

Sana'a University student shot by security police

Abdulaziz al-Haisami, a commerce student at Sana'a University was shot in the head last week by the University security police.

The accident was triggered when the municipality police raided a street used by peddlers close to the university campus.

Police hurt one of the peddlers. Upon seeing the incident, students interfered to help the peddlers, and threw stones at the police.

Sana'a University police later joined the municipality police and started shooting to disburse the student, result-

ing in the injury of al-Haisami.

He was admitted to hospital.

Students of the university subsequently gathered in front of the university campus and didn't leave the scene, until they had assurances that those responsible for the accident would be punished.

Political parties and human rights groups have called for replacing university police with civil guards to avoid such mishaps.

Complaints of police harassment of peddlers take place on a daily basis in all Yemeni cities.

Opposition wants US ambassador expelled

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

A leading Yemen's opposition party has demanded the government expel the American Ambassador to Yemen, Edmund Hull.

According to al-Ray Alam newspaper, Hull is arrogant and interferes in Yemen's internal affairs, and he also is a sponsor of anti-Arab and Islamic policies.

Hizam al-Atwani, head of the political division of the Nasserite Unionist Party, said, the joint meetings of political parties demanded breaking off political and economic relations between Arab countries and the United

States.

The opposition leader suggested that the government should open offices for recruiting Mujahideen, also known as Islamic holy warriors.

The Al-Mithaq newspaper, mouthpiece of the ruling party, similarly accused on April 8 the US ambassador of interfering in Yemen's internal affairs and warned that he would be an unwanted person in Yemen.

US Department of State declared last week that 150 American soldiers will be deployed in Yemen shortly to work as trainers and advisors for the Yemeni army in its anti-terror campaign.

Parcel detonates in Taiz

A parcel exploded in Taiz when it was handed over to the Manager of Yemen Sponge Industry Company, Amer Abdullah Ali.

Sources said that the parcel was presented in the form of a small carton

accompanied by a detonator and phosphoric powder connected to a wire culminating in injuring Amer's hands and eyes.

The incident is still a mystery to officials.

Yemeni Jews condemn Israel's actions



Yemeni Jewish from Saada

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In an unprecedented move, dozens of Yemeni Jews from the governorate of Saada and the province of Raida in the Amran governorate expressed last week their condemnation of the Israeli actions against Palestinians in the occupied territories.

"Even though we share the same religion, we condemn those actions

against our Palestinian brothers," one of the Jews said.

In a survey published in the 14 of October newspaper on Saturday, dozens of Jews expressed their rejection to the Zionist ideas and movements and described what is happening in the Palestinian territories as "terrorist aggression" committed by Israeli Prime Minister, Ariel Sharon.

They stressed that Jews in many countries in the world don't accept the actions of the Jewish state, and denied that this state represents Jewish people. "We call upon the international community to bring Sharon to justice for his war crimes committed in the past

and for those being committed today," they said.

Meanwhile, the Yemeni Jewish community expressed its satisfaction with the religious and citizenship freedom they have, and their ability to participate in democratic elections and other social activities.

The Jews supported President Saleh's stance in total rejection of the US and Israeli interpretation of the Palestinian struggle as terrorism.

They insisted on the right of Palestinians to fight Israelis even with suicide attacks, and called it a legitimate right to achieve freedom and liberation from Israeli occupation.

In Brief

• Yemeni researcher, Marwan Ahmed Dhamarin, got the masters degree with excellent grade from the Electrical Engineering Institute in Japan for his thesis on "upgrading silicon chips and solar units made from magnetic melting." The study aims at manufacturing cost-effective solar units.

• Mr. Hussain Dhaifalah al-Awadhi, minister of information left April 4 for Paris for discussing bilateral cooperation between Yemen and France in the field of media. Ahmed Tahir al-Shi'ani, director general of the Public Radio & Television Corp. was also among the top delegation accompanying al-Awadhi.

• Yemeni Journalist Syndicate president left for Beirut April 4 to take part at the meetings of the Arab Journalists Federation which will discuss press freedom in the Arab world and the current situation in the Middle East.

• Two hundred free scholarships were granted to the sons and daughters of the martyred Palestinians by the Yemen Supreme University Council during its meetings on April 10.

• A production sharing agreement at block No. 52 in Hadramaut was signed on April 10 at the Ministry of Oil and Minerals between the Yemen Investment Company and Petronas of Malaysia.

Malignant tumor eradicated

A four-year-old who suffered from a brain tumor had the malignant tumor removed last week at the Republican Hospital in Aden.

The operation lasted for three hours by specialists in neurosurgery and orthopedics.

The operation was supervised by Deputy Manager of Republican Hospital.

The child is in good condition.

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Hayel Saeed Prizes announced

A medical doctor and a playwright have been honored with prizes given recently through the Asaeed Foundation for Sciences and Culture.

The foundation announced Yemeni researcher, Dr. Abdu alkareem Shibani and Mohammed Abdulla Hassan as winners of the Hayel Saeed Ana'am Prize.

Abdu alkareem Shibani won for his research titled "Kidney failure in

Yemen" and Hassan won for his play Arch of Triumph, Saif Bin Dhy Yazen.

The awards were announced April 8 at a press conference held at the Mercure Hotel, by Faisal Abdu Saeed, general manager of the Asaeed Foundation.

Awards in four other areas were not given this year, due to lack of qualified entries.

Yemeni gatherings to support Palestinians

A new fund for supporting the Palestinian uprising was established in Taiz last week. Around YR 155 million has been allocated as a donation to the Palestinians. A part from these was collected by the Hayel Saeed Ana'am Group.

The initiative has been taken by the Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Local Council to support the Palestinians.

The gathering was attended by some

of the Palestinian representatives and the Iraqi ambassador.

The Governor of Taiz, stressed that the whole Yemenis will back up their brothers in Palestine.

Dr. Ahmed Hayel Saeed Ana'am, the Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry confirmed that the resistance to the Israelis is a legal right and it is a main concern to support the Intifadha.



Appolo organizes medical exhibition

Vice president Abdu-Rabu Mansour has called upon Yemeni and Arab doctors and pharmacists to assist their brothers in Palestine.

At the Appolo Medicines and Medical Requirements Exhibition last Thursday, he hailed the exhibition as an important means to introduce what is new in medicine and wished continuity of similar events.

"We live in an information and Internet age in which telecommunications and medicine are among the fields benefitting from this revolution,

so we have to peruse every new opportunity," he said.

"We have now six dental colleges and we have to connect them with the Internet to make sure that they update the technology," he added.

Dr. Ali al-Sharabee, the president of Yemen Dental Association, gave a welcome speech and Mr. Hameed Alhamar, the director of APOLLO company, told of the important role that his company plays to organize such an exhibition.

Over than YR one billion profits of NBY

The National Bank of Yemen (NBY) has issued its annual report (The Results of the Strategy of Change), which contains financial statistics and statements as well as the report of the board of directors and auditors.

"The Bank has maintained its leading position in the banking sector in Yemen not only in terms of overall assets and client's deposits, but also profits as well," Abdulrahman Mohammed al-Kuhali, Chairman of the Board of Directors and GM of the bank noted. He added that profits have broken records exceeding YR one billion by an increase rate of 49.1 percent to that of 2000. As a result the revenues on a share rose from YR 273 in 2000 to YR 407 in 2001 by an increase rate of 49.0 percent.

In 2001 the National Bank of Yemen computerized four of its branches. The bank also aims to complete computerizing the information systems project for the remaining branches, including providing the voice banking service.

Continued from page 1

Yemen is tops in clearing mines

Muhssen al-Yusif said the activities of the current campaign came within the framework of the National Demining Program funded by donor countries topped by Saudi Arabia, the Netherlands and the United States.

Yahia Mohammed al-Shami, governor of Beidha met HE Bert J. Ronhert, Ambassador of the Netherlands at his office in Beidha. Mr. Bert pointed out that the local community should be involved in making the studies and supervising the development assistance channeled by the Government of the Netherlands to the government.

Dutch Ambassador along with the governor of Beidha toured the Thura Hospital of Beidha as well as other infrastructure projects in the capital of the government.

Yemeni-Saudi border committee resumes talks

The Yemeni-Saudi border committee resumed talks with the Yemeni officials last Monday to demarcate Yemeni-Saudi borders according to the Jeddah Treaty signed between the two countries in June 2000.

The Demarcation of the Yemeni-Saudi borders issue was entrusted to German mission, but it came to a halt few months ago. Border marks were spoiled by tribesmen at Dehm al-Hamra near the Yemeni-Saudi border in a protest against the Jeddah Treaty, which has resulted in the standstill of the German mission.

Sources at the Land Department Office said to Yemen Times that the meeting discussed the field works to demarcate Yemeni-Saudi borders where 16 percent of demarcation has been successfully accomplished.

Second workshop on Earth Summit wraps up

The second workshop for the national committee for the Earth Summit which is to be held in the Johannesburg, the capital of the South Africa from August 26 to September 4 2002 concluded its workshop in Sana'a on April 3 2002.

Participants finished the final touches of their working papers in order to prepare themselves for the national report to be presented and discussed during the Earth Summit.

In a statement to YT, Abdulmalik al-Eriani, the Minister of Tourism and

Environment stated that the summit will help a lot in achieving a sustainable development for the international community.

The Chairman of the General Corp. for Environment, Mohammed Saeed al-Mashgari said that the national report include all the issues related to environment and sustainable development on natural resources and biodiversity, water and pollution, poverty, environment, women's role in the sustainable development and the role of the NGOs as well as the private sector.



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Bazar'a gets award from Six Continent Hotels



Naser Musfi (left), Manager of Holiday Inn Hotel - Mukalla, presents certificate of appreciation to Mr. Zaghoul Bazar'a, Managing Director of Bazar'a Travel & Tourismcome



Mr. Zaghoul Bazar'a



A Yemeni travel business manager has been awarded by Six Continent Hotels for top service.

Managing Director of Bazar'a Travel & Tourism, Mr. Zaghoul Bazar'a is the recipient of the certificate of appreciation, from Six Continent, one of the largest hotel chains in the world. Six Continent is giving the awards as part of its 50th anniversary celebrations.

It has more than 3,200 hotels in about 100 countries where Intercontinental, Holiday Inn and Crown Blaza Hotels are located.

It is worthwhile mentioning that Bazar'a for Travel and Tourism has a pioneering role in promoting tourism.

Bazar'a has positively responded to the President's call to promote the domestic tourism.

So, its agencies has made great efforts to cope with the modern changes with regard to providing tourist buses and the Zaghoul Bazar'a's vital participation in Kuala Lumpur and Jakarta.

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Venezuela minister says Chavez to be sent abroad

CARACAS, Venezuela (Reuters) - A minister of Venezuela's new transition government said on Saturday that former President Hugo Chavez had only given his resignation verbally and that he would be sent abroad once he submits it in writing.

As several hundred angry supporters of the democratically elected Chavez surrounded the presidential palace, Secretariat Minister Jesus Bricento told reporters that Chavez had not resigned in a written statement.

"People should be told that Chavez is going to resign and that we're going to send him abroad," said Bricento, a retired vice-admiral.

Venezuela's armed forces said early Friday morning that the populist Chavez had resigned at their request

after gunmen killed at least 11 unarmed demonstrators participating in a massive anti-government protest in Caracas on Thursday.

Chavez, a former paratrooper who had ruled for three years as a leftist champion of the poor, has not been seen since.

Gunfire was heard near the palace as at least 500 pro-Chavez protesters, many waving national flags and carrying color posters of him, clamored outside, demanding that he be released.

The interim government, backed by the armed forces and headed by 61-year-old businessman Pedro Carmona, read an announcement Friday accusing Chavez of multiple violations of the constitution and saying he was responsible for the protesters' deaths.



Supporters of President Hugo Chavez protest against his arrest in Caracas, April 13, 2002. Photo by Daniel Aguilar/Reuters

US, Russia show goodwill but no arms breakthrough

MADRID, April 11 (Reuters) - U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell took a break from Middle East diplomacy on Thursday to meet Russian counterpart Igor Ivanov, but no breakthrough emerged on finalising a document to cut nuclear arsenals.

The United States and Russia are working on an agreement to reduce the world's two largest nuclear stockpiles by about a third in time for it to be signed by U.S. President George W. Bush and Russian President Vladimir Putin at the May 23-26 summit.

Powell and Ivanov reported no progress on thorny issues such as how to count the number of warheads and what will be done with them once they are removed from their missiles.

Meeting in Madrid just before Powell left for the Middle East, Powell and Ivanov touched on a range of bilateral issues including an agreement to give Russia a meaningful role in NATO and a trade dispute currently blocking U.S. chicken exports to Russia.



US SECRETARY OF STATE POWELL SMILES WITH RUSSIAN FM IVANOV IN MADRID April 10, 2002.

But Powell told a news conference there were "no discussions" on a brewing espionage scandal in which Russia's security police said they uncovered a U.S. spy ring and accused the Americans of drugging a scientist to steal military secrets.

The arms control talks centred on preparing a legally binding document to cut U.S. and Russian arsenals by about a third from current levels of between 6,000 and 7,000, but how to count the number of warheads remained an issue.

Powell said he was "pleased with the progress that the two sets of negotiators are making" and that they would meet again next week in Moscow and could move forward at a Washington meeting with Ivanov set for May 3.

"Both sides want the document to be signed during the visit of President

Bush in Moscow. At the same time quite serious work is ahead of us," Ivanov told the news conference in Madrid.

"On many issues we moved our positions closer but there are a number of open issues. One of those is the procedure of counting warheads and delivery means," Ivanov said.

The Russian side objects to a U.S. proposal which instead of counting the potential number of warheads on a launch platform as the number of arms left, the platform is counted as one unless the weapons are actually installed on it.

Though Putin had indicated he would go to about the same level as the United States, Moscow has not yet specified its position since Washington said it would keep a number of decommissioned arms in storage.

"There are nuances in the approach of the U.S. and the Russian side and we will continue our discussions on this issue. The Russian side wants the cuts to be real," Ivanov said.

Turkey says Cyprus EU entry could cause crisis

ATHENS, (Reuters) - Turkey said on Saturday the pending entry of Cyprus into the European Union could trigger a crisis if a deal over the future of the divided Mediterranean island is not reached beforehand.

In an interview published in the Greek weekly newspaper Ependytis, Turkish Foreign Minister Ismail Cem said his country would act strongly if Nicosia joins the 15-nation bloc.

"If there is no agreement, and if there is a one-sided accession of one part of the island representing the whole...then we will act strongly and energetically and that will cause problems for all of us," he was quoted as saying.

Cyprus has been partitioned since Turkey invaded in 1974 in response to an Athens-backed coup. Only Ankara recognises the self-declared Turkish-Cypriot statelet in the northern third of the island.

Cypriot President Glafcos Clerides and Turkish Cypriot leader Rauf Denktaş resumed U.N. sponsored face-to-face talks early this year to meet a June deadline for agreement.

Many see their talks as the last chance for a settlement before the EU accepts Cyprus as a member, probably in 2004 or 2005.

Asked whether the Cyprus talks and its pending EU entry could cause a crisis, Cem said: "Yes there is the potential for a crisis." He did not elaborate.

The EU has said it favours a solution to the division prior to Cyprus' entry but that it will accept the island with or without a settlement.

EU finance ministers may pick Greek for ECB deputy job

(Reuters) - European Union finance ministers are expected on Saturday to pick Greek central bank chief Lucas Papademos as next vice president of the European Central Bank.

Spanish Economy Minister Rodrigo Rato, who is chairing the ministers' meeting in this northern Spanish city, said most countries were backing Papademos over rival contender Paul De Grauwe, a Belgian economics professor and politician.

A source from one EU delegation told Reuters on Saturday the Papademos nomination was well on track. "He has the support of a broad majority," the source said, citing discussions among ministers over dinner on Friday, which are due to continue on Saturday.

Finance ministers also said Europe's recovery was accelerating and played down concerns that the recent oil price spike could damage growth and boost inflation.



FRENCH ECONOMY MINISTER FABIOUS TALKS WITH EUROPEAN CENTRAL BANK PRESIDENT DUSENBERG AND SPANISH COUNTERPART RATO AT ECOFIN MEETING IN OVIEDO, April 13, 2002.

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Mass protests engulf Arab world

AMAN, (Reuters) - Protests against Israel and the United States engulfed the Arab and Muslim worlds again on Friday, but in Jordan a rally was cancelled in fears of a huge police presence risked civilian lives.

In the Gaza Strip, Palestinians burnt U.S. President George W. Bush and Secretary of State Colin Powell in effigy during mass protests against Washington's support for the Jewish state as Israeli troops have killed at least 200 Palestinians in the West Bank during a two-week military onslaught. "Colin Powell, go home," supporters of the Islamic militant group Hamas chanted in Jabaliya refugee camp, where about 30,000 people rallied.

As the angry crowds marched, Powell was in Israel on a mission to try to end 18 months of Israeli-Palestinian violence and persuade Israel to end its West Bank incursion.

"Washington will not solve our problems. America is a partner of the enemy," demonstrators cried through loudspeakers.

Amman seemed a virtual armed camp on Friday. Police were out in force, helicopters circled overhead and security forces shut major thoroughfares with armored personnel carriers.

"The (Jordanian) government has even placed its coroners on call,"

Mohammad al-Oran, head of Jordan's Professional Associations Union, told an opposition gathering.

"We have to ask ourselves, does the Palestinian cause need more people to die this way?"

Oran's audience expressed anger with the cancellation.

"You are in bed with the government. We succeeded when we demonstrated without your organization," Bassam, an activist, said in reference to a march on the Israeli embassy last week.

Thousands of Jordan's mostly Palestinian population have held protests since Israel attacked the West Bank on March 29.

CLASHES IN LEBANON

Demonstrations went ahead despite a big police presence in Lebanon, where clashes erupted with police as protesters marched on the U.S. embassy to denounce Washington's backing for Israel.

Witnesses said at least seven people were injured when the demonstration turned violent. It was the second time in two weeks clashes have erupted as protesters attempted to approach the fortified embassy in a hilly Beirut suburb.

The witnesses said Palestinian and Lebanese marchers hurled rocks and



Iraqis demonstrate against Israel and America in a Baghdad street on April 9, 2002. The United Nations and Iraq on Friday delayed talks scheduled for later this month on the return of arms inspectors because Baghdad wants to keep the world's focus on the Middle East crisis, a U.N. spokesman said. REUTERS/Faleh Kheiber

bottles as police blocked the road to the embassy and that police fired dozens of teargas canisters to disperse the crowd and threw rocks back, causing the injuries.

Near the southern port city of Tyre, several thousand Palestinians marched through one of Lebanon's dozen Palestinian refugee camps.

"From Ramallah to Jenin, one nation that will not back down," chanted protesters, many carrying Palestinian flags. At least 10,000 people marched

through the northern port city of Tripoli in a similar demonstration.

ACROSS THE GULF

Thousands of people took to the streets after Friday prayers across the Gulf region.

In Bahrain, more than 5,000 marched near the village of Duraz, west of the capital Manama, to protest against Israel's incursion and demand the closure of the U.S. mission in Bahrain — home to the U.S. Fifth Fleet.

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Powell calls for Hizbollah to be curbed

SAFED, (Reuters) - U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell on Friday called on Syria to restrain the Lebanese-based Hizbollah guerrilla group, which has stepped up attacks against Israel's northern border in recent weeks.

Powell, who was briefed by top Israeli military commanders at a northern Israeli army base, said failure to halt attacks by the Iranian-and-Syrian-backed guerrillas could lead to devastating consequences for the region.

"I call upon nations who have influence over Hizbollah, especially Syria, to do everything in its power to restrain

Hizbollah and to stop this kind of activity before it widens the conflict in the region with consequences that are devastating to consider for the whole region," Powell told reporters.

"I hope that the leaders in this part of the world who have influence over Hizbollah will do everything to get this activity to stop," Powell said after what he called a "sobering briefing" on the heightening tensions along the Israel-Lebanon frontier.

As he was being briefed at a military headquarters in the Galilee town of Safed, Hizbollah guerrillas fired rockets and mortars at Israeli border positions on the occupied Golan Heights, captured from Syria in the 1967 Middle East war.

The United States and United Nations have urged Syria, the main powerbroker in Lebanon, to rein in Hizbollah which has stepped up attacks in recent weeks against Israeli army bases and civilian areas in northern Israel.

The attacks have been

the most intense since Israel withdrew its troops from southern Lebanon in May 2000.

Israel responded to Friday's attack through air force and artillery barrages in southern Lebanon. But it has threatened far fiercer retaliation, which could raise the risks of a regional conflict if the Hizbollah strikes continue unabated.



Tunisia insists synagogue blast was accident

BY LAMINE GHANMI

TUNIS (Reuters) - Tunisia is struggling to deflect suspicions that an explosion that killed at least nine people outside North Africa's oldest synagogue site might have been a suicide attack.

The country's eight daily newspapers on Friday all underscored the official line that the blast was an "ordinary accident" and not linked to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

A Frenchman and a German boy died overnight of injuries sustained in the blast, bringing the confirmed death toll to nine, a German embassy official and a hospital source said.

A Tunisian tour guide had also died of his injuries, a tourism official said earlier.

Four German tourists, a policeman and the driver of the tanker, which was filled with cooking gas, died when the truck blew up outside the El Ghriba Jewish shrine on Thursday on the resort island of Djerba, according to Tunisian authorities.

In Berlin, a spokeswoman for the German Foreign Ministry said 24 Germans were being treated in hospital, several of them with serious injuries. Some of the injured may be flown back to Germany for treatment, she said.

Tunisian authorities said some 30 people had been injured.

A spokesman for the German travel firm TUI told Reuters a coach carrying

about 45 tourists was near the synagogue at the time of the explosion and was hit by the wave of the blast.

The Tunisian government said it was a tragic accident, but Israel suspected foul play and witnesses said the chain of events appeared suspect.

A statement from the German Foreign Ministry however, referred to the blast as an accident.

STAKES HIGH FOR TUNISIA
Diplomats said the stakes were high for Tunisia. It claims to be a haven of peace between the turmoil in the Middle East and a decade of violence in neighboring Algeria.

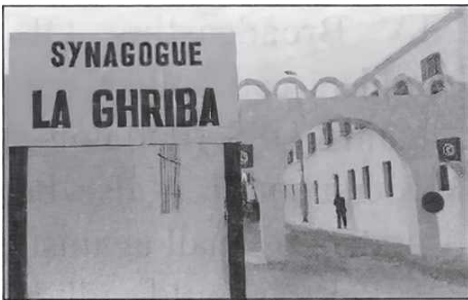
Thousands of Jews, including Israelis, gather each spring at the shrine in a rare festival which Tunisians proudly point to as a sign of religious tolerance.

The synagogue itself is only some 75 years old, but there has been one on the site for what some estimate to be 1,900 years.

Djerba hosts over a third of the five million tourists a year who visit the country, Africa's top destination after South Africa. Nearly a million of last year's visitors to Tunisia were German.

Officials have struggled to keep tourists coming since the September 11 attacks on U.S. cities.

The Tunisian government, which tightly controls the media, was quick to stress the blast was an accident.



"Preliminary indications show that a truck equipped with a gas tank hit the pavement and outer fence of El Ghriba shrine," a senior government official said.

He said the police and judiciary were carrying out separate investigations and that all information would be made public.

But Israel's Foreign Ministry said it believed the deadly explosion was a terrorist attack.

An independent local group, the Committee for Liberty and Human Rights Respect in Tunisia (CRLDHT), cast doubt on the official explanation.

"The government version is questionable particularly if we take into account that the synagogue was in a dead-end road," it said in a statement.

Witnesses said the truck had taken an unusual route. "The driver took a bizarre non-tarred track which cuts through olive trees and the truck blew up about three meters (yards) from the synagogue outer wall," said one of several reporters allowed inside the compound some 11 hours afterwards.

Egyptian student killed in anti-U.S. protest

CAIRO (Reuters) - A student has been killed during violent clashes between police and anti-U.S. protesters in Egypt's Mediterranean port city of Alexandria.

The student was shot in the chest and died instantly, hospital sources said.

An interior ministry statement confirmed one protester had been killed after "provocative elements" hijacked the demonstration on Tuesday.

Security sources said more than 100 people were injured when police used rubber bullets, teargas and batons to disperse up to 10,000 students who

violated regulations by taking their protest off campus and towards a nearby American cultural centre.

The ministry said police had been obliged to use tear gas, water cannons and buckshot to disperse the crowds. It said 33 police officers and soldiers had also been injured.

The students were protesting against a visit by U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell to Cairo and Israeli actions against Palestinians.

Security sources and the interior ministry statement said protesters stopped traffic and destroyed several cars on the seaside boulevard before

police restored calm.

"(The ministry) understands the angry feelings of citizens and students as a result of the barbaric Israeli aggression against the Palestinian people," the statement said, but added that "freedom of expression should not be allowed to deteriorate into hysteria."

Protests across the region have swelled since an Israeli incursion into Palestinian-ruled cities in the West Bank began more than a week ago. More than 20,000 people also turned out at universities in Cairo and the Nile delta city of Tanta to denounce Powell's tour, security sources said.

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Saudi debates introducing income tax for expatriates

RIYADH, April 13 (Reuters) - Saudi Arabia's advisory Shura council is currently reviewing a draft law that would tax the earnings of expatriate workers for the first time since the 1970s, a member of the council was quoted on Saturday as saying.

Abdul Rahman al-Ja'afari, head of the Shura's financial committee, told the English-language Saudi Gazette newspaper that the proposed tax rate would "not be high" and that in some cases it would be less than the 2.5 percent Islamic alms tax that Saudi nationals pay annually.

"I would like to assure our brother expatriate workers that the system will not have any negative implications on their income nor would it constitute a financial burden," he said.

Foreign firms operating in the oil-rich kingdom pay an annual corporate tax, but expatriates, which form the bulk of the work force, have not had to pay taxes since the 1970s.

The tax law is part of Saudi Arabia's efforts to reform its welfare-dominated economy and diversify state revenues away from oil sales, which account for

80 percent of its income.

Last month, Supreme Economic Council chairman Abdulrahman al-Tuwaijri said the Shura council was also reviewing cutting corporate taxes to around 30 percent from a current 45 percent to boost foreign investment.

The Shura council has no legislative powers and its recommendations must be approved by the kingdom's senior leadership before becoming binding.

Al-Ja'afari said the council would take at least seven months to finish debating the law.

Saudi Crown Prince, Annan review Palestinian situation



Casablanca, April 13, SPA — Crown Prince Abdullah bin Abdulaziz, Deputy Premier and Commander of the National Guard, has reviewed with U.N. Secretary general Kofi Annan the deteriorating situation in the Palestinian territories as a result of the Israeli aggression against the Palestinian people and leadership. They made this review during a telephone call which the crown prince received from Annan Friday evening. During the conversation, they stressed on the necessity of stopping the Israeli forces' repression, killings and destruction in the Palestinian territories.

Suicide attacks legitimate form of resistance: Arafat's wife

DUBAI - The wife of besieged Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat wants to be by his side, and has described suicide attacks as a legitimate "resistance" against Israeli occupation, in an interview with a Saudi magazine released yesterday.

"Resistance is a legitimate right for every occupied people, and ... (suicide) operations are an indivisible part of that right," the London-based weekly Al Majalla quoted Suha Al Taweel Arafat as saying in answer to questions sent via the Palestinian embassy in Riyadh.

Suha Arafat said there would have been "no greater honor" than sacrificing her son to the Palestinian struggle for independence if she had one, Al Majalla said in its April 14-20 edition.

"Would you expect me and my children to be less patriotic and more eager to live than my countrymen and their father and leader, who is seeking martyrdom?" she said.

Asked whether suicide bombings served the Palestinian cause, she said:

"Let me ask: 'What is one's position (supposed to be toward) an enemy who kills father, brother, sister, mother and grandfather in cold blood?'"

"I address this question to all those who ask, interpret and denounce these operations ... Should we remain with arms folded?" The magazine did not make clear where Suha, who has a young daughter by Arafat, was at present, saying only that she has variously been reported to be in Paris, the United States or even in Ramallah, the West Bank city where the Palestinian leader is trapped in his office by Israeli troops.

Arafat's wife, who has been out of sight "apparently for security reasons," said she "undoubtedly" wants to be with him during the siege.

"I am prepared to return (to the Palestinian territories) the minute I am asked to," she said.

Suha said she was in contact with her husband by mobile phone "when-ever there is a chance" and that he was in good health despite being trapped



in his office since Israel launched its offensive on the West Bank on March 29.

Arafat has been besieged before, the last time during the 1982 Israeli invasion of Beirut, Suha noted, adding that the Palestinians will choose a leader who will "carry on the march (for independence)" if Israel kills her husband.

Muscat Municipality tops in public service

MUSCAT — The Muscat Municipality has won the first position for excellence in public services in the Arab world.

The award is one of three established by Arab Organization for Administrative Development, which is an affiliate of the Arab League.

The Muscat Municipality will receive its award in a grand ceremony to be held in Dubai on Wednesday under the auspices of the Crown Prince of Dubai.

The objective of the award is to encourage Arab establishments in the private and public sectors to upgrade and develop services while boosting the concept of creativity, excellence, quality and sound performance in management besides raising the spirit of competition and cooperation between private and government sectors.

The award is another feather in the cap of the Muscat Municipality, which has won recognition from Arab city



organizations and other international organizations working in the field of hygiene, beautification and architecture. The Muscat Municipality is exerting maximum efforts to sustain the capital city's cleanliness and beauty through man and machine, that is, its workforce ó renowned for its skill and efficiency ó as well as modern

tools. The implementation of uplift schemes through geographical surveys is another of its hallmarks.

Not only has this resulted in enabling the Muscat Municipality to offer the best public services but also maintaining Muscat's enviable reputation as one of the world's most clean and beautiful cities. — ONA

Millions raised for Palestine during UAE donation campaign

Abu Dhabi (Gulf News) - President His Highness Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan donated Dh40 million to the Palestinians during the 13-hour telethon organized by the Emirates Media Incorporated (EMI) here yesterday.

His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Abu Dhabi Crown Prince and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces donated Dh30 million. Sheikh Zayed's other sons donated Dh50 million while Her Highness Sheikhha Fatima bint Mubarak, Wife of Sheikh Zayed and Chairperson of the UAE Women's Federation donated Dh12 million.

The EMI was yesterday flooded with donors from across the world to show solidarity with besieged Palestinians in the Occupied Territories.

The telethon raised more than Dh190

million by midnight. It was to continue till 2 am today.

Among the charity organizations which chipped in at the telethon was Sheikh Zayed Foundation for Humanitarian Services and Charitable Activities, which donated Dh15 million.

Women donated jewellery and other valuables, children sacrificed their allowances, men offered hard earned cash and institutions auctioned antiques and historical documents, all to show solidarity for the just struggle of the Palestinian people against the Israeli aggression.

WAM adds: Queen Rania of Jordan, praised the campaign in support of the Palestinian people. "I join my voice with this campaign and this painful shriek, which calls upon the whole world to stand by the just because

Palestine deserves justice and peace."

In a statement to Abu Dhabi TV, Queen Rania reiterated her country's support to the Palestinian people.

She lauded the existing cooperation in this regard between the UAE and Jordan under the leadership of Sheikh Zayed and King Abdullah II of Jordan in support of the Palestinian leadership under President Yasser Arafat.

Queen Rania also expressed gratitude and appreciation to Sheikhha Fatima for her generous and lasting contribution to the Palestinian people.

In the meantime, a UAE official source yesterday said that the UAE has settled its share of the financial allocations for the Palestinian National Authority for the month of April. The source said that the allocations were approved by the Arab summit recently held in Beirut.

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Nine killed in Afghan clashes

KABUL (Reuters) - A clash between international peacekeepers with a 30-strong armed group in Kabul and fighting between rival commanders nearby have underlined the problems of unifying a country at war for more than two decades.

The 18-nation International Security Assistance Force said on Saturday that two overnight patrols of British soldiers were fired on and reinforcements captured seven men the interim government acknowledged were members of its security forces.

However, Interior Ministry security chief Deen Mohammad Joorat alleged their intention was to destabilize the interim administration which detained 160 people earlier this month and accused them of the same intent.

Near Kabul, a royalist warlord clashed with the commander of interim government forces in Wardak province shortly before ex-King Zahir Shah is expected back from 30 years in exile in Rome.

At least three people were killed in fighting reported to have involved heavy weapons and rockets and which closed the road from Kabul to Maidan Shahr 30 miles to the west on Friday. Officials said the guns went silent on Saturday.

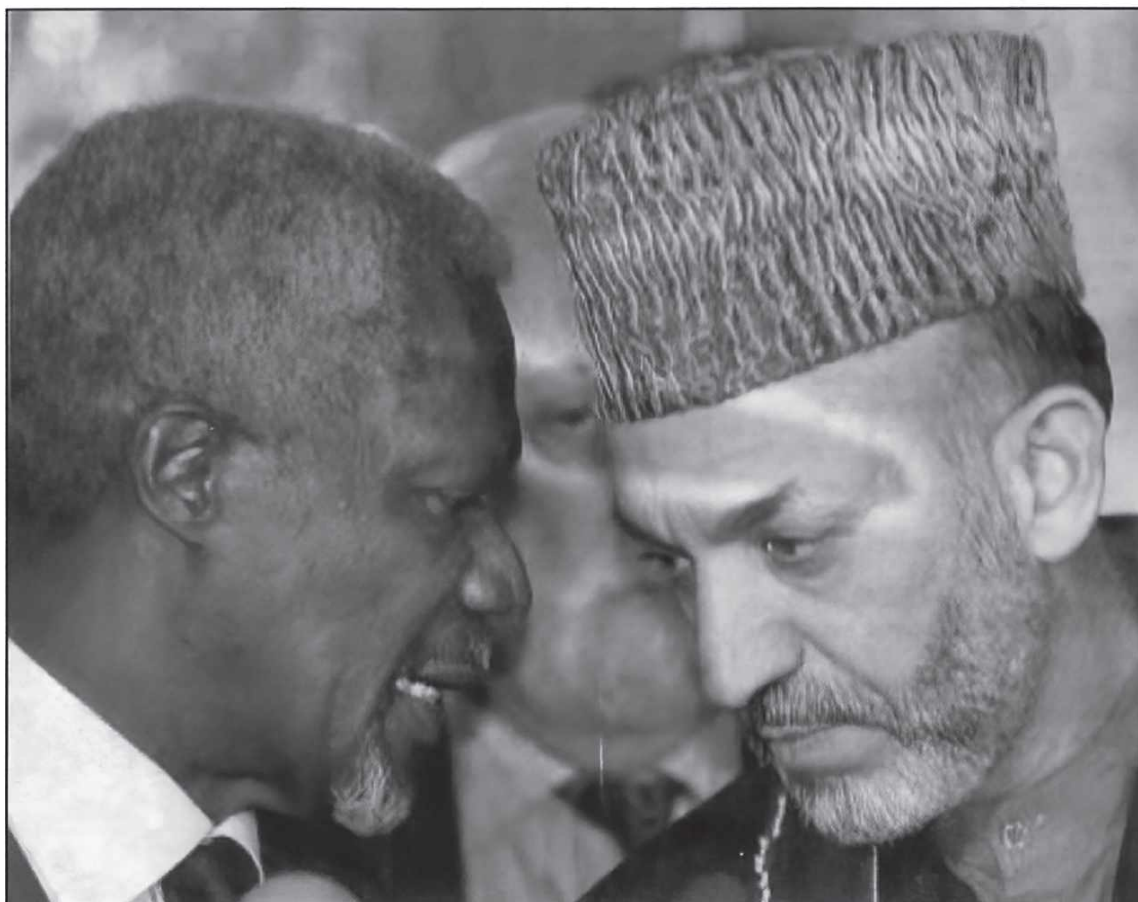
Zahir Shah is to preside over the opening in June of a Loya Jirga, a grand council called to decide whether the interim administration stays or a new government is put in place to guide Afghanistan to general elections in a further two years.

ETHNIC TENSIONS UNVEILED

The Kabul clashes and the Wardak fighting illustrated the ethnic and political tensions at work ahead of the return of the ethnic Pashtun ex-king, opposed by some of the ethnic Tajiks who dominate the interim administration, and the Loya Jirga.

Joorat said all seven men captured in Kabul after the clashes with British soldiers from the Royal Anglian regiment were Hazaras, a Shi'ite ethnic group which is a minority in largely Sunni Afghanistan.

The clash occurred in an area of southwest Kabul which is largely populated by Hazaras and has been plagued by gangs of armed robbers



Fighting has erupted between the forces of two rival commanders in Afghanistan's Wardak province, the Pakistan-based Afghan Islamic Press (AIP) has reported. The fighting underlined the difficulties facing the interim government of Hamid Karzai, shown here (R) in a file photo with UN Secretary General Kofi Annan. REUTERS/Oleg Popov

believed to be unemployed soldiers of the Northern Alliance which helped oust the Taliban late last year.

"Six of them belong to the police of the zone and the other one is from the 61st division of the armed forces. They are part of the government," Joorat told Reuters.

"They are under investigation. They pretend they were chasing a group of thieves, but the reality is that they wanted to sabotage the security situation in Kabul. That was for sure their intention," he charged.

ISAF spokesman Lt-Col Neal Peckham said the two patrols were fired on during the night and fired back.

"Some 10 rounds were fired, four at one location and six at another, and both of these patrols responded robustly with returning fire," he told

reporters.

The ISAF swiftly sent reinforcements who arrested seven of the armed men, but others escaped in a vehicle.

"The sum total of the operation is that we have detained seven men. All were armed with AK47s, five of them were in police uniforms, one in civilian clothes and one in combats," he said.

ROCKETS

Peckham said the 18-nation force had worried the clash might have resulted from a security operation by the interim administration about which it had not been told.

The ISAF was upset earlier this month when the administration detained the 160 people to snuff out an alleged coup plot but did not tell the nearly 5,000-strong ISAF about it.

Saturday's incident follows attempt-

ed rocket attacks on Kabul installations of the ISAF, sent to provide security in the capital in the run-up to the Loya Jirga.

Two Chinese-made 107 mm rockets were fired at an ISAF installation earlier this month and four more, on primitive launchers and attached to wrist-watch timing devices, were discovered from where they were launched.

The interim government, dominated by the Northern Alliance, says a number of people have been arrested in connection with the missiles.

The Wardak fighting involved warlord Ghulam Rohani Nangali and interim administration commander Muzaffaruddin.

Both are Pashtun, but there was no immediate word on what had sparked the fighting between them.

Rescue workers seek survivors of Afghan quake

KABUL (Reuters) - Aid workers were searching the rubble of several villages in northern Afghanistan on Saturday for people who might have been buried by the second earthquake to strike the Nahrin district in less than three weeks.

Afghan officials said three villages damaged in quakes which killed some 1,000 people last month had been reduced to rubble in Friday's quake, which killed at least 50 people.

"Three villages have been totally razed to the ground around Nahrin," Afghan official Homayoun, who like many Afghans uses only one name, said by satellite phone from the region.

"Reports we have indicate that people may have been trapped beneath collapsed buildings and also there are small villages about which we have not heard at all," he said.

"So the prime task of agencies today is focusing on assessing the damage, the needs of the people and seeing if they can find any survivors," he added.

He said the worst hit areas were Dawabi, Panj Sheryan and Khoja Hijran near Nahrin, a district centre in Baghlan province.

Dawabi is some 30 km (20 miles) southeast of Nahrin and aid officials said there were more than 50 villages within 25 km (15 miles) of the epicenter.

Many buildings in the area were destroyed in the earlier quake and

people were already living in tents.

Homayoun said aftershocks from the tremor, which Pakistani seismologists said were felt as far away as Kabul 160 km (100 miles) to the south and Islamabad, the Pakistani capital, rocked the area for many hours after the quake.

The seismologists said Friday's quake was about the same intensity as the tremors late last month that caused extensive damage because they were fairly shallow.

They, too, were followed by waves of aftershocks which hampered rescue work in an area littered with landmines laid during years of war.

However, the survivors of last month's tremors were luckier than some in the quake-prone Hindu Kush region because aid agencies were relatively close and well prepared to help.

In 1998 it took many days to get help to the region when over 5,000 people were killed in an earthquake just north of Nahrin during the rule of the ultra-Islamic Taliban, who made life difficult for aid agencies.

Last month, help was on the way in a matter of hours from the United Nations, private aid groups and international military forces hunting down remnants of the Taliban and their al Qaeda allies, blamed for the September 11 attacks on the United States.

Aid supplies rushed in then are still available in the area.

Nepal landmine blast kills three

KATHMANDU (Reuters) - A landmine blast in western Nepal has killed three people in the latest of a series of attacks by suspected Maoist rebels fighting to bring down the monarchy, police said.

At least 54 people, mostly policemen, were killed on Thursday when rebels attacked police posts using rocket launchers and bombs. The attacks, in western Dang district, were the deadliest against security forces since February.

Saturday's attack took place at Laltinbazaar in Bajura district.

The Maoists launched their rebellion in 1996 and stepped up their attacks after walking out of peace talks last year.

Nepal has imposed a state of emergency to quell the revolt and given the army sweeping powers to crack down on the rebels.

The revolt has claimed more than 3,000 lives and badly hit the economy of a nation that draws thousands of visitors and mountain climbers a year and depends on the tourist industry for much of its revenue.

Cambodia starts to resettle Vietnamese asylum seekers

PHNOM PENH (Reuters) - Cambodia has started the process of resettling 905 hilltribe asylum seekers to the United States after a tug of war over their status involving neighboring Vietnam, Washington and the United Nations.

Government officials said on Saturday that the hilltribe people were being moved from refugee camps in the northeastern part of the country to capital Phnom Penh where they would await U.S. and U.N. preparations for their departure to the United States.

Washington, with past links to anti-Communist hilltribes who fought alongside U.S. forces in Indochina during the Vietnam War, reached an agreement with Cambodia last month to resettle the refugees.

Over 1,000 hilltribe people had fled Vietnam's Central Highlands to

refugee camps in Cambodia in the past year after Hanoi sent troops to the region to quell protests by ethnic minority groups seeking land ownership and religious freedom.

Some of them have since returned home. Several dozen others were resettled in the United States amid protests from Phnom Penh's old ally Hanoi.

General Sok Phal, Cambodian interior ministry information chief, said 37 refugees flew to Phnom Penh from Cambodia's remote Ratanakiri province on Saturday and another two groups of about the same number were due to arrive later on Saturday.

"In the next three days, we will bring 373 refugees on nine flights from Ratanakiri province. When the refugee camp in Ratanakiri is done, we will begin taking refugees from Mondulkiri

province. Everything is going smoothly," Sok Phal told Reuters by phone.

Over 500 hilltribe refugees sheltered at a U.N. camp in northeastern Mondulkiri province are expected to arrive by trucks in Phnom Penh on Monday.

The first group of refugees flew to Phnom Penh on Saturday in a Cambodian military plane before being transported by bus to an empty suburban factory in the capital, military sources said.

The factory will serve as a reception centre for the refugees in the next few weeks while they wait to be processed by U.S. immigration and U.N. refugee agency officials preparing for their departure to the United States.

The U.N. had recently suspended plans to repatriate the refugees to Vietnam after reports that Phnom Penh

had forcibly deported asylum seekers.

Hanoi had adopted strong measures aimed at persuading the refugees to return home and over 100 had previously agreed to return to Vietnam.

The hilltribe refugee issue has strained relations between Phnom Penh and Hanoi, which had vigorously insisted that they be deported back to Vietnam as illegal immigrants.

After Phnom Penh announced it would allow the United States to resettle the 905 refugees, Cambodia said it would not allow more ethnic hilltribesmen to enter the country and close U.N. camps, a decision seen by many as a move to placate Hanoi.

Hanoi accused the United States in 2001 for interfering in its internal affairs after Washington resettled the first 38 asylum seekers who fled to Cambodia from Vietnam.

Sea snail deaths baffle Bangladesh

COX'S BAZAR, Bangladesh (Reuters) - Thousands of dead sea snails were being washed up on a Bangladesh beach on Saturday and local scientists said they needed help from outside to solve the mystery.

Growing heaps of the dead snails are creating a stomach-churning stench that has been driving away tourists at Cox's Bazar for over two weeks, officials and witnesses said.

"It looks like we don't have enough local expertise to find out the reason," said Mohammad Zaher, a scientist with

Cox's Bazar Sea Fish Research Institute. Cox's Bazar, 420 km (260 miles) southeast of the capital Dhaka, is Bangladesh's main tourist resort but attracts only a few thousand foreigners each year.

Zaher said only one of more than 130 snail species was dying. "We have collected samples for sending to foreign experts," he added.

Residents said the mass snail death could be a boon for businessmen who make dolls and other handicraft items with the shells and sell them to tourists.



Sea snail deaths baffle Bangladesh - Bangladeshi workers pile up tonnes of dead sea snails at a beach in southeastern Cox's Bazar resort on April 12. REUTERS/Nurul Islam



A Nepalese policeman comforts an injured colleague at the Bir hospital in Kathmandu, April 12, 2002. Maoist rebels killed at least 50 people, mostly police, in a series of bloody raids on security posts in Nepal, a minister said on Friday. The attacks were the latest by the rebels on security forces in mountainous west Nepal, where the insurgents have a strong grip, and represented another challenge to the government's attempts to tackle the Maoists head-on. REUTERS/Gopal Chitrakar

Sudan accuses rebels of ceasefire breach

(Reuters) - Sudan has accused the rebel Sudan People Liberation Army (SPLA) of breaching a ceasefire agreement by shelling a major southern town, wounding two civilians, the Sudanese News Agency SUNA reported on Saturday.

"The rebel movement released two Katyusha rockets on Wau without any specific target," the agency said, adding a woman and her child were hurt in the attack.

Ghazi Salah al-Din, presidential advisor on peace affairs, accused the southern rebel movement of targeting civilians.

"This is the first breach by the rebel movement of the agreement for the protection of civilians," SUNA quoted him as saying.

Under U.S. mediation, the Sudanese government and the SPLA agreed earlier this year to protect civilians and civilian targets in the 19-year-old civil war in Africa's largest country.

Wau, 950 km (600 miles) southwest of Khartoum and southern Sudan's second largest town, was attacked by the SPLA in 1998 but remained in government hands.

It is the main city in the Bahr al-Ghazal region which has seen massive displacement and deaths in the last few years due to war and famine.

Sudanese rebels have been fighting for greater autonomy for the mostly animist and Christian south from the Muslim, Arab north since 1983.

Panel tells Ethiopia, Eritrea of landmark border ruling

By TSEGAYE TADESSE & TARO MATSUOKA

(Reuters) - In a key test for peace in the Horn of Africa, international experts drawing a border between former foes Ethiopia and Eritrea on Saturday informed the two countries of their landmark ruling.

Asked whether the Permanent Court of Arbitration in The Hague had conveyed its decision to the parties, court spokesman Dane Ratliff told Reuters in the Netherlands: "Yes it has."

In Addis Ababa, an Ethiopian government official said the ruling had awarded Ethiopia all the land it had claimed, including the much-disputed villages of Badme and Zalambessa. There was no independent confirmation of the official's report.

Ethiopian Foreign Minister Seyoum Mesfin was due to speak to the media later in the day, officials said. There was no firm word on arrangements for any press announcements in Eritrea.

U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan has urged both countries to accept and implement the decision of the border commission, saying it is a milestone in resolving their 1998-2000 conflict in which about 70,000 people lost their lives.

"Once the commission's decision is known, it is imperative that the two countries implement it without delay," Anann said in a joint newspaper article with Amara Essy, Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity.

The court, whose task was mandated by a December 2000 peace accord, will disclose the contents of its ruling only on Monday, leaving it up to the two countries themselves to publicize its findings before that if they so wish.

Nerves could be strained when the final ruling is publicized, with possession of land and national prestige at stake for the two countries, whose relationship remains bitter.

Key flashpoints in border areas claimed by both sides include the villages of Zalambessa, Badme, Irob and Alitena, all under Ethiopian administration at the moment.

For many Ethiopians, other key issues include their demand for control over the Red Sea port of Assab for their landlocked country of 67 million, and opposition to Eritrea's 1993 independence from its much larger neighbor.

NO MANDATE

However, the border commission has no mandate to examine those two matters.

In Asmara, Solomon Bahta, 25, a student, laughed as he said that it was not worth fighting another war over the border, adding: "I think the war is over."

A 33-year-old mother of two who declined to be identified said: "I am not interested in politics, but I'm interested in the verdict. We want what is ours. If it isn't ours, we don't want it."

A 50-year-old woman in traditional robe said, through an interpreter: "We are waiting for peace and with the help of God we will get it."

On Friday, the Ethiopian government said the ruling would be the result of what it called Ethiopia's victory in the conflict, which ended when Ethiopia drove deep into Eritrean territory.

"The ignominious defeat of the Eritrean army at the hands of the Ethiopian forces has clearly shown that any option to determine the border issue other than peacefully and based on legal grounds was impossible and counter productive," the Information Ministry said in a statement.

"Eritrea's embarrassing defeat at the hands of Ethiopian defense forces has taught a lesson to President Isayas (Afewerki), who believed that might is right to accept the unpalatable truth for him that right is might," it said.

Ethiopian Prime Minister Meles



Zenawi has faced signs of disquiet about the prospect of the commission's ruling, with demonstrations by the opposition calling for the experts to restore Ethiopia's access to Assab, diplomats say.

Meles is criticized by the opposition for allegedly being too lenient on Eritrea and for not using his military advantage in the

later stages of the war to recapture Assab. Eritrea, a former province of the much larger Ethiopia, was granted independence in 1993 with Isayas at the helm and the personal blessing of Meles.

The two men fell out in the years that followed, letting niggling disputes over economic issues and a patch of territory at

Badme deteriorate into all-out war in 1998.

Legwaila Joseph Legwaila, Annan's special representative to Ethiopia and Eritrea, said that there were no signs of tension along the border region, now monitored by U.N. peacekeepers patrolling in a so-called temporary security zone.

Court ruling throws Nigerian elections into serious doubt

LAGOS, (Reuters) - A Nigerian court has delivered a ruling that could delay the country's first elections since military rule ended in 1999 on Saturday.

Officials said the Abuja High Court on Friday effectively prevented electoral authorities from using a voter register compiled in 1998 for elections due to be held next month.

Justice Okechukwu Okeke granted an application by 10 youths seeking to oblige the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) to revise the 1998 list before it can be used by regional authorities to conduct local elections.

But the INEC says it cannot revise the register before local elections now due in May after a major constitutional ruling by the Supreme Court earlier this month.

The court granted an injunction against the electoral process until the substantive issues were decided, the officials said.

The poll to elect chairmen and councillors of Nigeria's 774 local govern-

ments is seen as a crucial test of the country's ability to stage elections under civilian authorities.

The vote should also be a pointer to the conduct of critical presidential and general elections next year, when President Olusegun Obasanjo is widely expected to seek re-election.

Civilian rulers have not organized successful polls since Nigeria's independence from Britain in 1960. Attempts in the 1960s and in 1983 both ended in violent disputes and military coups.

The voter list is just one of a string of recent electoral controversies that have rocked the stability of the multi-ethnic country to its shaky foundations.

The Supreme Court ruling quashed a hotly debated bid by lawmakers to extend the life of local councils above a constitutional four years so that local polls can be held together with next year's national elections.

Such an extension would have dashed the hopes of politicians forming new parties to challenge Obasanjo's ruling People's Democratic

Party for the presidency.

Under the electoral law new parties may only contest the presidency if they score a minimum 10 percent of votes in 25 percent of the country's 36 states. By implication they will be ruled out of next year's presidential poll if it is held simultaneously with local elections.

Obasanjo triggered a storm of protests in December when lawmakers accused him of altering the electoral bill passed by parliament before signing it into law.

Parliament has since repealed that bill but has yet to pass a new electoral law to take care of all the burning issues.

Obasanjo is keeping the nation guessing as to whether he will run next year, although his actions and those of his allies suggest he will.

Obasanjo, a born-again Christian, has told his political supporters urging him to run that he is waiting for guidance from God. He has promised to make his decision public this month after a period of prayer and fasting.

Fire destroys embassy premises in Tanzania capital

DAR ES SALAAM, April 11 (Reuters) - Fire swept through a 14-storey building housing three diplomatic missions in Tanzania's capital Dar es Salaam, destroying the Kenyan High Commission's offices, officials said on Thursday.

The cause of Wednesday night's

blaze, believed to have started in the Kenyan premises on the 14th floor, has yet to be established but officials said initial investigations pointed to an electrical fault.

"Our team of investigators is right now at the building trying to establish what actually transpired," Dar es

Salaam's regional police commander Alfred Tibaigana told Reuters.

The building also houses the National Insurance Corporation, the German Embassy and the Indian High Commission. No one was hurt in the fire, which broke out at 9 p.m. (1800 GMT).

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و بأقل الأسعار

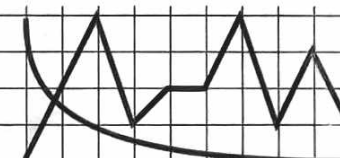
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YT Business



In Brief

Investment partnership growing between Yemen and South Africa

Officials from South Africa's Commerce and Industry are looking to invest in Yemen, and officials here are looking for ways to make that happen.

The South African officials came to Yemen recently to discuss investment opportunities in sectors, such as mining, gold and oil exploration.

Economic statistics indicate that Yemen is able to boost its trade of agricultural products and oil derivatives, and attract more tourists.

Tiani Zolo, the General Director of Economic Development at the Ministry of Commerce of South of Africa, Tiani Zolo, said the visit was fruitful.

Yemen is interested in this initiative to make use of mining surveys and exchange information in marketing and exports to enhance trade relations with other countries.

Tourist losses evaluated

In 2002, Yemen will lose an estimated US \$200 million in the field of tourism as a result of the Sept. 11 attacks and other growing political problems in the Middle East, according to some experts.

The Tourist Promotion Council has been looking at such things during the last six months.

Yemen to join Arab Free Zone

The Arab Cabinet has approved Yemen's access to the Arab Free Zone.

A transitional period has been allocated by the Arab League Council decision to accept Yemen as a member of the Arab Free Zone.

Participants have agreed on that Yemen's custom and tax duties imposed on Arab goods will be reduced at regular intervals starting from 2004 to 2010.

Islamic Commerce Conference to be held

An Islamic Chamber of Commerce Conference is to be held in Aden to review economic issues in Islamic countries.

A comprehensive outlook has been adopted concerning attitudes of the Islamic countries within the framework of WTO.

PM meets IMF delegation

A number of issues related to restructuring the financial and banking and commercial judiciary were reviewed recently by Prime Minister Dr. Abdulkader Bajammal and an International Monetary Fund delegation chaired by Edward G. Economist at the Middle East Division.

The Yemeni government, IMF and World Bank are getting preparations underway for a conference of donor countries, to be held in Paris next September.

Promoting trade among Arab countries

The Secretary General of Arab Economic Union Council, Ahmed al-Gowlyli discussed with Yemeni officials in Sana'a Arab economic issues recently.

The two sides have agreed to increase the Yemen-Arab trade promotion at all levels, including encouraging inter-Arab investment and trade.

Several issues were also discussed during the meeting such as, unemployment and the factors that impede growth and development in the Arab Countries.

Work for \$30 million to launch at Marib Dam

By MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Private bids are being accepted to continue the next phase of the Marib Dam Project, a \$30 million phase expected to be launched this month.

Abu Dhabi Development Fund is continuing to finance the project which will see 66 km of new water channels geared to irrigate up to 5,000 acres of agricultural land.

It's part of increasingly strong ties between Yemen and the UAE.

Thanks to the UAE's involvement in the first phase of the project, vegetable and fruit production are both up 75 per cent, and the region has restored its reputation for growing a variety of cereals.

Regaining use of the Marib Dam has encouraged farmers to reclaim the agri-

cultural lands which were threatened by drought.

About 20,000 hectares have been reclaimed by farmers, allowing them to expand farm land depending as more underground water is available.

As a result, grain production has doubled from 1986 to 1999.

In addition 120,000 hectares of new arable land has been made available.

The new Marib Dam was established close to the historical one which dates back to the pre-Islamic period.

The dam is surrounded by historical sites including Belqees throne, a site which has garnered the attention of historians and tourists.

The new dam has helped poor farmers find new security.

The water capacity of the Marib Dam is estimated at 4 million cubic meters.

In addition to this, two small distributive dams were built to irrigate more than 7,000 hectares of field, and more than 10,000 hectares of crops.

The storage capacity of the first dam totals 200,000 cubic meters and the second one totals 1,800,000 cubic meter.

The longest water channel of the dam totals 50 km, and the secondary water channels total 86 km.

The historic dam of Marib is located about 8 km to the Southwest of Marib Governorate.

According to an inscription found in the area, the dam was built in the 8th century BC, and has since been renovated so many times.

Water projects to be established

The General Corp. for Irrigation at the Ministry of Agriculture has shown

interest to tackle some problems of Yemen's water crisis through implementing the second phase.

More than 300 water projects are to be implemented at the cost of YR 9 billion.

Forty-five water catchments have been implemented at a cost of YR one billion and a half. One hundred water catchments are also under construction at a cost of YR 5 billion and a half.

Sixty-three water reservoirs have been implemented by the agriculture ministry, at a cost of YR 711 million, and nine irrigation channels at the cost of YR 86 million.

The agriculture ministry intends to update new irrigation machines to instruct farmers to use water properly including the distribution of plastic hoses and pipes.

Exchange Rate for the Yemeni Rial as of April 13

USD	174.08	174.27
GBP	249.30	249.57
EUR	152.70	152.87
SAR	46.42	46.47
KWD	50.67	567.29
AED	7.19	47.44
EC	37.66	
BHD	461.74	462.24
QAR	47.81	47.86
JOD	245.53	245.80
OMR	452.14	452.64
CHF	104.29	104.40
SEK	16.91	16.93
JPY	1.325616	1.327063

Source: Central Bank of Yemen

Drinking water projects are going to be implemented in the northern regions at the cost of YR 900 million.

The government has done its best to get rid of the expected water crisis among citizens.

Small enterprise promotion needs a boost

By Abdulaziz M. Abdulah
For The Yemen Times

Many experts believe that small enterprises play a pivotal role in reducing unemployment and alleviating poverty. And Yemen is in a dire need for such projects which will help local communities across the country to directly benefit from their economic activities.

Yet, small enterprise projects are still in their primes, and they need much support through enhancing legal frameworks, as well as making a full use of the services provided through the German Agency for Technical Cooperation (GTZ), which plays a key role in funding and supporting such

programs.

The Small Enterprises Promotion Project is one of the technical cooperation projects between Yemen and the Federal Republic of Germany under an agreement signed between the two countries in late 1998. The German Agency for Technical Cooperation runs two projects both in Aden and Taiz.

The projects' key targets are to enhance the capacity of the small enterprises through providing technical assistance to small enterprise in these governorates.

Thus, local councils in Aden and Taiz where the GTZ operates should make a full use of the services provided by this agency. Local councils at these governorate should also strive to diversify the existing cooperation

between Yemen and Germany in this field.

Thus, setting up a committee for promoting small enterprises, chaired by the secretary-generals of Aden and Taiz governorates, will be a good step for developing this sector of economy.

Persons who have outlined the basic program for the small enterprise believe that such enterprises can create so many job opportunities for their capability to spread across the country, including rural areas. The Small Enterprise Promotion Project organizes regular consultative meetings with representatives of the small enterprises

and related governmental bodies with the view of improving the working condition at these enterprises as well as enhancing the capacity of self-employment initiatives.

Still, there many problems facing the small enterprises progress which can be summarized as follows: Lack of equipment and other machines required for the small enterprise industry; high electricity bills, plus the insufficiency of the electricity power provided by the government's energy provider; high price of the plots of lands used for building the enterprise facilities; tax regulations pertaining to

the small enterprises is still unclear; lack of funds required for setting up such projects; smuggling in general poses a real threat to the use of small enterprises.

Yemen should benefit from the experience and technical assistance of other countries in this field. This is essential for a developing country like Yemen where poverty and unemployment have turned to be epidemics. Government should also pay greater attention to this sector of economy and provided it with all facilities to help achieve a real development in the country.

Yemen's labor laws to be evaluated

By YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Labor standards in Yemen are about to be put under the microscope by the Arab Labor Organization (ALO).

Practices involving child labor, worker health and safety, and women in the workforce are some among the concerns that the ALO will look at, thanks to a new agreement between it and Yemen's Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor.

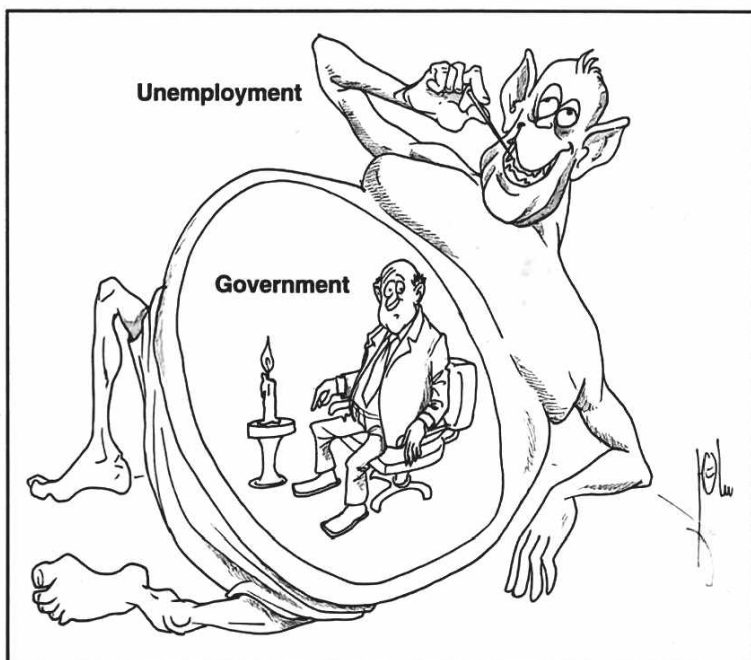
The goal is to standardize Yemen's labor legislation with other Arab countries. This comes within the framework of Yemen's plan to move towards restructuring the economy as well as adopting the market economy system. Dealing with unemployment and poor-

ly-skilled labor market have been two of the core challenges of the government since it began implementing its economic reforms in the mid-1990s.

The ALO will carry out its technical projects in cooperation with the Arab Center for Management & Labor. In addition to reviewing Yemen's general policies, the ALO will help Yemen's labor co-ordinate with other Arab ministries of labor.

The ALO will study the obstacles hindering the work of women. It will also send experts to compare labor laws in Yemen with other labor standards in the Arab world.

Another part of the agreement will focus on means of limiting child labor, as statistics reveal that 28.8 percent of working children are below 13 years old.



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You Cheater!

Cheating is common from secondary school to university: respondents

FAHMIA AL-FOTIH
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Our prophet (peace and blessing upon him) has said, "Who has cheated us is not from our community." Indeed, cheating has traditionally been seen a shameful way to gain something undeserved. But a Yemen Times survey shows cheating is in fact widespread among students who responded.

Taking a closer look at the problem, and how to deal with it, the Times asked questions of both students and teachers at various levels. Here are the responses.

At school: Nabil, student, 9th grade: "There is nothing wrong with cheating, as it is a kind of cooperation between students. In short, I consider cheating the essence of life."

Ahmed, 10th grade: "Cheating is so beautiful," he said concisely. Wedad Al-graash 11th grade: I am against openly cheating as it raises some people who do not deserve. Sometimes one needs only one word and he is known to be studious, so I think a little help does not harm."

"I think girls are more likely to cheat as they can hide their cheating in unexpected places," she added. Ahmed, 9th grade:

"Everybody likes cheating nowadays for it helps him to pass easily. I have known many techniques for cheating through which students can exchange cheating without supervisors finding out," he said. "Boys and girls are the same in cheating. Even the teachers themselves have ensured me that they once cheated," he added.

Yahia Al-Agrie 11th grade:

"Cheating is a negative phenomenon that has spread among students, both girls and boys in schools and universities, and it has become necessary to pass. I can imagine how disappointed the teachers will be when they see their students cheating," he said. "Some students become professionals in the cheating art. I always see some students cheating, but

I myself (without pride) avoid it and depend upon my own efforts. My hope is not to see cheating, and I ask every student to depend on himself," he added.

Ayda Al-Snabani, Arabic teacher: "I don't like cheating, as it is not of the Islamic view. However, giving a hints, not really the answer, is somehow acceptable," she said.

"At the end, the cheater deceives himself."

Mukhtar Al-Dubae, Mathematics teacher: "I think this phenomenon has been increasing and that is because there are no strict rules to prevent it. Most students resort to cheating as they intentionally ignore their subjects.

What helps students to cheat is when a supervisor is a woman who is known as gentle and won't give punishment. As a Mathematics teacher, I believe that students have no chance to cheat in examination of scientific subjects. Of course, students prefer objective tests, which enable them to cheat easily."

Fairoze, preschool teacher: "In my opinion, ignorance of teachers for their subjects is one of the primary reasons for cheating, as well as students lacking self-confidence," she said.

Hadi Al-Argi: Arabic teacher said "Cheating nowadays is different from our time. Students of these days leave the traditional ways behind. They have technology like mobiles, headsets and microcomputers that defiantly help them cheat." "Certainly, subjective test are more likely to be cheated in, and girls and boys are alike in their cheating techniques. However, because of the glorious outlook of our society on women, girls are seldom caught cheating, specially if the superintendent is a man," he added.

Redhwan Masoud: The head of students union-level 2 English department: "I don't cheat myself and I can hardly see students of university cheating with each other for applying

more strict rules. However, if the cheater has passed once, he will reach a special level where he cannot cheat any more. Even if he were lucky, he would graduate with an empty mind and as an unskillful person, then be a failing doctor or an unsuccessful teacher," he said. "In my opinion, we can arrange seminars through which we can give a lecture and advice to students about the risks of cheating that affect not only them but society."

Asma Al-Grade student-level 2 Quran department:

"I think that cheating is widespread among boys who waste their time and don't care about studies, forgetting the saying of our prophet that who has deceived us is not from our society," she said. "The family, mosque and educational system are responsible to stop this unacceptable behavior," she added.

Esam Al-Shaiab student level 4-English department said: "Cheating is less remarkable at university than lower schools, and among students who don't study hard. In my opinion, girls are more likely to cheat."

Emad Al-Salahi level 3 Chemistry department:

"All of us cheat during examinations, especially if the exam is objective in various ways. The problem is that most of students have not studied from the beginning of the year, and they came to be tested hoping that they can cheat. In addition, there is an extensive curriculum that we have to study, and there is ignorance among teachers when we ask them about a mysterious point in the subject. In such circumstances, I am in favor of cheating." "I think that girls have a chance to cheat more in a way, because no one can suspect them," he added.

Mohammed Al-Sanafi Islamic culture teacher:

"I hate cheating in whatever shape and type, as I myself was a victim. I have suffered from being a cheater and I was deprived from three subjects, he said. "There are many laboratories for coping that allow students to minimize the subject and make tiny papers. Boys

and girls are the same when they cheat. More cheating happens in the objective test. The best solution is the teacher and students should live with a conscience," he added.

Gamila al-Wadee, history and geography teacher:

"Of course, I am completely against cheating. Students who cheat feel so proud that they have tricked the observers," she said.

"These days when I ask one of my students why he has not answered a particular question, he answers frankly that he hasn't had a chance to cheat instead of saying he didn't have the chance to study well."

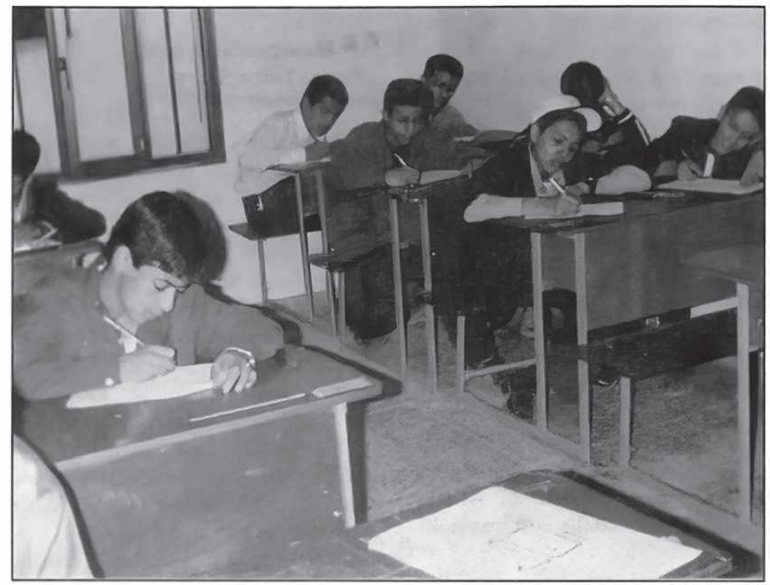
Abdu-al-Latif Abdullah the headmaster of Al-Ekleel school, said cheating has spread widely in recent years and in different educational levels. The main reasons are careless students and parents who do not keep contact continuously with their children's school and school work, he said.

"In my opinion boys are more likely to cheat as they enjoy playing outside and not paying attention to their studies, whereas girls are interested in their studies. We can solve this problem by asking parents to observe their children at home and keep a constant connection between school and home. Finally pay attention to the behavior of children."

At University
Ebtihag, Philosophy department level 3:

"There is no chance to cheat with each other as the students of our department are few. During examinations, one is far from another. I think the teacher himself forces students to cheat if he does not have a good relationship that makes students respect him and love his subject. In my opinion, boys are more likely to cheat as girls are shy and don't dare as much as boys."

Abd-Al-Ghani Al-Ahagri, a reader: "I have never practiced cheating, as I used to be smart student. Indeed, I have seen students who



used to cheat and ask clever ones to help them, whereas here in university, I haven't noticed that custom yet," he said. "In my opinion, these who try to cheat usually find difficulty to understand much very easily, and they cannot memorize easily. I think we have to give solutions."

Psychological view.
Dr. Saber Al-Zeibary, Educational psychology department:

He started with a saying from our prophet (P&BUH), that cheating is not from our Muslim community.

He defined cheating as a negative behavior that is common among students who are in different educational levels with various ways and means. "There is no harmony between a student's desire to get marks and his/her knowledgeable skills and abilities that can help him. As teachers and parents we have to face this phenomenon and lesson its dissemination," he said. "There needs to be recommendations and guidance for students about the risks of this psychological, sociable, and educational phenomenon which represents deviation that cannot be acceptable in any way."

Dr. Arwa Al-Nagger, Educational Psychology science department Sana'a University

She said it is a mistake to define

cheating as something that appears and then disappears. She said it's a pity it's such a widespread custom among our students. "We can prevent the rise of this custom from the beginning, i.e. from the personal life of child as the parents train him how to be honest and learn how to respect the law of Allah, who always watches him. The parents should plant the Islamic morals and principles in their child and make him understand that cheating equals stealing," she said.

"Those who love to cheat often do not love study or they love simplicity instead. Those students often have no confidence in their abilities and capabilities or the hard economic conditions that play an important role and which force some student to cheat in order to graduate as soon possible, to find a work and get a living. Thus a lot of unqualified and morally graduate students are allowed to destroy society instead of build it," she commented.

"Psychologically, cheaters are unbalanced, not confident, and less ambitious as people. On the other hand the students who don't cheat are right balanced, confident and ambitious people. Those who are found to be cheaters have to be punished, by depriving them not only of more than one or two subjects, but of studying for two years, as well. If they cheat again, they should be kept from entering Yemeni university," she recommended

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Women and political participation: Reviewing the Yemeni experience

BY KAREN DABRAWKA
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

Yemeni women may well be the most liberated, though not the most privileged women in the Arabian Peninsula.

That is the conclusion of Maria Holt who is currently completing a Ph.D. on the impact of violent conflict on women in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and Shia women in Lebanon.

She believes that the lack of democracy is the key to the political development of women in the Arab world. Far from being a homogeneous disempowered group, Arab women are democrats in search of a democratic structure.

Holt described the Republic of Yemen as an interesting case study in female political participation. Before the unification of the country in 1990, it comprised two independent states: the Yemen Arab Republic in the north and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen in the south, and they had very different records where women were concerned.

In south Yemen, the "struggle for the liberation of women was firmly embedded in the struggle for national independence". After independence from Britain in 1967, a radical Marxist-socialist regime provided women with rights unprecedented in the Arab world, including the right to

participate in the political system and the right to become judges.

In the north on the other hand, although the 1962 revolution provided a new constitution giving equal rights to all citizens, male and female, "there has always been a deep rift between what was decided and announced and what was put into reality and practice".

When the two countries united, the laws and customs of the more power-

ful Yemen is over 90 percent. The "typical Yemen girl invests most of her strength in daily chores and there remains no time to complete even the most basic level of formal education.

In the first general election held in unified Yemen in April 1993, less than 500,000 between 16 and 20 percent of eligible women registered to vote, as compared to over two million men (87 percent).



ful north tended to dominate. There were no women on the post-unification five-member Presidential Council, and none served in ministerial positions.

However, in the 301-member transitional parliament, there were ten women. Part of the reason for the absence of women in decision-making positions is, first, their relative lack of access to education; and, second, the so-called "traditional" attitudes of Yemeni society. Female illiteracy in

Women's participation in the election was "heavily influenced by the politico-religious interpretation of the Islamists. Most other political parties did not agree with their interpretation but they failed to take a clear stand and oppose this politicized Islamic interpretation. A total of 50 women, mostly university-educated independents, campaigned for office. The Yemeni Socialist Party (YSP), which had formerly governed southern Yemen, sup-

ported a number of women candidates, and, of these, two won seats in the 1993/94 parliament.

Holt concludes that for democracy to flourish in Yemen there needs to be a change of attitudes. The liberation of women, according to one commentator, "is a continuing battle to break the strength of age-old traditions, ultimately abolishing the logic of a men-only society. At the same time, although relatively "old-fashioned" when compared to women in some other parts of the Arab world and constrained by patriarchal social structures Yemeni women play at least a token role in contemporary political and economic life. They may well be the most liberated, though not the most privileged women in the Arabian Peninsula.

For politics to undergo a genuine transformation, both in Britain and the Arab world, a number of steps are necessary. First, through education and the introduction of more realistic role models for boys and girls, societal attitudes must be persuaded to change and to move away from an automatic linkage of men with the public and political sphere and women with the private and domestic sphere. Second, political parties must be encouraged to play a role in putting forward women candidates in winnable seats. Third, women's concerns and policy priorities must be accorded legitimacy.

The Pakistani vision

Mubarak Shah
For the Yemen Times

Some March 23, and the Pakistanis will be wondering if they have lived up to the vision that inspired the birth of an independent and sovereign homeland for them.

On this day in 1940, British India's Muslim leaders had at a convention in Lahore, now capital of Pakistan's Punjab province, formally demanded a separate state comprising its Muslim-majority areas.

Their demand was not religious per se. Nor was it aimed at creating a theocratic state. A sizable section of Muslim clerics had indeed opposed it.

The demand was rooted in compelling ground realities and the Muslim community's bitter experience of the preponderant Hindu majority, more well-off and were dominating trade and businesses. They also had a decisive presence in the administration and services.

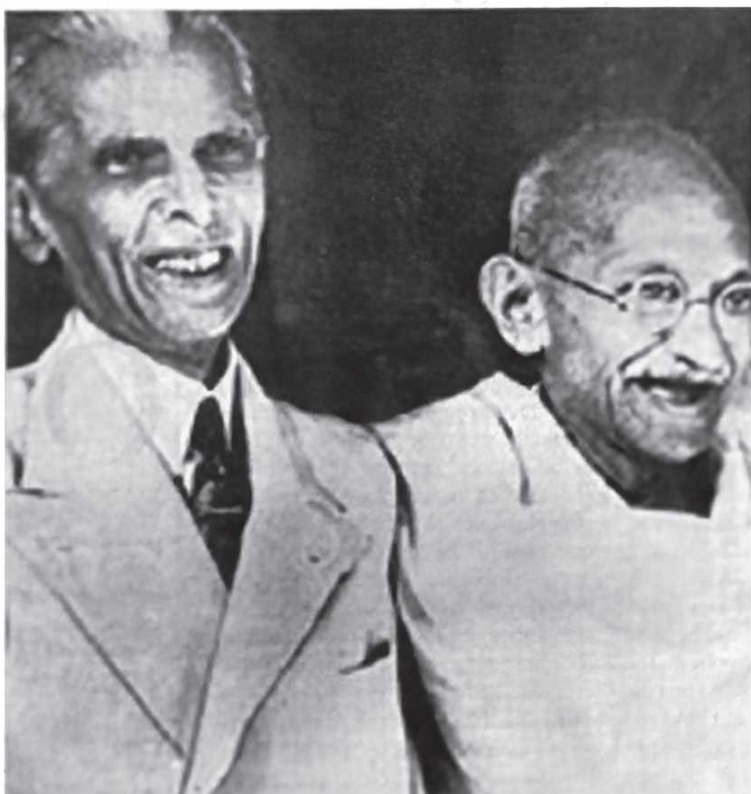
The Muslims feared once the British were gone after freeing their colony, the Hindus would exploit these advantages to submerge them politically, socially, economically and culturally to the extinction of their distinct identity.

No less had their fear to do with the deep-seated Hindu anger over the 800-year Muslim rule on India before its enslavement by the British in the mid-19th century and open threats of rapid Hindu organizations to avenge it.

The Muslims' apprehensions were particularly intensified by the Hindu-dominated Congress party's unwillingness to allow them due respect and role in various dispensations under the limited home-rule granted to the natives by the Raj in the 1930s.

Disillusioned

This drove to disillusionment even those Muslims who once believed the two communities could co-exist as a free nation. Among them was Pakistan's founder, Mohammed Ali Jinnah, who indeed had made his debut in politics with the Congress and had come to be popularly acclaimed as the "Ambassador of Hindu-Muslim Unity"



Jinnah and Ghandi

for his espousal of national unity.

As the Congress grew increasingly aggressive and arrogant in asserting the Hindu majority power, so did mount the Muslim disillusionment immutably. The demand for a separate Muslim state became inevitable.

But the Pakistan envisioned at the Lahore convention was to be a liberal, tolerant, forward-looking, democratic Muslim state where every citizen would have equal rights and freedoms, irrespective of caste, creed of faith.

And when it came into being in 1974, it did start off like that. Though its wobbly march towards democracy got derailed in 1958 when its military commander Ayub Khan took over in a coup to rule the country for the next decade, yet religious tolerance, moderation and sectarian harmony prevailed all through and largely endured for many more years.

It was in the 1980s that this order gave way to President Ziaul Haq's political ambitions and Washington's anti-Soviet objectives in Afghanistan and religiosity began gaining ascen-

dancy in the country.

The religious card

After failing to win popular support for his military rule, Zia chose the religious card to cultivate the clerical orders as his constituency. In the process, he blew away the prevalent religious tolerance and sectarian harmony from the country and dealt a serious blow to the status of minorities with measures like separate electorate system for them.

In this religious radicalization of Pakistan, the Americans had a big hand. Apart from recruiting Muslim zealots from all over the world, the CIA helped set up, with American money and petrodollars, several thousands of religious schools and seminaries in Pakistan to turn out fanatics for fighting the Soviets in Afghanistan.

As the CIA-supplied arms to the fighters had been ploughing back to Pakistan in quantities, illegal weapons flooded it to become a center of scary gun culture as well.

Worse, a minuscule minority of

fanatics, armed to the teeth, reduced its predominantly moderate polity to a hostage to their extremist agenda.

Yet, even as spiraling religious extremism and sectarian violence were scaring away the pressing-needed investment for reviving the country's sagged economy, none of the Zia's democratic civilian successors ventured to tame the wild fanatical forces either. Instead, they often shook hands with clerical orders for power games.

The country's present military ruler, General Pervez Musharraf, however, vows to return it to its erstwhile religious moderation.

Last year, on August, 14, Pakistan's independence day, he warned his compatriots that the things had to change, not only because they were eating into the nation's vitals but also because they were isolating the country internationally. He banned two rabid sectarian outfits and put another two politico-religious parties on the watch list.

Big changes

On January 12, he declared in a major policy statement that he would bring Pakistan bank to its founder's vision as a moderate, progressive and forward-looking Muslim state. He outlawed three religio-political parties and two extremists groups; scrapped the separate electorate system for minorities; and announced radical reforms for religious schools including drastic revision of their curricula to suck them in the mainstream educational system.

But he is up against heavy odds, the extremists are presently lying low for being humbled by the humiliating rout of their comrades-in-arms in Afghanistan, the Taliban and al-Qaeda fighters. They may try a comeback if the conditions are propitious.

That's where lies the General's biggest advantage. With their violence, bloodletting and religiosity, the extremist have alienated the masses irreversibly. He can bank on their support for curbing religious extremism to return the nation to the ways of moderation and modernity.

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Confederation of Indian Clubs and Associations (CICA)

For the kind attention of Indian Nationals and Persons of Indian Origin (Indian Community) in the Republic of Yemen

Dear Fellows,

As you are aware, there are some buildings and temples of Indian affiliation in Aden which at present are being managed by the Ministry of Awqaf and Guidance in the Republic of Yemen, and by the Indian Community in Aden. One of them is a Crematorium which has been and is being used for disposal of the mortal remains of the dead. At present, it is in dilapidated condition and requires repairs as well as some additional facilities for the visitors / mourners. For this purpose, we need funds. A coordinating body named as Confederation of Indian Clubs and Associations (CICA) has been formed to coordinate among the Indian community as and when such a need arises for the welfare of Indians in Yemen with the implied presumption that all the Indian Clubs and Associations in Yemen have become the Members of CICA automatically. To begin with, the following are the office bearers of CICA:

1. Prof. Damodar Thakur, President, Tel: 234324, Email: DTHAKUR@v.net.ye
2. Mr. Abdul Rehman, Treasurer, Tel: 73242487 (Mobile), Fax: 415686
3. Shri Biji R. Pillai, Secretary, Tel: 73813532 (Mobile)

You are kindly requested to approach the Club/Association of which you are the member to make your contribution for this noble cause, who will later hand over the collected fund to CICA. It may kindly be kept in mind that we have a very limited period to undertake the above mentioned job. For any clarification, you may kindly contact any of the office bearers of CICA.

President

Confederation of Indian Clubs and Associations (CICA)

Tulip School workshop:

New math, new technology

Yasser Al-Mayasi
Yemen Times Staff

The need for more computers and updated curriculum in classrooms of math students across Yemen was stressed during a math workshop.

During a workshop in reshaping mathematics using technology, held at Zaid al-Musheki School April 1 to 3, Stephen Johnson, workshop presenter and Tulip School Consultant, noted that math and society have both changed.

Mr. Stephen noted the rapid development of calculator and computer technology is putting the greatest pressure on the traditional mathematics curriculum.

Most of the techniques currently being taught are now built into handheld calculator.

The calculator can simplify an equation, solve an equation or graph an equation simply by pushing few buttons.

The availability of these tools means less time is needed for teaching paper and pencil techniques and more time is made available for students to work on practical applications of mathematics.

This workshop featured hands-on experience with both computers and graphical calculators, which connect to computers.

Teachers of mathematics practice using computer software especially created to help teach mathematics.

Also, the participants practiced using software not created specially for teaching, but more broadly based



mathematical software.

Part of the workshop involved group discussions of the pros and cons of using calculators and computers in the mathematics classroom.

Participants are asked to write their opinions on this topic and also to write a lesson plan that teaches a mathematical topic using technology.

Certificates of appreciation are awarded at the end of the workshop.

Johnson has taught mathematics and computers at either the secondary or the university level in eight different countries. He has presented similar seminars and workshops in the United States, Kenya, Greece and India.

The workshop was attended by the General Manager of Education Office, Stephen Johnson, the workshop presenter, Ali Alkumaim, the General Director of the Local Council at Assabaeen area, Ahmed al-Haifi and the Principal of Zaid al-Musheki School, Khaled al-Ashbat.

Feed back from the participants was very positive:

* In general the participants were pleased to become aware of technolo-

gy and new methods of teaching, and the world is becoming more technical so the student should be knowledgeable of this technology.

* Participants agreed that faster learning is possible, and more accurate results can be produced using computers.

* Students can work on more advanced problems which they couldn't solve before by using papers and pencils.

*Some participants thought that traditional method are necessary because they don't expect the technology to be available in their class rooms.

Tulip School is a growing educational institute that survive to improve its pedagogical methods in training skills for teachers in both private and public schools.

The Principal at Tulip School Mrs. Eman Mashhour has emphasized that this workshop is a part of seminars which are going to be held throughout the year. The schools responded positively. There were 29 participants from different schools and different nationalities.

تهانينا «رامي»

أجمل التعاني والتبركات مكللة بأريج
القل والياسميه نرفها للأخ /

رامي عبد الجليل ثابت

بمناسبة زفافه الميمون،

فألف مبروك، وعقبى للبكاري..

المعنون:
الاستاذ / عبد الوهاب ثابت، الاستاذ / وليد عبد العزيز السقاف،
الاستاذ / عبد السلام ثابت، الاستاذ / عبد الجبار ثابت،
الاستاذ / باسل عبد السلام، محمد عبد الرحمن، وكافة الموظفين
في «يمن تايمز» ومجموعة شركات اخوان ثابت.

Words of Wisdom



These days, people routinely, talk about the relationship between sovereignty and human rights. That is because there is a rising level of world intervention against regimes oppressing their people. Basically, what is happening is that the concepts of territorial integrity and political sovereignty are now given second place to human rights considerations.

Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf, (1951-1999)
Founder of Yemen Times

What should Arab leaders say to Collin Powell?



Saadi Salama
Palestinian Diplomat
in Sana'a

Finally, the American Secretary of State Mr. Powell is arriving at the region. That's due to the strong public and official pressures from the international community on the American administration to convince the Israeli side to withdraw from the Palestinian territories in accordance with the United Nations Security Council resolution 1402. Wherever Mr. Powell goes in the region, he should listen to a single voice from the Arab leaders.

Withdrawal of the Israeli occupation means exiting totally from all the cities, villages and refugee camps and their surroundings, to the position of September 28th 2000, the date when Sharon put the gas on fair by visiting the Holy Al-Aqsa mosque in Jerusalem. An unconditioned withdrawal and not another deceptive redeployment is what is needed.

Otherwise the USA visit would be another deception, merely to absorb the Arabic street's rage towards the USA administration for its soft policy towards Israel, or to please the Arab Leaders who apparently seem to be as angry as their nations to what has happened to the Palestinians, that is the wild barbaric terror of massacres.

Powell's welcoming to Sharon's declaration of the withdrawal is not considered as progress in the American administration policy towards the Palestinians. These are lies to deceive the Israelis, the world and especially American public opinion, the American administration that initially have approved all of his

actions to the finest details.

Every time the administration says that it will help the Palestinians, we become shocked. How are we supposed to understand this position while the Israeli forces are slaying the Palestinian in Jenin, Nablus, and their refugee camps, while the American administration stands aside watching without an eye blink, providing Sharon with the needed time to terminate as many Palestinians as he can?

Despite his comments, considering the Israeli withdrawal in Qalqilya and Tulkarem as sufficient, Mr. Powell never commented on the Israeli invasion to the other areas in Hebron, Nablus, Jenin, and Ramallah.

The Palestinians think that the leaders, that are to meet with the USA Secretary of State Mr. Powell should argue with him and have long discussions about the unfair stand of American policy. The USA minister should understand that the Arab public can trust the USA and become a very loyal ally, providing equity in US policy towards them, and providing ending the Israeli terror against them, and not to attempt bending and humiliating the Palestinian and calling their legitimate struggle as terror while harboring the Israeli terror the last occupying terror on earth.

The Arab leaders should tell the USA minister what he should hear. He is not the High Commissioner of Palestine, he is the foreign minister of a super power country that considers itself as the head of the democratic world, and the protector of the foundations of the democracy and freedom. Aren't the Palestinian struggling to get their independence and freedom on equal footing with others?

Once and for all the minister should hear that the American administration policy in the region is catastrophic,

unfair, abuses one party for the benefit of the other, and he should understand that such a policy does not benefit the America itself and against its interest in the Middle East. He should also understand that the mysterious and soft language towards Israel does not appeal to the Arab world, thus it does not oblige them, and therefore they do not accept it and what ever will be could be!!

There must be one Arab leader that dares to say what should be said, this is not a political suicide, it is the right and wise thing to do. In the past, the Intifada taught the world the meaning of the rock as a weapon, and now the sacrifices should teach the world another lesson in struggle overcoming the weakness to triumph against the soul enslaves.

The current tragedy reminds us with the previous "Nakba" of 1948, for the similarity in the losses of life and for the conspiracies against us, a conspiracy that everyone shares.

It is the interest of the Arab Leaders with their people, especially the Palestinian with their civilians, fighters, and defenders in the Jenin Refugee Camp, Nablus, Balata, Ramallah, Hebron, Bethlehem and elsewhere, to make Powell hear what he hasn't expected and what he is not used to hear, while approaching the area carrying in his basket a bouquet of warnings and threats to the Arab especially the Palestinian and waving his favoring to Israel covering for its aggression and attacks.

Mr. Powell should say inside Israel and to the Israeli Prime Minister Sharon that he must withdraw now and completely and without no further delay from all the Palestinian lands and not only from Qalqilya and Tulkarem while maintaining the closure on them.

The Arab Leaders have nothing to lose.

COMMON SENSE



Hassan Al-Haifi

Deception of power

Over the last two weeks, the world has been witness to the type of atrocity seen in only the worst of human history. A people without arms, without a state and without hope have been victimized by an ugly Zionist machine that has deceived not only its enemies but its friends. It is unbelievable that the international community can let a bunch of hooligans, of the likes of Ariel Sharon, make a mockery of the whole world. This includes showing contempt for even the words of the President of the United States, who is perhaps the only friend they have left in this world.

These Zionist hooligans continue to believe that everyone is stupid and that they can rely on this stupidity to carry out their aggression. The worst part is the ease by which they take advantage of their friends' misguided emotions and use political arm twisting to influence even the policies of their sponsors, who seem to stand by helpless amidst the continuing arrogance of Ariel Sharon.

For decades now the international Zionist establishment has thrived by lying and lying and lying to the point that the truth has become only meaningful if it relies on mischief and misguided sentiment.

Despite the fact that Israel has been unleashing a campaign of continuous terror and human rights violations, Ariel Sharon and his clique continue to try to persuade us that they are a bona fide member of "the free world" and the democracies of the world. In fact, they insist that whatever it is they are doing is in order to uphold the West and Western civilization.

However, we have seen how the Zionist machine of destruction has killed scores of innocent and unarmed civilians needlessly in a campaign that might have easily been undertaken by a police force, if we can assume that the campaign has its justifications, which it really doesn't have. Thus up to 1,000 mostly unarmed Palestinians have lost their lives, many of whom were left to bleed to death because the symbol of Western culture does not allow ambulances to come and pick up the wounded. What mockery of human justice is this? Where is the Geneva Convention, and all the conventions and treaties that govern the treatment of civilian populations during the war, if we can assume that there is a war at play. The fact of the matter is that the Zionists are trying to implement a long ago planned campaign of ethnic cleansing to complete their Zionist program of turning the Holy Land into a Jewish Island. Even the Church of the Nativity is not spared the cruelty and contempt that Zionist demagogues have for other religions.

The disturbing element in all this is that the Zionists can lie to the point that they think everyone else in the world is stupid. Here is a case in point. A few days ago the Mayor of West Jerusalem, Ehud Molbert had the audacity to tell the whole world that Jerusalem does not mean anything to the Moslems of the world and that Jerusalem was the capital for Jews only throughout its history. Furthermore, he went on to show disrespect to the Muslim world by saying Jerusalem is not even mentioned in the Quran!

The truth is that Jerusalem is significant to the Moslems because it was the focal point, to which Moslems turned to pray, before they were ordered to turn to the Grande Mosque in Mecca, which was originally built by the patriarch of both the Arabs and the Jews, the Prophet Ibrahim (PAUH)! On the other hand, the Mayor of Jerusalem forgot that we revere their Prophets and Messengers more than they do, for King David and King Solomon are also prophets of Islam. The Quran does indeed cite the name of the Al-Aqsa Mosque, in Jerusalem on a number of occasions and refers to Jerusalem indirectly in several verses. I leave the Mayor of Jerusalem to look them up by picking a properly translated version of the Quran that has not been smeared by Zionist manipulators, who are working diligently to distort all the cultural references that do not suit their chauvinistic and arrogant whims.

OUR OPINION

When Arab leaders become a disgrace

I have received well over 50 messages from our readers, mostly Americans, responding to my last week's editorial concerning what has gone wrong with the "American way". I can confidently say that the response of American as well as Arab readers resulted in a common conclusion that their silence and hesitant condemnation of the massacres that are continuing, Arab leaders have disgraced all Arabs and Muslims.

The unfortunate reality here is that the American administration, European leaders, and others will not act in defense of the Palestinians if Arab leaders themselves are not doing so.

Hence, the problem may not lie in the American way, but rather in our own leaders. As one of the readers said, "We cannot just blame the USA for everything while your oppressive regimes in our own countries are supporting the US stance directly by selling them our countries' oil and purchasing their products, and indirectly by silencing any voices that come against the USA or Israel."

Another reader said, "I just wish that those angry demonstrations would leave the US and Western embassies and instead march to the luxurious palaces of those disgraceful Arab leaders."

It is true that the USA is assisting Israel, encouraging it to commit the massacres that we see and hear. But as another reader said, "Before we fight the external enemy, we must fight those Arab leaders who are the enemy within. Those individuals are working their best to oppress their people and secure their selfish interests even if that means jeopardizing the Palestinian cause."

The problem is complex. Nevertheless, the solution is straightforward. We need to change our interior before we start changing the exterior.

The solution does not lie in convincing the USA to stop its support to Israel. It starts from forcing our leaders to support their nations' demands. Our leaders are now in a critical situation. They should either fulfill their people's demands, including cutting off all links with Israel and its supporters, or face long-term consequences of worsening conditions in the occupied territories. Many of those leaders are beginning to feel the danger of possible loss of power. One cannot rule out the possibilities of a second independence from the dictatorships of certain Arab leaderships.

Arab leaders may continue to take their negative stance towards what is happening in the Middle East. They may continue to oppress their people and eliminate whoever wants to bring change. But anger is mounting and change is coming. The threat for those leaders is growing by the day, and if they continue to let their people down and become a disgrace in our recent history, then they may well be ultimately removed.

If there is anything to thank Sharon for, then it would be for waking us up and opening our eyes to the reality that we have ignored for so long. We have been living under the rule of many Arab leaders who did not deserve to take charge of our countries. We have now found out that they are one of the reasons of our backwardness and vulnerability. We are now in a time when most Arab leaders have become a disgrace to our nations. This is after years of illusion, believing that they were our source of pride. Now we know they are not!

The Editor

Where nature is killed

Mayasa Mohammed Gawad Taiz

Some people live sweet dreams, enjoying the many colors under the sun, the blue sky, and the green grass. However, there are some others who see only dreadful nightmares. They, the Palestinians, see their own blood cover the streets.

The sound of guns turns smiles into tears. They cover the feelings of parents who prefer to sacrifice themselves for their children. These guns enjoy killing the little boy's dreams of sleeping peacefully and playing with friends. They kill his future. The hard sounds of bombs replace pure natural sounds.

Buildings become no more than a mix of dust and stones. Consequently, all colors remain one - black.

Yet, hope is still there in Palestine to mend the hearts broken by pain, and to announce tomorrow is another day - a beginning of a new life. These people believe the nightmare they see, will surely come to an end, and life will continue to go on.

They wish one day they will enjoy a life full of colors covering both the sky and the land. It is their right. Is it not?

Yemen's war on terror

Abdullah al-Kidd abujilani@yahoo.com

This letter is to express my deep sadness at the current situation in Yemen in regards to the "War on Terror".

In the past weeks we have read reports of various students of Islamic knowledge being arrested and deported under the suspicion that they are connected with al-Qaeda. In reality there is no real proof of these allegations and their only real fault is that some of these students did not have valid status to be in Yemen. Prior to September 11th, there had been students coming from all over the world to study under Yemen's great Islamic scholars and teachers and there has been no problem. From pressure or fear from the U.S., Yemen has not really attacked terrorism, but has attacked the growth and spread of Islamic knowledge. In short, it is an attack against Islam and it is sanctioned by the Yemeni government.

On a personal level, I have been arrested for no reason other than that I am a foreign Muslim. Ironically, I happen to be an American. During my arrest, I told one of the arresting officers that "If I was a non-Muslim American we wouldn't be going

through this process" and he told me that I was right, again, confirming that this is a war against any and all foreign Muslims. They even tortured me continuously with the handcuffs. I told them that the handcuffs were too tight. They said, "O.k. you donkey I'll make it tighter" and made it tighter. He did this three times until I had cuts on my wrists that were bleeding and my wrists began to swell very bad. It is very evident that now I have nerve damage because I have lost some of the feeling in my left hand. In addition, I was interrogated for about four hours; they never once asked me about terrorism. To me it was clear this is not about terrorism; this is about foreign Muslims being in Yemen. Currently, there are several foreign Muslims in the jails of Yemen and many are innocent; guilty of only their love for Islam and their love for Yemen.

To conclude, I would like to say that I love Yemen and its people, but from the recent events I can't stay in this country and I have no intention of coming back in the future. To see Muslims fight against innocent Muslims is sad. We shouldn't be surprised when we see weakening of our Nation and the killing of our brothers and sisters because we are our own worst enemy!

Letters to the Editor

Tribes must come together

Although our government has taken great steps towards settling the long enmity among tribes to live as one family, still do we feel tribes are not able to sort out their hatred against one another?

In fact this ongoing situation breeds more hatred. We need the tribes to come together and forget the past and try to build a new Yemen for the next generation.

Younes Ibrahim Essa younessa@hotmail.com

innocent people's lives just as we don't believe in the raising of children to go out and blow themselves up for a "cause".

Do you think for one minute that anyone will have sympathy for a people who act with nothing else but terrorism and aggression simply because they believe so strongly in a religion which has so many variations that no-one can understand?

I think once Palestine is willing to eliminate the terrorist threat, they may successfully seek international assistance.

Broward Builder BrowardBuilder@aol.com

Re: "American Way" editorial
Yes, we Americans do stand by our government. However, we do not condone what is happening in Israel and Palestine.
We don't believe in destruction of

Stop lecturing to Americans
My first contact with the YT was an on-line reading of your April 8-14

issue. I have no comment to make except that your editor, who is not an American, should refrain from lecturing Americans on the "American way". American citizenry is by no means a monolithic group blindly following its government. Also, we do not support everything done by Israelis or condemn everything done by Arabs. Thank you.

M S Daniels Calidus7@aol.com

About the 'American Way'

I enjoy reading your online paper weekly, and really appreciate it and the perspectives it gives. In reply to your "American Way" column, I am a true patriotic American. I love my country, and the freedoms it allows. I try to stand beside the government of my country, though not always do I agree. Many decisions our government makes are not always the opinion of the majority. I do not think that

what you described is the "American Way." But neither do I think that terrorists strapping bombs to themselves and taking their own lives, as well as innocent lives of others, is the "American Way" either.

Choppy T Choppy48@aol.com

Enough is enough

I know it is a shame the people of the world can't get along with each other, but we all have to try. Stop, stop all the killing and hate, it really gets us no place. Don't hurt them and they won't hurt you. Draw a line and stay with it. Is it really worth the life of your son or mine. Not to me.

David Kenney kenney@clover.net

Arab leaders and lost hope

As an Arab-American, a Yemeni-American to be exact, I see what is going on in Palestine today, and that

makes me feel angry at our Arab leaders. They have the means to stop the Israeli aggression against the rightful owners of Palestine (Palestinians).

At least they have the power to pressure the main supporter of Israel, the United States. From what it looks like, the Egyptian and Jordanian leaders seem to be more concerned with the aid that they are getting from the United States than they are about the daily killing of the Palestinian by the terrorist Israeli soldiers. On the other hand Gulf States are more concerned about the prices of oil and about how much money they have made from their investment in the European and American stock markets. This is disgusting. The Arabs are fighting themselves. They should unite against Israel.

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Powell's mission and the 'Palestinian Masada'

DAILY STAR
LEBANON

US Secretary of State Colin Powell mouthed some refreshing words on Tuesday, repeatedly stressing President George W. Bush's support for Palestinian independence and declaring that America was prepared to send observers to the region. His own words, however, were ample evidence of the urgent need for Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon to pull his forces out of the Occupied Territories and for Washington to act with alacrity as soon as - and even before - he does.

Powell acknowledged, for instance, that it should not be expected that the "suicide bombings" which prompted the Israeli attack will not resume.

Washington must do more, however, than tacitly recognize the counterproductive nature of Sharon's brutality: It must work quickly to address the conditions that ignited the intifada in the first place.

Stop provoking militants

First and foremost, that means changing the behavior of the Israeli government so that it stops provoking Palestinian militants and allowing them a veto over a resumption of the peace process. In addition, a drastic departure from previous negotiating strategies must be adopted: no more delays to allow for the settling of "difficult issues" at some indeterminate point in the future of a people whose entire recent past has been spent waiting. Further unnecessary stalling on the implementation of both existing inter-

im agreements and international law can only heighten tension.

As has been publicly stated by several leading figures in the international community, the elements of an Israeli-Palestinian final-status accord have already been established. They are not perfect and will displease a great many people on both sides, but their eventual adoption as the vehicle for a new era in the Middle East is not in doubt. What remains to be seen is whether an agreement can be signed and implemented before additional crises lead to even more years in which the only things Israelis and Palestinians have in common are death and the fear thereof.

Several Israeli Army officers have been quoted as likening the campaign's most heated battle, that at the Jenin refugee camp, to the Romans' siege of Masada in 74 AD. At Masada, some 1,000 Jews are said to have held out for three years before choosing collective suicide over surrender.

Willing to sacrifice

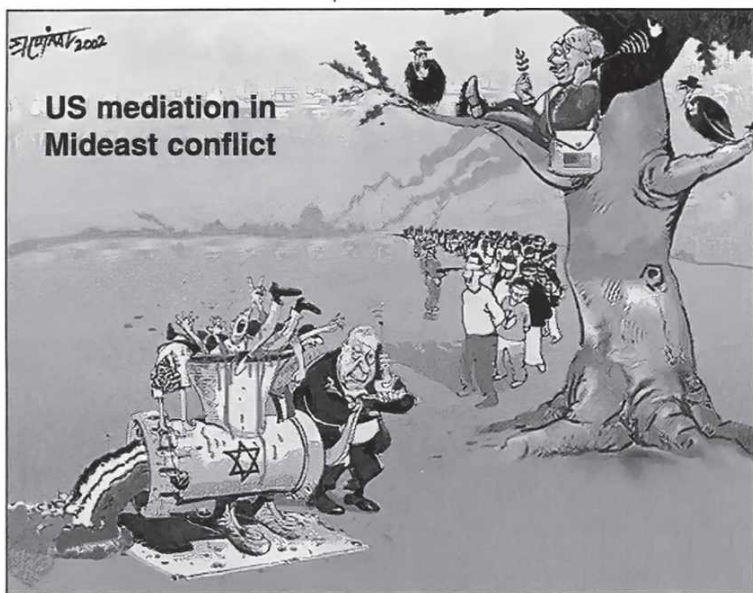
The Palestinian fighters at Jenin have yet to reach that point, but their willingness to sacrifice themselves for their people has already been made clear. Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres is reported to privately describe the carnage at Jenin as "a massacre" whose details will inevitably emerge and "do us immense damage" in the eyes of the world. Even before the diplomatic storm, however, Israelis have already paid a heavy price for their government's determination to overcome resistance in Jenin. And still Sharon insists that his offensive will continue until all Palestinian militias have been crushed.

Powell served two tours of duty with

SKETCHED OPINION



BY: SAMER A.



Courtesy: Al-Jazeera Channel

America: Joke-Free Zone!

Barbara Ehrenreich*

I must fit the profile, because this is the third time in one day I've been selected for a search. It was hard enough getting through the metal detector while gripping my driver's license and boarding pass between my teeth and carrying two books under my arm, a submarine sandwich, and The New York Times. Now I'm herded over to the special search line with the other terrorist suspects — an eighty-year-old man and a woman struggling to get her six-month-old out of its Snuggly for the diaper inspection. I would like to point out that the 4:23 commuter flight to Cincinnati is unlikely to be a strategic Al Qaeda target. But this could be taken as a "joke," and I am well within the joke-free zone known as Security or, more generally, as America in 2002.

Now I am wanded, head to toe, by a wizened woman who wears her ID badge like a Purple Heart. She wants to know about the chemical composition of my brassiere, which I assure her contains nothing metallic. How long, I'm wondering, before the wearers of Miracle Bras are forced to remove their metal underwires and let them ride through the X-ray machine in the little basket that carries keys and loose coins? I have to take off my shoes, which, I notice with horror, are thickly crusted with a substance that may resemble gunpowder but is, in fact, dried lemonade from an unfortunate spill at Sbarro's.

Embarrassing items?

I try to recall what potentially embarrassing items my suitcase may contain — a pocket copy of the Koran, for example, my favorite Mahmoud Ahmed CD (he was Ethiopian, but the name's a problem), the flight plan for our tiny turbo-prop, a collection of rubber toys? Finally a fuzzy brush is produced to check for traces of explosives, although I can think of many innocent ways one might acquire a few explosive traces here and there. Like if you work at an explosives factory or for a demolitions firm. Or suppose you had gotten into one of the lawn border disputes that so plague our suburbs, and had been preparing some TNT to surprise the neighbors with. But the security team is more interested in my nail clipper — the second one I've had confiscated in a week, at \$1.29 a pop.

Whatever happened to racial profiling? is my thought, and, Where is white skin privilege when I need it? But I restrict myself to a thin grimace directed at my fellow searchees. "Well, I'm glad they're doing such a thorough job!" responds the woman, as she stuffs the screaming baby back into its Snuggly. I'm not at all reassured by the searches — for the simple reason that, if they're searching me, they're not searching someone else.

What would make me feel better about flying? For one thing, I'd like to turn the tables.

Instead of being grilled about my lin-

gerie, I would get to grill the CEO of the airline about the salaries of the mechanics, the amount budgeted for repairs, and whether he has begun selling off his shares of the company's stock. I have a few questions for the pilot, too: Is he going through a divorce or bankruptcy proceeding at the moment? Would he fly in this weather if his children were on board?

Sure, terrorism is a problem, but I have a plan for that, too. First, secure that cockpit door — really secure it — so the occasional deranged passenger can't kick his way in, forcing the pilots to look away from the controls while they attempt to ax him to death. Second, on the foreign policy front, how about dumping Sharon — Ariel, that is? For decades I have held my tongue on all things Middle East-related, for fear of offending either side. But cozying up to the butcher of Sabra and Shatila, while poooh-pooing Arafat, can only be regarded as a provocation.

Stop name-calling

Yes, there's a great deal our President could do to upgrade airport security. He might, for example, stop calling other nations "evil." The word is a conversation-stopper, implying incomprehensible malice. Why not say "wrongheaded" or even "naughty," and leave open the possibility of reform? Maybe I'm sensitive on this point, but I tend to take it personally when a million Iranians gather in Teheran to shout "Death to America!" And while we're fussing about semantics, I beg the President to refrain from referring to the residents of Pakistan as "Pakis." Maybe you mean it as an affectionate nickname — like calling corpo-terrorist Lay "Kenny Boy" — but it doesn't play well in Peshawar.

Then, too, the President could advance the war on terrorism decisively by doing something to ease the global inequities that serve as a breeding ground for murderous resentment. I'm not saying that Barbara and Jenna have to join the Ruckus Society and start attending anti-globalization demos — only that their dad should consider abolishing the Third World debt and abandoning so-called free trade. A high price to pay for airport security, you say? Not if you're a passenger standing by guiltily as your underwear is exposed to the assembled masses.

In a videotaped interview released in December, Osama bin Laden averred that terrorism would lead Americans into an "unbearable hell and a choking life." Darned if he hasn't succeeded.

It would be so easy to adopt my anti-terrorism foreign policy, but I know the authorities are far more likely to introduce body cavity searches than rein in corporate capitalist world domination. That's where I personally will draw the line. When they start hiring gynecologists and proctologists to do airport security, I'm going to pass on Cincinnati.

Barbara Ehrenreich is a columnist for The Progressive and the author of "Nickel and Dimed: Not Getting By in America"

Better bridge the divide, fast

BY RAMZI E. KHOURY
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

The end of March and start of April 2002 marks the time when the Arab leaders find themselves under the burden of the mother of all tests: true Pan-Arab unification but only in humiliation before their own people and the rest of the world from friend to foe.

Whilst the Arab people took to the streets and satellite stations to curse their leaders' weakness and inability to lift a middle finger in the face of Ariel Sharon, the world was wondering in a loud voice: is it possible that the Arabs are going to sit it out? Yes, obviously it is possible.

Of course the regimes feel the least secure ever on the internal level, knowing well that the gap between themselves and their people has become so great it endangers the stability of every state and only gets worse by the minute.

The position of Europe vis-a-vis what Israel is doing to the Arabs in Palestine is more advanced than that of Arab governments. A good example of this is the decision of the Belgium Parliament to cut ties with Israel when two Arab states have kept Israeli embassies open and a third left a representative office intact. From this angle, it looks like the divide between North and South that is being worked on is easier to bridge than the divide between Arab governments and their people. Governments are unsure how to handle this divide other than let loose their armed forces with clubs and tear gas onto the streets of frustration and anger. Obviously, the governments are pretty strong and able that way, but only so far.

Moreover, their ability to deal with the rest of the world as sovereign states with power and self-determination is hindered by the story they have had to tell as an excuse for not lifting a finger to help the Palestinians in their plight; we are too weak to do anything. How will the Arabs deal with Turkey over water in the future, or secure the gulf from a possible Iranian hostile action? What is the use of telling America that all Arab states reject an attack on Iraq

or any other Arab country, whilst they obviously will do nothing about it when it happens?

The fact that Arab leaders sat watching Yasser Arafat, supposedly one of them, while real danger threatened his life says only one thing: they are unable to defend themselves in dignity and deed, mind you their people and the rights of the Arab nation. If Saddam Hussein in Iraq is hopeful that the Arabs will move a finger to help him out when the end is knocking on the door, he must believe that the door to heaven is the one that leads to his office in Baghdad.

Ignoring the world

This Middle East of "bravery and hundreds of historic victories" is now void from champions but for two: Yasser Arafat and Ariel Sharon. Both men are keeping one another hostage, seemingly ignoring the rest of the world as it stands today, with their fists up in the air and their middle fingers as their national flag.

Only it is expected of Sharon as a war criminal and cold-blooded murderer to be pretty brave especially with his top-notch war machine of destruction and carnage that he is using against an unarmed civilian nation. Arafat, however, happens to be an Arab leader just like the others, only he is fighting for freedom with his bare chest without giving up an ounce of Palestinian rights, truly willing to die for the cause and having faith his cause would prevail whether he is dead or alive.

This has fished Arafat out of his brothers' pool of leadership and placed him in a position that every other leader cannot but envy. He has become the only Arab symbol of leadership representing the sentiments of the Arab masses; the absolute majority of over 300 million spread all over this Arab World full of tears and frustration. Arafat has become a symbol of Arab hope.

No more can anyone accuse the swift leader of political games combined with defiance of being a traitor. No more can the Arab leaders of ardent slogans complain that he is the one who undermined the legitimate rights of the people through negotiations and security meetings with the enemy. No

longer can anyone point a finger at Arafat without bowing his head in respect. This is how bad things have become in this Middle East of bravery and historic victories. The bravery left is that of the Palestinian people and leadership and it is spilling onto the streets of the Arab World.

Alas, talking to several leaders, they are very angry at the American administration. They are more than angry, they feel pretty much stabbed in the back for being put in this terribly degrading situation at a time when their obedience has been as good as it gets. What did they do to deserve this? Is it Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah's hug and kiss with Iraq's second man Izzat Ibrahim? This would not stop an American attack on Iraq, it is just a kiss. Could it be that the implementation of a mechanism to sort out what is still unresolved between Kuwait and Iraq has brought this curse unto the Arab world of officialdom? This will not throw American war vehicles off Arab land. It is just a handshake. Or is it the bloody Palestinian people and leadership who just won't lay off and play dead at this time of international crisis? The Palestinians manage to remain alive every time they are killed and nothing can be done about it.

Different situation

Well, the situation today is very different than it used to be only a month back. The worldwide acclaimed Saudi initiative for peace is designed to be a hard-core hostile and aggressive political attack against Sharon and those thugs in his government supporting him in burying the notion of Oslo and Madrid forever. The problem with the Israeli government alliance is that on paper, it represents the majority of Israeli people. The initiative tells the whole world that Sharon doesn't want peace, while the Arabs do, and tells the Israelis whose economy and security are in shambles that the only way out of this situation is to start thinking justice, not violence.

But the initiative is obviously not enough to save the Palestinians from death and pacify the Arab Street that calls for hardcore action, not political offensives. Unfortunately for the Arab leaders who stand collectively in dis-

the US Army in Vietnam, during which he was wounded twice and decorated several times. The missing ingredient for a long-sought peace is a US willingness to help end Palestinian suffering by working to ensure the realization of legitimate Palestinian aspirations.

To do otherwise, to leave the Palestinian people to Sharon's "tender mercies", would be to make a mockery of Thomas Paine, the American Founding Father who warned: "The balance of power is the scale of peace. The same balance would be preserved were all the world not destitute of arms, for all would be alike; but since some will not, others dare not lay them aside ... Horrid mischief would ensue were one half the world deprived of the use of them ... the weak will become prey to the strong."

press that calls for the Arabs to rise and defend the initiative are in no way up to the popular calls to put Sharon and his thugs in their place.

Satellite TV asks:

What is creating more crisis for the Arab world of officialdom are those who are asking impolitely through the free satellite channels the following questions:

1- Since you won't move your armies against Israel, open up the borders so that those who are willing to die by Israeli bullets are not killed by Arab ones while on their way. The Israeli army, busy killing the Palestinian population in cold blood and dismantling an Arab regime in an attempt to finish off the revolution, will have to spread itself all along the long borders to stop those of honor from crossing in, if it can.

2- The truth is that had the Palestinians enjoyed weapons that can harm the Israeli army, suicide bombings would not be necessary anymore. Wouldn't allowing the smuggling of weapons into Palestine save the Arab World leaders' face with their people and the USA? Why is it that the Arab regimes are willing to admit weakness when it comes to fighting Israel, but claims utmost power in controlling the borders?

3- It is shameful that thousands of Arabs were allowed to go liberate Afghanistan from the Soviets, billions of dollars spent on weapons and aid for that cause, when they will not do the same for their own. Why is it that we can always rush to the defense of others and let our own rot in hell?

Thank God for the free satellite channels that have given the voice to the people. They also give the Arab leaders the opportunity to measure the crisis that they face on the internal and foreign levels. If these questions are not answered in time, the channels will soon be busy covering the news of Arabs everywhere, not just those under the deadly claws of the Israelis. The Arab regimes are collectively under the claw of time, and they must do something about it. Are they asking the Americans who put them here what can be done? Maybe they realize they should ask themselves instead.

Getting married in rural Yemen

Ablurhaman Sallam
For The Yemen Times

Weddings in the countryside of Yemen reflect rural ways steeped in tradition.

In Hadramout governorate, especially in the valley of Hadramout, or Wadi Hadramout, for example, the traditional wedding is different from the other regions of Yemen. The style is considered as a part of the cultural heritage of the people.

When a young man wants to marry the girl whom he loves or whom he chooses, his mother meets the girl's mom. She says to her, "My son admires your daughter and wants her to be his partner."

After few days the later, an answer is given.

If they agree, the two moms fix a day in which the father of the groom and his relatives meet the bride's dad and her relatives. The meeting is conducted in the bride's house. The groom's father carries the bride's marriage portion in a small suitcase which contains also some presents to the bride.

He delivers it to the bride's dad and they recite (Alfatiha) i.e. the first chap-

ter of the Holy Quran. Then they congratulate each other and spread the engagement news among all people in the village.

At the day of wedding, the groom's relatives and guests celebrate in the afternoon. The ceremony is called Harawa. The groom and his relatives participate by their traditional dance to a traditional music called Biteqa. It's played by a band consisting of more than five members.

Before sunset, all participants led by the groom and his relatives go walking slowly to the bride's house where the bride's relatives are waiting for them. The marriage is contracted there between the groom and his father-in-law.

In the evening, after having supper, the groom and his guests celebrate again, and a singer often entertains. At midnight, the bride's relatives bring their daughter by cars to her new house, that is the groom's house. The next day, all relatives of the bride and guests have dinner in the groom's house. The women of the two families and women of the village celebrate until sun set. This is the traditional wedding of people there. It seems difficult but it gives people a chance to see each other and that makes them friendly.



The status of Egyptian women: Looking over history



By Dr. Safaa
Hassanin
Spouse of Dr. Khaled
ElKomy
Ambassador of Egypt
to Yemen

Those who know about the history of Egypt – of all its ages – realize that women have had a prominent role in both ancient and modern Egypt.

Names like, Hatchibut, Nefertiti (which means the pretty is coming) and Nefertari (which means the most beautiful among beautiful women), are names for queens who ruled or helped rule ancient Egypt.

Moreover, the Legend of Isis, Osiers and Horus, although they are legends, tell us about the important status Egyptian women had in Ancient Egypt.

That legend is full of meaning of how woman in Ancient Egypt were entrusted with planning and running society, protecting national security, and needless to say, continuing with motherhood and fertility and many other sacred duties.

Noticing the "sacred status" that women in Ancient Egypt enjoyed, Egyptian women after Islam reached Egypt obtained more rights and more important status, thanks to what God gave her through Islam. For example, a woman keeps her maiden name, and her financial and economic status.

And as a conclusion, the status of women in Egypt, whether before or after Islam, remains dignified through the different ages of the prosperous and

solid Egyptian society, her status was weakened, like the rest of all social aspects during Memloulk and Ottoman Empire, which witnessed poverty of political, economic and social situation all over Egypt.

At the beginning of the 20th Century, Kassem Amin, a social reformist, sparked a movement to liberate Egyptian women from social, cultural, and intellectual depression.

A few years later, led by Saad Zaghloul, the Revolution of 1919 erupted. His wife, Safeya, played an essential role to include the liberation of Egyptian women within the goals of 1919 revolution.

Since then, Egyptian women have started to regain their previous status, and with the glorious Revolution of 1952, which considered education "As important as Water and Air", according to Taha Hussein's appeal. The Egyptian Government secured free education, and medical care for everyone, which enabled the Egyptian women to stand next to her partner, the Egyptian man, on equal footing to get all chances to become a doctor, teacher, researcher, scientist, ambassador and minister, with no restriction for any position.

The key to all what Egyptian women has attained is "Education." To talk about liberation of woman without education is meaningless.

What I feel necessary to tell to my sisters in Yemen is it is easy to pretend things, but what is more important is real behavior which forces everyone to believe in the credibility of the civilized Yemeni woman.



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Excellent command of both English and Arabic Languages

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Excellent Computer Skills (Excel & Oracle)
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Arranged marriages and other old traditions

MOH'D AL-FAQEHH
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

Cultural traditions in Yemen continue to play an important role in daily life, just as they did hundreds of years ago.

Some traditions have been rejected. For example, before, baby girls were not as valued as baby boys years ago, but that has changed in time.

Other traditions have been kept. For example in marriage, a young man has to look for the girl he loves and holds counsel with his family to engage her. Then the marriage agreement should be ratified and finally the wedding festival is held.

In some areas such as Hadramout, when the girl becomes 12 year-old, her parents forbid her from going outside home, seeing any man, or being seen by a man until she gets married. This tradition is called al-Athrawa or singleness. Sometimes the girl is to have some of her hair cut in order to keep on being veiled, or have some of her hair combed in the form of rounded circles in order to be distinguished from the married women.

In other traditions, the parents choose the bride for their son, and he has no right to reject their choice. The parents expect that the love between the couple comes after getting married.

In some traditions, the parents give their son the right to choose the girl he loves but they do not give the girl. Such traditions have often gradually changed, however, due to education, co-ed education in particular.

In addition, there are some folk conventions and traditions which were strongly connected to the beliefs of the ancient Yemenis. For instance, some plants are still used in marriages such as Al-Hinna'a, on the hands of both the bride and bridegroom. The hands are washed on the first day of the wedding

festivity called "al-Hinna'a Night".

People believe that since Al-Hinna'a smoothes the skin and body, it can smooth the life of the couple. Other people think that Al-Hinna'a is a sign of the happy love and it protects the bride and bridegroom from devils and their evils.

Yemen has also many old traditions such as those of greeting and traveling. In Al-Mahrah, people greet each other with their noses.

The traditions that concern travel are followed according to the folk beliefs. If the person is traveling, he has to turn around and have a final look

at his house and family as soon as the car starts moving. It is believed that when the person does so, he will come back to his family in good condition.

Also in the past, Yemenis used to slaughter a goat before entering a house for the first time. This tradition is still followed in several villages. The owner of the house should also invite the people of his village to lunch and chew qat all the afternoon long inside the new house. While chewing qat, people should sing some religious anthems together. It is believed that this protects the house from devils and their evils.

The Embassy of the United States of America announces for an immediate job vacancy within its organization. "Maintenance Foreman"

The position is located in the Facility and Maintenance Section, American Embassy, under the general supervision of the Facility and Maintenance Manager (FMM). Employee will perform supervisory building and grounds maintenance work and other duties as assigned by supervisor.

Desired Qualifications

Education: Completion of secondary school is desirable; completion of vocational training or apprenticeship recognized as produced a journeyman mechanic of equivalent experience is required.

Prior work experience: Two years of journeyman experience (principal trade) and two years of supervisory experience are required.

Language abilities: Fluent Arabic and level III English (good working level, knowledge) are required.

Skills and abilities: Must be able to use all tools of the trade; must be able supervise effectively, required to have a valid local drivers license.

Salary: The minimum starting annual gross salary for this position is USD 6,449.

How to apply: All qualified Yemeni Nationals should complete OF-612 (Application form for Employing Foreign Nationals) OR submit a current CV with certificates and recommendation letters attached. Applicants should submit the application or CV in person to the Embassy's gate or send it to the following address no later than April 25, 2002:

Embassy Human Resources Office, American Embassy,
Dhahr Himyar Street,
P. O. Box 22347- Sana'a.

Home remedies for you

SAAD SHARIF TAHER
YT STAFF

Do you have an ache? A scrape? A cold, perhaps. Chances are, unless the ailment becomes more serious, you can use some home medicine. Here's some common home remedies for common health concerns.

Soar throat

As this symptom is a result of flue or allergy which results in running mucus, it could be treated by gargling warm salty water (a half teaspoon of salt dissolved in a cup of water) four or five times daily. Warm salty water causes expanding arterial capillaries in throat and makes blood run easy to reach the affected area. Drink warm infused licorice slowly, for it contains glycerhizin which helps sooth the throat's membranes. (Chocolates made of liquorice are useful.)

Congestion

Add more pepper to your food because it contains capsaicin which helps to snivel and it also melts mucus. Inhale steam.

Cough

Make a warm drink. Add a teaspoonful of a sugar while boiling a cup of water. Put a slice of lemon in the cup then pour hot water on it. Stir with a stick of canella because sugar stops

coughing while lemon melts mucus in chest and throat.

Indigestion

Drink a cup of soda to stop stomach troubles. Never drink soft drinks that include caffeine (like Cola) because they agitate the stomach. If you have gases, take a drink of mint because it contains chemical elements that dissolve gases and send them out.

Constipation

Eat three or four peaches, drink a glass of peach juice or eat an apple because fibers in the husk move the bowel. If it lasts for long, see a doctor.

Diarrhea

Eat non-fibrous food like white rice, starch and bananas because bananas compensate for lost potassium. The body needs the element for the heart and nerves. Because diarrhea causes dryness, one should take salty solution and sugar (dissolve one teaspoonful of salt and four ones of sugar in 1.5 liters of water. If it lasts for more than two days, see a doctor.

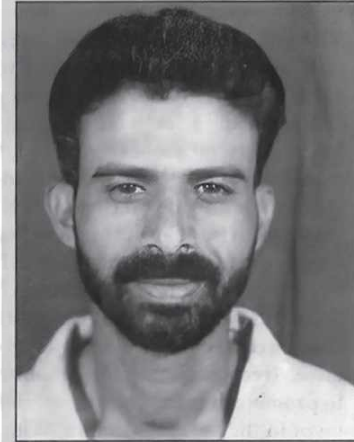
Skin injuries

Wash it with water and soap and dry it with a hairdryer. Then add an antibiotic ointment. Put on a clean dressing. Repeat this twice daily till recovery. If the injury causes the skin to break, see a doctor for a tetanus injection or to stitch the skin if needed.

Canker sores on the lips.

Cleaning Wadi Bana

Protecting the resources and environment of Wadi Bana, particularly its water, is the concern of a new environment protection society in Nadirah. The committee, headed by Shafiq Saleh Al-Namus, is in its early stages. The Yemen Times interviewed Al-Namus to find more about its goals.



Q: Why is the committee being formed?

A: The torrent of Wadi Bana is facing problems from pollution, specifically sewage of Saddah and the surrounding villages. Personal efforts to keep it clean have failed, so we thought of forming a new group which will be able to find solutions by lobbying people in the environment, parliament, consulting council and the General

Board for Environment Protection. Wipe the canker with alcohol three or four times daily because alcohol kills germs. If you don't have alcohol for the moment, use perfumes that include alcohol. Be careful to put the alcohol only on the canker, not the rest of the lips.

Hiccough

Put two drops of vinegar on a cube of sugar and suck it until it dissolves. The taste of vinegar and the roughness of sugar sends signals to the brain to stop the hiccough. Or take a deep breath and hold it as long as you can.

Board for Environment Protection.

Q: Who came up with the idea?

A: Five months ago a working team from the General Board for Environment Protection visited the area to see the heavy pollution here caused by sewage and waste oil materials. They suggested to form an environmental society. Mr. Ahmed Al-Bahal adopted the project.

Q: What were the procedures?

A: A preparing committee including Mr. Mohammed Al-Asri, a school headmaster, Mr. Ibrahim Tajuddin of Education college, and Ahmed Al-Bahal and Ahmed Ali, a university student was formed under the supervision of the head of local council and miss Najeeba Al-Ma'amari, the secretary general of the council. Many meetings have been held. We are waiting for Insurance Bureau in the governorate to accept the interior discipline and the sending of a representative to the establishing conference and elections. It is the first society in the governorate.

Q: Which offices support you?

A: Nadirah district manager and Miss Najeeba have supported us with 10,000 YR. and the General Board for Environment Protection.

Q: What will be your future projects?

Doing this builds carbon dioxide levels in your brain.

Twisted joint

This may cause the cutting of capillary vessels and that causes blood to run and swell tissues. An ice pad should be placed on the area because coldness shrinks capillary vessels and stops blood flow. A few days later, place warm pads on the area for half an hour because warmth expands the vessels. That will help get the blood running again.

A: First of all, we shall clean the waterway, then solve the problems of sewage and oils poured into it. We also will be educating people through the press that such problems affect agriculture and human health.

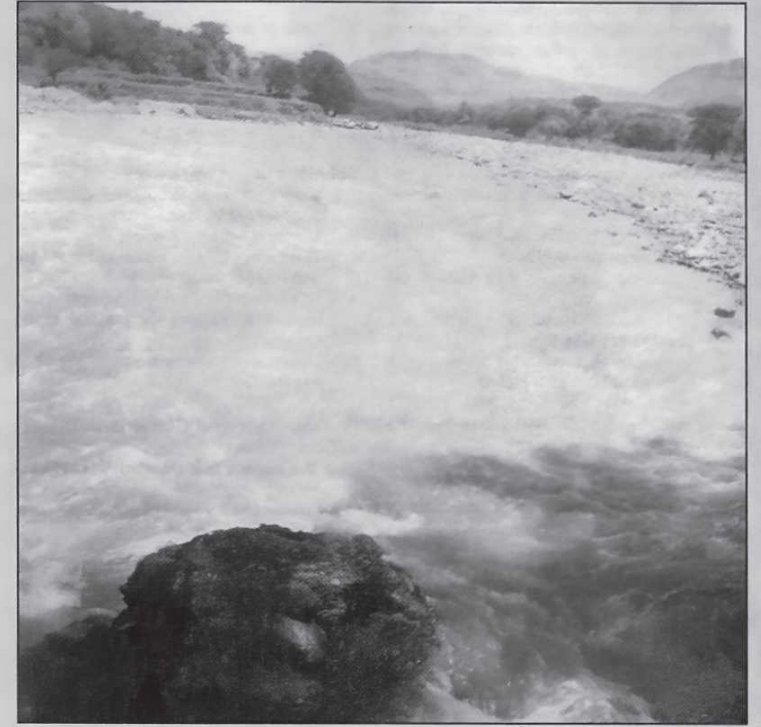
Q: What about popular heritage and antiques?

A: We will cooperate with the

General Board for Antiques to protect our antiques in Al-Awd, and we want to initiate social habits and customs in weddings and Eid celebrations.

Q: Any last thoughts?

A: I adjure all by God to pay attention to pollution and try to solve it, otherwise it will be a great disaster. Thanks to all who support us.



Sunburn

Place cold pads on the skin with cold ointment kept in the fridge. If the burn is dark red, one should see a doctor.

Mosquito bites

Rub the area with ice because poison expands arteries and that swells the area. Wipe the area with a solution of sodium bicarbonate and water. Ten minutes later, wash the area.

Things to avoid

1. Never put butter on burns

because it keeps heat on the area.

2. Drinking water with soda to treat indigestion is harmful because it tears the stomach.

3. Sunlight doesn't dry acne. It may make it worse in some cases. Washing the area with soap may dry the skin and that sometimes can be harmful. Use lotion instead of soap.

Finally, keep in mind that one should a doctor for more serious conditions and injuries. They are angels of mercy when one is in need.

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The parent company of CSCL, China Shipping Group (CSG) is head quartered in Shanghai. It is

under the administration of the Central Government of China and is a super-large shipping conglomerate that operates globally. CSG has a total assets of USD 3.73 billion with five specialized shipping fleets of container, oil tankers, tramps, passenger and special cargo ship comprising 341 vessels of which CSCL owns a fleet of 103 container vessels with a capacity of over 120,000 tens.

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Improve Your English

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I. What to Say

Situations and Expressions (12)
Asking for clarification

It is a matter of common experience that we often become inattentive to what the other person says. As a result, we either miss his point of view altogether or get a distorted message. This sometimes leads to an unfortunate situation ranging from a misunderstanding to a serious catastrophe. Such an eventuality can easily be avoided if we take care to ask for a clarification of the point which we failed to understand clearly and accurately. It therefore becomes necessary to know some standard and oft-used expressions to ask a clarification on what is being said.

- I beg your pardon. Will you please repeat what you said?
- Sorry, I was a bit inattentive. Would you mind saying that again?
- If I understood you right, what you meant to say was that ...
- Please correct me if I'm wrong. I understood from your statement that ...
- Please don't mind my saying so. I couldn't make out what you're trying to say.
- Kindly explain what you mean by the phrase ...
- Can I ask you a small clarification question?
- I don't get your point. Would you, please, make it clear?
- Would you be more precise?
- Could you throw more light on the last point?
- May I request to illustrate your point with some more examples?
- Can you explain the point a little further? I'd like you to be more specific and to the point, if you please.
- What I understand from your statement is that ... Am I right?
- If you don't mind, will you explain it again? What're you trying to say?
- Are you trying to say that ...?
- What do you mean by the remark?
- What did you just say?
- Do you mean to say that ...? I think an example would help us understand the point better.
- Sir, you just mentioned that ... Does that equally hold good for ... as well?

II. How to say it Correctly

Correct errors, if any, in the following sentences.

1. He asked permission to raise a discussion on this point.
2. They expect you to put in a lot of interest in all the subjects offered.
3. He lifted the first prize for the third year in succession.
4. He was congratulated warmly on his success in bagging an international poetry prize.
5. He always gets up early and says his prayers before breakfast.

Solutions to last week's questions.

1. The whole areas is studded with level crossings.
2. Senior teachers are having their services terminated in contravention of university regulations.
3. The Director is a distant relation of mine.
4. The book on Yemen's unification is a

laudable attempt to set history right.
5. Fish are now being bred on a commercial scale in the ponds of our village.

III. How to express it in one word

1. Court for trying offences against military law.
2. Child of one's uncle or aunt.
3. Mouth of a volcano.
4. Public nursery where babies are looked after while their mothers are at work.
5. Letters or papers showing that a person is what he claims to be.

Solutions to last week's questions

1. Violent or unconstitutional change in government by military force: **Coup** (n)
2. Man and his wife: **Couple** (n)
3. Two lines of verse equal in length and with rhyme: **Couplet** (n)
4. Ticket which enables somebody to receive something or do something: **Coupon** (n)
5. Messenger carrying news or important papers: **Courier** (n)

IV. Grammar and Composition

a) Composition

Tick the phrase that describes what each person is doing

1. I really liked your speech.
 - Giving a reason
 - Giving a compliment
2. He must have stolen my watch.
 - Making an accusation
 - offering an apology
3. Please feel free to use my car.
 - Making a request
 - Giving permission
4. Sorry, I can't lend you money. I'm in need myself.
 - Offering an explanation
 - Accepting an invitation
5. I was wondering if you'd mind my using your phone for a moment.
 - Making a request
 - Declining a request

b) Idioms and phrases

Use the following phrases in sentences of your own.

1. afford to
2. time and again
3. be oneself again
4. agree with
5. agreeable to

c) Words commonly confounded

Differentiate between the following pairs of words

1. anonymous, synonymous
2. ante-, anti-
3. antibiotic, antibody
4. antic, antique
5. apathy, antipathy

Answers to last week's questions

1. Composition: Making Requests
 1. You want to borrow YR200 from a friend to buy a book.
Can I borrow YR200 for buying a book?
 2. You want to switch off the light of the room before going to bed.
Is it ok if I switched off the light before going to bed?
 3. You want to use a friend's mobile phone.
Do you mind if I use your mobile for

a minute?
4. You want to request your friend to accompany you to the market.
I was wondering if you'd accompany me to the market.

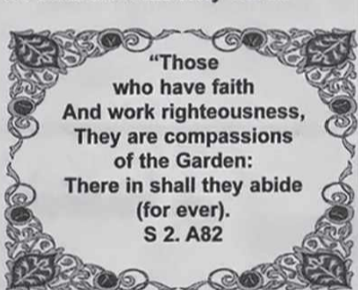
b) Idioms and phrases

1. Turn something to one's advantage (use something profitably): We must learn how to turn an adverse situation to our advantage.
2. On the advent of (coming or arrival of an event): Flowers blossom on the advent of the spring.
3. Act on somebody's advice (do what somebody suggests): In moments of crisis, you must act on elders' advice.
4. Under the aegis of (with the support or protection of): Under the aegis of the English department, Annual Day Celebration will be held on the 25th of this month.
5. Afford to (find enough time or money): You can't afford to waste time at the time of exam.

c) Words commonly confounded

1. amplify (vt) (give fuller information, more details): The speaker amplified his point of view.
2. exemplify (vt) (illustrate with example): The boy exemplified tremendous courage in fighting the miscreants.
3. angle (n) (space between two lines or surfaces that meet): A right angle consists of 90 degrees.
4. angel (n) (lovely or innocent person): She is, indeed, an angel.
5. Anglomania (n) (excessive love of and admiration for English customs): He is known for his Anglomania.
6. Anglophobia (n) (hatred of England and English things): My friend has an obsessive Anglophobia.
7. annual (adj) (coming or happening every year): The annual verification of the stocks is just complete.
8. annuity (n) (fixed sum of money to somebody yearly): He lives on the annuity he receives from the government.
9. allude (vi) (Refer to indirectly): The writer, here, is alluding to his personal experience.
10. elude (vt) (escape capture of): A permanent solution to the problem eludes our grasp.

V. Pearls from the Holy Quran



VI. Words of Wisdom

"A friend in need is a friend indeed."
—Richard Graves

Our Campus: Retrospect and Prospect

Dr. Mohammed Al-Mekhlafy, Dean, Faculty of Education, Arts and Science, Khawlaan is not only well known as a softspoken humanist, but as an astute administrator as well as a scholar of repute. Ever since he has taken over the reins of control of the Faculty at Khawlaan, he has left no stones unturned to transform the Faculty into a model center of academic excellence. It is a small surprise that during less than one year of his stewardship, the Faculty holds out rich promises to be one of the most outstanding institutions wedded to the ideals of creative, free thinking and committed to promote human resource development in the new millennium. With a view to understanding the man and his mission, Dr. Ramakanta Sahu, Anchor of Education column, Yemen Times met Dr. Mekhlafy.

Excerpts:

RKS: How do you perceive the role of the Faculty of Education, Arts and Science in spreading the light of education in a tribal region as Khawlaan?

Dr. Mekhlafy: The basic role of the Faculty of Education, Arts and Science in Khawlaan is to spread the light of education in this region and create an appropriate educational awareness among the community. This objective is hoped to be achieved by preparing qualified and competent teachers equipped with personal and professional competence. Sponsored by the Ministry of Education, such a team of vibrant instructors can efficiently bring about human resource development through the network of secondary schools in and around Khawlaan. At the same time we are trying to partially achieve the same objective by mounting multifarious extracurricular activities conducted within the Faculty

such as theme-focused symposia and extramural public lectures.

RKS: What are your ideas to further consolidate the gains achieved by the Faculty so far?

Dr. Mekhlafy: We are planning at the outset to further expand the infrastructure facilities at the Faculty to accommodate the increasing demands. Efforts are on to add new buildings, laboratories for various science streams, a language laboratory, a computer lab as well as audio visual aids. The labs as mentioned above would be equipped with modern technology to acquaint the students with the latest developments in the field. We are also planning to restructure the curricula in different disciplines in close collaboration with similar Faculties within Sana'a University.

RKS: Could you give us your perceptions about the most formidable problems facing the Faculty and your plans to sort out some of them?

Dr. Mekhlafy: The major problem confronting the Faculty, in addition to lack of basic infrastructure facilities is a well-equipped library, enough classrooms, labs. The problem is accentuated by very low operation budget allotted to the Faculty which puts a severe constraint on the pace of our proposed development.

RKS: The Faculty of Khawlaan is one of very few institutions of its kind which is a cradle for three disciplines such as Education, Arts and Science. Do you think each discipline is full fledged to fulfill the academic commitments?

Dr. Mekhlafy: As I said before, as a recently established Faculty, the Faculty of Education, Arts and Science faces a lot of shortcomings. Therefore we have decided to transfer the students enrolled in the science stream to the Faculty of Science at Sana'a. We are not going to accept any more sci-



ence students until the science labs are fully equipped.

RKS: A well equipped library, as you have rightly commented above, is the life line of a college which richly contributes to the academic growth of both teachers and students. The Faculty of Khawlaan is marked by a pathetic lack of this most vital organ. How do you plan to remedy this handicap?

Dr. Mekhlafy: We have raised this issue with the leadership of Sana'a University. We are expecting some help from them to remedy this situation.

RKS: What is your message to the academic community in Khawlaan?

Dr. Mekhlafy: I call upon them to do their best in achieving academic excellence in the respective domains of their academic pursuit.

RKS: Any last comments?

Dr. Mekhlafy: I sincerely thank Yemen Times in general and you in particular for raising these issues.

RKS: Thanks a lot for your cooperation and extremely illuminating views.

We are pretty sure that under your able stewardship the Faculty is poised to register a well-orchestrated growth in time to come. Thanks once again.

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

Honesty is the best policy

Rahmat-elahi
Pakistan School,
Sana'a

An honest man is the noblest work of God. Therefore, honesty plays a vital role in every field of life and proves itself as a key to success in any human endeavor irrespective of race, color and religion. For example:

1. An honest student is sincere towards his/her studies, which is a matter of joy and pride for the institution as well as his/her parents.
2. An honest teacher is acknowledged as the best teacher by the students which is his/her real reward.
3. An honest doctor brings much needed comfort for his/her patients.
4. An honest politician gives a prosper-

- ous country to his/her countrymen.
5. An honest mother inculcates sterling human values in her off springs; and last but not the least
6. An honest principal of an academic institution remains impartial, and relentlessly works to promote the standard of education and discipline. Above all, he plays an important role in refining the personality of students and teachers in order to provide a better society for the country. Therefore I will pray that Allah give us the courage to be honest in our respective fields. Amen.

TIMES QUIZ (25)

Questions:

1. Who is considered as the father of automobile?
a) Rudolph Diesel b) Henry Ford
c) Carl Benz d) G. Daimler
2. The force keeping the planets in regular orbit is
a) Electrostatic force
b) Magnetic force
c) Gravitational force
d) Nuclear force
3. The offspring of a Tiger and a Lioness is known as
a) Ligon b) Tigon
c) Tigel d) Litiger
4. The source of energy in an ecosystem is the
a) Photosynthesis by green plants
b) Decomposition of animals and plants by insects

- c) Sunlight
- d) Fermentation of sugars

5. The first animal sent to space was "Laika". It was a
a) Dog b) Cat
c) Guinea pig d) Mouse

Solutions to Times quiz (24)

1. Chameleon can look in two directions simultaneously.
2. Bambo is a grass which flowers only once in its life span. It is called monocarpic.
3. Most computers understand programs written in any high-level programming language.
4. Eskimos eat more fat because fats provide heat to protect them against cold.
5. A layer of atmosphere having the 'ozone layer' is Stratosphere.

YOUTH FORUM

Some Do's and Don'ts for Pupil-Teachers

The challenging prospect of joining the most fascinating profession of teaching is just one Semester away. If you want to be successful, you should work hard to improve yourself in two directions:

1. Horizontal (increase your professional knowledge)
 2. Vertical (plunge or dive into the area of your specialization)
- A good teacher should have a sound knowledge in his field. Some of the most important books that should be with each teacher are the following:
1. School books, pupils book, exercise or practice book and teacher's book.
 2. Reference manuals of a higher level than the teacher's level.
 3. General books relating to the art and craft of teaching and on other matters of specialization.
 4. Encyclopedia
 5. Books on the history of your nation.
 6. Books on your native language or the foreign language that is English.

7. Dictionary or lexicon in that language.
8. Books on child psychology and learning theories.
9. Reference books on Education.

And in order to improve your level of information you must do the following:

- 1- Read: the teacher who does not read, is the one whose mind is dead. His knowledge does not register any growth.
 2. Update your knowledge: you must take care to gather knowledge to enrich your students. So, you should know more than what is there in the school books.
 3. Read the news paper every day.
 4. Watch the TV with care and with a critical awareness.
 5. You must have a small library of your own containing some important books.
 6. You must subscribe to journals or magazines which are relevant to your subject.
 7. You must have good knowledge about the museum, club, garden, society, etc in and around the place where you live.
- You must not do the following:
1. Don't have pretensions of looking knowledgeable when you are shallow. On the other hand you should plunge or dive in

the area of your specialization.
2. Don't be limited and restrained on gathering knowledge.

Mohammed Mohsin Grabi
Level 4, Faculty of Education,
Al-Mahweet

I'm not a poet
I'm not a poet to say in poetry,
To describe the moon,
Or the birds upon the tree,
Singing a melodious tone,

I'm not a poet to write a song,
Which talks about a lovely woman,
Or the enticing glamour,
Or the exploits of a superman,

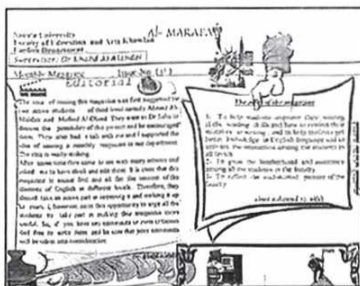
I'm not a poet to write an ode,
In praise of the beauty of my beloved,
The state of the being,
Or the unseen becoming,

I'm not a poet to achieve what's mentioned above,
But I've learnt how to fight,
The evil by the touchstone of love,
To strive for peace, and universal human right.

Basheer Al-Maza'agi
Level 4 - English
Faculty of Education - Khawlaan

The Inhouse magazine Al-Marafa

Faculty of Education, Arts, Khawlaan



Students of the Faculty of Arts and Education, Khawlaan have brought out a four-page magazine in English Al-Marafa embodying their creative pursuits. Mr. Mufeed Alobaid is the Chief Editor of the magazine. Mr. Ahmed Mohammed Almhfali, is the Editor and Mr. Khalid Al-Alahdal is the Supervisor. It is certainly a commendable effort by the students of the Faculty at Khawlaan. We offer our hearty congratulations to the Editorial staff as well as the contributors for doing an excellent job. May the magazine live long, Insha Allah and continue to nourish the young and budding literary talents in their endeavor to creatively express themselves in English.

Dr. Ramakanta Sahu

Third Inter-College Literary Competitions

The Third Inter-college Literary competitions in English Short story, Poem, and Essay will be organized under the auspices of Yemen Times for the Year 2002. Competitions will be held in two categories, viz. Senior (level 3 and 4) and Junior (level 1 and 2). Any bonafide student of any college in the Republic of Yemen is eligible to participate in the competition. Participants are free to choose any theme for English Short stories and Poems.

Topics for the essay contest:
Senior group (level 3 and 4):

"Towards Creating a Peaceful World Order"
Word limit: 2000 words

Junior group (level 1 and 2):

"Service to Humanity is Service to God"
Word limit: 1500 words

A participant can participate in any or all events. Entries should be original and should be typed or neatly written on one side of the paper. These are to be certified to be original by the Head of English department of the college and sent to Dr. Ramakanta Sahu, P. o. Box 2579, Sana'a, Republic of Yemen. Last date for submission of entries is 15 May, 2002.

Dr. Ramakanta Sahu
Coordinator

Local Press

Prepared by Mohammed Khidhr

Al-Wahdawi weekly, organ of the Nasserite People's Unionist organization (NPUO), 9 April 2002.

Main headlines:
 - NPUO General Secretariat appreciate size of volunteers high turnout, demanding regimes to open borders
 - Official hints on expelling American ambassador
 - Huge demonstrations continue sweeping Arab and world cities in support of the Palestinian cause
 - Security force violated Sanaa campus, injures a student
 - Hundreds of martyrs in Jenin refugee camp, Bush grants Sharon time to maintain his massacre against the Palestinians.

Columnist Abdulla Mohammed AL-Maqtari says in his article that the war of annihilation waged by Israel against the Palestinian people and all constituents of life on the ground have exceeded in their savagery all crimes of the Nazis and Fascists wars. The writer stresses that this unsightly war has been planned beforehand for many Zionist reasons and goals. The offensive was not in reality a reaction to the martyrdom operation that took place in Haifa.

That plan has depended on re-occupation of the territories, killing the Palestinian people and conquering their will and aspiration for establishing their free state on the land of Palestine. The Zionist plan has adopted the Nazis' plans during World War II to occupy the city of Warsaw, that was prepared by one of the Nazi army officers.

On the other hand the position of the American administration with regard to this war and towards the Palestinian issue as a whole has been characterized

by a stand irresponsible, morally, politically and humanely. The American administration has given Israel a green light and approved the war plan and the re-occupation of the Palestinian authority-controlled areas and further more has sent its emissary Zinnin to Israel to arrange that. The visit of the U.S. vice president to the Israel came to put the final touches of the war plan in addition to sending intelligent officers on the first days of the Zionist war in a move to back it. And as part of this support comes the American risking the safety and future of its allies in the region.

Those following statements and stands of the American administration find that President Bush in his statements as if going to compete Sharon in the coming Israeli elections, especially that the question of elections has created in him (Bush) a complex as he had won the presidency by a decision of the court not by ballots and no doubt he is looking forward to a second presidential term. This explains the confusion and contradiction in his stands with regard to the Israeli massacres against the Palestinian people and violation of international laws and decisions plus destruction of Christian holy places like the Church of Nativity in Ramallah.

Ash-Shoura weekly, organ of the Yemeni People's Forces Union party, 7 April 2002.

Main headlines:
 - Opposition demand severing political, economic relations with America
 - Arab-Islamic stand towards Palestine, the weakest one
 - America attempts imposing Israeli conditions on Palestinians
 - Joint action parties step up Yemeni masses anger supportive to Palestinian Intifadha

- Europeans boycott Israeli goods

Columnist Ali Mohammed al-Surari confirms in an article that no one can claim that the Arabs and majority of Islamic countries keep cordial feelings towards the United States of America. Hatred towards America is an undeniable thing. But the U.S. would be gravely mistaken in thinking that this hatred is something rooted among the Arabs and Muslims and stemming from their cultural and ethical composition. It is rather a result of a group of tangible reasons related to the American policy itself. America's commitment to support Israel is not founded on requirements of adhering to right, justice and humane values. Israel is not threatened by elimination due to certain enemies grouping against it. It has not been sustaining injustice and aggression and not suffering from weakness and defeat. The reality is that Israel represents an extreme threat to its neighbors and it practices injustice and aggression on their rights.

In the course of the Arab-Israeli conflict throughout more than half a century, there has not been a single event proving it to be victim of aggression. All international resolutions regarding the conflict in the region are based on condemning Israeli aggressiveness and demanding it to end its occupation of the Arab territories and respect rights of the Palestinian people. Nevertheless, the United States has always sided with Israel, using the veto at the UN Security Council to support Israel's aggression.

The latest image looks extremely dark when one listens to U.S. official statements which provide the political cover to the Zionist carnages perpetrated against the Palestinian people and the re-occupation of towns and villages under control of the Palestinian authority in the West Bank and Gaza Strip. While all the world condemns and

denounces the Zionist crimes, alone the American officials bless Israel's crimes and invent justifications for them. Now, would the Americans understand why the Arabs hate them?

Al-Balagh weekly, 9 April 2002.

Main headlines:
 - Yemen prepares to set up camps for mujahidins, refuses American guardianship
 - FAO advises Yemen to import qat from Ethiopia instead of growing it university security injures a student
 - Opposition parties inaugurate a "million-letter" campaign in protest to America's support for Zionist massacres
 - Yemen's children call on Arab leaders confront the Zionist enemy
 - Sudan allows Jihad, Iraq stops oil supplies in support of Palestine

The newspaper's editor in chief says the policy of some Arab leaders of maintaining diplomatic relations and representation with the Zionist entity has not led to stop the savage massacres the Israeli entity is committing against the Palestinian people.

The writer adds we want from those leaders to offer to the pain-torn Arab peoples, because of what is happening in Palestine, an explanation of their policy which could not be understood but as an indication on those leaders' weakness of will, despite that some of them are leaders of the biggest and most powerful Arab country.

This crooked policy has sent messages to the Israeli enemy, more dangerous of which, is that those governments will be chained to the stance of denunciation and condemnation to what happens in the occupied land. It indicates that the enemy would not sustain any political, material and military losses inflicted on it by those governments because of its slaughters it is perpetrating against the Palestinian people.
 We do not call on those Arab regimes

nor demand them to do what is impossible. We just confirm to them that confrontation is inevitable. So the rulers who are sincere to their countries and peoples are requested to work for preparing for the coming confrontation lest they should fall under the mercy of the Israeli enemy and to be able to disentangle themselves from hegemony of the U.S. White House.

Al-Mithaq weekly, organ of the General People's Congress party, April 8, 2002.

Main headlines:
 - The president issues directives preventing circulation of pesticides detrimental to human health and environment
 - Russia refuses the ousting of Arafat, describing him influential international leader
 - Scientific working papers discussing economic and investment issues

A news analysis published this week on Ariel Sharon's crimes against the Palestinian people, al-Mithaq newspaper says that Sharon, his latest crimes in the Palestinian cities of Ramallah, Nablus, Beit Jala, Beit Hanoun, Jenin refugee camp and other Palestinian areas, has offered legal evidence condemning him and speeding up sending him before a court for war criminals.

World and Arab satellite channels screened films showing dead bodies of hundreds of innocent Palestinian civilians. Some have been killed by Israeli tanks and some shot dead by Zionist occupation forces and others were victims of missiles fired from Israeli helicopter gunships and war planes. In addition: Israeli military troops arrested hundreds of civilians and demolished tens of residential houses, mosques, churches and official institutions. These crimes call on world conscience to adopt a stand towards Sharon's policy and crimes. It is time that justice is implemented and evidence be offered to the

court of war crimes so that Sharon receives the punishment he deserves. The analysis wonders whether conscience of the world community would wake up to lodge a law suit against the terrorist Sharon who is challenging the international legitimacy and maintaining his carnages.

ATTARIQ weekly, 9 April 2002.

Main headlines:
 - Iraq stops its oil exports in solidarity with the Palestinian people
 - Solidarity festival in Aden
 - YSP symposium on national reconciliation
 - America's role in the region does not serve the Palestinian cause

Columnist Khalid Ali Tuaiman writes in his article this week that in a non-homogeneous society in its composition, such as the Israeli society, deriving its cultural fabric from Zionist ideology, it is futile an illogical to bet on a so-called the "Israeli moderate currents" in an attempt to restrain the extremist current. Continuation of some of our Arab rulers in betting on the so-called Israeli moderates to stop the brutal crimes committed by Ariel Sharon and his government against the Palestinian people, has become a kind of a betting enlarging the mark of shame on the forehead of some Arab policies and increasing the level of wrath the Arab masses are feeling. Arab masses anger is now enlivened and aroused due to the crimes committed by the Israeli entity and this situation has taken some of the Arab rulers unawares. It has become a top item on their agenda that they cannot drop or ignore. These rulers' hopes, pinned on return of the so-called doves to power in Israel in order to restore life to the peaceful settlement in the region, is no more than an expression of their present defeatist stands towards the war of annihilation the Palestinians are currently exposed to.

World Press

Major news items in leading international newspapers

Provided by Xinhua

Britain

The Financial Times

The Middle East peace mission led by Colin Powell, the U.S. secretary of state, was in jeopardy Friday night after a suicide bomber killed at least six Israelis in Jerusalem and the Israeli government refused to withdraw its forces from the West Bank.

The Guardian

The U.S. secretary of state Colin Powell's peace mission in the Middle East stumbled on Friday when U.S.

officials postponed today's planned meeting with Yasser Arafat at least until tomorrow after a suicide bomb attack killed people and injured more than 60.

The Times

Colin Powell Friday night postponed his meeting with Yasser Arafat, the Palestinian leader, after his Middle East peace mission was overshadowed by a suicide bombing that killed six Israelis and wounded 80 in Jerusalem.

Nigeria

Weekend Vanguard

Thousands of Muslims demonstrated on Friday in Nigeria's capital Abuja to condemn the continuing attack by Israel on Palestine.

The Punch

Nigerian ambassador to Morocco Ladan Abdullahi Shuni has said about 17 Nigerians died in the last two years while trying to cross the Moroccan borders into Europe.

Lebanon

AS-SAFIR

U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell gives Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon a licence to kill, and puts off a meeting with Yasser Arafat after the latest suicide bombing.

DAILY STAR

Hizbollah patron Iran urges restraint in south Lebanon, where cross-border Hizbollah attacks on Israeli targets have raised the spectre of a second Arab-Israeli front.

AN-NAHAR

Powell demands Syria rein in Hizbollah, warning of "devastating" consequences for the region from its attacks.

AL-ANWAR

Israel's army buries the corpses of 500 Palestinian martyrs killed in the Jewish state's raid of a refugee camp in the West Bank city of Jenin.

AL-MUSTAQBAL

Powell takes Sharon's side; Israeli threatens against Syria and Lebanon over Hizbollah.

Kenya

Kenya Times

Developing countries lose at least two U.S. dollars from every dollar they receive in aid due to unfair trade barriers imposed against their exports by rich countries, British charity organization, Oxfam, has said in a report.

Daily Nation

The city to host the 10th world track and field championships will be chosen in Nairobi on Sunday from six cities: Berlin, Brussels, Budapest, Helsinki, Moscow and Rome.

Japan

Yomiuri

Over 21 percent of Japanese lawmakers receive donations from their state-paid secretaries.

Asahi, Nihon Keizai

Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi and Chinese Premier Zhu Rongji agreed to set up new Japan-China economic dialogue framework.

Asahi

Japanese government mulls to impose prison terms for mislabelers of food products.

Pakistan

The News

President General Pervez Musharraf on Friday said that the government would make "essential" amendments in the Constitution of Pakistan before the general elections of October 2002.

The Frontier Post:

Interior Minister Moinuddin Haider said on Friday that prosecution has enough material against Shaikh Umar in the murder case of U.S. journalist Danniell Pearl.

The Nation:

At least 27 people were killed and 120 injured on Friday in the latest earthquake to hit northern Afghanistan, just weeks after some 800 died in a quake in the same area, a UN spokesman said.



Al-Jazeera

India

Hindustan Times

National Executive Committee of the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) decided on Friday that Chief Minister Narendra Modi of

Gujarat, where over 800 people have been killed since the end of February, should remain in office despite his offer to resign.

The Hindu

The opposition Congress party president Sonia Gandhi on Friday called for an "uncompromising war against the forces of communalism" and set out an ambitious agenda of governance for the state governments ruled by the party.

The Indian Express

In a fresh attack, militants Friday fired grenades in downtown Srinagar, two soldiers of the central reserve forces were killed and 10 others were injured in the attack.

The Times of India

Industrial growth slowed to 2.3 percent last February compared to 3 percent in the same month a year ago. With this lackluster performance, industrial growth during the first 11 months of the last financial year, which began on April 1, 2001, was reduced to 2.6 percent, less than half of the growth rate achieved during the same period in the previous year.

JOB VACANCY

A well-known company in Sana'a is offering the following job opportunities for Yemeni nationals:

Work Controller

Minimum requirements :

- Elector-Mechanical Engineering
- 3-5 years experience in building maintenance
- Excellent computer skills
- Very good knowledge of English

Marketing Manager

Minimum requirements :

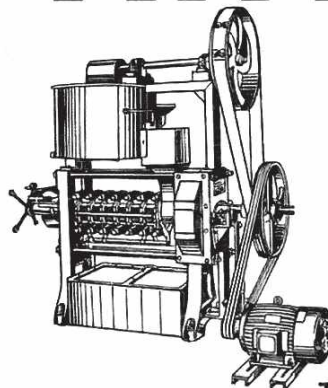
- Bachelor degree in Bossiness Management(marketing)
- 3-5 years experience in Marketing (preferable in shipping malls marketing)
- Excellent computer skills
- Very good knowledge of English

If you have the above requirements, please send your CV to

B.O. Box: 4548 -Sana'a, Fax: 1-448471

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The Universal Crossword

Edited by Timothy E. Parker

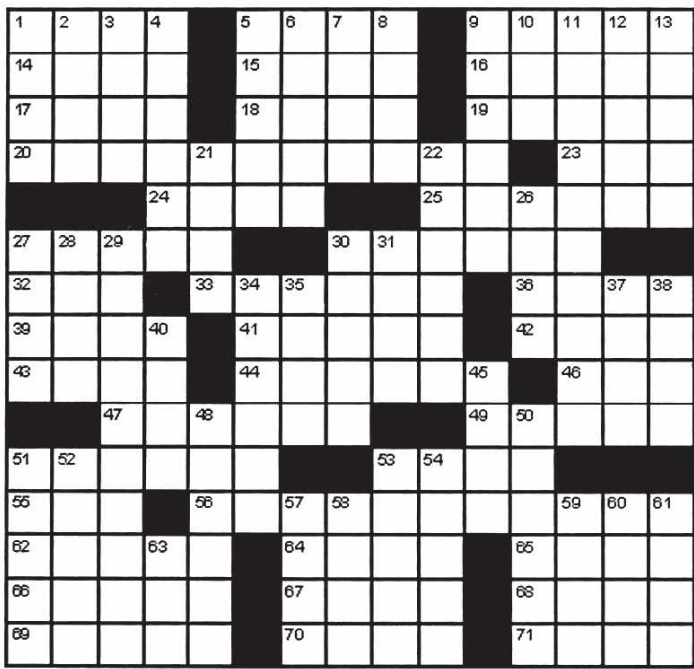
- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| ACROSS | Catholic Church? | Thomas | frenzy |
| 1 Distribute | 53 Sting operators? | 9 Assigned standings to | 38 Clears, on a pay stub |
| 5 Soak again | 55 Polar drudge | 10 One attending Yale | 40 Dull |
| 14 Town on the Thames | 56 Good-natured exchange | 11 Lunar actions | 45 Inuit conveyance |
| 15 Equipment | 62 Solzhenitsyn's Archipelago | 12 Be a drama queen | 48 Cloak's partner |
| 16 San Antonio tourist destination | 64 "And Lot journeyed..." (Genesis 13:11) | 13 Not flabby | 50 Beverly Hills home |
| 17 Dragged to court | 65 "Un bel di," for one | 21 Lead-in to "boy!" or "girl!" | 51 King Lear's daughter |
| 18 Deserve | 66 Brick dried in the sun | 22 Like Dante's "Inferno" | 52 Avoid |
| 19 Oliver Stone film | 67 Without end | 26 Bunting's home | 53 Divided Swiss canton |
| 20 Childhood game | 68 Items in a London pantry | 27 Early church pulpit | 54 Your ticket permits it |
| 23 Prepared to become an NFL lineman | 69 Comparatively modern | 28 Dingo's den | 57 Avoid a collision |
| 24 Legal ltrs. | 70 Be dependent (on) | 29 Emulate a tide | 58 Roofer's concern |
| 25 Wrote | 71 Country singer Arnold | 30 Give off | 59 Hot and dry |
| 27 Warning signal | DOWN | 31 It may be overheard in a bar | 60 Good-hearted |
| 30 Turned something into somethin' | 1 Stocking style | 34 A Society Island | 61 "Take It ___" (Eagles hit) |
| 32 Shelley's fairy queen | 2 Decorative toiletry case | 35 Olfactory perception | 63 Honest Lincoln |
| 33 Kind of clock or number | 3 Hammered on a slant | 37 In a crazed | |
| 36 Ballet bird | 4 Ingratiate oneself | | |
| 39 Lettuce variety | 5 Word with secret or press | | |
| 41 Biblical son of Shiza | 6 Good to go | | |
| 42 Hardly racy | 7 Hearing aids? | | |
| 43 Kind of surgeon | 8 English composer | | |
| 44 Some inns | | | |
| 46 Part of a famous soliloquy | | | |
| 47 Low points | | | |
| 49 Onion and garlic relatives | | | |
| 51 Top of the | | | |

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER



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"ACTION!" By Ann M. Unrein



7-Day Weather Forecast

Sana'a

Day	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
Hi	27	29	27	28	28	28	28
Low	11	11	11	11	11	12	12



Aden

Day	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
Hi	29	29	31	32	33	34	34
Low	24	24	24	22	22	22	22



Horoscope

by Boadachia

Aries (March 21 - April 19) You have at your disposal, the ability to create your own future at this time. You need to work, and work hard, in order to create the multi-disciplinarian deeds that you are asking of yourself. In the end, (and that is your struggle, to see it to the end) you and others will be proud of your accomplishments.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20) A person's word is more valuable than gold. But sometimes it's tempting to go back on what we've promised. Just remember, it's a great thing to keep your word. People come to totally rely upon you and you become the unchanging, rock of stability who fulfills your commitments, when you remember what a great thing it is to keep your word.

Gemini (May 21 - June 20) There is a part of you waiting to die, waiting for you to tell it good-bye forever, so that you can rejoice in life and really, really live. At this time, you must get rid of the things in your life that continue to cause you grief and pain. When you do, watch out. Your world is going to explode with joy. You must do this in order to reach happiness.

Cancer (June 21 - July 22) Here's how to live your life up. First, become aware of the pleasures and good things in life. Next, become very, very fond of these things. Spend time fantasizing about them and imagining the wonderful, yummy things in detail. Finally, get out there and indulge yourself wildly! It's your turn to finally live it up.

Leo (July 23 - August 22) Stop depending on your old ways to work. You're like a snake, needing to shed its skin. What's underneath is a whole new wisdom and knowledge about yourself, that better prepares you for the world, which is also changing.

Virgo (August 23 - September 22) When it comes to expressing your feelings, you are more careful and reserved, often playing it cool and confusing people. Are you sincere or are you ruthless? Let's end the confusion for everyone else and show them your ability to love and be tender. If you can't find your own inventive way to do this, go read bedtime stories to orphans to bring out the warm and caring parts of you. Then, you will be accomplished as well as compassionate.

Libra (September 23 - October 22) Let's learn to respect others' analysis of us and use it wisely, to better ourselves. Praise and acknowledgment are valuable reinforcers of what we are doing well, but constructive criticism can be just the thing we need to help us grow and improve ourselves. This is your lesson for the next several months.

Scorpio (October 23 - November 21) If you are at war with yourself in some way, (we all are, on some level, some of the time) what are you trying to accomplish? What do you need to put to rest and surrender in order to better your life? And, what things do you need to take a stand with and fight to the bitter end, because the value of these things is the very essence of your happiness? Think about it.

Sagittarius (November 22 - December 21) Stop spending time on worrying or feeling what you are supposed to be achieving and concentrate on your desired outcomes instead. Just listen to and follow your heart.

Capricorn (December 22 - January 19) Whatever it is you are wishing for from tomorrow, wherever it is you want to see yourself down the road, you need to start acting and behaving as though you already have it. Wanting doesn't make it so. Living it does.

Aquarius (January 20 - February 18) It's really important for you to be up front and honest with people, and not worry about sparing people's feelings. Directness is preferred over beating around the bush. It could backfire on you if you don't heed this advice.

Pisces (February 19 - March 20) Listen, I know you sometimes feel like old goods no one paying attention to. That something may be missing and that you could be better. Well, we all could, sure. But I guarantee you that there are people out there who just love you the way you are. Too much self-examination can lead to depression, so please applaud yourself and love yourself just as you are.

MUS'ID & MUS'IDA

First Ever Yemeni Radio Series published in a newspaper



Written by Abdulrahman Mutahhar

Translated by Janet Watson

9 Pesticides in the soil

M - Mus'ida, they say that there are more poisonous chemicals in Yemen than anywhere else in the world.

Ma - You don't need to tell me that! There isn't a single farmer in Yemen who hasn't got enough chemical fertilisers and pesticides and poisons in his house and storerooms to swamp all the fields and terraces of his village. We could shout about it until we make ourselves hoarse!

M - What's the point in shouting about it when there's no one to listen and no one to take on board the fact that we're on the verge of an environmental catastrophe because our poisonous chemicals outnumber our stones and rocks! Maybe it's because we're becoming a developed nation, Mus'ida, and I haven't realised it?

Ma - But it's only people who play with fire who'll be burnt by it. You and I neither import these chemicals, nor do we sell them, nor do we smuggle them into the country, and it's not us who buy them and sprinkle them all over the place!

M - With all due respect, the tomato we eat is absolutely packed full of poison from these pesticides, so make what you can of that!

Ma - What do you suggest we do then,

Mus'id, when the market is now bursting with all types of produce - a watermelon from Lahj is the size of a pick-up, and a single orange is large enough to feed four people!

M - Thank God for all this produce, because God's blessings are in the soul of the earth, and the earth is a covered bowl which will feed whoever uncovers it. But these pesticides which have come in spell catastrophe for the consumer, the soil, the produce and even the unborn child.

Ma - Should I tell you what I think the problem is?

M - Go on!

Ma - They say that God will add to whatever you do through your own hard work.

M - What do you mean?
Ma - Government officials are constantly warning people about the environmental dangers of using chemicals, but these warnings have had no effect on us, and we don't even seem to be aware that there are any dangers. They say if you talk to someone for an hour, they'll only understand a minute of what you say.

M - The stuff is being poured in by people who import these poisons into the country through legal means, and by

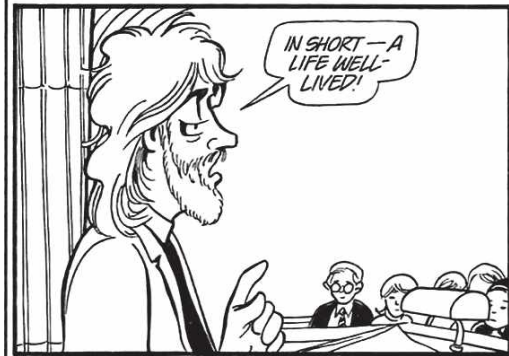
people who smuggle them in through the back door, and the ones who are going to gain from this environmental catastrophe are those who are only interested in their own profit. As long as they're all right, they don't give a damn about anyone else.

Ma - That's one thing. The second thing is that people who sell these pesticides and poisons from their shops are playing with fire, just as much as the importers and smugglers. They think that if someone else does something dangerous, it gives them the right to do it as well.

M - You've hit the nail on the head, Mus'ida. Importers of these chemicals have no idea what they contain, no idea how they should and when to be used, and no idea what side effects they might have. And the same goes for the seller and the farmer; every single one of them is gambling on the health of the soil, the crops, the consumer, and the environment. This goes against the teachings of God and his Prophet (PBUH) and puts the lives of Yemenis at risk, and the first people who are going to be hurt by this activity are those who are behind it. As the Yemeni proverb goes, "The snake charmer will meet death through the snake!"

DOONESBURY

BY GARRY TRUDEAU



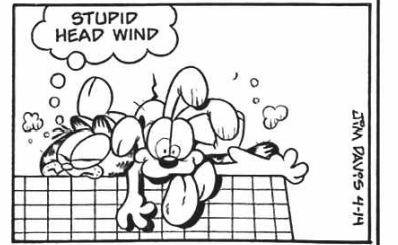
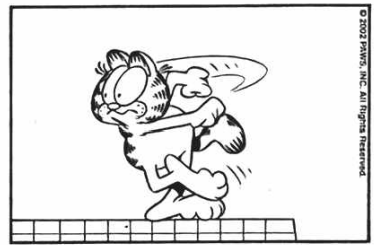
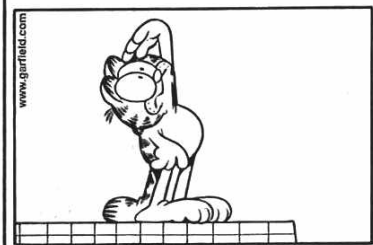
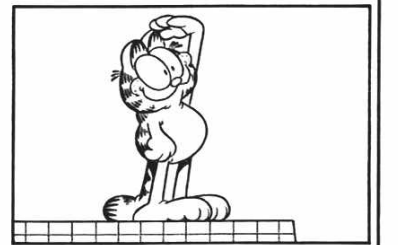
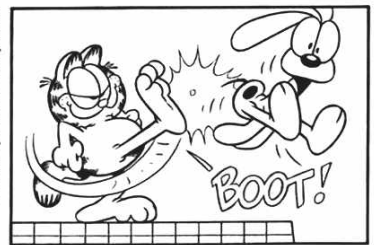
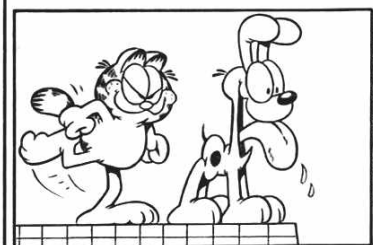
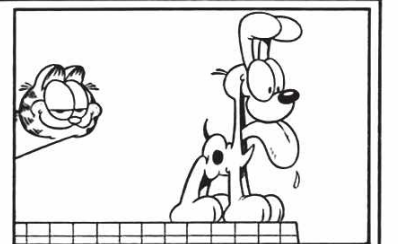
WONDERWORD

by DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: First read the list of words, then look at the puzzle. The words are in all directions - vertically, horizontally, diagonally, backward. Circle each letter of a word found and strike it off the list. The letters are often used more than once, so do not cross them out. It is best to find the big words first. When you find all the words listed in the clues, you'll have a number of letters left over that spell the Wonderword.

- CLUES**
- | | | | |
|-------------|------------|------------|-------------|
| Allergy | Daylight | Leaves | Shrubs |
| Annuals | Decorate | Lilac | Sign |
| Arrangement | Deep | Lily | Skill |
| Bags | Drains | Limb | Snapdragons |
| Balcony | Dried | Manor | Splay |
| Basket | Earth | Move | Spore |
| Begin | Elevation | Nitrogen | Spray |
| Bloom | Empty | Nutrients | Stick |
| Blossom | Ferns | Orchids | Thorns |
| Botanical | Fertilizer | Pansy | Toxic |
| Bracket | Foxglove | Pattern | Tree |
| Bulb | Garden | Periwinkle | Trimming |
| Carts | Geranium | Petunia | Vine |
| Ceremonies | Grow | Plows | Wall |
| Chop | Hang | Poles | Water |
| Clubs | Hibiscus | Poppy | Weeds |
| Crew | Hill | Rake | Wild |
| Crocus | Home | Roses | Yard |
| Crop | Hose | Seasonal | Zinnia |
| Daffodil | Insect | Seeds | |
| Dandelions | Landscape | Shovels | |

SPRING PLANTING Solution: 7 letters



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 General Corporation for Radio & Television, Engineering Sector - General Department of Projects.
 Sana'a al-Hassaba zone near the Ministry of Public Health & Population.



Dolly the sheep scientists turn to human embryos

By Giles Elgood

LONDON (Reuters) - The scientists who cloned Dolly the sheep said on Thursday they plan to seek permission to experiment on human embryos for medical purposes.

In a move expected to raise concerns from some religious groups, the Roslin Institute will apply for a license to the Human Fertilization and Embryology Authority, the British government body that regulates embryo research.

"It will be several weeks before we put in a final application," said Roslin spokesman Dr. Harry Griffin. "It will be a few months before we know whether the proposal will be approved."

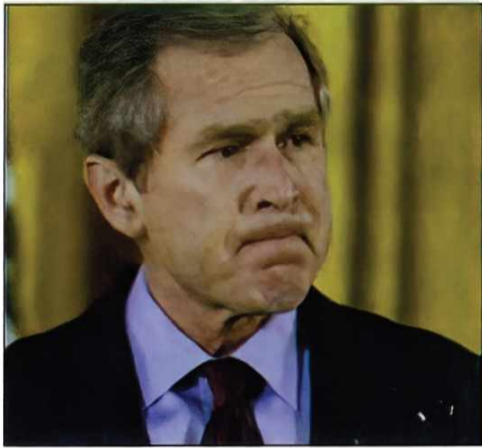
The Roslin Institute stunned the world in 1996 when it created Dolly, the first animal to be cloned from an adult cell.

Since then, Britain, which has the world's most liberal policy on stem-cell research, has said the cloning of human embryos for research should be allowed to proceed under strict conditions.

Cells taken from embryos within two weeks of fertilization are seen as potentially useful for research into finding a cure for debilitating diseases such as Parkinson's and Alzheimer's.

Last year Britain became the first country explicitly to allow the creation of embryos as a source of stem cells -- the primitive master cells which turn into other cell types and could be used to find cures to a wide range of diseases.

Griffin acknowledged that while some people would always feel such



President George W. Bush pauses while announcing his position on human cloning, in the East Room of the White House, April 10, 2002. Bush urged the Senate to support a bill sponsored by Kansas Republican Sen. Photo by Larry Downing/Reuters

research was not appropriate, the issues had been subject to a lengthy debate in Britain.

Roslin would be operating within a strictly defined legal and ethical framework, he said.

There was no immediate comment from the HFEA, but sources close to the authority said Roslin's proposed application appeared to be within the remit of British law on embryo research.

Reports last week that Italian fertility specialist Severino Antinori had managed to achieve a pregnancy in a woman as a result of human cloning prompted widespread skepticism among scientists.

Antinori was said to have made the claim in response to a question during a lecture in Abu Dhabi but has refused to confirm or deny media reports or clarify exactly what he said.

Critics of human embryo cloning say it represents the first step on a slippery slope to reproductive cloning, which is illegal in many countries, including Britain.

Motorola, Nokia say Telsim breached contract



By Sinead Carew

NEW YORK (Reuters) - A lawyer testifying for Motorola Inc. MOT.N said on Friday the wealthy Uzan family, which controls Turkey's No. 2 wire-

less operator, Telsim, breached its contract with the telecommunications equipment maker when it diluted its shares in Telsim.

Motorola and Nokia NOK1V.HE NOK.N are jointly suing the Uzan fam-

ily for alleging borrowing a total of about \$3 billion from them with no intention of ever paying it back.

The two companies hope to recover about \$3 billion in compensation and treble the amount in damages, under the U.S. Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations statute.

The RICO laws, first used most in cases against mobsters, are now more commonly used in civil and criminal cases.

Motorola and Nokia hope to secure a preliminary injunction that will freeze the Uzans' assets in the United States and force the family to deposit their shares in Telsim with the court, until the case is resolved.

Motorola lent just over \$2 billion to Telsim against which 66 percent of Telsim stock was pledged as a guaran-

tee, in case of default of payment.

Motorola has said the Uzan family diluted its stake to 22 percent by increasing the number of Telsim shares outstanding.

On the third day of a hearing in Manhattan federal court, Istanbul-based lawyer Fadlullah Cerrahoglu, who was called as an expert witness by Motorola, said the dilution was a breach of the contract between Motorola and Telsim.

But an Uzan attorney questioned Cerrahoglu's independence, noting that the lawyer had previously represented a number of cases against the Uzans.

Attorneys for Uzan also said Motorola had delivered products with technical problems, while some of Nokia's equipment was delivered late.

"These problems were never solved," Telsim executive board member Fatih Azami said. He added that Telsim lost revenue and customers as a result.

The hearing, which had already been extended once to Friday, was extended again to Monday.

Judge Jed Rakoff, presiding over the hearing, expects to make a decision within two weeks.

Napster says it lays off thirty people

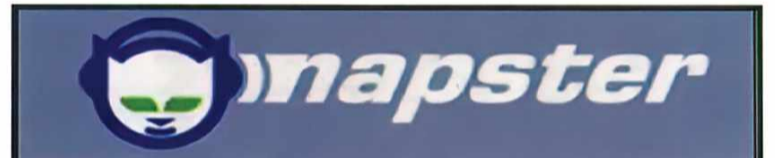
LOS ANGELES (Reuters) - Internet song-swap service Napster, which has been hobbled by copyright litigation, said on Thursday it had laid off 30 people or about 30 percent of its staff.

The layoffs come as Bertelsmann AG BTGGG.D, a major investor in Napster, continues to put on hold its talks to buy the rest of the once high-flying music service pending the resolution of a dispute among other Napster investors.

The service, which has been grounded by legal squabbles since July 2001, last month postponed the launch of a new secure service.

"We remain committed to launching our new secure membership-based service, but we're faced with the hard decision to further streamline our operations. As a result, we have laid off 30 employees," said Konrad Hilbers, chief executive officer of Napster.

Bertelsmann declined to comment, but sources familiar with the discussions



said the company's bid, estimated at between \$15 million and \$30 million, remains on hold until another legal matter has been sorted out.

Last month, one of Napster's original investors sued to oust half of its board of directors, saying the move was needed soon in light of a pending offer to buy the company.

John Fanning, uncle of Napster inventor Shawn Fanning, filed suit in Delaware Chancery Court to replace Hank Barry and John Hummer on Napster's four-member board with two new members, Joseph Amram and Martin Kay.

The suit claims that shareholders voted to change the board on March 24, but Barry and Hummer disputed the validity of the vote and also disputed con-

version of Napster's preferred stock, which had controlled the votes in the privately held company, into common stock on March 11.

apster has said the allegations are legally groundless.

"There is still dissent among the Napster investors and the (Bertelsmann bid) situation is stalled because of that," said a source familiar with the situation on Thursday.

Napster has delayed the launch of its new royalty-paying service due, in part, to its failure to obtain licenses from major music companies like AOL Time Warner Inc.'s AOL.N Warner Music, EMI Group Plc EMI.L Vivendi Universal's EAUG.PA Universal Music, and Sony Music 6758.T.

Super Naba' – the SabaFon Pre-paid Service

The "Super Naba" service from SabaFon is a pre-paid service that presents a whole package of features, which enable customers to use their mobile phones in a more effective and efficient manner. The service is a fast growing one and is progressively evolving with new GSM features and applications.

"SabaFon" was the first to launch its Super Naba' service on February 2001. The launch of this service provided a good communication tool to a particular segment of the GSM market in Yemen. Since then, SabaFon has developed upon this service by presenting it in a competitive package including pricing, availability and utility.

Super Naba' is a service to which customers can subscribe without any monthly fees, bills, or security deposit. Subscribers will use scratch cards that contain specific amount of units, and which are valid for a certain period of time. Calls can be made and received during this "Validity Period" and within the amount of units available. When the validity period is over, customers will be able to receive calls only for another period, which is referred to as "the Grace Period".

To be able to make calls again, subscribers can buy scratch cards to recharge their mobiles and continue to use them (with the same GSM phone number). The scratch card will allow customers to have a new amount of units as well as new validity and grace periods. In case recharging before original unites are exhausted, the new units only will be added to the previous account. There will also be information contained on each scratch card as how to use it and the recharge process takes only a few minutes.

Therefore, Super Naba customers will benefit from the following features:

- No monthly fee
- Budget control
- No contracts
- No bills
- No security deposit
- International access

On the 2nd of March 2002, SabaFon launched its new "Extra Scratch Card". By introducing the Extra Scratch Card, SabaFon has made it even MORE AFFORDABLE for all the Super Naba' subscribers to use this service. With as little as YER 800, subscribers can have 80 units, which are valid for 14 days, plus, another 14 days grace period. Super Naba' service is now within the reach of ALL the potential subscribers!

The Super Naba' service is, therefore, an easy-to-use service, providing peace of mind to its subscribers. All that customers have to do is to subscribe to this service, start using their phone and buy scratch cards to recharge their mobiles at any time and according to their budget and needs.

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Astronauts get multi-cultural on space station

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (Reuters) - The International Space Station lived up to its name on Friday, with astronauts celebrating a Russian national holiday in the morning before turning to barbecue and country and western music in the afternoon.

There are currently 10 astronauts aboard the orbiting outpost -- the Russian-American resident crew of three and seven additional astronauts, all American, from the shuttle Atlantis, which is there for a week of joint operations.

April 12 is Cosmonauts Day in Russia, marking the flight 41 years ago of Yuri Gagarin, the first human in space. For the occasion, Russian President Vladimir Putin placed a phone call to the station and spoke to the commander, Yury Onufrienko, and his American crewmates, Dan Bursch and Carl Walz.

Later came the barbecue because, as shuttle commander Mike Bloomfield explained, the rodeo season was under way in Houston, where the American astronauts live and train, and he did not want the station crew to miss it entirely.

"We brought a little bit of barbecue meat with us and we'll have some corn, and we also have some good country western tunes that Jerry Ross brought with us," Bloomfield said.

Ross is a crewmate on Atlantis and set a human spaceflight record with his seventh space voyage on this mission.

PUTIN CALLS

Putin congratulated the station crew for their four months in space. They still have two months left in orbit.

Putin, who said he had been discussing NATO issues with President

Precious stones collector says he finds a unique onyx

Ahmad Mohammed Abdulrahman Amer, a precious stones collector, said he came across a unique piece of onyx that dates back to many years ago.

A five-branched tree is formed inside the onyx.

"The formation of the tree dates to the geologic age," he said.

Amer claims that certain names and religious expressions such as that of the Prophet, peace be upon him, and his relatives, can be read in the small branches if looked at by a microscope.



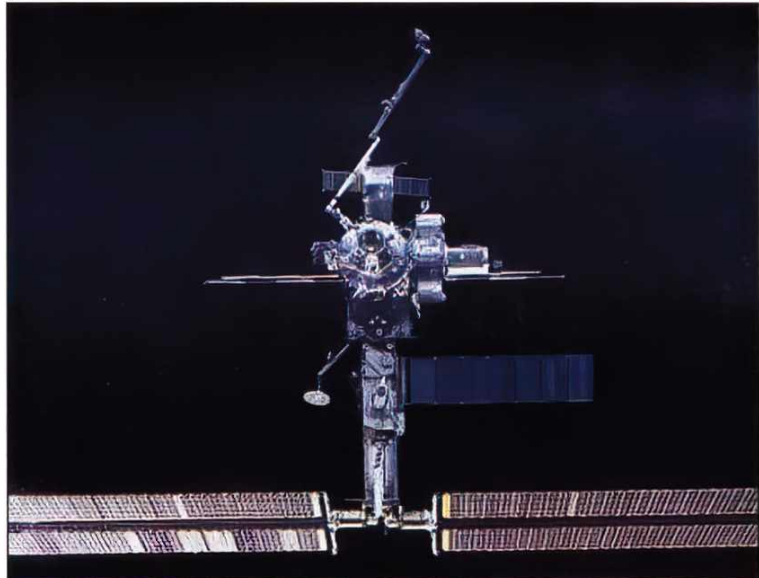
Bush just minutes earlier, said "my best regards to you on my behalf and on his behalf. We commented on the courage of cosmonauts and wish you every success."

Cosmonaut is the word used for a Russian astronaut.

Putin asked Walsh if the three had any problems understanding one another.

"We have no language problems on board. We trained together for more than five years, so we know each other very well. In addition we have a special on board language among us, using many U.S. acronyms and Russian acronyms. So we have a unique language," said Walz.

An earlier space station commander



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dubbed the hybrid language "Ruglish," and it seems every crew falls into the same pattern of mixing languages.

The two crews were given some off-duty time to rest between spacewalks on Thursday and Saturday.

SPACEWALKS

Ross, who is to make his eighth spacewalk on Saturday, was asked during a round of broadcast interviews why astronauts took such pleasure in working outside their spacecraft.

"I think it's the idea that you're a human being outside in your own little spacecraft and you're using your own intelligence and your own hands to do things that are so incredible and so important for the future of mankind," Ross said.

"Add to that the beauty of what you're doing and the incredible sights, a sunrise or sunset ever 45 minutes, and you're going across the face of the Earth at such a great clip that if you blink, or look away for too long, you'll miss entire continents."

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