 12 women and two children arrived on Monday to Broom coast of Hadramout province. The refugees were all sent, under the supervision of UNHCR, to the camp in Mayfa'ah district in Shabwa province. In related news, the security authorities in Raymah province have arrested 16 Somalia refugees have registration cards issued by the UNHCR office in Aden province.

**AMRAN****DFID, IOM send relief convoy to IDPs in Amran**

A relief convoy granted from UK Department for International Development (DFID) and International Organization of Migration (IOM) for the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) arrived in Amran province on Tuesday.

The convoy sent in cooperation with the Family Care Association consists of nine trucks containing foodstuffs,

home appliances and health staffs for the IDPs.

The Secretary General of Amran Local Authority Saleh al-Makhloos voiced his appreciation of the relief efforts towards the IDPs in the province.

The IDPs in the province are about 35,000 people, according to al-Makhloos. While expectation of raising the IDPs number due to the Sa'ada rebellion to 200,000, the UN statistics showed that the sporadic wars Houthi rebels launched against the troops since 2004 have resulted in over 160,000 IDPs.

This is the sixth conflict between the government forces and the rebels in Sa'ada province since it was erupted in 2004.

The wars have claimed thousands of lives of innocent citizens, soldiers and insurgents in Saada province, which is located close to border with Saudi Arabia. The rebel group was founded by rebel leader Hussein al-Houthi, the eldest brother of the current group leader Abdul-Malik. Hussein was killed by the army in September 2004.

The Yemeni government accuses the Houthi group of trying to reinstall the rule of imams, which was toppled by a republican revolution in northern Yemen in 1962.

## Their News

**UNICEF Launches USD 1.2 Billion Appeal for Emergency Assistance**

As global attention focuses on efforts to provide life-saving support to the people of Haiti, UNICEF today released its *Humanitarian Action Report (HAR) 2010*. This annual report spotlights the most severe crises impacting children and women around the world and includes an appeal for additional assistance.

This year's report highlights the situation of children and women in 28 countries and territories that have been identified as being in the most desperate need, and seeks \$1.2 billion to help them. *HAR 2010* emphasizes the increasing importance of partnerships to meet the needs of children and families affected.

"Haiti was one of the countries UNICEF classified as 'in crisis' when the *Humanitarian Action Report* went to press, even before the earthquake hit," said Hilde F. Johnson, UNICEF Deputy Executive Director. "Faced with multi-

ple hurricanes, in addition to civil unrest, the country was still in need of humanitarian assistance."

"The earthquake is a horrific example of another double disaster, – destroying the lives and livelihoods of the Haitian people and crippling the very infrastructure and systems needed for humanitarian actions to be effective," she said. "But we are achieving results. This week, UNICEF and partners will begin a campaign aimed at immunizing 500,000 children under the age of seven against measles, diphtheria and tetanus."

"As we maximize our efforts to speed up delivery of humanitarian assistance and protection for every child in Haiti, UNICEF also needs to engage in changing the lives of children all over the world," Johnson said.

"Children are suffering in many different places, and for a range of reasons. They all need our help. In 2009, large-scale and repeated natural and man-made disasters struck Southeast Asia,

while emergencies in the Horn of Africa, Afghanistan, Pakistan, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Sudan intensified," said Johnson. "Children are always among the most severely affected, and disasters put them at increased risk of abuse and grave violations of their rights, including sexual violence, killing and maiming, and forced recruitment into armed groups."

Every year, UNICEF responds to 200 emergencies all over the world. The *Humanitarian Action Report 2010* examines the most severe crises, those that require exceptional support.

The 28 countries and territories are included in the report on the basis of the scale and chronic or protracted nature of the crisis, the severity of its impact on children and women, and the potential to bring about life-saving results. In these cases, urgent action is imperative to save lives, ensure access to safe water, adequate sanitation and hygiene, health, nutrition and to protect children against the worst forms of violence and

abuse, and to provide children with education – even under the worst of circumstances.

The Humanitarian Action Report this year points to evolving global trends which pose cumulative risks to children including climate change, global economic volatility, and the changing nature of conflict – particularly the widespread prevalence of sexual violence against children and women. These factors add to the vulnerability of poor communities and threaten the survival and fundamental rights of children.

The ongoing global financial crisis, compounded by unstable food prices, is causing increases in poverty and malnutrition, and severely threatening progress that has been made for children in some developing countries. Children and women have been especially hard hit. In 2009 many more poor families were forced to cut meals and reduce the quality of their food intake. According to a report by the Food and Agriculture

Organization in 2009, more than 1 billion people worldwide were hungry – a rise of at least 100 million over 2008.

With the severity of the crises in Asia, be it in Pakistan and Afghanistan or the Philippines, financial needs are expected to more than double in 2010. However, the greatest needs are still in sub-Saharan Africa, where some 24 million people in the Horn of Africa are being affected by drought, chronic food insecurity and armed conflict in 2009. Sudan, Chad, Central African Republic and the Democratic Republic of the Congo are facing internal and/or cross-border violence and mass displacement, and problems of humanitarian access. The situation also remains severe in Zimbabwe, deepening the vulnerability of the country's children and women.

The focus of this year's Humanitarian Action Report is partnerships. In all these countries and territories, UNICEF is working with partners to achieve results, including humanitarian organizations, civil society groups, the corpo-

rate and private sector, and foundations.

In recent years, UNICEF and its partners have invested significantly in risk reduction, emergency preparedness, early warning mechanisms, and response and recovery systems. The dynamic and changing nature of emergencies implies that consistent adaptation is necessary to ensure preparedness for future crises, and effective anticipation of trends for early action and recovery.

UNICEF's partnerships can help foster the needed innovation, outreach, participation and effective programming to make a difference for the ever-increasing number of children in need.

"Together with its partners, UNICEF continues to search for innovative ways to meet the desperate needs of children and women caught up in emergencies," said Johnson. "Only by working together can we effectively deliver on our mission to promote and protect children's rights, help meet their basic needs and enable them to reach their full potential."

**Al-Rowaishan and the Yemeni Commercial Bank conducts a training course for administrative leaders on the balanced management capacities skills**

Al-Rowaishan Group and the Yemeni Commercial Bank conducted on February 4<sup>th</sup> 2010 a training course on the to the administrative leaders on the balanced management capacities skills.

About 55 of the administrative leaders of both the group and the bank enrolled this course.

Abdullah Al-Edrisi, the manager of the human resources in Al-Rowaishan group said that the main objective of conducting such a course is to develop the capacities of managers to create a balance among them and to motivate all employees to work and achieve success in their work.

The investment in the human resource is the main reason to succeed, Al-Edrisi added.

He pointed out to the progress the Al-Rowaishan Group is making. He stressed that Yemen is no less than the



other countries that it can achieve the progress in this field and that conducting such training courses would reflect good on the employees' performance. Therefore, the employees will contribute in the economical development of the country.

For his part, Hamza Hamzawi, a trainer and an expert in the management development of establishments,

said that all establishments' employees, whether or not engaging a high position, need training courses that push their work to the fore.

At the end of the training course, Al-Rowaishan Group organized an evening function in which a lecture named "the mission of my life" was delivered to the employees to motivate them to achieve their goals in life.

**Four free trips to South Africa for MTN billing system subscribers**

First Director of the Public Relations and Advertising of MTN Yemen Malik Bassam Al-Kusa announced that the company dedicated four free trips to the company's billing system subscribers and the draw on the lucky winners will be done automatically for each YR 6,000 of the subscribers bills.

This was announced during the 13<sup>th</sup> award giving celebration hosted by the company on Wednesday, 3 February 2010. This week's winner was Dhiya



Abdulqawi Ali Zafar Sinam whose trip to South Africa to attend the world cup championship will be totally covered by MTN.

Another seven winners received their 32-inch Sony Bravia TV screens.

Al-Kusa commented that not many women showed interest in competing for this draw in order to get a chance to attend the FIFA 2010 sports events, compared to men, because women's sports in Yemen is still modest and that the customs and traditions of Yemen does not allow the Yemeni women to

travel on their own. He mentioned that some women won the Sony Bravia television screens and mobile phones, which indicates the credibility of the company in dealing with the public participants, who have reached nearly three million subscribers.

the trip to attend the World Cup 2010 to be held in South Africa include in addition to the flight tickets, living costs and a tourist program to visit tourist destinations in South Africa, and to attend one or more of the World Cup matches, which is the biggest sporting event awaited by the world.

**CSSW distributes winter clothes to poor**

The Charitable Society for Social Welfare distributed warm clothes and blankets for winter to 120 poor families in collaboration with the UAE based Al-Rahma Charity.

Abdulrahman Al-Tamimi general secretary of Al-Rahma Charity said that this is one of the important projects for the charity in Yemen and other poor countries along with sponsoring orphans, drilling wells in

water scare areas and charitable endowment. "We also focus on development oriented social projects that would empower poor families to creating their own income," he said.

Dr. Abulmajid Farhan director of the CSSW said that it is a pleasure to have partners from outside the country supporting poor Yemenis and this shows that there is a lot of

good charity work that extends to several governorates and needy areas. He added that this project for distributing warm winter clothes will extend to cold areas such as Sana'a, Amran, Dhamar and Ibb.

During the visit of the delegation from Al-Rahma Charity several projects will be launched in collaboration with CSSW including sponsoring 1000 orphans.



## Community Based Health Development Programme

### برنامج تحسين الصحة المجتمعية

The Yemen Red Crescent Society (YRCS) wants to employ an Accountant for its Community Based Health Development (CBHD) programme. The CBHD programme was initiated as an Operation Alliance activity in 2007 by YRCS, the International Federation of Red Cross/Red Crescent and the three Scandinavian Red Cross organisations from Norway, Sweden and Denmark. With an ambition that the programme will reach all YRCS branches in the future it is for the first three years ending December 2010 implementing two pilot projects in Hajja and Hodeida.

**Main tasks:**

Under guidance of the CBHD programme manager and the CBHD delegate the programme accountant will implement, support and supervise the financial management of programme activities and administer the CBHD office in Sana'a. He/she is responsible for the cash-box; he/she keeps the cashbooks and checks all accountability documents in accordance with CBHD programme financial procedures; he/she prepares monthly data entry using CBHD accounting software. He/she is in charge of several administrative duties (follow-up of contracts, mails, human-resources, relation with local administrations and service providers). He/she provides appropriate translations on request.

**Successful applicants should fulfil the following requirements:**

- University education in accounting or similar knowledge learned.
- A minimum of 3 years working experience with international accounting procedures.
- Familiar with one or more accounting systems, particularly YemenSoft.
- Ability to communicate financial information to non technical audiences.
- Fluent in Arabic and English.
- Good computer operating skills in MS Word and MS Excel.

**Contract**

- One year contract with possibility of extension;
- Full time based in Sana'a with frequent visits to project areas;
- Salary according to YRCS CBHD programme salary scale, which initially means 800 dollar per month.

Request for Application Form and Job Description can be obtained by writing the following e-mail: [hjod@drk.dk](mailto:hjod@drk.dk)  
not later than February 28

Women are encouraged to apply. Only short listed candidates will be contacted for interview.





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## JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

**Oxfam, an international NGO, works with others to find lasting solutions to poverty and suffering. Oxfam has been working in Yemen since 1983. Oxfam announces the following vacancies for its Development and Humanitarian Programme. These positions are for 6 months period with possibility of extension.**

### Information & Communication Officer – (Based in Sana'a)

You will be responsible for Oxfam's media and communication work. You will be expected to provide technical advice and specialist guidance on appropriate communications solutions across the organisation and provide regularly high quality reports to relevant government departments. You will also be providing regular summary information and updates, overviews, newsletters and other communication materials for learning about Oxfam and development work in general.

We are looking for someone with a background and experience on media and communications and/or a degree in Communications/ Media, Economics, Development, or other social studies. Ability to work as part of a multi-cultural team and communicate effectively, both verbally and in writing in Arabic and English are also required.

### Admin Assistant and Receptionist – (Based in Sana'a)

You will be responsible for handling day-to-day administrative tasks and maintaining effective communication and filing system in the office, and act as the front office receptionist. You will be reporting to the Country HR Manager.

We are looking for someone with experience in office administration and ability to demonstrate adaptability and flexibility in all aspect, excellent spoken and written communication and writing skills in English and Arabic as well as knowledge and skills in computer usage.

### Human Resources & Admin Assistant – (Based in Haradh)

You will be responsible for HR and Admin activities in Field Office in Haradh (Hajja Governorate). You will be maintaining required HR files and forms which includes leave and attendance records. You will support staff in handling administrative tasks and work closely with the Project Manager.

We are looking for someone with an experience in working in HR & Administration, ability to work with others, an excellent spoken and written communication and writing skills in English and Arabic, and knowledge and skills in computer usage.

### Logistic Assistant – (Based in Haradh)

You will be responsible for delivering day to day logistics activities and processes, including purchasing, warehousing, communications and transport, as well as the related administrative procedures related to the job. You will report all logistic activities to the Logistic Manager.

We are looking for someone with experience in purchasing, warehousing, and vehicle management and administration. Diplomacy, tact and negotiating skills as well as good written and spoken skills in English and Arabic are required.

### To apply:

If you believe that you have the qualification to work on the above-mentioned field, Please send a copy of your CV clearly state on your covering letter the job you are applying for to [yemenjobs@oxfam.org.uk](mailto:yemenjobs@oxfam.org.uk) or The Human Resources Department, Oxfam GB Yemen P.O. Box 1045, Sana'a, Republic of Yemen or Fax no: 01 450170.

Closing date for applications is **19 February 2010**



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**Candidates meeting the above requirements are advised to send their CV to the following address**

[yemen.careers@ye.nestle.com](mailto:yemen.careers@ye.nestle.com)

Applications will be treated in strict Confidence; only short listed candidates will be contacted.



# The challenges of dealing with Yemen's deep crises

**President Saleh's foremost concern is to keep total economic and political power in his own hands as long as he lives, and to hand it down to his son afterwards. The US and the international community are concerned with the threat posed by al-Qaeda to regional and international peace and many educated. The al-Qaeda appears to be the least dangerous and less of a threat to Saleh and what he values most. The international community cannot turn its back on Yemen without risking disastrous consequences nor can it cannot rally behind Saleh against his opponents either in the north or south or even against al-Qaeda alone. The Yemenis are concerned about the potential for tension between Saleh's goal and that of the international community.**

By: Abdullah Al-faqih

The first decade of the new millennium was supposed to be Yemen's best in modern times.

However, in the summer of 2004 an open-ended rebellion broke out in the Sa'ada governorate in the far north. By mid 2007, resentment against President Ali Abdullah Saleh's regime among the population of the southern governorates came to a head, with thousands of people pouring out onto the streets every day. While Saleh is busy waging war against the insurgents in the north and trying hard to quash the massive unrest in the south, Saudi and Yemeni al-Qaeda operatives have merged together in the so called al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP).

Any sound strategy to tackle Yemen's complexities should meet several conditions: (1) it should be comprehensive in scope and inclusive of political, economic and security issues; (2) its priority should be to dismantle the ongoing political conflicts in the north and south; and (3) it should fully engage Saleh using a combination of incentives and disincentives.

A brief background to the present complexities of Yemen

Power and dancing over the heads of snakes

Saleh, often quotes an old Yemeni adage 'ruling Yemen is like dancing over the heads of snakes'.

While grooming his son Colonel Ahmed to succeed him, Saleh, who since coming into power in 1978 has centralized power into his hands and in those of the 'loyal' within his family and weakened all political competitors, thought he had brought Yemen's history to an end.

By the middle of the decade, Saleh's greatest achievements began to crumble, with the Houthi rebellion breaking out in the Sa'ada governorate in the north, Yemen's divided opposition calling for a parliamentary election in 2005 and rallying behind a single candidate in 2006 to challenge Saleh, rising of the Southern Movement in the former South Yemen, oil revenues taking a nose dive in 2008 and depriving the country in 2009 of 65% of its oil revenues and the emergence of the AQAP.

## War in the North

Open Political System of United Yemen and the alliance of Zaidis with socialists of the south

After six years of war, since the Hashemite rule was abruptly brought to an end and a republic established by Gamal Abdul Nasser of Egypt in 1962, the two sides- the republicans supported by Nasser and the Zaidis supported by Saudis finally agreed on a power-sharing deal which preserved the republican regime but tilted power towards an alliance of Zaidi sheiks and military officers. But the republicans tried to undermine the Zaidis to prevent the comeback of the Hashemites.

After Unification, the newly-founded Republic of Yemen (RoY) embraced a fairly open political system that allowed citizens to exercise some political and civil rights, including forming political parties and interest groups, establishing and owning newspapers and freedom of expression. The Zaidi Hashemites of northern Yemen, sought to take advantage of newly introduced reforms by allying themselves with the socialists of the south—some of them secularized Sunni Hashemites.

Creation and support to Islah and shifting focus to support Youth Believers

Saleh wanted first to balance the Socialists of the south with the Islamists of the north, and then to further weaken the potential for a come-back by the northern Hashemites. Concurrently, Saleh also made sure to divide the Hashemites into several political parties, preventing them from establishing a unified political force.

In the summer of 1994 Saleh, with the support of the newly-founded Islah (an Islamic oriented Sunni party comprising of Yemen's Muslim Brotherhood and other Sunni Zaidi groups close to the regime and supported by Saleh), defeated his southern Socialist rivals in a brief civil war.

Later, worried by the growing power of Islah, a desire to undermine Zaidism and pressured to settle his country's borders dispute with the Saudis, Saleh supported the Youth Believers (a revivalist group within the Zaidi sect and concentrated in the border areas) allowing them to establish schools to teach Zaidism and receive support from Iran.

From alliance to rivalry

Over the course of 10 years, however, this relationship changed from alliance to rivalry, when Saleh's concerns for his own political survival and retaining power within his family collided with the growing influence and independence of the Youth Believers.

After concluding a border agreement with Saudi Arabia, Saleh pursued a policy of containing the Youth Believers by various means, including strengthening his support for a Saudi-backed and presumably apolitical Salafi movement. In return, the Youth Believers exploited Saleh's alliance with the US in the global war on terrorism and adopted the famous Shiite slogan 'God is great, death to America, death to Israel'.

And when, 2004 Saleh sent troops to capture Hussein Badr Al-Din Al-Houthi, the leader of Youth Believers, the group responded violently and the event marked the beginning of the first of the six wars between the republic and the Houthis.

The Saada war has served as a catalyst for the failure of the Yemeni state by draining the country's limited resources, encouraging southerners to challenge the regime, creating a haven for al-Qaeda and eroding Saleh's legitimacy. And as Saleh continues to weaken, he is insisting on a military solution to this political conflict, unwilling to accept the Houthis as a political and social force.

## Calls for Secession in the South

Southern Yemenis lost more than the war of 1994: cultural, political and economical marginalization of the southerners

13 years of deprivation and frustration: southerners finally took to the streets.

Humiliated by defeat, most southerners went unheard, while others staged small-scale protests but faced brutal repression in the wake of 1994 invasion of the south by the northern military, tribals and jihadist, government policies leading to cultural, political and economical marginalization of the southerners, privatization of southern public enterprises, forced retirement or exile of officials of the south.

The 1995 economic restructuring program, which focused on cutting expenditure on social programs and withdrawing subsidies from basic

necessities, the southerners were hit the hardest, while, the government in Sana'a thrived on revenues earned from resources extracted from the south.

The failure of September 2006 presidential elections to produce any meaningful change in terms or leadership or policies, the regime's inability to crush the insurrection of the Houthis in the far north and the deterioration in their living conditions formed the last straws and after approximately 13 years of deprivation and frustration, southerners finally took to the streets.

Initial demands of the Southern Movement and the government's dual carrot and stick policy

When the southern movement started in mid-2007, it was led by ad hoc organizations formed by military and security retirees and protesters called for the return to service, promotion and compensation of those southerners who were forced to take early retirement or lost their jobs after the 1994 civil war and the return of land confiscated by powerful—mostly northern—military officers and sheiks.

On the one hand, the government tried to reinstate, raise salaries and promote those who were forced to retire or had lost their jobs, appointed influential leaders of the Southern Movement to senior government positions with benefits, seeking to buy them; while on the other hand, it tried to repress the movement.

Between 2007 and 2009, protestors and policemen were killed, and thousands of people were detained and although government repression increased rapidly as protestors started calling for the secession of the south, it lost control over some areas.

## The Resurrection of al-Qaeda

In such a context of chaos and weak or missing government control, AQAP began to expand and establish training camps.

The Yemeni jihadists, were encouraged in the 1970s and 80s by the Yemeni and Saudi governments to contain the Marxists in the south and later expanded to liberating Afghanistan from the Soviet occupation. By the end of the 1980s and the beginning of the 1990s, these Jihadists began to return home along with their international comrades, who unable to return to their countries fearing prosecution, found in the newly-founded Republic of Yemen a haven.

## Al-Qaeda - an ally or a threat?

In the 1994 civil war between the ruling northern and southern elites, Yemeni and Arab jihadists, who fought in Afghanistan, took Saleh's side in the war. In return, the government rewarded the jihadists by incorporating Yemeni Jihadists in the security and military, and encouraging them to contain the moderate Islah, and by incorporating Arab Jihadists in formal and informal education Institutions.

In the years after September 11 terrorist attacks, Saleh, willingly or unwillingly joined the international war on terror. In 2002 he allowed US drones to assassinate some al-Qaeda leaders on Yemeni soil. He later entered into a controversial dialogue program with al-Qaeda, apparently giving them some financial benefits and allowing them to move freely.

The latest resurrection of al-Qaeda can be attributed to three main factors: (1) the Yemeni government was pressured by the international community to restrict the movement of al-Qaeda operatives and prevent them from travelling to Iraq to engage in the jihad, much to the annoyance of al-Qaeda; (2) as the government's financial resources dwindled, al-Qaeda operatives asked for more, while the government was unable to deliver; and (3) the intensification of political conflict—electoral or by other means—made the Yemeni regime reluctant to hunt down al-Qaeda members, either because they represented a potential ally in the regime's war for survival, because the regime did not perceive al-Qaeda as a threat compared to other challenges or because the regime had become too weak to confront it.

## A Rentier Economy

During the era of division, the two Yemens depended on a rentier economy, with the south relying on the Soviets and the north depending on the Gulf countries. After unification in 1990, Yemen faced its most serious economic crisis. This was largely due to its stance on the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, that led it to be viewed by its neighbors and by the international community as a backer of the Iraqi dictator. To punish Yemen, the Saudis expelled hundreds of thousands of Yemeni workers and, as a result, the country lost not only its workers' remittances but also development aid, taking the Yemeni economy very close to collapse.

At the time, the international financial institutions and the Yemeni government agreed in 1995 on a reform program to stabilize the economy. The premise of the reform was to fund investments and create new jobs for the unemployed. But the program had mixed results. On the one hand, the government succeeded in stabilizing the economy; on the other, savings from the withdrawal of subsidies largely ended up in the pockets of corrupt officials. The reform program ground to complete halt, especially after Yemen's oil revenues started to rise, first because of increased production and afterwards due to rising oil prices.

While paying donors lip service, the Yemeni government evaded implementing any genuine reform that could have a negative effect on Saleh's grip on power. As an outcome of Saleh's self-servicing policies, poverty and corruption grew fast making Yemen the poorest country in the Middle East and the world in general, aside from Sub-Saharan Africa.

## The Way Out

Containing the secessionist movement in the south and preventing Yemen from degenerating into a Somalia-like state will require restructuring

and strengthening the Yemeni state and political system in ways that will allow meaningful power-sharing, accountability, the de-personalization of power and the rule of law. Parliamentaryism, deep decentralization, bicameralism, proportional representation and free media are all key components to any viable solution to Yemen's current myriad problems. The separation of south and north is almost impossible and if allowed could

lead to the breakdown of the country as a whole into warring tribes, sects, regions and ideological orientations. As in Afghanistan, Somalia, Iraq and elsewhere, only extremist groups focusing on passion and advocating terror can gain advantage in the event of a split.

*Abdullah Al-Faqih is a writer, activist and Professor of Political Science at Sana'a University, Yemen*



CHEMONICS

Chemonics International, an international development consulting firm, seeks Yemeni specialists for anticipated USAID-funded projects in Yemen. We are recruiting long-term senior technical advisors in the following areas: agriculture, enterprise development, education, health, and local governance.

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## In Yemen, the truth is a casualty of war

As the government steps up its war against extremists, news releases tout the number killed. But many turn out to be alive. Or at least not proved dead. Until they're reported killed, again. Maybe

By: Jeffrey Fleishman  
and Haley Sweetland Edwards

Reporting from Cairo and Sana, Yemen - The terrorist who's dead is still alive. A perverse contradiction? No, just another day in the Yemen news cycle, where rebels, separatists, extremists and government officials conjure a surreal world of spin, lies and propaganda. It makes one wonder if reality exists at all in this cruel and beautiful land.

Yemen is a testament to the maxim that the first casualty of war is truth. And the conflicts here are many: Civil war in the north, secession pangs in the south, running battles with Al Qaeda across tribal strongholds rich in weapons and oil. Hunkered men with Internet connections and laptops post videos on YouTube and hyperbolic messages on extremist websites challenging the government's take on everything from body counts to who captured whom when.

In the last month, since the government intensified its war against the group Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, the terrorist network's affiliate in Yemen, news releases posted on the government's news website killed off almost a dozen enemies of the state who later turned out to be alive. Or if they're not alive, there's no proof they're dead.

"I don't write anyone is dead until there's a body," said an exasperated local reporter. "You show me the body, I'll write the story."

### New technology

In the good old days, rebels and militants literally were voices in the wilderness, hoping at best to finagle a fax machine or a telex. Today, before a missile explodes or a grave is dug, the music is cued and the word is out.

Who to believe on any given afternoon amounts to a gulp and the toss of a coin. Reportedly. Purportedly. Allegedly. Words to live by.

The fog of scurrilous sound bites and dicey intelligence drifts through most wars. U.S. news briefings during the Vietnam War were known as the Five O'Clock Follies. Reliable information often takes a while to burn through scrims of calculated illusions and earnest mistakes. But Yemen has a mesmerizing and maddening panache for building puzzles where the pieces don't quite fit.

In an attack in December, the government claimed to have killed Anwar Awlaki, the radical American-born Yemeni cleric who is said to have had ties to the suspects in the Ft. Hood shootings and the attempted Christmas Day bombing of an airliner bound for Detroit. He turned up alive a few days later. The same goes for Naser Abdel-Karim Wahishi, the Yemeni Al Qaeda leader, who the government claimed had been at a meeting raided by Special Forces in December. Either Wahishi escaped, or he wasn't at the meeting in the first place, but at any rate, he survived a government press release.

### Curioser...

Last month, the government announced it had captured Saeed Ali Shehri, the second in command of the group, when his car overturned while he was trying to evade a checkpoint. A handful of news organizations, including an English-language paper, the Yemen Observer, whose owner is close to the president, reported the story. Then later corrected it, saying that it was another Shehri, Yusuf, who had been killed.

Mmmm. It gets better. Yusuf had (reportedly) died back in October during a shootout in Jizan, Saudi Arabia.

Another tidbit left twisting.

Days earlier, the government-run news agency released a statement that two high-level Al Qaeda operatives had been killed in an airstrike on two cars in eastern Yemen. The next day, Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula hosted a "Thanksgiving dinner" to presumably express gratitude that the two were still alive, according to local newspapers. The group published a statement saying no one had died and it warned citizens against believing the government's "repeated lies."

The government news agency, meanwhile, sort of pretended the whole thing hadn't happened. It quietly stopped claiming that either militant was dead; their whereabouts, dead or alive, are unknown.

It's not only Al Qaeda operatives who pull a Lazarus. In the last six weeks, Abdel Malik Houthi, the leader of the Shiite rebellion in northern Yemen, has been reported slain half a dozen times in government reports and by competing news agencies, only to reappear a few days later on the rebels' website or YouTube.

The government claimed recently that Houthi had been killed "after he was seriously wounded in an air raid two weeks ago." It later amended that to say Houthi wasn't dead, but he had been severely wounded and had a leg amputated. Things got a bit fuzzy; speculation abounded.

Presto. A 38-second video popped up online on Jan. 22. It is not clear when it was made, but it shows Houthi with both legs intact and a dagger stuffed firmly in his belt, denying charges of his passing. On Saturday, Houthi called for a cease-fire. On Sunday, government troops reportedly killed 20 of his men. Stay tuned.

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Edwards is a special correspondent.  
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## The US Media's Misconception of Terrorism

By: Rami G. Khouri

It has been depressing this week to watch mainstream American television networks cover Yemen and wider issues related to tensions and terrorism in our region. It is depressing because -- with very few exceptions -- the mass media that provides the majority of Americans with their news and views of world events is covering the Yemen story with a shocking combination of amateurism, ideological distortion, and selectivity. If the mass media is a mirror of the political system in the United States -- and I believe it is -- then it is no wonder that the past two decades have seen a steady expansion of two related and symbiotic problems: the spread of terrorism in and from the Arab-Asian region, and the spread of the American armed forces and covert operations in the same region.

Yemen media coverage captures this very neatly. The mainstream American media, especially network and cable television, mainly report that the problems that spur terrorism from Yemen are poverty, religious extremism, and ineffective government. Charismatic Muslim preachers, often using the Internet, are also widely mentioned these days as a real problem that exacerbates the terror threat. In every report I have seen, without fail, the thrust of the report is that terrorism is a consequence of Islamic religious extremism that is somehow connected with a visceral hatred of the United States or Western ways in general.

The flaw in this approach -- and it was evident in President Barack Obama's remarks last Thursday on how the United States will improve its intelligence defenses against terrorism -- is that it refuses to acknowledge that terrorism in our age is largely a reactionary movement that responds to perceived threats against

those societies from where the terrorists emerge. It is striking that in most cases of successful or failed terror attacks, the perpetrators or the organizations that send them to kill explain that they carry out their deed as a response to the deeds of others -- such as Israel's assault on Palestinians, the US and British armies in Iraq or Afghanistan, American drone attacks against militants in Yemen, or some other such issue.

This fact has been well-documented by the pioneering work of Professor Robert Pape at the University of Chicago, whose analysis of over 500 "suicide" or "martyrdom" attacks around the world since 1980 indicates that, "what over 95 percent of all suicide terrorist attacks, around the world since 1980, have in common -- from Lebanon, to Chechnya, to Sri Lanka, to Kashmir, to the West Bank -- is not religion, but a specific strategic goal: to compel a modern democracy to withdraw combat forces from territory the terrorists view is their homeland, or prize greatly."

The unacceptable criminal nature of terror attacks against civilians in Arab, Western or South Asian cities is beyond question; they are totally intolerable and must be fought with all legitimate political, military and legal means. Yet if the starting point for fighting terror is only the terror attacks themselves and the societies from which they emanate, without fully acknowledging the wider cycle of political violence that also includes sustained aggressive policies by the United States, the United Kingdom, Israel, Arab governments and others in the region, we will only perpetuate the current insanity that I mentioned above: the simultaneous proliferation of terrorism, American armed forces, Israeli assassinations, and other elements of the full cycle of political violence in the Arab-Asian region.

Tightening and sharpening the work of intelligence networks, as President

Obama promised, will prevent some attacks, for sure, and should be done to protect innocent lives. But the likelihood of this removing the terror problem is nearly zero, for the terrorists will only shift the targets and means of their criminal deeds from more secure airplanes and airports to other more vulnerable and exposed targets, such as trains, boats, and municipal water, power, and transport systems.

Mainstream American media coverage of terrorism, Yemen, and related issues is -- with very few exceptions of quality analysis and reporting -- a horror show of superficiality, selectivity and racist sensationalism. The latest culprits for the US media are "Muslim tele-evangelists," as they are called. A few years ago, the culprits were the madrasas. Before that the culprits were the folks of Jazeera television. Before that they were Saudi-financed Salafists. Before that the problem was poverty and hopelessness. Before that it was Muslims who had trouble with "modernity." Next month, the culprits will be someone else. When will this evasive nonsense ever stop, and when will mainstream American journalism executives grow up and act like adults, rather than adolescents, on this score?

The terror problem will persist among the strange and dangerous ways of radical Muslims in exotic mountainous lands, as long as American, Israeli and Arab state policies degrade and dehumanize normal people to the point where a few of them become abnormal criminals and terrorists.

Rami G. Khouri is Editor-at-large of The Daily Star, and Director of the Issam Fares Institute for Public Policy and International Affairs at the American University of Beirut, in Beirut, Lebanon.

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## Postcard from Yemen

By: Thomas L. Friedman  
New York Times

Yemen's former prime minister, Abdul Karim al-Iryani, got right to the point when I arrived at his Sana home for dinner: "So, Thomas, did it take Abdulmutallab to finally get you

here?" Yes, it is true, I admitted, because that young Nigerian, trained in Yemen by Al Qaeda, tried to blow up a Northwest jetliner on Christmas Day. I decided I had to see Yemen firsthand. I further confessed to Iryani: "I was a bit worried coming here. I half expected to be met at the bottom of the stairs from my Qatar Airways flight by Osama bin Laden himself."

Fortunately, though, I found that Sana is not Kabul, and Yemen is not Afghanistan -- not yet. The Walled Old City of Sana, a U.N. World Heritage site with its mud-brick buildings adorned with geometric shapes, was bustling with coffee shops at night and vendors by day. Walking through its streets with a Yemeni friend, we came upon four bearded, elderly

Yemeni men -- traditional daggers tucked into their belts -- discussing a poster taped to a stone wall urging "fathers and mothers" to send their girls to school. When I asked what they thought of that idea, the oldest said he was "ready to give up part of a meal each day so that my girls can learn to read." Moreover, he added, the poster had just fallen down and he had just taped it back up for others to see. Not what I expected.

Nor did I expect to find civil society organizations here staffed with young American volunteers -- and, in the case of The Yemen Observer, an English-language newspaper, a whole newsroom full of them. All I could do was look around at these American college students and wonder: "Do your parents know you're here?" They just laughed. Every shopkeeper I spoke to in Old Sana spat out the words "Al Qaeda," which they blamed for killing tourism. Who knew Yemen had tourists? No, this is not Afghanistan.

But this ain't Denmark, either. Al Qaeda is like a virus. When it appears en masse, it indicates something is wrong with a country's immune system. And something is wrong with Yemen's. A weak central government in Sana rules over a patchwork of rural tribes, using an ad hoc system of patronage, co-optation, corruption and force. Vast areas of the countryside remain outside government control, particularly in the south and east, where 300 to 500 Qaeda fighters have found sanctuary. This "Yemeni Way" has managed to hold the country together

and glacially nudge it forward, despite separatist movements in the North and the South. But that old way and pace of doing things can no longer keep pace with the negative trends.

Consider a few numbers: Yemen's population growth rate is close to 3.5 percent, one of the highest in the world, with 50 percent of Yemen's 23 million people under the age of 15 and 75 percent under 29. Unemployment is 35 to 40 percent, in part because Saudi Arabia and the other Gulf states booted out a million Yemeni workers after Yemen backed Saddam Hussein in the 1990 gulf war.

Thanks to bad planning and population growth, Yemen could be the first country to run out of water in 10 to 15 years. Already many Yemenis experience interrupted water service, like electricity blackouts, which they also have constantly. In the countryside today, women sometimes walk up to four hours a day to find a working well. The water table has fallen so low in Sana that you need oil-drilling equipment to find it. This isn't helped by the Yemeni tradition of chewing qat, a mild hallucinogenic leaf drug, the cultivation of which consumes 40 percent of Yemen's water supply each year.

Roughly 65 percent of Yemeni schoolteachers have only high school degrees. Most people live on less than \$2 a day -- except those who don't. A Rolls Royce was recently sold in Sana for the first time. More than 70 percent of government income comes from dwindling oil exports, while 70

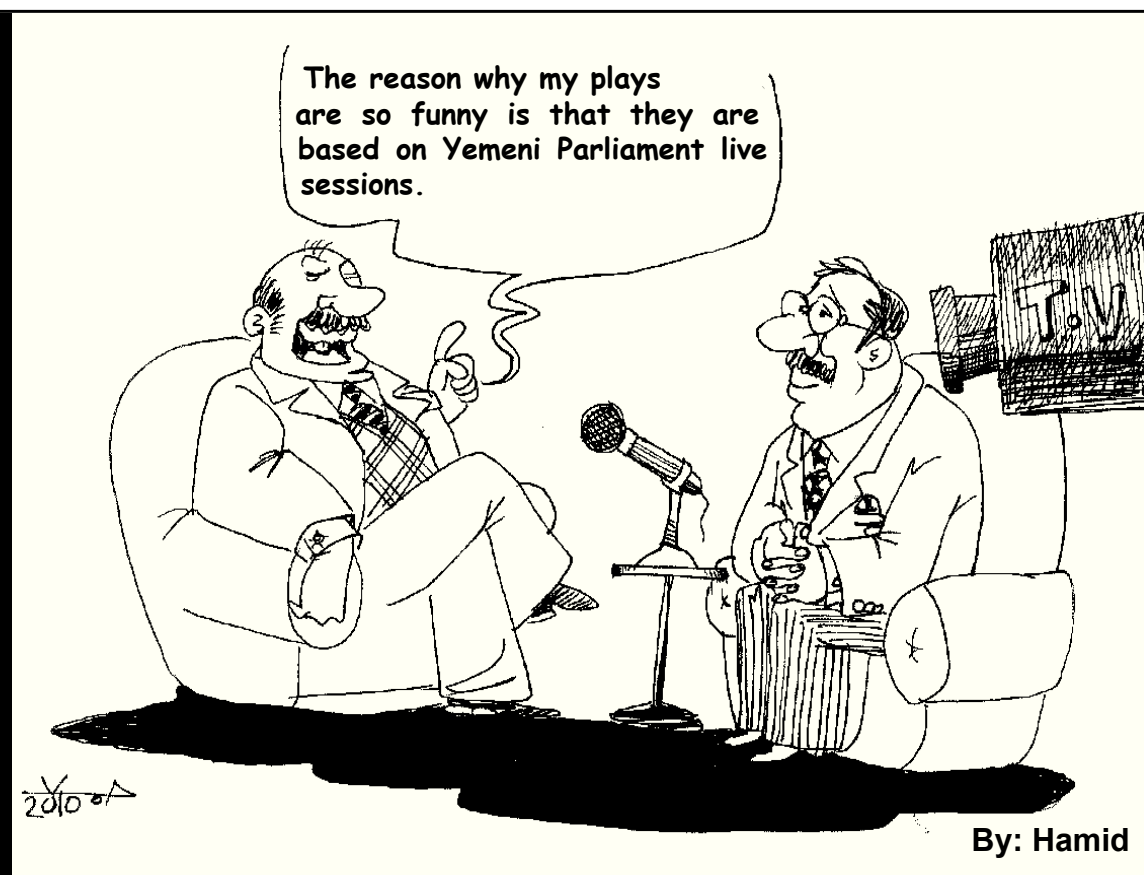
percent of Yemenis are illiterate and 15 percent of kids are not in school.

Yet, at the same time, this country has some of the most interesting journalists, social activists and politicians I have met in the Arab world. I spent a morning at the Media Women Forum, an N.G.O. that trains Yemeni female journalists and promotes press freedom -- part of the "young guard" of idealistic Yemeni reformers who want to serve their people but, so far, have not really been empowered by the old leadership. Founded by a Yemeni press-freedom sparkplug, Rahma Hugaia, the office was bustling with girls, whose hunger to speak their minds filtered right through the black robes that covered all but their eyes.

It's not a secret how to fix this country, argued Mohammed al-Asaadi, a media consultant who sat in with us: "We need a revolution against the status quo. We need to build capacity, institutionalize the rule of law and build a culture of ownership and responsibility." Added Murad Hashim, the Al Jazeera bureau chief here: "We need more education, but we have not used our educated people." Indeed, Yemen has the resources to save itself, but they need to be mobilized by better governance. Without that, the trend lines will eventually overwhelm everything and the Qaeda virus, still controllable, will spread.

A version of this article appeared in print on February 7, 2010, on page WK10 of the New York edition.

S K E T C H E D O P I N I O N



By: Hamid

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## Islam and Democracy

## The acceleration of History

**Contrary to the European experience, secularization in the Islamic world preceded a religious reformation – with profound negative consequences for political development in Muslim societies.**

An essay by Nader Hashemi

One of the most insightful scholars writing today on the relationship between Islam and democracy is Abdou Filali-Ansary. In a discussion on the tension between Islam and secularism, written over ten years ago, he noted: "In the Muslim world, secularization [has proceeded a] religious reformation – a reversal of the European experience in which secularization was more or less a consequence of such a reformation." Unfortunately, he did not expand upon this insight. Doing so would have shed considerable light on problems of political development in Muslim societies today.

In the historical development of the West, a religious reformation preceded and then led to the onset of secularization. In retrospect, it is philosophically inconceivable to think of the emergence and spread of secularism without reference to the Protestant Reformation and the ensuing Wars of Religion that tore Europe asunder. In other words, in the historical development of secularism in Europe, Martin Luther's 95 theses (1517) essentially preceded and then indirectly led to John Locke's A Letter Concerning Toleration (1689) – one of the first moral justifications for the separation of religion and state in Western political thought.

The reverse sequence would have been difficult to fathom primarily because the political culture in Europe at the time was unwilling to support the idea of a separation of church and state.

#### Religion as the source of moral authority

Indeed, any religious innovation whatsoever, prior to the Enlightenment, was viewed with deep skepticism in large part because religion was the source of moral authority. This is why Thomas

Hobbes was frequently attacked for his supposed atheism. At the start of his Leviathan, he anticipates that this would happen and that his fiercest critics would be upset primarily with his novel religious arguments not his overt political ones. John Locke was also a religious innovator.

In both of his major political tracts, Two Treatises of Government and A Letter Concerning Toleration, Locke's political arguments – which had significant consequences for the development of secularism in the West – were preceded by a re-interpretation of Christian doctrine.

In the Two Treatises, the moral basis of legitimate political authority are re-located, away from the "divine right of kings" and newly situated in the "consent" of the governed.

In A Letter Concerning Toleration, Locke's religious reinterpretation of Christian doctrine acts as a preface to his new conception of church-state relations where he diverges from the reigning Hobbesian consensus and argues that religious toleration is indeed compatible with political order on the condition that one can "distinguish exactly the Business of Civil Government from that of Religion, and to settle the just Bounds that lie between the one and the other."

In other words, the normative relationship between religion and state is first reshaped by Locke via a dissenting religious exegesis upon which a new conception of church-state relations is subsequently built. The lesson writ large from English history, therefore, is that a religious reformation of ideas with respect to government preceded the movement towards secularization and democratization.

#### Secularization in the Islamic world

By contrast in the Islamic world, as Filali-Ansary has correctly noted, the reverse process has taken place – "sec-



**Extensive modernization instead of religious reformation: Muhammad Ali, the 'Father of Modern Egypt'**

ularization [has] preceded a religious reformation." This has had profound negative consequences for political development in Muslim societies. The introduction of secularism into the region, first due to the colonial encounter with Europe and secondly due to the modernizing and repressive policies of the post-colonial state, effectively meant that secularism in Muslim societies was a top-down process of state imposition, rather than a bottom-up process that emerged via an organic connection with debates from civil society.

The eminent historian Marshall Hodgson discusses this theme in his comparative treatment of the mod-

ernization of Europe and the Middle East. A critical difference he uncovers – which had serious consequences for political development – was that the Muslim encounter with modernity, unlike in Europe, was marked by an "acceleration of history" that resulted in a radical rupture with the past. The prime casualty of this development was that modernization was not accompanied by a parallel transformation of religious, intellectual and political values on a mass level.

#### An extensive modernization program for Egypt

In the aftermath of Napoleon's occupa-

tion of Egypt (1798-1799), an Albanian officer of the Ottoman army, Muhammad Ali (1769-1849) seized power in 1805, destroying the old Mamluke military class and launching an extensive modernization program that transformed Egyptian society. It is because of his sweeping reforms that Muhammad Ali is credited with being the founder father of modern Egypt.

According to Hodgson, however, while Ali was successful in destroying the old traditional order and modernizing Egypt, "he found that the background of two centuries of steady social and intellectual transformation, which Western Europe had known, was totally lacking, and this lack restricted his ability to build certain narrow limits – limits then unfamiliar, but which were to become commonplace."

Muhammad Ali's attempt to construct a new intellectual life for Egypt was embodied in the modern school system that he established. Modeled on the West, with an emphasis on schools of engineering and science, the results according to Hodgson, despite their noble intentions, had a "destructive aspect." Over time, society became bifurcated between a small elite who were the recipient of a Western and secular education and the majority who were not.

The first group of students "had no serious knowledge of the Islamic past of Egypt, and found little sympathy for – or from – the masses of their families." The second group of students were the recipients of a traditional education and "were left to support the cultural continuity of the land."

#### Drastic discontinuity of Muslim modernity

The final result, according to Marshall Hodgson – which has significantly influenced the contemporary Muslim debate on religion, secularism and democracy – was that "one group [was] possessed of much modern book learning which alienated them from their own people and who knew almost nothing of the very religion they professed; another group, increasingly incompetent custodians of that religion, who knew nothing of the intellectual

springs of modern life."

Hodgson goes on to note that the "story of Egypt was repeated – usually rather less neatly, and in a wide variety of circumstances – among most of the lands of urban and literate civilization of the Eastern hemisphere.... [a] large proportion ... [of which were] more or less Islamic." His radical rupture thesis or as he called it – the "drastic discontinuity" of Muslim modernity – is relevant here because it complements the views of Filali-Ansary that "[i]n the Muslim world, secularization [has preceded a] religious reformation – a reversal of the European experience in which secularization was more or less a consequence of such reformation."

Hodgson's observation that the Muslim societies did not experience a "steady social and intellectual transformation" from below to match state-induced modernization from above is a reference to the underdevelopment of Muslim political culture. In other words, due to the absence of a religious reformation on the normative relationship between religion and government on a mass level, secularism has had weak intellectual roots in the Muslim world.

This chasm between state secularism from above and the nonsecular political culture from below also explains, in part, why today support for religious parties and calls for the establishment of "an Islamic State" have an appeal. Except for a minority of the population who have been the recipients of a Western education and who have internalized a secular outlook, a significant portion of Muslim society today is responsive to political appeals that call for the integration of religion and state and a rejection of secular principles.

There is infinitely more to this story but these background developments are central to any objective understanding of the topic.

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This article is an excerpt from Nader Hashemi's book, "Islam, Secularism, and Liberal Democracy: Toward a Democratic Theory for Muslim Societies", Oxford University Press, 304 pages.

## Corruption in the Arab World

**Corruption and nepotism are widespread in Arab nations. Large-scale bribery is not uncommon, even among leading politicians, as Birgit Kaspar reports from Beirut**



**Mo' money... – corruption excesses that inflict massive damage on the state and bureaucratic systems are omnipresent in the Arab world.**

#### Bought Loyalties

In the Arab world, corruption is a trivial offence. In many cases, it even holds the nation together or at least ensures that the ailing governmental system continues to function at all. Rather bad, than correct.

But at least citizens know how much they have to pay to whom to receive a service. "Sixty percent of our national budget goes in one way or another to corruption and patronage networks," criticises Yemeni analyst Abdul-Ghani al-Iryani. He goes on to say that this boundless corruption on all levels creates a spiral that will lead to the destruction of the state.

#### Lacking a vision of statehood

The definition of corruption is as follows: "The abuse of authority for private gain," explains Badri el Meouchi of the "Lebanese Transparency Association" (LTA). And this corruption comes in many forms – from the underpaid civil servant who is asked to pay a bribe to secure a higher salary, right through to ministers and heads of state negotiating state contracts in such a way that they can pocket considerable sums.

But leading politicians are also corruptible, as they buy the loyalty of their clientele with government funds, or use these funds to placate dissenters.

According to the 2009 Corruption Index from "Transparency

International", Iraq, Yemen, Lebanon, Syria and Egypt are among the world's most corrupt nations.

Meouchi says what these countries have in common is a lack of popular faith in the state, no clear vision of statehood and no ability to deliver appropriate services to their citizens.

#### Inventive measures to counter unemployment

Meouchi reports that an analysis of how much it costs to ship a 40ft container to Marseille from all Mediterranean ports revealed that Beirut harbour is the most expensive.

This is because customers have to pay bribes at every conceivable point of the process in order to receive a legal service, he says.

The study also brought to light that the work of 1,000 port workers in Beirut could quite easily be done by just 100 people, who could then be paid a decent wage instead of a pittance.

Meouchi goes on to say that Lebanon's entire state bureaucracy is overblown. It employs, in a tiny country with a population of some four million, about as many staff as the Canadian administration does for around 32 million residents.

In Lebanon, just like in most Arab countries, the public sector is the country's largest employer, and one of its functions is to ensure that people have jobs.

The consequences of this are sometimes surreal. For example, according to economic adviser Marwan Iskander, Lebanon has a railway authority with a staff of more than 900, although the trains stopped running 20 years ago and the entire rail network is either destroyed, or overgrown.

#### Non-existent companies

Other sectors where state corruption is flourishing are infrastructure projects and the acquisition of military equipment. For example, the Yemeni electricity authority is accused of commissioning an expensive feasibility study for the construction of five nuclear reactors from a company that did not even exist.

Or the pilots of Yemeni MIG fighter jets are forced to crash-land the planes on strips of rubble. The planes are ruined in the process, so that orders for new ones can be placed with Russia.

The profit margin arises from the fact that although the orders are for fully-equipped MIGs, only standard, minimally equipped models are delivered. The difference ends up in the pocket of the responsible government authority. The list of absurd examples such as these goes on and on, says Iskander.

#### A lack of alternatives

All the countries concerned are run by a closed system. To comprehend the inner logic of that system, Badri el Meouchi stresses that one has to envision the social contract in each of these nations.

In western Europe, or the US, a social contract exists between the state and every citizen, whose rights are protected regardless of his social group, he says.

"But in Lebanon for example, this contract exists between the state and the individual denominational communities – at the expense of the citizen and the authority of the state," says Meouchi. That is why people here have to turn to their religious leaders whenever they have problems or needs, he adds.

In other places, concerns are taken to the tribal or clan chief. People are aware that this system is outmoded. But owing to a lack of alternatives, they point out that at least it works. And as long as political leaders lack

the will to instigate reform, then the situation is unlikely to change.

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Translated from the German by Nina Coon



Embassy of India, Sana'a

#### TENDER NOTICE FOR VISA OUTSOURCING

The Embassy of India in Sana'a intends to outsource its visa services and seeks sealed quotations/bids (**only in English**) from competent service providers in Yemen. For the time being, visa collection/delivery centres will have to be opened by the successful bidding company at Sana'a, Aden, Taiz, Hodeidah, Mukalla and Ibb. The full details of the proposed outsourcing requirements are contained in the two documents - i) Request for Proposal and ii) Invitation for Bids - which can be collected from the Embassy of India, Sana'a [No. 12, Djibouti Street, Sana'a, Tel: 441251 & 441252; Fax: 441257 & Email: [indembassy@yemen.net.ye](mailto:indembassy@yemen.net.ye)] between 11.00 – 12.00 hrs. on any working day. These two documents could be sent on email on request to bidding firms only from cities other than Sana'a. **The sealed tenders, containing Technical and Financial Bids in two separate envelopes, should be sent to or submitted at the Embassy on or before Saturday, 6th March, 2010. The tenders will be opened at the Embassy premises at 12.00 hrs. on Tuesday, 9th March, 2010** when a representative of each bidding company can be present. Factors like the reputation of the bidding firms, their prior experience in the field so far, the facilities that they intend to provide at the collection/delivery centres, service charges quoted by them etc. will be the key in deciding the bidder to whom the outsourcing contract will be finally awarded.



## DHL Yemen Celebrates 2009 Achievements and gives Performance Excellence Awards to its outstanding employees.



Sana'a February, 4, 2010: Held at Sheraton Hotel, the 2009 achievements awards event for DHL Yemen whereby more than 50 employees from all DHL stations in Yemen had come together to celebrate the company's achievement and recognition of best achievers during the year. The Ceremony was attended by Omar Mohamed Omar, General Manager and Dr. Munsoor Alabai the Country Manager of DHL Yemen.

In his welcome word, Mr. Omar expressed his satisfaction of DHL Yemen Achievements in 2009. "Despite tough market and economic conditions, we have made significant progress. I would like to recognize the tremendous efforts you have made to grow our business but there are still some areas where we need to get better. We are confident of our employees and always will be our company's most valuable asset," stated General Manager Omar M. Omar.

In his presentation to the audience, the Country Manager, Dr. Munsoor Alabai, mentioned the challenging Global economic slowdown and current political and security crisis in Yemen. Therefore we will continue to challenge in 2010; we will continue to target market development opportunities while focusing on expense management to reduce cost and make profitable growth. He added "Yemeni Customers are placing high value in DHL brand. This is a strong motivation for us to continuously improve our service offerings and strengthen our relationship with customers."

He emphasized that DHL Yemen is part of the Global leader, Deutsche Post DHL, we have the same mission Statement to our customers, employees and shareholders:

- We want to make our customers, employees and investors more successful.
- We always demonstrate respect without compromising on results.
- We simplify our customers' lives.
- We want to make a positive contribution to our world.

Commenting on the future plans, The Country Manager said "2009 was without doubt a challenging year for our company. The financial crisis continues without any clear signs of economic recovery. To make 2010 a year of better growth for DHL Yemen, We have to continue to make efforts to achieve our quality and growth goals with less cost by combining our strength with our partners motivated to all of you.

At the end of the ceremony, some of the attendees gave their comments ideas and thanked DHL management for all the support it gives to the staff to improve performance and be proud of what they do and achieve.

To mark the occasion, the General Manager, Country Manager and the Human Resource Manager, Mr. Amin Al-Awadi had the honor in giving company's best achievers awards to the winners in 2009.

The Country Manager ended the Ceremony and concluded "I would like to thank our management and all of you for your support and for your commitment to our company and our customers."

We can be proud of what we have achieved in this difficult year. We are looking forward to working as a team in 2010 and winning all the events through out this year.







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

## "Visa Assistant"

The position is located in the Consular Section under the direct supervision of the Immigrant Visa Supervisor. The incumbent performs moderately difficult and responsible work pertaining to immigrant visa services.

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#### B. Prior Work Experience

Three to five years of experience in office clerical work, preferably involving contact with the public, less experience acceptable if in consular work.

#### C. Language Proficiency

Level IV (good working knowledge) of English and Arabic is required. The incumbent must have ability to perform simultaneous translation between the two languages.

#### D. Job Knowledge

- Authoritative knowledge of applicable laws, regulations, and procedures including 9 FAM, State Department ALDACs, U.S. Privacy Act laws and Consular SOPs. Strong and demonstrated knowledge of local laws, practices and customs is advantageous. S/he must have advanced working knowledge of the IV software and the Consular Consolidated Database. Knowledge in computer-based data management is required.
- Adherence to established controls over the custody and processing of visa foils; understanding the concept of the principle of accountability and knowledge of how to deal with public. Works independently but exercises good judgment in referring sensitive cases to supervisor or FPU. Knowledge of DHS procedures and operational tendencies and knowledge on Airline Travel regulations is highly required.

#### E. Skills and Abilities

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The ability to work in a high stress, high volume productivity environment is required.

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Note: All ordinarily resident applicants must be residing in country and have the required work and residency permits to be eligible for consideration.



بنك التهامون الإسلامي الدولي

Tadhamon International Islamic Bank

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Tadhamon International Islamic Bank is seeking to an experienced accountant to work at the Finance Department, Sana'a.

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- To support the Head of Accounting in the accurate and timely production of financial statements and management reports and their interpretation.
- To help the Head of Accounting to maintain an appropriate control environment which ensures the completeness, accuracy and timeliness of the bank's financial information?
- To help on specific projects (investments, business plans, new products .. etc) or specific reports.
- To oversee variance analysis and interpretation of financial results.
- To help in establishing and managing formal monthly and quarterly closing.
- To assist in ensuring appropriate accounting practices.
- To be involved in budgeting processes.

### Requirement:

1. 3 to 5 years post-graduate experience with an accounting firm and working experience in the financial sector (preferably in an Islamic FI).
2. Fluency in spoken and written both Arabic and English
3. Having an analytical and problem solving skills. Fluency in English will be an advantage.
4. Having a good skills in using of MS Excel.

Interested candidates should send CVs to:

[hr@tiib.com](mailto:hr@tiib.com) or fax to (01) 212 550

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

All applications must be received not later than 25-2-2010

الشركة اليمنية للغاز الطبيعي المسال  
Yemen LNG Company



### Job Vacancy

The Yemen LNG project involves the construction and operation of a gas pipeline, a harbour and a liquefied natural gas processing plant at Balhaf on the Gulf of Aden which will export 6.7 million tons of LNG per annum. The project office are based in Sana'a and the project has an anticipated lifespan of over 20 years. Yemen LNG Company is now recruiting the temporary and permanent staff who will construct and manage the project.

All candidates must be Yemeni nationals

**Job Title:** PLC SENIOR TECHNICIAN - Ref. No. 250  
**Department:** Maint. & Inspection  
**Work Location:** Balhaf

#### Definition & Responsibilities:

- Responsible for the application of the HSE YMLG Policy and HSE national regulations in its areas of activities.
- Carries out specific duties related to the job such as revision of documentation, procedures, safety manual and other related documents to PLC equipment.
- Promotes and supervises the necessary preventive and corrective actions plans to ensure the safety of personnel, the environment protection, and the integrity of equipment in his domain of activities. Promotes and controls the implementation of HSE rules and procedures as applicable.
- Ensures all PLC junior technicians are up to date with their HSE training.

#### Phase 2 Project phase up to start technology start-up.

- During commissioning and start-up stages will review project documentation, attend vendor / in-house training, witness and verify PLC equipment installation and calibration.
- Participates and follow up systems punch lists up to completion, complete maintenance PLC procedures, verify functional checks and equipment test runs, confirms PLC systems ready for acceptance

#### Phase 3 Normal plant operations.

- Carries out installation, maintenance, disassembly, cleaning, calibration, change and repair work on a variety of electronic and electrical control systems related to the installation by using a variety of tools and test equipment. Reports back on condition as found, time spent, work carried out, as test, material used, and any further action required for each job undertaken. Equipment includes programmable logic controllers PLCs.
- Performs troubleshooting to check for faulty systems. Examines faulty electronic or electrical control system equipment, establishes requirements and completes fault finding to board level and changing out of integrated circuits as required.
- Participates in PLC systems tests and ensures correct operation of the systems.
- Ensuring up date of technical documents (PLC, cause and effect diagram, circuit drawings, etc).
- Ensure the protection of the PLC from non-authorized access, viruses and non-authorized modifications.
- Receives assignments and takes closely with production personnel whilst performing the job. Maintains good housekeeping at work site and ensures tools and equipment are kept in good, safe operating condition. Replaces and stores tools in orderly and tidy manner.
- Participates with the 'contractors and vendors' for the utilization of specialist services in the PLC systems.
- Use CMMS as a tool to plan work execute and update technical information for analysis and continuous improvement.
- Provides information for preparing monthly reports (work completed, backlog, spare parts shortage, etc ...) for the section to be further submitted to his/superior.

#### Qualifications Required:

- Higher National Diploma (HND) in computer sciences or industrial automation plus formal training in control systems.
- 8 years' specific maintenance experience in the oil refining, gas or petrochemical industry.
- High level of knowledge and specialized on PLC systems maintenance (Allen Bradley, Siemens, CCC Controllers, etc).
- Teamwork skills.
- Working knowledge of computer applications and methods.
- Good command of written and spoken English.

#### APPLICATION PROCESS

1. Visit Yemen LNG's website at ([WWW.YEMENLNG.COM](http://WWW.YEMENLNG.COM)).
2. Go to Careers, then to Vacancies to enter our Web Application System.
3. Register your personal and professional data in order to log in and apply, mentioning the title and the reference number of the position you are applying for.
4. Do not make duplicate applications by fax, etc.
5. Yemen LNG Company will contact the selected candidates for interview and further assessment.
6. Applicants who are not contacted have not been successful but can still apply for future positions.

Closing Date: February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2010

[WWW.YEMENLNG.COM](http://WWW.YEMENLNG.COM)

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## Mineral sector to bring job opportunities to Yemen

By: Ali Saeed

The mineral sector in Yemen is a promising resource that can contain the growing labor force and contribute between three to seven percent of the GDP, making about USD 500,000 to USD 1 million annually in revenues, according to the World Bank.

There are now more than ten foreign companies working in the field of minerals and granite, according to official sources.

To push the sector into meaningful projects that can provide good revenues, the World Bank (WB) recently provided officials at the Geological Survey and Minerals Resources Board with a workshop on monitoring the exploitation of mineral resources in Yemen.

"We are trying to provide tools to the Yemeni officials to be able to regulate and monitor the sector, so the revenues are well controlled," said John Cole Baker, the World Bank project consultant.

He said that there is already one mining project for zinc in Jabal Salab, in the Sana'a governorate, and hopefully it should start production within this year.

In the short term, stone extraction is the major industry in Yemen, while minerals are a potential future industry.

Because oil resources are declining, the WB is trying to help the Yemeni government to develop other sectors, he explained.

The consultant said that the quarrying and mineral sectors will provide more job opportunities for Yemenis.

"In terms of employment, the quarrying and mineral sectors do create job opportunities more than the oil sector," said the consultant.

That is because the oil sector is capital intensive but with less people, while the mineral sector is the opposite, according to Baker.

The WB consultant thinks that the mineral and quarrying sectors can be developed to alleviate poverty and



Mining companies have so far concentrated on stone, but are expected to increase mineral extraction in the future.

provide jobs, but boosting these sectors needs a good environment for investment.

"The good environment for investment is to have good stability, security as well as infrastructure," he said.

The training workshop for dozens of Yemeni officials is just a starting point in developing the mineral sector in Yemen, according to Marco Cosi, expert and consultant in mining.

"The starting point now is to create the group that does have the technical skills [for] monitoring and supporting the sector," said Cosi.

Ashraf Al-Jailani, an official on the Geological Survey and Minerals Resources Board said that the training aimed to develop the capacities of its personnel on how to help investors with the best methods in investing in minerals and stones.

Al-Jailani also said that investing in the mineral and stones sector is also should be accompanied with the social and environmental responsibility.

"After the workshop, trainees will be able to protect the environment from the waste which results from these industries," said Al-Jailani.

They also would be able to design investing programs to be ready for any investor who would like to invest in the mining industry, according to Al-Jailani.

### Mining legislation

To attract the international mining industry to come to invest in Yemen, an upgraded draft of the mining law was formulated by the Geological Survey and Minerals Resources Board and was passed on to the Cabinet.

Now the law is just waiting the approval from the Parliament, according to Al-Jailani.

The International Finance Corporation, a member of the World Bank that finances private sector projects in developing countries, commends the Yemeni government's

desire to liberalize the mineral sector, but points out the lack of a comprehensive mining policy to better define procedures for investors.

"Yemen's mineral legislation and draft regulations reflect the government's desire to liberalize the industry, but the country does not have a comprehensive mining policy," says the IFC website.

In more details, the IFC said that the financial institutions and the administrative practices in the Yemeni government made Yemen a less favorable mining country to international investors.

"The current fiscal regime leaves Yemen in a less favorable position versus other mining countries," reads an article by the IFC. "The administrative practices to obtain licenses, permits, and approvals are not standardized."

To attract global investors to come and invest their capital in Yemen's mines, the Yemeni government needs

a clear policy of what investors should do and what the state is required to do, according to the IFC.

"Attracting major mining companies requires an overall framework, with clear definitions of what private investors can do, what the operating conditions are, and what the requirements are for establishing operations," it said.

### Jabal Salab project

The only mining project in Yemen for the moment is the Jabal Salab zinc mine, in the district of Nihm, in the Sana'a governorate.

The project is predicted to produce around 2.5 million tons of the zinc annually, according to Tala'at Al-Doba'i, the human resources manager at the Jabal Salab Project.

The project is still under construction. Around 120 workers already work in the quarry, according to Al-Doba'i, and this figure could be increased to 450.

The first shipment of Yemeni zinc to be exported is expected at the end of 2010, according to an official from the Geological Survey and Minerals Resources Board.

The Jabal Salab project is a joint venture between ZincOx Resources PLC, a British company, and Ansan Wikfs, a Yemeni company.

### Suawar exploration project

There is also an exploration project in Suwar, in Amran governorate. The project was carried out by Cantex, a Canadian company.

The company is working on exploration for gold. They are still drilling in the area of Suwar looking for the gold deposit.

### Decorative stones workshops

Across the country, decorative stones workshops are widespread. The owners of these workshops bring the stones from mountains well-known for their stones. They cut them with electrical saws into small pieces fit for buildings and decorations.

All the workshops are not organized to be in one defined area, but



the Ministry of Industry and Trade is planning to set up special complexes for those workshops.

"We are planning to create industrial complexes for stone cutting in the governorates of Amran, Dhamar, Ibb, Taiz and Marib," said Abdullaziz Al-Sururi, General Manager of the Industrial Zones at the Ministry of Industry and Trade earlier in an interview with the Yemen Times.

The governorates of Amran, Dhamar, Ibb, Taiz and Marib were selected for this purpose because they are home to stones of good quality, according to Al-Sururi.

Another aim of having special industrial complexes for cutting stones is to control this industry to assure it works well without harming the environment.

"We are doing this to benefit from these governorates' resources, and to better control stone cutting," said Al-Sururi.

"We decided to specify sites for stone cutting factories, to avoid wasting natural resources and to prevent harming humans and the environment, as well as to regulate water consumption and the location of stone cutting workshops," said Al-Sururi.

The location of these workshops were chosen based on certain promising features, such as their proximity to international ports and airports as well as local markets, the availability of a qualified workforce, land, and infrastructure, according to Al-Sururi.



## VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The **Socotra Governance and Biodiversity Project (SGBP)** invites **Yemeni Nationals** to apply for the following position:

**Organization:** UNDP-YEMEN  
**Post Title:** Environmental Legal Advisor – National (ELAN)  
**Duty Station:** Socotra (50 %), Sana'a (50 %)  
**Duration:** 3 months

### A. Background:

This post is within the Component 4 of the ongoing "Strengthening Socotra's Policy and Regulatory framework for Mainstreaming Biodiversity" project supported by The Global Environmental Facility (GEF), United Nation Development Program (UNDP) and the Government of Yemen. The project contributes to the goal of creating a sustainable and well-governed path of development for the Socotra archipelago that ensures the conservation of its globally important biodiversity. The project's objective is that Biodiversity management considerations are mainstreamed effectively into the current process of "decentralizing governance for development" on the Socotra archipelago. The objective will be achieved through the four following project outcomes that reflect the necessary interventions to address the constraints identified in each element of the mainstreaming framework: Local Governance Support, Mainstreaming Tools, Strengthening NGO Advocacy and Benefits of Biodiversity Conservations to Local Livelihoods.

### B. Duties & Responsibilities:

Within the framework of the "Strengthening Socotra's Policy and Regulatory Framework for Mainstreaming Biodiversity" Component No. (4) the consultant will work with the International Environmental Law Adviser (IELA) and carry out several tasks including:

- 1- Compilation of all relevant Yemeni laws and regulations and legally binding international agreements, preparation of general overview of their system and content (including extract of basic material and procedural rules) and arranging their translation into English as a base for further legal analysis and regulatory work.
- 2- Preparation of biodiversity analysis in cooperation with relevant stakeholders, specialists and local authorities which will be used by the ELAI as a base in further regulatory making process. I.e. rare and marketable species data collection, preparation of rare and marketable species overviews.
- 3- Preparation of market analysis with relevant stakeholders, specialists and local authorities which will be used by the ELAI as a base in further regulatory making process. I.e. reviewing of supply/demand market situation (locally and globally; including overview of price ranges), preparation of draft for the best economic utilisation of concerned species.
- 4- Providing legal and technical support to ELAI during preparation of preliminary general concept of regulation. I. e. arranging translations and other technical aspects, arranging and holding meetings with different stakeholders, specialist, local authorities and project management, reviewing and commenting on legal matters from the Yemeni national legislation angle.
- 5- Conducting an informative workshop with members of local authorities and representatives of environmental activities in Socotra to report on main aspects of the preliminary general concept of regulation.
- 6- Providing legal and technical support to ELAI during preparation of preliminary draft of regulation. I. e. arranging translations and other technical aspects, arranging and holding meetings with different stakeholders, specialist, local authorities and project management, reviewing and commenting on legal matters from the Yemeni national legislation angle.
- 7- Conducting an informative workshop with members of local authorities and representatives of environmental activities in Socotra to report on main aspects of the preliminary draft of regulation.
- 8- Providing legal and technical support to ELAI during preparation of final draft of regulation. I. e. arranging translations and other technical aspects, arranging and holding meetings with different stakeholders, specialist, local authorities and project management, reviewing and commenting on legal matters from the Yemeni national legislation angle.
- 9- Providing legal and technical support to ELAI during training of local authorities in Socotra to familiarize their staff with the content and consequences of the drafted regulation.

### C. Qualifications:

- Law professional (required), with the relevant post-graduate studies (desirable).

### D. Competencies:

- Affinity with environmental management.
- Sound understanding of legal/regulatory processes in Yemen.
- At least 5 years of experience drafting legal and/or regulatory instruments.
- Fluent in Arabic, first-class writing skills.
- Fluent in English, ability of Arabic-English interpretation required.
- Affinity with environmental management.
- Disposition/ability to work as a part of a team.
- Sound communication skills; first-class writing skills (Arabic and English required).

**Only Online Applications will be accepted**

- CVs will be received on the e-mail address: [nadim.taleb@undp.org](mailto:nadim.taleb@undp.org) and [ali.atef@undp.org](mailto:ali.atef@undp.org), with "NATIONAL LEGAL ADVISOR" written in the Subject.
- Response will only be made to short listed candidates.
- The deadline for receiving applications is Thursday, 25 February 2010.
- For further details, please contact Dr. Nadim Taleb on 777 727 719.



## VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The **Socotra Governance and Biodiversity Project (SGBP)** invites **Yemeni Nationals** to apply for the following position:

**Organization:** UNDP-YEMEN  
**Post Title:** Local Legal Advisor (LLA)  
**Duty Station:** Socotra (60 %), Sana'a (40 %)  
**Duration:** 3 months

### A. Background:

This post is within the framework of the ongoing "Strengthening Socotra's Policy and Regulatory framework for Mainstreaming Biodiversity" project supported by The Global Environmental Facility (GEF), United Nation Development Program (UNDP) and the Government of Yemen (GOY). The project contributes to the goal of creating a sustainable and well-governed path of development for the Socotra archipelago that ensures the conservation of its globally important biodiversity.

The project's objective is that Biodiversity management considerations are mainstreamed effectively into the current process of "decentralizing governance for development" on the Socotra archipelago. The objective will be achieved through the four following project outcomes that reflect the necessary interventions to address the constraints identified in each element of the mainstreaming framework: Local Governance Support, Mainstreaming Tools, Strengthening NGO Advocacy and Benefits of Biodiversity Conservations to Local Livelihoods.

### B. Duties & Responsibilities:

Within the framework of the "Strengthening Socotra's Policy and Regulatory Framework for Mainstreaming Biodiversity" Component No. One, the consultant will work with the International Institutional Development Adviser (IIDA) and carry out several tasks including:

- 1- In coordination with IIDA, review current institutional set-up, legal set-up and situation for Socotra governance and biodiversity conservation, including assessment of current capacities, systems, structure, facilities, staffing, identification of gaps etc.
- 2- Provide technical assistance, in particular in English translation, to IIDA during his/her official visits to government offices, meetings, training and workshops.
- 3- In coordination with IIDA, the consultant should conduct 2 workshops for key stakeholders about the aims of their mission and the result of the work at the end of their mission.
- 4- Assess the available regulatory instruments required to set up and activate the island wide authority.
- 5- Provide formal and on the job training.
- 6- Facilitate and accompany IIDA visits to government authorities both in Sana'a and Socotra.

### C. Qualifications:

Law professional (required), with the relevant post-graduate studies (desirable).

### D. Competencies

- Sound understanding of legal/regulatory processes in Yemen.
- At least 5 years of experience drafting legal and/or regulatory instruments.
- Fluent in Arabic, first-class writing skills.
- Fluent in English, ability of Arabic-English interpretation required.
- Disposition/ability to work as a part of a team.
- Sound communication skills; first-class writing skills (Arabic and English required).

**Only Online Applications will be accepted**

- CVs will be received on the e-mail address: [nadim.taleb@undp.org](mailto:nadim.taleb@undp.org) and [ali.atef@undp.org](mailto:ali.atef@undp.org), with «LOCAL LEGAL ADVISOR» written in the Subject.
- Response will only be made to short listed candidates.
- The deadline for receiving applications is Thursday, 25 February 2010.
- For further details, please contact Dr. Nadim Taleb on 777 727 719.





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♦ بشير أبو الرجال، خبرة في التسويق والمبيعات والعلاقات العامة. طباع على آلات السيلسكروين. ٧٧١٧٩٢١٤٩

♦ حامد أحمد علي، دبلوم الكترونيات، يجيد الانجليزية والبرمجيات. خبرة في تشكيل وقص المعادن. ٧٧٧١٦٩٧٨٢

♦ بكالوريوس هندسة كمبيوتر -فلسطيني الجنسية - يجيد اللغة الإنجليزية وبرامج الكمبيوتر - قدرة ممتازة على التعامل مع الآخرين - مديرسابق لمعهد لغات - يرغب في العمل الإداري في الشركات أو المصانع أو المعاهد أو المدارس أو السفارات وفي أي مكان للتواصل: ٧٣٣٨٠٣١٩٤

♦ علي السدمي - بكالوريوس لغة إنجليزية - تقدير جيد جداً - يجيد التعامل مع الكمبيوتر والطباعة باللغتين العربية والإنجليزية - يرغب في العمل في أي مجال. للتواصل: ٧٧١٣٧٨٣٠٩

♦ غمدان عبدالقهار - دبلوم إدارة أعمال وسكرتارية - يجيد اللغة الإنجليزية - يجيد استخدام الكمبيوتر والطباعة باللغتين العربية والإنجليزية - خبرة في مجال الإدارة والسكرتارية لمدة ثلاث سنوات - يرغب في العمل في أي شركة. للتواصل: ٧٧٧٠٣٩٠٩١

♦ نشوان حسن - بكالوريوس محاسبة - دورات في الكمبيوتر ويمن سوفت - يجيد اللغة الإنجليزية كتابة ونطقاً وله القدرة على الترجمة - خبرة في العمل المحاسبي لأكثر من ثلاث سنوات - يرغب في العمل في أي شركة. للتواصل: ٧٧١٥٨٠٥٠٩

♦ خبرة في الأعمال الإدارية - علاقات خارجية - مراسلات تجارية - ترجمة - تسويق عبر الانترنت - مهارات

♦ عبد الكريم - بكالوريوس علوم رياضيات - جامعة صنعاء - خبرة في استخدام الفوتوشوب وال 3D Max والإدارة - جيد في اللغة الإنجليزية - دبلوم مايكروسوفت أوفيس - يُجيد الطباعة على الكمبيوتر. للتواصل: ٧٧١٣٠٣٠٩٦

♦ ربيع أحمد - بكالوريوس تجارة - محاسبة - النظام المحاسبي المتكامل - خبرة سنة - دبلوم كمبيوتر

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باسم محمد عبده الشيباني  
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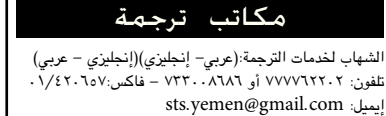
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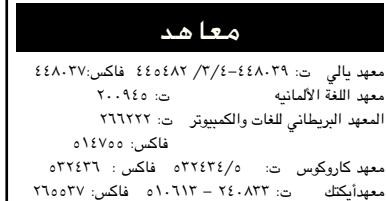
مستشفى الثورة ت: ٢٦-٢٤٦٦٦٧  
المستشفى الجمهوري ت: ٨٧/٢٧٤٢٨٦  
مستشفى حدة الأمل ت: ٤١٢٩٨١  
المستشفى الألماني الحديث ت: ٢٠٠٨-٢٠٠٠/٦٠٠٠٠  
فاكس: ٤١٨١١٦  
E-mail: felixpene@hotmail.com



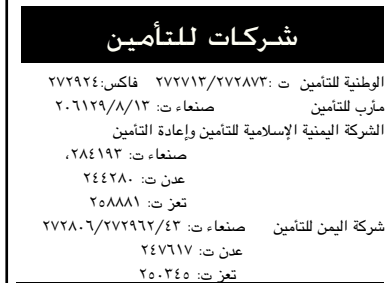
فندق فرساي ت: ٢/٢٠٤٢٥٩٧  
فندق شيراتون ت: ٢٣٧٥٠٠  
فندق موفيك ت: ٥٤٦٦٦٦  
فندق سبأ ت: ٢٧٢٧٢٢  
فندق ريلاكس ان ت: ٤٤٩٨٧١  
فندق وأجنحة الخليج السياحي ت: ٦٠٢١٢٣/٨ - ٦٠٢٣٥٥




الشهاب لخدمات الترجمة (عربي- إنجليزي/ إنجليزي- عربي)  
تلفون: ٧٧٧٧٦٢٢ أو ٨٨٨١-٧٣٣٠٨٨٨١ فاكس: ٦٥٧/٤٢٠١٤٢  
إيميل: sts.yemen@gmail.com



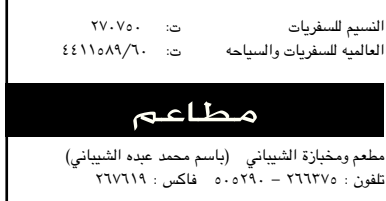
معهد بالي ت: ٤٤٨٠٣٩-٤٤٨٠٣٩/٢/٤ فاكس: ٤٤٨٠٣٧  
معهد اللغة الألمانية ت: ٢٠٠٩٤٥  
المعهد البريطاني للغات والكمبيوتر ت: ٢٤٦٢٢٢  
فاكس: ٩١٤٧٥٥  
معهد كارديوس ت: ٥٣٢٤٢٤/٥ فاكس: ٥٣٢٤٣٦  
معهد أليك ت: ٥١٠١٢٢ - ٥١٠٨٢٢ فاكس: ٢٦٥٥٢٧



الوطنية للتأمين ت: ٢٧٧٧١٢/٢٧٧٨٧٣ فاكس: ٢٧٩٩٢٤  
مكتب التأمين ت: ٢٠٦١٢٩/٨/١٣ صنعاء  
الشركة اليمنية للإسلامية للتأمين وإعادة التأمين ت: ٢٤٤١٩٣  
صنعا ت: ٢٤٤٢٨٠  
عدن ت: ٢٥٨٨٨١  
شركة اليمن للتأمين ت: ٢٧٢٢٢٢/٢٧٢٢٢٢ فاكس: ٢٧٢٢٢٢  
عدن ت: ٢٤٦٧١٧  
تغز ت: ٢٥٠٢٤٥



روضة واحة الأطفال: تلفاكس: ٢٥٠-٤٧٠ موبایل: ٧٣٤٥٢٢٢٢٥  
مدرسة رينبو ت: ٤٢٣-٢٦/٤٢٤-٤٢٤  
مدارس صنعا الدولية ت: ٢٧٠١٩١/٢ فاكس: ٣٧٠١٩٣  
مدرسة التريكة الدولية ت: ٤٤٨٢٥٨/٩  
مدرسة الماجد اليمنية ت: ٢٠٦١٥٩



التسليم للسفرات ت: ٢٧٠٧٥٠  
العالمية للسفرات والسياحة ت: ٤٤١١٥٨٩/٦٠

مطاعم  
مطعم ومخازن الشيباني (باسم محمد عبده الشيباني)  
تلفون: ٢٦٦٢٧٥ - ٥٠٢٩٠ فاكس: ٢٦٧٦١٩

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♦ ماثور - هندي الجنسية - ماجستير تجارة - خبرة لأكثر من عشرين سنة في مجال التجارة - إدارة - تسويق - مشاريع- يبحث عن عمل (يفضل في مدينة تعز). للتواصل: ٧١١٤٤٥٣٥٤

♦ إدريس - خبرة في عمل المناقصات والمراسلات التجارية لأكثر من عشر سنوات - بك لغة انجليزية - دبلوم مبيعات - دبلوم إدارة - دبلوم كمبيوتر. للتواصل: ٧٣٣٨٢٦٦٩

♦ حمزة ياسين - بكالوريوس اداب لغة انجليزية - جيد جداً - دبلوم هندسة معمارية بتقدير جيد جداً - دورات كمبيوتر - يجيد اللغة الإنجليزية والهندية والصومالية والعربية - خبرة في الإرشاد السياحي والترجمة الفورية. للتواصل: ٠٢-٤٦٨٩٦٣

♦ بكالوريوس لغة إنجليزية - جيد جداً - يجيد اللغة الإنجليزية - يجيد التعامل مع الكمبيوتر بشكل جيد والطباعة باللغتين العربية والإنجليزية - يبحث عن عمل في شركة أو في أي مجال



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## Final preparations for Tarim, Capital of Islamic Culture 2010

By: Ismail Al-Ghabri

The Minister of Culture Dr. Mohammed Abu-Baker Al-Mafalhi has told the press that the government will exert extensive efforts to celebrate the city of Tarim as Capital of Islamic Culture for 2010.

The inauguration ceremony in which Tarim officially takes over from Qayrawan in Tunisia as Capital of Islamic Culture for a year is scheduled to be on March 7.

In an interview with the Taiz-based Al-Jumhuriya February 4, he confirmed that a great deal of attention would be paid to city said by historians to have held a substantial role in spreading Islam in southeast Asia and east Africa.

The city was nominated by the Islamic Organization for Education, Culture and Science to be the Capital of Islamic

Culture 2010 in recognition of its vital contribution to Islamic culture and literature since the dawn of Islam.

Al-Mafalhi said he had visited Tarim several times to meet with the local authority and staff of the local culture office. He toured the city and was briefed on the preparations underway for the opening ceremony and cultural activities for the rest of the year.

A task force committee chaired by Deputy Prime Minister for Domestic Affairs Sadiq Amin Abu-Ras is overseeing preparations, he said.

The Fund for Construction has been authorized to improve the infrastructure of the city, while the Ministry of Culture has been assigned to run several cultural activities.

"We have also set up different committees for various cultural functions whether local seminars, local or international conferences," he said.

Each governorate will also participate

in the program of cultural activities, each with a week for its different cultural and artistic activities, he added.

### New infrastructure

"During my last trip, we inspected what the fund has achieved over the last period," he said. "Indeed, it has already made a considerable effort, particularly in area of infrastructure."

Several streets have already been asphalted and lights posts have been put in place. Most importantly, the drainage system is being improved to ensure that the city is fit to be the Capital of Islamic Culture this year.

### Yemeni hospitality

The Minister of Culture confirmed that working groups have been constituted to receive guests and visitors, including international organizations, ministers and officials. The places that delegations are going to live in and visit have

photo by Oaid Al-Rashtani



The Mihdhar mosque in Tarim and its 150 meter-high mud minaret

all been approved.

The ministry will provide the required furniture for the inauguration hall, and will ensure that it receives its visitors up to the standards of Yemen's famous hospitality.

At least 200 books have been approved to be published this year, said Al-Mafalhi.

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## Kohlan fort's imminent collapse threatens houses below

By: Saddam Al-Ashmori  
For the Yemen Times

Despite governmental recommendations for the Kohlan fort to be restored, no work has yet been undertaken to prevent the historical building from collapsing, say the city's residents.

The 700-year-old fort, situated on a cliff top above the district of Kohlan Afar in Hajja, is said to be at risk of collapsing due to cracks in its foundations, and potentially damaging houses below.

Perched up in the mountains 2,500 meters above sea level, next to the mountains of Khaidan and Afar, the fort was commissioned to

be build as a post of defense line by Imam Al-Mansoor Abdullah Bin Al-Hamza in the seventh century AH.

A narrow pathway leads up to its entrance on the east side of the mountain, from where the visitor can discover the several mosques, residential quarters, stores for grain and water tanks it contains.

But its future is uncertain. According to a 2008 report by the Tourism and Historic Monuments Office, the fort was then in danger of imminent collapse, potentially damaging the houses located below it in the village to its east and town to its west.

The report said that the fort crumbling down would mean rocks tumbling down the mountain, especially

in view of loose earth due to heavy rain in previous years.

It is worth mentioning that restoration works have begun on the Al-Qahira Fort in Hajja, because it had cracks in its foundations and was equally at risk of collapsing.

The 2008 report on the Kohlan fort suggested immediate solutions like renovating the fort, removing the trees near its walls, and building a drainage system.

It added that walls to support its foundation be built in the traditional design. All other works of renovation should also follow the style of the city's traditional architecture so as to preserve its aesthetics.

So far nothing has been done, say residents.



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