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## UN: Funding shortage could spark humanitarian crisis in north Yemen

By: Khaled Al-Hilaly

SANA'A, April 17—United Nations (UN) humanitarian agencies working in northern Yemen are reportedly facing a funding crisis, and recently announced that they might be forced to shut down operations if they do not receive new funds, sparking fears of a humanitarian crisis and increased instability in the north.

At the end of his visit to Yemen last week, the Representative of the UN Secretary General on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Walter Kaelin, warned that such a withdrawal could have negative consequences on the IDPs, the United Nations' Human Rights website reported.

Marie Marullaz, associate external relations officer for IDPs at the UN refugee agency (UNHCR) said the funding crisis is crippling the UN organ in its work with IDPs.

"UNHCR efforts to facilitate durable solutions for the IDPs [internally displaced persons] in Yemen are severely hindered by the current funding crisis,"

Marullaz said in an email conversation with Yemen Times. "The UNHCR remains funded at just 18 percent of the overall needs," she added.

In February this year, the UNHCR asked its donors to contribute nearly 40 million dollars to cover its operations needs for this year. Around 40 percent of the money would be allocated to providing for the IDPs, according to Marullaz. The UN agency called on its donors to generously contribute to its operations in Yemen in particular. So far, it has reportedly received a few donations from the UK and the UN Central Emergency Response Fund.

But Marullaz says those funds are not enough to "cope with the emergency."

The cease fire between government and Houthis in February made it possible for humanitarian agencies to finally gain access to Sa'da. But the current funding crisis is reducing their abilities to deliver assistance to an estimated quarter of a million of internally displaced people.

The World Food Program (WFP) announced in February this year that it might have to cut food rations to bene-

ficiaries down to as low as 450 calories per person per day due to the lack of adequate funds.

Fifty-year old IDP Qassim Taleb from Khawlan Amra, a father of seven children, said he was concerned about the potential cutting of aid when Yemen Times visited him in his makeshift new home in the Haradh camp in Hajja governorate last month.

He kept two boxes half full of food and two sacks of wheat that he received from the WFP next to the mattress in his tent home.

"Thank God, it is still enough," he told Yemen Times.

Aside from a potential humanitarian crisis, UN representative Kaelin fears that a withdrawal by humanitarian agencies from the north could threaten the fragile stability in the area.

"A severe reduction of humanitarian assistance would not only cause a grave humanitarian crisis affecting their human rights to food, health and adequate shelter but there is also a serious risk that it would trigger instability in a still very fragile peace situation," he said.

Continued on page 2



An estimated 250,000 people have been affected by fighting in the north, according to the UNHCR.

## Protests in north and south



Thousands of people demanded that the increase in prices be cancelled, but that salaries be increased in Taiz city last Thursday.

By: Saddam Al-Ashmori and Emad Al-Saqqaf  
For the Yemen Times

SANA'A, April 17 — Thousands of people demonstrated on Thursday in several Yemeni governorates in response to the Joint Meeting Parties (JMP) urging people to protest against restrictions on political activists especially in the south.

They also asked people to protest against any constitutional amendments against the decentralization of the state.

The largest protests were in Sana'a and Taiz. The protesters condemned the price hikes in which the price of 71 main commodities increased by 15 percent. Ten thousand protestors were holding up signs condemning "poverty" and the

state "terrifying people."

In particular, thousands of Yemenis protested in the JMP protest in Taiz city last Thursday in a huge rally that took to the streets of the city with signs condemning the state and demanding better living conditions.

They demanded the cancellation of the recent price hikes, wage increases, a solution to Taiz water scarcity problem.

The JMP also demanded more attention to rural Taiz, especially with regards to basic services such as electric-

ity, water, roads, health, and education. "We demand equal citizenship and an end to corruption especially in government jobs. The state must fulfill its promises and put an end to its dominating military presence in the cities. We accuse the state of failing the national dialogue, violating the constitution, oppressing freedoms and threatening the welfare of the people," the statement read.

Security forces created a number of barriers to prevent people from joining the protest, but it gained momentum and within hours the number of protestors exceeded tens of thousands, according

to eye witnesses.

"The state created additional checkpoints to prevent citizens to be transported from rural Taiz to the city center where the protest was planned to take place," said Abdulaziz Al-Rumaima, head of Al-Haq opposition political party in Taiz. "The JMP had hired many cars to transport people and the security prevented them from passing and forced their passengers to get down."

The protest attracted the citizens of Taiz and many of the unemployed, who joined the protest when they heard the chants and read the demands.

Continued on page 2

## Correction

In issue 1354, published on April 12 the front page news on private broadcast in the Arab world displayed a map in which Sudan was distorted and Halaib area was eliminated from the Sudan and was given to Egypt. We apologize for the mistake and a corrected version of the map is available on the issue mentioned link: [http://www.yementimes.com/defaultdet.aspx?SUB\\_ID=33870](http://www.yementimes.com/defaultdet.aspx?SUB_ID=33870)



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## Political analysts fear seventh war in Sa'ada

By: Mohammad Bin Sallam

SANA'A, April 18 – Recent media alterations between the government and the Houthis in the media have intensified to the extent that political analysts expect the war to resume in Sa'ada and Harf Sufian, Amran.

Houthis accused the state on Saturday of urging for a new war.

Saleh Habra, the spokesman for the Houthis, said in a press release that the state is evading its responsibilities after the six wars in Sa'ada and that it plans for a new war.

When the 2007 Doha agreement was signed, Habra said: "The way to finish the Sa'ada issue is not by ending the war, but rather by having the real intention to believe that the war is of no benefit. [...] The state has to release all prisoners and make tangible solutions. The state does not see the death of a soldier in the battlefield as a loss because as it can replace it with another. We think that it is a loss for the whole country."

He added, "President Saleh presents himself as the state, the unity, the democracy, the constitution and the law. If the citizen loves him then he is patriot and if the citizen supports him then he is with the unity of Yemen."

Habra stressed that there must be tangible steps such as releasing prison-

ers, returning employees to their jobs, and paying them.

Military plane shot

On Thursday, a military transport plane on which was the Minister of Defense, Mohammad Naser Ahmad, was reportedly shot at.

The minister was on his way to visit the Yemeni military units in Sa'ada. Other security and militants officers were with him on the same plane.

Houthis denied any link to the accident and offered to help investigate who was behind the incident.

State cries murder

The Ministry of Defense accused Houthis in Minbah district, Sa'ada, of killing soldier Namran Sulaiman Hadshan at the end of March.

The latter reportedly worked as a guard for Sheikh Mohammad Ali Al-Manbahi, a member in the parliament.

The soldier was said to be thrown into a well after he was killed.

The Houthi information office said that, 20 days ago, the soldier fell in the well and died immediately.

"We have no link to the incident and everybody knows this in the area," the office added.

The Houthi office said that the Ministry of Defense wanted to accuse the Houthis of killing the soldier because it has ulterior motives.

A seventh war?

Analysts expressed their concern over the possibility of a seventh war in the northern governorate.

They have criticized both the attitude of the state and of the Houthis for being careless and possibly stoking another war.

According to the analysts, if there is a possible war in the sight, nothing can be said except that there is an intrigue to renew the war that first broke out in the north of Yemen in June 2004.

Renewing the war will only benefit those who earn their living by buying weapons and helping to kill innocents. They called on the state to be logical and not launch another war for any reason.

Donations for the displaced

The US has allocated USD 4.9 million for the displaced people of Sa'ada and Harf Sufian, Amran governorate.

The US Embassy said on Saturday that the UN refugee agency (UNHCR) allocated the money for 250,000 displaced persons who fled their homes due to the war.

"The financial support comes within the frame of the US emergency help for the humanitarian activities in areas damaged by the war and for displaced people by offering them relief and shelter," the embassy said.

## Tribesman shot down at tribal leaders' conference

By: Saddam Al-Ashmori

SANA'A, April 18 — A journalist from Yemen Times witnessed on Saturday how a 70-year old tribesman from Al-Jawf in northern Yemen was shot down in the middle of a conference attended by more than 2,000 Yemeni tribesmen.

It was not immediately clear why the man was gunned down. Reports say retaliatory reasons may be behind his attempted killing. The incident has been shrouded in mystery and no details on whether the man survived the incident have been released yet.

Despite the fact that a man was shot at in broad day light at the event, the conference carried on as planned. The majority of discussions at the two-day long forum focused on the conflict in Sa'ada and the violence in the south.

Speaking at the conference, Sheikh Hussein Al-Ahmar, head of the National Solidarity Council, said that the war in Sa'ada resulted in many local deaths, as well as casualties from the army and different areas of Yemen.

All Yemenis sacrificed in this war, said the sheikh, without knowing the reasons for the war, how the conflict began, or how it will end. He also called for those families affected by the war to be compensated for their losses.



"There is not a single tribe, district or village in Yemen that has not sacrificed a martyr or wounded person in the war, and their families have not yet been compensated," he said.

The sheikh also expressed strong concerns for the current political situation in Yemen, saying that the crack-downs on the political opposition parties and autocracy constitute the root to all problems in the country.

He also stressed the need for Yemen's political powers to hold open constructive dialogues in the parliament to preserve the country's well-being and save it from instability.

"The parliament is the legal place

for any dialogue as it was elected by the people, and we will not accept holding any dialogue at the Ministry of Defense," he said.

He also called for a serious dialogue between the opposition and the government in the parliament under international monitoring.

The sheikh pointed his finger at the government, saying the Yemeni authorities should stop arresting people in the south and the north, and halt the oppression of people in those areas.

"Oppressing, arresting and violating rights are only more fuel to the fire, and aggravate separatism and hatred," he said.

## Educating vocational trainers on active learning techniques

By: Khaled Al-Hilaly

SANA'A, April 18 — Twenty-five trainers from vocational institutes in various governorates attended a two-day long workshop on life skills in Sana'a organized by Access plus program to reduce child labor.

Mariha Abu Jaber, a vocational trainer, from Hodeida said she learnt about teaching her students active learning skills and how she as a teacher can learn from them.

"Some students understand quickly, so I help them explaining to their mates," she said.

Mai Salameh, executive director of Injaz Al-Arab in Yemen, said that vocational students learn skills but they fears the market and it is difficult for them to find opportunities.

"The training helps vocational stu-

dents to create opportunities and start their own projects," said Salameh. "They are trained on how to make a budget for their projects, the procedures they should follow, as well as leadership skills."

The training focuses on collaborative education skills in which the student is the essential element in learning. Trainees learned about the difference between traditional and collaborative learning methods.

Nancy Refki, trainer from Injaz Al-Arab, presented collaborative learning techniques including role play, group projects, discussions and joint problem solving. She explained to trainees how collaborative learning can be useful in discovering students' talents unlike traditional teacher-student method.

Hayat Aqil, sewing teacher working with 23 female students in Taiz, said that

she learned how to manage group works, make all students participate and give the positive ideas they have.

The Access-plus started in 2008 and ends in 2011 aims to exclude 4,100 children from the worst forms of child labor like construction or spraying pesticides. It also prevents another 3,000 children from joining labor market and encourages them to stay in schools.

The Access-plus is a program designed to reduce child labor in a partnership with the CHF international and Charitable Social Society Welfare (CSSW) funded by the US Department of Labor. It works in governorates child labor is widespread especially in agriculture and fishery.

The governorates are Aden, Hodeida, Taiz, and Hajja. The latest in particular is on the child trafficking route to Saudi Arabia.

Jamal Al-Hadi, Access-plus program manager, said that the impact of such training is significant on students who have received training and their success stories indicate that their lives have completely changed for the better.

He added that the training was for trainers to apply the concepts on their students.

He refers to some of beneficiaries in Hodeida who have received tools to start their own projects and who have improved their families' lives.

They are now successful in their projects, young men working in electrical wiring and young women work in hair dressing. Injaz Al-Arab is an educational organization that aims to equip Arab students in 12 countries across the Middle East and North Africa with practical business-related skills as part of the regular educational curriculum.

## Yemen to unclog aid distribution bottleneck with locally developed system

New system hopes to clear way for billions of dollars in international aid to worthy projects in impoverished nation, but some experts are skeptical.

By: Adam Gonn  
The Media Line

SANA'A, April 17 - The Yemeni government has approved a new system that is expected to pave the way for billions of dollars in promised international aid to start being distributed across the impoverished nation.

Yemen, often regarded as one of the poorest countries in the world, has begged for all the help it could get. The world has pledged over \$8 billion, but less than 10 percent of it has been delivered. This is mainly due to concerns over Yemen's ability to distribute the enormous amounts of foreign aid due to the widespread political turmoil and domestic corruption.

The Yemen Foreign Ministry's approval of the new system called the Loans and Grants Management Information System is based on a locally developed apparatus. It endeavors to solve the problems of accountability by linking donations received by the Yemeni Ministry of Finance to the central bank which will then distribute the funds to intended recipients, according to the official Yemeni news agency SABA.

All records of transactions will reportedly be kept in an electronic data base. The system will also make auditing of the various aid projects easier.

According to SABA, the Ministry of Finance hopes that new system will be up and running by the end of April and will cut the disbursement payment time from the present 35 days to between eight to five days.

Justin Crump, Director of Threat Intelligence at Stirling Assynt, explained to The Media Line just why Yemen's government based in Sana'a has had to beg for international aid.

"Oil reserves are rapidly running out, and these provide more than 75 percent of the Government's revenues," Crump said. "Thus, Yemen will be increasingly dependent on international aid."

"I'm afraid that this statement is largely intended to win public support and prove to the international community that the government is doing something about the current internal problems," Crump said, but added he had doubts the new system would work

fairly.

"I suspect that the majority of aid will continue to be distributed to people, towns and tribes that support Sana'a," he said. "I expect relatively little from this program."

Last month, an international donors conference held in Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates garnered \$3.7 billion in promised aid. This is in addition to the \$5 billion already promised at a conference held in London in 2006.

Yemen's dire economic condition is often cited by regional experts as a major cause behind the country's chaotic political situation.

The central government in Sana'a has been fighting with a militant group, belonging to an offshoot of Shia Islam, known as the Al-Houthi rebels in the north east of the country since 2004.

In addition, the government is facing a second front against a secessionist movement in the south. The movement accuses the government of unfairly diverting the south's oil wealth, and call for a return of the two state division, which was in place prior to Yemen gaining independence in 1967.

For the past two years, there have been increasing fears that Al-Qa'ida in the Arabian Peninsula are taking advantage of Yemen's unstable political situation to strengthen its presence in the region.

The fighting in the north has displaced an estimated quarter of a million people. The aid is needed for them as well as many Somali refugees who have fled to Yemen as a transit station on their way to reach the wealthy Gulf countries.

"Basically in the beginning of February there was a cease fire between the government and the Al-Houthi rebels, but the situation is too dangerous for any proper resettling," Thaine Phammangouda, emergency response coordinator with CARE international, told The Media Line.

Phammangouda said that while the fighting has subdued, security was still an issue which has hampered aid to refugee camps.

"The insecurity is still making access difficult to some IDP [internal displaced people] camps in some remote areas," she said.

## Hunger strike inside parliament

By: Yemen Times Staff

SANA'A, April 14 – The parliamentarian, Ahmad Saif Hashed, chairman of the Change Organization for Defending Human Rights, went on a hunger strike inside the parliament for 24 hours, from 10 am Tuesday till Wednesday 10 am, April 14.

He undertook this strike to restore his parliamentary rights of which he was denied by the speaker of the parliament.

According to Hashed, the speaker of the parliament refused two requests presented by him on Monday, one of which is interrogating the deputy-prime minister for Security and Defense affairs, Rashad Al-Alimi and the Minister of Interior, Muttahar Rashad

Al-Masri.

The second request was to allow him to visit the nine prisoners who are imprisoned for five years without a trial in political security prisons.

Being a member of the Public Freedom Committee, Hashed felt injustice when his request was disapproved by the speaker.

"You do not have the right to interrogate them," the speaker replied to Hashed.

The guards of the parliament refused to give him his laptop in the evening inside the parliament. They said that the speaker instructed them not to allow anyone to give him anything while he is protesting inside.

Journalists said that they were not allowed to meet the striking parliamentarian on Tuesday.

"I decided this day to protest and go on a strike as in the last session of the parliament my two requests were neglected. This means that my right to visit prisons and interrogate ministers is confiscated. This violates the article no 79 of the Yemeni law and articles no 145, 155 and 156 of the parliament," Hashed said.

Hashed demanded to interrogate the two ministers as they are responsible to arrest the killers of three people killed in Al-Habelain, Lahj governorate on 9th July 2009. Hashed is the representative of Lahj in the parliament.

Earlier, he presented a letter to the speaker of the parliament, approved by 43 members of the parliament, to question the two ministers about their arrest-

ing the criminals. The parliament did not summon the ministers to interrogate them.

On 12th July, the parliament gave the two ministers 48 hours to arrest the criminals or else they will be given a vote of no confidence, but the parliament did not impose anything against them regarding the case.

Many human rights activists organized a protest in front of the Parliament to support Hashed.

Relatively the parliament in the Wednesday session threatened to withdraw the vote of confidence from the state after the two ministers Al-Alimi and Al-Masri have been procrastinating for a long time in presenting their reports on the security status in southern governorates.

## Increased interest rates to boost confidence in the Yemeni riyal

By: Ali Saeed

SANA'A, April 17- A recent increase of the interest rate on loans from Yemeni commercial banks will discourage businessmen from taking out loans, some economists say.

Commercial banks have raised the interest rate on loans in Yemeni riyal from 19 percent to 27 percent, in response to the Central Bank of Yemen (CBY)'s decision to increase the interest rate on Yemeni riyal deposits in commercial banks from 12 to 20 percent.

The increase intends to make the

interest rate on riyal deposits higher than the inflation rate, officials from the CBY said according to Yemen's Saba news agency. Following the recent devaluation of the Yemeni riyal, many Yemenis rushed to change their deposits from the local riyal into US dollar to avoid losing money, Yemeni economist Ali Al-Wafi, former head of the financial committee in parliament, told Yemen Times.

But the move also intends to cover this year's budget deficit, he noted.

The government wants to finance the expected budget deficit for 2010 through making loans costlier for borrowers to

obtain a huge portion of money for itself, according to Al-Wafi. Thus treasury bills only will absorb the money from the banks.

Al-Wafi said that last year's deficit was 9.1 percent of the GDP, which means almost quarter of the budget was not available.

"The government now attempts to keep the deposits in the banks for itself to finance the deficit," he said, explaining that this policy is not new in the history of the CBY as the Yemeni government used to do this since the mid-90s.

All commercial banks have raised the

interest rates on loans, according to Omar Al-Shuaibi, director of loans department at the International Bank of Yemen.

But the Islamic Banks have not as they have a different system for profits in compliance with Islamic Sharia laws, according to the CBY website.

Al-Wafi predicted that without political and economic reform, Yemen's finances in the coming years would suffer.

"If no good economic policies are taken to maintain the situation, there will be a financial breakdown," he said.

## Continued from page 1

UN: Funding shortage could spark humanitarian crisis in north Yemen

An estimated 250,000 people are said to have been affected by fighting in the north.

Many of them don't feel that it's safe to return home with the current security conditions in many of the affected areas.

In February, a survey conducted by the UN-HCR in Haradh and Amran found that the main concerns of IDPs regarding their return home are the security conditions in areas of return, risks of renewed fighting, and the presence of mines.

The survey found that 61 percent of IDPs have not decided whether or not they will return

at this time.

"The majority of the displaced will not be able to return in the near future and no one must be encouraged to return or forced to do so because of a lack of humanitarian assistance, when their safety cannot be guaranteed," said Kaelin. "The decision to return home must be truly voluntary."

He said that durable solutions providing safety and life in dignity for IDPs is a joint responsibility between the Yemeni government and the humanitarian agencies and "without appropriate donor support this cannot be achieved."

As for Taleb, he says that he hopes that he will be able to return home at some point when the security situation is better and when the landmines have been removed.

Protests in north and south

Abdunoor Al-Najadi, an unemployed man from Taiz, said that he joined the protest because he agreed with its demands.

Husam Al-Buraihi, another unhappy citizen

among the protestors, said: "I came here, and then heard that there is a protest against the current situation. I am frustrated and desperate at what is happening in our lives so I did not hesitate to join."

According to Abdulrahman Al-Azraqi, secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party in Taiz, the Taiz governorate suffers from the most corrupt practices by officials and is ignored when it comes to state investment and development projects.

"The number and size of the problems we suffer here in Taiz are piling up and yet the government is not interested. This is why we at the JMP carried out this protest and will carry many more other mass congregations in response to the people's suffering," he said.

Concern for the next generations

In Sana'a, the head of the JMP's preparatory committee for national dialogue, Mohammad Salem Ba Sondwa, asked the state to not continue its policies that he called "wrong."

He called on all citizens to work collectively to

make a positive radical change to avert disaster in the country.

"We are concerned about the next generations, he said. "The state ignores people's basic needs, like cooking gas and the electricity."

"These demonstrations came within the framework of a program of the JMP to escalate the peaceful protests meant to make a change," he said.

Ba Sondwa called on the government to stop the "siege" in the southern governorates. He called Southern Movement members to beware of "secret agents" who work, according to him, to create a split among people of the united Yemen.

On behalf of the JMP, he called on people and the national dialogue preparatory committee to cooperate with the professors demanding their rights at Sana'a University and other Yemeni universities, as well as with people of the southern movement.

Ba Sondwa said that the state is responsible for the devaluation of the Yemeni riyal and price

increase by 15 percent. He called on the state to stop exploiting public money for its own interests.

All Saif Al-No'aimi, head of the JMP branch in Sana'a, invited all people to protest against the "wrong policies" that aggravate poverty, hunger and humiliation.

He called on the state to release all journalists, activists and politicians and to cancel the exceptional state courts, including the Special Penal Court and the Press Court. He also called on the state to end poverty, unemployment, illiteracy and corruption.

Al-No'aimi also demanded that the state better electricity and water network coverage, education, health, and salaries.

'Detainee Day' in the south

On the occasion of the 'Detainee Day,' a function celebrated by the Southern Movement to demand separation from the north, demonstrations took place in Al-Dhale' and Lahj.

Eye witnesses said that intensive presence

of security guards accompanied the protests in Al-Dhale', Lahj and Abyan.

Guards were posted was imposed around the governmental establishments and the buildings overlooking the main streets in addition to check points to Al-Dhale'.

Protestors were throwing stones into the main streets of Al-Dhale'.

The JMP issued a statement condemning violations against the journalists and activists as well as the Southern Movement members, and demanded that the state stop giving individuals special authority, as well as end the state of emergency and the siege imposed on districts in Al-Dhale' and Lahj.

The statement criticized President Saleh's suggestion a constitutional amendment for absolute presidential power and a bicameral system. These amendments were presented on the condition that the Shura Council is elected.

The statement demanded a comprehensive political dialogue including all parties inside and outside Yemen.

In Brief

**SANA'A**  
**Yemeni-Egyptian universities discuss educational cooperation**  
 Higher Education Undersecretary Minister Mohammed Muther held Wednesday talks with October 6 University delegation of Egypt headed by Dean of the university Shawki Khater to promote cooperation between the two sides in the area of scholarships. The talks dealt with conditions of Yemeni students at the October 6 University and ways of removing any difficulties or problems encountered in their studies at the university. During the meeting, they discussed the possibility of signing a cooperation agreement between the ministry and the university to provide special facilities for the Yemeni students including the reduction of tuition fees, accommodation, practical application, and others. Muther affirmed the distinguished relations between the two universities of both countries, pointing out Yemen's keenness on strengthening educational relations regarding graduate studies between the two universities in various academic and scientific fields. For his part, October 6 University Rector affirmed that his visit is aiming to promote cooperation with the Yemeni university in the fields of researches, academics and education.

**Shura chairman meets UNDP representative in Yemen**  
 Chairman of Shura Council Abdul-Aziz Abdul-Ghani received here on Wednesday the resident representative of UNDP Pratibha Mehta. Abdul-Ghani listened from Mehta to a brief on the latest developments on the UNDP's tasks in the development field and the UN's assistance to support the development programs in the country. Mehta also briefed Abdul-Ghani on the UNDP's aid to return Saada displaced people to their homes, in addition to several issues of human rights. Abdul-Ghani appreciated the role of UNDP and other UN organizations in supporting the development projects in Yemen, valuing the UNDP assistance to resettle the people, who

fled from the confrontations between the rebel al-Houthi and the government troops. IM undersecretary calls for properly dealing with traffic Interior Minister Undersecretary Saleh al-Zawary and chairman of the Preparatory Committee of the Arab Traffic Week called on Thursday on all segments of the society to shoulder their responsibility towards traffic issues as they are of importance and concern to all. He indicated that the Arab Traffic Week will commence its activities during 4-10 May under the slogan (For Your Safety... Delay Your Calls). "The Week will focus on delivering this message to the society in order to work together to stop traffic accidents' bloodshed," al-Zawary said. **Reports on secret deal with UK for Jews transfer 'baseless' - official** Yemen said on Thursday that reports that a secret deal was due to be signed to transfer Jewish families to the United Kingdom were baseless. The September website cited an official source as saying that all reports on the issue were a tempest in a teapot because the Jewish community in Yemen is living peacefully and in a good condition. The Yemeni Jews enjoy their rights as other Yemeni people, and they love their country and refuse to leave it because they are already stable, the source said. The community receives unlimited support from the Yemeni government and its members recognize this, the source added. Two days ago reports surfaced that a deal was on the verge between Britain and Yemen to transfer a limited number of the Jewish families in the country of those who were, according to British sources, persecuted. In the recent few years, many Jewish families left Yemen for the United States of America and Israel amid persecution allegations. Most of the families traveled secretly. **Arrangement for holding 10th meeting for YAMC discussed** Minister of Higher Education and Sci-

entific Research Saleh BaSorah held a meeting on Wednesday with the Algeria ambassador to Sana'a Abdul Wahab Bo Zahrah over arrangement for holding the 10th meeting for the Yemeni-Algeria ministerial committee over higher education cooperation in Sana'a in coming period. In the meeting, the minister extended an official invitation to Algerian minister of higher education to attend the meeting, reviewing experiment of Yemen in field of higher education and scientific research. They also discussed condition of the Yemeni students in Algeria universities and possibilities of increasing Algerian scholarship for Yemeni students in higher education. The minister affirmed importance of activating agreement of cooperation between the two countries in field of higher education. The diplomat voiced desire of his country to enhance its ties with Yemen in field of higher education, pointing out to concern of his country to regulate date of holding the meeting of the joint ministerial committee to come out with practical recommendations which contribute to enhance cooperation between the two nations. **Syrian effort for political parties in Yemen continues** A delegation from the Syrian Ba'ath Party is due in Yemen in the coming days to help heal the political rift in Yemen, the September website reported on Thursday. The visit comes with a major effort by the party to bridge the gap between the General People's Congress, the ruling party, and the Joint Meeting Parties, an opposition coalition, in the country through bringing both to table and placing the nation interest above other interests. A source with knowledge about the matter was quoted as saying that the delegation will meet with officials from the parties to push for better preparations for the national dialogue according to the agreement signed by them. In February, Assistant Secretary General of the Syrian Ba'ath Arab Socialist Party Abdullah al-Ahmar arrived in Yemen on a mission for the

political deadlock among the Yemeni parties. A source with knowledge about the matter was quoted as saying that the delegation will meet with officials from the parties to push for better preparations for the national dialogue according to the agreement signed by them. In February, Assistant Secretary General of the Syrian Ba'ath Arab Socialist Party Abdullah al-Ahmar arrived in Yemen on a mission for the political deadlock among the Yemeni parties. **IBB** **Turkey intends to send medical mission** Ibb governor Ahmed al-Hajri held Wednesday talks with the Turkish Deputy Minister of Health Nihad Tousem on the possibilities of sending a Turkish medical mission to Ibb governorate. During the meeting, al-Hajri praised the level of the Turkish - Yemeni relations and the plan to send a Turkish medical mission. For his part, the Turkish official affirmed his country's keenness to develop its relation with Yemen and the medical missions will continue health activities during the coming period, noting that Yemen has a long history and a unique beautiful nature. The Turkish delegation paid a tourist visit to the archeological sites in the governorate of Ibb, expressing admiration for the Yemeni rich historical and tourist landmarks. **MUKALA** **Yemeni diplomat meets with Melaka Chief Minister Mohamed** Chief Minister of Melaka province in Malaysia Mohamed Ali Rustam has met with the Yemeni ambassador to Malaysia Abdullah Muntasir. During the meeting, the two officials discussed cooperation relations in preserving historic cities and coordinating efforts in this regard in addition to coordination procedures to exchange visits between the two countries officials. The ambassador has taken part in

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the Tenth International Symposium to twinning Melaka city in the Malaysian Melaka province. He has presented a paper on the historic and cultural relations that link Yemen with Malaysia. Muntasir has also paid a visit to the Malaysian Maritime Academy in Melaka province. He discussed with the officials the conditions of the Yemeni students in the academy, who are about 48 students in various specialities. **DHAMAR** **Dhamar discusses possibility of Qatari-funded medical city** Dhamar Governor Yahya al-Amri discussed on Thursday with the representative of Qatar Foundation for Development of Healthcare Technol-

ogy Ahmed al-Marzooki the possibility of setting up a medical city in the province with finance from the foundation. Reviewing the qualities of the governorate located in central Yemen, al-Amri pointed to natural healthcare places in several parts of Dhamar that could help bring the project into the light. For his part, al-Marzooki said that the foundation plans to implement investment projects in Yemen at a cost of \$ 500 million. He said his visit to the province aimed at familiarizing with the sites where these projects would be set up as well as having knowledge about healthcare needs. Al-Amri and al-Marzooki paid visits to some sites and were briefed on their qualities and facilities that would be provided for investments.

Their News

**MTN hands over blood test mobile laboratory**



The telecommunication mobile company MTN handed over a mobile blood tests laboratory for testing Thalassemia and generic blood disorders test to the Yemeni Society for Thalassemia and Generic Blood Disorders last Thursday. This lab is one of the social responsibility projects carried out by MTN and would facilitate the limitation of these two diseases through early testing especially that this is a mobile clinic that would visit Yemenis around the country and carry out blood tests while educating them about these diseases and other generic blood diseases. The staff working in this mobile clinic will also focus on the youth and advice them on preventive measures to avoid these diseases. It is worth mentioning that the company has carried out medical week 73 for free medical treatment at Bait Al-Faqeh district in Hodeidah governorate as well as Wisab Camp to fight blindness in Dhamar governorate.

**CSSW Reproductive Health Project launched**




The family planning and reproductive health project of the Charitable Society for Social Welfare has launched its educational and service project for year 2010. The project was launched through conducting the fourth annual meeting for the projects coordinators in 14 branches across the country. Dr. Khaldoon Al-Mathhaji project manager said that through this project the society aims to enhance awareness among the people on reproductive health and family planning issues while providing services to the communities in targeted areas. This year's activities include theatrical performances, workshops and awareness public sessions including representatives from the local councils. The project has also service activities through the semi-mobile clinics. The project is funded by the United Nation's Population Fund gender and reproductive health components and is sponsored by Yaman Development Foundation for social marketing of reproductive health services. Al-Mathhaji praised the local council and health offices efforts in the targeted districts and commended their work to facilitate the implementation of the project's activities and making them a success. He hoped that all would benefit from this year's campaign and improve their reproductive health knowledge and practices.

**Raha Transportation Company and social responsibility**





Raha Transportation Company sponsored an honoring ceremony for Al-Masar Pioneer School to recognize the school's top students. Raha is the first transportation company in Yemen operating by meter counter and has since become the role model for other companies that followed. It also carries out a number of community service projects to demonstrate its commitment to social responsibility. Raha has sponsored a number of youth and education projects and provided many job opportunities for unemployed Yemeni men. Its latest event was the sponsoring of an honoring ceremony whereby it ceremonially transported the top 150 students of Al-Masar school to the Sabeen Park where they were awarded distinction certificates last week. Raha used a fleet of 40 decorated cars parading together with the joyous students as they hailed and cheered across the streets of Sana'a attracting the attention and admiration of the crowds. The awarding celebration was attended by Dr. Ali Al-Hamadani, and Mohammed Naji Al-Ashmal the financial and security officer of the Saudi Embassy in Sana'a as well as the parents and friends of the students and school staff.

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تفضلوا بزيارتنا في  
فندق سبا [ تاج سبا سابقاً ]  
SHEBA HOTEL SANA'A  
الفترة 24 - 25 ابريل 2010  
من الساعة 10 صباحاً - 1 ظهراً  
من الساعة 4 - 9 مساءً

الدخول مجاناً

EXHIBITORS

UCSI University  
Nilai University College  
The University of Nottingham Malaysia Campus  
Mahsa University College  
INTI Education Group  
The Management and Science University (MSU)  
Universiti Kuala Lumpur  
Universiti Putra Malaysia  
Malaysia Education Promotion Centre (MEPC)  
Swinburne University of Technology, Sarawak Campus  
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The Logistics Supervisor shall be responsible for:  
Liaising with government departments and end user to establish customs import and duty exemption procedures and processes;  
Implement customs import and duty exemption procedures;  
Identify suitable clearing agents and inland transportation companies;  
Coordinating between suppliers, shippers, clearance agents and inland transportation companies for delivery of all equipment & materials to site;  
Working with end user, customs department, clearing agents to ensure proper and fast clearance of goods and receipt of customs duty exemptions;  
Reporting status of shipments;

**Skill / Experience required**  
At least 5 – 10 years experience in Logistics position arranging clearance and inland transportation of goods, preferably in Yemen or at least the Middle East;  
Familiar with INCO Terms such as Bills of Lading, Packing Lists, Certificates of Origin, etc;  
Familiar with customs clearance formalities for customs duty exempt projects;  
Good computer skills particularly Microsoft office Word, Excel, etc  
Good communication skills in English and Arabic

Priority for the above position will be given to Yemeni nationals able to meet above requirements. If you feel you meet the above conditions please send your CV to: [career@dome.com.ye](mailto:career@dome.com.ye)

Last date for receiving application will be 26th April 2010  
Only shortlisted candidate will be contacted for interviews.

# Yemeni government plans to short-circuit broadcast/online media activists

By: Magda Abu-Fadil

Yemen's government will pass draconian legislation aimed at stifling independent broadcast and online media in a bid to silence opponents and solidify its grip on power, Yemeni journalists and NGOs reported.

"There is a culture of hatred in current newspapers, but people are still not affected by this due to the limited distribution of newspapers," the Yemen Times quoted a ministerial memo as saying of the draft law.

Information Minister Hassan Al Lawzi, in his proposal to also gag offending broadcast and online media, said in his memo that destructive ideas broadcast on radio and television could lead to political and social conflict and

sedition, which justified the measures.

"If passed, almost all Yemeni non-governmental websites, including my own, of course, could be subject to prosecution," said Walid Al-Saqqaf, administrator of YemenPortal.net (www.yemenportal.net), of the dizzying 77-article draft law that would probably run most independent media aground financially and chase their owners into jail.

The rules would apply to all non-government TV and radio stations as well as online media.

The government would set up an oversight committee grouping officials from various ministries and the country's national security apparatus, to crack a whip if the media run astray of regulations.

To qualify for licenses to operate independent broadcast and online

media, applicants would have to meet stringent requirements and cannot be members of political organizations or parties.

The Yemeni site Al Sahwa published (www.alsahwa-yemen.net/view\_news.asp?sub\_no=6\_2010\_04\_08\_77301) the draft law that stipulates, among other things, that journalists cannot uplink to satellites from mobile stations without government permission and that journalists are barred from using videophones.

"Imagine them taking a whole private TV studio?" asked Yemen Times editor Nadia Al-Sakkaf of the penalties to be imposed and threats to confiscate equipment from violators.

It's unclear what monetary fines would be imposed, but the government warned it would apply already outdated print media laws to regulate the Yemeni

blogosphere.

Walid Al-Saqqaf's portal (http://www.huffingtonpost.com/magda-abufadil/yemeni-develops-program-t\_b\_209321.html) has allowed Yemenis barred from learning about problems facing their country to download his software called "Alkasir" - Arabic for circumventer.

He's horrified at the prospect of more restrictions on the media.

"They have planted 'electronic media' and 'websites' all over (the legislation) and added several restrictions," he said, adding that it aimed to clamp down on freedom of expression and impose massive taxes on independent media, including 10% on advertising revenues.

The measures would undoubtedly bankrupt already struggling media and signal a pivotal moment in Yemen's history, he noted, with a resultant regression that nobody could have anticipated.

Setting up online news operations using websites, blogs or mobile phones requires paying a 1-2-year license fee of 20,000,000 Yemeni Riyals (\$88,888 at current rates), which would cripple most organizations.

And the license may or may not be renewed.

It may even be revoked if the government's feathers are ruffled.

According to Yemeni sources, the government is strong-arming parliament to ram through the legislation to avoid any debate of the matter by journalists' unions, media representatives and civil society groups.

Critics say the proposed legislation is expected to gain easy passage by parliament where President Ali Abdullah Saleh's bloc holds sway. Yemen, at the southern end of the Arabian Peninsula, is one of the poorest nations in the Arab world.

The government has come under increased scrutiny by civil society groups and press freedom organizations inside and outside Yemen.

On April 6, Women Journalists



Protester demanding Mohammed Al Maqaleh's release.

Without Chains (www.womenpress.net), a Yemeni media watchdog, said parliamentary security guards had assaulted one of its activists as she photographed the organization's 43rd protest against the government's crackdown on journalists.

It said security authorities had arrested Hadhramawt Press' editor Awad Kashmeem in March, seized his personal papers, and confiscated all his belongings.

His site (www.hadhramoutpress.net) has not been updated since the raid.

On April 10, WJWC said the press court had summoned journalist Mohammad Al Maqaleh to appear before it on the 18th on charges of insulting President Saleh.

WJWC said Al Maqaleh had criticized the Yemeni president for promising in 2005 not to seek reelection in 2006, but he had run again, making him one of the longest serving Arab leaders.

Al Maqaleh was freed from jail in March 2010 after a six-month term on earlier charges of supporting the Houthi rebels in the north -- reportedly backed

by Iran -- that have fought pitched battles against the Yemeni army.

Elsewhere, the WJWC reported that Yemen's chief district attorney had urged the press court to banish activist journalist Sami Ghaleb, editor of Al Nidaa newspaper, with four of his staffers to war-torn Somalia across the Gulf of Aden.

The reporters are accused of publishing sectarian articles that undermine national unity.

The government called for harsh punishment by "sending them to Somalia or Iraq and leaving them in the most incendiary war zones, amidst howling shells, moaning wounded and surrounded by the smell of death."

Ghaleb's spartan, independent weekly paper is already financially strapped, it has no specialized journalists and no real beats, and its sustainability has been at stake for years.

Magda Abu-Fadil is director of the Journalism Training Program at the American University of Beirut. Source: www.thehuffingtonpost.com



Women Journalists Without Chains

## VACANCY

Jannah Hunt Oil Company (JHOC) is currently recruiting for the position of

### Operator

#### LOCATION:

Field - 28/28.

#### JOB SUMMARY:

Responsible on performing the required tasks to accomplish the daily plant operations. Monitor that all equipment is running smoothly and efficiently in order to maintain maximum production and best performance.

#### MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Monitors the operation of compressors, pumps, and generators to assure that oil and gas production and water injection is maximized.
- Monitors and records all plant pressures, flow rates, and other readings. Keep an accurate history of this data.
- Monitor and records wells conditions on production & gas injection manifolds.
- Perform well testing and report the results.
- Coordinates and reports to Supervisor the problems occurring to the equipment and machinery at the plant.
- Submits written reports daily to Shift Supervisor as to the status of the plant operations.
- Issue work permits so that any work performed within the plant confines is done in an orderly and safe manner.
- Responsible for observing all work areas, all work procedures, and all work performance to ensure that any safety equipment needed is available for use, and that all safety procedures are followed.
- Must attend monthly safety meetings.

#### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

##### Experience:

- Minimum 2 years experience in the oil and gas industry to start with a working knowledge of all equipment used in the operations.

##### Education/Skills:

- Engineering Degree (preferably in chemical or petroleum engineering)
- Good knowledge in English.
- Good computer skills.

IF YOU MEET THE ABOVE REQUIREMENTS PLEASE E-MAIL YOUR CV. TO THE FOLLOWING E-MAIL ADDRESS. PLEASE NOTE WE WILL ONLY ACCEPT CV'S THROUGH E-MAIL SUBMISSION:

[jannahrecruiter@jhocyemen.com](mailto:jannahrecruiter@jhocyemen.com)

ALL CANDIDTES MUST BE YEMENI NATIONALS - DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING YOUR CV. FOR THIS POSITION IS MAY 05, 2010



## VACANCY

Jannah Hunt Oil Company (JHOC) is currently recruiting for the position of

### Electrical Technician

#### LOCATION:

Field - 28/28.

#### JOB SUMMARY:

Perform maintenance and repairs of all JHOC electrical equipments.

#### MAJOR RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Carry out scheduled preventative maintenance on a variety of electrical equipments.
- Review manufacturer's technical manuals for procedures and problem solving.
- Assist Lead electrician in identifying and ordering replacement parts.
- Be punctual in working a rotating schedule 28 days on the job followed by a 28 day leave cycle.
- Observe all safety procedures and company policies.
- Must be able to work independently at a variety of locations.

#### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:

##### Experience:

Minimum of 5 years Electrical background, preferably in the petrochemical industry

##### Education/Skills:

- Electrical Engineering Degree from credited University
- Must be able to speak and read English in order to review technical manuals and wiring drawings.
- Excellent computer skills.
- Have a good working knowledge and experience on:
  - Gas and Diesel Generators.
  - MCC and Switchgear
  - Electric motor testing and overhauling.
  - Transformers and Variable Speed Controllers

IF YOU MEET THE ABOVE REQUIREMENTS PLEASE E-MAIL YOUR CV. TO THE FOLLOWING E-MAIL ADDRESS. PLEASE NOTE WE WILL ONLY ACCEPT CV'S THROUGH E-MAIL SUBMISSION:

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**HUMAN RESOURCE ASSISTANT II – SANA'A**

Vacancy Notice: 06-04-10  
Classification: Grade 4 (UN Salary Scale for GS Staff in Yemen)  
Duration: 06 Months with possibility of extension

Under the overall supervision of the Chief of Mission and the direct supervision of the Resource Management Officer, the incumbent's responsibilities will include the following: -

1. Assists in coordinating the recruitment process for national staff, particularly; collecting all the CV's related to the advertised position, contacting all shortlisted applicants for interviews, coordinating with the interview panel on all related interview information, ensure all related materials required for the interview are prepared on time, administering practical skills test when required and sending regret letters to all unsuccessful candidates.
2. Open files for all newly hired staff, maintain the HR filing system and ensure all files are updated with the right documents and ensure safe custody of all the files.
3. Maintain a record on expiry of contracts for all staff in the mission and ensure it is updated at all times.
4. Follow up with all Heads of Units on extension of contracts before expiration and approval of monthly step increments for national staff.
5. Prepare all Medical Service Plan (MSP) cards for all staff under the MSP cover.
6. Maintain and update the HR files with all updated General Instructions, General Bulletins and any other HR related information updates.
7. Assist and coordinate all logistics related to any training that involves the HR department and ensure smooth running of the training.
8. Responsible for requisition of HR stationery/office and managing the HR stock levels.

**Desirable Qualifications:-**

- Diploma in Human Resources, Business Administration or any related field.
- At least 3 years work experience in a busy HR office in similar capacity.
- Prior experience working in the UN or an IO/NGO is an added advantage.
- Mature individual, able to work independently, pays attention to detail and meets deadlines.
- Demonstrated ability to maintain accuracy and confidentiality in performing responsibilities.
- Functional IOM competencies required: Effective communicator, creative and analytical thinker, active learner, team player, cross-cultural facilitator.
- Ability to work under pressure and with minimum supervision.
- Proficiency in computer skills, especially MS Office applications (Excel, Outlook, Word etc)
- Thorough knowledge of English and Arabic.

Women with the above qualifications are encouraged to apply

**Method of Application:** Please submit your Curriculum Vitae & Letter of Application (**Stating the Position applied on the left hand corner of the envelope**) including daytime telephone and email address to the attention of:

Human Resources Department,  
International Organization for Migration,  
Syassy Area, Street No. 1B, Villa No. 3,  
P.O. Box 16335, Sana'a.

OR  
Email: [hrysisanaa@iom.int](mailto:hrysisanaa@iom.int) (Indicating clearly the Position applied for on the Subject Line)  
Website: [www.iom.int](http://www.iom.int)

Please note that only the short listed candidates will be contacted.  
**Closing Date: Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> April 2010**



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**PROCUREMENT & LOGISTICS ASSISTANT I – SANA'A**

Vacancy Notice: 07-04-10  
Classification: Grade 5 (UN Salary Scale for GS Staff in Yemen)  
Duration: 06 Months with possibility of extension

Under the overall supervision of the Chief of Mission and the direct supervision of the Resource Management Officer, the incumbent will be responsible for carrying out procurement of all grants-specific items in accordance with IOM's regulations, rules and procedures. In particular, s/he will:

1. Responsible for organizing and/or tracking the local procurements of goods and services/labour made in the field for grant specific projects. Coordinate local procurements with the field units.
2. Track and monitor local procurements of goods and services/labour, made by selected contractors or grant specific projects.
3. To post all Purchase Requisitions Forms (PRFs) related to grants into PRISM FI accurately and on a timely basis to ensure that all procurement requests are captured in the system and commitments for various procuring projects are captured.
4. Prepare Bids Analysis Summary in conformity to specified requirements (PRF), conduct appraisals and confirm terms of agreement with selected suppliers; prepare purchase orders both manually and through PRISM FI and ensure authorization by relevant authorities according to Mission Permanent Instructions.
5. Ensure that the hand-over documents of items procured by the Program to selected community implementing organizations are well documented.
6. Ensure that the procurements made in the field are all properly documented; vouchers for payments and other supportive documents should be filled and shared with the Grants Unit.
7. Analyze and advise, for new grant projects to be implemented, how to streamline local procurements.
8. On a monthly basis, maintain and update a list detailing the costs of most common items procured in the locations where the Program is operating

**Desirable Qualifications:**

- **Education/Training:** University Degree in Business Administration or a Higher Diploma in Procurement or an equivalent combination of training and experience.
- **Experience:** Minimum four (4) years relevant experience in a similar position, with specific focus on local/international procurement, clearing & forwarding, VAT, GoY laws and regulations, fleet management, insurance and inventory/stock/supplies management.
- **Skills:** Fluency in English and Arabic; fluency in both languages is an asset. Ability to pay close attention to details and work with minimal supervision. Excellent computer skills especially Ms Office and SAP. Excellent communication and negotiation skills, Strong interpersonal skills; Ability to work effectively and harmoniously within a team.

Women with the above qualifications are encouraged to apply

**Method of Application:** Please submit your Curriculum Vitae & Letter of Application (**Stating the Position applied on the left hand corner of the envelope**) including daytime telephone and email address to the attention of:

Human Resources Department,  
International Organization for Migration,  
Syassy Area, Street No. 1B, Villa No. 3,  
P.O. Box 16335, Sana'a.

OR  
Email: [hrysisanaa@iom.int](mailto:hrysisanaa@iom.int) (Indicating clearly the Position applied for on the Subject Line)  
Website: [www.iom.int](http://www.iom.int)

Please note that only the short listed candidates will be contacted.  
**Closing Date: Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> April 2010**



IOM International Organization for Migration

Worldwide IOM has over 400 offices and 5,600 staff focused on assisting migrants, governments and other stakeholders to address migration issues. IOM opened its mission in Sana'a in April 2007 and currently operates 02 field offices in the country.

**SENIOR ADMINISTRATIVE FINANCE ASSISTANT – SANA'A**

Vacancy Notice: 10-04-10  
Classification: Grade 7 (UN Salary Scale for GS Staff in Yemen)  
Duration: 06 Months with possibility of extension

Under the overall supervision of the Chief of Mission and under the direct supervision of the Resource Management Officer, the incumbent will be responsible for the following duties: -

1. Assist in monitoring and overseeing the financial management for all activities involving the YSI Programme, including oversight of financial expenditures and accountability as well as a financial analysis of all projects/grants.
2. Assist and provide technical support to the YSI Programme Accounts Unit, Human resources, and procurement and Logistics staff in particular with the data entry into PRISM.
3. Verify invoices and documents submitted by suppliers and services providers and ensure that disbursement of funds meet the documentation requirements according to IOM financial rules.
4. Assist in the preparation of YSI donor financial reports and periodical financial reports in accordance with IOM regulations and established procedures in close coordination with the RMO.
5. Project the YSI programme cash flow in accordance with the activities of the programme. Ensure that funding is received according to the donor agreement; ensure daily control of the funds disbursed.
6. Assist in the preparation of annual budgets for the YSI Programme; monitor the budgets and report variances between budget and actual expenditures.
7. Ensure that salaries are correctly allocated to appropriate budget lines projects in a manner consistent with IOM's projectization criteria and manage the activities of the HR service provider.
8. Prepare the monthly Grants reconciliation with the database
9. Liaise with relevant units of the Mission, HQs and MAC with regard to the financial activities of the Mission. Liaise as well with government counterparts, donors and banking institutions as required.
10. Review contracts and personnel action forms issued to national staff. Maintain all personnel files and make the necessary updates both manually and electronically.
11. Oversee the attendance records of international and national staff members and ensure that the documents reflective reality. Closely monitor the leave balances of all personnel to ensure that these balances remain within reasonable limits.
12. Make regular inspection and short audit visits to the field offices in order to ensure that all accounting and financial procedures and registers are done in accordance with IOM rules and regulations.

**Desirable Qualifications:**

- **Education/Training:** University Degree in Accounting or Business Administration or other related fields.
- **Experience:** Minimum seven (7) years related experience in a busy accounting office preferably in the Humanitarian Field, Demonstrated ability to maintain accuracy and confidentiality.
- **Skills:** Fluency in English and Arabic; Reporting Skills; Ability to pay close attention to details and work with minimal supervision. Ability to supervise and direct staff; Experience in Grant management; Excellent computer skills especially Ms Office and SAP. Strong interpersonal skills; Ability to work under minimal supervision; Ability to work effectively and harmoniously within a team.

Women with the above qualifications are encouraged to apply

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International Organization for Migration,  
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P.O. Box 16335, Sana'a.

OR  
Email: [hrysisanaa@iom.int](mailto:hrysisanaa@iom.int) (Indicating clearly the Position applied for on the Subject Line)  
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**Closing Date: Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> April 2010**



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**SENIOR IT & DATABASE ASSISTANT – SANA'A**

Vacancy Notice: 09-04-10  
Classification: Grade 7 (UN Salary Scale for GS Staff in Yemen)  
Duration: 06 Months with possibility of extension

Under the overall supervision of the Chief of Mission and under the direct supervision of the Resource Management Officer, the incumbent will be responsible for the following duties: -

1. Hardware and Software installation & configuration including PC hardware error detection and replacement of defective parts, hardware connectivity and configuration which includes printers, modems, network cards, etc.
2. Installation of the software packages and applications which staff use & any specific work related installations upon request. Implementation of the Backup system for all staff and the Virus Definition loader.
3. Software and Hardware Troubleshooting including error detection and replacement of defects and carry out software reinstallations if necessary. Routine check-up of virus guard updates and PC status.
4. E-mail and Internet services monitoring and maintenance including e-mail account creation and provide updates of email account details. E-mail address book updates and assist in synchronization of the address book, E-mail account configuration and troubleshooting.
5. Local Area Network maintenance and troubleshooting. Assist in planning of the network layouts and monitoring the implementation of the network. Assist at error identification and maintenance of the switches and routers. Provide feedback on network status to immediate supervisor.
6. Phone system maintenance and coordination with service providers. Monitoring the PABX System, phone lines and coordinating with relevant servicing providers.
7. Maintain the YSI programme database including the entry of all relevant grant information. Ensure that all relevant information on the grants is entered/input and reflected into the database.
8. Under the direct supervision of the Grant Manager, update indicators and other possible structural changes of the database and provide training to YSI Programme staff on the use of the database.
9. Ensure that all relevant information on the grants is properly filed into e-room; the links between the database and e-room for each file should be created and should work properly.
10. Develop sound understanding of program database in order to maintain and employ it for reporting requirements and project tracking. Produce reports and run queries on the Program database as requested by the Grant Manager. Upload, on a weekly basis, the updated database into e-room.
11. Ensure that all pictures entered into the database and e-room are properly filed and tagged.
12. Provide end user support on IT related issues including providing support and guidance on how to use certain applications and tools.

**Desirable Qualifications:**

- **Education:** Degree in Computer Science or Information Technology; or an equivalent combination of Education and Training
- **Experience:** Minimum seven (7) years work experience in IT and Database Management or related field; preferably in the Humanitarian Field; Ability to work under pressure; Ability to work independently;
- **Skills:** Thorough knowledge of English and Arabic; Good interpersonal and Communication skills; Ability to work with minimal supervision.

Women with the above qualifications are encouraged to apply

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GXF	Siyoun	سيئون
AXK	Ateq	عتق
AAV	Alghaydah	الغيطه
SOT	Socotra	سقطرى
SHJ	Sharjah	الشارقة
JIB	Djibouti	جيبوتي
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# مزمر زمان

## الطعم أحلى والجلسة تحلى

### **PRODUCTION ENGINEER**

**Position # 04-086 (B51)/11-15A/306/1029(B14) @ CPF/BAK-PF (Masila, Hadhramout)**  
**For Yemeni Nationals Only**

**Basic Function:**  
Responsible to assist Staff Production Engineer with all daily engineering activities in assigned area of responsibility while gaining overall experience and training in the roles and responsibilities of a Production Engineer.

**Job Duties:**  
The incumbent shall:

- Assists with monitoring the performance, data, and optimization of wells in his assigned area while gaining experience in these areas.
- Assists with the preparation under direction from the more senior Production engineers of work programs for all rig and rigless work, as required, including ESP optimizations, water shut offs, zonal re-completions, production logging programs and slick line surveys. On site supervision and witnessing of work is required as determined by the Senior and Staff Production Engineers.
- Prepares equipment requirements on a per well basis as directed by more senior staff and strives for quality assurance on all equipment and well data obtained.
- Strives to obtain a thorough knowledge of completion, stimulation and workover designs.
- Assists in all necessary data collection and reporting as required. Ensures that all data quality is adequate and reported in a timely fashion.
- Assists with identifying production optimization opportunities and discusses these opportunities with Staff and Senior Production Engineers.
- Works closely with the more senior Production Engineers to ensure that quality control is maintained for all equipment and services utilized in conducting well programs.
- Prepares cost estimates and justifications for operational expenditures as required for all work programs. Assists with monitoring costs on a per job basis.
- Sets goals for learning, skills and experience needed for advancement in his Individual Development Program (IDP) or Skills Ladder status, as applicable.
- Can express knowledge of all tools, equipment, processes and procedures, not only through his efforts and work, but, in both written and verbal English skills.
- If required to drive shall know and understand CNPY "Safe Driving Practice".
- Is required to report any unsafe acts and conditions (vehicle, driving or workplace).
- Know and understand the Responsible Care Ethics. Will follow the Responsible Care standards as applicable in their role within the Organization.

**Minimum Requirements:**

- University education and degree, preferably with a degree in Petroleum Engineering, Mechanical Engineering.
- Minimum of 5 years of related experience in well operations and/or production related operations.
- Good knowledge of English.
- Excellent physical health.

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### **PRODUCTION ADMINISTRATOR**

**Position #04-128 @ BAK-PF (Masila, Hadhramout)**  
**For Yemeni Nationals Only**

**Basic Function:**  
Provides administrative support for the Production department. Responsible for various data inputs into SAP. Manage DriveRight system and downloads for various Production department groups. Review and confirm Production department travel / rotation schedules.

**Job Duties:**  
The incumbent shall:

- Creates SAP service entries for services managed by the Production Engineering, Field, Plant and Corrosion groups. Coordinates document flow between the Production department groups, Accounting and the Contractors. Maintains log of all service entries and source documents and handles routing of documents between Nexen and the Contractors for invoicing.
- Preparing SAP PM Notifications for various groups within the Production department.
- Maintains the Production Engineering reference library. Catalogs all resource texts and periodicals, and electronic media and maintains usage logs of all reference materials ensuring that all materials are accounted for.
- Collect and download DriveRight and Smartcard devices for Production Engineering, Lab and Plant groups, logging and reporting the download of all the devices.
- Review the Production department Expatriate rotation schedules reconciling the schedules against the Administration department Outbound travel reports and coordinate the correction of rotation schedules and travel reports as required.
- Carries out other similar or related administrative functions such as mail sorting and distribution, handling courier and export requests, preparing shipments of materials and associated documents and providing software assistance or other duties as assigned by the supervisor.
- Know and understand the Responsible Care Ethics. Will follow the Responsible Care standards as applicable in their role within the Organization.
- Supports the organizations compliance to Process Safety Management with their role within the organization.

**Minimum Requirements:**

- Completion of Secondary (12 years) education. 2 years formal training in administrative and commercial subjects required.
- 3 years administrative experience.
- Computer skills including use of Word, Excel, and Outlook. Prior SAP experience is a benefit.

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## Words of Wisdom



In the final analysis, it is in the hands of the people in charge of this country to make our transformation towards democracy real and meaningful. It would be unfortunate if the change in Yemen remains merely a show or something superficial. Our politicians need to believe in preparing for the 21st century. To do that, they have to internalize some new values.

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



## OUR OPINION

## Yemen as a house

Imagine a house that is literally falling apart. The windows are broken, rain is leaking through the ceiling, and the furniture is worn-out.

Imagine that this house is the responsibility of a man who cares only about himself. He has a nice room in this house which is air-conditioned and maintained very nicely. He has no idea about who is in the house and who is not. He does not even know the number of the children or their names. He does not care about whether they go to school or not, or whether they have eaten or went to bed hungry. He could not care less about their health or wellbeing. He isolates himself in his nice room and interacts with the neighbors as if everything were fine.

But the children are tired, distressed and some of them have gone astray. Some have dropped out from school, and some have become drug addicts. Some have become bullies and are terrorizing the younger ones to obey their orders. Some are trying to live a decent life and are trying to keep it together but they are fragmented and lack resources. They are afraid that, if the man of the house sees them rallying the children around them, he will feel threatened and think that they want to take his place and his nice room.

Now imagine that this man has a rich next door neighbor. The neighbor sees that this house is falling apart, and suspects that through the cracks a terrorist has entered this damaged house and is lurking among the poor children, waiting for an opportunity to jump into his house next door and influence his own children. The rich neighbor cannot risk having a terrorist living next door and he is haunted with this threat. He can't sleep and his family repeatedly reminds him to do something about this problem.

## The rich man goes to the neighbor and says:

"I have reason to believe that your house is the haven for a terrorist. My sources and intelligence show that he is among your children. I am concerned that this terrorist will come and threaten my interests or blow up my house. I need you to get rid of it.

- But I am poor. I can't do it. Look... I have too many children, and I don't have time for this. I have to feed them, I have too many broken chairs I need to repair, we have no water, and the power will be disconnected soon as we have not paid the bill...

- I will give you money, you just make sure you get rid of this terrorist or I will!"

So the man goes inside the house, he looks around and starts to shout at his children: "One of you is a terrorist and I will find out who." He turns the children against each other. He promises that the person who tells on the terrorist will receive a nice reward from the many treasures hidden in his room. He also beats them up so that they speak, and destroys whatever little furniture is left in his house. He disrupts the life the children were trying to make for themselves, but eventually he does find the terrorist and hands him over to the rich neighbor with a grin.

In the process of hunting down the threat, this man has terrified and angered many of the children who were not involved in this issue. They have decided they don't like how they are treated. Someone inside, and others through the window, start saying that they should all do something about it. Although the head of the house has captured one terrorist, he has created many more in the process.

The children are unhappy, the neighbor is unhappy, and the head of the house is using their mutual annoyance to make more money.

The riddle is: What should be done to make things right? Please send me your suggestions, I really want to know.

Nadia Al-Sakkaf

## No blank checks for Yemen

Yemen's president is no U.S. yes-man  
— and U.S. military aid is no panacea

By: Stacey Philbrick Yadav  
Foreign Policy

It would barely be an exaggeration to say that the only Yemeni truly excited by the prospect of expanded U.S. military aid to Yemen is President Ali Abdullah Saleh.

From the outside, it appears that Yemen could use the military aid, to be sure. Would-be terrorist Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab reportedly trained in Yemen, and the country unquestionably suffers from al Qaeda's presence. Concerned about generating a local backlash, Saleh has indicated that he would prefer to crack down selectively, favoring dialogue with some al Qaeda members over the use of force. Fighting between the government and rebels in both the north and the south is intensifying. Given these circumstances, the Pentagon has boosted its aid to the country from \$4.6 million in 2006 to \$67 million this year. Now, Washington is considering doubling that number, as well as training an elite unit of Yemeni security forces and improving intelligence-sharing.

On Jan. 6, NBC News correspondent Richard Engel reported from Sanaa that Yemenis welcome increased aid. But in this context, "Yemenis" does not mean the Yemeni people: It means Saleh and a small number of his closest associates. The president came to power in a military coup and has installed cronies and family members throughout the government. In Yemen, aid means aid to Saleh.

Saleh was president of North Yemen from 1977 to 1990 and has been president of the unified country since then. Since the introduction of multiparty elections following unification, he has channeled political competition to his benefit, pitting Yemen's Islamists against its socialists to maintain power. In the past decade, his grasp has weakened somewhat, as he has fought an armed insurgency in the northern Saada province since 2004 and a regional opposition movement in the south since 2007. Moreover, Saleh must cope with an increasingly independent media, despite his attempts to quash it. Still, pervasive corruption and the suppression of civil liberties have kept Saleh comfortably in charge.

An increase in aid and intelligence will provide him with more fungible resources to use as he sees fit. In contrast, the democrats struggling to challenge him stand to suffer irrevocable damage. "What [Washington] doesn't understand is that Yemen doesn't need more arms or equipment to monitor the telephone lines and Internet connections," one senior official critical of Saleh explained via email. "Saleh sucked hundreds of millions of dollars from the budget to buy arms that were [only] used for internal purposes to secure his rule and his family. We need a better government and more real democracy."

Simply put, providing more aid to Yemen will make the situation worse. The war on terrorism has already provided Saleh with a pretext for the surveillance and persecution of journalists and opposition activists. Plus, he has cultivated

ties with radical clerics despite paying lip service to working with the United States.

For instance, Saleh has developed a close relationship with Sheikh Abdul Majid al-Zindani, the rector of al-Iman University, a documented al Qaeda recruiting ground. (The U.S. Treasury Department has for years listed Zindani as a financier of terrorism.) In the early part of this decade, Zindani's political party started moving to the center, eventually forming an opposition alliance with the Yemeni Socialist Party. In a bid to maintain his own relevance, Zindani reached out to Saleh. The president supported his creation of an organization to "enjoin the good and forbid the evil": promoting extreme interpretations of religious law, self-censorship by the press, vigilantism against moderate critics, and limits on women's freedom.

This willingness to cozy up with people committed to radicalizing Yemeni youth and encouraging violence suggests that Saleh will do little to help the United States fight terrorism. Rather, Saleh will use U.S. funds to continue to monitor and repress his domestic opponents.

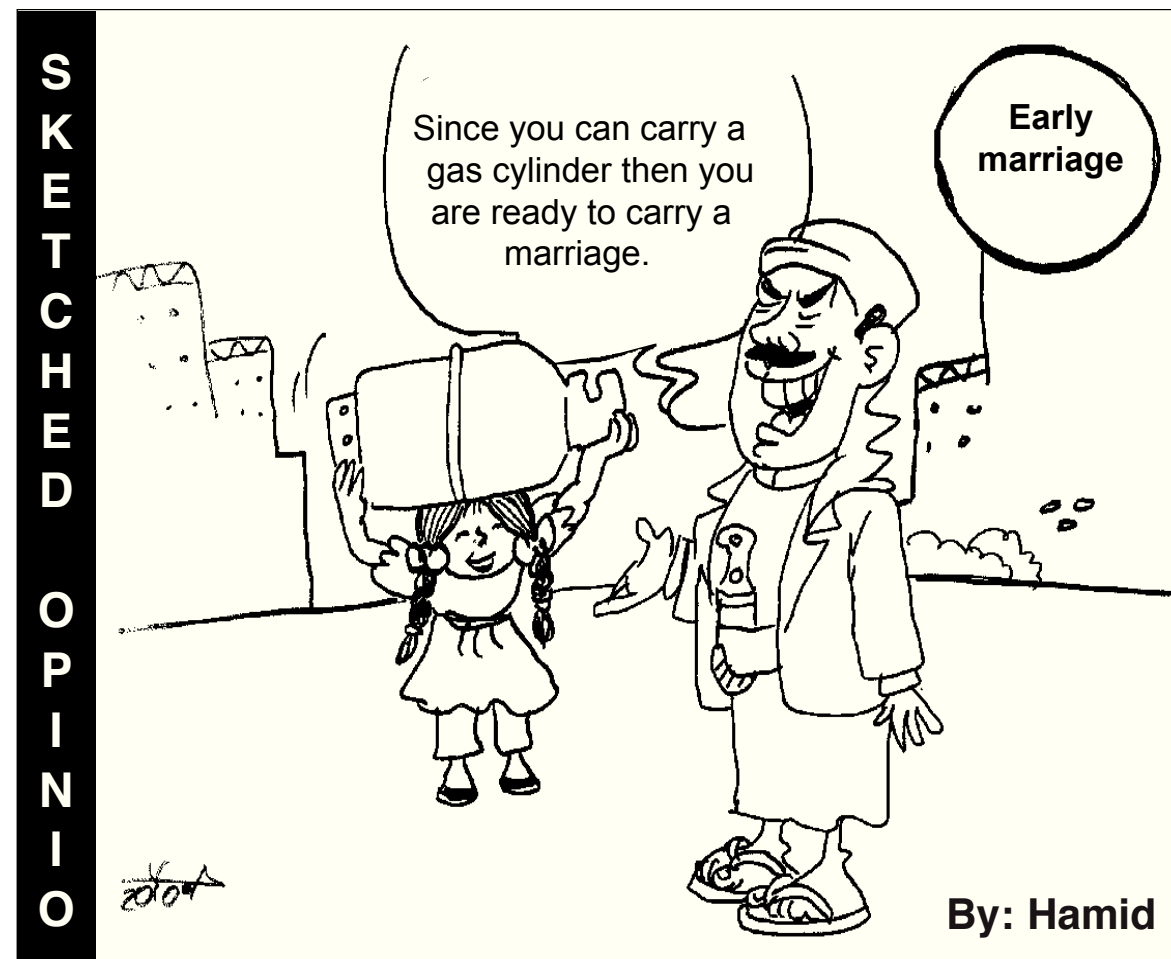
There are committed democrats in Yemen, from a variety of ideological backgrounds, from inside the regime and the opposition. And there are people ready to tackle Yemen's development challenges and promote a climate of moderation. I've been traveling regularly to Yemen since 2004, conducting research on the relationship between Islamists and leftists in Yemen's opposition parties. Throughout this time, I have maintained correspondence with Yemeni journalists and political activists from a wide range of ideological positions. They are united in their concern about expanding U.S. involvement in Yemen, understanding just how badly it is likely to turn out for them and their country.

In part, Yemeni reformers are wary because such assistance has already contributed to radicalization. The use of unmanned drones, for example, goes back to 2002 at least. The combination of the perceived infringement on Yemeni sovereignty and high civilian death tolls caused by drone strikes has unquestionably helped fuel anti-American sentiment. Now, my Yemeni sources worry the Saleh regime will use additional military funds to crack down on legitimate political dissent and pad its coffers, rather than fighting actual terrorists and providing desperately needed services and infrastructure.

"Saleh is worried about his own survival, along with his family," writes one embittered politician. "The Yemeni people have never been a worry for him." Instead, they worry that Saleh will continue to fuel radicalism even while "fighting" it, thereby creating the very threat that keeps U.S. dollars flowing.

The United States' interest in Yemen has clearly been piqued. But information and analysis lag far behind this interest. As a Yemeni official told me, "The guys in D.C. aren't creative"; they throw money at the problem rather than working to solve it. In Yemen, Saleh is part of the problem. Clear policy alternatives might not be available yet -- but writing a blank check will certainly do nothing but fuel the radicalization the United States seeks to fight.

Stacey Philbrick Yadav is an assistant professor of political science at Hobart and William Smith Colleges and a former research fellow at the American Institute for Yemeni Studies.

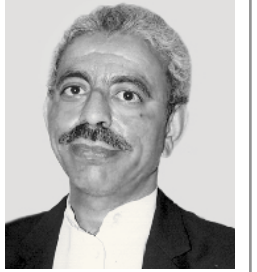


## COMMON SENSE

UN Fact Finding Mission:

## Ms Benazir Bhutto's Official Sanctioned Murder

Anyone who follows the myriad events that have unfolded in the Pakistani area of the Indian subcontinent is bound to agree that the cold blooded murder of Ms Benazir Bhutto will be recorded as the most tragic event of Pakistan's history since the death of her father, Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, some forty years ago. Ms. Bhutto's death may be viewed as



By: Hassan Al-Haifi

one of the greatest losses to the entire Moslem World in the last decade. For one thing Ms Bhutto was a staunch defender of Islam as a liberal religion that did not espouse any of the extremely archaic renditions adopted by extreme Salafi teachings of the Wahhabi school. In addition her staunch defense of democracy and good governance will undoubtedly be remembered by all freedom loving Pakistanis as well as champions of modern liberal Islamic thinkers throughout the world.

The release of the United Nations Fact Finding Mission report on Ms Bhutto's assassination clearly points to a well organized conspiracy for the elimination of Ms Bhutto and her highly liberal convictions, which have been sending shivers down the spine of Wahhabi thinkers from Riyadh to Kandahar. While not giving any names as to who could have been responsible for such a monumentally sadistic act, the report of the UN Commission headed by Chilean Ambassador Heraldo Munoz clearly showed the obvious Salafi distaste for Ms Bhutto: "Given the historical and possibly continuing relationships between intelligence agencies and some radical Islamist groups that engage in extremist violence, the agencies could be compromised in their investigations of crimes possibly carried out by such groups." This observer cannot fail to remember the first time Ms Benazir was elected and sworn in as Prime Minister of Pakistan in December 1988. At the time I attended a Friday prayer in one of the mosques with a Salafi Imam. His sermon shockingly expressed the general feelings of Salafi - Wahhabi distaste for Ms Bhutto by stating that "from 100 million or so Pakistanis, the Pakistanis could not find any man to take the helms of authority in Pakistan, but rather chose a timid woman who should be tending to her children and house work" or something along that line. It is understandable why the Wahhabi Establishment did not like Benazir. As Prime Minister of Pakistan she worked to have 7,000 schools built a year, so that the Wahhabi Establishment could not impose on the Pakistani Government to have Wahhabi "Quranic Institutes" dot the Pakistani landscape on the grounds that there were not enough schools in Pakistan. Indeed Ms Bhutto had known that education was the proper avenue for the development of Pakistan and that extremism was going to send Pakistan centuries back into the dark ages of Europe.

Although some historians claim Ms Bhutto's Government helped the Taliban gain power in Afghanistan, this observer is inclined to suggest that there were no points of convergence conceptually speaking between Ms Bhutto's religious views and those of the Taliban. Surely, Ms Bhutto recognized that the Taliban would never look with favor towards a Moslem State being run by a woman. Along with the military intelligence apparatus in Pakistan, the Taliban and their supporters were instrumental in the framed up accusations of corruption lobbed against Ms Bhutto and made her work as Prime Minister very taxing, not to mention the security efforts to protect her against possible assassination efforts by the Pakistani Intelligence (ISI) or their Salafi partners (as apparently happened on the tragic date of her death and earlier).

Ms Bhutto was loved by the Pakistani people, who had regretted her self-imposed exile in Dubai. In October of 2007, just two months before her tragic death, millions had come to greet her upon her arrival in Karachi, but at the same time the first serious attempt on her life was carried out in "total darkness", as she stated in the last book written before her death "Reconciliation", which this observer hopes to be able to write a critique about soon in the Yemen Times.

Needless to say, the Bhutto family has been a long established role player in Pakistani politics championing democratic government and challenging the long standing and entrenched military establishment that has often taken the helms of authority in Pakistan. The latter was merciless against the Bhutto regime executing Benazir's father under former Acting President Zia Al-Haq, and her brothers under dubious circumstances. Benazir was also imprisoned on and off several times including a torturous stint which she described so vividly:

"The summer heat turned my cell into an oven. My skin split and peeled, coming off my hands in sheets. Boils erupted on my face. My hair, which had always been thick, began to come out by the handful. Insects crept into the cell like invading armies. Grasshoppers, mosquitoes, stinging flies, bees and bugs came up through the cracks in the floor and through the open bars from the courtyard. Big black ants, cockroaches, seething clumps of little red ants and spiders. I tried pulling the sheet over my head at night to hide from their bites, pushing it back when it got too hot to breathe."

May God bless the soul of this great Moslem woman heroine.

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

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## A pig's breakfast

By: Howard Davies

The Greek debt problem has been poorly handled by Europe's decision-makers. European Union heads of government, and the European Central Bank, initially rejected the idea of involving the International Monetary Fund, but without a fall-back plan. It is hard to avoid the conclusion that part of the motivation for this was French President Nicolas Sarkozy's reluctance to see Dominique Strauss-Kahn, the IMF's managing director, ride in from Washington to the rescue of the eurozone. Strauss-Kahn is, of course, likely to be Sarkozy's Socialist rival in the next French presidential election.

Is Greece the "canary in the coalmine" – the warning that tells us that Europe's monetary union is on the verge of dissolution, with the other three of the famous PIGS (Portugal, Italy, and Spain) lining up like dominoes to fall? George Soros fears this might be the case, and gives the eurozone only a 50% chance of survival in its present form.

Certainly, the episode highlighted flaws in the way the euro's governance – flaws that are no surprise to some of those involved in creating the common currency. Helmut Kohl, one of the euro's principal parents, said in 1991 that "the idea of sustaining an economic and monetary union over time without political union is a fallacy." Margaret Thatcher, from the opposite camp, said in her memoirs: "I believe the European single currency is bound to fail, economically, politically and indeed socially, although the timing, occasion and consequences are all still unclear." There may now be a market for a Greek translation of her book.

Although they might not agree with either of these two apocalyptic predictions, many of Europe's leaders are coming round to the view that there is a need for change, and that the Greek case has revealed a flaw at the center of

the project. Sarkozy, for example, has revived a long-standing French argument for some form of economic government in Europe as a counterweight to the ECB.

The French usually advance this proposal to get some purchase on the ECB's monetary decisions, which they sometimes consider hostile to growth and employment, or in order to prevent other countries from maintaining unfair tax policies ("unfair" usually being defined as a tax rate lower than the relevant French one).

In the past, the Germans brushed these arguments aside, but now they are a little more receptive. German Finance Minister Wolfgang Schäuble, however, focuses on the issue of distressed members, and has advanced a proposal for a European Monetary Fund to provide assistance to countries in Greek-style difficulties, roughly on the IMF model.

This idea has logic behind it. The drawback is that it would require a change in the European treaties, which in turn requires a unanimous decision by 27 countries, and positive votes in referendums in some of them, including the United Kingdom if David Cameron's Conservatives win the upcoming general election there.

In the aftermath of the negative referendum votes in France, the Netherlands, and Ireland on European constitutional reform, it is close to inconceivable that EU heads of government would agree to set off down that path again. Certainly nothing could be achieved on a timetable that would offer any comfort to the other PIGS. They would all be bacon and sausages before any agreement was reached.

So, in the short run, the IMF will have to be used, if that kind of support is needed, and Sarkozy will have to swallow his pride. But is an EMF really what is required in the long run? I think not. Nor do I think that a European economic government is strictly necessary. What is needed, though, is a collective agreement on fiscal discipline, and a re-

vival of the Stability and Growth Pact, which was unwisely abandoned – ironically when the French and Germans found its rules too constraining.

Europe's leaders should refer to a paper by Otmar Issing, "The Euro – A Currency Without a State," published in December 2008, before the debt crisis erupted. Issing, the ECB's chief economist in its formative years, knows more about how a monetary union operates in practice than any man alive. He maintains that "the Stability and Growth Pact contains all the rules that are necessary for Monetary Union to function. There is no need for coordination of macroeconomic policies to go any further than this."

Europe does not need the French plan for coordination of tax policies, or another IMF, but there does need to be fiscal discipline to prevent other countries from free riding, as the Greeks seem to have done. They apparently assumed that the rest of Europe would overlook continuing high deficits, and that, as eurozone members, the market would consider their debt to be just like German bonds, though issued by friendly and welcoming people in an agreeable climate, and with a glass of ouzo on the side.

The original Pact envisaged a 3%-of-GDP cap on fiscal deficits, save in exceptional circumstances. Investors well understand that we are in such circumstances now, so it will take some time to get back to that level. But that should be the clear aim, with IMF assistance along the way to provide interim funding where necessary and political cover for governments obliged to take tough decisions on public spending and taxation.

Fiscal discipline does not sound as visionary as "economic government." But the EU has suffered from a surfeit of "vision" and a deficit of practical budgetary measures. It is time to redress that balance, or Soros's gloomy prognosis may become reality.

[www.project-syndicate.org](http://www.project-syndicate.org)

By: Jose Antonio Ocampo

Two troubling features of the ongoing economic recovery are the depressed nature of world trade and the early revival of international global payment imbalances. Estimates by the International Monetary Fund and the United Nations indicate that the volume of international trade in 2010 will still be 7% to 8% below its 2008 peak, while many or most countries, including industrial nations, are seeking to boost their current accounts.

Indeed, if we believe the IMF's projections, the world economy's accumulated current-account surpluses would increase by almost \$1 trillion between 2009 and 2012! This is, of course, impossible, as surpluses and deficits must be in balance for the world economy as a whole. It simply reflects the recessionary (or deflationary) force of weak global demand hanging over the world economy.

Under these conditions, export-led growth by major economies is a threat to the world economy. This is true for China, Germany (as French Finance Minister Christine Lagarde has consistently reminded her neighbor), Japan, and the United States.

Countries running surpluses must adopt expansionary policies and appreciate their currencies. More broadly, to the extent that major emerging-market countries will continue to lead the global recovery, they should reduce their current-account surpluses or even generate deficits to help, through increased imports, spread the benefits of their growth worldwide.

But, while that implies that emerging-market currencies must strengthen, disorderly appreciations would do more harm than good. To use an American saying, it might mean throwing out the baby (economic growth) with the bathwater (exchange rate appreciation).

Consider China, which accounts for the largest share by far of world trade

among emerging economies. Real appreciation of the renminbi is necessary for a balanced world economic recovery. But disorderly appreciation may seriously affect China's economic growth by disrupting its export industries, which would generate major adverse effects on all of East Asia.

China needs a major internal restructuring from exports and investments, its two engines of growth in past decades, to personal and government consumption (education, health, and social protection in the latter case). But this restructuring will tend to reduce, not increase, import demand, as exports and investment are much more import-intensive than consumption.

Moreover, a sharp appreciation of the renminbi could risk domestic deflation and a financial crisis. Chinese authorities certainly seem to have that interpretation of the roots of Japan's malaise in mind as they seek to avoid rapid revaluation.

The only desirable scenario, therefore, is a Chinese economy that transmits its stimulus to the rest of the world mainly through rising imports generated by rapid economic growth (i.e., the income effect on import demand), rather than by exchange-rate appreciation (the substitution effect). This requires maintaining rapid growth while undertaking a major but necessarily gradual domestic restructuring, for which a smooth appreciation is much better suited.

Now consider other major emerging markets. Here currency appreciation is already taking place, pushed by massive capital inflows since the second quarter of 2009, and in some cases it can already be said to be excessive (for example, in Brazil).

These countries can, of course, resist upward pressure on their currencies by accumulating foreign-exchange reserves, like they did before the global financial crisis. The result is, of course, paradoxical: private funds that flow into these countries are recycled into US Treasury securities via investment

of accumulated reserves. Why should emerging-market countries' central banks undertake this peculiar financial intermediation, which represents a major cost, as the yield of private funds is higher than that of reserves?

The implication here is that relying on free movement of capital to achieve exchange-rate appreciation and current-account deficits may generate a myriad of problems, including slower economic growth and the threat of asset bubbles and financial crises of their own. So, a more orderly way to induce current-account deficits without risking disruption of emerging economies' growth should be considered.

One solution (already advocated by some, including me, and adopted to some extent by a few countries) is broader use of capital-account regulations. Surprisingly, however, this issue has been entirely absent from current global debates on financial reform. Fortunately, the IMF opened the door to discussion of this issue in a recent staff position paper.

Equally important, a desirable global scenario is possibly one in which most developing countries run current-account deficits. But this requires major reforms in the global financial system to reduce the vulnerabilities that such deficits generated in the past, and that were reflected in major financial crises in the developing world.

These past crises gave rise to a form of "self-insurance" among developing countries through reserve accumulation. This helped many of them weather the recent storm, but it also contributed to global payments imbalances.

Recent IMF reforms are just a step in the direction of trying to create better financial instruments to help these countries. It is essential, in particular, to create reliable large-scale financing for developing countries during crises, through a mix of counter-cyclical issuance of SDRs and emergency financing without onerous conditions.

[www.project-syndicate.org](http://www.project-syndicate.org)

## Algerian newspapers resort to 'wow' factor

Algerian newspapers are becoming increasingly sensational in their coverage, to an extent that some Algerians are embarrassed to bring the papers home

By: Rachelle Kliger  
The Media Line

“Teenager kills his mother with an axe because of 200 dinars,” screams a newspaper headline. In many Western countries, the sensational banner would not stir much attention. But in Algeria, this type of sensational news reporting is a burgeoning novelty, and it is starting to encroach on the more conventional news reporting. The trend has lent color and pizzazz to the mostly straight-laced news coverage, but some Algerians do not view this favorably.

Many Algerians refuse to bring the newspapers into their homes because they are replete with sensational reports on crime and violence, reported the pan-Arab Al-Arabiyya.

Reports also include graphic pictures, such as photos of a prostitution ring nabbed by the cops, victims of criminal attacks or gruesome traffic accidents.

Until recently, Algerian newspapers focused mostly on matters concerning politics, but the news coverage has now taken a turn for the 'wow' effect.

Over the last three years, several dailies have crept onto the media scene generating a huge circulation of hundreds of thousands of copies daily and carrying content reminiscent of the racy tabloids published in the United Kingdom.

"This is commercial trend is absolutely normal," Omar Benderra, from the France-based NGO Algeria Watch, told The Media Line. "It's more convenient to talk about these gutter stories instead of talking about the real problems of society. It's a win-win situation – the papers avoid sensitive issues that can lead to problems and they also make money in attracting readers. It's typical normal human behavior and people love it."

Sensitive topics in this sense would include criticism of the real powers in Algeria, Benderra said. As long as the media steers clear of this, they can report on whatever they like.

When it comes to press freedom, Re-

porters Without Borders (RSF) ranked Algeria a low 141st place out of 175 countries in its 2009 index. While praising its newspapers as more effective than opposition political parties, it noted that a growing number of titles on the market was "no gauge of freedom of expression or of pluralism."

Benderra noted that profits came from ad sales and not circulation and that was the real catch.

"To run a newspaper in Algeria, you have to have authorization," Benderra said. "These ads are controlled by the political police so if you want to make money you have to be agreeable to the political police and strictly abide to their rules."

"Algerians are no more clever or smart than the British or the French," he added, "there is a massive readership interested in scandals and petty trash stories."

But the racy content is not to everyone's liking.

A fourth-year student of political science and communications in Algeria told Al-Arabiyya that he was obligated to buy newspaper for his studies. "But quite honestly, I feel embarrassed reading this news," he was quoted as saying.

Dr. Jack Kalpakian, a political analyst at Al Akhawayn University in Ifrane,

Morocco attributed the rise in sensationalist journalism in the Maghreb in general to the frustration among the public.

"If you look at election participation you see there's a lot of frustration with the government. I think people are more interested in their own personal problems than in politics," Kalpakian told The Media Line.

He noted that one area in the media that has blossomed in recent years in Morocco is advice columns on marital and sex-related problems, and in this respect, Algeria is following a similar path.

"Often, people have no where to turn with these questions in the current structure of society," Kalpakian said. "Newspapers have been proving an outlet for that interest and people write in their personal problems anonymously and get doctors or other readers to give them advice. There's an opening of the personal sphere into the public sphere. In a way, it's a healthy development, in my view."

"Others find it unhealthy and say it threatens the moral fiber of society," he added. "It's a conservative reaction, which is understandable, but in this context it's a channel through which people can get information."

Indeed, a large amount of the sen-

sationalist news in Algeria is based on court cases where piquant cases are being discussed, and many newspapers employ correspondents whose sole task is to gather news about crime, marital problems and cases related to sexual violence.

Abd A-Rahim, a kiosk owner in the capital Algiers said the readers who buy papers from his stand are often enraged over the concentration of sensationalist news coverage.

"A while ago I stopped bringing these newspapers home, after they printed pictures of a boy who was massacred in the Khenchala district on the front page and pictures of a prostitution ring," he told Al-Arabiyya.

Benderra describes Algeria society as being more liberal and less conservative than other countries in the Middle East, citing Algeria's proximity to Europe and its history of colonialism and foreign influence.

"But it's still a Muslim country," he said. "There are people who are interested in these papers, but don't want their kids to have access to sex scandals and rubbish."

Headlines such as "Imam Attacks Child Inside Mosque" or "Lawyer Engages in Homosexual Relations with Worker in Bus Station Passenger Bath-

room" have become the bread and butter of these new outlets.

The editor in chief of A-Shuruq Al-Yawmi newspaper, Muhammad Yaquobi, said that stirring the interest of the readers was part of the daily work at the newspaper.

"We focus on this and we use this in the news as an exercise for our readers," he said, but at the same time denied that he hunted for this news in order to increase his readership.

Ismail Fallah, editor of A-Nahhar Al-Jadid, said sensationalist stories are "the stories of the people" and are not limited to a particular sector.

"The Algerian people are shocked by terrorism, not by explicit pictures," he said. "Whoever criticizes us is (because they are) incapable of competing with us. We don't make up stories and we don't exaggerate anything."

Sandy McCutcheon, an Australian blogger based in Morocco, said the move toward sensationalist journalism was not limited to the Maghreb.

"The trend to tabloid style reporting and a general dumbing down is universal. Morocco is just as vulnerable as any country," he told The Media Line. "Sensationalism, celebrity and sport are still draw cards but hard news and analysis are not."

## Gulf real estate shows signs of imminent recovery

Coming year expect to see Middle East real estate market recovered from its current crisis, according to a new report.

By: Adam Gonn  
The Media Line

Gulf real estate markets show signs of recovery and are expected to bounce back slowly but surely in 2010/2011, according to a new survey by global property investors.

The Global Investor Sentiment survey, produced by the worldwide property consultants Colliers International, indi-

cated that there would likely be positive investments in the vital real estate sector in the Gulf region.

"Property markets still on the downward leg but are expected to be showing signs of recovery one year from now," according to the report.

"The likely reason most investors are planning to expand their real estate portfolios in the coming year is that the majority believe that their respective domestic real estate markets are at or near the bottom," the report continued.

John D. Davis, regional CEO and director of Colliers International's Global Investment Services team, told The Media Line that they detected signs of an imminent upswing.

"Investors clearly see the market resetting and about to enter the next 'up' cycle," Davis said. "Still, despite overwhelmingly positive outlook, investors are still cautious and there are some areas of concern."

"Real estate investors worldwide are painting a more optimistic picture of market," Davis said. "Many are convinced that the next up cycle in their domestic markets will begin in year ahead."

"Investors are shifting preference to-

wards high-quality and income-producing properties and avoiding risks," he added.

Porush Jhunjhunwala of the Dubai-based real estate agency Better Homes said they have recorded renewed interest in real estate.

"We have seen a rise in interest of office space in Dubai over the last six months especially along the Sheikh Zayed Road due to Metro becoming operational," Jhunjhunwala, told The Media Line referring to one of the main roads in Dubai.

He said that remote locations like the Dubai Investment Park and Silicone Oasis were still being badly affected due to

lack of demand.

Many Gulf countries, including Dubai, have used real estate construction both as a way to diversify their economies away from a dependence on oil and natural gas resources and as an essential part of attracting foreign investment by encouraging companies to establish offices in the region.

This strategy proved to be very successful until 2008 when real estate prices in the city crashed and left behind a huge bill.

In February 2010, the government of Dubai revealed a \$9.5 billion dollar rescue package to pay of some of the debt built up by the government owned con-

glomerate Dubai World, which had been the government main vehicle for driving the emirates' rapid development during the last decade. The total debt owned by companies controlled by Dubai World has not been determined, but some estimations put it as high as \$110 billion. Last November, Limitless and Nakheel, two real estate developers controlled by Dubai World, announced that they would not be able to pay back some \$26 billion they owed to various creditors.

Nakheel's two most famous projects are the man-made Palm Island and The World, a group of man-made islands just outside Dubai shaped as a map of the world.

# Poor compensation for workers in dangerous jobs

By: Sadeq Al-Wesabi

Ahmed Al-Watari works 13 hours a day cutting wood for doors and windows to be used in construction. He works without protection and says that every day he is in danger of cutting himself on the 660 volt saw that he uses.

Al-Watari has no contract, no holidays, and no insurance, and has never heard about the Yemeni Worker's Union. His salary is YR 30,000 (USD 135) a month.

"The sawdust spreads quickly in the workshop when we cut the wood causing suffocation, and we use dangerous machines to cut the wood," he complained. "The varnish we use also causes suffocation because it contains chemicals."

When the Yemen Times visited Al-Watari in his workshop, sawdust covered both the shop and Al-Watari. The workshop smelt strongly of chemicals. Al-Watari said that his work is very hard and deserves more than YR 30,000 a month.

"We use the dangerous machine for cutting the wood, and these machines need experienced workers," said Nashwan Al-Abbasi, laborer at the same workshop.

One of their colleagues skinned his palm using the workshop's 660-volt electric saw but received no compensation from their employer, according to the two workers.

According to the Yemeni Social Insurance Law, "The rights of injured workers include: medical care, compensation of temporary disability, compensation or pension in the case of constant disability, and pension in the case of death."

"We are pressing the government to improve our bad situation," said Mohammed Al-Jadri, the head of Yemeni Workers' Union, an organization that on Saturday gave the government another week to improve workers' conditions or it would go stage mass demonstrations.

"Unfortunately, the department of health and safety at the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs doesn't have qualified employees to work on these

problems and doesn't have the means to do so," he said.

"Most employers neglect their workers, there are factories with more than 200 workers but without a clinic or a single doctor," he said.

The Yemeni labor law stipulates that workers should be medically examined every six months by their employers in the companies that have over 50 workers, and that employers must provide their workers with a clinic if these are more than 150 workers, according to Al-Jadri.

"There is statistic indicated that there are more than 65,000 organizations in Yemen, but there are 40 inspectors from the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs," he said, explaining that these inspectors assess working conditions and teach workers about health and safety measures.

## Construction workers die on job

There are about 480,000 workers in construction, a field that has been hiring thousands of unemployed people, according to Yahya Al-Tabeeb, the head of Yemeni Worker's Union for construction and wood.

"These works require physical exertion and present serious dangers to workers," he said. "There are 2.2 million workers who die annually on the construction sites, mines, and factories due to dangerous jobs."

"The Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs has not imposed the law on the private companies working in construction," said Al-Tabeeb.

Many workers don't have social insurance or life assurance, explained Al-Tabeeb, recalling the case of some workers who fell from high buildings and died, but whose families were only given a small sum of money by their employers in compensation.

Workers continue working in bad conditions because they need the money, Al-Tabeeb

"Sometimes the employers ask their workers to work on dangerous scaffolding," he said. "The workers obey their employer even if the work is very dangerous because they need the money."

Similarly, he explained, employers favor high profits over safety in the

workplace: "Most employers want to earn a lot of money so they don't like buying these means for the workers," he said.

## The fear of syndicates

But workers hesitate before establishing syndicates to ask for their rights because their employers threaten to fire them if they do so, according to Al-Tabeeb.

"The Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs hasn't shown any interest in the workers' union and we have still not been able to meet the minister to present her with our demands," he said. "We need permission from the ministry to visit and inspect work sites."

"Labor Day will come in two weeks' time, but the workers won't be happy on this day, and they will only receive false promises by official statement," said Al-Tabeeb.

In Yemen, laborers are seen as unimportant people, "although the most brilliant projects here were achieved by them," he said adding that in other countries, workers or laborers are appreciated as effective and productive people.

## Dangerous jobs at university

But hazardous jobs are not only limited to construction sites. In some laboratories of Sana'a University, researchers and students work with dangerous chemical substances and loud machine to cut rocks.

According to Nasr Al-Dhabhani, who works in a laboratory engineer at the faculty of engineering, the loud machines used to cut rocks including basalt are a hazard to those who use them. Rock fragments sometimes fly out of the machine, sometimes hitting the workers in the face, and the machines can cause the workers to go deaf or develop psychological problems.

Khaled Al-Qodami, teacher in department of food sciences and technology, Sana'a University, further complained that some of the chemicals used in the laboratories can cause cancer.

"The former dean of the agriculture college died of cancer because his



work in the laboratories, and another professor also died of the same causes," Al-Qodami said.

"There are means of prevention like masks and gloves but these are not enough because the gas seeps through to the skin," he said. "My sense of smell is getting worse due to the chemical substances."

Al-Qodami said that university employees don't want to work in these

labs both because the work is dangerous and because they are underpaid.

"In the university, the laborers who work in hazardous conditions receive little money, but if the professors develop any illness they will rapidly travel abroad," said Mohammed Abdulqawi, rights activist at Sana'a University, calling for organizations such as the Yemeni Worker's Union to support the workers.

Ahmad Fadhayil told the Yemen Times that he developed cancer of the nose from working with sulfur in one of the faculty of engineering's laboratories. According to a 2004 document he gave the Yemen Times, the university's medical committee recommended him for medical treatment abroad six years ago.

Until now, he said, he has not received any medical treatment.



IOM International Organization for Migration

Worldwide IOM has over 400 offices and 5,600 staff focused on assisting migrants, governments and other stakeholders to address migration issues. IOM opened its mission in Sana'a in April 2007 and currently operates 02 field offices in the country.

## SENIOR PROCUREMENT & LOGISTICS ASSISTANT – SANA'A

Vacancy Notice: 08-04-10  
Classification: Grade 7 (UN Salary Scale for GS Staff in Yemen)  
Duration: 06 Months with possibility of extension

Under the overall supervision of the Chief of Mission and under the direct supervision of the Resource Management Officer, the incumbent will be responsible for the following duties: -

1. Be responsible for all planning, implementation and monitoring all aspects related to procurement and logistical needs within the Mission; organize and maintain systems/procedures for procurement, supply and transport, documentation, storage and warehousing, equipment up-grading, etc.
2. To ensure that all Purchase Requisition Forms (PRFs) are posted into PRISM FI accurately and on a timely basis to ensure that all procurement requests are captured in the system.
3. Verify all Bids Analysis in conformity to specified requirements (PRF), conduct appraisals and confirm terms of agreement with selected suppliers; ensure the preparation of purchase orders.
4. Implement systems for tracking procurements and create goods received notes and waybills for all items.
5. In line with agreed policies and procedures, develop bid packages, solicit contractors and/or, moderate tender meetings including openings, coordinate site visits, conduct prequalification visits, etc.
6. Review all prospective grant ideas and approved grants and, in consultation with the appropriate technical counterparts, develop the content of the contract specific to the project.
7. Ensure adequate mechanism exists to track contractual status of each project/grant and that adequate records are collected prior to payment.
8. Apply for and follow up all duty/VAT exemption applications for procured goods/services. Prepare payment requests and follow up with the Finance Unit to ensure that suppliers' accounts are settled on time.
9. Ensure that all IOM assets in Yemen are sufficiently insured at all times through a reputable Insurance Company under the best terms and conditions. Follow up on any claims that may arise.
10. Keep and update an Inventory List and Tracking System of all IOM assets in Yemen.
11. Coordinate, plan and oversee operation of IOM vehicles and transportation needs of the Mission, on a daily basis. Ensure preventive maintenance of all vehicles and validity of licenses and insurance cover at all times. Ensure proper running and maintenance of all the office equipment including IT equipment.
12. Be responsible for stockroom management and control supply stock and consumables.
13. Ensure that all logistics operations are accurately documented and arrange for secure and systematic filing.

### Desirable Qualifications:

- **Education/Training:** University Degree in Business Administration or a Higher Diploma in Procurement or an equivalent combination of training and experience.
- **Experience:** Minimum seven (7) years relevant experience in a similar position, with specific focus on local/international procurement, grant procurement, contract management, clearing & forwarding, VAT, GoY laws and regulations, fleet management, insurance and inventory/stock/supplies management.
- **Skills:** Fluency in English and Arabic; Ability to pay close attention to details and work with minimal supervision. Excellent computer skills especially Ms Office and SAP. Excellent communication and negotiation skills, Strong interpersonal skills; Ability to work effectively and harmoniously within a team.

Women with the above qualifications are encouraged to apply

**Method of Application:** Please submit your Curriculum Vitae & Letter of Application (**Stating the Position applied on the left hand corner of the envelope**) including daytime telephone and email address to the attention of:

Human Resources Department,  
International Organization for Migration,  
Syassy Area, Street No. 1B, Villa No. 3,  
P.O. Box 16335, Sana'a.

OR  
Email: [hrysisanaa@iom.int](mailto:hrysisanaa@iom.int) (Indicating clearly the Position applied for on the Subject Line)  
Website: [www.iom.int](http://www.iom.int)

Please note that only the short listed candidates will be contacted.

**Closing Date: Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> April 2010**

## مجموعة تنمية للعلوم الإدارية



د. محمد فتحي



أ. محمد علي



د. أحمد عبدالعزيز

### تنظم الدورات المتخصصة في المجالات التالية:

#### برنامج إدارة المكاتب لمدرء

#### المكاتب والسكرتارية

#### التنفيذية

في الفترة من ٢٠١٠/٥/٩ وحتى ٢٠١٠/٥/١١

عدد ساعات التدريب: ١٨ ساعة  
المدرء: د. محمد فتحي (مصري الجنسية)

الهدف من البرنامج: تهيئة المدرئين للتحويل إلى نظام الأتمتة (تطبيق تكنولوجيا المعلومات) مع دعم القدرات والمهارات المصاحبة.

#### برنامج إعداد المدرئين

لكل مدرء التسويق والمبيعات ومدرء شؤون الموظفين والتدريب وكل من يخطو في طريق التدريب الاحترافي في الفترة من ٢٠١٠/٥/١٥ وحتى ٢٠١٠/٥/٢٦

عدد ساعات التدريب: ٦٠ ساعة  
المدرء: د. أحمد عبد العزيز (مصري الجنسية)  
أ. محمد علي (مصري الجنسية)

الهدف من البرنامج: خلق آلية التدريب بكافة مهاراتها الأساسية.

يحصل كل متدرب على شهادة التدريب المعتمدة في نهاية البرنامج التدريبي

للحجز والاستفسار:

٠١-٤١٧٨٥٣ / ٠١-٤١٧٩٧١

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الوكيل المصري لمعهد المدرء المحترفين IPM - USA

عن موعد تنفيذ برنامج

**(ماجستير إدارة الأعمال المصغر MINI-MBA)**

خلال الفترة من ٢٤/٤ - ١٦/٥/٢٠١٠م

Missouri State University  
a i m r i

لمزيد من المعلومات زوروا على العنوان التالي: شارع الرباط - جوار الجامعة الوطنية  
عمارة مدينة تشرين الرقمية - الدور الرابع تلفاكس: ٥٣٦٦٥٤ - جوال: ٧٧١٢١٥٣٥٢-٧١٢٠٠٣٣٨  
البريد الإلكتروني: [info@tibah-hd.com](mailto:info@tibah-hd.com) - [Khalid.alhadi@yahoo.com](mailto:Khalid.alhadi@yahoo.com)



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### GRANTS UNIT CLERK – SANA'A

Vacancy Notice: 05-04-10  
 Classification: Grade 2 (UN Salary Scale for GS Staff in Yemen)  
 Duration: 06 Months with possibility of extension

Under the overall supervision of the Programme Manager and the direct supervision of the Grants Manager and IT & Database Assistant, the incumbent will be responsible for the following duties: -

1. Maintain all hardcopy and softcopy records relating to grants implemented by the Program
2. Liaise with field offices to collect relevant information to be filed in the grant files
3. Coordinate with Procurement and Contracts Department to ensure that all contracts and procurement information are collected and saved within each grant file
4. Coordinate with administration and finance to ensure that all administrative and finance information are collected and saved within each grant file

#### Desirable Qualifications:-

- **Education/Training:** Secondary Education
- **Experience:** Minimum 01 year relevant working experience; preferably in the humanitarian field.
- **Skills:** Excellent knowledge of spoken English and Arabic; Fluency in both would be an asset. Ability to work under minimal supervision; strong communication and interpersonal skills and ability to work effectively and harmoniously within a team. Excellent computer literacy in MS Office.

**Women with the above qualifications are encouraged to apply**

**Method of Application:** Please submit your Curriculum Vitae & Letter of Application (**Stating the Position applied on the left hand corner of the envelope**) including daytime telephone and email address to the attention of:

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 P.O. Box 16335, Sana'a.

OR  
 Email: [hrysisanaa@iom.int](mailto:hrysisanaa@iom.int) (Indicating clearly the Position applied for on the Subject Line)  
 Website: [www.iom.int](http://www.iom.int)

Please note that only the short listed candidates will be contacted.

**Closing Date: Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> April 2010**

#### CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (Eoi)

A reputable organization working in Yemen is looking for an experienced, reputable company or organization to undertake a Service Provider contract for the administrative management of staff and assets dedicated to development programming in several areas of Yemen. The selected company will exhibit a record of experience and success in resource management, and a capacity for professional discretion in all matters relating to the following contracted services: -

- Support the overall staffing and asset management needs of ongoing development programming in accordance with the specific requirements established by the contracting Organization.
- Assist in the development and structuring of overall remuneration packages, including the provision of adequate insurance portfolios and tax provisions, for a small corps of development professionals, technical and support staff.
- Based on established contractual guidelines (including fee structures and benefits), conclude and manage individual staffing contracts, and all provisions therein, for Sana'a and field-based staff personnel.
- For all contracted programme staff, maintain the necessary funds management for the payroll and the administration of tax requirements and all agreed benefits.

Those interested are invited to submit an expression of interests with their company/organization profile to the following: [serviceprovideradd@gmail.com](mailto:serviceprovideradd@gmail.com). The deadline for submission is **Friday, 23rd April 2010**. Those selected to submit a full proposal will be provided with additional information by email and will be asked to submit a full proposal, including financial proposal by close of business on **Wednesday, 28 April 2010**.



IOM International Organization for Migration

Worldwide IOM has over 400 offices and 5,600 staff focused on assisting migrants, governments and other stakeholders to address migration issues. IOM opened its mission in Sana'a in April 2007 and currently operates 02 field offices in the country.

### ADMINISTRATIVE FINANCE ASSISTANT I – SANA'A

Vacancy Notice: 03-04-10  
 Classification: Grade 5 (UN Salary Scale for GS Staff in Yemen)  
 Duration: 06 Months with possibility of extension

Working under the overall supervision of the Chief of Mission and the direct supervision of the Resource Management Officer the incumbent will be responsible for carrying out financial and administrative functions in accordance with IOM's regulations, rules and procedures. In particular, s/he will:

1. To ensure proper custody of petty cash available at the Mission in a locked safe and also advise the RMO on a daily basis the petty cash balances. Plan daily petty cash disbursements, replenishment of the same and maintaining weekly cash certificates.
2. Disburse cash and cheques to entitled payees, ensuring that payment is only made against properly authorized payment vouchers.
3. Maintain a proper filing system and ensure proper custody of all financial documents, vouchers and official correspondence
4. To keep in custody suppliers cheques and ensure that cheques are only handed over to authorized agents upon proper identification and submission of an official receipt.
5. Assist in the development of effective project/grant monitoring mechanisms and supporting documentation for project/grant disbursements.
6. To review all payment requests in order to certify the correctness and ensure that appropriate supporting documents have been provided and the correct project code/WBS/CC/GL accounts been provided.
7. To post all accounting transactions into PRISM FI accurately and on timely basis to ensure closure of IOM Sana'a Office's accounts in good time and despatch the accounting returns checklist to MAS.
8. To carry out bank and cash reconciliations on a monthly basis and follow up on bank statements and other banking information.
9. To prepare monthly funding requests for the YSI Programme and submission to MTS and ensure proper coordination for approval from the Programme/Project Managers and disbursement by MTS.
10. Monitor, update and post into PRISM FI all financial reports emanating from the field offices and ensuring that proper supporting documents are attached to all payments.
11. To provide regular updates on the status of outstanding debtors/creditors items and ensure that they are cleared regularly.

#### Desirable Qualifications:

- **Education/Training:** University Degree in Accounting or Business Administration
- **Experience:** Minimum 2 years related experience in a busy accounting office preferably in the Humanitarian Field, Demonstrated ability to maintain accuracy and confidentiality in performing responsibilities.
- **Skills:** Fluency in English and Arabic; fluency in all both languages is an asset. Reporting Skills; Ability to pay close attention to details and work with minimal supervision. Excellent computer skills especially Ms Office and SAP. Strong interpersonal skills; Ability to work under minimal supervision; Ability to work effectively and harmoniously within a team.

**Women with the above qualifications are encouraged to apply**

**Method of Application:** Please submit your Curriculum Vitae & Letter of Application (**Stating the Position applied on the left hand corner of the envelope**) including daytime telephone and email address to the attention of:

Human Resources Department,  
 International Organization for Migration,  
 Syassy Area, Street No. 1B, Villa No. 3,  
 P.O. Box 16335, Sana'a.

OR  
 Email: [hrysisanaa@iom.int](mailto:hrysisanaa@iom.int) (Indicating clearly the Position applied for on the Subject Line)  
 Website: [www.iom.int](http://www.iom.int)

Please note that only the short listed candidates will be contacted.

**Closing Date: Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> April 2010**



IOM International Organization for Migration  
 المنظمة الدولية للهجرة

### National Legal Consultant

#### General:

Working under the direct supervision of the Programme Manager (PM) of the project "Empowering Government and Civil Society in Yemen to address mixed migration the National Legal Consultant (NLC) will be responsible for assisting the PM and the International consultant/s on a wide range of issues associated with development and implementation of the programme activities, including translation and interpretation services. One of the key components of this project is to assist the Government of Yemen (GoY) in the development of an enhanced policy, legislative and administrative framework for migration management and more effective operational systems and procedures for enhanced border security and to conduct a comprehensive assessment of the policy, legislative and administrative framework and operational systems and procedures for migration and border management. For this purpose IOM will assign the NLC to help GoY to review its migration management structure and provide technical expertise to the newly established policy and legislation task forces (PTF and LTF).

#### Specific responsibilities:

- Assist the PM and International consultant/s in the development of an enhanced policy, legislative and administrative framework for migration management in Yemen;
- Attend all meetings of the PTF and LTF in Sanaa and provide PM with progress reports of the outputs of these meetings accordingly;
- Work closely with the International consultant /s and provide them with analysis of Yemeni migration legislation, regulations and policies;
- Support the PTF and LTF with technical expertise and to help both groups to develop recommendations to GoY in coordination with the International consultant/s;
- Follow up on the research component of the PTF and provide admin & logistic support to PTF and LTF members; Support the GoY's attempt to review its migration management structure ;
- Assist the PM in fact-finding and data-analysis on the legal aspects in the field of migration, and migration management in Yemen and other countries of the region;
- Closely follow the latest developments in migration trends in Yemen and in the region as whole;
- Collect and analyse existing laws and other legal instruments related to migration and advise the PM on the GoY initiatives on improvement of migration legislation and procedures in Yemen;
- Assist in identifying the needs of counterpart Ministries in resource materials and infrastructural support and capacity building; closely follow up on the latest publications and other materials on national, regional and international migration policies and practices;
- Support the PM in strengthening the relation with the GoY and other key partners in the area of migration management; Translate written materials from Arabic into English and vice-versa
- Develop and submit to the PM a monthly report on his/her activities and outcomes as the NLC;
- Undertake duty travels within Yemen, when necessary, in support of programme activities in governorates and border crossing points;

#### Desirable qualifications and skills:

- University degree in Law, Public Administration, Communication or other relevant field;
- Excellent communication, written and verbal skills both in Arabic and in English essential;
- Ability to work independently or under minimum supervision;
- Excellent computer literacy, including research skills through internet
- IOM functional competencies: effective communicator with a wide range of actors and partners, successful negotiator, cross cultural facilitator and active learner.
- Excellent computer literacy; Ability to multi-task, work under pressure and in a team.
- Personal commitment, strong interpersonal skills, efficiency, attention to detail and flexibility.

**Women with the above qualifications are encouraged to apply**

**Method of Application:** Email: [hrdeptsanaa@iom.int](mailto:hrdeptsanaa@iom.int) (Indicating clearly the Position applied for on the Subject Line) Website: [www.iom.int](http://www.iom.int)

Please note that only the short listed candidates will be contacted.

**Closing Date: Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> April 2010**



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### FIELD ENGINEER – TBD\*\*

Vacancy Notice: 04-04-10  
 Classification: Grade 5 (UN Salary Scale for GS Staff in Yemen)  
 Duration: 06 Months with possibility of extension

Under the overall supervision of the Program Manager, and the direct supervision of the Field Coordinator and the Senior Development Advisor, the incumbent will be responsible for the following duties: -

1. Manage the technical and engineering components related to the program implemented in a Governorate, including the management of contractors.
2. Design architectural and structural drawings as well as create bills of quantity, material specifications lists, and other technical documentation relating to infrastructure programming.
3. Maintain working relationships with local, district, and governorate level governmental authorities and draw up, when required, Memorandum of Understanding with relevant administrative units, program-targeted government ministries and other potential partners.
4. In coordination with the ADA, facilitate activities that assist government authorities to liaise with community leaders, individuals and groups to identify and prioritize community needs.
5. In coordination with the ADA, work with government and local authorities, leaders, individuals and groups to identify and implement selected community development projects.
6. Conduct regular monitoring visits to project sites and write up site visit notes for each visit.
7. Monitor coordinating mechanisms for project implementation and reporting with local authorities, government ministries, UN Agencies and NGOs.
8. Identify appropriate mechanisms or vehicles to adapt structures and to tender bids from contractors.
9. In coordination with the Logistics Department, negotiate contracts or agreements with contractors, and assist in administration of grants. Maintain records in accordance with program standards.
10. Supervise projects in coordination with government or local technical personnel and provide regular reporting regarding the status of projects.

#### Desirable Qualifications and skills:

- University degree in civil engineering and extensive experience in rural development.
- A minimum of four (4) years experience in the field of infrastructure planning and construction, including management of infrastructure projects.
- Ability to supervise, direct, coach and mentor staff. Excellent computer literacy.
- Excellent communication and negotiation skills. Understanding of complex social-political environments. Ability to work under extreme pressure, in difficult conditions while maintaining security awareness.
- Flexibility and focus on processes and their improvements. Ability to work effectively and harmoniously with colleagues from varied cultures and professional backgrounds.
- Stamina, determination, commitment and adaptability in the workplace are required. Excellent communication, written and verbal Arabic and English language skills essential.
- IOM functional competencies: effective communicator with a wide range of actors and partners, successful negotiator, cross cultural facilitator and active learner.

**Women with the above qualifications are encouraged to apply**

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Please note that only the short listed candidates will be contacted.

**Closing Date: Monday, 26<sup>th</sup> April 2010**

\*\*To be determined: The duty station will be based on candidate experience and profile, and in accordance with the geographic priorities of the programme.

# Water conflict and cooperation in Yemen

By: Gerhard Lichtenthaler  
Middle East Report

Yemen is one of the oldest irrigation civilizations in the world. For millennia, farmers have practiced sustainable agriculture using available water and land. Through a myriad of mountain terraces, elaborate water harvesting techniques and community-managed flood and spring irrigation systems, the country has been able to support a relatively large population. Until recently, that is. Yemen is now facing a water crisis unprecedented in its history.

The Middle East is an arid, water-stressed region, but Yemen stands out for the scale of its water problem. Yemen is one of the world's ten most water-scarce countries. In many of its mountainous areas, the available drinking water, usually drawn from a spring or a cistern, is down to less than one quart per person per day. Its aquifers are being mined at such a rate that groundwater levels have been falling by 10 to 20 feet annually, threatening agriculture and leaving major cities without adequate safe drinking water. Sanaa could be the first capital city in the world to run dry. Even today, many wells have to be drilled to depths of 2,600 to 3,900 feet, extremely deep by world standards. Yemen also differs from several Arabian Peninsula countries in that the government lacks legitimacy and the people strongly resist regulations and laws imposed from the top down. For these reasons, the Ministry of Water and Environment, supported by international donors including Germany through the German Technical Cooperation, have adopted a strategy of decentralized water resource management by encouraging stakeholder and community participation. Provinces, water basins and villages have acted to conserve local supplies of the life-giving liquid, but it is uncertain how long these efforts can stave off disaster.

## Race to the bottom

Agriculture takes the lion's share of Yemen's water resources, sucking up almost 90 percent. Until the early 1970s, traditional practices ensured a balance between supply and demand. Then the introduction of deep tube wells led to a drastic expansion of land under cultivation. In the period from 1970 to 2004, the irrigated area increased tenfold, from 37,000 to 407,000 hectares, 40 percent of which was supplied by deep groundwater aquifers. The thousands of Yemenis working abroad often invested their remittances in irrigation. Other incentives to expand farmland came in the form of agricultural and fuel subsidies. Farmers began growing less of the local, drought-resistant varieties of wheat and more water-intensive cash crops such as citrus and bananas.

The emerging cash economy also led to a dramatic increase in the cultivation of qat—the mild stimulant whose leaves are chewed in Yemen. It is estimated that qat production now accounts for 37 percent of all water used in irrigation. In the water-stressed highland basins of Sanaa, Sa'da, 'Amran and Dhammar, qat fields now occupy half of the total irrigated area. Groundwater levels in these highlands have fallen so precipitously that only the lucrative returns from qat justify the cost of operating and maintaining a well.

Qat is a major factor in the national economy, with about 15 percent of the population directly or indirectly benefiting from its production, transport and trade. One third of the agricultural gross domestic product and 6 percent of the overall GDP come from the plant, which also composes 10 percent of family expenditures. For these reasons, and because Yemenis enjoy chewing it, qat is a very politically sensitive topic. Even though cultural norms give priority to drinking and other household water needs, the importance of qat and other cash crops to the economy means that cities, in particular, often lose out to agriculture in the competition for resources.

Qat is grown as well in the Sanaa basin, where the capital is located and 10 percent of the Yemeni population lives. A total of 13,500 wells have been inventoried in the basin. The vast majority of them serve farmers, but the water is disappearing. In the mid-1990s, extraction in the catchment area exceeded recharge from rainfall by over 400 percent. Available data give the Sanaa aquifer two decades of life, after which irrigated agriculture in the basin will end.

One third of the 125 wells operated by the state-owned Sanaa Local Corporation for Water Supply and Sanitation for supply of the capital have been drilled down to 2,600 to 3,900 feet. The combined output of all these wells barely meets 35 percent of the growing city's need. The rest is supplied either by small, privately owned networks or by hundreds of mobile tankers. In recent years, as water quality has deteriorated, privately owned kiosks that use reverse osmosis—a water filtration method—to purify



'Ali, guardian of the cistern, unlocks its iron access gate.

poor-quality groundwater supplies have mushroomed in Sanaa and other towns.

Future supply options include pumping desalinated water from the Red Sea over a distance of 155 miles, over 9,000-foot mountains into the capital, itself located at an altitude of 7,226 feet. The enormous pumping cost would push the price of water up to USD10 per cubic meter (roughly 35 cubic feet). Yemen may be willing to pay this price for household demand. For agricultural water, however, the elevated cost is out of the question since the quantity required per capita is at least one hundred times greater. Other options to supply Sanaa from adjacent regions are fraught due to perceived water rights. Islam teaches that water is a gift from God and cannot be owned. Land, however, can. When a person digs or drills a well on his own land, he obtains the right to extract and use as much water as he can draw. The increasing awareness of the country's water scarcity has resulted in a race to the bottom—every man for himself. Well owners are trying to capture what remains of this valuable resource before the neighbors do.

## Top-down conservation

Today, there are between 45,000 and 70,000 wells in Yemen, the majority of which are under private control. No one can be certain of the exact number, as almost all were drilled without license.

Only since 2002, when the national water law was promulgated, has it been mandatory to apply for a permit to drill a new well, or even deepen or repair an existing one. Efforts to register wells that were drilled before the legislation came into effect have been unsuccessful. Farmers are suspicious that registration will gradually lead the state to metering how much water they extract. Moreover, they are alarmed at the prospect that extraction rights might eventually be defined by the amount of land they own and historically cultivate. A farmer who has several wells on a small plot of land would have less extensive water rights than one with no wells on a larger plot.

2003 saw the establishment of the Ministry of Water and Environment, which was vested with a mandate to supervise resource management, as well as rural and urban water supply and sanitation. But responsibility for the biggest water consumer—agriculture—has remained with the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, whose focus has largely been on irrigation efficiency, dams and watershed management. The rate of consumption itself remains unaddressed in the agricultural sector. In February 2007, a draft law was proposed that would, among other things, ban new qat cultivation in the fertile highland plains. Parliamentary debate has been delayed indefinitely, however.

A major step forward was the adoption of a National Water Sector Strategy and Investment Program in 2005. The strategy strongly emphasizes decentralized water management. It transfers a certain degree of authority to local level entities, such as water user associations and basin committees, especially with respect to the formulation and implementation of local action plans. One important result has been closer cooperation between the Ministries of Water and Agriculture. Through the process of joint annual review, these ministries and their agencies evaluate progress. While the building of dams and improvement of irrigation systems remains in the hands of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, the ministry is now required to conduct an impact assessment to prevent any further skewing of the country's water balance and ensure local participation from the beginning.

## 'Amran

The 'Amran basin is located 30 miles north of Sanaa at an altitude of 6,560 feet. In 2008, the province established the 'Amran Basin Committee, headed by the governor, to regulate water use. Other members include the directors of the districts that make up the basin, representatives of ministries and authorities concerned with water and agriculture, the local police chief and, importantly, farmers and local interest groups. Meetings are held every two months to discuss water-related issues and consider new applications for drilling wells.

Dwindling water resources are cause for alarm among both basin committee members and area farmers. Over 2,600 pumps now tap the catchment's meager groundwater deposits. As a result, wells are being drilled to prohibitive depths, as low as 1,200 feet in places. Between 1991 and 2005, most wells had to be deepened by an average of 295 feet. At the same time, well yield—the quantity of water obtained per second—has plummeted. The period between 1991 and 2005 saw the number of wells increase by 120 percent, while the water supply rose by only 26 percent.

Villagers, increasingly aware of the need for collective action, are angered by the discovery that over 100 new wells were drilled in 2009, almost all of them without a permit. The arrival of a drilling rig sows tension between the farmer and the villagers, who raise their concerns with the basin committee. Bakr 'Ali Bakr, the deputy governor and tribesman who handles the day-to-day operations of the committee, has been a key negotiator defusing water crises in the 'Amran basin.

Perched on the crest of an inactive volcanic cone is the village of Bani Maymoun. It belongs to the district of Iyal Surayh, home to the Bakil tribe and the watershed between the Sanaa and 'Amran water basins. The predominantly volcanic soil is ideal for growing high-value qat, cultivation of which has boomed. Bulldozers can often be seen leveling slopes for new fields, while truckload after truckload of additional soil is then hauled from afar to fill in the reclaimed terraces. With the unpredictable rainfall often not exceeding six inches per year, irrigation water has to be transported over rough tracks by Mercedes tankers. The result has been new water markets just for the cultivation of qat. Early in 2007, the price increase for irrigation water sparked a conflict that tested the community. Well owners from the village were starting to charge 5,000 riyals (USD25) for a one-hour share of irrigation water. Up to that point, the commonly accepted rate paid by farmers with no well of their own had been just half that—2,500 riyals. The well owners, however, argued that new demand from water tankers cueing up at their wells justified the increase. They had become water traders adjusting to emerging markets.

The dispute soon reached the ears of Bakr 'Ali Bakr. He called the tribal elders, who summoned the village men to reach a tribal consensus. It was agreed that well owners from the community were no longer allowed to fill up tankers for qat fields outside their immediate territory. Also, the price for a one-hour share was fixed at its previous level. "Such regulations reached by consensus are usually honored by all community members," said Bakr. "Later, when one of the well owners tried to breach the decision, men from Bani Maymoun just aimed a couple of bullets at the tires of the water tanker. That put an end to the water business."

## Bottom-up conservation

Bani Maymoun is small and homogeneous, and in its case a verbal agreement on groundwater trade sufficed. In other con-

licts over water resources, tribal communities increasingly resort to a written consensus-based form of regulation, known in Arabic as a marqom. Hijrat al-Muntasir, a village located at an altitude of 9,842 feet at the western watershed of the 'Amran basin, is one such place where drilling imperiled vital drinking water resources.

The drilling rig was blocking the narrow mountain track when I visited Hijrat al-Muntasir in 2007. Qat farmers had gathered around the heavy equipment as if to protect it. On the escarpment above, more than 50 tribesmen had positioned themselves, several with AK-47 machine guns. It appeared as if both groups had been awaiting our arrival. The tension eased, and some of the tribesmen climbed down from the ridge to make their views heard. The qat farmers, desperate after yet another of their wells had run dry, were about to drill deep into the limestone. The villagers of Hijrat al-Muntasir feared that more groundwater extraction would wipe out their small spring, the sole drinking water source for the 700 inhabitants. They had mobilized their men to prevent the drilling. They accused the qat farmers and the rig owner of lacking a valid permit.

A short but bumpy drive took us to the village. Women and children with dozens of empty water containers lined the route to the nearby spring, displaying an impressive array of protest banners prepared by the schoolchildren. "We hold you responsible for our future," one of them read in Arabic. A quick survey revealed the gravity of the situation. The water from the spring was carefully rationed. Salih al-Muntasiri, a village elder, brought out the document that listed the water allotments for each family—roughly ten quarts per person per day. Each quantity taken from the roofed cistern fed by trickle from the mountain spring was meticulously recorded and monitored by 'Ali, the gatekeeper of the cistern.

Trouble for the qat irrigators had started when the people of al-Qarin, a village nearby, banned the sale and trade of groundwater from their local wells to outsiders. A marqom, signed by the village elders, was written to regulate the details of this social contract. Groundwater levels around al-Qarin had fallen noticeably over the previous years, sparking fears about the future. At the same time, influential families from the village had been drilling new wells and were selling water to tanker owners who would then take it to new qat farms in other areas—including the fields near Hijrat al-Muntasir. As the ban came into effect, the qat farmers decided to give drilling one more try. On hearing the news, the men of Hijrat al-Muntasir sent a delegation to Bakr 'Ali Bakr.

After several weeks of negotiations, both parties finally agreed to accept the outcome and recommendations of a government technical study. The various parties to the dispute met several times at the site of the drilling rig. Gradually, the focus of their discussions shifted from technicalities to sustainable management of the village's water resources.

In the spring of 2009, I was invited back for the inauguration of a small village project. It was the first visit for the vice governor and other dignitaries. Hijrat al-Muntasir had slaughtered two oxen for the occasion. Banners leading up to the village welcomed the guests. There was good news—the drilling had been stopped. In addition, each household had built a cesspit to improve overall sanitary conditions. Community organizers working for the Social Fund for Development had paid the village a few visits, teaching the benefits of better hygiene.

But there was also bad news. As 'Ali, the gatekeeper, unlocked the screechy iron ac-

## HEALTH WATCH

By: Dr. Siva

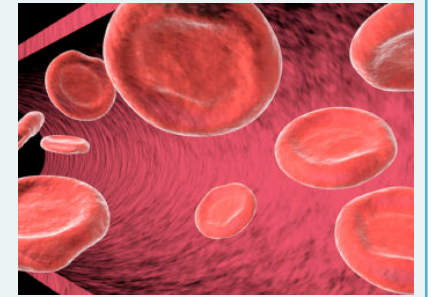
This weekly column is to disseminate health information to the readers in Yemen and outside. Dr. Siva is currently working at Aden Refinery Company Hospital. Life style diseases and cancer prevention are his special interests. Complementary medicine and Naturopathy are his passions.



## Anemia in women

Ahlam works as an accountant in a leading private firm at Aden. She is twenty two. She used to walk to her office which is 2kms away from her house along with her friends, in the mornings and evenings. For the past one month or so, she feels tired and does not feel like walking. At her office she and her friends used to take the stairs. But, of late she feels lethargic and uses the lift to go up to her office. She wonders what's gone wrong with her.

On the week-end, she visited her brother's house at Ma'alla. Her sister-in-law Manal who is a doctor noticed that Ahlam who used to be bubbling with enthusiasm, was just sitting exhausted on a sofa without participating in anything. Manal examined her and suggested her some blood tests. The tests confirmed that Ahlam has anemia.



### What is anemia?

Anemia is a condition where the hemoglobin content of red blood cells in the body is abnormally low. Red blood cells contain a pigment called hemoglobin which is what gives blood its color. Hemoglobin transports oxygen around the body. When red blood cells, and consequently hemoglobin, are low, the body's tissues are not supplied with adequate amounts of oxygen. The lungs and heart work harder to get oxygen into the blood, leading to tiredness, breathlessness and palpitations. Women with a hemoglobin level of less than 12.5 gm/dL are considered to be anemic.

In Yemen 50-70 per cent of women are anemic. Iron-deficiency anemia is the most common form of malnutrition in the world and is the eighth leading cause of diseases in girls and women in developing countries like Yemen.

### Causes of anaemia

In women, the common causes of anemia are related to heavy menstruation, pregnancy and poor dietary habits. Deficiency of iron or less commonly, vitamin B12 and folic acid, can cause anemia. The less common causes are stomach ulcers, tumors, leukemia and repeated attacks of malaria. Hookworm infestation can also cause blood loss leading to anemia.

### Iron deficiency anaemia

This is the most common type of anemia, occurring in 50-70 per cent of girls and women in India. Adequate production of red blood cells requires iron, along with vitamins, and protein. Iron-rich foods include fruit, dark green leafy vegetables, whole grain bread, beans, meat, eggs, and dairy products.

Women with heavy periods are at risk for iron deficiency anemia because they lose excessive blood, month after month, during their periods.

Pregnancy too may lead to iron deficiency anemia if adequate iron supplementation is not provided. If the woman starts her pregnancy with low iron stores in her body, the iron stores will be depleted further to meet the increased requirements for the mother as well as the growing fetus.

### Vitamin B12 deficiency anemia

Vitamin B12 deficiency anemia (also called pernicious anemia), is caused either by the absence of dietary B12 as in a vegetarian diet or by the inadequate absorption of vitamin B12 from the diet. A vegetarian is at risk of developing pernicious anemia because vitamin B12 is only found in foods of animal origin. Vitamin B12 can be found in liver, meat and dairy products. Poor absorption of B12 can also be due to ulcers, stomach cancer, diseases of the small intestine or from the after effects of surgery.

### Avoiding anemia

To avoid getting anemia you should stick to a healthy balanced diet and ensure you eat food that contains good sources of iron, folic acid and vitamin B12. If you are a strict vegetarian you should take vitamin B12 supplements to avoid deficiency.

Since most Yemeni girls and women will not be able to get enough iron from their diet, it is a good idea to take an iron supplement which includes folic acid and B12. Adolescent girls and women in the child-bearing age group should take a supplement for at least three months in each year. The ideal supplement will contain 60-100 mg of elemental iron in the form of ferrous sulphate, ferrous fumarate or ferrous gluconate. These are the best absorbed forms of iron salt. More expensive forms of iron salts are not necessarily better in improving iron stores in the body.

Oral iron is best taken on an empty stomach or 2 hours after a meal. Vitamin C and citric fruit juices may help in absorption of iron. Milk, dairy products and calcium slow absorption of iron and so should not be taken at the same time as the iron tablet.

Many women are concerned about the side-effects of taking iron supplements. Oral iron can cause stomach irritation, diarrhea or constipation. If the iron tablets are continued without stopping, the symptoms will usually subside in about two weeks.

cess gate to the cistern, a number of village women came rushing down a steep path, each carrying a number of empty bright yellow containers. "No water today—go back home!" shouted 'Ali. "Tomorrow morning, inshallah." The daily flow of the spring had been reduced to a trickle—from ten to just five quarts per person per day. Whether the reduction was due to a temporary lack of rainfall or to permanent climate change, no one can say. "One thing is certain, however," said Salih al-Muntasiri. "Without your support in preventing the drilling two years ago, we would blame the slow drying-up of our spring on the qat farmers. There would be trouble and strife and God knows what."

### Which scarcity?

Communities such as Hijrat al-Muntasir are coping admirably with their diminishing spring. In social science terms, they retain a strong adaptive capacity, defined as the sum of social resources available to counter an increasing natural resource scarcity.

Social scientists now make a clear distinction between "first-order" scarcity of a natural resource and "second-order" scarcity of adaptive capacity. The latter, according to Tony Allan of the University of London, one of the world's leading water experts, is much more determinant of out-

comes. Developing coping mechanisms at the community level is a step in the right direction.

Coping mechanisms will not be enough to solve Yemen's water crisis, however. The structural problems—among them, the draining of aquifers to irrigate fields of cash crops like qat—must be addressed. As has been stressed by Christopher Ward, a long-time analyst of water issues in Yemen, "a decentralization and the partnership approach can only be viewed as elements of a damage limitation exercise aimed at slowing down the rate of resource depletion, to allow Yemen time to develop patterns of economic activity less dependent on water mining." In other words, Yemen needs to demonstrate adaptive capacity at the national level. A national debate on water is planned for late 2010, involving the president as well as other top opinion and decision makers. This conference will be a crucial test of political will: The Yemeni political class will need to place a high priority on the development of viable alternatives to agriculture in order to prevent the country from slipping into Malthusian catastrophe.

Gerhard Lichtenthaler holds a doctorate in water geography from the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of

# Charitable Society for Social Welfare and UNICEF carry-out Community awareness project on FGM

The Charitable Society for Social Welfare in coordination with UNICEF have just carried out the community awareness project on Female Genital Mutilation Project which aims at educating the local community on the risks of this practice.

The project includes awareness sessions and advocacy events that encourage the local communities in eleven districts of three governorates: Hodeida, Aden and Al-Mahara, to abandon this practice for the sever damages it causes on girl's physical and mental health.

Dr. Esam aldin Awadh director of the organizations' management department at the society says that work in this project has started early 2009 through supporting infrastructure of the society's branches in these three governorates so that they are capable of implementing the project's activities. The activities include awareness raising sessions in girls' schools, women's associations, literacy classes for women and health care facilities. The association's branches also mobilized volunteers and activities in the local communities as well as social figures, religious leaders and imam's of the mosques to warn the locals of the risk and push them to abandoning such harmful practices.

CSSW has conducted research in the three governorates to identify the extent of prevalence and attitude towards FGM and found out that 56.4 percent of mothers are willing to let go of such practices compared to 64.7 percent of the fathers. However, grandmothers are less included and the percentage of those willing to stop practicing or advocating for FGM is only 45.8 percent.

The research also showed that 15.4 percent of those who actually practice FGM know that it is a violation against human rights. Also 61.6 percent of the practitioners know it has health risks and 37.1 percent of those who practice agreed with the importance to abolish such practice.

In workshop discussing the project and the research's results, UNICEF deputy representative in Yemen, Anne-Marie Fonseca said that many Yemenis especially in remote coastal areas are still practicing Female Genital Mutilation because of the inherited traditions and cultural values. She praised the cooperation with CSSW and added that this research has shown voluble results that should be taken into account whenever any new activities or projects in this issue are to be implemented.



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# Extraordinary Muslim women (Part 4)

The voices of Muslim women of all backgrounds are repeatedly silenced in today's headlines and within our accounts of history. Their achievements are often forgotten, or worse, never known. The Women's Islamic Initiative in Spirituality and Equality (WISE) marked the international day for women by celebrating some extraordinary Muslim women leaders of our past and present. Highlighted below are a few of the countless Muslim women that have shaped the world.

The Women's Islamic Initiative in Spirituality and Equality (WISE) is a program of the American Society for Muslim Advancement (ASMA) and the Cordoba Initiative (CI). ASMA aims to elevate the discourse on Islam and foster environments in which Muslims thrive through interfaith collaboration, youth and women's empowerment, and arts and cultural exchange. The Cordoba Initiative works to improve relations between the Muslim World and the West by offering innovative, viable, and sustainable solutions with concrete outcomes. The mission of WISE is to build a cohesive, global movement of Muslim women that will reclaim women's rights in Islam, enabling them to make dignified choices and fully participate in creating just and flourishing societies.

## Nawal El Moutawakel

**Known for:** Olympic Athlete  
**Dates:** Hijri: 1381 – Present AH  
Common era: 1962 – Present AD  
**Country:** Morocco

Nawal El Moutawakel was the first woman from a Muslim-majority country to win an Olympic gold medal, the first Moroccan to win an Olympic gold medal, and the first African woman to win an Olympic medal.

Nawal was born and raised in Casablanca, Morocco. Her talent brought her to the United States, specifically to the track team at Iowa State University. While a student, she was asked by the Moroccan track team to compete with them in the 1984 summer Olympics in Los Angeles. She competed in the inaugural 400-meter hurdles event and placed first, beating her personal best by .76 seconds and winning the gold medal. The King of Morocco at the time, Hassan II, declared that every girl born on her victory day would be named Nawal in her honor.

Since her historic win, Nawal has championed female athletes all over the world. She is a member of the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF), and she was selected to be a member of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in 1998. She was president of the selection committee for the 2012 summer games and is the first Muslim woman to be on the committee.

Since 2007, she has been the Moroccan Minister of Youth and Sports. She is also the president of Association Marocaine de Sports et Developpement (AMSD), as well as the vice-president of the Moroccan Royal Federation of Athletics.



**“I have the satisfaction of contributing to the liberation of Muslim women--or, rather, of Muslim men, who will have been forced to meditate on my ability.”**

—Nawal El Moutawakel (Philipp Hersch, “Olympic Pioneer's Amazing Back Story,” Chicago Tribune, March 31, 2009)

## Princess Haya bint Al Hussein

**Known for:** Equestrian, Olympic Athlete, Olympic Flag Bearer, Philanthropist  
**Dates:** Hijri: 1393 – Present AH  
Common Era: 1974 – Present AD  
**Country:** Jordan

In 2000, Princess Haya competed in the Olympic Games in Sydney; she was the first Arab woman to be an Olympic flag bearer, representing the Jordanian delegation. She also qualified for the Olympic Games in Athens, and she was the first woman to win a Pan-Arab medal in equestrian sport. In 2006, she was elected President of the International Equestrian Federation – the first Arab to occupy this position – and is currently also a member of the International Athletes Commission at the International Olympic Committee.

Princess Haya tirelessly promotes a variety of social justice issues, from health to children's welfare. She founded Tikyet Um Ali, an NGO strives to battle hunger within the Arab world. In July 2007, she was selected to be a Messenger of Peace with the United Nation, and until 2007 she was an ambassador with the World Food Programme



**“I consider it my inherited duty to help relieve the plight of people who suffer the devastating effects of poverty.”**

—Heroes for a Better World, “Princess Haya Bint Al Hussein: Quotes”

(WFP). She established an educational foundation that supports promising young Jordanian and Emirati women to pursue their dreams. Princess Haya is also the founder of

The International Jordanian Athletes Cultural Association, which promotes Jordanian athletes.

She is the daughter of King Hussein I of Jordan and Queen Alia al Hussein. She is married to Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum of the United Arab Emirates.

## Queen Rania

**Known for:** Queen of Jordan  
**Dates:** Hijri: 1389 – Present (AH)  
Common Era: 1970 – Present (CE)  
**Country:** Jordan

Queen Rania has been an enthusiastic supporter and advocate of women's empowerment and children's rights. She is an active philanthropist involved with numerous non-profits and UN agencies.

Queen Rania was born to Palestinian parents in Kuwait, where she completed her primary education. She received her college degree in Business Administration from the American University in Cairo. After graduating, she worked for Apple and Citibank. In 1993 she met and married King Abdullah II of Jordan, who was then a prince. He succeeded his father as King of Jordan in 1999.

Queen Rania's philanthropic work focuses on gender equality, children's rights, and micro-finance. Through the Madrasati Initiative, Queen Rania aims to improve the quality of Jordan's public schools. She serves on the board of the Foundation for International Community Assistance (FINCA), which helps the world's poor gain easier access to basic financial services. Queen Rania is also the chair of the Board of Trustees of the Jordan River Foundation, whose mission is to improve the wellbeing of Jordanian society through economic development and youth projects. In addition, she is also a board member of the World Economic Forum and the United Nations Foundation.

In 2008, Queen Rania launched her own YouTube site, which she uses to dispel misconceptions about Islam and women in Islam by, for example, posting videos on development and social justice issues. Her YouTube site has millions of viewers.



**“Study after study shows that investing in women's leadership and development is one of the smartest investments societies can make.”**

—From Queen Rania's speech in Washington, D. C., at the “Vital Voices/United Nations Foundation (UNF) International Women's Day Event,” March 4, 2008

## Queen Noor

**Known for:** Queen of Jordan  
**Dates:** Hijri: 1370 – Present (AH)  
Common Era: 1951 – Present (CE)  
**Country:** Jordan

Queen Noor is a dowager Queen whose philanthropic work is global in scope. She works with various non-profits and organizations on a wide range of topics from refugee issues to environmental protection to international women's rights issues.

Born Lisa Najeeb Halaby, she graduated from Princeton University with a degree in architecture and urban planning. She began her career working on international urban planning projects in the United States, Middle East and Australia. She met King Hussein of Jordan while she was working on developing the Amman Airport. She converted to Islam and married King Hussein in 1978, whereupon her name became “Noor Al-Hussein,” or “Light of Hussein.” They had four children together.



**“...I've seen it around the world, in the poorest countries and in countries riven with conflict. It is women who are the key to breaking out of poverty, breaking out of stagnation. ... It's women who can contribute to achieving real security -- not bombs and bullets and repressive governments.”**

—Queen Noor interviewed on “Larry King Live”(CNN “Then & Now: Queen Noor,” August 22, 2005)

Queen Noor is currently the president of the United World of Colleges, an organization that promotes cross-cultural understanding through education. She is a board member of Refugees International and a trustee of the Aspen Institute, among others. Queen Noor is also involved with Seeds of Peace, a non-profit that works with youth from conflict areas to encourage coexistence and peace.

Queen Noor's work in Jordan includes the Noor Al-Hussein Foundation (NHF), which she chairs. NHF focuses on supporting economic development initiatives, including micro-finance and health programs.

## Sabiha Gokcen

**Known for:** World's first female fighter pilot  
**Dates:** Hijri: 1331-1421 A  
Common era: 1913-2001 A  
**Country:** Turkey

Orphaned at a young age, Sabiha Gokcen was raised in poverty by her older brother and sister. Living in the city of Bursa, Sabiha attended elementary school during the Turkish War of Independence. She was ten years old when a chance encounter with Kemal Ataturk, the father of modern Turkey, changed her life forever. Ataturk adopted her and brought her to Ankara to live with his other adopted children.

Once in Ankara, Sabiha spent much of her time studying. When she was 23, Ataturk enrolled her as a student in a school for aviation, where she excelled. During this time, she was sent with seven other male pilots to Russia for specialized glider instructor training. She returned with an official instructor diploma and soon entered into the Military Aviation Academy in Eskisehir. As a student, she received intense training to become a bomber pilot. She graduated at the top of her class, earning her pilot's license in 1937.

Although Sabiha excelled as a pilot, gender discrimination prevented her from fighting in real combat missions. After seeking the approval of Ataturk, she was allowed to fly in the Dersim Operation, which provided air support for Turkish soldiers on the ground during the Dersim rebellion of 1937. She earned the Turkish Aeronautical Association's first “Jeweled Medal” for her performance during that mission. Thereafter a national hero, she was asked to fly in a friendship tour that took her to Athens and Bucharest among other places.

When she returned to Turkey, she was appointed Chief Instructor at the Kusu Flight School, of which she was an alumna. While retiring from active military duty in 1964, she continued to fly in air shows. She died in 2001, and soon thereafter the international airport in Istanbul was named in her honor.



## Sheikh Hasina Wazed

**Known for:** Prime minister of Bangladesh  
**Dates:** Hijri: 1366 – Present AH  
Common era: 1947-Present AD  
**Country:** Bangladesh

Born in 1947 to Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, who led Bangladesh to independence from Pakistan, Sheikh Hasina Wazed took an active role in politics as early as the 1960s. She acted as her father's political liaison during his imprisonment in the late 1960s, when she was a student at the University of Dhaka.

In 1968, she married M.A. Wazed Miah. In 1975, her father and brothers were assassinated in a coup, but she and her sister survived because they were in Germany at the time. She returned to Bangladesh in 1981 and ran against the military government of General Hossain Mohammad Ershad. However, she spent much of the 1980s under house arrest or in prison.

In 1991, her political rival, Khaleda Zia, of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) won the Bangladesh's first elections after the resignation of General Ershad. However in 1996, Sheikh Hasina was elected Prime Minister when her party, The Awami League, won 146 parliamentary seats. It was during this time that she was credited with signing a peace treaty with rebels in the mountainous southeast of the country.

**“It is not possible to establish women's rights and stop violence against women only by enacting laws. Rather, there should be proper coordination at government and non-government levels.”**

—Sheikh Hasina, quoted in The Times of India, “Hasina vows to raise seats for women in House to 100,” March 10, 2009

In 2001, she was forced into the opposition again as her party fell out of political favor, due to corruption charges and because it was seen as being too close to the government of India. Since 2001, corruption and murder charges have been leveled against Sheikh Hasina, resulting in temporary forced exile. However, in 2008, she returned to Bangladesh to lead her party in the general elections. The Awami League received a landslide victory, and Sheikh Hasina became Prime Minister for the second time.



**4U** To read the biography of more Muslim women or to recommend one go to <http://www.wisemuslimwomen.org/muslimwomen>



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## Traditional lanterns throw light onto Yemeni heritage

By: Mohammad Ghoath  
For the Yemen Times

In the old souq at Bab Al-Yemen that evening, the scene was calm. The black filaments of night were only broken by

the rhythmic light emitted by lanterns and candles hanging outside the shops next to the popular market.

The setting was so attractive that my friend insisted on having dinner and cup of tea in its midst. The mixture

of dim spectrums projected by nearby lanterns added an elegant touch to the atmosphere.

Bab Al-Yemen, in the old city of Sana'a, is a famous place to seek out one of the traditional Yemeni lanterns that adorns some of its shop doorways. Here, craftsmen make lanterns of all sizes.

One four-floor building shows off traditional artifacts to the visitor. On the third floor, there are old lanterns. According to the inscription on the side of one of these large lanterns, it is over three of hundred years old. It is also inscribed with a poem by Imam Shafi'i (may God be pleased with him):

"Be not afraid of the accidents in the night, because accidents of the night are in this world, which is temporary and will surely end soon..."

Making lanterns has been in Mabrouk and Bashir Al-Erimi's family for at least seven generations, they say. Bashir says that his elder brother Mabrouk started making lanterns privately, learning from another artisan and from some Yemeni families that retain more of the country's heritage.

The customer specifies the size and style intended and the lantern is made to suit his or her taste, according to Bashir. The lantern is made of two circular pieces of copper that fit one on top of the other. Separate them and unroll a piece of waxed white cloth that as the main body of the lantern. Traditionally, the bottom half of the lantern contains a small ridge in which to fit a candle.

According to Bashir, graphics on his family's lanterns include roses and crowns as part of the lantern's copper design. They use other materials besides copper to maintain the strength of the work and prevent it from corrosion. Mabrouk and Bashir also design

lanterns with Arabic engravings on them, sometimes excerpts from Arabic literature.

A lantern may take up to eight months to produce, maybe more depending on the type of work and size of the piece. After their completion, the lanterns are sold for YR 2,000 to USD 5,000 depending on the quality of the work and the value of the product to the customer, whether tourist or Yemeni citizen.

But copper and cloth is not the only formula for a lantern. Other traditional lanterns are made with alabaster, a dense translucent stone cut into thin sheets in the old city of Sana'a to be used instead of glass in lanterns. In the past, these lanterns were used to light the way from room to room inside the family home.

According to some shop owners in Old Sana'a, during the month of Ramadan the lanterns used to be attached on the sides of shops and houses, but their popularity these days has dwindled.

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Their function having been taken over by electricity, lanterns are merely for decoration.

If appreciated by all for their elegance, the Yemeni lantern's origins have been hotly debated, with some stressing the Ottoman influence in the craftsmanship.

In the middle of the Bakiriyya Mosque, built in 1597 during the first Ottoman occupation in Yemen by the governor of Sana'a, Hasan Pasha, a huge copper lantern can hold over one hundred candles. Its pattern contains several colors and geometric shapes. This piece of handicraft demonstrates the art of the time and is reminiscent of similar works by the Ottomans in the Mohammad Ali Mosque in Cairo and others in Istanbul, modern-day Turkey.

Although some artisans say that the Yemeni lanterns were being made long before the Ottoman presence in the country, it is likely that the arrival of the Ottomans provided inspiration to those Yemeni craftsmen making the lanterns centuries ago.



Photo by: Mohammad Ghoath

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OMEGA has created an advertisement featuring a photograph of Clooney taken by Norman Jean Roy. The actor is dressed in jeans and a plain white shirt with an open collar. On his wrist is another symbol of simple elegance: the OMEGA Seamaster Planet Ocean Co-Axial in stainless steel with a black dial. The copy is limited to "GEORGE CLOONEY'S CHOICE".

The new advertisement for the OMEGA Seamaster Planet Ocean sends a clear message: the ultimate style statement can be communicated with a plain white shirt and just the right watch.

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