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Following the appeal of the families of hundreds of suspect detainees 104 detainees released

By Hassan Al-Zaidi
Yemen Times Staff

Reliable sources told Yemen Times that more than 104 Yemeni detainees were released last week by Yemeni authorities. The 104 released men were previously arrested under the pretext of tracking down terrorist activists in Yemen. This came after several appeals by families of the imprisoned suspects and intervention of a number of NGOs. Al-Qaeda sympathizers had previously issued statements threatening to spill blood of top security officers and commit acts of sabotage against the US interests in the country in case the government refused to

release a list of 173 detainees.

On the other hand, the Qaeda suspect who escaped recently from prison was captured while last week hiding in one of his friends' houses in Aden. This comes as signal that security forces have started using more efficient investigation techniques to track down suspects. At the same time, the Yemeni authorities have adopted new legal measures to tackle the detainees' problems. Official resources said that the Yemeni authorities have conducted an accurate and comprehensive investigation with regard to al-Qaeda sympathizers suspected of having perpetrated terrorist acts. In this respect, those who are

involved in terrorist activities will be judicially tried. Those who are not found guilty will be released.

This has come after the FBI dropped 6 persons out of a list of 17 suspects thought to have been involved in terrorist activities.

The list was reduced when three convicts that were detained by the Political Security Office a year ago were released. Basheer Ali Ashedadi, Ahmed al-Khedr al-Baidhani, and Esam Ahmed Dabwan al-Mekhlafi were actually detained before the September 11 attacks in the US.

The destiny of three other convicts has been still unknown. Those three are Abdulaziz

Mohammed Saleh, Moshour A. Mogbill, and Ameen Sa'ad Mohammed. Names of other suspect terrorists have been mentioned by the FBI including, Ramzi bin Ashaiba, Fowaz al-Boraee, Ayaan al-Waeli, Abdurab al-Saifi, Bassam Annahdi, Omar al-Hubaishi and Sameer al-Maqtari, who are believed to have links to the 11 September attacks.

Three more convicts were also released by the Yemeni authorities. Ali Mohammed, Mohammed al-Bokhait, Mostafa Shaher who belonged to the Aden-Abyan Islamic Army were convicted of robbery and banditry and were sentenced to 5 to 10 years in prison.

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Heavy rain kills 13 in Raima

Thirteen people were killed and many others injured in the district of al-Jubain, Raima, 100 km South-East of Sana'a due to heavy rain and floods that took place in the area last Thursday. Around fifteen houses were damaged by the floods which also ruined several farms. A rescuing team evacuated some families from their houses, which were about to collapse. Among the killed were seven people belonging to the family of Abdullah Ahmed Ghaitan.

Yemeni authorities sent two helicopters to help the rescuing team. But one of them made an emergency landing due to the bad weather. The helicopter crashed into a big tree. Two of the crew members were injured.

President Ali Abdullah Saleh gave orders to the government to give all possible assistance to affected families. He also ordered that Abdullah al-Ghaitan be granted YR 1.6 million to relieve his grief. The rescuing team was able on Friday to rescue one of his kids who was still alive.

NGO code of ethics proposed

By Mohammed al-Qadhi
Yemen Times Staff

Organized by the Human Rights Information and Training Center (HRITC) in Taiz, a workshop on the challenges facing NGOs was concluded last week. A number of active NGOs participated in the event that was attended by more than 200 participants. The parliament approved the proposal of the HRITC that a code of ethics to organize the NGOs activities must be conducted. The proposal includes 11 arti-

cles, stressing the significance of cooperation between all NGOs to defend human rights at all levels.

It also suggests that all NGOs should work together and without any abuse to each other. The NGOs should also sort out their difficulties with reference to their board of trustees, all clinging to principles and ethics of human rights.

Mr. Ez Eddin al-Asbahi, HRITC General Manager considered the approval as a warm welcome to the proposal from a number of civil society activists. This

code of ethics aims to enhance solidarity between all NGOs against any harassment to due to their activities.

In the workshop Mr. Ali Saleh Abdullah, Deputy Minister of Social Affairs and Labor Ministry presented a paper on the law of National Organizations and considered the law issued a progress as it organizes work of these NGOs. It has also provided a margin of freedom for establishing NGOs and participation of the civil society.

Continued on page 5

While YECO denies all Adhban claims

Adhban demands President's intervention

By Yemen Times Staff

In a letter sent last Saturday to President Ali Abdullah Saleh, Haj Mohammed Mubarak Adhban, of the most prominent businessmen in Yemen and Chairman of the Adhnan Trading Cooperation demanded the President's intervention to stop an assault on their warehouses in Aden.

The letter said, "The officials at the Yemeni Economic Corporation (YECO) had ordered their soldiers to seal our stores' doors in Aden and those soldiers have indeed

stormed into the stores destroying doors and messing up with warehouses' content."

On the other hand, in an exclusive interview to Yemen Times, Haj Adhban said "We were given a notice to empty all our stores on Mu'alla Street in Aden for them to be used to exhibit products of YECO in the city."

"We called the governor of Aden and demanded steps to stop this from continuing, but so far no action has been taken."

The letter to the President said that armed soldiers who belonged to none of the official authorities and establishments caused great damage to the stores and to the reputation of the cooperation.

"We appeal to you to order the government of Aden and the



Haj Adhban

Adhnan Trading Corporation
The letter sent to the President
YECO to restore our dignity and give back our stores that were attacked by the soldiers. We also request compensation for all the damage that was caused by the attack that cannot be justified by any laws or regulations because such improper and illegal action only results in chaos and discourages investment.

Continued on page 5

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Old City cries for help!

The World Heritage Board, a UNESCO-based organization, warned that the Old City of Sana'a could be dropped off the list of the world's most important heritage sites unless the Yemeni authorities exert serious efforts to protect Old Sana'a from further deterioration.

Old City of Sana'a, which has been recently nominated among the world's new wonders and is getting an increasing publicity and fame by worldwide tourism operators, has been recently distorted because of random construction and lack of infrastructure installations in the absence of appropriate protection mechanisms.

In a statement to the Yemen Times, Dr. Abdullah Zaid, Chairman of the

General Organization for Preservation of Historic Cities (GOPH) appealed to the political leadership to interfere before it is too late. "We must save the Old City of Sana'a from random construction which distorts its architectural and historical beauty," he said.

He added further that the authority has received a recent report by the World Heritage Committee noting the current deteriorating conditions of the Old City of Sana'a may have devastating results on the reputation of the old city. The report urged the Yemeni government to ask for an urgent international assistance from the World Heritage Committee to help in setting up a long-term plan to prevent further damage to the Old City of Sana'a.

Healthcare centers to be rehabilitated

By MOHAMMED BIN SALLAM
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

A memorandum of intent between the two governments of Yemen and the USA in the field of medical and health cooperation was signed last Wednesday at the Population and Public Health Ministry.

The intent included rehabilitating a number of hospitals and health centers in our country.

The intent was signed by the Ahmed Mohammed Sufan, the Minister of Planning and Development, Dr. Abdunaser al-Munaibari, the Minister of Health and from the US side, Edmund Hull, the US Ambassador to Yemen.

The Yemeni-US relation in different fields is a result of strenuous efforts made to establish strong relations in

different vital aspects. Supporting health care centers and units has been done for the sake of the people in Yemen.

Notice

Unlike what has been mentioned in last week's front page article on the Sales Tax Bill, Mr. Mahfoudh Ba Shammakh is the Chairman of the Joint Committee of Sana'a Chamber of Commerce & Industry and the Yemeni Industrialists Association and not as mistakenly appeared as the Chairman of the Yemeni Industrialists Association, whose Chairman is Mr. Abduljabbar Hayel Saeed Ana'am. Our apologies go to all persons concerned and to all our readers.

National Day of Oman celebrated

By YASSER AL-MAYYASI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Omani people celebrated the 32nd anniversary of the Omani Renaissance last Tuesday July 23 2002. This festival came in a time the country is witnessing a range of accomplishments under the leadership of His Majesty, Sultan Kabus Bin Saeed. The Sultanate has played a positive and effective role whether on the Arab level or at the regional or through its relation with the entire world.

The foreign policy of the Sultanate focuses on non-interference in the foreign affairs and upholding its national sovereignty through peaceful coexistence with nations. Through this policy the Sultanate has achieved rapid development in many spheres of life, whether social, economic or commercial. The developmental process depends on the five-year plan to accomplish an eco-

nomical equilibrium and to diversify the country's resources to increase national income.

The Sultanate has stepped towards establishing huge enterprises and attract foreign and national investment. Since the establishment of the Omani Stock market, the economic picture has improved dramatically as the Omani market has become among the most distinguished markets in the whole region.

Oil and gas among other natural resources constitute the largest economic factor in enhancing national income. The number of the international companies in the Sultanate has increased considerably. The tourism sector has also flourished rapidly which constitute a main resource of national income.



View of Greater Muttrah in Oman, is of tremendous accomplishments during Sultan Kabus' accession to the throne

Dr. Qirbi in Tehran

By: MOHAMMED AL-QADHI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Yemen's Foreign Minister, Dr. Abu baker al-Qirbi is visiting Iran this week in response to an invitation by his Iranian counterpart Dr. Kamal Kharazi.

Dr. Qirbi said his visit would mainly discuss preparations and arrangements ahead of the Iranian president Mohammed Khatami coming visit to Yemen. Dr al-Qirbi did not mention the date of the Iranian president's

expected visit. In a press statement, the Yemeni foreign minister added that he would also discuss with the Iranian foreign minister bilateral relations, economic cooperation and political coordination between the two countries on different regional and international issues.

Yemeni-Iranian relationship is prospering steadily and a number of Iranian business companies are already working in Yemen and others are willing to have investments here.

Workshop on Yemen's plastic bags industry

The Yemeni Industrialists Association (YIA) called upon the government to abolish a decree issued by the Cabinet in 1997 to prohibit manufacturing and importing un-dissolved plastic bags and seeking other practical alternatives to be implemented.

A workshop on the difficulties of plastic products industry in Yemen, organized by the YIA last week in Sana'a, demanded the parliament to abolish a term in the cleanliness law which hinders the local plastic industry. Officers at the YIA criticized the Yemeni law's restrictions on the plastic bags' thickness that was defined to be 90 microns for local plastic bags as 70 microns for imported bags. They added that the Yemeni market needs about 10 million plastic bags daily and the statistics indicate that the country needs to import 10,000 tons

of plastic raw material annually to produce 15-micron-thick plastic bags while this number would dramatically jump to 43,000 tons if the thickness is 60 microns.

Industrialists described the 1997-cabinet decree as unauthentic and could open the door for an illegal competition between local plastic bag manufactures and worldwide manufactures because large masses of plastic bag products are being smuggled into the country under different names such as thermo-bags. Yemeni industrialists expressed their worries over the possible closure of plastic bag plants which will lead to unpredictable damages and loss that investors and workers in these factories will suffer from. Moreover, according to them, it would add to the plastic bag smuggling phenomenon on all levels and nationwide.

Artex Co. Awards Prize to Winners in World Cup 2002 Competition

On Thursday 18 July 2002, Artex Trading Co., & Al-Haiki Trading Corporation organized an important event for drawing of the 50 winners of World Cup 2002 competition which was held in Sana'a Trading Center. Hundreds of people attended this draw and enjoyed the singing of the band. This event was professionally organized by the staff of Artex Trading Co., & Al-Haiki Trading Corporation. The first draw of the 50 winners of Artex Trading Co., & Al-Haiki Trading Corporation for World Cup 2002 competition and the first prize winner of the first prize (a flight ticket to Dubai and 3 nights hotel accommodation in a first class hotel plus 1000 Derhan in cash) was Abrar Sager



Nasser from Hodeidah city. The list of winners was published last week in Yemen Times newspaper and Al-Gumhuryah newspaper on July 2, 2002. The second draw was for 10 prizes for the attendance of the World Cup 2002 competition.

This is the second time Artex Trading Co., & Al-Haiki organize the World Cup competition in an organized and professional way, the first time was in 1998 as it was successfully done and the second time was for the World Cup 2002 competition which was also successfully done. By this, we assure our customers that we have been up to their expectations and fulfill our promises accordingly.



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Journalists still harassed

The Yemeni Journalists Syndicate (YJS) issued a press release last Thursday, condemning the attack on journalist Mahboob Abdulaziz of 14 October newspaper by a security official from the Urban Planning Office in Aden. The press release called for the

investigation of the attack and the punishment of those behind it. Meanwhile, the YJS called upon the governor of Ibb to interfere to release the father of the journalist who was taken as a hostage without any legal cause by the security bodies in Ibb.

The kidnapping was to pressurize the journalist to hand himself over to the authorities. In the conclusion of its statement, the YJS considered detaining the journalist's father as an illegal act that should be punished by the law.

JITCOM 2002:

A unique event with remarkable success

During 22-26 July 2002, Apollo International Exhibitions Company organized al-Jazeera Technology Exhibition (JITCOM 2002) for IT and telecommunication under the auspices of the Ministry of Communications and the Yemeni Industrialists Association.

This exhibition was the most successful Yemeni event of its kind and was distinguished in its extra activities of seminars during which lectures and workshops aimed at raising technological awareness among the public.

Mr. Tawfeeq al-Nehmee, Apollo's General Manager told the Yemen Times that "Apollo continues to organize such successful and annual exhibitions on telecommunication and IT to fulfill greater results every year and because of the political leadership and government's interest in promoting this important sector."

He added that many local and international companies participated in the event and competed for offering internationally renowned technological products and services.

"The number of visitors who attended the exhibition has increased dramatically compared to last year's exhibi-



Vice president, Abdurahuh Mansour inaugurates the JITCOM 2002

tion, which indicates a growing awareness among the public of this important field. I do believe that all visitors have indeed benefited from this event and from the seminars that accompanied it."

In this respect, Dr. Abdu al-Hadi al-Hamdani, a Deputy at the Presidential Office, who chaired the 2nd seminar meeting in the exhibition said, "I am so happy to attend such beneficial seminars in which important papers are presented. In the case of my working paper for example, three promising examples have been shown. Those examples are

resembled in: Saba News Agency, Custom Department and the National Information Center."

He emphasized the importance of adopting technological solutions and having computer classes in the academic curriculum to keep pace with the digital era. "The use of computers in governmental institutions is a crucial step that many countries have already taken. We hope that serious steps would be taken to encourage the use of computers in public and private sectors in Yemen and to invite special cadres for training. Of course all of this needs the government's as well as donor's support," he recommended.

"I know that having an electronic government is still a dream and that we still have a long way to go before we reach that point. But we have to prepare ourselves for that day so as to be part of the developing world that is getting involved in computers more and more every year. Otherwise we will be left behind as a backward country," he concluded.

Major Yemeni invention

YEMEN TIMES STAFF
TAIZ BUREAU

"Necessity is mother of invention." Believing in this simple proverb, the talented Yemeni inventor Abdu M. Al-Wessabi announced in Saudi Arabia his new invention: an anti-theft security apparatus. Because of the increasing number of robbery and theft cases in his neighborhood, he decided to put an end to them by inventing a machine that could easily disclose thieves in a clever manner. In just one year, Abdu designed an apparatus which can discover the theft attempt before it happens. The apparatus

consists of an electronic plate, a cell phone, and electrical cables connected to certain parts of the store that the thief may try approach, e.g., the safe. When the thief touches the safe of the store, the cell phone calls a certain number automatically without the knowledge of the thief, so while he collects the money, the store owner along with the police would probably be waiting for him outside.

A number of stores have already started purchasing and using this device which proved to be an efficient in protecting them from theft because several thieves have been disclosed and arrested in this way.

While in a short visit to Yemen last week, Al-Wessabi told Yemen Times that he hopes to enhance his invention to be able to carry out many tasks at the same time. He said "I received only basic education but I am fond of electronic devices, the way they work, and their internal structures. But the most important motivation behind my success in this invention is the theft attempts which have been rapidly increased in number."

"I hope that the Yemeni Ministry of Industry would support me in developing my invention, which I want to have patented to be able to market it locally and internationally."

Al-Qadhi flies to USA

Mr. Mohammed Hatem al-Qadhi, Senior Editor at the Yemen Times is flying today Monday evening July 29 to the USA to take part in the International Visitors Program. He has been nominated by the U.S. Embassy in Sana'a to the program that is organized and sponsored by the US government. More than 20 journalists from various countries are invited to spend 23 days in the USA. The participants, who are all media people, will be exposed to the American experience in the field of the press, mainly print journalism.

Electricity employees fired

The General Electricity Corporation recently fired tens of its employees in the Capital Secretariat for violating the laws and regulations of the corporation and public post principles. Mr. Abbas al-Olufi, 2nd Electricity Zone Manager stressed that the corporation was conducting a strict policy to fight corruption at different governmental institutions.

1st Yemeni winner receives the prize of the Million's Cup Competition

Part of its wide range of competitions conducted via the fixed telephone network, and with the presence of Shakeeb Ghanem, the Financial Manager of the company, the Arabian Telecom Company - Arabia Call presented the \$1,000 award to the winner Amil Abdulraed Mogbl, who won last week's competition. The awarding ceremony was held at the Apollo Exhibition Center in Sana'a amid the presence of a large number of people.

The Arabian Telecom Company - Arabia Call provides a wide range of services to its clients including the audiotext service, which enables caller from any place in Yemen via a fixed network to make use of this unique service.

The company also provides another range of value-added-services such as voice phone service which includes competitions, horoscope, Islamic phone as well as health and tourism



Winner of last week's competition receiving his \$1,000 prize

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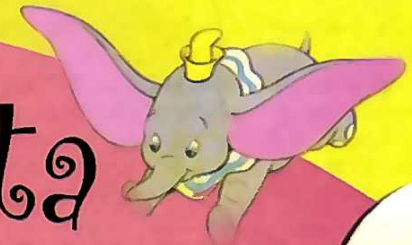
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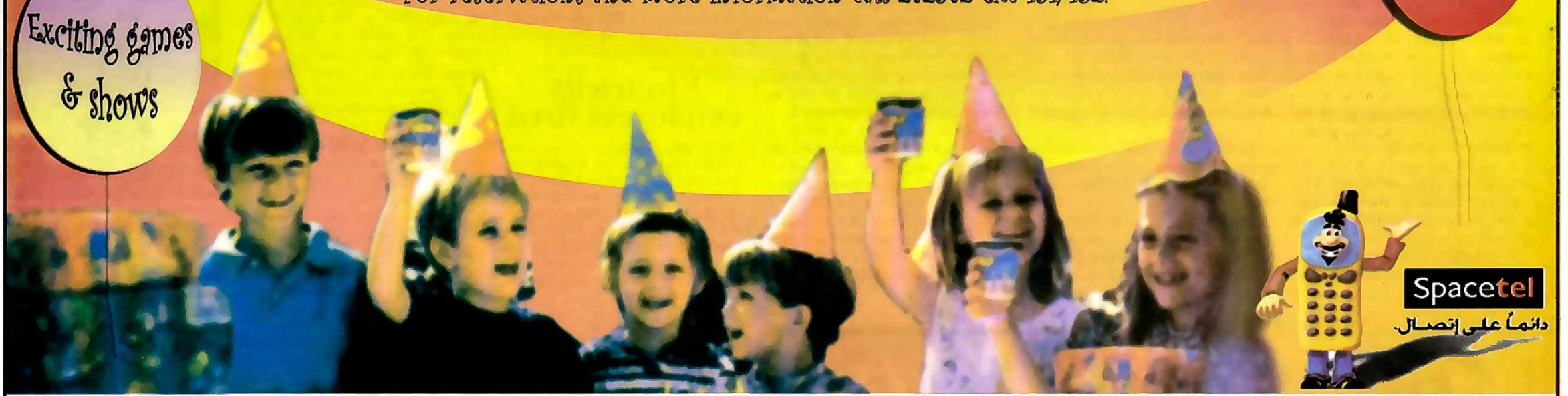
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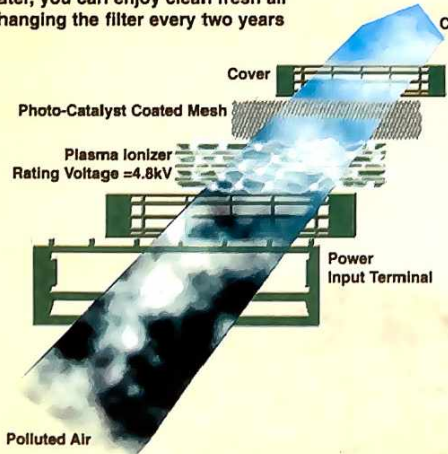
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Moroccan Ambassador to Yemen Times:

“Moroccan-Yemeni economic relations should be as strong as political relations”

The Kingdom of Morocco marked on July 30 its national day [the monarchy day]. Yasser al-Mayasi of Yemen Times had the pleasure to meet the Ambassador of Morocco to Yemen H.E. Lahcen Azoulay and filed the following interview. Excerpts.



Q: Can you please brief us on Morocco?

A: Morocco is an independent constitutional, democratic, Islamic monarchy. The ruling system of Morocco is one of the oldest in the world. The parliament of Morocco has two bodies: the parliament and the consultative council. Both bodies enjoy the same level of authority.

Members of the parliament are elected through general elections held every five years. The government is comprised of the prime minister and the cabinet. The government is responsible before the king and the parliament as for implementing the government's platform and law. The current government has 25 ministers. Morocco has also several supreme state agencies.

Q: What about the economy of Morocco?

A: Morocco has a multi-sectoral economy. Agriculture accounts for 17 percent of the GDP. Morocco has a total land of 71 million hectares of which 40 million is arable land. Tourism is also one of the most important sectors of the Moroccan economy.

This is because Morocco enjoys good tourism potentials in terms of landscapes, cultural diversity and being close to a huge tourist market [Europe]. Tourism contributed to the Moroccan economy in 2001 with \$2.5 billion, accounting for 7.8 percent of the national domestic product. This sector employs 650,000 persons. Morocco also has an ambitious plan to boost this sector, particularly since this sector enjoys a good reputation.

As Morocco has a long coastline stretching for 3500 km, Morocco is a leading exporter of fisheries in Africa and the Arab world. The total products of fisheries in 2001 amounted to 900,000 tons. Fisheries account for 16 percent of exports.

Industry makes up 70 percent of exports and 17.5 percent of the national domestic product. The most important industries found in Morocco are: petrochemicals, fabrics, food-process-

ing, leather and cement.

Q: How is the status of Morocco's economic policies?

A: Morocco seeks to open its economy for the rest of the world as current legal and institutional reforms are more conducive to the flow of foreign investments. It has also restructured its public enterprises and adopted a privatization policy. Morocco has attracted more than 2000 European companies. Morocco's trade policies have improved the foreign trade performance through establishing full-fledged partnership with the EU countries. Morocco achieved a surplus in performance totaling \$4 billion generated from the increase of labor remittances.

Q: How do you view the achievements under the reign of his highness King Mohammed VI?

A: Since Mohammed VI came to

power on July 1999 he worked hard to upgrade public enterprises and their functionality. He also encouraged opposition parties to take part in ruling the country. King Mohammed VI has encouraged freedom of expression, pluralism, human rights, the reform process, fighting poverty, social solidarity and involving women in development.

Q: How do you assess the bilateral relations between Yemen and Morocco?

A: The two countries enjoy excellent relations. Those solid fraternal relations are rapidly going forward since they're very deeply-rooted. The two countries share the same views about political events at the Arab and international levels. Yet, the trade and economic relations between Yemen and Morocco are not as active as the political relations. The private sector can change this situation to the better since top decisions from the top leaderships of the two countries aren't sufficient.

The year 2001 witnessed an active exchange of visits between top officials of the two countries. On the other hand, the fourth round meeting of the Moroccan-Yemeni joint committee was held in Sana'a.

Q: Would you like to add any comment?

A: I'd like to thank the Yemen Times for its constant follow-up of different events at the local and international levels. I wish the paper all the best in all aspects.

Insanity in Yemen becoming a norm of life

By Ibrahim Addahan
Yemen Times Ibb correspondent

Taking a glance at the people walking in the streets of our cities, one gets amazed by the large number of poor people seen there. Stories full of misery and catastrophe could be told by thousands of poor Yemenis all over the country. Just looking at their faces, you will realize that they have a lot to tell. But those who may have more than anyone else to tell, but cannot tell anything are insane street people. Poverty, this horrible nightmare that has been spreading its claws all over the society was behind the insanity of most of those victims.

In fact, the panorama of sadness and tragedy occurring in our society is truly inconceivable and unspeakable. Life has become unbearable for the majority of the people and the phenomenon of poverty is becoming the norms almost everywhere in Yemen. It has become natural to see people taking streets as the home and it has become the norm to see people eating from rubbish bins. You would probably not be surprised to find men, boys and girls, old and young knocking at your door asking for alms. The economic hardship has taken its toll on the lives of the commoners.

As I said before, the other phenomenon linked to poverty is insanity. You can find insane people prowling all over the country. The phenomenon is eye catching to everybody visiting or dwelling the main cities. The situation has reached the boiling point as their number seems to be in the rise. From the psychological point of view, the continuously deteriorating living standards of the people in our society are to blame for this human dilemma.

Sociologists would probably bring social factors such as shock, tragedy, and other extreme incidents behind going insane. But interestingly, you will find poverty behind at least part of those factors. To my humble knowl-

edge, all factors that might be raised to explain the predicament and its components will be all referred to the economy at large. This is because social problems among common family members are related to economy. Take divorce for instance. Most divorce incidents have economic and social problems behind them. However, insanity is not the worst among other consequences of deteriorating economic conditions. We have recently begun hearing about money-related homicide, matricide, patricide, genocide and many other evils. When a father finds himself helpless and unable to feed his kids or have a job to ensure their survival, he may very easily go insane if not kill his own children. The number of Yemenis joining the world of insanity every year is alarming and has reached dangerous dimensions. In other words, the economic hardships have taken much of the people's mentality as well as their living standards.

Visiting people at their homes and seeing what kind of food they eat, one gets shocked and saddened. Most of the poor in Yemen have tea and bread as their lunch meals even on Fridays. If that is not enough to turn you mad, what else is? What a pity!

The pitiable people drifting aimlessly in our cities and finding none to take care of them need our help. But if the government's actions and economic measures have resulted in driving people nuts and make them starve, it should be the government's duty to take care of those victims. Taking care of the vulnerable in the society must be a top priority of the government, which failed to keep those insane people sound and safe. The scenery is very pathetic. Furthermore, these prowling insane people have become a threat to others as in some cases they throw stones at pedestrians including women and children and sometimes damage properties.

What is more remorseful than all that has been mentioned is when adult insane men or women expose their bodies by walking or sitting naked in



Statistics indicate an astonishing annual increase in the number of insane people in Yemen (Photo by Yasser al-Mayesi)

public areas. This is not good for the reputation of the country. The government seems to be serious in promoting tourism. So it should tackle this issue as well.

Part of the government's plan should be to provide shelter and food to those helpless victims of a harsh reality. They deserve to be taken care of as they should be treated as normal citizens. The government should expand its facilities to shelter those people and prevent them from threatening themselves or others.

The spread of the mad people all over the cities causes people to get concerned about their kids, families,

and properties, especially as they know eventually those mad people will be acquitted of any charge against them. It seems that only the low and middle class citizens realize the dimensions of this problem. The rich, including decision-makers and politicians may not realize the current threat of this phenomenon and find themselves oblivious to the tragedy.

Finally, will the people concerned do this philanthropic job of taking these insane people away from the streets and into appropriate shelters with decent living standards? That will not cost much, will it?

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Continued from page 1

Adhban demands President's intervention

When witnessed by businessmen and investors, such acts will definitely result in concern about assets and will result in avoiding investment in the country." Yemen Times learnt that officials are investigating the case in the attempt to understand what truly happened. No one from the YECO in Aden was available to comment on the reasons behind this incident, which may result in a lawsuit against the YECO. "We have already instructed our lawyer to raise a lawsuit against the YECO."

YECO denies Adhban claims

Yemen Times contacted YECO officials to get feedback on this incident and was received with an astonishing claim that Adhban Corporation has no right in the apartment where the warehouse is located and that the corporation has not been paying to YECO the rent of several years totaling an amount in millions of rials. YECO sources -who conditioned anonymity to respond- in Aden, responded to the allegation by saying, "As for the claimed military assault, that was a legitimate action from our side based on orders coming from security office of Aden because Adhban Corporation failed to pay us the due rent of two years because YECO owns the place because it also owns all the property of former Local Trade Company and we have a legal contract signed by Adhban Corporation and us and this can be used in any legal confrontation." "We have only used force after we ran out of options because we did inform Adhban Corporation to pay the due amount because as a governmental establishment, we need to follow up with all government properties and make sure they are utilized for the goodness of the people."

Adhban: ownership of stores is ours

According to Adhban however, there is no legal dispute over the ownership of the stores because Adhban Cooperation originally owned the stores before they were nationalized by the socialist regime in the south. During nationalization of the properties, the regime by then gave them to the Local Trade Company whose assumed properties were given to the YECO after unification. However, slowly the group was able to regain its property and after unification various lands in Aden returned to their original owners including the Adhban Cooperation. But according to Haj Adhban, the YECO refused to accept this fact and attempted to take over the properties of the cooperation by force. "With no court verdicts or any official orders, the YECO forces stormed into our stores despite the fact that we have all evidence to prove our ownership.

Does this mean that the YECO is stronger than the rule of law and stronger than the state?" Haj Adhban asked.

When asked whether there were old disputes between the cooperation and the YECO, Haj Adhban replied, "Even though we have complained about the illegal competition by the YECO with our cooperation in importing our branded products with no custom fees and selling them to the public with cheaper prices and without the authority of the manufacturing companies, we believe that what happened in Aden was not related to this dispute."

"We should all respect the law and such actions should stop for the sake of Yemen's investment future because without enforcing the law, the country's reputation will be damaged." He concluded.

Such incidents have occurred frequently in the recent past in several regions in Yemen and in many cases the involvement and intervention of high-ranking officials including the President were needed to end the dispute.

NGO code of ethics proposed

He stressed that many challenges are facing these NGOs in term of administration, programs and transparency. He attacked some of these organizations and said they are not democratic and don't deal in a transparent way. He said some of these NGOs are dominated by a simple person. He even said the Ministry is very liberal with some of these NGOs, which based on the law are not any more legal.

He pointed out that qualifying those NGOs' staffers is very much needed. On his part, Mr. Ez Eddin al-Asbahi highlighted the increasing importance of the role of civil society organizations and hence Yemen badly needs to strengthen these organizations and support them to be able to work properly. He said partnership with government doesn't at all abolish their independence and mentality for there are mutual aims that can reached if the two parts work together.

He said these organizations have a good opportunity to work together and face all sorts of administrative, legal or financial challenges together. Lawyer Mohammed Naji Allaw and Mr. Mohammed al-Mekhlafi both pointed out that the law doesn't give these NGOs complete freedom, and that the government is still controlling them in terms of issuing licenses or monitoring. They demanded that the relationship between government and NGOs be restricted to registration only. But the Deputy Minister refuted their allegations and said the government has the right indeed to know and observe the activities of all NGOs and sources they use to finance their projects and structures.

Journalists visit Aden University

BY YASSER AL-MAYASI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Aden University received on July 7-11 a journalists delegation. The visit to the campus of the university has produced good impressions. The university has witnessed educational and academic revival. We were acquainted with the historical sites of this breathtaking city.

Inviting journalists was a good step to be informed on the current academic situation. Journalists have familiarized themselves with different departments of the university.

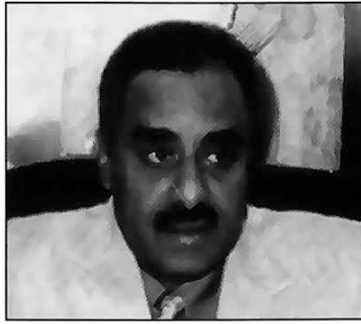
We met with its Rector, Saleh Ali Basurah and as journalists, we feel proud to meet the Rector and know much about the university. The University of Aden has a leading role in raising awareness in the society.

Despite of the difficult circumstances the university has experienced, highly qualified cadres have graduated from it specialized in all academic spheres.

The most deplorable thing is that the Faculty of law is still in need of financial support. We toured different departments of the university and we highly appreciated the exerted efforts to make of this edifice a great success

for a better academic future. The university could achieve a remarkable success in all different academic spheres. The number of students enrolled at the university reached 2370 during the academic year, 2000-2001. At the same time, the number of graduates in the same year reached 3491 in comparison with the previous year. The number of students from both sexes reached 1789.

In addition to this, the number of research and studies centers has reached 10 centers. They have been constructed to provide students with necessary periodicals, books and valuable references. The university has a



Dr. Ba Surra

printing machine for books and perhaps it is the only university that has this printing house.

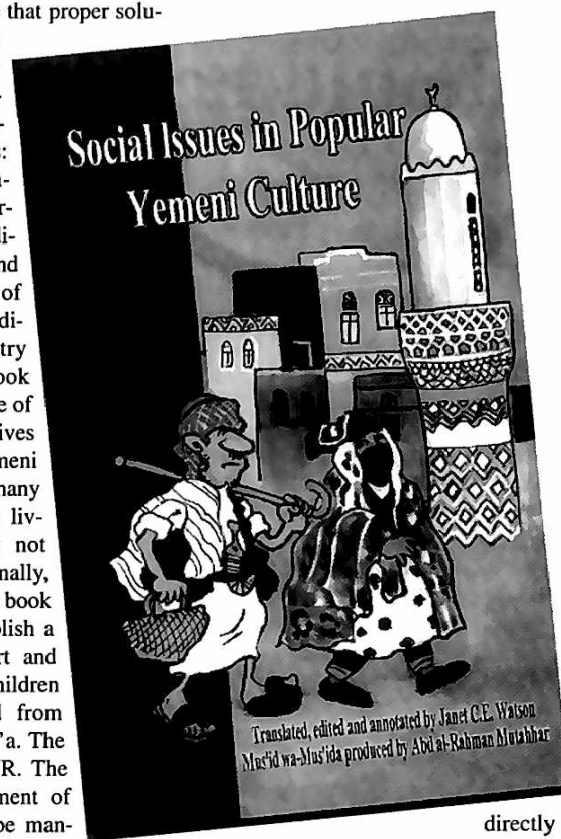


Journalist on a visit to Aden

Mus'id and Mus'idah in a book

Social Issues in Popular Yemeni Culture, volume 1, Mus'id and Mus'idah has appeared in Arabic and English a year and half after the project was initiated by Janet C.E Watson. The production and publication of the book, based on episodes of the famous Yemeni radio series, Mus'id wa-Mus'idah, written and produced since 1988 by Abd al-Rahman Mutahhar, was funded by the Social Fund for Development and the British Embassy in Sana'a. The book comprises an introduction and fifty episodes of the program transcribed in colloquial San'ani Arabic and translated into idiomatic English. The jacket cover and each of the episodes are illustrated by the well-known cartoonist for al-Thawrah, Mohammed al-Shaibani. In this way, the book combines two forms of art, which deal with social issues through satire. The cartoons capture the issue immediately, while the episodes develop the issue through argument and counter-argument. The main aim of the book is to present a selection of representative episodes to the English-speaking population in Yemen. The episodes address many of the social issues dealt with by Non-governmental Organizations working in the country, including family planning, underage marriage, pollution, water conservation litter, women's literacy and girls' education. The

episodes demonstrate that proper solutions to these problems do not contravene Islamic principles or many traditional Yemeni values: arguments are reinforced through reference to Prophetic traditions and Qur'an, and through the use of Yemeni proverbs, traditional sayings, poetry and songs. The book also presents a sample of Yemeni humor and gives an insight into Yemeni domestic life that many non-Arabic speakers living in Yemen may not have experienced. Finally, all proceeds from the book will be used to establish a program to teach art and handicraft to gifted children of poor background from the Old City of Sana'a. The book retails at 300YR. The funds and establishment of the program are to be managed by al-Safa Women's Charitable Association, headed by Hana al-Anisi. Janet disclosed to the YT that readers can contribute to the program "wishing either to purchase copies of the book or to contribute



directly or indirectly to the art program are asked to contact Hana al-Anisi by telephone on 541155 or 543435. Alternatively, they could contact the Social Fund for Development 240417."

Response to US report VIII-(Final Part)

Section (3) Respect for Political Rights: The right of Citizens to Change Their Government

Under this section the report says "The constitution provides citizens with the right to change their government; however, there are significant limitations in practice. The government by law is accountable to the parliament; however, the parliament is not yet an effective counterweight to executive authority. Decisionmaking and real political power still rest in the hands of the executive branch, particularly the president."

- It has been previously replied on these two points in the course of the response to "General Allegations" and can be referred to.

The report mentions "In some governorates, tribal leaders exercise considerable discretion in the interpretation and enforcement of the law. Central government authority in these areas often is weak."

- This is an allegation very far from logic and reality because interpretation and enforcement of law is entrusted with organisations defined by the constitution. It is not inconsistent that some individuals, at times, solve their problems outside courts in the limits permitted in valid laws an legislation of the republic and would not violate the general order and public manners. What is said about the government authority being weak in some areas is not true and has a clear confusion.

Another remark in the report says "The YSP claims that the government has yet to return the assets that it seized from the party during the 1994 civil war."

- In the first place it must be clear that the phrase "civil war" is incorrect, as was previously clarified. Regarding the claim by the YSP demanding the return of its assets, it is an inaccurate statement. It is known by all that most of what was in possession of the party were private and public properties and the situation was rectified in 1994. The was then given special facilities to the public properties while the remainder part was returned to the actual owners and the state.

The report mentions "Many Akhdam are not permitted to participate in the political process, mainly due to their inability to obtain citizenship."

- Response to this allegation also had been repeated in all previous reports. Those the report called Akhdam are Yemeni citizens enjoying the Yemeni citizenship and all rights and freedoms. They have the right to vote and candidacy according to texts of the constitution in articles (41,42, 25,24). They have actually voted in all elections and played a significant role in giving pre-

ponderance to some candidates on others. We wonder where from the report has derived this piece of mistaken information that the Akhdam do not have the Yemeni citizenship.

Section 4

"Governmental Attitude Regarding International and Nongovernmental Investigation of Alleged Violations of Human Rights"

Under this point, the report mentions that "The Supreme National Committee for Human Rights (SNCHR), which was formed in 1997 and reported to the deputy prime minister who is also minister of foreign affairs, was dissolved in June, reconstituted, and then placed under the authority of the new minister of state for human rights."

- The SNCHR, formed in 1997, was not dissolved but rather reconstituted pursuant to the republican decree No. 89 for 2001 under chairmanship of the prime minister, his deputy head of the presidency office and the state minister for human rights assumes the general secretariat of the committee. The SNCHR is composed of foreign minister, interior minister, justice minister, information minister, legal affairs minister, social affairs and labour minister, the attorney general and head of the central apparatus for political security as members.

Section 5 "Discrimination based on race, sex, religion, disability, language, or social status"

Under this paragraph the report mentions "Rape is prohibited by law; however, it is a widespread problem."

- The saying that rape is a widespread problem is a statement having no evidence. They are rare incidents in a society whose population amounts to around (17, 071, 000) people. Those who commit rape crime are tried according to the law that prohibits that.

The report says "The issue of violence against women became a topic of heated public debate in 2000 following the murder of two female students at Sana'a university's medical school and extensive press reports documenting the authorities' dismissive treatment of female students' concerns and inadequate attention to their security."

- The Yemeni society has not witnessed a crime such as that which happened at the medical school whose victims were two female students. When clues of the crime were discovered the competent authorities conducted measures of investigation and referred it to the prosecution that in turn filed the case to court. Following a public trial a just verdict was issued in the case. It is worth mentioning that Yemeni governmental or private press paid extensive and considerable interest in publishing

details of the case and the trial. That interaction by official and party sides revealed the extent of concern in this case that is very new for our Yemeni society.

- The report mentions that "Women face significant restrictions on their role in society. The law, social system and Shari'a, as interpreted in the country, discriminate against women."

- The law and constitution have not discriminated against women and abolished all disparities between man and woman. Article 41 of the constitution stipulated that all citizens are equal in rights and public duties and article 31 says 'women are full sisters of men'. The report mentioned the phrase in a general way and did not specify the sort of restrictions on their role in society. This allegation had been previously responded to in the course of reply to "general allegations".

The report has mentioned "There are a number of recently formed NGO's working for women's advancement, including the social Association for Productive Families..."

- It should be clear that in addition the mentioned in the above paragraph, the state supports and encourage spread of woman training centers, especially with poor families. At present there is the national program for productive families formed in 1990 for training women and teach them technical skills in order to get job opportunities to overcome the difficult living conditions. At present there are 57 training centers for women in all governorates and the plan is to build more such centers.

Children

The report mentions that "The government does not provide free medical care for children."

- This is not true. The ministry of health organizes national campaigns for free immunization and vaccination against diseases, all Yemeni children in all governorates benefit from them. In addition, there are awareness campaigns conducted by the health ministry every now and then using various mass media. There are also maternity and child care centers in residential quarters as an experiment for opening centers for comprehensive social services. These centers offer services on reproductive health, in addition to free clinics for maternity and child care services. The centres also offer free legal consultations to women about their rights to social welfare. Such centres are at present working in Sana'a and Aden as a first step to establish them in all governorates of the republic. During the past two years, the government has founded a centre for offering care to street children> In cooperation with one

of the non-governmental organisations, work is under way on a new project for street children care to be implemented in 2002. This project is in cooperation with the Arab Center for Childhood and Development. There are also under construction, six houses for orphans' care in the governorates of Amran, Mahwit, Dhamar, Aden and the capital, funded by the Social Fund for Development and they are expected to be finished in 2002. A house for misdeedant girls has been equipped and operated in Sana'a. Beside that there are six houses for juveniles care existing in a number of governorates.

The report says "Child abuse is not prohibited by law, and it was a problem."

- This claim is far from reality and logic because in case there is no text in the law in this regard, the Islamic Sharia' is the reference and the text. Sharia' prohibits causing damage or inflict abuse on human, whether young or adult. The government has recently approved a draft law on child rights prepared in dependence on the international agreement on child rights and international convention on child rights. The law contains many commitments and responsibilities, entrusted with various state departments, towards caring for child in health, educational and social fields in addition to providing for his needs of food. The law gives equality to both male and female children and prepares a suitable ground for more attention and care for childhood and for surmounting the existing difficulties. The project is now before the parliament to be endorsed soon.

Persons with Disabilities

Under this point the report mentions "Persons with mental and physical disabilities face distinct social prejudices, as well as discrimination in education and employment."

- This point has been previously clarified in the course of the reply on the 'General Allegations' but we add the following clarification: under encouragement and support of the state, a union for the disabled has been recently founded. The state has encouraged the establishment of many handicapped societies and put them on the list of support. Presently there are tens centres for the disabled and the blind. The state, in cooperation with the Social Fund for Development, is implementing two centres in Abyan and Seyoun. And also in cooperation with the Public Works project, the state is building four centres for the handicapped in the governorates of Hudeida, Taiz and al-Ghadha. For the first time the government started in 2002 the establishment of two, out of ten, centres for the deaf and mute in compliance with directives of the president of the republic. There are beside that a number of technical support projects aimed at rehabilitation and vocational training of the handicapped and also social rehabilitation in cooperation with a number of international organisations.

National/ Racial/ Ethnic Minorities

Under this point the report mentions that "During March persons were reported killed and 11 wounded in tribal disputes between the al-Usumant and Wadeah tribes in Amran governorate."

- This issue was because of a tribal

dispute between the two sides who were controlled and the case is now under study before the local authority in the governorate.

Also under the same paragraph the report mentions "In May five persons were killed in a drive-by shooting in Sana'a. Witnesses said that the incident involved the Abu-Nashtun and al-Faqih tribes and was related to an incident between the two tribes that had occurred 10 years previously."

- The issue is a tribal dispute between the two tribes and necessary measures were taken to control the two parties and referring the case to competent judicial authorities.

The report also says "In October 6 tribesmen were killed and 16 injured during two days of tribal violence stemming from a land dispute in Hajja governorate."

- The incident took place in the district of Kashr between Bani al-Dammi and Bani al-Za'akery. A campaign of 6 armed forces units was dispatched in a bid to solve the dispute and cease-fire could be reached between the two sides and the case was referred to the prosecution. The case is still under consideration by the prosecution.

The report has also mentioned that "In May, the ongoing feud between the Marib-based al-Zaidi tribe and the Sana'a-based Sanhan tribe, a child was killed and two adults injured in Marib when security forces were despatched to rescue five kidnapped Sanhani children."

- All necessary measures had been taken to seize the kidnappers and hand them over to competent authorities after rescuing the kidnapped safely without causing any incidents of killing or injury.

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Israeli airstrike on crowded civilian area condemned

Israeli Defense Forces air strike on a crowded Gaza apartment building on 23rd July 2002 demonstrated a clear failure to take all feasible precautions to avoid civilian casualties, Human Rights Watch said. Human Rights Watch condemned the attack as a violation of international humanitarian law.

Thirteen civilians were reported killed and some 140 injured in the attack. At least eight of the civilian killed were children. The intended target, Hamas military leader Salah al-Shahada, was also killed, as another Hamas member reportedly was.

"An attack that killed thirteen civilians and injured scores was clearly not carried out in a manner that minimized casualties. It should never have gone ahead" said Joe Strok, Washington director of the Middle East and North Africa Division of Human Rights Watch. "In such a crowded civilians area, these deaths and injuries were absolutely foreseeable"

According to Israeli media reports, both Defense Ministry Ben-Eliezer and Prime Minister Ariel Sharon approved the operation, in which a United States-supplied F-16 aircraft fired a missile into a residential apartment building in the al-Daraj area of Gaza City. Gaza is one of the most densely populated areas.

The operation was part of the Israeli government's policy of assassinating individuals it considers responsible for attacks against Israeli civilians and military targets. Human Rights Watch has criticized Israel's "liquidation" policy as a form of killing in circumstances when the suspect could have been arrested. Human Rights Watch has on numerous occasions condemned Palestinian attacks targeting civilians as a violation of international law.



Palestinians remove the dead body of a Palestinian girl from her damaged house after it was hit by fire from an Israeli warplane during an attack on Gaza July 22, 2002. REUTERS



A Palestinian medical worker puts the body of two-month-old baby Duani Matar into a refrigerator in Gaza hospital after she was killed by an Israeli missile strike overnight in the Gaza Strip July 23, 2002. REUTERS



The body of three-year-old Mohamed al Hewete lies in Gaza hospital after he was killed in an Israeli missile strike overnight July 23, 2002. REUTERS

Russia wants to solve impasse between Iraq & UN

BAGHDAD, July 25 (Reuters) - Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Alexander Saltanov said on Thursday his talks with Iraqi officials were focused on trying to solve an impasse between Iraq and the United Nations over the return of international weapons inspectors.

Saltanov is in Baghdad on the second leg of a Middle East tour to exchange views on possible U.S. military action against Iraq and the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

"We should exert efforts to find a political solution based on the U.N. Security Council resolutions (on Iraq)," Saltanov told reporters after meeting with Iraq's Foreign Minister Naji Sabri.

But he said any solution should include the return of arms inspectors who have been barred from Iraq since December 1998 when the United States and Britain launched a brief bombing campaign to punish Baghdad's alleged failure to cooperate with them.

"It is necessary that such a solution includes the resumption of Iraq's cooperation on the field of disarmament," said Saltanov, adding that the resumption of inspections should be "connected to the lifting of the (U.N.) sanctions". Checking on Iraq's alleged efforts to build weapons of mass destruction is key to suspending U.N. sanctions imposed after Iraq invaded Kuwait in 1990, sparking the Gulf War.

Three rounds of talks with U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan this year have failed to yield Iraqi agreement to readmit the arms monitors, with Baghdad seeking guarantees that it will not be attacked and conditions for the inspectors' work.



Iraqi Foreign Minister Naji Sabri. REUTERS

Saltanov repeated his country's rejection of any U.S. military strike against Iraq, which has the world's second largest oil reserves and has traditionally been close to Moscow.

"We are against military scenarios," he said.

Speculation has mounted recently that the United States is planning to invade Iraq to oust President Saddam Hussein, whose government is deemed by Washington to be part of an "axis of evil" seeking weapons of mass destruction. Saltanov said earlier in Damascus there was time for a political way out of the stand-off between Baghdad and Washington.

Russia's Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov said on Wednesday that Washington was using the United Nations to soften up world opinion for military strikes against Iraq.

Turkey says will work to pass EU reforms

ANKARA, July 27 (Reuters) - Turkey's Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit said on Saturday he remained committed to seeing through sensitive rights reforms needed to meet European Union criteria as the country heads to snap elections in November.

Ecevit, 77, has unnerved financial markets by suggesting early general polls would sideline legislation the EU candidate must enact if it is to begin entry talks with Brussels.

Asked by reporters whether he believed the fractious parliament could pass the reforms, Ecevit said: "(The laws) must pass. We will do everything we can to ensure they are passed."

The debate over lifting the death penalty and easing restrictions on Kurdish-language broadcasting and education eroded unity in the fragile three-way government, forcing a reluctant Ecevit to agree earlier this month to

calling elections on November 3.

Markets have welcomed early elections as a way out of months of political uncertainty, but Ecevit has since restated his misgivings over early elections, saying it would damage the recession-hit economy and hamper the reform legislation.

Turkey has aspired to join the EU for decades and won candidacy status in late 1999. It has since struggled to overhaul its chequered human rights record to meet Brussels' political criteria.

Launching membership negotiations with the affluent bloc could bring in desperately needed foreign investment to help Turkey emerge from more than a year of recession, its worst since World War Two.

Parliament is to convene on Monday to vote on holding early elections and to debate a package of reforms that would fulfill some European standards.

Mubarak warns of violence escalation in Middle East

MADRID, July 26 (Xinhua) - Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak said on Friday that the recent Israeli missile strike on a residential area in Gaza, which killed 15 Palestinians, was set to lead to an escalation of violence in the Middle East.

The bombing "could provoke actions against Israel and I'm afraid they could produce serious consequences in the region," he said during talks with Spanish Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar.

Mubarak, who is on a European tour, arrived here after a visit to Paris on Thursday.

In Paris, he accused Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon of deliberately sabotaging the efforts on the Palestinian side to halt the tit-for-tat violence.

The Israeli strike on early Tuesday occurred one day after Hamas' spiritual leader, Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, said the organization would consider ceasing suicide attacks after an Israeli withdrawal from seven occupied West Bank cities.

Among the killed Palestinians was the commander of the Hamas military wing, which is called the Izz el-Deen al-Qassam Brigades, and nine children.

Mubarak told Aznar that before the Israeli attack, he had talked with Israeli Defense Minister Benjamin Ben Eliezer to "try to tranquilize the situation," while Palestinian National Authority (PNA) representatives negotiated in Gaza with the hard-line Islamic Jihad and Hamas.

He urged Israel to lift a blockade of the Palestinian territories, saying that otherwise, it would be impossible for the PNA to carry out necessary reforms.

Mubarak reiterated Egypt's opposition to the US plan to make PNA leader Yasser Arafat only a figurehead, saying Arafat "was democratically elected to lead the Palestinian people."



Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. REUTERS

Iran court jails over 30 liberal dissidents

TEHRAN, July 27 (Reuters) - An Iranian Revolutionary Court sentenced more than 30 liberal dissidents to up to 10 years in jail on Saturday for attempting to overthrow the 23-year-old Islamic Republic, the official IRNA news agency said.

The sentences against the mostly ageing intellectuals come amid a sustained conservative crackdown on liberals loosely grouped around President Mohammad Khatami which has all but stifled his attempts at reform.

Agents of the hardline judiciary raided homes and arrested around 60 people belonging to the Iran Freedom Movement and another dissident group in a nationwide crackdown in March 2000. Many were held in solitary confinement for around six months without being charged and with no access to lawyers.

The Tehran Revolutionary Court sentenced 21 Freedom Movement members to sentences ranging from nine months to 10 years in jail and stripped them of civil rights and barred them from political activities for 10 years, the agency said.

Twelve other dissidents were sentenced to prison terms of between four months to two years and fined from 10 million rials (\$1,250) to 30 million rials.

The dissidents were charged with a range of crimes including acting against national security, publishing lies, inciting public opinion, collecting confidential state documents, participating at meetings with outlawed groups and agents abroad and possessing weapons with the aim to overthrow the system.

Eleven others were acquitted in the case.

Al-A'raf Cave.. a puzzle or historical site

Yemen Times met with sheikh Ali Mohammed Al Maqdashy, deputy assistant of Taiz governorate, who visited the cave, said that "the cave soil has been checked in Sana'a and the results showed that it contains a small percentage of gold but I think the cave is antique and probably contains ancient graves, so we have been provided the geologists and the task force with the

suitable finance to carry out their exploration.

Mr. Al Azi Mohammed Musleh, head of Taiz antiques office told the YT that Al A'raf cave is a very important discovery that will entice tourism so we should pay it more attention. "The cave is very marvelous architecture with seven inlets, 4-5 meters long, and they meet inside the cave in one inlet

which may be used to provide the cave with Oxygen and light.

"We really suggested many probabilities about what the cave was used for, either it was used as a grave-yard or a center of human gathering, especially we get informed that the region was on trade routes," Mr Musleh said. A bout the cave contents, he added "What we found is some human bones, some pottery instruments, and accumulated soil." "We will seek help of some scientific labs to define the cave history and we have professional expertise to explore more about the cave"

From preliminary statements and information obtained so far, there are some speculations that the origin of man was in Yemen not in Africa, but it seems they are very far from reality.

Till the puzzle of the cave is solved, we hope that it will be given enough attention and interest it deserves to serve knowledge away from individual disputes on who owns the cave.



Yemeni Al-A'raf ancient cave still in need of more exploration

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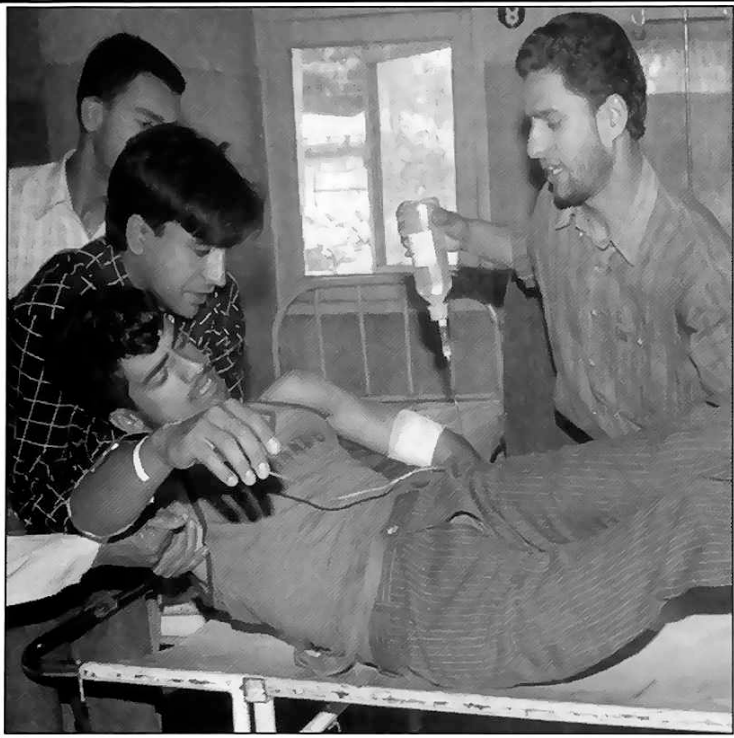
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A Kashmiri Muslim grenade explosion victim is helped into stretcher at hospital in srinagar. Reuters

Two killed in Kashmir as Powell arrives in India

SRINAGAR, India, July 27 (Reuters) - Two people died and at least seven were wounded on Saturday when unidentified attackers threw a grenade at a crowded market in Kashmir as U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell began a peace mission to South Asia.

"Militants hurled a grenade at a security patrol at busy Budgam town.

The grenade missed the target and exploded near shops, killing two civilians on the spot," a police official said.

Budgam is west of Srinagar, the summer capital of India's Jammu and Kashmir state.

No militant group has claimed responsibility for the attack in the disputed Himalayan region, the centre of a seven-month military standoff between nuclear-armed India and Pakistan that has stoked fears of war.

The attack came just hours before Powell landed in New Delhi to start a weekend visit to India and Pakistan aimed at calming tensions and nudging them towards peace talks.

More than 33,000 people have died since the revolt broke out in Jammu and Kashmir, mainly Hindu India's only Muslim-majority state, in 1989. Separatists put the toll closer to 80,000.

Pakistan extends detention of bombing suspects

KARACHI, July 27 (Reuters) - A Pakistani judge on Saturday extended the police detention of four suspects in last month's car bomb attack on the U.S. consulate in Karachi, which killed 12 people and injured 20.

A government official said the remand period was extended until August 3 during a brief appearance before an anti-terrorism court in Karachi of the detained activists from al-Almi, an offshoot of the radical Harkat-ul-Mujahideen organisation.

Habib Ahmed, assistant advocate general of southern Sindh province, told reporters the extension was to allow police more time to complete an investigation and prepare an interim charge sheet.

Earlier this month, Pakistan's paramilitary ranger arrested three people, including two leading members of al-Almi, on suspicion of involvement in the June 14 attack on the consulate in Karachi's city centre.

All the victims in the fourth attack



Mohammad Imran (L) and Sheikh Muhammad Ahmed alias Daniyal, bombing suspects and members of the banned Harkat-ul-Mujahideen Al-Almi militant group, sit inside a police armoured car in at a court compound in Karachi July 27, 2002. Reuters

this year on a foreign target in Pakistan were Pakistanis. The rangers detained the fourth suspect, Mohammad Ashraf, on Wednesday night.

Two of the accused — Mohammad Imran and Mohammad Hanif, the head and deputy head of the organisation — admitted at a news conference earlier

this month their involvement in the consulate attack and a plot to assassinate President Pervez Musharraf.

They said they tried to kill Musharraf late in April, but their car bomb failed to go off. They said their targets included U.S. interests in Pakistan, such as fast food chains McDonalds and Kentucky Fried Chicken.

Ahmed said Mohammad Ashraf confessed early on Saturday to his alleged involvement in a plot to kill Musharraf. The official declined to give further details.

Harkat-ul-Mujahideen has long been on a blacklist of organisations deemed "terrorist" by the United States and reportedly has links to Muslim separatists fighting Indian rule in Kashmir.

Pakistan's cooperation with the U.S.-led coalition pursuing Osama bin Laden, his al Qaeda network and the Taliban in Afghanistan has angered Islamic militants.

Bangladesh students rampage in proxy political war

DHAKA, July 27 (Reuters) - Bangladesh's Dhaka University students, angered after police entered a women's dormitory demanded on Saturday the resignation of the Vice-Chancellor and burned him in effigy.

Witnesses said hundreds of police and paramilitary soldiers, guarding the campus since Thursday, did not intervene when rampaging students pelted stones at Vice-Chancellor Anwarullah Chowdhury's house and set fire to a paper effigy of him.

Chowdhury was not immediately available for comment, but university officials say the fracas reflected ten-

sions between Bangladesh's chronically warring political parties.

Police erected barbed-wire barricades at all entrances to the 30,000-student university, where authorities cancelled scheduled examinations after students began an indefinite strike.

The troubles began on Wednesday when police stormed a women's dormitory and arrested several of them. Chowdhury sacked their provost, or dormitory administrator, after a pro-government students group called her an "agent" of the opposition Awami League. The Awami League is Bangladesh's biggest opposition party

and headed by former prime minister Sheikh Hasina. The provost, Sultana Shafi, rejected the allegation and said she was a victim of a conspiracy.

She and students at Shamsunnahar (women's) Hall said police entered the dormitory on Wednesday night and "misbehaved" with the students.

Police said they entered the hall with the permission of university authorities to rescue several pro-government students held captive by their rivals.

The university's academic council is investigating the incident.

The situation worsened on Thursday when police fought running battles

with the protesting students, using batons and teargas, injuring at least 100 protesters, including women.

The Chhatra League, the student wing of the Awami League, called for an indefinite strike at the university.

The Vice-Chancellor's office said classes and examinations would resume on Sunday.

Bangladeshi politicians routinely use students to settle scores with their rivals, university officials said.

At least 10 Dhaka University students have been killed and hundreds wounded in campus battles in recent years, they said.

World farm powers divided at end of trade talks

NARA, Japan, July 27 (Reuters) - A radical U.S. proposal to slash tariffs left ministers from the world's top farm powers more divided than ever on how quickly and deeply trade barriers should be reduced in ongoing World Trade Organisation negotiations.

A two-day meeting of agricultural ministers ended on Saturday with Europe and Japan calling for moderate reductions in farm-trade barriers while the United States, Canada and

Australia are pushing for quick, deep cuts.

An ambitious U.S. proposal to slash farm-goods tariffs worldwide to 25 percent or less from a current average of 62 percent turned up the heat under already simmering tensions over new U.S. legislation boosting subsidies to American farmers.

"This is not a very good basis to find a compromise in the negotiations," European Union Farm Commissioner Franz Fischler told a news conference.

He called for greater political leadership in forging ahead with the WTO talks, warning that the fate of the negotiations launched in Doha last November could hang in the balance.

"Without an acceptable compromise in the agricultural negotiation, there is little hope for the Doha round," he said in a statement.

Fischler's comments were in stark contrast to remarks by U.S. Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman that the United States had seized leadership in the talks after months of heavy flak over a new bill which raises crop and dairy subsidies to



Five agriculture ministers meet in Nara Franz Fischler (R), member of EU Commission in charge of Agriculture and Fisheries, talks to the colleagues prior to the talks with Japanese Agriculture Minister Tsutomu Takebe (2L) in Nara, Japan, 26 July, 2002. Five agriculture ministers from Japan, Australia, Canada, US, and European Union came here to attend the two-day meetings on nontrade concerns. Xinhua

U.S. farmers by 67 percent.

"I think by putting forward this new proposal we are saying very clearly that we want to maintain a leadership position in these negotiations and that we are willing to make changes to our farm programmes if other countries are willing to do the same," she told a news conference.

Along with its tariff-reduction proposal, the United States hopes to limit countries' use of trade-distorting subsidies for domestic farmers to five percent of the value of their agricultural production.

That limit would mean cutting the amount of trade-distorting subsidies allowed by \$100 billion globally.

Australia and Canada, both members of the 18-nation Cairns Group of

farm free traders, welcomed what they described as the United States' reengagement with the negotiations, although both had their own ideas about how barriers should be removed.

Canada seeks the elimination of all farm export subsidies as soon as possible and the maximum possible reduction or elimination of production and trade-distorting support.

It also advocates hefty cuts in tariffs and an overall limit on the amount of all types of domestic support.

Ministers agreed to meet again before a March 31, 2003 deadline on achieving a broad outline for farm-trade liberalisation in the WTO negotiations.

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We are proud of her success as well as millions of Yemenis and the whole country, wishing her more progress and creativity in her career. Thousands of congratulations to Dr. Raba'a.

Felicitators

Haj Mohammed Juma'an, Khalid M. Juma'an, Ameen M. Juma'an,
Ahmed M. Juma'an, Sami M. Juma'an, Dr. Nagat Juma'an,
and Along with all relatives and friends.

Academic Studies	
Name	Raba'a Mohamed Ahmed Juma'an
Secondary	Arwa School for girls
BA	California State University Los Angeles, California, USA
Experiences	Works as an Assistant Professor at Sana'a University, Faculty of Medicine
M. A	University of West Timisoara, Romania.
Subject of the Ph.d	Contribution of Enzymatic Reactions
Notes	Researches of Dr. Raba'a were ratified and published in four academic journals, discussed in three scientific conferences, and put in use at 65 University Libraries.

تهانينا للدكتورة

رابعة محمد أحمد جمعان

البطاقة العلمية	
الاسم	رابعة محمد أحمد جمعان
الثانوية	مدرسة أروى للبنات
البكالوريوس	University State California USA, Angeles Los, California
الخبرة العملية	عملت بعد حصولها على البكالوريوس لفترة من الوقت معيدة في جامعة صنعاء كلية الطب، قسم الكيمياء الحيوية
ماجستير ودكتوراه	Romaina, Timisoara west of University
موضوع الدكتوراه	Contributions of Enzymatic Reactions
ملاحظات هامة	تم اعتماد الأبحاث التي قدمتها الدكتورة رابعة جمعان لنيل شهادة الدكتوراه ونشرها في أربع مجلات أكاديمية علمية ونوقشت من قبل ثلاثة مؤتمرات عالمية محلية وعالمية ونشرت في مطبوعاتها... كما تم إيداعها للتداول في 65 مكتبة جامعية

عندما يبرز في سماء الوطن الحبيب نجماً ساطعاً من نجوم العلم والمعرفة وعندما يتألق في أجواء سمائه الصافية علماً من أعلام الإبداع والتميز والتفرد ويحقق إنجازاً علمياً وعالمياً غير مسبوق... بحجم ذلك الإنجاز الذي حققته الدكتورة / رابعة محمد أحمد جمعان بشهادة تلك الكوكبة الكبيرة من الأساتذة والدكاترة والأكاديميين العالميين الذين ناقشوا أطروحة الدكتوراه التي تقدمت بها في مجال (تفاعلات الإنزيمات مع التطبيقات الطبية) وحصلت على شهادة الدكتوراه من جامعة ((غرب تمشوارا - رومانيا))

فإنه عندئذ فقط.... يحق لنا أن نهنئها بهذا الإنجاز الكبير الذي حققته الدكتورة رابعة للوطن اليمني الحبيب ومواطنيه... متمنين المزيد من التوفيق والنجاح والعطاء والتألق والإبداع مستقبلاً...

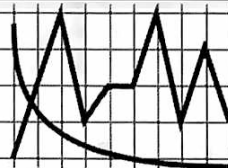
الف الف مبروك يا دكتورة رابعة

المهنتون:

الحاج / محمد أحمد جمعان، خالد محمد جمعان، أمين محمد جمعان، أحمد محمد جمعان،

سامي محمد جمعان، د / نجات جمعان وكافة الأهل والأصدقاء،،،

YT Business



Twenty-four years of economic changes

BY MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF
mkmaly@yahoo.com

Since the election of president Ali Abdullah Saleh by the People's Constituent Assembly on July 17 1978, Yemen has made comprehensive economic and development transitions in all aspects of life, social, political, economic and cultural.

Declaration of the unity on May 22nd, 1990 is the most important historic event in the twentieth century at both national and regional levels.

When the president assumed power, Yemen was in a difficult economic and political situation. This impelled him with vigor to shoulder responsibilities with a view of adopting an administrative and financial reform program. Development plans to reinstate the basic infrastructure of the country have been given priority by the president. This can be clearly shown through oil excavations and mineral wealth to support the national economy.

During 1978 -1990, the president put great emphasis on efforts of leading constructive dialogues with Former South of Yemen to establish the republic of Yemen. Establishing the unity has paved the way for president Ali Abdullah Saleh to build the modern state of Yemen.

The president has devoted much of his attention to the Five-Year Plans.

First, completing the 1st Five-Year Plan, (1976-1981) which focused on the basic infrastructure of the country, general services, particularly agricul-

tural activities, manufactured and mining industries.

Second, implementing the 2nd Five-Year Plan, (1982-1986). The infrastructure of the country during these years was implemented with a view of increasing valuable commodity.

The investment capitals totaled to YR 29,3 billion.

Third, implementing the 3rd Five-Year Plan for the years (1987-1991). This plan was mainly directed towards improving general services and production sectors.

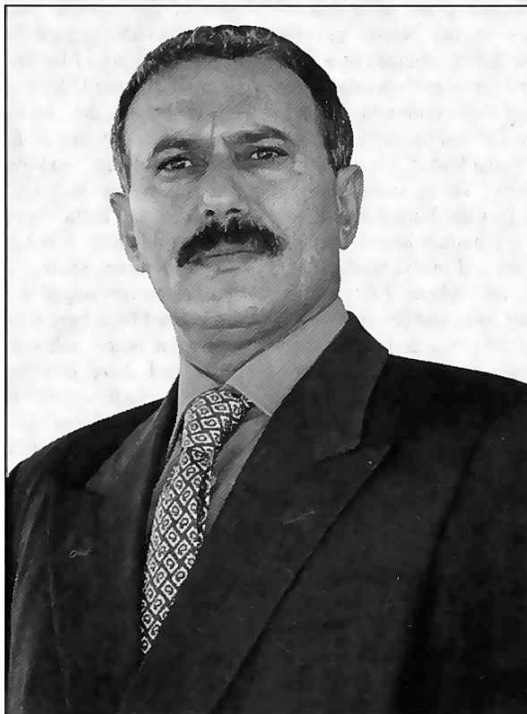
The 3rd Fifth-Year Plan allocated around 75 percent of the overall basic infrastructural investment to increase productive capacity, mining, oil, gas, agriculture, electricity, water, construction and other economic and social services.

Following the achievement of the unity in 1990, the president gave his directives to the government to adopt annual plans in the face of the new variables of the new unified state.

Two Five-Year Plans were drawn up: the 1st Five-Year Plan (1996-2000) and the 2nd Five-Year Plan, (2002-2005).

Following declaration of the the Yemeni Unity in 1990, the president led a comprehensive economic reform program embarked on in the 1995. The economic reform program aimed at:

1. Canceling restrictions on foreign trade, the change towards market economy and removal of goods subsidy.
2. Establishing economic and indus-



- trial free zones and tackling problems of foreign debts and inflation.
3. Increasing foreign currency reserves of the Central Bank of Yemen to USD 3 billion.
 4. Lessening side effects of the economic reform program on the limited income people.

Nationwide Vital projects achieved

- In Sana'a, the Yemeni-Chinese Friendship flyover was built at the cost of CNY 50 million in 2000.
- In 1996 the Second Phase of the 4th Electric Power Project was inaugurated in Sana'a at a cost of

YR 375 million.

- In Aden, the Container Terminal Project was successfully completed in 1993 at cost of USD 8 million.

- In Taiz, the Aden-Taiz power network link project was built at a cost of YR 610 million.

- In Hodiedah, the Hodiedah-Sa'ada electric power project was implemented at cost of YR 141 million and building a road leading to Adoraihim area.

- In Lahj, the Almelah-Araha road was completed at a cost of YR 226 million and a number of educational projects at a cost of YR 44 million.

- In Ibb governorate, a number of dams and water catchments were built at a cost of USD 1 million.

- In Abyan, a number of electricity projects were built at a cost of YR 339 million.

- In al-Jawf, an electricity project was completed at a cost of USD 250,000 and a number of schools were built at a cost of YR 10 million.

- In Amran governorate, the Second Phase of Alboon Cooperative Society was inaugurated at a cost of YR 155. Besides, the Ring Road of the city was paved at a cost of YR 252 million.

- In Adhala'e governorate, the Water Catchment Project was completed and the Telecom Earth Station Project was inaugurated in al-Ghaidha City.

The Road Ahead

Selling experience

BY RAIDAN A. AL-SAQQAF
r_saqqaf@hotmail.com

In the last few years, there were noticeable improvements in products and services offered in markets, resulting in changes of customers expectations from these products and services. You do not expect to buy the same car which was there 10 years ago or have the same laundry services of then, cars have improved and services too.

They say: sell the sizzle, not the stake. What does this mean? It means that human beings are fairly rational and emotions affect their decisions, and you can make an impact on them through additions to the main product / service they ask for. For example, in hotel industry, you book a room for lodging, that is the main service, but if the room was air conditioned, supplied with color TV and flowers or fruits, this would make the room a good experience, but as soon as competitors provide the same, you have to add more to the room in order to enrich that experience.

Today, as products and services become commoditized, and there appears to be no big difference between them, the one thing that will most impress customers and affect their decision, will be the experience they get along with the main product or service. For example, if you wish to travel by air, you may choose one airlines company from many, disregarding the airfare; you would choose the

airways that would give you the best flight experience. This is where the experience offered sells. And sometimes even if the airfare difference was huge, you might still choose the airlines that offers better flying experience.

Entertainment is a sector where customers look for enjoyment and are willing to pay for it, but before that, the experience in itself should be worth the price. If you've ever been to Farah-Land, Sana'a, you will have to pay an entrance fee of YR 100, but you might not think it was too much for entering the entertainment complex, because in a city like Sana'a which lacks entertainment, that fee isn't too much.

On the other hand, Sana'a trade center is a prominent shopping complex where you don't have to pay an entrance fee but you will be willing to pay a higher price for a product / service there, than you are willing to pay for the same outside, because you enjoy the experience of shopping in the complex.

In this new millennium, businesses that fail to provide a good unique experience to customers will slowly lose them to others who provide better experience. It's time to move to the next level and create and offer unique experiences along with the main product / service.

End note: As products & services are being commoditized, providing a good experience to the customer is what matters.

Exchange Rate for the Yemeni Rial

as of July 27

USD	176.33	176.55	BHD	467.73	468.31
GBP	277.97	278.31	QAR	48.44	48.50
EUR	176.09	176.31	JOD	250.11	250.43
SAR	47.02	47.08	OMR	458.01	458.58
KWD	586.51	587.24	CHF	121.42	121.57
AED	48.01	48.07	SEK	18.62	18.64
EGP	37.96	38.01	JPY	1.513627	1.515515

Source: Central Bank of Yemen

More private investments in Yemen

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Ministry of Electricity's working paper presented to the 2nd Oil and Gas conference on 24 June 2002, has opened a power-generating sector before private investments in response to meeting growing demand for this essential sector for economic development in the country.

Electricity resources reported that due to increased demand for electricity, the government adopted a policy of encouraging private investment in this sector. They added that investment in power production by power independent projects, build own operate and build own operate transfer has become an option. Government officials estimated the value of the short-run required investments to build new power-generating stations and expand the existing ones at YR. 500 million.

Mr. Mohammed Ashabi, director of the electricity department in the Ministry of electricity that "private investments became an urgent question especially because 30% of the 18 million people in Yemen benefit from electricity." He added that "The electricity network has the capacity of 1200 MEGAWATT while it consumes only 840 MEGAWATT and about 30% of its capacity is wasted due to its old installations. He made it clear that

any new stations had not been built since 1986 whereas the annual demand for electricity was increasing at 7 to 10% rate."

On the other hand, Countryside or villages are supplied with power by small diesel generators supplied by government or international donors like Japan, Germany, Holland and France. He declared that government subsidy on electricity prices rates can hinder the generating stations in the private sector which is looking for suitable prices.

According to industrial resources, the government provides electricity for the people and gain 8 rials per kilowatt hour amounting to half cost of production.

Mr. Ashabi said that reducing prices can be done if Gas has been used instead of Oil, which is cheaper than oil.

Mr. Adnan Mohammed Abdullah, Technical director for Yemen Gas company said that gas will probably be obtained from Mareb Gas field. He added that the field located in the middle of Yemen, contains about 2.10 Trillion (288 billion cubic m) verified reserves.

The world bank director in Sana'a said that prices could be reduced if there is a competition between different projects for producing electricity. He added that electricity sector is fundamental for the economic growth needed to fight poverty in Yemen.

Modernization of taxes mechanism in Yemen

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Working group with the Tax Authority has prepared modernization draft project on modernizing mechanism of tax levying and collection. The aim of this program is to boost tax revenues for supporting the government's budget and finish the incomplete projects. This project will also tackle obstacles encountering businessmen like granting tax exempts stipulated in the new investment promotion law for foreign investors.

Still, this project needs an administratively and technically efficient tax system that would ensure a proper tax collection and exemption as well. Consequently, the project has incorporated many modalities to modernize the activities of the Tax Authority through:

First: Enforcing new laws like the General Tax Law on Sales as well as the Amended Law on Income Tax.

Second: Benefiting from all facilities to ensure a well-functioning tax system.

Third: Generalizing the use of a computerized tax system.

According to recommendations offered by experts & legal departments of the International Monetary Fund it's expected that a new formula on income tax law would be reached by the end of this year.

The Tax Authority had last year gained YR. 78,167,000,000 in rev-

enues. These revenues are important for supporting the public budget of the country as it accounts for 11.3 of the national domestic product.

Sources at the Tax Authority say that the Authority has established a special department in charge of providing high quality services to the public. It is also responsible for outlining the Authority's objectives according to a modern scientific approach.

The vision of the Authority of the five-year plan (2002 - 2005) is geared towards activating the new laws pertinent to general tax on sales and income tax.

The Authority also has a courageous plan to downsize its staff from 3995 to 2500. The Authority aims to increase the number of female at the tax centers at a rate of 20 percent. The Tax Authority aims to also increase the number of the qualified cadre in the field of law, commerce, and economy at a rate of 60 percent.

Main objectives

A document has been presented recently by the Tax Authority to the 1st Reconstruction and Construction Forum where the Tax Authority is entrusted with achieving the following in 15 years:

- 1- Forming an organizational structure for the administrative authority entitled to privileges employment, deposition and determining wages and bonuses.
- 2- Accomplishing an increase estimated at 100 percent

Specialists believe that one of the features of imposing taxes on sales are achieving a sense of fairness between national and imported products, exempting the basic services, encouraging investment, fighting tax-evasion, etc.

Since the additional price will be imposed on the prices adding more burden on consumers, specialists are worried that the implementation of

the law will lead to more burdens on people who are already suffering. The law created fears among the private sector institutions which thought it would add more taxes.

The government decided to perse reforms in the taxation sectors and implementation of the sales' law which it says will not add more burdens but will rather create a kind of fairness in tax collection.

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Words of Wisdom



As a matter of principle, let me repeat that terrorism should not be a tool for political ends. But, overwhelming injustice against certain groups and their feeling that leaders of the present world won't listen unless something horrible is done to the system, may make terrorism one of few options open to them.
Can we together fight terrorism by creating a more just world? Only time will tell.
Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Sagqaf
(1951-1999)
Founder of Yemen Times

OUR OPINION

One Salah Shehade gone, one thousand emerged

It is truly amazing how unintelligent the Israeli administration looks. The latest attack that killed the leader of the military wing of Hamas Salah Shehade is yet another example of the ridiculous way the Israeli government thinks. By killing innocent children and women with F16 fighter bombs weighing more than a ton each, the Israeli government may have killed Salah Shehade, but they have also caused the creation of thousands of Shehades instead.

Israel proves once and again that it does not learn from its mistakes. God knows how many Israeli people will now be killed because of this foolish act of Sharon. What is more interesting than that is the inability of the Israeli people to see that Sharon is digging the grave of his own state.

By increasing hatred among Palestinians against Israelis, Sharon is adding more misery to his own people and adds to the difficulty of achieving peace in the region.

Upon the killing of Salah Shehade, an Israeli spokesman said, "We feel that now that we have got rid of Salah Shehade, we have removed one of the main obstacles towards peace." It is pathetic to realize that many Israelis think that peace comes through violence. The peace process in itself has become an illusion further away than any dream. Looking at the thousands of Palestinians angered by the latest massacre in Ghaza, one can only brace for the worst.

The situation is currently going out of hand, and I won't be surprised to know that most Palestinians are willing to sacrifice their lives to damage the Jewish state in any possible way. The hundreds of thousands that came out in the funeral of Shehade all promising to take revenge should make Israelis shiver to the bone not knowing if they will come back alive after they leave for shopping, and whether the intense security measures will save them from eminent death by Palestinians gunshots.

Do Israelis like to live in continuous fear? Don't they realize that the number of Israelis killed and wounded during Sharon's period in power has reached peak levels? How are they thinking? And why are they doing nothing to change their regime?

On the other hand, not only is Sharon creating more hatred within the country, but he is causing more hatred against Jews in the Arab world and even in Europe and elsewhere on this planet. He is slowly turning into a monster who is hated by everyone except his only friend the USA government, which still sees him as a man of peace and will continue to do so until the end of time.

Muslims do believe in the eventual collapse of the state of Israel sooner or later because that is supported in our religion. But for sure, what Sharon is doing is speeding up the process of its collapse, and may bring its downfall faster than we expect.

The Editor



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In defense of the Arab nation and Iraq

By MOHAMMED A. NASSER, ADEN

I have worked and lived with Americans for two decades here in Aden in one of their business establishments and honestly speaking I found them to be nice, respectful, considerate and generous. An impression that overwhelmed me for so many years about them, except for what is happening in our region where I have observed a total bias of the consecutive Administrations against Arab causes especially with regard to Palestine and Iraq.

Throughout more than five decades the U.S.A has always stood against and vetoed many of UN resolutions on Arab issues through resorting to various excuses and pretexts and favoring the Jewish state. Thus they have blocked action for implementing of the course of the UN justice, last of which was the cancellation UN observers team that was supposed to find out what has really happened in the town of Jenin and the ongoing inhuman treatment of the Palestinian people and the real story of the usurpation of their land which if broadcast to the American people, would be criticized and branded as anti-Semitic. America is always seen to be the first country to target Arab countries and to rush UN resolutions imposing economic sanctions, isolation of several Arab countries like Iraq, Sudan and Libya. Who will come after we will wait and see, especially with the growing talk that America is bent on attacking Iraq to change its ruling regime, although many Arab countries and people of the region oppose that, as well as many countries of the world. The only excep-

tion of this U.S. scheme is the United Kingdom.

For the last 12 years, Iraq has been subjected to the harshest economic sanctions after it was driven off Kuwait, and no-fly zones were imposed on its Southern and Northern parts even without UN mandate. There a daily bombing and killing of innocent people whenever the country's air defenses fire back at the American and British fighter planes violating their country's aerial space. America and Britain claim to be defending the Kurds in the North and the "Shiite" in the South whereas as a matter of fact they serve their hostile plans against Iraq and their continued policy of bleeding white the resources of the Gulf States, alleging that Iraq is a major threat to their security. These two countries never wish in fact the Iraqi issue to end regardless of the human losses Iraq has sustained during and in the aftermath of the 2nd gulf war where 1,67 million Iraqis' lost their lives and are still suffering because of the prolonged and unjustified American and British sanctions, using the UN as a cover and are applied by the use of their superior war machine after weakening Iraq.

It is ironic to hear from some senior American officials in the U.S. administration claiming that the Iraqi regime used weapons of mass destruction against its own people, whilst what America and Britain have and are doing is "the mercy killing of over a million Iraqis'" most of them children and the upcoming invasion which is being promoted by the two countries will not deter them from the use of the most lethal weapons like the depleted uranium and

possibly mass destruction armament to achieve their goals.

America seems to have forgotten its defeat at the hand a small, poor, weak but brave nation of Vietnam where we were able to see on the TV screens how they left the country leaving their puppets to the hands of the Victor Charlie's (the Viet-Cong) and later sought reconciliation with the communist party, still ruling and respected by America to date. The same with Britain. It has forgotten lessons of the colonial past and wants to regain its faded glory even at the expense of the suffering of the Iraqi people, with its chief ally the U.S.

The hatred that is now rife in the Middle East against America in the first place is growing, and boycotting its products is prevalent in many Middle Eastern countries, and Britain is also receiving its share of this hatred, but at a lower level.

I remember seeing in one of the demonstrations staged in America a placard carried by a lady saying "America if you want peace pull out of the Middle East" and there is nowadays a strong public opposition to the British policy that is subservient to the American Foreign policy especially in the Arab World, but I would hereby call on America to show wisdom and justice and remain in the Middle East where it has its immense interests and extend economic aid and true friendship and leave the Iraqis to solve their own problems as they deserve a decent life away from your daily threats, as the gunboat diplomacy or rather the aerial power and changing of regimes to create puppets is something of the past. I hope my words goes into the good listening ears.

Freedom of press



By YASER AL-MAYASI
ym_almayasi@yahoo.com

The question of freedom of the press has become one of the most critical issues that concerns everybody all over the world. There are several international NGOs working in this field, reporting the pros and cons, of freedom of the press.

Yemen has recently observed the 24th anniversary of president Saleh's assumption of power. During this period, Yemen under president Saleh leadership has realized many remarkable achievements.

Security and stability of the country are some of the most precious achievements of the president.

The president's stance with pressmen and press is a clear indication of his support for freedom of the press and freedom of expression.

The freedom of the press has witnessed considerable improvements on the political arena. What is needed is the journalist's freedom in order to report rightly his or her news stories. This can not be achieved unless there is an adherence to rules of a true press. Media in this case should be constructive not destructive.

We have been aware of some complaints addressed to the presidential office by some citizens. What we see is

that those complaints have been positively responded to and welcomed by the president himself. Unfortunately, some senior officials do not bother themselves to respond to complaints raised by the citizens that are published in local newspapers. Such an attitude indicates their non-respect of press and simplest principles of democracy.

There is no need for decision-makers to be annoyed of the constructive criticism. This has been done with a view of correcting mistakes committed at their institutions and are not meant for personal reasons. Man is an integral part of media; both of them are complementary to each other. Preserving the freedom of the press is the responsibility that should be shouldered by all.

Who is responsible?

By ARIF MOHAMMED AL-AHDAL

Responsibility and irresponsibility are two widely different aspects to be seriously taken into account. The advantages and disadvantages gained, leading or mastering either of these two aspects, are so many.

Responsibility leads to success. It also gives confidence to its masters. On the contrary, the sense of irresponsibility leads to failure and serious consequences.

"Who is responsible?" a question we

all have to put forward; we should not escape. The low level of students in various standards is not a piece of cake issue we can pass by. Those students, the pillars of tomorrow, with all pain, reflect the tragedy. They complete their study with no avail because they would join the numbers of the unemployed. If we conduct a survey of the number of schools, we can definitely trace and spot the plague they are made to undergo. They have no other choice. Even their teachers and educators, share the agony.

On a humanistic ground, we should

stand and look deeply through the symptoms of disease. "Who is responsible?", a spontaneous question any human should raise. What would be the future of those generations with fruitless and rather barren education?

A radical change has to take place urgently and necessarily people in power should feel the responsibility they are shouldering. They should realize that the laymen vote for them only for the well-being of the nation and its subjects. We do not have the desire to say that those people follow the policy of "After me the deluge".

Letters to the Editor

Criticism is not the answer
I realize that you are doing a good job and working hard as Yemen Times in trying to nationalize Yemeni issues throughout the world and promoting human rights. But although the cause is great the way is wrong. The only human rights you should be fighting for are the human rights recognized by Allah in his religion Islam and not the human rights that are put by people coming from the West. I'm also sure you know that the Yemen Times is read by westerners who want to get an idea about Yemen and Yemeni culture. Correcting wrong practices is not through criticizing your own government in front of the whole world by using imported descriptions of how civilization should be. We might be considered by the UN as the trashcan of civilizations, but pointing that out in the way you did two weeks ago will not change the reality and will not make the world care about us. Sincere

work will, while harsh descriptions will not help our countries develop. Sincere advice will definitely do us good.
Frankly, what I would like to say is: don't hang your dirty laundry for the whole world to see. I live in the USA and I can tell that Americans are not impressed with your cause for human right using the putdown effect, they rather look down to us even more and they get even more assured that looking down to the third world countries is more justifiable because their own citizens approve this. Please try to take it easy on your harsh criticism because criticism alone never changes reality.

Lamia Sobhi
USA
noor128@hotmail.com

We want to come back, but...
I and a lot of other Yemenis living abroad

are still waiting from the time when our country will start enforcing law and have order established for us to go back and live like anyone who loves to live in his own country with dignity and pride.
We want to deliver this message through you to tell the Yemeni politicians in the country that we have the qualifications and funds but we lack the feeling of security to go back to our original country. Just look at the neighboring countries and see the peace they are enjoying. We are not a poor or illiterate country by nature, but we can not stand idle while our country is going down the drain.

Yasin Al-Sanane
yasin9999@hotmail.com

Please address the water issue
I would like to thank all the staff at Yemen Times for the hard work in enabling us to know what is happening in Yemen in a credi-

COMMON SENSE



Hassan Al-Haifi

A creed that thrives on blood!

Thank you once again Ariel Sharon for once again showing your true colors. If scientists insist that all the colors add up to the color white, Ariel Sharon will continuously disprove it by showing that red is the real composite of all colors! IF there is no blood spilt in the Holy Land for one day, than Ariel Sharon will not have made his day complete. More important we must thank Ariel Sharon for continuously proving to us that the Zionist creed in itself thrives on blood and notwithstanding how it is shed, against old men, women and helpless children. Yet, Ariel Sharon insists that he is waging a holy war against terrorists! What a mockery of the intelligence of mankind!

Ariel Sharon was, however, quick to really show himself when he rushed to his Cabinet to proclaim that the F-16 mission in Gaza was a success! He has no regrets about the death of nine children killed in their sleep. How could he have any regrets? The mission was a killing mission and not a fly by night sortie. He had no regrets about the hundreds of children he killed in Sabra and Shatilla and the world is waiting for his recantation of what he said. But in fact it never came. His advisors and spokesmen went on to tell the world unabashedly, that this is the same thing that the United States is doing in its war against terrorism in Afghanistan, and as long as this is the case than the Israelis have the right to do the same in the Holy Land!

The grin on Sharon's face surely does not seem to show any regrets for the killing of any Palestinians. Just look at his face, smiling and joking and enjoying the bloody successes of the Zionist Israeli Defense Forces, which have been on the offensive since 1948!

Of course, Mr. Sharon thinks that he has the White House in his pockets and therefore he has no qualms about using supposedly defensive weapons against a helpless Palestinian anytime he could. It is this that breeds the seeds of frustration in hundreds of children in Palestine. They figure that if at anytime they are threatened by death by one ton missiles that blow up whole buildings to pieces, then they mind as well blow themselves up along with many of the trespassers on their and their forefathers' land. Israel is not acting in self-defense. The cards just cannot be turned anyway that the Zionist machine in the world wishes them to be turned. Wrong is wrong, anyway one looks at it. Israel insists that it is right in what did in Gaza!

What a mockery of all the morals that the democracies of the world wish us to believe they are upholding. Mr. Colin Powell, the US Secretary of State, was upset by the Attack on Gaza, but he went on to say that he is comforted by the Israeli announcement that they are carrying out an investigation of the attack to determine its circumstances. God knows that Ariel Sharon is responsible for the killing of thousands of Palestinians and other Arabs over the years and he stands today as the Prime Minister of a "free democratic nation", as Israel is put out to be polishing in the internationally controlled Zionist media. Since when has Israel put anyone to justice for the killing of innocent Palestinians or other Arabs? On the contrary, it is these kind of people who rise up quickly in the ranks of Israeli military or civilian positions. Almost all the Israeli Prime Ministers have an outstanding combat record, with proven credentials in the killing of innocent Palestinians. From Ben Gurion to Ariel Sharon, one is bound to find a stained blood record to bolster the image of the man, who wishes to lead his nation of trespassers on the path of glory against helpless people, with arms generously provided by the United States for defense purposes.

The world should be reminded that Gaza is not the first bloodbath of the Zionist State in general and Ariel Sharon in particular. One should also be reminded that if the suicide bombers are acting out of frustration and a deep sense of helplessness, as well as facing death at any moment, before having expressed their sense of frustration, the Israelis are simply acting out of creed, because their whole state of being simply depends on the elimination of the Palestinian people and a deeply engrained hatred for the Arabs in particular and the Moslems in general. The feud is an old and enduring one between right and wrong, ever since the Lord Al-Mighty started to send Messengers to set Israel on a proper course, which it has yet to find! Just ask Moses, Jesus and all the prophets, to whom Israel gave a hard time!

Letters to the Editor

manner.
However, I would like Yemen Times to produce some articles in the future about our most valuable resource: water.
This limited and valuable resource is being used in vast amounts to produce qat, this evil plant that is paralyzing our developmental process. Most producers of qat do not feel responsible in addressing this problem. As a matter of fact, the more they earn from this plant the more they expand its growth. The end result will inevitably be catastrophic for everyone. No amount of money will compensate for the hardships that some communities in Yemen will face as a result of water shortage. I hope you could work on promoting awareness about the forthcoming dangers as a result of the abuse of this important resource.

Abuamin Al-Muraisi
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Anti-Semitism charges can no longer silence Israeli critics

BY HASSAN TAHSIN
ARAB NEWS DAILY

Ariel Sharon has, apparently, failed to bring peace to the Israelis. On the contrary, he has exposed them to even greater insecurity. His policies have also dealt a serious blow to the Jewish state's economy reversing its economic growth rate.

Internationally, his oppression of the Palestinians behind the façade of fighting terror has made several of his old allies skeptical of his claims.

His brutal handling of the Palestinian issue has also turned the self-styled "oasis of democracy" to an unscrupulous occupation force violating every norm of human rights and international law. His inhuman style of repression has invited the displeasure of even his staunch supporters in Europe. Israel's image as a state surrounded by hostile countries is gradually being replaced by the image of a country that threatens the security and stability of all its neighbors.

This changing attitude across Europe has encouraged several people to brave charges of anti-Semitism to condemn

the Israeli savageries in the West Bank and Gaza.

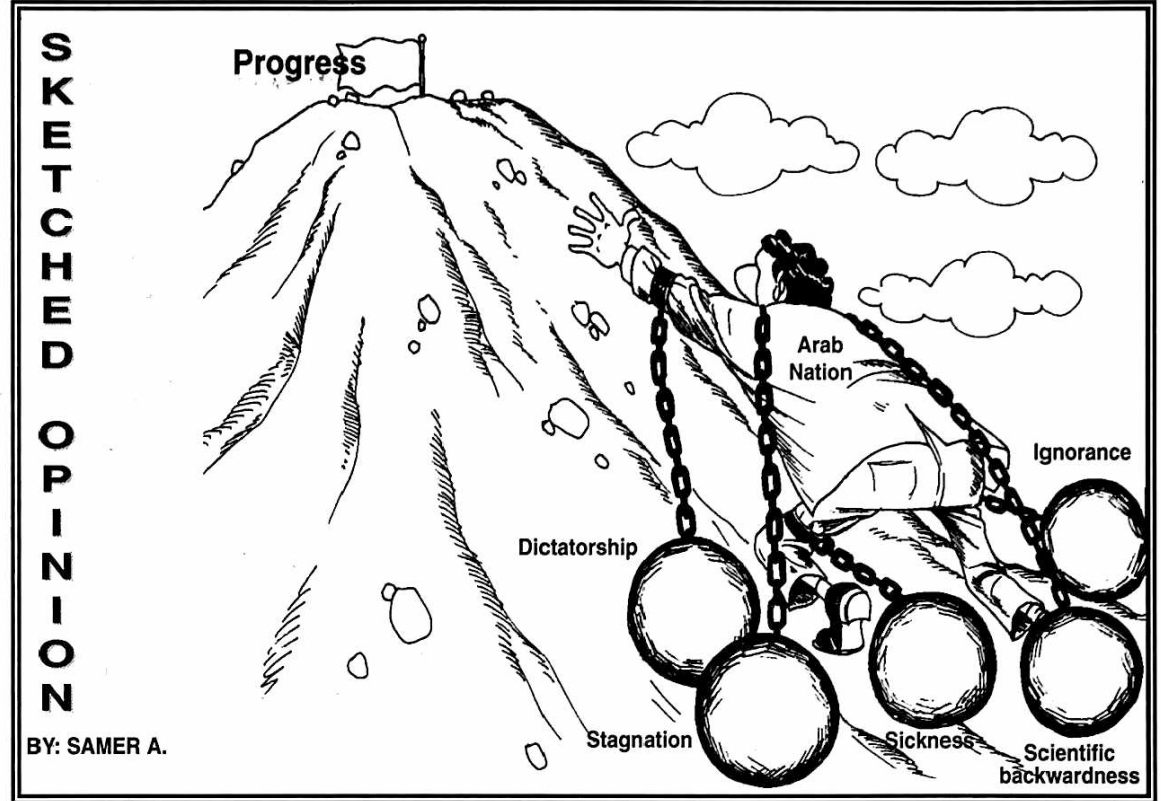
In Switzerland, where the law allows prosecuting anyone charged with war crimes anywhere in the world, the youth wing of the ruling party has demanded the authorities initiate action against the Israeli premier for committing war crimes against the Palestinian people.

More than 20,000 youths attended a recent function in Greece organized by one of the top Greek singers, Theodor Achis, in support of the Palestinian children being killed by the Israeli Army. Worried and infuriated by such swing in the moods of the people, the Israeli ambassador in Greece demanded the singer to arrange another program to support the Israeli children, but Theodor did not listen to the demand. In Amsterdam, the wife of the European Central Bank's chief hoisted recently a Palestinian flag at the top of her house to sympathize with the Palestinians. In London there have been demonstrations condemning the policies of the butcher Sharon. Several English newspapers now, unlike in the past, carry articles condemning the Zionist savageries in Palestine with no fear of anti-Semitic accusations.

The London-based Economist recently attributed the pro-Palestinian shift in the European attitude to Israel's unfair aggression and excesses against the Palestinians. The magazine also posed a disturbing question - has the anti-Semitism come back to Europe again?

An unabashedly pro-Israeli American columnist Charles Krauthammer has also noted the perceptible change in the European attitude toward Israel. The European sympathy for the Jews, in the first place, was not because of any love for them but because of the haunting memories of the Holocaust that have been weighing down on the European conscience ever since World War II. But the present Israeli acts have released the Europeans from the burden of guilt feeling and given them an opportunity to vent their feelings against the oppressions including that in Palestine, the writer noted.

Being apprehensive of the slow but growing change in Europe, the Zionist organizations in the US have made some swift moves to counter it particularly by raising the bogey of anti-Semitism against those who dare criticize Israel. But this weapon does not



seem to work so effectively as in the past. The Europeans now justly feel that the past suffering of a people does not justify their suppression of other weak people.

The reason for the strong European support for Israel was the Jewish suffering under the Nazi occupiers and rulers. The same reason now makes the Palestinians the object of European sympathy. I hope that Europeans will soon realize that there is no justification to continuing their anti-Semitism laws in light of the deceptions practiced by the Zionists in the past.

Israeli occupation stunts Arab growth

GULF NEWS DAILY

Israel's illegal occupation of Arab lands is one of the most pervasive obstacles to security and progress in the region.

According to the UN's Arab Human Development Report (HDR) 2002, the illegal Israeli occupation has affected the region geographically (since it affects the entire region), temporally (extending over decades) and developmentally (impacting nearly all aspects of human development and human security, directly for millions and indirectly for others).

The report says the human cost extends beyond the considerable loss of lives and livelihoods of direct victims. If human development is the process of enlarging choices, if it implies that people must influence the processes that shape their lives and if it means the full enjoyment of human rights, then nothing stifles that noble vision of development more than subjecting a people to foreign occupation.

Firstly, for Palestinians, occupation and the policies that support it, stunt their ability to grow in every conceivable way. The confiscation of Palestinian land, constraining their access to their water and other natural resources, the imposition of obstacles on free movement of people and goods, and structural impediments to employment and economic self-management all combine to thwart the emergence of a viable economy and a secure independent state. Moreover, the expansion of illegal colonies, the

frequent use of excessive force against Palestinians and the denial of their most basic human rights further circumscribe their potential to build human development, the report said.

It added that the plight of Palestinian refugees living in other countries is a further manifestation of development disfigured by occupation.

Secondly, occupation casts a pall across the political and economic life of the entire region. Among neighbouring countries, some continue to suffer themselves from Israeli occupation of parts of their lands, subjecting those people directly affected to tremendous suffering, and imposing development challenges on the rest.

In most Arab states, occupation dominates national policy priorities, creates large humanitarian challenges for those receiving refugees and motivates the diversion of public investment in human development towards military spending.

It states by symbolising a felt and constant external threat, occupation has damaging side effects: it provides both a cause and an excuse for distorting the development agenda, disrupting national priorities and retarding political development.

At certain junctures it can serve to solidify the public against an outside aggressor and justify curbing dissent at a time when democratic transition requires greater pluralism in society and more public debate on national development policies. In all these ways, occupation freezes growth, prosperity and freedom in the Arab world, the report maintains.

A challenge we must accept

But Democracy means choosing for ourselves

EYAD SARRAJ*
THE WASHINGTON POST

In 1998, Haidar Abdel Shafi, myself and a few others applied to register our Movement of Democracy as a political party with the Palestinian Authority. The deputy minister of interior promised prompt approval if we would agree to some minor changes in the wording of our application. I was in charge and quickly agreed to the requested alterations, which were not substantial.

Then the deputy minister became difficult to reach. Weeks, then months, of false promises followed before our request was finally rejected. We were told that the denial of our right to form a political party came from the highest office, namely Yasser Arafat's.

Three years later, it's worth recalling this frustrating episode because the prospect of elections within the Palestinian Authority raises two important questions: What sort of elections will these be? And how do those of us who have been longtime critics of human rights abuses by Arafat's administration feel about President Bush's recently discovered concern for good governance by the Palestinian Authority?

The violation of basic human rights by the Palestinian Authority is hardly a new or surprising issue. We Palestinians have known all along that our path to democracy would be long and tortuous. We have known that our Authority was in no hurry, and under no pressure to reform its ways. When my colleagues and I tried to form a political party, the Palestinian parliament was in hibernation because its members could not contemplate a confrontation with Arafat. In 1998, when 20 of them found the resolve to criticize the behavior of the regime publicly and to urge serious reform, they were harshly silenced. One member was shot at and another badly beaten. Many Palestinians were agitated, disillusioned and simmering with anger.

The countries now urging Palestinian reform were silent then. Countries providing aid were more keen on signing a peace treaty and believed they could not risk losing Arafat. Everyone wanted Arafat. Americans, Europeans,

Israelis and Arabs all believed that he was the only Palestinian who could sign a permanent peace deal with Israel. And they all believed that democracy and human rights could wait. They just paid lip service to the issues of good government, separation of powers and independence of the judiciary.

One of my earliest and greatest shocks was when U.S. Vice President Al Gore, during a mid-1990s visit to Jericho, publicly approved the establishment of military courts by the Palestinian Authority. These courts have sentenced people to death in summary trials where the accused have no attorney and no right to appeal. In 1996, I dared to say that the regime was corrupt and oppressive. For this, I was arrested, beaten and thrown into solitary confinement.

Now, two years into the bloody intifada, amid the destruction, killing and deepening of hatred and revenge, the cause of Palestinian democracy has been rediscovered. Bush suddenly says he has a vision of a democratic Palestine. Laughably, the most oppressive Arab regimes agree. Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon is delighted, of course.

Traumatized and emotionally brutalized, Palestinians are bewildered. They are told by Bush that they are "gifted and capable," but at the same time the president is telling them whom to choose — or more precisely whom not to choose — as their leaders. They suspiciously ask if all this concern is genuine or whether it is just another conspiracy. Suddenly Arafat is branded a corrupt terrorist, the same Arafat who risked his life by following the Sadat example, who was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize, and for whom the White House doors were once wide open.

Those doors are closed to him now. Arafat has been refused entry to the White House since Bush assumed power. This insulting gesture of neglect has definitely enraged Arafat and possibly driven him into refusing to do anything to halt the violence. It could be that Arafat thought he was punishing Bush. In the meantime, however, the killing spree continued. Palestinians and Israelis were losing hope. Fear, pain and death have become the order

of the day. Desperate Palestinians have carried out horrific suicide bombings against Israeli civilians. Sharon's response has been predictable: reoccupying the West Bank, surrounding Arafat and transforming the Palestinian scene into chaos and destruction. In his besieged compound, Arafat's popularity soared. In the Arab streets, he was seen as a hero of the resistance, a symbol of defiance. Only Bush and Sharon could have had this effect on Arafat's popularity.

Still, deep down, many Palestinians harbor a sense that the destruction and suicide bombings have reached an alarming level. Today's children of Palestine are preoccupied with death and sacrifice, and they dream of becoming martyrs. A group of intellectuals and politicians took the initiative recently to call for a halt to the atrocities of killing Israeli civilians. I was among them, and the number of signatories has grown from a few dozen to several hundred. We sounded our grave concern that killing is only strengthening the extremist elements in Israel. But the Palestinian environment is fertile with rage, indignation and defiance.

System of humiliation

System seems to understand that Palestinians are suffering under a brutal form of military occupation that has adopted a system of humiliation as a matter of policy. His vision would have been perfect if it had contained a few more elements to complement his clear goal of a two-state solution. The end game should be spelled out with more details of the permanent settlement, including borders and the division of Jerusalem. Bush also should have provided more details about how a peace plan would be implemented and the precise obligations of each party. I also believe that any plan to reach a peaceful settlement should include the possibility of sanctions imposed on the party that fails to meet its obligations.

One thing the president should not have done was to implicitly call for Arafat's removal. Such a call invites a defiant reaction, not only from Arafat, but from rank and file Palestinians already incensed by the U.S. administration's unyielding support for Israel. Their defiance can mean more popular-

ity for Arafat, even if it means more suffering. Any challenger to Arafat will be accused of being an agent of the CIA and could be killed.

I believe that the American president should now invite the United Nations and European Union to refine his vision into a workable plan that would incorporate immediate steps to enhance security for Israel and improve living conditions in Palestinian areas, with an end to the occupation figuring prominently on the schedule. Such a plan should not dictate the removal or installation of leaders. If Bush believes that Palestinians are capable and gifted, then he should allow them to decide for themselves.

Death as a way of living

The world community, however, must ensure fair and free elections. That will require freedom of movement, which is now severely restricted by Israeli forces. It is a test of Bush's resolve to get Israel to withdraw. And then, among Palestinians themselves, there must be room for freedom of speech and freedom of assembly. Maybe then we can have a new, independent political party.

The Bush vision of the peace plan is excellent if it is readily translated into hope for the Palestinian masses, who increasingly embrace death as a way of avenging injuries to their dignity and as an exit to a better world in heaven. If they are to root out violence and terror, Palestinians need to feel they are being treated with dignity. That is not a reward to the extremists. On the contrary, terrorists are rewarded by more violence and despair. Extremists on both sides thrive on hatred and blood. Let us then deprive them of that and send a message of hope and respect to the besieged populations of Israel and Palestine. The holy land has been taken hostage by the devil. It is time for liberation. It is time for freedom. It is time for Israelis to walk free from fear, and Palestinians to walk with dignity.

* Eyad Sarraj is director of the Gaza Community Mental Health Center and a founder of the Palestinian Independent Commission for Citizens' Rights.

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Street children need our help!

By ABDUH M. ASSABRI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

It was nearly 12:00 at midnight in Sana'a when I was at the bus stop waiting for a minibus (dabab) to pick me up. I was baffled to hear little children on a number of different minibuses shouting themselves hoarse, Hadda, Attreer, etc. (places where passengers are heading for). What in earth are such young children doing in such a late hour? Who is responsible for these children?

The children were wearing filthy clothes and looked as if they were in poor health conditions. Their cheeks were blown away with Qat as they stood in the cold midnight hour exposing themselves to the possibility of catching cold all for a few rials a day.

What kind of future do those Yemeni children have? Their future is at stake, and it is truly difficult to guess what tomorrow holds for them. Could it be anything but more despair, poverty and frustration?

Street children

Yemen is a country with a significant population of street children. Is this the new generation that we will rely on in building the modern and prosperous Yemen? Perhaps the term street children is somewhat offensive and unjust. But is there any other alternative term?

In this respect, the term street children refers to children that consider the street their home and family. They are the homeless children without parents. They are the kids living in an environment without protection, supervision, love, guidance, care, and attention.

Street children live and work in city streets all the day long. We often see them begging, peddling simple goods, and in rare cases stealing for survival.

Some children work in the streets to earn money for themselves and to support their family members, who are usually helpless and have nothing to offer. They return home late at night with whatever money and food they collected during the long day and night hours. Others have little or no contacts with their elder brothers or parents and must cope without their support.

These children often get addicted to qat. Many of them were reported to have been charged with vague criminal offenses such as, loitering, vagrancy, or petty theft. They are either tortured or beaten up and often held for long periods in poor and unknown conditions.

Children reality in the Capital

Yemen's Capital, Sana'a on its own is a city crying for help to its street children. You can see those children almost at every crossroads and every traffic light.

Tens of children can be seen in the street pavements begging. The picture in reality is even worse than what you may see. There are whole families growing in the streets raising their members with no education or skills, just to add more burdens to the overwhelmed economy. Men, women, old and young, girls and boys are all moving in great numbers asking you for alms. Food security is really non-existent in our economy and this in turn adds to the suffering of the poor segments of the society posing a very hazardous future for our children.

Streets and roundabouts of Sana'a have become the shelter of quite a good number of children and old men and women.

Several foreigners who had visited Yemen for the first time recently expressed their concern and surprise to the increasing number of street children by the year. Locals too realize the increase in the number of those children loitering, begging or peddling their goods to passersby. What kind of future can those children bring to Yemen?

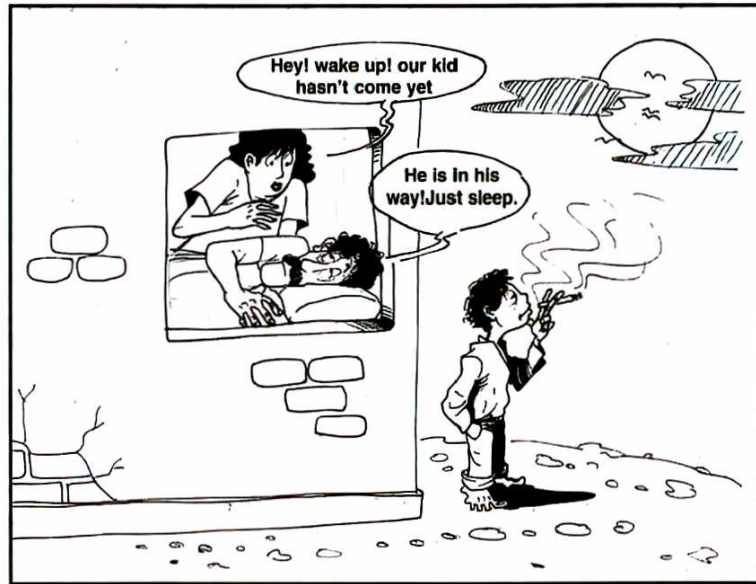
Rafeeq Ahmed, a little child, said he collected fares from passengers because of desire to continue his school education. When asked why his father didn't give him money, he said, "he has nothing to give me. He himself needs more money to survive."

Another child, Mousa Ali, 13, a peddler, said that his father died two years ago and no one could afford to take care of his family except himself. "I have to work day and night in order to provide at least the essentials for my family," he desperately said.

Some families are overburdened with debts and living expenses, so they eventually decide to send their children to the streets to work, peddle, or beg.

Children deprived of basic needs

Among those victims was Hatem Adhaheri a teenager boy from Mahweet. Hatem worked as a waiter in one of cafeterias in Sana'a. During his employment period, this poor child used to be given some food, little free time and no medical assistance at all. He was repeatedly told by his family that he should not stop working until he earns enough money to pay family debts. He was temporarily suspended from work several times for making simple errors.



Because of the need to work to support their families, street children are usually deprived of basic needs such as education, physical and mental health care and adequate food. They also frequently fall prey to exploitation and abuses.

Psychological studies have confirmed that many children choose street life as an alternative to harsh poverty or violence at home. It is a tough choice to make, but with constant threats of starvation, violence, and abuse, they tempt to choose the street as their new home.

On the other hand, the same study stressed on the fact that street children's work could indeed be helpful to them and to their families; working and earning can be a positive experience in a child's growing up taking into consideration he or she would be idle and not join a school any way. Despite the fact that child labor should be opposed, but the facts say that their work helps support families significantly. This depends largely on the age of the child, the conditions in which he works in, and whether work prevents the child from going school.

Juvenile offenders

Only six countries in the world namely Iran, Nigeria, Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, the United States and Yemen were known to have executed juvenile offenders, young people convicted of acts committed before the age of eighteen.

The Yemeni Labor Law has provided relatively significant legal protection for children. However there are still some limitations in the law that require amendments to ensure full protection of these vulnerable groups of the society. The law has to define the legal working age in a way that conforms to the time

they finish their basic education. The law must also force employers to abide by the international and national conventions pertaining to upholding child rights that support taking measures to save children from suppression, abuse and exploitation in the labor market.

All and by large, to limit this ever-increasing phenomenon in Yemen, economic measures to raise and develop the individual income are needed urgently and should be given priority over all other issues to achieve overall development for the local communities. Measures should also be taken to reduce unemployment rates and to ensure free basic education for children. The problem of the increasing number of students leaving schools to work should be studied carefully and tackled.

Our objectives in tackling these aspects of the complex and troubling street children issues include drawing attention to the plight of bonded and forced child laborers, helping to end the hazardous consequences of children loitering, begging. We need to work together to discuss and find solutions to the large and significantly complex issue of child labor. It is the duty of all of us, government, civil society, and citizens alike.

Hadramout's Daw'ani honey: Best in Yemen

By SALEH ABDULBAQI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Some of the Yemeni products gain local and international fame and recognition. Among these national products which already invaded the overseas honey markets is the Daw'ani honey of Hadramout. Its fame dates back to more than 3,000 years, when it was considered the symbol of high quality, nutrition, and medical benefits proven by many laboratory and scientific researches made in Europe.

According to the Arab Organization for Agricultural Development, the honey of Hadramout costs \$70 per kilogram, i.e., at least triple the price of any other Arab honey price. But despite that, demand for this amazing honey is still high.

Hadramout has around 94,388 natural and artificial beehives producing about 70% of Daw'ani honey in Yemen, which resembles its great significance for the national economy. According to the Central Statistical Organization, the total amount of honey production is about 1,706 tons annually and 17.2% of it is exported to Gulf States, especially Saudi Arabia. Recent researchers proved that the Daw'ani honey contains a high percentage of sucrose. The honey is unique in color and taste and is considered the sweetest honey on earth. Historical sources indicate that people of Hadramout are the first worldwide to know about bee breeding and honey trade, which started around 3,000 years ago.

The main honey-producing area of Hadramout is (Wadi Thakba), a village located between Wadi Daw'an and

Mukalla. French scholar, Jaklen Burn, who works in antique exploration in Hadramout discovered many strange drowns on rocks which she thought were part of forts and towers, but later Dr. Abdulqader Ba Faqeeh discovered that those drowns were no other than beehives.

Another honey produced in Hadramout is the lotus honey (Bagiah). A study by Dr. Gazi Abdulhakeem, entitled "Researches on developing honey industry in Hadramout" shows that Bagiah is produced once in the fall season of every year and one single hive can produce 3 to 7 kilograms of honey.

Researcher

Faiza Saleh, the associate teacher in plant protection in the College of Agriculture of Aden University proved that lotus honey is distinguished in its golden color and high degree of glueyness in addition to its unique taste. As for the medical values, the researcher indicated that (Bagiah) honey is

the most medically beneficial in the Arab Peninsula and can be used for acidity, ulcer, diabetes and pneumonia-related medical treatments. Besides, it is a source of energy for the body and enhances blood circulation.

The third other type of honey is called (al Maria) and is only consumed locally.

In conclusion, Hadramout is blessed for the wonderful honey it produces. However, there is no doubt that the Daw'ani honey has a lot of secrets still unrevealed. It may take years and decades until the true values of this honey are exposed. This encourages more researchers to Wadi Daw'an to explore the mystical secrets of the famous Hadramout Daw'ani honey.



Family woes

By MAYASA MOHAMMED GAWAD
YEMEN TIMES STAFF
TAIZ BUREAU

The social changes witnessed in the last few years have been reflected themselves negatively on the human relationships in Yemen. As an outcome, the family unity phenomenon does not exist any more. This causes family members to suffer tremendously and results in the collapse of the pillars of society, namely the family. A family with no affections left to feel and no love to give cannot build a progressing nation. Hatred, the inability to be responsible, family disputes, bad financial conditions of families, and the ignorance of the importance of human relations are all factors behind the suffering of children.

As a consequence of disputes, divorce comes to the picture. This consequently affects the lives of sons and daughters in horrific ways. The ever-climbing prices of goods and increasing living expenses also cause tremendous suffering for children because their fathers would work day and night and yet not be able to provide a decent living. This also results in divorce on many occasions thinking that by divorce the father would get rid of eco-

nomical burdens. The divorced mother would then continue the journey of suffering along with her children. She would try to supply her house with food and other needs with very limited financial resources.

Unethical behavior, psychological problems, cruelty, feelings of insecurity and injustice and death of feelings are all factors behind the suffering of children and collapse of families. But above all, the disappearance of family unity values is the major reason behind all of that.

As a result of this, children wander in the streets playing game of vagabondage and immorality, wasting hours of time that could have been used more adequately. They, in most cases, tempt to steal for lack of money and their inability to gain education leads them to become unemployment in the future.

In many other cases, early marriage results from lack of family unity. Families with internal disputes tempt to get rid of their daughters quickly first of all to reduce financial expenses, secondly to reduce the number of dependents in the house. But this is specifically widely spread among the low classes of society that lack proper education. The father forces his daughter to marry in an extremely early age disregarding all her human rights and

pushing her to start bearing the responsibility of becoming a wife and mother without the proper knowledge or guidance. The father sees this as the best way to relieve himself and his daughter and to grant her a happy life. However, he forgets that due to her little experience, she may soon come back home as a divorced mother of a child or more. In this particular situation, the father would have to carry more burdens than any time before. This will add to the miseries of the family and bring more pessimisms and psychological problems to the grandchildren. Who pays the price for the suffering of grandchildren, who will be neglected and would live under continuous stress and pressure?

The family is the pillar of the society. It is the family that shapes the future of the country by raising well-educated and enlightened children. What will parents lose if they deal with each other frankly with a sense of responsibility for the children? Why don't parents show love and care to their children and raise them in a peaceful and loving family atmosphere? Why don't they implant love and affection in their children's souls in order to gain the fruits in the long-run? Only when they do so will they feel proud of raising a whole generation that brings development and prosperity to Yemen.

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Applications received after August 30, 2002 will not be accepted

Qat behind rise in cancer cases in Yemen

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The number of cancer cases reported in Yemen is alarmingly high. According to specialists, qat is responsible for the majority of those cases as most of them reportedly occurred in areas where qat is the major consumed product.

Specialists attribute the reasons behind this high number of cancer cases in the country to the use of unregulated chemicals usually used for treating qat. Being a stimulant to rapid qat growth, these chemicals are used excessively by qat farmers. In addition, farmers never observe the prescribed period for the termination of the affects of these chemicals. This is also applicable to chemicals used for vegetables and fruits. The victims of cancer diseases are in most cases qat farmers and chewers.

As one of the major qat cultivation areas in Yemen, Taiz has one of the highest cancer rates in the country. Figures on cancer cases are frightening, especially during the period from 1996 to 2001, during which 840 cases were reported. This number has considerably surged within the first half of this year as the reported cases during this period alone totaled 198 cases.

Dr. Abdulmalik al-Sayyani, director general of the Thawra Hospital in Taiz told the Yemen Times that the most widespread types of cancers in Taiz are the ones that infect lymph node, thyroid gland, face, gum and breasts. There are also other types of cancer diseases that infect liver, blood, and the brain. As for gum and face cancer, they are more common in qat cultivated areas. Consequently, Sabir, Mawya and Dhisufal have the highest numbers



A malicious tumor in the upper gum of a qat addict, caused by consuming qat that was exposed to out-dated pesticides

of reported cancer cases.

Dr. Saleh Azan, Chairman of the Supreme Medical Committee of the Thawra Hospital said, "The unregulated use of chemicals in Sabir Mountain in Taiz is behind the incidence of many cancer cases." Infertility amongst married couples is also high in this part of Yemen.

The Custom Authority has stopped the entry of Israeli-made chemicals as hundreds of chemical substances enter the country without being checked or approved. Thus, it is difficult to control cancer before finding tangible solutions for these problems. The Ministry of Agriculture has a significant role to play in this respect. Dr. Issam of the ministry expressed his concern over the widespread of cancer

in Taiz, pointing out that it is of great importance to raise the quota allocated for cancer patients in Taiz to travel abroad for treatment.

The Supreme Medical Committee of Taiz receives tens of cases on a daily basis mostly coming from Taiz, Ibb, Dhale'a, Lahaj. Yet, the number of cases approved for treatment overseas is 22. Taking into mind the fact that there is no specialized cancer treatment centers in Yemen, it becomes obvious that for those patients to survive they need to have enough financial resources to travel abroad for treatment.

Dr. Abdulmalik al-Sayyani warned of the spread of cancers, which has become a major problem across the country and not merely in a particular

area. He also called the government and in particular the Ministry of Health to rapidly establish a specialized cancer treatment center, especially in Taiz which is the most populous governorate in Yemen and which is the one with the highest number of cancer cases.

Al-Sayyani said that the establishment of this center is indispensable and will also contribute to reducing the costs of traveling abroad for treatment.

In conclusion, qat has now become a curse on the Yemeni people, who are subject to cancer infections today more than any other time in the past. Unless short and long-term solutions are presented urgently, cancer cases in Yemen could increase dramatically causing a humanitarian catastrophe.

Marine and land activities

By NASER MEFTAH
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

The government realizes that marine resources resembled in fishery wealth and other aspects have great influence on the economy of Yemen. Hence, it was natural that it would — along with several NGOs — work on creating the perfect marine environment through organizing conferences, seminars, workshops, and scientific researches. Yemen's dependence on marine resources convinced the government of the need to focus more on the marine environment and that was why the Ministry of Tourism and Environment was formed.

In this respect, Hadhramout University for Science and Technology held a workshop last week to identify the problems and priorities that should be taken into consideration when focusing on the marine environment in Aden Bay, Gulf of Aden and the Arab Sea. Engineer Salameen Abdu al-Ari, the general secretary of a local council in Hadhramout said that the protecting marine environment in the region is one of his local council's priorities due to its long-term effects on the economy of the country.

Dr. Mohammed Saeed al-Mashgari, the Head of the environment protection office had focused during the workshop on the activities of the office in implementing effective measures to protect marine life from pollution including signing a number of agreements in this prospect plus launching massive campaigns to raise awareness about the protection of the marine environment among the public. He said, "There is intense cooperation between our office and the National Program and Global Program along with the Ministry of Tourism and Environment and the UN plus other governmental and non-governmental organizations."

Three steps were presented in order to identify the problems facing the marine environment and priorities needed to protect it from pollution. The first and most important step to be taken is to start an intensive and continuous program on the protection of marine life and environment from land-related industrial and human activities in Aden Bay and Red Sea coast in Yemen.

The second step was to raise awareness about how to avoid damaging marine life and means to protect the marine environment among the people of Hadhramout, who essentially depend on the sea for their living in the form of fishing and other sea-related professions.

Thirdly, the workshop referred to the need of researching the main sources of pollution and how to prevent them from further damaging the marine environment to avoid future consequences on marine life near the coasts of Yemen.

The workshop also described the gloomy picture of the increasing level of pollution caused by increasing populations totaling more than 860,000 in Yemeni coastal cities and the industrial complexes operating in those cities that are scattered throughout the Yemeni coastal line.

The program pointed out that industrial complexes in those cities contribute to the pollution problem dramatically as they produce a large amount of destructive chemical materials that find their way to the coast of Hadhramout and hence the Arab Sea. Oil waste, hydrocarbons, metal waste, and other poisonous chemicals are being spilled into the Arab sea in a frightening amount approaching 6,000 tons in just three months, i.e., with an average of 70 tons per day.

The workshop was concluded by stressing on the need to address the issue of marine pollution and urged the government to take action against polluters in a swift and efficient manner.

Waiting for Yemen's population explosion



By ISMAEL AL-GHABERY
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

A week seldom passes without having some sort of reminder of Yemen's most challenging and critical problem ever: population growth. The real image of population growth in Yemen is frightening and painful. With an annual increase of about 3.7% - a baby per minute-, scientists predict that by 2025 the total population of Yemen will easily reach 30 millions.

Today, Yemen holds two records. The first of being the fastest growing country on earth and the second is held by its women who are -by far- the most frequent birth-giving women on this planet. With 60% of its total population consisting of children, the worst days are yet to come because unemployment rates will continue to climb because the country will fail to provide jobs and sources of living for millions of people.

Yemen's developmental progress will be at stake because of the impossibility to cope with the increasing number of citizens to serve. The government continues to receive warnings from global, regional, and local bodies that the country's future will be in danger if this rate continues. Within the last one and a half decade Yemen's total population had doubled causing tremendously harsh economic conditions to the majority of Yemenis.

Besides population growth, another dangerous aspect is migration from rural to urban areas. The government has already admitted that it is facing a crisis in trying to serve so many people in the cities, which cannot absorb more people. For instance, medical services in public hospitals have gone

through a recession resulting in a greater number of diseases and miseries, especially among the poor who cannot afford treatment in private hospitals. The same applies to education as illiteracy rates are slowly rising because of the lack of qualified teachers to teach millions of emerging students every year while unemployment rates are soaring to tremendous peaks as thousands of new graduates from different universities end up jobless or immigrate.

Another eye-catching problem is the shortage of electricity supplies as the country's electricity generation capabilities have fallen short to satisfy half of the population. The lack of drinking water, which is the basic element of life anywhere on earth, is yet the most frightening of all. Taking Yemen's dry lands into consideration and assuming the current increase of the population's demand of water, Yemen's internal cities' underground water basins will dry up resulting in a humanitarian crisis that may lead to starvation.

So as we can easily see that the issue is serious and requires due attention from our officials, who have unfortunately shown little concern. Awareness must be spread among the different groups of the society through public radio and TV, educational material and other means that should include tips on family planning and birth control.

In brief, a long-term strategy should be drafted and implemented as quickly as possible. What has been heard lately about some efforts by establishments, such as the National Population Council is encouraging. But words need to be followed by deeds by the government.

Yemen is currently at a crossroads. It will either go to prosperity and progress or to destruction and chaos. It is up to our government to decide where to go, and it surely will be responsible if the Yemeni nation suffers tremendously if wrong decisions are taken. It will also be responsible even if right decisions are taken too late.

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

Death is extremely painful. But nothing compares the grief of parents who bear the loss of their tender children in the prime of their life. Plunged eternally in the paroxysm of sorrow, they experience the pangs of death in life. Life loses all charm for them and time stands still as they are haunted by the host of fond memories of their darlings. Some of the insertions expressing parents' grief for their children who are no more, are given below:

- On your first death anniversary, thinking of you in tearful silence. (Parents)

- Dear ___ (born on — died on). You explained you were a traveler, transiting through our lives and planet. It didn't lessen the pain of parting, when — years ago, you were wrenched from us. This day we remember with tearful eyes the vitality, energy, humor and the spirit that was you. (Parents and family members).

- You left us all weeping. Our souls refuse to believe your absence from us. There will be no occasion when we will not miss you. Your untimely demise is the greatest loss to us. Your memory will be refreshing, inspiring, ever so green, full of fragrance, sweet and serene. (Family members).

- Darling son — (). Today is your 5th birthday. We wish you a very happy birthday. How we long you were with us to share with us this joyous occasion. Your loving face and angelic smile will always remain with us as cherished and fond memories of your short sojourn. We trust meeting you again in the other world, when all tears and miseries will be wiped away. (Parents, brothers and sisters)

- What a joyous duty it would have been had you been in our midst on your — happy birth day. We cherish all those wonderful moments spent with you. We miss you very much. May the Almighty grant your noble soul eternal peace. (Parents)

- Today on your birthday, the host of pleasant memories you left behind grow fonder. You were a bloom, so tender, pure and fresh. We wonder, if you smile at us from beyond the blue yonder. (Relatives)

- Last year, God snatched you from us in your prime youth. You left without any parting words. We only see your smiling face and cherish your memories that death can never snatch away. These are our life line and strength to live till we meet you. (Parents)

- ___ (). No day would be worse than today when you were snatched away by the cruel hands of destiny. You were our only little lamp spreading the rays of love in our lives. We miss the pleasures, the joys you filled our lives with. Words stand mute to express the depth of the wound. The wound penetrates deeper and deeper everyday where only silent tears

and your sweet memories provide some solace. Nothing in this world can fill the void. If tears could make the pathway, memories the lane, we would have climbed the highest mountain to bring our loving child back again. Tearfully hoping for a reunion sometime, in some birth. (Parents)

- Today on your birthday we miss your cheerful presence. This year no birthday cards, no phone calls, no gifts. Only deep and painful silence. (Parents)

- In memory of our dear — whom we loved so much. (Parents)

- The flower said as it bloomed, My time with you is short, And then it was no more, Yet, eternally, Leaving its fragrance on the soil. (Parents)

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

1. It is I who is responsible for this mistake.
2. Tell me where are you going?
3. Ten students have passed and one failed.
4. One of the thieves escaped and two caught.
5. It is time you go to bed.

Solutions to last week's questions

1. He will write his homework before he goes to bed.
2. You won't know how good pudding is till you have tasted it.
3. He has already left for Taiz.
4. He has not spoken to me since that incident.
5. He has not received any message uptill now.

III. How to express it in one word

1. Fail to perform one's duty.
2. Change one's loyalty from one political party to another.
3. Person against whom a legal action is brought.
4. Put off something to a later time.
5. Open disobedience or resistance.

Solutions to last week's questions

1. Try, by speaking against something, to make it seem less useful: **Decry** (vt)
2. Devote one's time, energy, and effort to a noble purpose: **Dedicate** (vt)
3. Arrive at a conclusion by reasoning from facts: **Deduce** (vt)
4. Take out an amount or a part: **Deduct** (vt)
5. Spoil the appearance of something by damaging its surface: **Deface** (vt)

IV. Grammar and composition

a) Composition

You are in a secondhand bookshop, looking at old books. Some of them are in a rather bad state and parts of the words of the covers have disappeared. Can you tell what the titles of the following book are?

1. The _dvent_es of Robinson Cr_oe
2. The m_tery o_ the o_l_ cast_.
3. _to bui_ your ow_ hou_.
4. A _ew Engl_ gram_.

b) Idioms and phrases

1. Energy required by human body is measured in terms of **Calorie**.

2. Penguins belong to the **Antarctic** region.

3. In AIDS patients, the HIV virus renders the **body's own defences against transformed cells ineffective and turns the immune system off against the invading microbes**.

4. It is said that a limited nuclear warfare will generate enough soot and dust, so that a substantial portion of earth would be deprived of sunlight. This phenomenon is named as **Nuclear Winter**.

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8. **Electricians wear rubber gloves because rubber** gives better grip.

9. **Electricians wear rubber gloves because rubber** keeps hands clean and warm.

10. **Electricians wear rubber gloves because rubber** none of the above.

11. **Electricians wear rubber gloves because rubber** is a bad conductor of electricity.

12. **Electricians wear rubber gloves because rubber** gives better grip.

13. **Electricians wear rubber gloves because rubber** keeps hands clean and warm.

14. **Electricians wear rubber gloves because rubber** none of the above.

Use the following phrases in sentences of your own

1. so as to;
2. as good as;
3. as (so) long as;
4. as much as;
5. as (so) far as

c) Words commonly confounded Bring out differences in meaning in the following pairs or group of words

1. affection, affectation
2. affluence, confluence, influence
3. affirm, confirm, conform
4. afflict, conflict
5. affront, confront

Answers to last week's questions

- a) **Grammar: Question tags**
1. Things were not so well with them, **were they?**
 2. There was no chance of escape from him, **wasn't there?**
 3. Livingston balanced himself on his toes, **didn't he?**
 4. It may save the side, **mayn't it?**
 5. All of them came on, **didn't they?**

b) Idioms and phrases

1. **aptitude for** (natural ability to acquire knowledge or skill): She shows an aptitude for music.
2. **arbitrate between** (judge between two parties to a dispute): America has offered to arbitrate between India and Pakistan over the Kashmir issue.
3. **arrangement for**: Have you made arrangement for the party?
4. **arrive at** (reach): I have arrived at a decision in the matter.
5. **ascribe to** (consider to be the cause): He ascribed his failure to bad luck.

c) Words commonly confounded

1. **adoration** (n) (worship, love): We have adoration for his humanism.
2. **adulation** (n) (too much praise): He is ridiculed for his adulation of the boss.
3. **adverse** (adj) (unfavorable): He is making efforts despite many adverse circumstances.
4. **reverse** (n) (contrary of opposite): You are doing the reverse of what is expected of you.
5. **converse** (n & adj) (idea which is opposite to another): In Logic, the statement 'He is happy but not rich' is the converse of 'he is rich but not happy'.
6. **aerobatics** (n) (tricks or feats): She is an expert in aerobatics.
7. **acrobatics** (n) (feats performed by clever airmen): The demonstration of aerobatics amazed the gathering.
8. **affect** (vt) (have an influence on): Hard work adversely affected his health.
9. **effect** (vt) (bring about): The medicine effected a cure of his ailment.

V. Pearls from the Holy Quran

"Fight in the cause of Allah Those who fight you But do not transgress limits; For Allah loveth not transgressors."
S2 A190

VI. Words of Wisdom

"Sweet are the uses of adversity"
—Shakespeare

Valedictory Function at Mahweet

Students of Level 3, Department of English, Faculty of Education, Mahweet organized a function on 4 June to bid farewell to the outgoing students of Level 4. The function started with recitations of the Holy Quran by Aref Al-Adeeb of level 2. The assembly observed silence for one minute to condole the sad and untimely demise of Saleh Al-Domani a student of level 2. Dr. Ramakanta Sahu in his welcome speech appreciated the efforts of Level 3 to have set a healthy convention in the department for the first time. Mohammed Al-Mikhlafl, Ahmed Al-Magrana and Iman Sharaf Al-Wadei from Level 3 gave a warm and emotional send-off to the Level 4 students. On behalf of Level 4 students Faiz Al-Jaubey and Mohammed Al-Agabi thanked the level 3 students for

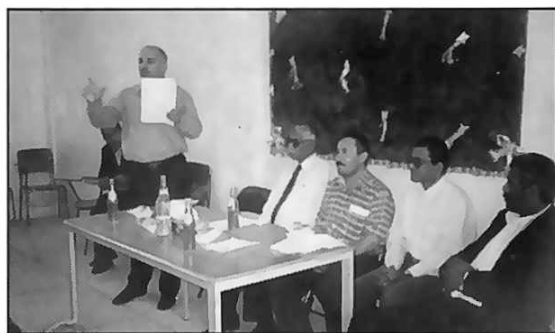


Address by Dr. Mohammed Al-Kamali, Dean, Dr. Hussein (Vice Dean), Dr. Sahu and Mr. Ali Hamzi look on

their nice gesture. Prof. Mohammed Al-Kamali, Dean of the Faculty, in his address gave his benediction to the students and exhorted them to disseminate knowledge to dispel the darkness of ignorance. He lauded the efforts of the English department, especially those of Dr. Sahu to reach out "In the company of Dr. Sahu, you have reasons to be the best," he said. He thanked all the teachers of the English department, Dr. Singh, Dr. Sahu and Mr. Amir, for going that extra mile. This was followed by the distribution of cultural certificates

and book prizes, sponsored by Mr. Walid Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf. The ceremony came to a close with recitation from Shakespeare by Ahlam Amer of Level 4 and Words of Wisdom in Arabic and English by Mr. Abdul Amer Ali. Mr. Amir also proposed a vote of thanks.

The Vice Dean Dr. Hussein Gatrib and Manager of the college Mr. Ali Hamzi were also present on the occasion.



Recitation of words of wisdom and presentation of thanks by Mr. Abdul Amir Ali



Recitation the Holy Quran by Aref Saleh Hassan Al-Adeeb



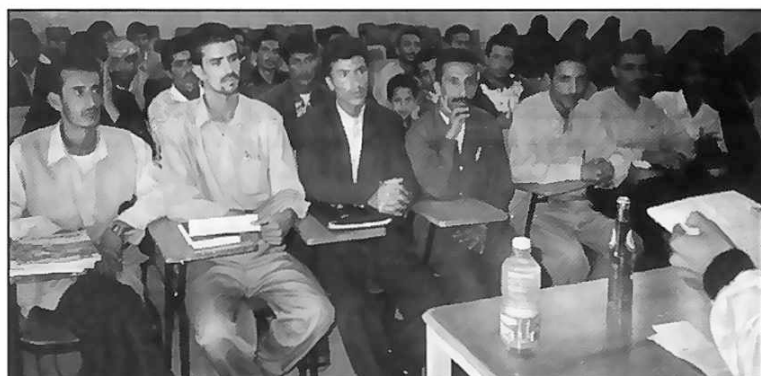
Speech by Mohammed Al-Mikhlafl



Ahmed Al-Magrana receiving certificates from the dean



Speech by Mohammed Al-Agabi



A section of the audience



Response by Faiz Al-Jaubey

A LETTER TO THE TEACHERS OF ENGLISH

Spend more time with slow learners

Dear fellow teachers,

Any class is bound to have three kinds of learners — above average, average and below average and your class can't be an exception. The first group learns fast and the third group slowly and the second one at an optimum speed. In fact, learners in a class are like the fingers in your hand, each one different. The learner difference is an inevitable problem in the class and you have to tune your teaching to suit all these three kinds of learners. The additional problem is that you can't label them as average or above average and below average, but you must be aware of the existence of this aspect in your class.

The textbooks are prepared with the average learners in mind and any teaching materials such as exercises or passages should be made with them in mind. That is why the materials are difficult for some of the students, who are below average and the same materials

may be easy for those who are in the first group. When you teach these materials, you have to adjust your methodology in such a way that all the three kinds of students find them interesting and useful. How you do this decides the success of your class. Let me talk more about this in my letters later.

In this letter, I would like to stress the fact that you should spend more time for the slow learners. They are slow in their learning, but they do not lack the motivation other students have. Sometimes they may be more motivated than the others. Once you have identified the slow learners in your class, pay more attention to them in the class, without making your attention deliberate. Go to them while they are doing the exercises and help them with the spelling, grammar, pronunciation, if they need. Give them more help when they are trying to answer in the class. When you ask

questions in the class, ask them easier questions so that they may succeed in answering them and get a filip. If possible, meet them separately after the class in your leisure and clarify their doubts and explain to them any teaching points they want to learn, using more mother tongue, if necessary. More than anything, give your love and affection to them. Never let them know they are poor performers.

There are several strategies you can use with them such as using pictures, using the mother tongue, getting them to work with average and above average students in pairs or groups, conducting extra classes for them, giving easier exercises to them

(this should be done tactfully) etc. You can definitely think of more strategies, can't you? Do well. Good luck.

Yours fraternally,
Dr. M.N.K. Bose (BOSE@y.net.ye)
Associate Professor of English
Faculty of Arts, Ibb.



How to be Happy
* Keep your heart free from hatred and your mind from worry.
* Live simply.
* Expect little.
* Sing often.
* Pray always.
* Fill your life with love.
* Scatter sunshine.
* Forget yourself and think of others.
* Do as you would be done by.
Nada Al-Mohayya
Faculty of Education and Arts
Khawlan

What is good for your child?



By Rahmatullahi Bahi
mmrrahmat@hotmail.com
Pakistan School Sana'a

If a child lives with criticism He learns to condemn
If a child lives with hostility He learns to fight
If a child lives with ridicule He learns to be shy
If a child lives with shame He learns to feel guilty

If a child lives with tolerance He learns to be patient
If a child lives with encouragement He learns confidence
If a child lives with praise He learns to appreciate
If a child lives with fairness He learns justice
If a child lives with security He learns to have faith
If a child lives with approval He learns to like himself
If a child lives with acceptance He learns to find love in the world

TIMES QUIZ (33)

1. Rate of energy released from the body in the form of heat denotes
a) agility b) metabolism
c) digestion d) hormonal action

2. What is heavy water?
a) an oxide of deuterium
b) contains dissolved salts in it.
c) an oxide of parahydrogen
d) an oxide of orthohydrogen

3. What is the world's fastest and most powerful computer?
a) Super Computer
b) CRAY-2

c) IBM - PC d) ENIAC

4. Electricians wear rubber gloves because rubber
a) is a bad conductor of electricity
b) gives better grip
c) keeps hands clean and warm
d) none of the above

5. What is the full form of Hi-Fi?

Solutions to Times Quiz (32)

1. Energy required by human body is measured in terms of **Calorie**.

2. Penguins belong to the **Antarctic** region.

3. In AIDS patients, the HIV virus renders the **body's own defences against transformed cells ineffective and turns the immune system off against the invading microbes**.

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Local Press

Prepared by Mohammed Khidhr



Al-Thawri weekly,
organ of YSP, 25
July 2002.

tural crises.



Annas weekly,
22 July 2002.

Main headlines:

- Pursuant to American request, Djibouti venue for training Yemeni special forces
- YSP condemns Zionist crime against the Palestinian people
- Disputes between Salafia leaders in Yemen over succession
- Relatives of prison escapees in Aden, arrested
- Prosecution threatens trial of foreign newspapers and agencies correspondents
- Three Yemenis killed in car accident in Dhamar

Mr Yassin Abdulrahim Thabit questions in his article that after the past years since the outbreak of September 62 and October 63 and the 22 May unity, are not we in need of a serious consideration of the entire experiment? Holding elections and calling for another round of them without pondering on what the first experiment has produced and evaluating its good and bitter outcomes, rectifying the unwanted results through dialogue with political and partisan forces would be a shortcoming.

The writer maintains that there is no use in betting on engaging in other elections at this level of low conditions since the side controlling the executive power has everything and dominates all their inputs and outputs. The opposition should channel its action to reform inside the executive power itself so that this authority would reflect in all its performance the constitution and laws. The opposition should possess channels and instruments capable of comprehending and attracting action of the majority damaged as a result of the existing situation, then possessing pressure cards to rectify course of the executive power. The opposition should then offer the best solutions to economic, social, political and cul-

Main headlines:

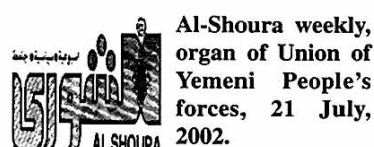
- Local council members in Aden, arrested
- Mother stabs to death her three children in Sana'a
- Unified stand of Joint Meeting Parties regarding preparation for coming elections

An article published on the back page of the newspaper says threats of hitting Iraq by the United States of America are escalated again at the same time the American military movements in the region give indications that the intention of ousting president Saddam Hussein are on the increase.

Observing of what is happening, one would notice that America, in its vision, is proceeding from several stands, first settling an old account with the Iraqi regime and an attempt of settling the sequences of the 1990 war out of which America has come without deciding the situation in its favour, secondly, America's repeated strikes on Iraq and pushing the opposition to topple the regime have been doomed to failure because the Iraqi will has remained stronger than America's temptations. The third stand is derived from calculations related to Israel and removing its fears and protecting it from the Iraqi Arab military power to grant it a superiority enabling it to deter any Arab country, particularly through enabling it to possess mass destruction weapons along with insisting on depriving any Arab country of the right to possess these weapons.

These three factors have affected the American decision in dealing with Iraq and perhaps they have led to the American ignoring of the international humanitarian attitude calling for lifting the sanctions imposed

on Iraq out of mercy towards Iraqi women, children and elderly people. The information of the military solution leaked from several sources behind which America aims at resolving the dispute with Iraq, arouses many questions on the real intentions of the American policies towards Iraq and the Arab region.



Al-Shoura weekly,
organ of Union of
Yemeni People's
forces, 21 July,
2002.

Main headlines:

- Union of People's forces looks for free and modern society
- Ibrahim al-Wazir: Western democracies do not estimate other peoples' freedom
- Yemen accused of human rights violations
- Suspects arrested in North Arabian sea
- A committee in defense of human rights, set up

Political editor of the newspaper says the floundering of dialogue held recently between the People's General Congress party and opposition parties and its concentration on discussing criteria of distributing shares of electoral committees, has led to non-agreement and a state of ambiguity under which there may be many probabilities, options and expectations.

While the ruling party is seeking to hold the opposition the responsibility of failure of the dialogue and tension of the political atmosphere, it seems that parties grouped in the Joint Meeting are intent on question of criteria as a basis for distributing shares among the parties without submitting to the Congress accusations and threats with the supreme committee of elections.

It becomes clear that there are hidden goals behind the PGC's insistence on this stand and these make it not reluctant in adhering to this majority. The Joint Meeting Parties

is keen on soundness and cleanliness of the new record and that would not be realized if every party is not assured about correctness and soundness of measures and registration as a first step for holding free and honest elections.



Al-Sahwa weekly
25 July 2002.

Main headlines:

- In Jawf, Hostages to prove obedience
- In Udein, many crimes, not a single response
- Trade Unions return to the parliament
- Sana'a sinks in sewage waters

Columnist Zaid al-Shami says that the Palestinians have fully realised their problem. They have tried many solutions, sought for peace at the UN security council, sought help of states and governments and international organisations. They have attended various conferences and occasions where they have presented a style of negotiations, but all that has led them to nowhere. Therefore they have chosen the way of resistance and thus effected the balance of horror with Israel. They have made the Jews deprived of security and hope of living in safety on the land of Palestine.

Sharon, with his oppression, came to power and thus exceeded all limits in killing the Palestinians and destroying all constituents of the Palestinian state, but greatly failed to provide security for his people. The spirit of Palestinian resistance is escalating day by day and challenge among women and children is also increasing and the day when this usurping entity falls would inevitably come. As for America the security of the Jews is its only major concern, which is a goal completely contradicting the aim of the

Palestinians and the Arabs. The question is why some of the Palestinians and some Arab leaders try to interfere to solve the problem of the Zionist entity and looking for solutions giving it security and stability?



Al-Ihya'a al-Arabi weekly,
organ of the Arab
Baath Socialist
party, 25 July
2002.

Main headlines:

- Iraqi parliament ask the president to lead the confrontation
- Amr Mousa: We refuse any aggression on Iraq
- Al-al-Jahmi ask the political leadership to decide the issue of killing sheikh al-Shaif
- Five killed, three wounded in tribal clashes in Dhamar
- American lawyers sue Sharon as war criminal
- Annual festival on boycotting Zionist, American, British products next Thursday

Editorial manager of the newspaper says in his article that with the increase of the American-Zionist vaunting and threats of Bush's administration to launch a new aggression on Iraq, the voices refusing any American attack on Iraq have also increased till they reached the extent of unanimity. All the Arab regimes, including the Kuwaiti, refused those threats and expressed that rejection in various forms. Islamically, the Iranian president Mohammed Khatami expressed his country's rejection of the American threats to Iraq, pointing out that America was dragging the world into war, adding that America's behaviour was not in favour of the American people or the world. Secretary-general of the Organisation of Islamic Conference has also confirmed the organisation's rejecting attitude of any aggression on Iraq, pointing out that that was the stand of all Islamic countries in the organisation.



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

Main headlines:

- Diplomatic source; Qatar did not ask mediation with Saudi Arabia, brethren differences solved by dialogue
- Yemeni-Saudi technical committee meets Friday in Germany with the company entrusted with demarcating borders
- President Saleh begins special visit to Germany
- American medical grant to Yemen to provide equipment for some hospitals and health centres
- Yemeni-Iranian talks Sunday

The newspaper editorial says that the new carnage perpetrated by the Zionist troops against the Palestinian people in Gaza Strip, killing and wounding tens of innocent people, is by all standards considered a dangerous escalation of the government of Sharon's terrorist approach. Possibilities and developments the situation in the Middle East to be heading for under continuation of the American support and the world silence in addition to Arab incapability to do anything towards the Zionist aggression.

The humanitarian duty of the international community dictates a resolute stand towards the criminal acts in which the Zionist entity army uses the most sophisticated weaponry to exterminate a defenseless people. This could not be achieved unless the United States changes its attitude and the Europeans adopt a stand beyond condemnation. The Arab attitude remains the cornerstone in any efforts exerted for comprehensive and just peace based on the principle of land for peace that should take effective dimensions to be understood that the Arabs possess the means making the international parties back down in their stands towards the right course.

World Press

Major news items in leading international newspapers *Provided by Xinhua*

Egypt

Al Ahram

Egypt will take part in two international conferences. One is on sustainable development to be held in South Africa's Johannesburg in August. The other is a ministerial conference of the Nile Basin, which will be held in Sudan's capital of Khartoum in December.

Al Akhbar

Two women were killed and four others injured in a collision between two lorries in Al-Nahda area in Al-Amreya, Alexandria. One of the two lorries was going fast on the opposite direction when the collision took

place. But its driver survived the accident.

Al Gomhuria

Alexandria government will showcase 145 rare pieces of antiquities in the Egyptian National museum on the occasion of the centennial anniversary of the Egyptian museum.

The Egyptian Mail

The Egyptian cabinet will convene on Wednesday to review the outcome of President Hosni Mubarak's recent efforts to de-escalate tensions in the Middle East, cabinet sources said on Friday. The meeting will also cover the country's economic scene.

Lebanon

AN-NAHAR

Hamas official Ismail Haniyeh says Israel's assassination of head of group's military wing ends any discussion of suspending attacks in Israel.

AS-SAFIR

Government squabble continues over planned cellular phone privatisation.

DAILY STAR

Secondary school teachers agree to correct final exams after refusing to do

so over a wage dispute.

AL-MUSTAQBAL

Washington invites Iraqi opposition leaders for talks.

AL-ANWAR

The head of the Phalange party, once Lebanon's most important Christian political group, sues former President Amin Gemayel for slander and defamation over harsh criticism of the party's present, pro-Syrian leadership.

Pakistan

Pakistan Observer

President General Pervez Musharraf on Friday emphasized that Pakistan stood for peace, however it would not be blackmailed or coerced by anyone and its desire for peace should not be misperceived as a sign of weakness.

The Frontier Post

Federal Finance Minister Shaukat Aziz on Friday said that Pakistan was out of debt trap and all the notions were pointing positively in this regard.

The News

US Secretary of States Colin Powell will travel to India and Pakistan over the weekend to implore leaders of the two countries to build on recent commitments that helped ease the treat of war over Kashmir.

Japan

Asahi, Mainichi, Yomiuri, Nihon Keizai

Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi orders government panel to mull tax cuts of over one trillion yen (8.47 billion US dollars).

Yomiuri, Mainichi

16-year-old boy was arrested over bomb explosion at Tokyo station.

Nihon Keizai

Toyota is to double gas, electricity-powered models to six.

India

The Pioneer

The United State Secretary of State Colin Powell on Friday said in Washington terrorist violence continues in Kashmir even as he reiterated on the eve of his visit to India and Pakistan that infiltration across the Line of Control had been curtailed.

The Times of India

India's government says it will not allow "international observers" to "monitor" the forthcoming assembly elections in the India-controlled Kashmir area. However, foreign citizens and officials wishing to travel to the area may do so as "tourists".

The Tribune

A friendship agreement has been signed between London and New Delhi that will give an impetus to cultural and economic ties between the two historic cities. The agreement was signed Friday by Delhi Chief Minister Sheila Dikshit and London Mayor Ken Livingstone in London.



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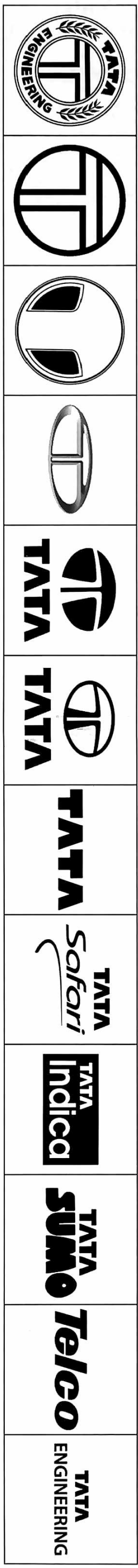


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JITCOM2002 exhibition concludes its activities with tremendous success

The JITCOM2002 exhibition concluded its activities on July 26th with tremendous success. The exhibition, which took place during 22-26 July, was one of the most successful showcases in Yemen for the latest technological products.

During the exhibition, scientific symposiums were held focusing on IT and diverse telecommunication products with focus on establishing relations with local and international companies involved in the same industry.

The exhibition is organized annually by Apollo for International Exhibitions Company with an objective of introducing new IT and telecommunication products to the public. More than 40 local companies in the field of technology and telecommunication were present in the exhibition which received great public interest.

More than 280 people representing several public and private companies also took part in the exhibition. JITCOM2002 featured the participation of a number of representatives of some leading international companies in the field of IT, telecommunication and new services of GSM technology.

During the exhibition, Yemen Times seized the opportunity to interview a number of individuals who made visible contributions to the success of the exhibition.

Fruitful efforts



Tawfeeq Annehmi, the General Manager of the Apollo International Exhibition said, "We, as the organizers of the exhibition at Apollo have done our best to make JITCOM2002 a great success. We highly appreciate the exerted efforts by the concerned authorities including the Minister of Telecommunication headed by Abdulmalik al-Moalemi, the Yemeni Industrialists Associations and the Chambers of International Industry and Commerce for their positive role in supporting the event. We express our gratitude to the public who came in large numbers to the 5 days of the exhibition."

Annehmi called upon all government bodies and institutions in the field of IT and telecommunication to do their best to cooperate with Apollo to organize JITCOM2003 in the future which will in turn be a useful resource for acquainting ourselves with the latest technologies. Annehmi requested the government to support technological industries and exempt them from custom duties just like other countries did. "This will in return guarantee the developmental processes for a better technological future and will pave the way to attract investors to Yemen to establish a very strong information tech-

nology infrastructure capable of creating something new in this respect," he concluded.

Up-and-coming market



The Channel Manager for Gulf and Eastern Mediterranean at Microsoft Gulf, Saeid Marashi expressed his delight for visiting Yemen, which has great potential and promises a great future for the IT sector. "This country is densely populated which is a good omen for computer technology-related sectors to be disseminated. Undoubtedly, we hope in the near future to have a regional center for our pioneering company here in Sana'a. This will open up new horizons for our company in this promising market," he said.

Valuable opportunity



Ahmed Zaidan, the Technical Support Manager of Epson (Middle East) said, "This is not the first visit paid by Epson to Yemen. We had paid several visits to Yemen in the past. Our participation in JITCOM 2002 can be explained from different standpoints including the fact that this exhibition is a good opportunity to inform computer pro-

grammers at ministries and other organizations of the latest technologies in the international markets which meet their requirements."

About Epson and its new products, Zaidan said that Epson is a company entrusted with covering four groups of printers including the first printer in the world which prints directly on cylinder presses without the need for adhesive papers. Epson is distinguished for its high resolution printing as it prints in resolutions up to 2,880 dpi. This has been done taking into consideration the requirements of advertising designers at computer centers. "JITCOM 2002 featured the participation of international companies along with the holding of scientific symposiums in this field. There should be more positive reactions by the ministries, governmental institutions and universities in Yemen to this great event."

Successful exhibition



Jamal Qastanteen, the Middle East Sales Manager of Mindware said, "Mindware is one of the leading companies of Microsoft in the field of software application development." "It is evident that Yemen is progressing by leaps and bounds in the field of IT and that is why we are encouraged to come here to support our

partners through training cadres and providing them with the cheapest and the best ways of marketing and maintenance" he said.

"As for the JITCOM 2002, the exhibition was a clear indication of the growth in IT and telecommunication in the country. For more technological prosperity, full attention should be paid by the institutional bodies" he added.

Pleasant surprise



Dorian B. Coyle, Tech-data CISCO Sales Manager said that the purpose of visiting Yemen is to conduct market research and measure the local market's standing and reaction compared to the international markets. "As a matter of fact, Yemenis have shown keen interest and thirst for IT and telecommunication" he said.

High standard



Mr. A. Ragho, Sales Regional Manager said that what attracted his attention was the superb organization and coordination of the exhibition which was parallel to exhibitions held in the Gulf States such as Bahrain and Oman.

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شركة الصناعات المتنوعة ومواد التعبئة



إحدى شركات مجموعة هائل سعيد أنعم وشركاه

إعلان وظيفة شاغرة

شركة الصناعات المتنوعة ومواد التعبئة GENPACK إحدى شركات مجموعة هائل سعيد أنعم وشركاه الرائدة في مجال الصناعة والتجارة والزراعة والخدمات، تعلن عن وجود فرصة عمل لشغل الوظيفة التالية :-

رئيساً لقسم المبيعات (قطاع المواد الاستهلاكية)

ويشترط في المتقدم مايلي :-

- ❖ مؤهل جامعي مناسب مع خبره لا تقل عن خمس سنوات.
- ❖ قدرة على رسم السياسة البيعية وتطوير الأداء البيعي.
- ❖ قدرة قيادية ومهارة في التفاوض والإقناع والتعامل مع الآخرين.
- ❖ يفضل إجادة اللغة الإنجليزية تحدثاً وكتابةً واستخدام الكمبيوتر.
- ❖ أن لا يزيد عمر المتقدم عن ٤٠ عاماً ولا يقل عن ٢٨ عاماً.

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١- راتب مجز.

٢- بدلات مختلفة.

٣- المزايا الأخرى بحسب المؤهل والخبرة.

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إدارة الموارد البشرية

تعز / الحويان

فاكس: ٩٦٧ ٤ ٢١٨٠٢٤٩

بريد إلكتروني: Genpack@y.net.ye

ص.ب. ٦٢٢٨

وذلك خلال فترة أقصاها ٢٥/٧/٢٠٠٢م، علماً بأن المقابلات ستتم ابتداءً من يوم

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صنعاء - تلفون: ٢٨١١١٥ - عدن ٢٥٢٠٤٨ - الحديدة: ٢٠١٣٩٤

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