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Fellow inmate breaks Al-Khaiwani's jaw

# Prison hea

By MOHAMMED BIN SALLAM YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Prisoner of opinion Abdulkarim Al-Khaiwani, editor-in-chief of the nowclosed opposition weekly Al-Shoura, was heavily beaten Friday afternoon, Nov 5, by a fellow inmate who reportedly broke his jaw.

Abdulrahman Sources say Dammage, an officer from the Criminal Investigation Bureau, who himself is imprisoned for a criminal charge, attacked Al-Khaiwani from the back with a solid tool trying to crush his skull. The victim's lower jaw was dislodged and his shoulder, hand and neck were bruised.

Sources also say that after falling to the ground unconscious, Al-Khaiwani was protected by some inmates from being killed.

The prison authority allegedly did not offer to take him to the hospital or punish the attacker, a source close to Al-Khaiwani said.

The newspaper editor was sentenced to one year in jail several weeks ago as a result of some of his published writings.



Abdulkarim Al-Khaiwani

The Public Forces Union (PFU), the party to which Al-Khaiwani affiliates, has issued a statement on Friday evening, putting the responsibility of protecting Al-Khaiwani's life on the authority.

The General Secretariat of the party called on unions, syndicates, and human rights organizations to continu-

President Ali Abdullah Saleh after he

was received at the airport by Vice

Yusuf's talks with Saleh focused on

the situation in Somalia as well as on

President Saleh reaffirmed Yemen's

official stance in support of President

Yusuf's efforts to maintain the unity of

the country and help it stabilize and

Yemen already asked the Arab League

to set up a fund to support the recon-

struction of Somalia in an attempt to help

breathe life into this country which was

devastated by long years of internal con-

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**Business Division** 

Continued on page 11

develop economically.

President Abdo Raboo Mansour Hadi.

ously press on the government to free Al-Khaiwani and respect human dignity and rights in Yemen.

The statement said: "The General Secretariat has discussed at its extraordinary meeting on Friday evening Nov. 5 the criminal assault targeting the life of Abdulkarim Al-Khaiwani, member of the PFU's General Secretariat, editor-in-chief of Al-Shura newspaper, as one of the prisoners hit him on the back of his head causing him to fall unconscious"

"The General Secretariat is renewing its request to immediately release Al-Khaiwani and stop violations against him and Al-Shura newspaper

which started with an illegal trial resulting in an unfair political judgment while the Court of Appeal has delayed looking into the case up until now," the statement read.

The statement concluded saying: "Despite the recurrent local, Arab and international calls and appeals condemning the arrest of Al-Khaiwani and asking for his release as a prisoner of opinion who has undergone a politically motivated trial, the authority is still conducting its violations against Al-Khaiwani's freedom, exposing him to bodily harm by means of deliberate vindictive acts.

Continued on page 11



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What's next for Palestine?

BY PETER WILLEMS YEMEN TIMES STAFF

While Yassar Arafat appears to be close to death in a French military hospital, Palestinians in Yemen wonder how the elder statesman can ever be replaced.

At press time, Arafat remained in critical condition.

Palestinians that spoke to Yemen Times said he is the unifying force keeping the Palestinians together to end Israeli occupation and establish a Palestinian state.

"He is the leader of the Palestinians and a real patriot, so if we lose him now it will be a big loss," said Ibrahim Ahmed, a Palestinian college student in Yemen. "He has brought the Palestinian people together and is the father of all Palestinians. He would be able to keep all the Palestinians and parties together if he staved alive.'

Arafat, President of the Palestinian Authority and Head of the Fatah organization, has a history of nearly four decades of leading the Palestinians, and with his experience many believe that he would still be the best leader for years to

"President Arafat has 40 years of experience of leading the Palestinians. No other leader has his experience and knowledge which means that he can handle the situation better than anyone," said Khaled Walid, a manager of a publishing



A file photograph shows Palestinian President Yasser Arafat who is in a coma and in a critical condition in the intensive care unit at a French military hos-**REUTERS** 

company in Sana'a. "He understands what is happening very well, so the best would be for his recovery."

Some Palestinians claim that while the peace process has been put on hold, Arafat is still the best leader to tackle the

"The Palestinian case is in a critical position, and Arafat is the only man who can handle the case well," said Said Malak, General Manager of Computers and Solutions Tech based in Hodeidah. "I hope he stays alive because he is against Israeli Prime Minister Sharon's policy of aggression and is standing with the Palestinian people to end occupation."

Many are concerned that a power struggle could erupt among Palestinian groups if he is no longer the leader. Arafat has not assigned a successor to fill his position.

"Î'm afraid that if Arafat dies, the Palestinian groups might divide," said Ahmed. "He keeps them together. It might be difficult to find the one leader to replace Arafat and keep the groups together."

The Palestinian Ambassador to Yemen, Dr. Khalid El-Sheikh, said last week that the transfer of power will face few obstacles because Palestinian authorities have kept order since Arafat left for France and government institutions and laws will keep things intact if the leader passes away.

Continued on page 11

# Refugees, Somaliland part of talks Somalia in spotlig

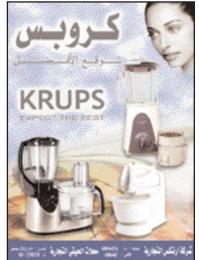
BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Somali President Abdullah Yusuf arrived in Sana'a Saturday morning in an official visit to Yemen.

Yusuf's first visit to Yemen since he was elected as the president of the 13-year war-torn country.

President Yusuf held talks with

The visit included discussions about potential mechanisms which could supthe Horn of Africa and bilateral relations port Somalia on the international and between Somalia and Yemen. This is pan-Arab levels and through bilateral cooperation with Yemen.



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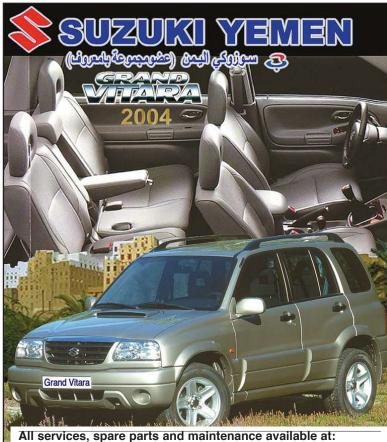












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# **More Africans** entering Yemen illegally

BY MOHAMMAD BINSALLAM YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Official sources in Sana'a said last week that up to 20,000 people from the Horn of Africa have come into Yemen since the beginning of this year.

Most hold Somali citizenship followed by the Ethiopians.

The number of African infiltrators into the Yemeni coastlines are on the rise compared to that of the last few months. The average of those captured exceeds 1,000 a day.

Yemeni security systems captured two weeks ago more than 700 persons who almost hold Somali citizenship, including 150 women, after they illegally infiltrated into the Yemeni lands, according to the sources.

The sources pointed out that the majority of those possessing the Somali nationality were captured in the coastlines of Radhoum District, Shabwa Governorate south east of Sana'a.

The infiltrators were frayed by unidentified boats from the African coasts to that area. Many others were captured in the province of Hodeidah, west of Sana'a, after they entered across

Additionally huge numbers of refugees from the Horn of Africa still enjoy illegal stay in the Yemeni lands with the Yemeni authorities unable to find them out.

## **EDC** meets in Taiz

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The Taiz Economic Development Committee (EDC) met on Wednesday Nov. 3 at the Governorate Bureau chaired by Mohammed Al-Haj, Secretary General of the Local Council, head of the committee. The meeting included representatives from unions, handicraft and vocational societies, the commercial chamber, and social affairs, who reviewed the results of the workshop on work environment and the encouragement program GTZ-supported enterprises.

problems and obstacles facing entrepreneurs of small and medium enterprises. The coming period will witness the participation of all professional categories. A committee is to be set up to define the duties of societies and evaluate them at later stages.

The meeting was attended by Mohammed Othman, deputy head of the committee, director of the industry office, Eng. Abdulnasser Al-Akhuli, director of the governor's office, and Ramzi Al-Hoory, secretary of the com**Collecting signatures** 

# Yemeni people to ask Qadhafi for compensation

A number of tribesmen and social people in some Yemeni provinces are collecting signatures (perhaps as many as 200,000 to ask the Libyan leader Moammar Qadhafi for compensation for damage to their areas from hundreds of thousands of mines.

Some resources pointed out that those people belonging to Taiz, Ibb, al-Dhale'e, al-Baida'a have recently formed a tribal committee. This committee is finalizing a complaint that will be proposed to international organizations showing them the great damages.

Al-Mustaqbal Lebanon newspaper published the news on Nov. 3 that 'hectares the agricultural lands and pastures became danger zones, and they are consequently deserted lands since the 1970s when the conflict between the two parts of Yemen was taking place. The Libyan system was accused then of supporting the National Front with millions of mines.

"Tens people and much more animals are still killed. Besides, there are hundreds of injuries and the majority of them are handicapped though the official authorities don't have any idea about this thing. The tribesmen don't expect any response or reaction by the official authorities for political reasons

The tribesmen justify their demand with the overt support and releases said by Libyan officials at that time in which they declared their support for the confrontation with mines equaling in number the population of the northern part before the reunification in

The tribesmen see that it is a suitable time to announce their demands which received the demand or not.

after the new Libyan orientation and

their efforts to close all files of the past, such as paying compensation French people, Americans and Germans. The citizens of the middle areas of Yemen are considered much more affected by these dangers.

The resources don't mention the total compensations they ask and whether the Libyan authorities

# U.S. Embassy holds Iftar dinner

the U.S. Embassy in Sana'a held its third annual traditional Iftar Dinner on Wednesday evening at the Al-Deewan Restaurant in Sanaa with more than 80 guests in attendance.

Attendees included representatives of the Yemeni media, non-governmental organizations, academic institutions, cultural and educational organizations and government offi-

In an address during the dinner, U.S. Ambassador Thomas Krajeski underlined America's respect for the religion of Islam and its traditions, Ramadan gives us all the opportunity in Yemen to look at our shared values, beliefs and customs. "All too often" the Ambassador added "there is the tendency to look at things that separate countries, peoples and beliefs. Ramadan and the teachings of the Qur'an would have us look closer at the things that bind us together."

The Ambassador passed on to the Iftar dinner guests the warm greetings of President Bush, who has just won a second term in office, to Muslims around the world on the holy month of Ramadan.

### Readers' Voice

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

This edition's question:

Do you think that Yemeni journalist Al-Khaiwani's beating in the Central Prison by another convict was earranged by the authorities?

- Yes, it was No, it was not

#### last edition's question:

Are you convinced of the accuracy of the US election results despite the glitches that occurred in some states such as Florida?

No

47%

Go to our website at: yementimes.com/#poll and have your voice heard!

# Conference on women's rights to be held in Sana'a

By Hassan Al-Zzaidi YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Yemeni government represented by the Ministry of Human Rights is organizing a European - Gulf dialogue on women's rights Dec. 20 and 21, in

The European Union presided over by the Kingdom of Netherlands and

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the Organization of "No Peace Without Justice" cooperates with Yemen in holding the dialogue.

Some 300 organizations are participating in the conference, 150 of which are from Yemen representing the government and the civil community organizations, 50 organizations from the Gulf countries, and 100 EU and

The conference focuses on issues relating to the woman's political participation and decision-making as well as giving her the chance to participate in different aspects of life, considering these as the rights of women to do so.

The conference comes as a result of comments by Salafi currents in Yemen, particularly as they relate to Gulf countries and the roles of women politically and economically.

# **Society** holds annual meeting

YEMEN TIMES TAIZ BUREAU

The general assembly of the Yemeni Society for Kidney Patients in Taiz held its annual meeting on

It elected the management board. comprised of 13 members.

Mr. Showqi Ahmed Hayel Saeed Ana'am, a Chairman of the Planning, Development and Finance in the Local council in Taiz, was elected as a Chairman to the Society, and the General Manager of the Health & Population Bureau in Taiz, Dr. Abdul Nasser al-Kubab was elected as a Vice-Chairman.

The General Manager of al-Thawra General Hospital in Taiz, Dr. Abdul Malek al-Sayyani was elected as the General Secretary.

As well, a Controlling Committee comprised of five members headed by Dr. Yehia al-Shamy was elected. The Society is rendering support to the KF Patients who are increasing in number which matter called for offering humanitarian supports for the patients and all the sectors, in particular, the poor sector.

# **100,000** Yemenis to visit holy lands in 2004

BY HASSAN AL-ZAIDI YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Ramadan month is considered the suitable season for recently-opened al-Haj & al-Umrah agencies spreading all over Yemen's towns and streets.

But the Ministry of al-Haj in Saudi Arabia, by ceasing 90 agency offices in Yemen in the last year, has caused huge losses to these agencies and accumulated additional charges on the natives, i.e. in al-Umrah fees, as the same costs in the previous year reached to

The number of the holy travelers (Mu'tamers) this year, as per the declaration of Mr. Musallem Ali Musallem, the Head of the Consular Section in the Kingdom of Arabia Embassy in Sana'a, has reached to 100,000.

The Ministry of al-Haj in Saudi Arabia Kingdom has imposed additional fees amounting to S.R.650 on every Mu'tamer (holy migrant) as housing fees for a period of ten days at least in addition to S.R.200 as transportation costs from Yemen to the sacred lands & vise versa.

This is imposed through the land transportation agencies which were recently opened between the two countries. As well, one month's extension



A view of Mecca Mosque, the center of the Holy Land in Saudi Arabia.

for the al-Mu'tamer has been allowed, after it was restricted to only 15 days in the last year.

The Yemeni Mu'tamers (holy visitors) are always complaining of bad services rendered by the al-Haj & al-Umrah agencies whereby they ascertain that the housing and transportation fees are imposed with no justification, as the Mu'tamers find themselves

being left neglected after having arrived to there.

The Minister of Justice & Endowment has said any agency that violates any clause of the program agreed upon between the Mu'tamers and the Agency will be suspended, and its bank guarantee estimated by four millions Yemeni Riyals, and refund back the rights of the Mu'tamers.

# Socotra gets \$73 K from Japan

FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

Under the Japanese plan called "Grant Assistance for Grass-roots Human Security Projects", the government of Japan has decided to extend a new grant to Socotra Conservation Fund in order to implement another project in Socotra, amounting up to \$73,678.

The grant will be utilized to procure 4 trucks and other equipment necessary for the improvement of solid waste management in that unique island.

An agreement concerning this new grant was signed by Abdul-Rahman Al-Eryani, Chairperson of Socotra Conservation Fund and Yuichi Ishii, Ambassador of Japan to Yemen.

Last March, Japan extended two grants amounting up to \$161,495 to implement two projects in Socotra Island. The two projects aim respectively at providing training to Socotra inhabitants on certain skills that could promote eco-tourism in the island, and

developing small-scale gardening to improve nutritive status in the island.

During the current Japanese fiscal year (April 2004-March 2005), nine projects, including this project, have been financed in Yemen amounting to \$665,010.

The plan aims to support smallscale community-based projects in Basic Human Needs fields, such as primary health care, basic education and public welfare in developing countries. including Yemen.

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## Smuggling gang suspected

# Chief of Green Area is murdered

By YEMEN TIMES STAFF TAIZ BUREAU

A suspected smuggling gang of brothers Mohammad Al-Amreen and Ali Al-Ameen, along with their accomplices, is suspected in the killing of Mohammad Ahmad Al-Serm the Chief of the Green Area in Mocha on Oct. 30.

The alleged crime took place when the chief tried to stop their truck that was loaded with smuggled firecrackers through the checkpoint. A jeep vehicle escorted the truck.

Al-Ser was allegedly shot dead by the smugglers when he pursued them in an attempt to seize the commodities that were illegally brought into the country

After their alleged crime, the gang fled the scene.

The murder took place just a few days after a central police officer was brutally assassinated by a smuggling gang. Residents of the area also talk about other cases of murder for similar

The western coastline of Yemen,

particularly areas around the town of Mocha has been a fertile ground for smugglers for some time. Authorities have been unable to control the flow of smuggled goods in that region due to many obstacles including corruption, ease of movement, and lack of professional training of security personnel. Goods coming through anonymous

sources includ drugs, wines and firecrackers, the last of which cause harms

They are passed into cities across Yemen through these areas.

## The purpose of Zakat al-Fitr

# Feeding the needy at Ramadan's end



BY ADEL AL-KHAWLANI YEMEN TIMES STAFF

akat is one of the major religious duties in Islam. It is the obligatory charity that every submitter, or Muslim, should pay year

Its literal meaning means to grow (in goodness) or 'increase', 'purifying' or 'make pure'

Every Muslim is required to pay Zakat al-Fitr at the conclusion of the month of Ramadan as a token of thankfulness to God. Its purpose is to purify those who fast from any indecent act or speech and to help the poor and needy.

This view is based upon the hadith, which reads, "The Messenger of Allah, upon whom be peace, enjoined Zakat al-Fitr on those who fast to shield them from any indecent act or speech, and for the purpose of providing food for

It is accepted as Zakah for the one who pays it before the 'Eid prayer, and it is sadaqah for the one who pays it after the prayer.

#### Who pays Zakat al-Fitr

Zakat al-Fitr is incumbent on every free Muslim who possesses one Sa' of dates or barley which is not needed as basic food for himself or his family for the duration of one day and night.

Every free Muslim must pay Zakat al-Fitr for himself, his wife and children. This is the opinion of Imam





Different kinds of crops in which Zakat Al-Fitr is paid as Islamic Shariah recommends, however, people can pay it in money instead.

Malik, Al-Shafi'i, and Ahmad. Imam Abu Hanifah, however, said that it is only obligatory for one who possesses a nisab (a minimum amount of property) after fulfilling the costs of his house, servant, horse, and weapon.

Moreover, we have to bear in mind that Zakat al-Fitr is obligatory for everyone who lives until the sun sets on the last day of Ramadan. This is the point of view of the Shafi'is, Hanbalis, and Malikis. Likewise, a person who has a baby on the last day of Ramadan should pay Zakat al-Fitr for the baby.

#### When Zakat al-Fitr is due

The jurists agree that Zakat al-Fitrr is due at the end of Ramadan. They differ, however, about the exact time. Al-Thawri, Ishaq, Malik (in one of two reports), and Al-Shafi'i (in one of his two opinions), are of the opinion that it is due at the sunset of the night of

breaking the last day fasting. Other jurists are of the opinion that Zakat al-Fitr can be submitted even at a time preceding the prayer of Eid. It is not preferable to submit it after the prayer

#### What food can be given

The jurists hold different views as to the types of food, which must be given as Zakat al-Fitr. The Hanbali view is that the kinds of food, which can be given, are five: dates, raisins, wheat, barley, and dry cottage cheese.

Imam Ahmad is reported to have said that any kinds of staple grain or dates are also permissible, even if the above five types are available. The Malikis and Shafi'is are of the view that it is permissible to give any kind of food as long as it is the main staple in that particular region or the main food of the person. As for the Hanafis, they

Malikis and Hanbalis agree that the prescribed amount is one Sa', however the Hanafis say it is sufficient to pay half Sa' from wheat and they differed with regard to raisins.

After discussing the arguments of these two opinions al-Oaradawi reached the following conclusion: wheat was not a common food amongst them during the time of the Prophet so he did not prescribe one Sa' of it as he did with the other types of food.

As for those of the Companions of the Prophet who prescribed half Sa' of wheat instead of one Sa' of barely or dates like Mu'awiyah and other Companions, he views that they did so by analogy, since the value of wheat was more than those of other types of food which were equal.

But according to their opinion, he says, the value should be considered and taken as the criterion and this will cause instability and confusion for it changes from place to another and from time to time.

He mentioned that in Pakistan the value of wheat is less than that of dates, then how should we pay of it half the amount (i.e. Sa') that we should pay of dates? He also mentioned that nowadays raisins are more expensive than wheat and dates. The only solution for these problems, he says, is to regard Sa' as the criterion and basis.

Al-Qaradawi explains why the Prophet appointed Sa' as the measure and did not prescribe it in money saying that in his opinion there are two reasons for this: First, money was still rare among the Arabs particularly the Bedouins. They did not have their own

So if the Prophet had prescribed it in money, he would have caused hardship to them. Second, the purchasing power of money changes from time to time. For instance, the purchasing power of a certain currency sometimes becomes low and other times high, so paying Zakat al-Fitr in money makes its value

That is why the Prophet prescribed it with a stable measure that is an amount of food, which fulfils the needs of one family for one Sa' provides a family with food for a whole day.

### The amount of Sa'

Sa' is a certain measure which equals 4 handfuls of an average man. The contemporary equivalent weights of Sa' differs according to the stuff which is weighted. For example a Sa' of wheat equals 2176 grams and a Sa' of rice is 2520 grams while a Sa' of beans equals 2250 grams etc.

Therefore some scholars are of the view that the criterion should be the measure not the weight for there are kinds of food, which are heavier than others. But I think this is the case if the equivalent weight of a certain kind of food is not known. If there is no available measure or weight with the person, then he should pay 4 handfuls.

Nowadays, it is not that problem because ministries of religious affairs in Muslim countries and mosques and Islamic centres in Western countries announce the value of Zakat al-Fitr every year.

Anyhow, this is the obligatory amount, which every Muslim should pay. It is better and recommended that one pays an extra amount, particularly for those who are wealthy, for they will be rewarded for it.

### Payment in money

As it is mentioned earlier, the Hanafis permitted the payment of contradicts the Sunnah of the Prophet.

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Hanafi

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poor. He also

mentioned that when the Prophet prescribed it from food, it was easy for the payer and use-

ful for the recipient during that time. But nowadays to pay it in food is not useful for the poor because he cannot make use, for instance, of wheat or dates unless he sells them with any price, generally low, to buy his needs

with the money. Al-Qaradawi excluded the times of famines where the payment of food is more useful for the recipients and said that the criterion is the benefit of the poor. So if food proves to be more useful as in times of famines and catastro-

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phes, then its payment in kind is better. But if money is more useful, then its payment in money is better.

Nowadays, if we consider the condition in the Muslim world in general and that of Muslims in the West in particular we will discover that the second view is more convenient with the spirit of Islamic legislation and the present condition of Muslims.

As we usually see when Muslims living in the West decide to transfer their Zakah funds or some of them to needy Muslims in Muslim countries, then the payment in money is more

### Some blame only Eve, but . . .

# **Both genders** fell from Paradise

By Khadija al-Mahdi FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

y teacher of chemistry at school once insinuated, out of his utter abyss of ignorance. women are the sole reason of our loss of Paradise, and what's more, the source of every evil in this universe.

To your surprise, that teacher is a Muslim holding an opinion going against what's mentioned in our Holy Book. We were taken aback by our teacher's mistaken and tough stand. We attempted to convince him, but it was in vain.

In my opinion, I don't believe that woman, or Eve, is the only one to be held responsible for our temporary loss of Eden. To tell the truth, Adam shares the responsibility equally, as well. Clearly enough, humankind's loss of Eden and descent to earth were, above all, God's punishment for both Adam and Eve's sin.

Reading the Holy Qura'an, you find that Satan whispered to Adam and Eve and induced them both to eat forbidden tree. from the Consequently, they yielded to temptation and acted on his instructions innocently, and the Lord called out to them saying: "Did I not forbid you that tree?" God, in his censure, was rebuking them using the Arabic dual plural meaning 'you both', that's Adam and Eve.

Oddly enough, some Christians believe Eve to be the culprit behind our loss of Garden of Paradise, because they say Satan whispered to Eve to eat the fruit of the forbidden tree. Having found her eating, Adam decided and resigned to join in her fate, ate also. This clearly and obviously shows the extent to which the true account of the story has been distorted. I mean no offence and I beg to

That's on the one hand, but on the other I can't really imagine how people calling themselves woman rights preservers disgrace woman by claiming that. Isn't this going against her right of dignity? Don't they abuse her rights rather than preserve them? Isn't this baseless and groundless account? If they continue to believe so of woman, they can easily attribute to her every evil act. Besides labeling her as a source of wrongdoing and wickedness, she will constitute a constant reminder of their loss of Eden. What a life hers would be, of course, intolerable. Suffice it to say that they call woman a "necessary evil".

Dear teacher, I say it again and again; what shame is there in confessing the truth? I really wonder whether you still have that low opinion of women who are your dear mother, wife, daughter and sister. I hope that you've changed your opinion since then. Instead of violently arguing about it, why don't we strive and do every good to gain back Paradise.





A breast-feeding mother and a disabled teenager anxiously waiting for their shares of Zakat as Islamic Shariah

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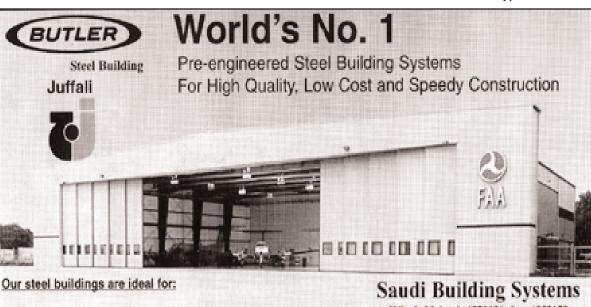
permit paying the value of Zakat al-Fitr

Ibn Al-Qayyim highlighted these different viewpoints and concluded that the Prophet, peace and blessings be upon him, prescribed Zakat al-Fitr as one Sa' of dates, barley, raisins or dry cottage cheese. These were the main staple kinds of food in Madinah.

As for people of other territories, what they should pay is one sa' of their staple grain, such as corn, rice, etc. But if their main staple food is other than ain, such as milk, meat, fish, etc., then they should pay one Sa' of that particular food. This is the opinion of the majority of scholars and is the preferred point of view, since it achieves the purpose of fulfilling the needs of the poor on the day of 'Eid with the staple food of their region.

### The calculation of Zakat al-Fitr

The amount of Zakat al-Fitr, as referred earlier, is one Sa' of food. There is consensus on this amount among the scholars with regard to all types of food except wheat and raisins. As for these two types the Shafi'is,



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Zakat al-Fitr in money. This is the view of Al-Thawri, Al-Hasan al-Basri, and 'Umar ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz. However, the three schools did not permit this. Their argument is that the Prophet did not do so and hence its payment in money

# UAE statesman dies

# Sheikh Zaid was an Arab leader to emulate



By Yasser Al-Mayasi ym\_almayasi@yahoo.com YEMEN TIMES STAFF

he United Arab Emirates bade farewell on Tuesday November 2 to their leader and founder, Sheikh Zaid Bin Sultan Al Nahayan who passed away at the age of 86.

Sheikh Zaid, the fourth son of Sultan Bin Zaid Al Nahayan who ruled the Emirate of Abu Dhabi during the period 1922-1926, is highly respected as the best Arab leader in terms of developmental achievements that made the UAE occupy great prestige among countries around the world.

Sheikh Zaid started sitting on the throne of Abu Dhabi Emirate in 1966 after being a ruler for the city of Al Ain and the Western Area in 1946. His

rule of Abu Dhabi achieved developmental moves and in 1968 he stepped up his efforts and unified the dispersed Emirates.

After a series of conventions and meetings with the rulers of Such Emirates, he reached the declaration of the unity of the UAE on December equals US \$ 3.5. The average per-2 1971 as well as his being sworn in a president of the state.

He started a journey full of bless and prudence and since then Sheikh Zaid made the UAE jump upward in different areas. He has made it a sample of rapid growth in a waste desert.

When Sheikh Zaid started ruling the nation, he faced hard tasks represented in several dimensions, among which is building up the legislations and the constitutional institutions.

Numerous events interfered with the developmental progress in the UAE but the will and insistence of the leadership was the reason for achieving success and overcoming difficul-

> From the desert itself, Sheihk Zaid learned economics and the climate providing mirror and examty and unity as well as the sustainable interaction with his subtheir Zaid's philosophy stems from the fact that building up the country relies on building up the citizen of the development process and the pivot of

> advancement. Hence, his policy worked for the provision schools and institutions of higher education, and cultural, professional and health centers that created a well-bred generation who in turn loyally serves his home-

From the educational revolution, the awakening of the UAE occasioned to witness the graduation of the physician, the engineer, the accountant, the lawyer, the police and army recruit. Anybody who knew the UAE three decades ago and still knows it todav will inevitably perceive the huge difference of the current progress in the country which was not more than piles of sand, coasts and dispersed clay houses.

affairs of life in a him a hopeful vision. When he became a ruler, his qualities led to his success. He made himself a ple of productivijects fulfilling desires. who is the source

land.

Anyone needs to

know today the amount of awakening and development should have a glance at figures of the economic indicators. For instance, in 1972, the national income was UAE dirham 4.7 billion, but has now reached UAE diham 254,620. The UAE dirham capita income comes at dirham 623,000 and this exceeds from 2001 onwards.

The great achievements of the UAE in different fields were also realized in the industrial and economic areas.

As a result, the foreign investments

ing the role of tourism as well as welcoming businessmen to establish institutions and invest in the country with the passage of years, particularly in the Dubai free zone.

Sheiikh Zaid proved able to extend aids to different Arab countries including Yemen, which lavishly received support in various fields of which we me

- From 1972 to 1974 he gave aids to Yemen in establishing national radio and Ttelevision in Yemen.

- In September 1976 he attended

were attracted to the country, activat- the ceremony staged on the occasion of lying down the foundation stone for Sana'a-Marib highway, whose cost exceeded the YR 187 million at the expense of the UAE.

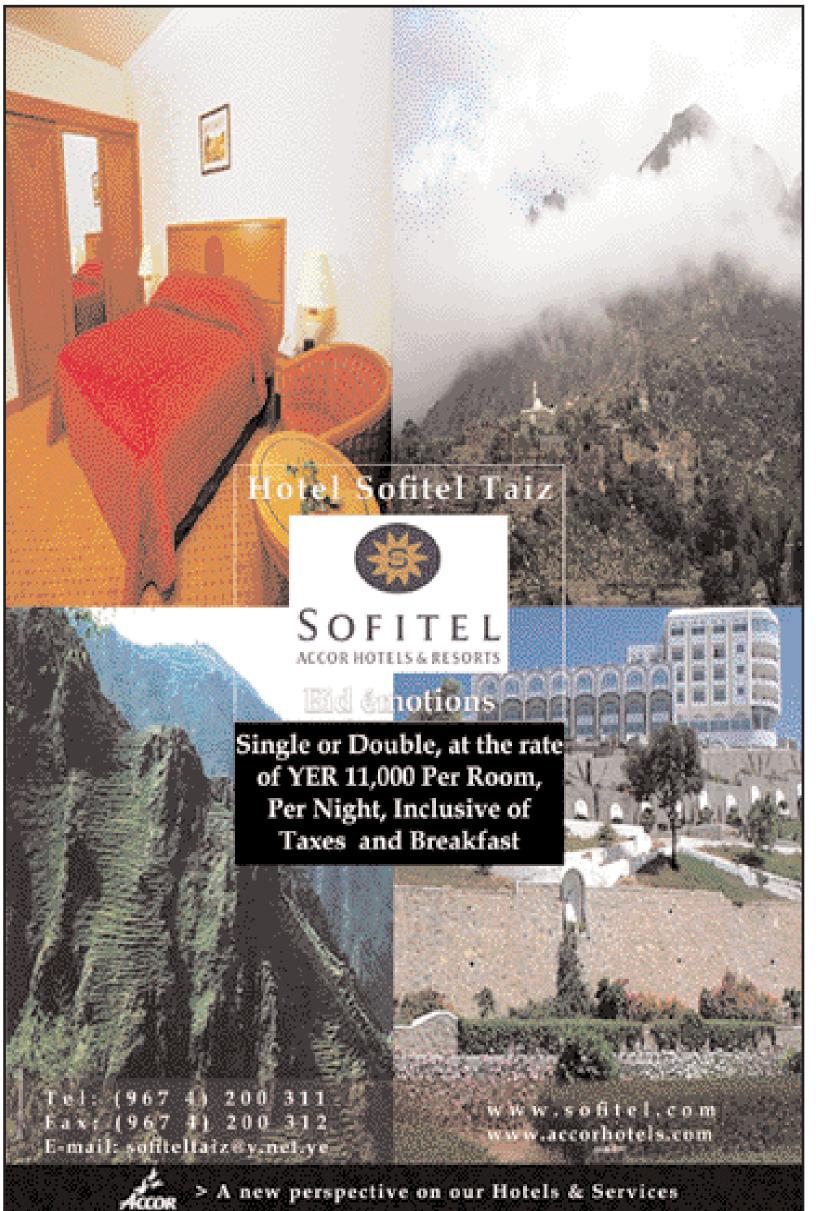
> offered an urgent assistance worth of \$ 3million to alleviate the damage of floods and Yemen.

- In April 1993, the UAE donated with \$10 million for assisting the nation of Bosnia.

- In April 1982, the UAE

- In October 2003, Sheikh Zaid donated with UAE dirham 30 million for the victims of al-Aqsa Intifada.







The Arab Tower in the city of Dubai at sunset



A spectacular view of Abu Dhabi, the capital of the

# Iraqi rebels hit back as US bombs Falluja

U.S. forces hit Iraq's rebel stronghold of Falluja with the fiercest air and ground bombardment in months, as insurgents struck back on Saturday with attacks that killed up to 37 people in Samarra.

The Falluja strikes, before a threatened major assault on Saddam Hussein loyalists and militants allied to Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, destroyed a hospital, a medical warehouse and dozens of homes, dazed residents said after a sleepless night.

Hospital staff said ambulances had been unable to go out as the city shook to explosions. Later, they collected two dead and seven wounded civilians, among them women and children.

With a U.S.-led offensive on Falluja apparently imminent, rebels hit back with attacks in Samarra, Baghdad and Ramadi, another rebel-held city.

The deadliest assaults were in Samarra, where a suicide car bomber rammed into a police station and three car bombs exploded elsewhere. Insurgents also attacked three other police stations.

Police said the onslaught killed 34 people - 19 Iraqi police, two Iraqi National Guards, two members of an Iraqi Rapid Reaction Force and 11 civilians. They said 43 people had been wounded, 28 of them members of the security forces.

"I saw a car trying to reach the town hall," said bookshop owner Mohammed Ahmed. "When police stopped it, it exploded."

Separately, police said rebels shot dead another policeman and are suspected of firing a mortar that killed a woman and a young boy in a house near a U.S. base in the city.

U.S. and Iraqi forces stormed Samarra a month ago to dislodge rebels in what was seen as a prelude to the



Iraqi men stand over rubble of emergency hospital in Falluja destroyed during U.S. air raid Iraqi civilians stand over the rubble of the Saudi funded emergency hospital in Falluja, Hai Nazal, after it was destroyed during an overnight U.S. air raid conducted over the western city, Nov. 6, officials in the hospital said.

full-scale assault on rebel-held areas ahead of Jan. 27 elections.

An Iraqi military commander deserted U.S. forces hours after he received a full briefing on U.S. military plans to storm Falluja, CNN reported on

But the pool report sent to Reuters from a Marine unit quoted U.S. officers as saying the desertion of the unidentified captain, a Kurdish company commander would not change plans to retake the city.

#### Marines targeted

A Marine spokesman said an attack on a U.S. convoy wounded 16 Marines in Ramadi, 110 km (68 miles) west of Baghdad. A police source said it had been a car bomb blast.

Hospital staff said at least one Iraqi was killed and 14 wounded in clashes between rebels and U.S. forces in the

Insurgents also battled U.S. troops near a highway just north of Falluja and American planes bombed targets on the northern edge of the city, witnesses

In Baghdad, a big explosion struck the main airport road, killing an Iraqi civilian and wounding another and three U.S. soldiers. Four blasts rocked central Baghdad on Saturday night, witnesses said. But no details were immediately available.

In Falluja, residents said the overnight bombardment had reduced a small Saudi-funded hospital to rubble.

Only its facade, with a sign reading Nazzal Emergency Hospital, remained intact. Reuters photographs showed blue surgical cloths and empty medicine boxes amid the ruins.

Falluja Hospital to store medical supplies was also destroyed, witnesses

Most of the city's 300,000 people have already fled. After Friday night's barrage, many more streamed out of the city to the northwest on the only road left open by U.S. forces.

"I left the city two days ago, but my heart is still in Falluja," said Abu Mohammed, who had taken his family to stay with relatives near the city. "We are living in terror."

U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan has warned an attack on Falluja could undermine the elections, but his comments drew a chilly response from interim Prime Minister Iyad Allawi.

Annan criticised the expected assault in letters to Allawi, U.S. President George W. Bush and British Prime Minister Tony Blair, saying it would spark more Iraqi anger and damage the credibility of the nationwide January

Allawi, due back in Baghdad soon after a trip to Europe, told the BBC Annan's letter was confused and

Allawi says Falluja is a haven for former Saddam fighters and militants led by Zarqawi's group, an ally of al Qaeda which claimed responsibility for a suicide car bombing on Thursday that killed three British troops south of Baghdad.

Ramadi police said the bodies of two hostages, a Sudanese and an Iraqi, were found on the banks of the Euphrates on

They had been shot dead. They have not been identified, but only one Sudanese, a translator, was known to be among the more than 25 foreigners being held in Iraq.

# China opposes UN Council's referral on Iran

TEHRAN, Nov 6 (Reuters) - China Iran could not count on China's supsaid on Saturday it would be better to resolve Iran's nuclear case without sending it to the U.N. Security Council, where Beijing holds the option of vetoing any sanctions against

Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zhaoxing, on a two-day visit to Iran, said he had discussed Iran's nuclear case with U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell and British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw in recent days.

"I told all my colleagues that China supports a solution to this issue within the framework of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)," he told a news conference in Tehran.

"I really don't quite know if it will be brought to the Security Council. It would only make the issue more complicated and difficult to work out," he

Iran last week signed a major preliminary oil and gas investment deal with energy-thirsty China, prompting analysts to speculate that Tehran was seeking to curry favour with Beijing in case its nuclear dossier is sent to the Security Council.

China is one of five permanent Security Council along with the United States, Britain, France and Russia, with the option of vetoing resolutions.

But Li was not-committal about whether China would use that power in support of Iran, noting that vetoes are seldom exercised by the five permanent members.

Hossein Mousavian, one of Iran's top nuclear negotiators, said in an interview published on Saturday that port in the Security Council.

"It is a mistake to think that China would be ready to stand against the U.S. and Europe regarding Iran's nuclear issue," he told the Kayhan afternoon daily.

Mousavian said Chinese officials had told Iran that the value of its trade with the United States was "hundreds or maybe thousands of times the size of their trade with Iran."

Iran, which denies U.S. accusations of developing nuclear weapons, is engaged in critical talks with the European Union in Paris to avert referral to the Security Council.

The talks, which centre on Iran's uranium enrichment activities, continued for several hours on Saturday.

The EU wants Iran to freeze uranium enrichment — which can be used to make fuel for atomic reactors or to make nuclear bombs — before the next meeting of the IAEA board on Nov. 25.

But Iran says it will only agree to suspend enrichment for six months at most and will never scrap it efforts to produce its own nuclear fuel as the EU and Washington wants.

"The negotiations are complicated and difficult, but both sides are determined to continue the talks. We'll have to see where they will lead," Iran's Foreign Minister Kamal Kharrazi told the joint news conference with Li.

"It is in the interests of both sides that the issue be resolved in a way that Iran retains its legitimate right to use peaceful nuclear technology and others are assured that Iran is not seeking nuclear weapons," he said.



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(In UNHCR Aden)

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- Provide counselling and ensure follow-up regarding individual needs, with a particular focus on vulnerable individuals. Undertake research and assess community resources in support of the planning and

implementation of assistance, services and activities for refugees, including medical,

- education and self-reliance activities. Assist the refugee community to identify its own needs, establish priorities and to meet those needs through self-help initiatives, the mobilization of community resources and
- effective use of other available services. Ensure effective cooperation and good working relations with implementing partners
- and with Government officials in relevant institutions concerning the planning of assistance, services and activities for refugees. Assist in the preparation of project proposals, based upon the results of research and
- evaluation carried out. Prepare correspondence, reports and statistics as required.
- Supervise and coordinate the work of lower level staff and implementing partners, as they relate to the community services.
- Perform any related tasks assigned by supervisor.

### QUALIFICATION AND SKILLS REQUIREMENTS

- Master degree in Health or Social Science field.
- 6 years of progressive previous experience in related field.
- Proficiency in the use of computers and office software packages.
- Excellent command of English and Arabic (written and oral).

Candidates who have the necessary qualifications and experience are invited to submit their Curriculum Vitae with a brief letter not later than the 25 November 2004 to:

The UN Refugee Agency P.O. Box: 6090, Tel No.: 235111/231441 Fax No.: 02-234406 Aden - Republic of Yemen

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(In UNHCR Aden)

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- Disseminate information regarding durable solutions options of refugees, including through frequent visits to the Kharaz refugee camp.
- Assist refugees in choosing a durable solution, identifying and registering those opting for voluntary repatriation or local integration, and drawing the Protection Officer's to possible candidates for resettlement.
- Prepare weekly and monthly reports regarding progress, problems and other issues related to the implementation of durable solutions for refugees, including statistics on registration and movements.
- Develop effective and harmonious working relationships with implementing partners and other relevant counterparts involved in the efforts to secure durable solutions for
- Organise and monitor, in coordination with these partners, the transportation, transit accommodation and basic assistance for repatriation refugees.
- Maintain contact with Government authorities regarding operational issues and to obtain information and statistics regarding spontaneous repatriation movements taking place without UNHCR involvement.
- Perform any related tasks assigned by supervisor.

### QUALIFICATION AND SKILLS REQUIREMENTS

- Secondary Education.
- 3-4 years of progressive previous experience in related field.
- Proficiency in the use of computers and office software packages.
- Excellent command of English and Arabic (written and oral).

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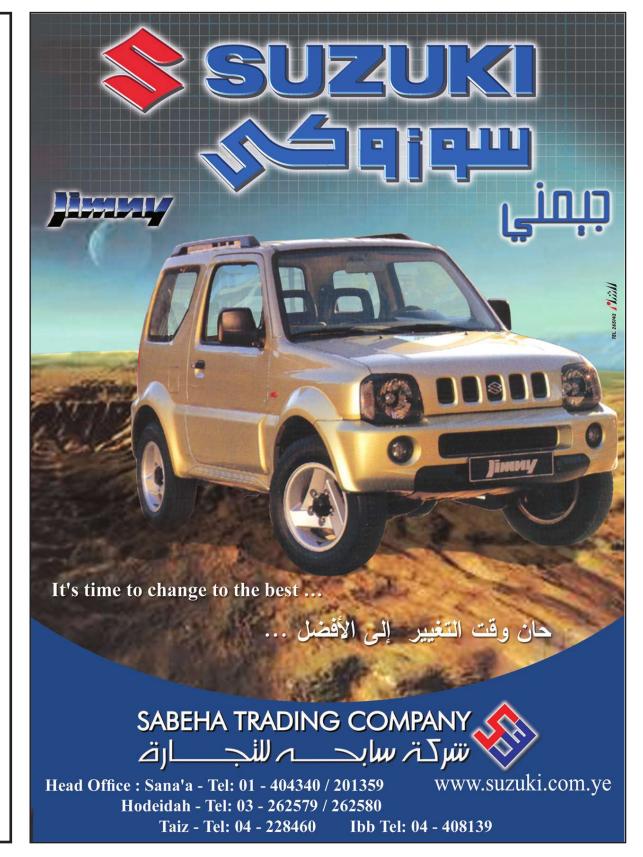
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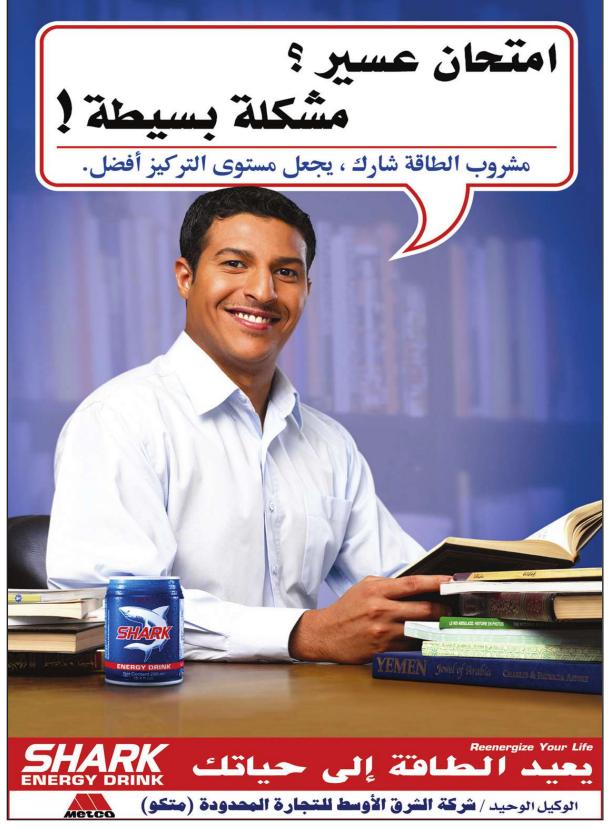
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#### **Words of Wisdom**



The rate of population growth is an extremely vital factor in the ability of the country to successfully develop. It is imperative that the government, Non government organizations, the media, educationists, and intellectuals join hands to make it clear to families that a large number of children is a burden which neither the parents nor the society can handle

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



# **OUR OPINION**

# Rule of law an urgency

have been following up the attempts of the government to enforce the law on various levels. The law on carrying weapons, traffic laws, and laws dealing with the press have been my focus lately.

What I conclude is clear-cut and obvious. If the government wants to apply the law, then it can. The clearest example that comes to my mind is the law on prohibiting windows tint on all vehicles. Upon the announcement of the prohibition, people have indeed abided by the law and traffic officers were able to fine those cars that still

Within a few weeks, millions of Yemeni rials were indeed collected in the form of fines from violators. Today, you can rarely see any car that still has window tints including vehicles of prominent officials and highranking military personnel. This clearly demonstrates that if there is a will, there is a way to enforce the law.

However, when it comes to other more important issues in the law, there seems to be lack of proper implementation. Take for example the issue of completing paper work at any governmental authority. Hinders and obstacles of all kinds are placed ahead of people who want to process their work. Eventually, it ends up in the hand of an employee who may not release the papers without a bribe of some sort. This is common in various offices throughout the republic and the rule of law didn't reach those individuals at all.

Corruption is widely spread in governmental institutions and not many could deny that. This raises the question why the authorities didn't do enough to curb it? And why are they turning a blind eye to such actions that violate the laws and rights of citizens?

The rule of law is a measure of the civilization of any nation. It is an indication of the trust of citizens in their governments and the ultimate sign of justice for all citizens. Hence, for Yemenis to live in peace and harmony, and for the country to kick off a revolutionary developmental campaign to progress the country, there needs to be extra emphasis on the rule of law as a safeguard for our country's future.

I know the government can do it because it did it in the past. But I also realize the challenges and difficulties lying ahead, especially when trying to hold prominent sheikh or military figures accountable in front of the law. Nevertheless, sooner or later those people will have to be treated equally under the constitution.

I believe we can have a fresh start these days after the end of al-Houthi's rebellion and the frequent cases of kidnappings, etc. Now that security in the country is somewhat established, there is a need to focus on the community and economy. To do so, the government can have a multidimensional campaign both in practice by ensuring that laws are being implemented in the authorities, by allowing a hotline for complaints by citizens, and by educational and awareness campaigns that need to reach out to both the citizens and the government.

It is a gradual process, but as I always say, we need to start somewhere. I hope the government could start soon.

The Editor

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# Beware: The new priority of reform

By Prof. Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Tarb FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

he desire for reform is one of the lawful dreams of all peoples all over the world. Nobody can tyrannize the dream.

Stability does not imply stillness. Policies should be tested over several years. However, if something goes wrong in the social structure, they should be replaced by new ones, which are to be carried out by new faces that have not contributed to failed plans.

Sustaining policies in face of their failure is some kind of stubbornness that may lead to unfortunate confrontations. Not changing faces in ministries and causing worry to people could incite riot. In such a case, security clampdowns may succeed in subduing people's wishes in the shortterm, but will not do that forever.

There are the problems of oil, security looseness, judicial corruption and brokering the state's real estates and lands. People everywhere are asking for dismissing the officials responsible for that and trying them.

Shouts have arisen from different areas appealing to the President to rid the country of various problems. The president's calls in Ibb and other provinces were expected to activate the Central Organization for Counting and Auditing (COCA) to take the president's speech as a permission to open the big files. We do not mean that they should be made scapegoats but to do a step in the right direction applying the law to all people.

People wish that even one or two corrupt officials paid the price for their misconduct. It has become a general wish the absence of whose realization has made life more troublesome. It is ineffective to try to mend what is dam-

aged by some officials. We are in need of a revolution and to be fuel for it.

Mr. President: nepotism has instilled itself in some of the state's men. And if you know, nepotism is the mother of disasters. A group of people surround a particular official and makes him unable to see. They build an iron barrier between him and the people's

One person among the retinue of an official may be more dangerous than the official himself when the latter succumbs to the suggestions, allusion, and whims of the former. This plague is one of the consequences of a long stay on the chair of power. But when an official is toppled, people get a view of facts and they wonder why they kept silent, and why they are keeping silent.

It is time for change. I do not think that there is anybody in this country who deny that even the human mind is abused here.

## Puppets to the Americans

# Arabs need to solve own problems

By Wardah Al-Awadhi FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

ith the pre-election statements by George Bush and John Kerry that they will fight terrorism (meaning long-bearded Muslims), it became obvious then that it didn't matter who

Both the candidates were resolved to wage a war against the Arab and Muslim world under the pretext of terrorism. Prior to Kerry's statement, there was a hope that he would be better than war-loving Bush. Yet, it seems that one winning card in the American elections was the promise of fighting terrorism (Muslims).

What is surprising is the Bin Laden's

tape, which was timely broadcast to weaken the stance of the Islamic and Arab World. It served the aims of Bush, strengthening the motive of his administration to continue battling, finding justifiable excuses to convince the US

We should wonder about the nature of the tape and the personality of Bin Laden himself who has become almost a character in a fiction film. Doesn't it seem likely that this personality is made by America to enhance their reasons to fight Arabs and Muslims. It is unbelievable that the Bush administration has failed up till now to catch Bin Laden.

Yes, we have become marionettes alternately flung between the hands of the Bush administration and the media. We are amidst a preplanned scenario of events popping every now and then. Hardly do we awake from one, the second blow hits, sending us into slumber once again. What a miserable dubbed serial we play in it the role of the victims?

Now, after what we saw and what we will see, when will we Arabs and Muslims stop crawling on our bellies, devouring one another, and eating each other's money? When will we stop filling our bellies with things that don't satisfy?

When shall we rise to our feet and engage our minds in thinking, analyzing things, and developing our countries instead of wasting their wealth?

Isn't it time to resolve our local problems and put an end to conflicts among us? Isn't it time to stop the big taking by force the right of the small before Bush and his henchmen come and eat all?

## Some first-hand experience

# Who has abused Muwalladeen?

By Hussein Najee For The Yemen Times

iscriminations and abuse of Muwalladeen is not limited people from certain area. It is there everywhere with difference levels. But from my personal experience, and through discussion with Muwallahdeen from different parts of Yemen, most abuse and discriminated are from those from south Yemen and not north like you wrote.

I have written half page on Yemen Times concerning this topic. In 1994, of Muwalladeen of East Africa (Ethiopia and Eritrea) in Yemen, about 75 per cent come or belong to central regions of North Yemen, such as

Khoran, Yerim, Radda, Kaifa, Ans, and al-Hada. The rest belong to other areas like Taiz, Hashid, Khwalan, Hobiash, and Baadan, al-Biada.

Let me explain to you my experience after coming with family from Africa (Ethiopia) as a teenager in 1979. The first abuse against me took place in Sana'a from a taxi driver from Taiz area, who reported something against me what I don't know. For 15 days I was jailed.

The second abuse was against a lot of us working in Sana'a, in the Taiz road project in Yerim residential camp in which people from Taiz area used to collect money and pay to the security officers of the camp who harassed us Muwalladeens under the justification of not having a work license (we are

Even Muwalladeen of south of north area wonder when told by others that they were told to give up fathers' property, in order to admit him as a relative and help him to get a Yemeni I.D card.

So, my friend I tell you from experience. A friend of mine who is a doctor of the English language always used to say we are present in Yemen by our tribal forces. Even Muwalladeen from south of North Yemen always say your people (where you belong) seem cruel, but are practically much better than

That is something already agreed upon. Discuss it with more Muwalladeen and you will know better, before determining who abuses and discriminates against us.

# Letters to the Editor

### About Qat, again...

am a Muslim expatriate living in Yemen since last one year and regular reader of Yemen Times. I would like to thank you, if you release my letter in your newspaper. It was nice to read the interview with Brother Shoukri Al Furais on 14/10/2004 regarding the Campaign against Qat.

I wish Yemen to be Qat free and Yemeni locals avoiding chewing of Qat to have better health and utilizing constructively the long hours wasted while chewing qat.I usually observe that great percentage of family income is being spent on QAT, which indirectly consumes the share of bread & butter deteriorating the livng standard.

In order to make a better campaign, we should focus on our future, yes I mean our children. We should make it compulsory in all schools on daily basis to explain the consequences and hazards

of QAT in morning assembly. Today's child is tomorrow's citizen. Imagine little children learning about Qat boycott may result as a revolution in future. If we cannot save the current generation from QAT,let us work

for future generation. Also there should be high customs duty imposed to discourage the QAT plantation and sales, making it very expensive for the locals to buy. Also to dislocate the QAT markets from city to outskirts making the availability of QAT more diffi-

Also to help & motivate the QAT farmers with alternate solutions of plantations of other crops like sunflower and others.

Mohd Taufiq Ahmed taufiq\_abubakr@yahoo.com

> Yemenis don't have choices

Tt is unfortunate that the ■ majority of the Yemeni immigrants share your

thought regarding the politicians in Yemen. They experience the false promises every single day to a degree that they do not believe any-

As you know we are having the presidential elections in the USA in two weeks and those politicians who do not keep their promises will be removed from office. What choices do the Yemeni public has in teaching those who did not keep their promises? The answer is none and that is why the false promises will continue until the people become aware that all elected and appointed individuals are the servants of the people not their masters and should be held accountable for their good or bad deeds.

Ali Saleh Alizzani sayedalisaleh@msn.com

Haifi's link about Mossad laughable The opinion by Hassan ■ Al-Haifi trying to blame the recent bombings of Christian churches in Iraq on the Mossad and Zionists would be laughable if its repercussions were not so dangerous.

One only has to look at the trial of Abu Hamza who claims to speak in the name of "true" Islam, and calls for the killing of Jews to understand the undercurrent of Islamic society today.

It has become acceptable in Moslem countries to demonize Jews often directly but predominantly through a euphemism i.e. "Zionist".

Terrorism and internal strife will never end until true Moslems are able to stand up and speak out against elements in their society who are intolerant of all other faiths.

> Ilan Koral ikcasa@hixnet.co.za Johannesburg, South Africa



# COMMONSENSE

By Hassan Al-Haifi

# Any hopes for the coming years?

any of those who earnestly saw the George W. Bush Presidency as a deviation from the direction that the United States was to embark on following the collapse of the Soviet Union and the end of the Cold War to say the least, the latest victory in the Presidential Elections simply defied logical political explanation. The reactions of Americans, who this observer saw as being inclined towards such a feeling, on the results of the election started with a total acceptance and hope that the second Bush II Administration could pursue a path that will render it "a place in history" as the New York Times editorialized. There were more expressions of disappointment voiced by more outspoken critics of the President Bush's first go at it, and all the consequential stark realities, which they saw as being created by an unusually incomprehensible adherence to a welldefined agenda. Some of the more progressive of these American critics even called for "street" action to make it clear that America's will should simply not be allowed to be dictated by servitude to narrow interests that do not take to heart the welfare and the true feelings that Americans should really have. Whatever could be said about the recent Bush victory, one is still at a loss in trying to define the real determinant that allowed an Administration that never really offered a clearly transparent prognosis of what the agenda that it has embarked on truly entails to overcome considerable partisan and non-partisan opposition that challenged its hopes of carrying on for another term. The close results of the two candidates, George Bush and John Kerry, surely indicated that a formidable opposition to the Bush Agenda was there, but somehow lacked the moving power reach the mass American electorate. Some allude this to the powerful right wing machinery that has evolved over the last fifty years in the United States, further instilled by the last four years of the Bush Presidency. This machinery had access to unlimited assured funding, a strong and effective presence in most of the media channels and a well organized institutional framework that was coherent and well coordinated, and ready at all times to withstand any serious political or genuine challenges from civil society or more liberally oriented media. To many observers, especially outside the United States, the results clearly showed that most Americans went along with the Bush Administration, because the American right wing successfully projected itself as the only right American orientation. By a total reliance on what the right perceives as proper national sentiment, many Americans seemed to feel that the right wingers in the Bush Administration guaranteed their safety. The 9/11 attacks may have instilled in the hearts of these Americans an aura of fear, thanks to a continuous bombardment by the right of this tragic event to the American public. This was further projected by a view that only America's might could deal with any possible recurrence, even if that might by itself should be the only guarantee. The question of how this might should be used did not seem to bother most of the voters, who were persuaded by this course, Apparently many Americans had confidence in their leadership's abilities to set out the modus operandi and could not perceive their leaders' as possibly serving ulterior motives along the way towards guaranteeing the nation's security. On the other hand, it was obvious that many Americans were not equipped with the right dose of awareness on the make-up and historical developments that shape the rest of the world outside the United States. There are many misconceptions and prejudices that have yet to be addressed among the American voting public, much of which is actually institutionally inspired by religious organizations (please see http://www.landoverbaptist.org/news1104/ramadan.html for some of the worst examples of such bigotry). Some of this also is reflective of an incomplete cultural and educational achievement on the part of many Americans, who may have reached an advanced level of professional or specialized knowledge in some fields, but are not able to discern the complexities and the dynamics that make up the world at large.

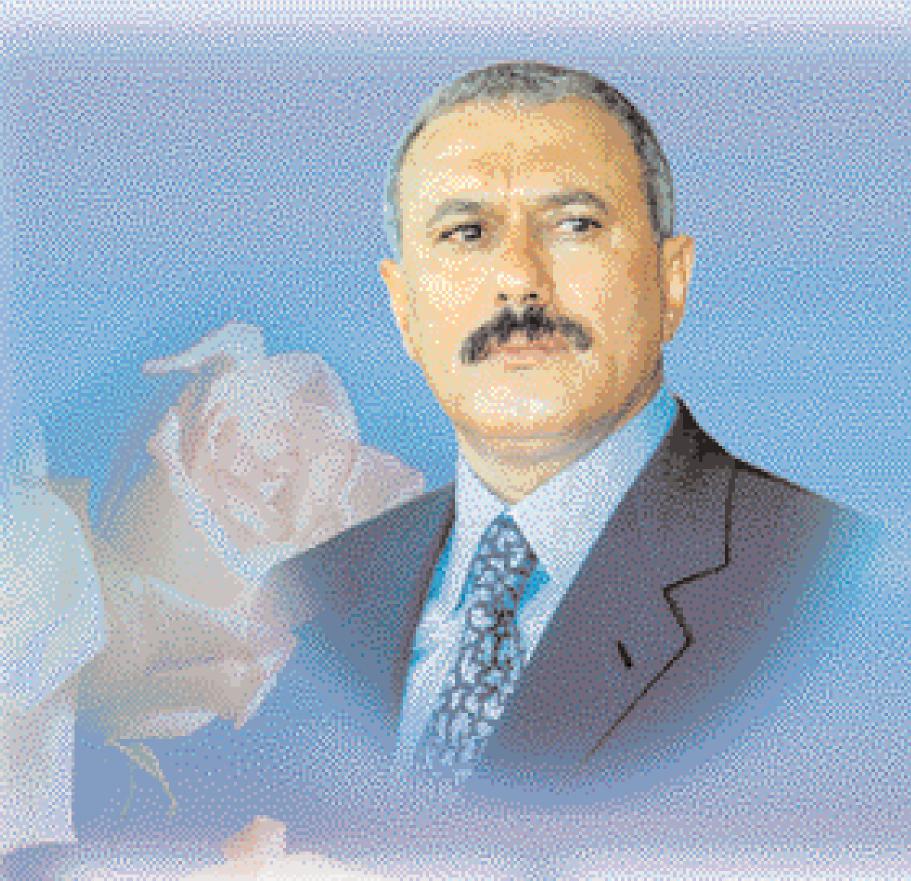
In the international community, one is bound to find a world that will expect no fundamental change in a Second Bush Administration. There is even some disillusionment and worry that the world will see more difficulty in dealing with the various issues that affect the world at large, because the Bush Administration has already set its orientation on these issues, much of which is contrary to international inclinations, and often viewed as reactionary.

For the Arab World, the reaction was somewhat indicative of a high degree of despair. The Israelis will still continue the almost unlimited blind support to the extremist right wing Israeli Government of Ariel Sharon, which the first Bush Administration was so unabashedly generous with and Iraq will be the theater for more bloodshed and uncertain political directions. Not that the Arabs were hopeful that a Kerry victory would have brought significant changes in American foreign policy towards these two issues, except for the hopes of some continuation of the unsuccessful efforts of President Clinton to achieve a lasting peace. Any hopes of a foreseeable settlement of the Palestine problem have been rendered almost impossible by the Sharon mess created over the last three and a half years, and Kerry was not expected to be carrying the magic wand that will undo so much bitterness and pain caused by the severest illegal occupation of modern

The efforts of Prime Minister to shed guidance on a needed course for the Middle East were noted, but one also recalls that Mr. Blair had made similar recommendations at the start of the first Bush Administration and apparently were received with deaf ears by the White House.

One should still however continue to have hope that the American public will find it necessary to get the second Bush Administration more responsive to international opinion and to correcting some of the excesses that were notoriously witnessed by the First Bush Administration, notably in the areas of human rights and civil liberties. That, one hopes, is still a serious matter for Americans to take note of, since that is what once was viewed as America's shining message to the





Mr. Alistair John Mooney
President and General Manager,
Mr. Ali Sohaiki
Executive Director,

The management team, all Staff of

# **Canadian Nexen Petroleum Yemen**

and its Masila Block (14) partners

Present their congratulation and sincere wishes to H. E. President

# Ali Abdullah Saleh

President of the Republic of Yemen

And to the Yemeni people on the occasion of the blessing Eid Al-Fitr.

And the 37 anniversary of the Independence Day (30 November)

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

Many Happy Returns

يتقدم السيد/ اليسترجون موني الرئيس – المدير العام، الأستاذ/ علي السحيقي المدير التنفيذي

وأعضاء الادارة العليا وكافة موظفي شركة

كتبديان نكسن بنرولېم يمن وشركائها في قطاع المسبلة (14)

بأحر التهاني والتبريكات إلى

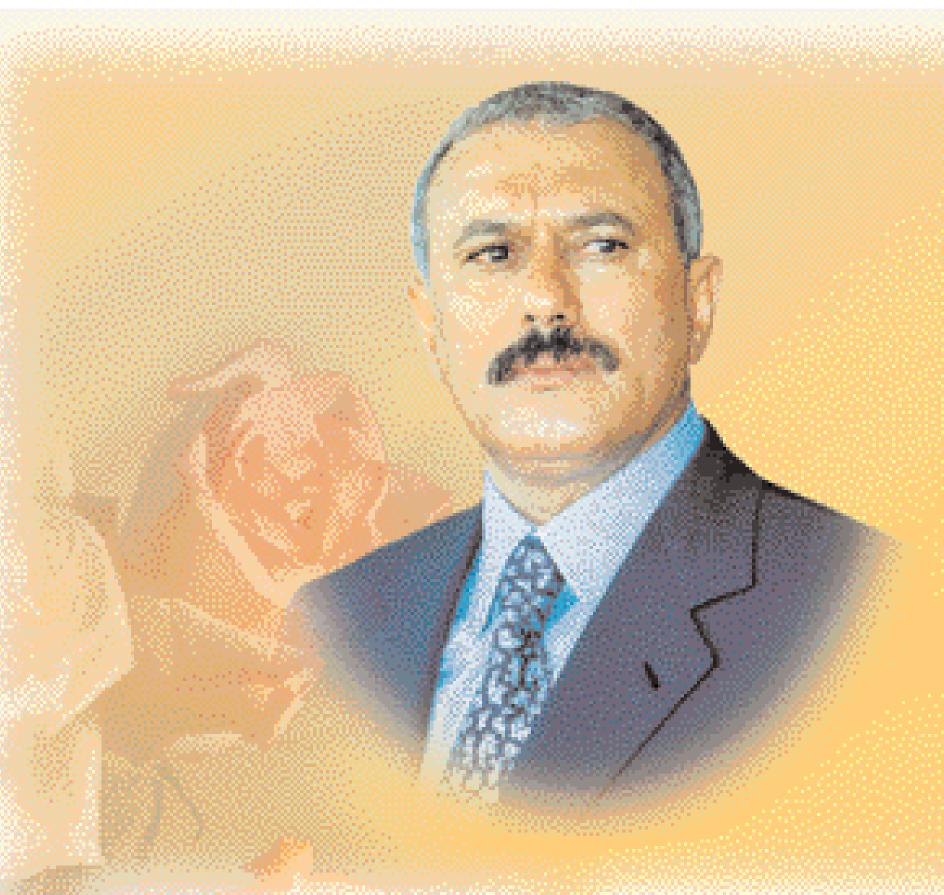
الأخ/علي عبدالله صالح حفظه الله رئيس الجمهورية اليمنية

وإلى جميع أبناء الشعب اليمني بحلول عيد الفطر المبارك والذكرى ٣٧ لعيد الاستقلال الوطني (٣٠ نوفمبر) أعاده الله على الجميع بالخير واليمن والبركات

وكل عام وإنتم بخير







Mr. David Mitchell
President and General Manager,
The Management Team and all staff of
Canadian Nexen Petroleum

East Al Hajr Block 51
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شرق الحجر/ قطاع (١٥) بأحر التهاني والتبريكات إلى

الأخ/علي عبدالله صالح حفظه الله رئيس الجمهورية اليمنية

وإلى جميع أبناء الشعب اليمني بحلول عيد الفطر المبارك، والذكرى ٣٧ لعيد الاستقلال الوطني (٣٠ نوفمبر) أعاده الله على الجميع بالخير واليمن والبركات

وكل عام وإنتم بخير





# Business

# Private sector could do better

# Yemen's investments are growing



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

verall investment in Yemen has risen from YR 284.5 billion in 2000 to YR 559.8 billion in 2003 at an average annual growth rate of 25 per cent, which is more than the targeted amount in the second five-year plan.

A government report ascribes the big increase in government investments, investments in public and mixed sectors and those of independent and annexed sectors as well as private funds.

Those investments exceeded what had been expected in the five-year plan, due to the state's goal of improving the level of the economy infrastructure and working toward improving basic services, and services of social security in a manner contributing to improvement of invest-

The report on the five-year plan, from 2001-2005 also explained that local and foreign investments have risen from YR 168.3 billion in 2000 to YR 220 billion in 2003, at an average annual growth by 9.3 per cent. This is below the annual rate of inflation for the same period, which means that the actual size of private investment has receded by an annual rate of 2.1 per cent. and that is unlike what has been targeted in the plan and expectations of the private and public sectors.

The plan was expecting that the private sector would take the initiative and embark on leading the process of investment and consequently open large-scale growing annual investments by no less than

the plans of the poverty alleviation, 23.5 per cent. The report has in this regard shown the great gap between what was expected from the private sector role in the development process mentioned in the plan and what has been realized.

> The percentage of achieving the goal has not exceeded 39.7 per cent, and thus there is clarification of the reasons behind the low-level in the rate of economic growth during that

> The report also mentioned that the government sector, and in order to attain goals of the plan and strategy for poverty alleviation, has gone beyond what was targeted in the five-year plan, whether it was in the chapter of final consumption, or particularly regarding the investment

> Nevertheless, it has indicated that the private sector has failed in reaching the target in the investment side, reflecting itself negatively at the

level of final consumer spending of the sector, and implying that there is an obvious change in structure of specifying resources.

Proportion of gross investments rose by about 8.4 per cent by virtue of the great increase in government, public, mixed, independent units and funds sectors investments. The gross of their investments has risen to the gross of investments from 40.8 per cent in the year 2000 to 60.7 per cent in 2003. Against that, investments of the local and foreign private sector recorded a retreat from 59.2 per cent to 39.3 per cent during the same period and also the retreat in the proportion of exports of commodities and services by around 4 per cent, and that had its effect in not achieving the growth rates targeted.

The second five-year plan target has been designed to realize a change in the national economy structure along with course and type of total

demand components through the creation of suitable change in spending on gross domestic product for the benefit of gross investment.

According to the report published in the Economic Supplement of Al-Thawra Newspaper, the plan has worked for realizing a big gradual increase in investment in general, from 19.2 per cent of the gross domestic product in 2000 to 28.6 per cent at the end of the plan period.

That increase depends on achievement a high average growth in private sector investment to attain a rate of 23.5 per cent and fewer rates in government and oil investment which are expected to realize an annual growth rate by 18 per cent and 10 per cent consecutively during the period of the plan. Those rates include stability in the individual income and its increase in future by mustering and distribution of investment resources in order to extend the

### **Exchange Rate for** the Yemeni Rial

Currency	Buying	Selling			
JS Dollar	185.0600	185.2400			
Sterling Pound	341.4600	341.8000			
uro	237.3100	237.5400			
Saudi Rial	49.3500	49.3900			
Kuwaiti Dinar	627.9400	628.5500			
JAE Dirhem	50.3900	50.4300			
gyptian Pound	29.6600	29.6900			
Bahraini Dinar	490.8600	491.3300			
Qatari Rial	50.8400	50.8900			
ordanian Dinar	261.0700	261.3200			
Dmani Rial	480.6800	481.1500			
Swiss Franc	155.0300	155.1800			
Swedish Crown	26.1800	26.2000			
apanese Yen	1.7394	1.7411			
ource: Central Bank of Yemen					

productive base of the national economy and increasing production efficiency as well as limiting squander in economy.

The report also expects a rise in the private sector share in investment reaching at 61.8 per cent in the final year of the plan versus a drop in proportion of government and oil investment at 38.2 per cent. This development reflects a rise in role of the private sector in development, including the transfer of administration and implementation of some productive and public services projects to the private sector via privatization that represents one of the methods of developing the private sector and increase of its role in developing the national economy and diversification of the production base.

# New measures for . . .

# Restructuring Yemen's oil & minerals sector

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

he Higher Council for Economic and Oil Affairs and Investments has recommended that the Yemeni State Establishment for Oil and Gas would represent the government for its share in the group of oil agreements that the Ministry of Oil has signed with a number of oil companies.

The Council had taken that recommendation after its approval of submitting the concluded agreements with oil companies in sectors 69, 71, 72 and 73 situated in the governorates of Shabwa and Hadramout.

The council proposed management of the government share with the contracting parties after amending all previous agreements according to which it had authorized the Yemeni branch company, which is under establishment, to participate in oil production on condition it shall issue all resolutions and necessary legal amendments.

The Higher council for Economic and Investment Affairs approved the nomination of a highly qualified international advisor for the oil ministry to help it in all aspects and measures pertaining to signing oil agreements with regards to economic, financial and consultative

The council, by choosing an



Experts believe that it is now about time for the Yemeni government to start rehabilitating and expanding the public sector facilities dealing with gas and oil, especially as new companies are now involved in new explorations in new blocs that were open for tenders many months ago. YT photo (archive)

advisor to the oil ministry, intended

agreements and commitments with clarity as well as the public interest to avoid problems resulting from oil highest degrees of transparency and of the state and investors rights.

The council has also affirmed the importance of the ministry seeking

help from a world investment company for the restructuring of the sector of oil and minerals. It has also entrusted the ministry for the reanalysis and evaluation of oil agreements through drawing up complete vision on the mechanism that should be followed in this area.

The council has also proposed the restructure of the State Establishment for Oil Investments for the purpose of activating its designed role in the oil sector and serving the Yemeni economy. These measures come following proposals presented by the International Monetary Fund to the Yemeni government concerning Yemeni oil production.

The proposals included the importance of studying alternatives to be depended on for development of the national income along with indicators assuring that oil future in the country is possibly heading for dwindling and retreat.

Nevertheless, Yemen, which produces around 450 bpd of crude oil, intends to go ahead in the process of oil discoveries of new wells and fields, especially that there are geological surveys indicating that the country possesses big opportunities for new oil discoveries.

Yemen depends on oil and gas revenues in supporting its general budget by a proportion exceeding 85% for improving its exports of non-oil commodities and goods and the improvement of its external balance of trade.

# More than two million beneficiaries

# Charitable societies active in Ramadan

By Yemen Times Staff

fficials working in the area of charitable work have estimated that there are around 2.5 million persons benefitting from programs carried out by charitable societies in Yemen during the fasting month Ramadan, despite of the harassments those societies face under pretexts of the international campaign of fighting terror.

Specialists in the area of charity

poor segments in the society are benefitting from assistance of charitable societies and mostly the aid they receive is in the form of food stuffs, clothes and money.

The specialists affirmed that the societies contributions in fighting poverty in Yemen do lessen the indignation of the people harboured against the government and drop the proportion of the poor practice in terrorist acts. Consequently those specialists have called for helping those societies

work told Yemen Times that the very in their charitable acts and works and implementation of services projects.

Despite of the large number of private and non-governmental societies in Yemen, little number of them has capabilities to fulfill offering aid and meet the goals for which they were established for.

A map for depicting such societies programs show that the Al-Saleh Social Society for Development worked for distribution of aid among 350,000 poor families at a cost of around YR 640 million.

The Society has established an Iftar (breaking fast) project in the capital included those affiliate of the Social Welfare House, Orphans House and the various societies for the handicapped and the blind. The assistance also includes Eid clothes for 3500 needy families and 4000 beneficiaries from needy families.

With regards to expansion in extending help to the poor, the Social Reform Charitable Society occupies the second place in this work. It has, among its Ramadan programs, put

offering help to more than one million individuals through offering Iftar meals at a cost of over YR 107 million and offering food assistance to 50 thousand poor families, including wheat, sugar, cooking oil, rice, and meat at a cost of over YR 44 million.

The Reform Society would in its program of Eid clothes offer clothes to 60,000 children at a cost of more than YR 165 million. It would also offer help to those staying in mosques for YR 9 million, and clothes to orphans at a cost of more than YR 5.4

Meanwhile, the Yamani Hikma Society has allotted for its Ramadan programs a total cost of more than YR 87 million.

Specialist estimated the total number of beneficiaries from Ramadan assistance at around 2.5 million poor people with a sum over YR 5 billion. Those Ramadan projects affirm the principle of social solidarity in Islam that encourages acts of charity and the help of the needy and the poor as discarding terror.



## وبشر الصابرين الذين إذا أصابتهم مصيبة قالوا إنا لله وإنا إلية راجعون خترتك ندن







الشيخ / زايد بن سلطان آل نهيان في ذمة الله تعالى

مجموعة معيد الشمس للخدمات ممثلة بالإستاذ / حسن ربيع بن غريب رئيس المجموعة والأستاذ/ عزيز ربيع بن عريب مدير عام المجموعة تتقدم بأحر التعاري و أصدق المواساة الى سعادة الأستاذ الفاضل/

حمد بن سعيد بن حمد الزعابي سقعر دوثة الإمارات وذلك في وفاة فقيد الأمة العربية والإسلامية المغفور لة بإذن الله تعالى الشيخ /

> زاید بن سلطان آل نهیان رنيس دولة الإمارات العربية المتحدة

الذي إنتقل إلى جوار رية، وإننا إذ نشاطركم العزاء في الفقيد الراحل نتمنى من الله اعلعلي القدير أن يتغمد الفقيد بواسع رحمتة وأن يسكنة فسيح جناتة و أن يلهمكم أنتم وأهلة وذوية والشعب الأماراتي الصبر والسلوان .. وإنا لله وإنا إلية راجعون ..



مجموعة معبد الشمس للخدمات

## Continued from page 1

## Arafat down

Before Arafat traveled to France to receive medical tests a week and a half ago, he appointed former Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas to head the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) while the current Prime Minister Ahmed Qorei is in charge of the Palestinian Authority. The Palestinian Authority is responsible for governing Palestinian territories but is viewed as being under the control of

Last Friday, representatives of Fatah met with members of militant groups Hamas and Islamic Jihad and other factions in Gaza, which was seen as showing unity. It is said that if Arafat passes away, Abbas and Qorei may team up to lead the transition before the next leader is selected.

By law, Speaker of the Palestinian

Parliament, Rouhi Fattouh, would become the leader and elections would be held within 60 days if Arafat is no longer in charge.

Some Palestinians are worried that if a replacement is needed, the new leader might offer too many concessions to Israel if the

peace process is reiuvenated.

"Palestinians do not want to retreat, and it is no time to surrender," said Walid. "Some are moderates, and they might sign a peace agree-ment under unacceptable conditions, like hand-ing over Jerusalem to the Israelis and not allow-

ing Palestinian refugees to return home."

There have been conflicting reports on Arafat's condition. Late last week, it was reported that Arafat was in a coma and was brain dead. Leila Shahid, a Palestinian spokes-woman, said soon after the report: "I can assure you that there is no brain death. He is in a coma. We don't know the type, but it's a reversible coma...given his condition and age, he is at a critical point between life and death."

Earlier this week, reports said that Arafat was in critical condition and was able to come in and out of consciousness.

When Arafat first arrived in France, it was said that he was suffering from a blood platelet deficiency. Doctors said that he did not suffer

from a fatal blood-related cancer, leukemia.

Another issue resulting from Arafat's health problems is where he can be buried if he passes away. Sharon has ordered that Arafat cannot

Arafat was confined to a compound in Ramallah for almost three years as the Israeli government accused him of supporting attacks since a Palestinian uprising started in the fall of

2000.

Up to now, Palestinian authorities have not contacted Israeli officials concerning Arafat's burial site. There are now talks between Egyptian, Israeli and French officials of having

Arafat buried in Egypt.
According to one Palestinian in Yemen, the location of Arafat being buried is not the most important issue. "I don't consider this a big problem. The most important issue is not where our leader is buried but how we will continue to fight for our cause without him," said the

Arafat escaped death numerous times in the past, including assassination attempts, the Israeli siege in West Beirut in the early eighties, a plane crash in Libya in 1992 and some health problems over the years. Many Palestinians in Yemen are hoping that Arafat will live through

"No Palestinian wants him to die because this could weaken the Palestinian cause," said Ahmed. "He is the leader we need at this time."

## Continued from page 1

# Prison beating

The International Journalists Union sent a message last week to president Saleh urging him to release Al-Khaiwani to affirm Yemen's commitment to principles of press freedom.

The Secretary General of the Union expressed his concern over the reports on Al-Khaiwani's health. He requested the president to make sure his directives are applied concerning the abolishing of journalists' imprisonment, to assert Yemen's adhering to the values of democracy, plurality and freedom of expres

"The trial and imprisonment of Al-Khaiwani has surprised the world's journalists. It is unbearable and targets journalists' work," the

The Secretary General of the Union, which is the biggest union worldwide to which Yemen's Journalists Syndicate belongs denounced the official withdrawal of Al-Nida

and Al-Huriyah newspapers' licenses. "These acts and the detention of Al-Khaiwani is a type of oppressing journalists and newspapers," the message added.

Meanwhile, tens of Yemeni journalists gathered together Saturday afternoon. Nov 6 at the gate of the Sana'a Central Prison on hearing about the Friday's attack.

at jeopardizing Al-Khaiwani. They also fearfully indicated the possibility of his death after the

series of attacks in prison. They said: "This is likely because the government has not responded to the journalists and liberty lovers' warnings about putting Al-Khaiwani among criminal convicts in prison."

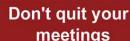
One of the PFU's leaders said: "Preliminary information reveals that the perpetrator is related to a security body that has ordered him to attack Al-Khaiwani in order to take revenge on him for his political stance and journalistic writ-





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## Somalia in spotlight

Yemeni Foreign Minister Abu Bakr Al-Qirbi told Yemen Times that Yemen's role in the efforts of reconciliation between the fighting groups is significant. He mentioned that efforts were exerted to energize talks between Somali factions prior to

the set-up of the Somali parliament and the president's election in Nairobi two weeks ago.

He pointed out that the security and stability of Somalia is key for the security of Yemen and the

### Somaliland discussed

However, reliable sources told Yemen Times that the talks also focused on the efforts made by Yemen to have an agreement reached between the Somali government and the government of Somaliliand, the self-proclaimed Republic in the north that claimed independence after the erup-

tion of the civil war in 1991.

However, Somaliland is still not officially recognized by the international community. Yemen intends to play a part in securing an agreement between Hargeisa and Mogadishu despite the fact that the Somaliland insists on

remaining as an independent state that will continue to seek international recognition. In an effort to break the isolation imposed on this territory which has been quite stable and more secure than the south, Ibrahim Othman Yousuf, a prominent figure and investor from Somaliland, was sent by the President of his state Dahir Rayale to Yemen last October with a

letter presented to President Saleh urging him to exert more efforts to have direct trade links with "There are many possibilities and potentials in cooperation between our two states. I am not demanding that Yemen recognized Somaliland as an independent state but rather to at least help the Somali brothers in this part of the country develop their standard of living by providing them with the means to boost their country's economy," Mr. Ibrahim said in an interview with Yemen Times previously. "The fact that Yemen doesn't recognize Somaliland as an independent state

# doesn't mean we cannot work together for the mutual benefit of both parties." he added.

Focus on refugee issues
Another key issue that Saleh and Yusuf discussed was the question of the flood of refugees to Yemen. Reports recently found out that hundreds of refugees flood to Yemen from Somali on a daily basis, most of them illegally. This has exacerbated the economic situation in the coun-

Yemen had said many times in the past that it inds it very difficult to accommodate hundreds of

thousands of refugees in the absence of a real contribution from the international community to this humanitarian plight. Government reports said that there are over 600,000 Somali refugees settled in various parts of Yemen while the UNHCR

says there are around 60,000 only.

Government officials blame the UNHCR for not being able to accommodate the rest of the refugees scattered in various cities in the camps set in some southern governorates like Lahj and

Yemen security officials repeatedly com-plained from the illegal infiltration of refugees from the African Horn countries as it was found that there are some gangs involved in trafficking refugees to the Yemeni shores for relatively high amounts of money. Several refugees die in their voyage to Yemen or even get killed by the traffickers themselves.

The Yemeni authorities have openly stated that one of the motives to stabilize Somali will help bring the refugees back home as the Yemeni authorities have begun to worry about the future of the Somalis who might become a minority or Yemeni land. Yemeni authorities have even start-ed drafting a law to regulate the situation of the refugees but the cabinet has not passed the law.

Furthermore, the international community showed concern over arms smuggling between Yemen and Somali, which might be used by al-Qaeda militants. A UN report issued last year raised the international concern over the illegal arms trade between Yemen and Somalia, which was accused by the US of harboring al-Qaeda

"We have strong brotherly and historical ties with Somalia and by attending this occasion, we affirm our stance towards the Somali people to keep their security, independence and unity," said President Saleh in the Kenyan capital where Abdullah Yusuf Ahmed was sworn October 10th.

Call for help We call on the international community and Arab states to help the Somali government to rebuild Somalia to enable it to take its role in the Horn of Africa for the sake of comprehensive

peace in the region," said Saleh.
Yemen's president also asked the United States, the European Union and other donor countries to provide the necessary financial support to rebuild Somalia which has been in a civil

war for the last 13 years. "We call on the United States, the European Union and all other donors to offer prompt help to Somalia so that it can restore stability and securitv." Saleh said.







## America's chickens will return to roost

# Iraq a massacre, not just a war

BY SAM HAMOD

his is a massacre, not a war in Iraq. The U.S. Samarra, Fallujah, Baghdad and other cities, killing hundreds of civilians and calling them terrorists is like the massacres of the Native Americans during America's

In this case, it has to do with America's push eastward. What is also troubling is that no major media outlet, no major politician-none are calling this what it is, an immoral, unmitigated killing of hundreds of Iraqi civilians every week.

Those who are experts in Arabic have claimed for months that the man alleged to be Zarqawi is not really Zarqawi because he does not have the real Zarqawi's Jordanian accent. But, the American military, we are positive by now, has created this mythical Zarqawi to allow it to mercilessly attack Fallujah and punish its inhabitants because they withstood the American ground attack and chased the Americans out.

Even today, the Fallujhans have said aloud to Al Jazeera and other outlets that they will come out into the streets and fight the Americans-but our country, America, is immoral and cowardly, every day attacking Fallujah by F16, Apache and long range cannon fire. In the process, killing hundreds of civilians, but as in the Viet Nam war, saying, "It's just collateral damage and we are not responsible for that."

My question then, is who is responsible for the killings. I point my finger at General Abizaid, a man who should know better. I also point the finger of guilt at his subordinate commanders in Iraq and all the way up to the two devils at the top of the pole, George W. Bush and Donald Rumsfeld.

By now, it is obvious why Bush and his cronies do not want to support the International Criminal Court and are even attacking the court at the Hague—because they know that they are breaking international laws and that they would be pulled up, kicking

and screaming ala Milosevic, to that been pointed out by Jane's of London court for their war crimes and crimes against humanity in Iraq.

It is time for Americans to speak up to stop this massacre. We are killing Iraqis in the name of "Freedom" and "Democracy!" How absurd, must we kill the Iraqis to "save them". This sounds almost like the old Salem Witch Trials, where they put people to death in order to save them. But it also smells of the aforementioned slaughter of the Native Americans by the jolly good American cavalryironically, it's the same cavalry that is repeating its deeds 200 years later, but this time against Iraqis. For shame.

Also, shame on our media outlets. our church leaders, those phony Christians, Billy Graham, Jerry Falwell, Pat Robertson-men who shall certainly be condemned to hell by God on the Day of Judgment. Some may say, I have no right to say such a thing, but all you have to do is see how they are supporting these atrocities—especially Billy Graham and his son, both men who had built reputations for decency but have now destroyed them with this endorsement of slaughter in Iraq.

As for Falwell and Robertson, they not only endorse the Iraq slaughter, they also are doing all they can to praise Sharon and Israel for their slaughter, on a daily basis for the past 3 years of Palestinians. They also cheer when Palestinian homes are bulldozed, as in the 200 taken down in the past month.

In the process, some at the UN have spoken out, even Kofi Annan, but people in America are not hearing. Instead, America is trying to distract the public with stories about Darfur, about the non-existent Zarqawi, about "staying the course" (as if there is a course and as if it is justified), and few are asking, "Just why are we in Iraq, after all, Saddam is gone?" We hear such nonsense as, "We have to stay to settle things down in Iraq." But President Jimmy Carter and most international experts say that we are the problem and that Iraqis could solve their own problems if we'd

But, as most know, and this has

and other experts in the U.S. such as Chalmers Johnson, America intends to build at least 2 dozen bases or more in Iraq to stay on—never to leave.

I want to say again, as I said in articles since Bush's invasion of Iraq; we shall pay a heavy price for this slaughter of Iraqis who are Arabs and Muslims. This slaughter, this massacre has incensed the entire Muslim world.

America is no longer respected in any part of the Muslim world. In fact, a recent poll in Egypt, one of our strongest allies in the Arab and Muslim world, showed that over 90% of the Egyptians are now angry at America. But what of the 1.6 billion Muslims in the world, many of them are so incensed that they will become militant against us. Our behavior has taken away any credibility moderates had, now the radicals can say, "See, moderation got you nowhere with

They even kicked Cat Stevens out of America, a leading moderate in England, and a man who had even given advice to the White House on how to deal with radicals." Samuel Huntington in his book, The Clash of Civilizations, claimed Islam was intent on making a war on the West. This was not true, but what has happened is that Bush and his fundamentalist Christian friends are making war on Islam-it can be seen with American troops attacking Muslims in Iraq, in Afghanistan, in the Philippines, in Indonesia, in Malaysia, in Yemen, in assisting Israel with money, weapons and expertise in their killing of Palestinians.

America may win some battles, but it losing the larger war. The entire world is condemning our behavior in Iraq as illegal and immoral. What is coming is the long term hatred of America by the majority of Muslims in the world, and some will become combatants in time-not necessarily in Iraq, but in their own countries. Bush and his massacre of Muslims is sowing anger, hatred, desire for revenge—in time, America will reap a whirlwind that the ignorant GW Bush



Make no mistake about it. America has played its last cards as a moral world leader. Our moral arguments now are laughable to the rest of the world. The word has gotten out on how we tried to remove Chavez from office in Venezuela, have placed a puppet regime in Iraq to lord over the people ala Vichy in France in WWII, have supported Israel in its massacres of Palestinians, and the continued killing and bombings of innocents in Iraq and Afghanistan, while now threatening Syria, Iran and Lebanon. It is obvious to any intelligent and moral observer that our Bush team has gone out of its mind.

And one last point, have you noticed two important things that never get into the news: 1. Israel has the second largest supply of atomic weapons in the world and has threatened to use the, but you never hear that criticized or even admitted by America. 2. Bush is afraid of North Korea because it has atomic weapons, but also because China told him in no uncertain terms, "Keep your nose out of this area or we'll bloody it for you and wreck your economy as well."

Our fearless leader is only good at killing innocent civilians through attacks from the air with F16s, Apaches and long range missiles, then calling those killed "enemy combatants," "terrorists," or combatants," "insurgents."

I hope more people in America will wake up before things get much worse. It is already too late in most cases for America to recover its place in the world. But, if we kick Bush out of office and replace his military commanders in the field, especially Myers and Abizaid, we may be able to

salvage something—but it's going to be a long, hard road and will take us decades and maybe centuries to ever again be trusted by any Muslims or Arabs in the world.

Let's call it what it is in Iraq and Palestine, massacres, not wars. Somehow, it is as if Bush and Sharon are joined together at the hip and in their immoral hearts and minds. Both are guilty of war crimes. We knew this about Sharon by recalling his infamous invasion of Lebanon in the 1980s; but we didn't know how much Bush would follow Sharon's lead and take America down this illegal and immoral path with him. Unfortunately, for America, Bush has, as President Carter said, "Destroyed our reputation in the world as a moral leader, it may take decades or more to repair the damage.

Just remember what I am saying, "This is a massacre, not a war." The Iraqis have no planes, helicopters or tanks; the Palestinians have no planes, helicopters or tanks; but America does and uses them indiscriminately, as does Israel. America should take a cue from the resistance to Israel, some day it will come here, when the people in the Muslim and Arab worlds have had enough and decide to strike back.

Woe unto us for allowing the madman Bush to kill people in Iraq, Afghanistan and by proxy, in Palestine. Some day, as Malcolm X prophesied, "The chickens will come home to roost."

Sam Hamod is an expert on Islam and the Middle East; he is a former advisor to the State Department, editor of 3rd World News and Director of The Islamic Center of Wash, DC. Watch for his new book, in 2005, ESSAYS IN TIMES OF WAR. He may be reached at shamod@cox.net.



# Reflections

By Yahya Al-Olfi

# Bush is back

# Can the leopard change his spots?

worst in the elecmatic Clinton-like figure.

It would seem that Bush's luckiest day was when Entrepreneur Bin Laden bore the responsibility for the destruction of the towers, an act, which is not sanctioned by true Islam and the like of which must be done by a non-Muslim even if the perpetrator claims otherwise.

Anyhow, this point of departure changed the destiny of Bush who last time barely won the elections through the Electoral College. The terrorist threat and the recent record of Bin Laden helped him this time to win 2004 elections, for a second term despite the fact that the American economy is not in good shape and unemployment has been on the rise.

This is partly related to his being surrounded by the warmonger Christian Zionists, who instead of taking care of today's welfare of the Americans, are preparing for the fanciful Armageddon Apocalypse.

Incidentally, both Bin Laden and Bush share being religious extremists and filthy rich. The first inducted himself as the paramount custodian of Islam and the second believes that it is his sacred duty to prepare for the divine Christian Zionist Foreboding. Senseless as it is, but this is what both

In the recent past many analysts believed Bush's promises to democratize Arab countries was to avoid future terrorist bouts. But, in the course of time he has proven being attentive to the right Christians' Ideology and the

ost Arabs and the Jewish Lobbyists such as Wolfowitz majority of other more than anything else, taking into peoples around the account Bush's conviction, owing to world wished the his being a Christian Zionist himself.

On November 04, Bush during a tion for Mr. Bush. But the result did press conference was told that Yasser not surprise anybody because the Arafat passed away and the journalist democrats lacked the needed maneu- asked for his comments on that. Bush vering this time as well as the charis- answered said that nothing would change in his Middle Eastern policy.

> The new term for Bush in case he lives up to his promises is now at hand, during which he could implement this time purely an American agenda, not an Israeli one as was the case in his first term. In case Bush persists in his current stagnant policy, a likely defeat shall unavoidably occur to his party in the year 2008.

> Let us assume that Bush would not obey his extremist fellows and shall exploit this rare chance to reach a historic long lasting solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict where both entities can live in peace.

> Let us assume that he would dry up the sources of terrorism, which emanate from corruption and dictator-

> A worse case scenario would be attacking Falluja in order to do the job as Bush says. If he ever succeeds, he would then direct his attention towards Syria and Iran. Pressurizing the first to sign a peace accord and the latter to get rid of its nuclear program. For those who know the Syrian reality, the Israelis would certainly prefer the current regime to an unstable Syria. The Americans too will be reluctant if there is no Israeli impulse.

> In fact Bush can force the reforms, if the will is there, knowing that none of them would like to meet the fate of Saddam but as long as America gets its golden egg, time has not come to implement Democracy as is the case in an Islamic country like Indonesia.

## State sovereignty needs limits

# Getting away with murder in Darfur

BY RICHARD N. HAASS

arfur is shorthand for the latest example of a recurring international problem, one that gained headlines a decade ago in Rwanda. What should the world do when a large number of people are the victims of violence originating from within their own country?

Darfur itself is a region of Western Sudan comprised of Arab and African Muslims. Conflict erupted in early 2003 when rebels of the Sudan Liberation Movement attacked government troops in an effort to gain greater autonomy and resources for their region. Sudan government aircraft and government-supported troops (known as jangaweed) retaliated against not only armed rebels but also against civilians deemed to be supporting them. Villages have been emptied, women raped, non-Arab men killed.

The origins of the current crisis may be in some dispute, but the costs are not. More than 50,000 men, women and children have lost their lives; more than 1.5 million have been made homeless. This is arguably genocide, a word used by the U.S. government but by few others to describe what is going on

Meanwhile, world leaders are debating what if anything should be done. UN Security Council Resolution 1564, passed on 18 September 2004, reserves the bulk of its criticism for the government of Sudan. But the UN is not yet prepared to go beyond words. The resolution threatens that the Security Council will consider imposing sanctions against Sudanese leaders or against the country's important oil sector, but introduces no penalties at this

Why the hesitation? More than anything else it stems from international reluctance to challenge any government over what it is doing within its own territory. This reflects a widelyheld view of sovereignty, one that allows governments to do essentially what they want within their own bor-

moded. To begin with, there is a moral element. There is something wrong in looking the other way when one's fellow human being is being slaughtered. We all have some basic obligation to

Such thinking is inadequate and out-

There are as well pragmatic considerations. In a global world, what happens within one country can all too easily affect others. For example, refugees leaving Sudan can strain the stability of neighboring Chad.

Opposition to genocide and other large-scale acts of violence against a population also reflects the established principle that citizens as well as governments have rights. This principle is enshrined in various international documents, beginning with the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Governments ought not to be allowed to massacre their own people. And weak governments should not be allowed to permit massacres to take place on their own territory even if they are not themselves carrying out the

What all this adds up to is a requirement for a concept of state sovereignty that is less than absolute. To be precise, we need to embrace a contractual approach to sovereignty, one that recognizes the obligations and responsibilities as well as the rights of those who enjoy it. Such an approach to sovereignty would essentially communicate to governments and their leaders that the rights and protections they associate with statehood are in fact conditional. and that governments and leaders would forfeit some or, in extreme cases, all of these rights and protections if they failed to meet their obligations.

This idea will only have an impact if the international community is prepared to go beyond voicing this principle and accept the necessary consequence: that other states and the world at large have a right and a duty to act to protect innocent life when it is jeopardized on a large scale.

Some movement in just this direction was suggested by widespread international support for the humanitarian interventions in Bosnia, Kosovo, and East Timor. Another sign of change is the basic document ("Constitutive Act") of the African Union, the regional organization launched in July 2000 to replace the ineffective Organization of African Unity. After citing the principle of noninterference by one member state in the internal affairs of another, the document goes on to declare "the right of the Union to intervene in a member state pursuant to a decision of the assembly in respect of grave circumstances, namely war crimes, genocide and crimes against humanity." Intervention in such circumstances can take any number of forms, from public

rhetoric and private diplomacy to economic and political sanctions to armed intervention.

All of which brings us back to Darfur. What needs doing? There is a need for massive assistance to the displaced people of Darfur. Those who have survived conflict require help if they are not to succumb to disease and starvation. There is also every reason to renew diplomatic efforts to bring about a lasting cease-fire and, following that, a settlement that addresses the grievances that helped bring about this crisis in the first place.

Two other points require highlighting though. First and consistent with UN Security Council Resolution 1564, countries should provide the African Union with the logistical, material, and financial help it has asked for. With such support, AU-authorized troops could guard the refugee camps and, over time, protect villages so that men, women and children could return home

Second, the UN ought to make good on its threat and impose sanctions against the Sudanese government unless it stops using its aircraft to destroy villages and unless it stops supporting the jangaweed. Criminal indictments for war crimes ought to be issued against specific officials who do not comply.

It is important that the world act, not simply to save the people of Darfur, but to prevent future Darfurs. A great deal of innocent human life depends on it.

Richard N. Haass, a former Director of Policy Planning in the US State Department, is President of The Council on Foreign Relations.

# With Two New Airbus Aircraft **Yemenia Boosts Its Long Range Reach**

ast Wednesday October 27 2004 saw the launching of the first of two new Airbus Aircraft to be added to Yemen Airlineis (Yemenia) fleet of long distance and large passenger capacity aircraft. President Ali Abdullah Saleh attended the ceremony for launching the first of two brand new Airbus A330-220 jet planes that was turned over to Yemenia. The second of the newly manufactured aircraft, built with Yemeniais own specifi-



Captain Abdul-Khaleq Al-Qadhi, **Chairman of the Board of Directors of** Yemen Airways Co.

cations, will be turned over next month and this will increase the Airbus Fleet of Yemenia to 6 Airbus aircraft. The two new aircraft will definitely help boost Yemeniais ability to also meet the increasing demand for its long range flights and enhance the ability of the company to compete in the international air carriers market. Yemenia recently has expanded its long reach capabilities to such distant locations as Kuala Lumpur, Jakarta and Prague. In addition, this will also increase the capacity of the national airlines of the Republic of Yemen to increase service to the existing international destinations that are also witnessing increased demand, such as Bombay, Karachi, Bangkok, London, Frankfurt, Istanbul etc, as well as the regional destinations of Jeddah, Riyadh, Cairo, Beirut, etc.

The addition of these two new aircraft comes within the framework of Yemeniais plans for modernizing and upgrading its fleet and to enhance its ability to compete in the international aviation markets, and improve its domestic

The French manufactured aircraft is estimated to cost US \$ 140 million each and Yemenia acquired the aircraft through an eight-years leasing contract with an American company. The two planes were manufactured to meet the specification requirements set

modern airline pas-

sengers would

expect in a modern air-

craft, including enter-

tainment facilities

multi-

by Yemenia, and include all the state of the arts technical advances that the airline industry has incorporated in modern passenger aircraft. The new aircraft will also be equipped with all the digital technology that



capacity of 277 passengers and is able to carry 25 tons of cargo. In addition the new airplane will be able to fly non-stop for 15 hours and will enable Yemenia to add new long distance stops to its present long haul flights and thus boost sales of from long distance passengers coming and leaving Yemen. The new planes will also help to expand the domestic flights to meet the increased demand for domestic tourism that Yemen is recently witnessing, especially Sanaía to Aden, Sanaía to Mukalla and other major towns of the Republic.

Yemenia has been a long time effective factor in the enhancement of tourism to Yemen and has also helped to provide comfortable travel services to and from Yemen for the large Yemeni expatriate communities in many of the neighboring states and the Europe and the

attention and guidance of HE President Ali Abdullah Saleh. This visit by the President only confirms the due care and interest that the President is directing towards this sector of the Yemeni economy and his recognition of the role that Yemenia plays in contributing to the growth of this vital sector.

The increased capacity to be provided by the two new Airbus aircraft will help enhance Yemeniais capacity to provide national airline services based on economic considerations, which helps to maintain the ability of Yemenia to remain sustainable without requiring any subsidization, as is the case with many other national air carriers. In addition, the two new aircraft will provide all the facilities and conveniences that modern air travel can provide and will of course have the added amenities of comfortable seats, greater leg room and multimedia entertainment.

> The two planes will also increase the total number of aircraft in the Yemenia jet aircraft fleet to 12 modern jet planes. The fleet will now consist of the two new Airbus aircraft plus the 4 previous Airbus aircraft already owned by Yemenia, and the 3 Boeing 737ís and 3 Boeing 727ís.

Yemenia has a

of development beginning as a private

company that started in the middle of the last century with a couple of used DC ñ 3ís, becoming the national airlines after the Captain Abdul-Khaleq Al-Qadhi, Revolution of September 26, 1963 and begin-Chairman of the Board of Directors of ning its acquisition of modern jet aircraft in the late 1970ís.

long history

a l

Yemenia works diligently to enhance the capabilities of its human resources through technical training arrangements with leading renowned international air passenger carriers and the manufacturers of the aircraft it possesses. Yemenia fully relies on Yemenis to fill its staffing needs and assures that no expatriate staffing is needed to fill its human resource requirements. For many Yemenis, Yemenia represents a leading pioneer in the economic development of Yemen and is viewed by most of its international passengers as a capable airlines that is at par with

firm that Yemenia will continue its strides towards developing into a major international air carrier that will give Yemen an international recognition it is worthy of, while at the same time not compromising with the quality service that Yemeniais passengers have been accustomed to at competitive prices.

United States, not to m e d i a mention serving internaaccess. tional passengers coming to Yemen. These additional aircraft will maintain Yemenia's ability to keep pace with modern advances in airline transportation and thus keep the competitive edge that will help Yemenia maintain its place in the mar-Yemen Airways Co. confirmed in a news conference after the launching ceremony, which was attended by HE President Ali Abdullah Saleh, that the newly acquired aircraft will keep Yemenia up to international airlines standard and further assure the national carrier an assured place for Yemenia in the highly competitive international air carriers industry. Captain Al-Qadhi pointed out that the acquisition of the two planes comes within the context of keeping pace with the increased economic growth witnessed by Yemen in several fronts, especially tourism, which is considered one of the most promising developing industries in Yemen, which enjoys the person-

the highest of international industry standards. The latest plane acquisitions only goes to con-

# **Documentary Letter of Credit**

By Sa'eeda Obaid Ali Obaid HODEIDAH

#### Introduction

The term Documentary Credit refers to the boundless field of transactions which is rich with miscellaneous rules to follow, cases to study, and the like. It is one of the best and safest payment commitments in which the two important parties, buyer and seller, are assured of attaining safely their ends; the buyer gets his goods and the seller obtains his money, both through documents. This process is effected through the banks decided on by the buyer and seller.

In Yemen Bank for Reconstruction & Development, Trade Services Department, I was honoured as a trainee to have a short exposure to the practicalities of Documentary Credits and their relative transactions. It was extremely beneficial for me. As the poet remarks "Little drops of water, little grains of sand, make the mighty ocean and the pleasant land", I got from this limited exposure assured sat-

My voyage came to the end, and I found that a report should be written to record what I learned in a systematic and organized way. With definitions and summerized explanation to the parties concerned in the process, I started the report in order to elaborate what I thought vague at the beginning. The report also illustrates the transactions from which the Documentary Credit is opened till it reaches its end. An illustration for the application form is completely explained to be a reference to me and to anyone may read this humble report. I concluded with a short idea of Collection Basis as another way of payment.

#### **Documetary Letter of Credit**

A Documentary Letter of Credit is a payment undertaking by the Issuing Bank on the request of the applicant (buyer), for opening a credit in favour of the beneficiary (seller). Its amount and duration are decided when opening

A Documentary Credit is subject to the presentation of stipulated documents to be offered by the beneficiary through his bank, that is why it is called Documentary Letter of Credit.

#### **Interested Parties in Documentary Letter of Credit**

### **Applicant:**

An applicant is another name for the buyer who applies to the Issuing Bank for opening a Documentary Credit. The buyer carries out this step on the base of prior contract with the beneficiary to decide on the terms and conditions required. The applicant must follow what has been agreed on, otherwise the beneficiary will ask for an amendment.

#### **Beneficiary**

A beneficiary is also called seller. He is the party for whom a Documentary Credit is opened. The beneficiary has to supply the stipulated documents in accordance with the applicant's requirements. He should make sure that all the conditions have been complied with before sending the documents, otherwise payment will not be fulfilled. The beneficiary should be aware enough to avoid the unwanted consequences and wastage of time.

Issuing bank is the bank in which the applicant requests opening a Documentary Credit in favour of the beneficiary. The Issuing bank is liable to pay to the beneficiary through his bank and be reimbursed from the applicant. It has to advise the beneficiary's bank of opening the credit. The Issuing bank is also responsible for examining all the documents being received from the beneficiary to ensure that all the terms have been complied with. If the documents are not satisfying, the bank advises the applicant of the discrepancies found and finds out if he accepts them or not. On the other hand, if the documents are accurate and appropriate, the Issuing bank reimburses the beneficiary.

### **Advising Bank**

Advising bank is the bank that advises the beneficiary of opening the Documentary Credit by the applicant through his bank (Issuing bank). The Advising bank is usually a local bank in the beneficiary's country. One task the advising bank performs is to send the documents to the Issuing bank. No payment liability to fall upon it, even if the Issuing bank did not pay the beneficiary. A specific advising bank is sometimes required by the beneficiary.In this case, the Documentary Credit is called "restricted credit". The credit is, on the other hand, called "unrestricted " when the beneficiary does not specify the advising bank.

#### **Confirming Bank**

The Advising bank may accept to confirm the credit according to the Issuing bank's request. In this case, the liability, like the Issuing bank, falls upon it to reimburse the beneficiary. Since the Advising bank becomes responsible for payment, it has the right to evaluate the Issuing bank's status in order to insure paying back to it.

#### **Reimbursing Bank**

Reimbursing Bank is the bank with which the Issuing Bank maintains an account. The Reimbursing Bank can pay to the beneficiary's bank if it is instructed to do so.

#### The Transactions of Opening A **Documentary Credit**

In the transactions of opening a Documentary Credit, there are many things to be understood and done by the interested parties.

Before the applicant requests for opening a Documentary Credit in favour of the beneficiary, there should be a contract between them. This contract is usually pictured to a Proforma Invoice. In this invoice, the applicant and the beneficiary decide on the terms and conditions of the credit to be opened. These conditions may include the following:

- Description of goods; quantity, size, unit price, total price ...etc.
- Delivery terms; FOB, CIF, C&F, or
- · Shipment details; loading port, destination port ...etc.
- Vessel; age, allowance of entry to the country, and other details.
- Documents; Commercial Invoice, Bill of Lading, Packing List, Certificates of the Vessel ...etc.

After the applicant and beneficiary completed the contract, the applicant applies for opening a credit through the Issuing bank in favour of the beneficiary named and addressed in the Proforma Invoice. The Issuing bank gives the applicant a form to fill in. This application form is called "REQUEST FOR OPENING DOCU-MENTARY CREDIT ".

### **How Does a Documentary Credit**

In the following lines, the "REQUEST FOR OPENING DOCU-MENTARY CREDIT " as the very beginning step to be taken, will be explained with definitions and explanation for the terms being provided in

### **Types of Documentary Credits**

The main two types of Documentary Credits are either "revocable" or "irrevocable". It should be decided whether the credit is revocable or irrevocable. If it is not, the bank (Issuing Bank) considers the credit irrevocable for its much certainty.

### **Revocable Documentary Credit**

A revocable credit is a credit that can be amended or cancelled by the Issuing Bank (usually follows the instructions of the applicant). This is the main reason, why most sellers do not accept such type. Another proof for its uncertainty is that the Issuing Bank has to reimburse the beneficiary if the buyer cancelled the credit. The revocable credit cannot be cancelled if the required documents were presented, meeting the conditions of the credit.

### **Irrevocable Documentary Credit**

This credit is much certain and liable. In this type, all the interested parties must be advised of any amendment or modification made in the credit. In our circumstances, this type is much used because the beneficiary can guarantee payment to him against appropriate set of documents.

The following types of credits are

relative to either the credit is revocable or irrevocable.

#### **Confirmed Documentary Credit**

If the credit is stipulated to be confirmed, this means that the Advising bank or any other bank, that accepts to be the Confirming Bank, has similar responsibility like the Issuing Bank to pay to the beneficiary. This condition is usually required by the beneficiary when the applicant's bank, Issuing Bank, has a low credit class or is not well-known among other banks. Including a confirming bank in the credit is much guarantee to the beneficiary to obtain his money.

#### **Unconfirmed Documentary Credit**

In an unconfirmed credit, the Advising Bank merely undertakes passing the credit to the beneficiary and advising him of opening the credit. No any other responsibility to fall upon the Advising Bank regarding payment. In this type, the Issuing Bank is the only and mere pary who is liable for payment. No other party concerned is responsible for payment.

#### **Transferable Documentary Credit**

If the credit is marked transferable, this means the same credit, either the whole or part of it, can be transmitted to another party (second beneficiary)by the first beneficiary. This type is required when the first beneficiary is not able to fulfill the applicant's order. The applicant in this credit should be aware that the credit is the so-called.

#### Back-to-Back **Documentary** Credit

This credit used when the seller (beneficiary) needs another source of goods to fulfill the order of the buyer (applicant). The beneficiary as a reaction opens another credit(s). In the case of back-to-back credit, the beneficiary hides the identity of the second beneficiary from the applicant in order to screen the commission he may get from the second beneficiary. The main difference between transferable credit and back-to-back is the first beneficiary, in the latter credit, opens a new credit in favour of the second beneficiary, whereas in the transferable credit, the same credit is transmitted.

### **Revolving Documentary Credit**

When the applicant wants to import a large quantity of goods, he can opens a revolving credit. In this type,the applicant automatically renews the credit with the same amount and quantity in a certain time defined.

### **Cumulative Documentary Credit**

This credit is very much related to the revolving credit.If the credit is cumulative revolving credit, this means that the beneficiary is permitted to maintain the amount not being involved in the previous specified periods. This amount can be added to the period to follow.

#### Name and Address of Beneficiary and Applicant

In this term, the beneficiary and applicant's details should accurately be filled in. First, the beneficiary's name and address, second, applicant's name and address. Accuracy is required, so that the potentiality of any discrepancy to ocurr is very little.

### **Amount of Credit**

- Up to the aggregate amount of; the total amount of the credit.
- For an amount not exceeding; the amount should not exceed the mentioned amount.
- For an amount of about; the amount mentioned in the documents may be less or more than the one in the application.
- For an amount of plus or minus %; the percentage of the increased or decreased amount is mentioned.

#### **Terms of Sale (Delivery Terms)** The applicant should tick one of the

delivery terms he and the beneficiary agreed about in their contract.

FOB: (Free on Board) this means that the amount includes the cost of the goods and the expenses of delivery of goods on board of a named loading

CIF: (Cost,Insurance,Freight) this means the amount includes the cost of goods and the expenses related to insurane and freight. Insurance,in this

case, is the beneficiary's responsibility C&F: (Cost and Freight) the amount includes the cost of the goods and all the transportation and freight charges

to the named port of destination. Ex: the amount includes only the cost of goods. In other words, the buyer bears the transportation charges from factory or warehouse to the loading port, the loading charges from the wharf to the vessel, the freight charges from the loading port to the destination port, and insurance.

#### **Ways of Payment**

Here,the applicant chooses the way he pays to the beneficiary.

This is decided according to the con-

Sight: The applicant through his bank pays as soon as the documents arrive. Before payment, the Issuing Bank examines the documents to ensure its perfection or imperfection.

Usance: In general, payment is deferred to a certain period decided to be after delivery of documents by applicant and beneficiary. The applicant types the specified period e.g two months from date of B/L.

#### **Documents Required**

• Document of clean on board ocean Bill of Lading (document signed which shows receipt by a shipping company "carrier" of goods to transport to a named port ), Airway Bill (document signed by an airline to indicate transportation of goods by air to destination point), Landway Bill (document signed to indicate overland transportation). The other options indicate transportation by post. This document should as indicated application, that the order maker is the Yemen Bank For Recon. & Dev. This provides much guarantee to the Issuing Bank. The shipment date, port of shipment and port of destination should be indicated in this document. The document should be marked either Freight Prepaid (in case of CIF & C&F)or Freight Payable at Destination (in case of FOB and Ex ). The document should be notified to the buyer or who may receive the goods on his behalf.

- Insurance to be effected..etc is marked when term of delivery is C&F, FOB or Ex, mentioning the Insurance Company.
- · Certificate of Origin (this certificate proves the origin of the

goods ). The no. of original and copies of the certificate is indicated according to buyer's need. The certificate is required to be issued or certified by the Chamber of Commerce of manufacturing country, and legalized by Yemeni or Arab embassy or consulate available in the country orginating the

- Packing List's number (document that particularizes the content of goods being shipped).
- Certificate states that the carrying vessel is not Israeli and is not permitted to load in any Israeli port or like.
- Signed Commercial Invoice (document contains description of goods. This description must correspond exactly to description in the Documentary Credit ) showing the name of manufacturer.
- The applicant should be aware enough when describing the goods. He should also refer to the attached Proforma Invoice for more details.
- The original Commercial Invoice should be also certified by the Chamber of Commerce.

There may be other requirements the applicant has not mentioned in the Proforma Invoice or like.Some of these requirements can be, the trade mark should be printed on carton, details of packing, other required certificates...etc.

Here to indicate whether the banking fees and charges are to be borne by beneficiary or applicant.

The applicant should also indicate whether partshipment (shipping in lots ) is allowed or not.

Transshipment means the goods can be carried to another port before they reach the destination port. Sometimes, the vessel may be substituted by anoth-

The latest date for negotiation is expiry date of negotiation.

The following is an authorization from the applicant to the bank in which they agree on what is mentioned. This authorization is followed by the appli-

# A letter to the teachers of English: 65

# **Develop writing skills** of your students (4)



(BOSE@y.net.ye) Associate Professor of Faculty of Arts, Ibb.

Dear Fellow teachers,

y last letter may give you some idea about the teaching of writing in the beginners class, but I'm afraid you don't have much help by way of materials. I'm planning to produce some useful copybooks soon, which will help you and your learners in this

After practicing the strokes and curves for quite some time, learners can move on to write the letters; you should be with them to guide them at this stage because it is a crucial stage. Letters a, c, d, e, g, m, n, o, q, u can be drawn out of curves and other letters out of strokes. Tracing the letters can help the learners before they start writing the letters. Tracing means making them practise each letter overwriting it on the shape of the letter given in dots. This is useful for the beginners for getting the shape of each letter correctly.

The next step will be writing each letter independently; there should be more practice at this stage under the supervision of the teacher. Attention should be paid to the hand movement, size and shape of the letters; they should also be taught the difference between the shape and size of small and capital letters. It is suggested that, while using the four-ruled copybook, the capital letters are written using lines 1, 2 and 3 (no capital letter will touch line 4) and the small letters using lines 2 and 3 except in the case of **b**, **d**, **h**, **k**, **l**, where we use line 1, in the case of g, j, p, q where we use line 4 and in the case of **f** where we use all the 4 lines. This point will be clear only if you look at a good copybook or the handwriting books accompanying the CECY books.

After successfully practicing individual letters, we should teach them how to join the letters with one another. Before practicing joining the letters, they can practice writing words without joining the letters for some time. Joining the letters follows certain rules according the shape of the letters. For example, letters a, c, d, e, h, i, k, l, m, n, t, u end with a right hand curve (the hand moves towards right while ending the letters) whereas the letters  $\mathbf{b}$ ,  $\mathbf{g}$ ,  $\mathbf{j}$ ,  $\mathbf{p}$ ,  $\mathbf{s}$ ,  $\mathbf{y}$  end with a left hand curve, and so joining the former with the following letters will be easier than the latter. The latter, therefore, are not joined with the following letters at all; similarly letters q, r, x and z are not joined with the following letters. The letters  $\mathbf{f}$ ,  $\mathbf{o}$ ,  $\mathbf{v}$  and  $\mathbf{w}$  are joined with the following letters at the top. The capital letters are not joined with the following letters at all. These rules, if followed, will make your writing easy, fast and legible, which are the qualities of good handwriting. I am aware that all these are better understood while practicing writing than through my explanation in this

It is unfortunate that I am not able to provide you with a model for whatever I have said in this letter because of my insufficient technical knowledge in the use of the computer. Insha Allah, the Inspectorates in the Ministry of Education will be able to help you with some useful materials in this regard. If you want more information in any of the aspects that I have discussed in these letters, you are welcome to contact me. Try to teach your learners good handwriting at whatever level they are. I learnt the italic writing only when I was a teacher trainer. Age is no bar for learning. You can learn italic writing before you teach your learners. Good

> Yours fraternally, Dr.M.N.K.Bose.

cant's name, account no., signature and

Note: In the case any correction or modification made in the application form, the applicant's signature or like should be followed.

The applicant after filling in the application form offers it to the bank.

The bank checks the conditions of the application form. The bank before accepting the appli-

cation should check the applicant's financial status. After accepting the application, the

applicant offers the "Insurance Cover Note document". In case the delivery term is CIF, the applicant does not. The credit is typed by

SWIFT(SWIFT is the substituted communication network for Telex in the Yemen Bank)to be sent to The Advising Bank to advise the beneficiary of opening the credit.

The seller checks whether the credit matches the terms of the contract. If there is anything that may cause confusion, an amendment should be requested from the applicant. The applicant asks the Issuing Bank for making and sending the required amendment.

The seller submits the required documents to the Advising Bank. The Advising Bank (Negotiating Bank) checks whether the documents correspond to the terms of the credit.

The documents are sent to the Issuing Bank to also check them for discrepancies. The applicant is notified of the arrival of the documents and discrepancies if found. The discrepancies

that may occur are: \* The B/L may not be marked "

- Clean on Board " \* The amount mentioned in documents may not conform with the amount in the DC terms.
- \* The Commercial Invoice may not be legalized by Yemen Embassy.
- \* The D.O.C. & S.M.C. certificates may not be attached with documents.
- \* Late presentation of documents. \* Contradiction in the name and address of the beneficiary.
- \* The no. of DC may wrongly be typed and like.

In the case of acceptance, which is more usual, a message by SWIFT is sent to the Negotiating Bank to inform acceptance. The Issuing Bank debits the buyer

and releases the documents, so that he can claim his goods.

After that, the transaction of payment is made. The Issuing Bank authorizes the Reimbursing Bank to pay to the Negotiating Bank then to the

### **Collection Basis**

Collection Basis is another payment transaction which is quicker than the Documentary Credit transaction, but less safe than credit; the seller has no way to guarantee payment to him.In Collection Basis, the task that falls upon the bank is only following up payment to seller on maturity date. No other payment responsibilities to be taken in the account of the bank.





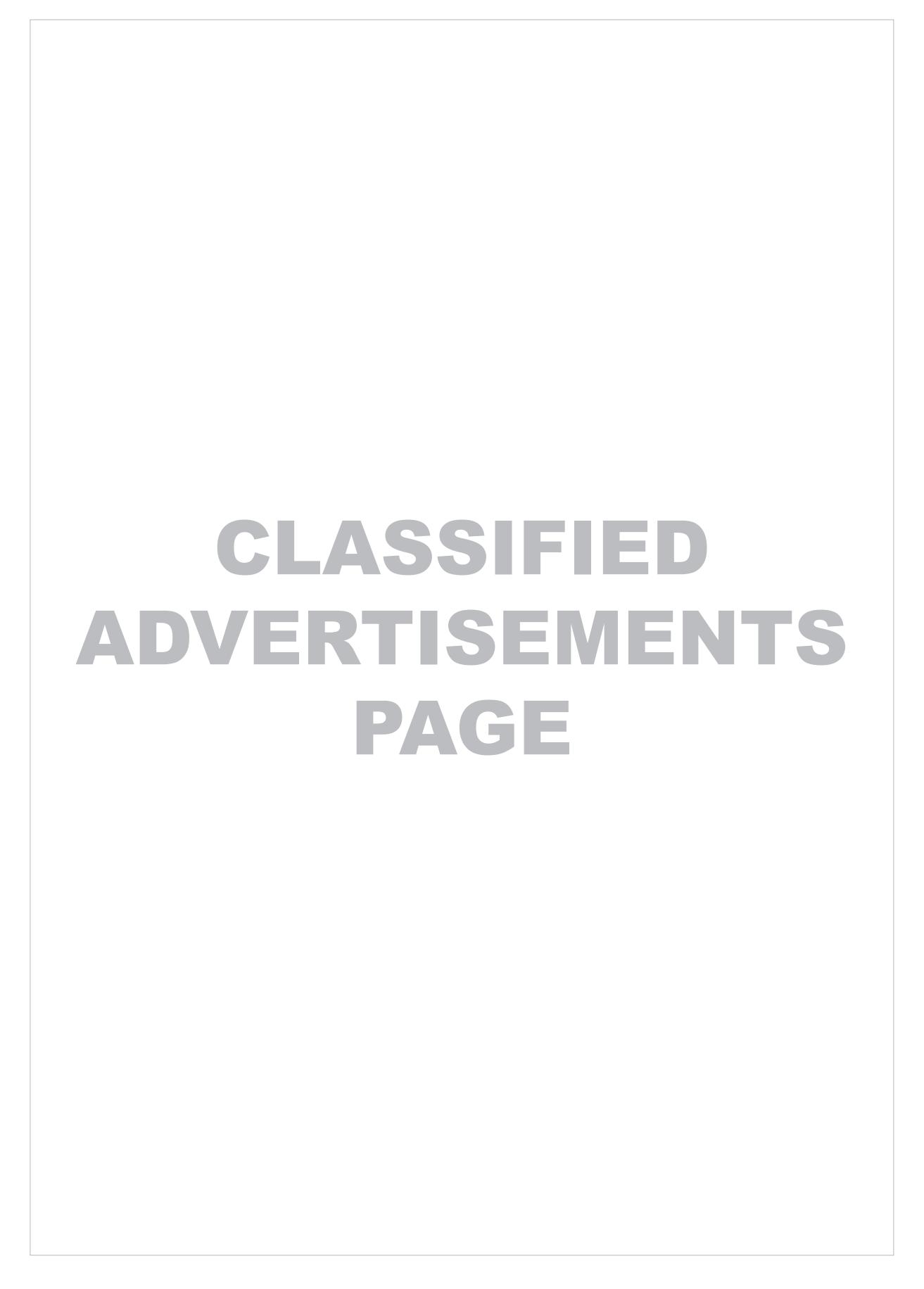
Whatever! Life is a smile

Life is a smile, it is not a tear Count on your courage instead of your fear Life isn't to sit on a throne Life is to try to break the stone Life is a great book, a long story Which embodies failure and glory Life is not always great Life is sometimes bad fate So, if the days are so unkind And in the dark, yourself, you find You must know that the sun will soon

And that everything will be just fine.

Life never stays bad for long I enjoy life and care to live I like to take and love to give I need to risk, I have to toss I love to challenge, yet for losing go But soon I realize it isn't that bad I get up again try and try If I succeed, I touch the sky Life is great and if bad for a while Be sure, tomorrow is carrying a smile.

By Helal I. Ahmed



### البنائد النجاري اليهنم YEMEN COMMERCIAL BANK MERCIA البنك الذي يمنح المناهما " المالية الم **HIGHEST RATE OF** اعلى سعر فائدة على الودائع لأجل KAIE UF المحاسور فائدة على الودائع لأجل in Yemeni Riyal or US Dollar بالربال اليمني والعملات الاحتيية Head Office: Al-Rowaishan Building, Al-Zubairy St- P.O.Box:19845 or 160 Sana'a E-Mail address: ycbho@y.net.ye,Web Site:w ww.ycbank.com, Fax:(967-1) 284656, Secretary Telfax:(967-1) 277238, Exchange:(967-1) 284272/6, Tel: 277324, 277378, 277354, 277381,Telex: 3427 YCBHOS YE.

## Yemen's history

# Socotra, Azania and the axis of Yemenite colonialism (Part 3 in a series)

Through the text we realize that Socotra belonged to the king of Hadhramawt (Frankincense-bearing Country) who had his capital at Saubatha (Shabwa), and his main harbour - port of call at Kane (Husn al Ghurab. nearby Bir Ali).

Even more explicit reference is made to the fact that Eleazos of the frankincensebearing country kept a garrison on the island! The author establishes a parallel between the overseas possessions of Eleazos (i.e. Soqotra) and those of Kharibael, king of Sheba and Himyar (i.e. Azania, the Eastern African coast). What are the African colonies at Azania to Kharibael, is Soqotra to Eleazos.

This is the Yemenite concept of colonialism, and it implies 'overseas' possessions. It places Yemen at the side of the grand naval powers of world history, the Phoenicians, the Carthaginians, the Athenians

Yemen, on the basis of this text, is not to (and actually cannot) be classified among the great continental empires, Assyria, Babylonia, Egypt, Persia, Macedonia or Rome. Maritime Colonial Yemen was a complex of two countries that could easily have annexed, the first (Sheba and Himyar), Arabia and, the second (Hadhramawt), Omana.

Acting in cooperation, as peace seems to have prevailed between them. Kharibael and Eleazos, could have controlled all the landmass of the Arabic peninsula, making common border with the Romans and the Persians! But this was not their predestination, this was not their inclination, this was not their nature.

To Kharibael the area of Rhapta (Dar es Salam at Tanzania) was closer than Yathrib (Madina) in Hedjaz! Of course, geographically speaking, this is wrong, but such was the sense, the feeling, and the naval predestination of them.

And Eleazos believed that his borders should necessarily encompass Soqotra (and even sent soldiers there), whereas he did not bother to control the strategic area of Omana

This reveals that the real inclination, the

subconscious depth of the Yemenite soul are to be found in the Sea. This has absolutely nothing to do with inland dwellers and coast inhabitants; and it is irrelevant of any sort of 'division' of Yemen to North and South.

On the contrary, it serves as a proof that there is a very deep, subconscious, National Yemenite psychic amalgamation encompassing all the people living between Najran and Oman, that turns them to the .. Yemenite Ocean.

It is impressive that these states were not ruled from coastal cities: both capitals, that of Kharibael and that of Eleazos, were located in several days trip distance, deep inside the Yemenite inland, but this does not change at all the common deployment of great interest for overseas activities, not land expansion.

What moves our fascination is the fact that Kharibael and Eleazos, as well as their predecessors, seem to have peacefully divided what was to be divided. Otherwise, we find difficult to believe why Sogotra was left to Eleazos, although it is closer to Kharibael's

Truly speaking, Soqotra is closer not to the mainland, the continental part of Sheba and Himvar (the island is closer to Bir Ali than to .. Aden!), but to the overseas territories, the colonial dominions of Kharibael that start pre-

cisely at the Horn of Africa area! Perhaps Eleazos had to be more convincing and that is why he kept some soldiers on the island! Certainly there are variations in the justification of the colonial presence. The Sabaeans and the Himyarites were present at Azania according to an old law, which implies inter-marital royal relations, or even an old Yemenite - African treaty.

We can even surmise that since the law was 'old', it may have been agreed upon by Azanian Africans and Qataban Yemenites, and then the rights may have been transferred to the Sabaeans and the Himyarites. But Hadhramawt had just 'purchased' the

Questions can be raised regarding the original Sogotra owner from whom Eleazos purchased the island! Was he a merchant and mariner, possibly named Dioskourides (as we already surmised), who had risen to

property of the King of Himyar and Sheba, and then the purchase was a matter of treaty between the two Yemenite countries? We ignore.

Most probably, it was a deal with the Sheba - Himyar state, and in this case we can suppose that the island trade did not matter much for Kharibael and/or his prede-

This looks very logical, if we take into consideration the riches of the entire Eastern African coast, Azania, that was a Sabaean -Himyarite colony already for long. It is also possible that the Sabaean / Hadhramawti deal happened after the Roman naval attack and destruction of Arabia Felix / Aden by Aelius Gallus; that would be a moment in which the king of Sheba and Himyar may have been in need of money for reparations and restructuring.

However, at this point we have to reject the idea of Roman rule over Soqotra that was recently advanced by rather amateurish writers. It is an aberration to establish a theory based on the temporary military presence at the Straits of the Red Sea that was due to the Roman attack against Arabia Felix, especially because the attack brought the financial result (lower customs) the Romans were tar-

Furthermore, there is no documentation at all of any Roman garrison reaching the island. The only channel through which the Romans had learnt, and continued learning, Dioskouridou island was the Alexandria environment and melting pot, the harbour and the Library. That is all that exists between Rome and Sogotra!

There is one more reason to believe the interstate affair concerning Soqotra; the text reference to the fact that the Soqotra products were transported on Mouza ships tells us that Hadhramawt, the 'Frankincense-bearing country', was not versed in naval exploits and maritime affairs as much as Himyar -Sheba may have been.

This is logical; the involvement in the trade and the navigation from Egypt to Tanzania. the great colony of Azania (certainly something like 3000 km coastal zone!), the discovery and use of the monsoons, the navigation

to the Indian coast in the open sea, all these great moments for the History of the Mankind are the affair of Oataban, Sheba and Himyar,

Not Hadhramawt! The Frankincense-bearing country was just following the developments. Even at the moment we examine the overseas involvement of the two Yemenite states, although Eleazos had bought Sogotra, he accepted that local merchandise be transported on Mouza boats, at at times Indian boats from Limyrike and Barygaza! The simplest question that comes to our mind

Well, he paid to buy the island, and he could not pay a little bit more to buy some ships?

But, of course, this approach would take us far from the real picture of that period; probably Eleazos did not need to buy some boats because he did not have the very experienced mariners who could man these boats, and the captains who would take the responsibility for the lives of the merchants and the mariners, for the boats, and for the merchandises.

If the author of the Periplus of the Red Sea had traveled to Soqotra today, he probably would not have seen many changes. Quite characteristically, the fauna and the flora did not change much; the cinnabar is still collected from the Dragon's Blood trees that remain the symbol of the island!

Perhaps the only difference is that there are no more crocodiles in the island whereas cows have been introduced by the Portuguese! In addition, female slavery has been abolished, and the inhabitants do not need to purchase 'female slaves'!

Completing the review of the Periplus' references to the island of Sogotra, we are met with a strange phenomenon of colonial expansion, namely the different axes of the Sheba - Himyar and the Hadhramwt expan-

As a plausible continuation to the Qatabani colonialism, Sabaean and Himyarite expansion was directed to the South-east of the metropolitan landmass; from Mouza and from Aden, the Yemenite sailors and merchants had to sail first to the East and then to the South. On the other hand, the Hadhramawti colonial expansion

follows an opposite direction, from Northeast (the land mass of the continental Hadhramawti state) to South-west (Sogotra)!

A quick consultation of the area's map leaves us with the question why the Yemenite expansionism took these directions. We know that the kingdom of Axumite Abyssinia ended at the area of the Straits of the Red Sea, and it is obvious that beyond the limits of Avalites (today's Assab at Eritrea) there was no central political authority in the entire area of the Northern Somalia, from Djibouti and Berbera - through Bossasso - until the 'Cape of the Perfumes' (the Horn of Africa), that the author of the Periplus calls 'the Other Berberia' (in juxtaposition to 'Berberia' itself that was the coastal land in the south of

Egypt's last harbour Berenice. and in the north of Axumite Abyssinia's first harbour Adulis, which corresponds to the present day Sudanese coast around Ptolemais Theron Suakin).

Then the question arises why Sheba and Himyar did not control the 'Other Berberia' as well, why they did not expand colonially over there, since the entire area was already closer to them, and in addition very rich in all sorts of merchandises. Quite unfortunately, at the present state of historical documentation we cannot find a convincing, plausible answer in this regard.

(TO BE CONTINUED)









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