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Monday, 8 July 2002 - VOL. XII • Issue No. 28 • Price 30 Yemeni Riyals • Founded in 1991 by Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf

Government retaliates following the attack against Deputy Chief of Staff Brigadier in Jawf

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HASSAN AZZAIDI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF
Yemen army deputy chief of staff brigadier Ali Mohammed Salah, was wounded in his shoulder when his helicopter came under fire last Thursday while flying over al-Marfadh village, al-Zahir district in the Jawf region, 180 km from Sana'a. The helicopter was forced to make an emergency landing at the government compound of the Jawf governorate. In retaliation to that, troopers

from the military forces stationed in the Jawf region supported by artillery units from the Republican Guard shelled the Marfadh village where culprits were believed to be hiding. No injuries have been reported yet. Tribal sources said that sheikhs of Dhuhin and al-Asharaf belonging to Marfadh village have given in a number of their sons as hostages to the authorities until perpetrators are found, however officials



Ali Mohammed Salah

refused this proposal. Sheikhs of Jawf seek to broker a deal to stop military operations that may lead to an all-out war in the region. The area presently enjoys a relative calmness after the halt of artillery shelling that lasted for three hours. A tribal sheikh of Jawf denied any link between the detention of MP sheikh al-Ukaimi at the military prison in Sana'a two weeks ago and the attack on the helicopter.

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MIG 29 planes procured

MOHAMMED BIN SALLAM,
AGENCIES
President Ali Abdullah Saleh launched this month the second phase of the annual military training program by adding a number of warships to the navy force. The new fleet includes Polish-made NS-722 landing tank ship capable of carrying a detachment of troops along with ten tanks and ten personnel carriers. It is also capable of carrying helicopters. This modern landing tank ship is equipped with several torpedoes. Yemen also received the first batch of sophisticated Russian-made Mig-29 Fulcrum fighter jets to back up its air force. Yemen's air force includes 30 fighter and ground attack air-

craft, 25 fighters including five MiG-29s, 18 transport planes and 25 helicopters, according to the International Institute for Strategic Studies. Minister of Interior, Dr. Rashad al-Alimi, pointed out that the USA, Italy and a number of Arab states are supporting Yemen to establish its patrol force to monitor its long coastline, and islands scattered in the Red Sea and Arab Sea. Some twenty officers from the ministry of interior will receive training in the United States to this effect. Saleh said in his word for commissioning of the new ship that Yemen is a country of peace, but it won't stay silent towards any act of hostility,



MIG 29 jet fighter

adding that there's no development without strong military forces capable of defending the achievements of the country. "Building a strong army is not a threat to any country but to defend the sovereignty, achievements, and unity of our country," Saleh added. He concluded that Yemen's armed forces are an essential pillar for the stability of the region."

Al-Qaeda leader escapes from prison

YEMEN TIMES STAFF
A leading member of al-Qaeda in Yemen detained by Yemeni authorities has fled the prison where he is being held, Alwahadawi newspaper reported last week. The paper added that a detainee of al-Qaeda, arrested following the September 11 attacks, escaped last Saturday from a prison in Aden, which is used for detaining al-Qaeda prisoners originally brought from Sana'a. Sources didn't mention the identity of the escapee, but it

said he's a dangerous element originally from the governorate of Shabwa. He has been reportedly arrested after returning from Afghanistan, where he was a field commander of al-Qaeda. According to some reports, officials in charge of the prison and Aden's security officials are currently under interrogation. President Ali Abdullah Saleh has warned tribal leaders of providing shelter to suspected al-Qaeda elements.

Continued on page 3

MPP gets \$20 million from Italy

YEMEN TIMES STAFF
The government of Italy decided Friday to relieve Yemen from its debts to Italy put at \$20 million. The minister of interior said that Italy decided to single out this loan to Yemen to the establishment of the Marine patrol police (MPP) meant to prevent the flow and infiltration of suspected terrorists to Yemen. Yemen is currently establishing this project in collaboration with the U.S.A. and other countries like Germany, Saudi Arabia, Italy and Britain. The U.S.A. is concerned that al-Qaeda elements might infiltrate into Yemen, having a long coastline stretching over 2000 km.

The minister of interior, Dr. Rashad al-Alimi visited Rome last week. He said his talks with Italian officials focused only on the security cooperation in the field of countering terrorism, illegal immigration and the Italian technical assistance to the Marine patrol police. He said the two sides postponed the signing on a security cooperation protocol, till next October where the Italian president is expected to visit Yemen in response to invitation extended by president Saleh. The interior didn't give reasons for this postponement. The protocol includes a program to promote cooperation and the technical assistance of Italy to the marine patrol.

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Scotland Yard team collects information on Egyptian extremists

MOHAMMED AL-QADHI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

A security team from the Scotland Yard Britain arrived in Sana'a last week to gather information on Egyptian extremists who live in London and suspected to have links with al-Qaeda network.

A European diplomatic source told the Times that the team which includes high ranking officials asked the Yemeni authorities information on Abu al-Hamza al-Masri, leader of the London-based supporters of al-Sharia'a Group, and Yassir al-Seri who also lives in London. The team also asked for information on Ayman al-Dhawahiri and other Islamic extremists

who lived in Yemen for sometime before moving to other countries like Britain, Canada, Afghanistan, etc.

The team met several important officials and visited some institutions whose telephone numbers were found at the house of al-Seri which was searched by police nine months ago.

Washington wants London to extradite al-Seri, suspected to have links to al-Qaeda network. Some Islamic extremists lived in Yemen for sometime and were protected by Yemenis who fought in Afghanistan in the 1980s.

The team's visit is the first step in the Yemeni-British cooperation to crackdown on terrorism.

U.S. Embassy issues new advisories

The U.S. Embassy in Sana'a has recently issued two advisory notices regarding current security screening procedures at the U.S. airports and border crossings. The advisories are both for Yemeni nationals and to American citizens in Yemen who may be subject to enhanced security screening of their luggage and other personal belongings.

Yet, the enhanced inspection procedures do not preclude travel by

Yemeni nationals to or from the United States, and they do not affect the validity of their visas.

A press release by the U.S. Embassy adds that American citizens traveling to or from Yemen may be subject to additional inquiries associated with their visit to Yemen by U.S. authorities at U.S. ports of entry or by airline authorities prior to boarding.

The advisories will remain in effect until further notice.

No exam for computer students

Students of the Computer Science Dep. at Taiz University were not allowed to take their 2nd semester exam for not paying the annual tuition fees of YR. 70,000 each.

Protesting this measure, students staged last week a sit-in before the governorate compound demanding the concerned bodies to reduce the tuition fees to YR 35,000. Such demand has been totally rejected by the Deanship of Taiz University. They also staged

another sit-in before the Parliament and the Higher Education Ministry last Tuesday.

When the students were admitted, they had been informed to pay YR 70,000 as fees for the four academic years and that they should be paid in installments. But the university has decided to raise the fees to YR. 70,000 each year to cover the equipment expenses of the department. There are 88 students enrolled in the department.

Sultan of Bohra leaves Yemen

His highness the Sultan of Bohra, Sayed Mohammed Burhanuddin left Sana'a after a ten-day visit to Yemen in which he met with president Ali Abdullah Saleh.

He also attended the ceremony made in the Haraz region for marking his anniversary which was attended by around 12,000 fellows of Fatimid doctrine from Yemen and outside world.

The Bohra community around the

world come every year to Yemen to visit the tombs of the doctrine's founders and other holy shrines.

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Muhsin & Hussein stand before court

Stop hassling press!

The second session of trial of two journalists was held yesterday by the Eastern court of Sana'a.

Abdulraheem Mohsen and Ibraheem Hussein stand trial on charges of inciting sectarianism, regionalism and insulting the president of republic in their articles. They are also accused of abusing the rational unity of the country. The two articles appeared before the court while their hands chained.

Advocates expressed surprise at the speed in which the trial is being conducted after they have been transferred from the prison of the political security office (intelligence) to police station prison.

The prosecution of the press and publication held only one single interrogation session and they were transferred to court.

Their appearance with chained hands agitated the anger of human rights activists and journalists as they are writers not criminals.

A number of human rights activists and journalists carried out a sit-in in

front of the office of the general prosecutor last Wednesday demanding the release of the two writers. The protesters met the general prosecutor Dr. Abdullah al-Ulofi who showed understanding to their demands. He promised to discuss this with the court judge Ahmed al-Jurmuzi.

The advocates of the detained writers also demanded that the General prosecutor should hold the people who detained the two writers without any legal arrest warrant accountable. The prosecutor promised to look into the demand.

If the two writers are convicted, they would face a sentence of no more than one year in jail.

The two writers were detained at the intelligence prison. The interference of some human rights activists to the president led to the transfer of their case to the prosecution and then to the court.

On its part, the Yemeni Journalist Syndicate (YJS) expressed last Wednesday its concern over the recent

developments concerning the case of the two journalists, Abdulrahman Muhsen and Ibraheem Hussein currently in detention.

The YJS also demanded through its chairman Mahub Ali, "releasing them since their detention is illegal."

Advocate Mohammed Naji Allow, told the Yemen Times, "the editor-in-chief of Al-Thawri newspaper has been detained without a legal warrant, and without filing any charge against him "Families of the detainees had not also been informed about their whereabouts although this a legal right that is ensured by the constitution," he added.

The Press & Publications Prosecution has referred the case file of Mohsen and Hussein to the Western court after interrogating them.

A number of human rights activists and journalists have expressed their concern over the continuous backsliding of freedom of press and expression in Yemen. Some NGOs concerned urged the government to stop hassling the press and opinion makers.

Saudi oil pipeline across Yemeni territories

Yemeni cabinet last week approved an agreement of principles concluded between the Government of the Yemen Republic and the United Company for Pipelines to study building oil and gas pipeline from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia to one of Yemeni coasts on the Arabian Sea across Yemeni territories. The endorsement was decided in the light of amendments carried out by the ministerial committee set up by the cabinet last week.

KPA calls for boycotting Israeli products

Kana'an for Palestine Association called on people to boycott all kinds of Israeli products and services to pressurize the Zionist entity to stop its war of extermination against the defenseless Palestinian people.

A recently issued press release on behalf of the association requested from all people to step up a massive boycotting campaign against Israeli products, as well as products of countries supportive to Israel.

The release also requested adopting new techniques for boycotting such as using euro in offshore commercial transactions, avoiding buying products manufactured by companies dealing with Israel, and looking for new travel destinations where Israel can't obtain any benefit.

Health policies highlighted

Under the auspices of Dr. Abdulnassir Munaibari, Minister of Public Health & Population, top management of the ministry, as well as representatives from Dutch, German, Italian, and Japanese embassies, WHO, UNICEF, EU and other donor agencies held an extended meeting last week in Mareb to discuss issues pertaining to health policies, Drug Fund, and national Strategy for fighting Malaria.

The meeting also tackled a number of health related issues geared towards activating health care referral system amongst the different health care departments.

Dr. Al-Munaibari called the ministry top management to coordinate efforts through standardizing concepts, patients case files, issuing national health care identity numbers, and creating a central database.

SEC holds its meeting

The supreme Election Committee (SEC) held a meeting last Monday presided over by the SEC's Vice Chairman Eng. Abdullah Mohsen al-Akwa'a. The committee approved the proposed reply to the letter addressed to the committee from parties of the joint meeting. The reply stressed the committee's firm stance

regarding election law enforcement and the committee's neutrality and independence from other bodies. The committee showed its willingness to hold logical dialogue with a view of enhancing democratic principles and making use of elections' experience in accordance with the election and referendum law no 13 for 2001.

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Yemen Times office in Taiz has moved from its old building on Jamal St. to the Alhadaf Computer Institute Building next to Al Yemenia Building, Hawdh Al Ashraf.
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2002 يونيو 22-26

58 International companies showcase their IT & telecom products at JITCOM 2002

Preparations are in full swing for launching the information technology market (IT) in Yemen at the Jazeera Exhibition for IT and Telecom Technology JITCOM 2002. Apollo Company for Exhibitions is organizing this event for the fifth time at the Sana'a Exbo Center July 22-26 under the auspices of the Ministry of Telecommunication and in coordination with the Yemeni Industrialists Association- IT branch.

Many big IT companies will take part at this event as the case was in the previous years. The number of companies to participate in the event thus far is 58 international companies.

Excerpts of top executives of main participating companies:

Breaking the barrier



H.E. Abdulmalik al-Mua'alimi, Minister of Telecommunication, said that the exhibition is an important event in this IT-dominated era. It also comes to support the government's trends to strengthen the IT and telecom infrastructure so as to be the focal point for achieving a comprehensive development in all fields. This event will undoubtedly help spread digital-oriented awareness amongst individuals so as to break the barriers between technology and society.

We appreciate the efforts exerted by the people in charge of organizing this event and request from related agencies and companies to cooperate with the organizing company to ensure success for this event.

Stronger relations with the rest of the world



Mr. Abdulwahab Abu Luhum, chairman of the boards of Sana'a Chamber of Commerce & Industry, said that "organizing commercial exhibitions in Yemen has been playing a key role in revitalizing the

economy of the country. These exhibitions have opened new horizons for trade exchange among nations of earth, especially as these exhibitions are focal point for promoting and showcasing different products. They're also a good place for creating trade relations amongst the different manufacturers and corporations from different parts of the world.

JITCOM 2002 is indeed a reflection of Sana'a Chamber of Commerce & Industry's trends to establish solid relations between businessmen from Yemen and the rest of the world.

A leading exhibition



Tawfiq al-Nihmi, GM of the organizing company stated, for the fifth consecutive year Apollo has been organizing specialized exhibitions in Sana'a on IT and telecom technologies to showcase the new products and technologies, including the GSM technology of leading international companies.

It is a source of pride for us that the exhibition this year is organized in coordination with the Ministry of Telecommunication and the Yemeni Industrialist Association- IT department.

The success potentials of this exhibition is reflected by the wide participation of companies. Organizing companies, led by Apollo, are committed to promote development in this country in line with the government's orientations, headed by president Ali Abdullah Saleh, to achieve a comprehensive development in the country.

Public more interested in IT



Regarding the participation of the Yemeni Industrialists Association (YIA) in the exhibition, Ali Abdulhafidh al-Yusefi, head of the IT Division at the YIA and GM of Yemen Soft for Systems and Consultation said: The performance

of the IT exhibition held in Yemen in the past was so humble, although the companies had exerted their efforts to best showcase their product. This is partially due to the absence of a public interested in IT. But today, we believe that things have significantly changed to the better.

Continued update



Khalil al-Jabal, chairman of the board of Al-Jabal Group, pointed out that JITCOM 2002 has a big importance because information system has become an essential part for today's business. Aptechnology always takes part in such exhibitions since we're a leading international education center that updates its curricula on a yearly basis. It's known that the information system is always changing, thus our curricula cope with these changes.

Integrated solutions



On his part, Nabeel al-Jarmuzi, chairman of the board of the Computer Engineering World said the importance of this exhibition lies in the fact that it will include every thing new in the IT and telecom sector. The most important thing is that we're presenting computer integrated solutions and not merely showcasing products for sale. We intend to make our clients familiar with the our solutions that will help them at all levels.

Great opportunities



Tareq al-Haidari, General Manager of Sabafon, said: An important objective of this exhibition is that it will introduce the contribution of modern technology to the digital sector. It will also avail

the public the chance to know up-to-date developments in this field as well as the benefits gained from these technologies whether at professional or personal level.

Sabafon as a leading GSM service providers aims to present the best services and achieve more and more success through benefiting from state of the art technology in the telecom industry. For sure our participation in the exhibition will give us the chance to achieve our aspirations to introduce modern solutions for the telecom technology.

Technology for all



Mr. Faisal Abu Luhum, GM of ASS, said as you know the world is running against time amid the rapid progress of the IT which has become a turning point in the progress of nations.

In Yemen we should cope with this rapid progress through cooperation at all levels (government, private sector, and individuals). The objective of our participation in this exhibition is to showcase and market everything related to modern technologies.

We give a particular focus to the solutions pertinent to transferring and exchanging information. We work as agents for leading international companies like Reuters financial and information services. We also have information processing and networking company. We will focus on an important issue which is [education] through the use of state-of the art technology. In addition, we are dealers for Compaq. Most importantly is our own programs that have been developed by our Yemeni staff, and hopefully we will have the chance to exhibit these products.

Support & promotion



Abdulrakib al-Ba'adani, GM of Net Technology, stated that JITCOM has become a yearly tradition in which

computers users and dealers meet together for marketing their products. New products and computer solutions are presented here. Fortunately the telecommunication infrastructure of the Public Telecommunication Corp. has significantly developed. The recent launch of the Yemen Gateway Internet service with faster speed and lower prices is an encouraging factor for the telecommunication business in Yemen. We call on all companies to benefit from this technology to connect their head offices with branches which will tremendously facilitates their business, reduces costs, and helps in decision-making.

We intend to exhibit all computers products, peripherals and networking solutions with special offers during this event.

Educating public

Assa'd Jabir, Sales Manager of Natco Information Systems, said that this event is of major importance for both dealer and users. We are very interested in informing the public about what is new in the computer technology. We intend to sell our products in various ways and discounted prices that meet the demands of the different segments of the society. Our show will include modern HP and Acer computers and peripherals. We will also demonstrate some of our software.



Mr. Ummar al-Nihmi, Apollo Marketing Manager, pointed out, undoubtedly the IT and telecommunication sector in Yemen has remarkably developed. Thanks are due to the country's wise political leadership and its recommendations to the relevant agencies to create an environment conducive to investment.

Under the current development plans the private sector has a larger role to play in supporting the economic and technical progress of the country. Thus, our company organizes IT and telecom exhibitions of which the upcoming JITCOM exhibition.

Challenges facing female diplomats

By: Fahmia Al-Fotih
Yemen Times Staff



Attended by a large number of political and diplomatic personalities from different embassies and governmental and non-governmental organizations and under the patronage of the Foreign Minister Abu Bakr al-Qirbi, along with Oxfam organization-Britain, Sister Arab Forum for Human rights held a workshop on Thursday, July 4, 2002 at Hada Hotel in Sanaa to discuss the challenges that diplomat women face.

Mrs. Amal al-Basha, the President of Sister Arabic forum for Human Rights, gave a welcome speech on this occasion in which she elaborated the important role that the forum plays in protecting human rights values and in defending equal citizenship between men and women.

She also criticized the injustice represented in a number of laws related to women. "Woman's decision to be a diplomat is a difficult choice as for example it will limit her marriage to a husband from the same career" she said.

She added that all the obstacles could be removed easily by a responsible and political decision to make the laws courageous and fair.

Foreign Minister Dr. al-Qirbi had assured in his speech that his Ministry gives equal chances to men and women

alike. "Diplomacy requires special skills and abilities that do exist equally in men and women. We do not believe in discrimination in this regard. We give chances to both in a competitive manner" he said.

Then readings about the famous Yemeni women diplomats were delivered. The first was that of Yemeni Ambassador to the Netherlands Mrs. Amat al-Aleem al-Sosowa, who presented her experience as a female ambassador and how she was able to adapt herself to this position. "Diplomatic work needs patience, calmness and well-behavior besides continuous hard work. I hope I could hear about other Yemeni women nominated as ambassadors" she said.

From Egypt Mrs. Gamila Ali Raja, the media counselor in Yemeni Embassy sent her participation in which she thanked the forum, the sup-

porters and the participants from Yemen and other countries for organizing such a workshop on a topic that had never been targeted before. "Women are half of the society but 2% or more are the efficient ones. There certainly are some bright examples of Yemeni women famous in the Yemeni public life, however they are just individuals in a long queue of qualified women who are eager to participate in developing the country. But unfortunately, traditional obstacles prevent them from doing so. The efficient participation of women cannot be achieved without the support of the Yemeni political leadership" she said.

Mr. Atef Athybat, chargé d'affaires of the Jordanian Diplomatic Institute and the Regional Manager of Human Security, had shed light during the event on the types of difficulties faced by women diplomats and gave an idea

about the Jordanian woman's status in diplomacy.

The workshop was concluded by reading different experiences of ambassadors from four countries. The first to present her experience was Mrs. Frances Gay, British Ambassador to Yemen, who talked about the British women's experience in working in the Minister of Foreign Affairs.

Then Mrs. Ramzia al-Eryani, a prominent individual active in promoting women's right talked about her experience as the first woman who worked as an ambassador and discussed the discriminative articles in the Yemeni law such as the retirement issue that reduces the role that the diplomat women could play in the society.

Concerning the German experience, Mrs. Gudrun Isphording, Deputy Head of Mission in the German Embassy exposed the German woman's experience in the diplomacy and the achievements she was able to accomplish.

In spite of the current situation in Palestine, a bright Palestinian example was also represented. Dr. Fatima Rabah, the General Manager of Women Office in Palestinian Presidency and Member in the Supreme Council for Childhood explained her experience and concluded that women can be efficient and successful diplomats under any circumstances.

Response to U.S. report (part VI)

d: Arbitrary Arrest, Detention, or Exile
Under this point the report says, "Despite these constitutional and other legal provisions, arbitrary arrest and prolonged detention without charge are common practices."

- The answer is included in this allegation itself. The valid constitution and laws do not allow the existence of such common practices. In order that the report is characterized by credibility there should be a mention of cases upon which we can respond in a refuting manner. As the allegation comes in contradictory and unspecified way, it is then far from reason. Details have previously been mentioned in the course of replying to what has been mentioned in the general allegations section.

The report says "In May the PSO detained journalist Hassan al-Zaidi and held him incommunicado for 16 days, at times in solitary confinement. In September the PSO again detained al-Zaidi for two weeks."

- In reality the above mentioned had been detained on 8 September 2001 due to his connection with kidnappers of the Trade Attaché at the German embassy and had been released after the end of the case. It is not true that he was held in solitary confinement during the period of his detention.

In the same paragraph or the report "In practice many authorities abide by these provisions only if bribed."

- We want to clarify here that decisions of release are compulsory to implement by the concerned bodies as they are issued by the same authority that has the right to order imprisonment and there is no room for compromise regarding decisions of release or detention. This is stated in the law. It would have been better if the report mentioned some of such cases to be responded to.

In another part the report mentions that, "Amar Mahmoud Ali Abdo al-Madhaji was arrested by Criminal Investigation Department (CID) officials in May and

held without charge for approximately 6 weeks. Al-Madhaji's family claimed he was walking down the street in Sana'a, coerced a confession from him regarding his purported involvement in terrorist activities, and then held him incommunicado. The government denied the family's version of al-Madhaji's arrest."

- For clarification we say that Amar, the son of Mahmoud Ali al-Madhaji was held on charge of trying to communicate with a foreign side and he was carrying a letter addressed to the U.S. ambassador on the incident of USS Cole Destroyer and the information in it proved to be untrue. He was charged with offering false statement and troubling authorities. The case was referred to prosecution on 2 July 2001.

In another point the report mentioned that "In cases in which a criminal suspect is at large, security forces in some instances detain a relative while the suspect is being sought."

- This is a groundless allegation. Constitution and laws have safeguarded the citizen's freedom unless he had committed a crime requiring his detention. This is a general irrevocable rule. If it happens in some cases that a criminal suspect's relatives are held it means that either they are involved in the same case with the suspects or for sheltering them. These are very rarely happening cases, but they happened then the law is the reference to be referred to.

The report mentions that "Aziz Mohammed Musaid, who was arrested in Taiz in September 1998 and charged with intent to commit adultery, was released on bail in December 2000; however, his trial remained pending. Musaid's case has languished and he remained in jail because the presiding judge, Abdul Jabar Taha al-Kharasani, refused to adjudicate the case. In October 1999, the minister of interior ordered al-Kharasani to turn over his cases, including Musaid's, to another judge, but he

refused to do so. Al-Kharasani was finally compelled to do so in December 2000, and another judge has taken the case."

- It has been previously clarified in detail that the mentioned case was decided by the court and that tackling it in the way it has been mentioned in the report is considered a deformation of laws and intervention in internal affairs because the interior minister usually does not give orders on turning over cases for that is the job entrusted with judiciary itself. Assessing the judge's work is the task of judicial inspection authority and giving directives to the judge is defined in the judiciary power law, which entrusted that to judiciary. The minister of interior could not give his orders to the judge to turn over the cases to another judge or court because that means interference by the executive power in affairs of the judiciary power. The constitution and law provisions have prohibited that and there is no lawsuit due to prescription. The interior minister is within the executive power which is subject to prosecution supervision and implementation of orders, decisions and sentences issued by judiciary pursuant to texts of constitution and provisions of valid laws.

The report has also mentioned that "Unauthorized private prisons also exist in tribal areas in which the government does not exercise authority effectively. Persons detained in such prisons often are held for strictly personal reasons and without trial or sentencing."

- This point has been previously made clear within the reply on "General Allegations" heading. We affirmed that there were absolutely no unofficial prisons and prisoners are committed to official prisons in accordance with specific measures, laws and rules. The one who prepared the report should have defined whereabouts of the prisons he meant.

The report says "In December the government deported approximately 100 foreigners, many of whom were studying at Muslim religious schools, who allegedly were in the country illegally. The government claimed that these persons were suspected of inciting violence or engaging in criminal acts by promoting religious extremism. The government deported them using existing laws that required foreigners to register with the police or immigration authorities within a month of arrival in the country."

- The state, represented by the ministry of interior seeks to check up persons breaching Yemeni immigration and passport laws and to take legal measures against them, including deportation. As a result of campaigns carried out by concerned authorities at immigration and passport authority, the mentioned students were detected and some were deported for violating the law and the remainders of the group were not deported after they had rectified their position. This is done by various states for the implementation of their existing laws and rules.

e. Under the paragraph of "Denial of Fair Public Trial", it has been mentioned

that "The constitution provides for an 'autonomous' judiciary and independent judges; however, the judiciary is not fully independent, and it is weak and severely hampered by corruption, executive branch interference, and the frequent failure of the he authorities to enforce judgments. Judges are appointed by the executive branch, and some have been harassed, reassigned, or removed from office following rulings against he government."

This phrase has been repeated previously and here is a detailed clarification of the points mentioned though the title of the paragraph itself is unacceptable on the whole.

First of all judges are appointed by the Judiciary Power and appointment decisions are issued by the Judiciary Supreme Council that is the highest at the Judiciary Power chaired by the president of the republic. This seems the reason why the person who prepared the report confused between the executive and the judicial powers in the question of appointing judges.

It is absolutely incorrect that the judges who issue rulings against the government are removed. many of judges who have issued such rulings are still working normally at their courts and many of them have occupied senior posts at Judiciary and we wonder where the report has acquire such a mistaken information. Concerning judiciary weakness, it is a questionable matter as all judges are not appointed in judiciary career unless they have graduated from the college of law. Moreover, before granting him this title, the judge should have passed two years of study at the Higher Institute for Judiciary and then he would be granted a degree of assistant judge. The ministry of justice has, in cooperation with governmental and non-governmental sides, exerted great efforts in training and qualification of judges and members of general prosecution in fields of human rights, public liberties. Those efforts have yielded acceptable results and played good role in the process of awareness of this important segment regarding human rights. The call is still existing for international organisations and donor countries interested in this field to continue their support.

The report has also mentioned that "In August 2000, members of the Bani Dhubian tribe kidnapped judge Adul Rahman Abu Talib..."

- For clarification we mention that security forces managed to release the judge through mediation of some notables in order to secure his safety, and even before interference of security forces the mediatory people succeeded in convincing the kidnappers to release the judge.

It has been mentioned in the report that "Judges at times 'appoint' attorneys present in their courtrooms to represent indigent defendants; however, such attorneys legally are not required to take the case, although most accept in order to avoid displeasing judges before whom they must appear later."

- Responding to this allegation appointing attorney by judges is obligatory

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according to the law of legal profession. The allegation of any moral coercion in appointing attorneys is having no evidence.

The report mentions that "By law prosecutors are a part of the judiciary and independent of the government; however, in practice prosecutors consider themselves as an extension of the police. They do not receive normal judicial training that judges do, nor do they fulfill their legal obligation to prosecute police who delay reporting arrests and detentions."

- To clarify this point we affirm that the Attorney General is a complainant chief witness in the republic and has the right to file it. All members of the general prosecution, at various levels in the governorates, work as deputies of the Attorney General, entrusted with supervision and continued regular inspection of detention centres, prisons and juvenile reformatory institutions to be sure about legitimacy of imprisonment and arrest, according to paragraph (g) of Judiciary Power No. (1) for 1991 and according to the prosecution establishment law and provisions of punitive procedures law and other relevant laws. He is also a supervisor on work of judicial monitoring officers. All of them, each within their authorities and specialization, are subordinates of the Attorney General and also subordinates to his deputies in the governorates and districts. The Attorney General deputies are also supervisors on judicial monitoring officers with regard to their jobs, and that is in accordance with article (52) of Judiciary Power and provisions of punitive procedures law and other relevant laws.

Part VII to be continued next issue

HE Japanese ambassador to Yemen 'If Yemen's security situation keeps improving, we can expect inflow of more tourists as well as businessmen into Yemen.'

INTERVIEWED BY
MOHAMMED KHIDHR
DEPUTY EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
YEMEN TIMES

Mr Oki has been assuming his post in Yemen for more than a year during which he has been very active in following up the task of promoting the friendly relations between his country and Yemen in various political, economic, cultural and social areas. During a one hour interview I discussed with him many topics ranging from politics to economic and cultural matters having to do with cementing the friendly relations of the two countries. He has spoken in a friendly and frank way, pinpointing means and ways for developing the process of cooperation with Yemen at various levels.

I began my interview with a question on his most recent activities especially his most recent tour of some Yemeni governorates.

With the typical modesty and courtesy the Japanese are renowned of, His Excellency the Japanese ambassador to Sana'a Masamitsu Oki received me at his office in the embassy building at the exact hour of our appointment for conducting an interview with his excellency. His modesty and transparency has facilitated the meeting and gave it an atmosphere of freedom to put on table whatever topic I wanted to discuss with him.



HE Mr. Masamitsu Oki, Japanese Ambassador

Q: Mr ambassador, you have been on a tour of some Yemeni governorates lately would you kindly tell us about objectives of that tour?

A: First of all, Yemen is a large country, on the map it doesn't look so large but 50% larger than Japan that means larger than many European countries and I noticed that Yemen is very diverse northern part of Yemen like Sana'a and southern part of Yemen like Aden and Hadramaut are very different. So if I am sitting at my desk in my embassy in Sana'a, I cannot understand this country. That is partly the reason why I travel all over Yemen and I have already been to many governorates including Hadramaut, Socotra, Hodeida, Taiz, Ibb, Lahj, Aden and Dhamar. I see the situation in every governorate as different. And one of the reasons for visiting the governorates, apart from learning how people live and what kind of place it is, is how to assist the governorates in development.

Many foreigners have an image that Yemen is not a safe place. However, when they come here they find what they heard was exaggerated.

Q: Have you visited some particular institutions where Japan offers assistance?

A: We are one of the top donors to this country. We feel Yemen needs a lot of assistance that covers many fields especially those that meet the requirements of basic human needs, like health, water supply and basic education. In the health sector the major assistance focuses on the support for the Tuberculosis Control Program and eradication of various diseases like polio. We also support the solid waste management project in Yemeni cities because solid waste directly affects health and environment. There is also an annual grant we extend to agriculture sector to procure agricultural machinery, equipment and plant protection items that aim at increasing food production in Yemen.

We have another cooperation scheme called "Grant for Grassroots Projects." This scheme is designed to support small-scale projects implemented by

community-based societies, schools, hospitals and local councils. The policy of this scheme does not differ from that of our grant aid policy, focusing on basic human needs. Last year we implemented eleven projects under this scheme and we are very pleased that those projects were met with high appreciation of the targeted beneficiaries. While we visit those governorates, we can see more precisely what is the need of those governorates. Another reason to visit governorates is to strengthen the relationship, not only with the central government but also with governorates' people, including politicians, businessmen and people connected with culture and media....

Q: Perhaps you are also keen to meet civil society organizations?

A: Yes, we also meet with civil society organizations. In the governorates I meet with various people and in this way we strengthen our relation between Yemen and Japan.

Q: Japan and Yemen have a long-standing history of very friendly relations, would you be very glad to hear from you an account on beginnings and developments of Japanese-Yemeni relations.

A: Japan has enjoyed very strong relations with this country even when there had been two entities. Compared to some other countries, Japan has been a newcomer to Yemen. But always the relationship between Japan and Yemen have been good because we have no political problems and from the beginning we have been assisting in development of this country in both South Yemen and North Yemen. After the unification we have even stronger economic cooperation with Yemen.

Q: Do you remember the date or year when you opened your embassy in Yemen?

A: We opened our own embassy in North Yemen in 1989 and in South Yemen in 1990. Before that, in 1976, our embassy in Saudi Arabia began embassy function with North Yemen. In 1977, our embassy in Egypt began a function of the embassy in South Yemen.

Q: Could your excellency tell us in more detail on areas of Yemen-Japanese cooperation and future plans for consolidating them?

A: First of all we try to have more frequent exchanges with the people of Yemen. We need to develop relations in wider spectrum through exchange of vis-

We can deepen our political dialogue through exchange of visits of politicians, government officials and other high-ranking people.

its. More Yemenis should visit Japan and more Japanese should visit Yemen. The successful visit of President Ali Abdullah Saleh to Japan three years ago gave a strong momentum to promote the good relations between the two countries. Keeping this momentum going serves the bilateral relations. Since the end of last year four high-ranking Yemeni officials made successful visits to Japan, namely H.E. Dr al-Qirbi, the minister of foreign affairs, H.E. Dr al-Ahmadi minister of fish wealth, H.E. Mr Sofan minister of planning and development and Mr al-Kohlani the mayor of Sana'a. We have been successful in this regard, but we want more.

Yemen is a strategic country in the Middle East, while Japan would like to continue contributing in world peace. We can deepen our political dialogue through exchange of visits of politicians, government officials and other high-ranking people. For example Mr Nabil Basha, vice-chairman of the committee of foreign relations of parliament visited Japan immediately after September 11 incidents of last year and explained the situation in Yemen which helped Japanese side to understand the Yemeni political and security position. Also when foreign minister Dr Qirbi went to Japan last March, he conducted a very fruitful political dialogue with the Japanese side. We encourage this kind of political dialogue at various levels. And probably, as I said before, economic cooperation is one of the most important areas of relations with Yemen. It is so because Yemen needs a lot of assistance, either financial or technical. They have been doing very well in economic reform, but as a large country they have a lot of needs, such as trade and investment. The trade volume between Japan and Yemen is quite big either way because we export cars, machinery and electronics from Japan, while we import petroleum and fish products. So this we have to encourage as one of our functions. Right now, however, Japan's investment in Yemen is not so successful partly because Japanese economy is a bit stagnant right now and partly because the Yemeni side needs more infrastructure, human resources and publicity. Also there should be legal incentives and tax incentive. I think Japan has to become stronger in economy and also Yemen has to do her homework to attract more investments. Compared to neighboring countries like Saudi Arabia, Oman, United Arab Emirates, Yemen has to prove it is a more attractive market, otherwise it cannot bring more investment.

Q: Some people think perhaps one of the reasons of slowness in Japanese or other countries' investment is attributed to the question of security.

A: That is a very important element. There are two aspects of security in this country; one is the image and the other is the real security. Many foreigners have an image that Yemen is not a safe place. However, when they come here they find what they heard was exaggerated. Therefore the press and media can contribute to improve the image of Yemen to the foreigners. In this context we highly appreciate the appointment of Mr Nasr Taha Mustafa as a government spokesman. I hope this will lead to the inflow of more foreign businessmen and tourists into the country.

The second aspect is the real security. Now the situation seems to have improved. Fortunately, no kidnapping has taken place since November of last year, also we have not witnessed major terrorism acts recently. So this is a good sign. I very much appreciate efforts of the government in this respect and also some tribal sheikhs who denounced such acts. If this continues, it is good, as security is an important factor. If Yemen's security situation keeps improving, we can expect inflow of more tourists as well as more businessmen into Yemen. I heard that organized tours of Japanese tourists are expected to resume later in the year.

Q: As Japan's ambassador to Yemen, what is your personal vision

on further cementing both countries relations?

A: I think we are very happy with our existing, relations, however we can still strengthen our relationships and there are several areas we can make the effort. One is the political dialogue. We can promote high-level exchanges of visits like ministers, parliamentarians, and politicians so that we can exchange views. I think we have many views in common although you are in the Near East and we are in the Far East. I want to emphasize the cultural side as function of the embassy. As an embassy we would like to have more cultural understanding between Yemen and Japan because we both have very rich culture. Last January, a gathering was held in my residence, regarding the issue of "Dialogue Among Civilizations". I learned through this gathering that Yemeni people admire Japanese people for the level of technology. But the Japanese culture is an unknown area for many Yemenis. So we need to make more efforts to know each other in the field of culture.

Yemen is a beautiful country with its mountains, green fields, and islands like Socotra. However, many people do not notice the value of the beauty of their country. They don't take care of it.

Q: Culture is the best medium for mutual understanding among peoples. What do you think of the idea of exchanging cultural weeks to be held in Yemen and Japan?

A: I think this is a very good idea. We are thinking about this and we would like to introduce Japanese culture in a more comprehensive way, as culture has many aspects.

Q: Cultural activities can be distributed over the course of a year. There are many weeks of various cultural topics, such as sport, theatre, cinema, education and folklore. What do you think of this?

A: Yes, for example we are having the so-called Asian cinema week at the beginning of next August to show Japanese and other films. We are also thinking of many other cultural events during the course of the year. In addition I'd like to inform you that there is the Yemeni-Japanese friendship society which is also undertaking the teaching of Japanese language. I'd like to add that we can do more in press. This is very important; the TV programs and newspapers can tell all people about each other. So we would like to promote this. I think we can still make more efforts in many ways.

Q: How do you assess the Yemeni democratization experiment, and what are aspects of relationship between Japanese embassy and Yemeni civil society organizations in the democratization process?

A: First of all Yemen has been doing very well on its path for democratization in spite of so many difficulties it has had, such as the unification, the civil war and so on. In spite of those obstacles, Yemen has been very determined to democratize. Already we believe that Yemen has made progress, such as in areas of decentralization, parliamentary elections and local councils. Regarding human rights affairs, though there is more room for improvement, I think compared with



HE Japanese ambassador Masamitsu Oki and Deputy Chief Editor Mohammed Khidhr

many other countries surrounding Yemen, human rights issue is making progress. Female rights issue is also in the right direction. We encourage this. In 1998, during the presidential elections we helped by donating ballot boxes to all over Yemen. This is evidence that we appreciate and we want to cooperate in the democratization process.

We have cooperated with NGOs here because we have so-called grassroots assistance which penetrates into the general public who needs it, like the handicapped, street children, and we have been in contact with many NGOs in order to help in grassroots process.

Q: There are societies and institutions taking care of the handicapped, what are the aspects the Japanese embassy is contributing to develop care rendered to the handicapped here in Yemen?

A: We pay this section of the society considerable attention in an attempt to help them face the requirements of life in enabling them feel that they could be creative, self supporting and useful to their country. Apart from our large volume of assistance to the central government, we have extended many grants to institutions that take care of the handicapped, be they private or governmental institutions. Recently we assisted the blind people at the institute for development of the handicapped in Taiz by providing equipment for training the blind. We also assisted in furnishing the house of orphans with beds and other needs. In Sana'a we provided a bus for the handicapped ladies at the "Challenge Association for Disable Women" to transfer them from their houses to the training centre. We are ready to assist the handicapped people in Yemen.

We have another cooperation scheme called "Grant for Grassroots Projects." This scheme is designed to support small-scale projects implemented by community-based societies, schools, hospitals and local councils.

Q: Back again to cooperation with Yemen's media. How strong is your country's relationship with Yemeni media men? Do you have certain ideas to promote this relationship?

A: I highly appreciate the role played by Yemeni media and journalists in highlighting developments that occur in many fields. The democratic process in Yemen is witnessing under leadership of president Saleh provides favorable circumstances to journalists to play even bigger role and to endeavor more efforts to upgrade awareness of the people towards many issues. I think our relationship with media is quite good. We invited three journalists from the Yemen Times to Japan. One of them is the late Dr Abdulaziz al-Saqqaf, former editor in chief of Yemen Times who visited Japan in 1998 and exchanged points of view with government officials and Japanese journalists. We will continue inviting mass media people to Japan. A Japanese TV team visited Yemen mainly to shoot films on Yemen's natural landscape. The have already showed films in Japan about Kawkaban, Hadramaut, Sana'a and Socotra. I think we can do more

because many Japanese people do not know much about Yemen, especially the beautiful landscape of Yemeni historical places like Shibam and Seyon.

Yemen TV can do the job. I hope there will be more coordination and cooperation between the two mass media organizations. Many people cannot read or write, therefore the TV can play a great role and, hoping that some Japanese drama films can be shown in Yemen to show Japanese culture and way of life. We have extended assistance to both Channel 1 in Sana'a and Channel 2 in Aden to procure modern equipment of several-million dollars to improve their broadcasting.

Q: In token of Yemen Times cooperation we would like to receive regularly press releases on your activities to be published in the newspaper.

A: Yes, that is a good idea. We are ready and will try to send more press releases so that we can provide more information. Thank you for your suggestion.

Q: What are your excellency's impressions on Yemen, country and people during the time since you have assumed your post here?

A: I feel very comfortable in this country because I notice that the Yemeni people are very warm and hospitable. Traditionally, the Yemenis like the Japanese. I've been all over Yemen and when I told them I'm Japanese they open their minds, so that's very nice.

I've been quite lucky in my work both at governmental and other levels. I receive very good cooperation from the Yemenis. However, I would like to have closer relationship between the two peoples. The way to do that is to bring more Japanese to Yemen as tourists. Japanese are enthusiastic travellers. Twenty million Japanese travel abroad every year. They are interested to know about the culture and natural beauty of Yemen. But so far there are

two problems. One is related to security, the problem of image. It is, however, improving partly because of the efforts of the Yemeni side. There are, I have learnt, some groups which are coming later this year on a tour from Japan to Yemen. I hope that security continues improving in Yemen. As long as there is no kidnapping I can tell them to come.

Another problem is cleanliness. Yemen is a beautiful country with its mountains, green fields, and islands like Socotra. However, many people do not notice the value of the beauty of their country. They don't take care of it. They should be more aware and they have to preserve its beauty. It is a natural treasure. I have visited many places and I feel that many streets are dirty. People throw away garbage. I hope they will make more efforts to keep their country clean. I know that for example the governorate of Ibb and the city of Sana'a have achieved good results in cleaning up. So I hope other governorates will do the same. Japanese tourists like clean places. When they come here as tourists and find Yemen a clean place they'd like to come back. This is my advice as a friend of Yemen.

Iraq still says 'no' to UN weapons inspections

VIENNA, July 5 (Reuters) - Iraq failed to reach an accord with the United Nations on Friday to resume weapons inspections after intensive talks involving Secretary-General Kofi Annan and Iraqi Foreign Minister Najji Sabri.

The two-day meeting was the third high-level session on the arms inspectors this year.

"They didn't say yes," Annan told reporters after the talks, which he called constructive, ended on Friday. "I would have preferred more," he said, adding: "I cannot force a decision."

Sabri said he expected another round of talks in the coming months on the weapons inspectors, absent from Iraq for more than three years, but Annan said no date had been set for the discussions, expected to be in Vienna or Geneva.

The Iraqi delegation will now go back to report to their authorities, he said. "We have agreed to maintain contacts, including continuing discussions on technical matters."

Sabri made clear he wanted answers to many of the questions he submitted at the last talks in May, on issues ranging from U.S. threats for a "regime change" in Baghdad to a timetable for the lifting of U.N. sanctions, imposed



U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan (R) gestures next to Iraqi Foreign Minister Najji Sabri (L) prior to a news conference in Vienna Thursday July 5, 2002. REUTERS

when Iraq invaded Kuwait in August 1990.

But Annan has said repeatedly he is not in a position to answer any political questions concerning U.S. policy or other issues that fall within the province or the 15 U.N. Security Council members.

However, Sabri was not persuaded and accused the Security Council of violating its own resolutions.

"We need assurances from the United Nations," Sabri said.

"We are the victims of illegal practices forced by the United States on the Security Council. We have lost 1.67 million citizens as a result of the sanctions the Security Council imposed in clear violation of international law."

Richard Grenell, a spokesman for John Negroponte, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, told Reuters in New York: "We are disappointed yet again but not surprised that they haven't complied with Security Council resolutions."

The weapons inspectors, whose return is a key requirement to lifting U.N. sanctions, left Iraq in December 1998 on the eve of a U.S.-British bombing raid and have not been allowed to return.

Iraq maintains the inspectors were U.S. spies and that it has declared all its dangerous arms programmes.

The United States has stepped up war plans for what President George W. Bush calls a "regime change", in part to pressure Iraq into allowing U.N. inspectors to check on weapons of mass destruction.

Washington would lose much support for its campaign against Saddam if the U.N. inspectors were allowed to return, diplomats and analysts say.

The New York Times reported on Friday that the Pentagon had drafted plans to invade Iraq, using air, land and sea-based forces. The newspaper said the plans appeared in an advanced state although an attack did not seem imminent.

The most positive news to come out of the talks were arrangements made between Iraq and the United Nations to return tons of archives of state papers looted from Kuwait when Baghdad's troops occupied the emirate in August 1990.

Algerian market bombing death toll rises to 38

ALGIERS, July 6 (Reuters) - The death toll from a bomb blast at a crowded market outside Algiers on Friday has climbed to 38, local authorities said on Saturday.

A leading newspaper warned on Saturday that the attack, the deadliest this year, could mean that Islamic rebels had recovered lost ground after army swoops.

The blast, on the country's 40th independence anniversary, rocked the market at Larba, 25 km (15 miles) south of Algiers, early in the day when it was packed with shoppers.

"The death toll from the market bombing on Friday stands now at 38," said Larba municipality in a statement carried by state-run radio and official news agency APS.

Earlier, government security and hospital officials put the toll at 35 dead and 80 injured. Two of the dead were from neighbouring Niger, a government security source said.

Two bomb explosions followed the market attack, but no one was killed. One went off at a beach near Sidi Ferruch where senior government officials live, wounding two bathers.

Another exploded at a cemetery outside Jijel, 220 km (137 miles) east of

Algiers, wounding two. The bombings came three days after army chief Lieutenant-General Mohamed Lamari declared the government had won its war against the guerrillas.

Larba is located in what Algerians call the "triangle of death" where hundreds of civilians were killed in massacres and bombings before troops moved in to flush out rebels.

Regional army chief General Fodhil Cherif launched an unprecedented attack on civil authorities for failing to enforce safety laws intended to prevent attacks at public places.

"The laws are made to be implemented and enforced and the responsibility is collective," he told Le Quotidien d'Oran newspaper. "Everyone has to make their contribution. Help us."

The French-language newspaper Le Matin said the market bombing could signal the guerrillas had recovered strength.

"The Armed Islamic Group (GIA) is without doubt vanquished according to the official thesis but it is not dead. Worse, it seems that the GIA is rising from the ashes to take the initiative," it said.

Palestinian security chiefs reject Arafat nominee

JERUSALEM, July 6 (Reuters) - Palestinian security chiefs rejected on Saturday Yasser Arafat's choice for a new West Bank leader for their forces, increasing pressure on the Palestinian president at home as he faces intense U.S. calls for reform.

Palestinian sources said more than 100 top security officials refused in a rancorous meeting near the West Bank city of Ramallah to accept Arafat's appointment of Zuhair Manasra as Preventive Security chief in place of Jibril Rajoub.

While it was unlikely that the call from Rajoub loyalists would force Arafat to retract his dismissal, the rejection was an unusual form of dissent against the Palestinian leader from within his own security services.

Salah Tamaizi, head of Preventive Security in Ramallah, said the opposition was directed not just at the ouster of Rajoub, who has often been cited as a potential successor to Arafat, but at his replacement by a political appointment. Manasra was formerly the governor of the West Bank city of Jenin.

"We hope that our leader President Arafat will change his mind about Rajoub, and even if he wants to replace Jibril, he should choose someone from within the ranks of the Preventive Security force," Tamaizi told Reuters.

Many members of the international community have called on the Palestinian Authority to overhaul its institutions to root out alleged corruption and halt violence in a 21-month-



Two Palestinians hold portraits of Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat (L) and sacked Preventive Security chief Jibril Rajoub (R) in Hebron July 6, 2002.

old Palestinian uprising against Israeli occupation.

Arafat has also removed Mohammed Dahlan, head of the Preventive Security Service in the Gaza Strip, after vowing to streamline the Palestinian Authority's nine security services into four well-defined forces under a new Interior Minister.

It was not clear whether some of the dismissals were part of reform efforts or an internal power struggle.

Both Rajoub and Dahlan were veteran members of the Palestinian negoti-

ating team during U.S.-brokered peace talks with Israel and popular at home.

More than 100 Palestinian security commanders had signed a petition declaring their loyalty to Rajoub and several dozen protested in Ramallah on Saturday against his departure.

The protest was broken up before Israeli troops occupying the city reimposed a military curfew. Israel has sent its forces into seven Palestinian-ruled cities in the West Bank following suicide bombings in Jerusalem last month.

BAGHDAD, July 6 (Reuters) - U.S. radical black leader Louis Farrakhan arrived in Baghdad late on Friday saying he hoped to prevent a U.S. war against Iraq and hold talks with President Saddam Hussein.

"Our purpose here to see the people of Iraq, hopefully the leadership and to see what we can do to possibly stop a war," Farrakhan told reporters at Saddam airport.

"I don't know that I will meet with President Saddam Hussein. It is my hope to do so," the leader of the Nation of Islam movement said.

Condemned as an anti-Semite in the United States, Farrakhan was barred from Britain in 1986 because the government said he expressed racist views.

Farrakhan said he would spend only

48 hours in Iraq and hoped he would "do as much as we can in that short period of time".

It was not clear whether Farrakhan in his third visit to Iraq since the 1991 Gulf War would mediate with Iraqi leaders on the return of U.N. weapons inspectors to Baghdad — an issue Washington wants to use as a pretext for a military campaign.

"I bring a message from the people I represent and I hope it would be a message from the (U.S.) government," he said when asked if he carried a message from the U.S. administration.

Farrakhan visited Iraq in 1996 and 1997 and met Saddam during the two trips. He denounced Washington's "wicked" policy toward Baghdad that he said was leading to the "mass murder" of the Iraqi people.



INVITATION FOR PREQUALIFICATION

SANA'A INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT PROJECT - PHASE-II Prequalification for construction of New Terminal Building and related works

- The Civil Aviation & Meteorology Authority (CAMA) invites eligible, qualified contractors to apply for the Prequalification of the construction of the New Terminal Building in Sana'a International Airport - Phase II of the Sana'a International Development Project.

The construction works comprise the following:

- Departure/arrival/transit/check/public halls etc.;
- 5 passenger boarding bridges;
- Electro-mechanical works
- Equipments and furniture
- Parking area for minimum 600 cars
- Service road, total length approximately 3 km

- The Republic of Yemen has received a loan from the Arab Fund for Economic & Social Development to finance this project, and will use the loan to cover part of the costs associated with the construction works.
- Contractors applying for Prequalification will be qualified based on their experience in similar projects of comparable value and size, as well as the human and technical capabilities expected to be allocated to the project, in addition to the evaluation of their financial ability. Consistent with the regulations of the Arab Fund, a margin of preference will be given to Arab contractors and international joint ventures if the Arab contractors form part of them.
- Interested contractors who feel competent and capable may obtain Prequalification Documents at a non-refundable amount of US\$500 (US Dollars Five Hundred only), or equivalent in Yemeni Rials from **Project Implementation Unit** in Sana'a as of the date of this announcement. The completed documents must reach to the address given below not later than 10 AM on Sunday the 15th September 2002. The prequalified contractors and joint ventures will be notified to receive the contract documents approximately two months after receipt of the applications. Also the contractors not meeting the required Prequalification will be informed.

Project Implementation Unit
Sana'a International Airport Development Project
Airport Road, Jiraf
P.O. Box 25579
Sana'a, Republic of Yemen

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Fax +967 1 327667
E-mail: pmsiadp@yahoo.com

**Farrakhan
in Iraq
hopes to
stave off
US strike**

Saudi prince criticizes economic policy in Lebanon

Beirut (dpa) - Saudi billionaire Prince Al Walid bin Talal took a political tone Tuesday as he inaugurated his luxury Movenpick Hotel in Beirut, criticizing the economic policies of the Lebanese government.

The Saudi prince, who is half-Lebanese, was joined by Lebanese President Emile Lahoud and about 1,000 guests at the 140-million-dollar seaside hotel to watch a laser show and fireworks that lit the capital as well as give a speech in which he praised Lahoud's political views but

criticized the economic policies of Prime Minister Rafik Hariri's government.

Al Walid criticized Lebanon's growing public debt, which is estimated at 29 billion dollars. Hariri, who did not attend the opening because he is on an official visit to Paris, was represented by Finance Minister Fouad Seniora.

Al Walid is the nephew of Saudi King Fahd and grandson of Riad al Solh, who was Lebanon's prime minister when the country gained its inde-

pendence from France in 1943.

The man considered the 10th richest businessman in the world with a fortune of 24 billion dollars built the five-star, 300-room hotel in Beirut with a marina, seven restaurants, two large conference halls, a health club, shopping centre and parking lot for 600 cars.

The prince has invested in three hotel chains: Movenpick, Four Seasons and Fairmont and in 1996 bought the luxurious George V. Hotel in Paris.

Ex-ruler, family, flee Madagascar as rival advances

ANTANANARIVO, July 5 (Reuters) - Former Madagascan ruler Didier Ratsiraka fled to the Seychelles on Friday as troops loyal to President Marc Ravalomanana advanced on his last bastion, but the veteran leader's final destination was unclear.

A tired-looking Ratsiraka, who ruled the giant Indian Ocean island for 23 years, landed in a twin-engine Antonov propeller plane with members of his family and entourage.

The Seychelles government issued a statement saying Ratsiraka was in transit, but did not give the final destination of the man who was one of Africa's longest-serving heads of state.

Ravalomanana, consolidating his grip on power, said those responsible for harassing civilians during the six-month struggle for the leadership of the island of 16 million would be brought to justice.

"Everyone should know that all those responsible for extortion and other terrorist acts will be pursued wherever they are found," he told reporters in the capital, Antananarivo.

Ravalomanana's government, which has been recognised by the United States and France, has said it will hold Ratsiraka accountable for killings, corruption and organising militia groups.

Ratsiraka and Ravalomanana have struggled for the presidency of the island off southeast Africa since disputed December elections which Ravalomanana says his rival rigged.

A court recount ruled Ravalomanana was the winner, but Ratsiraka refused to step down, saying the court was biased.

Airport sources in Mauritius said two Antonov planes arrived carrying other Ratsiraka supporters, who held talks with senior officials from the Mauritian government.

African ministers meeting in Durban, South Africa were divided over whether to recognise Ravalomanana. Last month, the Organisation of African



Youths sit on a wall in front of a poster of former Madagascar ruler Didier Ratsiraka as his campaigners prepare to stage a political meeting in December pre-elections campaigns in the city of Antananarivo, in this December 2001 file photo.

Unity's (OAU) security and conflict resolution body said it recognised neither Ravalomanana nor Ratsiraka as president and called for fresh elections.

Speaking in Uganda, Senegalese President Abdoulaye Wade, who played a key role in African attempts to mediate an end to the crisis, said Ratsiraka should accept his rule was over.

Ratsiraka flew to Paris on June 14 but returned 10 days later to claim that he

was still the island's leader.

This time, he seemed to have left for good, analysts said.

Ravalomanana's army was advancing slowly through the island's eastern province, aiming to capture Toamasina, Ratsiraka's home base and last remaining bastion. Army officials said Ratsiraka's militias appeared to have fled the area.

US lawyer to sue more firms in apartheid case

CAPE TOWN, July 6 (Reuters) - The controversial U.S. lawyer campaigning for massive international compensation for victims of South African apartheid, promised on Saturday to target scores more companies in his claim.

Ed Fagan made the pledge as he launched a 30-day roadshow to gather support for his class action suit against banks and corporations he says bolstered apartheid and contributed to the death, injury and torture of thousands of black South Africans.

More than 2,000 people have called the toll-free lines set up by his Apartheid Claims Taskforce to register claims, but Fagan said he planned now to tour black townships and rural areas to find those without access to transport and telephones.

He declined to name the firms he planned to add to his list, but said they would include British, U.S., German and French companies in sectors including construction, weapons, pharmaceutical, electronics and energy.

Fagan named Swiss banks Credit Suisse and UBS as well as U.S.-based Citigroup Inc in the initial lawsuit filed in the United States on June 17.

He has since added International Business Machines and banks Deutsche, Commerzbank and Dresdner, a unit of insurer Allianz AG.

Asked about reports he had added Siemens and DaimlerChrysler to the list, he said: "Have we filed against them? No. Are we investigating them? Yes, we are."

Fagan told a news conference in Cape Town his case would go before a judge in New York for the first time on August 9 to establish who the claimants and alleged apartheid conspirators are.

He said he hoped the case would finish within two to five years.

Fagan, who shot to fame in the 1990s for helping Holocaust victims win a \$1.25 billion settlement from Swiss banks, said his claim was not for a specific amount, but he expected compensation in the order of \$100 billion for apartheid victims.



Speedmaster Broad Arrow limited editions with enamel dial
Reference 3656.230.31, yellow fold on leather; 3654.20.31, red gold leather; 3657.20.31, white gold on leather

This limited series celebrated the launch of the OMEGA Speedmaster Broad Arrow collection: OMEGA caliber 3320 self-winding chronometer movement (COSC certified) with circular guaging, Geneva décor, rhodium-plated surfaces, gold-plated engravings and platinum rotor with 18-ct. gold medallion that matches the color of the case. Display of hours, minutes, continuous small seconds and date window at 6 o'clock. Central chronograph seconds hand and 30 - minute and 12 - hours totalizer. Power reserve of 55 hours.

This model incorporates 18-ct. gold reproductions of the "Broad Arrow" hands form the first speedmaster model, which give the watch its name. The authentic enamel dial has Arabic numerals and the limited -series number engraves at 6 o'clock. It is encased by a scratch -resistant sapphire crystal with anti-reflective treatment in the inside and surrounded by and 18-ct. yellow gold bezel with tachometric scale. The watch has a screw - in transparent case back engraved with "SPEEDMASTER ENAMEL LIMITED SERIES" and the limited-series number. The OMEGA double-gasket crown ensures water resistance to 100 meters. Available in yellow, red or white gold exclusively with gold a hand-sewn black alligator leather strap and marching 18-ct gold fold over clasp. Limited series of 99 pieces in each gold color. An addition series of 9 boxed sets containing the three different models is also available.



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Tuberculosis outbreak reported at Kuwait prison

Kuwait City (dpa) - Doctors and officials are trying to contain an outbreak of tuberculosis that may have affected more than 400 people at Kuwait's central prison, al-Anbaa newspaper reported Thursday citing prison sources.

It said the prison's administration had ordered a state of emergency to protect the health of the 2,040 inmates at the facility.

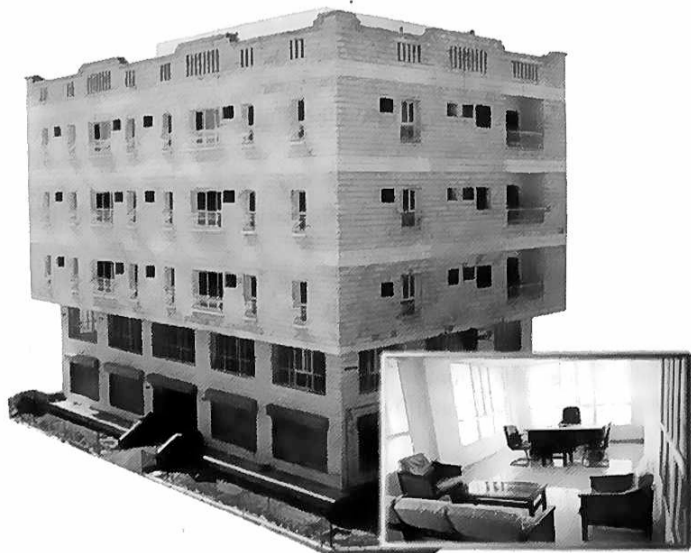
Some 400 inmates either with the disease or exposed to its virus have already been isolated the paper said with a possibility of another 400 to be quarantined from the general prison population.

Prison officials have started remanding 40 inmates per day to hospitals for examinations and tests for TB exposure it said. Prison employees are also undergoing tests.

Ministry of Interior officials were unavailable for comment Thursday.

مركز درة الدار - عمّان

موقع متميز - مواصفات عالية - أمن نظارية تامة



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هاتف: ٩٦٦ ١٢٨ ٣١١٧ هاتف: ٩٦٧ ٢٢٥ ٩٩٣

nasr@tamareed.com



منح دراسات وبحوث في أمريكا

The Public Affairs Section at the American Embassy announces the availability of a limited number of scholarships for Yemenis wishing advanced training, study, lecturing and research opportunities in the United States. Scholarships are as follows:

* The Fulbright Post Doctoral Research Program:

This program is for research and/or university lecturing in the U.S. The requirements are:

- The applicant must be a Ph.D. holder and wish to conduct further research in his/her field; and submit:
- A precise and detailed research proposal for a project that requires being in the U.S.

* The Hubert Humphrey Fellowship Program:

This fellowship program is for professionals in applied fields that combines academic training in an American university (non degree program) and field experience, up to nine months. Requirements are:

- International TOEFL score of at least 550.
- Five years of work experience in public service fields such as economy, journalism, banking & finance, public health policy, natural resources management, public policy, human resources, education planning, and urban planning.
- A bachelor's degree from an accredited university with an excellent academic record.

For more information and application forms, please contact PAS at the American Embassy, telephone: 303-180/81. For more information about these and other scholarships to study in the U.S., please visit our website: www.usembassy.ye/cul.htm Deadline: July 31, 2002.

Afghan vice president gunned down

KABUL (REUTERS) - Haji Abdul Qadir, one of Afghanistan's three vice presidents, was assassinated outside his office in the centre of Kabul on Saturday, police and government officials said.

Qadir, a Pashtun from the Northern Alliance who was also public works minister and a former governor of Jalalabad, was shot by two gunmen as he drove out of his office compound, Kabul police chief Basir Salangi told reporters. His four-wheel drive vehicle crashed into a wall as bullets riddled the side and windscreen, killing both Qadir and his driver, and wounding two passengers.

Blood was spattered over the dashboard, seats and a set of prayer beads lying on the cushion in between the front seats.

A veteran warlord from eastern Afghanistan, Qadir played a leading role in the downfall of the Taliban last year.

His brother, Mujahideen commander Abdul Haq, was himself executed by the Taliban shortly after the United States launched air strikes on Afghanistan last year.

There was some speculation the assassination could have been carried out by remnants of the Taliban, who viewed Qadir as a betrayer of their



Unidentified gunmen assassinated one of Afghanistan's three vice-presidents in broad daylight in Kabul on Saturday, in a fresh blow to efforts by President Hamid Karzai to impose his authority on the volatile country. Interior Minister Taj Mohammad Wardak told reporters Haji Abdul Qadir, a powerful warlord and a Pashtun like Karzai, had been shot dead in his car in an ambush in the centre of the Afghan capital. REUTERS

Pashtun ethnic group.

However, suspicion also fell on ministry's security guards, who had been appointed by Qadir's predecessor at the public works ministry, Abdul Khaliq Fazal.

"Ten guards were arrested, but the

motive for the killing isn't immediately clear," Salangi told reporters.

General Deen Mohammad Jurat, head of security for the interior ministry, told reporters those responsible for the killing were "enemies of the government and members of al Qaeda and anti-

government groups".

"I am 100 percent sure that these people (guards) were involved because they were merely two or three metres away from the site of the killing and didn't do anything to try to stop it," he said.

Witnesses said the gunmen were pos-

ing as guards outside the compound. As Qadir was preparing to leave, another guard came outside and warned the gunmen, they said. The two men later escaped by taxi and none of the ministry's guards did anything to stop them, witnesses said.

Officers from the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), in Kabul to help keep the peace, said they were investigating.

The assassination illustrates the problems facing President Hamid Karzai just weeks after a Loya Jirga, or Grand Assembly, of Afghan leaders approved a new cabinet to lead the country out of 23 years of war and prepare for elections in 18 months time.

The assembly faced the tough task of finding a government acceptable to the Pashtun majority, the Northern Alliance which had a strong hand on the ground,



Afghan Vice President Haji Abdul Qadir attends UN talks on Afghanistan in Koenigswinter near Bonn. REUTERS

and the various warlords who dominate swathes of the country. In February, Tourism Minister Dr Abdul Rehman was killed at the airport under circumstances which have never been made clear.

Four killed, 34 injured in Kashmir

SRINAGAR, India, (Reuters) - Two soldiers and two separatist rebels were killed on Saturday in fighting in Indian-ruled Kashmir, the state at the heart of a military standoff between India and Pakistan, police said.

The fierce gunbattle in the scenic Kokernag area of south Kashmir followed two grenade attacks on Friday night that injured over 30 people, mainly civilians.

Police said the two militants killed on Saturday were members of the outlawed Pakistan-based separatist group Lashkar-e-Taiba. A soldier was also wounded in the gunbattle, they said.

On Friday evening, 16 civilians were wounded when militants hurled a grenade in Budgam district west of Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, a police spokesman said. "The target of the grenade was not immediately known," the spokesman added.

In another attack late on Friday, six Indian security force personnel and 11 civilians were wounded by a grenade

thrown at a patrol in Pulwama district, south of Srinagar, police said.

No group has yet claimed responsibility for the two grenade attacks. About a dozen militant groups are fighting Indian rule, demanding independence or a merger with neighbouring Pakistan.

Rebel violence continues in the Himalayan region despite an easing of tension between nuclear-armed foes India and Pakistan, locked in a border standoff since an attack on the Indian parliament in December by separatist guerrillas who India says are based in Pakistan.

India, which controls 45 percent of Kashmir, accuses Pakistan of arming and training separatist guerrillas. Pakistan, which rules just over a third, denies the charge and says it provides only moral and political support to the separatists.

Officials say more than 30,000 people have been killed in the region since 1989, but separatists put the toll closer to 80,000.



Kashmiri Muslim Ghulam Mohi-Din Wani, an activist from the Congress Party, India's main opposition party, is rushed on a stretcher to a hospital for treatment in Srinagar July 6, 2002. Police said that Wani was shot by militants outside his residence in the city. REUTERS

Japan set to rate nuclear plants for safety-report

TOKYO, July 6 (Reuters) - Japan plans to rate its nuclear power plants for safety, a move that may improve monitoring of risk-prone plants in the industry, which has seen its share of troubles, Japanese media said on Saturday. Officials at the Nuclear Power and Industrial Safety Agency, a part of the nation's trade ministry, were quoted as saying that all plants will be rated in terms of their operating performance, including the number of failures at reactors, Kyodo news agency reported.

Reactors that are at the lower end of the rating scale will be the subject of more intense monitoring, while those with higher ratings will be subject to fewer inspections. The officials were quoted by Kyodo as saying that the new rating system would enable the agency to focus on risk-prone plants, adding that surprise inspections will be used to keep plants on their toes. Agency officials were not available for comment.

Energy-starved Japan operates 52 commercial nuclear reactors, which supply roughly a third of its power. But troubles at the reactors have been frequent.

In May, radioactive water was found leaking at the Hamaoka power plant, some 150 km west of Tokyo, just a day after it had been re-opened following similar leaks last year.

Indonesia's Aceh rebels release hostages

JAKARTA, (Reuters) - Rebels in Indonesia's troubled Aceh province have freed all 18 hostages held since last month, including crew from a boat carrying supplies to an Exxon Mobil plant, security officials and the rebels said on Saturday.

Their release came after Indonesia's government branded the separatist Free Aceh Movement (GAM) terrorists for the first time and hinted it might impose emergency rule in the province, which lies at the northwest tip of Indonesia, the world's most populous Muslim nation.

"They have all been released now after undergoing questioning. We had

suspected them of being spies (for the Indonesian military)," Sofyan Ibrahim Tiba, a spokesman for GAM, said by telephone from Aceh, some 1,700 km (1,060 miles) northwest of Jakarta. Some of the captives were freed on Friday.

The military commander in the province, Djali Yusuf, also confirmed that all the hostages, from two separate kidnappings, had now been freed. GAM has been fighting for independence for more than 25 years. Indonesia's military earlier this week accused GAM of being behind the abduction of the nine boat crew as well as the separate kidnapping of nine volleyball players.

Officials from state oil and gas company Pertamina have said the boat, hijacked last Sunday, usually carried supplies for people working at four gas fields owned by Exxon Mobil Indonesia in Aceh.

Political analysts have said the government's decision earlier this week to label GAM as a terrorist group showed it regarded military might as the only solution to the conflict. Repeated peace talks have failed to halt almost daily clashes.

A Brussels-based think tank, the International Crisis Group, estimates up to 2,000 people were killed last year in the conflict.

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للاستفسار، صالح ت: ٧٩٠٤٠٤١

«وَبَشِّرِ الصَّابِرِينَ الَّذِينَ إِذَا أَصَابَهُمُ مِحْرَابٌ قَالَوا إِنَّا لله وَإِنَّا إليه راجعون»

صدق الله العظيم

بقلوب مؤمنة بقضاء الله وقدره تلتقينا
وفاة المغفور له بإذن الله تعالى:

العقيد / عبد الولي السقاف

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للوالدين / انيس وناصر عبد الولي السقاف

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«إنا لله وإنا إليه راجعون»

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

“Protocol Secretary / Translator”

The position is located in the Protocol Section, American Embassy, under the general supervision of the Protocol Assistant and the Deputy Chief of Mission. Employee will serve as full assistant to a higher grade Protocol Assistant at a post with requirements for protocol services. Incumbent mainly will perform protocol and translation duties.

Desired Qualifications
Education: Completion of secondary school is required; some college education is desirable.
Prior work experience: Two years of progressively responsible secretarial and clerical experience is required.
Language abilities: Level IV English and Arabic language ability (fluent) is required.
Knowledge: An understanding of the social mores of the country. A good working knowledge of Department of State protocol and correspondence instructions and produces is required.
Skills and abilities: Level II typing ability (40 words per minute) is desirable, Level I (80 words per minute) and Proficiency n operating Word applications is required.
Salary: The minimum starting annual gross salary for this position is USD6,449
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 19, 2002.

Vacancy Announcement

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Bush: Strike one American, strike us all

KENNEBUNKPORT, Maine, (Reuters) - Celebrating American patriotism on the long Fourth of July weekend, President George W. Bush said on Saturday the country was united in the war on terrorism: "When you strike one American, you strike us all."

Bush's pre-taped weekly radio address was broadcast as the president celebrated his 56th birthday at the Bush family compound at Walker's Point in Kennebunkport, a picture-postcard town on Maine's rocky coast.

Bush had a flag-waving message for the country as Americans mark the first July 4 Independence Day holiday since the Sept. 11 attacks. He said 60,000 American troops were deployed around the world in the war against terrorism.

"More than ever in the lifetimes of most Americans, our flag stands for a true united country," he said. "We've been united in our grief and we are united in our resolve to protect our people and defeat the enemies of freedom." Bush called America "the most diverse nation on Earth."

"Yet, in a moment, we discovered again that we are a single people, we share the same allegiance, we live under the same flag — and when you strike one American, you strike us all," he said.

Despite the great weather, sea breeze and lobster dinners, Bush prefers his Texas ranch and its wilting summer heat to Maine.

He made that point crystal clear last August when he told the traveling White House press corps in Waco, Texas, "I know a lot of you wish you were in the East Coast, lounging on the beaches, sucking in the salt air, but when you're from Texas — and love Texas — this is where you come home."

'Sucking in the salt air'

He lifts the "sucking in the salt air" moratorium on his birthday, making the annual trek to Kennebunkport for a long weekend with his parents, former President George Bush and Barbara Bush, who live in Houston and come to Maine to escape the Texas summer.

Among the Bush clan gathered were first lady Laura Bush, Bush's brother Marvin, sister Dorothy Koch and 20-year-old first daughters Jenna and Barbara. Absent this year was younger

brother Jeb, the governor of Florida.

The White House was mum on the details, but within a few hours of arriving at Kennebunkport the president and his father were already on the water in the elder Bush's speedboat, "Fidelity Two." Early on Saturday morning, Bush and his father played a round of golf. No doubt a birthday cake was planned for a celebratory dinner on Saturday night.

Work was not far away. The White House said Bush would have his daily intelligence and national security



U.S. President George W. Bush
REUTERS

briefings and that he had brought along several drafts of a speech on corporate responsibility he will deliver on Wall Street in New York on Tuesday.

Seeking to blunt the political fallout from a string of corporate scandals that have sparked questions about his own conduct as a former businessman, Bush will meet advisers when he returns to the White House on Monday afternoon to put the finishing touches on the address.

"We're going to go over it on Monday. He purposely decided not to make any decisions on policy until then," a senior Bush aide said.

Suspected November 17 guerrilla always paid rent on time

ATHENS, (Reuters) - The first suspected member of Europe's most elusive urban guerrilla group ever to be caught is a quiet Greek icon painter who always paid the rent on time.

Befitting the image of "November 17" as a shadowy, deep underground group, he is someone police would never have tied with the radical leftists who are sworn enemies of capitalism.

Named after the bloody day in 1973 when students rose up against Greece's military junta, the group has long taunted security forces with remote-controlled bomb blasts, rocket attacks and drive-by assassinations.

Savas Xyros was caught after a botched bombing at the port of Piraeus near Athens a week ago left him seriously wounded and probably blind. He was quickly linked to the group that has killed 23 Greeks and foreigners in the last 27 years.

Their first attack was the 1975 murder of the CIA station chief in Athens.

Xyros' fingerprints matched those found in a car used in the 1997 attack against shipowner Costas Peratikos, who was shot dead outside his Piraeus office, the chief of Greek police told reporters.

Anti-terrorist units discovered Xyros had also rented under a false name the group's main hideout, where a large arms cache, the November 17 red star flag and other evidence was found.

"Witnesses describe him as very polite and quiet, the last person you would expect to be November 17," a police source told Reuters.

Xyros lost a hand and suffered chest and facial injuries in the botched bombing and has been held under heavy police guard at a central Athens hospital.

He has been sedated and spoke to police on Saturday for the first time, almost a week after the attack.

SECOND FIND

Within hours of the questioning, police announced they had uncovered a second November 17 hideout in central Athens where more weapons, bomb-making materials and disguises were found.

The owners of the apartment block where the main "weapons den" was found last Wednesday told reporters Xyros had called himself Grigoris Pouftis when he rented their apartment.

"He told us he was working as a house painter while he was going to university," one of them told Greek television, her face hidden from the camera.

"A poor boy but honest. Every first of the month he would come and pay the rent. All these years he was late in paying only once and that was for 10 days," another owner told the Greek newspaper Ta Nea.

Terror suspect worked for German police-reports

BERLIN, (Reuters) - A suspected Islamic extremist investigated by police this week in Hamburg, the German port city where three September 11 suicide hijackers lived, himself worked for the police, two magazines reported on Saturday.

The weekly Der Spiegel and Focus magazines reported that the man worked as a state police archivist and had access to internal documents. Spiegel named him as Abdelhakim J. Police searched six apartments and a bookstore on Wednesday near a

mosque that investigators described as a central gathering point for the suspected extremists. Officials questioned six people who were later allowed to go free.

"They are suspected of joining an organisation whose basic principle was committing aggressive militant Islamic attacks," the public prosecutor's office in Karlsruhe said in a statement.

Mohammad Atta, suspected ring-leader of the September 11 attackers

on the World Trade Center and Pentagon, was a student in Hamburg for much of the 1990s, as were two other lead hijackers. He often prayed at the mosque near the bookstore that was searched on Wednesday.

Der Spiegel said Abdelhakim J. was a 41-year-old Moroccan who has worked in the police archives for nearly 11 years.

It said he was suspended from his job last week and was under investigation for credit card fraud.

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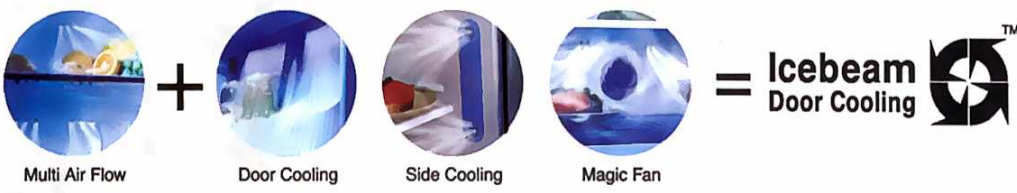


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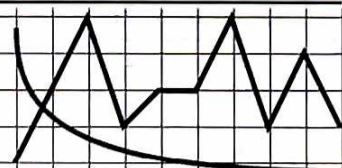
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YT Business



New investment law in the offing

BY MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Yemeni investment 76-article draft law to replace investment law No. 22 for 1991, presented to parliament for discussion, would give local and foreign investors new facilities. It would also ease legal, financial and administrative procedures for the purpose of expansion in investment fields.

Parliamentary sources told Yemen Times that the new law would clearly define functions of authorities responsible for granting investment permits, procedures of registering projects and exemption from customs and taxation.

It is expected that the amended investment law would attract more Arab capitals into Yemen as the state would guarantee equality among local, Arab and foreign investors with regard to privileges, exemptions, facilities

and obligations. The amendment of investment law came as a result of remarks and complaints offered by investors. Texts of the amended law are compatible with the government's orientations towards expansion in building investment projects and in conformity with market economy, in addition to encouragement of various investments and removal of obstacles hampering this orientation.

The World Bank has pointed out the significance of reforming judiciary

and administrative bodies to attract foreign capital to invest in Yemen.

Investment has taken significant part of the second Five-Year Plan (2002 to 2005). The government has also promised to create a climate favorable to investment since it's one of the vital sectors for national income.

Existing opportunities for investment in Yemen include agriculture production, animal wealth, fish wealth, oil and gas, exporting manu-

factures, building tourist installations, in addition to opportunities available at the Free Zone in Aden.

The amended law of investment came to define the investment opportunities and facilitating the transfer of modern technology and financial and administrative expertise. The new law is intended for offering services to investors to improve investment climate, and increase inflow of funds for creating a quantitative leap in investment process.

The Road Ahead

Value Monopolies

By Raidan A. Al-Saqqaf

Monopolies are considered to be as unfair trade practices. That is a right assumption. They are exclusive control over a commodity or a service that makes manipulation of prices possible. Government rules & regulations should control monopolies in order to reach fair trade practices.

Looking at the issue from the business standpoint, monopoly is a golden chance to earn the maximum profits from the organization's operations and achieve its objectives with no worries about competition or whatsoever, but in today's market, monopolies are dominated and limited to only few industrial sectors.

Business started competing with each other and trying to offer better services than competitors and sell more than their competitors. But at the end of the financial year, they realize that they have fought too hard to increase their market share but their profits have not increased much. So they expand in new segments and offer other services in order to create some kind of monopoly in the new field, but these strategies last only for short-term periods and the need for a long term strategy appears, which is value monopolies.

Value monopolies are created through long-term consistency in quality, price, availability & image of both the product and the organization. Quality can be considered as the most important aspect, it is the backbone of value monopolies. It is a long process of creating products of high value and includes the different usages of the product, advancements and after-sales services, you can't be offering a law in quality product and expect it to have a high value, it should go beyond customers expectations of the product. The pricing strategy of the product should tell that by buying this product you get more value against the money you pay for it, available for the customer, how would you feel when you are looking for your favorite toothpaste and you don't find it? disappointment strikes!!

The Image has an increasing importance nowadays, through images, brands are built. When you favor a brand a relationship is established, and relationships in general are very image sensitive, you want to associate yourself with the brand you like to be associated with.

If this was executed very carefully, in turn this should result in a single product service in the market which has much more value than the next substitute.

This is one of the major keys of our success here in YemenTimes.

The point is to improve the quality of the product to such an extent that when a customer wants to buy a product there would be one product which is much better and far more reliable for him which in turn should create monopoly for the product in terms of value because there is no other product that can give you the same or near value.

Research & Development also plays a role in creating value monopolies. It helps have a Technical advantage over competitors and increases the overall quality of the product service. This is why organizations insist to spend huge amounts on research and development.

Endnote: every bit adds value, with consistency in quality, price, availability and image value monopolies are created. But it's not that simple, it's done through years of hard work.

Yemen to attract new tourists

FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

Yemen is now more keen to attract tourists from the Gulf region. This is in part due to the decline of the number of tourists in the wake of the September 11 attacks. Yemen's tourism sector has lost more than USD 250 million due to those incidents.

Sources say that Yemen hopes to attract tourists from the Gulf countries this year to visit archaeological and historical sites of Yemen.

Already many tourists from the Gulf region aren't that much interested to go to Europe or America due to negative consequences resulted from 11 September events on Arabs. This issue might be of great significance to inter-Arab tourism.

Yemen travel and tourism agencies have already started communicating tourist agencies in the Gulf countries to facilitate tourism movement.

Sources at Yemeni hotels say that initial indicators are promising, as within the first half of this year the number of tourists from the Gulf region

is high.

The Ministry of Tourism intends to assess the Gulf tourist market, especially as the flow of tourists from Europe has declined to 50 percent compared to the same period of last year.

Yemeni tourist operators regard the short distance between Yemen and the Gulf countries as an encouraging factor. Further, the flow of tourists from the Gulf countries is in part ascribable to solving borders problems between Yemen and both of Saudi Arabia and the Sultanate of Oman. Many tourist operators believe that a big number of tourists from the Gulf are now more interested to visit Yemen instead of going to Europe due to the geographical contiguity, moderate climate, and tourist attractions Yemen enjoys.

Among the best tourist potentials in Yemen are: archaeological and historical sites, caves, castles, museums and traditional markets.

Hot springs scattered throughout the country form another attraction for natural therapy. The low budget needed for tourists coming to Yemen is very encouraging.

Losing 100,000 European tourists

has incited the Ministry of Tourism to promote tourism to holy shrines. Some of the religious sects coming to Yemen for religious purposes are the Bohra community living in India, Pakistan, Britain, Eastern Asia countries, and some Gulf states.

Roughly 20,000 tourists annually come to Yemen mostly from the Indian sub-continent led by the sultan of Bohra Dr. Mohammed Burhanaddine. This sultan has visited Yemen nine times. During his visits Burhanaddine inaugurated many infrastructure projects in the Haraz region, one of the strongholds of the Bohra community in Yemen. He also grants financial assistance to Yemen's government.

The Bohra community believes that Yemen is the birthplace of their scholars and holy leaders. Bohrees regularly pay visits to holy shrines of their deceased leaders and thus they disburse significant sums of money while in Yemen.

Yemen's government had planned to receive 400,000 tourists from all over the world for the second Five-Year Plan, but the September incidents have torpedoed the whole plan.

Need for efficient administrative system

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Management as a science and technique is what our government institutions need to upgrade production and improve economic and social situations and finish development projects according to annual and five-year plans.

Contrary to concept of management prevalent in the developing countries, including Yemen, it is overwhelmed with monotony, weakness of production and corruption.

Bribes and corruption will remain the major obstacles for a mature management system in most developing countries as favoritism plays a major role in recruitment. This situation will ultimately lead to hiring poorly qualified staff for the different governmental agencies who cannot properly run public enterprises.

For the most part Yemen's administrative system is run by norms and traditions rather than a science-based

knowledge.

Yemen's public enterprises badly need personnel with a good managerial expertise to be able to run the country's economy properly. This will for sure raise the production of these enterprises and contribute to increasing national income. The management sought after in our country should be scientific and overcome the phenomenon of those who decline from paying their accumulated dues. We are really in need of developmental-productive administration system capable of redoubling the volume of production and contribute to supply the national income with new revenues.

If Yemen's administrative system continued this way, particularly by facing financial deficit with imposing rise in prices of services on the people of limited incomes, the future of public revenues would be rather dark.

Furthermore, keeping Yemen administrative system this way will lead to a chaotic situation in the whole administrative system of the country.

Exchange Rate for the Yemeni Rial

as of July 6

GBP	268.57	268.92	BHD	466.85	467.46
EUR	171.70	171.92	QAR	48.35	48.41
SAR	46.93	46.99	JOD	249.65	249.97
KWD	582.62	583.38	OMR	457.16	457.76
AED	47.92	47.98	CHF	117.24	117.39
EGP	37.90	37.95			

Source: Central Bank of Yemen

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Words of Wisdom



One of the key problems associated with our system today is that there are people who are above the law. They do what ever they like with visible impunity. The system must project a sense of fair play among the citizens of this country. If they are individuals who break the law, the state should not be seen as appeasing them. Law and order and full equality among citizens, irrespective of their military, tribal, social, financial, etc., background is imperative. The general public must believe in the even-handed dispensation of justice by the state and in its fair play.

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

Democracy... not tolerance



By MOHAMMED HATEM AL-QADHI
mhalqadhi@hotmail.com

I do really agree with the Dutch Ambassador for Human Rights Renee Jones-Bos when she said at a recent gathering session held in Sanaa with human rights activists that some governments have taken the US-led war against terror as a pretext to oppress freedoms and hassle press. That is completely true as such totalitarian regimes or leaderships do not believe in heart in democratic values, including human rights and freedom of speech and thought. They have been, in a way or another, forced to bring such norms to their countries. But in reality these norms and their activists are for them a pain the neck.

The same thing is happening now in Yemen. The margin of freedoms is continuously backsliding. Journalists are being detained in a way similar to kidnapping by intelligence agents. Others are being put on trial. What is more cynical is that a court judge ordered the public prosecutor to issue an arrest warrant against Wajidi al-Ahdal, a novelist, and seek the help of the Interpol to repatriate him to be tried in Yemen as he escaped from the country following murder threats from extremists. What is his crime? He wrote a novel depending on his creative and polished imagination. The ossified mentalities at the Ministry

of Culture could not understand its symbolic gesture and allusion and according to their narrow-mindedness it was an abuse and insult to religion and the so-called "the country's conventions and traditions". What nonsense are you talking about? Even traditions which are the main detriment of our being lagging behind, have become a taboo. No judge has been courageous enough to order arrest warrant against kidnapers, other outlaws. The verdicts, courts issue against journalists and writers, are more than those passed against criminals. It is something funny, isn't it?

We are scared

The Ministry of Information has scared us by its warning reports not to report such and such issues. They believe such topics will disturb the national interests or unity of the country. I believe the entire people of Yemen do suffer oppression, injustice, inequality, and lack of access to basic services- all basic human rights. Therefore, they already live such ailments and articles written on such issues can add nothing to provoke regional sentiments. It is the rulers' unequal treatment of people of different regions that incite such regional or sectarian sentiments that everyday get their way to people's minds. Let me tell you a story. The MP Saad Eddin bin Talib, from Hadhramaut, was insulted by the Vice Speaker of the Parliament, Yahia al-Raece when he told him "you donkey stop talking". A tribal MP went to al-Raece and rebuked him for insulting an MP. What

was his answer? He said he did not insult a tribal figure but a "person from Hadhramaut". He even said he could beat him up. Later, he promised to apologize to bin Talib but he never did it. It is this behavior that instigates regionalism, sectarianism and other sorts of such stuff. These people still look down upon others, considering them inferior to them.

Law and order in first place

Another point is this. President Saleh gave orders last week that two detained journalists, Abdulraheem Mohsen and Ibraheem Hussein, be sent to court to be tried for inciting sectarianism. They have been in jail without any trial. Again the president interfered to get the MP Ameen al-Ukaimi, detained by the military, released. That is kind of him. But we do not need this kindness. We need our democratic rights to be respected. We do not need the rulers' tolerance, but the implementation of law and order. We need this to become an institutionalized culture we exercise and practice as a daily routine. This is because tolerance of the rulers is different from democratic rights ensured by the law and constitution. The first can be usurped; it is like a gift.

To drive the point home, we need to be equal before the law that should be respected and be made a terrace that can not be surpassed by anyone despite his rank in the society. But, if things continue to run loose, we feel scared and concerned over the deterioration of the freedom of expression in the country.

COMMON SENSE



Hassan Al-Haifi

Ride 'em High, George!

There was a time when many people thought that for the United States to be the sole Superpower of the world, the world can count on a strong sense of common sense and prudence to predominate in international affairs. Some even thought that perhaps the world can now opt for a more peaceful world, with conscience prevailing over evil intentions and freedom and justice overcoming all forms of tyranny and inequity. There were even times that the United States projected this trend on the ground, as in the campaigns against Melosovitch.

However, since Mr. George Bush took the helms in the United States, with his cadre of seemingly incapable personnel, who seem to be running in all different directions, but in the end not reaching anywhere, the world began to turn topsy turvy, with American foreign policy stumbling into one pitfall of failure to another, and the world drawing closer to a more mysterious future. Moreover we seem to be getting farther than ever from achieving world peace and cohesion, as was hoped for after the end of the Cold War, let alone greater freedom.

Part of the problem stems from the naïve conception in the mind of Mr. George Bush, and some of his consorts that after September 11, 2001, the only way to deal with the world is through arrogance and a defiant disregard for any sense of values and conscientious in achieving a myriad of objectives. Not everyone truly sees how such objectives lead to the light at the end of the tunnel, through which the course of the world now passes. Not even Mr. Bush is able to project the kind of world we should now have after September 11, 2001, because Mr. Bush himself is unable to have the foresight to determine the outcomes of his very own actions or his narrow-minded conceptualizations or vizioins (See Common Sense last week).

Moreover, the clear impression one gets is that the idea of continuity has been erased, as arrogance begins to dictate the course of foreign policy and only those that share this trait seem to be the only ones to find comfort in its misgivings about having a free world, to which the overwhelming population of the world can look forward.

Then comes the problem of national sovereignty and the equal partnership that the world needs in order to reach a more level ground, on which the international community can play. With arrogance at play now, sovereignty has become overshadowed by a sense of "What is right for me is not necessarily right for you" and "What applies to you does not necessarily apply to me if I do not like it".

A friend of mine once suggested, early in the Bush II Era (even before September 11, 2001) that now the world will be turned into a rodeo ring, with Mr. Bush running around the ring with a rope at hand chasing one bull after the other, with sharpshooters pointing their sights at the bulls, just before Mr. Bush gets to them, shooting a drug into the bull to make the job easier for Mr. Bush. The problem is that a time could come when the sharpshooter will wish to capture the limelight and take it away from Mr. Bush and may point the sight at Mr. Bush's horse or Mr. Bush himself!

I am not sure if the world can be put to such a stark simile, but for sure American foreign policy falling into such gung-ho power maneuvering will not be a world where there is a light at the end of the tunnel. Chances are that once out of the tunnel, if we ever get there, we will find a heavy storm of rain, sleet and hail, and all the vehicles coming out of the tunnel will be put on a slippery course, out of control of their drivers and their drivers hoping that the worst thing they hit will be a malleable tree that will absorb the inevitable crash they must endure.

Two weeks ago, this observer heard a speech by the unbeatable Mr. William Clinton to the graduates of the American University of Dubai. One cannot fail to notice the remarkable difference in the eloquence and probity of thought that came in Mr. Clinton's symphonic oratory. The speech may have been a clear message to the present American Administration that somehow, somebody is messing it all up for both American and the world and that arrogance should never be maxim that drives American foreign policy. It neither does America or the world at large any good.



OUR OPINION

Educating our children for sustainable development

Sustainable development was one of the core subjects of a month-long workshop currently organized by Friedrich Ebert Stiftung in Sanaa. The workshop is about writing proposals to fund projects for sustainable development in Yemen.

The first week of the workshop concentrated on the basic elements of a project that serves the goal of sustainable development.

After a series of thoughts, I realized that sustainable development could only be achieved in a long-run program. There is no short-term project that could have lasting development effects. Among those extremely important priorities for sustainable development is educating our children. It is unfortunate to see that our children today receive far worse quality education than the earlier generations. When talking about the future, we are basically talking about our children who will be the elements of either success or failure depending on how we raise them.

What we lack right now is a focus on the coming generations that will be shaping the future of Yemen in all aspects. Street children are everywhere. Students are not given appropriate education. Teachers are not qualified as in the past. Children are leaving school in an early age to find a job and secure food for their families. All of this is happening in front of our eyes and we seem to be helpless. Why?

How can we talk about sustainable development if we are not focusing on the ones who will shape our future? Aren't we missing the point here?

When looking at our streets in Sanaa and in other cities, we will realize the level of carelessness and ignorance our children are suffering from by their parents. Quarreling boys, throwing stones at each other and at others is a common view witnessed today more than any other time in the past. You could barely find any paved street without thousands of stones thrown and put by children in that neighborhood. We cannot keep on witnessing this deterioration in ethics and education among our children without doing anything about it.

We must have a vision for true sustainable development. We should start our sustainable development program by giving priority to our future, i.e., our children.

The Editor

Sustainable development for a sustainable future

By MOHAMMED AL-DOAIS FOR YEMEN TIMES

The environmental development is a dynamic reaction between man and his ecosystem and must be positive for both. Hence, to be sustainable, the developmental process must be more actual and comprehensive. It must fulfill the requirements of the coming generations and not only concentrate on the near future. We need grow a common consensus to achieve this instead of executing huge projects without long-term planning and studying any negative consequences or drawbacks. We must reduce the level of environment pollution, carelessness and illiteracy.

Yemen is now facing huge environmental problems including resource quality and quantity depletion such as soil erosion, destruction of fauna and flora, depletion of genetic resources, loss of water resources, lowering of productivity, drying swamps, depletion of mineral resources and fossil fuels. Our country is suffering from biological pollution because of poverty and crowdedness. Chemical pollution is also a source of threat because of the improper use of toxic chemicals such as pesticides and fertilizers. The weak transport infrastructures resembled in substandard roads, environmentally unsafe vehicles, and irregular fuel consumption are all adding more harm to our environment and future. I believe that the prominent irreversible loss of the environmental balance and harmony of the ecosystem

will lead to our destruction.

To sustain our ecosystem and consequently our future, we must introduce many principles at both the popular and governmental level. First of all, awareness must be established of the importance of balance preservation in the earth's ecosystem. Secondly, the environment can be enhanced by ensuring the safety of industrial projects in terms of their effects on the environment and workers. Sustainable development projects must be introduced and renewable resources must be exploited. Thirdly, application of safe environmental decisions includes awareness and evaluation of the environmental status of the country, planning, and safe environmental management and execution. Fourthly, environmental ethics and responsibilities should be enforced and observed.

To do all of this, we need a scientific methodology to solve environmental problems. This can be achieved through certain steps. Firstly, we must determine of the environmental defects through screening, analyzing the reporting on biological and social cases to determine the thresholds that must be redlined. Secondly, we should gather information about the environmental problems that exist in our country, and then determine the right solution for them. This may require changing, modifying or even replacing plans already in existence. A work plan must then be constructed and executed to diagnose the problems according to the rarity and fragility of our ecosystem.

Eventually, an evaluation of the validity and efficacy of the replaced solutions

must be carried out. A follow-up of the designed solution results must be made to see if the results are as expected and to try to fix any problem that may abruptly come to view.

Policies in Yemen must concentrate on developing the quality of life not quantity of consumption in order to overcome poverty and provide better civil services in a clean environment. Other priorities should also be in developing environmental legislations and standardizations including protocols concerning sanitary networks, solitaires, sewage treatment, noise pollution levels and controlling production and use of chemicals. Regional policies must be adopted to replace depleted resources by renewable resources taking in consideration the environmental capacity. Human resources must be developed in the form of training, enhancing awareness and education, etc. More skillful and educated individuals would construct a better society and a society of qualified individuals will bring a better future for the generations and sustainable development. Environmental planning must deal with developing management skills, supporting of infrastructures, pursuing research, developing computer simulation programs, introducing an environment-friendly culture through education and training programs for all levels of education. Individual can do a lot to start a sustainable development program for the whole country. It is a long way to go, but we must realize that humans and environment must be in harmony for a better and brighter future in Yemen.

Letters to the Editor

Issues to tackle for the sake of Yemen
Yemen is beautiful and it's enchanted fortune soil, especially in Ibb City. What is the use of land if it is not protected by the people or by the government? Houses are built in the heart of the rich soil that is good for crops, and the others are planted with qat.
I have heard many people saying that most of their income is from qat and from abroad, but qat is only a domestic product and no other countries are buying it. Qat is useless for international trade.
Where is our coffee - "Fortune in the tree that however planted you will never be poor" Al-Anisi- that we were famous for and that we could export to the whole world?
What we need to do to improve Yemen is first of all promote education and technology, not qat and satellite channels. We need to stop financial corruption in the form of bribery and "under-the-table" money. We must enforce the

law, and all rules, regulations and policies equally on all citizens. We need to establish departments for all public needs e.g., environmental protection, because I have seen a lot of plastic bags polluting our environment, especially where qat are sold.
But without fees & fines applicable on all law violators, we will not be able to provide funds to enforce the law. Another important element is human recourses. We need to train police officers to do a better job in enforcing the law. But before all that, we need to raise their salaries as it is impossible for a policeman for example with a 8,000 rial monthly salary to treat one of his parents or kids whenever he/she gets sick.
There are many other things that need to be tackled, but those issues are certainly the starting point.

Abdulsalam Hidarrah
kbcc@yahoo.com

Letters to the Editor

A letter of appeal to Deputy Foreign Minister

I, the undersigned, appeal to you, on humanitarian grounds, to deliver visas to Ms. Nadia Muhsen, a British citizen, and her children, so that she may visit her family in Birmingham, UK.
Nadia has been living in a village in the Mokbana region for more than twenty years without having had much contact with her family.
In addition, I am appealing to you, in the spirit of human dignity, to help ensure that she and the children visit the UK for medical treatment. Members of her family who have visited her on brief occasions in the past have noticed Nadia's ill health. She has been observed as being grossly underweight, walking with a limp because of some unknown injury or condition, and in dire need of IMME-

Letters to the Editor

DIATE dental, gynecological and dermatological intervention. Nadia's health seems tenuous at best. Her family desires her to have this medical treatment in the UK, which she is entitled to under the National Health Programme. This will cause no financial hardship to her husband.
At the same time, in view of the complications involving the case of Nadia Muhsen of Birmingham, I ask you to also make inquiries to satisfy yourself that the conditions in which she is being kept is keeping with the basic standards expected today by all civilized nations. Respect for human rights is an issue which transcends all differences of race, nationality and belief. I appeal to you, as ambassador to your nation, to ensure that this fundamental principle is respected in Nadia's case.
Birthe Johanne Finstad
birthejf@online.no
Norway



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

Publisher & Editor-in-Chief:
Walid Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf

Head office:
Telephone: +967 (1) 268-661
Fax: +967 (1) 268-276
P.O. Box 2579, Sana'a

Email:
yementimes@yemen.net.ye
yementimes@y.net.ye
yementimes@yementimes.com
Website: http://www.yementimes.com

Branches:
Aden Bureau Chief: Imad Ahmed Abdullah
Ridhwan Alawi Ahmed
Tel: +967 (2) 347-057, 346596;
Fax: +967 (2) 347-056
Email: ytaden@y.net.ye
Taiz Bureau Chief: Imad Ahmed Abdullah
Tel: +967 (4) 217-156
Tel: +967 (4) 217-157
P.O.Box: 5086, Taiz
Email: yttaiz@y.net.ye

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Statistics show there are some 400 Jews left in Yemen

Yemeni Jews adhere to their homeland

BY NASSER ARARABYEE
GULF NEWS

Very few Jews remain in Yemen following organized emigration to Israel, the U.S. and UK over the past five decades.

However, all those who stayed back here say that they do not want to leave the "homeland of our parents and ancestors".

They even say that they hate Israel and consider the Israeli leaders to be "very far from the real Judaism and Torah."

Official statistics indicate that there are about 400 Jews left in Yemen, but non-official estimates say there are some 1,500 Jews who are living mainly in Raydah town, 45km north of the capital Sanaa. They are a minority among 18 million Yemeni Muslims.

With the constitution and laws granting rights of full citizenship, they seem to be loyal to their homeland of Yemen and don't want to migrate anywhere, particularly to Israel. They go to the polls and vote freely like any other Yemeni citizen.

They have full membership in political parties. Most of them are members of President Al Abdullah Saleh's ruling party, the People's General Congress.

Yahya Habeeb, a Jew from Raydah, the main centre of the remaining Jews in Yemen, told Gulf News that he refuses to emigrate to Israel because he can't leave the place where he and his parents and grandparents were born. He said that Jews live in peace with the Yemeni tribes and they are not suffer from any annoyance or harassment.

"We, the Jews, and the tribes are brothers, we don't quarrel with them and neither do they quarrel with us," Habeeb noted.

Like other citizens, Jews rushed quickly to the donation centers when the 10-day donation campaign to raise funds for the victims of Jenin Camp in the Occupied Territories was launched in Yemen earlier this year.

They donated both money and blood to the Palestinian people. They even voiced their readiness to fight against Sharon and his troops.

They declared their condemnation of what they considered as terrorist practices and crimes committed by Israel against the Palestinian people.

In TV interviews during the Jenin donation campaign, Jews described the Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon as a "terrorist and war criminal".

"He has nothing to do with Judaism. All his acts are prohibited by the Torah and are a violation of the Jewish doc-



Yemeni Jews in front of their synagogue in Reidah

trines," another Jew told Gulf News.

They say their brothers who migrated to Israel could not adapt to the Jews there as well as those coming from other countries, especially from Europe, because of the sense of isolation and discrimination they suffer from.

Seven Jewish families from Yemen who migrated only about two years ago requested the Israeli authorities to return them to Yemen due to economic difficulties and their inability to adapt to the new circumstances, an Israeli newspaper reported last month.

Amran Bin Yahya migrated to the U.S. with his seven-member family eight years ago. Two years later, he decided to return to his hometown of Raydah, leaving his wife and children behind.

He didn't like the traditions and habits which he said are completely different from what he is used to, especially the exaggerated liberation of women.

Yahya said he couldn't control his wife when she suddenly renounced the traditions, customs and morals she had learnt since childhood.

"I wish I had not travelled. It would have been better if my children and wife had stayed in Yemen," Yahya stressed.

"The social life in Yemen is better. What you have is yours, your wife is yours and so are your children. But there if your wife gets out of your control, you cannot do anything to keep her," Yahya stated.

The Jewish sect in Yemen love and respect President Saleh and they pray for him and wish him the best of health and all success. In return, they enjoy his protection and safety.

However, they say they should not be blamed for the mistakes of others, referring to the Israel massacres committed against the Palestinian people.

Jews are believed to have come to Yemen in the aftermath of the first

destruction of the Temple in 589 BC. They migrated to the north of the Arabian Peninsula where they lived preaching and spreading Judaism until Prophet Mohammed's (PBUH) Islamic mission arrived in Yemen in 628 AC.

So, they only had to convert to Islam or pay *zajiah* and continue living as before.

In 1876, Rabbi Yezhaq Shaool called upon the Jews of the world to help Yemen's Jews remain in contact with him, but Yemen's Jews refused to migrate to Palestine out of the conviction that the return to Palestine must happen only "according to Allah's will, and not a human being's will".

Jews used to enjoy good relations with the ruler of Yemen, Imman Yahya Hameed Al Dain, (1904 -1948), who ordered no entry into Jewish zones from Friday evening until Sunday morning every week as a sign of respect for their religious rituals.

The ban was not only on the public but also on soldiers, officials and judges. He also prevented judges from summoning Jews on their sacred Saturdays.

In 1911, Samuel Yazer Yavenly came to Yemen to convince the Jews there that the Zionist movement would "liberate the Jews from oppression". Some were convinced while others refused.

Some 4, 234 Jews migrated to Palestine between 1911 and 1919 and about 4,700 Jews from 1939 to 1945.

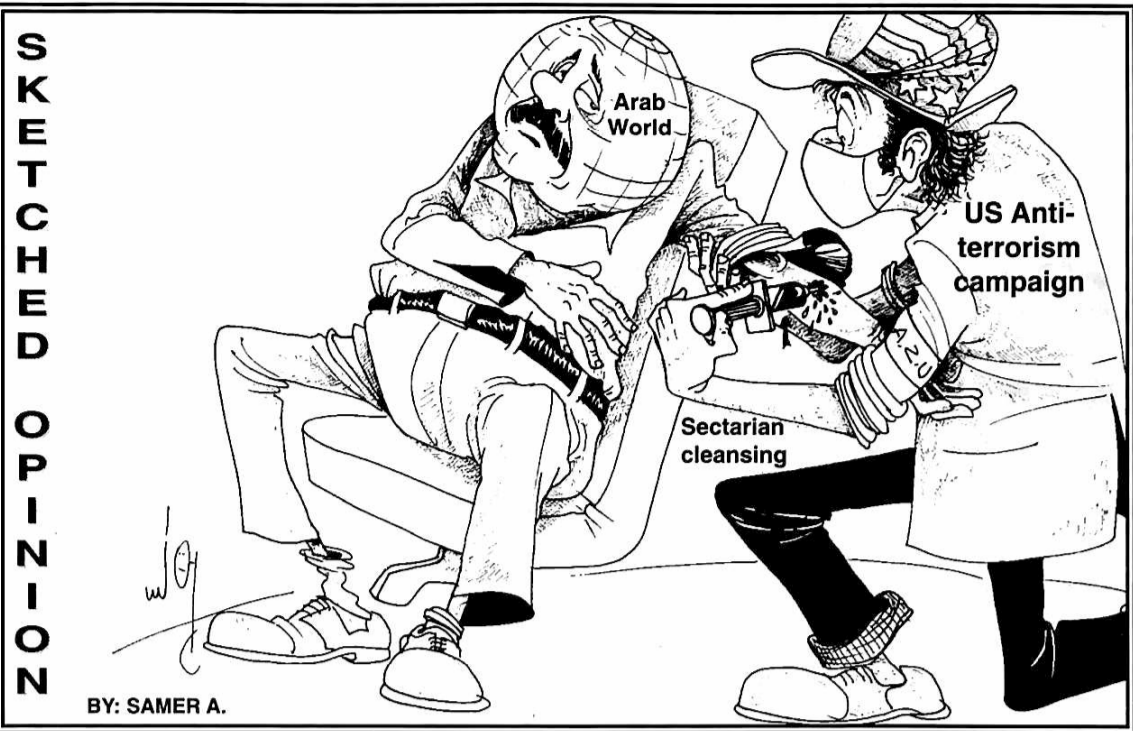
With support from the UK and U.S. and cooperation from Yemeni authorities, 47,170 Jews migrated to Palestine in a famous exodus known as the "flying carpet" between 1948 and 1950. The "flying carpet" used 430 flights and cost \$4,500,000.

The Jewish emigration from Yemen to Palestine started in 1882. The number of Jews who migrated from Yemen to Israel are estimated at 130,000-150,000, with only few of them having gone to the U.S. and Britain.

when the new, gas-rich country was feted worldwide as one of the world's great freedom stories, its epic seven-year struggle for independence from France regarded as being on a par in global historical significance with those of India, the United States and the countries of south and central America. It became the darling, even a leader, of the non-aligned world.

It is difficult to see what the government can do to turn the situation around. It is committed to reform and it wants to pull the country out of its slough of despond; but President Abdelaziz Bouteflika who has tried to initiate compromises is spurned at each turn by the militants, Berbers and other opponents who have nothing in common with each other. They reject him; they reject each other; they boycott elections: the result is public despair and despondency.

It is little wonder the parliamentary elections just a few weeks ago saw the lowest turnout ever. Algerians see only dark clouds ahead. They are living an Arab and Muslim tragedy, and there is no one to help, no way out except emigration. Meanwhile the killing fields grow larger. A sad anniversary, indeed.



BY: SAMER A.

An International Council Court without America

BY JONATHAN POWER

In the week before the International Criminal Court (ICC) comes into formal existence, the United States has decided to pick a fight with it — and potentially a damaging one. In the UN Security Council, the US has said that it is not going to vote for the renewal of the mandate of the NATO peacekeeping force in Bosnia unless the Security Council rules that American soldiers should be given a solemn assurance that US peace-keeping forces could never be prosecuted for war crimes.

This American hostility will hang like a heavy cloud over the ceremonies that will mark the opening of the court's doors on July 1. To their immense credit, the two other Western Security Council members, Britain and France, are adamant in refusing to countenance the American request. All the member states of the European Union regard the court as an historic breakthrough in the building up of a global rule of law, a chance to deter those who seek to wreck havoc with their opponents by the use of war and by the horrors that often war's corollary — mass executions, torture, rape and the murder of the innocents. If the US, which initially was an important advocate of the court's creation — before the Pentagon had the good fortune to best President Bill Clinton while his guard was down at the time of the Monica Lewinsky affair — now decides to confront a united Europe on this issue, it could lead to a transatlantic political crisis of a dimension far worse than that of the steel tariffs' issue of earlier this year and more in the league of the Suez crisis of 1956.

The European Union and the other supporters of the idea of the court in

the four corners of the world conceded nearly all that the US demanded during the negotiations on the statutes of the court in Rome in 1998. The one concession, however, they were not prepared to make was on the question of the court's jurisdiction over UN peace keepers. Indeed, Europe and the rest can be justly criticized for having given away so much and then deciding to dig in their heels on what is a relatively minor issue.

All that is left of the court now is what the British lawyer, Geoffrey Robertson, rightly described in his book 'Crimes Against Humanity' as "a permanent ad hoc tribunal dependent on references from the Security Council to investigate countries like Rwanda and Yugoslavia where none of the combatants have superpower support". The court, as with the ad hoc court in The Hague now trying Slobodan Milosevic, will only have jurisdiction when given a remit by the Security Council acting under Chapter 7 of the UN Charter, or by the consent of the state of which the defendant is a national or in which the crime is committed. There is now no question, as was originally intended, of the court having universal jurisdiction, in other words, being allowed to prosecute whoever it has good reason to believe it has committed a war crime, wherever they live.

With or without America, July 1 will still be a day to celebrate — The Hague tribunal currently prosecuting those who committed atrocities in the Yugoslav wars will now in effect be transmuted into a permanent institution. "In this day and age", as was said in an apt remark by East Timor's Nobel Peace Prize laureate Jose Ramos Horta, speaking about Indonesia's former head of the armed forces, General Wiranto, "you cannot kill hundreds of

people, destroy a whole country, and then just get fired".

The world at the onset of the 21st century is a very different place from what it was after the carnage of World War I in the early years of the last century. Then, no political leader, despite the creation of the League of Nations and the World Court, thought for a moment that international institutions might tell states how to treat their citizens. Individuals had no rights in international law. Today, they have many and the ICC is but the latest advance in a field that encompasses an enormous range, from the rights of women and children to the right not to be tortured.

The ideas of the Enlightenment, most perfectly expressed in political form in the American Constitution, are now writ large across most of the world, a sign that the Enlightenment was not just a dream of European and American thinkers but a way of looking at human life that was essentially practical and doable, and in the end would make the world a much better place.

The court will surely give future tyrants and their generals pause for thought. It will be a decade or so before we will be able to make the first hesitant judgements about whether this interlude for reflection is translated into political and military restraint. No one will be watching this process more closely than America. If, over time, American opinion decides that the court has acted sensitively and with good judgement, and that indeed wars and atrocities have probably been averted, it would be difficult to imagine that America would want to stay out of its fold for very much longer.

The writer is a syndicated columnist and author. He contributed this article to The Jordan Times.

Sad anniversary

ARAB NEWS EDITORIAL (6 JULY 2002)

On 5 July, Algeria celebrated 40 years of independence — and to mark the event, terrorists exploded a bomb in a crowded market outside the capital, killing 35 people and wounding many more. It was the worst single act of carnage in Algeria this year. Typically, no one has claimed responsibility for this repulsive birthday present although local security experts say that it bears all the hallmarks of bomb attacks over the last nine years blamed on Islamist extremists. If so, it makes the proud declaration of just four days ago by the Algerian Army chief-of-staff — that the war against the extremists had been won — sound humiliatingly hollow.

These innocent Algerians were deliberately blown to eternity for the crude political objective of sowing terror among the populace and letting them know on a day chosen for its symbolism that the militants are back with a vengeance.

Not that too many Algerians imagined they had anything to celebrate

yesterday. Even before the outrage, there was little festal atmosphere across the country despite almost frantic efforts by the authorities to rouse enthusiasm.

There is a widespread feeling among the population that 40 years on, independence has become a worthless concept. "Independence for what?", Algerians ask. To be murdered by militants? To be without a job and no hope of one? Around 170,000 people have been killed in the troubles of the past nine years — 1,900 of them last year. Over half-a-million have found themselves jobless as more and more state companies, inefficient and incompetent, close their doors thanks to an economic liberalization which, however, cannot attract new businesses because of the political crisis. Today, most young Algerians have one idea: to get out. The brain drain to France — and anywhere there is peace and a chance of a decent living — is sapping the lifeblood of the country. It brightest and best do not want to be Algerians; they want to be French, Spanish, Italian, British, German. For them, 40 years of independence means nothing. It is also so different from 1962,

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Profile of late Yemeni historian ba Matraf



SALEH ABDULBAQI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

On Monday the first of July 2002, Yemen commemorated Mohammed Abdulqader Ba Matraf's 14th death anniversary. Ba Matraf is one of the greatest cultural and historical pioneers.

Ba Matraf's death on July first 1988 was a shock that many could not handle and imagine. He was an intellectual and a writer who gained readers' love, respect, and admiration especially for his historical writings. Ba Matraf was one of a few Yemeni writers who were involved in history documenting and could frame its events in an attractive and pleasant manner. He left a great heritage of indispensable historical writings in different fields of knowledge. Among his famous writings was a book about a once well-known sailor, Sheikh Saeed ba Taea, who composed two poems on his journeys in the sea, which are still in use today. Ba Matraf also wrote about the blind sailor, Ahmad bin Urwa, who had extraordinary abilities in identifying the sea depth and secrets. All of those individuals as well as many others who were attached to sailing and ships were described and mentioned in ba Matraf's book "Unforgettable Characters", which was written based on his close encounters and relations with his era's prominent sheikhs, poets, scholars, and sailors.

Mohammed Abdulqader ba Matraf, who belongs to the Hadrami tribe Kendah, a tribe with significant historical roles, was born in 1915 in Ashaher, the oldest town of Hadramout and the

oldest known seaport on the Arab Sea. He was known as "Abu Ali" or "Ben Hadram" in some of his writings in newspapers like Attaleea and Arraya that were issued just before independence in 1967 in Mukalla City, the capital of the Hadramout province.

Ba Matraf received his basic education at the prominent Makarim al-Akhlaq school in Al Shaher which depended only on respectful and skillful teachers, but he always liked to learn by himself. Then, he joined Aden High School in 1921 and left for Britain for higher studies in the field of commerce in 1935. He also studied summarizing, quick typing, translation and other skills in Cambridge University. Upon his graduation in 1936, ba Matraf worked as a typist and translator. Afterwards, he occupied many positions including a translator for Saif al-Islam al-Hussieni during his visit to the UK during 1936-1938, then he returned to Hadramout, where worked in the British Consultative Administration during 1939-1949. He indexed the Sultanate Library in 1967 which carried his name thereafter.

After the independence of South Yemen, ba Matraf was engaged in composing and writing research papers and worked with the Ministry of Culture as a researcher until his death in 1988. He wrote many poems and established many close relations with great poets such as Al-Mihdar, and Saleh Abdurahman Al Moflehi. He wrote many stories such as "Mariam al-Mastlia", which resulted in a debate among the intellectual and cultural community. This story was published in a series in Asharara newspaper in Hadramout. Among his researches were "the literature of the revolution," "what history neglected," and "courtship in Al Mehdar poetry". On the other hand, ba Matraf made great

contributions to drama sector and composed many theatrical acts such as "the microphone", "the aged man", and "dreams".

Ba Matraf wrote columns and articles for a number of Arab newspapers. He wrote an introduction to Ahmed Awad ba Wazir's book "the Palace Martyrs", al-Mehdar's collection of poems "Lovers' Tears", and al-Moflehi poetry collection. Ba Matraf had enriched the Arabic and Yemeni libraries with a huge collection of writings despite the daily harassments, imprisonment, and the robbery of valuable items during political disputes in Hadramout before the revolution. His studies included an analysis on the popular proverbs, a general rule on heritage and how to filter it from impure elements.

This political disorder before the revolution in the South resulted in many victims. Ba Matraf himself was among those victims as he was imprisoned and had his properties confiscated. Among the valuable publications that were robbed was the book "50 years of tribal conflicts in Hadramout 1845-1895," by al-Moallem Abdulhaq a pioneer and popular poet by the time. His famous book "Praising old Yemeni talent in poetry naturally without imitation" was printed by the Book Authority in Sana'a.

There is no doubt that such a great man deserves the respect and admiration of all Yemenis. Thousands of pages would be needed to present part of his achievements and writings that participated in the change and revolution of the former South Yemen. The least that we should do right now is express our appreciation for his role and describe and present his great writings and publications, which will continue to be present in our lives for centuries to come.

When intellectuals suffer negligence

It is a pity to see the current situation of the artistic movement in Aden. Intellectuals and artists are suffering from cultural stagnation and negligence by the authorities.

When we recall the glorious past of Aden, we find a unique era of creativity which has been put to an unfortunate end. In spite of this, the cultural movement in general did not stop but rather continued until unification in 1990 when the capital was transferred to Sana'a. Even after unification, the cultural activities were much slower in pace.

Mr. Abdurahman Abdulkhalig, the Chairman of the Yemeni Writers and

Authors Union wrote some articles, which were published in Al Ayyam newspaper in issue No. 3574 concerning this matter.

Mr. Abdulkhalig focused on the cultural revival of Aden before unification and women's presence in cultural affairs, which now seems to have vanished. The educated in Aden complain today that there is lack in opportunities in local and international positions compared to Sana'a.

They consider this an intended negligence to minimize their activities and effects on the community. They said that either authorities suspect them of being indoctrinated with socialism or perhaps because their cultural views

are regarded as being of little importance.

Mr. Abdulkhalig emphasized the importance of enhancing and supporting cultural activities in Aden with all means possible.

"For example, there is a necessity in establishing a complete theater in Aden. The only theater that we had here disappeared after unification because of the lack of financial support," he said.

It was concluded that all these elements together kill the creative soul in the intellectual population in any city, including Aden. This issue must receive the attention and care needed from the authorities.

International conference on Yemeni cultural Strategies

The Cultural Supreme Committee chaired by Mr. Abdulwahab Alrawhani, Culture Minister, ratified in its meeting last week holding an international Conference due for next October. The conference will discuss the cultural strategies to be rati-

fied by the cabinet and the UNESCO. The cultural strategies had been prepared by a committee of specialists and experts selected by the ministry. The meeting was attended by UNESCO experts and the vice culture minister, Mr. Ahmad Al Qadi.

Congratulations

Mr. Aidaroos Obeid was recently appointed as the Sales Manager of Sheraton Gold Mohur Hotel in Aden. Mr. Aidaroos is known for his high skills and experience in such posts that require marketing for prominent international hotels. He is known for his honesty and dedication to his work. On this occasion, we as Yemen Times would like to congratulate Mr. Aidaroos Obeid for his new post, wishing him a prosperous future full of success in his new duties.

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ناسيونال
National

Health & population growth in Yemen

PREPARED FOR PUBLISHING*
BY ISMAEL AL-GHABIRI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Health and population growth are two issues closely interrelated to each other. The introduction of modern health services usually results in the reduction of mortality rates long before fertility rates are affected. This in turn accelerates population growth, leading to economic and social burdens. Yemen is no exception to this pattern, which can be found in most developing countries. To ease population pressure, family planning programs have to become an integral part of the healthcare system. More importantly, traditional attitudes need to be changed and the role of women strengthened. Education and aspirations for improved living standards can be important agents of change. Female education is another factor that should be considered.

Yemen is still in the early phase of demographic transition. Birth rates are very high. As a matter of fact, with an annual increase of 3.7%, Yemen has the fastest growing population of the world after Gaza Strip. Part of the problem is reflected in traditions that date back to the times when child mortality was also extremely high.

With the introduction of modern health services in Yemen in the 1970s and 1980s, mortality rates dropped sharply while birth rates changed very little. As a result, natural population growth increased from about 2% a year three decades ago to 3.7% in recent years. As health services further extend to rural areas and as their quality improves steadily, average life expectancy will continue to increase leading to higher population growth rates. Unless there is a significant decline in fertility rates, the population will grow even faster leading to disastrous economic consequences.



Al-Gumhori Hospital, Sana'a - a good source of statistics on mortality and birth rates

By mid-1997, the population of Yemen is estimated to have reached 16.5 million; it has now reached close to 18 million. A national population census conducted in the 1994 presumed such an increase long before it happened. Average fertility and birth rates are still high, resulting in high population growth rates. But these rates have come down significantly in urban areas where living and education standards are better than those in rural areas.

Population policy

The government used to act passively concerning the population growth issue. Humble efforts were made to promote family planning of it was presented as a health measure to promote maternal and child health. Initial programs were developed and managed by non-government organizations such as the Yemen Family

Care Association and the Yemen Red Crescent Society. Both were supported by the United Nations Fund for Population activities, the International Planned Parenthood Federation and other foreign donors.

In the late 1980s, population issues began to be recognized more clearly. The analysis of the 1986 and 1988 census data revealed disturbing findings with regard to future population growth and its impact on people's welfare. Policy makers and planners became interested in demographic trends and started discussing programs to reduce fertility rates. In March 1989, a conference on Islam and population attended by religious leaders from Yemen and other countries recommended the adoption of national programs. The main goal was a reduction of the high population growth rate to bring it more into line with the country's capacity for social

and economic development.

The growing interests in population issues led to the first National Population Conference in October 1991 sponsored by the government and attended by key government representatives, private and international organizations. The conference supported a number of board policy goals and objectives including the reduction of fertility and mortality rates and the enhancement of women's participation in economic and social activities. The participants proposed a detailed action plan and the establishment of a national population council. The government subsequently endorsed the plan (November 1991) and issued a decree setting up the council and technical secretariat (July 1992).

The National Population Council is chaired by the Prime Minister and includes cabinet members' responsible for different aspects of the evolu-

tion strategy. The Council coordinates the activities and programs of various agencies and organizations. Monitors their progress, and decides on appropriate follow-up.

A second national population conference was organized in 1996. Like the first one, it helped focus public attention on the problem of high fertility in Yemen. Largely as a result of these two conferences and as a consequence of the focus given to popula-

tion issues by the National Population Council, external assistance for family planning has increased. The efforts by the council have resembled a milestone in targeting one of the most devastating problems of Yemen, i.e., population growth.

* Originally published in the book "Health Care in Least Developed Countries" written by Dr. Abdullah Abdulwali Nasher.



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This model incorporates 18-ct. gold reproductions of the "Broad Arrow" hands form the first speedmaster model, which give the watch its name. The authentic enamel dial has Arabic numerals and the limited-series number engraved at 6 o'clock. It is encased by a scratch-resistant sapphire crystal with anti-reflective treatment on the inside and surrounded by an 18-ct. yellow gold bezel with tachymetric scale. The watch has a screw-in transparent case back engraved with "SPEEDMASTER ENAMEL LIMITED SERIES" and the limited-series number. The OMEGA double-gasket crown ensures water resistance to 100 meters. Available in yellow, red or white gold exclusively with gold a hand-sewn black alligator leather strap and marching 18-ct. gold fold over clasp. Limited series of 99 pieces in each gold color. An addition series of 9 boxed sets containing the three different models is also available.

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إربح

مليون ريال نفداً

والعديد من الجوائز القيمة...



YEMEN TIMES

MAM
INTERNATIONAL CORP.
(ريال و ماچي ستورج)

Improve Your English



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

141

I. What to Say Situations and expressions (22): In Memoriam

Contrary to the tone and temper of an obituary, which is a notice with primarily an information value, expressions of Remembrance, called In Memoriam reflect a nostalgic account of the person's qualities indicating how much he is missed. Here are a few instances of expressions used for 'In Memoriam'.

- Ever since you left us for your heavenly abode, time has stood still.
- Life is not and cannot be the same without you. We pray to the Almighty to bless your soul with eternal peace and rest.
- The cruel hands of destiny so untimely snatched you from us. We don't know how to bear your loss.
- The icy hands of death so cruelly took you away from us. We know not how to pull on without having you around.
- We are only surviving without you. No life without you.
- The best things life had offered to us have disappeared with you. Life has become an unbearable burden.
- You were the apple of our eyes. We are completely broke without you. Quite unable to bear the brunt of life.
- Life is hollow, devoid of all charm, all meaning since you were gone.
- Gone, but not forgotten.
- Those who are dear to Allah are called away soon. You are not with us, but your memories linger and will continue to linger in our heart of hearts for ever.
- You were taken away at the prime of your life, leaving us forlorn.
- Without you, we have no present, nor any future.
- You left us for your heavenly abode this day last year. Your affection, love devotion to duty, sacrifice for the family and others, your firm belief in Allah, the most merciful and the most compassionate, shall always be a source of inspiration.
- In loving memory of (the deceased) who left for his heavenly abode this day. A thousand words, unending memories, a feeling of loss that can never be replaced. We miss you every moment of our life and pray for eternal peace to your noble soul.

II. How to say it correctly Correct errors, if any, in the following sentences:

1. Yemen was occupied by Britain.
2. Yemenis destroyed all difficulties to achieve the unification.
3. We want to say to Palestine that we are with you, if it was not by our body, but by our mind.
4. Through their speech she came to know what kind of man was he.
5. He tried to open a speech with her.

Solutions to last week's questions:

1. The shirt was blown away to the street.
2. He came back to his sense and

became quiet.

3. The mother has three sons: they are Mohammed, Ahmed and the youngest is Adnan.
4. After she grew up, she left her mother.
5. The people were not many.

III. How to express it in one word

1. Of trees losing their leaves regularly during autumn.
2. Of one tenth of money or weights.
3. Kill one tenth or larger part of something.
4. Find the meaning of something difficult to understand.
5. A formal speech full of strong feeling.

Solutions to last week's questions

1. First appearance on a public stage: **Debut** (n)
2. Period of ten years: **Decade** (n)
3. Falling to a lower level in morals, art, literature, etc: **Decadence** (n)
4. Give more powers to branches for self government: **Decentralize** (n)
5. Unit for measuring the loudness of sounds: **Decibel** (n)

VI. Grammar and Composition

a) Grammar

Rewrite the following sentences changing the italicized verbs to nouns and vice versa.

1. That's where it *started*, isn't it?
2. Civil servants *advise*, of course.
3. I *suppose* the really important decisions are made by very few men.
4. The roads *compete* with them for good traffic.
5. We haven't *decided* what we mean by democracy yet.

b) Idioms and phrases

Use the following phrases in sentences of your own.

1. not quite the same; 2. do better;
3. have a chance of; 4. feel sure;
5. learn by heart

c) Words commonly confounded

Bring out the differences in meaning of the following pairs/groups of words

1. custom, customs
2. deny, refuse
3. amaze, astonish, astound, surprise
4. ancient, old

Answers to last week's questions

Grammar and composition

a) Composition

- A: My name's Ahmed
B: Mine's Mofed.

A: Where do you work?

B: At Sana'a Trade Center

A: Really? I work there too.

B: I've never seen you there

A: Well, it's a big place and I only started last week.

B: Do you like it?

A: It's not bad. Besides, I can now go to work by shared taxi.

B: I usually take my car.

A: Do you? Well, perhaps you can give me a lift!

b) Idioms and phrases

1. **applicable** to (affecting or connected with a particular person): Rules of the organization

are applicable to one and all.

2. **appreciative** of (showing admiration): Our boss is appreciative of merit in every worker.

3. **apprehensive** of (worried or nervous about somebody or something): I am apprehensive of the treatment I may get there.

4. **make approach to** (a request from some one): The student made an approach to the teacher to give him (the student) good marks in the exam.

5. **appropriate** to (suitable to a particular situation): You must choose your style appropriate to your subject.

c) Words commonly confounded

1. **absurd** (adj) (unreasonable, foolish, ridiculous, opposed to common sense and experience): That 'the king can do no harm' is an absurd dogma.

foolish (adj) (without reason, sense, or good judgment): It would be foolish for us to argue with him.

silly (adj) (something which is pointless, weak minded): How silly of you to have done this kind of a mistake?

stupid (slow thinking and dull): I am not that stupid to believe in your cock and bull story.

2. **almost** (adv) (very close to; replaceable by 'nearly' with verbs, adjectives and nouns): The teacher taught us almost nothing.

nearly (adv) (can be used before 'all', 'always' and 'every'). It is replaceable by 'almost': Nearly all the boys had left before the bell rang.

3. **practically** (adv) (in a practical manner; so to speak; it is replaceable by 'almost'): We have had practically no rains this year.

ceiling (n) (i. the under surface of overhead interior lining of a room): The ceiling of the room is tastefully painted.

(ii official upper limit of something): According to the Land ceiling Act in India, no individual can have more than 30 acres of land.)

(iii. In the vocabulary of pilots, it refers to the highest desirable level to be reached by an aircraft): This is an aircraft with the ceiling of 25,000 ft.

Roof (n) (the top covering of a building, bus, car, etc.): Rooftop travel on buses can be quite dangerous.

V. Pearls from the Holy Quran

"Then do ye remember Me; I will remember You. Be grateful to Me, And reject not Faith" S. 2 A. 152

VI. Words of Wisdom

"The first great gift we can bestow on others is a good example."

—Morell

Teaching Poetry: Some Interactive Approaches (1/2)



P. A. ABRAHAM
SANA'A UNIVERSITY
ABRAHAM@Y.NET.YE

We live in an age when the role of English has been progressively changing to be language oriented. The well-known expression "language through literature" is quite familiar to many. As a teacher of literature I should like to reframe the expression as "literature through language". Anyway, under the changing circumstances, it is important that teachers of English literature must catch up to make their tasks more realistic and meaningful. We must realize that when we teach our students literature, we are also teaching them language, language as used in poetry, drama, fiction or any other genre. And we also are able to create literary awareness as well, which in turn provides extra features that help improve the students' command of English and ability to use language freely, not solely as a linguistic, but as a cultural, intellectual, social, and psychological medium of expression. Not only does literature provide the student with a considerably wide variety of syntax and vocabulary, but it also exposes the student to language used at its best. I would say that poetry is the type of English that touches our personal feelings most closely. Poetry is helpful to assimilate the typical rhythm of a language. So, the medium is language; the content and form of a literary work arouses interest in the meaningful use of that medium. A literary text is only a pretext. What we do with it what matters. There are different ways of handling anything unskillfully just as there are different ways of skillful and effective handling.

Traditional Approach

Teachers who prefer a traditional approach of teaching Literature usually

offer background information about the author, his/her times, social milieu etc. In this approach which may be viewed as a kind of dramatic monologue, a kind of one way traffic which means the teacher is the only speaker, and the students being passive recipients, rather than "active agents" have got practically nothing to do other than listen to what the teacher says, whether they understand or not. So, in traditional approach teachers often stand before the class, in a vacuum as it were, enjoying their own lectures. "lost in teaching", but in fact, getting no feedback from the learners as there is no interaction between the text and the learners or among learners themselves.

From my experience as a teacher of literature for the past couple of years, I realize that we may be able to create an ideal class room situation by introducing wide ranging student oriented, text related activities, which as Collie & Slater (1987:8) suggest, "put fresh momentum into the teaching of literature by stimulating students' desire to read and encouraging their response". Many students are nervous to open up and perhaps the best way to minimize nervousness is for students to be at ease with interactive learning methods-pair work, co-operative tasks and discussion, role plays, student seminars etc. When students are made to participate in the learning process by making them read, write and respond to each other's writing, making them think and write more imaginatively, our task as a teacher becomes more fruitful. A psychological approach is needed at the beginning. We need to place most of the emphasis at the beginning of the year on helping students feel comfortable expressing their genuine feelings. They need to feel assured that they will not be exposing themselves to ridicule when they express themselves. Teachers must help the students to see their classmates as unified group, which will be responsive and respectful and non-judgmental. Once we succeed in installing in them a sense of confidence, half of the battle is won.

In this article, I shall try to focus on cer-

tain strategies, which are found useful while teaching poetry, one of the important and difficulty genres of literature. Some of these strategies could also be adopted to other genres as well. Of course, we are aware of certain practical problems:

The language level of the students is often very poor and we may have to spend a long time working on detailed comprehension rather than looking at the poem as a whole. A large number of students are linguistically unprepared and conceptually unequipped.

Teachers are required by the University to select writers of certain era—the Victorian/Elizabethan/Neoclassical/Romantic/Modern etc. Back in India, there are texts prescribed by the University and you need to teach them whether you like it or not. In Sana'a University, it is more flexible in the sense that teachers are free to augment the list with their own choices in a given frame work, and this is where, I think, more attention should be paid to the demands of the students and the teaching situation.

However, once the teacher has chosen a poem to teach, it is better to consider certain pedagogical questions before presenting the poem in the class:

Why did I choose this poem? What do I see as its potential value to the students?

How would I initially present the materials? Shall I read the poem together in the class? Should I give any historical background on the author?—The time period of the poem's composition

What do I expect from the students to learn from this poem? That is, what are my educational objectives?

How would I evaluate whether students have learned the material? Would I run a class discussion or gauge from the response whether the students have read and internalized the material? Should I quiz them? Shall I ask them to write a paper?

What are the issues that students are curious about? What issues concern them?

To be concluded

A LETTER TO THE TEACHERS OF ENGLISH:

Collect good pictures and save them for the future

Dear Fellow teachers, There can't be a second opinion about the use of teaching aids in the English classes. The more aids you use, the richer your classes are going to be. Where will you go for the suitable aids? Of course there are pictures in the Pupil's Books. Are they enough? Sometimes you need more pictures, don't you?

When you see good pictures in the magazines or newspapers, cut them (if the magazines or newspapers are yours) and paste it in an empty notebook. This album of pictures will come in handy, when you need them. An enthusiastic teacher always looks for

useful pictures. The pictures which are suggestive in nature are more useful than the ones which are plain. Once I came across a picture of a man in uniform (looked like a policeman) sitting near a railway carriage with a bomb in his hand. I was amused and took this picture to my class. It was a group of teachers on an in-service course. I showed it and asked them to say what they thought was happening in it. I was thrilled to hear a variety of sentences, some of them unbelievable. The moral of the story is that a suggestive picture can create a lot of enthusiasm in the class and motivate your students to participate in the classroom activities. Such pictures are not available every

day and when you get them, grab them and store them for the future use.

Good and appropriate pictures are a big attraction, especially in the preparatory classes. They appeal to the visual senses of the learners, create a lot of interest in them and encourage them to take part in the classroom activities. They save a lot of your time, which you will otherwise spend in long explanations; they help you to minimize the use of Arabic in the class. What else do you want? Go look for good pictures and save them for your future use. Good luck!

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

Symposium on Classroom-based Research in English: An "Underview"



MURARI PRASAD
FACULTY OF
EDUCATION
SANA'ADAH
PRASADM1947
@YAHOO.CO.IN

A report on a formal academic forgathering, by way of summing up, tends to reduce all the disparate elements of discussion. Equally, I am not very comfortable with the term overview since it implies a position of superiority and limits indulgence in some kind of perspective, particularly when one can't resist the temptation to comment. So I plump for the term "underview" to offer my impression of the Classroom-centred symposium (May29-30) organized by the Department of English, Faculty of Languages, Sana'a University, and refer to some pedagogical issues that were raised in different guise and with different emphasis. I apologize in advance for leaving out specific speakers—those who engaged with the theme head-on as well as those whose submissions were just flag-waving exercises far from the fulcrum of the symposium.

The symposium did indeed have a practical orientation and the positive attitude towards pragmatism, experi-

mentation and innovation shown by many speakers was encouraging. It was worthwhile, and all the kudos to Prof. A.K. Sharma and the patrons. While academic research is generally viewed as verbose, general, abstract and large-scale undertakings in the form of seeking overarching grand explanations for issues under investigation, classroom-based action research is brief, small scale and is implemented within the constraints of one's own institution. There is no attempt to isolate individual factors or variables to suit the tools of research, as academic researchers do. The latter are distant from the intended beneficiaries of the outcome of their research whereas practicing teachers become researchers to deal with problems genuinely experienced by them in their immediate teaching situation and tackle the problem as it exists. Their theory is improved by observing practice unlike mainstream academic research engagements wherein the testing of hypotheses is derived from prior theories.

Predictably, classroom-centred research has the potential for influencing and changing the teaching situation (the teaching of English in our context) by the kind of self-reflective inquiry its exponents conduct at their individual level provided their findings are vetted, evaluated, disseminated and, eventual-

ly, shared in the form of a refined, "actionable" and accretive plan or (if you like) concrete action blueprint. If the teachers conducting action research set scale of credit in relation to the alternative ways of teaching and testing in a collaborative way, as Dr R.V.Ram argued, they can turn around the status quo. However, a symposium can't be a one-off remedial package. It can be at best a starter pack. What we need is a forum for ongoing engagement with the issues of professional interest. Only then can the inputs emanating from discussions mark fruitful directions away from the "beaten track".

Action research is useful in testing and modifying notions about translation as cross-cultural barriers pose a plethora of challenges to test reproduction, as Prof. Abdel Rahman Abdrabu noted. It also involves, to my mind, the difficulty of articulating the hegemonic relationship between the source language and the target language, particularly when the former is a dominant language and the latter a marginal or subaltern one. The process of countering and manipulating the imbalance in terms of the creative output of the translation is a stimulating action research activity in that it can forge productive links between translation theorists and translators. The triumph of verbalization entails validating the

reproduced text in terms of the source text.

Thus, as someone has observed somewhere, the critic, like Prometheus, steals fire from heaven and brings it for humans on the earth while the action researcher, having to find on his own feet, vacates the critic's chair and puts his money where his mouth is. The highpoints of action research in the works of its major proponents (Hopkins 1985, Carr & Kemmis, 1986, Prabhu 1987, Kemmis & McTaggart 1989, Woodward 1991, Harvard & Hodgkinson 1994, Malderez & Bodoczky 1999, Malderez & Kogoj 2001) suggest a flexible task-bank that teachers can draw from to generate and prioritize topics for investigation, as well as to prepare the ground for group exploration and reflect on the nature of change and innovation. I have labored this point enough and will pass on to some different points.

Alternative enterprises within the space of a disciplinary study do shake up pedagogic orthodoxy and nudge our professional concern provided we harness the new theoretical insights to our purpose and need. In this context it was difficult to agree with Prof. K.M. Tiwari's remarks that "there is nothing new about classroom-centred research" as its ancestry dates back to Socrates and Aristotle. In deference to the

redoubtable Professor's view I only submit that with the staggering transformation of the English language and literary studies we can't afford not to take globally enabling theories on board. Of course we must interrogate the new postulates without being overwhelmed by them. Equally, I can't quite accept Dr Manhood Ali Shamsher's view that traditional manuals for teaching English in Yemen in the 1950s were more effective than the current ELT materials. We need statistical evidence before giving the nod to his point. Unless more means worse, as Kingsley Amis once said, the disclaimer is downright subjective.

The issue of teaching English literature figured quite prominently in the presentations and interventions. Surely, it doesn't claim the attention of the sub-discipline of Cultural Studies in Yemeni universities. While teaching a literary text two sets of issues attract attention: the first set includes issues like cultural and political provenance of literature, transformation of knowledge about literature and the canon, the thematic concerns of the text etc.; at the other end of the spectrum the main issue is the language-literature interface. In the global village of today the English language is a proper prelude to professional career as learning to play the Piano was for a Jane Austen hero-

ine. So what the Yemeni students need is the ability to use English in an efficient and elegant way. This point was pressed with much conviction by Professor Damodar Thakur in his valedictory address. The emphasis on personal enrichment at emotional and ideational levels is not only commonsensical and correct but also goes straight to the heart of the matter and answers substantially, if not wholly, Prof. Tiwari's question about needs analysis in the context of teaching English literature in Yemen. After such knowledge what forgiveness for over-academicizing the study of English literature? We need literature in the language classroom to deal with learners as humans, rather than with learners as Language Acquisition Devices.

In conclusion, I might as well express explicitly that a tension between an instrumental views of literature in the form of culturally compatible, judiciously selected sanitized texts and literature as cultural self-presentation with concomitant attributes has made the teaching of English literature—at least at some places—an ambivalent enterprise. An important dimension to the symposium was an eloquent, if not specific, resolution to the ambivalence suggested by Prof. Thakur with his characteristic acumen and erudition.

Local Press

Prepared by Mohammed Khidhr



Al-Wahdawi weekly, Organ of Nasserite People Unionist Organization, 2 July 2002.



As-Sahwa weekly, July 4, 2002.

Mean Headlines:

- Security authorities arrest a suspect tried to approach the visiting British warship.
- Dangerous leading al-Qaeda member escaped from prison in Aden.
- Press prosecution interrogates Muhsin and Ibrahim, returns them to political security prison.
- Aborted attempt to kidnap high-ranking official's son.

Columnist Khalid Mohammed Hashim says in his article that Bush has described the Palestinian authority as, to his point of view, becoming an old horse, and time has come to fire on it a bullet of mercy. It seems that Bush has forgotten that this same authority was a partner in signing all agreements of surrender. He called for its replacement by a new group, fighting terror, as interpreted by America and Israel.

Those following Bush's school would do that against the Palestinian freedom-fighters, and this way they would comfort Israel and spare its army the trouble of deploying it and using it for that purpose.

Bush did not miss the opportunity to give his orders to Arab rulers on the necessity of full normalization with Israel and implementation of his "imitative" on the ground. The leaders of this authority was the first to welcome Bush's "imitative" and that consequently encouraged the other slaves to rush to prove their being slaves exceeding their master expectations.

The fact would remain stronger and the decisive attitude is possessed by those martyrs who adores martyrdom on the road of freedom.

Main Headlines:

- Election Higher Committee, political parties: Criteria await agreement
- Economic sources: Prime Minister's statements on currency stability, an illusion
- Al-Jawf celebrates return of Sheikh Ameen al-Ukaimi
- Citizens of Aden decide to sue electricity authority
- U.S. embassy confirms intensified procedures against Yemen

Columnist Ahmed Uthman writes in his article that those who announced their solidarity with the journalist Abdul Raheem Muhsin were waiting for his release, but instead of that they received a quick reply embodied by imprisoning journalist Ibrahim Hussein. It has been a step aimed at weakening the spirit of this unprecedented solidarity, which proved to be a new healthy spirit.

Hussein and Muhsin are not the first of kidnapped or imprisoned and won't be the last.

The important thing is continuation and development of this solidarity to evolve into a culture and mass project. It should be continued on a basis of respecting the law and stressing the legitimate variance, protection of the citizen's liberties and his rights and defending him without reservations.



Annas weekly, 1 July 2002.

Main headlines:

- Opposition parties warn against

return of totalitarianism

- Sheikh Ukaimi: Misunderstanding caused my arrest, the president ordered my release
- Controversy over dividing electoral constituencies

Columnist Sadeq Nasher says in his article that after Bush's speech on the Middle East the Arabs have no longer any hope in this American administration that proved it is more Israeli than the Jewish state itself. As a matter of fact Bush is a supporter for those regimes that are trying to keep talking about the American stand in support of the establishment of a Palestinian state.

Americans and Israelis are having a sway over the Palestinians keeping the Arabs incapable of taking any attitude save that of welcoming the American stand and saying that Bush's recent stance carries positive elements of which one wonders where those positive elements are. Let Bush say whatever he likes because this is a stand very familiar from the Americans. They are more antagonists towards the Palestinians than the Israelis themselves. The strange is the Arab leaders stands which we have not heard about them. All of them are still waiting for the "American clarification's" on what Bush has said in his latest speech, which in fact is quite clear and does not need any kind of clarification.

Now only Arafat remains alone amidst the Arab-American conflict. This conflict has lately got intensified and the president of the most powerful country in the world, claiming democracy, is demanding the ousting of a legitimately elected president with the aim of establishing a non-identity state. I am quite sure that Arafat would step down as head of the Palestinian authority if he becomes convinced that his stay in his post would be a block in the way

of establishing the Palestinian state. The question is not connected with Arafat as a person but rather as a symbol of struggle of the people of Palestine who are now alone facing the Israelis and the Americans.



Al-Balagh weekly, 2 July 2002.

Main headlines:

- Explosive charges discovered in Saudi Arabia, calls for hitting American interests
- British security delegation conducts investigations about some fundamentalists two days before arriving in Yemen
- Al-Eryani mediates between the opposition and the elections supreme committee
- Abdulrahim Muhsin and Ibrahim Hussein interrogated and returned to the Political Security

Editor in chief of the newspaper says in his article that by utilizing the events of 11 September the United States was able to deal blows to some Islamist groups but it has at the same time planted hatred, love for vengeance and seizing opportunities with the souls of more than 200 million Arabs and more than a billion Muslims.

President Bush should have looked for the future and to define his vision of the new century. However, unfortunately he has chosen war and revenge to be the slogan of the 21st century. No doubt the American war on the Islamic world would not stop and simultaneously the retaliatory blows against the American targets and interests would also not stop. The Americans might be able to hit infrastructure of Islamist movements but they could not destroy the main ele-

ments of this war, i.e. the hearts full of faith of the Muslims. This element represents a time-bomb liable to explode at any time and place.

The Americans have sown hatred and grudge and love for revenge with the Muslims and cannot replace these hearts bursting with hatred which would explode in the face of the Americans and their interests. We can foretell the future and see that all indications point out that the American administration has drawn a map for the 21st century full of blood and destruction and this map would remain the main title for the coming decades unless the U.S. reconsidered its policy towards the Muslims. Perhaps the Americans have depended on the difference in power while they have drawn up their new policy but they have fallen in a grave mistake when they have not taken into consideration the factor of peoples. Confrontation would not be basically with the regimes but rather with the peoples.



26 September weekly, organ of Yemen Armed Forces, 4 July 2002.

Main headlines:

- Draft protocol on security cooperation with Italy
- A British team looks for additional evidence against Abu Hamza before bringing him to trial
- Bahrain's finance minister conveys message to president Saleh from Bahrain's king
- Fixing border markings with Saudi Arabia to be finished beginning of next year
- Foreign minister al-Qirbi leaves for Tehran late this month
- Vice-President stresses Yemen's strong relations with Iraq, Italy, China

- Saudi oil pipeline project, true translation of partnership and economic integration

Political editor of the newspaper says in his article that all are unanimous that the United States of America is the strongest state militarily and politically in the world. It has managed with the help of this power to put itself in one scale of the balance and the rest of the world in the other scale. It has managed to make its decisions implemented imperatively, whether they were right or wrong. The most obvious evidence is its decisions regarding the Palestinian issue. The American decision has affected the United Nations and rendered it incapable and prevented it from taking decisions on withdrawing Israeli troops from the Palestinian territories, occupied since 2000. America has also hindered sending international forces to constitute a buffer zone between the Palestinians and the Israelis in order to stop violence and monitor and determine the party responsible for violating the truce.

Atmospheres of optimism that prevailed after President Bush's vision of the establishment of the Palestinian state and was supported by the Arab peace initiative have disappeared after the American latest statement. This requires an American reconsideration of its stand especially that which is biased to Israel. We have many times said that Israel's security would not be realized but with the establishment of the Palestinian state and that peace could not be achieved but with justice. If the American power is no connected with values of justice, the solutions it imposes on this party or that would be only temporary matters no more. It will sow seeds of resentment and rejection of the American power and threaten international security and stability.

World Press

Major news items in leading international newspapers

Provided by Xinhua

Pakistan

The News

Pakistan on Friday dismissed India's allegations of infiltration across disputed Kashmir's Line of Control and warned it would strike back if New Delhi launched any military action.

Dawn

The Election Commission said on Friday that it had not finalized any code of conduct for the general elections, and had only invited suggestions from the political parties about the code.

India

The Indian Express:

In a move that will help promote tourism between India and China, the government Friday gave its approval to an agreement signed during the visit of Chinese Premier Zhu Rongji early this year.

The Hindustan Times

In a bid to make its presence felt in the international sector, Indian Airlines planned to introduce Kolkata-Hongkong flights and increase those to Bangkok, Yangon and Kathmandu covering the Buddhist circuit.

The Times of India

The government Friday totally freed the tea sector including plantations for foreign direct investment with a condition that the foreign investor divest 26 percent equity to its Indian partner within five years.

The Nation

Pakistan's trade deficit for fiscal 2001-02 is 1.2 billion US dollars with exports reaching 9.1 billion dollars and imports standing at 10.3 billion dollars, official sources told The Nation on Friday.

The Frontier Post

The US special plane landed at the Pakistan Air Force base Chaklala on Friday carrying five latest helicopters, equipped with digital system for effective spying, aimed to beef up border security and surveillance at Pak-Afghan border.

Japan

Nihon Keizai

Japan's Financial Services Agency mulls new law to promote regional bank mergers.

Asahi

About 79 percent Japanese people in survey believe Japan-South Korea ties will turn better after the World Cup.

Mainichi

Japanese parliament session is to pass a bill to change number of electoral districts in some prefectures.

Yomiuri

Increasing number of foreign teachers are adopted at elementary schools nationwide in Japan.

Philippines

The Philippine Daily Inquirer

Police rescued a 2-year-old boy 21 hours after he was snatched by a bunch of kidnapers described by authorities as amateurs.

Today

Vice President and outgoing Foreign Affairs Secretary Teofisto Guingona Jr. made good on his promise to stand by his nationalistic principles, telling his Lakas Party mates Friday to prevent railroading by the Arroyo admin-

Kenya

Daily Nation:

Kenyan President Daniel arap Moi returned to his criticism on western governments Friday when he bluntly rebuked the Dutch ambassador for his country's "negative attitude" to Kenya.

East African Standard:

The Kenyan government on Friday threatened to sever diplomatic relations with countries who meddled in the country's internal affairs by pressing Kenya to cancel the proposed extension of the life of current parliament.

Kenya Times:

Kenya's Prisons Department on Friday launched new uniforms for prisoners to replace the old ones that have been in use since colonial era.

(Reuters)

DAILY STAR

French Foreign Minister plays coy on Hizbollah guerrillas.

"I'm not here to give good or bad comments about this or that group," says Dominique de Villepin.

Political, educational woes hobble Arab world. Damning U.N. report highlights region's low per capita income and blames it on a dearth of democracy, education and women's rights.

Lebanon

AN-NAHAR

Egyptian attacks El Al desk, no evidence of "terrorist actions."

Washington not surprised by Baghdad's rejection of U.N. weapons inspectors and a U.S. paper runs a story about a land, air and sea attack on Iraq.

AS-SAFIR

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's secret suggestion to Washington: a state on 49 percent of the land and negotiations after 15 years!

The Alban Berg Quartet: a stunning opening for the Baalbek International Festival.

AL-MUSTAQBAL

U.S. backs "Paris 2" meeting of rich states to discuss giving debt aid to Lebanon. Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik al-Hariri off to Saudi Arabia and Egypt after de Villepin visit.

Israel imprisons hundreds of thousands of Palestinians.

Storm of replacement of Palestinian security chiefs calms.



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 شارع القيادة أمام فندق سام، ت: ٢٨٢٧٥٥،
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 قابل للتفاوض، احمد عبيد ت: ٢٤٢٧٤٦
 للبيع سيارة مرسيدس موديل ٨٢، بدون
 جدار، بحالة ممتازة بسعر ٨٠٠٠ دولار،
 للاتصال: ٧١١٠٧١٦٥
 للبيع سيارة نيسان سوفر سفاري موديل
 ٩٩ في حالة ممتازة عداد (٢٨٠٠٠) كم، لون
 ذهبي، وسيارة اخرى فونداي، موديل ٩٧، لون
 ابيض بحالة ممتازة، عداد (٩٢٠٠٠) كم،
 للاتصال: ٧١١٠١٢٠٢

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 للعمل في مؤسسة باسكال
 التعليمية، المهنتس/ احمد نعمان،
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 العمالي، ت: ٢٠٧٩٨٨
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 الإنجليزية، ت: ٤٤٠٩٥٨
 مطلوب: طلبة اسنان للعمل في
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 في العمل بالي شركة ت: ٢٦٧٠٥٢
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 مطلوب: دبلوم برمجة كمبيوتر، دورات في اللغة
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 المتقدمة، على سيارات اجرة وحسب الشروط
 التالية: (رخصة قيادة قبل عامين وسارية
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Amran Cement Plant expansion good for national economy

The Yemeni Corp. for Cement Industry (YCCI) signed an agreement for implementing and expanding the Amran Cement plant with the I.H.I of Japan at the cost of USD 146 million financed by the YCCI.

The Chairman of the Board of Directors, Ameen Ismael Ashaibani emphasized that the expansion of the Amran Cement Plant is one of the vital projects included in the Fifth Year Plan financed by the YCCI. He added further that the expansion of the factory is one of the vital developmental projects in the country.

As for the developmental aspects, the Ismael added further that the expansion of the factory will have good future results specifically to the following economic aspects:

- * Non-oil national production industry will go up to 40%.
- * The overall non-oil local production will increase to 7%.
- * Creating an overall extra value of the non-oil production will increase to 2.5%.
- * Lessening the burdens of the balance of payments at the cost of USD 50 million per a year since the beginning of the establishment of the YCCI.

* Increasing the State's financial resources at an annual average estimated at YR. 2 billion which is subject to increase.

Providing new job opportunities.

* Creating new job opportunities including 467 jobs. Besides, more than 500 tracks will be in preparation with a view of marketing the cement to all governorates of the republic.

* More than 400 cement storage will be provided.

* The expansion of the plant means the increase of cement production with reasonable prices.

On the other hand, Mr. Noman Ahmad Dawaid, the General Manager of the plant said, "The 3rd phase of the plant will start when the plant's primary preparations are selected together with the implementing agency."

The success achieved by the plant can be ascribed to the wise political leadership chaired by the president of the republic, Ali Abdullah Saleh and the PM, Abdulqader Bajammal.

In addition to this, efforts have been exerted by the Ministry of Industry and Commerce is praiseworthy. "The expansion of the new project will be implemented within 31 months starting from opening of credit of the implementing agency, I.H.I." said Mr. Noaman.

The signing ceremony was attended by the Amran Governor, Taha Abdullah Hagar, the Deputy Industry and Commerce Minister, the Japanese Ambassador and the General Managers of the implementing agency at the I.H.I.



World-Ronaldo hits out at Italian rumour-mongers

MILAN (Reuters) - Brazilian World Cup hero Ronaldo has hit out at reports in Italy that he is unhappy at his club Inter Milan and would like to move to Real Madrid.

Ronaldo scored both Brazil's goals in their 2-0 win over Germany in Sunday's World Cup final in Yokohama, Japan and was top scorer in the tournament with eight goals.

But Italian media reports have suggested the striker's failure to thank Inter for their support during his three injury-plagued seasons was a sign that he was ready to leave the club.

"Just as I did not answer questions about Brazil when I was playing with Inter, my concern in recent months has been with the World Cup," Ronaldo said on his official website.

"That is why there was no need for me to talk about other things -- I will

do so at the right moment," he added.

Ronaldo was reported to have declined to send a 'message' to his Inter team mates after the World Cup final.

The last time Ronaldo came in for criticism in Italy was after he returned to Brazil in February, during the Rio carnival, to work on his fitness. But he said that although he had proved his critics wrong there were still some in Italy who appeared determined to question him.

"For the umpteenth time, just as happened during my stay in Rio in February that has been shown to be fundamental to my recovery, they are trying to portray me in a bad light and inventing lies about me," said Ronaldo.



Brazilian soccer star Ronaldo waves to the crowd gathered outside Planalto Palace in Brasilia after his country's World Cup win. Reuters

Serena seizes title from sister Venus

LONDON (Reuters) - Having stolen her number one world ranking, Serena Williams has torn the Wimbledon crown from the head of her elder sister Venus.

It was a 7-6 6-3 Centre Court shake-down of unparalleled cruelty for Venus and one which signalled beyond any doubt a new world order in women's tennis.

Twenty-two-year-old Venus had been seeking a third successive Wimbledon crown. Instead she was humbled in front of her mother, friends and a packed showcourt arena as Serena etched her name in the sport's record books on Saturday.

Aged 20, Serena became only the eighth woman in the last 50 years to toss the French Open crown into her luggage and head over the English Channel to Wimbledon to repeat the feat.

"It is amazing," Serena beamed to the crowd. "You know, I was playing a two-times Wimbledon champion ... it is hard to beat Venus here."

Punch-drunk and blinking around the stadium for support, the stunned Venus struggled to take in the defeat.

"She just really played every time a better shot," she said. "When she's got better shots, sometimes you've got to accept it. She was just tremendous today. I would have liked to have won but, once again, too late."

Venus stepped onto the court ignoring the cloudy skies to don a sun visor while Serena appeared in a sparkling tiara -- a more appropriate choice for a champion-elect and fitting for an historic clash.



Serena Williams of the U.S. celebrates her victory over her sister Venus in the women's final at the Wimbledon tennis championships, July 6, 2002. Serena Williams won the Wimbledon women's singles title for the first time, beating Venus 7-6 6-3 in the final. Reuters

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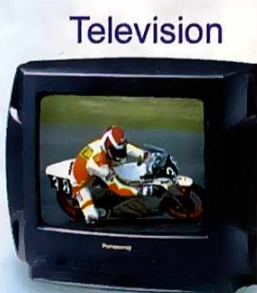
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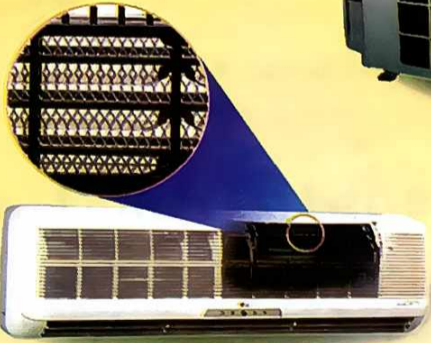
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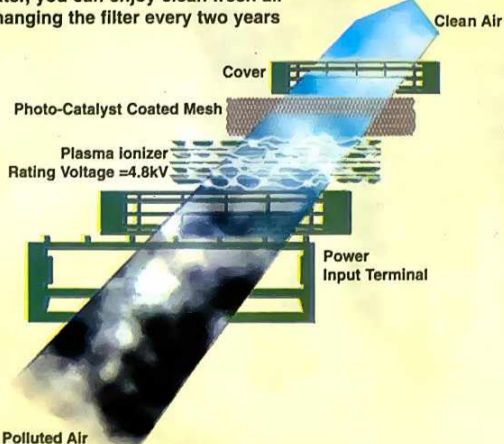
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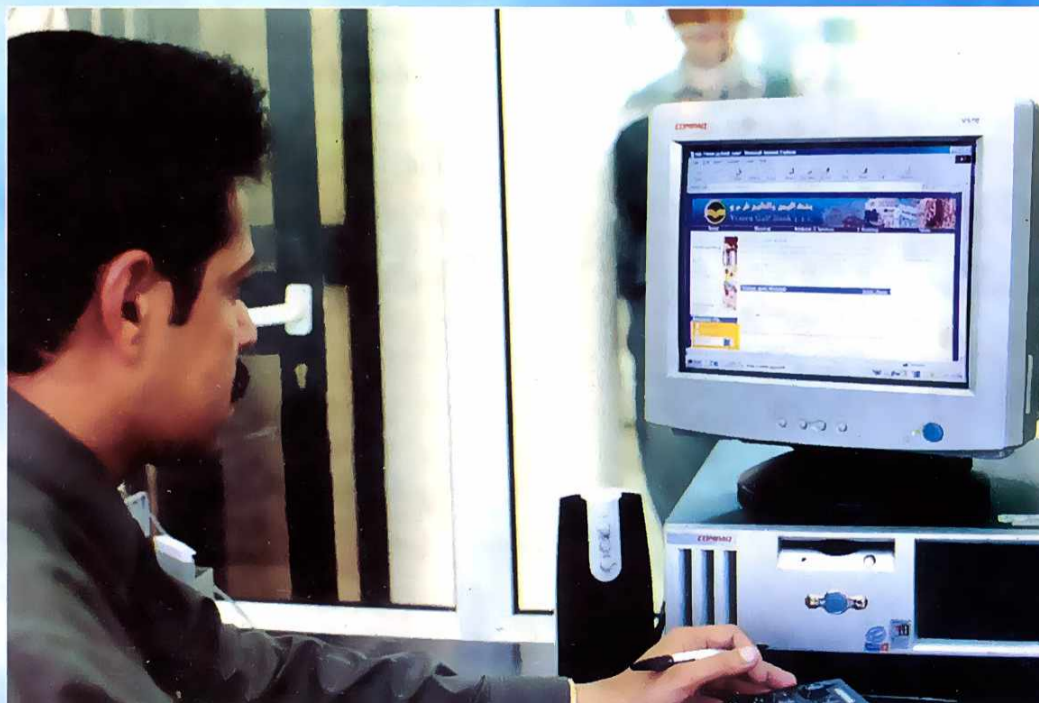
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Hadhramout, the ancient civilization:

Made the Yemeni history

REVIEWED BY
ISMAIL AL-GHABIRI
YEMEN TIMES



A view of Wadi Hadhramout

Hadhramout is one of the Yemeni governorates which is famous for growing palm trees and for its deep-rooted history. It is situated in south-east of Yemen. It is characterized by the diversity of its geographical terrain and tourist potentials. It has coastal plains along the Arabian Sea with an altitude of 2002 meters above sea level and sprawling over a spacious area of the Empty Quarter (*Alroba al-khali*). It also includes Wadi Hadhramout which is one of the largest and most fertile places in the Arabian Peninsula estimated at 165 km long. Hadhramout has a glorious past and deep-rooted ancient history.

Historical studies indicate that the Wadi Hadhramout situated in the southern part of the Arabian Peninsula was settled by man for thousands of years. In

Hadhramout, was one of the oldest Yemeni city states where civilization was greatly flourishing in the middle of the 1st millennium BC.

Its economic structure is largely dependent on the commodity of frankincense. In addition, there were other commercial activities using overland roads and sea routes. People in Hadhramout are interested in agriculture, building towns, constructing dams and canals, protecting trade routes, using the invincible castles and fortresses, and establishing temples in its capital Shabwa and other towns.

Then a trade movement had considerably declined due to the recession of incense trade which was brought to a

standstill. Its use was prohibited by the Christian religion. Other reasons could be ascribed to the decline of the incense trade including the transformation of trade routes from the desert to the main plateau which was starting from Aden via Dhafar and Sana'a to Mecca.

By the 4th century AD, the oldest Yemeni dynasties were totally dominated by the Himyarite king. From Raydan, the royal palace at Dhafar, that king announced his new title "The king of Sheba, Dhi Raydan, Hadhramout and Yemanat"

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