



# YEMEN TIMES



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Why Ethiopia's Ambassador to Yemen Defected? Page 5.

## What Is This New Gimmick? Gov't to Issue T. Bills

By: Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf,  
Professor of Finance,  
Sanaa University.

### What Is It?

There will be an auction going on. The Government is to sell Treasury Bills, each carrying a face value of YR 10,000. These are short-term instruments, redeemable after one month. In many ways, the Government has cleverly side-stepped the issue of interest - a thorny question between the two ruling parties. The bills, which physically will not exist - as they will merely be substituted for by bank credit vouchers - will be sold at less than their face value, the price being determined by demand. The notes/bills will be redeemed at full face value, and the difference is the return to the investor.

### What Are the Problems?

The Central Bank of Yemen, which will act on behalf of the Ministry of Finance, has yet to develop a transparent auctioning system. Unless this is done from the start, there is going to be a lot of corruption and trading based on insider information. The result will be to rip off the government, as investors buy the bills cheap, unless there is a floor. The second problem is that these bills will not physically exist, and hence their circulation or re-sell will be limited. This is not a major hurdle, however, especially given the short-term nature of the instruments.

The real problem, however, is the low credibility of the government in the eyes of the public. The people just do not trust the officials. This is where the government needs to work hardest.

### How Much Money to Raise?

The Ministry of Finance is hoping to raise about one billion Riyals in the first round of T. bills offers. As of now, the word is that there be will a YR 10,000 denomination. It is not yet clear when the government will start offering the bills, nor is it specified in how many offers the total one billion loan will be raised. The CBY can force the banks to hold some of their reserves and others assets in T. bills, although it will need to enact a law for this purpose. Major government corporations, specially those with surplus cash, can also be enticed to buy the bills. But, the government (read, CBY) already has access to these funds, and this option is far more expensive to it. The success of the scheme will be measured in raising money from individuals and private sector companies.

### Structure of the Scheme:

The structure for managing the treasury bill offer is still to be worked out in full. The format suggested now is in closed bids to be submitted to any one of the five CBY branches - Sanaa, Aden, Taiz, Hodeidah and Mukallah. Presumably, the offer closest to the face value of the bill will be taken, although

the CBY does retain the right not to take any of the offers.

There are several flaws in the structure of the scheme, the way it is. Let me mention one major one.

The CBY is asking for all bidders to enclose with their offer a "Good for Payment" check in favor of the CBY. For parties that already have an account with the CBY, they simply need to authorize it to debit their account. What the system has done is that it has given an edge for banks and government corporations (those who have an account with it) over others. For an individual to participate in the bids, he/she has to accept that the bid amount is deducted from his/her account in order to stamp "Good for Payment" on the check. This is a cost, in two ways:

a) If the individual wins the bid, then he/sh lost return on the bid amount for the period between the dates of bid presentation and awarding of T.bills.

b) If the individual loses the bid, then he/she has lost on those dates, plus at least a one-month return on the money from the bank.

Another problem with the scheme is that it will divert funds from the banks deposit accounts. There could be a run on the banks, exposing them to a further cash/liquidity problem. Thus, the government could be cornering its main partners in the T. bill scheme. Is this a short-sighted policy, or what!

### Latest on Budget Figures:

The latest numbers on the government

### Range of T. Bill Offers:

The highest that any bidder will pay for a CBY T. bill with a face value of YR 10,000 is YR 9,800. That is because depositing that money at any bank at the going rate of 22% return per year will yield YR 183.3 per month. The extra margin for safety and trust will raise the difference to YR 200.

The CBY will need to decide on a floor for its offer acceptance. If it decides on a 30% return per year, the lowest bid it will accept is YR 9,750 for a T. bill of YR 10,000.

The game will be played between those two numbers: 9,750 - 9,800.

budget are not encouraging. During this third quarter (July, August, September), the government's average monthly revenue was about half its expenditures. Total government expenditures for the whole year are expected to well exceed YR 100 billion. The dramatic drop in imports has led to a similarly dramatic drop in customs duty, and the stagnation in economic activities has resulted in major losses in taxes on corporate income and profits.

### Effect on Economy:

The direct effect of this scheme is to drain funds from the market to the government. I would like to make two comments here:

From the outset, let me say that this transfer of capital is from the more efficient user (private sector) to the less efficient user (government).

Second, the investment market is already short of funds. This is evident from the low cash levels in company balance sheets.

My conclusion is simple. The government would do better to control its budget rather than looking for new ways to borrow!

## The PGC/Islah Wrangling's New Twist: Are We Doomed to a Re-run of History ?

Last week witnessed a new escalation in the wrangling of the People's General Congress (PGC) and the Yemeni Congregation for Reform (Islah). The two partners in the ruling coalition issued communiques against each other.

It all started when the Islah party issued a strongly-worded criticism of Yemen's participation in the Amman Summit. The communique warned against "a sell-out of our basic values and beliefs of the Yemeni, Arab and Islamic nations". It also indicated that the Islah party did not approve of Yemen's participation.

The PGC responded by issuing a counter-

communique explaining that the government had discussed this matter. "The Islah did object, but the objection was against the level of Yemeni representation rather than against the participation itself. It wanted a vice/deputy minister to represent Yemen, and this issue was resolved by majority voting in the government."

The PGC communique also accused Islah of political sensationalism and of misrepresenting facts. In an ominous indication to the failed partnership PGC/YSF partnership, the PGC communique asked, "Will recent history repeat itself?"

More on the Summit on page 11

## Sheikh Al-Ahmar Seeks to Establish a Supreme Tribal Council

Sheikh Abdullah Bin Hussain Al-Ahmar, Speaker of Parliament, Leader of the Islah Party, and Paramount Chief of the Hashed Tribal Federation, has announced his efforts to establish a Supreme Tribal Council that will cover the whole of Yemen. On his present tour of several southern and eastern governorates, the sheikh was willing to lend a helping hand in re-establishing tribal affiliations, links and loyalties even where these have died.

Many of the modernists in Sanaa and the major cities have been at a loss to explain the relationship between this rising supreme council and the state. One Sanaa University professor had this to say:

"Even as the world is moving towards the concept of a universal or world citizen at the expense of national affiliations, it is sad that we in Yemen are moving towards much narrower affiliations like the tribe."

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# OUR VIEWPOINT

## Cost of Holding Predators at Bay Drives Small Entrepreneurs Out of Business!

Living and working in Yemen has become like living/working in a jungle, where people have to fend off for themselves. The overall poverty, the lack of respect for law and order, and the general absence of good security and judicial services by the state, have unleashed predators who blackmail entrepreneurs and businesses. Thus, the demand for bodyguards, trouble-shooters, and other similar services has risen sharply. Individuals and groups - usually associated with the regime - often simply demand payment of certain sums. They target successful businesses. They use various excuses, which have become more and more transparent. If you don't pay, you are intimidated, blackmailed, or even dragged into various kinds of problems, which are a drain on your money, time, energy, and other resources. So, it is a choice - either pay the gangs and thugs, or be sucked in into a quagmire of problems. Small businesses and entrepreneurs are unable to pay. In addition, their financial capabilities do not enable them to hire a protection service. As a result, many go under.

How do people cope with this problem? Different ways have been evolved in coping with this situation. 1. We have noted above that some entrepreneurs and small businesses are driven out of business as a result of this problem. They are just too small to afford to pay. 2. One way of reacting has been for businesses to stay out of the spotlight to avoid attention. Their offices are small and located on side-streets, and they may not even have sign boards, or these are very small.

3. In other cases, the security personnel, bodyguards and other similar workers who serve as a buffer are boosted. The tendency is also to minimize contact with non-essential circles. Thus, many entrepreneurs, by keeping their distance from the public, have become more isolated, even from relatives.

4. But the most practical way to handle the situation - which is the way most large businesses have reacted - is to buy a protection service. They add the expenditures to their costs. Of course, the logical and appropriate solution to this problem is for the state to provide adequate services and protection against these predators. But then again, these predators themselves are, in one way or another, part of the state. In fact, some people believe that the political system unleashes these predators on the successful businesses because it wants to retain their loyalty, and yet, it does not have the resources to pay them to keep them happy.

In other words, the predator approach may have now become a new version of an official 'faid' (bounty/spoil grabbing) policy - like what happened after the fall of Aden, which is driving entrepreneurs out of business.

The policy also has regional implications since most of the small businesses and entrepreneurs are from Ibb, Taiz, Aden and Hadhramaut regions.

**The Publisher**  


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## Journalists' Syndicate Elections Underway

Elections have taken place in several governorates over the last three weeks. Abyan, Taiz, Aden and other governorates have elected their representatives - one person for each ten members - who will come to Sanaa in December, to elect the executive body of the syndicate, including the top post. Elections for the Sanaa representatives are scheduled for November 15th.

## Battle between Islah Militias and Military Forces in Radfan Area

Over the last five days, the area of Al-Seraya in Radfan region in Lahej governorate has witnessed an on-and-off military engagement between Islah militias and military forces. According to eye witnesses, the bodies of four soldiers still in their uniforms have been brought to Sanaa as the first casualties.

The conflict started when leading members of the two parties got into heated arguments in their constant maneuvering for influence in the region. The Governor of Lahej, and the Ministers of Interior and Defence have given stern orders to control the fall-out of the battle.

## The Opposition Condemns Efforts to Join the Peace Process

The Opposition's Supreme Coordination Council condemned the Government's efforts to join the Middle East peace process and normalization with Israel.

## NTMC Makes a Donation to Al-Thawrah Hospital

Mohammed Al-Qumiri, General Manager of the national Tobacco & Matches Co (NTMC) donated last week US\$ 17,000 to Al-Thawrah Hospital in Taiz. The money was used to finance medical equipment in the Ear, Nose and Throat Department of the hospital. Dr. Habib Baggash, General Manager of the Taiz Health Office, explained that the equipment will help many patients who come to the emergency ward as a result of inhaling foreign objects and obstruct proper respiration. He used the occasion to thank the company, as well as Sheikh Abdul-Rahman Qahtan, Member of Parliament, who played a big role in securing the funding.

## Seminar on Water Supply in Sanaa

Today, Monday, November 6th, a seminar will start under the title "Sources for Sanaa Water Supply". The participants in the seminar, including representatives from various line ministries and donor countries and organizations, will study the options for water supply, as well as ways and means to control waste in water consumption. According to estimates, the presently one million population of Sanaa could grow to two million by the year 2010. As a result, water demand could grow from the current level of 900 l/s to 2580 l/s. Shortage will be inevitable, and investments required will be enormous. Read about it next week.

## Political Association Issues Newsletter

The Association of Political Scientists is issuing a newsletter. Issue Number One is expected to come out tomorrow, November 7th, 1995.

## Tae kwon Du Training Program Completed

The National Olympic Committee, in collaboration with the Yemeni National Taekwondo Federation, successfully concluded last month a ten-day training program. The program was hosted by Al-Yarmook Club in Sanaa, and was supervised by the Korean coach, Mr. Kwin In Lim, and his Yemeni assistant, Mr. Issam Al-Hotam. Trainees from various governorates attended the program. The program included improvements in some of the techniques, how to organize training sessions for beginners and intermediate levels, and updating the information of Yemeni athletes on this sport. The Korean coach expressed satisfaction with the progress of this sport in Yemen.

By: Alaa Mohamed Al-Maqtari



## Census Data Inputing Staff Honored

Last week, some 200 persons who were charged with the job of inputing the census data were honored by Mr. Abdo Rabbo Jerada, Chairman of the Central Statistical Organization. "These individuals have worked in three shifts to type-in the mountains of data from the field reporters during the December 1994 national census," he said. He also added that the detailed results will be printed soon.

## YHOC Donates Chairs

Yemen Hunt Oil Company has donated 108 school chairs and desks, valued at about US\$ 4,000. In response to a request from the Hadharem Welfare Association, YHOC had the chairs made and transported to Taiz, where they were received by the Governor's office, for distribution to the schools.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Organizing Committee of the "PAKISTAN FOOD & MUSIC FESTIVAL" which was held at the Taj Sheba Hotel between 21st and 27th October, 1995, would like to say "THANK YOU" to the following companies for their generous sponsorship:

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# Amran Cement Plant Gets New Boost

Cement production is an essential component of the development and construction process. That is why, Yemen built three cement plants one in each of Bajel, Amran and Al-Barh. Unfortunately, the productivity of these plants has not been optimal.

Six months ago, the Government appointed Mr. Noman Duwaid as General Manager of the Amran Cement Plant. Over such a short time, he has been able to achieve a major overhaul. Productivity increased fourfold, expenses fell to a third, and profits rose. Many people are now talking of the Amran Cement Plant as a model of public sector industrial projects.

Mr. Duwaid belongs to a powerful sheikhly family in Khowlan. In addition, they are in-laws of the President. The young Duwaid himself carries a university degree in Business Administration from the USA. Those factors have given the new general manager the clout to weed out the old burdens and start a new system.

Last week, a team from Yemen Times travelled to the factory in Amran (50 kilometers north of Sanaa) and met with Mr. Noman Duwaid, and his staff. Excerpts:

**Q: How did you find the plant when you took over?**

**A:** It is hard for me to describe the pathetic conditions lest I should appear as if I am trying to criticize my predecessors. But the conditions were really bad.

The plant is about fifteen years old. There has been little maintenance for equipment, the financial situation was problematic, the inventory was low, the marketing was difficult. In addition, there were many individuals who would come with orders to give them this or that quantity of cement. They don't need the

stopped all the intervention in the affairs of the factor by anybody, and we refused to honor any orders to anybody, irrespective of who issued them.

We did a complete re-structuring of the inventory, including re-numbering of parts. We were able to literally dig out enormous quantities of spare parts and tools from the area around the plant.

**Q: Can you give us specific examples of the improvements you talk about?**

**A:** For example, one of our two motors - which are submerged



ments at many levels, even including a new cooling system for the furnace.

**Q: What has happened to output?**

**A:** You can't believe this, but now we produce an average of almost 70,000 sacks per day. You see, in previous times, the daily output was 36,000 sacks per day. I told my people, 'Look, for every sack above this quantity you get half a riyal in bonus.' You see the result. You have to look after the people who are responsible for production.

**Q: What about profits?**

**A:** Last month, we paid to the government coffers YR 500 million. This is the average money we now plough into the state coffers. But I do not want the Ministry of Finance people to nag me about this or that regulation. The ultimate goal is to come out on top - with everybody happy.

**Q: Cement imports have brought the price average down. How has this affected you?**

**A:** Yes, there have been imports of cement, and the price level has fallen. We now sell a sack of 50 kgs. cement for YR 370. The other two factories sell theirs at slightly lower rates.

Imagine, what would have happened to this plant in the old cost system. Since we have cut back on so many expenditures, we are able to cope and compete.

**Q: There is talk of expanding the capacity?**

**A:** Yes, we have plans to double

the output. Today, we employ some 700 persons, and we will need to employ some 300 more to double the capacity. I believe we have the financial ability to go ahead with the expansion.

**Q: There have been many complaints in terms of the environment and ecology. What can you do in this regard?**

**A:** I am glad you mentioned this. In the past, there have been emissions of dust and vapor-like particles that resulted in a layer of soil-destructive coat. We now are able to create a by-pass system

and re-absorb over 90% of this emission.

We have introduced tree-planting and other greening efforts within the compound. We have also introduced cleanliness measures in the facility.

**Q: What are the measures the government can take to help you in your work?**

**A:** Managing an industrial project is a very difficult task. The bureaucratic procedures and government restrictions deprive us from the flexibility we need for optimally operating a factory.

The factory should be given the flexibility to operate along fully commercial basis - the same as private sector. Thus, I ask that all governmental restrictions and limitations should be lifted and the factory should be turned into independent body.

Those governmental policies and restrictions are negatively affecting us in two ways. On one hand, it makes the factory less efficient and less competitive and raise the cost of production. On the other hand, the regulations are used as an excuse to cover and shield the deficiency and shortcomings in the system.

**Q: What are your new plans?**

**A:** We are now working to set up a training institute for technicians working in cement plants. We hope to start the first program before the end of this year. Some of the programs include welding, heavy-duty equipment maintenance, electrical appliances and machines, etc. The service will be made available to other cement plants, as well as any private industries.

I believe that the mid-level technical staff is the backbone of any industrial enterprise. That is why I think that we should put more emphasis on manpower training and development.

As a corollary to this, it is important to boost the morale of all workers in order to help them produce their utmost.

It is the people who either make or break an enterprise. We should approach industrial management from this angle.



cement, they just sell the quota allotted to them by the order and pocket the margin of profit between the factory rate and the market rate of cement.

**Q: It looks like you have done major improvements in such a short time. What exactly did you do?**

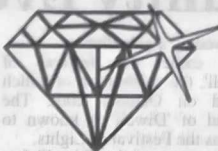
**A:** Well, I boosted morale among the technicians and workers. I immediately instituted a system of incentives for any improvement in the technical, administrative, marketing, etc. fields. I

under water as part of a cooling system - is stopped every half hour by algae. We used to buy chemical products from Japan to the tune of millions of Riyals every year. These helped reduce the growth of the algae and even fragmented them.


Our people came up with a simple system of screening the water twice before the flow reaches the motors. It is so simple it is annoying. And all the time, we have been paying all these millions in imports.

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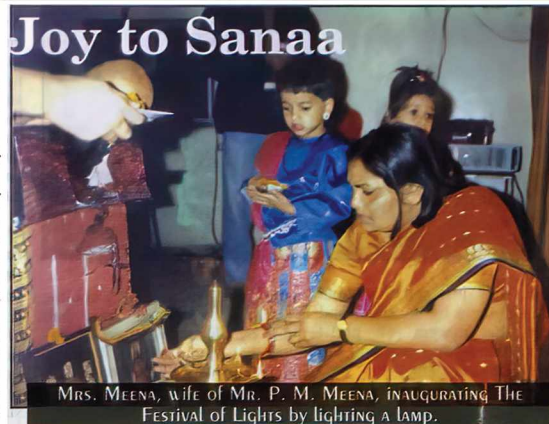


Children Presenting a "LAMP DANCE" TO MARK "DEEPAVALI"

## Indian Community Events Bring Joy to Sanaa

followed by a gala dinner. Then came the festival of 'Diwali', the celebration of which started on October 20th. The festival of 'Diwali' is known to most as the Festival of Lights. At the center of the 'Diwali' festivities is the worship of the Goddess Laxmi, the Goddess of Wealth in the Hindu mythology. Everyone is bedecked in his/her best, and gifts and sweets are exchanged. All Indian homes are illuminated with colorful and delightful lamps. The first event of the 'Diwali' festivities in Sana'a was a 'Diwali Mena' (fete) organized by the Indian Embassy Club with the full and wholehearted cooperation and support of the whole Indian community. A number of stalls were put up offering a variety of imaginative and interesting games which were enjoyed by both young and old. The stalls also offered sumptuous foods from various regions of India. Everyone enjoyed the full gusto of the specialities. "It was a perfect example of 'Unity in Diversity' that India as a nation

and Indians as a community stand for," according to Mr. P. Meena, the Charge d' Affairs. The events culminated in a 'Diwali Night' on the 26th of October. It was a very special musical evening and a troupe of professional dancers and singers. 'The Rajani Ras Garba', comprising of about 22 artists, who were especially flown in from India to give the festivities a grand finale. Everyone enjoyed to his/her full the exceptional program that was put up by the talented artists in a way that was befitting the finale of the festivities. The audience was enthralled and the program went on till late at night, well after the gala dinner that seemed to have been relegated to a secondary position because the audience wanted to have more of what the talented artists and dancers were offering. The series of events were the first of their kind to have been organized in Sana'a and were a grand success. The turnout was beyond expectation as the events were attended by people from various



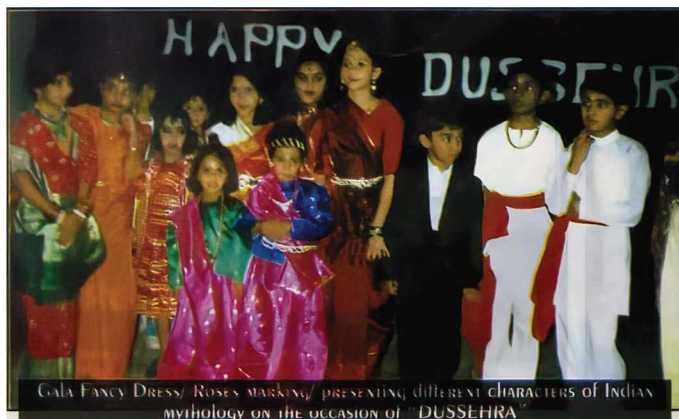
MRS. MEENA, wife of Mr. P. M. MEENA, INAUGURATING THE Festival of Lights by lighting a lamp.

The month of October was a time of festivities, enjoyment, laughter and entertainment for Indians. A chain of events take place during this month. The Indian Embassy Club in collaboration with the whole Indian community in Sanaa celebrated these occasions. The first in this chain of events was the festival of "Dussehra" which was celebrated with much gaiety and fervor. The Dussehra Festival is an important Hindu festival which denotes the triumph of good over evil. It was on this day that the mythical Hindu King Rama vanquished the demon King Ravana after a long and drawn-out battle. Effigies of the demon king are burnt to stress the inevitable triumph of good over evil. In Sana'a, the "Dussehra" festival was celebrated by the Indian community and friends in the form of a grand Cultural Evening organized on the 5th of October. The Cultural Evening was attended not only by members of the community in Sana'a, but also by other nationalities who got a rare opportunity to have an insight into the Hindu culture and way of life. Children participated in the festival by reading well-prepared

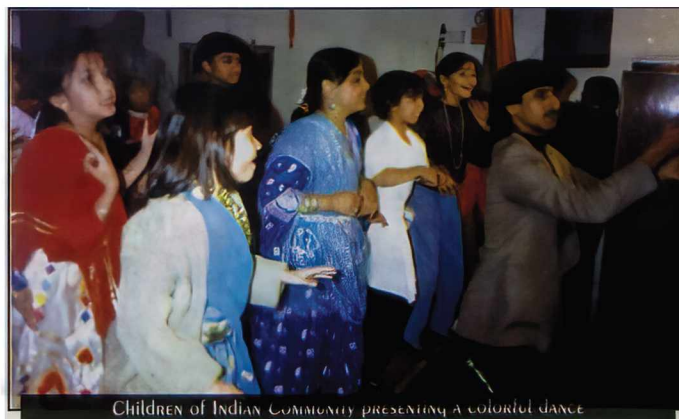
speeches which briefed the audience on the rich and complicated mythology of the Hindu religion and philosophy. The children also gave stage performances which were much appreciated. The adults also actively participated in the festivities in the form of a "Garaba" dance which is a group dance from the State of Gujarat. A group of men and women danced in synchronization and harmony. The Cultural Evening was

nationalities and religions who all enjoyed being part of the festivities which added many folds to the sense of happiness and brotherhood all-round. This was especially so in the case of Yemeni guests and children who described the events as a treat. They got a rare glimpse of at least a few of the many colors of the prism that the Hindu religion, culture and way of life are made of.

Other similar festivities were also organized by members of the Indian community all over Yemen. In Taiz, the community, organized its own events which were all successful. "All in all, it was a grand success. I would like to thank Mr. P. Meena who immensely helped the community enjoy its festivities and to present the harmony in diversity of the Indian people," said a community elder.



GALA FANCY DRESS/ ROSES MARKING/ PRESENTING DIFFERENT CHARACTERS OF INDIAN mythology on the occasion of "DUSSEHRA"



Children of Indian Community presenting a colorful dance

## Israel Integrates Slowly into Middle East

The sight of Israelis dealing with Arabs at last week's Amman Economic summit was an indicator of how much the Middle East has changed -- the boycott of an Israeli news conference by Jordanian newspapers just before the Summit, and the assassination of Israeli Prime Minister Yitshaq Rabin at the hands of a Jewish extremist show how much it is still the same.

Two years after Israel and the Palestinians agreed on a timetable for ending their conflict and a year after an Israeli-Jordanian Peace Treaty, Israel's economic integration in the Middle East remains more a prospect than a reality. But last week, it received a strong boost.

"The Amman Summit is a Trojan horse that will allow Israel to enter this region," said Ali Al-Baghli, a member of Kuwait's parliament and a former oil minister. "Until Israel makes peace and comes to a final settlement with all Arabs, we will stay away from it," he said in Kuwait, which is sending only a low-level delegation to the Summit. The same feeling was echoed in numerous capitals, not least among which was Sanaa, where the issue has strained relations between the two ruling coalition partners. "How can we trade and enter into joint investments with the Israelis when they continue to shoot at Palestinian kids," asked an Islahi Sanaa University lecturer.

Yet, Israel can point to gains since the United States forced the region into peace talks in 1991 and pressed Arab States to end the boycott of Israeli companies and any firm that dealt with Israel.

The Amman Summit, which focused on business, is a follow-up to the inaugural Middle East and North Africa Economic Summit last year in Casablanca where Israelis and Arabs mingled freely for the first time. "Casablanca was the opening up of relations with our neighbors," said Israeli deputy Foreign Minister Yossi Beilin.

"It was the death of the Arab boycott." Indeed, even countries as far from Israel as Yemen have removed the tertiary and secondary boycott decisions. The next step is to initiate direct deals with Israel.

Until then, the Jewish state plans to use an expanded Jordanian airport by the Red Sea that will serve resorts on both sides of the border. The countries have signed a memorandum of understanding for a \$50 million joint venture to produce bromine from the Dead Sea which lies between them.

In a much publicized deal yet to be signed, Israel could buy natural gas from Qatar -- a project in which Jordan hopes to unload tankers in Aqaba and become the transit point.

Despite these steps unthinkable before peace talks opened in Madrid in October 1991, there remains widespread suspicion of Israeli intentions and fear of economic domination.

Israel's per capita industrial output is 34 times that of Egypt, 64 times that of Syria. Israel's GDP is twice that of Egypt, although Egypt has 11 times the population.

That fear of the regional economic superpower is one reason for the lack of enthusiasm by some in the region for a Middle East Development Bank, which has been promoted by Washington on behalf of likely beneficiaries such as Egypt, Israel, Jordan and the Palestinians.

"The setting up of the bank will weaken the Peace Process, Arab strength and Arab financial institutions," said Mr. Hassan Zainalabedin, First Vice chairman of the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

The Gulf Cooperation Council (which groups Bahrain, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Oman) has come down firmly against the bank -- which was unveiled at the Amman Summit. The Bank has given Israel its first seat in a regional economic body.

Whether a cover or the real reason, the lack of peace accords between Israel and all its neighbors remains an obstacle to economic relations. Syria and Lebanon have boycotted the Amman Summit because of the impasse in their negotiations with Israel.

Even in Jordan, where King Hussain has warmer relations with Israel than with most Arab countries, local newspaper reporters failed to attend a news conference by the Israeli Ambassador to mark the first anniversary of the Peace Treaty that ended their 46-year conflict.

"How can Arabs engage in economic cooperation or any other type of cooperation with Israel while it still occupies Arab lands and refuses to give Arabs their rights," a senior Syrian official said in Damascus.

Those words sound increasingly anachronistic as Arab-Israeli contacts become more routine, but the sentiment is still widely held. After half a century of wars, full acceptance of Israel will take time.

In the meanwhile, the issue has created much soul-searching and division among Arab intellectuals and even the general public. "It all sounds so sudden and so dramatic. For the last several decades we have been told that Israel is an eternal enemy of the Arabs. Now we are told to make friends. Even if we rationally accept this, it is emotionally disturbing," explained a Yemeni intellectual.

Meanwhile, the agreements for the establishment of a regional investment bank - to be based in Cairo, and to regulate regional trade are being worked out. The institutional base will most definitely come before the emotional adjustment.

At the end of the day, for most Arabs, the issue is not any more whether or not to come to terms with Israel, but how to go about it.

## "Thank You" Prof Dr. O. Schmitt

Judge Ahmed Al-Wazeer and all his family members, would like to express their deep gratitude and special thanks to Prof. Dr. O. Schmitt and his medical team and assistants at the University Hospital in Bonn in Germany. They have successfully performed on the neck-spinal column operation for my son Abdul-Muneim. My son is now able to walk, because of the mercy of God and special skill of Prof Dr. Schmitt. I take this opportunity to repeat my gratitude.

I would also like to use the occasion to thank President Ali Abdullah Saleh for the financial and moral support he has given us.



## Ethiopian Ambassador Explains Why He Applied for Political Asylum in Yemen

Yusuf Hamid Nasser was accredited as Ethiopia's ambassador in Sanaa on 25th July, 1992. Just over three years later, he filed for political asylum with the Yemeni Government.

The Yemeni authorities, surprised by the turn of events, and while providing for the basic needs of the ambassador, are studying the request.

Mr. Nasser comes from the Bani Shongool area located to the west of Ethiopia, along the border with Sudan. His tribe actually exists in both countries, and freely roams around in both directions. It represented a bridge between the two neighbors and a symbol of their togetherness.

Mr. Nasser is one of the founders of the Beni Shangool Peoples Liberation Movement which fought side by side with TPLF for more than 13 years from Sudan.

The ambassador had specific grievances. In an interview with the Yemen Times, he explained many complications which have to do with the lack of fulfillment of the ideals of the Revolution.

"The Tigrian minority has betrayed the struggle of the Ethi-



being used as a tool by the Tegrian minority rulers to control our people and undermine their legal rights" Mr. Nasser explained.

"One month ago I was notified to end my term of service in Yemen and return to Addis. Although it is not the norms of the Ethiopian Ministry of Foreign Affairs to give its ambassadors only one month notice to leave, I wrote the Yemeni Ministry of Foreign Affairs to that effect and requested appointments with the Yemeni officials to bid them farewells. All of a sudden, two officials from the Ethiopian Ministry of Foreign Affairs arrived to Sanaa less than a week from the first letter, occupied the embassy and took over every thing and asked me to leave to Addis in a week time which was impossible, because one week is not enough even to backup"

"All those actions against me, in addition to what is happening to Muslims in Ethiopia convinced me that my personal security will be in danger if I returned home .so, I decided to seek political asylum in Yemen " said Mr. Nasser.

He expressed his gratitude to the Yemeni government and people and said that he is proud that he has exerted his best efforts to consolidate and develop the historical bilateral relations between the Yemeni and Ethiopian peoples during his assignment as ambassador in Sanaa.

opian people for freedom and democracy and started to establish a type of Tegrian colonization" he said. "They showed their bad intentions from the very beginning and tried to get rid of all those who have actively participated in overthrowing Mangistu regime. I was sent as an ambassador to Yemen as one of those persona non-gratas. Later my people in Beni Shangool wanted me to be elected as a regional governor. I went back to Ethiopia for the elections. The government intervened militarily and prevented me from being elected and imposed another person against the will of our people. I returned to Sanaa as ambassador. The whole situation in the country was deteriorating and even the vice governor they imposed in Beni Shangool fled the country and took refuge in a neighboring country when he felt that he is

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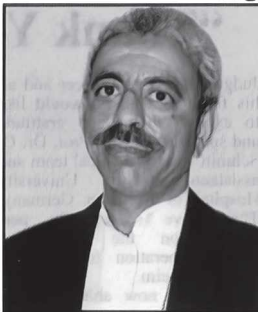
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# Common Sense

By: Hassan Al-Haifi

## Who Will Clean Up the Trash?



He looked very upset. He had so many things on his mind racing back and forth trying to stop somewhere to come up with an idea - a vision - an escape.

"Come on, Abdul-Rahman; it is not all that bad," said his wife, as she tried to keep the light blanket from flying away into the sharp blue sky, the blue color only corrupted by the hundreds of plastic bags and paper that are spread out into the horizon, as though indifferent to the Law of Gravity. "Look at that sky, Halima," said Abdul-Rahman. "You tell me it is not that bad!"

"I can't believe that you carry all that tonnage on your face, as if you just came out of a construction job on one of the pyramids of the pharaoh, just because the wind has filled the sky with a colorful sampling of all the garbage piled up in our city?"

"Hey, you boys should not go too far!" Halima called back her sons who had begun a gentle childish trot towards the north of the Revolution Park in the Al-Hasabah area of Sana'a.

"We want to go and see the rides in the fun park," said one of them in an almost inaudible voice that their mother could barely pick up.

"Oh no! I told you the picnic in the park is an embarrassing idea. You know we cannot afford to spend money on kiddie parks, these days. We were lucky enough to have money for today's lunch," said the disturbed

husband as he got up to persuade the kids to cancel their adventure into the commercial area of the park, with all its flashing and colorful lights along with a mix of 'foreign' music, as the children called it.

He took them to the free amusement area, which comprised of structures like swings, seesaws and other paraphernalia that have long since lost the bright colors of the paint that once blended rather cheerfully with the lush greenery of the park in the early years of the park's life. Abdul-Rahman and the two boys returned to the wife who was laying out lunch for her family to enjoy. She knew they had built up much appetite due to the energy expended walking and playing in the park.

The younger boy, sitting across the father wanted to cry but would not dare in the presence of his father. The biggest factor in the family's culture is the father's charisma and wisdom.

"What is the matter, Hamza?" asked the father noticing that his younger son of five years old, was not eating and not carrying the facial expression which reflects having achieved the objective of the picnic. Hamza was not comfortable with telling his father that the food was too spicy. He found an answer that is evasive but not too far from the truth, but really not in context with the real truth: "I never had a chance to ride in the amusements

they have in this park. I would like, just once, to be able to say to my friends that I have been on these rides. They laugh at me when I tell them that we only use the free part of the amusement area. Then, I tell them that the best part about the free fixtures is that I never have to wait on line before going down the slides." The boy impressed his father by the logic, which he occasionally blurts out. The father was thinking: Little Hamza will not be far from the character of Hamza, the prophet Mohammed's uncle, the man who protected his nephew and thus prevented the quick decimation of the small number of his early followers. Religion, almost to a mystic level, dominates Abdul-Rahman's thinking.

"May Allah repulse all evil from you, my beloved sons and may He always guide you to the straight path. Just tell me, Hamza, since when have you enjoyed eating spicy foods? The whole family was laughing simultaneously, and the young boy's face changed to express the happiness, which the father always successfully managed to extract from his family, despite the deprivation and their low standard of living. They had known a better life, before everything in the country started to go haywire.

Abdul-Rahman has always tried hard to eke out a pleasant life for his household. That is becoming

more difficult as the overall cost of living increased faster than the growth of income. The only consolation in all this challenge is that his family understands that their continued struggle for subsistence now is not really their father's fault. They are satisfied, for now that at least, that they are able to manage the essentials of life: food, water and reconditioned clothing. More important, they know that their father is not a part of the "world outside", with all the evil that has come to engulf society, on such a wide scale.

After completing their meal, the boys hurried back to playing in the open area near by. Halima completed the gathering of the utensils and looked for a place to dispose off the leftovers. "Why don't they place garbage cans in the park?" she asked angrily.

"I do not know why you keep asking: 'Why don't they do this?' Why don't they do that?' You can see that they just do not care to do anything right or normal. Take this park for example. Ten years ago, it was so lush green and beautiful all year round. In addition there were so many free amusements and other activities in the park. There was a small coffee shop in the middle of the park.

"Then, some rotten genius came up with the idea of putting a sleazy commercial amusement park in the middle of the public park. In addition to having given the land in a choice location free to the 'investor', the government paid the cost of connecting the electricity to the amusement park, depriving many households of funds that were previously allocated to supply them with power. The cheap commercialization has destroyed the place. The former beauty of the park; its peaceful and quiet nature, and its public property status have all been hampered with by this cheap exploitative project. How can we claim to be a people of a civilized heritage when we do not allow beautiful things to stay as they are. Imagine that! Even the park cannot escape this ugly commercialization that has taken over every available public leisure area, roads, street crossings, and even government building walls. Can you imagine? Sana'a, that just ten years ago was almost free from any commercialization, has become an ugly metropolis of thousands of tasteless advertisements, messy billboards, cement columns, etc. wherever you turn.

"This has seriously damaged the former natural blending of the city, the geology and the ecology of the area. Even the fence of the park is now threatened as they plan to to encase it by a chain-like link of huge billboards that will cover up a large part of whatever is left of the beauty of the park. That will blind the motorists as they drive to and from the airport. They already suffer from the nauseating smell that emanates from the untreated sewage which lies east of Airport Road.

"I don't really know what the Municipality of the Capital City is doing, but it seems like it has converted the city into a tasteless advertising agency. As for the city, the best description which fits the image of the capital now would be: Sana'a: Garbage on the ground, sewage gas and trash in the air and garbage on and within the walls".

Halima did not want to stop. She had a statement to make. "On television, one hears of the billions spent by the government, to the point that it has to run a budget deficit. Where is it all that money going? What is it used for? Nobody knows...Nobody cares!" Abdul-Rahman patiently tried to explain the common trait of most Third World countries: "In view of a cultural lag from which more than half of the inhabitants of the world suffer from, countries, like

Yemen, are unable to come up with the proper standards in government and in society. Thus the populations become easy prey for exploiters, dictators and looters who turn government into a business partnership, or a closed corporation that makes unbelievable profits for its 'shareholders'. But, it has really to offer nothing in return. In short, government in these countries is nothing more than a sleazy business operation. The sad part is that the majority of the population are all suckers who give an unending green light for this corporation to step on the general citizenry and bleed off all the resources for the sole benefit of those especially in the higher echelons of the firm."

"The people do not seem to realize that the country is also theirs and that the resources are national property in which all the citizens of the country have a stake. It is hard to believe that national interest can be narrowed down to such a sleazy arrangement!"

Halima added, "The government says that it is not its fault! The people are just content with blaming and cursing the officials. Parliament claims that it does not have any powers, yet in the situations where it has the power, it does not even know how to go about using them. The press - partisan or independent - claim that they have revealed the problems and pointed out the deficiencies, but seldom have gone beyond the generalizations or partisan tit for tat. The press is under obligation to be bolder, but it seems trapped by the government's enforcement and regulatory organs, which have all become solely tied up with

covering up the regime and phasing out any real outspoken views that expose the whereabouts of these deficiencies and that reveal the possible remedies. Has government turned against the people?"

Abdul-Rahman threw back the ball to the kids after it had inadvertently got kicked to the picnic site where the father and mother were chatting. He said, "From the trend our nation is evolving into, I would dread to visualize the state of life for our two sons and the other Yemeni children and how they will cope with life as they mature to responsibility. Would they succumb to the difficulties and accept life as it is - as their parents have done, or would they find a more effective way of challenging it?"

Halima was thinking hard, then she remarked: "Have all the parents of the children of the country been fair to their kids by leaving all these challenges for them to deal with. The welfare of the nation is really a continuous responsibility of all generations to bear. Our generation must also live up to the challenges that we face today? After all, apathy is the primary reason for national decay and for the degeneration of society and culture in general."

Abdul-Rahman reminded his wife, "Now you understand that it was not just the wind swept trash that was bugging your husband's mind earlier. What is on my mind is a rising disgust at all the trash that has overtaken the country in the ground, in the air, in our minds and in our institutions. Unless the people of the country decide that it must be cleaned up, there is no telling where the end of our miseries will be and when!

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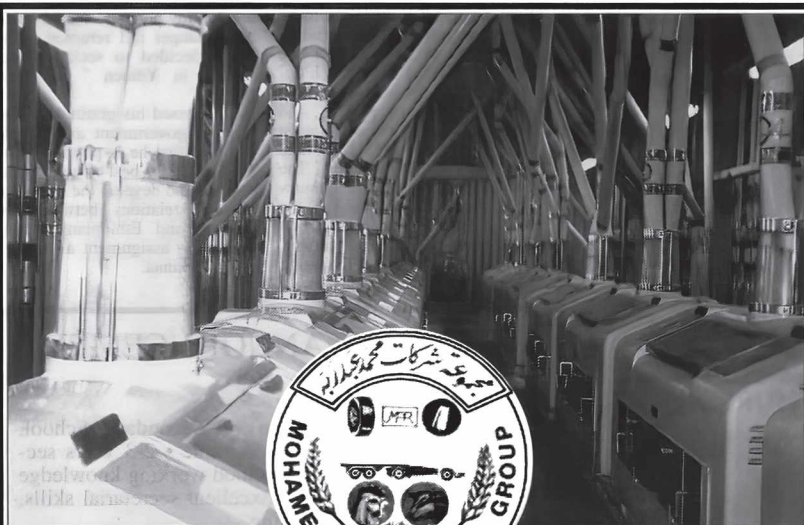
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## “World Bank Satisfied with Progress in Yemen.”

By: Al-Izzy Asselwi,  
Yemen Times.

The World Bank is very pleased to express its support for the Government's reform efforts. “We are happy with the progress achieved so far,” said Mr. Inder Sud, Director, Department II, MENA. At the end of his second visit to Yemen, on what seems to be an intensive discussion with the Yemeni authorities, during which he met with the President, Prime Minister, and several senior officials, Inder Sud said in an exclusive interview with the Yemen Times that he and his team have worked out the Bank part of the reform package. This mainly involves improving the bureaucratic aspects dealing with private investment law, rationalizing tariffs, pushing on with privatization, etc. The World Bank is also trying to inject as much money as possible to activate the economy and create new jobs.

“The Bank is allocating in new money some US \$ 420 million. This amount is in addition to the already allocated \$ 300 million, which is available for disbursement,” he stated. This amount is to be disbursed over a three-year period. The World Bank is also pushing efforts to create employment. “In our opinion, it is critical that the compression aspects of the reform program be timed not to exacerbate the unemployment situation. That is why we also support another project to create jobs in a rapid manner through investments in public works,” he said. The World Bank is presently busy working on three groups of issues, as follows:

1- To speed up the disbursement of funds on projects. Many World Bank funded projects were not implemented at an acceptable pace. Hence, the back log of amounts not disbursed, and which have exceeded \$300 million. “We have seen much progress on this front. This year, we hope to disburse \$70-75 million,” he said.

2- To assist the Government of Yemen's efforts in bringing sta-



bility to the economy. “This can be achieved through improvements in the investment environment, and put the economy on a growth path,” Mr. Inder Sud explained.

3- To assess what can be done regarding the water supply situation. “It should be evident by now that Yemen has a real problem in water supply. The resident of Taiz can tell you more about this,” he indicated.

He praised the establishment of the Water Commission by the President, and the efforts made to improve water supply. “But someone has to pay for this precious commodity. There is no such as a free meal. Yemeni water consumption has to be rationalized, and the pricing mechanism is the best approach,” he said.

One of the key aspects of the reform package is the social distortions it could cause. A safety net, which aims to soften the blow on the poorest segment of the population is being worked out. “We are looking into self-targeting projects. An example would be in social welfare, such as educating girls,” he added.

At another level, a mission from the International Monetary Fund (IMF) is presently visiting the country. Another one is expected next week.

The IMF is concerned with the stabilization dimension of the economic reform and restructuring program. The IMF team has already evolved the broad outlines of its plan of action (recipe) for stabilization. This involves correcting the deficit in the budget, removal of subsidies, and correcting for price distortions in the goods and services provided by the government, and handling of the government debt owed to foreign parties.

If things go according to plan, the final agreement and detailed program of action will be worked out before the year is over. Thus funds supporting the reform measures can start flowing from the beginning of 1996.

In addition, many donor are waiting for Yemen to reach an agreement with the IMF and World Bank in order to resume/strengthen their aid program to Yemen. The next two months will determine the path of events.

## Abdulkarim Mutahar: “GIA Targets Local Investors in the Development Process.”

The General Investment Authority is one of the key organizations responsible for promoting investment in Yemen. It has been licensing projects, and every week it issues statistical reports on the projects approved under investment law number 22 of 1991, and its 1995 amendment, which offers generous tax holidays and other incentives. Yet, there are few projects being implemented on the ground.

To better understand the situation, Yemen Times Sanaa Bureau Chief, Mr. Ismail Al-Ghabri, spoke to Mr. Abdulkarim Mutahar, the General Manager of the General Investment Authority. Mr. Mutahar has a B.A. in Economics from Cairo University, and an MA from the USA in Business Administration. He has been at his present job since March 1992.

Excerpts:

**Q: Many countries have established investment authorities and enacted laws offering tax holidays. What specific advantage do you offer?**

**A:** Of course investors will shop around for the best options in terms of return and security. I think that the Republic of Yemen, as a virgin economic territory, offers very high returns on investments. Besides, we have options in almost all fields, such as tourism, oil, manufacturing, agriculture, services, etc. In other words, an investor can put his/her money to good use and move from one sector to another with ease.

**Q: But the bureaucratic quagmire is a major hurdle. Investors avoid this kind of situation.**

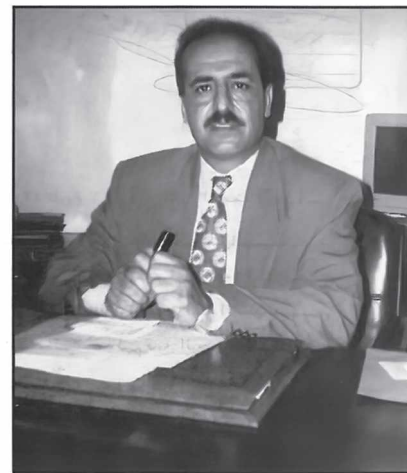
**A:** You are right, our bureaucracy is far from efficient. But that is exactly why the General Investment Authority was set up. It is a one-stop system whereby investors need not run around for their paperwork needs. We have within the GIA, the various departments such as tax, immigration, labor, trade, etc. Therefore, the investor need not shop around in the various ministries.

**Q: What kind of guarantees or facilities does the General Investment Authority give to the businessmen who want to invest in Yemen?**

**A:** We give many assurances to the investors. First and foremost, there is the law which provides guarantees against any form of confiscation and nationalization. The law also assures of the right to repatriation of profits and capital.

In addition, we support the investors in many ways, including flexibility in issues of labor and employment, joint partnerships, etc.

The existence of freedom of the press, a working parliament and other democratic institutions are also additional guarantees. Finally Yemen is signatory to world agreements in this regard.



**Q: How many projects have already been licensed, so far?**

**A:** The number of projects which have been licensed by the GIA are 667 projects. The total investment cost is more than 68 billion Rial. And the jobs created are more than 33,000 laborers.

**Q: How many of these have seen light?**

**A:** I am afraid the pace of implementation is slow. We hope, however, with the economic reform program and greater stability, most of these will be executed.

**Q: Are the investors foreign or local?**

**A:** They are a mix. There has been an over-sell trying to entice foreigners to invest in Yemen. I think that is wrong. We should work harder on the Yemeni investors. If we succeed with local investors, then it becomes easy to convince foreigners to come to Yemen. As it is, it is unrealistic to ask foreigners to invest here, when the Yemeni capitalists are holding off.

**Q: What kind of projects are we talking about?**

**A:** There are different projects in various sectors. They include mining, manufacturing, agriculture, fishing, packing, printing, etc. factoring sectors.

**Q: Do you target investors abroad?**

**A:** Yes, we send information to potential investors abroad. Our embassies have information on the investment potential in Yemen.

But we try to get Yemeni immigrants to invest in Yemen.

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## The World Celebrates Its First Global IDD Day

The world celebrated its Global Iodine Deficiency Disorders Day on Saturday the 21st of October. Iodine deficiency is the greatest single cause of preventable mental retardation in the world today. Because they lack tiny amounts of iodine in their diets, 1.6 billion people around the world, in over 100 countries, risk mental or physical impairment. Around 500 million of these people are children. Some 50 million children are already suffering from varying degrees of iodine deficiency disorder.




UNICEF in partnership with the Kiwanis clubs around the world have pledged to raise 75 million dollars to combat the appalling toll of disability caused by IDD. The IDD Global Day aims to highlight the progress made and the problems that remain.

Just a teaspoon of iodine taken in the course of a whole lifetime can mean the difference between normal human development and retardation. The simple solution, and one which has been used in the industrialized world since the 1920s, is to add iodine to ordinary household salt, thus ensuring a daily intake of tiny amounts of iodine by the majority of people.

The lack of iodine can cause mental retardation, partial paralysis, deaf-mutism, dwarfism, neurological damage, poor eye-hand coordination, and few other disorders. The most obvious symptom is goiter, which is a swelling in the neck.

Here in Yemen, iodine deficiency is a serious problem, particularly among children. Efforts are being made by the Ministry of Public Health, UNICEF, and WHO to combat this problem. Already, more iodized salt is available in the market. “Actions to create awareness among people as to the benefits of consuming iodized salt, as well as policies that aim at reducing the availability of un-iodized salt, are essential if we were to eradicate IDD in Yemen,” said Dr. Ziyad Al-Rifayi, Information and Communications Officer.

The UNICEF, in collaboration with the media, has embarked on an extensive campaign to raise awareness on the issue. “It is a real pity if young Yemenis suffer from disabilities due to lack or insufficiency of iodine. The aggravating part of it all is that it takes such a small amount of money to remedy the situation,” he added.

<p style="text-align: center;">بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ</p> <p style="text-align: center;">           الجمهورية اليمنية          وزارة المالية          مصلحة الجمارك          الادارة العامة          ادارة الرخص       </p> <p>         التاريخ: ١٦/١١/٩٤          الرقم: ٢٥٨          المرفقات: ١          الرقم: ٢٥٨          المرفقات: ١          المحترمين          المحترمين       </p> <p style="text-align: center;">         الاخوه/ مدراء عموم مكاتب الجمارك بالمحافظات          الاخوه/ مدراء عموم ومدراء الدوائر الجمركية          بحمد التحية:-       </p> <p>         تلقتنا صلحة مذكرة وزارة التعمين والتجارة رقم (٣٠٧٧) تاريخ ٢٧/١٢/٩٣ م والمتضمنة لآتي:-          بالاشارة الى الطلب المقدم من مكتبة العاقل التجاريه الحدوده وكلاء شركة كانون اليابانية          لآلات تصوير المستندات اليابانية الجنيهيه والمجلة لدى الوزارة تحت رقم (١٠١١) بتاريخ          ١٨/١١/٩٤ م وجدد بين الوكاله حتى ٣١/١٢/٩٣ م والذي يطلبون فيه الحايضين          بحضرتجار الاستيراد الذين يقومون بالاستيراد من الشركة الوكاله لهم دون الرجوع اليهم          ولكنهم الوكاله الوحيدين لهذه الشركة          عملاً بأحكام المادة (٦٥) من قانون الوكالات رقم (٣٦) لعام ١٩٩٢ م تأمل التعميم على جميع العاقلين          الجمركية بعدم السماح بالانواع من أي بضائع من آلات تصوير المستندات من هذه الشركة          لكن اصحابها حاصلين على تراخيص استيراد رسميه وهلسيها ختم الوكاله وتوقيع الوكيل وذلك          لما من شأنه تنفيذ القانون وحماية الوكاله المسجلين لدى الوزارة          عليه يتم العمل بطاها من وزارة التعمين والتجارة اعلاه وعلى مسؤوليتهم وظيفكم مسئولية التحري          في التنفيذ:-       </p> <p>         وتقبلوا تحياتنا          مديراد اولاد اخوه/ وكيل المصلحة للشؤون الفنية          محمد عبد النبي          (٤٤/٤٤)          صور مع التحية/ لوزارة التعمين والتجارة (ادارة الشركات)          لمدبر عام الرقابة والتفتيش          للشؤون القانونية/ للمسكرتارية، للارشييف، للكمبيوتر       </p> <p style="text-align: right;">(٤٤/٤٤)</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ</p> <p style="text-align: center;">           الجمهورية اليمنية          وزارة التجارة والتموين          الادارة العامة       </p> <p>         الرقم: ٣٠٧٦          التاريخ: ٢٧/١٢/٩٣          الموافق:       </p> <p style="text-align: center;">         الاخ / وكيل وزارة التعمين والتجارة - فرع عدن          بعد التحية:-       </p> <p>         تعقبنا على مذكرة برقم (٣٠٧٦) وتاريخ ٢٧/١٢/٩٣ م          ومد الرجوع الى ملف كل من شركة العاقل التجاريه          والاخوه/ مستودع المشهور تميم الاتي:-          (١) الاخوه/ شركة العاقل التجاريه هم الوكاله الرسميين لآلات التصوير          كانون من النوع الذي يستخدم الاوراق هاديه وملحقاتها          (٢) الاخوه/ مستودع المشهور هم الوكاله الرسميين لنفس الشركة          ولكن لآلات تصوير فوتوغرافية (كاميرات) فاكسيل الات طباعه          الكترونيه و آلات حاسبه الكترونيه وفيد يوهات وملحقاتها          عليه يرجى عدم اصدار اي تراخيص استيراد لاي منهما من          شركة كانون اليابانية الا بحسب موضوع وكالة كل منهما.       </p> <p style="text-align: center;">وتقبلوا تحياتنا</p> <p style="text-align: center;">           وزير التجارة والتموين          عبد المجيد المخلافي       </p>
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The Republic of Yemen  
Ministry of Finance  
The Customs Authority

Letter No. 258  
Dated: 16/1/94

Circular No.: 4

To:  
1) The General Managers,  
All Governorate Customs Authority Offices  
2) General Managers And Department Heads,  
All Customs Authority Units

Greetings,

The Customs Authority has received a letter from the Ministry of Trade and Supply No. 3077 dated 27/12/93 which states:  
'With reference to the request made by Elaghil Trading Co., Ltd. - the agents of Canon Photocopying Machines of Japan - the agency for which is registered with the Ministry under No. 10991 of 6/11/1986, and which has been renewed until 31/12/1993, the company has requested protection against illegal importation from the company which has given them the agency, without referring such imports to them as they are the sole agents of the company in Yemen, and 'In accordance with article 15 of the Agencies Law N.o 36 of 1992, we kindly request that you instruct all Customs Entry Points not to release any photocopying machines from the company (Canon) unless the importer has obtained an official import license which also bears the authorized signature and stamp of the bona-fide agents, in order to implement the law which protects agents who are duly registered with the Ministry'.

Thus, you are requested to adhere to the above request of the Ministry of Trade and Supply under their responsibility and care to them and you to implement accordingly.

Chairman of The Customs Authority

Abdul-Rahman Al-Kohaly

The Republic of Yemen  
The Ministry of Trade and Supply  
Sanaa.

Date: 16/1/1995

To:  
The Deputy Minister,  
Minister of Trade and Supply,  
Aden Branch.

Greetings:

Following our memorandum No. 3076 dated 27/12/93 and after referring to the files of Elaghil Trading Co. Ltd. and Al Mostowda'a Almashhoo (Popular Store), the following is clear:

1) The Elaghil Trading Co. Ltd. are the official agents for Canon Plain Paper Photocopiers and related accessories.

2) Almostowda'a Almashhoo (Popular Store) are the official agents for the same company for photographic equipment, Facsimile, Electrical Typing Machines, Calculators, Video Receivers and related accessories.

Thus, no import licenses should be issued to any of them except for the products for which they hold agencies thereof.

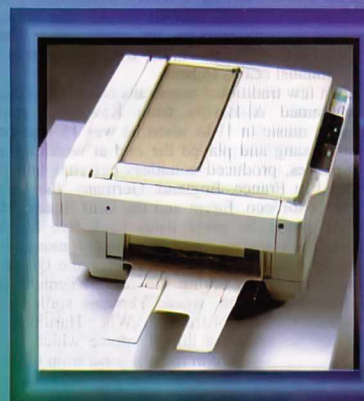
Sincerely:

Vice Minister of Trade and Supply

Dr. Abdul Majid Al-Mikhlafy



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# "A WORLD WITHOUT MUSIC"

By: Dawn Hurley  
Photographs by: John Miles

Imagine a world without music. A world without the pounding beat of drums, without the soothing strum of the oud, without the melodious lilt of the human voice to invigorate your senses. Without music, the world would be colorless, a black and white film devoid of sound and spirit. In the 1940's, the Imam Yayha decreed this soundless world for the people of Yemen.

Musical instruments, singing, concerts, radio, gramophones, dance and theater were all forbidden. Ouds were burned in the street and musicians were imprisoned or exiled to Aden, Djibouti and Ethiopia. During this period, musicians were ostracised and categorised with the lower "impure" classes of butchers and barbers. Today, remnants of this early stigma still exist.

But the music could not be suppressed. In spite of the burning, imprisonment and exile, musicians continued to play. They performed undercover, amongst friends sworn to secrecy. The Imam failed to succeed because the spirit of music beat hard in the Yemeni heart -- a place the religious zealot could never reach. After his death, his son Imam Ahmed began to receive musicians privately. However, it wasn't until the September Revolution of 1962 that the new Republican government legalised music.

At present, Yemeni traditional music faces extinction, not because of government bans, but because people are beginning to forget this important part of their heritage.

The problem stems from class structure and apathy. Musicians still do not receive the respect they deserve as artists. This attitude depletes their self-respect, and as a result, many turn to alcohol for solace. They can barely eke out an existence, since vendors copy and sell their music on every street corner without paying royalties. In addition, a lack of traditional music schools inhibits the younger generation from learning the craft. Thus, inevitably, the knowledge will die when the heart of the traditionalist ceases to beat.

Only a few traditional musicians are left in Yemen. Mohammed Al-Harithi from Kawkaban started playing music in 1948 when he was 15 years old. He has sang and played the oud at weddings and qat parties, produced countless cassettes and performed in France, England, Germany, the United States, Morocco, Egypt and the Gulf States. Most of the music he plays dates back five hundred years. The songs encapsulate poignant moments in Yemeni history, such as the rule of the Queen of Sheba, farmers working the fertile Yemeni soil, and the Revolution, where Yemenis spilled their blood for the sake of freedom. When Harithi plays, the oud he exudes a humble grace which seems

rare in today's generation of musicians. He strongly feels the government should give more assistance to save traditional music. Without this help, many beautiful renditions of the country's past will be forgotten.

Women have also contributed to Yemeni traditional music. Tagia Al-Taweeliyah is a prominent female vocalist and musician. For many years, she suffered abuse from her family for her career choice, but the music was a part of her soul and she adamantly refused to give it up. Harithi trained her and together they have recorded many cassettes. She is the center of attention at weddings where she performs, and sparkles when touring foreign countries like Oman, Kuwait, England and France. Surprisingly,

when I asked for her cassette at a popular music store on Zubeiri Street, they only had one poor quality pirated copy of her music.

It is sad to see that artists from other Arab countries and from the West have invaded the shelves as favorites of young Yemenis. Another traditional musician, Mohammed Al-

Aqfash, has lived in the nearby town of Al-Rhowda almost all of his life. Like Harithi, he learned to play the oud at a young age, taught by his father who was a famous nashshad and teacher of music. In 1955, Akhfash was the first musician to play on Yemeni radio. Although he expresses an individual spirit when he performs, his music springs from the same well as his predecessors. Even in his blindness, this gifted musician can see the end of traditional music due to forces he feels he cannot stop alone.

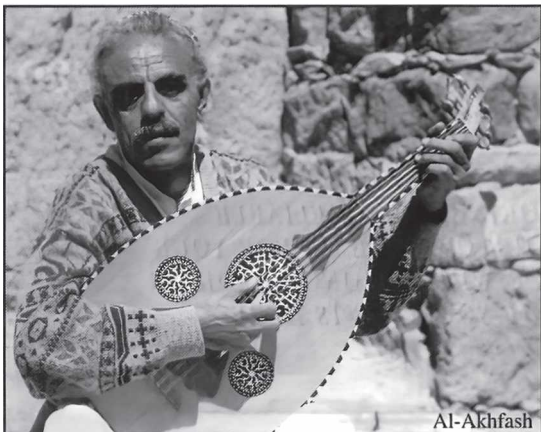
But he is not alone. Many Yemenis and foreigners want to save traditional music. The Ministry of Culture has a musical division that organises local concerts and tours and President Saleh has donated funds to support the continuation of traditional music. He also presented medals and certificates to musicians to boost both their confidence and their self-respect.

On the international front, a British Production company, Equilibrium Films consisting of Director / Cameraman John Miles and Associate Producer Dawn Hurley, have responded to the lack of worldwide recognition of traditional Yemeni music. They hope to capture the spirit of traditional music and to inspire the young to preserve their heritage.

Yemenis and foreigners need to take further action to save traditional music. Otherwise, Imam Yahya might yet fulfill his decree of a 'world without music' from beyond the grave.



Al-Harithi



Al-Akhfash



Al-Taweeliyah



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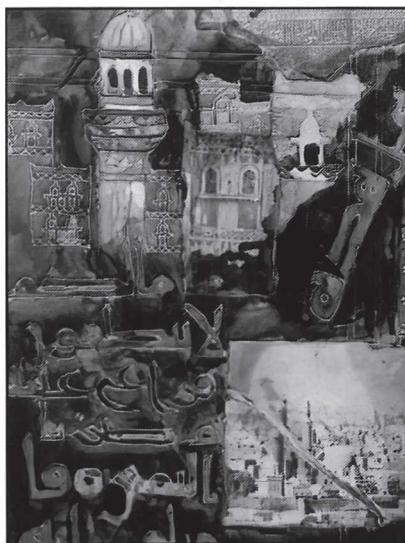
See You at Aden Hotel Movenpick



## A New Artist Is Born

The first Exhibition Hall for Creative Artists was set up in Sanaa in 1986. The founder and owner is Mr. Fouad Al-Futaih, himself one of the leading artists of Yemen.

The Exhibition Hall harbored the works of such important artists. Last week, it held the beauties of a rising painter - the Russian trained Yassin Ghalib who showed his excellent pieces.



"In this Exhibition Hall, we have sponsored many rising and aspiring artists of Yemen. The options are rather limited," explained Mr. Al-Futaih. The key to a prospering artistic community in Yemen is really coming together and supporting one another. As yet, the public is not giving the artists their due credit and support," he added. Towards that end, Al-Futaih is pushing the establishment of an artists' association. Artist Yassin Ghalib shares the same feelings. "We do not get the support we need to make real progress. I have to say that Culture Minister Yahia Al-Arashi is supportive," he said. The university and other organizations could also help in achieving the distant goal of establishing a National Center for Arts in the old city of Sana'a.

## Photo Exhibition to Help the Disabled

Under the theme "United for Better Living Conditions", Maha Aziz and Najib Friji organized yesterday, November 5th, a photo exhibition, attended by many dignitaries from the international community and Yemenis.

The ambassadors of Italy, the UK, and USA, as well as Monica Fritz offered their photo talents. The proceeds of the exhibition went to assist the physically disabled members of the community.

According to Mr. Friji, the response of the public and funds generated were gratifying. "We would like to interact positively with the local community and help out in any way we can," he said.

## محمد زهداي مجنبي

وجميع أفراد عائلة المجنبي وأنسابهم وأقاربهم في  
الجمهورية اليمنية والجمهورية العربية السورية  
وأستراليا والولايات المتحدة الأمريكية  
يتقدمون بالشكر والتقدير  
لجميع من أساهم بالتعزية  
بواسطة الحضور الشخصي ، أو الاعلان بالصحف ، أو ارسال البرقيات ،  
أو بواسطة المكالمات الهاتفية في وفاة الوالدة

### وجبهة حسن زيداي

حرم الشهيد زهدي محمد مجنبي

ويبتهلون إلى الله سبحانه أن لا يصيب الجميع بأي مكروه  
وإننا لله وإننا إليه راجعون

## Mohammed Zohdi Mejanni

And All Members of the Mejanni Family, their Relatives and In-Laws  
in the Republic of Yemen, the Syrian Arab Republic,  
Australia and the United States of America

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Whether in Person, by Telephone, Fax, Telegram or through the Media  
on the Passing Away of the Mother of the Family

## Wajeehah Hassan Zaidi

Wife of the Martyr Zohdi Mohammed Mejanni

## Liberté

Il n'y a pas de liberté sans liberté de la presse. C'est en partant de ce principe qu'en 1991 sont nées les pages françaises du Yemen Times. Pendant trois ans, l'actualité franco-yéménite avait trouvé son message. Interrompue en juillet 94, l'expérience reprend aujourd'hui. Son éventuel succès confortera, s'il est besoin, la liberté de la presse. La liberté tout court.

### en bref

**SARAH** — La jeune Philippine Sarah Balagan a finalement été condamnée, lundi dernier, à un an de prison et cent coups de canne, par la cour d'appel d'Al-Aïn (Emirats Arabes Unis), pour le meurtre de son employeur qui l'avait violée. Un premier jugement avait condamné Sarah à 7 ans de prison, le tribunal reconnaissant le viol. Lors d'un deuxième procès en révision, la jeune servante avait été condamnée à la peine de mort.

**DROGUE** — Plus d'une tonne de haschisch ont été saisies en Arabie Saoudite, pour une valeur de 1,1 million de dollars. Dix ressortissants de pays asiatiques ont été arrêtés. Les trafiquants, dealers, ou consommateurs de drogue récidivistes sont passibles de la peine de mort dans le royaume saoudien.

**JIHAD** — Situation tendue en Israël depuis le meurtre, il y a plus d'une semaine, du chef du Jihad Islamique. Fathi Chakaki a été assassiné par deux inconnus, à Malte, le Jihad attribuant le meurtre aux services secrets israéliens. L'état d'alerte anti-terroriste a été décrété en Israël, et plusieurs attentats-suicides ont déjà fait quelques blessés.

**REFERENDUM** — La francophonie n'aura pas son Etat québécois. Le référendum sur l'indépendance de la province canadienne a vu la très courte victoire du "Non" (50,6 %). La forte poussée du "Oui" (49,4 %) devrait toutefois obliger l'Etat fédéral à plus de souplesse avec le Québec. En attendant, Jacques Parizeau, leader indépendantiste, a démissionné de son poste de premier ministre du Québec.

**ATTENTATS** — La police française a fait un pas important dans les enquêtes sur la vague d'attentats perpétrés en France depuis l'été. Un Algérien de 28 ans a en effet été arrêté à Paris jeudi. Il est présenté par la police comme un commanditaire des perses de bombe, le premier à être localisé. L'homme est décrit comme un "émir du GIA" (Groupe Islamique Armé). Il préparait un nouvel attentat sur le marché de Lille (Nord). (AFP)

Contact : François Petitdemange, Yemen Times, tél : 268.661/2 ; fax : 268.663 ; P.O. Box : 2579, Sana'a, R. of Yemen.

## L'enseignement du français langue étrangère

# Le pays et la méthode

"Pierre et Mireille prennent le train de Paris à Marseille". Est-ce ainsi que l'on enseigne le français ? Oui. Mais au Yemen, il n'y a pas de trains. Solutions et éclaircissements.

**Sana'a.** — Contenu culturel. Ces deux mots résumant toute la difficulté de l'enseignement de la langue française à des étrangers. Le contenu culturel, c'est l'idée qu'on n'apprend pas seulement une langue, mais un pays. C'est aussi l'idée qu'on apprend cette langue étrangère dans son propre pays, avec ses propres spécificités. Le problème étant de concilier les deux, c'est-à-dire d'une part, de refléter les réalités françaises, et d'autre part, d'adapter la méthode aux réalités yéménites.

Avant d'en arriver là, l'évolution s'est faite en dents de scie — comme l'a expliqué M. Zask au cours d'une conférence au Centre Culturel Français (le lundi 23 octobre). Dans les années 50, la méthode dominante pour l'enseignement du Français Langue Etrangère (FLE) était celle de l'Alliance Française. Le principe était de commencer par décrire les choses, et les nommer (voici une chaise). On n'abordait la civilisation française que largement après l'apprentissage purement linguistique.

Changement de notion au début des années 60 : la méthode se fait "à situations" : la langue

est introduite à travers elles. "Ce qui est fréquent est utile, ajoute-t-on à l'époque, donc enseignons d'abord le fréquent". Le système repose maintenant sur l'analyse de la langue orale — jusque là, l'écrit dominait. La méthode aboutit donc à des dialogues mettant en scène la syntaxe et le vocabulaire les plus fréquents. 32 leçons, 15.000 mots du français fondamental, et la syntaxe. C'était la méthode V.I.F..

La première notion d'"approche communicative" apparaît avec les années 70. "En retard de 15 ans sur les USA", reconnaît M. Zask. Qui décrit la méthode comme suit : "On parle pour dire quelque chose à quelqu'un dans un certain rapport social entre les locuteurs". La langue n'est plus seulement un système linguistique nouveau, l'addition d'un vocabulaire et d'une syntaxe : il y a quelque chose en plus ; le comportement linguistique est adapté à une situation, à un locuteur. Il y a sans doute quinze façons différentes de dire la même chose, de l'impératif "Fermez la fenêtre" au plus subtil "Vous ne trouvez pas qu'il y a un peu trop d'air ?". Du "tout linguistique" dans les

années 50, au "tout communication" des années 80, il a fallu trouver un juste milieu. Sachant que le fameux "contenu culturel" est tributaire de la partialité des auteurs de méthode, forcément partiaux : il y a des choix à faire. Doivent-ils mettre en scène des mendiants allongés dans la rue, des CRS réprimant une manifestation, ou deux amoureux transis aux aventures parfaitement ordinaires ?

Sachant aussi qu'il est tributaire de l'élève. "L'étranger doit rester étranger, insiste M. Zask. ne pas singer le comportement des Français. Il est important de reconnaître le comportement. Il n'est pas nécessaire de le reproduire. Il faut adopter ce qui est possible sans violer sa propre culture".

**INTERVIEW** — Georges Zask est resté 9 jours au Yemen, fin octobre. Le but de sa visite :

qui



Georges Zask. Professeur à l'Université de Franche-Comté. Directeur du Centre de Linguistique Appliquée (CLA) de Besançon. Nommé à Besançon en 1965, comme assistant. Directeur du CLA de 69 à 75. Alterne ensuite les postes à l'étranger et à Besançon. Depuis oct. 93 : à nouveau directeur du CLA.

Roger Zask a publié de nombreux ouvrages ou méthodes en FLE.

Rappelons aussi que le CLA travaille depuis 25 ans avec le Yemen.

**Yemen Times :** Quel niveau atteignent les étudiants yéménites du supérieur ?

**Georges Zask :** L'objectif, c'est le DELF en 4 ans, c'est-à-dire le Diplôme Élémentaire de Langue Française, correspondant à une licence. Au niveau DELF, les étudiants possèdent une connaissance orale leur permettant d'avoir une conversation normale sur un sujet courant, de comprendre la radio et la télévision ; ils peuvent écrire un texte court, type lettre, ou résumé, et lire un journal d'informations générales.

Le plus difficile ici, c'est que le système éducatif du secondaire n'a pas préparé les étudiants à travailler seuls. Ils ne travaillent pas personnellement, sortis des cours. Dans ces conditions, le DELF est un objectif réaliste. D'autant que l'arabe et le français sont deux langues très éloignées.

A partir de ce DELF, les étudiants peuvent toujours se perfectionner. La licence n'est pas une fin, ce n'est qu'une base.

**Y.T. :** Et pour le secondaire ?

**G.Z. :** Nous n'en sommes là qu'au stade expérimental, bien loin d'une généralisation de l'enseignement du français dans les écoles. Quelques lycées ont été choisis à Sana'a et Taiz, avec deux classes de trente élèves dans chacun d'eux, à raison de 75 heures de français par an pendant trois ans, ce qui est peu.

Il y a un enthousiasme réel pour le français, qu'il faut freiner pour ne pas avoir à généraliser l'expérience : pour l'instant, il y a une pénurie de professeurs.

**Y.T. :** A quoi tient cet engouement ?

**G.Z. :** A un contexte politique extrêmement favorable, les bonnes relations franco-yéménites, la position de la France pendant la guerre (et son soutien à l'unité, ndlr). C'est pour cela qu'il faut construire quelque chose de durable : il faut signer des accords, recruter des professeurs, de façon à se protéger des changements politiques.

**Y.T. :** Y'a-t-il un problème de méthode d'enseignement au Yemen ?

**G.Z. :** Pour le secondaire, on va vers une méthode spécifique. Les méthodes françaises traditionnelles coûtent trop cher à l'achat des manuels. Il s'agit aussi de tenir compte d'une spécificité locale, culturelle. Nous avons donc un projet clair : une équipe franco-yéménite va travailler à l'élaboration d'une méthode d'enseignement du français, en 3 volumes, un par année.

**Y.T. :** Quelles conclusions tirez-vous de votre premier voyage au Yemen ?

**G.Z. :** Je ne réalisais pas jusqu'à ce jour le saut extraordinaire que doivent faire les yéménites venant étudier en France, pour s'adapter à la réalité française. C'est en vivant ici qu'on comprend mieux les difficultés d'adaptation. Les Yéménites s'adaptent facilement à la réalité française pour des séjours de longue durée. C'est plus difficile pour les séjours de courte durée : le choc — culturel, familial, social — est trop grand.

Le but, c'est donc que le pays s'ouvre. Et alors cet énorme décalage diminuera.

## Aide alimentaire française

# 4000 tonnes

La France a distribué sa traditionnelle aide en farine. Avec une nouveauté : 500 tonnes offertes à Socotra.

**Mukalla.** — "Don de la France. Farine de blé tendre". L'inscription entourée de stylisés bleus et blancs. On ne peut pas la rater : des sacs bleus clairs frappés de ces mots, il y en a 80.000. 4000 tonnes de farine, les 4000 traditionnelles tonnes offertes annuellement par la France au Yemen — les quantités pourraient être augmentées à l'avenir, et les produits diversifiés, dans la limite de la sauvegarde de l'agriculture yéménite.

4000 tonnes, déchargées en quelques jours de la Pimpolaïse, bateau de commerce français — opération menée du 26 au 31 octobre.

3500 tonnes sont parties à tribord, en camion, jusqu'aux entrepôts de Mukalla. 500 tonnes ont été transbordées à bord sur l'EDIC, bateau de la marine française, qui en a remis une partie au

Jules Verne, imposant bâtiment militaire français, un navire à l'inscription entourée de stylisés bleus et blancs. On ne peut pas la rater : des sacs bleus clairs frappés de ces mots, il y en a 80.000. 4000 tonnes de farine, les 4000 traditionnelles tonnes offertes annuellement par la France au Yemen — les quantités pourraient être augmentées à l'avenir, et les produits diversifiés, dans la limite de la sauvegarde de l'agriculture yéménite.

quo

Les fonds de compensation. La farine est offerte à une entreprise yéménite publique, qui se charge de la vendre au prix du marché. Les fonds ainsi obtenus par l'Etat yéménite servent exclusivement à l'aide au développement. Exemple : 7 millions de rials sont remis au département de français de l'Université de Taiz.

Ces 500 tonnes-là, c'était une nouveauté, ont été transportées jusqu'à l'île de Socotra, à quelques centaines de kilomètres de là. Contrairement à la farine offerte aux autorités de Mukalla, celle pour Socotra n'était pas soumise à la règle du fond de compensation (voir ci-contre).

Il s'agissait d'une aide humanitaire d'urgence, compte-tenu de la situation dramatique de l'île. La plupart des écoles de Socotra fonctionnent en pension-nats, donc nourrissent les enfants. Or, beau-coup d'écoles ont dû fermer, faute de denrées alimentaires, et les enfants ont été renvoyés dans leur foyer. Le système éducatif touché, la situation devenait grave. D'où



Dockers sur la Pimpolaïse. Le débarquement a duré 4 jours.

la réaction de la France, sur une idée du service culturel de l'Ambassade, mise en place par ses soins, en collaboration avec le Programme Alimentaire Mondial de l'ONU, chargé de la distribution sur l'île, et les autorités yéménites.

Rien ne dit, devant les difficultés rencontrées — l'avion, mis à disposition par les autorités yéménites, qui devait transporter le service culturel et le délégué du PAM, n'a jamais

décollé —, que l'expérience sera renouvelée. En attendant, les 80.000 habitants de Socotra peuvent profiter de 10.000 sacs de farine — deux par famille, en moyenne. Mais sur cette île oubliée au milieu de l'Océan — à 350 kilomètres de la Somalie, à 400 des plus proches côtes yéménites, à 800 d'Aden, dont elle dépend — sur cette île oubliée, le plus dur reste à faire.

François Petitdemange

# WHO ESTABLISHES NEW RAPID-RESPONSE UNIT TO COMBAT GROWING WORLD-WIDE THREAT OF EMERGING DISEASES

The World Health Organization (WHO) has established a new rapid response unit to control and prevent the growing incidence of new and re-emerging diseases around the world, with a view to improving containment of outbreaks such as the deadly Ebola virus which struck central Africa earlier this year. The unit will be capable of mobilizing staff from both WHO headquarters in Geneva and from the agency's regional offices and placing the teams on-site within 24 hour's notification of an outbreak, together with the supplies and equipment required to implement epidemic control measures. "WHO's involvement in recent epidemics of yellow fever in Kenya, plague in India and Ebola haemorrhagic fever in Zaire have demonstrated a

new and pro-active direction for WHO in responding diseases," says Dr. Hiroshi Nakajima, Director-General of WHO. The new unit has been called the Division of Emerging, Viral and Bacterial Diseases Surveillance and Control (EMC). In addition to mobilizing WHO's own technical staff and expertise, EMC will also coordinate the activities of the agency's traditional partners, including its international network of collaborating centers, bilateral donors, expert advisers and non-governmental organizations. In the recent outbreak of Ebola haemorrhagic fever in Zaire, for example, WHO staff from its headquarters in Geneva and its Regional Office in Brazzaville arrived at the epidemic site within 24 hours

of notification in Geneva, at the same time that the diagnosis of Ebola was confirmed at the WHO Collaborating Center on Viral Haemorrhagic Fevers at the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta. "By arriving at the epidemic site early, WHO staff and nationals from Zaire were able to set up a disease detection system and train medical students in its operation so that all cases with Haemorrhagic Fever could be found and isolated," says Dr. David Heymann, the Director of EMC, who led the WHO team in Zaire. The outbreak in Zaire was rapidly contained and its spread to Kinshasha, the capital city of 2 million inhabitants, was prevented. EMC will work to strengthen country surveillance and disease control in order that countries can

develop the early warning systems necessary to detect emerging or re-emerging diseases through innovative field epidemiology and public health laboratory training programs. The new division will also continue WHO's activities in developing a network of public health laboratories to strengthen regional and international collaboration in outbreak detection and control. WHO recently strengthened the Kenya Medical Research Institute in Nairobi and the National Institute of Communicable Diseases in New Delhi through advanced training and provision of laboratory reagents following outbreaks of yellow fever and plague in those countries, thereby equipping them to serve as regional centers of expertise in these diseases. Another major issue to be addressed by the new division is antibiotic resistance, a phenomenon which continues to emerge as one of the most important health problems of the 1990s. Infections such as malaria, tuberculosis and gonorrhoea have already become resistant to first- and second-line drugs, and development of new antibiotics to replace them lags behind. The post-war optimism in public health, when the use of newly developed antibiotics and vaccines rapidly decreased the incidence of some infectious diseases and eradicated smallpox, has been dimmed by the development of antibiotic resistance.

The new division will continue to expand WHO's network to detect and monitor antibiotic resistance worldwide, called WHONET, and WHO will use the information collected to continue to advocate for research and development on new antibiotics to replace those which are no longer effective.

## طباقات جليم غاز الإيطالية الشهيرة

### أحدث وادق أنظمة السلامة و الأمان

## طباقات جليم غاز الإيطالية الشهيرة

### GLEM GAS COOKER

## طباقات جليم غاز الإيطالية الشهيرة

### متوفرة بأربع عيون، خمساً، ست عيون

## تشكيلة كبيرة لكافة الاستعمالات

تجمع هذه الطباخة على كافة المزايا المذكورة ذات خمسة عيون أحداها عملاقة، وذات جسم مصنع من الحديد المقاوم للصدأ

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ومن حيث المزايا بين عيون صغيرة و كبيرة و عملاقة و افراد و وشوايات عملاقة-اشعال اليكتروني، و شواية دوارة بالموتور-نور بالفرن-زجاج حراري مقاوم للحرارة للكسر، وشواية علوية بالفرن-رف سفلي متحرك مزود بصينيتي لتنظيف الفرن من الداخل-ساعة توقيت

### الثقة و الصيانة العامة

إضافة الى الشهرة العالمية التي يتمتع بها اسم جليم غاز و الثقة و الجودة و الكفاءة التي يعرفها الناس، فإن شركة ارتكس التجارية بصنعاء و محلات الحيق التجارية بتعن تمنحك ثقة اخرى بخدماتها و بتوفير الصيانة المستمرة و قطع الغيار لسنوات طويلة.

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رزق الشاب  
عبدالوارث زيد أحمد السقاف  
مولوده البكر الذي أسماه هاشم  
فالف مبروك يا أبا هاشم .  
المهزون :  
زيد احمد السقاف ،  
محمد زيد السقاف ،  
محمد علي المغزي ،  
احمد التاج . شرف منصور .

### تعازيننا الحارة

نتقدم باحر التعازي و اصدق المواساة للاخ/  
عتيق حيدر محمد الدبيعي لوفاة والدته .  
سانلين المولى عز وجل أن يتغمدها بواسع رحمته  
ويسكنها فسيح جناته ويلهم أهلها الصبر والسلوان ،  
وانا لله وانا اليه راجعون .  
المعزون : صبري المسني ، ابراهيم الاغبيري ، خليل  
العريفي ، حافظ الزكري رضا، وعماد ووليد ونائف  
جميعهم من آل السقاف

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د/ حميد الإرياني ، عبدالله فارس ،  
عارف الخولاني ، هيثم العيني ، معين الإرياني

### ألف مبروك

تهانينا الحارة للاخ/ صالح محمد احمد العميري  
بمناسبة ارتزاقه المولود الجديد والذي اسماه  
أحمد  
المهزون :  
حافظ الاهدل ، علي محمد العميري ، عبدالله سالم  
سمه ، محمد صالح العميري ، موسى عبدالله  
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تليفون ٢١٩٨٣٥

**SAWT AL MUA'ARADHA, Sana'a: Weekly, 4/11/1995 - (Yemeni Opposition Bloc [ADAM])**

**Main Headlines:**

- 1) King Fahd: Special Treatment of Yemenis . . . Promises to Solve the Problem of Local Sponsor
- 2) Sentence of Death for Sudanese Magician
- 3) Sana'a Appeals Court Presided by Judge Al-Wadiye Refuses the Accusation of Heretic for Lawyer Abdulaziz Al-Samawy and Endorses the Primary Court Judgment to Arrest the Attackers of Al-Samawy.

**Article Summary:**

**The Indifference of the Navy... And the Kindness of People of Philanthropy**

Mr. Ahmed Al-Dhahbany is an experienced media personality who has succeeded in using the official media for well deserved causes, including well investigated documentaries that have revealed certain areas of government neglect inefficiency and waste.

In this article Mr. Al-Dhahbany sheds light on the poor attention the Navy command to the human side when it comes to dealing with Navy personnel wounded in the line of duty. The writer met or Navy Office (Colonel) who was injured while pursuing fishing pirates in the Red Sea, in a hospital in Cairo being given the best treatment possible for sever wounds in the leg. What surprised the writer was cost for this treatment came from a philanthropist (who insists on remaining anonymous) and not from the Navy or government. After a lot of paperwork, the officer was only given YR 20,000 by the state, and did not cover the cost of the medicine he had to use for a long time. He fully recovered, thanks to the existence of people of good will.

**AL-HAQ: Sana'a: Weekly, 29-10-95**

**(Rabitat Abna Al-Yemen [The League of Yemen's Sons])**

**Main Headlines:**

- 1) James Baker (In Memoirs): "I Reminded Ali Abdullah Saleh that the US List of Terrorist Nations Does Not Include Yemen".
- 2) Officials Under Arrest . . . Others in Prison
- 3) The Prosecution of East Sana'a is Accrued of Name Calling to a Female Lawyer by the Lawyer and the Syndicate.

**Article Summary:**

Why Are Public Officials Evading Presenting Declarations on their Financial Positions

The editorial of the paper repeats a previous request that the constitution of the Republic of Yemen should include an article imposing all public officials on presenting financial declarations that disclose the financial means of the official and

# Yemeni Press in a Week

by: Hassan Al-Haifi

how these means were accumulated and from where. The paper insists that the idea of financial declarations is rejected by most government officials because they would be placed in a very doubtful position of public trust.

**AL-TAJAMMU'U : Aden: Weekly, 30-10-95 (Yemeni Unionists Congregation)**

**Main Headlines:**

- 1) Will Yemen Enter the Normalization (of Relations with Israel) from the Back Door?
- 2) Deportation of Algerians as Part of Efforts to Curb Terrorism and Extremism.
- 3) A Red Crescent Society Car Stolen

**Article Summary:**

**This Is The Substance (Of The Issue)**

Commenting on the recent statements by the President Ali Abdullah Saleh that Aden must be improved, in terms of conditions and services, the paper in its opening editorial admits that with determination, the president can come through with a lot for Aden, if he puts his mind to it. But realistically speaking, problem solving through awaiting for the President's instructions will not, in any way, get Aden the place the President says it should occupy. The obvious handicap here is that it is those in power and/or those with influence who are creating the discontent of the Adeni residents since they are the first to violate the laws and to disrupt peace and security as well as who seek to change the demographic make-up of the city.

Maybe the President's long stay in Aden is necessary in order to make sure that those who are considered from "his camp" or have influence will not continue to rob, steel and embezzle. To underline its point, the paper points to a payment of YR 30,000 to the uniformed (government) troops and police for guarding the Medical College during a recent Welsh band performance.

The paper considers this embezzlement as the bottom pit of our degradation.

**AL-SAHWA: Sana'a, Weekly: 21-11-95 (Yemeni Congregation for Reform [Islah])**

**Main Headlines:**

- 1) Dismissal of a District Security Officer in Hodeidah Province (For Allowing his Men to Beat

a Citizen to Death).

- 2) The Islah: Objection to Participation in the Amman Conference Is a Legitimate Right Stipulated in the Coalition Agreement
- 3) From the Summit of Casablanca to the Summit in Amman: Zionist Projects to Dominate The Arab World.

**Article Summary:**

**Political Pluralism . . . Why?**

Referring to the President's statement that the active political parties should not exceed 4 parties, Ahmed Mohammed Abdulghani, pointed out that the President has not issued a ban on the existence of more than 4 parties. "The president's words and wishes cannot overrule what is stipulated in the constitution," he wrote. The author points out that: "Political Pluralism in democratic societies is realistic to the extent that the parties are able to become effective, i.e., the extent to which any given party is involved in issues of general concern." The success of a party comes from within: organization training and party discipline are the important factors for success, according to the paper.

**AL-AYYAM: Aden: Weekly: 1-11-95**

**Main Headlines:**

- 1) The World Bank Warns that Sana'a Will Be Out of Water by 2008.
- 2) She Entered Aden Hospital With Asthma . . . And Came Out Blind!!
- 3) The Minister of Information Orders - with Effect from 1/11/1995 - the Return of Staff Prevented from Doing their Jobs Since the War.

**Art de Summary:**

**Th.. Camel Trots (On Giggles)**

In his back-page corner Mr. Abdu Hussein Ahmed, the paper's veteran columnist discusses the refusal of the rulers of the country, before and after unity, to come to terms with the needs and interest of the people and the nation. In essence the rulers have not been true to their obligations and promises and have increased the gap between the people and their governments and even now the talk of freedom and democracy is the least understood by the rulers.

**AL-THAWRA : Sana'a, Daily: 2-11-95 (Official Newspaper)**

**Main Headlines:**

- 1) Council of Ministers: (In Aden) :
  - Dwells on the Presidents Instructions on the Performance of the Government and Public Institutions
  - Ministers Are Instructed to Present a Report on the Performance in each of their Ministries Within two Weeks
  - Discusses the Gas Development Project and Endorses the Production Sharing Agreement with OPC Holding /CCC in 52 Block in Shabwa
  - Duty Free Areas Executive by-laws Approved
- 2) Approval of Yemen's Claims for Compensation to Yemeni Returned from Kuwait and Iraq August 1990.
- 3) Central Bank Sponsors a Seminar on the Law of the Public Debt and on the Issuance of Treasury Notes.

**Article Summary:**

**1) Jerusalem and the Summit**

The opening editorial discussed the deliberate timing for the US Congress decision to move the US Embassy to Jerusalem and Rabins and Shamirs declaration in the Amman Summit that Jerusalem is the capital of Israel United Infinity, to coincide with the 50th Anniversary of the United Nations and to take advantage of the uncoordinated positions of the Arab states, which maintains a weak stand for the negotiations on the economic benefits to the Arabs from a Middle East Common Market sought by Israel and the United States. The editorial confirms that the Arabs must take care to unity their approach in handling the normalization of relations with Israel and in dealing the normalization of relations with Israel and in dealing with the future of the area.

**2) The government Allocates 6 Million for Emergency Repairs and Spare Parts for the Electric Corporation**

The government has allocated the funds in foreign currency needed by the Public Electricity Corporation to carry out rehabilitation work on major plants generating electricity. The allocation came on the recommendation of Parliament. In addition, the utility is finalizing the financing agreement to build the Emergency Power Station for Sana'a. The generation in Hadhramaut by boosting plant their by additional equipment costing \$13 million. Mr. Al-Ainy points out that part of the problem lies in the fact the government has not operated under an investment program for the years 1992 through 1994 P. E. C. has presented recommendations to boost generation capacity since 1991, especially for the national grid system.

**REPUBLIC OF YEMEN  
PUBLIC ELECTRICITY CORPORATION  
ADEN BRANCH**

## "INVITATION FOR BIDS"

1. The Public Electricity Corporation (PEC) - Aden Branch invites eligible Bidders to participate in Tender No. 11/95 for the "Supply and Installation of Computer Equipment" financed by the Arab Fun for Economical and Social Development (AFESD) under Credit No. 218/88.

2. A complete set of Tender Document may be purchased by interested eligible Bidders upon payment of non-refundable fee of US\$ 100 (One Hundred US Dollar) from the following address:

The Department of Purchasing And Stores  
PUBLIC ELECTRICITY CORPORATION  
HEDJUFF, MALLA-ADEN  
TEL: 00 967 2 242973  
FAX: 00 967 2 221133

3. All Bids shall be valid for a period of 150 days and shall be accompanied by a security of not less than 2% of the total bid value, in the same currency of the bid, in the form of a bank guarantee or payable cheque valid for a period of 180 days.

4. All bids must be submitted in an "original" and "Two copies" in sealed envelopes and can be mailed by courier or handed over to the Secretary of Tendering Committee at the managing Director Office in Hedjuff, Malla not later than 11:00 am local time on 18/12/1995.

5. Bid will be opened at 11:00 am local time on 18/12/1995 at PEC - Aden Branch Managing Director Office.

Any Bids received after the above closing time and date will not be considered.

## المؤسسة العامة للكهرباء - فرع عدن اعلان عن انزال مناقصة مناقصة رقم ٩٥/١١ لتوريد وتركيب اجهزة حاسب آلي (كمبيوتر) وتوابعها

تعلن المؤسسة العامة للكهرباء - فرع عدن عن رغبتها في انزال مناقصة رقم ٩٥/١١ لتوريد وتركيب اجهزة حاسوب آلي (كمبيوتر) وتوابعها بتمويل من الصندوق العربي للانماء الاقتصادي والاجتماعي (قرض رقم ٨٨/٢١٨).

### شروط المناقصة :-

(١) يجب ان تكون وثائق المناقصة عند التقديم من اصل ونسختين ، وان يكون العرض صالحا لمدة ١٥٠ يوما .

(٢) ارفاق ضمان بنكي أو شيك مقبول الدفع بواقع ٢٪ من قيمة العطاء ، على أن يكون العرض صالحا لمدة ١٨٠ يوما وبنفس عملة العطاء .

(٣) ارفاق صورة من البطاقة الضريبية والسجل التجاري (للشركات والمؤسسات المحلية) .

فعلى الراغبين من الشركات المحلية والاجنبية في المشاركة يمكنهم الحصول على وثائق ومواصفات المناقصة من ادارة المخازن والمشتريات بالمؤسسة بمنطقة جحيف اثناء ساعات الدوام الرسمي ابتداء من تاريخ ٩٥/١١/٤ مقابل رسم لا يرد قدره ١٠٠ دولار امريكي (مائة دولار امريكي) .

تقدم العطاءات في ظروف مغلقة ومختومة طبقا للشروط والتوجيهات وتسلم لسكرتير لجنة المناقصات بمكتب المدير العام للمؤسسة بمنطقة جحيف - المعلا في موعد اقصاه الحادية عشرة صباحا من يوم ٩٥/١٢/١٨ المحدد لفتح المظاريف .

لن ينظر في اي عطاء يصل بعد الموعد المحدد لفتح المظاريف . والله الموفق

# YEMEN CRICKET LEAGUE 1995 COMPETITION AWARD CEREMONY



**Left:** Winning Team, Pakistan Cricket Club (PCC).  
**Center:** League Officials and Guests of Honor.  
**Right:** Man of The Competition, Syed Masood Kazim (PCC) receiving his award from Mr. Mohammed AbdulWali from the Ministry of Youth & Sport.



## Address of the Chairman of The Yemen Cricket League. Dr. Don Sheridan

Before we commence the Awards Ceremony tonight, I would like to welcome, on behalf of the Yemen Cricket League, our guests of honor.

Firstly, a very warm welcome to Mr. Mohammed Abdel Wali who is representing Dr. Abdulwahab Rawah, Minister of Youth and Sports of the Republic of Yemen. The Minister is in Aden and therefore cannot attend. That the Minister is represented here tonight demonstrates his continuing support for the aims of the League and this is very much appreciated by the Committee. Secondly, in the absence abroad of the three Ambassadors concerned, I welcome here tonight the senior diplomatic representatives of the expatriate League players.

P. Meena representing the Republic of India, Abdul Basit representing the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, and Hamish Daniel representing the United Kingdom

On behalf of the League Committee, I would also like to welcome the representatives of our sponsoring organizations, whose generosity and support for the 1995 League Competition has been fabulous.

It is perhaps appropriate at this stage to refer to what in my view is the most significant outcome of cricket in Yemen and of this competition in particular. I refer of course to the meetings of individuals from different countries and backgrounds and the resultant friendships. If it had not been for cricket, it is possible that many of those here tonight would never have met. It is in this context that finally I would like to welcome all the players, umpires, scores, club officials, their families and friends as well as their guests. In particular my welcome goes to the players who have made this 1995 competition so successful and whom we honor tonight.

As we all know the winner of the Competition, and it is right at this stage of the proceedings that I congratulate the Pakistan Cricket Club on the outstanding victory, eight wins in eight matches.

The 1995 Competition derived from the very successful competition played between three teams in late 1994 and early 1995. It is hard to realize what has been achieved by all concerned since the first award ceremony on January 14th this year when the India Embassy Cricket Club received the Yemen Cricket Cup.

We welcome the arrival of two new teams to the game in Sana'a: The MRF XI and the Yemen Cricket Club have both enhanced this recent competition. That the YCC represents Yemeni cricket lovers is especially gratifying. The League Committee hopes that the League will continue to expand in the future.

A dream in the early part of the year has become a reality in that a team representing the Yemen Cricket League will play the first overseas tour at the end of next month. I offer my congratulations to the 25 talented players who have been selected from the League teams and from whom 15 will actually travel to the UAE. This could be the start of the long journey by cricketers from Yemen to full international recognition and competition. We all hope that this proves to be the case and I commend the keen and growing interest in cricket shown by the Minister and the Yemeni public.

I would now like to hand the proceedings over to Peter Bradley. As Convenor of the Finance and Sponsorship sub-Committee, Peter and his committee have done a fantastic job of creating interest

## RESULTS: TEAM PRIZES:

- **Winners** PCC : (Pakistan Cricket Club)
- **Runners-up** IECC : (Indian Embassy Cricket Club)
- **3rd place** YCC : (Yemen Cricket Club)
- **4th place** MRF : (MRF XI)
- **5th place** LJCC : (Lion and Jambia Cricket Club)

## INDIVIDUAL PERFORMANCES:

### A- Man of the Match

Match Played	Winner
MRF v/s LJCC	Benson Santosh (MRF)
PCC v/s YCC	Abid Rehman (PCC)
IECC v/s LJCC	Garry Looker (LJCC)
PCC v/s MRF	Syed Masood Kazim (PCC)
IECC v/s YCC	Mohamed Waris Ali (YCC)
MRF v/s YCC	Mohamed Waris Ali (YCC)
PCC v/s LJCC	Salman Azhar (PCC)
PCC v/s IECC	Nasir Khan (PCC)
MRF v/s IECC	Kothandargaman Seshadri (MRF)
LJCC v/s YCC	K. Ouseph Antony (IECC)
PCC v/s MRF	Mohamed Waris Ali (YCC)
PCC v/s YCC	Syafatullah Khan (PCC)
IECC v/s MRF	Radha Krishna Vyas (IECC)
PCC v/s LJCC	Arif Butt (PCC)
LJCC v/s MRF	Steve Murphy (LJCC)
YCC v/s IECC	Alam Tahir (IECC)
YCC v/s MRF	Kothandargaman Seshadri (MRF)
PCC v/s IECC	Syed Masood Kazim (PCC)
IECC v/s LJCC	Narendra Punwaney (IECC)

### B- Best Batsman

**Arif Butt (PCC)**  
Ave. (runs/innings) 45.2

### C- Best Bowler(s)

**Shafatullah Khan (PCC)**  
Ave. (runs/wkt) 7

**Alam Tahir (IECC)**  
Ave. (runs/wkt) 7.1

### D- Best Fielder

**Syamal Chaudhuri (IECC)**

### E- Man of the Competition

**Syed Masood Kazim (PCC)**  
Ave. (runs/innings) 36  
Ave. (runs/wkt) 10.6

## Acknowledgement

The Committee Members of the Yemen Cricket League and the players once again offer their sincere thanks to all the following Sponsors who helped in the Promotion of the 1995 Competition and the forthcoming Winter tour to the United Arab Emirates:

**Al Sunidar Travel**  
**Arabian Group of Companies**  
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in the sponsorship of the League. I think that it is only right that he has the opportunity to speak to you personally about the sponsorship, on his hopes for the future and, not least, on what has been achieved, the fruits of which are about to be distributed in this awards ceremony.  
Thank you.

## Peter Bradley's Presentation

Good evening Ladies and Gentlemen.

I am very pleased and indeed honored to be once again conducting this part of the ceremony.

There are going to be a lot of people officially recognised for their cricketing skills here tonight and this has only been made possible through the generosity of our sponsors who in most cases pledged their contributions early in the season thus securing the success of the league more or less from the beginning. We all know who they are but nevertheless, they deserve a special mention at this prestigious event. These Companies have supported us with either money or in kind. I do not want to single-out any sponsor in particular, but I am sure you will not mind if I give particular credit to the **Yemen Times** who have played a leading role in promoting the game of cricket in Yemen and promoting the official sponsors of the league. Abdulaziz Al-Saqaf has been most helpful and cooperative and his assistants Ramzy and Anwar have made sure each week that our reports have gone to press.

Also, **Celtic Surveys** headed by Richard Thomas has spent many pains-taking hours to design and produce promotion material for the league and its sponsors. You have seen this in the **Yemen Times** recently and here today around the room.

The **Taj Sheba**, immediately on the establishment of the Yemen Cricket League, offered to provide the award ceremony venue and as usual, and as you can see, they have done us proud here today. This hotel, frequented by most of us any way on many occasions, is a very fitting place to be holding this event.

We hope our sponsors feel that they have participated in something which is worthwhile, not only for the cricketers, but for themselves and we also hope that they will support us in our next league season which will be announced soon. In this respect, I am very pleased to say that Rothmans has already promised its support.

There is another group of sponsors who I would like to mention who have sponsored us by helping in their spare time. Their contribution has been valuable and is very much appreciated by all concerned. They include **Mani** (photographer), **Habeeb Ali Ghazi**, **Mansoor Saleh Al Ammari**, **Fawzi Saeed Rawah**, **Abdul Hameed Moh'd Al Maktary**, and others.

I will be calling on Don Sheridan our Chairman and the guests of honor to assist me in the presentation of the awards.

There are two categories of awards as follows:

- 1) Teams Awards :
  - 5 Teams
  - Umpires
  - Scorers
  - Committee Members
- 2) Individual Performance Awards :
  - Man of the match
  - Best Batsman
  - Best Bowler
  - Best Fielder
  - Man of the Competition

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**"BREAKBONE FEVER" THREATENS TAIZ**

**By: Dr. Yassin Al-Qubati, Physician, Taiz.**

Taiz city faces hard times. First, there is the sudden demise of Abdul Habib Salim, the courageous son of Taiz city, a Member of Parliament and a well-known journalist. Then, there is the insufficient water supply which causes a lot of suffering and sickness to the inhabitants of this delapidated city. Diarrhea diseases, food borne diseases, intestinal worms and high prevalence of scabies, all are associated with the shortage of water. Fortunately, this year's rains raised the level of ground water. New wells were drilled by the Governor as a temporary solution to help the poor citizens.

The city benefited from the heavy rains, but they too left adverse side-effects. The adverse effects were the result of collecting water in small tanks and cans. Unfortunately, tyres, garbage and solid waste were thrown everywhere in the city - in the streets, in the surroundings of industries, around workshops. Lack of respect of the legal ordinances have resulted in much environmental damage.

The system of collecting, storing and distribution of water has now resulted in major health hazards. In the tanks, it is very difficult to drain out all the water, because of the round shape of the tank. The water inside is also protected from evaporation. This leads to the long stagnation of water which then becomes a very good breeding place for Aedes mosquitoes.

Aedes mosquito is the vector which transmits Dengue disease (Breakbone or Dandy fever). This disease is now widely spread in Taiz and is treated by doctors who do not have proper instruments and facilities for diagnosis or treat-

ment. As a result, the doctors often misdiagnose this fever as Typhoid or Malaria and prescribe medicine accordingly.

Dengue is a viral disease caused by the Group B arbovirus with 4 distinct serogroups. This virus is transmitted by Aedes mosquito which breeds in the small collections of water, especially in the shaded and stagnant water.

It is an acute febrile disease with sudden onset of headache, fever, severe prostration, joint and muscle pain, lymphadenopathy, and a rash that appears simultaneously with a second temperature rise following a febrile period.

The disease starts after an incubation period of 3-15 days with abrupt feeling of chills, headache, post orbital pain, lumbar backache and extreme aching in the legs and joints. The temperature raises rapidly as high as 40°C with a

relative bradycardia. The fever and other symptoms persist for 2 to 4 days followed by rapid defervescence with profuse sweating. The temperature rises again. The symptoms resemble those of malaria and typhoid, hence the clinical misdiagnosis.

On the skin, a rash will appear especially in the palms and soles which may be bright red and edematous. Mortality is nil in this disease but hemorrhage may be associated with the Dengue fever especially in children. If the physicians are trying to find laboratory analysis, there is not much help in Yemen.

There is no treatment for this disease except symptomatic treatment of the fever and pain but the misdiagnosis and wrong treatment can lead to complications. Add to this the suffering and economic loss of the patients.

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