

WB warns of Yemen's reform package collapse

By MOHAMMED AL-QADHI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The World Bank (WB) has warned against the collapse of the economic reform package Yemen has been implementing since 1995, painting an apocalyptic scenario of the situation if firm action is not taken immediately to improve government's performance in this respect. In a report released last September and distributed to high ranking officials, a copy of which the Yemen

Times obtained, the WB said the country's economy is facing grave challenges but that the government should not expect further support with its crippled implementation of reform. "Yemeni authorities have not been able to seize the opportunity of a rise in oil prices to maintain macroeconomic stability, advance economic reform and lay foundations for strong non-oil based growth. Half way through the implementation of Country



Assistance Strategy (2003-05), the signs are that Yemen is clearly slipping into a worst case scenario judging by three of the four CAS criterion," the report said. "Implementation of PRSP is unsatisfactory, progress in governance reforms is tardy and the macroeconomic framework is unsatisfactory. Though the deterioration of portfolio (the fourth criterion) is noticeable, it is below the cut-off points as of August

2004," it stressed.

The report pointed out that two political and economic internal events have constrained "the ability of the authorities to take advantage of strong gain in oil prices to advance reforms in 2004. Politically, the ongoing global war on terrorism fought in the Middle East has energized Yemeni militant groups opposed to the war. Simmering anti-government sentiment was brought to a head on June 28th in the form of an armed rebellion.

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Opposition seeks Al-Khaiwani's release

By MOHAMMED BIN SALLAM
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Joint Meeting Parties (JMP) held an extraordinary meeting in Sana'a on Tuesday October 12, dedicated to discussion of activities for securing the release of the prisoner of opinion Mr. Abdulkarim Al-Khaiwani, member of the general secretariat of the People's Forces Union Party, editor-in-chief of Al-Shura Weekly, who has been put in the Central Prison for more than a month.

The JMP pointed out that the judiciary was not independent, demanding for a quick release of Al-Khaiwani. They also stressed their firm stand of rejecting all sorts of repression of freedoms, and asked for more liberties complementary to freedom of opinion and counter-opinion.

On the other hand, the coordinator of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights is supposed to meet on Thursday with the board of the YJS for signing an agreement on cooperation in human rights and liberties.

YJS first deputy Sa'eed Thabet Sa'eed and other members of the YJS's board called on the HCHR to exert pressure the Yemeni government to set free the prisoner of opinion Abdulkarim Al-Khaiwani.

The board had last Monday discussed with the HCHR coordinator in Aden a number of issues related to the activity of the YJS and press freedoms.

Meanwhile, the Court of Appeals on Saturday failed to hold its second session to look into the case of Abdulkarim Al-Khaiwani because the judge traveled

abroad, intentionally wanted to keep Al-Khaiwani in prison as long as possible.

A court session had been held on Saturday before the last, after a several-week delay. The judge's absence from a session he had himself set its date, may cast doubt about the judge knowledge of the date of his travel during the convening of the first session, which seemed that he had postponed deliberately for hindering consideration of the demand of Al-Khaiwani release, which requires holding of all members of the court.

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A roundtable held to discuss means to motivate NGOs in Yemen: Dr. Iryani: Civil society to be ignored no more

Yasser Al-Mayyasi
Yemen Times Staff

Dr. Abdulkareem Al-Iryani emphasized last Sunday the need to encourage the civil society in Yemen to play a more active role in development and in helping the government implementing the necessary reforms needed.

"By building their capacity, training their cadres, and facilitating their activities, we must support the civil society to have an active role in our country's development," said Dr. Iryani, advisor to the President and former Prime Minister.

This was part of the activities of the roundtable discussion entitled "towards an international partnership" under the motto "we have to work together to activate the role of civil society organizations in the comprehensive development process" organized by the Cultural Bridges Forum (CBF) at the Taj Sheba Hotel.



The participants agreed in the discussion that Arab regimes are now aware more than ever of the need to strengthen the role of the civil society, especially as when they systematically ignored the role of civil society, they have failed to fulfill their obligations and duties in achieving the level and pace of development required.

In her statement, the newly appointed UNDP resident representative in Yemen Slavia Phansieri, emphasized the importance of the meeting and expressed appreciation to the organizers for noting the importance of the discussion's topic. "I truly appreciate this initiative which comes at the right time as we are discussing reforms and development in the Arab world. The role of the civil society is indeed essential for comprehensive development" she asserted.

Meanwhile, Mr. Nabeel Khouri, the charge d' affaires of the US Embassy in Sanaa also praised the initiative and stressed on the role the civil society could play in development. He also briefly described the steps taken by the

US administration in forming the Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI), which focuses on enhancing the role of the civil society by possibly sponsoring or co-sponsoring small-scale projects that would help build the capacity of NGOs and help promote democracy in the country.

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Exhibition of poor families' products inaugurated

TAIZ BUREAU

Taiz, Saturday October 9th — A ceremony was held at Al-Sha'ab School to inaugurate the exhibition of products for needy families. The exhibition was organized from 9th –15th October by Al-Awa'el Company for Micro-finance that was converted into a company from being a development program for small enterprises and handicrafts. This company belongs to the UN development program in Yemen, which was established in the beginning of 2000 in coordination with the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor. The company aims at upgrading the current functions through the offer of a series of small

loans.

Its goals are conducive to the development of the local community, alleviation of poverty, reducing the unemployment rate and giving women the chance to participate in development as well as encouraging handicrafts and small professions.

Additionally, the company contributes to improving charitable work and diversifying the products of loans in order to meet the needs of craftsmen. Many services, such as group and individual loans, are also provided by the company.

The ceremony and the inauguration of the exhibition were attended by Deputy Governor of Taiz, Mohammed

AL-Hayaem, the Chairman of Al-Awa'el Company and a number of representatives of charitable organizations.

Prisoner commits suicide, man found dead

TAIZ BUREAU

Abdullah Al-Sha'ibi, 45, from Ba'adan district, Ibb province, committed suicide in prison on October 7th. He used a rope and made it into a noose in the cell and strangled himself to death. He was detained in Salah Prison over a theft, and was to be referred the next morning to the Attorney General.

Unrelated to that, an unidentified, torn and disfigured corpse was found on October 8th, on the side of the Hodeidah-Taiz road, in Al- Najibah area. A mass of broken car glass was found beside it, which indicated that the death may have resulted from a traffic accident. The driver must have fled the scene. Traffic authorities are making an investigation into the case.

Gulf Heart Association holds third symposium

BY FAHMIA AL-FOTIH
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

Under the auspices of the Prime Minister Abdualqader Bajamal, Gulf Heart Association (GHA) in cooperation with the ministry of health, held the third symposium to discuss the pneumatic Mitral Valve repair on September 29th in the Sheraton Hotel.

Dr. Yahya Al-Neemi, the minister of health and member at GHA, stressed the importance of holding such a vitally important event, and revealed that the symposium is considered as a good opportunity for heart specialists from the gulf states and Yemen to meet together and exchange expertise and experiences. Participants were able to share the latest information about cardiac surgery and diseases in order to improve and develop the cooperation between Gulf states.

On the other hand Mr. Hajar Bin Hajar, the Qatari Health minister told Yemen Times "The aim of our society is to raise the level of the practice of cardiology from a scientific, practical, surgical and medical sense, and to raise the health level of GCC states that Yemen is now one of. We also hope to have an effective workshop. Today this symposium is devoted to the development of cardiac surgeons."

Hajar further said regarding expectations of the symposium "We expect to continue this kind of symposium in the Gulf States, and repeat some ideas annually."

Mr. Abd Al-Hai, the deputy of Bahraini health ministry said, "This symposium is for discussing cardiology that means heart diseases. In Yemen today the concentration is on surgery of valve. Valve is a common disease in our area, Arab countries. There will be several surgeries being done here in Yemen. It is a symposium for cooperation to exchange ideas among whole states. We hope the symposium will be successful."

Dr. Habeen Tareef, Bahrain, said,

embodying development and the improving services all over Yemen. The Authority has improved and update all kinds of services and activities, exploiting electronic and information technologies.

The Authority, during the last three years, under the leadership of the Minister of Telecommunication and Information Technology, Abdulmalik al-Mu'alemi, has been considered as being in its golden period, especially for improving and reforming the Post sector.



Arrest campaign against Liberation Party

BY HASSAN AL-ZAIDI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Security forces in Sana'a conducted, last Sunday, an arrest campaign against the Liberation Party who organized a public demonstration starting at Abdunasseer School and marching to Al-Tahreer Square in the city center.

Tens of security personnel and intelligence officers assembled in the square before the event. Eyewitnesses told the Yemen Times that security officers quarreled with personnel from the Liberation Party who were organizing the demonstration. The former then succeed to disperse the massive assembly of demonstrators.

Yemen's branch of the Liberation Party sent a message to the Yemeni Interior Minister on October 4th which said: "our party, which is a political one, works hard for the sake of resuming the Islamic way of life through reconstructing the Islamic Caliphate state. The party also works to make the ideology of the Muslim nations the pillar of their political and intellectual practices.

Solving the local and international problems of Muslims, and removing the foreign occupiers of Iraq and Palestine, are impossible to yield

results unless there is strong unity under the Islamic Caliphate.

Our duty, as rulers and ruled, is to protect our Islamic tenets, thereby, we inform you that we are running a peaceful demonstration on Sunday, at ten o'clock, and we request you to provide security for the protection of the peaceful demonstration and to prevent infiltrators who cause harm to public and private properties. A speech on the situation of the Muslim nation and the way of manipulating it, is due to be delivered at Al-Tahreer Square"

The party also gave out its press statement on the same day, advocating all Muslim countries to send military forces as a kind of support for our brothers in Iraq and Palestine. The statement emphasized the importance of unity and the caliphate, seeing them as the essential solution for all Islamic issues such as corruption and poverty, as well as the solution to hamper the Zionist campaign. It also stated that Islamic leaders only move armies to kill opposing politicians and to safeguard their thrones.

Symposium on women's rights in Islam

ADEN BUREAU

The Woman Forum for Studies and Training (WFST) organized, on Sunday 11th October, a symposium on women's rights in Islam, in collaboration with the G.T.Z Organization.

Some 30 female and male participants from different governmental and non-governmental establishments participated in the symposium. The meeting aimed to provide participants with training previously planned by the Forum to be run between January and November 2004 in six Yemeni provinces. The forum aimed at spreading awareness about women rights and

improving their education and abilities, so as to enjoy their rights as Islam indicated.

Additionally, the symposium also covered combating violence against women, cooperation with lawyers and legal specialists, and defending and standing by victims through the joint efforts between movements and organizations advocating women rights.

The stance of Islam toward the violence against women was clarified in the symposium, which was attended by Mrs. Su'ad Al-Qadasi, Director of the WFST, Mesk Al-Junaid, Coordinator of the program and a number of specialists in women's issues.

Abyan cement factory Project starts

ADEN BUREAU

Minister of Industry, Khaled Al-Sheikh and Eng. Ahmad Fareed, Governor of Abyan laid down on Monday October 10 the foundation stone for the entrepreneurial project of Bates Cement Factory in the Governorate of Abyan at a cost of US\$ 265 million. The project is being implemented by the Yemeni-Saudi Investment Company (YSIC).

In the ceremony of the occasion, the Minister of Industry delivered a speech in which he welcomed all the foreign and local investments that serve the country. He also pointed out that the investment law grants privileges and encouraged investors in all Yemeni provinces.

On his part, the Governor of Abyan stressed in his speech that Abyan is a fertile land and famous for agriculture, fish

production, and ancient sites.

"The Abyan locals have been waiting for the project for about 30 years," said he. He added that the inauguration of the factory would contribute to improving trade activities in the province and creating more job opportunities for the citizens in Abyan, which has a high unemployment rate.

The governor demanded the Company to give shares to some traders to contribute to the development of the province.

Several speeches were delivered by Sultan Mohammad Al-Kabeer, Sheikh Mohammad Al-Esaiy and Sheikh Hameed Al-Ahmar. They asserted that the project would be completed by the end of 2007 with a production capacity of 6.5 million tons a year and that Abyan inhabitants be given precedence over others in respect of job opportunities.

World Post Day marked

BY ISMAIL AL-GHABERI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Yemen celebrated the world 'post' day on October 9th, marking the 130th anniversary of the foundation of the International Post Federation which is a specialized organization that manages post procedures between 190 countries that are members of the federation. Yemen joined the federation in 1930. Even though there are many defects in service, the General Authority of Post and Postal Saving made the celebration a successful one,

embodying development and the improving services all over Yemen. The Authority has improved and update all kinds of services and activities, exploiting electronic and information technologies.

The Authority, during the last three years, under the leadership of the Minister of Telecommunication and Information Technology, Abdulmalik al-Mu'alemi, has been considered as being in its golden period, especially for improving and reforming the Post sector.

Al-Sa'eed Charitable Society celebrates 12th batch of Quran graduates

TAIZ BUREAU

The Charitable Society belonging to Hail Sa'eed Group and the administration of the Holy Quran teachings at Al-Sa'eed mosque in Oseifera, Taiz, organized last Monday the 12th October the graduation ceremony for 12th batch of Quran memorizers. The ceremony started with the recitation of verses from the Holy Quran.

Afterwards, Mr. Ali Mohammad Sa'eed An'am, Chairman of Al- Sa'eed Group, and Nasseer Al-Shaibani and Hamood Al-Shu'aibi, Advisors to the Ministry of Endowment, delivered

speeches through which they paid a tribute to the late Hail Sa'eed An'am for his efforts in founding such establishments and boosting science and scientists.

The Charitable society is famous for yielding fruitful results and motivating youths (both males and females) to pursue the Quranic teachings. It also creates an atmosphere



Ahmad Hayel Saeed & Nasser al . Shaibani honor the first Holy Quran memorizer.

of competition among youths and encourages parents to give their children access to Quranic teaching that in turn shapes their morals and behaviors, and keeps them away from unacceptable acts.

The ceremony featured many Quran recitations and religious songs by the graduates, who received honors at the close of the event. Female students were awarded in a separated ceremony.

The ceremony was attended by Judge Ahmad Al-Hajri, Governor of Taiz, Dr. Ahmad Hail, Deputy Chairman of Al-Sa'eed Group, Shukri Al-Furais, Director of the Yemeni Company for Ghee and Soap and many other businessmen and Sheikhs as well as the students' parents.



Aside of the graduates in the celebration of Hayel Saeed Anam charitable society.

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Shukri al-Furais to YT:

“YR 360 billion is the annual expenditure on qat, there’s no official reaction.”

INTERVIEWED BY ABDULQAWI
SHU'LAN AND NURIAH NAJI HAMOUD
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES
TAIZ

Shukri al-Furais, is a man who has chosen a difficult path that he believed. His road has not been trodden yet this road is haunted by the suffering of the whole of society that is harmed everyday by what it plants, and chews - absorbing the substances of leaves' into bodies. The substances may include all kinds of poisons and diseases that the world may not know about.

Shukri al-Furais, Head of the Association of Fighting the Dangers of Qat, though being engaged in many works, thinks that his works are not considered actual tasks unless they're mixed with national responsibility. All the cares and worries of our community are a chain, related rings. Our country are not developed but by the healthy community that gets rid of all diseases and dangers.

Qat is a danger that destroys our homeland and diminishes our chances for development, which we hope to mirror universal development. The Yemen Times ran the fol-



Shukri Al-Furais

lowing interview with Shukri al-Furais, in his office in Ghee and Soap Company in Taiz, on the occasion of

the 6th anniversary of the association's establishment.

Q: The Association of Fighting the Dangers of Qat is celebrating its 6th anniversary, how do you assess its achievements concerning eliminating the dangers of qat?

A: In fact, we are not satisfied with what we have achieved during the last six years in terms of awareness. However, comparing it to our limited capabilities, we have achieved something in the controversy we've made among people. Qat was a red line in the past as if it was a precept. Qat is 700 years old, so it is not easy to uproot it in six years.

Q: Why is it called Association of Fighting Dangers of Qat not Fighting Qat itself?

A: When we approved the by-law of the society, we didn't want to get into an unplanned confrontation with qat. Therefore we suggested naming its dangers only in the beginning, and in the coming meeting of the administrative staff we will reconsider the name. Anyway the core or the content is always more important.

Q: Governments have gone without doing anything and others avoided

facing qat, what is Shukri al-Furais able to do then?

A: I'm Yemeni and I love my home. I hate to see it deteriorating. My feeling of the responsibility towards my home makes me concerned with its sufferings. All of us are responsible and each one has a role regardless of social and materialistic position, because it is the homeland of all of us. All should do something against this threat, including the preacher, teacher, doctor and men of state.

Q: The members or advocates of the association are 960 within 6 years. Isn't this number below expectations?

A: The quantity doesn't concern us as much as the quality does; fifty active members can do a lot of work and the door is open for the non-members too, because it is the responsibility of all 20 million Yemenis.

Q: Is it true that most of the members chew qat?

A: This rumor was raised against us, the Administrative Staff. The work is voluntary; there is no materialistic benefit in it. Therefore we give membership

to effective elements only.

Q: The association concentrates in its programs on the youth or students, don't you think that you should target addicted chewers of qat?

A: We work to protect them from qat because it is too difficult to convince the heavy addicted chewers. But we find unfortunately that our children chew qat. And some fathers compel their children to chew.

Q: Is there senselessness to see that qat is chewed to that extent?

A: Yes. Perhaps Qat caused this senselessness but passive apathy in dealing with qat is dangerous.

Q: It is said that Holland threatened in the past to stop aid granted to Yemen, is that right?

A: Not only Holland but there are some other countries, even the World Bank talks about agricultural land and water that are wasted in planting qat. The lands that are suitable for agriculture are 5 million hectares while what is used is only a million hectares.

The studies that was presented in the Yemeni Loaf Symposium, in the past

and present proved that Yemeni production of sorghum doesn't exceed 180,000 tons, but what is annually imported is more than 2 million tons. This is because the lands are planted with qat.

Q: What are the alternatives to qat?

A: The substitutes are available and they are encouraging, for example, I was in a meeting with the minister of trade, commerce and economy in which we talked about planting sunflower instead. The results were excellent since it is universally demanded and can be planted around the year. In addition, it is used as chicken food and its consumption of water is modest compared to bananas or other crops. Olive oil is also another alternative; it succeeded in Jabal Saber and in Al-Mahweet. Why doesn't the government then encourage farmers to plant these substitute plants? Why doesn't media play its role? How long will Yemeni people stay in the numb status of consuming this cursed tree? If the government doesn't deal with qat, failure will be its legacy for qat is the source of all problems in this country. We should change ourselves in order not to let others change us.

Q: Studies confirm that qat has a relation with cancer, what is the role of the association in raising awareness among people in this respect?

A: Cancer cases in Yemen are continuously increasing, the cause of that is qat and dangerous insecticides. There are other diseases caused by qat such as gum disease, teeth decay and kidneys pains.

Q: What is the level of official interaction with the association?

A: Unfortunately, there isn't any official interaction. We don't expect an official who chews qat to cooperate with us. Only Sheikh Mohammed Ahmed al-Haj who recently gave up chewing qat helps us.

Q: At the time the association start-

ed there were five qat markets, now there are twenty. What is the level of coordination between the association and the local authority?

A: There's no coordination, because the members of the administrative staff are busy with their work but we try to communicate with the authorities while qat markets are open all day in every street.

Q: What are the annual expenses on buying qat?

A: Studies report that annual expenditure is US \$ 6 million, that equals YR 360 billion. It is a great figure in a country that is considered one of the poorest countries in the world.

Q: How do you reply to someone who says that qat is bought and sold locally with the Yemeni currency?

A: This is idle talk. That's the catastrophe, it's all based on the local consumption! If it was exported, that would be another matter, but nobody would import Yemeni qat because it is treated with insecticides.

Q: Does your voice reach all areas of Yemen, or you are isolated to Taiz city, in a quest to make it a "City without Qat"?

A: We work wherever our voice can reach.

Q: What are the difficulties that you encounter? Have you ever felt that you're swimming against the current?

A: The absence of official interaction is one of the problems we face. Concerning the second part of your question, since the first day, we have been feeling that we are swimming against the current, but this situation increases the challenge for us.

Q: There were many successive decisions concerning chewing qat, why have all of them disappeared?

A: Because they are random decisions approved while chewing qat.

Therefore they can easily disappear. Any one can issue a decision but there must be a strategy for implementing, as well as observing obedience to it. The decision of changing the work days, for example was a failure; it makes people chew on Wednesdays, Thursdays and Fridays.

Q: Do you expect a member of the association to be a member of the upcoming parliament?

A: This topic is in the association's agenda, we'll discuss it.

Q: 'We complain of qat but we like it', the Prime Minister said. Do we truly complain of qat and love it at the same time?

A: Unfortunately yes. That's what was said by that official in the government, though it was supposed that qat was at the top of the government's agenda. But he was joking when he said that in the first national conference about qat. I attended that conference, and I think that was his individual attitude.

Q: Have you ever chewed qat?

A: Yes. I chewed qat like my mates many years ago but I thank God who restored me to health from what ill others.

Q: Do you have a message to deliver? To whom?

A: Qat is the first problem of Yemen and each one, young or old, male or female, should play a role from the religious and national perspective. The government should also make its decisions effective in this respect. Qat is a dangerous challenge thus it's a must to eradicate and revolt against it like the Imamate and the occupation. All the achievements like the revolution, unification and the Mareb Dam should be crowned by uprooting qat.

Q: Finally, are you sure that your children will be against qat?

A: I hope so. I work to protect my children and my family from qat.

German library opened at Sana'a University

A record figure of freshers in the German department

BY DANIELA SIEBEEK
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

The German Department of Sana'a University celebrated the opening of the German library on Sunday, 10th October. To study a foreign language all you need is brains and a good library, German cultural attaché Hendrik Selle remarked in his inauguration speech. 'The brains you already had, and now you have a good library, too. This has been achieved by the help of the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and the hard work of our former language assistant, Jens Winter', Judith Zepter, a representative of the German Academic Exchange Service added. Tareq Al-Janabi, Dean of the Faculty of Languages at Sana'a University, encouraged the students to take advantage of this new facility and never to give up striving for knowledge.

Today the library offers a selection of more than 500 books on the German language, literature, history and culture, which has been sponsored by various German associations, publishers and professors. Now a small treasury of knowledge on Germany and its peo-



(from left to right) DAAD - Representative Judith Zepter, German Cultural Attaché Hendrik Selle, Prof. Dr. Tareq Al-Janabi, Prof. Dr. Ali Mansoor

ple, it is planned for the library to be continuously extended and updated with books, audio and video teaching materials, to keep up with the rising numbers of students. Here students will also be able to obtain information about the Department's activities and cultural events in their field of study.

Among last weeks highlights was a

visit by a group of German students, many of whom exchanged addresses to stay in touch with their newly acquired friends from Yemen. The visit included a reception party at the cultural attaché's mafraj, during which first year students took the chance to ask all their curious questions about Germany, its history and its people.

Returnees: fourteen years of suffering

BY MOHAMMED HASSAN BAKHEET
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HODEIDAH-BAJIL
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

After the Gulf War, many Yemeni families came back to their motherland. These families were living in many different Gulf countries, most of them were in Saudi Arabia. They were living in comfort and opulence, and they thought they would find the same life in Yemen. So they quickly returned to their country expecting to have a decent life in Yemen. But alas what happened to them was the opposite of what they were predicting. They saw something their minds never had expected. They really faced a big shock.

Now most of them are living in Hodeidah in slums (shown in the picture). They suffer from poverty and illnesses. They are in desperate need of the basic requirements of life. They have sold everything valuable that they had like televisions, cars, refrigerators, and even beds to ensure bread for their children. Can you believe that their monthly income is about 7000 riyals if not less? What can this meager income do for them? This is why some of them take only one meal a day.

Let alone their houses. They are made of wood and straw. These houses can not provide them with shelter from either sunshine or heavy rain.

If you see their children, you would think that you were living in the poor parts of Africa because you will notice that they are bony with tattered clothes.



Children of returnees on the outskirts of Hodeidah

For fourteen years, they have hoped that someone will look at them but until now nobody has. None can help them except for our government.

Most of them tried to return to the Gulf countries. A few of them were able to do that but many others were not. Young and middle-aged men - sometimes women - cross the Saudi border to work there to sustain themselves and their families. They spend hard times there in return for a few pennies.

They have been calling for help for years. Their loud shrieks fall on deaf ears. I can not explain or rationalize the inaction on the part of the government.

They have developed a sense of senselessness, trying to will themselves to be satisfied with their cur-

rent conditions. They have despaired to get relief from the government and are praying to Allah to help them. The government always promises them, especially at election times, to help them, but nothing has happened until now.

The former expatriates feel regret over their return, which they consider as a big mistake.

The last question, which we ask our government, is that are they Yemeni people or not?

If yes, why does our government not help them?

All of us are astonished at this treatment. We, however, have not lost hope and wait to see what may come from our government to relieve this miserable segment of the society, whose only fault was their patriotism and their return to their homeland.

Fire prevention at Asser Al-Kasara

By PETER WILLEMS
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Since a devastating fire ripped through Asser Al-Kasara in Sana'a destroying a large part of the community early last summer, a number of steps have been taken to prevent fires in the future.

Under the supervision of Care International, a new electrical system

has been completed in the small area occupied by a Yemeni group commonly called "Akhdam."

Installing the electrical network has been a priority to Care. The fire that broke out on June 6th not only destroyed 64 shanties, but also the entire electrical system. People used candles and oil lamps, which in a small area overcrowded with 114 shanties and 64 tents could easily cause a fire. It is reported that other small fires have broken out since the crisis in June.

"The fire wiped out electricity in the whole area," said Adam Taylor-Awny, Care's Program Technical Advisor in Sana'a. "After the fire, no one had electricity and they were using oil lamps and candles. One of the most important aspects of electricity is fire prevention. The fact that there is electricity as opposed to oil lamps and candles is that it is much safer."

The electricity project began three weeks ago, and according to

Taylor-Awny, it has been completed and every household now has electrical power. Next week, Care will hand over the task of overlooking the electrical network to Sahaba, an NGO run by people from the social group and involved in Community Empowerment Project which is covering three communities in Sana'a.

Care took another step to prevent fires in Asser Al-Kasara by distributing 15 fire extinguishers to the community and three bags full of sand to each shanty or tent. Twenty-five people in the area have been trained to use the fire extinguishers, while sandbags can be used to put out a fire before it spreads out of a household.

The fire last June left 650 people homeless. The Yemeni military provided tents to replace the small dwellings of over 60 families. Care was able to secure a \$20,000 emergency fund and coordinated the efforts of a number of aid agencies to provide basic necessities, such as food, water, clothing, blankets and toilets.

But beyond dealing with an emergency, the group in Asser Al-Kasara and many other similar communities

in Sana'a and in other parts of the country, are still facing a number of difficulties. The majority of the group, considered to be the lowest social class, lives in extreme poverty. The most common form of employment is street cleaning and collecting garbage. Begging by women and children is widespread, with reports on the group showing that many children under the age of 12 work, mostly for begging.

Most of the group live in isolated communities, separate from the rest of society and in need of sanitation facilities, better education and health care.

"In the end, even though all of this has been done after the fire, so much more needs to be done," said Taylor-Awny. "This includes living conditions, sanitation, integration into society, education and health. Emergency aid was not very difficult; setting up electricity is a tangible thing that is easy to do. It is not like soft development, such as an attitude change, social issues and the whole cycle of poverty. Providing electricity and fire prevention does not lift them out of the cycle of poverty nor change education and health, and so forth."



Children living in the Asser Al-Kasara area in Sana'a
(Yemen Times photo by Peter Willems)



A child washing dishes outside in Asser Al-Kasara in Sana'a
(Yemen Times photo by Peter Willems)

Continued from page 1

WB warns of Yemen's reform package collapse

Though the rebellion was crushed decisively by early September, the durability of the success could remain an issue. On the economic front, the report said that "unexpected declines in oil production, that came to light in February 2004, have triggered the fear that oil reserves may deplete sooner than expected. Unanticipated declines in oil production from key oil fields could diminish oil export revenues of the government and stress fiscal balance. The date of exhaustion of oil reserves has been advanced by nearly a decade to 2012 lending immediacy to the launching of a strategy to promote non-oil based growth."

The report, which came days after a great criticism of the situation by the WB former country manager Robert Hindle, said that, "weak macroeconomic management, stalled reforms and the negative oil supply shock, have resulted in the deterioration of the near-term outlook for growth and stability. Compared to the projections in March 2004, projected GDP growth for 2004 is now estimated at 2.5 percent, a rate below the population growth of 3 percent. Outlook on inflation and fiscal deficit has also similarly worsened."

The report said that the needs of the reform agenda have to be revived urgently through advancing some components of reform like that of Education for All, or customs procedures, which need to be spread to other areas fundamental to macroeconomic stability. "Restarting stalled reforms of civil service, introduction of GST, phasing out of petroleum subsidies are

vital to restore macroeconomic stability. Though the authorities are convinced of the direction of reform in these areas, commitment to a clear and robust implementation strategy and calendar is lacking," the report warned. The report further demanded that the authorities should take decisive action to restart stalled reforms, which can turn the economy around, release resources to the implementation of the PRSP strategy to make a difference to the country's 42% poor.

With regards to the development outlook, the report said that the GDP growth slows below the population growth with falling oil production. "Revenue augmenting tax reforms have been repeatedly postponed while expenditure increasing salary increases have been implemented. Subsidies on petroleum, well known to be regressive, have been growing to reach near 6 percent of GDP in 2004. A strong rise in oil prices has masked the underlying weakness of non-oil exports and helped build 15 months worth of imported international reserves. However, with no decisive action to move on fundamental reforms to restore prudent fiscal policy, downside risks to medium-term macro economic stability have increased," the report illustrated.

Mr. Hindle, in an interview with the Yemen Times, repeatedly called for an aggressive reduction of the level of corruption, which is regarded as a major component hindering the reform package.

Opposition seeks Al-Khaiwani's release

Legal sources told the media that the delay means a release of Al-Khaiwani may not be possible during Ramadan because its being a holiday for judges.

"There are no other legal alternatives except for a presidential pardon," they said.

Legal observers viewed the trial of Al-Khaiwani and Al-Shura as an example of manipulation of judiciary by the power, utilizing it as a tool to punish political opponents.

The trial proceedings have, besides the fact that jail is the punishment for opposing opinions, revealed illegal procedures in a trial taking place during a judiciary holiday. Not only that, the trial is also delayed at the Court of Appeals, so that Al-Khaiwani remains in prison.

A delegation including politicians and members of Parliament visited Al-Khaiwani in prison last Tuesday. They expressed their concern over his safety, for a prisoner sentenced to death attacked him. What adds insult to injury is his suffering from heart troubles and hypertension. They threaten his life in the inappropriate detention environment since arresting him on September 5, 2004.

Dr. Iryani: Civil society to be ignored no more

He stressed on the need to not overlook or marginalize the civil society as used to be in the past. To the contrary, he said that Arab governments should encourage and support civil society organizations to do what they are supposed to do, and that is play a positive role in comprehensive development.

Several participants presented their ideas and views about the status of the civil society in the roundtable discussion. The main speakers listened to the proposals and different viewpoints of the representatives of participating organizations as well as discussing the difficulties and barriers that prevent organizations from continuing their activities and finding out the appropriate solutions to activate group partnership.

The participants demanded that the international donor community should be given priority to financing projects that would help enhancing and activating the role of civil community organizations in the economic and political reform process.

In his capacity as the chairman of the CBF, Dr. Iryani also pledged to have the foundation carry out researches and studies on the possibility of establishing a center that would help train and build the capacity of NGOs in Yemen with the sponsorship and support of businessmen and donors from Yemen and the world.

He also stated that another roundtable discussion would be held to discuss this very topic after Ramadan, specifically on the 29th of November this year.



14
OCTOBER

تقدم بأطيب التهاني والتبريكات إلى فضيلة
الأخ / علي عبدا لله صالح
رئيس الجمهورية حفظه الله

بمناسبة احتفالات الشعب اليمني بحلول الألفية الـ 4
لثورة 14 من أكتوبر الحادثة و كذلك بمناسبة قدوم شهر رمضان المبارك
و إلى جماهير شعبنا اليمني العظيم ، متمنين دوام التقدم والأزدهار
لوطننا اليمني الذي يشهد إنجازات تنموية كبيرة في ظل رعاية فخامة الحكومة
وكل عام وأنتم بخير

MB Petroleum Services LLC.

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

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Iraq says open to UN inspectors amid nuclear alarm

BAGHDAD, Oct 12 (Reuters) - If U.N. nuclear inspectors want to return to Iraq to check for missing equipment and materials, they are welcome, a government minister said on Tuesday.

Science and Technology Minister Rashad Omar was responding to concerns raised by the International Atomic Energy Agency at the "apparent systematic dismantlement" of the physical remnants of Saddam Hussein's once-vigorous nuclear programme.

The IAEA reported on Monday that neither Baghdad nor Washington appeared to have noticed the disappearance of nuclear equipment and materials once closely monitored by the agency.

"The locations that belong to the Science and Technology ministry are secure and under our control," Omar told Reuters.

He said nothing had gone missing since a looting spree after last year's U.S.-led invasion, which the United States and Britain said was to rid Iraq of weapons of mass destruction. Both countries now admit Saddam had no banned weapons.

Omar said Tuwaitha, a vast compound south of Baghdad that included Iraq's main nuclear facility, was being turned into a science park. "The IAEA came back one month ago, they inspected the plant and others and didn't say anything."

"We are transparent. We are happy for the IAEA or any other organisation to come and inspect," he said, adding he had not seen the agency's report to the Security Council.

The IAEA report, released three weeks ahead of the U.S. presidential election, could fuel criticism of the Iraq policies of the Bush administration, already under fire for its handling of an insurgency that has so far proved impossible to crush.

On the military front, an overnight U.S. air strike on the rebel-held city of Falluja targeted a restaurant which the military said was a meeting place for followers of America's top enemy in Iraq, Jordanian militant Abu Musab al-



An Iraqi boy views the damage to a destroyed restaurant in Falluja, following an overnight air raid conducted by U.S. forces over the western city, October 12. American warplanes flattened Falluja's most popular restaurant overnight, killing two security guards, in what the military said was a "precision strike" aimed at its top enemy in Iraq. REUTERS

Zarqawi.

The latest raid coincided with efforts to restore state authority in Falluja and elsewhere before January elections.

Witnesses said bombs flattened the popular Haji Hussein kebab house on Falluja's main street, killing two guards and reducing it to a pile of crushed concrete and twisted metal.

After sunset, U.S. forces and insurgents clashed just east of Falluja, residents said. U.S. air support was called in, with fighter planes firing on one neighbourhood, they said. A doctor at a Falluja hospital, Haithan Rahim, said eight people were killed in the fighting. The U.S. military had no information.

Focus on Zarqawi

The U.S. military said it was a "precision strike" on a location where Zarqawi militants met to plot attacks.

"Zarqawi does not come here. Where is Zarqawi? We have not seen Zarqawi," yelled one Falluja resident after the U.S. raid.

Zarqawi's group has claimed some of Iraq's bloodiest suicide bombings, as well as the beheadings of foreign hostages, including Briton Kenneth Bigley, who was killed on Thursday.

Bigley's body was dumped south of Baghdad the following day, insurgent sources said on Tuesday. The British embassy said it had still not recovered the Briton's remains.

In a videotape aired on Monday, Iraqi militants beheaded a Turkish contractor they said co-operated with U.S. forces.

But 10 Turkish hostages held since last month have returned to their company's offices in Baghdad, the Turkish Foreign Ministry said. Al Jazeera television said on Sunday militants had freed the hostages after their Turkish construction company said it would halt operations in Iraq.

Insurgents have sought to frighten U.S. allies into pulling their troops and contractors out of Iraq.

Hungary's new prime minister, Ferenc Gyurcsany, said on Tuesday his

government would decide at the end of November or early December whether to keep Hungary's 300-strong transport battalion in Iraq beyond the end of the year.

South Korea is investigating a warning posted on an Arabic Web site threatening attacks if Seoul does not pull its 3,600 troops out of Iraq in 14 days, an official said.

Three South Korean civilians have been killed in Iraq, including an interpreter beheaded by Islamic militants in June.

The U.S. military believes Falluja is a main sanctuary for such militants and American officers have voiced scepticism that any political deal to pacify the town can dislodge them.

Falluja representatives met interim government officials on Tuesday in the latest of a series of talks to put Iraqi security forces back in control of the rebellious city.

Previous truce deals have failed to calm Falluja.

Turkey says 10 hostages freed in Iraq

ANKARA, Oct 12 (Reuters) - Ten Turkish hostages held by Iraqi insurgents since last month have returned to their company's offices in Baghdad, the Turkish Foreign Ministry said on Tuesday.

Al Jazeera television said on Sunday militants had freed the unidentified men after their Turkish construction company said it would halt its operations in Iraq.

"We can confirm that the 10 Turkish hostages have been freed. They have been taken to the offices of their employer, the Vinsan company. Authorities from the embassy are now with them," Foreign Ministry spokesman Namil Tan said.

A group calling itself Abu Bakr al-Seddiq Battalions said last month it would kill the 10 men if Vinsan did not withdraw from Iraq.

Within days Vinsan promised to suspend its operations to save the hostages. The firm had won a contract to build a highway in southern Iraq.

Several Turkish nationals have been abducted in Iraq since April, when a wave of kidnappings began primarily targeting foreign workers. Most have been freed but several Turks have been killed.

In a videotape aired on Monday, Iraqi militants beheaded a Turkish contractor for allegedly co-operating with U.S. forces.



Freed Turkish hostages pose for picture at their company's headquarters in Baghdad. The ten employees of the Turkish construction company VINSAN, who were taken captive by militants in Iraq last month. REUTERS

VACANCY

US NGO working in the field of educational development has the following position openings for Yemenis only on the staff of the Yemen Accelerated Learning Activity (YALA):

BASIC EDUCATION ADVISOR

The Basic Education Advisor is a senior Sana'a-based position on the USAID-funded Yemen EQUIP 1 project reporting to the Chief of Party. Major goals of this project include improving and enhancing access to, quality of and community participation in basic education in Yemen. The project will work schools in five governorates (Sa'ada, Al Jawf, Amran, Marib and Shabwa) in Yemen, with an emphasis on rural districts in those governorates. The Basic Education Advisor will direct technical assistance activities related to the design and delivery of educational services to selected formal schools in the five governorates. Specifically, the Basic Education Advisor will:

- ∞ Liaise with the COP on all matters related to technical assistance to formal schools in the five governorates;
- ∞ Oversee the roll out of EQUIP 1 Yemen in-service teacher training initiatives;
- ∞ Conduct activity planning, implementation, monitoring, follow-up, and reporting for technical work related to formal schools, in collaboration with Chief of Party and MOE partners;
- ∞ Exercise quality control and provide leadership to staff working on the project in the provision of educational assistance to formal schools;
- ∞ Troubleshoot across governorates, identifying problems, interpreting project events (problems/successes) from a variety of angles, proposing "solutions" or responses to keep activities on track and remedy problem areas;
- ∞ Develop and maintain excellent and collaborative working relationships with local MOE officials in governorates and develop strong collegial relationships with relevant MOE officials in Sana'a.
- ∞ Develop the Formal Schools section of annual work plans;
- ∞ Assess staff performance on a regular, informal basis, identify areas of need or weakness, analyze staff training needs and develop and deliver program "solutions" or responses to build capacities of junior staff.

Qualifications for the position include:

- ∞ Master's degree (doctorate preferred) in education, in a sub-field field related to teacher training, and professional development;
- ∞ Substantial experience (10 years plus) working in the field of education, preferably in teacher training and professional development;
- ∞ Outstanding managerial skills, supervisory and communication skills;
- ∞ Fluency in English;
- ∞ Knowledge of/experience with USAID-funded projects preferred but not required.

MONITORING AND EVALUATION (M&E) SPECIALIST

The qualified Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Specialist information specialist will lead data gathering, input, analysis, and reporting in connection with a three-year program financed by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). The Yemen Accelerated Learning Activity (YALA) will undertake activities aimed at improving the quality and accessibility of basic education services in Yemen, both formal and informal, as well as mobilizing communities to get involved in local educational issues. Project activities will be focused in Sa'ada, Al-Jawf, Amran, Marib, and Shabwa governorates.

The M&E Specialist will be responsible for participating either on or obtaining information after the fact from multi-disciplinary teams going out to the field to gather baseline information in the education sector, work with local communities to identify local needs and priorities, and implement specific education-related interventions at the local level, including the physical rehabilitation of educational facilities. He or she will also be responsible for sharing information with and harmonizing procedures with other automated data systems operating in Yemen, particularly those already established by the Government of Yemen and USAID.

Qualifications for the position include:

- ∞ University degree in a relevant social sciences field;
- ∞ At least 3 years' experience managing information systems, ideally including experience with Geographic Information Systems (GIS);
- ∞ Relevant training and experience working in the education sector in Yemen;
- ∞ Fluency in English;
- ∞ Experience working with existing information systems of other external donors or the Government of Yemen is desirable.

Interested candidates are requested to send CVs to
John Raleigh, Chief of Party,
AED/EQUIP, P.O. Box 22377, Sana'a, Yemen Fax: 307-282



سابقة أجمل صورة

الطالبة هنادية بنو العبدو المتفانية بالمشهد

لقد طلبت هنادية بنو العبدو من المدرسة المشاركة في المسابقة السابقة من أن تشارك في المسابقة الحالية من أجل أن تكون الصورة التي تشارك بها هي أجمل صورة في المسابقة.

وقد كانت تلك المسابقة كانت طويلاً الطويلة في المسابقة الحالية من أجل أن تكون الصورة التي تشارك بها هي أجمل صورة في المسابقة. وقد كانت تلك المسابقة كانت طويلاً الطويلة في المسابقة الحالية من أجل أن تكون الصورة التي تشارك بها هي أجمل صورة في المسابقة.

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من أجل المسابقة

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من أجل المسابقة

من أجل المسابقة

تأكيذاً أن لا تشارككم الصورة

في الحصول على الأمانة الشاملة من الصحيفة المنشورة

مشاركة المدرسة في المسابقة من أجل أن تكون الصورة التي تشارك بها هي أجمل صورة في المسابقة.



PETS
NIGHTS
FLOWERS
KID
ANIMALS
NATURE



Hayel Saeed Anaam Group of Companies



Presents its heartfelt congratulations & felicitations to President

Ali Abdullah Saleh

*On the occasion of the 41st anniversary of the 14th October Revolution
And on the occasion of the advent of the Holy Ramadan*

on behalf of Hayel Saeed Anaam Group of Companies

Ali Mohammed Saeed Anaam

*Chairman of the Board
of Directors*

Ahmed Hayel Saeed Anaam

*Vice Chairman of the Board of Directors
General Manager*

تتقدم بأحر التهاني والتبريكات لفخامة رئيس الجمهورية

الأخ/ علي عبدالله صالح

**بمناسبة حلول الذكرى الحادية والأربعين لثورة الرابع عشر من أكتوبر المجيدة
وبمناسبة حلول شهر رمضان المبارك أعاده الله بالخير واليمن والبركات**

مجموعة شركات هائل سعيد أنعم وشركاه

عن

علي محمد سعيد أنعم

رئيس مجلس الإدارة

أحمد هائل سعيد أنعم

نائب رئيس مجلس الإدارة - المدير العام

Words of Wisdom



The fall-out from technology advances, notably globalization, is clearly ahead of us. We need to grapple with this and the sooner we assess the issues and decide on what we need to do, the better prepared we will be. A main component of globalization is liberalization.

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

OUR
OPINIONPartnership for
democracy is a
partnership for peace

The US government's Middle East Partnership Initiative is something that is slowly getting more coverage in the media in Yemen and the world. It has been opposed by a number of so-called 'nationalists' and encouraged by governments and civil society leaders.

I personally have looked deeper into this initiative to understand what it is all about. The idea of partnership was striking to me at the beginning, because it means working together and not only receiving. This has been something we have been waiting for not from the USA in particular, but from any Western nation. We have been, for many decades, recipients of donations, assistance, and advice, but were rarely consulted regarding decision-making over such affairs. But today, we feel that this is changing.

Regardless of who presents to us a hand to democratize our country, I believe that we should not reject such an offer. Let's look into the potential of having this partnership work for both of us. I am not so naïve to think that the USA doesn't have interest in such an initiative. But nevertheless, one cannot deny that this is the era of interests and it is not a crime to do something that would serve two parties at once.

In the recent roundtable discussion held by the Cultural Bridges Forum in Sana'a, the US embassy's representative made it clear that this is the era of globalization. He correctly noted the fact that things happening in Yemen may well affect countries tens of thousands of miles away. We are now living in an interdependent world where nations share common interests and concerns.

Hence, it is not unwise to at least discuss the possibilities that could come out from an American initiative.

I realize the concerns that the Arab world has, especially those of regular citizens, concerning their objection to the idea of working with a country that has vetoed security council resolutions against Israel so many times. But one can also not deny that our own Arab governments and regimes have been supportive of this scenario by their passiveness, acquiescence and unwillingness to be active players in the peace process in the Middle East.

The USA is acting on the demands of its own citizens and establishments who are leaning towards Israel and have interests in vetoing such resolutions. That is a pity for us in the Arab world, but at the same time it is a reminder that we are doing much less than is required to represent our case in other countries and the USA to change this reality. It is not that the USA is doing something abnormal. This is expected from the American administration, as there is a strong pro-Jewish lobby there. But what is wrong is our stance towards such issues and the little attention we pay to it.

Therefore, one needs to think about how we can harness the growing relationship with the USA and G8 countries to bolster our case for peace in the Middle East rather than simply ignore it and act submissively.

If we succeed in making the USA realize that its interest in our countries is greater than its interests in Israel, perhaps we would have the upper hand in this conflict. But for that to happen, we need to confront, discuss, and commit ourselves to dialogue when it comes to the initiatives proposed by the world's only superpower.

Some may see this as a deviation from the 'patriotic' national belief that boycotting America in every way is the right way according to Islam, as some mosque preachers emphasize in each and every Friday prayer.

But I honestly believe that if dialogue with the USA is bad, then boycotting is even worse. In that case, I don't think it is a mistake to go for the 'bad' in the meantime, whilst hoping that the 'bad' will prove to become 'good' in the long-run.

The Editor



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

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Al-Houthi's insurgency
resumes controversy

BY HASSAN AL-ZAIDI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The controversial speech delivered by HE President Saleh on Sunday 26 September, the 42nd anniversary of the Revolution, is the first of its kind since the birth of 1962 Revolution, which toppled the tyrannous Imamate that had ruled the Northern part of Yemen for the 44 years following the departure of the Ottomans.

What resumed this kind of speech was the recent events in Sa'ada, led by the Cleric Hussein Al-Houthi, who was killed after eight days of bloody clashes in the M'rnan mountains.

In his speech, the President focused on the issue of the Imamate, and the radical rule by saying "when talking about Hamid Addin dynasty, we do not call them Imamate or monarchy, but a backward and clerical leadership". The President also described them as a group of dervishes who pretended knowledge.

Afterwards, President Saleh talked about Al-Houthi's insurgency directly, confirming that it resulted in streams

of blood from both the army and citizens who volunteered to help crack down on the rebellion. Al-Houthi's intention was to expand the insurgency into Dhamar, Al-Beidha, Hajjah, Al-Mahweet, Al-Jawf and Marib.

The speech attacked the Sa'ada insurgency led by Cleric Hussein Al-Houthi who belonged to the Hashimite dynasty in Yemen, and who wanted to rule the country because of his ethnic Zaidi thoughts.

The political arena in Yemen is paying more attention to this issue; many politicians approve of the fact that such radical currents exist, while others are of the point of view that talking about it 42 years after toppling the Imamate rule, turns attention away from discussing corruption, poor administration by the government, unemployment and economic recession. The recent battle regurgitated concepts and terms believed to have been buried since the toppling of the Imamate reign.

This speech comes after a cold war between state-run and opposition newspapers that took place during and after the bloody clashes in Sa'ada, and resulted in the shutting down of Al-Shura newspaper, which belongs to the People's Forces Union Party. The government claims that its leaders are the

remainder of Hamid Addine dynasty.

There is as current of the view that engaging public opinion in addressing the Imamate thoughts attributed to Al-Houthi and its stand towards the republican regime provides a chance for the government to avoid political and economic reform. This current accuses the authority of a policy of supporting and sponsoring religious groups like Al-Houthi and employing them against the political enemies of the regime. This threatens the republican regime, which contains figures of various parties.

Another current views the Imamate as still constituting a threat to the state, as it is based upon a deep-rooted traditional culture and a balanced membership, which may enable it to be a prominent party in the country. The members of the Imamate current are dispersed throughout many Yemeni parties, including the ruling one. Additionally, they are linked, not only by a goal, but also by kin relationships, and complicated political, religious and social privileges.

Observers see that Yemen will remain an area of ethnic and racial conflict, unless there is a well-organized policy to govern all the existing currents in Yemen, as well as to manipulate extremist thoughts and views.

Letters to the Editor

About the
'Illuminati Mention'

As for the Illuminati Mention in your articles, I must say that the war in Iraq was very successful in its goal of covering up our takeover of the Oil reserves there. And thanks to very angry people like you, it will never be noticed in the political cross-fire.

Jams Falazar
falazar@yahoo.com

A message to the
Capital Secretary

I would like to talk honestly about our problem at the office of education in the capital. We - about six persons - have worked in the office for five years without a salary. We were hoping that our problems would be resolved when teacher Yahya Almakhdhi was appointed as the general manager of the office, not because he is from my countryside as my colleague says, but because he is known to have a professional background with a tendency to be fair.

We talked to him about our problems and he kindly instructed the manager of personnel in charge to employ us. Unfortunately, his orders were merely ink on paper, because the manager of personnel decided that there should be a committee to identify the candidates who are qualified to work in the proposed posts. However, we were excluded, and regular secondary high school graduates were appointed instead, possibly because they had connections.

My colleague and I hoped that our work would be appreciated, and that we would be appointed formally, but to no avail. I hope you publish this letter so that at least those concerned could read it, and seek a solution to our issue and serve us justice.

Abdulrahman Alshmaa
Faculty of commerce &
trade
Sanaa University
alshmaa@yahoo.com

Some conspiracies
can be legitimate

Thank you for publishing my letter in a recent edition. The people that have e-mailed me in response to that article have been very articulate, intelligent, and kind. I appreciate their feedback.

Unfortunately, I believe I gave the wrong impression. I did not mean to mean ALL

Arabs or even the vast majority of Arabs believe in the conspiracies. All I meant was that the conspiracies hold more legitimacy and have more followers than such conspiracies in the West. I must also admit that I found fewer Yemeni people espousing such views than elsewhere in the Middle East. Nevertheless, when a newspaper such as the Yemen Times publishes such conspiracies, it gives those conspiracies legitimacy. That is, some hate monger now can point to this article and say, "See! Most Americans don't even believe 9/11 was carried out by Al-Qaeda!" when that is far from the truth. If someone questions the man's statement, he merely has to say, "Well hey, it's in the Yemen Times, that means there must be some truth to it." Consequently, it might lead others to fall into the same way of thinking. As a result, there is greater mistrust between the West and the Islamic world. Publishing such an article is an insult to the intelligence of the readers as well as the victims of 9/11 (or whichever "conspiracy" it is).

I am all for free speech and obviously the editor has every right to publish what he likes. My point is that such an article is tasteless and would not be found in any professional left wing, anti-war publication such as Mother Jones magazine or the Guardian newspaper. Both of those are filled with VALID, well-researched criticism of the United States. It would be wonderful if the Times could do the same.

Sean Bowman
smbowman@yahoo.com

Abuse of "Muwalladeen"
again!

I have been through this again and again. Those who discriminate and abuse Yemenis because of their place of birth are the same corrupt ones who sell IDs and passports to Yemenis. Many times I have been discriminated against at Sanaa Airport. I have seen officers harassing and abusing women the age of their mothers. It is nothing new! Those who blew up and continue to blow up oil pipelines, kidnap tourists, blowup ships in Aden and Mukkala are not Yemenis born in Africa, "Muwalladeen"! I am proud to say that. And will never change place of my birth.

Finally, it is interesting to

note that office who abuse and discriminate against us Muwalladeen are form one region in Yemen. North of North Yemen. Hope you know what I mean. They are the least educated in Yemen but with the most power and authority.

Hussein Najee
hnajee@alkahily.com

Arab culture should
be appreciated

I appreciate your website that portrays some of the positive aspects of the Arab culture. There are so many beautiful people and things there that many people do not have the opportunity to enjoy because they are too busy calling the Arab people terrorists. It is unfortunate that so many people are being blamed for the actions of a minute minority

Jamie Allen
farfromsomewhere@yahoo.com

Your lives are at stake!

I very much enjoyed the story "Election Blues"!

However, it is not true that Arab countries won't be voting in the U.S. election. Iraqis have already voted with their blood. And, the more they bleed, the better for George Bush's chances of winning another 4 years. Bush is slaughtering and maiming Arabs and Moslem, men, women and children (over 40,000 now) for the enjoyment of his right-wing Christian and Sharon fanatics. Make no mistake, another four years of Bush and the toll will be hundreds of thousands of Moslems and Arabs. Among the evil and dangerous men of history, Bush ranks at the top. The reason? Because no country or combination of countries has the means to stop him. Mr. Bush is building thousands of nuclear weapons for use in the Middle East and he fully intends to use them on you.

So, although I enjoyed the article, I would suggest that the coming U.S. presidential election is one of the most critical events in Middle East history. Your lives and the lives of your children are at stake.

Robert Lindh
lindh@swnebr.net

Muslims must reject
democracy!

I read your paper often and I have lived in Yemen for the last four years. I have been a

Muslima (female Muslim) for 12 years being born an American.

I would like to know why the Muslims think "Democracy" is better than the Shariah??? Our law, the Shariah, is the law from Allah and no law is better than what Allah gave us. Maybe people are confused about what Democracy is? If they think that it is the choice of the people to elect their government then they are being misled. The United States of America, the land that represents and disseminates Democracy, doesn't even have the Democracy that they want everyone else to have. They have the Popular vote and the Electoral College. So if a person wins the popular vote or the Democratic vote they may not win the election because they could lose the electoral vote. This happened the last election between Bush and Gore. By the Democratic vote Gore won but by the electoral college Bush won and so Bush became President. So much for "Democracy". Even the American people can't figure out how these things happen.

Also, in a Democratic society the laws are made by man not by Allah. Who makes the best laws MAN or Allah??? Man's laws change all of the time but Allah knows what is best for us because He created us and His laws never change.

So, don't encourage what is lower for what is higher by encouraging Democracy. We already have the best law and we should do everything to apply it and keep it.

Kareema Edwards
kareema@metacrawler.com

Want to know about Qat

I'm a French student in Geography and I'm going to come to the magical Sana'a for my studies.

I want to study the exportation of QAT's from Sanaa. I'm looking for someone who could inform me about DRIED QAT, which is stronger than natural qat. The drying process, which allows qat to be sent far away without losing its euphoric properties, has been recently reported in Norway.

Does any reader know if dried qat comes from Yemen or not?

I hope someone can help me.

Charlie Barjonet
France
charlie.barjonet@orange.fr

COMMON
SENSE

By Hassan Al-Haifi

Zionism at
Its Best

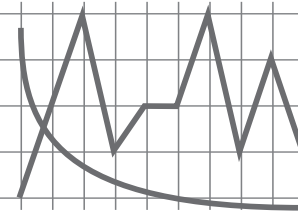
"The company commander then approached the body and fired two bullets at her head before switching his gun to automatic, the soldiers alleged. Doctors found more than 20 bullets in her body." This not the Congo, or Cambodia under the Khmer Rouge, or one of those bloody exploitation films. This was an eyewitness account in a news article in the Guardian Unlimited newspaper explaining how the Israeli Army is fighting terrorism in the Occupied Israeli Territories of Gaza and the West Bank. Here are more shocking details by Israeli soldiers at the scene as quoted also by the same article: "We spotted her at a distance of 70 meters. Shots were fired at her from the positions of the outpost, she ran away and was hit. I realized she was dead. "The company CO approached her, shot two bullets into her, walked back towards the force, turned back to her, switched his weapon to automatic and emptied his entire magazine into her. "He pumped her full of holes." There were more than 20 bullets found in her body.

This is not an exception to how Israeli officers behave, but has been standard practice in the Israeli Army since Israel was snatched from the Palestinians. It occurred not only in Palestine proper, but in the Golan Heights, in Jordan and even in the Sinai Peninsula time and again over the last 60 years. Yet the world was under the impression that Israeli troops and their commanders manifested the true elite professional soldiers characterized by civilized behavior and serving under a state that represented the apex of western culture. The ugly scene above, as reported some of the junior troops, who despite all the training they have received to veer away from any humanitarian considerations as they proceed on their missions of defending the Zionist state, simply could not stomach such horrible conduct by their commanding officer. Some have even demanded the dismissal of the officer. The Israeli Army would only comment that it will investigate the case. Because of the obvious lack of interest in pursuing the case reported by the soldiers, "the soldiers were so disgusted by the slow pace of an army investigation that they approached the Israeli daily Yedioth Ahronoth to demand the officer's dismissal." Of course the Israeli Army will bide its time about the case, as in so many killings of innocent Palestinians and other Arabs over the years. It has no choice, because it knows that the Government sees such behavior as routine and part and parcel of the Zionist mission that the Israeli Defense Forces are expected to carry out. Israeli commanders are expected to make their subordinates understand that such actions are a necessity for the prevalence of the Zionist state in land that it has occupied by force and intends to keep for Jewish settlers. If the Arabs leave voluntarily, all is fine and every encouragement will be given to them to do so. This does not imply giving them cotton candy or compensation. They will burn the infrastructure, destroy their means of livelihood, block them from the water, imprison their breadwinners and inflict a few injuries here and there. But in most cases, the standard fare is for the commanding officer to deliver the Zionist message in simple blunt state sponsored terrorism: kill, kill, kill. How else can you make room for Jewish settlers otherwise? So, it is no surprise that the Israeli Army will not take action against the Israeli Officer, even if his own subordinates are demanding it. One would not be surprised that these Israeli soldiers, who simply could not stomach the horror of such a murder, would have become vulnerable to disciplinary measures for insubordination and "squealing out" on standard Israeli Army practice, which is supposed to be seen, but not talked about. It is no secret that Israeli troops are trained to view such bloodletting with a high degree of indifference, because "the survival of Israel" depends on it, as the soldiers are constantly grilled into believing. Since when has the Israeli Government punished the many officers who have lined up hundreds of villagers and Egyptian prisoner soldiers in Sinai, during the occupation of Sinai? What penalty was imposed on Ariel Sharon, who was implicated in the ugly massacre in the Sabra and Shatilla refugee camps in Lebanon, in which over a thousand sleeping Palestinians were mowed down by hired agents with Israeli officers embedded with them? He became Prime Minister! There is no question that Israeli tactics are based on the maximum bloodletting of Palestinians, whether they are "militants", or schoolchildren, because that is the most effective way as the demagogic Zionists in the Israeli military see it, to drive out the Palestinians from their land or simply to remove them all together. Just notice the reaction of the Israeli Army officials to this heinous crime: "Yesterday an army source said an investigation had begun, but it was 'too early to speak of criminal charges', again quoting the Guardian.

Here is further evidence of the systematic nature of Israeli Army tactics against "terror": "There were two bullets. The first struck Tahreer in the head. As she fell, the second hit the wall behind her. 'I've no doubt a sniper shot her deliberately. There was no fighting in the area. There were no other shots, only the ones that hit Tahreer,' said her mother", from another Guardian article. This is the account of the shooting of two girls in their homes, in a relatively peaceful area in Jabalya. "Snipers are posted in buildings overlooking their street and a tank is less than a block away", as the article said. There are so many ugly scenes like this and the one above continuously witnessed in the Holy Land. Yet, the Israelis insist that they are only acting in self defense! This is Palestinian territory and there is no reported shooting at the Israeli troops. But in a systematic ethnic cleansing campaign as being carried out in the Holy Land, Israelis troops have an open permission to shoot at any Palestinian. If the soldiers don't seem too enthusiastic about doing this, their senior commanders will be only to happy to show them the way. But in Washington, this is also still seen as "self defense".

YT Business

IBY celebrates a successful product



Exchange Rate for the Yemeni Rial

Currency	Buying	Selling
US Dollar	184.9500	185.1300
Sterling Pound	332.0400	332.3600
Euro	229.4000	229.6300
Saudi Rial	49.3200	49.3700
Kuwaiti Dinar	627.5900	628.2000
UAE Dirhem	50.3500	50.4000
Egyptian Pound	29.7100	29.7400
Bahraini Dinar	490.5800	491.0500
Qatari Rial	50.8100	50.8600
Jordanian Dinar	260.9500	261.2100
Omani Rial	480.4200	480.8900
Swiss Franc	148.0400	148.1900
Swedish Crown	25.3500	25.3700
Japanese Yen	1.6931	1.6947

Source: Central Bank of Yemen

BY PETER WILLEMS
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Last Monday, International Bank of Yemen (IBY) held a ceremony at Taj Sheba Hotel in Sana'a to celebrate a recently launched and successful product, the point-of-sale service.

Representatives from dozens of companies using the new service gathered for the celebration, which included discussions between the bank's managers and its clients regarding the new product that came on to the market last June.

Customers are now able to make purchases using cards at different locations instead of carrying cash. The businesses that have signed up for the new service include supermarkets, airlines, pharmacies, stationary stores, restaurants and retail stores, such as clothing, perfume and jewelry outlets.

Up to now, over 150 businesses are using IBY's point-of-sale service. Most of the outlets are based in Sana'a, but starting last week, the bank expanded the service into Aden and Hodeidah. Next month, point-of-sale will be operating in Taiz and Mukalla. Ahmed Al-Absi, General

Manager at International Bank of Yemen, believes that the new service will reach around 1,000 businesses by the end of this year.

The convenience of carrying a card instead of cash has encouraged a large number of customers to acquire the point-of-sale card at IBY. Between 30 and 50 customers apply and receive a card daily.

IBY will soon take advantage of its business in credit cards. The bank is now a Representative of American Express and is a Principal Member of Visa and MasterCard. In the next few weeks, a customer will be able to use a Visa or MasterCard, which is issued from anywhere in the world, at any point-of-sale location.

"Customers will be able to benefit a great deal with the variety of cards that can be used at points-of-sale," said Osama Al-Abdalli, Point-of-Sale Coordinator at IBY. "Not only will the local customers benefit, but foreign customers living in Yemen, coming as tourists or coming for business, will be able to take full advantage of the service by using any Visa or



Ahmed Al-Absi, General Manager at International Bank of Yemen, speaking at a ceremony regarding one of the bank's new products. (Yemen Times photo by Peter Willems)

MasterCard."

A number of businessmen that attended the ceremony last Monday said that the companies involved in using point-of-sale are profiting from the service.

"Using the point-of-sale has increased my business," said Haitham Dubae, owner of House of Perfume. "Since June, our sales have increased by 30% as more customers are coming with a point-of-sale card. Everyday there is an increase, so I expect growth to continue."

IBY also has plans to expand on its branches. At present, the bank has five outlets in four cities, but by the end of the year, it will have opened four new outlets covering three more cities.

"We are planning to reach out to all customers across the country," said Nada Al-Hutam, Manager of Delivery Channels at IBY. "And our customers, especially corporate clients that work all over the country, need to be reached to serve them."

To adapt to the needs of its customers, IBY recently changed its opening hours at

its branches. The bank used to be open from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm but is now open from 8:00 am to 8:00 pm.

"Our customers can now do their banking business at night while working in the morning," said Abdulla Al-Arasi, IBY's Marketing Supervisor. "These are flexible hours to fit the needs of our customers' schedules."

Over the last two years, IBY has been focusing on a rapid expansion on retail banking. As a result of offering more products and services to customers, the bank expects its fee-based income to take up 30% of its total income this year compared to 15% last year. It predicts gross profits to jump from \$900 million in 2003 to around \$1.8 billion in 2004.

And with its aggressive strategies of expansion and growth, IBY believes that it will continue to climb up the ranking of the banks operating in Yemen in size based on assets and deposits. In 2002, IBY was ranked eighth out of 17 banks based on deposits, reached sixth last year and has a chance to climb to number three by the end of this year.

"Our aim is to become the number one bank in size next year," said Al-Absi. "This is mostly because of our expansion in retail and corporate banking."

VACANCY

Yemen Space Company for Advertising and Technical Production is currently seeking experienced personnel from both male and female to work in the marketing and sales section. The position entails a strong commitment to team work. Satisfactory salaries and commissions will be offered.

Minimum requirements are as follow:

1. University degree.
2. Experience not less than three years in the field of advertising and publicity.
3. Good knowledge of computer.
4. Fluent English (spoken and written)
5. Applicant must possess a strong work ethic with a "can do" attitude and good appearance.
6. Applicant age must not exceed 30 years.

Interested applicants can send their curriculum vitae at the following address:

Fax: 967-1-482555

Email: chairman@yemenspace.com

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all government bodies presided over by the PM Abdulqader Bajammal,
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Ashoura Council presided by Abdulaziz Abdulghani
and all Yemeni people

On the occasion of 41st anniversary
of the revolution on 14th October.
And on the occasion of the advent of the Holy Ramadan

The culture of people of Banaadir (part 2)

Irena Knehtl & Mohammed Abati*
For Yemen Times
iren_knehtl@yahoo.com

Henna

Henna, a dye used in the Arabian Peninsula and Orient, comes in red and black powder, with red henna being the most commonly used. The source of the powder is a tropical shrub, the shoots and leaves of which are used to make this dye.

Among women, hand and foot painting, sing henna and khidaab dyes, are popular. The artist is gener-

ally a women who uses the plant-based dyes to apply elaborately stylised paintings that cover the foot up to the ankle or the hand up to the wrist. Its application often signifies happy occasions, such as a marriage.

The Banaadiri Music

Music and songs are probably the most emotional forms of human expression.

Banaadir music is not written, and its composers and musicians are not literate in the Western sense. Typically they learn from an individual teacher or a succession of teachers, not from books; many are self-taught.

Banaadiri music combines African and Arabic influences. Traditional instruments are the shareero, a type of lyre; the Oud, a Yemenite keyboard lute; and the buun and simbaar, types of trumpets. While dancing to music is important in Banaadiri culture, people dance mainly during ceremonies and courtship.

Banaadiri songs are most frequently popular love songs dealing with romance, joy, and sorrow.

By mixing the performance with music and plays, banaadir appeals to a greater variety of people, as well as, the famous "Kabebey" dance with its energising movements which brought so many awards and prestige to Somalia in the past inter-African or international tours and stage performances.

Banaadiri's most famous musicians are: Dr Daahir Nuur Raafi, Aweys Geedow, Ikar Sheekh Ali, Amiin Haji Ahmed Macoow, Ahmed Naaji Sacad, Ali Osmaan Daroog, Suufi Ali, Qaasim Hilowle, Macoow Aw diinle, Ahmed Cawad Rabsho, Abdulqadir Nuureyni, Suldaan Amiin Sheekh. Faduma Qaasim Hilowle, Luul Jeylani Ali, Casha Cabdow and etc.

The Banaadiri Food

The Food of the Banaadiri people is among the most delicious in Somalia. This was mainly because of the contact and blending of Arab and Oriental cultures.

Traditionally breakfast starts with a cup of Arabic coffee and "Dango" which is popcorn. You are then served with "Sharur" which is whole coffee beans, pan cooked with oil under a wood fire oven. This is followed by "Cambulo", which is red beans with sweet corn cooked and eaten sharur, a little bit of sugar may be added. The above dish is prepared for people who go to prayer early in the morning and usually served after prayer.

A very popular lunch is the "Soor" (polenta), which is, crushed grain cooked in boiling water, this is usually served with meat or fish or yogurt. The rice is cooked on its own with Arabic or Oriental spices or with the meat. During the last few years the traditional Banaadiri's food has changed, especially under the influence of the Italians, who have introduced food like "Spaghetti". A variety of side dishes and salads are served dressed simply with fresh lemon juice.

Fish was also widely available at the market fish stalls. It was eaten often in Banaadiri's home and was cheap and very delicious especially for dinner with "Mufo" which is corn meal bread.

During Ramadan (fasting month) and at special occasions, people like to eat "Sambusi" (See picture) which is pastry parcels filled with meat, vegetables, chillies and onions, and also "Bejiyo" which is mung beans, mixed with garlic, onion and chilli. There are also a few sweets in Banaadir culinary culture; for example "Xalwo", which is made of sugar, corn flour and ghee, and is used mainly in ceremonies such as weddings and religious festivals, is very popular. "Shushumo" which is a kind of cookie made of flour and sugar. "Sisin" sesame seeds with sugar. "Singooni" is a pastry parcel filled with coconut and sugar. "Meso" is cooked eggs, sugar and ghee.

In a Banaadiri house meals are arranged on a cloth or mat that is spread out on the floor with separate dishes and platters of food, plates and cutlery. A few years ago, and also nowadays especially at wedding ceremonies, you would perhaps experience eating from one large platter using the fingers of the right



Sambusi - one of the main dishes of Ramadan

hand.

Banaadiri hospitality and a feeling of welcome abounds, and guests are always served more than enough food.

In a country like Somalia, coastal towns, especially Banaadir, which have been exposed for centuries to contacts with the Arabs, Persians, Indians, Swahilis and with the Muslim world in general, influences in style are to be expected and can be observed in the architecture as well as in the language, in the jewels, clothes and objects for everyday use.

These objects offer more than just the potential to charm a collector. In fact they are a significant resource for ethnological research. Although no study has been carried out so far, their quantity and the skilled craftsmanship often reveal them to possess an important place in Somali culture.

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**The author is a Banaadiri scholar and Coordinator of the Banaadiri Community in New Zealand*



Late Ahmed Cawad Rabsho playing with Oud.

VACANCY

US NGO working in the field of educational development has the following position openings for Yemenis only on the staff of the Yemen Accelerated Learning Activity (YALA):

COMMUNITY PARTICIPATION FACILITATOR

The Community Participation Advisor will report to the Chief of Party, be based in Sana'a, and work on a USAID-funded project to improve the quality and access to basic education for Yemeni's in rural areas. The project will work to improve rural schools in five governorates (Sa'ada, Al Jawf, Amran, Mareb and Shabwah). The Community Participation Advisor will provide technical assistance to create more opportunities for involving local leaders, teachers, parents, and other community leaders in deciding how their local schools, and the educational services they provide, can and should be improved. Specifically, the Community Participation Facilitator will:

- ∞ Liaise with the COP on all matters related to enhancing community participation in a concerted effort to improve school facilities, and all educational services, formal and informal, in the five governorates;
- ∞ Collaborate in the community consultations aimed at improving in-service teacher training;
- ∞ Collaborate with the Educational Advisor and Architect/Engineer in activity planning, implementation, monitoring, follow-up, and reporting for technical work related to formal schools, subject to the supervision and guidance of the Chief of Party and the project's GOY/MOE counterparts;
- ∞ Provide guidance and suggestions to technical staff regarding the social and cultural issues which may contribute to, or hinder, the quality, cost, or timeliness of proposed interventions;
- ∞ Participant on a multi-disciplinary team of professional "problem solvers" across governorates, identifying problems, interpreting project events (problems/successes) from a variety of angles, proposing solutions or responses to keep activities on track and remedy problem areas;
- ∞ Develop and maintain excellent and collaborative working relationships with local Governing councils, Parents' Committees, Tribal councils, and other formal and informal representatives of key stakeholders (e.g. Sheikhs, or political parties) and develop strong collegial relationships with relevant GOY officials in Sana'a, in the governorates, and at the district level.
- ∞ Develop proposed community participation interventions to be integrated into the project's annual work plans;
- ∞ Provide guidance to the COP on staff performance on a regular, informal basis, with the aim of improving the understanding and effectiveness of the multidisciplinary team in effecting quality improvements in the targeted schools, and communities.

Qualifications for the position include:

- ∞ Master's degree (doctorate preferred) in Sociology, cultural Anthropology, clinical Psychology, or Social Work, in a sub-field field related to Community Based Development, and/or Community Organization Management;
- ∞ Substantial experience (10 years plus) working in the field of Community Development;
- ∞ Outstanding Communication, Negotiation and team skills;
- ∞ Knowledge of/experience with external donor funded projects, USAID experience preferred but not required.

ARCHITECT / CIVIL ENGINEER

A qualified Architect / Civil Engineer will act as part of a multidisciplinary team to assess a variety to barriers to improving the quality of basic education facilities and services in five governorates (Sa'ada, Al Jawf, Amran, Mareb and Shabwah). The Yemen Accelerated Learning Activity (YALA) will undertake activities aimed at improving the quality and accessibility of basic education services in Yemen, both formal and informal, as well as mobilizing communities to get involved in local educational issues.

The Architect / Civil engineer will take the lead role in determining the structural integrity, and health and hygiene factors present as a given site, which may effect the health and safety of teachers, pupils, and all may intend to use the facilities. The Architect / engineer will further participate in a multi-partner dialogue regarding the advisability, and affordability, of other potential improvements to schools, community multi-purpose rooms, to make them more attractive, accessible, and more open to serving more creative, interactive, and innovative teaching styles.

The Architect / Civil Engineer should be well versed in the GOY / Department of Public Works building codes and standards, have built routine professional relationships with the Ministry of Public Works to remain abreast of changes in the codes that may evolve over time. He/she should also establish and maintain close collegial relationships with the MOE divisions involved in school rehabilitation, and with the wide range external donors working in the same sphere: World Bank, GTZ, KFW, UNICEF, the Dutch Embassy, and DFID.

Responsible for providing information to the Monitoring & Evaluation Advisor prior to and after returning from field site visits, as part of team collaboration on building and maintaining a comprehensive data base showing baseline data, all work planned, undergoing implementation, completed, and assessed impact. He/she will also be automated data systems operating in Yemen, particularly those already established by the Government of Yemen and USAID.

Qualifications for the position include:

- ∞ University degree in a Architecture or Civil Engineering;
- ∞ At least 5 years' experience managing medium scale building renovation projects, working with private construction firms preferable;
- ∞ Relevant training and experience working experience with the Ministry of Public Works desirable;
- ∞ Fluency in English;
- ∞ Experience working with existing information systems of other external donors or the government of Yemen is desirable; and
- ∞ Experience with Geographic Information Systems (GIS), desired, but not required.

**Interested candidates are requested to send CVs to
John Raleigh, Chief of Party,
AED/EQUIP, P.O. Box 22377, Sana'a, Yemen Fax: 307-282**



رمضان كريم

14
OCTOBER

The 41st Anniversary of 14th October the Revolution Day and Holy Months of Rhamada comes and Yemen has witnessed tremendous development in all various fields. Our celebrations today come in commemorating a historic event, the foundation of the Republic of Yemen, amid propitious signs of good welfare and prosperity.

On this occasion,
National Cigarettes and Matches Industry Limited - Aden
presents its highest congratulations and best wishes to
H.E. Ali Abdullah Saleh
President of the Republic of Yemen
and to the Yemeni citizens, wishing them many happy returns and that Yemen continues to become more developed and prosperous.

Sheikh / Saleh Salem Bathwab
Executive Chairman

تعالى علينا الذكرى 41 لثورة 14 أكتوبر و حلول شهر رمضان المبارك
وقد شهدت بلادنا تطوراً كبيراً في شتى المجالات . فاحتفالنا اليوم بهذا الحدث
التاريخي لثورة الجمهورية اليمنية والذي يمثل علينا بيشائر من الخير والتقدم
والعطاء و بهذه المناسبة
تقدم شركة صناعة السجائر والكبريت الوطنية المحدودة
باسم آيات اللهاني وأعضا إدارتها إلى فخامة
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اليمني الأصغر متمنين أن تعود هذه المناسبة
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National Cigarettes & Matches Industry Ltd - Aden

شركة صناعة السجائر والكبريت الوطنية المحدودة

Yemeni Press,

A week in review

Presented by Mohammed Khidr

Main Headlines

- The president lauds the French doctor Claude Fayein, author of the book "I was a Physician in Yemen"
- 400 scientific researches presented by scientists and researchers from 26 Arab and foreign countries at the Sciences 7th Conference in Sana'a
- Judge fixes date for Khaiwani trial, postpones it for leaving abroad
- International unanimity on taking all measures for pursuing terror financiers
- Arrests campaigns in Saada and Amran and Hajjah
- Judge al-Hattar: Results of dialogue with al-Houthi followers subject to test and experiment
- Brooklyn court gives directives on taking into consideration of al-Mouayad health conditions
- Palestinian leader Abu Marzooq: Occupation demolishes our homes and sows the spirit of resistance
- The government accuses parliament of corruption
- Arrival of ships loaded with candles to cover electric power shortage during the month of Ramadan
- Sana'a University students expect from parliament to question Basurra
- Qahtan condemns attack on head of Al-Haq head of political office
- Court of Appeals to issue its verdict in the case of Jarrah Omer assassination in January
- Oil Trade Union in Aden calls for canceling contract of leasing gas stations
- Supporting the Nation's Issues denounces the massacres in Gaza and Falluja
- Yemeni-American friendship society considers al-Khaiwani a prisoner of opinion
- Unidentified persons attack head of the political office of al-Haq party
- Rise in prices a danger threatens the citizen
- Yemeni-Saudi committee receives border markings the end of this month
- GPC calls upon the Islah for dialogue and condemnation of insurgency
- Palestinian ambassador to Yemen: Arab silence versus Zionist crimes, most painful
- Contacts with the American side for the release of a Yemeni student detained in Iraq
- Ministry of oil and Hunt Company observe the 20th anniversary of drilling the first productive oil well in Yemen

الطريق

Attariq weekly, 5 Oct. 2004

Main headlines

- Yemeni arrested in America on charges of smuggling cigarettes
- Ministry of endowments discloses violations committed by agencies of Hajj Umra
- Governor of Taiz during opening of Ramadan exhibition: Group of Hayel Saeed an example should be followed

Columnist Aref al-Dhirgham says the term of "The believing youth", a term called on some youth whose names were related to Hussein Badrudin al-Houthi who was killed after his rebellion against the authority of Yemen. What concerns us in this regard is the term's essence. There is nothing wrong about the name, it is bearing a sublime meaning, and consequently the ideas that it should contain would inevitably be of the same depth and sublimity. We are actually in need of believing youth free from sins and that of rushing behind life's temptations, serving their country and religion.

We are in need of believing youth realize problems of the age and its challenges, contribute, and think of about how to deal with and confront those challenges that form a danger against our nation, people and homeland in a manner staving off the bad consequences. Our youth should be characterized with the belief that violence is not the ideal method for the achievement of goals but rather by peaceful struggle and truthful word.



Al-Sahwa weekly, 7 Oct. 2004.

Main headlines

- In a poll by sahwanet, 95% consider additional appropriation

is corruption and squander of public property

- Security kidnap a teacher at backdrop of his previous activity with the students union
- JMP leaders visit Al-Khaiwanin, the Shoura confirms his life in danger
- Yemenia not committed to the 60% of discount for journalists
- Consumer protection society demands the mayor of the capital to put an end to expired goods flooding markets

Columnist Zaid al-Shami says in his article on the 28th of September 2000 Sharon had entered the courtyard of al-Aqsa mosque under protection of 2000 soldiers and the strugglers of the sons of Al-Quds were waiting for him with their shoes to hurl at him and his soldiers.

The Palestinians managed to drive them back and from then the intifada erupted. Since that date, the jihad has been escalating and the Palestinian blood irrigating the occupied land in the most spectacular scenes of sacrifice amounting to more than 3500 martyrs and more than 50 thousand wounded and 5 thousand prisoners, including men, women and children. The Palestinians of the intifada sustained losses of more than 60 thousand houses demolished at the hands of occupation troops.

Because of the Palestinian intifada, more than one million Zionists left for their former countries and their dream of a state from Euphrates to Nile has gone in smoke. Therefore, they began to build a concrete wall in order to live inside a large prison. The Aqsa intifada does not stop at that, it has undermined the calls for "peace" and sidelined advocates of normalization and blocked the way for the hesitant. The dove of peace has already been killed by Sharon.



26 September weekly, organ of the Yemen Armed Forces, 7 Oct. 2004.

Main headlines

- In his meeting with Saudi businessmen and investors, the president: We welcome Saudi investments in Yemen
- Yemeni-Kuwaiti holding company for investment to be established soon
- More than 2000 infiltrators and residents since last July

The newspaper editorial says the Israeli war machine launches a war of annihilation on the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territories under the very nose of the world. These crimes reach their peak in the brutal escalation of this war in the Gaza Strip, with the horrific scenes that make Israel a terrorist state, the brutality of its acts exceed international laws and norms. The flaring situations in the Middle East area would not be possible to put out unless a change occurs in the American policy in a manner more just and neutral in its stances.

Yemen's stands were and would remain in support of the Palestinian people and their legitimate and just rights. Those stands of Yemen reflect its continuous efforts of encountering what befalls the Palestinian people with an Arab solidarity springing from joint vision of the interrelationship between what happens in Palestine and challenges facing the Arab nation.

In this context comes the Yemeni government call on the UN Security Council to work for stopping the Israeli aggressions on the Palestinian people and to take resolutions restoring prestige to the international legitimacy and force Israel to implement them.



Annas weekly, 11 Oct. 2004.

Main headlines

- Judge vacation postpones considering of al-Khaiwani case
- Opposition parties students of Sana'a University worried about the new regulation

SKETCHED OPINION



By Samer A.

- Gulf states need \$ 300 billion to develop their oil sector in the forthcoming ten years
- Course on economic concepts and hoe to use them in media

Writer Shaker Ahmed Khalid says the Yemeni judiciary is facing a crisis of accusations increased in their tone after the recent verdicts of executions against those accused of blasting the oil tanker Limburg and the American destroyer Cole.

The judiciary is accused of its response to the American and external pressures as well as its non-neutrality and non-independence in

addition to its submission to the authority directives. Such authority directives are mostly seen in cases related to cases of opinion and publication, as what has happened in the case of Abdulkarim al-Khaiwani, the editor in chief of al-Shoura newspaper.

Nevertheless, judge Hamoud al-Hattar, member of the Supreme Court defends independence of judiciary and its neutrality, pointing that the recent sentences against those accused of committing act of terror in the country were not final and liable to challenge through appeal.

The appeal has the right to

approve, amend, or cancel them according to the constitution.

Accusations against the Yemeni judiciary are confined to Yemeni judiciary independence exposure to multi-violations mostly by the executive power, as some would indicate. Reports indicate that judiciary power bodies also practice violations impinging upon its independence, such as random orders by judicial authorities pertaining to issues considered before the passing of verdicts. There are violations even after the passing of verdicts when there is delay in implementing the sentences by bodied concerned.

The Chairman, Vice Chairman & staff of Universal Group would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Captain Abdulkhaleq Al Qadi on his new appointment as President of Arabian Air Carriers Organization (AACO)



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تحسب التكلفة بالثواني



National football team jumps upward in FIFA classification

BY ADEL AL-KHAWLANI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The senior Yemeni football team advanced eight positions in the monthly world classification, which was issued a few days ago by the Federation of International Football Association (FIFA).

The national team jumped from its last month position (No.135) to the 127th rank this month to raise its credit to 374 points instead of 345 earlier.

In the Asian classification, the team only advanced one position to rank twenty-third-and seventeenth in the order of Arab teams.

The results achieved by the team in the late Asian qualifiers for the World Cup 2006 were deemed as the factors behind this upward jump. The team also has a great chance of reinforcing and improving its credit to rank higher in the coming classification to be run in November, however its game against North Korea



The national football team

next Wednesday is expected to be a tough one.

FIFA in its classification of teams, counts on statistical analysis of the results achieved by the teams for eight years but takes into account the more recent results, the strength of competitors and the significance of each meeting. Official matches

receive more points and higher classification than friendly ones, and playing against high graded teams is more important than doing so against low graded ones in the classification list.

The table provided reveals the order of Arab teams internationally according to the FIFA.

International order	Team	No. Of points
27	Saudi Arabia	662
30	Egypt	649
34	Morocco	639
36	Tunisia	630
38	Jordan	609
39	Iraq	607
47	Bahrain	584
50	Oman	578
60	Kuwait	559
62	Qatar	557
66	Algeria	545
68	Libya	540
84	U.A.E	519
87	Syria	515
109	Lebanon	435
112	Sudan	426
127	Yemen	374
129	Palestine	260
174	Mauritania	187
192	Somalia	93
200	Djibouti	47

Beckham says he deliberately fouled

LONDON (Reuters) - England captain David Beckham says he deliberately sought a booking after breaking a rib against Wales last Saturday so he could serve out a one-match suspension while sidelined by the injury.

"It was deliberate," Beckham was quoted as saying in Tuesday's Daily Telegraph newspaper. "I could feel the injury ... I knew straight away I had broken my ribs ... I knew I will be out for a few weeks so I thought: 'Let's get the yellow card out of the way,'" Beckham said.

The Real Madrid midfielder, already on a yellow card from a previous international, was injured in a collision with Ben Thatcher late in the World Cup qualifier against Wales at Old Trafford. He stayed on the pitch long enough to launch a heavy tackle on Thatcher a few minutes later and referee Terje Hauge duly booked him.

Under FIFA rules the accumulation of two yellow cards in separate games means automatic suspension for the next international. "I

am sure some people think that I have not got the brains to be that clever ... but I do have the brains," Beckham was quoted as saying.

A FIFA spokesman said it did not comment on reported statements in the media, adding the game's world governing body would have to be informed formally, such as in a complaint from an association, to look into the matter. Beckham, who scored a spectacular goal to put England 2-0 up before his injury, will miss the qualifier away to Azerbaijan on Wednesday.

England coach Sven-Goran Eriksson, speaking in Baku on Tuesday, refused to be drawn on the issue before the match. "I will deal with that after this game," he told a news conference. "I don't think it's fair on the team that's out here if we are talking about a player that is injured and suspended. 'I know what I will do on Thursday or Friday so please wait until then.'"

England striker Michael Owen, who will

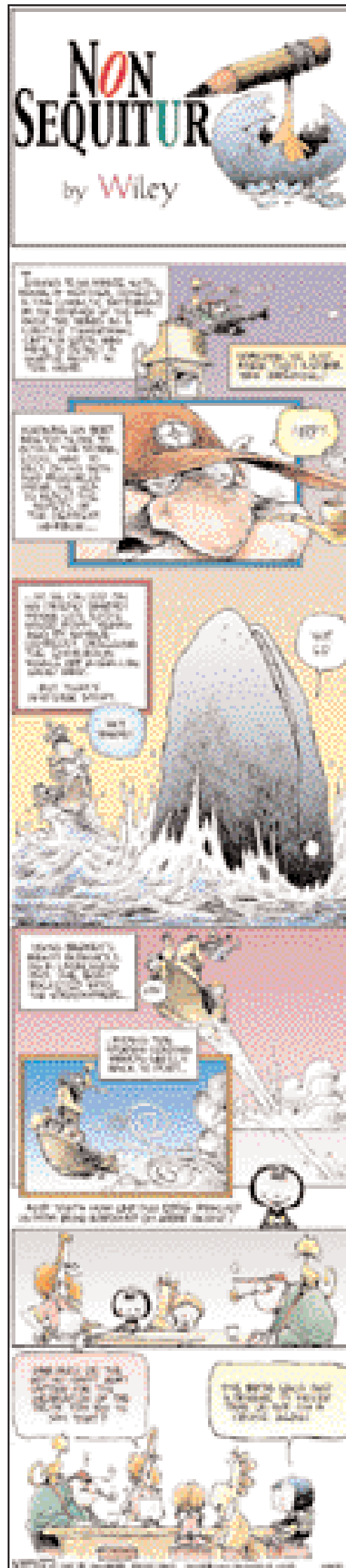


Beckham says to his Coach Sven Goran that his injury will suspend him playing the coming game.

captain the side on Wednesday in Beckham's absence, said: "In modern day football ... if you don't bend the rules a little bit people will get left behind in

the game." Beckham could be out of action for several weeks with the hairline fracture to his rib but Real Madrid said on Monday he would resume light training soon.

England top Group Six with seven points from three matches, one clear of nearest pursuers Poland. Azerbaijan have two points from three games and are second bottom in the group.



THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY BY Eugenia

Aries (Mar 21 - Apr 19) Don't take no for an answer. You can be on top if you are aggressive in a complimentary and persuasive way. Don't back down or give in.	Cancer (Jun 21 - Jul 22) Don't count on anything or anyone and you won't be let down. You will probably feel used, but keep in mind that it takes two to tango and you probably should share the blame.	Libra (Sept 23 - Oct 22) You will be in control and ready to take action. Pose yourself and prepare to take your friends and associates by storm. Present and promote your talents.	Capricorn (Dec 22 - Jan 19) You may end up in a difficult situation if you have promised too much to too many. If you leave yourself vulnerable to helping outsiders, you will pay the price.
Taurus (Apr 20 - May 20) You will have what it takes to get things done, so focus on doing the best job possible and you are likely to advance. Don't be afraid to be a little different.	Leo (Jul 23 - Aug 22) Communication will be the key to popularity. Your ideas will be well received and you can be in the spotlight if you take charge and make arrangements for yourself as well as for others.	Sagittarius (Nov 22 - Dec 21) There will be plenty of action behind the scenes. Observe what everyone else is doing so that you are able to surpass even your toughest competition.	Aquarius (Jan 20 - Feb 18) Do something nice for you. Book yourself for a massage or something that will lift your spirits and make you feel good about the way you look. Love and romance are in the picture.
Gemini (May 21 - Jun 20) Social events and getting involved in challenging hobbies or activities will be beneficial. You can make new connections that can lead to either a personal or professional partnership.	Virgo (Aug 23 - Sep 22) You should be feeling the urge to step into a better position. If you haven't followed your professional goals, this is a good time to reevaluate and take action.	Scorpio (Oct 23 - Nov 21) Help is on its way. The more you allow yourself to let others pitch in and offer favors, the sooner you will get everything back on track. A partnership is looking quite lucrative.	Pisces (Feb 19-Mar 20) Unusual circumstances may surround financial or legal matters. Keep an open mind. Time spent making changes to your residence will be comforting.

Contest No. (27) مسابقة رقم

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Ans. Con. 26

1.the cat.

2.easy go

3.ears

Winner

Ahmed Nagi

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7-Day Weather Forecast

Sana'a

Day	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
Hi	28	28	28	27	26	26	26
Lo	10	9	9	8	7	7	8

Aden

Day	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
Hi	28	28	28	27	26	26	26
Lo	10	9	9	8	7	7	8

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"Superman" actor Reeve dies at 52

NEW YORK (Reuters) - "Superman" actor Christopher Reeve, who became a committed campaigner for spinal cord research after being paralysed in a riding accident nine years ago, has died at age 52.

Reeve died on Sunday in Northern Westchester Hospital in Mount Kisco, New York, after a heart attack at his Pound Ridge, New York, home on Saturday during treatment for an infected bed sore wound. He fell into a coma and never regained consciousness, his publicist Wesley Combs said on Monday.

Reeve's wife, Dana, issued a statement thanking "the millions of fans around the world who have supported and loved my husband over the years."

Confined to a wheelchair since his 1995 accident, Reeve used his celebrity to rally support for research on treatment of spinal cord injuries, including stem cell research, which has become an issue in the U.S. presidential election.

Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry, who referred to Reeve in Friday's debate with President George W. Bush as a friend and ally in promoting stem cell research, said the actor "was truly America's hero."

"He was an inspiration to all of us and gave hope to millions of Americans who are counting on the life-saving cures that science and research can provide," the Massachusetts senator said in a statement.

Bush said he and his wife, Laura, were saddened by Reeve's death and sent prayers and condolences to his family and friends. "He will be remembered as an accomplished actor and for his dedicated advocacy for those with physical disabilities," he said in a statement.

Reeve's family asked that donations be made in his honour to the Christopher Reeve Paralysis Foundation.

An accomplished rider, Reeve suffered multiple injuries including two

shattered neck vertebrae when he was thrown from his horse at an equestrian event in Virginia.

Doctors initially predicted he would never regain feeling or movement below his head. But his foundation's Web site, www.ChristopherReeve.org, said he had experienced a degree of recovery that his doctors considered "remarkable."

'Cure and hope'

Reeve was a strong supporter of research using human stem cells, which his foundation described as having "enormous therapeutic utility." Whether federal funds should be spent on it divides Kerry and Bush, who has limited such research.

"We're devastated by Christopher Reeve's death," said Connie Michalik, who serves on the board of Reeve's foundation and whose son has been a paraplegic since he was shot during the 1999 Columbine High School massacre in Colorado.



Paralysed actor Christopher Reeve, who played Superman, has died of heart failure, a spokesman says. REUTERS

in Lanford Wilson's "Fifth of July", as embittered Kenneth Talley, a gay, crippled Vietnam War veteran.

But Reeve was best known for the "Superman" films.

A virtual unknown when chosen from 200 candidates to become "Superman" in the 1978 movie, he would star in three more films as the flying superhero.

His other movies included "Remains of the Day", "Gray Lady Down", "Somewhere in Time", "The Bostonians" and "Deathtrap".

After his accident, Reeve directed two television movies, and produced and starred in a TV version of Alfred Hitchcock's classic "Rear Window".

Reeve and his wife had one son, Will, 12, and he had two children from a previous relationship — Matthew, 25, and Alexandra, 21.



Paralysed actor Christopher Reeve, who played "Superman" shown in this scene from the first "Superman" film in 1978, has died. Reeve, 52, was paralysed from the neck down after suffering an irreversible injury in a horse riding accident in 1995. REUTERS

"It's a huge loss to families of victims of spinal cord injuries because he's done so much to raise awareness and funding for paralysis research," she said.

Dr. Wise Young of Rutgers University, who researches spinal injuries and treated Reeve, said, "I think more than anything else he taught me the use of two four letter words — cure and hope."

Young noted on NBC's "Today" show that Reeve had been following the Christopher Reeve Paralysis Act before the U.S. Congress, seeking \$300 million (167 million pounds) for spinal cord research. "We will have a cure, I think that will be Christopher's legacy," he said.

Born on September 25, 1952, in New York, Reeve attended the city's Juilliard School, a college dedicated to the arts, and graduated from Cornell University in Ithaca, New York.

He acted in summer stage shows and appeared on the television soap opera "Love of Life" while still in college.

Reeve debuted on Broadway in "A Matter of Gravity" in 1976, as Katharine Hepburn's grandson, and later starred

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