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Appeal procedures on Limburg case kicks off

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The appeal procedures in the trial of the defendants convicted of the French oil supertanker bombing started this week, a Yemeni judicial source said. It added that Judge Saeed al-Qata will handle the appeal hearing sessions of the trial of the 15 alleged al-Qaeda militants. The source expected that the appeal hearing sessions in the case of the USS Cole terrorist attack would start soon.

The Sana'a Penal Court concerned with terrorism on Saturday August 28th sentenced one al-Qaeda militant to death while 14 others received prison terms of three to ten years after being found guilty of forming an armed group and carrying out attacks on Yemeni and Western targets. The court run by Judge Ahmad al-Jeremozi sentenced Hizam Mujali to a death sentence for killing a security man named Hamid Khasroof at a security checkpoint.

Five other al-Qaeda supporters were

sentenced to ten years in jail for bombing the French supertanker Limburg. They are: Omar Saeed Hasan Jarallah, Fawzi al-Wajeeh, Mohammed Saeed Ali al-Amari, Fawzi Yahia al-Hababi, and Yasser Ali Salem (who was tried in absentia). The judge, while reading the verdict, said these defendants were found guilty of participating in the October 2002 bombing of the Limburg oil tanker, which killed a Bulgarian crew member and spilled 90,000 barrels of oil into the port of Mukala.

The two brothers Fawaz al-Rabee and Abu Bakr al-Rabee were sentenced to 10 years in jail. The conviction of Fawaz al-Rabee, the ring leader, included the attack on a US Hunt Oil company helicopter and the detonation of explosives at a civil aviation authority building. Al-Rabee was also fined \$100,000 as compensation for the building damage. He also participated in the murder of Khasroof.

Continued on page 6



The convicted of Limburg, before court of appeals



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Amnesty International criticizes trials of terror suspects

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Amnesty International claims that the trials for suspects charged for being involved in the bombing of the USS Cole and the French oil tanker Limburg were "unfair."

In the report released last week,

Amnesty International said that the two trials, in which three men were sentenced to death, "failed to meet international standards for fair trial. International law requires that the death penalty should not be imposed if the trial is unfair in any way."

The report also said that "defense

lawyers complained that they were not given the same rights as the prosecuting team of lawyers. They were not allowed to meet with their clients in private at their place of imprisonment and instead were only allowed to speak with them during court hearings."

Continued on page 6

Saudi-Yemeni new border enters world's largest atlas

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The new Saudi-Yemeni political border gained an international boost by being put into the largest world atlas ever. The eighth edition of the world atlas classic volume, issued by the National Geographic Society, will go on sale throughout the world on Thursday, with more than 15,000 changes and updates from the previous version.

Now over 100 years old, the National Geographic Society is the largest not-for-profit educational unit in the world.

The newly demarcated border between Yemen and Saudi Arabia, is one of the most important updates to this popular world atlas and is the most significant update concerning the Middle East.

However, this update is one of many other important ones including an update about Earth's highest point, which is higher than previously thought: more accurate measurements of Mount Everest show a height of 29,035 feet, up 7 feet from previous

measurements.

The lowest point is lower: The Dead Sea is listed at minus 1,365 feet, down 26 feet because of increased water consumption in the region. There is the inclusion of first new nation this century - East Timor.

Other changes include showing spaceports for the first time, new administrative divisions between Slovakia and the Czech Republic, glacier movement in polar areas, and the renaming of Calcutta, India, to Kolkata.

The final and permanent demarcation line of the borders between the Republic of Yemen and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia was clearly defined in the Jeddah treaty which was signed in Jeddah on 12th June 2000.

However, international popularity of the Jeddah treaty which ended the border dispute between Yemen and Saudi Arabia will undoubtedly be boosted by



the release of this huge new book, which is composed of 416 pages and weighs around four kilograms. It will be available for sale at a price of US\$ 165.

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Yemen protests to Saudi Arabia

Yemeni officials have reportedly filed an official protest with Saudi Arabia for hosting Yemeni people suspected of supporting rebellion.

September 26, a daily newspaper with close ties to the Yemeni presiden-

cy, quoted an unidentified official as saying his country presented an official protest to Saudi Arabia against some practices of Yemeni political activists residing in Saudi as refugees or nationals against Yemen.

The source's statement, in which he warned this could harm relations between the two countries, came as a Saudi official delegation arrived in Sana'a to finalize a \$150-million joint project for a cement plant in the country.

Taiz Journalists Syndicate holds meeting

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF
TAIZ BUREAU

The Management of Yemeni Journalists Syndicate branch held its first meeting, in Taiz, in the center of Yemeni News Agency Saba', on Saturday 2nd October under the chairmanship of Nageeb al-Jurmoozy, the Head of the Branch. The meeting was held in the presence of Abdo Saif Othman, Fikri Qasem, Obad al-Saqqaf, and Muhammad Abdo Salemin. The meeting checked through the outcome of the election results that expressed satisfaction of the journalists and colleagues in various media and press establishments in the Governorate.

Mr. Najeeb al-Jurmoozy, the Head of the Syndicate branch inaugurated the meeting by a speech expressing his pleasure at the success achieved by the Syndicate conference held on Thursday

30th September under the auspices of the Taiz Governor and Head of Local Council, the Judge Ahmed Abdullah al-Hijri. The same conference was inaugurated by Muhammad Ahmed al-Ansey, the Assistant Deputy to Taiz Governorate. The Head of the branch congratulated his colleagues on their success in the membership of the Management and in holding the trust of their colleagues, the members of the Syndicate. He indicated the necessity of working as one team and proving that they are capable of handling the responsibility and the trust they have been endowed with. He also confirmed that the performance of the branch leadership is subject to the harmony of the whole, and conditional to working with team spirit, indicating that the branch in the past was paralyzed in movement. This status should not continue so; it is therefore necessary to activate all the

activities.

Hence, it was agreed to distribute the tasks among the members of the Management in the following manner:

- 1- Abdo Saif Othman, Deputy
- 2- Emad Ahmed al-Saqqaf, Fin. & Admin.-in-charge.
- 3- Fikri Qassem al-Muhayya, Activities and General Rltns.-in-charge.
- 4- Muhammad Abdo Sufyan, Rights and Freedoms-in-charge.

It was confirmed by the whole that the work shall be jointly among the whole with one team spirit. Then, the following important and necessary requirements of the branch were discussed. The following have been agreed upon:

- 1- To construct a list of the requirements and appliances for the branch, and the operational budget, and speed up its handing over so as to enable the branch to perform its tasks, and to assign Mr. Abdo Saif and Mr. Emad al-Saqqaf to do the requirements list.
- 2- To assign Mr. Fikri Qassem to travel to Sana'a to follow up the branch requirements at the Syndicate leadership, and then to calculate the traveling and living allowances from the operational budget which is payable @ Y.R.3000.- / per day.
- 3- To seek for an appropriate center for the Syndicate. To assign Mr. Muhammad Abdo Sufyan to carry out this task.
- 4- To hold periodical meetings, once a week, during the remaining period of the current year to organize the branch status. And after that a monthly meeting has to be fixed.

Yemen Times is proud to be represented in the membership of the Management of the Yemenis Journalists Syndicate branch in Taiz Governorate, as Mr. Emad Ahmed al-Saqqaf, the Director of Yemen Times Bureau in Taiz, was elected as a member in the Management and a Financial & Administrative officer-in-charge.

Awarding party at Mu'ath Scientific Society

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

A party organized by the Mu'ath Scientific Society for Qura'an and al-Sunnah Services in Taiz was held on Thursday 7th October. The party was held in celebration of the conclusion of the final competitions in Quran memorization in the hall of Taiz Tourism Club. The awarding party was conducted in cooperation with the International Association for Qura'an memorization, and was attended by Taiz Governor, the Judge Ahmed Abdullah al-Hijri, and a number of Parliament Council members, scholars, and general managers of executive offices and local councils in addition to students of Quran. The party was started by recitation of a verse from the Quran after which speeches on the occasion were pre-

sented. This meeting was the fifth consecutive year for the Society to organize such a competition. The competition for this year was participated by 67 male and female students representing fifteen parties concerned in Qura'an memorization. The speeches emphasized the necessity of sticking to the teachings of the Qura'an and al-Sunnah besides the importance of creating a generation enjoying correct understanding of Islam. Meanwhile, poetic verses and chants were delivered throughout. The Governor of Taiz, Judge Ahmed Abdullah al-Hijri, and Shiekh Mudhaj Abdulla bin Hussain al-Ahmer, a member of the Parliament council, and Abdul Malek Dawood awarded the winners of the competition, as well as the supporting and supervising parties of the competition.

YTS condemns al-Hubaishi kidnapping

Yemeni Teachers Syndicate (YTS) condemned kidnapping of teacher Abdulkareem al-Hubaishi by soldiers last Monday.

"Abdulkareem al-Hubaishi was kidnapped by 7 soldiers on Monday October 4th 2004 in front of his friends while he was leaving the private school he works for in Ma'aen area. The soldiers led him to a car belonging to the army, threatening his friends not to approach," said a reliable source at YTS.

"YTS strongly condemns the kidnapping the aforementioned in a way

that infringes the law and constitution," he added.

The source concluded his statement saying: "YTS demands the quick release of al-Hubaishi and the punishment of the perpetrators; it also calls on Human Rights and Public Organizations to denounce this illegal act and to stand against violations of the democratic precept."

It is worth mentioning that teacher al-Hubaishi was an active student leader in the Faculty of Education, Sana'a University, before his graduation last year.

The improvement of transportation in Yemen

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The trend of the World is to modernization, develop and improve in many of areas of life in which we, in particular, are still backward. In fact many things related to peoples daily affairs provide a natural and spontaneous glimpse of people's living standards. Every country attempts to present best picture of itself to its people regarding its level and its development. Therefore, many countries attempt to replace the 'old' with the 'new', and demand ever improving services for their citizens, in the name of looking after their interests.

If we look to the type of taxi cars (whether the smaller or the larger ones) working nowadays, especially in some areas or governorates, we will find out that many of them are very old ones. In addition, many look like falling short of the simplest safety standards aside from not providing any kind of comfort to the passenger. It is perhaps an embarrassment to this country's efforts to secure the comfort of its citizens and visitors.

By these comments, I don't mean that all the taxi cabs should be replaced right away from tomorrow, in one lot. But, I do mean that a certain period of time should be allotted for such a purpose, and enforced by the state. We do need to replace taxi cabs, as a whole, within a certain period of time, limited in years if

not months. We should start with those which are working at airports, and then those which are working on the internal routes in towns and among governorates. Furthermore, the government should stop granting new licenses to old cars, as per is adopted in many other countries which have banished better cars than we use!

Furthermore, there should be a periodic check upon the granting or renewal of driving licenses for such types of cars, and stipulations that ensure the passenger's safety and comfort.

What has prompted me to write about such a subject is that many car drivers or taxi owners add additional seats (with no regard for passenger safety or comfort) to guarantee transporting a larger number of passengers, and there is no control over such matters by the concerned authorities. Additionally, some routes are crowded by taxis while some other routes and areas are lacking taxi services. As a result, in some cases, citizens find themselves compelled to hire private cars despite their inability to afford the costs. The Taxis Union have promised to provide taxi cabs for deprived routes, and also have addressed the Traffic Department to cooperate with them in this matter, so as to solve this problem. We hope that their efforts are ceaseless, as the citizens are in need of such necessary services.

Readers' Voice

Yemen Times features "Readers' Voice" a popular way for our readers to interact with us. This is your opportunity to have a say on world and local affairs.

This edition's question:

Do you think that Al-Khaiwani will apologize and be released?
 - No, he will not apologize and will stay in prison
 - No, he will not apologize but will be released soon
 - Yes, he will apologize and be released
 - Yes, he will apologize but will not be released

last edition's question:

Who do you think will be the ultimate winner of the three US presidential debates?

John Kerry 61%
 George Bush 28%
 They will be even 11%

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Soldier killed, two wounded

TAIZ BUREAU

Taiz - Monday, October 4th - Al-Rawnah District witnessed a tragic incident which resulted in the death of a 26 year old soldier, Ahmed Mahyoub, and the wounding of his companion Najeeb Basha and 22 year old Sulaiman Farhan, who were among the security personnel deployed in the area.

The victims were ordered by the director of the district and the Manager of Taxation Brach, to bring the citizen Khaled Hassan Yahya to pay the tax imposed upon him by the government. This prompted the aforementioned citizen to open fire at the policemen who came to his residence.

The murderer fled the scene immediately after the incident, and the security authorities have arrested a number of his neighbors and Sheikhs to investigate the case.

Prof Al-Tarb left Sana'a

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Tarb, the regional president for Arab Countries at the European Marketing Foundation and Promotion Association (EMPA), chairman of Arab Foundation for Administrative Development (AFAD), left Sana'a after a several-day visit.

During his stay, Prof. Al-Tarb discussed with Yemeni officials a number of issues related to administrative reforms, investment and development in accordance with WTO requirements.

In a statement to Yemen Times, he confirmed that Aden Free Zone needs a lot of work in the field of marketing and a new board with more tasks and tools of authority.

Oxfam support discussed

A joint meeting was held on Wednesday October 6th 2004 at the executive office of Aden Governorate, to discuss support and proposals offered by the British Oxfam Organization in Yemen.

The meeting was organized by Aiman Omar, the Director of Poverty Strategy Program.

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World Food Programme of the United Nations (WFP) Vacancy Announcement

The WFP is establishing a pool of pre-selected candidates (roster) for Logistics Assistant post for its office in the Republic of Yemen. Interested applicants should deliver their applications along with their detailed CV's in English.

This post is open to Yemeni nationals; female candidates are encouraged to apply.

Logistics Assistant

The responsibilities of the Logistics-Assistant shall include, but not be limited, to the following:

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- Initiate regular visits to stores to ensure conformity with regulations for storage of food and non-food items.
- Maintain cost data on various means of transport in country.
- Reconcile the projects finance account and provide necessary actions.
- Assist in contingency planning and logistics preparedness reviews.
- Prepare periodical reports.
- Perform other related duties as assigned.

Qualifications:

University Study / Diploma with some advance studies in public or business administration or qualifications relevant to logistics / transport work.

Language:

Excellent command of English and Arabic

Experience:

At least four years practical commercial / professional experience in one or more of the transportation and ancillary sectors, port operations, shipping, clearing and forwarding, air operations, large scale road / rail transport and distribution management.
 Proficiency in Windows (MS - Word, Excel) and some transport tracking system experience desirable.

All applications to be submitted to WFP Representative with by 10 days form this announcement in closed envelope clearly marked from the top of the outside (APPLICATION - LOGISTICS ASSISTANT ROSTER) at the following address:

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 Email: wfp.sanaa@wfp.org

Yemenia Chairman elected president of the AACO

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The annual conference of Arab Air Carriers Organization (AACO), that held its 37th conference in Al-Bahr Al-Mait city in Jordan during October 4th-6th, collectively approved the election of captain Abdulkhalq al-Qadhi, (Chairman of the board of Yemenia Airways) as Chairman of AACO. This election reflects recognition of the level of development of Yemenia Airways and its effective role in the organization, which Yemen is considered one of the founders of.



Captain al-Qadhi

Captain al-Qadhi, who was born in 1960, joined Yemenia in 1984. He started his professional life as an assistant pilot on Dash3 and then on Boeing 727 and later as a pilot of the latter until he became the captain of Boeing 747 and

Jumbo. There are many administrative positions he has attained; those positions are:

- Manager of Aviation Administration in 1987
- Director of Air Operations in 1993
- Charged de affairs of Chairman of board in 1998
- Chairman of board of Yemenia in 2000

He has participated in many symposiums during his professional life in the fields of aviation and administration, especially in AACO - something that has reinforced the role of Yemenia Airways within the organization and whose participation has increased since he became Chairman of the Board.



During the conference, the request of Yemenia Airways to organize the 38th conference in Yemen in 2005 was approved. The meeting featured the signing of a partnership and cooperation agreement between Yemenia and Qatari Airlines by captain Abdulkhalq al-Qadhi and Akber al-Bakher, Chairman of Qatari Airlines. The agreement which is considered the first of its kind, is concerned with cooperation between both the companies in following the recommendations of the AACO.

Yemen & France: 300 years of friendship & dialogue

BY YASSER AL-MAYYASI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Yemen & France exhibition "300 years of friendship and dialogue" was concluded last Thursday at the Culture House (CH) in Sana'a as a celebration of the Yemeni-French relationship that continues to progress. The exhibition was organized from October 2nd-8th by the National Documents Center (NDC) and the French Embassy (represented by the French Cultural Center and the French Institute for Antiquities & Social Sciences).

It contained 223 landscapes, and exhibits which included copies of documents, maps and records registering crucial areas and remarkable characterizations of the framework of Yemeni-French relations in political, economic and cultural dimensions. The relationship of the two brotherly countries dates back to the 16th and 17th centuries. The last three decades also witnessed a number of touchable improvements under the care of the leaderships of the two countries represented by Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh and his French counterpart Jacques Chirac. The exhibition also included a symposium on Yemeni-French relations.

The French interest in Yemen dates back to the period of colonial competition in the 16th and 17th centuries during which the attention of the French was drawn toward some Yemeni ports in the Red Sea, especially after the Napoleonic campaign into Egypt.

The French assert that the relations between Yemen and France were based on cooperation and recognition of one another, and were strengthened during the last three centuries resulting in the upgrade of diplomatic ties since 1739.

The Yemeni-French relations have passed through 7 stages, which the exhibition confirmed as follows:

- Coffee
- Voyagers
- The campaign of French Scientists who came to explore the East of the sphere.
- The establishment of the consular agency in the 19th century in Hodeidah during the Ottoman invasion of Yemen. This agency aimed at facilitating the French trade in the Red Sea between 1880-1915. Besides another consular agency was established in Aden during the period 1857-1943.
- The establishment of the relations between France and the Mutawakili Kingdom (Imamate) between 1919-1962.

-The enhancement of the current relations and cooperation between Yemen and France.

Diplomatic ties

The diplomatic representation was reciprocated between the two countries after France acknowledged the republican regime at the level of Ambassadors.

The ties of the two countries were resumed after a temporary halt in 1977, when the two sides signed the first agreement on the economic cooperation. This paved the way for the foundations of French trade and industry to enter Yemen, the implementation of numerous developmental projects and the formation of a joint Yemeni-French Committee to bring Sana'a and Aden together in the beginning of the eighties.

The ties of both the countries also witnessed a spell of prosperity and progress, in a series of connections between state officials and an exchange of visits at different levels since the beginning of the eighties. It is worth-mentioning that France showed a positive stance towards



Part of the exhibition featuring documents on Yemeni-French relations. YT photo by Shaker Al-Molsi

the Unification of Yemen.

Trade of Coffee

Coffee played a vital role in making Yemen more popular in Europe and France, and the 18th century saw active trade exchange between Yemen and France.

The exhibition that took place in the last few days also included a special wing for the friendly French female physician Claudie Fayein (1912-2002), the author of "I was a physician in Yemen" who visited Yemen in 1951. This wing contained the story of her interest in Yemen.

Director of Perfect Center for Training & Development to Yemen Times "Training aims at improving the level of Yemeni society administratively and technically."

BY ISMAIL AL-GHABRI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Perfect Center for Training and Development is one of the best training institutes at the national level in Yemen, in the areas of computer and English language training. The American University in Cairo accredits certificates of this center. Our colleague Ismail Al-Ghabri met with the center Director Mr. Ahmed Bin Ziad and filed the following interview.

Q: What kinds of training are provided by the Center?
A: The Center offers training in the following fields:

Administration:
The Center offers several administrative courses and diplomas that contribute to the development of administrative competence of individuals and private and public establishments' personnel.

Administrative courses include Administrative and Supervisory Skills, Marketing and Sales, Management of Medical Establishments, and many others.

The Center is distinguished by the Modern Management diploma, which has hosted so far, as many as four batches.

There is also the Neurological Linguistic Programming (NLP) diploma, that is conducted by international trainer Prof. Dr. Abdullah Salem Bahammam, who is certified by the International NLP Union, and the American Board.

Computer:
The Center offers a number of short and long computer diplomas and courses such as 2-year computer science and networking diplomas. Short diplomas comprise 3-month maintenance diploma, and 6-month montage and directing diploma.



Mr. Ahmed M. Ziad, GM of Sana'a branch

The Center provides a variety of courses such as Geographical Information Systems (GIS) course.

English Language:

The Center offers all levels of English course, and runs English for Special Purposes (ESP) courses such as commercial and medical English.

The center tailors courses to the need of trainees. It also offers TOEFL courses and administers its tests.

Q: When was the Center established, and does it have branches?

A: It was established in 2002, and has three branches:

- Two branches in Sana'a, one of them for women, and another branch in Aden.

In addition to the head office which is located on Hadda St. Sana'a.

Q: What types of certificates do you give trainees?

A: The center has the following certificates:

- American University Certificate, Cairo, authenticated by the Egyptian Foreign Affairs Ministry (for all courses and diplomas).

- Local certificates from the Perfect Center, authenticated by the Yemeni Ministry of Technical Education and Vocational Training.

Concerning special courses and diplomas such as NLP, the trainees have two options:

- The International NLP Union Certificate, or
- The American Board Certificate.

Q: How many trainees were there last year?

A: They are thousands of people trained under different diplomas and courses.

Q: What are the facilities of the center?

A: The Center has the following training facilities:
State-of-the-art computers, closed TV circle, TV and cinema films- overhead projectors- various projectors- the Internet- well-stocked library full of contemporary books and specialist references, and periodicals on science and applied technology.

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Q: Is the Center's diploma certificate recognized by universities?
A: Definitely yes. This is because the certificate is issued by the Cairo-based American University, and is authenticated by the Egyptian Foreign Affairs Ministry and Embassy.

Q: How many trainees graduated in the latest batch and what were their specialties?
A: They number 30, graduating from different fields.

Q: Who are the beneficiaries of the center?
A: Beneficiaries are most public organizations and charitable societies.

Q: Any last comment?
A: I highly appreciate the role of Yemen Times Newspaper, which takes care of training centers especially the private ones.

Q: What is the goal of training and qualification in Yemen?
A: It aims at improving the level of Yemeni society, administratively and technically so as to keep up with the official computer literacy policy.

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A call for justice

I was sacked from my job in Yemen Hunt Oil Company (YHOC) about seven months ago on false allegations. The termination notification refers to paragraph 11 in my employment agreement, which is not actually present at all, as shown in this enclosed photocopy.

I demand YHOC to carry out an investigation into this case and secure back for me my claimed position at the company.

I have official letter, among others, from the Ministry of Oil that backup my claim, while not activated due to the interference of my used-to-be direct supervisor at YHOC.

Hussein Ali Hiba

Termination Notification

Date : April 17, 2004

Agreement Dated: June 28, 1996

To: Hussein Ali Hiba (ABS151)

This is written notification further to paragraph (11) of the above Agreement to inform you that your services with the Company will not be required starting April 15, 2004. Therefore, your employment with the Company will be terminated on the date mentioned above.

A copy of this notice is attached. Please sign where indicated and return the copy to me.

Sincerely,
Kerry Knottick
General Manager

Shara'ab & Shameer villagers experience catastrophes**Heavy rains resulting in damages and human losses**BY AHMAD AL-HILALI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Unusual heavy rains fell on some areas of Taiz province in the closing days of last September. Such intensive rains, ensued by strong torrents and floods resulted in terrible damages and human losses in many areas including Shara'ab Al-Rwana (Al-Asd), and the eastern parts of Shameer (Merab.) Among the human losses were two children aging from 13-15 years.



A brick house became unsafe after the heavy rain

The population of these areas was almost drowned, their modest houses were seriously damaged, and fear overwhelmed them.

The mountainous terrains in Shara'ab Al-Rawna also received their share of damage as well as the agricultural crops and large clumps of trees.

Of the agricultural valleys, which were damaged are Al-Agshoob, AL-Ghaunia, Merab, Al-Hamadia, Al-Wat'a Al-Shatt, and Al-Etian valley in addition to the terrains of Al-Wa'erah and Al-Gharbi mountains.

The roads leading to the junction between

the city of Taiz and the area of Shara'ab were inundated and destroyed by the floods that stopped the traffic till now except for some adventurous drivers who risk their lives and dare to drive through the huge rocks.

Many families in the devastated areas cannot even go to the city of Taiz to buy what they need or to rush their patients away to the hospitals. The distance between the city and these villages takes nowadays a long time, ranging between 3-4 hours. It only took not more than one hour and half in the past.

These damages and human losses took place due to the lack of dams to store the floods that come down from the mountains.

We hope the concerned authorities and humanitarian organizations would draw attention towards the affected areas and help the population make up for the disaster.



Torrents erode agricultural soil causing major landslides in Wadi Al-Watta

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Sadr peace deal could bolster Iraq election plan

BAGHDAD, Oct 9 (Reuters) - A Shi'ite militia led by Moqtada al-Sadr agreed on Saturday to disarm under a deal that could pacify a Baghdad flash-point and remove one obstacle to Iraq's plan to hold nationwide elections in January.

Sadr's militia has staged two uprisings against U.S. and Iraqi forces this year. An insurgency by Sunni Muslim rebels still rages in large swathes of central and northern Iraq.

Karim al-Bakhti, negotiating for people in Baghdad's Sadr City district, told Reuters U.S. forces had promised to stop bombarding the vast Shi'ite slum area with immediate effect.

"We have agreed that starting from Monday, the Sadr movement will hand over its weapons to the Iraqi police," he said, adding that collection points would be agreed in the next day or two.

Bakhti said U.S. Ambassador John Negroponte and an unidentified U.S. colonel had been present when he reached the accord with Iraqi government officials.

A government source confirmed that a deal had been struck at the talks. "Everything is agreed. Sadr's movement will hand over their weapons," he said, but gave no details.

It was not immediately clear if the militia loyal to the youthful Sadr, a fiercely anti-American Shi'ite cleric, intended to disarm only in Sadr City or in other parts of Iraq as well.

Talks were also under way on a peace deal for Falluja, said to be a haven for foreign militants led by Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, whose group killed British hostage Kenneth Bigley on Thursday.

Kidnappers struck again on Saturday, seizing a Turkish truck driver identified as Halil Oglu and wounding his colleague near Baiji, 180 km (112 miles) north of Baghdad, police said.

Interim Prime Minister Iyad Allawi says his government is not negotiating with rebels in Sadr City, Falluja and



An Iraqi woman grieves during the funeral of her 50 year-old brother who was killed in an overnight air raid conducted by U.S. troops over the Baghdad Shi'ite suburb of Sadr city October 7. REUTERS

other trouble spots, but says insurgents can be amnestied if they surrender weapons and make way for Iraqi security forces.

Allawi, backed by U.S. and British forces, wants to regain control of all rebel-held areas before the elections. Rampant violence has raised doubts about the feasibility of the polls.

Plans for a population census due to have been conducted this month have been scrapped, Iraqi officials said. Voters will now produce their food ration cards to enable them to vote.

MORE U.S. TROOPS?
U.S. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, who was meeting counterparts from 18 other nations on a U.S. aircraft carrier in the Gulf, said Iraqi security forces could grow by 40,000 and the Pentagon might send more

troops to Iraq before the polls.

"By the time we get to the elections we may have another plus or minus 40,000 Iraqi trained and equipped security forces" on top of the roughly 100,000 that the Pentagon has said are already on the job, he told reporters travelling with him.

Rumsfeld said adding U.S. troops to the 138,000 now in Iraq was up to Army General George Casey, U.S. commander in Iraq, and Army General John Abizaid, U.S. commander in the region.

Iraqi negotiators had no word on any progress towards arranging the return of Iraqi security forces to Falluja.

U.S. air strikes have often targeted what the military calls safe houses used by Zarqawi's men. One such raid on Friday killed 11 people and wounded

17, among them women and children.

Residents in northern Falluja have been fleeing their homes after what they said were U.S. warnings delivered in Arabic over loudspeakers on Friday. "There are many terrorists living among you and we want to finish them off," the messages said.

Zarqawi's Tawhid and Jihad group beheaded Bigley on Thursday, shortly after the 62-year-old engineer briefly escaped from his captors, insurgent sources said.

They said Bigley managed to get away for about half an hour with the help of one of his captors before he was caught in farmland near the town of Latifiya, southwest of Baghdad.

Insecurity and violence have plagued Iraq since last year's U.S.-led invasion to topple Saddam Hussein.

The U.S. military denied rumours that Tareq Aziz, one of the deposed dictator's top lieutenants, had died in U.S. custody.

"I can absolutely confirm that he is still alive," Lieutenant Colonel Barry Johnson, spokesman for detainee operations in Iraq, told Reuters.

Egypt says blaming al Qaeda is rush to judgment



Israeli and Egyptian rescue workers carry a body from the rubble of the Taba Hilton, on Egypt's border with Israel, October 9, 2004, after a car bomb sheared off a big chunk of the hotel. Rescue workers sifted through the wreckage of an Egyptian Red Sea hotel on Saturday, hoping to find survivors after a series of bomb blasts targeting Israeli tourists in the Sinai Peninsula killed at least 33 people. REUTERS

SHARM EL-SHEIKH, Egypt, Oct 9 (Reuters) - The Egyptian government said on Saturday Israel rushed to judgment when it blamed the al Qaeda organisation for three explosions at Egyptian Red Sea resorts frequented by Israelis.

Israeli Deputy Defence Minister Zeev Boim said on Friday a group similar to al Qaeda appeared to be responsible for the bombings, which killed at least 33 people, mostly Israeli tourists spending a Jewish holiday on the beach.

"We believe that is a very hasty assessment by the Israeli side. On what bases is such an assessment built?" said Egyptian presidential spokesman Maged Abdel Fattah.

"Such incidents have very many aspects which must be studied ... So we must not be driven by attempts to push in a particular direction," he added.

"Why should we stick to al Qaeda and leave aside the other groups which have claimed responsibility?" he said. Three previously unknown groups

with Islamist-sounding names have said they carried out the attacks.

Abdel Fattah said it was too early to say either who was responsible for the Thursday bombings, the most serious attack on tourists in Egypt since 1997, or where the explosives came from or what was the purpose of the attacks.

An Egyptian security source said on Friday that Egypt was working on the assumption that an Islamist group related to al Qaeda was behind the bombings but other Egyptian officials linked the attack to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

The Egyptian spokesman was speaking after talks in the Red Sea resort of Sharm el-Sheikh between Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Norwegian Prime Minister Kjell Magne Bondevik.

In remarks to reporters, translated into Arabic, Bondevik said the Taba attacks had their roots in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. He quoted Mubarak as saying such incidents could recur unless there were solutions in that conflict and in Iraq.

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Falluja says ready to take part in Iraq elections



Mourners cry over the rubble of their relative's house, which was destroyed during an overnight U.S. air raid in the western Sunni city of Falluja, October 8. A U.S. air strike on the rebel-held city of Falluja in western Iraq killed 11 people and wounded 17 after a wedding party, with women and children among the casualties, Friday, residents and hospital doctors said. REUTERS

FALLUJA, Iraq, Oct 9 (Reuters) - Falluja representatives told Iraq's interim government and U.S. officials in peace talks on Saturday that the rebel-held Sunni Muslim city is ready to take part in Iraqi elections scheduled for January.

"A delegation from Falluja is now discussing the entry of Iraqi National

Guards to the city with the defence ministry," chief Falluja negotiator Khaled al-Jumaili told Reuters.

He was speaking after several hours of talks at a U.S. military base near Falluja, attended by U.S. ambassador John Negroponte and officials of the interim government.

"The people of Falluja support the

elections and want to vote in them," said Jumaili, a mosque preacher who is a member of the lawless city's Mujahideen Shura (council).

U.S. forces failed to dislodge the insurgents in an April offensive. Foreign Islamist militants are also said to have bases there.

Chirac sees opportunity in China's economic surge

BEIJING, Oct 9 (Reuters) - French President Jacques Chirac declared on Saturday that France was a natural trade partner to China and, amid a flurry of air, rail and energy deals, played down any threat from one of the world's fastest growing economies.

Chirac arrived in Beijing for talks featuring expansion of trade and an arms embargo against China dating back to the 1989 Tiananmen Square massacre.

At talks in the cavernous Great Hall of the People, China's President Hu Jintao hailed Chirac's efforts at furthering their strategic partnership.

"I believe your visit will surely achieve success and will also further push forward the development of the Sino-French strategic partnership," Hu told Chirac and his delegation across a long meeting table.

The economic aspect of that partnership expanded sharply on Saturday with a steady stream of deals for French industry.

Airbus, a unit of European space agency EADS, said Air China had signed a memorandum of understanding to purchase 16 of its A330 aircraft, an order estimated at about \$2 billion based on the catalogue price.

Heavy engineering firm Alstom won a 1 billion euro rail supply contract and a 350 million euro hydroelectric deal. Utility company Suez landed a 25-year water treatment plant contract.

At a speech earlier on Saturday in the southwestern city of Chengdu, Chirac trumpeted the benefits of such cooperation and played down the threat of a rising China.



French President Jacques Chirac (L) sits next to Chinese President Hu Jintao (R) during an official dinner, October 9, in Beijing. Chirac arrived in the Chinese capital on Saturday for a three day official visit. REUTERS

"To those people in Europe and France who ask about the consequences of (China's economic) rise ... I say that the development of China is an opportunity for our growth and our jobs. And France must take this opportunity," Chirac said in a speech after meeting Chinese Vice President Zeng Qinghong.

"It is also by going in conquest of new markets and in knowing how to seize the opportunities offered to our economy that we will speed up the creation of jobs in France and push back unemployment for a long time."

Pomp and Checkbooks

To reinforce the partnership, Chirac declared 2004 the "Year of China", lighting up the Eiffel Tower in red when Hu

visited in January and staging lavish Chinese New Year celebrations on the Champs Elysees.

In return, China plans to declare a French Culture Year and Chirac will attend the opening ceremony.

Hu met Chirac on a Tiananmen Square festooned with French and Chinese flags, holding a welcoming ceremony that featured a 21-gun salute and a review of a Chinese honour guard.

Beyond the pomp and circumstance, closer economic ties clearly topped the French president's agenda.

The entourage on his five-day visit features a large business delegation, including the heads of the world's top nuclear power producer, Electricite de France, and nuclear reactor maker Areva.

HUNDREDS of Congolese refugees began going home on Saturday after camping out for days on the border with Burundi, where they fled to escape fighting in the east of their country in June, witnesses said.

The more than 1,000 refugees had been living in a no man's land between Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo after Congolese soldiers refused them entry to the border town of Uvira, saying local authorities were not ready to receive them.

The civilians began trekking across the border after a visit to their campsite by deputy Interior Minister Paul Musafiri.

"They are Congolese citizens, they must go back to their country," Musafiri told reporters in Burundi.

The refugees have been trying for weeks to return to Uvira, where riots erupted in September when thousands of angry residents took to the streets to protest against the return of more than 300 ethnic Tutsis.

Congolese journalists at the border

Alstom also announced it would bid jointly with Chengdu-based Dongfang Electric Corp. to supply a turbine generator package for the second phase of the Ling'ao nuclear plant being built in the southern province of Guangdong.

Energy-thirsty China has 11 existing and planned reactors. Suppliers include France's Framatome and EDF.

Chinese state oil trader Sinochem Corp. said it had set up a 900 million yuan (\$109 million) joint venture with French oil major Total for petrol stations in northern China.

China often times big-ticket purchases to coincide with visits by foreign leaders.

Chirac told a joint news conference he hoped the arms embargo on China would be lifted in a few months despite objections by the United States.

"This ban has no basis and has no use at all. It was an expedient measure adopted at that time. It was mainly derived from animosity towards China," he said.

New York-based Human Rights in China said Chirac's support for lifting the ban dishonoured Chinese who continue to call for accountability over Tiananmen Square.

"The bloody suppression of unarmed civilians in Beijing in 1989 cannot be considered a matter of 'another time' after 15 short years," the group said in a statement.

President Hu at the news conference ruled out a reappraisal of the 1989 protests, which the government considers subversive. Chirac flies to Shanghai on Monday and later to Hong Kong.

Alleged Mauritania coup plotter detained : Police



An Afghan casts his vote in a polling station in the northwestern Pakistan city of Peshawar October 9. A 19-year-old Afghan woman living as a refugee in Pakistan made history on Saturday by becoming the first person to vote in Afghanistan's first-ever direct presidential election. REUTERS

NOUAKCHOTT, Oct 9 (Reuters) - The man accused by Mauritania for organising a series of coup attempts in the oil-rich West African country has been arrested, police said on Saturday.

Police sources said former army officer Saleh Ould Hanenna had been detained along with a second army officer on Saturday morning near Mauritania's border with Senegal.

Mauritania issued a warrant for Hanenna's arrest in June 2003 after renegade soldiers came close to toppling pro-Western President Maaouya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya in

two days of fighting in the capital Nouakchott.

Hanenna had earlier been removed from the army after being accused of stirring discontent over Mauritania's links with Israel. Taya is one of only three leaders in the Arab League to establish full diplomatic relations with Israel.

Mauritania said it had foiled two more coup attempts this year by soldiers believed to have ties with Hanenna. The mostly desert nation on the western tip of Africa has also accused Burkina Faso and Libya of being behind various plots.

Congo refugees start leaving Burundi: Witnesses

Continued from page 1

Appeal procedures on Limburg case kicks off

The other five militants (Ibraheem Mohammed al-Huwaidi, Aref Saleh Ali Mujali, Mohammed Abdullah al-Dailami, Abdulghani Ali Hussein Kaifan, and Kasem Yahia al-Raimee) were sentenced to five years in prison. They were found guilty of plotting attacks against the US, French, UK, Cuban and German embassies, plotting to assassinate former

U.S. Ambassador to Yemen Edmund Hull as well as intelligence officials.

The two defendants- Khaled Ahmad al-Jalob, and Saleem Mohammed Ali al-Dailami, were sentenced to three years in prison for falsifying documents relating to the various attacks.

The defendants and their relatives strongly condemned and rejected the ver-

dict, doubting the legitimacy of the court. They decided to appeal the sentence which they described as "American".

The same court sentenced on 29th September two al Qaeda militants to death and jailed four others to prison terms ranging from five to ten years for the 2000 bombing of the U.S. destroyer Cole which killed 17 sailors.

Amnesty International criticizes trials of terror suspects

In August, 15 suspects were charged for the attack on the Limburg and plotting to assassinate the US Ambassador and bombing several embassies in Sana'a. One defendant was sentenced to death after being convicted of killing a police officer, while the others were given between three to ten years in prison.

Earlier this month, Jamal Al-Badawi, a Yemeni, and Saudi-born Abd Al-Rahim Al-Nashiri were sentenced to death after they were found guilty of being involved in the bombing of the USS Cole. Four other defendants were sentenced to prison terms ranging from five to ten years.

Al-Badawi was convicted of taking part in planning and preparing the attack, including securing safe houses for the suicide bombers and acquiring the boat that rammed into the side of the US warship.

Al-Nashiri, believed to be the mastermind behind the attack, was tried in absentia. Thought to be a close associate of Osama bin Laden, Al-Nashiri was arrested in the United Arab Emirates in 2002, handed over to US officials and is being held by United States authorities in an undisclosed location. He is also believed to have been connected to the 1998 bombings of US embassies in Kenya and Tanzania.

Defense lawyers in the USS Cole case said that they were not given full access to the files of their clients while the prosecution team was able to acquire them. Later in the trial proceedings, the defense team were allowed to see parts of the files.

"It was unfair by all international standards because the sentences did not relate to the evidence," said defense lawyer Abdul Aziz Al-Samawi about the USS Cole case. "The sentences were to make the government look innocent and not to serve justice. This is a special court, so the sentencing is against the laws."

Defense lawyer Khaled Al-Ansi said that during the Limburg trials, the defense team was not able to meet with their defendants or examine copies of the case outside the courtroom.

A number of defense lawyers boycotted the hearings and eventually withdrew from the defense teams.

"It appears that the course of the trials was predetermined," said a Yemeni analyst. "These special courts did not seem to have lived up to international standards."

After the suspects in the USS Cole trial were given sentences, US Navy Secretary Gordon England welcomed Al-Badawi and Al-Nashiri receiving the death penalty. He thanked the Yemeni government for being "willing

to take positive action," and that the verdicts delivered a message to terrorists that other countries besides the United States were taking the war against terror seriously.

Amnesty International opposes the death penalty. "The death sentences should not be upheld as they are a violation of the right to life," said Amnesty International's report.

The report also said that some of the defendants in the Limburg trial claim to have been tortured in a security prison. The suspects asked to be transferred to the central prison but were denied.

The USS Cole was attacked in October 2000 as it was refueling at the port of Aden. Two men approached the destroyer in a dinghy loaded with 500 pounds of explosives killing 17 US sailors and wounding 33 others when the explosives were detonated.

Two years later, the French oil tanker was attacked off the coast of Yemen that killed one crew member and unloaded 90,000 barrels of oil into the Gulf of Aden.

Judicial sources said that the suspects in the Limburg case will begin their appeal this week. Samawi said that the suspects of the USS Cole case will appeal, but judicial sources have not announced the date when the proceedings will begin

said Uvira residents still appeared unhappy at the prospect of the refugees' return and some had built barricades to show their displeasure.

Musafiri appealed for tolerance and said he hoped the refugees would be welcomed back as fellow Congolese.

"We demand that Uvira residents understand that these are their brothers who return. There is no law which states that we must keep out of the border citizens who wish to go back home."

"They are more than 1,000 ... first,

vulnerable persons are going to be repatriated today with the help of MONUC (U.N. peacekeepers), and the operation will go on tomorrow," he said.

"We deplore the fact that there are people in Uvira who put up barricades. Uvira residents must understand that they must live in harmony with their brothers Banyamulenge..."

"We demand the authorities in Uvira control these troublemakers, we know there are people who are manipulated, and we will take severe measures

against authorities who show their hostility to the return of refugees," he said.

Attitudes in eastern Congo to ethnic Tutsis, known as Banyamulenge, have hardened radically since June, when the town of Bukavu was captured by two dissident Tutsi army officers who said they were stepping in to stop genocide against their kin. Fearing reprisals, thousands of Banyamulenge fled over the border, but many fled their refugee camps after a massacre of 160 people at the Gatumba camp on the Burundi border in August.

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3. Receipt, fully completing and submitting the application form at the final deadline of November 6, 2004, with commencement of registration procedures on October 11, 2004.
4. Full commitment to the program is essential and signature of a commitment agreement to be prepared by the GWCC

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For more information, or for obtaining an application, please contact Ms Fatima Al-Wadi'y, GCWL, tel. 291555, email girlsworld@y.net.ye, or visit the Center, at the Radio Street, near Dar Al-Hamd Palace or Bilquis Girls' School.

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Good luck to all!

Hostage mourned as Blair fails to shake off Iraq

LIVERPOOL, Oct 9 (Reuters) - The British hostage beheaded in Iraq was mourned in his hometown on Saturday, his brutal killing ensuring Prime Minister Tony Blair remains mired in the Iraq war despite his efforts to focus voters on domestic issues.

Kenneth Bigley's hometown of Liverpool flew flags at half-mast to mark the death of the 62-year-old engineer, whose murder sparked revulsion across Britain.

The tragic end to Bigley's three-week ordeal has underscored Blair's vulnerability on Iraq, an issue he had hoped would take a back seat as he prepares to seek re-election.

Bigley's murder comes just seven months before an expected general election and hot on the heels of a report from the Iraq Survey Group (ISG) that demolished Blair's main argument for waging war on Iraq.

"The nightmare of Iraq is not over for Blair," said YouGov pollster Peter Kellner. "The more Iraq is in the news, the more people will be reminded why they don't trust Blair."

In the northwestern city of Liverpool, politics were put aside as residents stood still at midday for a two-minute silence in memory of Bigley.

"I can't put into words the sorrow we feel," said Rose Watts, 65, after observing the silence. "I feel like I have lost somebody I know, a brother."

The horror of the beheading was compounded by reports from insurgent sources in Iraq that Bigley had escaped briefly from his captors shortly before they killed him on Thursday.

TRUCE

Political opponents have declared a temporary truce out of respect for Bigley's grieving family. But Blair's

judgment in backing the U.S.-led war that toppled Saddam Hussein will be back under the microscope when parliament returns next week.

Blair biographer Anthony Seldon told Reuters: "Iraq will be the defining issue of his premiership. The greatest error of his premiership was to back America to the hilt without insisting on conditions."

"It is not getting any better and Iraq is arguably getting worse. It will bring up questions about trust and judgment but also about Blair's future position."

"If his trust and judgment continue to be questioned by events in Iraq, his Labour Party will ask if he is the right champion to be its leader."

Blair, who last week had an operation to correct heart palpitations, has vowed to serve a full third term if elected — but then he will step down.

The unprecedented decision to set the

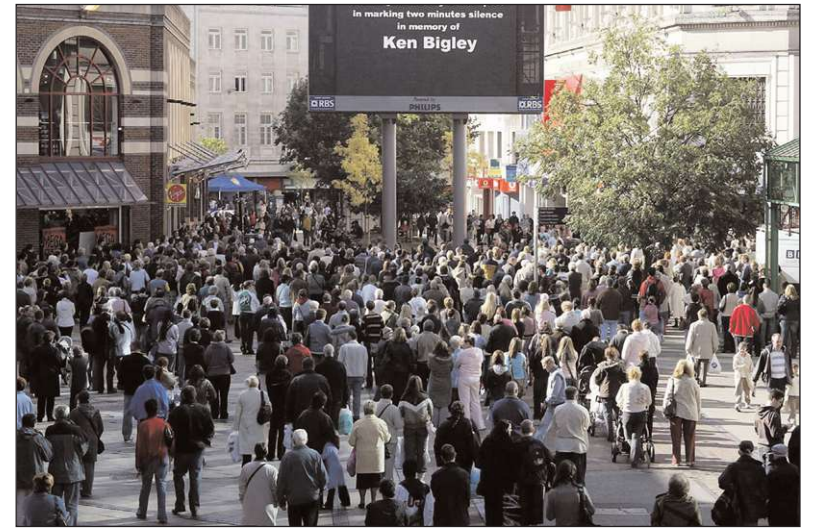
timetable for his own departure sparked fevered speculation about Blair's successor — but few expect him to face any serious threat from the opposition Conservatives in the next election.

"I think he will still win the election," said Kellner. "The majority will come down from 167 last time to below 100 but I don't think there is a serious danger of Labour losing its majority."

But for some voters, especially in Bigley's home city, the killing cemented the notion that Blair had made a mistake in supporting the Iraq war.

Young mother Patricia Aston, shivering in the cold with her little boy Louis, said: "I think it is disgusting we are in Iraq. We shouldn't be there in the first place. It's all over oil 1634624544

"Blair is like a little lamb. He just follows Bush everywhere. I was a Labour supporter and I voted for Blair. No more."



Members of the public stop to observe a two-minute silence for Britain's Kenneth Bigley in Liverpool city centre, October 9. Liverpool staged a day of mourning for Kenneth Bigley on Saturday, lowering flags to half-mast and holding a two-minute silence for the engineer beheaded in Iraq by his kidnappers. REUTERS

Bush on Kerry: 'who's he trying to kid?'

ST. LOUIS, Oct 9 (Reuters) - U.S. President George W. Bush scoffed on Saturday at Democrat John Kerry's claim he has had only one position on Iraq and would not raise taxes on middle-class Americans as Bush sought momentum after the second debate with his challenger.

"Who's he trying to kid?" Bush told hundreds of supporters at a breakfast rally. "He can run, but he can't hide."

Bush was on his way to campaign events in two battleground states, Iowa and Minnesota, the day after his second debate with the Massachusetts senator. The encounter featured a sharper and more aggressive Bush than in last week's first debate, which was widely regarded as a weak showing by the president.

Bush jumped on Kerry's debate denial that he had shifted positions on Iraq. Kerry had said: "I've never

changed my mind about Iraq. I do believe Saddam Hussein was a threat. I always believed he was a threat."

As evidence of a shift, Bush said Kerry had said in the spring of 2003 it was the right decision to invade Iraq but now says it was the wrong war. Kerry has repeatedly accused Bush of rushing to war without a plan to win the peace.

"Several of his statements just don't pass the credibility test. With a straight face he said, 'I only had one position on Iraq,'" Bush said. "He must think we've been on another planet."

Bush also challenged Kerry's pledge not to raise taxes on middle-class Americans to pay for his spending promises.

Kerry had said Bush was trying to "scare" Americans by labeling him a liberal who would raise taxes.



U.S. President George W. Bush (L) makes his point during a town hall debate with Democratic presidential nominee John Kerry (R) at Washington University in St. Louis, Missouri, October 8. Bush and Democratic challenger Kerry differed sharply on Iraq, jobs and taxes in their second debate on Friday, with Kerry questioning Bush's judgment and the president accusing Kerry of crumbling under political pressure. REUTERS

Asked if he would pledge not to raise taxes on middle-class Americans, Kerry looked into the camera and said: "I am not going to raise taxes. I have a tax cut."

Bush estimated Kerry's spending promises at \$2 trillion and that his plan to take away tax cuts for Americans making more than \$200,000 a year would raise \$600 billion to \$800 billion, leaving a gap of at least \$1.2 trillion. The Kerry campaign disputes those figures.

"He can't have it both ways. To pay for the big spending program he's outlined during his campaign he will have to raise your taxes. He can run but he cannot hide," Bush said.

The Friday night debate in St. Louis came amid what has been a rise in support for Kerry, whose aggressive attacks put Bush on the defensive in the first debate and

propelled him into a dead heat with the president in many polls.

The third and last presidential debate is next Wednesday in Tempe, Arizona.

Bush, citing progress in the war on terrorism under his leadership, hailed the voting in Afghanistan's presidential election. However, Saturday's vote was thrown into turmoil when all 15 rivals of Afghan President Hamid Karzai said they were withdrawing due to complaints that the voting process was flawed.

"There was voting time elsewhere in this world today. A marvelous thing is happening in Afghanistan," he said.

"Freedom is powerful. Think about a society in which young girls couldn't go to school and their mothers were whipped in the public square, and today they're holding a presidential election."

Turkish Embassy celebrates National Day

The embassy of the Republic of Turkey celebrated the 81st anniversary of the proclamation of the Turkish Republic on Sunday, October 10th at the Embassy premises in Sana'a. Yemeni officials, members of the diplomatic corps, businessmen, representatives of media and members of the Turkish community in Sana'a attended the reception.

This year's anniversary celebrations come a few days after the European Union Commission decided that talks on Turkey's accession to the EU should begin in the first half of 2005.

For many years Turkey has been one of the associate members of the European Union. The European Commission took into consideration the comprehensive political and economic reforms carried out in Turkey when it recommended to EU members in its recent progress report on Turkey to start the accession negotiations. Turkey hopes that the EU Summit in December will approve the EU Commission's report and issue a date to begin membership talks with Turkey.

About Turkey

A secular and democratic republic, founded by Mustafa Kemal Atatürk in 1923, the Republic of Turkey is situated in a strategic location between Europe and Asia, and is considered a bridge between these two continents. The location of Turkey is also reflected in its relations with European and Asian countries. Turkey pursues a peaceful foreign policy under the motto of Atatürk: 'peace at home and peace in the world', and attaches importance to its relations with western countries as well as Middle East and Asian countries. It is a member of most of the international organizations, including Council of Europe, NATO, OSCE as well as the Organization of the Islamic Conference. Turkey has contributed to international peace and stability by participating in peace keeping missions mandated by the UN, including Somalia, Bosnia and Afghanistan.

With a population of 70 million inhabitants, it is one of the most industrialized countries in the region. With its dynamic population, the Turkish economy has registered a steady growth in recent years. The growth rate was 5.9% in 2003 and it is expected to surpass this figure in 2004.

The Turkish economy went through a process of transformation in the 1980's

through which the economy, including the financial markets, has been completely liberalized. The Turkish economy is the 20th largest economy in the world, with a GDP of \$220 billion. Now the private sector is the driving force of the Turkish economy. The most competitive sectors of the Turkish economy are textiles, iron-steel industry, construction, industrial and agricultural machinery and agro-industry. Turkey manufactures a wide range of products, ranging from durable household goods to electronics, automobiles and aircraft. Presently more than 70% of Turkey's exports are industrial goods, and 60% of Turkey's exports are directed to European markets.

In recent years Turkey has become one of the most popular tourist destinations. Situated at the junction of the Asian, European and African countries, Turkey is the heir to many natural and cultural treasures. In terms of both accessibility and as a crossroads through which many civilizations have passed over the millennia, Turkey ranks among the countries with highest tourism potential. With its historic sites dating from the Roman, Byzantium and Ottoman periods, beautiful beaches, landscapes and rich culture, Turkey attracts tourists from all over the world. The number of tourists

that visited Turkey reached over 14 million in 2003.

Yemen-Turkey relations to the better

Yemen and Turkey enjoy friendly relations emanating from historic and similar cultures. After Turkey and Yemen opened their embassies in Sana'a and Ankara respectively in 1988, cooperation between the two countries has increased continuously.

Turkey welcomed the democratic and economic reforms achieved by Yemen after the unification of the country in 1990. Turkey also highly appreciates the poverty eradication program of the Government and Yemen's efforts and its cooperation with the international community in combating terrorism. Turkey wishes to develop its relations with Yemen in all fields.

The Turkish Embassy officials state that relations between Yemen and Turkey are developing satisfactorily to the benefit of the brotherly peoples of the two countries. Yemen and Turkey are cooperating in many fields, ranging from politics to cultural affairs. In recent years, many agreements and protocols have been signed covering the areas of economy

and trade, health, national archives, aviation and transport, tourism, security and fight against organized crime and drug smuggling.



A Joint Commission has been established between Yemen and Turkey. The Yemeni-Turkish Commission has convened twice and the third meeting is expected to be held in the coming months.

Turkey provides nine higher education, research and doctorate scholarships for Yemeni students. Two scholarships for higher education in the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus have also been granted to the Government of Yemen.

Cooperation in the field of health works



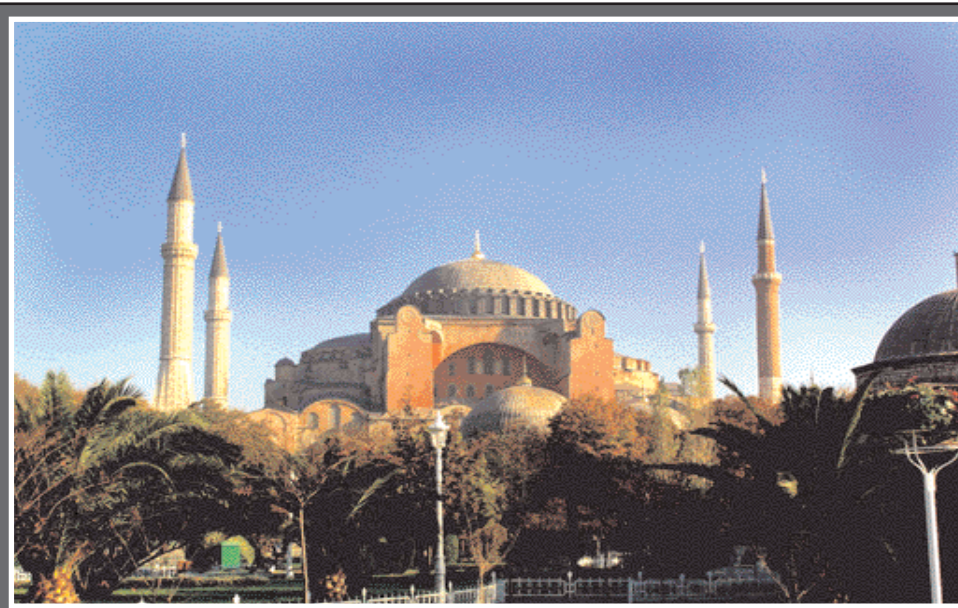
efficiently. Turkey provides treatment for more than 25 Yemeni patients every year who cannot be treated in Yemen. It also trains medical personnel and technical staff in the area of health.

The field of archives is another example of successful cooperation between the two countries. Yemen and Turkey exchange archive documents, share their experiences in managing state archives and the training of experts. In 2002 an exhibition of archive documents pertaining to the historical relations of the two countries opened in Sana'a. In June 2004, a similar exhibition was held in Ankara. Simultaneous to this exhibition, a

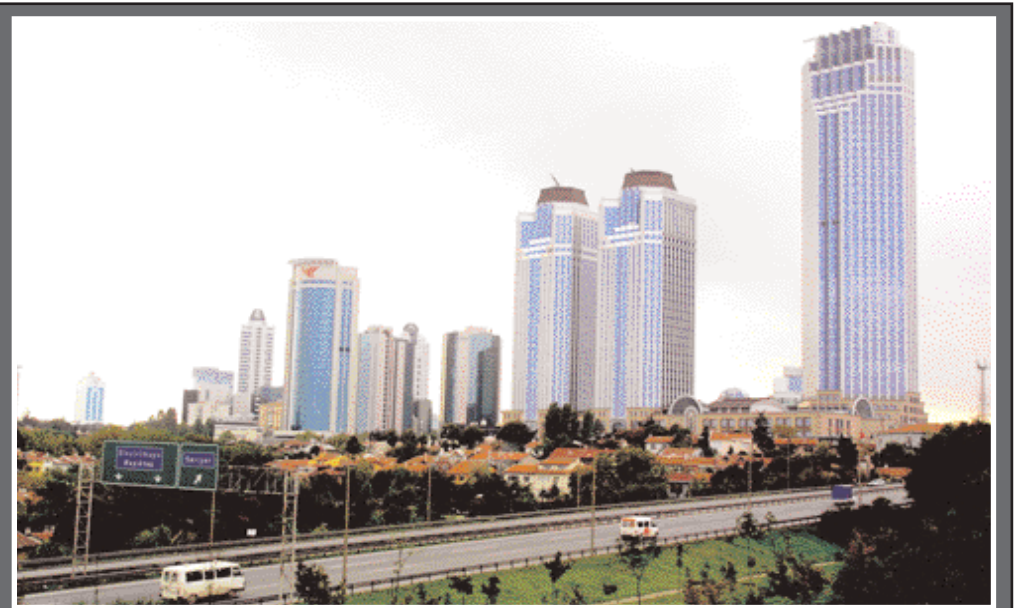
seminar on Turkish-Yemeni relations was organized which was attended by a large group of officials, academics and students of history.

The trade between the two countries has also been on the rise. Last year, the trade volume reached over \$170 million, marking a 40% increase from the previous year. Yemeni businessmen are of the opinion that Turkish industrial products are of good quality and their prices are competitive.

The Embassy officials believe that there is vast potential in many areas for further developing the cooperation between the two countries.



Turkey: Remarkable history, modern vision: (Left) Scene in the early morning hours, a general view of the Hagia Sophia museum at Sultanahmet square; Istanbul's touristic old city centre. EPA PHOTO / KERIM OKTEN (Right) A view of Levent, one of Istanbul's most famous living and new financial areas on the European side. EPA PHOTO / KERIM OKTEN



Words of Wisdom

Parents and family elders are not providing good role models, either. Many adults spend their time chewing qat and watching satellite TV programs that represent the lowest common denominator, the children's recreational needs are mostly neglected, leaving them to wander off into the streets and mix with bad company.

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

OUR
OPINION

The economy first

Every other day, people come to the conclusion that the country's economic development and increasing standards of living, should be the main priorities in terms of development.

Yemenis are currently suffering from one of the worst economic periods in their country's history. With massive unemployment (estimated at around 40%) and with the majority of the people living below poverty line, we are indeed in big trouble.

But, as if that is not enough, observers believe that the worst is still to come. Last month, business owners said that they received official documents requesting that sales taxes be paid to the Tax Authority on a regular basis from July. For them, this constitutes a huge blow to their profits and income levels. I remember one of the medium-size investors asking, "Is the state trying to get rid of us?"

The law that was passed by parliament was initially protested and rejected by thousands of businessmen around the country. But with the increasing pressure by the state, they had no other choice but to surrender. As a last resort, they have been forced to increase their prices by 10% or more.

Who is the victim in this case? Most probably, the victim is the regular citizen.

On the other hand, optimists think that more taxes will result in prosperity in the country in the long run, something that donors and the World Bank have been repeating. Such measures are considered economic reforms, and these reforms will require sacrifice for a certain period of time that may extend from a few years to a few decades.

But, for many families across the country, time is not on their side, as they simply cannot wait until the country's economy flourishes. For them, the promise of better times ahead, is a promise told many times in the past. What they end up with is more economic hardship and less income and food. One can recall the time around five or so years ago, when they were told that their lives would be better, but five years later their lives have ended up in a worse condition. Hence, it wouldn't be surprising if people don't believe that their prospects five years from now will be better than today.

But for us intellectuals who understand the challenges facing the country's economy such as the devastatingly high birth rate, the exhaustion of our natural resources including our water, and the ongoing corruption, we also would not be surprised if conditions in five years time are worse than they are today.

Yemeni expatriates who visit the country once in a while also express pessimism about the country's future as they come and see more deterioration in the economy every time.

It is evident that without a relatively acceptable standard of living, citizens will preoccupy their lives just to make ends meet. Many will resort to searching for alms and most will forget everything else but the ongoing struggle for their daily bread. They will go on for years trying to locate sources of income that would enable them to live and feed their children and grandchildren. This will reduce interest in political participation, social activities, voluntary work, and most important of all, education. With a generation lacking proper education and health, how can Yemen become a strong nation? A question that brings us back to the likelihood that those reforms may not lead the professed end result.

Yet again, that doesn't mean we need to feel desperate and surrender to death hopelessly. We need to realize that we can make a come back and prevent the realization of pessimist predictions and expectations. Who knows? Maybe a miracle will take place and Yemen's economy will stand up strong on its feet again and bring prosperity to the people.

It is a matter of fate, but of course our efforts contribute to forming it, and by not only dreaming but also by working hard to fulfill our dreams, we can have a better Yemen and a happy future.

The Editor



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Reform finds first
various works in Yemen

By Prof. Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Tarb
For the Yemen Times

It is not strange for who someone who observes Yemeni affairs, that the events in Sada'a took place. Although fighting was for the sake of power, it took place in the name of change, reform, and replacing the corrupted elements in leading positions, especially in the fields of economics, development and in the security system.

As economists and politicians, we say that the Arabic world, including Yemen, is in need of complete political, social, and economic reform. Without doing so, there will be an unknown fate; rejecting reform may lead to undesirable confusion or total destruction. The intellectuals and politicians of some Arabic countries stoop through the humble phases of democracy, but the real authority is in the hand of the rulers themselves. They appoint governments and supervise or divide the public property; they refuse public supervision. However the administration of public property is considered the core of actual democracy.

Giving nation the chance to participate in making decisions, such as the local councils, parliament and such nominal authorities. The local councils are of no real essence; all their tangible dimensions are under centralized authority, under specific pretexts, what remains is just a few. If we believe in giving the nation the right to rule itself, that wouldn't be enough. There are so many essential factors pertaining to political, economic and social stability; it is also concerned with mankind, as human rights. The call for the entire or real reform leading to real development, decreases the crisis of destitution, unemployment and corruption.

One of the negative indicators that shows the sufferings of Arabic societies is illiteracy, which exceeds 50% among men and 75% among women. The unemployment rate in Yemen is more than 39% according to the statistics of the international organizations and UN Development Program. That means, without the quick reformation that the Yemeni People are waiting for, (and have been waiting for since the 22nd May 2004 and the historical speech of the President of the Republic), the future is going to be dark and disastrous. Does our ruler realize that?

Change has become one of the fea-

tures of the 21st century and the globalized world. The rulers rejection of reform can be called 'political stupidity' or 'blindness'. But, the winds of change will come, whether we want that or not. We are in urgent need to start at the interior level, before the arrival of external storms. We have to realize that the external pressures are the basic ones in the process of change, as has been proven by the daily actions in the Arab world and all over the world.

The problem of reformation in Yemen is not different from other Arabic countries. Anyway, there are not yet enough external pressures to enforce the required reforms. That is due to the lack of organization in society, the weakness of political parties, and the absence of the effective social movements or other reasons.

Therefore any reformative project is usually controlled by two parties: the governments that need to be changed and the external forces which exchange reform for political profit. Then, reform becomes a process that leads to governments who resist reform, to bargain with foreign powers. This bargaining secures the governments' continuity.

The talk about waves of reform in the Arab world and the ordeal of some authority systems in the area, is connected with democratic reasons. What founds the regular transfer of power is increasing the public participation and representing all the available forces in the political field, with a special emphasis on the principle that the source of authority is letting people to rule themselves. That decides the peaceful transfer of power, and circulates the best politicians, and we should confess that this thing is not available in the Arab countries. If we take the Israeli model, though it is aggressive and racist, but it is - politically speaking - a reasonably stable parliamentary system, that stands as partisan pluralism where the president has only limited and symbolic responsibilities, and the first executive decision is at the hands of the Prime Minister. Anyway, Israel is not the only example that can be mentioned, because the format there is religious more than political. What matters to us most is to clarify that the waves of self-reformation we are talking about should live up to the standards of today's systems and follow the type of power restrictions of modern societies. We can't reach that unless we consider three main notes:

1. Determining the political system and its clarity and the effectiveness of its authorities is a vital thing for a modern country. We can't talk about tangled systems based on personal-decision making and the absence of democracy, the weakness of the constitution, and regular infringements of the law. The unstable structures of the presidential and parliamentary systems, adding to repeating the style of Ma'aweah Bin Abi Sufian, are significant topics to be faithfully revised and objectively looked into.

2. The difference in the social melting and the national integration among the Arab countries is considered one of the reasons that made the political system diverse. Societies of tribes are different from those of families, the people who unjustly say that their countries are tribal but with flags, mean the great effect of the tribe on Arabic societies, where the city and village are found.

3. Democracy is still the standard of the wise power, whether monarchy or republican systems. The general atmosphere where freedom coincides with low levels of crime is the proof. It is not deniable that the Arab area is one of the regions that urgently need change to the political climate. It is not a question of establishments, but beside them, the philosophic frame is of significance. That is what shapes the cultural and social atmosphere that comes out of the political decision.

It is commonly mentioned that what we say about the present situation of the Arab world, as we undoubtedly believe, requires change to get out of this state, that is relevant to the qualitative development for systems and nations. The new Iraqi model, for example, is trying a parliamentary republican system, based on pluralism which a condition of making the Iraqi decision making mechanism a real one, assuming the departure of the foreign presence, leaving the Iraqi issue for its owners. That day may not be far off, especially after the handing over of power, though namely. At least constitutional kingships and the presidential republics will be equal if they achieve the goal of wise rule, and present real democracy, and secure public freedoms.

Therefore this matter requires change and reform, in order to let nations enjoy life and profit from their human and materialistic sources.

There's still further to come.

Letters to the Editor

About: "When death is OK"

I would like to comment on the article by Hassan Haifi recently published under the title of "When death is OK". This is an excellent article. But we need to understand that the killing and maiming of perhaps as many as 30,000 Iraqi women and children provides Bush supporters with a high degree of satisfaction and revenge for 9-11. And, we note that Bush is very likely to have another 4 years to do the same in Syria and Iran. It doesn't make any difference to Bush supporters that Iraq was not involved in 9-11. What makes them happy is that Moslem women and children are being killed and maimed.

Robert Lindh
lindh@swnebr.net

Catastrophe in Iraq

One cannot help but feel frustrated at the seriously catastrophic situation in Iraq. In the past weeks dozens of innocent people have been killed and the security situation has plummeted to new depths. In the recent days, experts and analysts from all corners have stated that the occupation of Iraq is the main reason for the bloodshed that Iraq has been witnessing throughout the past 18 months. The most recent among those who spoke out against the war, is the UN General Secretary Kofi Annan, who described the

war on Iraq as illegal.

A US official intelligence report also confirmed that Iraq was facing the possibility of an all-out civil war. The best possible scenario, according to the same report, is that by the end of 2005, Iraq will remain an unstable, insecure and failing entity both economically and politically. Even the right-wing pro-war Financial Times wrote about the need to withdraw from Iraq as soon as possible. Colin Powell also admitted that the intelligence that was used to justify this belligerent war was flawed, Kofi Annan's description of the war as illegal and the ongoing death, destruction and violation of Iraq, but the US and UK governments fail to even mildly acknowledge its pivotal role in creating what has become a tragedy of unimaginable proportions.

Mohamed Saeed
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Genocide in Iraq

A documentary film about a rescue team was recently broadcast from a US TV network, wherein the rescue team was seen saving the lives of human beings and putting their own lives in danger. Moreover there are other instances where they seen are saving the life of animals.

It pains us to see that the same race (USA) is also seen killing innocent people in

Iraq's streets and Holy Shrines. It is not understood why the USA has two faces. We can well imagine the innocent Palestinian are being targeted by Israel on the behest of US, and whole the Muslim world sees it patiently.

Muhammad Raza Hemani
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Who financed Al-Houthi?

As announced on 26th September news paper, which said that they have discovered documents that proved the source of money financing Al-Hothi's rebellion came from Arab sources without naming which Arab country.

As published in Yemen Times, (which based it's information on the government's weekly newspaper of the military, the 26th September), the Yemen Times quoted the following:

"The Ministry of Interior told last week the Sept 26 Newspaper, the organ of the Yemeni Army, that investigations have uncovered documents indicating Al-Houthi's receiving support from regional players, either through Arab intelligence agencies, religious sects, or charitable societies in the area."

"The information elicited by Yemeni investigators shows that those sides aimed, through supporting Al-

Houthi, to spread havoc and instability in Yemen," the newspaper quoted the ministry.

I would like to ask our ministry of interior why they don't want to name the Arab country who supported Al-Houthi which resulted the current bloodshed.

Yemenis can no longer keep quiet about such barbaric and inhumane acts that happen in our country. We as ordinary citizens, have every right to ask our leaders why they hide the name of the criminals who financed this war.

We await from our ministry of interior to clarify the matter and publicly name the Arab country that supported the problem. If the ministry of interior do not want to clarify this matter, due to regional and political problems, then the ordinary Yemeni who actually bears the burden should say the fact to the entire world.

I would like to say to our minister of interior that Yemenis should no long keep silent. NO MORE SILENCE. Either you tell us or we will tell the entire world who is responsible for destabilizing Yemen. All the fingers show that our big brothers are responsible. Yes Saudi Arabia is responsible for that. This time they should pay for their mistakes.

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COMMON
SENSE

By Hassan Al-Haifi

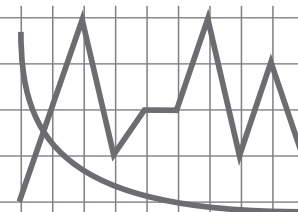
The irrelevance
of reality

One of the great mischiefs of some folks is that if something can be taken to be the truth by a sizable number of people, then let it be the truth. For close to four years now the George W. Bush Presidency has gone on record with lie after lie after lie, to the point that lies are indeed viewed as the only acceptable rhetoric that is fed to the public. We are not sure what can be attributed to be of truthful origin in any of what the Bush Administration has made public, but it is for certain that the awesome reliance on lying has been a clearly visible trait that distinguishes the Bush Presidency from any previous Presidency. If I recall correctly, since I was then living in the United States, even the Richard Nixon Presidency with all its legal and ethical faults was not so deceived as to believe that the American public would just about believe anything their President said to them. This represents a serious breach of public trust in a country that prides itself on being the model democracy of the world, although many smaller countries are actually more advanced in their democratic development and more innovative in insuring that public trust is given more weight in safeguarding the social contract.

One is not really surprised at the insistence of George Bush and most of the icons that have symbolized the neo-con establishment in Washington and their network of gung-ho right wing loyalists that such persistence on deception and distortion of the real world is not just possible but actually the only right thing to do. For one thing, there is an obvious strong tie-up to what has been called the Likudnik mentality that is now dominant in the political arena in Israel. The Bush Administration has clearly found little reason to be abashed about the fealty to Zionist political philosophy, especially of the Likudnik persuasion. Most of the elements in the Bush clique have strong relations and links with Zionist organizations and have been heavily active in working to synchronize American right wing tendencies with Zionist aspirations and methodology. While American sympathy to the Zionist cause is no new matter in the American political arena, it goes without saying that American politics would not so easily conform to Zionist modus operandi in the past. Moreover, American institutions had enough checks and balances in them to project a more stronger inclination to abide by moral and ethical standards than the Zionist philosophy found better to do well without. But, during the Bush presidency with the Republicans pretty much in control of the three branches of the American Federal Government, there was no more balancing leverage to thwart off an extreme right wing inclination. In other words, power became easily manipulated to suit the pre-ordered agenda that right wing visionaries have set for themselves. This is not really much different to what Ariel Sharon has found to be easily attainable in a political environment that even in its leftist of orientation knows well that the element of evil in the Zionist cause is inseparable from any political persuasion reigning in Israel. After all, Israel has its establishment rooted in evil intentions, unethical practice and the use of gut force to impose the Zionist agenda in a brutal systematic manner. Maybe the right wing Republicans holding the reigns of power and decision making in Washington have become convinced that this is indeed a successful way of imposing their will. Moreover, like the Zionists, the control of public mass media now enjoyed by the right wingers, either by persuasion or by some form of coercive influence, have also produced another similarity to Zionist (Likudnik) methodology. No one is ready to ignore the awesome weight of the use of mass public media to arouse sympathy for the Zionist cause in the West, especially in the United States. But this use is almost completely reliant on deception, fabrications, historical distortions and a total disregard or even a refusal to acknowledge the rights of the other stakeholders turned victims of the Zionist long term agenda. One is not sure if it is a matter of convenience that the American right became so attached to Zionist methodology, if not creed, but for sure, most American observers (out of the right wing establishment) are surely not oblivious to this. For this reason, many American writers, who are sympathetic to the Zionist cause are already on the defensive insuring that the tie up with Zionist methodology is not misunderstood to be a tie up with the evil aura that surrounds the Zionist cause. These defendants of the Zionist cause simply try to portray an association by common hatred. In other words, there are fundamental reasons for Americans to be similar in demagoguery to a common target of right wing and Zionist animosity, the alleged Arabs and Moslems, who brought on the tragedy of 9/11 to the heart of American economic and political power. Therefore, the Israelis have not spared any effort to insist that the common enemy of terror rests with Arab and Moslem culture and are doing everything possible to persuade the United States to take it from Israel that the only way to deal with this evil culture is to eliminate it.

To come to terms with this converging of animosity, it goes without saying that the Zionists of Israel have a good lead on confronting the "evil radical Moslem culture" as the Zionist propagandists have taken pains to project as the common enemy of all Western culture. Accordingly, if lying is an important tool of the Zionist cause, then it should be just as useful for right wingers in the US, who must use lies to hide their deficiencies and their failures in projecting sound governance and effective leadership. The polarization of America has never been so manifest, with the Americans divided into either strong adherents of right wing philosophy based on demagoguery and chauvinism, or opponents who do not have the wherewithal to confront the almost scientific organization of the right wing machine, that has blocked all hopes of arousing meaningful dissent. Then there are the middle roaders who simply do not know what is right for them, especially with so much lying fed to them. Even with the more lenient leanings of the Israeli body politics, the right wing is still moving freely with their agenda. There is not that much difference in the American political arena from this kind of repressive political venue, which is really what any kind of environment where the lies prevail and deception is the rule and where reality seems to have a reached a shocking state of irrelevance.

YT Business



Exchange Rate for the Yemeni Rial

Currency	Buying	Selling
US Dollar	184.8900	185.1300
Sterling Pound	329.7700	330.2000
Euro	227.2000	227.5000
Saudi Rial	49.3000	49.3600
Kuwaiti Dinar	627.3600	628.1800
UAE Dirhem	50.3400	50.4000
Egyptian Pound	29.5900	29.6300
Bahraini Dinar	490.4200	491.0500
Qatari Rial	50.7900	50.8600
Jordanian Dinar	260.7800	261.1100
Omani Rial	480.2500	480.8800
Swiss Franc	146.2600	146.4500
Swedish Crown	25.0900	25.1200
Japanese Yen	1.6659	1.6681

Source: Central Bank of Yemen

Yemen celebrates World Day of Standardization,

Goods subject to specifications & standardization



By MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF
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Yemen has traversed a good distance in increasing its capacity in the area of specifications and standardization, which is currently acquiring its significance under the age of globalization, commercial openness, market liberalization, and increase of production.

Yemen's celebration of the World Day of Standardization on 14 October each year.

Yemen government, represented by the state authority of specifications and standardization, has taken forward steps

towards the achievement of safety for the society and qualifying local products for exportation.

Yemen has welcomed the attention given to the question of standardisation starting from the phase of legislation to that of execution in defining standardisation and specifications. In this regard, the first bill on this field and tools for weighing was issued in 1991. The law also covered the question of quality control. The authority managed to practice all means for the goal for which it had been established in this field.

The authority has ever since been keen to be present at all land and sea inlets for monitoring imported goods and commodities and to subject them to conformity and the test of their quality standards. The authority has up to now

managed to cover six inlets in the governorates of Aden, Hudeida, Taiz, Hadramout, Hardh and Ibb. It is planning to open more bureaus in Mahara, Baqaa and Wadeca. The authority practices also it takes in being ascertained of the extent of the national industry conformity to standard specifications and suitability for human health.

With the use of its laboratories, the authority applies tests and analysing according to categorization of imported goods at customs crossings. It has also equipped its laboratories with modern and developed equipment worth YR 200 million.

Taking official figures into account, the authority managed during the first half of this year to examine and test more than 1617 samples, 549 are food

samples, 783 microbiological tests and 158 chemical and petrochemical products, 78 samples of textile, plastic and leather products and 49 samples of construction engineering materials.

Figures of other tests amounted to more than 1334 samples came to the authority from branches. It has issued about 856 assessment reports about food products, 413 of which were in conformity to standards and 413 had not met them. The authority has also depended 817 standard specifications for various types of goods.

On the other hand, the authority has embarked on the execution of a project on a system pertaining to food control and application of international standardisation 2000-9000 on requirements of quality management systems.

\$260 million capital,

Yemeni - Arab Cement Company in Mokala established

By YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Yemeni - Arab for cement was recently been declared in the city of Mokala, Hadramout governorate. The company is established with a joint Yemeni - Saudi Capital of \$ 260 million. The company is to produce and industrialize all kinds of cement to meet Yemen's increasing demand for this construction material and demands of expanding building.

The businessman Sheikh Abdullah Ahmed Baqshan, Saudi Eastern Region Cement Company, Saudi Bin Laden Group, the Yemeni Group for Development, Sheikh Mohammed

Hussein Al-Amoudi, Barum International Holding Company and Sara limited company for development participate in the company's capital.

The city of Mokala has being selected as site of the company, covering an area of 22 km in the region of Abu-Ghreib. The period of the company's contract is 50 years extendable to another period under decision by the general assembly of the company.

The Cement plant production capacity amounts to 1 million and 200 thousands tons a year. Meanwhile the Ministry of Industry and Trade and the concerned parties has completed the infrastructure for a similar plant in Batis area in the governorate of Abyan under

a Saudi-Yemeni common capital estimated by \$ 150 million with a production capacity of a round 1 million tons a year. The Minister of Industry and Trade Dr. Khalid Rajeh Sheik has expected arise in the volume of investment in Cement Industry until 2007 to amount to \$ 700 million, \$ 400 million of which for the private sector and \$ 300 million for the public sector.

Minister Sheik told Al-Thawra newspaper that expansion in Cement Industry as a result of demand growth for it because of great development seen by the sector of construction and building in Yemen.

Official figures mention that Yemen's consumption of Cement amounts to 2.5 million tons, 1.5 million tons as local

production provided by 3 public sector plants in Amran, Bajel, and Barh, while Yemen imports about 1 million tons from a broad. All surveys confirm availability of local raw materials by 100% necessary for Cement Industry.



View of Yemeni-Arab cement plant signing ceremony

Globalization and our commitments

By ISMAIL AL-GHABERI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Globalization is no longer a contestable issue, influential people control our entire lives and we haven't a choice to accept or reject it, for the world is but a small village.

We find ourselves in this part of the world between two alternatives: we can either pave the way for change, removing the obstacles to investment

and capital flow by issuing a number of legislative procedures, taxes and exemptions in order to maintain our industry and harvests, or we can remain, as we are, consumers of everything.

The need to be ready for international economic change compels us to make many commitments, and to work hard in all fields of life, starting with education and improving curricular so that they are up-to-date and fit for markets.

We also need new procedures to

facilitate investment and compel company proprietors to work according to international standards. This is necessary to be able to present useful things and protect ourselves from what is to come. Not only that, but we should fight corruption, routinely high taxes and the variety of authorities. Firm legislation and tireless effort is needed in the interests of our area before time runs out, for the leaders of globalization will not long suffer the area's corruption and backwardness.

ANNOUNCEMENT



The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and United Nations Dispensary in Yemen invite Physicians from Sana'a, Aden, Hodeida and Taiz to apply for a consideration as:

United Nations Examining Physician (UNEP)

Duties & Responsibilities

- Perform pre-employment medical examination.
- Perform periodic & exit medical examination.
- Provide assistance with regards to medical evacuation.
- Replace the UN physician during his leave or absence (Payment will be made according to UNDP rules and regulations).

Qualifications

- General physician, Internist, or cardiologist.
- At least five years experience in his/her field
- Fluency in Arabic and good command of English
- Good skills in Microsoft Word, Excel, and power point.

Note: The selected candidates will be added to the official UN international list of UNEPs.

No contract or Monthly salary will be given to the selected candidate.

Applicants who meet the necessary minimum qualifications and background may submit their application form (can be obtained from UNDP website www.undp.org/ynepapplication.doc) to the UN Dispensary at UNDP building, Sixty meters road, Tel.: 448605/8- Ext. 224.

Only those candidates who are short-listed will be contacted. The deadline for receiving applications is **20 October 2004**.



إعلان لشركات النقل

يعلن برنامج الأغذية العالمي - إحدى منظمات الأمم المتحدة العاملة في اليمن والمعني بتقديم المساعدات الغذائية، عن رغبته بدعوة شركات النقل ذات الخبرة والكفاءة والراغبة في العمل معه في مجال نقل المواد الغذائية من المخازن العابرة في مراكز المحافظات إلى المدارس المستهدفة أو المراكز الصحية شريطة أن تكون مقر مكاتبها أو فروع في المحافظات التالية: حضرموت، شبوة، المهرة، أبين، لحج، المحويت، حجة، صعدة، الجوف ومارب.

فعلى الشركات الراغبة في الدخول في قائمة البرنامج الخاصة بهذا العمل تقديم طلبا خطيا إلى قسم النقل والإمداد في برنامج الأغذية العالمي، فيلة رقم ٢٢ في الشارع المتفرع من شارع الجزائر، واستلام الاستبيان الخاص بشركات النقل وتعبئته وإرجاعه إلى مكتب البرنامج في مدة أقصاها عشرة أيام من تاريخ الإعلان.

Invitation to Transportation Companies

The World Food Programme, the United Nations Food Aid Organization, would like to invite experience and interested transportation companies who have an office (branch) at the located governorates here under, to submit their applications t work with WFP as transporting agents within Yemen.

The transportation operations will take place from governorates centers to the targeted schools at the following governorates: Hadhramaout, Shabwa, Al-Muhara, Abyan, Lahj, Al-Mahweet, Hajja, Sa'ada, Al-Jawf and Mareb.

Interested companies should submit their application, by hand, to: Logistics Unit, World Food Programme Office in Sana'a, villa no. 22 near to Algiers Street.

Applicants will then receive the transportation Questionnaire prepared for this purpose. The questionnaire is expected to be filled by each company and handed over to WFP within 10 days from the date of the announcement.

Eng. Mohammad Al-Sunaidar, to YT

It is known that Yemen has a distinctive location and intrinsic tourist attractions that help promote tourism

BY ISMAIL AL-GHABRI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

It is known that Yemen has a distinctive location and intrinsic tourist attractions that help promote tourism. They can be classified into:

1) Natural aspects: Yemen has a long coastline stretching for over 2000-km along the Arab and Red seas. Besides, there are the mountainous areas, valleys, water resources, and nice weather which is moderate especially in winter, and

2) The historical aspects: that are seen from the remains and ruins of ancient Yemeni civilizations that gained reputation in many areas.

Yemen is also characterized by numerous historic cities such as Sana'a, Shebam, Hadramaut, Thula, Manakha, Hammam Ali, and Mareb, the last of which enshrines the remains of Baraqish and Ma'een. We should not forget Jibla and Tareem, which in turn attract tourists to Yemen.

The strategic location of Yemen places it highly not only among the tourist countries in the Arab region but in the whole world.

Governmental bodies- the Culture & Tourism Ministry, the General Tourism Development Authority

(GTDA) and the Tourist Promotion Board (TPB)- are required to set up promotion strategies for tourism in Yemen in cooperation with other relevant parties like Interior and Information Ministries in order to promote the tourism industry.

To unveil the recent developments in the national tourism sector, The Yemen Times forwarded the following questions to Eng. Mohammad Al-Sunaidar, Deputy Chairman of the GTDA.

Q: What are the activities currently executed by the GTDA?

A: The authority has been and is still conducting a tourist survey for the sake of assigning areas that attract tourist investment, including the coasts of the Red and Arab seas.

The GTDA partook in many tourist exhibitions outside Yemen such as that of The Mediterranean countries held in Cairo last year, so as to encourage investment in the tourist field. Now we are participating in Dubai functions that also include a tourist festival, during which information about two Yemeni tourist cities -Ibb and Damt- was provided.

Q: How do you assess the reality of tourism in Yemen?

A: Yemen possesses a distinguished tourist wealth, manifested in the historical cultural exhibitions and the



Eng. Mohammad Al-Sunaidar

natural sites spreading across the coastal plains and mountainous areas. Tourism in Yemen suffers from a lack of awareness that results in vandalistic acts against the tourist sector.

Q: What are the strategies executed by the GTDA with regard to tourism development in Yemen?

A: No new strategies are adopted, but the Authority works in accordance with the main strategies such as that for combating poverty, the five-year plan, the policy of the Ministry, and the goals behind the GTDA's

establishment.

Q: Why does the GTDA not promote local tourism?

A: The task of the Authority, since it was established, has been primarily to develop the foreign and local tourist investment as well as the provision of opportunities for investing in the tourism sector. The Authority always participates in the internal tourist functions that help develop the tourism industry. An evidence is the GTDA's participation in many functions in some governorates and its issuing tourist pamphlets on Yemeni sites.

Q: Is there coordination between the Authority and the other responsible parties in regard to tourist promotion?

A: There is coordination between the Authority and the TPB in joint tasks. We also cooperate with the Environmental Protection and Islands Authority. The GTDA promotes the areas that have a tourist potential and develops them through foreign and local investments.

Q: How best can tourist promotion be tackled?

A: This question can be answered by the TPB. However, promotion is mainly the responsibility of the media as well as Yemeni embassies abroad and Yemeni citizens both inside and outside the country.

Q: The tourism sector in Yemen suffers from a lack of infrastructure such as hotels in many provinces, what are the solutions?

A: There is an insufficient number of hotels, a fact which means less rooms to accommodate local and foreign tourists. This is clearly notable during official holidays like Al-Fitr and Al-Adha Eids, particularly in Aden. Moreover, Yemen does not enjoy good hotels, electricity, or water services as well as telecommunications and transportation facilities in many tourist areas. The solutions can be reached by specifying tourist development areas in order to attract investments and visitors.



View of Sana'a old city

Continued from back page

Daughters visit mother's beloved country

The book is a testimony:

The book of Claudie Fayein appeared in 1955 in the collection "Sciences and Voyages." It contains anecdotes and follows the itinerary of the doctor: her travel from Aden to Taiz then to Sana'a, her visit to Dhamar and her air trip to Mareb. The reader of the book feels like the recipient of a friendly correspondence, and senses the heat, sincerity, sensitivity, accuracy and originality of the matter.

Mrs. Fayein described the majesty of nature, and the hospitality of the people. Her description was minute but smooth, simple but literary. The work reveals the personality of the authoress as a real human being, someone with an amazing ability to feel for others, and the tenderness to share their suffering.

She presents a pitiful view of a hospital in Taiz, where locals are dying of typhus. There is no medicine, and the place is unfit to hospitalize them.

"Low rooms without windows. There are lots of patients most of whom were at the verge of death.."

the book continues: "One might think a similar misery could be imagined. However, seeing these women in these sheds is worse than anything imaginable."

She saw with her eyes a woman dying on the dirt. "I saw her rising on her elbows, handing me a wet baby;

she was dying and supplicating."

Mrs Fayein came in touch with Yemenis at different social levels, from the prince to the pauper. She realized the gap between them and recognized the irresponsibility and greed of the former.

For her, Yemen was virgin and living in the Medieval Ages; a country that could at the time attract nobody but the anthropologists.

Comments:

Mr. Mohsen Al-Aini, former Prime Minister, who translated the book into Arabic, said: "I was encouraged to go through the experience [of translating the book] until the end by my conviction that it deserves to be read by Arabs, particularly Yemenis."

In his preface to the book, martyr Mohammed Mahmoud Al-Zubairi, sympathized with the doctor who had experienced the thrill of "darkness" for one and a half-years.

"She was created and was living in Europe. Her soul emanated from the twentieth century. But she suddenly goes ten centuries back, and lives for a long time in the world of those centuries. Yet, she never resents, nor becomes haughty or afraid. However, her humanity transcends to be melted by the fire of pain, affection and mercy," he concluded.



Claudie Fayein holding a picture of herself taken in Yemen on horseback

Modern poetry:

Cruelty vs. mercy, justice vs oppression

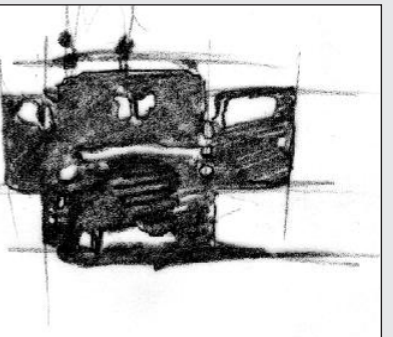
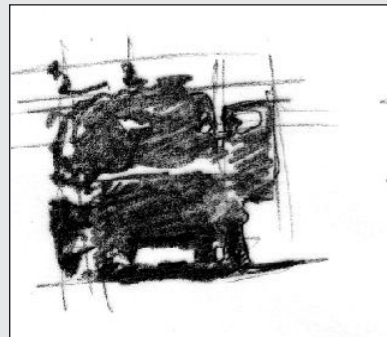
POETRY/SKETCHES:

ALAWI ABDULLA ABU BAKIR TAHA
ADAM_TAHA2000@YAHOO.COM
UNITED KINGDOM

Have you forgotten the power of Allah the All Mighty?
For He only has to say, 'BE' and it shall be
Then what's this? Do you think that a wall can assure you safety?
With your own eyes you shall see that this wall will divide itself into three
Like Musa (Moses) peace be upon him who divided the sea
Only because Allah said, "use your staff, and it shall BE!"
And the Children of Israel walked through the great ocean in safety
And for who? For your forefathers who were living in slavery
Away he took you from Pharaoh's cruelty
Into the light of Allah the All Mighty
But you forgot and so you became the children of Israel, for the world to see
By He who gave me life! He or she that disobeys Allah the All Mighty
Shall find no peace until they live with truth
But even when the years have passed and again you were hungry
Even when you were thrown out of every country
Even then, O children of Israel
Muslims let you live amongst

them and so it be
Allah the All Mighty showered you again with His mercy
By each breath that I breathe
By the scars on these knees
By the whispering of these trees
That say, "Ah! Servant of Allah, we love all these
For nothing is sweeter
Than witnessing a believer
Who holds strong and steadfast to the rope of Allah"
By the new stars that are born
By the martyrs that rest like lanterns on Allah's (SWT) throne
By the Angel that will sound the trumpet, a time for men unknown
No one, not even you can postpone
The Great Day of Judgement but still you do not atone?
By the night and the turning of the day
By the beauty in a believer...in his and her submission to pray
For Allah the All Mighty to forgive and show them the way
So they are not lead astray
No tank, no bullet, no power shall avail you on that day!
Let every believer heed my words, take warning on what I say
Let not your faith be shaken for today is their day
Ours shall be when Allah wants it His way
Sweet, sweet brothers and sisters in Islam, O Ummah!
And it shall Insha-Allah be on this Earth and the Hereafter!

Where the Angels shall drag with many chains to display
Hell fire and the disbelievers power shall decay
They shall stand before Our Lord whom they constantly betray
And the crimes they have committed on that great Day
If ever they say it is about Jews or Muslim
Say: Praise be to Allah, take heed in the words you say
Open your eyes and see the suffering our Ummah readily display
The death of our children, our mothers, brothers that are killed every day
The homes and our lands do they take away
And you say its, "because they are Jews" is that why you think we are angry? Is that what you say?
It is do with all that we lost and the pain we suffer, here are the tears we display
Here are the scars and our world that's torn asunder and our world in disarray
Our homes bull dozed and we wonder whom will they choose today
And the media makes the world blind and their hearts sway
To believe that it's about terrorism
What do they want of us? Say nothing, be killed and put our hearts on a silver tray?



Making Globalization Work for All

By JEFFREY D. SACHS

We are now in a one-year count-down to establish a new approach to globalization. In September 2005, world leaders will meet at the UN to review the progress made since the Millennium Assembly in September 2000, when they pledged to support a set of ambitious objectives – the Millennium Development Goals – to help the world's poorest people escape poverty, hunger, disease, and illiteracy.

Setting goals was the easy part. When they return next fall, world leaders must decide on how to achieve them. Fortunately, a proposal by UK Chancellor Gordon Brown might provide the needed global breakthrough.

Here is the problem: globalization offers people everywhere the chance to escape extreme poverty, but it is not working in many parts of the developing world. While China and India grow rapidly, most of Africa is stagnating. Similarly, large parts of Latin America and Central Asia are experiencing rising, not falling, rates of poverty.

In most cases, geography plays an important role in success or failure. The big development success stories are places like Shanghai, port cities with ready access to world markets. The biggest development failures tend to be in rural areas far from the coast. Communities living in mountainous areas, such as in the Andes, or Central Asia, or the highlands of East Africa, are especially isolated.

Geographical isolation is even more extreme if the country is landlocked, like Bolivia, Afghanistan, Ethiopia, or Burkina Faso. In addition to isolation, other problems include droughts in Africa, where

farmers depend on rainfall rather than irrigation, and high disease burdens in tropical countries suffering from malaria, dengue fever, and other killer diseases.

All of these problems are solvable, but they are not being solved in many places. Instead of hearing more lectures from the IMF about cutting budgets, poor countries need larger budgets to pay for the required investments – roads, power supplies, ports, schools, and health clinics – to jump-start economic growth. The IMF should spend less time telling the poorest of the poor to cut their spending, and more time telling rich countries to give more money to help the poor meet their investment needs.

Rich countries have promised more help for years, but continue to renege. Thirty-five years ago, they promised to give 0.7% of their GNP to poor countries as development aid. Instead they give 0.25% – a shortfall that amounts to \$120 billion per year.

The United States causes half the total shortfall. If the US lived up to its pledge of 0.7% of GNP in donor aid, it would be giving \$75 billion per year. Instead, it gives around \$15 billion.

The US could easily afford to do more. The Bush administration gave \$250 billion per year in tax cuts to the richest Americans, raised military spending by \$150 billion per year, and then turned to the poorest people of the world and told them that there is no money available to meet America's promise.

None of this makes sense for global security, or even for the financial interests of donor countries. The failures of economic development in the Andes, Central Asia, and Africa contribute to global instability, local insurrections and violence, drug trafficking, and bases

for terrorism. Military approaches alone will not work, because the root of the problem is the vulnerability of poor, hungry people to the prophets of hate.

If donors keep giving only a little bit of help, but not enough to solve the problems of the poorest countries, these countries will never escape poverty's grip. By financing a much higher level of investment in the next few years, rich countries would give poor countries the chance to achieve economic growth – promising an eventual end to further aid.

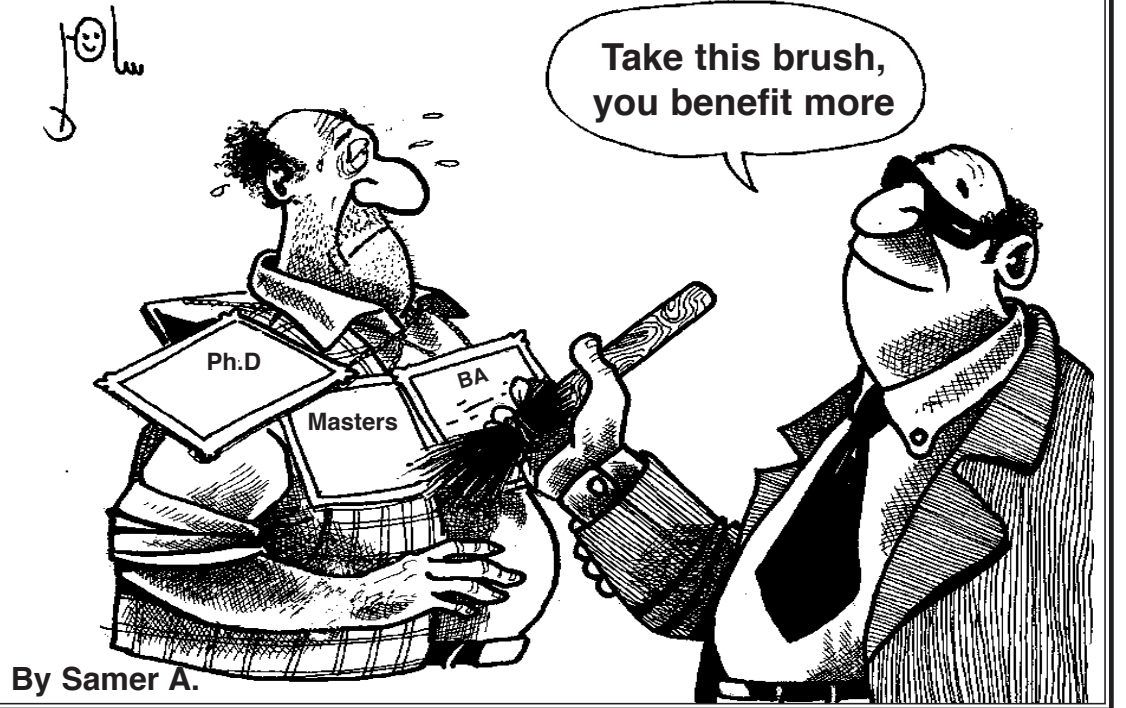
Chancellor Brown's proposal – an initiative called the International Finance Facility (IFF) – does precisely this. The idea of the IFF is to guarantee that donor countries double their aid levels during the next decade, so that well-governed poor countries can make the investments they need to achieve the Millennium Development Goals. Brown is exactly right: let's put Africa and other impoverished regions on a path of sustained economic growth by frontloading the aid during the period until 2015.

Great Britain has made the Millennium Development Goals, and hence the IFF, the centerpiece of the G-8 Summit, which will be held in Scotland next July. French President Jacques Chirac has joined Blair and Brown in a bold call for rich countries to honor their promises to the poor. The richest countries – the US, Germany, and Japan – must join this vital initiative. Building a more peaceful and prosperous world is in everyone's best interest.

Jeffrey D. Sachs is Professor of Economics and Director of the Earth Institute at Columbia University.

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SKETCHED OPINION



By Samer A.



By Yahya Al-Olfi
alolfi@hotmail.com

Reflections

Mr. President

"The Hell of Maswari is far more better than Kohlani Paradise" People Say!

The activities of Sana'a Mayorality lately have been a subject of scorn and sarcasm by the help-less citizens who are being intimidated on a daily basis by soldiers and thugs with predatory mentalities. Having witnessed personally many such sad incidents around Sana'a, I felt dismal to notice that after 42 years of September Revolution which broke out in order to return the Yemeni his dignity, Sana'a mayorality soldiers roam the streets and attack the jobless individuals who have no income except to work as peddlers. The Baladiya / Municipality thugs when asked why they are acting like that they reply, if you want to know go ask Uncle Ahmed Kohlani!

I tell Mr. Kohlani it is your good deeds towards the inhabitants in Nuqum, which gave you the opportunity to assume this position. That, by the daily acts of your soldiers the good reputation is being eaten away by the minute. When the aggressors say, go and ask Uncle Ahmed, they mean by that you have given them the green light to act as they are acting. Don't you know that such acts give a bad image of the government and the president himself? Haven't you heard about the kid who was killed in Bab Al-Yemen by your callous thugs whilst he was escaping from them. Are we citizens, or people under occupation? People now are referring to your soldiers and employees as "Sharon soldiers", because they act ruthlessly exactly like the Israelis against the Palestinians. I am neither the first nor the last to speak about the growing obnoxious behavior of your people. Another division of your irresponsible aggressive people is called the "Ashghal". These are 100% thieves if they were bribed they would let you build amid a highway and if you were a poor man with a shelter they would come to destroy your shelter and steal your belongings. One day I lent a man a petty sum of money and for three continuous years he could not pay me back. Last week I saw him driving a Mercedes-Benz and wearing trendy clothing. When I asked about the sudden complete change I was told he works for "Ashghal", that only people with connections work there and are in a position where they trade their powers for concessions.

The image now about the mayor is that he is merciless in comparison with his predecessor, because at the time of Maswari they did not have free hand to do what they want, the fees were not raised and now they are tenfold. Newspapers have been referring to such incidents but no real remedy was apparent because the Baladiya, Ashghal and Amanah are still bad and becoming worse.

I shall refer for mere substantiation

to three criticisms in our local newspapers, the first was an expression of hope in "Akhbar Al-Youm" that the Mayor shall penalize the Baladiya thug who acted ignominiously towards a woman selling bread in a Catha Edulis market, vide "Akhbar Alyoum" edition 268. I read also a criticism in Althawra daily where the writer Al-Khameesi criticized the uncalled for destruction of cemeteries' walls in order to build new walls and I add wouldn't it have been better if the mayorality built public bathrooms instead, I just hope that the mayor will once visit Amran collective taxis station on the T.V. road in order to know what I mean. Also in "Al-Wasat" weekly newspaper edition 25 page 6 you can read an article titled "Violent Raids are waged by Sana'a Mayorality against Markets whilst President Ali Abdullah Saleh was delivering his word on the occasion of the 42 anniversary of September 26th revolution.

The writer Mr. Al-Ezzi Al-Osami recounts what he saw as follows: (...what I saw with my very own eyes in the Catha Edulis Market, next to 45m Street crossroads, Sheba Zone Al-Safiya Directorate and we are celebrating the revolution which came to liberate Yemenis from oppression, injustice, colonialism and dictatorship gave me a huge psychological shock to notice the fear of the sellers anticipating a sudden attack of human vultures belonging to the capital mayorality to deprive them from gaining their daily bread. Minutes went by after which the vultures arrived and the tumultuous escape took place because of the rampage perpetrated by the Mayorality people. I thought there was an air raid like those waged by the Americans against Falluja and imagined myself amid a street in Gaza under the attack of the ruthless Israeli aggression force. After getting my due terrorization, punching and bullying because of my unlucky fortune, which made me, venture into the hapless market. I later knew that this unrestrained wildness was perpetrated by a Mayorality jeep bearing plate number 6415 and the people on it were already in the market wearing camouflage clothing and were awaiting the zero-hour. Sellers captured were ordered either to pay a bribe on the spot or else they would be taken to the filthy horrible jail of the Baladiya/Mayorality, even a small kid selling Guavas on a wheelbarrow was made to pay all what was in his pocket. After blackmailing the people the aggressors left happily thinking they have just won a battle. Anyhow I hope that the mayor shall read the whole article which despite its being heartbreaking does not reflect the whole picture of what is going on.

I have decided to suffice myself

with the above and try to give the mayor some advice in order to shore up his reputation which is deformed by his own personnel and so that he can get gratitude from the people not hatred towards him, the president, the government and the regime in general.

1. First of all, the rise in the different fees should be annulled together with the newly uncalled for devised fees. Reasonable fees such as those under Maswari should be kept.

2. A new mechanism for payment of fees should be employed either to renew permits every five years like the Commercial register which has lately modified its past bad behavior and made renewal now every five years or else pay the permits fees to the banks every year when paying the tax, because the taxation authority has recently adopted this method which is working well. These measures shall make it easier for the people to comply.

3. The Taxation Card should be the standard on which businesses are to be judged. The bigger the tax you pay, the more facilities you get from banks, customs etc... as practiced in developed countries.

4. In case a citizen perpetrates a contravention, he would be served a notice to comply or else he would have to show up in the court where according to the law the court should ask a police station to follow up the implementation of its verdict. This way, the Baladiya is being civilized and the employees of Baladiya do not look as ugly aggressors as they really are. No military men should be employed in Baladiya offices at all. Civil employees shall be restricted to just give notices and write reports and have no jailing powers at all because the situation now is disgraceful.

The court alone should have the right to issue verdicts and hence all Baladiya prisons must be closed if we want to confirm that we are a country living in the 21st century not a country living and acting by the obsolete Ottoman laws. Again Baladiya prisons, which are terribly horrible and illegal, should be closed down immediately without wait and the military must be removed from all the Baladiya districts because they are a shame. The legal courts and police stations are the ones having the powers to enforce the law. Our judiciary must be activated and the dishonest judges removed if they do not perform well. Sessions should be open for the public.

I hope that these words will not fall on deaf ears, because they are meant for the general good and to improve the image of the state vis a vis its people let alone avoiding the negative impressions taken by foreigners.

The British Foreign & Commonwealth Chevening Scholarship Scheme



British Embassy
Sana'a

The British Embassy invites applications for the Foreign & Commonwealth Office's **Chevening Scholarship Scheme**. This highly-competitive scheme offers full-time postgraduate scholarships of varying length to Yemeni women and men who will play a key role in promoting Yemen's political, economic & social development.

Applicants, who must be under 40, should have a university degree and very good written and spoken English. Candidates will be selected on the basis of their potential and motivation to rise to positions of authority & influence.

Spouses and children are not funded under the scheme.

The deadline for applications is **6 December 2004**.

The application form and full information can be:

- Collected from the British Council, 3rd floor, Administrative Tower, Sana'a Trade Centre, Algiers Street, Sana'a,
- Posted upon request by calling: 448356/7/8/9.
- Downloaded from the British Council web site:

www.britishcouncil.org/yemen/education/scholar.htm

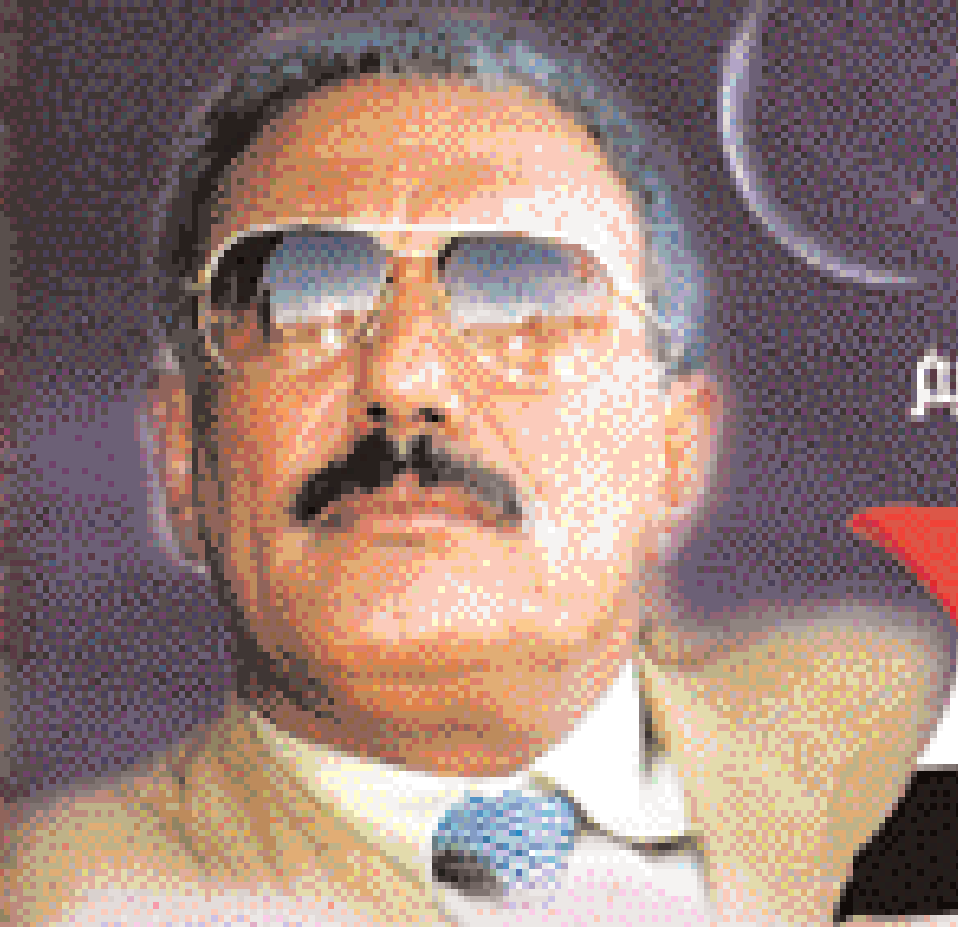
Applications are to be submitted only by mail to PO Box 2157, Sana'a.

For further information on the scheme please visit the following web site:
www.chevening.com

You can also visit the web site: www.educationuk.org to find information on UK universities and available courses.



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14
OCTOBER

تقدم شركة أسماك اليمن المحدودة بأطيب التهاني و التبريكات إلى فخامة

الأخ / علي عبدالله صالح

رئيس الجمهورية حفظه الله

بمناسبة احتفالات الشعب اليمني مجلولاً بالذكرى 41

لثورة 14 من أكتوبر الخالدة و كذلك بمناسبة قدوم شهر رمضان المبارك

و إلى جماهير شعبنا اليمني العظيم ، متمنين دوام التقدم والازدهار

للوطن اليمني الذي يشهد انتصارات تنموية كبيرة في ظل رعاية فخامتكم الحكيمه

وكل عام واتم بخير

مهندس / عبدالله احمد بقشان

رئيس مجلس إدارة شركة أسماك اليمن المحدودة

Yemeni Fish

Presents the heartiest congratulations to the President

Ali Abdullah Saleh

*On the occasion of the 14 October anniversary and
the advent of the holy month of Ramadhan*

*We wish to Yemen the best of success and progress
towards building a strong country headed
by its wise leadership for years to come.*

Eng. Abdullah Buqshan

Chairman of the Board of Director, Yemeni Fish Company

شركة أسماك اليمن المحدودة



Book Review:

Indian Writing in English: Voices from the Oblivion

Chhote Lal Khatri, Ed.. Book Enclave, Jaipur Pages: 227, Price: Rs.525, ISBN: 81-8152-070-X



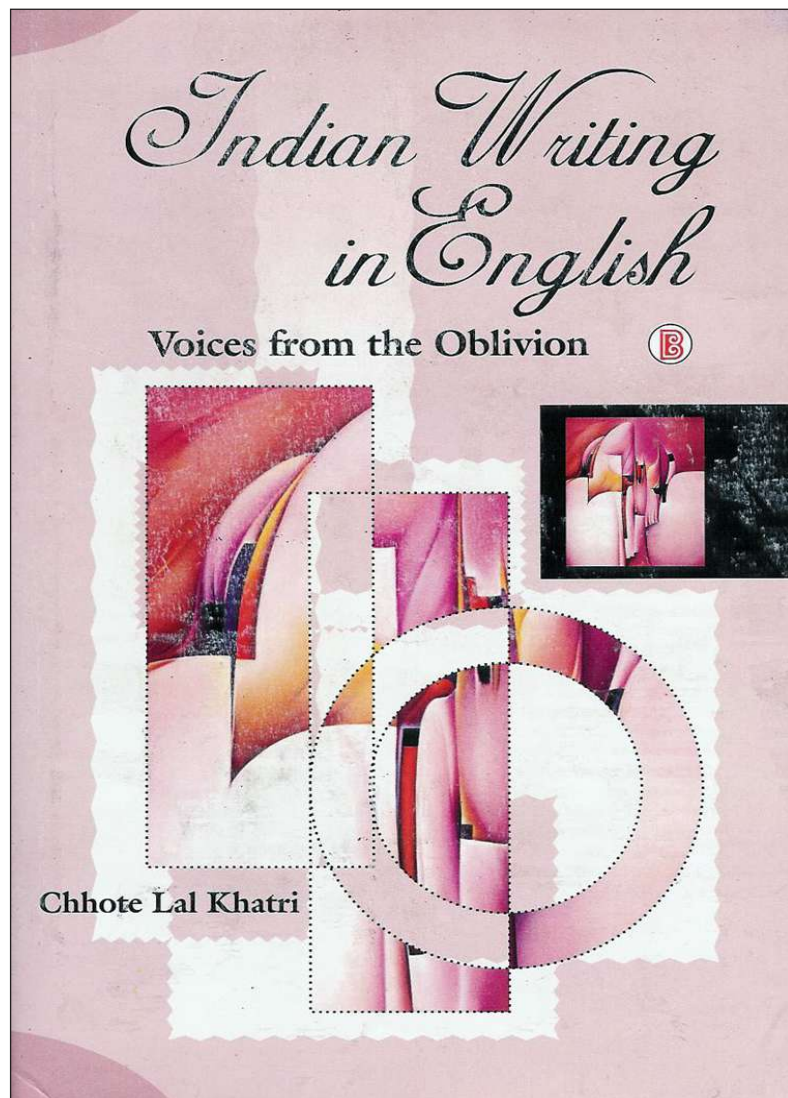
BY: ANIL KUMAR PRASAD, PH.D., ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR & HEAD, DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH, FACULTY OF ARTS, IBB UNIVERSITY, REPUBLIC OF YEMEN.

"Let us consider the critic, therefore, as a discoverer of discoveries"
— Milan Kundera

Indian Writing in English: Voices from the Oblivion is a new critical anthology with a difference. It has attempted to "rediscover the past", the hidden gems of literature and to put "Bihar's contribution to Indian English literature" in a historical perspective as the editor, Dr Chhote Lal Khatri, convincingly claims in the "Introduction". But it is certainly not an exercise in "signing the praises of a single Indian state" rather it should be taken as Shashi Tharoor (see *India: From Midnight to the Millennium*, 1997, 2000: 77) has brilliantly put (in some another context), "The central challenge of India as we enter the twenty-first century is the challenge of accommodating the aspirations of different groups in the national dream".

The insightful and well-researched critical essays, it is hoped, will inspire, the future researcher scholars, teachers and other perceptive readers to read, understand, enjoy and reassess the works of such authors as Rajendra Prasad, Avadh Behari Lall, Raghuraj Narayan, R.K.Singh, Amarendra Kumar (who taught at Thamar University, Yemen), Ravi Nandan Sinha, Prabhat K Singh, C.L.Khatri, Sumirasko, Tabish Khair, Ramchandra Prasad (see *The Concise Cambridge History of English Literature*, 1970: 735), S.D.Singh, Murari Madhusudan Thakur, J.P.Singh, Raj Kamal Jha, Shashi B Sahai, Badruddin Ahmed, Indrani Aikath-Gyltsen, K.K.Sinha and the "real voices of the oblivion": the student-poets of the college magazines and souvenirs of the Patna Women's College (and some names like the name of Amitava Kumar, the Ara-born author, who grew up in Patna and teaches English at Pennsylvania State University, is noticeable by its nonappearance!) This critical anthology is a beautifully planned book and in its dedication mentions two distinguished scholars in the field from Bihar: Prof Meenakshi Mukherjee and Prof Shaileshwar Sati Prasad. In the 10-page "Introduction" the editor calls this book "a surprise, a revelation, full of news to the readers as it was to us when we discovered and discerned gem after gem from the deep bed of the ocean of oblivion". And the news of literary achievements of writers "stays" as it transcends the boundaries of time and space with the disinterested endeavours of the literary critics.

The book begins with a critical study of the writings and speeches of the first President of India, Dr Rajendra Prasad underscoring their literary values. Citing extensively from the letters and speeches of Dr Rajendra Prasad, Tara Sinha has successfully shown the relationship between the man and his style and urged the readers for a "detailed study of his writings" for his contributions as an Indian Writer of English has hitherto been ignored by even such critics as Iyengar and Naik. Shaileshwar Sati Prasad's paper, who deserves the epithet "Sarathi" (see Preface: vii), explores the politico-socio-cultural milieu of the 19th C India with particular reference to Avadh Behari Lall, the first English poet from Bihar, is indeed a laudable piece of re-search. He has critically examined the poet's deep nationalist concern for his country and the deep loyalty to the British rule. Besides, the poet's "pleasure in poetic pains/which only poets know..." has immense potentialities for a researcher to delve deep into the "occupations of the poet's mind". Kumar Chandradeep's short but highly insightful tribute to Raghuraj Narayan has placed him "in a tradition of Romantic School in Indian English Poetry". Indeed, there is a need to compile the works of Avadh Behari Lall and



Raghuraj Narayan and "make them available to the readers.

I.H.Rizvi's, D.C.Chambial's and R.S.Tiwari's critical evaluations of R.K.Singh's poems are praiseworthy. For R.K.Singh, as Chambial comments, poetry is a prayer "in life's vicissitudes". But unlike Chambial, Tiwari evaluates R.K.Singh's "reflective and serious" poetic muse by referring copiously to some of the famous Sanskrit and Hindi writers like Magh, Matiram and Behari. Stuti Prasad's "The Maiden Sensibility" is an excellent piece of research and literary criticism. Perhaps, her use of the word "maiden" has a two-fold semantic connotation: firstly, the maiden attempts of the student-poets and secondly, as she perceptively affirms, "In all these (poems) gender remains an unavoidable factor". This paper makes the book unique in its attempt to analyse the experience of a generation for whom "Life is a fragile dew-drop in bright sunlight".

"Poetic Corpus of Amarendra Kumar" by Parshu Ram Singh has thrown light on "the variegated hues of human life, mirth and melancholy, varied range of themes – both temporal and universal as expressed in the poetry of Amarendra Kumar. Basavraj Naikar's paper on Prabhat K Singh's *So Many Crosses* places the poet as one of the significant "young voices" being "added every year" to the galaxy of poetic talents of contemporary India. R.S.Tiwari takes a "peep into C.L.Khatri's *Kargil*" and is impressed by the "sincerity and transparency" of the poet's muse. "Monomania", "Garden of Gods" and "Khajuraho" and many other poems of Khatri support Tiwari's view: "Dr Khatri is possessed of the potentiality of a genuine poet". Kameshwar Prasad's "Sumirasko: A Mystic Poet" is an objective assessment of a young poet whose poems do not "fit in the contemporary poetic trend". His poems, as Prasad has candidly put forward, "are a remarkable achievement of self-educated youth, living in the heartless environment of modern decayed city".

Tabish Khair (an associate professor in the Department of English at Copenhagen University), "a man coming from a small town in Bihar" is "doing his own thing, learning his craft". Arvind Joshi has analysed why Tabish Khair "has failed in raising a storm in the literary cup" with his *Where Parallel Lines Meet*. In a review published in *The Hindu*, Sunday, October 15 2000, Manohar Bandopadhyay calls Khair's poetry as "confessional poetry" and his

poetry with the publication of this anthology has "moved into new grounds". Joshi has also rightly commented on the "courage" with which Khair's poetry "resists the temptation of feeding the contemporary hunger for novelty". Khatri's comments on Ramchandra Prasad's "first and only novel in English, *The Mahatma*", are full of revelations. He has compared him with Colin Wilson and D.H.Lawrence and pointed out the author's use of Indian words and the novel's potentialities for "imparting sex-education". Laxmi Kumari Sinha has evaluated the full merits of S.D.Singh's novels. Ravindra Rajhans' two essays on Murari Madhusudan Thakur are good in introducing two important authors in Bihar. His analysis establishes J.P.Singh's *Curfew* "as an important sociological document on the predicament of the teaching community".

R.B.Singh's *The Blue Bedspread: Spreading Incest* and *The Curfew* in which he deals with the novelistic techniques and the thematic nuances of Raj Kamal Jha and J.P.Singh respectively. The publication of *The Blue Bedspread* has been hailed as an "international literary event" and John Fowles connects it with something "remarkable almost coming-of-age of the Indian novel". And many others have compared Jha's "sparse and straightforward" prose with American realists like Raymond Carver and Don DeLillo and contrasted with the "exotic" prose of Rushdie and Arundhati Roy. What is remarkable in R.B.Singh's paper is to establish *The Blue Bedspread* as "a thought-provoking novel" that grows out of the hidden violence and the perverted eroticism of an overcrowded old city, "a city of twelve million names", and "it could have been any city". Besides, his paper "B.Ahmed: Playwright and Prose-writer" brings to the fore the merits of a writer who has significantly contributed to the development of a genre not much being paid attention to in the contemporary Indian Writing in English.

The assessment of Indrani Aikath-Gyltsen by Shyamla Narayan, a well-known critic, has given the author her due place as a woman whose fictions present "an authentic picture of sections of Indian society, with a woman's sensitivity". G.P.Sharma's "The Discovery of the Past" has rightly placed K.K.Sinha "as a historical novelist with a nationalistic bias".

Indeed this anthology of critical essays on Indian writers and their works is a "groundbreaking work". It is an exploration, assessment and revaluation of writers and their enduring works. This book will save some of the writers like Rajendra Prasad, Avadh behari Lall, Raghuraj Narayan, Ramchandra Prasad, and Sumirasko among others from being forgotten and help get them retrieved to be shining on the book shelves once again. For they belong to the main stream of the Indian Writing in English.

Brand effectiveness in business



BY MS. LAKSHMI DEVI P K ASST BRAND MANAGER MAM INTERNATIONAL CORPORATION SANAA - YEMEN roja.lakshmi@ny.com

Brand management is the application of marketing techniques to a specific product.

In marketing, a product is anything that can be offered to a market that might satisfy a want or need. However it is much more than just a physical object. It is the complete bundle of benefits or satisfactions that buyers perceive they will obtain if they purchase the product. It is the sum of all physical, psychological, symbolic, and service attributes.

A brand takes the form of a symbolic construct created by a marketer to represent a collection of information about a product or group of products. This symbolic construct typically consists of a name, identifying mark, logo, visual images or symbols, or mental concepts.

Marketers see a brand as an implied promise that the level of quality people have come to expect from a brand will continue with present and future purchases of the same product. This may increase sales by making a comparison with competing products more favorable. It may also enable the manufacturer to charge more for the product. The value of the brand is determined by the amount of profit it generates for the manufacturer. This results from a combination of increased sales and increased price.

A good brand name should:

- Be legally protectable
- Be easy to pronounce
- Be easy to remember
- Be easy to recognize
- Attract attention
- Suggest product benefits (e.g.: Easy off) or suggest usage
- Suggest the company or product image
- Distinguish the product positioning.

Positioning is the technique in which marketers try to create an image or identity for a product, brand, or company. It is the 'place' a product occupies in a given market as perceived by the target market. Positioning is something that is done in the minds of the target market. A product's position is how potential buyers see the product. Positioning is expressed relative to the position of competitors.

Many brand managers limit themselves to setting financial objectives. They ignore strategic objectives because they feel this is the responsibility of senior management.

Most product level or brand managers limit themselves to setting short-term objectives because their compensation packages are designed to reward short-term behavior. Short-term objectives should be seen as milestones towards long-term objectives.

Often product level managers are not given enough information to construct strategic objectives.

It is sometimes difficult to translate corporate level objectives into brand or product level objectives. Changes in shareholders equity are easy for a company to calculate: It is not so easy to calculate the change in shareholders

equity that can be attributed to a product or category. More complex metrics like changes in the net present value of shareholders equity are even more difficult for the product manager to assess.

In a diversified company, the objectives of some brands may conflict with those of other brands. Or worse, corporate objectives may conflict with the specific needs of your brand. This is particularly true in regard to the trade-off between stability and riskiness. Corporate objectives must be broad enough that brands with high-risk products are not constrained by objectives set with cash cows in mind.

The brand manager also needs to know senior managements harvesting strategy, if corporate management intends to invest in brand equity and take a long term position in the market

Many brand managers set objectives that optimize the performance of their unit rather than optimize the overall corporate performance. This is particularly true where compensation is based primarily on unit performance. Managers tend to ignore potential synergies and inter-unit joint processes.

A very good example of Quality based Branded International company in Yemen is MAM International which deals with International Branded products like CLARINS – PARIS, YSL – FRANCE, Cosmopolitan, Chanel, Cartier, Chopard, Logines, Bulgary, Swarovski etc... which guarantees the quality of all its products. They are submitted to quality control tests at all stages of their development and all are dermatologist tested. The secret of its effectiveness also lies in its passion for discovery and its continuous investment in research.

Telephonic love



MR. A'RIF AHMED AL-AHDAL, DEMONSTRATOR, EDUCATION FACULTY (RADA), THAMAR UNIVERSITY

Telephonic love I always hear
So eager, indeed, to have it near
Hey, dears, you never know
How happy, in fact, it makes me so.

Away from me you are, though
To me, closer than an eye to an eyebrow.
So cold a place it is to stay
With you in mind, so warm, you see?

Far or near, you are always dear
I wish I could have you always here.
Minute by minute I miss you all the more
Of this, my dears, I'm very much sure.

Shall we one day meet here or there?

Or will it be never, I fear
Will darkness be always there?
Or will it shine to all the clouds and come so near
That I will be there or you will be here?
Yet God is generous, He will make it fair.

N.B. Dedicated with love to my dear parents, siblings, colleagues, students, friends and to all those with whom I lovingly shook hands / hearts during my tenure at Hodeidah University.

Readers' Forum

Dear Dr Ramakanta Sahu,
First I would like to thank you for your efforts and contributions to enhance the level of English in Yemen. In fact the page which is published by you should be named the INDIAN PAGE.

This suggestion is made by me to appreciate the efforts which are made by the Indian teachers who teach here in their second country, Yemen.

My teacher I would like to request you to publish the column which is written by Dr. M.N.K. Bose because we get invaluable tips from it and these tips benefit us so much in our profession.

Best wishes. May Allah endow you with health and make you fit to

continue your splendid work.

Your student,
Kamal Yahya Abdullah Maridi

Dear Kamal,
Thanks for your comments. We would continue to make sustained efforts to enrich the English language proficiency of Yemeni learners. By the way Dr. Bose's letters would hereafter appear without interruption, inshallah.

Dr. Sahu

Dear sir,
This is the first e-mail to you & maybe you will be surprised who I am..

My name is Anamika Jain an Indian girl living in UK..

I know some families from Yemen. One day I saw this newspaper with them (Yemen Times) & I took your e-mail to give me your experience in English language..

Could you please resend your articles that you wrote in this newspaper from the first till no. 249 to me by e-mail ..

I will be waiting for your answer..
With kindest regards,

Anamika..

Dear Anamika,
Thank you for your interest in our work. The lessons may be brought out in a book form in foreseeable future when they can be accessible to you. Best wishes

Dr. Sahu



YOUTH FORUM



A glimpse of love

Love, as a wide term, is a divine gift implanted in our instinct since we were born. It is, as it is usually defined, the unconditional giving without receiving. This elevated and natural phenomenon first takes place in our lives when we feel our first innocent and intangible feelings towards our first beloveds, our parents.

In fact, we are, with our enormous words, helpless to define such a word properly. However, we have the ability along with the desire to pursue and experience it in order to appease our

instincts and feel what it really is. Love can really be a powerful motivation for growth.

As a human being, I believe that love is a great power; love is a great force. It is the pivot around which a human life revolves. Besides, it is the thing that makes life livable. However, this concept is sometimes misunderstood. To cut a long story short, when the word love is uttered, many people directly think of it from its negative or rather from a sexual angle thinking that it is merely a word by which a relationship between lovers is described.

Needless to say that love plays a vital role in a human being's life which enables them to be more successful and proactive with either the goal which they wish to attain or with the person whom they love. Finally, being in love requires of us to be more forgiving, honest, straightforward, and ambitious regardless of whether we love someone or someone.

By Ashwaq Saleh Ahmed Al-Quss
University of science and Technology
Ashwaq-m@maktoob.com

Errata

In Lesson 256 the following errata have inadvertently crept in. Our apologies for this oversight.

Errata
Good luck wishes are tribute
The outcome is reciprocal will
Life is challenge to face

Read as
Good luck wishes are a tribute
The outcome is reciprocal **good will**
Life is a challenge to face

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A tribute to Claudie Fayein, French doctor in Pre-revolution Yemen Daughters visit mother's beloved country



By SHAKER AL-MOLSI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Writing "Une Française Medicin Au Yemen" (I was a Physician in Yemen), Claudie Fayein (1912-2002), was concerned with reflecting a true

picture of the reality of Yemen. She was honest in conveying the details of the Yemenis' hard life and abject misery. She might have not anticipated a revolution at that time nor expected that two of her offspring would be together visiting Yemen on the occasion of Sana'a, the 2004 Arab Cultural Capital, receiving honors on her behalf.

Lucie Foubert, and Elise Spivac, the two daughters of French doctor Claudie Fayein, have taken part in some of the activities of the celebrated city. The Yemen Times met them to enquire about their thoughts and feelings regarding their mother, and Yemen.

When their mother left for Yemen in the 50s of the last century, Lucie was five, and Elise was eight. They were looked after by their father and aunt.

"Our mother left us because she was sure we were surrounded by loving people. During her life, she liked to give more to those who had less," they said.

"She was rather a strong woman. When she was determined to do something, she would do it. She organized everything and then set off. She was also courageous, for it was she who rescued her husband in World War II. Yet, she was a shy woman."

They do not conceal their pride of their mother. "We are proud of her. She has taught us to respect every culture, to respect differences deeply. This is something important," mentioned Lucie.

Elise added: "We were too little to know about the conditions in Yemen until she wrote her book. We realized how life in Yemen was by reading and looking at the pictures of books. I have still in my mind the pictures she put in her book. It is well written, very simple and very heartfelt. It contains short stories about children and women and those who die due to lack of medicine. There is a story about a little girl who could not read. She was upset and thought she was stupid."

Both of them have witnessed the development and the change in the conditions of the country. For them, it is so obvious.

Lucie gave an example to illustrate

that: "I saw a man whom my mother knew in the past. He once complained to her that his three sons had died due to lack of medicine and care. Now this man has in the town a hospital, medicine and doctors. All to cure people."

In closing, Elise said: "It is amusing to find that this small country, which was once closed, opened for us a window to the world, and gave us the opportunity to be really cosmopolitan. Our mother gave us the wish and the need for helping people. She gave us the ideal to be generous and helpful to others."

Continued on page 10



Elise (left) and her sister Lucie

(YT photo)

المعرض الافتراضي للألبسة

يضم لكم بطول شهر رمضان الجواهر كويشنز لإيصالكم الكرام عن تفصيلات الألبسة كما يحل عن الألبسة التي تفضلونها بالبريد من البهاقي والرائحة والرائحة من حيث الألبسة التي تتميز عند شرائك من معرضنا ستحصل على كوبون سحب على جوائز مغرية فلا تتردد في زيارتنا فقد يحالفك الحظ بالفوز بإحدى الجوائز

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