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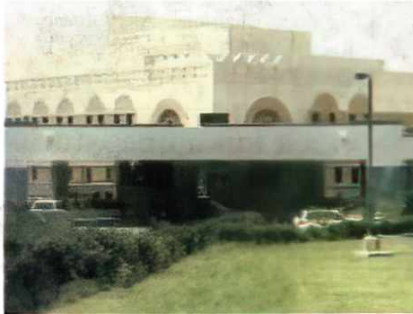
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Patrols beefed up across Sana'a

US Embassy closed, fears more attacks

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF AND NEWS SERVICES
SANA'A — The U.S. Embassy kept its doors closed this past week because of a threat of more attacks against American interests in the Gulf region.
Meanwhile, security in the streets of Sana'a was beefed up, with patrols commonly seen on main streets, in trucks manned with guns on the back.
The embassy closed on Tuesday and Wednesday after warning Americans of "possible terrorist activities against U.S. interests in Yemen" on or about April 23. Thursday and Friday are the routine days it stays closed for the weekend.
A State Department statement from Washington said the embassy will continue in the meantime to "review its security posture". It did not say when the embassy would reopen to the public.
The embassy has repeatedly warned Americans to avoid parts of the capital and itself became a target of anti-American senti-



The US Embassy closed due to threats of attacks — again.

ment on March 15 when a Yemeni man threw two devices at the embassy wall. They exploded but caused little damage.
The United States believes followers of Saudi-born militant Osama bin Laden, accused of masterminding the Sept. 11 attacks on the United States, are hiding in remote parts of Yemen.
Yemeni authorities are trying to shake off

the country's image as a haven for militancy and, with U.S. support, have launched a crackdown on supporters of bin Laden.
But officials have their hands full in trying to control al-Qaeda supporters. A group calling themselves Sympathizers of al-Qaeda have given the government until next week to release almost 173 detainees suspected of being involved in terrorist-type activities.
The group has claimed responsibility for a bomb blast near the government's Public Security Office two weeks ago, and has claimed it will step up such attacks without the release of the detainees.
Meanwhile, reports of a gun fight near the embassy on April 25 suggest one person was injured.
Thursday's gun fight was reported to be between members of the military police and guards of the director of Sa'wan Tourist City's General Hamud Raheeb.
The fight apparently started after the security director claimed possession of land in the area. Police denied him the claim.

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Palestinian fundraising

A big ripoff?

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF
Where's the money?
The campaign to support the Palestinians has triggered heated accusations on the way they are being raised and delivered.
The Supreme Committee for Supporting Intifada has warned citizens not to donate a penny except through official committees and mosques.
The Islah Charitable Society denied that this warning was against it, as its secretary-general, Hameed Zaidan said that the warning is for individuals and not societies.
But, other analysts cast doubts on the transparency of the Supreme Committee for Supporting Intifada and accused it of cutting millions of riyals from government employees without giving reports on ways of disbursing it.
Many other individuals and societies have their own committees that raise funds for the Palestinians, including Sheikh Abdulah bin Hussein al-Ahmar, parliament speaker, and the Haq Party.
Even the traffic police and security collect donations.
Mosque Imams, on their part, raise money after each prayer.

A game of musical prisoners

Suspects held...

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF
Yemeni security authorities have detained two person allegedly involved in the last wave of bombings that took place in Sana'a, the last of which targeted the secret police office at the Aviation and Metrology Authority, security sources say.
The two are sympathizers with the al-Qaeda captives held by Yemeni secret police.
The arrest of the two comes with the approach of the end of the 30-day ultimatum given by the al-Qaeda sympathizers. They have told authorities to release their 173 comrades, currently detained at the Political Security Office, or they will step up their bomb attacks.
Meanwhile, security police raided the

... Convicts flee

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF
Seven convicts escaped from Sana'a's Central Jail last Monday, and investigators want to know how.
Yemeni authorities have since arrested an unknown number of relatives of the escaped convicts and have been holding them to find out just where the escapees may be.
This, in turn, has created tension with

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Presidential office manager and Minister of Human Rights Visit YT

Last Thursday Mr. Ali al Anisi, Presidential Office Manager along with Dr. Wahiba Fare, State Minister of Human Rights paid a visit to the Yemen Times office in Sana'a.

They were shown the different departments of the paper.

They were also briefed on work of every department and how stories are received and edited.

The visit came a day before their participation in the Human Right more than Politics seminar which was organized by the Yemen Times Newspaper at its premises.

The seminar dealt with the principles of human rights and means of spreading the people's awareness about their rights.

Many people including professors, human rights advocates attended the seminar.

ESC signs memo with IFES

A memorandum of understanding was signed last week between the Election Supreme Committee (ESC) and the International Foundation for Electrical Systems(IFES). The memo aims at enhancing cooperation between the ESC and the other related international establishments. The memo will also focus on developing the technical and administrative capabilities of the ESC.

The signing ceremony was attended by Mr. Abdulmalik al-Akwa', the vice-chairman, members, and secretary general of the Committee as well as Miss. Jordan, German Embassy charge d' affair.

Mahatma school hosts its annual celebration

The Mahatma Gandhi International School organized on April 24 with the presence of a host of VIPs its annual celebration in Aden. Different artistic shows were performed during the event by the school students. Top students were also honored during the party.

All people present admired the organization of the party and expressed their appreciation for the achievements of the school in all aspects of education. The school board also reviewed the accomplishments of the school within the last year during this event.

1st workshop on financial resources winds up

Working papers were presented during the first workshop held in Sana'a on April 17 to 19 centering on different new methods on the proper money collection.

The role of the Local Administration Ministry was also discussed during the three-day workshop with regard to supervising the financial resources in both districts and governorates in the republic.

The executive bodies in each administrative unit is entrusted to collect money from the financial resources supervised by the Local Council in accordance with the Local Council valid laws and regulations. The collected amounts of money have to be sent regularly to the private accounts.

Two kinds of financial resources have been identified:

Local financial resources, money that has been collected only for the benefit of districts. The second one is called **joint financial resources** which is pertaining to governorates as a whole.

In a statement to the Yemen Times, the Local Administration Deputy Ministry, Abdulwahab Ahmed stressed that proposals and commentaries that



Shefa Mohammed



Abdulwahab Ahmed

have been presented by participants have gained the attention of the Ministry of the Local Administration with a view of promoting the financial resources in the administrative units.

"The participants has made use of the each others' experience through questions that have been raised during the workshop meeting," Abdulwahab said.

"We have been waiting impatiently for such workshop. I hope that the workshop will achieve good results," the General Manager of the General Corp. for Financial Resources in Hadhramoot, Shefa Mohammed al-Yazedi said.

"In Hadhramoot financial resources depend mainly on Qat, traffic, and fish taxes", Shefa said.



Chamber of Commerce & Industry concludes meeting

Aden-Islamic Chamber of Commerce & Industry completed its 37 Executive Committee meeting on April 28-29 in Aden.

The two-day cycle aimed at enhancing and promoting the macro-economy's role among the Islamic chambers.

Holding the 37 Executive Committee Cycle will have a profitable results with regard to organizing a symposium centering on investment opportunities in coordination with General Corp. for Investment and Yeminvest comp.

Several-related investment issues were reviewed including, investment opportunities, granted facilitation, new law amendments on investment, and Aden Free Zone laws.

Around 23 Islamic countries attended the event including representatives of the Organization of the Islamic Conference, the Islamic Bank for Development, representatives of Chambers of Commerce and Industry and the prime minister, Dr. Abulkader Bajammal.

Cultural urban heritage symposium discussed

Developing public awareness towards the preservation of cultural heritage was the main focus of the symposium held last week at the Press Center in Sana'a.

Participants in their working papers focused on the strategy of preserving the program of urban heritage and the vital leading role played by the media to pack up and find immediate solutions to the cultural heritage before it falls into a state of decay.

The symposium aimed to familiarize the public with the current situation of urban heritage.

During the inauguration ceremony, the Vice Chairman, Ali Oshaish outlined the goals and components of this programs.

The Culture Minister, Abdulwahab Arowhani delivered a speech centering on the leading role played by media to disseminate awareness among people.

The Chairman of the program, *Deekter Momtekh* focused in his speech on the main tasks performed by the program, future plans, disseminating awareness, and conducting field surveys with view of preserving the cultural urban heritage and upgrading it as a vital economic resource.

This program is an outcome of the bilateral cooperation between Yemen and the Kingdom of Holland. It is established to support governmental and non-governmental organizations in the field of preserving the cultural centers and historical sites.

The program addresses policies that would help Yemen revitalize all its historic cities, and how the cultural heritage can co-exist with the development of the cities and adaptation to the requirements of modern life.

The symposium was sponsored by the Minister of Information, Hussein Dhaif Allah, and the Kingdom of Holland.

The question of preserving the cultural heritage of Yemen has invited the interest of all people interested in culture and preservation of history.

Yemen is bestowed with a unique culture that could be a very good source of income if it is taken care of properly.

Last landmines stockpile in Yemen destroyed

The last warehouse of 8676-anti-personnel landmines were destroyed April 27 in the governorate of Lahaj with the presence of prime minister, Abdulqadir Bajamal, state minister and chairman of Mines Clearance Committee, Muhssen al-Yussefi, and Abdulrahman Mohammed Ali Othman, minister of Trade & Industry.

Yemen is the first country in the world to destroy its anti-personnel stockpile following the signing of the Ottawa Treaty on landmines in 1999.

Workshop on child's rights and human rights held

The Human Rights Information & Training Center organized on April 25 a workshop on child's rights.

The workshop was confined to teachers in different schools in Taiz governorate.

Psychiatrist Abdurahman A. led the workshop.

Two new cranes for Aden's anchor

The Aden Free Zone Authority is currently holding consultations with the company responsible for developing the concession areas in block (J Caltex) with the view of finalizing the appraisal of what have been so far achieved at the first phase.

Two cranes will soon be constructed for lessening the growing high traffic on the existing anchor till the second phase's anchor is completed.

The Aden Free Zone Authority is exerting pressure on the implementing company to carry out the agreed-upon agreements and annexes.

Training course on childhood & motherhood winds up

A training course on motherhood and childhood concluded last Thursday in Marib.

It was organized by the GTZ in cooperation with the Health Office.

About 16 participants from 17 districts of Marib governorate attended the training course in the field of reproductive health and birth planning.

Workshop for female journalists on human rights

The Supreme Nation Committee for Human Rights (SNCHR) organized April 24 at its headquarters the first consultative meeting with female journalists and writers.

At the opening session, Dr. Wahiba Fare, State Minister of Human Rights, noted that the meeting came to reflect the importance of mass media in spreading human rights principles.

"This meeting came to follow-up the works of the former workshop on human rights as well as the endorsement of the child rights legislation enacted by the Supreme National Committee for Human Rights in cooperation with members of the freedom committees at the Shura Council and the parliament," she said.

"The child rights law to be discussed soon by the parliament represents the genuine political orientation founded by president Ali Abdullah Saleh that advocates human rights in all aspects," she added, stressing that the mass media organizations have instrumental role to play in forming the public opinion".

Yassin al-Massu'di, editor-in-chief of the Thawra newspaper, secretary-general of the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate, made a word in which he highlighted the efforts exerted by the SNCHR, pointing out that the media is an ideal way for advocating human rights.

Raja al-Musa'abi, chairwoman of the Arab Human Rights Foundation, made a word on behalf of the civil society organizations, placing stress on the importance of the role of journalists in spreading human rights principles. Najiba Hadad, deputy minister of culture for arts & theater sector pointed out that the agreement on human rights has attracted the attention of all people.

Some of the most important recommendations reached by the meeting included: coordinating with the Ministry of Information to prepare programs related to human rights, and supporting radio and television programs pertaining to human rights.

'Role of law-enforcement authorities' workshop ends

A training workshop was concluded last week on human rights and the role of law-enforcement authorities. More than 40 participants took part at the workshop which was organized by the National Committee for Human Rights in cooperation with the United Nations Higher Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

The workshop aimed at enhancing the law-enforcement authorities awareness on adhering to human rights standards and applying the internationally ratified human rights conventions.

Dr. Waheeba Fare'a, state minister

for human rights, said that the workshop will enable the participants to profoundly understand laws and regulation related to human rights. She also noted that a new law on children will be enacted in the near future.

Chairman of the President's Office, vice-chairman of National Committee of Human Rights, said that this workshop came to translate into practice the joint agreements between the committee and the UNHCR.

Al-Anesi hoped that the individual misconduct committed at law-enforcement authorities will come to an end.

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HSA prizes given away

A number of the top scientific and literary figures in the field of science and art were given away the prizes of Hajj Hayel Saeed Ana'am (HSA) for science and art in a ceremony held in Taiz last Thursday.

The ceremony was organized by al-Saeed Foundation for Sciences & Culture.

Among the winners were Dr. Abdulkareem Shaiban for his medical research "The Chronic Kidney Diseases in Yemen" and Mr. Mohammed Mothana for his play Eagle's Arch, (Kows Annasr).

An initiative to establish a fund for supporting scientific researches at universities and scientific institutions and centers was taken by the Head of the Board of Directors, Mr. Ali Mohammed Saeed Ana'am.

Mr. Faisal Saeed Fare, chairman of

the al-Saeed Foundation stated that the number of candidates for the prize reached 227 last year. Among those, only 12 have won the prize.

Dr. Abdulaziz al-Makaleh, a renowned Yemeni poet, Mr. Hashem Ali, a well-known artist and Mr. Saleh Addahan, a journalist, were rewarded in the event.



An Appeal to the Minister of Interior

Mr. Jalal Abdulwahid al-Khulaidi, director of the Children Rehabilitation Center in Taiz appealed the Minister of Interior and the State Minister of Human Rights to interfere to release him from jail.

Al-Khulaidi was imprisoned while he was trying to disengage a quarrel sparked between a group of people. He was then taken along with other persons involved in the fighting.

Al-Khulaidi hopes that the con-

cerned bodies will investigate his case and help him go back to his family.

The case of al-Khulaidi is not the only case of its kind for hundreds of people are held captive for crimes they have not committed.

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Germany in shock as 17 die in school bloodbath

BY ERIK KIRSCHBAUM AND FIONA SHAIKH

ERFURT, Germany (Reuters) - German police named Saturday the 19-year-old student who caused the country's worst post-war killing as Robert Steinhäuser, a gun club member who shot dead 16 people at his former school before killing himself.

The eastern town of Erfurt was in shock after Friday's bloodbath, struggling to understand why the failed student had returned to his local high school with a pump-action shotgun and a handgun and slaughtered 13 teachers, two pupils, a police officer and finally shot himself.

A total of 14 teachers had initially been reported killed, but a police spokeswoman revised down the figure to 13. A police source named the killer as Robert Steinhäuser, correcting earlier media reports giving his last name as Steinhof.

Steinhäuser had been a member of a local gun club and possessed valid weapons permits that could only be obtained after six to nine months training, a police spokesman said.

Bild newspaper published a photograph of an ordinary looking teen-ager with short hair in a dark shirt and smiling pleasantly.

The newspaper reported he lived with his mother, while his father lived elsewhere. It quoted a fellow pupil as saying he had a bad relationship with both par-

ents.

German news quoted police as saying the gunman shot himself as armed police moved in on him. They also said they had found another 500 bullets stashed in a bathroom that they believed the assailant had planted and planned to use before killing himself.

"The munitions found match the two guns he had," a police spokeswoman said. More than 1,000 people attended somber church ceremonies on a rainy Friday evening, grieving amid the carnage that has made this sleepy medieval town of 197,000 people, 200 miles south of Berlin, the scene of one of the worst school slayings.

Hundreds of bunches of flowers brought by mourners were placed at police barricades in front of the school building and the town hall.

"It is the darkest day in history for our town," Mayor Manfred Ruge told German television. "We all wish we could somehow turn back the clock."

MASKED KILLER

Masked and clad in black, the gunman pumped bullets into teachers he found in the corridors and classrooms as he stalked his victims throughout the upper floors of the early 20th century Jugendstil school building. Six teachers were wounded.

"There were dead bodies lying everywhere in the corridors," said Thomas Rethfeldt, 18, whose teacher was shot in the head as she opened the door at the start of the shooting. The students barri-

caded themselves in the classroom until police freed them an hour later.

"I never thought anything like this could ever happen in a place like Erfurt," he added in a quiet, shaken voice. "I thought this must be a bad film. I thought this kind of thing only happened in America."

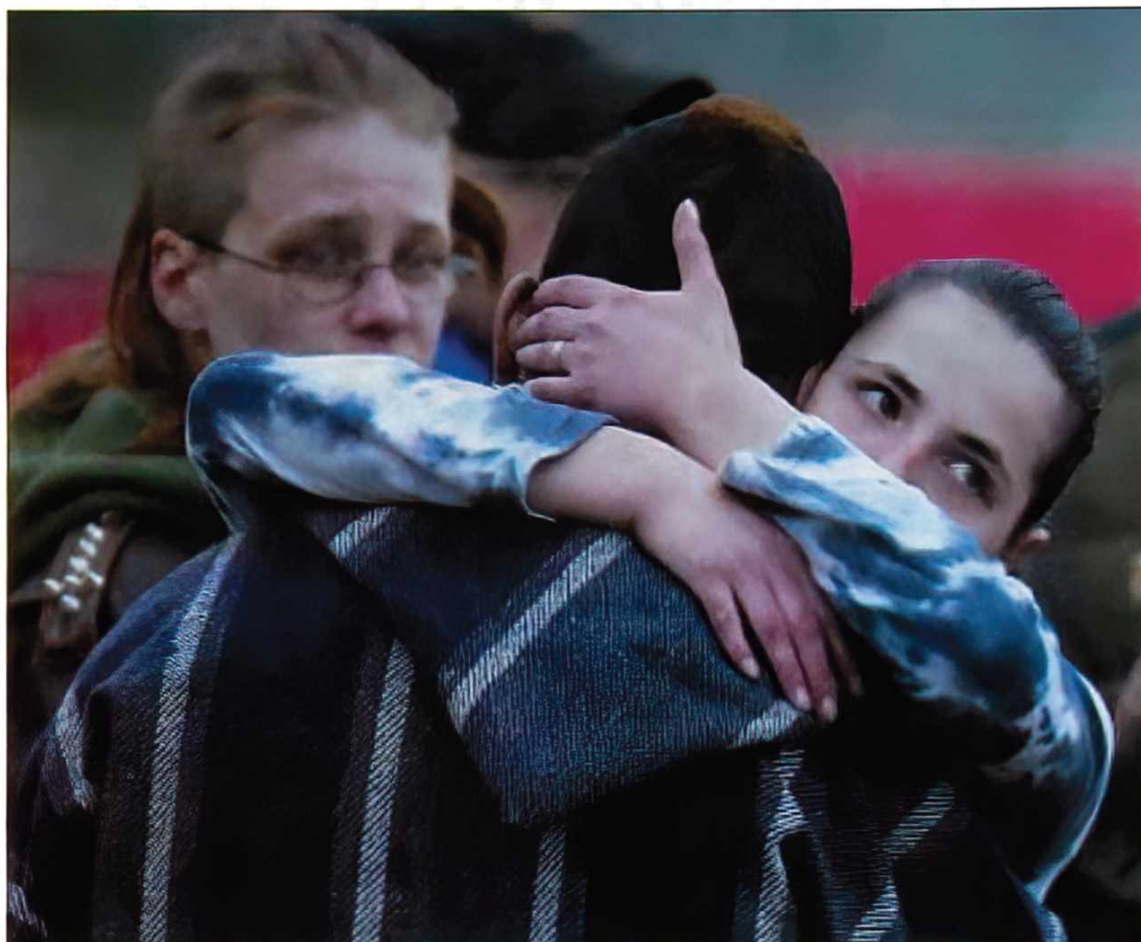
A number of students who escaped unharmed from the school said a second gunman had been in the school. Police said late on Friday they were investigating the reports and that they could not rule out the possibility a second assailant had escaped.

The scale of the murder, rivaling some of the worst school killings ever, stunned Germans, who long felt they had some of the toughest gun-control laws in the world and were far removed from the type of wanton violence that has haunted the United States and Britain.

Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder said he was staggered and unable to find words to describe his horror. Flags on the Reichstag parliament building in Berlin as well as buildings throughout Erfurt flew at half-mast.

Tearful, grief-stricken people attended Erfurt's church services. Many lit candles for the dead as bells rang out.

Steinhäuser was expelled from the school several months ago and banned from taking his "Abitur," a high-school exam required for entry into university. He had also had to repeat a year, although the reason was not immediately known.



Pupils of the Gutenberg secondary school comfort each other near the school in Erfurt, central Germany, April 26, 2002. A student bent on revenge for being expelled from the school shot dead 14 teachers, two pupils, a police officer and himself in Germany's worst mass murder since World War Two, police said. Photo by Fabrizio Bensch/Reuters

Several students said he had been thrown out of school for playing truant and passing forged excuse notes to school authorities in the picturesque town in the state of Thuringia.

"He had good grades," said Isabelle Hartung, 18, adding that marks were not the reason he was expelled. "He once told me he wanted to be famous and known to everyone. Now when I think back to what he said it really freaks me out." The drama began when the school janitor rang police to report hearing shots in school.

"We were sitting in class doing our

work and we heard a shooting sound," said Filip Niemann, a student who survived the bloodbath. "We joked about it and the teacher smiled."

"The teacher let us go out and see what was happening and when we left the classroom, three to four meters in front of us, there was a masked person in black holding his gun at his shoulder," said the teen-ager, visibly shocked.

"He stretched out his gun and fired. We saw a teacher fall to the ground. We just turned and ran. I heard from other kids the gunmen opened classroom doors and aimed at teachers." One of

two police officers who arrived at the school after the janitor's phone call was immediately shot dead, police said.

About 700 students between the ages of 10 and 19 attend the Gutenberg high school on the outskirts of Erfurt.

Other mass killings at schools in recent years include the 1996 murder of 16 children and their teacher in the Scottish town of Dunblane by a lone gunman who later killed himself.

In April 1999 in the United States, two student gunmen killed 12 other students and a teacher at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado.

Top Pakistan court upholds Musharraf's referendum

BY ZEESHAN HAIDER

ISLAMABAD (Reuters)- Pakistan's Supreme Court on Saturday rejected an opposition plea to halt an April 30 referendum on extending military President Pervez Musharraf's rule for another five years.

The nine-judge bench rejected three petitions from opposition parties and a lawyers' association which had argued the referendum was unconstitutional.

"It is a unanimous decision," Chief Justice Sheikh Riaz Ahmed told the court after the judges had spent more than three hours locked away for their final deliberations. Musharraf, who seized power in a bloodless coup in October 1999, will ask the nation on Tuesday to allow him another five years as president to continue his economic, political and social reforms, a move rejected by all the main opposition parties.

The Supreme Court, which in 2000 upheld Musharraf's coup but said he had to hand over to a civilian government by October 2002, has never decided against a military ruler.

The military has ruled Pakistan for more than half its 55-year history, but Saturday's ruling stated the referendum call was in line with powers granted to Musharraf following the coup. As such, constitutional challenges were "premature," it said.

"I believe the referendum...will take place now and there is no impediment in the way and I am confident as a result of that we will return to democracy in October," Abdul Hafeez Pirzada, a government lawyer, told reporters.

Ikram Chaudhry, a lawyer for the Supreme Court Bar Association which had submitted one of the petitions against the poll, said: "It is a regrettable decision. The whole nation will be disappointed."

OPPOSITION RALLIES

The ruling came as opposition activists gathered in Lahore, capital of populous Punjab province, and Peshawar in North West Frontier



A Musharraf poster near the presidential palaces in Islamabad April 26, 2002. Photo by Mian Khursheed/Reuters

Province, to rally against Musharraf. Musharraf has previously banned all outdoor political meetings, but allowed Saturday's demonstrations to go ahead.

By late afternoon turnout was poor, with around 4,000 people attending a rally called by the mainstream Islamic party Jamaat Islami in Peshawar, and an estimated 8,000 in Lahore for a rally called by the 15-party Alliance for the Restoration of Democracy.

Musharraf's critics say the April 30 referendum is illegal under the constitution, which states the president should be elected by the bicameral parliament and the four provincial assemblies.

Musharraf argues the constitution

allows him to hold a referendum on "important national issues."

Lawyers acting for opposition political parties were disappointed.

"It is a very sad day in the constitutional history of Pakistan," Farooq Hassan, a barrister acting for Jamaat Islami, told reporters.

The country's major political parties said on Friday they would boycott the referendum and called on the international community to support their bids for the restoration of democracy.

Organizers of the two rallies said they expected more people to arrive as the main events were scheduled for after the Supreme Court decision.

France braces for mass anti-Le Pen protests

BY MARK JOHN

PARIS (Reuters) - France braced for mass street protests against far-right leader Jean-Marie Le Pen on Saturday as a new poll forecast he would suffer a landslide defeat to President Jacques Chirac in a May 5 election runoff.

A coalition of human rights groups, student associations, anti-racist organizations and trade unions called rallies in Paris and 30 French towns for the afternoon after Le Pen's shock qualification success in last Sunday's first round.

Almost daily marches this week have drawn up to 350,000 protesters around the country. Two thousand police were deployed in the capital alone on Saturday after some isolated incidents of violence were recorded in Paris and elsewhere.

Chirac, fearing trouble could play into Le Pen's hands, urged calm ahead of protests due to continue over the weekend and culminate in a May 1 rally in Paris next Wednesday.

"I make absolutely no criticism, but on one condition — that it does not produce the opposite result of that desired," Chirac warned late on Friday.

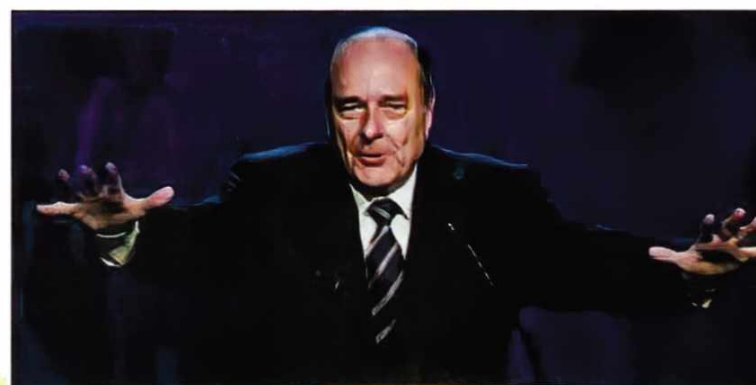
"Unfortunately, experience shows that when there are too many demonstrations, things can get out of hand," he told a campaign meeting in the town of Dreux to the west of Paris.

Police estimate "several tens of thousands" of protesters could march the three km (1.5 miles) between Place de la Republique and Place de la Nation, a forecast which could turn out to be conservative.

CELEBRITIES ON THE MARCH

A large demonstration was also expected in the southern port of Marseille, where Le Pen came in first on Sunday ahead of both Chirac and Socialist Prime Minister Lionel Jospin, whose failure to reach the second round has killed his career.

Celebrities including actress Isabelle Adjani, the daughter of an Algerian, were expected to head up the Paris rally. "There will be lots of posters pointing



French President Jacques Chirac delivers a speech at a campaign rally in Lyon, April 25, 2002. Chirac called on voters to 'defend the republican ideal' following National Front leader Jean-Marie Le Pen's shock qualification for the May 5 presidential runoff in a first round vote last Sunday. Photo by Robert Pratta/Reuters

out that many of us are the children of immigrants, be it second or third generation, and we want to show a youth that is united against Le Pen," said Tania Assouline of the UNEF students association.

Since Sunday, 73-year-old former paratrooper Le Pen has launched into the detail of his anti-immigrant, anti-European Union platform in a string of interviews and media conferences.

He has spoken about setting up "transit camps" to confine illegal immigrants while they awaited deportation out of France — a choice of language critics said was a deliberate harking on World War Two Nazi camps for Jews.

He also vowed to abolish the Schengen pact on free movement of people across national borders inside the 15-nation EU, to halt plans to enlarge the bloc and make sure Turkey, whose population is overwhelmingly Muslim, could never join.

In a barb at British Prime Minister Tony Blair, who has called him "repellent," Le Pen said the British leader did not want illegal immigrants to enter Britain any more than he (Le Pen) wanted them to enter France.

Le Pen has accused Chirac and other political leaders of goading the nation's youth into street protests against his National Front, which will be holding its own rally in Paris on May 1 to honor

French patron saint Joan of Arc.

Even Communists have called on voters to back Chirac on May 5 to ensure Le Pen is kept out of the Elysee Palace and handed the worst score possible.

The French left is in a period of retrenchment ahead of parliamentary elections in June which Chirac — if reelected — sees a chance to return a right-leaning government committed to tax-cutting and other reforms he envisages.

SLEAZE STILL AN ISSUE

Jospin on Friday called on the French to vote against the extreme right but fell short of explicitly backing Chirac, for many left-wing voters irretrievably besmirched by the sleaze allegations that have dogged his career.

Pollsters who have faced widespread public anger for failing to predict Le Pen's success in the first round have been reticent about publishing forecasts for the second.

However a CSA survey published by Le Parisien daily on Saturday gave Chirac a landslide 81 percent of the vote against just 19 percent for Le Pen. Ahead of the first-round in which he scored 17 percent of the vote, pollsters gave Le Pen 14 percent. His defeat of Jospin was largely due to the prime minister's vote splintering among several smaller candidates.

Five killed in attack on West Bank settlement

JERUSALEM (Reuters) - Five people were killed when gunmen attacked an Israeli settlement in the West Bank on Saturday in the first such assault since Israel launched a four-week-old military sweep through Palestinian-ruled cities.

"Five people have been killed," an army spokeswoman said after the attack by either one or two gunmen on Adora, a few miles west of the divided city of Hebron. Six people had been wounded, one seriously.

The attack came a day after President Bush insisted Israel must end its military offensive "now," after another Israeli raid defied his earlier demands.

Hebron was the only big West Bank city not reoccupied in Israel's offensive, perhaps because the army feared a full-scale assault would endanger about 400 Jewish settlers living in heavily guarded enclaves among 120,000 Palestinians.

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon unleashed the West Bank campaign on March 29 after suicide attacks killed scores of Israelis. Israel says many of the attackers came from the Jenin refugee camp, scene of the fiercest fighting in the offensive.

The United Nations has agreed to delay a mission to find out what happened during Israel's three-week assault on the camp. Israel denies Palestinian allegations of a massacre there.

U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan agreed to the delay until Sunday at the request of Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, who said it would give the Israeli cabinet time to discuss the mission before its expected arrival, said Kieran Prendergast, the U.N. undersecretary-general for political affairs.

There was no immediate claim of responsibility for the attack on Adora and the assailant or assailants appeared to have escaped. The army said it was searching the area.



Palestinian women carry supplies at the Israeli checkpoint at the entrance to Bethlehem April 26, 2002, taking advantage of a temporary lift of the curfew.

Based on Saddam book, play premiers

BAGHDAD (Reuters) - An epic play based on a novel apparently written by Iraqi president Saddam Hussein, which casts the United States with the forces of evil, has received its premiere in Baghdad.

An elite audience said Friday's performance of "Zabibah and the King", in which a woman is raped on the day U.S.-led forces launched the Gulf War, captured the high level of anti-U.S. feeling in the Arab country.

U.S. President George Bush has branded Iraq, along with Iran and North Korea, an "axis of evil", prompting speculation internationally and in Iraq of a U.S. attempt to topple Saddam via military force, perhaps this year.

Anti-U.S. and pro-Saddam rhetoric is currently at a high in the Iraqi media.

In "Zabibah and the King", a king avenges the honour of a woman after she is raped on the day U.S.-led forces launched the 1991 Gulf War to oust Iraq from Kuwait.

The king, who has previously been spurned by the woman, dies in the struggle.

Baghdadis say Zabibah is meant to represent the Iraqi people, who come to realise eventually that the ruler is acting in their best interests and ready to make all sacrifices for them.

The novel, published last year to rave reviews in the local press, was adapted for theatre by Palestinian-born poet Adeeb Nasir.

The rapturous reception given by

Iraqi media to the book and a second novel by the same unidentified author left little doubt as to who penned the works.

High government and ruling Baath Party officials, including Minister of Culture Hamed Yousif Hummadi, as well as much of Baghdad's intelligentsia turned out for Friday's premiere, which comes amid days of celebrations for the Iraqi president's 65th birthday on Sunday.

"It was extremely realistic," said Baqir al-Baqir, a well-to-do Baghdad merchant after the epic performance. "It reflects the difficult circumstances we've been living in since 1990 and the next U.S. aggression. But the people will resist, we will go on."

Since its 1990 invasion of Kuwait, Iraq has been under crippling United Nations sanctions which have ravaged the country's economy, health and education, as well as emasculating its once vibrant cultural life.

"I haven't read the book but there is a lot of interest now because of Bush's threats," a male government employee in the audience of some 600 people said.

The play, which harks back to an ancient Mesopotamian story in which the king Gilgamesh is engaged in an epic battle of good versus evil, is the Iraqi National Theatre's biggest ever production.

Iraq has a strong tradition of theatre in the Arab world.



"Saddam play" premieres in Baghdad Iraqi actress Suha Salin (L) and Iraqi actor Faleh Faisal Jawad portray the main characters in the play "Zabibah and The King" during a dress rehearsal at the Iraqi National Theatre in Baghdad. The play, which has been adapted from a romantic novel apparently written by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein had its premiere on Friday. REUTERS/Faleh Kheiber

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Iraq to urge for end of sanctions in U.N. talks

BAGHDAD, (Xinhua) - Iraqi Foreign Minister Naji Sabri said on Saturday that he will press United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan to lift the decade-long sanctions when the two sides resume talks on May 1, the official Iraqi News Agency (INA) reported.

Sabri added that he will also concentrate the talks on maintaining Iraq's sovereignty and territorial integrity, referring to Iraq's rejection of the two no-fly zones in northern and southern Iraq set up by the U.S.-led Western allies after the 1991 Gulf War.

This means that Iraq is not expected to change its position from the first round of talks with the U.N. chief in March, when the Iraqi foreign minister put forward similar demands.

Moreover, Sabri has presented Annan some 20 questions which include how it could be sure that the U.N. Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC) would not be used by the United States to spy or to draw up target lists for bombing, and whether U.S. threats of overthrowing

the Iraqi regime constitute a violation of the U.N. Charter and international laws.

Amer al-Saadi, a scientific adviser to Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, said on Friday that Iraq is open to discuss with Annan issues including arms inspections, but stressed that Annan should first answer the questions Iraq left at the last meeting.

"We are very open to hear what the (inspection) plans are and how UNMOVIC is different from the U.N. Special Commission," Saadi said.

The United Nations has said that it will urge Baghdad to accept the return of arms inspectors, who withdrew from Iraq on the eve of the U.S.-British air raid in December 1998.

U.S. President George W. Bush has demanded that Iraq re-admit the arms inspectors or face a possible U.S. military onslaught.

Iraq has argued that even if the arms inspectors are allowed back, this will not exclude the possibility of U.S. military attacks, as toppling the Saddam regime has been a U.S. foreign policy objective.

Israeli bulldozers destroy Arafat's convoy car

GAZA, (Xinhua) - Israeli bulldozers Saturday destroyed seven armored Mercedes cars that Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat uses in his presidential motorcade, official Palestinian sources reported from inside Arafat's office in Ramallah.

The sources said that big Israeli army bulldozers drove into Arafat's compound and began to destroy the cars of the presidential convoy, or what the Palestinians call "Al Muqataa".

dozers also destroyed the presidential guards' vans and Cherokee jeeps that were parking in the special garage in Arafat's compound.

Meanwhile, Palestinian National Authority (PNA) Minister of Information Yasser Abed Rabbo slammed the Israeli army for putting loudspeakers around Arafat's compound.

The use of those loudspeakers to produce annoying sounds directed at Arafat's main office is "provocative and/criminal Israeli army action," the minister charged.

He said that carrying out such an action "approves that Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon had failed to get rid of President Arafat and break his determination to continue his struggle for the Palestinian independent state."

وظائف شاعرة

- ١- مطلوب عدد ٢ موظفين تسويقي .
- ٢- مطلوب عدد ١ موظفة تسويقي .
- ٢- مطلوب عدد ١ موظفة سكرتارية .

- ان تكون لديهم خبرة في مجال الدعاية والاعلان .
- ان يكون لديهم خبرة لا تقل عن سنتين .
- ان يصطحب ضمانا شخصية .
- ان يكون حسن المظهر ولبق التخاطب ويجيد التعامل مع العملاء .

فمن يجد في نفسه الرغبة والكفاءة يرجى ارفاق ملف عن السيرة الذاتية

وشهادات الخبرة - الإتصال برقم: ٢٦٢٥٩٠

Saudi bank will shine this year if oil stays strong

DUBAI, April 24 (Reuters) - Saudi banks, bucking a global slowdown with outstanding first-quarter profits, may repeat last year's strong results in 2002 if oil prices stay firm enough to propel the kingdom's economy, analysts said on Wednesday.

They said the banks, which mostly posted double-digit profit increases for 2001, had overcome the aftermath of the September 11 attacks in U.S. cities and expanded while improving revenues.

A lag in passing on interest rate cuts to borrowers, growing demand for retail services and the repatriation of some funds held abroad are among other factors lifting the sector.

"If oil prices keep at current levels, the banks are set to have a good year again, maybe even a better one than last year," said Bishr Bakheet, of Riyadh-based Bakheet Financial Advisors.

"But it is difficult to predict oil prices especially now with the Middle

East crisis and tension over Iraq," he warned.

Analysts said the banks, shielded from the global economic downturn because of their mainly domestic orientation, could be vulnerable to a fall in government spending caused by a drop in oil revenue. Saudi Arabia is the world's largest oil exporter.

Benchmark Brent crude oil prices averaged \$21.50 a barrel in the first quarter, having averaged \$25 last year. But analysts expect prices to rise as the United States leads the world into recovery and threatens action against major oil producer Iraq.

Big gains

National Commercial Bank (NCB), the kingdom's largest, posted an 82.6 percent year-on-year earnings jump to 734 million riyals (\$195.7 million). Saudi Hollandi Bank saw a 24.3 percent rise, Saudi British Bank had a 20 percent climb and Riyad Bank posted an 11.6 percent increase.

Iran earthquake kills one, injures 40

TEHRAN, (Reuters) - A moderate earthquake hit a remote area of western Iran on Thursday, killing at least one person and injuring 40 others, state media said.

The quake, measuring 4.8 on the open-ended Richter scale, also destroyed some buildings in and around the town of Songhor, near the Iraqi border, it said.

The official IRNA news agency said the quake, which struck at 00:20 a.m. on Thursday (19:50 GMT on Wednesday), was followed by two aftershocks measuring 4.9 and 3.9, and caused panic among local residents.

"Reports indicate that some residential units have been heavily damaged in nearby villages in the western Kermanshah province," IRNA said.

An earthquake measuring four or five on the Richter scale is powerful enough to cause heavy damage in a populated area.

Iran, which straddles a major faultline, is often hit by earthquakes and seven tremors have shaken the country in the past month, causing no casualties or damage.

The country's worst recorded quake, measuring 7.1 on the Richter scale, killed 35,000 people in 1990.

Announcement

The Ministry of Industry and Trade in coordination with the World Bank Office in Sana'a are inviting applications from national consultants for the **Integrated Framework for Technical Assistance for Trade Development in Least Developed Countries** in the following fields of specializations:

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3. Poverty
4. Marco economy
5. Transportation and Tele-communications
6. Tourism
7. Fisheries
8. Labor force
9. Regulations
10. Two Arabic English Translators

Qualification/ Experience/ Skills/ Requirement

1. Related University degree in any areas related to the qualifications
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Duration:

The duration for the above posts vary from 2 weeks to one month. Interested candidates are requested to send their applications with their curriculum vitae to: The office of the General Director of International Relations of the Ministry of Industry and Trade. Applications should be received no later than 4 May 2002. Acknowledgment will only be sent to short listed applications meeting the requirement of the post. Detailed TOR for the above posts are available at the General Director of International Relations of the Ministry of Industry and Trade.

"I see the Saudi banks' earnings to continue to grow on the back of the expansion of their retail business, and not only this year but potentially in the next few years," said Gerard Rizk, a senior analyst at Nomura International bank in London.

"It's a market which still has a lot of room to develop," he said, adding that banks had expanded branches and offered a range of new products and services, including Internet banking.

Historically low interest rates, which closely track the U.S. market as the riyal is pegged to the dollar, and high margins were instrumental in boosting profits, bankers said.

"My sense is that the higher profit is coming from a rise of the net commission (interest) income," Said Al-Shaikh, NCB chief economist, told Reuters from Riyadh.

"Basically what is happening is that the cost of funding is going down, and banks are not passing on the cut in interest rate to consumers quickly and at the same rate.

"The other source of income is a generally lower loan loss provision, with the exception of Rajhi," Shaikh said.

Al-Rajhi Banking and Investment Corp, which posted 32.1 percent lower earnings, has made provisions to cover a \$101 million exposure to bankrupt energy trader Enron Corp.

"Assets and deposits have also gone up in the range of six percent, so there has been a good growth of money in the banking system due to last year's higher oil revenue and perhaps some repatriation of funds," Shaikh said.

Analysts said it was unclear how much Arab funds may have been repatriated from the West after September 11.

An opening of Saudi banking sector?

Analysts said the kingdom's 10 commercial banks, protected up to now by a closed market, may have to prepare for competition under a new capital markets law, which is expected to go into effect later this year.

"Competition right now is like 10 people dividing a pie without any new entrants," Bakheet said. "This is not on par with other emerging markets and international standards."

"The banks will face new challenges when the new capital markets law... starts gradually opening up for competition," he said. "There will be more people wanting a piece of the pie, which will probably be bigger after the liberalisation."

The shining earnings reports have prompted double-digit gains by several bank stocks on the Saudi stock market which does not allow direct investment by most foreigners. Citizens of fellow Gulf Arab states can trade in some stocks.

"Opening the stock market is not for tomorrow: there is no shortage of domestic liquidity and there is concern about the havoc speculators can wreak on emerging markets," Bakheet said.

Five workers killed in UAE building collapse

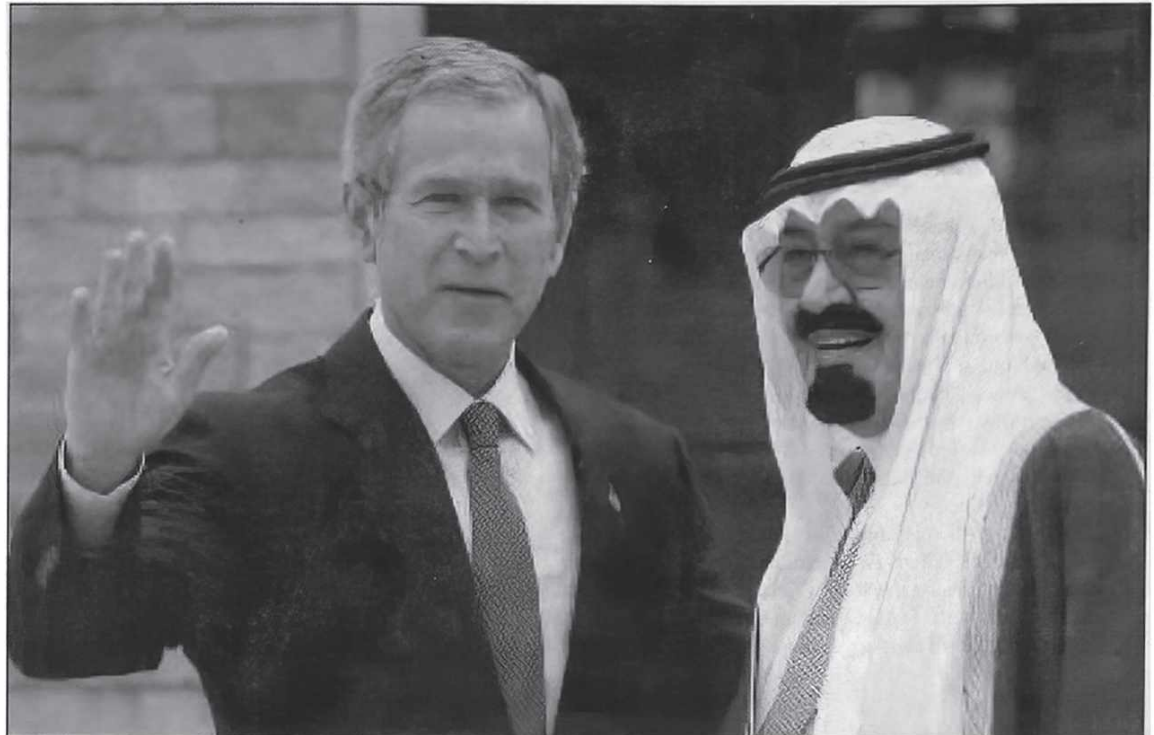
DUBAI, (Reuters) - At least five expatriate workers were killed in the United Arab Emirates when the roof of a building they were constructing caved in on them, newspapers reported on Monday.

They said at least eight other workers were injured in the accident on Sunday in Sharjah, one of the emirates that make up the UAE federation.

The newspapers said the roof's scaffolding collapsed when the workers were pouring cement onto it. Rescuers battled through the night to remove the bodies from underneath the rubble and hardening cement.

The dead workers were identified as Egyptians, Pakistanis and Indians. Expatriates, mainly from poor Asian and Arab countries, form the bulk of the workforce in the oil-rich UAE.

Saudi offers new Mideast crisis plan



U.S. President George W. Bush waves as he greets Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah at his home in Crawford, Texas, before their talks on April 25, 2002. The White House said it is reviewing Saudi Arabia's "constructive" new proposals for ending the violence in the Middle East and building a permanent peace. REUTERS/Kevin Lamarque

CRAWFORD, Texas (Reuters) - Saudi Arabia has presented U.S. President George W. Bush with "constructive" new proposals for ending the violence in the Middle East and building a permanent peace which the United States is now studying, the White House says.

The plan, which an analyst called modest and realistic, was disclosed as Bush insisted Israel must end its military offensive in Palestinian areas "now."

It was his first explicit call for an immediate halt and followed another Israeli raid defying his earlier demands.

"There has been some progress, but it's now time to quit it altogether. It's time to end this," Bush said of the Israeli offensive on Friday. "Well, we'll see what happens. I know they've heard us," he told reporters at his ranch in Texas.

The Saudi plan, presented at talks between Bush and Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah on Thursday, complements an earlier Saudi land-for-peace initiative for normalising relations with Israel that was adopted by Arab leaders in Beirut in March.

Different elements

"There are some different elements in there that further define how we get to that vision he (Abdullah) talked about," in the Beirut plan, U.S. National Security Council spokesman Sean McCormack said. "It's a basis for discussion."

Major elements of the plan include:

- An Israeli withdrawal from Palestinian areas;
- An end to the Israeli siege of the West Bank town of Ramallah;
- Deployment of an international peacekeeping force;
- Reconstruction of damaged Palestinian areas;
- Renunciation of violence;
- Talks on a political settlement to Israeli-Palestinian issues, as opposed to near-term security issues;

— And an end to Israeli settlements in Palestinian areas.

It also calls for U.S. leadership in implementing United Nations resolution 242 calling for an Israeli withdrawal from lands seized in the 1967 Middle East war, in exchange for recognition of Israel's borders.

Many of the provisions of what the White House called the Saudi "paper" are in line with U.S. thinking, White House spokesman Ari Fleischer said. "The president views that as constructive."

Many of the paper's ideas were ones "that we can make progress on," he said.

International force

One difference is in the proposal for an international peacekeeping force. The United States has instead said it could support international monitors of a peace deal.

Washington has also made demands of Palestinians, including halting suicide bombings and renouncing terrorism.

The plan seems to reflect a Saudi interest in finding common ground with Washington, at the possible risk of falling short of demands by many Arabs for immediate results in obtaining a permanent peace deal, said Middle East analyst Shibley Telhami of the University of Maryland.

"It's actually remarkably modest. It seems to be more incremental than ambitious in its design," he said. "It's more realistic in terms of gaining U.S. support. The real question is whether it will also be seen as a kind of escapism by Arab public opinion."

U.S. and Saudi officials would discuss the proposals in follow-up meetings while the Saudi delegation remained in the United States after the summit, McCormack said.

Bush's call for an Israeli withdrawal set the most specific terms for Israel since his April 4 speech demanding a pullout "without delay."

He had never personally used the

word "now" in calling for a withdrawal although a top aide had used the word. Fleischer said Friday there had been no change in policy.

Abdullah warned Bush on Thursday that U.S. ties with the Arab world were at risk over Middle East violence.

But Bush's new call raised the stakes for him after his credibility was undermined by Israel's defiance of his April 4 speech and a subsequent backing off by the administration.

Telhami said Bush was not likely to make the same mistake twice and would probably have "another step in mind" if Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon ignored him once more.

Bush on Thursday urged Israel to end its military campaign and peacefully resolve standoffs with Palestinians in the West Bank and Bethlehem. But Israeli forces on Friday launched a raid on the West Bank town of Qalqilya, killing a militant leader and detaining 46 people.

Israel swiftly pulled out again and said it was acting to root out "terrorists and suicide attackers."

All parties responsible

Bush said he had told Abdullah on Thursday that all the parties in the region had a responsibility to make peace and that Washington was committed to Israel's security.

But he urged restraint in congressional efforts to show support for Israel. He opposed a proposal to put new aid for Israel in a \$200 million (137 million pounds) emergency spending measure.

Also, Republican U.S. Rep. Tom DeLay of Texas put off at the White House's request a pro-Israeli resolution, a DeLay aide said on Friday.

Bush said he hoped and believed that Congress recognised that Washington had interests in the area beyond Israel. "We've got to have good relationships with the Saudis and the Jordanians and the Egyptians, and our foreign policy is aimed to do that," he said.

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Kabul airport attacked as Rumsfeld visits Afghanistan

KABUL (Reuters) - Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld arrived in Afghanistan Saturday just hours after Kabul Airport was hit by rockets and new fighting broke out near the site of the biggest ground battle of the Afghan War.

A further cloud was thrown over Rumsfeld's first visit to Afghanistan in more than four months when an Afghan Air Force MiG-21 crashed on the outskirts of Kabul just before he landed at Bagram, the main U.S. military base in Afghanistan just outside the capital.

Rumsfeld, who was meeting interim leader Hamid Karzai and other Afghan officials, said Taliban-al Qaeda rebels were still loose in Afghanistan and vowed no let-up in pursuing them.

"There are a lot of people saying now that spring is coming, the Taliban and al Qaeda will reorganize," he told reporters traveling with him from Kyrgyzstan. "Well, if they do, we'll go after them."

Rumsfeld quickly met some of the 7,000 U.S. and 5,000 other Western troops in Afghanistan, many of them based at Bagram, before heading to the U.S. embassy in Kabul.

"No," he told reporters, when asked if he was concerned about a successful resurgence of the Taliban and al Qaeda.

U.S. attack helicopters patrolled over Kabul and Marine sharpshooters were stationed at the embassy during Rumsfeld's visit, part of a four-day tour that includes visits to Central Asian republics bordering Afghanistan.

On the eve of Rumsfeld's arrival — his first to Kabul since December 16, shortly after Karzai was installed as interim Afghan leader — three rockets hit near Kabul Airport and three other rockets were found targeted at the airfield at the site from where the other rockets were fired.

International peacekeepers responsible for security in the capital said one of the rockets — which did not explode —



Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld speaks to soldiers at the Bagram base north of Kabul, April 27, 2002. Rumsfeld arrived in Afghanistan Saturday just hours after Kabul Airport was hit by rockets and new fighting broke out near the site of the biggest ground battle of the Afghan War. (Peter Andrews/Reuters)

hit an airport taxiway just several hundred yards (meters) from where a multinational force protecting the airport was based.

Group Captain Steven Abbott of the 18-nation International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), said there were no casualties in the attack from improvised, remote-controlled rocket launchers several miles from the airport.

General Deen Mohammad Joorat, the Interior Ministry's chief of security affairs, said three more damaged rockets which appeared to have exploded on launch, were found at the site.

"They were fired by electric cables wired up to a battery. We don't know the reason behind it," Joorat told Reuters. The missiles struck about 12 hours before Rumsfeld arrived at Bagram.

Afghan security officials showed Reuters the three damaged rockets suspended on wooden crosses connected to wires in a ditch.

In another symbolic attack possibly connected to Rumsfeld's visit, an Afghan minister reported remnants of Taliban-al Qaeda forces Saturday attacked the main eastern Afghanistan town of Gardez near where the biggest

U.S.-led ground battle of the Afghan war was fought last month.

Amanullah Zadran, Minister for Frontiers and Tribal Affairs, told Reuters local warlord Pad Shah Khan Zadran, a brother of the minister, fought off the early Saturday morning attack and captured several tanks and armored personnel carriers.

"His (Pad Shah Khan Zadran) posts came under the attack of the Taliban and al Qaeda," Zadran said.

Gardez, capital of Paktiya province, 95 miles south of Kabul, was a main staging base for Afghan forces involved in the U.S.-led Battle of Shah-i-Kot some 15 miles from the city.

The usually reliable Afghan Islamic Press (AIP) said artillery and rockets were also used in Saturday's fighting.

"Several rockets hit the city's jail and other areas," the report quoted witnesses from Gardez as saying. AIP said four people were killed and nine wounded in the fighting.

In the two-week-long Battle of Shah-i-Kot, the U.S. military said hundreds of Taliban-al Qaeda rebels were killed in high-altitude mountain fighting in caves and bunkers.

However some Afghan officials have said that despite U.S. claims, many rebels escaped to adjacent areas of Pakistan.

Since the Battle of Shah-i-Kot, the United States has stepped up cooperation with Pakistani forces in pursuing rebels who may have escaped across the border.

In another blow to Rumsfeld's visit, an Afghan Air Force MiG-21 crashed Saturday on the outskirts of Kabul while practicing for a military parade Sunday celebrating the 10th anniversary of the end of communist rule in Afghanistan.

Group Captain Abbott said the plane crashed an hour before Rumsfeld flew into Bagram.

The pilot died in the crash but there were no other casualties.

Nine MiG-21's mothballed by anti-Taliban forces last year in Tajikistan and Uzbekistan were to take part in the parade.

Rumsfeld has warned that despite the overthrow of the Taliban and major victories over fugitive Osama bin Laden's al Qaeda guerrilla network, blamed for September 11's attacks on the United States, the war in Afghanistan was not over.

"The (interim) government has been in place a while, various coalition forces have had an opportunity to conduct a number of sweeps and drive out and capture additional Taliban and al Qaeda," Rumsfeld said.

But he stressed it was critical to keep moving toward "a reasonably secure environment" in Afghanistan to assure settlement of displaced Afghans and for the economy of this desperately poor country to begin to recover.

"Now when I say 'reasonably secure environment', in the case of Afghanistan, we are not looking for a model like the United States or Western Europe," he said.

"It is a country that is used to a good deal of unrest."

Malaysia's new king

Bernama (REUTERS) - Malaysia's new King Syed Sirajuddin Syed Putra Jamalullail, 58, is shown here kissing the royal dagger 'keris panjang diraja', a traditional Malay warrior's dagger symbolizing grandeur and power, during his installation as Malaysia's 12th king at the National Palace in

Kuala Lumpur April 25, 2002. Seated at right is his Queen Tengku Fauziah Tengku Abdul Rashid. Malaysia installed its new King on Thursday, staging a glittering ceremony harking back to far-distant feudal times for the fast modernising southeast Asian country.



Fresh religious clashes leave two dead in Gujarat

AHMEDABAD (Reuters) - At least two people were killed as violence flared in Gujarat ahead of a peace march aimed at ending weeks of bloodshed between Hindus and minority Muslims.

More than 800 people, mostly Muslims, have died in a wave of revenge killings and clashes in Gujarat after a Muslim mob burnt 59 Hindu activists alive in a train on February 27.

The religious violence is India's worst in a decade and has plunged the Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party-led coalition government into crisis.

Authorities clamped indefinite curfews on large swathes of Baroda after one person was stabbed to death and another died of gunshot wounds in overnight religious clashes and police firing.

At least 10 people were wounded.

The violence in Baroda, which had been largely peaceful since the first wave of rioting in February and March, was triggered by rumours that a Hindu temple had been attacked and that a Hindu girl had been abducted by a Muslim mob, police said.

"Rumour mongers are bent upon creating trouble," D.D.Tuteja, city police commissioner said, adding 10 people had been arrested.

He said groups of Hindus and Muslims poured into the streets of the city and pelted stones at each other, despite public announcements by police that no girl had been kidnapped.

Authorities in Ahmedabad tightened security ahead of a peace walk planned for Sunday to restore confidence among people.

"A crowd of 20,000 to 25,000 people, Hindus and Muslims, politicians and businessmen, all will be part of it," said Kalyan Shah, a coordinator of the rally and president of Gujarat Chamber



Fire fighters try and put out a fire caused by rioting in Ahmedabad on April 26. At least two people were killed as violence flared in Gujarat ahead of a peace march aimed at ending weeks of bloodshed between Hindus and minority Muslims. REUTERS/Amit Dave

of Commerce and Industry.

Defence Minister George Fernandes will join the rally along with leaders of the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party and the main opposition Congress party.

"We are making special arrangements to ensure the rally goes through smoothly. Since it is passing through sensitive areas, we are taking no chances," Keshav Kumar, additional commissioner of police in Ahmedabad, said.

The rally will pass through the old

quarter of Ahmedabad, the scene of some of the worst violence that has rocked the state.

Although the violence has subsided since a peak in March, it has continued to rock Ahmedabad, which bore the brunt of the bloodshed.

The Hindu nationalist BJP, which leads the central coalition as well as the state government in Gujarat, faces what is expected to be a close censure vote in parliament next week over its handling of the violence.

Vacancy Announcement

The Al-Mahra Rural Development Project financed by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) announces its need to fill the following International Post.

Terms of Reference

Project title: Al-Mahra Rural Development Project
 Post title: Adviser to the Project manager (International)
 Contracted by: PMU
 Duration: 18 months
 Duty Station: Al-Ghayhah with extensive field travel.

Background

The Government of Yemen has received IFAD loan No. 528YE to finance Al-Mahra Rural Development Project and appointed UNOPS as cooperating agency. The overall project goal is to improve the wellbeing of participating smallholder households and rural communities through their engagement in the productive and sustainable use of their natural resource bases. To help achieve this goal, project investment will aim to (a) support the development of more self-reliant communities and strengthen the partnerships between all stakeholders in the economic development of Al-Mahra; (b) strengthen the capacity of male and female farmers and fishermen and their communities, particularly disadvantaged groups, to determine, access and use appropriate resources, technology and rural credit for agriculture, fisheries and livestock development; and (c) to build knowledge and capacity in public and private institutions and enterprises in Al-Mahra to deliver equitable, sustainable and profitable financial and technical services to the rural community. Overall investment will be geared toward ensuring a community and private sector-led primary industries sector in Al-Mahra that understands its natural resource base and uses it profitably and sustainably.

Qualification

The Adviser to the Project Manager shall have a PhD degree in Agriculture Economics or a related science. He/she will have at least 20 years experience in the Project Planning, implementation and management of Participatory development projects. Good communication skills fluency in Arabic and English and mastery of computer techniques, spreadsheet and database software (in particular MS Excel and MS Access) and good reporting techniques is required.

Duties and Responsibilities

Under the instruction of the Project Director and in close contact with the community development teams, the consultant shall:

- Assist The Project Director in day-to-day management of the project, embracing financial, technical and administrative programmes;
- Advise the Community Development Team on alternative approaches to community-based development and assist them to develop flexible and pragmatic approaches to the development of Social Agreements;
- Provide training for CDC and Society members in group formation and management;
- Train and assist the Monitoring and Evaluation adviser to identify key performance indicators, and prepare cost/benefit analysis and prepare community based monitoring activities;
- Assist PMU in planning and implementing the Strategic Planning Workshop;
- Maintain a broad oversight of project implementation suggesting new strategies and programmes as and when required.

Interested Applicants should submit their CVs plus their proposal for monthly remuneration not later than 45 days from the date of announcement in the newspaper to the following address: Project Director of Al-Mahra Rural Development Project; Headquarter office al-Ghayhah Fax No. 00967 5 611295 Tel: 00967 5 611297 or Sana'a Office at Al-Kaoulani Building, department No. 14, 2nd floor, Tel-fax No. 00967 1 205467.

First African in space arrives on ISS

MOSCOW (Reuters) - Space tourist Mark Shuttleworth, a South African millionaire and his continent's first astronaut, boarded the International Space Station on Saturday from a Russian Soyuz craft.

The craft carrying Shuttleworth, Russian commander Yuri Gidzenko and Italian flight engineer Roberto Vittori had successfully docked with the ISS after blasting off from Baikonur base in Kazakhstan on Thursday.

Internet millionaire Shuttleworth will carry out cutting-edge research on the HIV virus plaguing his homeland.

Footage from Moscow's Mission Control showed the three-strong crew clambering into the ISS roughly an hour after latching onto the station, where Gidzenko was greeted with an effusive hug from current Russian commander Yuri Onufriyenko.

The three visitors gathered before the station's cameras with the ISS's Russian-U.S. crew to speak to Moscow.

"We're very happy to have a group of visitors on board. It's nice to see new faces," U.S. engineer Carl Walz told Mission Control.

Gidzenko, who was a member of the first crew to live on the ISS, said the two-day flight to the ISS had gone well.

"It has been an incredible two days, with two really nice guys," Gidzenko told Mission Control.

"It was an exciting experience. Lift-off on the rocket was an unbelievable experience," Vittori, a European Space Agency astronaut on his first space trip, said. "We will take a short tour and then start working."

Shuttleworth, the second man to pay Moscow a reported \$20 million for a trip to space, did not speak to Mission Control, but was expected to link up with South African President Thabo Mbeki later in the day.

FIRST "AFRONAUT"

Shuttleworth, 28, was initially slammed in his native South Africa for spending a fortune on a personal whim. But former President Nelson Mandela led the country in toasting the world's first "afonaut," and his expedition has since captured the nation's imagination.

Speaking ahead of the link-up, Mbeki praised Shuttleworth when he addressed a crowd of 6,000 at the Free State Rugby Stadium, some 240 miles south west of Johannesburg, as part of Freedom Day celebrations marking the end of apartheid.

"Today we are proud of our own son, our compatriot Mark Shuttleworth, the first African now in his second day in space for inspiring each and everyone of us, for understanding that nothing is impossible, that dreams do come true, that in everything we do we must surely reach for the stars," he said.

Aboard the ISS, Shuttleworth will carry out experiments on genetics and HIV/AIDS — a crippling problem for South Africa where one in nine people are infected with the disease.

He will also lead a campaign to broaden the appeal of science in Africa through a series of radio link-ups with school children.

Gidzenko, Vittori and Shuttleworth will spend eight days aboard the outpost before landing back on the Kazakh steppe early on May 5.

The visitors will return to earth on the old Soyuz-TM33, leaving their own, newer, Soyuz-TM34 craft at the station to act as a lifeboat in case of emergency.

The ISS, manned since 2000, is currently staffed by Russian commander Onufriyenko and U.S. engineers Walz and Dan Bursch.

American Dennis Tito, the first amateur to pay his way into orbit, traveled to the 16-nation ISS last April.

(Additional reporting by Wambui Chege in Johannesburg).



Russia's Soyuz TM craft carrying Russian cosmonaut Yuri Gidzenko, Italian astronaut Roberto Vittori and South African internet millionaire Mark Shuttleworth takes off from the Baikonur cosmodrome, April 25, 2002. The astronauts blasted off from Russia's Baikonur base in Kazakhstan on Thursday for an eight-day visit to the International Space Station. Photo by Mikhail Grachyev/Reuters

Steve Tshwete dead

JOHANNESBURG — The national Minister for Safety and Security, Steve Tshwete, passed away suddenly on Friday, the African National Congress has confirmed.

Daily Dispatch business editor Eddie Botha alerted the newspaper late last night to the information.

ANC spokesman Smuts Nkonyama, speaking early this morning from I Military Hospital in Pretoria where Tshwete was being treated, said he died at 11pm. The cause of death has not yet been disclosed.

Nkonyama described him as a South African who demonstrated throughout his life a profound commitment to the liberation of his country's people.

"An able and experienced organiser, soldier and political leader, Tshwete was highly regarded within the democratic movement and more broadly.

"He will be particularly remembered for his central role in rebuilding the ANC as a mass-based organisation following its unbanning in 1990, which was critical to its success in the 1994 elections, and for his contribution to the development of non-racial sport in



South African Safety and Security Minister Steve Tshwete stands outside court in this May, 2001 file photo. Tshwete died April 26, 2002, after a short illness. The 64 year old was a prominent figure in the struggle against Apartheid and later played a role in attempts to bring unity to the country's sporting bodies. REUTERS/Mike Hutchings

South Africa," he said.

Tshwete was admitted to hospital with back pain on April 9 and remained there until his death.

The minister first visited a doctor on March 21 after suffering a terrible pain in his left buttock. He was ordered to rest and confined to a wheelchair. — Sapa-DDR

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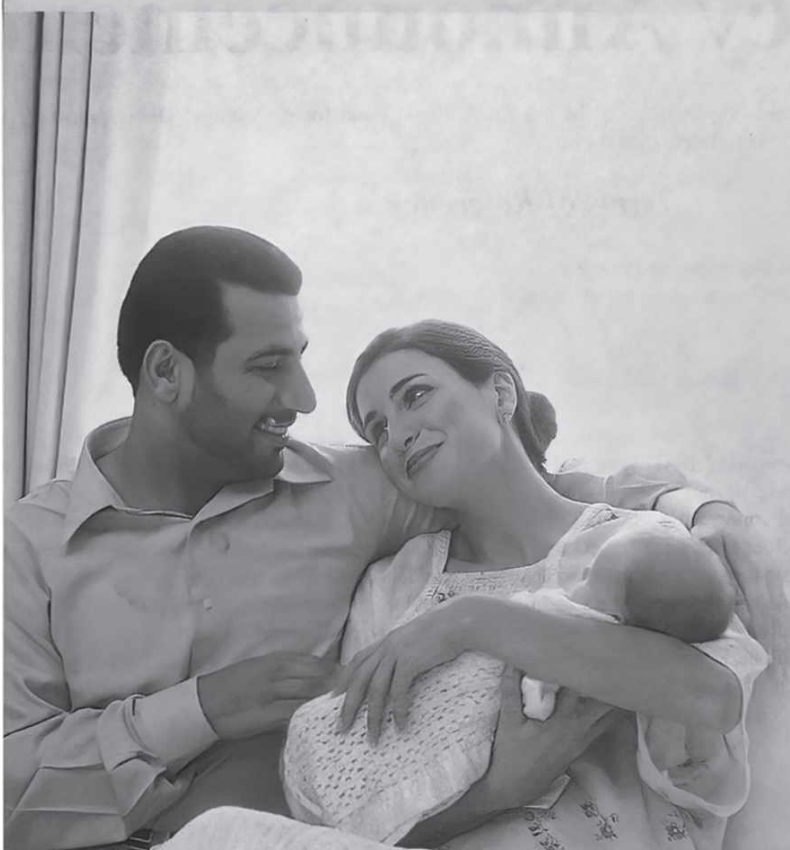
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YT Business

World Bank quarterly report

Relations improve, economy stalls

While its economy sputters, improving relations with countries across the Gulf, plus the United States, is a highlight of the World Bank's quarterly report on Yemen.

Relations with the GCC countries and the US witnessed remarkable improvement since September 2001, according to the report.

Better relations with Saudi Arabia and other Gulf countries culminated with the acceptance of Yemen's partial joining of GCC affiliated bodies and agencies. It's a first step towards full accession to the GCC.

The report — which focuses on issues such as donor activities, political developments and Yemen's general economic performance compared to other countries with a similar GDP and population — also notes that visits by American diplomats since last September is also a good signal.

The latest visit by an American official was by the Vice President Dick Cheney, March 14th. The meetings focused on bilateral relations and joint cooperation, mainly in fighting terrorism and poverty in Yemen.

Security cooperation between Yemen and US, which started following the bombing of USS Cole in Aden port in October 2000, was further enhanced after September 11th 2001. Over the first quarter of 2002, Yemen embarked on military operations against suspected individuals affiliated with Al-Qaida network. Recently, the US offered Yemen military training and resources.

The government reiterated, on several occasions, that there is no external military presence in Yemen and stressed that the US is offering limited training expertise. About 200 military officers are expected to provide training to the Yemeni special forces in combating terrorism.

Following President Abdullah Saleh's meeting with the president of the World Bank in November 2001, the

WB's vice president for the Middle East and North Africa region, Mr. Jean-Louis Sarbib, visited Yemen in February 2002. He met senior government officials, including President Saleh, and discussed with the officials ways of enhancing the partnership between the bank and the government to achieve the country's socio-economic development objectives. The meetings focused on government efforts in finalizing its poverty reduction strategy as well as the implementation of the projects financed by the WB.

President Saleh spent most of the first quarter of this year in visits to Aden and other governorates. The focus of his visits was to accelerate work in development projects in various governorates, particularly in the Aden Free Zone and the southern governorates.

The president inaugurated, and laid foundation stones for a number of projects in the southern governorates. In his speeches, the president urged citizens and officials to step up efforts for development work in Yemen and made new concessions to attract foreign investment.

Many military and civilian leaders who left Yemen after the civil war in 1994 have recently returned, including a prominent figure, Mr. Salem Saleh Mohammed, former member of the presidential council. The media speculates that the presidential pardon may be extended to other persons sentenced from the 1994 war. The president also instructed the return of some of confiscated property to the Socialist Party and urged other leaders in exile to return home.

Economic policy:

In 2001 and the first quarter of 2002, the Government of Yemen focused on finalization and approval of important strategy and development plans which will guide government programs in the short and long term. The joint meeting of the Parliament and the Shura councils approved the Government's Strategy Vision 2025 and the Second

Five-Year Plan 2001-2005 (SFYP) in January.

Currently, the Government is finalizing its Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP).

The SFYP represents the first phase of implementing the long-term Strategy Vision 2025 and the PRSP is expected to be approved by the cabinet in late March.

The General Sale Tax (GST) law, which was approved by the Parliament in November 2001, is expected to be implemented in September 2002. The law was intended to support government efforts to diversify its revenues resources.

A number of new initiatives and policies were recently adopted to attract private, foreign and domestic investment into Yemen. First, President Saleh issued instructions to exempt Yemeni immigrants and GCC investors from land fees if their investment exceeds US \$10 million.

Second, the government relocated the Land Registry Authority to the Ministry of Justice to enhance its operations and to expedite land registration in Yemen.

Third, the government is currently considering the amendment of trade and customs laws (e.g., proposals to cancel customs on imported cars and raising gasoline price).

Finally, the General Authority for Specifications and Standards has adopted 138 new specifications and updated others related to commodities and products with the aim of improving standards of Yemeni products in the international markets.

Two new authorities were also established by cabinet decrees in the last quarter.

First, the Rural Projects Authority was established to provide clean water to the inhabitants of rural areas and islands. Second, the General Authority for Tourism Development was established to improve tourist sites and facilities and to attract new investments and projects in the tourism sector.

A joint Yemeni-Bahraini bank was

inaugurated in March (with a paid up capital of YR 2 billion). The new bank, together with the Yemen-Gulf bank, is expected to enhance the flow of investments between Yemen and the Gulf States.

Economic Developments:

The Central Statistical Organization (CSO) released the national accounts for 2001, estimating a real GDP growth of about 1.8% in 2001 compared with 5.1% in 2000. All economic sectors experienced deceleration in output growth during 2001 (see Flash Indicators).

The government attributes the weak performance in 2001 to the repercussions of the September 11th events which resulted in lower oil prices and declines in tourism and transportation activities.

The Central Bank of Yemen (CBY) continues to allow a modest depreciation of the Yemeni Rial against the US dollar. Despite worldwide reduction in interest rates, however, the CBY did not change domestic interest rates in the last quarter with the aim of encouraging local currency deposits and reducing pressure on the exchange rate regime.

Inflation increased sharply in the second half of 2001, reversing the trend of declining inflation rates, which started in 1995. Inflation rate (year-to-year) increased to 22.35% by the end of year 2001 up from 11% in 2000. The annual average inflation rate for 2001 is 11.9%. The recent increases are attributed to the dramatic increase in the prices of Qat and food commodities due to weather and reduction in the diesel subsidy. Inflation rates, nevertheless, started to decline in the first quarter of the current year again due to decline in the prices of Qat, vegetables and fruits (see the next section).

Oil and gas

Ministry of Oil and Mineral Resources (MOMR) expects oil production to reach 475,000 barrels per day (bpd) by the end of this year (cur-

rently production level is 465,000 bpd), mainly because of expected increases in production from block 53 (run by the British Dove Oil Company). The total number of oil companies working in Yemen field has now reached 27.

The cabinet recently approved joint production agreements in blocks No. 73, and 93. MOMR agreed with US and Saudi companies on exploration of oil and gas in blocks No. 57 and 58.

It also signed an agreement with RINGS of Russia for oil exploration. Moreover, the government approved the establishment project of the first private oil refinery in Mukalla costing US\$ 150 million.

Trade and WTO:

The National Committee for Negotiations with the WTO has completed its draft of the memorandum of the foreign trade regime which will be presented soon to the WTO. The memorandum provides a detailed description of the trade system, regulations, and performance.

Communications / transportation

The Ministry of Communications is planning to add 500,000 telephone fixed lines by the end of 2002. A GSM mobile company SabaFon is expected to buy 27% of the shares owned by foreign partners. The other mobile company, Spacatel, is planning to increase its coverage service to 90 towns with a total cost of US\$ 40 million by the end of year.

The International Marketing Organization (IMO) has recently awarded Aden Free Zone (AFZ) the Global Marketing Quality Award for achieving remarkable progress in providing successful trade and marine services. AFZ also celebrated this month the third anniversary of Aden Container Terminal.

Upgrading of Sana'a airport is currently underway (with a total cost of US \$27 million). Yemenia started flights to Jakarta and Kuala-Lumpur.

Continued next week

Exchange Rate for the Yemeni Rial as of April 27

USD	174.29	174.45
GBP	252.65	252.88
EUR	155.53	155.67
SAR	46.47	46.52
KWD	568.93	569.46
AED	47.45	47.50
EGP	37.62	37.66
BHD	462.31	462.74
QAR	47.87	47.91
JOD	245.83	246.05
OMR	452.71	453.12
CHF	106.14	106.23
SEK	16.90	16.92
JPY	1.346336	1.347572

Source: Central Bank of Yemen

In Brief

Gas reserves increase to 16 trillion cubic feet

The natural liquefied gas reserves have increased to 16 trillion cubic units, according to economical statistics.

The volume reached 14 trillion cubic units two years ago. But, exporting the liquefied gas according to the contracts signed between the Total French Company and other international companies is still crippled. Oil exports on the other hand have reached 475 barrels a day from seven oil producing sectors.

Banks Law amended

Some articles related to the Banks Law have been amended by the financial committee at the Parliament within the framework of bridging the gap of Law 38, 1998.

These amendments are related to speculations between the interests of the Central Bank of Yemen and some interests of banks of board directors, institutions and companies. Amendments are to deal with problems and facilitate investment, savings and trade activities in front of the Central Bank of Yemen.

A sanctuary in Belqaf

The first phase of Belqaf project to declare this region as a bird and wildlife sanctuary is approved.

Studies and field surveys have been conducted in the field of sea animals, remote sensing and fish wealth as well as reviewing the geographical information system to protect the biodiversity of the region.

Wanted: quality government

By MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Poorly qualified civil servants have taken over important government posts, including top posts in leading ministries and other state-owned enterprises, which is hurting the development sector.

Similarly, leading manufacturing state's enterprises went bankrupt, principally due to the unqualified top executives running them.

It appears that apart from corruption and favoritism which seems uncontrol-

lable, successive governments have not tried to attract well-qualified personnel, causing many economists to attribute this as the cause of the failure of many state-run enterprises.

Part of the challenge is that Yemen's workforce is in serious need of better training for civil servants.

The economic reform package currently implemented by the government should also pay more attention to attracting new highly qualified employees, as well as adopting new mechanisms and standards when hiring government employees.

Our political leaderships seems

aware of this, as president Ali Abdullah Saleh stressed in a recent meeting with his top ministers that it's time to rebuild the country on a stronger foundation.

Indeed, translating this desire into practice will require clear-cut standards when appointing key government's officials.

Unfortunately, since the creation of modern Yemen, the issue of selecting government officials has not been given much attention, although more attention to this issue would help the country's economy and other sectors dramatically.

Yemen's resources buried

Yemen Times Staff

Yemen needs more investment into its natural resources.

That was one of the conclusions at a symposium held in Doha, Qatar, April 21 and 22.

Qatar is to build a better partnership with Yemen for investing oil in the two countries as well as helping Yemen

explore to find more oil, gas and minerals.

Participants in the symposium from Yemen and Qatar reviewed the investment opportunities in the two countries in this field.

The working papers presented to the symposium stressed the importance of investing in the field of extracting rocks for building and decoration purposes, and the oil industry.

The symposium noted that Yemen's geological formations contain plenty

of minerals, oil and gas, which all need investment.

Participants outlined policies with the view of building investment partnerships by making the best use of the available systems and regulations in the two countries.

Films, geological maps and photos were used to showing potential investment opportunities in Yemen.

Gold, iron and copper are also available in good quantities in Yemen according to the studies presented.

Trading buddies

Yemen likes Omani goods

By MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The number of the Omani exports to Yemen has increased from OMR 35 million in 1999 to OMR 58 million in 2000.

Yemen and Oman has agreed to discuss the trade and investment cooperation through establishing a free zone located along the borders of the two countries in al-Mazouna area.

Most of the al-Mazouna's infrastructure has been fully supplied, which will in turn help to increase the exporting of products.

The Yemen-Oman trade and investment relations have increased quickly. This has been shown clearly in terms of the Omani exports to Yemeni markets. Exporting the Omani products to the Yemeni markets will help to promote the ratio of local and foreign investment.

Economical statistics indicate that the future of the Omani products in the Yemeni markets will also continue to be promising which constitutes a positive aspect for the Omani products to be propagated and prospered.

A marketing research has been conducted to find out the possibility to export the Omani products to the

Yemeni markets.

The Deputy Commerce and Industry Omani Minister, Ali Masaood said that the marketing study has come at the right time and a certain kind of rapid increase of the Omani products in the Yemeni markets.

Oman is also regarded as an importing country of the Yemeni products such as, fruits, vegetables.

Yemen-Oman bilateral trade is an example of the good Arab relations.

The two countries are heading towards an economic integration for the better and generating new income resources and enhancing their one-oil products.

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Hundreds protest Israeli action

Yemenis in the UK



BY NADIA AL-SAQQAF
YEMEN TIMES STAFF
LONDON

Once again Yemenis have proved their loyalty and passion towards the Middle East crises, as hundreds of Yemeni protesters flooded the streets of London on Saturday the 13th of this month.

Joining with more than 20,000 people coming from different parts of the UK, they participated in the Anti-Israeli rally from the free corner of Hyde park to Trafalgar Square protesting against Israeli military action in the West Bank.

The rally came after the Israel's ambassador in London was summoned to the Foreign Office to explain his country's actions in the West Bank.

Michel Massih, chairman of the Palestinian community in the UK, said Christians, Muslims and a small number of Jews were among the protesters.

From various places

Demonstrators were of different organizations, nationalities and religions. Needless to say, the Yemeni community had hundreds in the rally. Yemenis came in buses from all around UK especially from Sheffield, headed by Dr. Abul Galleel Shaif, Birmingham, headed by Mr. Mansoor Abdul Fattah Ghalib and Liverpool. They also came from London.

"That was the biggest appearance for them in any occasion," said Hamdan Dammag, a PhD student in London. Mr. Dammag also took advantage of the gathering to form a network of Yemeni students in the UK in preparation for establishing the Yemeni Students Union in the UK (<http://www.yemenistudents.org.uk>).

"There are many Yemeni Students in the UK, either as a part of the permanent Yemeni Community or as Yemeni Students coming from Yemen just for education," he said. The interaction between the two groups is very weak and almost non-existent. This is due to the absence of any representative organizations, which take care of such issues."

Mr. Hamdan Zaid Muttee Dammag is a Ph.D. student researching Safety Critical Systems, Formal Methods and Software Engineering at School of Computing, Information System and Mathematics (SCISM), South Bank

University. He is a member of the Center for Applied Formal Methods at the university.

After completing a First Class - Science Section Foundation Course at University of Reading, he obtained a B.Sc.- High 2 with honors in Computer Science from the University in 1997.

Other than excelling in his education the multi talented Dammag has also worked in teaching, web design and media. Dammag is an active member of the Yemeni and Arab Union of Writers.

He has been working in the field of journalism since 1990. He writes articles and reports, sketches caricatures and participates in publishing newspapers and literature books. Producing a wide range of Poetry, Short stories and articles.

He has published his first short stories collection titled "The Fly" which has received a great attention from critics. Some of his literature had been translated from Arabic to English and published in both languages.

He also published several scientific papers relating to his research. (See www.sbu.ac.uk/~dammagh/index.htm)

Hoping to organize

With the help of the Yemeni communities in UK and a few active Yemenis such as Fadhil Almagahfi, Osama Alshibami, Naseeb Al-qirbi and many others, Dammag is hoping to organize the Yemeni Students Union soon. His close interaction with most of the Yemeni and Arab students in the UK while being president of Arab Society from 1998 - 2001, enabled him to understand the problems Yemeni students are facing, hence the idea of the union.

"Until now, any activity was pursued by personal initiatives. Yemeni Students did participate actively in Arabic and Islamic Students Societies and unions at their universities. However now, we are trying to build an association for all Yemeni Students in the UK. We aim to build a unified voice for all Yemeni Students, utilizing the potential abilities and qualifications of its members for the benefit of Yemen and its related issues, as well as contributing actively with all Arabic and Islamic communities in the UK.

"We also aim at enhancing the interaction between the British and Yemeni Society as well as between all Yemenis in UK. The association is to be funded by British government, organizations, trusts and charities that are interested



Brits, including many expatriate Yemeni, march in London, England to support the Palestinians in the face of Israeli military moves.

in such things. We intend to have an office in London to organize all the activities of the association as well as other representatives in the major cities where there exists large Yemeni communities," he said.

New web site

The Yemeni embassy also in the first initiative of its kind started a scheme to embrace the Yemeni students in the UK last year. The newly launched web site of the embassy (www.yemenembassy.org.uk) has a particular page with the names and contact details of the students who have registered in the home page so far.

The embassy invited students from all around UK for a gathering and lunch last year, in an attempt to interact with them and hear their problems. The embassy regularly sends notice and compliment letters to the students in order to make them feel looked

after.

On another front, it is quite sad how, in spite of the fact that most of the Yemenis here are pioneers in their field and quite active, those people do not receive adequate recognition back home.

Misses home

"We prefer to live abroad, although we miss home because we feel there is no future for us if we go back," one Yemeni Student in Scotland (who preferred to remain anonymous) said.

Some local Yemeni students groups do some limited activities here and there, both in extra curricular activities or in the academic front. One of those people is Nadia Alkaf who is doing her second 3 year post doctoral research titled "Investigating Transgene Instability Induced by Pathogen Infection" at Department of Crop Genetics in the Norwich Research

Park. Alkaf had worked as an entomologist for 5 years on virus transmission at the El-Kod Research Station after she finished her first degree at the Agriculture College, University of Aden in the Yemen.

In 1990 she availed a British Council MSc scholarship in Plant Protection at University of Bath, after which she began a Ph.D. research in Biological and Molecular Diversity of the Cauliflower Mosaic Virus (CaMV) at the John Innes Center (JIC), funded by the John Innes Foundation. After graduating from University of East Anglia (UEA) in 1995, she accepted a post-doctoral position at (JIC) working with Prof. Phil Dale on the effect of genetic background on transgene expression. This project was funded by MAFF (now DEFRA).

Published

During her academic life Mrs. Alkaf

has 18 publications, including one book in partnership with Simon N. Covey, Noad R. David Turner In: "Protocols: from virus isolation to transgenic resistant plant". She has also participated in more than 40 talks.

On asked what she is interested in working on next she said:

"I am looking forward to develop an independent research group working on plant host-pathogen interactions with particular emphasis on the transfer of knowledge to important crop plants. My experience and expertise in CaMV host plant gene interactions will, I believe, lead to important novel findings in our understanding of pathogen defense mechanisms and gene expression."

For more references on Mrs. Nadia Alkaf work, see (www.jic.bbsrc.ac.uk/STAFF/nadia-alkaff/index.htm)

Artists showcase their work

A touch of India in Sana'a



Mujahed
Al-Mussa'abi
Yemen Times Staff

An exhibition of oil and pottery paintings by two Indian artists, Sarabjeet Bahata and Mrs. Shymala, was opened at the Dia office in Sana'a, April 20.

The exhibition was inaugurated by renowned Yemeni painter Mazhar Nizar.

It consisted of two parts: pottery paintings, by Shymala and miniature glass/oil paintings by Sarabjeet.

Mujahed Al Mussa'abi of the Yemen Times met with the two artists and filed the following report.

What were your beginnings?

Both artists had no professional training.

Mrs. Sarabjeet said "Since I was a kid, I was very fond of paintings and

beautiful drawings. This love grew with me as I grew up. I saw many paintings and thus, I was encouraged to start my own paintings. But I actually started professional painting three years ago.

Mrs. Shymala said she started three years ago when she came to Sana'a from Oman.

"My friend in Oman taught me how to paint on pottery. I chose paintings on pottery because I wanted to paint something different and while I have no professional training, I found it easy to me to draw on pottery."

What are your themes?

Mrs. Sarabjeet replied, "Woman and nature are the most characters in my paintings. Woman's beauty attracts me, so it's the focus of my paintings, and the charming nature as well."

Mrs. Shymala's characters are quite different, often being figures and Gods. Animals like the elephant, very common in India are among the common characters of her potteries.

Both artists are so fascinated by



Farmer & wife, elephant by Shymala

Yemeni architecture, Kamarias, Old Sana'a's decoration. They are willing to include Yemeni objects in their paintings later on.

The good artist

Mrs Sarabjeet said the good Artist should be sincere and dedicated to their work while the most important characteristics of the good artist in Mrs. Shymala's opinion include use a good color combinations and a good technique.



Women's beauty

How does the public interact with the paintings?

Both artists agreed that there was a good response from mostly Indian visitors

The most valuable painting

"The Waves" and "The Waiting" are Sarabjeet's most valuable paint-



The waves, by Sarabjeet

ings. "Waves painting is the most important. If you keep looking at it you would feel that it's a real scene. It's also different from other paintings in colors and materials used and both were painted in India."

Mrs Shymala's valuable pottery is "Farmer and Wife" which presents the Indian women at farms.

Did you show any exhibitions in Yemen before?

Mrs Sarabjeet said "Yes. This is my second exhibition. The first was at Taj Sheba Hotel."

Both Ms Shymala and Mrs Sarabjeet thanked the Dia office in Sana'a for its facilities and support.

Nadirah's glorious past & promising future

By YEMEN TIMES STAFF
NADIRAH, IBB.

Like an ancient hidden city off the beaten track, the historic Yemeni city of Nadirah is waiting to be rediscovered

On the banks of Wadi Bana, the river which comes from Haqil in Kitab to the Arabian Sea, lies the district of Nadirah. It's between al-Awd and al-

Wmmar mounts to the north east of Ibb, the green liwa (governorate).

Ibb has its name because of its fertile soil and nice weather. During summer rainy season, the ground is completely covered with green grass. And Nadirah seems like an apple sitting on a green carpet, offering a beautiful view.

Historically this district has included Sahhah, Qua'tuba, Shia'r and Yarim, which have more than two hundred historical sites. They include the kingdom of Shafar in Yarim and the newly

discovered kingdom in al-awd mount.

During the Imamite era, Nadirah became the headquarters of the ruler al-Amil for its strategic geographic position. The first Amil, the ruler who represented the Imam in the region, was Abdul-Rahman al-Iryani president of the republic.

An old man, in the area Haff Whaib Hadi Ali, described life in Nadirah in the 1940s like this:

Official areas of interest were the Beit-Amil (the lower government), the prison, Beitel-silk or wire telecommunications on the prison, the post office in which there was only a clerk and a postman, the financial manager office and the court.

The number of houses were only ten in Upper Nadirah, and some of them acted as restaurants for visitors. On a nearby hill was al-Haddi fortress which was built two hundred years earlier.

Sunday market as it was known in all Yemeni towns had grocers, craftsmen and sellers come from different places to sell their goods. In Nadirah's market, such people came from Dhalea' and Qua'tuba on Saturday to hold the market on Sunday. Then they went to Saddah on Monday and so on. Interestingly, carpenters, goldsmith, bedmakers, weavers and tailors were all Jewish.

They had temporary old shops which they sold later. The Jews were three classes. First, the rich traders who imported goods from Aden and India like rice, incense and fabrics. Second, the middle class who sold and bought fenugreek, cumin and black seeds. Third, the lower class were the above craftsmen.

Schools were needed for youngsters in Nadirah and the surrounding villages of Jabjab, Haryah, Lafajain, Dar Oqdah, and Jirf il-Nimr. They weren't elaborate. For example, there was one simple school, called Maktab al-Nadirah, in which there was one teacher, Mr. Hameed, and the assistant.

Subjects taught were Quran, calligraphy, religion and mathematics. The number of pupils totalled 50-60 only because people were afraid of sending their kids, since they needed them for assisting them in agricultural activities.

The teacher was paid 8-10 rials and a bag or two of grain by the financial manager. As for the postman, a part of each telegram's charge was given to him as a salary, while the rest was sent to Sana'a.

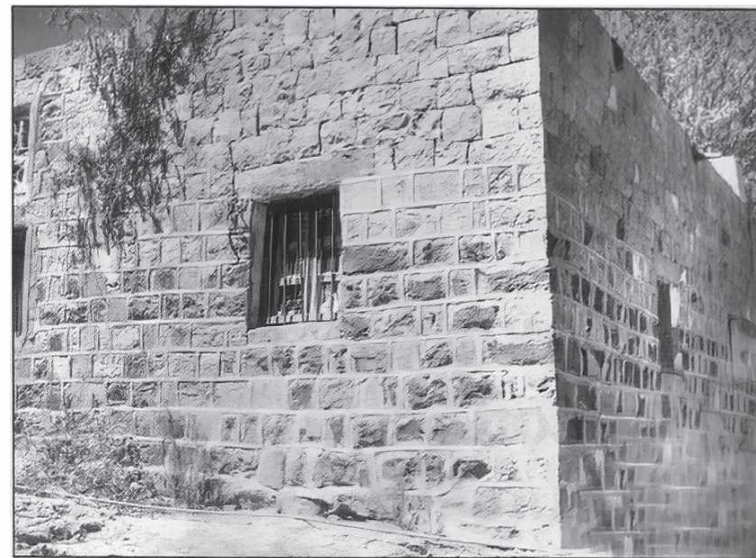
After the September Revolution of 1962, many Yemenis migrated to Saudi Arabia and the Gulf countries to work and send money to their families. They made use of it in rebuilding and construction.

More over, many villagers came and settled in Nadirah, so it gradually began to increase in size. Some Arab countries built schools in Nadirah. Kuwait built a primary school during the 1960s, but later that was moved into Wadi Bana and another school called al-Jeel al-Jadeed was built in the 1980s. That was later changed into Balqis in 1991.

Before unification Nadirah was on the politically-charged border between North and South Yemen. So it had a tense atmospheres for years. Then circumstances improved. More schools were established in the villages, a big hospital in the name of "Martyr Abdul-Mughni was built in Dar Sa'ad and clinics were built in Jabjab, Suba and Shakab Ammar.

In 1996 M.E. Ali Abdullah Saleh opened the college of education and communication center. Later, the road to Saddah and Kitab was paved, new, large buildings were built and a water pump was built to supply the town with water. A new electricity grid is to be built next.

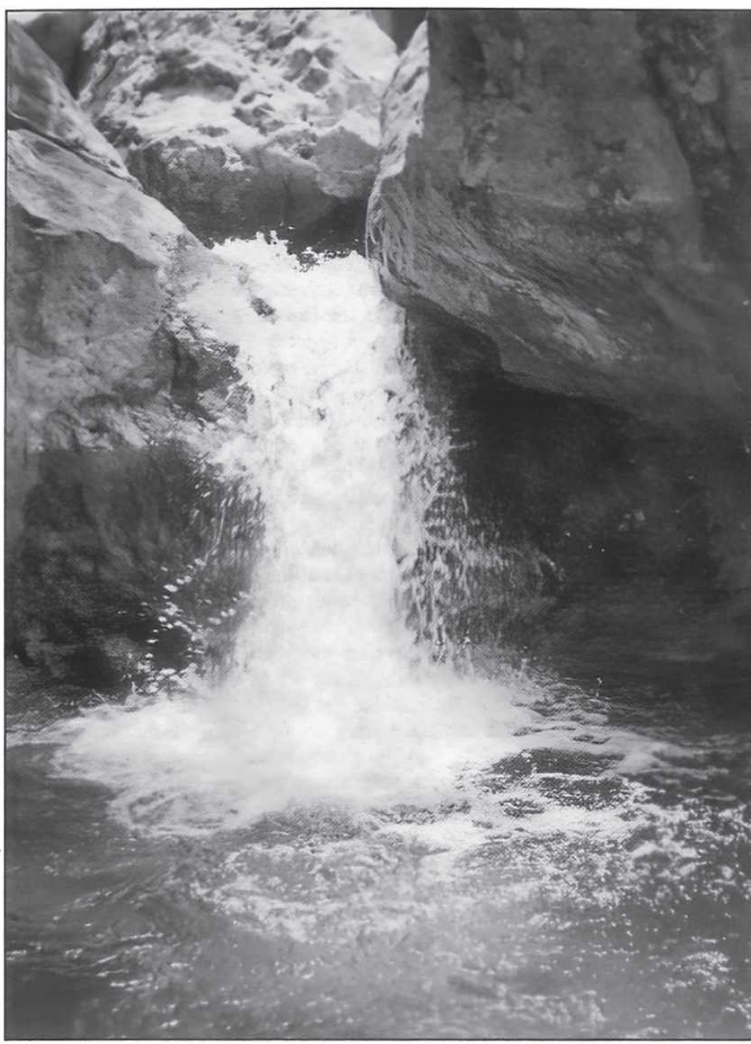
If more roads are paved, things like more tourist resorts, restaurants, museums and casinos near Saddah Falls could all bring a new and improved era to the district.



The first school in Nadirah.



People flock at the market at Nadirah.



Saddah Waterfall is one of the most attractive scenes.

Help for the sake of God or the devil?

By ABDUL MAJID AHMED
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

It was about 4:30 in the afternoon on a day at the end of January this year, while alone in my room, reading Yemen Times newspaper, three strong knocks shook the outside door of my house.

I jumped up astonished and went to rebuke the one who strongly shook my door, but to my surprise I found a woman there. After I asked what she wanted, in a low, weak voice she answered she was a beggar and asked for help.

I was asked her what kind of help she needed, since she was young, about 23, rather beautiful, neatly dressed and without the appearance of a poor beggar. But she quickly replied that I had the chance to give her help for the sake of God or for the sake of devil.

I was shocked at her answer and asked what that meant. She told me that if I wanted to have some time with her for any personal purpose she would offer herself to me. That was what she meant by "help for the sake of the devil".

Hence I reflected on this to understand this woman better, and know more about her situation in society. She explained to me that her parents were old, disabled and without any fixed resource of sustenance except her begging.

She also told me that she was divorced from her husband two years ago. She has a small daughter from him and he did not give any support for his daughter because he was jobless and addicted to qat. I ultimately advised her not to use words such as for "the devil's sake" and not to offer herself to anyone for the sake of help. I gave her some help as possible as I could and saw her off.

I returned into my room and sat sorrowfully, thinking of the misery our people suffer, how many people have lost their dignity and turned to indecent and disgraceful situations.

Unemployment and poverty is largely what has deteriorated our people's lives. And I can't help but ask myself how long we will stay like poor beggars. There are millions of people in Yemen are poor and beggars.

Should we not ask ourselves who is responsible for this shameful situation? Where are the resources and wealth of our country going? We have petroleum, we have gas, we have gold, we have other things in our country. Where does all that wealth go?

Moreover, we are deeply indebted to the World Bank and other donor countries. What will our generation get after us?

Also, what have we gained from our beloved unification? Of course unification has been an achievement. But what did unification bring for us? It has brought many directions. Democracy, free press, multi-party, and other political idioms during the ten years past since our unification have done nothing for us.

The government has a good reputation due to these supposed freedoms in our country. But we have no real lasting achievement, so far. Democracy has been suffocated in Yemen, and the nation has become disappointed of any results that it has supposed to bring.

Again who was benefited from unification? As a matter of fact the leadership and relatives such as ministers, heads and officers of the army, heads and tribal chieftains who are apparently close to the have benefitted.

But for the common people, nothing has been done except a few narrow roads and communication lines and other projects have been built, which has helped a few workers.



Most of the workers particularly after unification are still city and streets cleaners. In recent times there has actually been a reduction of others, and closure of public sector departments.

In conclusion, we can say that all our country's wealth and revenue goes to the leadership, relatives and tribal leaders. These people are in the segment of the population of Yemen who enjoy the best life.

The other three quarters of the population in Yemen suffer. As the proverbs say: "While the grass grows, the steed starves" or "One man gapes, another man gulps."

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Words of Wisdom



Why is that we tend to give lip service to things that we know are important and vital. Why is it that we give lip service to the issue of water in Yemen, which is a catastrophic problem looming above our heads and will fall on us in just a few years? Why is that we give lip service to qat, an opium-like addiction which is tearing our social fabric apart? Why is that we give lip service to population growth, which is crippling our chances for development? Why is that we are giving lip service to cleaning our streets, homes, ourselves? Why is that we are giving lip service to many vital issues facing us in Yemen.

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

A Jew speaks out against Israel



SAADI SALAMA
PALESTINIAN DIPLOMAT
IN SANA'A

The Palestinians have probably failed to reach the USA Administration's attention, because seemingly the Americans use Jewish ears. That is the reason why I have moved aside my weekly article, replacing it with the Israeli cardiology Professor Danny Gure. Being Jewish he might succeed where I failed.

Professor Gure, a renowned heart surgeon in Israel, admits that he is very far from being a politician, even though, he has many politicians as friends.

"I used to admire (Israeli Prime Minister Ariel) Sharon, but now I see him as a criminal that practices genocide against the Palestinians, and I believe that one day he will be submitted to an international court that will judge him for his war crimes," Gure said.

In his brave article published recently in Ha'aretz newspaper, Gure called on the Israeli public to take all necessary measures and public activities, in order to bring down Sharon and his government, ending their continuous failures.

"He is leading the massacre of the Palestinians, hoping to devastate them and force them to submit and surrender, and in order to legalize his massacres against them, he needs suicidal operations killing several of us Israeli citizens," he continued.

Professor Gure adds "Sharon has decided to collapse the Palestinian

National Authority as a strategic target, in order to force it to sign a dictated agreement by him, and in order to justify his actions he provokes the Palestinians to retaliate against Israel. The proof to that is when Arafat declared ceasefire last December, he committed an assassination against a highly ranked Palestinian security officer. When efforts that were exerted for five days began bearing fruits in achieving calmness, he ordered the assassination of Raed Alkarmi the Alaqasa militia Leader in Tulkarem."

Professor Gure sees no strong figure as a replacement for Sharon, amongst the left political parties in Israel, and he says that he despises Shimon Peres, because "this man is a permanent looser. He has destroyed Oslo agreements, because when he took charge after the assassination of late Israeli Prime Minister Rabin, by an Israeli Jewish citizen, he ordered the assassination of Palestinian engineer Yehya Ayyash, and delayed exiting from Hebron, as per agreed upon in Oslo and committed the Cana massacre."

The famous heart surgeon Gure also says that he wishes if the Israelis had a leader like Arafat, "this genius man is described in Israel as a liar and a terrorist, but if I were in his shoes I would have done exactly the same. Have we left him any other choice? Is there any Israeli leader that dealt with Arafat and did not lie?"

These are the paragraphs in professor Gure's article, an article that was written by a practical person who is not a politician, but he reveals a keen foresight, high capability of understanding and

analyzing situations and vision that many politicians lack.

In my point of view Professor Gure is a brave Jewish that has read the current situation and sincerely tries to get the Jewish people out of their black terrorist history that was created by those who hate the Palestinians and seek to erase them, those hateful people like Sharon and the chief of staff of the Israeli army Mofaz.

I know that this article was translated and published widely, but I would like to make sure that the readers of Yemen Times don't miss it. Hoping that the by reading this article readers would understand and distinguish between organized state terror and resistance to this terror, and to convince Mr. Powell that the Israeli actions are far from being self defense, and are premeditated and calculated acts which, according to the testimony of Professor Gure, aim to kill and commit genocide and impose submission on the Palestinian Authority.

They should also read what the "WASP" did to the Native Americans, the original land owners, and in order not to repeat the massacres and the holocaust against the Palestinians, to become like the native Americans, "Land without a nation to a nations without a land."

Millions of native Americans vanished in the history, where information was forged and history was diverted and twisted. But this won't happen to the Palestinians. That is why they see things the way Gure sees them. Sharon will be submitted to an international court and maybe his chief of staff Mofaz will join him, and eventually they will vanish, while the Palestinian people will remain.

OUR OPINION

Boycott US, hurt ourselves

As Arabs, we are convinced that boycotting American goods to protest US support of Israeli aggression against Palestinians will have a large impact on its economy.

However, as Arabs start boycotting those goods, we are seeing the vulnerability of our economy and readiness to take such a courageous step.

For the last few weeks, several local companies have suffered from this boycott. Many companies that deal with American products have felt the pressure of such a boycott, even though they have nothing to do with the American political stance.

Some American companies that strongly support the Jewish state and specifically its latest aggressions in the Occupied Territories are far too involved in Arab countries. A good example of such companies is Microsoft, which openly expressed its support for the latest war waged against Palestinians. But as the manufacturer of the desktop programs that are in use in virtually every office in the Arab world, it is almost impossible to boycott its products because we are simply too reliant on them.

In other cases, the intermediate local beneficiaries from some American goods are far too many. A good example for that would be Coca Cola and Pepsi Cola products, which are sold at almost every grocery shop. Boycotting those two products will hurt grocery owners more than the American companies.

It is easy to ask for boycotting American goods and products in an expression of dissatisfaction of its business towards Israel. But it is not at all easy to implement such, because we have been depending on them for so long and it would be impossible to let go overnight. We wear American jeans, ride American cars, use American computers, study in American universities, eat American fast food, drink American soft drinks, and use American software. This column is written in Microsoft Word.

No one should interpret my words as discouraging the boycott. But we need to be more realistic in measuring what is possible and what is not. We need to see how much we will lose and how much we will gain. We now see how connected the world has become, and how our dependency on others takes away our economic independence. We have become consumers of American goods at the expense of our own innovation.

This would not have happened if we had wiser Arab leaders who would not oppress their people, forcing them to immigrate and learn skills abroad. A significant portion of the bright people that develop and produce those American products and technologies have come from Arab and Islamic countries. It is only logical to see that we have become helpless and a burden on our economies because of our leaders' wrong strategy.

Even if we want to boycott American goods, we are simply unable to. We can try, and there is no harm in that. But we also need a long-term plan to see what went wrong, and why we have become so unproductive.

The Editor

Cairo & Sana'a have deep friendship



BY H.E. DR. KHALED
ELKOMY
AMBASSADOR OF EGYPT
TO YEMEN

Throughout the last couple of weeks, I have not been happy with attempts of some elements, mainly in the press, to spoil the fraternal relationship between Egypt and Yemen.

Those who try to spoil the eternal and special relationship that links Cairo with Sana'a will achieve nothing but mere failure.

To those who try to fish in troubled waters, I would like to make it crystal clear that they should stay away from the Egyptian - Yemeni bond. There have never been troubled waters between Egypt and Yemen and there will never be.

What ties Egypt and Yemen together is the blood of martyrs, soldiers and officers who fought together, side by side in

the same ditch in 1962, jotting down with immortal letters the perpetual brotherly relationship they have, which is far above any psychological complexes and political problems.

To those who enjoy to plot, I say loudly, be careful, the relationship between Egypt and Yemen are far from being touched, supported by an inexhaustible treasure of kinship and blood relations. Furthermore, even a blind eye can see the innate love and natural and mutual acceptance between the people in the two countries, created by God. Can anyone change what God has already created?

That is why we emphasize once more, to those who are trying to tamper with the Egyptian-Yemeni relationship, don't even think of it!

Nevertheless, this was also affirmatively settled by President Mubarak when he said that "President Ali Abdullah Saleh is a personal friend of mine." Mr. Mubarak also stated that the "same elements are trying to damage the (Egypt-Yemen) relations, and create a state of

tenion are doing so for their own personal interests."

President Husni Mubarak has confirmed, through his prolonged interview with the Egyptian Middle East News Agency (MENA) on April 18th that Yemeni President Saleh was very broad-minded about the plots and trials to slander Egypt and Yemen.

Likewise, everyone who watched the televised interview of President Saleh with a prominent Arabic satellite channel on Friday April 5th noticed how he talked about his full appreciation to the "proud Egyptian people who are not for sale". That is a reciprocal feeling of the Egyptian people, who keep the same feeling of love and full admiration to the Yemeni president.

Therefore, everyone should notice that the Cairo-Sana'a road is a path of fraternity and friendship, and all those troubling people, wherever they are, should halt from what they are trying to do. They should look for other things to do and keep away from Egypt-Yemen relations.

On 'The American Way'

Yes, this is 'The American Way'

GARY VEY
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You ask if the current policies are "The American way?" I am afraid the answer is "Yes."

I am old enough to remember the days when American citizens of black and brown skin were treated as if they were less than human beings. They were made to sit in the back of buses, drink from different water spouts and were prevented from voting. I am also old enough to remember the rise of Nazi Germany and the hesitation of the American government to condemn the genocide of Jews until it was much too late to intervene. I am old enough to remember the thousands of students that protested an unjust war in Viet Nam that eventually ended only after killing millions of Asians and half a million young Americans. Yes, this is entirely in keeping with the "American

way."

While Americans eventually do the right thing, they often have done it slowly and have only taken a stance on morality long after the events have become a disaster to humanity. "Why?"

Democracy is a good thing, but it is only effective in bringing out the goodness in humanity if the collective people are well informed and have an interest in the outcome of any issue.

Politicians know this well, and so the information that is given from the news media and in grand speeches is always designed to appeal to the goals of the politicians. This would be great if the political goals were based on morality and truth, but they are not. American politics is all about power and money -- as far from spiritual and moral issues as one can get.

Politicians in America, especially those of President George Bush, are to appease the ethnic Jews in America to gain re-election. If they even speak out

against the current actions in the Mideast they risk being called "anti-Semitic" -- the bane of any politician. While thousands of students in American cities demonstrate, reminiscent of the anti-Viet Nam protests of the 1960's, they have remained staunch in their support of Israel. As popular support drifts towards the Palestinians, they have kept silent, remembering that they need the Jewish vote for their next term of office.

India's Ghandi once reminded mankind that goodness and truth always wins over evil, but the battle is never won with violence and hatred. Truly Allah will support His own people, and their suffering will not be in vain. The ordinary people of America have now seen the truth, as they did in World War II, as they did in Viet Nam. It may take some time, and much suffering, but American democracy will eventually take the high ground of morality. Later rather than sooner, but that is the "American way."

Letters to the Editor

Another American thought:

I want to share another comment on the Israeli/Palestinian conflict. It is clear that the American government is allowing Israel to continue the occupation of Palestinian territories (to say the least). The appropriate action for the US government (and Europe) to take is not only request a ceasefire and a halt of settlements in the occupied territories, as stated in the UN resolution, but also enforce it by sending

in troops and pushing the Israelis back to the borders outlined by the UN. Wasn't this done in the Iraq/Kuwait conflict? Didn't the US lead a mission to push the Iraqis back off Kuwaiti territory? Of course, there was an economic interest in Kuwait but if there weren't, would the Kuwaitis suffer the same displacement? Enough world diplomats have seen the deplorable conditions that the Palestinians have been living in for

over 50 years. It is time to take a very active role (based on the appropriate UN resolution) and make Palestine a home for its people; the Palestinian civilians have suffered enough because of failed diplomatic "talks".

Javier Vazquez
Email: PPadre@aol.com

Dear Editor,
Your editorial hit the nail on the head. Yes, the Arabs should look

more closely at themselves. What Ariel Sharon has done is one of many wake up calls, since the Turkish Empire. Historically, their struggle has been to free themselves from "colonialism", by other powers, but never paid much attention to the "colonialism" within. Yes, the Israeli occupation of Palestinian land should end, but it will make no difference, as long as the Arabs are disunited. They will always remain weak and vulnera-

ble. Just look back 50 years and condition. While Japan, China, Germany, Italy, England, France, the United States and oh yes, Israel, were building up almost from ground zero, the Arabs were building bigger and better palaces and fighting among themselves. As Pogo said in the cartoon, "We found the enemy, and he is us".

Rashid Abu, M.D.
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COMMON SENSE



Hassan Al-Haifi

Arab masses not goaded

Zionist logic seems to defy all reason and common sense. After assuring themselves that they have our rulers under control, thanks to blind American support to the Zionist Establishment and arm-twisting tactics against our fallible rulers, and after finishing all their justifications for the need to end all political support to the Palestinians by our governments, the Zionist propaganda machine started a media campaign against the awesome public contributions provided to the Palestinians.

It was amazing to find Zionist propaganda cry out that the Arab public was actually funding "terrorist" activities in the Holy Land, and therefore went on to urge our governments that they must fight against organizing such public efforts. Surely, the United Jewish Appeal collection cans and boxes spread in every Jewish establishment in America and the \$5,000 a plate dinners have done more to finance terrorism in the Holy Land than all the money that the Arabs have ever spent on Palestine put together!

However, the Zionist logic of what is good for us is not good for anybody else prevails in the minds of Zionist strategists, who continue to think that they are the genius of the world, when it comes to manipulating public opinion. Just think of how ludicrous the Zionist argument is. Every day the Arab masses are watching helplessly as the Zionists are unleashing their holocaust on their brethren in Palestine, while their leaders turn their faces towards their own private affairs, and the international community watches with mild hands-off condemnation, if it can really be called that.

Surely Arabs have emotions also. But Zionists insist that all the sympathy of the world should only be left to what Adolf Hitler did to the Jews in the mid century madness that saw the killing of more than 50 million non-Jews as well, something nobody seems to want to remember. As if Jewish suffering is the only suffering that the world should confront, even now, as the Zionists unleash their hate machine against the Palestinians indiscriminately and mercilessly.

We are not going to succumb to that kind of logic, even if George Bush demands it of us, in order to ensure that he wins his "War Against Terror", something manifested by Zionist propaganda to mean a war against any Arab or Islamic cause, notwithstanding its legitimacy and the lies perpetrated by the Zionists on Arabs, and Moslems in particular.

The Arab governments have been unable to take effective measures expected of them because they are under the control of their masters in Washington. Therefore the Arab masses found their own way to show their brethren their concern for the terrible plight of the Palestinians.

Arabs from Mauritania to the eastern tip of Oman have shared their cause. The Arab masses took to the streets and withstood all the oppressive measures of their respective regimes to quell any protest demonstrations and cried out "Death to Zionism" and all its repressive supporters. In fact every decent mind throughout the world took to the street to support the call for an end to Zionist aggression. It is clear that Zionist propaganda is loosing effectiveness as time goes on and the truth is contradictory to all the Zionist distortions.

These masses also went to whatever meager savings they had and demanded that their brethren in Palestine are entitled to every means of support in these tragic times for them. It is foolish to think that Zionist designs end where the Jordan River flows. Every Arab knows that the Zionist designs know no limit to advancing their society throughout the Holy Land from the Nile to the Euphrates and from Turkey to Sana'a, if not beyond. The Zionist strategists are not really afraid of the Arab governments.

However, the quick response they saw in the Arab masses' contribution efforts took them by surprise. Thus, they went on to try to persuade the world that these contributions are for the support of "Jihad" terrorism. In fact they made it a point to emphasize this during the visit of Crown Prince Abdullah to the United States, by having the American public media air and show "Moslem clerics", as they called them, call upon their constituencies to donate to the Palestinian uprising or Intifada. First of all, technically, there is no clerics in Islam.

Most sermonizers in the mosques are grass roots members of the society. Second of all, like the United Jewish Appeal and anti-defamation groups rely on embezzling Jewish constituencies to finance the Zionist designs in Palestine, the Arab masses have a duty to do all they can to relieve the suffering of their brothers from the continuous oppression being unleashed in the Holy Land. It knows no end and recognizes no dogma except Zionist chauvinism.

There are bloody facts on the ground

BY HUDA FAWZI
THE GULF NEWS

United Nations Resolution No 1405 determines the limits of the international actions which the U.S. allows for the international community to make, with respect to the Arab-Israeli conflict, says Al-Ittihad in its editorial comment.

This resolution is downgraded because it confined the fact-finding team's mission to "gathering specific information about the recent events in the Jenin Camp, particularly about the many people killed and the extent of the destruction". Although the language of these instructions was modest, Israel resented it and accused the council of taking action only when Palestinians got killed, adds Al-Ittihad.

Although diplomats spent 36 hours writing this resolution, they did not determine the method of implementation or the time for sending the team. Instead, they dealt generously with Israel giving it enough time to eliminate the traces of the crime. The resolution also left the door open for the U.S. to exert pressure and put up obstacles that hinder the formation of the team, hence allowing Israel to gain more time, adds Al-Ittihad.

Unsuccessful attempt
In conclusion, this resolution remains another unsuccessful attempt by the UN Security Council to intervene in the Arab-Israeli conflict and is a hesitant action to maintain the image of this organisation which Washington has managed to silence with regard to Israeli crimes. And that is the objective of this resolution, concludes Al-Ittihad.

The U.S. did not exercise its right of veto against the UN Security Council Resolution No.1405. This is because the U.S. has cleared the resolution's bill from its context by not mentioning any form of condemnation of Israel and by preventing the formation of an 'investigation committee' that examines the Israeli terrorist attacks, writes Mohammad Nagi Amayrah, in Al Watan (Oman).

Although the difference is small in terms of language between "fact-finding" and "investigation", especially in Arabic, the U.S. has fulfilled its desire and the resolution was far below Arab expectation. The American manoeuvres have succeeded several times in drawing the Security Council away from performing its duties and have hindered the issue of any resolution that denounces Israel, says Amayrah.

Indeed, the hope that was placed on

Powell's visit and the optimism that the fact-finding team would arrive at a beneficial result other than allowing Sharon to gain more time for occupation, killing and destruction, was an illusion.

In spite of that, Israel has opposed this resolution saying there is no need for finding facts or investigation because the martyrs that died, the casualties that were harmed and the obvious destruction resulted from 50 persons blowing themselves up to hamper the Israeli forces from entering the camp, adds Amayrah.

Regrets
Instead of declaring his regret for what happened, the Israeli Defence Minister wished that the number killed would have been bigger and the scale of destruction greater. This is similar to Sharon, who expressed his regret for not killing Arafat and for promising the U.S. president that he wouldn't harm Arafat.

Consequently, the question remains as to the type of peace that could be achieved with such murderers and to the type of negotiations that could be resumed with them, concludes Amayrah.

Although the UN special envoy Terje Roed-Larsen, UNRWA general commissioner Peter Hanson and the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Mary Robinson are neither American nor Middle-Eastern, and in spite of their international immunity the influence of the Zionists has affected them negatively, writes Emad Aryan in Al Khaleej (UAE).

That is, the three figures have faced two incidents that placed them in direct confrontation with Israel. The first is that they mentioned the truth about the brutality of the Israeli assaults in Jenin; the second, is that Israel rejected their participation in the fact-finding committee, clarifies Aryan.

Dangerous logic
Israel will not only succeed in excluding them from such a team but might also jeopardise the positions they hold because they dared to mention the truth that they have actually seen. This reflects a very dangerous logic. Although such logic has continued for years under the Israeli-American auspices, it has surpassed all limits as it tried to hide undoubted facts, adds Aryan.

Furthermore, Israel was not ashamed of pursuing such a brutal approach against international organisations in its attempt to hide its cruel massacres when it stipulated that the fact-finding team should exclude these

three characters.

This leads to questioning the fairness of the international order and the benefit of the UN organisation in such a form. That is, if the UN cannot apply international justice and if some parties place themselves above the law and international organisations, what is the use of such organisations? asks Aryan.

If the Arab countries cannot protect these three personalities, then will the world surrender to Zionist savagery and U.S. dominance, and has everyone lost the courage to speak?

It seems this is the case, concludes Aryan.

In its explanation of the large number of victims in Jenin, Israel has prepared itself with lies and false announcements to counter the fact-finding committee that probes the massacres, alleging that Palestinian warriors used women and children as human shields during the battle, says Al-Jazirah (Saudi Arabia) in its editorial comment.

Unbalanced policy
The former Israeli prime minister, Benjamin Netanyahu also mentioned that forming the fact-finding committee reveals that the UN follows an unbalanced two-scale policy. He said if the issue was related to Israel then such a decision would not have been given.

It is clear that Netanyahu intentionally forgets the terrible crime committed, that Israel has been rejecting the international resolutions throughout 50 years and that the current status is attributed to the Israeli occupation which deprives Palestinians of their rights, adds Al-Jazirah.

Furthermore, the U.S. assistant secretary of state for Near Eastern affairs, William Burns has described the Jenin massacres as being a humanitarian disaster that affected thousands of innocent Palestinians, yet Israel did not comment on his statement because of its relation with the U.S.. On the contrary, it could not tolerate similar words by UN envoy Roed-Larsen and considers him an undesirable person. All this implies that Israel would interfere in the team's work and as such would negatively affect the probe's results, adds Al-Jazirah.

This is an important issue because Israel should be forced to implement international resolutions. But this does not happen because same parties help Israel escape punishment, concludes Al-Jazirah.

Amnesty International Organisation announced its worry that the fact-finding team does not have the capacity to fulfil its mission. It said if the team



were not empowered with clear instructions, then it would be impossible to conduct a truthful investigation, says Al-Sharq (Qatar), in its editorial comment.

The organisations' doubts confirm that this team does not have the authority to convict Israel, says Al-Sharq.

Moreover, the term fact-finding, which both Israel and the U.S. agreed on, reveals a large degree of manipulation since it could be interpreted as including innocent Palestinians in the probe not as victims but as militants that fought with the Israeli forces.

Hence Israel will promote its allegation that it invaded the camp to defend itself or to drive out "suicidal terrorists" that threatened its security, and that it marched into the camp after giving them enough time to surrender but they didn't, clarifies Al-Sharq.

Clear mission
Consequently, it is preferred that the committee will have a clear mission of investigating the crimes which Israel has committed since the Israeli assaults were carried out by organised military forces against unarmed civilians.

Also the term 'fact-finding' is normally used with unsolved crimes but in our case facts are very clear since the TV satellite channels have shown the Israeli forces invading and destroying the camp and killing its people, adds Al-Sharq.

Also, senior Israeli personnel have confessed that there are tens, not hundreds of people killed in the Jenin Camp. But the numbers do not matter. What matters is that Israel has committed the crime of mass-murder against Palestinians.

Whatever the case may be, we should wait for the committee's report to see if it will convict Israel or consider both the butcher and the victim responsible for the incident, concludes Al-Sharq.

Arabs meeting

Islam Home of tolerance, not fanaticism

BY YUSUF ISLAM
(FORMERLY CAT STEVENS)

Media speculation since the horrific terrorist attacks on America has pointed the finger at Muslims and the Arab world, and that has meant ordinary citizens of the US and other Western countries becoming easy prey for anti-faith hooligans. Shame. Sadly, the latest horror to hit the US looks to have been caused by people of Middle Eastern origin, bearing Muslim names. Again, shame. This fuels more hatred for a religion and a people who have nothing to do with these events. This is why I want to explain some basic facts about this noble way we call Islam, before, God forbid, another disaster occurs - next time probably aimed at Muslims.

I came to Islam in my late 20s, during my searching period as a wandering pop star. I found a religion that blended scientific reason with spiritual reality in a unifying faith far removed from the headlines of violence, destruction and terrorism. One of the first interesting things I learned in the Koran was that the name of the faith comes from the word salam - peace. Far from the kind of Turko-Arab-centric message I expected, the Koran presented a belief in the universal existence of God, one God for all. It does not discriminate against peoples; it says we may be different colors and from different tribes, but we are all human and "the best of people are the most God-conscious".

Shattered by events
Today, as a Muslim, I have been shattered by the horror of recent events; the display of death and indiscriminate killing we've all witnessed has dented humanity's confidence in itself. Terror on this scale affects everybody on this small planet, and no one is free from the fallout. Yet we should remember that such violence is almost an everyday occurrence in some Muslim lands: it should not be exacerbated by revenge attacks on more innocent families and communities.

Along with most Muslims, I feel it a duty to make clear that such orchestrated acts of incomprehensible carnage have nothing to do with the beliefs of most Muslims.

The Koran specifically declares: "If anyone murders an (innocent) person, it will be as if he has murdered the whole of humanity. And if anyone saves a person it will be as if he has saved the whole of humanity."

The Koran that our young people learn is full of stories and lessons from the history of humanity as a whole. The Gospels and the Torah are referred

to; Jesus and Abraham are mentioned. In fact there is more mention in the Koran of the prophet Moses than of any other. It acknowledges the coexistence of other faiths, and in doing so acknowledges that other cultures can live together in peace.

"There is no compulsion in religion," it states, meaning that people should not be compelled to change their faith. Elsewhere it states, "To you, your religion; to me mine." Respect for religious values and justice is at the Koran's core. The Koranic history we teach our young provides ample examples of inter-religious and international relationships; of how to live together. But some extremists take elements of the sacred scriptures out of context. They act as individuals, and when they can't come together as part of a political structure or consultative process, you find these dissident factions creating their own rules, contrary to the spirit of the Koran - which demands that those recognized as being in charge of Muslims must consult together regarding society's affairs.

There is a whole chapter in the Koran entitled Consultation. Communal well being is central to human life, so there is a concept in Islam called Istihsan, which means "to look for the common good". Even though the Koran may lay down a diktat, scholars are also supposed to consider the circumstances prevalent at the time.

Sometimes that means choosing the lesser of two evils or even suspending legislation if necessary: for instance, a person who steals bread during a famine is not treated as a thief.

Where do the children play?
Once I wrote in a song, "Where do the children play?" Our sympathy and thoughts go out to the families of all those who lost their lives in this tragic act of violence, as well as all those injured. But life must go on. Children still need to play, and people need to live and learn more about their neighbors so that ignorance doesn't breed more blind fanaticism. Moderation is part of faith, so those who accuse Muslim schools of fostering fanaticism should learn a bit more about Islam.

The Prophet (peace be upon him) said, "Ruined are those who insist on hardship in faith," and, "A believer remains within the scope of his religion as long as he doesn't kill another person illegally." Such knowledge and words of guidance are desperately needed at this time, to separate fact from falsehood, and to recognise the Last Prophet's own definition of that which makes a person representative, or otherwise, of the faith he lived and the one we try to teach.

Warning to Bush: Don't make enemies of Arabs

THE DAILY STAR,
BEIRUT

For a country that excels at all forms of communications, from the openness of its people to the magnetism of its movies, the United States has a government that seems strangely incapable of interpreting the simplest of messages from the most patient of messengers. Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Abdullah represents a nation whose friendship with America goes back more than five decades, and he has spent the past few months trying to keep the lid on a regional crisis that threatens to destabilize Arab regimes that are well-disposed to Washington and so to undermine US interests. If his talks with US President George W. Bush were as unproductive as initial reports indicate, the Middle East may well be headed for the sort of conflagration that no reasonable person

wants but which the likes of Osama bin Laden and Ariel Sharon have long craved.

Abdullah went to Bush's ranch in Crawford, Texas, as more than Saudi Arabia's de facto ruler, and even as more than a key player in intra-Arab relations: He went as the progenitor of the recently promulgated Arab Peace Initiative, a document whose unanimous approval by every single Arab League country spoke volumes about how badly this organization and its members want to avoid further violence. Even as ordinary Saudis joined their counterparts across the Arab world in demanding a tough response to Israel's brutal war on the Palestinian people, Abdullah and his colleagues agreed in Beirut to "turn the other cheek" and extend an olive branch to the Jewish state.

Sharon's reply came in the form of

"Operation Rampart," a massive onslaught in the West Bank that may have eliminated a few militants but has surely bred 10 times more to take their place. The Passover bombing that preceded Rampart was a terrible tragedy, but its historical significance was nothing compared to that of the Arab League's overture - until Sharon used it as the pretext to launch an orgy of bloodletting.

On Friday Bush repeated earlier admonitions that Israeli incursions into the West Bank should end "now," but the manner in which he did it offered little evidence that he has learned from Sharon's disregarding of previous appeals. Despite the fact that his erstwhile ally has been humiliating him for weeks, all the most powerful man on the planet could add to his call for a full withdrawal was a pathetic observation: "Well, we'll see what happens."

Abdullah has already told Bush what

will happen if the United States of America cannot summon the wisdom and/or the courage to rein in the government of a tiny garrison state that depends on it for annual aid that amounts to more than \$3 billion (i.e. \$600 per capita). The Arab world is not populated by fools: If its inhabitants see an Israeli premier dismissing - with impunity - the purported warnings of its No. 1 financier and armorer, they cannot help but to conclude that the White House's words are for public consumption and that it in fact fully supports actions like that undertaken in the Jenin refugee camp. Bush has been saying for months that "you're either with us or you're against us." If he either fails or refuses to understand Abdullah's very simple message, then Arabs have no choice in the matter because they will have already been placed in the latter category by American fiat.

Equal chances for female writers? Not yet



BY BUSHRA
AL-MAKTARI
TAIZ

the feudalistic and capitalistic system. Women were subsequently often humiliated and regarded as a source of sexual gratification and comfort. Some also believed that women were a source of evil.

Undoubtedly, European woman was the only woman who liberated from masculine dominance and entered different spheres of life.

Yemeni woman

Yemeni women experienced hard times during the Imam's regime, particularly after the 26 September Revolution in 1962, in the north. They experienced wretched living conditions, ignorance, epidemics, and retardation. Women had fallen a prey to masculine dominance, oppression and injustice.

Although, the revolution made great strides in several vital spheres of life, women were enslaved to men and trapped by prejudice.

So women with creative talent suffered a lot through this era in Yemen. They lived under hard conditions and were controlled by the masculine community.

As a result of political, economical and educational changes, women have now become more visible again. Education has helped that.

Creative female experience during 1990s

The 1990s was a stepping-stone period in the history of Yemen. This era witnessed dramatic changes in politics, society and culture. Globally, there was the disintegration of socialism in USSR and the emergence of a new world order.

Under these global changes, talented and creative people interacted with such global trends. The era was regarded as one with plenty of literary production from both men and women writers.

In Yemen, the creative women's experience has reshaped itself within the framework of changes like



Yemen's unification, pluralism and political involvement.

The outbreak of the Gulf War and the deportation of the Yemeni expatriates from the Gulf States as a result of Yemen's support to Iraq had its ups and downs, which in turn affected the social and economic structure of the country.

War generated interest

The 1994 civil war in Yemen also generated a lot of interest with regard to the cultural movement of female writers. Under these difficult conditions, female writers expressed their opinion freely and to create a peaceful and just world.

I wonder, have female Yemeni writers in this era reached the same prestigious position as men? Do women express their opinions freely and boldly?

Characteristics of female experience in story telling

The creative women writer often uses language differently and the use of third person singular in an attractive way. This is to prevent the reader to identify the written text with its female writer.

Female subject matters are characterized by conventionality, which are restricted to specific limits and often don't go past the trinity of religion,

politics and sex.

The internal factor

Some women's self-consciousness can prevent them from moving ahead, and this is known as an internal factor. At the same time, external factors can be society, culture and male readers who perceive women as neutral inactive member.

Also, female creative writers are often dealt with unjustly by critics, and their writings are often disparaged.

As a result, we find that there is a certain kind of literary and intellectual bias with regard to female creative writers.

Need healthy literary atmosphere

To put it in a nutshell, I think there should be a healthy literary atmosphere where female talented writers can express what is on their minds without any obstacles.

Giving women access to participate in all areas of society is a sure signal of progress, to achieve equality among all citizens of any community.

In a country like Yemen, women have actually made laudable strides in economic, social, political and cultural dimensions. Their active participation in the past two decades is attributed to better education despite the considerable difficulties and pitfalls facing it.

Dr. Ahmed Omran's short story

SAIF BACK HOME

He accustomed himself to the new world by attending ideological symposium, theatres and dancing halls where he enjoyed Rock and Roll music.

At university he became well-known after discussing his research "Spectrum of Atomic Reaction". To explain his name "Saif" to his friends he referred to Saif bin thi yezen, the ancient Yemeni king, and narrated the story of Mareb Dam and how it was destroyed by mice.

As he had an attractive personality and excelled at science, he became another spectrum at university in a way that students and unions asked him to present a lecture on whatever subject he liked.

During the 1970s he adopted the national ideology, so he changed talking about Saif bin thi yezen and Mareb Dam to talk about Palestine, Jerusalem's gates and weeping olives trees. Sadly he used to talk about massacres of Dier Yasin and Bahril Baqar. With tearful eyes he narrated the story of a Palestinian woman whom he knew personally, and how she was still had the idea of returning to her occupied house like a heavy stone around her neck.

Dismissed

A year later he was dismissed from the university because he was considered a lunatic. After that he was ordered to leave the United states. He confessed to his friends that the Mossad made him mad.

He tried to get rid of that situation because he would go back to his home in a week, a place which was searching for a new ruler after the death of two rulers in a few months. So he had to be careful, lest he should be cheated.

He must be cautious for if they knew him, they would arrest him at the airport and crown him a ruler and then he would be killed within a few months.

Saif arrived at Sanaa airport shivering. He lowered his head to avoid glances. After passing passport checkpoints, he felt very relieved.

Thinking that it might have been a plot, he entered the toilet overlay. In spite of its bad smelling, he stayed there for more than an hour.

Hired a taxi

Then he went out cautiously and hired a taxi, ordering the driver not to go across city center, the Republican Palace or any public squares.

The car ran towards his hometown of which he was dreaming eagerly during expatriation. Along the way he felt afraid, especially when passing by checkpoints. Finally he relaxed as he came nearer to his village. He asked the driver to let him get off before it, to give a chance for a proper reception.

He stopped for a while to smell as much of his village air as he could. He opened his arms as if trying to embrace it. As he came nearer, a bare child ran a way towards the village shouting "Christian! Christian!"

Meaning: go with a servant but never eat with him. Feed a Jew but never go with him.

Comment: A servant is better than a Jew though a servant sometimes behaves foolishly and carelessly while a Jew is treacherous. Here, keep a servant as a companion without eating with him because he might eat much and can't work or he may press the red line. Meanwhile a Jew may betray you. So don't trust him. Feed him (if he is hungry) as he is a human being but never accompany him.

Situation: baring Jewish behaviors.

خارج من مسنّف وداخل ملاح

Meaning: He passed on heavy thorns, but entered thick big grove.

Comment: As unlucky man may go from bad to worse. E.g. he struggles to pass over heavy thorns but he faces a thick big grove which he can't pass however hard he tries. The

Behind narrow windows and low doors he saw a slim figure peeping. On arriving to his house he saw his father feeding a pale cow.

No degree

Two days later, people no longer talked about his arrival because news spread that Saif had come without a certification degree, without money, without gifts, without clothes, without his moustache, without anything. The next days were spent gossiping that Saif didn't perform daily prayers nor recite the Holy Quran but recited non-understandable things other lips. After midnights Saif kept wandering in streets, observing the windows and doors, talking to the animals in a strange language. He certainly got mad. Definitely, he was mad.

On the seventh day, children gathered near his house waiting for his coming out to shout "Madman, madman." He felt fed up discovering that his eagerness was cold. Even atoms of sand hit his eyes and entered his ears mercilessly.

At last his father brought a man to cure Saif by dismissing evil souls out his body. Saif decided to migrate to the capital out of everybody's sight. "A ruler, what did that mean?" he said to himself as he was on his way.

He kept putting his head out the car window wherever he passed by checkpoints but policemen beckoned the driver to pass. Saif was surprised that those policemen were fool enough to recognize him. Instead of getting angry, he began to plan for development.

In Sana'a centre

The car reached Sana'a's city center. Saif got down waving the hand to the people who cared nothing for him. Near a statue he stopped. A photographer came to him saying "Would you like a picture? Just ten rials for it."

Saif felt completely hopeless, believing that he was at the very place and shouted in an American accent "I found it!"

Then he took a taxi to the political quarter where embassies, ministry buildings and detectives were. He got down welcoming himself warmly and went in all directions shaking hands with all guards smilingly. Suddenly a police car stopped beside him.

He didn't care for that but felt proud instead. When the officer shouted at him to show his ID card, Saif answered comfortably: so you've come at last!

In spite of a severe beating, Saif insisted that he had never been a destructor nor was he an agent for any foreign circles. Breaking his humble behavior, he said to the officer: Sir, you've misunderstood the high orders. I am Saif, Saif the physician scientist.

But the beating and insulting continued, and Saif shouted: "Please don't beat me. Would you like me to be a ruler or not?"

TRANSLATED BY
SAAD SHARIF TAHER

Yemeni proverbs for all occasions



BY SAAD SHARIEF
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

ابن مهرة ولا متعلم سنة

Ibn mehreh wela mita'alim senneh
Meaning: A well-experienced man is better than one who studies for a year.

Comment: Practice is better than theories.

Situation: When showing importance of experience.

ان جيت للجزار عظم لك الخبر

In jeet liljazzar aadhem lek il kheber
Meaning: If you come to a butcherer, he will magnify the news.

Comment: Butchers are talkative and exaggerating. A butcher may praise the meat as if it were gazelle's while it is bad.

Situation: When people exaggerate the reality.

البازية غير الام كذابة

Il baziyah gheir il um keththabeh
Meaning: A wet-nurse who feeds the baby at the breast, or looks after it other than the mother, is a liar.

Comment: No one equals the mother in compassion. Even a nurse who suckles the baby or a relative who brings it up cannot give it compassion like its mother.

Situation: When showing mother's care.

آخر المحنش للمحنش

Akhir il mihhenish lil henesh
Meaning: A person who recites the Holy Quran to send a snake away

from the house will finally be bitten by it.

Comment: some people try to help others, but pay for it. e.g. a man throws himself in the sea to have a drowning person but drowns at last.

Situation: When one is hurt as a result of offering help. Or people who cheat others will finally pay for it.

يا مخارج الاخجف لا ودف

Ya mkharj il akhjeff la weddef
Meaning: Who would save a fool in an embarrassing position?

Comment: Stupid people always put themselves in critical positions. So anyone who tries to help them will face difficulties. Therefore, people try to avoid them.

Situation: When condoling those who suffer from hard results because of helping foolish people.

العافية تشتي علف

Il a'afyeh tishti alef
Meaning: Health, like animals, needs food.

Comment: To keep healthy, you have to vary your food and eat well, because health demands elements to keep it going well.

Situation: When advising sick people or kids who do not take a balanced diet.

القضا

Itha agreedht il jeed ma yitaboksh wekt il gedha.
Meaning: If you lend money to good people, they won't disappoint you in paying it back.

Comment: Wise people highly appreciate those who help time in

time of need. They feel grateful for them. e.g. when they borrow money, they will pay it back in time.

Situation: When praising good borrowers.

الرجال مخابر مش مظاهر

Alriajal mekhabir mush menadhir
Meaning: You should judge men according to their attitudes not by their appearance.

Comment: Appearances are often deceptive. So we have to judge men by their deeds and not by their speech. Some people try to show goodness and smile but in fact they are not so. Sometimes while faces hide black hearts and vice versa.

Situation: When evaluating men.

اكل ما يعجبك والبس ما يعجب الناس

Ikl ma ya'ajbuk wilbas ma ya'ajub ilnas
Meaning: Eat whatever you prefer but wear what other people prefer.

Comment: At home do eat whatsoever you like because no one observes you, but as for dress you should follow what other people like you to wear.

Situation: Advising to follow traditions.

حبيبك الاول لا يغرك الثاني

Hebeebek il awal l yighorruk il thani
Meaning: The first you loved, the best. Don't be cheated by another one.

Comment: When one falls in love for the first time, that is the real love because he is still raw and natural. While the second love is different because now he is well-experienced in choosing good words or in clearing. Previously Arabs said: "Try to love many times but surely you will

go back to your first love."

Situation: Showing real love.

دور يداويها زار عماها

Dewwer didawiha zad amaha
Meaning: He wanted to cure a sick eye but unfortunately he made it blind.

Comment: Sometimes people try to help others but unfortunately they do the opposite unwillingly. e.g. one tries to mend a broken thing but destroys it completely.

Situation: When describing unlucky or inexperienced people.

من ركن على سبغ جارتها اكلها قفرة

Men rikin ala sebgh jartuh ekelha gefreh
Meaning: He who depends on his neighbor's soup, eats his dry bread only.

Comment: Idle people who depend on others get nothing. Life needs struggling. Without work, life can't be conquered.

Situation: Blaming dependant people.

باب ياتيک منه ريح سده واستريح

Bab yati minnuh reeh siddeh wistireeh
Meaning: If you want to be comfortable, shut the door through which winds blow.

Comment: When certain relation brings harm, stop such relation to be safe and comfortable.

Situation: advising others to prevent the way against troubles.

ساير الخادم ولا تناكله، واكل اليهودي ولا تسايه

Sair il khadim wela ta'akkilah, wa'kkil il yehudi wela tsairah
Meaning: Do not associate with a servant and do not eat with a Jew.

English equivalent to this proverb is "To fall out of the frying pan into the fire."

Situation: When describing unfortunate people who go from bad to worse.

الدهر كله عماره متى يكون السكون

Ildehr kulluh amara meta ykoon il sikooni
Meaning: Time always demands working, when will there be rest?

Comment: When a poor man works hard all his life, he thinks that there is not second to rest.

Situation: When tired workers complain of hard work.

ولد الويل لا لقيته مهمت، هو بمهرة غيره

Wld il weil la ligeiteh mihthem, hu bmuhet gheireh
Meaning: If you see a troublesome boy busy (while feeding a horse) it is sure that the horse is not his.

Comment: troublesome boys do not help their parents when they ask

Illness and other problems abound as streams becomes big dumping zone

Sick of the polluted Wadi Bana

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

A cry is being heard from Wadi Bana. It's a cry for help, for understanding that its environment, its very life, is being threatened by a variety of pollution, including waste oil dumped by area shop owners and industries.

Dr. Fawzi Al-Qadri of Al-Jazeera clinic commented on the issue, noting "A drop of burning oil can pollute 12 liter of inside water. Guess how big the disaster is when tons of oil is poured every year in the stream from which poor villagers drink directly with their animals? As a doctor I can tell you that patients have intestinal parasites, hepatitis, hypertension and food poisoning. And it's increasing daily. Special centers receive increasing number of patients with cancer."

Area resident Ahmed Al-Bahhal notes the problem:

"More than ten years ago we found that our beans and potatoes diseased, and there were new ulcers on the legs of children who swam in the stream. Diseases like diarrhea and liver prob-



Washing cars takes part in polluting Wadi Bana is part of the stream's pollution problem

lems increased.

We came up the reason of the polluted river. It has been polluted by sewage of Saddah. Workshops and waste materials of pharmacies poured in Wadi Bana have made it worse.

Along the Wadi, which comes from Kitab springs and flows into Arabian sea about 200 km away, people used to make use of the water for drinking and for irrigation. As a result, people and animals grew sick. Animals weakened and the majority died as a result of the polluted water. Later animals refused to drink such water as they saw a layer of oil floating on the surface. Soil also has been affected, for many plants like pomegranates have no longer been planted.

Al-Bahhal told the district director,

and a team from Sanaa visited the area and suggested to establish stores or depots to contain waste oil.

"We're waiting for the first steps, hoping that it won't take forever," he said.

He said since most people don't know much about protecting the environment, a society education people was formed.

Mr. Abdul-Majeed Mohammed Al-Qufaili, the general director of Nadirah and head of the local council said there have been meetings in the local council and schools to draw people's attention to the pollution problem and its negative results on health and the environment.

He said shop owners have been told they can't pour oil on the ground, or

throw it in the stream, but they need to keep such oil in barrels. They made a promise to do so.

"Also, we held campaigns to clean the town of plastic bags and unbreakable objects," he said.

And those who don't follow the rules?

"We will apply all the laws and instructions to keep the environment clean," said Al-Qufaili.

"I assure you that we are doing our best to show people the problem," said Miss Najeeba Al-Mamari, the general secretary of the local council in Nadira.

"As for unbreakable materials, we told offices in Saddah to collect waste oil in cement stores built on Environment Health Projectors account. It was agreed that empty cans,

plastic bags and unbreakable garbage will be sent to Yarim where there is a center for collecting those waste materials from Saddah, Nadira Raddmah, Qafar and Kitab."

She also noted there is now a society being founded for protecting the environment, to educate people and make clean stream. That will be "Wadi Bana Society For Environment Protection."

Still, car drivers continue to wash their cars in the stream, spots of oil float on water, heaps of garbage lay in the middle of area farms and many women wash dirty clothes with their children swimming in the stream.

Pumps are also pouring waste oil into the stream.

People interviewed in the area complain about teeth pains, the children's lack of health and the damaged plantations.

Mohammed Al-Ghazali, an old man, said he lost his teeth as he drank such water for 15 years and that he was afraid that his sons would face the same.

He also said that a man went to America to have his teeth treated and spent \$8,000 to get artificial ones.

Abdu Hial Al-yajoory said "Yesterday I was injured by a piece of

glass while I was working on my farm. That was because of waste materials thrown in the torrent," he shouted. "You see this polluted water and soil. How can we offer healthy food?"

Finally villagers of Duroom Al-Zamazmah said they adjure the governor of Ibb to get a fast solution to this horrible disaster.



Piles and piles of garbage. How much more can the area take?



Tens Pumps pour oil into Wadi Bana



Polluted water irrigates farms

VACANCY

Management Information System Specialist (MISS)
For the Credit Administration Unit -CAU - (IDA Credit No. 2570-YEM)

The Ministry of Education (MOE), Credit Administration Unit (CAU), seeks applicants for the position of *Management Information System Specialist (MISS)*, The MOE plans to establish an EMIS that will provide MOE with an effective information system for the formulation of policy and the management of planned education change and strengthen managerial capability at all levels by improving communication that facilitate decision making. The MISS will work closely with the MOE staff to make sure that the EMIS is operational and efficient to better serve the strategic management purpose of the Yemen Education System. In addition, he/she will be responsible for establishing and MIS unit at the CAU, design, installation, and management of the office network, specifically, he/she will:

- Design the CAU -MIS hardware network system;
- Carry out the installation, configuration of updated softwares and formulating information of necessary user training plan;
- Select the MIS platform (database and programming language);
- Assess other software requirements of the CAU staff (word processing, electronic spreadsheets, visual presentation, drawings...etc);
- Work closely with MOE to make sure that the EMIS is operational and efficient to better serve the strategic management purpose of the Yemeni education system;
- Determine the organization of the MIS unit;
- Prepare documentation to acquire the necessary hardware, database software, and specific software applications;
- Work closely with end users in establishing a computerized suitable system;
- Identify and implement IM practices that enhance cooperation between all departments and ensure optimum use of information technology communication system;
- Manage the construction of CAU Web and internal e-mails, and ensures that the information contained in the Web page is updated regularly ;
- Advise the management on IT strategies, develop office IT plan on program and implementation;
- Identify staff training needs and prepare an annual plan of staff training on application and information topics;

Qualification:

- Advanced University Degree in Computer sciences, software engineering , IT or equivalent degree;
- At least five years experience in IT position;
- Experience in using friendly report generator;
- Knowledge of Web page design and development;
- Experience in hardware installation (networks, services and working stations);
- Good knowledge of English and Arabic language;

All applications along with a detailed resume and supporting documents should be submitted by May8,2002, at the following address:

Basic Education Expansion Project
Project' Sector-Ministry of Education-Third floor
Sana'a Baghdad Street P.O. box 16392

Yemen needs recycling plan

Waste piles up



BY ISMAEL AL-GHABERI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Increasing environmental problems in Yemen may have a catastrophic effect on the population.

For many years the government has been heedless to this issue and its gravity is now more apparent. Yet, some of the smaller problems could be solved with some effort in this respect. Some other needs more effort on the part of both the government and the public.

Building public's awareness will significantly contribute to reducing the complexity of this issue.

The issue of proper disposal of waste water is increasingly drawing the attention of the governments. This is because of the harmful impacts of this problem on environment and humans. Some of the main problems Yemen is suffering from can be outlined as follows:

Plastic

Plastic sacks pose a real threat to environment in Yemen since they cannot be dissolved. This problem is very harmful to the arable lands.

One of the possible solutions is building a recycling plant for recycling plastic substances. Rationalizing the use and manufacturing of these products would be of prime importance for limiting this problem. Also, resorting to the use of baskets made of palm tress, fabric or ethylene is one solution.

Paper

This problem is not severe as the former, but it is still a problem. To solve this it would be a good move to

establish a recycling plant that would change these papers into usable papers, newsprint, and for other related paper industry.

Plastic water bottles

Due to the increase of using plastic water bottles, the environment is endangered, especially inside cities.

Since these products are not dissolvable, manufacturing plants producing these bottles should be ordered to recycle their products for second use. Similarly, resorting to reusable water containers would have many advantages. People should also be advised to boil water for drinking purposes instead of buying bottled water.

Sewage

This problem is a big one in Yemen at both urban and rural areas. Coastal cities suffer a lot, as waste is usually disposed in the sea.

This is indeed very destructive to the

marine life as it leads to the death of thousands of fishes and other sea creatures. In some cities where there're no sewerage networks and people tend to dig their own septic tanks.

This is a threat to the environment as well as to our lives when the sewage water gets mixed with the underground water. Yet, when sinks get filled and start leaking, they are a real hazard to our life and smell awfully bad. Such an environment is hospitable to all kinds of insects and epidemics. The high salty water of these sinks also destroys asphalted roads.

Water shortage

Due to the scarcity of water in Yemen as well as the lack of the water networks even in major cities, a large part of the population suffers from this problem. Consequences of water shortage include the spread of disease and lack of hygiene.



Improve Your English

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I. What to say

Situations and expressions (14)
Terminating a conversation (2)

There are different ways of breaking a conversation. One of them is to apologize for having bothered your partner in the act of conversation. It is an indirect or suggestive way to indicate to the other person that the speaker intends to end the conversation. Rules of Phatic communion require that the other person says something like 'not at all, or 'you're welcome', or 'my pleasure', or 'never mind'. But first let's look at some standard expressions of apology used to close a conversation.

- Sorry to have bothered you.
- Sorry to have taken your time.
- Sorry if I intruded on you.
- I may be excused for giving you this bother.
- Well, let me not take any more of your time by talking.
- Excuse me if I bored you.
- Pardon me for interruption in your work.
- Sorry to have interrupted in your work.
- Extremely sorry to have come between you and your TV viewing.
- Many thanks for your patient listening. I beg your leave now.
- Hope I didn't take much of your time.
- Hope I didn't bore you too much.
- So much for now. Shall speak to you later.
- Hope I didn't tax you with my endless talk.
- Please don't mind my interruption.
- That's all I had to say. Excuse me if I bored you too much.
- Well, what more shall I say except rendering an unqualified apology to have interrupted you.
- Hope I have said all I wanted to. Sorry if I disturbed you.
- Should I say how grateful I am for your patient listening.
- Excuse me if I sounded pompous.
- Sorry to have forced you into my personal woes.
- Excuse me if I burdened you with my frivolous talk.
- I don't know if I had the right to bother you. Sorry for inconvenience caused.

II. How to say it correctly

Correct errors, if any, in the following sentences.

1. You'll b doing a mistake if you follow this path.
2. Each of my pencils is broken. I'll have to mend them.
3. We hope to take up manufacture very soon.
4. The passengers were looted of all their belongings.
5. If you paid so much for the article, you were certainly looted.

Solutions to last week's questions

1. The **comprehensive** policy on wages announced by the government is unlikely to be accepted by the Labor unions.
2. It is time to **turn over** a new leaf in

the country's foreign policy.

3. Please **switch on (turn on)** the air conditioner.
4. **Turn on** the tap for me, please.
5. There is a **great need** for more research to be done.

III. How to say it in one word

1. Time of difficulty, danger or anxiety for the future.
2. Food that is hard, dry, and easily broken.
3. Principle by which something is measured for value.
4. Person who judges and writes about literature, art, music.
5. A critical essay or review on some subject.

Solutions to last week's questions

1. Something that can be believed: **Credible** (adj)
2. One who easily believes things: **Credulous** (adj)
3. Something that is shaped like the curve of the moon in the first or last quarter: **Crescent** (n)
4. All the persons working in a ship or aircraft: **Crew** (n)
5. Branch of science studying crimes: **Criminology** (n)

IV. Grammar and Composition

a) Composition
Write some sentences to give advice using the following expressions

1. One thing to remember is...
2. Something to keep in mind is...
3. One thing people tend to forget is...
4. One thing people don't realize is...
5. You can't afford to ignore the fact that...

b) Idioms and phrases

Use the following phrases in sentences of your own:

1. give oneself airs, 2. akin to, 3. on the alert, 4. alien to, 5. alive to

c) Words easily confounded
Differentiate between the following pairs of words.

1. appliance, compliance
2. apposition, opposition
3. appreciation, depreciation
4. apprehend, comprehend
5. appraise, apprise

Answers to last week's questions:

a) Grammar and Composition

1. **A:** Can I use your Internet? I have to check my email.
B: (accepting) You're most welcome. (declining) Sorry, but I have to urgently type a paper on the computer.
2. **A:** I've just finished writing a short poem. Could you please go through it?
B: (accepting): Fine, no problem. (declining): I'd like to, but I have now an appointment with the dentist.
3. **A:** Sorry to bother you. The last bus to my village has already left. Could I spend the night at your place?
B: (accepting): You're most welcome

(declining): What a pity! I have some guests already at my place.

4. **A:** Would you mind if I used your phone for a minute?
B: (accepting): That's okay. Please feel free.
(declining): Sorry, but I'm expecting a call from abroad.

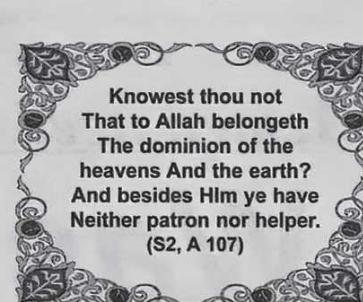
b) Idioms and phrases

1. **go ahead** (making progress): Go ahead without any fear.
2. **look ahead** (think of and smoothly prepare for the future needs): Look ahead and proceed confidently.
3. **aim at**: Ahmed aims at becoming a doctor.
4. **in the air** (spreading of an opinion): The government's plan to privatize education is in the air for sometime now.
5. **on the air** (broadcasting): The Prime minister will be on the air (will be broadcasting) at 8 P.M. tonight.

c) Words commonly confounded

1. **apex** (n) (top or highest point). He is now at the apex of his career.
2. **climax** (n) (an event or point of greatest interest or importance): His performance marked the climax of the evening's entertainment program.
3. **aphasia** (n) (loss of ability to use or understand speech): The child suffered aphasia due to brain injury in the accident.
4. **dyspepsia** (n) (indigestion): I won't have my dinner as I'm suffering from dyspepsia.
5. **dyslexia** (n) (inability to read): In the west there are reading clinics to treat children suffering from dyslexia.
6. **a priori** (adv & adj) (reasoning from cause to effect): There seems to be no a priori cause for the child's slow learning.
7. **aposteriori** (adv & adj) (reasoning from effect to cause): The aposteriori cause of his illness seems to be long and hard work without adequate rest.
8. **appal** (vt) (Something that fills someone with shock or fear): I was appalled at his wild behavior.
9. **appeal** (vi) (make an earnest request): The hostage appealed to his kidnappers for mercy.

V. Pearls from the Holy Quran



VI. Words of wisdom
"Fame is the perfume of heroic deeds."
—Socrates

Cultural and Scientific Fete at Mahweet

DR. RAMAKANTA SAHU
DR. ABDUL AMIR ALI
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH

A college is not only a degree-awarding institution or a man-making machine. It is a cultural nerve-center and, in this sense, represents the life line of any society. It is a significant beacon light that spreads awareness about the contemporary social ethos, infuses into the learners a healthy scientific temperament, thus preparing them to face the challenges with a new vigor, vitality and rhythm. In this way a college grooms its students to play a meaningful role in creatively transforming the contemporary social order.

With a view to sensitizing the academic community in some of the latest socio-cultural currents and cross-currents with far reaching implications, the Faculty of Education, Mahweet organized a two-day Cultural and Scientific Fete on 23 and 24 April. Held under the patronage of Dr. Abdullah Al-Awlaqi, Rector of the University of Sana'a and Brigadier Ahmed Ali Mohsin, the governor of Al-Mahweet, the Cultural and Scientific Council of the Faculty very efficiently planned and stage managed the event with exemplary meticulousness that evoked an enthusiastic response from students and the staff of the college as well as the high-ranking officials including the Vice governor, and Secretary of the local councils of Mahweet. The Festival had an auspicious opening with recitation of some verses from the Holy Quran by Ali Muunis, a student in the Department of Islamic Studies. It was inaugurated by Dr. Mohammed Al-Kamali, the dynamic Dean of the Faculty who warmly welcomed the guests and the audience to the august occasion. In his speech he outlined the significance of the celebration and called upon the members of the audience to positively respond to the clarion call given by President Ali Abdullah Saleh to lend moral support to the defenseless Palestinians, and generously donate for a great humanitarian cause, so as to provide succour to the war-ravaged Palestinians. He appealed to the audience to identify themselves with the rest of the discerning world community who have pledged solidarity with the cause of the Palestinians.

Dr. Al-Kamali's call for a donation campaign instantly evoked a spontaneous response from all sections of the audience. The highlight of the campaign was the donation of their jewellery by



Dr. Mohammed Al-Kamali addressing the audience



Mr. Rafid Dr. Al-Hashemi Dr. Adil

Harith Ahdal Jabbar, Head of the Department of Geography, and Dr. Adil Abdullah Al-Sheikh, Head of the Department of History in the Faculty.

This colorful and educative exhibitions were opened by Dr. Mohammed Al-Kamali, Dean and the Chief guests.

some girl students present on the occasion, as a token of their massive support for the Palestinian cause. One of the girl students donated two bullets wrapped in an envelope superscribed 'To whom it May concern' meant to be used against the common enemy.

The inaugural lecture was delivered by Dr. Abid Tawfeeq Al-Hashemi, Head, Department of Islamic Studies in the Faculty of Education, Sana'a University. His talk titled "The Scandal of the Contemporary Jewish Media" exposed some of the myths and misconceptions very calculatedly perpetuated by the cunning Jews through the world media. He clarified with illustrative examples how brazenly they indulge in rumor mongering and fabricate mischievous rumors against Islam and Prophet Mohammed (PBUH). He pinpointed the bogus claims of the Jews who quote the so called sacred books to establish themselves as the sons of God having a birthright on everything that they can lay their hands on.

An important sidelight of the function was the opening of exhibitions of geographical tools and aids organized by Geography department, of Yemeni cultural heritage put up by History Department, and of Audio visual aids displayed by the department of Educational Sciences. These were meticulously supervised with passion and professionalism by Dr. Abdul Atti, Head of Educational Sciences, Dr.

The deliberations of the second day started with a deeply evocative poem by one of the prominent Yemeni poets Mohammed Al-Shuthiyh which embodied the feelings of dismay, anger and bitterness of the poet as well as of the Yemeni public at the brutal and senseless massacre of their innocent brothers in Palestine. Amid peals of thunderous applause he passionately pleaded to put an immediate end to the barbaric act.

This was followed by an illuminating lecture titled "Al-Shu'ubiyyah" in which the distinguished speaker Dr. Adil Abdullah Al-Sheikh, Head of History Department gave a brilliant exposition of the anti-Arab movement and its role in shaping the Islamic history. He sounded a stern warning to those malicious elements and to their ignominious attempt to malign the reputation of Islam and the Arabs.

After Dr. Adil's lecture, Mr. Rafid Abdullah, of the Physics department transported the audience to a different world altogether, to a world of physical science. In his informative talk titled "Depleted Uranium: its application and health hazards", Mr. Rafid drew a distinction between 'depleted' and 'non-depleted' uranium and clearly brought out some of the serious ailments including cancer and congenital disorders of various types which are likely to be caused by these elements.

As the curtains were drawn on the two day festival of enrichment and enlightenment, Dr. Mohammed Al-Kamali, Dean of the Faculty, termed the event as a glorious milestone in the academic annals of the Faculty which may be an example for others to emulate and said that more of such events are planned for the future as well. As the audience melted away, there was an unequivocal sense of gratification expressed by one and all and a sense of appreciation for the leadership of Dr. Al-Kamali in planning and implementing intellectual events of such profundity and magnitude.



A section of the audience

Explicating Shakespeare



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*Sinful Macduff,
They were all struck for thee! naught
that I am,
Not for their own demerits, but for
mine,
Fell slaughter on their souls. Heaven
rest them now!*
(Macbeth, Act 4, Scene 3,
Lines 224-227)

In these lines Macduff responds to news of his family's murder. When Ross tells him that his wife, children and servants have been savagely slaughtered by Macbeth, Macduff is overcome with deadly grief. Malcolm tries to soften the blow and cheer him up by encouraging him to face the terrible sorrow like a 'man'. But he is struck too deep for tears. His reflex response to Malcolm's words is that he is 'sinful' and his wife and children were killed for him. He thinks he is worthless and they died for his sins, not their own. May they rest in peace!

Now, it's a moot point whether Macduff is 'sinful'. There is no evidence in Shakespeare's text to suggest that Macduff is wicked, iniquitous or corrupt. He is a dedicated patriot. The motivation of his flight is noble and his mission is absolutely blameless. That it was wrong and regrettable in the interest of his family is clear but, on this count, he can only be considered unwise or injudicious, not at all sinful.

Does he mean by 'sinful' the demerit or sin of leaving his family in the

lurch, as Wilson Knight notes? I think not. Does Shakespeare describe Macduff as 'sinful'? Or is it the speaker's reaction to the consequences of his poor judgment? As Ross says to Lady Macduff, her husband is "noble, wise, judicious, and best knows the fits o'th'season" (Act 4, Scene 2, Lines 16-18). According to OED, 'sinful' means 'highly reprehensible', something characterized or marked by sin. John Milton speaks of 'sinful flesh' in *Paradise Regained*. Fletcher says: "Shame attend the sinful, I know my innocence." Phrases or words suggestive of a sin-grace contrast occur umpteen

times in *Macbeth*.

To my mind, the word 'sinful' in Macduff's statement suggests a perception of reprobate alienation which condemns him to be a victim of controlling providence. Shakespeare was cognizant of the discourse of Calvinism, which denies that man has free will and that his doomed identity can only be redeemed by divine grace. Some sort of demonic manipulation renders man subject to determinist necessity, so it's not Macduff's unwise decision to fly from his family or his cowardice but the relentless, rather inexorable, trajectory of his deprived will which makes his career 'sinful' and he finds himself pitilessly marshalled against the looming destruction.

YOUTH FORUM

The intelligent cat
Once there was a poor old man. He lived with his three children in Italy. After some months the old man died and his three boys divided the legacy. The eldest boy inherited two cows, the second inherited a hut and the youngest boy inherited an intelligent cat. At the time the youngest boy loved a princess. He wanted to marry her, but he was very poor. He wanted to have a castle and a good fortune.

There was in their city a shrewd witch who had these things. The boy wanted to kill this shrewd witch in order to get her castle as well as her good fortune, but he did not know how.
"Don't worry, I know an appropriate solution for this shrewd woman and get rid of her forever," the cat said to him. The boy with his cat went together to the castle. "O, witch, I hear you can change to any thing, but I don't believe this," the boy said to the witch. "You don't believe this; I can be now a lion and eat you," the witch said. "No... no I like to see it myself with my own eyes," the boy said. In a moment the witch changed to many things. Then the cat said, "But you can't be a mouse, can you?" the witch changed to a mouse and the cat ate her. After that the castle was owned by the boy and his intelligent cat. One week after, the boy married the

princess and they lived happily in that castle. "All's well that ends well", the intelligent cat said.

Faizah Ali Alhamzi,
Level 2, Faculty of Education
Al-Mahweet

Don't blame me
Don't blame me for this situation
I told you the stark reality,
I helped you if I refused your request.
Don't blame me for being misled
You were clear about my feelings for you.
I thought you'd act at the right moment.
Don't blame me if you failed to reach your goal.
I desired you to stop dreaming.
Every good dream can't be realized.
Don't blame me if you failed in your exam.
I asked you to focus on studies and nothing else.
I wanted you to be first a perfect man and help your family.
Don't blame me if you have lost hope.
I told you to be optimistic
Who always chooses the right time for right action.
Then I promised you my love.
Yasmin Ali Yahia Saleh
Level 3
Faculty of Education, Khawlan

CAMPUS NEWS

English Debate Competition at Amran

The English Department, Faculty of Education, Amran, conducted an English debate competition last Tuesday. Over 30 students from different levels of the English department took part in the event which was attended by the college Dean, Dr. Abdullah Al-Najar, vice Dean Dr. Abdulhameed Haj Ameen, and Professors from the English and other departments.

The Dean expressed his sense of appreciation for the English department for organizing such functions which would go a long way to help the students polish their oral communication skills and boost their talents for public speaking. He thanked Prof. P. Abraham, Head of the English department for conducting such activities for

the first time in the history of the college. The Dean stressed the need for learning and acquiring the English language as the language of science and technology. He said the college will support such activities by all means.
The motion of the house was "Women should be encouraged to study and work." Some of the students spoke in favor and others against the motion. Four students from each level were selected for their impressive performance. The fourth winner of each level was given consolation prizes.

Names of winners:

- A: Fourth level**
1. Ridhwan Kasim Ghaleb
2. Akram Ali Mohammed
3. Hilal Ali A-Hawthi

4. Mohammed Hizam Naji

- B: Third level**
1. Eman Khalid
2. Rema Mohammed Ali
3. Aziz Saleh Ali
4. Mona Ali
C: Second level
1. Asia Ahmed
2. Abdu Ali Mohsen
3. Asma Saleh Rasheed
4. Saif Abdullah Mohsen
D: First Level
1. Shamsan Saif Al-Mawl
2. Mohammed Ali
3. Nasrallah Mohsen
4. Yousef Abdullah

Participants expressed thanks and gratitude to Dr. Abraham for his efforts to improve their proficiency in English. Dr. Mukul proposed a vote of thanks at the end of the function.

Mohammed H. Al-Qadhi

Interclass Football tournament at Mahweet

Under the auspices of the English department, Faculty of Education, Al-Mahweet an inter-class football tournament was held last week. Level 4 team

under the captaincy of Mr. Yahya Al-Sanani registered a convincing win over level 2 and were declared College Champion in football for the session 2001-2002. They will be presented the Krishna Chandra Sahu - Taramoni

Devi Memorial Trophy at the Annual Celebration of the department. Level 2 team was declared runners-up for the year. Dr. Mohammed Al-Kamali, Dean of the Faculty was the chief guest at the final match and encouraged the teams.

Dr. Ramakanta Sahu
Coordinator

Local Press

Prepared by Mohammed Khidhr

Annas weekly, April 22, 2002.

- Main headlines:**
- US committed to military and security cooperation with Yemen
 - Nationwide campaign in support of the Palestinian Intifadha
 - High rate of murder and burglary
 - Islah party takes part in demonstrations backing Palestinian resistance

Columnist Dr Abdulghani Qassem has published an article on the American military plans against Iraq explaining the motives behind the U.S.-British axis of aggression on Iraq saying it has postponed those plans to "after finishing the destruction of the Palestinian authority infrastructure."

Dr Qassem brings forth a number of reasons explaining the motives behind attacking this steadfast Arab country, Iraq.

The lists a number of causes pushing the U.S. to plan aggression on Iraq mentioning the first as Iraq possesses a developed scientific and technological basis and its rating as second largest oil producing country next to Saudi Arabia. One of the other main causes behind the American hostile campaign against Iraq is that it does not submit to the American hegemony and that it poses a threat to the Zionist entity's expansionist ambitions. Another reason for the American hostile attitude towards Iraq is that of its pan-Arab affiliation that antagonizes division inherited from the British-French colonialist era and nowadays supported by America and its instrument of evil, the Zionist entity. Iraq refuses the presence of American military bases and the logistic facilities offered to these forces of terror that have been occupying strategic lands, sea areas and straits in and around the Arab peninsula. Iraq also possesses talents capable of developing non-conventional weapons and this in itself poses a threat to Israel that has more than 250 nuclear warheads and protected by the United States. Added to that Iraq represents a civilization depth and it is the inheritor of the Arab Caliphate that had taught civilization to the west and

helped spread the enlightenment and liberation movement of humanity when the west was under the dark ages.

Ash-Shoura weekly, organ of Yemeni People's Forces Union, 21 April 2002.

- Main headlines:**
- Masses demand expulsion of Hull, authority calls 150 U.S. military men
 - Security suppresses demonstration demanding expulsion of U.S. ambassador
 - Torrential rains cause heavy damage in some governorates
 - Jenin donation campaign, kicked off
 - Local councils still without financial allocations.

Ash-Shoura weekly

Columnist Abdulla al-Qadhi has written an article tackling the population problem particularly in Yemen. He says that population is one of the issues that has become worrying many the countries in the world particularly countries of the third world and constitutes a heavy burden for them. Especially that they are characterized by rapid population growth that exceeds their capabilities of providing needs and requirements meeting this increase in population growth. Many developing countries have taken measures to curb aggravation and development of this problem by increasing rates of development and implementation of population policies that would contribute to curb and limit population growth. Statistics in Yemen point out that rates of population growth are among the highest ones in the world and are more than 3.5 percent and the population would double every 19 years. If this population increase continues in the same rate, the 18.2 million people of 2000 would be 46.95 in the year 2025.

Among the problems produced by the population increase in Yemen are the increase in rates of illiteracy and decline in the number of those attend-

ing the stage of primary school, especially among females. The other aspect of ill effects of population increase is the rise of unemployment rates and the broadening area of poverty and spread of unplanned inhabitation in urban areas. There is also the decline of health services including those related to maternity health. Also comes the shortage in water supply, food, decline in the individual income and rise in prices of necessary goods.

Added to these aspects are non-sufficiency of resources and non-utilization of available ones in a good manner, and control of the minority over the riches that have been already utilized. At one of the seminars held by the National Council for Population the council has adopted certain activities and actions channeled to spread of awareness about population issues, maternity health and family organization. All these are very good steps and heading in the correct direction but the important thing is their activation and putting them in force instead of leaving them on the shelves.

Al-Wahdawi weekly, organ of the Nasserite People's Unionist organization April 23 2002.

- Main headlines:**
- For fear of attacks by sympathizers with al-Qaeda network, the U.S embassy in Sanaa closed down
 - Drastic rise of unemployment in Yemen
 - Opposition demands judicial investigation in security attacks on demonstrators
 - Sharon seeks to annex half of the West Bank
 - Niger severs diplomatic relations with Israel

Columnist Abdulraqib Fateh wrote an article saying that the Palestinian intifadha has managed to foil all options of settlement and rendered the option of resistance the strategic choice for the liberation of the occupied land. This option was clear and defined as the sole choice since the very early stages of the Arab-Israeli conflict. One of the many positive features of the intifadha

is the singling out of young field leaderships that have been able to direct the masses of the intifadha through creating targets and mechanisms that all would agree upon despite the difference in viewpoints and visions.

Marwan al-Barghouthi is one of the Palestinian leaders the intifadha has produced. He has made for himself a forward position, distinguished among other his counterpart leaders. Al-Barghouthi today is prisoner at the Zionist occupation prisons following a hunting down effort while he was at the heart of the intifadha operations of resistance against the recent Israeli incursion of many cities of the West Bank and the brutal massacres the enemy has been perpetrating against the Palestinian people. The Zionist occupation army thought that by capturing al-Barghouthi it has scored victory that would put an end to the resistance operations. But this thought would be foiled by what the Barghouthi has sown of values and the heroes he has trained to be.

Al-Balagh weekly, 23 April 2002.

- Main headlines:**
- American media describe the president as the most argumentative Arab leader
 - President Saleh: There are no al-Qaeda camps in our country, but underground cells
 - Four officials at Aden port undergo investigations on charges of embezzlement

Editor in Chief of the newspaper says in his article for this week that despite the many American statements that declare only one thing that is the understanding of what crimes are committed by the war criminal Sharon and further more confirming that he is a man of peace, we find the Arab regimes are still begging for an American stand towards the Israeli enemy. These regimes do not want to believe that the American policy is completely biased to the Israeli enemy and that president Bush is mostly concerned about appeasing the notorious terrorist Sharon even if that is at the expense of more than twenty Arab leaders.

The continuous statements on supporting the Zionist enemy have become as if addressed to the Arab regimes that

are doggedly running after an American stand that would not come to surface. sometimes we think that our rulers have lost their minds to an extent they are no longer able to see the very clear matters.

The writer concludes his article by saying that continued begging of an American stand supportive for the Palestinian people is a futile effort if it is not backed by measures affecting directly the American interests in the region. The fact is that America is in need of the Arab rulers as much as they are in need of it.

Al-Wahda weekly, April 24, 2002.

- Main headlines:**
- MP Aboulahoum: Parliament responsible for rise in prices of electricity and water units
 - Senior security officials under investigation on escape of prisoners from the central prison
 - Pirates rob a French yacht in Arabian Sea waters
 - 65 million riyals embezzled

Abdulraqib Muqbil says in his article that the U.S. is mistaken if it thinks that the barbaric acts the Zionists are committing in Palestine would easily and simply pass unanswered. America would also be mistaken if it thinks that its interests in the region would be unaffected, and that it would remain capable of dictating what it wants from the Arab regimes to do in service of its strategic interests allied to the Zionists.

The Bush administration is still hostage of the tragic moments of 11 September events in New York and Washington and instead of translating that suffering into the form of an international cooperation to combat any terrorist acts, we find it support directly the state terror perpetrated Israel against the Palestinians and to the extent that the American administration describe the terrorist Sharon as a man of peace.

To remove the wrong idea about the American position towards what is going on in the occupied Palestinian territories one has to realize that the Zionist plot has been actually drawn in Washington and Sharon has been entrusted with implementing it. Since former president Clinton had failed to

impose the 2nd Camp David deal on the Palestinians, the United States felt that there had to be a tough policy pursued against those Palestinians who had made of themselves a genuinely active party in the conflict.

What surprised the United States administration is the great heroic steadfastness and resistance of the Palestinian people and the Arab uprising that has been present in the streets, universities and establishments as well as all over the world. America may get surprised one day with violent reactions of multi-directions if it continued to ignore the Arab rights and to continue describing the Arabs as terrorists.

Attariq weekly, 23 April 2002.

- Main headlines:**
- Seven prisoners escape from Sanaa central prison
 - Muqbil refuses to take part in government coalition at the expense of Islah
 - Yemeni people contribute millions of riyals to citizens and in support of the-Palestinian intifadha
 - Strike sweeps Luder schools
 - Resignations and differences inside writers union branch of Abyan

Columnist Khalid Ali Tuaiman says in his article this week that Agreement of Arab Joint Defense stipulates if an Arab country got exposed to military attack, the Arab countries are obliged to stand up to it and stop it with military and political ways. This text now represents the realistic formula and the true mechanism for crystallizing and embodying a strong and coherent Arab attitude encountering the Zionist annihilation war being now waged against the Palestinian people. Arab current stands regarding this situation have reached an extent of weakness that some Arab rulers refuse even to sever their diplomatic ties with the Zionist entity and they rather try to stop the Arab popular anger from expressing itself. Those rulers have preferred to continue pleading the Americans to take a stand shyly urging the criminal Sharon to ease of his brutal campaign he is launching against the Palestinian people. They still insist that keeping their ties with Israel would be for the benefit of the Palestinian cause.

World Press

Major news items in leading international newspapers

Provided by Xinhua

UK

Financial Times

Furious executives of Barclays bank of Britain pulled out of the battle to finance the 90,000-seat Wembley national stadium in London, after learning that German bank Westdeutsche Landesbank was poised to clinch the deal.

The Times

Jean-Marie Le Pen, the French presidential candidate, blundered on to the British political stage on Friday when he accused Prime Minister Tony Blair of hypocrisy over race and said he would prefer to see a Tory government in power.

The Daily Telegraph

A German teenager seeking revenge for being expelled shot dead 17 people, including 13 teachers, in his former school on Friday. It is the world's worst school massacre since 1996.

The Independent

Gordon Brown, chancellor of the Exchequer of Britain, will have to raise taxes to fill a gaping hole in his public finances, analysts said on Friday after new figures showed the economy has virtually ground to a halt.

The Guardian

Two Britons have been secretly sentenced to 18 years in prison in Saudi Arabia for their alleged involvement in a bombing campaign in the kingdom.

USA

The Washington Post

Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah on Thursday presented President Bush with a list of proposed agreement for Middle East peace, including the deployment of a multinational force, an end to Israeli settlements in the West Bank and Gaza, and Israeli withdrawal to pre-1967 border.

Shrugging off the effects of last year's brief recession, the U.S. economy roared ahead in the first three months of the year, propelled in part by low interest rates and tax cuts.

The New York Times

President Bush called sharply Friday for Israel to halt its incursions into Palestinian-controlled territory, after Israeli ground forces killed 2 men and arrested at least 11 in a raid on Qalqilya, a West Bank city they had previously invaded.

A bomb exploded at a mosque in central Pakistan during a religious festival, wounding 23 and killing 12, all of them women and children. The explosion appeared related to a long running feud between Sunni and Shiite Muslim sects that has taken more than 2,000 lives in the last decade.

Kenya

East African Standard

Chinese Premier Zhu Rongji said in Nairobi on Friday that Kenya has room to develop its economy if it improves its infrastructure.

Kenya Times

A British national found in possession of ivory at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport in Nairobi was sentenced to six months imprisonment on Friday by a Kenyan court.

Daily Nation

Human trials on a promising malaria vaccine have started in western Kenya where the disease kills about 34,000 children aged under five every year.

Egypt

Al Ahram

The German Reconstruction Bank has offered the Egyptian Environment Affairs Agency 50 million Egyptian pounds (10.86 million U.S. dollars) grant to improve environment conditions in Egyptian companies from the public and private sectors.

Al Akhbar

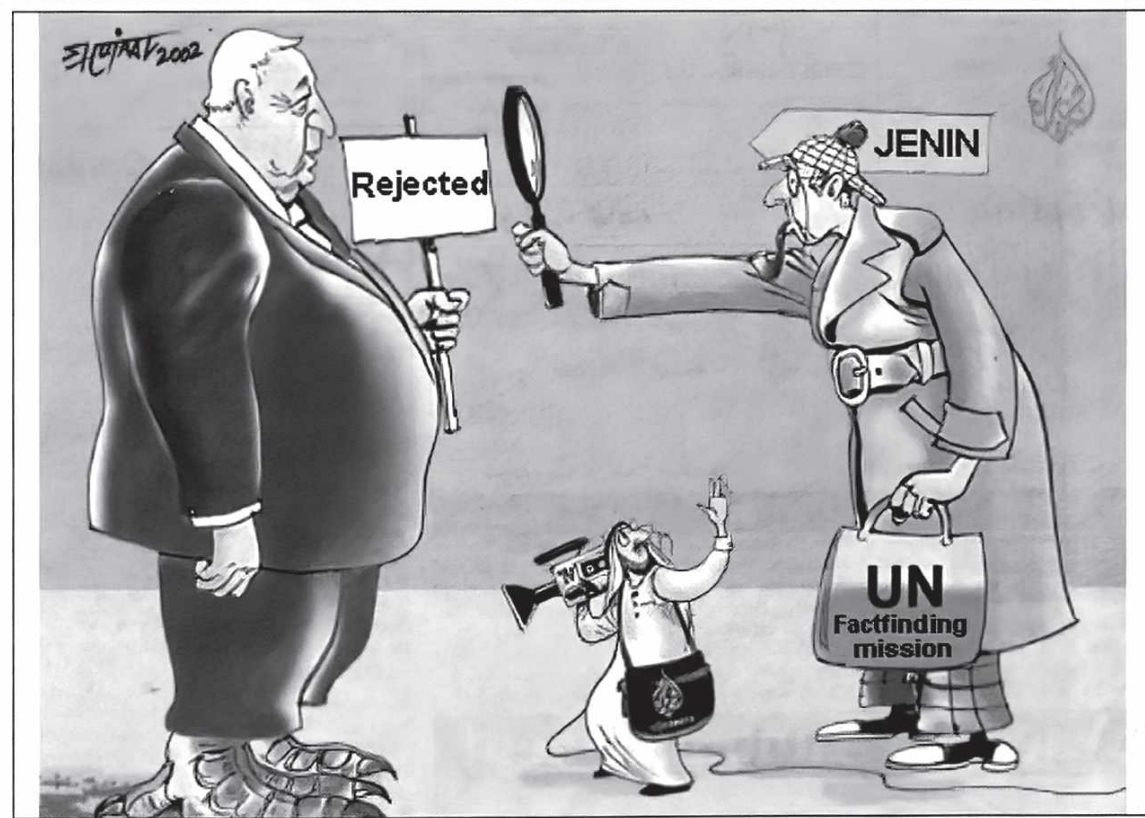
Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak receives on Saturday a message from his Romanian counterpart Ion Iliescu which includes ideas and proposals on how to get out of the current stalemate in the Middle East peace process as well as means of boosting bilateral relations.

Al Gomhuria

The first joint Arab iron and steel company, aimed at boosting inter-Arab trade, will be set up by 85 iron and steel companies from 15 Arab countries, including Egypt, Algeria, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Tunisia, Morocco, Mauritania and the United Arab Emirates.

Egyptian Mail

Egyptian Grand Imam of Al-Azhar, Mohamed Sayed Tantawi, urged during Friday's pray Muslims everywhere in the world to cooperate to stand by the Palestinian people who have been exposed to brutal Israeli aggression.



Al-Jazeera Net

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Horoscope
by Boadachia

Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 19)
Be inspired to make at least 50% changes of yourself and around you and you will be noticed for your brave and bold ways. It's about taking some rather large leaps in such an innovative way that the old ways become quickly outdated and seem ancient to you. "How did I ever live that way?", should be the question you end up asking yourself.

Taurus (April 20 - May 20)
Studies have shown that one of the keys to health and wellness is through conscious breathing. They discovered that through breathing, they had direct access to the divine energy of the universe. If learning this art of breathing doesn't sound appealing, find some way, formal or informal, to overcome your unhealthy patterns. It's time for you to move into a new realm of awareness about your life and your future chosen path.

Gemini (May 21 - June 20)
Size up your objectives and approach them with the clearest path to the end. Doing it your own way, when you need to work with others is not the way to go. That's a temporary fix that will explode in your face. Take one small bite at a time and if you must give in to the system or the obstacles in your way, try surrendering to them and see if you still can't be happy with the results.

Cancer (Jun 21 - Jul 22)
More than ever, you need to do what it takes to NOT join the defensive mentality and know that it truly is safe for you to proceed forward at this time. Get out there and take a pro-active choice about the next phase of your life. No more depriving yourself so as to play it safe. Crap happens, whether you're shielding yourself from it or not. Good things happen too, but not if you're hiding from everything, including your own life.

Leo (Jul 23 - Aug 22)
Choose the perfect flowers from a florist and arrange a symmetrical bouquet if it is more stable and secure love you are seeking. Just be sure to have faith that just as flowers are beautiful and magical, so can your life be equally amazing. It takes trusting yourself and trusting one other person, in order to feel blessed with love.

Virgo (Aug 23 - Sept 22)
We hang onto enough negative energy, so that we don't get too carried away by having it all. Well, it's time for you to dump and clean out your inner parasites and indulge in giving yourself lots of presents. I know it will feel uncomfortable, but I guarantee you will feel happier for doing so and realize that guilt is unnecessary and gratification is a must.

Libra (Sep 23 - Oct 22)
Even concrete can be blasted and chiseled away. If coming out of your closet to face the life you always knew you deserved and wanted is too much, then take one day at a time for now. Remove thoughts about past mistakes or future anxieties. Only think, "Am I getting what I want right now, in this moment?"

Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)
The next time you encounter an extremely irritating or irate situation, I dare you to create complete peace from it. Then next time you begin to feel sad about something, I dare you to look for something happy in your life, or make it happen! You are no stranger to extremes. Experiment with allowing yourself to feel the exact opposite or completely different emotion in a situation that feels negative or difficult.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)
Please try to have inspiration and keep working out your own crazy thoughts you have. Never stop exploring what is important to you, despite the sceptics. It just could be that your ideas could turn into truths and reality.

Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)
You are here on Earth to learn about love, no matter what it takes. People created judgement and sin. Any wrongdoings you participate in will be felt by you and you will be your own judge in the end. Give up past negative emotions and start fulfilling your lifelong desires in a good way. Tell yourself you deserve everything you have always wanted.

Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)
When you make a choice remove your expectations from it. Expectations that it will work, that you won't get hurt, etc. And just allow the Universe to do its job. I guarantee that the more you make choices in this manner, the more you will hone your ability to make the right choices. It's a wonderfully fast way to follow your soul path and reach fulfillment, instead of always stumbling around.

Pisces (Feb 19 - Mar 20)
You will gain new optimism about your life. You will be more open to all sorts of people from different backgrounds, because you will be less afraid of your differences and more embracing of them. The world and the people in it will begin to feel more harmonious and safe for you.

7-Day Weather Forecast

Sana'a		Aden	
Day	Hi Lo	Day	Hi Lo
Mon	28 12	Mon	33 24
Tue	27 11	Tue	33 25
Wed	28 11	Wed	34 24
Thu	28 12	Thu	35 24
Fri	27 12	Fri	33 24
Sat	27 12	Sat	34 24
Sun	27 12	Sun	35 25

MUS'ID & MUS'IDA

First Ever Yemeni Radio Series published in a newspaper

Written by **Abdulrahman Mutahhar**
Translated by **Janet Watson**

11 Women's Literacy

Ma - Whoever said, 'Knowledge is power,' hit the nail on head.
M - Quite! And whoever said, 'I am indebted to him who teaches me,' and 'Knowledge is light and ignorance is darkness,' also hit the nail on the head. People who are educated aren't the same as people who aren't. As the Prophet, peace be upon him, said, 'The search for knowledge is incumbent on every Muslim.' He also told us to, 'Seek knowledge, even if you have to travel to China!'

Ma - You don't need to say that, it's obvious! I only wish that I could read and write.
M - Yes! If you could read and write you'd really be able to hold your head up high! Then you could write to me in your own fair hand when I went away. 'I'll send you a letter sealed with a kiss!'

Ma - Oh aren't you clever! I only want to say that I'm completely helpless when I go to the souk and they sell me a carton of juice which has gone off. God knows how long it had sat with the wholesaler and then with the grocer! And they told me it had been produced this year! If only I could read, they wouldn't cheat me and laugh at poor Mus'ida.

M - Why didn't you learn how to read and write when you were a young girl?
Ma - Did your mother and aunts learn to read and write when they were young girls?
M - No. They used to say that reading and writing was only for chanters and singers.
Ma - Exactly! So why all the smart questions?
M - Come on, don't get so cross.
Ma - And just why shouldn't I get cross! The juice seller knew that I couldn't read or write and saw me coming a mile off. He deliberately sold me juice that had gone off. Isn't that a problem?
M - Of course! It's a big problem. You can't stop being cheated, and you can't get away from the fact that you can't read or write.
Ma - Exactly! And you can't teach an old dog new tricks. Life has gone on, Mus'id. Everything has its own time.
M - What on earth gave you that idea? The Prophet, peace be upon him, said, 'Seek knowledge from the cradle to the grave!'
Ma - So now what! I wouldn't object to getting up in the morning, putting on my balto, making sandwiches and juice, picking up my bag, taking money for sweets and crisps and going to school with my daughter who just started school this year.
M - Go on, then, Mus'ida. And I'll put on a party for you at the end of each year!
Ma - There's no need for a party, but I do wish that I taken you at your word and gone to learn to read and write at the literacy centre. If only I could read the date of production and the 'best before end' date before I bought things, and before the shopkeeper cheated me! But I can't read or write, and I'm at the mercy of the shopkeepers whenever I go out to buy food or drink!
M - What you say is right. The problem you have with not being able to read or write is simple. And the solution is for you to join a literacy centre, and the children and I will cope while you're away. The problem of cheating, on the other hand, is different. That's to do with people being weak-willed and having no conscience. As the Prophet, peace be upon him, said, 'Don't have anything to do with people who cheat!'

DOONESBURY BY GARRY TRUDEAU

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THEN DOUBLE THAT RATE IN BILLING TIFFANY ANDREWS FOR DOUBLE-CROSSING JIM...

THEN INVOICE JIM AGAIN AT MY PREMIUM RATE FOR THE TRIPLE-CROSS, AND BILL HIS WIFE FOR 10% OF THE NET YIELD FROM MY QUADRUPLE-CROSS. GOT ALL THAT?

UM... YES, YES, I THINK SO...

ANYTHING ELSE? YEAH, DOUBLE-BILL THEM. WE MIGHT GET LUCKY.

THAT'S ME WITH MY HIGH-SCHOOL CHESS CLUB

THE JOCKS HATED US

THEY WERE PROBABLY INTIMIDATED BY YOU GUYS

SO ONE DAY I CHALLENGED ONE OF THEM TO A GAME OF CHESS

I SAID, "MAKE THE FIRST MOVE, YOU BIG LUMMOX"

THAT'S WHEN HE SHOVED HIS BISHOP UP MY NOSE

IT'S KIND OF HARD TO TALK ABOUT

NOT HALF AS HARD AS IT IS TO LISTEN TO

The Universal Crossword

Edited by Timothy E. Parker

ACROSS

- 1 Rubbernecks
- 6 Sparkling wine center
- 10 Motel and B&B, e.g.
- 14 Hoops Hall of Famer Thomas
- 15 Prerequisite for a weightlifter's gain?
- 16 Booty
- 17 Herb in the lowland?
- 20 In spite of the circumstances
- 21 Red-tagged, maybe
- 22 Take a shot at
- 23 Verdi's classic opera
- 24 New York's finest
- 28 Refrigerator compound
- 29 Reason to quietly take a position
- 33 Boxing site
- 34 Part of a Charlie Brown catchphrase
- 36 Legal thing
- 37 Sarandon and Sontag after a fight?
- 40 Part of UCLA
- 41 Geiton's boy
- 42 Fats Domino's "Whole ___ Loving"
- 43 It takes two to make eleven
- 45 Geological duration
- 46 Like Muddy Waters' music
- 47 Accompanies musically sans words
- 49 "Wha'd'ja say?"
- 50 Rapidly oxidizing
- 53 Can sprays
- 58 DJ Wolfman delivering a sermon?
- 60 Supportive assistant
- 61 "The Wind in the Willows" character
- 62 Where to find sweaters?
- 63 Sea in Antarctica
- 64 Sounds of deep sorrow
- 65 "Barnaby Jones" star Buddy

DOWN

- 1 Monster or River
- 2 "Like I'd ever do that!"
- 3 Droop like Chamberlain?
- 4 Danny of "White Christmas"
- 5 Diminutive dessert?
- 6 In a fitting way
- 7 Comedian Mort
- 8 Overtime cause
- 9 They should be paid
- 10 "Amen!"
- 11 Vincent Lopez's theme song
- 12 Dramatist Coward
- 13 Ocular annoyance
- 18 Token user
- 19 "Go on ..."
- 23 Sourish
- 24 Nobelist Neruda
- 25 Lightweight synthetic fabric
- 26 Long-term rental
- 27 Ltd., in the U.S.
- 28 Refrigerator compound
- 30 Wax eloquent
- 31 Loo label
- 32 Appraisal of the state of affairs
- 34 Greek sandwiches
- 35 Setting for three kings, perhaps
- 38 Lead and gold
- 39 Old Cannes coin
- 44 Fountain favorites
- 46 Pat on the back?
- 48 Israeli submarine gun
- 49 Takes to heart
- 50 Close to closed
- 51 Scott of "Happy Days"
- 52 Some watch faces
- 53 Melville whaler
- 54 Hunk of meat
- 55 "Mr. Holland's ___"
- 56 "What's your sign?" is one
- 57 Laurel in "The Music Box"
- 59 To boot

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

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"FLOWERY LANGUAGE" By Harvey Estes

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**
- Aardvark
 - Addax
 - Agouti
 - Alpaca
 - Anoa
 - Anteaters
 - Antelope
 - Aoudad
 - Apes
 - Argali
 - Babirusa
 - Baboon
 - Bandicoot
 - Banting
 - Bassarisk
 - Bear
 - Bison
 - Buffalo
 - Camel
 - Elephants
 - Fine
 - Fox
 - Gate
 - Gorilla
 - Jackal
 - Jaguar
 - Kangaroo
 - Kudo
 - Leopards
 - Lines
 - Lions
 - Llama
 - Lynx
 - Macaque
 - Mandrill
 - Mangabey
 - Many
 - Markhor
 - Marmoset
 - Moose
 - Nilgai
 - Ocelot
 - Okapi
 - Opossum
 - Otter
 - Platypus
 - Porcupine
 - Pose
 - Pronghorn
 - Quagga
 - Raccoon
 - Ratel
 - Rats
 - Reindeer
 - Rhinoceros
 - Roots
 - Sheep
 - Shrew
 - Silky
 - Skunk
 - Swift
 - Tiger
 - Tiny
 - Wapiti
 - Warthog
 - Weasel
 - Well
 - Wide
 - Wisent
 - Wolf
 - Yapok
 - Zebra
 - Zebu
 - Zone
 - Zoo

HERE COME THE ANIMALS Solution: 11 letters

R E T T O A G M N L N Z A F O K A P I R
L X K U D O A O X R A N E L O K O P A Y
E A M W H N O R O N T K A B A X S U Z T
S D I T D C A H D E Y F C G R E G R O Y
A D R R C A G G A V F L O A N A H L N L
E A I R A N S T G U A U E I J I E A E L
W L R E O K E U B A T R L P N C M Y E E
L A R R U R M E R I U G K O O A K M E W
F H P N S U Z M G I H Q C N C L A L E O
S I K E S I A F P A B E M A I C E S E L
K I N S E R W L I A R A Q S B P O T N F
C A O E M H A I S O N U B E H O A O N B
R P N O N T S S S G E S A A M G O L I A
O E S G Y I A M A E D R N B O B D S A L
I E E P A R P B A R N T D R A A O L R I
T T U D I R E U A R S T I B D N P A L O
I S I S N Y O P C W K L C U Z A T A E N
G E K P N I O O I R L H O O C E G I N S
E P T I A E E F T A O A O A L R A O N A
R A T S L W T R E S O P T R A M A L L G

ANSWER NEXT WEEK Last Week's Answer: Revenues



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Chernobyl victims tell world: 'Don't forget us'

KIEV (Reuters) - Ukraine and Belarus appealed to the world on Friday not to forget Chernobyl and its victims who still need help 16 years after the world's worst nuclear disaster spewed clouds of radioactivity across much of Europe.

Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma, Prime Minister Anatoly Kinakh and other officials laid flowers at a symbolic burial mound in the capital Kiev, paying tribute to those who died after Chernobyl's reactor four exploded on April 26, 1986.

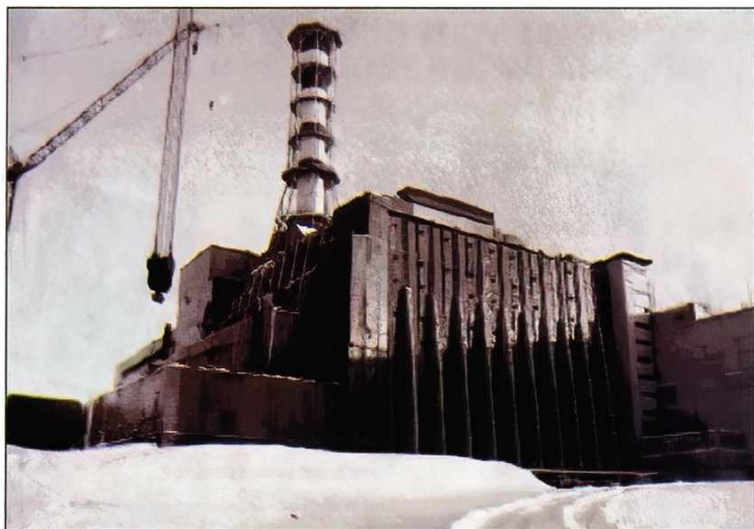
Carrying flowers, officials lit candles for the dead at a church built to commemorate the accident. Hours earlier hundreds of Ukrainians gathered there with their heads bowed as bells tolled just after one in the morning — the time of the blast.

"The Chernobyl catastrophe should never be wiped from human memory," the government said in a state newspaper. It urged human and financial support for the people involved in the clean-up — so-called liquidators — and other victims.

"We call upon voluntary organizations, funds, every concerned citizen to show understanding and help heal the painful problems of the liquidators...those who were evacuated from their birthplaces, invalids and families who lost breadwinners as a result of the accident at Chernobyl."

The Chernobyl explosion, which killed just over 30 firefighters at the time, has been blamed for thousands of deaths due to radiation-linked illness and for a huge increase in thyroid cancer.

Dozens of women laid red carnations at the burial mound, silent and thoughtful as yet another year passes with Ukraine, neighboring Belarus and



The Chernobyl nuclear plant in Russia has caused untold suffering.

Russia unable to overcome the consequences of the accident.

Contaminated food

In Belarus, thousands gathered near the center of the capital Minsk to call for government and international help to heal the scars of the fall-out, demanding an end to food output from miles of land contaminated with radioactive debris.

Struck by poverty, many in Ukraine and Belarus pick mushrooms and berries with high levels of radioactivity.

Health specialists have advised that genetic mutations and contaminated food could lead to a new generation of Chernobyl victims and prolong the tragedy for years to come.

One academic, Dmitry Hrodzinsky, also said he believed the concrete tomb now encasing the ruined reactor was unsafe, allowing radioactive dust to seep into the environment — a statement officials denied.

Officials at the plant agree the reactor needs another covering, dubbed a second shelter, but say radiation levels are decreasing and the ruined reactor poses little threat.

"Today the situation at the station is stable," Volodymyr Kholoshcha, head of the Chernobyl zone's administration, said.

Ukraine's government said it would strive to make the reactor safe, improve the lives of the accident's victims and revive contaminated lands but that it needed funds promised by the West when Chernobyl was shut down in 2000.

"We hope that the 16th anniversary of this dreadful event...will attract the attention of the world community to the global problem of...protecting the world from future (industrial and ecological) disasters," the government said.

"We believe our appeal will reach the hearts of those who understand others' sorrow."

Hewlett-Packard throws Walter Hewlett off board

BY PETER HENDERSON

CUPERTINO, Calif. (Reuters) - Walter Hewlett, the son of one of the founders of Hewlett-Packard Co. lost his seat on the company's board of directors on Friday after shareholders approved a new slate that deliberately excluded him because of his bid to overturn the merger with Compaq Computer Corp.

The changing of the guard at HP's sparsely attended annual meeting marked the first time in the 63-year history of Hewlett-Packard that no member of the founding families had a seat on the board.

The Hewlett and Packard families — with about 18 percent of HP stock — strongly opposed the \$18 billion merger that Chief Executive Carly Fiorina championed in a hard-fought and often nasty four-month proxy battle that culminated in a raucous March 19 vote, which HP says it won but which Hewlett is challenging.

Friday's meeting was attended by about 300 shareholders in the same cavernous Silicon Valley concert hall that hosted the contentious merger vote where throngs of protesters held placards outside the hall and challenged Fiorina.

"I believe dissent should be respected and valued," shareholder Andy Black told Fiorina, one of two shareholders who questioned Walter Hewlett's exclusion from the board, prompting the strongest applause of the day.

Fiorina said Hewlett had turned from a "dissenter" to an "adversary" when he filed suit to stop the merger after shareholders had voted, and in doing so had damaged HP's reputation. "The shareholders have spoken and we must move on," she said.

Over 80 percent of the ballots were



cast in favor of the slate of directors put forth by the company, Fiorina said.

Aside from the board election, the agenda did not address the contested merger. HP says it won the March 19 merger vote by a narrow margin, although the results have still not been officially certified.

Lawsuit ruling the week

HP refused to renominate Hewlett after he sued to overturn the merger vote, accusing Fiorina and other executives of covering up weak business projections and improperly pressuring a key shareholder, Deutsche Asset Management, to change its vote.

By the time he launched his suit, the deadline for shareholders to nominate other directors had passed.

A Delaware business court is considering the suit by Hewlett to throw out the merger vote, and Hewlett is examining and challenging the preliminary count of the vote made by an independent vote counter.

Lawyers from both sides must file by midnight on Friday their closing briefs in the suit, the focus of an emotional three-day trial that ended on Thursday in which Fiorina said she had neither bought votes nor lied to win the deal.

"I was in fact glad to have HP management stand up in a court of law and say what really happened," she said. A Hewlett spokesman declined to com-

ment, although Hewlett himself had previously said he would prefer to remain on the HP board.

Observers generally expect the Delaware judge to release his decision on Monday, or Tuesday at the latest.

Shares of Compaq have closed in on the price implied by the terms of the merger since the trial began on Tuesday, indicating that expectations were strong the deal would close.

HP shares had fallen 2.4 percent, or 42 cents, to \$16.96, while Compaq shares dropped 2.68 percent, or 28 cents, to \$10.18 on the New York Stock Exchange.

"Walter Hewlett has rested his case and we think he is far short of having enough evidence for his lawsuit to succeed," said Andrew Whittaker, head of arbitration research at Lehman Bros.

HP shareholders also voted to confirm Ernst & Young as the company's auditor. They rejected two resolutions by activist shareholders, both of which management opposed.

One proposed the company adopt a set of human and labor rights standards in China and the second would have pledged the company to prepare a report on increased recycling of personal computers. However, each won support of about 6 percent of shareholders, a level which the recycling proponents had said could be enough to draw management's serious attention to the issue.

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Sadah was opened on Thursday, 11.4.2002. Through this cell-site, SabaFon will provide coverage to Sadah City and Souq El Talch

Sabih
This cell-site has been live since 5th of April 2002. It is located between Amran and Sadah and will provide coverage for the major part of the road between Amran and Sadah. It will also cover Khamer and El Thounatayn.

Muhalhal
Muhalhal cell-site in Khamer has been live since 7th of April 2002. It will provide coverage for Khamer City.

Kharir - Hadramout
The cell-site was opened on 9th April 2002. It will cover TOTAL FINA ELF oil field and the other oil fields in Kharir and Masila Regions.

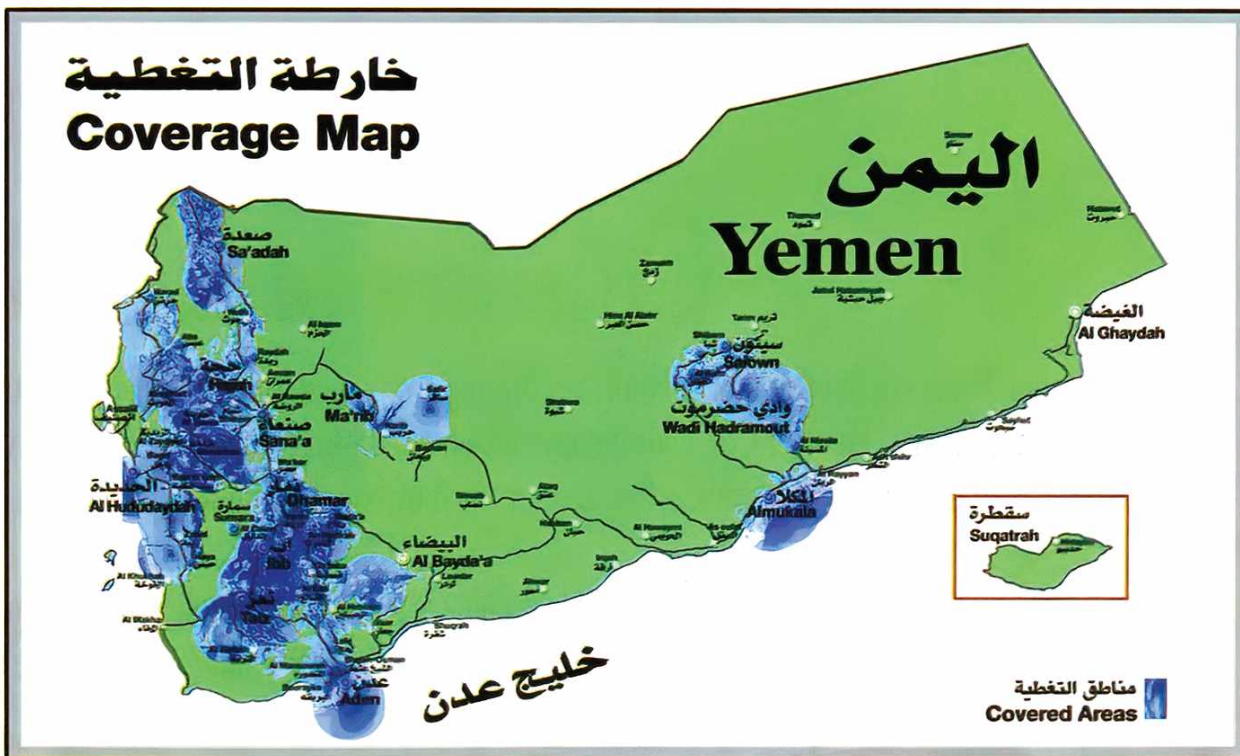
Turbah
Turbah cell-site is live since the 15th of April 2002. It will provide coverage for Turbah, Qadas, Dubaa, Dimmat Khadir and part of Qubaytah and Al Aabous.

Shayzar
Shayzar cell-site was opened on 16th of April 2002. It will provide coverage for Radmah, Beit El Dari, part of Anes, El Ghiras, Ghayfa and part of Hamam Damt.

Shuayb - Al Dale'
Shuayb site in Al Dale' Governorate has been live since 23rd of April 2002. It will provide coverage for Shuayb, Khila. It will also enhance the coverage in Dale' and Yafe'.

Yahar
Yahar site in Yafe' was opened on 24th of April 2002. Coverage will be provided to Yahar, Lamtour, El Yazidi, El Shu'ob, El Saadi. It will also enhance the coverage in Labous area.

As readers may notice, ALL these cell-sites have been opened during the month of April. SabaFon plans to cover a number of new areas in the coming short period. It will also enhance its coverage in existing places. Our customers will be kept updated with new areas and sites which will be announced very soon.



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A rising football star

By SA'AD SHARIF TAHER
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

At Nadirah stadium, I saw him training skillfully in a way that anyone who saw him said that one day this footballer would be a player of a good name.

He is Mua'amar Hadi Wahaib, the forward of Karama and al-Qadisiyah Sana'a clubs.

Telling his story, he said: "Since my childhood I was fond of football. I played it in streets of Nadirah. My brothers Abdulkareem and Munir encouraged me much. That made me form a small football team and called it "al-Tadhamun" in 1985 when I was eight years old.

"In primary and secondary schools I was the captain of schools teams. I took part in the championship of the governorate schools in 1993. I was selected as the best player in that championship that Ibb governor honored me medal of the best player. I was terribly happy, feeling that it was the first step to a bright future.

"After graduation I was appointed

as a teacher but never gave up practicing my hobby. In 1995 I took part in the championship of second degree clubs of the governorate. Then I was selected to the governorate team.

"After that, captain Anis Salim, the goalkeeper of the national team took me to Itihad Ibb club in 1996. In 1998 I played for the team of college of education in Nadirah. I was rewarded a prize for being the best player in Ibb and Itihad Ibb clubs.

University championships

"With Ibb university team I shared in Yemeni universities championships in 1998 when we won the first rank in Hadramout. In 1999 I scored the first goal to Ibb university team in Sana'a university goal."

How did he join the Qadisiyah club in Sana'a?

In a match, one of the leading staff saw him and asked him through his brother Nabil to join the team against a monthly salary. He played for the team in 2000-2002.

With them he took part in first degree clubs championship and the



Mua'amar Hadi Wahaib

Yarmouk Sana'a, Hawf Mahra, Ta'awin Ba'adan and Zahrat Sana'a. The team competed to join the tournament and got a good position in the President Cup.

Hadi Wahaib's best goal, he says, was with Karama club against Rashid Yarim and with Qadisiya against Fahman Abyan. Both goals brought draws for the teams.

His ambition is to play for the national team, and he thanks all who have encouraged him.



Karama

Sheraton 4th Tennis Tournament winds up

Yemen Times staff

Eight tennis players were awarded for winning the fourth Tennis Tournament during the closing ceremony last Saturday, April 20, at the Sheraton Sana'a Hotel.

Mr. Levon Aslanian, a Russian student, had the lion's share of winnings. He got three successive prizes for winning the men's singles, men's doubles and mixed doubles levels.

Mr. Mahdi Alawi, The Arab Bank Regional Manager, won the men's doubles runner-up prize while mixed doubles runner-up prizes went to French players, Gaujared Deider and Mere gel.

The youngest winner of the Tournament, Mr. Radhi Abdullah Rahdi, won the men's double winner prize.

The winner's prizes were distributed by Dr. Abdulwali Nasher, the chairman of the Yemeni Tennis Federation, along with the Sheraton's General Manager and the tournament



Mr. Levon receives his prize

sponsors.

The ceremony was attended by many diplomats and interested people. The tourney was initiated at the

beginning of April and supervised by Mr. Shames Adeen Adobai, the assistant recreation manager of the Sheraton.



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Man gets relief for lack of relief

BERLIN (Reuters) - A German desperate to relieve himself for two hours on a packed but toiletless train has won 300 euros (185 pounds) compensation for what a court called

because he could not find a free toilet," the court said in a written ruling. The one working toilet was kept locked. A key witness in the case, a fellow passenger, gained access to it after pressuring a ticket inspector.



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his torture.

A Frankfurt court ordered Deutsche Bahn (Germany Railways) to pay the man, who walked uncomfortably through the modern high-speed train, stumbling over people sitting in the corridors, as he searched in vain for a working WC.

All the toilets on the Frankfurt to Dresden train were locked because there was no water for flushing.

"The plaintiff had to torture himself with his urgent need for two hours

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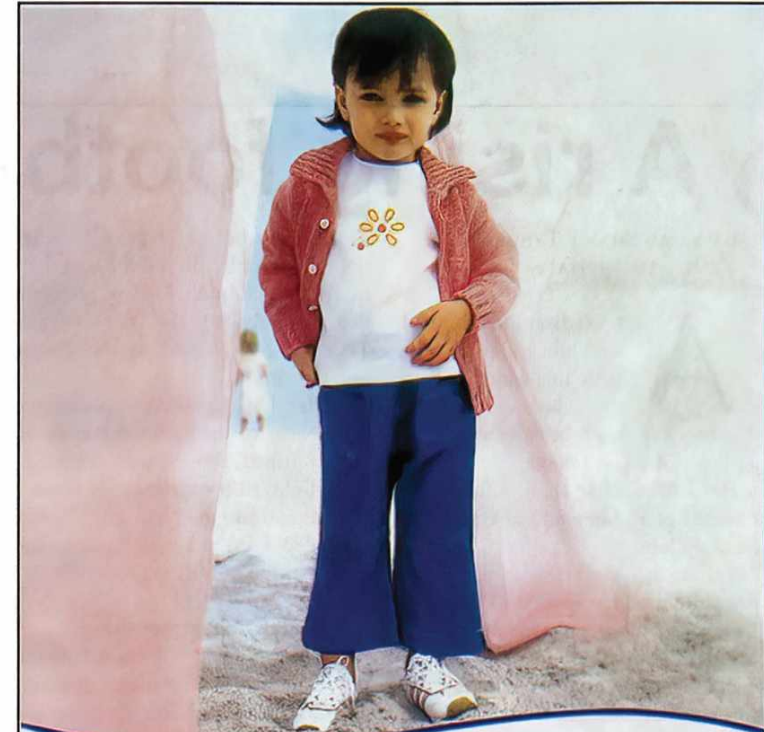
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