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YEMEN TIMES

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OUR VIEWPOINT

THE SYSTEM FORCES SCHIZOPHRENIA ON THE YEMENI CITIZEN

Living in Yemen today, by necessity, leads to the development of two personalities among Yemenis. The system and the way our officials manage our institutions forces a double personality on us, and the conditions of the country lead to two contradictory conclusions.

On one hand, there is a lot of hope and self-confidence that has emerged from the peaceful unification of the country, and the democratization process. The possibilities of oil strikes and the discovery of other minerals are also part of the hopes. On the other hand, the lawlessness, the feeling of helpless and inability to address even the smallest issues and problems leave behind despair and frustration.

On one hand, we are enacting something close to a miracle - free elections. We have freedom of the press, "freedom" to even insult our leaders. Foreigners are invited to inspect our prisons for human rights violations.

On the other hand, corrupt officials continue to pocket whatever money comes their way, arrogant military officers whimsically violate the rights of citizens, tribesmen hijack anything mobile even human beings, merchants manipulate prices to exorbitant levels, bureaucrats dictate their "fees" for executing paperwork openly, and eternal bickering of politicians continues.

As a result, any Yemeni individual you come across will either be upbeat and hopeful, or very depressed. Even the same individual will show both symptoms, sometimes simultaneously.

Many Yemenis worry about the future of the country given these conflicting attitudes. The situation is, indeed, flammable. Unfortunately for Yemen, it will take one idiot to light it up. Can we all work together to tip the balance in favor of the hopeful part of us to salvage the situation?

Only time and April will tell!

The Publisher
[Signature]

Local Elections Watchdog Established

The Supreme Elections Committee has yet to agree to let the National Committee for Free Elections (NCFE) send its inspectors to sit by and watch how the elections process is being managed in the polling stations. Even then, according to Mustafa Noman, Chairman, the NCFE, which is made up of independents and non-candidates, they are going ahead with plans to carry out their work. "The US National Democratic Institute will send experts later this month to help train Yemenis in methods to watch elections and to document irregularities." The NCFE has also written to the European countries to initiate cooperation.

The President and Vice President Court Taiz.

President Saleh: "The great contribution of Taiz to the Revolution and Republic are documented in our history."

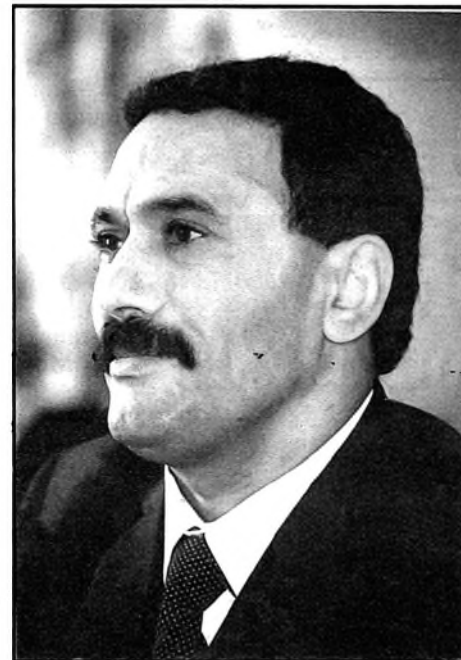
Vice President Al-Beedh: "Taiz is the largest and most important governorate of the Republic."

Lt-General Ali Abdullah Saleh, Chairman of the Presidential Council and Secretary-General of the PGC, and Mr. Ali Salim Al-Beedh, Vice Chairman of the Presidential Council and Secretary-General of the YSP, went out of their way to appease Taiz and win favor with it. In their address in Taiz to a large crowd people on Monday, February 8th, that was jointly aired on TV twice, the two men spoke highly of the people of Taiz.

"I need not remind all of the great contributions of the people of this governorate to the Republic and Revolution. I need not remind all of the long line of martyrs of the sons of this governorate. I know all of this is well documented in our modern history and in the Yemeni psyche," the President said. Speaking about the economic difficulties, the President agreed they were enormous, but "not as fatal as the doomsday prophecies would have us believe." "There is a scarcity of conscientious people among our officials," he added. Commenting on the riots and violent demonstrations started in Taiz, he expressed regret and said, "Let bygones be bygones and let us work for the future."

Mr. Ali Salim Al-Beedh also showered praise on the Taiz people. "This is the largest and most important of our governorates. We are counting on this governorate to play a critical role in the coming elections, as 43 members of parliament will be elected from Taiz," he said.

The Vice President then spoke about the need to take dramatic measures to correct the distortions and mismanagement of our system. "But we cannot do that in the current structure or in the time left before elections. So we are putting a lot of hope in the next House of Representatives. That is why I think all citizens should try hard to choose the best candidate."



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A 120 km Road Will Link Yemen and Oman

The two Yemeni and Omani Ministries of Transport will hold a meeting at Al-Mahara governorate to discuss and specify al-Gaidha/Hawf 120 km road that will link Yemen and the Sultanate of Oman. They will sign the agreement which is of vital importance to both countries, and represents a step forward in better relations between the peoples of the two countries. The first road project will link Hawf/Al-Ghaida/Saihoot/Aden, whereas the second road project would link Al Ghaida / Tarim / Saiyoun / Safir / Marib / Sana'a. The aim is to join the two brotherly countries. In addition to that, the two sides will review a number of issues of bilateral concern. It is worth mentioning that the Omani side has also proposed creating a free border zone between the two countries. (Please read details on page 14).

Taiz-Lahj-Aden-Abyan Flooded by Rain Water

Over the two days, Friday and Saturday February 5th and 6th, heavy rains have fallen on the city of Aden and the surrounding regions. According to Mr. Salim Saleh Mohammed, Member of the Presidential Council and Assistant Secretary-General of the Yemeni Socialist Party, torrents of floods have swept through many parts and quarters of Aden, notably Crater and Maalla. "There has been a lot of material damage, and we worry there may have been deaths as well because of the destroyed residences," he said. Upto date, communication with Aden is yet to be resumed. Electric supply, television and radio transmissions from Aden have both been interrupted. Reports from Hugarriah and the areas in the south of Taiz have also suffered under heavy rains. Although the Yemeni government has not declared a state of emergency in the area, it has taken special measures to address the situation and alleviate the suffering of the people.

Yemeni-EEC Talks

The official talks between the Republic of Yemen and the EEC delegation currently visiting Yemen were kicked off on Monday, February 8th. The two sides are discussing the volume and restructuring of EEC aid to Yemen. According to reliable sources, the EEC is resisting any increase in aid allocation because of Yemen's limited absorption capacity.

Oil Companies Told to Fend Off on Their Own!

Saleh Bin Hussainoon, Minister of Oil and Mineral Resources, sent a strange message to Yemen Hunt Oil Company, and by extension to the other oil companies operating in Yemen. "Given the current security situation, the Oil Ministry hereby states that it cannot provide the necessary protection for personnel and property. As such, oil companies are at liberty to determine the proper course of action for their operations in Yemen." In a meeting between the Oil Minister and George Slaughter, the General Manager of Yemen Hunt Oil Company, the company was told it could shut down its operations, continue with business as usual, or do whatever it pleased.

A perplexed George Slaughter later told the Yemen Times that his company has decided to continue with its operations and simultaneously take several precautionary measures. At the same time, US ambassador Arthur Hughes talked to Mr. Bin Hussainoon, who repeated his message. Later the ambassador met with the Prime Minister, who was sympathetic and understanding of the Minister of Oil's decision, although he promised to take action. Meanwhile, several embassies are discussing the

necessary actions to be undertaken in light of a crimewave against their property, notably cars. Recently, the Al-Hadaa tribe has kidnapped a Canadian national who it is using as a bargaining chip in its quarrel with the state. The man is still captive in some village less than a 100 kms south-east of Sanaa. A Japanese national had earlier been held captive for some time before he was released. The Oil Minister's recent decision reflects his frustration with the continued deterioration in the security situation. On February 4th, a large

military contingent was sent to Al-Hadaa and Nihm in an arm-flexing gesture in order to scare off the tribesmen. The move has yet to achieve the expected results. Meanwhile, the Minister offered his resignation.

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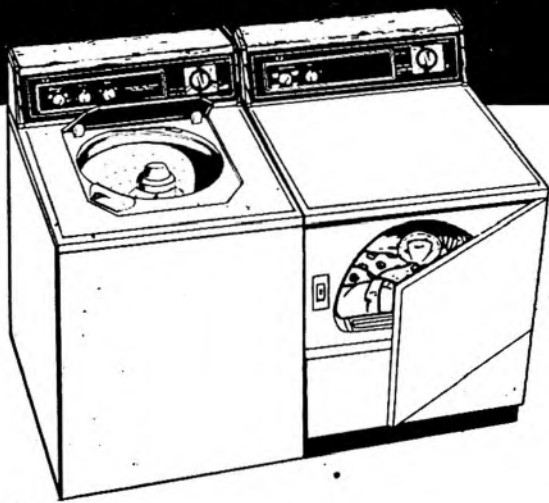
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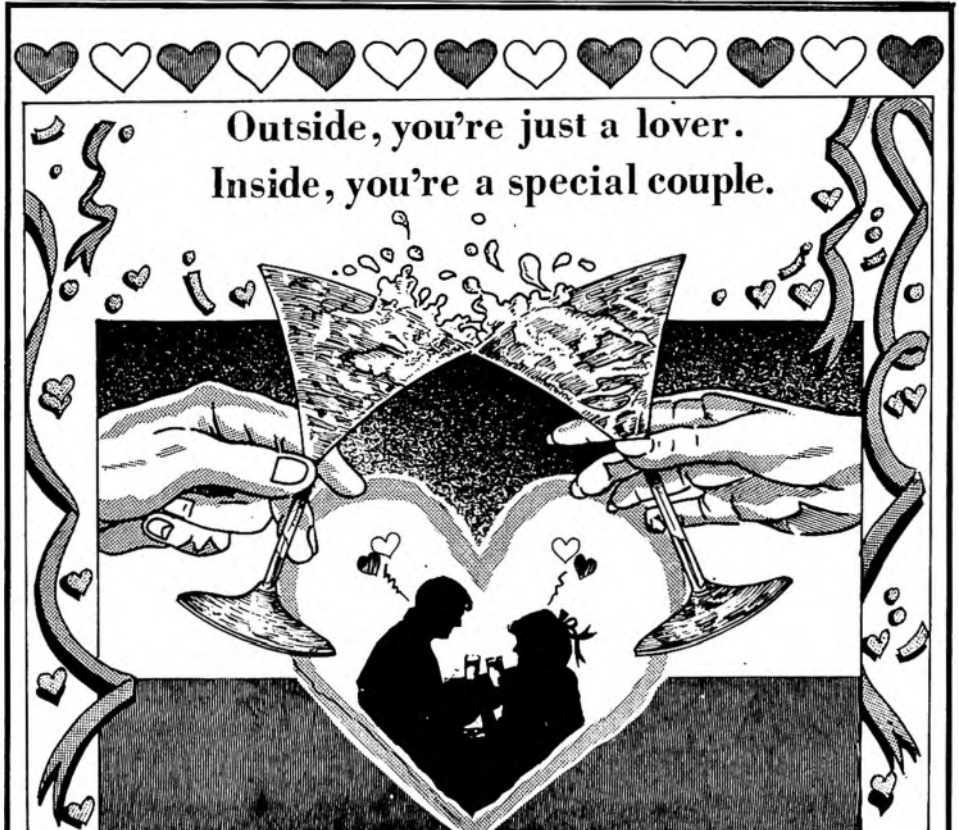
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INDIA URGED TO DO MORE FOR FOREIGN INVESTMENT

"Foreign firms are keen to invest in India despite recent riots," Prime minister P.V. Narasimha Rao said, but India's central bank chief says more must be done to "convert our hopes into reality."

Speaking in the wake of visits to India by leaders of Russia, Britain, and Germany, Rao told reporters that more foreign investors were negotiating for Indian tie-ups. "Major potential investors include Royal Dutch/Shell Group, Unilever Plc, Siemens AG, Asahi Glass Co and Enron Corp.," he said. At the same time, Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) Governor, C. Rangarajan said the economy was showing distinct signs of improvement because of the sweeping reforms and liberalization. "There has been a distinct change in the climate for foreign investment," Rangarajan said.

Investment approvals between August 1991 and October 1992 totalled US\$1.22 billion, including 38 approvals for existing companies wanting to raise their foreign equity to 51%. But he noted "most of the proposals approved by the government and the RBI have yet to result in the actual flow of investment."

Until Rao introduced major changes to India's inward-looking economy in mid-1991, the country failed to attract the big influx of foreign capital achieved by China and southeast Asia. In 1991, foreign investment was little more than \$100 million. But since then, India has begun to open its stock market to overseas investors, made the rupee partially convertible and revised the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (Fera), the cornerstone of the protected economy.

Despite the changes, foreign investors complain of long bureaucratic delays, conflicting rules, corruption and poor infrastructure. "Added to this, political uncertainty now comes into the picture," said Manish Chokhani, an analyst with Enam Financial Consultants in Bombay. He said following the destruction of the Ayodhya mosque by Hindu zealots, there was a chance of mid-term elections within six to eight months.

Foreign investors are looking into the national budget at the end of February to provide a fresh spur to the economic reform program by cutting taxes and tariff levels. Rangarajan said India's economy was expected to grow by 4% in the year 1992/93 ending March, against a 1.2% rise in gross domestic product the previous year. A good monsoon is helping.

Newly-appointed Commerce Minister, Pranab Mukherjee, said India must boost its exports or it could face another crisis. He said export growth at 5.9% in the first eight months of 1992/93 was too low "and it appears we have missed the bus. All efforts must now be focused on improving next year's figures," he said.

Rising remittances of Indian workers abroad are also expected to help.

BRAZIL'S NUKE DREAM WITHERS

Brazil, abandoning its dream of becoming a continental nuclear power, announced it has dropped plans to build a third atomic plant.

President Itamar Franco said the planned 1,300-kilowatt plant known as Angra III will not be build "under any hypothesis," presidential press spokesman Francisco Baker said in Brasilia, the capital.

Today, Angra III is simply an expensive hole in the ground. Brazil has spent \$ 1.1 billion just on the foundation at the site near Angra Dos Reis, a southeastern coastal resort 154km west of Rio de Janeiro. Another plant, Angra II, which is nearly finished, also could be scrapped, Baker said.

He said that Franco, a long-time critic of the nuclear program, has just decided not to resume work on the plant, although he has yet to decide to deactivate it.

Baker said the president decided to drop Angra III after meeting with Marcelo Siqueira, head of the government power company Furnas that runs the nuclear energy program.

"Siqueira said the upkeep of Angra II alone costs the nation \$10 million a month, even though construction was stopped," Baker said.

That leaves just Angra I, a 626-kilowatt plant built by the Westing House Co. of the United States. The \$1.8 billion plant came on-line in 1982, but it has broken down so often that Brazilians jokingly call it the "lightning bug" - on-again, off-again, on-again

Franco's decision apparently ends a dream of Brazilian generals to make Latin America's largest country a major nuclear power.

Angra II and III were to be the first of as many as eight nuclear plants to be built with West German technology. The contract was signed in 1975 by President General Ernesto Geisel, one of five generals who ruled during a 1964-1985 military regime. The controversial deal called for West Germany to give Brazil secret "fuel cycle" technology, which could be used to build a bomb. The government said it would use nuclear energy only for peaceful ends, but evidence recently surfaced of a secret military project to build and test a bomb.

Meanwhile, the "miracle" years of rapid growth in the 1970s gave way to recession in the 1980s. Many felt the country couldn't afford the billions needed to complete the proposed plants, while others opposed construction for environmental reasons.

In 1990, President Fernando Collor de Mello ordered an alleged test site in the Amazon closed. He opened Brazilian nuclear plants and research sites to inspection by Argentina, South America's only other nuclear power.

Collor resigned in December following his impeachment for corruption.

Brazil, once seen as a model for Third World development, is saddled today with an enormous foreign debt and major internal economic distortions. As a result, the nuclear ambition seems to be gone for good.

RAFSANJANI DASHES ANY HOPES OF RECONLIATION WITH THE WEST

Iranian President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani said last week, that it was up to Washington to make the first move to normalize American-Iranian relations.

"As long as there is no change in (Washington's) hostile attitude, there will be no change," Rafsanjani said in response to questions about a possible improvement in Iran's relations with the US under Bill Clinton's fledgling administration.

He told a news conference in Tehran that Iran was waiting for a goodwill signal from the United States. He said such a signal could be the release of "considerable" Iranian assets, which have been blocked in the US since the 1979 Islamic revolution and have been estimated by economists at between \$10 and \$13 billion.

At celebrations marking the 14th anniversary of the revolution on 10th February, Rafsanjani confirmed widespread speculation he may attempt a second term in next June's Presidential election.

"Any time my society needs me I'll be at its service. This election is no exception," he said.

Rafsanjani, who became president after the death of the "Father of the Revolution" Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini, vigorously defended the Revolution's record and his period in office throughout two and a half hours of critical questioning by foreign reporters.

Rafsanjani, who has steered Iran towards political and economic liberalization, asked why Iran was being asked to change.

"They (the US) must change in relation to us. It is the US that has oppressed us before and after the revolution," he said. "They wanted to continue their imperialist attitude towards this nationif we had done something to oppress others, then we should also change," he added.

He said an improvement in US Iranian ties did not seem possible for the moment. "It is incompatible with (Iranian) public opinion and the goals of the revolution," he added.

Speaking about relations with the Arab Gulf states, he said that Iran was trying to be a good neighbor and improve ties with other countries.

Rafsanjani rejected charges that Iran had aggressive intentions towards Arab neighbors across the Gulf. Earlier, the Iranian President had shattered any hopes that Iran under the present regime might even consider lifting the death sentence imposed on Salman Rushdie. The Iranian writer was sentenced for the ideas in his book, *The Satanic Verses*.

Observers believe that the tough Rafsanjani position is supposed to be a signal for his people that he is not softening his Revolutionary stance. It may be in preparation for the elections.

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'MALARIA' - The Coming Death?

By: Mohamed Abdul-Ghani Shawkat, Al-Azhar University, Cairo, Egypt.

Malaria is no longer that disease which can be treated. It has become more dangerous than ever. One might think that malaria was under control. That was, in some sense, true in light of the curative drugs developed to combat the disease. But now, that old disease has come in a new form and has become out of control. That is why I find myself obliged to write this piece in order to make our people aware of the coming danger.

First of all, what is malaria? I would like to quote from an article published in *Newsweek* of November 30th, 1992. It said that the malaria parasite is growing more resistant to all kind of drugs. The danger here lies in one kind of parasite which is called 'Plasmodium Falciparum.' It is resistant to all available drugs and it is different from all other malaria parasites, known so far.

The *Newsweek* article stated that malaria parasites now infect an estimated 270 million people every year; killing up to 2 million (more than AIDS) and causing at least 100 million cases of acute illness. Roughly 10% of all cases occur wherever the mosquitoes go. Although the continent of 'Asia' is still free from the most deadly parasite, many Yemenis get ill with Malaria without even knowing what its cause is.

All malaria parasites are transmitted by female Anopheles mosquitoes. The mosquitoes are guided and mushroomed by the main queen of malaria-bearing mosquitoes called 'Anopheles Gambia'. The illness starts when a feeding mosquito deposits the parasites into a person's blood-stream. The parasite travels to the liver and re-emerges, in vastly increased numbers, as a ring-shaped particle.

In this new guise, it burrows into the red blood cells to feed on the hemoglobin and continue reproduction. At regular times, the infected red cells explode, unleashing a new generation of parasites into the bloodstream. From the diagnostic point of view, the illness starts with pain and a fever, often accompanied by vomiting. Milder cases are marked by drenching sweats and shaking chills, followed by months or even years of anemia and periodic fever.

Today, we have many drugs besides quinine - the one that was discovered in South America - and chloroquine which are called Mefloquine, Halofantrine, and Fansidar. Unfortunately, the Falciparum parasite, the most deadly one, has become increasingly resistant to all available treatments. But drug treatment is not the only way to fight malaria. Health authorities learned long ago that killing the messenger is more important than the treatment itself. The greatest burden, the article said, falls on Africa, where the Falciparum parasite strikes nearly 100 million persons. People are born able to fight off a plasmodium infection. Other people develop partial

immunity over time. At the end, the article concludes that malaria is still a curable illness despite everything. It laments that the vast majority of today's deaths could have been avoided because the vast majority of the deaths results not from exotic new strains of the disease, but from the traditional malaria which could be treated by cheap and simple intervention.

Yet, it is important to find ways to combat the new strains of malaria. The old curative drugs like quinine, chloroquine, etc., are useless with the new malaria. Therefore, the worldwide pharmaceutical companies are on the run to create a new curative drug.

But, what about Yemen? Yemen, now is still free from the 'Plasmodium Falciparum', but maybe not for long. This deadly parasite has spread over Africa and soon it will claim parts of Asia, and we are on the frontline. The kind of malaria which we already have in our country is not the deadly one. We have seen traditional malaria spread over the Tihama plain especially in Hodeidah governorate for many years. There are many infected people and some of them are in acute conditions. Our health authorities may have done their best efforts to contain this disease. But I believe there are places around Hodeidah still beyond their reach. I can mention some of them like Qoti, Mansuria, etc., which are in need of immediate help. I worry that the deadly kind of malaria will soon over-run our cities and villages in the Tihama before some of these have been able to contain even the old malaria disease.

I learned from a physician working in Al-Olufy Hospital in Hodeidah that it is the only hospital which receives malaria patients in the whole Tihama region. He complained of shortages of simple things needed for the treatment of the patients. I suggest that there must be clinics scattered all over the Tihama to help the patients, and some centrally located hospitals with sophisticated equipment so as to give the acute cases, the necessary care. Our health authorities must take this suggestion into consideration as they plan to combat malaria. The public media must also play a vital role in order to make the public aware of the coming danger. First of all, our people must know how to fight mosquitoes which are the main vehicle for spreading malaria.

**The Sage:
Hassan Ali Al-Saqqaf**

Hassan Ali Al-Saqqaf has known better times. As one of the few Yemenis who became a public figure early in the 1960s, he is today a simple man who does not have any worldly ambitions.

"I first came to Sanaa in 1959. The city was depressed. I remember nobody would even talk to you as people were suspicious of each other, and fearful for their lives and well-being. The Imam's omnipresence was felt by all," he said.

A graduate of Cairo, Egypt, Hassan returned to Sanaa in 1965 to join the civil service, courtesy of fellow-students in Cairo who have become big shots. "My colleagues include such persons as Abdullah Juzailan, Abdul-Latif Dhaifallah, and Hashem Al-Houthi," he explained.

"Most Yemenis cannot grasp the achievements of the Revolution because they have not known Imamic Yemen. The changes triggered by the Revolution were far-reaching and very deep, indeed. Of course, there are shortcomings, but any person who tries to belittle the achievements of the Revolution is either ignorant or has an axe to grind," he said.

Hassan Ali Al-Saqqaf, a poet, writer and social reformer, started his main career as a banker. "I worked with the Yemen Bank for Reconstruction and Development for over fifteen years, before I retired," he said.

Today he is one of the father figures of the Saqqaf clan in Hugarriah. He knows most of the government officials, and has contact with the religious clergy as well as the politicians.

"The first task for any effort in changing our current conditions will have to be in state-building. There are two sides to this. First, we have to plant respect for the law among our people, especially among those who are supposed to uphold it. Second, we have to move towards building our institutions.



The unification of Yemen, the democratization of our politics, and the liberalization of the economy are three pillars on which the future of Yemen can be built. He added that integrity of character is going to be a major element in the credibility of the system.

Speaking about the Islamic trends, Mr. Al-Saqqaf indicated that Islam does not call on us to be antagonistic to others. In fact it is a faith of tolerance, understanding and cooperation.

"We have to fight the little demon dwelling inside each one of us. This demon manifests itself in many ways. For example, the excessive greed of our corrupt officials is one of the manifestations of this little demon," he said. Finally, he urged our politicians not to let their lust for power blind them to the realities of the people. "I do not think Yemen will ever plunge to the abyss of Somalia; but still, we have to care for each other and create a feeling of social goodwill among us," he concluded.

**Yemeni Creates Art Work
in Saudi Airports and Palaces**

By: Yahia Y. Hodeidi, Yemen Times.

Mohammed Ismail Qayed Rashed is a gifted person. He draws beautiful drawings, calligraphy, logos, and symbols on glassware. Mohammed says he left Yemen as a young boy, and spent the last 24 years in Kuwait. There he was

his small decoration lab, called Al-Ghadeer Lab, on the Ring Road.

"I can do all kinds of works ranging from mirrors and things you hang on the wall or fix against the wall, to decorated doors, small goldfish-ponds, tables, etc.," Mohammed Rashed said.



an apprentice to many Indian, Pakistani, Lebanese and Palestinian artists. Over the years, he mastered the skill, until today he is a master artist.

"I have done many important works. As examples, I have done all the glass decorations and paintings at King Khaled International Airport and at the Saudi Royal Guest House," he said. Here in Yemen, he has created a presence through

Speaking about business in Yemen and the kind of clientele, Rashed spoke sadly. "The Yemeni client does not yet appreciate fully refined art work," he said. He also pointed to the constant bargaining over small amounts. "Even with our low prices, given low overheads, people are fond of bargaining for ever," he indicated.

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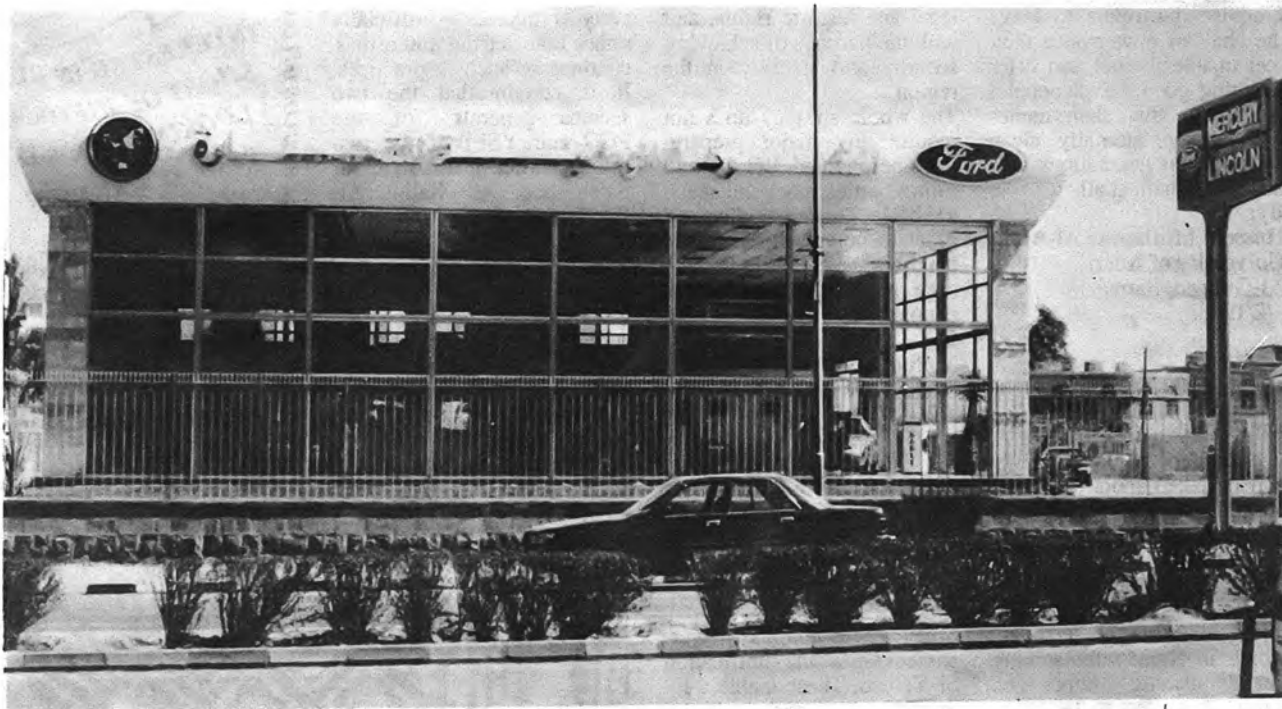
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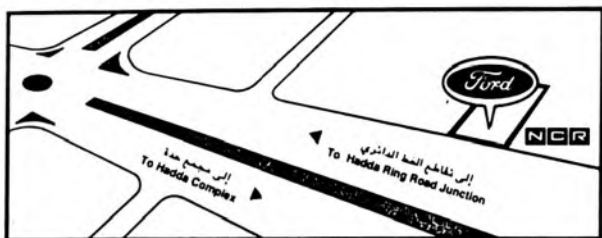
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WITH MY REGARDS TO THE CANDIDATES IN THE NEXT ELECTIONS

No one is able to foresee the situation in the April elections, but without doubt all patriots hope to have a clean/honest election in our country for the first time. It is our duty to appeal to our people to hasten to register their names in the specified centers of electoral constituencies.

Such a call is general and open to all citizens who should seize this opportunity to exercise their legitimate rights in choosing/electing their candidates freely. It is our duty not to give our votes to anyone who does not deserve them. Our people need honest, loyal, uncorrupt candidates for the parliament to perform its pending tasks in defending the rights of the people boldly. This requires parliamentarians who are trustworthy and efficient.

We are sure that the supervisory committees for elections will behave responsibly and will rise up to the occasion in managing the elections honestly.

It does not matter who loses or wins in the elections. What matters is to proceed with it in a democratic environment without any favoritism to any of the candidates. It is also important to be sure that the poll boxes are free from forgeries.

The winning candidates must think of the citizens who voted for them and not to forget them once in parliament.

Let us be clear in our programs thinking of the people and not of ourselves, and relatives for all the citizens are equal in rights and duties.

By: **Mohammad Saif Thabit, Al-Ayyam, Aden, 3/2/1993.**

WHO RULES YEMEN?

During the last three years, all the attempts to interpret what is going on around us has led to more vagueness, agony, anxiety and frustration. Then can any one clarify to us or give us an interpretation for our strange situation today?

The question is who is ruling Yemen? Is it the Presidential Council, the government, the parliament, the advisory council or is it the Supreme Elections Committee? We need a clear answer if we are to salvage the country from the current situation.

Actually, first and foremost, we need a leadership. When we mobilize the people for celebrations, we rejoice and wait for the leadership to put an end to our pains and sufferings. But what we get is speeches. We are not in need of an oration. We are fed up with promises.

In our daily life, we suffer from conspiracies, political assassinations, and I am sure the leadership knows the culprits. Then, we ask: "Where does the corruption lie?" We ask for solutions and actual implementation of past promises. We all strive for the sake of Yemen and must not forget the martyrs who sacrificed their lives to allow the fruits of unifications, democracy and pluralism to blossom.

The concern of our leaders must be to fight corruption and bring prosperity for the people.

All those who ruled Yemen do deserve our respect. We still remember names such Asaad Al-Kamil, Ali Yanuf, Maid Yaqrib, Saif bin Dhi Yazen, Arwa Al-Suliehi, Ibraheem Al-Hamdi, Abdulla Al-Salal, Salmeen, Abdul Fatah Ismail, etc. All those rulers left their print on our history.

But in the democratic environment of unified Yemen, we ask once again who has taken over the business of ruling Yemen? Who is to blame for the lawlessness and corruption, to blame of the misuse of government authority and resources?

Who is distributing arms to "civilians" in our cities, and who is promoting tribal strife? Who is responsible for the devaluation of the local currency? Who is responsible for the postponement of salary payment?

These questions agonize us whenever we think of them. It is true that the corruption of the system in any country is due to the corruption of the rulers themselves.

I advise our rulers to leave the chair of power once they feel unable to rule and offer anything good for the people. If they do that, their names will remain eternally clean and Yemeni generations will not forget them at all.

By: **Hussein Muthanna Al-Akil University of Aden Al-Gadeed, Sanaa, 1/2/1993.**

AN ORGANIZED INTIMIDATION

A number of local newspapers talked about sabotage, intimidation and violence as being prevalent phenomena in our country.

I believe that the majority of the Yemeni people refuse and reject all sorts of terrorism which is already threatening our democratic hopes and unity. It is also to be noted that the terrorist actions are not something incidental, but they are well-planned and organized efforts to destabilize the nation. The terrorists realize that stability is the base for planning, development and progress.

Unfortunately, there are some who still sympathize with the criminals and try by all means to assist them. It is beyond any doubt that most of the assassinations targetted the symbols of the YSP, which can be seen as an action of provocation to force the party into a violent response. Fortunately, the YSP response was very restrained. Despite the promises to rectify this problem, we have not seen or heard any practical steps leading to trolling the crimes.

It is time to put an end to terrorism and we are all aware of what is going on, but Yemen's interest comes first and it is above all considerations. This is the standpoint of our YSP.

By: **Abda Abdullah Hassan Aden, Aden, 3/2/1993.**

LET'S TALK QUIETLY! EVERYTHING IS POSSIBLE!

Senior leaders of the PGC and YSP talked and continue to talk about possibilities of establishing of relations with the neighboring countries with the aim of returning to

pre-Gulf Crisis relations. It seems that the intentions are good and the purpose is to by-pass the troubling results of the Gulf Crisis.

Dr. Abdulaziz al-Dali, the Minister of State of Foreign Affairs, in his last visit to Saudi Arabia (19/1/93), handed a letter from President Ali Abdullah Saleh to King Fahd. That visit was one of many small efforts to bridge the gap restore warm brotherly bilateral relations.

A similar move with the Sultanate of Oman had led to resolving the border issue once for all.

To move towards brotherly relations with the Gulf states does not require drawing up a political strategy for the government. The YSP/PGC have stated the necessity of having good relations with our neighboring countries.

The National Construction and Reform Program called for a profound and responsible tackling of the border issues aiming to reach a fair and satisfactory solution to all the parties based on the legal and historic rights, and with the purpose of achieving security and stability in the region.

The whole strategy does not require any major preparations beforehand. Let the two ruling parties meet and reach a basic understanding in order to pursue talks with the neighboring countries for the sake of the homeland and the people.

By: **Mohammad Zain Al-Kaf, Al-Haq, Sanaa, 7/2/1993.**

THE PROBLEM LIES IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESOLUTIONS AND NOT IN PREPARING THEM!

Many resolutions were passed since the unification of Yemen. These tackle a lot of difficulties and problems which impede the process of construction.

Let us take, as an example, the resolutions passed after the violence of December. Though the resolutions came late, they would have helped the situation had they been implemented.

Such resolutions would have contributed to reduction in the pain and suffering of the people. Unfortunately they were not implemented.

The tackling of the worsening economic conditions require a number of steps and procedures including stringent measures which will take to a different level of management of the country. The implementation of resolutions and laws requires political conciliation between the two ruling parties and the other the political forces. The carelessness and neglect emanating from the philosophy of "What is everybody's business is nobody's business" will lead to grave consequences.

The administration apparatus of the state should play its essential role actively in performing its tasks with consciousness and understanding away from interference in its daily work. Thus, we do require a great change to build a modern state.

By: **Mohammad Khamis Al-Awlaqi 26th September, Sanaa, 4/2/1993.**

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR WHAT IS HAPPENING?

Those scared of democracy are behind the clash between the political parties. There are among us those who are uneasy and scared with democracy. These are the persons who are behind the onslaught on the opposition parties because they are scared of democracy.

The resignation of one of the members of Al-Tagammu Al-Wahdawi Al-Yamani party (Mr. Ahmed Al-Shara'abi) was exploited by the same circles to draw clouds of doubt and distrust around the party. We are immune from such tactics, and we are not scared and what happened.

Today, the same tactic is used against the Nasserite Democratic Party and the Rabat Abnaa Al-Yemen party. Such tactics are well-exposed and cannot lead to the objectives of those behind them; i.e., to further divide the opposition parties.

We would rather lock up the party bureaus officially rather than let the authorities continue such practices. It is certain that the two secretary-generals (of the PGC and YSP) of the two ruling parties (Ali Abdullah Saleh and Ali Salim Al-Beedh) are not aware of all these practices.

They should give their instructions that the old totalitarian practices of the ruling parties into factions had ended since 1990.

By: **Omar Al-Gawi. Raay, Sanaa, 3/2/1993.**

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Continued from page 13:

Al-Adham's Book on *The Satanic Verses*

At the end of his book, Dr. Al-Adham raises questions which are almost identical to the questions raised by Rushdie throughout his literary career and by most writers and intellectuals of the Islamic World, either in private or in public. The most important are the following: Standing at the threshold of the new century, how do we as Muslims deal with all the accumulated material and philosophical heritage, including all the legendary aspects therein? Should we understand them symbolically, or should we conceive the literary meaning? Should we apply our minds to them utilizing all scientific tools and procedures and rational analysis, or should we just accept them as untouch-

ables? And if so, who or what is the authority qualified to serve as a final reference point and thus determine what's right and what's wrong? Should we withdraw from all that nonsense and seek peace of mind, or should we go on researching through these untouchables looking for new knowledge in order to better understand our faith? Do we have the right to utilize tools of our rich civilizational heritage for deeper scientific research or even literary creation? And finally, how do we interact with the parties that forever insist on burrying any and all serious discussion and what are their motives? East or West, it seems to me that their only motive is to keep our brains in a refrigerator from attending

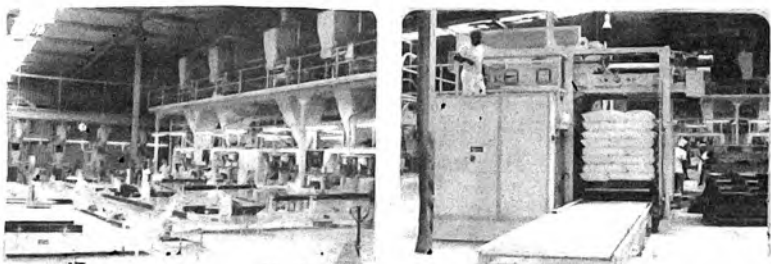
their new elaborated global order. Back to our book, I cannot but express praise for Dr. Al-Adham's brave decision to cross over many red lines and into forbidden territory, as he once did in 1969. I cannot but sympathize with the man who will shortly face a hurricane of opposition motivated by memories of the middle ages. He will face charges of apostasy, heresy, or even of being a tool of Zionism. The current belittling of our thinking capacity stands in sharp contrast to our own tradition of "I THINK, THEREFORE I EXIST" which was the main slogan of our thinkers in a past period of our history. The Mentality of Inhibition" is a book to read. It is an attempt of a free mind to break though the barriers of forbidden territory. It will, no doubt, be classified along with Ali Abdulraziq's *Islam and the Origins of Law*, and Taha Hussain's *On Jahiliyyah Poetry*, and those few other works that tried to open closed doors of untouchable treasures of free knowledge. Will the Muslim peoples ever wake up to the needs and requirements of this modern age and cast off the patronage placed upon it by a small group of individuals in the name of religion? Or will we crawl into the 21st century while still half-asleep?

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 الحديدية: ت ٢٢٢٤٦٠/٣، فاكس: ٢١١٥٥١، تليفون: ٥٦٦١، تليفون: ٢١١٥٥١، ص ب: ٤٠١٥
 الخرطوم: ت ٧٤٥٦٩، ٧٤٦١٠، ٧٤٥٦٢، فاكس: ٧٤٥٦١، تليفون: ٧٤٥٦٩، ص ب: ١٩٢٦
 بورسودان: ت ٢٦٣٠، ٢٩٧٩، ٤٤٦٥، فاكس: ٧٠٠٧١، تليفون: ٧٠٠٧١، ص ب: ١٦٠

EARTH'S UNPREDICTABLE CLIMATE

By:
Amjed Abdul-Hamid,
 Science Editor,
 Yemen Times.

It's no secret that climate is changeable, prone to taking erratic turns without rhyme or reason, as unpredictable as weather. Climate brews where the atmosphere meets the ocean and the frequently violent surface of the land. Interactions can easily plunge whole hemispheres into deep freezes or turn up the heat until even the high latitudes steam like a tropical hothouse. Clues were found on land and sea, fossils and geological layers, telling the story of attacking glaciers and of their withdrawal. 300 Million years ago the southern part of the globe was locked in an ice age that lasted 60 million years. There were tropical forests in Greenland and most of the northern latitudes until 30 million years ago. 17,000 years ago most of the Northern Hemisphere looked like Greenland today. Finally 600 years ago, the last Viking farmers who used to grow grains in Greenland left it for a warmer place, and from that day until now, Greenland is only an ice sheet fringed with land barely suitable for grazing sheep and reindeer. Too many theories were proposed to explain the ice ages. One of the first theories was proposed more than 100 years ago and extended in the 1920s by a Yugoslavian astronomer, who sought the cause of ice ages in astronomical variations: 20,000 - and 41,000 - year cycles in which the tilt and orientation of Earth's spin axis changes, and a 100,000 - year cycle in which the planet's orbit around the sun stretches into a more extreme ellipse, then relaxes again. These cycles don't have much effect on the total amount of solar energy reaching the earth, but they do change how the annual sunshine quota is distributed among the seasons, especially in the higher latitudes. By affecting the strength of summer sunshine - and hence its ability to melt away snow from the preceding winter - the seasonal changes might be enough to make the difference between the expansion of a glacier and its retreat. Clues were found in the sea crust that shows the advance and the retreat in accordance with the shorter cycles. But yet the theory has fallen short in accounting for advancing glaciers in the Northern and Southern Hemispheres at the same time. When the tilt or orientation of Earth's orbit changes, that should bring stronger sunshine to one of the poles at the expense of the other, but it should not weaken the sunshine on both poles simultaneously. Another astronomer's theory focuses on the sun instead of Earth's orbit. Our

middle aged star does has its vagaries. When sunspots appear on its surface, it means that the activity producing heat is high, and vice versa. Scientists now believe that the chill which drove the Vikings from Greenland was caused by the decrease in solar activity. Measurements in recent decades confirm that the sun tends to dim slightly every 11 years, the solar activity reaches its minimum and sunspots become scarce or disappear. Most scientists now believe that carbon dioxide (CO2) gas plays a major role in climate shifts. CO2 molecules act like one-way mirrors for heat radiation from the sun; like greenhouse glass, they allow radiation to get through to earth but absorb it before it can get out into space again. That's why scientists believe that just before the last climate crash, temperatures got a little warmer. When there are high percentages of CO2 in the atmosphere the warmth would increase, causing more rain. The rain would wash CO2 from the atmosphere and take it to the ocean floor, via rivers, to be locked inside rocks as calcium carbonate (chalk). That leaves less CO2 in the atmosphere which would allow the sun's heat to escape from earth back into space, leaving Earth in an ice age. During a recent global freeze, for example, the CO2 content of the atmosphere is known to have been 30% lower than it is today. What returned warmth to the earth was the ceaseless drifting of the continents, which brought calcium carbonate rocks near hot springs and volcanoes and cooked the CO2 out of them into the atmosphere again. The conclusion that researchers have now reached is that the greenhouse effect, which brings warmth to earth, would consequently be followed by an ice age. For some time researchers believed that they understood the CO2 cycle, but in 1990 a computer simulation showed, contrary to what scientists used to believe, that oceans absorb CO2 from the atmosphere at its turbulent surface; that what absorbs 20-50% of CO2 was not oceans but land, soil and trees, leaving the rest of CO2 in the atmosphere. There is yet another wild card that plays the same role of CO2, clouds. Because all clouds are white, they reflect light from the sun and cool the world's surface, but they also trap infrared radiation (heat). For some clouds the opposing forces counter-balance each other and the clouds exert little net effect on the earth's temperature. Other clouds, however, have properties skewed in one direction. A team of more than 150 researchers started a one decade experiment that covers specified areas above oceans and continents (called FIRE) in

1986. The results of its first stage, which ended in 1991, have shown that clouds known as marine strato-cumulus (which sit only 500-1000 meters above the sea) have a cooling effect on the earth, and that an increase of 4% in these clouds could compensate for the warming of a doubling in atmospheric CO2. Another type of clouds called cirrus, that form on altitudes of 6-12km, warm the atmosphere because they function just like CO2 gas. Whatever the sun, the ocean or the clouds might do, their deeds are incomparable to what humans might do. Industrialization and burning fuels which spew 5.3 billion tons of carbon gases per year, has warmed the globe 5 degrees or more. Another wild card that may upset the balance are wars. Wars inciting criminal acts like burning oil fields would aggravate the situation. The Gulf War led a prominent scientist, Carl Sagan, to anticipate a doomsday scenario of a coming winter. Some would say, "Well, it's two years after the war and nothing like that has happened." But in 1970 a meteorologist named Edward Lorenz, with the help of computers, reached a conclusion that the precision of the data of the initial conditions of weather could dramatically effect the final results and this sensitivity relation was called the "butterfly effect": A butterfly flapping its wings in Rio de Janeiro could in theory drastically affect the weather in Tokyo several weeks later (that's no joke. It's a new branch of mathematics called Fractals or Chaos). Intense rains over India, Bangladesh and even China were reported weeks later. Ok, the butterfly effect wasn't so drastic this time, but who could bet on another experience like that? Scientists aren't sure yet if they have learnt all the lessons of the first one. To those optimists that believe that with technology our civilization could conquer an ice age, we ask, what about the other species? The warming of 7 degrees takes thousands of years for nature to achieve; it took us only 50-70 years. It took the plants and animals thousands of years to adjust to climate shifts; do we expect them now to adjust in 50-70 years?! What if the sources of energy that produce CO2 are drained? How long would it take the warmth and the rain to wash the CO2 out of the atmosphere and lock us in an ice age? How would we regain warmth and after how long? There is no way to sing "Fly me to the moon" and get a ticket to other planets, for these tickets are astronomically expensive even for the great powers. So we have to look after our sensitive climate so that our Earth remains habitable.

Letters to the Editor

A TUNE FOR BOSNIA

I read the poem below in the Herald Tribune, written by Joseph Broadsky and found it very touching. I am sure the Yemen Times readers will find this poem good and true, yet so sad.

As you pour yourself a scotch, crush a roach, or check your watch,
as your hand adjusts your tie, people die.
In the towns with funny names, hit by bullets,
caught in flames,
by and large not knowing why, people die.
In small places you don't know of,
yet big for having to chance
to scream or say good-bye, people die.
People die as you elect new apostles of neglect,
self-restraint, etc.
whereby people die.
Too far off to practice love for thy neighbor/brother Slav,
where your cherubs dread to fly, people die.
While the statues disagree, Cain's version,
history for its fuel tends to buy those who die.
As you watch the athletes score,
check your latest statement,
or sing a lullaby, people die
time whose sharp bloodthirsty quill parts the killed
from those who kill,
will pronounce the latter tribe as your type.

I hope something will soon be done for Bosnia.

By:
Aidah Al-Tamimi
Sana'a.

HUMAN RIGHTS AND BAGHDAD

Taking into consideration the Gulf War already has caused in most recent history that we are still witnessing most unjustifiable actions against Iraq directly and ofcourse indirectly affecting the territory with intention to create further crisis.

Is the Arab pro-western media and the western media telling the truth? If so, who is the official reporter or informer to the Security Council. Reporters and informers need to look to South African Blacks who need more attention, to Moslems in Yugoslavia being exterminated brutally, Palestinians being tortured for being home, and worst of all Americans who claim "human rights" need care and help back home... and a lot more worldwide.

People who have been visiting Iraq recently assure the existence of stability there and the love of people of Iraq for his Excellency, President Saddam Hussein. Loving your country and the leadership is no sin, I responded. Proper leadership in Baghdad proved, more than ever, the failure of international philosophy as well as industrial revolution (the war-machine makers) also the acceleration of instability within mankind by "Merchants of Death" continues shamelessly and quickly. This is industrial global suicide.

Stop talking about environmental issues when there is continuous massacre occurring around the world. I hope Clinton will not display his machines of war in the territory.

By:
Jamal A.Z.
Sana'a.

GEORGE BUSH'S INCOMPLETE MISSION

The world is waiting for Clinton's own decision after Bush left so much of his own meaning unclear with his incomplete world policy scenario.

How can I give faith to America; the decision to be made is based on the mood of the new President; it is the decision of a non-dictator! I see it as a very narrow minded policy if no proper statement is set up for better ties with world nations. The ups and downs of foreign countries is based on the firm relations and good will for the

future, not the war machines being moved from one place to another, displaying muscle and claiming peace force on the move. When looking to the truth, peace can never be enforced (look to this example: you could tame wild animals to a cat-like behaviour, but a cat can be made wild if cornered). The resolutions made in America are designed to demean Iraq, while America is putting money in northern Iraq as well as the south. But America talks like a peace maker in the United Nations. You pay minorities to cry for help and secretly you finance media to make it sound like it is the end of the world, and later you come as a savior in human rights fashion and talk with concern about humanity. A new president is elected to clean the mess in the Geopolitical laboratory. Unfortunately, this is going on in so many countries. After all that, some nations say Saddam is a dictator. Is it because he is keeping Iraq on the move and not giving up? I am proud to tell the Iraqi people congratulations on your leadership and for the generation to come. confidence for togetherness in mankind is born again. Don't count on the statue of liberty, because it is just a statue.

By:
Abu Radhwan,
Sana'a.

CENSORSHIP IS NECESSARY

I occasionally go to the pictures, but the amount of offensive materials we are exposed to in films nowadays are surely excessive and it seems that we are in a permissive stage.

The seductive films which are full of adultery will pervert anyone who watches them. I don't mean that cinemas should be banned, but the materials should be examined, cutting out anything that is regarded as an abomination, because such films destroy the innocence of your people who are going through their period of adolescence. Hence, censorship is necessary, especially to protect children from the corrupting influences of such scenes. If the authorities fail to censor, then I suggest that parents should not allow their children to run wild without their control and supervision because the children are in their formative years, during which their characters are formed. And to take good care of children is one of the most commendable deeds in Islam.

By:
Sheikh Nour Qassim
Faculty of Education,
Hodeidah.

NON-YEMENIS MUST NOT TAKE PART IN ELECTIONS

The elections committee supervisors at my area's polling station made me discover what I believed to be extinct long ago. Not all of our country's laws are implemented, but what I saw at my polling station changed my mind and shook my soul. I am not advertising for any party. I am only converting what I feel into words. It's true that with or without ID, all eligible citizens can take part in the election.

Just go to your polling station with your ID, and see if you don't have get two citizens to verify your nationality to the chief of your zone.

Mind you, it's a wicked thing to let non-Yemenis take part in elections, because that unbearable event could possibly cost us peace, justice, and democracy.

May God guarantee us complete success.

By:
Al-Maqtari Shakib
Mensur Galib,
Sana'a.

Personal View

APPEAL FOR SUPPORT

The Syndicate of the Teachers and Trainers of the National Institute for Administrative Sciences (NIAS) has issued an appeal to all parties to support them in their on-going strike, already one month old.

In a communique presented to the Yemen Times, the Chairman of the syndicate said that their demands are threefold:

- To take the necessary measures to address the administrative vacuum, as the NIAS does not have a dean, and the vice dean is a hold-over from NIPA.
- To address the financial grievances of the teaching and training staff, as their remunerations have not been adjusted for a long time. "We demand that our salaries be equalized with all high institutes and universities, according to the law."
- To put an end to the in-fighting among the ministries of Higher Education and Research, Civil Service and Administrative Reforms, and Planning and Development.

The main office of NIAS in Sanaa, and the branches in Hodeidah, Taiz, and Aden have been on strike since the beginning of the year. Some 5000 trainees and students have suffered as a result.

The problem is at the desk of the Prime Minister who is looking into the matter. A decision on this problem is expected to be taken shortly.

In the meanwhile, the teachers and trainers refuse to resume their duties until the government takes action on their demands.

By:
Syndicate of Teachers and Trainers,
NIAS, Sanaa.

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Salim Saleh Mohammed:

“Only the party rank and file can make major decisions.”

Salim Saleh Mohammed is, as Assistant Secretary General, the second man in the YSP. He is also one of the top five men of the country, as Member of the Presidential Council.

Finally, as chair of the joint committee, he is the point man charged with shaping the merger or cooperation dialogue between the PGC and YSP. Yemen Times talked to him at his home in Sanaa about many issues. The relaxed conversation covered many themes concerning the present political situation, and future prospects.

Following are excerpts of the conversation:

Q: The Merger Talks between the PGC and YSP. How are they coming and what is new?

A: First, allow me to use a different word than merger. Let us use “unifying” the two parties, because the two words have different linguistic and political connotations and meanings.

What is going on between the two ruling parties is a continuous dialogue based on an excellent level of political awareness of the realities and possibilities. As far as the direction these talks are taking, let me say that we espouse the most refined level of joint effort based on good understanding of fixed parameters, away from any emotional outbursts or decisions that are not well studied.

Major decisions like this one cannot be made by one individual. Such decisions are the prerogative of high-level bodies as well as grass-roots organizations like congresses and conferences. That is one of the main manifestations of democratic practices inside the political parties.

Our discussions with our partner, the PGC, is an ongoing process, and I think we are on the right track.

Of course, you know, I chair the joint efforts committee, but we are still in our early stages of work. We have an important task to carry out, and we will need the good will and full participation of all parties. Above all, we will need candid and straight talk.

Finally, let me say that the

two partners are already unified in their efforts since they belong to one government, and they share the same political goals. But the unification of political parties is not the same as any other administrative organ that can be merged by a decision. Otherwise, why would political parties exist?

Q: The recent merger efforts between the PGC and YSP have raised questions regarding relations between the YSP party leadership and the general cadres and members. How do you view this situation?

A: The most important element of democracy within political parties is that the membership base is aware and in agreement with the decisions taken by the party leadership. If this is not true, then the party is transformed into a party of elites who live in high towers which are not related to the general public.

We in the YSP cannot take any major decision without the full participation and support of our membership base. That is why we insist that any major decision has to be made by the party rank and file, represented by the general conference (congress).

We cannot and will not make the decision at hand without the full participation of the general conference, which should exercise its democratic rights in determining the fate and future of the party. We believe that an open channel of communication and exchange of ideas and thoughts between the leadership and party members is a necessary aspect of democracy.

Q: There are repeated indicators that there is a schism within the YSP regarding how to handle this merger business?

A: I will not refute that there are differences within the YSP regarding how to go about the PGC offer for unification. But I would not call it a schism. There are differences in opinion and they are a normal and healthy phenomenon in a party in a democratic atmosphere. Some people believe in a certain approach, and others do not. It is a nor-

mal development when a group of people address an important issue.

Q: Do you think the merger project is in the best interests of Yemen?

A: The unification process is new to us, especially in the framework of change in our country. I cannot, however, determine if it will have positive or negative effects on pluralism and the process of democracy in Yemen.

Both parties (PGC and YSP) have experienced one-party rule and have their data and conclusions of such systems. I am not here to endorse the democratic experiment to either side, but I can assure you that whatever arrangements are arrived at by the two partners will not be a burden or a danger to others or the nation.

Q: Is the YSP carrying out or entertaining dialogue with other parties?

A: Yes, the YSP has many dialogues with other parties, but these are neither to the depth nor to the extent of our talks with the PGC. I would welcome deep-level talks with any of the other parties, provided that they are carried out within clear parameters. I will say that our relations with the PGC are special, in light of our association in achieving Yemen's reunification.

Q: How do you evaluate the registration process for the coming elections?

A: I think that these are going well, given that this is our first experiment ever in this procedure. I think that we have now crossed the one million mark, and I am sure the registration process will intensify as the deadline closes in.

There are many issues that are in play in this regard. Let me say that several parties are waiting to see the direction of the registration process before they plunge into it.

Secondly, the people do not know the procedures and steps.

In any case we are expecting difficulties, but these are surmountable. The YSP believes that Yemen's stability and prosperity hinges on the democratic process, and the coming elections are a



watershed. We call on all parties to effectively and fully participate in them. We believe in free and decent (honest) competition among all under the conditions of fair play and equal opportunity.

Q: Are you personally standing for elections?

A: I have not decided on this matter yet, and the party will look into it at the appropriate time.

We are very interested in the success of this experiment for the sake of the nation. The national interest is our guiding factor.

Q: The Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, Dr. Abdulaziz Ad-Dali, and the Saudi Education Minister carried letters between Sanaa and Riyadh. What is new in the Yemeni-Saudi relations?

A: Let me first say that the new structure of relations between the two fraternal neighbors was the outcome of the Yemeni ability to make independent decisions vis-a-vis the border talks.

The serious attitude of both sides on this matter has created the appropriate

environment to by-pass the repercussions that followed the Gulf Crisis, which deeply disturbed inter-Arab relations.

Undoubtedly, the letters exchanged between HE President Ali Abdullah Saleh and HM King Fahd Bin Abdulaziz have been instrumental in removing a major barrier in our relationship and bilateral cooperation.

We are working towards achieving the high Arab interests, and towards restoring the strong ties between the two fraternal peoples.

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LE TEMPS D'YEMEN

The French Pages

Alors que les actes de brigandage des tribus augmentent

Un Japonais libéré après quatre jours de séquestration

Un expert japonais en irrigation, séquestré pendant quatre jours par les membres d'une tribu, a été relâché samedi 6 février, selon l'Agence France Presse qui cite des sources yéménites dignes de foi.

Ses ravisseurs, membres d'une tribu de la région de Dhinn, à 70 kilomètres à l'est de Sanaa, l'avaient kidnappé mercredi dans le but de faire pression sur le gouvernement yéménite pour qu'il fasse bénéficier leur région d'un projet d'irrigation sur lequel travaillait l'expert japonais, dont l'identité n'a pas été révélée.

Il a été relâché en même temps qu'un expert yéménite enlevé avec lui.

Il s'agit du deuxième enlèvement d'un étranger au Yémen en deux semaines. Un Canadien d'origine allemande, M. Mike Schmitz, a été kidnappé le 24 janvier dernier près de Dhamar (lire notre dernière édition). Les mêmes faits et les mêmes raisons se reproduisent dans chacun des cas: la personne enlevée est très bien traitée et des cheikhs de tribu rencontrés à Sanaa affirment qu'on ne veut aucun mal en particulier aux occidentaux mais qu'il s'agit aujourd'hui pour eux du seul moyen de se faire entendre

du gouvernement. Ceux qui parlent ainsi n'hésitent cependant pas aujourd'hui à défier ouvertement l'Etat en menant, de façon presque hebdomadaire dans la capitale même, des combats de rues pour des rivalités tribales (lire les explications dans notre dernière édition) ! M. Schmitz est toujours aux mains de ses ravisseurs au moment où nous mettons sous presse (mardi 9 février).

Une certaine intensification des actes de brigandage de la part des tribus se dessine aujourd'hui, illustré principalement par le vol de voitures. Sur la route de Mareb, les véhicules de la compagnie pétrolière Yemen Hunt ne circulent plus; les déplacements ne se font plus que par hélicoptère.

Répondant aux sociétés pétrolières étrangères qui ont menacé le gouvernement de cesser leurs activités s'il n'agissait pas, le ministre du pétrole a déclaré que l'Etat n'était pas en mesure d'assurer la sécurité des personnes et des biens et que les compagnies étaient libres de prendre les mesures qu'elles jugeaient nécessaires. Comprenez par là: assurez vous-même votre sécurité ou partez; l'Etat démissionne... (D'après AFP)

Zones d'ombre sur l'affaire du Jihad Islamique

Le cerveau présumé des attentats d'Aden tué par la police

Le chef présumé de la branche du Jihad Islamique au Yémen - un groupuscule d'extrémistes musulmans-Rachid al-Oumaichi, accusé par les autorités yéménites d'être à l'origine des récents attentats à la bombe contre deux hôtels d'Aden, a été tué mardi 2 février lors d'un accrochage avec la police et l'armée dans le gouvernement de Lahej, à une vingtaine de kilomètres d'Aden.

Les forces de sécurité sont intervenues en nombre, soutenues par un hélicoptère de l'armée et les combats ont duré plusieurs heures. Plusieurs partisans d'Al-Oumaichi, ont été ensuite arrêtés dans diverses localités du Yémen, selon des sources policières.

Des attentats à la bombe avaient été perpétrés le 29 décembre dernier à Aden dans deux hôtels où stationnaient des éléments des troupes américaines opérant en Somalie dans le cadre de l'opération "Restore Hope" (rendre l'espoir), faisant deux morts et plusieurs blessés.

Le Jihad Islamique est le nom générique utilisé par plusieurs cellules d'activistes intégristes dans la mouvance pro-iranienne

opérant dans plusieurs pays arabes.

Cette dernière affaire au Yémen présente tout de même quelques aspects troublants, au moment où certaines personnes bien informées, même proches du pouvoir, n'hésitent pas à dire que le Jihad Islamique au Yémen est une "création" de certaines hautes sphères du pouvoir et que l'on utilise une menace intégriste presque inexistante dans ce pays, à des fins de politique interne.

Après les attentats d'Aden, des sources policières avaient affirmé que le cerveau présumé des attentats était le Cheikh Tarek Ben Abdallah Nasser al-Fadhli, qui s'était rendu aux autorités dans la province d'Abyan. Ce dernier se serait miraculeusement réfugié dans la maison du Cheikh Abdallah Ben Hussein al-Ahmar, le chef du parti Al-Islah et chef suprême des tribus Hached, dont le président Saleh est considéré comme un proche. On apprend un mois plus tard que le responsable des attentats, une autre personne, a été tué lors d'affrontements avec l'armée. Sans autre explication...

E.G.

FRONTIERES

Reprise prochaine à Sanaa des négociations avec l'Arabie Saoudite

Une commission d'experts saou-diens et yéménites chargée de trouver un règlement au conflit frontalier entre les deux pays doit se réunir avant le 23 février prochain à Sanaa (début du Ramadan), pour signer un accord. Les experts devront signer, lors de cette cinquième série de négociations, un accord garantissant les "droits historiques" de chacune des deux parties et permettant l'examen des détails techniques en suspens concernant le litige frontalier.

Le litige porte essentiellement sur les provinces d'Assir, de Naj-rane et de Jizane, contrôlées par l'Arabie Saoudite en vertu de l'accord bilatéral de Taëf (1934). Il y a un peu plus d'un an, Ryad a commencé à réclamer en plus certaines provinces de l'Hadramaut et du Jawf, jusqu'à Mareb, visiblement pour faire pression sur un gouvernement qui doit faire face à de nombreux problèmes internes, au moment où le Yémen, pays le plus peuplé de la péninsule, tente difficilement mais courageusement d'avancer sur la voie de la démocratie. Le Yémen, république, représente un danger potentiel pour le voisin monarchiste tradi-

tionaliste. En réponse à ces pressions, Sanaa refuse de reconduire l'accord de Taëf, qui a expiré fin septembre dernier. Un tournant dans les négociations a été atteint lorsque le roi Fahd a reçu l'émissaire du président Saleh le mois dernier. Depuis, les relations entre les deux pays se sont singulièrement réchauffées.

Le Yémen et Oman félicités par l'ONU

Le Secrétaire général de l'ONU, M. Boutros Boutros-Ghali, a reçu vendredi à New York les représentants d'Oman et du Yémen pour les féliciter de l'accord sur la démarcation finale des frontières entre eux, qui a mis fin à dix ans de négociations difficiles. Cet accord a été officiellement enregistré aux Nations Unies. Il a été jugé "Conforme aux principes de la Charte des Nations Unies sur le règlement pacifique des différends".

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Organisée par le Centre Culturel Français de Sanaa

Une semaine culturelle et gastronomique française

Foie gras, camembert et pâtisseries sculptées au Taj Sheba

Langoustes à la parisienne et ses oeufs farcis au corail, magrets de canard à l'orange et son Tian provençal, foie gras en brioche, poisson en gelée et ses petits soufflés de légumes, terrine de canard périgourdine, rôti de boeuf sauce béarnaise et gratin dauphinois, Tour de France des fromages etc... La semaine gastronomique française à l'hôtel Taj Sheba, organisée par le Centre Culturel Français de Sanaa et orchestrée par le Chef Philippe Cléraud (lire ci-dessous), s'annonce des plus alléchantes.

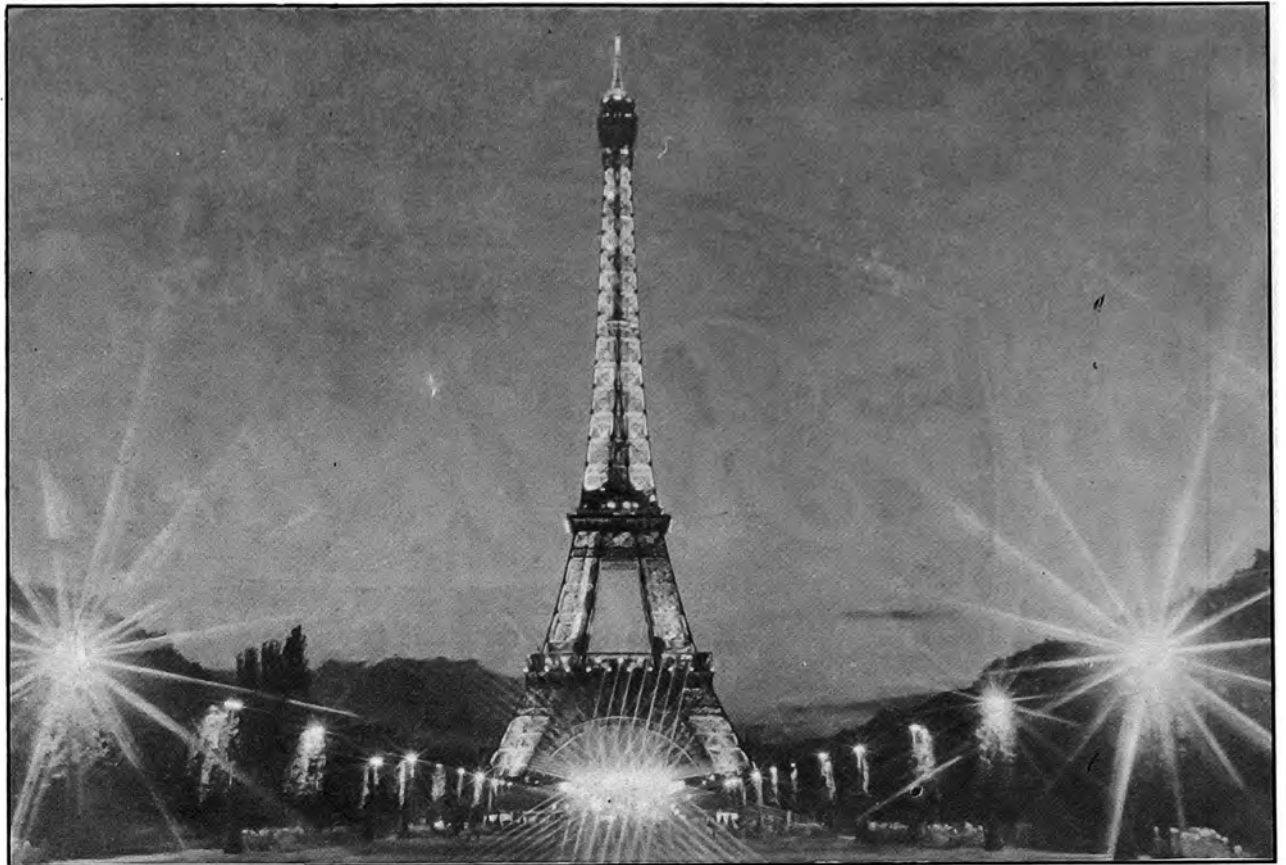
Du 15 au 19 février inclus, le restaurant *Golden Peacock* et son personnel seront sous les ordres d'un grand chef français, spécialiste de la pâtisserie notamment, pour cinq soirées consécutives, animées en alternance par un groupe français de chansons populaires rétros, Nag'airs

(lire ci-dessous) et l'orchestre philippin du *Golden Peacock*, le *Hertz Band*.

De nombreux plats fameux de la cuisine française seront présentés en buffet, accompagnés, pour l'apéritif, de petits feuilletés, toasts variés chauds et froids et, pour le café, d'un assortiment de mignardises.

Le clou de ce "feu d'artifice gastronomique" sera la pâtisserie sculptée, dont le Chef Philippe Cléraud s'est fait une spécialité: véritable artiste, il représentera en sucre, pâte d'amande, chocolat et autres gourmandises -clin d'oeil- les symboles français que sont le camembert, la baguette de pain, le "litre de rouge" et le béré, ainsi qu'une carte de la France et une pièce de un franc.

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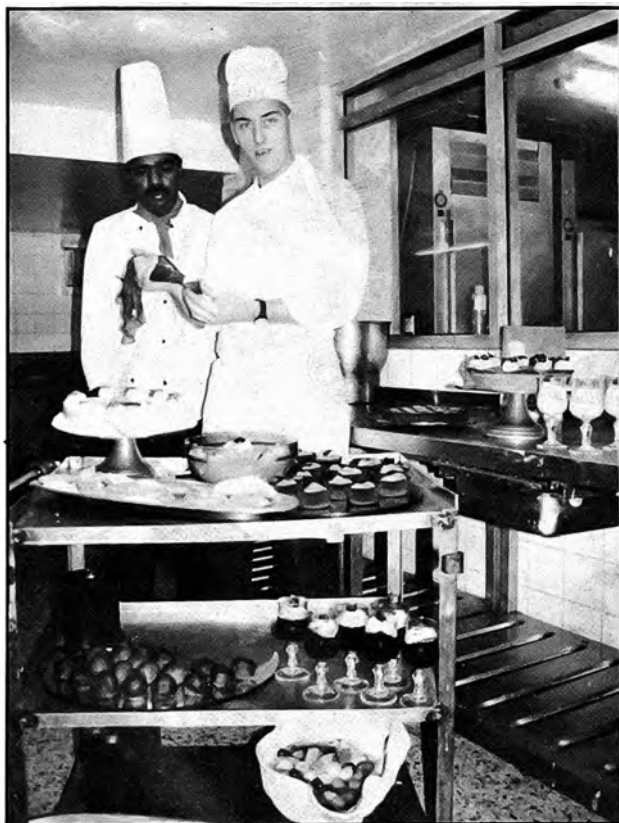


Philippe Cléraud, un artiste en chef

"La cuisine, pour moi, c'est l'alliance du goût et de la beauté". Toute la personnalité et le professionnalisme du Chef Philippe Cléraud sont réunis dans cette phrase: ce spécialiste de la pâtisserie, disciple des frères Lenôtre, n'est pas seulement cuisinier. Il est surtout artiste. Son "press book" est impressionnant: le Musée du Louvre, avec sa pyramide de verre, recréé en sucre, chocolat et pâte d'amande, une paire de chaussures usées en chocolat, un piano de quatre mètres de long, etc... Il sculpte la pâte comme d'autres sculptent la glaise. "En cuisine, qui flatte l'oeil, flatte le palais", lance Philippe. Car il n'y a pas que le contenant: il a aussi ses petits secrets pour agréments le contenu. Même en ce qui concerne le goût, son plus grand plaisir "c'est d'étonner". Et il va étonner, c'est promis. "Même les français, qui sont habitués à la cuisine de leur pays", affirme-t-il.

Car ce jeune chef de 28 ans, passionné de cuisine, mais aussi passionné par la vie "à 200 à l'heure", sportif accompli qui pilote des bateaux, pratique le parachutisme et la plongée et qui a déjà fait le tour du monde comme chef sur le yacht d'un milliardaire français, n'a pas fait le déplacement au Yémen pour le seul plaisir des français, on s'en doutait. "Je veux aussi faire découvrir les spécialités de la cuisine française, dit-il, tout en respectant les traditions des pays; car moi-même, je ressens un immense plaisir à découvrir la cuisine des autres pays. J'aime même les hamburgers!"

Pour lui, n'avoir que des Français à table pendant ces cinq jours de gastronomie hexagonale serait un échec, même s'il est conscient que son appel s'adresse aux Yéménites les plus aisés, étant donné les prix pratiqués dans les grands hôtels.



La plus grosse partie du travail du Chef Philippe Cléraud (à gauche), ici aux côtés du Chef Ravindran des cuisines du Taj Sheba, consiste à enseigner les techniques de la cuisine française.

Ancien élève de la prestigieuse Ecole Hôtelière de Paris, lauréat du prix de l'exportation de la cuisine française de la "Bourse Evian Badoit des jeunes talents", cet homme qui attire très naturellement la sympathie a été l'élève des plus grands: les frères Lenôtre, le nom le plus prestigieux de la pâtisserie française et Louis Grondard, meilleur ouvrier de France ont été ses maîtres. Il est passé par des restaurants français de renom, tels que *Le Jules Verne* le grand restaurant de la Tour Eiffel et le res-

taurant Patrick Lenôtre, avant de se consacrer essentiellement à la "création d'événements": il confectionne des pâtisseries décorées pour la sortie d'un produit nouveau d'une entreprise, pour l'inauguration de tel bâtiment ou de tel bateau, des mariages, etc...

"Ce qui compte pour moi, quand je cuisine, c'est faire plaisir aux gens avant tout". Gageons que ce plaisir sera le notre pendant ces cinq jours de gastronomie française à Sanaa.

Emmanuel GIROUD

SPECTACLE

Nag'airs, comédie et chanson rétro

Edith Piaf, Boris Vian, Charles Trenet, Damia, Maurice Chevalier, Mistinguett, Arletty... leur répertoire et les mythes qu'ils incarnent ont réuni les quatre comédiens-chanteurs, la musicienne et le metteur en scène de la compagnie Nag'airs.

Privilégiant l'aspect théâtral de la chanson française, ils créent, depuis 1986, des spectacles entièrement chantés. Dans un contexte original où situations, personnages et intrigues sont de leur invention, paroles et musiques s'incarnent à nouveau et racontent une histoire.

Dans la formule cabaret comme dans l'animation de rue, le public, au delà du folklore "rétro", retrouve la fraîcheur, la poésie, l'authenticité du patrimoine populaire français.

Trois garçons et trois filles vont vous faire passer de la nostalgie au rire, le tout en chansons et en musique, vous l'aurez compris: on écoute, mais surtout on regarde. On regarde La Baya, soprano qui a joué l'opérette, qui vous fera passer du rire aux pleurs, de la romance à la gouaille, grâce aussi à son expérience du jeu théâtral; Macky, tour à tour zizou, chanteur de charme ou mauvais garçon, a déjà joué-Lorca, Diderot et Hugo; quant à Neup's, il est incarné par Dranem, Fragon ou Michel Simon et fait revivre l'Alhambra et les music'halls de l'entre-deux-guerres; Rose, elle, est pianiste de formation classique mais elle joue aussi bien à l'accordéon et à l'orgue de barbarie, tout en se consacrant aux arrangements musicaux de la troupe ainsi que des costumes, d'époque; Malène, après cinq ans de scène, est

devenue l'interprète originale de grands classiques, Bruant, Mac Orlan ou Piaf; Patrick Potot, enfin, comédien, est l'original metteur en scène des spectacles de Nag'airs.

Cette petite troupe pour le

moins hors du commun, anime vos soirées gastronomiques préparées par le chef français Patrick Cléraud au restaurant Golden Peacock de l'Hôtel Taj Sheba, le soir, du 15 au 19 février inclus.

PHOTO

"Retrospective Jacques-Henri Lartigue"

Le Centre Culturel Français de Sanaa organise, au Centre d'Etudes Yéménites (rue de Bagdad) du 13 au 15 février et dans le hall de l'hôtel Taj Sheba du 15 au 19 à l'occasion de la semaine gastronomique française, une grande exposition consacrée au célèbre photographe français Jacques-Henri Lartigue.

Les 62 oeuvres qui seront présentées (une vingtaine seulement au Taj Sheba) constituent une rétrospective des grands classiques de l'artiste, sur une période allant de 1904 à 1930.

Né le 13 juin 1894, Jacques-Henri Lartigue réalise son premier cliché à l'âge de huit ans! Il faut dire que son père, homme d'affaire, était déjà un passionné de photographie. Il commence alors la rédaction de son journal, rédaction qui durera toute sa vie: description rapide de ses occupations quotidiennes, impressions sur la vie en général, croquis précis de ce qu'il a photographié...

A partir de 1902, il réalise ses albums. On en compte aujourd'hui 116! Ils regroupent un choix de l'artiste parmi 200.000 clichés...

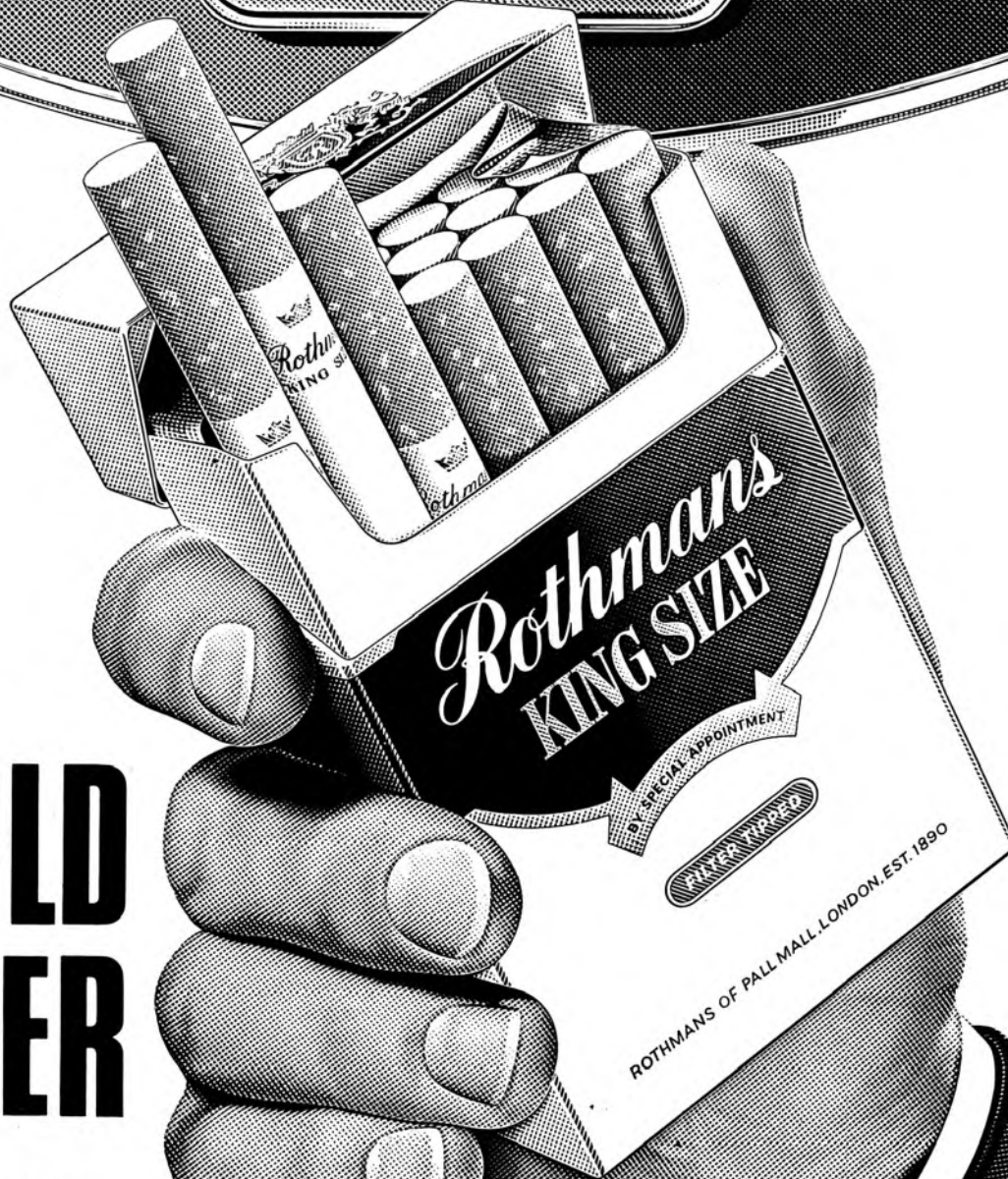
L'exposition au Musée d'Art Moderne de New York en 1963

et la parution d'un article de 10 pages dans le magazine américain *Life* la même année, sont le véritable point de départ de la carrière artistique de "Lartigue photographe". Les Américains voient alors en lui "le précurseur de tout ce qui a été fait de vivant et d'intéressant dans le milieu du XXème siècle". "Il est de ces artistes dont le talent peut rendre beau le quotidien".

Outre sa carrière de photographe, Jacques-Henri Lartigue se distingua en tant qu'illustrateur, peintre et participa à quelques tournages cinématographiques.

Le montage de l'exposition dont dispose le Centre Culturel Français de Sanaa a été rendu possible par la donation à l'Etat français, en 1979, de l'ensemble de l'oeuvre photographique de ce pionnier de la photographie moderne. L'exposition "Retrospective Jacques-Henri Lartigue" a été réalisée par l'Association des amis de Jacques-Henri Lartigue, avec le concours de la Mission du patrimoine photographique du ministère de la Culture français. Du 13 au 15 février au Centre d'Etudes Yéménites.

Du 15 au 19 février dans le hall de l'hôtel Taj Sheba.



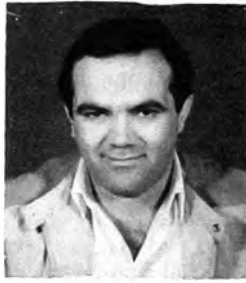
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Salman Rushdie and His Verses, again.

THE MENTALITY OF INHIBITION: A NEW BOOK BY SADIQ AL-ADHAM

By: Saad Salah Khalis,
Cultural Editor,
Yemen Times.



Once again, Salman Rushdie's controversial book: *The Satanic Verses* is back to hit newspaper headlines. This time, an Arab scholar is trying to shed new light on the book whose author was condemned to death through a "fatwa" by Iranian religious authorities offering a reward for his head. The new writer is Dr. Sadiq Jalal Al-Adham. Professor of Contemporary Philosophy at the University of Damascus, Dr. Sadiq Al-Adham has just issued a new book called *Mentality of Inhibition: Salman Rushdie and Literary Facts* published by Riyadh Arrays for Publishing, London, Cyprus, 1993, in 424 pages. The book is an interesting analysis of Rushdie's book and the facts therein.

Al-Adham tries to define the concepts of the book and to discuss the religious positions imposed on it as well as the improvised politically-motivated judgements that were passed on Rushdie and his book.

As a result, this new book is anticipated to create even wider controversy and dispute that an earlier book *Criticism of Religious Thought* (1969) by Dr. Al-Adham. The author tries to make readers and critics understand Rushdie as a novelist, not as a historian

or the public figure created by the media after the clamor made by *Satanic Verses*, considering it as "an inter-cultural, inter-religious, inter-civilizational book... Its major accomplishment was the thrusting of both the Islamic and European worlds, for the first time in modern history, into a major political-religious scandal."

The international hysteria that accompanied the book distorted its contents, depending on the directing party (eastern or western) and resulted in a campaign that deformed the book and writer as critics and readers alike lost track of the real story and the full vision and picture of the author.

Al-Adham's book tries to redeem Rushdie's *Verses* by presenting the facts one more time and explaining them to vicious critics who never really "read" the book! He also gives a new twist to the whole episode. By describing Rushdie as a novelist and not a historian; Al-Adham tackles the

ever-pending problem of taboos in our religious heritage. From that point, Al-Adham launches his own attack against those who forever criticize any artistic work. Al-Adham puts forth many important points, as follows:

1. The problem of attacking and criticizing a book or a film or any other artistic or literary product without reading or seeing it is one of the most questionable efforts. Unfortunately, that trend seems to have become so common as to be accepted in our daily cultural activities. As the Rushdie phenomenon has shown, a number of "critics and specialized readers," made contributions through a major media campaign against this book without having read it.

A sample taken in Egypt, where most reputed names lead the fiercest attacks, indicates that only two had actually read the book according to Ghali Shukri. Al-Watan Al-Arabi Magazine offers an illustrative exposition about how the Arab mentality deals with literary works. It's the traditional custom of swimming, or rather floating, along the current to ensure one's back in safe, is to blame. The logic that drives an established reputed critic and intellectual to pass judgement on a complicated literary product that he

or she didn't care to read is a symptom worth studying to identify the little secrets that drive and shape our vision and position on a daily basis.

One of the most fundamental driving forces must be a detached and frustrated feeling of being irrelevant to real life among intellectuals that makes them take on an illiterating and alienating attitude.

Al-Adham's cruel example of this kind of critics and intellectuals finally allows him to describe them as driven by "wilderness and nomadity shaped mentality."

2. The second point he draws from the attack on Rushdie's book is that it is based on historical aspects of the novel, which, unfortunately, drove the attackers into another dead-end. Many have accused Rushdie of forging and faking facts of history, forgetting that Rushdie is neither a historian nor a priest. He is an artist that has all the unquestionable rights to create his own space of fantasy and imagination and to pick whatever legend he wishes and utilize it in whatever way his artistic instinct guides him. The critics also forgot the important role of legend and fantasy in forming our culture down to the deepest roots of our religious beliefs. For what is

difference then between literature and mere documentation, and what role is there for symbols and imagery? This is a question better asked of the angry crowd of critics who seem to be fighting for a place among the herd of the Sultan.

3. Then there is Al-Adham's account of the position of the West in the "dispute." Some 'honorable' critics identified Rushdie's book as another tool of the "Zionist conspiracy backed by the West." Al-Adham thinks that the concept of conspiracy is ever present in the Arab psyche, readily used to justify our disappointments and shortcomings. Al-Adham compiles proof that the conservative west stood firmly against Rushdie's 'radicalism,' just as firmly as its eastern counterpart did.

On the other hand, the British government's protection of Rushdie is not, in Al-Adham's view, but "the minimum stand required from any government with any degree of self respect, faced with a death sentence passed against one of its own citizens by a foreign country." The minimum facet of sovereignty would push even states in East Africa to act in a similar way.

The important position is that of decision making parties, which totally

opposed Rushdie's book and considered it as a ruthless attack on all that is holy to Muslims, Christians and Jews alike. Quotations to that respect were selected by Dr. Al-Adham to support his point, thus effectively destroying the legend that the West backed Rushdie.

The political side of the Rushdie case, as described by some critics is very questionable. As any constant reader of Salman Rushdie's literature could easily note, his *Satanic Verses* added nothing new concerning his position towards religion, classes, languages and societies. Ironically, one of his earlier works was awarded a distinguished prize in Islamic Iran itself! Yet, the *Verses* were subject to an organized campaign to which far more "insulting" works of non-literary nature were not subjected.

Those and many other aspects were covered thoroughly in Al-Adham's book, which I strongly urge all to read, provided of course, that they have read the original novel. I'm not suggesting total support for Rushdie's ideas - this is a personal option. But I ask all to abandon any prior judgement of any work, and to come to terms with the untouchable concepts that we all jump to defend.

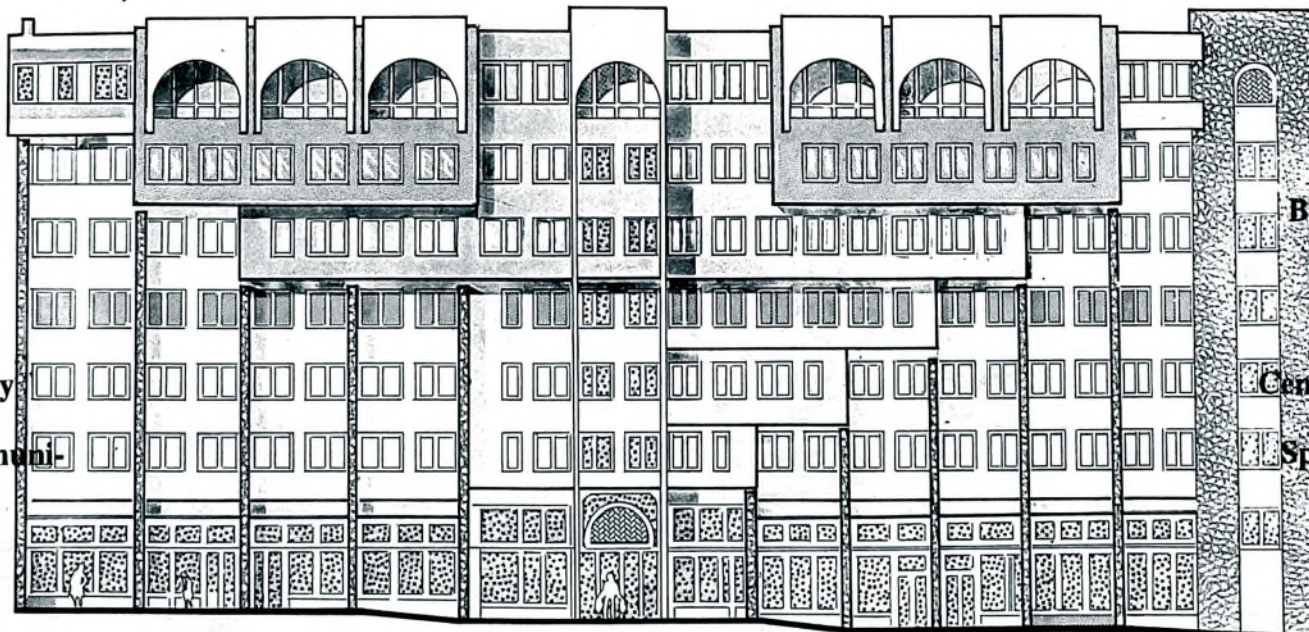
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مبنى الشرق

THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE NEW ADEN FREE PORT

By: Ali Hashem, Yemen Times, Aden Correspondent

The Director of Aden Port Trust announced that the House of Representatives' approval of Aden to become a free port is an indication that will lead to wider aspects of activities for all Yemenis, Arabs, International maritime, and commercial organizations. All those who will deal with the Aden port are advised that all tariffs and special charges regarding maritime services are to be applied as in all other free ports.

Mr. Al-Qubati, director of A.P.T., has implored all maritime and commercial houses to play their roles in order to benefit from the advantages of a lack of further restrictions or pre-conditions of any kind upon their various business activities.

He also affirmed to all international oil companies, who used to work in the Aden port previously, to return and resume their activities and businesses as before. Their installations and their buildings will be returned to them. All essential facilities will be provided to them by the port authorities and the National Oil Company as well.

It has been circulated that suitable and just solutions are likely to be implemented in order to create an investment atmosphere which will coincide with the implementation of the preparations of the Free

Zone area in Aden by putting the necessary distributions into effect throughout the coming months.

This will evidence itself following the outcome of the proposed committee's results to deal with the Prime Minister's decision, Nov. 4 of 1993, concerning plot allocations for industrial investment purposes that have already been initially awarded. The number of different industrial projects amounts to nearly 530, and the financial ceiling of each project is YR 500,000.

A commission has been set up to review the whole procedure and is composed of representatives from the Planning and Research Department of the General Investment Board, the Directors of Land, the Ministry of housing and Urban Development and the Director of Investment. They would review the whole affair.

The commission will submit its report and recommendations for the disbursement of plots and their locations to the Chairman of the Free Zone Board and to the Minister of Housing and Urban Development, for consideration.

Meanwhile, the commission will see the necessary technical advice of qualified technicians and civil engineers from both the Ministry of Housing and the Ministry of Industry. Some precautions need to be taken, however. It has been revealed to the

local press in Aden that, there are certain flagrant violations by some foreign fishing companies' ships who work in our territorial waters.

The coast guards have indicated that these foreign fishing ships don't adhere to the conditions of agreements stipulated between them and the the Ministry of Fish Wealth. Some fishing companies are making big catches of certain kinds of fish in the non-seasonal periods. Some even catch forbidden kinds of fish; they select what suits their purpose and get rid of the unwanted fish. This is a kind of hazardous fishing as stated by the watchful coast guards. Thousands of fish are wasted in this way.

Coast guards are on the alert to fight the pollution of any oil slicks that spill from tankers or other sources in the port. They are fighting other violations in the harbor by supervising all imported meat arriving in Aden. A thorough check is to be carried out before it can be released for consumption. This usually happens with the coordination of the Aden Port Trust and health authorities.

Registration of workers and the occupations that they perform are noted by coast guards in order to maintain close supervision over the region as a precautionary measure for the new free port of Aden and its activities in the near future.

BORDER FREE TRADE ZONE IS PROPOSED

Oman has suggested to Yemen that a free trade zone be created at the newly demarcated border as a first step towards developing bilateral commercial ties.

"We proposed the idea to Yemeni businessmen and Government officials and they appeared responsive to it," said Sheikh Yoqub bin Hamad al Harthy, President of the Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry (OCCI), who led a trade delegation in Yemen. The delegation was here for eight days.

"The Yemenis said they would study the proposal seriously and take up the matter with the Omani-Yemen joint Committee," said Sheikh Yaqoub after they finished their tour, at the end of January. He also explained that Yemeni markets, particularly those close to the zone, would welcome Omani goods because they would be exempt from duties. The Yemeni businessmen would also have the opportunity to display and sell their own goods to Omani buyers.

The proposed zone would boost trade and industry in the now, largely undeveloped, Hadramut area as well as investing in tourism facilities in the area.

"Considering that import duties in Yemen range from 30% to 300% , the zone could be a hit with businessmen," Sheikh Yaqoub stated. The OCCI has yet to quantify the value of current commerce between the two countries but it is understood to be meagre.

Businessmen in Yemen have occasionally imported goods such as cement, flour, aluminium, fit-

tings, cables, and textiles from the Sultanate. There are virtually no exports to Oman, although Yemen can offer foodstuffs, leather goods, detergents, and furniture, among other items.

The delegation met the Prime Minister, Haider Abu Bakr al Attas, and other top government officials, with whom they signed a protocol of co-operation with the Yemeni business chamber. Sheikh Yaqoub said that warm feelings following the signing of the border accord last October were encouraging Omanis to consider investment in Yemen.

The OCCI chief said that Yemen's 13-million strong market and easy availability of labor would prove attractive to Omani businessmen.

Sheikh Yaqoub said Yemenis also appeared interested in investing in the Sultanate. "They have financially-strong business houses which could do business with us," he said, adding that the Yemenis told him they would first like to see for themselves what Oman had to offer.

A delegation from the Yemeni business chamber is due to visit Oman after Eid al Fitr. Oman will stage an industrial exhibition in Yemen after the festival.

Yemen is particularly interested in Omani investment in cement production. The country has three factories but the demand is strong enough to allow for additional production.

Sheikh Yaqoub also stressed the need for constructing roads on either side of the border and developing air and sea links. "A regular shipping service linking Omani, Yemeni, and African ports across the Red Sea could be useful commercially for the countries concerned," Sheikh Yaqoub observed. He expected that Omani companies would take the initiative in establishing the new trade routes with their new Yemeni counterparts.

NEW RESEARCH IN CANCER DETECTION

New research into proteins that help regulate cell growth may result in earlier detection of breast cancer, according to scientists involved in the work.

"My hope is that this will lead to a more precise diagnostic tool for breast cancer," Khandan Keyomarsi, a biochemist at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston, said in an interview.

To date there is no way to detect breast cancer in its earliest stages, before it grows large enough to appear on a mammogram, a specialised breast X-ray. An estimated 180,000 American women will be diagnosed with breast cancer this year and 48,000 will die from it.

The research by Keyomarsi and Arthur Pardee, both affiliated with the Harvard Medical School, focuses on a protein called Cyclin E which occurs naturally in the body and helps regulate cell growth. The researchers have found that Cyclin E is present in extremely high levels in cells from cancerous breast tumors, and is of a different type from that found in normal cells. The scientists' preliminary research, which has been funded by the US government, was published in the proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

Their paper suggests that Cyclin E may be an oncogene, a gene that has the ability to cause normal cells to become cancerous, and that unusually high levels of the protein may be present in tumors in other parts of the body as well.

While cautioning that the findings so far are preliminary, Keyomarsi says she has examined Cyclin E levels in 10 different samples of tumor tissue. "In every case we saw an altered pattern of Cyclin E," she said.

Keyomarsi expressed hope that her research may also lead eventually to the treatment of breast cancer which would effectively neutralize the effect of Cyclin E on tumor cells.

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- Must be a native speaker of Arabic, and level three English ability.
- Must type minimum of 30 wpm.
- Computer skills (IBM compatible or Macintosh Microsoft Word/Excel).
- Must possess interpersonal skills.
- Work load is 40 hours per week.

2. Executive Secretary:

A. Duties:

- Receives visitors.
- Handles phone calls, appointments, filing and mail.
- Types cables, faxes, other documents.
- Translates and types in Arabic/English.
- Maintains employee records and orders office supplies.
- Performs other program and administrative work.

B. Conditions:

- Two years of secretarial work.
- Must be native speaker of Arabic, and command level four English ability.
- Computer skills (IBM compatible or Macintosh Microsoft Word/Excel).
- Arabic/English translation skills, and interpersonal skills.
- Work load is 40 hours per week.
- Some evening and weekend work.

3. Program Assistant:

A. Duties:

- Works with government officials, Peace Corps staff, and Volunteers.
- Develops/monitors project plans, budgets, Volunteer work assignments and sites.
- Conducts Volunteer training.
- Develops and manages resources, handles fiscal, administrative, procurement other support activities.

B. Conditions:

- Three to five years experience in program management and administration, preparation of reports.
- English level four proficiency, and native speaker of Arabic.
- Interpersonal and cross-cultural skills.
- 40 hrs/week, some evening/weekend work

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LESSON #31 More Prepositions of Time

How many more can there be, you ask? As was mentioned earlier, prepositions are difficult to learn in any language, and English tends toward the complicated. The prepositions you have been given, including this week's items, are not a complete list, but are the most frequently used prepositions of time. Now to add to the list...

from/to This preposition pair marks the beginning and the end of an action, state or event, thus showing duration, but more specifically than the preposition *for*.

I will be in the office from 9:00 to 2:00.
Amat studied at Sana'a University from 1988 to 1992.
The conference will run from Saturday to Tuesday.

From can be used by itself to handle beginnings (similar to *since*, but without the necessity of perfect tenses). *To* is rarely used by itself as a preposition of time.

until *Since* and *from* mark the beginnings of actions, states and events; *until* marks the end.

The doctor will be at the hospital until 5:00.
Father worked for that company until 1987.
Hassan stayed at the university until the afternoon.

Note: *Until* can replace *to* when paired with *from*, but *to* cannot usually replace *until* when used by itself.

I will be in the office from 9:00 until 2:00.
but not....Father worked for that company to 1987.

during *During* is used for general or repeated actions or states that happen within an amount of time or, more frequently, a corresponding event.

Fahmi fell asleep twice during the lecture.
Many people go to their villages during Ramadan.
Travel can be difficult in Yemen during the rainy season.

Practice A Fill in the blanks with from, to, until or during.

Abdul-Karim's English class is (1) _____ 2:00 (2) _____ 4:00 every day. If he has slept well (3) _____ the night, he usually does well in class. If he has stayed awake (4) _____ a late hour the night before, he often falls asleep (5) _____ the class. This makes the teacher very angry. One night, Abdul-Karim visited his friend. He stayed (6) _____ 2:00 a.m. After he went home, he slept (7) _____ 3:00 (8) _____ 7:00. Then he got up to go to work. He was late for his English class. He did not get there (9) _____ 2:20. Once there, he was so tired that he fell asleep three times (10) _____ the lecture. The teacher was angry and asked Abdul-Karim to leave the class. (11) _____ that moment Abdul-Karim decided to go to sleep at an earlier hour.

Practice B Translate the information on the timelines into sentences using the prepositions given.

example: Ali began working at the ministry. Ali retired.

(from, to) 1981 1992
Ali worked at the ministry from 1981 to 1992.

1. 1990
We moved from Cairo to Sana'a.

(until) _____

2. I went to Aden. I went to Aden. I went to Aden.
1991 1992
(during) _____

3. The shop closes. The shop opens again.
1:00 4:00
(until) _____

(from, to) _____

4. The teacher looks at her watch.
Class begins. Class ends.
(during) _____

WEEKLY IDIOM

TO RAIN ON SOMEONE'S PARADE
This idiom means to be negative and to try to put an end to other people's cheerfulness. It's often used in the negative imperative.

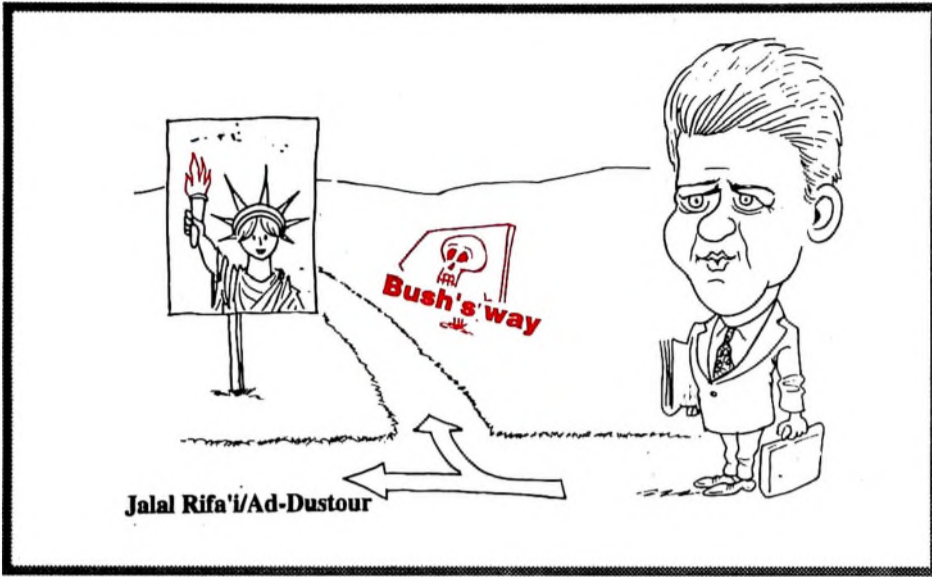


"Don't rain on my parade. Just because you're in a bad mood doesn't mean I have to be."

Author's note: Lesson #29's idiom was "killing time." Recently I overheard a conversation that went something like this: A: "What are you doing?" B: "Oh, nothing. We're just waiting to be killed." Language can be a dangerous thing.

ANSWERS Practice A 1. from 2. to (until) 3. during 4. until 5. during 6. until 7. from 8. to (until) 9. until 10. during 11. From Practice B 1. We lived in Cairo until 1990. 2. I went to Aden three times during 1991. 3. The shop is closed until 4:00. The shop is closed from 1:00 to 4:00. 4. The teacher often looks at her watch during class.

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The way justice in Yemen is dispensed does not "honor" him.

Minister of Justice:

"I am thankful to Germany and the USA for saving my life."

By: Dr. Ahmed No'man, Kassim Al-Madhagi, Political Editor, Yemen Times.

"I am thankful to the governments of the USA and Germany for their efforts in saving my life. I am especially thankful to US ambassador Arthur Hughes for his personal involvement during my recuperation and convalescence," said Mr. Abdul-Wassa Sallam, Minister of Justice and Member of the House of Parliament. In a cordial discussion with the Yemen Times Political Editor, Mr. Sallam disclosed that he is favorably considering the urgings of the Yemen Socialist Party and the delegations of people, from constituency 63 (Shamaytain, Hugarriah) to run in the coming elections. "There is a lot of pressure on me to attempt it and I have almost consented," he said.

Two weeks ago, following a nine-month silence, Minister Sallam spoke out concerning the attempt on his life on the 26th of April, 1992. The Minister addressed on 26th January 1993, a letter to the Chairman of the Presidential Council Lt-General Ali Abdallah Saleh in which he clarified his position on terrorism in Yemen and the way the state is handling it. The Minister used his case to defend judicial integrity and independence in Yemen. The Minister strongly protested against the way justice is being dispensed in the country. In defending the rights of those who were accused of the attempt to assassinate the Minister, his letter states, "The detention of those held in custody for nine months without fair trial, is neither constitutional, nor legal and constitutes a violation of their human rights." The letter also protests the fact that those accused of the attempt were prevented from meeting their lawyers

and were not allowed to defend themselves, until this moment, violates Constitution and Law, and agitates uncertainty about the fairness and honesty of the interrogation." Direct and indirect statements, to local and foreign press concerning the reasons and motives behind the crime during the process of interrogation, have wounded justice. This injury should have been avoided. Ministered Sallam saw the formation of a joint committee, from prosecution, political security and criminal police to inquire in his case, as injurious to the independence of the judicial authority. It was a muddling of responsibility of these people involved to scatter responsibility between them. "Though the formation of the committee was incorrect, its report clearly showed there were no sufficient proofs against those taken into custody. 'Abdul-Wassa' Sallam said. The Minister also criticized the Presidential Council, which has ordered the trial of those accused in his



case, because such a decision comes within the responsibility of the prosecution - when sufficient evidence is available. He clearly stated that the way justice in Yemen is handled, does not "honor" him. He sees such practises as "humiliating" to the constitution, legislation, legitimacy, and disrespect of judicial authority and prosecution in several political and criminal cases." in particular, when "humiliation of legitimacy happens in a case that concerns me personally." Finally, the Minister of Justice demanded that, "the case be left to the prosecutor's office alone. It should undedrtake its du-

ties, with no pressure.: It should promptly submit the suspects to a fair trial or decide that there is no way to charge them, and release them. The ministerial letter ended by saying, "And then it will be your duty to follow up and uncover the real planners and executors of this crime and other cases which are logged against unidentified culprits." That was a summary of the main points, which the minister emphasized in his letter. The message, as I understand it, is that judicial authority in our Yemen should be independent from the executive authority. In the interview conducted the week before last, Judge Qadhi Hamud al Hitar, the presiding judge over Yemen's Penal Court and Vice Chairman of the Judicial Forum, called for the liberation of the judicial system from the overbearing attitude of the executive authority. He also demanded that members of the Supreme Judicial Council be elected freely, rather than be appointed. Minister Sallam and Qadhi al-Hitar are important observers within the judicial system. We should support their case, which is really our case, in our search for justice in this country. I wonder why a system supposedly devoted to democracy won't promote justice in this Yemen.

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