



YEMEN TIMES

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MOMR & CHEVRON: Squabbling over Cars

Chevron International (Yemen) Limited is wrapping up. The company and its partner - Agip, decided to pack up and leave. Other oil companies such as Exxon, British Petroleum, Shell, etc., have also left the country.

Chevron's first phase of exploration at Block 3 (Shabwah) expired on August 27, 1995, with an extension request for six months. The early results have not been encouraging, although the company continues to study the data. But the funny development to all of this is that the Ministry of Oil and Mineral Resources (MOMR) has objected to the company selling two of its cars to its employees. Three months of correspondence between the company and the Ministry has resulted in a deadlock. The Ministry insists it wants to buy the cars, and the company says it wants to sell the cars to its employees as a reward for their hard work.

Several articles in the PSA require the company to obtain the Ministry's permission to process the sale, although the articles do give the company the right to sell its assets to whoever it wishes. Both sides seem to have part of the law on their side.

Article 12.6, for examples reads:

12.6 New materials, equipment and goods, or used but serviceable materials, equipment and goods that are surplus to the petroleum operations under this Agreement may be sold outside the ROY after the MINISTRY's approval following exportation or may be sold within the ROY provided that for any sale in the ROY the purchaser shall pay applicable Customs Duties, taxes or imposts, if any, except if sold to MINISTRY or one of its Dependent Units or, with MINISTRY's approval to other Companies enjoying substantially the same customs exemption as CONTRACTOR.

The Chevron officials are upset with the attitude of the Ministry. They contend that as no recovery costs have been made, title to the assets remains 100% with the company. The company officials have now written to the Vice Prime Minister and Minister of Oil and Mineral Resources directly asking him to intervene on their behalf.

CONTRADICTORY DEMANDS ON CHINA

The Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing brought into focus the contradicting demands on China. On the one hand, China which has 20% of the 5.7 billion world population, is asked to do something about its population growth. China has implemented a drastic program which has generated criticism worldwide, most recently from Hillary Clinton. China maintains a strict one couple, one child policy to limit population growth. In a society that prefers sons to daughters, this policy has resulted in beastly behavior, including murdering newly-born females. Whatever the issue, China feels cornered and that its approach is being criticized on political grounds.

China insists that it is against promoting "induced abortion" as a means of family planning. Unfortunately, birth control methods are not available to most Chinese women. Even Beijing has come under fire. The American first lady declared in her address to the conference on Tuesday that it was "time to break the silence," about the abuse of

women. Although she did not mention China by name, Mrs. Clinton was clearly speaking about China when she said: "It is a violation of humans rights when women are denied the right to plan their own families and that includes being forced to have abortions or being sterilized against their will."

In contrast, there were some speakers who indirectly defended the Beijing approach. "The world is adding another Mexico to the planet every year, another China every 10 years. All the problems we are trying to address: the environment, crime, hunger, and housing, are all related to population," said Sharon Pickett, spokeswoman for the group Zero Population Growth. Other groups also call for drastic measures to control the population explosion. The trick is to introduce measures which have effective and immediate impact, while at the same time protecting the human rights of women. After all, that is part of the search in which the conference is engaged.

Preparations for the UN/UNESCO Arab Region Media Conference to Be Held in Sanaa

Mr. Alain Modoux, Director of Communication Division at UNESCO, issued invitations to all country representatives and other key individuals to a meeting in Paris on September 20th. This meeting will be the third for the Consultative Committee in preparation for the UN/UNESCO Arab Region's Media Conference under the theme "Independent and Pluralist Media". The gathering is slated for 6-11 January, 1996, in Sanaa.

Mr. Mahboub Ali, Regional Director for Arab Countries at the International Organization for Journalists (IOJ), told the Yemen Times that this meeting is going to be critical since it will select participants, determine the final shape of the arrangements, and review progress on the background papers. "The number of delegates coming to the conference is still not final, but it will be a large group, and all Arab countries will be represented," the IOJ official said.

Mr. Modoux has also invited Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf, Chief Editor of the Yemen Times to make a presentation on the state of independent media in Yemen at this juncture, and to share ideas as to how freedom of the press in Yemen can be bolstered.

The Republic of Yemen was chosen as the site of the conference in appreciation of its efforts to nurture freedom of the press. "Holding the conference in Sanaa comes as a feather in the cap of the Yemeni authorities as it offers world recognition for their policies in this regard. It would be a real pity if freedom of the press in Yemen deteriorated from now until January when the conference will be convened," Mr. Mahboub indicated.

Over the last few months, there has been an increasing tendency to clamp down on independent journalists and newspapers by direct and indirect measures. These will be discussed at the conference itself.

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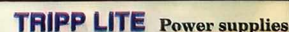
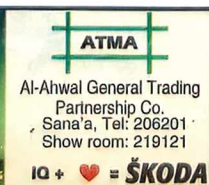
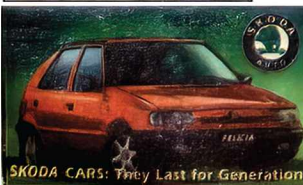
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OUR VIEWPOINT

Opposition Parties' Empty Talk

In any democracy or democratizing society, there are inevitably two sides - those who rule, and those who are in the opposition. It is natural for the opposition to seek to discredit the rulers in order to replace them. But that effort is governed by the law, and by various norms and standards. By the same token, those who rule seek to show that society is better off with them at the helm, rather than with the opposition. In this process, those in charge may exceed the appropriate limits.

I have discussed at length the many excesses of the rulers. But I have addressed the behavior and attitude of the opposition only a few times.

I would like to indulge once more here in the "wrecking the boat" policy of the opposition politicians and their illogical associations with dictators abroad while denouncing the leadership at home. I have heard many an observer who speak freely about the immature and illogical association of Yemeni political parties with some of the worst dictatorships in the world, while clamoring about democracy and human rights in Yemen. I am not saying we should not promote such values at home, but we cannot do that while supporting dictators somewhere else.

I can point to many opposition newspapers which hail some of the worst dictators in the Arab World, and on the same page, shed tears about this or that violation of human and political rights in Yemen.

There is another problem with the opposition parties. They shout for institution-building, while every one of these parties revolves around one or just a few individuals. Name any one of the parties and you will find that one individual - or a few at most - control all aspects of the party. Therefore, much of the talk and demand of the opposition that the rulers install some kind of institution in the system becomes empty talk.

As a result, the opposition parties have failed to attract the sympathy of the general public. Even worse, they are not seen as a viable alternative to the ruling parties. That is unfortunate for Yemen's democratization process.

Even foreign institutes and organizations which are interested in lending a helping hand to the country's political transformation are at a loss, in their efforts to prop up the opposition. As one ambassador once noted, "There isn't much to prop up."

The opposition parties and politicians need to provide the citizens of Yemen with a role model. If they cannot do that, then it is very hard to understand why and how they are better than those who are in charge. Otherwise how can one justify the change in parties or individuals?

In my opinion, it is up to the opposition politicians to shape up and offer real vision and hard work. They should not simply criticize the ruling politicians for everything!

The Publisher


New Converts to Islam

Eight males and three females - all of them from Ethiopia, converted to Islam last week. According to the Aden Department of the Endowments and Religious Guidance, these individuals have been living in Yemen for some time, and they have had a chance to study Islamic teachings. They have been given new names and identities.

Given below are their new and old names:
 Mr. Abdullah Bin Abdullah (Mesfin Bekella);
 Mr. Dawood Abdullah (Dawood Rattaborna);
 Mr. Ahmed Abdullah (Daniel Dawo-hikassa);
 Mr. Sulaiman Abdullah (Solomon Gabre Sadek Abraha);
 Mr. Abdul-Rahman Abdullah (Menbera Folka Mamo);
 Mr. Mohammed Abdullah (Gannat Gabre Sellasie);
 Mr. Mahmood Abdullah (Tesfahen Gabre Sellasie);
 Mr. Mustafa Abdullah (Alamayo Kafisa);
 Ms. Sa'adah Mohammed Abdo (Fattay Zamany);
 Ms. Fatmah Abdullah (Safrash Taddessa);
 Ms. Maryam Abdullah (Ma'azza Haile Mariam).

Ministry of Social Affairs Brings in NGOs to Prepare Plan

For the first time ever, the Minister of Social Affairs is preparing the sector plan for the 1996-2000 Development Plan in collaboration with Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs). "I have asked you to come here today to discuss with you your plans for the next five years, and to incorporate that in the Ministry's plan for this sector," said Mr. Ali Saleh Abdullah, Deputy Minister. He has invited a dozen heads of NGOs to present their ideas for consideration.

Many NGOs do not have such plans, but they promised to discuss the possibilities and get back to him in two weeks.

If this experiment succeeds, it will be the first time ever that the government will base even part of its plans on a grass roots level of participation.

Norwegian Writers' Delegation in Yemen

A four-person Norwegian delegation arrived in Sanaa yesterday, September 10th. The group will stay for ten days during which time they hope to meet a number of officials, writers, poets and journalists.

The group also plans to travel to Taiz where they plan to speak to Mr. Mansoor Rajih, the poet who has been in prison since 1982.



An Independent Economic & Political Weekly



Yemen Times Contact Address:
 Telephones: + 967 (1) 268-661/2
 Facsimile: + 967 (1) 268-663
 Advertisements/Classifieds: 268-276
 Post Office Box: 2579,
 Sanaa, Republic of Yemen

Editor-in-Chief & Publisher:
Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf

Sanaa Bureau Chief: Ismail Al-Ghabri,
 Phone/Fax: + 967 (1) 268-259
 Aden Bureau Chief: Shaher Musa'abain,
 Phone/Fax: + 967 (2) 345-653
 Taiz Bureau Chief: Abdul-Qader Mughalhes
 Phone/Fax: + 967 (4) 231-590

UK Bureau Chief: Mohamed Abdulhamid Abdulrahman
 Address: 11 Park Centre, Unit G11, Kilburn Park Road,
 London NW6 5LF, UK.
 Phone: + 44 (171) 625-8065; Fax: + 44 (171) 625-8064

Ethiopia Bureau Chief: Ms. Atrah Mohammed
 Address: P. O. Box 530, Addis Ababa;
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Back to School

The primary, preparatory and secondary schools of the Republic opened again last week. Some 12,000 schools, 130,000 teachers and 2.5 million students are back to work. According to observers, the parents are happy with the smooth re-opening of the schools. Unfortunately, the cost of going 'back to school' is taxing many Yemeni families.

Trial of MP Continues

The second session of the trial of Member of Parliament Mohamed Naji Saeed in Dhala' city was held on Wednesday, September 6th. In this session, the defence lawyers presented their case. In the next session, the witnesses will be brought to give their testimonies.



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THURSDAY, 5 OCTOBER 1995
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Motahar Al-Wazir:

“A NEW OPEL MARKETING DRIVE IN YEMEN”

As you walk or drive by the main sheet intersections in Sana'a, you can't miss the new police cars parked on the side. They are OPEL cars bought by the police department to control streets. But this large police purchase also signals a major new offensive by the Yemen manufacture to recapture a larger share of the Yemeni market, which is now dominated by Japanese manufactures.

One aspect of the marketing drive has been for OPEL to invite "Yemen's two most influential newspapers" - Al-Thawrah and Yemen Times - to the 'Opel Vectra Press Launch' and the 'Frankfurt Motor Show Press Days' in Frankfurt. The Opel people offered test drives of their new beauty and presented its many accessories and facilities, and explained in detail the technical features of the car. The agents of Opel in Yemen, YEMEN-EUROPEAN CAR LID. COMPANY. Yemen Times interviewed Mr. Mutahar Abdullah Al-Wazir, General - Manger of the company.

Excerpts:

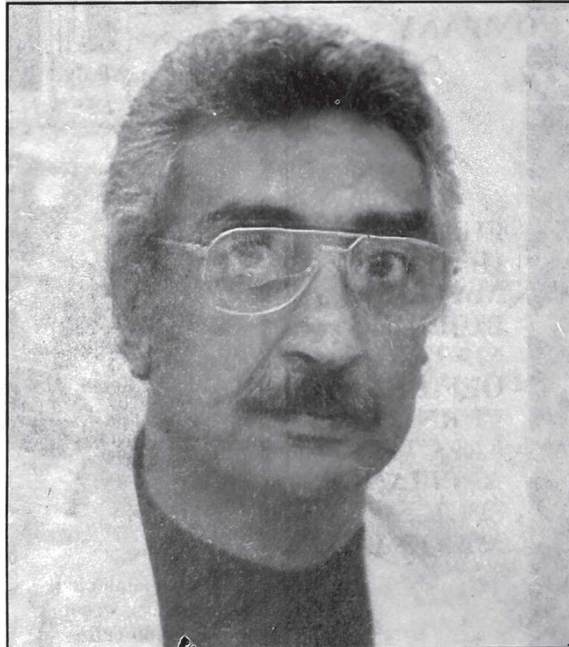
Q: Opel cars have been associated with Yemen for a long time. Now, you are re-introducing this car. Could you share some information on this with our readers?

A: As you rightly noted, Opel cars have been famous in Yemen. In fact, there are many songs in our folklore that mention

this car. The main reason is that the producing company, which is over a hundred year old, is a strong and credible company.

We feel that Opel cars have a market in Yemen. They are strong, fuel-efficient, and agree with the Yemeni consumer. They are called good inexpensive cars.

So, since 1993, we have



re-introduced this car to the Yemeni market.

Q: How has been the response?

A: We are very happy with the response. The sale volume is increasing rapidly as buyers appreciate the quality of the

car, its reasonable price, and excellent after-sale service.

Q: Can you describe what after sale-service?

A: We have an excellent maintenance and repair workshop, abundant supply of spare parts, and all other needs.

Q: You have sold Opel cars to the police department? **Yemeni market seems to favor Opel and the proof is through increased sales.**

A: Yes. These are specially equipped for police use as they have radio, sirens, loud-speakers, etc. They are effective for traffic control, pursuit, etc.

We hope the government agencies and officials will change from the present big cars which are gas guzzlers to more fuel-efficient cars that also take less street and parking space.

Q: As a businessman, how do you see the economic circumstances?

A: Of course, we have shouldered big burdens from the past. The under development the civil war, and the political confusion have all left a heavy price. But, I feel we can handle it. I think we have the resources and abilities to succeed in surmounting the current difficulties.

Q: Do you think the present economic reforms will do the job?

A: The reforms are badly needed, and they are a step in the right direction. We will need to stay on the path of reforms until the end.

Q: Any last comments.

A: Economic recovery is a long and taxing process. It will require the cooperation of all of us to make it succeed. I call on all to lend a helping hand.

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Mr. Murase:

"Japan's annual grant aid is \$30-40m."

Mr. Mitsuru Murase, Counsellor at the Japanese Embassy in Sanaa, prepares to leave Sanaa in the next few days. He formally joined the embassy on 15th April, 1992. On this occasion, Mr. Ismail Al-Ghabri, Yemen Times Sanaa Bureau Chief interviewed him. Excerpts:

Q: How long have you been here?

A: I have stayed here for about 3 years and six months. I enjoyed a very fruitful and friendly relationship with Yemeni officials, and people in general, as well as with my colleagues in the diplomatic community.

Q: How do you see Yemen/ Japanese relations?

A: It gives me great pleasure to say that Japanese and Yemeni relationships are very good, and they have recently greatly improved. There is considerable cooperation in many fields, such as economics, trade, health, etc. The potential for more growth in the bilateral relationship in the future is very good.

Q: Japan is one of the key aid partners to Yemen. Could you give us details of Japanese assistance?

A: Yes, the Japanese government extends grant aid assistance to the Republic of Yemen. Although our aid disbursement is based on projects and not on a yearly allocation basis, from past experience we can say that Japan provides 30 to 40 million dollars annually. We hope that this cooperation will continue in the future.

Unfortunately, due to the civil war in Yemen the Japanese government temporarily suspended its economic aid, but that has now been fully resumed.

Some of the main projects financed by Japan include the nationwide tuberculosis centers, municipal equipment in the large cities, especially Sanaa and Aden, TV transmission equipment, etc.

Q: What has been the total volume of Japanese aid to Yemen?

A: I don't have the figure on the top of my head. The value of Japanese aid to Yemen is different from year to year depending on the availability of projects agreed for financing. But as I said earlier, generally speaking we extend annually from 30 to

40 million dollars. This figure is mainly given on a grant aid basis.

Q: What are the procedures in project selection?

A: According to Japanese assistance procedures, we receive a project profile along with an official request for financing. We study the project and if it meets certain development criteria, we go ahead with it.

Q: The world is moving towards direct interaction with non-government organizations and grass-roots level voluntary associations. Is Japan also moving in that direction?

A: Yes. We have many resources that can be tapped by these NGOs. One main area is in the small-scale embassy projects.

Q: Are you satisfied with Yemen's interaction and cooperation?

A: Yes, I found much cooperation from the Yemeni government which allowed us to succeed in our joint efforts.

I can't say the Japanese government will increase its assistance dramatically in the future, but I hope new efforts and understanding will improve the countries relationship step by step. Part of those efforts may also depend on the re-organization effort of the Yemeni government itself.

Q: How important are human rights and political democracy in Japan's aid policy?

A: Both the government and the people of Japan believe in helping to solve the problems of the world. Towards that end, Japan gives generously to many countries, to the extent that it is today the largest aid donor in the world. But a part of solving the world's problems is to have viable and good systems of government. Human rights, market economics, a pluralist political system, freedom of the press, etc., are all a part of good government.

Q: What is the impression with which you are leaving Yemen?

A: I spent a good time in Yemen, and have had



good ties with many people. I will continue to remember the many friends I have. I hope one day to be able to visit, especially since my new post is in Bahrain, which is not very far away.

Yemen has a lot of potential, but it has to manage its affairs in a better way. Its efforts should also consolidate the democratization and free market economics.

I am certain, if Yemen continues on its present course, that it will be in good standing as it faces the turn of the century.

Q: Any last comments?

A: I realize Yemen is now facing very difficult times in the economic, social, political, security, and other domains. I hope these are only teething problems which will quickly be soothed while building a modern Yemen.

Good relations with the world are vital, and Yemen has already overcome many of its problems with its neighbors.

Relations with Japan will hopefully continue to improve. My successor, Mr. Ishida has already arrived and he is busy getting on with the job.

Yemen & Sweden: Immigration Problem

Two police-persons (Mr. Berdstrom and Mrs. Martinsson) have been lounging around at the Sheraton Sanaa Hotel for over one month now. Since their arrival here on August 5th, they have been asked by the Yemeni immigration office to remain in Yemen or else to take back the four Iraqis they brought into the country with them.

The story started when four Iraqis, one of them a Sanaa

University professor, attempted to obtain asylum in Sweden. His plan was this:

Step 1:

- a) Get Yemeni passports, which is easy to do.
- b) Get forged Swedish visas.
- c) Get a ticket from Sanaa to Khartoum to Paris to Stockholm.

Step 2:

- a) Fly to Khartoum on their Iraqi passports.
- b) Fly there after with "their" Yemeni passports.
- c) The SAS people at Paris Airport see the Yemeni passports with the visas and allow them to fly to Stockholm.

Step 3:

- a) As soon as they board the plane, they tear up their Yemeni and other documents and flush them down the toilet.
- b) Apply for asylum at the airport.

The Swedish authorities refused to allow them to enter, and they were able to track down the flight route of the four men. They were able to determine that the original boarding point was Sanaa. In accordance with the Chicago convention, the four were flown back along with two police escorts to Sanaa. The families and other relatives of the four are also still in Sanaa.

However, the Yemeni authorities indicated that these individuals left Yemen voluntarily. They do not have any documents, and they are thus not obliged to take them in. They insisted that the Swedes take back their companions. Otherwise, they must stay with them.

The Swedish non-Resident Ambassador has spent the last few days trying to work a way out of this problem. "This is not really a big problem and I do not want to blow it out of proportion, but it does need to be resolved." The ambassador also indicated that there were four previous cases of people boarding from Sanaa and landing in Sweden and they were returned without complications. He was keen to project his eagerness and willingness to promote good relations with Yemen.

Meanwhile, the Swedish police are still at the Sheraton, while the Iraqis are in police custody.

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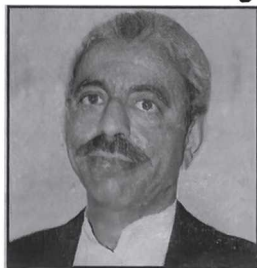
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Common Sense

By: Hassan Al-Haifi

The Mercantile Establishment



Many complaints about the problems confronting the nation are aired through our remaining regulatory channels. Most of these complaints are pointed at the government and their rules. While the primary responsibility remains with the government for determining the best course for the nation to achieve the goals it has set for itself, the country's other centers of power must also bear an important share of that responsibility. They must make sure that their interests do not collide with the overall interests of the nation.

In the Republic of Yemen, the merchant class, or the mercantile establishment, is one of those centers of power that has an important bearing on the state of the nation. This segment of society has grown rapidly in terms of wealth and influence, especially over the last couple of decades. Moreover, this small group has concentrated most of its economic and financial activity within the same group and has achieved what might be considered monopoly status over this activity. This monopoly was nurtured thanks to a corrupt bureaucracy, the poor application of law and order and a well thought out economic policy and strategy.

This situation started after the 26 September 1962 Revolution. Several clever merchants, and some aspiring entrepreneurs found great advantage in "sticking" to any of the influen-

tial leaders or officers who could influence government decisions. Therefore, in the early days of the Republic, they managed to advance their entrepreneurial pursuits quickly and easily. Many of them also banked on the assistance which merchant houses had given them during the pre-revolutionary struggle against the Imamate. The latter were considered participants in the "patriotic" or "nationalist" movement. While such relationships may be understandable as the country goes through a major transformation such as that brought on the Revolution, one would expect that the irregularities which arise as a result of these relationships, to be short lived; as systems and laws are put in place to regulate the relationship between the various elements of society.

Unfortunately, the latter is on the assumption that stability reigns in the country. For Yemen, the early days of the Revolution were characterized by a Civil War environment and foreign influence in the country's affairs, namely in the form of an Egyptian military force of 50,000 which helped defend the Republic. The new Republic faced an unstable political situation during its first 6 years. Yet during that period a number of trading houses were able to establish solid footholds in the import market, which was the major trading activity of the time. Yemenis quickly developed yearnings for anything that

could not be bought before in Yemen, which was almost everything as very few goods entered the country prior to the Revolution. Some of these trading houses were former Sana'a air Soak Merchants who had been able to accumulate sufficient capital to go into the import business after the Revolution. Others were Yemenis who had started operations in Aden and branches in Sana'a before and after the Revolution from both the North and the South. Others were Yemeni entrepreneurs who had accumulated sufficient capital in other countries (Sudan, Ethiopia, Indonesia, Kenya, etc.). Some of these people who started from scratch were lucky enough, or clever enough to find a link to the most important authority who could simplify their drive towards wealth. Their upward mobility however, was not free from suspicion (Their names are known, but with held to protect the innocent). From this mixture of good opportunists, the mercantile establishment of Yemen developed.

From the Southern part of the country, the Marxist oriented independent government in Aden (1969) decided that it did not need free enterprise and thus nationalized all privately owned capital. All of the trading houses of Aden that had established branches in the North shifted their operations there and absorbed the losses of their nationalized assets in Aden. They would have suffered more if they

initial infection. They also cause many serious complications, especially in women. These complications include: the spread of infection to the pelvis (pelvic inflammatory disease) which in turn is a major cause of infertility in many parts of the world. Syphilis, gonorrhea and chlamydia can be passed on to infants during pregnancy and childbirth; their effects range from spontaneous abortion and stillbirth to severe eye infections and pneumonia in the newborn. As stated earlier, the second reason for concern about the very high number of new STD infections is the link between STD and HIV, the virus which causes AIDS. There is strong evidence that these curable STDs, because they cause genital lesions or inflammation, greatly increase the risk of sexual transmission of HIV. Studies in sub-Saharan Africa, Europe and North America have suggested that there is approximately a four times greater risk of becoming HIV infected if a person has a genital ulcer caused by syphilis. Gonorrhea, chlamydia and trichomonas don't cause ulcers, but the inflammation they cause also significantly increases the risk of HIV transmission.

According to Antonio Gerbase, principle author of the GPA report, "The huge number of sexual infections sets the stage for the amplification of HIV". This statement is corroborated by recent research from Africa which demonstrates that treatment of curable STDs leads to a major reduction in the incidence of new HIV infections, as shown in the study populations.

As with HIV, STDs are preventable. The adoption of safer sex practices and the increasing availability of condoms as a result of HIV appear to have played an important role in declining rates of reported STDs in places as diverse as Zimbabwe, Thailand, Chile and Costa Rica. In countries such as Sweden and Norway, a concerted attempt to detect and treat all existing STDs led to a large scale reduction in curable STDs even prior to the onset of the HIV pandemic.

did not have those already operating branches. An important remark is that real estate in Sana'a and other major "cities" in 1962 (they were actually towns then), was relatively cheap and many of these family trading houses had purchased many plots of land which rapidly grew in value as these cities developed, especially in Sana'a, Taiz and Hodeidah.

Of course, their interests were to develop these lands and accordingly accelerate their growth and development. By the mid seventies, some of these trading houses turned towards industrial investment. In fact, the first five year plan of the Yemen Arab Republic (1977), allocated an unusually large portion of investment for development towards industrial development.

Some have alluded that this coordination between the trading houses sought to maximize their future activities in this field and with government planners. It is a theory that they wished to monopolize rapid turnover consumer goods within a relatively small group of capital holders, and at the same time take advantage of protection laws against competitive imports, customs and tax breaks. Whether the conspiracy theory has any truth would require further investigative work, but the truth of the matter is that most of the "industrial" oper-

ations in the private sector of Yemen are concentrated in the hands of a few family trading houses, and they control the consumable goods market of "locally produced" products in addition to their provenance in other imported products. At the same time, this limited number of trading establishments controlled other forms of business transactions, including government contracts (supply and construction) as agents of the international tenders who participated in government tenders, although here the competition was more apparent.

With such a favorable environment, the mercantile establishment amassed considerable wealth and concentrated a lot of the economic production activities of the nation within their limited numbers. The apparent trend is that they will continue to grow richer and bigger.

While private enterprise is important for the continued development and growth of the economy, it seems both unfair and inefficient to allow this limited number of already over-extended family operations to continue to take full control of economic activity in the country. After many years, they still have not proved that such concentration is helpful to the general welfare of the people and to the progress of the nation.

To cite just some of the dis-

advantages that are evident in the Republic of Yemen:

1- Most of these establishments find several legal (and questionable) methods of evading taxes and customs, or pay considerably far less amounts than are due from them.

2- The profit margins they rely on are extremely high and unchecked.

3- The capital input to their investments is almost nil, forcing most of them to become highly over leveraged in financial arrangements of a risky nature.

4- The products they produce mostly rely on inputs that are imported, including a sizable part of the labor force and management

5- Most of the products fall short of any acceptable quality standards, and some experts have even labeled them as hazardous or dangerous for human consumption.

6- Their monopolistic tendencies have forced retailers to follow unfair purchasing methods (e.g. If a retailer wants to stock up on "yoghurt" he must buy a certain amount of shampoo, or another product that is manufactured by a factory owned by the yoghurt maker.

7- Very few of the products are economically advantageous to the country as a whole, or capable of becoming exportable products.

330 m. Sexually Transmitted Diseases in 1995

According to figures released today, at least 333 million new cases of curable sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) will appear worldwide in 1995. This figure is based on a recent study carried out by the World Health Organization's Global Program on AIDS (GPA) and indicates a burden of ill-health caused by STDs which is far higher than it was previously thought.

The GPA study, carried out in collaboration with the Rockefeller Foundation, analyzed data on four of the most common STDs - gonorrhea, chlamydia, syphilis and trichomonas - and from this data calculated the number of new cases which will occur in adults by 1995. The global total of 333 million new cases is made up of the following: 12 million new cases of syphilis, 62 million new cases of gonorrhea, 89 million new cases of chlamydia and 170 million new cases of trichomonas.

These STDs and their complications rank in the top ten causes of sick days lost by working adults in the urban areas of the developing world. In industrialized societies, rates of syphilis and gonorrhea have declined over recent years, but other STDs such as chlamydia continue to be a major problem. In 1994, the Centers for Disease Control reported nearly two new chlamydia infections per annum for every 1000 people in the USA.

All four of these STDs are preventable and curable. Examples from both high and low income countries show that significantly reducing the burden of STDs is a feasible and affordable goal everywhere. According to the World Bank, provision of treatment for curable STDs represents one of the most cost-effective interventions to improve health in the world. Unfortunately, as the figures show, a lot more needs to be done to make this problem a priority item on the agenda of all countries across the globe. Since there are links between HIV and STDs this need has become particularly urgent.

STDs Cause Infertility and Fuel Spread of HIV

The burden of having a curable STD is far greater than the discomfort and pain caused by the

initial infection. They also cause many serious complications, especially in women. These complications include: the spread of infection to the pelvis (pelvic inflammatory disease) which in turn is a major cause of infertility in many parts of the world. Syphilis, gonorrhea and chlamydia can be passed on to infants during pregnancy and childbirth; their effects range from spontaneous abortion and stillbirth to severe eye infections and pneumonia in the newborn. As stated earlier, the second reason for concern about the very high number of new STD infections is the link between STD and HIV, the virus which causes AIDS. There is strong evidence that these curable STDs, because they cause genital lesions or inflammation, greatly increase the risk of sexual transmission of HIV. Studies in sub-Saharan Africa, Europe and North America have suggested that there is approximately a four times greater risk of becoming HIV infected if a person has a genital ulcer caused by syphilis. Gonorrhea, chlamydia and trichomonas don't cause ulcers, but the inflammation they cause also significantly increases the risk of HIV transmission.

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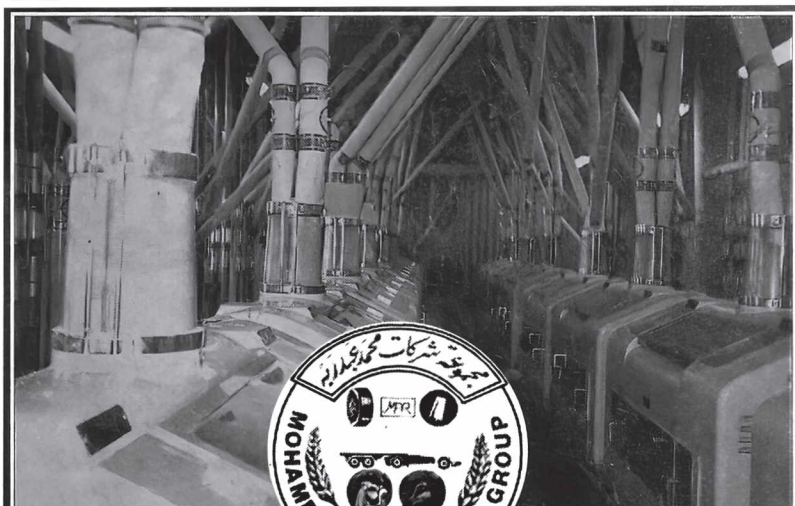
WHO recommends a comprehensive approach to STDs, which includes the following components:

- * Promotion of safer sexual behavior;
- * Widespread availability and affordability of condoms;
- * Integration of STD care into all basic health care facilities;
- * Good quality case management of STDs including use of appropriate drugs, education and counseling, provision of condoms; and treatment of sexual partners;
- * Promoting early use of health care services by people with STDs and their partners;
- * Screening for silent diseases e.g. syphilis in pregnancy.

One of the challenges in controlling STDs is to ensure that services reach the many women in the world who have untreated infections either because they are silent or because they feel their symptoms are not serious enough to require care. WHO recommends that STD care be integrated into maternal, child and family planning services. It also supports the Sexually Transmitted Disease Initiative (STD), with the Rockefeller Foundation, which aims to encourage the development of simple tests to diagnose STDs.

The WHO recommendations are all feasible services and do not require sophisticated laboratories or equipment. However, the very number of new infections reported in the WHO study indicate that the problem of STDs is not being adequately addressed on a global level. In many countries, lack of comprehensive policies and poor access to necessary drugs are just two of the obstacles in the way of achieving a reduction in STDs.

"Sexually transmitted diseases are a serious threat to the health of millions of people, especially women. Not just because of the burden of ill-health and death which they cause but also because they help to spread HIV. It is true that in some countries with active AIDS prevention programs and good STD services, the incidence of some STDs has gone down. But these countries are the exceptions. We must not be complacent. Sexually transmitted diseases are far from being controlled," says Dr. Gerbase.



THE RED SEA FLOUR MILLS - HODEIDAH THE MOHAMED ABDO RABO GROUP A GIANT CORPORATION GROWS FURTHER

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الحديدة: ت: ٢/٢٣٢٤٦
الخرطوم: ت: ٧٤٥٦٩ - ٧٤٥٦٢
بورتسودان: ت: ٢٦٣٠ - ٢٩٧٩ - ٤٤٦٥
ص.ب. ٢٥٢٨
ص.ب. ٤٠١٥
ص.ب. ١١٩٢٦
ص.ب. ١٦٠

THE WASTE OF YEMENI SKILLS AND PROBLEM OF UNEMPLOYMENT

I am one of the many unemployed but qualified Yemenis who have C.V.s in many forgotten drawers. Although I was born and brought up in England, my father made sure that I learned the Quran and studied Arabic. I am therefore fluent, unlike a lot of Yemeni immigrants. Even though I was employed in one of the Governorates in a job which was well below my qualifications, I lost this job after the war. However, before I go on, let me say that I do not write out of bitterness, but out of the need to put across a few home truths which might alleviate the sufferings of jobless Yemenis. The high rate of unemployment may not necessarily be related to the lack of jobs but rather to the misplacement of personnel and inefficient or dishonest selection criteria.

As far as government institutions are concerned, one finds that either political considerations or blood relations/favoritism are the ruling factors for employment, particularly in key positions. Even places like Sana'a University, which should uphold the principles of education, equity and democracy to prepare the present generation for future leadership, has embraced the same overriding principles of vested interests to be the criteria for employee selection.

What happened to the old values that used to be considered crucial in this honorable profession of pedagogy? We often hear the complaint about the burden of payment to foreign teachers in hard currency, whilst at the same time many promising Yemenis have doors slammed in their faces.

In regard to international organizations, one finds their offices populated with inadequately qualified Yemenis, who are only employed because they have been around for many years. I have heard friends declare that this is a typical ruse and excuse for continuing to employ international staff because of "a lack of qualified Yemenis". I know of many highly qualified and experienced Yemenis who have been rejected and others of a clerical level employed instead. It seems that even the advertisements which appear in the papers are a

mere sham when the decision is actually made long before the advertisement is put out.

The many oil companies now mushrooming in this country fare worse in terms of giving opportunities to skilled Yemenis to advance professionally. I remember the 'grand plans' of CanOxy to begin a Yemeni training program, which does not seem to have materialized... even though big oil fields have been found in the Southern Governorates. There have been many rejection letters to Yemenis who wanted to work there.

At least Yemen Hunt has had a training department and program for Yemenis although to what extent they are willing to train is not clear. Nonetheless, I was happy to read in the papers last week of a Yemeni being promoted to the position of Training Manager. It is indeed an encouraging sign which we hope to be indicative of a future policy towards Yemenis. However, when I read about Zabara's qualifications, I began to think that there must be a catch. Just how many bright young chemical engineers like him does Yemen have?

Considering, (as mentioned in the paper), he has performed well on the field in oil and gas plant production, it does seem to be a waste of this precious talent to now shift him to an administrative job even if the title is important! Surely this promotion is another case of sidetracking Yemeni talent by putting them in the wrong positions. Is this then a case of giving caviar in order to keep the whale?

Due to the poor economic situation and the necessity to earn one's daily bread, qualified Yemenis will continue to be pushed below the professional line. Instead, qualified Yemenis should be put on the ladder of upward mobility. Unfortunately, everyday people are rushing to emigrate. Does our country's brain drain and its chain reactions represent the fate of all third world countries? Will it forever be the destiny of qualified nationals to serve other countries whilst their own country will not give them the positions they deserve? These are some of the many questions I have been puzzling over... Does anyone have the answers?

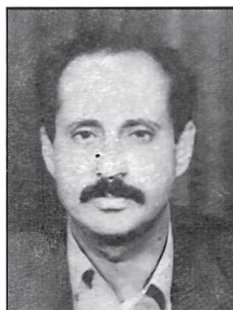
By: A. T. Al-Jaabri.

Private Investment in University Education

The new government policy of economic awakening and liberalization has resulted in considerable private investment in sectors that had been totally monopolized by the state. The most notable are investments in the medical and educational sectors—both having slipped visibly in quality as well as capacity. In education, public schools have long been seen as inadequate. Over the last three years, private schools have emerged at a dramatic rate. Not only in basic education, private investors have mounted a major offensive in university education. As a result, there are now nine universities and colleges owned by citizens. These developments have created heated debates between those who support and those who oppose this trend.

In opening this file, Yemen Times encourages people to discuss the issues and present their views. We started by talking to two entrepreneurs who support private investment in university education.

Dr. Daoud Abdulmalik, Manager of Science & Technology University,



Q: From your experience of being the first private university in Yemen, how do you evaluate the success of this type of university in executing their duties?

A: First, I would like to thank Yemen Times for observing the work of the private universities which includes the University of Science and Technology. Before I speak about our experiment, I would like to state that we started this university in 1992 and this year the first batch of graduates have majored in Computer Science, Business Administration, and Accounting. Now we have more than ten fields in this college where students can graduate with an associate degree, which ultimately helps the developmental process in Yemen. In 1994, we established the University of Science and Technology as the first private university in Yemen. As for the success rate at the university, we must first realize that Yemen has over 100,000 high school graduates, whereas the public universities will absorb only 30,000 of those students. Private universities provide the opportunity for those able students not attending public institutions to be absorbed into the education system. We have a limited number of seats at the university in order to maintain Yemen's educational standard. Yemen, with a population of 16 million, has only two universities, one in Sana'a and the other in Aden. Yemen needs more educational corporations, guided by regulations and standards in order to graduate qualified people.

The University of Technology's success rate was 100%, as we concentrated on preparing the students according to society's developmental needs. For example, Yemen has only 136 dental technicians, and this year 36 will graduate. In this situation, the country did not pay anything but the student did. Society's need for dental technicians will soon compensate the student for his tuition fees. Another example is in computer science where all fifty graduates are available from the listing in the university's guidebook. We hope to continue to connect specialty needs with developmental needs.

Q: How did you prepare the study program?

A: We have made use of other Arab and foreign universities experiments, and have come up with a program that agrees with the current times. We continuously change our program and make use of practical experiments. At the end of each term, we hold a conference to evaluate our work and make use of our mistakes to improve our future programs.

Q: What is the role of competition in reducing the student's difficulties, using tuition as an example?

A: Competition is very useful, not only in terms of tuition but also in terms of the type of lectures, study programs and facilities provided (for example libraries, preparations, laboratories etc.). Since we live in a democratic society, the student could choose quality education or low tuition. The university provides installment facilities for paying tuition and we also provide scholarships for the best ten high school graduates in literature and science. After the President's visit, we also provided twenty scholarships for master's family in associate diplomas with much lower tuition and payment facilities. We also grant a 20% discount for students with 80-85%

average and a 50% discount for the top student. All the above are incentives for the students and a solution to the tuition issue.

Q: Is there any monitoring represented by university members on private education?

A: Unfortunately, that role is not currently required. What we require is the establishment of regulations as the basis for establishing such universities. I believe there is a suggestion for such regulation at the private education sector at the Ministry of Education, but the extent of its execution and monitoring is weak. Private universities are only two years old and the Ministry of Education must monitor those universities to ensure their quality and continuation.

Q: Any last comment?

A: I just want to make it clear to the students that we try to provide high quality education. We try to provide information, skills and subject fields which are primarily suited to the developmental needs of Yemen, then of the student. I invite all private universities to be careful and to improve their educational level, programs and management. Let us all cooperate in serving this society.

Dr. Yahya Ben-Yehya Al-Mutawakel

Dean of Administration and Economics in Al-Watania University.



Q: How was the idea of private universities established, and were there any previous preparations?

A: Private universities came into being due to the passing of the investment law which included the education sector. Unfortunately, as a result of the high quantity of high school graduates who cannot be absorbed by Sana'a and Aden Universities, private universities were established quickly in order to fill the need.

Q: What are the expected goals of private universities?

A: Al-Watania Administration & Economic College has two main goals. First, to absorb the high school graduates so they can continue higher education. Second, to safeguard the education level and the reputation of subject fields in relation to the needs of society's development which would incorporate the graduate into the work force.

Q: What is the university's role in solving some of the problems facing the student?

A: These universities and colleges help find the student a place to continue education. Also, we offer students a modernized educational system which is not available in public universities.

Q: What are the existing privileges in private universities?

A: The benefits of private universities are of a different class than those of the public universities. Private universities are more flexible and susceptible to change than public universities due to varying budgets and expenditures.

Q: What lies at the soul of private universities?

A: I believe that competition is the soul of private universities which benefits the student in the long run. Competition allows students to choose the path of their education, it improves the quality of education and ensures the survival of the best university.

Q: Is there any direct supervision of private universities?

A: Currently, this role is missing. We are going through a transformation period as a result of consolidating the Ministry of Higher Education and its incorporation into the Ministry of Education and the creation of the Higher University Council after issuing the university law in 1995. This council has not been able to perform that role until now. We must have a regulatory mean to face existing difficulties.

Q: Are there any plans to establish more universities in other Governorates?

A: I can only speak for the Administration and Economic College, which was established by university professors -- a very important point. Those professors adopted the establishment, supervision, teaching and education maintenance roles. We hope to repeat this experiment in other places. We are in the process of obtaining a permit for a university called the Yemeni University which will incorporate the same methods. The idea of increased enrollment introduces the need to facilitate transportation during the school year. We could provide examinations at a gathering point which is a preliminary step to opening branches in other Governorates.

Q: What kind of person fits the description of a 'university education type'?

A: This type of person is different from one place to another. University is a unique experience, but education is part of society and society is constantly developing. Therefore, education too must develop. We must assess the student's abilities and resources and use them to develop society's needs.

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Sanaa, Zubeiri Street
(01) 218-824

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How Much for your \$

The Riyal exchange rate has reversed itself over the last few days. After having hit an exchange rate of YR 55, the US dollar gained strength and started to rise. By Friday, September 1st, the rate had climbed to some YR 80 per US dollar.

"This volatility does not help us plan our investments or even imports. The variations and cycles are too sharp to be the result of ordinary supply and demand," a businessman complained.

PROFILE OF READERSHIP OF YEMEN TIMES & WHAT THE READERS SUGGEST TO THE PAPER

Yemen Times continues to search for better ways to serve its readers. We research what the market needs and what actions would better satisfy our readers. The best way to find that out, of course, is by asking you for feedback. Following its fourth birthday, in order to get concrete and full results, the Yemen Times launched a major questionnaire that was published in issue No. 15/95 of 10/4/1995. We were not sure how many answers we would receive, given the long questionnaire and the tedious nature of the responses.

We were gratified when at a final count over a two-month period, we received exactly (440) answers. I would like to thank the individuals who took the time to fill in the forms and send in their answers. I would also like to thank another (82) persons who called us with their verbal feedback.

The following summary, however, is based on the written responses.

Let me add my special thanks to Ismail Al-Ghabri who supervised the work on the questionnaires and to Yemen Times interns Ms. Ishraq Mohammed Al-Ahmar and Asma'a Mohammed Al-Ahmar, who did most of the work.

Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf

- SEX of Respondents:
male 84%
female 16%
- Age of Respondents:
15-25 years : 23%
25-35: 16%
35-45: 26%
45-55 and above: 32%
- Nationality of Respondents:
Yemeni: 68%
Foreigners: 32%
- Educational level:
High school: 25%
University graduate: 32%
Post graduate: 43%
- Employment:
Private sector: 45%
Government employment: 36%
Students: 19%
- Kind of business:
Commerce: 18%
Oil/Gas: 9%
Academia: 27%
Banking/ Insurance: 2%
Industry: 14%
Diplomacy: 12%
Tourism: 4%
Other jobs: 14%
- Do you read foreign newspaper?
No: 29%
Yes: 71%
- Do you read other local newspapers?
Government papers: 9%
Opposition papers: 14%
All kinds: 45%
No other papers: 32%
- How do you get your copy of the Yemen Times?
Newsstand: 62%
Subscription: 20%
Friends: 8%
Company: 10%
- How often do you read Yemen Times?
Weekly: 87%
Randomly: 13%
- How many people read your copy?
Just me: 16%
Two persons: 18%
Four persons: 32%
Six Persons: 26%
I don't know: 8%
- Do you read non-Yemeni newspapers?
Yes: 22%

- Occasionally: 48%
Never 30%
- Why do you like Yemen Times?
I support its stand on the issues: 52%
I get straight answers: 26%
It bases its position on ethical grounds: 8%
It gives me the non-government view: 14%

- Please give your opinion on the sections of the paper.
- | | Excellent | Good | Okay | Poor |
|------------------------|-----------|------|------|------|
| Local news: | 28 | 38 | 25 | 9 |
| Interviews: | 35 | 26 | 18 | 11 |
| Women: | 18 | 52 | 15 | 15 |
| Social affairs: | 27 | 32 | 20 | 11 |
| Business: | 21 | 46 | 24 | 9 |
| Culture: | 41 | 19 | 17 | 23 |
| Features: | 9 | 50 | 28 | 13 |
| Law & Diplomacy: | 25 | 35 | 30 | 10 |
| Letters to the Editor: | 42 | 34 | 17 | 7 |

- Do you find your favorite columns or subjects missing in Yemen Times?
Yes: 42%
No: 37%
?: 21%

If No, which are the columns and subjects which are missing in Yemen Times:

- Sports: 62%
Cartoons: 28%
Medicine and science: 10%

- Please indicate which of the following subjects you like reading most in any newspaper.

- Local news: 60%
Women/Family: 30%
Political Affairs: 42%
Economics: 45%
Science: 18%
Social issues: 26%
Feature stories: 22%

Does not add to 100% due to more choice in the answers.

- Do you find the number of pages of the paper sufficient?

- Too many: 0%
Appropriate: 85%
Too few: 10%
No comment 5%

- How do you find the advertisements in the paper?

- Too Much: 31%
Appropriate: 66%
Too little: 3%

- How do you find the standard of the advertisements in the paper?

- Excellent: 28%
Good: 44%
Bad: 28%

- Can you dispense with newspapers by watching TV or listening to the radio?

- Yes: 14%
No: 86%

- Why do you buy the Yemen Times?

- 24% - News on some topics and analysis that are not presented on other media
22% - To get the real version of what is going on
26% - To improve my English.
16% - It is the only source of information to me
12% - Enjoyment of reading, freedom to choose and variety of papers's subjects.

- What subjects are there on TV and radio that are not found in the newspapers?

- 10% - Foreign news
52% - Latest news.
18% - Sports.
9% - Music and movies news.
11% - Educational reports.

- When do you usually buy newspapers?

- In the morning: 31%
At noon: 25%
In the evening: 44%

- Where do you buy your newspaper?

- Newsstand/Book Shop: 82%
Street vendor: 18%

- Do you find difficulty in obtaining your copy of the paper?

- Yes: 43%
No: 50%
?: 7%

- What are the chances of finding a copy of the Yemen Times?

- Always available: 46%
Not distributed early: 12%
Sold out: 28%
Can't ever find it: 14%

- When do you usually read your Yemen Times?

- In the morning: 16%
In the evening: 42%
At noon: 12%
At night: 30%

- Where do you usually read your newspaper?

- At home: 70%
At work: 12%
In public places: 8%
Others: 10%

- Do you read the whole paper at once or in slots of intervals?

- At once: 29%
At intervals: 71%

- What is the first thing you read in the Yemen Times?

- First page: 42%
Last page: 10%
Local page: 6%
Editorial: 24%
Features: 7%
Culture page: 4%
Social issues: 4%
Other sections: 6%

- How much time do you spend reading the Yemen Times?

- Less than 10 minutes: 6%
About 30 minutes: 22%
About 60 minutes: 35%
Two hours: 22%
More than 2 hours: 14%

- Do you have suggestions for the improvement of the newspapers?

- Improve the spelling: 64%
Change quality of paper: 14%
Reduce advertisement: 8%
Diversify stories: 8%
Reduce 1st page adverts 6%

Many of our readers asked when the paper will go daily. Many more expressed concern that the authorities may not have the stamina and tolerance to allow such an "outspoken" newspaper to continue.


Some have given advice to reduce the tone of criticism for the sake of survival, although they agree with and believe in the objectivity and proper nature of the criticism.



نهني ونبارك للأخ سند محمد صالح الشوكي بمناسبة حصوله على المرتبة الأولى في كلية الهندسة - عدن

المهندسون:

مطيع جوعان مبروك، خالد عبدالقوي الوحيش، وليد يحيى العيساني، محمود محمد علي فتح وشباب D3C سابقا.



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THE GLOBAL REPORT ON WOMEN'S HUMAN RIGHTS

The Violations Continue

Human rights abuses against women are rampant around the world claims a major global report released today. Human Rights Watch demands that governments gathered at the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing give women's human rights high priority. The idea that governments must respect women's rights in order to advance women's status in all spheres—political, social and economic—is under siege. Some governments, among them Iran, the Holy Sea, India, Guatemala, and Egypt have threatened to roll back the gains for women's rights negotiated at the previous world conference on human rights, population and social development. These governments promote the concept that women have a "special" role in society and the family as an excuse to deny women their equality, civil liberties and the right to be free from violence. Human Rights Watch offers concrete recommendations to governments, the United Nations and the regional human rights bodies at the Fourth World Conference on Women to halt the retreat from the full protection of women's human rights.

"We have spent five years amassing this appalling record of abuses against the world's women. Governments in too many countries are party to the violence and intimidation that combine to deny women their right to participate as full citizens in their countries," declared Dorothy Thomas, director of the Women's Rights Project. *The Global Report on Women's Human Rights* reveals that governments perpetrate or acquiesce to major human rights violations against women: soldiers or security officers rape women as a tool of war or political repression; police and border guards traffic women into forced prostitution; soldiers and camp administrators commit violence and discrimination against refugee and displaced women; guards rape women in prisons and jails; and police and the courts turn a blind eye to violence and discrimination in the workplace, at home, and in the context of carrying out reproductive and sexual policies.

Despite government pledges to respect women's human rights, Human Rights Watch concludes that abuse often occurs with the active participation or deliberate indifference of governments. For example, rape by combatants is prohibited under international humanitarian law, but until recently it was dismissed as the inevitable "spoils of war". Domestic violence and the trafficking of women and girls into forced prostitution were regarded as "private" matters only, and not as crimes that the state must prosecute and punish.

Human Rights Watch also is concerned that the endless difficulties faced by non governmental organization(NGO) delegates around the world as they organize for the Beijing conference are indicative of the lack of consistent and sustained international attention to violations of women's rights. The conference has been plagued with problems like no other recent United Nations-sponsored conference—including the Earth Summit, the World Conference of Human Rights, the Conference on Population and Development, and the Social Summit. Even as government officials are negotiating a plan for advancing women's status, the ability of women to participate in the most important political event for women in a decade is severely threatened by the political whims of the host country. China offers no guarantee that women delegates from around the world will be allowed to speak and meet freely. Participating governments should vigorously defend their right to do so.

The Human Rights Watch Global Report on Women's Human Rights shows that governments have done little to live up to their international human rights obligations:

- Human Rights Watch investigations in the former Yugoslavia, Peru, Kashmir and Somalia reveal that rape of unarmed women and girls has been deployed as a tactical weapon to terrorize civilian communities or to achieve "ethnic cleansing", a tool to enforce hostile occupations, and a means of conquering or seeking revenge against an enemy. In Haiti, we found that rape also serves as a tool of political repression—by targeting women activists, members of the opposition, and female relatives of opposition members in hiding.
- As Human Rights Watch investigations of Burmese refugees in Bangladesh and Somali refugees in Kenya show, refugee and displaced women who are uprooted from their homes and countries by war, internal strife or natural catastrophe are particularly vulnerable to sexual violence. In host countries, local residents and police, military and immigration officials have raped refugee and displaced women before granting them passage to safety, refugee status, official documentation, or relief supplies.
- Human Rights Watch investigations in Pakistan,



the United States and Egypt show that women held in custody or detention are deprived of more than just liberty; they also have their physical security and dignity violated by male jailers who torture and degrade them. Such abuses—rape, sexual assault, beatings, abusive strip searches, and the use of degrading language—by guards toward women prisoners are facilitated by the power of male guards over women prisoners and by official tolerance of such abuses of authority.

- In any given year, thousands of women and girls around the world are lured, abducted or sold into forced prostitution and involuntary marriage. In countries where Human Rights Watch has investigated trafficking—Burma, Thailand, Nepal, India, Bangladesh, and Pakistan—we have found that police officers and other government officials facilitate and profit from the trade in women and girls. For a price, they ignore abuses that occur in their jurisdictions; protect the traffickers, brothel owners, pimps, clients and buyers from arrest; and serve as enforcers, drivers and recruiters.

- Human Rights Watch investigations in Kuwait and Russia document violence against women workers that includes rape and other forms of sexual assault, beating, kicking, slapping and burning. In Russia and Poland, we have documented how public and private sector employers fire women in disproportionate numbers and refuse to hire female employees because they prefer to employ men. Although discrimination on the grounds of sex or maternity is prohibited under international human rights laws and barred by the domestic laws of most countries, it is nonetheless routinely tolerated by many governments.

- Domestic violence is one of the leading causes of female injuries in almost every country in the world. Human Rights Watch investigations in Brazil, Russia and South Africa show that law enforcement officials allow such violence to go uninvestigated and unpunished. At every turn, women who attempt to obtain legal protection for domestic assault are turned away and told that their problem is a "private" matter. Laws exempt marital rape from criminal sanction; police refuse to arrest men who beat their wives; prosecutors fail to charge men with domestic assault, and judges accept "honor" defenses that allow wife-murderers to walk away unpunished.

- States frequently use violent discriminatory means to carry out policies that regulate women's sexual and reproductive lives. In Turkey, police, state doctors and school authorities have forced women and girls to undergo gynecological tests to check women's hymens when they are accused of "immodest" behavior. In Ireland, the government restricted the right to free expression in its efforts to suppress information on abortion services abroad. Polish women are denied equal protection of the law when the state fails to stop doctors and prosecutors from refusing to provide women the necessary documentation to obtain an abortion within the limits of that country's 1993 abortion law. When these abuses are committed in the name of tradition, culture or religion, the international community has been particularly timid about raising protests, making a mockery of the fundamental principle of the universality of human rights.

Human Rights Watch is equally concerned that, at a moment when world attention is focused on China, human rights conditions in China and Tibet are deteriorating. Anticipating Deng Xiaoping's imminent death, Chinese authorities have acted to maintain "social stability" by cracking down on political and religious dissidents, independent labor organizers, Tibetans and others. Beijing has also expressed disdain for governments that dare to criticize its egregious human rights practices. At this crucial time in China's political transition, Human Rights Watch believes that the international community must lay out clear benchmarks for China's compliance with international human rights standards. Any attempt by governments to downplay or mute public comments on China's human rights record—including those by delegations at the UN conference—could lead to greater intransigence by China.

The Fourth World Conference on Women presents an historic opportunity to advance the human rights of women. Governments and the United Nations system must insist on accountability for violations against women, or the abuses documented in *The Global Report on Women's Human Rights* will continue unchecked. Human Rights Watch calls upon the United Nations and governments attending the Fourth World Conference on Women to:

- Respect the fundamental rights of all participants in the NGO Forum and the Fourth World Confer-

ence on Women so the delegates can focus on shaping the agenda for promoting peace, equality and development for women in the coming decade. This vital work will not be possible unless the forum and conference proceed in accordance with rules that normally apply to united Nations-sponsored gatherings, free of arbitrary interference by the host country. Journalists from around the world should be allowed to covet the conference without intimidation or onerous restrictions. It is clear that Chinese citizens who seek to express peacefully their views or who have stated their interest in having contact with foreign delegates or media have already suffered reprisals.

- Reaffirm that women's rights are universal, inalienable and indivisible. Governments must block all attempts to modify respect for women's human rights according to local or community standards and must emphasize the duty of states, regardless of their political, economic, cultural or religious systems, to promote all human rights and fundamental freedoms.

- Stress that the protection of women's human rights is central to improving women's status. Governments should reject any reference to women's "special" role dignity. Such terms are code words for excluding women from governments' and the United Nations system's obligations to defend the dignity of all persons and the equal rights of men and women.

- Integrate the protection and promotion of women's human rights throughout the Platform for Action's many thematic sections. In raising many of the grave problems faced by women—poverty, poor health, lack of education and political participation—the platform must recognize that violations of women's rights, especially violence and sex discrimination, create obstacle to enhancing women's status in these areas.

- Commit to ratifying the major human rights treaties—the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), the International Covenant on Civil and Political rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and the Torture Convention—without reservation and as a matter of priority.

- Recognize their responsibility (1) to review national laws and practices with an eye to eliminating all discrimination on the basis of sex, and (2) to develop national plans of action to wipe out state-sponsored and private violence against women.

- Strengthen international enforcement of women's human rights by (1) adopting an optional protocol to CEDAW that enables individuals and non governmental organizations to file complaints directly with the body that monitors state compliance; (2) increasing UN efforts to integrate women's rights into all human rights work; and (3) increasing the technical and financial resources available to the Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women and extending her mandate beyond the initial three-years term.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Al-Rusul Model Schools

Announces opening for registration for the new school year. The school has two systems:

- The Arabic curriculum based on the Ministry of Education in Sana'a and an English curriculum based on the University of Oxford. In both systems, very qualified teachers are in charge.

Registration started as of 20/7/1995. We receive prospective students and their parents every working day during 8-12 in the mornings. The school is located near Hajar Mosque on Haddah Street, Tel: 240075

Information about the School:

- The Al-Rusul Schools - both systems (Arabic and English) have all levels of education: Kindergarten, Primary, Preparatory, and Secondary.
- Even among the private schools, Al-Rusul Model Schools stands out.
- Among the subjects in which we excel are: The Holy Quran, Physics, English Language, Computers, Chemistry, Mathematics, Tailoring, Drawing, Taekwonndo, etc.

The British Council Too Much for a Good Thing?

Have you ever been to the British Council? Do you know where it is or what it does?

The British Council, located on As-Sabain Street no. 7, fosters cultural and educational links between Yemen and Britain. Brendon McSharry, the Council's new Director, has vigorously upheld this aim by restructuring their School of English and providing materials, training and computer equipment for The Faculty of Education and the English Department at Sana'a University. The Council is also addressing the need to improve the quality of English teaching at the Secondary School level and is co-sponsoring a Welsh Cultural Week from October 18 - 28.

The Council is equipped with a library stocked with books on local and world history, geography, wildlife and of course, British literature. It also provides books for those just beginning to learn English and subscribes to newspapers like *The Sunday Times* and magazines such as *Good Housekeeping*. So if you're looking for information ranging from world news to the latest chic hairdos, the BC Library is the place to go.

Surprisingly, you will find the place quite quiet upon arrival, even by library standards. Your only interruptions in your quest for knowledge will be the occasional dry cough and the infrequent crackle of a turning page. You might wonder to yourself why so few people take advantage of such an excellent array of reading material. When you eventually ask the librarian how much it is to become

a member, you might find your answer.

To satisfy your palette for poetry or your hankerings for Hardy you must pay 3600 rials for a year long membership. Not bad, if you're a permanent resident earning a foreigner's wage, but if you're Yemeni, and are lucky enough to have a job, this fee rates steep.

Ironically, government officials who probably earn some of the highest wages in Yemen get a 50% discount, paying only 1800 riyals, whereas students who rarely earn a proper wage are asked to pay 1000 rials. Group rate discounts are also available. Considering that at the same time last year students paid only 300 YR, government officials 600 YR and others 1200 YR, many Yemenis feel they cannot afford to renew their membership.

Most Westerners take access to books for granted, but many Yemenis like Anwar Abdulkauli see access to books as a luxury. Abdulkauli of the Yemen Times, wants to join the BC Library to improve his burdgeoning English skills, but inspite of his job he cannot afford the 3600 rial fee.

"Maybe 1500 I can pay," he says reasonably, "but everything in Yemen is expensive. I have a responsibility to help my family, including all of my brothers. We don't even have extra money for medical expenses". Many other men and women shoulder the same responsibilities as Abdulkauli, and

thus library fees rank low on the priority list for most families in Yemen.

So inspite of its many educational programs, I must ask if the British Council is fulfilling its mandate to foster educational links with Yemen at a grass roots level?

According to Raja'a Bazara'a, the Council's full time librarian, memberships declined once the prices were raised in February from 450 to 200 members, the most dramatic drop being in the student category. She strongly feels that more Yemeni's would join the library if fees were lowered.

One suggestion is that fees be scaled according to income, with government employees and Western wage earners paying the highest amounts while other Yemenis pay between 1000 to 1500 rials. Since Yemen is a developing country, education is the key to making improvements in both its social and political structures. Britain, as a first world nation, has a responsibility to foster education to a broad spectrum of peoples, not just to those who can afford it.

Without a change in the membership fees, the British Council threatens to alienate a large segment of English as a Second Language (ESL) readers who deserve the same access to books as specialists who are often financially supported by grants.

Mr. McSharry feels that the fees are fair. He cites past inflation rates as the original reason for raising the cost of memberships as well as the decrease in British aid to Yemen after the civil war. In addition, the Council needs to recoup the costs of a recently placed book order costing \$33 000 US, including specialized periodicals, a video library and a CD Rom. These resources certainly improve library services, and if you are advanced in English or a researcher, the 3600 Rials can be looked upon as a good investment.

Although these are all valid reasons for price hikes, the average Yemeni who wants a library membership cannot equate the benefits of a CD Rom with the benefits of minimal health care. Mr. McSharry is aware of this concern and states, "These fees are not set in stone and we are open to reviewing the extent of public opinion".

Have you ever wondered what you could do to make a positive change in Yemen? By simply phoning Mr. McSharry at the British Council at: 241 121 or 244 153 or by mailing in the coupon printed below, you might make a difference to many readers who want access to English books, but who cannot afford the 'luxury'.

By: Dawn C. Hurley

I would like the British Council to review its library fees and perhaps set a special fee for non-government employees.

STAMP

Name _____

Signature _____

Nationality _____

Address & Phone _____

PLEASE Mail to: Brendan McSharry,
As-Sabain Street no. 7,
P. O. Box 2157,
Sana'a, Yemen.

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NOTICE

THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN SANA'A ANNOUNCES THE LOSS OF 3 GOVERNMENT TRANSPORTATION REQUEST (GTR) FORMS ISSUED AS FOLLOWS:

- 1- GTR# B-4, 735, 018 LARISSA KEPCHAR
- 2- GTR# B-4, 735, 091 ALEXANDER KEPCHAR
- 3- GTR# B-4, 735, 091 SCOTT KENNEDY

ABOVE GTR'S ARE HEREBY VOIDED AND ARE NOT NEGOTIABLE. ALSO, AN INDIAN PASSPORT (#P-432437) IN THE NAME OF PURAN JOSHI, ISSUED 27 DEC 1993 AT SANA'A WAS AMONG THE ABOVE MENTIONED LOST ITEMS. IF FOUND, PLEASE CALL 238843, EXT 180 OR 272435/6.



A girl from Massawa

By: Anisa Ghanem,
Sanaa.

Eritrea is one of the young nations of Africa, although it is an old society. Its history dates back several millenia, and it shares many common features with Yemen, as well as with Ethiopia and Sudan.

But the history of modern Eritrea dates back to just over a century. It was in 1890 that Italy established its newly-acquired colony on the Red Sea. Fifty years later, the British dislodged the Italians, only to establish their own administration. In 1950, at the behest of Emperor Haile Sellasie of Ethiopia, the United Nations voted to federate Eritrea with Ethiopia, while still recognizing the two independent entities.

Ten years later, Ethiopia fully annexed Eritrea and abrogated its independent identity, claiming Eritrea was its 14th province. This unleashed an armed struggle for independence in 1961. It would take a full thirty years of war before independence was achieved on May 24th, 1991. In April 1993, a referendum was held to determine the future of the country, and the Eritrean people voted overwhelmingly in favor of independence and nationhood.

Eritrea extends to over 1000 kilometers from Ras Kassar (north) to Ras Dumiera (South) in the strait of Bab-el-mendeb bounded on the west by the Sudan, on the south by Ethiopia, on the south east by Djibouti and across the sea by Saudi Arabia and Yemen. Eritrea is 124, 324sq. km in area (including the Dahlak



The Main Boulevard in Asmara

Archipelago). It consists of a high plateau and a coastal plain ranging in altitude from the highest mountain, Amba Soira (3010 m), to the lowest Danakil Depression, (100 m) below sea level.

Eritrea varies geographically, with the highland plateau enjoying a generally temperate climate of about 16C throughout the year. The lowland areas and the coastal plains are hot; temperatures can rise to over 35C.

There are generally two seasons in Eritrea: the rainy season from June to September and the dry season from October to May. The coastal plains have rainy season from December through March.

Nationalities and Languages

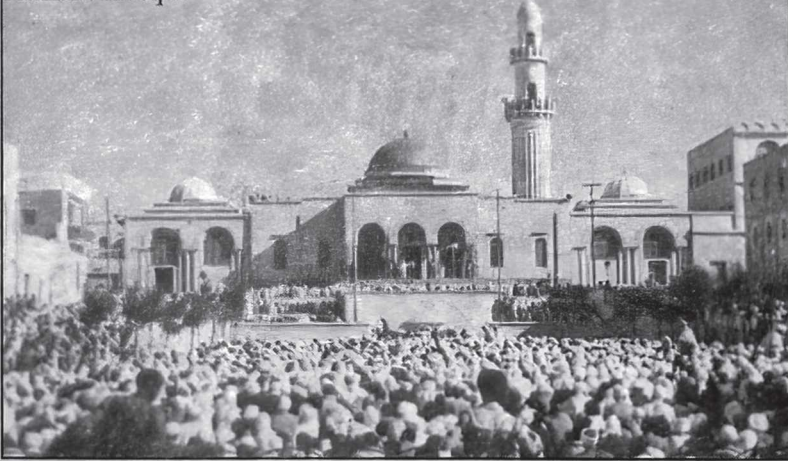
Eritrea is a country of nine ethnic groups, each with its own language. Tigrigna and Arabic are working languages. English is the medium of

education from junior high school to higher education.

Demography

The population of Eritrea is 3.5 million. The population of Asmara, the capital city, is over 400,000. The two ports of the country are Massawa (25,000) and Assab (28,000). Eritrea has equal number of Moslems and Christians.

Asmara mosque



SOMALI FACTIONS MEET TO DISCUSS SOLUTIONS

Leaders of various Somali factions meet in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, today Monday, September 11th, to discuss possible solutions. Representatives from all of the factions are expected to attend, except the factions of General Mohammed Aideded. Ali Mohdi Mohammed, leader of the Alliance for Saving Somalia, may not be able to attend personally, but he is repre-

sented. Other senior participants include: Mohammed Aidi Hashi, President of the United Somali Party, Othman Hassan Ato, President of the National Somali Alliance, Ibrahim Ukal, President of the self-declared Republic of Somali Land, and others.

The meeting is scheduled as an aside to the Islamic Conference meeting.

Floods Threaten the Ethiopian Capital

Like most cities in the Developing World, Addis Ababa suffers from the many headaches of rapid and uncontrolled urbanization. With the rainy season at hand, another pressing issue is the threat of flood.

Houses constructed illegally or without proper plans now obstruct the smooth flow of rainfall. The municipal authorities are unable to cope with the problem although they try to address the issue. Authorities face setbacks because resources are not available to solve the problem, and citizens behave in a very short-sighted manner.

The floods threaten both the neighbourhoods in the outskirts of the city as well as those in the heart of the capital. People living close to Ras Mekonnen Bridge, right at the center of the city, are exposed to enormous danger. Last year's heavy floods made many families homeless. "Half of my house and belongings were taken away by the floods last year," said one of the residents, "Mr. Tefera Waliwa, President of Region (Neighborhood) No. 14, gave instructions to the local municipal authorities to re-settle me in a safe area." Unfortunately, this resident was not re-settled, partly because of insufficient resources. Casualties are numerous. Early this year, several sad stories were reported. "While we were sitting inside the house, all of a sudden,

the wall collapsed. I broke one of the windows and ran for my life along with my children. Unfortunately, my three-year old could not make it and he was taken away by the flood. I found his body the next day in a distant place," explained a grieving mother.

Police sources say that Neighborhood 14 is the most affected. In this season alone, eight people were killed and hundreds left homeless by the floods in this neighborhood. Other neighborhoods also suffer. In the Ambassador Theater Area, residents watched the floods wash away part of a house located next to the Mobil Gas Filling Station.

The Addis Ababa City Council has called upon the people who live on banks of rivers to evacuate until the end of the rainy season when a permanent solution will be worked out. "We must prevent these disasters, and we are asking the residents to relocate temporarily," said a representative of the City Council. But not many families have the option to relocate. The problem will not go away by itself. The officials attend to it only during the crisis, and neglect planning and implementing precautions during the ordinary seasons.

By: Afrah Mohammed,
Yemen Times, Addis Ababa.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor

Woman at Work

Woman have many important roles in society, roles such as sister and wife to name only a few. In the history of Yemen and Islam there have been some women who achieved a lot of important things. For example, Queen Bilquis ruled a great part of Yemen thousands of years ago and so did queen Arwa in Jibla. During wars, women used to help in nursing, taking care of the people who were actively engaged on the field of battle. In the history of Islam there were women who were concerned with Islamic science and literature.

At present, women in rural areas in Yemen work on the land. They bring water, plant seeds, gather crops and do jobs as men do.

Women also participate in political life, just like their male counter-parts. People claim that women can do any job that men can do, but can we expect women to fight in or lead a battle? Can she work in a coal mine or on an oil rig offshore? Also, can we expect a man to stay at home all day taking care of children and feeding them? There are jobs which suit only men, just as there are jobs that suit only women and jobs that suit both.

Every one knows that a house needs a woman to take care of it. Children in their first year of life need a lot of care, tenderness and affection. A woman who works in an office all day can not look after her husband and children to the extent that they need her. And yet we need women nurses, doctors and above all teachers. In Islamic or Arabic tradition women are allowed to work as long as they give their husband and children all the care they need.

But what have we learned so far? Do we have sufficient knowledge about the high ideal of Islam?

Do we have enough knowledge about the instructions of Islam? Do we recite the Holy Quran where ALLAH the almighty said, "Stay at home, and do not deck yourselves with ostentation as in the days of paganism"(AL Ahzab, 33) and also the Almighty said, "men are the support of women as ALLAH gives some more means than others, and because they spend of their wealth (to provide them)." (AN-Nisa, 34) Of course, if we recite those "Suras" carefully we'll realize that women should stay at home and keep indoors, and not go out to work as the constitutions of countries suggest. Women are advised in our religion to stay at home. I am not being chauvinistic.

By: Abdulaziz Moh'd Saeed AL Sabri
Student in the Faculty of Education
Hodeidah.

Muwaladin Speak Out!

What Mr. Gazi, his immigration officers and the Darr Asad police have done to innocent people goes beyond the racism which has happened throughout human history and even in South Africa.

We live in Aden Basatin, and are the original Yemeni nation which others call "Muwaladin" - - but we are really Yemeni people.

The immigration officers here ask for your identity card, but even after you show them your identity card, passport and legal court paper, they refuse to accept them. Probably because they cannot read or write. They then simply ask you, "Are you Muwallad?" If you answer yes, straight away they kick you and insult you, and finally transfer to Al Mansura prison. Here they get their daily money for qat.

On 20-8-95, the Gazi Group entered the houses of this poor nation and they tried and succeeded in seriously harming Muwaladin wives and girls. The attacks were unforeseen. They even jailed our Sheik Al Hara who is of Muwalad origin.

I asked the authorities and Amnesty International to look over this prison for the ????? Nation which has previously fought for their rights. We also invite the Yemen Times to come and see Basatin where the Al Muwaladin live. Something must be done.

By: A. Yemenian
Al Basatin

THE RIGHT PRICE?

During my short visit to Hadramout, I have found out that there is a need to address a wide depression of the Hadramis freedom. The presence of Northern military, Government and other personnel in every possible position in the Hadramout, brings about feelings of occupation. The Hadramis feel that they are being occupied by the northerners under the umbrella of 'unity'. There are many stories of harassment by the Northerner soldiers who use every bit of their authority to frame anybody that they're not happy with, which is usually those people connected with the separatists.

It has reached the stage where people wish that the Socialist Party would come back. One example happened on the 7th August, 1995, right in front of me at the Riyan Airport. One of soldier approached a Hadramian girl for some discussion. The Hadramian girl wasn't happy with his kind of approach and attitude. She shouted back to the soldier. The brother of that girl was somewhere talking to his friend. He noticed the soldier's action and went straight to him and asked him why he did that. The soldier told him he was free to do anything he had wished. Then a fight broke out.

Five extra soldiers came with weapons ready in their hands and started to hit that young man. After wrongfully punishing the poor Hadrami man, they finally locked him up in the airport security office. I don't know what happened next as I was proceeding to the departure lounge. It may sound simple, but the situation in Hadramout is really tense. Harassment, discrimination, looting etc. are becoming normal practices for some Northerners. Nobody knows what will happen next. Sometimes I wonder if the Hadramis deserve this treatment for betraying their own fellows, I do think that the Hadramis need to join hands and act against these perpetrators, instead of talking politics behind their doors.

What a pity.
A True Speaking, "Hadhrami"

Is the Sudan - Eritrean border the Region's next flash point?
Yemen Times issue N. 30 Aug. 14, 95.

Dear Editor,

I enjoy reading Yemen Times, and I am very thankful to you for publishing such interesting and vital articles.

I must however, state my own views on the topic mentioned above, for the sake of truth and history.

- 1- The Eritrean Popular Defense Force does not exist except in Afworke's mind, because of his hallucination of the coming of Islam into his Christian Empire.
- 2- The readers should know that the two nations of Sudan and Eritrea are bilaterally connected (socially, economically etc.) in spite of the policies adopted by the recurring governments.
- 3- The Islamic Jihad movement is one of the largest examples of plurality in the Eritrean nation, not the (E.P.D..F) as the writer told us, and there is no reason to accuse Sudan of establishing it.
- 4- Islam has been in Eritrea for centuries and Arabic is widely spoken. Islam was an outside force welcomed in Eritrea.
- 5- The independence of Eritrea was made by the effort of the whole nation. Afworke is not the ultimate hero as he has deprived people of their rights.
- 6- "The rulers in Khartoum must go" was a fatal idea adopted by a young politician who knows that he is still to young and inexperienced to perform such a project.
- 7- Finally I can say the article was too short to cover all the facts; more over the writer blindly accepted what Afworke said without more discussion. Because of this error and the absence of the other side's point of view, the readers were misled.

By: Mohammed Khalid
Sudanese- Aljawff

The spectator is in a better position to judge than those who are taking part.

As satellite receivers spread all over Yemen, the Yemeni people started watching foreign channels. They neglected the local channels because they were fed up with them. There are many reasons which make our TV dull and unsuccessful. In comparison with international channels, the local channels seem to be very poor quality and they do not live up to their journalistic responsibility. The first reason for this failure is that the TV is the mouthpiece of the government. Its main concern is to meet the requirements of the government, not to satisfy the spectators. Thus, our TV always displays repetitious and long-winded news about government officials. The spectators keep watching and hearing the movements of officials and their speeches which are of no use to us. Second, Yemeni TV always handles issues in a monotonous way. It lacks the ability to present similar issues in various formats. Let us take the Bosnia issue as an example. Yemeni TV kept displaying the same photos, the same words and the same chants for several days. It gave us an impression that they are either unwilling to be creative or that they are simply inefficient. That is why the spectators seek refuge in foreign channels where every one finds what he/she wants, such as valuable scientific programs, entertainment and international comprehensive news. There are scientific programs on the local channels but these programs are all re-runs. In the TV Magazine Program displayed on August 18, the producer announced that the TV will present a new serial so as to attract the spectator's attention. The TV Board must understand that they cannot satisfy the spectators through presenting a serial or a stolen song. They could, however, gain our viewership through an inno-

vative flexible policy and by hiring highly qualified personnel. The TV Board may claim to have financial difficulties. I would like to ask them about the available budget and if they made full use of it.

Faisal M. Wassel
Teacher, Hodeidah

الحمد لله على السلامة

تحمد الله على سلامة الزميله
سولوى لطف السنيناني - المحررة الإجتماعية في
الصحيفة - وذلك بمناسبة تماثلها للشقاء بعد
الحادث الذي تعرضت له.
أسرة الصحيفة وجميع الأهل والأصدقاء

ألف مبدوك



نهى ونبارك للشاب وسيم طاهر
محمد السقاف - المسؤول المالي
في مكتب الصحيفة في تعز -
وذلك بمناسبة الخطوبة وقرب
الزفاف. تهانينا
المهنزون: د/ عبدالعزيز السقاف، د/ غازي أحمد السقاف
وعائلته، وليد عبدالله السقاف، عماد أحمد السقاف، محمد
عبدالهادي السقاف، أيمن عبدالهادي السقاف، محمد عبدالله
السقاف، خالد عبدالله السقاف، نايف نورالدين السقاف،
رضاء عبدالرحمن السقاف، نانف عبدالله السقاف، رضوان
علوي السقاف، رمزي علوي السقاف، عبدالحكيم أحمد
السقاف خيرى حسن السقاف، طه محمد الأديمي، يوسف
الجنيدي، ياسين الحاج
وجميع الأصدقاء..

إتحاد المقاولين العالمية

تتقدم بأحر التهاني القلبية وأسمى التبريكات للشعب اليمني الأبي،
وقيادته السياسية المظفرة بقيادة الفريق علي عبدالله صالح
بمناسبة الذكرى الثالثة والثلاثون لثورة ٢٦ سبتمبر الخالدة.
متمنية للشعب اليمني مزيدا من التقدم والإزدهار والرخاء



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of the 26th Revolution which is the light which
guides Yemen towards a brighter future

CCC: HALF A CENTURY OF CONTRIBUTION TO YEMENI GROWTH

AL-TAJAMMU'U: Aden 4-9-95
(The Yemeni Congregation Party)
Main Headlines:

- 1) The Higher Opposition Coordination Council: "Lift Your Hands Out Of Somalia"
- 2) Will The Yemeni Socialist Party Split?
- 3) The List (Of The Corrupt Officials) Is What Closed The 22 May Newspaper.

Article Summary:

Independence And Self Determination For The Lower And Southern Regions Of The Country
A circular was recently issued by an underground group calling itself "The General Federation of Salvation" demanding self-determination and independence for all the "Shafei" areas of Yemen. In its editorial the paper deplored such a declaration, stating that such an effort is a dangerous sign of sectarian tendencies which Yemen does not need. The declaration claims that the people of the lowlands and the South are oppressed by their Northern Brothers.

AL-WAHDAH: Sana'a 6-9-95
(Official)

Main Headlines:

- 1) Chairman Of Political Parties Committee: - 90 Day Period In Which All Political Parties And Organizations Must Register
- The Committee's Decision On The Legitimacy Of Any Party Or Political Organization Is Final
- Meeting With The Opposition Leaders On Saturday.
- 2) The Parliament Will Discuss Ways Of Activating Its Legislative And Regulatory Role Beginning On Saturday
- 3) Central Bank Of Yemen Takes Step Vis A Vis Fluctuation Of Exchange Rate:
 - One Reserve Requirement For All Deposits With Banks At 25%. Cancellation Of Cash Reserve Requirement Of 10%
 - Acceptance Of Time Deposits At Banks At Rates Commensurate With Tenor Of Deposit.

Article Summary:**Picture From My Country**

In his weekly column, Mr. Hussein Al-Awadhy (Demonstrative Pronouns) complained about those who disturb or annoy foreigners coming to Yemen, especially tourists and points out the story of a French visitor, named "Michelle" or Michael, who comes to Yemen often and has brought many tourists to Yemen from France, Italy, Spain and the UK. Micheal complained that he and a number of tourists were fired at by extremists in the Bir Ali Coastline. The columnist pointed out that there is no justification for such terrorism nor for driving the tourists out of the area since Bir Ali is not a military

Yemeni Press in a Week

by: *Hassan Al-Haifi*

"off-limits" zone. This area promises to be an attractive tourist spot for future investment. "We can't speak of peace and security or stability when wild extremists bring terror to tourists and drive them away".

AL-WAHADAWI: Sana'a 6-9-95
(Nasserite Unionists Party)

Main Headlines:

- 1) Yemen Is A Member Of The Indian Ocean Coalition Instead Of The Middle East Common Market
- 2) Killings And Tribal Wars In Rada'a
- 3) New Sea Piracy On Our Coastline.

Article Summary:**Commentary On The Opposition's Position On The Standing Rules Of The Law On Political Parties.**

In this article, Mr. Sami Ghaleb contests the opposition parties' negative reaction to the standing rules or by-laws recently issued, which seek to apply the Law of Political Parties. The writer states that at present there is chaos in organized political activity and it is about time to install systems to regulate this activity. He cites that part of the reason the political parties in power are able to do what they like is because of the absence of laws to limit their ability to use the government and its instruments to advance party interests. The opposition must rehabilitate their structures to meet the difficult challenges lying ahead for pluralistic organized political activity. If political parties become legitimized and operate within the legal framework that governs organized political activity, then they are guaranteed continuity and success -- if they take on the right platforms and the right open and systematized practice. Political parties in the opposition must apply democracy within their own organizations. Once the opposition parties become legitimized then they will be secured from rulers' trying to dissolve them.

14 OCTOBER: Aden (Daily) 5-9-95
(Official)

Main Headlines:

- 1) Republican Decree For Appointments In The Ministry Of Education (16 At Deputy Minister Level Or Under Secretaries)
- 2) 62% Passing: The Announcement Of Intermediate School Graduate Exams And The First Or Best 10

Results.

- 3) Discussions On Possible Areas Of Cooperation In Fisheries Between Yemen And The Arab Organization For Development

Article Summary:**Joint Meeting Between The Public Authority For Duty Free Zones And Hutchison Wimpow Limited**

Representatives of both parties discussed the possible projects which the company can carry out in Aden, such as the container Depots or the Power Station and Private Investments in Communications and Commercial Projects. The authority also held bilateral talks with MBI, a contender for the first stage of the Aden Duty Free Zone project. The latter presented a proposal for a containerization port and related facilities that can accommodate up to 3,000,000 containers yearly.

AL-THOWRA: Sana'a (Daily) 7-9-95

Main Headlines:

- 1) Council Of Ministers:
 - Ratifies The Proposed Internal Rules For The Duties And Rights Of The University Board Of Teaching And Its Members
 - Ratifies The Law Proposed For The Societies Colleges (For The Development Of Technical And Professional Human Resources)
 - Issued A Decree Regarding Protection Of Society Form The Dangers Of Smoking
 - Approved Report On The Steps For Initiation Of Operations In The Duty Free Zone (In Aden)
- 2) The President In Interview With Al-Ayyam Newspaper:
 - The Alliance Between The General People's Congress And The Yemeni Congregation For Reform Is A Strategic One And Proceeds According To The Coalition Document
 - Significant Attention To Following Up The Implementation Steps Of The Duty Free Zone Plans.

AL-AYYAM: Aden 6-9-95

(Independent)**Main Headlines:**

- 1) The President In Interview:
 - "I Do Not Think The YCG Thinks Of Leaving The Coalition
 - "It To Not Strange For Anyone Who Betrays The

Country And Has Been Kicked Out Of It To Say That

The Southern Provinces Are Under Military Rule
- The General Amnesty Is Considered A National Reconciliation

- The Trial Of The 16th Will Proceed
- It Is Time That Aden Takes Its Right Place And To Move From The Speeches To Reality
- Some Of The National Capital Aid Did Not Interact With The Economic Reform Program.

- The Southern Provinces Are Governed By Local Self Rule

2) The Investigation Committee Working On Aden Branch Of The Ministry Of Petroleum Spends Yr 5 Million In 10 Days.

3) Physical And Psychological Torture In Seyoun Prison

Article Summary:**The Yemeni Socialist Party Denies Distributing Any Weapons To Disrupt Security**

Referring to a report which appeared in Al-Hayat Newspaper that the President accused the YSP, while meeting its Politburo of inciting instability by distributing weapons. The Politburo insisted that its meeting with the President was friendly and useful. Moreover the YSP denounces any accusations of treason, or "infidelity" constantly used by certain people, especially YSP members, such slandering does not serve political development in Yemen nor is it in line with democratic practice

AL-HIWAR: Sana'a (Biweekly) : 6-9-95

(Independent/Baath)**Main Headlines:**

- 1) Will The YCG Come Out of the Coalition?
- 2) The Opposition Demands That Crimes Are Halted
- 3) Today: The Second Session In The Mohammed Najee Saeed Trial
- 4) Al-Kholani: Governor of Hadhramaut: The Man Behind The Return of Electricity To Hadhramaut.

Article Summary:

1) Where Are The Revenues From Gasoline Sales?
The paper discloses the fact that sales of gasoline should bring the government YR 72 Billion yearly, with the increase of price by 100%. Yet where is all the money being channelled?

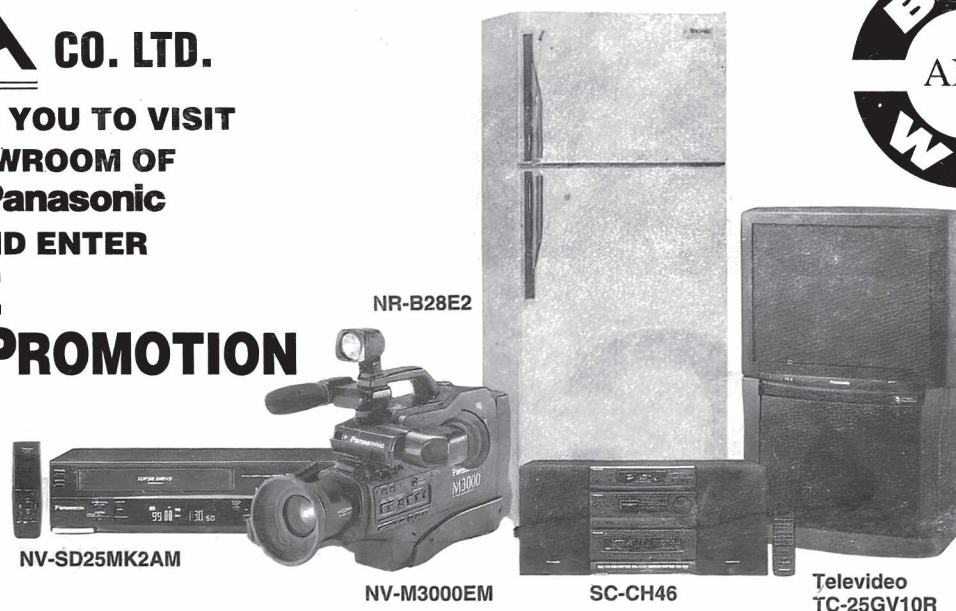
2) Good Deeds By The Yemen Tobacco And Match Co.

The company contributed by providing a medical equipment to Al-Thoura Taz Hospital (microscopes) The article noted that the company has always contributed generously through activities such as drilling water wells, building schools and mosques, and regularly supporting Kamaran Island's development.

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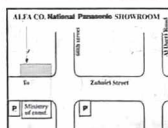
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بأحر التعازي والمواساة إلى
الحاج احمد قاسم سعيد المذحجي والأخوان عدنان وكمال وسامي سعيد قاسم المذحجي

في وفاة المرحومين:

سعيد قاسم سعيد حيدر المذحجي و همام سعيد قاسم المذحجي

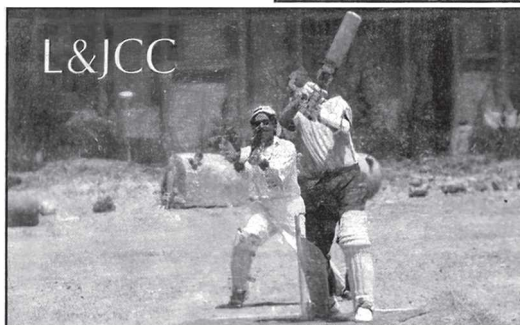
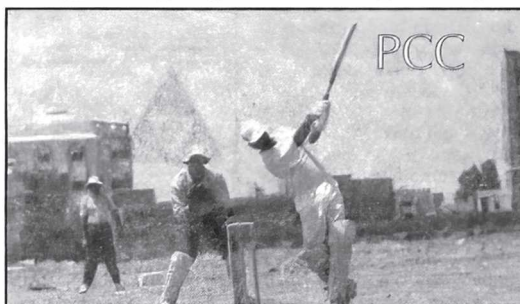
اللذين وافتهما المنية ظهر الجمعة الماضية في حادث مروري أليم .

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وإننا لله وإننا إليه راجعون

CRICKET

TIGERS DEVOUR LIONS

In the end it proved to be a very easy victory for the unbeaten PCC. Having won the toss, the PCC Captain elected to bat. Although the L&JCC fielding was not great, the run rate was kept down reasonably well before the water break. Abid fell LBW to Ajay in the last ball of the 13th over for 30 runs, with the score at only 67. Habib



proved particularly hard for the PCC batsmen, and the runs came in slowly until the end of the twentieth over when PCC were only at 107 runs. In the last five overs the L&JCC bowlers were hammered unmercifully around the stadium and at the end of the 25 mandatory overs PCC had scored 164 runs. Arif carried his bat for a magnificent 84 Not Out. The

moral of the story for the L&JCC is that catches must be taken when offered. The L&JCC started poorly, losing their Captain Garry Looker for nought, caught behind the wicket off Arif. Thereafter there was a steady procession of batsmen back from the wicket, and the wicket of the last man out fell in the 17th over.



A good victory for PCC and Arif won a very deserving Man of the Match. Garry Looker was awarded 10 points towards fielder of the season.

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- Rothmans
- Services & Supply International Limited
- Solid State Internacional Ingeniera C. A.
- Taj Sheba Hotel
- United Bank Limited
- Yemenia
- Yemen International Travel (YIT)
- Yemen Kuwait Shipping
- Yemen Times
- Yemen Travel Agencies
- Universal Travel
- VOLTAS International limited



Photographed by: Ganapathy Parameshwar

SCORES

PCC		L&JCC	
Abid	LBW Ajay 30	Garry, caught, bowler Arif	0
Arif	NotOut 84	Cedric, caught, bowler Arif	8
Masood	Caught Murphy,	Habib, Run Out	2
	Bowled Ranjan	Ranjan, bowled Masood	7
Shafiq	Not Out 8	Steve, caught, bowler Ashan	14
Extras	21	Imdad, caught, bowler Nasir	12
Total for 2 wickets	164	John, bowled Masood	1
Did not bat: Nasir, Baber, Shafaat, Masroor, Ashan, Tariq, and Manzoor.		Ajay, bowled Arif	14
		Srini, caught, bowler Nasir	1
		Don, caught, bowler Masroor	8
		Javid, not out	7
		Extras	13
		Total, All out in 17 overs	87

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مسابقة رقم ٤٣ Contest No.43

Prepared by:
Al-Farouk Institute of Languages & Computer

إعداد:
معهد الفاروق للغات والكمبيوتر

P.O.Box 3637, Al-Raqqa St., Near the Iranian Medical Center, Sanaa; Telephone (967-1) 209721, Fax 218 231
ص ب رقم (٣٦٣٧) ، صنعاء - بالقرب من المركز الطبي الإيراني - شارع الرقا - صنعاء ، تليفون ٢٠٩٧٢١ (١-٩٦٧) ، فاكس ٢١٨٢٣١

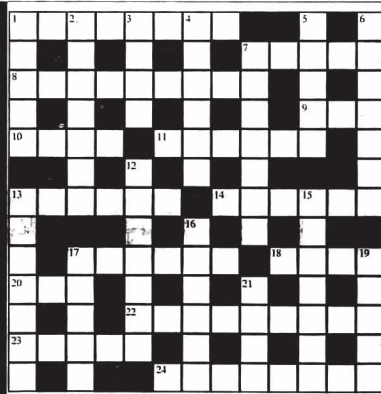
Please fill in the space and hand over your answers to the registrar of the Al-Farouq Institute by

Thursday morning. The winner will be announced in next week's issue of Yemen Times.

يرجى قطع المسابقة وتعبئة البيانات المطلوبة ثم تسليمها إلى السجل بمعهد الفاروق في موعد أقصاه يوم الخميس.

سيعلن اسم الفائز في العدد القادم من «يمن تايمز».

Contest No. 43



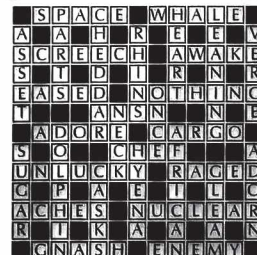
Across

1. Mishap.
7. Seaside play area?
8. Stubborn.
9. Boy.
10. Tidy.
11. Sheep's coat.
13. Abduct, keep hostage.
14. Indoor steps.
17. — Who? TV time traveller.
18. Dog's waggle!
20. Snooker—stick.
22. Weed with bright yellow flowers.
23. Run away to get married.
24. Uncontrolled cattle rush.

Down

1. Fruit of the oak-tree.
2. Yellow sauce (for apple pie?)
3. Fall in drops.
4. Almost.
5. Thick rope or a twisted knitting stitch.
6. Follows secretly.
7. Under.
12. Falling water.
13. — sink; washing-up place.
15. Pretend.
16. Ice-cream holder; blows a good tune!
17. Storehouse.
19. Spear.
21. Bug, cause of disease

Correct answer for contest No. (41)



WINNER OF CONTEST NO 41:
Nabil Abdulwahed



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THE WASTE OF YEMENI SKILLS AND PROBLEM OF UNEMPLOYMENT

I am one of the many unemployed and qualified Yemenis who has C.V.s in many forgotten drawers here and there. Although I was born and brought up in England, my father had made sure that I learned the Quran and Arabic in which I am therefore fluent unlike a lot of Yemeni immigrants. Even though I had been employed in one of the Governorates in a job which was well below my qualifications, I lost this job after the war. However, before I go on, let me say that I do not write out of bitterness but wish to put across a few home truths on this page which might be worth considering in terms of alleviating the sufferings of jobless Yemenis. The high rate of unemployment may not necessarily be related to the lack of jobs but rather to the misplacement of personnel and inefficient or dishonest selection criteria. As far as the government institutions are concerned, one finds that either political considerations or blood relations/favoritism to be the ruling factor for employment, particularly in key positions. Even places like Sana'a University, which should uphold the principles of education, equity and democracy, so as

to prepare the present generation for future leadership; one finds the same overriding principles of vested interests to be the criteria for selection. What happened to the old values that used to be considered crucial in this honorable profession of pedagogy? Then we hear of the constant complaint about the burden of payment to foreign teachers in hard currency, whilst at the same time, so many promising Yemenis have the doors slammed on their faces. When we come to international organizations, one finds their offices populated with certainly not the most qualified Yemenis, who have just been around for many years or as long as my grandmother remembers. I have heard friends declare that this is a typical ruse and excuse for continuing to employ international staff because of "a lack of qualified Yemenis". I know of many highly qualified and experienced Yemenis who were rejected and others of a clerical level employed instead. It seems that even the advertisements that appear in the papers are a mere sham when the decision is taken long before the advertisement is put in the first place.

The many oil companies now mushrooming in this country have done no better if not worse I dare say in terms of giving opportunities to skilled Yemenis to advance professionally. I seem to remember the grand plans of CanOxy for the training of Yemenis, which does not seem to have materialized... or at least we hear nothing of any training program there, considering the big oil finds in the Southern Governorates. There have also been many rejection letters to Yemenis who wanted to work there. At least Yemen Hunt has had a training department and program for Yemenis although it is not clear exactly how much or how far they are prepared to train? Nonetheless, I was happy to read in the papers last week of a Yemeni being promoted to the position of Training Manager. It is indeed an encouraging sign which we hope to be indicative of a future policy to Yemenize at least some of the key positions. However, when I read about Zabara's qualifications, I began to think there must be a catch here. Just how many bright young chemical engineers like him does Yemen have? Considering that, as is men-

tioned in the paper, he has performed well on the field in plant production in oil and gas, it does seem to be a waste of this precious talent to now shift to an administrative job in an office even if the title is big! Surely this is another case of side-tracking Yemeni talent by putting them in the wrong positions. Is this then a case of giving caviar in order to keep the whale? Due to the economic situation and the necessity to earn one's bread, qualified Yemenis will continue to be pushed below the professional line, instead of the more logical trend of upward professional mobility that should take place. Every day people are rushing to emigrate, fortunately for them but unfortunately for Yemen. Is the brain drain and its chain reactions the fate of all third world countries? Will it forever be the destiny of qualified nationals of these countries to be pushed out to serve other countries whilst their own needs them without giving them the appropriate place they deserve? These are some of the many questions I have been puzzling over... anyone has the answers?

By: A. T. Al-Jaabri, Sanaa.

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