

**Hertz**  
The world's #1 car rental company now in Yemen  
NEW CARS (SEDANS, LAND CRUISERS)  
Self drive - Chauffeur drive  
Tel: (01) 268 748  
Universal Building, 60 M. Road - Sana'a

# YEMEN TIMES

**DHL**  
WORLDWIDE EXPRESS®  
Every Seconds Counts  
Sana'a: (01) 268551, 249878  
Aden: (02) 221223; Taiz: (04) 225383  
Hodeida: (03) 217490; Mukalla: (05) 354844  
Seiyoun: (05) 404288; Ibb: (04) 407418

Always new products at  
**mutarreb**  
01-269303/01-278222

• SANA'A • May 3rd through 9th, 1999

Vol. IX, Issue No. 18 • Price 30 Yemeni Riyals



Govt. Publishing Efforts to Help Young Authors. Page 3.

Preparations for Emerging Democracies Forum. Page 5.

Qat Combating Society, can it win its war against qat? Page 8+9. (Special Report)

TV Star Maysa Radman on Her Aspirations and Hopes. Page 10.

**AEI** Quality Worldwide Logistics  
ATCO - Yemen Office  
Arab Trading Company Ltd. Tel: 967-1 285540  
Sana'a, Republic of Yemen Fax: 967-1 285538  
Your Reliable Logistics Partner

## SANAA:

# Ancient City Rushes into the Modern Age

Experts have made ominous projections regarding the future of Sanaa, a city whose number of inhabitants now approaches 1.3 million. According to a limited circulation report released last week, the city sinks some 4 centimeters every 10 years because of the depletion of the underground aquifers.



That is not all. The prospects of achieving a good life in Sanaa are shrinking.

First, the city suffers from what experts call "a closed echo-system," due to a wall of mountains surrounding it. Second, an altitude of over 7,000 feet above sea-level means that there is very little oxygen in the air. First time visitors, particularly those with heart conditions or asthma, have to gasp for air.

Added to these problems are the needs of a rapidly growing population. The average annual growth rate has been at about 8% for the last 20 years.

There is a rising level of gas emissions from the 150,000 vehicles madly roaming the streets. Also, there is the high level of pollution generated

by activities such as quarrying and industrial plants. Last but not least, there is the problem of a city unable to handle the garbage and sewer it generates. The problems of Sanaa do not end there. Among the other conclusions of the report is that the city is running out of water, and its management system (or lack of it) is on the verge of chaos.

Sanaa is an ancient city rushing into the modern age. It carries with it the trappings of the past, and one can often see shepherds herding their goats and sheep in the middle of the city's streets.

**MAM INTERNATIONAL**  
Tel. 286390



**GUERLAIN**  
Paris

**WESTERN UNION MONEY TRANSFER**  
The fastest way to send money worldwide™  
Contact any of the branches of the International Bank of Yemen:  
Head Office: 01-273273  
Sanaa-Zubairi: Tel: 273273; fax: 274127  
Sanaa: Bab al-Yemen: Tel: 244477  
Aden: Tel: 255795; Mukalla: Tel: 303496  
Hodeidah: Tel: s218461

**CROWN paints**  
دهانات كراون  
Tel: (04) 210791/2/3; Fax: (04) 219901

**Watani Bank**  
For Trade & Investment  
**WB**  
البنك الوطني  
لتجارة والاستثمار  
The Bank you can depend on and trust  
Tel: 208613 Fax: 205706/215579 Zubairi Str.  
e-mail: watbank@vnet.ye P.O. Box 3058 Sana'a, ROY

**Lufthansa**  
Summer Schedule eff. 28th March - 30th October, 1999

	Sana'a-Frankfurt		Frankfurt-Sana'a		
	DEP.	ARR.	DEP.	ARR.	
Monday	00.10	07.40	Monday	13.20	22.35
Thursday	00.10	07.40	Thursday	13.20	22.35
Friday	00.10	07.40	Friday	13.20	22.35

From Sana'a to Frankfurt and from Frankfurt to the world  
We are just one-phone-call-away  
Telephone numbers: 213400 - 219252; 344166

**Yemen Drugs Company**  
الشركة اليمنية  
لصناعة وتجارة  
الادوية  
Tel: 234250/3  
Fax: 234290  
P.O. Box: 40, Sana'a

**ALAMERY العامري**  
Fax: 03 234860  
Showroom phone: 03 246526  
Office phone: 03 253311  
Home: 245234  
Plant Protection Products  
**BASF** MAIN DISTRIBUTOR in Yemen

**COMPAQ**  
Has Better Answers WITH  
**Al-Salam Est.**  
Tel: 274851/2/5/6 Fax: 273990

A vacant space for your Ad.  
Please call 268661

**FedEx** Federal Express  
The World On Time.  
Sana'a: 412684, 412605, 413053, fax 412603  
Hodeidah: tel/fax: 03 347422  
Aden: tel/fax: 02 232911, tel/fax: 02 231572  
Taiz: tel/fax: 04 232838  
Mukalla: tel/fax: 05 302641 Email: falcon@y.net.ye

## President Saleh: Stuck Without a Challenger

There is a lot of fighting going on these days between Yemeni political parties, particularly in regards to the upcoming presidential race. The Yemeni Congregation for Reform (known as Islah) is upset with the ruling party, the People's General Congress, because it is unable or unwilling to correct the list of eligible voters for the elections. Yet, it maintains that President Ali Abdullah Saleh is its candidate for president. There is a contradiction here. If the Islah is all for President Saleh, why is it at odds with the PGC and its candidate - President Saleh? Then there are the other opposition political parties. The Yemen Socialist Party has been unable to even hold its party convention for the last 15 years. Of course, the party has problems, but it is up to the rank and file of the party to find solutions to the problems. The perennial leaders of the party have no mandate to decide on behalf of the party forever.

None of the other smaller parties are in a position to field presidential candidates. As a result, President Saleh finds himself running without a real challenger. The joke around town is that he will have to hire one. This situation is not an accident. The country has been manipulated by the people in power to reach this predicament. The elections, scheduled for October 1999, are expected to cost the nation around YR 8 billion. Many people are troubled by the fact that a poor country will spend so much money to arrive at a foregone conclusion. Several members of parliament and many public figures now suggest using the 'tazkiyah' system. This means all sides will agree to nominate President Saleh, and thus side-step the elections. Others say that holding elections is building a tradition. They are important for the long-term, even if they have no meaning in the short run.

## Working for Closer Ties Between Sanaa & Ottawa CC Delegation Prepares Canada Trip

H.E. Mr. Abdulaziz Abdulghani, Chairman of the Consultative Council (CC), has accepted an invitation from the Honorable Gildas Molgat, Speaker of the Canadian Senate. A 4-person delegation from the Consultative Council is now scheduled to arrive in Ottawa on June 8th, on a 4-day official visit. "We are working to promote stronger cooperation between our two countries," explained Mr. Abdulghani.

The Yemeni delegation seeks to meet Ms. Huguette Labelle, Chairman of Canadian International Development Agency, to reach an agreement to qualify for bilateral assistance. At the moment, Yemen receives assistance through CIDA's multilateral program. Although such program severely limits the availability of funds, Yemen will already be receiving \$ 1 million Canadian from Canada in 1999. Mr. Abdulghani also hopes to meet with the Canadian Foreign Minister, the Honorable Lloyd Axworthy. "We hope the Canadian Government will see the need to open an embassy in Sanaa," he said. Canada has also offered to sign 2 agreements - one on investment guarantees and the other on avoiding double taxation, in order to promote joint ventures and investments.

**ALSAEED TRADING CO.**  
LEADER OF YEMEN EXPORTS  
Tel: 00967-4-232727 Fax: 00967-4-223851  
P.O.Box: 5351 Taiz-Republic of Yemen

**COMPAQ** **PRESARIO**  
The Brand is **COMPAQ**  
The features are **COMPAQ**  
The Price is **UNBELIEVABLE!**  
Page 4  
Engazat Trading Co. - Information Systems Division  
Villa 74, Hadda St., P.O.Box 2526, Sana'a-Republic of Yemen  
Authorized Systems Reseller Authorized Service Provider  
Tel: 264662 / 260272; Fax: 247921 Tel: 214505 / 214580; Fax: 214719  
E-mail: etc1@y.net.ye e-mail:etc2@y.net.ye

**CARRY** **SUZUKI**  
Standard-Roof/High-Roof/Blind Van  
The Choice for Compaq Mobility for the Busy City Streets—the Smart-Sized All-New Suzuki CARRY Van  
Suzuki Yemen (Member of Bamarouf Group)  
Head Quarter: Al-Mimlah Road, Sheikh Othman - Aden Tel: 720253-720212, Fax: 346272-346479

## OUR VIEWPOINT

### Monetary Policy Goes from Bad to Worse

The exchange of the Yemeni Riyal vis-avis the US dollar continues to fall. The dollar now sells for YR 155 in the market, in spite of the best efforts of the Central Bank of Yemen.

The continued deterioration of the Riyal exchange rate is bringing havoc to an already fragile investment market and a difficult economic situation. Many investors and entrepreneurs have expressed alarm at the fall of the riyal and are having second thoughts about putting their money into Riyal investments.

"Our returns on investments are calculated at a certain exchange rate. When this rate falls, it means returns on investments will also fall. In other words, projects that are viable at a certain exchange rate, may turn out to be unprofitable," explained one key investor who has decided to hold off.

Another fall-out from a falling Riyal exchange rate is that savings are now moved from Yemeni Riyal denominations to Dollar accounts. This leads to a run on the national currency, further exacerbating a difficult situation.

To address this situation, the Central Bank has recently increased interest rates on Riyal deposits, and has slashed interest on Dollar deposits. Unfortunately, this policy will not work.

The main reason it won't work is simply because returns on dollar deposits are not decided in Sanaa, but in the world markets. So, if a Yemeni holder of dollar savings cannot get good returns in Sanaa, he/she will basically ship out his/her dollars to wherever he/she can get a better deal. That is why this new monetary policy will simply lead to a flight of dollars from Yemen.

At the same, raising the interest on Riyal deposits will discourage investments in Yemen. Why would people with money to invest take project risks when they can get high returns by simply putting the money with the bank? At the same time, high interest rates become a forbidding factor for investors who need project funds.

Will the Central Bank of Yemen please wake up?

*The Publisher*  
عبد العزيز السقاف

**Students Fight at Taiz University**  
There was a big fight between students in Taiz University last Monday. It was because of holding a party in Al-Zubeiry hall. Some students wanted to celebrate the anniversary of the Hijira of prophet Mohammed while the university staff had a musical party at the same time. So, a big fight took place. Guns were used. Three students were wounded, while the university security did nothing. It seem to be a maneuver by the Islah and PGC parties to control the university. The trouble makers are now under investigation.

**A Celebration of Labor Day**  
Yemen celebrated Labor Day on the first of May, as did the entire world. Many distinctive persons were honored from various productive sectors. The Minister of Labor and Vocational Training, Mr. Mohammed Al Tayeb, spoke briefly on this occasion saying, "The first of May witnessed many activities that featured the great concern of Yemen about this important area. Laborers play basic and vital roles in the development process." Mr. Al Tayeb added "Yemen concerns for Laborers are not limited to celebrating Labor Day but, it is a continuous affair. The Ministry is undergoing a comprehensive characterization of laborers to insure they get full rights. This characterization will include laborers from both public and private sectors."

**Towards Better Trade with Lebanon**  
A number of Industrialists and businessmen from Yemen and Lebanon met to try and revive the commercial and trade cooperation, between the two countries. The visiting Yemeni delegation was headed by Mr. Abdul Jabbar Sa'eed, who had invited his Lebanese counterparts to focus more on Yemen. "The Lebanese businessmen have not realized the importance of the Yemeni markets and the opportunities to expand their markets," said Mr. Abdul Jabbar. Mr. Jacques Sarraf, president of the Lebanese Industrialists Association, in his speech expressed the importance of the strategic location of Yemen, as a connection to a huge market. The businessmen hope that this visit will strengthen the trade links between the countries.

### Yemen Times Weekly Opinion Poll

Yemen Times Opinion Poll Question is places weekly at:  
<http://www.yementimes.com/#poll>  
The results only reflect the opinion of the portion of people who use the Internet to submit their votes online.

**Question**  
The National Qat Combating Society is established to make Yemenis aware of the dangers of Qat and aim to get rid of it forever. Are you willing to support this society?

**Results**  
- Yes. I support every effort to destroy this evil plant. (80%)  
- No. I will not support it. (6%)  
- It depends. I first need to get information about this society. (12%)  
- I don't know! (2%)

### Yemenia Gets A+ on Performance

The Toulouse-based Airbus Industries has given Yemenia, the national carrier of Yemen, high marks for on-time operations. "As of the end of January (1999), we are pleased to notice that the results of the last 6 months are reaching the level of 100% for dispatch and operational reliability, while for the last 12 months, it was 'only' 99.4," wrote the producer. In the congratulatory message, of which Mr. Abdullah Al-Muterreb, Marketing Manager of Yemenia, says his company is very proud, Airbus Industrie also pointed to "constant improvement of the technical department organization which has led

GESAC to renew the COA (French CDN) by twelve months, instead of six months as previously. Such testimony will be reflected in higher market share.



Yemenia Airbus A310-325

### The Right to Respond: "The Hayel Saeed Group Is OK!"

In its issue number 17 of Volume IIX dated 25th April, the Yemen Times published a story about the Hayel Saeed Group of Companies, and another business group. While the story was mostly factual, there are a couple of corrections we want to make.

#### 1. Future Investments:

We in the Hayel Saeed Group of Companies continue with our commitments to contribute to the development and construction of Yemen. We view our investments in Yemen on a long-term basis, and our decisions are not made on a purely profit-incentive basis. That is why we will continue to be one of the driving forces of the nation's growth and development.

#### 2. Employees:

Indeed, a small number of employees have been laid-off by the Hayel Saeed Group of Companies. But the main reason for the termination of service of the majority of these people was the fact that they have reached retirement age. As the Yemen Times kindly appreciates, Yemeni law stipulates a certain minimum and maximum working age. This was the basic reason for laying-off some employees recently.

We hope the above two corrections will shed light on the situation. The Hayel Saeed Group of Companies continues in its growth and expansion, and we continue to lead the development process of Yemen.

### Royal Jordanian Restarts Direct Flights to Tripoli, Libya

On April 20th 1999, Royal Jordanian restarted direct flights to Tripoli in Libya, after a seven-year suspension.

Royal Jordanian will have a weekly flight to Tripoli every Tuesday, leaving Amman at 11:00 and arriving in Tripoli at 15:00. The flight back to Amman leaves Tripoli on the same day at 16:00 and arrives in Amman at 19:30. Royal Jordanian plans to add another weekly flight in the near future. Libya Arab Airlines, as well, started operating to Amman on the 14th of April 1999 and announced that it intended to operate three weekly flights between Amman and Tripoli. The re-opening of this route is expected to contribute to the strong and friendly relations between the two Arab countries.

Royal Jordanian and Libya Arab Airlines will discuss cooperation possibilities in various air transport industry affairs in the fields of maintenance and training, as well as commercial areas, by increasing the sales in the Middle East and the Indian Sub-Continent areas.

## فرص وظيفية

تتوفر الفرص الوظيفية التالية لمركز طبي راق في مدينة صنعاء،

#### (1) موظفو استقبال (من الجنسين)

يشترط إجادة اللغة العربية والإنجليزية إجادة تامة تحدثا وقراءة وكتابة، مع المام جيد ببرامج الكمبيوتر المستخدمة لاسيما برامج ويندوز.  
على ألا يقل العمر عن 20 عاما، ويمتلك شخصية ودودة ورغبة جادة في العمل.

#### (2) سكرتير اداري (من الجنسين)،

يشترط إجادة الإنجليزية والعربية إجادة تامة، ومهارة وخبرة سابقة في برامج ويندوز (مكتب ويندوز، إكسل، باور بوينت).

تحدد المزاي بعد الإطلاع على السير الذاتية والمقابلات الشخصية.

ترسل المعلومات مع صورة هدية إلى العنوان التالي:

صنعاء، ص. ب. 1120

## WANTED AUTOMOBILE MECHANIC

The Embassy of the United States of America announces a vacant position for an "Automobile Mechanic" within its organization. The position is located in Motorpool of the General Services Office, which is responsible for major and minor overhaul and repair work on motor vehicles for GSO.

#### Major duties and responsibilities:

- Examine shop repair order or performs diagnostic tests to determine nature and extend of repair needed.
- Repair engines, transmissions, brake systems, springs, shock absorbers, steering mechanism, etc.
- Use all typical tools and testing and analysis equipment.
- Change oil, lubricate, and perform other minor maintenance work as assigned by dispatcher.
- Replace and repair tires, operate tire changing equipment and tire balance machine.

#### Minimum qualifications:

- Education:** Completion of elementary school, or vocational training is required.
- Language:** Rudimentary English is a must.
- Skills/Ability:** Must have full journeyman automotive mechanic trade
- Knowledge:** Also must have a valid Yemeni driver's license.
- Experience:** Three years of journeyman automotive mechanic experience is required.

**How to Apply:** Applicants should submit a completed OF-174 (Application for Employment as a Foreign Service national) to the Personnel Office, American Embassy. Application forms are available at the Embassy's gate from Saturday to Wednesday between 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM. Application will not be accepted after May 15, 1999.

YEMEN  
TIMES

Independent Cultural, Economic & Political Weekly



Yemen Times Contact Address:  
Telephone: +967 (1) 268-661  
Facsimile: +967 (1) 268-276  
Post Office Box: 2579  
Sanaa, Republic of Yemen

Editor-in-Chief & Publisher  
Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf

General Manager: Walid Al-Saqqaf

Aden Bureau Chief:

Ridhwan Alawi Al-Saqqaf

Phone: +967 (2) 347-057; Fax: +967 (2) 347-056

Taiz Bureau Chief: Imad Ahmed Al-Saqqaf,

Taiz Bureau Editor: Mohammed Hatem Al-Qadhi

Telephone: +967 (4) 227-217

P.O.Box: 5086, Taiz - Republic of Yemen

Website: <http://www.yementimes.com/>

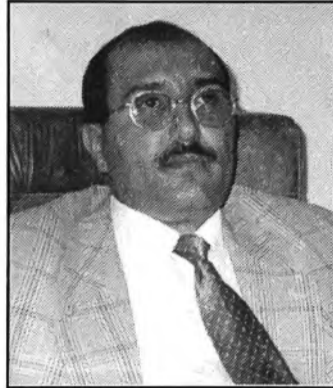
Email: [yementimes@y.net.ye](mailto:yementimes@y.net.ye)

**Khaled Abdullah Al-Rowaishan:**

***"Despite our limited budget, we are still committed to encouraging our young talented men and women to publish their fine poems and writings."***

The officials of Yemen are aware that publishing costs in the country are quite high. For a nation that doesn't publish enough, they thought it important to make publishing easier for young writers. That was the logic behind the government's decision to help out. The General Board for Books was established on 21/08/1990 - one of the early actions of the newly unified Yemen. The idea was to foot the bill for publishing books. Budding authors were now able to side-step a major hurdle. However, good intentions alone aren't enough.

Ismail Al-Ghabyry of Yemen Times went to talk to Mr. Khaled Abdullah Al-Rowaishan, General Manager of the General Board for Books since August 1996. Khaled has his BA degree from Cairo University. He worked for ten years as Director of the Cultural Department at the Presidential Office prior to his present post.



and the deputy of the committee and some important highly educated writers and poets. If they accept a work, then we print it.

**Q: What is the goal of the General Yemeni Committee for books?**

**A:** Our objective is to publish and supervise the general Libraries in various parts of the country that are directly concerned with issuing Yemeni Books. We also take care of and supervise the public libraries. These are the "Dar Alkitab," the "Alsultania," and the "National" libraries.

**Q: What has the committee done so far?**

**A:** We have printed more than sixteen Books so far. The most important of these is a book called "Aljaama."

Our attempt to print a hundred books is under way, and we are printing twenty books now. The rest will be completed within three of four years. We publish the important creative writing of Yemen's authors. Yemen has distinctive poets and authors, but they are ignored by most of the people. We at the committee are encouraging the young poets and writers to publish their works, and we will be printing another twenty books this year.

**Q: What are the titles of some of these books?**

**A:** Most of what is written in Yemen is similar to that in any other Arab country, most of it is creative fiction. We are trying to take care of the young writers and show the world our best.

Every beginner has the right to have their first works published by the government, and we in the committee try to take care of these people. We have published several beginners' works. There is a history book called "Aljaama," which is one of the most important books we have printed, as well as poetry, stories, domestic idioms etc. that we have done. We also issued a religious book, "Roaya Qurania Li Kawanin AlKawn," by Usama Alkhader, the committee has also issued poetry works for the young ignored poets.

**Q: What is the Committee's budget?**

**A:** That is a difficult question to answer, because the committee is employing 500 people. Therefore, our budget is huge, but most of it is paid as salaries to the employee's. The large number of employees is due to

our combining with the former 14th of October Foundation. We used to employ 20 people, but it jumped to 500 with the committee branches in Sanaa, Aden and Hadrahmout. Our problem of too many employees is faced by most of the foundations.

Concerning the budget for books, it is quite inadequate, with only around three to four million Rials for purchasing and printing them, but we print as many books as we can on this budget, as well as purchasing many of the books that are issued from other Arab countries.

**Q: Are most employees administrative or vocational?**

**A:** Most of the workers were part of the 14th of October foundation, which distributed books in the former South Yemen. That organization had a monopoly on the distribution of books. Therefore, they had a very large focus on distribution and sales. This means many of our employees are still working in these areas, but we are passing on the duties of distributing books to the private sector, so they are no longer needed in their old capacities. Now, we publish and sell only the books which we print, and we only purchase books which are issued in the Arab world for the "Dar Alkitab" and the "National" libraries. These are open to readers, and so we provide people with the latest issues from the Arab countries. We are putting much emphasis on this duty, rather than distribution as the former 14th of October was doing.

I would like to add that the available workers are not concerned with book printing. Most of them the chosen people are concerned with Distribution and Accounts only. We are trying to balance the role of the two foundations. In Egypt or any other Arab country, our organization would only be publishing, but here we are also overseeing various libraries which are available to out readers. In other countries, these two jobs are carried out by separate organization.

**Q: How do you select the books which will be published?**

**A:** The selection of the books is made by a council elected by the General Books Committee, which includes the the president

**Q: Are there any councils to whom authors can present their works?**

**A:** Yes, the author has to come and represent his work to the committee. Then his work will be presented to the council, which will be formed of a few people inside and outside the committee who are professionals in these field. They decide if the work is accepted. That is not part of our work, we just print books and educate people. We are trying to avoid the shackles of bureaucracy that would slow everything down.

**Q: What are your latest books? When were they issued?**

**A:** Our latest issued Book is "Aljaama." I know of many others due to my Job in Administration, and I can't remember all that was issued. But I would like to add that we encourage the young Yemeni female poets, we try to help the young ones which haven't issued any poems before. It is an encouragement from the committee to these people, and if we didn't encourage these people, the might have not written at all. The committee comes under the authority of the Ministry of Culture & Tourism, but we are administratively and financially independent. The ministries supervision is on the Administrative side, like any part of the ministry.

**Q: Do you have your own press? How do you print the books?**

**A:** There was a possibility of buying a press, but we still we don't have a press, because of the cost. Most Arab publishers doesn't possess their own press, but print their books in other presses. If we possessed a press, it brings with it many difficulties and problems of its own. The easier and cheaper way is to have the printing done by the private sector.

**Q: Most people ignore the role of the general books committee. Why?**

**A:** I think that the problems we have had in the past, as well as the continual issuance of books means that people ignore the publisher. Also, some of our books

were criticized by outside literary authorities, which makes people think poorly of us. A day does not pas without hearing that there is criticism or news about the books printed by the general books committee. However, I think that the committee is in its brightest days, and it was established in the year 1990. Despite the stopping of most projects in other government establishments, we at the committee have been able to carry on. Concerning books, the political facts in the country hinders the work, and unfortunately the committee does not take any responsibility because the country is mired in politics and there is no time for concern over literature and creative writing.

**Q: What are the committee's future plans, and is there any cooperation between you and the ministries of culture and media?**

**A:** No, because they are the supervisors and we follow their lead. Concerning the plans which we follow, we will have achieved 50% of our plans within two or three years, and we have made halls for seminars, lectures and artistry collections, as well as specialized exhibitions. We have also started a book shop, and we sell our books to the public at good prices. All these works were

not performed previously by the committee. We have started printing for the young people, and we have established general libraries for reading in the capitals of the governorates of Haja, Dhamar, Mareb and Hodeidah these are the four libraries. In addition, there are libraries for juniors between ten to fifteen years of age. There are five libraries under construction, financed by the UN. In some of the governorates, the land and housing will be provided, and we will provide the books. We have plans to inaugurate libraries for general reading in Haja, Dhamar, Mareb, Lahej, Hodeidah.

**Q: What are the major obstacles that you face?**

**A:** The major obstacle is the debt of the former 14th October Foundation. This debt has fallen on us, along with all of their employees. The foundation was taking the books from the Arab world and distributing them, and not making any money. It has about \$ 500,000 of debt, and we can't pay it off. I have tried to start to pay our debts, and we really started paying these year, particularly to "Alahram" in Egypt, as well as some of our Lebanese publishers. The books from them form the nucleus of a Library, I have stopped selling books which we have purchased, because they are needed for the libraries which I am intending to form this Year. This is a major obstacle, besides the huge number of employees. This is not only a problem for us, but for many other public sectors as well.

There is another obstacle, with the workers we have available to us. Many of our employees were hired and trained for ordinary distribution. They are not related to printing or producing or writing books. However, I can say now that we have overcome most of these obstacles in our year 2000 budget. We have received authorization from the prime minister for the necessary funds for these poets. He assured us that the money will be included in the year 2000 budget. A memorandum was sent to the finance ministry concerning rebudgeting in this sector.

**Q: Do you have any last comments?**

**A:** I hope to overcome the obstacle in the committee, after publishing the work we get from our young writers and the cultural books, which deserve printing so that our books reach the Arab countries and the world.

We are also trying to improve our translation so that we could translate the most important issues in the world into Arabic. This is so that we can add international culture to our domestic culture. There will be more books from the translation sector; in the coming years, there will also be Arabic books about Yemeni culture translated into English, as it will be one of the ways to show the Yemeni culture to the outside world. Finally, I would like to thank the people in the Yemen Times for their initiatives, by coming and taking care of the Yemeni culture and Yemeni Literature.

## "Music Again" At the Taj Sheba Hotel...

The BILQUIS Restaurant will come live with the new FILIPINO in-house band, to revive the memorable evenings at the Taj Sheba.



Come join us for an Enjoyable evening with exotic food from our new menu enchanting music of THE GALAXY From 5th May 1999 Onwards, Except Mondays

Taj Sheba Hotel, where we understand your taste ...

For Reservation  
Call: 272372

TAJ   
SHEBA HOTEL  
SANA'A .YEMEN

THE MOST POPULAR

# CARPARK

IS BACK! Sheraton Sana'a  
GOES ASIAN



EXOTIC AND MOUTH  
WATERING DISHES  
FROM ASIA, THAILAND,  
JAPAN, PHILIPPINES  
AND INDIA

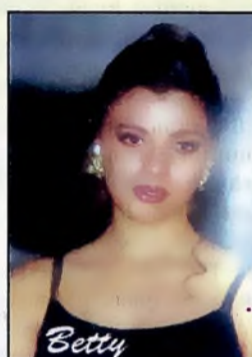
For any Reservations, please  
call our F&B Department on  
Tel. 237500 ext. 8135/8835

**فندق شيراتون صنعاء**  
**Sheraton Sana'a**  
HOTEL

## Sheraton Sana'a Hotel & Lebanese Embassy presenting **Lebanese Week**



With The Lebanese Folkloric Group of Nasser Makhoul  
& The chef Abdo



Yemenia  
Yemen Airways

**اليمنية**  
الخطوط الجوية اليمنية



**FedEx**



YEMEN CATERING  
& SERVICES

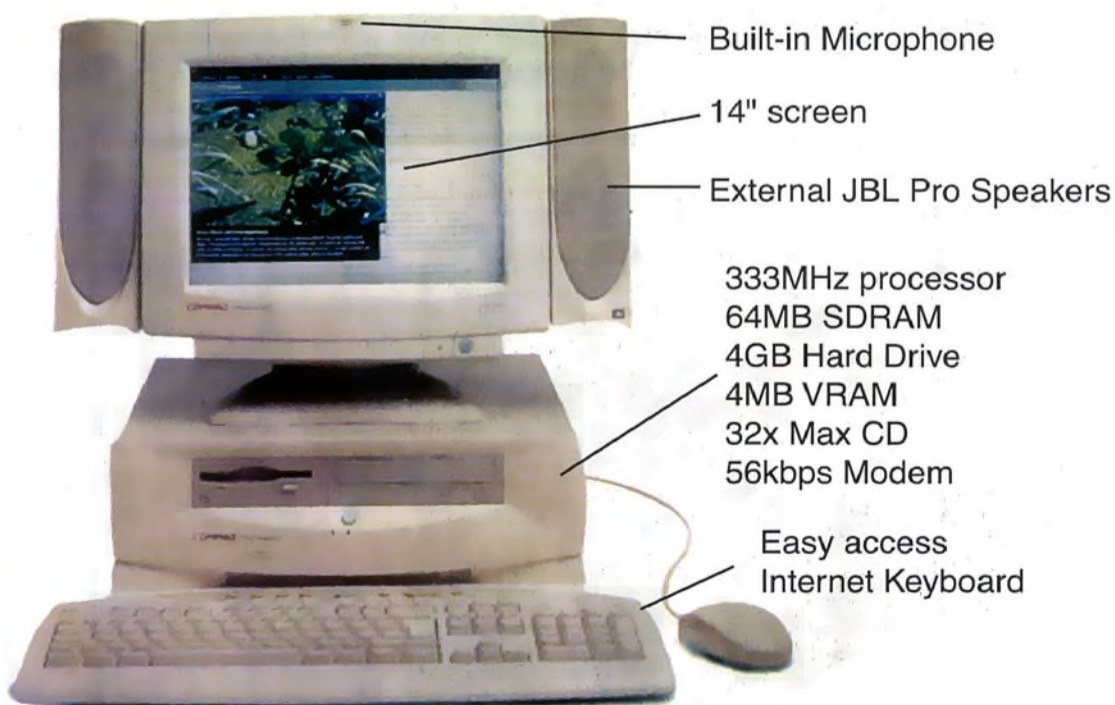


For Reservations  
Call Tel: 237500  
Ext. 135

**\$20 Dinner Incl.**  
**Tax per/person**

**فندق شيراتون صنعاء**  
**Sheraton Sana'a**  
HOTEL

## Compaq Persario 2292 & Lexmark Printer 1100



**LEXMARK**  
**1100**  
Color Jetprinter™

**Both Presario 2292 and a Lexmark 1100**  
**are bundled with the price of \$ 1295**

Offer valid until stock last

**Engazat Trading Company**  
**Information Systems Division**

**COMPAQ**

Authorized Systems Reseller  
Authorized Service Provider

Tel: 264662 / 260272 Fax: 247921  
Tel: 214505 / 214589 Fax: 214719

## Law on Child Rights Expected to be Enacted before 2000

The last series of conferences in preparation for the Yemeni law on child rights was held in Sanaa from the 27-28 April, 1999. The Ministry of Social Affairs and

the Yemeni Council for Mother and Child Care had started regional workshops in various governorates in October 1998. The purpose was to get feedback

and input on the law that had been prepared earlier. The UNICEF representative in Yemen, Mr. Habib Hammam, told the Yemen Times that talks

with the Yemeni Authorities in this regard had started in April 1998. UNICEF financed the participation of experts from Lebanon and Tunisia to help the

Yemeni government draft the law. "I hope this law will be enacted before the end of the year" said Mr. Hammam.

## Where are Our Rights?

Column by:  
ABDULAZIZ MOSABEEN

We are Yemenis living in Yemen without rights, because no establishment, organization or cooperation can defend our rights. Both locally and internationally, our claims are many:

1- The Government of Yemen does not take care of the health of people. There is no medicine in the national hospitals, and there are bed fees, which are too high for many patients. If anyone doesn't have the money, he is turned away. Many people have faced continued sickness and lack of care, and a few have even died because they can not afford health care.

2- The Government of Yemen is living without future. To prove my point, we can observe the millions of Yemeni students that have been to college, and ask them what the government has done for these students after graduation.

3- The Government of Yemen takes no responsibility for the hundreds of thousands who are jobless. The government makes no efforts to assist them, as other civilized countries do, including the Scandinavian countries, the USA, the U.K. and Holland.

4- Most of the members of Yemen's Government, as well as those in other legislative systems, are traders and investors in large companies. Most are the representatives of several international companies and agencies, which deal in everything from producing needles to rockets. Many of these investments are registered under the names of their relatives or false names.

5- The Government of Yemen treat its people like cattle or sheep as it prepares for the election of parliament and prepare for any elections. It is known in advance that the results will maintain the current government. The losers will be left out in the cold, to fend for themselves any way they can.

The system is in a conflict, and it seems to be heading towards the dark ages. The government is eager to get loans from other countries in the name of democracy, but there is no real democracy. They are lying to everyone, both here and abroad.

# SAVE UP TO US \$ 300



SHOWTIME

Only on Showtime

جميع الأفلام مترجمة الى اللغة العربية

DISH AND DECODER ONLY US\$

# 430

INCLUDING FREE INSTALLATION

When you take up an annual subscription to Showtime from as little as US\$ 33.33 a month

إمكانية الاشتراك مع ART

# SHOWTIME

Brings you the best in Western entertainment

Dubai Tel: +971 4 837111

SANA'A - El Aghil Trading 01 272 428/9, Ghamdan General Trading 01 279 143, General Electronics Co. Ltd. 01 269 098

<http://www.showtimearabia.com>

نهني الدكتور  
عبدالوهاب اسماعيل الخولاني  
بمناسبة حصوله على شهادة الدكتوراه من جامعة  
الخرطوم. ألف مبروك.

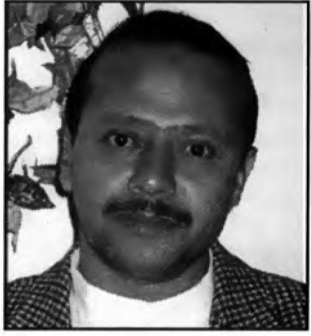


المهنيون:  
د/أسامة الخولاني.  
د/ عواطف.  
عبدالله الخولاني.  
عادل حيدرة، نبيل العمري.  
فواز عبدالعزيز.  
طله العمري

This is an OPINION page.

Every week, a different intellectual writes a FOCUS on a pertinent issue!

# The Edge of A Precipice



**Mohamed Abbas**  
Columnist

captured my interest. It was a statement by a senior official defending the government's action in lifting the subsidies on basic food commodities. The statement says "In the long run, the lifting of the subsidies is for the good of everyone." The statement, like any other statement made by any politician, was too general to make any sense and the only important part of it is the phrase "in the long run." But again, this phrase is too flexible to have one meaning. Ironically, the only meaning it could have is "in the long run every one will be dead!" But to put it this way, which is concrete, would turn the statement into an excuse which is worse than the problem. It is very much like Snowball's style in Orwell's famous political satire **Animal Farm**. In this story, the animals, after their successful rebellion against the human owners of the farm, agreed to run the affairs of the farm, now their own, on the principles of equality and fraternity. However, one night some of them discovered that the milk of the cows and the apples in the orchard which ought to be distributed equally amongst them had disappeared. In the morning, Snowball, one of the leading pigs of the farm, who was known for his ways of reasoning and convincing, came out to clear up the mystery. He told the rest of the animals that the pigs and the dogs had decided to have the milk and the apples all for themselves. Why? Because, as he puts it, "We pigs are brain workers.....The whole management of the farm depends on our brains. It is for your sake (meaning the rest of the animals) that we drink that milk and eat those apples." The stupid animals swallowed this piece of trash as they will swallow anything he says later in the story. But this is only fiction while the statement in front of me is solid and real. Yet they are very much the same for the only mentality that can produce such statements is the mentality of a domineering pig.

7:30

The bus suddenly stopped. In only a few seconds, the horns of the cars and shouts of drivers were resounding all over the place. In front of our bus was a tall, skinny lunatic blocking the way. He was standing in the middle of the narrow street and appeared to be nailed to the ground. Completely oblivious to the world around him, the poor lunatic was wearing ragged clothes that exposed some sensitive parts in his body. Dirt also covered him from top to toe as he might have forgotten that water has another use beside drinking. The statue-like human kept silent and was gazing into nowhere. Horns of anger and shouts of protest grew louder and noisier, but he ignored them. Behind us

was a military jeep. In the front sat a middle age officer. His face was stern and the black spectacles he was wearing intensified the tough look in his face. His elegant and jaunty military uniform, decorated with a variety of medals and badges of honor, indicated that he was a high-ranking officer. We saw him ordering his guards in the back seat to step down and take care of the problem. Two armed soldiers jumped off the car, came around the lunatic and started to push him ahead. But as soon as they left him he instantly returned to his former spot. As he began to hit back at the guards, they finally forced him to their car where they shoved him inside and locked him in amid shouts of laughter and some witty remarks on the funny end of the unusual traffic jam.

7:45

The bus stopped again. This time it was only a traffic sign. The last scene of the lunatic kept flashing back and forth causing me to feel tense and restrained. It was really hard to imagine that a living man could be turned into a human heap and be disposed of in such an inhuman way. Between the three scenes I have seen so far, there is one thing in common and that's poverty. But along with the degrading physical conditions, the three scenes—that of the school boys, the official's statement and the lunatic—have proven the existence of a more menacing poverty, namely poverty of outlook, poverty of thought and poverty of soul. In the meantime, two passengers were talking about something and pointing over at a painting on

an electric sign. Out of curiosity I looked up and saw the thing. It was a magnificent painting of the president posted on a lofty place on the board. The face in the painting was bright and rosy-cheeked. The look in the eyes

was firm and steady as if they were penetrating the future with sanguine hope and confidence. Several days ago, a very good friend of mine asked for an explanation of the current situation in this country. I wished he was with me to see this for himself. Had he been with me, I think he would have said that the situation in Yemen is already dramatic, and and it would be fantastic were it not so tragic too. Seldom are the three elements of drama, fantasy and tragedy com-

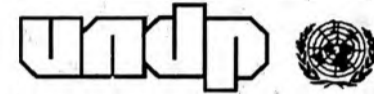
bined together to form such a spectacular scene of absurdity as is the case in the land of the "Arabia Felix," or the happy Arabia!

7:55

I am now at the outside gate of the office of Yemen Times. A vague sense of hope and expectation haunts me as I put my signature on the attendance sheet to start another day of ordinary work.

## UNITED NATION DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

UNDP



### VACANCIES ANNOUNCEMENT

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is inviting applications for the following post in its office in Sana'a.

**This position is open to Yemeni Nationals only.**

#### Operations Officer

##### Duties and Responsibilities:

Supervise accounts and financial transactions of UNDP; assist in the preparation of office budgets, manage the administration and training of General Service staff; assist in the administration of matters pertaining to internationally recruited staff; oversee the local salary survey and cost-of-living survey; manage office supplies and equipment; oversee administrative records; coordinate local and international transportation and customs clearance; coordinate logistical support for UNDP assistance to government projects; may liaise with the government and Executing Agencies to this effect; Oversee automation and information functions.

##### Qualification/Experience/Skills required:

Post Graduate academic background in Economics, Business or Public Administration with at least 5 years of practical experience in the field of administrative management including progressively responsible work in general administration (preferably with UN System or International Organization). Very good knowledge of computer, English and Arabic is essential.

##### Remuneration:

The net base salary will be within the range of YR. 1,243,174.00 per annum.

Interested Candidates are requested to send their applications with detailed curriculum vitae to:

**Assistance Resident Representative (O),  
UNDP, P. O. Box No. 551, Sana'a**

Applications should be received **no later than 15 May 1999.**

Applications received after this date will not be considered. Only those candidates who strictly meet the requirements could apply and acknowledgment will only be sent to shortlisted applicants meeting the requirements of the post.



# Yemeni Labor: Too Devastated to Celebrate May 1<sup>st</sup>

On the First of May, the entire world celebrates Labor Day. This is a holiday for those that represents the national wealth for each society. Laborers are the hope for the future, a better shining future. They deserve the celebration of the entire world on this day for their great contribution to building their countries. Laborers have their own pains and sorrows, they work hard to give their countries and families the best. Do we ever think of them? Of their problems and grievances? What can we do to show them our gratitude so they can keep on giving?

We have spoken to a few people, from very different social levels, regarding the laborer and his day's work.

**The baker:**

He was sitting in a very hot room and I asked him what Labor Day means to him. He replied, "Labor Day is our day, and it is a good idea so that we could take a day

off from work. I asked him if he felt the heat, he replied "Yes, but it is the work I like most, and I can stand everything. I feel quite happy and content, especially when I sell all the bread I make."

**The blacksmith:**

We first asked him about his profession, and how did he master it and the obstacles he faces during his work?

He said, "I learned my job from my father when I was very young. There are some obstacles that we face during our work but we overcome most of them in the end. For a blacksmith, there is one particular idea in his mind that he has to work hard to reach. People get the final product without any idea of the process the raw metal has been through."

**The sculpture:**

Yemeni history shows many signs of sculpting and artistic decorations. Doors and windows have been decorated with beautiful sculpturing and arabesque in

almost every part in the country. Ancient Yemeni civilization reflects signs of the Yemeni character as a sculpture and an artist. Then there are these plastic products that we buy from the market, as well as cloth, household goods, and many other things that we receive manufactured and ready to be used. The carpenter and the electrician and the plumber, there are many professionals who work to facilitate life for us and make the world a better place to live.

**Cleaner:**

This person who does his best to insure a cleaner world for us, who thinks about him, his life, his income, his family and children?

Many questions, and unfortunately they are without answers. Karama Al Dani is a cleaner in one girl's high school, a 22 year-old widow with 8 children. She said that she studied through fifth grade, but then she left school.

She works two shifts and gets YR 6,000 per month. Karama says that she suffers from the students negligence, they throw trash everywhere but the right place, which causes her to clean the school many times a day.

Ali Al Yasari, a street cleaner, started his work five months ago. He is married with 3 children. Ali said that he and his colleagues work from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m., and get paid YR 6000 per month. No medical examination or insurance or leaves, nothing but a salary that takes too long to be paid. Ali said that the carelessness of people causes them a lot of trouble, people throw everything on the street without paying any attention to the cleanness of their area and country. This is a poor behavior that deforms the face of the city. The cleaning laborers have many problems, such as lacking any form of medical care or compensation. The cleaner confronts various form of

sickness due to his direct contact with dust and garbage. No masks are distributed to cleaners to help them avoid diseases, and most of them have air passage diseases.

We asked Ahmed Mohammed, a college student his opinion regarding cleaners and the work they perform? Ahmed said that the cleaner is an employee like other employees in offices and factories. He may be at a lower level, but as long as he does his work and earns his living he is no different than others.

Then we asked another person his opinion on cleaning labor, he replied "They do good work, but there is a sign of a management problem somewhere, either the labor or the manager, since there is still dirt and trash almost everywhere."

Those laborers suffer from many things, such as late and very low salaries, lack of masks, shoes and uniforms and no efficient and new garbage containers. People should look at their condition, and help to improve their situation. After all, they are cleaning the city in which we all live, a matter that vitally concerns our

health, not to mention public images of the city.

**The daily paid laborer:**

We asked one laborer sitting in the street, who looked very tired, he said he earns YR 400-500 a day. He smokes and chews qat, but occasionally he quits these habits to save money for more important things. He told his story of exhaustion and sorrow. Coming from the village and working with people who ignore his origin, if he was injured or died his family wouldn't know, and medical student would dissect his body.

Daily paid laborers sit on the streets waiting for a chance to work, while they should have a particular place of their own. It is not a good image to the city, but it is not our decision. Maybe the concerned parts could consider this fact, and come up with a useful solution for all sides.

Finally, we would like to present all laborers our best on their Day, thanking them for their hard work. Here's wishing them a better and brighter future.

By: Hanan Abad Al Humaidi

# New Ideas for Tourism Industry

Last week, there was a seminar on ecotourism. There were a number of officials and clerks, as well as representatives of the private sector.

On this occasion, Ismail Al-Ghabiry of Yemen Times filed the following interviews with two officials.



**1. Hector Ceballos Lascurain**  
Hector is a Mexican architect and environmentalist. He works as a consultant or special advisor on ecotourism to several international organizations like IUCN (World Conservation Union), World Tourism Organization and the Ecotourism Society. He has done consulting work and research in 56 countries around the world in the field of ecotourism. Right now he is in Yemen to develop a national ecotourism strategy for the country.

**Q: What exactly is ecotourism or environmental tourism?**

**A:** Ecotourism has to do with tourists visiting and enjoying the natural habitat. The idea is to protect and conserve these natural areas, while at the same time introducing cultural elements. Ecotourism has become a tool for conservation and an instrument for sustainable development

**Q: How do you define ecotourism within the Yemeni context?**

**A:** Yemen has wonderful ecotourist attractions. You have beautiful natural resources, mountains, beaches, valleys, islands, especially the Socotra island, which is a unique place for endemic plants, animals especially birds. And you have a wonderful cultural heritage. The beautiful mountain villages, the traditional architecture, archeological sites, clean beaches, etc. In other words, you still have a lot of unspoiled natural habitat and strong elements of cultural heritage which make Yemen a potentially very important country in the future of Ecotourism.

**Q: Who do you work with in Yemen?**

**A:** I am a consultant working within the framework of a UNDP Program for the conservation of the ecology and environment here in Yemen. Within ecotourism, I work with Sub-Program 5. The program director is Ms. Najat Al Shami, an able woman who works for General Tourism Authority.

**Q: How can you be optimistic about the future of**

tourism in Yemen when it is almost dead now?

**A:** The future can be very bright if some problems are solved in the near future. These are the serious issues related to safety in Yemen. Unfortunately, we have had some bad incidents, and we know that bad news travels faster than good news. All the world has heard what happened here in December, 1998 - the kidnapping and murdering of several tourists. The Yemeni authorities have to fix this image before we can expect real change. Once safety is assured in Yemen, then you have to promote this new image and bring in new ideas like ecotourism. Right now, the tourism flow has been going down over the last four months.

**Q: What are the main attractions for tourism-related investments in Yemen?**

**A:** First of all, let me tell you that businessmen can discover opportunities on their own. They do not need to be told. In Yemen, there is for instance Socotra Island, which, if properly exploited, can be a haven for tourists, given its endemic plants and animals, as well as the beautiful beaches. Then there beautiful towns and cities like Tarim, Seiyoon, Shibam, Sanaa, etc. Investments in beaches and diving/snorkeling activities are also worthwhile. The idea is to offer more facilities for the tourists to visit these places. You need professional guides that know about ecotourism, and can interpret the natural and the cultural heritage. You need appropriate lodging facilities. For example, tourists travel long distances without having restrooms available along the way.

**Q: Can you share some aspects of the national ecotourism strategy draft you are preparing?**

**A:** I am working on the national ecotourism strategy for Yemen. I will finish the final document in June. Though it contains no secrets, it is only appropriate that the relevant authorities have a look at it first before the general public can read it in the media.

**2. Najat Al-Shami:**

A young and confident woman, Najat is the manager of Sub-Program 5 of the



Ecotourism Project. She has her BA from Sanaa University.

**Q: How do you assess this seminar?**

**A:** This is part of the work we are doing here. Our program includes a training component because Ecotourism, as you may know, is a new concept here in Yemen.

The participants are learning a number of things as related to the concept. I have to say that this involves a lot of linkages and interconnections


between many sectors.

**Q: How seriously do our officials take tourism and its potential?**

**A:** I think the talk is good. From the president to the prime minister to the minister to the chairman of the Tourism Authority, they all repeat that this is an important sector.

**Q: And what is your feeling?**

**A:** I am certain the potential is great. For a country in need of hard currency, tourism is indeed a winner.



## The British Council

**NOTICE TO ALL OUR CLIENTS**

**The British Council in Yemen is open for business!**

However, due to security concerns, its English teaching centres in Sana'a and Aden remain closed for the foreseeable future.

The Council continues to offer the following services:

- Project management in development fields
- Scholarships
- High Education Link Scheme
- Library & Information
- Educational inquiries
- Examinations
- cultural programme
- **ELT teacher training & advice**

You can get information on these services by phoning or visiting our office in Sana'a:

**Sana'a:**  
Tel: 01 244 121/122/155; Fax: 01 244 120  
As-Sabain Street no. 7  
PO Box 2157

The offices are open between 08.30 - 17.00  
Saturdays through till Wednesdays.

As their efforts to spread awareness among Yemenis of the devastating harms of this evil plant continue, can these young men and women win in their

# WAR AGAINST QAT



It was like a breeze of fresh air blowing in. It brought with it new vigor and hope. The five young men and women who were invited to the Yemen Times premises to talk about their voluntary work in fighting qat carried with them an air of having a mission. It assured me Yemen still produces many noble-hearted young people. I walked by them twice. They were in the waiting lounge. For some reason, I wanted to eye them from a distance before I make my approach. It was possibly because I was scared that yet another of my hopes would be shattered. But my colleagues at the paper assured me the young men and women were the real McCoy. Once they were shown into the talk-room, I appeared up at the door. I started to fumble a few words of welcome. Then I expressed my feelings. "I am very proud of you," I said. "The work you

are doing has a lot of meaning for our nation and its future," I added. Their faces beamed with happiness. They appreciated the respect and recognition they were getting. Apparently the admiration and respect was mutual. "It is good to finally meet you," ventured one of the women. Volunteerism is an old Yemeni tradition, though not structured or institutionalized. For many young men and women, voluntary activities as a public service to society is part of a rite of passage - a wobbly suspension bridge leading to maturity. It gives young men and women the satisfaction of chipping in, and of being accepted into the community. But for some people, the depth of the meaning and extent of contribution can be an enduring treasure. This story is a case in point.

Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf

A prominent community leader, Mr. Ahmed Jaber Afeef, former Minister of Education, and founder of Al-Afeef Cultural Institution, decided to take the first step in the long battle. A battle that is almost impossible to win. It is the battle to eliminate qat. Fortunately, Mr. Afeef was not alone in his battle. A number of young Yemeni students, male and female, joined hands with Mr. Afeef, and volunteered to take the first steps along with him. They are now active members in the Al-Afeef's Qat Combating Society. Today we can witness the small, yet effective, beginning of their campaign.

Part of their efforts is to spread awareness among Yemenis of the dangers of qat. For this purpose, the Qat Combating Society has issued a newspaper named "Yemen Without Qat". The title in itself is somewhat a dream for now, but their ultimate goal is to achieve it. Can they do it?

To answer this question, we sat and talked with five young men and women from the Qat Combating Society. The main thing they started.



"Yemen Without Qat" Chief Editor, Ahmed Ali Al-Zurqa

Mr. Ahmed Ali Al-Zurqa replied that in 1992, a number of prominent intellectuals and community

leaders began a campaign against qat. They formed a committee for this purpose. However, this committee's activities stopped because of the 1994 civil war. In May 1998, the committee resumed its activities when the director of the committee, Mr. Ahmed Jaber Afif, appointed some young students to form two sub-committees. These groups carry out the task of holding various cultural activities through seminars and lectures. Mr. Al-Zurqa added that the com-



Basheer Al-Ba'dani, another volunteer in the awareness campaign



From left to right Sawzan Ali Al-Jowfi, Najla Al-Maqaleh, and Bushra Al-Thahibi the three most influential girls in the Qat Combating Society in its fight against qat

mittee then developed into a society with the name "Qat Combating Society". The main goal of the committee is to show people the harmful affects of qat

**"There was a recent report of a number of deaths due to chewing poisonous qat. There is good reason to believe that using excessive amounts of expired pesticides was behind these deaths."**

harm of qat could be seen when a qat dealer sells qat to people, he is investing his money in damaging people's wellbeing and health. When you ask me, what is the alternative for a person who stays home all afternoon chewing qat, I tell you that our society is not responsible to find substitutes. Any person who is asking for an alternative is in fact inventing excuses, for he is unable to quit chewing qat. One can imagine the glory Yemen would have had if Qat weren't there. Believe me, Qat is



Thousands and thousands of qat acres can be seen everywhere and extend as far as sight can reach. These fields are absorbing most of the country's water and are devastating the wealth and prosperity of the whole population, qat chewers and non qat chewers alike

**"We are a nation famous for its wisdom. Today, Qat seems to have taken our wisdom away for good."**

to continue its campaign and there are many seasonal programs ahead." The society has succeeded in addressing this problem to the younger generations. A sign of this is the seriousness and will of the students to help in spreading awareness to others in the best ways they can. When asking her if there are already results of the number of people who stopped chewing qat because of their campaign, Ms. Sawzen Ali Al-Jowfi replies: "There are no readily available statistics for now, but this cam-

On another level, a team from the Yemen Times visited Al-Afif Cultural Institution and talked to the man who is behind it all, Mr. Ahmed Jaber Afif, the founder of this respectable establishment:



Monthly newspaper "Yemen without Qat", the most influential tool the Qat Combating Society is currently using to spread awareness

paign is considered to be the first phase. However, we expect to face some obstacles during our work. Many seminars and lectures have been given by some important society members such as Mr. Hussein Al-Awadhi, Dr. Abdullah Al-Zalab, Dr. Abdul Salam Al-Jowfi, Eng. Abdullah Al-Akw'a, Mr. Hameed Al-wadhi, and Mr. Abdullah Ismail." Ms. Najla Al-Maqaleh said. "Since its start on 13th of April 99, our campaign was covered briefly by a number of official and independent newspapers. This campaign has just started and intends to continue until it fulfills its goal of eradicating this harmful habit of chewing qat. In conclusion, we can say that we are a nation famous for its wisdom. Today, Qat seems to have taken our wisdom away for good."

On how the idea began, Mr. A. J. Afif says "Combating the devastating effects of Qat is in fact an old idea, but in 1992 there was an attempt to revive it. To this end, we organized a successful campaign for a public conference in which more than 90 intellectuals, writers and social dignitaries took part. A delegate from the Ministry of Insurance and Social Affairs also attended the conference, which produced an administrative committee. I was elected Chairman of this committee and we soon started to think of relevant plans and programs. Unfortunately, the crushing political problems which the country experienced at that time hindered these plans and all of us fell victims to the pressure of the moment. However, I tried some time later to communicate with the other members of the committee but I found that their enthusiasm for the idea had grown less for dif-

ing consequences of this phenomenon and we all heard him describing Qat chewing as a crime. In fact, I was very delighted to hear these words from the president and I sent him a letter expressing my gratitude for such a stand and encouraging him to continue it. Let me stress here that this problem is not mine, yours or someone else's, for it is above all a moral commitment for anybody who really cares for the future of this country. What makes me extremely downhearted, is that at the gate of the new millennium, our entire life is shockingly wasted in consuming this tree in a way that can not even be compared to the near past, where the amount of money and the time spent on qat were insubstantial. At that time, qat chewing was exclusively practiced by a certain group of people, namely the middle age and the old men. Now qat is besieging everyone, male and female and at almost every age. Kids and women are shamelessly encour-



Ahmed Jabir Afeef, the founder and president of the Qat Combating Society

interest of these students, who used to frequent Al-Afif Cultural Institution. This communication with the young people resulted in the creation of a new administrative committee from among the students themselves. This committee, which includes male and female students, designed an executive plan to practically fight the unhealthy effects of Qat. We started our orientation campaign with a bulletin and we had difficult time in persuading the Ministry of Information before we were able to issue a permanent newspaper mainly created to fight Qat. This is a brief background to this idea, which seriously aims to minimize the sweeping dominance of this malicious and evil habit which is a real catastrophe for this country.

On how the press responded to the campaign, Mr. A. Jaber Afif says: "The Press response was positive and deserves thanks. In fact, all official and independent press interacted generously with the campaign. So did the official Radio and television stations to some extent. Our program is vitally important to the nation, and I don't think there could be anyone opposing it. Even the President

aged to do it. What a waste! What a shame!" Whether there is a long term plan for this campaign or not, he says, "No, we have no specific plan, but we have determination and hope to continue work in the same vein. Some pessimists would say that this problem is too rooted in our social life to be eradicated in the near future. We are fully aware that it's hard to do away with a 600 hundred years old phenomenon in ten or even twenty years. But the overwhelming spread of Qat that has happened in the last ten years is too much for me to describe, and if we continue pretending that

whatever we can and more importantly let us continue doing it. With time, results are certainly to show. On this occasion I find it propitious to address through the Yemen Times all honest writers and papers to join hands to at



Sitting on street sidewalks with no money and no shelter still doesn't prevent many Yemenis from spending most of their income for chewing qat

**"One can imagine the glory Yemen would have had if Qat weren't there. Believe me, Qat is the main reason why we are among the poorest nations in the world"**

## Background from the Qat Combating Society

Qat is one of the old habits in Yemen that everybody sticks to. It does not mean that people chew qat only when they have some free time. Businessmen chew qat believing that these leaves could help them make good decisions. Students dramatically believe that qat can help them in comprehending their lessons and keep them awake. They ignore the fact that qat is only a temporary alarming herb, its effect goes as soon as they spit it from their mouths. The truth is qat is believed to be more or less another kind of drug. Therefore we make a joint call for students, businessmen and to the whole nation: "the habit of chewing qat is incorrect, people should acknowledge that qat has a temporary and deadly affect on their minds and their bodies. A dangerous waste of money, whether for those with limited incomes or rich people." All local newspapers, including Yemen Times, appeal to the Yemeni people to stop this habit and think of the consequences. Combating this habit that has passed from one generation to another is a difficult mission. It requires a lot of patience and determination. The following sources could be implemented to help in combating this tree:

percentage of land planted with qat has increased during 1980-1990 to 77.7% at the expense of the plantation of coffee and other crops. Data indicate that the growing percentage of qat acres witnesses a 14% annual increase. The lands planted with qat equal two thirds of lands planted with coffee and tobacco together, and eight times more than the lands planted with cotton, while lands planted with other vegetables and fruits are less than half of the qat planted areas. Land allotted to qat is five times more than the land allotted to grapes and dates and 10 times more than banana planted areas. The harms of qat are not limited to the economic and cultural aspects of life, but also affect life in general. Qat plantations exhaust most of the water resources in the country. It also occupies wide lands that could have been planted with other crops. What makes things worse is that qat irrigation depends on ground water sources, which are considered to be a significant reservoir that should only be used in cases of urgency. This unplanned consumption of water could lead to a catastrophe for a country that suffers from scarce water resources. A study on qat requirements of water indicates that each hectare of qat in Sana'a area requires 12 cubic meters of water, according to the statistics of the Supreme Council of Water in 1992. This means that a land planted with qat needs to be irrigated to a depth of 1.3 meter during the growing season. In the seventies, most qat plantations depended on rain, but these days qat farmers use water pumps to irrigate their plantations. These pumps suck up water from 4000 wells. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) estimates that qat plantation's consume 800 million cubic meters of water annually. Qat plantations supplant other products such as coffee and grains. The last few years witnessed a drastic increase of qat planting substituting other less profitable crops such as coffee and grains. Studies indicate that such a phenomenon is distinctively seen in the Haraz area, where coffee used to be the main product. However, today 90% of the terraces are planted with qat. In 1981, qat areas reached 40-45 thousand hectares including terraces used to be planted with other products. In the mid-eighties the area reached 60-85 thousand hectares. In other areas in Yemen such as Haudh Sana'a, qat plantation reached 5% of the overall agricultural land. In Wadi Dhahar, the percentage is 8%. There is a visible indication that qat plantation is increasing dramatically in the nineties where the areas planted with qat reached 92 thousand hectares. In spite of all this, people still fool themselves into believing that qat is not a dangerous plant, and even say that it helps us in comprehending and understanding things better.

Report by: Khairiya Al-Shabibi Yemen Times



## TV Announcer Maysa Radman: "I wish that the Yemeni satellite channel were the #1 Channel for both Yemeni and Arab audiences."

Among the Yemeni female TV presenters, the Name Maysa Radman comes on top. In a very short period she has been able to become the Cinderella of the Yemeni Satellite Channel (YSC) as the public would like to hail her. The Yemeni press unanimously nominated her to be the best TV host for the year.

A graduate from the French Department, her way to the world of lights and fame was a mere coincidence. Her sister once applied to Aden TV channel and at the day of testing she fell sick. Maysa came on the way and took her place for the test. She did fine and in a record time she became a brilliant host in Aden TV. Her accomplishment in Aden gave her a boost to be nominated for the YSC, the only front of the country to the outside world. In less than a year, Maysa became the favorite TV host for many TV spectators. She topped all this success when she became the MBC correspondent in Sanaa. However, Maysa's road to success was not all cream and honey but her confidence in herself enabled her to get over obstacles that encountered her throughout.

**Q: You started on the second channel, were promoted to work on the satellite channel, and now you have been chosen as a reporter on the socio-cultural MBC program "Masaa Al-Khair Ya Arab." What have these changes added to your career?**

**A:** Undoubtedly my first home was the second channel, a high quality institution that has graduated many reporters and TV workers. I have learned a lot of things from great teachers I respect. During my service here I joined a training courses held in Aden regarding news techniques, arranged by the BBC channel, that was the real turning point in my career. It opened up for me the wide horizons of information

tasks that I was unacquainted with. I began to develop such methods of news making as film materials and scripts, news report productions, and many other things. Then I was nominated to work with MBC satellite channel, which coincided with my presence in London participating in the second international conference on Child TV, another transfer where I was able to comprehend children's TV programs from all over the world. I returned to Yemen full of hope of introducing this unknown art to my country.

**Q: Do you think that beauty by itself is enough to make a successful announcer, or there are other qualifications?**



**A:** A few decades ago beauty was the main requirement for entering the TV world as an announcer, but these measurements have changed totally and beauty has become unimportant. I think that now calming looks are more important than a charming beauty and exaggerated appearances. Other things are important as well, especially for live announcers, things such as strong character, work ethic, ability to work, generalized knowledge and a strong sense of humor to avoid any feelings of boredom.

**Q: Experience has shown that the Yemeni satellite channel can not compete with other Arab satellite channels, what is your opinion and what could be done to enable this channel to compete with other channels?**

**A:** Despite this widespread belief, some of the Yemeni satellite channel's programs have proved to be successful, and the channel is eager to gain a place among other satellite channels. Its success has been extremely limited, but with sustained efforts to develop the program and news works, it has a chance. The TV sector is working hard to gain the latest technology that could assist the information cadre. This is mainly for announcers of both genders who reflect the technical and background work to the outside world.

**Q: You have a BA in foreign languages, but up to now you haven't presented any foreign programs, why?**

**A:** It is not necessary to make use of English or French language in representing foreign programs. The knowledge of languages facilitates my work, especially when I deal with foreigners, since I know the correct usage of language.

**Q: How do you see the artistic, cultural and social presence in Yemeni media?**

**A:** Despite the current cultural stagnancy and some signs of weakening that we see here and

there, it is improving. Events arranged by various cultural centers are attempting to restore the cultural spirit, and non governmental centers maintain activities which reflect the great concern of the people for their social reality. The culture has passed through many changes in the framework of our multi-faced society, and social awareness is developing and bringing new meanings to our old concepts. The light of culture is growing slowly, but it remains a lone candle trying to spread the light. A difficult task, but as the proverb says "The light of one candle is a thousand times better than darkness." Current indicators show that there are some changes in various aspects of TV programming, especially for women. Many programs try to focus on certain groups.

**Q: What have you contributed to Yemeni TV programs, and what are the dreams of Yemeni satellites' Cinderella?**

**A:** An exaggerated question, as I am only one announcer among hundreds who try to give their best to develop the programs they are working on. Like everybody else, I dream. I dream of my message reaching those who can read it. Programs should contain moral concepts, and try to improve lives. I dream of having a successful career with my companions so we can reach a better condition and a higher level. Different points of view should seek the development of performance, not its limitation.

**Q: Have you been enrolled in training courses abroad to catch up with the latest studies in your specialization?**

**A:** My first course was in 1997 in Aden. It was taught by a brilliant journalist from the BBC channel, and I obtained the second degree. My second course was in 1998 in Al Khalifa institute where I obtained the first degree. Both courses helped me a lot in gaining new information that has improved my career life. Regarding courses abroad, unfortunately my only participation was in London in the Second Conference of Children's TV and that only for five days. It wasn't even really a course, merely observation.

**Q: What are the main obstacles to your career that you face?**

**A:** Everybody faces difficulties in career life, but the qualified management of our station does its best to remove all obstacles, for which I feel grateful.

**Q: What do you wish for the Yemeni satellite channel?**

**A:** Deep in my heart I wish that the Yemeni satellite channel will be the No. 1 Channel for both Yemeni and Arab audiences. That is a difficult task that requires combined efforts, as well as modern technology and developed capacities. I wish my colleagues success and all the best.

By: Marwan Al-Haidari

## The Art of Lyrical Monologue in Yemen

For the past four decades the art of lyrical monologue has been a fresh breeze in the artistic movement in Yemen. Since its beginning, this kind of art has met with considerable appreciation, both from the public and the lyrical monologists. The art form was received favorably, and has pleased audiences and succeeded in drawing smiles of satisfaction and amusement on their faces. This artistic and cultural combination which was an effective

means of expression during the 1919 revolution in Egypt spread over to Yemen and found its way to the hearts of the Yemeni creative singers and composers. They took on their shoulders the task of improving and enlarging it into a variety of lyrical forms. The basic characteristic of the lyrical monologue is its folk element. In fact, it is a folk tradition practiced in many different countries. The hidden beauty of this art lies in the fact that it com-

bines both simplicity of diction and the depth in meaning. So without a simple word that finds its way smoothly to the ears of the masses it would be impossible for this art to fulfil its desired role in the life of the society. Another characteristic of this art is its satirical aspect. It is often composed to criticize existing social conditions and out-dated practices that have an ill effect to the common interest of the people. Beside the lyrical tone of this art, there is also a great deal of comical sense to it. It effectively intensifies its criticism by making fun of things in a way that magnifies their social defects. This technique is to music what caricaturism is to art. It is important that we refer here to the leading pioneer, the great singer and composer Ahmed Fathel Qumendan, who introduced the lyrical monologue to Yemen. Al-Qumendan, a legendary genius and creator of the distinguished songs of Lahaj, not only initiated this art of monologue but also developed it in such a way as to absorb the unique spirit of his community. In his famous poem "The Cars Issue" Al-Qumendan criticizes the headless rush of some people to buy Ford cars which made their first appearance in Aden city at that time. These cars were purchased from a foreign agent

who was called by the locals Al-Kahwaji, or the coffee maker. To encourage his trade Alkahwaji made it easy for the buyer by selling his cars on an installment basis. The poem begins:

How often did we talk?  
How often were we patient?  
Yet this man from foreign folk  
appears to hear not.  
This poem reflects Al-Qumendan early awareness of the problem of foreign domination through debts and credits, the problem arising from the arrival of new technology at a time when the local community is not yet, at least culturally, prepared to take it in. What is the use of purchasing a car when there are no highways or asphalt roads? he seems to suggest. The difficult, crooked roads will lead to a breakdown of the car while the local purchaser is still carrying the burden of paying the installments back to the foreign Kahwaji. We can imagine that had this poem been musically composed and sung, it would have been enjoyed by many more people in our society. After the Qumendan there came a number of poets form Lahj who followed in his tradition. Notable among them was the poet Saleh Fakih who wrote a monologue poem under the name "Shurrah." This poem, which was turned into a song by the singer Fathel Lahji, attacked the feudal systems for the oppression they practiced against peasants and farmers toiling on the land. Also, the famous poet, singer and composer Abdullah Hadi Subait actively contributed to this art,

which was now firmly associated with attacking harmful social conditions of the time. This poem coincided with the introduction of cotton farming in Lahj was sung by the great singer of Yemen Mohammed Murshid Naji under the name "Wa-bakhetah" or "We the Unfortunate". Though comparatively old, this song has stood the test of time, and still retains a lasting appeal.

The Singing Modernization Movement, which was actively forming in Aden during the 50s, extended the topics of the lyrical monologue to include satirical themes on the violations and encroachments of the British administration in Aden. One of the Movements leading figures is the singer-monologist Fuad Sharif who released at that time his song-monologue "The Penniless." The first two lines of this song run:

I was left broke,  
In the middle of a hot nowhere,  
scorched by the flaming sands,  
of a place called "Al-Khaysah."  
This song dramatized the tragic situation that engulfed the population of smaller Aden or Al-Borikah when they were evacuated and moved by the British Administration to an open-air

area called "Al-Khaysah," a fishing area at the time. The evacuation took place to allow for the construction of the Aden oil refineries and housing units for the British engineers and technicians. However, Sharif's song was warmly received by the public, and he became even more popular in Yemen and began to be known outside of Yemen.

A great deal of the success of this artistic activity depends on the monologist's sense of humor as well as his theatrical body signs and movements. A lot of monologists were able to occupy a dear corner in the minds of the audience through their sense of humor.

The question now: What is the lyrical monologue situation like today? How can one find a distinguished monologist among the huge number of the so called singers and composers of today? Is there an end to the ongoing decline in the musical world of Yemen, or is the spirit of stagnation is that dominating? Let us hope not.

By: Saleh Abdulbaqi,  
Cultural Editor



### Alyamama Palace Suites Hotel

Fully luxury furnished suites & rooms, 2-3 rooms, saloon, & a fully equipped kitchen.



- Located near the center of Sana'a (10 minutes walk from the center of the city)
- 24 hours reception
- No minimum stay.
- Satellite
- Internet service
- Airport pick-up upon prior notification
- Business center

WE PROVIDE MORE! TRY & STAY WITH US

FOR RESERVATION, PLEASE CALL  
(01) (236230), FAX: (01) 229863

ALYAMAMA PALACE SUITES  
SANA'A- TUNIS STREET. P. O. BOX 3297,  
E-mail alyamama.com@y.net.ye

أجمل التهاني والتبريكات للأخوة  
فيصل حمود ضبعان، وطارق حمود ضبعان،  
وصادق حسين الأهدل، وحسن عبده سعيد  
بمناسبة الزفاف فألف مبروك.  
المهتزون: مهندس فيصل عبادي ضبعان، قائد عبادي ضبعان، منصور الأهدل،  
دكتور/ منصور قائد ضبعان، جمال أحمد الحمادي،  
عقيد/ سعيد عبد الرحمن ربيعان

# Letters to the Editor

## Dear Editor

Thank you very much for your postcard service at ([www.yementimes.com/postcards](http://www.yementimes.com/postcards)), which I received by e-mail. I really enjoy reading Yemen Times because it is the only source of information updates, and the only means to keep in touch with my country. However, I still want to get more news about trade and other economic activities, because the newspaper's information is not enough for me in this regards.

Omar Abdulaziz Al-Kumaim  
Yemenomar@hotmail.com

## Dear Editor,

Please inform me whether you currently have a correspondent in Syria. I am interested to serve as one. I have the experience, and am a member of the Syrian Journalist Union too.

Bucher A Mawla

We have no need at this time, Thank you! —The Editor

## Dear Editor,

I am a Yemeni doing my masters degree on solar energy at one of the biggest universities in Japan. Though it is very easy nowadays to get your MSc degree in your own country without taking risk of travel and living in a new society, I do not regret going all the way to Japan for it. I am convinced of this because of a discussion that was held with some friends from different parts of the world when we agreed that we are in Japan not just to study, but to learn new cultures and experiences. The good experience we get from Japanese people who have become highly educated, and go about everything in their life in a systematically organized way. This will help us transfer the values of hard work and honesty to my country as well as transfer of academic knowledge which we gain from universities.

Marwan Dhamrin  
Tokyo University of Agriculture  
& Technology - Fuchu  
Tokyo - Japan  
dhamrin@hotmail.com

## Dear Editor:

I am 17 years old living in Berkeley, California. I was born in Malah, Yemen. Same town as Naseem Hamed's family. I am a high school student and I am also into sports. If I don't become a professional athlete, I hope to attend University of California or University of San Francisco to major in sports medicine.

Muhammad Nasser Elbgal  
MUTammad@aol.com

## Dear Editor:

I am 22 years old. I was born in Kenya. My both parents are of Yemeni origin. In spite of being a Yemeni, I have not never seen Yemen before. But inshallah, one day I will definitely return home. I will go back to our homeland, where I will contribute to building a strong nation.

For now, I will continue studying

medicine in Turkey. I am currently in first year. I am truly proud of being a Yemeni, and proud of my country, Yemen.

Abdulkarim Ahmed Al-Hamdy  
baghrab@hotmail.com

## Dear Editor:

My name is Talal Al-Mashreki, 26 years old. I come from Taiz, the enchanting and cultural city of Yemen.

I have just completed my full term preparing for an MA degree in English Literature. I am working on my thesis. I like reading poetry, especially Shakespeare and the Romantic poets. I also enjoy reading newspapers like the Yemen Times.

I welcome the opportunity to have new friends in Yemen or from abroad.

Please e-mail me at.

Talal Al-Mshreki  
un.co.fim@y.net.ye

## Dear Editor,

First of all I would like to express my appreciation to you and to your esteemed English newspaper, the Yemen Times. Actually I am a Sudanese teacher and I have never missed reading a single issue since I came to Yemen in 1996. This is not an exaggeration. It's true and the evident is that I possess all issues in Sudan as well as in Yemen.

I can say that Yemen Times can easily compete with international newspapers since it has excellent material and expert journalists and writers. Moreover it widely covers different fields which reflect important issues and conditions in Yemen.

As we all know, learning English has become something essential. So why doesn't the paper give space in to teach English, This is the case in countries where English is not widely spoken. I am sure if you do so, the number of readers 'inshallah' will increase. I know a large number of students and others are very keen to follow what the Yemen Times writes. Unfortunately, they cannot do so because of the language barrier.

By introducing English lessons, you are going to help a huge number of those who want to improve their English language. I hope my letter will be published in the coming issue and I wish you best of luck. I

Ibrahim Eltayeb Bashier  
Sudanese Teacher  
Taiz

## Wake Up to the Internet Revolution

As a student who's been abroad for a few years now, I go back to Yemen every year. But every time I visit, I notice that people there have not changed, life is "same old thing". There are a lot of new technologies and ideas that should be used today. The "Internet" is what I am talking about. We need to educate people more about it. Let everybody know what it is, what it can be used for, and why there are more

then 60 million people on the Internet today. Some people are doing businesses worth millions of dollars, some are learning and applying for colleges, and some are just using it for communication. Let our new and old generations get together and make their voices heard on the net as well as everywhere else.

Jamal Nassar

## Dear Editor:

It is right that we have heavy hearts these days. Recently, the Supreme Elections Committee met the leaders of the political parties and declared that it will form committees to correct the electoral schedules.

Observers and other people have a negative picture of democracy in Yemen. That is because of the many shortcomings. First of all, there are the ghost names. Then there are the repeated names. Then there are the names of the dead. Plenty of children's names. We know that the base of participation in the elections is the registration list of voters. If the lists are correct, the voting will lead to the right persons winning. If they are not, the results will not be correct.

We don't deny that we are a 'backward' country suffering from a high ratio of illiteracy - over 50%. There is also political illiteracy among the majority of our people as they may not know the meaning of it all. So we need to teach the people. Education will help us get rid of ignorance. This takes a long time, needs a lot of money, and requires big efforts. I believe the government has no intention to tackle this matter, but I hope that the SEC will do what is right.

Khalid Ahmad al-Kasheri,  
Aden

## Dear Editor

We Yemenis live without rights, because no establishment, organization or institution will defend our rights. Let me give you examples.

1- The Government of Yemen does not provide health care for the people. For example, there is no medicine in the hospitals, and they charge fees for hospitalization of patients. Citizens who do not have the required amounts, are not admitted. They face death because they have no money.

2- The Government of Yemen does not prepare for the future. Think of the thousands of Yemeni graduates who cannot find jobs. Ask what the government has done for these students after graduation.

3- The Government of Yemen's most influential members as well as parliamentarians are traders, investors, agents representing large international companies. They channel government contracts to companies registered under the names of their sons or daughters or any other relative.

4- The Government of Yemen treats its people like animals. It lies to them, and it undertakes elections for which the results are well-known in advance.

Many of our people got hungry. Many more peddle small wheelbarrows on which they sell tomatoes or other goods. The system is taking us back in time towards the middle ages. Meanwhile, the government is eager to get more loans from other countries under the name of democracy and development. Our officials do not tell the truth. They are lying to every one.

Abdulaziz Mosabeen,  
Aden

## Dear Editor

It becomes clearer and clearer that the world is in becoming a small village with no political, economic, or cultural limits.

All the big changes around us, especially the revolution of communications and transportation, have brought in new features and the new style of life among us.

In this new way of life there is no mean for national or territorial values, every thing is global, belonging to all the globe.

The politics is Global, the economics is global and the culture is global. All the human being is going to react globally.

The speech of the politician in Norway will affect the political life in South Africa and the economical procedures in Japan will attach directly the economical situation in the Aden Free Zone, here in Yemen. The world become like a big tissue of political and economical interests and ambitions.

These results will be normal and ordinary with the high speed of communication between the countries of the world and there is no comment regarding these sequences.

The problem which I aim to point out is the unjust position of the new world. A new map of power is going to be shaped. It is already has been shaped!!

This map contain a polar center ruled by a power full government. This government will straggle for proving more and more its priority over all.

She is going to defeat and destroy others, using the weather of globalization...

In the field of politics it has the strongest relation and allies, so she can protect her interests and catch very well trained and experienced human power and sup-

ported by a high technology foundations. And still they call for more globalization.

They want us to open all the doors and windows, they want our small growing companies to be in front of their huge multinational companies.

In a Brief they want to kill our growing Economics.

We all our government here in Yemen to rethink of its going-on free market program. It is absolutely sure that the national companies can't compete. we need to build our economy first.

We need to build Industry real Industry; then we can open our market for others and compete.

We are not against the freedom of the trade, but we are with not to leave our manufacturer alone in the field of the race. If you want to know what I mean read the industry history in the west.

It is obvious that the competency always encourage for better levels, but also it is very clear that the training and experience, and the very big accumulation of the capital.

Our problem here in Yemen is increasing. Here, we can see many factories being close day after day;

We have to support our manufacturer...

We need to support him ...

It is for the future ...

The crowded future .. The tough future ...

The global future ..

Please help him ..

Please do it ..

Because there is no other way !!!

Finally I have to say that the globalization headache is here to stay. We have to study it carefully from all angles.

Ali Ben Hussain Al-Ashwal

بسكويت  
زبدة  
أبو ولد



أطيب منه مستحيل ؟

# MONOLINGUALISM IN A PATENTLY MULTILINGUAL CONTEXT: LANGUAGE USE IN YEMEN

Dr. Ramakanta Sahu,  
Associate Professor, Department  
of English  
College of Education at  
Mahweet



Language permeates human society and is, by far, the most precious possession of human beings. This is why humans are variously called 'homo-sapiens' or 'articulate mammals'. It is now an established fact that language also significantly influences one's pattern of thought, and the traits of one's personality.

If we observe the profile of languages used across speech communities, we would realize that most of them are, more often than not, conversant in two or even more languages present in their linguistic environment. Of course, all the members of a given community may or may not have acquired an equal degree of competence in all these languages.

As such, in most societies people are either bilingual or multilingual. One of these languages which the speakers have acquired through primary exposure right from their birth is, obviously, their mother tongue (MT) or L1 and the other language(s) is / are referred to as the other tongue(s). A native speaker, as a result of constant and extensive use of his/her mother tongue, forms an intuition into the underlying rules of his/her mother tongue in the lexical (word level), syntactic (sentence level) and pragmatic (socio-cultural context level) domains of use and usually acquires the ability to use it with ease and felicity. However, one feels the urgency of learning a second language (L2) or other languages if one feels that the resources of the L1 are inadequate to fulfill all one's communicative demands in different fields or, alternatively, the resources of L2 gives him specific instrumental benefits such as getting a good job, visiting a foreign country and so on. Learning of and access to two or more language systems or instruments of communication clearly places at the disposal of the user two or more outlets for self-expression, and bestows on him/her a certain amount of socio-cultural prominence, prestige or authority, as language is considered synonymous with power. A bilingual enjoys the singular advantage of being able to marshal his/her ideas, thoughts, emotions and feelings in either of the codes in accordance with the perceived contextual appropriateness, communicative convenience,

or his/her personal choice. He/She can even manipulate the languages for 'code-switching' or 'code-mixing' at will as the situation demands.

In a multilingual context, as in India (with as many as 1625 mother tongues, some 16 languages being recognized as state languages), or the USA, where there is a heavy influx of immigrants belonging to different language groups with the accompanying cultural matrices, the situation is at once complex and fascinating. Although diverse languages often co-exist peacefully with their mutually defined domain-specific roles, sometimes they are caught in fierce language rivalries generating a considerable amount of socio-political tension. Language planning, therefore, becomes a compulsive need in a multilingual context. However, it is an admitted fact that, like every dark cloud having a silver lining, plurilingual contexts offer the members of their speech communities the enviable advantage of a spectrum of choices relating to different language codes. At the same time, the complexities and compulsions of the multilingual contexts oblige them to agree upon a 'lingua franca' or common language which provides a most needed linguistic bridge among diverse languages, bringing about a unity in diversity. In many multilingual and pluricultural contexts, including those in India, English has so far been performing this strategic function efficiently so that the whole

range of inter-regional, inter-lingual and international communication has been carried on without any major impediments. As a matter of fact, in view of its dynamic roles and versatile functions in the Indian subcontinent, English is fondly referred to as 'the Auntie's tongue,' next in closeness to the mother tongue. Against this backdrop, it is pertinent to analyze the language use scenario in Yemen, which constitutes an interesting socio-linguistic study of persistent monolingualism in a patently multilingual context. The use of language is enriched by the presence of members of several language communities, such as the Indians, Pakistanis, SriLankans, Germans, Russians, the Dutch, members of the English speaking world, as well as several others. Yemen offers a predominantly monolingual context where Arabic is the only language used in almost all day to day practical contexts of communication. Children acquire Arabic from the home environments and are exposed to the formal or literary varieties of the language consequent upon their schooling and entry to higher education. They have the opportunity of learning English in the formal setting of schools and, thereby, of becoming Arabic-based bilinguals. But unfortunately, due to the prob-

lems of attitude towards English and several other socio-academic factors, most of them end up acquiring a smattering of some form of a pidgin English which is inadequate to stand them in good stead in a range of communicative situations involving the use of English. As a result, they virtually remain Arabic speaking monolinguals for the rest of their lives. This situation has at least the following implications:

a) Lack of proficiency in English denies them the opportunity to access a bulk of information in a number of disciplines, especially in areas related to science and technology. These are available only through English, and not through translation in Arabic. Eventually, they deny themselves the privilege of coming in contact with the world's greatest minds and achieving academic excellence.

b) They are bound to be cut off from the global mainstream of community life where English provides the sensitive linkage among the communities.

c) So far as bilingualism facilitates cognitive development, being monolinguals they are unable to fully harness their innate intellectual potential. This leads to an avoidable under-uti-

lization of the available human resource in Yemen, which are so crucial to lead the country to the threshold of the approaching millennium. In the face of the acknowledged need for bilingualism, the intriguing phenomenon of mono-lingualism seems to be the result of a lack of perception and awareness of the plethora of possibilities that an adequate level of proficiency in Arabic and English can open up for the enterprising Yemenis in the age of globalization.

In conclusion, one may say that at a time when a strong and powerful wind of change is currently sweeping the world, Yemen can not be a passive and mute observer, but, in the fitness of things, be a legitimate partaker of intellectual strides around, and an active sharer of the global trend. Along with many progressive and timely measures currently underway in Yemen, such as efforts at salvaging tourism, liberalization of economy and so forth, let there be a concerted move on the social and academic planes to equip our young generation in at least two languages - Arabic and English. Then we can show the mutually complementary and enriching role of each. This can help remove what seems to be a major communicational handicap in Yemen before it is too late to resolve.

## #2 of a series

### Career Women Dealing with the Public

Name : Amani Hussein

Job Title: Lawyer

Being a lawyer I have faced many obstacles at the beginning of my career because a woman was not preferred to participate as a lawyer in our society, but now it's becoming natural to our society because of the performances and achievements that woman had shown, proving that she could perform as well as men can, and I would like to thank god because at the moment I don't face any obstacles in my work.

I can see also, that my society is benefiting from my participation as a lawyer, I keep on helping the innocent people in the society and try to solve their problems as by doing so I have benefited from the job and my Society also benefited from my participation, which I think that our society is proud of.

Concerning how I spend my salary, I spend it in proving my mother, personal expenses and some times participate when there is a need at home and concerning the home expenses I think that my husband should adopt the major expenses at home. Thank god that I don't face any obstacles but on the

contrary my mother and husband helps me and keeps on encouraging me. I have been working since the past eight years and hope that I could achieve more progress at my work and in the society.

Before becoming a Lawyer I have worked in various places; I worked in journalism, as an executive manager in Bara Center for advertisement, in Al-Afaak for printing and publishing, in Al-Thawabet Magazine and in the 14th of October News Paper, at the mean time I am employed general council of the pensions and social securities.

Name : Latifa Ahmed Khamis

Job Title: Section Manager

Usually when a person is out of home faces lots of things, one of which is being employed I have faced lots of obstacles either at work or with other people the main point is how to face and overcome these obstacles, thank god that we are getting high appreciation from our society because of our performance and as we are heading towards the 21st century we can observe the acceptance of woman in the western society and their work is accepted with appreciation and

respectation and that she is productive same as man, she might not be more productive because she's having more responsibilities than Man.

Concerning the salary payments of course the expenses will be different though the salary will be distributed in which the large sum will be spend on the life's need but at the same time there are some personal expenses that's why I will have to spend the money according to the salary which too small.

Thank God that I don't face any difficulties in my work and home because of a very simple reason and it's organizing my time according to the needs of my family and work in such a way that there is no negligence in any of this and my love to my duty makes me overcome these obstacles.

I have been working here for four years and I hope to continue for 100 years, if health is there's we will work faithfully.

I was employed as a secretary in the Embassy of Kuwait, the Tax Authority as a secretary and Industrial Bank in the Development Unit of Small Industries.

By: Ahlam Al-Muthwakil

Grand Opening May 5th

BALLY

Sana'a Trade Center - Al Jazair Street

# Accomulating Efforts in Building a Tradition



## YHOC & JHOC



### Once Again Honor Their Distinguished Employees

Year after year, Yemen Hunt Oil Company (YHOC) and Jannah Hunt Oil Company (JHOC) continue to honor their distinguished employees. It had become a tradition of its kind. The importance the two companies give to their employees seems to have paid off big in the efficiency and quality of their work. Last week, YHOC & JHOC held their 6th annual award luncheon on the occasion of the 1st of May, International Labor's Day.

On Monday, April 26, 1999, Yemen Hunt Oil Company (YHOC) and Jannah Hunt Oil Company (JHOC) held an Outstanding Achievement Awards Luncheon at the Sheraton Hotel in conjunction with the Yemen Labor Day Holiday. Among the attendees were the Deputy Minister of Oil and Mineral resources, Dr. Rasheed Baraba'a, the Deputy Minister of Labor and Vocational Training, Mr. Abdo Al-Janadi, Mr. Bill Lewis, Vice President and General Manager of YHOC, and Mr. Alex Demitrienko, the General Manager of JHOC. Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf, Chief Editor of Yemen Times and member of the Consultative Council, Brigadier Ali Hassan Al-Shater, Chief Editor of 26 September, a number of department managers from both companies, and a large number of officials from the Ministries of Oil and Labor were among the guests.

During this luncheon, YHOC and JHOC recognized 34 employees who demonstrated outstanding performance and achievement during the past year.

This special recognition program honored employees in three different categories, Outstanding Achievement

A total of 31 Outstanding Achievement Awards were presented, with each recipient receiving a cash bonus and a certificate recognizing her/his selection.

#### Recipients of the 1999 Outstanding Achievement Awards are:

**Accounting Department:**  
Ali Daqfallah Ali Al-Sanabani  
Mariam Moh'd Mubarak Medi

**Administration/Personnel Department:**  
AbdulWahab Abdullah Al-Shaqdari  
Abdulla Moh'd Abdullah Al-Azani

#### Production Operations Department:

Jamal Mohsin Ali Al-Akwa'a  
Anwar AbdulWahab Al-Maktari  
Mohsin Abdulla Ali Al-Jadari  
Ali Saleh Hassan Al-Beidani  
Walid Ahmed Moh'd Al-Batheji  
Hussein Saleh Moh'd Al-Majnai  
SaudSaleh Abdulla Al-Surihi  
Ahmed Awad Omar Shamak  
Ali Saeed Ali Al-Shabwani  
Kamal Moh'd Al-Aghbari

#### Reservoir Department:

Ali Abdulla Muthana Al-Badaji

#### Purchasing Department:

AbdulKarim Kanaf Tarboush

#### Training Department:

Tareq Mansoor Abdulla Noman

#### Jannah Hunt Oil Company:

Mustafa Moh'd Sallam Al-Alawi  
Saleh Abdulla Moh'd Ali Obad  
Ali Nasser Ali Zaid  
Amira Mused Fadhel Samar

In addition to the Outstanding Achievement Award recipients, two other employees were chosen by YHOC's Vice President and General Manager, Bill Lweis, to receive Special Achievement Awards.



Engineer \ Khalid Ali Ahmed Al-Khader receiving the General Manager Award

#### Communications Department:

Mukhtar Anwar Moh'd Haider

#### Drilling Department:

Abdo Ahmed Hassan Ali  
Abdulawi Ghanim Moh'd Mughalis

#### Legal Department:

Aynie Ahmed Qaid Al-Hubaishi

#### Marine Terminal Department:

Mohamed AbdulHaq AbdulMana'a  
Faisal Thabet Abdulla Awada'a

#### Pipeline Department:

AbdulHakim Ali Ahmed Wash  
Salim Ahmed Saleh Al-Gerwi  
AbdulMalik Sharaf Al-Kholani

#### These employees are:

Moneer Ahmed Al-Dahan,  
Administration Manager  
Mana Abdullah Nasser, Drilling Manager



Mana Abdullah Nasser, receiving his Special Recognition Award

On the other hand one employee was chosen by YHOC's Vice President and General manager, Bill Lewis, to receive the General Manager's Special Recognition Award. This Award was given to recognize the employee who best exemplifies the performance criteria mentioned above. The recipient was given a special certificate and cash award recognizing his selection.

#### Recipient of the 1999 General manager Special Recognition Award is:

Engineer\ Khalid Ali Ahmed Al-Khader  
COMMUNICATION MANAGER

YHOC and JHOC are very pleased to recognize these exemplary employees for their outstanding performance and contribution to the success of the company.

Award, Special Outstanding Achievement Award, and General Manager's Award. All three awards were open to all YHOC/JHOC Yemeni employees. Employees were nominated for the Outstanding Achievement Award by their respective department managers and selected by the General Manager and an Award Committee.

Employees were selected for this award based on the following performance considerations:

- Contribution to the overall success of YHOC/JHOC
- Leadership ability
- Initiative/Creativity
- Dependability/Reliability



Ali Nasser Ali Zaid of JHOC receives his award





## Yemen Press in a Week

Compiled by: Mohammed A. Abbas



**Al-Shoura,**  
Sanaa Weekly, Mouthpiece of  
the Federation of the People's  
Forces  
25/4/1999.

### A- Front Page headlines

- 1- Finally, justice is done and Alshoura resumes circulation after being banned from circulation for the third time.
- 2- Will Hadrahmout's tragedy of the 27th of April last year be repeated this year?
- 3- Under the pretext of demining operations, the US Commander of the Central Command Theater General Anthony Zinni arrives in Sanaa for the third time.
- 4- The Nasserite Convention Concludes with Success.
- 5- Escalation of tribal fight in Wash'hah district, Haja Governorate.
- 6- Ba-Jemmal receives formal invitation to visit Kuwait.
- 7- Major explosion inside the security headquarters in Dh'ale town.

**Issue's Editorial**  
The Federation of the People's  
Forces (FPF) has always sided

with the Right wherever it exists. During its long history, the FPF has allied itself with the interests of the masses and never sought to achieve selfish or temporary gains. The FPF is still walking on this road, holding to its policy to support upright behavior practiced by anyone either inside or outside the government, and confronting evil trends. Our main occupation has always been to build sound foundations which can secure the interests of the people, hence our keenness to join hands with anyone fighting for this goal. We have been very careful to keep away from condemning individuals, for it is the crime, not the criminal, that we can not overlook. The FPF was among the first parties which called for the establishment of Order and the enhancement of Institutional Orientation, to allow the people to chose the best way to serve their interests. Nevertheless, the FPF would like to see that names indicate real objects so as to fill the gap between words and practice.



**Al-Haq,**  
Sanaa Weekly,  
Independent,

25/4/1999.

### A- Front-Page Headlines

- 1- The Rabitah Party denounces any attempt to belittle or ignore the Rabita's glorious place in modern Yemeni history.
- 2- The Yemeni Government hands over ten terrorists to the Egyptian authorities.
- 3-Third Armored Brigade, positioned in Abyan, lays hands on the Marrakesha land in Zengebar and detains three citizens amid widespread public distress.
- 4 A US Military team demines explosives in Be'r Ahmed, Sha'b district, Aden. The team has also deactivated a number of missiles that were dropped over the area during the war of 1994, but did not explode.
- 5 Efforts to stop tribal clashes in Shabwah Governorate.
- 6 In a letter sent to the President of the Republic, The Rabitah Party calls for equal opportunities for the effective political parties in relation to the coming presidential election.
- 6- Security authorities in Aden continue an arrest campaign which started at the beginning of this month and targeted a number of fishermen.

### B- Issue's Editorial.

At the beginning was the Word and at the beginning I would like to stress that my intention in writing was not and will never be to distort the image or ruin the reputation of any officials. During my long career in writing, I have disciplined my pen to the addressing of mistakes and redressing of imbalances perpetrated by some official in the ruling community who gives himself the right to do as he likes, when he likes. Thus, through the influence of his post and the abuse of public funds, this official can inflict persecution, pain, injustice on the larger numbers in the society. Against these corrupt practices, clean writers can use their pens as the only means to condemn corruption wherever it comes from and whoever causes it. However, when writers draw the attention of some official to his wrongs or criticize his misconduct, he immediately turns furious and threatens to break the neck of any one who dares to point fingers at him. This childish reaction is out of date, and writers are no more intimidated by this crippled practices, nor can they be hushed by such an ailing mentality. In contrast, we as writers hold the belief in implanting and spreading the concept of constructive dialogue and civilized communication as the only approach to mutual understanding. The umbrella of democracy shields the writer and invites him to call for implementing of the constitutional articles related to the officials' financial accountability. In this regard there are two

articles in the constitution which completely ban the involvement of government officials in business areas so as to avoid clash of interests. Article 117, related to the President of the Republic, and Article 134, related to the Prime minister, his deputies and the cabinet ministers, forbid the engagement of these officials directly or indirectly in any "private enterprise or business, financial, trade, or industrial concerns." Now all this is nice, but where is the effect of such articles in reality? Though we can not point a finger of accusation to a certain official, we can not at the same time blind our eyes to conspicuous aspects of some officials sudden wealth which any body can see in the exquisite villas and palaces and the spacious tracts of land. Even if these two Articles were applied in reality, we still feel that this is not enough. A statement of financial status signed by any official before he/she takes over would eliminate the ground for suspicion directed at all officials, including the honest among them.



**Al-Belagh,**  
Sanaa Weekly, Independent  
27/4/1999.

### A- Front-Page headlines

- 1- Yemeni businessmen are fleeing the country to Ethiopia.
- 2- A British police team from Scotland yard are waiting for a permit to meet with Abul-Hassan.

- 3- Demonstration protest organized by The National committee for the defense of the oppressed victims in Hadrahmout.
- 4- A tribal conciliation to end the conflict between the A'al Al-doulah and A'al Jebah tribes in Shebwah.
- 5- The US Ambassador to Sanaa pays inspection visit to the American oil companies working in Mareb.
- 6- A Capital Secretariat court passes a verdict abolishing the ban on Al-Shoura newspaper.
- 7- Our country takes part in the first meeting for the nation states which have signed the Land mines Treaty. The meeting is held in Maputo, Mozambique.

### B- Issue's Editorial

Arab-Arab relations are awaiting a great amount of care and seriousness from the Arab rulers, who should work soon to remove shortcomings which might have accumulated over time. Today's world is the world of blocking and reciprocal exchange of interests and there is nothing that stops the Arab Nation from bringing this fact into force in all economic, political and defense programs. Relations between individual states might sometimes turn bad, a thing the Arabs are familiar with, but what should not be gambled with is the Arab National Strategy, if such a thing exists. If not, then it is a real catastrophe, which we sincerely hope that the Arab Rulers will be able to correct.

# ANNOUNCEMENT

**This announcement concerns the correct procedures with regard to the implementation of current laws. In particular the security of public revenues and the elimination of the misuse of power of government servants.**

The Tax Authority would like to inform all taxpayers that they should obtain a formal receipt, issued by the Ministry of Finance and bearing its valid stamp, when paying any taxes due. this is in accordance with the following laws:

1. Article 42, law no. 8 of 1990.
2. Article 22, law no. 13 of 1990 regarding the collection of public funds.

The Tax Authority is ready to receive any information from any taxpayer which could prove that competent employees have received any amount of money without issuing a receipt or having issued a receipt for a value less than that paid to the Tax Authority.

The Tax Authority may then take legal action according to Article 22 of law no. 70 of 1999 (TPCS) and Articles nos. 151 and 165 of Presidential Decree law no. 12 of 1994.

**ISSUED BY INCOME TAX AUTHORITY, SANA'A**

## Yemeni Olympic Team Proceeds with its Training in Kuwait

Mr. Saleh Alduais, deputy of the Yemeni football league, head of the mission of the Yemeni

The Yemeni team had played two matches with Kuwait and won the first match 1/nil, and lost the second match 4/1, the team also played friendly match with the Kuwaiti under 19 years team, and the Brazilian national coach of



Olympic football team, said that he is pleased by the excellent reception from our brothers in Kuwait. That is actually not something new, the Kuwaiti people who always shows respect and love to Yemenis, and the Yemenis have same feelings towards our brothers in Kuwait. The Kuwaiti official in charge also provided all the facilities to the Yemeni Olympic team, expressing his thanks to Sheik Ahmed Fahed Al-Ahmed Al-Sabah head of the Kuwaiti football League, Head of the Kuwaiti Olympic committee who personally accounts for the Yemeni Olympic teams provision, and facilitates the training in Kuwait. He also added the team has had a complete training and workout program during its stay, which will proceed till May 15th. There is some entertainment, due to the extended duration of the camp, though the players will be compensated for the previous period, which emphasized training only.

the Yemeni team, Fernandez said that they were ready psychologically, especially after the matches played against the Kuwaiti team and the encouragement they got from the Kuwaiti sports Authorities.

Last Saturday, the Yemeni League paid a visit to the Al-Arabi Club and met the clubs administrators and athletes, and congratulated them for achieving the championship and the crown prince award.

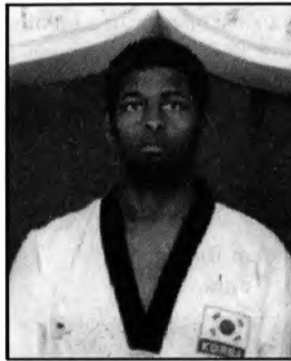
## A Yemeni Tae-Kwan-Do referee for Sydney 2000

The international academy and the international union for Tae-Kwan-Do has chosen the international Tae-Kwan-Do referee Kamal Owaif Baamr as an international referee who will participate in the 2000 Olympic games to be held in Sydney. Kamal will participate as a referee and will be managing several of the Tae-

Kwan-Do matches which will be held in Olympics. This is the first occasion of its type in Yemeni sports history.

The agreement and selection of Kamal came after the convocation from the international union for Tae-Kwan-Do in Seoul (south Korea) met with the referee Kamal Owaif last week. He will be participating in the required training course, which is held for international referees who are approved by the referees council of the international union for Tae-Kwan-Do. This is an organized international union for referee selection, and they decide who will participate in refereeing the matches.

The referee Kamal Owaif succeeded in being selected by the



international referee council to the group of referees which will participate in Sydney.

Kamal Owaif is considered a founder of Tae-Kwan-Do in Yemen, and he has a black belt 5 Dan's and has participated in refereeing many international & Arabian games. The last one he participated in was held in the year 1997 in Manila, the Philippines.

## In Ibb: No Qat Day

Last Thursday, Sport and Youth Clubs in Ibb city organized a demonstration protesting the ruinous effects of qat on the Yemeni society. The demonstration, the first of its kind, carried the name "No Qat Day" and was headed by the governor, Mr. Abdul Kader Hilal. Mr. Hilal, known for his supportive role in boosting sports in Ibb, announced on behalf of the city's youth that each Wednesday will become a day free of qat, as a first step to minimize the consumption of the notorious qat, which wastes time and money and causes dangerous diseases. The participants, mostly young men, decided to break off the habit of chewing qat, and rather headed to Ibb University campus and playgrounds to pass their time in useful sport activities. Some of them utilize the service rendered by the library which houses more than 50,000 books on various topics.

On this occasion, the Governor, Mr. Abdulkadir Hilal, said a word in which he hailed the spirit of initiative and cooperation of Ibb's young people and their enthusiasm to fight laziness and submission to qat which poses a serious threat to our society in all areas of life. Mr. Hilal stresses the role played by the young people in inspiring the community to combat the evil habit of qat. Mr. Hilal has been known and respected for his leading part in backing up youth and sport activities in Ibb Governorate. Hilal's supportive hand has improved the situation in a number of the city's sport clubs, most notably the Sha'ab sport club.

A REPUTABLE INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION  
is looking for a full time

## Information Technology Specialist

### Responsibilities:

1. Operate network. General knowledge of networks and experience supporting networks and end users. Understanding of NT Server Administration, configuration and troubleshooting.
2. Provide software support (Microsoft office products) including one-on-one training and support to staff.
3. Ensure website development and administration.
4. Develop capacity of existing staff member to function as a back-up IT specialist.

### Qualifications:

Technical skills and demonstrated capacity and experience to immediately take on the above responsibilities. Candidates who may require limited additional training before being fully functional, are also invited to apply.

Applications are to be mailed within 3 days from the date of announcement to:

The Advertiser  
P. O. Box 18152  
Sana'a

(We will only contact and notify candidates who have been short-listed for interview)

ألف مبروك  
تأميننا الحارة للشباب الخلق

## خالد القرش

وذلك بمناسبة الخطوبة  
متمنين له زفافاً ميموناً في القريب العاجل  
والف ألف مبروك يا خالد

### المهنيون

عبد الرزاق القرش، عبد العزيز محمد عبده  
مفيد العريفي محمد عبد اللطيف الشرجبي  
و طاقم ال Yemen Times



## وزارة الإنشاءات والإسكان والتخطيط الحضري

# Ministry of Construction, Housing, and Urban Planning

### Second Time Announcement

### Republic of Yemen

### Ministry of Construction, Housing, and Urban Planning Construction Sector.

Ministry headquarter: Government Complex, Hadda Road, Sana'a.  
Tel. No.: 967-1-264070  
Fax No.: 967-1-264070

### Prequalification Announcement for Engineering Consultants

Ministry of Construction, Housing, and Urban Planning (MCHUP), construction Sector announces starting-up the Prequalification to participate in the Tender of selecting the Engineering Consultant for ASSABAIN MOSQUE PROJECT.

The experienced, expertise selected Consultant will accomplish the following tasks:

- Review studies the Preliminary Design and specifications.
- Prepare the Project Tender Documents.
- Participate in the prequalification of executing contractors and supervision.

MCHUP invites International and local experienced, expertise, Consulting Engineering Offices and Companies interested to submit their Profiles at the Deputy minister Office for Construction Engineering Sector, at the headquarter of MCHUP within one month from date of the first announcement.

MCHUP will distribute the tender documents to the qualified international and local experienced, expertise, Consulting Engineering Offices and Companies interested to submit their technical and financial proposal.

## إعلان للمرة الثانية

## تأهيل تمهيدي لإستشاريين هندسيين

## تعلم وزارة الإنشاءات والإسكان والتخطيط الحضري (قطاع الإنشاءات الهندسية)

عن البدء في التأهيل التمهيدي للمكاتب والشركات الهندسية الإستشارية المحلية والأجنبية الراغبين في الإشتراك في مناقصة تأهيل الاستشاري لمشروع (جامع السبعين) وذلك للقيام بأعمال المراجعة للتصاميم المعمارية الأولية والمواصفات الفنية، وإعداد التصاميم النهائية والرسومات التنفيذية الكاملة ووثائق المناقصة للمشروع والإشتراك في تأهيل المقاولين التنفيذيين والإشراف على تنفيذ المشروع.

فعلى الراغبين من المكاتب والشركات الهندسية الإستشارية المحلية والأجنبية ذات الخبرة والإختصاص تقديم ملفات التأهيل الخاصة بهم إلى مكتب وكيل الوزارة لقطاع الإنشاءات الهندسية بديوان عام الوزارة خلال موعد أقصاه شهر من تاريخ نشر أول إعلان.

وستقوم الوزارة بعد ذلك بتوزيع وثائق المناقصة على المكاتب والشركات الهندسية التي تأهلت لتقديم عروضها الفنية والمالية.

تلطون: 967-1-264070

فاكس: 967-1-264070

Away from Politics

# A Dutch and a Yemeni to Set Up a Better Future



A girl said "I want to be a doctor and English will help me" other wants to be scientists and thought that English would help them and so on. For these girls to learn English is a dream, for learning English or any foreign language is limited to people who could afford its high cost. But Mrs. Carin Meerberg says "It's no more a dream, these girls can afford to learn English, no matter how their financial situation is." On of the most important thing about Mrs. Meerberg initiative is to help Yemeni girls have more education. "Three months is a very long holiday for the children, it is a good thing to use this time, so we started 3 days a week teaching English class, and when the girls are adjusted and want to continue during the year we could do it on Thursday mornings, on week-ends." said Mrs. Meerberg. It was last December when Mrs. Meerberg started teaching English at her own house, on a personal level, free of charge,

trying to help the next generation to continue their studies. She started with ten children, the number of students who enjoyed her good idea of teaching kept on increasing now she has 20 children. Teaching is not the only aim, the project has one more side to it. It also helps working mothers in a way, that they feel their children are safe at school. "this is a way of helping women in our development process." said Mrs. Antelak Al Mutawakil, whose

daughter is studying at Mrs. Meerberg class, and who is along with Mrs. Carin behind the idea of expanding the project to help more girls enjoy the privilege. The fee of the school is actually YR. 800 per month, the amount does not cover the expenses of the teachers, books, photocopies, in spite of all this, the founders are insistent to continue with their task. But the dilemma of finances and how to generate funds will always be at their minds. As a matter of fact the founders didn't dream too much. They started immediately. "We just started, it was a good experience and the children liked it and it was a good reason to make it more solid completely Yemeni. I will leave after a year and very happy now it is a Yemeni organization, a Yemeni

school and so it will continue." said Mrs. Meerberg. "I would like to add that we will have more possibilities, to open up the world for them, in a way of better communication. That is why we call the school "Girls world language School." Mrs. Meerberg added. "This is a good example on how can people and not governments cooperate and make a different." said Mrs. Al Mutawakil "I would also like to thank Ms. Iman, the principal of Ahlam Al-Asafir school, who has been a great help to us." Mrs. Al Mutawakil added.

Indeed, Mrs. Meerberg initiative is an eye opener for a lot of people who thought everything should be done by external assistance. We as a community have everything it takes to start such useful project. So what are we waiting for?

By- Hatem Bamehriz  
Yemen Times.



## Behind Every Great Man There Is An EXPEDITION

3 years free maintenance  
Mobile car service  
Door to door service  
24 hours service



**natco'**

National Trading Company Ltd  
Tel: 267-791/2/3; Fax: 267-800 . P. O. Box 19732, Sana'a, Yemen



### CONSOLIDATED CONTRACTORS INTERNATIONAL COMPANY - SAL

#### CONSTRUCTION OF MECHANICAL AND HEAVY CIVIL PROJECTS

- ⊗ Petrochemical plants, refineries.
- ⊗ Heavy, light industrial plants.
- ⊗ Power and desalination plants.
- ⊗ Fuel and water storage tanks.
- ⊗ Oil fields ancillary installations.
- ⊗ Air purification for industry
- ⊗ Marine docks, harbours, deep sea berths & refinery terminals.
- ⊗ Offshore structures and underwater works.
- ⊗ Pipelines construction and maintenance.
- ⊗ Prefabricated accommodation & office facilities.
- ⊗ Sewage treatment plants & collection networks.
- ⊗ Airports, roads, highways, bridges & fly-overs.
- ⊗ High quality buildings & sports complexes.
- ⊗ Water treatment plants, reservoirs & distribution systems.

Sanaa  
Tel: (967-1) 247852  
Fax: (967-1) 263043  
E-Mail: cccyemen@y.net.ye

Aden  
Tel: (967-2) 377328  
Fax: (967-2) 377716  
E-Mail: cccaden@y.net.ye



# WORLD LEADER

THE WORLD'S FIRST KING SIZE FILTER CIGARETTE