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Prosecution objects to the president's amnesty

By: Ali Saeed

SANA'A, June 6 — The prosecution in Sana'a has objected to the president's amnesty on four Yemeni citizens accused of supporting the Houthis and spying for Iran.

This objection came during a trial session of four defendants on Sunday morning at the Specialized Penal Court in the capital. The prosecution said that the amnesty is illegal as the defendants are still being tried and no verdict has been issued against them.

"Amnesty comes after a verdict not before. The defendants are still under trial procedures," said the prosecution member.

The defendants are Waleed Sharaf Al-Din, Mumar Al-Abdali, Sadeq Al-Sharafi and Abdullah Al-Dailami.

They were arrested seven months ago under the accusation of supporting

the Houthis with money and arms as well as spying for Iran.

At the beginning of the trial session, defendants complained to the judge Ridwan Al-Namer who headed the session that they have been mistreated in jail.

"We are only permitted to go to the bathroom five times a day and our [facial] hair has been left for one month without shaving," said one of the defendants.

He added that they also are banned from reading any book in jail except the Quran.

The four detainees complained about conditions in the Political Security Prison and asked to be transferred to the Central Security Prison, but the judge, Ridwan Al-Nimer, told them that there was nothing wrong with the Political Security Prison, that was a legal detention facility.

The president granted all political conscience prisoners amnesty on May 22 on the occasion of the 20th anniversary of Yemen's unity, but until now those who were detained with the accusation of being involved in the Sa'ada conflict are still in jail.

Ali Al-Asmi, one of the defendants' lawyers told the Yemen Times that the prosecution is not entitled to interpret the amnesty declaration.

"The only person who can interpret the amnesty is the Minister of Justice or the president himself," said Al-Asmi.

During the session, Al-Asmi demanded to stop the trial procedures of his clients since they were pardoned by the president.

However, the prosecution said that the four clients are not included in the amnesty decree as they are being accused of spying for a foreign country.



From right to left, Waleed Sharaf Al-Din, Abdullah Al-Dailami, Mumar Al-Abdali, and Sadeq Al-Sharafi

Judge Al-Nimer concluded the session to be continued after two weeks.

Earlier, Ali Al-Dailami, executive director of the Yemeni Organization for Defending Rights and Freedoms, told the Yemen Times that there are over 206 Sa'ada detainees in the capital, of which around 125 are being tried by the Specialized Penal Court.

A family member of one Sa'ada detainee told the Yemen Times last Monday that she goes to the political Security Prison every day with other families awaiting the release of the detainees.

But she said that over one week have passed without any result.

The families of the four detainees who were accused of supporting the Houthis and spying for Iran have sent a letter to the president urging him to direct officials at detention facilities to release their relatives.

Ruling party calls for dialogue, JMP lays out conditions

By: Mohammad Bin Sallam

SANA'A, June 5 — Yemen's ruling party, the General People's Congress (GPC), announced last Friday that the preparation for dialogue with the opposition parties will start in on Saturday.

The opposition parties, the Joint Meeting Parties (JMP), expressed their reservation over the dialogue and demanded that it include opposition parties outside Yemen.

They also demanded that all detainees accused of supporting the Houthis in the northern governorate of Sa'ada or the Southern Movement in the south be released as announced by the president on May 22.

A source who asked to remain anonymous said that after the JMP promised to sit at the dialogue table after they met Abdulkareem Al-Eryani, former prime minister and political advisor to the president, according to the Ministry of Defense's website.

The general secretary of the Nasserite opposition party Sultan Al-Atwani told the Yemen Times in a phone call that what was published in the website is false news and that nothing of the sort might take place in current times.

"The JMP wants to take part in the dialogue but the dialogue should be preceded by releasing all the prisoners arrested over the Sa'ada and the Southern Movement issues," said Al-

Atwani. "The orders by President Saleh to release the prisoners should not be neglected. The dialogue must give a chance for parties inside and outside Yemen."

Ali Al-Sarari, member of the Socialist Party doubted the true intentions of the ruling party to start a dialogue.

"I do not think that the dialogue will take place because the prisoners were not released as the president ordered," Al-Sarari said.

Aidaros Al-Naqeeb, the head of Socialist Party, stressed that the dialogue would not take place if Southern Movement members outside Yemen were not involved.

Al-Naqeeb expressed his pessimism over the potential success of the dialogue because the movement leaders outside Yemen had been excluded.

"Saleh earlier said that no one will be excluded from the national dialogue, but now only the parliament members are to take part in it," Al-Naqeeb added.

Mohammad Abdulmajeen Al-Qubati, the public relations manager in the GPC told the Yemen Times that what is going on is only meetings between the political advisor of the president and the opposing parties.

"The dialogue has not started yet," He said.

On Thursday, Saleh invited the opposition parties to return to the dialogue table.

"Politicians should all participate in the dialogue and to be united for the sake of Yemen's unity and stability," Saleh said. "Yemen is more important than us all. We welcome everybody

as long as they are not conceited. We welcome serious dialogue without any procrastination."

The preparatory committee of the national dialogue conducted a meeting in Sana'a in June 2-3 2010 under the motto of "Together to save Yemen". The meeting was headed by Mohammad Ba Sundwa, the head of the National Dialogue Preparation Committee ad member of the opposition JMP. The opening session was attended by civil society organizations, party leaders, dignitaries, ambassadors and international organizations representatives.

During the meeting solutions to end the crises in Yemen and to revive the country were discussed. Sa'ada and the Southern Movement issues were also discussed.

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Australian woman detained on suspected links to Al-Qaeda to be deported

By: Nisreen Shadad
For the Yemen Times

SANA'A, June 6 — Shyloh Giddins, an Australian citizen currently being held in a Yemeni prison on charges of terrorism, will soon be deported back to Australia, has said her lawyer Abdurrahman Barman.

"There is a promise from security bodies that Shyloh Giddins is about to be deported back to Australia with her two children," said Barman.

Giddins was arrested on May 15. She

came to Yemen to live in an Islamic country and worked as an English teacher.

During Barman's visit to Giddins on Saturday, she complained of the way they deal with her in the prison.

"They deal with me in a different way. They told me I have the chance to get letters, send letters, contact my children and meet people. But that's not true. Other detainees have television, but I don't," Giddins complained.

However, after negotiation with the prison administration, Giddins was able

to speak with her two children, Omar, 7, and Amina, 5, for the first time for 12 minutes.

"Detainees in the political security prison are not allowed to speak or meet anyone - they should be incommunicado," Barman told the Yemen Times.

"Giddins was transferred to the female prison under the Ministry of Interior because she is a woman, which allows me to visit her," Barman said. "I am not able to meet my clients in the political security prison."

Her children are under house arrest

and they tell anybody they can her arrest story, Barman said.

The deputy head of Australian Consulate, Roy Clogstoun, follows Giddins case in Yemen and the Yemeni authority has not clarified the reasons behind her arrest.

Those who are involved in political and criminal cases are referred immediately to the prosecution.

The promise to release Giddins has given Barman hope, he said.

Yemen must change its justice system, says lawyer

By: Sadeq Al-Wesabi

SANA'A, June 6 — Lawyer and human rights activist Khaled Al-Ansi called for fairer trials and the introduction of a jury into the Yemeni justice system, in a lecture at the Afif Cultural Foundation last Tuesday.

Al-Ansi urged judges to hold hearings attended by the accused before passing a sentence on them, instead of issuing random sentences.

"This will help judges to get to know the personality of the accused and why he/she committed the crime," he said.

In Yemen, where arbitrary arrests are common according to human rights organizations, political detainees can be held for years without trial and are sometimes sentenced in court sessions that they are not informed about and therefore do not attend.

International human rights organizations have repeatedly criticized Yemen for arbitrary arrests, enforced disappearances, and detention without trial. The US Department of State reported earlier this year that the judiciary in Yemen is weak, corrupt and lacks independence.

As for drug offenses, Al-Ansi called on the Ministry of Justice to implement the US experience in referring those accused of committing crimes under the

influence of drugs to facilities that can treat their addiction, instead of directly to prison.

He said that those referred to rehabilitation clinics for treatment never returned to drugs, while those sent to prison never lost their addiction.

"Those accused of committing crimes want society to help them and give them the chance to change," he said.

"Kidnapping is one of the most dangerous crimes in the world, but we deal with kidnapping in Yemen as if it were heroism," he said. "Sheikhs and tribesmen always boast that they kidnap foreigners and soldiers and this leads to increasing the crime rate."

The lawyer stressed the need of a jury in the Yemeni justice system.

"In court judgments, we must take society's judgment into consideration because some convicts are accused by the government, but society considers them to be heroes," he said.

"We should implement the idea of a jury, one that has achieved justice in [different] societies," he confirmed.

Al-Ansi said that the state is not interested in protecting society but itself.

"Political issues are given more attention than other issues and that's why ordinary crimes increase by the day," he added.

Human rights activists have called the Specialized Penal Court in Sana'a the "State Security Court" as it often tries opponents to the government.

Al-Ansi stressed the need for alternative methods of punishment.

Prison doesn't deter people from committing crimes, but on the contrary may increase the crime rate, according to Al-Ansi.

"Jurisprudence through compensation has achieved good results, because people fear paying money so they stop committing crimes," he added.

Harsher judgment on women

"We have different opinions about female and male criminals. Our society determines punishment according to a person's sex more than according to the actual crime," said Al-Ansi.

"If the prisoner is female, she will be severely punished by society, whereas society considers male prisoners to be heroes and that's why the crime rate among women is less than men," he said.

Al-Ansi explained that Yemeni society deals with women's crimes as an unforgivable sin and that some people may kill a guilty woman.

"Women prisoners face more severe punishment by society after their release

from prison," he added.

"People who cruelly punish guilty woman do not follow the repentance and forgiveness mentioned in the Quran," he said. "We want to implement our Islamic values properly because sometimes poverty in Yemen is the primary motive for women committing crimes."

Continued from Page 1

Ruling party calls for dialogue, JMP lays conditions

Hameed Bin Abdullah Al-Ahmar, the general secretary for the National Dialogue Committee, thanked the European Union and the Arabs for their helping conduct such dialogue to solve Yemen's problems and create agreement between the state and its people.

He called on the state to release the remaining political prisoners.

During the session on Wednesday, former president Ali Nasser Mohammad spoke to participants about his support for national dialogue as a means of getting out of the current crises and achieving national interests.

Houthis were present in the session.

They supported the dialogue and expressed their intention to work with the committee to end the war's effects on the country and people.

The participants discussed the updates in the southern governorates in which many districts have been under siege. Sa'ada's situation after war was also among the topics discussed as well as the possibility of the Houthis joining the national dialogue to start a new phase.

In the same context, member of the National Dialogue Committee Tawakul Karman, former head of the journalists' syndicate Abdulbari Tahir, member of the parliament Ahmad Saif Hashed, and university professor Mohammad

Jubran resigned from the National Dialogue Committee.

They said that they resigned because of committee procedures. They said that they are afraid that the National Dialogue Preparation Committee ends other minor parties and create its own.

They expressed their depression over the failure of the National Dialogue Committee because, in practice, it helped to do nothing. It only was able to conduct meetings and announce statements.

They also said that the committee lacks transparency, and that its presidency gives some members of the committee salaries although it is supposed to be unpaid volunteering work.

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Fatal clashes strain Sa'ada ceasefire

SANAA, 1 June 2010 (IRIN) — A fragile ceasefire between the army and Houthi-led rebels in northern Yemen has been put under renewed strain following the deaths of three government followers in clashes with the rebels that left a dozen others injured, local witnesses from the Bani Awair area of Saada Governorate said.

"Both sides used small and medium-sized weapons in the fighting that broke out after Houthis tried to take control of a village in the area [in Bani Awair] to set up a training camp for their followers," Mohamed Shaya, a Bani Awair resident, told IRIN on 31 May.

The Houthis accuse Bani Awair local authorities of giving fighters cash and weapons to attack their followers.

"Local tribesmen, receiving support from the government, set up an ambush against many of our men, killing one of them and injuring another two," Houthi spokesman Mohammed Abdussalam said, adding that the Houthis were determined to uphold the 11 February ceasefire despite provocation.

He accused the government of fomenting tensions just as life was gradually returning to some sort of normality in the war-ravaged north, a charge the government denied and lobbed back at the rebels.



Growing tension in Sa'ada hinders the return of thousands of IDPs.

Abdullah Dhahban, a Saada council member, said the government was determined to restore peace and stability to Saada and blamed Houthis for hindering the return of internally displaced persons (IDPs) to their homes.

"Efforts to promptly return IDPs have stopped as a result of ongoing violations committed by Houthi gunmen," Dhahban said.

According to aid agencies, more than 250,000 people have been dis-

placed by the six-year-old conflict. Very few have returned due to the volatile situation in Saada.

According to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), progress in implementing the six ceasefire conditions of the "sixth Saada war" since 2004 is very slow and the situation remains fragile.

"There is some concern that unless the underlying causes of the conflict are addressed with a comprehensive peace agreement, there may be further

unrest," OCHA said.

Many analysts expect a seventh war to erupt at any time because the real causes of the dispute have not been addressed by the government.

"The government should examine the real demands of Houthis as Yemeni citizens and begin addressing them like other governments worldwide do in dealing with similar problems," Mohammed al-Dhahri, a political science professor at Sanaa University, told IRIN

European Union art competition encourages modern art

By: Alice Hackman

SANAA, June 6 — Young artists, get to your canvases! The European Union's delegation in Yemen is organizing a painting and sculpture competition to award young artists for their talent.

All entries, either the original or a high-quality scanned copy of the work, must be in by June 15. The ten best artists, chosen by a panel of two Yemenis and two Europeans, will be

awarded 500 Euros each.

The competition's theme, light, was chosen specifically to encourage abstract and modern art over figurative representations, Silke Nikolay, spokesperson for the art competition at the delegation, told the Yemen Times.

"There is something special about this light," she said of the "soft light" in Yemen that inspired the theme.

The art contest is part of the European delegation's other culture

activities following European Week on May 8, including a photography exhibition at the National Museum in Sana'a and tree-planting in the old city of Sana'a.

Activities were not held during European Week for security reasons, following the failed suicide attack against the British Ambassador in late April, according to Nikolay.

"We need more activities like this," Amna Al-Nasiri, professor of art philosophy and esthetics at

Sana'a University, told the Yemen Times.

Al-Nasiri, who will be one of the judges in the competition, said that she hoped the competition would be held next year too.

She said that the contest, open to Yemeni and non-Yemeni residents in Yemen, was important both to show the world what Yemenis can do and to show Yemeni artists what others are doing outside.

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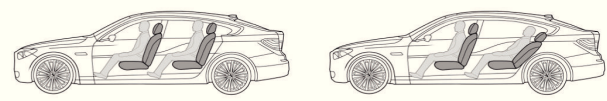
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The British man who built Hodeida airport

To Colin Everard, Yemen is not just a place on a map or a place you read about in the papers. It is a country to which he contributed decades ago, before the world news placed it in the headlines. Nadia Al-Sakkaf met with Colin in Vienna to talk about his experience of Yemen, which dates back to 1976.



Colin Everard

and was given a job as a field officer to help and control locusts with the Desert Locusts Control Organization (LCO) supported by the countries of Eastern and North Eastern Africa. Yemen and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia were also in a way part of the organization's work as the locusts' migration cycle includes these two countries.

The LCO received subsidies from the British government. Although I started at a low level when I joined in 1952, within 10 years, I had become the director of the organization.

Soon the LCO was integrated into the United Nation's Food and Agriculture Organization. I attended a management meeting in Addis Ababa and realized that under the organizational structure as it was, it would never function properly, so I left.

The next year, the locusts ate everything. The farmers had two choices: whether to starve to death or kill themselves. I saw many hang themselves on trees. As I did not want to be associated with such a tragic failure, I went home.

During the last three years of my work with the LCO we had developed an effective program, spraying locusts using planes. I had therefore taken a pilot's license and learned how to fly small aircrafts.

When I went back to London in 1968, the secretariat general of East Africa called me and said that the way things turned out was terrible and that they wanted me back. He said that I would be given a better job. I went back and for four years I administrated an organization against sleeping sickness called Trypanosomiasis.

During this period I discovered the field of logistics, and realized that in Eastern Africa they were wasting huge sums of money every day and every year because they were not organized. I took a qualification in logistics and became

a fellow of the institute of purchasing, and the Royal Aeronautical Society, the highest ranking body in the world in aviation.

It was then that I suggested to the chief of treasury in East Africa that it would be a good idea to train people in logistics. He agreed and I trained all supplies officers in the 15 departments. Then we received a letter from the President of Tanzania, asking us to establish a proper logistics organization and asking me to be chief.

In January 1971, I started work with the International Civil Organization as chief of world logistics. The purpose of my job was to establish minimum standards of safety for civil aviation and ensure that technical cooperation bureaus implemented those standards.

I realized my role had already been pivotal in introducing certain improvements and that, as I had a very good team, our work could be expanded to push through more progress, especially if we took on more people.

We initiated the Civil Aviation Purchasing Services (CAPS), which was a nonprofit organization, registered in many countries, which bought equipment worth at the time around USD 150 million.

The Yemen story

I used to get around 50 telexes every morning and distribute them to my staff. One morning in 1976 one of them read:

"We are sending this letter from the government of Yemen. We wish to register in your organization and our first purchase would be an airport."

Yemen had an airport in Sana'a and Taiz. In Hodeida they had a strip but it was not really usable.

That year, I made my first visit to Yemen, and there we made an agreement under which we would support the government in building the airport and Yemen would provide the money in installments. We made a plan for construction and I said to the minister in charge, whose name was Al-Haimi, we will build a 3,000 meter runway with threshold edge lighting, a control tower and also suggested a terminal building for the passengers and he agreed.

We chose a British company, Costain,

that was already working in Saudi Arabia. The company and the Yemeni government had some differences of opinion and so I flew to Yemen to sort out the problems.

I spent two days there and was able to sort out most of the issues, but not the last point. At that moment the Yemeni minister stood up and called everything off. The company representative also got up and said they were sorry they could not go ahead with the agreement and tried to leave.

We had been working on the project for two years! As I saw the two parties disagree and part ways, all the work of two years went through my mind, the studies we had made and all the discussions we had had. I was mad. I decided I could not let this happen and we couldn't afford to start the process all over again.

I jumped up and went to the door, locked it and put the key in my pocket. I said, "You are both gentlemen and have to behave as gentlemen, not the way you are behaving. We have come a long way, let's meet half way and make an agreement."

Astonishingly it worked and they both sat down and started talking again. I quickly made them write out the agreement and sign it before they could change their minds.

The Yemeni government got the money as a long term credit from Iraq. The Iraqis were not only nice people but also very competent and well organized. The airport cost USD 40 million. Although the Iraqis agreed to give the money to Yemen, they only released the funds from Baghdad in stages, after inspections by experts from Iraq.

The Hodeida project was a success. We had built the airport in 21 months and within the budget! In 1979, the deputy prime minister of Iraq came for the inauguration.

We even had a crash landing and fire rescue system installed and we trained the local staff on how to act when fire broke out. When we had finished Hodeida airport, I suggested to the minister that we could equip all the other airports in Yemen. Thankfully, we were just in time: In 1981 an Airbus craft caught fire in Sana'a airport. The fire fighting vehicle

and fire fighters rushed to the site and extinguished the fire in no time and no one was injured.

My Hodeida weekends

During the implementation of the Hodeida project, I used to go there every weekend to follow up on the progress. I used to call them my Hodeida weekends. I had hired an excellent Egyptian project manager called Tharwat Al-Husaini to supervise the work.

At one point we had 40 engineers working on the site and we hired a Pakistani engineer called Ahmed to monitor the contractor. Everything was progressing nicely.

I am proud to say that our company had access to the best engineers in the world. When we needed anything we just looked for the best expert on the issue and they had to make themselves available to us in 5 to 7 days. We used the finest expertise in the building of the airport in Hodeida.

One day while I was visiting Yemen in 1979, Ahmed, the monitoring engineer, seemed very distant and not as active as usual. I asked him what was wrong and he said that, because of some construction near his home, the electricity had been disconnected.

"I have had to change my sleeping hours. This means I get up very early in the morning and work only during daylight hours. Once it gets dark, I just go to bed," he complained to me.

I felt this was not in the interest of the government, so I asked if I could see the governor of Hodeida. The meeting was arranged for the next day. I was taken in a jeep and on the way to his palace, we stopped and I was asked to get out. Then some militia with rifles and belts stuffed with bullets approached me. They asked me to get into another vehicle and with a huge escort I was taken to the palace.

They pointed at some stairs leading to a huge wooden door and left. I hesitantly walked up the stairs and after crossing the front door a man was standing just inside. He guided me to another door which led to a long, ornate reception room with a big red carpet down the middle. At the far end sat the governor, a middle-aged man with a rather large beard. He wore a serious expression as he asked me to sit

down. For a long time all he did was look at me, and, whether I smiled or not, his expression did not change. I stayed quiet wondering whether I should just get up and leave or whether I would even get out of that room alive.

Eventually, through his interpreter, he conveyed that I was very welcome and that he hoped all was well.

".. and if there is anything I can help with you must tell me," said the interpreter on behalf of the governor.

So I said, "Thank you, everything is well, but before I give you some details I would like to raise one very important point." He nodded at me, so I continued.

I drew his attention to the very large project we were undertaking and explained that our engineer from Pakistan could not function at full capacity because the main cable going to his house had been cut.

"May I please have your assurance that it will be repaired as quickly as possible?" I said.

He looked at me with a stony expression. He said he had nothing further to discuss with me and bid me farewell. So I bowed and departed. As I walked down the stairs I heard from behind me one of the armed escorts cocking his rifle. There were three of them so I turned around and said "Please don't shoot me!"

They asked me to move on and not turn round. It felt like an eternity simply walking back to the street. The three escorts didn't really say anything, but the sound of their metal weaponry jangling was deafening. I was expecting a bullet in the back of my head any second.

When I got back, I tried to brush the incident aside and carried on with meetings that day and the next. The following morning, the Pakistani engineer, Ahmed, showed up refreshed and excited. You can guess what had happened.

During the two years we spent building the airport, we worked very hard to provide a quality product. I even examined every inch of the 3000 meter runway myself. I have included a chapter in my autobiography on my time in Hodeida. I called it: "How to build an airport by trying."

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Words of Wisdom



Many countries hold elections. Even when these are not rigged, they tend to cement the old patron-clientele relations in a new grab. The reason is that the people in power use their connections (and state funds, media, bureaucracy, etc.) to achieve the election results they want. The result is that they create docile parliaments. Elections thus end up enabling those in power to hold on to it.

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



OUR OPINION

Most useless government procedure contest

Cecilia Velázquez from Mexico received USD 22,000 from the Mexican president Felipe Calderón. She had participated in a contest launched by the government for the most bureaucratic, inconvenient governmental process. The Mexican government created this contest to make the people involved in reforming the governmental processes and make them less problematic.

Cecilia had to obtain seven signatures in a process that took from four up to 15 days to obtain expensive medicine for her sick son. She had to do this every month. When she heard about the contest which was publicized in the local media, she entered and won first prize.

Obviously, in addition to winning USD 22,000, the authorities promised to fix the problem.

When I read this news I was thinking: Wow, the government gives her expensive medicine for her child regularly.

Then I was thinking: The Mexican government wants to reform itself and become more "public-friendly".

Then I thought: The president paid a citizen thousands of dollars because she told him how bad his government was!

And finally I thought: And this contest is a regular event!

The rest of the day, as you can imagine, I kept day dreaming.... How rich the Yemeni people would become if they reported on the many inconvenient silly most bureaucratic and time consuming paperwork.

Just imagine, a Yemeni citizen going to a government office and as he or she is filling the application, he/she stares at the clerk saying: You don't want your department being highlighted as this month's most tedious government process, do you?

The clerk fumbles with the applications, you can see cold sweat beads trickling down his head and he smiles awkwardly: "Of course not, Mr./ Ms. So and so... We pride ourselves in being the most efficient department. Why don't you sit down and have a cup of tea, while I run around and get your paperwork done."

Imagine if the USD 22,000 was actually taken from the department starting from the director down the line of command. Perhaps not the very low level clerks because maybe they don't have a say, but definitely the managers because they should have known and done something about it. Although from what I read, bureaucrats and bureaucracies cited in the Mexican grievance were not punished, but their jobs might change: some procedures will be eliminated, others will be better streamlined.

Imagine how empowered the citizens will be and how accountable the government officials will be forced to be.

While I was day dreaming and imagining this beautiful world our "bless his heart" president created for us, the power went off like it does several times every day and I immediately snapped out of my day dreaming.

Well, what are you going to do? Anyways, here is to the Mexican president and all the people who thought of this contest and who understood that their job is to sever the citizens not the other way round.

Nadia Al-Sakkaf

Good morning, Yemen?
The mouse that roared was funnier

By: Leon T. Hadar
Huffington Post

Say what you want about the neoconservative-driven U.S. military adventures and democracy promotion in the Broader Middle East, but in theory - again, the emphasis here is on theory or abstract thinking -- it reflected the expectations that the United States could and should follow in the footsteps of Great Britain and attain Pax Americana in a region that has major geo-strategic significance (Persian Gulf), a lot of oil (Iraq), and even notable religious sites (the Holy Land) and a few Christian communities (Lebanon).

And I suppose that applying the historical analogies of post-Germany and Japan, one could have fantasized about democratizing societies that are so unlike Germany and Japan. Moreover, doing empire can be quite romantic. Recall former President George W. Bush discussing Afghanistan with American military and civilian personnel via teleconference: "It must be exciting for you, in some ways romantic, in some ways, you know, confronting danger," he said. "You're really making history, and thanks."

We know how the British-made imperial Mideast production ended. I do not expect a happy ending to the current American remake. If anything, the notion that we are now about to expand our military involvement into Yemen by launching a new front in the "war on terror" in the poorest country in the Arab world, that is not a state but a collection of rival tribes and extended-families, that has proved to be beyond the control of global players (Britain; Russia) and regional players (Ottomans; Saudis; Egypt), and that has no strategic significance, no oil, no notable religious sites, not Christians, no nothing, is, well, mind-boggling.

And before you know, we are going to have experts on Yemen (hey, every dog has his day) showing up on television news shows, joined by lobbyists for foreign-aid, NGO types, human rights advocates, and let us not forget the "terrorism experts" and "military analysts" lecturing us that the time has come to shift our atten-

tion to Yemen - "attention" aka U.S. dollars and military forces.

This is not a figment of my neo-interventionist mind. See, for example, this recent news story in USA Today:

"Although American officials have been saying for years that Yemen's instability poses a terrorism threat, annual U.S. military and development aid to that country in the past decade has been less than \$50 million, government records show, a fraction of the sums sent to its regional neighbors.

"It makes no sense," said Christopher Boucek, a Yemen expert at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. "Yemen has been on people's radar for a long time. Pakistan gets a billion a year. The commitment of resources to Yemen doesn't match the scope of the problem."

And this bipartisan Yemen, Mon Amour:

"Sen. Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., who has pushed for more Yemen aid as chairman of the subcommittee that funds the State Department, added, "As long as Yemen wants our help in countering al-Qaeda, we should continue to make it a priority to find effective ways to support them."

"Although Yemen is the poorest country in the Middle East, the United States was sending just a few million a year in development assistance before the 9/11 attacks, according to State Department budget records. In 2003, when the U.S. Agency for International Development re-opened its mission in the country after a seven-year absence, civilian aid to the country more than doubled, but remained a paltry \$15 million, records show.

"This year, total State Department aid will be about \$63 million, including \$12.5 million to buy military equipment. Yemen got \$67 million in military aid from the Defense Department last year, records show. This year's amount is undetermined.

"Even after the increases, aid to Yemen pales compared with the \$2.8 billion the Obama administration will send to Afghanistan, where U.S. troops are at war, or even the \$238 million slated for Lebanon, records show.

"The amount of aid going to Yemen is a rounding error," said Richard

Fontaine, a former adviser to Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., who is now at the Center for New American Security, a Washington think tank. The Yemeni government is facing a war in the north with Shiite rebels, separatist unrest in the south, and increasing poverty among the population of 24 million.

"The track record of U.S. civilian aid in Yemen is not good. In 2004, USAID awarded \$13.5 million in agreements to two Washington-based contractors to improve Yemen's education system. The contractors collected \$2 million each in overhead, but the program "did not achieve its intended results," a 2008 audit by the agency's inspector general found."

And all of this is because there is something called Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula. And according to a report by the BBC, the group may have less members than the number of the residents in my apartment building, with "some experts say there are fewer than 50 fighters, while others believe there may be 200 to 300." And BTW, most experts also agree that the group was formed after 2003 in response to the U.S. invasion of Iraq. So expect even more use of the Al Qaeda brand following our intervention in Yemen.

Bottom Line: You want some American "attention" \$\$\$ Circulate reports that there is an Al Qaeda in [fill the space] and before you know, Uncle Sam who has been surviving thanks to the infusion of Chinese money, shows up with a nice economic stimulus package and American GI's.

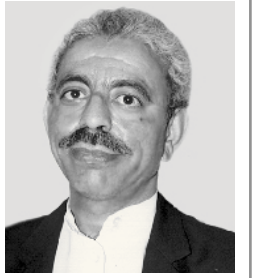
It all reminds me of that wonderful 1959 film, *The Mouse that Roared* (which was based on a novel by the same name) about the imaginary Duchy of Grand Fenwick decides that the only way to get out of their economic woes is to declare war on the United States, lose it -- and then become a recipient of American foreign aid. A comedy repeating itself now as tragic history.

Leon T. Hadar is a research fellow in foreign policy studies at the Cato Institute, specializing in foreign policy, international trade, the Middle East, and South and East Asia. He is the author of *Sandstorm: Policy Failure in the Middle East*.

COMMON SENSE

Israel forgot that it can't challenge Allah the Almighty

The recent display of cheap chauvinism against a flotilla of humanitarian aid to the Palestinians of Gaza clearly shows that the Zionist mob in Tel Aviv has forgotten that every time Israel thinks it can defy God's covenants the consequences are near suicidal. For a century, this implanted cancer in the midst of the Holy Land has given itself immunity from all applications of sensible human (and sovereign) existence.



By: Hassan Al-Haifi

For ten decades, this odd implantation of human evil in the pure land of Judaea and Galilee used to believe that a few Arab states do not pose any threat to its ability to transgress on every human right and civil liberty ordained by the Al-Mighty and the international conventions and covenants that have helped to regulate the lives of civilized nations for the past half century. Insisting on mythological renditions of history and demographic science fiction, the Zionist gang in Tel Aviv sponsored by the International Zionist Establishment of diamond and gold traders, usurious bankers and international mobsters of distinction, was under the impression that it can wreak havoc throughout the world and bring all of humanity to its knees and proceed with its deadly evil agenda of dominating the region and from hence the world. Without the slightest of recognition in the inherent good nature of most people of this planet, many of whom were ready to join in the effort to defy this horrendous chauvinistic stance of the Zionist state against the besieged and imprisoned people of Gaza. Many ask why is Gaza besieged? Because the people of Gaza also said that Allah/God is really on their side, as he was in the past and will always be and that they have a right to select a leadership that also shares their rightful religious convictions. Yet this oddity of sovereign existence was not ready to accept a similar claim to spiritual association manifested by the free election of a Hamas Government by an indigenous population that history attests to having inhabited the region for the past three millennia. One is indeed puzzled by the claim of modernity of this unusual concoction in our midst, while it resorts to mythology and spiritual claims and other elements of reactionary concepts, it rejects a freely elected government, which also has religious aspirations of its own.

Admittedly, this observer was not favorable to the approach followed by Hamas in trying to address a wrong against the people of Palestine in the early stages of Intifada (or Palestinian resistance). But Hamas has come a long way since in truly understanding what Jihad really means and entails and its approach over the last five years have gone far above what may be considered as legitimate civilized resistance, even by the admittance of many Israeli analysts. Hamas has come to realize that haphazard suicide bombings and crudely targeted objectives of its "resistance" operations are actually not only non-Islamic, but also counterproductive for the achievement of the desired goal of confronting an equally disturbing dogmatic affiliation, that no modern movement has come to equal in reliance on historical absurdity and outright chauvinism and political arrogance. Perhaps, this might have actually been more unpleasant to the planners behind Eretz Israel (Israel from the Nile to the Euphrates), as they would probably find it more accommodating for their «aspirations» to be realized, if Hamas were to continue its suicide bombings. The logic in this is that this would overshadow the unjustified primitive approach relied on by Zionist demagogues, like shooting human rights activists at close range (see the autopsy reports on the nine casualties of the Free Gaza Flotilla Massacre here (<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2010/jun/04/gaza-flotilla-activists-autopsy-results/print>), or squashing them with Caterpillar bulldozer/shovels (Rachel Corrie).

Having said all the above, this last escapade of Zionist blundering has brought to the surface some very important consequences. Whatever there was of Israel's credibility as a «modern democracy» has dwindled considerably, even among the staunchest of Israel's «supporters» and «allies», as although the Zionist media persists in showing otherwise. Also, Israel has underestimated the impact of Moslem brotherly relations and has failed to realize that on religious matters, the Moslems of Malaysia, Pakistan, and of course Turkey (and Iran, Bosnia, Chechnya, etc), as well as the grass roots elements of the Arab World have no distinctive feelings. On the matter of Jerusalem and the sanctity of Moslem human life, in particular and human life in general, as well as on the holiness of Hebron, Bethlehem, Nazareth and other issues of religious significance (to all monotheistic believers of the Scriptures - Jews, Moslems and Gentiles), no Moslem can hold these issues with any degree of insignificance or apathy whatsoever. In fact these issues may be more spiritually dear to Moslems (and Christians), who are not at all reserved about the spiritual reverence these issues or places have in their hearts and are even ready to give their lives for them if necessary. So, how could the arrogance of the likes of the current Prime Minister of Israel, Benjamin Netanyahu, and the other extreme elements of the Zionist state make them so oblivious to this well known historical and cultural fact? Chauvinism can be very blinding at times. One would hope that the very strong display of fraternal affinity displayed by Turkey recently and the rightly angry reaction showed by the citizens and leadership of this very important Islamic state would bring some sense into the thick skulls of these die hard Zionist mobsters. Otherwise, one can only surmise that the conflict has now gone beyond the dimensions of an Israeli - Palestinian conflict or Israeli - Arab conflict. Islam is indeed a universally binding fraternity that should never be underestimated, especially by the hate mongers of the International Zionist Movement, whether in Tel Aviv or at AIPAC.

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



By: Hamid

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3	B	٦/١٢	٥ عصرأ	نيجريا		الأرجنتين
4	B	٦/١٢	٢:٣٠ ظهراً	اليونان		كوريا الجنوبية
5	C	٦/١٢	٩:٣٠ مساءً	امريكا		انجلترا
6	C	٦/١٣	٢:٣٠ ظهراً	سلوفينيا		الجزائر
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8	D	٦/١٣	٥ عصرأ	غانا		صربيا
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12	F	٦/١٥	٢:٣٠ ظهراً	سلوفاكيا		نيوزلندا
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19	B	٦/١٧	٥ عصرأ	نيجريا		اليونان
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22	C	٦/١٨	٥ عصرأ	امريكا		سلوفينيا
23	C	٦/١٨	٩:٣٠ مساءً	الجزائر		انجلترا
24	D	٦/١٩	٥ عصرأ	استراليا		غانا
25	E	٦/١٩	٢:٣٠ ظهراً	اليابان		هولندا
26	E	٦/١٩	٩:٣٠ مساءً	الدنمارك		الكاميرون
27	F	٦/٢٠	٢:٣٠ ظهراً	البارجواي		سلوفاكيا
28	F	٦/٢٠	٥ عصرأ	نيوزلندا		ايطاليا
29	G	٦/٢٠	٩:٣٠ مساءً	ساحل العاج		البرازيل
30	G	٦/٢١	٢:٣٠ ظهراً	كوريا الشمالية		البرتغال
31	H	٦/٢١	٥ عصرأ	سويسرا		تشيلي
32	H	٦/٢١	٩:٣٠ مساءً	هندوراس		اسبانيا
33	A	٦/٢٢	٥ عصرأ	اوروجواي		المكسيك
34	A	٦/٢٢	٥ عصرأ	جنوب أفريقيا		فرنسا
35	B	٦/٢٢	٩:٣٠ مساءً	كوريا الجنوبية		نيجريا
36	B	٦/٢٢	٩:٣٠ مساءً	الأرجنتين		اليونان
37	C	٦/٢٣	٥ عصرأ	انجلترا		سلوفينيا
38	C	٦/٢٣	٥ عصرأ	الجزائر		امريكا
39	D	٦/٢٣	٩:٣٠ مساءً	المانيا		غانا
40	D	٦/٢٣	٩:٣٠ مساءً	صربيا		استراليا
41	F	٦/٢٤	٥ عصرأ	ايطاليا		سلوفاكيا
42	F	٦/٢٤	٥ عصرأ	نيوزلندا		البارجواي
43	E	٦/٢٤	٩:٣٠ مساءً	اليابان		الدنمارك
44	E	٦/٢٤	٩:٣٠ مساءً	هولندا		الكاميرون
45	G	٦/٢٥	٥ عصرأ	البرازيل		البرتغال
46	G	٦/٢٥	٥ عصرأ	ساحل العاج		كوريا الشمالية
47	H	٦/٢٥	٩:٣٠ مساءً	اسبانيا		تشيلي
48	H	٦/٢٥	٩:٣٠ مساءً	هندوراس		سويسرا

مجموعات كأس العالم	فيفا
A جنوب افريقيا المكسيك اوروجواي فرنسا	C إنجلترا امريكا الجزائر سلوفينيا
B الأرجنتين نيجريا كوريا الجنوبية اليونان	D المانيا استراليا صربيا غانا
E هولندا الدنمارك اليابان الكاميرون	F ايطاليا البارجواي نيوزلندا سلوفاكيا
G البرازيل كوريا الشمالية ساحل العاج البرتغال	H اسبانيا سويسرا تشيلي هندوراس



النقاط	عليه	له	خسر	تعادل	فاز	لعب	المجموعة A
							جنوب أفريقيا
							المكسيك
							اوروجواي
							فرنسا
							الأرجنتين
							نيجريا
							كوريا الجنوبية
							اليونان
							انجلترا
							امريكا
							الجزائر
							سلوفينيا
							المانيا
							استراليا
							صربيا
							غانا
							هولندا
							الدنمارك
							اليابان
							الكاميرون
							ايطاليا
							البارجواي
							نيوزلندا
							سلوفاكيا
							البرازيل
							كوريا الشمالية
							ساحل العاج
							البرتغال
							اسبانيا
							سويسرا
							تشيلي
							هندوراس

مباريات الدور الثاني (الدورة ال ١٦)				
الثاني في المجموعة B	الأول في المجموعة A	٥ عصرأ	٦/٢٦	49
الثاني في المجموعة D	الأول في المجموعة C	٩:٣٠ مساءً	٦/٢٦	50
الثاني في المجموعة C	الأول في المجموعة D	٥ عصرأ	٦/٢٧	51
الثاني في المجموعة A	الأول في المجموعة B	٩:٣٠ مساءً	٦/٢٧	52
الثاني في المجموعة F	الأول في المجموعة E	٥ عصرأ	٦/٢٨	53
الثاني في المجموعة H	الأول في المجموعة G	٩:٣٠ مساءً	٦/٢٨	54
الثاني في المجموعة E	الأول في المجموعة F	٥ عصرأ	٦/٢٩	55
الثاني في المجموعة G	الأول في المجموعة H	٩:٣٠ مساءً	٦/٢٩	56

مباريات الربع النهائي (دور الثمانية)				
الفائز في المباراة رقم 54	الفائز في المباراة رقم 53	٥ عصرأ	٧/٢	57
الفائز في المباراة رقم 50	الفائز في المباراة رقم 49	٩:٣٠ مساءً	٧/٢	58
الفائز في المباراة رقم 52	الفائز في المباراة رقم 51	٥ عصرأ	٧/٣	59
الفائز في المباراة رقم 56	الفائز في المباراة رقم 55	٩:٣٠ مساءً	٧/٣	60
مباريات النصف النهائي				
الفائز في المباراة رقم 58	الفائز في المباراة رقم 57	٩:٣٠ مساءً	٧/٦	61
الفائز في المباراة رقم 60	الفائز في المباراة رقم 59	٩:٣٠ مساءً	٧/٧	62
المباراة لتحديد المركز الثالث و الرابع				
الخاسر في المباراة رقم 62	الخاسر في المباراة رقم 61	٩:٣٠ مساءً	٧/١٠	63
المباراة النهائية				
الفائز في المباراة رقم 62	الفائز في المباراة رقم 61	٩:٣٠ مساءً	٧/١١	64

YEMEN TIMES



Match	Group	Date	Time	Country	Score	Country
1	A	11-Jun	17:00	South Africa		Mexico
2	A	11-Jun	21:30	Uruguay		France
3	B	12-Jun	17:00	Argentina		Nigeria
4	B	12-Jun	14:30	South Korea		Greece
5	C	12-Jun	21:30	England		USA
6	C	13-Jun	14:30	Algeria		Slovenia
7	D	13-Jun	21:30	Germany		Australia
8	D	13-Jun	17:00	Serbia		Ghana
9	E	14-Jun	14:30	Netherlands		Denmark
10	E	14-Jun	17:00	Japan		Cameroon
11	F	14-Jun	21:30	Italy		Paraguay
12	F	15-Jun	14:30	New Zealand		Slovakia
13	G	15-Jun	17:00	Côte d'Ivoire		Portugal
14	G	15-Jun	21:30	Brazil		North Korea
15	H	16-Jun	14:30	Honduras		Chile
16	H	16-Jun	17:00	Spain		Switzerland
17	A	16-Jun	21:30	South Africa		Uruguay
18	A	17-Jun	21:30	France		Mexico
19	B	17-Jun	17:00	Greece		Nigeria
20	B	17-Jun	14:30	Argentina		South Korea
21	D	18-Jun	14:30	Germany		Serbia
22	C	18-Jun	17:00	Slovenia		USA
23	C	18-Jun	21:30	England		Algeria
24	D	19-Jun	17:00	Ghana		Australia
25	E	19-Jun	14:30	Netherlands		Japan
26	E	19-Jun	21:30	Cameroon		Denmark
27	F	20-Jun	14:30	Slovakia		Paraguay
28	F	20-Jun	17:00	Italy		New Zealand
29	G	20-Jun	21:30	Brazil		Côte d'Ivoire
30	G	21-Jun	14:30	Portugal		North Korea
31	H	21-Jun	17:00	Chile		Switzerland
32	H	21-Jun	21:30	Spain		Honduras
33	A	22-Jun	17:00	Mexico		Uruguay
34	A	22-Jun	17:00	France		South Africa
35	B	22-Jun	21:30	Nigeria		South Korea
36	B	22-Jun	21:30	Greece		Argentina
37	C	23-Jun	17:00	Slovenia		England
38	C	23-Jun	17:00	USA		Algeria
39	D	23-Jun	21:30	Ghana		Germany
40	D	23-Jun	21:30	Australia		Serbia
41	F	24-Jun	17:00	Slovakia		Italy
42	F	24-Jun	17:00	Paraguay		New Zealand
43	E	24-Jun	21:30	Denmark		Japan
44	E	24-Jun	21:30	Cameroon		Netherlands
45	G	25-Jun	17:00	Portugal		Brazil
46	G	25-Jun	17:00	North Korea		Côte d'Ivoire
47	H	25-Jun	21:30	Chile		Spain
48	H	25-Jun	21:30	Switzerland		Honduras

FIFA WORLD CUP GROUPS

A	South Africa Mexico Uruguay France	C	England United States Algeria Slovenia	E	Netherlands Denmark Japan Cameroon	G	Brazil North Korea Cote-d'Ivoire Portugal
B	Argentina Nigeria South Korea Greece	D	Germany Australia Serbia Ghana	F	Italy Paraguay New Zealand Slovakia	H	Spain Switzerland Chile Honduras



Heritage meets communication

Group A	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
South Africa							
Mexico							
Uruguay							
France							
Group B	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Argentina							
Nigeria							
South Korea							
Greece							
Group C	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
England							
United States							
Algeria							
Slovenia							
Group D	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Germany							
Australia							
Serbia							
Ghana							
Group E	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Netherlands							
Denmark							
Japan							
Cameroon							
Group F	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Italy							
Paraguay							
New Zealand							
Slovakia							
Group G	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Brazil							
North Korea							
Cote-d'Ivoire							
Portugal							
Group H	P	W	D	L	F	A	PT
Spain							
Switzerland							
Chile							
Honduras							

P: Played	L: Lose	Pt: point
W: Win	F: Goal scored for	
D: Draw	A: Goal scored against	

Quarter Finals

57	2-Jul	17:00	Match 53 Winner	Match 54 Winner
58	2-Jul	21:30	Match 49 Winner	Match 50 Winner
59	3-Jul	17:00	Match 51 Winner	Match 52 Winner
60	3-Jul	21:30	Match 55 Winner	Match 56 Winner

Semi Finals

61	6-Jul	21:30	Match 57 Winner	Match 58 Winner
62	7-Jul	21:30	Match 59 Winner	Match 60 Winner

Match for Third Place

63	10-Jul	21:30	Match 61 Loser	Match 62 Loser
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Final

64	11-Jul	21:30	Match 61 Winner	Match 62 Winner
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Round of 16

49	26-Jun	17:00	Group A Winner	Group B Runner Up
50	26-Jun	21:30	Group C Winner	Group D Runner Up
51	27-Jun	17:00	Group D Winner	Group C Runner Up
52	27-Jun	21:30	Group B Winner	Group A Runner Up
53	28-Jun	17:00	Group E Winner	Group F Runner Up
54	28-Jun	21:30	Group G Winner	Group H Runner Up
55	29-Jun	17:00	Group F Winner	Group E Runner Up
56	29-Jun	21:30	Group H Winner	Group G Runner Up

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2010 JitCOM 5 - 11 July

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Do you trust the medicine in Yemen's pharmacies?

In Yemen, people have complained that not only are some pharmacies staffed by assistants with no formal qualifications, but that others sell foreign medicine smuggled into the country without any quality control. Emerging into the market is also Yemeni medicine. With all this in mind, Ismail Al-Ghabri asked Yemenis whether they trust the medicine sold inside the country's pharmacies.

By: Ismail Al-Ghabri

Ali Ahmad Al-Jaradi, the head of the legal affairs office at the Ministry of Public Health and Population in Sana'a

Seventy pharmacists have been prosecuted since the beginning of 2010 in the city of Sana'a for not having licenses or not being qualified to sell medicine.

The challenge we face is the ministry's employees' lack of knowledge in how to detect smugglers and how to inspect pharmacies.

Ahmad Aqlan, qualified pharmacist

People do not understand properly what a pharmacy is. They assume that pharmacists are merchants such as the iron and cement merchants. They are not aware of the importance of this profession and think it is easy. Yemeni medicine is good but it lacks medicine for diabetes and AIDS.

Fadhl Ali Saleh Horab, head of the Yemen Pharmacists' Syndicate

Most of our factories do not produce medicine for serious diseases such as cancer, high blood pressure, AIDS, or any other chronic diseases. People would trust these factories if they did not stick to producing medicines for minor diseases. But these factories lack scientific research laboratories.

The syndicate can do nothing regarding smuggled medicine because there are thousands of people who smuggle it in the country and sell it

cheaply. This medicine is introduced to Yemen with the government's knowledge. Smugglers have empty medicine bottles that they fill with the smuggled product and sell to the people. There is no control of the medicine that enters the country.

Pharmacies in Yemen face many problems. The Health Office offers licenses to some pharmacists and medicine companies that do not comply with the law. They should stop giving licenses to such companies until a law is decreed to regulate work in pharmacies.

More than 4,000 pharmacists graduate annually. More than 4,000 positions are allocated for doctors in government institutions, but only 3 positions are given to pharmacists there annually. The syndicate demands 300 positions.

According to article 33 of a 2002 law, all people acting as a doctor or a pharmacist without being qualified to do so, shall have their license taken away, be put in prison for at least three years and fined YR 700, 000.

Many people work as pharmacists and have no license to do so. There are pharmacists who prescribe medicine without prescription, and there are others who increase the prices of medicine and violate international laws.

Abdu Mohammad Shadewa, qualified pharmacist

Medicine smuggling, notably of counterfeit medicine, is caused by the

absence of legislation or control at the border.

Yemen does not produce life-saving medicine such as that needed for diabetes or high blood pressure.

The General Authority of Medicine reduced the prices of smuggled medicine and banned the circulation of expired and counterfeit medicine.

But the media's role is not significant enough in spreading awareness about the presence of smuggled medicine.

Mohammad Al-Dhula'i, cardiologist

The Yemeni medication can be good, if it is of good quality. It serves society and those who are in need.

But factories in Yemen do not produce medicine for dangerous diseases, and international factories hold the monopoly and sell it for high prices.

In addition, medicine should not be smuggled or counterfeited. There must be laws banning this.

Abdulwahab Al-Khawlani, general practitioner in medicine

There must be fair geographical distribution of pharmacies in provinces and governorates.

I trust Yemeni medicine because of its high quality. However, some of them are of no use. In addition they are not internationally renowned. Yemeni factories lack research laboratories.

I call on people in charge of auditing medicine to ban smugglers and try them according to the law.

Mohammad Saleh, pharmacist who graduated from the Higher Institute for Health Sciences (HIHS) in Sana'a

No doubt there are outsiders in this profession. To be a pharmacist has become something easy because they smuggle in counterfeit medicine. Yemenis trust Yemeni medicine, but it should still be improved.



Ahmad Naser, pharmacist who graduated from the HIHS

Yemeni medicine is excellent if there is good intention to produce effective medicine to serve Yemen's industrial development. Medicine is the responsibility of people in charge. They should stop the smugglers and those who counterfeit medicine.

Qais Al-Hindi, merchant

I buy any medicine from anywhere, whatever the price is. The problem, however, lies in smuggled and counterfeit medicine. I do not know why some people import medicine without knowing where it comes from.

Ahlam Mohammad, a nurse

Being a nurse, I always make sure of the medicine the doctor prescribed for the patient. I must check the medicine I give to the patients because some of them are smuggled and even counterfeited.

Yemeni medicine is good but it needs to be developed, by improving the research laboratories.

Um Abdulaziz, housewife

Yemeni medicine is good, but not as good as foreign medicine. But sometimes, it is like imported medicine.

Naser Ali Al-Hamadi, works in a pharmacy

I learnt to sell medicine from my father. I can read prescriptions and I

know all kinds of medicine, except for that prescribed for dangerous diseases.

Ihsan Al-Rabahi, deputy of the Pharmaceutical Manufacturers' Union

Factories manufacture medicine according to international standards. It should be available to all segments of society. It should be safe and cause no side effects.

In a recent workshop on the dangers of smuggling and counterfeiting medicine, the federation put the responsibility on the Ministry of Public and Population to take safety precautions and to hold smugglers and counterfeiters accountable.

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- Guide and develop sub-ordinates in the department.
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VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) invites Yemeni Nationals to apply for the position of "Travel/Procurement Associate" G6, fixed-term.



Under the guidance and supervision of the Service Center Specialist and direct supervisor of the Procurement Analyst, the Procurement/Travel Associate ensures execution of transparent and efficient procurement and travel services and processes in CO. The Procurement/Travel Associate promotes a client-focused, quality and results-oriented approach in the Unit.

Responsibilities:

- Full compliance of procurement activities with UN/UNDP rules, regulations, policies and strategies; implementation of the effective internal control.
- CO Procurement business processes mapping and elaboration of the content of internal Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) in Procurement and Logistics in consultation with the direct supervisor and office management.
- Compliance of travel activities with UN/UNDP rules, regulations, policies and strategies.
- Organization of procurement processes including preparation and conduct of RFQs, ITBs or RFPs, receipt of quotations, bids or proposals, their evaluation, negotiation of certain conditions of contracts in full compliance with UNDP rules and regulations.
- Preparation of Purchase orders and contracts in Atlas, preparation of Recurring Purchase orders for contracting of services, vendors' creation in Atlas.
- Facilitate and assist of submissions to the Contract, Asset and Procurement Committee (CAP) and Advisory Committee on Procurement (ACP).
- Implementation of the internal control system which ensures that Purchase orders are duly prepared and dispatched. Timely corrective actions on POs with budget check errors and other problems.
- Preparation of cost-recovery bills in Atlas for the procurement services provided by UNDP to other Agencies. Conduct semi-annual PO closure exercise by generating reports from Atlas.
- Development and update of the rosters of suppliers, implementation of supplier selection and evaluation. Organization of travel including purchase of tickets, DSA calculation, PO preparation of tickets.
- Timely conducted DSA, Travel Agencies, hotel facilities surveys.
- Prepare letters to various government offices requesting visa, resident permits, etc.
- Receive bills from the travel agent and sort them out before submitting them to finance for payment.
- Organization of trainings for the operations/ projects staff on Procurement. Synthesis of lessons learnt and best practices in Procurement.
- Sound contributions to knowledge networks and communities of practice.

Qualifications:

- Secondary Education with specialized training in procurement. University Degree in Business or Public Administration would be desirable, but it is not a requirement.
- 6 years of progressively responsible administrative or procurement experience is required at the national or international level. Experience in the usage of computers and office software packages (MS Word, Excel, etc), advance knowledge of automated procurement systems, experience in handling of web based management systems.
- Fluency in English and national language of the duty station.

Monthly Salary for this post is approximately \$1,300

Only Online Applications will be accepted

For further details on the job description and online application, please visit our website at <http://jobs.undp.org>
Response will only be made to short listed candidates

The deadline for receiving applications is June 18, 2010

Marking "World No Tobacco day" by running Sabafon starts the first Marathon



On the occasion of world no tobacco day, Sabafon The First & the largest Mobile GSM company organized its first Marathon in collaboration with Ishraq Association for Tobacco Dangers Awareness on last Monday, 31 May, 2010. Early Morning, five hundred people ran in a social competitive event ,starting from 60th street from Apollo Center for International Exhibition via Zubairy Street and ended at the Military Officers' Club .

and Ali Abdulrahim Al-Asbahi won the third place.



The celebration was accompanied by a campaign targeting public transport drivers as Sabafon group distributed thousands of leaflets and stickers encouraging the public to refrain from smoking.

diseases acquired from the smoking habit.

In this matter , Mr. Tariq Al-Haidari, CEO of Sabafon said that "Sabafon Marathon is not only an athletic display ,but it is also motivational voluntary work ,sharing in society development , besides it is intended to create an educated aware generation , responsible for their environment and surroundings, the marathon encourages the locals to avoid smoking in public places and to advise others to refrain from smoking habit ,the marathon comes in the framework of Sabafon's caring for the youth in the society , that is the basis of its corporate social responsibility towards the community."

Sabafon seeks to provide projects serving the community and helping to achieve the social solidarity principle, contributing to provide the community with the important needs via launching and sponsoring developmental projects and permanent initiatives.

Sabafon adopts the corporate social responsibility which is based on society's need for the provided charity services ,in addition to move from institutional luxury concept to the concept of filling the actual need of the society to sustainable projects.



Special Ceremony

Thereupon a special ceremony held to mark World No Tobacco Day, highlighting the dangers of smoking on the society, besides honoring the marathon winners.

Furthermore, Sabafon presented small size enterprises awards for not selling tobacco despite the financial temptations.

While celebrating, 50 winners were honored by Sabafon in which Walid Saleh Olaia won the first place.



Mohammed Al-Khawlani won the second place



Social Athletic Targets

Organizing such Marathon ,Sabafon aimed to urge society to focus on controlling the smoking habit by encouraging sport among youth , also to urge people to maintain an environmental friendly healthier life .

Sabafon is keen on organizing such activities ,since it believes that health is a joint responsibility ,as it is convinced of the importance to intensify awareness campaigns for sending a message to society warning it of the





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Job Duties:

- Develops customized programs and modifies existing systems using corporate standards. Lotus Notes, Visual Basic .NET/ C#, MS-Access, MS-SQL Server and Oracle are the standard programming languages and databases used for developing customized software. User requirements and client interviews are documented and conducted by the Programmer, in conjunction with the Applications Specialist, and ultimately approved by the IT Supervisor prior to any work commencing.
- Performs all necessary system maintenance, under the guidelines established by the Applications Specialist, on major applications used by departments such as Drilling, Production, Construction, Human Resources, HSE&SR, and Training. Such applications include, but are not limited to DIMS, DriveRight, LIMS, NEMS, INtools, Lotus Notes, RealFlex, ACET and OFM
- Provides general maintenance for all business applications. General maintenance includes, but is not limited to, small program modifications, program fixes, application interfaces, report changes, file repair and ad-hoc reporting.
- Assists in testing systems and ensuring proper software application operation in compliance with Company's standards.
- Provides general IT end-user support and troubleshooting, which includes Arabic/English operating systems and MS-Office Suite.
- Follows standard project management methodology for development projects including estimating, timekeeping, monitoring and variance explanation of man-days used.
- Responsible for adhering to the corporate IT Change Management guidelines as directed by the Applications Specialist Analyst and IT Supervisor.
- Performs other similar or related duties as assigned by the Applications Specialist.

Minimum Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in Computer Science or Computer Engineering.
- 3 years experience, which would include a strong programming background specifically with new PC based development tools. Strong Computer skills on Lotus Notes, Visual Basic .NET / C#, MS-Access, MS-SQL Server and Oracle.
- Very good knowledge of English.
- Industry specific certifications: MCTS or MCAD

- ❖ To apply for this job, please send an Email to: recruiting_yemsana@nexeninc.com
- ❖ Applications **should be submitted NO later than Date June 21, 2010**. Faxed applications will not be considered.
- ❖ Make sure that you mention the job title in the Email subject.
- ❖ Only **short-listed candidates** will be contacted.



IT Support Specialist
Position # 12-13/12-15 @ CPF – (Masilla Hadhramout)(B14)
For Yemeni Nationals Only

Basic Function:

Provides first and second level support to clients. This position also provides third level support in conjunction with other IT resources.

Job Duties:

- Provides first and second level IT support for all applications and desktops at all facilities and remote locations.
- Escalates issues to third level support when required and ensures that resolutions meet customers' requirements.
- Interacts closely with clients on a daily basis. Is expected to maintain a professional level of attitude and handle customer issues promptly and to the customer's satisfaction.
- Repairs IT related equipment. This includes PCs, monitors, printers, scanners, UPS etc.
- Maintains all IT systems to Nexen standards. Identifies and reports violations of Company's policies and procedures.
- Maintains and updates IT equipment inventory. Makes recommendations regarding inventory levels. Ensures that end-of-life IT equipment is delivered to the Logistics Department for proper disposal.
- In consultation with the Network Administrators: Installs, tests, and troubleshoots network cabling. This includes CAT5/CAT6, Multimode and Single-Mode fiber, and any wireless equipment in use. Coordinates and supervises contractors assisting in installations.
- Responsible for maintaining the Track-it Help Desk system. Ensures end users are receiving an appropriate level of assistance in their issues.. Ensures that Work Orders are entered correctly according to IT directives. Closes out Work Orders after having confirmed with the client that the resolution is satisfactory.
- Responsible for all remote PC's and the laptops. Duties include: keeping the virus definitions current, installing updates and patches to the O/S and other software programs, and troubleshooting connectivity issues, hardware failures, or Email problems. Travels to remote locations to fix IT related issues
- Performs other related duties as assigned by the Supervisor.

Minimum Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in Computer Sciences or an equivalent IT-related degree.
- Working knowledge of structured wiring, router and Ethernet switch technology, fiber optic cable and dial up communications.
- 5 years' experience in the operation and repair of desktop computers.
- Very good knowledge of English.
- Maintains industry specific certifications: e.g., MCSA, MCSE, CCNA, A+ and N+.

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- ❖ Only **short-listed candidates** will be contacted.



HSE & SR Advisor
Position # 0765 (B14) @ Sana'a Office
For Yemeni Nationals Only

Basic Function:

Assists line management in establishing, developing and administering the Health, Safety, Environment and Social Responsibility (HSE&SR) system. This position covers all operational and administrative areas of the Sana'a Office, Housing Complex and associated facilities. Provides a focal point for PEPA/MOM representatives and for JOCC. This position reports to the Regional HSE&SR Manager.

Job Duties:

The incumbent shall:

- Evaluates compliance with the established safety program by making frequent observations of physical conditions and work practices.
- Advise the HSE&SR Manager immediately, regarding serious matters such as hazardous or unsafe acts and conditions.
- Provides resources such as training and presentation materials, expertise etc. to all levels of management as requested.
- Participates and leads as required in accident and incident investigations and reviews all investigation reports for content, detail, quality of investigation and completeness within the LEHS system.
- Develops relationships with peer groups from other oil companies in Sana'a.
- Responsible for developing and implementing a Sana'a based spill response strategy.
- Arranges training in the use of the SWP system and monitors compliance through the SWP Evaluation form, recording all data within the relevant system.
- Ensures routine maintenance is carried out on safety equipment.
- Chairs HSE&SR meetings of the company and supervisory representatives of key contractors.
- Prepares and monitors progress Goals and Objectives for Sana'a operations
- Ensures that all contractors are aware of and in compliance with the company's environment health and safety procedures.
- Participates in third party audits and assessments of the HSE&SR programs.
- Coordinates and participates in regular emergency response activities.
- Carries out other similar or related duties such as preparing weekly and monthly activity reports. Assists in formulating Sana'a HSE departmental budget requirements, and A.F.E. submissions for special projects.
- Responsible for maintaining good working relationships with numerous government agencies. Duties include report writing, preparing and delivering presentations and consultation on related matters. Thorough planning for PEPA site inspections and appropriate scheduling with department heads in the field for these visits
- Resumes any other duties as directed by the HSE&SR Regional Manager, the VP Operations or the President.

Minimum Requirements:

- Completion of Secondary education (12 years) followed by Bachelors degree.
- 5 years' oil industry experience in an HS&E role including work with contractors and employees across a range of disciplines.
- Excellent computer skills including use of Word, Excel, Lotus Notes, Sharepoint, SAP etc.
- Very good communication skills in English/Arabic – Written and Spoken

- ❖ To Apply for this Job please apply to: recruiting_yemsana@nexeninc.com
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- ❖ Only **short listed candidates** will be contacted.



IT Developer
Position # 0916 @ CPF – (Masilla Hadhramout)(B14)
For Yemeni Nationals Only

Basic Function:

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

Job Duties:

The incumbent shall:

- Come up with unique approaches to solve development issues and aid developers in creating solutions that meet customers' business needs.
- Have input into creating technical solutions for design or functionality of web or database applications.
- Follow Canadian Nexen's coding and documentation standards.
- Assume a key role in technical strategy formulation, testing and defining development standards.
- Assist in the development of structured frameworks for implementing MS-SharePoint solutions.
- Perform other duties that may occur from time to time as assigned by the Applications Specialist or IT Supervisor.

Minimum Requirements:

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

- ❖ To apply for this job, please send an Email to: recruiting_yemsana@nexeninc.com
- ❖ Applications **should be submitted NO later than Date June 21, 2010**. Faxed applications will not be considered.
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- ❖ Only **short-listed candidates** will be contacted.

Yemen beyond the news

By: Rebecca Tustin
For the Yemen Times

When I first told my father I was going to Yemen, his reaction was outraged: "Yemen? You can't go to Yemen. That's the sort of place you find dead bodies lying in the road!" Two weeks later he found himself on a plane to Sana'a, with me trying to convince him he wasn't about to die. Since that first visit, four years ago, not a week goes by when he doesn't ask my mother: "Why don't we all move to Yemen?"

Yemen is a well-kept secret. Only those fortunate enough to have visited can begin to know of the character, charm and beauty of its people, landscapes and cities. All too often, beyond Yemen's borders, people have the impression that it is a dangerous place, wrought with problems.

Zean'Art Association aims to show another side to Yemen and to change this perspective through art. As a first project, Zean'Art is showing an exhibition by French photographer, Jean-Baptiste Lopez, entitled Yemen Beyond the News.

The first two showings of Yemen Beyond the News took place in Dubai for

a total of six weeks in April and May, where the exhibition received a very warm reception. The opening was attended by over a hundred people, including the Yemeni Consul to Dubai, who congratulated the photographer for the beautiful pictures of his country, and said, "It is good to see the Zean'Art initiative to show Yemen from a positive angle, completely in opposition to the media right now."

A number of people living in the Emirates, of Yemeni origin, came to see the exhibition, many of whom had never visited their native land. Ahmed, a Yemeni man in his twenties exclaimed to the photographer, "Wow... I feel something in my heart that I can't explain. I thought Yemen was a bit difficult to visit, but now I can't wait to go."

The exhibition was visited by around fifty people a day, including parents with children, as well as students. Zean'Art found that people were very curious about Yemen, having heard so much negative press. It gave them an opportunity to see Yemen in a new light, and several people expressed an interest in visiting Yemen and were asking many questions about the security of the country. One woman asked for all the details to prepare a trip to Soqatra.

The Yemeni Consul to Abu Dhabi, Abdullah Sonbul, who saw the interest this project was generating for his country, says he gives all his support to Zean'Art and their project to promote Yemen through art, and an Iranian woman who came to the exhibition asked the photographer, "Why don't you come to Iran to do a similar project to show my country in the same way?"

After two successful exhibitions in Dubai, Zean'Art has decided to show people in Yemen how it is portraying their country to outsiders. From June 5 to 10, Jean-Baptiste Lopez's exhibition, Yemen Beyond the News, will be showing in the National Museum in Sana'a.

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For more information about Zean'Art and Jean-Baptiste Lopez, visit www.zeanart.com



Jean-Baptiste Lopez with some of his portraits

This will be Zean'Art's first exhibition in Yemen. Books of Yemen Beyond the News will be available for sale at the exhibition – a percentage of the pro-

ceeds of the book will be donated to an NGO in Aden for education and health of youth.

Following the exhibition in Sana'a,

Zean'Art plans to show Yemen Beyond the News in other cities in Yemen, and then will be taking the exhibition to Italy and France.

Manarat Sana'a International School & Kindergarten is looking for English teachers. Must have good English, a pleasant and open manner to deal with children and a variety of stakeholders and previous work experience in education in a similar role. Female candidate preferred.

A Curriculum Vitae and Letter of Application must be received by Sunday June 20, 2010 and should be sent in care of Balqees by:

* Email to: manarat@yemen.net.ye
* Fax to: (01)41 01 52

For questions please contact Balqees at: (01) 41 00 11.



مدرسة منارات صنعاء الدولية
Manarat Sana'a International School

CANADIAN
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MAINTENANCE ADMINISTRATOR
Position #04-091 BAK-PF (B51) (Masila, Hadhramout)
For Yemeni Nationals Only

Basic Function:

Carries out a variety of Administrative and Coordination job related functions with all the Maintenance Sections, and other inter-company departments e.g. invoices/SAP system data entry/ general clerk activities such as filing, faxing, creating spread sheets etc. Other duties as required which are deemed necessary in keeping with this position.

Job Duties:

The incumbent shall:

- Handling & tracking diesel loads to BAK-PF
- Creating & updating Responsible Care data for the department in lotus notes.
- Provide material/equipment gate pass description for approval as required
- Coordinate training course arrangements in B-14 for all Maint staff.
- Maintain all staff training course history records as requested.
- Coordinate with Wartsila Dubai invoices according to Wartsila staff time-sheet
- Assist in arranging vehicle service scheduled with Mesar Salab
- Sub-contractor staff daily time sheet log.
- Set up & editing all Maint operating manuals policies and procedures in lotus notes in draft format to make them ready for approvals.
- Issues supply requests to be withdrawn from Warehouse.
- Prepares Service Entries into SAP from information received on contractor daily timesheets. Enters invoices into the SAP System and Prepares material reservations and requisitions into the SAP System. Maintains spreadsheet on all material purchases. Coordinates with Logistics on issues concerning purchase requisitions.
- Focal point for receiving material from Logistics, verify quantity and correctness of materials against purchase order.
- Provides clerical support such as typing correspondence and preparing reports and presentations for members of the management team. Includes translating correspondence to respond in English or Arabic if required.
- Cross checks contractor invoices for manpower, equipment and other charges to ensure they are legitimate.
- Attend to telephone calls and faxes ensuring requests for assistance or information from other departments or outside organizations are forwarded to the appropriate personnel. Maintaining a filing system and filing documents as required.
- Maintains stationary supplies and reorders as required.
- Coordinate travel arrangements for National employees, Maint. Visitors and provide rotation lists to Camp Administration.
- Has the flexibility to take on additional tasks as assigned and as workload dictates.

Minimum Requirements:

- Completion of secondary education, followed by 2 years of administration experience
- Good knowledge of computer applications including Word, Excel, SAP and Lotus Notes.
- Good knowledge of English (both written and oral).
- Valid Yemen drivers license

❖ To Apply for this Job please apply to: recruiting_yemsana@nexeninc.com
❖ Applications **should be submitted NO later than June 13, 2010**. Faxed applications will not be considered.
❖ Make sure that you mention the job title you are applying for in the email subject.
❖ Only short listed candidates will be contacted.

CANADIAN
nexen



Communications Technician
Position # 1028 @ Sana'a Office (B14)
For Yemeni Nationals Only

Basic Function:

Participates in maintaining, repairing, installing and configuring a variety of communications equipment such as V.H.F. mobiles and handheld radios covering repeater sites, antennae, radio towers, V.H.F. / U.H.F. radios, digital microwave systems, telephone systems, PABX's, satellite communications, IBS and Inmarsat. Carries out work in a safe and cost effective manner.

Personnel working in IT frequently have access to confidential information. Under no circumstances should this confidentiality of information be compromised.

Job Duties:

The incumbent shall:

- Perform planned maintenance on the Sana'a communications equipment. This includes checking and testing equipment to manufacturers' specifications, using a variety of tools and specialized test equipment to carry out required maintenance.
- Assist Communications Specialist in scheduling tasks. Responsibilities cover remote sites and microwave/radio relay station. Discusses work in hand with Communications Specialist and provides information and advice to Communications Specialist on allocation of work.
- Maintain necessary records and reports such as service reports, telephone cable records, site logs etc.
- Install, test and troubleshoot computer network cabling including hubs, switches and routers.
- Install and maintain UPSs, Power supplies and Battery chargers.
- Provide equipment and user support for video conferencing system.
- Install, test and troubleshoot fiber optic cabling.
- Administer and maintain PABX and voice mail systems including PABX and voice mail programming, user maintenance, MACs for phone sets.
- Provide support for the use of Inmarsat terminals.
- Perform other related duties as assigned by Supervisor.

Minimum Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in Telecommunications Engineering or related field and 3 years experience working with communications systems.
- Very good understanding of communications software and PC based applications.
- Very good knowledge of English.
- Valid Yemen driving license.

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❖ Applications **should be submitted NO later than Date June 21, 2010**. Faxed applications will not be considered.
❖ Make sure that you mention the job title in the Email subject.
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Driving in Yemen is crazy, but these kids know from an early age that red means "stop," yellow means "wait," and green means "go"... Hopefully they will still remember this by the time they are old to drive, hopes the kindergarten's director Raga.



Jihad was a little bear who wanted honey. Maryam the bee did not approve and so she chased him not only all over stage but also around the audience who shook with laughter.



"Why do I have to be a tomato?" asked Aya. But then she was cute and she danced round and round... All costumes were made by teacher Amal.



In the spring song, the flowers sang of their love of spring. They sang and danced to their parents' delight with music teacher Mohammed Omar playing along.

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- Prefabricated accommodation & office facilities.
- Sewage treatment plants & collection networks.
- Airports, roads, highways, bridges & fly-overs.
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Aden
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Fax: (967-2) 377716
E-Mail: cccaden@y.net.ye



Aya pretended to be a ballerina and, with her pink ribbon wand, enchanted everyone. But the real spell fell on the audience, who simply adored the whole show. Teacher Galina made sure the little dancer looked graceful and beautiful.



And they finally graduated... from KG1 and KG2.

OMEGA
OFFICIAL TIMEKEEPER

Press Release

The OMEGA Boutique at the Swatch Art Peace Hotel

When the OMEGA Boutique at the Swatch Art Peace Hotel opens on the 26th of May, its visitors will be welcomed to a historic architectural gem which has been a landmark address in Shanghai for more than a hundred years.

landmarks. Also worth noting: Nanjing Road and the Champs Elysees in Paris recently became partner streets, acknowledging the similarly prominent role each plays in its home city.

The Swatch Art Peace Hotel has a unique operating concept: it combines a retail area with a hotel where invited artists live and work. OMEGA and three of its Swatch Group partners – Breguet, Blancpain and Swatch – have boutiques on the hotel's ground floor.

The Boutique: a unique OMEGA experience
The OMEGA Boutique at the Swatch Art Peace Hotel has been designed to respect the heritage of the cultural landmark, to highlight the distinctive architectural features of a building steeped in history and to present the brand's full product range in an environment which perfectly bridges the hotel's storied past and its promising future.


While the Swatch Art Peace Hotel OMEGA Boutique has some of the design elements shared by all of the brand's flagship stores, it is absolutely unique in that it was necessary to preserve the existing interior architecture and the original art deco fittings. Because of the building's protected status, no modifications could be made which would compromise its structural integrity.

The ornately carved art deco ceiling and the impressive support pillars in the boutique are exquisitely trimmed in gold with an attention to detail which recalls the days when Shanghai was first earned its accolade "the Pearl of the Orient".

Visitors to the OMEGA Boutique at the Swatch Art Peace Hotel will recognize certain furnishings which are part of the brand's global flagship concept, including the free-standing display cases and the champagne glass along its back walls. The furniture is also the same as that used in the brand's network of boutiques around the world.

As nothing – including lighting fixtures – could be hung from the ceiling in the 141 square metre retail space, specially-designed tapered ribbed profile elements have been placed at locations throughout the boutique. These are equipped with all the necessary electrical wiring and subtle LED lighting which allow the room's historical fittings to be preserved but which also allow OMEGA to display its products in a warm, welcoming environment.

The OMEGA Boutique at the Swatch Art Peace Hotel offers the entire spectrum of the brand's watches along with products from the Fine Leather and Fine Jewellery collections. All of these are presented in one of Shanghai's most extraordinary buildings whose specially trained staff members are looking forward to welcoming visitors from around the world to share a special OMEGA experience.

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