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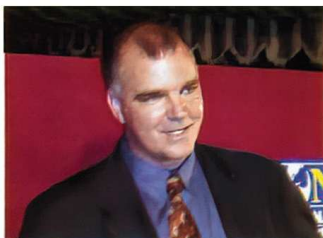
NDI Gulf Forum for Political Action

BY MOHAMMED AL-QADHI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Organized by the American National Democratic Institute (NDI), the Gulf Forum for the Democratic Political Action started Saturday evening with 45 participants from Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Oman, Bahrain, and Kuwait and some international participants from the US who facilitate and run discussions.

Mr. Leslie Campell, NDI Director for Middle East and North Africa told Yemen Times the forum aims to discuss and debate multiparty competition, political participation, mainly women participation in politics, open and free media and the involvement of civil society in political dialogue. The forum, which winds up on Wednesday, is in a series the NDI is running as the first one was held in Morocco and the second one in Jordan. This one was supposed to be held in Bahrain.

Mr. Campell said that these groups of the political participation, civil society and media will have their own workshops but they will all mix to learn from each other and discuss their



Mr. Leslie Campell

own problems. "A big part of what we are doing is providing a forum for people to get together. Likely, the vast majority of these people have never met each other before," he said. He pointed out that the people with extreme ideas are good at networking and communicate with each other well. "But democrats do not have these networks; they do not seem to communicate. So, the goals of these forums are provide that structure for democrat or moderate people to get together and form networks the same way the

extremists form networks or maybe even better," he said, pointing out that it is in the big picture a part of the fight on terrorism. He said that the Arab governments have participated in that separation of democrats and open people in the Arab world. On the contrary, they "hold down independent press, politicians or civil society activists. But the people who want to behave illegally, they get together and nothing stops them," he said. He stressed that Yemen has been chosen to be the host of this event because it has some laudable steps in the areas of the issues to be debated in comparison with other countries in the region.

The significance of the event, said Mohammed al-Tayyib, Chairman of Human Rights and Liberties Committee at the Consultative Council, lies in the participation of these countries. He pointed out that this is also recognition of what Yemen has achieved in terms of democratization.

Ms. Amat al-Aleem al-Suswa, Minister of Human Rights, said in the opening session that the idea of the event brings hope towards bringing together all efforts to overcome challenges facing Arab democrats. She attributed the reason of Yemen being a leading country in the region in democratization to the unification which brought with it winds of democracy, adding that it is unfortunate that her ministry does not have a committee to represent at the Arab League. Al-Suswa said that her ministry is working to promote democracy, human rights awareness. She announced that part of the job of her ministry now is that working to get a law for refugees in Yemen.

The role of Yemen in the event was just providing a sort of logistical and political support as the vent is totally organized and financed by the NDI. The event was attended by some diplomats, politicians and media people.

The NDI has been a partner of Yemen in its democracy, running several programs that aim to promote democratic experience in the country.



Attendance from Arab and foreign countries as well as Yemenis at NDI Gulf Form

Saleh orders investigation into al-Zindani fatwa

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

President Ali Abdullah Saleh ordered the general prosecution to investigate into the religious fatwa accusing the socialist leader Yassin Saeed Noman, former speaker of parliament, of being an infidel, reliable sources close to the Yemeni presidency said Saturday. The fatwa which was announced last week has been attributed to Sheikh Abdulmajed al-Zindani, head of Islah Consultative Council and rector of al-Eman University.

The sources added that Saleh asked the

general prosecution to investigate into the fatwa which al-Zindani has been accused to have issued on the basis that Dr. Noman used to say when he was running the parliament hearings "the rule is for the parliament members" in figuring out or voting on any issue while, according to al-Zindani, he should have said that "the rule is for God". The president's order came out as a result of a complaint filed by the Yemeni Socialist Party.

Yemen Times learnt that the denial made by al-Zindani last week was just a political compromise on part of the opposition coalition delegation members who met al-Zindani at his house in the university campus.

Political sources told Yemen Times that al-Zindani refused to deny the allegation that he has issued the fatwa and told them that that was his opinion. But, when they scared him that this would give an excuse for the US to ask for his extradition and trial, he told them that they can deny that he issued the fatwa.

However, al-Zindani, who was a member of the Presidential Council after the unification, never asked the media to quote him denying that. The opposition has taken this move in order to avoid any breakdown of their coalition whose main components are the Islah and the YSP. Yemen Times tried to sound out the opinion of the two parties but did not succeed. A YSP leader said "we do not have any comment but it is good if the government will start carrying out its responsibility."

Sometime earlier, an American newspaper quoted Judge Hamoud al-Hitar, head of the committee conducting dialogues with al-Qaeda prisoners as saying that the attackers of the USS Cole carried out their operation on the basis of a fatwa issued by al-Zindani. But, al-Hitar later denied he said so. It was also reported that al-Zindani is one of those clerics wanted by the US for their link to al-Qaeda and that his university is producing extremists and fundamentalists.

Continued on page 3

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8th Arab Conference on Mineral Wealth concluded

By MOHAMMED BIN SALLAM
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Sana'a, Oct. 18_ The 8th Arab Conference on Mineral Wealth wrapped up its meetings on October 16. At the closing meeting the Sana'a statement was issued by the conferees, emphasizing the necessity of reviewing the Arab Mining Legislation by the Arab League.

"In order to attract local and foreign mineral investment, authentic legal reforms should be adopted," the statement said.

The participants recommended the necessity of finding a database, which could contribute greatly to the development of the mineral sector for the benefit of all Arab countries.

An emphasis to set up an information committee under the umbrella of Arab Mining Organization was also made. This has been done in order to adopt policies which could help the organization to update its data in investment and mineral fields.

The participants have urged Arab countries to build the basic infrastructure with the aim of attracting investment in the mineral sector along with providing detailed maps for rich opulent zones, determining the rich mineral wealth in areas where minerals are abundantly found.

Participants also recommended financial allocations for financing mineral and scientific research and promoting its mechanisms.

Participants have also proposed the establishment of an Arab fund for granting easy loans and financial assistance to Arab investors in the field of mining for reducing risks, which

accompany investment in this field.

Recommendations have called on Arab organization for Development, Industry and Mining for holding the 8th Arab Conference for Mineral Wealth every two years and not four years.

This will pave the way for knowing all there is to know about the rapid developments in mineral sector, the recommendations suggested.

During the closing session, 9 Arab establishments in the field of mineral were honored and given the coat-of-arms belonging to the Arab Organization for Development, Industry and Mining.

Delegations that took part in the conference were also honored by the Geological Authority Survey and Mineral Wealth.

A number of working papers were discussed during the 8th Arab Conference for Mineral Wealth within the framework of the Arab countries in the field of mineral excavations, evaluations, ideal utilization, and mineral crude processing using the state-of-the-art techniques in order to put an end to the negative consequences of the mining industries on environment.

Working papers also discussed different geological sectors such as, the mineral wealth in Syria, gold excavation in Saudi Arabia, extraction of secondary gold from the north of Sudan and the Yemeni-German project for geological and mining survey and mapping.

Working papers on cement industry and its negative consequences of extracting sea sands in the kingdom of Bahrain were also discussed during the conference.

Terror suspects to stand trial soon-al-Alemi

By Yaser al-Mayasi
Yemen Times Staff

Sana'a, Oct. 18_ The Yemeni interior minister, Dr. Rashad al-Alemi in an interview with the 26 September Weekly newspaper, said that French supertanker Limburg file was over and suspects were to stand trial soon.

"The case of the USS Cole Destroyer has been encompassed with obscurities and that the first problem faced Yemeni security is that some of those suspects have been held in custody in other countries. So Yemen has

demanded their handing over in order to finish their trial according to the Yemeni law and constitution," the interior minister said.

"The delay of the trial can be attributed to the US demands in order to track down other elements who have been still on the run. Other problems have emerged including the jailbreak of suspects in Aden and this has made the situation more complicated and resulted in delay of the trial," Dr. al-Alemi remarked.

The Yemeni interior minister further placed an emphasis on that the comple-

tion of USS Cole file has been still underway in order to refer the case to trial soon. "There are other cases where perpetrators are to be tried for such as, suspects accused of shooting at a helicopter belonging to the Hunt Oil Company, al-Qadesia explosion in Sana'a and other terror thwarted operations in Taiz to blast water and electricity installations.

Dr. al-Alemi noted out that a number of al-Qaeda elements have been detained and that Khaled Abdunnabi has handed himself over to security authorities.

Expired rice confiscated

Taiz, 18 Oct._ The administration of environment health in al-Qahira district headed by Mr. Tariq al-Ashwal accompanied by a number of inspectors have recently launched an inspection campaign aimed at seizing expired rice in the market as such foods would cause great harm to citizens health.

During its campaign the group discovered a quantity of Pakistani-origin rice at a shop in al-Rawda district and that shop used to sell that rice to consumers. The inspection team seized

and confiscated the whole quantity of expired rice at that shop for destroying it. Mr al-Ashwal warned shopkeepers against trading with such expired food stuffs in order not to be exposed to legal accountability. Yemen Times Taiz bureau keeps a sample of this expired rice in its offices.



SAF highlights women's political participation

Sana'a, Oct. 18_ A discussion meeting was organized by the Sisters Arab Forum, SAF, with the non-governmental women organizations on women's political and democratic participation on October 18 at the SAF's headquarters.

The meeting was attended by Mr. Abdulwahab al-Kebsi, the Democratic Grant Program representative.

During the meeting, the possibility of forming a Yemeni coalition was also discussed in order to make Yemen ratify the Rome's agreement for the International Criminal Law, which started its reactivation in July 2002. Jordan and Djibouti have not ratified this agreement.

BEEP holds Mid-Term Review Workshop

Sana'a, Oct. 18_ Under the auspices of Mr. Abdulkader Bajamal, the prime minister the Mid-Term Review Workshop of the Basic Education Expansion Project will be held on October 22, 2003 under the motto: "Towards Adequate and Quality Basic Education"

Dr. Abdullatif Almaneeffi, Project Director told Yemen Times that more than 150 persons will participate to the workshop who are coming from the project four governorates: Sana'a, Amran, Al-Mahweet and AIDhale, in

addition to the Ministry of Education staff working in the Project implementation.

The workshop will be attended by Ministers, Governors of the Project's governorates members of the Parliament, members of the Shura Council, Government officials, representatives of financiers and agencies working in the education sector.

Dr. Almaneeffi added that this workshop aims to looking at Project's achievements in the framework of the Basic Education Development Strategy

as well as in the context of contribution to the government commitment to provide Education For All by 2015.

The workshop will include a number of working papers and panel discussions among beneficiaries, financiers and implementers on the assessment of Project policies and activities. This will be very beneficial for implementing the second phase of the Project as Dr. Almaneeffi pointed out that the second phase will cover the whole country and is expected to cost more than one hundred million dollars.

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2nd Conference for Local Councils wraps up

BY HASSAN AL-ZAIDI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Sana'a, Oct. 18. Under the motto of "Towards Enhancing Decentralization in Application," the 2nd Conference for the Local Councils concluded its activities in Sana'a Monday.

The conference, which started on October 18, has been attended by dignitaries and government officials affiliated to the local councils as well as executive authorities.

During the inaugural ceremony, Mr. Abdulhadi Mansour Hadi, the Vice President delivered a speech placing an emphasis on that the conference has been considered one of the significant conferences particularly after the local councils have been formed.

"The conference's recommendation will further enhance the local councils

experiment and their participation," he said.

"Promoting the local councils law No. (4) of 2000 represents a dramatic shift for the local council authority based on the principle of administrative and financial decentralization. This also will enhance the local authority in decision-making," the vice president noted.

Mr. Hadi further emphasized that the experiment of the local council authority has been still facing some successes here and failures there and that the main reason behind that can be attributed to social traditions and material potentials. "But those challenges must be faced," he highlighted.

On his part, the prime minister, Dr. Abdulqader Bajammal stated: "We at the local and central level represent a teamwork towards development and noble life. Settling accounts and evaluation

will be strict."

The Prime Minister emphasized that the new financial law has to authorize the local council authority in order to achieve equilibrium between the local council authority and the officials responsible for control and audit.

"Citizens' rights have to be respected either in employing, equality, retirement and legal rights to getting jobs. We have to correct the conditions of getting double jobs and preventing frauds in the military and civil service law," he remarked.

Mr. Bajammal accentuated on respecting law particularly, the local council law texts. "Some of the governorates in the republic and districts directors resort to illegal compromises in settling citizens' disputes. This behavior weakens the law and order principle and also reduces the state's prestige and they have to be held accountable," he accentuated.

The General Report has been presented by the Local Administration Minister where an emphasis has been placed on the performance of the local council in the governorate and districts.

A working paper has been also presented and revolved on the financial administration in the administrative units of the local council in the governorates.

Another working paper has centered on local councils' meetings and its control on the performance of the executive bodies and working paper on the local development planning and implementing projects, reality, problems, and solutions.

Other working papers have been presented by the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, Central Organization for Control & Audit and the Social Fund for Development.

Yemen marks World Food Day

BY ISMAEL AL-GHABERI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Sana'a, Oct. 18. Under the motto of, "Working together for an International Alliance Against Hunger," the Yemeni Agriculture Ministry on Oct. 15 organized a celebration in the occasion of the World Food Day, the cooperation with the Agriculture and Food Organization, FAO.

Creating an International Alliance Against Hunger is the core theme of this year's World Food Day on 16 October.

World Food Day marks the anniversary

of the founding of FAO on 16 October 1945. Around 150 countries around the world including Yemen celebrated this special event.

"The International Alliance Against Hunger is a way to push aside apathy and indifference and usher in a new era of cooperation and action, to decrease and ultimately eliminate the scourge of hunger," FAO said in a statement. On his part, the Yemeni Agriculture minister emphasized that his ministry is in readiness to grant facilities for investment particularly in the agriculture sector.

Meanwhile, the FAO representative in Yemen, Dr. Hashem Ashami pointed out that the FAO spares no efforts for granting training and technical assistance to Yemen in order to promote Yemen's agriculture standards.

Such an alliance would include all partners: food producers, consumers, international organizations, governments, private firms, scientists, academics, individuals, religious groups and non-governmental organizations. It would also include donors and policymakers from both rich and poor countries.

FAO believes that these efforts, together with national initiatives, are just the beginning of an expanding network of alliances dedicated to fighting hunger more efficiently.

More reports on human rights

REPORTED BY: FAHMIA AL-FOTHI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Sana'a, 13 Oct. A two-day workshop on the economic, cultural and social rights in Yemen. Organized by Sister Arabic Forum (SAF) and Human Rights Information & Training Center (HRTIC), in cooperation with the International Federation for Human Rights, was concluded on Sunday Oct 12.

The workshop aimed at preparing the parallel Shadow Report of the economic, social and cultural rights that was issued by civil society organizations and the Shadow Report on the torture in Yemen.

Both reports were scheduled to be submitted to the special committees in United Nations headquarters in Geneva.

At the opening ceremony Ms. Amatalalem al-Suswa, the minister of Human Rights confirmed the necessity

of the cooperative work in preparing the periodical reports to reach to more developed reality in the field of human rights.

Ms. Amal al-Basha, chairwoman of the SAF, stressed on the importance of preparing parallel reports by NGOs.

Mr. Hafeedh Abu Sada, International federation for Human Rights deputy (France) and Mr. Joseph Shakla, the Regional Coordinator of the International Coalition on Right to Housing and Land, stressed international cooperation regarding human rights as a common issue of all.

Mr. Izzudin Saeed al-Asbahi, the head of HRTIC, welcomed the participants and asserted the necessity of collaboration between various NGOs that the workshop reflected.

The workshop discussed over three different sessions the stages of human rights development and how to prepare and submit the paralleled international reports to UN.

Three papers giving a background of the social, economic and cultural rights as well as the reality of torture in Yemen were presented by Mr. Abdulbari Taher, Mr. Ahmed Abdul Saif and Mr. Nabil Abdulhafedh. An official report on human rights was also discussed at the workshop. A number of civil societies, NGO's, international organizations representatives, human rights activists and diplomats participated in the workshop.

Continued from page 1

Saleh orders investigation into al-Zindani fatwa

The (YSP) condemned last week the religious edict or what it said "this ossified way of thinking and the continuation of these tactics of calling people infidel and assassinations, violence and thought and political terrorism and discrimination that do not accept freedom of opinion of people." The YSP called on the authorities to shoulder their legal responsibility towards their tendency of naming its prominent leaders as infidel, ending up all factors that can destabilize security and peace. It also demanded that the fatwa issued during the civil war which named all socialists as unbelievers and that all acts against them are legal. It said also that the culture, mobilization and other meas-

ures taken on the basis of this fatwa should be abolished, urging all political forces in the country to work against such culture from school curricula, sermons of mosque preachers and mass media, and to enhance tolerance and openness in the society.

The assassin of Jarallah Omar, YSP assistant secretary general who was sentenced to death in mid-September said during the tribunal sessions that all socialists and secular people are infidels who deserve death penalty. Ali Ahmad Jarallah based his assassination of Omar on an allegation that Omar demanded the abolishing of death penalty which he described as an abuse to human rights.

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Condolence

With great grievance and sorrow, we have received the unfortunate news of the passing away of the father of Dr. Jack Veerman, the former Medical Director of Yemen Hunt Oil Company..

We express our deepest condolences to Dr. Jack and his wife, Claire Geothals and share sorrow with his family and friends.

Condolers

Mr. Saleh Shaban, the Finance Ministry Deputy,
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the Health Ministry Consultant,
Shiekh, Saleh Al-Omais, and all Jack's Yemeni friends.

تعزية

بقلوب يملؤها الحزن والأسى تلقينا نبأ وفاة والد الدكتور جاك فيرمان المدير الطبي لشركة هنت سابقا الذي وافته المنية إثر جلطة قلبية. ونحن إذ نشاطر الدكتور وزوجته السيدة كلير خوالس وكافة أسرة الفقيد أحزانهم نتمنى أن تعصم قلوبهم بالصبر والسلوان. وإنا لله وإنا إليه راجعون

الأسيون:

الأستاذ/ صالح احمد شعبان (وكيل وزارة المالية)
الأستاذ / يحي محمد موسى (مستشار محافظة ذمار)
الشيخ / صالح محمد العميسي
عبد الحافظ الرباعي (مدير علاقات الصحة)
د/ محمد احمد عمر (مدير مستشفى الملكة أروى)
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Eleventh meeting of the joint EC-Yemen cooperation committee

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The eleventh meeting of the Joint Committee established under the cooperation agreement between European Commission and the Republic of Yemen, took place in Sana'a on the 6th and 7th October 2003.

The Yemeni delegation was headed by H.E Ahmed Mohamed Sofan, deputy Prime Minister and the minister of Planning and International cooperation.

The European delegation was headed by Mr. Patrick Laurent, head of Unit, Barcelona Process and Gulf Countries, Iran, Iraq and Yemen, Directorate for External Relations of the European Commission.

Political and economic issues

On behalf of the EU presidency, the Italian ambassador to Yemen announced the strong interest of the EU in enhancing EU-Yemen relations, and the EU's decision to start a political dialogue with Yemen on senior officials level as soon as possible. This dialogue would give the opportunity to improve mutual understanding and have an exchange of views on issues of common interest, such as security, fight against terrorism, human rights, democracy and regional development.

The Yemeni side welcomed this initiative, as it will contribute to improve the already excellent relations between the EU and Yemen, and expressed its keenness to launch the dialogue early next year. The Yemeni side then gave an outline of the most important reforms and related achievements, especially with regard to the civil service reform and economic sectors policies where the government faces a difficult situation. The Yemeni government has taken different initiatives to counter terrorism on its territory, including in the field of money laundering. Given the sensitivities of these subjects, Yemen asked for a stronger support in order to tackle

both economic and security problems.

The Committee noted the main developments on the European agenda of relevance to EC-Yemen relations in the field of enlargement, Euro-Mediterranean partnership, external aid and its recent reform. To this end, the EC presented the status of its relations with the Mediterranean partners, as well as with the GCC countries and Iran, and gave an overview of the Commission's commitment and activities in Iraq. In this context, it was stressed that the full and effective EC participation in Iraq's reconstruction requires a substantial improvement of the security situation as well as a multi-lateral umbrella.

The European Commission confirmed its appreciation of the ongoing Yemeni efforts in the fields of economic and administrative reforms, and on security matters, despite the difficult context, and underlined the need to continue the efforts already undertaken. The idea of exploring possibilities of cooperation in the security field was noted.

With regard to recent regional developments, the Yemeni delegation focused on the situation in the Middle East, and condemned the recent Israeli attack on a Palestine camp in Syria, stressing that this seriously undermines the efforts for a peaceful settlement of the Arab- Israeli conflict along the lines indicated in the plan presented by the Arab League in 2002 and the recent eRoad-Mapi, which Yemen fully supported.

2-Trade cooperation

On the trade side, the EC made a presentation on the General Systems of Preference (GSP) and its iEverything-But-Armsi initiative, illustrating the present date of Yemen's participation in the EU's preferential trade system, the EC will consider positively organizing a seminar on how to use best of GSP facilities, preferably in Yemen, during the first semester of 2004.

Yemen underlined the political

importance of its future accession to the WTO, and explained its efforts in liberalizing its trade regime. With regard to the Integrated Framework process it was stressed that the corresponding Action Plan will be adopted by the end of 2003.

Economic and development cooperation

The Committee reviewed the National Indicative Program 2002-2004, which was signed in Sana'a on 30 April 2002, and the progress of ongoing and planned development projects. The current NIP is substantially more focused than in the past, and it was stressed that thus focus must be maintained to ensure efficient implementation, swift absorption and the value-added of EC support. The NIP, which is fully on track, focuses on the following:

- Development of economic institutions by supporting the process of Yemen's accession to the World Trade Organization (WTO) and private sector development.
- Food security measures focusing on several development programs, food supply infrastructures, and institutional capacity building and technical assistance.
- Poverty reduction focuses by supporting the Social Fund for Development and improvement of basic health services and development of family planning activities.
- Strengthening of pluralism and civil society to contribute to the promotion of democracy and human rights.

In 2003, one project in the field of health and demographic support in the amount of Euro 8 million is being launched. For 2004, an additional contribution to the Social Fund for Development in the amount of Euro 8 to 10 million is foreseen, as well as a new Food Security allocation in the amount of Euro 5 million. Furthermore, a program to support pluralism and civil society will be launched

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Islamic leaders vow to strengthen unity while facing challenges

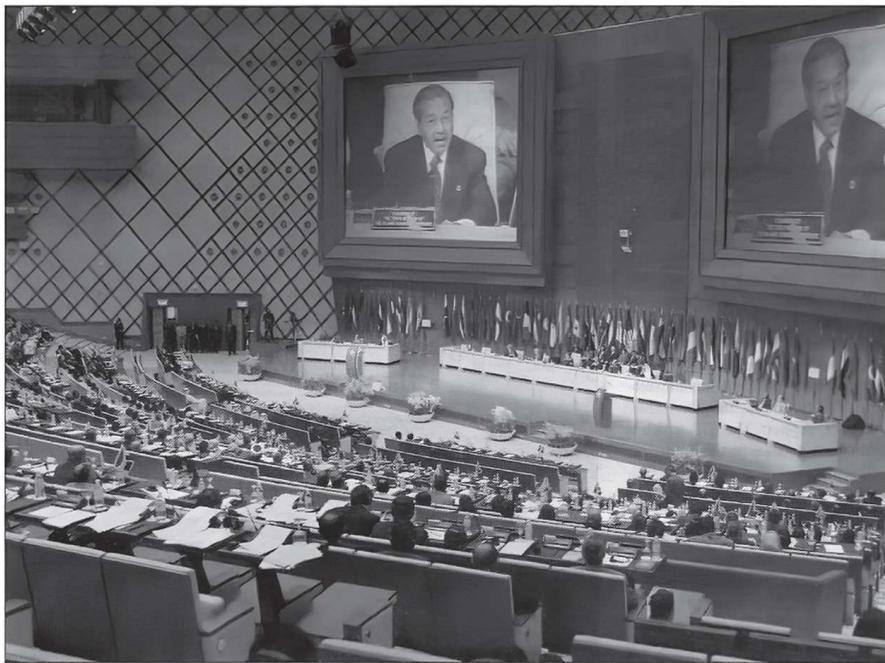
PUTRAJAYA (Malaysia), Oct. 17 (Xinhua) — The Islamic leaders pledged here Friday to strengthen their unity and take concerted efforts in promoting economic progress and social development, at a time of great challenge to the Islamic world.

Leaders from the 57-member Organization of the Islamic Conferences (OIC) reaffirmed that the Islamic countries can only increase their stature, prestige, dignity and credibility in the eyes of the international community through the collective efforts and overall development.

The 10th session of the OIC summit chaired by Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad ended here Friday evening with a 12-point plan of action to enhance the organization in meeting global challenges.

The plan of action, or the Putrajaya Declaration, was issued at the close of the two-day summit, which is aimed at revitalization of the world's largest Islamic organization. The OIC summit reiterated that the Islamic countries would achieve their goals and objectives of the organization through constructive cooperation and collaboration in various fields.

The Islamic leaders agreed to enhance cooperation on promotion of education, science, technology, trade and economic cooperation. The OIC summit has decided to establish a study group to suggest ways, in



Malaysian Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad delivers his speech during the closing of the 10th Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) Summit in Putrajaya near Kuala Lumpur Oct. 17. Muslim leaders winding up a summit on Friday grumbled over a United Nations resolution on Iraq while criticizing a U.S. vote to impose trade sanctions on Baghdad's neighbor Syria.

which Islamic education could contribute, to enhance peace, understanding, tolerance, economic development and modernization.

The Islamic leaders also agreed to undertake coordinated, focused and regular interactions and exchange of views and ideas among Muslim

scholars, businessmen, entrepreneurs, industrialists and policy makers on the important issues of the Islamic world.

Iran joins talks on allowing tough nuclear checks

TEHRAN, Oct. 18 (Reuters) - Iran began formal talks on Saturday with the International Atomic Energy Agency on tougher inspections of its nuclear sites, where Washington says atomic weapons could be made, the official IRNA news agency said.

"A three-member team from the agency opened talks with Iran on Saturday for Iran's signing the Additional Protocol," the agency quoted an official at Iran's Atomic Energy Organisation as saying.

It said the negotiations concerned the legal and technical aspects of the Additional Protocol to the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT), which will authorise snap probes of installations by international inspectors.

An IAEA spokeswoman in Vienna confirmed that the talks had begun and said the IAEA was expecting in the next few days to receive from the Iranians all the information that it had been promised about Iran's nuclear programme.

Iranian President Mohammad Khatami said on Friday his country had no plans to build nuclear weapons and predicted that it would reach an agreement on its nuclear programme with the U.N. atomic watchdog.

Khatami said Iran did not rule out allowing inspections of its nuclear facilities without prior notice, but insisted on respect for his country's

rights to have access to nuclear technology for peaceful purposes.

Iranian officials told IAEA's chief Mohamed ElBaradei this week they still had misgivings about allowing tougher inspections and wanted to carry on negotiating the issue.

A senior Iranian official said on Thursday foreign ministers of Britain, France and Germany would fly to Tehran next week to try to resolve a standoff before an October 31 U.N. deadline for Iran to disprove U.S.-led claims it has a secret atomic weapons programme.

Failure to do so could see Iran's case referred to the U.N. Security Council in November.

Britain said on Friday it was discussing with France and Germany how to persuade Iran to meet international concern over its nuclear programme, but declined to confirm a joint visit by foreign ministers next week.

IAEA interest is focused on Iran's sophisticated uranium enrichment facilities which the United States says are at the heart of a clandestine attempt to build an atom bomb.

Iran says it needs to produce low-grade enriched uranium to use as fuel in nuclear power reactors. Highly enriched uranium can be used in atomic bombs and the IAEA has found traces of it in samples taken at two nuclear sites.

Bin Laden vows more suicide attacks - Jazeera TV

DUBAI, Oct. 18 (Reuters) - An audio tape purportedly from Al Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden on Saturday vowed more suicide attacks inside and outside the United States and demanded Washington quit Iraq.

Al Jazeera has yet to broadcast the tape, but the Arabic television station provided a text to the media.

"We, God willing, will continue to fight you and will continue martyrdom (suicide) operations inside and outside the United States until you abandon your oppression and foolish acts," said the message.

It urged Iraqis to wage a holy war against American "crusaders" occupying the country.

"You should carry out jihad (holy war)... You should know that this war is a new crusade against the Islamic world and is a fateful war for the

whole (Muslim) nation," the message said.

It said the United States had been dragged into a quagmire in Iraq and was clearly feeling pain.

Washington blames al Qaeda for the September 11, 2001 suicide plane attacks on the United States that prompted U.S. President George W. Bush to launch a war on terrorism.

U.S.-led forces have occupied Iraq since toppling Saddam Hussein in April, but American troops have come under daily and often deadly attacks that Washington blames on supporters of the former Iraqi president and what it calls foreign terrorists.

More than 100 U.S. troops have been killed in Iraq since Bush declared major combat over on May 1.



U.S. troops from 4th Infantry Division fire a 120mm mortar from a base in Tikrit, Iraq, on Oct. 18. U.S. forces fire mortars nightly from the base in Saddam Hussein's hometown as part of efforts to combat Iraqi guerrillas.

REUTERS

Israeli troops kill four Palestinians

GAZA, Oct. 18 (Reuters) - Israeli forces shot dead four Palestinians in fighting on Saturday in the occupied territories, including a senior member of the Hamas militant group, a woman bystander and a teenager, medics said.

The deaths stoked tension already fuelled by the killing of three American security guards in a bomb attack on a U.S. diplomatic convoy in Gaza on Wednesday and highlighted the persistent violence bogging down U.S.-led peace efforts.

In the southern Gaza Strip, witnesses said troops shot dead Tareq Abu al-Hussain, 39, a local leader of Hamas' military wing, in a clash which broke out at Brazil refugee camp when militants attacked soldiers who entered the camp three days ago.

Another Hamas militant was killed in the Gaza shootings in the southern Rafah district, and a woman, 30, was killed by shrapnel from a tank shell as she emerged from her house.

Thousands of angry Palestinians attended a funeral for the three killed in Rafah on Saturday afternoon, where witnesses said militants fired guns into the air and chanted:

"Our reaction will make Tel Aviv shudder... All our bodies are ticking bombs."

Hamas' military wing also vowed revenge in a statement faxed to Reuters.

In a separate clash on Saturday, soldiers shot dead a 16-year-old boy during a confrontation in the West Bank city of Tulkarm and wounded four other boys aged 10 to 12, medics said.

Palestinian witnesses said the troops opened fire on stone-throwers. An Israeli military source said the soldiers had opened fire in response to shooting and the hurling of fire-bombs at them in Tulkarm, and that one of the gunmen was hit.

In Gaza, the source said, soldiers had opened fire on several armed



Palestinians carry the body of Tareq Abu al-Hussain, 39, a local leader of Hamas' military wing, who was shot dead in a clash with Israeli forces, out of the mosque in Rafah refugee camp, in southern Gaza Strip, Oct. 18. Israeli forces killed Tareq, another Islamic militant and a woman bystander in fighting at a Palestinian refugee camp, medics said.

REUTERS

men spotted laying an explosive in the Rafah area where Israeli soldiers have been searching for the past week for tunnels used to smuggle weapons in from Egypt.

The source denied any tank rounds were fired in Gaza. Medics said 16 other Palestinians were wounded in that clash.

Israeli soldiers also destroyed two homes in Rafah on Saturday, witnesses said. United Nations personnel have said that more than 110 homes have been wrecked during the Israeli campaign in southern Gaza in the past week.

Medics said three people were hurt in one explosion, including a child hit by glass shards. The Israeli army said several mortar shells found in a

house were detonated, while another home was damaged during a search for a suspected tunnel.

More than 2,180 Palestinians and some 830 Israelis have been killed in a Palestinian uprising for statehood launched against Israel in September 2000. Hamas has carried out many of the suicide bomb attacks in which Israelis have died.

Fifteen Palestinians have been killed since the start of Israeli army searches for weapons tunnels in Rafah on October 10, including two children, Palestinian officials said.

Israel has blamed the violence on what it says is Palestinian President Yasser Arafat's failure to crack down on militant groups. Palestinians accuse Israel of stoking violence by

pursuing a policy of tracking down and killing militants.

Prime Minister Ariel Sharon appeared on Friday to rule out expelling Arafat, playing down an Israeli threat that had drawn an international outcry and U.S. misgivings.

"Our calculations for years have been that expelling him would not be good for Israel," Sharon told the Jerusalem Post newspaper when asked about last month's security cabinet decision in principle to "remove" Arafat.

No group has taken responsibility for Wednesday's attack on the U.S. convoy in Gaza. A U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation team and a Palestinian committee are investigating the bombing.

Saudi prince in Pakistan for Iraq, Afghan talks

ISLAMABAD, Oct 18 (Reuters) - Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Abdullah, who is also the kingdom's de facto ruler, arrived in Islamabad on Saturday for talks with Pakistani officials on the situation in Iraq and neighbouring Afghanistan, officials said.

Information Minister Sheikh Rashid Ahmed said bilateral relations and Pakistan's troubled ties with rival India would also come up for discussions at Abdullah's meetings with Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf and other leaders.

Both leaders have been attending a summit of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference in Malaysia, the world's largest Muslim grouping.

Pakistan and Saudi Arabia, two Muslim nations, are key allies of the U.S.-led war on terror but both have ruled out sending troops to Iraq mainly because of strong opposition at home.

The two countries had also been key supporters of Afghanistan's ousted Taliban regime but they abandoned the radical Islamic movement following September 11, 2001 attacks on the United States.



Pakistani President General Pervez Musharraf (L) escorts Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz upon his arrival at airport in Islamabad Oct. 18. Aziz arrived in Islamabad on Saturday for talks with the Pakistani officials on the situation in Iraq and neighbouring Afghanistan, officials said. REUTERS

Canada urges others to join Afghan peacekeeping

KABUL, Oct 18 (Reuters) - Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien urged other countries on Saturday to send troops to expand a NATO-led peacekeeping force in Afghanistan, but said Canada would not itself be able to send more soldiers.

With around 1,900 soldiers, Canada already has the single largest contingent in the 5,000-strong, 30-nation International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), which was sent to police Kabul after the fall of the Taliban in late 2001.

The U.N. voted last week to endorse an expansion of ISAF outside the capital, but NATO has so far struggled to find many nations willing to send more troops to support such a move.

Chretien, on a one-day visit to Kabul to meet his troops and hold talks with President Hamid Karzai, said Canada would continue to concentrate on peacekeeping in the capital.

But in response to a question at a news conference with Karzai, he said he would not rule out sending Canadian troops to other parts of Afghanistan if other countries sent more troops.

"If more troops are coming, we don't say no to split our troops — but we will not neglect Kabul," he said. "Later needs might be different, but the needs of today are that we have to concentrate



Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien (2nd L) and Afghan President Hamid Karzai inspect an Afghan honour guard in Kabul on Oct. 18. REUTERS

on Kabul." "We are supporting the expansion of ISAF, and we will work to induce and convince other nations to send troops here, but we are not planning to send more troops at this stage," he said.

The German parliament is expected to vote next week on a proposal to send several hundred troops to the relatively peaceful northern province of Kunduz, but no other nations have so far agreed to send significant numbers of soldiers.

The Afghan government, the U.N. and aid agencies say an expansion of ISAF outside Kabul is vital to support

the reconstruction of Afghanistan after two decades of war, and ahead of elections planned for next year.

Earlier Chretien visited Canadian forces based in the southwestern part of the war-torn capital, and said Canada would continue to help Afghanistan and prevent it from again becoming a "victim of terrorism and extremism".

He also paid tribute to the price his troops had already paid, after two Canadian soldiers died in a mine blast early this month not far from their base.

Canadian troops arrived in August on a one-year attachment to ISAF.

Angry Filipinos give Bush alternative Asia welcome

MANILA, Oct 18 (Reuters) - Philippine President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo promised George W. Bush a "rousing welcome" and that was what he got on Saturday as protesters marked his arrival in Southeast Asia by mocking his effigy and burning U.S. flags.

As the real U.S. president met a group of well-drilled schoolchildren after touching down in Manila, the papier mache version was appearing as a hook-handed pirate and the grim reaper as about 2,000 anti-U.S. activists gave him their own welcome.

"Trick or Threat?" said a banner in front of the Bush look-a-like grim reaper, a wry reference to the forthcoming Halloween season.

Behind the intricately crafted effigies and lampooning of the U.S. leader was a laundry list of grievances ranging from globalisation to military "imperialism" to the extravagance of his brief visit to the former U.S. colony.

For many in a country where a third of the people live in poverty, the cost of hosting and dining Bush was the most sickening aspect of his eight-hour visit.

"This is in contrast to the 15 million Filipinos who don't know the meaning of breakfast," said Alfie Pulumbalit, a student from the southern Tagalog region.

Brother Francis, part of a group of friars joining the march, said he

planned to offer Bush a meal of dried fish and rice so that the president could empathise with ordinary people.

"The U.S. has a hidden agenda," he said. "They want to dominate the Philippines economically and politically. The people who suffer are the Philippine farmers and workers."

The protesters briefly faced off with riot police blocking their way to Congress before pulling back to focus on burning the Stars and Stripes and chanting slogans against Bush and his "puppet", Arroyo, a staunch backer of his war on terror. Protest organisers said they were ready to take on the police later in the day near the presidential palace, where Bush will dine with Arroyo after addressing Congress.

Inside Congress, some lawmakers were planning to make their own protests during Bush's speech there later in the afternoon, either by walking out or dressing entirely in black.

Security throughout the sprawling capital was tight, with police stopping cars for random checks and tightly controlling access to sensitive areas. Even activists trying to cheer Bush on found it impossible to get near him. A group of about 500 pro-Americans were detained near the U.S. embassy due to fears that they could have been infiltrated by anti-Bush militants.

"This is worse than martial law," said their leader, Elly Velez Pamatong.



Filipino protesters burn U.S. flags during a rally near the Philippine Congress in Manila Oct. 18. U.S. President George W. Bush arrived in the Philippines on Saturday to talk security and trade during an eight-hour visit set against a century of close ties and noisy protests. REUTERS

Top Mauritius policeman charged with taking bribes

PORT LOUIS, Oct 18 (Reuters) - A top Mauritian policeman has been charged with accepting bribes for staying at a hotel with 12 relations for free while investigating allegations it was selling out-of-date food, officials said on Saturday.

The charges represent the latest in a series of high-profile corruption cases brought by a graft watchdog set up last year to wage war on sleaze, which is hindering economic growth on the Indian Ocean island.

"Assistant commissioner of police Oozajeer Sunneechurra was arrested and provisionally charged with accepting bribes and then released on bail on Friday," an official from Mauritius's Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC) told Reuters. ICAC said

that after being "provisionally charged", further investigations would be carried out. The suspect may then face an amended version of the charges.

Sunneechurra has been quoted in Mauritian newspapers as saying he is innocent of any wrong doing.

According to ICAC, Sunneechurra was charged for a weekend at an exclusive beach resort hotel in August 2002 as he investigated allegations that out-of-date food had been served to guests.

Since its creation, ICAC has uncovered fraud at the island's biggest bank, Mauritius Commercial Bank, and brought charges against a former minister, although the case was thrown out.

S.Korea to send more troops to Iraq

SEOUL, Oct 18 (Reuters) - South Korea said on Saturday it had decided to send additional troops to Iraq to back up U.S.-led forces there but deferred a key decision on whether these should include combat personnel.

"The government has decided to send additional troops to help the rapid reconstruction of post-war Iraq and the settlement of peace in the region," the presidential office said.

"(South Korea) will make a decision on the scale, timing and type of troops later after taking consideration of the U.S. request as well as public opinion and military capability."

Since May about 700 South Korean medical and engineering troops have been working out of a U.S. base in the Iraqi town of Nassariya. Replacements for the initial contingent began flying out this week.

Last month the United States asked Roh's government to send combat troops as well to help stabilise Iraq. South Korean media have said Washington wants Seoul to commit to sending about 5,000 men by the end of this month.

Saturday's announcement followed



South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun (2nd L), Prime Minister Goh Kun (L), Unification Minister Jeong Se-hyun (R) and other officials salute the national flag before a National Security Council meeting at the presidential Blue House in Seoul Oct. 18. REUTERS

an emergency meeting of Seoul's National Security Council ahead of a Pacific Rim summit early next week at which South Korean President Roh Moo-hyun is to meet U.S. President George W. Bush.

Roh faces a tough political decision on the troops request, having to weigh strong public opposition to the Iraq war against Seoul's desire to shore up

its military alliance with Washington. Roh said in an interview with Reuters on Friday that it was vital to take thorough soundings on the public's view. Also, parliament has yet to approve the deployment of troops.

Latest opinion polls suggest a majority would support committing combat troops with U.N. backing.

However, the country's most mili-

tant labour group condemned Saturday's decision, saying the government must not agree to deployment of combat troops.

"It is a criminal act against peace and joining the United States' aggression war," the Korean Confederation of Trade Unions said in a statement. "The KCTU will take the lead in a nationwide campaign to block the deployment of troops."

Meanwhile, a top business group voiced hopes that South Korean firms would win a share in rebuilding projects in Iraq.

"The government should try its best to make sure the troop deployment leads to an opportunity to boost economic development," the Korea Employers' Federation said.

The government said in a statement it would contribute another \$200 million for Iraqi reconstruction over the next four years on top of \$60 million earmarked earlier this year.

"The government will send an additional survey team to Iraq, if needed in the process of finalising type and formation of troops to be deployed," Ra Jong-il, a national security adviser for Roh, told reporters.

U.S.-Russian crew blasts off to space station

BAIKONUR, Kazakhstan, Oct 18 (Reuters) - A U.S.-Russian crew blasted off to the International Space Station on Saturday for a 200-day mission, days after China's first manned space flight fuelled speculation that it may join the orbital project.

With U.S. space shuttles still grounded after a disaster this year, the station's survival depends on Russian spacecraft. The three-man crew aboard the Soyuz TMA-3 craft lifted off from Baikonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan at 0538 GMT. It is due to dock with the 16-nation orbital platform early on Monday.

"This is a very historic day. It again demonstrates the depth of commitment to this partnership," NASA Administrator Sean O'Keefe said after the launch.

Family and friends watched the launch on a screen in the observation area, quietly waiting for 600 seconds to pass — the time the Soyuz takes to reach orbit and considered the most dangerous part of the journey — before bursting into applause.

U.S. mission commander Michael Foale's young children Ian and Jenna seemed oblivious to pictures of their father strapped into the rocket, choosing to play rather than watch the action.

"Russian cosmonauts and (Russian space authority) Rosaviakosmos are carrying the substantial load of maintaining the space station," O'Keefe said, adding that new space power China might also take part one day.

Russian cosmonaut Alexander Kaleri, who will spend 200 days in space with Foale, has also said China could join in. "We hope the time when we cooperate in manned flights, including within the ISS project, is not too far off," he said on Friday.

Spaniard Pedro Duque is accompanying Kaleri and Foale to the \$95-billion



Cosmonauts Alexander Kaleri of Russia (L), Michael Foale of the U.S. (R) and Pedro Duque of Spain wave before getting into the space craft in Baikonur, Oct. 18. The Soyuz TMA-3 craft with cosmonauts Foale, Kaleri and Duque blasted off and is expected to dock at the 16-nation ISS on Monday. REUTERS

station for a 10-day mission devoted to experiments and will then return to Earth with the outgoing crew.

American Edward Lu and Russian Yuri Malenchenko, who married his fiancée via satellite video link while he was in space and she was in Texas, have been in orbit for six months.

MONEY WORRIES

Funding concerns plague the ISS, with Russia launching all manned and supply ships to the station since February when the United States withdrew its shuttles after the Columbia shuttle disintegrated on re-entry, killing the seven crew onboard.

O'Keefe said Russia should press on with its commitment while the United States worked to bring the shuttle back into service.

"All the expense and resources the American people are putting into returning the Shuttle to flight, we have no intention of passing these bills across to any of our partners," he said.

Russia says it needs more money and has started sending space tourists to the station at a fare of \$20 million to help cover the cost of building new Soyuz craft. But U.S. officials complain Russian failed last year to carry out all agreed launches and should make up the shortfall.

Uncertain finances could prompt a delay in the launch to the ISS of the next Progress cargo ship from November to January.

Attention was focused on safety after rescuers spent hours looking for the previous mission's crew when they landed hundreds of kilometres (miles) off target in May. As part of tightened security Malenchenko, Lu and Duque will have a satellite phone and a global positioning system, while Russian space officials are to summon extra transport to the landing area on October 28.

New Bolivian leader Mesa proposes early elections

LA PAZ, Bolivia, Oct 17 (Reuters) - New Bolivian President Carlos Mesa, sworn in on Friday after the resignation of his predecessor amid a deadly popular revolt, proposed early elections widely demanded by protesters.

According to the constitution, Mesa can serve out the rest of former President Gonzalo Sanchez de Lozada's term, which was due to end in August 2007. But Mesa proposed he have a shortened mandate and that there be an early vote, something which Indian protest leaders had proposed in recent days.

Mesa is a journalist and historian who entered politics in mid-2002 to run for office with Sanchez de Lozada. He is not a member of a major political party.



Bolivia president

ETA suspected after attack on Spanish barracks

MADRID, Oct 18 (Reuters) - Suspected Basque separatists fired an "explosive device" at an army barracks in northern Spain on Saturday, but it failed to go off and caused no injuries, an official spokesman said.

Police in Azoain, near Pamplona, found a van on a hill some 200 metres (yards) from the barracks, where the device had been launched, a spokesman for the government's representative in Navarre said.

ETA, a guerrilla group fighting for an independent Basque homeland made up of the autonomous Basque country, Navarre and three French provinces, were suspected of responsibility for a similar attack on a police

barracks a year ago.

"We're not ruling out (that it's ETA)," the spokesman said.

ETA has killed more than 840 people in its three-decade campaign, and is listed as a terrorist organisation by the United States and the European Union.

The attack comes amid a clampdown on the separatist group, helped by police cooperation with France. French and Spanish police arrested 34 ETA suspects in early October and this week detained eight people linked to a Basque newspaper which authorities had shut down on suspicion it was channelling cash to the armed group.



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Captain of capsized migrant boat arrested in Italy

ROME, Oct 18 (Reuters) - Italian police said on Saturday they had arrested a man accused of piloting a boat load of illegal migrants that capsized off a southern Italian island.

Rescue ships recovered one immigrant's body and survivors said another six died on the boat, which capsized in rough seas off the southern Italian island of Lampedusa on Friday.

Police said the arrested man, identified as the captain by survivors, was accused of manslaughter and aiding illegal immigration.

They said he and migrants were most likely all Somalis, although none of them had any form of identification.

The vessel, carrying dozens of illegal immigrants, tipped over as a rescue ship approached. "Presumably all the people rushed to one side of the boat when the rescue ship drew up," coastguard Captain Carlo Celerino told Reuters.

Survivors told coastguard officials the bodies of three babies that died of hunger and exhaustion during the voyage were flung overboard. They said three adults jumped into the sea at the sight of a merchant ship.

Illegal immigration to Italy has surged recently with more than 3,000 people landing on the southern coastline in June — most of them from north and central Africa.

An estimated 300,000 illegal immigrants live in Italy.

YT Business



Malaysian Tourism Minister to YT:

Yemen has a lot to offer to Malaysians

By YEMEN TIMES STAFF
KUALA LUMPUR

In a press conference in Kuala Lumpur held on Friday following the inauguration of the 16th International Travel Fair 2003 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysian Minister of Culture, Arts and Tourism Abdul Kadir Haji Sheikh Fazdir told Yemen Times that Yemen has a lot to offer. "It is up to Middle Eastern countries like Yemen to show their own attractions and beauties. It is not enough to wait for Malaysians to come to Yemen, the Yemeni government along with the Yemeni private sector need to work hand in hand to exert greater efforts to publicize the tourism potentials in the country."

When asked about the importance of the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC) summit held in Kuala Lumpur during 11-18 October concerning the development of cooperation between Malaysia and Yemen, Mr. Fazdir said that there lie great hopes on the awaited OIC tourism center to be established so as to open the way for specialized and concentrated focus on tourism among Muslim countries. "Once the center is open, I believe that not only Yemen, but all OIC members will benefit greatly from the services to be offered and the opportunities to be exploited to enhance tourism prospects among them."

It is worth noting that Yemen is sharing an extremely small portion of tourism in the Asian continent. "With



H.E. Abdul Kadir Haji Sheikh Fazdir

less than 10,000 tourists a year, Yemen is ranked among the least

developed countries in the tourism sector. Nevertheless, it has great potentials and I believe the future is promising amid the security measures taken by the government and serious calls for reforms in the tourism sector" said Zaghlood ba Zara'a, who headed the Yemeni OIC tourism delegation to Malaysia.

Organized by the Malaysian Association Of Tour and Travel Agents (MATTA), the travel fair 2003 was among the largest in Asia and followed the Tourism Exchange 2003 event, which was an opportunity to exchange ideas and experiences between Malaysia and other countries including Yemen, which was represented by Universal Travel, Yemania, and Ba Zarea for Travel and Tourism.



Why the chronic monetary deficit?

By YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The rate of monetary deficit to the Gross National Product (GNP) has in the climbed up the scale from 0.60% in the year 2002 to 2.63% in the budget of this year. The proportion of net deficit to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in the last year's budget amounted to 1.14% and 3% in the budget of this year. It is an indication of the widening gap in the deficit of the account of services and the account of investment in the balance of payments.

Financial analysts attribute the progressive deficit in the balance of payments to the retreat in indicator of exports growth and an increase in the rate of imports growth despite the financial reforms that included devaluation of the national currency price and many measures taken for increasing revenues, but that did not help for development of external exports.

Unlike a group of Asian countries that resorted to devalue their local currencies for the purpose of increasing exports and realized positive results, it seems that our country's maintaining this policy is discouraging for reaching the same outcomes for several reasons:

- our local products lack quality and diversity,
- devaluation of national currency did not raise the demand for domestic goods and increase of exports,
- producers are lacking of the means helping them in exploitation of available resources for increasing production and developing exports,
- 95% of our exports are confined

to exporting raw materials, especially oil.

Experts confirm that exporting raw materials hampers potentials of industrial advance and deprives a large sector of gaining job opportunities and lowering the sharpness of unemployment and fighting poverty. Therefore, there must be an availability of good and diversified products, utilization of available resources and a marketing policy based on flexibility of demand. Without this orientation our financial system would be inflicted with increasing inflation and the rate of exports would drop against the rise in costs on imports.

It is noted that devaluation of our national currency, in the absence of goods quality and diversity, did not cause flourishing of exports movement but led to escalated inflation-related pressures and drop in the rate of investment to the GDP.

Under making our currency a commodity liable to speculation in non-monetary markets in the present random methods, makes it difficult for the state to contain the average of continual annual inflation or to control it in a reasonable range.

If we consider the increase in the proportion of net deficit to the GDP from 1.14% in 2002 to 3% in this year, it could be expected that the rate of actual growth would not help overcome the deficit in the balance of payments.

Dealing with the continued deficit in the balance of payments should with outright accuracy and caution. It is because the deterioration of in the value of the national currency can lead to loss of trust in the performance of our national economy and exposing it to a new setback.

Seiyoun sciences conference,

Scientific demonstration & recommendations for technological upswing in Yemen

By MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Seiyoun Sciences Conference held recently in the governorate of Hadramout has issued valuable recommendations and results tending for effecting advance in the scientific researches in Yemen and the Arab region, especially that the results have been adopted by specialists from universities of Berlin, Washington, Amman, Kuala Lumpur, Sana'a and Aden.

The more important among those researches was a joint study presented Sana'a University on the sciences of earth and oceans. One of its authors Dr Mohammed Salah Haykel confirmed that all mineral ores in Yemen are connected with geological compounds related to the Red Sea ridge. Dr Heykal says that Yemen possesses metals and riches in need of mineralogical studies and for that reason Yemen has benefited from conferences on sciences for expanding the activities of discoveries and excavations for metals.

In another study presented by Dr Abdulla Omer Bakhwar from Food Research and post-Harvest Technologies Centre he affirmed that there are 160 dates categories in Yemen; 56 in Tuhama, 6 in Hadramout valley and more than 59 in the valleys of Hadramout coast. Dr Bakhwar added that there is in Shabwa and the island of Socotra a kind of date- palm tree producing two times in the year.

Dr Mohammed Ali al-Ma'mari, professor of organic chemistry at the University of Sana'a presented a study on certain chemical compounds found in plants and cause cancer diseases such as the liver and lungs cancers. Engineer Sami Ahmed Mohammed offered a working paper on a geophysical study on the field of east Shabwa in Hadramout. Engineer Sami has provided information and maps, magnetic and attractive data on tectonic geology and information on gypsum existence in wells of the region situated in the basin of Seiyoun al-Maseela. The results of analysis revealed a good conformity between the two inverse crevices that are extending towards north-west and south-east of al-Mahjara seismic lines

and the earthquake remains in Shabwa.

Among prominent studies presented at the conference was that on inborn deformities demonstrated by two researchers from Taiz University which indicated definition on the extent of spread of inborn deformities among newly born infants. The study shed light on factors causing inborn deformities at a proportion of 5% of each 100 live births. Analysis of results disclosed that the average of deformities increases in cases of relatives marriages where it reaches 30% while the age of mothers plays a role in increasing deformities.

A study presented by researcher Ayad Yousuf from Sana'a university on "Bacterial Causes of eye diseases and their response to antibiotics" clarified that bacteria coming out of eyes have resistance to antibiotics and it recommended the specialists of the necessity of benefiting from the research.

In an economic study presented by professor of petrochemicals at Aden University Dr Rukhsana Mohammed Ismael, the researcher stressed that there was a possibility of benefiting from Yemeni oil residues. The study added that the most important results that had

been reached were that Yemeni light oil has many specifications encouraging on establishment of many kinds of petrochemical industries. Possible industries include, according to the study, clothes, rubber materials and plastic materials. The study recommended that oil authorities in Yemen should deal with this

industry seriously and to start embarking on building petrochemical industries to get use of oil industry residues.

The sixth conference on sciences in Seiyoun has come out with significant results and resolutions mainly those pertaining to issues of environment, renewable energy, increase of agricultural pro-

duction and paying much attention to natural, biological, chemical and physics sciences. It has recommended the support for institutions of scientific research for creating a technological advancement in Yemen and producing clean energy and building an infrastructure suitable for it.

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Words of Wisdom



There are newspapers that are owned and operated by the army, government, independent companies, political parties, special interest groups, etc. In other words, the written media offers a variety of views and positions. But the state enjoys full monopoly over radio and television stations.

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



OUR OPINION

Malaysia: Pride of the Muslim world

During my last visit to Malaysia to attend the Organization of Islamic Conference Summit in Putrajaya, I realized that there is something quite spectacular about this country. Malaysia is unique in that it was able to maintain an Islamic heritage in all walks of life while maintaining a high standard of modernization and civil life.

Religious tolerance I noticed in Malaysia was also spectacular. Even though Muslims constitute the majority among other religions, yet all Malaysians are treated equally. Everyone has the freedom and liberty in religion. There seems to be complete harmony and respect among Malaysians. This is indeed a feature one can rarely find in most of the Muslim world.

You could find Muslim Malaysians working on very sophisticated computer architecture designs and sophisticated modern sciences in the morning and go to prayers in the nearest mosque in the evening resembling an ideal example of how a Muslim could be productive and cope with the global technical advancements, while he continues to hold on tight to his Muslim teachings and his conservative style of life.

"Islam and modernization go together" is one of the themes of modern Malaysia.

We, as Arabs and Muslims of other countries should take this country as a leading example. We should learn from the experience that the Malaysians have gained during the last half century since the country's independence on 30 August 1957.

With such a rapidly growing economy of 5.4% GDP growth per year, Malaysia is among the fastest growing economies in the world.

From a few days of careful inspection of the way Malaysians manage their lives, I concluded that this economic growth was only possible after the country managed to enhance and develop its human resources factor. A significant portion of the annual budget goes to education and health. Malaysia has realized that to develop a country you need to develop its people first. This is what many developing countries are yet to realize.

I also noticed that Yemenis have a very special place in the hearts of Malaysians because they constitute a significant portion of the Muslim community in the country. There are hundreds of thousands of Malaysians of Yemeni, and specifically Hadrami origin in Malaysia. They immigrated to the country hundreds of years ago and brought with them knowledge in Islam. They were respected scholars and merchants at the same time.

Those Hadramis were able to influence Malaysians in the way they practice their religion in their daily life. They were known for their honesty, kind-heartedness, and intelligence in doing business. They were able to bring millions of Malaysians to Islam and they are today grateful.

It was a special experience for me as well because whenever they would know I am from Al-Sagqaf family, they would show a lot of respect and interest in talking and exchanging views and ideas. I also found relatives of mine, now surnamed Al-Sagoff, who long to go back at least for a visit to their original homeland. Yet, they continue in working for their country, Malaysia faithfully and with dedication and love.

In brief, my trip, which was the first, to Malaysia was a splendid experience in which I have learnt personally, and wish that many others would too.

The Editor



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First English Newspaper in Yemen, founded in 1991
by Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Sagqaf

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Private schools: What for?

By FAHMIA AL-FOTHI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The academic year has started and schools opened their doors to receive students again. We see that year after year the number of schools has increased and I think it is something we have to be happy and proud of. However, what I would like to spotlight here is the spreading phenomenon of starting private schools.

Anyone possessing a small apartment starts thinking of converting it into a school. We see boards, signs and brochures distributed almost everywhere making a big propaganda and raising the slogan of using different means about the skills, capacities, distinguished services and educational aids they have. Most parents get confused and amazed in front of the multi-choice, cannot determine which is the appropriate school and the good choice for their kids.

If one pays a visit to one of these private schools, she/he will discover the bitter truth about them. Most of these schools are just a few small rooms with small courtyards, were originally built for family residence and are lacking the simplest convenient educational atmospheres.

In any country when they say that they have private schools, they really have a well-furnished and spacious building, skilled teachers, and real comfortable atmosphere and the students are obviously distinguished students.

However, private schools here in

Yemen lack simple facilities and you find that there is no substantial difference between them and public schools. On the contrary, the public school in some aspects may be much better than many of those private schools based in small apartments or flats. There are certain criteria and conditions the private school is accordingly licensed. It those conditions are not met such a school cannot and should not be licensed. He building must be suitable for opening a school with regard to its location, largeness and properly built or renovated for an educational utility. The school yard should be spacious and there must be gardens within the building itself so that students would feel comfortable especially during breaks between classes.

It becomes obvious that the main motive and objective of starting private schools is the commercial one and very far from the educational message they falsely claim to be their goal. Many parents of students studying at private schools have not tangibly felt the educational benefit their children are supposed to gain from studying at private schools.

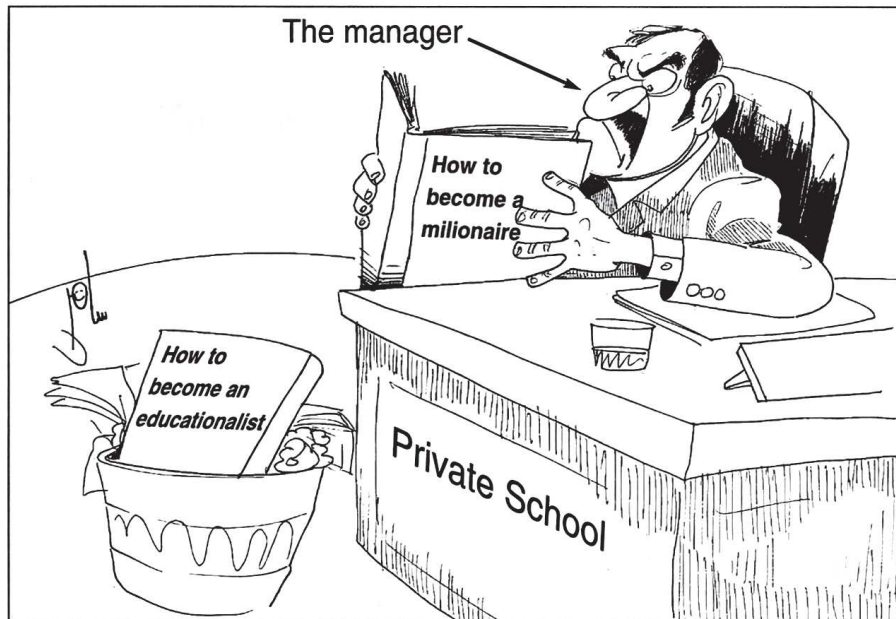
These schools seem to be not subject to proper and enough supervision by the ministry of education regarding the building condition and the kind of curricula and the standard of teaching.

I do not want here to generalize my remarks to include all private schools. One has to admit that some schools are typical educational institutions and they have met all conditions necessary for starting a school. They do the educational job wonderfully and students benefit from studying in them and their certi-

icates are recognised by all standards. But such schools are very little compared to the majority. Most of the private schools deal unfairly with teachers, especially towards new graduates. They pay them small wages and ask them to work for long hours in a way not proportionate to the effort they exert. Many of these schools do not respect the teachers when it is connected to dealing with students' scientific standard. If a teacher finds some students who are very poor in their scientific level and considers them as failure and should not pass to an upper level, he would get surprised to find those students successful and passed to another level. Of course the only explanation of such behaviour by the school administration is that those students have paid more money to buy their success. And that is one of the reasons why such students are not really qualified.

These private schools see also that they have a right to ask parents for money for special uniform, transportation and other activities while they get angry when parents ask them to render good care for their kids and not to neglect them.

The message I want to convey here is to ask the ministry of education to pay attention to this phenomenon that starts to be as lethal disease spreading in the Yemeni society. Moreover I appeal to these schools to reconsider their actions and policies and to seriously shoulder the responsibility for educating the generations who would undertake future building of the society and the country. Education is a human and national message before anything else.



Alleviation of poverty and curbing of unemployment

By ABDUL-AZIZ MOHAMMED
ABDULLAH

The outstanding challenges that the developing and the least developed countries suffer from, including Yemen, are how to solve the problems of poverty alleviation and mitigating acuteness and volume of unemployment.

To accomplish this, it is necessary to promote investment policy, proceeding from the fact that the influx and the implementation of more investment projects in fields, definitely, in industrial development will lead to the realization of the availability of many job opportunities not only in the industrial fields but also in public services area in general. It should be mentioned that we are still suffering from problems that impede our ability to realize a constant growth in the field of investment: the salient of these are the administrative and bureaucratic problems and non-implementation of the laws concerning investment, and taking possession illegally of lands granted to investors, and the non-existence of ready industrial areas with all the necessary services as well as the lack of obvious and integrated strategy to activate the role of projects and small enterprises that have vital and effective part in development and in creating job opportunities. We should take into account the circumstances and occurrences as a result of globalization and their being associated

with the new agreements of the World Trade Organisation which represents the free transfer of services and commodities among countries. This requires existence of acute and simultaneously ill-natured rivalry for the high quality of domestic products when compared with the products of other countries in the world. Here it is necessary that we should provide the best atmospheres that attract investment through several measures and procedures, here some mentioned as examples:

- Setting up an integrated strategy for industry and the small enterprises, taking into consideration the determination of mechanisms and a timetable program for their implementation.
- Determining the established and legal frame, which is responsible directly for the activities of industries and small enterprises which will undertake planning, administration and supervision on them.
- There should be serious and responsible handling for all the problems and difficulties which the existing industrial institutions suffer from, because their removal will lead to re-exploiting their possible productive capacities and perhaps their enlargement towards export and this will be of positive impact on the work force in these institutions through providing more new job opportunities.
- Offering profound and practical concern to provide the required infra-

structure for erecting industrial projects expediting the resolutions of the ministers council which are relevant to the establishing of industrial zones in both Hudeidah and Mukallah as well as in the triangle Aden, Lahj, Abyan, and here is the possibility to benefit from available financial capabilities of the seaports cities development project by preparing studies for economic and technical feasibility of these zones according to specific workable standards in accordance with criteria of the organizations (Unido, World Bank, etc..)

It is worth mentioning that if the economic feasibility proved good for establishing the above-mentioned industrial zones, then implementing either of them may take several forms:

- To achieve establishing the whole of them or any one of them through partnership of the state.
- To establish all of them or any one of them through partnership between the state and the private sector.
- To establish all of them or any one of them by the private sector under the direct supervision of the state.

Erecting industrial zones will help accelerate the establishing of industrial projects at the least time and with less possible cost and this will result in reducing investment costs of the projects in addition to achieving several advantages.



COMMON SENSE

By Hassan Al-Haifi

What did Mahathir Mohamad say?

It is really amazing how the whole "civilized world" was shaken by what Dr. Mahathir Mohamad said at the inauguration of the Moslem World Conference. The Malaysian Prime Minister only reflected the feelings of most moderate Moslems, vis a vis the obvious inclinations of American Foreign Policy towards Moslems and the lack of mutual respect for the sensitivities of Moslems as manifested by Israeli intransigence and the Bush Administration's almost blind support to the Sharon Government. Yet, it should be borne in mind that there is a lot that could be said about the outgoing Malaysian PM's statement that needs to be viewed analytically and objectively. Surely, it would be unfair to speak about the recent events in the region, without pointing to the real crux of the matter and forgetting that it is the Zionist Jews that are the root of all the problems for both the Arabs of Palestine and the mischievous course, which American foreign policy has embarked upon almost since George W. Bush and his neo con clique took over the executive branch of the US Government. The US Congress was taken over by the Zionist Lobby a long time ago. In other words, after many efforts of Arab and other Moslems to appease the officials in Washington and even offer their willingness to let bygones be bygones with the Israelis, it seemed that what the Malaysian leader was telling his fellow Moslems was that the Moslems of the world are confronted by a serious and dangerous enemy that seeks to shun the Moslem religion out of the respect it is due. There is no clear evidence that the Western World will be willing to give the religion of Islam the respect that it deserves, not only as a progressive monotheistic faith, but the source of all the moral and ethical principles that are tantamount to the foundations for modern human existence.

Moreover, the criticism mounted by the President of the Moslem World Conference is more a lecture to Moslem leaders on how they should confront the obvious challenge by the Western adoption of the Zionist agenda in dealing with Moslem peoples throughout the world. Oh sure, we have heard Mr. Bush speak of how much he "tolerates" followers of Islam, and has nothing against them. However, the facts on the ground and the obvious love affair with the Zionist cause is a source of great contempt by Moslems everywhere and not just the Palestinian Arabs. In fact, most Moslems find what Dr. Mohammed said to be a reflection of the real feelings of Moslems throughout the world, without prejudice to the principles of tolerance and respect for all people of any religious persuasion, especially those who are People of the Book, which Islam enjoins. That the Zionists happen to be Jews is not Mr. Mohammed's doing, but a fact of life that cannot be denied, although we are aware that not all Jews are Zionists. That the aggressive policies of the Bush Administration are clearly pointed at Moslems in particular is not a figment of the imagination, but can be seen daily on satellite TV news broadcasts.

Thus, why the big fuss, when all Mr. Mohammed said is that we Moslems have feelings also and if they are not respected, then why should those who disdain Moslems be allowed to get away with it without being accorded a dose of some of their own medicine. After all, Moslems are human too and their pride in the moral foundations of Islam is bound to give rise to their right to call out for mutual respect. It is a give and take world and Moslems are just tired of giving and being taken all the time, without any recognition of their right of human dignity, let alone their human rights.

Time and again, Moslems have proven their high degree of tolerance and condescending, in keeping with their religion, but when so much suffering is unleashed against Moslems everywhere, Moslems have a right to set the course straight on their right to well-being, peace and respect. There is a lot of useful advice for Moslems of the world that the Malaysian Prime Minister gave in the statement, that all of a sudden turned a dignified world leader into Public Enemy No. 1. He rightfully pointed out that Moslems of the world are facing a serious challenge, probably to their existence, which the Zionist establishment has been fomenting almost since the Soviet Union collapsed. This column from as far back as the Mid Nineties pointed out this dangerous trend and warned that such anti-Islamic rhetoric is fuel for international mayhem and regional confrontations.

We think that the West should start reassessing its attitude towards Islam in many respects and that there is no reason that Dr. Mohammed's statements should not be seen as fuel for thought. As for Moslems, there is down to earth sensible logic in many of the advices given by the Malaysian leader. It is obvious that their present state of being is an important cause of their demise and the only way that they can draw the respect they deserve is by catapulting from their economic and social stagnation and by pursuing the development of their societies so as to be able to match the state of being that those who are posing this challenge against them have reached. Maybe the harsh words may have jolted the West into amending their anti-Moslem bias and the Moslems into getting out of the emotional abyss and entering into the practical deeds that will relieve them of their miserable plight in every way one looks at it. A spade is a spade, no matter how you turn it.

Fix Iraq's finances in order to fix Iraq

BY DAVID IGNATIUS
THE DAILY STAR

The Bush administration has at last succeeded in getting a United Nations mandate for its effort to rebuild Iraq. But unless it addresses some financial details, it will have trouble convincing donors to share the financial burden of occupation and reconstruction.

The administration's breakthrough at the UN was to win support from Russian President Vladimir Putin. Once the Russians had defected to the US side, the French and Germans realized they were isolated in their anti-Americanism - and finally climbed on board. But the financing of occupation remains murky. And unless the administration changes its policies, it stands open to the charge - which can be heard in every souq and mosque around the world - that America only invaded Iraq to control its oil.

The financial problems are detailed in a confidential report prepared this month by the Iraq Revenue Watch Project. I'd never heard of the group until somebody slipped me a draft copy of its study, but it turns out to be funded by billionaire George Soros and his Open Society Institute. Since Soros has been a critic of US policy in Iraq, this is hardly a disinterested analysis, but it makes some telling points.

It's a complicated story, and even the most dedicated Iraq watcher may find it small potatoes. But for some Europeans, it documents what the see as a US effort to control Iraqi finances - and keep the goodies for America and its friends. Moreover, the issue is likely to be a bone of contention when the United States

and major European countries gather next week in Madrid for an Iraq donors' conference. So bear with a bit of technical explanation.

Iraq's oil revenues now go into the Development Fund for Iraq, which was created last May by the Security Council to replace the old oil-for-food program. That fund is supposed to be audited by an international body called the International Advisory and Monitoring Board, which would represent the UN, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the Arab Fund for Social and Economic Development.

But thus far, US occupation chief Paul Bremer has delayed establishing this watchdog group, apparently believing its "special audit" powers are too sweeping.

Rather than operating under international oversight, Iraq's oil income and other assets have been controlled by an obscure body called the Program Review Board, which reports to Bremer's Coalition Provisional Authority. The 11-member board includes only one Iraqi.

The board is spending Iraq's money freely, mostly to support aspects of the occupation. The board's own documents show it approved about \$1 billion in spending between Aug. 12 and Sept. 2, according to the Soros-backed study.

"To date, (Development Fund for Iraq) funds have been used to pay Iraqi public sector salaries, to compensate families for the loss of members by actions of Coalition forces, and the day-to-day functioning of the Iraq Governing Council and ministries," the study contends.

European countries have criticized what they say is a lack of transparency in the fund's activities. "The

international community knows nothing about the fund's management," contended one unnamed "Security Council diplomat" who is quoted in the study. "We know that \$1 billion went into it from the UN oil-for-food program in May. Since then, that money has disappeared, and there are rumors the current balance is zero."

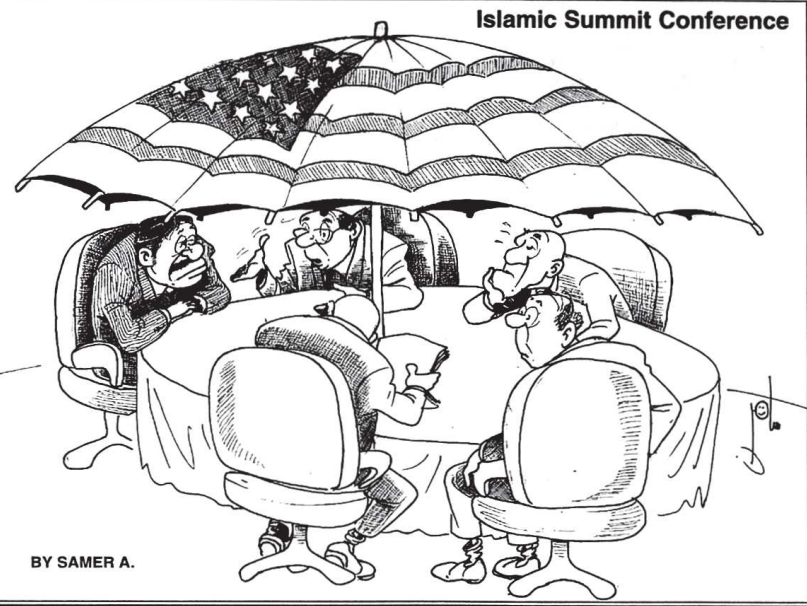
The dispute about the fund may seem trivial, given the larger issues at stake in Iraq. But European countries are citing the transparency problem as a reason why they won't commit more money to Iraqi reconstruction. The Europeans have said they will initially pledge just \$233 million, and they are insisting that this money be distributed by a trust that is separate from the US-administered Development Fund for Iraq.

"Without change, US authorities in Iraq are likely to find themselves increasingly isolated as international donors lose confidence in the CPA's effort to stabilize and rebuild Iraq," argues the Soros study.

Oversight of Iraq's oil revenue is addressed in a few sentences of fine print in the original UN resolution on Iraqi reconstruction that was presented to the UN. But the issue deserves more attention than it has received. Without it, the transparency problem could undermine the UN resolution passed Thursday with such fanfare, and all the progress it promises.

The right answer, it seems, is not to give more power to Europeans, still less to an unwieldy board of grandees from the IMF and World Bank. Instead, the goal should be to give more financial power to Iraqis, as soon as is practical. It's their oil, their money, and ultimately their responsibility to rebuild Iraq.

SKETCHED OPINION



Sharon's main plan is to capture more land

BY PATRICK SEALE
GULF NEWS

Israel's Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and his friends in Washington are in a hurry. They are racing to achieve their objectives before anyone stops them. And when they are in a hurry, they are particularly dangerous. Syria and Iran are in their sights, with further down the road Saudi Arabia, and even Egypt. Political and economic pressure, financial penalties, sanctions, intervention, regime change by military force, these are their chosen instruments for bending the Arabs to the will of Israel and its United States patron.

Sharon's main objective is the building of a Greater Israel on the ruins of Palestinian nationalism. His latest instrument is the wall or fence which is imprisoning the Palestinians on a fraction of their territory, cutting them off on all sides from contact with their Arab neighbours. The wall is due to be finished in eight months' time. Sharon is determined that nothing must prevent its completion.

At the UN Security Council this week, he won a major victory when the United States vetoed a resolution, proposed by Syria, condemning the wall. Within hours, a radical Palestinian group attacked the motorcade of an American delegation in Gaza, killing three Americans and wounding a fourth. Sharon will no doubt exploit this latest incident to rally American opinion against the beleaguered Palestinian president, Yasser Arafat.

Israel's main worry

Sharon's main worry, however, and the reason for his haste, is that George W Bush could be thrown out of office at next year's US presidential election - and with him the whole band of pro-Israeli "neo-conservatives" which have set the Administration's agenda since September 11, 2001. These are the men who pressed for war against Iraq as a first step towards reshaping the geopolitics of the entire Middle East. But the sluggish US economy, the mess in Iraq, and the anti-American anger sweeping the Arab and Muslim world are now making Bush look vulnerable. A Democrat in the White House may not be so tolerant of Israel's foolhardy ambitions or so ready to endorse the neo-cons' aggressive policies.

Sharon has other worries closer to home. The political fall-out from the current police investigations of his two sons, Omri and Gilad, for alleged sharp practice and bribe-taking could drive Sharon himself from office in 2004. And to compound his fears, the Israeli Left which for the past two years has seemed terminally ill and politically irrelevant is showing faint signs of revival.

Leading opposition figures such as

Yossi Beilin, Amram Mitzna and Avraham Burg have joined with Palestinian moderates, led by Yasser Abed Rabbo, in drafting a detailed peace plan for a two-state solution - the so-called Geneva Accords.

The plan, the result of two years of secret negotiations funded by the Swiss government, is due to be signed formally in Geneva next month, putting flesh on the bones of the tentative agreements reached at Taba in January 2001.

It represents everything that Sharon and his friends detest and which he has spent his life seeking to destroy. It provides for an Israeli withdrawal to the 1967 borders (with some marginal modifications) to allow for the emergence of a viable Palestinian state; some major colonies close to the Green Line to be annexed to Israel but those deep inside Palestinian territory to be evacuated; Jerusalem as a shared capital; Palestinian sovereignty over the Haram Al Sharif; Israeli sovereignty over the Wailing Wall and the Jewish quarter of the Old City; and - a major Palestinian concession - the abandonment of the "right of return" to towns and villages lost in 1948. An international force would monitor implementation of the plan while radical Palestinian groups would be tamed and shut down.

These "Geneva Accords" may, in the present climate, seem hopelessly utopian. They have no chance whatsoever of being implemented while the Sharon government, or anything resembling it, is in power. Their potential importance, however, lies in offering the Israeli public what it lacks and longs for most - hope that the current nightmare of killing and counter-killing can be brought to an end. In other words, a change in Washington, and a move back to the center by an Israeli public won over by a credible peace plan, could yet pose a threat to Sharon's ambitions.

He has reacted to the Geneva Accords with barely suppressed rage. "By what right," he snorted, "are left-wing people proposing moves that Israel can never do, nor will ever do!"

Formidable obstacles

Sharon has always wanted one hundred per cent of Palestine, an ambition which would have involved expelling most, if not all, of the Palestinian population of the West Bank to Jordan, which would then have become a Palestinian state.

As the obstacles to such a project are formidable, Sharon has opted for something a shade more modest: the seizure of about 90 per cent of historic Palestine, confining the Palestinians to some 10 per cent of the overall territory behind the notorious wall.

No doubt he calculates that, once the wall is finished, it will in due course come to be accepted by the

international community, and by the Palestinians themselves, as defining Israel's borders. Hence, his determination, and that of his American supporters, to move ahead with all possible speed while the regional and international environment is in their favour.

Sharon's major asset is Bush. Backing off from engagement in the Arab-Israeli conflict, the Bush administration appears to have decided to leave Israel to manage the Palestine problem on its own terms.

So much is clear from its veto of UN Resolutions condemning the wall and Sharon's recent strike inside Syrian territory, from its silence over continued settlement expansion and from its failure to react to Israel's massive destruction of Palestinian property at Rafah, on Gaza's border with Egypt, which this week left 1,500 Palestinians homeless. As he nervously prepares for his election campaign, his ratings slipping in the polls, Bush's collapse before Sharon must be judged one of the blackest pages in recent American history. It has provoked incredulity in Europe and, more ominously, bitter hatred of the United States in Muslim communities around the world.

Yet, Sharon has much cause for satisfaction: while Israel faces no strategic threat, its enemies tremble. A shattered Iraq is under American occupation; Iran, facing great international pressure over its alleged nuclear weapons programme, is wracked by internal conflicts between conservatives and reformers; the Arab Gulf, seemingly indifferent and content, lies under America's military umbrella; Egypt, neutralised by its peace treaty with Israel and by America's annual subsidy, hardly dares open its mouth in defence of the Palestinians; while Syria faces harsh and threatening pressure on all sides - from Washington, now preparing to vote into law the economic and diplomatic boycotts enshrined in the Syria Accountability Act; and from Israel, which last week sent its planes to strike at Syria and seems ready to do so again.

Sharon still thinks he can bludgeon the Palestinians into submission. The attack on the Palestinian camp near Damascus, together with Israel's repeated incursions at Rafah, are clearly intended as warnings to Syria and Egypt to halt all support for the Palestinians - or face the consequences.

But Sharon has not yet found an answer to the suicide bombers who have traumatised the Israeli public, ruined the economy, killed the tourist trade and cut off foreign investment.

They are a profound embarrassment to Sharon, but he may think it a price worth paying. His priority is land, not security. That, he believes, will follow once the wall is built and the Palestinians surrender.

America's interest in Mideast peace

BY AHMAD Y. MAJDOUBEH
JORDAN TIMES

Just as it has become crystal clear to all Palestinians and Arabs (and to all those who follow Middle Eastern politics very closely) that not only is the present Israeli government not interested in peace, but it is intentionally and aggressively sabotaging all peace efforts, it is becoming increasingly evident - and sadly so - that the present US administration is not interested in Mideast peace either.

Not long ago - before, during and after the US-led war on Iraq - many of us thought that the minute the US was through with the war against the Iraqi regime, it would promptly zero in on the Arab-Israeli conflict, in an attempt to help bring security, peace and stability to one of the vital but also troubled parts of the globe. This was the logical thing to do, and this was what the US administration itself said on many occasions. Furthermore, peace serves the interests of all Middle Eastern countries, as well as the countries which have vested interests in the Middle East, including the US and Europe.

Additionally, one felt that even though there was logic in those who argued that the Bush II administration was a replica of the Reagan administration, rather than of Bush I, there was the tacit belief (sometimes hope) that George W. Bush junior was, after all, his father's son, and that, like his father, and before you knew it, he would take concrete, concerted steps for the purpose of solving (or

attempting to solve) the Arab-Israeli conflict.

This conclusion is also supported by explicit statements, about the need for the creation of a viable Palestinian state made early on by Bush himself and by his secretary of state. The Bush administration's intentions to push for a peaceful solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict were confirmed further when the US started supporting the Middle East roadmap for peace. Its requirement for the endorsement and implementation of the map (the appointment of a Palestinian prime minister) was met, Bush visited Egypt and Jordan for the purpose of promoting the roadmap, and then he appointed a couple of high-ranking officials to follow up on the roadmap's realisation.

At that particular moment in time (as well as in the days following the Bush visit and the statements made by the leaders of the parties to the conflict), hopes for peace (long frozen) revived, and faith was renewed that the US administration, which neglected the Middle East during its early days (thus beginning to sound like the Reagan administration), was, after all, serious about Mideast peace-making.

At present, we are not so sure. The Palestinian ex-prime minister said and expressed intention to do everything that the US and Israel wanted him and the Palestinians to say and do. Neither the US nor Israel, however, gave him the support he needed to carry out his sound programme. This lack of support (which compounded the lack of support for him from the Palestinian National Authority itself)

led to his fall and resignation. With his failure, peace efforts (as well as hope) failed.

Worse, the US administration started to back out and renege on promises made. Worse still, it started to add more preconditions for its support of peace - the well-known Israeli preconditions. Worst of all, it started to echo verbatim what the Israeli prime minister himself (whose sole aim is to sabotage and abort peace) was saying.

We are back to square one. In fact, we are back even more - not only utter disregard for Mideast peace, but utter support of Israel (a very hard-line, violent Israel, we should say).

At this ominous point in time, even those Arabs (and their number has decreased over the years) who kept their faith in America's push for peace-making in the Middle East, as well as in America's integrity and sincerity, are beginning to lose (maybe even lost) such faith. Unless the present US administration does something bold, concrete and dramatic to revive the peace process and curb Israel's present madness, it will be seen as a replica of the Sharon government - an administration that is not at all serious about Mideast peace-making, to say the least.

Ultimately, no one will fault America for not being able to solve the Middle East peace conflict to the best satisfaction of all involved, but it will be faulted (and harshly so) by all if it does not try hard enough, if it does not attempt to curb and curtail Sharon government's violence or, worse, if it continues to echo the position of the Sharon government or to support it.

Father who killed his daughter's ambition

BY FATMA AL-JEL
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

There was a ten-year-old girl called Amal. She was too clever and intelligent. Always she was the first one in her class. Her dream was to be a journalist and become active in her community. She was living with her parents and two brothers. Her father was cruel and unmerciful and her mother had a weak personality. Amal used to go to school in the early morning and come back home at one o'clock. She was studying well with her neighbor's friends.

One morning Amal was getting ready to go to school. Suddenly her father said "You will not study from today. I decided that you must learn how to cook and clean the house, this is enough for women; the study is unnecessary for you especially your family is rich". Amal was wondering because she did not believe what she heard. Amal ran to her mother. She was crying "Mom! What happened with my father, why he forces me to stop my study? What the real reason is?" "This is his decision, I can't do anything for you my dear; you should talk with your brothers, they may help you," the mother said. Amal conversed with her brothers. She started with the eldest brother. My father forced me to stop my study. I hope you help me to convince him on the importance of studying." Her brother said carelessly that "You have to obey my

father. I'm sure my father is right. What do you mean by study? Do you want to be famous in your future?" "Why not? If Islamic instructions and the government gave me the right to study or work why not?" Amal replied. "Don't dream," her brother answered. You must know where you live. Women shouldn't make anything; just work at home. No more!" Amal became hopeless. She called on her youngest brother who was called Ali. He was as a friend to her. "Ali you know the importance of study for a person, a person who does not study will be nothing in the community". Amal was trying to convince her brother. Ali said that "well, I agree with you completely, you know how much I love you but no one will hear us, we can't change our father's concepts I'm sorry you may get married and may be you will achieve your dream in the future. You must accept the fact as it is, my dear! Hopelessly, Amal accepted the cruel fact and sat at home. Consequently, Amal's life became more difficult. While her friends finished their study and started working in different places, she was illiterate and uneducated. She couldn't even read well. In addition to that her father and eldest brother became more inhuman. They did not allow her even to visit her friends or go out. After a period of time, the father died and Amal's family became poor. There was no way to get money so Amal worked as a servant to support her family and forgot her dream.

Autumn in Spring

BY NASEER AHMED ALVI
E-mail: naseer.863@hotmail.com

We pretty four flowers
Were blooming in the garden!
Watering us our gardeners
Were happy with faith and fun!
We were enjoying fragrant weathers
Having day and night freedom!
Worked moon and stars as watchmen
And lightened sun for welcome!
The butterfly began dancing.
When we started to blossom!
Dew drops kissed the lips
How we beloved and handsome!
In the spring, the autumn bomb
On 22nd March fell down!
It scattered the garden
The pale soil became reddish brown
My gardeners' faces turned white!
As blood burnt by the fire blown!
What happened with brothers?
Their stalks were without crown!
Why March became June!
Having hot fierce tone?
How I forget and condone

For tears and wounded backbone?
No dew drops on lips
No sun, no stars, no moon!
In the colorless social world
My sorrows and I were alone!
I, bedsores, and my homeland
Have to survive very soon!
Blair, Bush and other invaders
Gave n right on my heirloom!
My tears will bring brightness
To root up the gloom and doom!
With the color of burying flowers
The soil becomes too fertile!
A beautiful garden will spring
Bringing there a happy boom!
The breeze will swing the flowers
And homeland will again bloom!
The flowers will raise their heads
Without fear of scorching noon!
Build a united white house
Where Allah's orders be known!
Share the happiness and the gloom
Having the same done!
The invaders have to leave now
Since I am not alone!

Academic situation needs remedy

BY SAEED O. AL-BATATI
So10000@hotmail.com

Last academic year I wrote a report in the Yemen Times included farewell ceremony for English teaching staff in the Faculty of Education Hadhramout University of Science and Technology (HUST) Seiyun. Students told me they don't keep their fingers crossed for this academic year and it will be in a mess because the majority of teaching staff members are traveling abroad. However, students have hit the nail on the head and all about have come true. For example, students are not attending class because many courses are still suspended. Other example students have trouble with shortage of classrooms. Students expressed their disappointment and anger for the

chaos. Like every year, the academic year starts and we face the same cares and worries. The first month is almost over and we are still classless and insufficient staff members 4th year students said. I we put all the blame on the University leadership for not taking the matter seriously another student added. On the other hand female students are absolutely furious because they don't have appropriate place for staying during breaks. At the same time students who come from far places complain that the faculty doesn't provide accommodation. 20 rooms of former teachers institute are closed although we are in pressing need for them student from Doan valley said. Moreover students called on the new rector Dr. Ahmed Ba-Mashmoum for an urgent remedy to the situation. This shortage of classes is mainly due to mismanagement.

VACANCY

For the execution of a project funded by the European Commission, GTZ International Service (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH, International Services) are searching for a

Financial Controller

I. 1. Qualification and skills

University Degree or Diploma in accountancy, computer literate, very good command of the English language, at least 5 years of experience in similar position, preferably in an internationally aided project, accounting firm, or international company

II. 2. Duties

- A. 2.1 Processing of invoices for purchased goods/services for payment;
 - B. 2.2 Responsible cash-in-safe holder for the project; maintenance of a cashbook as prescribed by GTZ accounting procedures;
 - C. 2.3 Liaison with local GTZ office and monthly hand-over of vouchers to ensure recording of these vouchers in the local GTZ-WINPACCS Journal kept by the GTZ office, as prescribed by GTZ accounting procedures;
 - D. 2.4 Monthly reconciliation of Project bank account statement with end-of-the-month bank account balance in local GTZ-WINPACCS Journal, in liaison with the local GTZ office;
 - E. 2.5 Assist GTZ office in procurement activities in compliance with EU procurement procedures;
 - F. 2.6 Set-up and maintenance of inventory records for procured equipment;
 - G. 2.7 Maintenance of Debtors and Creditors records and clearance of balances in liaison with the journal-keeping local GTZ office;
 - H. 2.8 Assist in the compilation and control of local budgets;
 - I. 2.9 Assist in the processing of monthly Timesheets for all project personnel, as prescribed by GTZ HQ;
 - J. 2.10 Processing of reimbursable incidental expenditure documents as prescribed by GTZ HQ;
 - K. 2.11 Assist in the compilation of "Transfer of Ownership Certificate" for all equipment whenever hand-over to the beneficiary takes place, in liaison with the EU Task Manager and GTZ-HQ; and
 - L. 2.12 Any other task related to accounting and financial control.
- III. • Project start will be 15 December 2003 or 1 January 2004, depending on ongoing EC procedures.
- IV. • Yemeni Nationals of suitable qualification are invited to present their application both in English and Arabic prior to 1st November, 2003 and please address it to:
- The Deputy Director
GTZ Office Sana'a
P.O. Box 692
Fax: (00 967 1) 412 539
- V. • Interviews of short listed candidates will be held on 3rd November,

Republic of Yemen University of Aden

Announcement on opening nomination for Aden's University's Scientific Research Award

In embodiment of the university's objectives of enhancing scientific research and directing it to serve comprehensive development for the society and improving science and culture; Aden University is glad to announce the scientific research encouragement award for the 4th round of year 2004. This is according to the University Chancellor decree No. 191 for year 1999 which allocates annual prizes in the following disciplines:

- Social and Humanitarian Sciences
- Engineering
- Basic Sciences
- Agriculture
- Medical and Health Sciences
- Management and Economy
- Law
- Best book published during 2003-2004 on Natural and Applied Sciences
- Best book published during 2003-2004 in Social and Humanitarian Sciences

And according to the above, the University announces the start of nomination for the disciplines above starting from March 2004 and until 30th June 2004.

Criteria of the Scientific Production

For the scientific production to be qualified to win the award it must be an original distinguished research that presents an addition to the branch of science concerned. It must be related to the Yemeni Society and Environment and development issues. Scientific Work nominated to win the prize must include the following terms:

Any scientific research that was carried out particularly for this award and has not been published yet or had been published for availing a price from any other authority

Any patents with complete papers presented by an authenticated authority recognised by the university.

Any scientific book, educational or referential that complies with the University standards Masters and Doctorate theses are NOT included in this definition or scientific researches that had been awarded for scientific promotion.

Nomination Conditions

Any staff member of Aden University or any other Yemeni Universities and any person working at the specialized Yemeni research and development centers has the right to nomination.

The applications to the award are to be presented by the researchers themselves to the Award secretariat in the Scientific Research General Department at the university, and this is done through filling of the standard form at the department in a clear and legible way

Five copies of the scientific work must be sent by the candidate and five copies of any related documents and other information stated in the application form. These must be delivered to the Award secretariat at the Scientific Research General Department latest by 30th of June 2004

Candidates must specify the discipline they are presenting for.

For group or joint researches, the applicant must provide evidence to the approval of the rest of the

researchers who have worked on the scientific work that confirms their agreement of applying for the award.

Scientific work is not returned to the candidate in any case.

Arbitrament

Awarding committee consists of a number of specialized teachers of titles: Professor, Assistant Professor of those who have an excellent reputation in their field and wide experience as well as unbiased judgement in evaluation and awarding. The main awarding committee has the right to bestow the award according to the recommendations of sub-committees to an individual research or as with equal shares or to withhold it in any discipline

Awarding committee's decisions are final and are not subject to appeal.

Winners and Award distribution

- Names of award winners will be announced in the second half of August 2003
- The award-granting ceremony will be announced in various media tools
- The prizes will be awarded to winners in a special celebration on the 10th of September, the date of establishing the university
- Winners are denoted a financial prize along with the award's medal and the certificate.

Correspondence

All correspondence must be directed to the following address:



University of Aden's Award for encouraging Scientific Research
Vice-chairmanship of Higher Studies and Scientific Research
General department for Scientific Research, University of Aden
P.O. Box: 6312 Khor Maksar
Telefax: 234430 - 234420 - 234426
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Mother Theresa of Calcutta

BY REV. FR. MATTHEW UZHUNNALIL
S. D. B., ADEN

On 19th October 2003, the head of the Roman Catholic Church Pope John Paul II, will declare Mother Theresa of Calcutta a "blessed" before thousands from all over the world assembled in front of the biggest church in the world, St Peter's Basilica in Rome. This Pope has approved a first class miracle worked by Mother Theresa, the cure of a malignant tumor of a Hindu lady whom no doctors ever could help. Even the doctors declared that the cure is a miraculous one and not through any natural means like medicines etc. this Albanian born Roman Catholic nun became an India citizen and is well known all over the world for her works of charity for the poor, abandoned and dying people irrespective of caste or creed. Her society sisters clad in white and blue bordered Indian sarees can be seen in Yemen at Sana'a, Hodeidah, Taiz and at Aden. They work for our Muslim brothers and sisters who have no one to go to for help. Mother Theresa has visited Yemen and our president always welcomed her. Once Mother Theresa was asked this question: "Will you go where ever you can find the poor and abandoned and dying?". This was her reply: "if I can find them in the moon also, I will go if I can manage to reach there!" her trust in God was great. Yes she left her country and made India her home and now her sisters, and her works of charity are all over the world spread in 132 countries. Mother Theresa, born to Drana and Koley on 26th August 1910, was called at home Agnes Gonkhe Bojaxhiu. With her mother Drana, early in life she used to work for poor, abandoned children of alcoholic women. When 18, she decided to join the sisters of Loreto, one of the many Roman Catholic church's orders of

women with its headquarters in Dublin, Ireland where she learned English. The Loreto sisters are well known for their first class educational institutions all over the world. She became officially a nun at Darjeeling, at the foothills of Himalayas, at the Loreto convent which the writer of this article has visited several times. From this convent one can have a clear view of the three peaks of the Himalayas. Then she was sent to Calcutta where she got trained as a teacher after which she was put as the Principal of a secondary school for Bengali girls. Very close to this school, Calcutta had one of its worst slums which Mother Theresa visited often and the great sufferings of the people touched her heart. She took it as an "inspiration" from God to do something for the poorest of the poor of this slum. She prayed and asked the advice of several people before she left the Loreto Nuns to begin on her own a work for the poor, abandoned and dying. The French Jesuit Archbishop of Calcutta Perrier and his assistant Indian Father Henry who later became Archbishop, both of whom this writer of this article knew well, were also consulted. Finally at the age of 38 she left the Loreto congregation and began on her own and thus there was born now the world famous society of the Missionaries of Charity of Mother Theresa. Once I had the joy of flying sitting near Mother Theresa in a flight from Calcutta to Madras from where she proceeded to Sri Lanka to meet her sisters. Slowly other ladies who saw the good done to the poor and dying, joined Mother Theresa, the noble laureate. Wherever she went, people welcomed her and also assisted her in her work for the poor with money, work and materials. She died at the age of 87 on 5th September 1997. Though a poor Nun, India, where hardly three percent are only Christians, gave her State Funeral which was attended by dignitaries from



"If I can find them [the people in need] in the moon also, I will go if I can manage to reach there!"

all over the world. Such was the meteoric rise of the fame and name of this simple and humble nun, a cynosure of all eyes of the world. It was on 26th July 1998 that three of her innocent sisters were gunned down by a fanatic at Hodeidah while on their way to the place of their work for the poor and dying. All people in Yemen condemned this senseless act of cruelty and the

three sisters are buried in Aden. Soon after the death of Mother Theresa, people who knew her as a holy person began to pray to her begging her to obtain favors from God and a Bangali lady got the miraculous cure from her tumor which the Roman Catholic church after its strict and fool proof scrutiny declared it as miracle which no human means except the divine can

obtain. On 19th October, Pope John Paul II will declare Mother Theresa a "blessed" and this ceremony will be televised all over the world. The world is also keeping this day as the Silver Jubilee Year of the Pope as Bishop of Rome, a rare privilege which very few Popes of the Roman Catholic church ever had. Sister Nirmala Joshi, a lawyer by profession, is the successor

of Mother Theresa and she is guiding the destiny of about 4000 missionaries of charity in their 710 institutions scattered in 132 nations of the world. With the advance in Science and technology, with manned flights to the moon, it may be that the missionaries of charity may reach the moon too provided there poor and needy who need their love and care.

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SANA'A-YEMEN

Local Press

Prepared by Mohammed Khidhr



Al-Wahdawi weekly, organ of the Nasserite Unionist Organisation, 14 Oct.2003.

Main headlines:

- NUO general secretariat approves program of its 10th conference
- Nasserite Organisation mourns struggler Abdulghanni Mutahar
- A court acquits a citizen after a year of imprisonment and torture
- American soldiers in Iraq commit suicide

The political editor of the newspaper writes that celebrations of our people continue. After their celebrations of the 26 September revolution come the celebrations of the 14 October revolution. The meaning of observing the anniversaries is not merely remembering those who have sacrificed their lives for their people. The meaning is bigger than all this, i.e. the people should not be exposed to injustice again after the revolution. They have to entertain a progressing, strong and life prevalent by justice.

Nobody can deny the change that took place and the achievements accomplished but did this change has touched the depth on which a genuine economy can be built, rendering Yemen capable of depending on itself and keeping away from circles of hegemony, alliances and spheres of influence? Nothing of the kind has happened and the country is still running after loans and aid that humiliate it and conquer its will. On the political side and the political democratic course we still combine between the two posts of ministry and parliament seat as if the country is poor in potentials and proficient people.



Al-Thawri weekly, organ of the YSP, 14 Oct.2003.

Main headlines:

- YSP celebrates festivals of the revolution and the party
- YSP condemns political assassinations and calls for respecting others opinions

Columnist Abdeh Farie Nouman has in his article associated between remembering the 14 October revolution anniversary and the issue of high prices in Yemen. He admits by saying that the phenomenon of high prices is worldly and is climbing up the scale of prices in most of the world countries but he assumes that its acuteness and harm in Yemen are much more than in

anywhere else, such as the Arab neighbouring countries and that is due to absence of the state in this field. The Yemeni consumer alone is under the mercy of merchants and businessmen. Those would mostly resort intentionally to raise prices or follow fraudulent means against them. The Yemeni consumer does not know the price he has to pay for goods because such a price is announced or defined by the state and this situation makes him always under the mercy of retail sale merchants. The increase in prices during the period 1991 till today is borne by the consumer alone unless there would be against it a fair rise in wages of individuals and expansion in services the state offer to the citizens. In case that would not happen the would be a big drop in the living standard especially of those whose incomes do not exceed the level of subsistence, or on the line of poverty.

The writer says the only outlet of this impasse is designing a national policy for wages built within logical data serving then society in the first place, taking into consideration the raising of the living standard or developing courses of development and economic situations in general. This policy should be faced with a price policy. Price policy must be based on:

- distribution of the national income,
- increase of production and motivation of productivity,
- the coordinated and programmed economic development away from inflation trends.



Al-Sahwa weekly, 16 Oct. 2003.

Main headlines:

- Ministers parliament questioning, MPs consider that jeering at parliament
- For taking part in October celebrations, YR 50 million for personalities transport to Aden
- Americans: Those wanted by us less than number of hands fingers

Columnist Zaid al-Shami says in his article devoted to talks about the Yemeni revolutions anniversaries saying the Yemeni revolution in the north and the south for realizing noble goals aimed at liberating the Yemeni man, raising his cultural, economic and social level, application of justice and equality and removing differences and differentiation among the citizens. Much of what has been targeted by the revolutions of September and October

Main headlines

- 400 prisoners in Sa'da, smuggling behind liquefied gas crisis
- JMP contains prospect of a crisis between Islah and YSP
- Jurists demand uncovering dead bodies of October movement leaders
- Renewed arrests at the Grand Mosque
- October revolution forced the British Empire to leave the homeland
- Independence was not granted, YSP renews bias to the people
- Authority has to bear responsibility regarding pursuit of charging others with infidelity, political assassinations
- YSP mourns struggler Abdughani Mutahar
- Study discloses victims of torture in Yemen, Human Rights minister: We will stand by any torture victim
- Motorcyclists in Sana'a demonstrate in protest to confiscating their motorcycles
- Head of Islah political office welcomes GPC-YSP dialogue
- Directive on dealing with Saudi goods reciprocally
- Official report discloses non-implementation of local councils 1st conference's decisions
- Smuggling children and girls to Saudi Arabia on increase
- Defense body seeks improvement of al-Mouyad and Zaid's arrest conditions
- State of emergency in Aden at 40th anniversary of October revolution
- The EU reduces to half its aid to Yemen
- Partisan-tribal conflict in Abyan heralds a massacre because of a public job
- Unionist congregation condemns Israel's aggression on Syria
- Security apparatus demands al-Qaeda detainees not to blow up themselves
- An attempt to smuggle Yemeni children to Saudi Arabia, aborted
- Security source al-Qaeda organisation in Yemen, no longer existing
- President Saleh attends a carnival festival in Aden
- GPC_YSP coalition government, expected
- In their conference, members of judiciary power in Amran, Haja and Sa'da recommend putting an end to violations

has been achieved, particularly the unity. In addition, the development and rise in the level of the Yemeni man's consciousness and cultural level have also been achieved. But what we see and have is still below the level of ambition and aspiration and falls short of what the revolutionaries meant to achieve. When we carry out revision we seek for the better and are keen on safeguarding the construction and not to repeat the mistake. This does not mean denial of the facts.

We feel we do good for the revolution and loyal to the freemen when we are keen on straightening the mistakes and give advice. We do not deny that among the officials there are those who are at the level of responsibility but unfortunately their number is small among the majority.



Al-Balagh weekly, 14 Oct.2003.

Main headlines:

- Arab ruling regimes evade from their responsibilities, consider Yemen's initiative as personal
- Leader of Aden-Abyan army surrenders himself
- Foreign ministry denies dialogue with Jews
- U.S. Congress accuses Syria of harboring al-Qaeda and production of banned weapons
- Eritrean opposition national alliance confronts Aforki, seeks for toppling his regime
- PM: Yemen victim of terror, American support not big

The newspaper's editor in chief has touched this week a very important question regarding journalists assigned with covering official activities and their sufferings. He expresses his regret that many ministries or government institutions that hold some activities and symposiums or conferences, do not invite but a limited number of journalists for covering them, and invite especially the main official media institutions. The pretext expressed by these sides is that they cannot afford spending money awards to a large number of journalists. The writer says he does not want to discuss in details the cost of such awards if compared to what is spent for preparing for the activities held. He argues that many media men go to those activities even without being invited with the purpose of offering the reader a piece of information, but most of the times they are barred from entering the activity. The writer proposes a solution to this problem by

calling on the institutions which organize symposiums or conferences or activities to stop spending money awards to journalists covering their activities and in this case those activities would be attended by only the journalists seeking for information to be conveyed to the reader via their media instruments. In this way the institution would realize the goal of its activity by getting publicity and the journalist would be able to convey the information to the reader.



Al-Mithaq weekly, organ of the GPC, 13 Oct.2003.

Main headlines:

- President attends the grand youth festival in Aden
- PM: Distribution of budget expenses over the year to avoid congestion
- 2004, a year of flourishing of the free zone in Aden
- Gas company denies exportation, accuses gas stations of fabricating crisis
- September October revolutions proceeded from the same constants and embodied justice, democracy and unity
- Arab minerals conference discusses investment opportunities in Sana'a

Columnist Dr Abdouaziz al-Maqaleh says in his article that nothing can deter Sharon and his government which the Arab media termed as rightist as if in this Zionist entity there is a rightist or a leftist. There is no difference in this entity between right and left, all of them are invaders and bear greedy intentions in others' homeland. There is nothing standing in the face of the plot making the Zionist entity a bridge to be used by the hostile forces and giving it the task of a policeman in the Arab region. There is nothing deterring Sharon and his government against committing aggressions on this Arab country or that, whether it be close to the Zionist entity or far. Two recent raids the Zionist entity launched on Syria and Lebanon are flagrant evidence on arrogance and disregard of legitimacy and disrespect of the international law. It is not strange for the Zionist entity to violate all that because it is an entity founded on force and aggression and could not live beyond the frame based on aggression and destruction. The characteristic of killer Sharon is that he does not hide the reality of this entity and does not see any way to keep away from the use of force and expansion and in using them whatever the consequences were.

World Press

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

Germany

Die Welt:

With ultimate unity, the red-green coalition has pushed through the Bundestag (parliament) several laws on the reform agenda of Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder.

Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung:

There is continued dispute over the structure of the European Union military forces.

Der Tagesspiegel:

The health reform law is the first project in effect of the Agenda 2010 proposed by the German federal government.

Pakistan

The News

Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf said on Friday that Pakistan has voted in favor of US-backed UN resolution on Iraq but will not send its troops unless certain preconditions are met.

The Nation:

Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf said on Friday that he is ready to meet Indian Prime Minister Atal Vajpayee "anytime, anywhere."

Dawn:

Saudi Crown Prince Abdullah bin Abdul Aziz will arrive in Islamabad for an official visit on Saturday.

Egypt

Al Ahram

Egypt's permanent envoy to the United Nations said Saturday that the current crisis in the occupied Palestinian territories requires an accelerated and effective international intervention for protecting the lives and properties of the Palestinian civilians.

Al Akhbar

Israel on Saturday threatened to launch new military attacks against Syria unless Damascus stops its support for those groups it considers terrorists.

The threat came in a statement by General Amos Galaad, chairman of the political department at the Israeli Defense Ministry, who claimed that Syrian support for terrorist networks

increased in the past two years.

Al Gomhuria

Al-Qaida leader Osama Bin Laden said in a message aired by the Qatar-based al-Jazeera TV channel late Saturday that US President George W. Bush is sending US troops to Iraq to "kill and be killed."

The Egyptian Gazette

Turkish Prime Minister Tayyip Erdogan said on Saturday that Turkey preferred not to send troops to Iraq if Iraqis did not want them there.

However, the decision ultimately rested with the United States, Erdogan told a news conference during a seminar on the Spanish island of Mallorca.

Britain

The Sunday Telegraph

British Chancellor of the Exchequer Gordon Brown is considering imposing capital gains tax on the sale of all houses in an attempt to plug the widening gap between his spending plans and public finances.

The Independent

Leading Tories have calculated that Iain Duncan Smith will have been ousted from the party leadership before the Queen's Speech on Nov. 26, leaving his deputy, Michael Ancram, to face Tony Blair on one of the two most important occasions in the

parliamentary calendar.

The Observer

Amid rising concern about growing congestion throughout the country, special units of emergency staff with life-saving equipment are to be created to deal with potential gridlock on Britain's roads.

The Sunday Times

Scotland Yard has thwarted a suspected plot to assassinate Vladimir Putin, the Russian president, after arresting a renegade Russian intelligence agent in London.

Japan

Asahi, Yomiuri, Mainichi, Nihon Keizai

Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi and US President George W. Bush held talks Friday evening in Tokyo. The two leaders discussed issues like Japan's aid to Iraqi reconstruction, Democratic People's Republic of Korea's nuclear weapons programs and appreciation of yen.

Asahi

Construction and Transport Minister Nobuteru Ishihara is expected to finalize a decision next week to remove Harubo Fujii as president of Japan Highway Public Corp. Fujii on Friday rejected at a hearing the government's arguments to dismiss him, saying he has been sacrificed as a political pawn to improve Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi's fortunes.

Philippines

Philippine Daily Inquirer

Defense Secretary Eduardo Ermita on Friday confirmed the capture of Taufik Rifqi, an Indonesian national, who is believed to be a ranking leader of the regional militant group Jamaah Islamiyah, in the southern Philippine city of Cotabato two weeks ago.

Manila Bulletin

President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo on Friday urged Frankfurt Airport Service Worldwide (Fraport) to back up with solid evidence its accusations that some of her cabinet officials extorted 70 million US dollars in exchange for the approval of the 600-million-dollar Terminal 3 construction project of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport in Manila.

India

Hindustan Times

After questioning over 2,500 people, the Delhi police have zeroed in on 10 suspects who may have been involved in the abduction and rape of a Swiss diplomat in south Delhi on Tuesday night.

The Times of India

Militants in Indian-controlled Kashmir struck at the heart of govern-

ment on Friday when they attacked chief Minister Mufti Mohammad Sayeed's residence, killing two soldiers.

The Hindu:

The Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP or the World Council of Hindus) sponsored congregation in Ayodhya Friday fizzled out as the security forces sealed the temple town.

البقاء لله

أحر التعازي وأصدق المواساة نرفعها للأستاذ/

حسن العديني

وكيل مصلحة الجمارك

صاحب إمتياز صحيفة الأسبوع

بوفاة الفاضلة والدته

سائلين المولى عز وجل أن يتغمدها بواسع رحمته ويدخلها فسيح جناته

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الأسيفون: محمد بن سلام، أحمد الجبشي، إبراهيم حسين...

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I. What to Say

Situations and Expressions (57):
Felicitating a teacher (Part I)

A teacher's contributions for building up of a prosperous society can never be overestimated. A teacher shapes the destiny of a nation by enriching, energizing, enlightening and enlivening young minds who are the citizens of tomorrow. He chisels out vibrant and sensitive individuals from shapeless, ignorant minds, and presents to the society the architects of tomorrow.

In recognition of a teacher's vital role in transforming the social ethos, teachers are honored in a befitting manner in different countries and cultures. In India, for example, Teachers' Day is observed with solemnity on 5 September. Even otherwise, the student community expresses its deep sense of gratitude to the torch bearers of knowledge and wisdom who lead kindly light in the encircling darkness of ignorance.

We present below some eloquent expressions of homage used to honor the teachers by the appreciative students.

- For a wonderful Teacher, with gratitude and appreciation. All of us wanted to tell you how much we appreciate you, how grateful we are for your help and advice, and all the nice things you do. So this comes with gratitude and appreciation because you are admired a lot, along with our thanks for your kind, thoughtful ways - and especially, our thanks for the various lessons you've taught. Thank you for everything.
- Thank you, dear Teacher for always being there to explain, clarify, and inspire ... All that I am today, I owe to you.
- Teachers are a true blessing who help make life a beautiful gift to treasure.
- Thanks for being kind and understanding, and thanks for being a wonderful Teacher. You are truly admired.
- Dear Teacher! It's truly nice to know someone wonderful like you.
- 'A student's success, is the teacher's wisdom.... A student's happiness, is the Teacher's dedication.' "Thanks" is only a part of the heart-felt gratitude, these wishes offer to you today.
- New year wishes to a very special Teacher. You are truly special and though it's not often that these feelings are put into words, the New Year season seems like a good time to let you know how very much you mean to us. In this coming year may you get the world of happiness and satisfaction in whatever you do. May God bless you.
- Special wishes on New Year for a great Teacher! As lovely as the flowers in spring, as beautiful and bright. May your each moment, each hour linger in our memory like the fragrance of a flower. With immense gratitude and love, we all would like to wish a very peaceful and successful New Year to you!
- Thank you for standing by me through all the ups and downs, for helping me keep things in perspective, for being tough when I needed you to be, for being gentle when I needed your calm and encouragement. Thank you for being the very best Teacher that anyone could ever have!
- Dearest Teacher! This comes in appreciation of the fine things you have done for me. Thank you for not letting my spirit down when I was not upto the mark. Thank you for motivating me when things seemed not so good. Thank you for being my greatest inspiration and imparting the value of knowledge to me.

II. How to Say it Correctly

Correct errors, if any, in the following sentences

- He never goes to an arrow's flight of her.
- Goodnight! I am very glad to see you again after a long time.
- I asked him that why he was beating about the bush.
- Intelligent people always avail of the opportunity.
- Money has become modern God which every man

is hankering.

Suggested answers to last week's questions

- Mr. Ali Abdullah Salah is elected **President of Yemen**.
- Because he worked hard, he succeeded in the exam.
- Not only did he insult me, but assaulted me also.
- I have never **disobeyed** and will never disobey my elders.
- One must put it in exactly the right place in **relation** to the other words.

III. Increase your Word Power

(A) How to express it in one word

- A language that is no longer spoken.
- The word which is no longer in use.
- The motive merely to get money.
- Existing forever - without any beginning or end.
- A speech made without preparation.

Suggested answers to last week's questions

- An animal that eats its own kind: **cannibal** (n)
- One who abstains completely from alcoholic drinks: **teetotaler** (n)
- Murder of a king: **regicide** (n)
- A man whose manners are more like those of a woman: **effeminate** (n)
- A medicine to counteract the effect of poison: **antidote** (n)

(B) Foreign phrases and expressions

Give the sources of origin and meanings of the following foreign phrases and expressions

- Annie Christi 2. Ars longa vita brevis
- Auf wiedersehen 4. au contraire
- auto

Answers to previous week's questions

- ad libitum** (Lat.): As much as one pleases.
- ad valorem** (Lat.): According to value.
- affair d'amour** (Lat.): A love affair.
- a la mode** (Fr.): According to the custom, in fashion.
- alter ego** (Lat.): One's other self.
- ad referendum** (Lat.): For further consideration.

(C) Words commonly confused

Bring out differences in meaning of the following pairs of words

- medal, meddle 2. team, teem
- dissent, descent 4. in, inn
- dyeing, dying

Suggested answers to last week's questions

- rite** (n. act or ceremony in religious services): The funeral rites of the deceased statesman was performed with full state honors.
right (n. qualification): Might is right
write (vt. put down on paper by means of words): Write your answers in your own words.
- yoke** (n. a wooden bar used for joining two cattle): The farmer has put the yoke on the oxen for ploughing.
yolk (n. the yellow part in the center of an egg): The yolk is rich in cholesterol.
- gamble** (vt. take great risks for the chances of winning something): He gambled away half of his property.
gambol (vi. to jump about in play): The lambs are gambolling about in the field.
- gaol** (n. jail): The prisoner was released from the gaol.
goal (n. object of efforts or ambition): Set a clearly defined goal and try hard to achieve it.
- precedent** (n. earlier happening taken as an example): The English department has set a healthy precedent in the college.
president (n. elected head of the government): President Saleh is a visionary.

(C) Idioms and phrases

Give illustrative sentences using the following phrases

- lead upto 2. shake off

3. long for

4. stave off

5. trump up

Suggested answers to last week's questions

- to eat away** (corrode): Excessive drinking has eaten away his liver.
- to grow upon** (to have stronger hold over): The habit of chewing qat is steadily growing upon him.
- hear someone out** (to hear upto the end): The speaker requested the audience to hear him out.
- to hit upon** (to discover): I have hit upon a brilliant idea to accomplish the task.
- to keep hanging about** (loitering about): He kept hanging about the college with the hope of meeting the Dean.

IV. Grammar and composition

(A) Grammar

In the following exercise put 'could', 'couldn't' or an appropriate form of 'managed to' in the blanks. Remember: 'managed to' means 'tried and succeeded'

When I was at school, I was good at languages, and (I/speak) (1) — French and German quite well. (I/learn) (2) — my exams, and got quite good grades. But what surprised me was that when I went to Germany for the first time, (I/understand) (3) — a word — it was as if they were speaking a completely different language from the one I had learned. Speaking was less of a problem, because on the whole (I/say) (4) — more or less what I wanted but it was a long time before (I/have) (5) — my first real conversation.

Suggested answers to last week's questions

- You need a **gardener** if the lawn needs mowing and the flower-beds are full of weeds.
- You need a **plumber** if a radiator is leaking.
- You need a **carpenter** if you need some new cupboards in the kitchen.
- You need an **architect** if you want some additions and alterations to your house.
- You need a **baby sitter** if you have been invited to go out on Friday evening, but you have a small child who should be looked after.

(B) Composition: Paragraph Writing

Expand the idea contained in the saying

38: A MAN IS KNOWN BY THE COMPANY HE KEEPS

Last week's topic

37: EXAMPLE IS BETTER THAN PRECEPT

We cannot inculcate moral values and ethical principles in youngsters merely by preaching them by word of mouth. We have to reflect them in our lives. Since children learn by imitation, we have to set practical and concrete examples before them by following a righteous life solidly based on sterling virtues and principles. We should not tell our children "Do as I say, but don't do as I do" It is nothing but hypocrisy and self deception. On the other hand, there should be transparency in our deeds and coordination between our words and acts. We have to be a candle with a bright flame so that we can enkindle other candles. Therefore, we should refrain from a life of falsehood, deception and hypocrisy and lead our lives in accordance with the principles and values we wish our children to imbibe. We have to be concrete and tangible edifices of virtues ourselves to beckon others to follow the same path.

V. Pearls from the Holy Quran

"Every soul shall have
A taste of death:
And only on the day
Of Judgment shall you
Be paid your full recompense."
S3: A185

VI. Words of Wisdom

"It is love, not reason,
that is stronger than death."

—Thomas Mann

A letter to the teachers of English: 30

Small teachers and large classes



DR. M.N.K. BOSE
(BOSE@y.net.ye)
Associate Professor of
English,
Faculty of Arts, Ibb.

Dear Fellow teachers,

Waleed Shams of Hodeidah, one of my students who regularly reads my letters, has asked

me a very real and practical question: we go for teaching practice to schools where much of our enthusiasm weans away when we meet a large number of students in each class; how can we teach large classes? I have tried to answer his question in this letter for the benefit of other teachers also.

Yes, some of our classes here are large; larger than we can comfortably handle. But you must know that these large classes, which are 50 or 60 strong, are smaller than some of the large classes in India which are 120 strong. Believe me, I am not exaggerating; I have taught some such classes myself in schools as well as colleges in India.

When I was in India for my annual vacation this year, I was invited to meet a set of teachers of English in a school, most of whom asked the same question: how do we manage large classes? In both our countries, being developing countries, large classes are inevitable and we are left with no choice. Most of the teaching ideas that come from the western world may not be suitable to us, as they are for classes that are 15 to 20 strong. So we have to find our own ways of tackling the problem.

Writing in The Teacher Trainer under the title 'Indian problems and Indian solutions' in 1996, I suggested group work as a solution to the large class problem. I am aware that there are some practical problems in conducting group work in our classes: in most of the schools the classroom furniture is fixed and immovable and making students sit in groups is impossible; group work necessarily results in

noise and the other teachers and the head teacher will have to understand that it is productive noise and tolerate it. One way of solving this, I suggested, is to take our students outside the class to the shady tree for group work. This is not impossible in Yemeni situation either, except in schools without trees, as students will not mind sitting under the trees with the teacher and in some schools, especially girls schools, classes are conducted under the trees.

The advantages of group work are (i) it provides opportunities for the learners to open up and use English, (ii) it encourages the slow learners to participate in the classroom activities, (iii) it creates a healthy competition as well as a welcome cooperation among the learners, (iv) it provides the necessary challenge to the learners, (v) it gives an opportunity to the teacher to produce useful exercises for his/her classes, (vi) it enables the teacher to become student-friendly and the learners to become teacher-friendly. Can we sacrifice all these benefits merely because we don't have suitable classrooms? So, do not hesitate to take your classes outside for practicing group work.

Pair work is another solution to the large class problem. Set exercises for the learners to work in pairs: it can be answering questions from the textbook or practicing conversations or finding the correct pronunciation of some words in the lesson etc. Neighbours can make pairs and work out the exercises; this will not produce much noise and may not be disliked by your colleagues.

Whether group work or pair work, the success lies in how well you supervise it and guide your students when they go wrong or need your help. Some of us wrongly think that group and pair work will give us a chance to relax in the class and have a rest. On the other hand, there are others who avoid them because they demand a lot of work. Neither is bad. I'll write more about group work in the future. Good luck.

Yours fraternally,

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

Fifth Inter-College Literary Competitions, 2003-2004

The Fifth Inter-college Literary competitions in English Short Story, Poem, and Essay will be organized under the auspices of Yemen Times for the Academic Session 2003-2004. Competitions will be held in two categories, viz. Senior (level 3 and 4) and Junior (level 1 and 2). A bonafide student of any college in the Republic of Yemen is eligible to participate in the competition. Participants are free to choose any theme for English Short Stories and Poems.

Topics for the Essay contest:

Senior group (level 3 and 4):

"As Technology Advances, Humanity Declines"
(2000 words)

Junior group (level 1 and 2):

"United We Stand, Divided We Fall"
(1500 words)

A participant can participate in any or all events. Entries should be original and should be typed or neatly written on any side of the paper. These are to be certified to be original by the Head of English Department of the respective college and sent to Dr. Ramakanta Sahu, P. O. Box 14533, Sana'a, Republic of Yemen.

Last date for submission of entries is
30 November, 2003

Dr. Ramakanta Sahu
Coordinator

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

- | | | | | |
|------------|------------|---------------|----------|-----------|
| Acid | Damp | Home | Pressure | Suit |
| Air stream | Days | Humid | Rain | Summer |
| Alert | Drizzle | Hurricane | Rift | Sunny |
| Area | Droplets | Land | Rime | System |
| Autumn | Dust | Leaf | Same | Talk |
| Blizzard | East | Lightning | Sand | Thaw |
| Blue | Fahrenheit | Melting | Seasons | Thunder |
| Breezy | Fall | Meteorology | Severe | Tornado |
| Burst | Fans | Mild | Shower | Tour |
| Calis | Flood | Mist | Skies | Typhoon |
| Case | Flurry | Moist | Slip | Variation |
| Causes | Freeze | Moon | Smog | Vary |
| Ceiling | Fresh | Night | Snow | Warm |
| Celsius | Frost | North | South | Warn |
| Clear | Hail | Over | Spring | Wear |
| Climate | Hair | Ozone | Stable | Wind |
| Clouds | Hats | Particles | Stats | Winter |
| Cold | Haze | Pass | Steam | |
| Cool | Hear | Pour | Still | |
| Current | Heat wave | Precipitation | Storm | |

ANSWER NEXT WEEK

Last Week's Answer: Concierge

ALL KINDS OF WEATHER

Solution: 7 letters

P	F	R	E	E	Z	E	C	T	S	R	U	B	G	V	A	R	Y	D	E
M	R	E	W	O	H	S	A	I	A	Y	N	N	U	S	E	I	K	S	N
E	O	E	S	U	I	S	L	E	C	L	I	A	H	N	R	E	V	O	A
T	S	L	C	T	M	F	L	H	L	T	N	M	O	M	A	E	I	R	C
E	T	A	M	I	L	C	S	N	L	P	O	Z	A	W	R	T	U	C	I
O	A	N	L	U	P	E	S	E	A	S	O	N	S	E	A	O	U	E	R
R	T	D	R	S	R	I	M	R	F	O	M	U	V	I	T	R	T	I	R
O	S	R	L	F	W	L	T	H	U	N	D	E	R	W	R	S	M	S	U
L	Y	T	E	O	D	I	C	A	S	D	S	A	G	E	H	E	B	F	H
O	S	G	E	L	C	N	N	F	T	N	V	L	N	A	N	A	L	N	E
G	T	P	D	L	A	G	R	T	D	I	A	T	I	R	O	I	P	A	E
Y	E	A	E	I	P	A	N	R	E	W	O	F	N	P	O	G	Z	R	T
S	M	S	E	T	E	O	I	S	W	R	S	N	T	D	H	T	Z	E	W
P	O	S	H	S	R	Z	R	Y	O	A	D	H	T	P	A	A	S	A	
R	I	F	T	T	Z	E	A	R	D	S	A	N	U	G	S	Y	L	R	S
I	S	S	H	L	U	I	G	H	U	T	D	S	I	B	T	K	D	U	E
N	T	E	E	U	N	O	H	O	M	E	R	T	L	L	E	A	F	R	T
G	A	U	T	U	M	N	S	E	M	A	S	E	S	U	A	C	B	E	S
R	H	M	I	S	T	I	Y	Z	E	E	R	B	A	E	S	A	C	L	A
L	O	O	C	L	O	U	D	S	R	N	R	A	W	M	W	A	H	T	E

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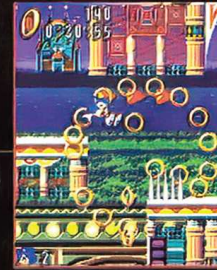
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السياسي أو حدة،
تاز للاجار (يفضل
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راسي فائرة فولفو FH١٧ موديل ٩٩
وشيلو كاترير مستخدم ٧٠٠٠ كيلو فقط
حديث بمواصفات الشرق الاوسط وسجوعة
هايانكسا موديل من ٩٣ - ٩٨ وديتات
هايانكسا موديلات من ٩٨ - ٢٠٠١ وسيارات
أخرى التواصل عبدالله أحمد محمد
٧١٧٣٩٨٨

البيع: سيارة جيب طراني موديل ٩٧، لون
زيتي، جديد، قفوة ١٠٠٠كم، بدون حمارة،
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البيع بحالت مشرط، موديل ٩٧
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٧١١٠٧٣٣

البيع سيارة مونيكا ٢٠٠٢ لون
فضي سعر مناسب جداً للاستفسار
الاتصال على: ٧١٧١٧٢٥٥

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Yemeni coffee, How we miss it!

By YASSER AL-MAYASI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Coffee was considered of the most famous and popular agricultural products in the Yemeni history. And times came when the economy depended great deal over centuries on this product and its exporting to neighboring countries and to farther countries. It affects the economy and living standard positively as one of the major non-oil exports of this country.

During the 16th and 17th centuries A.D. Yemeni coffee marked its place in the world of coffee and

the brand "Mokha Coffee" or Mocca as been termed in some places, was rating as the second best after the Brazilian coffee. The name was a result of Yemeni coffee being associated with the port of al-Makha via which it was used to be exported to countries all over the world.

During the '40s and the '50s sta-

tistics indicated that Yemen's exports of coffee amounted to 12,000 tons yearly. This amount had retreated to only 7 tons in the '70s, which indicated the shifting of agricultural focus from coffee to other products. This decline was a result of a number of political, social and economic factors.

From the social and economic

of skillful people either migrated from the country or stopped working in this trade, and so the level of production was reduced as a consequence. Political-wise, instability and various crises that took place in the country since the '60s and until the mid of th '90s had their negative impact on agriculture. Where the state could not advance this field and did not improve the means and mechanisms of farming and marketing of products, an issue that requires close cooperation between the state and civilians to push it forward.

Coffee is grown in mountainous fields which range between 800 to 1800 meters above sea level and requires continuous irrigation for its growth.

There are various obstacles and difficulties in coffee plantation, one of the main of such difficulties is the illiterate and old fashioned farmers who work on this. Because they refuse or are ignorant about the latest and modern mechanisms of agriculture, and this is a drawback in their work. It is also due to the lack of expertise and skills, especially among young farmers because they could not inherit these skills from their fathers who migrated or discarded the trade. Moreover, pests and deadly epidemic diseases affecting coffee growing that need to be fought through chemicals and fertilizers have caused a great damage to this industry. All this is leading to the fact that bringing back the old glory of Yemeni Café becomes a very difficult thing today and requires a lot of will, dedication and hard work.

angles it was the migration of many Yemenis between 1960 and 1980 to the GCC and KSA. This has affected the lives of farmers and farming who depended on the money remitted by their sons and relatives who worked abroad and hence coffee plantation was not considered the main source of income, hence leading to deterioration in this industry.

Moreover, due to the same reason the expertise and farming skills in coffee planting was reduced and almost demolished because most



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