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104 detainees released, reconfirmed by sources

Around 100 detainees still in prison

BY HASSAN AZZAIDI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Sana'a, Saturday 17 Aug. (YT)—In a statement to Yemen Times, Member of Parliament Amin Al-Ukaimi reconfirmed the news report published in Yemen Times in issue (31/2002) about the release of 104 detainees despite news reports published in some newspapers denying this news item.

Amin al-Ukaimi told the Yemen Times that 104 detainees have been released after providing guarantees to the concerned authorities not to be involved in the future with any groups that could carry out terrorist attacks in Yemen. According to Amin, those detainees were detained following the arrest campaign launched by the security apparatus against suspect members of radical movements.

Yemen Times also interviewed one of the 104 released detainees, who told the Yemen Times on the condition of anonymity that even though tens of detainees were indeed

released, around 100 of them are still in the PSO jails in various governorates of Yemen. They have been in detention for having possible links with al-Qaeda elements, thought to be behind the USS Cole and September 11 attacks.

The source added that among those 104 who were released were Egyptians who were deported out of the country. Those include:

- Abu Bakr Al-Masri
- Abu Mohammed Al-Masri
- Abulmajeed Al-Masri

A number of Indonesians and Algerians who were arrested in the past were also among the 104 released detainees deported, who were sent out of Yemen. Yemen Times abstains from publishing the names of released Yemeni detainees based on their own desire.

According to the source, the number of detainees in Ibb governorate for example has been reduced from 28 to 11. They have

been released under certain guarantees.

President Ali Abdullah Saleh mentioned in an interview with Annass newspaper that a number of detainees have indeed been released after they were found innocent of charges they were accused of.

It is worth mentioning that the confirmed number of released detainees describes the scale of the arrest campaign launched by the Yemeni authorities, which resulted in the arrest of a huge number of people.

Campaigns launched by the security authorities were concentrated against those who returned from Afghanistan, some mosque preachers, members of radical Islamic groups, and those suspected of belonging to whom have called themselves al-Qaeda sympathizers.

At the international level, the Athowra daily newspaper mentioned last week that 30 Yemenis are still in detention by the US authorities under the pretext of the war against terrorism.

Who is real proprietor of Syndicate Studies Institute?

RIDHWAN AL-SAQQAF
ADEN BUREAU CHIEF

Aden, Saturday 17 Aug. (YT)—The Executive Bureau of the Islah Party has accused security bodies of an illegal break-in of the Islah's neighborhood at al-Qallo'a, in Aden on August 16.

A number of prominent figures of the local council members at the Islah party were also incarcerated when they attempted to pacify the aggravated situation there.

In a statement issued by the Islah party had made clear that such illegal break-in had come after the Islah bloc refused to discuss the Aden-2003 budget.

Meanwhile, Othman Kako Naser, the Chairman of the Syndicates Union in Aden claimed that the Syndicates Union is the real proprietor of Syndicate Studies Institute and not the Islah. He added further that the union

members were about to review testimonies and proofs of the their rights to possess the institute.

He added further that the Islah party had seized the neighborhood of the institute in the aftermath of the 1994 civil war at al-Qallo'a area in Aden governorate.

He pointed out further that the institute belonged to the Syndicates Union. He added that the institute was built in 1974 by the workers of the Aden port and was called at that time as the Martyr Taresh al-Gharbia to show solidarity with the Egyptian people. Then, it was used as a school for eradicating illiteracy for the workers there.

The leaders of the Syndicates Union indicated that the institute will be transferred to a regional institute for rehabilitating and training the syndicate Arab members as it was decided before the Islah's seizure of the institute.

Sheikh Abdullah bin Hussein al-Ahmar: "US threat against Iraq is a threat to the entire Arab and Islamic nation"



BY MOHAMMED AL-MASANI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Sana'a, Saturday 17 Aug. (YT)—In an interview to the YT, Speaker of the Parliament Sheikh Abdullah bin Hussain Al-Ahmar, expressed a number of opinion concerning local and regional current development affecting Yemen. He stressed on the need to oppose any US attack against Iraq and called up the Yemeni and Arab citizens to join hands in supporting Iraqi people. He emphasized that Iraq is going to be the first victim of a possible US aggression that would also reached arab and Muslim nation.

Military units deployed in Mareb, Jowf, & Shabwa

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Sana'a, Saturday 17 Aug. (YT)—Within the framework of achieving security and stability in the eastern region, in particular Marib, al-Jawf and Shabwa, recently established central security

units have been deployed in those governorates. The three governorates are considered tribal regions where there are factors that could be potentially crucial for al-Qaeda elements to move freely. These areas are also known for their frequent kidnapping incidents and tribal clashes. These areas are thought to be a suitable haven for terrorist elements.

Continued on page 5

Interview on page 6

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JMP expresses its disapproval of criteria to participate in the upcoming elections

SCE says JMP's statement in not binding

BY MOHAMMED BIN SALLAM
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Joint Meeting Parties (JMP) expressed their disapproval of the conditions set by the Supreme Commission for Elections (SCE) with respect to the JMP's participation in the upcoming parliamentary elections which are due to be held April 27, 2003.

In a statement issued on August 13, the JMP expressed their disappointment at broadcasting and publishing certain conditions and criteria with regard to its participation in the

upcoming elections. The JMP expresses its sorrow for what has been recently published and broadcast by the official media. "We consider the SCE's attitude towards this as unacceptable behavior. This will lead to loss of its credibility among other political parties," the statement added.

During the SCE's meeting on June 12, Khaled Ashareef raised the initiative of the Speaker of the Parliament, Sheikh Abdullah bin Hussein al-Ahmar to include all the political parties in the new registration committee in accordance with the 1997 parliamentary

elections. The initiative was totally dependent on the total number of votes made during these elections.

Ashareef pointed out that the political parties' participation in the upcoming period had to be completed within the framework of the Elections and Referendum Law No. 13 for the year 2001.

Meanwhile, Abduh Mohammed al-Janadi, member of the SCE said that the SCE's agenda had already been decided by the results of the 1997 parliamentary elections. "The SCE will begin to remove all lists of names and

the election committees are to be announced," al-Janadi told the 26 September Weekly Newspaper, the mouthpiece of the Yemen Armed Forces.

He added that the SCE is not obliged to the JMP's statement. "The statement has been triggered by some minor parties to only cause problems."

He went on by saying that "the criteria that we have set up must be a drive for all parties to know all there is to know about the number of voters and to avoid confusion and upset in the future."

Girl disappears in Sana'a

By Yemen Times Staff

A letter of appeal was sent on Saturday to President Ali Abdullah Saleh by the father of Sabah, an eight-year-old girl who disappeared in mysterious conditions in Sana'a on July 24th.

In his letter, Ali Saleem demanded that the President to intervene to pressure the concerned authorities to exert greater efforts to search for his daughter. "My daughter Sabah has been kidnapped on Wednesday 24 July 2002 in mysterious conditions. My daughter is a moral girl that was raised in the best manner. She is well-educated and faithful to her religion and we are sure that she has kidnapped," Sabah's father added further. He then informed the

security bodies about this incident and provided them with several clues to help them search for her. Security bodies according to her father are not able to find the real kidnappers. That is because she has been kidnapped by an influential and powerful network.

In a phone call to Yemen Times, the father confirmed that all the collected clues have showed that she has been kidnapped by a powerful network that has great influence in the country.

"By sending this letter to the President, I am pointing at a dangerous phenomenon that is starting to spread itself all over the country and unless the President reacts quickly and firmly, we will witness more kidnappings of our innocent young daughters, whose fate will be unknown," e concluded.

2nd workshop for police officers winds up

MOHAMMED ABDULRAHMAN
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The two-day second workshop for police officers organized by the Human Rights Information and Training Center (HRITC) in cooperation with the Danish Embassy was concluded on August 13 in Sana'a.

The workshop, which was under the auspices of the Minister of Interior, Mr. Rashad Al-Alimi, trained 40 officers from different security apparatuses representing various governorates.

In his opening statement, HRITC's chairman, Mr. Izzeddin Al-Asbahi stressed on the need to continue exerting greater efforts to solidify the ideas of human rights and the respect of human dignity in the minds and practices of police forces so as to have them abide by international declarations on human rights.

In his speech representing Minister Rashad Al-Alimi, Deputy Minister Rasheed Jurhum expressed his appreciation of NGOs' role in the community to promote the understanding of human rights among police forces. He emphasized that the government is fully aware of the need to better coordinate with the NGO sector to reduce the negative phenomena and shortcomings of the police forces.

Mr. Ali Saleh Abdullah, Deputy Minister of Social Affairs also pointed



citizens and the stance of local legislations regarding those rights.

On the second day, Mr. Ahmed Al-Wadi'i presented a working paper on the treatment of prisoners, while Dr. Ihlam Al-Aqil gave lectures on

of the event. Lieutenant Wahid Kalib of the Criminal Investigative Bureau in Aden said, "We have benefited from this workshop tremendously and understood the ways we should be treating citizens, prisoners and others taking into consideration their human rights."

"Police forces in Yemen lack education in human rights and hence many of them treat civilians and prisoners roughly" he added.

On the other hand, policewoman Nazia Ahmed said "There is significant deficiency in proper understanding and

implementation of laws and regulations. We as policewomen are trying to be more flexible, and alert to human rights of civilians during inspections and investigations. This is why policewomen have been warmly welcomed by large masses of the community."

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Bader Center: Combining religious and modern education

Located near Taiz Street East of Sanaa, Bader Center is one of the most respected and renowned religious centers in Yemen. It serves as the home, school, and refuge of hundreds of students coming from all over the country to learn Islam and do research, study, work in groups, and devote themselves to intellectual and general knowledge pursuits in various fields including computers.

In an interview made by Yemen Times, Sheikh Al-Murtadha Zeid Al-Muhawari, the founder and director of the center disclosed that his center is a project that aims at combining religious with modern education to students coming from all over the country to learn Islamic regulations in the proper way so as when they graduate and go back to their villages and cities, they

and respecting of all different Islamic sects. This is why students here learn tolerance, understanding, and wisdom," he added.

The center includes a mosque, a religious school, a library, a research center, a dining hall, a sports arena, a computer laboratory, a research department, plus many other rooms and sections.

Unlike some strict institutions, Bader Center focuses on the education of females, whom are given extra attention. "We want to stress on the need to educate our girls so as to become fully aware of their objectives in life and become good mothers and wives as well as effective members of the community. We provide female students with facilities to study computer and research in the library. Our mission is to provide education for all, for the sake of God and not for profit whatsoever." Al-Murtadha said.



Bader Center

become ideal examples for others to follow. "We have hundreds of students, whom we provide all basic needs including housing, food, education, and spiritual knowledge. We work on promoting the understanding, learning,

Concerning the problems facing the center, Al-Murtadha complains that the center lacks cooperation of the state in many ways. "We do not want the state to provide us funding or any other assistance. All we need from the government is to do its duties fully and prevent harassment or other negative action done by certain individuals or groups. Despite our limited income, I am confident that we can develop ourselves independently.



Al-Murtadha among his students

We have suffered from harassment in the past, and it is about time that we start focusing on our future plans and ambitions for the sake of our coming generations."

Concerning the center's role in promoting understanding with other centers, Al-Murtadha commented, "We have good relations with many institutions and centers. We encourage the idea of forming a complete network of religious centers to better understand each other and cooperate in various fields."

The activities of the center are not confined to its campus, but according to Al-Murtadha, the center "arranges frequent group trips to various regions of the country. We are aware of the need to give students time to relax and enjoy themselves away from the stress of studies and reading. Hence, we do all that we can within our limited budget to take them into enjoyable tours around Yemen."

In conclusion, Al-Murtadha reiterated the need to encourage such centers, which are established to become a refuge for students who do not have anywhere to go, or who had to leave their families. "Wouldn't it be great if we can prevent those students from being street children wandering in the streets with no ambitions or future? I

have committed myself to convert as many boys as I can from street children to educated men and future scholars. However, my capacity is limited, and I just wish that others will follow suit and work along our side for the sake of our country's future."

55th anniversary of India's Independence Day, marked

By ABDUH M. ASSABRI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Indian community celebrated Thursday the 55th anniversary of India's Independence Day at the Indian Embassy in Sana'a.

As a token of liberation and victory, the Indian flag was hoisted by the HE Shri M.S. Suman, the Ambassador of India to Yemen. It was followed by the Indian national anthem performed by students of the Indian School in Sana'a.

Then the Indian president A.P.J. AbdulKalam speech was read out by the Indian Ambassador to Yemen, Shri M.S. Suman. The speech highlighted vital aspects of intensive struggles, great sacrifices and dedicated efforts for the sake of independence and freedom.

After its independence, India has made significant achievements in agriculture, food production, energy, health care and in various fields of science and technology.

At the international level, India has

been progressing by leaps and bounds in the field of nuclear science and defense, space, mass media and communication, information technology and pharmaceuticals.

Different activities were presented during the celebration of the Independence Day such as, marches, dances, and songs as an expression of happiness and joy.



Indian Ambassador along with Indian community celebrated the India's Independence Day in Sana'a

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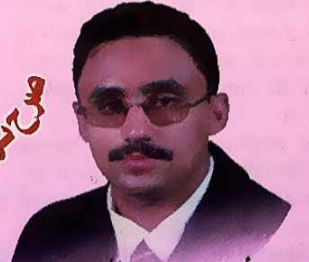
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وفق برامج متطورة .

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Media, globalization & women's rights



YASSER AL-MAYASI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

A 3-day symposium on Media and Globalization was concluded in Aden Tuesday 6 August. The symposium was organized by the Women's Forum for Researches and Training (WFRT) in cooperation with the Canadian Program for Development of Local Initiatives (CDPLI).

Three different standpoints have been elaborately discussed by the participants.

The symposium has discussed three premises, *Woman in the Globalization Era* Presented by Dr. Sameer Abdurahman Ashameri, *Women's program in the Yemeni Radio and TV* presented by Dr Hassan Hamid al-Haddad and Dr. Abdurahman Abdulwahab and *Role of Media in Developing Woman's Political Awareness*.

On the sidelines of the symposium, caricature exhibition was held centering on women's issues in the political arena.

The above three premises contained many studies on impact of media on determining orientations of public opinion and political decisions, especially with regard to serving Yemeni

woman.

Women in the Globalization Era
In his working paper, *Women in the Globalization Era* Dr. Sameer Abdurahman Ashameri, tackled the topics of globalization and family disunity, women as commodity for excitement and sexuality and change in woman's life.

The paper dealt with two different aspects of globalization; one positive and the other negative.

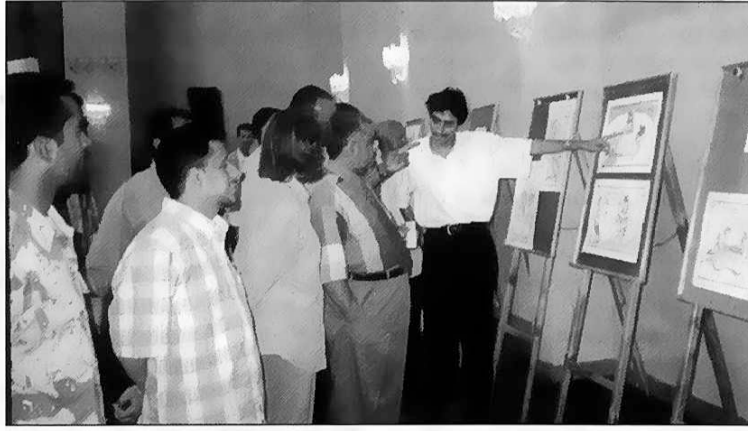
The positive aspects of globalization are represented by the huge capacity markets for goods and services allowing benefiting from them and providing investments necessary for development in the developing countries as well as availability of information for taking sound decisions in running the state and competition that lead to improve the use of resources.

The negative impact of globalization are numerous and can be summed up as follows:

The gradual weakening of family bonds and the rapid increase in divorce rates, particularly in cities. These cities are considered to be civilized spots particularly with regard to the bringing up the new generation.

A certain kind of ignorance and indifference towards children has resulted in the family disputes and lack of accord among spouses.

A negative impact of globalization is the extravagant outlay and panting for



wealth and luxury in this world. A certain kind of pseudointellect on the part of women has been clearly seen and negatively affected their life.

Different vital aspects on the part of the nations' life in the field of economy, politics, society, and culture have been thoroughly dealt with. These forms have their impact on submitting the world to one market controlled by the superpowers.

Political systems in the political era have broadened the horizons for superpowers' multinational companies and other financial establishments including the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank to implement their policies with a view of linking poor countries to the world economy to render them more subservient.

The cultural impact of globalization in this regard comes into existence. It has made the superpowers take the upper-hand to diffuse their ideas even if they are negative. Such diffusion has greatly affected our cultures, tastes, costumes and moral values.

The first premise working paper has mainly focused on globalization's dangers on women. Women have fallen a prey to the negative effect of globalization in its all aspects. This has been manifested in different ways including the widespread of the satellite channels, internet, mobiles, and panting for the latest trends; in the way people eat,

drink, or wear. This has been also accompanied by a lack of religious discipline and the deterioration of moral values.

The axis of the second working paper has focused on women's programs at both TV and radio.

Much attention been paid by participants to analyze women's programs on TV and radio with a view of shedding lights on women's issues, including her political participation, her constitutional and legislative rights and the necessity to equalize men and women in election and candidacy. Establishing unions, organizations, and syndicates have also been among the points of attention.

The third axis has focused mainly on the media's role to raise political awareness among the Yemeni women. According to what the working paper has said, the role of the media is an indispensable factor to raise the awareness of the woman's rights as an active member in the society.

I believe that the Yemeni society has started accepting new concepts and I believe that women are moving slowly along the process of integration. However, there are lots of problems that are impeding women from enjoying their rights. Though our religion has actually accorded on them a high place and assured them of their rights, they are deprived of many of them.

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Vacancies Advertisement Correction

Two typos occurred in the Ad of 'A leading construction and catering company in the Republic of Yemen' which appeared underneath in last week issue.

The two corrections are as follow:

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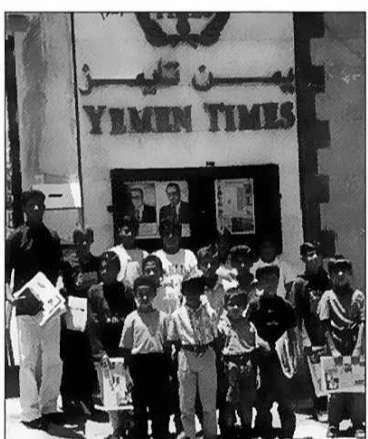
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Tulip students at Yemen Times

Tulip School students, in one of its summer activities, paid a visit to Yemen Times last week. The students toured the paper's different sections during which they got a general idea about the process of the work starting from getting news reports until the final stage of printing.

The students visited the editorial, translation, advertising, layout, and printing departments, where they were welcomed by the managers of the different departments, who found delight in answered the questions and inquires of the students. The students seemed to be mostly interested in the procedures

of issuing the paper and how advertisements are designed and published. The students were impressed by the computerized system used and by the efficiency and hard work of the staff that uses modern and sophisticated machines and equipment.



UNDP Human Development Report 2002 launched

BY :MUJAHED AL MUSSA'ABI
Y T STAFF

Under the Auspices of Mr Ahmed M. Sufan, minister of planning and development, the UNDP held on August 17, the launching ceremony of the global Human Development Report (HDR) 2002. The Ceremony was attended by Mr. James Rawley, the UNDP Resident Representative, Mr. Abdurahman Tarmoom, vice minister of planning and development as well as many diplomats and Ambassadors to Yemen.

In his speech, Mr. Rawley said that this the 13th HDR which was issued this year under the theme "Deepening democracy in fragmented world", to ensure the significance of the political

freedom as a goal for obtaining Human Development. He added that the report stressed on the importance of allowing ordinary people to be involved in designing the national and International policies. "The report aims at creating and mobilizing dialogue between decision-makers and ordinary people in order to getting the best way to deal with the urgent challenges to improve Human Development".

Mr. Tarmoom also delivered a speech on the contents of the HDR saying that Yemen remains in the low Human Development countries, ranking 141 among 173 countries classified in the Global HDR 2002 while it ranked 70 among 90 poor countries according to the human poverty index. He said that the HDR 2002 indicates that development policies have focused since early 1980s on the economy and markets, while political development remained the forgotten

dimension of HD.

However, the Report presents the progress achieved by democracy in the 20th century and the impact on developing countries and poor, emphasizing that democracy is an integral part of the HD process. Furthermore, the report shows that 47 out of 81 countries adopting democracy during the last quarter of the last century have become real democracies, while the rest returned to a totalitarian regime or to quasi-democratic system.

The GHD of 2002 reconfirms that calling for good governance does not imply the elimination of corruption only, but also empowering people with rights, means and capabilities to participate in taking decisions that effect their lives as well as holding their government accountable. It is worthwhile mentioning that ceremony was followed by a press conference which witnessed a wide debate on the content of the UNDP report.

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Continued from page 1

Military units deployed ...

Latest reports reveal that Abu Ali al-Harethi and Abu Asem al-Ahdal, the two main Yemeni fugitives wanted by the US, are hiding in these areas.

On the issue of modernizing its security operations, Yemen, in cooperation with the USA, is currently working on enhancing its coast guard forces. The USA had earlier expressed its readiness to support Yemen's technical and investigative experience in this regard so as to prevent the flowing of al-Qaeda elements into or out of the country.

Last week, Vice Admiral Timothy Keating, Commander of U.S. Naval Forces for the Central Command and

Commander of the U.S. Fifth Fleet visited Sanaa, where he discussed means to promote institutional structuring of coast guard forces. Sources reveal that the USA will be providing Yemen with around 25 gunboats as a first batch, while Germany, The Netherlands, and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia will sponsor the forming of this force.

On the other hand, the country's border guarding mission was re-entrusted with Member of Parliament Sheikh Amin al-Ukaimi, one of the leading Sheikhs of al-Jawf by President Ali Abdullah Saleh during their meeting last Tuesday. Sheikh Amin had been removed from his post following his

arrest in mid-June.

During his detention in Sana'a, al-Ukaimi denied further that al-Jawf tribes

or any other tribes in eastern governorates had links with al-Qaeda elements or the so-called al-Qaeda sympathizers. Al-Ukaimi had stated that the authorities demanded from him during his detention to surrender the two wanted suspects, Abu Ali and Abu Asem.



Timothy Keating

Sheikh Abdullah bin Hussein al-Ahmar:**“Their closure represented a retraction from the goals of the revolution”**

The Yemen Times has seized the opportunity of the 40th anniversary of the 26 September 1962 Revolution to hold a dialogue with Sheikh al-Ahmar the most prominent political figure in Yemen and the Arab/Islamic world. He has been very generous with us to give a thorough account on the great gains and achievements the revolution has brought to the Yemeni people and revealed many things about his relationship with the president, his stand versus closing down of the Scholastic Institutes and some pan-Arab issues.

Q: Forty years of the Revolution's march, what does it mean to you?

A: It means all that it means for the entire people whom it has delivered from darkness to bright light, taken them from prison to advancement and freedom from the situation it had been weighing down their yoke before the revolution. It was an unbearable situation having no similitude in the world regarding isolation, illiteracy, introversion, dictatorship and injustice. The revolution has breathed a new life into us.

Q: How do you assess the revolution's march?

A: The march of the revolution has been permeated with positive acts and negative acts, as is the case with other revolutions.

Q: Has the revolution realized all of its goals?

A: In some fields the revolution has achieved its aims and in some aspects it has exceeded those goals, but in some of them it has not achieved them

in full. During the last twenty years there have been many of vital projects and great accomplishments achieved.

Q: How do you describe your relationship with the president?

A: My personal relationship with the president is good, from the beginning up till now. It is undeniable that the president has played a great role in achieving the unity of the Yemen, in reconciliation between Yemen and its neighboring countries, in exploration and investment of oil wealth that is the artery of life and also in the building of big services projects.

Q: You have been a contemporary of various political conditions, how do you appraise the situation in this era of democracy and political pluralism?

A: The existing democratic situation is more a slogan than tangible reality and is in the process of recession. Some years before now, it was much better. Nevertheless, there is a reasonable or rather tolerable margin of democracy at the present time.

Q: What about the local elections experiment?

A: As an experiment, the local council elections had faced many mistakes and excesses, but as regards the principle the elections represented a good accomplishment.

Q: Scholastic Institutes, one of the revolution's gains, is their closure a backing down from accomplishments?

A: Those institutes were actually among the achievements of the revolution and the republican system. Their closure represented a retraction from the goals of the revolution and

also an act aborting its great march of science, education and openness. The closure of those institutes caused a shock to the entire people and it is assumed a big unforgivable mistake.

Q: What is your appraisal of the relations with the Gulf countries, especially with Saudi Arabia, particularly after signing of Jeddah treaty?

A: Yemen's relations with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia are very good and distinguished, especially after we had concluded the treaty. There is not now any political sensitivities or disputes.

Q: Do you expect Yemen's accession to the GCC in the near future?

A: We consider what has been approved by the GCC member states as a step to be followed by others, we hope.

Q: You are well-known of your nationalist and Islamic stands, what is your attitude towards the present tepid stances to the Palestinian cause, as the Yemeni arena has witnessed demonstrations and fundraising campaigns?

A: The tepidness or deterioration and surrender state of affairs is the responsibility of the Arab heads of state; kings and presidents who have accepted humiliation for themselves and disgrace for their peoples. The solution of the Palestinian cause lies in implementation of the United Nations relevant resolutions and granting the Palestinian people the right to self-determination.

Q: What is your stance regarding the U.S. threats to sisterly Iraq?

A: The American threat to Iraq is in



Shaikh al-Ahmar, Speaker of the Parliament, talking to YT reporter

fact a threat to the entire Arab and Islamic nation and the evil intentions of aggression expressed by America and president Bush are targeted against all the Arabs and Muslims and not confined to Iraq. The case of Iraq, if conquered, is like the application of the domino theory to the region. If it is defeated, such an occurrence, would precipitate the defeat of all Arab states and peoples. Therefore, it is not permissible for all Arab Emirs, or Kings or Presidents to keep silent towards such threats or surrender as they have done with regard to the issue of Palestine, They must tell Bush firmly that any aggression on Iraq is an aggression on all the Arabs and all the Arab heads of state, and that they would not adopt the stand of a specta-

tor. They have to tell him that and shake off humility and surrender overburdening them. The more surrender the Arab rulers would demonstrate, the more would Bush, the Americans and the Jews be transcendent in showing their aggression. King Abdullah of Jordan and president Hosni Mubarak of Egypt and other Arab kings and presidents would not accept this disgrace and surrender.

Q: What are the most difficult situations you have faced in your long record of struggle throughout the past forty years?

A: Well, there are many situations. In the beginning there were the military situations in the battles of defending the revolution, then there were

political situations following the revolution's stability and the end of wars. They are in fact more dangerous for they represent the greater Jihad, i.e., the political struggle. The political challenges we have been facing are many and more important than what we had faced during the wars on the Yemeni arena.

Q: What is your opinion about the Yemen Times newspaper?

A: I do not have an enough idea about it as I am not good in the English language but I learn from many people that it is a good newspaper. It represents a mirror reflecting the image of Yemen abroad and it is your duty and task as staff of the paper to convey the clear picture of Yemen.

UCHP facelifts Yemeni historical cities

A Dutch-based project is now working in Yemen to help renovate its historical cities. It is a five-year project funded by the Government of the Netherlands. A Yemen Times reporter, Mr. Mujahed Al Mussa'abi has conducted an interview with Mr. Dick Steege (M. Sc), the Dutch team leader, Coordination Unit of the Urban Cultural Heritage Program filing this report:

Q: What are the objectives of the UCHP?

A: It is a program which was established as a collaboration between the government of Yemen and the Netherlands. The objectives of the program is to assist the government of Yemen in streamlining the urban cultural heritage sector. To this end, a program was devised between the government of Yemen and the Netherlands. In that program there were a number of main elements that should be dealt with. First is to assist the government of Yemen in developing a policy for urban cultural heritage; what to do with the historical cities of Yemen? The second element is we should assist Yemen in developing a planning framework which actually would give the tools to implement the policy which will offer tools for protecting the historical cities and at the same time also would be giving a space for development. Urban cultural heritage does not mean that the historical cities should remain as they are, the cities should develop because undeveloped cities are a dead cities. We should have a living cities and that means development should take place within limitations and with respect of the historical environment. And that's actually in the planning frame work which is required to give the authority to Yemen, possibility to monitor the development in the historical cities. The third element is relating to the institutional development. We see in the sector a number of authorities and organizations that are



Dick Steege, M.sc

working from the government side and we find that the capacities within these organizations is insufficient to be able to monitor the cities well so, in the agreement with the government it was made clear that first we should look at who is doing what in the sector as well as assisting these organizations in building their capacity, meaning that we have to analyze how they are working at the moment and what kind of reform is required taking into consideration the decent progress that is on going in the country. The fourth element is actually relates to awareness and community development. This the area where we would like the Yemen Times to cooperate with us because of the important role of the media to see in

what way we can influence the public opinion to make them aware of what actually is the acid of the cultural heritage and what are the acids of the historical cities. We should not say only they are available, but also how can they be made of use for future development of the country; how can they contribute to the economic development of the country and alleviation of poverty. Part of this awareness is also the establishment of an information and documentation center because at the moment much information has been already gathered for UCHP but it gathered here and there and on body knows exactly how many historical cities in Yemen. We are assisting the ministry of culture in establishing a National register for historical cities which would help in designing a criteria that should be made by a city to be nominated in the list of the historical cities in Yemen. Therefore we can determine how many cities we are talking about and how many monuments in this country.

Q: What have you achieved so far and how do assess that?

A: Well, in fact the process started only in January of this year because till the beginning of Sep. 2001, we were actually in the process of establishing the program. Of course we have started

many activities in Zabid for example. Zabid is one of the targeted historical cities, also in the request of the ministry of culture which it has received information from UNESCO that Zabid is in the list of historical cities in danger so we needed to do some actions in the ground. We started with the ministry of public works and urban development and ministry of culture to set up an urban plan for the city of Zabid. We also started providing funds for the local authorities there to start building a brick. This was a loan which is to be repaid so what we did is that we established an emergency funding which is specially for the private houses owners to do repairs in their houses. We started in Zabid as a test, repairing some things like 50 houses and if the idea works well, we will ask donors for more funds for the idea to duplicated in some where else. What we have done in Zabid is that, we set up what can we call it An Urban Redevelopment Preservation Committee which actually is a committee assisting the local director which will guide the developments in Zabid. As we know the historical cities has a specific problems which do not related to the rest of the city so this is why we wanted a small body like the above mentioned committee as to be in charge of the historical cities only and decisions will be made through this committee.

Q: What are the difficulties that hinder your progress?

A: There is no much problems, but the main problem is that the people are not aware of their cultural heritage and did not recognize the danger that surrounds the historical cities and how could they do the improvements in the right way.

Q: The program is planning a two-month awareness program, could you tell us more about it?

A: Well, the campaign will start on September 1st running till the end of Oct., and the opening ceremony well



be in the cultural center in Sana'a. It is mainly related to public awareness activities. The objective of the campaign is to educate people, people do not regard the built heritage of Yemen a part of cultural heritage. We also want to make the people aware of the beauty and the value of their cultural heritage and that it can be used as an economic acid. For this purpose we have a national campaign and a local campaign, national campaign starts here in Sana'a and during it there will be paintings, activities for children, photo exhibitions related to Urban Cultural Heritage trying to make the people more involved in what UCHP means for them. The local campaign will be launched in Zabid in the second half of September.

Q: What extend of cooperation do you expect from the media and authorities in this campaign?

A: From news papers, like the Yemen Times, we expect that they well assist us in reading this message to the people, means that we need articles that are related to the urban cultural heritage, what it is value, how can it be used, and what kind of activities are taking place etc). The same is required

from the other media means like TV and radio, we hope that by the collaboration between the different media means we will have a certain type of coverage that the message really will across. We expect also from the authorities to see that how they can contribute especially in the follow up of the campaign. People will need a concrete answers to their inquires on how to improve their historical houses, they need the government's support and assistant by all means

Q: Any further remarks you would like to make?

A: I'm happy with collaboration that we have had till now, I see from every side that people are having an interest, trying to do their best and I hope that will continue in this way. We still have a long way to go because the urban cultural heritage is not high in the agenda of the government. The economic development is the highest priority of the government, we agree on that and try to integrate cultural heritage into it. Together with media we can fulfill this task of integrating cultural heritage into the economic development and this is of the most important goals to be achieved.

The urban cultural heritage is not high in the agenda of the Yemni government

historical cities has a specific problems which do not related to the rest of the city

People will need a concrete answers to their inquires on how to improve their historical houses

Israeli troops launch security crackdown in Hebron

HEBRON, West Bank, Aug 17 (Reuters) - Israeli soldiers combed the streets of Hebron on Saturday, rounding up more than 150 Palestinians and throwing stun grenades into a market to disperse crowds breaking a curfew, witnesses said.

Palestinian witnesses said soldiers in the centre of the flashpoint West Bank city wounded several people by throwing stun grenades into crowds of shoppers at an open-air market to make them go home.

Doctors at Hebron's Al-Ahli Hospital said at least five Palestinians were treated for shrapnel injuries and burns caused by the exploding casings of the grenades.

An Israeli military source said troops detained Palestinians breaking a curfew and released them after identity checks. He did not give a precise number.

Israeli troops reoccupied seven of eight Palestinian-ruled cities in the West Bank, imposing curfews, in June after a spate of suicide attacks in Israel.

Israeli forces often lift the curfews during daytime hours, depending on an assessment of security situation or whether it is conducting operations in the area at the time.

In central Gaza's al-Birej refugee camp, some 600 Palestinians marched through the streets carrying the bodies of Ashraf Awada, 30, and Alla Abu Al-Said, 27, militants from the al-Aqsa Martyrs Brigades.

Palestinians say the two men were working when they were shot by the Israeli army on Thursday. The army said they had been trying to infiltrate into Israel.



A Palestinian gestures at Israeli soldiers after they arrested his son in the West Bank city of Hebron August 17, 2002. REUTERS

a policy condemned by rights groups of demolishing the houses of relatives of militants as a way of deterring further strikes.

Troops on Friday destroyed the family homes of two Palestinian militants held responsible for the killings of at least 17 Israelis during the nearly two-year-old Palestinian uprising against Israeli occupation in the West Bank and Gaza.

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon has sought new ways to discourage Palestinian suicide bombings and ambush shootings, including house demolitions and an attempt to deport several family members of militants from the West Bank to Gaza.

The army says it has destroyed at least 23 homes since last month to send a message to "suicide terrorists and those participating that terror activity has a price and everybody involved in one way or another will pay".

But human rights organisations and Palestinians condemn the policy as collective punishment violating international law.

"This is a dangerous policy, this will end in more violence," Nabil Abu Rdainah, senior aide to Palestinian President Yasser Arafat said.

At least 1,503 Palestinians and 588 Israelis have been killed since the uprising began in September 2000, after peace talks focused on creating a Palestinian state stalled.

Houses razed

Frustrated by a failure to stop militants entering Israel, the Israeli government has in recent weeks renewed

"Death to Israel" and "When will there be revenge for the al-Aqsa martyrs?" shouted the crowd as some 20 gunmen armed with Kalashnikovs fired into the air.

Iran capable of providing 10 million cellphones by 2005

TEHRAN, Aug. 17 (Xinhua) — Iran's Post, Telegraph and Telephone (PTT) Minister Ahmad Motamedi Saturday said his country is capable of providing applicants with 10 million mobile phones by the end of 2005.

The official IRNA news agency quoted Motamedi as saying his ministry is currently 315 percent ahead of the schedule in handing over mobile phone sets to applicants.

The minister said Iran's third five-year plan (2000-2005) has stipulated to provide 3 million cellphones to the public, but the PTT is now capable of providing them with 10 million new connections.

By March 2003, 2 million fixed phones would be ceded to the public, and the total figure of phones in Iran would rise to 20 million in the third five-year plan, the minister said.

British and U.S. planes strike Iraqi targets

LONDON, Aug 15 (Reuters) - Britain confirmed on Thursday that U.S. and British fighter aircraft had struck targets in southern Iraq earlier this week but said it was not aware of any casualties.

"Coalition aircraft were in operation in the southern no-fly zones over Iraq late on Tuesday. Self-defence action was taken against a mobile tracking radar unit which had locked onto our aircraft," a spokesman for the Ministry of Defence said.

Iraqi Air Force Command said earlier on Thursday that the planes had bombed civilian and service targets shortly before midnight on Wednesday in the provinces of Missan and al-Wassit, wounding four civilians. It also said its air defences had fired at the attacking aircraft.

But the British spokesman said he knew of no casualties: "We are not aware of any casualties and we take absolute care in all our operations to limit any casualties."

The raid was the first in 10 days and the 26th strike of the year by U.S. and British attack jets in northern and southern "no-fly zones" of Iraq, established after the 1991 Gulf War to protect the Kurds of the north and the Shi'ite Muslims in the south from attack by Baghdad forces.

The tit-for-tat exchanges have increased in recent months amid

mounting threats from U.S. President George W. Bush to oust Iraqi President Saddam Hussein. Washington accuses Baghdad of developing chemical, biological and nuclear weapons.

Iraq denies the charge and Saddam has said any U.S. invasion on his country is doomed to fail.

Lebanese man killed in clash between clans, army

AS-SAFIRA, Lebanon, Aug 17 (Reuters) - A man was killed and at least three people wounded on Saturday in clashes between two rival clans and the Lebanese army in a remote area of northern Lebanon, witnesses said. They said Khaled Hassoun, 20 years old, was shot dead during a gunfight between members of the Hassoun and Harmoush families in the Douniyeh area, after the army intervened to try to stop the fight.

The clashes, which began as a personal quarrel, had escalated following a gunfight on Friday night during which one man was injured, the witnesses said.

It was not clear which side fired the fatal shot or what the quarrel was

initially about. The Lebanese army has kept a close watch on Douniyeh since an attempted uprising by Islamic militants in 2000. The army crushed that uprising after 40 people were killed.

Egypt slams hostile Israeli attitude toward Iraq

CAIRO, Aug. 16 (Xinhua) — Egypt on Friday slammed hostile Israeli attitude toward Iraq, saying such an attitude reflects that Israel has no desire to peacefully co-exist with others in the Mideast region.

"Such an Israeli policy do not reflect any Israeli desire to live in peace and security based on mutual respect in the Mideast region," Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed Maher told reporters.

While commenting on Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres' remarks on Israel's support for an early US attack on Iraq, Maher said the Israeli move is part of its policies to undermine Arab regimes.

"Such an Israeli attitude would escalate the current tensions in the region and destroy all Arab efforts to bring about peace," Maher stressed, adding "any Israeli interference would seriously complicate the Mideast situation."

The Egyptian minister denounced that the provocative Israeli policy violates the international law.

During an interview with CNN broadcast earlier in the day, Peres said although any attack on Iraq would be

dangerous, postponing it would be more dangerous.

Israeli press reported on Friday that Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon has sent messages to the US administration in recent days, appealing to the United States not to defer its military operations on Iraq.

The United States has accused Iraq of developing weapons of mass destruction to pose a threat to security of its neighboring countries, which was denied by Iraq.

US President George W. Bush has recently insisted that he will use all tools at his disposal to topple Iraqi President Saddam Hussein.

Last Saturday, Egypt reaffirmed its rejection of any possible attack against Iraq.

"Arab position on the matter is clear, and Egypt has taken the lead in terms of rejecting any such move," Maher said.

Arab countries and some European allies of the United States have also warned of severe consequences in the Mideast region and the world at large if the United States attacks Iraq.

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Bahrain's king in Iran on landmark visit

TEHRAN, Aug 17 (Reuters) - Bahrain's King Hamad bin Isa al-Khalifa arrived in Iran on Saturday on a first visit by a Bahraini leader to the Islamic republic in more than two decades, state media reported.

Iranian President Mohammad Khatami met King Hamad at Saadabad palace in the capital Tehran. Bahrain state media said talks would focus on "developing the friendly relations between the Muslim neighbours and international and world developments".

For years, Bahrain accused Shi'ite Iran of fomenting unrest among the Gulf state's majority Muslim Shi'ite community, who sought reforms from the Sunni-led government between 1994 and 1998. In 1996, Manama accused Iran of plotting to overthrow its government, a charge denied by Tehran.

But relations between Manama and Tehran have improved since reformist Khatami came to power in Iran in 1997.

Bahraini newspapers have hailed this visit to Iran as a "historic turning point in relations".

King Hamad, who succeeded his father in 1999, has pushed political and economic reforms to try to end decades of sectarian tension in the relatively liberal island state which hosts the U.S. navy's Fifth Fleet.

Finance Minister Abdullah Saif, who



Iranian President Mohammad Khatami welcomes Bahrain's King Hamad bin Isa al-Khalifa, who arrived on a landmark visit to the Islamic Republic on August 17, 2002. REUTERS

is accompanying the king along with the foreign and commerce ministers, said the two-day visit to Iran would help speed up negotiations on reactivat-

ing commercial sea links, avoiding dual taxation and encouraging investments between the two countries.

In March, Bahrain said it planned to

reopen the sea link with Iran after a six-year closure to promote Bahrain's status as the financial and banking hub of the Gulf region.

Nigerian gunmen kill senior ruling party official

LAGOS, Aug 17 (Reuters) - Gunmen in Nigeria opened fire on a car carrying a senior official of President Olusegun Obasanjo's ruling party, killing him and a police escort instantly, party officials said on Saturday.

The killing of Ahman Ahmed Pategi, chairman of the Peoples Democratic Party in west-central Kwara state on Friday is the latest incident in a wave of political violence gripping Nigeria in the run-up to its first elections since the end of military rule.

The officials said Pategi, 40, was on his way to the capital Abuja from Kwara when his car was ambushed by the gunmen on a highway in the neighbouring state of Kogi.

Pategi's driver and a passenger in the car escaped with minor injuries, they said.

Nigeria's faltering transition to

democracy after 15 years of military dictatorship in Africa's most populous country has been plunged into confusion and uncertainty in recent months.

Obasanjo's ruling PDP has been torn by internal fighting, with attempts to stage party congresses in many of the country's 36 states ending in violence.

Local elections scheduled for August 10 have been postponed indefinitely due to incomplete preparations. The delay now puts presidential and national polls early next year in doubt.

Members of parliament passed a motion this week asking Obasanjo to resign in two weeks or face impeachment for alleged misuse.

The motion cited the inability of Obasanjo's government to ensure security and end a spiral of ethnic and religious clashes in which over

10,000 have died since the end of military rule in 1999.

Nigerian analysts fear the move could ignite ethnic warfare, with Obasanjo's southwestern Yoruba people spearheading a violent campaign to keep the presidency they won in 1999 for the first time since Nigeria's independence from Britain in 1960.

Sudan court orders release of Islamist Turabi

KHARTOUM, Aug 17 (Reuters) - A Sudanese court ordered on Saturday the release of Islamist leader Hassan al-Turabi, who has been detained for 19 months, but it was unclear if the government would let him go, one of his lawyers said.

Ghazi Suleiman, one of several lawyers representing the 71-year-old ideologue, told Reuters: "They have issued an order releasing him because the maximum time allowed to detain him expired two months ago."

"But it's not for sure if he will really be released. He may be released for five minutes and then rearrested, or rearrested tomorrow," he said.

Turabi, a former ally of Sudanese President Omar Hassan al-Bashir, was arrested in February 2001 after holding talks with the southern Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), which has been fighting against the Khartoum government since 1983.

In recent months he has been held

under house arrest.

In July, Bashir's government reached an outline deal with the SPLA aimed at ending the 19-year-old war in which rebels from the mainly animist and Christian south have been fighting for more autonomy from the mainly Muslim, Arabised north.

Speaking by telephone from the house where he is being detained, Turabi told Reuters shortly after the announcement: "I hear that I have been released by the court, but I wait to see."

Associates from Turabi's Popular National Congress party said it was not clear if the government would try to keep Turabi under lock-and-key via another detention order. In October last year, Bashir ordered the release of other PNC members, but Turabi was kept under house arrest. Newspapers at the time said Turabi was being detained for national security reasons.

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Rwanda tribunal drops charges against army suspect

ARUSHA, Tanzania, Aug 15 (Reuters) - Prosecutors at a U.N. tribunal trying suspects in Rwanda's genocide dropped charges against a former army officer due to insufficient evidence, an independent news agency said on Thursday.

Observer groups criticised the arrest of Leonidas Rusatira in Belgium in May, saying he had in fact tried to protect ethnic Tutsis hunted by militiamen and had publicly called for an end to the killings by his army.

An estimated 800,000 people were killed in the 1994 genocide, in which extremists from the ethnic Hutu majority slaughtered Tutsis and politically moderate Hutus.

"The evidence obtained in the course of further investigation of the accused has been found to be insufficient at this time to proceed to trial," the prosecution said in its motion, quoted by Tanzania's Hirondelle News Agency.

Prosecutors had alleged that Rusatira had participated in the killing of about 2,000 Tutsi refugees at a technology institute in the capital after U.N. peacekeeping forces that had been guarding the complex were evacuated from Rwanda.

A judge at the tribunal, which is based in Arusha in Tanzania, ordered the immediate withdrawal on

Wednesday of an arrest warrant for Rusatira, a former general who has been in custody in Belgium since he was apprehended.

The judge said prosecutors may seek to bring similar charge against Rusatira in the future if fresh evidence is gathered.

At the time of his arrest, the Brussels-based International Crisis Group think-tank said he was among the first signatories of a letter by members of the Rwandan army who denounced the massacres.

Colonel Luc Marchal, commander of the Kigali sector of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Rwanda in 1994, also criticised Rusatira's arrest.

The International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) has been accused of bureaucratic inefficiency that has slowed down the pace of justice.

With an annual budget of close to \$100 million and about 800 staff, it has convicted only eight suspects and acquitted one since it was set up in 1995. The Security Council voted on Wednesday to add judges to the tribunal to speed up trials.

Separately, the tribunal said on Thursday a genocide suspect arrested in Angola this week had been transferred to the ICTR. It said Augustin Bizimungu, head of Rwanda's army during the genocide, was one of the top suspects arrested by the tribunal.

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Taiwan VP returns home from Indonesia visit

TAIPEI, Aug 17 (Reuters) - Taiwanese Vice President Annette Lu returned home on Saturday after ruffling arch-rival China's feathers with a visit to Indonesia, which recognises Beijing but not Taipei.

"This overseas visit was part of a highly difficult, highly secretive diplomatic battle," Lu told reporters on arrival, referring to her four-day trip to the populous Southeast Asian nation.

China insists Taiwan is not entitled to diplomatic recognition by any country and complains bitterly over trips by Taiwanese officials to countries with which Beijing has diplomatic relations.

This time, its foreign ministry recalled that China opposed any official contact between Taiwan and such countries and said that it had raised the matter with Indonesia.

Lu, reviled by China for her pro-independence views, said her trip was full of "terrifying waves" and described it as "a tiny first step" to break the island out of diplomatic isolation.

"Indonesia is our new heaven for future investment," she added.

Indonesia is eager to attract investment from Taiwan, which is recognised by 27 nations even though China insists it is a renegade province.

Last month, Taiwanese President Chen Shui-bian urged the island's business community to diversify investments away from China to Southeast Asia.

Thousands of Indonesians work in



Taiwan's vice-president Annette Lu talks to reporters before leaving a hotel in Jakarta August 17, 2002. REUTERS

Taiwan, but the island put a freeze on new contracts from August because of a high level of runaways — an issue that was likely to have been raised at meeting between Lu and Indonesia's labour minister in Jakarta.

Lu did not take questions on her return to Taiwan and shook hands with government officials who greeted her at the airport.

She waved at dozens of well-wishers in the arrival lounge.

Meeting with megawati denied

In Jakarta earlier in the day, Lu was vague on whether she had met Indonesian President Megawati Sukarnoputri, but praised the world's most populous Muslim nation.

Indonesia's Foreign Minister Hassan Wirajuda denied Taiwan media reports that Lu had met Megawati and discussed a host of issues during her controversial trip.

"We did not arrange any meeting between the president and the Taiwan vice president in any form," Wirajuda told reporters after attending the annual independence day celebrations.

"There was nothing, nothing," he added.

China has sought to push Taiwan into isolation in a diplomatic tug-of-war since their split at the end of a civil war in 1949. Beijing has threatened to attack the democratic island of 23 million people if it declares independence.

President Chen angered China this month by saying holding a referendum on formal independence was a "basic human right" and that there was "one country on each side" of the Taiwan Strait.

Taiwan media described Lu's trip as a modest diplomatic victory. She had flown to the Indonesian resort island of Bali on Wednesday after a stopover in Jakarta.

There was confusion and contradictory statements over whether Lu had originally hoped to spend some time in Jakarta but had been turned away due to Chinese pressure.

But Lu managed a two-day stopover in Jakarta on her way home, and Indonesian sources said she met Labour Minister Jacob Nuwa Wea and Environment Minister Nabel Makarim.

Indonesia has gone out of its way to say her trip had no official sanction and that it was a private visit.

Its government stressed that it has a one-China policy and considers Taiwan part of the People's Republic of China.

Afghan defence minister denies rift with Karzai

KABUL, Aug 17 (Reuters) - Afghan Defence Minister Mohammad Qasim Fahim rejected on Saturday speculation of a rift with President Hamid Karzai that the United States fears could undermine the fledgling post-Taliban administration.

Afghanistan, General Tommy Franks, said on Thursday his troops could be in Afghanistan for years.

"Concerning the remarks of General Franks, I comment that still al Qaeda and their bases exist in Afghanistan...and especially around



Afghan Defence Minister Mohammad Qasim Fahim pauses to look up at a noisy jet passing overhead during a press conference in Kabul August 17, 2002. REUTERS

"I can explicitly say...that this issue is totally far from reality," the powerful minister, a senior figure in the Northern Alliance which ousted Afghanistan's former Taliban rulers, told a news briefing.

"I can assure (you) that in the cabinet and in particular between me and Karzai there is no difference and we have close and sincere working relations," he said.

In a sign of how worried the United States was about foreign media reports of a split, its special envoy for Afghanistan, Zalmay Khalilzad, met the two men this week.

"If (relations) were bad in the past, now they have improved," Khalilzad said afterwards.

Fahim is believed to have been furious that Karzai asked U.S. special forces to guard him instead of the Northern Alliance, but the defence minister told the briefing he supported the move.

"They (Karzai's bodyguards) have come just for...improvement of security arrangement...and this is a temporary move," he said.

The two men are from different ethnic groups — Fahim is Tajik and Karzai is Pashtun — which it was feared could deepen suspicion and mistrust between the tribes in Afghanistan.

Fahim told reporters the rumours of the rift with Karzai had been circulated by al Qaeda and Taliban sources as well as "specific enemies", an apparent reference to neighbouring Pakistan which once backed the Taliban.

Support for u.s. troops

Fahim told the news briefing he supported the presence of U.S. troops in the war-ravaged country until al Qaeda fighters and other militant threats were "annihilated altogether".

The U.S. commander for

the southern borders of Afghanistan.

"Any moment there is the possibility of destabilisation of the situation and their attacks," he added.

Thousands of U.S. troops are hunting for remnants of the ousted Taliban and the al Qaeda network they sheltered. Al Qaeda, led by Saudi-born dissident Osama bin Laden, is blamed for the September 11 air attacks on New York and Washington.

"Whenever we come to the conclusion jointly with the U.S. military that the danger of terrorism is annihilated altogether, I am certain that there will be no need felt for the presence of American soldiers," Fahim said.

"The American forces spontaneously will deliver their bases to the national Afghan army after it manages to stand on its feet...and they themselves will go back to their country."

Fahim told Reuters after the briefing that he believed bin Laden and Mullah Omar, leader of the ousted Taliban, were alive. He did not say whether he knew where they were or on what evidence he based his assessment that they were still alive.

He branded renegade warlord Padshah Khan Zadran, until recently an ally of U.S. forces in their hunt for al Qaeda, a "criminal and fugitive...greedy for power".

Zadran, who is in the southeastern area of Khost, was sacked as governor of the Paktia province earlier this year. He later showered the provincial capital of Gardez with missiles that killed an estimated 30 civilians.

Fahim also used the rare media outing to call on the international community to come forward with promised cash to help rebuild a country ravaged by over 20 years of war.

"I hope that...the international community...help us in the reconstruction process as they did during the war against terrorism."

Sri Lanka PM urges patience on road to peace

TRINCOMALEE, Sri Lanka, Aug 17 (Reuters) - Sri Lanka's prime minister appealed for patience on Saturday in his first public statement since the government and Tamil Tiger rebels agreed a timeframe for the start of peace talks.

Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe said it would take time to end the 19-year conflict, which has cost more than 64,000 lives and stifled economic development in the Indian Ocean island.

"Going with a fixed plan is like trying to remove a landmine in one go," Wickremesinghe told his ruling United National Party's convention in the northeastern port city of Trincomalee, speaking in Sinhala.

"Achieving success in the peace talks is like removing a landmine. It will have to be done step by step, with patience," he said, adding that he was prepared to discuss the idea of an interim adminis-

tration in the Tamil-majority north east.

The government and Tigers have been sticking to a Norwegian-brokered truce agreement for the past six months.

Norway announced on Wednesday that the talks, initially expected as early as May, would begin in Thailand between September 12 and 17.

Trincomalee was once a flashpoint in what is one of Asia's longest-running conflicts and is the place the Tigers had hoped to call the capital of their separate state.

On Saturday, it was also host to an industrial exhibition leaders hope will fuel investment in the war-battered region.

No easy ride

Wickremesinghe said the talks would be held in bursts of two to three days at a time, and warned they were only the

beginning of what would be a long, difficult process. "In initial talks, we don't expect any problems," he said.

"It's after that there will be problems, because it's then we will discuss the basic issues," he added.

"Our aim is, even when there are problems, not to break off talks, but to continue them," he said, wearing his trademark white collarless shirt.

He said the government's aim of preventing the division of the country was unchanged, but he added that while trying to reach a settlement with the Tigers they would discuss provisions for an interim administration in the Tamil-majority north and east.

But despite warning of a difficult road ahead, Wickremesinghe said the country was already a different place from when he took power last December on a mandate to bring peace and prosperity to the island.

"When I came to Trincomalee to campaign last November, I was wearing a bullet-proof vest. Today I am here without it," he said, adding that people were now free to travel throughout the country without restrictions.

The prime minister is grappling with the added challenge of an awkward political arrangement, in which the president, his political rival, has control over the military and sweeping power to sack the government.

But Wickremesinghe said despite challenges ahead, because of the desire for peace among people throughout the country, he was confident this peace process would last where four previous bids had failed.

"The people want peace. They don't want the division of this country," he said.

"No one can go against the will of the people."

Indian PM's ratings drop, majority at risk - poll

NEW DELHI, Aug 17 (Reuters) - The popularity of Indian Prime Minister Atal Behari Vajpayee has dropped and his nearly three-year-old coalition would lose its majority in parliament if an election were held now, according to an opinion poll published on Saturday.

National elections are not due until 2004 and most politicians and analysts do not think a poll is imminent. But in recent months Vajpayee's coalition government has been mauled by dissent and its image has suffered after the country's worst religious riots in a decade earlier this year.

The poll, in the India Today weekly news magazine, showed support for Vajpayee at 33 percent, down from 38

percent in a similar survey in January. His Bharatiya Janata Party-led coalition would win 245 to 255 parliamentary seats in a snap election, less than half the 545 seats in the lower house, according to the poll.

The BJP-led coalition, which took power in October 1999, currently has 304 lawmakers.

"The backdrop is a growing mood of pessimism," India Today said commenting on the national survey of 17,776 voters carried out in July and August.

The poll found the main opposition Congress party, led by Italian-born Sonia Gandhi, would substantially improve its strength in parliament to 190 to 200 seats in an election, ahead of its

current 140 seats but still fall far short of a majority.

Regional and communist parties would account for the rest of the assembly in an election, India Today said.

The ratings for Gandhi, the widow of the late former prime minister Rajiv Gandhi, inched up to 20 percent from 19 percent in January.

"Coupled with the falling approval ratings of Vajpayee, the inability of opposition leader Sonia Gandhi to climb up the popularity ladder and an indecisive outcome in the event of a snap poll, the nation seems confused and at odds with itself," the magazine said. There was far greater consensus on India's troubled relations with Pakistan, the poll

found.

India has been locked in a military stand-off with Pakistan since December when the Indian parliament was attacked by what New Delhi said were guerrillas from Pakistan-based groups operating in the disputed Kashmir region. Two thirds of those polled said that Pakistan was an enemy, and 38 percent supported an attack on guerrilla camps which India says exist on the Pakistani side of Kashmir.

Islamabad denies direct involvement in the nearly 13-year revolt in Indian Kashmir but seeks implementation of U.N. resolutions for a plebiscite to decide whether the territory should be part of India or Pakistan.

MOHAMMED ALI OTHMAN

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مدينة الاصبحي، شارع الخميسين، ت: ٦٧٣٨٩٩، تليفاكس: ٦٧٤٣٧٥

Thousands evacuated in Germany amid record flood

DRESDEN, Germany, Aug 17 (Reuters) - German authorities scrambled on Saturday to evacuate thousands of people from cities on the river Elbe as record floods peaked in the eastern architectural jewel of Dresden.

Elsewhere in flood-ravaged central Europe, where at least 91 people have died in a week in Germany, Russia, Austria and the Czech Republic, Budapest became the next capital city under threat with Hungarian officials saying flood levels were due to peak there on Sunday or Monday.

In Dresden, Mayor Ingolf Rossberg said the city was facing its greatest test since U.S. and British planes destroyed it in World War Two. "This is our most difficult time since February 1945," he said. "But there is now a silver lining in the cloud. We have a falling water level."

As a wave of floodwater headed down the Elbe, thousands were evacuated from heavily industrial Bitterfeld in what was once Communist East Germany amid fears of an environmental disaster if water from a burst dam reached nearby chemical plants. Emergency workers toiled to build temporary defences with sandbags.

About 8,000 people around the German town of Torgau had to abandon their homes and thousands more were set to be evacuated around the central city of Magdeburg, officials said. Nearly 12,000 have already been evacuated in Dresden.

"The catastrophe is not over, even if the highpoint has passed," said Saxony's Interior Minister Horst Rasch.

German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder is to attend a summit with leaders from Austria, the Czech Republic, and Slovakia in Berlin on Sunday. German officials said European Commission President Romano Prodi would also attend.

Britain's Financial Times said on Saturday Prodi would promise Germany more than one billion euros (dollars) in financial assistance, although officials in Brussels and Berlin said it was too early to speculate.

French President Jacques Chirac said in a letter to Schroeder: "I want to reit-



A major wave of flooding on the Danube will reach the Hungarian capital this weekend, with the river expected to rise to new record levels of around 8.75 metres. The flooding is expected to pose no serious threat to the city as its defences are built for 10 metres. REUTERS

erate my country's readiness to do all it can to help save lives and come to the rescue of the local populations.

"Beyond this immediate help, Germany knows it can count on France's support within European institutions in assessing aid measures for the regions hit by this tragedy."

Danube Blues

The Danube river, swollen by torrential rains, rose rapidly in Budapest, but Hungarian officials predicted the city's 10-metre defences would keep out flooding. They expressed cautious optimism even though Danube water levels have broken all-time records on the upper section of Europe's largest inland shipping route.

After a steady rise all week on the Elbe in Germany, floods in Dresden reached their peak although volunteers continued to pile up sandbags in the baroque city. Historic buildings in the centre were inundated.

The inner city, rebuilt since 1945, includes landmarks like the Zwinger Palace, the Semevacate. "If he had left his house, this man would still be alive," said police chief Joachim Klar.

The Elbe rose from a normal summer level in Dresden of about two metres (6 ft 6.74 in) to 9.4 metres at its height on Saturday, well above the 8.77 metre record of 1845. The mayor estimated the damage in the hundreds of millions of euros (dollars) for Dresden alone.

A total of 5,000 officials have been fighting the floods in the city. "We're p mping out slowly but the Elbe keeps giving back," one firefighter near the Semper said.

The mayor said 25,000 citizens had also helped unload sandbags.

Thousands of other residents strolled and biked along the waterfront to see the record water levels, a few even donned bathing suits. One Russian woman brought a canoe hoping to rescue her favourite rabbit from a flooded shed.

In the Czech Republic, record water levels retreated further on Saturday, but thousands of residents in flood stricken areas remained unable to return home following the country's largest post-war evacuation.

In the Slovak capital of Bratislava, the Danube water level receded on Saturday from its 50-year record peak on Friday.

CANADIAN nexen VACANCY Yemeni Nationals Translator

Canadian Nexen Petroleum Yemen requires a Translator to work in its Sana'a office. The focus of this position is to assist the translation section with written translation services, from Arabic to English and vice versa, including oral interpretations. Working hours are 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM Saturday to Wednesday and 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM on Thursday.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Assist with written translations from Arabic to English all Governmental laws, which would include in part, labor laws, income tax laws, and environmental laws.
- Assist with written translations from Arabic to English and vice versa, official contracts and agreements.
- Assist with written translations from Arabic to English and vice versa, employment memorandums, daily correspondence, security reports, and other internal communications.
- Assist with written translations from Arabic to English, newspaper and magazine articles, and economic reports, relevant to the Company, and to the oil industry in general.
- Assist with written translations from Arabic to English and vice versa, employee C.V.'s, licenses, certificates, permits, and other official documents.
- Assist with written translations from English to Arabic, bulletins on Nexen's programs.
- Provide the Company's personnel with concise oral translations as requested.
- Type from Arabic to English and vice versa, translated documents, distributing and filing same accordingly.
- Perform any other similar or related duties as assigned by the Executive Director or Senior Translator.

Requirements

- Bachelor's degree in English or equivalent.
- 1 year experience in Arabic/English translations.
- Excellent knowledge of English.
- Good knowledge of word processing.

If you have the above requirements, please send your CV to the following address not later than **August 31, 2002**.

Canadian Nexen Petroleum Yemen
Human Resources Department
P. O. Box 15137
Sana'a, Republic of Yemen
Fax No. 269899
Attention: Human Resources Manager, Sana'a

Note:

- Please provide a direct contact number where you can be reached.
- Please do not call us. We will phone you if you are selected for the test and interview.
- Please mention in your application the job that you are applying for.

CANADIAN nexen VACANCY Yemeni Nationals

Water Well Operator I

Canadian Nexen Petroleum Yemen requires a Water Well Operator I to work in its Masila Lock Operation Hadhramouth Govt. Yemen. This job will be based on a rotational schedule (28 days on/28 days off).

Duties and Responsibilities

Under the direction of the Water Well Supervisor the applicant will be involved in the following:

Technical/Physical

Water Well Operations

- Checks operating water wells on a daily basis to ensure that ESPs are running normally and that well head valves are in the proper position. When ESPs require service, pulls tubing, power cable and ESP out of well; lays down ESP; directs the disassembly of ESP, picks up new ESP as required; assembles and runs ESP back into the well. Checks Generators (oil, water, fuel; visually inspects machine and support equipment) at water well locations.
- Assists with the trouble shooting of the above water wells.

Water Supply Operations

- Makes up water line of various pipe sizes (2" to 7" casing) to supply various Drilling and Service Rigs.
- Ensures that sections of line are joined together in an appropriate manner (i.e. welding, fittings, unions or hoses).
- Sets up tanks for truck loading purposes.
- Rig water supply lines for Construction, Hydro Testing of Oil Lines.
- Organizes and supplies water for maintenance Groups and Plant Facilities.
- Rigs up and operates electric Transfer pumps to supply water to various locations.
- Assists with the set up of Air Compressors to Air lifting water wells; blows water lines clean with air prior to running water through the system.
- Operates the Steamer for cleaning, prior to tank repair.
- Ensures the tanks have been Gas tested prior to the start of any repair to the tank.
- Carries out basic trouble shooting and repairs water leaks as required.

Supervisory & Communications

- Directs crew and crane/picker truck to pull and run ESPs in water wells.

- Directs crane, forklift, and crew during the repair and maintenance of Water Systems.
- Supervise labor crews and equipment to be sure work is completed properly in a SAFE and TIMELY fashion.
- Supervises contract labor crews.
- Reports more serious problems to Lead Operator.

Safety

- Holds safety meeting prior to directing crew to remove wellhead.
- Holds SAFETY MEETING with CREW and EQUIPMENT OPERATORS prior to making up water line to new locations.
- Ensures that all personal protective equipment required for each specific job is being used by personnel on location.

Other

- Ensure that all work areas are kept clean and tidy, e.g. shop, drilling yard, and storage tanks at the rig.
- Carries out other similar or related duties as required, such as directing the cleaning of the drilling yard, organizing casing in the drilling yard, etc.

Requirements

- Completion of Secondary (Technical Education).
- 5 Years' experience in the Water Well industry and the field of water supply to diverse operations.
- Good knowledge of English.
- Valid Yemeni driving license.
- Some Computer Skills required.

If you have the above requirements, please send your CV to the following address not later than **August 31, 2002**.

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Sana'a, Republic of Yemen
Fax No. 269899
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- Please do not call us. We will phone you if you are selected for the test and interview.
- Please mention in your application the job that you are applying for.

CANADIAN nexen VACANCY Yemeni Nationals

Heavy Equipment / Crane Operator

Canadian Nexen Petroleum Yemen requires a Heavy Equipment/Crane Operator to work in its Masila Block Operation Hadhramout Govt. Yemen. This job will be based on 1 2/1 rational schedule (28 days on / 14 days off).

Duties and Responsibilities

- Loads and lifts items of equipment in a safe and efficient manner. Includes lifting generators, power transformers, piping materials, etc. and transferring warehouse materials and mechanical equipment to various locations; up to 7 tons with the picker, up to 50 tons with crane.
- Is proficient in crane operating procedures, and use of crane lifting capacity charts. Operates equipment in a safe and efficient manner.
- Carries out daily checks and minor maintenance work on heavy equipment. Includes inspecting wire rope, lubricating, inspecting and lubricating sheaves and hoists, checking tire pressures, testing safety overloads, inspecting for hydraulic leaks, checking engine oil levels and brakes, etc.
- Carries out other similar or related duties such as instructing trainees in loading, operating and carrying out minor maintenance work.

Requirements

- Completion of secondary (Technical) education (12 years) followed by 2 years' full-time formal training in mechanical trades and 6 years of related experience.
- Fair knowledge of English.
- Valid heavy equipment operator certificate or license.
- Valid Yemen driving license.

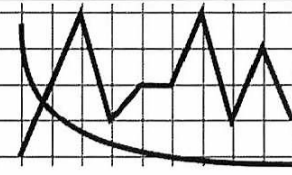
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YT Business



Prospects on increasing Gulf investments in Yemen

BY MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI

The Yemen State Authority for Investment (YSAI) expects an influx of GCC capitals into Yemen for investment, especially following issuance of the new investment law that cancelled the former system of granting permits for investment that was causing problems to businessmen. Sources at the Authority mentioned that the difficulties and inconveniences the Gulf investors are facing in Western countries and the United States would urge them to divert their capitals for investment in Yemen and to benefit from privileges and facilities and

guarantees the new law offers to foreign investors in Yemen.

A major target stipulated in the amended investment law is encouragement of domestic agricultural and industrial production and developing Yemeni exports to foreign markets.

Chairman of the State Authority for Investment Abdulkarim Mutair confirms that the law curbs interferences of the Authority and some other parties in affairs and work of investment projects.

The process of granting licenses was impeding investors obtaining of official agreement on building their project as it had fixed a short period of time for completing its procedures. That has consequently resulted in delaying investment processes and hindering the finishing of projects.

In order to enforce the amended law the YSAI works on finishing the drawing up of regulations for applying the law, and that would put an end to the duality that was existing. That duality was represented by interference by several sides in dealing with local, Arab and foreign investors.

YSAI statistics demonstrate that the number of investment projects licensed in the capital and governorates since March 1992 till the end of 2001 reached more than 5000. During that period the YSAI had cancelled permits for 882 projects after it had been found out that their owners were not so serious about building them, while the number of executed investment projects were 1346. The percentage of implemented projects

amounted to 42, 8 % at a cost of YR 129 billion, 134 million and 692 thousand. The number of job opportunities created by those executed projects reached 126,976 for local labor and 1801 for foreign labor. The total cost of licensed projects for the past ten years has amounted to YR 521 billion, 371 million and 776 thousand.

As regards the licensed projects, the industrial sector comes in the first place (702) projects, the second is the services sector (351) projects and the third rank is agricultural and fish industry sector (116) projects.

It is to be noted that foreign investment projects constitute 8% of total licensed projects, 3,3% are joint Yemeni-foreign projects, and 4,7% foreign projects. Circles concerned

with promotion for investment attribute the drop in amount of foreign investments to negative sides of the former law and bureaucracy that prevailed on procedures for granting permits to foreign investors.

Investment sources confirm that there are many vital opportunities attracting Gulf investors, particularly at the Free Zone, in fields of traditional industries and building tourist facilities. The government of Yemen hopes for establishing active investment partnership with capitalists from the Gulf countries as part of its orientation towards strengthening its cooperation with the GCC countries, consolidation of Yemen relations with Gulf countries and realization of economic integration with the region's countries.

The Road Ahead

Time Management

BY RAIDAN A. AL-SAQAF
r_saqaf@hotmail.com

One of the most frequent complaints in the corporate world is the lack of time. Although everyone has got the same number of the daily working hours. Some people get the work done while others don't. What is the difference between the two groups of people?

The answer to this question lies in two words: Time Awareness. This means being aware of every minute in the day and how it should be spent. As it is, the common phrase "Time is money" didn't come from nowhere. But, how can time be managed and Time Awareness be implemented on both personal and organizational levels?

To start with, aims and objectives should be set forth for the day, for the month or even the whole year; this is called benchmarking. Then take a minute to jot down the tasks that have to be done and make a detailed plan about the steps to be taken in order to reach the closest benchmark.

In addition to that, tracing back the activities of the day could prove to be very helpful. Because in this way, it could be easily found out how 'the day went', and eliminate redundant activities which are a waste or do not add value to the day. Time Awareness as the steps of the plan materialize along with discipline to stick to the plan are the two primary factors of time management.

Applying time management systems develops a minute-by-minute awareness of the time spent. It also helps in creating new routes and mechanisms through which the tasks planned can be accomplished faster and in a better manner.

Pre-planning also helps in better utilization of time. For example, many people complain that traffic jams are an unavoidable waste of time; if times and routes were planned beforehand in a way to avoid the traffic jams, less time will be wasted. But how many people are really willing to make a 30-minute pre-planned adjustment earlier everyday in order to avoid the traffic jam? It is critical to stick to the plan if it is to work.

In conclusion, time management is all about optimum utilization of time. Everyday some time should be spent on planning how to utilize the day in the best possible way. And since 'time is money', it is very important to restructure activities and processes in order to improve the plan. After all this said, wouldn't you be willing to spare some time in order to make more time?

Endnote: Awareness of time and discipline in planning actions is a sure way to ensure better time utilization.

Economy News

184,000 person to be employed this year

An official report indicated this week that about 184,000 persons are to be employed in this year, 16,000 of them are to replace employees who were retired or dead. The report mentioned that the labor force in Yemen last year amounted to 4.3 million with an increase by 4.2% compared to the year 2000, while it is expected that the population in Yemen would grow up to 19.6 million people at the end of this year.

The IMF, in its annual report on Yemen's economy, asked the government to effect rapid reforms to broaden taxation base and reduce number of employees in government sectors. The IMF has also announced that Yemen is facing difficult challenges in diversifying economy resources, besides oil and encountering corruption, government bureaucracy inflation and the large-scale poverty problem.

Government employees are now estimated at around 415,000 after Ministry of Civil Service had cancelled more than 17,000 false positions and about 25,000 moonlighting cases.

However, the IMF has expected an

increase in economic growth by 4,1 % in Yemen during this year compared to 3,3 % last year. It has also expected that consumer prices are to increase by 15,8 %, whereas last year they had gone up by 11,9 %. The IMF has also called for additional reduction of government subsidies in electricity by creating amendment in prices, but warned that such steps should coincide with measure to enhance the Social Security net, as 42% of the population are living in poverty.

Child labor, indescribable misery

The children labor in Yemen is estimated at about 2,000,000 children, the annual number of children conflict cases with law is about 35,000, handicapped children are 2,000,000 and street children number reaches 28,000.

Dr. Shahida Al Baz, an expert and adviser in political economics, in charge of preparing the children protection strategy, said that there were 70,000 orphan children and those who had no families.

In a statement to Al Wahda newspaper, she said that poverty was the main factor behind the children's misery as well as the deterioration in the economic and social conditions in Yemen.

Yemen and decentralized planning

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Since the local councils elections on February 20, 2001, Yemen has embarked on adopting the system of decentralized planning in implementing development projects in governorates and districts of the republic. The aim behind that is to achieve a balance in the economic, social and services activities in the 20 Yemeni governorates. The system also aims at re-operating local resources in favor of regional development projects and curbing internal migration, restoring agricultural production balance warding off Yemen loss of agriculture labor and preventing further drain of national handicraftsmen. Local authority law has empowered districts and governorates local councils to take planning decisions and implement them within the scope of general development goals of the state and in line with available local financial resources.

Economic Reform in the governorates

Field studies introduced at the local councils first conference held in Sana'a

on 13- 16 May 2002, indicated that the economic situation of the governorates needed a program for local reform to tackle problems the central development policies failed to solve, such as removal of economic, social and services discrepancies between governorates and districts. The studies pinpointed that the private sector contributions to investment in the governorates were still low due to the existing difference in the infrastructure necessary for encouraging investments, like electricity, water, roads, telephone and post services and markets.

Challenges facing central planning

Decentralized planning and carrying out economic reform in the governorates, do, however, face many challenges most of which is that half of the country's population is centered in five governorates, namely, Taiz 12,2%, Ibb 11,1%, Hodeida 10,6%, capital secretariat 8,1% and Sana'a 7,4% which occupies only 9,4% of the total area of the country. Statistics indicate that governorates like Mohra and Mareb accommodate only 0,4% and 1,2% respectively of the population. This means there is a dispersion in distribution of the population affecting local develop-

ment plans and distribution of services. Field survey studies have pointed to disparity in the volume of implementation of services, utilities and infrastructure projects in all governorates. That has consequently led to misdistribution of government investments. Hence the government is counting on decentralized planning to restore balance among governorates in a way facilitating exploitation of natural and human resources in various economic and social areas.

Local authority law has given governorates' and districts' authorities legal powers to prepare their plans and refer them to the governors to be studied and analyzed and then unified in an integrated plan for the entire governorate. The local council would study and endorse the plan and then refer it to the ministry of local administration to be coordinated with the central plan of the state for implementation.

Decentralized planning is one of the significant changes aimed at meeting requirements and wants of the people, taking into account the realization of justice in distribution of proceeds of economic and social development all over the Yemen.

Woman societies role in economic development in Yemen

BY MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI

Governmental and non-governmental woman societies in Yemen contribute to implementation of economic development programs especially as role of the women who are members of woman civil societies. Governmental woman establishments' activities are mainly represented in maternity and child care and productive families fields, while woman non-governmental societies role in this respect is undertaken by four societies, namely, The Society of Enabling Woman Economically, The Program on Integration of Woman, The National Committee of Women and Family Care Society. Non-governmental woman organizations are represented by The General Union of Yemeni Women, Sisters Arab Forum, Regional Organization for Human Rights and the Center on Woman Promotion.

There are also around 78 woman organizations in the Yemeni southern governorates and they own and run small economic enterprises contribute to increasing family income. These organizations are also paying attention to training and qualification of women to help them obtain certain job opportu-

nities securing immediate incomes for women. More importantly is that such non-governmental woman societies are very active centers for productive work in the capital and major cities and encourage engagement of Yemeni women in labor market. Statistical figures indicate that activity of these societies has led to a rise in of the proportion of woman contribution to the economic activity in general, especially among 40 years group of age, scoring up to 30% of those capable of working in the capital. Depending on a report compiled in 2001 by Human Development in Yemen, majority of woman organizations undertake rather traditional aspects of professions and jobs, mainly in fields related to maternity and childhood, social welfare, training and teaching and training women on sewing, embroidery, handicraft professions and some businesses.

Legal and constitutional texts do in fact encourage women to practice economic activities and guarantee their right to creativity and getting loans for founding and operating small investment enterprises.

Official statistical figures point out that in Yemen proportion of providing sustenance for women is higher than those for men because women contribution to economic activity is lower.

Nonetheless, activity of woman non-governmental organizations in the fields of services, small enterprises, family economy, environment and urban growth and also in establishing societies aimed at giving hand to women of limited income is on the increase.

Yemeni woman circles believe that emergence of private societies that dates back to about 12 years, has contributed to encouraging women to work and surmount some traditions that restraint women from being involved in labor market or education and habilitation and training. With the growing hardships of living conditions, the non-governmental societies have participated in enabling women to get job opportunities in order to secure stable incomes for their families. Their affiliation with such woman organizations has helped them set up programs for their activity and prove their capability of work and manage their living. Thus the non-governmental organizations and societies in Yemen have played good role in pushing women to labor and business market and in economic life. Such activities are in fact receiving support from donor organizations and countries in addition to assistance rendered by the government of Yemen.

Vacancy

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Exchange Rate for the Yemeni Rial as of August 17

USD	176.50	176.65
GBP	271.50	272.50
EUR	173.50	175.00

Source: Central Bank of Yemen

Words of Wisdom



Gentlemen, Yemen does not need more money! It needs a system. Yemen needs accountable officials, and it needs people with some decency in the way they work. If the IMP, World Bank and other organizations pump loans into Yemen, where will it go? More importantly, how will it be paid?

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



OUR OPINION
Iraq is number two, who will follow?

Signs of an eminent war against Iraq are quite visible. The US administration is clearly insistent on going forward to remove Saddam Hussein from power, and they seem to be determined to do so before the upcoming elections in the states.

Arab leaders have unanimously agreed on opposing the US plans concerning Iraq, yet they have not even thought of releasing a statement about their next step if Iraq is attacked. They released no threat, no pledge, and expressed no obligation coming from towards the Iraqi people or leadership or even to their own citizens at large.

Unfortunately, those leaders are quite aware that if they threaten the USA at this particular time, they could be possible targets as well. They know this is no joke, and they seem to be sure that it is impossible to challenge the USA in any battle anywhere and anytime. In other words, no one dares to nominate himself for the "number 3" target position of the USA.

Arabs have attained a level of weakness that made them absolutely vulnerable to any attack, and with an international community that is mostly a spectator, any unjust attempt to overthrow any Arab leader from his post will still be justified for the sake of the war against terror.

Time has proven that no friend or ally of the USA can stay so all the time. Saddam Hussein himself was one of the most trusted allies and partners of the USA prior to 1990, but things turned upside down after words. Our leaders should understand that their positions as allies right now may not continue forever, especially as no matter how close they were to the USA, they cannot be closer to Israel.

Last week, Egypt came under pressure by the USA for its stance concerning an Egyptian court's ruling concerning Sa'adeeddin Ibrahim, an Egyptian human rights activist with US nationality. On the other hand, three prominent Saudi princes are requested for trial by the families of the September 11 victims, raising the question of possible weakening of US-Saudi relations.

These are a set of examples validating the clam that our relations with the USA are truly vulnerable. Apart from the fear of leaders who may be afraid of losing their chairs, one can also imagine the public outrage that will result if the USA goes ahead with its plan to attack Iraq. This could be a beginning of a long-term plan to remove all Arab leaders who may constitute a threat to the USA, and perhaps a starting point to restructure the whole Middle East to conform to US interests.

Last week, while browsing the Internet, I read a column by a writer saying that the attack against Iraq is actually a breakthrough for the control of the whole region by the USA. He described the attack against Iraq as the strike of the first dominoes piece resulting in a subsequent fall of all the rest. According to the writer, the USA's interests in the region are so many, and a pro-US Iraq would serve as an excellent starting point to seize the sources of the area. A starting point here is mentioned, but the "where will the dominoes stop?" will be quite a tough question to answer.

Hasn't time come for Arabs to think more realistically and sense the coming danger?

We may not have to wait long before we see target number 2 attacked then each and every Arab leader will probably be praying day and night to be the third target.

The dominoes are falling and it is time for number two to fall. Will number three wake up on time and divert the danger?

I doubt!

The Editor

The General People's Congress Authority, not state

By ABDULFATTAH AL-HAKIMI

Through monitoring and analyzing the rapid changes effected in the legislative and legal structure of the political system in Yemen throughout the past seven years, there can be detected a group of deformities and aspects of failure that befell the political life. The most prominent of these is the process of occasional dissolving and cancelling of powers, such as the authority of "the presidential council-parliament" and insistence of the parliamentary majority party on going ahead in effecting legislative amendments, usually serving the ruling party's continuation in power. The ruling party other major aim is to confine in its hands all powers and their links as long as possible, quite contrary to the principle of peaceful transfer of power as declared in article 5 of the constitution. The constitutional and legal amendments that had been made represented consolidation of the principle of monopolizing power not for transferring it and also emptying the political system of its essence.

The process of controlling the power also aims at achieving monopoly by the ruling party of managing the electoral process and abolition other parties right to membership of the Supreme Committee for Elections under pretext of guaranteeing independence of the Supreme Committee. In other words they want to convince the people that members of the

Supreme Committee, mostly from the GP, have acquired independence merely by being chosen and that they actually could run an election process that could influence the authority and its ruling party's decision in scoring a sweeping majority, and that is could be done through providing convenient circumstances for reducing acts of doctoring and government interference to the possible minimum degree.

Indicators point at recession in parties and various segments of the society in the political participation in elections and at a diversion in seem-democratic course measured during the past ten years. Percentage of participation in parliamentary elections has dropped from 84,7 % in 1993 to 60,9 % in 1997, though the number of those registered in election lists has increased by 75% in 1997.

Undoubtedly, the increase in number of registered voters reflects growth in awareness but against that the decline in participation in the electoral process reflects a sense of frustration with the voters and the elections lacking of credibility and the minimum degree of fairness. A report prepared by Human Development at the ministry of planning for the year 200-2001 has recognised that fact and attributed it to what was described as a sense of no avail of voting. New amendments have been effected on the law of local authority aimed at reconsidering division of constituencies in order to disperse presence of opposition parties and redistributing them among governates constituencies. The process

also aimed at preventing any possible alliances between opposition parties and consequently confirm the ruling party's control over all electoral districts. Ousting effective opposition parties representatives from elections committee could be deemed a normal and organised extension of mentality of appropriation of power and rejection of others under a fake legislative umbrella. Thus the principle of consultation in rule could be frozen and changing the ruling party into a power "donating" authority just as it was used to do before May 22, 1990. The ruling party could not up to now become an ideological party, except of its being organised on the basis of an ideology depending on a principle of "power for the sake of power". The GPC party still offers itself, even to its members, by betting on its capability in influencing others' convictions and ideologies through dependence on the government potentials, resources and tools.

It can be concluded that hegemony over power with comfortable or sweeping majority, is the traditional and strategic project of the ruling GPC ruling party because its position in parliament is the inlet to control of power in all other fields. To achieve this end for instance, the party resorts to block the way before other political parties and organisations and strangle general and electoral freedoms. All these stands make the principle of peaceful transfer of power, the essence an spirit of democracy, merely theoretical, but nonexistent in the actual political life.

Letters to the Editor

Thanks Lamia

Firstly let me say thank you very much for your great work with your YT staff.

Two issues ago I have read a letter to the editor from Lamia Subhi and really I loved that article that came from a true heart of an honest Muslim although she lives in USA.

Lamia's speech was right in our life we must make everything and do every thing in the way Allah wants in the way our prophet showed us. He taught us everything. So why we search for something modern to do? I think any person says that there are things in our Islam must be changed and we have to modern it. I think this person is stupid and doesn't know his religion well!

Thanks again to our great editor and thank you Miss lamia for your unbelievably accurate words.

Ali Al-Ghalebi
salafi_4_ever@yahoo.com

I'm only asking for my rights

I have hesitated before sending this letter to you, but I ultimately decided to send it because I arrived to a dead-end. I used to work with a European embassy as a guard starting on the first of May of 1994 with a formal contract signed between me and the embassy. However, I was shocked when I was fired with no justification or even notification. I was told that my work was over even though I have never done anything that required punishment during my working period. On the contrary, I received several appreciation and merit certificates.

There are several articles in the 6-page contract that explain when and why I may be fired and I realized that none of the conditions in those articles applied to me.

I did not want to take my issue to the press, but I had no other choice. I contacted the embassy through the Yemeni Ministry of Foreign Affairs, but after a number of exchanged letters and messages, I arrived to nowhere. I even appealed to the country's Foreign Ministry, which replied negatively to my request and diverted me to the embassy, which was not helpful at all in solving my problem.

What I am demanding through your letters to the editor section is that the

embassy, which I know will read this letter, reconsider their action and give me all my financial entitlements according to the Yemeni laws that protect the rights of labors.

Arif Ali Saeed Sallam
Sanaa

Is Hamas right?

Mr. Hassan Al-Haifi wrote of the horror of eleven children dying by an Israeli bomb. Where is that outrage when Hamas kills Jewish children? Is it not true that a Jewish mother's grief runs just as deep as a Palestinian mother's?

This business of Jews and Arabs killing one another will not stop while either side refuses to recognize the humanity of the other.

Though Sharon has done many stupid things this past year, each dumb thing he's done is matched by a Palestinian dumb act.

When an Arab writes that Palestinians get so angry that they cannot control themselves, he is casting an ethnic slur upon all Arabs. Is he saying that Palestinians have no self discipline? I've known too many Arabs and Palestinians to accept that.

Every nation and every ethnic group has its lunatics. Sometimes they achieve responsible positions. I hope that Mr. Hassan Al-Haifi will also write about the stupidity of Hamas and other groups based on hating someone. After all, Israel is the economic engine that could lift the entire region, including Yemen. You should give prosperity a chance.

Ron Osterberg
ronram@goes.com

Human development is not everything

You are partly right in your editorial (August 12 thru 18). Human development is important, but that is not the main reason for Europe and America's success in the past 200 years. The main reason is the ability to submit and test new ideas.

Though most large companies live half again as long as human beings, our economy still relies on new companies for job new creation. Though most new companies fail, though most new ideas are stupid, and though someone told most founders of successful com-

Letters to the Editor

panies that their ideas were stupid, the ideas continue coming.

The difference between us and other nations is that competition is open to everyone. When we have big problems, like we now have with the accounting scandals, we get up, dust ourselves off and we fix the problem. Five years from now we'll resolve another big problem.

If Yemen focuses on educating people instead of providing opportunities, you will do what your large northern neighbor has done.

You will educate young people who will not find meaningful employment. Those people will become radicals looking for a cause to join.

Ron Osterberg
ronram@goes.com

How do you know they are terrorists?

I am a Yemeni woman living in the USA and when I read your story about explosion I don't know whether I am reading the Yemen Times or the New York Times! We Muslims unfortunately discriminate among our own people. As I was reading your story this morning, it read "drawing speculations that the two men may be part of a larger terrorist network." My question is "Did you cut open these people -so called terrorists- and saw they were part of al-Qaeda or some terrorist network?" Did you even know these people? How do you know that they were the ones that made these bombs, in Islam you are not supposed to accuse someone that cannot defend himself? I am really disgusted when you write such stories, especially as I read such news here in the USA everyday, in every newspaper, and watch it in every TV channel.

My final question is how do you know who these people belong to and that they are not innocent bystanders? As Muslim we are supposed to make up 70 if not 90 reasons reasoning why the person or persons do what they did in order to forgive one another just as Islam teaches us.

Prophet Mohammed (saw) said "Faith is Yemeni, so is wisdom. Where is our wisdom and most important of all, where is our faith?"

Saba Tofiq
muslimtuv227@yahoo.com

COMMON SENSE



Hassan Al-Haifi

Who Should Be Sued for 9/11 Attacks?

In the messy quagmire of consequences arising out of the miscalculated and still incomprehensible attacks on the World Trade Center in New York and the United States Pentagon in Washington, now we have the rapidly prepared law suit, as the latest finger-pointing game, of "Who done it?" While undoubtedly the victims of such unholy attacks deserve some form of retribution, it is clear from the preliminary information revealed about the lawsuit, that the effort seems to be more of an effort to keep all fingers pointed at this region for such attacks and that every effort will be made to keep the Arabs, in particular, and Moslems in general, to be the culprits for all the demise that befalls the West. In fact, one is bound to conclude that, for all their intents and purposes, the attacks may have indeed achieved one of their primary aims: to reinstate "a war of civilizations". This was being sought in order to insure that the Islamic religion is held at bay, after almost having gained acceptance in Western circles as a bona fide religion in good standing that deserves the respect of the international community. This may have been also meant to thwart the rapid spread of Islam that was noticed within the West, before September 11, 2001.

The naivete of some misguided "Moslem fundamentalists", with their substantial funding and clandestine nature, have become the cause of concern of many enlightened Moslems, who have seen that such "fanatics" have done more harm to Islam than any non-Moslem enemies of Islam could ever hope to bring about. It goes without saying that there are many non-Moslems, institutionally and individually, who find such movements to be in keeping with whatever designs they have for themselves and for the world at large. Some are even ready to allude, that such movements may, in fact, have "western" roots, from which they draw their theoretical, organizational and technical acumen. They point to several intelligence documents dating back to the days of Imperialism, when colonialist intelligence sought ways to create schisms within the Moslem world. This was done to facilitate the entry of Western colonialist powers to the usually xenophobic areas where Islam prevailed. The idea was that this would bring about confusion and friction among Moslems, as Moslems are led by these so called fundamentalists to enter into dogmatic and sectarian differences over such trivial issues as to how to keep your beard or how to position one's hands while praying, etc. Furthermore these fundamentalists are often reliant on weak "traditions" or practices, related by few scholars, who do not enjoy recognition from the overall sectarian orientations of Moslems. Yet, thanks to the ample funding, these fundamentalists have been able to draw on a constituency of die-hard adherents, who are scientifically nurtured to only accept the teachings of these misguided preachers. This is in addition to rigorous brainwashing, to which the young students of "Quranic" schools are subjected, to reject not only non-Moslems, but the overwhelming majority of Moslems, who may adhere to other sects of Islam, which have been here for centuries. Since these fundamentalists have surfaced, we have never seen such dogmatic friction among Moslems, which they have perpetrated. Whatever the case, to most Moslems, these fundamentalists should be viewed with great suspicions and undoubtedly, Moslem enlightened scholars should increase public awareness amongst Moslems as to the dangerous harm these movements have already brought to Islam and the security and peace in the region. Regrettably, even after September 11, 2001, the media in many Moslem countries has increased the appearance of some of the "teachers" of these fundamentalist narrow minded dogmas on the air, and they are easily recognized by their exaggerated beards and "Moslem" appearance.

Going back to the law suits against certain Arab and Moslem principals and organizations, one must remind the victims of the attacks that they should not forget to include the Central Intelligence Agency and perhaps one or two Zionist and other Western organizations that did lend strong support to organizations like the Al-Qaeda and the Taliban. This support was given to back these militias in their "holy war" against the "infidel Communists" in Afghanistan and elsewhere, not to mention the British Home Office for having nurtured such fundamentalist beliefs much earlier. Surely, the West itself is not free from many clandestine organizations, who in their "missionary" zeal would wish to restore the stagnant "East vs. West" confrontation, to keep the arms factories rolling and ensure that Islam does not pose a threat to Zionist designs for the area and for the world at large. Again, we say Islam is innocent of September 11, 2001 and again we say Islam will survive and prevail over all efforts to liquidate it from within and from the outside.

Saudi-US relations under spotlight

BY AMIR TAHERI, ARAB NEWS STAFF

Have relations between Saudi Arabia and the United States hit a rough patch?

The question, raised after the leaking of a report by a Washington think tank in which Saudi Arabia was identified as "enemy", has triggered a torrent of comments on both sides.

Broadly speaking, these are of two types.

Ostrich and rooster

The first type could be described as "ostrich-like", coming from people, often of good will, who try to dismiss the report as the fruit of one deranged researcher's imagination. The "ostrich" club insist that there is nothing wrong in Saudi-US relations and that the dramatic events of the past few months have had no impact on what they describe as "a special relationship." Like the proverbial ostrich that buries its head in sand to avoid seeing unpleasant sights, those who defend such a position are victims of their illusions.

The second answer has come from what one could describe as the "rooster" club, continuing with our bird analogy. The American members of the "rooster" club shout that Saudi Arabia is, indeed, the enemy and has to be "dealt" with as quickly as possible. The

Arab members of the "rooster" club, on the other hand, shout that the US was never a true friend and, having just revealed its true nature, should no longer enjoy special treatment from the Kingdom.

While the "ostrich" club has not seen enough in Laurent Murawiek's controversial report, the "rooster" club has chosen to see too much.

What is certain is that US-Saudi relations are under the spotlight in both countries. On both sides, the assumption that Washington and Riyadh would automatically be on the same side on almost all issues is no longer tenable. A change of mood started with Riyadh's refusal to take an active part in the campaign against the Taleban, and has continued with a refusal by the Saudis to support the US in overthrowing the Iraqi regime by force. On the American side, we have witnessed a campaign of vilification against Saudi Arabia, illustrated by hundreds of articles, congressional speeches and television soundbites. Opinion polls show that, for a majority of the Americans, Saudi Arabia is now "grouped with other "hated nations".

The decision by Rudolph Giuliani, then mayor of New York, to reject a \$10 million check from Prince Alwaleed ibn Talal for the survivors of the Sept. 11 tragedy, was a defining moment. It dented the image of the Arab philanthropist, always ready to sign checks for good, and sometimes not so good, causes. The thousands of

American charities, universities, think tanks and individuals that have enjoyed Saudi generosity for decades now use the smaller print to identify their benefactors.

In more concrete terms, the US has pressed the brakes a bit to delay the Kingdom's admission into the World Trade Organization (WTO). Also, Saudi Arabia is no longer routinely consulted on American policy toward the Muslim world.

Should anyone be alarmed? Not necessarily. There is always some good in what happens.

A serious review of relations between the US and Saudi Arabia, as developed from the mid-1960s onward, is long overdue. In that period, the two needed each other to counter threats, ranging from Nasserism to Khomeinism, and passing by communism. From 1980 onward, they shared an interest in countering the extension of the Soviet empire in Afghanistan. In 1990 they needed one another to push Saddam Hussein back into his cage.

Biggest world's oil reserves

Two facts helped bestow on Saudi Arabia an importance beyond its demographic size. The first is that it contains 25 percent of the world's oil reserves. Even the most conservative forecasts show that oil is likely to remain the chief source of global energy for at least another 30 years, which means Saudi reserves could retain their strategic value for another generation.



The second fact is that Saudi Arabia, as the site of Islam's two most honored cities, Makkah and Madinah, enjoys a unique status in the Muslim world.

The type of relationship that developed in those years was focused on geopolitics and chiefly concerned with military, intelligence and security issues. There was no need for a people-to-people relationship. The two could conduct their business through diplomatic and secret service channels and behind closed doors.

All that has changed

The process of decision-making in Saudi Arabia is more open now than it was three decades ago. The base of decision-making has also been broadened, at the level of discussion and consultation, thanks to the emergence of new councils, and the attempt by part of the Saudi media to initiate debate on some aspects of policy.

More importantly, one can now speak of a Saudi public opinion where almost none existed in the 1960s. This is because a new middle class has taken shape in the Kingdom and is keen to inform itself on issues of contemporary life.

Change has also come on the American side

The shock of Sept. 11 has not been absorbed. The fact that 15 of the 19 terrorists were Saudi citizens cannot be effaced through public relations operations. What is needed is a genuine campaign of explanation, not Madison Avenue-style whitewash.

Can the US and Saudi Arabia be bosom friends? In the sense that the American humorist James Thurber defined friendship, the answer is: no. According to Thurber, a friend is someone who can drop in to see you on a weekend with his wife and children and stay for a barbecue.

Deep differences in social mores, cultural traditions, religious sensibilities, and family structures make it problematic for Saudi Arabia to forge the kind of friendship that the US has, for example, with Canada or Britain. For example, the Americans do not understand why women are not allowed to drive in Saudi Arabia. At the other end, the Saudis are horrified by the dominant themes of sex and violence in American culture.

The US and Saudi Arabia are also poles apart in their political systems. The American system is based on per-

petual elections at all levels; in many places even the dog-catcher is elected. The Saudi system, however, has no election. All this does not mean that the US and Saudi Arabia cannot have friendly relations without being friends. Both sides need a greater understanding of each other, wars and all.

Special relationship

The Saudis need to understand that winning, at times buying, the sympathy of the American power elite is no longer enough. They need to establish rapport with the American people. The Americans, for their part, should understand that it is possible for a nation to have different social values and political structures without being their enemy. Both sides need to abandon the myth of a "special relationship", and, instead, to focus on a practical relationship based on mutual interests. Where national interests diverge there is no shame, or harm, in each going its way.

Put in that context, it would not be difficult to see that the 15 terrorists of 11 September were as much the enemies of the Saudi people as they were of the American people.

One man's tale of hope amid West Bank despair

BY AZZAM AL-ARAJ FOR THE INTERNATIONAL HERALD TRIBUNE

There is a curfew in effect in my town in Palestine. When I take the risk of walking to my office, which is about a mile from my house, I often bring my 8-year-old son, Mahmud, to show that I am not a threat to the Israeli forces in the town. But he does not always accompany me. In June I made it from Tulkarm to Toledo, Spain, to spend a month with my colleagues from throughout the Middle East, including Israelis, to talk about the future of civil society and governance in our region.

I am not going to describe in detail the killing of Palestinians, the stifling curfew, the malnutrition among Palestinian children, the house demolitions going on around me, or my wife's daily trauma when each member of my family leaves to go to work or class and she remains home to pray that we all return home safely.

Instead, I am going to tell you a story about hope overcoming occupation. It is a mundane tale, really, compared with all that is happening here, and yet in a small way it is important.

In order to attend the international institute in Toledo, I left my home in Tulkarm on Monday, June 17, at 5:30 A.M. with the intention of taking a flight on June 22, from Amman, Jordan, to Madrid. I left five days early to ensure I would be able to get out of town.

The curfew imposed by the Israeli Army had ended at 5 A.M. I planned first to go to a town where I could stay with relatives and travel more easily to the Israel-Jordan crossing at the Allenby Bridge.

As I was leaving, I heard that the army had decided to return. I was in a taxi and saw a line of firing tanks moving back into my town. The taxi driver told me it was crazy to go on. "We have to go back," he said. "No," I said, "going back is crazy. They are firing at the city." So we turned off into a field away from the main road and took the dirt roads to another Palestinian village. Again, we were caught by a curfew in that town, so we stayed overnight.

The next morning I continued with the taxi, deciding to go straight for the bridge. We drove over the mountain roads to avoid the closures, finally arriving at the border crossing with Jordan on Tuesday evening.

To cross the bridge, I needed to get through both the Israeli and the

Jordanian checkpoints on opposite sides. Unfortunately, the Israeli Army had closed the bridge to almost everybody. I parted company with the driver and spent two nights sleeping on the side of the road, waiting for the bridge to open. On Thursday morning, it was announced that 250 people of the 2,000 waiting there would be allowed through. I was not selected, but when the buses arrived to take the others across, chaos ensued and everybody made a break for the buses. I jumped on and we crossed the bridge. Now it was time to wait on the Jordanian side.

Jordanian soldiers came to take the names of everybody seeking entry. Several more hours passed. It was blistering hot, and we were not allowed to leave the bus for any reason.

I was refused entry and told to turn back. But I was in the front of the bus, near the soldiers, and I begged them to let me in, explaining I had to go to Toledo for a very important confer-

ence.

I showed them my acceptance papers, my Spanish visa and my plane ticket. The soldier said no. I followed him off the bus and continued to argue, this time with his commanding officer. "I am not going back," I said. "If you want to, you can arrest me." "O.K.," he said, "you can go."

I made it to Amman and stayed with relatives, and then flew to Madrid, where I was met at the airport by representatives of the University of the Middle East. Afterward, my colleagues at the institute asked, "Why didn't you turn back?" "I had to go forward to make our future," I said. And that is what I want to do. I am ready to walk a new path with my Israeli and Arab friends, who spent that incredible month with me in Spain. We should walk together into the future, toward peace, prosperity and mutual recognition of two peoples and two states.

Job Vacancy

CARE International in Yemen, a non-government development organization (NGO) is looking for a:

National Project Assistant

Based in Sana'a, to be responsible for providing support in the execution of a project with the Yemen women Union. The project will involve capacity building, income generation schemes, advocacy and strategic planning at many levels.

Duration of the project: 5 years

Tasks and responsibilities

- Translate documents and reports
- Assist in the preparation of documents and reports.
- Organize and maintain an effective project filing system.
- Assist the project Coordinator in hiring consultants, provide logistical support to them and arrange training & seminars where necessary.
- Carry out monitoring visits to YWU branches and make monitoring reports for the project coordinator
- Carry out other task assigned by the project coordinator

Knowledge Required

- An understanding of development cooperation, monitoring and evaluation, capacity building and advocacy.

Skills Required

- Reading, writing and speaking Arabic
- Reading, writing and speaking English
- Computer skills, Word, Excel, Access
- Clean driving license
- Office management system

Attitude

- Willing to travel extensively throughout the country

This position is for Yemeni female nationals only. Interested persons should submit CV with application letter no later than 31- August '2002 at the following address:

CARE International
Personnel Manager
P. O. Box 11101, Al-Jama'a
Sana'a, Yemen

Faxed applications can be sent to: 01-504021. Only those candidates selected for interview will be contacted.

Peak Season Surcharge (PSS)

In order for the shipping lines to cover the incremental costs needed to continue serving the Red Sea Trade during the peak season, the following shipping lines have decided to implement a peak Season Surcharge (PSS) of US\$ 100.00 per TEU with effect from 1st September 2002 from all Asian and Sub-Continent ports, including India, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka to Red Sea ports in Yemen, Jordan and Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

The PSS will be applicable for both dry and reefer containers, and both prepaid and collect shipment.

Further detail may be obtained from the lines local offices.

APL CO Pte Ltd
Pacific International Lines (Pte) Ltd
Uniglory Marine Corporation / Evergreen Marine corporation

ضريبة قمة الموسم (بي اس اس)

انه من اجل أن تغطي الخطوط الملاحية المصاريف الزائدة التي تحتاج إليها لتواصل خدماتها التجارية في البحر الأحمر أثناء ذروة الموسم فإن الخطوط الملاحية التالية قررت تنفيذ ضريبة ذروة الموسم (بي اس اس) مبلغ 100 دولار أمريكي للحاوية ببدء تنفيذه من أول سبتمبر 2002 من جميع الموانئ الآسيوية وبعض موانئ شبه القارة تشمل الهند باكستان بنغلادش سيريلانكا الى موانئ البحر الأحمر في اليمن والأردن وجدة المملكة العربية السعودية.

إن ضريبة ذروة الموسم سوف تطبق على الحاويات الجافة وحوايات التبريد والشاحنات المدفوعة مقدما والمحصلة

المزيد من التفاصيل يمكن الحصول عليها من مكاتب الخطوط المحلية :

شركة ايه بي ال الخاصة المحدودة
خطوط باسيفيك (الخاصة) المحدودة
مؤسسة يوني جلوري الملاحية / مؤسسة أيفر جرين الملاحية

Grinding poverty or pleasure to beg

BY MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Just look at street pavements and corners of any Yemeni city! What you would see is a frightening number of beggars in Sanaa as well as many other cities. And their number is continuously increasing.

It is so unfortunate to see an increasing number of beggars looking so down-at-heel and helpless. This has created a sense of worry and despair among Yemenis and foreigners staying in Yemen. Instead of enjoying Yemen's beauty and attractive scenes, any person sightseeing Yemeni cities will suddenly be taken aback by those beggars who in turn have negatively distorted Yemen's image in front of tourists and foreigners.

In this regard, a fieldwork has been conducted to know everything about begging in Yemen. The survey revealed that beggars in our country have fallen into three different categories. The first category refers to a group of people who live below the poverty line and therefore are in very wretched living conditions and have to beg for survival. The second category uses begging as a business and pretends to poorer than they actually are and therefore get engaged in begging to gain more money. The third category includes those in our society who may suffer from a handicap or physical disability and hence beg the people's mercy.

Mariam Ahmed is a widow with three children. She was unable to secure the essentials for her children

and had to start begging as a means of earning money for her children's survival. She was lately advised to have her children taken to an orphanage. "I couldn't bear being apart from my children," she suddenly burst into tears. "I prefer to beg. It is the only way to survive, provide the basics and pay the rent." She pointing at her three children and claimed that the orphanage cannot afford receiving more orphans. Besides, there are no health care standards given to the poor orphans in the orphanage.

While investigating the conditions of beggars, we came across a 40-year-old man on the street pavement. He was crawling as his right leg was physically handicapped as a result of a bomb explosion during the 1994 civil war of Yemen.

"I am no longer able to work or even

walk. Who is going to care for my five children and my spouse?" he despairingly asked. Just like Merriam he is advised to go to the elderly care house. "My children are going to die if I leave them. I know that no one will take care of my children," he said. "The elderly care house is used only for cases of singles and nothing has been done for families with children. Such a house cannot meet the needs of a whole family," he added.

It was a non-stop journey of suffering and despair. Men, women and children are asking for alms. A 10-year-old boy said, "I became homeless when my loving mother passed away and my father married another woman. Due to my stepmother's cruel treatment, I decided to leave the house and run away."

Children in such difficult situations

turn to begging as an alternative regardless of their level of education.

The eye-catching fact is that you see beggars in very health conditions and therefore practice begging using unusual ways. You may find a beggar claiming to be hungry and asking you to give him money in order to have lunch, and once you give him an amount enough for him to have a reasonably nutritious meal, he takes the money and jumps to another car begging in the same way. Another pretends to be completely broke and therefore asks you to give him the minibus fare, but once he gets it instead of taking the bus, he moves on to the car behind you and starts begging again. A third pretends that her father is in prison and the police authorities would not release him until he pays a fine that they are collecting. A fourth would ask for money to buy medicine for his sick mother, but if you offer to buy him medicine he looks not enthusiastic to your offer, plus many other similar stories.

Even though it has become difficult to know whom to believe, while analyzing some cases, we found that many beggars beg from locals and tourists because it is their only means to make ends meet.

However, some beggars with reasonably good financial conditions have actually distorted Yemen's image in front of foreigners and citizens alike. We have found confirmed cases of beggars who own buildings and shops rented to others and run by their relatives. Yet still, they find pleasure in begging to inflate their assets further.

Despite efforts being exerted by the



Social Affairs Ministry, the begging phenomenon continues to represent an alarmingly serious problem due to the unavailability of job opportunities especially among the vulnerable and disabled of the society.

It has been concluded that a significant portion of beggars, especially the ones in prominent locations in major cities have adopted begging as a daily routine. They come in the morning,

beg until night and go back with unimaginable amounts of money, sometimes reaching tens of thousand of Yemeni rials daily.

It is crystal clear that this phenomenon is turning from a source of living and survival to a business enterprise, which in turn entails mapping out strategies for alleviating poverty but at the same time preserving the moral values of the Yemeni community.



Significance of tourism industry in Yemen

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

It is a common held belief that tourism has become a universal trade business all over the world. It has so many multidimensional advantages.

On the human relations' level, it enhances and strengthens relations between people as it makes them acquainted with different conventions, traditions, cultures, as well as arts.

It is also a way to start new relations based on love as well as peace for it creates a suitable atmosphere for making the long-awaited dream of peace among nations.

Why do nations pay special attention to the tourism industry? Yemen has been endowed with all tourist potentials including antiques, fascinating beaches, green mountains, and spacious deserts.

Even though we feel proud of our tourist attractions; we are still using traditional methods in such fundamental aspects. We don't even think of proper ways to upgrade these factors to meet the requirements of the 21st century. There is clear negligence by the government in taking care of those tourist attractions.

For permanent success in this field, a transportation infrastructure should be

established and tourist hotels and other facilities should be developed.

There are some other hindrances that impede the progress of the tourism industry in Yemen. Kidnapping incidents and tribal clashes have of course negatively affected the tourism industry in Yemen. In addition to this, some tourists in a way or the other are

exploited by moneygrubbers.

We have to make every effort to put an end to such uncivilized behavior in front of other people. Unfortunately, no due attention has been paid by the concerned bodies. Historical sites have become difficult for antique lovers and tourists. This is because roads are in very deteriorating conditions.

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

We should all work together to promote the tourism sector, which if developed could serve as an important income generating source for the whole country.



In memory of Yemeni Historian Hamza Luqman

By SALEH ABDULBAQI

There is no doubt that Yemen had produced intellectuals and writers that made history with their hard work and achievements and in representing Yemen in the best way possible. Among those intellectuals was late historian and playwright **Hamza Luqman**. Hamza, who descends from the Luqman family that inhabited Aden a long time ago, grew up to become one of the pioneers in the cultural renaissance.

He was born in 1919 in Aden, and got his basic education in Crater. He was the elder son of the esteemed teacher Ali Ibrahim Luqman.

After his father's demise, he shouldered the responsibility of taking care of his mother and six brothers. This development prevented him from continuing his studies due to the severe circumstances he was exposed to. As mentioned by Mr. Abdu Hussein Ahmad's article published in Al-Ayyam newspaper's edition on November 25, 1995, Hamza sent his brother Mahmoud to study law in the UK on Hamza's expense. Mahmoud worked after his graduation as a lawyer and then as a Judge. Hamza worked hard to meet his family's demands. He started working with the British Cultural Council in Aden for some time and then worked as a journalist in several newspapers including Fatat al-Jazira, Alqalam Al-Adani, and Al-Ahkkbar. Assisted by his brother in 1949, Hamza was able to issue his own weekly Journal "Al-Afkar".

The founding of Aden Broadcasting Station in 1954 gave an boosted Hamza's cultural activities as he started writing a number of sketches and short social plays for Aden radio. Other writers including Mahmoud Luqman, Gamil Ghanim, and Ahmed Al Refa'e also worked with him in this field. His writings in the radio gave him greater popularity especially as he was the writer of a famous radio series of eight stories called "Shamsan is speaking" directed by Mohammed Madi.

Being a pioneer in short story writing,



Hamza Luqman

ing, Hamza Luqman impressed all readers by presenting his 1945 first short story entitled "A dream's knight". Other short story pioneers in his time included Mohammed Ali Luqman, Hamed Khalifa, Mohammed Saed Muswat and Mohammed Barakat.

During the elections of local authorities of 1958 in Aden, Hamza was elected as a representative of the local council in Aden along with other representatives including Abdulqawi Khaleel, Hassan Khadash, and Mohammed Ali Basharaheel.

Although Hamza Luqman did not get a university degree, he conducted many researches and was known for his high proficiency in writing. His talent clearly emerged when he was nominated to present a lecture on history at Copenhagen University in Denmark.

Among the late historian and playwright productions of Hamza Luqman are "Lilat Al-Aid" a play quoted from Charles Dickens story, home life dairies in the forties, history of Aden and the South Arab peninsula published in 1960, Yemeni islands history published in 1972, battles in the Yemeni history published in 1978, and Yemeni legends. These books were excerpts of Hamza's works during more than half a century of dedication, research and writing in different fields.

In the early nineties, Hamza moved to Sana'a in which he settled till his death in November 11, 1995 after 76 years of devotion to his country and nation.

Part of the al-Afif Girls Forum Program

Youths' legal awareness

REPORTED BY IBTISAM
AL-MUTAWAKIL
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

As part of the Al-Afif Girls Forum Program, Al-Afif Cultural Foundation held on Monday 12 August an activity in which two lectures were delivered on "The Legal Awareness, Program on Legal Assistance", which is a program adopted by the Taiz-based Human Rights Information and

Training Centre (HRITC).

The introduction to the lectures mentioned that as stress is put on the segment of youth, we emphasize the importance of awareness; its present manifestations and the challenges in store. The question is how much the youths are aware of their rights and duties. Ignorance of the right leads others to breach it, and ignorance of the duty leads to violating it, and consequently would be accountable by law. The lectures were delivered by lawyers Hayfa'a al-Shihari and lawyer Sami al-Jabali, both are members of

the team on Legal Assistance of the HRITC. The lawyer Hayfa'a al-Shihari offered an important presentation on her experience in law as she is among the pioneering lawyers in Taiz. She talked about absence of knowledge in the law in the entire society, confirming that we suffer from ignorance in law including the educated and the illiterate. Then she presented an instance of the Centre's efforts in offering the legal help, which is a program meant for helping legally the woman prisoners in the governorate of Taiz.

The second lecturer was lawyer Sami al-Jabali who has at the beginning of his lecture presented a short account on the center, reviewing its more important programs and various activities and then a detailed presentation on the program for helping female prisoners legally and also giving significant information based on scientific field data. Lawyer al-Jabali has tackled in his lecture many legal-social problems on the relationship of female prisoners with law and society as well as the relation of the law with itself and society.

Higher Institute for Health Sciences: Reality and ambitions



By ISMAIL AL-GHABIRI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Established in 1971, the Higher Institute for Health Sciences in Sana'a is one of the most important technical institutes in the country. The institution's role is to qualify students to work in the health sector after completing an intensive two-year academic program. The curriculum includes many courses in teaching techniques, health services for associations and public schools, administration for health institute managers, etc. Among the main subjects of the institute are laboratories, social health, nursing administration, medical statistics, medical device maintenance, anesthesia and midwifery.



Dr. Abdulwahab Ali Al Kholani

The institute has eight branches in Taiz, Hodeida, Dhamar, Ibb, Haja, Mahweet, Sa'ada and Amran. Apart from that, it supervises many nursing schools which are part of public hospitals in the capital secretariat such as Athawra, Al Gumhori, and Assaba'een hospitals.

So far, the number of the graduates from the institute in Sana'a exceeds 200 graduates in various specializations as



follows: 15 in B A labs, 29 in social health, 25 in nursing, 15 in medical statistics, 45 in maintenance, 49 in anesthesia, and 40 in midwifery.

However, there are also much more students studying in the institute's branches in the other cities, which resembles the potential for further expansion and growth.

Institute's difficulties & ambitions

In spite of all the success of the institute in enhancing health services in Yemen, it still

"The main difficulties facing the institute are basically the lack of adequate opportunities for revitalize the teaching staff, the lack of financial allocations in comparison to the institute achievements, the shortage in modern training instruments such as computers and other equipment, and the lack of x-ray labs."

faces many difficulties including shortage of financial support, training means, facilities and capacity to receive the huge number of applications every year.

Dr. Abdulwahab Ali Al Kholani, the Dean of the institute said, "The institute contributes to the development of the society through qualifying Yemeni health cadres and providing various health services especially to the rural areas where people are deprived of the essential health services."

He said that there is a new policy in accepting new students based on the needs of their respective provinces. Furthermore, the branches are to be provided with new mechanisms and teaching methods for training diploma students as well as organizing special training programs during compulsory services.

Dr. Abdulwahab said that there is no successful work without difficulties. The main difficulties facing the institute are basically the lack of adequate opportunities for revitalize the teaching staff, the lack of financial allocations in comparison to the institute achievements, the shortage in modern training instruments such as computers and other equipment, and the lack of x-ray labs.

It worth mentioning that the Social Fund financed many health developmental projects within the framework of cooperation and coordination between the Social Fund and the high institute



EPS represents Yemen in Earth Summit

By YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Environment Protecting Society, an active Yemeni NGO in the field of environmental protection revealed to Yemen Times that it has been selected by the Minister of Tourism and Environment Mr. Abdul Malik A. Al-Eryani and Environment to represent Yemen's NGO sector in the Second Earth Summit 2002 to be held during 26 August-4 September 2002 in Johannesburg, South Africa organized by the United Nations.

Aref Muharram, Chairman of the EPS said, "We have been appointed as a member in the Yemeni national committee to prepare for the Earth Summit also called Sustainable Development Summit that was agreed upon among nations on the international level to look at the current conditions of the earth and the deterioration in natural resources, which will eventually result in the demolishing of factors of life on this planet."

The EPS had presented the government a report representing the role of NGOs in the field of sustainable development and environmental protection throughout the last few years. "The report was reasonably transparent, and realistic. Despite the humble role played by the civil society in our country, our role is getting even tougher to play because less active NGOs receive gifts and aid because of their closer ties to political parties," he added.

Muharram added, "As Yemeni NGOs, we will be requesting from the

upcoming Johannesburg summit to exert pressures on governments to target environmental problems mainly resulting from carelessness of industrial and oil-exporting countries. Ways must be found to increase the number of trees, reduce environmental pollution, encourage invention of alternative clean energy resources, solve the problem of desertification, work out ways to help the poor, reduce domestic migration, decrease sand pollution using chemicals, control population growth, etc."

As for the cooperation between EPS and other Arab and regional NGOs, Muharram concluded, "We have coordinated our regional and Arab stance in previous summits and will bring a common request to target the Israeli aggressions against the Palestinian people and territory. We will condemn the Israeli actions in removing historical trees, ruining farms, demolishing houses, and destroying Palestinian infrastructure. We will also present the issue of Israeli nuclear plants and what dangers they represent for the whole region. We will condemn the technological sanctions imposed on some Arab countries such as Iraq and Libya, and will cooperate with Arab official delegations to bring a strong stance against the injustice suffered by the Iraqi people. We will also of course strongly reject any attempts for a war against Iraq."

*More information on Johannesburg Earth Summit 2002 at (www.johannesburgsummit.org).

برعاية سفارة المملكة الهولندية

AMIDEAST
امديست

يسره أن يعلن عن بدء قبول طلبات الترشيح للحصول على تدريب في مجال اللغة الإنجليزية في كل من مركزي امديست في صنعاء و عدن للكادر النسائي في المراكز القيادية.

استناداً إلى مستوى اللغة الإنجليزية لدى هؤلاء اللواتي سيتم اختيارهن ، سيخضعن لتدريب شبه مكثف خلال فترة تتراوح بين عام- عامين بتمويل من سفارة المملكة الهولندية.

نظراً للمحدودية عدد المقاعد وكثرة عدد المتقدمات، سيخضعن جميعهن لمنافسة حرة لاختيار الأفضل. على جميع الراغبات في التقديم إرفاق البيانات التالية إلى أحد مراكز امديست في موعد أقصاه تاريخ سبتمبر 1، 2002:

- (1) استمارة تقديم التي تحمل البيانات الشخصية الأولية (يمكن الحصول عليها من أحد مراكز امديست).
- (2) السيرة الذاتية (يمكن الحصول على نموذج من المركز أيضاً).
- (3) رسالة طلب الالتحاق.
- (4) رسالة من مرفق العمل لبيان الموقع الوظيفي.

سنخضع جميع المتقدمات اللواتي استوفين جميع الشروط لاختبار تحديد مستوى ومقابلة شخصية وسيتم الاستناد عليهما في الاختيار بالإضافة إلى معايير أخرى وهي الالتزام بالتدريب واحتياجات المهنة التي تعمل بها والتي ستحددها اللجنة المختصة .
و بعد اختيار المرشحات سيطلب منهن دفع مبلغ و قدره 25 دولار كتأمين لضمان التزام المرشحة بالتدريب (سيبدأ التدريب في سبتمبر 14، 2002) ، و باقي المتقدمات اللواتي لم يسفنهن الحظ سيتم وضعهن في قائمة الاحتياط للترشيح مستقبلاً.

تذكري : نرجو إرفاق جميع البيانات المطلوبة إلى أحد مراكز امديست في موعد أقصاه تاريخ سبتمبر 1، 2002 سيتم إعادة الملفات التي لم تستوف جميع الشروط.

لمزيد من التفاصيل نرجو الاتصال:

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www.amideast.org

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

147

I. What to Say

Situations and expressions (24):
Describing men (1)

Description of men and their manners is a matter of common experience. It depends on our observation and subjective assessment of the person's character and appearance. Obviously, such comments can be positive and negative. Let's now consider some of these expressions describing men and what strikes us as their most remarkable traits.

Positive:

- He is so gentle and suave.
- He is buoyant and gay.
- I love him for his manliness.
- He is every inch a gentleman.
- He has a boyish countenance.
- He is a play boy.
- He is an intellectual on his own right.
- He is gallant.
- He has an irrepressible charm about him.
- He has an affable nature.
- He is so likeable a person.
- Something in him fascinates me.
- He is nice to chat with.
- His company will make you feel good immensely.
- He is such a light-hearted man. I call him Mr. Ha - Ha.
- His dress sense is impeccable.
- He is always immaculately dressed up.
- His broad chest and fabulous arms give to his deportment a royal grandeur.
- He has a robust sense of proportion.
- He is well-built.
- He is tall and stalwart.
- He is strong and stout.
- He is well structured
- He has a masculine personality.
- He is generous and understanding.
- He is mellow in experience and matured in outlook.

II. How to say it correctly

Correct errors, if any, in the following sentences

1. Send this letter on my address.
2. My teacher gave me some advises.
3. I have a few breads for my supper.
4. He bought nice, new furnitures for his house.
5. The sceneries of Mahweet are breathtaking.

Solutions to last week's questions:

1. Will you do me a favor?
2. Death is preferable to dishonor.
3. I prefer swimming to walking.
4. There is no end to trouble.
5. I am busy with my work.

III. How to express it in one word

1. Land at the mouth of a river.
2. Violent mental disturbance caused by illness.
3. Heavy rush of water leading to great flood.
4. Statistics of births and deaths.
5. The final stage in the development of the plot of a play.

Solutions to last week's questions.

1. Timely chances in life: **Opportunities**
2. A state of disorder in the country: **Chaos**
3. 'Government of the people, by the people, for the people': **Democracy**
4. One who lives in a city or town: **Urban**
5. Government servants not in the defense forces: **Civil servant**

IV. Grammar and Composition

a) Composition

Arrange parts below to make a complete letter

1. I'm interested in Plan B (the ten-day tour to India)
2. Yours faithfully,
3. We look forward to your confirmation to our booking as soon as possible.
4. Thank you for the information you sent about trip to India during the Autumn holidays.
5. We would prefer the September 20th departure date, with a second choice of October 15th.
6. I would like to make a definite booking for two people.
7. Dear Sir/Madam,
8. Yemen Tour and Travels. 88 Queen Street Aden

b) Idioms and phrases

Use the following phrases in sentences of your own:

1. arise from
2. with open arms
3. keep somebody at arm's length
4. rise up in arms
5. armed with

c) Words commonly confounded

Bring out differences in meaning of the following pairs of words

1. arise, arouse
2. arrangement, derangement
3. arsenal, arsenic
4. artful, artistic
5. aspiration, respiration

Answers to last week questions

a) Composition

1. Topic of the paragraph: Choice of weather
Topic sentence: Different people have different choices of weather

2. Topic of the paragraph: The global importance of English
Topic Sentence: English is the most widely language in the world.

3. Topic of the paragraph: The dangers of smoking
Topic sentence: Smoking has a very harmful influence on the human health

b) Idioms and phrases:

1. **adhere to** (remain faithful to): I adhere to the Islamic ideals.
2. **adjacent to** (next to): Our house is adjacent to the mosque.
3. **adjust to** (make suitable or convenient): Children should learn how to adjust to the changing circumstances.
4. **admit to** (confess): The criminal admitted to the crime.
5. **in advance** (before a place or time): At the airport, passengers are required to send their luggage in advance.

c) Words commonly confounded

- 1) **aggravate** (vt) (make worse or more serious): Hi illness has aggravated.
- increase** (vt) (make grater in size, number): the country's population has increased a lot.
2. **ago** (adv) (used to indicate time measured back to a point in the past): He came here a few minutes ago. The train left a few minutes ago.
- before** (prep) (earlier than): I reached here before anybody else.
3. **agree** (vt) (consent): He agreed to help me.
- agreeable** (adj) (pleasing): He is an agreeable company.
- agreement** (n) (having the same opinion): We are in agreement with the decision
4. **alight** (vi) (get down from): passengers have alighted from the aircraft.
- align** (vt) (have close cooperation): They have aligned themselves with us.

V. Pearls from the Holy Quran



VI. Words of Wisdom

"The heart has no language. It speaks to the heart."
—Mahatma Gandhi

There is a perceived need for the teacher to guard students' self esteem and use their potential to the full

Students' Psychology versus Teaching Methods

DR. RAMAKANTA SAHU

Effective teaching leading to joyful learning is not merely a question of method. There are numerous instances of teachers adopting superb techniques; yet students are reluctant to learn because the teacher failed to establish a personal rapport with the students. He didn't create in them a love for the teacher which is transferred to the love of the subject he teaches. That is to say, he taught the lesson rather mechanically, ignoring partially or totally, the willingness or preparedness of the learners to learn. Such teachers function in isolation and cannot deliver the goods efficiently. This brings to focus two important parameters and principles relating to the teaching-learning situation:

- a) Students' psychology and motivation; and
- b) adoption and adaptation of a suitable teaching method or technique.

Significance of students' psychology:

Students' psychology is a highly significant determinant of effective learning. If the teacher is dynamic and effective, then the students look forward to the lesson with interest. They enjoy the lesson and seem to say "give us more" and feel sorry when the lesson is over. They feel involved in the lesson and work hard because they are interested. This fact underscores the value of motivation which may be defined as students' desire and need to learn - the driving force that makes them work hard, pay attention and have a healthy competitive spirit. The teacher has an important role in making the students motivated. He should have his own determination that the students should learn and provide encouragement to them to go ahead. A good teacher doesn't, indeed, teach; he provides a suitable climate conducive to learn.

One of the major problems many students face is that of psychological resistance. It is the teacher's job to ensure that the students are not tensed up and are at ease. He should try and discover the 'blocks' that students have in learning, especially, a foreign language. It is the teacher's bounden duty to remove psychological barriers to learning, make the students relaxed and be a real facilitator to learning.

The teacher should create situations in course of the lesson where the learners can talk about themselves or their experiences depending on their background. This is called 'personalization'. The ideal teaching situation is achieved when the students are eager to participate in the discussion which interests them. In this situation learning becomes meaningful, useful, and manageable to them.

There is a perceived need for the teacher to guard students' self esteem and use their potential to the full. He should know how fast the class can go by experimenting with different tempos. There should be adequate and proper variation and learner participation so that monotony is avoided and students' interest is maintained.

We have also to take care of the individual differences in learning styles and strategies of our students because we deal with mixed abilities groups. Our efforts at boosting students' psychological make-up are crowned with success if they:

- have a positive approach to learning;
- look for opportunities to use the newly acquired knowledge in meaningful situations;
- use study techniques efficiently;
- adapt to different learning conditions.

Every teacher develops his own method over a period of time. He tries out different techniques and refines the ones that suits him and the subject matter he is dealing with. The ultimate objective of teaching should be

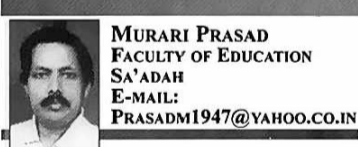
as varied as living, and include as many approaches as possible. The teacher has, therefore, to be eclectic and adopt a learner centered perspective.

A learner centered class focuses on learning and the learner. In such a class, all teaching activity is geared towards helping learners to be self-dependent and autonomous. The teacher does not simply 'dole out' information to the students in a uni-directional manner. He understands the psychology of learners and becomes a guide and a facilitator of learning, rather than a disciplinarian, who possesses all knowledge and learning. The learner-centered class, doesn't perceive the learner as an empty vessel waiting to be filled with knowledge transmitted by the teacher, but sees them as having some knowledge, intrinsic to themselves, which is brought to interact with new knowledge. This view of learning is consonant with the developmental psychologist Piaget's view that the new learning is assimilated by existing cognitive mechanisms, which accommodate themselves.

The methods adopted by the teacher should adequately promote the students' power of decision-making as well. As Breen, Allwright and Candlin rightly emphasize, learner-centered teaching should contribute towards promotion of learner autonomy in the classroom whereby the learners have the choice on what to study, how to study and when to study, depending on their needs, attitude and motivation.

To conclude, students' psychology and teaching methods are mutually inter-dependent. They are mutually complementary and influence each other. The discerning classroom teacher has to be armed with the professional equipment to understand this mutually enriching relationship between the two before taking a decision about his strategies in the classroom.

Idioms in Use



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Use the following idioms appropriately in the blanks.

Beetle off, bite the bullet, break the bank, conk out, cool one's heels, fish up, hit the ceiling, in mothballs, jack up, jump the gun, not much cop, on the rocks, on the turn, pitch into, rake around, roll up, romp home, scrape the barrel, talk shop, turn the corner

1. It's really _____ when you've to bring unemployed to do the teaching.
2. The flight was five hours late and I had to _____ my _____ to receive the guest.
3. When you're forced to accept something unpleasant and

unavoidable, you've to _____

4. We shouldn't _____ in the company of strangers.
5. These days doctors seem to be _____ their consultation fees every month.
6. I have mislaid the cheque and can't _____ it _____ easily.
7. I was fairly flustered when my car _____ halfway between home and office.
8. His expensive medical treatment will _____.
9. His first marriage is _____.
10. It's difficult to predict which party will _____ in the upcoming elections.
11. As soon as the examination the examination was over, the students _____ home.
12. Let's _____ whatever is laid on the table.
13. I _____ in the file but couldn't find his letter.

14. Ahmad finally _____ six hours late.
15. You must keep bank deposit _____ to earn good interest.
16. His fortune seems to be _____ as his plans are succeeding one after another.
17. My father will _____ when he comes to know that I've failed in every subject.
18. The patient has _____ and will get well soon.
19. They _____ by distributing the family property before reading their father's will.
10. He is _____ as a speaker.

Answers to the last week's questions
1. filed into 2. fetched up 3. snuff it 4. tagging along 5. tucking into 6. rake in 7. flies off the handle 8. line up 9. ferried off 10. frittered away 11. over the hump 12. know from backwards 13. soft touch 14. double back 15. swan around

YOUTH FORUM

So close, yet so far
Oh, where are you, my lofty star?
Don't you hear my poems and sighs?
How dear to you truly you are!
I'm the one who is wounded,
My heart is in fact bleeding.

Let your fancy embrace me again.
Songs, sweet and snowy, but your touches,
Gleaming in the depth of a dying heart
With sounds like drops of rain.
Warmth writ on your bright face
I still wonder how close to me still you are!

Oh! he dreams that drift by,
With the slow passing of years,
Hopes, memories and tears,
So my life will never be better,
Unless the trees are greener,
And the roses bloom in December.

Time indeed flies and memories crowd my mind,
So close to me you are, yet so far.
To leave one is really hard.
I think it is too bad.

Huda Moh'd Sharaf
Faculty of Education
Level 3, English Dept.
Taiz University

The Final End

I can not tell why
We love to do all things together
Long ago it started and is going on still
Through the years which have rolled by
In the memory's highway
Long ago and far away
I'm quite unable to express,
The unbearable loneliness that catches me unawares
My psyche is pervaded by this loneliness
Which will increase ever more and will never grow less

Too late

Its too late!
But you're not my fate
I won't love you any more
As my heart you tore
Everything you say was just a lie
There is no true love-lie
Whatever you say
No excuses for betray
You fall out of my eyes
As your promises go to skies
I do not want again
More suffer, and more pain

Fatehia Fatehi
Sana'a

Are you standing alone in a remote land?
Watching me how I do act?
You know that I have been in your hands
Tell me who has forgotten his part.

We are just lines in the book of life,
Ruled by the mercy of the Supreme father
Sometimes tossed so close and sometimes drifted so far.

Your dream world carried me far away,

TIMES QUIZ (36)

Answer the following questions

1. Respiration is a catabolic energy giving process. It derives most of its energy from
a) Fats b) Lipids
c) Proteins d) Glucose
2. The planet mercury has no atmosphere because of
a) Low gravity and high temperature
b) High gravity and high temperature
c) Low gravity and moderate temperature

d) Moderate gravity and temperature

3. Which of the following is not a product of yeast activity?
a) Wine b) Toddy
c) Beer d) Cheese

4. A chemical reaction in which two molecules combine to form a large molecule with elimination of a small molecule is
a) Conjugation b) Coprecipitation
c) Condensation d) Concentration

5. What is the full form of the abbreviation AC?

Answers to TIMES QUIZ (35)

1. We can't extinguish petrol fire with water because water being heavier slips down and petrol comes on the surface and burns.
2. G. Mendel is considered the father of Genetics.
3. Transplantation of blood is commonly practiced.
4. CO is not atmospheric pollutant.
5. The full form of ABM is Anti Ballistics Missile.

Local Press

Prepared by Mohammed Khidhr



Al-Thawri weekly, organ of YSP, 15 Aug. 2002.

Main headlines:

- Explosion in Sana'a aborts preparation for a big operations
- Detection of 14 boxes containing (C4) explosive material, rockets, large quantities of TNT
- Military training plane crash over Hodeida
- Joint Meeting Parties stick to the criteria
- A citizen hanged on a wood post in Ibb

On the concept of democracy and its reality in the developing countries, Dr. Nasser Mohammed Nasser says in an article that from the opposition parties' viewpoint, democracy becomes synonym to a concept stressing interests. It means continuing of party leaders and elites at the top of those political parties, even if the price were the abortion of the meaning of opposition, through holding alliance with the ruling regime for a material interests. As evidence on that is some of those leaderships have gotten very old while are still at their high positions where the process of change could not reach them. Some of these parties depend for their continuation on the financing of the ruling regime. Their continuation is a necessary for acting as a façade of a dictatorial regime. A confirmation on this is that the majority of such political parties do lack in democracy within their ranks. For there are no regular democratic elections have been held to choose their leadership. Even if such elections were held, they usually would not result in transfer of power among their ranks and leaders. They would not conduct this process despite of their slogans and calls demanding the transfer of power through transparency.

Opposition democracy should come ahead of the authority democracy.



26 September weekly, organ of Yemen Armed Forces, 15 Aug. 2002.

Main headlines:

- 39 countries, 16 organization and

- financing fund, to attend the International Conference for the Support of Yemen
- German experts team in Sana'a on Saturday
- Interior minister: comprehensive plan to establish security zone throughout the republic
- Yemen to take part in World Summit on sustainable development
- Modern systems for rural areas communications

Columnist Ahmed Al-Aza'zi discusses in his article the question of upcoming elections. The writer says there is enough period of time to go before going to elections battles. This space of time provides opportunity to tackle mistakes and negativity that associated previous elections, as were seen in election of some persons who had not enjoyed the criteria of efficiency, honesty and specialty in representing the people public interests in developing living standards and public services programs. This period of time before holding the elections provides opportunity to think deeply about and to study scientifically factors precluding repetition of former mistakes, on the one hand, and the emergence of new features for flourishing of democracy. It is of special significance that the constitution has guaranteed for the people the freedom of organization and choosing those whom they see they have the ability to offer the required service to the country, stemming from the faith in the individual's freedom on the way for realizing the goals of the group.

The political parties and national forces are required to understand their responsibility honestly, away from the tug-of-war game.



Al-Jamahir weekly, organ of the Arab Baath Socialist party, 11 Aug. 2002.

Main headlines:

- The Zionist enemy prepares to take in war on Iraq
- A number of judges, prosecution members to be brought to trial
- Tribal clashes between al-Haima and Bani Matar
- America determined to isolate the Palestinian president

- dangerous complications in Sana'a explosion on August 9

On the coming electoral round in Yemen, editor in chief of the newspaper expressed his regret versus orientations and intentions aimed at repeating experiment of the current round of elections of the upcoming one. He describes results of this round as consolidating a tragedy befalling the political, economic and social aspects of democracy. He added that international and local reports confirmed the present result of the electoral round its failure to find solutions for the issue of development in Yemen. The author maintains that the attempt to individually utilize the elections results to achieve an absolute majority, is an act detrimental to the national democratic experiment. There must be providing opportunity for the honest democratic competition to go ahead. The state should grant the political parties an opportunity to equal chances and balanced competition. Such orientation could certainly create a state of diversity at the parliament, make available the atmosphere of multi-ideas on national issues. It would help a good choice of suitable decision, curb mistaken conduct and consolidate the democratic experiment.



Al-Balagh weekly, 13 Aug. 2002.

Main headlines:

- New American scheme to invade Saudi Arabia, attack Iran
- Elements from Islah party break through security police station in Sa'afan district, free detainees
- Yemen to hand over a number of al-Qaeda-linked suspects to Saudi Arabia
- Religious leaders, personalities in Aden refuse the governor's measures towards Baihani Institute
- Opposition parties lash out at General People's Congress party

In his editorial Abdulla Ibrahim al-Wazeer confirms that America continues in its attempts for subjecting and humiliating the entire Arab and Islamic region.

It is every now and then stepping up threats of invading Iraq and what has happened in Afghanistan, a could

occur in Iraq. America wants to be the only commander and decision-maker in this region. It wants to have the right to change the regime or their president would be rebellious, in the eyes of America, if that ruler was a satellite of America. Such people are hostile to world freedom and justice and pose danger to international community. Any people in good terms with their regime that is not in accord with the United States, they are considered a regime has to be changed and the people's Islamic religion must re-formulated.

These US repeated attempts to change our Arab and Islamic regimes and even choose for us the concept of Islam it wants, seems intended to install Bush the Mufti of Islam. All these matters are categorically refused. Al Arab regimes and peoples must refuse and resist them. Presently, the US wants to change the Iraqi regime, and the Israeli enemy wants to change Yasser Arafat. Accusations are directed to Saudi Arabia and Egypt, and Yemen is under the watch. All Arab and Muslim regimes must be aware of this American plot in order to stand on a solid ground.



Al-Sahwa weekly, 15 Aug. 2002.

Main headlines:

- Joint Meeting parties expose cheating of Elections Supreme Committee
- Parties and Election Committee at undecided conflict

Editorial in Chief says in his editorial that the authority in our country proves to be annoyed by dialogue held by others. It has always considered the state of no-dialogue among the opposition parties as an indication of their failure. But now, at the first political change by opposition parties towards coordination, dialogue and alliance within the framework of election. The aim is to find a state of non-confidence among these parties. Whenever the opposition parties demonstrated cohesion in defense of joint options, the authority would assail those parties, accusing with the worst accusation.

The opposition realizes that changes would be attained only by sacrifices. The first thing to be sacrificed is the

recent past inheritance.



Al-Wahdawi weekly, organ of the Nasserite People's Unionist Organization, 13 Aug. 2002.

Main headline:

- Suspicions on al-Qaeda sympathizers involvement in Sana'a explosion
- Commander of the US Navy 5th Fleet visited Aden port
- Joint meeting parties foil Supreme Committee's attempts to dismantle their organization
- US supplies at Udaid military base in Qatar to be used in attacking Iraq
- Abortive attempt to blast a building in Taiz

Columnist Mohammed Saleh al-Hadhiri says dealing a strike to Iraq might have become as certain unless he would offer real concession related to the core of Arab-Israeli conflict, which represents in the major point. Iraq has employed its capabilities to develop strategic weapons creating an equation with Israel's. Moreover, Baghdad's disobedience has produced a psychological reaction for Washington, making it draw up plans for canceling the Iraqi example.

The Iraqi example does not recognize the change that made Washington led the world according to a new world order after the 1991. Iraq, in contrast, does not proceed from this background, but rather from its vision of the Arab scheme, similar to that of Nasser's project of 1967.



RAY weekly, organ of Sons of Yemen League party, 13 Aug. 2002.

Main headlines:

- Yemen repatriated to Saudi Arabia a number of al-Qaeda suspects
- General prosecution interrogates judges accused of murder, embezzlement crimes
- Sultan al-Sami'i to declare formation of a new political party
- International Monetary Fund urges Yemen for more economic reforms

Columnist Ali al-Kuthiri says we ought to be optimistic for the announcement on the intention of conducting a new process for registration and opening new electoral records with participation of various political parties and organizations in a manner guaranteeing safety and legality. But regretfully all those hopes have disappeared after the Elections Committee introduced its decision on criteria of forming registration committees. The decision has defined political parties shores in the field elections committee dependent on measures and results of former elections. By its decision, the elections committee has undermined all what can hence credibility and honesty of the process of electoral registration.



Al-Mithaq weekly, organ of General People's Congress party, 12 Aug. 2002.

Main headlines:

- GPC's general committee considers the party's restructure and electoral program
- Prime minister discussed with US Navy Commander American support for Yemeni Coast Guard
- MP al-Yamani: Nabil al-Naqeeb confiscated al-Baihani society
- Technical Committee on Yemeni-Saudi border demarcation to meet with the German company mid of September

The newspaper's editorial says the GPC party is keen, in all its steps, to go ahead with the democratic pursuit it has accepted as an irreversible real decision. This is represented by a behavior aware of dimensions of progressive changes, achieved in our country by virtue of respect of others' opinions.

The demand by Join meeting parties for distributing shares at electoral committees regardless of each party's size, is a kind breaching rules of democratic game dictating credibility on all and leaving behind all mishaps of the past. The GPC is keen to overstep irresponsible difference and set before us a clear-feature part for the future. Our utmost hope is that the Joint meeting parties are capable of comprehending the constitution and law in this regard.

World Press

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

Egypt

Al Ahram

Egyptian Foreign Minister Ahmed Maher said on Friday words by his Israeli counterpart Shimon Peres on Israel's participation in eliminating the Iraqi regime are just a reflection of Israel's aggressive policy aimed at undermining Arab regimes, starting from the Palestinian National Authority up to the Iraqi regime.

Al Akhbar

US peace envoy to Sudan John Donforth said Egypt has a strong presence in the settlement of the Sudan issue that no one could marginalize.

Al Gomhuria

A delegation of the Defense and National Security Committee in the Egyptian People's Assembly made a tour of some armed forces units in the northern zone of Alexandria to see their latest developments that fell within the framework of achieving high combat skills.

Egyptian Mail

Egypt is negotiating with Nile basin countries to nail down a new agreement on dividing the Nile waters, said Egyptian Water Resources Minister Mahmoud Abu Zeid on Friday.

Lebanon

(Reuters)

DAILY STAR

Qornet Shehwan seeks dialogue with Lebanese President Emile Lahoud. Christian opposition group alarmed by "dangerous" internal situation.

AS-SAFIR

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon "advises" Washington to strike Iraq quickly. U.S. President George W. Bush says will rely on the latest intelligence information.

AN-NAHAR

Israel plans to distance Palestinian President Yasser Arafat to Lebanon. Lebanon says it will not be a land of exile.

AL-MUSTAQBAL

Short-lived overnight mobilisation between opposing groups in Ain el-Hilweh Palestinian refugee camp in southern Lebanon.

AL-ANWAR

Attempt to smuggle cannabis from Lebanon to Holland fails.

UK

The Independent

The Bush administration's plans to go to war against Iraq are causing growing disquiet among eminent members of the president's Republic Party, including congressmen, foreign policy veterans and close confidants of the first President Bush who was deeply involved in the war against Iraq a decade ago.

Financial Times

Concerns are growing that British Energy, the country's biggest nuclear power group, will be unable to meet its 14 billion pound (21 billion U.S. dollar) decommissioning and clear-up costs because of low power prices and weak equity markets.

The Guardian

Israel signalled its decision on Friday

to put public pressure on President George bush to go ahead with a military attack on Iraq, even though it believes Saddam Hussein may well retaliate by striking Israel.

The Daily Telegraph

John Prescott, the deputy prime minister, on Friday acknowledged differences of opinion within the Cabinet over the prospect of Britain joining an American-led attack on Iraq.

The Times

Romano Prodi, the president of the European Commission, will fly to Berlin Sunday for emergency talks with Gerhard Schroder, the German chancellor, as floodwaters continued Friday to threaten economic ruin for central and eastern Europe.

Philippines

Manila Bulletin:

President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo gave up Friday all hopes of convincing former Secretary Raul S. Roco of the Department of Education to stay in her Cabinet following his decision to resign in protest over a presidential directive for the Presidential Anti-Graft Commission to look into charges filed against him by department employees.

Manila Standard

Police rescued the ailing wife, driver and a family nurse of a wealthy landowner late Friday, three days after they were kidnapped by a notorious gang.

Today

After lying low for months, the dreaded Pentagon gang struck again, this time snatching a prominent North Cotabato couple and their two helpers on Wednesday in Maguindanao province in the southern Philippines.



Arab News - Khalil cartoon

Pakistan

Dawn

The Election Commission of Pakistan announced on Friday the schedule for elections to the National and provincial assemblies to be held on Oct. 10 and the election to the Senate to be held on Nov. 12.

Pakistan Observer

At least six civilians were wounded on board a bus when it was hit by Indian mortar shells in Azad Kashmir on Friday, officials said.

The News

US Ambassador to Pakistan Nancy Powell said here on Friday that Washington will continue its cooperation with Pakistan in all areas, including defense and economic development.

Kenya

Kenya Times

Kenya's ruling party KANU Friday proposed the introduction of a prime minister and a deputy prime minister in the government.

Daily Nation

Ten police officers were charged in a Nairobi court Friday with various offenses of car-jacking and violent robbery in the city.

East African Standard

Kenyan Vice President George Saitoti appeared in a Nairobi street Friday to move ahead his campaign for the presidential nomination by the ruling party KANU.

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صنعا: جارة الغراسي شارع حدة ت: ٢٠٦٩٠٨ - ٢١٩٣٢٢، فاكس: ٢٠٦٩٠٧
عنا: أورتر، شارع حدة، في الجارة فندق جوده ورمادة تليفون: ٢٥١٥٦٠ - ٢٥١٥٦٠، فاكس: ٢٥٨٢٢٧

WONDERWORD by DAVID OUELLET

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

- CLUES
Aroma
Bags
Belgian
Bitter
Blend
Bottle
Box
Brand
Bread
Buds
Cajun
Cheese
Chili
Cloves
Cold
Combination
Cook
Creamy
Crock
Cucumber
Dabs
Dijon
Dips
Dressing
Drop
English
Enhance
Fieri
Flavor
French
Garlic
Ginger
Grains
Grams
Greek
Heat
Heavy
Herb
Honey
Imported
Ingredient
Jams
Jars
Juice
Kick
Label
Lemon
Mint
Mustard
Nuts
Packet
Paste
Peel
Pepper
Pickles
Plain
Potato
Prepared
Produce
Raisins
Ranch
Relish
Rich
Sage
Salsas
Salt
Seasoning
Smell
Smoked
Smooth
Soya
Spoon
Spreads
Squeeze
Strawberry
Strong
Sweet
Tapenade
Taste
Thick
Tomato
Vegetable
Vinegar
Wasabi
Wine
Zest
Zippy

CONDIMENT WISE Solution: 5 letters

Grid for the Condiment Wise crossword puzzle with letters and numbers.

ANSWER NEXT WEEK Last Week's Answer: Telecommunications

The Universal Crossword

Edited by Timothy E. Parker

- ACROSS
1 Blanket used as a shawl
6 Raccoon cousin
11 Drinking bout
14 "Crazy as ..."
15 An ion that migrates to the anode
16 Freud subject
17 With 55-Across, comic duo
19 Car introduced in 1904
20 Sabras
21 Took part in the Henley Royal Regatta
23 Kurosawa's "King Lear"
24 Actor Savalas
26 Cause depression
30 Script written for TV
33 Religious belief
34 Falls to the next level
35 Feminist pitcher's concern?
36 Blind as ...
37 Heads, slangily
38 Triumphant cry
39 Chaney, both father and son
40 Gentleman's gentleman
41 Pleasantly zesty, as tea
42 Ornate
44 Removes from
DOWN
1 Word in an O. Henry title
2 Pub offering
3 Jordanian queen
4 Word repeated thrice in a war film title
5 Raised the hackles
6 Room on a ship
7 Burden
8 Broadcast
9 Brick measure
10 Shoe linings
11 With 28-Down, comic duo
12 "A Death in the Family" author
13 Like the pastor's

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

Grid for the previous puzzle answer with letters and numbers.

"COMICS" By Ed Early

Grid for the "COMICS" crossword puzzle with numbers.

7-Day Weather Forecast

Table with 7 columns (Day, Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat, Sun) and 3 rows (Hi, Lo, Precipitation).

MUS'ID & MUS'IDA

First Ever Yemeni Radio Series published in a newspaper

22



Written by Abdulrahman Mutahhar

Translated by Janet Watson

Trust

M - God Almighty said in His Holy Book, 'In the name of God the merciful, the compassionate, we offered a deposit in trust with the heavens, the earth and the mountains, but they refused to take it, so it was taken up by man, for he is flawed and sinning.' God has spoken truly.
Ma - God has spoken truly indeed. But as far as I'm concerned, I've got nothing I'm looking after for other people, and no one is looking after anything for me. Just the day before yesterday my sister came over to take back the gold she left with me in trust, and took it from me right there in front of her daughters!
M - Can't you wait until I finish what I'm saying? Can't you listen without adding your own bit of wisdom?
Ma - Don't you worry. I'd leave all the wisdom and knowledge up to you, even if you were totally ignorant.
M - I'm trying to talk to you about things left in trust to mankind, I'm not telling you how your grandmother used to suck eggs!
Ma - And I've just told you, my sister's gold that she left with me in trust has just left, with her, the day before yesterday. Now I'm not entrusted with anything, and no one is entrusted with anything of mine!
M - Mus'ida.
Ma - Now what!
M - There isn't a single one of God's creatures who is not entrusted with something which is weightier than the mountains of the earth. Every single one of us will face God Almighty on the Day of Resurrection and will be asked about the deposit

with which he was entrusted, and which was rejected by the mountains. And you know about God's recompense - either we go to Heaven or to Hell!
Ma - Oh pray to God! Make us people of Heaven and save us from the fires of Hell, I pray!
M - Amen! This item of trust, Mus'ida, is not just the gold your sister left with you to take care of. The whole of our life is in trust to us, including what we say and do, the way we pray and worship God, our dealings with other people, even the way we look, and whether we listen to bad words. All these are items which have been entrusted to us, and for which we will be accountable.
Ma - These are mighty words from you today.
M - Yes. God Almighty said, 'Not one thing is said without the presence of the two angels Ragib and Atig.' God has spoken truly.
Ma - God has spoken truly.
M - If you say nice things and speak the truth and mean well, a good deed will be recorded by your name and you will have taken good care of the trust which the mountains refused. But if you speak evil words or lie or spread malicious gossip, and if you talk about things that don't concern you, a bad deed will be recorded against your name, and you will have failed in your duty to take care of your trust.
Ma - Why didn't you tell me this before, then I'd have been able to hold my tongue and put a padlock on my mouth!

M - You don't need a padlock to guard your tongue; just make sure you only say good things with the intention of spreading good.
Ma - How can I do that, Mus'id, when we women have nothing to do apart from taking and giving words. And when we say anything it's all lies and hypocrisy and boasting and snobbery!
M - For goodness sake! The Yemeni saying goes, 'If you feel a draught from the door, get up and shut it!' Start with yourself, guard your own tongue, and make sure you don't get involved in bad talk, whether it comes from your neighbour, or your sister, or even from your own mother. We're told that nothing sends a person to Hell quicker than a foul tongue.
Ma - Now that you've told me all about shutting out the draught you can count yourself beyond reproach, and anything that happens from now on will be my fault. 'Once a child reaches forty days, he's not going to get a squint,' Mus'id.
M - Okay, but be sure to remember that holding off talking about people behind their backs, or letting out their secrets, or hurting their feelings, or belittling them is one type of trust which has been placed with mankind, and was rejected by the mountains. As the Prophet, peace be upon him, said, 'Whoever believes in the Last Day should say good things, or say nothing at all.'

1 Al-Akwa', p. 257.
2 Al-Akwa', p. 39.

Horoscope

By Boadachia



Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 19)
You need to find your purpose in life. Even if you think you've already found it, guess what? ... there's either another one waiting for you, or you can always improve the one you've got. So, create some strategies, you know, planning, make an outline, etc. of how you're going to get to this life purpose and fulfill it. Then, promote yourself to the right people and put yourself in the right places so that you can support that purpose and start shaping your own destiny. There are obvious benefits to this process, but at this time, it means that you will be able to get away from, or out from underneath the grips of something or someone that has you limiting yourself and feeling trapped.



Taurus (Apr 20 - May 20)
You are a genius. I'm not referring to the IQ type, (although I'm not insulting your intelligence either). I mean, that you have always had an incredible inner joy that is genius in its purest form. But you forgot to fertilize it a long time ago. It's been lying dormant, waiting to be born. To hatch it means you have to start learning things you never imagined. Like, have you ever studied your own potential? I mean really thought about what kind of mountains you could move and miracles you could perform? This week is about unfolding all that, so you can reach your own personal fulfillment and then those around you can also benefit.



Gemini (May 21 - Jun 20)
You're excited about something ... a new career opportunity, a new job, a new place to live, something. But, you're jumping into it way, way too fast. You are already planning far into the future, which is not like you. Well, actually it is, except from past patterns, you know how things can change from the original outlook. Sometimes you even change your mind. So, taking your time to make sure everything is what it seems to be is critical to the long-term success of this endeavor. Where it may fall if you go too quickly, it has possibilities for a strong future if you take it one step at a time and look at everything objectively.



Cancer (Jun 21 - Jul 22)
You are growing. The seed was planted some time ago, and the more time that passes by, the bigger you will be. If you don't force it, or pressure yourself into something you think you must have, you will notice this process more. You will become more aware, and silently leave room for your spirit and soul to guide you and provide answers, rather than your ego. Look for messages as to your next path. Be very, very open to messages that you're not expecting and that you may want to resist. They are being left for your soul to make a decision. Even if you don't feel it's required at this time to grab the meaning of those messages, they will be planted in your subconscious, until you are ready to vibrate at that level.



Leo (Jul 23 - Aug 22)
Happiness, especially relative and questionably attainable, is being provided by the truckload, around every corner, 24-hours a day. Are you missing it? Have you not figured out that life really can be utopia, with an endless celebration, just for the asking? That's just it, I haven't met a person yet who believes that all you have to do is ask for it. Nothing specific, nothing which comes from ego-focused desire. But, just asking for pure happiness and tranquility. These things, although packaged much differently than you may expect, are all around you. All you have to do is let them in, provided you are willing to really, really let go, and trust in nothing else than the higher power. It knows what is best for you more than you know yourself.



Virgo (Aug 23 - Sep 22)
You have been bullied long enough, by someone or some circumstance. You've been trapped and harassed enough by these problems that are not directly yours, but you've decided to make them about your life. If you keep it up, it could result in depression and low self-esteem. You need to take some serious action regarding what you let get to you and what you shrug off your shoulders. Get away from that which drains and taxes you. Draw yourself toward things that are fulfilling, light and powerfully fun. There are people and situations waiting for you, that will give you abundance and even thrills. It's all about putting one thing behind you and inviting the next thing in.



Libra (Sep 23 - Oct 22)
You will begin to understand that your dignity means more to you than the thing you've been sacrificing it for. Your most important and challenging job will be to recognize where things really belong in your life. What have you been beating your head to try to accomplish with little success? What would you really like to be acknowledged and noticed for? Get ready to have your patience, tolerance, and integrity tested. Get ready to see how much sacrifice you can undergo for the sake of peace, but at the price of losing some of your most important qualities and wisdom.



Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21)
When Tiger Woods was experiencing his huge slump on the gold course, back in Winter, 2001, everyone was whispering behind his back. They wondered if he had reached his peak, only to come crashing down. Like one of those here-today, gone-tomorrow super rock stars. What no one knew is that Tiger had many angels supporting him, and he managed to draw himself more positive attention when he took home four ESPY awards. You too, may encounter a slump in one or more of your life, but just as you least expect it, you will be surprised with a large shot of good fortune and the angels will shine much light upon you.



Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21)
In the movie 'John Q', Denzel Washington is faced with trying to save his son's life. The cause is real, it's about love, and certainty justifiable. Because no one works with him and he ends up stuck between a rock and a hard place, he does what he needs to. Without ever realizing it, he takes justice into his own hands and exposes the health care industry for the scam that it is. You will be faced with a similar scenario. The trick will be to know that the cause is sincere and honest. The challenge will be to act against the opponents with force, yet keep a level head at the same time.



Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19)
Only when we get older do we begin to look inside ourselves to discover what has become of us. We ponder what we have really done with those precious moments of time that were given to us so freely. When we are young there don't seem to be any missed opportunities, only ones that are still to come. No matter what your age, it's time to take a critical look at yourself. Have you wasted any of those moments? Missed out on opportunities? Have you scooped out all the darkness and are you happy with what you see? Fortunately, you're still here to read this and you still have boatloads of time and an abundance of opportunities still waiting for you.

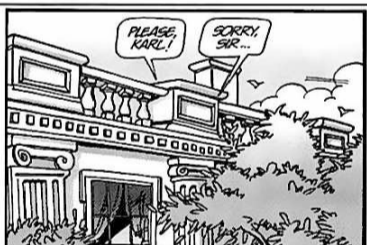
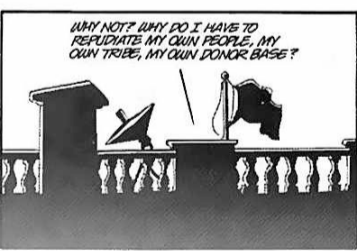


Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18)
Are you superstitious? Do you believe in things that deep down you know aren't real? Are you attracted to things that aren't good for you? All this is a possibility right now and all it's doing is postponing the real reality for you. You need to get honest with what you should be putting your energy into. Let all distractions fall by the wayside and focus just on your own space. Decide to live a bit more dangerously, but strictly for yourself. Put aside some of the things you think are going to bring you true fulfillment and rearrange your schedule for some new and more dynamic adventures.



Pisces (Feb 19 - Mar 20)
It's the moment you've been waiting for. You finally have a chance to carve out your own niche. There might be some trepidation. After all, you've been building up to this for a long time. And, you are only human. But that spirit, the part that is not human, but always inside you, has been training hard and is ready to hit the starting gates. Start calling yourself by a grand title, one that honors you for what you've earned. Accept this new position and all the glory that goes with it. Present yourself as you have always dreamt and wait for the reactions. They'll be interesting, no doubt, but you will find people and places who honestly believe your position. Fancy that, people accepting the new you.

DOONESBURY by G.B. Trudeau



Garfield





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شركة زبيّين للتجارة والصناعة ZTCO

Zubayen Trading & Industry Company

ZUBAYEN'S LARGEST EXHIBITION IN ADEN

Zubayen Trading & Industry Company (ZTCO) has inaugurated one of its largest exhibitions at its Aden branch in Tawahi. The exhibition offers a wide range of central machines and home appliances produced in Europe for kitchen equipment, Laundry and cooling systems. The exhibition is composed of 2 sections:



Saleh Moh'd Zubayen, Director General of Zubayen Trading & Industry Company

SECTIONS OF THE EXHIBITION

The first section contains the more highly sophisticated central kitchen and Laundry machines for hotels, hospitals, tourist restaurants and Luxurious Villas.

The second section contains home electric and gas appliances such as refrigerators, freezers, washing machines, dishwashers, cookers and utensils in addition to other domestic requisites.

"QUALITY FIRST"

These exhibits, like most other European products, are of top premium quality, highly advanced technology, and long durability. They symbolize the policy of ZTCO in importing the best equipment and accessories directly

from the manufacturing Companies of international repute. ZTCO's customers are those whose motto is "QUALITY FIRST". These machines operate for longer durations without stoppage, they don't need intermittent repairs or frequent change of spare parts.

BEST SERVICES FOR BEST BRANDS

Nevertheless Zubayen's Company does not hesitate to provide its customers with genuine after-sale services namely spare parts and maintenance if and when necessary. The company employs for this purpose highly qualified engineers who offer speedy services for maintaining machines either at homes or at any other places where the machines are located. The engineers pay regular visits to the sites of the oil companies at the fields to provide full-scale maintenance to the central machines and equipment, which these companies procure for ZTCO.

ZTCO WINS CONTRACTS

Recently the company has been awarded contracts to equip several hotels and hospitals with central machines.

AND FINALLY

The company welcomes its esteemed customers to visit its exhibitions which the company organizes at intervals in Sana'a or Aden or its distributing agents to take a closer look at the quality of these machines for themselves.



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RX-M70 Monaural Radio Cassette Recorder

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RX-CT850 Stereo Radio Cassette Recorder

- قوة إخراج عالية الطاقة 9 واط (PMPO)
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CS-730 Stereo Radio Cassette Recorder

- قوة إخراج عالية الطاقة 10 واط (PMPO)
- موزان ذو 4 إعدادات مسبقية لضبط مع إشعاع LED
- نظام ذو 4 مكبرات للصوت ومخرجين



RX-FB50 Stereo Radio Cassette Recorder

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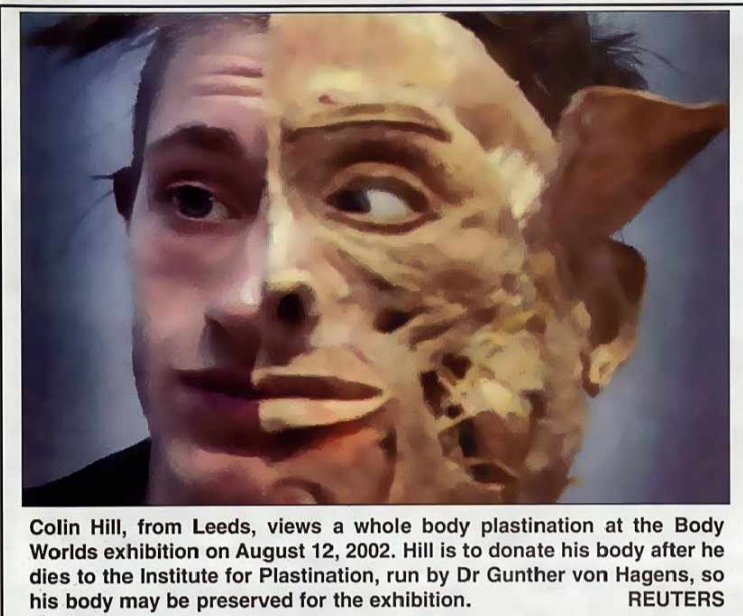
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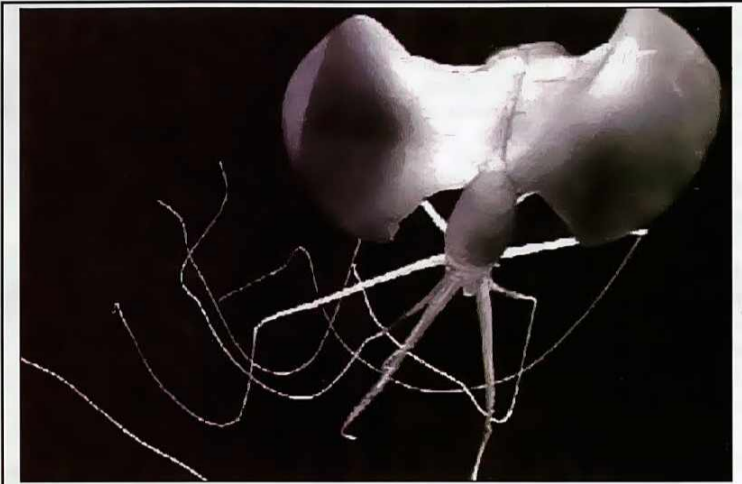
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Colin Hill, from Leeds, views a whole body plastination at the Body Worlds exhibition on August 12, 2002. Hill is to donate his body after he dies to the Institute for Plastination, run by Dr Gunther von Hagens, so his body may be preserved for the exhibition. REUTERS



Overfishing and global warming could prove a boon to one still largely mysterious creature that may already outnumber man — the squid. This still image from an underwater video camera shows what is believed to be a new species of deep-sea squid encountered off the island of Oahu in May 2001. REUTERS

Yahya Rabah, short stories collection

Yemeni Writers Union has recently published a new collection of short stories in Arabic titled "Tree of Absence" authored by the Palestinian Ambassador to Yemen Yahya Rabah. Ambassador Rabah's new short stories collection is distinguished by a beautiful

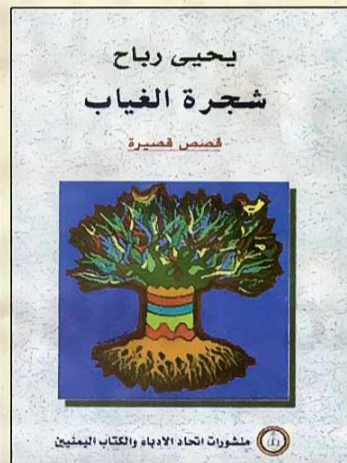


Yahya Rabah

language and a style combining between the symbol and reality.

The Tree of Absence collection discusses suffering of inhabitants of Palestinian refugees and observes their yearnings, grieves and endurance. This collection of stories by the man of letters and ambassador Yahya Rabah is issued at very extraordinary circumstances the Palestinian cause and people are experiencing, at a time the Zionist entity is using its destructive war machine in an

unprecedented annihilation war against the Palestinian people in the occupied territories with the aim of killing the spirit of resistance and steadfastness and undermining the people's brave intifadah.



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- Grill
- Timer
- Lamp
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