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A letter breaks the silence as,

12 jailed appeal to parliament speaker

By Mohammed al-Qadhi
Yemen Times Staff

Last week, 12 prisoners suspected of being linked to al-Qaeda appealed to the parliament speaker and other representatives trying to find a way out to their problem.

In a letter addressed to Shiekh Abdullah Bin Hussein al-Ahmar the parliament speaker, the 12 prisoners said they had been in jail since the September 11 attacks on the USA without

knowing the grounds for such action.

The letter said, "We had been summoned for interrogation in September and we agreed to come, but upon arrival we were put in jail. Since then we have not been given any legal reason for this action."

The 12 wrote that whenever they ask why they are imprisoned, they are told for security measures.

They also said intelligence imprisoned some of their visitors

and relatives.

The 12 stated, "All of us have no link to the events that have happened or anything that harms security and stability."

The letter said the prisoners are being held in fear, poverty and immense psychological pressure. The group includes university students, doctors and other people who are the sole supporters of their families.

Last month, an anonymous group calling themselves "sympathizers with al-Qaeda"

demanded the release of 137 members of al-Qaeda who are being detained.

The group claimed responsibility for a number of explosions and pledged to carry out "suicide bombings" targeting government officials if their demand is not met.

In addition to this, members of parliament demanded the Interior Minister to be questioned about the legality of keeping a number of people in jail without a warrant.

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WFRT's office under threat

Two people have recently stormed the office of the Women Forum for Research and Training, (WFRT).

The two were caught and handed over to the Political Security Office and then subsequently released without interrogation.

In response, a number of employees at the civil society and human rights organizations strongly condemned the release of the two in question and demanded an immediate investigation.

In a statement to the Yemen Times, Suad al-Qadasi the manager of the WFRT said that she had received threats by telephone and experienced many break-ins at WFRT. "I've received threats by some people who belong to the Political Security Office," she said.

Suad added further that these threats were unacceptable, unciv-



Suad al-Qadasi, WFRT Manager, received many threats by phone and witnessed many break-ins at WFRT

ilized behavior and that the WFRT was an authorized non-governmental organization. It is worth-mentioning that Suad al-Qadasi is one of Yemen's leading female activists in woman's rights.

As it concludes its third conference A bomb rocks the Ba'ath Party's head office in Sana'a

By: YEMEN TIMES STAFF

A group of unknown people in a speedy car threw a grenade at the head office of the Ba'ath party in Sana'a at 8.30 p.m. last Saturday.

This incident comes a day after the party held its third general conference.

No casualties have been reported.

There has been news of splits inside the party caused by calls for replacing the party's current secretary-general, Dr. Abdulwahab Mahmoud with Abdulhafedh Numan, who has

recently come back to Yemen from Syria.

A source at the party said differences between Mahmoud and some of the party's leaders like Mohammed Abdullah al-Kibsi were likely to be behind the former's absence from the party's conference.

"It seems there has been an agreement between leaders of the party in Yemen and Syria to remove Mahmoud from his post," the same source added.

The Ba'ath Party started its political activities in Aden during the 1950's.

Explosions rock Sana'a & Aden

A huge explosion rocked the residence of the director of the Aden Political Security Office on June 15. The house is located in the Tawahi district of Aden.

No casualties have been reported.

Another explosion took place

in the Nuqum area, Sana'a. No one was injured by the blast.

No group has taken credit for the two explosions. The authorities are conducting a massive investigation into the bombings.

On the other, hand it has been agreed to open Coast Guard training school in Aden. The

US, German and French governments have offered support for training personnel in this field.

The Yemen Times has learned that the Yemeni government has received 40 fully-equipped boats to patrol its coasts.

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Reconciliation agreement reached

Former Health Minister Dr. Abdullah Abdul Wali Nasher, Mr. Gerret Weda the Dutch expert at the Drug Fund and Saif

al-Hadhiri, editor in chief of al-Shumooa paper have reached an agreement.

Al-Hadhiri shall admit that whatever was published in his paper issues 80-120 in regards to Dr. Nasher and Gerret Weda is untrue. In addition he will publish an apology in the al-Thawra, the Yemen Times and al-Ayyam newspapers.

In response Dr. Nasher and Gerret Weda shall drop the lawsuits they filed against al-Shumooa paper represented by its editor in chief Saif al-Hadhiri.

Text of Agreement

On this day, Wednesday the 24th of April 2002, Dr. Abdullah Abdul Wali Nasher (Ex-Minister of Health), Gerret Weda, Dutch expert at the Drug Fund,

and Saif Al-Hadhiri, the editor in chief of al-Shumooa agree to the following:

1-Mr. Saif al-Hadhiri, the editor in chief of 'al-Shumooa' paper, hereby admits that everything published in 'al-Shumooa' paper issues 80-120 regarding Dr. Abdullah Abdul Wali Nasher and Mr. Gerret Weda is baseless and untrue. He commits to falsify these articles on the last page of al-Thawra and al-Ayyam dailies, and the Yemen Times weekly because al-Shumooa' is currently suspended. This is because the articles that were published in al-Shumooa' regarding this issue were offending to the said persons.

2-Mr. Saif al-Hadhiri hereby apologizes to the two gentlemen for these articles, which were published on basis of untrue information. He also apologizes to the public for the same issue.

3-Against this falsification and apology mentioned above, both Dr.

Abdullah Abdul Wali Nasher and Mr. Gerret Weda shall withdraw the law suits filed by them at the West Sana'a civil court and the penal judge against al-Shumooa paper represented by its editor in chief Saif al-Hadhiri.

4-Both parties agreed that the text of apology and falsification as follows:

Falsification and Apology

"Al-Shumooa' paper whose editor in chief is Mr. Saif AL-Hadhiri publishes a series of articles on Dr. Abdullah Abdul Wali Nasher, the former minister of public health and Mr. Gerret Weda the Dutch expert of the Drug Fund which included offense to them and accusation of corruption, etc. After investigation, the information on which these articles were based turned to be untrue and baseless.

Accordingly, al-Shumooa' paper and its editor in chief Saif al-Hadhiri apol-

ogize to both gentlemen and the readers.

5-This agreement was concluded in the presence of Lawyers Abdul Aziz Al-Baghdadi and Hafedh Fadhil.

Signed

Saif Mohammed AL-Hadhiri
Dr. Abdullah Abdul Wali Nasher
Gerret Weda
Lawyer Hafedh Fadhil
Lawyer Abdul Aziz Al-Baghdadi
(This was published in Al-Ayyam paper on May 20, 2002).

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International advocates to defend Yemeni prisoners

A lawyer from the International Advocacy Group (IAG), who is engaged in the defense of the Arab prisoners in Guantanamo visited Yemen last week.

Advocate Jamil al-Murshed was here to make contacts with the relatives of Yemeni prisoners in Guantanamo. The objective is to enable families of the prisoners to visit their loved ones at the American base in Cuba.

Al-Murshed told Yemen Times that he made contact with 30 of the prisoner's relatives and had already received

authorization from other families residing in Saudi Arabia for IAG members to defend the prisoners before a US court.

Al-Murshed criticized the position of the Yemeni government for giving concession to the USA at the expense of its people. He demanded the government to deal with the question of Yemeni prisoners in a transparent way instead of in secrecy.

He said the IAG wrote a letter to the US president regarding the 356 prisoners who are mostly from Yemen and Saudi

Arabia. However, the case moved from one US official to another without any result. Therefore, the IAG decided to file a case before the American Judiciary to examine the charges and to deal with them under the international humanitarian law which forbids putting people in jail for a long time without any trial or legal warrant.

The IAG is headed by former Qatari justice minister, Najeeb al-Naemi and it includes advocates from Qatar, UAE, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Denmark, Kuwait, France, and USA.

Journalists demand release for Mohsen

Yemeni journalists staged a sit-in before the Ministry of Human Rights Ministry last Monday in a protest against the arrest of Abduraheem Mohsen, a journalist with the al-Thowri newspaper.

Mohsen was accused of writing articles that harm the unity of the country.

Journalists demanded in a statement for Mohsen's immediate release.

"Up until now we don't know Mohsen's fate," the statement said.

They described Mohsen's arrest as a "flagrant misuse of law" and they expressed their resentment towards his kidnapping.

They also demanded compensation for material and mental costs inflicted upon him. Mohsen is the sole supporter of his daughter, Raheel.



Journalists holding pictures of Mohsen and his only daughter Raheel in front of the Ministry of Human Right last Monday

Dialogue among civilizations

A symposium on religions and dialogue among civilizations was concluded in Sanaa on Sunday.

Among the important subjects tackled were; Islam and the West, possibility of dialogue among religions, Islam, question of affiliation, oriental studies, Islamic movement and authority and Islamic brotherhoods and their development.

Dr. Abdulkarim al-Iriyani the political advisor to the president, spoke during the symposium pointing out that the change caused by the Sept. 11 attacks has not yet ended.

"We have to monitor the situation and deal with it wisely. We can do that through the development of the Arab society's political awareness," Dr. al-

Iriyani said.

Dr. al-Iriyani highlighted the importance of developing Yemen's relations with the world as well as strengthening its democratic experience by taking part in spreading peace.

He called for avoiding extremism and to unite forces against the foes of democracy and civil society.

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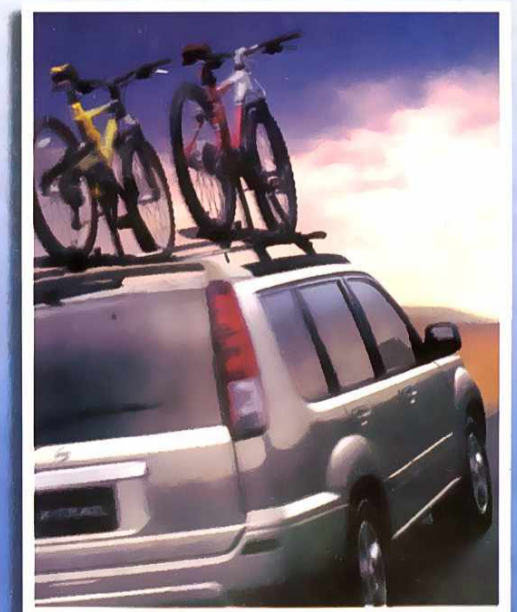


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Swedish Ambassador for Human Rights visits Yemen

The Parliamentarian Committee for Human Rights and Freedom organized a lunch party last Monday at the Al-Khaima restaurant in honor of the Swedish Ambassador for Human Rights and Swedish non-resident Ambassador to Yemen.

The Swedish Ambassador for Human Rights arrived in Yemen on Friday June 7 at the invitation of the State Minister of Human Rights.

She met with officials concerned with Human Rights and human rights activists.

Sheikh Mohammed Ben Naji al-Shaif, Chairman of the Parliamentarian Committee for Human Rights and Freedoms described their meeting as fruitful. The two sides exchanged information on the state of Human

Rights in their respective countries. She was also briefed on the responsibilities the committee shoulders as well as the regulations and legislation that help maintain the general awareness about human rights and freedoms in Yemen.

During the meeting she expressed the readiness of her country to support human rights in Yemen and to educate human rights activists in our country.

Al-Shaif said Human Rights are developing, despite the shortcomings that occur from time to time, from a lack of awareness about human rights and freedoms.

Besides a lack of understanding of the nature of the committee's activities, he said there were certain people who tend to marginalize the committee and



Sheikh Al-shaif receives the Swedish ambassador for human rights

refuse to cooperate with it. However, he asserted that the committee would continue its noble mission to achieve its noble goals in protecting human rights and freedoms.

The party was attended by Dr. Abubakr al-Qirbi the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Dr. Wahiba Far'e the State

Minister for Human Rights, Mr. Ahmad Sufan the Minister of Planning and Development, Mr. Abdullah Ahmad Sufan the Secretary General of the Parliament, Chairmen of the Partisan Blocs at the Parliament and many others.

The Yemen British Friendship Association meets

The Yemeni-British Friendship Association met on Saturday, 9th June at the International Bank of Yemen in Sana'a, chaired by Dr. Abdullah Abdul Wali Nasher, the chairman of the association and chairman of IBY. The deputy Head of Mission, HM Consul-General and head of the Commercial Section at the British Embassy in Sana'a, Jacqueline Lawson-Smith, accompanied by the Director of the British Council, Adrian Chadwick, and the Embassy's new commercial Officer, Khalid AL-Sayyaghi, attended along with a selected team of Yemeni businessmen and members of Association.

The meeting discussed ways in which the bilateral commercial and investment cooperation could be developed and enhanced, laying the foundation for stronger UK-Y Yemeni relations in all fields, headed by greater business and investment activities. The

meeting considered a number of ideas including an exchange of visits between businessmen and hosting exhibitions, the preparation of a list of businessmen from both countries who already do business with the UK and Yemen, as well as encouraging others, who look for business and investment opportunities to join in.

Representatives of three banks attending the meeting confirmed their willingness to assist in supporting the expansion of trade between Yemen and UK. They also asserted their commitment to assure investors and exporters from Britain that there would be no default of payments from the Yemeni Importers.

The meeting welcomed and valued a number of positive events that took place over the last few days in the UK and Yemen.

-The 7 June revision of the British Government Travel Advice for Yemen.

-The opening of the Queen of Sheba exhibition at the British Museum in



London.

-The return of ECGD cover
-The return of Queen Victoria statue to its original place, Attewahi Garden in Aden.

These are very important and positive steps between the two friendly countries.

The British Embassy and the Yemeni

British friendship Association expressed their respective commitment to working actively together towards the common goal of building on existing commercial relations between the two countries.

They agreed to hold regular meetings, at least once every two months.

Organized by the British Council, Sana'a Exhibition on Yemen held in Sana'a

Professional photographer, Monica Fritz has displayed a photo exhibition titled "Yemen Outside In" which opened Wednesday June 5, sponsored by the British Council. She has worked as a photographer in Florence Italy for since 1986. Her photos have appeared in a variety of magazines, both in Europe and the US. She has visited Yemen four times on assignment. During her visits, she has taken photos of Yemen's architecture, people and landscapes. Mujahed Al Mussa'abi, from The Yemen Times had the pleasure of meeting Mrs. Fritz and record the following interview.

How did you start and why photography?

At the age of 18 I went to art school and discovered that I had a talent and love for photography. I started professional photography in Italy. After 11 years of artistic photography, I began commercial and fashion shoots. I have also worked in Turkey doing advertisement photography.

What attracts you to Yemen?

I like the people, most of my photos capture the people. I don't like to photograph landscapes. I believe natural scenes are better kept in the memory than on a photo. I love the architecture, atmosphere and the simple life of the people. There is so much beauty here. I have traveled all over Yemen, because of this.

Have you held previous exhibitions?

Yes, I have held many exhibitions all over Europe. I have displayed photos of Yemen at many of these shows.

Tell us about your present exhibition?

It coincides with another exhibition held at the British Museum in London titled, "Queen Of Sheba, and Treasures of Ancient Yemen." The photos in my exhibition show landscapes, cityscape and portraits from Yemen. As well, I have included photos of Yemenis who live in Britain. This shows us about Yemeni People living here and how they keep their culture.

What is the most important trait of a photographer?

It depends on the type of photography. I think the most important trait is that you have to understand light. You have to study the light and know when to use flash and daylight to advantage. Secondly, feeling out the people you are going to photograph. They ought to be relaxed, when they relax the photo will be better.

Any further comments?

Thanks to the British Council for their support and cooperation.

I wish the people of Yemen to be true to themselves and change for the better.

Yemen and Italy grow closer

By: Fahmia al-Fotih
Yemen Times Staff

The Sana'a and Vicenza Chambers of Commerce and the Italian Embassy organized an exhibition from the second to the fifth of June. The exhibition of jewelry and industrial products was complimented by cultural, gastronomic and musical events hosted by the Sheraton Hotel.

A large gathering made it to the event consisting of the Minister of Industry, the Minister of Development and Planning as well as many Yemeni businessmen.

"Vicenza, and its Region Veneto, are presently one of the driving forces of the Italian and European economy. It gives me much pleasure to welcome to Sana'a all the Italian businessmen from Vicenza and the managers of the Vicenza Chamber of Commerce, who have agreed to take part in this event and joined their forces to make it as successful as ever," the Italian Ambassador said.

"Our wish is that the Italian week in Sana'a will help strengthen the robust ties already in existence between our two countries. Though geographically distant, share the same long standing ideal of a fair, stable and compassionate democratic system" he added.



Display of beautiful Italian Jewelry

The managers of Vicenza had been overwhelmed by the number of people interested in the Italian products.

"On behalf of the Vicenza Chamber of Commerce, we thank al-Yemenia, Sheraton Hotel, Sana'a Chamber of Commerce and the Yemen Times. There are 21 companies that have come and participated in this event," Vladimiro Riva, general manager said. "We have found that Yemen is a very important country and we have achieved great results regarding to the fields we work in, hoping to make

future relationships. We as jewelers are happy to be in Yemen," Fabrizio Vezzaro, chairman and CEO said.

Various Italian companies producing jewelry, pottery, marble, furniture and food goods had participated with the exhibition.

"In future we would like to try to find missions that are not yet developed in order to bring more technology and opportunities that will bring employment to the Yemeni people. We hope that in a few months Italian jewelry will be here in Yemen," Gian Carrlo

Yemenia honors its employees

Yemenia Airlines hosted a reception party on June 14, to honor its best employees at the Taj Shiba Hotel.

This corresponds with the first anniversary of the release of the Yemenia Magazine. Capt. Abdulkhalik al-Qadhi, chairman of the board of Yemenia delivered a speech in which he said that the honoring of these people reflects the company's success in holding a leading position in the airline industry.

2 drowned

Two 16 year old boys drowned last Thursday in al-Mekhlaf district, Taiz governorate. Anwar Abduh Moqbil and Mohammed Hamoud Moqbil tried to wash in an open well when they fell in.

People were unable to save them. People attempted to save them, but to no avail. The two victims remained in the water for one hour before being lifted out. They were both students at the eighth grade level.

2nd part of Lohum's book released

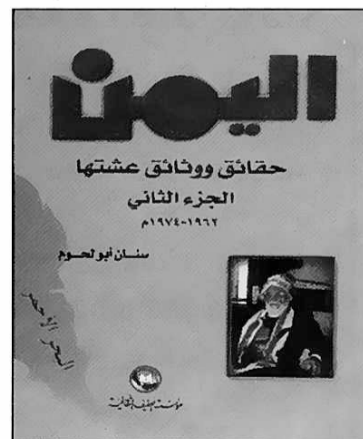
The second part of 'Yemen, Facts & Documents I Went Through' has been recently published in Arabic. It contains useful information about the writer's life contrasted with the history of Yemen.

The book 'Yemen, Facts & Documents I Went Through' was written by Sheikh Senan Abu Lohum. The book relied mainly on diaries, documents and biographies from the author's life.

The book was published by al-Afeef Cultural Foundation. The first part is held from 1942 until the outbreak of the September revolution in 1962.

The second part of 'Yemen, Facts & Documents I Went Through' deals with the author's life from 1962 till 1974.

The book deals with events that took place in Yemen's contemporary histo-



ry. Such events as Yemen at the first Arab Summit, the summit in Alexandria, the Jeddah Treaty, the siege of Sana'a and other happenings that touched the author of this book.

Ubadi wins a court ruling

Last week the West Sana'a Primary Court issued a verdict on the closure of the Ubadi Publishing & Printing Center. The publisher was shut down by the Ministry of Culture after publishing a controversial novel called Qawarib Jabaliya.

The verdict invalidated the decision made by the Ministry of Culture regarding the closure of the Ubadi Center. The court ordered the reopen-

ing of the Ubadi Center under its supervision.

The court added that the closure of the center by the Ministry of Culture is an interference and infringement of justice.

Defense lawyers and the Ubadi Center praised the court ruling saying that the court's ruling is a victory for the principles of justice.

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Ramada Haddah Joins Best Western

Ramada Haddah Hotel joined last Thursday the international Best Western range of hotels.

An agreement to this effect was signed between Mr. Tawfeeq al-Khamiri, chairman of board of directors of the Yemeni Company for Hotels and Investment, owners of the hotel, and Mr. Anands Gupta, Executive Chairman of the Best Western group of Hotel.

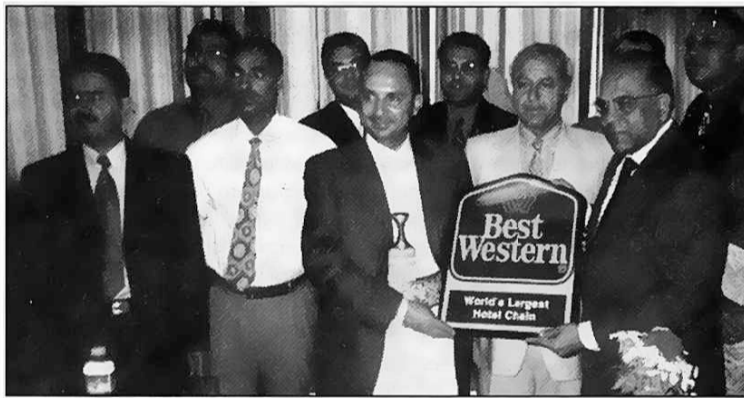
"We have chosen Best Western, which has a long experience in hotel management to cope with the new changes in Yemen," said al-Khamiri.

He said there would be a joint project with Best Western in the near future.

The Best Western company will rehabilitate the Haddah Hotel according to its standards of international hotels.

Al-Khamiri asserted that the Best Western company's existence in the Yemeni market will add to the tourism industry in the country. He added that the company will also build new hotels.

With this the name of the Haddah Hotel has been changed into Best Western Haddah Hotel Yemen.



Sheikh Yahya al-Ukeimi says to Yemen Times,

'No terrorists are safe here'

Sheikh Yahya al-Ukeimi from the al-Jawf region, told the Yemen Times in a recent interview that tribes of the region are seeking to capture 'Qaed Snyian al-Harethi' and 'Abu Assim al-Ahdal', two of the most wanted al-Qaeda leaders in Yemen. He also revealed that tribes of the region are fully cooperating with the authorities to track down any possible terrorists in this remote part of Yemen.

Hassan Azzaidi of Yemen Times met Sheikh al-Ukeimi and filed the following interview.

YT: Can you tell us the source of today's tribal conflicts?

Today's tribal conflicts date back to the beginning of the post-revolution period. There were two sides: one supporting the Egyptian forces in Yemen and the revolution, the other side supported the Royalists. There was conflict for more than eight years during which tribes were subjected to brutality. After these wars came to an end under an international agreement, the second wing eventually came victorious and imposed its influence which dragged tribes into internal wars. If we examined tribal conflicts in Yemen we would notice that they only exist within the Bakael tribes.

Tribal wars are fueled from the Capital, Sana'a itself. The government is in part responsible, top officials within the government exercise their influence arbitrarily in this issue.

YT: Do you agree that tribal areas are breeding grounds for terrorism?

I don't agree with this assumption because people of this region are not in line with Osama bin Laden's followers in terms of doctrine, creed or politics. Tribes are ready to fight these elements. We support the government in



Sheikh Al-Ukeimi (left) speaks with Azzaidi concerns and worries

its anti-terror campaign and we would like to be forerunners in this effort.

YT: What is the reason behind the present tribal clash in al-Jawf?

It is a fight between two tribes in al-Jawf region, although they are being carried out under the name of combating terror.

YT: What weapons are being used and where do they come from?

In most cases they use 23 anti-air missiles, Rockets Projectile Grenades (RPG), field artillery and all ground weaponry with the exception of tanks. Tribes get these weapons from arms dealers and officials from Sana'a who sell from the army warehouses to keep tribesmen fighting each other.

YT: How can these wars be brought to an end?

This can be achieved by the existence of a credible government that is

willing to put an end to tribal revenge. If you look at the present war in al-Jawf you will find that top military officials stand behind it. The battlefields of this war are located between military barracks in the region, this is to say the army is not willing to intervene to put an end to the bloodshed.

YT: Do you think this war has something to do with your brother, Sheikh and MP Amin al-Ukeimi, to broker a deal between the Islamist elements and the government to stop the bombing campaign in Sana'a?

I have no idea about the bombing campaign in Sana'a. Indeed, we have been told by top officials that the United States and Britain are responsible for those incidents with a view to aggravate the situation inside Yemen, while the Yemeni public thing that al-Qaeda sympathizers are responsible for that.

YT: What's your opinion about the recommendations made in regards to revenge by the Shura Council last session?

There is no base for these recommendations since the Council's credibility is absent. When credibility exists the problem will be easily solved. It sounds that the ultimate objective of this Council is to pocket international assistance to Yemen. Particularly since they recognized that many donor agencies are willing to help by allocating money to eradicate this phenomenon.

YT: Lately, we have been hearing that the United States and other Western countries have allocated huge funds for developing tribal areas in Yemen, especially Mareb and al-Jawf to eradicate terrorism. Do you have any information about this assistance and how it will be distributed?

Actually, once a journalist said that Yemen is a graveyard for invaders and it will also be a graveyard for donated funds. Our region has not received any help and up until now we are still living the way our ancestors did centuries ago. There are no projects, all that we have is foundation stones laid without implemented projects.

YT: Do you think that there are links to al-Qaeda or other extremist elements harbored by your tribe?

We do not accept such elements in our tribe. And if anybody believes that we shelter such elements we are ready to let inspectors, even Americans to come and see for themselves.

YT: Whom do you think can reach this area to hide?

I'm just setting an example.

YT: It has been said that Senyian al-Harethi and al-Ahdal, who are accused of being al-Qaeda leaders are in Mareb or al-Jawf. What's your response to that?

These two are hiding in the eastern region of Yemen. Our tribesmen are chasing them to bring them to justice. We are in complete disagreement with these elements, either in political or religious doctrine.

We regard these elements as the main reason for our deteriorating relations with the president. Formerly, we stood with the president in fighting communism originating from the south and again against the Islamic extremism that existed in Sana'a. We did not want the president to show any leniency in these issues.

These problems are based in Sana'a and not in our poor tribal area where people's main concern is to feed themselves, not harboring terrorists. Still, our tribal areas live in chaos, a situation that might be used by the these elements.

YT: Do you think unemployment and poverty are the reasons for kidnapping?

There are political entities that strive to keep tribes in their current status by preventing development here. This is because they think tribes would then become a threat to them. These issues have bred disappointment amongst tribesmen who then resort to kidnapping out of desperation. Therefore, I hold the government responsible for what is happening here.

YT: We always see you in Sana'a armed with your gun. Why do you do so?

To protect myself. Even in Sana'a there are many dangers that threaten our lives. There are many who aim to

keep us in this position. They have created the situation of insecurity and instability in our region and they want to keep it this way.

YT: What prevents tribal stability?

Blood feuds, conflicts and sedition created by the regime. I request the Arab and international community to help Yemeni tribes solve problems of revenge that they might live quietly like other tribes of the Arab peninsula.

YT: You said earlier that the current tribal clashes are waged under the banner of fighting terror. How is that?

I demand an immediate cease fire for all these wars. I'd like also to ask all agencies to send delegations to the region to see how miserably the tribesmen live. Then they could decide if this area is hosting terrorists. If this situation persists all people will turn into terrorists because of extreme poverty, hunger, deprivation of rights and violence. And as you know violence breeds violence. Yet, all Yemenis are against terror.

YT: If you find Senyian and al-Ahdal in your area what are you going to do?

We will arrest them and hand them over to the government or kill them. Our stance is clear and we have voiced it repeatedly. All officials know that, including the president.

YT: Have you ever met these fugitives?

I have only met Qaed Senyian al-Harethi in the desert. I attempted to broker a deal between him and the government on the basis that he should surrender himself to the government, but he just procrastinated.

Government responds to USA's Human Rights report (part III)

The report has also mentioned that "Members of the security forces killed a number of persons during the year. Members of the security forces tortured and otherwise abused persons, and continued to arrest and detain citizens arbitrarily, especially oppositionists in the south and other persons regarded as 'secessionists.'"

Generally, this is an incorrect allegation for there are no practices by security members regarding killing persons nor phenomena of arbitrary

arrests of persons whether oppositionists or others. Concerning allegations on cases of torture and abuses, Yemen confirms they are very limited and rare cases. They do not form a phenomenon or organized operation or widespread to be mentioned in such a report. Those members from the security apparatus responsible for such rare cases of torture and violation of human rights have been brought to court and verdicts have been issued against those proved to have committed them. Trial measures are still going on concerning others accused of

such acts. It is groundless regarding what has been mentioned about targeting certain areas or governorates. All citizens are equal before the law. The report should have pointed out such cases so that the concerned authorities be able to investigate into such allegations and whether they are correct and consequently to take legal measures against them.

The report mentions that "Prison conditions were poor, and some detainees were held in private prisons not authorized by the government."

We would like to clarify that the government exerts all efforts possible to improve conditions in prisons and to uplift services and utilities in them. A good long distance has been traversed in this respect, the report in question has admitted that. Shortage in capabilities and insufficient support by concerned bodies constitute the major cause behind disability to improve prison conditions to the level aspired for. The authorities concerned at the government, in cooperation with a number of international bodies and organizations, are now studying the issue of improving prison conditions, including solving the problems of women who have served their sentences and still not released. Many measures have been taken in this regard, among which are separating juvenile delinquents from adult inmates and put them at special care houses where they can continue their education and practice various social and sport activities. Further practical measures pertaining to this question are to be taken soon.

One of the measures the government has taken is a decree by the president on setting up a special committee handling supervision on prison conditions in general and helping needy inmates sentenced to payable special and civil indebtedness by paying for them the sums they are indebted in order to be released from prison. This process is done periodically every year. It is worthy here to praise

the role this committee plays and the effective role the Supreme National Committee on Human Rights (SNCHR) undertakes. SNCHR has formed several committees entrusted with field inspection of prisons throughout governorates of the republic and offering suggestions for improving prison conditions, and these committees actually need huge sums of money to carry out their tasks. The government, represented by the SNCHR, and in cooperation with some international and local organizations, has organized a number of training courses for prison officials in several governorates aimed at providing them with awareness on human rights and improving performance inside prisons. Many committees have been set up for investigation and search regarding the presence of private prisons unauthorized by the government. Those prisons have been already closed down and prevented for good.

The report mentions in another part of it that "Political security officers have broad discretion over perceived national issues. Despite constitutional constraints, security officers routinely monitor citizen's activities, search their homes, detain citizens for questioning, and mistreat detainees."

A presidential decree on creation of PSO No. 121, 1992 has defined its authorities in chapter 4, article 7. Members of the apparatus are granted authorities similar of those men in charge of judiciary monitoring and could carry out investigations about those being strongly suspected or there is authenticated information against them impinging the state security and safety. Consequently the PSO performs legally granted authorities pursuant to law No. 13 for the year 1994 regarding penal measures under supervision and direction of public prosecution. It refers all detected sabotage crimes and activities to the public prosecution to complete investigation measures and to deal with them according to the law. Responding to

what the report has mentioned about PSO officers routinely monitoring citizens' activities and search their homes, we confirm that this is groundless allegation and lacking of evidence.

The report mentions that "The law limited freedom of speech and of the press, and the government continued to harass, intimidate, and detain journalists. Journalists practiced self-censorship."

To clarify this point we confirm this is a presentation of allegations characterized by generalization and fall short of evidence. In fact the constitution absolutely does not limit freedom of speech or other public liberties. This freedom is regulated in accordance with article of Press and Publications Law No. 20 for the year 1990, as it is known that any unregulated work changes to anarchy.

The report says

-This point as is the case for the previous one characterized by generalization and ambiguity and lacks pinpointing certain cases to be cited. As a matter of fact the freedoms of assembly, religion and movement are rights guaranteed by texts in the constitution and the law. These liberties could not be limited but through the law whenever it is necessary, such as restricting movement of some suspects or accused until proving either their innocence or guilt. Religious tenet freedom is safeguarded in all circumstances taking into account that, as a general principle, that there are no religious minorities in Yemen except for some Jewish or Christian individuals or groups, however these sects are free in practicing their own religious rituals without any restrictions imposed on them and this is applied to certain Islamic religious sects such as al-Bohra. Care and protection are rendered to sanctities and worshipping places of sects. It is very seldom to happen that any event or attack of religious character takes place against them. In case of any such incident,

legal measures on protection of religious faith are taken immediately.

The report also mentions that "Violence and discrimination against women were problems. Female genital mutilation (FGM) was practiced on a limited scale, primarily along the coastal areas of the Red Sea. The government publicly discouraged FGM."

For clarification purposes the Yemeni woman have been occupying leading posts. She is now working with the government, in parliament, local councils, judiciary career, in political parties, civil society organizations and police force. The American report, however, still underestimates the woman role in development and progress in all fields. In this context we point out the government's interest in the woman role in the development process that has become very clear through reconsidering many issues related to woman. The council of ministers has approved some amendments of some legal texts pertaining woman's rights in a move considered as advanced at the level of legislations connected to enhancement of public rights and freedoms, including those approved recently concerning laws on nationality, civic status, civilian register, prison organization and personal status. Regarding female genital mutilation, these habits are considered as extinct and very limited and mostly characterized as individual behavior. The government however has issued a decision prohibiting hospitals and health centers from performing genital mutilation operations, after it has carried out an awareness campaign on risks of such activities on females health through health programs devoted to tackling maternity and childhood care, with concentration on reproductive health. These efforts have produced results curbing this practice resulting from ignorance and illiteracy common in those remote coastal areas influenced by African customs.

part IV to follow in the next issue

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Car bomb attack, foiled

JERUSALEM (Reuters) - Israeli troops have foiled a planned car bomb attack in the Gaza Strip and have raided the West Bank city of Jenin as U.S. President George W. Bush worked on a proposal for Middle East peace.

Israel's army said it destroyed a car in northern Gaza which was loaded with mortar bombs and launchers and more than 150 kg (330 pounds) of explosives stuffed into a hot water tank.

Palestinian militants had planned to lure soldiers into an ambush by firing the mortars from the car and then detonating the explosives inside the vehicle when soldiers arrived to search the area, an army commander at the scene told Reuters on Saturday.

In the West Bank, a small contingent of Israeli troops staged a brief raid into Jenin before dawn on Saturday following intelligence information that Palestinian militants were planning to launch an attack from the city, the army said.

Israeli radio stations quoted security officials as saying the troops had searched unsuccessfully for a suicide bomber planning to carry out an attack in Israel next week.

Israel has launched almost daily raids on Palestinian-ruled territory, keeping up pressure on militants after a West Bank offensive unleashed in March after a spate of suicide bombings.



A Palestinian woman carries her son over a barricade at the checkpoint at the entrance to the Palestinian West Bank village of El Hader, south of Jerusalem, on Friday. REUTERS/Nir Elias

The U.S. administration held more consultations with Middle East leaders on Friday as Bush prepared to unveil his vision for peace, based on a two-state solution, probably next week.

Checkpoint Trouble

In the West Bank, troops fired in the air and threw three teargas canisters near about 200 Palestinians, many of them women and children, trying to cross a checkpoint near Hebron.

Several people fainted in the incident, which underscored the hardships faced by ordinary Palestinians due to the tight

military blockade Israel has imposed since a Palestinian uprising against occupation began in September 2000.

A tank and several armoured personnel carriers and jeeps left Jenin after a five-hour raid early on Saturday. But troops maintained a chokehold around the northern West Bank city.

Arab ministers discuss \$1bln Mideast gas pipeline

AMMAN, June 15 (Reuters) - Arab energy ministers from Egypt, Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon began talks on Saturday to speed construction of a long envisioned \$1 billion Middle East natural gas pipeline from Egypt.

Officials said the two-day ministerial level talks will review progress on the project, whose first phase began last March with the start of construction of an offshore pipeline from Arish in Sinai to Jordan's red Sea port of Aqaba.

Egypt's Oil Minister Sameh Fahmy told Reuters almost 20 percent of the first stage pipeline worth \$230 million to Aqaba was already complete, with financing coming mostly from Arab development funds such as Kuwait-based AFESD.

Egypt's first exports of gas of around 1.1 billion cubic metres (bcm) per year to Jordan were expected by mid-next year, Fahmy said.

Last year Egypt — with abundant proven natural gas reserves estimated at 55 trillion cubic feet (1.557 trillion cu metres) — reached an agreement with Jordan, Syria and Lebanon on building a pipeline to supply them with gas.

Jordan's Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Mohammad Batayneh said ministers would focus on pushing ahead with the pipeline to Lebanon, Syria until the Syrian-

Turkish borders.

The ministers would also discuss setting up an Arab Natural Gas Company as a regulatory body to oversee the pipeline project that has a strong private sector involvement.

Batayneh said Jordan will choose a private developer next July from three consortiums recently shortlisted in the bidding race to finance and construct the 274 km pipeline in its territory under attractive build-operate-transfer (BOT) terms.

Egypt eyes eastern europe

Egypt said its country was eager to market its gas eventually beyond the Middle East to Eastern European countries such as Romania and Bulgaria, Fahmy said.

"Cyprus, Turkey and areas in Europe such as are in need of gas...and we hope to get other countries with us...hopefully after Turkey Romania and Bulgaria," said Fahmy.

The project would also boost inter-Arab economic integration by reducing reliance on heavy fuel oil now firing power grids and switching to more economic gas.

"Without linkages between Arab countries no common market could come into being... without fuller industrialisation there will be no future for the Arab world," Fahmy said.

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Israel could put nuclear warheads on subs-report

WASHINGTON, (Reuters) - Former U.S. military and State Department officials say Israel was arming three diesel submarines with newly designed cruise missiles that could carry nuclear warheads, The Washington Post reported on Saturday.

The development would give Israel a sea-based alternative to land- or air-based nuclear weapons. The nation has refused to say if it has nuclear weapons but U.S. analysts say it has a small atomic arsenal.

Israeli testing of the new cruise missile two years ago in the Indian Ocean near Sri Lanka was monitored by the U.S. Navy, according to former Pentagon officials.

Although U.S. analysts studied the nuclear capability of the missile, it was "above top secret whether the sub-launched missiles are nuclear-armed," one former senior American official was quoted as saying.

A sea-based option would allow Israel to offset efforts by Iraq and Iran to develop missiles capable of knocking out Israel's weapons, the newspaper said.

The newspaper report followed publication of a book this week by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace that said Israel attempted to arm its diesel submarines with nuclear cruise missiles. The book said Israel tested its sea-launched cruise missiles, with a range of 900 miles, in May 2000.

"Probably the most important nuclear-related development in Israel is the formation of its sea-based nuclear arm," wrote Joseph Cirincione, co-author of the book and an endowment official.

The book also identified Iran, Iraq and North Korea as nations seeking nuclear weapons.

Lebanon's president condemns attack on priest

BEIRUT, (Reuters) - Lebanon's president on Saturday denounced an assault on a Christian cleric who is renowned for his calls for tolerance and peaceful coexistence among the religious groups that fought Lebanon's 1975-1990 civil war.

Greek Catholic bishop Gregoire Haddad was assaulted on Friday night

by a Christian man who witnesses said berated Haddad for his liberal views and was then shown in television footage punching the 78-year-old priest and knocking him flat.

In a statement, President Emile Lahoud expressed "profound horror" at the attack, and said the assailant and some of his companions were being

questioned in advance of possible charges and trial.

The attack occurred outside a television studio where Haddad appears on a religious programme. His comments on the show have drawn fire in the past, prompting television crews and security forces to gather in anticipation of trouble.

You are invited to attend The Sixth European Film Festival Everyone is WELCOME!

This festival is being held in the Yemeni Cultural Centre in Sana'a. The programme below gives details of dates, times and film titles. Seats will be available on a first come first served basis, so please come early to avoid disappointment.



FILM FESTIVAL PROGRAMME

22 June 2002	7,30 p.m.	Dutch Film The Black Meteor
23 June 2002	7,30 p.m.	French Film Tout va bien, on s'en va (Everything is fine, let's go!)
24 June 2002	7,30 p.m.	Turkish Film Selvi Boylum Al Yazmalim (The red scarf)
25 June 2002	7,30 p.m.	British Film Captain Corelli's Mandolin
26 June 2002	7,30 p.m.	German Film Mostly Martha (Drei Sterne)

This event has been organized by the:
Yemeni Ministry of Culture, The British Council, French Cultural Centre,
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Mukalla	YR 33.000	YR 39.500	Holiday Inn	5days/4 nights
Mukalla	YR 44.000	YR 52.000	Holiday Inn	7days/6 nights
Aden	YR 23.000	YR 30.500	Aden Hotel	3days/2 nights
Aden	YR 24.800	YR 38.000	Sheraton Aden	3days/2 nights
Aden	YR 31.200	YR 45.000	Sheraton Aden	4days/3 nights
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South Africa's Mbeki ends talks in Libya with Gaddafi

JOHANNESBURG, June 14 (Reuters) - South African President Thabo Mbeki ended a three-day visit to Libya on Friday, concluding talks with Libya's Muammar Gaddafi, one of the architects of the African Union to be launched in July.

"During the visit, Brother Leader Muammar Gaddafi and President Mbeki held discussions and exchanged views on bilateral, regional and international issues of mutual concern," said a joint communique issued in Johannesburg on Friday. The statement did not say if Mbeki and Gaddafi reached any agreement on a strategy for an ambitious recovery plan for Africa, the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), spearheaded by South Africa, Nigeria, Algeria and Senegal. Regional analysts say

Gaddafi is angry at being sidelined from the conception and promotion of NEPAD. He was also angered by some African ministers saying the reason was that Libya was still largely isolated internationally.

NEPAD is to become the economic policy of the African Union (AU), which will be launched in South Africa in July to replace the moribund Organisation of African Unity (OAU).

But the statement said Gaddafi had "commended Mbeki for the NEPAD initiative aimed at achieving sustainable development, peace and prosperity for the African continent within the framework of the AU".

Fifteen African heads of state discussed the NEPAD plan in Rome on Tuesday. The plan will be reviewed at the Group of Eight summit in Canada

on June 26-27. The G8 groups Canada, Britain, the United States, Japan, France, Italy, Germany and Russia. NEPAD, modelled on the U.S. Marshall Plan that rebuilt Europe after World War Two, targets billions of dollars of investment to revive Africa's ailing economies and alleviate poverty.

In return, African nations would commit themselves to bolstering democracy and human rights while also enforcing global standards on economic and corporate governance. The two sides also called on Israel to withdraw from all occupied Palestinian territories.

"The delegations reiterated their support for the Palestinian peoples right to self-determination and the establishment of a Palestinian state within secure borders," the statement said.

Saudi minister meets with Bush at the White House

WASHINGTON, (Reuters) - U.S. President George W. Bush vowed on Thursday to lay out a vision which would lead to Israelis and Palestinians living side by side and the White House acknowledged that the setting up of an interim Palestinian state was a real option.

A provisional Palestinian state was "one of the many things that the president is looking at," said White House spokesman Ari Fleischer, a day after U.S. officials sought to dampen expectations about such a state when it was floated by Secretary of State Colin Powell.

Bush, speaking after the latest in a series of meetings with key regional leaders, would not be drawn into discussing his views on a provisional, or interim, Palestinian state, saying that at some point he would lay out "a vision that will help lead toward two states living side by side."

Bush and Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Saud al-Faisal had what the White House described as a "warm meeting" of about 20 minutes in the Oval Office, Bush's third meeting in the past week with a regional leader as he seeks to draw up a road map to a Middle East settlement.

"They exchanged a variety of ideas about how to move forward and the president enjoyed the visit," Fleischer said.

The Saudi minister told reporters, "I was very pleased with what I heard from the president" and said he would answer more questions on Friday.

Bush is preparing to unveil, probably next week, a framework for a process aimed at improving security to end Palestinian attacks against Israeli targets, rebuilding Palestinian institutions to establish a Palestinian state and reviving political talks between Israel and the Palestinians.

There have been indications that Bush would offer principles within which the most difficult issues could be negotiated, without proposing solutions.

There has been no indication he would offer a timetable for creating a Palestinian state, after telling Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak last Saturday at Camp David that he was not ready to do so.

The idea is to take Bush's principles to a Middle East ministerial conference later this summer in the hope of getting the parties to reach agreement on the path ahead.

Powell this week raised the possibility that an interim Palestinian state might be necessary before a permanent state



Saudi Arabia foreign minister visits United States

called Palestine could be established.

Saudi Arabia in April presented Bush with new proposals for ending the violence in the Middle East that U.S. officials at the time called a basis for discussion.

The Saudi plan included an Israeli withdrawal from Palestinian areas, deployment of an international peace-keeping force, reconstruction of damaged Palestinian areas, renunciation of violence, talks on a political settlement and an end to Israeli settlements in Palestinian areas.

In exchange, Arab countries would recognize Israel and agree to normalize relations with the Jewish state.

Fleischer said on Thursday that the United States and Saudi Arabia were "approaching the problem of bringing peace to the Middle East in rather similar ways."

"The president believes that Saudi Arabia is committed to a meaningful and lasting peace process in the Middle East and that includes providing for security for Israel as well as a hopeful and helpful future for the Palestinian people," he said.

The Bush administration for weeks has been deliberating a shift in policy that would offer a timetable for negotiating a peace settlement and creating a Palestinian state.

Fleischer said Bush had not yet finished his consultations.

He will talk further with members of his staff, and they may reach out to regional governments for input.

Bush has called for the creation of a Palestinian state, but the United States is pressing President Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Authority to implement reforms first.

Ugandan govt. committed

KAMPALA, (Xinhua) — Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni has reiterated his government's commitment to modernize the army to defend the country with the available means, a press release issued by the State House said on Saturday.

President Museveni made the remarks on Friday afternoon when he passed out army officers who have

been undergoing a four-month Tank Company Commanders' Course at Karama Armored Training School in Mubende district, some 150 kilometers west of Kampala.

He congratulated the officers upon the successful completion of their course and described training that they have undergone as dynamic.

He told the officers that during the

liberation war, the National Resistance Army, now the Uganda People's Defense Forces, defeated the dictatorship in Uganda using minimal means.

Earlier, President Museveni watched a military exercise by the newly passed out tank company commanders. Acting Army Commander James Kazini and Mubende district officials attended the ceremony.

Zimbabwe trial of journalist live on the world wide web

HARARE, (Reuters) - The trial of an American journalist shifted to a Harare Internet cafe on Friday as prosecutors sought to show he had broken Zimbabwe's strict media laws by publishing an untrue story in a British newspaper.

The trial of Andrew Meldrum, correspondent for London's Guardian, began on Wednesday and is the first major test case of new rules introduced by President Robert Mugabe's government.

It became bogged down on Friday over arguments on the use of a Web site document by the state to support its prosecution.

Though the Guardian is not distributed in Zimbabwe, state prosecutor Thabani Mpofu said the posting of a story on the paper's Web site constituted publication under Zimbabwe law.

Defence lawyer Beatrice Mtetwa said the state had to establish a "clear link" between Meldrum and the document.

Meldrum — who has pleaded not guilty — has been charged with breaking a law that prohibits publication of false information. He faces a heavy fine or up to two years in jail.

Observing the trial, senior British lawyer Geoffrey Robertson, a veteran defence counsel in civil liberties cases, said the Zimbabwean authorities' view of the Internet publication of the story could have global implications.

"The consequences are that Zimbabwe's press laws, which are repugnant to Britain, the European Union and the United States, can be applied against citizens who write articles in those countries when they come to Zimbabwe on holiday or are in a country like South Africa which has an

extradition treaty with Zimbabwe," Robertson told Reuters.

"This will be regarded as very serious by other countries because it is an attempt to export and impose Zimbabwe's press laws so that they incriminate writers and publishers on Web sites outside Zimbabwe," he added.

The magistrates court moved its proceedings to the Internet cafe of a city hotel on Friday afternoon where a police officer demonstrated how he had retrieved a story from the Guardian Web site, in which Meldrum reported that supporters of Mugabe had beheaded a woman in northwestern Zimbabwe.

The beheading story was not on the site on Friday, and the police officer said it had been removed from the archives.

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Tender Extension

The Public Radio & Television Corporation announces that tender No. (2) for 2002 for supplying, installing and commissioning of radio sound equipment has been extended. Accordingly, opening of bids' envelopes has been scheduled for 11:00 (June 29, 2002) Bids received after 10:00 o'clock, June 29, 2002, will not be considered.



Karzai wrangles with Afghan assembly over cabinet

KABUL, (Reuters) - Afghanistan's grand assembly and Hamid Karzai, the man they elected president, wrangled on Saturday over the make-up of a government whose mission is to heal ethnic wounds and rebuild a war-shattered nation.

Delegates to the Loya Jirga assembly insist they have the right to approve members of a broad-based government, but supporters of the 44-year-old, Western-educated Karzai say he must make the final decision.

Karzai, elected in a secret ballot with 85 percent of the delegates' votes on Thursday, has been engaged in intense behind-the-scenes bargaining with leaders of various ethnic groups to forge a multi-ethnic cabinet acceptable to all parties.

The new government will run the country for 18 months before general elections are held.

Officials and delegates say a deal among ethnic leaders over the cabinet will be finalized shortly. But it is still unclear whether or not it needs to be approved by the assembly.

"They will definitely need to be approved by the Loya Jirga, every single portfolio, especially the key posts," said Mir-Hossein Mahdawi, a delegate from Kabul.

But Karzai's ministers dispute that. "Mr Karzai has been elected with an overwhelming majority. It is up to him to choose members of his cabinet," Interim Foreign Minister Abdullah Abdullah told reporters.

Confusion also prevails over the mandates of the emergency Loya Jirga, created under the U.N. accord, particularly and whether or not the assembly's rulings should have supremacy over the provisions of the Bonn accord.

Karzai insists the Bonn accord must be observed to the letter, while some delegates want to exceed its mandate.

The assembly is also divided on what to call the new government. Islamist Mujahideen who fought the Soviet occupation and the extremist Taliban want the government's title to include the word Islam.

But more secular delegates and officials, disgusted by abuses in the past in the name of Islam, are opposed.

Abdullah said a name had already been chosen for the new government — the transitional government of



Afghanistan's newly elected leader Hamid Karzai.

Afghanistan — under the Bonn accord.

"A permanent name will be decided after the constitution is written. Then it will be put to debate," he said.

The assembly, a colourful gathering of Afghans from all walks of life throughout the war-ravaged land, is due to end on Sunday.

At a news conference on Friday, Karzai said the U.S.-led war on terrorism remains the top priority of his administration, along with national reconciliation and reconstruction.

Some 13,000 coalition forces are in Afghanistan, scouring the mountainous southeastern regions for forces loyal to

Taliban leader Mullah Mohammad Omar and his al Qaeda cohort Osama bin Laden — the accused mastermind of the September 11 attacks.

A Russian newspaper published on Wednesday an interview with Mullah Omar in which the Taliban leader said bin Laden was alive in Afghanistan and planning new attacks on Americans.

A key task of the assembly is forming a government that pleases the Pashtun supporters of former King Mohammad Zahir Shah as well as the Uzbeks and Tajiks of the Northern Alliance who swept the Taliban from power with the help of U.S. air strikes and were the core of the interim government.

"I tell you that the government will be representative," Karzai told the news conference.

FBI joins Pakistan probe into U.S. consulate blast

KARACHI, (Reuters) - The FBI joined Pakistani police on Saturday hunting for possible al Qaeda links to a car bomb outside the U.S. consulate in Karachi that killed 11 people after a previously unknown group claimed responsibility for the blast.

Witnesses said FBI officials visited the site on Saturday.

"They also took photographs and made a video of surrounding areas and the spot of the bomb attack," one witness said.

A suicide bomber rammed a white Suzuki van, packed with explosives, into a concrete barrier in front of the U.S. consulate on Friday, setting off a huge blast that also left dozens injured.

The attack, the fourth against foreigners in Pakistan since January, prompted the United States to temporarily close its missions in Pakistan. Staff at most diplomatic missions in Pakistan had already been scaled back due to military tensions with neighbouring India.

President George W. Bush said "radical killers" were behind the bombing and vowed they would not intimidate the United States.

A previously unknown group calling itself "Al-Qanoon" (The Law) said it carried out the blast in a message to media organisations in Pakistan. It said the bomb was the start of a "jihad"

against America and Pakistan's rulers.

Pakistani investigators said they were looking into the claim, but were also looking into other leads.

Police said the suicide bombing appeared similar to a May 8 attack on a hotel in Karachi that killed 11 French engineers and two Pakistanis.

Police said the bomber was apparently driving slowly past the consulate when he rammed into the barrier, setting off the explosives.

"Prepare for more attacks"

The blast left a crater several feet deep and several metres wide, destroyed a guard post and shattered windows at the consulate and major hotels in the area.

Police have closed all roads leading to the consulate, with hundreds of police and paramilitary rangers standing guard.

"We accept the responsibility for the bomb blast near the American consulate today," said Al Qanoon's handwritten Urdu-language statement sent to media offices in Karachi.

"America, its allies and its puppet Pakistani rulers should be prepared for more attacks. The bomb blast is the beginning of Al-Qanoon's jihadi (militant) activities in Pakistan."

Pakistani police sources said investigators were "hunting members of



American investigators search for evidence outside the U.S. consulate in Karachi on June 15, 2002.

Islamic groups to gather further clues" as well as questioning militants already in police custody.

Police had not ruled out a possible link to al Qaeda, the group blamed for the September 11 attacks on the United States.

"At this point in time when the investigation is at its very preliminary stage, we cannot pinpoint who is behind the terrorist attack," a senior police official said, when asked if an al Qaeda link was under investigation.

Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf abandoned his former Taliban allies in Afghanistan — protectors of Osama bin Laden and his al Qaeda fighters — and became a key U.S. ally after the September 11 attacks, a move that sparked violent reaction from Islamic radicals at home.

U.S. forces are helping Pakistani soldiers hunt for bands of al Qaeda and Taliban fighters in Pakistan's lawless tribal regions along the Afghan border.

More casualties as Indian, Pakistani troops exchange fire

JAMMU, India/MUZAFFARABAD, Pakistan, At least six people were wounded and several houses damaged in overnight exchange of fire between Indian and Pakistani troops in disputed Kashmir, an Indian defence official said on Saturday.

"There was heavy exchange of fire in the Poonch sector and moderate to heavy firing elsewhere. Two women were injured. One of them is critical," the official told Reuters.

He said the firing damaged a television transmission tower in the Himalayan region, which is at the heart

of a crisis which had stoked fears of war.

Officials in Pakistan-controlled Kashmir said some houses in Rawalakot district were damaged by Indian mortar shelling overnight.

There was only sporadic exchange of machine-gun fire in Sialkot district of Pakistan's Punjab province, bordering the Indian city of Jammu, officials said.

However, there was no report of firing from any of the five districts that border with Indian-ruled Kashmir since Saturday morning.

Indian and Pakistani soldiers have

been trading heavy fire in Kashmir over the past month, killing scores of civilians on both sides and forcing thousands to flee their villages.

The latest tensions first flared in mid-December after an attack on the Indian parliament that New Delhi blamed on Pakistan-based Muslim militants fighting Indian rule in Kashmir.

Fears of war spiralled after a militant raid on an Indian army camp in Kashmir in May. However, the threat of war eased slightly last week following U.S.-led diplomatic efforts to pull the rivals back from the brink.

إعلان عن فتح باب الترشيح لجوائز المرحوم الطاج هائل سعيد أنعم للعلوم والآداب الدورة السابعة - ٢٠٠٣م



المذكورة جائزة مالية بقيمة مليون ريال يعني ، كما تقدم مع الجائزة النقدية شهادة ودرع الجائزة للفائزين في حفل يرعاه رئيس مجلس الأمناء ونائبه ويتم الإعلان عنه في وسائل الإعلام المختلفة ، كما تستضيف المؤسسة الفائزين عند حضورهم حفل توزيع الجوائز وتحمل تكاليف السفر والإقامة .

المراسلات :
تسبل الترشيحات على العنوان الآتي :
مؤسسة سعيد للعلوم والآداب
مجلس أمناء جائزة المرحوم
الحاج / هائل سعيد أنعم للعلوم والآداب
عناية : مدير عام المؤسسة ، أمين عام الجائزة
تعز - الجمهورية اليمنية
ص . ب : ٥٩٦٢ - تليفاكس : ٠٤-٢٤٣١٦٦

عليها اسم المرشح :
٨- أن يكون البحث المقدم مطبوعاً على الحاسوب مع إرفاق دسك .
٩- لا يعاد الإنتاج المقدم إلى مرسله سواء فاز المرشح أو لم يفز .
١٠- لا تقبل الاعتراضات على قرارات المؤسسة بشأن منح الجائزة .
١١- تقبل الترشيحات لغاية ٢٣ نوفمبر ٢٠٠٢ كحد أقصى .
التحكيم :

يتم عرض الإنتاج المقدم للجائزة على لجان تحكيم من ذوي الاختصاص من الباحثين برتبة أستاذ أو من المشهود لهم بالكفاءة والخبرة الطويلة في مجالهم العلمي والأدبي وموضوعيتهم في التقويم والتحكيم وذلك بواقع ثلاثة أعضاء لكل مجال من مجالات منح الجائزة ، وتعتبر قرارات اللجان نهائية بعد اعتمادها من مجلس الأمناء .
الجوائز :
تخصص المؤسسة في كل مجال من المجالات

والدكتوراه :
٤- تقبل المؤسسة طلبات المتقدمين وترشيحات الجامعات والهيئات العلمية والإبداعية القائمة بالبحوث والدراسات العلمية والإبداعية .
٥- لا يجوز للفائزين بإحدى جوائز المرحوم الحاج / هائل سعيد أنعم للعلوم والآداب في السابق التقدم للمسابقة مرة أخرى ، أما الذين لم يحالفهم الحظ فيسبح لهم بدخول المسابقة بشرط أن يقدموا إنتاجاً جديداً غير الإنتاج السابق ، إضافة إلى توافر الشروط الأخرى .
٦- تتضمن مصوغات الترشيح :
أ- السجل العلمي أو الإبداعي للمرشح .
ب- نبذة مختصرة عن حياته وإنتاجه ومبررات ترشيحه لنيل الجائزة .
ج- أربع نسخ من كافة الوثائق والمعلومات الأخرى المذكورة في النموذج المتوفر لدى الأمانة العامة للجائزة ، والذي من الضروري التقيد بتعليمات ملته لتسهيل عمل المحكمين .
٧- أربع نسخ من البحث أو الإنتاج المقدم لنيل الجائزة على أن تكون ثلاث نسخ منها غير مدون

جائزة العلوم الاقتصادية :
- التكامل الاقتصادي بين دول الخليج واليمن ؛
- إستشراف آفاق المستقبل .
جائزة العلوم الإنسانية والاجتماعية :
- ضعف مستوى التعليم وأثاره على بطالة الخريجين .
جائزة العلوم الإسلامية :
- حقوق الإنسان في الإسلام .
جائزة الإبداع الأدبي :
- الرواية .
ضمن الشروط الآتية :
١- المسابقة مفتوحة لكافة الأساتذة والباحثين والمتخصصين والأدباء الذين قاموا بعمل بحثي علمي متميز أو ذو قيمة اجتماعية ، وإبداع أدبي خلاق .
٢- أن يكون الباحث أو الأديب يمني الجنسية أو عربياً مقيماً في اليمن .
٣- أن لا يكون المتقدم قد نال جائزة عن الإنتاج المقدم من أي جهة أخرى وتدرج ضمن هذا رسائل الدبلوم العالي والماجستير

قرر مجلس أمناء جائزة المرحوم الحاج / هائل سعيد أنعم للعلوم والآداب فتح باب الترشيح للجائزة للعام ٢٠٠٣م - الدورة السابعة لكافة الأساتذة والخبراء والباحثين والأدباء والمتخصصين في مجالات العلوم الطبيعية والأساسية والتطبيقية والتكنولوجية والتنمية والإبداعية الأدبية ، وذلك تجسيدا لنهجه وأمانيه في رفعة مجتمعه وتطويره وتخليداً لما أثره في كافة مناحي الحياة ، وقد قررت مؤسسة السيد للعلوم والثقافة ومجلس أمناء الجائزة أن تكون موضوعات الجائزة لعام ٢٠٠٣م في المجالات والمحاور الستة التالية :
جائزة العلوم الطبية :
- الداء السكري ، خصائصه وانتشاره في اليمن .
- جائزة العلوم البيئية والزراعية :
- الزراعة البديلة للقات .
- تحسين وإكثار زراعة النخيل وإنتاج التمور .

موضوعات التنافس على الجائزة ... (الدورة السادسة - لعام ٢٠٠٢م)

- ١- جائزة العلوم الطبية : - البيئة وتأثيرها في إنتشار السرطان وأنواعه في المجتمع اليمني .
 - ٢- جائزة العلوم البيئية والزراعية : - كفاءة إقامة السدود في تغذية المياه الجوفية في الجمهورية اليمنية في «حوض صنعاء وحوض تعز» .
 - ٣- جائزة العلوم الاقتصادية : - ظاهرة إنتعاش دائرة الفقر في اليمن : المشكلة والحل .
 - ٤- جائزة العلوم الإنسانية والاجتماعية : - أسباب التذني بمستوى التعليم العام والعالي في اليمن وطرق معالجتها .
 - ٥- جائزة العلوم الإسلامية : - حماية الفرد والمجتمع من الآثار السلبية للعوامة : أخلاقياً وإجتماعياً وإقتصادياً وسياسياً من منظور إسلامي .
 - ٦- جائزة الإبداع الأدبي : - الأبعاد الإجتماعية في التجربة الشعرية اليمنية .
- ملحوظة : ١- تنطبق كافة الشروط العامة للجائزة والمعتمده في كل الدورات على هذه الدورة .
٢- يعتبر تاريخ ٢٣ نوفمبر ٢٠٠٢م الموعد الأقصى لقبول الترشيحات .



Bush asks graduates to serve war-time nation

COLUMBUS, Ohio, (Reuters) - Tapping into a wave of patriotism generated by the Sept. 11 attacks, U.S. President George W. Bush challenged college graduates on Friday to reject a "culture of selfishness" and serve the nation as volunteers fighting "tyranny and terror" and fostering good deeds.

"You will determine whether our new ethic of responsibility is the break of a wave, or the rise of a tide. You will determine whether we become a culture of selfishness and look inward — or whether we will embrace a culture of service and look outward," Bush said.

"Service in America is not a matter of coercion; it is a matter of conscience. So today I'm making an appeal to your conscience, for the sake of our country."

Stepping up the effort, Bush announced creation of a new Web site clearinghouse that will match would-be volunteers across the country with more than 20,000 local nonprofit organizations. The White House said it would be the largest network of its kind.

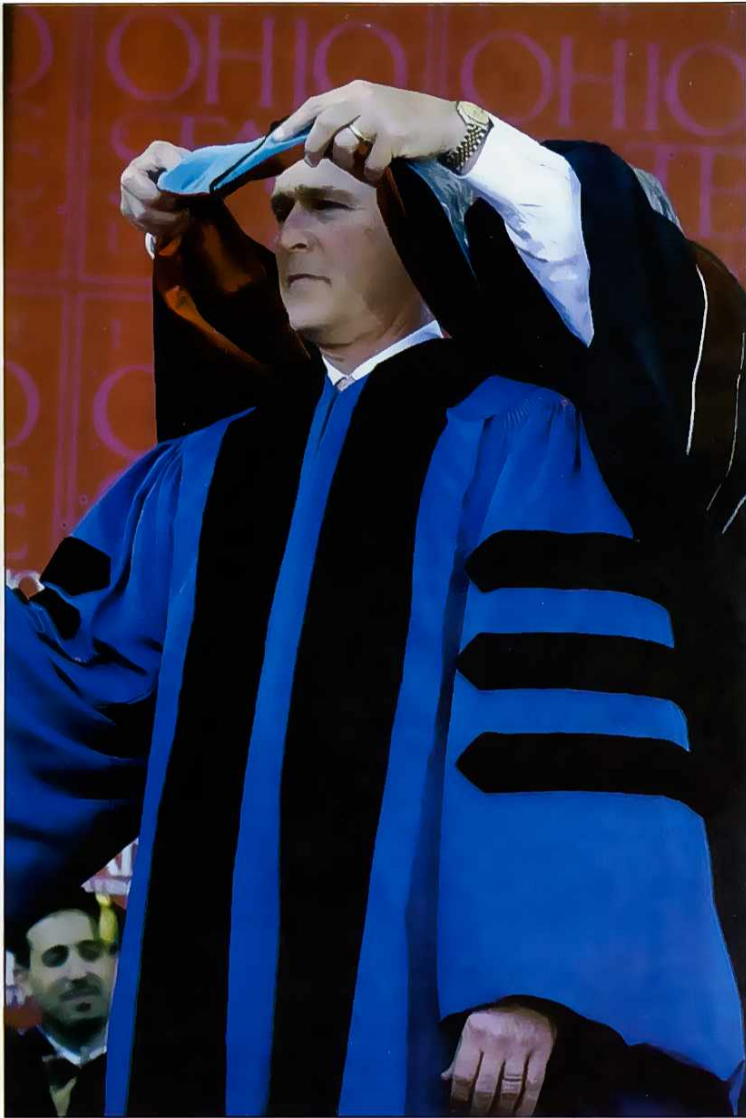
Bush spoke to more than 6,000 graduates at Ohio State University one day after AOL Time Warner, Home Depot and other major U.S. corporations promised to mobilize their workers in an unprecedented expansion of volunteer programs, including the new Citizen Corps to help fight terrorism at the local level.

A senior administration official told reporters that Bush derived his speech in part from the teachings of a wide range of philosophers, from Aristotle and Cicero to Adam Smith, Alexis de Tocqueville and Pope John Paul II.

'Peace to war'

Asked if Bush had ever read any of their works, the official said: "We've fully discussed all these ... issues."

After the graduation speech, Bush



U.S. President George W. Bush has a sash placed on him before receiving an honorary degree while at the commencement ceremonies at Ohio State University in Columbus, Ohio, June 14, 2002.

flew to Houston where he visited a summer reading camp for Hispanic children. "Children can realize the great American dream — start right here, learn to read, go to college and succeed in America," he told about 40

youngsters. Bush listened while 6 and 7-year-olds read from "America: A Patriotic Primer," an alphabet book written by Lynne Cheney, the vice president's wife.

"Mrs Cheney is married to who?"

Bush asked. After a long pause, a child replied: "You." Bush was momentarily taken aback and then burst out laughing. "Vice President (Dick) Cheney," he said. "I'll be sure to tell her your answer though."

Later, Bush headlined a fund-raiser that brought in \$1.2 million for Texas Gov. Rick Perry's campaign and \$500,000 for other Texas Republicans.

The Sept. 11 attacks and the U.S.-led war on terrorism that followed have given Bush a new platform for a theme he first sounded as governor of Texas and then turned into a campaign vow to "usher in an era of responsibility."

He has called on Americans to give two years — or 4,000 hours — of their lives to community service. He said today's graduates would determine whether America's "feel-good" culture will be replaced by an ethic of self-sacrifice in honor of the more than 3,000 people killed in the hijacked airliner.

"America went from a feeling of security to one of vulnerability, from peace to war, from a time of calm to a great and noble cause. We are called to defend liberty against tyranny and terror. We will bring security to our people, and justice to our enemies."

Sacrifice, compassion and service

"No one can tell you how to live or what cause to serve," Bush told the graduates and an estimated 60,000 family and friends in the university's football stadium.

"But everyone needs some cause larger than his or her own profit. Apathy has no adventures. Cynicism leaves no monuments. And a person who is not responsible for others is a person who is truly alone."

Recounting the bravery of the firefighters who rushed into the burning World Trade Center towers and U.S. soldiers who died in Afghanistan, Bush said the nation "relearned something large and important: The achievements

that last and count in life come through sacrifice, and compassion and service."

"Some believe this lesson in service is fading as distance grows from the shock of September 11, that the goodness we have witnessed is shallow and temporary," Bush said. "Your generation will respond to these skeptics —

one way or another." Bush has asked Congress to authorize more than \$290 million in fiscal 2003, which begins on Oct. 1, for 25,000 new AmeriCorps participants, 100,000 new Senior Corps members and 200,000 to 300,000 college students who will be deployed in community service through a federal work-study program.

U.S. orders Iraqi U.N. diplomat out of country

UNITED NATIONS, (Reuters) - The United States ordered the expulsion of an Iraqi diplomat on Friday for "activities incompatible with his diplomatic status," a U.S. official said.

Such language is usually a code for spying, which diplomatic sources said was the case in this instance.

The Iraqi in question was identified by the sources as Abdul Rahman I.K. Saad, listed as a first secretary at Iraq's mission to the United Nations. There was no immediate comment from Iraq's U.N. ambassador, Mohammed Aldouri.

A note was delivered to Iraq's U.N. mission on the upper East side of New York, asking for the expulsion of the envoy by the end of the month, the U.S. official said.

"We expect him to be out by the end of June," said Richard Grenell,

spokesman for John Negroponte, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations.

The usual procedure is to give the diplomat in question 24 hours to reply. He would also have the right to challenge the action, although envoys said few have done that successfully.

The State Department has not expelled an Iraqi envoy since November 1988, a time the United States still had diplomatic relations with Baghdad.

Diplomatic ties were broken off after Iraqi troops invaded Kuwait in August 1990.

In 1988 an Iraqi diplomat in Washington was expelled in retaliation for the ouster of an American diplomat in Baghdad, who had made an unauthorized trip to the Kurdish north.

Blair agrees crisis N.Irish talks, Trimble pressured

BELFAST, Reuters - Britain called crisis talks on the shaky peace process in Northern Ireland, whose leader David Trimble sought on Saturday to defuse a move in his party that could undermine his power-sharing government.

Prime Minister Tony Blair threw Trimble a lifeline on Friday by agreeing to talks involving the Irish government, which co-signed the landmark 1998 Good Friday peace deal, and also pro-agreement parties in the north.

No date was set, but it was expected the meeting would be held in the next few days.

Trimble made an urgent appeal to Blair and Irish Prime Minister Bertie Ahern for support after weeks of the worst violence in years between pro-British Protestants, and minority Roman Catholics who want closer ties to the Irish republic. Trimble, the province's first minister, flew to the Channel Island of Jersey to lobby Blair and Ahern on the margins of a meeting of the British-Irish Council.

The Nobel peace prize laureate returned home to face a rebellion within his own Ulster Unionist Party (UUP) by leading hardliners opposed to the peace deal.

David Burnside and Jeffrey Donaldson want Trimble to move to expel ministers of Sinn Fein, the political wing of the Irish Republican Army (IRA), from the north's executive because of recent revelations about alleged IRA activity in Colombia. Reports have said that IRA agents, in addition to providing weapons training to leftist Colombian guerrillas, used Colombia as a testing ground for new weapons — despite the guerrilla group's recent moves to scrap some of its existing arsenal. "We want David (Trimble) to say that Sinn Fein must be expelled from the Executive under the working of the institutions of the Belfast Agreement

(the peace deal)," Donaldson said on BBC radio. Even among Trimble supporters in the 110-strong UUP leadership there was scepticism about the latest talks offer. "We as a party must make a determined effort to see that appropriate sanctions are brought against the Republican movement," UUP assembly member Danny Kennedy said.

UUP sceptics have become increasingly uneasy about trade-offs contained in the 1998 peace pact, specifically the release of paramilitary prisoners, and policing reforms. At the same time, ceasefires by the IRA and other guerrilla groups have ended most of the sectarian violence which claimed more than 3,600 lives in Northern Ireland in the past 30 years.

The Omega Museum Collection, limited edition 2002



This second model in the OMEGA Museum Collection is a new edition of the 1951 OMEGA Cosmic watch with multiple calendar functions, brought up to date using the latest in watchmaking technology. Case, bezel, crown and buckle are in 18 ct. red gold; domed, scratch-resistant sapphire crystal with anti-reflective treatment on the inside; domed dial with applied OMEGA logo and faceted hour markers. Two small windows above the centre of the dial display the day and month, whilst diamond-polished Alpha hands indicate the hour, minute and date on a scale around the edge of the dial, with a small second counter at 6 o'clock, the upper part of which contains the moon phase display.

The OMEGA cosmic uses the OMEGA calibre 2601 self-winding Piguet movement. It is a double-barrel movement that offers an impressive power reserve of 72 hours and has an exclusive finish with circular guaging, rhodium-plated surfaces, Geneva wave decoration and gold plated engraving. Production is limited to 1951 numbered watches.

OMEGA

Swiss Watches Union Agency

Abdul Hakim Abdul Rahman Al-Namari

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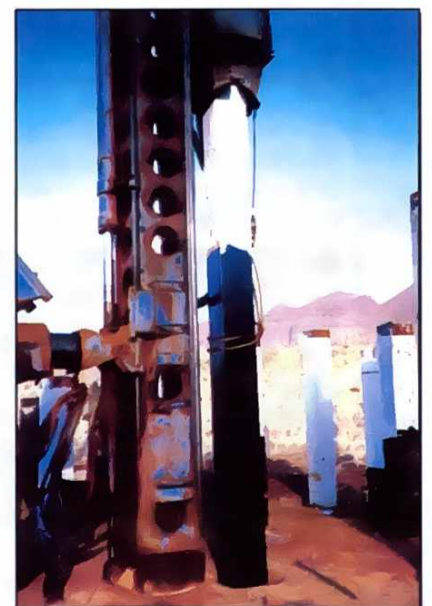
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YT Business



Views clash over P&G closure

By MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI
YEMEN TIMES SAFF

Clashing information over the closure of Procter & Gamble in Yemen has become the focus of the public.

Sources at the company said the closure is attributed to poor economic conditions.

In contrast to this statement the products of P&G were in high demand by the people of Yemen due to their high quality.

P&G along with Thabet Bros. Group has agreed to close the Taiz-based plant. Thabet Bros. Group owns 30 percent of the plant. The plant produces detergents, soap and other products.

The investment volume of P&G has been estimated at USD 90 million. The company has operated the plant since its establishment.

Well-informed sources said that the closure of the plant will start in August. More than 245 office employees and more than 1000 factory workers will lose their jobs.

The company will compensate plant employees in accordance to international criterion.

After closure, the company management intends to continue trade activities directly through its Yemeni partner.

Some sources say that the closure

of the plant could be regarded as a precautionary measure to a terrorist threat. Proof of this might be that the company will transfer the plant equipment and machines to other countries.

Retailers point out that consumers greatly affected the sales of US-Israeli products in Yemen by boycotting campaigns.

The Country Manager of P&G said previously that the closure of the plant

had been discussed earlier and that it had no relation with the call to boycott the Israeli-US products.

More than 60 American or western products have been boycotted in a protest against US policies concerning Palestine. P&G products were included in this boycott.

Local consumers have been negatively influenced by the boycott of Israeli-US products.

Procter & Gamble: P & G not leaving, only shifting

Procter & Gamble Country Manager, Mr. Egons Plavenieks told the Yemen Times that contrary to what has been published recently in the press, the company will not leave Yemen.

"It should be clear that P&G will continue its work in the country and all that it will do, is shift regional sourcing," he said.

"We will cease production at our plant in Taiz but we will continue to provide all our brands to the Yemeni market through our plants in the region. This will allow us to better serve Yemeni consumers by leveraging the vast resources of our organization in the Arabian Peninsula," he added.

Mr. Abu Ghanim, Human Resources manager said, "This restructuring will unfortunately result in the layoff of employees, many of

which have been working for us since we opened the subsidiary in 1993. We have taken all the steps necessary to ensure they receive the best possible benefits and placement support, going beyond the local industry standard".

Under the new structure, the Yemen market will receive more support from P&G's head office in Saudi Arabia. P&G was one of the first multinational companies to invest in the Arabian Peninsula in 1956. Its Tide plant in Jeddah was established in 1961 and was the first supplier of consumer goods in the region.

Currently Procter & Gamble manufactures more than 14 brands at its world class plants in Dammam and Jeddah, where more than 800 employees work. Another 1000 employees work with the distribution of these products in Saudi Arabia, the Gulf countries and Yemen.

Small enterprises conference wraps up

Taiz Chamber of Commerce & Industry organized the first conference on developing small enterprises held on June 9-10. It was hosted by the al-Saeed Foundation for Science & Culture in cooperation with Yemeni-German Small Enterprises Promotion.

Participants stressed the importance of establishing industrial complexes for small enterprises, support in marketing and organizing exhibitions nationally and internationally. The role of the private sector and local councils in rendering care to developing small enterprises was also highlighted.

The conference also recommended strengthening commercial courts to settle disputes and focus on developing technical education and vocational training.

Papers were presented by many businessmen, industrialists and economists to assist in the development process. The role of women in this sector was brought up by many participants.

A need for a higher committee to promote small enterprises and to be responsible for providing technical assistance and finding new funding was acknowledged at the conference.

The conference benefited from the successful experiences of other Arab countries in the establishment of a small enterprises promotion fund. Capital of the proposed fund can be obtained by assistance and grants contributed by international donors to Yemen.

In the concluding meeting, Dr. Ahmed Hayel Saeed, chairman of Taiz Chamber of Commerce & Industry, delivered a speech in which he stressed that Yemen is one of the developing countries in dire need to support small enterprises.

"This is because we have a high population growth and a high number of graduates combined with high unemployment rates," said Dr. Saeed.

He added that this situation relies on the government and donors to cooperate to support small enterprises.

The Taiz chairman of Commerce & Industry called on all relevant government and international agencies and donors to give a hand to support the establishment of a small enterprise complex in Taiz. This would be a significant step forward to boost small enterprises business in Yemen. The idea of the Taiz small enterprise complex was conceived in 1986, but unfortunately nothing has been done since.

Exchange Rate for the Yemeni Rial as of June 13

USD	175.36	175.59
GBP	258.60	258.94
EUR	166.47	166.69
SAR	46.76	46.82
KWD	576.67	577.43
AED	47.74	47.81
EGP	38.12	38.17
BHD	465.16	465.77
QAR	48.17	48.23
JOD	248.74	249.06
OMR	455.50	456.10
CHF	112.68	112.83
SEK	18.15	18.18
JPY	1.397179	1.399012

Source: Central Bank of Yemen

The Road Ahead

In Introduction, this column includes economic, business-related and general interest articles which we think would be useful for the reader in his/her field aiming to the overall long-term betterment of the businesses of our country.

If you have any contributions please do not hesitate and send to Mr. Mohammed Khader, YemenTimes.

Competing with Giants

BY: Raidan A. Al-Saqqaf

In Yemen, as in many other third world countries, multinational organizations tend to find and explore new markets for expansion after facing a tough competition in their home markets. But while entering the new market there would be already a number of similar smaller in scale local organizations in existence. Now these local folks have to face a tough competition with this multinational new comer who has superior technology and new strategies along with his new products in order to attract customers, but the question stands: do they succeed?

Success is not just a matter of selling products or making profits, it rather includes the power to survive tough competition. This can be achieved through finding the weak points which the competitor has and using them to strengthen our market standing and keep the market share, but this only comes after proper analyzing and research of the market and the competitor.

In India, for example, When Honda first entered the Indian motorcycle and scooter market, bajaj automobile was an existing motorcycle manufacturer which lacked the superior technological advancements Honda had. However, Honda hardly pulled 7% of bajaj's market share, they did not understand that all what the Indian consumer wanted was a motorcycle that is cheap, easy and economic to repair and maintain, and that was exactly what bajaj produced.

Another story here in Yemen was about a soap and detergent manufacturer, when a giant multinational entered our market, they kept their market share in spite of that, here is what they did: they analyzed the Yemeni consumer market, they found out that more than 70% of the population was in rural areas, and they wanted a relatively cheap products, so the local manufacturer focused on strengthening its well-established distribution network in rural areas because it was the weak point of the new comer, and their key to surviving.

End note: There are weak points for every giant, use them for your own good then you can survive.

In Brief

Port of Aden more active

Yemen has exported YR 446,000,000 of industrial, agricultural and fish products by May 2002 through the port of Aden.

Yemen exports fish to Jordan

Yemen has opened the door for Jordanian investors to import fish products. The first shipment of 80 tons has been exported to the Port of Aqaba on the Red Sea. Another shipment of 120 tons is expected to be shipped soon.

Minister of Agriculture meets IFAD team

Yemen has taken part in the World Food Summit, recently held in Rome, Italy. On the sidelines, Ahmed Salim al-Jabali, Minister of Agriculture met some officials at the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). They discussed the possibility of

funds for rural development projects in Dhamar through IFAD.

New law on construction

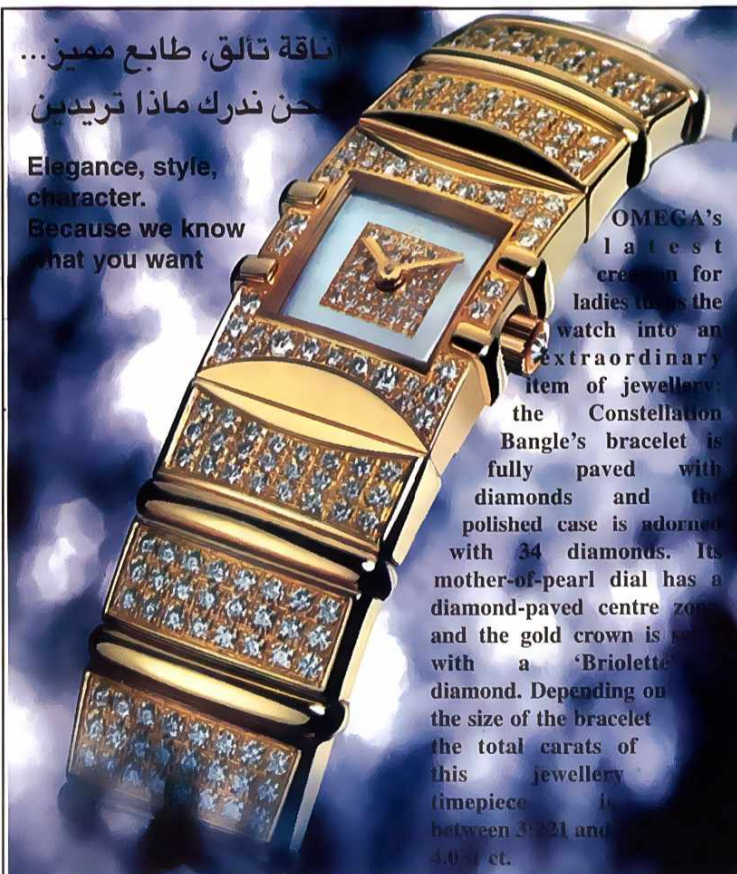
For the first time, Yemen has passed a law on regulations for construction in cities. The law works towards putting an end to disputes among law-enforcement agencies and proprietors.

The law covers provisions for the construction of highways and streets as well as regulations concerning the demolition of buildings.

Trade zone between Yemen & Iraq

A law to create a free trade zone between Yemen and Iraq has been endorsed. The proposed zone will increase trade between the two countries. It will also take away tax constraints. This agreement is a first step in creation an Arab trade zone.

١٠٪ زيادة مجاناً



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العرض ساري حتى نفاد الكمية

Words of Wisdom

One of the key differences between a dictatorship and a democratic system is the role of the media in general, and that of the official media in particular...

A reply to 'I am still welcome': You will be too welcome!

BY TEWFICK A. AL-RUAYNE tomyunion@yahoo.com

Dear Abu Hamaz, I have read your article in the Yemen Times, issue May 27, titled; "am I still welcome?"

extremists, or economical extremist? No!! Because they have a full right to plan their lives in the way they choose, it will be good for their ultimate end.

God. This is the key language for all Muslims. Frankly speaking, a Muslim does not hate western civilization and life styles.

OUR OPINION Yemen today and Europe yesterday

My last trip to Europe left me quite concerned for my country's future. I was given the chance to visit famous museums in Germany and I realized a very important fact.

Letters to the Editor

USA and Yemen in Education To all Yemeni people in Yemen, in the US, and all over the world I would like to tell all the facts and fiction about Yemen to remove any illusions or misunderstandings.

Letters to the Editor

Why is basic education neglected? Unfortunately, basic education in Hodeidah is neglected. It is dying, day by day. I am sorry to say this, but it is the truth.

Why do this to us? Most of us who were born in East Africa face a lot of difficulties when trying to acquire the Yemeni national identification card (Bitaqa Shakhshiyah).

YEMEN TIMES Independent Cultural, Economic & Political Weekly First English Newspaper in Yemen, founded in 1991 by Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf

I am a 17-year old boy living in New York City. I go to school and work at the same time. I like working on computers a lot, I use my PC for 3 to 4 hours a day.

COMMON SENSE

The Politics of Perpetual Fear

Since September 11, 2001, the world has been subjected to an ominous policy of creating perpetual fear among the world population. This has been through unusual, sometimes unpredictable and even incomprehensible developments.

SANA'A BRITISH SCHOOL Classes: SECONDARY IGCSE (Year 10-11) Key Stage 3 (Year 7-9) PRIMARY Key Stage 2 (Year 3-6) Key Stage 1 (Year 1-2) FOUNDATION Reception (4 year olds) Preschool (3 year olds) Nursery (2 year olds)

Not bias, mediocrity

BY AHMED BOUZID
FOR JORDAN TIMES

A word I no longer use when I complain to reporters, editors, and editorial boards, about their coverage of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict is "bias". Accusations of media "bias" against Palestinians or against Israelis have become so widespread and have been banded out for so long that they have become virtually meaningless. Instead, now I use the word "mediocrity".

I accuse the media not of intentionally slanting the news to favour the Israeli narrative, or of consciously highlighting Israeli suffering at the expense of Palestinian suffering, but of practising "shabby journalism".

And what do I mean by "shabby journalism"? It is a mark of shabby journalism, for instance, to use the word "retaliation" without quotes, time and again, sometimes in headlines, to characterise Israeli actions, as if a reporter could ever divine the intentions of those who order strikes against Palestinians.

'Retaliation' and 'Provocation'

How would a reporter know that an action is "retaliation" and not an act of "provocation" or an act of "collective punishment"? Moreover, why is the

word "retaliation" never used to characterise the actions of Palestinians, even when the perpetrators openly declare that the actions were in "retaliation" to specific Israeli actions? If indeed the conflict is caught in a "cycle of violence", as we are told time and again, then why are Israelis always portrayed as reacting and Palestinians always as initiating?

Another mark of shabby journalism is the adoption, often without surrounding quotes, of euphemisms put forward by spokesmen of the Israeli army, such as "targeted killing", "crossfire", "errant shells and bullets", to name just the most notorious.

How targeted is a killing that kills its "target" (and what is "target", anyway?), but also half a dozen civilians along the way (often women and children)? Why is it that only Palestinians are killed in a "crossfire", never an Israeli? And why are Israelis always making a "regrettable mistake", even when the "mistake" is a perfectly predictable consequence of a callous spraying of bullets or indiscriminate firing of shells in a thickly populated civilian area?

Biased terror

More notorious still is the usage of the word "terror" to exclusively describe Palestinian acts of violence but never to describe Israeli acts of

violence, even when the acts are those of Jewish settlers run amuck, killing Palestinian civilians (and sometimes children) precisely to terrorise Palestinian populations. Instead, the word "vigilante" is used, conveying the impression that the perpetrator of the terrorist action is merely taking the law into his own hands, perhaps out of frustration with "the policy of restraint" — yet another euphemism — practised by the Israeli army.

The notorious 95 per cent

More serious than subtle, and not so subtle, euphemisms, is reporting that outright misleads the reader. A striking example of this is the repeated use of the figure 95 per cent to characterise the "offers" (yet another euphemism — one "offers" presents, not land that one does not own) allegedly made by Ehud Barak at Camp David. To begin with, the figure of 95 per cent itself has been sharply disputed (the latest revelations put the figure at around 70 per cent). But worse than the figure is the total absence of any maps depicting the "offers".

The Palestinians did not object to the 95 per cent figure (or any figure) as such, but to the nature of the land "offered" them: three disconnected patches of land, with settlements within Palestinian territory, with all borders tightly controlled by Israel, with little



BY: SAMER A.

water rights, with virtually no sovereign control over the token patchworks of Jerusalem proposed, to name just the most important objections. How can readers grasp the nature of Palestinian objections without maps? And what other conclusion will they come to when they hear that the Palestinians rejected a deal that offered them 95 per cent of what they wanted, other than the conclusion that Israel wishes one to draw: that the Palestinians are not serious about settling peacefully?

Shabby journalism

An equally egregious mark of shabby journalism is a self-imposed self-censorship that dismisses any story that seriously challenges the prevailing narrative openly adopted by all the major media outlets (if their editorials are any indication of that narrative).

According to that narrative, Israel is fighting to ensure its security; at times, it unfortunately uses excessive force; at times, it pursues unwise policies (e.g., settlements); but over all, Israel is a democracy, it respects the rule of law, and it is mindful of human rights concerns. Hence, when a story is published about Israeli soldiers routinely inciting, taunting and baiting Palestinian children to throw stones at them, only to shoot (and kill) them "for sport", as veteran New York Times reporter Chris Hedges wrote in a piece he published in the October 2001 issue of Harper's Magazine (and repeated in his Oct. 31 appearance on NPR's Fresh Air), the scandalous revelation is treated as an anomaly, an exception to be shelved, rather than picked up and front-paged and headlined, as the killing of Israeli children is.

So, is the media "biased" against Palestinians? The question itself is a bad question, because it lets the media off the hook much too easily. Indeed, that is precisely why reporters and editors love to be accused of, "bias", since they have a ready-made answer: "If we are being criticised from both sides," they cheerfully answer, "then we must be doing our job."

But the fact is that the media are not doing their job. Coverage of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict is marred by clear marks of sloppy journalism: loaded euphemisms and unreflective language, double standards, incomplete and outright misleading reporting, and unhealthy self-censorship. The media may very well not be "biased", but are certainly mediocre when it comes to covering the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

A watchdog to counter anti-Islam campaign

BY DR. ABDUL QADER TASH

The campaign against Islam in the West is on the increase. Western newspapers have run recently headlines such as "American male and female announcers attack Islam saying people in the Muslim world teach their children to kill the kafirs." Right wing extreme parties in Europe who are hostile to Muslim immigrants call their feelings Islamophobia. A Russian TV describe the Arabs as fascist savages killing innocent people in the name of Allah expecting Paradise. The Worldnet Daily suggested the wiping out of Makkah from the face of earth and melting the black stone to stop the Muslim terrorists.

Well-known writers have exploited

their fame to spread hatred against Muslims and Islam. Italian writer Oriana Fallaci recently published a book which spews venom against Muslims. The book was sold in millions.

All like Osama Bin Ladin

She says in the book, "All Arabs and Muslims are extremists. They are all, without exception like Osama Bin Ladin. A war should be declared against them. They all should, without exception, be treated alike as they are all extremists, murderers, backward, illiterate..." She criticized the Holy Qur'an saying that "experts on Islam admire the Qur'an and claim that Islam is a religion of peace, love and justice. Even poor George Bush repeated these three words to win the support of 2.4 million voters of Arab and Muslim ori-

gin. But I ask you in the name of logic if Qur'an promotes justice, love and peace then how can we explain the principle of an eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth in Qur'an? Or the polygamy and women being treated no better than chattels, not allowed to go to school or to go out?"

The writer also calls the Westerners to wake up and fight the Muslims who, she says, are waging a religious war to kill the Westerners. She also wants Westerners not to respect the Muslim culture.

Root of terrorism

The American writer Thomas Freidman, who has admirers even in the Arab world, advances the theory that the roots of terrorism is not in the Muslim individuals but in their religion and culture. The incitement for attacks

such as the Sept.11 are found in the speeches delivered at mosques and taught at religious schools throughout the Muslim world. There lies the main threat to the security of the US and the world as a whole, says Freidman. The danger is not in the rogue states such as Saddam's as feared by the US.

It is a very serious charge to allege that the harm is done by Islam and its culture. The solution for the issue, according to these writers is to destroy the Islamic culture by tarnishing its image and frightening the people away from it.

Such blatant campaign against Islam calls for immediate action. We should face the challenge. Silence and inaction on our part will only double the attempts of the enemies.

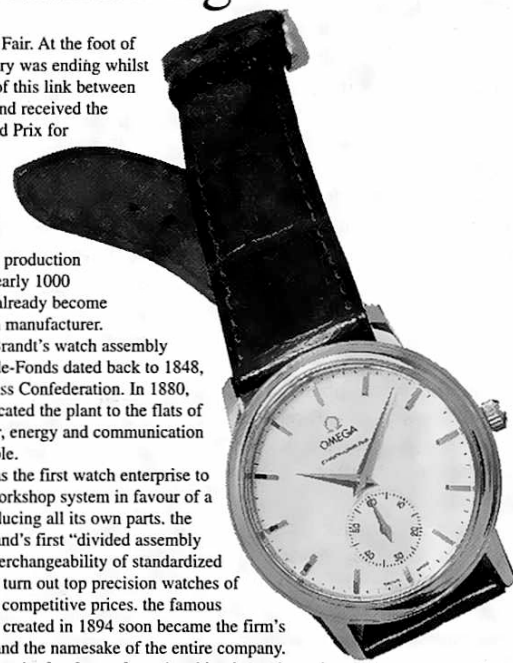
Hatred against Muslims

The Western intellectuals themselves are aware of the wave of hatred against Muslims. Being aware of the dangers involved in the phenomenon called anti-Islamism and Islamophobia, fair-minded European intellectuals have founded an organization called the European Watch House for Observing Racism and Hostility to Foreigners. According to a report of the organization, the attacks against the Muslims have increased in European countries except Portugal, Luxembourg and Finland notably after the Sept.11. Every symbol of Islam has become an object of ridicule in the West, the report observed.

The present situation demands the founding of a media organization to observe and document all reports coming in the media the world over against Islam. This organization should also study and analyze the contents and motivations for articles against Islam. The organization should counter such campaigns in an effective manner.

150 Years at The Forefront of Watchmaking

1900, at the Paris World Fair. At the foot of the Eiffel Tower, a century was ending whilst another began. Symbol of this link between two eras, the Omega brand received the international jury's Grand Prix for the excellence of its collection, including the prestigious Greek Temple watch in chased solid gold. By 1900, with an annual production of 200,000 pieces and nearly 1000 employees, Omega had already become Switzerland's first watch manufacturer. The founding of Louis Brandt's watch assembly workshop in La Chaux-de-Fonds dated back to 1848, the same year as the Swiss Confederation. In 1880, Louis Brandt's sons relocated the plant to the flats of Biemme where manpower, energy and communication lines were more accessible. The Biemme company was the first watch enterprise to abandon the assembly workshop system in favour of a true modern factory producing all its own parts. The introduction of Switzerland's first "divided assembly system" based on the interchangeability of standardized parts enabled the firm to turn out top precision watches of irreproachable quality at competitive prices, the famous "Omega" 19-line caliber created in 1894 soon became the firm's symbol of excellence — and the namesake of the entire company. From that time forward, at the forefront of watchmaking know-how, the Omega brand has pioneered in every domain where man dares to surpass his limits.



١٥٠ عاماً في طليعة صناعة الساعات

في عام ١٩٠٠ عندما أقيم معرض باريس العالمي تحت برج إيفل، كان قد ولّى قرن من الزمن وأخذت معالم قرن آخر بالظهور حيث برزت أوميغا كرمز جاء بمثابة حلقة الوصل بين عهد ماضي وعهد جديد، إذ نالت أوميغا، بإجماع هيئة من المحلفين جائزة غران بري الدولية لما تجلّت به مجموعتها من الامتياز والاتقان بما فيها ساعة "غريك تاملر" الرفيعة المستوى والمصممة على ذهب صلد مزّين بالقوقش. وما إن أطل عام ١٩٠٠ حتى كانت أوميغا قد تصدرت صناعة الساعات في سويسرا حيث بلغ انتاجها السنوي ٢٠٠,٠٠٠ قطعة بأيدي ما يناهز ١,٠٠٠ موظف فني. بعد تأسيس مشغل لويس برانت لتجميع الساعات في "لا شو دوفو" إلى عام ١٨٤٨ تزامناً بذلك مع نشوء الإتحاد الكونفدرالي السويسري. وفي عام ١٨٨٠ قام أبناء لويس برانت بنقل المشغل إلى سهول بييين حيث كان توفر القوة البشرية والطاقة وخطوط الإتصال أسهل منالاً.

كان تأسيس شركة بييين عبارة عن أول مشروع للساعات تخلى عن نظام التجميع في المشغل ليحل محله مصنع حديث ينتج قطع التركيب والغيار الخاصة به. وإن إدخال أول نظام تجميع متشعب في سويسرا يعتمد على قابلية تبادل قطع التركيب الموحدة القياس قد مكن الشركة من إنتاج ساعات بالغة الدقة، تمتاز بجودة نوعية خالية من العيوب وبأسعار منافسة. والموديل الشهير "أوميغا" الذي ابتدعتها الشركة عام ١٨٩٤ بعبارة قطري داخلي ١٩ مليوناً سرعان ما أصبح رمزاً للامتياز وأسماً أطلق على الشركة.

ومنذ ذلك الوقت تصدرت الماركة أوميغا صناعة الساعات في مجال البراعة الفنية وفي كل ميدان يتجرأ الإنسان على تحطّي حدوده.



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Yemeni heritage cries for help

BY YASSER AL-MAYASSI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Officials say they need more help to showcase Yemen's heritage, especially since there's a desire for Sana'a to be celebrated officially as the region's cultural capital in 2004.

Integral to preserving that heritage is Yemen's General Organization for the Preservation of Historic Cities (GOPHCY), established by the government in 1997.

The GOPHCY is entrusted with preserving the cultural heritage and reviving Yemen's traditional handicrafts.

It was created to preserve Yemen's old cities before they fall into a state of decay and replaced by construction of new housing which distorts the historical image of Yemeni architecture.

Dr. Abdullah Zaid Ayssa, the Chairman of the GOPHCY sums up the main objectives of the GOPHCY as follows:

- Preserving the cultural and historical monuments.
- Raising awareness among people to the importance of the cultural heritage, particularly people who live in the historical cities.
- Enacting laws concerning preserving the cultural heritage and training people to preserve the traditional handicrafts.

The main projects entrusted to the GOPHCY include preserving old cities such as Sana'a Old City, Shebam, Hadhramoot, Zabeed, Aden, and Jibla plus preserving traditional handicrafts.

GPHCY has faced many problems including its management aspect. Engineers have to leave their jobs and lose income when they choose to serve through the voluntary organization.

"We tried to do our best to regain the internal management of the GOPHCY. We hope that others will cooperate with us. There is serious initiatives taken by the culture ministry to promote the GOPHCY's activities for the better," Zaid Ayssa said.

There are a lot of projects that have been entrusted to the GOPHCY and what is needed is the financial support. This will of course require a lot of time and money, he added.

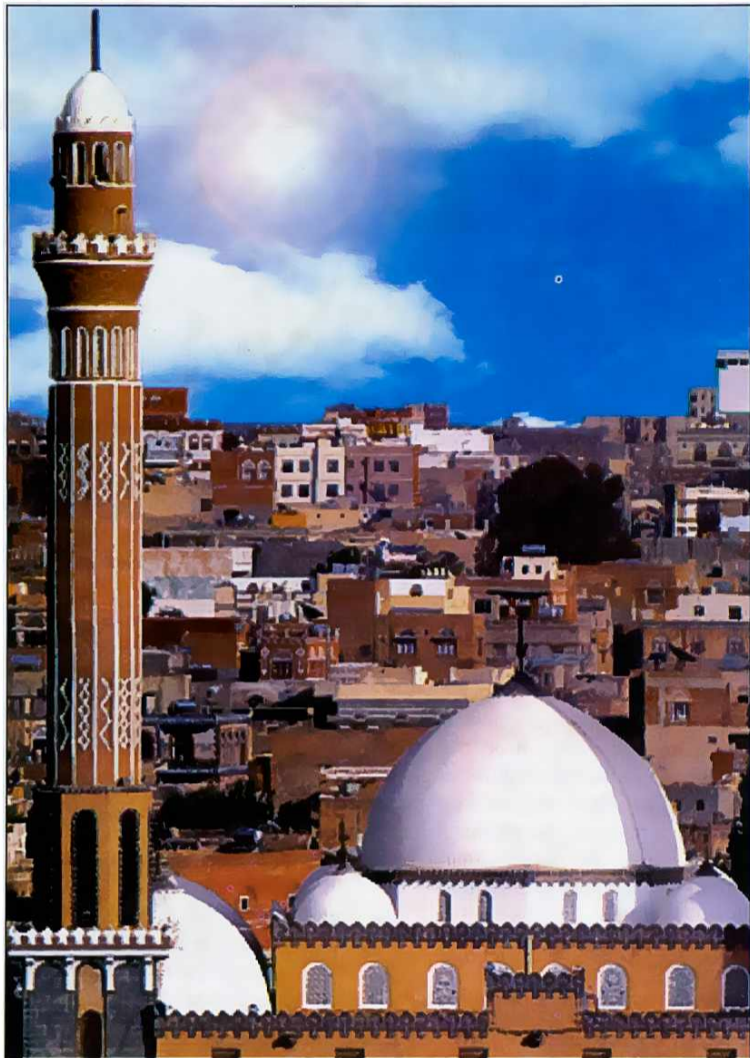
Zaid Ayssa said another issue is that Yemen's heritage has not been integrated with the urban planning process. The total planning process at both national and local levels has not been practiced in an effective planning framework.

He said it's important to understand historical events and related development over all the country, understand climatic zones architecture typologies, history and cultural significance.

But there is a lack of inventory of cities, areas, sites and monuments, and there's an absence of knowledge about decay and inappropriate tools for conservation buildings and monuments.

So many problems lay in the fact that there is an interference of the Cultural Heritage Office, he also said.

"In fact, the GOPHCY's main activity is to conduct projects of the cultural heritage activities. As a result of the GOPHCY's deficit, other organizations have to interfere such as the



A view of Sana'a in front of the Al-Shuhada'a mosque

Cultural Heritage Office which is financed by the Dutch government and Social Development Fund.

These sectors could achieve dramatic shifts with regard to preserving the old historical cities such as, the Sana'a Old City," Zaid Ayssa said.

Dr. Abdullah Zaid has highly appreciated the leading role of these sectors in preserving the historical cities. But, the main thing is that these projects are entrusted to the GOPHCY.

"Recently, procedures have been discussed with a view of coordinating with the concerned bodies such as, the Cultural Heritage Office and the Social Development Fund to finance these projects and that the GOPHCY has to conduct studies and supervise these projects."

Concerning the priorities given to the main cities such as, Old Sana'a and Zabeed, the GOPHCY has conducted studies in these cities to be presented to the government for allocating the budget.

"We will be also pay more attention to the Old City of Sana'a because it is going to be the culture capital in 2004. The culture ministry will support us in this respect along with the Social Development Fund," the chairman of the GOPHCY said.

Old Sana'a has sustained a number of handicrafts and public markets that help Yemenis earn living. These markets as well as handicrafts have become part and parcel of their lives.

These public markets have been related to the Yemenis throughout the past decades. Here they used to meet to sell and buy commodities to sustain themselves.

In general, Yemen is known for its

markets, however, the old city of Sana'a is still very much distinguished for its special features reflecting the past.

The handicrafts products are scattered in many shops of the old city. Thus, what is needed is to reactivate the role of these markets.

What is required is that special attention and support should be given to these handicrafts. "It is also required to maintain these places and make them places fit to be visited by tourists. Exhibitions should also be organized so as to make our handicrafts known to all the people. The concerned bodies should also provide all these handicraftsmen with all the facilities and assistance to encourage them," said Zaid Ayssa.

If such places and workers are well looked after, the old city of Sana'a and other historical cities will be able to retain their old features that are gradually disappearing across the globe.

Damt: a Yemeni oasis!

BY SA'AD TAHER
FOR YEMEN TIMES

About a four hour drive south of Sana'a lies Damt, a town in the Dhalea governorate. It is well known for its natural hot springs which are visited by 80 thousand people every year.

Damt got its name from Damt son of Gina, son of Mirdam Al-Hamyari the first man to settle there.

"Here," an old man said, "were the Thamouds, prophet Saleh's nation whom God mentions in the Quran as those who killed the sacred camel and were punished by earthquakes. Fifty years ago, the town was comprised of only a few farmers. Damt was regularly visited by foreigners accompanied by Jews on donkeys. They used to come on bare feet. We never knew why!"

Now Yemenis come to the hot springs for their therapeutic treatment. Damt lies on the Sana'a -Aden highway, which makes it a convenient stop for travelers. With time people began to settle in Damt and build up a service industry for all the visitors.

Now, Damt has modern baths, tourist hotels and restaurants. Damt grew quite quickly and developed into a fully serviced municipality. In the beginning Damt was officially under

the Ibb governorate but later it was annexed by Dhalea.

"There are seven baths now," the old man continued. "They consist of al-Asadi, al-Awadi, al-Dardoosh, al-Duleimi, al-Diwan, the Atif and a bath for rheumatism and scabies. There was also al-Imam bath which was the Imam's private bath".

Al-Haradha the volcano.

To the south of the town stands al-Haradha, a 90 meter high mountain. Ascending al-Haradha are 117 iron steps installed to make the climb easier. As you enter al-Haradha you will find a deep pit surrounded by a three meter wide path enclosed by a natural two meter high wall. One who stands on top of this wall may feel as if he were a bird as he looks down on the town and its doll like inhabitants. It isn't a place for the faint hearted. The pit is fenced in with an iron fence, installed after a few incidents of people slipping. On the pathway to the right is a deserted kiosk, previously used to serve refreshments. Al-Haradha has hot mineral water which contains Calcium Bicarbonate, Magnesium Sulfate, Sulphur and dissolved carbon dioxide.

Beside al-Haradha there are another eight similar formations only much smaller in comparison. They are named: Rubaia, Shooli, Duleimi, Ajma and Red plant haradha. some pour hot water into Wadi Bana.

The legends of al-Haradha Al-Haradha has been the birth place of many legends.

Once, an unnamed king from an unknown time, had a very beautiful daughter. She was so beautiful he wished to marry her. So he asked a priest,

"If one plants a tree, to whom does the fruit belong?"

"Definitely, to him," answered the priest.

"Then, I have the right to marry my daughter," retorted the King.

"Yes, of course," answered the priest fearfully.

On the night of the wedding the hot springs erupted and destroyed the kingdom, and his daughter turned into a statue. Her statue was later destroyed by a following generation because it was the symbol of a sinful people.

Another legend says, that on the summit of al-Haradha was the palace of a prostitute queen who committed adultery daily. God got angry with her and the volcano burst destroying her and her palace.

Presently in full contrast, the Palestine Tourist Hotel has an open pool of 4x3 meters where boys enjoy swimming in natural hot water. Statues of dinosaurs and elephants have been erected to make the noisy splash scene lovelier, and families can relax in the comfort of their own flats.

أوميغا... ماركة لها تاريخ

ولدت ماركة أوميغا في نفس السنة التي ولد فيها الاتحاد الكونفدرالي السويسري عام 1815. واليوم، مازال يعتبر كل منهما رمزاً يمثل قوة الإبداع والتجديد، بل والسعي وراء الأتقان والكمال. بعد أن أسس لويس برانت الشركة بوقت قصير، سرعان ما حازت ساعات أوميغا للجيب، البالغة الدقة في ضبط الوقت، استحسان وثناء خبراء الساعات في العالم أجمع.

إن المجهود الطبيعي الدائب، طوال ما يزيد عن مائة عام لإبتداع أبعاد دائمة التجديد في عامل "الوقت"، قد جعل من أوميغا ماركة سباق رقيقة الشأن مدى الحياة.

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Lyricist on his way!

SALEH ABDULBAKI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Since the golden songs of Yemen, a number of distinguished lyricists have followed. They conveyed their poetic creativity in a faithful manner. Their songs still echo in our memories.

Abyan is place where a number of distinguished lyricists have participated in the development of our music. Two of the many are Mohammed Mohsen Mohammed Abdullah Nusair.

Mohammed Abdullah Nusair was born in the 1930's. He grew up in a poor family in Zonjobar city, al Mahal. He has three sons and one daughter. He is now retired, yet still many folklore poets are greatly influenced by him.

Nusair has been affected by the suffering of others, as revealed by his poems. He keeps his songs and poetry close to heart.

For Nusair, it is not necessary for a poet to express or reveal himself to others. The main goal of a poem or song is to relate to the feelings that already exist in people.

بسكويتة زبادة أبو ولاء

أطيب منه؟ مستحيل!

Health and productive health care

PREPARED FOR PUBLISHING BY ISMAEL AL-GHABRI YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The estimates of the Ministry of public Health indicate that health care services cover only 50% of the population. Besides, there exist several health institutions that are not functioning due to lack of human or financial resources, or both. Reproductive Health services are only available at 25% of existing health facilities.

The role and effectiveness of health

services still far behind the desired level, despite the widespread targeting of communicable and endemic diseases, particularly malaria and child diseases. The statistics of the expanded Immunization Program reveals achievement of 50%-60% immunization coverage of the six diseases in the recent past. On this basis, the international and regional commitment to reach at least 80% coverage of the targeted group by the year 2000 has not been met. Nevertheless, the positive aspect of this situation can be seen in the launching of campaigns for polio immunization and the addition of a new vaccination against hepatitis.

Based on the results of the DMCHS

of 1997; diarrhea still affects 28% of children under five years old; severe respiratory diseases affects 23% of children; 46% of children suffer from malnutrition; 52% suffer from stunting and 13% are wasted.

These are among the highest percentage in the world, let alone the region. In contrast with these percentage, only 34% of the diarrhea cases are treated by Oral Dehydration Solution, 32% of severe respiratory diseases are treated in health facilities and only about 17% of newly born infants are naturally breastfed during the first months of life, while 19% of infants are born under weight.

Maternal Health

Maternal health is considered to be the central part of Reproductive Health Care. Previous surveys suggest a continuous improvement in maternal health care, but at very slow pace. However, not all aspects of safe motherhood are included in reproductive health services at its different levels. A system has not yet been developed to ensure access to all emergencies and specialized maternity services for all women of productive age, or beyond that age. Maternal Mortality is estimated to be in the range of 800-1000 deaths per hundred thousand live births, while the DMCHS shows, indirectly, a much lower estimate (351). This is a discrepancy, which requires further investigation. Clearly, an improvement in maternal mortality and morbidity indicators is directly linked to improved health care, including safe maternity services. Surveys results show slight and gradual improvement in the use of services that lead to reduction in mater-

nal mortality and morbidity. Access to pre-natal care (at least one visit during the period of pregnancy) has increased from 26% in 1992 to 34% in 1997, meaning that 66% did not have access to this service. This may be due to unavailability of the service entirely or to its remoteness. There is also a significant portion of these women who do not see a real necessity for such services. This reflected in the fact that most of the visits for prenatal care were carried out to women symptom of ailments and not routinely on the basis of preventative care. With regard to health care at delivery, or delivery under skilled qualified health care, during the period 1992-1997 the increase was only 5 percentage points (from 16% to 21%), most of which is attributed to real demand rather than as a preventative requirement. The 1997 DMCHS also shows that about 25% of women in the age 15-49 age group suffer from malnutrition and 47% of all deliveries are accompanied by side effects due to

poor reproductive health practices. It was also found that 37% of births occurred at intervals of less than 24 months between pregnancies and 18% at intervals of less than 18 months, and that 16% of mothers give birth prior age 20 years.

In light of the above conditions, it is clear that the resources required for the provision of appropriate health services will be very large. For example, assuming that there will be an improvement in the ratio of people per doctor from 3,333 in the year 2000 to 1,000 per doctor in year 2025 and in the ratio of people per nurse from 1667 to 333, in both years respectively the number of required doctors and nurses in 2025 will exceed 35,000 doctors and 106,000 nurses (Yemen National Strategies vision for the year 2025).

Sources: National Population Council, document.

Eco-tourism in Yemen needs protection

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Preserving environment means preserving our life. Yemen in this respect has made changes with regard to establishing the Environment Protection Authority. This significant body is entrusted with disseminating awareness among the public to be aware of destruction their environment. Yemen today has witnessing radical human changes as well as activities in agriculture, industry and trade resulting in positive and negative impacts on environment.

Man is the reaper of his own actions and he is the one either to enjoy or suffer. A matter of fact, this issue has attracted a great deal of concern by many bodies all over Yemen.

This is directly reflected in different conferences and summits held in many countries in which the protection of environment was the heart of their discussions.

Eco-Tourism

It is true that tourism and environment are two sides of the same coin. They are of prime importance to countries' development and advancement, specially in this era of globalization.

Many countries are widely aware of the potentiality of this industry therefore they spend fortunes to make use of this in developing their economy. It is as valuable than oil.

To enhance mechanism of joint regional cooperation in the field of environmental tourism, promoting Arab tourism awareness there should be some strategies drawn out to conduct tourist campaigns. The development of an eco-tourism should be launched in a diversified media means including the public relations-bodies, tourism propaganda, ads, posters, pictures, drawings. Tourism exhibitions should also be held to imbue these ideas in the minds of people.

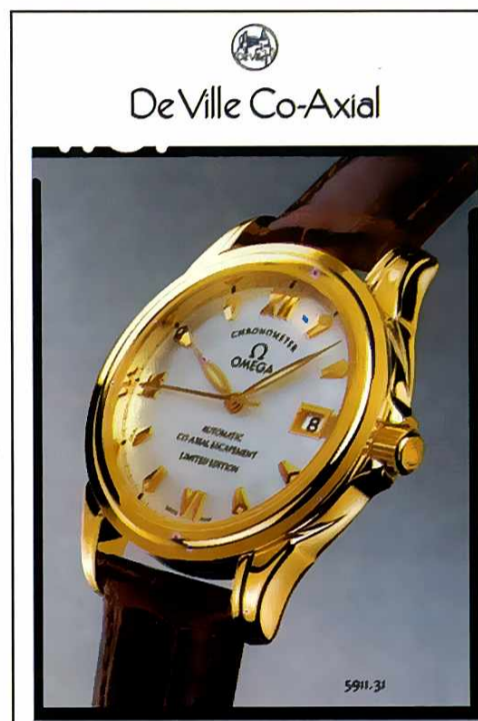
Tourism in Yemen is entirely depends on the natural resource, the cultural heritage, historical sites,

architecture, and beaches.

Socotra in this respect represents a real living museum. It is a nature with all its beauty, wonders, mystery and attraction calling tourists, specialists, scientists and nature seekers to come to the island of wonders, Socotra one of the most amazing and adventurous resorts in the world. It is a living natural museum for all those who evince an abiding in nature.

Thus, there should be a plan to conduct tourist marketing which will include realizing the desires of the foreign tourists and reasons behind their preference to visit foreign countries.

We conclude that preserving environment can play an active role in the promotion of eco-tourism in our country and our Arab land. They can enhance the awareness of the society through providing the people with new techniques, imbuing the desire to change and aspire their hopes for a bright future to make handsome revenues benefiting the regional national economy.



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العالم باجمعه دائم الحركة والانطلاق. وانسجاما مع تعاقب الفصول، يجد الإنسان، في حوار مع الوقت، تعبيرا ملموسا لتحقيق احلامه. اوميغا دوفيل تنبض بإيقاع يتناغم مع سلاسة انسياب الوقت، متميزة بالجمع بين التصميم المعاصر وتاليف الفن، جاذبية الشكل ودقة الأداء لا يخطئ تؤكد أن اعجابا يلزم مرور الزمن، متخطيا إغراء الزبي السائد الحديث. ظهر الساعة اوميغا دوفيل يصور أفق شيكاغو الشهير بمثابة رمز يعبر عن الطابع العالمي المنفتح المتمثل في هذه المجموعة... علامة الأناقة والتفوق والمكانة الرفيعة لكل من الساعة ومن يزين معصمه بها.



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شارك مشروب الطاقة

A Report on the Symposium on Classroom-Centered Research in English (29-30 May 2002)

Call for Greater Self-Awareness and Commitment of Teachers to Enrich the Classroom Ecology

A two-day symposium was organized by the Department of English, Faculty of Languages, Sana'a University (SU), Sana'a in the Ali Abdul-Moghni hall on the Old University campus. The theme of the symposium was 'Classroom-Centred Research in English'. Its primary objective was to have an in-depth discussion and exchange of practical ideas on classroom teaching strategies, innovative techniques, etc. most suited particularly to Yemen. It was meant for all teachers working in the departments of English in different faculties of Sana'a University. About 60 university teachers of English, besides students and others, participated in the deliberations of the proceedings. Two guest speakers each from the Universities of Taiz and Hodeidah also attended the symposium.

The symposium was held in four sessions, excluding the inaugural and the valedictory ones. The inaugural session began on 29 May 2002 at 9.30 a.m.

with recitation of a verse from the Holy Qura'an. Prof. Tariq Al-Janabi, Dean, Faculty of Languages, SU presided over the session. Dr. Mahmoud Ali Shamsheer, Vice-Dean, Faculty of Languages, welcomed the guests and the participants at the outset. Prof. A. K. Sharma, Head, Department of English, Faculty of Languages, SU briefly explained the background and objectives of the symposium. Briefing the participants on the objectives of the symposium, he said that it was intended (i) to improve on and enhance the quality of teaching English by initiating and encouraging a systematic study of practical activities associated with teaching in a real classroom setting, (ii) to aim at theory building based on the experiences and insights gained out of the classroom activities, (iii) to enable practising teachers to select research designs and procedures appropriate to the issues under investigation and familiarize them with resources suitable for the study of language learning and teaching in classroom situations and, (iv) to equip teachers with new



Dr. A. K. Sharma addresses the audience

techniques and skills as well as acumen and insight to combine research with teaching and introduce them to innovative teaching and learning approaches and thus create in them a greater sense of self-awareness and confidence as teachers.

In his inaugural speech Prof. Al-Janabi expressed his happiness in inaugurating the symposium. He believed that it was intended to bring about qualitative change in the teaching of English in SU. He emphasized the importance of English in the global perspective in general and in the Yemeni perspective in particular. He felt sure that the symposium would deal with important issues regarding the teaching materials, methodology and the evaluation system. He lauded the efforts of Prof. Sharma in organizing the symposium. He hoped that other departments in the Faculty of Languages would follow the example of the Department of English in organizing such academically useful programmes to enable experts and young language teachers from different parts of the country to interact with each other. Prof. Yassin Al-Shaibani, Assistant Vice-Rector of the University was also present on the occasion.

The first session began at 10.30 a.m. It was presided over by Prof. D. Thakur, Chairman, Department of English, Faculty of Arts, SU. In his address he highlighted the relevance of the symposium for English Language Teaching (ELT) in SU in particular and in Yemen in general. He welcomed the idea of the symposium in that it focused on the responsibility of the classroom teacher. He stressed the role of the teacher in the classroom (i) as a motivator, and (ii) as a purveyor of the learning situation. He hoped that the symposium would make significant contributions to ELT in Yemen.

In his theme paper, Prof. A. K. Sharma presented an overview of the theoretical and pedagogical issues relating to

the theme of the symposium, namely, classroom-centred research in English. He pointed out that classroom-centred research is a type of research that treats the language classroom not just as a setting for investigation but as an object of investigation. Unlike library research or linguistic analysis or literary criticism where theories replace data, classroom-centred research entails analysis of primary data collected from the classroom. Prof. Sharma then gave the theoretical underpinnings of this type of research orientation and hoped that the practising teachers of English in Yemen would benefit from the experience of the scholars in the field here and abroad.

Prof. K. M. Tiwary, Head, Department of English, Faculty of Education, Taiz University next presented his paper on teaching English pronunciation to Yemeni students. His paper was based on his classroom experience in Yemen. He felt that Yemeni learners do not perceive the phonetic contrasts of some English sounds, e.g. /p/ and /b/ because of their mother tongue habits. He emphasized the importance of the teachers' help in making the students learn the necessary phonetic/phonemic contrasts in the English language with the help of appropriate exercises. He also demonstrated how this could be done in the classroom.

Prof. Abdel Rahman Abdrabou, Department of English, Faculty of Arts, SU followed next with his presentation on the problems of teaching translation. He was of the opinion that the process of translation is not just establishing linguistic equivalences between two languages, but one which requires the knowledge of the affinities and differences of culture and discourse between the two languages.

'Problems and prospects of testing vis-à-vis the teaching of literature' was next presented by Dr. R. V. Ram, Associate Professor of English, Faculty of Education, SU. He narrated his experience of evolving a system of evaluation closely linked to the teaching of literature in his own Department. Instead of the traditional essay-type questions which require reproduction from memory, he advocated a system of testing that reflects students' sensitivity to and comprehension of English literary texts.

The last presentation in this session was by Dr. Mahmoud Ali Shamsheer on how the textual resources in a poem in English can be exploited to sensitize the students to the significance of the style and discourse of a text. The session came to a close with the participation of the audience by asking questions to the presenters and their responses to the participants' questions.

The second session of the day started at 2.30 p.m. after the lunch-break. It was presided over by Prof. Abdel Rahman Abdrabou. Prof. D. D. Sharma, Head of the English Department, Language Centre, Taiz University presented a paper on "Some dimensions of the teaching of ESP". He spoke on the importance of ESP in the global situation in view of developments in the field of science and technology. ESP courses should be developed in response to the developments in contemporary science and technology and the teaching of the courses should draw on the resources of contemporary linguistics and psycholinguistics.

Dr. P. A. Abraham, Head, Department of English, Faculty of Education, Amran, SU next spoke on 'Teaching poetry: some interactive approaches'. He demonstrated his approach with the help of a poem of Frost, viz. 'Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening'. He pointed out how his interactive method could lead to creative activities among the students.



Dr. Sharma, Dr. Shamsheer, Prof. Thakur and Prof. Al-Shaibani

Dr. K. S. Al-Shehari from the Faculty of Education, Hajja, SU presented his ideas on using translation in an ELT classroom. He was of the opinion that judicious use of translation from the second language to the first language could (i) ensure comprehension and (ii) help the teacher establish rapport with the learners. He related these ideas to insights from the fields of 'contrastive' and 'inter-language' studies.

Dr. R. K. Jayaraman, Associate Professor from the Faculty of Education, Sana'a presented a paper on "Classroom research and conditions of learning English as a second/foreign language". He was of the opinion that classroom conditions in the present situation inhibit the teaching of English in Yemen, but these very inhibiting conditions could be creatively exploited for motivating the learners. He pointed out that there are certain aspects of the 'condition of learning' where there is scope for 'classroom research' to play a meaningful role in helping the learners learn the necessary language skills.

Dr. Bakil Al-Walss, Department of English, Faculty of Languages, Sana'a presented his ideas on teaching reading comprehension. He demonstrated a general scheme for this purpose which he had evolved in his own teaching English for various purposes.

Mr. Mohammed Othman Naif from the Faculty of Languages, Sana'a was the last speaker of the day. He spoke on how teaching journal writing by students can be used in the classroom as an effective technique to develop (i) positive attitudes to writing (ii) to promote fluency in writing, and (iii) to promote writing as a naturalistic activity. The second session came to an end with a question hour in which the audience participated enthusiastically.

The third session of the symposium started at 9.00 a.m. on 30 May with Professor K. M. Tiwary in the chair. Prof. A. K. Sinha, Department of English, Faculty of Education, University of Hodeidah, drawing on his experience of teaching literature demonstrated how literary texts like poems, dramas and novels could be used interactively in the classroom by highlighting the textual resources. He showed, for example, how the pictures in the textbook, its cover design, and title etc. could be used to provoke proactive discussion about the contents of the text.

Dr. Ahmed Al-Qiyadhi from the Faculty of Education, Sana'a gave an overview of the needs of Yemeni learners for English in general and more importantly in specific disciplines at higher education institutions in Yemen.

Dr. Murari Prasad, Head, Department of English, Faculty of Education, Sada'a, SU made a presentation on using action research as an alternative teaching method in teaching English literature. He demonstrated his ideas with reference to three poems.

Dr. Ayedh Shreyan from the Faculty of Education, Sana'a spoke on how good English literary texts can be used to provide instances of good language use and how these instances could promote good English use in the learners.

Dr. Abdullah Al-Hamzi from the Faculty of Education, Hajja, SU next presented his paper on how L1 and L2 competencies, specially the productive ones, could be exploited and manipulated to promote competence in L2 and vice-versa. The session ended with questions from the audience to the speakers of the session.

The fourth session was presided over by Prof. D. D. Sharma and began with a presentation by Prof. R. N. Bakshi, Department of English, Faculty of Education, University of Hodeidah on

'Speech Act Theory and Dramatic Discourse'. In his presentation he first gave an outline of the Speech Act theory and showed how the framework of the theory could be used to explain literary discourse like drama. He demonstrated his ideas with the help of excerpts from *Waiting for Godot*, *Hamlet* and *King Lear*.

The next presenter, Dr. Abdulwahab Al-Maqaleh from the Faculty of Languages, Sana'a, focused on the problems of teaching English tenses to Arabic learners in view of the inherent differences in the tense systems of the two languages. His presentation was intended to raise pedagogical issues in teaching English vis-à-vis Arabic.

Prof. H. S. Ahluwalia, Head of the English Department, Faculty of Education, Mahweet was the next speaker. He spoke on the teaching of English in difficult circumstances. He outlined several psychological and linguistic devices and techniques to help the learners 'get English into their bones' as he put it.

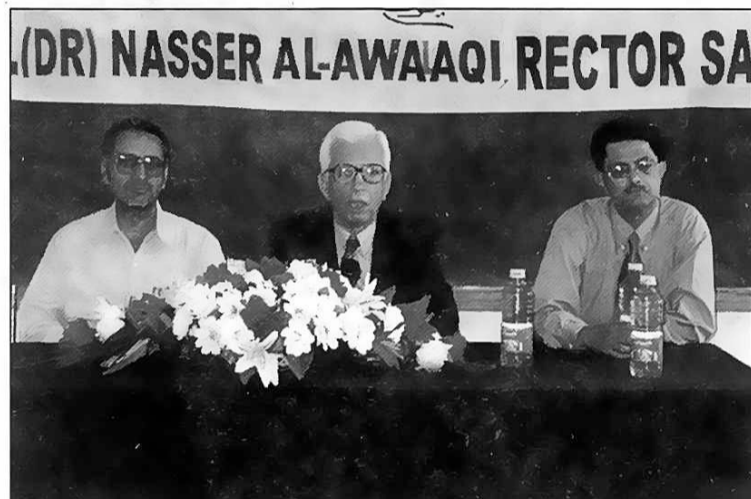
Dr. Saleh Ahmed Saif from the Faculty of Languages, Sana'a was the last speaker of the session. He presented his ideas about teaching English grammar to Yemeni students. His experience seemed to underline the general feeling on the part of the college teachers of English in Yemen about the educational, pedagogical and classroom conditions not being conducive to successful teaching/learning of English. This session also ended with members asking questions to the presenters and the presenters answering them to their satisfaction.

The last session of the symposium was the 'valedictory session' which was presided over by Dr. Mahmoud A. Shamsheer, Vice-Dean, Faculty of Languages. Prof. B. T. Desai, Department of English, Faculty of Languages, Sana'a presented an overview of the proceedings of the symposium. He highlighted the unity of the theme and of the ideas in the different presentations made at the symposium. The report emphasized the need for such renewals of contact among members of the teaching community in the various universities in the country.

The valedictory address was given by Prof. D. Thakur. He appreciated the efforts of the Department of English, Faculty of Languages in organizing the symposium. He pointed out that the positive results of such efforts should become visible in our classroom teaching. He made a fervent appeal to the teachers to put in a greater amount of commitment in their profession as teachers.

The symposium came to an end with a vote of thanks by Prof. A. K. Sharma. The symposium was actively supported by the University and Faculty authorities by funding the expenses and by providing it with the necessary physical facilities.

The symposium by any standard was a grand success. It generated a plethora of ideas and insights based on the experiences of teachers teaching in varying classroom situations and emphasized the need for combining research with teaching to overcome the problems posed by situational and local variables and make the teaching of English in Yemen in general and in Sana'a University in particular more productive and cost effective. The participants also emphasized the need of organizing such get-togethers at frequent intervals to familiarize teachers with new developments in the field of English teaching and to provide them with opportunities to exchange their views and thus gain new insights to bring about qualitative improvement in their teaching.



Address by Prof. Tariq Al-Janabi, Dean (center)



A Section of the distinguished members of the audience

Improve Your English (138)

Dr. Ramakanta Sahu, Associate Professor,
College of Education, Mahweet. ramakantasahu@yahoo.com

I. How to say it correctly

Correct errors, if any, in the following sentences

- A clerk cannot make his both ends meet.
- The news of his father's death came as a bolt from the sky.
- After the death of their father, the two brothers are having their hand at the daggers.
- He added insult to his wounds.
- He has achieved success in life from dint of hard work.

Solutions to last week's questions:

- The accused affected (pretended) madness in the court at the time of trial.
- Murtaja is an adept (expert) in the art of singing classical songs.
- He is living in abject (wretched, miserable) poverty.
- The children were playing beside (at the side of) the road.
- The thief was caught red handed (in the act of committing a crime).

II. How to express it in one word

- Dead skin in small scales among the hair.
- Man who pays too much care of his clothes and personal appearance.
- Person or object too much loved.
- First light of day.
- Complete failure to reach an agreement.

Solutions to last week's questions

- Violent windstorm: Cyclone (n)
- Person who sees little or no good in anything: Cynic (n)
- Metrical foot of one long syllable followed by two short syllables: Dactyl (n)
- Building where milk is kept and milk products are made: Dairy (n)
- Wall built to keep back water and raise its level: Dam (n)

III. Grammar and Composition

a) Composition

Given below are a few structures. Say what communicative function they intend to convey:

- Yemen is an open museum.; 2. I'm going to tell the truth.; 3. I wish I had studied hard.; 4. It is likely to rain.; 5. You can use my car.

c) Words commonly confounded

Bring out the differences in the following

- abject, object; 2. attention, retention
- attire, retire; 4. attorney, advocate
- audition, addition

Answers to last week's questions

a) Grammar and composition

Study skills

- ibid (from 'ibidem') means: in the same place or by the same author
- Op. cit. (from 'opere citato') means in the work cited
- Loc. cit (from 'loco citato') means in the place cited
- Idem means the same
- cf. means specific page

b) Idioms and phrases

- answerable to (responsible to): We, the teaching community, are answerable to the society for deterioration in education.
- annoyed with (angry with): The teacher was annoyed with the student for the latter's inattentiveness.
- in anticipation (in advance): Thank you in anticipation for your help.
- antagonistic to (opposed to): He has all along been antagonistic to my interests.
- antipathetic (strong dislike towards): As a teacher you should not be antipathetic to the needs of students.

c) Words commonly confounded

1. astonish (v.t) (surprise greatly): Everybody was astonished at the news.

surprise (v.t) give a sudden, unexpected feeling: I am surprised to learn about his poor performance.

2. astrology (n) (art of predicting human affairs from the position of stars): He is a student of astrology.

astronomy (n) (science of the sun, moon, stars, and planets): The University has recently opened the department of Astronomy.

3. attach (v.t) (join one thing to another): Please attach the documents to the original letter.

attaché (n) (person who is attached to the staff of an ambassador): Please meet the Cultural Attaché at the embassy for a visa.

4. attain (v.t) (succeed in doing or getting): Hard work will help you attain your objective.

retain (v.t) (continue to have or hold): This vessel will not retain water.

5. attire (n) (dress): I saw him in his holiday attire.

retire (v.t) (withdraw): I have recently retired from the government services.

IV. Pearls from the Holy Quran

"For Allah is to all people Most surely full of Kindness, Most Merciful."
S2. A.14b

V. Words of Wisdom
"Men are born to succeed, not to fail"
—Henry David Thoreau

Due to constraints of space, this week's lesson appears in a curtailed form.
Our sincere apologies to our readers

MUS'ID & MUS'IDA

First Ever Yemeni Radio Series published in a newspaper



Written by Abdulrahman Mutahhar



Translated by Janet Watson



16

Mother and Child

M - Listen to what I'm saying, Mus'ida. Fear God and just watch what you're doing.

'Where's my child? Where's the child I gave birth to? I want to see him.'

five years old! Why didn't she come running after him when her family threw him on the doorstep and he was a bundle of red flesh in rags?

M - I've told you, it was nothing to do with her, and it wasn't her fault. We all bear responsibility for what happened.

Ma - So you're saying it wasn't her who got rid of the baby so that she could get remarried without the burden of a child.

Ma - And just why do we all bear the responsibility? What have we done?

Ma - Where's this motherhood, and which mother have I prevented from seeing her child and which child from seeing his mother?

M - This is what I'm telling you! The mother and father of your son's divorced wife agreed to get rid of the baby immediately after it was born.

M - I'll tell you what we've done. We have done wrong to the mother and to the child. You and I decided that our son should marry the girl although he didn't want her and felt nothing for her.

M - I'm telling you, just fear God. Your son's divorced wife came over to see her child and you locked him in a room and kept him hidden away. Then you sent the mother away from the door. This is totally inhumane, Mus'ida!

Ma - And why should they do that? According to whose law would they expose a new-born baby to all this cruelty?

M - I'll tell you what we've done. We have done wrong to the mother and to the child. You and I decided that our son should marry the girl although he didn't want her and felt nothing for her. We forced her onto him with as much dignity as we force feed cattle stalks.

Ma - Since when has she been his mother, and since when would anyone acknowledge her as a mother? She'd barely given birth to him when she wrapped him up in a ragged blanket and left him on my doorstep, still bloody from the birth.

M - What's passed has passed, Mus'ida, and life has to carry on. The child is five years old now. It's enough that God has given you the compassion and kindness to take the child in and look after him.

M - It wasn't her, and it wasn't her decision. She gave birth to the baby and fell into a coma. When she came round there was no child. She said,

Ma - So, she couldn't remember that she had a child until today when he's

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.

- CLUES: Abuse, Align, Angle, Attention, Bacteria, Basin, Blanch, Braces, Brand, Bristle, Brush, Cheek, Chew, Clean, Consistent, Cost, Dentist, Diagram, Diet, Digest, Drink, Easy, Empty, Fasten, Fear, Filed, Gels, Gold, Grain, Grease, Habit, Healthy, Instruments, Medical, Mint, Moming, Motion, Mouth, Normal, Nutrition, Oral, Parent, Pharmacy, Phase, Piece, Plaque, Prescription, Prevent, Professional, Protect, Recommend, Redness, Restore, Rinse, Ruin, Salt, Scientific, Scraper, Self, Sensitive, Silver, Smile, Smooth, Soda, Soft, Sore, Stains, Stings, Strengthen, Substance, Sugar, System, Table, Tartar, Teeth, Testing, Tint, Tongue, Touching, Treated, Tube, Twist, Wise

DENTAL CARE Solution: 10 letters

Word search grid for 'DENTAL CARE' with solution: 10 letters. Grid contains letters L, E, L, I, M, S, C, D, T, T, L, M, B, A, C, T, E, R, I, A, etc.

Horoscope

Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 19) It may seem as though you are being ignored regarding your biggest endeavors, but it's because you are ahead of your time. People recognize your abilities, but don't know how to embrace them yet.

Gemini (May 21 - June 20) It's about every opportunity to be a winner. You will see this unfold gradually, over the next six months. But, now is the time to start defining your fortune and believing that it is going to be real.

Cancer (Jun 21 - Jul 22) All paths to future are essentially open and equal. There is no wrong choice. However, one path clearly defines a happier future, while the other one indicates some struggle.

Leo (Jul 23 - Aug 22) It's about searching deeper inside yourself for more peace, more joy, and just to be able to experience your life more fully.

Virgo (Aug 23 - Sept 22) You need to pay attention to your yearnings. There needs to be some amount of control, or at least awareness, at the same time this part of you is craving to grow larger.

Libra (Sep 23 - Oct 22) Why you stay in one place that you already decided is not satisfying you anymore? Something has to be done. You need to give yourself a good, hard shove.

Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21) Know that there is a direct connection between what you believe and how you live. What you believe will inevitably show itself in how you act.

Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21) You need to think about expressing yourself as never before and then take a peak into your own future.

Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19) You need to lighten up on yourself and find virtue in your sins. In the long run, everything you did was for the right reasons.

Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18) You need to realize that the true joy and accomplishment of life is the journey of life, not the end result.

Pisces (Feb 19 - Mar 20) Imagine a video game representing your life. You can make the game as fun, exciting, and interesting as you wish.

The Universal Crossword

Edited by Timothy E. Parker February

- ACROSS 1 One of George Bush's sons 4 Says it's so 9 Like fall air 14 Put away 15 Axiom 16 Divulge 17 Puzzled response 20 Seattle big-leaguer 21 Small antelope 22 Budget meeting? 23 Ted's role on "Cheers" 25 Barbie's beau 26 Rubber-stamps 28 Barbary beast 30 Kind of lift 34 Puzzled response (with 45-Across) 39 "The Name of the Rose" penner 40 Surrealist Max 41 Green peg 42 Countess complements 44 Spear-headed 45 See 34-Across 48 Sneak a peek 50 Watchdog feds 51 Ebenezer's outburst 52 In the style of 54 "You rang?" 56 Regarding 60 Keep from keeping 64 Business, in a saying to the nosy 66 Puzzled response 68 Vigorous vitality 69 Do some waiting 70 "The Bridge of San Luis" (Wilder) 71 Web destinations 72 Hall's singing partner 73 Taiwan or Peking addition DOWN 1 Pressly of "Joe Dirt" 2 Hawke of "Training Day" 3 It could start with a five o'clock shadow 4 "My sentiments exactly!" 5 Beauty queen Williams 6 Over and above 7 Manipulate fraudulently 8 Big city problem 9 Bum brightly 10 Not long past 11 "do!" (resigned) acceptance) 12 The "Motown Sound" 13 Where dummies sit 18 Sun shields available 19 No longer available 24 Move aside 27 Etta of old comics 29 Docking platform 31 Arctic Ocean sighting 32 Rights-defending 33 Cheeky shade? 34 Get someone's attention two blocks over 35 Popular cookie 36 Bring to ruin 37 Big feat for baby 38 Rowlands of film 43 Filled with fright 46 Film villain 47 Watch 49 Dojo's lesson 53 Wheels for big wheels 55 Man with a famous thumb 57 Crossed one's heart 58 Emulates a horse whisperer 59 Type of daisy 60 Sarcastic remarks 61 Decorative toiletry case 62 "Hey, over here!" 63 Humble Oil brand 65 Hit song "Bette Davis" 67 Genteel affair

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

Crossword grid showing previous puzzle answer with words like FAULTY, MURDER, SCORPIO, etc.

"PUZZLED!" By James E. Buel

13x13 crossword grid for the puzzle 'PUZZLED!' by James E. Buel.

7-Day Weather Forecast

Weather forecast table for Sana'a and Aden, showing temperature (Hi/Low) and weather icons (sun, clouds) for Monday through Sunday.



Garfield comic strip panels showing Garfield eating and talking. Includes speech bubbles like 'YOU CAN RUN, BUT YOU CAN'T HIDE'.

Doonesbury comic strip panels by G.B. Trudeau featuring a character with a cigarette. Includes speech bubbles like 'WHOA, NELLIE BELLE! IS THAT A COOL PERSON?' and 'WELL, I THINK SO! YOU DON'T BY ANY CHANCE SMOKE, DO YOU?'.

Endeavour crew packing to leave space station

By BROWARD LISTON

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (Reuters) - The astronauts of space shuttle Endeavour were packing for the trip home from the International Space Station on Friday, but rather than cramming clothing into suitcases they were working to maneuver a bus-sized cargo module into the orbiter for the ride home.

The Italian Leonardo module, a pressurized container that can be mounted on the station for easy access through a hatchway, is loaded with about 1.5 tons of trash, laundry and other detritus of space station life, some of it accumulating since the orbiting outpost opened for business in 2000. Shortly after noon EDT, shuttle commander Ken Cockrell will use the shuttle's robot arm to latch onto the module so it can be gently maneuvered into Endeavour's cargo bay for the ride home.

Endeavour departs the station on Saturday and lands on Monday at the

Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

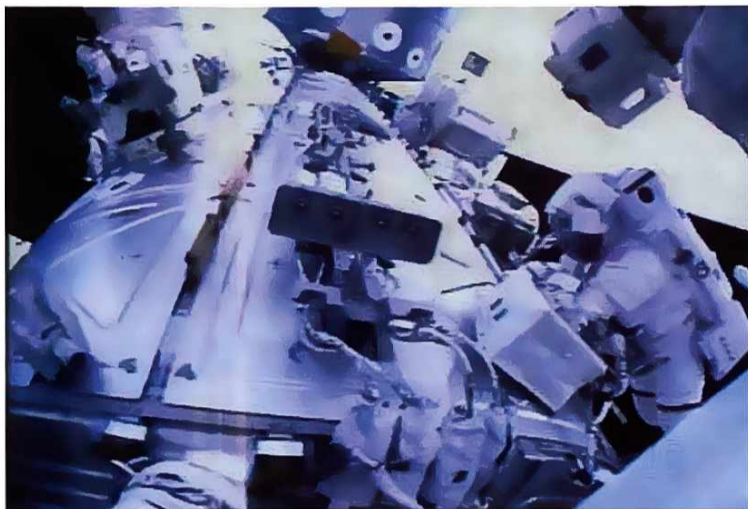
With three spacewalks and a successful exchange of long-duration space station crews behind them, the crew will return with NASA already singing their praises. "I think this mission is truly on the brink of being added to the list of NASA success stories," said Rick LaBrose, the lead flight director.

The largest hurdle came on Thursday, when French Astronaut Philippe Perrin and Costa Rican-American Franklin Chang-Diaz replaced a 500 lb. wrist joint on the station's 58-foot robotic arm in a seven-hour spacewalk.

The wrist-replacement surgery was only added to the mission March 20, so training was short for the crew.

The robot is vital to future space station construction, and the success of that spacewalk meant NASA could stay on track to finish the core elements of the station by 2004.

Endeavour will bring home three astronauts who have been living on the

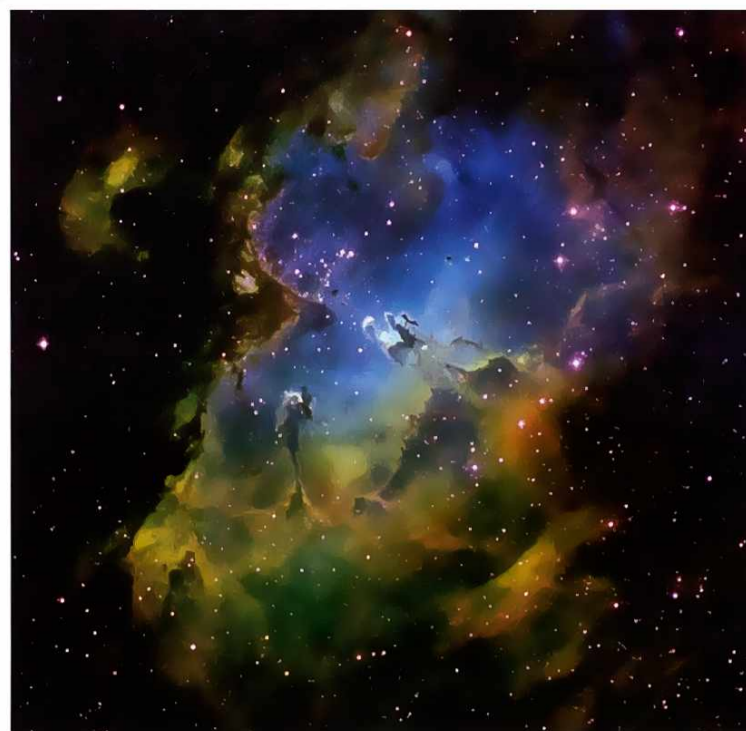


Astronaut Franklin Chang-Diaz is seen in this video still during his third spacewalk outside the International Space Station June 13, 2002. Chang-Diaz along with astronaut Phillippe Perrin are scheduled to replace a portion of the Station's ailing robotic arm. Photo by Nasa/Reuters

station since December.

Russian Yury Onofrienko and Americans Carl Walz and Daniel Bursch have all said they are looking

forward to a pizza after six months of mostly dry or reconstituted food. The Americans set a new U.S. endurance record for space flight during their stay.



A U.S. telescope has snapped a high-resolution panoramic view of the "Pillars of Creation," the subject of one of the orbiting Hubble Space Telescope's most famous images. Located at the heart of the Eagle Nebula, a favorite feature for amateur astronomers, the Pillars are gaseous nurseries for newborn stars — giant nurseries. The largest of the three Pillars in the 1995 Hubble image is about four light-years from base to tip. But the Pillars are only a tiny feature (shown at center) of this new image produced by the National Science Foundation's 0.9-meter telescope at Kitt Peak National Observatory in Arizona. To get the image, which covers at least 100 times the area of the Hubble picture, astronomer Travis Rector used the Mosaic camera of the National Optical Astronomy Observatory. REUTERS

Japan's Epson, UK start-up to form display venture

By EDMUND KLAMANN

TOKYO (Reuters) - Printer and display maker Seiko Epson Corp said on Friday it is planning a joint venture with British start-up Cambridge Display Technology to develop equipment for making next-generation ultra-thin displays.

Unlisted Seiko Epson, the world's largest maker of cellphone screens, said the deal aimed to bolster a technology that could cut costs and allow bigger sizes for organic light-emitting diode (OLED) displays, prized for their thinness and bright colors. The deal also helps set the stage for a looming battle between two competing technologies for making the screens. Several manufacturing giants, including Sanyo Electric Co, Samsung Electronics Co and a unit of Pioneer Corp, are working on OLED screens using so-called "small molecule"

technology developed by Eastman Kodak Co Unlisted Cambridge Display has an alternative polymer technology that, while still less developed than Kodak's, could overcome cost and size hurdles posed by vacuum deposition used in the small-molecule process.

"Our view is that, although small molecule has the lead, polymer is a superior technology," an Epson spokesman said. "There are a lot of problems to be solved in the development of materials, but if we can clear those, polymer can become the industry standard, or at least have an advantageous position."

Key among the challenges are color adjustments and the longevity of light-emitting materials. The spokesman said the joint venture would be set up this autumn with capital of several hundred million yen, although a capital investment figure had not yet been set. His company will likely hold a majority,

with about a 60 to 70 percent stake.

The plant will be sited in Japan rather than in Cambridge, and the venture aims to start volume production of OLED screen manufacturing equipment in 2004.

Small molecule, big prospects

"Unless more players join in to develop materials and make displays, we can't speed up the pace of development in polymer technology," the Epson spokesman said.

The technology has a lot of lost ground to cover before it can catch up to its small-molecule rival.

Sanyo and Kodak began making OLED screens with small-molecule technology at a plant in Japan earlier this year and have already begun sample shipments to customers.

Sanyo plans to use the screens in cell-phones this autumn.

But regardless of which technology prevails, OLEDs are barely in their infancy compared with the unquestioned ruler among flat screens -- the increasingly ubiquitous liquid crystal display (LCD). With its decades-long history in the factory and the market place, the LCD will be hard to beat in cost and reliability. Unlike LCDs, however, OLEDs emit light directly and do not require a backlight, allowing a lighter-weight display that is barely thicker than a credit card.

Its brighter colors and faster response time also make it a promising choice for televisions and any other product that displays moving pictures.

Initially, OLED screens will likely be limited to cellphones and other mobile devices in which space is at a premium.

In the longer term, Sony Corp and Samsung SDI Co Ltd are among those betting that OLEDs' better picture quali-

ty will make them a hit for TVs and computer screens, once problems with longevity, reliability and manufacturing processes have been ironed out.

Sony, which currently plans to use small-molecule technology, hopes to have TV-sized OLEDs in mass production by the end of next year, although many executives in Japan doubt they will be widely available until 2004 or 2005. And most expect that OLEDs and LCDs will co-exist for a long time to come, especially with the overall market for flat-panel displays set for explosive growth.

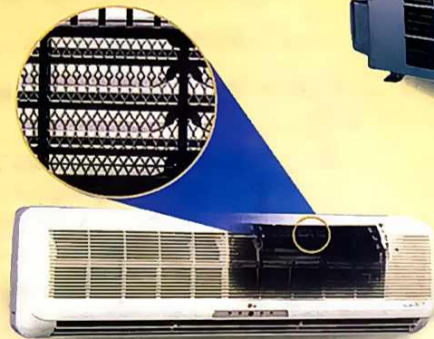
As technology improves, prices fall and consumers become increasingly keen on sleeker, less space-hungry screens, analysts and executives expect the markets for all major flat-panel technologies, including LCDs, OLEDs and plasma displays, will see double- and triple-digit growth rates for years to come.



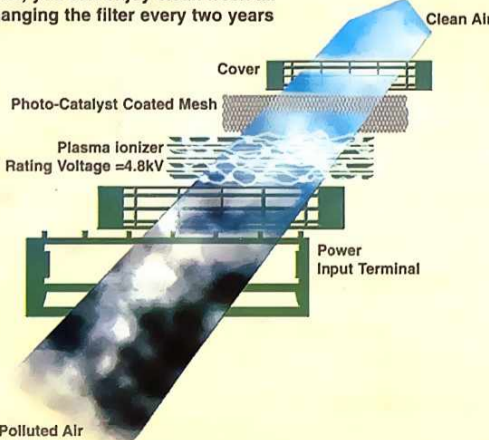
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A collection of rare plants have been compiled in a guidebook titled,

Wild plants from Yemen

Yemen has been bestowed with a botanical biodiversity scattered in every part of Yemen.

Botanical researches have shown that there are 2810 different kinds of rare indigenous plants in Yemen.

More than 415 of rare plants can not be found in any other part of the world except Yemen. Among these more than 236 are found in Socatra island, botanical researches indicated.

The botanical biodiversity in the island plays a significant role in the daily life of Yemenis in general and peo-



ple in Socatra in particular. Some of these rare plant are used in medical properties.

In this respect, Environment Protection Authority has issued a guidebook where different rare plants are recorded in the island.

The book contains 200 different kinds of plants along with a short description of places where they are naturally grown.

It deals with botanical regions in Yemen in different areas including,

- Coastal plains where different shrubs and plants such as, acacia ehrenbergiana, halopyrum, and



other are indigenously grown in the island.

- The Tihama highlands and the Western mountain chains adjacent to the Red Sea where different plant are grown naturally here such as, acanthus arboreus, osteospermum, polygala and ficus.

- The plants of eastern mountains and desert

- The plants of Socatra island.



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