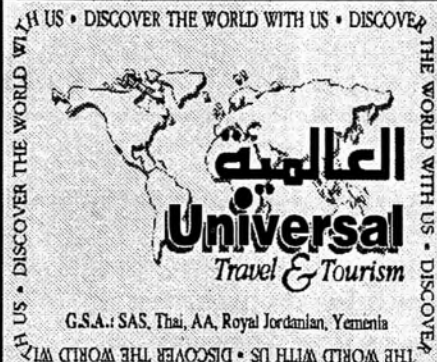


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YEMEN TIMES

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31st March through 6th April, 1993



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OUR VIEWPOINT

ELECTIONS AND THE CULTURAL DIMENSION

As the election date approaches, the political momentum has accelerated to a visible level. Many of the candidates have already dropped off the race—mainly because they could not take the heat of the race because there is a chance they may not win, and thus “lose face.”

The fear of losing face is a complicated issue, and it disturbs many candidates. This fear emanates from our traditional value which revolves around the meaning of ‘losing face.’ We as Arabs, like most Orientals, are forever haunted by how others perceive us and what they think of us. Thus, to lose in a public stand-off is unbearable. This is a problem in our culture.

That is why most of us are risk averters. We do not voluntarily get into any competition unless it is made dead certain that we will win. This attitude is not conducive to democratic practices. That is also why our main political parties (read, our leading politicians) have been reluctant to engage in the elections until “agreement has been reached” regarding the outcome.

We have to learn to take risks, and we have to learn to accept to lose. There is nothing wrong in competing and losing. Losing in elections does not, in any way, reduce the social standing of anybody. To the contrary, a person who runs and loses, and takes the loss as a decent, has more character and strength of personality than another who would only run if he/she were assured he/she would win. Democracy is not just a set of rules, it is a whole system that embodies a lot of socio-cultural values. For democracy to succeed in Yemen, certain changes in our socio-culture are inevitable. The question is, do we see this aspect of our transformation, and are we able to specify the values necessary for the proper evolution of our democracy.

In my opinion, accepting to compete without demanding prior knowledge of the election results is one of these values. The need to “save face” should not be used as a tool to undercut the true meaning of democracy.

The Publisher
عبدالله

In a Cynical Reversal of Roles:

Is the SEC Going to Take the PGC to Court ?

“It is a clear violation of the election campaign guidelines or the Elections Law and it deals a fatal blow to the spirit of fair play and equal opportunity for all. We cannot take it lying down. We are now studying the possibility of taking the PGC to court.” So said a visibly angry Abdullah Sallam Al-Hakeemi, Member of the Supreme Elections Committee (SEC) and Vice Chairman of the Information/Media Subcommittee.

He was referring to the use of the PGC of the official media to promote its campaign program for the April 27th elections. On Saturday, March 27th, the PGC ran an unpaid and unauthorized (by the SEC) one-hour TV advertisement of its program for the coming elections. It also took a similar time slot over the radio, and almost two pages in the official Al-Thawrah newspaper. Other newspapers also carried the PGC election program.

The program itself is a beautiful list of promises and hopes, which the PGC aspires to achieve. It also provides guidelines as to the goals and vision of the party and the caliber of its candidates.

The people’s reaction is mixed. While many believe that the PGC truly hopes to achieve those lofty goals, still as many question the ability of the PGC to do so. One of the main dividing lines in the reaction is the partisan affiliation of respondents. PGC members are sympathetic and remain hopeful about the possibilities of achieving at least part of the targeted goals. Yet, most people are cynically wary of promises.

One of the problems facing the two ruling parties (PGC and YSP), but more clearly the PGC, is the enigma of incumbency. Whereas in other nations, incumbency may bring a certain power, in Yemen it carries a stigma, mainly because an incumbent party is blamed for the difficulties facing society.

There are rumors that other parties, starting with the YSP, will be given a similar access to the official media, although, understandably, not for the same duration (or space) or even the same prime time-airing.

The threat from the SEC to go to court may not be serious or even realistic, but it is one more factor in pushing for similar access for the other parties. Now, what is to be done with the independents?

The SEC has just released its elections campaign guidelines. It embodies a certain degree of fairness in giving access of all parties to the official media.

The SEC has reacted very strongly to the mis-use of the official media by the PGC. Al-Hakeemi has already resigned from his function as Vice-Chairman of the Information/Media Subcommittee, and vowed to fight any mis-use of authority. “We need to have fair and decent elections, away from any manipulations or fraudulent behavior,” he concluded.



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Yemenis Asked to Cast their Votes on 27th April

As called for by the Constitution, President Ali Abdullah Saleh, on March 27th, called on the Yemeni people to cast their ballots in the parliamentary elections scheduled for April 27th, 1993. The Constitution demands that the chief of state declare the election date two months in advance (for this first election, the period was reduced by half).

Meanwhile, the candidates have begun registering with the elections committees located in the constituencies in which they plan to run. The conditions to run are:

- 1) Minimum Age of 25 years,
- 2) Ability to Read and Write (Arabic),
- 3) No Criminal Record,
- 4) Uprightness

It is expected that some three thousand candidates will file their candidatures, although the serious ones with a reasonable chance to win will be less than a thousand. The large parties plan to field candidates in all constituencies, even if as bargaining tool.

NCFE Activates Its Links

The National Committee for Free Elections (NCFE), a public non-profit voluntary organization which works to monitor the elections in Yemen, has been active in strengthening its links and channels of support in the face of a visible effort by certain SEC members to put it out of business.

The NCFE works closely with the National Democratic Institute in Washington DC which is providing technical and some limited financial support to the NCFE. US Ambassador Arthur Hughes paid a visit to the NCFE last week as a sign of support and discussed its efforts with the executive board. Mr. Ahmed Al-Soufi, Official Spokesman for the NCFE, paid a visit to the Director of the President's bureau and explained their plans and asked for a meeting with the president.

"We have distributed a communique to the ambassadors of the West in Sanaa and solicited their support in convincing the Yemeni authorities not to back-track on their earlier decision to allow local supervision and monitoring of the elections, in addition to international observers' efforts," he said. He also added that the NCFE has taken many measures to ensure it will do its job fully. "One thing we are pushing is get authorization from the independent candidates to monitor elections in the constituencies they are running," he said.

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Job Title	Job Profile
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2- Sand Dune Stabilization Specialist. Required Number = 1 Job Period: 2.0 years	MSc in forestry + 15 years experience in sand dune stabilization. An Arabic speaking candidate is preferred with a good knowledge of English language and ability in preparation of reports.
3- Financial Advisor. Required Number = 1 Job Period: 3 years	MA in accounting + 15 years experience in accounting systems of authorities and corporations.
4- Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E). Required Number = 1 Job Period: 2 years	PhD in agriculture economics + 10 years experience in M&E of integrated rural development projects including preparation of data base, collection and analysis of input/output data.
5- Agriculture Research Advisor. Required Number = 1 Job Period: 2 years	PhD in Agronomy + 10 years experience in agriculture research including supervision and implementation of research programs
6- Agriculture Extension. Required Number = 1 Job Period: 3 years	BSc in Agriculture Extension or Agriculture Economics + at least 10 years experience in the field or agriculture extension.
7- Plant Protection. Required Number = 1 Job Period: 3.5 years	BSc in Crop Protection + at least 10 experience in this field as related to agriculture extension services.

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2- Contracts will be signed between ERADA and the successful applicants on yearly basis subject to extension/renewal to cover the full required period of the job. Salaries will be according to qualifications and experience. Payment will be according to regulations of the Central Bank of Yemen which specify 50% of payment will be in local currency.

3- Interested applicants have to send their sealed proposals, containing CVs certificates and a recent photograph, on or before 12:00 noon on 5/5/1993 to the following address:

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ص ب رقم ٤٨٩٤ - الحديدة

ترقبوا فروعنا في المكلا، عدن، تعز، إب

THE PHILIPPINES' PROBLEMS REMAIN IMMENSE

Even the cosseted elite are talking of this "last chance" for the Philippines to put its house in order, a house shamed by corruption, crime and the continued decline into poverty of a people whose neighbors have prospered.

President Fidel Ramos may look an unlikely figure to lead a clean-up. He was associated with the two previous regimes, the Marcos kleptocracy and the indecisive Aquino government. He is dull in a nation that loves flamboyance and rhetoric. He scrapped in with a mere 23% of the vote.

His first seven months in office have been dominated not by decisive action, but by power cuts and kidnappings for ransom - mostly of ethnic Chinese businessmen and, it is generally believed, with the connivance of some senior police. Yet there are signs that behind his slowness is deliberation, calculation and resolve.

A costly program to expand generating capacity should mean an end to the daily power "brownouts" by September. That alone will lift spirits and the economy.

Kidnapping is likely to wane following the deaths of gang leaders in shootouts and the suspension of the country's top policemen.

The president has also indicated he wants to reform the judiciary. A supreme court judge influenced by a big company has been forced to resign. Other resignations and retirements should enable Ramos to pack the court with reformist appointees.

The government is showing willingness to allow in competition to break the monopolies in telephones and other utilities, which have long provided easy profits for the politically well-connected and are blamed for many of the nation's economic ills. He is pressing ahead with tariff reforms to open up domestic industry to greater competition.

Ramos has also signalled less isolationist - and less Washington-oriented - attitudes, with a series of visits to Asian neighbors in search of investment. The Philippines has missed out on the waves of Japanese and Taiwanese investment in manufacturing in East Asia.

The president has been using his powers of patronage to get Congress to support his programs. Senators, for their part, are aware the public expects more, and that if the system cannot deliver, it will eventually be overthrown.

The greatest danger to democracy still lies in the armed forces and the snake oil promises of clean government held out by Colonel Gregorio Honasan, the 1989 coup attempt leader. But effective government could neutralize this. Ramos may also be in for good luck. Recent oil finds suggest that by 1995, half the country's needs may be met locally.

But the Philippines' problems remain immense, with a decaying infrastructure and a gigantic domestic debt left over from the Marcos years. Tax evasion by the elite means that government revenue is a derisory 14% of GNP. After paying for debt interest, the armed forces, education and public health, there is little left.

Political power has long been used for self-enrichment. With the example set by the ruling class, it is hardly surprising that standards of public administration are abysmal. Ramos is aware of the problems. He reads, he listens particularly to his chief of intelligence, General Jose Almonte. But can he buck the system that created him?

RUSSIA REJECTS YELTSIN'S 'SPECIAL RULE'

The Russian Parliament voted earlier this week to reject President Boris Yeltsin's attempts at forcing through a referendum on April 25th. Yeltsin had announced earlier he was taking special powers for a few weeks to force through a referendum on 25 April to determine once and for all as to who rules Russia.

In a direct challenge to the supreme legislature, he said in a television address that Russians would hold a vote of confidence in his presidency and on a new constitution.

Yeltsin had hoped to abolish the Congress of People's Deputies and the smaller parliament pending fresh elections under new rules. Yeltsin said he was declaring a period of "special rule" until the crisis was over, but gave no exact date. During this period, any decision or action which contradicted his orders would have no validity, he said. Yet, he did not announce the dissolution of either parliament or the Congress, its parent body, saying they could continue their work for the time being.

Chairman Ruslan Khasbulatov, who says parliament is a bulwark of democracy protecting Russia from presidential dictatorship, was on a visit to Kazakhstan. He returned immediately to Moscow. The crisis is a contest for authority between the president and the legislature.

"The essence is ... a profound contradiction between the people and the former Bolshevik anti-people system which has not yet disintegrated, which aspires again today to recoup its lost authority over Russia," he said.

The Parliament was, however, unable to agree to dislodge Yeltsin, while, Yeltsin's supporters were also unable to dislodge Khasbulatov. Following the recent infighting, the two branches of authority have returned to their initial position, as the stalemate creeps in, one more time. What this means is that Yeltsin has failed to achieve any hegemony in spite of his recent offensive to reign in the legislature.

Meanwhile, the position of the USA and Europe has become a strong item of debate in Moscow. The USA, in particular, has come out strongly in favor of Yeltsin, which the Russian intellectuals and parliament have strongly criticised. "We are unhappy, not because of the position itself, but it is a clear interference in the internal affairs of the country," explained one Moscow University professor. "The open US backing for Yeltsin may hurt him, rather than help him, if at least in the long run," he added.

At the same time, the extreme right, nostalgic of the Russian recent past, continues to accuse the president accusing him of destroying the country. Some flanks of the right have even called for the return of the communist regime.

Meanwhile, the economic crunch is making its toll on the popularity of the reforms espoused by the Russian President.

NIGERIA PLANS TO HOST MEETING ON LIBERIA

Nigeria will host a meeting of West African leaders in Abuja in next week to review their options for troubled Liberia, Nigerian Foreign Secretary Matthew Mbu said.

The talks will be at a crucial time in Liberia's three-year-long conflict, amid reports that rebel leader Charles Taylor is facing possible defeat at the hands of the Nigerian-dominated Ecomog intervention force.

The five-nation forces, now numbering about 14,000 troops, was sent to Liberia by the 16-nation Economic Community of West African States (Ecowas) in 1990 to halt a civil war.

"The meeting in Abuja will be mainly for Ecowas to review Ecomog and its options in Liberia," Mbu told reporters this week.

"We want an end to hostilities in Liberia and the sooner the better. I like to believe that Taylor, if he is a reasonable person, should think again and accept the terms of Yamoussoukro," he said.

Taylor has consistently ignored the pleas for talks, including a cease-fire and disarmament of rebel factions, agreed during Ecowas-led talks in the Ivorian city and elsewhere over the past two years.

Mbu said ratification of the fourth Yamoussoukro accord would be on the agenda for the meeting in Nigeria's capital, slotted for the 15th of April.

Recent reports from the Ivorian capital, Abidjan, suggested the military coalition ranged against Taylor might be in no mood to accept the rebel leader's terms for a cease-fire, if he waits too long and it becomes clear he is losing the war.

Foreign military sources in Lagos said Nigeria, the regional power, had recently sent more weapons such as field guns to Liberia in an apparent attempt to finally crush Taylor.

CONFERENCE OF OIL MINISTERS COMING AT RIGHT TIME

A conference of Opec and non-Opec oil ministers, scheduled for Muscat April 12th, is coming at the right time amidst serious challenges that could rock revenues of oil-exporting states.

Al Aalem Al Yawm newspaper said observers in Saudi Arabia, the world's leading oil exporter, believed the oil taxes proposed by the US and the European Community would provoke counter-measures as they threatened the producers' economic interests.

The Muscat conference would have to decide what steps the exporting states should take if the taxes were imposed. The producers view the taxes as "anti-oil discrimination."

The Opec states have urged those outside the cartel to join them in the counter-measures. The paper quoted an official Gulf source as saying, "If necessary, the GCC states will fight the issue on their own because oil is their main source of income and they have the right to defend their strategic interests."

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REFLECTIONS ON EID AL-FITR

By Ismail Al-Ghabri,
Yemen Times.



The Muslim World celebrated Eid-al-Fitr with traditional gaiety. The festival marks the end of the holy month of Ramadhan and the return of regular living pattern. It is an occasion for rejoicing and self-gratification for having fasted during the whole month of Ramadhan.

Eid Al-Fitr is specially enjoyed by children, as they are taken by their folks to parks, picnic and recreation centers, travels and general driving. The Eid is also an opportunity for the young kids to receive gifts from the older folks. In general, it is a merry time with families spending a good-time together.

But we must ask ourselves whether Muslims everywhere in the world are in a position to mark Eid with the same degree of gaiety and happiness. The answer is, of course, negative. Then, we must ask why it is so, and what we can do about it?

Saddening though it may

be, but we have to realize that poverty stalks the bulk of the Muslim population. It is also true that God has blessed some of the Arabs with riches and wealth, which by the way, they did not sweat to earn, but that is another matter. The point is, we should ask what happened to Muslim solidarity and cooperation. There are many other factors which add to the misery of the Muslim peoples, but poverty is definitely one of them, if not the leading reason. Much could be done to alleviate the needless suffering of hundreds of millions of Muslims throughout the world. One would hope that, as good world citizens, we could help all human beings; but if we can't help the fellow-Muslims with whom we claim special bonds,

helping others is far-fetched.

Muslims remain divided and devoid of any internal cohesion despite all talk about a bond of fraternity and brotherhood which transcends national boundaries. This makes it impossible for community events to initiate some purposeful action toward solving the most pressing problems that have been threatening the very existence of Muslims. For example, the Palestinians continue to wander, homeless and subject to brutal Zionist repression. The southern part of Lebanon continues to be under Israeli occupation.

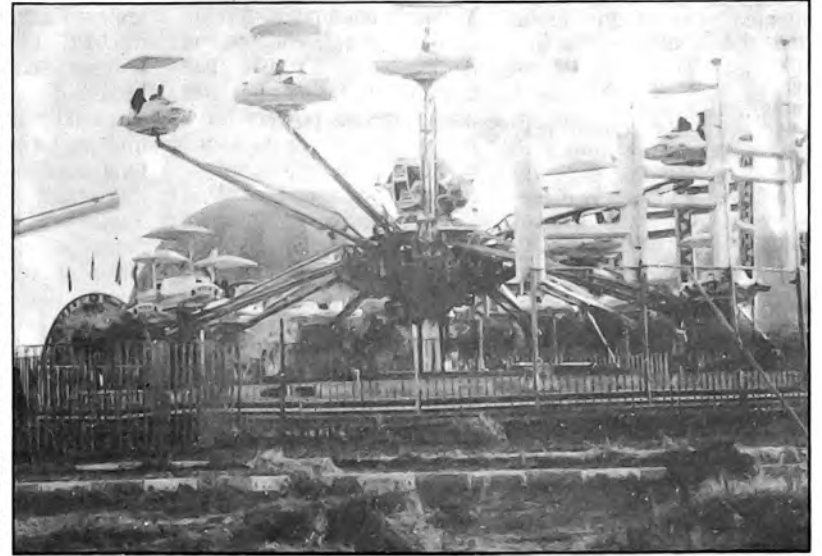
The Muslims of Bosnia and Herzegovina are subjected to a well-planned liquidation efforts by the Nazis of the 1990s - the Serbs. The Muslims of Nagorno-Karabakh are forced to flee by Armenian soldiers. The Burmese are pushing out the local Muslims into neighboring Bangladesh. In India, a Muslim minority leads a precarious life in the face of an increasingly militant majority. In Eu-

rope, the im-

migrant Muslim populations are forced to give up their values, and even then are subjected to racism and discrimination. The incidents and wars between Muslims and non-Muslims have never been as many, prolonged or

costly (in terms of loss of lives and property). Inter-Muslim wars and violence is even more serious. Millions of Muslims on both sides are being killed, property worth billions of dollars has been destroyed, many thousands of individuals have either been maimed or crippled, women are widowed and children are orphaned.

In short, the Muslims have brought upon themselves a fate even their enemies could not have achieved in their wildest dreams.



Muslims could have solved many of their problems with a speed and in a manner that is within their reach. Unfortunately, the distrust and mutual antagonism have led to eternal in-fighting and the consequent dissipation of their strength and resources. This has left no room for sanity or common sense.

Even with all the goodwill in the world, we are not in a position to wipe even the drops of tears from the children's faces. As long

as the children's tears are there, Muslims are not entitled to celebrate the Eid Al-Fitr, at least not with the pompous rejoicing the occasion demands. It is on an occasion like this that Muslims should remind themselves of the unfinished tasks that lie ahead of them. Eid-al-Fitr should serve as a reminder to do some soul searching. For Muslims, the first step to celebrate Eid Al-Fitr is to be better Muslims, or even better, to be better human beings.

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MASSACRE OF THE LEFT: THE RESULTS OF THE FRENCH PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS

It was a terrible massacre. The French Left (PCF, PS, MRG, MAJ = the first four parties listed on the table below) was simply routed at the parliamentary elections held on 21st (first phase) and 28th March (second phase). Of the 300 seats they had held prior to March 28th, the parties of the Left held on to only 89 seats. As the right parties (RPR, UDF, DVD, FN = the last four parties listed on the table below) boasts, with 488 seats in parliament, it now has a mandate from the people to carry out change.

The Right is evidently going to form the next French government. As President Francois Mitterrand, who has two more years to go in his term as President, refused to step down, there will be a co-habitation between the left and right in managing the affairs of the state. This uneasy alliance had existed once before during 1986-8. It is a workable arrangement, although Mitterrand is definitely going to work to discredit the "Right" government in

an effort to erode its base in preparation for the presidential elections that are scheduled for 1995. The French elections reflect a mood that is bitter and frustrated with leftist politics. This trend was already visible in the recent elections in Britain, Italy, Germany and Spain. The demise of communist regimes is a world-wide phenomenon, which, unfortunately, is coupled with the rise of fundamentalism and religious fanaticism. This religious fervor spans the major

religions of the world - Christianity in the West, Islam in the Middle East, Judaism in Israel, Hinduism in India, etc. In the French elections, there are many important losers including Michel Rocard (a former Prime Minister) and Roland Dumas (Foreign Minister), both of the PS, and Jean-Marie Le Pen (President of the extreme Right Wing Front National). Paris is poised for change in the coming days.

Read more details on p. 10

Distribution of Parliamentary Seats

Name of Party	Before 28/3/1993	After 28/3/1993
Parti Communiste Francais	26	23
Parti Socialiste	250	53
Mouvement des Radicaux de Gauche	10	6
Majorite' Presidentielle	14	7
Rassemblement Pour la Republique	126	245
Union pour la Democratie Francaise	131	213
Divers Droite	11	22
Front National	1	0
Total	569	569
Deputies of Guadeloupe & Martinique	8	8
Grand Total of French Assembly Seats	577	577

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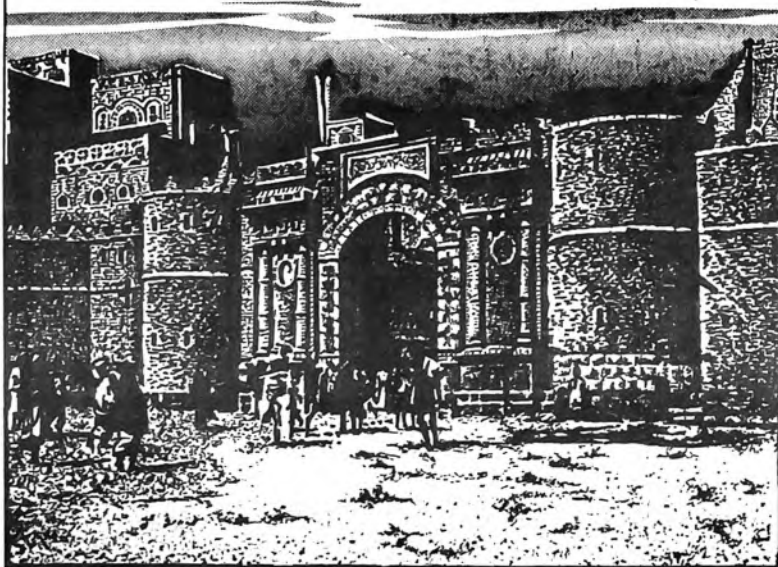
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THE YEMENI-SAUDI DETENTE IS A STARTING POINT FOR ARAB RECONCILIATION

The Gulf Crisis in 1990 was a heavy blow to the Arabs. Arab-relations and Arab solidarity. Instead of solidarity, grudges, division, and enmity began to prevail in Arab relations without taking the public's interests into consideration. It is time to exchange views regardless of the differences.

After this bloody crisis, it is time to return to reality by rebuilding the bridges and taking lessons from what happened in those days through the adoption of a policy of expansionism. It is also time to open the doors of dialogue, understanding, and reconciliation instead of confrontation and petty strife.

Thus, the constructive dialogues between Yemen and Saudi Arabia are a starting point for the adoption of Arab relations. The two neighboring countries suffered a lot from the outcome of this crisis.

The reconciliation based on the foundation of the historical grounds and the requirements of the Arab citizen would provide a new, lively soul without returning to the background of the crisis. What is significant nowadays is to achieve stabilization, cooperation, coordination among us all.

This reconciliation between Yemen and Saudi Arabia is the cornerstone for reconstruction and reform and it is a public demand.

By: **Fuad Kaid Ali,**
Al-Haq, Sanaa,
21/3/1993

PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN THE ELECTIONS

For the first time in the modern history of Yemen, Yemeni women's participation in the elections is achieved to an outstanding level. This participation is part of our cultural project and social vision after the unification and the adoption of democratic practices. It is time for Yemeni women to express their opinion without any pressure or fear.

The interest of the homeland requires all of us to use this historical opportunity fully and with more understanding. It is time to go boldly to the constituency to cast the ballots, voting for the nominees who deserve such honorable membership. It is the duty of the men to encourage the women to take such initiative, for the prosperity and progress of our homeland. The electoral right of the woman is not under debate. It is a fact.

Women represent half of the society and, stemming from this point, they play a vital role in building up the society and future generations. Without their contribution, the whole process will lack one of the great pillars of its stability.

Let's cast our ballots freely, honestly and boldly, without any hesitation. The balloting day will witness a change, and what is important is the thoughtful choice for the candidates who really deserve membership in the Parliament.

By: **Um Wa'il,**
Al-Mustaqbal, Sanaa,
21/3/1993

TO THE PRESIDENT AND ALL DECENT PEOPLE: RESCUE THE HOMELAND AND OUR UNITY

During the blessed month of Ramadhan, distress, agony, oppression and complaint was prevalent. We demand a soldier to do his duties, protect the system, security and stability but we forgot his salary, the cost of living and his family requirements.

We demand the employees of the ministries to double their efforts, but we forgot their salaries for months. Then came the floods in Aden to wipe out everything which they worked for and saved for all those years. The compensation was an amount of rice, residence in tents in the open air.

Even the cleanliness is listed as part of punishment. The sewage has become a problem without any solution and the rubbish collectors are, as usual, without their rights and salaries. Hence, being under the pressure of these circumstances they have neglected their duties.

Another surprising question is the rumor of importing vessels loaded with fancy (Abu Dhabi) vehicles to distribute for purchasing companies.

There is also the matter of the banks' incapability to practice their banking activities due to the lack of liquidity. What does this mean? Where are the state's funds and its local currency? We can't say that Sana'a is better than Aden; both cities are the same.

In fact, there is something wrong with the whole process and I am responsible for what I say. The issue is not just a tumult, an exaggeration, a recession. It is also not a matter of mismanagement, misconduct or ill-will. The issue is greater than all of these points. It is, unfortunately, a deliberately planned conspiracy. But why? and who is behind such a plan?

The issues lead to mutiny

and strife otherwise: What it does mean, leaving the army without salaries for months, leaving the employees of the state and the institutions to starvation and deviation and leaving banks without liquid assets?

We make it clear here that there is a conspiracy on all the people, the homeland, and unification and we rely on unification first of all. Our call is "Rescue the Homeland!"

By: **Abdul-Jabbar Thabit,**
Al-Ayyam, Aden,
22/3/1993

NEW FACES ARE MUCH BETTER!

Before the revolution, the morals were embodied in the Imam, himself. The Imam represented all the authorities in his kingdom. After the September Revolution in 1962, things began to change, though they were not conclusive. The Revolution didn't get to the phase where the capable technocrats steer the new state from a scientific point of view.

Now thirty years after the Revolution, we are more advanced, more efficient and more capable to march towards modernism in our future life.

As a concept, democracy means that all citizens are equal in their rights and duties before the law, and the law has granted each citizen the ability to participate in government, the same as the president, who also has to nominate himself in the elections.

From this approach, a number of new patriot components, who are well-known on all levels, started to nominate themselves as candidates for the new House of Representatives on April 27th, 1993.

It is really an outstanding initiative and a good omen for our democratic approach to apply the principles in which we believe.

Stemming from our first and only democratic practice, we require from all decent citizens to have their impact on the new Republican system. And we ask all the political parties to nominate those who are trustworthy and efficient to avoid any disaster and with a full belief of transferring authority peacefully.

To build the state with a democratic system and institutions, we are in need of a degree of caution and alertness. Let us work together to achieve what we have struggled for.

By: **Mohammad Dirhim Al-Muhalhil,**
Al-Gamaheer, Sanaa,
22/3/1993.

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ILLUMINATOR OF THE STARS

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

"Why does the sun go on shining... Why do the stars glow above..."

The 20th century needed a great mind like his to find long-sought answers for age-old questions like the above.

He is Hans Albrecht Bethe, one of the still living greatest physicists of the 20th century. Born in 1906 in Strasbourg, a city on the French-German border, he moves slowly now and his left arm dangles at his side, but when asked if physicists are like athletes, inevitably peaking when they are young, he answers with his German accent, "No, not at all. I think I'm still pretty good." He is currently preparing a scientific paper about supernova models. Supernovas are majestic explosions of stars that can be seen for hundreds of thousands of light years across the cosmos, and yet so rare as to be seen in 200-300 years' intervals with only the biggest telescopes. He was taught under the greatest minds of the century, the founding fathers of quantum mechanics (distinguished from classical mechanics for its application to systems at the atomic and nuclear level) like Enrico Fermi in Rome (a Nobel prize winner in 1938 on artificial radioactivity) and Niels Bohr of Copenhagen (another Nobel prize winner in 1922 for the quantum theory of the atom). His mother was Jewish, which was the reason he was not given a university post in Nazi Germany; an incident which made him emigrate to the U.S. in 1935.

1938, Bethe was invited to a conference on astrophysics, and that was when the first tackled the problem of producing energy inside the stars. The basic reaction in stars and hence the source of nearly all the energy in the universe - is the fusion of four hydrogen nuclei into one helium nucleus, with the mass difference between reactants and products turned into huge amounts of energy. This can take place under stellar conditions in two different series of processes. The proton-proton cycle which was proposed in 1920 by Eddington and calls for the direct collisions of protons (hydrogen nuclei) resulting in the formation of heavier nuclei and energy, and this cycle wasn't proved to be true until 1929 by two Germans, Atkinson and Houtermans. Yet the proton-proton cycle could account for the energy produced in stars like our sun whose central temperature is 15 million degrees, but in hotter stars another cycle was needed. That was when Bethe proposed the carbon-nitrogen cycle in which carbon nuclei absorb a succession of protons and is transformed into nitrogen which absorbs another proton to return back into carbon discharging an alpha particle & energy.

At this time he has finished writing what is called Bethe's Bible in nuclear physics which helped to set things in order for generations of physicists.

After World War II broke out, Teller (later to become the father of the American hydrogen bomb, a Hungarian emigre) persuaded Bethe to join the efforts for the construction of a nuclear fission bomb as a theoretical physicist in the Manhattan project at Los Alamos which was headed then by Robert Oppenheimer (shatterer of the worlds). At a certain stage of the project, Teller warned that the heat of a nuclear blast might trigger the chain reactive fusion of atmospheric nitrogen and set the entire earth a blaze because of the vast amount of heat a nuclear bomb would produce. Oppenheimer and the others took the suggestion seriously, but Bethe studied the problem and found that it was incredibly unlikely. And on Trinity, the test date of the bomb, at the moment of the blast everybody went down to the ground, their hands over their heads thinking that the atmosphere has already begun to burn, that was at the front post, but they received a call few minutes later from Bethe, who was at the factory, asking if his initiator device had worked well. As world War II gave way to the cold war, he opposed the development of the vastly more powerful fusion bomb (hydrogen bomb) which strained his relationship with his friend Teller, but he supported the research and construction of nuclear power plants because they are less harmful to our climate in terms of the production of greenhouse gases.

During the 50s and 60s, Bethe continued improving his equations in quantum mechanics which he formulated in the 30's. In 1967 he received the Nobel prize for his "Nuclear Theory and Stellar Energy Production." And he has also continued his work on stars since his retirement from teaching in 1975. Throughout the last decade, Bethe and Teller have clashed repeatedly over the strategic Defense Initiative (SDI) also called Star Wars. Teller's plan was to create a space shield against nuclear missiles. Bethe criticized it as technically impossible and politically destabilizing. Can the two giant minds and former friends ever find anything to agree on?

That's the life of the illuminator of the stars, teaching, searching, and studying. Even at the age of 83, he apprenticed himself to another physicist to learn lattice gauge theory; one of the most complicated and challenging theories in physics. When he hears others say that there are hardly any scientists that have contributed as much to science as he has during the last 60 years, Bethe shrugs his shoulders and says, "There is nothing as interesting as science. So as long as the brain lasts, that's what I'm going to do."

'MACHINE' POLITICS IN YEMEN

By:
Dr. Nabil Ahmed Sultan

Now that the Yemeni elections are approaching, a great deal of news and anecdotes are surfacing in Yemen's local newspaper of the many favors, in terms of money, promotions, and positions in the civil service, received by people from officials of the two ruling parties and also from some independent candidates for the coming parliamentary elections.

This sort of practice, if true, resembles what is known in political science as the politics of 'machine', a term coined to describe one phase of the American experience with democracy during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, when officials of competing parties strove to buy votes by any means at their disposal. Money, food, drink, and the promise of jobs in the civil service were some of the ploys used then. A great deal of that money and expense was paid for by contributions of big businesses to the competing parties in the hope of influencing legislations in their favor once their favorite party politicians were in office.

Once elected, these individuals would use their political status to enrich or better themselves materially and replenish the coffers of their political parties either by corrupt means or 'honest graft' as one democratic politician once put it. The term 'machine', according to some authors, was used to reflect the 'repetitive' and 'reliable' nature of the system which resembles a machine.

Some contemporary authors believe that America's machine politics was a chapter of the country's political history that has long since been closed. This, they argue, was due to a number of reasons; some of which were due to television, which made it easier for politicians to get their message across to millions of potential voters and also due to improvements in the living conditions of other minorities, particularly blacks.

Other contemporary authors, however, are not convinced that machine politics has disappeared from America's political scene altogether. Some of the criticism of such authors, for example, was targeted towards the Democratic Party in particular, which is accused of practising machine politics in some states; such as the provision of free legal help and advice by Democratic lawyers to the poor in return for their votes.

Machine politics was not just an American phenomenon. Japan is perhaps one of the few developed nations where machine politics is alive and kicking.



Vote-buying in Japan is customary and politicians running for parliament spend huge amounts of money in the form of lavish parties and gift-giving. At one time in Japan, according to one author, one vote was thought to be worth a refrigerator! This is why Japan's election costs (several billions dollars) are huge even by American standards.

Today, businesses continue to contribute to the funds of political parties in America and other countries such as Britain and Japan.

From the point of view of the recipients of such contributions, such businesses merely pay to support the parties that will eventually serve their best interests in terms of legislating for lower corporate taxes and greater prosperity at no expense to other people. However, not everybody is convinced by that line of argument, and evidence suggests that businesses that pay handsomely can sometimes exert tremendous political pressure to influence legislative actions in their favor, even at the expense of other groups. The story of the British Conservative Party and the big brewers (a main con-

tributor to the party's fund) concerning the monopoly of these businesses during the late 1980s is a case in point. By owning thousands of public houses (pubs) throughout Britain, these brewers were, for a long time, able to impose their prices on their tenants and therefore dictate the prices at which consumers should be charged. the Conservative government under Mrs. Thatcher pledged to change this situation by forcing these brewers to sell their public houses in order to encourage competition which would ultimately be translated into lower prices for consumers. However, intense lobbying by these businesses afterwards forced the government to back down on its pledge.

Despite the unethical nature of machine politics, countries such as America and Japan continued to prosper. Elements of machine

politics also exist in some developing countries with established democracies, such as India. Such practices have never at one time threatened the democracies of these countries. They were merely a phase or a process in the evolution of their democracies.

Although Yemenis are entitled to express their disapproval and even anger at the behavior of some their candidates for Parliament, they must not be alarmed by it. Some of these practices will eventually disappear as the level of consciousness and understanding of the population increases, and some will probably stay with us for many years to come.

This, after all, is one of the prices of democracy which this society has to pay.

* Member of the British Institute of Management

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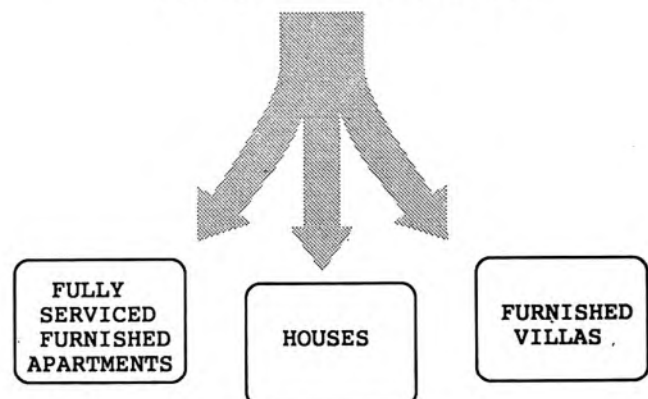
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Letters to the Editor Letters to the Editor Letters to the Editor Letters to the Editor Letters to the Editor Letters to the Editor

The Sameyi Incident and the Yemen Times Fabrications

I do not know what motivated the Yemen Times to run a bogus story regarding the incident of Mr. Sameyi in its issue No. (9) of 3rd March.

I have no facts to refute the Yemen Times details, but I still find it hard to believe what it wrote for the following reasons:

1) The facts the paper used in the paper were not attributed to their specific sources, but the paper sort of presented its own reading of what it claimed to have been told by the witnesses and various parties.

2) I can't believe our policemen are tolerant enough to allow Mr. Sameyi to refuse their orders three times in different places before the shoot-out began.

3) I believe the paper accepted as facts what it had been told by the military police office in Taiz.

4) I think the paper erred when it said that the two policemen in Mr. Sameyi's car left his car when the patrol car intercepted the Sameyi car and were shot by Sameyi's men as they ran for protective positions. I think they were shot by their colleagues and not by Mr. Sameyi's men. If it were not so, how could we explain their inaction as the Sameyi men killed the two soldiers, while their colleagues in the patrol car did not attempt to save them or kill Sameyi's men?

I believe that the paper fabricated the whole story to support the position of the authorities and to justify the fraudulent communique of the Ministry of Interior.

Dr. Abdulaziz Tarmoom,
Sanaa Univeristy.

Editor's Note:

To each his own!

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A TRIP TO ADEN PASSING THROUGH SOME PROVINCES OF YEMEN

I am not a professional cyclist but I like such risks. This risky trip from Sana'a to Aden is planned by student named Nasha'at Al-Harazy, captain of the teenager team of cycling of Yemen, who is accompanying me on this trip. Last week, I went into a shop to ask how much a pair of trousers was; they were too expensive. Suddenly, I thought how about those people who were injured by the heavy rains that happened in Aden recently.

Then, I decided to visit the people there, to share in their sorrow, and to help them to be happy with my sports uniform - Nasha'at shared the same idea. Our problem is that nobody works during the days of Eid Al-Fitr and that is why we intended to do it then; specifically, we wished to ask responsible people in the province of Aden to hurry up and quickly find a good solution for those families. We are going to pass Dhamar, Ibb, Taiz, Al-Hotah (Lahej), and finally Aden. It is going to last six days with a tour of each city, and particularly in Aden for about two days. My companion and I have done some practice runs on our bicycles, which are ready go. Our motto: "Let's do it!"

By: Ahmed Yahya Al-Asbahy
English teacher at Al-Kuwait Secondary School
& student in the French Dept., Faculty of Arts,
Sana'a University.

AFTER THE INTERVENTION IN SOMALIA: CAN WE START WITH A CLEAN SLATE?!

Somalia, a country which lapsed into total anarchy following the ousting of its former president by armed dissidents who later jostled for their own power, is now basking in the afterglow of the timely U.S. intervention. The intervention secured a safe passage for relief supplies to famine gutted areas and brought about an abrupt lessening of arson and rape that were the rule of the day. It is viewed by most of Somalia's intelligentsia as a proper antidote for Somalia's problems. Within few weeks of the intervention, the two warlords whose forces were at loggerheads for almost a year, were called upon to meet (which they did) to work out differences and cooperate with multi-national forces.

A month later (January 1993), Somalia's chief opposition

leaders gathered in Addis Ababa to take part in U.N. brokered reconciliation conference. The outcome of the conference was not encouraging.

Conferences agreed to a cease-fire in principle - but failed to break the logjam over who should show up in the forthcoming (second) conference to be held in Addis Ababa next month. It is hoped that nonessential issues endorsed in the first meeting, like Djibouti, become deadwood. Why? Ego-centric politicians have merely been forming a broad-based government. It should have focused on the need for restoring the nation's self-respect among the world community.

By: Liban A. Ahmed,
Aden.

WILL THE US CONTINUE TO STOP THE WAR-MONGERING PROTAGONISTS?

The U.S. led military operation, under the umbrella of the United Nations, has "restored hope" successfully in the moribund Somalia and the military's job of restoring security is near to be substantially complete.

The cruel warlords, who organized the civil-war, and the moronic, armed bandits, whose duty was to loot the humanitarian aid convoys and annihilate the innocent members of the population, were absolutely stopped. Mainly, the starving victims were fed in a satisfactory way, and the violent, chaotic city of Mogadishu is now more secure than at any time in recent months.

In addition, disarmament was imposed. Unfortunately, it was quite a traumatic experience because the multi-national troops disarmed some parts of the country and recklessly left other parts armed. Obviously, that was a provocative act which caused violent response and demonstrations in the capital city Mogadishu. Because of that, we respectfully implore the U.S. led multi-national troops against any racial discrimination and that all Somalis to be equal for them.

I firmly encourage the brave Americans to get rid of that impulsive plan of trying to rush the UN into assuming responsibility for Somalia before the situation is entirely secure, simply to appease domestic American sentiment. Bear in mind, that to create a reliable and secure environment one needs tolerance and diligence.

By: Mr. Said Ahmed Aden (Said Harago),
Somali teacher in Sana'a.

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the Yemeni people, leadership & government
on Eid Al-Fitr Al-Mubarak

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H.J. Smidt:

"When you glue those tiny findings uncovered over the years, you come up with something really fantastic and impressive."

Germany is, of course, Yemen's most generous aid partner. One facet of its aid is the archaeological mission, which has done considerable work in preserving as well as documenting Yemen's heritage. It is also the oldest and one of the most established of such organizations in Yemen. Professor H. J. Smidt is the director of German Archaeological Institute in Yemen. He is one of the world's top authorities in his field on Yemen.

Yemen Times Cultural Editor, Saad Khalis, interviewed him at his office in Al-Rawdhah.

Q: When was the German Archaeological Institute established, and what are its tasks?

A: The beginnings date back to 1974, when the Yemeni government first approached the German government asking if Germany could assist in the research regarding the ancient history and culture of Yemen. The German Government approached me to come to Yemen and establish an archaeological institute - a task that I gladly accepted, since no serious excavation work was done in this country prior to that time.

Although we started work in 1975, it was not until 1978 that the institution was formally established in its present form. It was a fantastic opportunity for us to investigate a virgin territory which we knew had a rich history and cultural heritage. We knew about the history of Yemen from the ancient texts and the references made to its civilizations in the manuscripts of other civilizations. But Yemen's archaeology was totally an empty yet promising field of research.

Our institute is represented in fourteen countries in the Orient and Europe. In Yemen, the institute was established to study the ancient Sabaeen culture. Actually, we had in mind a specific project which was the study of ancient technologies and the irrigation systems of Marib, with special reference to the famous Marib Dam.

Hence, I have chosen members of my team here to meet the requirements of this task. We are doing this work with the help of scientists in the fields of geology, sedimentology, hydrology, hydraulic-tectonics, geography in addition to archaeology, of course.

Q: Do you carry out any academic activities at the institute?

A: If you mean teaching in

Yemeni universities, the answer is "No." But, as I have recently discussed with the dean of the Faculty of Arts at Sana'a University, we are going to take in the archaeology students and involve them in the excavation efforts to allow them to gain practical experience. We are all eagerly looking forward to this development in order to strengthen our interaction in the future.

Q: What are your major excavation sites in Yemen?

A: Now we have two major sites. Our research and excavation efforts are concentrated on Marib, the main capital of the Sabaeans, and on Sirwah, which can be considered as the second capital of Sabaeans and one of their most famous cities. In general, we are surveying the whole area that forms the central part of the Sabaeen Empire.

Q: What are the main sites of your future efforts?

A: Our strategy is based on choosing one or two sites and working on them thoroughly down to the optimal levels instead of looking here and there. That is why we are just working on Marib and Sirwah. Now that Yemen is unified, we have plans to extend our activities to include a site in the southern part of the country.

In addition, I have also started with some younger colleagues a plan to study the characteristics of art and architecture of Southern Arabia in general. This would include a thorough study of sculptures available in Yemeni museums as well as those in Istanbul, Vienna, New York, Paris and other cities.

There is a parallel second work on which we have already embarked. This is concerned with the architecture of Southern Arabia. We are getting to know patterns, forms, shapes and characteristics of architectural designs, urban plans and other details. It is amazing to note how they built in those days - so absolutely precise to the millimeter, just as well as the Greeks did. Then you can see decadence creep in, shown in the decline of quality and weaker structures.

Q: How does that civilization compare with others in the region?

A: This is an important point I would like to make it here. Most of my fellow researchers and historians tend to neglect all those original and creative features of South Arabian



art. Some colleagues even go so far as to claim that the high points of South Arabian art are those in which Mediterranean forms are adapted, notably Greek and Roman effects. But I'm trying to prove the Sabaeen origin of South Arabian classic masterpieces and their genuineness and abstraction. We clearly see this in the Temple of Maqaba as well as in Marib and Sirwah. I'm talking about those very strong classical geometric and stereometrical forms.

Q: What would you say are the most distinctive characteristics of the Yemeni ancient civilization?

A: That's a large question, but I'll try to answer as directly as I can. People of the old South Arabia were very religious, with a high degree of organization (in terms of state organization, laws, and society). They were good at science and mathematics which were done in the names of the gods. The famous dam of Marib for example, was of ideal organization, not only in terms of technical details such as canals, distribution systems, etc., but also the ritual and administrative sides of dealing with it. Even when its organization turned into private hands, after being run in the names of the gods, it kept its perfection. That was true for various aspects of Yemeni civilization. In my opinion, that aspect of the Yemeni civilization was quite distinctive. As you know, the Yemeni civilization was so famous that Emperor Augustos of Rome was tempted to try to occupy Marib for its richness and wealth.

Q: Can we talk of a united culture in ancient Yemen?

A: There were states with a multitude of cultures, dialects and gods. But in a

general sense to tiny, and we can actually of monoculture. This is a problem of chronology. I mean, a state may get stronger at one time, and with it a certain cultural flare may rise, then another will rise and replace it.

Q: What do you think of rebuilding ancient ruins?

A: I think that the ruins must be analyzed, studied and then maintained, but never rebuilt. The national heritage of this country, or

any country for that matter, must be preserved, but never rebuilt. As for Yemen, we still have many years to work. Sirwah, for example, needs around 30-40 years of excavations.

Q: Does the institute issue any publications?

A: Yes, we have the "Archaeologische Berichte Aus Dem Yemen", a periodical published in German, and directed mainly to scientists and academicians. Most of our findings and research results, as well as other articles by colleagues and scientists of whatever nationality are published in the periodical. We have also three monographs under print, two of which are concerned with our main project of ancient technologies of irrigation, while the third is on fortifications by a French colleague, Jean-Francois Breton, in French. This means that we are willing to publish any research on the Arabian Peninsula.

Q: What is the final destination of the objects you find during your excavations?

A: Anything we uncover

belongs to the Yemeni National Museum. The pottery pieces, as an example, which were uncovered by us and are currently being studied by Dr. Saad Ayoub of our institute who will publish his research results later, all belong to the Yemeni Museum.

Q: Any comments on the Yemeni archaeologists and authorities?

A: I can say that our relation and cooperation is rather perfect, and dialogs and discussions are held with Yemeni colleagues and historians frequently. These are fruitful. Everything is really fine.

Q: Any last word about South Arabian civilization?

A: I can say that the distinctive culture and civilization of South Arabia was neglected for a long time. That was quite unfair to this part of the world, as well as to humanity.

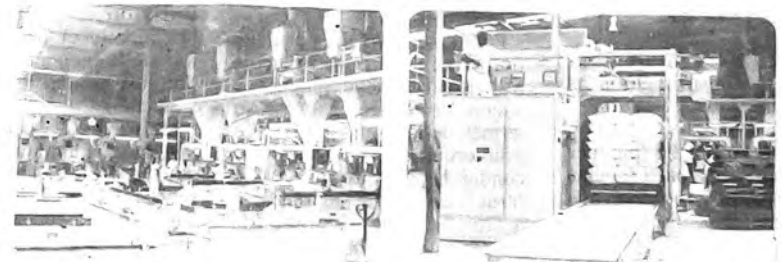
When you glue all those tiny findings uncovered over the years, you come up with something really fantastic and impressive.

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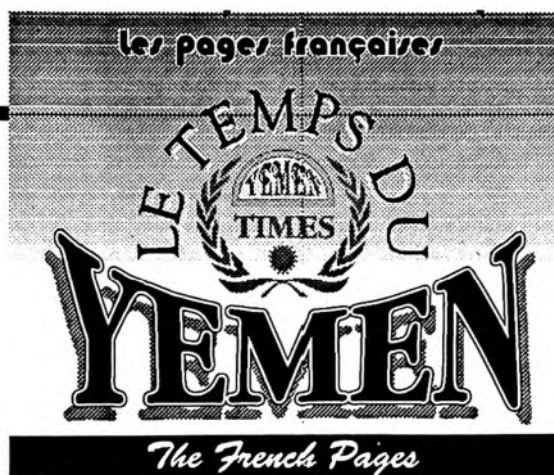


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صفحة ٢ : ٢٤٠٩٥٢ - ٢٤٠٧٠٢ : تليفون : ٢٧٨٠ نايجل يمن فاكسميل : ٢٦٣٠٨٦ ص ب : ٢٥٢٨
الحديدة : ت : ٢١١٥٥١ / ٣ : تليفون : ٥٦٦١ ابو جبة يمن فاكسميل : ٢١١٥٥١ ص ب : ٤٠١٥
الخرطوم : ت : ٧٤٥٦٩ - ٧٤٦١٠ - ٧٤٥٦٢ : تليفون : ٢٢٣٦٩ سيحان فاكسميل : ٧٤٥٦١ ص ب : ١٩٢٦
بورسودان : ت : ٢٦٣٠ - ٢٩٧٩ - ٤٤٦٥ : تليفون : ٧٠٠٧١ يارن ص ب : ١٦٠



Elections législatives françaises

Victoire écrasante de la droite

Avec 480 députés, la droite parlementaire française contrôle 85 % des sièges de l'Assemblée nationale. Un véritable raz-de-marée.

La droite avait le triomphe modeste dimanche soir, à l'issue du second tour des élections législatives françaises. Sa victoire est si écrasante qu'elle paraît inquiétante. Les Français ont en effet élu la plus forte majorité de droite de la Cinquième République. Le RPR, l'UDF et les Divers droite ont remporté 480 sièges sur les 577 que compte l'Assemblée nationale.

Le parti socialiste (le parti au pouvoir jusque-là) sort KO debout de ce scrutin, il divise presque par cinq le nombre de ses députés. Sur les 250 sièges qu'il détenait dans la précédente législature, il n'en conserve qu'une cinquantaine. Le parti communiste reste vaillant, s'accrochant à quelques bastions historiques. Cela lui permet d'envoyer à l'Assemblée une bonne vingtaine de députés.

L'injustice du scrutin majoritaire

L'injustice du scrutin majoritaire apparaît de manière très nette dans ce scrutin. Avec 44 % des voix au premier tour des élections le 21 mars, la droite contrôle 85 % des sièges à l'Assemblée. Le parti communiste, qui a recueilli 9,2 % des suffrages au premier tour est distancé en voix par le Front National (12,5 % des suffrages). Pourtant, le parti d'extrême-droite n'aura aucun député dans la nouvelle Assemblée. Son

Résultats officiels des élections législatives françaises

Ces résultats portent sur 569 des 577 circonscriptions du pays, les résultats manquant étant ceux de la Guadeloupe, de la Martinique et de la Guyane française.

	Elus	Sortants
Parti communiste	23	26
Parti socialiste	53	250
Mouvement des radicaux de gauche	6	10
Majorité présidentielle	7	14
RPR (Rassemblement pour la République)	245	126
UDF (Union pour la démocratie française)	213	131
Divers droite	22	11
Front national	0	1

président Jean-Marie Le Pen, arrivé en tête à l'issue du premier tour à Nice, a été largement battu par un représentant de la droite classique. D'autre part, le seul député FN sortant, Marie-France Stirbois, a été battu sur le fil par le candidat de la coalition de droite à Dreux. Ce mauvais résultat pour le Front national s'explique avant tout par son isolement sur la scène politique française. La droite classique, l'UDF et le RPR, a refusé de nouer des alliances avec lui.

Les Ecologistes (7,6 % des voix au premier tour) n'auront pas non plus de députés dans la nouvelle Assemblée. Leurs

deux dernières représentantes au second tour ont échoué. Le faible score des Ecologistes au premier tour avait été une surprise. Pendant la campagne, ils étaient considérés comme la nouvelle force politique qui monte.

"Le coeur s'est éloigné"

Les ténors du parti socialiste semblaient accablés par l'ampleur de leur défaite. "Ce n'est pas notre idéal qui a été sanctionné mais certaines de nos pratiques", a déclaré Laurent Fabius, chef de file du parti. "Le coeur s'est éloigné. La

gauche doit parler sa langue naturelle, celle de la justice sociale", a-t-il ajouté.

Michel Rocard, candidat des socialistes aux élections présidentielles de 1995, était encore sous le choc de sa défaite face à un candidat UDF inconnu jusque-là, Pierre Cardo. "Je souhaite pour le pays que la droite gouverne bien. Elle a tous les leviers du pouvoir entre les mains", a-t-il déclaré.

De leur côté, les leaders de la droite se sont efforcés de ne pas effrayer les Français. L'esprit revanchard qui avait marqué la victoire de la droite aux élections législatives de 1986 n'est plus de mise. Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, ancien président de la République et président de l'UDF, a insisté sur le rôle de contre-poids de l'UDF au sein de la majorité face au RPR. Les leaders de la droite savent aussi qu'ils héritent d'une France en récession économique et que la tâche ne sera pas facile.

Jérôme BERNARD

Elections législatives yéménites

La date du 27 avril est confirmée

Le Conseil de la présidence du Yémen a officiellement confirmé samedi dernier la tenue le 27 avril prochain des premières élections législatives du Yémen unifié.

Dans un décret, le Conseil, qui compte cinq membres et est présidé par le chef de l'Etat, le général Ali Abdallah Saleh, a "invité" les électeurs à se rendre aux urnes pour choisir les 301 membres de la future chambre des députés.

Les élections initialement prévues pour le 22 novembre 1992, avaient été reportées en raison de difficultés matérielles, le Haut Comité estimant ne pas disposer du "temps nécessaire" pour les organiser dans les temps.

Seuls 2,7 millions d'électeurs sur les sept millions de Yéménites en âge de voter se sont inscrits sur les listes électorales clôturées le 19 février dernier. (AFP)

Elections présidentielles à Djibouti

Hassan Gouled candidat à sa propre succession

Le président de la République de Djibouti, Hassan Gouled Aptidon, a été désigné par le parti du Rassemblement populaire pour le progrès (RPP) comme son candidat officiel aux élections présidentielles fixées pour le 7 mai prochain.

Président depuis l'indépendance de l'ex-colonie

française en juin 1977, Hassan Gouled a été réélu par deux fois déjà en 1982 puis en 1987 pour deux mandats de six ans chaque fois.

La nouvelle constitution djiboutienne adoptée en septembre dernier lui offre la possibilité de se représenter.

(AFP)

Les personnalités élues, battues

Michel Rocard PS (candidat des socialistes aux élections présidentielles de 1995): **battu** à Conflans-Sainte-Honorine dans les Yvelines.

Roland Dumas PS (ministre des Affaires Etrangères): **battu** en Dordogne.

Pierre Bérégovoy PS (premier ministre): **élu** dans la Nièvre.

Laurent Fabius PS (premier secrétaire du parti socialiste): **élu** en Seine-Maritime.

Jean-Pierre Chevènement PS: **élu** dans le Territoire de Belfort.

Jean-Marie Le Pen FN (président du Front national): **battu** à Nice dans les Alpes-Maritimes.

Bernard Tapie MRG (ministre de la Ville): **élu** dans les Bouches-du-Rhône.

François Léotard UDF: **élu** dans le Var.

Michel Noir Divers Droite (maire de Lyon): **élu** à Lyon dans le Rhône.

Cohabitation version 1993

La marge de manoeuvre du Président de la République, François Mitterrand, est des plus étroites. La cohabitation version 1993 ne ressemblera pas à celle de 1986. La victoire de la droite était alors beaucoup plus serrée.

Pour cette nouvelle cohabitation avec la droite, François Mitterrand n'entend renoncer à aucune de ses prérogatives. Au termes de la Constitution: "Le gouvernement détermine et conduit la politique de la nation (article 20). Le Président, quant à lui, est le "garant de l'indépendance nationale, de l'intégrité du territoire, du respect des accords de Communauté et des traités" (article 5). En outre, "il assume, par son arbitrage, le fonctionnement régulier des pouvoirs publics ainsi que la continuité de l'Etat".

Edouard Balladur probable futur premier ministre

La principale prérogative du Président est de désigner le nouveau premier ministre. Mais le gouvernement étant responsable devant l'Assemblée, il est contraint de nommer un premier ministre susceptible de re-

cueillir la confiance de la nouvelle majorité.

Pour ces élections, le RPR arrivant en tête, le choix du Président devrait se porter logiquement sur un membre de cette formation. Edouard Balladur, ministre de l'Economie et des Finances lors de la première cohabitation, est le nom le plus souvent cité.

Mais entre les deux tours, une rude polémique a éclaté entre le RPR et le Président. Jacques Chirac, leader du parti gaulliste, a appelé François Mitterrand à la démission "dans l'intérêt de la France". Le Président a alors menacé de ne pas nommer un RPR premier ministre, en raison de l'attitude de ce parti sur la question européenne. La controverse a pris une telle tournure qu'Edouard Balladur et le sénateur Charles Pasqua ont tous deux plaidé pour "éviter une crise politique inutile à la France".

Jacques Chirac sait qu'il ne peut pas forcer la Président de la République à la démission, mais il paraît déterminé à se poser comme l'élément moteur de la majorité dans la perspective des présidentielles de 1995. (avec AFP)

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BESTCON International extends best wishes to the people of Yemen, the leadership and government on Eid Al-Fitr Al-Mubarak and many happy returns.

ETHNOLOGIE

Une étudiante française chez les pêcheurs de Shihr

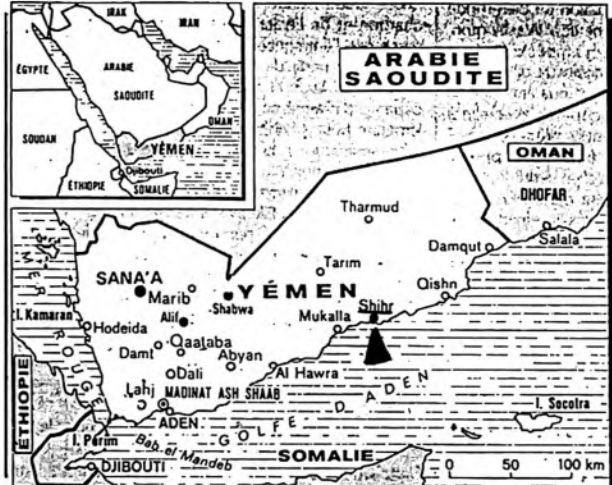
Sylvaine Camelin a passé quatre mois et demi parmi les pêcheurs de Shihr. Elle nous livre le résultat de ses observations.

A quelques kilomètres de Mukalla, Shihr a les yeux tournés vers la mer. C'est là que Sylvaine Camelin est venue observer la vie des pêcheurs de ce port de 30 000 habitants. Etudiante en maîtrise d'ethnologie à la faculté de Nanterre dans la région parisienne, elle a voulu aller "sur le terrain".

Une ville organisée par quartiers

Elle a débarqué au Yémen il y a quatre mois et demi avec un sujet de recherche en tête: Comment une communauté de pêcheurs se nourrit-elle? Comment prend-elle ses repas? Mais rapidement, elle s'est aperçue que son sujet ne tenait pas la route. "L'alimentation des habitants de Shihr n'a rien de particulier. Riz, poisson, bananes, voilà en gros leur menu de tous les jours", explique-t-elle.

Sylvaine Camelin s'est alors intéressée aux pêcheurs de Shihr, qui se disent les meilleurs du Yémen. Au-delà des techniques de pêche, elle a cherché à savoir comment ils étaient organisés. "Tous m'affirmaient qu'il n'y avait pas de hiérarchie



entre eux, qu'ils étaient tous égaux devant Dieu", explique Sylvaine. "Il y a trois semaines, certains ont commencé à parler, à me raconter des histoires".

L'Hadramaout friand de poissons

Elle découvre alors que la ville est organisée par quartiers. Chacun d'entre eux a ses

propres danses, ses saints particuliers. "Les relations inter-quartiers sont très réduites", précise Sylvaine. Par contre, chaque quartier est "jumelé" avec un village des alentours.

Les pêcheurs ont aussi organisé leur profession. Deux ans avant la Révolution, ils ont mis en place un système de coopératives pour se défendre contre les propriétaires de leurs bateaux. Chaque bateau avait son chef, un rabaan, généralement le pé-

cheur le plus âgé, celui qui connaissait le mieux la mer.

La Révolution n'a pas changé grand chose dans la vie des pêcheurs. Les bateaux ont été nationalisés. Les coopératives sont devenues des unités de production et le rabaan a été appelé chef d'une unité de production.

Les pêcheurs deviennent de plus en plus riches

A la même époque, les pêcheurs ont commencé à utiliser le moteur sur leurs bateaux. Leurs conditions de travail ont alors été bouleversées. Il y a trente ans en effet, ils partaient en mer sur des bateaux à voile. La pêche était aléatoire. Il arrivait parfois que les bateaux ne sortent pas pendant une saison entière.

A l'origine, les pêcheurs ne pêchaient que des sardines. Aujourd'hui, avec le moteur, ils peuvent suivre les bancs de thons et chasser le requin. Une partie de leur cargaison part vers le wadi Hadramaout, dont les habitants préfèrent le pois-

son à la viande. Vers midi, des camions attendent sur le port le retour des bateaux partis en mer au lever du jour. Ils sont prêts à partir vers le nord avec leur cargaison toute fraîche.

Depuis plusieurs années, les pêcheurs de Shihr se sont enrichis. Avec l'argent gagné, ils achètent de l'or et construisent des maisons. Ils ont aussi organisé une sorte de "caisse de sécurité sociale". Chaque bateau verse 3 % de son chiffre d'affaires à cette caisse qui vient en aide aux pêcheurs malades et aux plus âgés. Soixante pêcheurs à Shihr touchent actuellement une retraite de cette "caisse".

Quant aux femmes de pêcheurs, Sylvaine Camelin a pu les observer dans leur vie quotidienne. "Elles n'exercent aucune activité. Elles ne font pas d'artisanat, ni de couture et très peu de cuisine. Elles se rendent les unes chez les autres", explique-t-elle.

Sylvaine est repartie en France. Elle pense revenir l'année prochaine à Shihr pour approfondir ses recherches sur ce port de pêche.

J.B.

EN BREF

L'Iran veut déstabiliser l'Egypte, selon le Sunday Times : L'Iran aurait ordonné en février dernier aux organisations intégristes qu'il finance de renverser le gouvernement du président égyptien Hosni Mubarak, selon le journal britannique Sunday Times, citant un diplomate iranien. Le Sunday Times explique que les dignitaires religieux en Iran pensent que la chute du seul Etat arabe ayant fait la paix avec Israël conduirait à la chute des gouvernements laïcs dans les pays voisins. L'Egypte est en proie actuellement à une série d'attentats, tandis que les étrangers ont reçu des menaces.

Le CCG craint les projets occidentaux de taxes sur l'énergie : Le Conseil de Coopération du Golfe (CCG), (Arabie Saoudite, Koweït, Emirats, Qatar, Bahreïn et Oman) s'inquiète des projets occidentaux de taxe sur l'énergie. "Ces taxes peuvent affecter la stabilité du marché pétrolier", a déclaré le nouveau secrétaire général du CCG, Cheikh Fahem Ben Sultan al-Qassimi. Les Etats-Unis projettent en effet de prélever 3,5 dollars sur chaque baril de pétrole importé, alors que la Communauté européenne étudie l'imposition d'une taxe sur le pétrole dans le cadre de la lutte contre la pollution.

Rupture des relations diplomatiques entre l'Algérie et l'Iran : Le gouvernement algérien a annoncé samedi la rupture de ses relations diplomatiques avec l'Iran, dénonçant "l'ingérence de l'Iran dans les affaires intérieures de l'Algérie et son appui déclaré au terrorisme" islamiste en Algérie. Pendant longtemps, les deux pays ont entretenu des contacts étroits. Alger avait salué chaleureusement le retour d'exil de l'ayatollah Khomeiny et l'installation d'un régime islamiste à Téhéran. Les premiers signes de dégradation de ces relations sont apparus en juin 1991, après l'instauration de l'état de siège en Algérie pour mettre un coup d'arrêt à l'agitation islamiste.

La France lance le projet d'une chaîne câblée en arabe : A l'occasion du colloque "Audiovisuel et monde arabe", qui s'est déroulé le 13 mars dernier à Paris, le secrétaire d'Etat à la Francophonie et aux Relations culturelles extérieures, Catherine Tasca, a annoncé la mise en place par le gouvernement français d'une société d'étude chargée de réfléchir à la création d'une chaîne arabophone sur le câble français. Cette société d'étude a été confiée au président de CFI (Canal France International), Fouad Benhalla. Il devra trouver les bailleurs de fonds nécessaires à la réalisation de ce projet, auquel pourraient être associés les pays du Maghreb. Catherine Tasca a en effet insisté sur la notion de "réciprocité" avec les pays de l'espace Méditerranéen, du Liban au Maroc, dans le domaine de l'audiovisuel.

Mise à jour de thermes byzantins à Césarée : Des archéologues israéliens viennent de mettre à jour des thermes de l'époque byzantine en bon état de conservation à Césarée, sur la Méditerranée. Cet établissement serait l'un des plus beaux de Palestine. Le sol était couvert de mosaïques en pierre et en verre, représentant des plantes et des animaux. Elles ont été retrouvées intactes.

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Après 13 jours de tractations

Les Somaliens se réconcilient à Addis Abeba

Quatorze factions ont signé un accord pour un gouvernement transitoire et un désarmement général

La Somalie, ravagée par plus de deux années de guerre civile et de famine, veut croire à la paix. Réunis à Addis Abeba, la capitale de l'Ethiopie, les chefs de quatorze factions sont parvenus samedi dernier à un accord sur la formation d'un "Conseil national de transition" et d'un désarmement général.

Un accord signé sous la pression internationale

Il a fallu treize jours de laborieuses tractations pour jeter les bases d'une "nouvelle" Somalie. Composé de 74 membres, le Conseil national de transition (CNT) sera l'organe politique suprême du pays. L'accord prévoit la formation de 18 conseils régionaux, bénéficiant d'une large autonomie, avec notamment leur propre police, et la mise en place de conseils de districts. La transition devrait durer deux ans, pour aboutir à l'établissement d'un système fédéral.

Autre volet capital de l'accord, un désarmement général et simultané devra être effectif dans les 90 jours. Cette opération de désarmement con-

stituera l'une des tâches prioritaires de la future opération des Nations Unies, ONUSOM II, qui va prendre le relais de "Restore Hope" (Rendre l'espoir).

Cet accord prévoit aussi un rôle non négligeable pour les femmes somaliennes dans la future vie politique. Il stipule que le CNT comprendra trois représentants, dont une femme, de chacune des dix-huit régions.

"C'est un premier pas sur la voie de la réconciliation", a commenté, le principal chef de guerre, le général Aidid. Signé sous la pression internationale, l'accord d'Addis Abeba n'a cependant pas dissipé les doutes sur la volonté réelle des chefs de guerre de parvenir à un partage "pacifique" du pouvoir. La rivalité entre le camp du général Aidid et les autres factions subsiste.

D'autre part, le Mouvement national somalien (MNS), qui a proclamé l'indépendance du "Somaliland" (région du nord-ouest) en 1991, n'a pas signé l'accord. Il n'était présent à la conférence qu'en tant qu'observateur. (d'après AFP)

J.B.



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Undoing the Prejudice that Denied Credit to a Yemeni Novelist:

MOHAMMAD ABDULWALI: A SPECIAL YEMENI LITERARY MAN

By Munim Mohammed Al-Fatlawi, English Language Teacher.

Mohammad Ahmed Abdul Alwali is one of the most accomplished writers of modern Yemen. A native of Taiz and the son of a Yemeni immigrant, Mohammad was born in 1940 and died in a mysterious way. He is a novelist and short-story writer. He did his studies in Russia.

His outstanding literary products include: "Something named: A Sigh of Tenderness" "Our Uncle Saleh," "The Color of the Rain," and "Oh Salma, the Land."

He was very influenced by Russian writers such as Chekhov, Nikolai Gogol and others. But he reflected life in Yemen clearly in his work. In addition to social and cultural themes, he revealed the inner struggle of his people for political emancipation and their drive for prosperity and development. He once said, "We are torn between our aspirito catch up with the the last decades of twentieth century civilization and our backwardness."

The following is one of his short stories.

"I wish he didn't come." The sentence was repeated frequently as the lofty mountain almost echoed it. There were no men in the village except children and some old women. The men and most women were working in the fields. Sounds from the village were echoed by the sides of two gigantic mountains. In the valley, some men were holding a bier in which a man was standing like a ghost.

The village was overwhelmed by such gloomy rays of the sun. Wind blew and the land was thirsty and barren waiting for the rain but there was no sign of it. The sky was cloudless. It was another year of desolation and dryness. The old women were shaking their heads.

- I have never seen such damned years as these. -Our days were days of charity and goodness, and some women will wisper -Men had emigrated.

And they were coming back held on shoulders of other men not walking proudly. The bier was advancing at the sides of the mountain slowly. The sweat was descending from the faces of the men. Still, there were some voices heard.

"Do you hear the voice?"

One of the women said. Then, the mysterious syllables of voices were fading away in the air and the sweat of the men, who were walking in the funeral procession, was not irrigating the thirst of the land. But men and women kept and insisted on giving more and more from their sweat to

the dried land.

The mountain reflected the reverberation of the voices.

- Oh!...Oh!....

The house was closed and the children were with their mother on the dry land. They were three, a mother and two children who had been

exhausted by working in the field. She sat down to wipe the sweat which covered her forehead. The children were very thirsty so they drank water.

A voice struck their ears:

- "Did he come back?"

- "Oh, he is our father, they say that our father is on the way to the village," cried the children. Then, they ran as fast as they could to the mountain.

His wife collected and arqnged her few things and and returned home to meet her husband with a heart full of beatings of happiness. He had come back from a journey lasted for years. Those years, she no longer remembered. They were as long as an age of her youngest son who had run to the mountain to meet a father whom he has not known even his face. The children stared at the men who were coming near their home. Those men were swimming in their sweat. Then, the boys heard a sound of silent moaning coming from the bier.

"Who is our our father?" The same boy asked worriedly.

The oldest son was perplexed and puzzled. Even he did not remember his father's face well. That face had been away from him since the time when he had fallen down from one of the declivities of the mountain years ago. At that time his small brother had not been born yet. He was remaining at his mother's womb.

The men looked at the children silently. Some women gathered on the roofs of the houses of the village. At the same time, the breeze carried the voices of the women...

- "He had come back."

- "They say he is very ill."

-- "He is being held on a funeral.

- "The devil of the sea had hit him"

She was kindling the fire in the stove and preparing the coffee for her coming man with a heart full of eagerness. Suddenly she looked at herself in the broken mirror. She was afraid of something. She grew old without realizing that. Aray of smoke was rising above her house. She would prepare a worm and delicious dinner for her husband. So she went running to her closet and got a black bowl which he had kept under her wooden bed. That bowl was full

of clarified butter. She had deprived her children and herself from having anything from it. She had done that in order to give her husband a good meal. The

children were whispering:

- "Why is he being held on a bier?"

- "Because he is fired.." replied the oldest son.

The same time, voices of the men were heard at the stair.

- "Hold it from the back"

- "Don't make himshake".

Perhaps, they were carrying his things and gifts which he had brought with him. Then she heard a girl's voice at her back:

- "He is ill. He is being held on a bier".

She didn't feel that her hand was touchig the fire. Here eyes were gazing at the horrible scene and they froze and became motionless in the darkness. In her emotions, there was something boiling, something which was mysterious and fearful simultaneously that she did

not know it.

The voices of the men was still repeated at the dark stair:

- "Where do we put him?"

- "There, in the bedroom"

- "No.... no... it is better to put him in the hall"

- "Where is his wife?"

She was absent-minded. A strange feeling penetrated her. Is it really that he did not come back?... Is it really that what is happening there is something real? Every thing was absent and away from her, even the eyes of the requisite children.

The men came back to the village and the women were talking about the catastrophe of the village...

- "What's his wife going to do now?"

- "Perhaps she will take care of her ill husband."

- "They say that he doesn't have any money."

"The doctors made his run out of money."

Then an old woman whispered:

"A witch possessed him in that damned city."

The wife looked at the corner where her husband was stretched. His skin was brown and withered. He was just a remnant of bones, nothing else. He is not the man who used to embrace her with such affection. was not the man who was laying there.

The children stared at the stretched body. The youngest could not even comprehend the man lying there was his father. His father was in his imagination, the powerful giant about whom his mother used to sing.

Perhaps the men had made

a mistake and brought another man. But the mother was silent. She didn't speak. She was just staring at the body. Maybe she didn't know the truth.

- "Mother.... he... is...not.."

- "Water... I want ... water ...water... wa.."

The mother ran to the jar quickly and the children came closer to the body. The eyes were closed.

The wife talked to every religious man. She gave a sacrifice for every sayed (a holy man.) and she paid money to every reader of Holy Quran. She gave alms to the poor. She tried every thing but all was in vain.

Her husband remained ill. He wasn't moving and he couldn't do anything. His eyes and head were fixed at the ceiling, but he didn't die, and he would't die.

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HAPPY ANNIVERSARY ARAB LEAGUE

Yemen Times Special

Last week, the Arab League of Arab States celebrated its 48th anniversary. Forty eight years ago last week, the heads of states and governments of Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Iraq, Transjordan, Syria, Yemen and Lebanon put their signatures to the charter that created the Arab League.

The League is a voluntary association of Arab states which had been "dis-membered by European colonialism." The formation of the League was received with ecstasy throughout the Arab World, even in those countries which were colonies at the time.

Since then, all Arab countries except Palestine have rid themselves of colonial rule, and they joined the League. Other Arab countries joined the Arab League as soon as they gained independence: Libya (1953) Sudan (1956), Tunisia and Morocco (1958) Kuwait (1961) Algeria (1962) the UAE, Qatar, Bahrain and Oman (1971) Mauritania and Somalia (1974) and Djibouti (1977). The PLO was admitted as an observer in 1965 and was given full membership in 1976. Today the organization has a membership of 20 states.

The league has grown in these 48 years, but is it stronger? Some analysts never cease to remind us that the League has not lived up to the great expectations and hopes it had raised at its birth.

Although this is partially true, it would be a harsh judgement. One should not forget that although colonial powers did withdraw, colonial and neo-colonial interests persisted in the area. The strategic importance of the region and its oil and other resources, have mad them conspire to divide the Arabs. The cancerous presence of Israel in the Arab body has caused further damage. True the cause of Palestine is a great unifying force, but its solution has divided the lot. Since unanimity is the



governing rule, any one member can veto the combined wisdom of the majority. One should also not forget the important work done by the league in non-political matters. The General Secretariat has nine departments, and many of them have worked quietly and without any fanfare. But the greatest importance of the league is that it has provided the Arab states with a feeling of Arab unity and gave a structure under which to work for that objective. It may have its defects, but it is a valuable instrument, which should be improved and put to better use. After all an organization is what its members make it. It is then for the member states to make the Arab League a medium of joint effort and active collaboration.

Since the seven founders signed the charter on March 22, 1945, the meaning of Arabness and Arab unity has seen much transformation. The League was the culmination and manifestation of a long felt desire for unity and voluntary association among Arab states.

The League has served the purpose of strengthening relations among Arab states, safeguarding their independence and sovereignty and to co-ordinating their policies. in certain areas of inter-Arab co-operation such as economic and financial affairs (commerce, customs, currency, industry and agriculture); communications (railway, roads, aviation, navigation); telegraphic and postal services, etc.

NOTICE

DRILLING CONTRACTOR INTERNATIONAL PREQUALIFICATION

The National Water and Sanitation Authority (NWSA), in the Republic of Yemen, has obtained a credit from the Government of the Netherlands' Directorate General for Development Cooperation which shall be used for drilling of two deep water wells as part of the third phase of the Sources for Sana'a Water Supply Project.

The boreholes shall be located some 45 km north of Sanaa and drilled to a depth of approximately 2000 meters. NWSA intends to execute one turn-key contract whereby the Contractor shall be responsible for the drilling, testing and completion as well as the supply of all necessary labor, materials, equipment and related services. International Competitive Bidding (ICB) procedures with prequalification of bidders, shall be followed. for the award of the Contract.

All firms interested in bidding for this Contract may obtain Prequalification Questionnaires, free of charge, as of April 1st, 1993, by application to:

The Chairman NWSA P.O.Box 104 Al-Thawrah St/Amran Road Sanaa, Republic of Yemen Fax: +967/1/251536 Telex: YE 2346 NWSA	or to	TNO Institute of Applied Geoscience Attn: Mr. J.P. Heederick, P. O. Box 6012 2600 JA DELFT The Netherlands Fax: +31/15/564800 Telex: 38071 ZPTNO NL
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Prequalification applications must be submitted on 13th May, 1993, at the latest.

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Book Review: UROLOGY

Editor - Dr. H.M. Alkaff
Publisher - Alfajr

Medical textbooks are always welcome when published in the Arab World. Such contributions reduce our dependence on foreign publications and reduce the costs to our medical students. Dr. Alkaff's textbook on Urology is a welcome effort. The textbook is in 440 pages, medium sized publication, and covers the surgical aspects of Urology. The text is made up of 14 chapters covering General Urology in the first chapter, and then dealing in chapters with

each anatomical region of the urinary tract e.g. kidneys, urelets, prostate, etc. Each chapter deals with anatomy, physiology, embryology and pathological and diseases of each of the regions. The editor has succeeded in covering the major topics of urology in a simple and easily understood language. Each chapter has a reasonable number illustrations, but their quality requires improvement in future editions of the book. The editor has adopted the integrated approach to understanding the function, structure and disease of the urinary

tract, which is very helpful for medical students. Yet, I feel the lack of nephrologic diseases reduces the value of the book if integration was a real objective of the editor. In spite of minor linguistic and presentation methodology defects, I feel that Dr. Alkaff should be congratulated on his effort and I recommend his textbook to both medical students and practising urologists. I certainly hope that his effort will encourage others to do the same.

By: **Dr. A. Qirbi.**
Faculty of Medicine,
Sanaa University.

IMPORTANT Numbers

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------|
| Emergency Police | 199 |
| Accident (Traffic) | 194 |
| Fire Brigade | 191 |
| Water Problems | 171 |
| Electricity Problems | 177 |
| Telephone Enquiries | 118 |
| Aljumphury Hospital | 202192/3 |
| Athawra Hospital | 246970/9 |
| Kuwait Hospital | 203282/4 |
| Red Crescent | 203131/3 |
| Central Bank | 274371/3 |
| YBRD | 271623/4 |
| National Bank | 275373 |
| Bank Indosuez | 272801/3 |
| Arab Bank Ltd. | 240921-29 |
| Int'l Bank of Yemen | 272920/3 |
| United Bank Ltd | 272424 |
- Government Ministries:**
- | | |
|-------------------|-----------|
| Foreign Affairs | 202544/7 |
| Interior Affairs | 252701/7 |
| Immigration | 250761/3 |
| Tourism | 271970/2 |
| Inter-City Bus Co | 262111/3 |
| TV Station | 250001/03 |
| Radio Station | 200060/61 |
- Insurance Companies:**
- | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
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| Marib Insurance | 206112/14 |
| Yemen General Insurance Co. | 265191 |

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Algeria	209688/89	Turkey	241395
Bulgaria	217244	U.A.E	248777/78
China	275337	U.K.	215630/33
Cuba	217304	U.S.A.	238842/52
Czechoslovakia	247946	Vietnam	216998
Djibouti	265469	Austrian Hon Consulate	
Egypt	275948	Canadian Hon Consulate	208814
Ethiopia	208833	Danish Trade Office	243433
France	275995	Greek Hon Consulate	272218
Germany	216756/757	Swedish Consulate	207595
Hungary	216679		
India	241980	ADEN	
Indonesia	217388	Czechoslovakia	232101
Iran	206945/948	China	232604/30
Iraq	216681/790	Ethiopia (Commercial)	231335
Italy	73409/78849	France	223129/090
Indonesia	217388	Germany	232162/
Japan	207356/208753	O11	
Jordan	216701	India	233131
Korea (Dem)	232340	Iran	231893/361
Korea (Rep)	245959/60	Italy	232586/88
Kuwait	216317/319	Japan	232081/233282
Lebnon	203959	Palestine	232717/340
Libya	208815/6	Russian (FR)	232729/32625
Mauritania	206770	Saudi Arabia	232760/32526
Morrocco	207964	Somalia	241421/101
Netherlands	215626/7/8	U.K.	232711/12/13.
Oman	208933/4		
Pakistan	248813/14	COURIERS	
Palistine	217306/348	Aramex	208887
Poland	248362	DHL	248017-249878
Qatar	217488	Life Express	205696
Romania	215579	Skypack	77310
Russia (FR)	78272/203142	American Express	272435/6
Saudi Arabia	240429/30		
Somalia	208864		
Sudan	265231/2		

LESSON #38
Adjectives from place names

PRETEST Fill in the blanks with the correct adjective for the place names.

1. A person from Italy is _____.
2. A person from Japan is _____.
3. A person from Ethiopia is _____.
4. A person from Syria is _____.
5. A person from Vietnam is _____.
6. A person from Germany is _____.
7. A person from America is _____.
8. A person from Canada is _____.
9. A person from Jordan is _____.
10. A person from Mexico is _____.

Some time ago a reader wrote in concerning the use of the three adjectives used to describe people, ideas and things from the area known as Arabia. **Arab** is generally used as a noun to refer to a person who is or historically was from Arabia, but you will hear it used as an adjective (the Arab world). **Arabic** can be used as an adjective to describe things or ideas from Arabia, but most frequently it is used as a noun, meaning the language of the people of Arabia. **Arabian** can be used as a noun to mean an Arab (person), but is frequently used as a general adjective to describe things related to Arabia (the Arabian peninsula, an Arabian horse).

The reader's comment gave rise to this week's lesson, how to make adjectives from names of places in English. Rules regarding these structures are, as most rules in English, not always reliable, so I will present these as "patterns" instead.

Pattern 1: -an, -ian

This is the most frequently used suffix to make adjectives from place names. Usually it is added to names which end with a vowel:

- | | | |
|----------------------|------------------|----------------------|
| Austria.....Austrian | India.....Indian | America.....American |
| Chile.....Chilean | Syria.....Syrian | Kenya.....Kenyan |

If the place ends with an o, the o becomes an a: Mexico.....Mexican

If the place ends with a y, the y becomes an i, and -an is added:
Italy.....Italian Hungary.....Hungarian

EXCEPTION: Germany.....German (no ending)

Some places take the -ian ending even though the name ends with a vowel other than y:
Argentina.....Argentinian Canada.....Canadian Palestine.....Palestinian

Some places take the -ian ending even though the name doesn't end with a vowel at all:
Egypt.....Egyptian Brazil.....Brazilian Iran.....Iranian Jordan.....Jordanian

Practice A Give the adjectives for these places:

- | | |
|------------------|----------------------|
| 1. Russia _____ | 11. Tunisia _____ |
| 2. Asia _____ | 12. Italy _____ |
| 3. Somalia _____ | 13. Bulgaria _____ |
| 4. Brazil _____ | 14. Tanzania _____ |
| 5. Africa _____ | 15. Costa Rica _____ |
| 6. Mexico _____ | 16. India _____ |
| 7. Algeria _____ | 17. Australia _____ |
| 8. Korea _____ | 18. Morocco _____ |
| 9. Egypt _____ | 19. Chile _____ |
| 10. Canada _____ | 20. Colombia _____ |

Pattern 2: -ese

This suffix is the one that is often used to create words referring to languages. "Legalese" refers to the language used in law. With place names, it is often used to make adjectives from place names which end with consonants:
Taiwan.....Taiwanese Portugal.....Portuguese Vietnam.....Vietnamese

Two exceptions to these patterns:
China becomes Chinese, not Chinan or Chinian
Burma becomes Burmese, not Burman or Burmian

Practice B Read the following sentences.

Give the adjectives for these places:

1. Portugal _____
2. China _____
3. Taiwan _____
4. Nepal _____
5. Bhutan _____

WEEKLY IDIOM

It's Greek to me!
This phrase means the speaker doesn't understand anything that has been said.

Saleh: What did you think of the professor's lecture today?
Ali: I don't know.
It was Greek to me!

This idiom is particularly obnoxious when actually studying Greek!!



- ANSWERS** Pretest 1. Italian 2. Japanese 3. Ethi-
opian 4. Syrian 5. Vietnamese 6. German 7.
American 8. Canadian 9. Jordanian 10. Mexican
Practice A 1. Russian 2. Asian 3. Somalian 4.
Brazilian 5. African 6. Mexican 7. Algerian 8. Ko-
rean 9. Egyptian 10. Canadian 11. Tunisian 12.
Italian 13. Bulgarian 14. Tanzanian 15. Costa Ri-
can 16. Indian 17. Australian 18. Moroccan 19.
Chilean 20. Colombian. Practice B 1. Portuguese
2. Chinese 3. Taiwanese 4. Bhutanese 5. Nepalase

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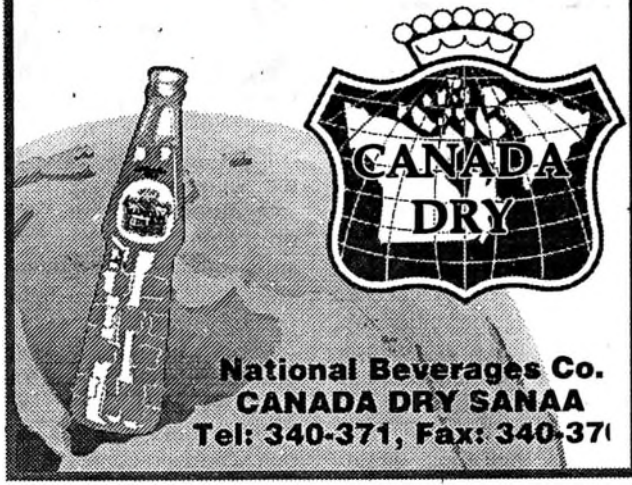
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• Analysis •

Having Carried an American Message to President Saleh.

Occidental Chairman Describes Yemeni-American Relations as Substantially Improved

"I have conveyed a message from the US State Department to President Ali Abdullah Saleh concerning bilateral relations and cooperation," said Dr. Ray Irani, Chairman of Canadian Occidental and Occidental Petroleum. In an exclusive interview with the Yemen Times at the end of his three-day visit at the head of a large delegation of oil men and other businessmen, Dr. Irani said that relations between Yemen and the US have substantially improved recently. "Yemen has done two important things which have helped improve the bilateral relations: a- It is carrying out a democratization effort, one visible aspect of which are the elections.

b- It has allowed the Yemeni Jews who want to immigrate to do so. The only snag in the bilateral relations is the fallout of the Gulf Crisis, which, in my mind, is surmountable," he said. Dr. Irani, who met with US President Clinton before his trip to Yemen is working hard to overcome any misunderstanding between Yemen and US. "I am certain Yemen today receives the full support of the US administration, and things are headed for visible improvements," he said. Speaking about progress of the exploration and development of the Maseela oil in Hadhramaut, the Occidental / Canadian Oxy Chairman stated that some 80% of the main



work is completed, and come September, the whole project will be operational. "We are confident we will pump a minimum of 120,000 bpd from Maseela by the next anniversary of the September Revolution," he added. He plans to be here for the occasion.

"We are working at three fronts. First, we are pushing the exploration efforts in the whole block. Then, we are completing the infrastructure to get the oil out by September. Third, we are promoting marketing efforts to export the oil once it is produced," Dr. Irani said.

He disclosed that his company is studying picking up an additional block. He also indicated that the Occidental exploration at its Al-Uqla concession in Shabwah has also shown oil deposits. "We plan to drill another exploratory well by the summer, and another one before the end of the year," he said. Dr. Irani stressed his company's policy of fitting well with the local environment and community by interacting positively. "Towards that end, our company has made a \$100,000 donation to Aden governorate, and another \$50,000 to its employees who were affected by the recent floods." Speaking about the investment climate in Yemen, Dr. Irani said that

his visit at the head of a large delegation is already an indicator. "We have come with our wives, which shows our confidence in the security situation in Yemen," he added. "Of course, something has to be done about the small incidents here and there, such as car hijacking, as I have read in the Yemen Times, but the over-all situation is not bad." The Canadian Occidental and Occidental Petroleum Chairman had a lot of praise for the Yemeni leadership for achieving peaceful reunification of the country, and for embarking on a democratic path. "Yemen has to be commended and supported for its vision and courage," he concluded.

بمناسبة عيد الفطر المبارك

يتقدم الشيخ سعيد محمد الزكري
بأطيب التهاني والتبريكات للرئيس ونائبه
وللسبب اليمني وحكومته وكل عام والجميع بخير

SHEIKH SAEED M. AL-ZIKRI

presents his best wishes
to the President, Vice President
the Yemeni people and government
on Eid Al-Fitr Al-Mubarak