

In the presence of US justice ministry delegation

SPC adjourns case of 8 suspects until July 11

By YASSER AL-MAYASI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

SANA'A, June 13- The Specialist Penal Court (SPC) decided on Monday to adjourn the case of the suspects accused of forming an armed gang to hit western interests and assassinate officials until July 11 to issue the final verdict.

The court's session devoted to the final appeals was for the first time attended by a delegation from the U.S. Ministry of Justice. The appeals uncovered documents and other seized articles considered to be enough evidences for confirming the conviction of suspects.

The prosecution investigation found out that suspect Salah Abdu Ma'udha is the person who transferred 10,000 Saudi riyals from Najran to the top suspect Anwar al-Jailani.

The prosecution representative told the court that the transferred money adds to the list of evidences to confirm charges against the suspects.

Top defendant Anwar al-Jailani made a confession that the sum of money was already transferred but he does not know the person who was investigated by the prosecution. The top defendant emphasized he was given the sum via a friend named Umair al-Jailani.

In the appeals, the prosecution representative stated the first seven suspects were involved in the formation of an armed band to shake security and stability of the nation.

The 8-member band has plotted to attack the British and the Italian embassies as well the French Cultural Center. They took a house on lease, hired cars, bought military uniforms, drew maps of their targets, prepared explosives and distributed roles among them to carry out offences.

During the session, Mohammad al-Ezani, defense-advocate of suspects from No.2 to 6 claimed the conviction of his clients is wrong and the charges were based on the minutes of interrogating the suspects and receiving their answers by the political security without any order from the prosecution.

Al-Ezani said his clients have been imprisoned for a period of time exceeding the legal limits, and their houses

were stormed and searched without any orders from the parties concerned.

The defense-advocate denied the seized articles including the computer were used by the defendants to implement their plots. He claimed the court to refuse the indictment and acquit his

clients.

Hamoud al-Manifi, lawyer of suspects No.7 and 8 has not presented his final appeals and demanded the court to invalidate the indictment attributed to his clients.

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Photo by Khalid Al-Hammadi

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With Yemen's participation

77 Group's Second Summit wraps up

By YASSER AL-MAYASI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Doha- June 16- Activities of the 77 Group' Second Summit are concluding today with Yemen participating in the event. Yemen's delegation was headed by HE President Ali Abdullah Saleh.

The summit comes in the shadow of significant international changes and various challenges requiring an exchange of views and opinions between the countries concerned.

The summit aims to hold deliberation on interests of the economic countries and establish a fair relationship between the 77 Group countries and the World Trade Organization (WTO).

The summit has been expected to come out with some reforms suggested for serving the United Nations and granting the developing countries the WTO's membership.

The 77 Group was founded on June

15 1964 including the developing countries that signed the shared statement of the pact issued at the first session of UN conference on trade and development in Geneva on the same day.

Although the number of the group members rose to 132, it is still being named the 77 Group Countries due to its historical significance.

The coalition of member countries in the 77 Group has the intention to help the third world countries to develop their economic interests and improve their shared negotiability on important economic subjects.

The 77 Group exerts precious efforts to develop economic and technical cooperation between the developing countries.

The summit appeared to be somehow dominated by the countries that publicly express their interests and demands, particularly in the economic areas.

The 77 Group members believe

that the economic recovery and eradicating poverty and terror can not be achieved unless there is a comprehensive development in the poorest countries.

Parliament solves students' problems

SANA'A- June 14 - Parliament sources confirmed on Tuesday that the Parliament committee, formed for calming down student's protests against the unfair dismissal of some activists at the Yemeni Students Union from their study, solved the problem and allowed

these students to have their exams.

The university witnessed last week a series of demonstrations and sit-ins in protest against the university rector's decisions to dismiss 4 activists from their study in different faculties under the pretext they incite chaos and con-

flicts while staging demonstrations and other activities at the university.

This week saw many sit-ins and protests, some of which led to confrontations between students and the police who resorted to teargas grenades and explosives to disperse the marchers.

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Media prevented from coverage Supreme Court still discusses sales tax law

By YEMEN TIMES STAFF

SANA'A- June 14- The Supreme Court held a session on Tuesday to look into the appeal presented against some articles of the sales tax law No. 19 for the year 2001, due to be passed on by the beginning of July.

Represented by its lawyer Hassan Mujalli, the Chamber of Trade and Industry filed the appeal against the President of the Republic, Speaker of the Parliament, Prime Minister, Ministers of legal affairs and finance and President of the Tax Authority.

The court members listened to the lawyer while reading out the appeal that strongly denounced the application of the sales tax law.

The court prevented the media means from covering the proceedings of the session, and the judge pointed out that the court will allow the media to cover and videotape the sitting of reading out the final verdict only under the pretext the case may be influenced.

All the media personnel and journalists have shown curiosity about being prevented from covering the proceedings, considering such conduct illogical, particularly as the country enjoys an atmosphere of democracy and free media.

The appeal filed against the government was embraced in a book composed of 160 pages including the invalidity of the sales tax law.

The appeal demanded the court to suspend the application of the law, which levies a 10% tax on traders whose annual sales of commodities and services do not exceed the tune of YR50 million.

The sales tax law was strongly opposed one month ago when the Parliament decided to pass it on, and this led to a crisis between the government and the opposition.

The opposition believes the sales tax law has its negative effects on the national economy, investment and citizens. Its proposal is attributed to the wrong economic policy.

U.S. ambassador in Yemen slammed

Yemeni Speaker of Parliament Sheik Abdullah Ahmar called the U.S. ambassador in Sanaa's movements and meetings with tribe leaders, politicians and organizations of the civilian society without notifying the foreign ministry as "a blunt interference in Yemen's domestic affairs."

The Yemeni news agency SABA quoted Ahmar as saying "diplomatic norms require that the U.S. ambassa-

dor and all other diplomats strictly use diplomatic channels in order to establish contacts within the framework of their work."

"As for the American ambassador in Yemen whose meetings are being held without the knowledge of the Yemeni government," he added, "his acts are considered as violations of diplomatic norms and this does not serve bilateral relations," Ahmar added.

11 out of 29 highwaymen freed

SANA'A- The Specialist State's Security Crimes Court released on Monday June 13, 11 suspects out of 29 people accused of banditry, the killing of a military officer and a policeman.

The court devoted next Monday to the final appeals and reading out the verdict.

The suspects were captured on Jan 12 2003 in Bani Hushaish to the east of Sana'a.

The Preliminary Court sentenced 10 of them to death while the other suspects received imprisonment terms ranging from one and a half to 13 years.

U.S. and Yemen discuss security cooperation

SANA'A- Yemeni Interior Minister Rashad al-Alimi met on Monday June 13 with the U.S. marine forces commander and discussed security cooperation between the two countries.

Official sources said the US military commander discussed with some Yemeni officials about issues of security cooperation between the U.S.A.

and Yemen, particularly in the field of affairs related to sea security.

The discussion indicated that the U.S. would support the Yemeni coast guard authorities with facilities and equipment.

The U.S. official confirmed that his government is ready to contribute to reinforcing the Yemeni marine forces during days to come.

Drug merchants sentenced to death

SANA'A- June 12- The Criminal Court issued in its Sunday's sitting a verdict sentencing Abdurrahman Fadhil Tawoos, Saleh Sa'eed al-Hitam and Beirkhan, a Pakistani national, to death for charges of promoting and selling drugs.

The other three suspects were sentenced to five years in jail while one of

the band, to which charges were attributed, were acquitted.

The security forces arrested two suspects along with a car loaded with drugs and money in Sana'a one and a half years ago.

The court ordered the prosecution to quickly capture the other remaining fugitives.

VACANCY

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Man murders four

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Four people were killed early this week in the rural area of Wosab al-Ali in Dhamar province. Wadhah al-Zubair, his mother, his brother and Ghaleb al-Jarifah were shot dead by middle-aged Alwan who fled the scene immediately after the crime.

Local sources told the Yemen Times that the murder was the killer's response to the attempt of his ex-in-laws to marry off his divorced wife.

"He was furious to hear that his ex-wife would be married to another man," the source said. "Therefore, he picked up his gun and went over to

his ex-father-in-law's and opened fire on the matchmaking gathering killing his ex-wife's mother, and two brothers besides the matchmaker."

It is reported that district's security forces came to the village just to confiscate the killer's bull and cow while the too-jealous divorcee is still at large.

UST holds medical conference

Under the slogan "Toward a better healthy future", the University of Science and Technology (UST) organized from June 12-14 a medical conference at the university's hospital in cooperation with the Yemeni Charitable Medical Association (YCMA).

The event was attended by a number of medicine faculty deans and medical establishments officials from over 40 Muslim, Arab, European, Asian and African countries.

Prof. Husni al-Jawsh'e, chairman of the conference, pointed out such an event gains great importance as it was held in the presence of scholars and researchers majored in different medical areas from across the world.

He added the conference coincided with the meeting of the Union of Faculties of Medicine in the Islamic Universities.

For his part, Prof. Alawi Ubeid, Dean, Faculty of Medical Sciences at

the university confirmed the conference, annually held by his faculty, comes in the framework of the university's attention to develop the scientific research and pose at the barriers facing workers in the health sector in Yemen.

Prof. Ubeid mentioned that the local experts would profit from foreign experiences to improve methods of work in

the health sector to serve their society.

He signaled out that the 3-day conference would discuss several themes and scientific papers represented by the role of civil community organizations in providing health care and fighting chronic epidemics in the developing countries such as the Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS).

Honoring More than 300 Teachers and Educationalists

The Teacher's Syndicate Celebrates The Memory of 15th Unity Day and The Formation of the Syndicate

The teacher's Syndicate and its tributary in the Capital Secretariat, will hold a ceremony on the occasion of the 15th memory of the unity and the formation of the syndicate, under the sponsorship of Sheikh Abdullah Bin Hussien Al-Ahmar, speaker of the Parliament.

In the festival which will be held in the hall of the cultural center in Sana'a

in the morning of the 16th of June 2005, 300 elite teachers, with distinct educational performance, will be honored. They are from the Secretariat and Governorates of the Republic of Yemen. The vintage members of the Syndicate since 1990 up to the last electoral session will also be honored for their patriotic roles in exceptional periods in the history of the syndicate since it was founded.

This honorary festival comes after

periods of educational work of the syndicate, where it symbolizes a pioneer distinct experience in the field of free independent syndicate works, which came as a yield of the unity in connection with democracy and freedom of both political and syndicate activities, depending on the constitution and competent laws, in addition to international charters which the Republic of Yemen has signed in respect to its people's rights in making political and syndicate organizations.

Donors discuss judiciary development with Justice Minister

Yemen Times Staff

SANA'A- For enhancing and developing the commercial judiciary in Yemen to bring infrastructure convenient for investment, the Yemeni Justice Minister Dr. Adnan al-Jefri met with a delegation of ambassadors of donor countries and discussed the partnership programs between Yemen and the donors to upgrade the Yemeni judiciary.

The Yemeni Justice Minister reviewed what was achieved by his Ministry and the project of developing justice, part of the UN Development Program.

Dr. al-Jefri made a mention of the projects being under implementation, among them developing the West Capital's Court and Serah Preliminary Court as well as offering the legal assistance for free and establishing the legal library.

The partnership program established a unit for the electronic legal research at the Ministry of Justice and upgraded the Higher Institute for Judiciary.

The Minister of Justice revealed before ambassadors of donors a number of problems and difficulties facing the Yemeni judiciary, particularly those hindering the development of the judi-

cial administration.

For her part, the UN representative in Yemen emphasized the existence of a fair and effective judicial system that will attract capitals to be invest in the country, giving priority to developing judiciary in Yemen.

Luqman's imprisonment term reduced to 5 years

SANA'A- The final verdict issued by the Specialist Penal Court confirmed the conviction of Mohammad Ali Luqman, Judge of Haraz Court, Sana'a governorate.

Under the verdict, Judge Luqman received a 5-year imprisonment term after being accused by the government of inciting ethnical and sectarian conflicts, attacking the authorities and being involved in a band affiliated by al-Houthi organization.

The verdict covered evidence of several charges attributed to Luqman, and due to insufficient evidence that the innate assaulted the authorities, the sentence was reduced from ten to five years in prison to be implemented from the day following his arrest in July 2004.

Prior to this, Judge Luqman was sentenced to ten years in jail.

Judge Luqman was arrested on July 27 on charges of inciting rebellion in Haraz District, forming a branch of the "Faithful Youth" organization, which was led by slain Hussein al-Houthi as well as instigating his followers to coupe against the regime and violate the law.

5G U Voice

Yemen Times features 5HDGHUVVoice" a popular way for our readers to interact with us. This is your opportunity to have a say on world and local affairs.

This HGLWLR Question:

Do you expect the 77 Group Summit to change rich FRQWULH attitude towards the Third World?
Yes
No
I GRQW know

Last HGLWLR Question:

Alliance between president Ali Abdullah Saleh and Sheikh Al-Ahmar used to be strong and deep-rooted until only a short time ago. However, this alliance seems to crumble lately. Do you think this would lead to unrest between the president and the tribal group?

Yes 55%
No 38.7%
I don't know 6.2%

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

Al-Anisi head of Yemen's top intelligence body

A new chairman of the National Security Agency was appointed by the President Ali Abdullah Saleh last week. The new chairman Mr. Muhammad Ali Al-Anessi was previously the president's secretary and is now heading the country's top intelligence body established in 2002 to help combat terrorism.

According to Saba news agency, Al-Anessi will also keep his old post as head of Saleh's office, which he has held since the mid-1980s.

The National Security Agency was founded in August 2002 to gather and analyze intelligence data relating to national security. It is entrusted with coordinating the work of other state and military intelligence services and building closer ties with other foreign security organizations.

Secretary/Receptionist

The Yemeni-Danish Partnership Programme, The Technical Advisory Office, is seeking a Secretary/Receptionist from 1 August 2005

Responsibilities:

- The Secretary/Receptionist shall serve the Office, the staff and the guests visiting the Office.
- Perform secretarial duties like writing and assist drafting letters, taking minutes and notes, draft invitations etc.
- The Receptionist/ Secretary is responsible for the smooth running of the photocopy machine and the fax machine and for answering and redirect all incoming and outgoing phone calls.

The Secretary/Receptionist is assigned to perform the following tasks:

- Serving the professional staff
- Assisting in preparation of Office documents, letters, notes etc. in English and Arabic
- Providing word processing and other secretarial/administrative services, as and when required.
- Prepare meetings and receptions.
- Assist during and after meetings: Taking minutes, sending follow up letters, collect data etc.
- Taking all in and outgoing phone calls and direct to appropriate person.
- Assisting in making contact and phone calls to the Offices stakeholders, e.g. the Ministries, the donor communities, 12's, visitors from abroad etc.
- Keeping record of and update telephones and e-mail addresses.

Skills

- Solid computer skills and knowledge of MS Office, particularly Word.
- Fluency in English and Arabic, oral and in writing.

Please send or bring your application and CV before 23 June to

Yemeni - Danish Partnership Programme
Technical Advisory Office
Next to Petroleum Company, Close to Canadian School and Dutch Embassy
Hadda Area, 6DQDD
Phone: (00967) 1 427 568/9 - ext. 105 for Ms. Fatma Awadh for further information.
Fax: (00967) 1 414 703

Japan finances projects in Yemen

The Government of Japan has decided to extend grants amounting up to US\$ 107,678 to two projects in Yemen under the Japanese scheme called "Grant Assistance for Grassroots Human Security Projects", which aims at supporting small-scale and community-based projects in basic human needs including health care basic education and public welfare in the developing countries.

The first project, which receives a grant amounting to US\$89,050, will be implemented by al-Mahrah Agriculture and Irrigation Office for improving methods of packing and storing dates, reducing the use of insecticides in current dates storage and training farmers on clean and healthy packing methods.

The project, which receives a grant amounting to US\$18,628, will be implemented by Utmah Protected Area Association in Dhamar Governorate.

The project will address the need for environmental conservation and sustain-

able development by encouraging reforestation and beekeeping as a means to alleviate poverty and increase vegetation coverage in the area.

Mr. Yuichi Ishii, Ambassador of Japan to Yemen, signed the agreements to this effect in Sana'a with Eng. Khalid Mohammad al-Haj, General Manager of Mahrah Agriculture and Irrigation Office and Mr. Ali Salah Chairperson of Utmah Protected Area Association.

During this Japanese fiscal year (April 2005- March 2006), three projects including the above-mentioned two, have been financed in Yemen so far by the direct supervision of the Japanese Scheme.

It is noteworthy that 15 projects were financed in Yemen by the Japanese Government under the scheme during the last Japanese fiscal year.

In addition, the Embassy of Japan invites as many Yemeni NGOs as possible to submit their draft projects to be implemented under the scheme.

Jailed kids should be freed

SANA'A- The national symposium on releasing jailed kids from prison detention centers was held on Sunday June 12.

Participants in the symposium called for the amendment of some articles of the juvenile care law, with respect to the juvenile age and separating children from adults in prisons.

The symposium, which was organized by the UNESCO in cooperation with some government parties and civil community organizations, stressed on activating the role of the National Network for Child Care and Protection (NNCCP).

The symposium recommended that the NNCCP should be given the entire power to follow up the juvenile issues in prisons, police departments and criminal investigation bureaus.

The symposium recommended the establishment of judicial juvenile protection department at the Ministry of Justice and a general administration for juvenile police at the Ministry of Interior.

Discussions at the event confirmed that child problems are attributed to a number of factors, most prominent of which are quitting schools, the deteriorating living standards, and the rapid change in the lifestyle of people. Such economic and social factors caused gaps and family disintegration, and this had its negative impact on feelings and thoughts of children compelling them to look for alternatives outside their families.

Large numbers of children are found to leave their homes driven by their own desires and needs.

Humanitarian Appeal

Fatima Ahmed Saeed, a three-month old infant is now in Al-Sabeen Hospital - Sana'a .She is Suffering from a bleeding in the brain due to malaria. She received treatment , but she urgently needs surgical intervention , in a pediatric specialized brain and nerve center, which is not available in the hospital . Professor Salim Ba- Nagga the Podiatrist at the Faculty of Medicine at Sana'a University , had treated her. He confirmed that she needs urgent brain surgery . He added that she is now treated with medicines that would

stop bleeding. He said there is a concern about her case now because the head is enlarging because of the bleeding .

The child's father can't afford the daily expenses that the medicines that the child uses . He forwards a word to every doctor , owners of private clinic or hospital , and well doers to save this child who is still in Al-Sabeen hospital ; infant's section

Her father Ahmed Saeed could be reached through mobiles : 73590663 or 73328236



Taj Sheba Hotel celebrates International Labor Day

As part of the Labor Day celebrations, in its Silver Anniversary, the Management of Taj Sheba Hotel honored 21 of its long serving staff members who had served the Hotel for 15 years and more with a Special Long Service Award on Thursday, 9th June 2005 at the Abu Nawas Banquet Hall.

The award was a special long service certificate with a cash reward of YR 100,000/- per person.

Mr Bobby Nayak, Manager-HR, on behalf of all the staff and management welcomed and thanked Mr Nabil Al Fakih, Deputy Minister of Tourism , the Chief Guest on this occasion.

Mr M Narang, General Manager, Taj Sheba Hotel , in his address, thanked all the staff members for having put in their best efforts and sincerity in providing 25 years of glorious hospitality and service to its guests and customers.

He also thanked Mr Hayel Abdul Hak, Managing Director of the Hotel for granting a special reward to all those who had served the hotel for 15 years and more.

Mr Nabil Al Faqih, Chief Guest , distributed the certificates and awards. In his speech, on behalf of the Tourism Ministry , he thanked the staff and management for providing excellent hospitality and service and wished them the best in their continued efforts to maintain Taj Sheba as the Number

Mr. Bobby Nayak, Manager - HR , Mr. Malvinder Narang, General Manager & Mr. Nabil Al Faqih, deputy Minister of Tourism

Staff members selected for Cross Exposure Training at Taj hotels in India with Mr. Nabil Al-Faqih and Mr. M Narang

A section of Staff members, who received the awards & certificates with Mr. Nabil Al Faqih and Mr. M Narang. One hotel in Yemen.

Along with the Special Long service awards, Best Employee awards for 2005, Long Service award for employees who had completed 5 and 10 years

Special Long service award for 15 years and more were awarded to:

Mr. Ahmed Saeed Al Yusufi	F&B (Service)
Mr. Osman Saeed Nasser	F&B (Service)
Mr. Abdulla Ali Al Iryani	Purchase
Mr. Abdul Kareem Qauid	Maintenance
Mr. Mohamad Ghaleeb Al Yusufi	HRD
Mr. Mohamad Ali Nasser Atfan	HRD
Mr. Mohamad Shamsan Ahamad	Kitchen
Mr. Jamil Ahmed Mohamed	F&B (Service)
Mr. Ahmed Hamood Mohamed Jamallah	Maintenance
Mr. Baider Mohamed Abdulla Saidi	Accounts
Mr. Ali Noman Mahyooob	Kitchen
Mr. Najib Abdulla Noman	Housekeeping
Mr. Khalid Mussad Ali	Kitchen
Mr. Zain Ahmed Ali	Sales & Marketing
Mr. Fateh Ali Nogdella	Front Office
Mr. Abdul Aziz Abdul Moti Abdo Saeed	Accounts

Best Employee awards for 2005 were awarded to:

Name of the Employee	Department
Mr. Ahmed Mohd. Jamallah	Maintenance
Mr. Amin Abdul Wahed	HRD
Mr. Murad Hassan	Laundry
Mr. Ramu Vemulapally	HRD
Mr. Najib A Noman	Housekeeping
Mr. Nasser Al Sayagi	F&B (Service)
Mr. Venkatesh Shanbag	Front Office

Long service awards to staff who have completed 5 and ,10 years were awarded to:

Mr. Abdo Kassem Ramadhan	HRD	5 Years
Mr. Abdul Raqeeb Derhem Aklan	Housekeeping	5 Years
Mr. Abdul Samad Ali Qaid	Front Office	5 Years
Mr. Abdulla Saif Ahmed	Kitchen	10 Years
Mr. Abdulla Saeed Osman	Kitchen	10 Years

Staff members who were nominated for Cross Exposure Training to Taj Hotels in India:

Mr. Mohd. Al Moyad	Housekeeping
Mr. Othman Saeed Nasser	F&B (Service)
Mr. Abdulla Saif Ahmed	Kitchen
Mr. Murad Hassan	Laundry
Mr. Anise Saeed Fadhil	Front Office.

service, Best Attendance certificates were also distributed. Names of 5 local staff members who were selected to go for Cross Exposure Training to Taj

Hotels in India were also announced. A special Yemeni/Arabic lunch was served to all the staff members to bring the grand function to a close.

Important Warning Advertisement

Engineer Kamal Abdulrhman Ali Shokri , as well as his brothers , declares that , Real estate no 316/44 k area no 50 which is on the road of Abian coast , in front of the Faculty of Medicine, in Khor Maksar , is a property of his, together with his brothers , legally and according to Islamic law , with the ownership document number (14924) issued from Ministry of Housing in 1992 .The disagreement with the so called Mohamed Saleh Toraiq , is registered before the executive judge of Seerah primary Court , for taking executive procedures against him , in light of the judgments of the High Court. We hereby warn companies and individuals or any other party, that should buy any one or accept attaine or any kind of authority to dispose, on this real estate or any part of its lands or vicinities without our consent , he will thereby bear legal consequences that result due to this , and we will have the right to take any measures in case of any action contradicting this advertisement.

Abdelrhman Ali Shokri

On behalf of Kamal abdelrhman Shokri and his brothers

إعلان تحذيري هام

يعلن المهندس كمال عبدالرحمن علي شكري وإخوانه، بأن العقار رقم أي ٤٤/٣١٦ ك بقعة رقم ٥٠ الكائن على طريق ساحل أبين أمام كلية الطب في خور مكسر ، ملك له وإخوانه شرعاً وقانوناً ، وفقاً لوثيقة التملك رقم (١٤٩٢٤) الصادرة من وزارة الإسكان عام ١٩٩٢ م وأن الخلاف مع المدعو محمد صالح طريق مسجل أمام القاضي التنفيذي لمحكمة صيره الابتدائية ، لاتخاذ الإجراءات التنفيذية ضده ، على ضوء أحكام المحكمة العليا . وعليه فإننا نحذر الشركات والأفراد وأي جهة أخرى، التي قد تقدم على الشراء أو أن تقبل التنازل أو أي شكل من أشكال التصرف بهذا العقار أو أرضيته أو أي جزء من حرمه ، دون موافقتنا ،بأنها ستتحمل النتائج القانونية المترتبة على ذلك ، وسوف نكون في حل من أي تصرف مخالف لهذا الإنذار . وقد أعذر من أنذر .

عبد الرحمن علي شكري

عن كمال عبد الرحمن شكري وإخوانه

Accountant Officer

The Yemeni-Danish Partnership Programme, The Technical Advisory Office, is seeking an Accountant Officer from 1 August 2005

We encourage applicants of both sexes to apply.

Responsibilities:

- The Accounts Officer is responsible for the overall accounting of all office and project funds under the Yemeni-Danish Partnership Programme.
- The Accountant must ensure efficient records of all accounts for several different projects and the office.
- She/he must maintain well-functioning of accounts, cash-flow, and be responsible for administrative duties relating to staff, vehicles, procurement, routine correspondence, filing and any other work relating to finance for the Office.

Accounts Duties:

- Keep separate record of all project accounts, movement and balance.
- Ensure that the cashbook, bankbook and related fund records are maintained correctly and kept updated at all times.
- Check cash balances once a week.
- Ensure compliance with all accepted financial and internal control rules, regulations, procedures, etc.
- Prepare monthly, quarterly/annual financial accounts and reports for all projects and ensure their proper distribution.

- The accountant must be fluent in spoken and written English and Arabic.
- She/he should be able to do all accounting in English, including balance sheet.
- The applicant should have at least 3 years experience working as an accountant for an International Agency.
- Knowledge of Tax, Customs and Financial Yemeni Regulation is an advantage.
- The Accountant should have a solid knowledge to MS Office, particularly EXEL and preferably other bookkeeping systems.

Please send or bring your application and CV before 23 June to

Yemeni - Danish Partnership Programme
 Technical Advisory Office
 Next to Petroleum Company, Close to Canadian School and Dutch Embassy
 Hadda Area, 6DQDD
 Phone: (00967) 1 427 568/9 - ext. 105 for Ms. Fatma Awadh for further information.
 Fax: (00967) 1 414 703

Society News

A workshop on juvenile and child labor was concluded a few days ago in Aden. It aimed at shedding light on the phenomenon and suggesting some solutions according to educational bases.

A training course on early marriage risks was wrapped up on Monday June 13 in the governorate of Abyan with the participation of around 20 women.

In cooperation with the Social Fund for Development, the National Association for Consumer Protection organized a workshop for its members on the methods of attracting volunteers.

The Fifth Democratic Forum was held on Monday June 13 in Taiz with the aim to promote women's participation in the local councils. The forum reviewed women's successful experiences in the local authority during 2001-2006.

In collaboration with al-Quds Establishment in Sana'a, the Yemeni Center for Strategic Studies organized last Tuesday a symposium under the title "al-Quds from Occupation to Judaization" on the 38th anniversary of the fall of al-Quds.

The General Union of Yemeni Artists and Writers obtained YR10 million after a meeting between its new leadership and the President of the Republic.

Shawdhab Childhood Foundation is staging today in Fan City Park an artistic exhibition containing paintings and creative works of children to highlight childhood issues.

The National Woman Committee organized on Tuesday June 14 a workshop on improving the legislative situation of women. The event aimed to raise awareness of society about women rights and amend laws to encourage women to upgrade their status in the society.

The second training course for police officers on human rights commenced last Monday in Aden. The course is being organized by the Human Rights Information and Training Center (HRITC) in cooperation with the UN Development Program and interior and human rights ministries. The course aims at maturing awareness of police officers about human rights.

9 Japanese TV programs provided to Yemen TV

Aiming at promoting mutual understanding between Japan and Yemen, Japan Foundation provides 9 TV Video program about Japan and Yemen General Corporation for Radio and TV. These programs will be broadcasting for Yemeni people to know more about Japan.

Mr. Ahmad Taher Al-Shiani, Director General of Yemen General Corporation for radio and TV signs

today an agreement to this effect, under the presence of Mr. Yuichi Ishii, Ambassador of Japan.

These programs include the following topics, " Animation", " Living in the Nuclear Age", " Junior High School Science- Chemistry ", " Face of the Earth", " We Love Nature", and " project X" which depicts Japanese innovators in the field of various industries in Japan.

Continued from page 1

SPC adjourns case of 8 suspects until July 11

He denied that defendant No. 7 Salah Mohammad Othman was involved in the formation of an armed band to carry out terrorist acts and demanded the court to acquit the suspect and return his personal belongings.

Abdulaziz al-Samawi lawyer of the top suspect Anwar al-Jailani did not attend the session, and the court allowed all the suspects to present their final appeals and talk to the judge.

Anwar al-Jailani indicated that he has a friendly relation with Salah Othman and that he was not given two cheques as claimed by the prosecution.

Second suspect Khalid al-Batati claimed the court to acquit him and the third suspect Abdurrahman Basurrah insisted that his computer and ancient gun be returned to him.

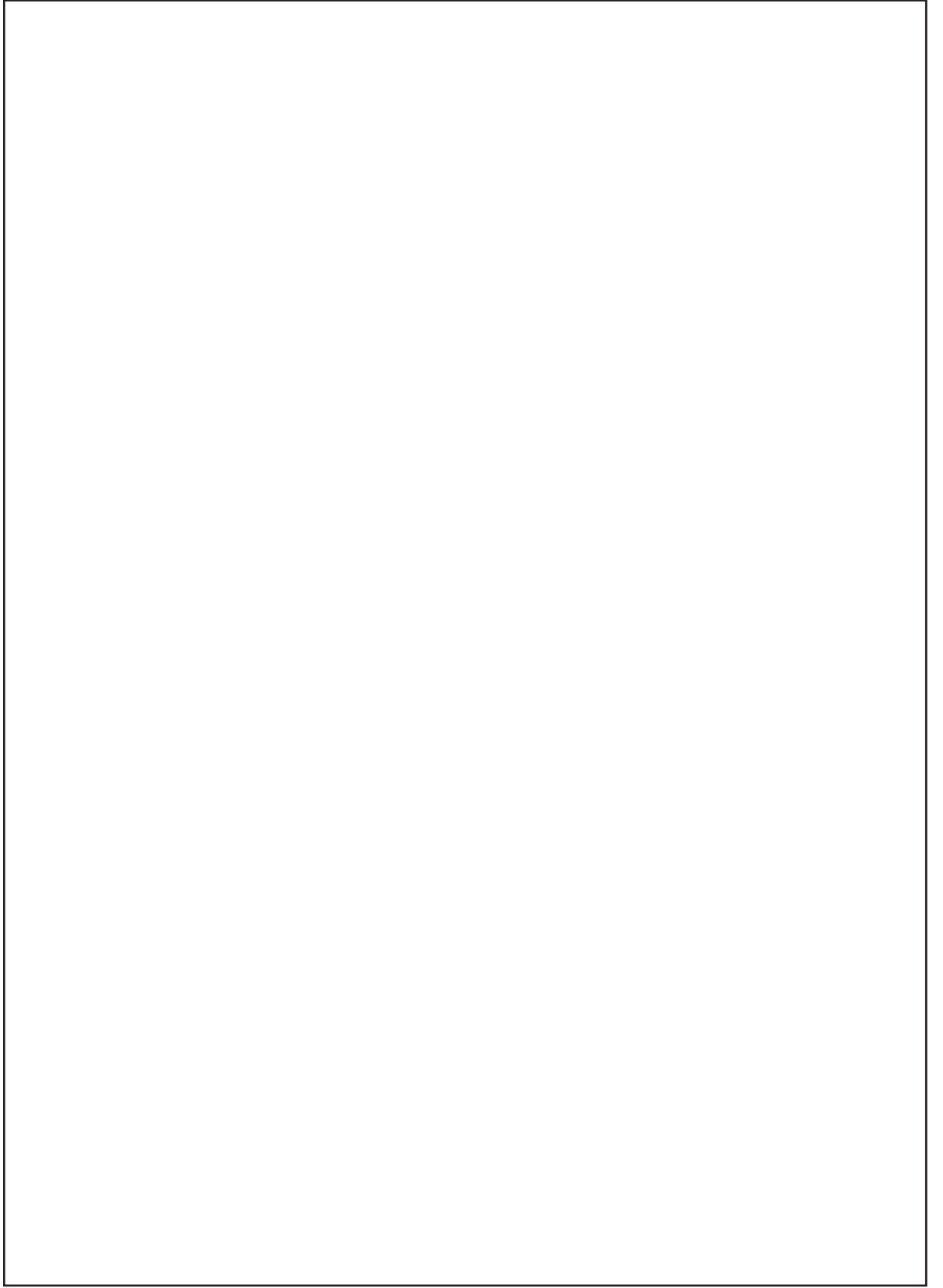
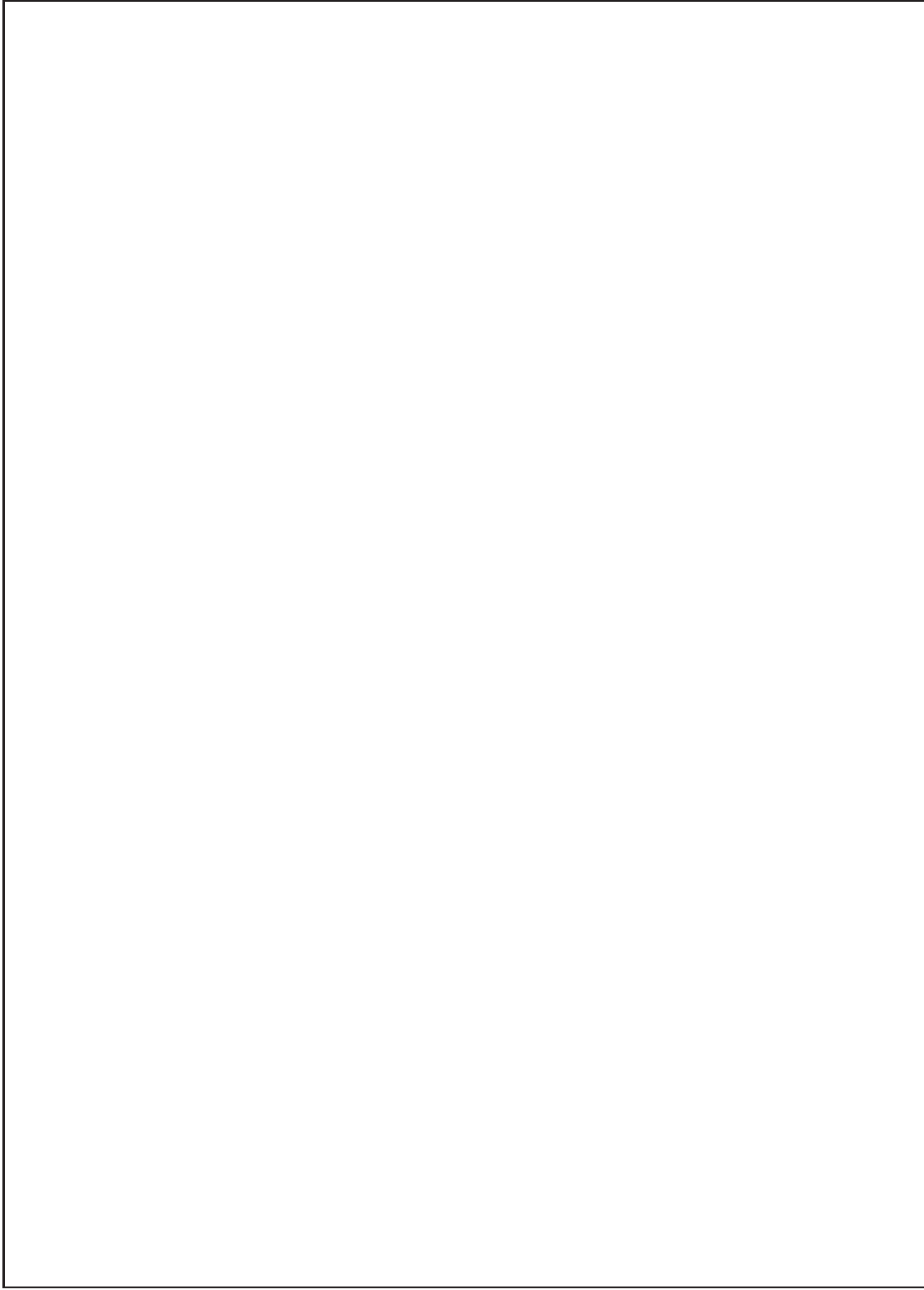
Suspect No.4 Mohammad Khaiti, a Syrian national, said the court has to

return his furniture, which was taken by the manager of terror fighting unit at the criminal investigation bureau.

It is worth noting that 9 sessions have been held so far concerning the 8 suspects charged with the formation of an armed band to hit western interests in Yemen, as well as forging official documents carrying anonymous names to facilitate their tasks.

Through the nine sessions several shocking facts have been disclosed, including an organization named "al-Tawhid Battalions" believed to stand behind the terrorist operations.

The court sessions uncovered the 8 suspects have been plotting to assassinate government dignitaries, mainly Prime Minister Abdalqader Bajammal, defense and interior ministers, Chairman of the Intelligence Organization and some ruling party leaders.



Violence against women

Why did not stop till now?

By ESHRAQ AL-BODIGI
FOR YEMEN TIMES
eshraqalbodigi@yahoo.com

In spite of the existence of so many studies and statistics of the violence against women around the world, and in spite of its high and scary rates which translate the suffering of women everywhere, a large number of victims are due to the hostility of men, whether directly or indirectly. There are no actual acts against this awful ghost and catastrophic condition.

Women don't deny the latest steps of some national and international organizations and institutions towards solving this case such as DAW, OXFAM, UNIFAM, SOUL, WNC, ECOSOC, WAVO, etc; but the steps that were supposed to fight for the women's freedom, release them from subordination of men and unjust laws didn't succeed at all.

It is merely a group of words and slogans, where the whole subject seems to hold talks, conferences, and conventions that can't actually preserve the world's women till this moment.

As most studies and surveys which done since latest years show, many people know that women were suffering different kinds of violence including, deprivation in learning, psychology pressure, complete domination, using force in all aspects in life even in marriage and voicing opinions, violent slaps or thrashes, circumcision, sexual harassment, and sexual assault. These kinds of injustice and vehemence are not the only aspects of misery but there are more that develop directly with the development of the place and period. For example,

today if there is a successful woman in any scientific or social field, men cannot accept this idea or comprehend that the successful woman is a struggler. However, some men start to fight this woman and invent rumors saying that the woman is selling herself and her body. Here, we notice that violence has taken another shape to attack women even if they are successful in their society. This kind of violence can be found in Arab and Islamic societies more than others, due to the importance of women honor.

Without any exaggeration, I can say this kind of behavior has become just like a Flu virus, which changes its shape and defensive procedures. When the body of the human being gets the good resistance against the previous virus, the new shape of Flu virus can easily attack the same body and causes influenza.

In some societies and till this day, women have no rights to amuse themselves and they cannot find such a place to do their sports, enjoy their activities or

entertainment. Sometimes, there are such places but it is so limited or private and costs a lot.

Nevertheless, today some kind of violence against women have taken a wide circle, and at this point, the question is; where does violence get its power?

The power of violence against women comes from the weakness of women themselves. Moreover, because women are physically a weak creature and have not enough power for self-defense, many disgusting kinds of violence are exploding, especially slaps, thrashes, sexual harassment and sexual assault. However, if we are more careful, we will notice that physical violence depends on the body's weakness of the woman, and the other kind of violence depends on the social position of woman in her society and her unawareness of her rights.

Going back to the social position of men in society, some societies make men more powerful and give him the keys of command, so that he is able to practice all types of violence against

those sensitive creatures, which still tolerate this pressure in spite of their weakness.

In addition to that, the deprivation of women's rights like deprivation of education, health, and working in the place of making decisions makes men more influential and aggressive to practice extreme violence that we are unable to stop even after thousands of years. Going further into the topic, we found that a woman does not face whole aspects of aggression as much as other women that depend on the social environment of the woman herself.

All reasons that cause this violence resemble the culture of the society or are the results of moving away from heavenly religions, which keeps women rights and saves her dignity.

Now, the important question is, where does violence go. Can we stop it?

Violence that is coming from men against women rushes to enslave women and keep them away from independence.

Since we are determined to get rid of violence of men against women, women have to be more intrepidity and conscious of their rights and get ready to pull out their rights from everybody around them. They should stop weeping and start to say; it is my right to do this and get this and live like this.

The only way to protect women is to enact some laws to help women and save their rights. Moreover, it is unavoidable to start learning their rights with the help of the national and international institutions and organizations that care about women's affairs and resist violence against women around the world.

Half the World

By Nisha

Women and technical education

While coming back from a presentation on early marriage in Yemen, a colleague and I started talking about women and technology. To be precise, we were talking about why women in Yemen are not so visible in technical education streams. While supporting research on early marriage and later while conducting an assessment of gender and livelihoods situation in Hadhramaut, I found that there is a very high concentration of girls in the humanities and social science branches of learning. Some women are visible in the biological sciences at the university in Al-Mukalla. In Al-wadi wa Al-Sahara region of Hadhramaut, there is near complete absence of women from formal technical education. This is so despite the fact that the enrolment rates for girls in basic and secondary education has gone up.

If growing enrolment rates could be converted into improved retention rates, I am sure we will have a much larger number of young women with a desire to join undergraduate programmes. And many of them may want to pursue technical education. Even now, there is an interest among girls to pursue technical education but more often than not their interest does not materialize into enrolment. Discussions with authorities in technical institutions often inform that there are no regulations to restrict women from enrolling. Still the absence of women is too stark to be ignored.

There are several complex reasons from women's absence from these institutions. Most of reasons originate from social attitudes towards women and the persistent effects of traditional restrictions on girls and women. Wrong informal career counselling at schools, by families and family friends to girls is very common. These advices are given according to gender stereotypes. Many girls recounted that they were told: 'since men bear the primary responsibility of earning an income for the family, it is more important for their future career prospects to have access to technical education'; 'family's limited resources should be invested wisely to bring benefits. Because boys will stay with the family, whether or not they are married, they really should be the first choice of family resources and technical education'; 'technical education is masculine, it is for men. It is not appropriate for a girl to work on machines'; 'girls are emotional beings, they lack a rational mind, which is essential for technical subjects so they will have a better chance of a good result if they study humanities or social sciences'. Such advices put undue pressure on girls to opt out from technical education. They also shape their view of what is appropriate education and career for them. And often, it is parents who decide which subject their daughter would study.

Of course, there are infrastructural and institutional obstacles too that keep women away from gaining education and training in technical areas. As per rules of an institution or the state access to a technical institution may be open and it may be unlawful to deny admission to a student because she is a woman. But in practice, women are denied admission due to financial constraints to provide basic facilities needed by women like transport and toilets or lack of women teachers or inability to provide separate classes for women.

I also found evidence from students of co-educational basic and secondary schools that the attention that a teacher usually gives to students is also gendered. Many girls

feel discouraged by the way their teachers focus to ensure learning by male students in the class – answering their questions, helping them understand the subject and encouraging them. These girls feel excluded from classroom learning. It is not uncommon for a girl to be snubbed by a teacher if she persists in getting her questions answered or laughed at by others in the class for trying to gain attention.

One important way out of this situation is to change current teacher training. At present, teacher training does not look into societal aspects that affect girls and boys enrolment and retention in technical education programmes. Teaching, even if technical, is a human activity. It cannot influence human minds by imparting education and training in a mechanical way. It cannot regard that the responsibility of a teacher is merely to teach in the same way irrespective of who is the student. Girls and boys are socialized differently by our societies and the socialization process affects freedom that they have as girls and boys to pursue a particular education or training programmes and also the ways in which they learn.

Teacher training should be very clearly opposed to gender stereotyping. Teachers and schools should be careful in imagining students' innate abilities as girls and boys or future careers. To be effective, teacher training should be supported by changes in the curricula and teaching methods so that girls are welcomed into technical programmes and feel included in the classroom learning. Otherwise, teacher training will merely serve as a shiny exterior to deflect the attention away from deeper social attitudes. Also teacher training should not be one time event because even if we have a group of gender sensitive teachers, there would still exist older teachers whose training paid no attention to gender issues.

The strongest encouragement for girls to join technical education, to me, appears to come from two sources: supportive parents and single-sex institutions. Girls during a conversation in a village, Al-Gurfah, shared that they are keen to learn computer use and programming and that there are several computer education institutes. But their ability to learn is limited by the financial constraints and co-educational nature of these institutes. They demanded 'women's only' institutions because in single-sex institutions physical access to computers, for example, is unaffected by boys or men's tendency to claim rights to and competence in the use of computers in a way that discourages them. While training in mixed-sex institutions will be good for preparing girls for greater participation in the labour market the way it is, ie, male dominated, short and medium term measures like single-sex institutions are needed to convince parents and encourage girls to enter technical education in large numbers.

University faculties like engineering, information technology, architecture, etc need to make specific attempts to encourage women's enrolments. The obvious absence of women teachers in such faculties is also a deterrent to girls joining these faculties. Coming from a segregated background, it is extremely hard for girls to cope well in male dominated faculties. They face problems in looking up to male academics as mentors. This problem will persist even if male teachers are gender sensitive. The social set up does not view close female-male interactions favourably. The need, therefore, is to look at the issue and address it from a multi-dimensional perspective.

Artist Asma al-Shaibani to Yemen Times:

Whatever I create does not satisfy me

INTERVIEWED BY SALEM AL-MAJEEDI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF
TAIZ BUREAU

A plastic artist of a new brand while skillfully manipulating colors and words. The secret of her creativity is her looking for no-easy ways. She does not model her paintings after conventional works. She has decided to work with glass drawing by painting on glass panes while adding beats of her heart and touches of her transparent spirit. The intricacy of such kind of art is the secret of her success.

Besides her being a color artist, she is also a word artist who has made plausible poetic attempts. She speaks smoothly with a good literary background. This artist is Asma Abdul-Malik al-Shaibani. We endeavored to penetrate into her world by seizing the opportunity of her show at al-Sa'eed Cultural Foundation. We gleaned the following conversation:

Q: Could you introduce to us Asma al-Shaibani?

A: I am a Yemeni girl who adored color so much that it bewitched her,

embraced glass that it captured her and bestowed on her spirit into glass, that glass gave back its transparency and smoothness. I was born in 1977. I am a programming diploma holder from the University of Science and Technology.

Q: When did you start drawing and feel the intimacy with the brush?

A: I started young. I used the brush when I was eight but my special inclination towards color is older.

Q: Why did you choose glass drawing, what makes such a mode distinctive?

A: Probably because the Prophet (peace be upon him) described women

as "glass bottles." I found myself sharing many aspects with glass. I felt it was as fragile as my small heart and as transparent as my spirit. Despite its fragility, glass is durable combining smoothness and hardness. Imagine then a mixture of colored segments traveling into an unlimited horizon. Drawing on glass is by itself a self-renewing challenge to oneself: whatever you create remains unsatisfactory; the door remains wide open inviting you for more creation. This type of art requires a good deal of patience, ability to imagine and quick action.

Q: How can you control colors and paste them on glass, which colors do you like most?

A: First of all I frame the shape I want to draw using lining paste. When it is completely dry, I fill internal spaces with glass paints.

I find myself hesitant regarding the colors to choose. My color choice differs according to the mental state I undergo at the time of drawing. Generally I feel attracted to brown with its dust and rocks, the blue with its sea and sky, and darkness overpowers all.

Q: There are many schools of art around the world such as realism, romanticism, and fantasia. Examining your works, can I say that you are a realist?

A: You are not wrong. This entire cocktail belongs to the realistic school. Yet, I don't belong to a one particular school. Sometimes, I get drifted by fancy creating the madness of colors, other times I sink in realism to draw flowers that please fragrance, and at times I strip the natural scene off its appearance to reach what is beyond the limits of shape and color. All this depends on my mental state

Q: When do you feel that you only want to talk to the brush and colors, and that they are more able to understand you?

A: When I cannot write and when there is nobody who can understand my words.

Q: Who encourages you to improve this talent?

A: The first person to encourage me was my late father (may God bless him). He provided me with what I needed to take this talent into advanced levels since early in my childhood. Second comes my mother who bore many troubles, then my brothers and some friends of mine.

Q: Who suggested to organize a

show for you at al-Sa'eed Foundation, and who introduced you as a creative girl? Do you have previous participations?

A: I cherished the idea for a period of time but hesitation is detrimental. It was by chance that I met with Ahmed Sa'eed Thabet, Deputy Director of Taiz Endowments Office, who admired my works and encouraged me. He suggested to Faisal Sa'eed Fare' organizing a show who responded positively and showed interest in the idea.

Earlier I used to participate in scholastic functions and competitions.

Q: Do you intend to be a professional artist through academic studies or you want it to remain as a hobby?

A: Of course I have thought much of this matter. However, conditions now do not allow me to continue with my studies but they do not obstruct me to visit shows and exhibitions to know the new trends in this art either via media means, internet or by attending local events.

Q: How many paintings were sold at the exhibition?

A: Most of the displayed paintings have been sold at prices meant to show encouragement and support rather than an estimation of the works. However, I promise all sponsors to continue until I reach a level that makes them take pride that they once gave me a hand.

Q: Do you have a last comment?

A: My last words are addressed to the plastic artists, culture custodians and youth. I ask them: When will we ever get a house of arts where we can gather, exchange experiences, and disseminate ideas; a house that would open its doors in order to pass on the culture of color and joy of drawing to the coming generation? When? Thank you for your interest.

Iraqi police find 24 bodies west of Baghdad

BAGHDAD, June 14 (Reuters) - Iraqi police have discovered two dozen bodies, including 17 employees of an Iraqi security firm, dumped west of Baghdad, the latest in a trail of victims found in the area in recent weeks. The 17 bodies were found near Habbaniya, a town about 100 km (60 miles) west of Baghdad, late on Monday, a source in the Interior Ministry said.

He said they were employees of Sadir, a security firm that has a contract to protect U.S. supply convoys moving through the area.

However, another source said they worked for Iraq's electricity company. It was not clear how or when they were killed. In the past few weeks, dozens of bodies have been found in the vast Anbar province west of Baghdad, a focal point of the insurgency, many of them shot in the head and some of them bound.

West of Habbaniya, near the town of Euphrates river town of Hit, police found seven more bodies late on Monday, six of them Iraqis and one of them Nepali, they said.

An Iraqi soldier stands on a bridge overlooking an U.S. army lorry set ablaze after being attacked by a roadside bomb in southern Baghdad June 14. Attacks in various parts of the country left over 20 people dead and over 70 injured today.

REUTERS

They were all employees of local mobile phone company Iraqna.

A spokesman for Egyptian-owned Iraqna, which has a contract to provide mobile phone service in central Iraq, was not immediately reachable for comment.

Insurgents have attacked employees of Iraqna in the past, particularly engineers employed to set up transmission towers in dangerous and remote places like Anbar province.

Palestinian PM threatens to suspend work over chaos

RAMALLAH, West Bank, June 14 (Reuters) - Palestinian Prime Minister Ahmed Qurie threatened on Tuesday to halt the work of the cabinet unless security forces act to stem growing lawlessness in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"If this security chaos does not end, we will suspend our duties," he told reporters.

"We are telling the heads of security services that there should be severe deterrence for all those who are tampering with security."

Qurie's remarks followed a surge of violence in the Palestinian political seat of Ramallah, previously less affected by strife that has plagued other towns in the occupied West Bank and Gaza.

In the most recent of three shooting incidents in Ramallah in the past week, several members of the Palestinian security services took part in a gunfight between rival families in which two people were wounded.

They ultimately fired on police who intervened to stop the fight.

The Palestinian Authority headed by President Mahmoud Abbas is under heavy internal pressure to stop violence and crime, including shooting in the streets and a rising murder rate.

Abbas also faces demands from Washington and Israel to reform security services and enforce a ceasefire he agreed with Israel in February.

Militant groups have signalled the truce was in jeopardy amid a flare-up of Israeli-Palestinian violence.

Abbas has made security reforms a top priority.

He shuffled his security chiefs earlier this year and has repeatedly ordered them to halt chaos.

Palestinian officials say Israeli incursions and raids into Palestinian areas against militants complicate their task to impose rule of law.

Palestinian Foreign Minister Nasser al-Kidwa, a political ally of Abbas, said that stopping the work of the cabinet over the internal strife was not appropriate.

"The continuation of the work of the cabinet is not a tactical matter," he said, but added that the current security situation was "absolutely unacceptable".

"Certain strong measures have to be taken to regain a state of normalcy and to regain a sense of security for the Palestinians," he said.

The Palestinian Authority, trying to send a message that it will be tough on crime, executed four convicted killers on Sunday in defiance of international calls to end capital punishment.

They were the first executions by the Palestinian Authority since 2001.

But the violence continued on Tuesday when four Palestinians were killed in Gaza in a family feud.

Egypt frees 137 Muslim Brotherhood members

CAIRO, June 14 (Reuters) - Egyptian authorities released on Tuesday 137 members of the banned Muslim Brotherhood who were among hundreds detained in a crackdown on the opposition movement during May protests, a judicial source said.

Police arrested hundreds of Muslim Brotherhood members during the protests for political reform and then jailed hundreds more in later demonstrations calling for the release of those held.

The authorities released 163 on Sunday.

A police source said 349 people were still being held for ties to the Brotherhood.

They include leading members of the group, which like other opposition movements says recent political reform by the government aims to secure power for the incumbents rather than allow more competition.

The Brotherhood says a constitutional amendment replacing the old referendum on a single candidate for the post of president with a system allowing multi-candidate elections aims to bar it from fielding a candidate.

To contest the election, a Brotherhood candidate standing as an independent would have to win the approval of at least 65 members of parliament and the support of members of other elected bodies, which are all dominated by the ruling party.

The Brotherhood, which advocates a state based on Islamic law, is widely considered Egypt's biggest opposition force.

It has 15 of the 444 elected seats in parliament.

U.N. short of funds for Eritrea humanitarian work

ASMARA, June 14 (Reuters) - The United Nations has received less than a third of the money it needs to fight hunger and poverty in Eritrea in 2005, a U.N. official said on Tuesday.

In November, the world body asked donor nations for \$157 million for humanitarian work this year in the small Horn of Africa state, one of the countries most dependent on food aid in the world.

"We are half way through the year and only 27 percent of the humanitarian appeal has been received," said Damien Gugliemina, humanitarian affairs officer at the U.N.'s Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in

Eritrea. "We get money at the end of the year, like maybe two thirds of the appeal covered, but the money comes too late," he said.

He said the appeal included \$114 million for food aid.

"The hunger season is coming to a peak," Gugliemina said.

An estimated two-thirds of Eritrea's 3.6 million population require food aid, and the problem is compounded by persistent drought and military tension with bordering Ethiopia.

Donor commitments often come late in the year, but by June last year 42 percent of the appeal had been secured, he said.

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الجمهورية اليمنية
جامعة صنعاء - الإدارة العامة للشئون المالية
الجامعة الجديدة - طريق وادي ظهر

يمكن الحصول على

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Sana'a University announces an International Tender regarding Perpetration of the studies and engineering designs of the :

- 1) Faculty of Science.
- 2) Faculty of Pharmacy .

And invites interested consultant companies and offices (residing and out outsidng the republic) wishing to participate in this tender to submit their offers at the following address :

Republic of Yemen - Sana'a University .
P.O.Box: (1247) The General Administration for financial affairs - Waidi - Dhahor Road.

Tenders documents can be obtained upon submitting a written request to the general secretary tel. (464677) against non-returned amount (300U\$).

Bids should be submitted in 2 envelopes (technical + financial) sealed by red wax original bid + 3 copies and duplicated (in Arabic and English) technical and a primary security (bid bond) at 2.5% of total bid value , by payable cheque from a bank recognized in the republic of Yemen or a bank guarantee valid for 120 days from the envelopes opening date to be attached with the Bids.

The date of opening bid envelopes shall be at 11-00 a.m on Monday in the presence of the bidders or any party representing them.

S.Africa deputy president told will be fired: Source

JOHANNESBURG, June 14 (Reuters) - South African President Thabo Mbeki has told his deputy Jacob Zuma, implicated in a corruption trial, that he will be fired, a source close to Zuma said on Tuesday.

"Confirmed. He (Mbeki) is firing him," said the source, who declined to be identified. Mbeki had given Zuma no reason for sacking him, but would explain the move in a televised address to a special joint sitting of parliament scheduled for two p.m. (1200 GMT) on Tuesday, the source said.

"He (Mbeki) said he will explain all that in a speech to the nation," the source said.

Zuma's former financial adviser Schabir Shaik was convicted this month of corruption in a High Court ruling that said his relationship with Zuma was "generally corrupt", sparking calls for Zuma's resignation.

Speculation has been rife over who might become deputy president in the event of his resignation or dismissal.

The Star newspaper said Defence Minister Mosiuoa Lekota, the national chairman of the ruling African National Congress (ANC) was in pole position to succeed Zuma.

But the source close to Zuma said Minerals and Energy Minister Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka was set to win the deputy presidency.

US troops, interpreter, hurt in fresh Afghan violence

KABUL, June 14 (Reuters) - Four U.S. troops and an Afghan interpreter were wounded on Tuesday when an explosive device detonated near their vehicle in southeastern Afghanistan, a day after a suicide bomber rammed a car into a U.S. military convoy.

Tuesday's attack near the town of Ghazni was the latest in a surge in militant violence in the run-up to parliamentary elections due to be held in September.

A U.S. military statement said a suspected improvised explosive device detonated while the soldiers and the interpreter were on a routine patrol in an armoured Humvee vehicle.

"Initial medical assessments indicated that none of the wounds were life-threatening," the statement said,

adding that the wounded were being transported by aircraft for treatment.

U.S. military spokesman Lieutenant-Colonel Jerry O'Hara blamed terrorists who hired poor Afghans to set off devices.

"These criminals know they cannot stand up to Afghan and Coalition forces, so they are forced to resort to these tactics."

Four U.S. soldiers were wounded in Monday's suicide bomb attack on the U.S. convoy near the southern city of Kandahar.

Attacks on U.S. forces linked to Taliban insurgents have been on the increase, and 13 U.S. soldiers have died since March, including three in the past week.

Dozens of government security force members have also died in the

fighting, as well as about 150 insurgents, according to U.S. and Afghan government figures.

Earlier on Tuesday, the U.S. military said U.S. and Afghan forces killed two militants and detained 12 others after a clash north of Kandahar on Sunday.

In Kandahar, Afghan authorities said they captured a Taliban regional commander on Monday night. Haji Atiullah is wanted for the assassination of leading anti-militant cleric Mawlawi Abdullah Fayaz last month.

Atiullah was wounded and captured during a shootout in the city after attempting to assassinate a local militia commander, a senior Kandahar police officer said.

Taliban spokesman Abdul Latif Hakimi confirmed the arrest and said

Atiullah had been an important commander in Kandahar.

A local militia commander named Mandoi was wounded along with a bodyguard in the attack on Monday night in which Atiullah opened fire on them from a motorcycle, the police said.

Authorities blame the Taliban for a suicide bombing of a mosque in Kandahar during a memorial service for Fayaz on June 1 which killed 20 people. The Taliban denied involvement.

U.S.-led forces have been hunting the Taliban and their mainly foreign al Qaeda allies since overthrowing the Taliban in 2001 for sheltering al Qaeda leaders, including Osama bin Laden, responsible for the Sept. 11 attacks on the United States.

N.Korea nuclear talks will bear fruit—U.S. Powell

HONG KONG, June 14 (Reuters) - North Korea is not suicidal enough to use its nuclear arsenal and talks to dismantle its atomic programme will eventually bear fruit, former U.S. secretary of state Colin Powell said on Tuesday.

The six-party talks between North and South Korea, the United States, China, Russia and Japan have been on hold for the past year because Pyongyang has boycotted them, saying Washington's policy toward the communist state is hostile.

Washington has said North Korea has promised to return to the talks but Pyongyang has not said when. Some U.S. officials have also said the North might be planning to test a nuclear bomb.

"I believe the six-party talks will eventually bear fruit," Powell told a lunch meeting at the Pacific Basin Economic Council.

"I am not concerned that North Korea will threaten or use their nuclear weapon. They're not suicidal. They're clever. The only thing they have is their nuclear weapons programme. They will use it to get more in return."

Powell said the North's weapons had no value for the communist leadership. "We want to help them make a better life," he said. "But we will not be blackmailed."

Powell's successor, Condoleezza Rice, said on Monday she did not know whether North Korean leader Kim Jong-il was sane, a remark that could anger Pyongyang's unpredictable ruler.

Asked if she thought Kim was sane during a TV interview on the MSNBC programme "Hardball with Chris Matthews", Rice replied: "I don't know. I've never met the man."

The interview was taped on Monday and was to be broadcast on Tuesday.

Jackson cleared of all charges

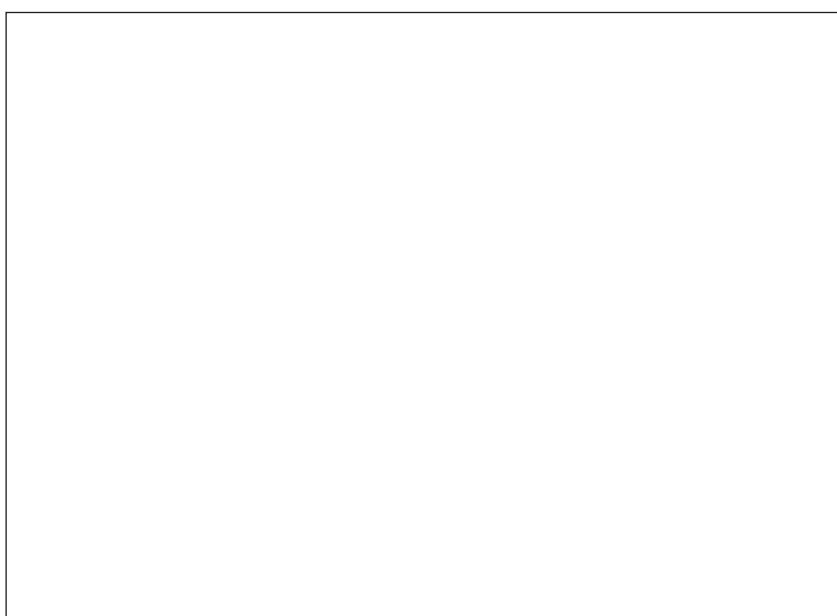
SANTA MARIA, Calif., June 13 (Reuters) - Michael Jackson was cleared of all charges on Monday after a bitter four-month trial on child sex abuse charges.

The jury in central California cleared the pop star on four counts of child molestation, one count of attempted molestation, four charges of giving alcohol to a minor and one charge of conspiracy to commit child abduction, false imprisonment and extortion.

Conviction on all the counts could have sent Jackson to prison for nearly 20 years.

Jackson, 46, who had strenuously denied the charges, dabbed at his eyes with a tissue as the verdict was read to a courtroom packed with reporters and fans of the entertainer. Outside the court, fans screamed and hugged each other in delight.

The "King of Pop" looked stunned and gaunt as he left the



Michael Jackson arrives with his family for the verdict at his child molestation trial at Santa Barbara County Courthouse in Santa Maria, June 13. The jury in the Michael Jackson trial found Jackson not guilty and acquitted him of all 10 counts. REUTERS

court but held his hand up his hand and blew a kiss at fans as he made a hasty exit into his motorcade.

The jury of eight women and four men deliberated for seven days before acquitting Jackson. They had to consider testimony by 140 witnesses and some 600 items of evidence.

The prosecution case rested heavily on Jackson's accuser — a now 15-year-old high school student who testified under oath that the pop icon molested him at least twice after nights of heavy drinking at Neverland.

Defense attorneys argued that the boy had invented the molestation at the urging of his mother — who they portrayed as a grifter who targeted celebrities.

Jackson, a former child star who released one of the best selling pop albums of all time in "Thriller," did not take the witness stand in his own defense.

Fourth powder scare at Australian Parliament

CANBERRA, June 14 (Reuters) - Australia's national parliament tightened security on Tuesday after the fourth package this month of what turned out to be harmless white powder forced part of the complex to shut down.

Similar security scares have forced closures at six embassies, including the Indonesian, U.S., British and Japanese missions, and the Department of Prime Minister and Cabinet over the past two weeks.

Authorities said the contents of all the packets involved had turned out to be harmless.

The speaker of Australia's House of Representatives, David Hawker, said

the latest scare had prompted a review of the parliament complex's loading dock and mail procedures.

"As a result of the earlier incidents, mail screening procedures have been enhanced from this morning to reduce the risk of letters containing hazardous substances entering the building," Hawker told parliament on Tuesday.

He said packages coming into the building would undergo a second level of security screening, which could delay mail.

The Indonesian embassy has been closed twice this month after receiving packages of white powder amid an emotional backlash in Australia against Indonesia's jailing of an Australian

woman on drug smuggling charges.

The U.S., British, Japanese, Italian and South Korean missions in Canberra were shut down last Thursday after they received packages containing white powder.

All the missions involved in the security scare are of countries which have troops in Iraq. Australia is a staunch U.S. ally and was among the first to join the war on Iraq two years ago.

Police refused to make any comment on the source of the powder or the investigations into last week's security scares. But police have said they are investigating whether the packages are the work of a prankster or copycats.

Mexican troops, federal police seize border town

NUEVO LAREDO, Mexico, June 13 (Reuters) - Mexican troops and federal agents took over a lawless city on the U.S. border on Monday to curb a bloody drug war that set off a shootout between police.

Some 45 people have been killed this year in Nuevo Laredo, across the Rio Grande from Laredo, Texas, in a fight between cartels for control of drug routes.

Order collapsed last week when suspected drug hitmen killed the town's security chief only a day after he had been sworn into the post.

Troops in Humvee vehicles roared through the streets and federal police surrounded the town hall on Monday morning, taking dozens of local police away in trucks. Special forces troops from an airborne unit stood guard on street corners.

"It is a city without law," said resident Blasa Lopez.

On Saturday, some 40 municipal police ambushed federal agents sent from Mexico City to investigate the killing.

Forty-one municipal police were taken to Mexico City for questioning into the shooting, in which one federal agent was wounded.

City officials said the local forces may have thought the federal police were members of a drug gang dressed in police uniforms.

City hall spokesman Marcos Rodriguez said the federal forces had ordered Nuevo Laredo police to stay off the streets on Monday.

"DECISIVE ACTION"
President Vicente Fox's government accused local police of being in the pay of drug traffickers.

"There are very clear signs of a relationship between elements of the Nuevo Laredo police and drug smuggling, hence the decisive action," government spokesman Ruben Aguilar told journalists in the capital.

Gunmen killed a senior policeman in the northern city of Chihuahua on Monday, Mexican media said. Edmundo Fernandez was gunned down outside a convenience store and another police-

man was wounded in the attack, Reforma daily said on its Web site.

More than 500 people have been killed in Mexico this year in a drug turf war, mostly between smugglers from the western state of Sinaloa and the Gulf Cartel, based in Tamaulipas state south of Texas.

Aguilar said federal forces had also begun an anti-crime crackdown in Sinaloa and the state of Baja California at the weekend.

Nuevo Laredo is a key link in the northward trade of cocaine, marijuana and amphetamines. Joaquin Guzman, a drug trafficker from Sinaloa and Mexico's most wanted man, is trying to take business from the Gulf Cartel in and around Nuevo Laredo, security sources say.

The United States said it was concerned by the violence and the abduction of dozens of Americans on the Mexican side of the border since last year.

U.S. Ambassador Tony Garza said last week the situation was "a priority concern for state and municipal leaders and U.S. citizens along the border."

Maintenance Planning Engineer

Jannah Hunt Oil Company is currently seeking experienced personnel to work in Halewah/AI-Naser. Successful candidates will work a schedule of 28 days on and have 28 off.

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Words of Wisdom

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

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

OUR
OPINIONThe
VICIOUS
cycle

Reading the news of late, it seems that the state has gone in a violent frenzy targeting anything relating to fundamentalists. Various incidents ranging from storming a popular school for Islamic studies, clashes with university students during demonstrations, student unions of the Islah party along with forceful closure of many Islamic schools, under the pretext of combating terrorism.

History reveals that any acts of violence, especially from the state against citizens who were seen as normal people in the recent past, have led to greater violence and dismay among the public.

The understanding gap between the state and the public leads not only to mistrust on both sides but also on each of the parties, which in many ways would stand against the other to achieve its objectives. This means that unless the state shares its mission and goals with the people, draws national strategies to keep the interests of the people as first priority, and unless this is a fact, then the misunderstanding and mistrust will always take place.

There are peaceful means in dealing with cultural and social issues such as Islamic schools. Not everything is politically oriented or at least as seen by the normal people. Unless the state gives a valid explanation as to why such schools that the people have been going to and depending on as means for educating their children, are being termed as harbors for terrorism and consequently closed down, they would see this as an attack against the local communities and their inherited right to believe.

What's worse is that the Yemeni security forces are very tactless and lack professionalism. In the West, cops are always associated with doughnuts and idiotic dialogues, in the east - such as in Yemen, police are associated with corruption, bullying, idiocy and violence. A recent incident was reported last week in Wisab al-Aali near Ibb governorate when a man accused of murdering his wife and son. Since they could not catch the murderer, the security forces arrested his bull instead. I don't know if bull is being interrogated as we speak now, but I sure feel sorry for the poor animal.

What happens if people lose confidence in their protectors? A well known proverb says "hamiha haramiha" indicating that the one who protects is the one who robs. Being in the security force means more than just bullying people and attacking those who are not wearing the uniform.

The Editor Board



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

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In defense of the righteous

By DR. ABDULLAH AL-FAQIH
drafaqih@yahoo.com

I was astonished by the article written by Mr. Yahya Al-Olfi in issue number 846 of the Yemen Times. While I have had trouble with some materials published in the paper before but did not bother to respond, Olfi's piece left me with no option but to react. Let me be honest with you Yemen Times and tell you a paper which publishes such an article is not the kind of paper the founder, Dr. Al-Saqqaf, would have been proud of. Nor it is the kind of paper that can advance the causes of human rights and democracy in Yemen.

An intelligent reader can not afford but to notice the contradictory messages the paper sent in issue no 846. In its front page, a good portion was devoted to denouncing the heinous slandering of two courageous journalists, Rahma Hujairah and Hafid al-Bukari. In page 11, the paper allowed a little known dogmatist with the name of Yahya al-Olfi to write some very divisive and slanderous comments, and to make some serious unsubstantiated accusations not only against those labeled as Houthis but also against

the whole minority group they belong to.

Olfi's funny style writing and his attempt to throw dust in the reader's eyes so that he or she can not see the cheat in the game of cards mixing did not work at all. And Olfi was caught playing a monkey's monk, a role he accuses others but not himself of playing.

No matter how one reads Olfi's column, conclusions reached look alike. He justifies and calls for a genocide against 10 percent of Yemen's population because they are, from his standpoint, of "persian stock," and because they disproportionately "control 80 percent of Yemen's fertile land and capital." They do not deserve to be defended by Jane Novak because "they are like chameleons, ungrateful like cats, and sinister like vipers." Olfi's call for a genocide against the group did not save even someone like Ibrahim Alwazeer who has left Yemen altogether and chose to reside in the USA. Olfi did not tell us what was Alwazeer's sin to deserve the same fate as other Houthis except that they all belong to the same creed. They are all "the rulers, the opposition, and the clergy." "They" the writer adds "are still

complaining of being oppressed while they are the oppressors."

There is a fine line between expressing one's opinion on one side, and inciting communal violence and strife, on the other. Mr. Olfi's prejudiced, derogatory, and disingenuous comments about and accusations towards a whole minority group in Yemen cross that fine line separating one's right to free speech, and others' right to life, liberty, integrity, and self-fulfillment.

Olfi's claim that he did not take sides with parties to the conflict is deceptive because it is apparent that he takes sides, the wrong ones indeed. The scariest part of Olfi's call for vengeance is that it is something Olfi did not invent. He was just a docile student that memorized everything he was told by his patrons. The writer's thoughts which are now intensely propagated by state media in Yemen begs the question of whether state actions in the northern part of the country had been motivated by such a racist, emotional, and vengeful attitude. If that is the case, one can say then that Olfi, in the course of condemning Jane Novak for defending the basic rights of innocent Yemenis, has made her case stronger.

Yemen's Reformers
versus the Pact of Evil

By JANE NOVAK
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In the remote country of Yemen, a heroic democracy movement battles an alliance of al-Qaeda, Saddam's generals, and a corrupt regime that wields all the tools of the state. The terrorists are operating on the proceeds from gun running and oil sales. The reformers are operating on pure determination.

Throughout Yemeni security forces, military, businesses, and public institutions, an interlinked web of corruption and brutality is stealing Yemen's resources and attacking any Yemeni who opposes it. And the majority do oppose. All the natural enemies of the jihadis are under attack in Yemen: reformers, democrats, journalists, socialists, pluralists, Shiites, Sunnis, anti-corruption advocates, human rights workers, and more. As forces unite against them, the Yemeni people unite for democracy.

In 2003 al-Qaeda praised Yemeni President Saleh as the only Arab leader not beholden to the West. It's clear why. Saleh has refused to freeze 143 UN identified terrorist affiliated bank accounts in Yemen. Some of the millions in those accounts may be proceeds from weapons sales, narco-terrorism, and oil sales. One person who might be able to provide details is Ali Mohsen al-Ahmar, Saleh's half brother, prominent military commander, and reputed al-Qaeda loyalist.

Wherever there is a conflict the region, the jihadis side seems to be armed by the Yemeni weapons pipeline, reportedly controlled by top military officials. Yemen has sold tanks and missiles to the genocidal Sudanese government. Yemen provided weapons to Eritrean and Somali terrorists, according to the Eritrean Center for Strategic Studies. "Its no secret" that weapons smuggling to Palestinian insurgents is condoned by the Yemeni government, an Israeli intelligence official said. The Saudis say they catch Yemeni arms dealers "hourly."

There's a lot of missing oil and missing oil revenue in Yemen. Parliamentary member Ali Ashal notes the official sale price for Yemeni oil is \$22/barrel, but it is sold on the market at \$45/barrel. The Canadian corporation Nexen takes nearly half of all its Yemeni oil production as royalties. It is a sweet deal, but not for the Yemeni people. Yemen is one of the poorest countries in the world. The word corruption is a rather benign term to describe the rape of the Yemeni economy by its top officials.

Ayatollah Sistani recently advised the world that a "pact of evil" extends from Iraq to Yemen. It is a pact between al-Qaeda linked Yemeni officials and numerous former officials of Saddam's regime currently residing Sana'a, the capital of Yemen. In 2004, Radio Free Europe noted the recruitment of many Iraqi generals into the Yemeni military. Recently, the Chief of the Yemeni Supreme Shia Council stated, "(Iraqi) military men advised Yemeni president Ali Abdullah Saleh to kill Shiias in the country as did Saddam in Iraq." Sistani has termed the ongoing violence in Sa'ada, a Shiite region, "genocide." The integration of al-Qaeda infiltrated Yemeni security forces with Saddam's henchmen has many victims.

A Yemeni official recently stated that al-Qaeda affiliated Yemeni security forces have established Ba'athist training camps in Yemen for Iraqi "insurgents."

Shaykh Zindani, a prominent Yemeni political leader and business executive, is described by the US as a mentor to Osama bin Laden and a "Major Terrorist" who supports and finances a variety of terrorist activities. (Neither he nor his assets have been restricted in Yemen since this designation in 2004.) The US Treasury Department notes Zindani as a contact for the terrorist group Ansar al-Islam, parent organization to Ansar al-Sunna operating in Iraq. Ansar al-Sunna has claimed responsibility for beheading 12 Nepalese workers in Iraq and bombing a US mess tent in Mosul which killed 22 people.

The Yemeni population is attacked

by the military and the courts. Thousands are in jail without trial for months. Outspoken individuals are arrested and social groups targeted by identity. Within about a week recently, two reformers were arrested, an opposition newspaper targeted, a female journalist crudely defamed, the socialist party headquarters bombed, an opposition politician kidnapped, mass and arbitrary arrests occurred, and the slaughter in the Sa'ada continued. In response, Yemenis only stand more firmly and call more loudly for reform, democracy, and pluralism, for an end to the corruption, an end to the dictatorship.

The Yemeni people are trapped inside a box of propaganda. On the outside is a democracy; on the inside is a tyranny. The official news agency touts impotent political structures as proof of reform as al-Qaeda grows more dominant. With the ongoing ascension of radical Islamists in Yemeni leadership, Yemen may become the first modern state fully corrupted by al-Qaeda, a threat much greater than Afghanistan considering Yemen's strategic location for international shipping.

Presidential elections in Yemen are scheduled for 2006. Last election President Saleh received 96% of the vote. Yemen has a well developed and mature civil society. US policy should favor Yemen's reformers, not its dictator. During President Saleh's upcoming trip to Washington, President Bush should advise President Saleh to step aside, as Yemeni opposition parties have asked. Twenty seven years is enough for any dictator. It was enough for Saddam, it's enough for Mubarak, and it's certainly enough for Saleh. For the security of Iraqis, Americans, and Yemenis, the pact of evil from Iraq to Yemen must be replaced by a pact of democracy from Yemen to Iraq, and a pact of freedom between the Yemeni people and the democratic world.

Jane Novak is an American journalist and political analyst. This article is first published in the US.

Letters to the Editors

Aden as a global port

Having previously been involved in the European Unions (EU) Support to Yemen Free Zones Aden Operation, I note that the deliberations for and against Dubai Ports take over of ACT and Malla Container Ports continue. Without doubt or question DPI has the track record and finances to secure a better future for Aden & Aden Port Operations. DPI offers a quality and style of doing business that regional operators cannot compete against (merely spectators).

However, the question has to be asked about 'Conflict of Interest' when DPI oper-

ates Djibouti, Jeddah Terminal and recently awarded Fujairah Port.... who or what port gets the priority? I would not like to answer this question if it was posed by the Government of Yemen to DPI?

Equally, I agree with your editorial comment about Worldwide Invitations to Bid for Aden - Who on earth has ever heard of Kuwait & General (Not me for sure and I have been in the Port/Free Zone business in the Middle East for 30 Years).

The Debate continues and I sincerely hope that Aden achieves its rightful position as a Global Player and pro-

vides much needed jobs and economic stimulation. There is plenty for us all to eat well from Gods table and if it is shared, nobody goes without.

Tony P Restall
tprestall@yahoo.com
Chief Executive Officer
Salalah Free Zone
Sultanate of Oman

Vendetta destroys
our community

It makes me feel the greatest degree of agony when I read some articles published by your esteemed newspaper Yemen Times talking about vendetta cases in Yemen.

We have recently seen an upsurge in vendetta and vio-

lence which is in flagrant violations for Islamic teachings.

These cases are ascribed to the rampant ignorance that controls the behavior of the Yemeni tribes and consequently leads to tragedies. I hereby from this respectful pulpit call upon the concerned bodies to exert their utmost possible efforts to find an outlet solution for this problem which has become unbearable to hear, let alone to experience. I am looking forward to see the day when Yemen becomes revenge free.

Alwi Ba Alwi
alwimohammad@hotmail.com

COMMON
SENSE

By Hassan Al-Haifi

What will the
children do now?

School is out and the children are now all over the streets wondering about, making slingshots, hitting at passing automobiles and checking out the houses to see when they will be empty so that they can have target practice at the windows of the master bedrooms in these houses. Other kids are busy taking free rides behind anything on four wheels, in which the driver may see it is all clear in his rear view mirror, but the rear of his car could already have five kids with their feet dangling in mid air. The more mischievous genre are busy staking out the markets to see who can be easy prey for a quick pick from the gaping side pocket, or worse yet for a set up in which four or five kids would play out a scuffle with an innocent passerby in the middle not knowing that some of those hands are feeling out his pockets as he is trying to "break the fight". Seconds after they have split in all directions, the poor guy realizes that his mobile has just been snatched away from his shirt pocket or side holster.

This is the summer fun that kids while away their hours with, because much of what they might be able to do cannot be done. They have very few leisure parks to go to and very few leisure activities to engage in. Neighborhoods have arisen so fast in the city of 6DQDD in such a random chaotic manner, without consideration to leaving open spaces for parks, gardens or playgrounds.

Many of these neighborhoods used to have summer schools for children to strengthen their Arabic and religious studies. These were either attached to neighborhood mosques or built by well-to-do philanthropists in the neighborhood on extra land they owned there, or donated by the government or an endowed estate. But with the war against the Houthis and the so-called Faithful Youth, these schools have been rendered empty and yearning for the pleasant voices of children reinforcing their reading abilities and language skills. Most of these schools were run by volunteers and even their teachers were volunteers, who found delight in being able to contribute to community development by enhancing the capabilities of the children of the neighborhood. These schools also organized trips for the children to the outskirts of 6DQDD where the children had a chance to enjoy some of the natural beauty that they will not find in their congested neighborhoods. These schools operated in the open and were quite different from the highly enclosed and barricaded secluded schools operated by the fundamentalist groups and organizations. In the latter, not even the parents have an inkling of what their children were being reared in behind those walls. People were often pleased to enroll their children in these open neighborhood schools, because they satisfied the desire of their parents to getting their children to learn the basics of religion, without getting bogged down in extremist dogma or worrying about being confronted a few weeks later with their children calling them kafirs (infidels) or deviates, because they are watching television or praying with their hands to the side. That is what the output of the latter form of "Quranic Schools" run by the well-funded and well entrenched fundamentalist institutions were doing. Yet, the latter schools are still operating freely and it seems that the Government closure of religious schools did not touch these shadowy dubious institutions. In fact, these institutions are trying to take away the children that could have gone to the more modest but more effective free neighborhood schools. The fundamentalists have been yearning for such an aura in a long time, because they realized that the open neighborhood schools were preventing them from further growth. More parents have now become more aware that the "QurDQLFSchools" of the so called "fundamentalist" or so called "orthodox" rendition of Islam are the ones out of which the extremists are graduating from. But they are now left perplexed, not knowing what to do with their children, because even if they are not enrolled by their parents in the latter schools, they will soon find that their children have been lured by the recruitment tactics of the fundamentalists and will find they have lost control of their kids altogether.

Therefore, it is paramount that the Government give parents the right to decide which kinds of schools their children must go to for obtaining their religious education. Why should the extremists be allowed to continue their schools, without any obstruction or hindrance, while the former become empty shells, some of which have now turned into places for wedding banquets. The Government should have sent observers to these schools - and all religious schools for that matter - and monitor what kind of teaching they give. They will then find that by closing the neighborhood schools, they have done a great service to extremist schools and to children, who are easily tempted into mischief by removing a very effective service that was being given by the neighborhood schools.

By Fahmia AL-Fotih

When childhood
assassinated

There are people who used to draw a big smile on their faces and whoever who sees them thinks that they are the happiest ones. On the contrary, we discover that they are less fortunate and they are the ones who live with the pain and sorrow without their choice. These people have hidden their tragic stories inside them, preferring to keep silent and suffer quietly.

Mona is among these people. She is a student in the final year of secondary school. When you see her you will realize that she is a pretty, intelligent, active and kind girl. When you see her you cannot say anything other than that she is a very joyful girl. I myself, have lived with her for a year. Unfortunately, in this period I did not for even a moment think that she had a story to be told or a tragedy that she has lived in. When I finally knew the story I realized how stupid and foolish I was. I used to see her nearly everyday and could not notice that her smile was not from her heart. I used to see her and could not discover that she always suffers aloof. Actually I was deceived by her big smile and sense of humor. I was deceived by her completely, until she herself came forth and removed that black wall of mist in my eyes. She came as she used to come with her charming eyes and her enchanting smile. She came and GLGQW say a word. She sat silently and I was so surprised by her quietness until she took something from her bag and gave it to me. It was her diary. She then asked me with a sad tone to read it and give her my opinion after reading it. I really was so glad and so curious to know what was in that diary. I then read it word by word and line by line and.... It is better now to give you the chance to read what was in that diary. It started like this "I loved him so deeply since childhood and I GLGQW if he loved me or not. There was one girl among our relatives that claimed she loved him too and would not get married to any one but him. Then that beloved decided to get married and asked his mother to let him get married to that girl. But his mother insisted that she wanted a woman who could help her in the farm and the households and that girl refused him when she knew that. Then he and his mother came to my parents to propose for me and I happily accepted and had no idea what marriage meant. I was 12 years then. I was very happy with the wedding especially the white dress. I used to come every night and put it on with joy..... the story GRHVQWish. Mona will continue whispering her story next issue

Whispering continues.....

Presented by Mohammed Khidr

Al-Sahwa

Main headlines:

- Back to square one: political parties reject the supreme election's committee's recommendations
- American allegations against Yemen: trafficking human beings
- Cement prices increase while the parliaments approves custom tasks
- YSP continue to struggle to revive the essence of the Yemeni unity

Politics:

Supposed to oppose!

"Democracy, peaceful transformation of authority, and the relation between the ruling party and the state's establishments are vague issues governed by the inherited control of the past systems, and the governors today have still not been able to change their perceptions of ruling even if they are wearing the clothes of democracy today..."

This was a phrase of Mr. Zaid al-Mushiki's column in the back page of last weeks issue. The column was titled "The best of authority and opposition" he states that it is not logical to cancel opposition because it does not go inline with the state's directions, in fact that is why it is called opposition: it is suppose to oppose! He also commented on the common assembly initiative and the opposition coming together politically. And stressed that it is not patriotic to demand the elimination of opposition because all can serve the country in their own way.

American Judiciary

Another article of the newspaper also in the last page by Mr. Ali Abdullah al-Wasi'e comments briefly on the irony of the judiciary system in USA. The author says that the system is known to be independent and quite fair especially that many incidents in the past proved how the system did not distinguish between a president or a poor man in front of the law. In the same time the author was

sceptical about the attitude the American judiciary system has prejudged any case relating to Islam and Muslim people and gave the case of Shiekh Mohammed al-Mouid.

Interviews:

Mohammed Ahmed Ghalib, member of the political bureau of the YSP to al-Sahwa: "our relation with the Islah party is good and we want to develop the common assembly experience"

Reports:

Dengue fever on the rise: death is taking its toll

An investigative report on the dengue fever in Hudeidah and Shabowa by three journalists: Abdulhakim Hilal, Ahmed Zain and Abdulhafiz al-Hutami. The report talks about the fever and that it began in Hudaida since last December and especially in Zabid town and according to records more than 160 cases were reported. It says that the authorities did not admit to the existence of the epidemic until it was wide spread. According to the newspaper the disease is now spread in Shabwa confirming that there are 600 cases estimated to be there in the governorate as we speak! The report conducted some interviews with infected families where more than 5 people of the family had the disease and they expressed their distress as to the heavy burden this caused. Some healed and some are still suffering. There has been some attempts to control the epidemic and a team was sent to the fields to provide required tests and medications.

The flying shoe!

It seems that the media scene in Yemen is turning inside out. The journalists after demanding the resignation of the minister of information have been apualed with the extent the state goes to defame journalsists and take measures against them. Apparently the action taken by Ms. Rahsida al-Qaili who threw a shoe on al-Bilad's chief editor was turned against the achievements of the journalists in the past and that it was

made in par with what the newspaper (al-Bilad) had published earlier in defamation of two of the prominent journalists in Yemen. Mr. Abdulhakim Hilal, author of the piece said that 12 NGOs have issued supportive press statements and that the campaign against the defamation of journalists is going on.

Giving the benefit of the doubt

Al-Khadhir Salim bin Hulais, in his article on giving the religious preachers the benefit of the doubt calls on the public not to be persuade by the politics and the media and what they hear about religious preachers. He says that this category has played a vital role throughout history in the development of nations and they are the guiding eyes of the nation to tell it where to it and they are the conscious of the nation to remind it of the good things. Of course generalisation can not be made and therefore we must not prejudice and we must give space for the truth to be seen and heard.

Al-Nas newspaper

Main headlines:

- A pre-census indicates that President Ali Abdullah Saleh is bound to win the next round of elections as president of Republic of Yemen
- Local councils in Ibb threaten to carry out a mass resignation
- Al-Wihda district people object to the closure of Zaid Islamic school

Politics:

Iraq: divide and conquer

Prof. Husni al-Joushai described a recent participation to a medical conference in an Asian country where he was surprised to see that two people instead of one represented Iraq. He went on about his unfriendly interaction with one of the Iraqi representatives and how they themselves seemed to be turned against each other.

Guantanamo prisoners

We must promote for democracy and defend human rights!

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By Samer A.

Failing...again!

In a very interesting and revealing article about the Yemeni state and its failure to meet with international standards and especially with the government's international commitments Mr. Ali al-Sarari explains that any state should maintain its credibility by living up to its international promises. He narrated that the latest development reports on Yemen describe the country as fragile and susceptible to collapsing. He condemned the repeated failures of the reform programs and that it is a shame not learn.

Interviews:

Hatim abu Hatim, prominent political figure of the Nasserite party: "A three days delay saved President Ali's life and al-Ghasmi and gang murdered al-Hamdi"

Reports:

The Islamic world in a cross road:

Abdulilah Haidar Shai'e explains in a report issues in the Iraqi scene describing the report starts with description of a touching moment of Dr. Harith al-Dhari head of the Muslim Scholars in Iraq when he revealed that Badr shi'a forces is behind the murder of Iraqi imams and religious preachers. This incident took place while Dr. al-Dhari was talking to a group of journalists post the assassination of Hadi Alwan al-Nuami member of the Islamic scholars body showra coun-

cil. The deceased could hardly be identified because of being brutally mutilated and tortured after disappearing for three days after which he was handed to the police on the basis that he was found dead.

The report talks about the conflict among the Islamic orientations in Iraq between the peaceful approach to evac-

uating the USA occupants endorsed by head of the Islamic party Muhsin abdulhamid through what he calls a "political struggle for freedom" and between the other approach lead by al-Zarqawi and co who believe in the Jihad and killing the enemy and all who support them even if they are Iraqi people.

Summer Vacation

After tiredness, hard work and burning the midnight oil, everyone waited yearningly for the summer vacation.

Some of the youth will travel, some will study in institutes and others will stay at home and relax. Everyone having their own special way to spend his vacation.

"LOSS PERIOD"

Aisha Al-falahi: Unfortunately, we don't benefit out of our vacation. It's just loss time. We can't practice our skills, especially the girls because there aren't any places for girls to do their activities and hobbies.

We just stay at home and sometimes go to visit friends, therefore vacations are really boring.

"THE PRIORITY IS FOR MALES"

(B-D-M):

Entertainment places are monopolized by males. Gilrs cannot go to internet cafes because our parents don't allow us. I really want to find entertainment places that are for girls only.

HAVE FUN

Walied Shamsi:

I'm waiting for it to spend more time with my friends To have trips and chew qat, and I'll probably study English or computer.

JUST WORK

Hussam Ahmed:

In my vacation I'll look for a job to get money to help my family and save some for my studies next year. So I won't be enjoying my time like the others.

BORING TIME

Nuha khallil:

I spend my vacation in front of the T.V, reading stories, going to parties, staying with my friends as groups to praise Allah and of course to do the housework.

READING

Gamal Mohamed:

I spend my time chewing qat and searching for good books to read and prepare for the next year. My friends who are in the higher levels help me and lend me their books.

Basically, everyone has the same way of spending their vacation. The girls want special places for them to enjoy their activities with reasonable prices while the boys want to spend their vacation chewing qat and look for a job

Youth and country evolution

BY: SAHAR SHUKRI

Young people play a significant role in a country and evolution in the level of economy, politics and society.

That means the youth are essential in our country and carry important weapons.

It's weapon of two edged:

1- Weapon is for development and success which pushes this country and is raises science and success.

2- The second edge, weapon is for failure and disappointment which is thrown to this country in order to come it down.

So both these reflex points have a big effect for significant role in our country.

If we find a successful young person, he'll stand on himself and his country so we must try to contest the Evolutionary countries by the youth.

Then we start:

1- Thought Evolution

It's the most important part in development.

If we find fact and modern thought without complexities, we can find good characters with their enthusiasm.

2- Environment Evolution

It's a way to find these young characters

Who have effect on our environment plays a part in development, spreading evolution and success.

3- Country Evolution

When we find good characters and have improved the environment, cer-

tainly we'll be able to improve our country and convert it into paradise in which we live peacefully. If we fail, then we will be converting it into hell in which we live with failure and disappointment. Therefore we must realize how important we are and how important our country is.

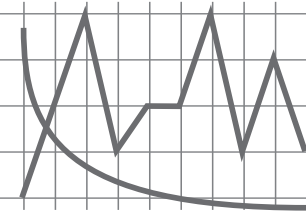
It isn't difficult to elevate it and we must try to change our weapon into a success weapon. If we don't develop our country, who is going to develop it?

We are responsible for it and we will be asked about this responsibility.

Now we have to ask ourselves: WHAT HAS OUR COUNTRY GIVEN US?

WHAT HAVE WE GIVEN OUR COUNTRY?

YT Business



A Historical Glimpse at

The facts of foreign investments and financing in the Republic of Yemen (Prat 2)

Exchange Rate for the Yemeni Rial

Currency	Buying	Selling
US Dollar	192.5400	192.8000
Sterling Pound	353.3100	353.7900
Euro	236.9300	237.2500
Saudi Rial	51.3400	51.4100
Kuwaiti Dinar	659.3400	660.2300
UAE Dirhem	52.4200	52.4900
Egyptian Pound	33.2000	33.2400
Bahraini Dinar	510.7200	511.4100
Qatari Rial	52.9200	52.9900
Jordanian Dinar	271.7800	272.1400
Omani Rial	500.1200	500.7900
Swiss Franc	154.5700	154.7800
Swedish Crown	25.8900	25.9200
Japanese Yen	1.8053	1.8078

Source: Central Bank of Yemen

The important difference in economies of both the Southern democratic Yemen & The Arab Republic of Yemen, before unity in (22 May 1990), arises from the differences in ownership and development of production means, before and after the revolutions of each of them.

The Southern Governorates with their colonial legacy has stepped into the sixties with a lot of capital projects in comparison with that of the semi feudal North before its revolution.

The nationalizations of the semi socialist regime in (Southern provinces), and the agricultural reform, has founded modern public sector and achieved equality, but couldn't establish a socialist economy.

The traditional agricultural economy continued, in comparison with (Northern Governorates), which were inaugurating its commercial and industrial projects. The Northern economy before the revolution was dependent on ranching participation in the outcome of the traditional landed property and the wage system in modern farms. The difference between the two economies is that:

The southern Democratic Republic has inherited modern factories and offices from the colonizer in 1967, whereas the Northern Yemen started building its economy in mid seventies.

The liberalized economy in the North was contradictory to that of the Southern democratic republic. This free economy lured the investors who had the capital like the local merchants, expatriates in the Gulf.

They got involved in the trade of real estate, exchange and industries. They became the base for private sector, and the free trade after the revolution.

Among the pioneers who came from the south, and contributed to the development in economy in the North by establishing factories, which were the base for investment activities (economically and industrially) in the (Arab Republic of Yemen), in the city of Taiz (Al-hoban), is late Hail Saeed Anaam, who worked for attracting direct foreign investments since the (sixties and seventies), either as investments, consultancy or experience.

He still works on supporting the economical and social development, as private sector. This is shown through his trade, industrial, scientific and health establishments.

Although these establishments in the developing counties are the responsibility of the state, the Hail Saeed establishments have greatly contributed to developing them though it is public sector, with the most modern technological devices.

Contrary to that the semi socialist regime in the South before the unity in 22 May 1990 (since the 14th of October revolution 1969) which has cancelled all

private and free economy activity, a thing that lead to the escape of a great number of merchants to the North and the Gulf states.

The abnormally unfettered currency and import markets flourished in the Yemen Arab Republic. However the collapse in oil prices decreased the transfers and the aids, and postponed or cancelled many public and private projects. The Yemeni Rial which maintained a rate of 18 against the dollar (has promoted import). It dropped to 18 YR against the dollar in 1986-1987.

The government was compelled to cancel the free trade to face the crisis of the balance of payments and the reserves since 1982. It temporarily cancelled the imports specially that of vegetables and fruits in 1983, as a beginning of economical reforms, and the dependence on local products.

The foreign recourses played an important part in financing in the Republic of Yemen. The loans and donations helped greatly in furnishing development programs and plans in the previous period.

The negative savings in the last three decades aggravated the dependence on foreign recourses especially from the regional countries to finance the social and economical programs. This matter makes the Yemeni economy a victim of economical and political changes.

In recess period of the oil exporting countries, in 1982, the demand of émigré employment, especially unskilled ones, dropped. The majority of that employment was Yemeni, resulting in a drop in transfers.

The recession also drove the petroleum countries to follow restrictive measures in the general spending including the foreign aid to developing countries.

It dropped from (9581.8) in 1980 to (253.1) in 1988. This led to a serious decrease in two recourses in the two parts of Yemen. They are, the transfers and the aids. The two regimes share the same relief where men and women work in the fields and herd animals. In the early seventies, the borjoise took their families to the North.

Most of them descend from the North. They moved to Taiz, Hodiedah and Sana'a. They had formerly gone to Aden during the second world war. In the North, they contributed to the investments, during the decade that followed due to increase in oil prices in 1973.

Both economies posses the special characteristic of the emigration of employment to the Gulf countries and others. Due to that fact the foreign transfers are the only source for obtaining the foreign capital, it fed the luxurious consumption (imported commodities and house building) instead of structural investment. Both North and South Yemen were classified as, under developing countries, who are dependent on transfers



DR. ABDULAZIZ AHMED
AL-SHAWAFI
FOR THE YEMEN YEMEN

and aids to cover their balance of payments. Though North Yemen enjoyed a high rate of consumption, it suffered weakness in its current accounts. Half of the local product is from services though the main activity is agriculture.

Both sides of Yemen took to planning when they applied for the membership of International Monetary Fund in 1970. Central Planning was a goal of the Southern People Democratic Yemen, whereas it was only an ideological commitment towards the World Bank in the Yemen Arab Republic. In both cases there was a three year plan (1971-1974) in the South, and (173-1975) in the North, only for the public sector. However the following plans after unification were for five years 1996-2000

It is true by that in comparing through available facts, both economies of the participation of the private and public sector, in about three decades...there appears a common model in spending on development projects, in spite of the dependence of the Yemen Arab Republic on free market, the public sector participated in the development of total capital of the private sector.

In the mean time the declarations of the semi social regime were contradicting the increasing role of the local and foreign projects. The two regimes were both relatively poor, and lie in the petroleum area of the Arabian Peninsula, they both depended on the transfers of the workers and developmental and international aid.

The discovery of oil came in the mid eighties and it brought with it a third form of capital, which is the multi petroleum companies.

The important stage in Yemeni economy came in the petroleum industry. The discovered stock in the boarders of the North and South, was developed in collaboration with the international companies.

The governmental companies depended on foreign experience. The Soviet companies assumed studies in the coasts and territorial waters of the people southern Republic of Yemen.

However in the late seventies negotiations were started with British, Italian, French Kuwaiti, Spanish and

Brazilian projects. There were also more than thirty international companies in the south searching for petroleum. In 1984, Yemen Hunt which was then totally owned within a local unit of Hunt company in Texas, made the first important discovery outside Marib near the boarders of the South.

Outer companies like Texaco, Alf Fquntain, Total, Canadian Oxedental and other Soviet projects, started negotiations to search for petroleum.

The soviet company Techno Export made a major discovery in 1986, in Shabwa in the boarders with Marib. These discoveries paved the way for complementary contracts in the south for financing and building from all over the world, like the American project to construct a small refinery near Marib, and the Lebanese, Italians and Germans who constructed the pipe line. There were other economical discoveries in 1987 and 1989.

A Yemeni company can't alone exploit the petroleum wealth in Marib -Shabwa basin. They soon became aware that they had to seek joint Yemeni-foreign capital and experience. The joint production not only guaranteed security to the Arab Republic of Yemen, but it also gave it hope to use the capabilities in Aden including the port and the developing refinery, which was badly in need of production. The cooperation has made the two sides leave behind their conflicts.

The two national petroleum companies merged in one Yemeni company for investment in petroleum and minerals. The joint Yemeni company signed a production agreement in late 1989 with an international team constituting each of, Hunt and Exxon with a rate of 37.5%, among them is the Kuwaiti establishment

for Foreign petroleum Discoveries 25%, Total 18.75% and two of the units of Techno Export and Mashino Sport and orophoegeology 18.75%. This agreement has crowned the efforts of 20 years of the two ideologically different regimes

This general ethnological project removed the contrast between the capitalist - socialist differences and merged the two governments and made them partners in an unprecedented project, then shortly after that unity came.

The influx of capital to Yemen in the form of loans and foreign aid, created two systems dominated by developmental projects at one side and derivative agriculture, marginal trade sector, and emigration on the other side. The drop in petroleum prices together with the reduction in international aid, has confused the economists and lead them to taking restrictive measures in the Arab Republic of Yemen in 1983 which shared in the break out of the factions war in Aden in 1986

Had it not been for the discovery of oil, the conditions would have been sad. It gave access to foreign financing recourses, and future instituted investments from revenues of oil (actual) exports.

Unity was prepared as a complete merge. Whereas Sana'a would be the administrative capital, Aden will regain its previous status as an economical center and a free port, with a strategic geographical position competing the international free ports. However a question arises:

When will the Yemeni government have a clear cut policy that will give a free hand to investing and concerned bodies of the free zone... without any interference of special meritorious, in

signing the agreements, a thing that makes investments flee Yemen.

Foreign investments are always eager to head to areas where they find security guarantees in the first place, good hosting, in a transparent climate that have effective investment methods, examples of these are:

- 1- Availability of safe investment sites
- 2- A 24 hour continuously available electric power
- 3- A 24 hour continuous influx of water
- 4- Asphalt roads with international specifications.
- 5- International, air and sea ports with good reputation, punctuality, promptness and attractiveness.
- 6- Varied and advanced communications
- 7- General advanced services, of hotels, local and international transport
- 8- Development of information services for promotion and advertisements through the press and TV
- 9- Preparation and development of fascinating tourism sites for both tourists and investors

Before any benefits of the unity could be utilized there came the second Gulf crisis, that stopped the influx of transfers, aids from Kuwait, Emirates Iraq and Saudi Arabia, and the return of the new unemployment whose number was (700) thousand.

They in flexed into Yemeni towns when recourses were exhausted. Then came the third Gulf crisis to finish the rest with diplomatic methods, which are American imported and exported (forcibly)

(2) Reference: The American Institute for Yemeni Studies, political changes in Yemen, western research and studies, Sana'a 1996.

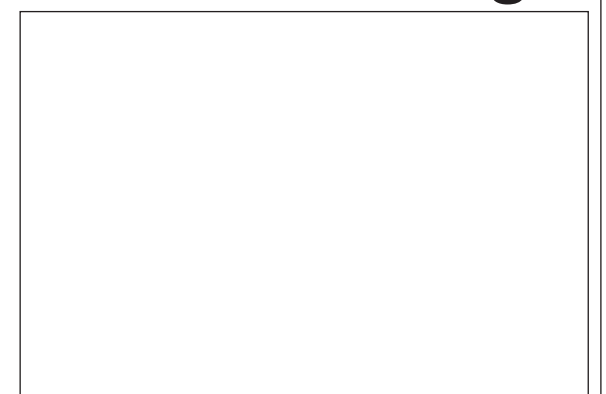
The new Cayman S is coming

Sports coupé with a new boxer engine extends the Porsche range

Dubai - Dr. Ing. h.c. F. Porsche AG, Stuttgart will be launching the new Cayman S on November 26, 2005. This sporty two-seater, based on the Boxster series, boasts a newly developed six-cylinder boxer engine with a capacity of 3.4 liters and an output of 295 bhp (217 KW). The assembly delivers an impressive performance: high and constant propulsive power at lower and medium speeds. The sports car's maximum speed is 275 kilometers per hour. With manual transmission and a centrally placed engine, the Cayman S accelerates from zero to 100 km/h in 5.4 seconds.

Equipped with Porsche's VarioCam Plus system for variable intake camshaft control and valve timing, the Cayman S has a torque of 340 Newtonmeters with between 4,400 and 6,000 rpm. The VarioCam Plus system was previously reserved for the 911 series. Power transmission is executed via a six-speed gearbox with short, precise shifting travel, which was taken from the Boxster S and further developed.

The familiar five-speed Tiptronic S automatic transmission is also available on request, and has rocker switches in the steering wheel spokes for a sports gear shifting operation. The Tiptronic S transmission was refined specifically for the sports coupé, receiving a new electronic and hydraulic control unit.



The aluminum chassis with a large track emphasizes the sporty, dynamic appearance of the vehicle, which is fitted as standard with 18-inch tires. In combination with Porsche Stability Management (PSM), also a standard feature, the chassis sets a benchmark in the area of driving dynamics and active driving safety. Porsche Active Suspension Management (PASM) can be ordered as an option. This system lowers the body ten millimeters closer to the ground and automatically adjusts the suspension ratings to the given road conditions. The driver can select the Normal or sport programs via a button in the center console.

The basic retail price for the Cayman S is US\$ 45,470 across the Middle East and GCC countries.

Poor education for Yemeni girls

By HASSAN AL-ZAIDI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Education is one of the most vital prerequisites to the descent life. It is an important factor and an indispensable requirement for the achievement of purposeful goals and realizing human development. All heavenly religions, as well as constitutions and man-made laws, encourage people, both men and women from all social classes to learn. The right to education is of the main rights ensured by all regional and international conventions and pacts let alone national constitutions. The State is responsible for providing education free for all. Despite the fact that the educational sector, especially at the basic level, is plodding through problems particularly in the rural areas, what raises fears is the increasing gap in the quality of girls education compared to boys, as 50% of the girls are somehow prevented from joining schools and many of the females students drop out.

This article intends to investigate the current status of Yemeni education in general and girls' education in particular.

Big projects but below-par output:

We may admit that the government focused on the primary and secondary educational sector over the previous years. This is shown by the large number of schooling projects and buildings and the rise in expenditure on education from the State's general budget.

The budget allotted some YR 136 billion for education, an amount representing 20% of the budget. The number of primary and secondary schools hit the mark of 14,800 built all over the country hosting about five million students.

Perhaps, the heavy demand on these schools accompanied by the unsatisfactory management of the educational management during the previous years as well as the low-level performance has led up to poor acquisition and to many students opting

out from schools, especially girls.

According to statistics, the number of primary education graders rose from less than one million male and female students in 1990 to over 4 million in 2004 of which 1.6 million were girls. Number of teachers in public schools leapt from about 20 thousand in 1990 to about 174 thousand male and female teachers.

The rise in the number of teachers and projects indicates a parallel rise in the general expenditure but has not ensured quality education.

"We must admit that there are problems that face the educational process," said the Minister of Education Dr. Abdul-Salam al-Jawfi. "there are still shortcomings and we can say that we have addressed many major problems especially the Ministry's burdens following the merging of scientific institutes with the public schools.

"Since the beginning of 2005, a complete integrated school curriculum has been available. They are written by experts according to respected scientific rules. We produce some 53 million copies annually and are distributed to Yemeni schools. The Ministry also produces about one thousand chairs to be distributed on schools. We are trying to improve the quality of teaching. Last year, for example, we purchased one thousand school labs and implemented a training program involving about 63 thousand male and female teachers and 7000 headmasters and deputies.

"We are aware that education is still suffering from various troubles and know that girls' education do not live up to the desired level. However, we set up plans and programs according to our means and got support to the tune of \$250 in order to improve and develop education. This is a foreign support in addition to general budget allotments."

He continued, "Now, we have plans for five and even ten years ahead. In the past we did not know what would come tomorrow.

"A new sector for girls' education and training was established and around \$60 million was spent to implement training programs over the

coming five years. We have restructured the Ministry in accordance with the Local Authority Law and the new trends."

Dr. Fawzia Noaman, Deputy Ministry of Education for Girl Education Sector, said, "We have a problem regarding girls' education. A wide gap separates the number of girls at school and that of boys particularly in the rural areas. We should face it up and cope with it realistically. All people should cooperate to deal with it.

"What we should do is to set up a family seasonal map to know the times when students absent themselves from schools so as to adjust the school day accordingly.

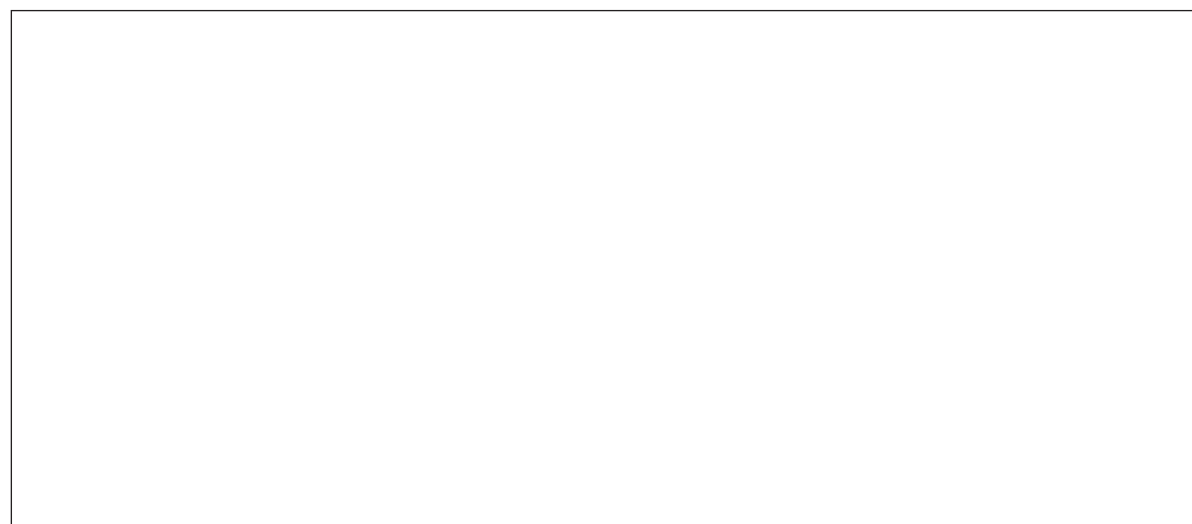
She described the inability of some families to provide their girls with school uniform. "Sometimes, a girl may wait for her sister until she comes back from school in order to put on the only uniform." She called on the men of charity to show social solidarity.

Abdul-Rahman al-Muneefi, Manager of Ministry's Girl Education Program said, "There are positive indicators about girls' education in Yemen as they account for 30% of the students. Our program works on constructing schools for girls, and school medical facilities. We try to ensure that girls' schools are easily accessible via roads. Our problem lies in scattered population. But there is certainly a political orientation towards support and expansion of girls' education.

"At present, there are many problems ahead of us such as the low percentage of girls joining schools in some areas and girls dropping from primary education due to many reasons."

Jarallah Naji, Director of Sirwah Education Office, said that there are a number of factors most important of which are the distribution of schools, far schools in most rural areas and the shortage in the number of teachers. All these factors, and many others, have contributed to low girl participation in schooling."

During our survey, we found that some rural schools were built of thatches and chairs are made by the locals themselves. The rate of girl students were high. This is a



remarkable situation. Yet, if the Ministry of Education equips these schools and provide the necessary requirements, schooling would continue in a good manner.

"Girls should assert themselves," said Dr. Su'ad al-Sab', professor at Sana'a University. "We have to deepen girls' awareness regarding the importance of its completing schooling. Girls are looking at their education as a gain that they strove to get and they must, therefore, assert themselves. They should continue to study even if they are wives, mothers or workers. Girls have to bear the responsibility for the sake of knowledge."

There are bright examples that should illuminate the way of girls: it is a fact that the majority of third secondary school toppers where girls both in the literary and scientific sections. In the scholastic year 2003-2004, girls got some 16 seats among the total amount of 26 pioneering student seats in the scientific section and 18 girls occupied 22 seats in the literary section.

Concerning staying the course of education, we find that they are progressing. In 1970, Sana'a University received 64 students among whom were only four girls. However the number rose to 512 in 1994. Later, about 16869 girls applied to Sana'a University and 3341 of them were granted admission.

It is known that girls have entered areas used to be limited to men such as vocational training and technical education. The number of girls reached 737 in this area. Another area is security. About 300 girls were on the lists of 2005 Woman Police School.

However, these figures do not mean that we have reached the required level. A gap is still there. But we have to build and equip educational facilities for girls and disadvantaged categories to join them and continue their basic education.

Girls' education raises family income six times

Dr. Ra'oofah Hassan curtly said, "All families and people who are going through financial problems must know that if girls are educated, family income would multiply six times. It is not me who claim this. It is according to world Bank's studies and statistics."

Mrs. Salwa Damaj, a demonstrator at Sana'a University, stated that illiteracy is spreading all over the country. "This is alarming as it increases the poverty level. The majority of illiterates are women. Decision-makers ought to take serious steps to expand education especially in the rural areas. The Ministry of Education must do its duty preparing annual statistics on the number of girls opting out from schools and the reasons behind that and prescribe ways of treatment. Clerics

and preachers have also to encourage people to let girls continue their education."

Conclusion:

These are calls from women who once were school girls, but now they are leaders and university teachers. They are ideals in whose footsteps other girls should follow.

Girls have to realize that marriage is a necessity but education has the priority. The Ministry should fairly distribute the schools of both girls and boys in different places in the country. We should disseminate awareness on the importance of girls continuing their education.

We have to struggle to change some wrong social concepts starting with those in the mind of female students themselves, planting concepts that promote their desire for education. This may be done through organized awareness campaigns conducted in classrooms and schools. The Ministry of Education's Information Sector has to play its role in this issue. The Ministry has to set up specialized committees to study the cases of absentees and remove hindrances.

There are positive indicators of girl basic education in the rural areas but they face a real obstruction to tackle their secondary education. The concerned authorities have to find out solutions.

Summer Scholarships for English Teachers

The English Speaking Union of Yemen is offering two scholarships for English Language teachers to travel to the UK for short courses in English language teaching this summer. The scholarships are funded by the Bell Education Trust, and the courses will be held at the well-known Bell Schools in the UK. The scholarship covers travel, tuition, accommodation and meals.

The scholarships are open to full-time teachers of English who wish to improve their skills in English language teaching methodology and who can pass on the skills acquired to their students or colleagues, on their return. The successful candidates will not have had the opportunity to travel to the UK before.

The courses last for 2 or 3 weeks in July and August. If you are interested in applying, please contact the Yemen Secretary of the English Speaking Union, Mr. Mustafa Rajamanar (tel:73762821 or fax 02-255044) or contact the British Council in Sana'a (tel: 01-448357) to collect an application form. The deadline is close: you will need to submit your application by 18 June.

The English Speaking Union is an international organization with the aim of promoting international understanding and friends through the use of the English Language, with educational and cultural activities, professional and educational exchanges, lectures and seminars. The Yemen branch of the ECU was opened in 2004 with Sheikh Tareq M. Abdullah as its founding Chair, and is based in Aden. The ESU Summer Scholarships are supported by the British Councils.



UNIMOD CO. (YEMEN BRANCH) ()

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Warning announcement

The United Modern Co. (UNIMOD) would like to announce its exclusivity presentation of SIMSEK BIS. & FOOD IND. (TURKEY) and all its products in Yemen according to the exclusivity agreement signed by both sides. UNIMOD warns all commercial entities of all legal forms from importing the above said Co.'s products whether directly or indirectly.

200 patients suffer the lack of cellcept ...who is responsible ?

BY WRDA AL-ATHI

It becomes normal to hear many stories that reflect the suffering of patients in our country, and the ministry of health is the one mostly to be blamed.

This time the claim comes from the patients who underwent kidney transplant operations. They are suffering now from the lack of medicine on which their kidneys depend. Cyclosporine (25-50mg), whose packet is cost 10.000YR, Cellcept (30.000 YR) and A.Gongraf (\$250).

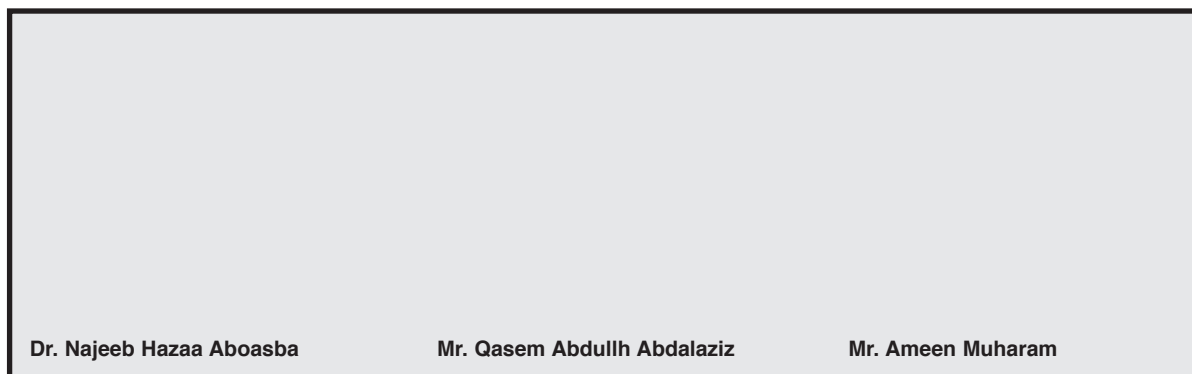
These drugs are very important because their abilities to suppress the action of body's immune system in rejecting foreign tissue following kidney transplant operation. However, there is some risk of potentially severe kidney damage, so care must be taken in administering the drug.

Although Cellcept is approved recently by the present minister of health Dr.Mohammed Al -Numi, this medicine is rarely found. Since its existence depends on the agreement of the bid between Medicine Fund in ministry of health and NATCO, the only agent that exports the medicine.

In June 23, 2004, Al-Rahma Association For Kidney Transplant complained because of the lack of Cyclosporine (25-50mg) for seven months. That made the patients using Cyclosporine (100 mg) randomly and was infected kidney failure. The claim mentioned that medicine fund had not provided Cellcept that the minister had sanctioned.

In April 23,2005 the same association raised an appeal to presidency office asking the previous demands with reference to that the available Cellects are only enough for emergent cases , and cannot cover the needs of 200 patients.

On the other hand, the medicine fund sent a message to NATCO company in



Dr. Najeeb Hazaa Aboasba

Mr. Qasem Abdullh Abdalaziz

Mr. Ameen Muharam

April, 11, 2005 asking them to export 2500 packets of cellects. In April,12,2005, the medicine fund asked NATCO to provide them with 300 packets of Mycophenolate 500mg , i.e. 10% of Cellcept .According to that, medicine of fund is provided with small quantities of Cellcept that are used for emergencies. Whereas each patient needs to survive 3 packets in each 27 days.

Patients' groans

Many patients are forced to sell their properties to cover the expenses of their traveling and living in Sana'a to buy these drugs which are not available in their governorates.

Adel Mohammed Shaheer - 43 years old, comes frequently from Taiz to Sana'a to buy the medicine from the central pharmacy in Al-Gumhori Hospital " if I don't buy the pills, my kidney that was transplanted for \$15000 will stop functioning and that means certain death " he said bitterly .

Mohammed Sad - 40 years old - from Rima said " I've been in Sana'a for a week , and I still cant get my medicine , I sold every thing just to buy pills that give me life for a day or two ... I cant buy a packet."

Salam Muhsen Al-Sadi -32 years old, who has come from Albitha to Sana'a since 2 months said that he couldn't find the medicine and asked charitable people in Saudi to send him the medicine

which cost 700 SR covering his need for only 50 days .

Abdull Raqeeb Hezam- 20 years - was wondering that " how I can buy cellects cost 30.000 YR and I am losing 20.000 YR through my traveling to Sana'a "

Ali Ahmed Al-Badani, who donated his kidney to his sister - from lbb " if we knew about these obstacles we wouldn't do the transplant operation and lose thousand of dollars " said angrily .

Mr. Ameen Muharam , secretary general of Al-Rahma Association said that the company that supplies cyclosporine is responsible for supplying the testing solute that adjusts and defines the required doses of medicine in blood. Using this pills randomly threatens patients' life. However no one reacts to check up the exported company.

Dr. Najeeb Hazaa Aboasba - director of kidney section in Al- Thwra hospital adds that it's impossible to replace the original medicine with imitative medicine unless there is a real danger threatens patient's life .

No Cellcept is there

On May,2,2005 the stored quantity of Cellcept was " zero " in the stores of ministry of health. Dr. Hunina Hamod - responsible for statistics in central pharmacy in Al-Gumhori Hospital said " we send many complaints to ministry of health and their response was that med-

icine was not available saying that the bid was supposed to be next week , but we have been in this situation for 5 months."

Mr. Rafiq Ahmed - medicine distributor said that we tried to cover the need of each patient giving them a tape that is enough for 15 days, whereas when the medicine is available we give each patient a packet containing 5 tapes. Every patient needs 3 packets of cellcept then the yearly demand will be 2500 packets .

Mr. Qasem Abdullh Abdalaziz - executive manger of medicine fund explained the reason behind delaying the bid saying " we discovered that the cost of the bid is exceed the offered cost, since the company monopolizes this type so it offers its costs. Unfortunately we discovered that the company and exporter incurred costs, so we demanded to provide us with the cost of the(mother company) and its agent is NATCO " .

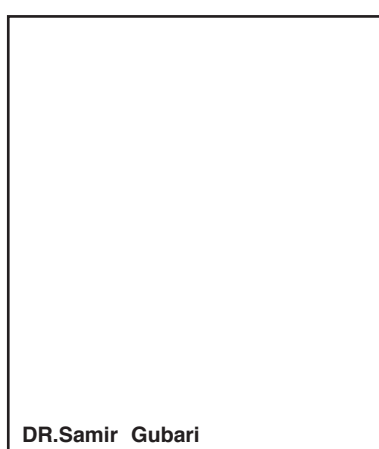
Dr. Mohammed Al-Numi, minister of health said "the Financial Ministry and the Central Organization for Control and Audit prevent us to buy medicine that enough for 3 or 4 years. They asked us to buy medicine that enough just for a year. So to avoid the lack of medicine we will try to supply the medicine at the beginning of every year and sell emergent quantities."

Voluntary Counseling and Testing VCT

By DR.Samir Gubari
VCT national expert

We are in front of a real disaster, whose effects spread in many countries, destroying people's hopes, wasting efforts of tens of years of hard working to develop and improve living standards and throwing it's black shadow on social, economic, and medical aspects. It's AIDS that is a reason of passing many young away. Many diseases reappear because of the appearance of AIDS, such as phthisis . Since the victims of AIDS are mostly infected by phthisis because of immunodeficiency. Phthisis becomes responsible for one third of mortality internationally. Furthermore, the huge outbreak of phthisis among AIDS patients shares to infect many non infected people.

In Yemen, AIDS epidemic is not existed that scared way. But that is not an excuse to slacken and ignore the problem. This disease is different , in



DR.Samir Gubari

its nature, it's features and it's rate of spreading. So dealing with such diseases should be different. Denying the problem is not the answer, but learning to face such epidemic positively makes the ability to prevent the outbreak of this disease easier and more effective.

However, there are many wrong attitudes, thoughts and practices from some

people lead to increase the rate of spread and endanger many members in the society. Therefore we have to treat this wrong thoughts and practices peacefully and properly.

For this sake. It should be a clear policy and employ facilities to fight this epidemic.

"Social stain " is the main obstacle that associates the AIDS patients whether in their families, jobs, and even some medical utilities. So AIDS patients become against their community and tend to be revengeful .Reducing the impact of social disgrace will share to improve and support the efforts to fight this disease.

Republic of Yemen has stepped well in this regard by ministry of health and population, standing for the national program of fighting AIDS which has held the first condensing course for three months. It was the first course in Yemen that offered training about the psychological support for the AIDS patients by giving consultation before and after HIV tests. It was supposed to

be the first step to construct specific centers for voluntary counseling and testing VCT.

VCT are distinguished by the security that will be given to the visitors who want to do HIV tests, or the patients , throughout keeping the personal information completely at ease and encourage them to keep in touch with the centers.

VCT are considered an established stone for any national program of fighting ADIS or HIV. Since VCT will offer constant education, it aims to help and encourage individuals to recognize his personality, define his problems and needs, knowing his available opportunities to use them and take his decisions to be satisfied with himself and his society.

VCT was supposed to offer their services in the beginning of 2005 in five governorates municipality , Aden, Taiz, Hudida, and Hathrmot . However that never happened yet . We hope to open these centers as soon as possible before it's too late .

The Epidemic is Coming ...Inevitably

By. Amr Adil Jawi

The progeny H5N1of Bird Flu which killed 42 people in Asia since 1997 is one of the prospects of the spread of the disease. The researches in this respect indicate that there appeared a more destructive animal killer progeny of a virus than that of 1997.The sudden increase in human infections increased the prospect of the emergence of a new silent progeny that may spread among people. The virus could change through mixing genetic materials with human flu virus, a thing that makes it more able to attack human lung alveoli's. In spite of the fact that H5N1 has killed only 42 people, it worth pointing out that its killing rate is 76%. This makes the prospects of its being exterminated in

near future unexpected. The best method of control now is to destroy infected animals. The vaccination against bird flu, is an additional procedure . The transfer of the virus happens through direct contact with infected birds. The virus comes out of the birds' bodies with the dung , which becomes powder, then it is carried by air. The symptoms of bird flu are like that of other flu, one would have fever cough and throat congestion. It could develop into sever inflammation, with eye ophthalmic. There are several bird flu. The one known by the name H5N1 flu is the most dangerous, for it has high prospects of human fatality. Those who have direct contact with animals in poultry and poultry selling markets are the most vulnerable. The virus has the ability to live in birds' secretions and tissues for along time

especially in low temperatures. Those infected by bird flu can heal by using antibiotics. Rearchers are now trying to develop a serum for bird flu. The possibility of human fatality with bird flu is still high. Six cases out of 18 have died of those who contracted bird flu in 1997. Last year, 2004 it killed 10 people. To avoid the disease one should keep away from live poultry, where the virus is highly possible to spread. There is a possibility that the virus could merge with variety of viruses that affect humans and form a new virus. This merge can happen if a human flu patient is infected with bird flu.Bird flu cannot be contracted through food, so eating infected birds doesn't present danger .The European Union said it would consider a protective measure of banning the importing of products and meat of poultry to stop

any affected birds from entering the Union.Millions of birds has been killed to contain the disease, and stop its transfer to humans.

The Mechanism of the Transfer of bird Flu:

(1) When the virus is excreted with the dung of bird, it becomes powder, then it is taken in by inhaling the air. The virus goes along the respiratory channel without damage, because the Heamo -Glutinine isn't fit for RECEPTERS in the human cell.

(2) The structure of HEAMO GLUTININE " a protein on the surface of the virus" slightly changes, so that it could be able to stick to surface of the human cell.

(3) After the virus sticks to the RECEPTERS of the human cell, it penetrates it and spread in the blood circulation.

Facts of Life

By: Dr. Khaled alNsour
For the Yemen Times

Treating diabetes in pregnancy curbs complications

NEW YORK (Reuters Health) - Treating women who develop diabetes in pregnancy (gestational diabetes) reduces the rate of serious complications without increasing the rate of cesarean delivery, new research shows.

Although the risks related to gestational diabetes are well known, it has been unclear if screening and treatment to lower maternal blood sugar levels can reduce these risks, Dr. Caroline A. Crowther and her associates comment in their report, published in The New England Journal of Medicine.

The Journal released the article early to coincide with the authors' presentation at the American Diabetes Association meeting in San Diego.

To evaluate the effects of treating gestational diabetes, Crowther, with the University of Adelaide in Australia, and her associates studied women with signs of gestational diabetes between 24 and 34 weeks into pregnancy.

By random draw, a total of 490 women were assigned to intensive treatment, including dietary advice, blood sugar monitoring, and insulin therapy, the authors note. Another 510 patients were assigned to routine care.

Serious complications among the infants -- death, shoulder impeding delivery, bone fracture, and nerve palsy -- were significantly more frequent in the routine-care group (4 percent versus 1 percent) after accounting for factors such as maternal age, race or ethnic group, and number of previous pregnancies.

A higher percentage of infants in the intervention group were admitted to the neonatal nursery (71 percent versus 61 percent), and women in the intervention group were more likely to undergo labor induction (39 percent versus 29 percent), both of which the investigators attribute to the treating physicians' knowledge of their gestational diabetes.

The rates of cesarean section were similar in the two groups.

At three months after delivery, women in the intervention group had lower rates of depression and higher scores on quality of life scales.

The report "provides some long-awaited evidence to support the use of screening and treatment for women at risk," Drs. Michael F. Greene and Caren G. Solomon, from Massachusetts General Hospital in Boston, write in an accompanying editorial.

Vitamin B6 may reduce colon cancer risk in women

NEW YORK (Reuters Health) - Women with high levels of vitamin B6 in their diet seem to have a decreased risk of developing colorectal cancer --

especially those who consume alcohol -- according to a report from Sweden.

Dr. Susanna C. Larsson, from the Karolinska Institute in Stockholm, and colleagues analyzed data from 61,433 women in the population-based Swedish Mammography Cohort. The women were cancer-free and between 40 and 76 years of age when they enrolled, and were followed for an average of nearly 15 years.

During follow-up, 805 women were diagnosed with colorectal cancer, the team reports in the medical journal Gastroenterology. After taking account of age and other factors, the team found that the greater the long-term dietary intake of vitamin B6, the lower was the risk of colorectal cancer.

Overall, women with the highest level of vitamin B6 intake were 34 percent less likely to develop colorectal cancer than women with the lowest level.

The effect was even more pronounced among women who consumed two or more alcoholic drinks per week. Among these women, the difference in colon cancer risk between the highest and lowest intakes of vitamin B6 was 72 percent.

"Inadequate vitamin B6 status may lead to the development of cancerous polyps in the colon, so it is important for women to maintain a normal to high intake of vitamin B6," Larsson said in a statement. The findings may be particularly important for women who consume alcohol, she added.

Depressive disorders show opposite racial trends

Sanaa, Yemen, Jun. 8 (UPI) -- Yemen is expected to bring up Iranian support for a rebel leader during a two-day visit by the head of Iran's Supreme National Security Council.

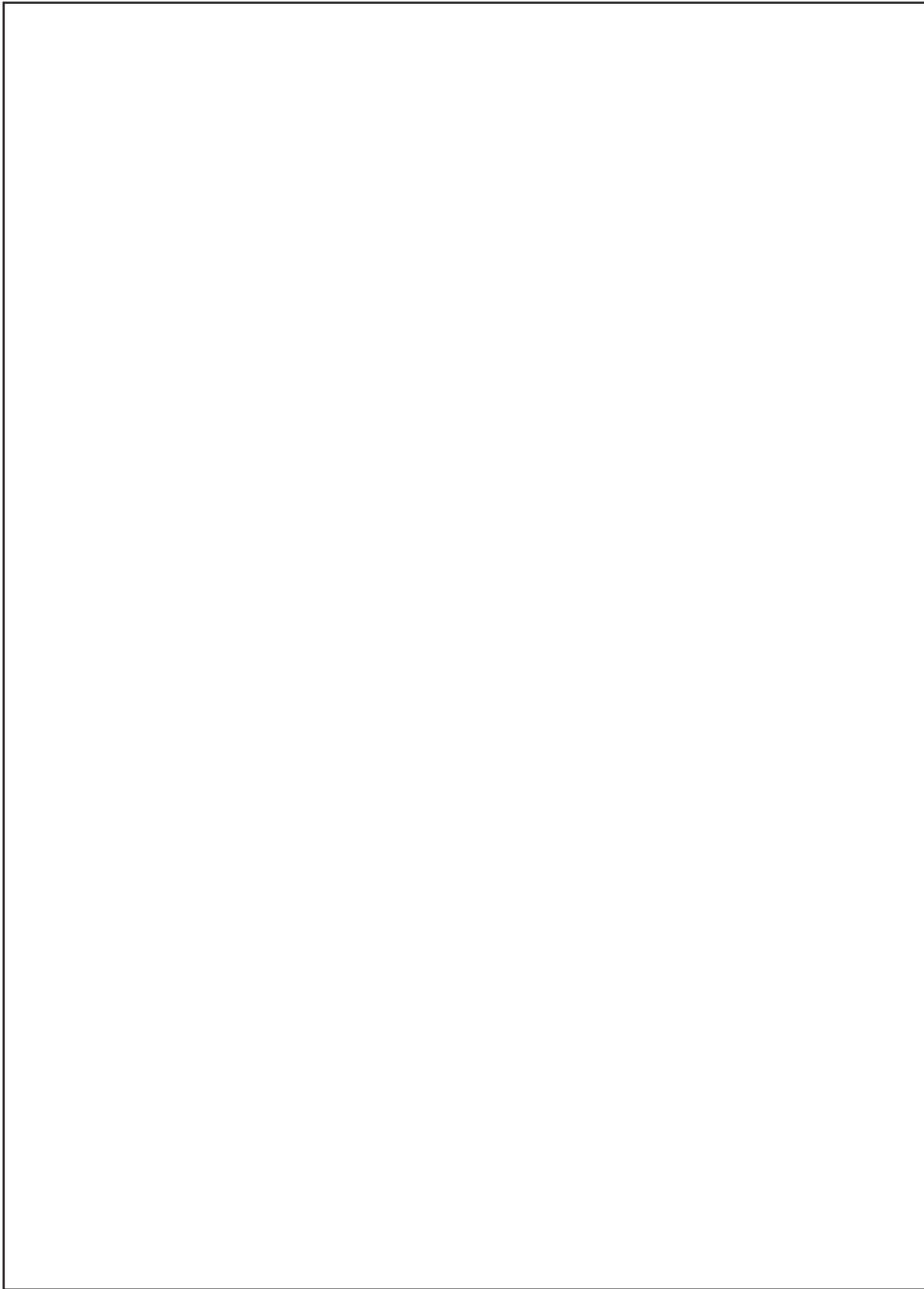
An official Yemeni source told United Press International Iran's Rohani Rohani will discuss political tensions that erupted after Yemen accused Iran of supporting Yemeni rebel leader Badreddine al-Houthy in the province of Saada, near the Yemeni-Saudi border.

Rohani began a two-day state visit Wednesday.

Iranian Foreign Minister Kamal Kharrazi denied the charge, saying his government does not wish to interfere in Yemen's internal affairs. He urged the Yemeni government to respect minorities, a reference to the Shiite minority, which was criticized and defamed in government newspapers.

Iran's ambassador to Yemen, Hussein Kamalian, was quoted in the official daily al-Thawra as saying the talks will focus on issues of joint interest. Rohani was expected to brief Yemeni officials on Iran's nuclear activities.

Kamalian hailed "the distinctive and close relations between the two countries."



Jackson returns to Lakers, Bryant backs move

Tue Jun 14, 2005 7:53 PM ET By Nigel Hunt LOS ANGELES (Reuters) - Phil Jackson was re-appointed head coach of the Los Angeles Lakers Tuesday, returning to the storied franchise he led to three championships a year after resigning.

"This is something I never thought could possibly happen, to be standing here within less than one year of having been part of the dissolution of this organization and the changing of the guard," Jackson told a news conference.

The 59-year-old coach stepped down shortly after the team's shock defeat to the Detroit Pistons in the 2004 NBA Finals.

A few weeks later All-Star Center Shaquille O'Neal was traded to the Miami Heat as the team sought to rebuild around Kobe Bryant.

The Lakers struggled under Jackson's replacement Rudy Tomjanovich, who resigned in February citing ill health and stress, and subsequently under long-time Jackson assistant Frank Hamblen. The team failed to make the play-offs this year, compiling an unimpressive 34-48

record, only the fifth time in the Lakers 58-year history they had missed out on post-season play.

Jackson characterized Bryant as "a callous gun for hire" and the epitome of a new generation of selfish player in a book which chronicled his final season in charge of the team. In returning, he took a softer stance.

"It is a story of reconciliation, redemption," Jackson said.

BRYANT'S BACKING Bryant issued a short statement Tuesday backing the decision made by general manager Mitch Kupchak and owner Jerry Buss to bring back Jackson.

"In Phil Jackson, they chose a proven winner. That is something I support," he said.

Jackson said his partner, Jeannie Buss, daughter of owner Jerry, had played a key role in his return.

"I think Jeannie was probably the person who was the most supportive of this and saw the possibilities of this happening, even after I was away from the

ballclub," he said.

Owner Jerry Buss said Jackson's success in the sport, which also includes six NBA championships with the Chicago Bulls, was "unparalleled," describing him as the "probably the greatest coach of all time." "We feel that he is the best person to lead this team and hope that he will be able to lead us back to the point of being a championship-caliber team," Buss said in a statement.

Jackson, dubbed the "Zen Master" for his interest in Eastern philosophy and unorthodox methods for handling players, signed a three-year deal.

Terms were not disclosed but there have been reports he was seeking about \$10 million a year.

Jackson, who did not coach during the 2004-2005 season, sought to downplay expectations for next season. "It is not about a tenth championship.

It is about coming back here and rebuilding a team which is competitive," he told reporters, saying it would be "a real challenge" to make the play-offs given the strength of the NBA's Western Conference.

Former Los Angeles Lakers Phil Jackson directs his team against the Detroit Pistons during first half action in Game 4 of the NBA Finals in Auburn Hills, Michigan, in this June 13. file photo. The Lakers are expected to re-appoint Jackson as the new head coach, the team said on Tuesday. Reuters

Jamaican Powell sets men's 100m world record

Tue Jun 14, 2005 9:09 PM BST By Karolos Grohmann ATHENS (Reuters) - Jamaica's Asafa Powell set a new 100 metres world record on Tuesday after clocking a time of 9.77 seconds at the Olympic Stadium in Athens.

On a warm summer's night on one of the fastest tracks in the world, the 22-year-old beat Tim Montgomery's previous record of 9.78 set in Paris in September 2002 to become the fastest man ever over the distance.

Powell earlier this week had said he would take a shot at the record during the Athens super grand prix at the stadium which hosted Summer Olympics last year and where American Maurice Greene also set a new 100 metres mark in 1999. "This goes to show that the no one knows how fast a man can run," a smiling Powell told reporters. "I am just happy to have set the record on a track where Maurice Greene also broke the world record. "I knew I could break the world record and I am very happy that I succeeded." Asked whether he could run even faster, Powell smiled. "If you ask what I can do more this year, you will have to wait until the end of this year's season to see," he said.

American Greene's mark of 9.79 seconds survived for three years until Montgomery beat it at the grand prix final in the French capital. "I congratulate him on the record but I was shocked he broke it so early in the season," Montgomery told his agent Charles Wells on Tuesday.

In front of a sparse crowd in the Greek capital on Tuesday, Powell showed he was in fine form during his semi-final when he clocked 9.98 seconds despite

the wind speed of plus 1.6 metres per second was within the legal limit. Tuesday's record made up in part for Powell's disappointment at finishing fifth in a 100 metres final he was favourite to win at last year's Olympics.

He had already set the fastest two times over the distance this year at 9.84 and 9.85 seconds. **FORMIDABLE RACE** The small crowd of a few thousand in the vast stadium almost saw a second world record being broken but Qatar's Saif Shaheen, formerly known as Stephen Cherono when he ran for his native Kenya, narrowly missed out in the 3000 metres steeplechase. Shaheen came close to breaking his own mark with a formidable performance, clocking the season's best time of 7:57.28, less than four seconds off his own record. He took a commanding lead early in the race and 500 metres from the finish line looked set to break the record.

Jamaican Asafa Powell runs during his record-breaking 100-metre victory at the Athens Super Grand Prix on June 14. Powell clocked 9.77 seconds, bettering the world record held until Tuesday by Tim Montgomery with 9.78 which he had set in Paris in 2002. REUTERS

easing up in the last few metres.

In the final, he got off to a good start and powered past his opponents to finish three metres ahead of Aziz Zakari from Ghana, who was second in 9.99 seconds and Jamaican Michael Frater, who was third.

in the men's high jump event with 2.32 metres behind Czech Jaroslav Baba, who equalled Holm's jump but had a better record of successful tries.

Jamaican Sherone Simpson edged past Ukraine's former world champion

Zhanna Block to win the women's 100 metres in 11.15 seconds.

Bulgarian Ivet Lalova, who shares the season's second best time with Simpson, injured her knee during her warm-up and was taken to hospital for further test, organisers said.

Australian Jana Pittman was in a class of her own, running the 400 metres hurdles in 53.44 seconds, the best time in the world this season.

Universal Crossword

Edited by Timothy E. Parker

ACROSS	25 Unforgettable mission	54 Record company	21 Actress Marisa
1 Anterior elongations of an DQLPDO head	27 Tribal pole	56 Back muscle, briefly	22 Chess champion Mikhail
5 ImpostorV cover	29 Spoor	57 Comes into money, in a way	26 Wan Kenobi
10 Temporary super star	33 Butter container	62 Blind trio of song	28 Goofs
14 Concerning	34 Legal thing	63 Sanctuary	30 Ballet follower
15 Choral work	36 Coffee container	64 Word that rhymes with its opposite	31 DFNLB second
16 Frank	37 Part of CaesarV boast	65 Thing to be as happy as	32 Pt. of ILO
17 Able to be proven	38 Comes into money, in a way	66 5RFNs Cooper	35 -Ball: amusement park game
18 Au courant	42 Conifers	67 Variety of Spanish liqueur	37 Medicine container
19 Swiss capital	43 Rollins and Harris	68 Ailments	38 Small mountain slope
20 Comes into money, in a way	44 Meadow, in verse	69 6HDPVWUHVV seams	39 Word with depression or fish
23 Sculpting medium	45 Ruckus	70 Branch headquarters?	40 D.C. summer setting
24 WWII intelligence agency	46 Olympic measure		41 Souvenir of the past
	48 Wool source		42 Mrs. SpratV choice
	52 Hardly enthusiastic		46 ER bosses
			47 Refuse to accept
			49 Above the timberline
			50 New Zealand natives
			51 Certify
			53 Newspaper pieces
			55 Crowning glories of some animals
			58 Defrost
			59 Sound and healthy
			60 Wicked
			61 +DZRUK royal hubby
			62 WorldCom partner

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"IN THE MONEY" by Holden Baker

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Tragic blind spot in health care for women

A little known campaign to prevent crippling childbirth injuries could spare tens of thousands of women each year from incapacitating health problems and social ostracism caused by obstetric fistula.

The Story

"It is better to be blind than have fistula," said one young woman. "...at least people help you." Fistula – now unknown to most people in the western world – is an entirely preventable medical and social tragedy. Caused by complications during childbirth, when emergency obstetric care is not available, the condition results in long-term, chronic incontinence and can lead to kidney disease and even death.

Damage to the nerves in the legs leaves some women unable to walk. In 95 per cent of cases, the baby dies. Without treatment, prospects for work and family life are greatly diminished. Women suffering from fistulas are ostracized by their communities and abandoned by their families. Many become beggars and eventually die from untreated infections.

The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that more than two million women are living with fistula in developing countries and that an additional 50,000 to 100,000 new cases occur each year.

Doctors campaigning to bring the dimensions of fistula to world attention say it could be prevented if young girls married later, had adequate medical care during pregnancy and received emergency obstetric care if they developed complications. In developing countries however, only 58 per cent of women deliver their babies with the assistance of a professional midwife or doctor and only 40 per cent give birth in a hospital or health centre.

"Obstetric fistula is a double sorrow because women lose their babies and they lose their dignity," says Thoraya Ahmed Obaid, Executive Director of United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). "UNFPA hopes that the Global Campaign to End Fistula will eventually make fistula as rare in Africa and Asia as it is in other parts of the world."

The Context

- At risk are women living in remote rural areas with little access to medical care.
- A Global Campaign to End Fistula, launched two years ago by UNFPA and global partners, is able to provide only partial support to about 30 countries, mostly in sub-Saharan Africa.
- It costs only \$300 to restore the health and dignity of a woman suffering from fistula, but WKBW way beyond the means of people in countries where annual income is much less than that.
- In February 2005, the Global Campaign and the Nigerian government supported restorative surgery for 545 women in just two weeks. Nigeria may have as many as 800,000 women with fistula.
- The success rate for fistula repair can be as high as 90 per cent.
- If current demand for family planning

"Ten Stories the World Should Hear More About"

In 2004, the United Nations Department of Public Information (DPI) launched an initiative called "Ten Stories the World Should Hear More About" to draw attention to important international developments and issues that fall outside the media spotlight. The list includes stories on an array of issues and from several geographical regions. Some of the stories on the list focus on troubling humanitarian emergencies and conflict situations, but they also highlight such vital areas as human rights, health and development. Every issue, we will bring a new story to you, hoping that our little effort to advocate for human rights all over the world would make a difference, some how, some way...

The editor

services in developing countries were met, maternal deaths and injuries could be reduced by 20 per cent or more.

- Fistula has been eliminated in Europe and North America through improved

obstetric care.

For further information
United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA): Micol Zarb (New York), Media Officer, Tel: +1 212 297-5042, E-mail: zarb@unfpa.org

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