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# Parliament responds to hunger strike

**By: Khaled Al-Hilaly**  
SANA'A, 27 July — After two days of sit ins and hunger strikes in front of parliament by human rights activists, members of parliament, lawyers and displaced families of Al-Ja'ashin, the parliament promised on Monday to take action.  
Lawyer and human rights activist Mohammed Naji Alaw, Shawqi Al-Qadhi MP from the Islah Party, and Aidroos Al-Naqib head of the socialist block in parliament had been on a hunger strike for two days in solidarity with the people of Al-Ja'ashin in front of the parliament.

They joined Ahmad Saif Hashed, an independent MP, and Tawakul Karman, chairwoman of Women Journalists without Chains (WJWC) who had declared an open hunger strike on Saturday in solidarity with displaced Ja'shanis.  
Dozens of Al-Ja'ashin displaced families started a hunger strike in front of the parliament on Monday protesting against what they called continued aggression and violations by Sheikh Mansour and demand government protection.  
The families of Al-Anseen in Al-Ja'ashin district in Ibb fled their villages to seek protection from the govern-

ment in Sana'a. They have been living for the last seven months in Sana'a. While the men live in tents, women and children live in two apartments in a nearby neighborhood. Each four bedroom apartment shelters the women and children from six families.  
Earlier this week parliament security guards forced Hashed out by instruction from the head of parliament Yaha Al-Ra'i, according to a press release from the Al-Tagheer organization whose director is Hashed.  
"Seven officers came to me inside the parliament hall and informed me that they have orders from the head of parliament to kick me out," Hashed

told the Yemen Times.  
"The second day I asked Al-Ra'i whether it was true that he order the guards to force me out of the parliament hall and his answer was 'yes, I told them to remove you'."  
This is the third hunger strike by Hashed. The previous one was in middle of July and lasted for four days when he succeeded in bringing two ministers for parliamentary questioning over security. Hashed is a member of the rights and freedoms parliamentary committee and head of the Al-Tagheer Organization for Defending Rights and Freedoms.



Ahmad Saif Hashed, an independent MP, declared an open hunger strike on Saturday in solidarity with displaced Ja'shanis.

Continued on page 2

# Marib youth speak out

**Known as one of the most risky areas in Yemen where tribes have continuously kidnapped foreigners and Yemenis alike and attacked government and oil investments, Marib is also one of the most significant historic areas of the country where the Queen of Sheba's kingdom once was. It is also one of the wealthiest areas in the country in terms of oil and gas.**

**By: Nadia Al-Sakkaf**  
SANA'A, July 28 — While most non-government organizations working in tribal areas work in safe districts where the beneficiaries are not usually exposed to conflict and violence, the Youth and Development Project in Marib is different.



A group of Marib College students kidnapped three cars that belong to members of Nehm tribesmen in 2008. This comes as an attempt to pressure Nehm tribe to force its members who kidnapped their teachers bus to release it.

Under the Development Dialogue Forum (DDF) program of the Partners Yemen organization, youth in Marib especially those in conflict zones have been given a chance to be part of empowerment and peace building activities in order to enable them to have a say in their areas.  
Twenty eight Maribi youth between 18 and 28 years old are now in Sana'a as part of the third symposium on youth and development in Marib, held on Wednesday July 28, 2010.  
"Before the training we would have dreams but we would not know how to pursue them. Now I can think of practical ways to achieve my dreams focusing on strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats", said Nasser Ku'lan, 26 yrs, of Madghel district.  
"This symposium is a great way to bring people from Mareb together. This is the first time in which Mareb youth from all districts not only get to be together in one event but also meet with their governorate council representatives. It is a great way for youth to see other ways to express their opinions and talk about their needs and issues away from violence, road blockage and kidnapping", said Entisar Al-Qadhi, female 25 yrs, of Al-Joobah district Murad  
The event is being held in cooperation with the local council in Marib and the Local Administration Ministry. It aims at promoting dialogue in solving conflict and facilitating mediation activities in the conflict and revenge killing ridden governorate through empowering youth.

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# Top graduates still without jobs after two years



By: Sadeq Al-Wesabi

SANA'A, July 28 — About two hundred students from different universities last Saturday protested that they had not been given jobs in accordance with the president's promise to employ them when honoring them at Yemeni Science Day last year.

The president publicly ordered the Civil Service Ministry to employ the top students during the celebration. Yemeni Science Day was launched by the president in 2008 to honor top students and grant them positions, laptops, and certificates.

After the president's instructions, the students went to the Scientific Research and Higher Education Ministry to follow-up on their promised jobs, and the ministry forwarded the students' files to the Civil Service Ministry. However,

the students have still not obtained their jobs.

"While we were waiting for our jobs, the Civil Service Ministry told us there are no jobs for this year despite the president's order," Nashwan said. "The 2010 budget didn't recognize us as a top student," he added.

Top students from different governorates decided to protest in front of the Republic Presidency Office to obtain their jobs. Nashwan indicated that the Presidency Office was dissatisfied with what had happened to the students and immediately wrote an urgent letter to the Cabinet to implement the president's orders.

"I have been working for Sana'a University as a teacher without salary for two years," said Abulkareem Nashwan, 29, who graduated from Sana'a University in 2008 and was honored by

the president in 2009 as a top student. Sana'a University's administration did not take any action regarding this problem, according to Nashwan.

Some top students are still without jobs in either the public or private sector. According to Salah Maotha, 29, a top student from Sana'a University who graduated in 2008. Salah said that he and other top students are getting depressed by this procrastination and unfair treatment. "We have resorted to working in the private sector where the environment is very bad and discouraging," he said sorrowfully.

Next Saturday, the Scientific Research and Higher Education Ministry will hold the third Science Day under the auspices of the president to honor the top students from 2009. Several researchers and professors will be also honored by the president.

## More clashes between government and Southern Movement in Al-Dhali' and Lahj

By: Foad Musad

DHALI', July 27 — Armed men from the Southern Movement wounded Security Chief Directorate of Dhali' district Major Ali Al-Azraqi and three of his men on Monday in an attack with grenades and light weapons.

Local sources said that the attack was followed by a clash between security forces and Southern Movement militants which continued until Tuesday night. Several explosions targeted the Dhali' police station and some military sites, but no casualties were reported.

In Lahj governorate, it was reported that Deputy Director of Political Security, Colonel Abdu Muhsin Al-Hashidi, was injured on Monday in an assassination attempt by an armed group on the road between Lahj and Aden. He was sent to a hospital in Aden.

Earlier this week, unknown gunmen in Radfan, Lahj governorate attacked the electricity generators of Dhali' governorate on Friday, causing a complete electrical outage for all nine directorates of the governorate and some parts of Ibb.

On Sunday fire was exchanged between security forces and armed men, causing the death of four soldiers and injuries to others in Halmeen district in

Lahj. A number of security personnel had entered the region, where they exchanged fire with the militants.

Local sources said that the director of the electricity cooperation in Dhali' informed the governor, Ali Qassem Taleb, he had left responsibility of the electricity cut off because of the repeated attacks on generators for more than a month.

Locals in areas affected by the electrical outage called on local authorities in Radfan to carry its responsibility and demanded a proper solution to the frequent attacks on generators and cables which disturbed public security and shut down many of the interests of the local businesses.

The generators have been targeted in attacks in recent weeks by gunmen. The generators were repaired after continues demands by local people. The targeted generators are in Safa Hila in Halmeen district between Dhali' and Aden.

According to a statement from people of Dhali', earlier this month there was an expanded meeting of the Local Council to discuss the issue.

The statement noted that gunmen used RPGs and improvised explosions to cut the electrical cables and damage the generators and towers.

It added that although the electricity workers tried to repair the damages,

the gunmen sometimes attacked and kidnapped the workers to prevent them from repairing the damages. They also seized vehicles belonging to the electricity corporation.

In the statement, the local people of Dhali' expressed their rejection of such acts by gunmen and demanded their arrest and trial.

Attacks repeated area located near the electricity cable from power plant in Al-Anad in Lahj to Dhali' caused frequent electricity cuts off in the governorate.

These cuts caused chaos and outrage among the people, who demanded that security forces stop these attacks on power stations, which lead to huge damages to public and private interests.

Earlier this month there was a fire in the power station in the city's district of Al-Rayyan. Mukkal a power outage lasting 18 hours from. This caused a power outage for 18 hours.

Another fire occurred at Al-Huswah Power Station, in Aden, of week after the Al-Mukkala fire. Some areas surrounding Shiekh Othman district in Aden city witnessed electricity cuts for 12 hours.

In June, the Ministry of Electricity imposed an estimated 50 percent increase in electricity prices, which appeared in monthly bills.

## School students obtaining democracy

By: Malak Shaheer

SANA'A, July 28 — Nedal, a 15 year old blind student, was elected at his school to be one of seven students representing their school on the Students' Council.

The students' councils are a group of students elected by their peers in the school they study in to represent them in front of the principles and work to solve their problems. The students can also offer suggestions to make them feel they can practice their democratic rights to make their voices heard.

The Students' Councils Project was started in August 2007, is funded by the Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI) and implemented by the Academy for Educational Development.

It is aimed at students in four Yemeni governorates, Amran, Shabwa, Marib and Sana'a and targets students from 6th to 12th grade. It helps to build leadership skills among students, develop their level of understanding of others, and to make them aware of the democracy in practice.

"Democracy is not just a method to be taught in schools and not implemented in real life. Democracy is practicing how to be democratic," said Abdulsalam Al-Jawfi in the annual Joint Meeting Review held last May in 2010.

Nedal attended the conference and stood up to tell everybody what the problems are in the school he studies in.

"This is a good way to make children's voices heard," said Julia Jay Kerby, project specialist and officer at the Academy for Educational Development that is assisting the MEPI Students' Councils Project.

"I have visited schools in Taiz for three days and I met students in the summer centers who are members of the students' councils in their schools. The students told me they are more confident and that they can now convey



their classmates' voices to others when they participate in conferences," she said. "Now they are experienced in public speaking, leadership and other self independent qualities."

According to Mahmoud Al-Adimi, the manager of the Students Councils' Project they did not find difficulties in these governorates in terms of students' interactions. However, they faced minor difficulties in terms of reaching some remote areas.

"The idea was welcomed totally as it was concerned with schools. The students showed willingness to participate in the councils to make their voices heard," he said.

The seven elected students in each school are responsible for many activities such as cleaning and planting in their school, helping needy students, designing a magazine for the school, and cooperating with parents' councils to find solutions for their sons and daughters if they face problems.

"Now the students know how to run meetings and even how to carry out action plans and tell the school principle about them," Al-Adimi added.

He said that based on the success of

the students' council for three academic years, the Ministry of Education as well as the funding agency MEPI plan to expand the project in another six larger area governorates where there are a high population of students. These governorates are Taiz, Ibb, Hodeida, the main city of Sana'a, Dhamar and Ibb.

According to Julia Jay Kerby, school principles show a willingness to have these councils even if they are not part of the project. "People showed interest in the project and when we distributed 60,000 brochures to schools not included in the project, some made their own students' councils," she explained.

The schools included in the project are provided with stationery as well as trainers to guide students in what to do, how to discuss issues with the parents' councils, and how to convey their colleagues' concerns to the school masters.

"The students improved in terms of interacting with people. They were trained to play the teacher role and talk to members of the parents' council," said Al-Adimi. "They become more confident."

## Manarat Center prepares huge Yemeni encyclopedia

By: The Yemen Times correspondent

DHAMAR, July 27 — More than 400 researchers from Yemeni universities have started writing an enormous information project: "The Huge Yemeni Encyclopedia". It has been initiated by The Yemeni Historical and Future Strategic Studies Center (the Manarat Center) in cooperation with Yemeni universities.

It is thought that the Yemeni encyclopedia will be released soon. The encyclopedia will be the largest Yemeni encyclopedia ever and it will be available in an electronic version so that researchers will be able to access its information easily.

The executive manager of the Manarat Center, Mr. Abdurahman Al-Olafi, stated that the huge Yemeni

encyclopedia project aims to establish a perfect information reference about the past and the future of Yemen. Also it aims to establish an objective database to help researchers in their studies, and it contains many different areas of study including the sciences.

He added that the Manarat Center will accomplish this project in cooperation with the Ministry of Higher Studies and Scientific Research by holding workshops at many Yemeni universities. The workshops will cover many areas and the general framework of the encyclopedia will be released soon in a national forum. The forum will be held in the light of recommendations from the workshops, and the universities will be the starting point and effective partners in this preparatory period. The universities will be involved in revising all the

subjects within the encyclopedia including maps, pictures and other attachments.

"The soft-copy encyclopedia which will be released soon and is the first of its kind and an important project," said Al-Olafi.

The president of Dhamar University, Dr. Ahmed Mohammad, said: "This project is an important project for the nation of Yemen and everything in it reflects the Yemeni civilization."

Dr. Almiri, a member of the Trustees council of the Manarat Center and a genetic researcher, said "Yemenis need to know about their heroes and history which dates back 250,000 years. We are sure that the huge Yemeni encyclopedia which we are preparing right now will satisfy this need and will be a unique reference about Yemen."

### Continued from page 1

#### Parliament responds to hunger strike

The Yemen Times called Sheikh Mansour to comment on the news and in a quick conversation he criticized calling the Ja'shanis in Sana'a as displaced people and described them as "liars."

"It is untrue," he said, "and the president has instructed to return them to Ibb. They are lying in order to receive money," he said ending the call.

In April this year a parliamentary committee was sent to Taiz and Ibb to investigate the matter, but they were not allowed to Al-Ja'ashin. They released a report after their meeting with the sheikh, his son, the local council, and local government authorities. The report's recommendations have not yet been fulfilled by the government.

Another committee of parliamentarians had visited Al-Ja'ashin in 2007 in response to pleas of the locals. Sheikh Mansour's men prevented the committee from even entering the area and threatened them and the governor of Ibb told them he would not be able to protect

them.

"We suspended our hunger strike after the head of the parliament made a promise to arrange the return of the displaced people, compensate them and close down Mansour's private jails," Hashed said.

Hashed pointed out that the protesters' fourth demand, to lift immunity for Mansour, was rejected by the head of the parliament.

"We met with the head of the parliament and discussed enforcing the parliamentary committee recommendations on Al-Ja'ashin," said Hashed, adding that the hunger strike in front of the parliament will return unless the promise is fulfilled.

Mansour the sheikh of the Al-Ja'ashin area wants to force his own ownership over the endowment lands that are managed by the ministry of endowment. His militia demand food and money from farmers, insult people and drag them by force to the sheikh's main residence in Taiz city. For those who will not budge,

the sheikh's militia, loot the crops, destroy the coffee and qat plantations as well as houses, according to locals.

In a press release three Yemeni human rights organizations condemned what they called the forced displacement of dozens of Ja'shanis families by Sheikh Mansour.

The organizations were the Women Journalists without Chains (WJWC), the National Organization for Defending Rights and Freedoms (aka HOOD) and the Al-Tagheer Organization for Defending Rights and Freedoms.

Mansour's violations against the Ja'shanis include detention in his private jails, stealing properties, demolishing homes, displacing people and imposing royalties, the organizations explained in their press release.

They added that the violations by Mansour, the influential member of the Shura [Consultative] Council and the president's poet, against Ja'shanis tells the story of slavery that people live and that the government knows about.

They called the government to investigate the Ja'shanis complaints about Mansour and his militia, and to strip him of the immunity he has acquired by being a member of the Shura Council.

"[the organizations] condemned and wondered about the careless attitude taken by the government towards the crimes of displacing Ja'shanis over seven months," according to the press release.

Since 2007, the people of Al-Anseen, a local district of Al-Ja'ashin, have been fleeing from their villages and demanding help from the central government in Sana'a against the atrocities of the sheikh.

In their complaints to state institutions, Ja'shanis named six of the sheikh's men who harass them on behalf of the sheikh, as well as his son, a member of parliament from the ruling party.

Mansour has a private prison in Al-Habla in Al-Ja'ashin. Also, in his house in Taiz, there is a room used as a prison for Ja'shanis. In his main prison in Al-Habla the prisoners are locked up with

chains on their feet, according eye witnesses.

Al-Ja'ashin is located in Ibb governorate about 40 km southwest of Ibb city and 250 kilometers to the south of Sana'a. Its total area is 360 sq km and has a population of about 80,000.

#### Marib youth speak out

"The symposium will build upon the previous two symposiums that Partners Yemen organized in the last couple of months but will bring the youth aspect. The youth are carefully selected considering tribal conflict and sensitivities. Most of the participants have revenge killing issues with each other," explained Nadwa Al-Dawsari, the Executive Director of Partners Yemen, which is part of Partners for Democratic Change International.

During the symposium, the youth representing all districts of Marib are given the opportunity to discuss with their elected governorate council members

key youth issues and potential youth roles in development and water management as well as conflict prevention in the governorate.

This program targets Marib governorate and aims at bringing influential tribal and civic leaders from Marib with key government officials to discuss key development and stability issues in Marib. The program organizes six symposiums over the year.

The aim of the symposiums is to come out with recommendations and support local initiatives that promote the facilitation of the development process and supports peace.

The participating youth will be part of a 10-day training program on youth development issues, basic planning and dialogue skills. They will also go on a tour to visit a national youth non-governmental organization which is the Youth Leadership Development Foundation in order to exchange knowledge and create connections with the foundation's members.

In Brief

**SANA'A**

**Security plan to face trafficking, infiltration in eastern Yemen**

The Interior Ministry said a security plan had been set out to secure the eastern coast and combat trafficking crimes, mainly drugs, infiltration and piracy.

The plan will be studied with the Ministry of Defense for final approval and it will be implemented jointly with the ministry, it said.

It calls for coordination between the two ministries to secure the eastern coast against smuggling crimes and infiltration, it concluded.

Separately, the security authorities in Aden and Abyan provinces have been placed on heightened alert to face possible sabotage and preserve public security, the ministry said.

Moreover, it called for evaluating the security performance in both cities and tackle deficiencies to ensure achieving the best results.

**Yemen, FAO discuss developing fisheries sector workers capacities**

Yemen and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) talked here on Sunday over the need of developing the capacities of fisheries sector workers.

At their meeting, Minister of Fisheries Wealth, Mohammad Shamlan, and the FAO Representative in Yemen, Fuad Aldomy talked about the importance of getting modern systems for marine control and inspection.

The Minister noted to the significance of enhancing the cooperation between Yemen and FAO in establishing a fishing database.

He also noted to the efforts exerted by FAO representative via allocating fisheries projects to Yemen, which is one of the vital productive sectors that meets the people's needs and the local and regional food security.

The two sides also pointed to the co-

operation aspects between Yemen and FAO in fishing information area.

ILO consultant hails Yemen achievements in child labor

International Labor Organization (ILO) consultant said on Saturday that Yemen has achieved great success in area of eliminating the worst forms of child labor.

During her meeting with the Aden province Undersecretary for Investment and Resources Development Sector Ahmed al-Dhela'ay, Adviser ILO Sule Caglar said that her visit to Yemen aims to formalize a document of an ILO-funded program to eliminate worst forms of child labor in Yemen in cooperation with the Ministry of Labor and Social Affaires.

Caglar and al-Dhela'ay discussed the arrangements for formalizing the document.

They also reviewed the ways of collecting information via holding meetings with the concerned bodies, and setting up a program to eradicate the worst forms of child labor by 2016.

**National Strategy for Productive Health in Workshop**

A workshop was held on Saturday in Sana'a over updating the National Strategy for Productive Health organized by the Ministry of Public Health and Population with the participation of 500 participants representing various bodies.

Deputy Minister of the Health Ministry Jamilah al-Ra'ebi said, at the opening of the workshop, that the workshop aims at defining the key priorities of the coming strategy 2011- 2015 based on strength and weakness points of the previous strategy 2006- 2010.

She affirmed that the coming strategy will focus on the 4th and 5th goals of the Millennium Goals over reducing maternal and infants mortality rate.

**TAIZ**

**African infiltrators to Yemen on the rise**

About 14 Somali infiltrators have been seized at Thubab Coast in the province of Taiz by security authorities, The Interior Ministry's Information Center reported on Sunday.

The infiltrators were taken from Basoso Somali Port to Thubab Coast illegally by a smuggling boat.

Legal measures will be taken against the boat's owner and three of its sailors, who are Yemenis, while refugees were sent to the main camp for refugees in Kharaz district of Hajja governorate.

**SA'ADA**

**€10 mln humanitarian aid to displaced persons and refugees in Yemen**

The European Commission announced on Monday a funding package of €10 million to respond to urgent humanitarian needs exacerbated by a lack of support from the international community.

In a press release, the EC said that the funds will be used to provide shelter, water and sanitation, food and livelihood support, basic health care and protection.

The money is directed to the most vulnerable among the 350,000 internally displaced persons, their host communities, and 170 000 foreign refugees in Yemen.

"Yemen is facing two major humanitarian challenges which are overstretching the country's resources," said Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response, Kristalina Georgieva.

"Due to the recurrent conflict, we have about 350,000 internally displaced people in the north. There are also over 170,000 refugees, mainly from Somalia, who are trying to escape the instability in

the Horn of Africa, scattered all around Yemen. The most vulnerable among both groups of population are largely dependent on international humanitarian aid as livelihood opportunities are scarce and the resources of host communities have been depleted and overstretched over the past few months".

The Commissioner continued "We are facing a situation, where humanitarian organisations are confronted with a shortage of funding that could force them to reduce or discontinue their operations. Urgent and immediate financial support is needed to ensure the continuation of the relief effort. I am therefore extremely glad that the European Commission is able to make such a substantial contribution to saving the lives of tens of thousands of people who are living in deplorable conditions in Yemen".

Provision of humanitarian aid to people displaced by the conflict is hampered by persistent insecurity even outside the former war zone in North Yemen. Part of the Commission funding will therefore be used to ensure the monitoring of the rapidly evolving security situation and to improve coordination among humanitarian actors and donors. Advocacy for the principles of neutrality, impartiality and independence of humanitarian aid is also necessary to enlarge the humanitarian space.

The aid will be distributed in particular through UNHCR, Médecins du Monde, Oxfam, ICRC, and WFP. The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs will also be supported to provide monitoring, coordination and advocacy.

**LAHJ**

**Yemen praises UNHCR efforts, projects for refugees**

Yemen hailed on Sunday the efforts of the United Nations High Commissioner

for Refugees (UNHCR) and its projects provided for the refugees.

During his meeting with head of the UNHCR office in Aden Leila Nassif, Lahj Governor Muhsen al-Naqib affirmed the care of local authority in improving the refugees' conditions in Kharaz camp.

Al-Naqib and Leila also reviewed cooperation aspects between the UNHCR and local authority as well as the projects, which will be implemented at Kharaz refugee camp, in addition to the projects that are implemented by

CARE.

For her part, UNHCR head praised the role of the government and local councils as well as facilitates provided for the Commissioner, which is to continue its efforts to assist refugees and citizens via implementing service project for them.

The UNHCR has carried out various projects for the refugees and citizens adjacent to the camps at a cost of \$200 million covers electricity, safe water, education, health and roads in the last three years.

**VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) invites Yemeni Nationals to apply for the position of "Travel Assistant" UNDP Office Sana'a



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Opportunities

**Women's Voices from the Muslim World: A Short-Film Festival**

Women's Voices Now (WVN), a New York-based not-for-profit social enterprise is calling for film submissions for Women's Voices from the Muslim World: A Short-Film Festival. The Festival is open to filmmakers of all genders, nationalities and faiths.

Subject Matter: The Festival aims to give voice to women of all faiths living in Muslim-majority countries and Muslim women living as minorities around the globe. The Festival is a unique project that will highlight pro-women voices from within the Muslim World and present an unfiltered and honest account of these women's stories-focusing on the struggle for freedom of expression and inalienable human rights. The scope of the films' subject must be pertinent to the spirit of the Festival and should address the experiences that shape these women's lives, the challenges that must be overcome before gender equality becomes the status quo, and the people who are making this transformation happen.

Categories: Filmmakers may submit into one of the following four categories:

**Documentary Shorts**

- Films must present factual materials with little or no fictional additions.

- Films must be under 21 minutes in length (Submitted as Part 1 and Part 2 pursuant to YouTube time limits)
- Anyone may submit to this category.

**Fiction Shorts**

- Films must be under 21 minutes in length (Submitted as Part 1 and Part 2 pursuant to YouTube time limits)
- Anyone may submit to this category.

**Experimental Shorts**

- Any type of non-traditional films are welcome, including silent films, mobile films, animated films and photo montages.
- Films must be 90-300 seconds in length.
- Anyone may submit to this category.

**Student Shorts**

- Students must be enrolled at time of submission.
- Films must be under 10 minutes and 30 seconds.

**Submission:**

The Festival will accept submissions from both amateur and professional filmmakers. Pursuant to WVN's goal of reaching and educating people around

the world, WVN requests that films be made available for viewing on-line. Filmmakers may apply and upload their films via the WVN website ( www.womensvoicesnow.org) . All submitted films must be final cuts. All requests for confidentiality and anonymity will be honored.

**Deadlines:**

- Submissions are currently open and will remain open until November 1, 2010 without charge.

**Viewing:**

Films admitted to the Festival will be available for viewing on the WVN website. Top films, coupled with panels of speakers providing further insight and context, will be screened during an event at the Los Angeles Film School in February 2011 and subsequently in communities around the world.

**Judging:**

The Festival administrators, in conjunction with an on-line contest held in December 2010, will select the top films in each category. The top films will then be judged by a panel of experts, who will select the prize winners. The prize winners will be announced at the February 2011 event in Los Angeles. US\$35,000 IN CASH PRIZES: Cash prizes totaling \$31,000 will be awarded to the top three films in each

category. Eight Honorable Mentions will receive an additional \$4,000. Contact Information: info@womensvoicesnow.org

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**Job title: Marketing & Sales Manager**

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- Achieving gaining targets (income).
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بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ  
وَمِنَ الْمُجْتَهِدِينَ فِي سَبِيلِ اللَّهِ الَّذِينَ يَكْفُلُونَ الْيَتَامَىٰ وَالْأَسْفَىٰ /  
أمین عبدالغني علي الحروي و عبدالحكيم عبدالغني علي الحروي  
وجميع أفراد أسرتهم الكريمة  
لوفاة المغفور لها بإذن الله والدتهم الفاضلة  
سائلين الله عزوجل أن يتغمد الفقيدة بواسع رحمته ومغفرته وأن يسكنها أعلى مراتب الجنة  
ويلهم أهلها وذويها الصبر والسلوان، وإنا لله وإنا إليه راجعون.  
الأسيفون:  
عماد السقاف  
مدير مكتب يمن تايمز بتعز - رئيس تحرير مجلة الأسرة والتنمية  
وفيق مصطفى السقاف  
وجميع موظفي مؤسسة يمن تايمز ومجلة الأسرة والتنمية



# Griffen Group Now in Aden

*Murjan Travel - Fedex - Western Union*



Residents in Aden city now have the distinguished opportunity to benefit from the quality services by Murjan Travel, world class IATA certified travel agency.

Based in Sana'a, Murjan Travel is ranked as the fourth largest travel management group in Yemen. Now with the new expansion Murjan Travel is already gaining ground in the travel and tourism industry and reaching to more clients across the country.

"We have made it our mission to specialize in corporate travel management and to share the benefits with our clients. While customer satisfaction guides our policies, service orientation and international standards are goals we never compromise," said General Manager of Murjan Travel Mr. Ahmed Badr on the agency's mission.

The new branch was officially inaugurated on Thursday last week at the Aden Mall where the office is located. A number of investment companies' directors attended the inauguration ceremony which was the talk of the town.

Khaled Hamoud Al-Obaidi, information and stats and doc at the governorate.

"Aden Mall is one of the if not the most visited centers in Aden City and this is why we decided that we must have a branch here," explained Basim Quiam the marketing officer of the branch.

The branch includes a Fedex office as well as a Western Union exchange service which are both part of the mother company Griffin Ltd.

Murjan Travel is a part of a Griffin Ltd., the internationally renowned business group established in 1997.

Esam Al-Aini director of the mother company Griffin Ltd. Was also present at the inauguration of the new branch and took pride in the new expansion.

"We have been in this business for decades and it is our pleasure to provide our services to more and more people. Yemen deserves attention as it is an astounding travel destination with a variety of scenery and customs," said Al-Aini.

Griffin Ltd. is an International group of companies with operations throughout the Middle East and Africa. Its range of activities include: Oilfield services, Engineering and Construction, Security & Border Control, Environmental Monitoring & Assessment, Medical Diagnostics products, Shipping & Logistics, Courier, Money Exchange, Travel & Visas and Advertising.

"The new office is already seeing some action as curious visitors are enticed into walking into the office and finding out about the services provided by Murjan Travel," said Abdunaser

Al-Waqidi the new branch's customer service officer. He added that most of the visitors are foreigners and have confidence in the quality of services provided by the new office.

This is not the first presence of Griffin in Aden as it already has a Fedex office in Al-Mua'alla. However, according to Khaled Al-Nemri customer service officer of Fedex officer in Al-Mua'alla having presence in Aden mall was a strategic step for Murjan Travel especially since it includes related services such as courier and money exchange.

Murjan Travel has been operating in Yemen since 1998 with a mission to provide a unique travel experience for its clients.

## Further success in the travel industry

With the new branch in Aden the company will be able to provide its premium services to customers beyond its niche in the oil sector which was the predominate client base.

Murjan Travel also offers the expertise to service the broadening corporate base that is now taking shape within Yemen.

Murjan Travel also manages corporate travel for various United Nations businesses, including UNICEF and Movenpick. Moreover, the agency has participated in major tenders for Travel Agencies last month with UNDP and OMV.

Since March 2008 Murjan has partnered with FCm Travel Solutions. In March this year it has achieved first place in the 'Dialing for Euros exercise' that was introduced in Berlin's sales conference. This exercise helps fine tune Murjan's global sales approach.

"When we achieved the first place in the Dialing for Euros exercise it was a recognition of our state of the art modern techniques that also reflects the high level of professionalism our staff has," Elias Habib the Sales Manager of FCm Yemen and Murjan Travel.

Murjan Travel is committed to the goal of making business travel more efficient, comfortable and cost effective. The company's strategy is to draw on extensive experience in business travel services and specialize in offering customized packages for each client.

"We strongly believe that corporate clients require a range of specific services which are crucial for the successful management of their travel programs. This is why we differentiate ourselves from conventional travel agencies and focus exclusively on designing travel solutions for corporate clients," reads the company's mission statement.

The company's policy is to take time to understand the clients' needs through having


dedicated operations manager who work with clients to analyze their specific travel requirements.

"Our travel management strategy is based on clients' priorities and takes into consideration that each traveler is unique and may require different levels of service. This is why we here in Murjan don't simply assist in the booking of tickets and hotels, but, we go extra miles to provide clients with the tools to maximize their entire travel management system," explained Quiam.



**Murjan Travel's state-of-the-art back office systems and travel software collects information which will allow us to ensure that your travel management systems are updated and create the best results for your company**






The FedEx name was already one of the world's most famous companies. The name and the reputation of FedEx was immediately approved and accepted as a leader in the Yemen's delivery industry.

FedEx service quickly spread growing into the largest internal network courier service within Yemen.

FedEx Yemen. connects 10 Cities across Yemen, and more than 220 around the world.

FedEx Express. is dedicated to offering time-definite, most personal, caring delivery service to the most locations in the Yemen and around the world.




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# Windows into international development work in Yemen: ICRC



## Stories of women displaced by war

ICRC expatriate personnel [in April] managed to return to Sa'ada and join forces with the staff permanently based there. This has enabled the ICRC to better pinpoint needs and to respond accordingly.

Tens of thousands of Yemenis have fled the fighting of recent months. Some of them have taken refuge in schools. In Khaiwan Medina in the north of Amran governorate, five families are living in the village school. Each of them occupies one small classroom, with no toilet or window. Most people could take very little as they scrambled to escape the fighting. The ICRC has provided mattresses, stoves, tarpaulins and food. But now the families are under pressure, as the school year is starting and they are being asked to leave. Three women talk about their flight, and about life as a displaced family.



Mas'ouda (left) and Seyda (right) with their children



Ha'ila

year is starting and they need the classrooms. My husband and I have 12 children. Where are we supposed to take our family?"

### Ha'ila

Ha'ila and her husband have eight children. They made the long journey from Harf Sufyan on foot, taking two days to cover the distance. They live in one shared space: four walls and no roof on an isolated patch of land not far from the school in Khaiwan Medina.

"My husband fell and broke his leg during the journey to Khaiwan Medina. He has been away in the capital since then, trying to recover. I now live in a destroyed house with my eight children, not far from the school." She points at the four stone walls surrounding us.

"Look how small it is. We don't even have a roof. When it rains, the place turns into a bathtub. We try to protect some of our belongings by putting them above the level of the water. Then we protect ourselves with whatever clothes we have on. Inevitably, we end up getting soaked. It gets very cold at night.

We wouldn't be here if our house hadn't been destroyed. I hope my husband recovers soon so we can work out what to do next."

he was young. We used to work on the farm and make our living; we were happy there. Then suddenly, things fell apart when the war started; we took whatever we could and headed to Wadi Khaiwan (Khaiwan Medina). We left the beautiful farm and are now living in a classroom in a school with other people. We have been here for almost two months now; it is only two weeks ago that we finally received some blankets, tarpaulins, stoves and so forth."

### Mas'ouda and Seyda

Mas'ouda is one of many Yemenis forced to leave their homes by the conflict. Her wrinkled face tells her story.

"I have six children. They live with my husband and me along with our 45 young grandchildren. Our house was destroyed at the beginning of the war, burnt to the ground. We left everything behind and decided to get out of Harf Sufyan along with my neighbour Seyda and her family."

Seyda takes up the story. "We have no choice but to live in this school at the moment. At least it puts a roof over our heads. But now they're telling us we have to leave because the school



Fatima

### Fatima

Fatima is a woman in her sixties. With her veil dropping across her face, she speaks of what used to be and how she is coping now.

"After my husband died 20 years ago, I moved to a farm in Harf Sufyan with my eight children. I have seven daughters, and my only son, who is now 20 years old, has been handicapped since

## ICRC gets clearer picture of destruction and steps up response

The ICRC has sent international staff who left the north of the country in September back to Sa'ada, where they are joining 40 staff members who put their lives at risk by staying in the area throughout the conflict to carry on with their humanitarian work.

Joint ICRC and Yemen Red Crescent teams have visited camps for displaced people (IDPs) and areas such as Sa'ada where fighting had taken place. Among the staff who went back to Sa'ada are a water engineer and a health specialist who are currently assessing needs. According to their reports, there is widespread destruction in Sa'ada's old city, including to the water system.

The ICRC's primary concern now in areas affected by the fighting is to make sure that displaced people and returnees as well as residents are provided with shelter, and to restore proper water and sanitation services. The organization also sees a huge need for expanded medical and other health-related services, in particular at the prosthetic/orthotic centre. The scale of these and other requirements is likely to become

clearer as people become able to move around more easily.

The ICRC and the Yemen Red Crescent are determined to carry on with their work helping conflict victims in the north and to expand their activities as the situation allows. Over the past six months they have brought water, food, shelter and health care to at least 150,000 residents and displaced people.

### Supplying clean water

The ICRC is currently:

- supplying 66 water points in Sa'ada town with nearly 400,000 litres of water per day, mostly by truck. Also in Sa'ada, it is providing diesel fuel to run pumps for the local network serving 80,000 people. It is building a further six water points with a total capacity of 30,000 litres and a new 300,000-litre concrete water storage tank;
- providing diesel fuel together with the Yemen Red Crescent in Al Mahader and Al Azgool to pump water to some 17,500 people;
- providing drinking water, sanitation and tents in coordination with the Yemen Red Crescent for

23,000 displaced people in Sam, Al Ehsa'a, Al Gabanah, Mandabah, Al Shat and Bugalat camps in Sa'ada governorate.

### Providing food and other essential items

In March the ICRC and the Yemen Red Crescent distributed household essentials such as blankets, hygiene items and soap to nearly 8,000 displaced people in and around Sa'ada town. They also distributed blankets in Al Jabana camp for displaced people, food to displaced people in Damaj, in Al Safra district, and food and other items to the nearly 3,000 residents of Al Oqab, a village on the outskirts of Sa'ada hard hit by the fighting. In addition, the ICRC provided some 500 tents through the Yemen Red Crescent for people returning to Al Oqab.

### Cooperation with the Yemen Red Crescent Society

Over the past three weeks, the ICRC has stepped up its support for the Sa'ada chapter of the Yemen Red Crescent by providing a generator and emergency first-aid kits.



Yemen Red Crescent and ICRC distribute essential household items to returnees, Al Oqab, Sa'ada governorate, Yemen.

## Yemeni fisherman still waiting to obtain his confiscated boat

By: Sadeq Al-Wesabi

HODEIDAH, July 16— Ali Futaini, 45, sustains his eight children and many relatives through fishing. Futaini owned a large fishing vessel where he and his extended family worked, worth approximately YR 14,000,000 (USD 61,000).

Futaini didn't expect that his boat would be confiscated by Eritrean soldiers, resulting in negative consequences for him and his family, but this is what happened to Futaini, who was looking after more than 30 fishermen.

Five months ago, Futaini received the news of the confiscation of his boat by Eritrea. Afterwards, he tried in vain to get his boat back by bringing his complaints to the Yemeni government and Eritrean embassy. "Until now, I have not been able to restore my boat, and my life is getting worse," he said.

These events led Futaini to sell his house to cover living expenses. "I have bought a small boat for YR 900,000, but this boat cannot hold more than seven people. Before, I was responsible for more than 30 people," he said.

Ali Abbas, 35, who was in charge of the seized boat when it was confiscated, gave the Yemen Times an account of what happened when Futaini's boat was taken.

While Abbas and his workmates were fishing far away from Eritrean waters they suddenly heard gunshots and saw a fiberglass boat with five armed Eritrean soldiers on board coming towards them. "They were screaming and threatening to kill us if we tried to resist them," Abbas said.

The boat was confiscated, and the Yemeni fishermen were detained on a small island. They were forced to serve the soldiers and even prepare food for them for one month, according to Abbas.

"They seized the expensive equip-



Futaini (left) and his assistant Abbas are talking to YT reporter on their new small boat replacing their confiscated one by Eritrean.

ment from the boat. Furthermore, they took our money, food, and all our personal items," Abbas said.

"We were very frightened, and we couldn't contact our families who were very worried. The Eritreans dealt with us in a very terrible way," he said.

The 30 fishermen had little food to eat, and even this food was of poor quality. They couldn't sleep well, and there were always weapons pointed at their heads, according to Abbas.

There have been other incidents of Yemeni boats being confiscated far from Eritrean waters, and the owners of these boats often become jobless. Some of them decide to go back to their villages, according to Abbas.

Abbas indicated that he and his workmates didn't enter Eritrean waters. "Some Eritrean people depend on the confiscation of Yemeni boats for their livelihoods," he explained.

"We don't hurt Eritrean fishermen when they are fishing in Yemeni waters," Abbas added.

"Now, our financial situation is very bad. We complained about our problem to the harbor officials, the government,

and the Eritrean embassy, but they didn't give us anything," Futaini said.

Futaini has debts and economic problems due to the confiscation of his boat and has sold his house to buy a small boat and pay his expenses. Moreover, he said that he has lost hundreds of thousands trying to have his boat restored to him.

"Life is difficult. There are people who have become normal fisherman again and obtain only YR 15,000 a month, even though they owned their own boats in the past," he said.

Some fishermen in Hodeidah expressed their fear of fishing in remote areas, especially near Eritrean borders.

According to Fisheries Cooperative Union statistics, about 400 Yemeni fishing boats have been confiscated from 2006 until now. The cost of each boat is between YR 1,000,000 and YR 15,000,000, and more than 3,500 Yemeni fishermen have suffered negative consequences from these confiscations.

The Eritrean government continues to state that Yemeni fishing boats are only confiscated when they are in Eritrean waters.

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## Avoiding Free-fall

Yemen had its moment in the international spotlight six months ago for all the wrong reasons. Despite the sudden attention, the economy is getting worse. There is a danger too that the country could become a safe haven for radicalism and militancy, but hot pursuit might backfire.

By: Ginny Hill  
The World Today

The attempted Christmas day bombing of north-western airlines flight 253 in the skies over Detroit had reporters around the globe frantically typing 'Yemen' into Google. Revelations that the Detroit bomber trained and obtained explosives there temporarily enticed droves of foreign journalists to this under-reported country. Intense media scrutiny lasted a full month, subsiding after a high-level meeting in London at the end of January, attended by United States Secretary of State Hilary Clinton.

Clinton endorsed the launch of the Friends of Yemen, an informal contact group of more than twenty donor countries, who pledged to adopt a comprehensive approach to Yemen's multiple problems. The poorest country in the Middle East confronts southern separatists and northern insurgents, in addition to the presence of Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP), which has its headquarters there. Oil production is also plummeting, from a peak of 460,000 barrels a day in 2002 to the forecast figure of 260,000 this year.

Yemen's slow transition from oil dependency to a post-oil economy presents the challenge of maintaining security and stability with ever fewer resources. The comprehensive approach advocated by the Friends of Yemen is intended to tackle this.

But six months after the Detroit bombing put Yemen on the map, the country's economy is heading in the wrong direction. Foreign exchange reserves have hit a new low, the budget deficit stands at nearly ten percent of gross domestic product and the current account deficit is projected to rise to record levels in the coming year.

In recent months, the Yemeni rial has fallen by ten percent against the dollar, increasing the price of imported food staples, such as rice and wheat, and prompting strikes at the rising cost

of living. The government is burning valuable foreign currency reserves by selling dollars to stabilize the exchange rate. Last year the Central Bank used \$1 billion trying to defend the currency; in the first six months this year it has spent around the same again. If this continues, the central bank will exhaust its foreign exchange reserves within two years, raising the prospect of widespread social unrest if the rial goes into free-fall.

Yemen's technocrats and reformers understand the urgent need to diversify the economy but inward investment is among the lowest in the region, and spending is skewed towards the energy sector and luxury housing.

The business case for effective small-scale projects that meet community needs is poor. High interest rates – currently fixed at twenty percent to protect the rial – weak infrastructure, perceptions of endemic corruption and concerns about security are additional factors that dissuade potential investment. Despite the escalating cash crisis, the international media continues to focus on AQAP activity, entrenching Yemen's reputation as an emerging safe haven. Its attempted April assassination of the British ambassador in Sana'a achieved a powerful psychological impact – even though the bomber failed to kill or injure his target – because he managed to detonate his device within a few meters of a high-profile diplomat.

The group's recent shift in tactics, using pedestrian suicide bombers to strike targeted individuals in both Yemen and Saudi Arabia, has implications for security throughout the Arabian Peninsula.

### American public enemy

AQAP's growing visibility is raising questions about the process of recruitment and radicalization in Yemen, especially among US citizens and other foreign nationals who are studying in its Arabic language schools, Salafi madrassas and Al-Qaeda training camps. The presence of one radical Yemeni

American cleric, Anwar Al-Awlaki, is causing particular concern in Washington. Al-Awlaki, who preached in a Virginia mosque before settling in his father's homeland, has been tangentially linked to a fatal shooting last year in Texas, in which twelve US soldiers and a civilian died, as well as the Christmas Day bomb attempt.

Al-Awlaki's fluency in English and Arabic, his dual nationality and his perceived ability to shape the emotions of alienated western-born Muslims and converts has rapidly turned him into a public enemy in the US. From the outset, the US media has portrayed Al-Awlaki as an AQAP agent, which the preacher initially denied. However, in April, he was put on the CIA's authorized hit-list, when the agency obtained a controversial kill-order on the basis of his alleged ties to Al-Qaeda. Al-Awlaki subsequently made his debut appearance in a video for the local group, advocating the massacre of western civilians.

Yemen's Prime Minister, Ali Mohammed Mega war, has decried the idea of Al-Awlaki's assassination as an unacceptable violation of his country's sovereignty. Foreign Minister AbuBakr al-Qirbi has argued for hard evidence to support Al-Awlaki's re-arrest and trial in Yemen; he was first detained there in 2006 because of his alleged links to Al-Qaeda but released a year later. The reluctance of Yemen's senior officials to fall in line with Washington's latest demand is only partially explained by the fact that Al-Awlaki is the son of a former minister who belongs to a tribe in the oil-producing province of Shabwa, where the central state has limited control.

The fact that officials are pushing back against the US agenda also highlights the fundamental issue of the government's fragile legitimacy, in a country where public opinion is extremely hostile to Washington's foreign policy. The administration has ruled out sending regular troops but its military teams are known to be sharing intelligence and conducting secret

joint operations with Yemeni soldiers, including tracking and killing suspected terrorists, as reported in The Washington Post on January 27.

Clandestine military activity there is set to expand following the Joint Unconventional Warfare Task Force Executive Order, signed last year, which allows the US military to use covert methods to 'penetrate, disrupt, defeat or destroy' Al-Qaeda and 'prepare the environment' for future attacks throughout the Middle East.

Washington recently pledged \$150 million in military assistance to Yemen but Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula's elite leadership structure remains intact and frustration is growing among some US officials, who want to see a demonstration of good faith on the Al-Awlaki case.

The preacher poses a clear threat to US interests, but the current momentum towards hot pursuit must be balanced against an effective outcome. 'He's a hero in the making. If the Americans kill him, they will unleash hundreds like him,' argues one independent academic, who believes US interests would be better served by assisting the Yemeni authorities to catch Al-Awlaki and effectively contain him. Since he is a dual national, it would theoretically be possible for the US authorities to request his extradition to the US to stand trial, but there is no extradition agreement between the two countries.

### Remote-controlled peril

Missiles strikes targeting the local Al-Qaeda leadership started last December and continues.

The Yemeni government has claimed its own security forces are responsible. However, in

May, Amnesty International published photographs of a Tomahawk missile and US made cluster munitions, which sources claimed were used in a drone strike in December, killing dozens of civilians.

An ill-starred drone strike in May illustrated the perils of remote-controlled counter-terrorism. Rather than hitting AQAP's leadership in Marib province, the strike mistakenly killed a prominent local official and mediator, Sheikh Jaber al-Shabwani, and his bodyguards.

Al-Shabwani's tribe responded by throwing up roadblocks, cutting electricity supplies and rupturing oil pipelines. The deceased sheikh's family reportedly accepted two hundred Kalashnikovs and five million riyals in compensation from President Ali Abdullah Saleh, but such generous pay-outs cannot fully restore the government's credibility.

Against the backdrop of ongoing kinetic activity, USAID is rolling out a new community-based development strategy that intends to create jobs, improve services and encourage better local governance.

Several western non-governmental organizations have declined to work as USAID's partners on the ground for fear of being compromised by America's perceived political agenda but, according to one tribal leader, the flow of resources direct to local communities is welcome. 'If I knew the Americans had a hidden agenda, I wouldn't be willing to co-operate, but I don't see where the conspiracy is,' he told me, during a recent research visit to Sana'a. 'Local people need better water supplies, better health care and more schools. Nobody wants to see Al-Qaeda get a foothold.'

The results of similar hearts-and-minds initiatives in Afghanistan are far from proven; evidence is still scarce to support the assumed link between aid and stability. In Yemen, USAID's community-based approach remains controversial, because it bypasses recent efforts to eliminate corruption and encourage better governance in central state institutions.

However, advocates of grassroots intervention argue that supporting a formal state-building agenda while the economy remains on a downward trajectory is like running on sand.

### Just pay-up

Six months after Clinton offered her support to the creation of the Friends of Yemen, the economy remains an overwhelming priority. The government has only made partial progress on macro-economic reforms, announcing two small reductions in subsidized petrol products that consume a huge chunk of the annual budget. Talks to agree a new International Monetary Fund (IMF) program – conditional

on further cuts in diesel subsidies and the introduction of a general sales tax – appear to have stalled, but many of the IMF's recommended reforms will need to be implemented anyway, if ministers want to put the economy on a better long-term footing.

Foreign donors are reluctant to provide unconditional budget support, but if the rial continues to depreciate they will be faced with a stark choice. 'In the worst case scenario, we may have to pay-up to keep the country afloat,' argues one diplomat in Sana'a.

The country is still underfunded relative to need, with child stunting among the worst in the world and acute malnutrition growing in line with rising living costs. Aid practitioners are forecasting a need for greater humanitarian assistance and calling for donors to rebalance the proportion of resources available for emergencies.

The UN is among those leading the call for more humanitarian funds, but the international response to its recent appeal has been dismal and the organization is coming under criticism for failing to take a more effective political leadership role. In the absence of significant extra resources, the UN can still help define the problem and the response, as well as assist with strategic and comparative thinking. The Friends of Yemen are scheduled to meet again in New York in September, when working groups on the economy and the rule of law will present recommendations. The meeting at the UN General Assembly provides an opportunity for the Friends of Yemen to maintain their focus on the comprehensive approach they collectively agreed in London six months ago. The successful completion of negotiations to finalize an IMF program would demonstrate the country's commitment to genuine partnership with the donors.

Without effective progress on governance and economic reforms, there will be an inevitable tendency for hard security concerns to drive the agenda. However, US military planners should conduct negotiations on Al-Awlaki's fate away from the headlines, minimize the backlash from kinetic intervention and focus on preventing a repeat of the domestic intelligence failures that allowed the attempted Detroit attack to happen.

## Deradicalisation, the Yemeni Way

Continued detention may be the best answer for the 'highest-threat' Yemeni detainees. For the rest, the appropriate approach depends on the individual detainee's background and security threat.

By: Marisa L. Porges  
Survival

The failed attack on a commercial airliner on 25 December 2009 by a suicide bomber trained in Yemen focused the attention of US policy-makers and the public on the situation in that country, where ex-detainees have openly returned to terrorist activity and where a resurgent Al-Qaeda poses a regional and international threat. As of March 2010, around 90 of the 188 detainees remaining in US custody at the detention facility at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, were Yemeni.

Although detainee transfers to Yemen were on hold, officials had determined that nearly two-thirds were suitable for resettlement if conditions there were to stabilise dramatically.

Recent counter-terrorism operations within Yemen, too, suggest that the need to handle Yemeni prisoners with terrorist affiliations may continue for some time. Is it possible for deradicalisation strategies to mitigate, even in small degree, the threat these dangerous individuals might pose after release?

US and Yemeni officials have wrestled with this problem for years. But this predicament now weighs on the entire international community, as policy-makers try to address the wide range of strategic challenges in Yemen. The potential radicalisation of Yemen's vulnerable populations is a central concern, and options for the deradicalisation of Yemeni prisoners are a necessary part of that discussion.

## Benefits of a near disaster

The attempted Christmas attack has inadvertently helped the United States on multiple national security fronts.

By: Marisa L. Porges  
Philadelphia Inquirer

It's never good when a terrorist boards a plane filled with Americans and tries to blow it up. But the attempted Christmas attack has inadvertently helped the United States on multiple national security fronts. These silver linings should make longer airport screening lines a bit less annoying:

The world is finally forced to deal with Yemen. Yemen has worried counterterrorism experts for years. The site of a significant pre-9/11 attack, the bombing of the USS Cole, Yemen is a terrorist haven where US officials have been watching Al-Qaeda regroup since 2006.

At the same time, Yemen is suffering

from two significant domestic conflicts, severe socio-economic problems, and a weak central government. Yemeni officials told me this fall that the country isn't verging on collapse; it's already there.

Unfortunately, the United States and the international community have been too distracted by Afghanistan, Iraq, and the global financial crisis to develop a strategy for Yemen that solves any of these problems, much less diminishes Al-Qaeda's influence there. Luckily for Yemen and the rest of the world, the public is now aware of the crisis, and the international community will be forced to do something about it.

We have a chance to improve intelligence and security. As President Obama detailed after meeting with top national security advisers, the Christmas attack has forced the entire US security apparatus to take a hard look at all levels of the system.



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Policemen gather around the blast site in Pabbi near Peshawar, northwest Pakistan, July 26, 2010.



Hindu devotees travel on a crowded passenger train to take part in the "Guru Purnima" festival in Govardhan town near the northern Indian city of Mathura, July 24, 2010. Guru Purnima is observed to pay respects to one's "guru" or teacher who symbolises the Hindu Trinity of Brahma, Vishnu and Mahesh, believed to be the creators of the universe. It will be celebrated on Sunday.



A boy places a toy during a ceremony mourning the victims of a stampede accident in the western German city of Duisburg on July 24, 2010. At least 19 people including a Chinese were killed and 342 others injured in the stampede that occurred during the love parade, a techno music festival.



Fire rages in a shop after two blasts in a local market in southwest Pakistan's city of Quetta on July 25, 2010. Over 100 shops caught fire following two gas cylinder explosions which occurred late Sunday night.



People attend a rally against South Korea and US joint military drills in Seoul, capital of South Korea, July 25, 2010. South Korea and the United States began their large-scale joint navy drills off the east coast of the Korean Peninsula on Sunday.



A victim of a blast is carried away from the site in Kabul Afghanistan, December 15, 2009.



Former Cuban leader Fidel Castro salutes during a visit to the Mausoleum of the Heroes of the Revolution in Artemisa outside Havana, July 24, 2010.



Switzerland's Air Force national flight team Patrouille Suisse perform in their Northrop F-5E Tiger II aircraft beside an Airbus A330-300 jet from Swiss airline during the Flugmeeting Emmen 2010 in the town of Emmen, July 24, 2010. Switzerland celebrates 100 years of aviation.



France's President Nicolas Sarkozy delivers a speech after a limited security and defence council meeting at the Elysee Palace in Paris, July 26, 2010. Sarkozy confirmed that a 78-year-old French hostage held by Al-Qaeda's North African wing was dead and urged French citizens to avoid travel to the Sahel region.



A worker cleans garbage in a river channel in southwest China's Chongqing Municipality, July 26, 2010. The Chongqing section of the Yangtze River and Jialingjiang River met the second flood peak of this flood season on Monday. The Beibei hydrometric station of Jialingjiang River reported a water level of 190.56 meters during the flood peak, while the Cuntan hydrometric station of the Yangtze River reported a water level of 179.70 meters during the flood peak Monday.



US actress Angelina Jolie (2nd L) arrives with her children Shiloh (L), Pax Thien, Maddox (front R) and Zahara (back R) at New Tokyo International Airport in Narita, east of Tokyo, July 26, 2010.



A gallery assistant jumps up to try and touch No Title (Table and Four Chairs), 2003, an installation by US artist Robert Therrien, during a media viewing for an exhibition by Therrien at the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art in Edinburgh, Scotland, July 23, 2010.



Donald Tsang Yam-Kuen (C), Chief Executive of China's Hong Kong Special Administrative Region, and his wife (L) visit Bifeng Gorge Base of China's Conservation and Research Center for the Giant Panda, Southwest China, Sichuan Province, on July 25, 2010.

# The customer is king? Not in Yemen

Salesmen around the world often use the slogan "The customer is always right" to emphasize the importance of making the customer happy. However, consumers in Yemen say that this concept is still alien to Yemeni business culture, especially on the small scale business level.

By: Nadia Al-Sakkaf

The woman walked into a small clothes boutique on Jamal Street on an early afternoon, checking out the merchandise on display. Two sales men sat comfortably on the floor facing each other leaning on a hard pillow with their cheeks already bulging with qat chew. It wasn't peak hour at the market yet and it was not a Thursday afternoon, which is the day most sales happen on Jamal Street. Without words being exchanged both sales men had already decided the woman checking the clothes was not really going to buy anything, so they did not bother getting up.

"How much is this dress?" she asked. They did not even look her way so she left. "I needed to buy a dress for a social event and I only have this afternoon to buy it. These idiots did not even acknowledge I exist, and guess what? It is not the first time I have not felt appreciated as a customer," said the angry shopper.

Many salesmen complain of window shoppers who just enjoy haggling about prices and making the salesmen run around the shop answering their difficult demands. This is why they have developed what they think is an accurate intuition to recognize serious customers from window shoppers.

"A woman would make me bring down all the dresses of all colors and sizes. Then she would bargain about the price until my throat runs dry, then she would simply say no and leave. It drives me crazy, and you want me to tell you the customer is right?" explained Abdullah Ahmed, a frustrated shop owner selling women and children clothes on Hayel Street.

The lack of interest in customer satisfaction is not only in the trade industry, it is also found in the service industry such as restaurants. Mohammed Yousif is a Jordanian living in Yemen, he says there

is a huge difference on how customers are treated in his country and here.

"Many times I have to wait for a long time before any of the waiters come to take my order. It is not that they are overly busy, they just seem not to be in a hurry to see to me and it makes me angry. Sometimes they give me burned or bad quality food in my takeaway order. When I discover this at home I vow not to return to that restaurant again. Once, I returned just to tell the manager that because of his bad service he had lost a customer. He just shrugged and said, "Al-rizq (earnings) is on God!" explained Yousif.

## Lack of awareness

According to Ali Al-Azki, executive director of the Yemeni Businessmen Club, many of the small and medium scale business owners do not understand the concept of customer satisfaction because they lack awareness.

"There isn't any research that directly links customer care with sales in terms of statistics. Many small businesses understand that a happy customer is a good thing, but they don't feel that an unhappy customer is really bad for business," said Al-Azki.

"The attention paid to the customer overall in the business sector is not satisfactory. There is also a problem in the analytical skills of business managers, especially in small and medium enterprises, as they do not understand the benefits of retaining customers. There aren't many businesses that have records which enable them to compare revenues to customer satisfaction and this is a major problem we are facing in Yemen."

Al-Azki remarked that even larger companies have a problem paying much attention to this issue because they are busy dealing with other problems such as business stability and new taxation laws.

It isn't just a lack of awareness, however, as most Yemenis do not demand quality

service, and this encourages service providers not to give them much attention. Saleh Ghalin, assistant general secretary at the Standards Quality Authority, says that there are even harmful products available in the market, and although the authority has repeatedly warned against them, people are still buying them.

"They favor a cheap price over good quality. We need to teach the public to be more responsible for their choices and to demand better services and products. It is hard, and such cultural change will take years," said Ghalin.

He added that many traders deceive uneducated Yemenis through their publicity stunts and promotion materials that the consumers do not know they were given bad quality service or products.

However, Dr. Mohammed Al-Asbahi of the Environmental Health Department, which is concerned with general health issues caused by public practices such as consumer products says that sometimes consumers have no choice.

"For some essential products such as flour or sugar there is a monopoly by traders and they don't give consumers the choice to look for alternatives. Yet when there is a choice, consumers vary according to their awareness and motivation. We remember how many Yemenis boycotted Danish products based on religious convictions when the Danish cartoons depicted Prophet Mohammed (mpbh) in a negative way. Others may not have such a strong conviction or awareness," he said.

He added that right now before Ramadan the month of fasting is to start, many products are available in the market for cheap prices although they are either about to expire or are of low quality. Merchants use the urgency of Yemenis to buy food items for Ramadan to get rid of their bad products and many consumers fall for the cheap prices.

## Gradual change

However, there seems to be some positive winds of change as some businesses realize that they have to earn customer loyalty to stay above the competition, or even to survive. Salah is a fruit and vegetable vender on Nowakshut Street. He offers customers free home delivery. He says this is a value added service he is providing for his customers so that they buy from him.

Um Abdulrahman, a woman from Sana'a, tells how good customer service affected her: "I was so tired but needed to get my hair blow-dried. I went to a beauty parlor called Sweety near Amman Street, and when she saw how tired I was she gave me a head massage and did the blow-dry very gently. She did not take any extra money, but she took my heart." That additional care made her a regular customer at the beauty parlor, and she tells this story to whomever will listen.

"I just am not used to being given nice treatment or extra benefits for free. She was good to me and I decided to stick with her," explained Um Abdulrahman.

A 2006 study by Dr. Saleh Omar Al-Gariri on customer satisfaction in Yemeni banks revealed that the banks that adopted modern technology into their customer service were more appreciated by their clients. The study recommended that banks to be more up-to-date with their services in order to save customer's time and gain their loyalty.

Growing competition over the shrinking purchasing power of the Yemeni public has threatened some businesses, and is getting their owners to rethink their dealings with customers.

"I have put all my savings into this grocery shop. In the same street there are four others including a large one. I have to do something differently in order to survive, so I allow customers from the



same neighborhood to buy goods on credit. Only I am not sure this is working because sometimes they take a long time to pay it back and it hurts my business," says Mukhtar Al-Taizi.

Teaching businesses, especially small scale ones, how to target and win customers is one of the activities carried out by the Small and Micro Enterprises Promotion Service (SMEPS) agency affiliated to the state run Social Fund for Development.

SMEPS works with small businesses in the fish, handicrafts, coffee, youth and other sectors to help them associate and improve their services. It also aims to encourage reluctant Yemeni entrepreneurs to diversify into new sub-sectors by giving

them marketing and technical skills.

"We aim at changing the working environment and create a culture of entrepreneurship. Through the training we give to small business owners and entrepreneurs we teach them to satisfy their customers through better understanding the customer's needs," said Ahmed Abdulbary, Aden Branch and officer in charge of the youth project at SMEPS.

He works with small businesses producing Yemeni handicrafts. Through the agency's support, several such businesses have adapted their products to provide added value such as packaging and shipping services, and are now targeting buyers outside Yemen.

## How to Deal With Bad Customer Service

Good customer service will make you want to continue to do business with a company. Bad customer service will frustrate you and make you think about taking your business elsewhere. Dealing with bad customer service in the proper way will help you feel better about your experience, and will help the company improve their customer service.

**Step 1**  
Be specific about your complaint when you are speaking to a customer service representative. Many times, bad customer service is simply the result of the customer service representative misunderstanding your situation.

**Step 2**  
Stay calm and polite when you are speaking to any representative of the company. Becoming irate will hurt your chances of having your problem solved.

**Step 3**  
Ask to speak to a supervisor or manager if necessary. A manager or supervisor will usually have more options available to effectively fix your problem.

**Step 4**  
Offer your suggestions. If you have ways in mind to correct the problem or improve customer service, let the supervisor know. You may be able to offer a solution that the manager didn't think about.

**Step 5**  
Accept that you may have to compromise. In some cases, the solution that you are seeking may be impossible.

**Step 6**  
Write a letter to the company or business owner. Make sure that you include your initial problem, the names of everyone you spoke with, your specific customer service complaints, your proposed solution and your contact information.

**Step 7**  
Find a new business to frequent. If you find that you are unable to get your situation resolved in a mutually agreeable way, taking your business elsewhere will make a powerful statement. This is especially true if you are dealing with a small business.

Source: www.ehow.com

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العديد من الجوائز النقدية

تبدأ المسابقة من 2010/7/1 وحتى نفاذ الكميه  
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كاس العالم 2010 م  
والإشتراك في الجوائز الفورية الأخرى

وذلك يوم الخميس 2010/7/29 م الساعة الخامسة عصراً

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# معارض الشهر الكريم

لمجموعة شركات هائل سعيد أنعم وشركاه

للفترة من ٢٨ يوليو وحتى ١٠ أغسطس ٢٠١٠م الموافق ١٦ - ٢٩ شعبان ١٤٣١هـ



## فرصة التسوق الرمضاني

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عدن	المعلا - الشارع العام حجيف
الحديدة	مجمع أرض الأحلام السياحي جولة الكثيب
إب	أسواق مكة شارع تعز
المكلا	المؤسسة الاقتصادية جوار فندق - ريبون سيتي

المواعيد يوميا: صباحاً ٩-١٢ مساءً ٤-٨ مساءً الجمعة: صباحاً ٩-١١ مساءً ٤-٨

تنظيم شركة ماس للإنتاج الفني والإعلاني



# Slavery!!!

## What time are we living in?

By: Azzah Ahmed Khalil  
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I read the report, "The untold story of slavery in Yemen," in your issue nos. 1379 and 1380. I am surprised that such an inhuman act is still being practiced in some regions of our country. We thought that this phenomenon had ended a long time ago, and we only read about it in books or watch it on television in documentary programs or films. The most surprising event in the report I read was when Qannaf got his freedom after paying YR 500,000 and was endorsed by the court in the presence of the seller, the buyer, the intermediary and some witnesses... as if he were real estate or a product!!!!

It's regrettable that such acts occur in Yemen in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, at

a time when the world is celebrating the passage of more than 200 years since the end of slavery.

As we know, the slave trade was practiced widely in ancient civilizations for economic and social reasons all over the world. Slaves were used in agriculture, wars, housework and hard work like construction. They faced several forms of physical and psychological abuse that were flagrant violations of their human rights and humanitarian dignity. As a result, voices of opposition against slavery increased in the west and demanded the freedom of slaves. This had a positive impact, and laws that prohibit the slave trade were issued in the late 18th century. Later, at the Vienna Conference in 1814 all European countries signed a treaty to prevent the slave trade. In 1906, the League of Nations held the Conference of

International Slavery in which it decided to prevent the slave trade and abolish slavery in its various forms.

Earlier, Islam had gradually facilitated the elimination of this phenomenon by calling people to emancipate the slaves for the sake of pleasing God and atoning for sins.

This marginalized group of people, "slaves," suffer from not receiving their smallest basic rights and are subjected to oppression, disease, hunger, illiteracy and homeness, and these circumstances could lead them to violence. So, these factors have negative results for the wider social and economic situation.

This humanitarian issue deserves attention and follow-up to eradicate it and to build a sound society that is based on freedom and social equality.

## Ramadan

By: Khalil Farhan  
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Ramadan is a Muslim religious observance that takes place during the ninth month of the Islamic calendar, which is believed to be the month in which the Qur'an began to be revealed. It is the Islamic month of fasting, in which Muslims do not eat or drink anything from sunrise to sunset. Fasting is meant to teach people patience and humility. Many scholars are of the opinion that people should refrain from competing in sports and exercise during the daylight hours, since it causes people to be more thirsty, and thus, less patient. Most people who keep the fast choose to exercise at night after they end the daily fast with a meal.

### The origin of the name

The name 'Ramadan' is taken from the name of this month. The word itself is derived from the Arabic word for intense heat, scorched ground, and scarcity of food. It is considered the most venerated and blessed month of the Islamic year. Prayers, sawm (fasting), charity, and self-accountability are especially stressed at this time. Religious observances associated with Ramadan are kept throughout the month.

Laylat Al-Qadr, which falls during the last third of the month, commemorates the revelation of the first verses of the Qur'an and is considered the most holy night of the year. Ramadan ends with the holiday Eidul-Fitr, on which feasts are held. During the month following Ramadan, called Shawwal, Muslims are encouraged to fast for a further six days.

### Practices during Ramadan

#### Fasting

The most prominent aspect of this month is the fasting (sawm) practiced by the most observant Muslims. Every day during the month of Ramadan, Muslims around the world get up before dawn to eat the Suhoor meal (the pre-dawn meal) and perform their Fajr prayer. They break their fast when the fourth prayer of the day, Maghrib (sunset), is due.

During Ramadan, Muslims are expected to put more effort into following the teachings of Islam and to avoid obscene and irreligious sights and sounds. Sexual activities during fasting hours are also forbidden [Qur'an 2:187]. Purity of both thought and action is important. The fast is intended to be an exacting act of deep personal worship in which Muslims seek a raised level of closeness to God Almighty. The act of fasting is said to

redirect the heart away from worldly activities, its purpose being to cleanse the inner soul and free it from harm. Properly observing the fast is supposed to induce a comfortable feeling of peace and calm. It also allows Muslims to practice self-discipline, sacrifice, and sympathy for those who are less fortunate and helps them to be more generous and charitable. Muslims can eat after the sun has set. Pregnant women, the elderly, the ill and children less than 12 years of age are all exempt from fasting as lack of food could damage their health.

### Prayer and reading of the Qur'an

Sunni Muslims tend to perform the recitation of the entire Qur'an by means of special prayers, called Tarawih, in meetings which are held in the mosques every night of the month, during which a whole section of the Qur'an (juz, which is 1/30 of the Qur'an) is recited, so that by the end of the month the entire Qur'an has been completed. Tarawih is an Arabic phrase referring to those extra prayers. This prayer is performed after salah of Isha'a at night, but before the closure of the day optional prayer called witer. Tarawih is not practiced by Shia Muslims, as they believe it was introduced into Islam by the second Caliph, Umar ibn al-Khattab.

Muslims also pay Zakat, a portion of one's income used to help the poor, (only applicable if one can afford it) during the month. For those whose wealth exceeds their necessities according to the Islamic rule of Nisab, they must pay a portion of the money they earned in the Islamic calendar year as Zakat. Although Zakat can be paid any time of the year, it has to be calculated on a year to year basis, and many Muslims use Ramadan as the month for calculation and disbursement.

Ramadan is also a time when Muslims are to slow down and step back from worldly affairs and focus on self reformation, spiritual cleansing and enlightenment, establishing a link between God Almighty and themselves by prayer, supplication, charity, good deeds, kindness and helping others.

Since it is a festival of giving and sharing, Muslims prepare special foods and buy gifts for their family and friends. They also help provide for the poor and needy who cannot afford new things, and this can involve buying new clothes, shoes and other needed items. There is also a social aspect involved: people prepare special foods together and invite people to their homes for the Iftar meal (the meal which breaks the fast).

In many Muslim and non-Muslim countries with large Muslim

populations, markets close down in the evening to enable people to perform prayers and consume the Iftar meal. These markets then re-open and stay open for a good part of the night. Muslims can be seen shopping, eating, and spending time with their friends and family during the evening hours.

### Events of Ramadan

Laylat Al-Qadr (known as Shab-e Qadr in Persian), literally the 'Night of Decrees' or 'Night of Measures,' is the anniversary of two very important dates in Islam that occurred in the month of Ramadan.

Muslims believe that it was the night of the Laylat Al-Qadr that the Quran's first verse was revealed. The exact night of Laylat al-Qadr is only known to God and Muhammad, but Muhammad decided to keep the date to himself so that Muslims wouldn't only pray on that night. That is why Muhammad indicated that it was one of the last ten odd nights of Ramadan.

### The Islamic holiday of Eidul-Fitr :

Eidul-Fitr marks the end of the fasting period of Ramadan and the first day of the following month, after another new moon has been sighted. The Eid falls after 29 or 30 days of fasting, as per the lunar sighting. Eidul-Fitr means the Festival of Breaking the Fast, and it is a special celebration. Food is donated to the poor ('Zakat al-Fitr'), everyone puts on their best, preferably new, clothes, and communal prayers are held in the early morning, followed by feasting and visiting relatives and friends. The prayer is two rakaahs only, and it is an optional prayer as opposed to the compulsory 5 daily prayers. According to one current school of thought (Ankaboot), it is suggested that North American Muslims arrange their work-schedule for Eid by requesting the two most likely days of Eid as Holidays or simply as days off from work. This allows for quality family time, and is akin to the Christian/North American tradition of taking Christmas and Christmas Eve off as holidays. This also allows for time off to celebrate the Eid prayer at a mosque and with family. The fast always ends after 29 or 30 days of fasting, and thus the request would be for the 29th and 30th day after the start of the fast.

Muslims are encouraged to fast six days in Shawwal, the month following Ramadan, which begins after Eidul-Fitr. These days need not be consecutive. According to the hadith, one who fasts during the month of Ramadan and six days during Shawwal will be rewarded as if he had fasted the entire year.



## Obituary for Yahya Allaw

BY: Khaleel AL samoni  
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Life is a one way train. Every one has to go on this but no passenger can ever go back or travel in the opposite direction.

We are now living through the huge disaster of losing one of the banners of excellence in the field of media.

Yemen has truly lost a star and a creative mind who dedicated himself to the message of media and knew that there was an important burden on his shoulders to share a message. Furthermore, he was famous among many people who loved him, respected him and witnessed that he was a genius and a talented broadcaster.

In reality this was terrible news for everyone because we know that a great and creative man has passed away. As I was writing, my pen stopped several times, and I felt I could not express my feelings as I thought about the reality of this terrible loss. It is not exaggerating to say that we lost a brother, a partner, if not a friend.

Throughout his working life he never complained, was always optimistic, and a beautiful charming smile was always appearing on his face.

Everyone knows who Yahya Allaw is. He is the man who used to appear on his famous program, Fursan Al-maidan, and because of this program everyone knows about him both inside and outside of Yemen. This program lingered in people's minds because it was connected to their daily life, it was about the folklore of

Yemen, and it was very successful throughout the country.

The deceased deserved to be the ambassador of media in Yemen. It is clear that the huge crowd of people who followed his funeral procession was an important and profound sign expressing the love and admiration of the people for that great character whose name will be recorded in the history of great men. From the sight of this crowd, I can read and understand without hesitation that Allaw was honest, talented, and creative in his work. As the sun sets, the stars, the trees and all of nature are sad for this heavy loss. I supplicate Allah to forgive him and bring him to paradise. Here are some verses to be said on the occasion of this great loss.

To start is usual  
To begin is normal  
The moon is shining  
The sun is crying  
All are staring  
What -what -what  
A great and heavy loss  
Who-who-who  
Allaw has passed away  
He works in every way  
To help - to sacrifice  
Now the time is coming  
Fate is waiting at the end  
He is going .....?  
Where to.....(all ask)  
Forever, forever, forever.....(all answer)

## Allaw, a distinct and informative Yemeni broadcaster

By: Maged Ahmed Alqutami  
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He dwells in the hearts of millions of people, who loved him, and enjoyed his vivid programs broadcast on the channels and screens of Yemen. Crowds thronged at Al-Saleh mosque, at Al-Sabian square and at the graveyard hoping to get a last glimpse of his face as well as see off his pure and faithful soul.

It's simple respect really, something that many people have lost in their daily affairs, especially in the information organizations. Yet the depth of respect was clearly present on those silent sad faces coming to show their consolation and share their sorrow with the deceased's family.

Actually, it's God's power. We seldom see such a simple cortege followed by such a huge number of people. They were walking after the funeral of a poor man, who had little money nor held a position of high standing in society.

The plain funeral cortege brought influential, average, and poor people together. Yahya Allaw's greatness and simplicity embodied people to mix together, and urged those in attendance to pay homage to that national flag that flew constantly for love, favor, and culture for everybody inside or outside Yemen.

Allaw, was a respectable broadcaster, a distinguished presenter, and a decent, sympathetic and beneficent human being. He was the best Yemeni presenter I have ever seen. Yahya Allaw was the flapping flag in mass media, a constructive media pioneer.

We shall always remember him whenever Ramadan comes. His name has been engraved in the hearts and minds of people who will always remember that there was a creative broadcaster who developed his talent to educate people and to entertain them.

In faith, I did not know him closely nor was one of his acquaintances, but I always gravitated towards the TV screen whenever his useful program A Wonderful World appeared. I do not remember even once an opportunity that brought us together, but truly I admit that I used to wait for his successful program Knights of the Field in the holy month. Yet with all these confessions, I could not bear the news of his death.

Allaw is the mobile mike that strolled up and down the plains and dales of Yemen introducing a noble mission for people and viewers. His mission was more eloquent than a statesman's mission, or that of any political activist. He always ignited the sentiments of people with his benignant method of posing questions that was rather similar to Robin Hood's

methods of helping the poor. He took money from the rich to help the poor and simple. He illuminated the local traditions and customs throughout the country with his energetic shows, whilst following his major mission to help and assist needy people. He performed his duties well and when he transferred his program to Al-Sa'eeda channel, we followed him there.

Therefore, I dare not say again that I did not know him, but I knew him well and rightfully through his brilliant programs broadcast in Yemen. He will be engraved forever in the hearts and minds of the people of Yemen.

Allaw's name resounded throughout the country as one of the best presenters of TV programs, which joined both mental enjoyment and intellectual interest. His high culture and linguistic ability enabled him to select and then present strong programs. Those traits were embodied deeply in his popular program Knights of the Field.

Allaw's creativeness was aptly chosen for selecting the program's questions and bringing to light the traditions and customs of Yemen. This program truly was a turning point in Allaw's mass media career, and its fame was greater to the popular program Pictures from my Country. Dear Yahya, we felt sorrow in your illness, and grieve now for your doleful demise. Likewise, we feel ashamed of being alive in the country that does not value creative minds and refuses to promote them. A country that underestimates and even affronts the efforts and exertions of the creative when they ask for due promotion or cry for help.

For the peculiar traits Allaw had, we expected someday to see him in the post of minister of information. Unfortunately, he did not receive the rewards of his worth nor was awarded for his brave attempts and real achievements.

Allaw! He departed before Yemen could make use of his sophisticated experience and exploit his culturally and informatively varied talents in the field of mass communication.

We feel like crying when we think that he is no more. He shared greatness during his lifetime and has left behind an inspiring example for others to follow.

I was greatly shocked and deeply grieved to hear of his demise. He always remained an ideal broadcaster, keeping himself up-to-date with the latest.

We will never forget you, Yahya Allaw. May your saintly soul rest in peace.

We have no more to say than what Mr. Arif Al-Ahdal has said in his elegiac poem on the death of Dr. MNK Bose:

"Yet dead he is not but very much alive In each of us he eternally dwells"

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By: Ismail Al-Ghabiri

The 12th class of dentistry students at the Science and Technology University's Girl's Medical College just graduated last week. With 59 female dentists, the class this year is the largest since the university's establishment in 2004.

As the new doctors celebrated their graduation, they expressed their delight at finally completing their studies and becoming certified dentists.

Suad Ahmed Al-Azzani, one of the graduates, says that it is important to work hard to achieve one's goals. "I must thank everyone who has helped me reach this happy point in my life: my father, mother and my family. They worked so hard to help me achieve this goal. And I am happy that many people came to our graduation, so thanks to them all," she said.

"They were five hard years, and now that it is over I can't describe how happy I am to have made it," said Samar Hamed Farj, one of the graduates.

Mona Mohammed Kawkaban says that her journey is not over yet because she still wants to do her masters and even PhD in dentistry.

"I want to complete my study in the United States and come back home as a highly qualified professional doctor who will help improve dental health in Yemen," she said, dedicating her success to her father, who has supported and encouraged her throughout her studies.

Riyam Ahmed bin Buraik described the moment of her graduation as being like a beam of light that will guide and energize her throughout her life. She also hopes to complete her study abroad and give back to the community.

"Now it is time to celebrate. We deserve this after the long, difficult years of work. I can't wait to start my career as a professional dentist," said Zaniab

Mo'awadha.

Sad to say goodbye to her colleagues and teachers, Nabila Salah Mohamed could not conceal her tears as she expressed her feelings. "It is a moment of sadness and happiness, and these are tears of happiness and sadness," she said.

Aziza Hashim Awanallah agreed and said that it was a special moment with conflicting emotions. Overall, though, she had a very positive feeling that she could not fully describe. She too wants to go to the US to complete her education and study for the Dentistry Board.

The students thanked their professors and university staff who facilitated their education and supported them in their search for knowledge.

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## Time and teaching English tenses



Dr. Aseel A. Ferman  
Assistant Professor  
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English and Arabic are miles apart both genealogically and typologically due to their different origins. English is an Indo-European language, whereas Arabic belongs to the Hamito-Semitic family which leads to the natural structural divergences between the two languages.

In this essay I shall focus on time and tense which is a significant part of English grammar that causes crucial problems for native speakers of Arabic.

### Various realizations of the concept of time

**1. Time in religion**  
Through the extension of the time scale, temporal items or expressions used in religions discuss time before birth (beginning) and time after death (end).

The following verses from the Holy Quran and the Bible respectively indicate that:

*"And behind them is a barrier until the Day they are resurrected"*  
*"God made the eternity in their heart"*  
(John. 12:25, p. 155)

### 2. Time in Science

The idea of the cosmic time is closely related to the Big-Bang theory, which is considered to be the origin of time.

All organisms often have some sort of internal clock that often regulates their behavior. Even non-humans possess a behavioral sense of time.

The plant's mechanisms of time, e.g. Sunflower and birds' sense of time and bees' coming for food at fixed periods (i.e. every 21 hours), demonstrate that they possess some sort of internal clock.

### 3. Psychological time

Psychologically speaking, we move in time at a constant rate, and in only one direction, that is towards the future. Time is a vector quantity.

According to psychologists, time is conceived into two modes or categories:

- Subjective / personal time which is psychological.
- Objective/public time, which is represented by clock time.

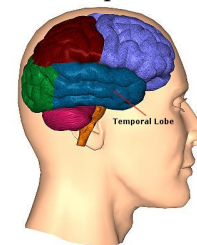
Time is a psychic experience through which people think, feel, and act in the time flow.

Life on earth is measured in terms of time and everything in life is subject to time.

It is difficult to conceive of any worldly event or action outside time. Time runs as a thread through every kind of human experience.

### 4. Medical Analysis of Time:

Only a quarter part of the human mind is responsible for senses (Sensory cortex) and movements (Motor cortex), the remaining parts represent how the mind plans for the future, remembers the past and responds in an innovative and productive way.



The temporal lobe of the brain is concerned with time relations. The present point or pp is represented

by the moment of our perception; it is fixed in the sense that we experience it through our senses, but paradoxically it is moving continuously without a pause and it is the same point of the past and future, because the present was future and will be

past.

Therefore, without the present there will be neither past nor future. These three points cannot be gathered at the same time but their existence has dimensions, i.e. the present is our perceptive moment and is continuously moving forward towards the future leaving the past moments within our memories; that flow of time represents the changes that happen in our daily life.

Our mind is responsible for the time flow. Recalling past information means retrieving the information from the memory.

### 5. Linguistic realization of time:

We shall not consider the individual variations, but we must take note of the fact that pp or 'Now', although fixed in different

Continued on page 3

### I. What to Say

#### Crime words in English (VI)

Language of law is a product of the interaction of law and society. It shows the relationship between state, legal order, and government. As such, it becomes complex, interactive, and ever changing.

**Restorative justice:** An approach which seeks to put right the harm caused by the offence. This may involve a meeting between the offender and victim, with a mediator, where the victim can tell the offender how the offence has affected them, and the offender can try to put things right.

**Secure Training Center:** A secure institution for 12-14 year olds. Children in this age group are not sent to prison, but can go to an STC. This is usually for serious offences or when the young person is a persistent offender.

### II. How to Say it Correctly

Which of the phrases/words (1), (2), (3) and (4) should replace the phrases/words given in italics in each of the following to make the sentence most effective and meaningfully correct? If the sentence is correct as it is and no correction is required, mark (5) as the answer.

- In her *views*, the socialists are going to win
  - On
  - Both
  - For
  - As

- Shakespeare is the greatest of all *other dramatists*.
  - any other dramatists
  - the other dramatists
  - the dramatists
  - another dramatists

- It is a *most* remarkable event.
  - mostly
  - a mostly
  - most
  - the mostly

- On *attempting* to restore the picture to its original condition, almost irreparable loss was discovered.
  - On our attempting
  - On attempted
  - Attempting
  - Attempted

- He is *too clever* boy to fail in the examination.
  - too clever a
  - cleverer too a
  - a too cleverer
  - a too clever a

#### Answers to the previous issue's questions

- Mr. Okaida is **more successful than** any other lawyer in the city.
- No other businessman in this city is as wealthy **as** my friend.
- Had he been driving his car fast, he **would** have lost control and hit the boy.
- The policemen were **unsuccessful in** arresting the thieves even after a month.
- No sooner **did I** come home from office than I started writing a letter to my friend.

### III. Increase Your Word Power

#### (A) How to express it in one word

- A government where the powers are

## Improve Your English: 340

- concentrated in the hands of one person
- A person who cannot pay his debts
- One who is engaged in fighting a battle or war
- A lover of books
- The state of having two wives or husbands at the same time

#### Answers to the previous issue's questions

- A medicine that prevents decomposing: **antiseptic** (adj)
- A government run by the nobility: **aristocracy** (n)
- A person who is skilled in the science of celestial bodies: **astronomer** (n)
- A life history of a person written by self: **autobiography** (n)
- An assembly of listeners: **audience** (n)

#### (B) Words often confused

#### Bring out difference in meaning of the following pairs of words

- council, counsel
- countryman, country man
- access, excess, accession
- assumption, presumption
- excuse, forgive, pardon

#### Answers to the previous issue's questions

- formally** (adv) (something done with the usual forms or ceremonies): The exhibition was formally opened by the governor.  
**formerly** (adj) (at an early period): Mumbai was formerly known as Bombay
- hold up** (phrasal verb) (to delay): We were held up at the airport on account of delay in the flight.  
**uphold** (vt) (support or approve a person, his conduct, practice, etc.): You must uphold your country's honor.
- hire** (vt) (obtain or allow the use or services or labor of a person, or a thing in return for fixed payment): I hired a woman to work as a domestic help.  
**rent** (vt) (occupy or use land, building, etc): We rented a flat near the university.
- lend** (vt) (give somebody the use of something for a short period of time): I lent my car to my friend for an hour.  
**loan** (n) (lending of a sum of money): The government has incurred heavy domestic and foreign loan.
- naught** (n) (nothing as well as zero): All my effort has come to naught.  
**nought** (n) (zero): Add two noughts to one and you get a hundred.

#### (C) Synonyms and Antonyms

##### (i) Synonyms

Choose the word that is closest in meaning to the one in bold in the following sentences

- In a **bizarre** incident the son killed his

- father.
  - normal
  - strange
  - mild
  - fair
- He **bequeathed** his property to a charitable organization.
  - alienated
  - stabbed
  - obstructed
  - handed down
- She **bustled** the children off the school.
  - hurried
  - parted
  - welcomed
  - invited
- The girls burst into **boisterous** laughter.
  - dauntless
  - valiant
  - noisy
  - calm
- He has a **buoyant** disposition.
  - brilliant
  - sad
  - cheerful
  - worthy

#### Answers to the previous issue's questions

- |              |                |
|--------------|----------------|
| <b>Word</b>  | <b>Synonym</b> |
| 1. adept     | expert         |
| 2. ambiguous | uncertain      |
| 3. arid      | dry            |
| 4. avenged   | punished       |
| 5. baffled   | puzzled        |

#### (ii) Antonyms

Choose the word that is most opposite in meaning to the one given in bold in the following sentences

- It is **inconvenient** to run a home without a washing machine.
  - troublesome
  - easy
  - comfortable
  - desirable
  - possible
- The company did not **grant** the customer's request to repair his machine without charges.
  - accept
  - suppose
  - send
  - reject
  - stop
- Laborers are working in **nearby** fields.
  - lengthy
  - close
  - different
  - distant
  - separated
- It was a **dull** life for him in the village.
  - brilliant
  - busy
  - boring
  - superior
  - pleasant
- We **abbreviate** January to Jan.
  - abridge
  - expand
  - achieve
  - accept

#### Answers to the previous issue's questions

- |               |                |
|---------------|----------------|
| <b>Word</b>   | <b>Antonym</b> |
| 1. recognized | unnoticed      |
| 2. annoyed    | pleased        |
| 3. urged      | dissuaded      |
| 4. vividly    | dimly          |
| 5. advantage  | handicap       |

#### (D). Spelling

In the following questions a group of

four words is given. One word in each group is misspelt. Choose the misspelt word and give its correct spelling

- a. defer b. adore c. pioneer d. contemptibal
- a. trivial b. trifles c. asert d. reason
- a. exhort b. arbitrate c. conspicuous d. bereft
- a. dorment b. strife c. mitigate d. evade
- a. annals b. ascribe c. exalt d. perniceous

#### Answers to the previous issue's questions

- |                      |                         |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>Misspelt word</b> | <b>correct spelling</b> |
| 1. labourous         | laborious               |
| 2. cummlative        | cumulative              |
| 3. vigilence         | vigilance               |
| 4. momentus          | momentous               |
| 5. desparet          | desperate               |

#### (E) Phrases and idioms

Use the following in sentences of your own

- strike a bad patch
- paper over the cracks
- clean the air
- there are plenty more fish in the sea
- catch (someone) on the hop

#### Answers to the previous issue's questions

- there is nothing else for it** (there is one thing to do, there is no choice): When Faisal fell ill, there was nothing else for it - he had to waste one year.
- think the world of (someone)** (to be very fond of someone): He thinks the world of his son.
- keep (something) under wraps** (to keep something secret): He keeps the fact of divorce from his wife under wraps.
- have (something) taped** (to have a full knowledge and understanding of something): Initially he faced some difficulties in understanding Transformational Generative grammar, but he seems to have got it taped now.
- pick a fight with (someone)** (to start a quarrel deliberately with someone): Muneer has a knack to pick a fight with anyone.

### IV. Grammar and Composition

#### (A) Grammar

Complete each of the sentences with the correct form of bring, take, fetch, carry, or wear

- If you're going to Ismail's house could you --- him this book for me?
- If you give me a ring when you get to the station I'll come and --- you.

- My dog is impossible to train; he won't even --- a stick if I throw it.
- Don't forget to --- your homework when you come tomorrow.
- That suitcase is far too heavy. Please let me --- it.
- She spends a lot of money on clothes and only --- very expensive dresses.
- I'm afraid Abdul Wahab's not here. Ali just --- him to the station.
- You can't --- those trousers; they haven't been ironed.
- Dr. Radd rang up his neighbor and asked him to --- back the laptop he had borrowed.
- I'll lend you the book as long as you --- it back before the end of the week.

#### Answers to the previous issue's questions

- His **death** was a great shock - he seemed so healthy.
- I don't want to tell you how old I'm but I'm not 40 yet. I'm **30-something**.
- She is 52. I think she's in her **early 50's**.
- Hussein isn't 20 yet. So he is still a **teenager**.
- My friend Abraham has a **10-year-old** daughter.
- In the developed countries the **elderly** get old age allowance to support themselves.

#### (B) Composition

Expand the central idea contained in the following maxim

157: The path of duty is the way to glory

#### 156: The important thing to stand up is your legs and the important thing in learning is studying

To learn is to gain knowledge or skill in something. It is a means of becoming informed of something. Learning is deep and wide knowledge gained through reading and study. Studying implies a thorough critical enquiry into a particular subject. Learning is the fruit or essence of studying. Studying provides support to learning which then becomes integrated to life. Learning teaches more in one year than studying in twenty. As legs help or sustain us to keep our body erect, studying helps us to keep the learnt lesson in the cistern of knowledge and make our life sustainable. So legs are to our body as studying is to learning. We stand up by means of our legs, similarly, we assert our identity in the world by means of the practical wisdom we gain as a result of studying.

**V. Pearls from the Holy Quran**  
O Prophet! Sufficient unto thee is Allah, and unto those who follow thee among the believers. —S8: A64

#### VI. Words of Wisdom

Just living is not enough... One must have sunshine, freedom, and a little flower —Hans Christian Anderson

## ELT Panorama

## Rewards and students



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Many educators are acutely aware that punishment and threats are counterproductive. Making children suffer in order to alter their future behavior can often elicit temporary compliance, but this strategy is unlikely to help children become ethical, compassionate decision makers. Punishment, even if referred to euphemistically as “consequences,” tends to generate anger, defiance, and a desire for revenge. Moreover, it models the use of power rather than reason and ruptures the important relationship between the adult and the child. Of those teachers and parents who make a point of not punishing children, a significant proportion turns instead to the use of rewards. The ways in which rewards are used, as well as the values that are considered important, differ among (and within) cultures. As with punishments, the offer of rewards can elicit temporary compliance in many cases.

Unfortunately, carrots turn out to be no more effective than sticks at helping children to become caring, responsible people or lifelong, self-directed learners.

Studies over many years have found that behavior modification programs are rarely successful at producing lasting changes in attitudes or even behavior. When the rewards stop, people usually return to the way they acted before the program began. More disturbingly, researchers have recently discovered that children whose parents make frequent use of rewards tend to be less generous than their peers. Indeed, extrinsic motivators do not alter the emotional or cognitive commitments that underlie behavior—at least not in a desirable direction. A child promised a treat for learning or acting responsibly has been given every reason to stop doing so when there is no longer a reward to be gained. Research and logic suggest that punishment and rewards are not really opposites, but two sides of the same coin. Both strategies amount to ways of trying to manipulate someone’s behavior—in one case, prompting the question, “What do they want me to do, and what happens to me if I don’t do it?”, and in the other instance, leading a child to ask, “What do they want me to do, and what do I get for doing it?” Neither strategy helps children to grapple with the question, “What kind of person do I want to be?”

Rewards are no more helpful at

enhancing achievement than they are at fostering good values. At least two dozen studies have shown that people expecting to receive a reward for completing a task (or for doing it successfully) simply do not perform as well as those who expect nothing. This effect is robust for young children, older children, and adults; for males and females; for rewards of all kinds; and for tasks ranging from memorizing facts to designing collages to solving problems.

In general, the more cognitive sophistication and open-ended thinking that are required for a task, the worse people tend to do when they have been led to perform that task for a reward. There are several plausible explanations for this puzzling but remarkably consistent finding. The most compelling of these is that rewards cause people to lose interest in whatever they were rewarded for doing. This phenomenon makes sense given that “motivation” is not a single characteristic that an individual possesses to a greater or lesser degree. Rather, intrinsic motivation (an interest in the task for its own sake) is qualitatively different from extrinsic motivation (in which completion of the task is seen chiefly as a prerequisite for obtaining something else). Therefore, the question educators need to ask is not how motivated their students are, but how their students are motivated. In one representative study, young children were introduced to an un-

familiar beverage called kefir. Some were just asked to drink it; others were praised lavishly for doing so; a third group was promised treats if they drank enough. Those children who received either verbal or tangible rewards consumed more of the beverage than other children, as one might predict. But a week later these children found it significantly less appealing than they did before, whereas children who were offered no rewards liked it just as much as, if not more than, they had.

If we substitute reading or doing math, we begin to glimpse the destructive power of rewards. The data suggest that the more we want children to want to do something, the more counterproductive it will be to reward them for doing it. Moreover, students who are encouraged to think about grades, stickers, or other “goodies” become less inclined to explore ideas, think creatively, and take chances. At least ten studies have shown that people who are offered a reward generally choose the easiest possible option. In the absence of rewards, by contrast, children are inclined to pick tasks that are just beyond their current level of ability.

#### Practical implications of the failure of rewards

The implications of this analysis and these data are troubling. If the question is “Do rewards motivate students?”, the answer is, “Absolutely: they motivate students to get rewards.” Unfortunately, that

sort of motivation often comes at the expense of interest in whatever they’re doing.

What is required, then, is nothing short of a transformation of our schools. First, classroom management programs that rely on rewards and consequences ought to be avoided by any educator who wants students to take responsibility for their own (and others’) behavior—and by any educator who places internalization of positive values ahead of mindless obedience. The alternative to bribes and threats is to work toward creating a caring community whose members solve problems collaboratively and decide together how they want their classroom to be. Second, grades in particular have been found to have a detrimental effect on creative thinking, long-term retention, interest in learning, and preference for challenging tasks. These detrimental effects are not the result of too many bad grades, too many good grades, or the wrong formula for calculating grades. Rather, they result from the practice of grading itself, and the extrinsic orientation it promotes.

Parental use of rewards or consequences to induce children to do well in school has a similarly negative effect on enjoyment of learning and, ultimately, on achievement. Avoiding these effects requires assessment practices geared toward helping students experience success and failure not as reward and punishment, but as information.

Finally, this distinction between reward and information might be applied to positive feedback as well. While it can be useful to hear about one’s successes, and highly desirable to receive support and encouragement from adults, most praise is tantamount to verbal reward. Rather than helping children to develop their own criteria for successful learning or desirable behavior, praise can create a growing dependence on securing someone else’s approval. Rather than offering unconditional support, praise makes a positive response conditional on doing what the adult demands. Rather than heightening interest in a task, the learning is devalued in so far as it comes to be seen as a prerequisite for receiving the teacher’s approval.

#### Conclusion

In short, good values have to be grown from the inside out. Attempts to short-circuit this process by dangling rewards in front of children are at best ineffective, and at worst counterproductive. Children are likely to become enthusiastic, lifelong learners as a result of being provided with an engaging curriculum; a safe, caring community in which to discover and create; and a significant degree of choice about what (and how and why) they are learning. Rewards-like punishments-are unnecessary when these things are present, and are ultimately destructive in any case.

## Education in crossroads



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For every thing there must be a beginning, for every beginning there is a plan, for every plan there should be a decision time, and for each

decision time there is a view point one takes to move the wheel of life according to the strategic desire of a person or a nation. At this time, there are tides attacking our system of life and the system of learning where students are building their present and future.

Our learners are in a fix due to the drastic deterioration of concentration in learning. Long before, students used to debate and discuss constructive topics about how to develop themselves and promote their learning level. Now, everything is altered. Unfortunately, nobody cares about insights of learning and to grapple with the newest about novels, innovations, poems, discoveries and many other stuff of importance.

## Level four: Gateway for frustration or springboard of determination

Mohammed Ali Fadhel  
Ibb University

Students finish their secondary schools and join universities. Those who join universities start as curious, inquisitive, hard working individuals, and have the appetite for learning, in order to fulfill their future dreams and be somebody in the society.

Generally speaking, in levels one, two, and three, some students may fail, some might stop their study due to some barriers, and

some others go ahead scaling the ladder of success. However, with the coming of the fourth level, some Yemeni students feel depressed and begin to neglect their studies!!!

It’s really a factor of frustration for all people around including the professors who teach them!!

“I’m sorry to say that some of you have failed in their exam,” said Prof Gandhi, associate professor of English, Arts college, Ibb Univ. He added, “Your level has deteriorated. Some of your answer sheets suggest you to be in level (2). Even the basic grammar:

subject-verb agreement, sentence structure, parts of speech, dividing paragraphs, etc. is not correct. I’m not expecting you to use higher grammar. What matters is the basic one. I’m really disappointed.” One minute later, Dr. Gandhi commented: “You feel that we’ll push you up to pass. It’ll be a shame on me; people will blame me if I pass you.”

Dr. Yahya AL- Sohmani, applied linguist said: “This year some students invented a new system of translation. They translate verbs as adjectives and nouns as verbs. I’m wondering how they will do their research paper!!!”

Dr. Huda AL-Mansoob, Head of English Dept, says: “Don’t give more than what is required in your answer. You waste your time writing irrelevant sentences and then complaining of lack of adequate time for completing the answer!” You forced me to teach you politeness strategies theory, because I was so offended when I corrected your answers of the first semester!! Most of you write orders and instructions to me. When you want to refer to the rest of your answer which is in the other page, for example, you never write ‘please’, but just ‘turn over’ or ‘look /see the answer at the end’ and so forth. This is surely Bold- on- record, said Dr. Huda.

I discussed the matter with my classmates. I asked some of them what their impressions are, and why such views prevailed. “No hope in our country for getting a job. Don’t you notice that most of the graduates are unemployed? So study is in vain,” said Gamal. Abdulmalik stated: “I worked very hard this year, but gained nothing.” Waleed AL-Maqrmi said: “For me, I’m totally disappointed. My circumstances conspired to bring about my failure in getting high marks as I did in level (1) and (2). But marks are not everything.” “I’m trying to build up my self-confidence and I’m sure to ob-

tain my degree.” Maqrmi added. Morad expressed his hopelessness in a funny way saying that neither the successful students will be rewarded, nor the ones who failed will be punished! Just pass to get a certificate!!

But the majority of them imply the same sense of hopelessness/despair! However, few other students revealed that they’re just struggling to improve their skills and acquire the language, whether or not getting a job in future.

Let’s ponder, dear readers, about the reasons behind that state of misery among university students.

If you consider the matter wisely and rationally, you’ll conclude that you might have been moving in the wrong track. Please, don’t frustrate yourselves by such thoughts. Believe me, you’ll deplore later on about every second you killed under such pretexts / justifications. I know, it’s inevitable in our country to be frustrated, but keep your fingers crossed in your educational journey and widen your knowledge before you think about getting a job because any job as such, requires knowledge and competence. Bear the brunt of this situation as it is said “where there is a will there is a way” and nothing comes easily.

Therefore, we’ve to struggle to acquire our goals in life hopefully. We’ve to trust in the Almighty Allah, Who definitely will reward everyone in this universe, in the present life and in the second life, hereafter.

The long and the short of this, dear friends, is that, it’s time to free yourselves from the depressing thoughts. It’s time to defeat the difficulties you encounter in your lives. Prove to the world around you that you are able to change everything surrounding you including your ways of thinking. Ok? Take action, close your eyes, give yourselves a promise to revive your hopes, and start from now. I wish you all the best of luck.

## YOUTH FORUM

## A soldier’s letter

Dear son, I know you can't reply me back And more, I'm not sure whether I could finish this letter.  
I can see your face right now; you are holding my letter.  
I'd seen you last time in your mother's womb, From there you waved me when I stepped out of the house.  
Time's up now, before it ends I want to tell you; All that a father wanted to tell his son in his life I'm putting in this letter to convey you; Everything that aids my life- My best message. My virtue is that I was born in my country; That inspired me to live for my country And paved my deeds for the good of my country.  
Patriotism made me a good citizen of my country.  
All these turned me to serve for my country. I'm now a commander in the army.  
Time is shrinking and the pain is getting deeper and deeper.  
Still I'm serving my country, I'm writing this letter  
To you, to tell you, to make you, to aid you I suppose you should know it better in your life;  
You must learn and always keep learning. Be a learner many times before you master. If you master, you are still a learner; need to learn.  
Tomorrow there will be someone better than you.  
You must love and always should keep loving Owing your faith and life in it.  
Never choose to leave in the middle; if you choose  
Do it with your mind and soul; or leave it at the

beginning.  
You must live everyday that goes by; You be your opponent; better than yesterday;  
Once you walk forward, can't go back.  
Best be prepared to remove your past; It's getting hotter; blood is sweating But I'm conscious with my letter and the beating  
There is one more truth that I want to tell Violence is against humanity, vanities at the worst;  
Save the country at the most.  
I put myself in you and I'll be born again I see the rest of world through your eyes; I do the rest of the deeds with your arms And you should know a soldier never dies One who is fighting for a good cause..... There he lives to the rest of the world.

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## The soul of my soul

Please don't deprive me of your smile  
For you, I would walk 100 mile  
I am a watch on your hand, so you could turn your dial  
Same as your computer, save me as a special file  
Turn me on, Turn me off or better open as you like  
I am your love, I am your knight  
I am your prince charmig,  
You're my Sun on Earth  
I am your moon reflecting your light  
All I want is to be part of your heart  
And for us to be together, not to be apart  
I asked God for an Angel, and He gave me you  
When I first met you and heard your sound  
I could hardly believe that I truly found an Angel around  
The way you dress is like a supermodel  
You're shaped like a perfume bottle  
With you, by my side, I turn full turtle.

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## "I" plus "F"

If I were a butterfly  
I'd fly higher than birds  
If I were a bird  
I'd take my house on clouds  
If I were a cloud  
I'd cry tears of happiness  
If I were a tear I'd wash the sorrow of a lonely child  
If I were a lonely child  
If I were a lonely  
If I were a  
If I were  
If I  
IF

Shams Al-hani

# Cultural implications of euthanasia

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The weekly edition of The Hindu Magazine, a leading newspaper published in India, dated 14th of February, 2010, published a couple of articles on euthanasia. These articles are meant to be a response to various issues the topic raises.

Euthanasia is simply “good death” as it is widely known. It is considered to be a reasonable option for a person, whose life has become intolerable because of some incurable disease forcing him to put an end to his suffering. In plain words, it is mercy killing.

Sometimes a terminal illness is so painful that it causes life to be an unbearable burden; death can represent a relief to the intolerable pain. Thus, we find that euthanasia

is legalized in some countries but under certain conditions. However, even though this is practiced only in a few countries, and it is thought to relieve someone from excruciating pain, still the thought of being “put to death” stands as a taboo religiously, ethically, and even socially.

For instance, Islam forbids all forms of suicide and any action that may help another to kill themselves, let alone the mercy killing. The Qur’an states: “*Take not life which Allah made sacred otherwise than in the course of justice.*” Since we did not create ourselves, we do not own our bodies...Attempting to kill oneself is a crime in Islam as well as a grave sin. The Qur’an says: “*Do not kill (or destroy) yourselves, for verily Allah has been to you most Merciful.*” (Quran 4:29). The concept of life not worthy of living does not exist in Islam. A Muslim who commits suicide is not even given burial rights. An example of this, comes when Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) refused to bless the body of a person who had committed suicide.

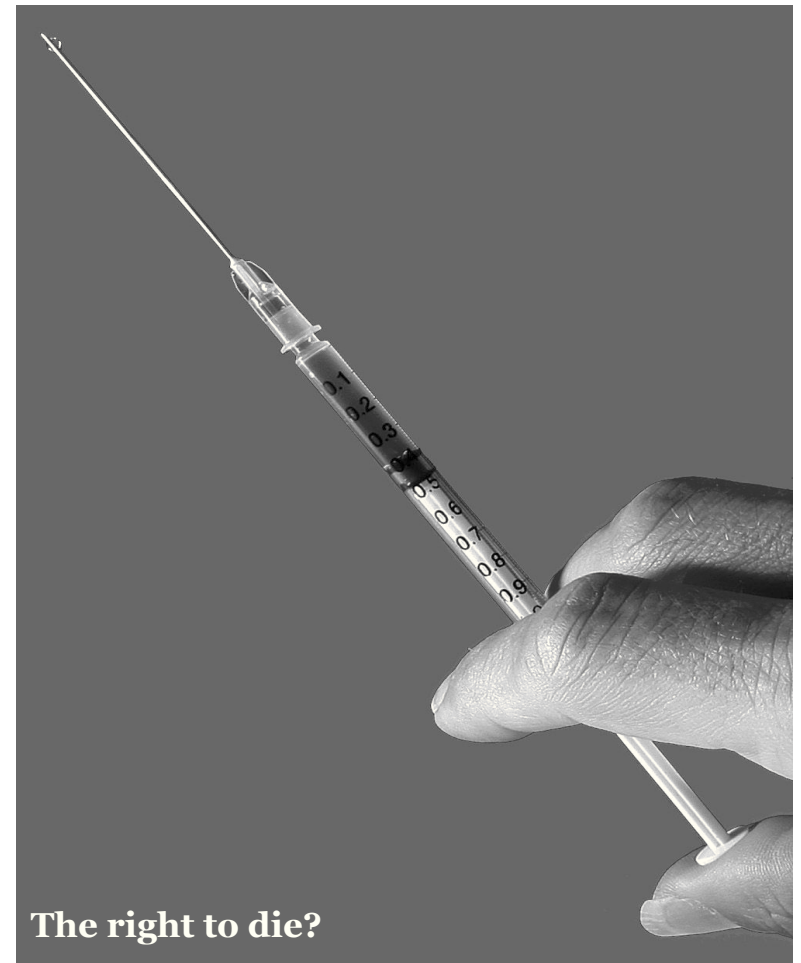
Again, God does not send us any experience that we cannot handle. God supports people in suffering. To actively seek an end to one’s life would represent a lack of trust in God’s promise. In fact, life is a gift from God, and only God starts a life, and only God ends one. An individual who commits suicide is committing a sin. That’s the reason why asking for mercy killing is regarded as suicide.

Moreover, euthanasia is the wrong way to go. We do believe in miracles, not everything always turns out to be the way we identify them, not all sicknesses always lead to death. Euthanasia is the practice of putting terminally ill people to death painlessly, cutting their life short. So in this case, a medical license does not differentiate a doctor from a murderer. Assisting in one’s death is immoral, unethical and should not only be a crime, but it should be viewed as intentional murder, rather than assisted suicide. Euthanasia is and was never a positive attribute in the medical field. Doctors are supposed to save

lives, not take them. Therefore, euthanasia is a masked killer, killing hopes of recovery in the sufferers.

On the other hand, patients who think that they’ve become a burden to others, and lost hope of recovery, think that euthanasia is the only way out. In their opinion, it is all about choices. They have the right of choosing whether to live or die because, after all, it is their lives. However, when we come to think about euthanasia, many questions arise such as “What if we just waited for a while” or “What would have happened if...”, all these will remain unanswered.

Finally, many faith groups believe that human suffering can have a positive value for the terminally ill person and for caregivers. For them, suffering can be “a divinely appointed opportunity for learning or purification”. So, instead of ending lives hopelessly, let us live hopefully. And we ought to keep one thing in mind, and that is we own neither our lives nor our bodies. We should have faith and be sure that after grief, comes relief.



The right to die?

Continued from page 1

languages, is a temporal perception felt by our senses, body and mind and that past is a matter of memory and future is a matter of prediction.

These psychological distinctions are reflected in the structure of most languages, but the specific temporal divisions within past and future – immediate, near, remote – are again arbitrarily marked in every language.

### Time in relation to tense

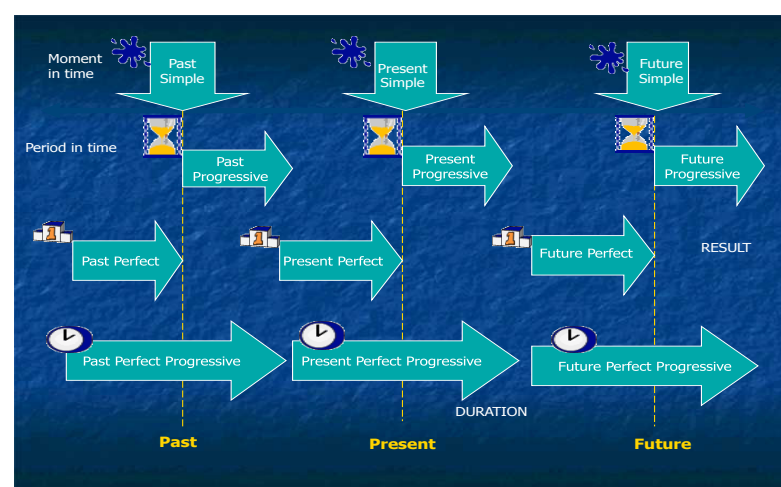
Grammarians define tense as a change in the form of a verb to mark the time at which an action takes place. Tense in relation to time is an extremely important area of grammar in English. An inappropriate use of tense may alter the intended meaning of a sentence or make it ungrammatical. The divisions of tenses is done with reference to present point.

Grammarians have related time, tense and verb with the terms ‘past’, ‘present’ and ‘future’.

Time is an infinite line and it has a moving point that is the present moment.

Anything that occurs after the present moment is in the future, and anything backward is in the past.

Tense is a category through which language talks about the timing of particular events. e.g.



- a. The plane leaves at ten this evening.
- b. If he gave me the ticket tomorrow, I would use it

Sentence (a) indicates present tense and future time, whereas sentence (b) indicates past tense but future time.

In correcting students’ papers, I often come across the type of mistakes exemplified by wrong use of tenses in relation to time.

### A note on perfective and perfect progressive aspects

Perfective aspect indicates result: action taking place before a certain moment in time and puts emphasis on the result, e.g.

- Jane had studied English well.
- Jane has cooked new meal
- They will have worked hard before the exam.

Perfect progressive aspect focuses on course / duration of an action taking place before a certain moment in time and puts emphasis on the course or duration of the action, e.g.

- I have been reading the book since yesterday.
- She had been eating her lunch when I came home
- By tomorrow, the ship will have been sailing for a month.

# One hand cannot clap

**Abeer Alghazali**  
abeergm@gmail.com

We all appreciate the efforts of our great teachers who work hard and expend their energy for our sake. We thank them from the deepest core of our hearts and we pray to Allah to help and protect them wherever they are. The basic fact is that there should be cooperation between the two parts of the educational mission – the teacher and the students. It is the teacher who gives the key with which the students unlock the doors of knowledge.

Traditionally, the teacher was the center of attention in the teaching-learning enterprise whereas the students were mere passive listeners. Now, there is a shift of focus in favor of a learner-centered system. The teacher has even a greater responsibility under this system in the sense that he activates his students, gives different tasks and activities, encourages them to perform well, and so on. Yet, if there is any problem in the progress and development of the students, all the blame falls on the teacher, regardless of the fact that teaching and learning complement each other. For all practical intent and purpose, the teacher and the students perform as members of one team in the game of teaching-learning. In this process the students have to take on different roles in order to achieve the educational goals. The following suggestions aim at how to make successful students.

**Prepare the lesson before you come to school.** Give yourself a chance to actively participate in class, ask questions relating to the parts of the lesson that you couldn’t understand at home so as to get a better grip of the subject matter.

### Attend the class regularly.

Try to be punctual and attentive. Write some notes while the lecture is going on. It helps you to remember what you studied or what the teacher focused on.

### Try to take particular note of the points that the teacher gives more importance to.

You can know from the teacher’s tone or if he writes them on the black board or if he asks you to do it as a task in the class. You can also know them if the teacher keeps on repeating them or asks different questions on the same point during the class.

### Don’t talk to your classmates during the class.

You may miss an important point while you are busy telling your classmate about your last night’s dream. Exchanging slips or notes in the class will also distract your attention. Asking a friend some questions to explain to you will also distract your attention and disturb the students including you as well as the teacher.

### Switch off your mobile or make it silent during the class.

It is better if you don’t take it with you.

### If you have any question, never be hesitant to ask the teacher.

Don’t feel shy of asking questions even if you are in a co-education system because you have come to learn.

### Take homework seriously and not as a punishment.

Revise the previous lessons as much as you can. Don’t let them pile up to such an extent that you don’t know from where to start.

### Vary your learning resources.

You know that the teacher is not the only resource of knowledge. You can read some books,

watch useful programs, etc.

### Compete with other students.

Healthy competition gives you energy, motivation and perseverance to excel.

### Give up negative thinking.

When you believe that “I cannot do well” or “I will not understand that difficult subject”, you will not do well. But the moment you say “I can” and you believe in yourself, all the hills and mountains will be made low; the rough places will be made plain and the crooked ones will be made straight.

### Give yourself credit for what you do.

It means when you say “I will not watch my favorite program or film unless I finish my homework,” you give yourself a motivation to work hard.

### “Know then thyself.”

This means, know your abilities, qualifications and limitations. Your goals should match your abilities.

### Never get frustrated.

If you failed or got low marks in an exam, don’t leave one chance for frustration to control you. Rather, learn from your mistakes and make failure as the first step towards a successful life. Always try to see the light at the end of the tunnel.

### Try to be selective with regard to your friends.

Your friends greatly affect your learning; either positively or negatively. So, be selective in choosing friends in order to enjoy your educational achievement with them.

To sum up, one hand cannot clap. The moment the teacher will notice that his students are working hard, he will work harder and harder. The teacher is the only one who wishes you to be better than him/her. Thanks to all the teachers; and special thanks to my teachers.

### Common errors in the use of tenses

#### Present continuous and present perfect continuous

Incorrect: *I am working* for the last two hours.  
Correct: *I have been working* for the last two hours.

Incorrect: He *is working* in this office for three years now.  
Correct: He *has been working* in this office for three years now.

Incorrect: She *is working* since morning.  
Correct: She *has been working* since morning.

#### Present perfect and simple past

Incorrect: *I have written* to him yesterday.  
Correct: *I wrote* to him yesterday.

Incorrect: *I have seen* him last week.  
Correct: *I saw* him last week.

#### Present tense versus future tense

Incorrect: *I shall* call you when the dinner *will* be ready.  
Correct: *I shall* call you when the dinner *is* ready.

Incorrect: They *will* come if you *will* invite them.  
Correct: They *will* come if you *invite* them.

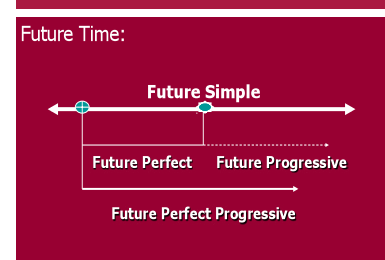
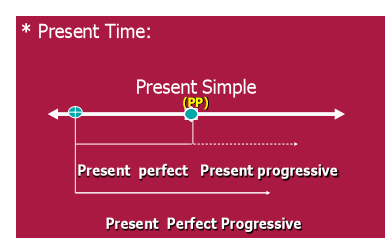
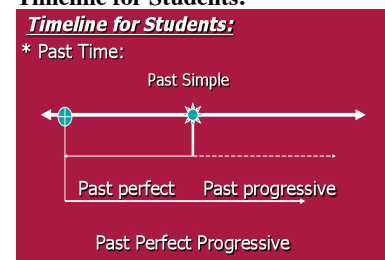
#### Simple past and past perfect:

Incorrect: *I had been* to Bombay recently  
Correct: *I went* to Bombay recently.  
Incorrect: *I had spoken* to him last night.  
Correct: *I spoke* to him last night.

#### Auxiliary “Do”:

Incorrect: What **do** you eat for dinner yesterday?  
Correct: What **did** you eat for dinner yesterday?

#### Timeline for Students:



#### Main Reasons for students’ errors in tenses:

- Mother tongue interference.
- Teachers do not focus on using tenses.
- Grammar Courses do not demonstrate intensive awareness of tense rules.

## Science Quizline

Tick (✓) the most appropriate response

1. Which of the following is correct in a plant cell?  
 Bigger vacuole with rigid cell wall?  
 Centriole take part in cell division  
 Centrosome are inactive in non-dividing  
 Phase of cell division: replication of chromosomes during non dividing cell.
2. Which one represents a Mutualistic association of a fungus with the root of a plant?  
 Mycorrhiza  
 Mycoplasma  
 Mycoses

- Myxomycetes

3. Sunken stomata is found in  
 Xerophyte  
 Hydrophyte  
 Mesophyte  
 Helophyte
4. Which is not an adaptive feature in plants growing in physiological dry soil?  
 Pneumatophore  
 Vivivary germination  
 Sunken stomata  
 Conducting tissues rudimentary
5. Which of the following is living fossil?  
 Myxomycetes

- Abies
- Ginkgo biloba
- Ephedra
- Taxus

#### Answers to the previous quizline

1. During lytic life cycle of a virulent DNA phage, the phage DNA integrated into the host chromosomes does not occur.
2. Moisture is more essential for the breaking of seed dormancy.
3. The antibiotic polyenes is active against fungus.
4. Anaerobic condition is maintained for optimum production of vinegar.
5. The movement of plant seismonasty occurs in response to shock stimulus.

CAMPUS CAUSERIE

AMIDEAST Sana'a and the University of Hodeidah organize a one-day Higher Education workshop

Dr. Nemah Al-Zabidy

AMIDEAST Sana'a's Education USA Advising Center and the University of Hodeidah's Center of Continuing Education and Society Development collaborated to organize a one-day workshop on Wednesday, the 12th of May. The workshop took place in the Faculty of Education's conference hall, University of Hodeidah. The aim of this workshop was to advise students with advanced levels of English from a variety of majors on graduate study in the U.S. and to raise students' awareness of the Fulbright scholarship for MA-level study in the U.S.

The University of Hodeidah hosted the event in which Ms. Amal Ahmed Al-Wazir, AMIDEAST Sana'a's International Education Assistant and Ms. Kimberly Wortmann, an AMIDEAST Sana'a International Education Intern, demonstrated their commitment to helping highly-committed Yemeni students who are highly motivated and interested in studying in the U.S..

Dr. Nemah Al-Zabidy, Head of the English Department at the Faculty of Education and the main organizer of this workshop, stressed that students at the University of Hodeidah would benefit greatly

from regular workshops like this, as they have the motivation and the potential but are unaware of the various scholarship opportunities available to Yemeni students. Dr. Al-Zabidy strongly believes that if students of different majors were aware of international scholarships, the application process, and the requirements for admission to U.S. universities, more would have the opportunity to study in the U.S..

The conference hall, where the workshop took place, was filled with students from different departments and colleges, including students from the Arts College, IT center, Dentistry College, Medical Science College, Computer Science College, and Commerce College. Many professors and teachers from the English Department in the Faculty of Education were also present, with around 300 students in total participating in the workshop. They asked Ms. Wortmann and Ms. Al-Wazir many questions regarding the Fulbright Scholarship, for example, how to apply, how to fill in the application form online, the deadline of the Fulbright Scholarship, the admission requirements, the different types of TOEFL tests, and about the GRE test. Ms Al-Wazir and Kimberly encouraged the students' questions and readily responded to the different inquiries.

The University of Hodeidah, in general, and the Center of Continuing Education and Society Development, in particular, thank AMIDEAST Sana'a for its cooperation. Dr. Essam Aqlan, the director of the Center, and Dr. Nemah Al-Zabidy, Head of the English Department, have requested AMIDEAST to update them with the latest information regarding different international grants, scholarships and fellowships so that they may announce these to their students and give them the chance to study in the

U.S.. The University of Hodeidah has a great number of students who would benefit from these announcements, especially those in the English departments, and is pleased that AMIDEAST will contact them regarding new opportunities when they become available.



Guests on the dais



A section of the audience

Faculty of Education, Al-Mahweet The Graduation Ceremony of the "Hope Makers"

Dr. Hameed Al-Zubeiry

Under the auspices of the Department of English, Faculty of Education, Mahweet, the annual graduation ceremony to bid farewell to the batch 15 outgoing students of the department was held on Monday, 17 May 2010. Dr. Ahmed Darwesh, Youth Advisor and Dr. Hameed Al-Zubeiry, Head of the department graced the occasion as guests of honor. Brigadier General Yahya Al-Qodaimi the government security officer, his deputy Colonel Abdulgader Al-Makhadhi and the Police Officer Colonel Abdulwahab Al-Ezi were the chief guests of the ceremony.

The ceremony started with some



Dr. Hameed Al-Zubeiry's welcome speech



Graduating students being felicitated by guests

verses from the Holy Quran recited by the graduate student Nawaf Abu oraij. It was followed by the graduates' processional entry into the graduation function hall clothed with their blue academic robes and

waving to their dear relatives and audience. A welcome song by some students set the tone for the ceremony. In his speech, Dr. Hameed Al-Zubeiry, Head, congratulated the graduate students and thanked them for the team-spirit they have shown throughout their four years of study. He also thanked the faculty staff members for their efforts in molding the minds and skills of this batch. Dr. Al-Zubeiry ended his speech with some pieces of advice urging the students to keep learning though their graduation is done. There was an interlude of a colorful cultural skit which amused the audience.

Ali Al-Marwi delivered the graduate speech expressing his gratitude to his teachers for what they have done

in reaching the students to what they are now. He advised his juniors to study hard and do their best for improving their English. This was followed by a poem of appreciation which was recited by Faisal Al-Ghail, a graduate student. Khaleel Eskander of level three in his farewell speech wished his seniors all the best in the journey of life. A national song followed and it evoked patriotic feelings in the audience of the forthcoming anniversary of Yemeni unity on the 22nd of May. The ceremony ended with the distribution of certificates and awards to 63 graduate students and 9 top students of the department.

List of Toppers

Level 2  
Amat Al-Khaleq Al-Azaki  
Yasmeen Al-Sanhani  
Elham Al-Hakami

Level 3  
Eman Al-Sultan  
Fatima Jashan  
Mohammed Hamam

Level 4  
Ali Al-Marwi  
Ali Yahya Al-Sahel and Ali Hasan Al-Sahel  
Abdulmalik Muhasen



Graduates in ceremonial robes in the company of distinguished guests

Seminar presentations at the Department of English, UST

The Department of English, UST, held a series of seminar presentations during the current academic session by the faculty members on a range of themes. Each session was vibrant with the active participation of the members of the audience. The topics of presentation and the names of presenters are as follows:



A view of the seminar presentation by Dr. Aseel Farman



Date	Topic	Speaker
6/1/2010	Funny Translations and misspellings everywhere	Mr. Shaker Naseer
23/3/2010	Problems and difficulties in writing in English	Ismail Taleb
30/3/2010	Some aspects of analysis of written/rhetorical mistakes committed by the students of the English Department	Mahmud Akhtr
6/4/2010	Approaches to teaching paragraph writing skills	Mohammad Al-Moghrum
20/4/2010	Time and teaching English tenses through timeline	Aseel Abdul-Wadood
4/5/2010	Miscue analysis procedures-from evaluation to instruction	Dr. Ramakanta Sahu
11/5/2010	Using computer games to build vocabulary repertoire of learners	Eman Barakat
18/5/2010	Exploring the structure and functions of Sana'a linguistic landscape	Dr. Anwar Al-Athwary
1/6/2010	Multiple choice questions as a technique for testing language	Mohsen Ben Shamlan

Indian Embassy School, Sana'a

The following students of Indian Embassy School have demonstrated outstanding performances in the All India Secondary School Examination and All India Senior Secondary Examination 2009-10 and have brought crowns of glory to the institution.

Two students each in Mathematics, Science and Hindi and one student in Social Science have secured 100% marks in the same examinations.

In the Science Olympiad & Mathematics Olympiad Examination 2009-10 the following students have won Gold Medals:

Nilini Ramanand  
Nandini Ramanand  
Aashritha Kondepudi  
Henri Movsyasan  
Daksh Sharma  
Kausar  
Shon K. Mathew

Mathematics and Science  
Mathematics and Science  
Science  
Mathematics  
Mathematics  
Mathematics  
Mathematics

Our warm felicitations to them, their teachers and parents.

POETRY CORNER

The cloud

Ba Ba white sheep  
You fly high up in the sky  
Sometimes you also sleep  
When there's no wind, so you can't fly.

I will also be like you  
Fly in the sky up and up  
And paint there a colorful rainbow  
Seeing which all'll merrily laugh.



Bijayalaxmi Mohanty  
blaxmi\_mohanty@rediffmail.com  
Teacher  
Kendriya Vidyalaya, Jatni  
Orissa, India

RESPONSE TO ARTICLES

Dear Dr. Meena,  
Today I read your "The Dusk of Delusion" in Yemen Times... it was touching!  
Cheers,  
Nabil Abdullah Al-Kumaim  
nabil.alkumaim@emirates.com

I would like to thank Jamila Al-Saady, who wrote the poem (My fake friend), published in issue no.1376 on 28th of June  
Really she made me reconcile myself with my friend after I felt she was talking to me through Jamila's poem  
Abeer Alghazali  
abeer9m@gmail.com

Taiz University The Ninth Cultural Day 2009-2010



Colorful display by little gems

Rashad Ali Qaed  
Abeer Mohammed

Every year, Taiz University, English Department presents some cultural activities. These activities are held usually by level three regular, special and basic education students. The activities range between short story writing, poetry recitation, drama acting, essay writing and reach their zenith with the celebration of the Cultural Day.

This year, the Cultural Day carnival was held on June 2nd, 2010. The celebration was presented to the audience with joy, love and a sense of "yes we can" spirit. The episodes encompassed sketches, chants, songs, and presentation of awards.

The highlight of the ceremony was the disabled children's songs. Three female students sang some songs which aroused the feeling of self confidence, hope and optimism in the viewers. Actually the members of the audience were highly impressed by the strong determination those children have despite their being disabled.

The activities radiated an Islamic and Yemeni cultural spirit. Some poems and chants were devoted to Allah, the Merciful. And this item was followed by a sketch about honesty as a human and Islamic virtue. The two sketches performed by children that attracted the attention of all were the traditional weddings in



The audience in rapt attention

both Yemen and India.

The students extended their deep love and respect to their beloved teachers when they gave them gifts and Certificates of thanks and appreciation. However, the real reward for the teachers was the performance of their students which showed the culmination of their efforts.

Romoz Gamal Ghalib, Safa Sadiq and Reem Gameel Abdullah were adjudged the best participants of poetry recitation competition. In short story writing, the winners were Safa Taha Mohammed, Huda Abdulbari and, Reem Gameel Abdullah. In essay writing, the best competitors were Sawsan Abdullah Thabet, Huda Abdulbari and Seham Abdulkader. In drama acting, the winner was Maali Ahmed Abdulwahab.

In fact, all of the invitees enjoyed the activity. We congratulate the winners and all the students who did their best to make the Ninth Cultural day a spectacular success. We also thank our dear sister and friend, teacher Gehan for her great effort and help to the students of level three.