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Despite more harassment and intimidation by security forces, Demonstration to release journalists continue

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MOHAMMED BIN SALLAH
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Many opposition party leaders and journalists staged a demonstration June 26 before the presidential palace in Sana'a. Their protest was over the imprisonment of the two journalist detained since May 23, protesters demanded their immediate release.

The demonstration started at the headquarters of the Yemeni Journalist Syndicate (YJS) and moved towards the presidential palace. Demonstrators denounced the detention of a number of journalists and writers presently journalists Abdulrahim Muhsen and Ibrahim Hussein Basha.

Republican guards attempted to prevent the demonstrators from approaching the palace gate and threatened to fire. Security was beefed up with special guards and police forces to surround the demonstrators.

However, the demonstrators made their way to the gate and were approached by a number of palace officials who wanted to



Soldier on a military vehicle pointing the RBG at the protestors, who were heading to the presidential palace on 60-Meter Street in Sanaa. The protestors courageously challenged the threat of the soldier and continued marching forward despite the threat, causing the military vehicle to retreat until re-enforcements arrived. Photo by Rahma Hugaia

negotiate with leaders of the demonstration.

Demonstrators handed the officials a written letter addressed to the president in which they demanded the government to ensure freedom, dignity and safety for all citizens.

The letter also pointed out that detaining the journalists Abdulrahim Muhsen and Ibrahim Hussien Basha for their political opinion and critical writing of the govern-

ment is a threat to our own personal safety not to mention the detainees.

MP Mohammed Naji Alaw said the objective of this demonstration is to demonstrate solidarity with detainees. "They have done nothing but express their opinions," he said. "Detaining these journalists are unconstitutional and those responsible for their disappearance should be tried," Alaw added.

Murder in Court

MOHAMMED AL-QADHI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Police are still interrogating 25 tribesmen of Khawlan who carried out a murder in the court of Sayan, Hadhramout last Wednesday.

Abdul Shakoor Ali Adam was hearing the charges against him when a band of tribesmen entered the courtroom and shot him. The victim himself was being tried for the murder of Mohammed Hajer, General Director of Al-Sawm district, when the 25 tribesmen entered.

According to eyewitnesses, the men listened attentively to the court's proceedings before killing the Somali defendant with a variety of automatic weapons. A state of haste and bustle then took place inside the court room. The tribesmen, some of them relatives of Hajer who had come down to Hadhramout from Sana'a, tried to flee but were apprehended by the police, with help from the military.

A number of officials and citizens have expressed their feelings that the crime is an insult to the Yemeni judicial system. The Ministry of Justice has expressed its sorrow that the courtroom must now be redecorated.

Burhanuddin visits Yemen

Yemen Times Staff

Dr. Mohammed Burhanuddin Sahib, the 52nd Fatimid Dai met with President Saleh on June 27. Several issues were discussed including the current development in the occupied land. He highly appreciated the president's noble and courageous attitudes supporting the issues of the Islamic world.

During his visit to Yemen Mohammed Burhanuddin saw some charitable projects which he finances such as water projects, the uproot Qat campaign, livestock and bee keeping projects. He also visited the tombs of some Bohra's distinguished leaders and his followers residing in Yemen.

Recently, the Bohra sect in Yemen has waged war against Qat and its cultivation. The



Dr. Burhanuddin meets President Ali Abdullah Saleh in Sanaa on Wednesday.

representative of the Sultan of Bohra to Yemen has established a nursery which contains different transplants of banana and coffee trees.

Dr. Burhanuddin is invested with full and absolute power to be the sole deputy and vice-regent of the Imam on earth (who is in seclusion). Dr. Mohammed Burhanuddin Sahib is also the spiritual leader of the Dawodi Bohra community.

It is worth-while mentioning that the Muslim community of Dawodi Bohras traces its ancestry to early conversions to Ismaili Shiism during the reign of the Fatimid Caliphate, al-Muntaser.

Continued on page 6

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Possible solutions for unemployed

The Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, in cooperation with the UNDP and the International Labor Organization's regional office in Beirut, concluded the 1st training course for 35 participants on June 24 representing all the governorates across Yemen. The 9-day training course was attended by employees, managers and officials of the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs.



Gazi A. Abdurab



Training course to enable labor offices in all governorates

major problem for Yemeni job-seekers. This has become the attention focus of the Ministry of Technical Education to offer more vocational training courses for the jobless. It is hoped that This would help the unemployed to re-enter the domestic labor markets in some of the neighboring countries, Gazi added.

Mr. Abdurab stated that Yemeni law purposefully restricted the hiring of foreign labor so as to Yemenize jobs.

Unfortunately, the lack of trustworthy statistics on the labor market at present suggest that the Ministry of Labor couldn't make any effective plans to resolve problem of unemployment, Mr. Abdurab concluded.

Increasing cooperation between Yemen and USA in human rights

Dr. Waheebah Fare'a, the Minister of State for Human Rights met with Ms. April W. Palmeriee, Senior Coordinator for International Women's Issues in the US Department of State and H.E. Edmund Hull, the US Ambassador to Yemen on Monday, 24th of June.

During the meeting, the status of women in Yemen was discussed. An emphasis was put on the significantly high level of participation Yemeni women enjoy in every aspect of various social and political activities. Dr. Fare'a has demonstrated the work of the Supreme National Committee for Human Rights (SNCHR) in promoting and protecting human rights. She also explained the government's efforts in providing legal guarantees for human rights.

The US Ambassador expressed the interest of the embassy in the government's reply on the US report on human rights in Yemen. He also

expressed his understanding of a number of issues mentioned in the reply and he described the reply as a positive gesture, which will help the embassy better understand the recent changes in the situation of human rights in Yemen.

The Ambassador added that the philosophy of the Yemeni government towards human rights reveals the true commitment of the government to promote and protect human rights. The Yemeni government had said that it views these rights as a human issue that requires a long time of practice during which a new Yemeni generation that respects and understands the culture of human rights is raised.

It was agreed during the meeting to continue the dialogue between SNCHR and the US Embassy in order to keep the embassy informed about the new positive developments in the human rights situation in Yemen, which will be reflected in future reports.

Yemen welcomes Bush's proposals on Palestinian state

The Yemeni cabinet welcomed the proposals made by US President, George Bush, on the creation of a Palestinian state after ensuring Israel's full pull-out to pre-1967 borders, and ending the Israeli occupation in accordance with the international legitimate resolutions 242 and 338.

Yemen's government views implementing these two resolutions, including stopping settlements policies and aggressions, as the only way for bring-

ing about peace to the region.

Yemen also expressed concern over the US interventions in the Palestinian Authority's affairs.

"The Palestinian people are the only people responsible for choosing their leadership at all levels," the statement said.

The cabinet further commended the decision taken by the European Union held in Seville, Spain which called for creating the Palestine state.

USA Halal Chamber of Commerce Incorporated Visited Yemen

Habib A. Ghanim Sr., the President of Halal left Yemen last week after various promotions and business meetings in San'a. Halal is endorsed by the American Muslim Council inc. It is a non-profit business and community service. The business community was greatly enriched by his presence.

Halal's Mission statement/objective is; "to provide professional Halal certification, services based on a single global standard for Islamic dietary

compliance by educating the manufacturing, processing and transporting companies in the USA regarding the universally approved Halal standards in meat, poultry, non-food items and by-products."



Habib A. Ghanim

International community demands release of journalists

Many local and international organizations continued to condemn the arrest of the two journalists, Ibrahim Hussain and Abdulrahman Muhsen by the Yemeni secret police, May 23. Reporters Without Borders, an international journalists advocacy group based in Paris, issued a statement calling for the immediate release of the two journalists.

Similarly, the Yemeni Authors Union condemned the arrest of the two journalist and demanded their immediate release. A statement of the union also denounced the censorship and the



Hussain

Muhsen

comeback to the totalitarian mentality which used to prevail in pre-1990 Yemen.

The statement also called international human rights organizations and press freedom groups to speak out against these inhuman acts.

British Frigate calls at Aden port

Amidst strict security measures, British Frigate HMS-CAMPBELLTOWN arrived at Aden seaport on Sunday morning on a two-day visit and the British ambassador to Yemen Ms Frances Guy and senior Yemeni military officials had welcomed the British Frigate at the Aden seaport.

Governor of Aden Taha Ahmed

protection and aborting any acts of sabotage.

On her part the British ambassador Ms Guy said she was pleased for the frigate arrival at Aden port, adding that we have strong relations with the people of Yemen and security bodies and apparatus. She said the visit was in interest of the two friendly countries



HMS-CAMPBELLTOWN

Ghanim stated that the visit of the British Frigate to the port of Aden was in the framework of historical relations between the two countries and the British and Yemeni long-standing Naval relations. He added that the visit aimed at achieving an exchange of expertise with the Yemeni navy. The Frigate visit also indicates restoration of Aden port's role and normal action after a period when military vessels stopped visiting the port because of the Cole destroyer incident, Mr Ghanim added. Mr Ghanim has further said despite that the port of Aden continued to receive merchant and tourist ships. He said now the port of Aden has restored its naval role and Yemen's security is capable of providing full

and their relations.

Accompanying the frigate visit would be holding cultural and sport activities between a team from British marines and team from Aden. The frigate crew are also to visit some Yemeni historical sites in Aden.

Mohammed A. Noaman commemorated

Al Afif Cultural Foundation commemorated last Thursday the late Mohammed Ahmad Noaman, the former Vice-Prime Minister and the Minister of Interior. The deceased was murdered in 1974 in Lebanon.

In commemoration, Brigadier Mohammed Ali Al Aqua, gave a lecture focusing on the late Mohammed A. Noaman as a man who fought against racism, mediocrity, and hypocrisy. He said that "Noaman was named as (Al Ghwba) as a result of

his unrelenting campaign against totalitarianism and that he was a fine orator and statesman who was able to rally many others to his cause.

One of his major achievements was to bring about Peace and, subsequently, reconciliation. He is also remembered for introducing modern budgeting practices to government as well as re-ordering Yemen's financial resources. He furthermore played an undeniable role in supporting the republican side in the Harad conference."



Draft law for YJS to be presented to government soon

By MOHAMMED AL-QADHI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Mr. Mahboob Ali, the vice chairman of Arab Journalists Association (AJA), and the chairman of the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate (YJS) said the YJS has completed drafting a law for the YJS.

He told Yemen Times that the YJS in collaboration with legislators and advocate has finished preparing a draft law for the YJS which will be presented to the government to be approved of, and then sent to the parliament to be debat-

ed and passed. He said that they will make use of the exemplary law of the Arab press the AJA approved of in October, 2001. Copies of this law were presented to Arab leaders in the Amman Arab Summit.

He stressed that the law of YJS will define the journalism in Yemen; ensure all the rights of journalist as well as remove all the heavy penalties against journalists that violate the law and freedom of expression sanctioned in the constitution. It will also include a code of ethics.

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• تتوفر أوميغا الاسم الأكثر شهرة بأربع فئات عالمية تضم: كونستيليشن (الأنيقة) سيماستر (الرياضية).

سبيد ماستر (الكرونوغراف الرياضية لقياس وتسجيل الوقت)، دي فيل (الأناقة الكلاسيكية).

• أوميغا سبيد ماستر: هي الساعة الوحيدة التي جرى اختبارها على سطح القمر، وهي كذلك أكثر ساعة خضعت لجميع أنواع الاختبارات في تاريخ صناعة الساعات. وبالإضافة لكل ما تقدم، فهي الساعة الرسمية لرواد الفضاء الأمريكيين والروس.

• أوميغا هي الوقت الرسمي لوحيد وعشرين نوعاً مختلفاً من المباريات الأولمبية منذ العام ١٩٣٢، إضافة كونها المفضلة في الأنشطة الرياضية على اختلاف أنواعها بما فيها السباحة.

• توزع أوميغا في ١٣٠ من البلدان عبر شبكة تضم ٧٠٠٠ صالة عرض راقية. وقد تم اختيار كل مركز بيع أو معرض بكل حرص وعناية كما روعي أن يكونوا جميعاً من أفضل تجار المجوهرات العالميين للبيع بالتجزئة. منظمة أوميغا الممتدة عبر العالم هي



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فندق تاج سبأ TAJ SHEBA HOTEL
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The Manager of Women's Forum for Research and Training, (WFRT), Suad al-Qadasi to the Yemen Times:

"Unfortunately, female human rights activists are exposed to harassment and challenges by authorities."

By YASSER AL-MAYYASI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Allowing women to participate in all issues relating to life, is, as a matter of fact, a signal achievement of progress towards a full equality among all the citizens of our community.

In a country like Yemen, women have actually made laudable strides in economic, social, political and cultural dimensions of the society. Women's increasingly active participation despite the considerable difficulties and obstacles of the past two decades is certainly attributable to the increase in educational facilities. That is, women are not simply restricted to housework and they have started taking up roles in the economic, political and cultural life of our society.

However women's increased contact with the outside world has created some difficulties for them which may, at many times, lead to their encountering the law either as a violator of the law or as a victim of crime. In both cases, women are subjected to a law which is written and implemented by men.

In this respect the Yemen Times reporter, Yasser al-Mayyasi has met up with the Manager of Women's Forum for Research and Training, (WFRT), Suad al-Qadasi and filed the following interview:

Q: Will you give us a brief account of the WFRT?

A: The WFRT is the product of strenuous effort. It started exactly when I worked for the American Agency in 1991. I made contacts with foreign women organizations while I was traveling abroad. Through them I could establish strong contacts with a range of distinguished female activists in the field of human rights.

The WFRT was officially inaugurated in June 2000.

Since then, the WFRT was licensed by the Ministry of Culture and Tourism.

This came in response to the economic, political, cultural and domestic situations which were closely related to women's issues and their rights. The WFRT was subsequently entrusted with upholding human rights issues in general and women issues in particular. Greatest attention was paid to the six governorates of Taiz, Sana'a, Aden, Hadhramout, Hajjah and Hodeidah.

One of the main objectives of the WFRT is to raise awareness of women's rights and defend and expand these rights while carefully considering their status in the community. This can be achieved not only at the local level but also in the international arena.

Non-governmental organizations play a vital role in the field of women's rights. The WFRT has a leading role with regard to promoting skills and capabilities of human rights organizations and civil societies. Efforts have



Suad al-Qadasi

been exerted in this field with a view to mapping out a local comprehensive strategy to defend woman's rights.

Q: Since its establishment, what are the main activities that have been accomplished by the WFRT?

A: Generally speaking, we are dissatisfied with what has been achieved so far. The WFRT has only been able to make limited progress in its first two years.

The WFRT has many plans to improve woman's rights, particularly by collaborating with some of the non-governmental organizations working in this field.

So far 51 different programs have been established by the WFRT in Sana'a, Taiz, Aden, Hajjah,

Hadhramout, Dhamar, and Hodeidah. More than 780 male and 460 female participants have taken part in these activities. Governmental and non-governmental organizations have taken part in these activities and made use of the WFRT's expertise in this field.

We have made every effort to involve different bodies such as non-governmental women's organization working in the field of woman's rights, as well as, the judiciary, the media, and assorted artists. The WFRT's main objective is try to counter a growing wave of contempt and discrimination towards women.

When reporting on women's issues we have chiefly tried to raise awareness to try to limit discrimination against women. We have tried to do our best to represent a complete image of women in the media and to illustrate the significance of women in society.

The WFRT has been steadily increasing its prominence at an international level and has been establishing relations with other women's organizations in the field of human rights.

We believe that we can help women rapidly improve their administrative skills and aim to shortly begin training female nominees to compete in local council elections. We are confident that the exchange of ideas and experiences between the WFRT and other local and international non-governmental organizations will allow the WFRT to make the best use of other's experiences. We have participated in Arab as well as international conferences in defense of women's interests in, for instance, Canada, the United States, Japan, Brazil, South Africa, India, Australia, Thailand, Iran, and Paris. A number of Arab countries have helped the WFRT to prosper and grow as an active organization to defend women's issues at the local level.

A number of publications such as, periodicals, magazines, researches and studies have been issued by the WFRT centering around human rights in general and women's issues in particular.

Q: What are your future plans?

A: As mentioned earlier, we work within a long-term program consisting of research, direct action and various other campaigns.

For instance, field research into the effect of poverty on children will shortly be completed and shall be presented at the end of July.

There will be also a number of symposiums which are to be held in Aden, Sana'a and Taiz focused primarily on women's issues. Besides, a number of vital activities will concentrate on women's rights in the countryside. Three different districts have been selected in Taiz and we hope to extend this program in the future.

At the international level, we been invited by OXFAM to participate in an international conference. Specific difficulties faced by the WFRT are to be presented and discussed. We will also participate in the International Development Conference in

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Johannesburg as well as in the 2nd conference on violence against women in Canada. Different activities in the field of human rights in Arab countries are to be discussed in Tunis, Egypt and Lebanon.

Q: What are the main difficulties faced by the WFRT?

A: The WFRT has faced a number of difficulties particularly with regard to establishing confidence among human right organizations. The main problem is the lack of financial resources. Unhealthy competition from rival non-governmental organizations is one of the main difficulties faced by the WFRT.

Q: As a distinguished activists in the field of human rights, how do assess the current situation?

A: Human rights organizations in Yemen are still novel. Their appearance coincided with unification and the emergence of democracy. These organizations are sometimes swim with the tide and some swim against the tide. There is no a unified strategy as regards exchanging information, skills, experiences. Little improvement can be perceived, except much ado about nothing. The strange thing is that we see that instead of raising awareness of the human rights principles, some organizations prefer to pursue their own interests and are more concerned with their own presentation.

Q: What are the main hindrances of the civil institutional work in Yemen?

A: Non-governmental organizations are one of the civil and local movements which have begun to increase

remarkably since the 1990s. Presumably, the state should support them and help them to perform their role. In this respect the state and these non-political associations are the two sides of the same coin. They are complementary to each other. Civil societies can not be prosper unless there is a democratic state based on constitutional constitutions to support these societies.

Q: How do you link women with the human rights' activities?

A: Human rights organizations in Yemen are an integral part of the Arab as well as international human right movements. Unfortunately, female human rights activists are exposed to harassment and challenges by the authorities. Arab female human rights activists also are exposed to pressures and harassment.

Initially we felt proud of women's good conditions in Yemen. This has changed. Indeed, I have myself been a victim of insults and harassment. Only recently have recently threatened telephone calls or letters. I have been threatened by two unknown persons who broke into the WFRT's main office in Taiz. They have been arrested and released without interrogation. Through the Yemen Times, I would like to take the opportunity to request that the unknown persons who broke into the WFRT's campus be interrogated by the political security office in Taiz.

Q: Any last comment?

A: We are very grateful to the Yemen Times newspaper for its strenuous efforts in dealing with vital issues in the field of human rights in general and women in particular.

Taj International Hotels the Best in Business

By MUJAHED AL-MUSSA'ABI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Ms Monica Lakhmana, General Manager - Operations, International Division for Taj chain of Hotels was in Yemen for business. To know more about Taj International Hotels their business and services offered by them, Mujahed Al Mussa'abi met Ms Monica and filed the following excerpt from the interview.

Q: Could you please tell us about Taj International Hotels business?

A: Well, we have more than 60 International Hotels all over the world in India, Sri Lanka, Maldives, Africa, Nepal, and in the Middle East like Dubai, Oman, & Sana'a. We own 51 Buckingham Gate an all apartment hotel and St. James Court-Crown Plaza in London. Our chain of hotels has over 11000 employees. The portfolio of our hotels is mixed, we own hotels and offer management expertise. The latest offering from the Taj Group is the world class resort in the Indian Ocean Taj Exotica Resort & Spa. It is an out and out luxurious resort in Maldives and will open in July 2002.

Maldives is a destination where one can discover the sunny side of life. With its scenic beauty, breathtaking under water coral gardens and pristine white beaches, it is a real paradise. Enveloped within the bounties of nature is the Taj Exotica Resort & Spa, which presents an ideal refuge far away from the mundane world of noise and clutter. It is located in the center of one of Maldives largest lagoons. We plan to create a niche market for this resort and will offer a diving center, health club, and SPA.

Q: Has the September 11 events affected the Taj Hotels?

A: Of course, the whole world was

affected by these incidents including the Taj Hotels, but it was for a limited time, now we have bounced back to much stronger business levels and lot of activity. The Taj Palace in Dubai has set records that are unmatched by achieving one of Dubai's highest occupancy levels continuously for the last 6 months in the range of 90 % to 96 % occupancy. In addition, the Taj Sheba in Sana'a is the leader in the market and since our guests are mostly businessmen, we have been able to survive though tourism is on the decline in Yemen. Our strengths have always been our ability to offer excellent warm personalized services to our guests and hence they always feel they are at a home away from home and that they trust the Taj brand everywhere they travel.

Q: How do you view tourism in Yemen during your visit?

A: I have been to many fantastic places like the Rock palace and old Sana'a. I am fascinated by the city and its architecture. Yemenis have a rich heritage and they keep close to their origin. Sana'a has maintained its lovely architecture and its good to see that there still exists a place not enveloped by modernization. There are many tourist attractions with tremendous potential. I am sure that tourism in Yemen has a bright future and it will be on the path of revival shortly. The hospitality of Yemeni people is very gentle and extremely polite, especially with women, they are very self-contained. I



Monica Lakhmana

loved the Yemeni food and the experience was unique. The Makhbaza bread and lamha haneed was delicious and the way people eat together is heart warming.

Q: What is the future plans for



Taj Palace Hotel in Dubai, a pride of the Taj Hotels chain

your hotel here in Yemen?

A: We are happy with the Taj Sheba in Sana'a, but we are thinking about Aden as a new destination by the sea. We have a base property in Dubai from which we can manage our business in the Middle East.

Q: Any further comments?

A: We would like people from Yemen to visit India and try our fine Hotels. They can book from our hotel the Taj Sheba. While closing I would like to add that we maintain high standards of service in our hotels, we are going to organize training courses for the staff of Taj Sheba in India, to constantly upgrade skills and knowledge and offer hospitality that is legendary.



An Executive Room in the Taj Palace Hotel, Dubai

Continued from Last Page

New book identifies ancient Marib as the capital of the Queen of Sheba

The book describes the complex relationship of Ethiopia and Yemen as "similar to the Trojans and the Greeks, a cultural dialectic that gave birth to new languages, new civilizations, and new technologies." An attack in 570 A.D. by Ethiopians riding war-elephants fatally weakened the Kingdom of Sheba. The final blow came from a Persian invasion in 575 A.D. The Marib dam was utterly destroyed, until a new dam was erected in its place in the 1980s with the help of Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Aal Nahyan, President of the United Arab Emirates, whose family, like many in present-day Yemen, are descended from Sabaeans.

From Ethiopia, the author concluded his study with the ruined city of Ephesus in Turkey. Ephesus, like Marib, is mentioned repeatedly in the Bible as one of the great cities of the ancient world. Ephesus is also the site of a pagan cult dedicated to Artemis, the Greek goddess of the moon. The book argues that a prehistoric mystery religion once dominated the entire Middle East, a pagan cult far older than the Greek's idea of "movie star divinities" who acted out in "celestial soap operas" in the late phase of Classical times. This mythic substrata was ruled by a strange poly-sexual

god/goddess called Il-Muqah in South Arabia; the Greeks called this divinity Cybele. "This supreme being was conceived as the union of all opposites," Frolick says, "Male and female, the sun and the moon, time and eternity."

In Turkey, Frolick discovered marble tombs carved with the symbol of a solar disk over a crescent moon, which is also a key symbol of Marib's ancient temples. The reason for this widespread pagan culture he speculates is because the Middle East societies were forced to deal with major climatic changes of the post-Ice Age era, circa 5000 BC. First, the world was flooded with melting ice waters, then it began drying up. This changing climate forced people to develop major water-engineering projects as in Egypt, Mesopotamia, and Marib. "Marib was a high-tech city of its time in the early Iron Age", the author states, "Like Silicon Valley, but based on controlling water instead of electricity." In the book's conclusion, Frolick, who holds degrees in both Anthropology and Law from the University of Toronto, sets out a novel linguistic theory that connects the name Saba with Cybele, and suggests that this was the original name of the Great Goddess common to both ancient Indo-European and

Semitic peoples. "In Arabic, the name 'Saba' means 'morning,' an appropriate name for ruler of the dawn of Civilization." Cybele-Saba ruled the life-giving waters, he contends, which is why the Queen of Sheba is forever associated with water. "Water is the great underlying message of the story Solomon and Sheba in the Holy Quran. The control of water makes our civilization."

In an interview Frolick said he keenly enjoyed his trip to Yemen. He sings the country's other praises as well. "The people are extremely hospitable; and moreover, Yemeni food is delicious. I have never eaten so well - wild honey, freshly baked bread, the roast lamb and halvah. This is what the Bible calls a feast!"

Ten Thousand Scorpions takes its title from the Yemen island of Soqatra, the home of a flesh-eating centipede whose bite is said to be "deadlier than ten thousand scorpions." But it is also a reference to the romantic imagination of poets like Mohammed Al-Hakimi, whose award-winning poetry is quoted in the book as well.

Ten Thousand Scorpions is published by McClelland and Stewart, a leading Canadian publisher of history and non-fiction.

Dinner party on the Golden Jubilee of Elizabeth II

The British Ambassador to Yemen, Ms Frances Guy, organized a dinner party on Saturday June 15 on the occasion of the British Queen, Elizabeth II Golden Jubilee celebration. The party was attended by Diplomats, ambassadors, politicians, pressmen and many Yemeni officials. The Yemeni government was represented by Mr. Alawi Al Atass, State Minister for Parliament and Shoura Affairs. In her speech, Ms Frances Guy, praised the Yemeni participation in this celebrations in London which witnessed a large Exhibition on Yemen in the British Museum titled "The Queen of Sheba: Treasures of the Ancient Yemeni Heritage".

"The Yemeni-British relations were very different 50 years ago, but now it witnessed much developments; in both countries, the average ages, the number of children joining the school has raised rapidly, the woman is sharing in the political life more actively and our countries witnessing a specific political stability nowadays. So, we should do our best to develop our future relations and I hope the current Exhibition in London will enhance more visiting chances between our countries". The British Ambassador said.



Frances Guy

Yemen is tops in anti-money-laundering legislation

The governor of the Central Bank of Yemen (CBY), Ahmed Assamawi, said that Yemen is leader in enacting anti-money laundering legislation.

"The International Monetary Fund has classified Yemen as one of the 30 countries adhering to the UN Security Council's resolutions related to fighting terrorism and freezing suspected accounts from 120 countries worldwide," Assamawi told the 26 September newspaper, the voice of Yemen's armed forces last Thursday.

Assamawi considered the anti-money-laundering legislation, approved last week by the cabinet, as of the best legislation's in the Arab world.

The law included clear-cut articles which deemed kidnapping, banditry,

robbery, embezzlement, bribery, fraud, smuggling, tax evasion, illegal arm trade and drug trafficking as forms of money laundering.

Assamawi added that Yemen is not a safe place for money laundering, and Yemen has no problem related with major international crimes like drug and arms trafficking. He pointed out that the new law includes deterrent punishments for persons convicted with money laundering.

CBY issued a circular following the September 11 attacks ordering banks and money exchange shops to verify the identity of their clients and demand related documents. CBY also banned opening alias accounts and converting more than USD ten thousand before verifying the sender's identity.

Female Prisoner's conditions to be discussed

Under the auspices of the Minister of Human Rights, Dr. Waheeba Fara'e and the Red Cross is organizing a seminar on Assisting Female Prisoners in Yemen to be held on July 3 2002.

The seminar will discuss the role of the Red Cross assisting female prisoners in Yemen and challenges that they might face. A number of societies and organizations have been entrusted with the responsibility to aid female prisoners. These groups include the Arab Sisters Forum, the National Women Committee, the Human Rights for Information & Training Center, Yemen Women's Union, Aden and the Yemeni Red Cross, Hodiedah. A number of people involved with this field will participate in the seminar.



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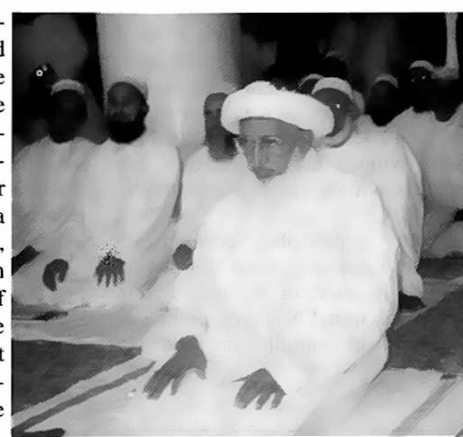
Continued from page 1:

Burhannuddin in Yemen

The Dawdi Bohra community has largely been modeled into its present forms by the two Dais who have led the community in the 12th century. The first Dai, the celebrated Dr. Sayyadina Tahir Saifuddin (1955-1965) was a scholar, prolific writer, a poet, a capable organizer and a man of vision. During his period of 50 years, he revitalized the community and guided it through the tumultuous period of the World Wars and the independence of nations.

The present Dai, Dr. Sayyadina, Mohammed Burhannuddin has continued his predecessor's endeavors with particular emphasis on strengthening the community's Islamic practices and on the promotion of its Fatimid heritage.

There is a strong learning tradition amongst the Dawdi Bohras, their Dais usually prolific writers and orators. The Dawdi Bohras number about a million and reside in India, Pakistan, the Middle East, East Africa, and the West.



Dr. Waheeba Fara'e

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

c- Torture and other cruel, inhuman treatment of punishment

At the beginning of this point there was mentioned that "The Constitution is ambiguous regarding the prohibition of cruel or inhuman punishment."

The Yemeni constitution is never ambiguous but rather stipulated many necessary guarantees and the valid laws have given enough protection of human rights, most important is his right to security and life, which agrees to great extent with international guarantees set up to ensure protection of the rights of persons facing the death sentence, as approved by decision of the economic and social council 1984, dated 25 May 1984 in its nine articles published in (International Documents Collection), the United Nations-New York 1993. Yemen is one of more than 90 countries that did not sign on the voluntary protocol, annexed to International Covenant on Civil and Political rights on cancellation of death penalty. As the human right to security and life comes at the forefront of his personal freedom on which all his rights are based, we point here to the more important guarantees and protection the constitution has secured and stipulated in the above mentioned valid laws as follows:

Article 48, paragraph (a) of the constitution stipulated (The state secures for the citizens their personal freedom and preserves their dignity and security. The law defines the cases in which the citizen's freedom is restricted and it is not allowed to limit

the freedom any one but under judgment of a specialized court.) Also article (11) of the punitive measures law does stipulates on this.

Article 47 of the constitution stipulates that (criminal responsibility is personal and there would be no crime or punishment unless upon a legal text and each accused is innocent until proved guilty with a decisive judicial decision and it is not permitted to enact a law punishing any acts by retroactive effect). The same rules are stipulated in articles 2, 3, 4 of the law of penal procedures.

To protect the human right to life against any suppression, article 234 of criminal and punishment law mentioned the cases where people are sentenced to death as follows:

- He who purposefully kills a guiltless person, would be punished by death sentence, on condition that his blood relative demands that and there should be a lawful evidence. Confirmation of death sentence is permitted if the guilty was known of being evil, or committed the murder in a savage way or killed two or more persons.

- Article 434, punitive procedures stipulated that (If the death sentence, or castigation would consequently cause eliminating the soul or part of the body, the prosecution, even without challenge of any of the litigants, should refer the case to the supreme court supported with a memorandum indicating its opinion. The court in this instance is permitted to consider theme of the case.)

- Article 469, punitive procedures mentions that execution of judgments in any crime is not allowed unless in

accordance with an irrevocable sentence of an obligatory execution issued by a competent court.

Article 479, punitive procedures indicated that judgments of capital punishment or castigation issued against he who is convicted should not be implemented but after approval of president of the republic on the judgment.

Article 480, punitive procedures mentions that the president of the republic issues a decree on implementation of the sentence by punishments or castigations, but concerning the death sentence there could be a decision taken either on the execution, or changing the punishment or issuing a pardon for the convicted.

Article 484 and others pertaining to punitive procedures have also stated non-execution of death or castigation punishments causing loss of life or part of the body on official national days, and days marking festivities of the convicted religion. The execution is postponed for the expectant women till she gives birth, and the suckling mother till she finishes feeding her infant for two years and there exists a custodian person, and the woman is put in prison till the time of execution.

The constitution and valid laws have offered more safeguards and protection in a manner preserving human security and dignity and not to allow his arrest or search or detention unless he is caught red-handed or under an order dictating necessity of investigation issued by a judge or general prosecution pursuant to rules of the law. The constitution has also not allowed watching or seeking information about

a person unless according to the law. It has also banned physical, or psychological or moral torture and also coercive confession during interrogation. It has prevented imprisoning or detaining any person in places not subject to prisons law. There is the prohibition of torture and inhuman treatment at the time of arrest or during detention or imprisonment. Other safeguards contained in texts of the constitution and laws are those in paragraphs (b, c, d, h.) of article 48 of the constitution and articles stipulated in rules of punitive procedures No's (6, 7, 13, 70, 71, 72, 73, 76, 77, 172, 176, 184, 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, 190, 191, 192, 193).

And what the criminal law in its articles (166, 167, 168, 169, 246, 247.)

The report mentioned some incidents related to execution of punishments against theft and adultery against two persons convicted by court.

Penalty is in the core of rules of Islamic law. The Yemeni people are Muslim and accepted the Islamic law as a style, program and system for judgment, and consequently no one is allowed to force his wish instead of the nation's will. Execution of these penalties is performed in the narrowest scope and particularly in egregious crimes against security, the regime, public stability, morals of he nation and her high beliefs and values. Yemen is one of 94 countries that did not sign the protocol on canceling the death penalty and nevertheless it is committed to the nine guarantees included in the various national legislations above mentioned.

The report mentions that "Authorities in some cases arrest

without charge and imprison refugees, persons with mental disabilities, and illegal immigrants and place them in prisons with common criminals."

Refugees rights are safeguarded in the constitution. Yemen deals with refugees out of a religious and human standpoint. Accordingly, Yemen has signed and approved many conventions and agreements in this regard. Upon this stand the refugees in Yemen entertain all their legal rights. As for those with mental disabilities, it is incorrect that they are placed in prisons with common criminals because there are sanitariums and psychiatric centers to accommodate and treat such cases. Maybe closeness of those institutions to prison buildings made preparatory of the report confuses between them and those prisons. It is no secret that the limited number of such sanitariums and centers constitutes a concern for the government. As for the illegal immigrants they are treated according to the law. They are retained and then deported via their countries' embassies or through specialized organizations in a manner securing their dignity.

The report mentions that "The president appointed a high-level inter-ministerial committee, chaired by the minister of interior, to inspect all major prisons in the country."

Pursuant to the president's directives a high-level committee chaired by head of the supreme court, head of the presidency office as vice-chairman, and interior minister, minister of justice and general prosecutor as members was formed to inspect and investigate

into conditions of prisons and prisoners. In addition, there is a sub-committee at the level of governorates and representatives of concerned sides at the higher committee. There is a regular and continual inspection of prisons by heads, deputies and members of general prosecutions in areas under their own jurisdiction.

The report also mentions that "The government tightly controls access to detention facilities by NGO's"

This paragraph is far from being true because the NGO's that are active in human rights activities and part of their programs is following up conditions of prisoners, usually perform their role in coordination with prisons administrations and are not prevented from entering prisons but rather are granted all facilities. This is because upgrading situation of prisons represents a common target and needs joining efforts among all parties including NGOs.

At the end of the same paragraph it was mentioned that "Political Security Organization does not permit access to its detention centers."

To make it clear there are no centers for detention inside the PSO and it does not exceeds its authorities granted to it according to the law pertaining to men of judicial monitoring. Those who are detained after having strong available suspicions or authenticated information, causing damage to security and safety of the state, they are detained in places allocated according to prisons' law in cooperation with the ministry of interior. These are places authorized by the law on arrest and detention. part VI is to appear in the next issue.



Iraq says citizen injured in U.S., British raids

BAGHDAD, (Xinhua) — An Iraqi citizen was injured when warplanes of the United States and Britain bombed southern Iraq on Friday, an Iraqi military spokesman said. The spokesman told the official Iraqi News Agency (INA) that on Friday morning, U.S. and British planes crossed into Iraqi airspace from their bases in Kuwait and bombed "civil and service" installations in Misan Province, leading to the civilian injury.

Iraqi air defense artillery opened fire at the hostile planes and forced them to flee away, the spokesman added. The United States has confirmed Friday's air strikes, but said the coalition planes bombed military facilities in southern Iraq. Misan Province was hit by U.S. and British jets on June 20

and Iraq said four civilians were killed and 10 others wounded.

The Province has been included inside the so-called southern no-fly zone, along with a similar one in northern Iraq. U.S. and British planes have been patrolling the two no-fly zones since the 1991 Gulf War with the claimed aim of protecting the Kurds in the north and Shiite Muslims in the south from the persecution of the Iraqi government. Iraq does not recognize the air exclusion zones and has regularly opened fire at the Western planes enforcing the two no-fly zones.

U.S. President George W. Bush has branded Iraq as part of an "axis of evil" and strongly warned that Iraq may become the next target of the United States-led war on terrorism.

Palestinian police HQ blown up in Hebron

HEBRON, West Bank, (Reuters) - Israeli troops blew up a part of the Palestinian Authority police headquarters in Hebron where the army said about 15 Palestinian militants had been hiding and had refused to surrender.

"The (army) operated in the Palestinians' security compound and detonated in a controlled manner a part of the building where wanted Palestinians were taking refuge and refused to turn themselves in," the army said in a statement early on Saturday.

There was no official word on casualties. Israeli Army Radio said it was likely the militants were dead under the rubble after military engineers detonated two tonnes of explosives to destroy the structure.

A Reuters cameraman in Hebron said a massive blast had shattered the police headquarters in the West Bank city after dark on Friday after Israeli troops were seen entering the building. "There was a big, big explosion that has destroyed most of the headquarters and has damaged other buildings around it," he said.

The cameraman saw soldiers with flashlights moving inside the headquarters some four hours after the explosion while army vehicles brought up reinforcements.

Hebron is the seventh West Bank city to be reoccupied by the army, which has placed more than 600,000 Palestinians under curfew after a series of suicide bombings.

Israeli tank shells had smashed a hole in the outer wall of the Hebron police headquarters earlier on Friday and bulldozers had moved in to widen the breach.

A former Palestinian minister who had gone in to urge the gunmen thought to be inside to surrender said he had found no one there. "It is a big

place. I did not see anyone..." Talal Seder told Abu Dhabi television.

Pressure on Arafat

Israeli troops are now also stationed in six other West Bank cities — Ramallah, Bethlehem, Nablus, Jenin, Qalqilya and Tulkarm — as they search for militants and carry out operations they say are aimed at destroying the "infrastructure of terror". Palestinian President Yasser Arafat has come under growing international pressure to reform his Authority.

In a communique issued after a summit in Canada, the Group of Eight (G8) industrial nations said Palestinians must adopt democracy. They did not echo U.S. President George W. Bush's call this week for Arafat to be replaced as Palestinian leader. But Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien said that, while some leaders disagreed with elements of Bush's plan to end the Middle East crisis, "collectively we were all happy that he has taken this initiative". In Washington, State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said envoys from the Middle East "quartet" — the United States, Russia, the European Union and the United Nations — aimed to meet on Tuesday to decide steps to support and implement Bush's vision.

Bush said this week that Arafat must be replaced by a leader "uncompromised by terror," and that U.S. financial aid to Palestinians depended on reforms and rejection of "terrorism."

The Palestinians have said they will hold elections in January, which opinion polls indicate Arafat is likely to win.

At least 1,427 Palestinians and 548 Israelis have been killed since the Palestinian uprising against Israeli occupation erupted in September 2000 after peace talks stalled.



Two Israeli soldiers search through the rubble of the flattened Palestinian Police building June 29, 2002 in the West Bank city of Hebron. Israeli troops reduced the building to rubble in two massive explosions triggered against 15 militants that had taken refuge inside and refused to surrender. The fate of the wanted Palestinians is unclear. REUTERS

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Speedmaster saves Apollo journey from imminent peril

Since the historic Apollo-Soyuz space rendezvous in July 1975, the Russians have also made the Speedmaster the official chronograph of all their manned space missions. The book "The Moon Watch" tells in 160 richly illustrated pages where, when, how and why this legendary timepiece - the one and only watch ever worn on the Moon - was conceived in 1942, flight-qualified by NASA and generated a dynasty of world-renowned chronographs. One particularly crucial moment was the April 1970 rescue of the Apollo 13 mission from a potential disaster, earning Omega the "Snoopy Award", the highest distinction of honor awarded by the NASA astronauts. The mission became the subject of Ron Howard's exciting film "Apollo 13" starring Tom Hanks as Commander James Lovell.

سيبدماستر تنقذ رحلة أبولو ١٣ من خطر محقق

منذ أن التهمت المركبة الأمريكية أبولو مع المركبة الروسية سويوز في الفضاء، يوليو / تموز ١٩٧٥، أخذ الروس باعتبار سيبدماستر رسمياً في جميع رحلاتهم المأهولة إلى الفضاء. الكتاب "ساعة القمر" يسرد علينا في ١٦٠ صفحة مع إيضاحات مصورة أين ومتى وكيف ولماذا تطلبت فكرة ابتداء أوميغا سيبدماستر عام ١٩٤٢، هذه الساعة الأسطورية الوحيدة التي قررت وكالة الفضاء "ناسا" اعتمادها في رحلات الفضاء. المأمولة والتي ابتقت عنها سلاسل من الساعات الكرونوغرافية العالمية الشهيرة. وهنا نستعيد تلك اللحظة الحاسمة التي يعود الفضل فيها إلى سيبدماستر بإنقاذ رحلة أبولو ١٣ من خطر محقق تعرضت له المركبة الفضائية عام ١٩٧٠، وفي أعقاب هذا الحدث المرموق، نالت أوميغا جائزة "سبنوي"، أرفع وسام فخري يقدمه رواد "ناسا". وقد انتشر رين هارود أحداث تلك الرحلة في إخراج الفيلم الشهير "أبولو ١٣"، بطولة توم هانكس الذي لعب دور جيمس لوفيل، قائد المركبة الفضائية.



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Saudis to visit Guantanamo Bay detainees - paper

RIYADH, June 29 (Reuters) - Saudi Arabia has sent a team to a U.S. military base in Cuba to visit about 100 Saudi nationals held on suspicion of links with "terrorism", a Saudi newspaper reported on Saturday. Al-Watan daily quoted a government official as saying the team of interior and foreign ministry officials had left Saudi Arabia on Friday to "check on the conditions of the Saudis" held at the Guantanamo Bay base. He declined to give further information on the composition of the team, when

they will meet the detainees or the duration of the visit. Deputy Interior Minister Prince Ahmad bin Abdul-Aziz earlier this month complained the United States had yet to grant the kingdom direct access to the inmates, suspected of links with Saudi-born dissident Osama bin Laden's al Qaeda group. The United States blames al Qaeda for the September 11 attacks on New York and Washington. Prince Ahmad said he had recently met representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross in the

kingdom to inquire about Saudi nationals among more than 400 prisoners at the base. The prince said some Saudi inmates had exchanged letters with relatives through the Red Cross. The prisoners were captured during the U.S.-led war against al Qaeda and the Taliban government that harboured them in Afghanistan. Saudi Arabia said in January that about 100 Saudi men were being held at the base and that it wanted all Saudi suspects handed over to Riyadh when U.S. authorities had "finished with them".

Ethiopia says it has killed 20 rebels, seized 227

ADDIS ABABA, June 29 (Reuters) - Ethiopia said on Saturday that government troops had killed 20 Oromo Liberation Front (OLF) rebels and captured another 227, accusing neighbouring Eritrea of training the insurgents. The OLF rebels, waging an independence struggle for the southern Oromo region, said on Wednesday they had killed more than 300 Ethiopian government troops in the last week after stepping up their military campaign.

There was no independent verification of the claims by either the rebels or the government. "The OLF terrorists and their commanders, trained and equipped by the EPLF-led government in Asmara to fight a proxy war and divert the attention of the people from development, have been annihilated in an engagement held on June 18," Ethiopia's Ministry of Information said in a statement.

"Of the 247 OLF terrorists deployed, 227 were captured and 20 who attempted to escape have been killed." The OLF have been fighting the authorities in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa since 1993, saying the government has long discriminated against the Oromo people, Ethiopia's largest ethnic group. The Ethiopian government accuses Eritrea, against which it fought a 1998-2000 border war, of supporting the rebels.

Kuwait: Half the execution of three Bangladeshi migrants

KUWAIT, (Reuters) - In a letter sent on 25 June to Amir of Kuwait Jaber al-Sabah, Amnesty International urged the Kuwaiti authorities to suspend the imminent execution of Mohammed Zahar Abdul Sattar, Anwar al-Zamaan and Anwar Khan Mohammed, migrant workers from Bangladesh, who have been sentenced to death in connection with a rape and murder of Sri Lankan national, after a grossly unfair trial according to one of their lawyers.

Their execution is currently scheduled to take place tomorrow, Wednesday 26 June, 2002, at eight o'clock in the morning, at Nayef Palace, Kuwait city.

One of their lawyers has stated that while in detention all three men were repeatedly beaten; that their legs were bound and soles of their feet beaten bloody by a baton and no medical attention was ever made available to them. He also added that they did not understand the lower court proceedings, which resulted in sentences to life imprisonment for all three men, nor the appeal court hearings, which concluded that they should be put to death.

Amnesty International recognizes the rights and responsibilities of governments to bring to justice those suspected of criminal offences, but is unconditionally opposed to the death

penalty in all cases, as the ultimate violation of the right to life.

June Ray, Middle East Program Director, said: "The decision to proceed with the execution of these individual files in the face of the progress represented by Kuwait's accession in 1996 to the International Covenant Civil and Political rights"

"Plans to execute these three men must be immediately halted and an investigation initiated into allegations of torture while in detention. The authorities should find out whether the accused understood the court procedures they face" she added.

Amnesty Int'l to Visit Morocco

RABBAT, (Reuters) - As part of Amnesty International's ongoing work on the human rights situation in Morocco/Western Sahara, an Amnesty International delegation has begun on Monday a two-week research mission to Morocco / Western Sahara.

The delegation will focus on the pressing issue of "disappearance" in which the cases of several hundred people, most of them Sahrawis, who "disappeared" at the hands of the Moroccan security services between the 1990s and early 1990s remain unresolved.

During their visit, the delegates will also meet members of the human rights community and civil society activities on other issues, including recent allegations of torture or ill-treatment by the security forces and human rights abuses in Polisario camps.

Kenya's Moi backs calls to delay elections

NAIROBI, June 29 (Reuters) - Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi has backed proposals likely to postpone elections expected later this year in a move analysts say is designed to prolong his 24-year rule beyond constitutional limits. But Moi, one of Africa's longest serving heads of state, pledged to retire after the next elections are held, promising to soon end years of speculation and name a preferred successor.

"The time for my retirement has arrived...after the next general elections," he told tens of thousands of supporters at a rally in the midst of Nairobi's Kamukunji slums.

"I do not take chances, soon I will talk with each of these individually and announce who will take over," he said, gesturing at ranks of senior officials of the ruling party KANU.

Moi said in a speech late on Friday that he backed a KANU plan to give more time to experts writing a new constitution so they could complete their work before the next elections.

Government ministers say the proposals would require postponing polls expected in December 2002. The call has drawn fierce criticism from Kenyans and Western donors who fear Moi will follow other African "Big Men" and try to retain power.

"We consider it would undesirable to extend parliament in order to hold the elections outside the present constitu-



Supporters of Kenya's President Daniel arap Moi hold a placard with his portrait at Kamukunji grounds in Nairobi during a mammoth political rally in Nairobi June 29, 2002. REUTERS

Commission (embassy) spokesman Mark Norton.

Moi said KANU believed a new constitution should be in place before the next elections, according to a report of his Friday evening speech issued by his press service on Saturday.

The 77-year-old leader is considered an unsung hero by admirers for preserving peace in Kenya, but is condemned by critics as a master manipulator who has extended his autocratic rule despite the introduction of multi-party elections in 1992.

Moi is constitutionally barred from seeking re-election. Experts say that, under the current constitution, Moi's term and parliament's life should expire early next year.

Algerian rebels kill 13 bus passengers, wound nine

ALGIERS, June 29 (Reuters) - Suspected rebels killed 13 bus passengers and wounded nine others in Algeria's third such attack this month, government media reported on Saturday.

Attackers sprayed the bus with machine guns on Friday night. It was travelling in a district on a southern outskirts of the capital, Algiers, called Les Eucalyptus.

The government-run radio, quoting witnesses, said there were five or six attackers, suspected of being radical Islamists.

The official Algerian news agency APS said the casualty toll was provisional. Twelve bus passengers were killed and nine wounded in a similar attack 17 days ago in Medea, a town about 70 km (45 miles) south of Algiers.

On Thursday, two suspected rebels shot dead a bus driver and one passenger at the coastal area of Bou Ismail, 40 km west of Algiers.

Friday night's attack brought to more than 600 the number of civilians slain in bombings and other attacks in the last six months, according to official reports. The government blames Islamic rebels for the deaths.



A man sweeps glass shards and blood from the floor of a bus in June 29, 2002 after attackers sprayed the bus with machine guns of Friday night as it was travelling in a district on the southern outskirts of the capital Algiers, called Les Eucalyptus. Suspected rebels killed 13 bus passengers and wounded nine others in Algeria's third such attack this month, government media reported on Saturday. REUTERS

Algeria has been torn by violence since early 1992, when the authorities cancelled a parliamentary election that radical Islamists had been poised to win.

More than 100,000 people have been killed since then, the government says. Independent sources estimate deaths at up to 150,000.

Legislators urge date for Pan-African Parliament

CAPE TOWN, June 28 (Reuters) - African legislators resolved on Friday to urge the inaugural meeting of the new African Union (AU) in July to decide a venue for a proposed Pan-African Parliament and to set a date for its launch.

More than 150 legislators from most of Africa's parliaments, many of them appointed or indirectly elected, spent two days debating the role and powers of the proposed assembly without reaching a clear consensus.

But Naledi Pandor, head of South Africa's National Council of Provinces, equivalent to a senate, said afterwards there was an agreement that a Pan-African Parliament would help the continent break the cycles of war and poverty that hold it back.

"I did not hear anyone express any doubt about the idea of a Pan-African Parliament. I think we were all saying we are ready to go ahead," she said.

The parliament is part of the proposed structure of the African Union, which will replace the Organisation of African Union at a summit in the South African port of Durban in July. So far, however, only three African parliaments have ratified the protocol. At least 28 must approve it before it can go ahead. Eddy Maloka, head of the independent Africa Institute, told Reuters the proposed parliament could help to draw African nations towards a common standard of government.

"I think this meeting has helped to re-energise parliamentarians to go back to their own countries and start the ratification process. "We are going to see a much more rapid movement towards the operationalisation of the Pan-African Parliament," he said.

NOT JUST A TALKSHOP

Frene Ginwala, speaker of the South African parliament, dismissed media speculation that the 1.6 million rand (\$155,000) meeting was a meaningless talk shop and that the commitments to democracy made by almost every delegation were worthless.

Saudis against Arafat ouster, intelligence boss says

DUBAI, June 29

(Reuters) - Saudi Arabia, Washington's main Gulf Arab ally, opposes replacing Palestinian President Yasser Arafat, the head of Saudi intelligence was quoted as saying in an interview published on Saturday.

Prince Nawaf bin Abdul-Aziz also told the London-based Asharq al-Awsat newspaper that U.S. President George W. Bush risked complicating Middle East peace efforts by demanding that Palestinians dump their long-time leader.

"The kingdom is against any intervention in the internal affairs of the Palestinians. We must leave it to them to decide who their president is and not to have any power such as the United States impose one on them," Prince Nawaf said.

"When it (the U.S.) says it does not want the current Palestinian leadership, it becomes a party (to the conflict) and this complicates the path of peace rather than facilitating it," he added.



Yasser Arafat

In a speech spelling out his Middle East vision, Bush on Monday called for a new Palestinian leadership to pave the way for the creation of a Palestinian state alongside Israel and a final settlement within three years.

Asked if Saudi Arabia could help persuade Arafat to step down, Prince Nawaf said: "No,

not at all. The kingdom will not take part in this and will never accept it. As I have told you, the kingdom is against this demand."

Arafat has called elections for January 2003 and declared himself a candidate. The oil-rich kingdom, which has been playing an increasing role in Middle East peace efforts, has welcomed some aspects of the Bush plan but said it was disappointed the president had not criticised Israeli policies. Saudi Arabia's de facto ruler Crown Prince Abdullah earlier this year sponsored a Middle East peace plan calling for Arab states to normalise ties with Israel in return for full withdrawal from Arab lands occupied in the 1967 Middle East war.

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S.Korea Defence Ministry demands apology from North Korea

SEOUL, (Reuters) - Following is a Reuters translation of the text of a statement issued by South Korea's Defence Ministry on Saturday after a clash between naval ships of North and South Korea. Four South Koreans died, 18 were injured and a South Korean vessel was sunk in the gun battle.

"At 9.54 a.m. (0054 GMT) on June 29, two North Korean patrol vessels intruded the Northern Limit Line and in response to our request that they retreat, they viciously initiated a gunfire attack. In the process, our side suffered grave damage.

This behaviour by North Korea's military is a blatant violation of the

armistice agreement and a complete betrayal of an agreement made at the first South-North defence ministers' meeting (in September 2000) to make efforts to ease military tensions.

Our government solemnly protests and strongly demands an apology and punishment of those responsible for this unreasonable provocation which we cannot overlook.

We again implore the North Korean military to cease violations of the Northern Limit Line and provocative acts, and make unmistakably clear that the entire responsibility for this incident lies with North Korea."



South Korean President Kim Dae-jung (R) and Foreign Minister Choi Sung-hong (L) offer a moment of silent for the dead soldiers before an emergency meeting of the National Security Council at the presidential Blue House in Seoul June 29, 2002. Four South Korean sailors were killed and 18 wounded in a clash with North Korean patrol boats on Saturday that posed a fresh challenge to the South's policy of reconciliation with the communist North, South Korea said. REUTERS

Pakistan lists 10 most wanted militants

BY IMRAN MAQBOOL

KARACHI, (Reuters) - Pakistan issued a "most wanted" list of 10 suspected Islamic militants on Saturday and offered big rewards for their capture in connection with the killing of U.S. reporter Daniel Pearl and the bombing of Western targets.

Police posted in newspapers rewards totalling 20 million rupees (\$330,000) along with photographs of the 10 men.

Several of the suspects were named as members of the banned Lashkar-e-Janghi group, a Sunni Muslim movement that police have previously associated with sectarian killings of minority Shi'ite Muslim Pakistanis, rather than with attacks on foreigners.

Top of the list was Asif Ramzi, a former leader of the group named as a suspect in the murder of Pearl, a reporter for the Wall Street Journal who was kidnapped in the southern port city of Karachi in January and subsequently killed.

The list also named suspects for the first time in a suicide bombing outside the U.S. consulate in Karachi that killed 12 Pakistanis on June 14 and in the bombing of a bus in the city on May 8 that killed 11 French engineers and two Pakistanis.

A man identified as Sharib was named as a suspect in both bombings. A second man, named as Navedul Hassan, was listed in connection with the attack on the U.S. consulate.

Other wanted men whose photographs appeared included three unnamed associates of Ramzi, two unidentified Lashkar-e-Janghi activists and a man named as Abdul Rehman Sindhi.

Sindhi was named as an associate of Saud Memon, a fugitive businessman police say is the owner of land on the outskirts of Karachi where a body was found that investigators believe may be that of Pearl.

Clues Pursued

The police chief for Sindh Province, Syed Kamal Shah, said some of the suspects named in Saturday's newspaper

Most Wanted

1. Wanted in Daniel Pearl Murder Case. 2. Wanted in Sectarian Killings.

Abdul Rehman Sindhi, Reward Rs. 1.5 Million; Asif Ramzi, Reward Rs. 2 Million; Abdul Rehman Sindhi, Reward Rs. 1.5 Million; Asif Ramzi, Reward Rs. 2 Million; Abdul Rehman Sindhi, Reward Rs. 1.5 Million; Asif Ramzi, Reward Rs. 2 Million; Abdul Rehman Sindhi, Reward Rs. 1.5 Million; Asif Ramzi, Reward Rs. 2 Million; Abdul Rehman Sindhi, Reward Rs. 1.5 Million; Asif Ramzi, Reward Rs. 2 Million.

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Abdulrazzaquec@hotmail.com

A hand out issued by the Pakistani authorities to the local newspapers shows the pictures of the most wanted a terrorists in the recent bombing incident in the country. The reward of millions of Pakistani Rupees has also been announced for any information of their whereabouts. At least 12 French engineers and half a dozen Pakistanis were killed in two separate incidents of car bombings outside a five star hotel and the U.S. consulate in Karachi on May 8 and June 14, 2002. Reuters

advertisement had previously been wanted for sectarian killings.

"Some of the names have been added after the recent attacks," Shah told Reuters. "We have some clues about these people and we are developing these clues."

Individual rewards ranged as high as three million rupees (\$50,000) in the case of Ramzi and two other suspects.

Pakistan's President General Pervez Musharraf is battling a string of militant groups blamed for a decade of sectarian violence and also faces pressure from India, which accuses Pakistan of supporting separatists in disputed Kashmir.

Many militants have turned their sights on Musharraf's government since

he sided with the United States last year in its war on terrorism, abandoning the then Taliban government in Afghanistan over its support for Saudi-born Osama bin Laden's al Qaeda network.

Musharraf banned Lashkar-e-Janghi and another militant group last year, then outlawed a further five extremist movements in January when police arrested over 2,000 suspected activists. Many of those detained were subsequently freed.

Four men are already on trial in Pakistan for the abduction and murder of Pearl, including the alleged mastermind Amar Omar Saeed Sheikh, a British-born Islamic militant also known as Sheikh Omar. All four have

denied the charges against them.

Pearl disappeared in Karachi on January 23 while working on a story about Islamic militants. A month after he went missing, a gruesome video showing Pearl had been murdered was delivered to U.S. consulate officials in Karachi.

Police found a body, believed to that of Pearl, in a shallow grave on the outskirts of Karachi last month but they have not yet confirmed whether it was the U.S. reporter.

Shah said investigators were awaiting the results of DNA genetic identification tests on the remains that were being carried out in the United States.

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

1. "Project Management Specialist"

The position is located in the Econ/Commercial Section, American Embassy, under the general supervision of the Economic Officer. Employee will be responsible for assessing and reporting the effectiveness of Embassy-sponsored health projects and assist in defining areas of needed technological assistance in the health sector.

Desired Qualifications

Education: Must be a graduate from an accredited school of medicine, and also must have at least one post-graduate degree in public health.

Prior work experience: Must be a graduate from an accredited school of medicine, and also must have at least one post-graduate degree in public health.

Language abilities: Level IV English ability (Fluent, written and spoken); Level IV Arabic (fluent) with fluency in medical terminology in both languages is required.

Skills and abilities: Ability to use office computer software for word processing, and database/spreadsheet projects is required. Familiarity with statistical software and software to analyze epidemiological data is desirable.

Able to travel to remote areas of Yemen.

Salary: The minimum starting annual gross salary for this position is between USD10,409 to USD 12,491.

2. Visa Clerk-Sub Cashier

The position is located in the Consular Section, American Embassy, under the general supervision of the Consular Officer. Employee will perform moderately difficult work pertaining to the full range of non-immigrant and immigrant visa services. Services as the MRV fee cashier and consular sub-cashier.

Desired Qualifications

Education: Completion of secondary school is required.

Prior work experience: From one to two years of progressively responsible experience in work involving the application of regulatory material and public contact, or other within the first year of his employment.

Language abilities: Level IV fluent in English and Arabic required. Native level fluency in Arabic, reading, writing and speaking is required.

Skills and abilities: A good working knowledge of applicable laws, regulations and procedures, familiarity with prevailing fraud patterns, and ability to work under constant pressure is required. Level I typing and using personal computer is required.

Salary: The minimum starting annual gross salary for this position is USD5,860.

How to apply: All qualified Yemeni nationals should complete OF-612 (Application form for Employing Foreign Nationals) OR submit a current C.V. with certificates and recommendation letters attached. Applicants could submit the application or C. V. in person to the Embassy's gate or send it to the following address:

Embassy Human Resources Office, American Embassy, Dhahr Himyar Street, P. O. Box 22347, Sana'a, no later than July 09, 2002

Vietnam jails 35, mainly state staff, for smuggling

HANOI, (Reuters) - Vietnam has sentenced 35 people including a state company director to between 12 months and life in jail after finding them guilty of an oil smuggling scam which had cost the state some \$2.2 million, official media reported on Saturday.

The court issued its verdict on Friday in the southern province of Dong Thap bordering Cambodia after a 22-day trial in which prosecutors had sought the death sentence for 25 out of the total 37 defendants, mostly state employees.

The Tuoi Tre (Youth) newspaper said key defendant Mai Van Huy, director of Dong Thap's state-run oil and gas trading firm, was sentenced to life on four charges, including smuggling and embezzling state money to invest in land.

The trial is the latest high-profile crackdown on corruption in Vietnam, which Communist Party chief Nong Duc Manh has called the number-one national issue and vowed to stamp out.

In May foreign businessmen in a meeting with the government called rampant corruption the biggest single obstacle to investment in Vietnam. The paper gave no reason why the 25 people had escaped capital punishment. Court officials could not be reached for comment.

Huy and his accomplices had been accused of bribery and abuse of power in a case involving the illegal sale of petrol and oil products due for export to Cambodia that had caused losses worth some \$2.2 million to the state.

Tuoi Tre said one defendant, who helped Huy in embezzling the state money but later reported the offence to the authorities, had been freed while another was sentenced to 18 months on probation.

Four deputy directors under Huy and the firm's chief accountant received jail

terms of between 20 to eight years while five customs officers got between two and 18 years in prison.

Tuoi Tre said three local journalists received between three and five years in

jail for abusing power.

It did not detail all the sentences given but said the court had ordered Huy to turn in 6.6 billion dong (\$432,503) gained from illegal businesses.

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Bush to be sedated for test, Cheney in charge

WASHINGTON, (Reuters) - U.S. President George W. Bush will transfer power for "a matter of hours" to Vice President Dick Cheney on Saturday while he is sedated for a routine colon check.

White House Counsel Al Gonzales said for only the second time, Section 3 of the 25th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution will be invoked and Cheney will serve as "acting president" while Bush undergoes a colonoscopy at Camp David.

Bush, who turns 56 next week, said doctors had recommended the procedure after two benign polyps were found during two previous colonoscopies — one in July 1998 and the other in December 1999. "I feel great," Bush told reporters on Friday when he made the surprise announcement before boarding a helicopter for the presidential retreat in Maryland's Catoctin mountains. He said he had no signs or symptoms of illness.

The colon screening is considered a standard preventive procedure for men Bush's age. The president is a fitness advocate who runs 3 miles (five km) a day, neither drinks nor smokes and has prodded out-of-shape Americans to follow his example by exercising more and eating less junk food.

"This is part of the annual physical so I just decided to do it at this time," he said. "It fit in with my schedule." Bush said he decided to transfer power to Cheney to be "super cautious" because the country is engaged in a war on terrorism. For security reasons, he declined to say exactly what time the procedure would take place. "He realizes he's not going to be president that long," Bush said with a grin.

The president was in good spirits, wrapping up his announcement by joking with reporters, "So, anyway, I'm glad to be able to share that with you."

Under Section 3 of the 25th Amendment, Bush will submit a declaration in writing to the leaders of the

House of Representatives and the Senate that he is unable to discharge the powers and duties of his office.

When the procedure is over and he has recovered from the sedative, Bush once again will tell congressional leaders in a written declaration that he can resume his duties. The declarations will be faxed on Saturday.

Gonzales said Cheney will assume the duties of the office "for a matter of hours." The only other time this had been done was in July 1985 when President Ronald Reagan underwent surgery for colon cancer, he added.

Cheney's spokeswoman Jennifer Millerwise declined to say where the vice president would be, adding, "He realizes that this is just part of the job and that it is routine."

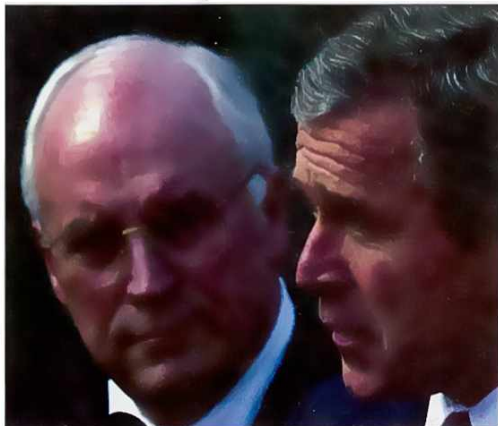
'Preventive medicine'

White House physician Dr. Richard Tubb said the procedure usually took from 30 to 45 minutes. He personally recommended sedation having undergone colonoscopy himself without it.

"I'm going to be sedated for a period of time and will transfer power to the vice president during that time," Bush said. "And I look forward to exercising tomorrow afternoon after the procedure takes place."

Bush would be sedated intravenously with propofol, chosen because it is "ultra short acting" and wears off quickly, Tubb said. The president would be awake two to four minutes after the anesthesia was discontinued.

Tubb said the procedure involved inserting a flexible fiber optic scope to look at the surface of the large intestine or colon that could examine it from



U.S. President George W. Bush will have a colonoscopy June 29, 2002 and will be under sedation while power of the presidency is temporarily transferred to Vice President Dick Cheney. Bush (R) makes his weekly radio address as Vice President Dick Cheney listens in this March 9, 2002 file photo. REUTERS

"start to finish." The doctor is able to view the lining of the colon through a camera hooked up to the scope. If any polyps are identified, they would be removed and "once removed pose no problem whatsoever," Tubb said.

"It is the recommended procedure for someone who has had polyps before," Tubb said. "This is preventive medicine at its finest. If you're over 50, you ought to make it part of your practice as well."

Tubb said doctors at the medical facility at Camp David would be able to handle any complications. The endoscopist will be a gastroenterologist, Navy Capt. Jim Butler, and the anesthesiologist will be Navy Cmdr. Paul Bruha. Preparation for the test is a "very dehydrating procedure," Tubb said, adding that he was not sure if Bush would be able to carry through with his pledge to exercise later.

He will take 1.5 ounces of a liquid laxative mixed in ginger ale to induce diarrhea to cleanse the colon for the test. It should work within 30 minutes. "His colon will be ready," Tubb said.

Swimmers make it to shore in Cuban migrant group

MIAMI, (Reuters) - Three Cuban migrants who leaped from a boat that had brought them over the Florida Straits swam the last mile (1.6 km) to shore but others in the same group were seized by the Coast Guard and returned to Cuba, authorities said on Friday.

The incident in the Florida Keys on Wednesday illustrates a quirk of U.S. policy toward illegal Cuban migrants that generally allows those who make it to land to stay in the country while sending home those picked up at sea.

The Coast Guard said in a statement that Wednesday's incident began when eight Cuban migrants were spotted about seven miles (11 km) off Islamorada in the Florida Keys on a 12-foot (four-metre) boat. When a Coast Guard vessel reached the scene, the migrants were one mile (1.6 km) from land.

Five Cubans jumped overboard to try to swim to shore, and three reached land. The other two were rescued from the water by the Coast Guard and, along with the three who had stayed on the boat, were taken back to the communist-run island on

Thursday.

The three who made it to land were transferred to Border Patrol custody, the Coast Guard said.

The policy toward Cuban migrants who arrive on U.S. shores is generally to release them into the community after checks with immigration authorities. They can apply for U.S.

residency after one year and a day in the country.

Fewer Cubans making trek

Four Cuban men were found aboard a rubber raft on Thursday off Homestead, south of Miami. They were intercepted by the Coast Guard and sent back to Cuba on Friday.

These cases notwithstanding, fewer Cubans appear to be trying to come to the United States over the 90-mile (140 km) Florida Straits this year.

Coast Guard figures up to the start of this week showed that so far in 2002, some 258 Cubans had been intercepted by the Coast Guard at sea, compared to 777 for all of 2001.

A spokesman for the Border Patrol, which deals with migrants if they are found on land, said that so far this fis-

cal year (from October 2001 to September 2002), 739 Cuban migrants had been apprehended.

At the same time last year, 1,600 Cubans had been apprehended by the Border Patrol, said spokesman Joe Mellia.

Mellia said the decline seemed to coincide with the Sept. 11 attacks on the United States, although he did not say why the event might have deterred would-be migrants.

He added that while the summer usually heralds an increase in illegal migrants because of calm, warm weather, this June has been extremely wet and windy.

U.S. authorities have become tougher in hunting down smugglers of migrants, who charge up to \$10,000 a person and sometimes cram vessels with people.

In one such case a month ago, four Florida men were convicted on charges related to smuggling Cubans, including one who did not take part but who lent out his boat for the plan.

Greek court rejects WW2 war reparations confiscation

ATHENS, (Reuters) - Greek war victims' relatives seeking compensation for a 1944 Nazi massacre have lost their controversial appeal to seize German assets, the semi-official Athens News Agency reported.

The issue has strained Greek-German ties after the supreme court ordered Germany in 2000 to pay 27.8 million euros in compensation for the World War Two execution of 218 men, women and children in the central Greek village of Distomo.

So far Germany has refused to pay up. ANA said on Friday the Greek supreme court, in its latest decision, rejected the survivors' appeal seeking confiscation of German assets.

ANA said the decision supported

Greek law which specifies that the justice minister's approval is needed before war victims can auction off German property.

The court found this was not contrary to the Greek constitution, the European Human Rights Convention or U.N. international pacts. Lawyers for the claimants were not available for comment.

The massacre, one of the most savage of the German occupation of Greece, was carried out in reprisal for the activity of Greek resistance forces in June 1944.

Survivors have said that in a two-hour, door-to-door rampage German forces bayoneted babies in their cribs,

tore foetuses from pregnant women and beheaded the village priest.

Germany occupied Greece from 1941 to 1944 and paid a lump sum of \$67 million in reparations in the 1960s.

It fears that satisfying the Distomo plaintiffs could trigger similar demands.

Relatives of the victims have repeatedly said they will take their case to an international court if their claims are not backed by the Greek justice system.

Last year they sought to auction German assets in the Greek capital, including the German school in Athens and the Goethe Institute.



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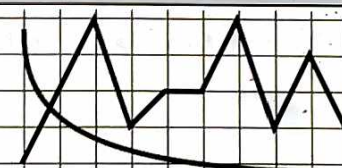
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YT Business



2nd Int. Conference for Oil & Gas: Stepping-stone to success

BY YASER AL-MAYYASI
RIDHWAN AL-SAQQA
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Under the patronage of President Ali Abdullah Saleh, the second International Conference for Oil & Gas (SICOG) was held from June 24-25 under the motto "Towards Promising Investment Prospects". More than 300 delegations representing different Arab countries as well international companies took part in the conference.

The SICOG had successful results. A new road was paved towards investment opportunities in the field of oil and gas. A new initiative aimed to attract more investment capital in the field of oil and gas exploration and marketing was made.

The conference was organized by

the Ministry of Oil and Minerals and inaugurated by the PM, Dr. Abdulqader Bajammal. The PM stressed that oil could enhance the economic and social conditions of any country.

A number of working papers were discussed during the conference; they covered oil discoveries, production processes (refining, natural liquefied gas) and the petrochemical industry.

More than 40 working papers were discussed during the 2-day conference. Working papers were focused towards the preparation of a way for investment opportunities in the different oil sectors of Yemen. These studies factored in that all legal facilities pertaining to the oil sector are guaranteed by the Yemeni government.

The Republic of Yemen has sought and will continue to seek investment capital for the oil and gas sector from other countries. Facilities have been made accessible to both Arab and for-



Delegations attending the 2nd International Conference for Oil & Gas (SICOG)

eign investors.

Geophysical and Geological analysis suggest that Yemen has huge potential in the oil and gas industry. The government's work in the exploration of oil and gas fields is a result of strenuous efforts to move forward using up-to-date methods in the petrochemical industries. The SICOG is a continuation from the first Oil and Gas Conference which was held in 1998.

It is also worth mentioning that there is healthy competition in the field of oil and gas exploration. Twenty-four oil companies have been operating in 37 oil blocks another 33 oil blocks are open for investors to invest.

Oil production and exploration in Yemen seems to have just begun. The SICOG has continued a positive momentum in the development of this sector by holding this conference and bringing together the industry.

Growing industrial zones

ABDULAZIZ MOHAMMED ABDULAH
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

The building of a functional industrial sector will undoubtedly have a positive impact on the national economy. The private sector has the biggest role to play in the realization of this sector.

The cabinet has approved the establishment of three industrial parks during a meeting held April 16, 2002. The three locations are; Dar al-Mansura, strategically placed between Aden, Lahij and Abyan, the Brum area in Hadramout and south of al-Saleef in Hodeidah. This law will help the government of Yemen promote foreign

investment, and ensure active contributions other than the oil sector.

A five-year plan (2001-2005) gives particular attention to developing human resources to accommodate graduates into all sectors. This will contribute to the prosperity of the national economy and raise the standard of living.

The industrial sector should prioritize all aspects towards the big role it has to play. The creation of free trade zones will play a significant role in the development of the country's economy.

This can be achieved through ensuring the following measures:

- creating well-organized public relations between the different sec-

tors involved;

- dividing the different kinds of industries;
- reducing the cost of creating industrial parks;
- ensuring flexibility of the projects to meet the different demands;
- minimizing the damage incurred on environment;
- ensuring an environmentally-friendly industry;
- establishing treatment plants for the wastes of factories;
- providing all services related to industries;
- establishing workshops for maintenance, vocational training, and providing consultation.

World Bank loan to help & expand higher education in Yemen

FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

The World Bank approved a US\$5 Million Learning and Innovation Credit (LIC) to the Republic of Yemen to support the government reform of the higher education system. The LIC will be applied towards developing a higher education reform strategy aimed at expanding enrollment in non-traditional academic fields and responding to the needs of Yemen's labor market.

Yemen's higher education sector experienced a dramatic expansion in the last decade, with annual enrollment rate increasing by 16 per cent each year since 1990. Most of enrollment as many as 88 per cent of students however, is concentrated in the social sciences and arts field. In an effort to develop relevant curricula that would meet the demand for specific skills in the economy, the Government of Yemen decided to undertake a major reorientation of higher education. The ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research (MHESR) was established last year to spearhead this effort.

The Government of Yemen has already enforced a decision to reduce student admission in oversubscribed faculties, implementing this policy across all universities" said Ousmane Diagona, Task Manager for the higher

education project. "This has led to a 50 per cent reduction in the number of students admitted to the arts, social science and commerce faculties compared to last year, which is an encouraging indication of the government's capacity to implement future reforms" he added.

The LIC responds to the Government's request for assistance in developing the capacity of the newly-created Ministry to implement the higher education reforms. It will introduce financial tools to strengthen resources management in two pilot universities. The LIC will also seek to improve learning and increase opportunities for students and faculty in select faculties such as medicine, education and commerce. This will include the piloting of network that would facilitate faculty and student exchange through the Internet as well as providing access to information and resources on the Internet.

The International Development Agency (IDA), an arm of the World Bank Group which provides internet-free development assistance to the poorest countries, will issue the credit. The overall project cost is US\$5.3 million. The World Bank credit of US\$5 million will be disbursed on standard IDA term with a 10-year grace period and a maturity of 40 years. The Government of Yemen will contribute US\$ 3Million.

Exchange Rate for the Yemeni Rial

as of June 29

USD	176.00	175.93	BHD	466.86	466.67
GBP	268.73	268.16	QAR	48.34	48.33
EUR	173.49	174.36	JOD	249.65	249.55
SAR	46.93	46.91	OMR	457.16	456.98
KWD	582.78	582.80	CHF	118.20	118.70
AED	47.92	47.90	SEK	19.09	19.17
EGP	37.99	37.94	JPY	1.467828	1.463035

Source: Central Bank of Yemen

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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 them to Mr. Mohammed Khader, YemenTimes.

The Problem of advertising

BY: Raidan A. Al-Saqqa

Advertising is the art and science of managing customer's and public perceptions about a product or a service or even an organization, it is a very serious yet sensitive task, and the future of many organizations depends on it.

The main advertising problem in our country is that it's no longer on the agenda of the Top management of the organizations, and it is done by the least experienced managers, who usually reject any new idea that could help the organization even without their superiors knowledge, and this kills many great promotional ideas that could increase sales and profits or turnaround losing organizations.

Moreover, these people focus more on cost in spite of focusing on what value this advertisement can add to the product, in fact, they don't even know which advertisements work and which don't, or which can build the required brand or create the needed images of a brand.

Looking at the situation today, you would find increasing competition, increasing pressure and larger scope for advertising, which pushes organizations to change their advertising strategies in order to distinguish their products from those of competitors, and making these changes is not a piece of cake, it is the role of the advertising agency or the advertising media agent.

In other words, advertising needs creativity to catch the attention, if you have something to say or if you think you have a strong product then express it strongly, choose the correct media with the correct message. How you express your product is what distinguishes it from those of competitors, and if you are really willing to do that then bear the costs.

Another problem is that advertising is considered as an expense whereas it should be considered as an investment, because it does pay back if the correct advertising was done.

On the other hand, advertising agencies in our country are doing a poor job compared to what is needed, they lack the proper training and education that is needed to study the client's product with competitors product and make the suitable advertising strategy in order to increase your client's sales through proper incorporation of an advertising message that insists on products advantages and why it should be bought. This is the least that should be done.

Also, post-advertising analysis should be done, you should take a view on past advertising, did it work? Were the advertising goals achieved? These studies should be done to know what works and what doesn't, because not any media or any strategy works with any product.

End note: Advertising agencies should take their job seriously, and make analysis to see which advertising should be done. On the other hand, clients should realize the power of advertising, which if done properly, can pay back very well.

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Words of Wisdom



It is in my belief that grass-roots level organizations such as unions and syndicates are vital contributors to the system because of their broad-based interaction. They give tangible meaning to popular participation within a democratic context. Therefore, any effort to broaden the participation base of decision-making in this country should, in part, involve the unions and syndicates. This means letting these organizations do their job.

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



OUR OPINION

Who are you fooling?

The G.W. Bush peace plan, initiative, or proposal (name it whatever you want) has caused a tremendously huge gap among Arab governments and the public. As we can safely assume that an overwhelming majority of the Arab people have seen this speech as an Israeli speech, some Arab governments astonishingly praised it thinking that it gives the Palestinian cause an edge.

Even the Palestinian Authority rushed into welcoming the speech, which proved later to be in direct harmony with the Sharon ideologies.

It was not long before the Authority expressed concern and rejection to the speech through its representative Nabil Shaath in the Arab media.

But what was even more interesting was the reaction of some Arab leaders who also cautiously welcomed the speech with the natural response of not being more royalist than the king himself. In other words, if the Palestinian leadership is welcoming it, why don't we? An Arab official also said, if they are happy with it and feel it will bring them a future, why should we oppose it. We surely want the Palestinians to be happy.

Hence, it is truly pathetic to see how Arab leaders have become so weak, willing to accept the harshest of criticism and conditions. By welcoming the speech, they have shown the world that Sharon is right and they are wrong. They have exposed their weakness and helplessness wide open for the world to see.

Imagine the reaction of Sharon while seeing the reaction of Arab leaders to be positive in response to such a speech that conditions the change of the Palestinian leadership, requests bringing western democracy into the picture, asks for the creation of an environment of peace and harmony while the people are suffering. At the same time, the speech has put no end to the curfew, continued to assist Israel on all grounds, and worst of all insulted Arab and Iranian governments directly and indirectly.

Slowly, the Arab leaders who had welcomed the speech realized the grave mistake they made. If the speech includes an illusion of any positive points, then why didn't those leaders think of the 90% negative points? Are they trying to fool themselves or their people?

Well, in any case those leaders didn't have to wait for too long before they could understand the true meaning of the speech. Israel raged into new cities and took over major buildings in al-Khalil, Ramallah, and other towns, while at the same time imposing a curfew on all cities in the West Bank. This is a direct and consequent step following the US speech. What was the reaction of the USA to this Israeli aggression? Nothing!

Don't those leaders feel ashamed of themselves? This is actually a test that they have again failed in. No matter how many tests they go through in the near future, they will certainly fail in the eyes of their people. I wonder if they know what the people think of them? *The Editor*

East & west in solidarity with Palestine

JUDITH BROWN,
BRISTOL PALESTINE SOLIDARITY
CAMPAIGN
SALLYDEAN22@AOL.COM

Last week I visited Bethlehem and Jerusalem with friends from Bristol, UK. We witnessed much suffering and we were all impressed with the dignity of the Palestinian people. Yemenis may believe the stories of Palestinian suffering, but sadly, here in the West many people still think we have been through a brain-washing machine which has distorted our vision and our minds. But our cause is not simply for one group of severely misrepresented people, but for human rights and respect of dignity for

people everywhere.

We were outside the Church of the Nativity, the birthplace of the Prince of Peace, when my friend and I were driven to tears by the simple story of a man who sold necklaces. Despite his difficulties and despite his uncle being killed for nothing at all, he still had a vision of peace, and he did not want any more killing. He asked why the world does nothing to help Palestinians, they are the oppressed not the oppressor, the occupied not the occupier.

We need to find ways of joining East and West to say enough is enough. We can no longer tolerate the control of the world's media and politics by the men of war. We want peace and the only way to get it is to stand by international law. It is this human duty which

President Bush, who has the key to peace but doesn't use it, seems to totally ignore.

What I have seen with my own eyes is a brutal oppression of a whole race of people, with the world arming the oppressor and not the victim, with the victim blamed and the oppressor rewarded. Those who condone it, done wickedness and evil, there is no other words to describe it. I am in shock, in despair, and inconsolable at the tragedy that I have witnessed.

Here in UK we have a group called Palestinian Solidarity Campaign that works towards peace and justice for Palestinians. Are there any other non-governmental support groups in Yemen that we could link up with? If so, we would love to hear from them.

If only USA would not back Israel

LORRIE D.
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USA

I have not responded to the editorials of Yemen Times for some time. But I take this opportunity to comment on the state of the Palestinians who I believe deserve a land to call their own. I continue to feel great compassion and sadness for these people who are desperate and beyond hope. While I do not agree with their methods of attention, I believe that they were wronged by Israel for so many years. The bottom line is that Israel took their land in 1967, and it is time to give it back. The only reason that Israel has not been squashed like a bug is because of my country, i.e., USA that backs them 100%.

There are terrorists in every country of the world, including the USA. I don't

believe that the Palestinians are terrorists. I believe that they are hurt, sad, worn, desperate and so disrespected that their dishonor has turned to hate and anger. I wish it never went this far. Believe me, my opinion of this situation is not very popular in my country, but I sincerely believe that they have been unjustly pushed to the limit by Israel; a country that still thinks should be compensated for the Holocaust, which they believe is still going on today. I am so sick to death about their "persecution" — God, enough already.

Palestine is a country then and now. Just because Israel occupied its land, does not make the land Israeli property.

It is such an old and ancient story that the Jews have felt persecuted by everyone — and they wonder why the world is beginning to backlash against them. My prayer will always be that Israel and Palestine will humble themselves, come together and learn to live in peace, if not

for this generation, then for the next.

It would be honorable if the Jews would just honor the agreements that have been in place for months with Palestine, and just moved forward. But that will never happen until the USA stops backing Israel. Only then perhaps, will Israel have no one to lean on or hide behind and will finally begin to see all the destruction they have caused out of their ego and anger. Perhaps, they will then begin to really care about their children and will start creating a more peaceful and reasonable world for all.

Israel says "we must defend ourselves" — so rather than give up land which never belonged to them in the first place, they again teach another generation they are also "persecuted", and rather than do something constructive to resolve the alleged persecution, they have now taught Israeli children to hate, fight, kill, and be killed. Shame on you Israel.

Rejoinder from India to Mohammed I.

There is no discrimination in India

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This is with reference to the letter from my fellow reader Mr. Mohammed published in issue 26/2002 regarding the state of Muslims in the Indian sub continent.

Firstly, I want to be proud that we are the one and the only country where the men from the minority community can become the first citizen i.e., the President of India and of the largest democracy in the world. The naked truth is that was with the support and help of the Hindu majority Bharathiya Janata Party, which is in power at the center now. Another important point to be noted is that as his family was so poor and could not afford higher education, the "would be" President was sponsored by a High Class Hindu community for him to study and proceed with his career. Various communities in India live in a brotherly atmosphere with love and affection. Creating divisions among Indians for personal gains by some countries will probably make the situation worse. This is exactly what is happening today. But those biased people cannot succeed in their attempt.

Secondly, there is no discrimination in India against Muslims in any way. When

applying for any services or job vacancies, all Indians are treated equally, which is not the case in many other countries. Muslims in India are as equal as other applicants. Muslims are enjoying the same opportunities as their fellow Hindu counterparts or even more. In fact, in some cases, forward class Hindus lose opportunities to Muslims and other minority communities due to the government's policy of helping the minorities by introducing quota systems to give more opportunities and representation to them. So just accusing such a secular country blindly by reading few newspapers which highlight the negative aspects carried out by antisocial elements as in any other country is biased and does not take into account the positive aspects, which are more than 95%. This only makes the secularism state in India unhealthy and fractures the back bone of India's secularism.

Thirdly, I don't deny, but rather agree that the act of a few fundamentalists, who commit crimes against minorities, should be condemned by all means. At the same time however, it is to be noted that the whole episode of killing hundreds of Muslims in Gujarat started because of torching around fifty Hindu pilgrims in a train in Gujarat. I strongly feel that there is no community, caste or religion in this world that encourages fighting, killing, crime or terrorism. So for heaven sake, the crime should not be confused with

caste as the two are entirely different. The antisocial elements in India should not be identified by their caste or creed, but should rather be identified with their degree of crime so that tensions and religious hatred would not be created among communities.

Fourthly, I am against any discrimination based on race, religion, or any other element as every human being in this world is a child of God. This is what everyone should learn to have peace on this planet.

But again, I will be happy to invite Mr. Mohammed to come and view India and see how the Indian communities live peacefully as brothers joining hands in good and bad times in life. We will be happy to be a host to Mr. Mohammed as we have always been and will continue to be easy in giving visas without any hurdles that could be in his way when applying for visas to Western countries.

Last but not the least, "We are what we are" and just portraying us in the bad light by the biased media will not make us bad. As the Indian expatriates follow the rules and regulations of the country in which they live, if everyone else does the same - follow the rules of the land they live in - there won't be any violence or crime. We should learn to enjoy life in peace. God has given us mind and life to do so and not to become criminals, who loves bloodshed

Letters to the Editor

Jobless!

It took me a long time thinking whether I should send you this letter or not. As you can see, I decided to send it, hoping to find it in your letters to the editor corner. What I am going to write is not just my case, it is the case of thousands of young male and female university graduates like me.

I feel stupid to say so, but things have no solution in Yemen. I have graduated in 1998. A while after I graduated, I was lucky to find jobs and in working here and there especially for international organizations and NGOs. But my happiness did not last for long.

Well, now around one year has passed when I last had a job. I searched for a job as many others do, but my search was in vain. I don't have any kind of backup, if you know what I mean!

For one year, I have been applying to different sectors. The worst of all is that the government posts, which I believe are

the right of every qualified Yemeni are not given to those deserving young enthusiastic men and women, who had spent many years of studying and dreaming. As a matter of fact, we, the university graduates, are deprived of our simple rights to work. Do you know why? Simply because the civil service employees and other hunters want us to pay bribes to buy certain government posts that should be the right of any qualified individuals like us. Even though we have been unjustified in this regard, we still want to serve our beloved country. Will the governmental bodies help in giving us our rights? I don't think so. This is not only my case but it is rather a case of thousands of young Yemenis still waiting for a job opportunity.

Even though I am still jobless, but I am also hopeful to receive a positive response to one of my applications, Amen.

Khaled U.
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Letters to the Editor

Education first

Unlike what has been mentioned in the business page of last week, Yemen is not poor because its people are carrying weapons. But Yemenis are suffering because of lack of education and appropriate skills. Families spend the whole day searching for qat and chewing it, and hence have less time for work and development. We need to help Yemen each person by refraining himself and his family from chewing qat, then one can extend that to friends and relatives. If only the money spent on qat is spent on education, we would be in far better economic condition. Yemenis need to wake up and start targeting the main problems.

Despite all of that, I personally still have a dream in a developed and modern Yemen.

Abdulslam Hidarrah
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COMMON SENSE



Hassan Al-Haifi

ViZions of Mr. Bush

“What do you have to say about the latest speech of President George Bush the younger, on the Middle East?” Farida asked her husband.

“You mean the long awaited vision of the President of the United States?” replied Hussein.

“No Hussein, vision is spelled with an ‘s’, not ‘z’” Farida reminded her husband.

Hussein elaborated on his explanation of the facts: “Farida, to Mr. Bush, as far as the Middle East is concerned, if it is not palatable to Zionist ears, it should not be said, written or even hummed. Therefore, Mr. Bush’s crystal ball outlook on the future of the Middle East must be labeled vizion and not vision, like normal witch doctors and soothsayers have. The Zionists all over the world are now advocating having all the dictionaries and thesauruses of the world change the spelling of the word vision to vizion. They are also making sure to add that if anybody is not with the idea, then he is putting himself in the position of an abominable enemy of Uncle Sam and Uncle Sharon put together, while reminding everyone of the catch all phrase: “if you are not with us, then you are against us”. So vision has quickly been changed to read vizion in all the dictionaries and thesauruses of the world. Even the spelling corrector in your computer must change, or else it will be entered in the blacklist of Al-Qaeda facilities and be regarded as a target in the next phase of the anti-terror war that Mr. Bush has dedicated himself to wage against anything and everything in the Middle East that does not conform to the vizions of Mr. Bush and Mr. Sharon.”

Farida wanted to bypass the play on words, which her husband was getting into: “Hussein, what do you see in Mr. Bush’s Vision on the Middle East problem?”

“Farida, if you don’t get the word right, I will not answer. It is vizion, not vision, otherwise, you will be considered against them! So, you must repeat the question with the correct rendition of the word. Otherwise, in order to stay on their side, I may have to start divorce proceedings, like Yasser Arafat must now do, because Mr. Bush does not find any place for Arafat in his vizion of the future outlook on the Middle East. It is crazy, but these are the facts of life now in the New World, which Mr. George Bush, the Elder did not complete because he was not lucky to get a second term, like the Younger is expecting to get, thanks to the anticipated help he will get from the powerful Zionist Machinery in the United States.”

“Hussein, you are getting too far-fetched!” said Farida.

Hussein insisted on continuing his elaboration of the latest play on words and the latest in the Games People Play in the international arena: “My dear, I am just warning you, that is all. If you are not with us, you are against us and even if you are with us, and we do not like you, we will be against you! That is the essence of Bush’s Vizion, as I see it. The vizion was applauded by every element in the Israeli political spectrum, even by those who can’t stomach the elephant walk of Ariel Sharon. Some people in Israel felt that Sharon’s efforts to get Mr. Bush to postpone his speech was not called for, in light of this Vizion being commensurate with everything that the Zionists wanted and more. He explained to them, that he wanted to make sure that everything was set to make sure that from now on the word ‘vision’ will always be spelt ‘vizion’, and thus the international Zionist establishment worked diligently in preparation for the big change that was coming to the English language.”

“Hussein, what ever happened to your expansive down-to-earth critical analysis of international developments, has your vision become distorted?” inquired Farida

Hussein, feeling that it would be useless to comment on Bush’s ambiguous outlook in the Middle East decided to carry on with the ridiculous, in keeping with his perception of the Visions of Mr. Bush: “Farida, I warned you it is either vizion, or forget about our marriage contract. I am not going to wait to have Mr. Bush demand that we break our legal bond, or else have Israeli and American Apaches hit our modest home and store, which we depend on for our livelihood! Those are the breaks after September 11, 2001!”

Announcement

The Language Center, University of Science & Technology, announces that the Intensive Courses of English, No. (5), will be held from 6 July 2002 to 8 August 2002.

The placement test shall be held every Thursday at 10 AM at the College of Engineering.

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'Bush's own speech'

BY OCTAVIUS PINKARD
JORDAN TIMES

Sometimes, one plus one equals zero. Though such a statement may defy the laws of mathematics, it does apply to the current impasse between Israel and the Palestinian National Authority. Neither Ariel Sharon nor Yasser Arafat is capable of providing the leadership necessary for achieving a real and lasting peace. More often than not, combining the two serves as more of a setback than a step forward. The two are on a stage where long-standing personal antagonisms are being played out; as a result, the innocent people suffer.

What we now have is one leader who is unable to control the forces he helped unleash, and one leader who is unwilling to place a leash on the forces that he controls. In short, peace has little chance because it is something that Arafat cannot deliver and Sharon does not want.

Israel has long been the Bermuda triangle of international politics. In terms of US policy in the region, balance and impartiality are among the disappeared; logic and reason have also been known to vanish from time to time. To be sure, Israel is the US' strategic ally and America should take the steps necessary for ensuring its security and survival. But to be unabashedly one-sided in its policy is no less irresponsible than counterproductive.

The US has always been pro-Israel, but there is no reason why it cannot be pro-Israel and pro-Palestinian while, at the same time, fighting against both anti-Semitism and the continued oppression of the Palestinian people. The US is correct in viewing Arafat and the PNA in a less than favourable light because the past has shown that they have tolerated — and in some instances encouraged — violence against Israeli civilians. The fact remains, though, that the Palestinians have suffered tremendously at the hands of Israel. And for far too long, American policy makers have turned a blind eye to the plight of the Palestinians. If we care about life as we say we do, if we value liberty as we say we do, if we regard the pursuit of happiness as we say we do, then this cannot remain a staple of our foreign policy.

When Sharon took office in January

2001, most in the international community realised that any prospects for a peace settlement between Israel and the PNA were dead. In 1977, as minister of agriculture under Menachem Begin, Sharon called for the settlement of two million Jews in the occupied territories; this plan was unveiled in his "A Vision of Israel at Century's End". In 1982, as defence minister, he gave orders which led to the massacre of hundreds of Palestinian civilians in refugee camps in Shatilla and Sabra. For this, he was rightfully removed from office, but should have been prosecuted as well.

Sharon's ideology

The humiliation and dehumanisation of the Palestinians has been part and parcel of Sharon's ideology for decades and a mainstay of official policy since he became prime minister. As many have rightly pointed out, Sharon views himself as the rightful heir to not only David Ben Gurion and Begin, but also to Moses and David. He has begun a crusade to rid the "holy land" of non-Jewish inhabitants and create a "Greater Israel" that expands far beyond the borders set forth by the United Nations in 1948. This is something that the world recognises, while the Bush administration continues to call on Arafat to "do more" and ignores Sharon's transgressions.

In the court of international opinion, Sharon is a witness against himself. The refusal to allow ambulance crews and international aid workers to treat those who had been injured as a result of Israeli military action in Jenin and Ramallah was an indefensible and deplorable act. Sharon's defiance of the UN call for an inquiry into the bombing of the Jenin refugee camp only adds to a list of offences committed by the person whom President George Bush called "a man of peace". The Israeli prime minister claims that he is working to destroy the infrastructure of terrorism. That is, without question, a laudable goal, one that the international community would like to see realised. But someone may need to apprise Sharon of the fact that this infrastructure is not housed in the buildings and political organisations of the region; it cannot be found in the homes of the West Bank, Gaza or Golan Heights; it is embedded in the hearts and minds of those who feel they have nothing

to lose because everything has already been taken: their houses, their land, their water, their livelihoods and their dignity.

The Palestinians were stripped of their homeland, and what little land they were allowed to keep has been systematically and illegally annexed by Israel. Settlements continue to expand into Palestinian territory, and Palestinian access to fresh water — a critical but limited resource in the region — is restricted by Israel while the Jewish settlers are allowed ample supply. For example, settlers who move into annexed Palestinian areas average a daily consumption of 75 gallons of water per person. At the same time, Palestinians are limited to less than 20 gallons per person, per day. And while media attention focuses predominantly on Israeli casualties, the fact is that four times as many Palestinians have been killed, and the future looks no brighter today than it did the hour Sharon came to power.

The wanton killing of innocent civilians is something that the world decries, whether it takes the form of Israeli citizens dying in buses, supermarkets, or at bus stops; or Palestinian citizens being killed by Israeli soldiers while they walk the streets, sleep in their homes, or go about their daily occupations.

Palestinian State

It has become increasingly clear that there will be no security for Israel until there is emancipation for the Palestinians. This means that a Palestinian state must be established and recognised, not incrementally, over a span of three, four or five years, but within the next nine to twelve months. The unprecedented actions taken at the Beirut Summit in March 2002 were as unexpected as they were revolutionary, and the Saudi initiative is one that Washington should use as a foundation for its own vision of a Middle East that is free of the strife that has defined it for the better part of the last half century.

Support for a Palestinian state is not, as Sharon would like the world to believe, capitulation to terrorism. It is but the first step towards righting a wrong that has served as an enduring obstacle to peace in the region. Under Sharon, Israel and the occupied territories



are fast becoming like apartheid-era South Africa, as the Palestinians are treated like second-class citizens who are less than human. This cannot continue. By actively promoting the creation of "New Palestine", Washington would, in practice, express solidarity with the innocent people who desire freedom but is denied it. This new state and its citizens should be protected with the same fullness of purpose that has been afforded Israel since its inception.

The atrocities of last September opened the Americans' eyes to the realities and the scope of terrorism, something with which both Palestinians and Israelis have become all too familiar. Now, Sharon is using the pain suffered in the US, along with America's own war on terrorism, as a pretext for the continued subjugation of the Palestinians. Even more shrewd is his manipulation of the peace process — delay, obstruct, derail — as a cover for expanding settlements into Palestinian territory, knowing that these settlements block the creation of a viable Palestinian state.

How can the cycle of injustice and violence be broken? First, the United States must begin to focus on the cause of this sustained impasse. Suicide bombing is both inexcusable and wrong, but it is not the cause of instability in the

region; nor is it the cause of Israeli insecurity. If we view regional instability as an illness, there can be no question as to what serves as the cause and what emerges as the symptom of that illness. The root cause is twofold: continued and expanding Israeli occupation of land to which it has no valid claim, and the humiliating oppression of a people who, for more than fifty years, has lived as refugee and prisoner in its own country. The symptoms are suicide bombing and the proliferation of hateful and dangerous groups, such as Hamas, Hizbollah and Islamic Jihad, accompanied by the ensuing Israeli retaliation for acts carried out by these groups.

Any objective reading of history will reveal that, as a victim of its own actions, Israel has created many of the ills that have befallen the region. To cure this illness, treat the cause and the symptoms will go away.

When Iraq invaded Kuwait, the United States led the charge for liberation; when Slobodan Milosevic bloodied southeastern Europe with ethnic cleansing, the United States did what the Europeans were unable to do: end the slaughter. The time has now come for this country to both think the unthinkable and do what for so long has been deemed undoable: make a substantive push for Israel to retreat to its pre-1967

borders. Then, and only then, can a real and lasting peace begin.

History has shown that our presidents do have the power to affect such dramatic change. When John F. Kennedy gave his 1963 speech at the Berlin wall, proclaiming "I am a Berliner", he encouraged those who yearned to be free. When Ronald Reagan went to the Brandenburg Gate in June 1987, exhorting Mikhail Gorbachev to "tear down this wall", he demonstrated a US commitment to promoting the personal, political and economic independence of people everywhere.

Israeli occupation represents to the Palestinians what the Berlin wall represented to so many who were denied freedom during the cold war. The time has now come for President Bush to go to the West Bank and make his own declaration: "Mr Sharon, end this occupation!"

The writer is a PhD candidate in the Graduate Programmes in International Studies at Old Dominion University in Norfolk, Virginia, and an adjunct professor of international relations at Averett University in Danville, Virginia. His research focuses on economic and political developments in the Middle East and North Africa. He contributed this article to The Jordan Times.

I am sad, President Arafat

In an open letter to Palestinian President Yasser Arafat, Sami Moubayed reflects on the mood in the Arab world as he envisions it.

Mr. President, please allow me to introduce myself. My name is Sami Moubayed and I am a Syrian citizen who has followed your career with admiration and written extensively about you for the past two years. I have tried many times to meet you, but circumstances always came in my way: in Beirut, in Damascus, in Europe. I have always been an admirer of your leadership and your struggle for the cause — our cause, which is the liberation of Palestine and the creation of a Palestinian State based on the borders of pre-1967.

Today, however, I speak for the generation of Arab youth in saying that I have nearly lost faith in Yasser Arafat, and am this close to losing faith in the entire Arab cause as well. At no time since 1948 have the Arabs been so pessimistic and so uncertain of their future.

Mr. President, as I watched the Israeli onslaught over the past several months, and the current siege of Ramallah, I couldn't help but weep at the atrocities. Yes Your Excellency, I wept for our lost Arab nationalism and I wept for the bloodbath in Palestine. I wept because the Arabs died long before the Palestinians did.

Since the Israelis laid siege to your compound in Ramallah in March 2002, I watched your manoeuvring with a combination of admiration and fear, but frankly, I am disgusted at where the situation has reached today.

In March 2002, you were at the apex of your 40-year career, with enemy and ally rallying around your leadership. I saw your portraits carried in Damascus, which has historically been hostile to your leadership, and I saw you being hailed in Beirut as the Salaadin of modern times. Even the Muslims of Beirut, who suffered terribly from Arafat during the Lebanese Civil War, were behind

you. Everyone, even those who have long tried to kill you, in Palestine, in Syria, in Lebanon, in Jordan, and in Libya, could not help but admire your leadership. I even met you're your arch-enemy Khaled Meshal of Hamas at his office in Damascus, and he said, "When the symbol of Palestine is threatened, we will all stand by him!"

This unperceived popularity that you enjoyed back then, Mr. President, has vanished. Allow me to recount the reasons.

When you were released from Ramallah, the aura of Arafat began falling apart. At a survey conducted at Beir Zeit University, I read that Arafat today is at the lowest popularity point in his career since 1964. That Mr. President, was disturbing news for me. Like most Arab leaders, you are not aware of the speculations and reservations about your actions. Your advisors keep the truth from you out of fear.

I will be frank out of love and respect. Your people accused you of giving in to Israeli pressure during the crisis of the Church of Nativity. You were scorned for letting Israel deport Palestinian citizens from the areas of self-rule to Europe and Cyprus. You then yielded to U.S. pressure and cracked down on the Palestinian opposition, thereby shattering the long-held belief that the Palestinian National Authority (PNA) was one of the longest standing democracies in the Middle East.

Pre-approved?

Not satisfied with a manhunt on Hamas, you appeared before television cameras and claimed that Hamas is a creation of Israel, thereby infuriating a large portion of your people who are Hamas loyalists. For the record, I am not a supporter of Hamas and do not believe in the martyr attacks they are doing. To make up for the diplomatic mistake, however, you appealed to Palestinian emotions and promised sweeping political and administrative reforms in the Palestinian National Authority. For a minute, while a cabinet formation was in

the air, people held their breath and wanted to believe that the reforms would be sincere and far-fetched.

The cabinet that was formed, Mr. President, was a slap in the face to all those who were really expecting changes. It was doomed from day one when we realised that the cabinet had been approved in Washington before receiving an okay in Ramallah. Dr. Edward Said best described it as "a combination of tragedy and comedy."

We were surprised Mr. President to see you, having boasted of independent decisions for decades, present the list of ministers to Jordan, Saudi Arabia, and Egypt for prior approval. We understand the need to consult with Arab leaderships on regional issues, there's nothing wrong with that, but cabinet formation is a domestic issue. It is an issue that deals with national unity, sovereignty, and privacy that nobody other than the Palestinians are entitled to decide upon. We also heard that the size of the cabinet, and the nature of security reforms were all approved by the USA.

The very fact that the Palestinian leadership needed conditional approval to draft a cabinet is a grave insult to the Palestinian people and to Arabs like myself who believe in your leadership and your cause. Political reforms and a cabinet change should be coming out of your own initiative, not because George Bush and Ariel Sharon wanted it.

Mr. President it is with a heavy heart that I observe you adopting propaganda measures and political decisions that no longer differentiate you from other Arab leaders. I am surprised that after securing a sweeping victory as President of the PNA in 1993, you slowly started to adopt image-boosting techniques that have traditionally disgusted Arabs. Your photos are plastered on walls, songs of praise have become more common, and Palestine Satellite TV covers your news in the same manner that Libyan TV covers those of Muammar Gaddafi.

Despite the promises of sharing power with others, you continued to hold the two senior posts of president and prime

minister. The post of Master Speaker remained in the hands of Ahmad Qura'e, who is an extension of your views, strategy, and aims. Meaning, all decision-making in Palestine remained firmly confined in your hands.

The opposition is voiceless because they have been left out of government and what remains of its leadership are either in exile, in jail, or have been killed off by Israel. All those who enjoy a power base in Palestine and who can give your administration a face-lift, or more legitimacy, have refused to take part in the cabinet. The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), which is immensely popular, could not but refuse, so long as its leader Ahmad Sa'adat remains confined to your prisons in Jericho. Hamas was not invited, and even renowned PLO officials like Hanan Ashrawi, Abd al-Jawad Saleh, Salah Tamari, and Haydar Abd al-Shafi, turned down government posts. I heard that Tamari, a prominent member of Fatah, was given the post of Minister of State.

Mr. President, what respected politician nowadays would take up a make-believe portfolio? Renowned Palestinian thinkers, who might have given you a headache but who nevertheless would have done wonders for your image, like the poet Mahmoud Darwish and the academic Edward Sa'id, were not even candidates for government office. So, the only voice that is heard in "democratic" Palestine is that of Yasser Arafat.

As for the rest of the ministers, most of the old team are back in office, enjoying the spoils of war that were distributed at Oslo in 1993. The peace agreement is long dead, but its architects still live off its achievements. Its about time, Mr. President, to acknowledge that Oslo is dead.

I know Mr. President that the pressure you are facing is enough to defeat the strongest of men, and I have often defended you by telling people, "Walk a mile in Arafat's shoes!" I also realise that it is difficult to remain a hard-liner given the disgusting Arab environment that surrounds you. At one point or another,

every one of your Arab "brothers" tried to kill you, yet they always came back asking for forgiveness. Whenever things became shaky in their own countries, they turned to Arafat, knowing that nothing can boost their image better than courting Arafat, whose name has become synonymous with that of Palestine.

Not man of the moment

All those who tried to beat you to the pulpit of Arab nationalism failed, and you have outlived all your enemies. I know that it is difficult to manoeuvre with other Arab leaders, who are infamously corrupt, yet have the nerve to call on you to clamp down on corruption. I have often said that they should leave Arafat alone, and clean up their own house before involving themselves in the affairs of Palestine. I am also appalled by the fact that some Arab leaders refuse to donate funds to the PNA because they do not trust its officials and fear that they money will be pocketed by them. Certainly, some leaders, who are corrupt themselves, use it as an excuse, but others are sincere in their fears and the mere fact that some people have these reservations are a serious indicator that changes in the PNA — real changes, are needed immediately.

Given all of the above, Mr. President, we can assume one thing, that Yasser Arafat is no longer the man of the moment that he should be.

Six months ago, I was saying, "Only Yasser Arafat got us here and only Yasser Arafat can get us out." Since your siege in Ramallah, you have taken a series of unpopular decisions, which were crowned by the latest cabinet formation. It hurts me to see a freedom fighter like yourself, a legend by all standards, being defamed by the Palestinian opposition and by other Arabs as well. It hurts me to hear Bush's latest remarks about your leadership and his demand that you be replaced by another Palestinian.

At this stage in your career, you should be in retirement, honoured for a lifetime of achievements and struggle,

and not the subject to mounting criticism. You should be the "spiritual" leader of Palestine. For months, many Arabs and Palestinians have been calling on you to resign. I had always argued against such a solution but I can realise today that maybe, this is the best solution for Palestine. If you step down Mr. President, you will find nothing but praise and tears from the Arab public. Everyone knows that you have dedicated your life to Palestine. No one will blame the freedom fighter that's in you for stepping down. If you resign, you will be remembered for what you did.

If you stay in office, you will be remembered for what you didn't. You will rank among the two Arab leaders who stepped down from office in recent history, Syria's Shukri al-Quwatli and Gamal Abd al-Naser of Egypt. Quwatli stepped down in 1958 to enable the creation of the Syrian-Egyptian union and Naser did so in 1967 to take blame for the collective Arab defeat in war with Israel. Quwatli stepped down to materialise his dream of Arab unity, saying, "I have lived all my life for union, now that is here, I will not let my post obstruct its materialisation."

You can do the same Mr. President. You have lived your entire life calling for a Palestinian State and it seems today that this state cannot be created unless it is backed by the USA. And the Americans, given their bias towards Israel, are seemingly determined not to create a state under your leadership. This is clear by Bush's June 24 speech at the White House.

For the record, I am opposed to every word said by Bush, but I refuse to believe that a Palestinian State is obstructed by Yasser Arafat. Therefore, rather than hamper the creation of Palestine, I beg you to step down and make the dream a reality.

God bless you, and God bless Palestine.

Sami Moubayed is a Syrian political analyst.

Are textbooks sufficient for children?

ABDULLAH ALI GAMEEL
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

Officials from foreign embassies and organizations in Yemen are baffled when they hear about the low number of children's libraries in Yemen.

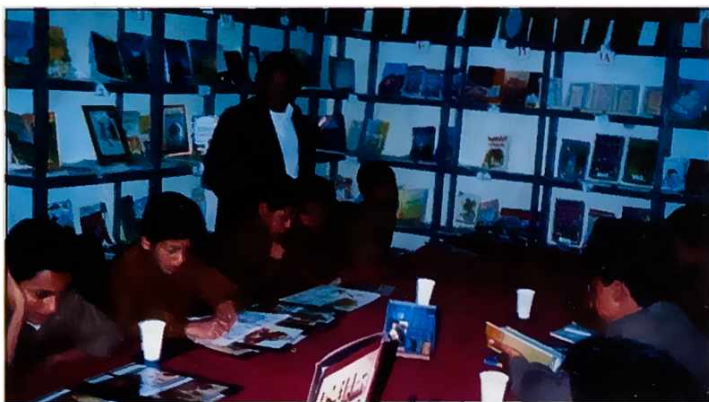
In the Capital there are about five children libraries, two in preparation in Aden, one in al-Mahweet along with 17 school libraries now in preparation.

Something worth noting is that these libraries have been established by non-governmental organizations in less than 2 years. These libraries have been realized by NGO's such as the Yemeni Association for Disseminating Culture & Knowledge. The role played by the government in this respect is somewhat weak.

Abdullah Ali Gameel, chairman was asked about the establishment of association. He said that the main reason to establish the association was because the government doesn't pay full attention to the children's culture in Yemen.

"The new generation is considered to be the power-house of any society and taking care of children means the building of this nation. There are some organizations interested in children's culture, but from my point of view they don't perform their role properly. Their role is restricted to holding symposiums and seminars which are intrinsically to no avail," Ali Gameel said.

We have tried our best to contact foreign organizations interested in children's culture in Yemen but unfortunately we haven't received any positive response. At length the Social Development Fund agreed to finance the establishment of the first children's library. The establishment of the library has been applied towards the less educated societies and densely populated neighborhoods. Children's activities clearly crystallize their talents and acquaint them with the nation's culture. School's trip have been even organized by the children



Children benefit from new library

themselves.

We have to make every effort to encourage children to publish cultural magazines and periodicals. The results are amazing. More than 16 publications have been published by children themselves. Four libraries have been established in the Capital. Around 81,000 children have participated in these activities.

Several libraries have been established in different governorates in the Republic. A children's library financed by the Social Development Fund was established in Aden, October 2001. Another library was established in al-Mokalla at the cost of USD 100,000.

The association is about to establish children's libraries in Mahweet, Sada'a, al-Jowf and Mareb. A piece of land has been allocated by the 22nd May Club in Sa'wan. A garden and swimming pool is to be established as part of a recreation area for the children and residents of the Sa'wan area south of Sana'a.

Preparations are underway to establish 4 new children's libraries in Sana'a. At the same time the idea of establishing libraries in Taiz, Hodiedah and Hajjah are under discussion.

A leading role played by the Canadian Nexen Petroleum Company to provide these libraries with valuable resources is of great significance. The Canadian Nexen Petroleum Company has participated extensively

in establishing the first printing press for these periodicals and books.

The Yemeni Association for Disseminating Culture & Knowledge lacks financial resources from the government.

Children's cultural projects have been marginalized by some foreign organizations. For this reason the active participation of the Yemeni Association for Disseminating Culture & Knowledge and Canadian Nexen Petroleum Company is praiseworthy.

Statistics indicate that the number of children who make use of these libraries have reached 81,030. Around 16 magazines and periodicals have been successfully issued by children.

Nine books have been written by children. More than 153 school groups have visited these libraries. The number of researchers and university students who have visited these libraries has reached 2,390.

The only supporters for such cultural activities and establishing children's libraries are the Yemeni Association for Disseminating Culture & Knowledge and the Canadian Nexen Petroleum Company.

Sadly, the Ministry of Culture's participation in supporting these libraries has reached only 7 booklets.

What we see is that children workshops or seminars have been held without any positive results for children. This is the painful reality for children in Yemen.

Tourism industry in Yemen

YEMEN TIMES STAFF
TAIZ BRANCH

Establishing a separate Ministry for Tourism, increasing the role of the Tourism Promotional Board and running promotional films on television are all part of the government's latest attempt to revive tourism. Yet these procedures will most likely fail to revive a tourist industry which has been left decidedly moribund in the wake, first of a wave of kidnapping incidents, and then by the September 11 terrorist attacks in the US which has in turn negatively affected the tourism industry in Yemen.

Yemen has long deserved to become one of the world's top tourist attractions. However much remains to be done to establish either a tourist-friendly infrastructure or a defacto "tourism industry".

To shed some light on the future of tourism in Yemen, Mr. Sadiq Salah, the Head of Taiz Tourism Office agreed to talk exclusively to the Yemen Times about Tourist and particularly how he hopes to encourage tourism in Taiz.

Q: What are the tourist attractions in Taiz and how can we make use of them?

A: Yemen is considered the origin and the cradle of ancient civilizations and together with its topographic and climatic variety, and the cheerful nature of its people, it cannot fail but to excite the imagination of any visitor. Taiz, in many ways, represents all Yemen since contains most of the climatic and geographic wonders

that entice tourists to our country. Especially since its climate remains mild throughout the year. Moreover Taiz has many tourist attractions such as historical towns, forts, bustling markets, beautiful beaches, oases, high lands, green terraces, plains and rare birds and trees. We can make use of all that if we make developing tourism a priority, building a complete infrastructure, and more investments in tourism based resources.

Q: What are the reasons behind the tourism decline in Yemen? and how can we gain the trust of foreign tourists?

A: There are many reasons but the most obvious is kidnapping, however the government has acted forcefully to prevent this phenomenon which is absolutely at odds with the deep rooted traditions and customs of Yemen.

Q: "Tourism Industry" - how to start?

A: We should begin by acknowledging that tourism is key economic activity and that a tourism industry demands financial investments as would any other industrial sectors. Providing goods and services for tourists would also nurture local business and manufacturing expertise which Yemen might one day be able to use to increase exports.

Q: What is your assessment to the domestic tourist industry?

A: The importance of this sector lies in integrating the tourism industry with a range of other activities. In fact our most hotels still depending only on the local



Mr. Sadiq Salah
the Head of Taiz Tourism Office

tourism while the biggest and most luxurious have suffered most from the decline in international tourists.

Q: What are the difficulties faced by tourist offices?

A: There is a general lack of understanding of tourist-related affairs and while the lack of the qualified staff is a problem we hope to avoid that through increasing training courses for tourist employees.

Q: What are your future plans to revive tourism in Taiz?

A: As we know, tourism is the future industry; a human contact between nations and civilizations; it is an industry without chimneys. The tourist office plans to increase our attractiveness to the world markets as part of a campaign to show the tourism potential of Yemen and we hope that Taiz can play a significant role in this respect.

Music in Yemen needs protection

SALEH ABDULBAQI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Yemens music is in need of protection. This is evident with the absence of copy rights and intellectual property rights. Though the Ministry of Culture is doing its best to pass laws related to this issue, the enforcement of this law will remain a challenge.

Protecting Yemeni music would

require relevant ministries to coordinate their efforts at the local and international level.

For years now, those responsible for protecting music haven't given enough attention to the folklore protection.

Since the Gulf States are more closely related to this issue, coordinating with them would help Yemen reach the desired results. In most cases folk songs and tunes are performed without attributing them to their original sources, especially in the Gulf countries.

Coordination amongst different agencies involved would help finding a mechanism to protect Yemeni music.

Indeed, many leading musicians complain of songs being pirated by other singers, particularly from the Gulf countries. This is a common problem and it needs to be tackled by the government. Strengthening relations between Yemen's Ministry of Culture and equivalent authorities in the Gulf countries will help bring a change in our music industry.

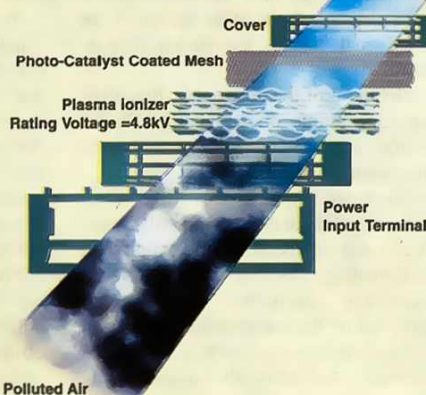
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Kings of bone-setting introduced

BY SALEM AL-FIRAS
FOR YEMEN TIMES

None can ignore the family name Musa'bin especially those involved with setting bones. This name has attracted the attention of Arab, Soviet, Chinese and European doctors. Doctors have visited Aden over the last few decades to adopt the methods of setting bones skillfully applied by this family.

The Musa'bin family has practiced their trade loyally and faithfully in a new one-story building on the Sheikh Othman lanes near al-Wahda Sports Club. As a matter of fact, this noble family represented by Hussein al-Musa'bi and formerly by Abdulkareem has helped thousands of patients not for money but to decrease suffering and

pain. People are treated whether poor, rich, elderly or young. The Musa'bin family believe their reward is the patients' recovery and they feel happy when the patient leaves smiling without pain. The money paid is a secondary matter, just as long as the price of bandages and ointments used in treatment are covered. In order to enjoy this service, the Musa'bin family should be supported practically by officials (specially in Aden), not just by praise. This will create a good relationship with this family and the health office and college of medicine in Aden. Supplying equipment, chairs and waiting room



Hussein Musa'bin



Hussein Musa'bin (right) during a treatment session.

space for patients will make treatment more comfortable for all concerned.

This will be a simple way to thank a family that has served patients silently for a long time. It will also honor not only the "Kings of bone setting" in Yemen but also our noble moral principles.

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Environment and development in Yemen

BY ISMAIL AL-GHABIRI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The republic of Yemen has realized the importance of taking care of the environment and begun taking steps to protect Yemen's environmental heritage. The government has recently established an environment protection authority. It is hoped that this will give additional strength to the environment cause in Yemen. One of main problems faced by environmental groups in Yemen is the lack of any environmental awareness in much of society. However, the organization has been working to convey environment awareness to all people and to ensure that development and construction work take environmental factors into consideration. There is a natural and vivacious connection between environment and development for we cannot achieve one without another. In the long term taking care of the natural environment will not only ensure the continuing productivity of the earth's resources but will also

encourage future investment and development - particularly in the field of tourism.

In the following is presented a few reasons for establishing environmental protection from a development and economic perspective.

Environmental Tourism:

Tourism as a human phenomenon has emerged from an inner need of humans to experience the beauty of natural sights, to take rest in quietness and beauty, and therein to contemplate all the wonderousness of creation. The relation between the environment and tourism is a deep and positive one while the environment provides the most important foundation for tourism.

Tourism increasingly represents an important source of income and foreign currency for many countries. Tourism in Yemen depends on the natural resources such as its beautiful beaches and dive sites, its cultural heritage, and its numerous historical remains, especially its unique urban and religious architectural.

On a world level the island of Socotra represents a unique treasure, as a living, vibrant museum of botanical variety.

For long-term planning of Yemen's

tourism potential one has to identify which aspects of the environment will appeal to which types of tourists while taking into account the infrastructure tourists require (road, electricity and telecommunications, for instance). Key environmental features to be considered in examining a region for touristic potential are the climate, beaches, coral reefs, water creatures and natural protectorates etc.. All these elements are tourist attractions at present. However while there are many economic needs to be taken into account there also be an attempt to preserve these natural wonders for the present and future generations.

In order to fulfill this worthy goal it will be necessary for the government to increase society's awareness of the importance of protecting the environment. Additionally the government must try to encourage people to exploit resources without damaging the environment and to try to limit the harmful behaviour of mankind. This effort must go hand in hand with proper planning and construction of tourist establishments as well as a concerted effort to make sure that the income from tourists is used to improve the standard of living for local people in the area.

Is there enough food for the many?

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The average Yemeni family faces difficult economic challenges. Women make up 51% of the overall population which itself is increasing by 3.5 percent annually. This has amplified the problem of self-sufficiency at a time when agricultural production is inadequate and the income of the lower-class Yemeni family has been declining.

The population explosion in Yemen

has had many inevitable consequences. The impact of this population increase has unfortunately been accompanied by considerable deterioration in agricultural productivity.

Out of the 1,6 million hectare of lands fit for agriculture only 1,2 million hectare is being cultivated. Furthermore water shortages and deteriorating agricultural infrastructure and investment have further depressed output. Consequently agricultural production covers only 7% of local consumption. This problem is especially acute

for cereals. The outcome of all this has been to make it ever more difficult for lower income Yemenis to feed their increasingly large families.

Studies show that the average family consists of seven members. A demographic survey indicates that family size considerably depends upon the level of education of Yemeni woman.

To face the problem of food security for the Yemeni people, there should be some plans being drawn up to curb the population growth and stop the deterioration of agricultural lands.

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Associate Professor
College of Education, Mahweet
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I. What to Say

Situations and expressions (21): Obituary

Death is an inescapable reality. All of us, at one time or another, might have suffered the trauma of bereavement. Consequently upon the death of a person, people insert a printed notice, often with a short account of his life. This is called 'Obituary' which is published in a classified column of the newspaper. The following are some examples of obituary notices:

- We deeply mourn the sudden and untimely demise of our beloved (relation). We pray to Allah, the most generous and the most compassionate to grant eternal peace to the departed soul.
- — passed away on — following a brief period of illness. A Condolence Meeting will be held at (time) in (the place) on (date).
- With profound grief we inform that — is no more among us. He died in a road mishap on —.
- Our revered father — has left us for his heavenly abode on —. Obsequies will be held on — at our residence. (Children)
- — died of heart attack on —. A condolence meeting will be held on —.
- With deep sorrow we inform of the sad demise of our beloved — on — at —. May his soul rest in peace. (names and address of relatives.)
- We regret to announce the sudden demise of our dear colleague —. A prayer meeting will take place on — at —. (Colleagues.)
- On the sad demise of our death colleague —, A condolence - cum - Remembrance meeting will be held at — on —.
- —, beloved wife of — and mother of —, passed away into sublime eternity peacefully, after a brief illness. Deeply missed and fondly remembered by —.
- — reached his heavenly abode on — at —. Obsequies at —. Mourned by family and friends.
- — passed away on — leaving behind his grieving family, numerous friends and admirers.
- On the sad demise of —, the members of — Association express their profound sorrow and offer heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family.

II. How to say it correctly

Correct errors, if any, in the following sentences

1. The shirt fly down to the street.
2. He came back to his quiet.
3. The mother has three sons, they are Mohammed, Ahmed and the little one is Adnan.
4. After she became young, she left her mother.
5. The people were not so much.

Solutions to last week's questions

1. He **kindled** (lit) a fire and started roasting the chicken.
2. Cut your **coat** according to your cloth.
3. He is an excellent **cook**.
4. Akhyr is a good sportsman, **isn't he?**
5. How many **actors and actresses** are working in the film?

III. How to express it in one word

1. First appearance on a public stage.
2. Period of ten years.
3. Falling to a lower level in morals, art, literature, etc.
4. Give more powers to branches, for self-government.
5. Unite for measuring the loudness of sound.

Solutions to last week's questions

1. Sudden and great disaster: **Debacle** (n)
2. One who indulges in sensual pleasures: **Debauch** (n)
3. Certificate given by a business corporation as a receipt for money lent at a fixed rate of interest: **Debenture** (n)
4. Cheerful, bright and light-hearted: **Debonair** (adj)
5. Scattered broken pieces of wreckage: **Debris** (n)

IV Grammar and Composition

a) Composition

Use the following sentences, which are not in the correct order to complete the dialogue below:

I've never seen you there / I usually take my car / Mine's Mofed / At Sana'a Trade Center / Do you like it?

- A: My name is Ahmed. B: —
A: Where do you work? B: —
A: Really? I work there, too. B: —
A: Well, it's a big place and I only started last week. B: —
A: It's not bad. Besides, I can now go to work by shared taxi. B: —
A: Do you? Well. Perhaps you can give me a lift!

b) Idioms and phrases

Use the following phrases in sentences of your own:

1. applicable to
2. appreciative of
3. apprehensive of
4. make approach to
5. appropriate to

c) Words commonly confounded

Bring out differences in meaning of the following words:

1. absurd, foolish, silly, stupid
2. almost, nearly, practically
3. ceiling, roof

Solutions to last week's questions

- a) Grammar
1. You have got **plentiful** (adj)

common sense.

2. It is greatly **disadvantageous** (adj) to have stupid parents.
3. England is a **democracy** (n)
4. A child with parents who have **strength and health** (n) is likely to be stronger and healthier.

b) Idioms and phrases

1. **to all appearances** (so far as can be seen): He was to all appearance dead.
2. **append to** (something added in writing at the end): He appended supporting documents to his petition.
3. **appertain to** (be appropriate to): I have never neglected the duties appertaining to my office.
4. **apple of one's eye** (somebody very dearly loved): The child was the apple of his parent's eye.
5. **apple of discord** (root of a conflict): Kashmir is the apple of discord between India and Pakistan.

c) Words commonly confounded

1. **adaptable** (adj) (able to adapt oneself): He has a quite flexible and adaptable nature.
2. **adaptation** (n) (adapting a work of art for some purpose): The film is based on an adaptation of Hardy's novel.
3. **add** (v) (join one thing to another): The university's decision has added to our difficulties.
4. **odd** (adj) (not regular): This is a very odd time to visit the patient in the hospital.
5. **odour** (n) (smell): Water is colourless and odourless.
6. **udder** (n) (bag of a cow, goat or buffalo from which milk comes): This cow has healthy udders.
7. **addict** (n) (person who is given up or devoted to a bad habit): He is a drug-addict.
8. **edict** (order or decree): There are numerous rock-edicts in many caves in India.
9. **address** (v.t) (say something in speech): The Dean addressed the students on the College Foundation Day.
10. **redress** (v.t) (set a wrong right again): You should confess and redress your errors.

V. Pearls from the Holy Quran

"The Truth is from the Lord;
So be not at all in doubt."
S2 A. 147

VI. Words of Wisdom

"Ignorance is a blank sheet on which we may write, but error is a scribbled one which we must first erase"

—Cotton

My Friend



DR. SHAILENDRA K. MUKUL
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
FACULTY OF EDUCATION, AMRAN
SANA'A UNIVERSITY, SANA'A

You always come.

I see.

Cool, calm and clean.

Neither serious nor frivolous.

There is a covetable balance in thee.

Your blooming face I always read.

It speaks the language

And arouses my feelings.

It fans the smouldering passion in me.

Should a language always be of verbs?

Should it always be of printed words?

Our letters are arbitrary,

Artificial and man-made.

But the language you look speaks

Is natural and powerful.

Words are dead in books.

They come to life and acquire meaning

Only through our reading and understanding.

Though symbols are arbitrary,

They have a system,

Grammar and usage,

Form and function.

But all this is a big show

As our language is vague and deceptive.

Form betrays the function.

Statement becomes the question.

This is not the case with thee.

The language you speak has coherence.

It has colour, passion and significance.

Your beaming face, your sparkling eyes

And all your tears and smiles

Have much to say.

Their form and function

Have meaning and context.

Relation lies between them.

You look what you mean.

You always mean what you look.

My friend, your limited words,

Your composed manners

Are full of meaning and suggestion.

You are like a nymph

Whose appearance and expression beggar all description.

You are the ideal one that exists only in my imagination.

Research Abstract

Effect of Training in Listening Comprehension Strategies on Learners' Frequency of Use and the Amount of Comprehension in This Area



DR. KHALID S. AL-OBAIDY
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR,
DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
ARHAB, FACULTY OF EDUCATION

Recent research in applied linguistics and psycholinguistics increasingly point to listening as the key activity in acquiring language. Nowadays, more prominence has been given to the learner's role in language acquisition and the various strategies he/she uses to construct meaning. Lack of familiarity and practice in these positive strategies is considered one of the major reasons that impedes the learner's ability to comprehend spoken English.

From the researcher's long experience in teaching English, it was observed that EFL students find it difficult to comprehend English, particularly classroom lectures. For the purpose of solving this problem, a study was conducted. The central objectives of this experimental

study was to investigate whether training in using listening comprehension strategies would increase the EFL trainees' use of these strategies and promote their performance on listening tasks. The population sampled in this area were forty-two final-year English course Iraqi students at a Teachers Training College. Unlike the Control Group, the Experimental group, received training on how to use these strategies to solve problems and understand aural messages. The pre-test-Post-test Control group design was used. A 5-scale questionnaire and an aural test were designed and administered to both groups to determine the subjects' achievements in this skill and their frequency of use of the strategies. Results of the statistical analysis showed that training in these strategies has a positive effect on the frequency of strategy use and the learner's performance in listening comprehension.

It is suggested that teachers are given training course that concentrate on helping listeners on how to comprehend what they hear. Substantial training in the positive strategies that might be used by lis-

teners is necessary, both to convince teachers of the utility and value of teaching these strategies and to familiarize them with the instructional techniques that would help listeners become autonomous language listeners.

Students need help in seeing that new information encountered is best understood in the context of familiar experience. Stories, for example, make more sense if we compare them to similar events that happen to us. Awareness of background knowledge will help the teacher determine the average level of the class and identify whether students need extra work to bring them up to the required level. Students should be helped to see the general framework of what they hear, making use of pauses stress and intonation. They should be helped to be selective listeners, discarding redundant information. They should also be prompted to participate in the listening activity. It is the teacher's duty to convince weak or hesitant listener, that making a mistake is not a catastrophe. And that it is better to be involved in the listening activity than giving it up.

A LETTER TO THE TEACHERS OF ENGLISH:

Learn from Your Students

Dear Fellow teachers,

Are you surprised about my suggestion? You will agree with me that there are many things that we learn from our students. They may not be as good at English as you, but what about their general knowledge? So, don't be surprised when I say 'learn from your students'.

I still remember what one of my teacher participants on an in-service course I conducted in India said. She said that when she was teaching a lesson on Cars in her secondary school classes, more information about cars was given by her students than by her, because most of them were children of film artists and had more than one car at home; the poor teacher used to come to

school by the city bus!

Draw the best from the students, when you teach English. You may ask them to say whatever they want to say in Arabic to begin with; once they are aware that you are serious about their participation, they will attempt to say things in English. First of all, this helps them gain confidence and develop a liking for the English classes. The more they involve in the classroom activities, the closer they come to you, don't they? This is one of the ways of bringing them round, a useful strategy in classroom management. Many of us complain that we 'lose' our students most of the time in our English classes; this is one way to keep them with us physically and men-

tally.

It is also true that the children of today are more intelligent than the children of yesterday, that is we, the adults. Let's accept it and try to tap this resource, the knowledge of the learners, for better classroom interaction. There is nothing to be ashamed of it, I think. We consult our colleagues when necessary, don't we? Why don't we consult our students when necessary on matters in which they have more expertise such as films, TV programmes, sports etc? Nothing wrong. Try this and share your experiences with me.

Yours fraternally,
Dr. M.N.K. Bose
(BOSE@y.net.ye)

A Guide for Teaching English in Yemeni Schools (by Dr. MNK Bose): A Critique

HASSAN OMER BAGVI
TEACHER
HODEIDAH

Over the last 40 years, our government has been making its maximum efforts to restructure the educational system in general and teaching English in particular. To prepare good materials for teaching English, the government had to ask the help of some experts in the field of English Language Teaching (ELT). As a consequence, educationalists in co-ordination with the Ministry of Education brought out teaching materials **English for Yemen** and then **Crescent English for Yemen** supposed to meet the students' needs and, at the same time, fulfill the intended aims set by policy makers.

However, not so many of those experts have extended help to English teachers; those who while doing their duties are being increasingly handicapped by various challenges. Yet the much needed want seems to have been fulfilled when a giant and a pioneering step has

been taken by a resourceful professor of ELT Dr. Bose (Associate Professor of English, Faculty of Education, University of Hodeidah). This doctor, since he came to Yemen in 1995, has always been obsessed by the idea of pushing the wheel of teaching English forward in Yemen. Luckily, that obsession has resulted in a newly published book **A Guide for Teaching English in Yemeni Schools**. It is primarily intended for teacher trainers and those who would like to become teachers of English. This book is not a small help as the writer modestly puts, but rather a precious academic enterprise written with a broader perspective of the various current trends of ELT in the world and, of course, as a result of a deeper understanding of the reality of teaching in Yemeni schools. The book consists of fourteen units, all of which are relevant to English teachers in Yemen. These units would help in areas such as teaching of oral skills, reading skills and writing with reference to Yemeni schools, language games and language testing in Yemeni schools etc. In trying to make this book simple and highly readable,

the writer has been very precise, and has excluded long quotations from learned sources. Furthermore, the writer has quoted examples, whenever necessary, from the **Crescent English for Yemen (CEFY)**. Teachers will find it more useful and even easier if they refer to the CEFY materials while reading the units. As teachers of English, we all know that the perfect approach or method does not exist. However, we all agree, whichever different perspective we are looking from, that there is good teaching and there is bad teaching. We also agree that good teaching necessitates a variety of styles to promote learning. Therefore, I think it would be a big help for English teachers to make use of the suggestions mentioned in this book for the betterment of teaching English in Yemen. These suggestions, in my opinion, are valuable and are highly practical. I have personally found many useful things that I have implemented and will continue to implement in my own classroom throughout my teaching career. It resonates well when success is not only done, but is seen to be done.

YOUTH FORUM

Indiscriminate issue of Driving Licences

A driving license is a must for any one who intends to drive a car. But first of all one should take a driving test before acquiring a driving license as it is the practice in most parts of the world. The case in Yemen is, however, different since one can get a driving license by just paying a modest fee to the Traffic Department without taking any driving tests. This implies that there are people who possess driving licenses but who do not know how to drive safely and who also may be illiterate about traffic regulations. This is highly risky for every one including these so called "drivers", since their lives and the lives of others are at peril. Hence the practice of giving away driving license without prior driving test should be stopped. Also driving schools should be introduced across the country to teach prospective drivers how to drive safely and also teach them about traffic regulations which, in turn, will improve the traffic conditions of the country.

Yassin Ba'Obeid,
1st year B. Sc.
Aptech, Sana'a



Children gather around
Oh, this country which
Does not taste the victory
Does not smell the peace.
Palestinian voices

Are heard by the world
But in vain
Every thing has changed for the worse.

Oh, this country which
Does not honor the victory

Does not glorify blood of martyrs
How can it plant the seeds of a new birth?

No day passes
Without massacres
But Intifadh will go on
Children gathering around
Farms of heroes
Guard it from a wild night

Oh, this country
When can it uphold the victory?
Ignite the past by your hand
Return Hiteen again
Do not call Arabs for help
Their weapons are rusted
And disappointment is writ large
On their faces.

Najeed Abdullah Faissal
Level 4
Arts,
Ibb University

TIMES QUIZ (32)

Questions

1. **Energy required by human body is measured in terms of**
a) joules b) watt
c) calorie d) erg
2. **To which of the following places do Penguins belong?**
a) Arctic b) Antarctic
c) Iceland d) None of these
3. **In AIDS patients, the HIV virus**
a) renders the body's own defenses against transformed cells ineffective.
b) turns the immune system off against the invading microbes.
c) turns the immune system of the

host against own body cells.
d) both 'a' and 'b'

4. **It is said that a limited nuclear warfare will generate enough soot and dust, so that a substantial portion of earth would be deprived of sunlight. this phenomenon is named as**
a) Global warming
b) Green house effect
c) Nuclear winter
d) Nuclear doomsday

5. **Which one of the following is not a high level language?**
a) FORTRAN b) Oracle

c) COBOL d) BASIC

Solutions to Times Quiz (31)

1. The music played by snake charmers is not necessary for the cobra to dance because the snake is deaf and is only responding to the threatening movement of the musical instrument.
2. Skylab is the first orbiting laboratory.
3. The trajectory of a projectile is usually parabolical.
4. The eye lens is able to focus near and far objects. This ability is known as Accommodation.
5. On a clear dark night, the number of stars that can be seen with naked eye are 1500.

Local Press

Prepared by Mohammed Khidhr

الحدود

AL-Wahdawi weekly, organ of the Nasserite People's Unionist organisation, 25 June 2002.

Main headlines:

Efforts for the release of al-Ukaimi, member of Islah parliamentary bloc, failed
Government put Mokha, Nashtoun ports for sale,
PM Bajammal: Ready to find a law for each investment agreement
Oil production recedes
A number of detainees, suspected to have links with al-Qaeda, released
Press, civil society organisations decide to file law suit against government in protest to continued retention of Muhsin and arrest of Ibrahim Hussein
Bin Laden still alive, al-Qaeda threatens attacks on American targets with new methods

In its editorial the newspaper says the American president plan he announced in his speech on the Middle East came to re-emphasise that the Arabs have no other choice but that of resistance and all bettings on the so-called peace should be sent to hell.
The American stand has been always biased to the Zionist entity but this time it has appeared more impudent and unveiled an uglier face. Threatening phrases included in Bush's speech against Syria, Egypt, Jordan and the Palestinian leadership have made the speech a declaration of war.
Under the pretext of fighting terror, Bush has sent a warning to Syria demanding it to expell what he described as "terrorist" organisations and requested the Arab countries to normalise relations with Israel without the condition of the Israeli comprehensive withdrawal from the Arab territories.

Bush has also accused the Palestinian leadership of sponsoring terror, ignoring intentionally the atrocities and crimes committed by the Israeli army against the Palestinians. It is regrettable that Yasser Arafat welcomes Bush's plan or parts of it, despite the injustice it contains against the Arabs but rather aims at head of the Palestinian authority represented by Arafat in person.
Bush's plan is only a Zionist-American plan aimed mainly at more intimidation of our nation that is afflicted with leaders accustomed to submit to whims and desires of America.



As-Sahwa weekly, 27 June 2002.

Main Headlines:

Report discloses scandals of corruption inside government institutions
Islah party reminds Bajamal (Prime Minister) of his responsibilities and corruption
Yemeni political parties are facing Elections Higher Committee.
Solidarity with Muhsin and Hussein continues
Columnist Zaid al-Shami says despite local regional and international variables, and although Islamic movements have succeeded in coming out from many political, social and cultural dilemmas in which their foes have placed them, those who disagree with visions and programs of the Islamic movements are still thinking in a mentality of more than 50-year old. Insistence on closing doors of dialogue with the Islamic movements' leaders and thinkers, gives evidence that intellectual elites are still hostage of the past and yearn for conflict.

When Islamic movements cling to

constants they are described as being hardliners because they would not accept compromise over questions related to the ideology. They are accused of selling their principles if they enter in dialogue with parties and political organizations they differ with them in viewpoints. And when they carry out charitable work they are accused of having insincere intentions.
These intellectual elites have managed to control political authority in addition to having swag on culture and economy in Arab and Islamic countries, offering deformed examples and have been incapable of providing means of honorable living. These elites have squandered the nations' energies and time has come when they should be forced to coexist with others and open dialogue with them.



Al-Wada weekly, 26 June 2002?

Main headlines:

The U.S. officially apologizes to the republic of Yemen.
Political dialogue between authority & opposition to be resumed
Yemen gets aid of expired insecticides
New negation system in the Red Sea
Expected increase in number of tourists from neighboring countries.
Attacks against Yemenis in the West continue
Columnist Nour Ba'Abbad says the question of boycotting has for long had a much importance in the conflict with the Zionist entity. Boycotting as weapon gains significance in periods of conflict intensification.
The masses of the nation have appealed for and demanded the use of boycotting goods that should be boycotted. But those goods are still on the marked with the absence of local or friendly alternatives. Meanwhile Arab

satellite Channels and press are still promoting advertisements of these goods and ill-reputed trade companies are still sponsoring TV programs and competitions. This situation has made the Arab citizen feel that these multinational monopolist companies entertain influence to a degree the Arab regimes are unable to take a political-economic decision on boycotting. More dangerous than that is that we experience an effective role of economy and investment within the frame of globalization and weakness of the Arab will decision that give priority to negative effects of boycotting and neglect the positive factors.
It is necessary to reconsider reality of the Arab economy and think of it as integrated economic block with apparent features of independence, productions and revenues.



Al-Jamaheer weekly, organ of the Arab Baath Socialist party, 23 June 2002.

Main headlines:

Political parties refuse elections committee message, warn against its dangers
Oppositions National Council condemns attack on the Baath party headquarters
International body writes Lebanon off its black list
The newspaper's editorial confirms that Yemen's gate to stability and growth is democracy with its dimensions and contents. The political system should stand on pluralism as a base for effective participation. The experiment in 1993 and 1997 represented a translation of that despite the shortcomings that accompanied it as it embodied the large-scale participation.
What the election committee is trying to market through its letters to political parties, is an innovated method having

nothing to do with our democratic experiment for several reasons
It has no legal justification to rely on at a time the 1993-97 experiment has set a norm acquiring the power of law.
Any basis for democratic action that does not depend on political parties' participation, is a process of exhausting content of the political system and steering the democratic experiment towards totalitarianism.
It holds the parties responsible for individual participation whereas it is aware that legal responsibility is individual, not collective. Therefore it seems that the committee seeks for inflicting harm on the democratic experiment.



26 September weekly, organ of Yemeni Armed Forces, 27 June 2002.

Main headlines:

Second batch of Yemeni army men living in Syria arrived Aden.
American authorities study cancellation of intensive search measures against travel of Yemeni expatriates
President Saleh: Yemeni-Russian relations historic, based on mutual cooperation and respect.
Buhra Sultan extols the president stances and support for Islamic nation's issues.
Yemen among pioneering states combating money laundering
Ministerial committee to decide building Saudi oil pipeline across Yemen territories
The newspaper editorial says that the major problem of speech on the Middle East is his linking of the solution to changing the present Palestinian leadership and making reform inside the Palestinian authority. This stand causes astonishment and bewilderment. By reason, one would

wonder how would the Palestinian people accept to have a whatsoever outside party imposing on them, their leadership and stripping them of their own will. How can the Palestinian authority make political, economic, and judicial and security reform or others under the threat of occupation weapons and aggression and the terror imposed by Israeli occupation troops on Palestinian people?

Without Israel's withdrawal from the Palestinian occupied territories of the west Bank and Gaza strip, without ending its siege on the Palestinian people and their leadership and ending its occupation of the territories since 1967, solving the problem of al-Quds and the refugees in a just way in accordance with international relevant resolutions, Bush's demands of reform are nothing than impractical condition, and a expression of Israeli desire that Sharon has announced more than once. Sharon has often declared his wish of removing President Yasser Arafat who came to power by will of the Palestinian people through democratic free elections. Reforms come under normal climates not under occupation, oppression and siege. Bush's speech on reform on the Palestinian part is an attempt to appease the Zionist lobby, the fanatic Christian right and other pressure groups that deny the Palestinian people their legitimate rights. Also, accusing some Palestinian organizations such as HAMAS, Islamic Jihad or others from those living in Syria as terrorist organizations, does not go along with correct logic. These are organizations fighting ending the occupation and achieving freedom and independence. There is an obvious difference between terror and legitimate fighting against colonialist occupier.
Arab and Muslims and the international community should courageously and clearly face the United States with facts.

World Press

Major news items in leading international newspapers

Provided by Xinhua

Lebanon

As-safir
Hizbollah head Sheikh Hassan Nasrallah says he has offered Israel no information about three Israeli soldiers Hizbollah abducted and wants to swap for Arab prisoners in Israel, and demands the release of one prisoner to restart talks on a swap.

Al-Anwar
A feud between Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik al-Hariri and Hizbollah over a controversial construction project continues, as the information minister looks for a

truce between them.

Al-Mustaqbal
Israel storms the Palestinian Authority's compound in Hebron.

Daily Star
The Palestinian leadership calls on the G8 to help forge a ceasefire in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

An-Nahar
Washington searches for an alternative to Palestinian President Yasser Arafat.

Japan

Yomiuri, Asahi, Nihon Keizai
Bank of Japan intervenes in forex via New York Federal Reserve Bank and European Central Bank.

Mainichi
Tokyo Women's Medical University Hospital is to give up Japanese government's designation of advanced medicine facility.

Nihon Keizai
Half of schools, hospitals in Japan are not ready for earthquake.

Asahi
Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi is to decide on cabinet reshuffle in August or later.

German

Berliner Zeitung
German Labor Minister Walter Riester on Friday greeted a proposal by Peter Hartz, chairman of the government-appointed commission on labor market reform, that in future, the unemployed will obtain a chip-card in which his personal data will be stored, thus helping him more quickly find a job.

Die Welt
The majority of German citizens believe that their national team can defeat Brazil in the final of the World Football Cup.
According to a poll by the Emnid institute, 57 percent of the surveyed think that the team led by coach Rudi Voeller can win the champion title.

Nigeria

This Day
The current deadlock between Nigeria's Senate and the Presidency over the non-passage of the 2002 Appropriation Bill Friday got more complicated as the presidency moved to get Deputy Senate President Alhaji Ibrahim Mantuto reconvene the upper chamber which is currently on a two week recess.

Saturday Punch
About 20 people have been killed and great bulk of property destroyed following a fresh outbreak of ethnic violence in Nigeria's central state of Plateau.

The Guardian
The traditional ruler was forced to flee his domain and about 100 people were injured on Thursday following political violence broke out at the Idasen community in Nigeria's southern state of Ondo.

Kenya

Kenya Times
Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi will on Saturday afternoon preside over a ruling KANU rally in Nairobi and launch the new vision for the party and the country.

Daily Nation
Some 29 people have been charged with creating a disturbance during

Wednesday's riots against the UN High Commission for Refugees at Dadaab in northeast Kenya.

East African Standard
Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi said on Friday night that it was unfortunate that many African leaders had made their countries submissive to foreigners in searched economic support.

Philippines

Philippine Daily Inquirer
Only hours after he emerged from a meeting with President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and declared that he was still chief of the Department of Foreign Affairs, Vice President Teofisto Guingona said there were "forces" in the Presidential Palace working to get him out of his high-profile Cabinet post.

The Manila Times
Vice President and Foreign Affairs

Secretary Teofisto Guingona has admitted that he plans to run in the 2004 elections.

Manila Bulletin
Officials of the Armed Forces of the Philippines announced Friday that military teams pursuing the remaining Abu Sayyaf elements have overrun four Abu Sayyaf camps in the southern province of Sulu.

ألف مبروك «منير»

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ومن بين شتى الرياحين والنباتات نختار الأفضل...
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صنعاء - حدة المدينة السكنية - شارع صفر، فاكس: ٤١٤٣١٦، ت: ٤١٤٣١٥
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صنعاء - حدة المدينة - تقاطع ش. صفر - ت: ٤١٤٩١٠، فاكس: ٧١١.٩٥٢٢

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كمبيوتر - لغات - خياطة - تطريز

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مميزات المعهد: جوائز ثمينة لأوائل الدبلومات - أجهزة حديثة ومتطورة، كوادر يمنية واجنبية أكفاء - وسائل تعليمية سمعية وبصرية.

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التحريز: خلف البنك المركزي غرب سوق عقدة، ت: ٢٨٨٠٢٩، فاكس: ٢٨٨٠٠٢

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صنعاء ش. حدة، خلف مطعم الشيباني، طبراني الخليج، جوار نادي هادي ت: ٤٤٠١٥٨، فاكس: ٤٤٠١٥٩

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صنعاء، ش. حدة، جولة مجاهد، مقابل مركز الكيمياء التجاري، ت: ٧٨١١٧٨٨ - ٧٧١٠٧٤٤

مركز وادي النحل
لبيع اجود انواع

المسل الطبيعي

عطور شرقية - زيوت طبيعية

صنعاء، شارع تعز، جولة الستين، جوار مكتب المنيشة،
ت: ٦٠٢١٦٥

ألف مبروك

أجمل التهاني والتبريكات مكللة بأروع الطل والياسمين
نزهة للأخ

علي احمد حسين الميثالي
بمناسبة الخطوبة وقرب الزفاف.. قائل مبروك

المهنون: محمد احمد حسين الميثالي، محمد علي صالح الميثالي، حسين وعبد الله وملا عبد الجليل علي الميثالي، عامل وعبد العزيز وروعد احمد الميثالي

كمبيوتر

٧٨١٢٠٨٩ موديل ٩٥، لون اخضر غامق، السعر ١٧,٠٠٠ دولار، قابل للتفاوض. احمد

عبد ٢٤٧٤٦ للبيع: موكيت شبه جديدة ٥٤٠٤، فراش جلوس عدد ٥ + متاكي عدد

للبيع: سيارة مرسيدس موديل ٩٢، خضسة، ب ٩٠٠٠ ريال، ابواب ٩٠٠٠ بدون جمارك، بحالة ممتازة بسعر ٨ الف ريال، بيجر سامسونج ب ٧٠٠٠ ريال، دولار، للاتصال: ٧١١٠٧١٦٥

للبيع: سيارة نيسان سوفر سفاري ريال، أبو نوار، ت: ٢٤١٢٨٢ أو موديل ٩٩ في حالة ممتازة عداد ٧٨٨٧٨٢٢

٢٨,٠٠٠ كم، لون ذهبي، وسيارة متوفر اعداد من خطوط تلفونات اخرى هونداي، موديل ٩٧، لون ابيض سيارة نظام كروت للبيع باسعار مناسبة. بحالة ممتازة، عداد (٩٢,٠٠٠) كم. ٧٨١٠٤٤٢

للبيع: بيجر متورولا تلفون: ابوبكر ٨٥٧١٣٥ احمد عباد، بيجر: ٨٥٧١٣٥

للبيع: سيارة نيسان ٩٠، جيب بابين، ٤ بستون، لون رمادي اسود، عدد ٢٠٠,٠٠٠، بسعر ٧٠٠ الف ريال، ت: ٧١١٠١٩٧٧

للبيع: كمبيوتر بانتيوم ٢، متكامل، السعر ٢٩٥ دولار. ت: ٤٤٠٩٥٨

للبيع: شاشة كمبيوتر حديث وجديد

للبيع: تلفونين شارب ١٤ بوصة LG ١٥ بوصة + لوحة مفاتيح موديل حديث، وجديد مع ستلايت ام مايكروسوفت + ماوس جينيوس باد، ستار، مع ملحقاته، بسعر ٢٠٠ دولار. ت: السعر ١٤٥. عمرو مبارك: ت: ٢٢٢٥٩٩

ألف مبروك

أجمل التهاني والتبريكات مكللة بأروع الطل والياسمين
نزهة للأخ

علي احمد حسين الميثالي
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المهنون: محمد احمد حسين الميثالي، محمد علي صالح الميثالي، حسين وعبد الله وملا عبد الجليل علي الميثالي، عامل وعبد العزيز وروعد احمد الميثالي

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ت: ٢٥١٣٥٤، فاكس: ٢٥١٣٥٢، حاتف: ٢٥١٣٦٩
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صنعاء - ش. الزبيري، ت: ٢٠٠٥٢ - صنعاء - مركز صنعاء التجاري، ش. الجزائر، ت: ٢١٢٤٣٧

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خياط الهلال الحديث

لصاحبه: صادق احمد الشميري

خياطة راقية. (أحواض مختلفة).

شارع القيادة أمام فندق سام، ت: ٢٨٢٧٤٥

ألف مبروك

أجمل التهاني والتبريكات مكللة بأروع الطل والياسمين
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عبد الجامع مكره

بمناسبة ارتقاءه المولودة الجديدة (إيمان)..

قائل مبروك

المهنون: السيد محمد احمد المسني، نوفل وفهام وحسام المسني، أسامه علي المسني، عبد الله الرمي، اكرم السقا

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للبيع: شقة مفروشة مكونة من ثلاث غرف نوم وصالة استقبال، وصالة طعام، ومطبخ، وتلفون. تقع الشقة في حي شيراتون أمام المدينة السياحية، للاستفسار: عبد الله الواحد. ت: ٢٢١٢٣٧٨٤

للبيع: بيت في حي دارس ثلاثة ادوار + بدروم، ٦ لين، بمبلغ ١٧ مليون ريال قابل للتفاوض. احمد محمد عبيد، ت: ٢٢٧٦٢٠، منزل: ٢٤٧٤٦٦

للبيع: بيت في حي دارس ثلاثة ادوار + بدروم، ٦ لين، بمبلغ ١٧ مليون ريال قابل للتفاوض. احمد محمد عبيد، ت: ٢٢٧٦٢٠، منزل: ٢٤٧٤٦٦

سيارات

للبيع: سيارة لاند روفر ديفندر ١١٠، ١١٠

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لغة انجليزية، ت: ٤٤٠٩٥٨

■ مطلوب: طبيب اسنان للعمل إلى العنوان التالي: عيادة الوليد في عيادة اسنان خاصة للأسنان. د. خالد الحجاجي، جوار

بصنعاء، للاستفسار: ت: المستشفى الاملي، ت: ٢٤٧٦٢٦

٤٤٨٣٢٥، فاكس: ٤٤٨٣٢٥

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سكرتيرة: ت: ٤٤٩١٠

■ مطلوب: موظفة لمحل في الكمبيوتر واللغة الانجليزية، خبرة في

ملابس نسائية (معرض الحاسبة لمدة سنة ونصف، يرغب

نوموتي)، فهي محمد، سيار.

ت: ٢٢٧٦٢٠

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18

'A stitch in time saves nine'

M – The saying goes, 'A stitch in time saves nine', Mus'ida. And the Yemeni proverb says, 'If you don't save from the top of the sack, you won't be able to save from the bottom.'

Ma – These days no one bothers about stitching clothes any more, and we don't have any sacks. The old days have gone, and what has passed has passed.

M – You're right, but the old days still have their value with all the wisdom and sayings attached to them: The Yemeni proverb goes, 'If you're prepared to patch your clothes, you won't go naked.'

Ma – For goodness sake! And just who patches their clothes these days, and what is it you want to have patched. Just tell me!

M – The two pairs of shoes belonging to the little boys, and my sandals that I'm going to wear during the Eid.

Ma – Do you and the boys really intend to wear those worn-out sandals and shoes for the Eid. Don't you feel in the least bit embarrassed!

M – They are not worn out, Mus'ida. They can be mended and polished until they look like new. I'm not going to pay out 7,000 or 8,000 riyals for a pair of sandals and two pairs of shoes. **Ma** – Just brace yourself, Mus'id, and go and buy shoes and sandals even if they cost you 10,000 riyals. It's the Eid of God, and the only thing people care about on the day of the Eid is how they look.

M – What use is appearance when your pocket's empty and you're worried about where the money will come from for the housekeeping and the children! Perhaps you could write me a cheque from your own personal bank account, Mus'ida?

Ma – My dear husband, the only thing I know about banks and personal

accounts is what I've heard from other people.

M – So where are you going to find out more, and how will you get to know when you don't even understand the sayings, 'A stitch in time saves nine' and, 'If you're prepared to patch your clothes, you won't go naked'!

Ma – I've already told you that no one patches their clothes anymore these days! The days have passed when your grandmother would stitch a patch on the back of your *zinna* the size of a bread cushion.

M – Hah! I didn't realise that you had become educated and a comic to boot! I thought you just sat around doing nothing, taken in by all these false appearances and ostentation!

Ma – God preserve you, Mus'id. We're now living at a time when everything comes down to appearances. Those who don't pay up and get others to pay up may as well just lie down and die!

M – This is just it: I don't want to copy other people. I want to have my sandals and the children's shoes mended so that we can wear them for the Eid.

Ma – Do what you want! Wear them for the Eid, or go barefoot as far as I'm concerned, but I do care about what other people say, and they'll say, 'Mus'id's wear-

ing the only pair of sandals he's got, and his children are still in the shoes they got for the last Eid!'

M – Don't bother about what other people say. What I'm thinking is that my sandals, after I get them repaired, will last me a year, and the children's shoes will last them for two more years. The Eid, Mus'ida, is not about appearances and showing off and extravagance, or about laughing at other people's clothes and food. The Eid is a religious occasion for contemplation and thinking and reflecting on yourself and your conscience. It's also a valuable opportunity to renew relations with those who are close to you and to spread love and happiness to people who really need it, either by doing something for them, or by giving gifts, or simply by smiling!

1 Cf. al-Akwa', p. 1069.
2 Al-Akwa', p. 1216.



If you're prepared to patch your clothes, you won't go naked!

Mohammed Al-Shaibani

Horoscope

by Boadachia



Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 19)
Your life is due for a major overhaul. You are instructed to leave behind the outdated worries and doubts that keep you from having it better. It won't require putting yourself through scary confrontations. It's time to trade in the old ghosts in the closet for renewed faith and hope.



Taurus (April 20 - May 20)
Whatever you do, don't dare buy a planner right now. Your emphasis should be on one day at a time. Resist the allure of planning for the future. Keeping commitments or dreaming about your life are not what I'm talking about here. You need to be comfortable with testing how happy you are in the moment, without getting lost in what tomorrow is supposed to look like.



Gemini (May 21 - June 20)
How far are you willing to go to reach your goal? What are you willing to lose and how irresponsible are you going to be to make sure you don't give up on that fixed expectation? The choice is yours. But know this: even if you don't achieve what you first set out to do, realize that there are other possibilities to the same plan.



Cancer (Jun 21 - Jul 22)
You are now ready to master more emotional control than ever before. This comes from going through crises that have given you the ability to learn and move on. You have also gained strength to transform your life. As a result, you are aware of the fact that you now can make better decisions, which will result in some wonderful feelings and emotions that you have previously deprived yourself of.



Leo (Jul 23 - Aug 22)
There is someone waiting to take you to great places and reach amazing heights in love with you. You will know who that person is when you see that they are the leader, and not you. You will know this person by your ability to surrender and trust them to show you the way to bliss. In the meantime, stop trying to be the leader in your own love life. It's just not the right thing at this time.



Virgo (Aug 23 - Sept 22)
Establish connections with others who will support you in your transition from doing away with frustration and reaching for the juicier and yummier things in life. Ask for support, find coaches in the right people, and allow others to push you over this hump, into the next best place waiting for you.



Libra (Sep 23 - Oct 22)
An intelligent and enlightened person is coming into your life. They are sincere, honest and straightforward. They will teach you by example and help keep you from falling backwards again. There are still some things which you must give up, in order to achieve the level of rebirth that you are now capable of. You will learn how to give up these things, because this person will teach you that with birth and new awakenings in life, comes death as well.



Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)
You have embraced enough slings and arrows of fate, to know that there is always an upswing here and there. You are being helped in such a large way, to bring opportunities for fulfillment and most importantly, to finally be valued for your giving and caring ways. The key phrase in this scope is "align yourself".



Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)
Sagittarius (November 22 - December 21) Create a personal philosophy that includes your beliefs about what is moral, ethical, and kind. If you make decisions and follow a path according to this defined wisdom, you can't go wrong. Sure, you may swerve from time to time, fall off the wagon, as they say. But, along the way, and in the end, you will learn to walk your own straight path.



Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)
Have you ever really watched the sun rise? I don't mean seeing it when you have to get up for work, or seeing lightness, but not the actual transition from darkness. You need to set your alarm for the sole purpose of waking up while it's still dark and schedule a time and place to just watch the sun rise. Everyone should do this at least once in their life.



Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)
Give things away for free. Put yourself out there, with little concern for what will come back. The time is ripe to put away fears about giving it your all. Don't be afraid anymore that it might not be able to work. You will, for sure, get nothing and nowhere if you hold onto those kinds of thoughts.



Pisces (Feb 19 - Mar 20)
It's easy for you to feel alone more often than not. So, I don't want you to abandon people, by any means. Be sure to keep your loved ones close to you, because you will want them to notice your upcoming transformation. They are important in making sure you stick to your new full-on regimen.

The Universal Crossword

Edited by Timothy E. Parker

ACROSS

- 1 Guy in Texas with a glove
6 Setting for many sci-fi films
10 fact
14 Billiards bounce
15 Fit of fever
16 Liquid holder
17 Film starring 56-Across
20 Sort
21 Create, linguistically
22 Opposing forces
23 Muffin stuff
24 Mythical king of the Huns
26 Film starring 56-Across
32 Belted night sight
33 Light as a feather
34 Turkey's name?
36 Sand diggers
37 Comic strip orphan
39 "Caprichos" artist
40 Grounded bird
41 Low blow?
42 Ecclesiastical law established by a church council
43 Film starring 56-Across
47 Like a squid's squirt
48 Chemical ending or compound
49 Feeling faint

DOWN

- 52 Boot add-on
53 Measure of economic activity (Abbr.)
56 Star who turned 70 on February 27, 2002
60 Role for Leslie Caron
61 Contemporary of Claudia and Naomi
62 Danny's "Taxi" role
63 Gamble badly
64 Luminescence
65 Contest mail-in
1 When King Lear disinherits Cordelia
2 Humorist Mort
3 Laborious journey
4 CD follower
5 15th letter of the Greek alphabet
6 Yacht lot
7 Ballet based on Stravinsky's music, by George!
8 Capek classic
9 Shot-clock abbr.
10 Czar nicknamed "the Terrible"
11 Briton's predecessor

ACROSS

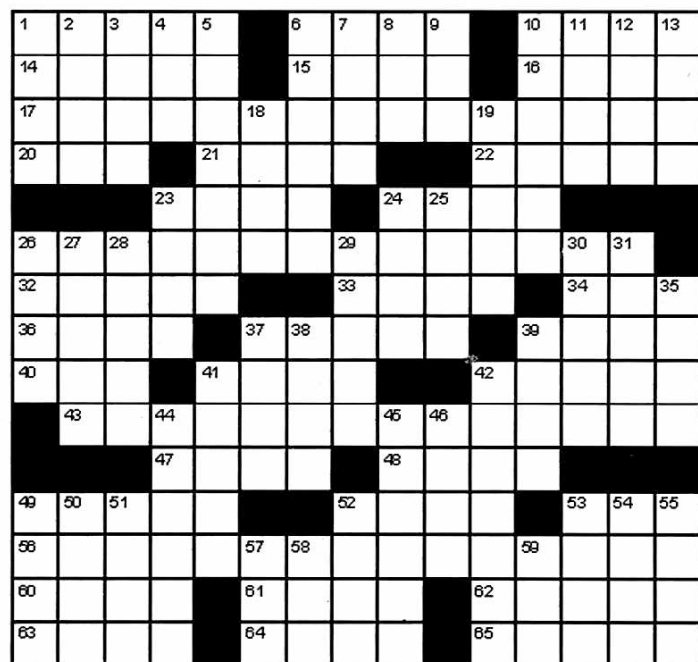
- 12 H.H. Munro
13 98, for one
18 Chestnut horse
19 Comeback, in sports
23 They sometimes accompany photos
24 Overly zealous
25 Hatcher or Garr
26 Miniature missive
27 Wait from the bakery
28 Moor at 6-Down
29 Hawaiian isle
30 Stiff collars
31 "Would I lie?"
35 "Death in Venice" author
37 Donald of cartoons
38 Go by the rules

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

1 L A S T 2 A L O H A 3 J A M B
4 E L I A 5 R E M U S 6 U S E E
7 O N S 8 E V E N S 9 T R A
10 J U N K E T I N G 11 S T A I R
12 L E E 13 J A K A R T A
14 N I N J A 15 S O U P
16 A R O U N D 17 N R A 18 O N M E
19 T O N G 20 B E Y S 21 S O I L
22 O N E G 23 B A A 24 S W E A R S
25 E D I B L E 26 O S H E A
27 B L A R N E Y 28 N I C O
29 L E O N A 30 J U D A S T 31 R E E
32 O T R A 33 P A R I S 34 O I L Y
35 T U T U 36 K N A V E 37 J A K E
38 S P A T 39 S E L E S 40 L E S

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"HAPPY BIRTHDAY" By Fran & Lou Sabin



7-Day Weather Forecast

Sana'a

Day	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
Hi	31	31	31	31	31	31	31
Lo	15	14	14	14	14	14	14

Aden

Day	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
Hi	42	42	42	42	39	39	39
Lo	28	28	28	29	26	26	26

WONDERWORD

by DAVID OUELLET

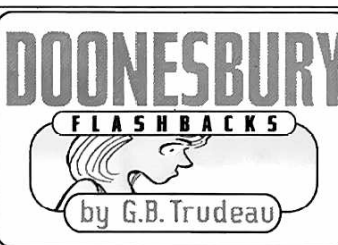
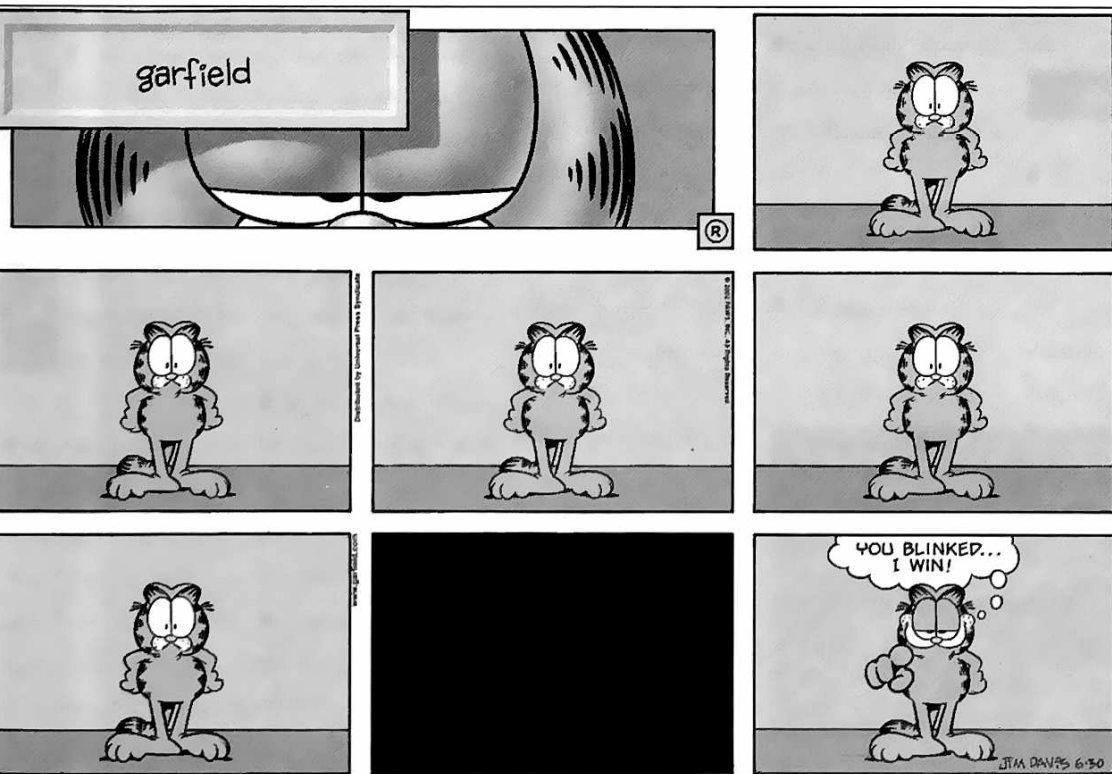
HOW TO PLAY: First read the list of words, then look at the puzzle. The words are in all directions—vertically, horizontally, diagonally, backward. Circle each letter of a word found and strike it off the list. The letters are often used more than once, so do not cross them out. It is best to find the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

CLUES

Agincourt	College	Inglewood	Nevanod	Sheets
Algoma	Dean	Janmar	Nickel	Skill
Arenas	Dell	Keast	Normandy	Symphony
Autumnwood	Diane	Kingsmount	Oak	Tarneau
Avalon	Dominico	Laforest	Oriole	Team
Barrington	Drew	Lebel	Papertree	Tree
Barry	Dube	Lombardy	Park	University
Bays	Dunvegan	Luoma	Part	Vats
Beaumont	Edgehill	Marie	Plows	Wellington
Benny	Edmund	Marigold	Plumtree	Wilma
Bethel	Edward	Martila	Prete	Windemere
Brebeuf	Frontenac	Metal	Quinn	Windle
Canada	Gladi	Mining	Rack	Woodbine
Cars	Gravelle	Mode	Ramsey	Work
Choice	Guildwood	Montel	Rink	Yollie
Clue	Horobin	Needs	Roger	

ANSWER NEXT WEEK

Last Week's Answer: Serenity





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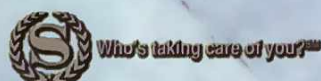
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فرع عدن: ت: ٢/٢٤١٢٧١ - فاكس: ٢/٢٤١٢٧٩
فرع حضرموت - المكلا - الكورنيش: ت: ٠٥/٣٠٤٦٢٢

Korea-Japan World Cup 2002 comes to a spectacular end with a Brazilian win over Germany in the final 2:0

Brazil's CUP

YOKOHAMA, Japan (Reuters) - Brazil won a record fifth World Cup on Sunday when Ronaldo erased the memory of his 1998 final nightmare by scoring both goals in a 2-0 victory over Germany.

The striker, who suffered a fit before Brazil's 3-0 defeat by France four years ago, buried a loose ball on 67 minutes after Germany goalkeeper Oliver Kahn had spilled a Rivaldo drive.

He grabbed his second with a smart right-foot shot 12 minutes later after picking up a Kleberson cross after a Rivaldo dummy.

"The goals crowned my work and the work of the whole team. I worked for 2-3 years trying to recover from that

injury and today God reserved this for me and the Brazilian team. I am very happy," Ronaldo said.

The striker, who has had a series of leg injuries and underwent two operations since 1998, dedicated his goals to "my family in the first place and my physiotherapist who fought with me without knowing that we would be here two years later".

Ronaldo finished the current tournament with eight goals -- the most at a finals since 1970 when West Germany's Gerd Mueller got 10 -- and equalled Pele's Brazilian record of 12 at World Cup finals.

Ronaldo was seen in tears of joy as he held tight to his country's flag.



Brazil's captain Cafu lifts the World Cup trophy after his team won the World Cup final against Germany in Yokohama. REUTERS/Dylan Martinez

Turkey Celebrates

Another celebration was held in Turkey, whose team defeated S. Korea and gained the third place in the Korea Japan World Cup 2002 in a spectacular match that ended 3-2 for Turkey.

The match also witnessed the fastest ever goal scored in the cup. Hakan Sukur was able to stun the world by scoring 11 seconds after the game started.

Yemen Times would like to congratulate Turkey for this fabulous success.

But at the same time, we would like to hail South Korea for the Asian pride it created. Both teams have made history.



Turkey's Ilhan Mansiz (L) is congratulated by teammate Hakan Sukur after scoring Turkey's second goal against South Korea at their World Cup third place play-off match in Taegu June 29, 2002. Sukur scored the fastest goal in World Cup Finals history. REUTERS/Desmond Boylan

Qatar Airways launches first flight to Yemen

Qatar Airways, one of the fastest growing airlines in the world, launched its first flight to Sana'a on June 29. This is the 35th destination for Qatar Airways.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by Mr. Ali al-Arife, Regional Manager for the Arab-Gulf & Middle Asia of Qatar Airways and Sheikh Hamid al-Ahmar, chairman of the board of al-Ahmar Group, a long with a number of Yemeni officials.

In an exclusive statement to the Yemen Times, Sheikh al-Ahmar, said that the Qatar Airways will initially operate three scheduled flights between Yemen and

Doha and Abu Dhabi on Saturdays, Mondays and Wednesdays.

"The flight on Wednesdays will start as of one month from now," Sheikh Hamid said. "The Qatar Airways has recently made great strides, and starting its flights to Yemen will help boost the development of Yemen," al-Ahmar concluded.

The Qatari Ambassador to Yemen told the Yemen Times that the new Qatari flight to Yemen will activate Yemeni-Qatari trade relations and tourism. "This is the natural outcome of the wise policies of the two fraternal countries led by president Ali Abdullah Saleh and his Highness Hamad bin Khalifah, Amir of Qatar."

At the press conference held at the Sana'a Airport, Mr. Ali al-Rais pointed out that the launch of the flights at this point of time is intended to be in time with the beginning of summer so as to give travelers the chance to come to Yemen aboard Qatar Airways.



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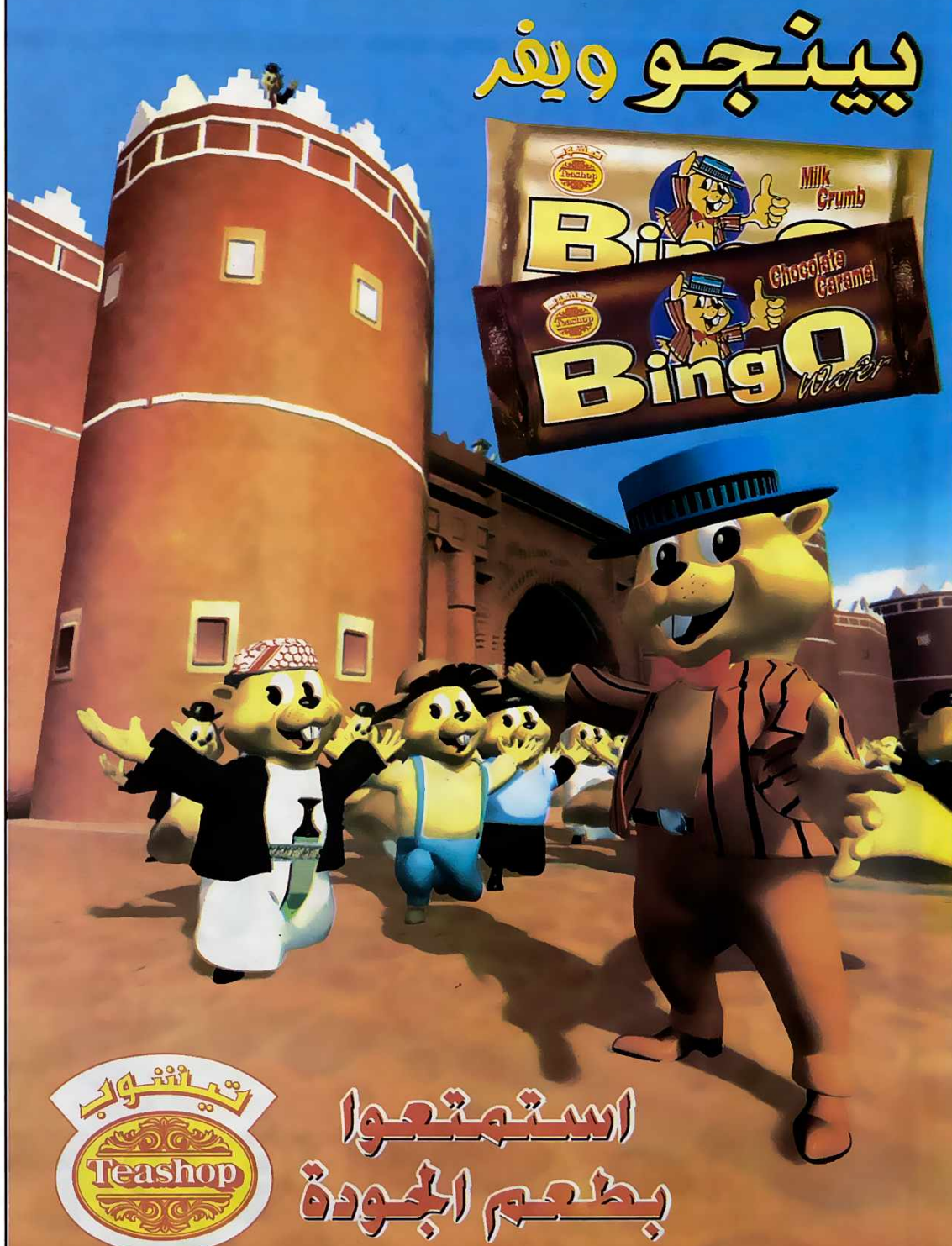


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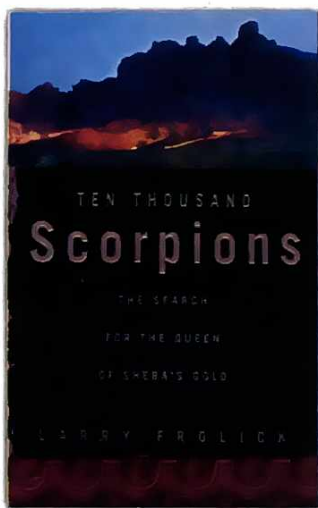
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New book identifies ancient Marib as the capital of the Queen of Sheba

Yemen's role in the birth of civilization is the subject of a major new book, published last month. The book, entitled 'Ten Thousand Scorpions/The Search for the Queen of Sheba's Gold', was written by Canadian author Larry Frolick after his extended research in Yemen and other countries in the Middle East. The book identifies Marib, the capital of the Iron Age Sabea culture, as one of the archaeological wonders of the world, "equal to anything in Egypt or re-Colombian Mexico." The author, a cultural journalist who has written several books on Western social history, hails Marib for its early cultural and technical innovations. Marib's first contribution to the world history was its unique architecture, early literacy and art styles. But the ancient town was also a technological landmark, operating a



A photograph of Yemen's spectacular Haraz mountain chain graces the cover of the book.

vast wadi (seasonal river) stone dam:
"This Marib dam was a marvel of engineering: a huge stone dam that fed



Larry Frolick

an entire civilization for over 1,500 years. A civilization of high culture, learning, and literacy, when Paris was only a shepherd's hut and London a cattle wallow. And this dam was unbelievably advanced. Not merely a stone pyramid for the dead; but a complex stone machine for the living."

Frolick was assisted in his research by Yemen Times journalists Mohammed Al-Hakimi and Farouq Al-Kamali. The writers provided him with field notes and the oral folklore surrounding Bilqis, the traditional Yemen name for the Queen of Sheba. During his tour he also interviewed Dr. Yussuf Abdullah, the Director of the National Museum in Sana'a.

Dr. Abdullah, a world expert on South Arabian archeology, theorizes that the story of the Queen of Sheba is epic, "used to validate the founding of a royal dynasty." Professor Abdullah advised Frolick to continue his researches across the Red Sea in northern Ethiopia. The book describes the results of the author's investigations in the old royal Ethiopian capital

of Axum, originally a colony founded by Yemen settlers before 600 B.C. In Axum, now a remote town near the disputed border with Eritrea, the author found ancient alabaster plaques, stella, and carvings identical to the Sabea artifacts in Sana'a's National Museum. Frolick also discovered that the language of the Axumite tomb carvings was in famous South Arabian script as well, thus proving the ancient connection.

Continued on Page 5

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