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# YEMEN TIMES

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## Al-Badwi still rants against judge

# Court overturns death sentence

By MOHAMMED AL-QADHI  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

A Yemeni al-Qaeda member convicted to death for his involvement in the 2000 terrorist attack against the USS Cole, had his sentence reduced to 15 years in jail, while another's death sentence was upheld.

Sana'a Counter-Terrorism Appeals Court overturned the death sentence of Jamal al-Badwi, while it upheld death for Abdu al-Rahim al-Nashiri, who is being held in US custody and who is believed to be the mastermind of the USS Cole attack which killed 17 US sailors and injured 33 others.

Upon hearing his death sentence reduced to 15 years, al-Badwi, the convicts and their families broke into cries of "Allahu Akbar" (God is Greatest). But Badawi also lashed out



The defendants during the hearing on Saturday.  
(Yemen Times photo by M. Al-Qadhi)

at the judge, angrily denouncing him as an "agent" of the United States.

"This is an un-Islamic and illegal sentence," al-Badwi shouted from inside the defendant's cage.

Also in court, the verdict against Mamoon Amswah was commuted from eight to five years. The other three convicts retained jail sentences ranging from five to 10 years.

Fahd al-Qis'e retained his 10-year sentence. The court earlier said that al-Qis'e had traveled to Afghanistan in 1997 to train at an al-Qaeda terrorist camp.

Ali Mohamed Murakab and Morad al-Sorori both retained five years in prison for forging identification documents for Hasan al-Khameri under the name of Abdullah Ahmad Khaled al-Misawa, one of the suicide bombers.

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## New YT Editor-in-Chief

Sanaa, 28 February - The Board of Directors of Yemen Times Establishment for Press and Publishing has officially appointed Nadia Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf as the new Editor-in-Chief of The Yemen Times starting tomorrow, March 1st 2005.

After roughly six years of service as the Editor-in-Chief, Walid Al-Saqqaf will be ending his term of office and temporarily leaving Yemen for training and post-graduate studies.

His post will be taken over by his sister Nadia, who has been working for Oxfam Yemen for more than a year, and who has also worked for The Yemen



Nadia Al-Saqqaf

Times during various periods of her professional career.

"I believe that it is about time for the newspaper to have a new Editor-in-Chief and give a female leader a chance to take the paper to greater horizons," Walid said.

Walid Al-Saqqaf had started working at The Yemen Times since his Bachelor's Degree graduation in 1998 and had to take over the leadership role of the newspaper since June 2nd 1999 when a traffic accident killed his father, the Editor-in-Chief of The Yemen Times then, and the founder of the leading Yemeni media enterprise.

Continued on page 4

## Yemen's beleaguered press IFJ requests Schroeder's help

By YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) has appealed to Gerhard Schroeder, Chancellor of Germany, before his official visit to Yemen during 2-3 March, to interfere and convince the authorities to ease pressure on the besieged Yemeni press.

In a lengthy official letter, the international pro-press freedom organization requested that the chancellor seize the opportunity to request that President Saleh issue directives to release imprisoned journalists Abdulkareem Al-Khaiwani and limit the ongoing attack on Yemen's press.



Gerhard Schroeder, Chancellor of Germany

Aidan White, general secretary of the world's largest journalists' group, had expressed the international journalist community's serious concern over actions by the Yemeni government "which amount to intimidation and censorship of independent media ... in particular, the case of Al-Khaiwani, a journalist who is currently imprisoned in Yemen."

Continued on page 4

## Corruption among topics Dobriansky raises big issues

By MOHAMMED BIN SALLAM  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Paula Dobriansky, US Undersecretary of State for Global Affairs, left Sana'a Thursday evening after an official two-day visit to Yemen. But not before issues, including corruption and human rights violations in Yemen were discussed.

She met with a number of Yemeni officials in the government and civil community organizations, discussing Yemeni-American relationships as well as regional and international issues.



Paula Dobriansky

At press conference, Dobriansky said "I discussed with Yemeni officials how to promote the democratic community, combat crime and eradicate corruption from Yemen."

Continued on page 4

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*IT part of vision*

# Technology can change Yemen

By ISMAI AL-GHABRI  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Information technology should have a primary role in achieving Yemen's strategic vision for a more prosperous future, says Yemen's Minister of Telecommunication and Information Technology.

Minister Abdulmalik al-Mu'allimi notes that will help Yemen become a country of job providers, rather than job seekers.

"The main and strategic goal of telecommunication and information technology is to contribute to make Yemen a productive country, employing the technological equipment to

accelerate the process of development and achieve the sought goals of 2025."

He says that the 2025 strategic vision includes the enhancement of partnership between the government and the private sector, protecting the investment of the private sector and updating the administrative system of the state.

"Telephone services have to reach all the population settlements in Yemen which number up to 70,000, and it is notable that the average distribution of telephone services could not reach 10 percent," al-Mu'allimi commented, noting that since the population is expected to grow quickly, this needs extensive efforts to be paid in the field of providing telephone



Abdulmalik al-Mu'allimi

services to citizens.

Abdulmalik al-Mu'allimi noted that the lack of IT in places like Yemen is dividing the world into two groups: the first group being strong, depending on the economy of technology; and the second group, the majority of world, unable to overcome the barriers that hinder them from profiting from that technology.

Regarding the strategy of telecommunication and information technology, the long-term visions reflect the ambitions and goals sought by the Yemeni society in the economic, social, cultural and political areas, said alMu'allimi.

The strategic vision aims to push Yemen and its development toward the medium-developed countries in many areas including posting services

to cover all the Yemeni governorates with an average of one post office for every 20,000 people.

The achievements of 2004 in the field of telecommunication and information technology are considered of the prominent factors that helped Yemen move toward the world of telecommunication and technology. Such achievements asserted that Yemen is one of the countries that provide distinctive services in the field of telecommunication and according to the modern technology.

The goals come after a year when IT changed in Yemen.

For example, 2004 saw the inauguration of "Yemen Mobile" which put an end to the monopoly practiced by the other mobile-service providers, and offers a better service for citizens and with suitable prices.

Meanwhile, the infrastructure of telecommunication and information technology witnessed a distinctive stride as numerous projects. Projects inaugurated in all Yemeni governorates totaled YR 38.5 billion. The overall capacity of telephone lines reached 362,616 according to figures of last year.

The General Post Authority also achieved growth in services, which was reflected in the completion of technical equipment which enabled the authority to provide distinctive services such as money transfers between Yemen and other countries. This helped lessen the effort and time needed to sign the partnership contract between the General Post Authority and the Yemeni Company for International Telecommunications.



## In Sana'a: Russians at Tomb of Unknown Soldier

By MOHAMMED BIN SALLAM  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Dozens of Yemen's Russian community members in Sana'a gathered on Feb. 23 in front of the Tomb of the Russian Unknown Soldier.

The tomb in Sana'a is located at the edge of al-Rawdhah, on the northern outskirts of Sana'a.

They set flowers at the tomb on the occasion of the 87th anniversary of the defense of the Russian homeland.

The event was attended by General Musharaf Mohammed Ahmed, Deputy Chief of Staff for Supply Affairs along with Alexander

Zasypkin, Russian Ambassador to Sana'a, the Russian Military Attaché and a number of Arab and foreign military attachés to Yemen.

The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier was built after the Sab'een Siege War, in the late 1960s, between Yemen's revolutionary and royalist forces.

Russian airmen participated in the resistance and defended Sana'a. Some were killed and buried in the same place where the tomb stands today.



## Prof. Haburchak delivers lecture in Taiz

YT Taiz Bureau

David R. Haburchak, an American Professor of internal diseases and a lecturer at Georgia University USA, delivered a lecture on stomach diseases and aches at the hall of al-Jumhuri Hospital.

The lecture was organized by the Faculty of Medicine and Healthy Sciences, Taiz University and was attended by a number of physicians working at al-Jumhuri and al-Thawra Hospitals in Taiz.

The event came in the framework of a series of visits paid by a US medical team to a number of Taiz hospitals. The team visited the patients who suffered from chronic diseases and instructed the Yemeni physicians on how to deal with such cases.

The visit achieved a number of goals including benefits and experiences gained by the Yemeni physicians who attended the lecture.

An agreement was reached with the visiting team on ways to enhance medical cooperation and exchanging visits to Yemen in the future for the purpose of exchanging experiences with the Yemeni physicians.

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## Managing water resources

By AZIZ ALHADI  
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

The Water and Environment Centre (WEC) of Sana'a University organized a special workshop this week at the Ramada Western Hotel entitled "Needs Assessment for Graduates from WEC's Integrated Water Resource Management MSc and Diploma Program."

According to WEC Director, Prof. Abdullah Babaqi, the centre seeks to link its curricula and programming to the defined technical and administrative skill needs of the water sector in Yemen, to ensure an adequate supply of graduates in this most crucial sector.

In attendance was the Minister of Water and Environment, Prof. Mohamed Lutf Al-Eryani, who stressed both the necessity and complexity of developing a comprehensive and effective program to

integrate the management of water resources.

He explained the "strategic importance" for managers to understand the fact that such a program needs to consider that the management of water resources is directly related to the development of all sectors including education, agriculture, health and other areas.

Integrated management of this resource, then, considers the development impact related to water, according to the minister.

The minister also explained that integrated management of the water resource involves essentially six areas, from scarcity of supply to efficient use of water and services.

The Royal Netherlands Embassy's First Secretary in the Water and Environment Sectors, Dr. Ton Negenman, an expert with past program experience in Yemen also attended the workshop, with his counterpart, Engineer Mohamed Al-

Aroosi.

Together, they help direct the substantial amount of Dutch-government funding allocated to help Yemen in the best use of the country's limited water resources.

Also in attendance, on behalf of the Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Dr. Abdul-Wahab Raweh, was Deputy Minister Dr. Ali Qassem Al-Baseer.

He spoke very highly of the Royal Netherlands Government's assistance in the area of Higher Education, citing that Dutch funding had reached a total of Euros 12.6 million involving a total of eight projects at Yemeni universities around the country.

He also underlined the importance of WEC's focus of designing training for defined needs, as opposed to the general training found in the discipline. Dr. Al-Baseer also noted that the Ministry hopes to see WEC's programs become regional in scope.

Continued from page 1

## Court overturns death sentence

The six men were all charged with belonging to al Qaeda and playing various roles in the attack on the Cole, which was carried out by suicide bombers Ibrahim al-Thawr, Hasan al-Khamiri, and a third unnamed person who rammed an explosives-laden boat into the destroyer.

Al-Thawr and al-Khameri traveled to Bangkok and received \$36,000 from al-Nashiri for the terrorist operation. The court judge said it was clear to him that the convicted six militants were found guilty, setting up an armed gang to carry out terrorist acts, including the attack on the USS Cole.

During the final hearings last month, the court judge Saeed al-Kattaa listened to the argument made by the defendants advocate Abdulkaziz al-Samawi as well as the arguments of the prosecution, demanding intensification of some of the sentences.

Al-Samawi argued that the trial of the six defendants was not performed in accordance with the law. "I confirm that the trial was not carried out according to the law. These defendants were arrested for four years without any legal warrant or investigation, only two weeks before the trial started. The law says that imprisoning people for over 24 hours without interrogation is something illegal," he argued.

He demanded that his clients should

be acquitted and compensated for the material, moral and psychological damage caused to them, and that they should not be convicted "just to please the US."

He said the defendants were presented as a "scapegoat."

He reiterated that his clients were subject to physical torture and psychological pressure. "The preliminary court verdict was based on confessions made by the defendants under threat and pressure; they were even interrogated without any advocacy," he claimed during the last hearing.

He refuted the preliminary court verdicts which he claimed and were passed to "please the US." On his part, the second prime suspect Jamal al-Badwi claimed that he and his fellow people will be acquitted if "the verdict is issued in accordance with the law, but we will be convicted if the verdict is passed to satisfy the Americans."

The prosecutor reiterated that the appeal made by the defendants advocate should be rejected and that the defendant Fahd al-Qis'e should be sentenced to death as well as intensifying the jail sentence against Morad al-Sorori and Mamoon Amswah, while the death penalty sentence against al-Nashiri and al-Badwi should be endorsed.

Before Saturday's overturning of al-

Badwi's death sentence, the court had sentenced, on September 28<sup>th</sup>, al-Nashiri, the suspect held in US custody and al-Badawi, to death for orchestrating, plotting, preparing and involvement in the bombing of the US warship.

The appeals court also sentenced to death, on Feb. 5<sup>th</sup>, two al-Qaeda, and jailed 13 more, accused of bombing the French oil tanker Limburg, plotting to blow up five Western embassies and plotting to assassinate the US ambassador and planning other attacks terrorist operations in the country.

By these verdicts, the Yemeni government has tried to close one of the most challenging terrorist cases on file, though political observers believe that as long as al-Nashiri remains in the US custody without tribunal, the USS Cole file remains open.

Sources say that the Sana'a Counter-Terrorism court will start this week trying 13 people suspected of links to Al Qaeda and accused of plotting terrorist attacks.

Meanwhile the same court will continue on Monday the tribunal of 11 of others: 11 Al-Qaeda suspects accused of planning to form an armed gang to carry out "criminal acts" in Yemen and abroad, as well as trying to join militants battling U.S. forces in Iraq and Afghanistan.

## IFJ requests Schroeder's help

He said that by any standards this is a deplorable campaign of intimidation against journalists and independent opinion in a country where media are making efforts to contribute to democratic reform and development.

He continued to Schroeder, "Your upcoming visit to the Gulf region and the Yemen provides a significant opportunity for dialogue and for discussion with Yemeni leaders about a range of issues - one of which should be the country's commitment to democracy and defence of human rights."

"Your role as Chancellor and as leader of one of the European Union's dynamic and leading democracies

gives you the possibility to intervene with President Ali Abdullah Saleh to raise these concerns and to seek the early release of our colleague."

The IFJ's General Secretary stressed that discussions with the Yemeni authorities will, we hope, deepen bilateral political, economic and cultural ties with Germany and Europe.

He added, "We hope too they will provide an opportunity to seek assurances that Mr Al-Khaiwani is released from jail as soon as possible and that prison sentences handed down to other journalists are immediately set aside."

"We should point out that President

Saleh has already promised to abolish jail sentences for press offences leading to optimism among the country's community of journalists that changes of policy over press freedom and independent journalism are indeed possible."

The statement concluded by mentioning the growing links between Yemeni and European journalists.

"There is a new spirit of solidarity between journalists in Yemen and their European colleagues, including journalists in Germany, so I hope that you will be able to nourish and support this process of co-operation by raising our concerns with the government of Yemen."

## Dobriansky raises big issues

She also disclosed that the issue of Abdul-Karim al-Khaiwani was discussed with all the officials she met with. "They promised to give priority to this subject," she said.

Concerning human rights condition in Yemen, the American official commented: "We in the US are concerned with human rights in every corner of the world. There are experts in the US embassy monitoring all violations against political activists in Yemen."

Mohammed Naji Allaw spoke before the guest, briefing her on the reality of human rights and liberties in Yemen during 2004.

"They were the worst of all. Arrests increased and the ruling party monopolized governance and broke its pledges in relation to human rights."

He continued, "The security authorities captured thousands of Yemenis without legal reasons, some of whom

have served more than four years before trial, having no advocates and no visitation right. They suffered corporal and psychological torture in solitary cells as well."

He cried: "People here are tried before non-constitutional courts and therefore get unfair trials. The President himself is the chairman of the Supreme Judiciary Council as well as the Executive Authority, and the Parliament follows him directly."

## New YT Editor-in-Chief

"I will always remember those who supported me and the newspaper through the good and difficult times, and will be keeping in touch with all of our staff members. I believe that now is the best time to pursue higher studies and enhance my professional and academic qualifications, to better serve Yemen once I return."

### New leadership, new vision

On her part, Mrs. al-Saqqaf expresses her excitement and enthusiasm in taking the new position, hoping that she will raise the newspaper's standards and maintain its number one position as the leading English-language newspaper in the country.

"It is not an easy task. It is, in fact, a challenge. But I know that the newspaper's strong institutional organization and respectable position in the country will help me manage the newspaper in the most appropriate manner. I also feel greatly humbled by the trust of members of the board and readers, and feel that with the help of our staff members, clients, readers, and friends I could do a lot to improve the statues of the newspaper and rise to the level of expectations."

Mrs. al-Saqqaf is a graduate of Sterling University in the United Kingdom with a Masters degree Information Systems Management. She graduated with Upper Grade with Distinction and had also enrolled in a number of training programs and courses including a month-long course on Human Rights in Strasbourg, France.

During her work at The Yemen Times, she said she would be focusing on supporting human rights, gender issues and womens' rights.

### A formal reception

A special, formal reception and farewell party for Walid Al-Saqqaf will be held at the Taj Sheba Hotel in Sana'a on March 9th. The event will also coincide with The Yemen Times' 14th anniversary. The occasion will be an opportunity to introduce the new leader of the newspaper and welcome her to her new post.

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# We're ready to talk about anything, North Korea told

SEOUL, Feb 26 (Reuters) - South Korean, Japanese and U.S. negotiators agreed on Saturday they can discuss all issues of concern to Pyongyang in a bid to lure North Korea back to six-party talks on its nuclear ambitions.

But they stopped short of offering concessions.

The three countries met for the first time since North Korea hinted last week that it might be ready to return to negotiations under the right conditions.

On Feb. 10, the secretive state declared it had nuclear weapons and was also pulling out of the six-party process.

Discussions to coordinate positions among the three allies had preceded previous rounds of the six-country talks, which also include North Korea, China and Russia.

"We urge the North to return to the talks without delay, and stressed that the talks are a forum to discuss all issues including North Korea's concerns," South Korean Deputy Foreign Minister Song Min-soon told reporters after the meeting.

Also attending were U.S. Ambassador Christopher Hill and Japanese Foreign

Ministry Director-General Kenichiro Sasae.

"We made it clear that the six-party process is a forum for a wide range of discussions and we can earnestly discuss all issues of interest," said Song.

He declined to say whether the three allies were prepared to offer concessions to the North for returning to the talks.

"You cannot interpret the position taken by the three countries as response to the (North's) demand for sincerity."

Saturday's meeting follows a senior Chinese envoy's visit to the communist North last week as Beijing tried to restart a process it had helped lead.

North Korean leader Kim Jong-il told the envoy, Wang Jiarui, that Pyongyang would return to the talks if the conditions were right and the United States showed "trustworthy sincerity".

**Excellent meeting**  
Hill characterised the meeting as valuable but declined to answer further questions.

"This is a very good opportunity to discuss the way forward, especially how we can maximise the possibility that the six-

party process will be successful, so I think this is an excellent opportunity to get together and exchange some views on that," Hill said at the start of the meeting.

At the third round of six-way talks in June, the United States and South Korea each presented a blueprint for the North to first freeze and then completely dismantle all its nuclear projects in return for "corresponding measures".

North Korea countered by demanding compensation first.

Song declined to say whether the three lead negotiators were working on modi-

fied proposals to be presented to the North should talks resume.

"There are issues that are of particular interest to the

North," he said. "We can talk about them seriously once the talks are open."

North Korea wants economic, fuel and agricultural aid, among other things. Pyongyang has also said it is seeking security assurances and a less hostile stance by the United States, which has described the North as an outpost of tyranny.

The consultations came amid a report

that China had asked Japan to help convince the United States to soften its stance over North Korea to help bring Pyongyang back to the talks.

Beijing made the request to Japan following a visit to Pyongyang by Wang, Japan's Kyodo news agency quoted diplomatic sources as saying on Friday.

**Russia optimistic**

A South Korean expert on the North said it was not impossible for the United States to soften its position with the aim of moving the six-party process forward.

"Remember, the U.S. had put forward a

proposal at the third round which North Korea called 'constructive'," said Koh Yu-hwan, professor of North Korean studies at Dongguk University in Seoul.

"The issue will be how North Korea and the rest of the countries can save the others' face and move forward," he said.

Russia is optimistic North Korea will return to negotiations, Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov was quoted as saying on Friday.

"The chances of a return to the negotiating table are real," Lavrov was quoted by Interfax news agency as saying.

## Nepal says kills dozens of rebels in clashes

KATHMANDU, Feb 26 (Reuters) - Nepali soldiers killed dozens of Maoist rebels in a series of clashes, the army said on Saturday, in the latest battles since King Gyanendra's Feb. 1 power grab.

At least three soldiers and a policeman were also killed in the clashes on Thursday and Friday in Kailali district, a Maoist stronghold 650 km (410 miles) west of Kathmandu.

An army officer told Reuters four rebel bodies were recovered, but more than three dozen guerrillas were believed to have been killed in those battles.

"Stains of blood were seen in nearby jungles. Dead rebels might have been carried away after the clashes," he said.

The Maoists normally carry away most of their dead and bury them in the jungle or in river beds to hide their losses.

The army estimates of rebel losses are based on the version of villagers who

saw the guerrillas carrying their fallen comrades.

The Maoists have not commented and independent verification of the army claims is not possible because the clashes occurred in remote areas.


The latest fighting took place as soldiers went to clear road blocks set up by the rebels to enforce a transport blockade in protest at the king's move, which has also triggered worldwide condemnation and a halt in military aid from Britain and India. The two-week-old blockade has disrupted supplies and travel.

More than 11,000 people have died in the nine-year Maoist revolt which has crippled the aid and tourism dependent economy and forced thousands to flee.

King Gyanendra has justified his power grab saying it was required to crush the Maoists, who want to topple monarchy and set up a communist republic in the nation.

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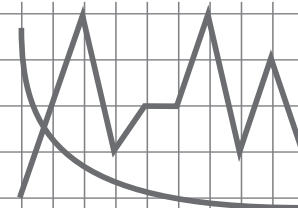








# YT Business



## Evidence-based economics

By EDMUND S. PHELPS

There is a movement in medicine to require that applications for licenses to sell a new drug be "evidence-based." By contrast, trained economists view their discipline as having already achieved this scientific standard. After all, they express their ideas with mathematics and arrive at quantitative estimates of implied relationships from empirical data.

But economics is not evidence-based in selecting its theoretical paradigms. Economic policy initiatives are often taken without all the empirical pre-testing that could have been done.

A notorious example is postwar macroeconomic policymaking under the radical Keynesians. The radicals relied on Keynes's untested theory that unemployment depended on "effective demand" in relation to the "money wage," but their policy ignored the part about wages and sought to stabilize demand at a high enough level to ensure "full" employment.

Cecil Pigou and Franco Modigliani objected that if demand were successfully increased, the money wage level would rise, catch up to demand, and thus push employment back down to its previous level. Employment cannot be sustained above its equilibrium path by inflating effective demand.

Nevertheless, the radicals prevailed through what the economist Harry Johnson called "scorn and derision." Postwar macroeconomic policies were dedicated to "full" employment, without any evidence that money

wages would not get in the way.

In the late 1950's, neo-Keynesians finally conceded the point raised by Pigou and Modigliani. Will Phillips's work on wages gave them no choice. But they still insisted that steady increases of demand at a fast enough rate would keep demand one step ahead of the money wage level, so that employment could be kept as high as desired, albeit at the cost of steady inflation.

In different ways, Milton Friedman and I objected, arguing that such a policy would require an ever-rising inflation rate. Money wages will lag behind demand, I argued, only as long as the representative firm is deterred from raising wages by the misperception that wages at other firms are already lower than its own - a disequilibrium that cannot last.

Like the radicals, the neo-Keynesians did not engage their challengers with empirical testing. The efficacy of high demand was a matter of faith. Yet events in the 1970's put that faith to a cruel test. When supply shocks hit the US economy, the neo-Keynesians' response was to pour on more demand, believing it would revive employment. There was little recovery - only faster inflation.

The current era offers a parallel. Although policy has since shifted to reflect supply-side economics and real business-cycle theory, the new reigning paradigm's builders and promoters display the same antipathy to checking data for serious error.

An earlier classroom lesson was well-founded: temporarily below-normal tax rates on labor this year, when merged with the prospect of reversion to normal rates next year, will encourage households to

squeeze more work into this year and to work less in future years. This proposition was recently tested anew on Icelandic data and performed well.

But the supply-siders jumped to the daring conclusion that a permanent cut in tax rates on labor would encourage more work permanently - with no diminution of effectiveness. Larry Summers and I both doubted that this could be generally true. If every increase in the after-tax wage rate gave a permanent boost to the amount of labor supplied, we reasoned, steeply rising after-tax wages since the mid-nineteenth century would have brought an extraordinary increase in the length of the workweek and in retirement ages. But both have fallen, and in continental Europe unemployment is higher.

In my view, this core tenet of supply-side economics rests on a simple blunder. What matters for the amount of labor supplied is the after-tax wage rate relative to income from wealth. While after-tax wage rates soared for more than a century, wealth and the income it brought grew just as fast.

To be sure, if tax rates were decreased permanently this year, there would initially be a strongly positive effect on labor supplied. But there would also be a positive effect on saving and thus on wealth next year and beyond. In the long run, wealth could tend to increase in the same proportion as after-tax wages. The effect on work would vanish.

We must proceed cautiously, however. In standard analyses, the tax cut brings a reduction in government purchases of goods and services, like defense. But a tax cut

could instead contract the welfare state - social assistance and social insurance, which constitute social wealth. In that case, the tax cut, while gradually increasing private wealth, would decrease social wealth. The issue is an empirical one.

Research I did with Gylfi Zoega a decade ago confirmed that cuts in taxes on labor boost employment in the short run. But what about the long run? Do large long-run effects of tax rates show up in international differences in employment?

In 1998 we examined OECD data for a correlation between national unemployment rates in the mid-1990's and current tax rates on labor. We found none. In 2004, we looked at labor-force participation rates and again at unemployment. Still no correlation. High-unemployment countries include high-tax Germany, France, and Italy, but also low-tax Japan and Spain. Low-unemployment nations include low-tax Britain and the US, but also very high-tax Denmark and Sweden.

Neoliberals are now telling continental Europe that tax cuts on labor can dissolve high unemployment. But the effectiveness of such tax cuts would be largely, if not wholly, transitory - especially if the welfare state was spared. In two decades' time, high unemployment would creep back. The false hopes raised by cutting taxes would have diverted policy makers away from fundamental reforms that are necessary if the Continent is to achieve the dynamism on which high rates of innovation, abundant job

creation, and world-class productivity depend.

Edmund S. Phelps is Professor of Political Economy and Director of the Center on Capitalism and Society at Columbia University.

### Exchange Rate for the Yemeni Rial

Currency	Buying	Selling
US Dollar	187.2800	187.5800
Sterling Pound	357.5800	358.1600
Euro	247.5700	247.9700
Saudi Rial	49.9400	50.0200
Kuwaiti Dinar	641.2200	642.2400
UAE Dirhem	50.9900	51.0700
Egyptian Pound	32.2100	32.2600
Bahraini Dinar	496.7600	497.5600
Qatari Rial	51.4600	51.5400
Jordanian Dinar	264.1300	264.5500
Omani Rial	486.4500	487.2300
Swiss Franc	160.9300	161.1900
Swedish Crown	27.2100	27.2600
Japanese Yen	1.7882	1.7911

Source: Central Bank of Yemen

## Postal activities up in 2004

By ISMAIL AL-GHABRI  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The General Corporation for Post and Postal Savings (GCPPS) in Sana'a approved of the final statement of the Postal Saving Fund, which paves the way of distributing interest from 2004 to clients, who number up to 178,755 with a total credit of YR 5.3 billion.

In a statement to the Yemen Times, Mohammad Murghem, General Manager of the GCPPS, pointed out that postal services and income increased in the last year. He said the rate of deposit grew

by 23 per cent in 2004, while the amount of exchange of deposited money rose by 42 per cent, reaching YR1.3 billion, compared to YR 1.1 billion in 2003.

A report drafted by the GCPPS indicated that the credits of clients who deposit for interest came at 81 per cent of the total credits of clients, while 19 per cent is the rate of the credits of those depositing for interest-free.

The report also pointed out that 2004 was characterized by relative stability in the postal activities in many postal areas, particularly as the capital's post office had the highest rate in the exchange of deposited money.

## Cities and ports project begins

By YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Work is underway on the first phase of the project for developing Yemeni sea cities and ports at a cost of \$US23 million, said Steven Karam, a senior urban development economist at the World Bank's Group for Financing, Private Sector and Infrastructure, Middle

East and North Africa.

"This phase of the project covers the cities of Hodeidah, Mukalla, and the province of Sana'a," said he in a statement to the September 26 Newspaper.

The World Bank will contribute some \$US96 million while the Yemeni government will provides ten per cent of the total cost of the project, which consists of four phases to be conducted over 12 years.

## 50,000 women to take sewing courses

By YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The National Program for Improving Productive Families is planning to train some 50,000 women from different areas of the country in sewing and embroidery as

well as household affairs.

Mohammed Saleh al-Namir, General Manager of the Program said the 2005 training plan will commence as soon as the provision of training equipment is completed in all the 62 centers under the program.

He added that the program will open

during the current year some six new centers at the cost of YR50 million in the provinces of Raimah, Baydha, and Sa'adah as well as the Capital Secretariat in order to ensure space for more women who are in need for training in order to improve the living conditions of their families.



A presentation of sewing products in Yemen.

## Panasonic ideas for life



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# Momentum in movement to fight female genital mutilation

BY EMAD AL-SAQQAF  
CHEIF OF YEMEN TIMES  
TAIZ BUREAU  
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**A** growing push against female genital mutilation (FGM, or female circumcision) has been building in various parts of the world, including the Horn of Africa and Yemen.

The only country where the genital mutilation is noticeably decreasing is the Central African Republic, where the practice was not widespread.

A conference on female genital mutilation was held in Djibouti recently, supported by the UNDP, UNICEF and several other organizations. The conference was attended by Mrs. Khadhra'a Mahmoud Heed, wife of Djibouti's president, and head of the Djibouti Women's National Union. At the beginning of the conference, Djibouti's first lady delivered a speech reviewing national plans and programs in this respect and urging to uproot this tradition.

"Djibouti's hosting of the conference is an inspiration for all Djibouti women who display their commitment towards the social effort to eradicate this habit and raise Djibouti women to the status they deserve," she said, adding that genital mutilation threatens the lives of Djibouti girls.

She reminded the audience of the teachings of our great religion, which



Delegates of a recent conference on female genital mutilation.

grants women their rights fully, opening for them the doors to knowledge. She also pointed out that Muslim women have been allowed to participate in different aspects of public and social life, to raise their status. The first lady spoke out against social conditions that prevent the furthering of women's rights.

Djibouti's Minister of Health, Mohammed Ali Kamel requested participants at the conference to suggest recommendations and solutions to the problem.

The UNDP Coordinator mentioned that many governmental and international bodies have been fighting this practice and its effects on females since the 1950s. "The Women Committee in the Economic Council has focused on this aspect by means of many conferences, and symposia. Moreover, the UN Women's Committee signed many

agreements with a number of countries to take necessary procedures to remove this violation of women's health."

Many African countries ratified the Maputo Protocol banning FGM, and Libya, Rwanda, Guinea, Sanghal, and Nigeria recently became signatories. At the conclusion of the conference, Djibouti Prime Minister signed Maputo Protocol.

Djibouti's Minister of Endowments announced a summary of scholars' statements on genital mutilation, which state that female genital mutilation is not permitted by the Islamic Shari'a. He added that the mutilation deprives women from enjoying sex within marriage. The book pointed out that women have the same right to be sexually satisfied as men do, and that mutilation defaces the creation of God.

## Feeling a little blue?

# Get married, be healthy: researchers

BY ABU AYMAN  
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

**S**ome physicians confirm that a great percentages of diseases such as madness, ulcer and headaches are the result loneliness.

Their studies show that marriage can protect the individual from things like chronic headaches and stomach ulcers. Statistics recently released in Britain confirmed that only 15 per cent of the alveolar cancer victims is experienced among the married people while 85 per cent among the unmarried ones.

### Health benefits associated with marriage: Protection from diseases

Dr. Ahmad Hishaish, an internal diseases consultant, notes, "I am one of those who support the theory that marriage protects the spouse from disease."

He pointed out that the scientific facts on the health benefits associated with marriage deny some of the rumors that there are many harms associated with marriage.

Dr. Hishaish conducted a study on a sample of hepatitis sufferers (500 patients) and the results released that 50 cases of them are married, i.e., that only 10 percent of the married people suffer from hepatitis.

The actual reason behind that is that negative viruses causing the disease invade the body via having dirty meals, which are not taken by the married people who care a lot to have their meals at home.

Marriage also protects the spouses from stomach ulcers and high blood pressure, and it has been recently released that only 35 per cent of sufferers from stomach ulcer and hypertension are married, and the single people constitute the remaining percentage that is 65 per cent.

### Insanity

Dr. Fikri Abdulaziz, professor of psychiatric diseases at Cairo University, claims that the unmarried have negative effects, the most important of which is feeling alone and gratifying ones lust illicitly. Dr. Fikri emphasizes that marriage protects individuals from turning insane upon the condition that the spouses lead a happy life.

Dr. Adel al-Madani, professor of psychological diseases at Al-Azhar University and expert in the marital affairs comments: "The psychological pressure from which many people suffer due to the lack of a marriage partner is increasingly prevailing the environment of people who are not married.

The World Health Organization (WHO) recently announced that loneliness has the primarily harmful effect on public health and this equals the effects associated with smoking, because loneliness causes madness and mental disorder that may led to suicide.

### The bilateral relations

Dr. Ahmad Zayed, professor of sociology at Cairo University, ascertains that harmonious marriage helps protect the pair from mental disorder since the protection from such problems arises from the bilateral relation.

Regardless of the gratification of one's lust, the bilateral relationship that is based on love and mutual respect leads both the spouses to feel more secure. If one of the pair was infected with some psychological pressure, he/she would receive the other's help to get rid of the suffering.

### Celibacy has its own risks

There are many married people who have some psychological problems since they were born but he/she can be helped by the other marriage partner to overcome the problems facing him.

In the same context, Dr. Mahasen Ali, consultant of neuromental diseases at Cairo University clarifies that marriage is an effective medicine for many diseases like chronic headache, as the relationship between both the spouses helps lessen the severe nerves in the body and the secretion of hormones as well.

He adds that marriage protects the human from some mental disorders and establishing a proper relationship with

the other partner prevents the infection of hallucination and escapism from reality and makes the individual happier and kinder in treating those around him.

Staying unmarried for a long time makes one a victim of hallucination and feelings of loneliness and the result will be an entire surrender to escapism from reality.

Dr. Ali Shawsha, a specialist in psychological diseases emphasizes the significance of marriage as a medicine for psychological diseases. He says that the human spirit suffers for self-shortcomings as it circulates around itself and an external force becomes a must to take it from its circle. The external force can be reflected in making oneself engaged with his wife and children.

Concerning the Islamic point of view, Dr. Ahmad Omar Salem, Rector of Al-Azhar University, says that religion already solved such issues hundreds years ago through numerous Quranic verses and Hadiths that strongly recommend people to get married as soon as possible.

The Quranic verses and Hadiths discuss the importance of marriage for the individual and the society as well and Islam dealt with all marriage matters starting by the selection of the husband and the wife, the relationship between both, the way of raising children and the divorce-related matters.

Islam gave more priority to marriage-related issues as it recommends the reconciliation between the spouses unless the dispute occurring between them necessitates the end of marital life between the pair.

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# Conflicting reports about dengue fever in Yemen

BY MOHAMMAD BIN SALLAM  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Ministry of Public Health and Population and the World Health Organization have denied reports by different media outlets that 30 people have died in Hodeida as a result of dengue fever.

Deputy Minister of Public Health and Population, Dr. Majed al-Junaid says that priority should be given to health care particularly after seven people were reported dead since the emergence of the epidemic.

Al-Junaid pointed out that 90 cases were reported in Zabeed District between December 15, 2004 and January 15, 2005, adding that medical tests conducted at the Sana'a Central Laboratory for many samples and reconfirmed at laboratories in Cairo revealed the proliferation of a third-kind dengue fever in the district of Zabeed.

The Ministry of Public Health issued a circulation to all Yemeni governorates to be alert.

The concerned authorities at the Ministry of Health are closely monitoring the possible spread of the so called dengue fever, which was discovered in Dec. 2004 in a number of coastal areas including Tahama and Shabwa, Dr. Majed Al-Junaid Deputy Minister of Health said to the Yemen Times a few days ago.

Dr. al-Junaid added that such fever is a virus disease causing partial fever and then a fatal bleeding, and its symptoms are similar to that of malaria. This disease is new to Yemen.

During the previous period, the Ministry of Health registered the dengue infected cases and dealt with them immediately. The ministry was informed of the existence of the disease in last December as well as some death cases were reported particularly in Zabid.

In return, the Ministry of Health took a quick action and formed teams to observe the epidemic –infected cases in cooperation with the Hodeida Health Office and the local security. A thorough surveillance was carried out by the Ministry of Health all over the

Hodeida Governorate and found out certain places where the infection exists, and we are still following up the surveillance in other governorates, the minister said.

It is known that the main carrier of the disease is the mosquito which also carries the infection of malaria. The spray processes have been implemented so far in order to fight the spread of the mosquito and the infected cases have been transferred to hospitals, according to sources at the Ministry of Health.

"We requested technical support from World Health Organization's Representative and he is now on the way to Hodeida," Dr. al-Junaid noted. "The situation seemed to be stable enough as we controlled the places where the infection is terribly proliferating. The death cases have not exceeded five since the epidemic was first discovered in December, 2004."

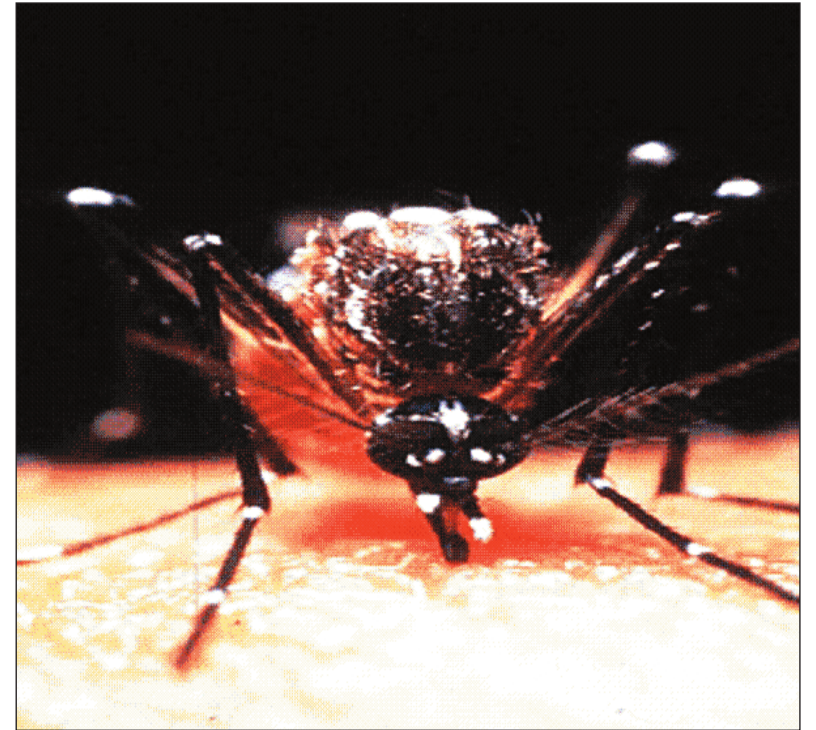
Asked whether the disease has been existing in Yemen for a long time without any action taken by the concerned authorities, Dr. al-Junaid replied: "the epidemic was existing in

Yemen and procedures were taken several years ago, and Hodeida along with Shabwa were found to be the severely infected areas. Not even a single case was reported to the concerned authorities".

We are closely making a survey of the suffering cases to spot the places where the infection spreads in order to take preventive measures and explore the actual reasons behind the epidemic, Dr. al-Junaid added.

Dengue [DEN-ghee] is a flu-like viral disease spread by the bite of infected mosquitoes. Dengue hemorrhagic fever is a severe, often fatal, complication of dengue. Dengue occurs in most tropical areas of the world. Most U.S. cases occur in travelers returning from abroad, but the dengue risk is increasing for persons living along the Texas-Mexico border and in other parts of the southern United States. There is no specific treatment for dengue. Prevention centers on avoiding mosquito bites in areas where dengue occurs or might occur and eliminating breeding sites. Dengue and dengue hemorrhagic fever are caused by any of the dengue family of viruses. Infection with one virus does not protect a person against infection with another. Dengue is spread by the bite of an *Aedes* mosquito. The mosquito transmits the disease by biting an infected person and then biting someone else. Dengue viruses occur in most tropical areas of the world. Dengue is common in Africa, Asia, the Pacific, Australia, and the Americas. It is widespread in the Caribbean basin. Dengue is most common in cities but can be found in rural areas. It is rarely found in mountainous areas above 4,000 feet. The mosquitoes that transmit dengue live among humans and breed in discarded tires, flower pots, old oil drums, and water storage containers close to human dwellings. Unlike the mosquitoes that cause malaria, dengue mosquitoes bite during the day.

Dengue fever usually starts suddenly with a high fever, rash, severe headache, pain behind the eyes, and muscle and joint pain. The severity of the joint pain has given dengue the name "breakbone fever." Nausea, vomiting, and loss of appetite



The main carrier of dengue fever infection are mosquitoes.

are common. A rash usually appears 3 to 4 days after the start of the fever. The illness can last up to 10 days, but complete recovery can take as long as a month. Older children and adults are usually sicker than young children.

Most dengue infections result in relatively mild illness, but some can progress to dengue hemorrhagic fever. With dengue hemorrhagic fever, the blood vessels start to leak and cause bleeding from the nose, mouth, and gums. Bruising can be a sign of bleeding inside the body. Without prompt treatment, the blood vessels can collapse, causing shock (dengue shock syndrome). Dengue hemorrhagic fever is fatal in about 5 percent of cases, mostly among children and young adults.

The time between the bite of a mosquito carrying dengue virus and the start of symptoms averages 4 to 6 days, with a range of 3 to 14 days. An infected person cannot spread the infection to other persons but can be a source of dengue virus for mosquitoes for about 6 days.

Anyone who is bitten by an infected mosquito can get dengue fever. Risk factors for dengue hemorrhagic fever include a person's age and immune status, as well as the type of infecting

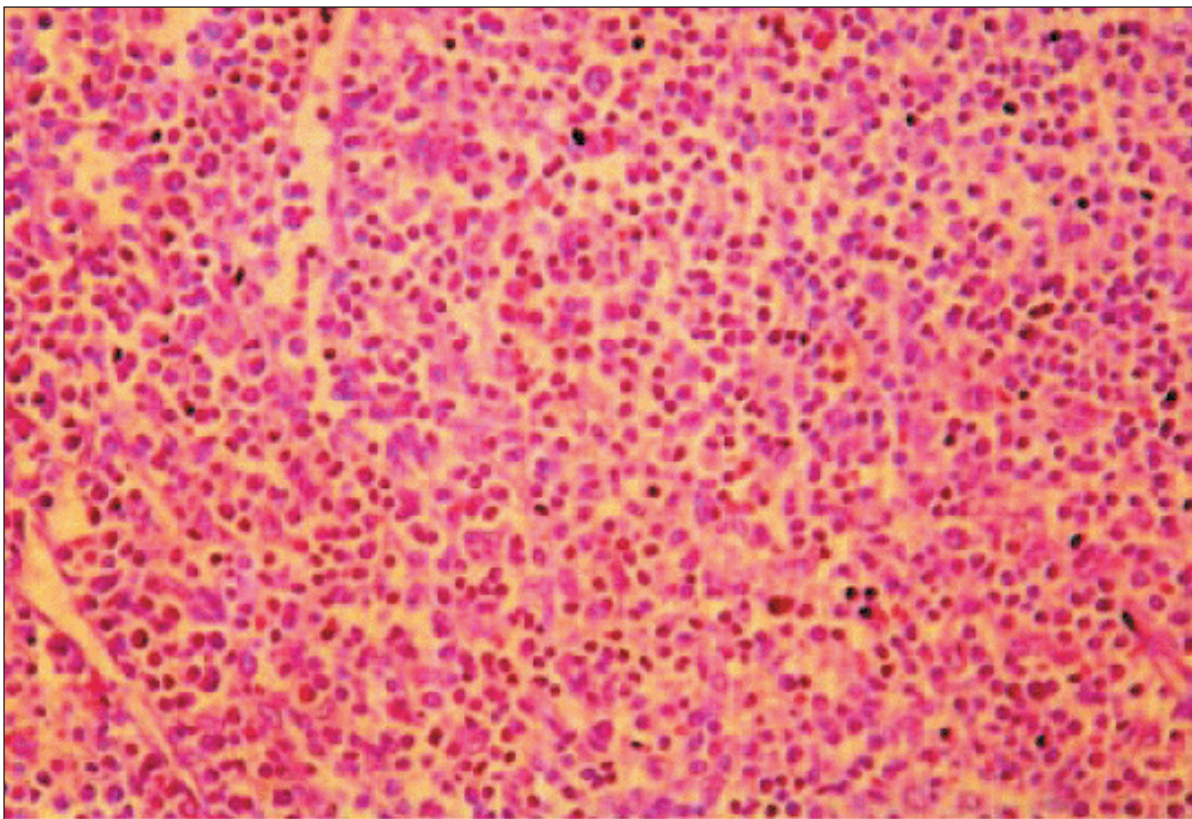
virus. Persons who were previously infected with one or more types of dengue virus are thought to be at greater risk for developing dengue hemorrhagic fever if infected again.

There is no specific treatment for dengue. Persons with dengue fever should rest and drink plenty of fluids. They should be kept away from mosquitoes for the protection of others. Dengue hemorrhagic fever is treated by replacing lost fluids. Some patients need transfusions to control bleeding.

In tropical countries around the world, dengue is one of the most common viral diseases spread to humans by mosquitoes.

Tens of millions of cases of dengue fever and up to hundreds of thousands of cases of dengue hemorrhagic fever occur each year. All types of dengue virus are re-emerging worldwide and causing larger and more frequent epidemics, especially in cities in the tropics.

The emergence of dengue as a major public health problem has been most dramatic in the western hemisphere. Dengue fever has reached epidemic levels in Central America and is threatening the United States.



Dengue fever cells.

## Accord expires in 2012

# So what happens after Kyoto?

BY IAN JOHNSON

The Kyoto Protocol treaty has now entered into force for the 126 nations who have joined it so far. Now is the time to start thinking about how to engage all nations, including large emitters, in conversations about what to do after the treaty's expiration in 2012. This is exactly what the European Commission did recently by providing its first strategy for a post-Kyoto era, which will be discussed by the European Council next March.

While the Kyoto Protocol represents only a modest reduction of carbon emissions in industrialized countries – 5.2% between 2008-2012 relative to 1990 levels, with varying targets for individual countries – real progress can be made in sustaining development efforts and preserving our planet.

But first, all countries must integrate climate concerns into policy planning, and improve their governance in key sectors such as energy, infrastructure, and transport. In other words, we must act in accordance with the recognition that climate change and its effects on people in both rich and poor countries remains a threat to global security.

At the end of the day, the long-term approach is likely to include a rules-based system, an incentives system, and investments in technology change. Increasingly, adaptation at the national level will be recognized as a major issue that will require appropriate funding. Dealing with the impacts of climate change and with emission reductions should not be mutually exclusive, but complementary.

Looking ahead to the post-Kyoto world offers us the chance to start a new dialogue and to look at new options on climate change. Nations

could set the more ambitious goal of limiting the long-term change in the earth's temperature, and then assign emissions rights among countries in such a way that will eventually limit temperature increases to an acceptable level. This would require increasing investments in energy research and development for new and improved technologies – a process that needs to be supported by stronger public-private partnerships.

Up to now, with only 15% of the world's population, rich countries have been responsible for more than 75% of global carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions, and thus most of the environmental damage. However, it is the developing countries – and thus the world's poor – who are most vulnerable. It is unrealistic to ask poor countries, where more than 1.6 billion people do not have access to clean energy and technologies, to bear the costs associated with the much

needed technological change.

### Strategies

Working with partners, the World Bank is supporting financial strategies to assist developing countries in meeting the costs caused by climate change. To date, over \$1 billion dollars in Global Environment Facility (GEF) grants, together with about \$8 billion in co-financing, have been committed to programs related to climate change.

While the regulatory mechanisms of both Kyoto and the European Trading Scheme have contributed to the establishment of an emerging market for carbon trading, interested parties are now concerned about the immediate future. Without a regulatory framework beyond 2012, the window of opportunity for initiating project-based transactions will close by 2006/2007.

Given the long lead time between project preparation and the first

benefits of emissions reductions, project developers have only a few years to act before carbon payments cease to make a meaningful contribution to project finance in the current context. Developing infrastructure projects is a long process that requires 3-7 years from identification, through licensing, financing, and construction, and finally to the first certification of carbon emission reductions.

### Projects

Therefore, projects need to be operational at the latest by 2007. The World Bank has been instrumental in advancing carbon finance as a viable development tool, and in facilitating private-sector participation in the market. The Bank is focused on representing the interests of its borrowing countries, helping them to develop assets for carbon trading according to their own priorities.

But, without a commitment by

governments to limit greenhouse gas emissions beyond 2012, the carbon market will remain uncertain, and the private sector – vital to the market's success – is unlikely to expand its participation in a meaningful and sustained way. According to a recent World Bank-supported survey of companies interested in carbon finance, only one in five respondents declared that they were interested in buying post-2012 emissions reductions.

Now is the chance to look forward and enlist the global community – with no exclusions, although with differentiated responsibilities – in the pursuit of a more secure world, one that avoids the dire risks of environmental degradation and social conflict implied by inaction.

Ian Johnson is Vice President for Sustainable Development at the World Bank.

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# NBA wrap: Pacers get fifth straight win

**T**ORONTO (Reuters) - Stephen Jackson scored 28 points to lead the Indiana Pacers to their season-high fifth straight victory, a 106-82 win over the Cleveland Cavaliers in Indianapolis Friday. Jermaine O'Neal had 20 points, eight rebounds and five assists for the Pacers while Jackson reeled off 11 successive points in the

fourth quarter. Indiana shot 52 percent to win for the eighth time in 10 games. The Pacers grabbed a 17-point lead at the half and never allowed the Cavs to get within 13 in the second.

Anthony Johnson and Austin Croshere each added 10 points for the Pacers.

LeBron James led the Cavaliers with 21 points while Zydrunas Ilgauskas had 20 points, 15 rebounds and four blocks.

Cleveland has lost 10 of its last 11 meetings with the Pacers.

In East Rutherford, Vince Carter notched 28 points as the New Jersey Nets beat the Charlotte Bobcats 93-86.

Rookie Nenad Krstic had a career-high 25 points for New Jersey while Jason Kidd added 11 points, nine assists and eight rebounds.

Gerald Wallace had 23 points for the Bobcats.

In Memphis, Earl Boykins picked up 19 points to help the Denver Nuggets rally

to defeat the Grizzlies 97-94 in overtime.

Marcus Camby added 17 points and 15 rebounds for the Nuggets, who held the Grizzlies to three points in overtime.

Brian Cardinal registered 28 points for Memphis.

In Chicago, Kirk Hinrich contributed 26 points as the Bulls beat the Washington Wizards 97-90.

Ben Gordon added 20 points for the Bulls, winners of five of their last six games.

Gilbert Arenas amassed 36 points and

Antawn Jamison had 19 points and 10 rebounds but the Wizards still lost their fifth straight road game.

In Milwaukee, Chris Bosh posted 27 points and eight rebounds to push the Toronto Raptors past the Bucks 106-102.

Jalen Rose added 16 points, including two free throws with 11 seconds left, as the Raptors won their second consecutive road game.

Maurice Williams scored 21 points for the Bucks while Joe Smith had 20 points and 14 rebounds.

In Salt Lake City, Antoine Walker recorded 24 points and 10 rebounds on his return to his former team as the Boston Celtics edged the Utah Jazz 109-102.

Ricky Davis scored 17 points and Delonte West 16 for the Celtics. Andrei Kirilenko led Utah with 29 points.

In Portland, Zach Randolph had 31 points and 12 rebounds to steer the Trail Blazers to a 102-101 win over the Atlanta Hawks.

Al Harrington claimed 25 points for

the Hawks, who lost on the road for the 18th straight game.

In Los Angeles, Tayshaun Prince grabbed 26 points to guide the Detroit Pistons to a 111-90 mauling of the Lakers.

Kobe Bryant led Los Angeles with 20 points and 11 assists.

In Seattle, Ray Allen scored 32 points as the SuperSonics beat the Minnesota Timberwolves 98-88.

Kevin Garnett was Minnesota's spearhead with 31 points and 14 rebounds.



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## Book promotes the Queen of Sheba

# Austrian author looks at "Favoured daughters of Eve"

By YEMEN TIMES STAFF

In November 24 of last year, both the Yemeni and Ethiopian embassies in Vienna, Austria hosted a special presentation for the recently published book entitled "The Queen of Sheba's Round Table":



Annelies Glander

A study of the most favoured daughters of Eve."

The book was written by prominent linguist and term inologist Annelies Glander.

In a recent visit to Yemen, Ms. Glander expressed to The Yemen Times her delight for the generous and welcoming gesture by the Yemeni public and government for

the book, which provided hints of the life of the Queen of Sheba and a number of other prominent female idols.

"I personally thank Foreign Minister Dr. Abu Bakr Al-Qirbi and my Yemeni friends who expressed appreciation for the role the book is playing in presenting a truthful and positive image of Yemen's most famous queen," she said.

The book, which was released on October 2004 and is available on most global and online bookstores throughout the world, is in no way intended as an imitation or gender sensitive counterpart of King Arthur's famous colloquium, but is a virtual meeting of spiritually noble ladies presenting their illustrious life stories.

Peter Lang Publishing Group Inc. published the 238-page study in affiliation with the European University.

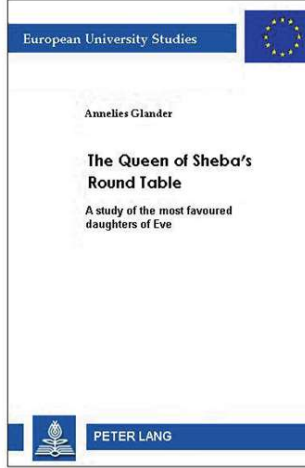
The purpose of the study is to present women from real life in the most natural and comprehensible way possible, nevertheless relying on documented texts. The activities and ideologies of the heroines participating in this unique albeit imaginary meeting are analyzed for particular features that would explain their outstanding achievements,

Annelies Glander

## The Queen of Sheba's Round Table

A study of the most favoured daughters of Eve

Peter Lang • Europäischer Verlag für Wissenschaften  
 Frankfurt am Main, Berlin, Bern, Bruxelles,  
 New York, Oxford, Wien, 2004. 238 pp.  
 European University Studies:  
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 ISBN 3-631-52939-2  
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 pb, 62 SFR, 42.50 €, 27.80 £, 47.95 US\$



believed to be in some way or other inheritable and thus transferable to further eligible candidates.

The accounts are interspersed with questions raised by the listening participants, intended to reflect the opinion of the author

### About the author

Born in 1939 Annelies Glander studied languages and, simultaneously started to explore other civilizations. She obtained a master degree in Social Anthropology and a doctorate in Sociology.

Still working as a linguist and terminologist she continues

devoting all her free time to study trips and field research, and the subsequent elaboration of books. (Inheritance in Islam, 1998, The Oriental Child, 2001).

Annelies Glander has always been a good friend of Yemen and a frequent visitor. She is planning to write a book on 'The Child' focusing on children in a global sense.

Her interest in the Arab World, and particularly in Yemen has made her attached to the country in many ways. "They sometimes call me 'Austrian Aneesa' for they know that Yemen is my second home," she admits.

# Taiwan high-rise fire kills three, nine rescued

TAIPEI, Feb 26 (Reuters) - Taiwan rescue helicopters plucked nine people to safety from a revolving restaurant on top of a blazing building on Saturday after fire and thick smoke killed three people in the 23-storey

block. Television footage showed police winning the nine one-by-one from the roof of the restaurant as flames and smoke poured from the upper floors of the building in Taichung City in

central Taiwan. The fire department received a call about the blaze in the city centre building at 4:18 p.m. (0818 GMT), Lin Te-chang said by phone, adding that the fire had been extinguished in about 1-1/2 hours.

Other people in the building, which includes shops, restaurants and after-hour schools, were evacuated by foot after the fire broke out, Lin said.

Three people were slightly hurt, suffering cuts and abrasions, Lin said.

Officials believe the fire started in a restaurant on the 18th floor, where two of the dead were found, but the cause of the blaze was still unknown, Lin said.

One of the dead was identified as a building security guard and another as a building management official. The third had not yet been identified, Lin said.



A police rescue helicopter arrives at the scene of a blaze in central Taiwan on Feb. 26. Taiwan rescue helicopters plucked nine people to safety from a revolving restaurant on top of a blazing building on Saturday after fire and thick smoke killed three people in the 23-storey block. REUTERS

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