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Young actors struggle to make it in Yemen

## Armed group attacks president's convoy

By: Mohammad Bin Sallam

SANA'A, May 16 - An army official died and four others were injured last Saturday when an armed group attacked President Saleh's convoy in Al-Habelain, Lahj, 337 km southwest of Sana'a, according to local sources.

One of the armed attackers, Mohsen Abdulla Obaid, was killed and another was injured. A civilian was also injured as a car from the convoy ran him over, according to an official source.

Al-Habelain is one of the strongholds of the Southern Movement which is calling for secession. It has been the site of frequent clashes between soldiers and supporters of the

Southern Movement.

A source told the Yemen Times that President Saleh was not present during the attack. He had already left for Taiz in a private helicopter.

The same source said that soldiers at military positions in Al-Habelain used artillery to attack surrounding areas. People were seen running to take cover.

The security force arrested three relatives of Obaid, according to local sources in Lahj.

They added that Al-Habelain is still witnessing tensions since the attack.

Sadeq Ameen Abu Ras, the Prime Minister Deputy for Interior Affairs, said that he was a target of an assassi-

nation attempt in Shabwa, 458 km from Sana'a.

Abu Ras told the AFP that an armed group targeted his convoy and fired at them.

"There must be someone who is against the upcoming festival for the 20th anniversary of unification," he said.

Locals in Shabwa said he was targeted when he was attending a festival in Azzan, Shabwa, on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of unification.

Yemeni and foreigner political analysts fear that the Southern Movement's actions will have a bad impact on the region and the world at large.



With the Sa'ada conflict not yet entirely resolved, the movement in the south for secession is growing.

## Anti-extremism awareness campaign launched

By: Ali Saeed

SANA'A, May 16 - An awareness campaign to combat religious extremism was launched last Friday in the capital, it targets 3,200 mosques across the country.

The Dar Al-Salam Organization is behind this initiative that is to continue until the end of 2010 in partnership with the Ministry of Endowment and Guidance, Dar Al-Mostafa for Islamic Studies, the Yemeni Scholars Association and several academics.

For over a decade, religious extremism in Yemen has earned the country the reputation of a hideout for terrorists. This has affected tourism and investment in the country. Recently, the British ambassador to Yemen was targeted by a suicide

attack by a 23 year old Yemeni.

Abdurrahman Al-Marwani, director of the organization, told the Yemen Times that the campaign aims to control religious extremism, the misuse of arms by civilians and crimes of kidnapping.

It will mainly focus on preachers in mosques as they are powerful enough to bring about a change in people's ways of thinking. Religious speech also has a great influence on people's problems, according to Al-Marwani.

"Preachers are able to combat extremism through a focus on religious duty," Al-Marwani said.

There will also be other awareness activities in coordination with the Ministry of Information, Al-Marwani pointed out.



Preachers and imams can combat terrorism and religious extremism as they have great influence on public opinion, according to the chairman of the Dar Al-Salam organization.

Around 8,000 copies of a book entitled, "Human Coexistence and Religious Tolerance in Islam", will be distributed as a guide for preachers and imams, according to the organization.

In addition, around 10,000 CDs and cassettes containing lectures on social peace issues will be distributed to preachers and imams, according to the organization.

The campaign is a project supported by the Dutch government in an effort to support peace in Yemen, according to Al-Marwani.

Dar Al-Salam is optimistic that the campaign will reduce the number of victims of religious extremism in Yemen and make Yemeni society aware of the consequences of violence, according to Al-Marwani.

"The campaign will enforce values of tolerance and the culture of openness towards others," said Al-Marwani.

Terrorists in Yemen are sometimes sheltered by tribes. This makes it difficult for the state to catch them. The campaign will try to educate tribesmen on how to be cooperative with the government and hand over terrorists and criminals to the courts.

"The campaign also will encourage tribesmen not to shelter terrorists or criminals and instead aid the state in bringing them to justice," he said.

Another long-term objective of the campaign is to encourage Yemeni society to participate in achieving development goals instead of relying on international support that is neither permanent nor stable.

## UN torture watchdog calls on Yemen to stop torture

By: Reem Jarhum  
For the Yemen Times

SANA'A, May 16 - The United Nations' torture watchdog has called on Yemen to impartially investigate all allegations of torture in the country, notably in its prisons.

On May 6, a Yemeni delegation headed by Dr. Huda Al-Ban, Minister of Human Rights and the Yemeni Ambassador in Geneva Ibrahim Al-Adoofi, met with the UN's Committee Against Torture.

The committee, made up of 10 independent legal experts, discussed torture in Yemen according to reports it received from Al-Karama, a non-governmental

organization that focuses on human rights in the Arab world, and the Yemeni Sisters' Arab Forum.

The session concluded that Yemen should focus on members of the police and intelligence services under probation for the allegations of the use of torture.

Participants recommended that all allegations of ill-treatment be investigated and perpetrators prosecuted and convicted in accordance with the gravity of the acts, it wrote in its recommendations.

"Torture has increased and there are new types and methods of torture they use," Ali Hussein Al-Dailami, executive director of the Yemeni Organization for defending the Rights and Freedoms, otherwise known as HOOD, told the Yemen Times.

Some victims end up paralyzed as a result, he said.

"Our focus now is monitoring on the national security, political security, and the fight against terrorism," he said, adding that mentioned that there main goal

is to also prevent the issue of prisoners in incommunicado.

**Doctors to visit prisons**

The UN committee said it was "deeply concerned" at numerous allegations of torture and ill-treatment of detainees in Yemeni prisons, including state security prisons run by the Public Security Department, the national security authority, and the Department of Anti-Terrorism under the Ministry of the Interior.

It strongly suggested a nationwide monitoring system for detention centers, including forensic doctors trained in detecting signs of torture to be present during visits.

Committee members urged the Yemeni

state to prevent sexual violence against women in detention.

It also noted that the Yemeni state should, as a matter of priority, "discontinue its practice of holding relatives of alleged criminals as hostages, and punish the perpetrators."

The committee recommended that Yemen consider ratifying the Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights on the abolition of the death penalty.

There were a total of 283 deaths sentences between 2006 and 2008, according to the reports received by the committee.

Yemen signed the International Convention Against Torture in 1984.

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## Land disputes hinder investment

By: Ali Saeed

SANA'A, May 16 — An investor bought a plot of land in Aden and the previous owner presented him with the deeds to the land. However, when he started his project, people came to him and said that the land was theirs. A land dispute ensued and, instead of continuing his project, he is now in court.

Land disputes are key obstacles to investment in the country, according to a recent report prepared by Adel Al-Ashtal, former director of the General Investment Authority (GIA) Aden Branch.

Al-Ashtal found that the lack of safe transfers of land from owners to investors causes disputes over land that drive out investors from Yemen.

Yemen is highly dependent on depleting oil reserves and economic experts have advised the government to find other promising sectors to ensure stable economic growth. This will help the government to reduce the unemployment rate, which stands at 40 percent, and the number of Yemenis who live under the poverty line, which stands at 60 percent of the population.

Economic analysts agree that providing a good investment climate would help in attracting businessmen to invest in the country. This would in turn bring job opportunities for the growing Yemeni labour force.

The report also stated that land disputes, due to the lack of safe property transfers, prevent investors from receiving funds or loans from financing institutions.

In a 2010 report conducted by the International Finance Corporation (IFC) on the business environment in 183 countries, Yemen ranked 99th in regards to the ease of doing business and investing in the country.

As for the property registry indicator, Yemen ranked 50th out of 183, because of land disputes.

The absence of an authority that provides investors with information on land before purchase also contributes to land disputes, according to the report. Moreover, the lack of land property documentation is a huge issue that contributes to land disputes that obstructs investment, according to the report.

Issues arise after land is purchased and there is disagreement over the validity of the ownership documents presented by investors. The courts often have difficulty reconciling the differences between doctored and legitimate ownership documents.

The report categorized land owners into several categories; owners who have true documents registered at the Real-Estate Registry and Public Land Authority, owners who have true documents but are not registered at the Real-Estate Registry, owners who are beneficiaries of informal government land grants and pretend that the land is theirs without proper documentation, and owners who occupy land that belongs to the state or other people.

### Learning from the Saudi experience

The report argued that Yemen can learn from the Saudi experience with land registration. Saudi Arabia now has

smooth procedures in property registry and quick and safe property transfer mechanisms.

According to the Doing Business Report for 2009 and 2010, Saudi Arabia ranked first in the world in regards to the facility of registering property and land.

The process of property registration in Saudi Arabia takes only two days -as opposed to 19 days in Yemen- and registration in Saudi Arabia is free.

Al-Ashtal suggested that Yemen take precautions to avoid what happened in Saudi Arabia in 2009, when floods swept away the delimitation borders between plots of land. Real-estate contract writers in Saudi Arabia were then held accountable to re-write contracts for plots in flooded areas.

The report recommended that Yemen take measures to prevent anything similar from happening in Yemen, especially in the coastal cities of Aden, Hodeida, and Mukalla. This was of special note in the report because rains are usually more abundant in Yemen and, with climate change, there has been significantly more flooding and damage.

Finally, the report suggested for Yemen to ban the purchase of land located in flood passages so as to avoid creating predicaments similar to what happened in Saudi Arabia.

### Recommendations

Among his recommendations, Al-Ashtal's suggested creating a black list of judges and contract writers known to have been implicated in fraudulent land deals. This list would be distributed throughout the country at the district level.

He also recommended that investors and businessmen validate all land documents with the property registry before purchasing land.

He recommended that the Yemeni government reduce fees on the registration of property at the Real-Estate Registry, now 3.8 percent of the property's value. This would increase the amount of people registering their property with the appropriate authorities.

He went on to suggest that the real estate registry select plots of land belonging to the state, designate them specifically for investment and not allow them to be used for other purposes.

He also expressed the need to build a database for land and real-estate information at the district level.

Finally, the report suggested for the Public Land Authority to increase its role in providing investors with adequate and appropriate information on lands they wish to purchase for their projects.



Difficult measures for land registration impede investment in Yemen

## Measles deaths on the rise in Sa'ada



Mothers bring their children to a vaccination centre run by UNICEF in al-Mazraq Camp One for IDPs.

SANA'A, 16 May 2010 (IRIN) — Six rounds of fighting between the army and Houthi-led rebels in northern Yemen since 2004 have prevented or limited immunization campaigns in the area and have subsequently led to a higher prevalence of measles, according to health officials.

Despite an 11 February ceasefire ending the latest clashes, up to 120 children under five have died of measles since 1 March in nine Houthi-controlled districts in Saada Governorate, said Hinbush Hussein Hinbush, head of the governorate's Public Health & Population Office.

"The figure is increasing by the day in the following districts: Majaz, Sihar, Qutaber, Ghamr, Razih, Shadha, Malaheedh, Haidan and Munabih. More deaths are expected due to the spread of the epidemic and obstacles to vaccination efforts," he told IRIN from Saada. "Measles became endemic in Saada due to repeated clashes since 2004."

Paramedics told local media that 700 children have measles in Saada. They said that the more than 20,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) in the governorate still living in the open were contributing to the spread

of the disease. Some 250 children with critical cases of measles are receiving treatment in al-Talh Hospital in Sihar District.

On 17 April, local authorities in Saada began a 12-day measles and polio vaccination campaign in various parts of the governorate targeting 215,688 children and succeeding in reaching 83 percent.

### Rebel opposition

One week after it was launched, the campaign faced resistance in some remote areas by anonymous groups believed to be Houthi supporters. "These acts and the spread of landmines are the main causes of suspending the campaign in Sihar and Majaz districts," Faisal Safir, an official at Saada's public health office, said.

Houthis have also seized vaccines and related equipment, and prevented parents from taking their children to vaccination teams under the pretext that vaccines would make them lose their 'religious zeal' or make immunized children fertile, according to Hinbush.

Mohammed Abdussalam, a Houthi spokesperson, said he did not know about those individuals opposing vac-

ination efforts in the governorate.

The UN's Children Fund (UNICEF), the World Health Organization (WHO) and other partners are supporting the current vaccination drive and providing the vaccines and other necessary items for the campaign, Geert Cappelaere, UNICEF Representative in Yemen, told IRIN on 16 May.

"Yemen had achieved excellent progress in the elimination of measles prior to the [most recent] conflict by conducting a major countrywide campaign in 2006 and immunizing nine million children under the age of 15," Cappelaere said.

This was consolidated by a follow-up campaign beginning in December 2009, which is still going on, according to UNICEF.

"We are confident that the remaining districts in Saada Governorate should be covered in the weeks to come, thanks to the committed efforts of all parties and support from a wide range of local and international partners," Cappelaere said.

Measles is fourth on the list of diseases causing child deaths in Yemen, according to the Yemeni health ministry.

## Freedom Square activists arrested

By: Saddam Al-Ashmori  
For the Yemen Times

SANA'A May 16 — The police last Tuesday arrested a number of human rights activists in Freedom Square, in the capital. These activists have been arranging a weekly protest every Tuesday in the square.

The police also have confiscated cameras from the Women Journalists Without Chains Organization and assaulted protesters in an attempt to stop them from continuing their protest.

The weekly protest is organized at Freedom Square by Women Journalists Without Chains, in solidarity with the banned Al-Ayyam newspaper and Al-Ja'shin Displaced People. They also demand the stop of military operations in Shara'b Al-Sallam district in Taiz,

the release of detained journalists and activists and to bring the murderers of the physician Al-Qadasi to trial.

Freedom Square, in front of Cabinet, has become a site for people to demand their rights and express their opinion over any issue of oppression.

The street police that were patrolling freedom square confiscated cameras and microphones belonging to the Organization of Women Journalists Without Chains.

The police also arrested rights activists, including Fouad Al-Hamadani, Ali Murshed Asa'd and Ahmed Qayed Qasim, all of whom are from Al-Ja'shin Displaced People and were protesting in support of their community.

The police also intimidated some women activists from the organization of Women Journalists Without Chains.

After the police banned protesters from demonstrating in Freedom Square, they moved to protest in front of the parliament, demanding the release of the activists who were detained in Freedom Square.

They repeated the slogan "freedom for freedom square detainees" and then they moved to the office of the street police refusing to leave until the freedom square activists were released.

"We are here on behalf of oppressed people, we will continue struggling until the jailed journalists are released and the displaced people from Al-Ja'shin go back to their villages safely and are compensated," said the human rights activist Emran Shahbeen during the protest.

A recent disagreement between a tribal leader in Shara'b Al-Sallam and

the local security leadership concerning a well in Taiz has also become an issue for those protesting in Freedom Square. The leadership of the security forces in the governorate responded to this disagreement through military means, something unacceptable to human rights activists.

Tawkul Karman, the chairwoman of Women Journalists Without Chains welcomed the Sha'rab protestors saying that the Sha'rab issue is merely a civil conflict that should have been resolved through the courts, not through force.

She demanded that the blockade on Shara'b be opened, that the ban on Al-Ayyam newspaper be removed and for detained journalists, who have been kept in jail over reporting on corruption, be released.



Every Tuesday, Women Journalists Without Chains protest in the Freedom Square, last week three activists were arrested.

## Folklore House closes in Sana'a

By: Ali Saeed

SANA'A, May 16 — Two weeks ago, the House of Folklore in Sana'a closed its doors in order to prevent the potential collapse of the building on the heads of workers, visitors and its collections, according to the administration of the House.

For more than two years, the administration of the House of Folklore has been urging the government, and concerned organizations, to renovate or replace the building.

The recent heavy rains have made the building dangerous and thus the administration has decided to close it down to prevent potential disaster.

"After more than six years of adventure, our journey of achievement and our attempts to display the heritage of diversity and pluralism in Yemen, come to a temporary pause. Our collapsing building can no longer withstand heavy rain," said the House's administration in a press release.

The administration regrets the closing of



Arwa Othman, director of the House of Folklore, complains that rain water leaks into the museum, threatening Yemen's heritage.

the house, but claimed that activities such as seminars and publications would continue despite the closing of the building.

The House's administration expressed its deep regret on the weakness of governmental

and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to support the House and for not keeping their promises to prevent its closing.

Although there have been many appeals to both internal and external partners, these efforts have been in vain. Despite a meeting of solidarity with EU ambassadors, on Saturday October 21, 2009, the house still remains completely unrenovated.

Although the European Mission contacted the President, the Yemeni government, and relevant authorities, their appeals on behalf of the institution have not produced any results.

The administration of the House says that the house has received many pledges of support from officials in the government, but that these promises have yet to come to fruition.

The administration says that they must ur-

gently find a new building for the Folklore House to be able to showcase their unique collections of Yemeni folklore and tradition.

The current traditional building is built of mud bricks and a wooden roof. Parts of the dusty roof are about to fall down as the roof has been left for many years without new cement or renovation.

Next to the building, a pile of garbage is growing with the daily trash of residents living around the House.

Despite these setbacks, the administration is still optimistic that the situation will change.

"After we have exhausted all options and knocked on all doors, we will still not surrender; the door of hope will continue to be open," said the administration.

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To read more about the House of Folklore go to  
<http://yemenfolklore.org/>

## Under the patronage of President Saleh Sana'a's sixth expo from May 25

The Ministry of Industry and Trade in cooperation with APOLLO for International Exhibitions is adding the final touches to open the Sixth Sana'a International Expo. It will be held from May 25 to May 30.

The exhibition is an important economical event that gathers many Arab and foreign countries looking for new markets in Yemen. They will discuss the possibility of trade between Yemeni businessmen and their counterparts from the participating countries. The organizers of the exhibition are looking forward to making it a success.

The exhibition seeks a bright future in this period of intensive contest in the world market. Yemen has taken large steps in terms of developing its trade and economic relations with the majority of countries.

Momen Al-Nahmi, Head of Marketing at APOLLO, said that the

exhibition had organized functions in cooperation with many international companies seeking agents in Yemen.

It is important because it has Arab and foreigner stands. Al-Nahmi added that the exhibition is the fruit of cooperation between the government and private sector.

He invited all Yemeni businessmen and entrepreneurs to visit the exhibition and meet their counterparts to discuss the possible mutual trade benefits.

The participants are, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Tunisia, Egypt, Jordan, Syria, China, Malaysia, Yemen, and the banks and insurance companies.

The exhibition will be financed by the General Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Trade and the Chamber of Commerce in Sana'a city.

## In Brief

### SANA'A

**Sheikha Mozah lands in Yemen**  
Qatari Emir's wife HH Sheikha Mozah Nasser Al-Misnad, chair of the Silatech Board of Advisers, arrived Wednesday for a one-day visit to Yemen.

On the visit, she will familiarize with the Selatech-sponsored projects for the youth in the country including the community college in Sana'a and the Khadija Entrepreneurship Training and Business Incubation Program run by the Yemeni Youth Leadership Development Foundation (YLDLF).

### PM attends ceremony for rewarding Yemeni sport champions

Prime Minister Ali Mujawar attended on Thursday a ceremony organized for rewarding sport champions of Yemen in foreign sports events in mid of 2009 and first quarter of 2010.

In the ceremony, the prime minister affirmed concern and support of the government for youths and sport programs, highlighting role of the sports and youths ministry in achieving good level in the for-

eign sport events.

He also pointed out ongoing arrangements to host 20th Gulf Football Championship that will be held in Aden and Abyan provinces by end of this year.

### HCT approves documents of tender for development projects

Higher Committee for Tenders (HCT) approved on Wednesday documents of two tenders for projects of Sana'a and Taiz international airports.

In domain of the health, the committee also approved documents of two tenders of purchasing equipment and importing medicines for the ministry of public health and population.

Moreover, the committee approved further documents of tenders for development and services projects.

### Yemen, KfW discuss € 40 million educational projects

Yemen and KfW discussed here on Wednesday the educational projects being implemented currently by KfW and under-construction ones at a cost of € 40 million.

Minister of Education Abdul-Salam al-Jawfi held talks with KfW Regional Director for North Africa and Middle East on ways of expanding cooperation between the ministry and KfW to cover various educational activities.

The minister and the KfW official also discussed aspects of cooperation and means of enhancing them in several educational areas.

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## FedEx cements plan to purchase six more 777Fs

FedEx Express is moving forward with an agreement to purchase six more Boeing 777 Freighter airplanes, a decision which would expand the express transportation company's capacity to Asia and Europe.

The company will purchase four 777Fs directly from Boeing and two from additional sources.

This latest agreement means FedEx Express, a subsidiary of Memphis-based FedEx Corp. (NYSE: FDX), has ordered a total of 38 of these aircraft, which will cut trip times overseas.

To date, FedEx Express has taken delivery of six 777Fs and four are operational, servicing routes between Asia and the U.S. It started using the planes internationally in January.

The company will get six more 777Fs by May 2011.

The planes can carry 178,000 pounds of cargo 5,800 nautical miles,



which is 6,675 land miles. This is a 14,000-pound and 2,100-nautical-mile improvement compared to the MD-11Fs, which had been FedEx's primary long-haul aircraft.

The 777Fs also shave two hours off the company's cut-off time for

drop-offs and reduce emissions by 18 percent.

The planes, which are the world's largest twin-engine cargo planes, first connected the FedEx SuperHub in Memphis with Shanghai, China.

## Felix Airways launches new flights

Felix Airways has revealed that it will add a CRJ 900 plane to its fleet to respond to the increasing demand on its services.

Felix Airways last Thursday launched two new flights from Aden to Al-Damam in Saudi Arabia. It looks forward to launching flights from Taiz to Al-Damam, and will soon also launch flights from Taiz to Abha in Saudi Arabia.

Felix has six international destinations, three of which are to Saudi



Arabia, to Medina, Al-Damam, and Abha. It also flies to Salalah in Oman, Sharja in the United Arab Emirates and to Djibouti.

According to the company, 400,000 passengers used Felix Airways.



## أن تنطلق بسيارتك من ١٠٠-٠ كم قبل أن تكمل قراءة هذا العنوان... تلك هي المتعة.

لا شيء يضاهي متعة التوق على الطريق في جميع الظروف، فقد تم تجهيز BMW X5 M بنظام xDrive الفريد للدفع الرباعي ومحرك جبار تصل قوته إلى ٥٥٥ حصاناً مع تقنية التوربو المزدوج لتتلق بسيارتك من وضعية السكون إلى ١٠٠ كم/الساعة خلال ٤,٧ ثانية فقط وتهيمن على سائر أنواع الطرق. أما تصميمها فيجمع بين عراقة الطرازات M وتميز سيارات الأنشطة الرياضية، بدءاً من شبك التهوية الكروي الواسع ذي فتحات الاستنشاق الكبيرة، مروراً بالخياشيم المميزة للطرازات M، وانتهاءً بخطوط الهيكل الانسيابية التي تعكس جراءة السيارة بكل وضوح. انطلق اليوم في BMW X5 M وستبقى أنت سيد الطريق. تقدم معها خدمة BMW الشاملة للنقطة للصيانة لمدة ٥ سنوات أو مسافة ٦٠,٠٠٠ كلم مجاناً وضماناً لسنتين دون تحديد المسافة.

BMW X5 M تعني المتعة.

BMW M.

شركة الرويشان للاستثمار والتنمية المحدودة، شارع حده، معرض BMW، صندوق بريد ١٦٩٢٦ صنعاء، الجمهورية اليمنية، هاتف: ٤٤٧-٠١٤٠١

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# Everywhere water

Text by: Reem Jarhum  
Photos by: Mohammed Al-Haddar

Floods in Sana'a city on May 5 were some of the worst for decades, according to the capital's resident. Nine people died in the floods, among which two died because an electricity pole fell on their car, according to the official statistics.

Traffic on most streets in Sana'a stopped because of the floods, 120 cars broke down, and another 40 were rescued by the civil defense rescue team. Six cars disappeared in the floods.

Two hundred houses were affected, both severely and mildly, by the floods. President Ali Abdullah Saleh visited the city after the rain to check on it, according to official news agency Saba.

Amal Abu Monassar, a Sana'a resident in her twenties, was in a taxi on her way home from work when the floods stopped them in their tracks.

"We were stuck in the street next to the Khawla School," she wrote to the Yemen Times. "Where all the cars stopped moving and the floods were

rising, until suddenly the water started to come into the taxi."

After an hour, people pushed the car to where there was less water and helped them empty the car of the water in it.

"I was really scared because I was alone," said Amal, who took over two hours to get home that day.

Rasheed Al-Ariqi, the general manager of the weather forecast department at the General Authority of Civil Aviation and Meteorology, has said that more rain is expected in the capital, but not as bad as on May 5.

Continuous rain and thunderstorms were expected within the coming 48 hours in mountain areas, including Sana'a, from northern Sa'ada to Lahj, Abyan and Shabwa, on Sunday afternoon.

The level of water will rise in the mountain areas, and there will be rockslides from mountains in the roads, and the reduction of visibility in the mountain roads.

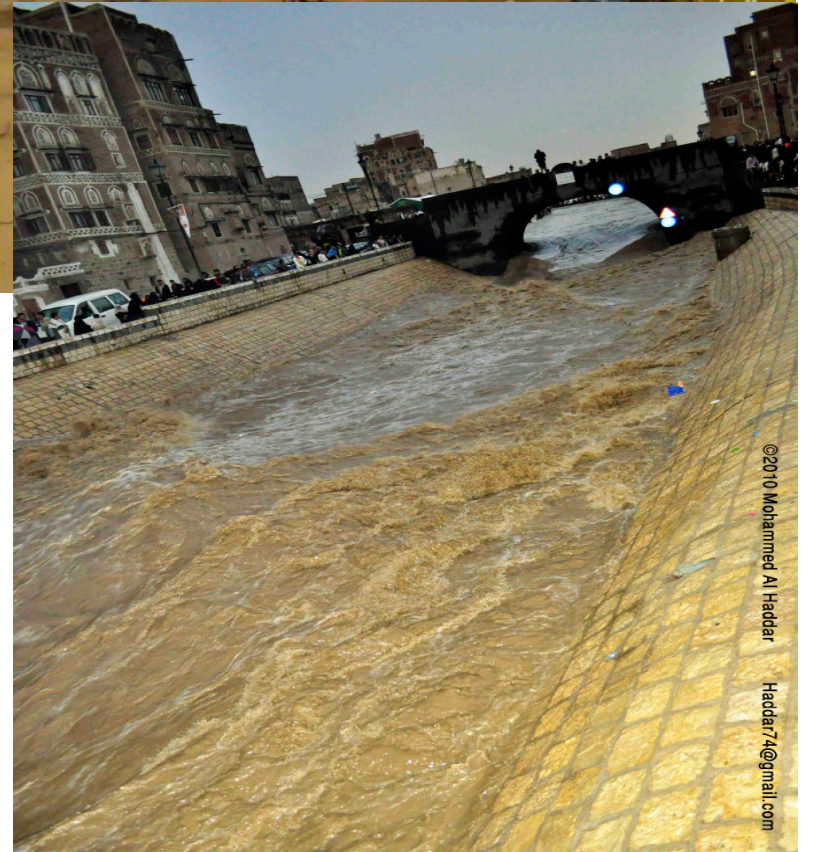
Al-Ariqi said, "We are preparing publications to raise awareness, especially for truck drivers who use the mountain road."



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# VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT



The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) invites Yemeni Nationals to apply for the following positions with its "Gender And Economic Empowerment Programme"

**Title: National Specialist on Community Facilitation and Gender**  
**Duration of Assignment: 1 year renewable**  
**Duty Station: Seiyun, Hadramout Wadi, Yemen**

#### Responsibilities:

- Review and become familiar with the Hadramout Governorate Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy 2006-2015, Women and Development Strategy WNC (2008), and fully knowledgeable about the UNDP Gender and Economic Empowerment Programme and work plan.
- Develop a gender sensitive advocacy and awareness plan and strategy with key messages in coordination with the project team, implementing partners (IPs), Department of Endowment and Guidance in the Seiyun Governorate, including Imams, local council members, Radio Seiyun, and with the back up support of the UNDP Communications Officer.
- Liaise with Radio Seiyun to undertake awareness raising promotional campaigns and dissemination of information on project activities and gender.
- Facilitate IPs and Imams in organizing awareness raising and advocacy events at community level, to share information about the project, gender issues, basic rights for work and employment for women and youth, and enlist community support.
- Provide technical guidance and inputs to project team and IPs in gender integration in all project activities, and at planned orientation workshops on gender and community participation.
- Collaborate with WNC and National Expert on development of gender sensitive baseline, monitoring, and policy issues.
- Facilitate IPs/selected trainers in designing, planning and implementing Focus Group training sessions on gender perspectives for selected men in the community to enlist their support for the programme, and to act as trainers in the community for other men.
- Facilitate early formation of the District Gender and Economic Empowerment Committees (DGEECs) based on criteria and operational modalities and responsibilities. Encourage and ensure a minimum 40 per cent participation of women and build their capacity. Assist in orienting DGEECs about their roles and responsibilities.
- Strengthen capacity development of the DGEECs and local council members in the effective functioning of the DGEECs, in galvanizing community participation, in promoting women, youth, and community members in decision making and participation in project matters, and improving their linkages and interactions with local authorities.
- Facilitate in organizing capacity development workshops for DGEECs on conflict sensitivity and social cohesion, and provide follow up support as required.
- Facilitate the establishment of the Community Fund (CF) as per the MoU and agreed modalities by the DGEECs and UNDP, and ensure accountability and effective use of CF for small community projects.
- Contribute to the preparation of training and communication materials on gender, community facilitation and advocacy activities, and carry out other related tasks as required.
- Work in close collaboration with the IPs, WNC, DGEECs, and relevant institutions, target groups and communities on gender issues.
- Participate in regular meetings of DGEECs and provide technical support on gender perspectives and community participation
- Coordinate and support project team members on all activities undertaken at the community level and advocate and ensure gender dimensions are integrated.
- Undertake field visits to follow up and monitor community facilitation and gender activities with DGEECs and ensure progress and quality achievements and gender impacts.
- Ensure proper reporting by IPs/ DGEECS on Community Fund activities

#### Qualifications:

- Post Graduate Degree in community development, gender studies, or social sciences education, communications and journalism or related disciplines
- 8-10 years excellent proven hands-on experience in community based approaches, experience in community facilitation and gender sensitive programming and working with local communities. Previous working experience in UN system assisted projects or NGOs will be an asset.
- An in-depth understanding of gender issues and in integrating gender dimensions in community facilitation and advocacy programmes, including entrepreneurship development.
- Practical experience in preparation of gender sensitive curricula and materials for community facilitation and advocacy activities and in conducting advocacy programmes.
- Strong skills in preparing briefs for the media and press releases in both English and Arabic

Monthly Salary for this post is approximately \$2,500

**Title: Administrative Finance Associate**  
**Duration of contract: 1 year, renewable**  
**Location/Duty Station: Seiyun, Hadramout, Yemen**

#### Responsibilities:

- Handle the day-to-day petty cash administration
- Maintain detailed and comprehensive record of income and expenditures
- Maintain and update the project budget (assist in the preparation of budget revisions)
- Monitor project expenditures, prepare and maintain necessary financial control reports
- Prepare and follow-up on payments and other expenses
- Check Expenditure Reports submitted by the (IPs)
- Prepare necessary requests with required supporting documents.
- Familiarize him/herself with various contracting modalities and pertinent entitlements
- Process entitlements (daily subsistence allowance, remuneration) and follow-up on contracts of the project staff and national/international consultants (extensions, renewals etc), and maintain various personnel records and files
- Brief personnel on administrative matters, advise and ensure administrative support as required
- Follow-up on administrative matters between the project and UNDP Country office.
- Perform office task e.g., office supplies requisition, preparation of equipment specifications, collection of bids and preparation of purchase orders
- Assist the project team in ensuring timely procurement of goods or materials as needed for the post training activities for women and youth
- Maintain appropriate inventory records of office material and equipment and prepare the corresponding reports
- Make necessary arrangements to meet security requirements
- Assist in the logistics and implementation of training, workshops, meetings and other awareness activities pertaining to the project
- Assist the Project Manager in drafting financial, progress and other reports
- Maintain general office files and keep information and reference in a manner that allows easy retrieval
- Prepare correspondence and offer documents as required and maintain a log on incoming/outgoing correspondence
- Provide translation and interpretation when necessary (Arabic/English)
- Undertake other office duties which may be requested by the PM/CTA and the project support team UNDP
- Provide general office assistance and handle routine administrative tasks, such as attendance records, mailing record, hotel reservations, flight booking, vehicle booking for staff travel, allocation of duty to drivers and cleaners, maintain office supplies and equipment orders, and the preparation and processing of administrative requests and documents (i.e. travel requests, security clearance, expense claims, vouchers).
- Provide administrative and secretarial support during training courses and workshops and act as interpreter when required.

#### Qualifications:

- University degree in accounting, financial management, business administration or other relevant areas.
- 5 years of proven practical experience in general administration work, office management, operational practices and procedures is desirable
- Excellent knowledge of accounting and budget handling

Monthly Salary for this post is approximately \$1,000

**Title: National Specialist on Institutional Development and Training**  
**Duration of Contract: One year, renewable**  
**Duty Station: Seiyun, Hadramout Wadi, Yemen**

#### Responsibilities:

- Review and become familiar with the Hadramout Governorate Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy 2006-2015, Women and Development Strategy and become fully familiar with and knowledgeable about the UNDP Gender and Economic Empowerment Programme, objectives and strategy and the work plan.
- Assess the capacity needs of IPs and develop a comprehensive capacity building/training plan.
- In consultation with the project team, prepare gender sensitive curricula for the project Orientation Workshops, ToTs for IPs on specific issues, and identify competent resource persons and trainers, including project team members.
- Organize and facilitate Orientation Workshops and ToTs for the IPs on the programme, strategy, gender dimensions, entrepreneurship development, marketing support, skills development and empowerment, application of appropriate technologies, and partnerships and linkages with the private sector.
- Assess the training equipment needs of 8 selected IPs in 4 programme districts and ensure the required inputs are provided.
- Assist in adapting and developing (new) curricula, manuals and materials based on requirements for the various training activities (Orientation, ToTs, skills and entrepreneurship training for women and youth) in collaboration with specialist trainers.
- In collaboration with IPs, project team and DGEECs develop criteria and procedures for selection of women and youth trainees and ensure adherence to proper selection.
- Facilitate the project team and IPs to organize training activities for women and youth based on feasible market demand, and ensure a gender sensitive and integrated curriculum is implemented, materials are relevant and accurately prepared, training venue and logistics arrangements address gender specific needs, and trainers are selected on the basis of competence and expertise, and are oriented on gender issues.
- Facilitate project team in procuring necessary training equipment.
- Ensure that refresher training for IPs, women and youth are implemented to follow up training activities.
- Facilitate WNC in Seiyun in conducting capacity building workshops for IPs on a gender sensitive monitoring system developed for the project, and in policy workshops
- Prepare Terms of Reference (ToR) for subcontracting training materials/manual preparation through highly qualified subcontractors from the private sector and NGOs.
- Carry out other responsibilities as requested by the CTA
- Identify existing training programmes of GoY/NGOs on going in Wadi Hadramout and possible linkages with the project.
- Collaborate with NGOs, IPs, the Vocational Training Centre in Seiyun, Community College, Agriculture Department/Extension Services, private sector and relevant institutions, to organize market oriented training for women and youth in specific identified areas.
- Facilitate a network of competent technical and gender sensitive trainers for the project.
- Monitor and evaluate all training programmes in collaboration with the project team including trainee performance and ensure quality capacity development
- Evaluate capacity building activities of IPs and target groups and assist in the preparation of training reports and evaluation.
- Contribute to the preparation of quarterly, annual project and training reports
- Undertake field visits to project sites and prepare field reports

#### Qualifications:

- Post graduate in social sciences or education, development management, or related disciplines
- 8-10 years excellent proven experience in institutional development, and training, community-based vocational training and non-formal training methodologies including gender sensitive approaches for economic empowerment.
- Experience in modular curriculum development and materials preparation for ToTs and training for target groups in diverse trades.
- Demonstrated practical experience in planning and organizing participatory training and capacity building for institutional partners in entrepreneurship development, skills training, gender issues, monitoring, and networking.
- Demonstrated practical experience in organizing training/capacity building activities for socially and economically disadvantaged women and youth for economic empowerment.

Monthly Salary for this post is approximately \$2,500

**Title: National Expert on Gender Sensitive Monitoring and Policy Support**  
**Duration of contract: 1 year, renewable**  
**Duty Station: Seiyun, Hadramout Wadi, Yemen**

#### Responsibilities:

- Review and become familiar with the Hadramout Governorate Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy 2006-2015, Women and Development Strategy WNC (2008), relevant documents, and fully knowledgeable about the UNDP Gender and Economic Empowerment Programme, strategy and work plan.
- Identify existing activities undertaken in Hadramout Governorate by MoPIC, Central Statistical Office (CSO) or other departments in gender sensitive data collection, analysis and monitoring, gender mainstreaming, and reports prepared.
- In collaboration with WNC, CTA and project team (based on findings as above) develop a plan for capacity building of WNC in gender sensitive monitoring and policy support, including undertaking a gender sensitive Baseline Survey to establish a benchmark by which to measure project progress, and gender impact.
- Develop a ToR, identify and subcontract a competent firm to provide technical support in undertaking the baseline survey incorporating gender issues
- In addition to WNC, identify relevant GoY departments and IPs to train on principles of sex disaggregated data collection and analysis and gender sensitive monitoring, to build broader capacity among IPs participating in the programme in Hadramout.
- Facilitate the subcontracted organization to organize training for selected participants (as above). Orient and train selected trainees (as given above) on the baseline survey, and build capacity of WNC in all design and preparation activities.
- Conduct the training workshop, and evaluate
- Facilitate the subcontractor to undertake the baseline survey in consultation and collaboration with trainees, and monitor the process. Ensure the report of the gender sensitive baseline survey is shared with key stakeholders, IPs, and WNC in Sanaa and the findings are used to inform programme work.
- Assist and build capacity of WNC to develop gender sensitive monitoring tools and indicators, and build capacity of participating IPs in its application.
- Identify gender issues in policies and legislation that impact on the gender and economic programme.
- Organize workshops with key stakeholders on policy issues, legal constraints, enlist support and develop policy proposals and legislative initiatives required, and submit to Hadramout Governorate including WNC Sanaa. Build close linkages between WNC in Seiyun and WNC in Sanaa on activities in Wadi Hadramout.
- Identify best practices and successful initiatives in gender sensitive approaches being applied in the programme at the community level, document and share with IPs, local council members and relevant stakeholders in Hadramout Governorate to generate appropriate gender responsive policies.

- Work in close collaboration with the IPs, WNC, DGEECs, and relevant institutions, target groups and communities on gender sensitive monitoring and policy issues
- Participate in regular meetings of DGEECs and provide technical support and advocate for gender sensitive monitoring
- Coordinate and support project team members to include gender sensitive monitoring indicators in the UNDP monitoring and evaluation process followed by them
- Monitor the WNC activities to ensure progress and quality achievements, and prepare monitoring reports

#### Qualifications:

- Post graduate degree in gender and development, economics, social sciences or related fields
- 8-10 years excellent hands on experience in developing and implementing gender sensitive monitoring systems and tools, including collection and analysis of sex disaggregated data, and in capacity building of women's departments in the said disciplines
- Excellent knowledge of and proven experience in capacity building/training of Government and NGOs on data collection and analysis, gender sensitive policies and programmes in particular on economic participation, and ability to advocate on policy issues
- Have an in depth knowledge of gender issues in Yemen, and programme monitoring with gender sensitive indicators

Monthly Salary for this post is approximately \$2,500

**Title: National Specialist on Market and Small Enterprise Development**  
**Duration of Contract: 1 year renewable**  
**Duty Station: Seiyun, Hadramout Wadi, Yemen**

#### Responsibilities:

- Review and become familiar with the Hadramout Governorate Economic Development and Poverty Reduction Strategy 2006-2015, the Women and Development Strategy (WNC 2008), and knowledgeable about the UNDP Gender and Economic Empowerment Programme, strategy and work plan.
- Prepare the ToR for the 'Participatory Market and Gender Sensitive Community Needs Assessment', identify a competent organization and subcontract this activity as per UNDP regulations.
- Facilitate the subcontractor to plan and organize a capacity building workshop for IPs on the said assessment, market and business concepts, and provide inputs into the training curriculum.
- Monitor the implementation of the Participatory Market Assessment; ensure that women and youth and local communities in selected project districts participate actively and provide inputs in the assessment; and that Sheikhs, local council members, IPs and the private sector (business enterprises, industries, employers'), and other relevant institutions are adequately consulted. Ensure that early existing small group enterprises of women and youth are clearly identified for immediate start up and support.
- Facilitate the subcontractor in the implementation of the Market Validation Workshop with the community and respondents. Ensure adherence to the ToR and results to be obtained, including clearly prepared feasibility of 10 enterprises/occupations (for each of 4 districts).
- Develop a skills and entrepreneurship training programme (for small enterprise development, self and or wage employment) for women and youth based on recommendations of the Market Assessment, and coordinate with project team members and IPs in its implementation.
- Identify the specific needs of trainees (women and youth) for market development and or value chain linkages, appropriate and improved technologies, and facilitate access and support to the target group with provision of technical assistance and follow up.
- Adapt and utilize existing training materials e.g., ILO training packages for business training/entrepreneurship development such as GET AHEAD relevant to women and youth enterprises.
- In association with the project team, prepare a comprehensive post training strategy and plan, involving the IPs, trainers, women and youth and make it functional.
- Facilitate timely post training support and procurement of the required inputs and equipment in accordance with the post training strategy and plans.
- Provide technical assistance to IPs in group organization and capacity building of groups, promoting basic entrepreneurial/ business skills among the target group, establishing market linkages, improving productivity, facilitating access to Banks/Micro Finance Institutions (MFIs) for financial assistance; and provide job placement support and organize on-the-job-training for the selected participants.
- Plan and organize workshops, and market exposure visits for production and market groups with lead buyers and private sector, and facilitate access to markets by women and youth entrepreneurs for their products and increase their market share.
- Facilitate exchange visits and networking between women and youth production and marketing groups in the districts, and networking between female entrepreneurs and male youth.
- Build active partnerships and networks with Wadi Hadramout Chamber of Commerce, and other private sector entities, employers', industries and commercial entities for market access and job options, and collaboration with the project.
- Prepare as necessary, MoUs/Agreements with large enterprises, industries/employers for market access and linkages between small producers and buyers or for job placements for project trainee/graduates ensuring gender responsiveness of agreements. Follow up on MoUs/agreements for satisfactory completion.
- Supervise IPs to ensure quality delivery in training and post training support and enterprise promotion
- Undertake regular site visits to all districts to monitor enterprise activities and resolve problems as they arise.
- Prepare monitoring reports as required and provide inputs for documentation of the best practices in project activities.
- Perform other duties as assigned by the CTA.

#### Qualifications:

- Post graduate degree in business administration or economics, commerce, business and market development
- A minimum of 10 years experience in conducting ToTs, planning and organizing market oriented training for employment [small enterprise development, self/wage employment] for disadvantaged women and youth, including in rural communities
- A proven excellent background and hands on professional experience of market issues/marketing, practical knowledge of private sector development, women and youth entrepreneurship development in non-farm and agro-related trades in Yemen, user friendly technology applications for production of goods and services and experience with rural community and market issues.
- Demonstrated and in depth understanding of gender issues in economic and social empowerment and practical experience in applying the concepts to practice.
- Demonstrated experience in providing technical assistance to women and youth on

Monthly Salary for this post is approximately \$2,500

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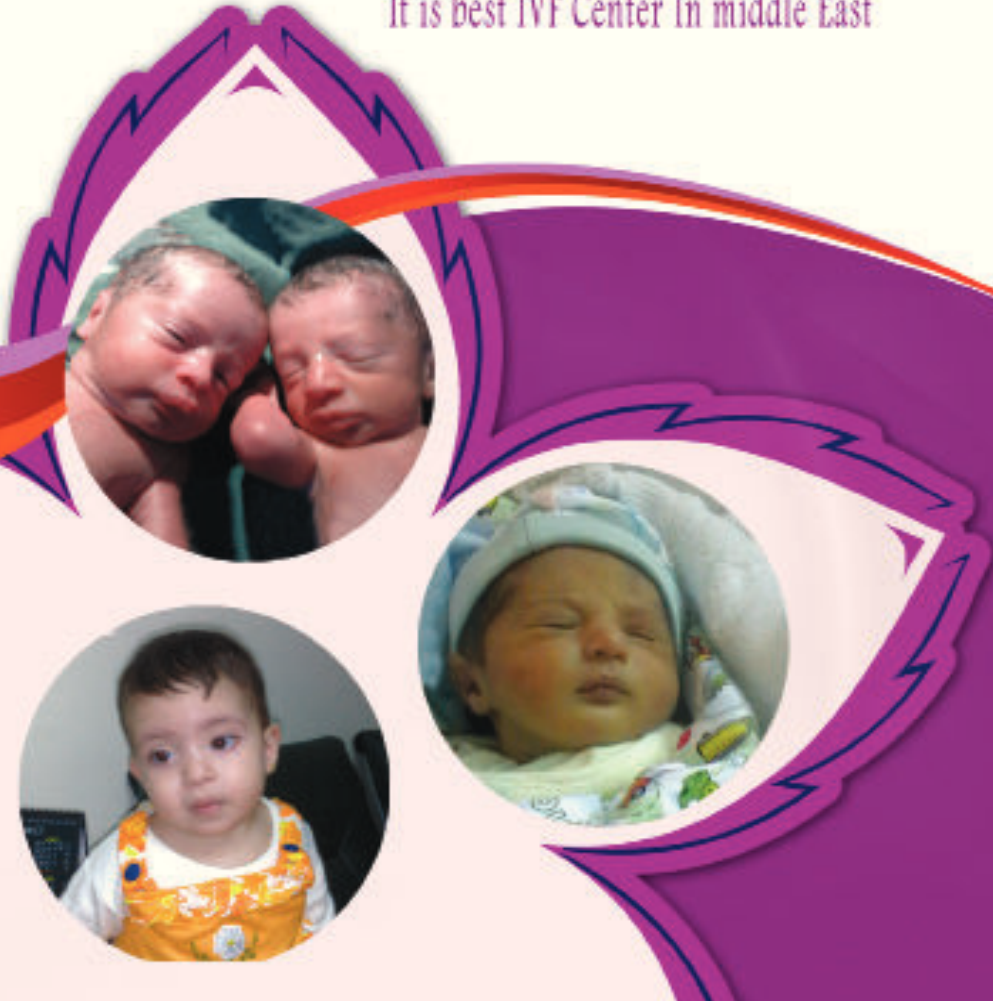
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## Words of Wisdom



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

## There is no cure for stupidity

A German friend told me this amusing line. Apparently this is an English version of a proverb in German. She said this as we were comparing the thinking and ideologies of people from various cultures and across generations.

My friend is over fifty years old. She comments that so many things have changed and the worse change is in the priorities of the youth of today. Apparently this generation (people in their late teens and younger than 30 years old) are so involved in the panting after materialistic goals that they forget the really important things.

Youth of today are too busy being sad for not having certain objects or for being excluded from something. She said this is yet more common in Arab culture. That we are so busy spending our emotions on what happened in the past or the things that we can never change.

"Life is much simple. You must think about two things before you even spend on second thinking about an issue: 1- Is it my business? 2- Can I do something about it? If the answer to either is no, then just drop it and move on with your life," was her advice.

But we don't do that. Arabs are very "curious" people, to put it politely. We have to be bothered why our neighbors' young son came home very late last night. We even worry why our cousin's daughter has not married yet although she is approaching thirty. We dwell for days on how in the official meeting, qat session or social gathering that person looked at us strangely and sneered.

All these emotions take from our time and energy that we waste precious resources we could have used doing more productive issues. And this is stupid, but as my friend said there is no cure for stupidity.

If only we start prioritizing our lives and realizing the issues that matter and those that don't so that we can be more successful people.

In our discussion and badmouthing younger people and especially Arabs - which is what I am - we forgot that it is actually our fault that the youth had turned out this way. After all a child comes to this life a clean slate and we write on him or her what we want. So if we are criticizing how they turned out we are essentially saying what a bad job we did raising them.

But now that this is what the situation is, I have to try and give this small piece of wisdom to whoever would take it.

Nadia Al-Sakkaf

## Scenes from the war on terrorism in Yemen

By: Ali H. Soufan  
The New York Times

The evidence that Al Qaeda's branch in Yemen had a role in the failed Christmas Day bombing of an American passenger jet has led some to declare that Yemen is the new front in the war against the terrorist organization. But the truth is, Yemen has been a front in that war since at least Oct. 12, 2000, when Al Qaeda blew up the Navy destroyer Cole, killing 17 American sailors, in the port of Aden. The explosives for the bombing were bought in Yemen. And the attackers and their accomplices were predominantly Yemenis. Indeed, after the attack, terrorists in Qaeda camps in Afghanistan would march and chant, "We, the Yemenis, destroyed the Cole."

As the F.B.I. case agent for the Cole investigation from 2000 to 2005, I spent years with colleagues in Yemen hunting down those responsible, and we unraveled an entire Qaeda network in the country.

Even before the Cole attack, Yemen was linked to terrorist acts. Most of the people who executed the 1998 East African embassy bombings either traveled through Yemen or used fraudulent Yemeni passports. Almost two years after the Cole, Qaeda terrorists based in Yemen struck the Limburg, a French oil tanker, off the coast of Yemen. Qaeda terrorists in Yemen also helped facilitate the attacks of 9/11. Fahd al-Quso, a Yemeni Qaeda member who confessed to me his role in the U.S.S. Cole bombing, also admitted to ferrying money to a Qaeda operative known

as Khallad who was part of an important 9/11 planning meeting in Malaysia.

As recently as this past August, an assassination attempt against Prince Mohammed bin Nayef, Saudi Arabia's deputy minister of interior in charge of security, was plotted in Yemen. The explosive mixture that the suicide bomber used in that attack was the same one that Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab tried to ignite on the passenger jet over Detroit - and in each case the terrorist hid the mixture in his underwear.

Yemen is a very appealing base for Al Qaeda for various reasons. From its position at the southern tip of the Arabian Peninsula, the country has convenient access to Al Qaeda's main theaters of battle, including Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Iraq and Afghanistan. Its borders are unsecured, and tribal groups sympathetic to Al Qaeda control many regions, so terrorists can move freely into, out of and around the country. And guns and explosives are readily available from Yemen's thriving arms market.

The country's tribal nature also makes it a relatively easy place for Al Qaeda to operate. Yemen has a weak government and powerful regional tribes, which in many ways operate as mini-governments free of central control. In addition, the government is struggling to contain both a secessionist movement in the south and a rebellion in the north. Rampant poverty and illiteracy make it easy for Al Qaeda to buy local support and manipulate Yemenis into believing its propaganda.

When I was in Yemen, I found many extremely capable officials in law enforcement and intelligence who were dedicated to

stopping Al Qaeda. With their help, and with support from American intelligence and military agencies, our F.B.I. team was able to arrest and prosecute in a Yemeni court people responsible for the Cole bombing and for planning other attacks. By the time we left Yemen, in 2005, those terrorists were in prison.

Later, however, some of them "escaped," and others were given clemency. Jamal al-Badawi, for example, a Qaeda terrorist who confessed to me his role in the bombing of the U.S.S. Cole, was sentenced to death by a Yemeni judge in 2004. But in 2006, he "escaped" from jail, only to turn himself in the next year - in a deal that released him from prison on a promise of good behavior. Today, Mr. Quso, the confessed Cole bomber, is not only free, he's giving interviews and re-establishing himself as a terrorist operative.

During the past year, in an ominous sign of Yemen's rising importance to Al Qaeda, the Saudi branch of the organization merged with the Yemeni branch to form a single terrorist group for the entire peninsula. Known as Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, it is based in Yemen and headed by a Yemeni, Naser Abdel-Karim al-Wahishi, who served as a close aide to Osama bin Laden. Mr. Wahishi "escaped" from jail with Mr. Badawi.

Some Yemeni government officials highly value their relationship with the United States, which provides financial aid and military training. During our investigation of the Cole bombing, when the American government made it clear to the Yemenis that they

expected full cooperation, the Yemenis who were dedicated to justice were given free rein and those with extremist ties were sidelined. After the trials were over and the terrorists made it out of jail, Robert S. Mueller III, the director of the F.B.I., flew to Yemen to complain, but there was little further protest by the United States. We dropped the ball.

A year and a half ago, when I briefed a bipartisan group of Senate staff members on Yemen, I warned that unless the American government sent a united message to the Yemenis to act against Al Qaeda, the terrorists responsible for the Cole would remain free and there would be future attacks against the United States connected to Yemen. Today, the terrorists behind the Cole are still free, and an attack connected to Yemen has been attempted.

It is possible to defeat Al Qaeda in Yemen without sending American troops. Now that the Yemenis are once again acting against Al Qaeda by striking the terrorist group's bases and killing or apprehending many of its members, the United States must show that it has learned to stay focused and hold Yemeni officials accountable. This time, the terrorists must be permanently locked up, not allowed to escape or receive pardons. The most important sign of Yemen's sincerity will be when those with the blood of 17 American sailors on their hands are all brought to justice in the way they deserve.

Ali H. Soufan was an F.B.I. special agent from 1997 to 2005.

## 5 myths about who becomes a terrorist

By: Jessica Stern  
The Washington Post

By now, more than eight years after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks, we should be better at plucking a terrorist out of an airport security line. After all, we have some idea of what he'll be like: young, socially alienated and deeply religious. And he'll come from a country like Afghanistan, Algeria, Cuba, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, Nigeria, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Sudan, Syria or Yemen. (Under new Transportation Security Administration rules announced last weekend, people bearing passports from these 14 countries will undergo special scrutiny before boarding a plane.)

Or will he? What if he comes from Northern Virginia, like the five young men who were arrested in Pakistan on Dec. 8 and who have been accused of planning "terrorist activities," according to Pakistani newspaper reports? The bottom line is that we can no longer assume that terrorists will come from any particular country or fit any particular profile. The more we learn about what makes people vulnerable to recruitment by terrorist organizations, the less any of the old generalizations hold up.

## 1. Most terrorists are spoiled rich kids

Many prominent jihadists are indeed well off and well educated. Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab, the suspect in the failed Christmas Day airline bombing, comes from one of the wealthiest families in Nigeria.

After the 2001 attacks, much was made of the engineering backgrounds of some of the hijackers, and Osama bin Laden famously hails from a wealthy family with close ties to the Saudi royals.

But terrorists come from all socioeconomic backgrounds. For poor people in countries where economic prospects are bleak, jihad can be one of the few jobs available.

Of the 25,000 insurgents and terrorism suspects detained by U.S. forces in Iraq as of 2007, nearly all were previously underemployed, according to Maj. Gen. Douglas Stone, the commander of detainee operations at the time. And according to Christopher Boucek of the Carnegie Endowment, the Saudi Interior Ministry found that most of the 639 convicted terrorists going through a rehabilitation program came from lower- or middle-class families, while 3 percent had high-income backgrounds.

## 2. Al-Qaeda members come from repressive countries in the Middle East

Al-Qaeda's core organization, which was responsible for the Sept. 11 strikes, is now based in Pakistan, but terrorist organizations claiming to be its affiliates include North Africa's al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb, Jemaah Islamiyah in Indonesia and al-Shabab, which is fighting in southern Somalia and has been recruiting Westerners.

The organization also has a more amorphous following of independent cells and individuals around the world. It is almost impossible to target or quantify this following because it isn't centralized in any one location. Such self-made terrorists can be found anywhere, even in Fort Hood, Tex.

More broadly, there is no particular political system that reliably promotes or deters terrorism. And democracy is not the cure-all it is often assumed to be. There are many more terrorist incidents in democratic India, for example, than in non-democratic China or Saudi Arabia. (This may be because authoritarian regimes are good at controlling terrorism within their borders.) And economist Alberto Abadie of Harvard University has found that the transition to democracy can be a particularly dangerous period with regard to terrorism -- consider the experiences of Spain in the late 1970s, Russia after the fall of communism and Iraq today. Failed and failing states, such as Yemen and Somalia, also make particularly fertile ground for terrorism.

## 3. Al-Qaeda is made up of religious zealots

To the contrary, rank-and-file terrorists who claim to be motivated by religious ideology often turn out to be ignorant about Islam.

The Saudi Interior Ministry has questioned thousands of terrorists in custody about why they turned to violence, and found that the majority did not have much formal religious instruction and had only a limited understanding of Islam. According to Saudi officials, one-quarter of the participants in a rehabilitation program for former jihadis had criminal histories, often for drug-related offenses, whereas only 5 percent had been prayer leaders or had other formal religious roles.

In the Netherlands and elsewhere in Europe, second- and third-generation Muslim youths are rebelling against what they consider the culturally contaminated Islam that their parents practice and that is promoted in their local mosques, favoring instead the allegedly purer Islam that they discover online or via imams from the Middle East. But the form of Islam they turn to is often highly unorthodox. For example, the Hofstad group in the Netherlands -- a network of radicalized young Muslims -- practiced a sort of do-it-yourself Islam cobbled together from Web sites and the teachings of a self-taught Syrian imam who is also a former drug dealer.

And groups linked to al-Qaeda, including in Somalia, have been begun using anti-American hip-hop music or "jihad rap" in their recruitment videos, even though such music is considered counter to the extremist version of Islam promoted by the terror network. Rather than Islam leading young recruits toward al-Qaeda, it may be an ignorance of Islam that renders youths vulnerable to al-Qaeda's violent ideology.

## 4. Terrorists are motivated by a strong belief in their cause

Terrorist movements often arise in reaction to a perceived injustice, whether real or imagined. Yet ideology is not the only, or even the most important, factor in an individual's decision to join. In my research and interviews with terrorists, I have found that operatives are often more interested in adopting a new identity than in supporting a terrorist group's stated goals. Many speak, in particular, about being motivated by a feeling of humiliation. A Kashmiri militant founded his group because, he said, "Muslims have been overpowered by the West. Our ego hurts . . . we are not able to live up to our own standards for ourselves."

The reasons that some people become terrorists are as varied as the reasons that others choose conventional professions: market conditions, social networks, contact with recruiters, education and individual preferences. And just as the passion for justice that may animate a young law student is not nec-

essarily what keeps him working long hours at a law firm while hoping to make partner, a terrorist's motivations for staying with his cause can also change.

Most terrorist groups disappear quickly; those that survive tend to have the sort of flexible ideology that can attract a diverse array of recruits and funders. Al-Qaeda is among the most disciplined terrorist groups, but its goals and its list of enemies are constantly shifting. Documents analyzed by scholars at the Combating Terrorism Center at the U.S. Military Academy reveal an astonishing lack of clarity about the group's purpose, even among leaders of the organization. Abu'l-Walid, a leading strategic thinker for al-Qaeda, has complained about constantly shifting strategic goals, lamenting that "waging jihad like a rhinoceros is stupid and futile."

## 5. The typical terrorist recruit is an alienated loner.

According to The Washington Post, Abdulmutallab, the alleged Christmas airplane attacker, wrote in an online Islamic forum: "I have no one . . . to consult, no one to support me and I feel depressed and lonely. I do not know what to do. And then I think this loneliness leads me to other problems."

But for most terrorist recruits, the problem isn't so much a lack of friends as the wrong friends. This dynamic isn't so different from the way gang recruiting works in the United States: Terrorists often join an armed struggle because they have a buddy who has done so. In a survey of 516 Guantanamo detainees, researchers at the Combating Terrorism Center found that knowing another member of al-Qaeda was a better predictor of who became a terrorist than was belief in the idea of jihad.

It is interesting to note that in its rehabilitation efforts, the Saudi government tries to compete with convicts' ties to terrorism networks by reconnecting them to their families and home communities, and most controversially, by trying to find wives for the former fighters.

Ultimately, some individuals may join terrorist groups out of a misplaced desire to transform society. But over time, the social and psychological rewards of belonging can eclipse such motivations. Terrorists want to better their own circumstances at least as much as they want to change the world.

Jessica Stern serves on the Hoover Institution Task Force on National Security and Law and is a lecturer at Harvard Law School. She is the author of "Terror in the Name of God: Why Religious Militants Kill."



By: Hamid

## YEMEN TIMES

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# Surviving the great capital flood

By: **Simon Johnson**  
and **Jonathan D. Ostry**

Despite recent financial market turbulence, the underlying dynamic of the world economy remains essentially unchanged. The big issue is not how to deal with a downturn, but rather how to sustain today's global boom and the capital flows that go with it. With the world expected to continue growing rapidly, there are excellent investment opportunities that will be funded only if capital continues to move into countries that can use it productively.

The good news is that some countries have large savings that they want to invest in other countries, and are not put off by short-run market gyrations. In fact, our projections show that gross (or total) capital inflows to emerging

markets will increase from US\$400-500 billion just before the Asian crisis of 1997 to US\$800-900 billion both in 2007 and 2008. These inflows are expected to top US\$1 trillion in the not-so-distant future.

With 20-20 hindsight, it is clear that in 1997-98, weak bank regulation and corporate governance aggravated the depth of the economic contraction that followed the "sudden stop" of capital flows. But what exactly does this imply for how middle- and low-income countries today should set their capital-account policies amid the current flood?

Should a country with weaknesses in its financial system simply avoid letting capital in? While this has become more difficult, countries can still choose – at least to some degree – how open they are to capital inflows.

But capital controls are not the only variable that determines financial open-

ness. The evidence suggests that other factors such as the quality of economic and political institutions are at least as important in determining how much capital a country will attract. But what determines the extent to which countries benefit from financial globalization?

A recent study by the IMF's research department, using data from the past 30 years to assess the effects of financial globalization, conveys two messages. First, countries should be cautious about external financial liberalization when financial sector development and institutional quality are below key thresholds. In other words, don't jump into the water unless you can swim.

Second, caution has costs: financial openness may itself catalyze improvements in fundamentals that enhance the benefits of globalization. Capital controls, whatever their benefits in terms

of mitigating the risks associated with volatile capital flows, are costly in a variety of ways. In other words, everyone really should learn to swim.

The first message will resonate with those who believe that a key lesson of the Asian crisis a decade ago is that countries opened themselves to certain types of flows – especially foreign currency debt – before they were ready. The implication is that countries should first strengthen their domestic financial sectors and corporate governance, and only later open the capital account.

But even if capital controls could still fully insulate a country from the forces of financial globalization, such a goal would not be desirable. Opening up to foreign direct investment and other non-debt capital flows may serve to boost economic growth without adverse side effects on macroeconomic volatility or a risk of crisis. This is the

case for countries with both relatively weak and strong fundamentals.

One conclusion, therefore, is for countries to be cautious about removing capital controls when they have not yet reached the relevant "safety" thresholds, but equally to stress the sizeable net benefits for countries that exceed the thresholds. The latter, in turn, provides strong incentives for countries to address institutional shortcomings so that they can reap the potential benefits of external financial liberalization.

Of more pressing immediate concern is the fact that capital is currently flowing to many countries regardless of whether they are ready to receive it. There are large current-account surpluses among emerging markets (a big change from 1997, when most emerging markets had deficits). Indeed, several large oil exporters and Asian manufacturing exporters will have siz-

able surpluses for as long as we can forecast.

This capital has to be invested somewhere. We think that capital from these countries is increasingly flowing not so much "uphill" to developed countries (as it did over the past five years), but rather "around the hill" to other emerging markets and poorer developing countries. But is everyone really ready to receive such large amounts of capital and to carefully manage its macroeconomic impact?

The risk today is not imminent crisis, but rather that the capital flows arising from the global boom will not be well managed, leading to the buildup of vulnerabilities. So the danger is that, when the party ends – and it is hard to know when that will be – a lot of mopping up will need to be done.

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

# The gambler of North Korea

By: **Yoon Young-kwan**

North Korean leader Kim Jong-il's recent visit to China has further complicated South Korea's response to the probable culprit – North Korea – in the sinking of its warship, the Cheonan, on March 26. The debate about how to respond is complicated even more by the fact that the Cheonan's sinking does not seem to be a stand-alone event, but was, instead, part of a change in the general pattern of North Korean behavior. Indeed, North Korea has become increasingly bold and impetuous ever since Kim became ill (probably from a stroke) in August 2008.

In the past, top North Korean leaders tended to calculate carefully the costs and benefits when they acted to put pressure on the outside world. And they were inclined to play only one of their "threat" cards at a time. But in April and

May 2009, they threw diplomatic caution to the wind, launching a long-range rocket (as well as various missiles) and conducting a second nuclear test – all in the space of several weeks.

As soon as the international community reacted, by adopting United Nations Security Council Resolution 1874, North Korea quickly shifted to a charm offensive aimed at the United States and South Korea. The authorities released two American journalists and a South Korean worker whom they had seized in August 2009 on charges of violating North Korean law.

But when the North Korean regime realized that smile diplomacy did not get it whatever it was they wanted, the country's rulers shifted back to hostility. This time, the authorities froze South Korean real estate in the Geumgang Mountain tourist zone and, most seriously of all, attacked the Cheonan. The regime even dispatched two spies to Seoul to assassinate Hwang Jang-yop,

the highest-level North Korean official ever to defect to South Korea.

I believe that this change in North Korea's pattern of behavior is profoundly related to recent fundamental changes there. First, Kim Jong-il and his third son, Kim Jong-un, may have become much more confident as a result of North Korea's emergence as a de facto nuclear state. They seem to believe that possession of nuclear weapons provides them with far wider room for strategic and tactical boldness. After all, they achieved what they wanted in defiance of enormous international pressure, and even succeeded in transferring nuclear technology to Syria several years ago without being punished. Given such a run of successful gambles, why be timid?

The second change concerns Kim's successor. North Korea's new boldness may reflect Kim Jong-il's wish to polish the 26-year-old Kim Jong-un's image as a strong and decisive leader. Or, it may

be that all of the provocations that have followed Kim Jong-il's illness may be the work of Kim Jong-un himself. In other words, the process of power transfer may be progressing much faster than anyone outside of North Korea has guessed.

Finally, long-term mismanagement and international sanctions have pushed the North Korean economy to the brink of collapse. As a result, the regime may be trying to divert people's attention from internal difficulties and push them to unite behind the emerging new leader.

The attack on the Cheonan may have been particularly useful in cementing the regime's hold on the military, which felt disgraced by North Korea's inept performance in a confrontation with the South Korean navy near the Northern Limit Line in the West Sea in November 2009. But, compared to the more fundamental factors discussed above, I believe that this is probably a secondary motive for the attack on the Cheonan.

The problem is that all three factors – nuclear-armed boldness, the succession,

and economic malaise – will continue to influence North Korea's behavior for the time being. Without a strong and internationally coordinated response to the sinking of the Cheonan, such reckless provocations are not only likely to continue, but may become more frequent.

Thus, South Korea and the international community must respond firmly. A joint South Korea-US military exercise near the Demilitarized Zone or a joint anti-submarine exercise at the Northern Limit Line should be considered. A UN Security Council resolution denouncing North Korea's brutal attack on the Cheonan must be an essential part of any international diplomatic response. Making North Korea pay a high economic cost for its rash behavior should be considered as well.

All of these options are, however, short-term responses, and will likely be insufficient to bring about any serious change in North Korea. A more fundamental, long-term strategy is needed to face the new reality and achieve lasting peace on the Korean Peninsula.

One of the messages that Chinese President Hu Jintao delivered to Kim Jong-il at their bilateral summit on May 5 – concerning North Korea's need to launch serious economic reform and open up to the world – has provided a clue as to how to move forward. So far, the international community has focused mainly on the immediate concern of denuclearizing North Korea. But this is merely addresses the symptom, not the disease. It is past time for the international community – particularly China, Russia, the US, Japan, and South Korea – to devote similar diplomatic effort to persuading and pressuring North Korea to reform and open its economy.

The world must develop a more carefully calibrated policy toward North Korea, one aimed at simultaneously implementing denuclearization and economic reform. The added benefit of such an approach is that it is far more likely to gain Chinese support than today's single-minded focus on denuclearization.

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# Peace gaming

**Social networks, games and virtual worlds are crossing unlikely boundaries.**

By: **Jim Luce, Benjamin Joffe-Walt**  
and **Rachelle Kliger**  
The Media Line

A 14-year-old living in Haifa, Israel, sits by a laptop working all night with a 22-year-old Lebanese engineering student in an intense quest to kill a boss on the World of Warcraft. Over the course of many hours, together, the two unlikely teammates kill a number of creatures and gather various resources.

Meanwhile on Second Life, a 21-year-old Jewish legal aid in Manhattan spends his boring day at work building a synagogue in the virtual world. Already evening in Riyadh, a 29-year-old Saudi air hostess who believes most Jews have horns and sacrifice babies in their places of worship, enters the legal aid's synagogue and starts asking questions.

Academics, gaming experts and conflict resolution advocates say such interactions are taking place on a variety of platforms daily, making online gaming an increasingly common avenue for Middle Easterners, Muslims and Jews all over the world, to engage with and learn about one another.

"I believe that the Internet and gaming, especially those with social media components, can bring people together," Esra'a Al Shafei, Director of the Bahrain-based MidEast Youth, an international student media group that promotes dialogue and understanding, told The Media Line. "I grew up in a relatively closed society, but there are no boundaries on the Internet like there are in real life, making it much easier to cross cultural and political boundaries and to create meaningful connections."

"For example, once I was in college and played a little game on Facebook and met an Armenian whom I never would have met," she remembered. "I know many people personally who have gotten to know each other across cultural lines through gaming."

"Gaming is all about skills, and not identity or nationality," Al Shafei said. "Your intention may not be to meet people, but a lot of gaming sites now

have teams. So you might end up playing on a team with an Iranian, an Israeli or an American Jew. Almost every game these days allows you to chat and connect with people, so you say 'hey, where are you from? I'm from Bahrain,' get to know that person and find out that you actually have lots of similar interests in music and things like that."

While it was not her intention, Al Shafei articulated the hope of a growing number of Israeli gaming firms and social media analysts who believe games can bring unlikely people together across borders.

"People can communicate better through games because there are no borders," said Nir Orpaz, the founder and Chief Technical Officer of Skiller, an Israel-based gaming company that provides both gaming and social networking platforms for mobile phones. "We can play with people in Arab countries whereas on a day-to-day basis we wouldn't do that."

Users of Skiller mobile games are identified by the country they are located in with a small flag next to their username. With around half a million users from 125 nations, including countries without diplomatic relations with one another, Orpaz says mobile gaming has provided a place for people to leave politics at the door.

"In the gaming world, people put the political conflicts aside," he told The Media Line. "It's easier to play against a person than to win a political argument against them."

"We're combining social networks with games," Orpaz added. "We have many social elements such as [the] buddy list, [the] messaging system and in-game chat, that enable people to communicate easily and form friendships. This [is] what makes our product so unique. This is not just a mobile game; this is a real community."

But Paul Parush, an expert in media culture and a communications professor at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, said the effectiveness of online gaming in crossing conflict lines was likely limited by awareness.

"For Arabs playing against Israel, they probably know what the Israeli

flag looks like, whereas Israelis probably don't know what a Saudi flag looks like," he told The Media Line. "So it's worth noting different levels of awareness."

Dr Ronit Kampf, a professor of communications and political science at Tel Aviv University and an expert in the role of online environments in conflict resolution, says the import of online environments in conflict resolution largely revolves around whether or not the interaction is intentional.

"There are many online environments that are not specifically aimed at conflict resolution or learning about the other," she told The Media Line. "These platforms provide people with the option to cross boundaries easily."

"But the glass is half full and half empty," Dr Kampf warned. "The half full is that indeed you can see unintentional interactions between Jews and Muslims and Israelis and Palestinians. The half empty, however, is that if you look at these interaction[s] over the long term, their extent [does] not grow."

"The reality is that we are attracted to people who are similar, not people who are different," she continued. "So there are definitely unintentional interactions taking place, and it's better than nothing, but you can't ignore the fact that their extent and their depth is not what we would ideally want."

Dr Kampf argued that gaming, particularly gaming that requires teamwork, has a greater potential to cross conflict lines.

"There is incredible potential for unintentional interaction through gaming," she said. "In the World of Warcraft, for example, gamers across the Middle East fight together against some environment that is attacking them. What's important to them is not whether the person is a Muslim or a Jew, but their skill playing the game."

"So you see people joining together to fight on the same team and see each other as individuals," Dr Kampf concluded. "It indicates that the moment you bring together young people from across the divide to join forces and collaborate on a specific goal – be it to win a game together or do a project together – they are much more effectively able to put aside tension and stereotypes and develop positive attitudes towards one another."

## SOUL for Development

### Healthy Mother Project (TF094846) Project Technical Officer Position

SOUL for the Development of Women and Children in Sana'a, Yemen, has received a grant from the International Development Association (World Bank), acting as administrator of grant funds provided by Japan under the Japan Social Development Fund (JSDF) in the amount of US\$2,850,000, for the Healthy Mother Project. For this project SOUL is requesting to receive CVs and applications from those who are interested to apply for the post (Project Technical Officer).

#### Duties and Responsibilities

The Project Technical Officer reports directly to the Project manager. He/she is responsible for the management of technical aspects of the project in compliance with the provisions of the Japan Social Development Fund (JSDF) Grant Agreement, the Project Implementation Plan and Project Implementation Manual. Specifically, he/she is responsible for:

- Managing the Independent Verification Expert (IVE) Contract and facilitate their work, as well as coordinate the work between the IVE and the Service Providers, and ensure that the IVEs submit their reports regularly and timely to the Bank.
- Managing the Public Health Advisor(s) contracts and facilitates their work, and ensures to the extent possible that their technical advice is incorporated in all project documents.
- Conducting regular supervision field visits to the project sites and reports back to the Project Manager on the progress of the field work.
- Coordinating the technical inputs in the different project documents such as project Request for Proposal (RFP), bidding documents, progress reports, etc.
- Working with other project team members such as Procurement Officer and Finance Officer to ensure smooth implementation of the project.
- Responsible for all project monitoring and evaluation activities including baseline, project MIS, progress reports, and project evaluations as well as issuing project progress reports.
- Responsible for drafting and revising the technical chapters of the project OM.
- Responsible for drafting all the technical sections of the project progress reports.
- Ensuring adherence of the service provision to the Grant Agreement and the OM.
- Participating in the preparation of annual plans and implementation schedules to ensure that project activities are on schedule and are meeting established performance standards.
- Assisting in the selection of the technical consultant and service providers, the approval of their terms of reference, their briefing, and administration of their contracts.
- Ensuring that internal and external reports are prepared and filed as required to satisfy WB requirements.

#### Qualifications:

Qualifications would be the following. However, experience and performance in prior assignments would also be a key factor in the selection process.

- Bachelor's degree in health related fields with preference to experience in maternal health services.
- Minimum of 3 years of professional experience in health projects, its follow up and monitoring.
- Demonstrated ability to take a leadership position in a team-based environment
- Demonstrated ability to manage service provision contracts.
- Proficiency in the use of computers.
- Fluency in both Arabic and English (writing, speaking and reading).

**To apply for this vacancy, please send your CV and cover letter to the following address:**

**SOUL for Development**  
Fax: +967-01/227918 - 250696  
E-mail: [soul-yemen@y.net.ye](mailto:soul-yemen@y.net.ye)  
Tel: +967-01/223999/255568

The deadline of receiving the C.Vs will be on May, 26th, 2010.

# A self-taught physicist with ideas to help Yemen

**M**ohammad Zaid, 30, has given lectures on physics at the University of Sana'a. He has been mentioned in the Yemeni press, and says that he has a plan for water desalination that could save the Yemeni government millions of dollars. But Mohammad doesn't even hold a bachelor's degree. All that Mohammad knows about physics past secondary school level, he taught himself. Despite high marks in physics at the end of high school, he was turned down for a scholarship to study physics in Egypt. He could not afford the USD 1,500 a year required from students with less than 70 percent average to study at the University of Sana'a, so he found books and educated himself. He read books from the libraries at Sana'a University and from the Center for Studies and Researches in Sana'a, where he was eventually employed to work in the library. He



has also discussed his ideas with researchers at the university, who have supported him in his quest for a scholarship abroad. Now, he has finally received a scholarship to study in China for five years. Mohammad Ghoath interviewed Mohammed Zaid for the Yemen Times

Academy of Sciences, but my means have not allowed me to continue to communicate with them.

#### Have you ever published any of your scientific research papers?

I hope that the satellite channels will allow me the opportunity to discuss some inventions with a group of physicists and professors of science, notably in mechanics.

I have worked with scientific researchers and professors at the University of Sana'a, including Dr. Ahmed Qasim Dammaj and Dr. Ali Al Haddad.

I have given lectures in physics and various scientific fields. I have contributed to the success of the first scientific culture project at the Afif Cultural Foundation in Sana'a in cooperation with the French Research Institute for Development.

#### Do you have the vision to make a nuclear bomb in the future?

Last year, I gave lectures at the University of Sana'a and published articles about the nuclear programs of countries like Britain, Germany, France, Russia Japan, and the US.

But I only worked on studies in this area for scientific research, which is not necessarily for wars but can be used

for others purposes such as peaceful energy.

#### Do you think that a higher degree in sciences is necessary for innovation?

If we read the history of the world's inventors, we will find that none of them have high qualifications or degrees. For example, Hertz held a diploma after high school, while Newton was the only one with a bachelor's degree.

#### When did you start to want to invent?

The idea began when I was still in high school, when I found that I loved to read. I began to concentrate on physics 13 years ago.

[After high school] I was able to develop my scientific talent and won the confidence of many professors at Sana'a University who allowed me to give several lectures to the students of sciences.

I also have worked on many studies on nuclear energy... In 2006-2007, I discussed many topics in this field with the professors and researchers at the University of Sana'a.

#### What are the most prominent of your new ideas?

One of my ideas is how to desalinate

water and treat wastewater with an easy scientific method that would reduce cost by more than fifty percent.

I have also designed a small generator to produce light for an entire region, and have the idea to send electricity from one phone to another. I have many ideas, but cannot implement them for lack of possibilities. I still have to conduct some research.

#### Have you tried to register your inventions with international foundations?

I am looking for scientific bodies to support me and record my work. But at the same time, I am looking for financial support because registering an invention and the name of the inventor is very expensive.

I tried to get in touch with the French

## INVITATION FOR PREQUALIFICATION

### WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION IN PROVINCIAL TOWNS PROGRAM II:

- \* LOT 2 PROJECT TOWN OF AL-SHEHR, REPUBLIC OF YEMEN
- \* EMERGENCY SANITATION MEASURES AL SHEHR

The above Project is jointly financed by the Federal Republic of Germany through the Kreditanstalt fur Wiederaufbau (KfW) and the Republic of Yemen through the Local Corporation for Water Supply and Sanitation Hadramout - Coastal Area. The Local Corporation, intends to prequalify contractors for four contract Packages for the following:

**Contract Package 1: Water Supply Transmission System:** Two (2) reinforced reservoirs 2,500 m<sup>3</sup> and 500 m<sup>3</sup>; DN400 transmission pipeline approx. 11 km; Two (2) chlorinators, Re-equipping of Six (6) wellheads; Overhead power line extension 300 m; Village water distribution tertiary pipelines approx. 2 km, and Procurement of vehicles and equipment.

**Contract Package 2: Water Distribution and Sewerage Al Shehr - East:** Water primary and secondary pipelines DN 500 to DN 80 approx. 16 km; Water tertiary network approx. 20 km and approx. 3,500 house connections; Sewerage collection system: pipelines, manholes etc. length approx. 20 km; and approx. 1,800 house connections.

**Contract Package 3: Water Distribution and Sewerage Al Shehr West:** Water primary and secondary pipelines DN 500 to DN 80 approx. 16 km; Water tertiary network approx. 20 km and approx. 3,500 house connections; Sewerage collection system: pipelines, manholes etc. length approx. 20km; and approx. 1,800 house connections.

**Contract Package 4: Coastal Collector Sewer, WWTP and Outfall:** Gravity sewer DN450 uPVC 750 m; PE force main DN400, 4,000 m; Two sewage pumping stations; Wastewater treatment plant (lagoon system) 2,250 m<sup>3</sup>/day; and Effluent pipeline DN600 300 m.

Pre-qualification will be governed by the KfW's 'Guidelines for Procurement of Supply and Work Contracts under Financial Cooperation with Developing Countries' and the pre-qualification procedures of the Yemeni High Tender Board. Pre-qualification documents may be purchased upon payment of a non refundable fee of US\$ 300.

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**Republic of Yemen**  
Tel. 00967 5 371589 / 371584  
Fax. 00967 5 371587

Project Manager of PEA  
Attn.: Eng. Saeed Frag Khanbash  
Mobile: 733 535911  
E-mail: khabash@y.net.ye  
Project Manager Consultant  
Attn: Keith Roberts  
E-mail: keith\_Roberts@dorsch.com.jo

Applicants may submit applications for pre-qualification for any number and combination of the four Contract Packages, only one application i.e. one set of completed prequalification documents comprising two copies, should be submitted even when more than one Contract Package is being applied for. Applications should be submitted in sealed envelopes, delivered to the above address on or before 21st June 2010 and be clearly marked as follows: "Application to Prequalify for Water Supply and Sanitation in Provincial Towns Program II, Lot 2 Town of Al-Shehr / Emergency Sanitation Measures Al Shehr, Contract Package No. (1, 2, 3 or 4 as applicable)". Two copies of the completed prequalification documents should be submitted by each Applicant.

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# مزمرز رمان



## الطعم أحلى والجلسة تحلى





## On the occasion of the World Labor Day: Yemenia awards its prominent employees



Photos by: Faisal Al-Qirbi and Bassam Al-Saqqaf

Yemenia Airlines on May 1 awarded in Sana'a 172 of its most prominent employees for 2009.

At the ceremony, the Chairman of the Board of the company, Captain Abdulkhaleq Al-Qadi confirmed that the celebration to award the company's prominent workers was in appreciation of their achievements during the past year in increasing production and reflecting a positive image of the



company to its clients. "This award gains special importance as it coincides with valuable occasion to all Yemenis of the twentieth anniversary of unification on May 22, and in thanks to efforts over the past year during which the company faced a lot of difficulties, especially the Yemenia plane crash on the coasts of Comoros in mid-2009," said Al-Qadi.

He noted the huge role of the political leadership represented by His Excellency President Ali Abdullah Saleh and his government who had instructed that strategies be applied to enforce the company's weight among its competitors in the market.

Al-Qadi also confirmed that the company is careful to raise its employees' salaries according to a new mechanism conditioned with productivity that enforces workers' capacities and awarding those who are working hard.

He indicated that the company has undertaken several administrative changes to increase productivity and said, "We have started this year and all of us are optimistic to achieve a lot of proposals and exert more effort to a better change."

He indicated that the company has achieved many projects, among which the establishment of a new private company focusing on food supply.

The company also would work in the coming period on converting the sectors of engineering and maintenance into independent departments, both financially and administratively to bring huge benefit to the company.



**Yemenia** اليمنية  
Yemen Airways الخطوط الجوية اليمنية  
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# Young actors struggle to make it in Yemen

By: Sadeq Al-Wesabi

**M**anal Al-Mulaiki, 22, dressed in white, twirled in the hand of her partner Khaled. Roars arose from the audience in disapproval. "What are you doing?" yelled one young man.

Manal dreams of being a famous actress and director. She is very ambitious, but complains of the limited amount of theatres and support from the Ministry of Culture, as well as social barriers to her career on stage.

Manal has acted in school and at university, where she is in her first year at the Faculty of Mass Communications and has participated in many theatre courses in Sana'a.

Well-known actors and directors think that she is talented, her friends told the Yemen Times, and she has the confidence to become a recognized face in Yemeni theatre.

"Theatre is a very difficult field, especially for girls, but I will face all the obstacles," she told the Yemen Times, explaining that although Yemeni society accepts theatre and actresses, it rejects some scenes. "I realize that this is a difficult specialization."

According to Manal, her family doesn't encourage her to act and many people have told her that there is no value in a career in the theatre: "My family told me that I'm in Yemen and that acting doesn't deserve my efforts," she said. "Others have said that I am only looking for fame."

Manal's struggle is echoed by many other young actors in Yemen.

Zoheir Husein started acting when he was a student at the University of Sana'a and he was always very enthusiastic about the theatre, but now he has decided to stop acting indefinitely. He says it is because directors always employ the same actors, no matter how much young aspiring actors struggle to obtain their place in Yemeni theatre.

"There are young Yemeni actors who



Young actors rehearse in the hallway at the Yemeni Cultural Center. A lack of facilities means that actors often have to improvise rehearsal venues, sometimes in the street.

could easily compete with Arab actors but they are marginalized," Khaled Al-Yusufi, who acts in plays beside his day job, told the Yemen Times. "For example, in Egypt, actors perform rehearsals inside the theatre while we sometimes have to in the street where the people come and disturb us."

Actors need financial and moral support from the Ministry of Culture, he said. When, for example, they take part in a play for International Theatre Day, the ministry should cover the cost of transport to and from rehearsals.

Al-Yusufi urged the government to set an appropriate budget for theatre.

#### 'Theatre to educate'

"The content of the theatre in Yemen is very good but needs support because

the theatre in Yemen is very important as a tool to educate people," said aspiring actress, Roa Yahya.

"Give me the theatre and I will give you an educated people," she said, quoting a famous Arabic proverb.

"The new generation has good issues, real feelings and great enthusiasm but there are no good employers to sustain those actors," she said, lamenting a lack of encouragement for young actors in Yemen.

#### Talent at qat sessions

But if a drama school with formal training and auditions for aspiring actors is missing in Yemen, the country's directors have their own, Yemeni way of spotting fresh talent.

"There is no academic qualification for aspiring, young actors, so we cannot find skilled actors and we resort to qat sessions to discover good actors," said Abdurrahman Dallaq, a director. "There are people with a sense of humor and real talent in qat sessions."

He noted, however that low wages often result in actors leaving the field.

#### No active syndicate

Many actors and directors complain about the absence of a Yemeni actors' syndicate to help find talent and support young actors, according to another director, Hasan Alwan.

"An artists' syndicate is not active and there is no plan to sustain young actors and offer them rewards," Alwan said of a particular syndicate that another actress said was "only for chewing qat."

Alwan lamented the absen-

ce of a drama school in Yemen.

"The young actors need a specialized library and institute to improve themselves, but there are no places for these purposes," Alwan told the Yemen Times, adding that directors often employ unskilled actors for want of a centre to find talent.



Photo courtesy of Zoheir Husein

Zoheir, 26, was very enthusiastic about acting but has given it up for a while because, he says, it will not cover the costs of his wedding.

Actress Mona Ali was discovered in a school theatre by well-known director, Dr. Fadhl Al-Olofi, but she feels depressed that she is being neglected by those responsible for art in Yemen. She says that many actors and traditional dancers in Yemen have positions at the Ministry of Culture and receive a monthly salary.

"I have been working in drama for eight years without being given a position at the Ministry of Culture or Ministry of Information," she said.

#### Schools and universities

Directors sometimes find their actors at schools and universities, director Amen Hezabr told the Yemen Times.

"I have discovered good actors through schools and universities where some students have an artistic flair," he said.

Hezabr also deplored actors' low wages and the lack of a drama school in Yemen, something that, he said, "leads to a loss of Yemeni heritage."

"We cannot convey our culture due to a lack of drama schools," he added.

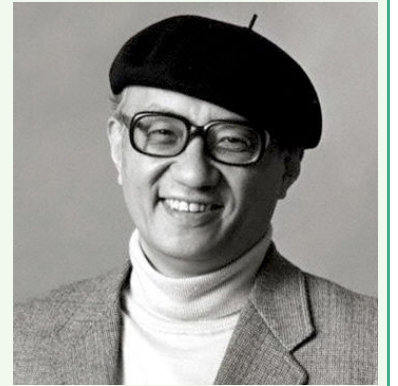
He advised young actors to have ethics, talent and culture, and always to remain professional.

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

### Osamu Tezuka A Japanese godfather of modern day manga

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



**O**samu Tezuka was a Japanese writer, inker, manga artist, screenwriter, animator, producer, director and medical doctor. Tezuka was born on November 3, 1928, in Toyonaka, city in Osaka Prefecture, Japan. At age five, Tezuka family moved to Kohama, city known today as Takarazuka, in Hyogo Prefecture. Tezuka entered Osaka Municipal Ikeda Elementary School at age seven. In 1945, he enrolled at Osaka University's Medical Division and in 1952 he passed the exam to become a practicing physician. Due to his great eagerness to draw, he chose to devote his life to manga (a Japanese style of comic books) and anime (a Japanese style of animated cartoon) rather than practice medicine. In 1953, Tezuka moved to Tokiwa-so apartment where later many young Japanese comic talents started their careers in. Tezuka started his own animation production company entitled "Mushi Productions" in 1961 but was disintegrated due to an internal strife in 1972. Consequently, he established another company known as "Tezuka Productions." During the 1980s, his work load slowly declined and he was more of a cultural icon and becoming a guest on many social events and TV interviews. He was also busy running his production company.

Tezuka as a manga artist and animator has created 700 stories which included more than 150,000 pages of manga and more than 60 anime that contained themes of progress, technology, environmentalism, tolerance, transformation and reincarnation. Many of his works are translated into English, French, German, Arabic and other languages. He was also remarkable for his output and sheer versatility with his adult strips, cute kiddy strips and science fiction. The most distinctive element of Tezuka's work was his "Cast" of recurring characters, a technique known as Star System, when he reused the same characters in different roles in different stories.

At age nine, Tezuka wrote his first manga which was modeled after himself and entitled "Bin Bin namachan." At age 11, he wrote the picture story "Kaseijin Kuru" (Martian Comes Over!) and his long manga "Shina no Yoru" (Night in China). From the age of 18, Tezuka worked at a furious pace and dozens of different stories published in newspapers, magazines and books. In 1946, Tezuka made his professional debut with comic "Maachan no nikki-cho" (Diary of Maachan). After one year, he published "Shin Takara Jima" (New Treasure Island), a story about a boy who discovers a map to Treasure Island, which became a best-seller with 500,000 copies sold.

Tezuka published "Metropolis" in 1946 about a private detective who tries to take care of a robot after its creator is murdered. This science-fiction manga has been adapted into an anime and was released in 2001. "Jangaru Taitie" (Jungle Emperor or Kimba the White Lion, published in 1950) is one of Tezuka's most iconic creations. This manga follows the adventures of "Leo", the white lion, as he seeks to succeed his late father as the king of the jungle. In 1965, Tezuka introduced the use of color in the made-for-television animated series which were based on two of his print manga of "Jungle Emperor."

Tezuka most famous creation is "Tetsuwan Atomu" (Astro Boy) which was first published in 1952 and broadcast in Japan in 1963. The story follows the adventures of a fictional android that fights crime, evil and injustice and most of his enemies are robot-hating humans, mad robots and alien invaders. "Astro Boy" was remade in the 1980s in the United States and other countries and again in 2003. Also, a computer-animated feature movie version based on the original manga series was released in the late 2009. Tezuka's published his manga entitled "Ribon no Kishi" (Princess Knight), known in Arabic as "Al-Fata Yaqaot", through four serializations from 1954 to 1968 as well as a 1967 Japanese children's animated series. This manga is an adventure drama about Princess Sapphire who must pretend to be a male prince so she can inherit the throne instead of Duke Duralumon who is an evil man and would represent the people if he would become the king. Tezuka's life's work, which started in 1954 and serialized until 1989, was entitled "Hi no Tori" (Phoenix). It is about reincarnation and deals with humans' quest for immortality. It consists of 12 books each of which tells a separate, independent story and takes place in different era. "Black Jack" (1973-1983) is Tezuka's best loved series which expresses Tezuka's ideals of the medical profession. This manga discusses the life of Black Jack, a charismatic but sinister surgical genius who travels the world performing impossible feats of surgery.

Among Tezuka's other notable works are "Ambassador Magma" (1966-1967), "Ode to Kirihito" (1970-1971), "Adolf" (1983-1985), "Jumping" (1984), and his posthumously works including "In the Beginning: The Bible Stories" (1997) and "Pluto" (2003-2009).

Among prestigious awards Tezuka received are Shogakukan Manga Award (1958, 1983), Japan Mangaka Association Award (1975), Kodansha Manga Award (1977, 1986), Hiroshima International Animation Festival Award (1985), Asahi Award for Creative Achievements (1988), Nihon SF Taisho Award (1989) and Eisner Award (2004, 2005). In 1994, the Osamu Tezuka Museum of Manga in Takarazuka was opened and commemorative Japanese stamps were issued in his honor in 1997.

Tezuka died on February 9, 1989, and was buried in Tokyo's Souzen-ji Temple Cemetery. One explanation for the popularity of manga and anime in Japan is that this country had Tezuka whereas other nations did not. He really adored his work, blurring the line between dedication and addiction. His last words when he died were: "I am begging you, let me work."



"Where are you now?", Yemen's first play entirely in mime, was performed for International Theatre Day in March. Manal, left, caused a stir among the audience when she linked hands with her fellow male actor as part of the choreography.

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# Only in Yemen! From a vegetable to a phone



Before: a gourd, traditionally used in Yemen as a milk jug.

By: Layla Mohammad  
For the Yemen Times

It's bright orange, pear-shaped, and has three feet. Its head is topped with leather tassels. You may not believe it, but it's a phone.

"This phone was actually once a gourd used as a milk jug," explains Saleh Al-Kawkabani, who says that he is the phone's original supplier in the Yemeni capital's old city.

His friend Abdullah Al-Omari first came up with the idea 15 years ago.

The phone is made from a gourd, or the hard outer skin of a tall local pumpkin. The vegetable originally weighs 20 kilos before it is dried out for 3 or 4 months. When it is dry, it needs to be cleaned and peeled, according to Saleh.

Next the phone's creator, Al-Omari, cuts the gourd into pieces to put the phone inside. He varnishes it. Next comes the leather.

"He cuts out shapes [in the leather] that he improvises such as a starfish," says Saleh. "...It takes about a week to finish this masterpiece."



After: a shiny leather phone, complete with three feet and decorative tassels.

The object is unique, because the remarkable idea behind it is quintessentially Yemeni, says Saleh.

Saleh warns off less talented craftsmen who might be tempted to copy the craft. One person tried to imitate the vegetable phone two years ago, he says, but without success as he lacked the talent.

"This phone attracts a lot of people, whether Yemenis or foreigners," says the salesman, adding that customers come from France, Germany, and the Gulf.

"The Ministry of Tourism takes a lot of them as gifts for delegates," he

adds.

Being creative doesn't require much, says Saleh. You don't have to study to be innovative. The phone he sells is proof.

4U

If you would like to call your friends from a vegetable, visit Al-Kawkabani for Electronics in the main street of the souq at Bab Al-Yemen in the old city of Sana'a. To find your way, call (01) 281219.

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## Press Release

### The OMEGA Constellation Ladies Quartz 35 mm

#### OMEGA's re-designed Constellation line

In 1982, OMEGA launched the first Constellation to feature the radical and enduring "Griffes" or claws, which immediately placed the watch line among the ranks of the world's most instantly identifiable timepieces. OMEGA redesigned the entire Constellation family last year and in 2010 is proud to introduce some of its newest members.

#### In fashionable brown

The very latest addition to the Constellation Ladies Quartz 35 mm family combines the elegance of its 18 Ct red gold case body with the rich, dark brown tones of the dial. There is a faceted date window at 6 o'clock and the other hours are marked with eleven graduated diamonds. The dial is enhanced by a supernova pattern emanating from the date window.

Presented on a brown alligator leather strap, it is an uncompromisingly fashionable watch which will also complement the most casual wardrobe. The Roman numerals on the brushed 18 Ct red gold bezel are coated with white Super-LumiNova.

#### In timeless white

This white Constellation Ladies Quartz 35 mm timepiece with a polished 18 Ct red gold case and a white alligator leather strap is an ideal accessory for any wardrobe. Adding to its allure are the eleven single-cut diamond hour markers which are graduated, increasing in size on each side of the dial from the round faceted date window at six o'clock. Its



dramatic brushed 18 Ct red gold bezel features Roman numerals coated with white Super-LumiNova.

The silver lacquered dial features a supernova pattern which explodes from the Constellation star.

#### In shades of black and grey

Another of the year's dramatic offerings is the Constellation Ladies Quartz 35 mm with a black alligator leather strap and a shaded grey dial. This striking watch has a bezel paved with 34 full-cut diamonds. Its eleven single-cut diamond hour markers, which are increasingly graduated from the round faceted date window at six o'clock, are in sharp relief to the supernova pattern on the dial which emanates from the Constellation star.

Each version of the Constellation Ladies Quartz 35 mm is powered by OMEGA's quartz calibre 1532. Their vertically-brushed casebacks are embossed with the Constellation Observatory medallion. The white Super-LumiNova coating their polished faceted hour and minute hands makes them easy to read in all light conditions.

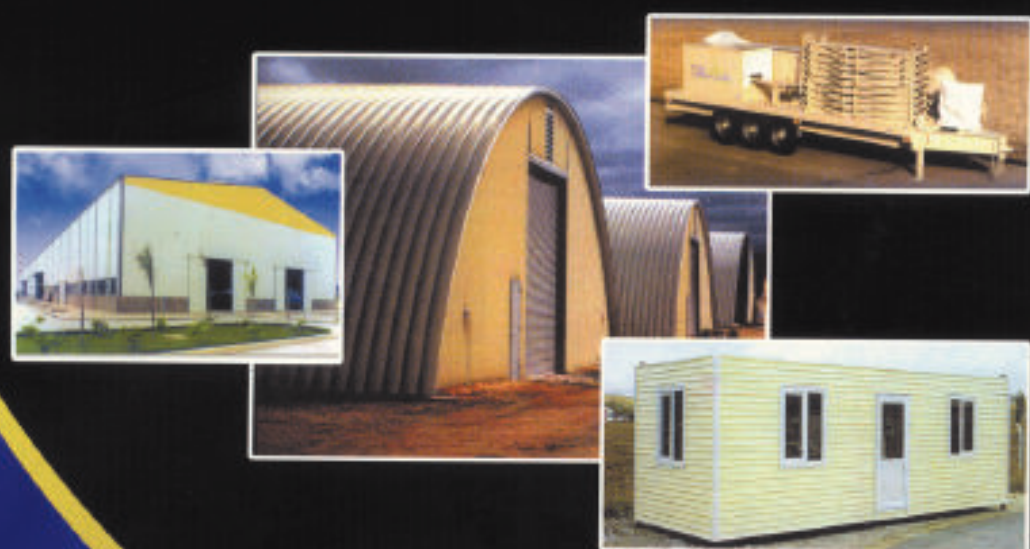
#### Three classic Constellations

The "watch with the claws" has been turning heads for 28 years. These diamond-enhanced 35 mm timepieces are among the stars in the Constellation line, blending classic wristwatch design, outstanding performance and the eternal popularity of diamonds.

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