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Inside: Multiple things are, What Iraqis suffer from P5	The Dilemma of Multiculturalism P9	Yemen tries to reconsider failures while investors move to Gulf States P10	Yemeni women prisoners... Suffering between the two worlds P11	The Medicinal uses of Attar P12
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Slogans against USA and Israel postpone trial

Houthi followers trial adjourned

BY YASSER AL-MAYASI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Sana'a - In its first session to try 36 of Al-Houthi followers, the special penal court, decided to adjourn it until next Monday. The suspects were accused of forming armed saboteurs cells to start a reign of terror in Sana'a. The court's decision came after the disturbance that the accused caused by raising their voices as the prosecutor was presenting his indictment. He could hardly proceed in presenting the charges. The suspects repeated slogans against America and Israel.

The prosecutor accused the suspects



AL-HOUTHİ FOLLOWERS AWAIT THEIR FATE AS THEY STAND TRIAL IN SANA'A--- YEMEN TIMES PHOTO BY KHALID AL-HAMMADI

of being involved in armed groups that aim at havocking government premises, attacking military, political and social leaders. They have distributed roles among themselves to carry out their attacks. The prosecution assured that the gang had rented houses where they used to hold their meetings, and store weapons. They used false names and modern communications means in their movements.

The prosecution listed several incidents carried out by the gang; of these are the hurling of grenades at military vehicles and buses that resulted in a number of casualties among the military men and the

causing of destruction to a number of markets. They were also charged of surveillance of the movement of key government figures in prelude to attacking them. The suspects that are being prosecuted are 36; seven of them are being prosecuted in absentia. There is also a woman among these suspects.

Security forces detained those Al-Houthi followers following the armed confrontations in Sana'a. Their movement seemed to be an attempt to revenge the murder of their leader Hussein Baderdeen Al-Houthi who was killed in the armed conflict with the government Forces in Saada in September 2004.

PSF: Al-Moayad receives unjust ruling

SANA'A- The Popular Solidarity Forum (PSF) issued on Monday August 15 a statement expressing support for Sheikh Mohammad al-Moayad and his companion Mohammad Zaid who are imprisoned in Brooklyn, the United States.

"The ruling issued against al-Moayad is unjust, violates all the legislations, traditions and international laws and never serves the world peace," the statement said. "Such unjust ruling will inflame hatred and animosity toward the U.S. in all Arab and Muslim nations."

According to the statement, the U.S. is machinating a conspiracy against itself, its values, and the integrity of its justice.

A number of prominent figures and NGOs attended the forum, which organized a vast gathering at the Studies and Research Center. It appealed to President Ali Abdullah Saleh, being the head of the state, to intervene in the case, work for securing the release of the pair and demand their homecoming.



Side of the crowd in the Solidarity Forum

The statement urged Arab and Muslim nations and human rights organizations to have loud voice to inform the U.S. of the condemnation and denunciation by around 1.5 billion Muslims, and express solidarity with both prisoners.

Those who attended the forum confirmed the weakness of the Arab governments and leaders is the motive, which encouraged the U.S. to torture Muslims, occupy their lands and plunder their wealth.

The political parties who attended the festival strongly condemned the verdict and insisted on various organizations to claim the release of the two men.

During the event, several speeches were delivered by sheikhs and religious scholars who had shown their concern over the oppression practiced against Sheikh al-Moayad and his companion. They described the ruling as a type of oppression and transgression practiced by the U.S. that confiscates rights of the

Muslim nations, pointing out that that contradicts the international law and human rights principles and produces hatred among Muslims towards the U.S.

Sheikhs and religious scholars requested the government not to accept the verdict that violates status of Yemen and rights of Yemeni citizens and demanded all Yemeni tribes to continue their pressure on the government to take an action for releasing al-Moayad and Zaid.

The gathering is part of a series of popular activities and rallies that support the detainees and ask the US authorities to free them. The unjust verdict has raised concern among Muslims in general and Yemenis in particular.

Sheikh Mohammad al-Moayad was caught in a deceptive manner, along with his aide Mohammad Zaid, when they traveled to Germany for medical treatment. The US authorities wanted him on suspicion of plotting acts of terrorism and funneling money to al-Qaeda Network.

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HONDA

2004 Human Rights Report Discussed

BY AMEL AL-ARIQI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

17 August- Sana'a, Yemen Times: The National Report on Human Rights in Yemen 2004 issued by the Ministry of Human Rights was again discussed yesterday through a one day seminar conducted by Al-Jazeera Center for Human Rights at the Writers Union in Sana'a. The discussion was inaugurated by Ms.

Amat al-Aleem al-Sousowa Minister of Human Rights who delivered a speech confirming the partnership between the government and civil society and commented that the report discussed was written with the contribution of civil society and non governmental organisations and not just the ministry, in addition to 20 individual intellectuals of different academic and political affiliations. "The purpose behind this seminar today is not to only discuss a national report, in fact it should aim at drawing clear guidelines of the methodology for writing such reports so as to improve the outcome of such initiatives in the future." She said.

The main three themes of the report that were discussed were about political rights, economic rights, and women and children rights. Dr. Adil Mujahd Al-Sharajabi a social studies professor at

Sana'a University strongly criticised the report saying that it was clearly ignoring real life and was limited to analysis of the laws which are anyway not implemented. "This applies to all the international treaties and conventions Yemen ratifies without implementing" He added. While Dr. Bilqees Abu Isba director of al-Jazeera Center considered the report a good initiative of the Human Rights Ministry being a government body confirming that the seminar aims at endorsing Human Rights in Yemen and an attempt to improve reports of the like in the future.

Nashwan Mohammed al-Himyari a researcher in political sciences and mass communication said that the report did not mention many of the violations against journalists that took place and ignored Sa'adha conflict completely. "The report did not provide a vision on

how the government is going to create mechanisms to instate justice and compensation for the ones whose rights had been violated in case charges were made" he conformed.

Dr. Mohammed Moghram professor at the Jurisprudence College at Sana'a University agreed with Nashwan in his point and added that there are many economic, cultural and social violations practiced by the state against the people whether intentionally or unintentionally and all was not mentioned in the report.

In her analysis of the section on women in the report, Dr. Wafa al-Sharajabi narrated the status of women in Yemen and made a comparison between the international conventions ratified by the state and the practices with reference to the report. The seminar concluded without any recommendations.

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Tribesmen intervene to end al-Jawf battle

BY HASSAN AL-ZAIDI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

AL-JAWF- Tribal sources told the Yemen Times this week that a number of sheikhs, among them Ghalib al-Ajda'a, Ali Saleh al-Shatif and others, have intervened to settle a bloody fighting between al-Shawlan and Hamdan tribes in al-Jawf, Yemen. Disputes and battles between these tribes date back to 1980 and claimed lives of 56 people.

The sources mentioned the death toll was increasing due to insistence of both parties on taking revenge upon each other.

According to the sources, authorities are still holding 14 tribesmen from al-Shawlan Tribe as hostages at the Ministry of Defense, including Sheikh Amin al-Ukaimi, MP, and five others from Hamdan Tribe.

The skirmishes between the two parties escalated over a 12-km square land, and tribesmen are always armed and in a state of alert to any incident.

The tribal sources expect the situation to deteriorate at any time since there are not any pledges for reconciliation. On his part, President Ali Abdullah Saleh pledged to settle those disputes over lands, which have so far claimed lives of many people.

Tribal wars and acts of vengeance raise concern among tribesmen and cause insurmountable barriers, posing challenge and hampering development in such areas. Over the last few months, revenge incidents claimed lives of educated people and innocent students in main cities.

It is worth noting that the death toll caused by tribal revenges in al-Jawf rose to 5000 over the last two decades.

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Dead body found in waste bin

SANA'A- A corpse of an old man was found in a waste bin near the building of Attorney General's office.

Medical examinations revealed that the corpse belongs to an old man who was murdered by 7-armed passengers aboard a Hilux car. Murderers then

put corpse in a bag in the garbage container near the building of Attorney General's office.

Eyewitnesses in the neighborhood said they saw smoke rising from the garbage container after the persons suspected of murder had left the place, adding they could not take down the car's plate number as it was covered.

Police surrounded the area and started investigating into the case some minutes after they found the dead body.

Procedures on handing over Aden & container ports

ADEN BUREAU
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Aden, - Preliminary procedures for handing over management of container and Mu'lla ports in Aden to Dubai international company are now underway.

Yemen Times has learnt that the negotiations on building an air shipment village and developing ship quays are already finished.

Financial analysts think that, if the operation procedure is concluded

according to the plans of the new company, this will boost greatly navigation activity at the Yemeni ports.

They depend in their analysis on the immense capacities of Dubai International Company in addition to the experience and relations that would possibly lure new marine lines to Aden and its container port.

It is worth mentioning that Dubai International had won the bid of developing, managing and operating Aden port and container port in the free zone at the beginning of June 2005.

Yemen and international organizations combat child trafficking

SANA'A- A training course for a number of security officers working at Yemen's sea and land outlets on the phenomenon of child trafficking, was concluded on Wednesday August 17.

The Ministry of Interior in cooperation with the UNICEF and the International Immigration Organization organized the course, held under the slogan "Applying the law and helping children who are victims of trafficking".

As many as 20 participants attended

the 5-day course during which many legal and social lectures were delivered on child rights and the international pacts and conventions in this respect with the aim to raise public awareness and put an end to the phenomenon.

The phenomenon of trafficking children into neighboring countries, mainly the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, widely spread over the last years due to the deteriorating economic situations in Yemen and kids dropping out of schools at early ages.

Iranian firm to build electricity transfer pylons in yemen

Iran's Parsian company has signed a contract to build electricity transfer pylons for Yemen's Marb power plant.

The Yemeni State News Agency reported Monday that the contract with a value of US\$45 million is financed by Yemeni government and the Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development.

The Iranian firm is to build four electricity transfer pylons, it added.

Iran and Yemen inked several agreements in various areas during President Mohammad Khatami's visit to Sana'a in May 2003.

The 7th Iran-Yemen Joint Economic Commission was held in June and the

Saba News Agency organizes massive wedding

SANA'A- Yemen's Saba News Agency organized last Monday a massive wedding for 21 pressmen working for the agency. The event was attended by Hussein Dhaifallah al-Awadih Minister of Information, Ahmad al-Kuhlani, Secretary General of the Capital, Nassr

Taha Mustafa, Chairman of the Board of Directors at Saba News Agency and a number of Yemeni Journalists Syndicate members.

Attendants expressed their pleasure at such a successful step that would help reduce economic burdens on youth.

It is worth mentioning that several parties and organisations have adopted taking such steps to help youth wed by overcoming difficulties associated with marriage in Yemen, mainly expensive dowries and heavy marriage costs.

Yemen Times Team performs brilliantly

Yemen Times newly formed football team made a brilliant success by achieving an easy walk over Yemenia team. In this match that took place recently, they beat the Yemenia team 5/1.

The team of Yemen Times youth put on great performances that were admired by the spectators.

It worth mentioning that, the team was formed of the youth of the area where Yemen Times lies.

Mrs. Nadia Al-Sagaf, chief editor, confirmed that Yemen Times team comes along within a Yemen times' plan that is interested in youth and the development of their capacities, especially the sport that suffers great recession, owing to the official negligence. The team was formed 4 years ago and



now it is witnessing a new revival, which proved to be a strong one.

Yemen to harmonize national legislations with ICC Statute

SANA'A- A legal justice ministry team is currently studying how to institute a kind of matching between the national legislation and the Rome Statute for the International Criminal Court, said Minister of Justice Adnan Al-Jafri on Tuesday.

During his Tuesday meeting with a

delegation from the International Criminal Court (ICC) and the International Federation for Human Rights

al-Jafri said the Parliament seriously "discusses the institution of national laws with the ICC's statute" and that Yemen is taking constitutional procedures to ratify the

statute.

Minister of Justice laid emphasis on steps taken by Yemen in pursuit of judicial and legal reforms particularly those related to human rights and the combat of terror and corruption.

The Minister spoke highly about the role the ICC has been established to

play in order to stabilize democratic principles and keep human dignity.

It is worth mentioning the Sisters Arab Forum organized a few days ago a consultative meeting on the International Criminal Court's Coalition in collaboration with the Ministry of Human Rights.

Government, donors review poverty alleviation policy

Sana'a -The Yemeni Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation concluded Monday a discussion forum concerning poverty. The forum discussed a comprehensive draft study of the economic policies of development and poverty alleviation in the country. National and foreign experts, with support of the UN International Development Fund, in cooperation with the Ministry of Planning and

International Cooperation prepared the study.

Participants in the forum represented donors and international organizations. They praised the study because

of its efforts for finding solutions for monetary problems, and reconsidering economic policies to be an approach to achieve economic development that would mitigate poverty, and create

jobs. The study confirms the importance of expanding the capacity of national economy, be it through foreign aid or the investment of proceeds of foreign currency reserves.

UBL posts 80% growth in half-year pre-tax profit (Globally)

United Bank Limited (UBL) – the third largest commercial bank in Pakistan, majorly owned by the Consortium of Abu Dhabi and Bestway Group, earned a pre-tax profit of US \$ 60.8 million for the half year ended June 30, 2005. The Board of Directors approved the Financial Statements of the Bank on August 1, 2005.

The profit before tax depicted a rise of 80% and stood at US \$ 60.8 million as compared with US \$ 34.0 million during the corresponding period of 2004.

Major contributory to the healthy profit was the net mark up / interest income after provisions, which doubled to US \$ 92.5 million (2004: US \$ 46.2 million), mainly due to a volume increase in the advances and acceleration in lending rates. Fee income increased by 29%, as compared to corresponding period in last year, to US \$ 16.6 million (2004: US \$ 13.1 million), mainly due to increased focus on trade business during the period. The profit after tax grew by 91% over last half year to US \$ 35.1 million (2004: US \$ 17.1 million), translating into an annualized return on shareholders' equity of 28% (June 2004: 19%).

Deposits grew by 17% during the half year and stood at US \$ 4,513 million (2004: US \$ 3,861 million). The management compliments the field staff once again for demonstrating high ability to exceed expectations.

The bank achieved an 18% growth in advances to US \$ 2,843 million in the half year ended June 30, 2005.

Trade volumes rose sharply by 50% to US \$ 2,213 million (2004: US \$ 1,476 million) whereas home remittances also increased by 18% to US \$ 218 million (2004: US \$ 184 million) as compared to same period in last year.

The JCR-VIS Credit Ratings Company Limited has upgraded the banks medium to long term credit rating by two notches to "AA", indicated good credit quality, moderate risk and strong protection factors. The short term credit rating maintained at the maximum scale of "A-1+", which denotes outstanding short term liquidity with highest certainty of timely payments.

In June 2005, the Privatization Commission offered a portion of the government held shares to the general public. The general public subscribed for 4.3% of the share capital and these shares were listed on the Karachi, Lahore and Islamabad Stock Exchanges on July 25, 2005.

With the increasing demand of credit in the economy and the expansion of the consumer business, there has been an increasing pressure on bank's capital. To mitigate this the Bank effectively raised supplementary capital through the issuance of another listed, rated, unsecured and subordinated Term Finance Certificates amounting to US \$ 33.5 million, taking the total sub-ordinated debt issue size to US \$ 67.1 million. The issue was made to the general public in March 2005. The Capital Adequacy Ratio of the Bank stood at 10.0% for June 2005.

The first half of 2005 saw the launch of new consumer products, including UBL Credit Card and UBL Money, as well as the continued growth of the products launched last year.

The UBL Visa Credit Card became the first EMV-chip enabled credit card in South Asia. It is a highly innovative product with unique features and customer benefits and has rapidly captured a significant share of both the market and the customer's wallet. UBL Money, an unsecured personal installment loan facility, was launched in June and has made a promising entry into the market. Another new initiative from the Bank has been the introduction of e-NRP accounts; web based deposit accounts for Non-Resident Pakistanis. The product has been test launched and appears to hold considerable potential.

With the launch of UBL Money, the Bank has successfully achieved its mission of introducing a full suite of consumer financing products in the market. It now intends to focus on consolidating on the launches and attain improved profitability on the back of substantial market shares which UBL Drive, UBL Address, UBL Cashline and the Credit Card have achieved.

Readers' Voice

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

This edition's question:

Do you think that the rallies that are held in support of Almojad, will succeed in changing the verdict against him?

Yes
No
I don't know

Last edition's question:

Do you think it is appropriate to try Al-Huthi followers under terrorism law?

Yes 40.5%
No 55.3%
I don't know 4.1%

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

Multi-purpose exhibition opened

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Under patronage of Mr. Abdulrhman Tartoum, the minister of electricity an exhibition of electricity, power, agriculture, irrigation and reconstruction was opened Wednesday. The 17-21 August 2005 exhibition is organized by Apollo for international exhibitions in Sana'a. Holding the exhibition is part of periodic activities held by Apollo Company. This exhibition is a result of the success that was achieved by previ-

ous exhibitions, which are held every two years. It contains the latest technological inventions in electrical, power and the new irrigation methods. It also contains the most modern high technical agricultural equipment in addition to modern construction equipment that meets modern requirements of development and construction. This will be by displaying models prepared by Yemeni engineering establishments. Many Arab and international companies participate in this exhibition. A

number of Yemeni cooperative Societies that support the exports are also participating.

The general electricity corporation will hold a workshop on renewable energy and poverty alleviation as part of this exhibition.

This exhibition is held in coordination with concerned bodies of the ministries of Electricity, Trade and Industry and Agriculture, in an effort to make this activity a great scientific one.

Saudis Seize Huge Cache of Explosives, Drugs near Yemen

Saudi Arabian authorities seized a huge cache of dynamite, ammunition, and drugs during a security sweep along the border with Yemen, al-Watan newspaper reported Tuesday.

Brig. Gen. Murie Ussayri, border patrol commander, told the Saudi newspaper the three-day operation uncovered 1,200 sticks of dynamite,

nearly 9,000 cartridges and 2,750 kilograms of hashish in addition to other drugs.

Ussayri told the newspaper much of the contraband was carried into the kingdom by Yemeni children enlisted by smugglers along the 2,000 kilometer frontier.

Last year, the newspaper said, Saudi

authorities deported 150,000 Yemenis, including nearly 10,000 children, who had crossed the border illegally.

Both countries have increased security along the border in an attempt to stem the flow of illegal goods, including weapons and explosives that have been used during militant attacks in both nations.

Awareness raising campaign on legal documentation and woman rights

By YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Undoubtedly specifying of individual dignity is a basic form of human rights. Remarkable human achievements in this regard are what we called "Official Documents" i.e. "ID, Birth Certificate, Marriage, ownership and Divorce Documents". Those Documents maintain and convey, officially, legally, socially and politically the person's presence and rights, and allows him/her to acquire his/her social, educational, economical and political rights. On the individual level, lack of such documents could be a barrier for having many civil rights for example, ownership, heritage, decision-making and voting rights.

Society for the Development of Woman and Children SOUL has thought seriously to take action in this regards and raise the awareness

of citizens on the importance of possession documents by launching an awareness campaign among the general public, focusing on women. Therefore, Middle East Partnership Initiative MEPI - acting through Public Affairs Section PAS agreed to cooperate with SOUL to undertake the project. With this regards, the awareness campaign ideas were identified to support MEPI program Goals & Pillars through promoting and supporting Yemeni citizens in political & legal reforms and empowerment of women. It addressed -1- Political / Legal through Strengthening democracy and civil society practices. Where as the project targeted vast number of citizens to raise their awareness on the right way on issuing Official Documents, where, how, when etc. The civil rights of citizens were mostly enlightened during the awareness, focusing on the results of acquiring such documents on him / her. - 2- Empowerment of Women:

Reducing barriers to women's full participation in society. The project sought to reduce the barriers - legal, Social and political to women's full participation in society, it focused on women awareness in protecting their civil rights such as ownership, heritage.

The project aimed at providing key education to both females and males, with a greater focus on females, on the importance of legal documentation. It is a national wide awareness campaign through different mass media such as TV, Radio, News papers and reportages. The campaign focused on documents of ID, Birth Certificate, family card, vaccination card, ownership and heritage. All these documents were presented in materials. The campaign was undertaken mainly on Sana'a city through distribution campaign materials and interpersonal communication, which were conducted through field visits to number of female and boys schools, and women gatherings.

The preparation and organization of the campaign began at the end of September 2004. This phase took most of the performance's period of the project activities. According to the plan of action, SOUL started to recruit the project team and contacted all relevant institutions and individuals. The designing and the production of awareness campaign materials (TV promotional flashes, Radio Flash, and Posters) and implementation followed.

During the process of preparing the campaign, a pre-assessment (survey) and a brainstorming sessions were conducted. Students (male-female), lawyers, doctors, teachers as well as members of the general public were invited to these sessions. The official documents were the core of the session and a lot



of information was gathered that helped to modify the questionnaire and form the actual strategy of the campaign. The assessment aimed to identify social characteristics of the targeted audience, know the most preferable mass media to targeted audience, and measure the level of awareness and know the exact number of students who possess the ID.

The results of pre-assessment showed that 30.6 % of those respondents think it is still too early for them to get an ID card due to the belief that the legal age for acquisition of the ID card is 18. However, this is a misconception as the legal age under Yemeni law is 16. Accordingly, the campaign messages were adapted due to the results of the pre-assessment.

The campaign was launched on

March 18, 2005, and ended on April 18, 2005. The campaign lasted about one month in all channels of mass media. Project team followed up the process of the constant efforts and received the reactions of audience through random visits to schools and other institutions, received calls from different interested people. During this period an interpersonal communication sessions were held for 20 schools- boys and girls-. Full cooperation and facilitations offered by school headmasters to implement the awareness sessions. Really students showed their interaction in campaign through writing articles

and raising the topic in school morning queue. It is very obvious through random visits to targeted schools how the campaign influenced the secondary school students. Furthermore, the cooperation of different related institution to facilitate the implementation of the campaign. About 700000 subscribers received message through their Mobile as well as 50000 through Emails. Number of those subscribers called SOUL to know on the campaign. The campaign received an appreciation among Yemeni mass media.

Society News

The Legal Library of civil community organizations, which covers around 2000 titles, was launched on Monday August 15 at al-Afif Cultural Foundation in Sana'a. The project, funded by the Social Fund for Development, aims to document all the activities of civil society organizations in Yemen.

The International Cooperation and Development Organization (ICDO) confirmed it would offer social technical expertise for some societies, including the Aden-based Tadhamon Women Society. The support will focus on awareness activities in the health sector and combating AIDS among women.

The General Authority for Tourist Development organized on Wednesday August 17 a tourist festival for workers at Ibb tourist institutions in the framework of promoting the internal tourism.

Activities of the cultural contests between summer centers wrapped up on Wednesday August 17 in the city of Dhamar. The activities were organized by Dhamar Culture and Tourism Office.

A training course on human rights for 40 police officers from Ibb and Taiz governorates was concluded on Monday August 15. The event was organized by the Human Rights Information and Training Center in cooperation with the interior and human rights ministries, the UN Development Program and the British Embassy in Sana'a.

The General Book Authority is taking part in the Khartoum's 2005 International Book Fair, which started its activities on Wednesday August 17.

Ministry of Water and Environment & Royal Netherlands Embassy organized

By DR. LIA SIEGHART AND MR. MARC MAZAIRAC

First Round-table Meeting

Press Release

The 1st Round-table Meeting on Business Potentials in Environmental Technologies jointly organized by the Royal Netherlands Embassy, Sana'a and the Ministry of Water and Environment, was held on August 15 in the residence of the Chargé d'Affaires of the Royal Netherlands Embassy, Mr. Roelof Buffinga. The event took place under the Auspices of HE Dr. Mohammed L. Al-Eryani, Minister of Water and Environment.

Representatives of the private sector active in environmental technologies and the public sector were invited to learn more about Dutch grants for companies in the environmental sector (e.g., waste recycling, eco-tourism, renewable energy production) and in sectors whose performance is strongly dependent on sound environmental management (such as agriculture and water supply and sanitation).

The meeting acquires special importance, particularly in view of the fact that no other region like the Middle East and North Africa has experienced a magnitude and persistence of labor market pressures. With unemployment above 15 percent, the pressing need of absorbing unemployed workers in addition to the new labor force entrants implies the need to create close to 100 million jobs by

the end of the next decade, more than doubling the number of jobs in the region. Therefore, the most important development challenge is to create enough jobs for the rapidly growing work force.

However, on the global level job creation in the environmental sector is large and expanding. Global expenditures on the environment are in the range of US\$525 billion per year. They are expected to surpass \$600 billion by the end of this year.

For example the European Union estimates that its environmental "industry" generates 54 billion Euros per year. Yet other issues are spill-over effects to other markets: Jobs created in the environmental sector frequently trigger the creation of jobs in other, related sectors up and downstream in the supply chain.

In addition, it has to be stressed that a large number of jobs depend on a well managed environment, as for example in eco-tourism and sustainable agriculture, as the success of these industries is heavily contingent on efforts to conserve and protect natural resources.

Very important, as pointed out by HE the Minister of Water and Environment, Dr. Mohammed Lutf Al-Eryani, is to realize that progress in clean, environmentally-sound technologies should not alone depend on their immediate beneficiary effect on employment and job creation. He said: "Many examples of cleaner technologies may not be economically feasible from the beginning, as these technologies face higher initial learning costs than traditional technologies.

Technological development is a

path-dependent process, where new developments depend on the inventions of the past. To change to the right path, therefore, requires active support, not least through funding and cooperation."

This consideration can be an argument for initial and temporarily limited support mechanisms as provided through foreign grants schemes like the PSOM or the ORET. These grant schemes are funded by the Dutch government to support commercial and non-commercial ventures.

The Dutch government has since long been a staunch advocate of developing environmentally sound businesses and projects. The application of the Dutch grants not only provides financial means for realizing this goal, but also provides an opportunity to share and exchange know-how and experience in the efficient use of natural resources.

This could eventually give Yemeni manufacturers a competitive advantage over their competitors. Team building with European companies should surely provide added value for mainstreaming sustainable cleaner production.

It is worth pointing out that the Ministry of Water and Environment is already engaging its Taiz Water Supply and Sanitation Corporation in a negotiation process with the leading water supply utility in the Netherlands.

This will lead to a partnership which will be funded under the Dutch grants schemes. The objective is to improve the provision of water supply and sanitation services in the city of Taiz.

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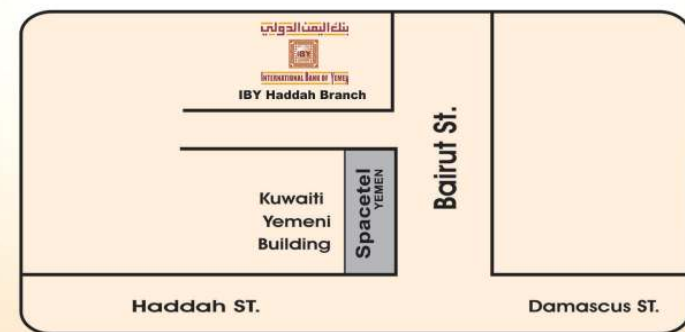


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Aden people demand transfer of garbage site

BY NAZIH ABDULLAH
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The garbage site in the district of Dar-Saad poises great health and environmental threats to the inhabitants of the areas of Sheikh Osman, Al-mansora, Dar Saad and other areas in the vicinity. The continuous emit of smoke and heat, is the source of all these sufferings.

The reduced visibility due to the smokes from the site led to many accidents in the area, for the cars that come from Northern governorates.

On this matter, Yemen Times made interviews in Dar-Saad with some citizens and officials

Many people gathered around us when we reached there. They were all demanding the transfer of the garbage site.

Mohamed Saleh Aiash a citizen from Dar-Saad said that the site became a permanent threat for the health of people of the area, especially old people and the children. There is Asthma and diarrhea cases. The whole area is contaminated with smoke that is perma-

nently going out of the site. Aiash said that they were happy when they heard that there was a plan to transfer the site to Beir Al-Na'ama in Al-Boreqa district. This is not carried out because the local council officials didn't follow up.

Drivers' Sufferings

Abdo Rabu Naser said that he is a driver for 20 years in Lahj-Aden road. He said that they used to suffer from smoke and poultry odor. The increase in population contributed to the rate of smoke. He demanded that the site should be transferred to another place because its present position in the entrance of the economical capital is inappropriate.

Environmental threats

We met Dr. Jamal Al-Lawzi general manager of the Environment protection, Aden branch. We asked him if they have done any environmental studies on the gases and smoke that are arising from the garbage site. He said that they have not done any studies because they lack the facilities of such a study. It needs apparatus for taking and analyzing samples. This was

proved by the field survey that was carried by the general authority for environment protection under the supervision of (WHO). Many academic bodies participated in that survey. He went on saying that there are dangerous gases that are emitted from this site. The most dangerous of these being Polychlorinated dibenzo- p- dioxins and poly chlorinated dibenzo furans (PCDD/PCDF).

These are shortly known as Dioxins and Furans. They are cancering substances. Because of their threats they are registered in the Stockholm Treaty, Which Yemen is signatory to

It is the responsibility of the governorate

Mr. Abdulmalik Amer, general manager of Dar-saad. As the site lies in his governorate we asked him what they have done so far, on transferring the site to Bir Al-na'amh. He said that the procedures are the responsibility of the governorate, and we also demand the quick transfer of the site. The site was prepared by the development fund, and it now lacks the electricity. The problem is still pending between the gover-

norate and the electricity department that demands Yr. 22 millions. He added that dar-saad garbage site receives garbage not only from Aden but from all the villages in Lahj which adds to the peoples' sufferings because of the increase in smoke arising from this site.

We also asked engineer Qaid Rasihid, manager of the cleansing fund. We asked him the same question on the delay in transferring the site. He said that the site had been prepared since 2002 by a finance of Yr.59.186.49 from the development fund. The work constitutes erecting hangers and a full sue net. We are now preparing to sign an agreement with the ministry of finance to furnish bulldozers and grinding machines to grind the garbage in stead of burning it. He also said that the new site will be far healthier. An investor had applied for a project of establishing a plastic and paper conversion plant.

We also asked him about what he means by electricity problems?

He said that it is the problem of the sum of Yr.22 millions that they are asking for, but it will be overcome in a short time.

Multiple things are,

What Iraqis suffer from

BY MOHAMMED KHIDR
YEMEN TIMES STAFF
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The first aspects of the Iraqi people suffering were those when the American and British forces started an all out war on the country on 20 March 2003. US-British armies showered the people of Iraq with long-range missiles and air raids at a rate of thousands of sorties everyday, causing the death and wounding of thousands of innocent people in addition to destruction of buildings and infrastructure that were already suffering due to fourteen years of harshest sanctions and blockade no nation had ever seen in history of humanity.

The allied American and British armies advanced on land from their Arab peninsula military bases and in three weeks invaded the whole country and captured the capital Baghdad.

I do not need to narrate what entailed the invasion of destruction, killing and collapse of the entire state of Iraq and unprecedented chaos that dominated for long time every walk of life in the country.

The occupation period and domination of the multi-national forces in Iraq under leadership of the United States of America and its closest ally Britain is approaching its third year next April. Apart from absence of security and prevalence of crime and robbery, there is the lack of the most essential and necessary services to maintain life of the Iraqi people. The most important and needful services are those of electricity and pure water. The Iraqi people situation since the American-British invasion is like that of leaping from saucepan into fire.

The story of electricity is the most tragic aspect in the life of the Iraqis nowadays especially in the hot season of summer that extends for several months starting from the mid of May to the end of September. Temperatures reach more than fifty degrees centigrade in most of the days of summer especially in July, the peak month of heat. Electric power supplied by government power stations comes only a few hours during the day and night of everyday. If you calculate the hours of government power supply in the twenty-four hours of they day they would mostly not exceed six hours per day,



The Liberty Monument at Tharir Square in downtown Baghdad

many times very many less. It is really a catastrophic situation because cut of power means paralysis of every activity of daily life. In addition to one being deprived of using cooling facilities to stand the scorching heat of the day there results incapability supplying water services as they depend on electric power for pumping and distribution. Thus the problem of loss of power complicates the whole situation for the people of this afflicted country. Of course it is apparent how power cut for long hours would affect industry production and health care in hospitals and other health institutions.

Unfortunately, I timed my visit to my family in Iraq in the month of July and spent almost all of it there. I have experienced on the ground suffering of the lack of electricity supply.

It is true to say the need is the mother of invention. Every family managed hard to obtain household power generators to operate them during the long hours of power irregular outages. But these generators are not enough to operate air conditioners and refrigerators. They can supply power only enough to switch on fans and lamps in the night. To make for this shortage of power supply some people who have enough money have bought larger power generators that could feed tens of houses with electricity and put them in residential areas to sell power to

families per month fees. But despite of that one cannot dispense with his home generator. Walking in the streets of any residential area one would see a web of electric wires fitted to electric poles and end at the generator of the houses block. Instead of the usual sight of four or three lines of electric cables tied to electric poles you would see a large bundle of them. Younger men and women work alternately on switching on and off from generator to generator, i.e. from the household generator to that of the residential area placed on the sidewalk of streets. When power supply comes through, as the people of Iraq call it, the national network people rush to plug off supply coming from the street generator and vice-versa. Of course this happens irregularly because one cannot tell when power is going to be supplied by the "national network". Therefore there always must be someone vigilant to watch the changes which happen at any time of the day or night, sometimes very late at night. Sometimes there is neither national power supply nor that from the street generator, so families have to operate their own generators which are practically a problem because of shortages of fuel at petrol stations and people are many times forced to buy it from the thriving black market. To follow up doggedly and properly these duties sleeping is

very little for Iraqi families that suffer from multilateral aspects of problems since the invasion of the US-led forces.

Not to have enough sleep is in fact an agonizing experiment. When I was there I likened the situation to the kind of torture practiced in some countries of the world against prisoners when there is a forced deprivation of sleep imposed on them just for humiliating them. Waiting watchful to switch from one power supplier to another day and night is quite similar to forced wakefulness practiced against prisoners in prison cells.

I cannot skip the fact that there are some acts of sabotage against power stations by saboteurs and insurgents but it is also true that big powers with all their military might such as the American and British are able enough to provide protection to power stations on the one hand and to build others very quickly to make for the destroyed ones if they really want that and if they are really sincere about their propagated aim of invading Iraq, namely, liberate the people of Iraq from the harshest dictatorial regime and to install a democratic one instead. It is especially so when we realize that security file in Iraq is still in the hands of the occupying forces despite formation and training of Iraqi police and army personnel.

Half the World

By Nisha



Farmers without Land

Nearly 80 percent of Yemeni women who work outside their homes are engaged in agriculture. Of these nearly 65 percent are engaged in unpaid work at their family farms or on land leased by their families.

The stories of these women are varied. For example, in some governorates these women can own livestock and keep the income from it in others even the livestock is not theirs to own or the income from it to be controlled by them. Lives and problems of these women are not researched, nor much seen in the higher up places – places which could initiate gender responsive land reforms.

Written accounts of these women are hardly there in the media or proceedings of innumerable workshops and conferences on women or in the programme reports of development organizations. There are no platforms where these women themselves can tell their stories, where they can stand and demand their rights.

In most publications and reports on agriculture, women agricultural workers are hardly ever mentioned as a marginalized group whose economic rights are being violated systematically. Even assessments of the situation of women hardly ever talk of economic rights violation or bother to raise the issue of exploitation of women's labour in paid and unpaid agricultural work.

There are now an increasing number of women agricultural workers moving from village to village in groups in pursuit of contractual work. They are paid as low as 300-350 Yemeni rials compared to minimum 900 rials that men get for a day's work. The argument for this discrimination is that the work women do is not as strenuous.

Despite such obvious discrimination, there are very few attempts to raise these issues. Due to deep belief in traditional gender roles, the farm owners have a tendency to employ women for tasks which have been allotted to them traditionally.

It means that all the jobs which are considered strenuous and fetch a higher wage go to men. Women tend only to be hired when tedious but not so strenuous looking work has to be done. In fact, farm owners prefer to higher women for these jobs not only because it is hard to find men willing to take up work which is traditionally considered women's but also because they will have to pay a much higher wage to men for the same job.

Women play a primary role in production in rural communities in Yemen, especially, in sustaining subsistence agriculture. They take care of major part of agricultural work including sowing, transplanting, weeding, irrigating, harvesting, thrashing, husking and storing.

Alongside, they often contribute to family income in many other productive ways such as making handicrafts from khus, sewing and weaving. Still, when one talks to communities or decision makers, women do not figure in their agendas.

Despite the fact that at maximum amount of work in the agricultural fields is being done by women, a look at the gender profile of agricultural extensionists clearly shows how invisible they are to the eyes of the government in general and departments of agriculture in

particular. Near absence of women extensionists suggests that the department has not really paid much attention to reaching out to women agricultural workers either to provide them with new knowledge and technologies or to learn from their experiences.

Not only women extensionists are missing, the nature of current extension services is also such that wherever an attempt is made to reach women, more than often, it is within the boundaries of skills that are traditionally associated with their reproductive roles, for example, making pickle, murabba, jam, etc.

The entire focus of agricultural extension services is on men. And so it is men who are trained in the use of modern agricultural technology and encouraged to avail whatever credit facilities are available.

Women agricultural workers occupy an extremely disadvantaged position in society. They are victims of multiple forms of oppression because of the fact that they are women, they are unorganized, they are from poorest classes in society, added to the fact that they live segregated lives.

Segregation together with the lack of mobility takes away whatever little opportunities there might be for women agricultural workers to come together to learn from one-another's experiences, benefit from extension programmes and credit schemes, and form unions.

In addition to economic exploitation, these women come from traditional patriarchal families, which regard a woman as subordinate to the man. From birth, they are prepared to fulfill a reproductive role and be unpaid workers.

A woman is viewed as being there to bear children, to serve her paternal family and later her marital family. In Yemen, women do not have equal right to property.

But as per the Islamic law, which is accepted in Yemen, daughters are entitled to inherit half of what a son inherits and a widow gets one-eighth of her husband's property if she has children, one quarter if she is childless.

But in reality, in most cases, women are not allowed to or are not in a position to exercise their property rights. In other words, though religion entitles women with some property rights, women's circumstances and socialization inhibits their ability and confidence to claim those rights.

The social structures and systems of Yemeni society are such that women are excluded from roles of leadership not only in economic sphere but also in socio-political and governance structures. So women agricultural workers are not part of community development processes and they are definitely far-away from actual decision-making. The community development related decisions are taken by male dominated institutional structures like local councils and government departments.

Such community development processes and systems put women agricultural workers at the mercy of men's understanding of their issues and their participation in these processes, if at all, equals tokenism.

And so women agricultural workers who shoulder major burden of Yemen's agricultural economy continue to be without land, property or a substantial regular income. They are not even recognized as what they are, farmers.

New Deadline for Iraq Constitution

Iraq's National Assembly has agreed to extend the deadline for a draft constitution, after Iraqi leaders failed to agree on a charter. Iraqi lawmakers had to hastily amend an article in the existing interim law to allow for the extension.

Shortly before midnight, the Iraqi National Assembly voted unanimously to amend Article Three in the interim law, allowing an extension to produce a draft constitution.

Lawmakers, then agreed to extend the deadline by seven days to October 22.

Iraq's Planning Minister, Barham Saleh, insisted that the inability of Iraqis to submit a charter on Monday should not be considered as a setback to the country's political process.

"I want to look upon it as a sign of our seriousness about the future," said Mr. Saleh. "We're talking. We're having a dialogue. We have very serious issues to contend with. None of these things should be taken lightly."

On Monday, Shi'ite, Kurdish, and Sunni Arab leaders were locked in day-long efforts to reach a consensus on a host of issues. By the end of the day, they had reportedly reached a tentative deal on most of the issues. But American sources close to the talks say Shi'ites, Kurds, and Sunnis remained divided on two key points.

The secular Kurds oppose Shi'ite



Iraq's National Assembly votes unanimously for seven day extension for constitution draft on eve of original deadline

demands that Islam be considered the main source of law in the country. Shi'ites and Sunnis reject Kurdish demands to enshrine their right to declare independence in the autonomous Kurdish region.

The Kurds have suggested language giving them eight years to remain as a federal state of Iraq and after that, the right to secede. The Shi'ites support the idea of creating a Kurdish-like autonomous zone in the south of the country for Shi'ites, but they say that the Kurds should decide now whether they want to remain as part of Iraq.

Sunnis firmly reject the concept of federalism altogether, arguing that it would lead to the breakup of the country.

If no agreement on a constitution can be reached in seven days the Iraqi government and National Assembly will have to be dissolved and elections called to form a new governing body.

If there is an agreement, Iraqis will go to the polls on October 15 to accept or reject the charter. If approved in a referendum, national elections can then be held on December 15 to elect a new, permanent government.

Arab world delights as evictions edge nearer

THE Jewish settlement and watchtower went up in flames as the delighted crowd looked on. It was only a cardboard effigy, but it was a portent of long-awaited destruction soon to befall the hated originals.

Similar scenes of delight took place across Gaza yesterday, and they were all mingled with a pinch-meí confounding of long-ingrained mistrust that Ariel Sharon's deed would match Ariel Sharon's word.

By way of television screens, internet websites and bulletin boards, the Arab world reacted with ill-disguised glee as Israeli soldiers confronted perhaps the most hated people in the Middle East ó Israeli Jewish settlers.

"Yes, but will he really do it?" has for months been the first question on the lips of sceptical Arabs from the Mediterranean to the Euphrates. Raised on a ceaseless official diet of Israel vilification ó and Sharon demoralisation in particular ó the universal Arab suspicion has been that disengagement would be another Zionist conspiracy, a ploy or a subterfuge never to materialise.

But as al-Jazeera, al-Arabiya and Palestinian television filled their

screens with olive-uniformed Israeli soldiers presenting eviction notices to the reviled mustawtinin [settlers], convoys of yellow minibuses flowed on to the streets of the nearest Gaza town, Khan Younis, with horns honking and Palestinian flags flying.

In homes, families gathered in front of television sets and switched from one channel to another. Mothers laid out new clothes for children to wear and prepared special mambo cookies usually served on Eid festivals.

Hamas, the extremist group, was foremost in the charge to claim victory as mosques opened for special midnight prayers. "May God bless those who touch weapons," Younis al-Astal, the Hamas leader, said as he castigated the Palestinian Authority for negotiating with the Israeli Government. "The blood of martyrs has led to liberation," a Hamas banner read. Hamas internet supporters were also in full swing. One of the group's websites carried bizarre yellow Islamist ismiley's giving the thumbs up and praying to Allah. On the Palestinian Dialogue Forum, Bilal 2 ó a Hamasnik activist ó called on the Palestinian Authority to erect on the site of the demolished settlements a

plaque to each militant who died attacking them.

Determined to wrest the triumph from the men of violence, Mahmoud Abbas, the leader of the Palestinian Authority, emphasised his message, that Gaza must be the start, not the end. He said:

"The Israeli withdrawal is an important and historic step that shouldn't only happen in Gaza but also the West Bank and the rest of the land reaching to the 1949 borders."

Al-Jazeera carried non-stop coverage of Israeli settlers weeping and waiting for the inevitable. Meanwhile, al-Arabiya took a human-interest approach, ushering Palestinian children into a minibus and driving them through checkpoints that no longer exist, asking: "How do you feel now you will be able to sleep with no more shelling?" A Palestinian satellite channel found a vantage point from which to film the action, and its commentator, possibly the most excited person in Khan Younis, went so far as to praise the Israeli soldiers for their professionalism. Another Palestinian television channel took congratulatory telephone calls from all over the Arab world.

Sanur settlers vow to fight to the bitter end

As Israeli troops make their final preparations for next week's immense Gaza withdrawal, they are expecting the greatest resistance to come from the remote Sanur settlement in the West Bank.

Hundreds of supporters are joining the town's residents, ready to take part in what they believe to be a holy war.

"As long as we're needed we'll stay. We'll quit our jobs, we won't go to school," Amos Azaria told CTV News.

The settlers are moving into old U.S. army tents and rundown trailers, preparing for when the month-long pullout begins Aug. 15.

There are 21 Gaza settlements and four isolated West Bank settlements that about 40,000 police and soldiers will evacuate ñ Israel's largest ever peacetime operation.

Israeli forces are concerned that 10,000 supporters could join the 600 already estimated to be camping in Sanur, creating further tensions. Security forces have practiced the withdrawal using the American tactic of playing heavy rock music, which they hope will drown out chanting.

The town was originally a colony for Russian artists, and was founded in 1987.

One of those artists, Julia Segal, remembers another evacuation. During the Second World War, when her family fled Ukraine from the Nazis.

Segal is angry that she will be forced from her home once again, in what she views as an unnecessary and pointless operation.

"No one is sure that this will succeed. How many times can they make the same mistake?" she told CTV News.

Sanur residents have so far only shown passive resistance. They managed to stall the construction of an army service road by standing with



Sanur settlers vow to fight to the bitter end

babies in front of bulldozers. And they routinely tell soldiers they should be ashamed of going against their own people.

But Sanur is also home to radical idealogues who see the town's settlement as their birthright. The settlement is in the Dotan Valley, where the bible states that Joseph was sold into slavery thousands of years ago.

The settlers have transformed an old mosque into a synagogue, with an antagonistic sign posted outside that reads in Hebrew: "No dogs. No Arabs."

While some settlers in the Gaza strip have handed in weapons prior to the withdrawal, there has been no such agreement in Sanur, which concerns security forces.

Although there is a religious law forbidding the firing on fellow Jews, so only non-Jewish troops may be targeted, the military is worried that some settlers are getting hand-to-hand combat training, to physically assault troops.

Palestinians urged to remain calm

Meanwhile, Palestinians have been asked to wait patiently for the Gaza pullout to conclude.

"There is a requirement to ensure the withdrawal take place in a civilized manner," Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas told The Associated Press. "We will be able to show the world we deserve independence and freedom."

Abbas warned Palestinians not to engage in looting after the withdrawal. He also asked them not to celebrate too openly, because the government seeks full independence in Gaza and sees Israel's withdrawal as only a minor victory.

"The Israelis are still occupying our land. The road is still long ahead," Abbas said.

Analysts say the greatest challenge awaiting Abbas is getting Hamas and other militants to obey the current ceasefire with Israel. Attacks have continued despite the upcoming pullout, some even injuring Palestinians.

Protesters clash with Israeli forces

At least 50 people were arrested today as scuffles broke out between the Israeli security forces and protesters opposing the pullout from the Gaza Strip.

The army was taking a firmer line today against protesters ahead of the deadline of midnight tonight (2200 BST) before forcible evictions are due to begin. An Israeli commander insisted soldiers "will impose law and order".

The evacuation of all 21 settlements in the Gaza Strip and four in the West Bank began yesterday amid protests and tensions were expected to escalate today before the main expected confrontations tomorrow after the deadline has elapsed.

Scuffles today in Neve Dekalim, the largest settlement in the Gaza Strip, followed an early morning operation by Israeli police who cut through a main gate.

Most of the few protesters who had blocked the road at the settlement early today stood aside as police cut the gate with an electric saw to allow access to trucks after hundreds of protesters blocked their entry yesterday.

But later this morning the crowds of young protesters at the gate swelled in a renewed attempt to prevent trucks from entering and there were clashes with security forces.

Major General Dan Harel, the Israeli army's commander for the Gaza region, had insisted earlier that access for trucks would not be impeded again. Speaking before today's arrests, he told Israel TV: "If there are no problems, then we won't have anything to do here. If there are disruptions, then we will impose law and order."

Israeli officials say one-third to a half of Gaza's 8,500 settlers have already left; authorities believe most of the protests will come from non-resident hardliners, and there are estimates that up to 5,000 of these have infiltrated Gaza. Overnight some 500 non-resident protesters in Gaza were detained and dozens arrested as they tried to infiltrate from Israel.

The Israeli prime minister, Ariel Sharon, has described the withdrawal as a "painful sacrifice".

Any resident who remains behind after tonight's deadline faces losing up to one-third of government compensation - a sum that could total tens of thousands of pounds. Police said about 120 moving trucks were expected to head into Neve Dekalim later in the day. At mid-morning a large convoy of trucks was seen entering Gaza.

Israel Radio said three Gaza



An Israeli soldier dismantles the main gate of the Gaza Strip settlement of Neve Dekalim. Photo: Ronen Zvulun, Reuters

settlements were totally empty, and five others were quickly thinning out. But residents in a handful of communities appeared to be digging in for a fight.

Israeli forces began the operation yesterday by attempting to hand out eviction orders to residents of all settlements slated for evacuation. While there were no violent clashes, many settlers refused to cooperate, jeering troops, tearfully confronting them or destroying the evacuation notices.

Yehuda Glick, a West Bank settler who infiltrated Neve Dekalim, said today that he and other activists had no plans to surrender. "There will be those who will be given the assignment to be troublemakers, and there will also be those who will make sure the troublemakers don't go too far... I hope there won't be any wounded soldiers or policemen."

In the isolated Gaza settlement of Morag in southern Gaza, residents appeared to be heeding calls to leave. About one-third of the settlement's 220 residents had left by early today, and many others were packing up. Many houses were empty with even doors and windows taken by their owners. However, the army said an estimated 300 hardline outsiders remained holed up in the settlement.

In central Gaza, residents of the hardline settlement of Netzarim showed no signs of preparing to leave. They spent the night in a communal celebration, singing and dancing and waving orange flags.

In a televised speech last night, Mr Sharon praised Gaza's settlers as "pioneers", but insisted that it was time

for Israel to leave the area after 38 years of occupation.

"We cannot hold Gaza for good," he said. "More than a million Palestinians live there, doubling their numbers every generation ... they live in uniquely crowded conditions in refugee camps, in poverty and despair, in hotbeds of rising hatred with no hope on the horizon."

Palestinians have praised the withdrawal, but insist it must be the first step toward a peace agreement giving them an independent state that also includes the entire West Bank and east Jerusalem.

Mr Sharon has explained that by leaving Gaza and the northern West Bank, Israel can solidify its grip on parts of the West Bank where most of its 240,000 settlers live.

Palestinian militants, meanwhile, have been trying to claim that their relentless attacks in Gaza over the past five years drove the Israelis out.

Meanwhile at the southern Gaza Palestinian town of Khan Younis, Israeli soldiers fired warning shots as Palestinian children rushed a wall outside the nearby Jewish settlement of Gush Katif and placed a flag from the Hamas militant group on it.

The incident occurred as some 3,000 Hamas supporters marched through the centre of Khan Younis to celebrate Israel's pullout from Gaza. A Hamas spokesman said the group would not mount any attacks.

Yesterday in the southern town of Rafah, about 1,000 Islamic Jihad activists rallied, declaring that the Israeli withdrawal was a "victory for the resistance".

Saudi authorities nab over 900 overstayers

Security forces in Saudi Arabia have apprehended over 900 people in western port-city of Jeddah for staying in the country without valid documents as part of an ongoing crackdown against illegal immigrants.

Police raided at least 157 houses in Al-Sharafia and Al-Rahwah districts of

the city and nabbed 904 persons, including 18 suspected criminals, on Sunday night, a media report said on Tuesday.

Police raided red light areas and unlicensed clothing factories in the city and among those apprehended included a gang of car thieves, the Arab News

reported.

In Al-Sharafia, police teams were surprised to find a medium-sized high-tech clothing factory functioning in a two-bedroom apartment, it said.

The city had witnessed several security crackdowns last year during which thousands of overstayers were arrested.

Wide Area of Japan Shaken By Powerful Earthquake

An earthquake with an estimated magnitude of seven-point-two rattled a wide area of Japan on Tuesday. While there are dozens of people reported injured, the casualties and damage appear relatively light. The tremor off the Pacific Coast in northern Japan swayed skyscrapers in Tokyo, more than 300 kilometers from the earthquake's epicenter. In the northern city of Sendai, part of the roof of a sports center caved in, but rescuers say most of the injuries there are not serious.

A tsunami alert was issued for part of northern Japan's Pacific coast. The largest waves observed hitting the shore were reported to be only ten centimeters high.

Japan Meteorological Agency official Yasuo Sekita says the offshore quake would have been much more destructive if it had been closer to land. But Mr. Sekita warns that people in northern Japan should still be prepared for powerful aftershocks that could cause damage.

Landslides triggered by the earthquake, which was more than 40 kilometers below the sea surface, were reported in several rural locations.



A collapsed house lies on the ground following a quake that shook earlier Tuesday, Aug. 16.

Electricity was knocked out to 17,000 households in Miyagi and Fukushima prefectures and at least one building caught fire in Sendai.

Several nuclear power plants automatically shut down for a brief period

and bullet train service in the affected area also was suspended. Flights in and out of several airports, including those in Tokyo, were temporarily halted while runways were inspected for damage.

Spanish troops die in Afghan crash

MADRID, Spain (CNN) — Seventeen Spanish troops died in what appeared to be an accidental helicopter crash in Afghanistan on Tuesday, a spokesman in the Spanish prime minister's office told CNN.

These are the first Spanish troop fatalities in Afghanistan.

The 17 were serving under NATO command as part of a Spanish contingent of about 800 peacekeeping troops there.

The spokesman said "a helicopter crashed" although he had no immediate further information on the circumstances of the accident.

Initial reports say the location of the crash is in western Afghanistan, a region that has not been plagued by the kind of fighting that has been raging along the



There are 800 Spanish troops serving as peacekeepers in Afghanistan

A Bad Week For Protesting Mom

CBS/AP) Cindy Sheehan - the mother who's camped out near Crawford, Texas, demanding to speak with President Bush about her GI son who died in Iraq - is continuing her vigil but the makeshift memorial erected at her campsite has taken a hit. The campsite has close to a thousand white crosses, each representing GIs who, like Sheehan's son Casey, were killed in Iraq.

While Sheehan has gotten a lot of support in her vigil, and has been joined by dozens of sympathizers, she's also sparked some opposition.

Monday night, a pickup truck tore through the rows of white crosses.

The crosses stretched along the road at the Crawford, Texas, camp, bore the names of fallen U-S soldiers. No one was hurt.

Sheehan meanwhile got some other sad news this week as word came that her estranged husband - a split blamed on stress over their son's death - has filed for divorce.

Court documents now reveal that Sheehan's high school sweetheart has filed for divorce in California.

Sheehan has vowed to continue her Texas vigil through the rest of

President Bush's vacation though Bush's August vacation, unless he meets with her. She began her protest 10 days ago and has since been joined by more than 100 anti-war activists.

"Our message is to bring the troops home," Sheehan, of Vacaville, said Monday.

The White House on Monday again issued a statement saying that President Bush sympathizes with Sheehan. The president has given no indication on whether he will meet with her.

Sheehan, 48, and other grieving military families met with President Bush in June 2004 at Fort Lewis, near Seattle, two months after her son's death.

But she says the meeting was unsatisfactory, and it came before reports surfaced about faulty pre-war intelli-



The memorial crosses at Sheehan's campsite - before being run over by a pickup truck Monday night. (AP)

gence, which enraged her.

When Sheehan arrived in Crawford on Aug. 6, her small group started marching to the Bush ranch but was moved by authorities to a plot of land a few miles away.

Sheehan's makeshift campsite along the road leading to the ranch has grown to more than 100, and hundreds more have stopped by to show their support.

Afghan-Pakistan border. Some Spanish troops are based in the western city of Herat.

He said there was no indication that the helicopter was brought down by hostile fire.

Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero, on vacation, has been informed and was in contact with Spain's Defense Ministry, the spokesman said.

Spanish Defense Minister Jose Bono was expected to make a statement at 2 p.m. (8 a.m. ET).

A second helicopter, flying near the one that crashed, made an emergency landing and there were injuries on that craft, Spanish Defense Ministry spokesmen told CNN partner station CNN+.

More than two years ago, 62 Spanish

troops returning from peacekeeping missions in Afghanistan died when their plane crashed in Turkey. (Full story)

There have been recent helicopter crashes in Afghanistan.

In June, 16 U.S. service members aboard a MH-47 helicopter died when their helicopter crashed near the Afghan-Pakistan border. The U.S. military believes the chopper was downed by a rocket-propelled grenade in that area, where there has been fighting between coalition forces and militants.

In April, 15 soldiers and three civilian contractors were killed when a coalition helicopter — a CH-47 Chinook — traveling in bad weather crashed near Ghazni, roughly 100 miles southwest of Kabul.

الجمهورية اليمنية
وزارة المالية
مصلحة الجمارك

مشروع أنظمة فحص الحاويات / الناقلات بالأشعة السينية دعوة شركات استشارية عالمية

المصلحة العامة ...

المصلحة العامة ...

المصلحة العامة ...

Republic of Yemen
Ministry of Finance
Yemen Customs Authority
X-ray Vehicle/Containers Inspection Systems Project

CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR PER-INSPECTION, DELIVERY, CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION SUPERVISION

Request for Expressions of Interest

- 1- The Yemen Customs Authority (YCA) has signed a contract to purchase 8 (eight) X-Ray Vehicles/Containers Inspection Systems; 2 (two) mobile (THSCAN MT1213LT) and 6 (six) relocatable (THSCAN MB1215HS).
- YCA therefore invites all international specialized companies in the field, who are able and interested in providing consultancy services to provide a letter of interest to YCA on the hereaftermentioned address; and those companies are also requested to provide all supporting documents, that shall prove their ability and qualifications to perform consultancy services.
- 2- The consultancy company will be selected according to Yemeni law of tendering.
- 3- The letter of interest should be presented in writing to the mentioned address below not after 2 weeks from now.
- 4- For further details and queries about the tender, consultants are invited to contact the following address during working hours.

X-Ray System Project
Attn.: Acting Project Director
Yemen Customs Authority Headquarters
Alshawkani Street; Assafia Aljanubia
Sana'a
P.O. Box: 2466
Tel: +967 1 500 977; Fax: *967 1 260 383
email: fmalban@yahoo.com

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 OPINION

YSP and women's rights

Undoubtedly, the recent assembly of the fifth YSP conference was a success. Not only did it gain huge popularity and was attended by around five thousand representatives from around the republic, but also it displayed a clear commitment to human rights and women's issues, especially through the concluding declaration of the conference and the number of critical processes, mainly the change in the political party's leadership. Changing the party's leadership is crucial for the renovation of the party's spirit and evidence to the democratic trend of transferring leadership in political parties, especially that it has been so long since such a process has taken place and the selection of the old figures of the party in the central committee without giving much space to new generations.

What is worth appreciating also is the party's commitment to women's quota through dedicating 30% of the prominent seats at the party for women. This was a response to a national project adopted by women activists throughout the country for empowering women. This step was a plus point for the political party that gave it more credit than any other political parties, including the ruling one. Especially that it became obvious that the GPC's slogans and preaching about women and women's right appeared to be all bark and no bite, considering it has done almost nothing comparable to what the YSP has done in its fifth conference.

When reviewing the history of the Socialist party one notices the leading steps the party has taken in terms of empowering women. It is not a new trend for this historical political party to dedicate seats for women who enjoyed much more space, freedoms in the past in South Yemen then as their percentage in the People's Council reached 11%, and there was a woman in the presidential position of the council. Women accounted to more than 18% of the local councils and they assumed many decision-making positions without being hindered with social and cultural barriers that prevented them from working in the judicial system for example or in the state as they have taken many leading positions up to vice minister. This was not confined to civil positions. In fact women were enrolled in the military and diplomatic careers and the family in whole enjoyed many privileges, not available at present and in 1984, the CEDAW convention was ratified an issue that was made questionable after the unity and turned that agreement to merely a piece of paper saved in a drawer here or there.

Today the eyes are hanging on what this political party might do in the coming elections of 2006. This is a political party that always brought revolutionary processes throughout its history; so will it be able to do it again?

The Editorial Board

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Thank god, I'm finally in Yemen...

By HAKIM ALMASMARI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF
Hakim_Almasmari@hotmail.com

Going into the 21st century while being born and raised in the western part of the world, I thought life has reached its pinnacle. Many changes happen so quickly. Time is the treasure that many cherish.

The movement of life reached the extreme.

In this on going situation, an opportunity for visiting my home country was running through my mind. Friends and family members continuously mention the great climate and environment of Yemen, which made me, only love it more. I decided that I needed a change and a chance to experience this country from within. I agreed to visit Yemen, for the first time.

I had this weird happy feeling that ran throughout my body and would not stop. I prepared and packed one month prior to the trip.

My ticket was booked two weeks in advance. The wait for the trip was not a good experience. Hours were like days and days like months, so anxious to see family members and the rich culture that hides within Yemen. I wanted to experience the country of Saba and the great Damn of Marib, to see the developments that my country had reached. Reading history books about Yemen made me even more enthusiastic and excited.

I arrived around midnight, walking threw the isle at Sana'a International Airport, seeing people smiling from joy awaiting to see their loved ones. That feeling alone had me flying so high,

only I could bring myself down.

I left the airport, and went on a taxi asking for a ride to the nearest hotel in the heart of the city. On our way to the hotel, I started talking to the driver and expressing to him the great feelings I had. Suddenly, I heard a bang, as if we hit something. I asked the driver so nervously "What was that?". He replied in a normal tone, "Ooh, don't worry, it was only a dog in my way, and I hit it by accident". I froze and felt so surprised at what happened. I looked threw the rear window and saw the poor dog lying dead in the middle of the road being stomped by cars continuously. I tried to forget what happened. I said to my self "Let me roll down the window and smell the fresh breeze of Sana'a". Just seconds later, I started coughing and disgusted at the bad smell that came threw the window. I asked the driver "what's that disgusting smell?". He replied, "Aah, that's just our sewer system, it's been under construction for almost a decade, it's not ready yet".

I virtually froze for a couple of minutes, I felt sad and sorry that I even thought of coming to Yemen in the first place.

Look at the world, the countries around us, to which extent they have reached in developments. How far behind are we? Simple essentials of life are not even available in this country, even after the 21st century. That's over 2000 years that have passed! Many doors could have been used to allow further improvement.

I am not trying to exaggerate, but this is how I really felt when I came to Yemen for the first time. I asked myself was this the country of the great

Kingdom of Saba. The country that passed through numerous golden era's throughout time. Historians mention that Hamdan, a suburb to the capital Sana'a, was so rich and fruitful, that if you walked under its gardens with a basket on top of your head, when leaving the garden, the basket would be full of fruits which fell from the trees above you. Go walk in Hamdan know, and all you'll see is bullets falling instead of fruits.

The great Damn of Marib was the greatest accomplishment of its time, and showed to the world that Yemen was the most civilized country of that time. Well, look at it know, that's if you could avoid the mosquitoes and flying insects that surround the whole area.

The power to unify two countries into one in 1990, in such a time where global tensions were on the rise, was a landmark victory not to be forgotten. The unity was the greatest success in this region since decades. It showed a sign of forwardness and that a bright future lays ahead of us. But as we know, some signs fade away very fast.

In short, we are melting in the world of modernization and advanced technology. We cannot allow ourselves to be so far behind from the world that surrounds us. We have to build in ourselves the feelings that our ancestors had throughout time, and proved it threw the many accomplishments and successes that tallied one after the other.

How bright will our future be? Do you think it will be better? Looking the current situation, and the slim development plans that we are preparing for in the near future, I don't think so, but I really hope I am wrong.

Letters to the Editor

Yemen

Yemen is a beautiful place that is under estimated by many Arabs and non Arabs around the globe. In the past, I personally had negative ideas about Yemen. I thought that Yemen is an uncivilized country that has no significant beauty to it and man was I wrong.

After many years, and by the help of a Yemeni friend I began to realize that my assumptions were wrong. After hearing so much of Yemen, I began my own research about it and found it to be one of the most beautiful places I have ever seen in my life. True I haven't been to Yemen but the beautiful stories I've heard from my friend, the fascinating pictures I have seen, and the great video clips made me really want to go to Yemen for a vacation.

Yemen has great Tourist attractions which aren't greatly publicized about. I urge Yemenis from all professions to take a stand and educate people about Yemenis and the beautiful places in Yemen. We need to change the negative image that resides in the minds of many and replace it with positive facts that will bring people to Yemen and help revive the country.

Faozia Aljibawi
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World Peace

We are pleased to announce the opening of The Temple of Love <http://www.thetempleoflove.com/>

The Temple of Love actually unites Christianity Islam Judaism and everyone else, as the first step towards World Peace. We do this by tying ourselves together with our common threads and resolving all of our differences once and for all. The

Temple of Love is the only solution for bringing about World Peace and Saving Life on Earth from Extinction in nuclear winter then ultraviolet summer in Nuclear World War, our present heading, which will have zero survivors.

Yours truly,
John Fish
john25@thetempleoflove.com

The roots of poverty

Poverty indicates a condition in which a person fails to maintain a living standard adequate for his physical and psychological comfort.

It is very difficult to draw a line between affluence and poverty but according to Adam Smith, Scottish Economist and Philosopher, a man is rich or poor according to the degree in which he can afford to enjoy the necessities, conveniences and amusements of life.

The degree of poverty may differ, but generally, poverty is economic inequality, dependence, and insufficiency. Inequality is a situation where a few people indulge in all sorts of ostentatious living while the masses cannot afford two square meals a day.

In Yemen, the rich have a problem: The more they have the more they want to keep. But a huge percentage of the people live below the poverty line. The main factors responsible for poverty include: Unemployment and an unequal distribution of wealth. As a result, the gap between the haves and have-not is ever-widening.

Rema Ahmed Al-Khateeb
myname603@hotmail.com

Thank you Yemen Times

Allhamdulillah for your attitude of religious tolerance-it is indeed rare in the

Arab world, you are an inspiration-may your voice be heard everywhere and bring peace to us all!

paula blumenfeld
paulapaintz@gggcap.com

Comments on an article

Like this article and very informative since I live in USA. People in US spend from 20k to 200k US dollar for a wedding. But these guys worked hard for their money and by all means, let them enjoy it. What we need to fight in Yemen is corruption and bribery.

That way, if these rich people are still getting rich in the right way, then let them enjoy it.

Remzy al-saqqaf
remzymoen@yahoo.com

"Heavy rains sweep shops, houses in Taiz"

Taiz heavy rains have always been a serious problem to Taiz citizens. However, people in Taiz are numb, and if you live in Taiz eventually you become anesthetized too.

Please don't get me wrong, I love Taiz and all the indigenous people over there. I am just appalled by the government that treats Taiz as a second class city. The central government in Sanaa has always managed to appoint governors that have personal agenda.

In reality the government that appoints governors to Taiz has its own agenda other than looking over the interest of the city or the people. In the past sixteen years I have visited Taiz, my home town, five times. Everything is in decline from air to water to roads to any kind of services you can think of.

All you have to do is meet someone from Taiz to know if the city is not part of the Republic of Yemen. Go back and list the governors of Taiz

and you find the most corrupt officials in Yemen if not the whole universe.

It is not news that Taiz is being washed out by floods. The news is neither the governor nor the central government wants to do anything about it.

And for our respected reports of Yemen Times, please go out there and do your part. What we need is real investigative reporting of real issues that concern people in every city. Lately the US government granted the city of Taiz \$492,000 for wastewater project.

As an American of Yemeni descent I was excited to know that part of my taxes is going to a very good cause. However, I knew this is a chance for some officials to pocket some money and nothing gets done.

At my end I am sending a letter to my US representing my state to make sure that this money will be well spent. And that's the least I can do.

Amin Noman
nomanamin@yahoo.com

Power cuts

I am an employee in one of the local companies here in Sana'a. We have a problem regarding this endless brownout here in the city proper.

We are suffering the least minimum of 6 times per day. Can you please help us bring this to the attention of the ministry of electricity? This problem is causing to much lost in our everyday's business activities considering the fact the we are just a small fraction of thousands of business establishments here in the city proper who is facing similar problem. Hope to hear from you soon.

Best regards,
Elmer
elbian_2000@yahoo.com



COMMON SENSE

By Hassan Al-Haifi

From One Mess to Another

As this world gets smaller day by day and the natural resources become scarcer, while the demand for them grows, one would expect that the nations of the world would take serious note of this. In doing so, the most important consideration that should be on the minds of world leaders is that all efforts should be made to avoid hostility and belligerency, that would especially lead to armed conflict between nations. Prior to the entry of the Third Millennium, the international community saw many significant developments that reflected a genuine effort to enhance international cohesion. Many international summits in the 1990s were held to seek to set out the priorities of the international community collectively and on a domestic basis for the individual states. There were hopes that indeed the international community was seriously seeking to create the common grounds that would be needed to overcome the many problems that have accumulated over the decades that spanned the Cold War Era. Many of the social problems that could become explosive and a threat to world peace were at least brought out in these summits and conferences, some of which set goals with deadlines for addressing them.

We have gone now five years into the Millennium, and regrettably the momentum created by the Nineties seemed to have been halted and the dim hopes of billions of people throughout the world were taken out of the limelight. The entry of the Third Millennium brought with it a sharp reversal of many of the trends that had ignited those hopes. A stark aura of evil had somehow managed to push those dim hopes aside, as new priorities were forced upon the international community like a tornado. The War on Terror took the international stage as the only concern that the international community needs to focus on. All the other concerns were almost shelved or were left to the individual state to deal with. They were left without any effective monitoring and follow-up and of course with little access to the resources that are needed to achieve success in overcoming the awesome problems that had at least been given due recognition a decade ago. Yes, terrorism is a serious issue and there is no justification that innocent human beings anywhere in this planet should become vulnerable to deadly attacks by sadistic mobs, whose members were nurtured in an ugly culture of death and blood and a total disregard for the sanctity of life. However should the world be diverted from the other serious determinants of world peace and stability and solely direct all its attention on what is perhaps probably a rudiment of the other awesome and more widespread social shortcomings that exist in the world? This will neither win the War on Terror, nor give an assurance that the international community is truly serious about the welfare of all the people of the world that are the losers in all the other battles that need to be fought. Furthermore, to deal with the problem of terror from purely a military and security perspective and have international relations become governed by such an outlook, as has been proven so far over the past four years, is not an effective comprehensive approach. There are serious problems in the world, while not as dramatic and sensational, but some of these problems have their own casualties, which go into the thousands and even millions per year. On the other hand, the world is threatened by a serious catastrophe emanating from the degeneration of the environment by man-made pollutants. There are many cities of the world that are subject to serious "pollution storms", when winds send polluted air in large volumes to certain population centers and render it almost impossible for humans to function properly, while some may suffer illness and possibly death. Serious climatic disorientations are also being realized as the protective layer of ozone in the atmosphere is being gradually eaten away by toxic gases and burned out fuel derivatives. The devastating effects of a fragile ozone layer should never be ignored, because they will not recognize national boundaries, military or economic power, nor does the War on Terror have any bearing on where those effects will likely hit the hardest.

So what shall it be for the world, a misguided international agenda dictated by military and economic might and overseen by proponents of narrow interests that have so far shown no display of care for the welfare of mankind as a whole, as they churn their output for a war machine that has lost the course it was intended for. The result is that more seeds were planted and more fertile grounds were availed for terrorism to unleash its unquenchable thirst for blood. The ugly daily scenes in Iraq are a clear testimony of this reverse direction of the War on Terror, while the London attacks raise important questions as to the origins of terrorism and who really stands to gain from its stay as a sustainable organized enterprise? With this obvious failure to show the real worthiness of this yearning for constant confrontation, comes the insistence that belligerency shall remain the aura that humanity must contend with for some time to come. The right wing neo-con establishment in the United States and their partners in the international Zionist establishment are of the belief that the power they wield entitles them to pursue their preconceived agenda of achieving full control of the world energy sources of fossil fuels. These are not conspiracy theories out of the blues, but are discernible perceptions of the present as fostered by the documents and papers of seminars, conferences and meetings held by elements of the partners in this alliance, jointly or separately over the last three decades. For five years, the United States has increased its military presence in the region where the most abundance of these sources of energy in the world exist. This is not necessarily a coincidental requirement for the War on Terror.

If the belligerency leading to the invasion of Iraq has now proven to be an irresponsible deliberate attempt to mislead the world on a course of undefined objectives, the Alliance continues to insist that the world must concur as well with its bibulous desire to have Iran turned into another messy Iraq, notwithstanding the fact that Iran has been on the whole recognized as member in good standing of the international community. But with Iran, the accommodating forces that were at play in Iraq are not there and the gamble brings with it unpredictable but nevertheless horrific consequences for the belligerents, the Iranians and the international community. Isn't the world in enough of a mess already?

The Dilemma of Multiculturalism

By RALF DAHRENDORF

Many people have suddenly become very hesitant about using the term "multicultural society." Or they hesitate to use it approvingly, as a desirable ideal that social reality should at least approximate.

July's terrorist attacks in London demonstrated both the strength and the weakness of the concept. London is certainly a multicultural metropolis. An indiscriminate attack such as a bomb in the Underground will necessarily hit people of many cultural backgrounds and beliefs.

Sitting, or more likely standing, in the "tube" (as London's Underground is affectionately known), one never ceases to be amazed at the ease with which Jewish mothers and Muslim men, West Indian youngsters and South Asian businessmen, and many

others endure the same stressful conditions and try to lighten its impact by being civil to one another. The terror attacks demonstrated not only how particular people helped each other, but also how the whole city, with all the ingredients of its human mixture, displayed a common spirit of resilience.

This is the positive side of a multicultural society. Careful observers have always noted that it is strictly confined to the public sphere, to life in those parts of the city that are shared by all. It does not extend in quite the same way to people's homes, let alone to their ways of life in the private sphere.

This is one reason why London has experienced the other, darker side of the multicultural society: the veneer of multiculturalism is thin. It does not take much to turn people of one group against those of others with whom they had apparently lived in peace.

We know this because it lies at the core of the murderous environment that gripped the Balkans in the 1990's. For decades (and in some cases much longer), Serbs and Croats, - indeed, Orthodox, Catholic, and Muslim "Yugoslavs" - had lived together as neighbors. Few thought it possible that they would turn against each other in a bloodletting of such brutal enormity that it is very unlikely that Bosnia-Herzegovina can ever become a successful multicultural society. Yet it happened, and in a different way it is happening now in Britain.

It is important to recognize that we are not talking about the return of age-old hostilities. Ethnic and cultural conflicts today, often in the form of terrorism, are not the eruption of a supposedly extinct volcano. They are, on the contrary, a specifically modern phenomenon.

For the terrorists themselves, such conflicts are one consequence of the unsettling effects of modernization. Beneath the veneer of integration into a multicultural environment, many people - especially young men with an immigrant background - are lost in the world of contradictions around them. Their seamless, all-embracing world of tradition is gone, but they are not yet confident citizens of the modern, individualistic world. The question is not primarily one of employment, or even poverty, but of marginalization and alienation, of the lack of a sense of belonging.

It is in such circumstances that the key feature of terrorism comes into play: the preaching of hate by often self-appointed leaders. They are not necessarily religious leaders; in the Balkans and elsewhere, they are nationalists who preach the superiority of one nationality over others. But to call these hate-mongers "preachers" is fitting nonetheless, because they invariably appeal to higher values to sanctify criminal acts.

The mobilization of criminal energies by such preachers of hate is itself a modern phenomenon. It is a far cry even from such doubtful claims as the self-determination of peoples defined as ethnic communities. Hate preachers use highly modern methods to enhance their personal power and to create havoc around them.

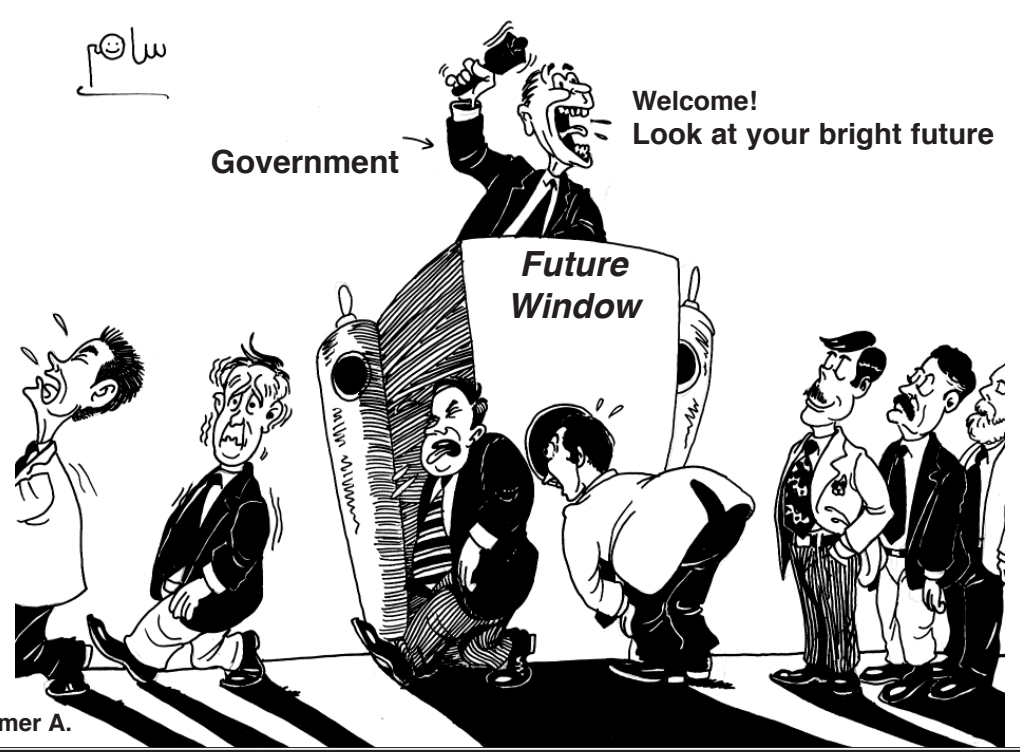
But countering them does not involve warfare, or even a rhetorically looser "war on terror." Of course, part of the answer is to identify the relatively small number of people who are prepared to use their lives to destroy the lives of others without distinction or purpose. But the more important issue is to identify the preachers of hate and stop their murderous incitement. This is why it is so important to capture and prosecute Radovan Karadzic, who spurred on the homicidal rage of so many Bosnian Serbs. And this is why militant Islamist preachers must be stopped.

Beyond this carefully targeted - and, in principle, limited - task, there remains the need to strengthen the sphere of common values and cooperation in societies that will, after all, remain multicultural. This will be difficult, and it must not be approached naively. Differences will not - and need not - go away; but ensuring that all citizens can rely on each other requires us to find a way to extend and bolster the civic trust that we see in the public sphere.

Ralf Dahrendorf, author of numerous acclaimed books and a former European Commissioner from Germany, is a member of the British House of Lords, a former Rector of the London School of Economics, and a former Warden of St. Antony's College, Oxford.

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SKETCHED OPINION



Future Youth

Voices of tomorrow delivered today!!

I have a Secret!

By YEMENVISTA

If you have ever told someone: "I have a Secret! Please keep it between me and you" then please continue reading. If you never said that, which is less likely, then you are a secret keeper and you don't need to go further.

I believe that secret can be divided into two types and two categories. The two types are: Temporary secrets, the ones that may stay as a secret for a day, a year or ten years. The other type is: Permanent secrets, the ones that you keep for life, the ones you die with. Alhamdulillah those ones are either few or do not exist.

The two categories are: First, the secret that belongs to you and your heart is where it lives and dies. The second is the secret that can be told to a very limited number of trusted people for severe reasons.

I will go a little further in explaining the two categories; Your secret, and the secret you have been told by someone and must be kept as a secret.

Your secret!

The one that you must keep for yourself only, the one that no one needs to know about, the one that is so private, examples are: your important decisions, your private planning, your sins, your love and marriage issues etc. and one of the golden rules that you must follow in this issue is the Hadeeth of the Prophet, peace be upon him and his family, "Get help by being secretive to reach your goals".

Something important has to be mentioned here, sometimes we get so irritated from keeping our own secrets, we don't feel relaxed unless we tell someone about it! And when they reveal it, we blame them! If our chests was too small and narrow to keep our own secrets then why do we blame others for doing so!

Others' secrets!

Sometimes you need to seek advice about an issue that might be a secret. Or someone came to you and told you a secret that helped you stay away from trouble. In this case secret traveled from one's heart to another. Will your heart keep others' secrets as you keep yours?

I have to mention a very important point right here, when you have a secret that must be told to someone then please choose right! People are like metal some like gold and some like iron, gold stays for ever and iron gets corroded. Choose a person who keeps other people's secrets more than he keeps his own secrets. Its true that this needs a lot of testing and experience but eventually you can find someone.

An example for that is a story I read once, that someone told one of his friends about a secret and after he finished he asked his friend: Did you understand? He said: No I did not! He asked him again: will you remember

what I told you? He said: I already forgot!

You must also know that a secret that travels between more than three hearts is not a secret. It is safer to put more locks on your treasure box but it is not safer to put your secret in many hearts.

Two examples come to my mind when I talk about keeping secrets. Dick Cheney the American vice president and Abdul-Kadir Bajammal the Yemeni prime minister.

Dick Cheney, the U.S. vice president is well known for his secrecy. Just before the Gulf war in 1990, Colin Powell was the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, he was asked about what plans of war are going in the mind of Mr. Cheney, the Secretary of Defense at that time. He said "I don't really know!" Cheney comes from the White House and doesn't even tell the Chairman of the army about what goes in his mind.

The people who sit with Mr. Abdul-Kadir Bajammal say that the person is very talkative and that he talks for hours and hours. What is amazing is that all this time he doesn't say a word about his job or any of the secrets of his work! He tells them stories here and there, but never reveals a secret! These examples are somewhat opposite but both guys did not reach what they reached without being secretive! I prefer the second example because it is the best combination! People don't get bored sitting with you and at the same time, they don't get a word you don't want to say!!!

One last thing to mention here; If there are thousands of words, sentences and issues that you can talk about with people, why do you have to choose secrets to talk about?!

For You

- Into me your charming smiles compose a country song*
- It never goes away but it lasts for long*
- Into me your gentle breeze makes my heart beat so strong*
- Once I look at your smart eyes*
- Into me they paint my pride and grace*
- But what it is more, as if my life gains the love's race*
- Into me your sweet lips grant my way the sun's light*
- When I see you my day grows so bright*
- When you disappear my mind with heart starts to fight*
- What a real miracle you are! for me God give*
- How pretty days I happily live!*
- Into me your soul creates something else so great*
- Never similar to you and you are my soul-mate*
- Into me your charming smiles compose a country song*

By: FUAD NOMAN
FN_001@YAHOO.COM

Whispers

By Fahmia Al-Fotih

Whispers

Angels!

I have read lately a funny piece of news about a man from a neighboring country. He had one day gone to a hospital to make some check-ups. He was then shocked and surprised to read the results of tests mentioned that the man was pregnant!

The man was about to be mad but then, thanks to God, it was found out that the man was delivered the wrong report. That mistake is nothing compared to the mistakes taking place in our hospitals.

Nowadays it has become risky to go to a hospital to visit a doctor. The doctor would, in most cases, immediately diagnose your case and read a list of diseases you are suffering from and a package of drugs prescribed for you by him. It is preferable to buy those medicines at the hospital pharmacy or from the doctor's clinic! However, interestingly and sorrowfully, if you go to another and another doctor, I assure you that each one will diagnose the case differently and tell you of various diseases!

I am not telling a joke. Unfortunately, it is the reality that we face daily. You, dear reader, can try it! Even if you are a healthy person, you can go to one of those doctors who have lost their feeling of live conscience and forgotten about ethics of the profession. Such a doctor would very easily invent for you a number of illnesses, and do not be surprised if he diagnoses your case in just a glance!

If you go to a hospital and you come out safely, then, know that you are exceptionally lucky.

Believe me or not! It is the latest farce our hospitals are performing! Someone has taken his relative to hospital and asked a doctor examine him. Before conducting any examination, the doctor asked the man accompanying the patient to go and buy for him two mobile telephone recharging cards. At the beginning, he thought it was a just but soon he realized the doctor was serious

I think that many have heard about a joke about a doctor who had missed his mobile phone. He thought of making a ring to spot it.

Surprisingly, the sound from his mobile came from inside the abdomen of a patient to whom he had just finished a surgical operation for him. It is believed that some doctors could forget surgical tools inside an operated patient's abdomen, and now mobile phones are possible to find their way inside patients' abdomens after surgical operations.

Going to hospitals seeking treatment, one would find out how miserable their conditions are. You can see how lives of people have become so cheap. You can see how the so-called "angels of mercy" have turned into monsters. You can see people die not because they have serious diseases or there are no doctors. No, they die because they could not satisfy greediness of doctors who forget their oath to do their utmost efforts to save lives of the people and to do their duty whatever the situation is. Doctors have forgotten all those things and are only focusing on how much money they could rob of the patients. Thus, hospitals here have become a shortcut to death.

Many patients die everyday because they have not enough money to meet high expenses that hospitals charge them.

For instance, Ali is strong young man but he was suffering from tonsillitis and the doctor told him that he had to remove tonsils. The doctor assured him that it was an easy operation. Ali came out from the operation room and he lost the ability to speak! Ali now is mute! The doctor cut his tonsils along with the vocal cords!

Ali was luckier than Wafa'a who was paralyzed when she had undergone the same operation!

There are so many examples to be witnessed at a number of so-called hospitals. The above are two examples of common mistakes resulting from negligence and wrong diagnoses and total indifference the patient may receive in hospitals.

Nevertheless, I have to greet the few doctors who work honestly and they still deserve to wear the white uniforms and deserve to be called angels of mercy.

I wish you all the good health!

قاموس أطلس SD 900
الإنجليزية العربية السهلة

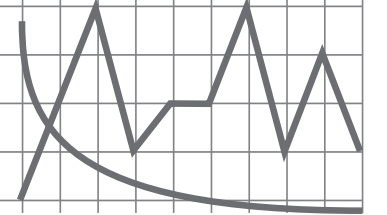
الجيل الإلكتروني الأشمل لتعلم اللغة الإنجليزية
إنجليزي - عربي / عربي - إنجليزي

- قاموس مزود بشاشة عرض مضاعة
- يعمل باللمس يمكنك من الكتابة عليها بخط اليد
- قاموس ناطق بصوت بشري حقيقي
- يمكنك من التدريب على النطق الصحيح للكلمات وتعلم قواعد اللغة الإنجليزية
- قاموس موسوعي عام وشامل لمختلف المواضيع الثقافية ومخزن للبيانات
- يحتوي على ألعاب ترفيهية لغوية وتربوية شيقية
- يحتوي على حساب علمية وإحصائية كما أنه منظم مواعيد

الخلاقي لتجارة الكهرباء والتوكيلات العامة

صنعاء - شارع تعز ٥/١٨٢٩٤ - فرع حده ٥٠٩٠٩٧ - فرع شعوب ٢٨٢٤٢٩ - وادي موزعينا الجابري ٢٥٧١٣٧ - العسكري ٧٧٢٩٧٥ - مكتبة ٢٤٠٤١٩ - المظفر ٢٠٧١٩٢ - أبو توفيق ٢٨٠٣٠٢ - الجميل لتجارة ٥٠٥٩٢١ - مكتبة الزهراء ٢٤٠٢٠٧ - مكتبة الخامري ١٧٩١١٨ - فرع عدن ٤٤٤١٢/٢٠٢٠٢٥٣٧٧٢ - تعز تب توب ٠٤/٢٣٩٨٩٩ - حضرموت - مكتبة شبام ٠٥/٢٠٣٠٩٠ - الحديدة ٠٣/٢٠٢١٨٠ - مكتبة الشارقة ٠٤/٤٠٩٠٩٤

YT Business



Yemen tries to reconsider failures while investors move to Gulf States

By MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Economic reports have affirmed that more than 150 local investors holding Yemeni capitals and running economic activity may be on their way to move their activities to the Free Zone in Sharqa emirate, which the Emirates has established recently. Those investors are especially Yemeni expatriates in Saudi Arabia trading at the gold market. Instead of returning home they have chosen the Emirates to work in considering it a stable and safe state and encouraging and protecting investments.

It is also reported that businessmen in Yemen consider there are countless obstacles making investment in Yemen a risk needing exceptional courage. They believe that investment would not be oriented towards Yemen unless there is law and order, emphasizing the significance of judiciary reform to guarantee justice and enable it resist those representing parasites to the investment process. They are also of the opinion that the investment process in Yemen is full of many practices that are faced by authority with leniency. Such practices are mainly the seizing of plots of land and dispute over them under an absolute domination of corruption over the government institutions and judiciary, in addition to a government wearisome temperament forcing itself wherever and whenever it intends to.

On their part chairmen of chambers of commerce stress that, "an investor



would not come while he feels he is in need of protection other than law and order." Meanwhile the government unleashes and repeats its calls, every now and then, urging expatriate Yemeni investors and Arab and foreign ones, but it did nothing on the ground to tempt them to invest in Yemen. Added to that is the recession in local and foreign investment growth. Economists ascribe that recession to spread of a climate repulsive to investment and local capitals, especially in relation to the law of investment. The reason is that the concerned parties are still living a state of corruption away from surrounding changes. Those parties do not want to serve national capitals and local investors without gaining privileges, bonuses and commissions.

Field studies in this regard indicate that the promised investment flow did

not find its way to Yemen, except for the so-called imaginary figures published by the state authority for investment of projects registered with its offices, mentioning they are not implemental. This conclusion is depending on an official report by a committee formed by the ministry of finance, the authority of customs and the central apparatus for audition and control.

According to a report by the parliament regarding the implementation of programs of the second year of the second five-year plan due to expire by the end of this year, indicators about investment growth are causing worry. The report prepared by the special committee concerned with studying public budgets for the fiscal year 2004 affirms that growth of domestic and foreign investment has registered a panicking retreat at a minus rate amounting to -9%

to -43.7% during the years 2002 and 2003 consecutively.

International organizations such as the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank advise the authority in Yemen to work for diversification of income sources because its income depends on oil by a rate of more than 67%. Recent warnings mentioned that oil as a source is heading towards exhaustion and thus diversification of income sources would help avoid what they described as disaster, urging the Yemeni authority to encourage investment and create climates convenient to attract it.

Recommendations issued by the G-8 nations held in America last year and attended by president Ali Abdullah Saleh, emphasized the importance encouraging investment to create new job opportunities and partnership of the private sector and civil society organizations in order to effect political reforms in the Middle East countries, among the is Yemen.

President Ali Abdullah Saleh had launched a wide-range assail on the corrupters who impede the process of investment in Yemen and gave directives for taking new measures to offering facilities to investors. Most important of those directives are putting an end to duality of specialties, unification of efforts of the parties concerned with offering services, development of infrastructures necessary to investment, removal of dysfunctions, reformation of legislations and activation of work in the law of investment that gives many privileges and exemptions to investors.

Haradh customs' yield of YR 3.4 billion

The total amount of Haradh customs fees and other revenues shot to a record during the first half of 2005 as it reached 3 billion, 430 million and 548 thousand riyals, scoring a 19.4 increase.

Salim Bin Braik, General Manager of Haraz Customs Authority told the Saba News Agency that his authority witnessed technical and administrative development, pointing out the complementary efforts exerted by workers that helped raise the level of revenues and contributed to the provision of different commodities.

He stressed the importance gained by Haradh border crossing in consolidating contact with the bordering countries and creating investment

opportunities for expatriates and businessmen in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

Bin Braik mentioned that vehicles that entered into Yemen through the border point at Haradh during the second half 2005 numbered up to 23828. That number of various vehicles crossing the borders at that point was for many purposes such as visits, tourism and investment.

Haradh Customs Authority, he clarified, witnessed many aspects of improvement mainly in infrastructure through implementing construction works and the under construction expansion of the customs yard to over 300 thousand meters square at a cost of 350 million riyals. The public works authority finances this expansion.

Projects for vegetables and fruits exportation

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Yemen and the UNDP have recently signed in Sana'a three agreements including support of three projects for the promotion of vegetables and fruits exportation and control of fish quality for export as well as improvement of registration and commercial licensing capacities.

The agreement, signed by deputy premier, the minister of planning and international cooperation and the UNDP resident representative in Yemen comes as part of the government's programs and plans aimed at

pushing forward promising sectors related to the citizens living, especially in the countryside. The aim is also to guarantee opening broader areas for marketing agricultural and fish products. Those projects are expected to contribute to improvement of investment and abridgement measures of registration with the ministry of industry and trade through improving capabilities of commercial and industrial registration and provision of technological information in this field. This is also expected to improve investment climate in Yemen. Those projects would also participate in improvement of fruit and vegetables quality.

In bids for oil exploration, Four foreign oil companies win in exploring seven Yemen oil sectors

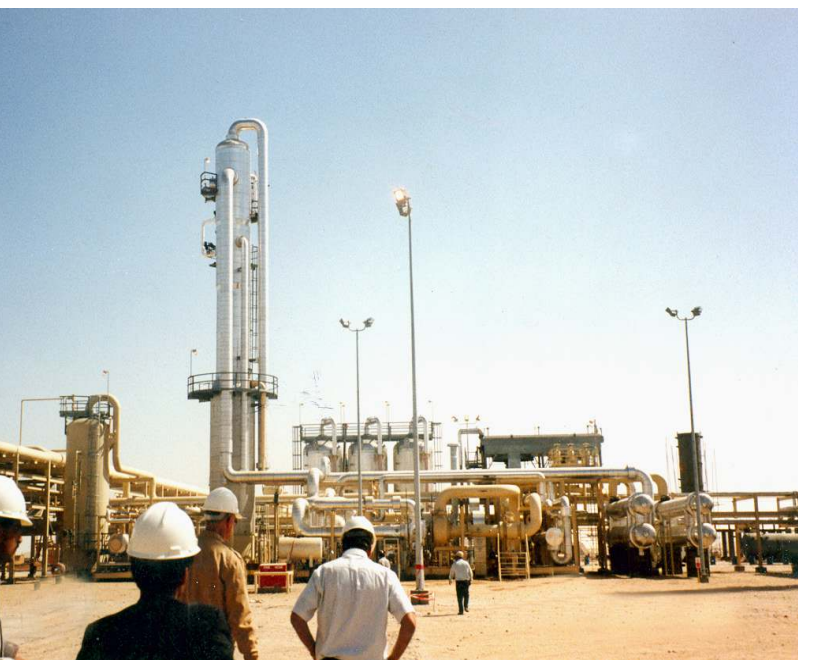
Yemen Times Staff

Four world oil companies, among them an UAE's, have won concessions rights to exploration of oil in seven open sectors in Yemen. The UAE-based Al-Thani company has won the exploration work in sectors 34, 37 in the governorate of al-Mahra and sector 55 in Hajjah.

Oil sources have made it clear that final results of the second international tender on the seven open oil sectors in Yemen, since the announcement in February 2005, resulted in winning of the oil companies: Australian Oil Search Co., UAE Al-Thani for Investments Co., the Korean KNOC Co. and the American Occidental Co. This result indicates one-hundred percent success as all the seven sectors included in the tender have demanded by the companies besides the excellent competitive technical and financial terms offered by the competitor companies.

Oil minister Dr Rashid Barabbaa has made it clear that the total minimum amount of financial expenses for exploration operations amounted to \$174 million and 300 thousand during the first and second stages of exploration. The total amount of annual grants reached \$3 million and 325 thousand and the total of signing grants, 12 million and 654 thousand and total amount allotted to commercial advertising \$8 million and 800 thousand.

Eng. Nabil Saleh al-Qawsi, president of oil exploration and produc-



tion authority has attributed the success of that tender to transparency of the procedures pursued by the committee in charge of with implementation of measures of the tender and discovery of oil deposits inside the rocks in basins of Mareb, Shabwa and Masila as well as the efforts made by the authority in under supervision and follow-up of the oil ministry leadership.

Mr al-Qawsi added that the tender success could be embodied by the big increase in grants for signing that received an increase by 50%, the increase in advertising grants, and the state's share in oil generated from participation in oil production. In this regard, the government share has risen by 79 percent. As for the technical terms, Mr al-Qawsi says they are including the digging of 29 exploratory wells and the implementation of 10.600km of two-dimension seismic surveys and also implementation of 3.200km of three-dimension

seismic surveys in the seven sectors. He deemed that announcement of two international tenders for 13 open sectors as an utter success in the history of exploratory and promotional work in Yemen. In addition he says the authority has set up the oil map for the republic so that the number of oil sectors reached 87, 11 of which productive in which 9 companies are working and 21 exploratory sectors using 13 companies and four sectors, still under endorsement, 9 sectors under negotiations on a production participation agreement and 42 open sectors, among them 14 under advertising in the third international tender. He concluded that his authority was working for consolidating oil discoveries inside rocks in the basins of Shabwa, Mareb and Masila and to develop expertise through the conduct of geological and technical studies, exchange of expertise with countries producing oil from such rocks.

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Yemeni women prisoners... Suffering between the two worlds

ESHRAQ AL-BODIGI
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Crime of all kinds spreads in all societies around the world; however it defines and adapts itself according to the circumstances of society and crime takes different shapes in every community.

In spite of all different types of the crime, certainly there are various types of criminals. Whether they are men or women, at the end they are still criminals till they receive their punishment, and when they become virtuous, they can live normal life as persons of the civil society individuals, and enjoy the all of their humanity rights.

Applying the principle of the crime and punishment, regardless of the enacting laws of this principle, all systems enforcing these laws rely on the equality between men and women in many different parts of the world. And from this point, we can arrive at the distinct situation of male and female prisoners and what is the result that is coming from the discrimination of treatments whether inside or outside the prison after the accomplishment of the term of punishment.

Following up the women prisoners' situations in the Yemeni society it becomes crucial to draw attention of the supervisors and concerned people to what Yemeni women prisoners are suffering of the oppression of their humanity rights inside and outside the prison.

The continuous economic crises that Yemen had living after several of political, economical, and social changes which happened in the latest three decades, had caused many damages that extended generally to the Yemeni community, and particularly to



Yemeni women. As a result of these crises, some of Yemeni women had faced dangerous difficult life conditions, and they get involved in illegal acts that thrown them into the prisons.

Some of these conditions or reasons are: outer and inner emigration, unemployment, poverty, diseases, divorcing, and carrying weapons.

With or without the existence of these reasons, we find that the result was only one which deposited many of the Yemeni women into closed prisons in order to absent correction and rehabilitation.

As the situation of many Arab countries, what is happening behind the ironic bars is a violation of humanity rights as a first and a violation of woman rights as a second thing, and this is as result of her description as marginal element generally in the life

of the Arabian societies and particularly in Yemeni society.

Talking about the defensive legal rights of feminine prisoners, woman prisoner almost doesn't get her rights to defend of herself inside the court and the consequence of that she spend a punishment term inside the prison with or without specific reason and with or without committing a crime.

In fact, the same matter is applied with the male prisoners however the situation will be worst, truculence, and intensity with the feminine prisoner that only because she is a woman and that the real reason, which pushed us to talk about these strange distinguished acts that the community, which lack more consciousness in different sides, is required such as humanity and legal sides.

Perhaps, we recognize just right now what we are seeking for from this

talking about the losing of human rights and women rights as a main object for us.

Woman prisoner may subject to some acts of sexual assault as a result of her existence in thorough male community.

In addition to her being in the prison, she may lose her rights to practice her new life in that place via a good manner that can save her humanity and feel her that she is still a human.

The time that Yemeni woman has spending in closed jail behind the ironic bars will be enough for her to fell by her sin whatever its kind that she did with respect of some other kinds of punishment that Islamic law had already legislated in our religion. Besides that, now the deprivation of freedom considers as one kind of the civilized punishment and that is becoming so useful with little of correction and rehabilitation on the

level of these prisons or others.

Many jails around the universe proved its ability to correct and rehabilitate the prisoners and re-amalgamate them through their societies, using special manner, which allows the prisoners to live by noble ways and that by offering them some of suitable jobs that fits with what did they learn during their punishment term in the prisons.

This manner of rehabilitation and correction was and still the best method to make sure that those prisoners will not join in criminal acts again in the future.

We may ask ourselves, what is happening for these women prisoners after they spent their punishment term in the dark prisons? However the answer is so easy with regard to real life conditions that can express obvious ignorance and more obvious injustice.

After a long or short period of time that woman prisoner had spent in the prison, they give the feminine prisoner her freedom and let her to face her destiny. Usually, she subjects to her family and master ignorance who think that their woman had brought the shame for them, while their duty necessitates them to get rid of her as soon as possible, similarly as they get rid of their rubbish.

Some of other women masters may they wouldn't like to see her at all even in the prison or outside, they demonstrate his disgusting of her and their desire to leave her for ever, thinking that they will save their honor and reputation. While other parents are still running after the woman in aiming of killing her.

In each case, the result will be one and that is the shame and rejection the woman prisoner who already has her freedom and then she has to accept the execution as her second opening punishment term.

The outcoming from all of this is obviously that Yemeni woman prisoner

is suffering not only the term of punishment inside the prison itself but she is suffering the unfairness on the level of her family and also on the level of her society outside the prison.

For fix this bad situation which will increase the society by more ignorance and put down of its humanity values and morals consciously or without consciously, we should start to work on the correction and rehabilitation inside these prisons or jails, carrying for the woman who considers as a half of the society with regard to save her dignity and her humanity rights as well as we do with her brother (man), and starting to practice the parallelism principle in punishment with depends on the kind of the crime.

To be able to achieve this power to the reality, we have to start by doing some of easy and fast steps and the first step is distribution of the feminine police or policewomen and concentrate them during the arrest of the feminine suspected and also in women prisoners during the punishment term and this for protect woman from any assault may happen there.

Then we have to take a look and think so carefully to put good plans for correction and rehabilitation in order to re-amalgamate the feminine prisoners inside the society and try to break the barriers which build up between the two sides, using the social enlightenment through special enlightenment programs.

Finally and as a latest and protective step, special centers for women prisoners sheltering should be constructed, it will be useful to protect the women who scare of coming back to their families or for whom that their parents are running after them in order to killing them. It will be better to concentrate the care of these prisoners and follow up their cases step by step till they could get ride of any violence signs that may arise as a result of their shock in their parents and families.

Intellectual-Property Rights and Wrongs

Last October, the General Assembly of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) decided to consider what a development-oriented intellectual property regime might look like. The move was little noticed, but, in some ways, it was as important as the World Trade Organization's decision that the current round of trade negotiations be devoted to development. Both decisions acknowledge that the current rules of the international economic game reflect the interests of the advanced industrial countries - especially of their big corporations - more than the interests of the developing world.

Without intellectual property protection, incentives to engage in certain types of creative endeavors would be weakened. But there are high costs associated with intellectual property. Ideas are the most important input into research, and if intellectual property slows down the ability to use others' ideas, then scientific and technological progress will suffer.

In fact, many of the most important ideas - for example, the mathematics that underlies the modern computer or the theories behind atomic energy or lasers - are not protected by intellectual property. Academics spend considerable energy freely disseminating their research findings. I am pleased when someone uses my ideas on asymmetric information - though I do appreciate them giving me some credit. The growth of the "open source" movement on the Internet shows that not just the most basic ideas, but even products of enormous immediate commercial value can be produced without intellectual property protection.

By contrast, an intellectual property

regime rewards innovators by creating a temporary monopoly power, allowing them to charge far higher prices than they could if there were competition. In the process, ideas are disseminated and used less than they would be otherwise.

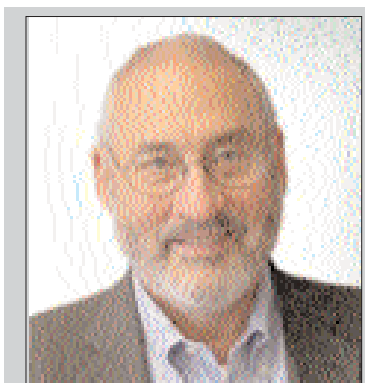
The economic rationale for intellectual property is that faster innovation offsets the enormous costs of such inefficiencies. But it has become increasingly clear that excessively strong or badly formulated intellectual property rights may actually impede innovation - and not just by increasing the price of research.

Monopolists may have much less incentive to innovate than they would if they had to compete. Modern research has shown that the great economist Joseph Schumpeter was wrong in thinking that competition in innovation leads to a succession of firms. In fact, a monopolist, once established, may be hard to dislodge, as Microsoft has so amply demonstrated.

Indeed, once established, a monopoly can use its market power to squelch competitors, as Microsoft so amply demonstrated in the case of the Netscape Web browser. Such abuses of market power discourage innovation.

Moreover, so-called "patent thickets" - the fear that some advance will tread on pre-existing patents, of which the innovator may not even be aware - may also discourage innovation. After the pioneering work of the Wright brothers and the Curtis brothers, overlapping patent claims thwarted the development of the airplane, until the United States government finally forced a patent pool as World War I loomed. Today, many in the computer industry worry that such a patent thicket may impede software development.

The creation of any product requires many ideas, and sorting out their rela-



By JOSEPH STIGLITZ

tive contribution to the outcome - let alone which ones are really new - can be nearly impossible.

Consider a drug based on traditional knowledge, say, of an herb well known for its medicinal properties. How important is the contribution of the American firm that isolates the active ingredient? Pharmaceutical companies argue that they should be entitled to a full patent, paying nothing to the developing country from which the traditional knowledge was taken, even though the country preserves the biodiversity without which the drug would never have come to market. Not surprisingly, developing countries see things differently.

Society has always recognized that other values may trump intellectual property. The need to prevent excessive monopoly power has led anti-trust authorities to require compulsory licensing (as the US government did with the telephone company AT&T). When America faced an anthrax threat in the wake of the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, officials issued a compulsory license for Cipro, the best-known antidote.

Unfortunately, the trade negotiators

who framed the intellectual-property agreement of the Uruguay trade round of the early 1990's (TRIP's) were either unaware of all of this, or more likely, uninterested. I served on the Clinton administration's Council of Economic Advisors at the time, and it was clear that there was more interest in pleasing the pharmaceutical and entertainment industries than in ensuring an intellectual-property regime that was good for science, let alone for developing countries.

I suspect that most of those who signed the agreement did not fully understand what they were doing. If they had, would they have willingly condemned thousands of AIDS sufferers to death because they might no longer be able to get affordable generic drugs? Had the question been posed in this way to parliaments around the world, I believe that TRIP's would have been soundly rejected.

Intellectual property is important, but the appropriate intellectual-property regime for a developing country is different from that for an advanced industrial country. The TRIP's scheme failed to recognize this. In fact, intellectual property should never have been included in a trade agreement in the first place, at least partly because its regulation is demonstrably beyond the competency of trade negotiators.

Besides, an international organization already exists to protect intellectual property. Hopefully, in WIPO's reconsideration of intellectual property regimes, the voices of the developing world will be heard more clearly than it was in the WTO negotiations; hopefully, WIPO will succeed in outlining what a pro-developing intellectual property regime implies; and hopefully, WTO will listen: the aim of trade liberaliza-

tion is to boost development, not hinder it.

Joseph E. Stiglitz, a Nobel laureate in economics, is Professor of Economics at Columbia University and was Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisors to President Clinton and Chief

Economist and Senior Vice President at the World Bank. His most recent book is The Roaring Nineties: A New History of the World's Most Prosperous Decade.

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The Medicinal uses of Attar(2)

BY QAZI SHAIKH ABBAS BORHANY
ATTORNEY AT LAW
MEMBER, ULAMA COUNCIL OF
PAKISTAN
qazishkborhany@hotmail.com

Native of Arabia and Indian Subcontinent are counted amongst the most famous users of Attar. Attar has been a part of the cultured lifestyle. History of Yemen provides us details that the celebrated Sulayhi Queen, Syedah Arwa introduced a special variety of Attar which was prepared from mountainous flowers. This was famous so much so amongst the monarch of Arabia that they were waited for the gift of Syedah. Abul Fazal, one of the "Nu Ratan" of the Emperor Akbar mentioned using Attar along with Bukhur and Aloe/Agar sticks burnt daily in gold and silver burners. According to Abul Fazal the barks used in Akbar's time were Sandal, Cinnamon and Aloe. Animal substances like Musk, Myrrh and Anbar were also used along with Khus, a type of grass and a few other spices. Abul Fazal mentioned flowers like Ghulab, Bela, Chameli, Champa, Maulshri and Rajnigandha along with the roots like ginger. It was Nawab Ghaziuddin Haidar, ruler of Awadh, who prepared fountains of Attar around his bedroom. Those fountains were continuously functioning and created very pleasant fragrance and romantic atmosphere. Art of Attar flourished in Lucknow so much so that with out wear of Attar nobles feel below dignity to appear in any place



Bottles contain different kinds of Attar

gone. Its diffusive nature leaves a pleasant after effect.

Rose:

Like Turkey, Iran and Bulgharia, Valley of Taif in Western Saudi Arabia, near Jeddah is famous the world over for its Rose Attar and water. Rose water has sacred as well as festive uses in Arabia. It is used to perfume the Yamani corner of the Kabah apart from being used in the kitchen and for the Eid. Taifi Rose Attar is a very expensive product. Just one single Tula of Taifi Rose Attar sells for between 600 US\$ and 1000 US\$. Attar Roohe Gulab was discovered by Mughul Queen Noorjahan, wife of Emperor

It helps to ease depression, frigidity, nervous tension

- Headache
 - Relieves shock
 - Palpitations
 - Poor circulation
 - Nausea
 - Mildly sedative
 - Antidepressant
 - Anti inflammatory remedy
 - Enhances immunity
 - Helping to restrain the development of infections through their cleansing action.
 - Runny nose and blocked bronchial tubes
 - An uplifting
 - restoring effect on the nervous system
 - Relieur insomnia
 - Remove fatigue
 - Soothe irritability.
- ("Al Risalatil Nadirah Fil Attur al Fakhirah", Syedi Abdulqadir bin Qazi Habibullah, Hiraaz, Yemen).

Jasmine:

It is famous in Arabia as Nasrin, in west Jasmine, while in Farsi it is known as Yasmin. The scent favored by Muslim mystic of Central Asia. Jasmine is well-known and most famous among the children too, for its unparalleled ability of sweet fragrance. Its medicinal uses are following:

- Uplift moods
 - Lessen depression
 - Stress
 - Hypertension
 - Treating skin ailments
- ("Al Risalatil Nadirah Fil Attur al Fakhirah", Syedi Abdulqadir bin Qazi Habibullah, Hiraaz, Yemen).

Hina:
Fragrance of Hina is known for its heat inducing qualities and if used on quilts during winters. However, if inhaled during summer it can lead to nasal bleeding as well". Lucknow is the house of Hina. It has various medicinal values. Such as:

- It is known to provide extra heating.
- ("Al Risalatil Nadirah Fil Attur al Fakhirah", Syedi Abdulqadir bin Qazi Habibullah, Hiraaz, Yemen)

dear to the Indian heart is Kewda. It grows on a small plant which is both cultivated and grows wild in coastal areas.

- It provides relive to the user when one suffers with insomnia ("Al Risalatil Nadirah Fil Attur al Fakhirah", Syedi Abdulqadir bin Qazi Habibullah, 1252 A.H. Hiraaz, Yemen).

Kewda:

One of the flowers which are dear to the Indian heart is Kewda. It grows on a small plant which is both cultivated and grows wild in coastal areas.

- It provides relive to the user when one suffers with insomnia ("Al Risalatil Nadirah Fil Attur al Fakhirah", Syedi Abdulqadir bin Qazi Habibullah, 1252 A.H. Hiraaz, Yemen).

Sandalwood:

Sandalwood oil forms the base as, during distillation, the original smell of Sandalwood vanishes and the oil captures the fragrance of the flower. For decades, in the Near East, Sandalwood is given by grandmothers to their grand children as a valuable gift. Agar, Anbar, Sandal, most all of the resins and barks will improve considerably when Inhaling. Its medicinal uses are various:

- Sandalwood oil lessens stress
 - Can stop vomiting
 - Applying it on the chest and throat cures dry cough
 - Its curative properties extend to skin ailments as well
 - An uplifting
 - restoring effect on the nervous system
 - Stress
 - Anxiety
 - Travel sickness
 - Heals inflamed dry
 - Excites the senses
- ("Al Risalatil Nadirah Fil Attur al Fakhirah", Syedi Abdulqadir bin Qazi Habibullah, Hiraaz, Yemen).

Champa:

The proportion of Champa to Sandalwood is just about perfect in properly made Attar. One must remember that it takes thousands of flowers to produce a small quantity of this Attar. It is impossible to perfectly capture the smell of the fresh flower, but the basic character of the flower's fragrance is certainly maintained in true Attar. The great advantage of this Attar is that the sandalwood oil only releases the top, middle, and base notes over a long period of time so one can enjoy all the richness and beauty of the essence over a very long period of time. It is recommended in the following cases:

- Dyspepsia
 - Nausea
 - Fevers
 - Liquid elixirs useful in treating gonorrhoea
 - Renal diseases
 - Diseases of the head,
 - Attar is helpful in treating sub-acute rheumatism
 - Vertigo
 - Gout
 - Relieving common headache
- ("Al Risalatil Nadirah Fil Attur al Fakhirah", Syedi Abdulqadir bin Qazi Habibullah, Hiraaz, Yemen).



By: Dr. Khaled alNsour
For the Yemen Times

Facts of life

The Secrets of Fingernails

Trim. File. Polish. With the popularity of manicures and pedicures, you might come to the false conclusion that nails are unnecessary parts of our body that we decorate for the sake of vanity. But, there is a real, evolutionary reason for nails.

Made up of long fibers of the protein keratin (the same stuff that your hair is made of), nails not only protect the fingertips and toes, they also help us grab or pick up objects — in the same way that beaks and claws of birds and animals help them handle food or objects.

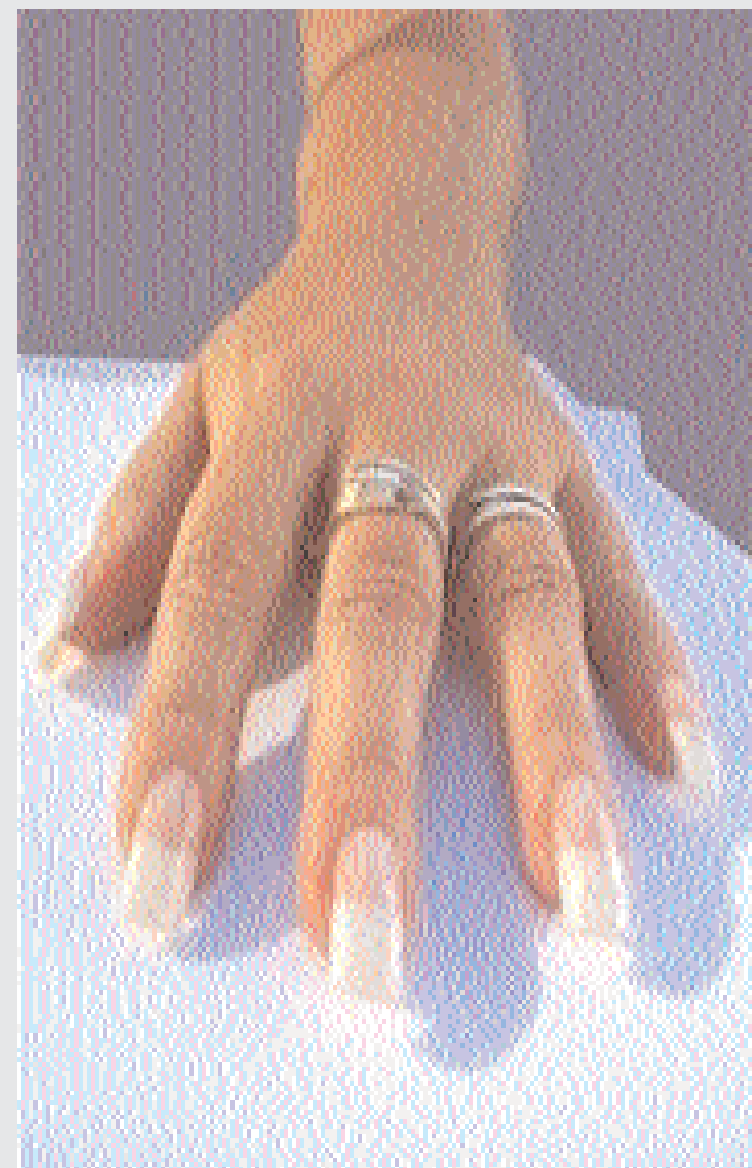
Nails grow from a "growth plate" located at the base of the nail. It's the half-moon shaped area at the base of the nail near where the skin

(we call these hooves).

Why do finger nails keep growing?

A special growth area (called the matrix) at the base of the nail controls the speed of the finger nails' growing. The matrix lies in a deep groove in the skin dermis (the thick inner layer alive with nerves and blood vessels) and makes nail material—a dead, hoof-like protein, called keratin. It makes nails constantly—from birth to death—at an average rate of 0.004 inches (0.1 mm) each day, or 1.5 inches (36.5 mm) in a year.

Although fingernails grow four times faster than toenails, the matrix doesn't make nails at a steady rate. Nails grow faster when



connects. Nails are formed by special cells called epithelium. Epithelial cells grow from the growth plate and as they mature, they are pushed outward. During growth they die and the inside of the cells become filled with a hard protein called "Keratin". It is the keratin that makes our nails hard and tough.

Nail growth is related to the length of a finger, so the fastest growing nail is the one on the middle finger. The nail on the pinky finger is the slowest. If you're right-handed, the nails on that hand will grow faster than on the left. The opposite is true if you're left handed. Fingernails grow four times as fast as toenails and grow the fastest during the day, during the summertime and among younger people.

Most animals have some form of nail, even if it doesn't look like it sometimes. Cats and dogs have a sharpened, curved nail (we call these claws). And horses have a thick, round stump of a fingernail

it's warm, when we're young, when we apply pressure to the nails—like playing the piano or biting, cutting, filing, polishing, or scrubbing them. Nails grow slower when the matrix is short of blood, when the blood contains stuff that stunts growth (like chemotherapy material or cigarette by-products), when we suffer malnutrition, or have a high fever.

Do they grow after death?

Death stops growth. However, after death, skin dries and shrinks. When it shrinks back from nails, the fingernails (and toenails) appear to lengthen because more nail shows.

Why are toenails thicker than fingernails?

Friction and fungus thicken toenails. Toenails take a beating from socks, shoes, and generally being at the foot end of the human body where the weight bearing goes on. They're made from the same dead skin tissue as fingernails but are two to three times thicker.

Errors of physicians

BY DR. MOHAMMAD AL-SHUJA'A
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

Numerous errors are often committed by physicians and nurses due to ignorance, remissness and lack of training and qualification on the part of both before and during their pursuit of the job.

It has been reported that errors committed by physicians in the U.S.A. are estimated at 18 thousand per year. Seeing such scores in a developed country, how one can imagine the situation to be in the developing countries including Yemen where health sector still suffer from several difficulties and face a variety of different challenges. Yemeni hospitals complain from a lack of medicine, equipment and well-qualified physicians, in addition to the absence of monitoring, supervision and guidance, coupled with ignorance and indifference on the part of workers in the health sector.

While we tend to reveal some of the

persistent medical errors occurring beyond control and the tragic consequences they leave, there are errors associated with prescription of medicine and taking doses. In some cases, a physician, a pharmacist or a nurse is held responsible for any deterioration of performance, not doing duty in a complete way or the lack of adequate training before and after study. Due to the clinic being so crowded leading to a lack of attention and care on the part of the physician and the nurse being engaged in another work, unexpected number of errors occur at the expense of patients.

Errors of physicians fall into: errors of omission and errors of commission. The first type of errors occur due to ignorance and remissness such as prescribing medicine for patients in a wrong way, committing a mistake in the estimation of dose and the way it is taken, being late in taking medicine, non-use of suitable diagnostic means, lack of medical appliances and diagnostic devices, and the unavailability of well-qualified physicians.

Errors of commission are practical

ones committed by physicians and they cause harm to patients. These errors include the use of ineffective treatment methods, undergoing a surgical operation without any justification, technical errors while performing the operation, lack of preparation before conducting the surgery, and the lack of follow-up and observation of the patient's case after the surgery.

Victims of such errors are: the patient who is subjected to any harm and sometimes loses his/her life and the clear-conscience physician who feels tortured when committing any error, and this will be negatively reflected on his professional life. A physician has to be frank with any patient when committing any error, and the higher concerned authorities should supervise and monitor all day-to-day work of physicians and nurses in hospitals and clinics.

Who is responsible for errors of white-lab-coated people?

Up until now, there has been no any legal authority to hold physicians accountable for what they commit and

for any risk or harm caused to any patient. Complaints have to be raised to the Minister of Public Health and Population and any concerned authority to suspend work of those who pursue the profession carelessly. The concerned authorities are recommended to punish those who put the patient's life at risk.

How to avoid and restrict errors of physicians?

- Such errors can be avoided and restricted by: constant
- Steady education and training for physicians and nurses even after their graduation;
- The concerned parties should activate monitoring and supervision on physicians and nurses;
- Making available an effective and constructive administration to perform its duties in a better way;
- Installing computer in the medical field;
- Providing training opportunities for physicians and nurses; and
- Improving living standards of physicians and nurses.

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Angels get better of Blue Jays in extras

NAHEIM — Nearly 2,200 miles lie between Angel Stadium and Toronto. It's a sizeable distance, one matched in magnitude only by the amount of time it takes the Blue Jays and Angels to complete a baseball game.

In Toronto, July 27-28, the two teams followed a 10-inning game with an 18-frame marathon. So it was only fitting that Monday's series opener at Angel Stadium would require 11 innings, 11 pitchers and nearly four hours to complete.

Unlike their series in Toronto, though, the Halos were rewarded for their patience on Monday, as Darin Erstad's RBI single in the bottom of the 11th lifted the Angels to a 5-4 win.

The teams' starters combined to allow seven runs in 12 innings, but their bullpens combined to allow only one run in 10 innings — which is precisely why the two unlikely rivals can never seem to finish on time.

"They've got an outstanding bullpen and they have a lot of power arms," Angels manager Mike Scioscia said of the Blue Jays. "They can certainly get outs to keep the game close or hold a lead."

The fifth Toronto reliever to enter the game, Pete Walker (5-4), finally relented. The long man allowed a leadoff double by Orlando Cabrera. After a foul ball and a fouled bunt attempt, Erstad lined a single into the left-field gap and Cabrera trotted home with the game-winning run.

For Erstad, getting the winning hit provided as much a sense of relief as accomplishment. After all, the Angels' five runs on Monday were two more than they scored during their entire series at the Rogers Centre last month.

"I don't have any clue what their numbers are, but they have some really good arms out there," Erstad said. "It's



Juan Rivera (right) celebrates as Orlando Cabrera scores the winning run on Monday night. (Danny Moloshok/AP)

a battle when you're facing them."

The Angels have some strong arms, too. Francisco Rodriguez worked out of a bases-loaded, one-out jam in the ninth, and Scot Shields (8-8) followed with two scoreless innings for the win.

The game appeared over in the ninth when two singles and a walk by Rodriguez loaded the bases with one out and Toronto's two best hitters coming up. But Vernon Wells popped up and Adam Kennedy made a running, over-the-shoulder catch of a looping line drive by Shea Hillenbrand to end the inning.

The Angels built a 3-1 lead by the sixth, but a three-run seventh for

Toronto forced the Halos to rally in the eighth. Maicer Izturis singled off Vinnie Chulk with one out, and Kennedy advanced him to third with a single. Figgins fouled off a bunt on a squeeze attempt, but he managed to tie the game by tapping into an RBI fielder's choice and beating the possible double-play throw to first.

Prior to that, two of the best rookies in baseball battled for six innings. Toronto's Gustavo Chacin — who leads all rookies in wins, ERA and innings — allowed six hits and three runs in six innings, while the Angels' Ervin Santana allowed six hits and four runs — three earned — in six-plus

innings. "He is a very good pitcher, but I was thinking about beating him," Santana said. "I felt very confident."

Santana had allowed only one run through six innings — and that run was unearned, as Reed Johnson reached on an Izturis throwing error and scored on Orlando Hudson's double. But in the seventh, Santana allowed three men to reach before he was pulled, and all would score.

Aaron Hill walked, Johnson doubled and Hudson followed with an RBI single. Reliever Brendan Donnelly then loaded the bases and allowed Wells' tying sacrifice fly and Hillenbrand's go-ahead RBI single. The Blue Jays tried to push one more across the plate, but a 9-6-2 relay just beat Frank Catalanotto to the plate. Toronto third base coach Brian Butterfield was ejected for arguing the call.

The big inning erased the Angels' lead, which they had scratched out one run at a time against Chacin. In the second, Vladimir Guerrero led off with a double and scored when Juan Rivera reached on an error. In the fifth, Kennedy singled and scored on Figgins' single. And in the sixth, Rivera doubled and scored on another single by Kennedy, who tied a career high with four hits.

"That kid's good, and he's gonna be good for a long time," Scioscia said of Chacin. "Our situational hitting was good early on, and we scratched out some runs. We left a lot of guys in scoring position, but we got some key hits in some key situations and Ersty got the big hit at the end."

It might not be the quickest recipe for offense by conventional standards, but for an Angels-Jays matchup, it was certainly a step in the right direction.

Fan jumps from upper deck at Stadium

Teen OK after landing on netting behind home plate

NEW YORK — A fan jumped from the upper deck during the eighth inning of Tuesday night's White Sox-Yankees game in the Bronx, delaying the game for four minutes.

The fan, 18-year-old Scott Harper, climbed up the net on his own power after spending several minutes sitting with a dazed look on his face. After reaching the stands, he was led away

by stadium security before being taken from the ballpark on a gurney.

According to police, Harper was at the game with three friends, and the four had been discussing whether the protective netting would support Harper's weight. In the bottom of the eighth inning, with the Yankees trying to mount a late rally, Harper jumped over the railing on the upper

deck, landing on the netting behind home plate.

Players and coaches from both teams saw Harper on the netting and went to the top of their dugouts to see what had happened. Fans cheered and snapped pictures while Harper sat on the netting with his head in his hands.

"I didn't see him fall. But I looked up and he was bouncing. I saw him bouncing on the net. That was crazy," said Chicago reliever Dustin Hermanson. "I've heard one other story about that happening before. I don't know what he did. He's lucky he landed on the net rather than somewhere else. Just think about those people sitting below the net and what could have happened."

"I've never seen anything like that before," said White Sox manager Ozzie Guillen.

Yankees manager Joe Torre had seen this very sight before, as another fan jumped from the upper deck on to the netting during the 2000 season.

"I was hoping I wouldn't see it again," Torre said. "I'm just glad that he was able to walk out."

Harper, from Armonk, N.Y., was taken from the ballpark wearing a neck brace. He was sent to Lincoln Hospital for observation, then placed under arrest.

Harper could be charged with reckless endangerment, criminal mischief, criminal trespassing and

disorderly conduct. A police spokesperson declined to say whether alcohol was involved in the incident.

"That's New York; anything can happen," said Guillen. "That's the first time I've ever seen that. Thank God that kid was all right."



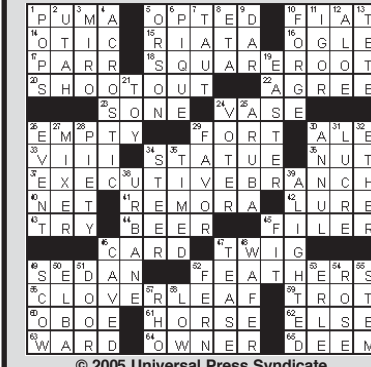
A fan reacts after falling from the upper deck onto the netting behind home plate during the eighth inning. (Frank Franklin II/AP)

Universal Crossword

Edited by Timothy E. Parker

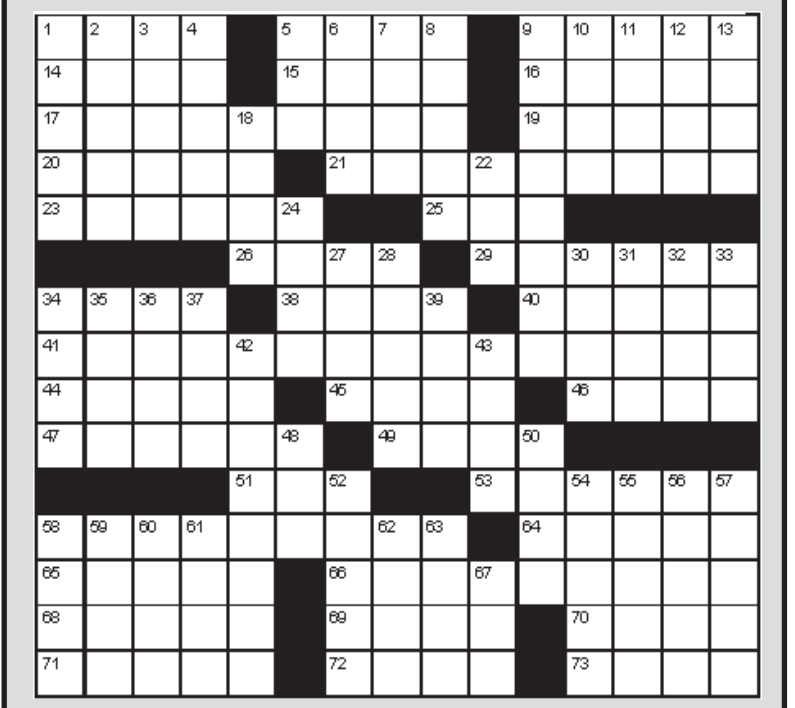
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|-------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| ACROSS | panicky person | letter | symphony |
| 1 Subcontinental royal (Var.) | 34 One-named Nigerian singer | 65 Dictator's asst. | 30 Popular beverage |
| 5 Items that may swell | 38 Athena's breastplate (Var.) | 66 Beatles hit | 31 Once more, Dogpatch-style role |
| 9 Showy success | 40 Scalawag | 70 Old music halls | 32 A deadly sin |
| 14 Fruit spray, once | 41 Certain U.S. Open figure | 71 Law school subjects | 33 Distribute (with "out") |
| 15 Hunky— | 44 Tuck of fiction | 72 Type of bargain | 34 Architect's meas. |
| 16 Vestige | 45 Sermon finisher? | 73 Despot of old (Var.) | 35 That certain something |
| 17 Trashy paperback | 46 Pot foundation | DOWN | 36 Lectern platform |
| 19 This puzzle's theme | 47 Mortarboard part | 1 Type of gun | 37 Important times in history |
| 20 Quite sharp, as a pain | 49 Compost place | 2 Ralph's wife | 39 Webmaster's work |
| 21 Hush-hush | 51 Radial fill | 3 Bottleneck | 42 High crimes |
| 23 Summer TV fare | 53 Docile creatures | 4 Glacial aftermath, perhaps | 43 Actress Patricia |
| 25 Primitive home | 58 It has its ups and downs | 5 Tokyo, long ago | 48 Three sheets to the wind |
| 26 Figure at State U. | 64 First Hebrew | 6 U.S. bureaucracy | 50 Globe production |
| 29 Exhortation for a | | 7 Popular snack | 52 Tear to shreds |

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER



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"CHANGE IS GOOD" by Elizabeth C. Gorski



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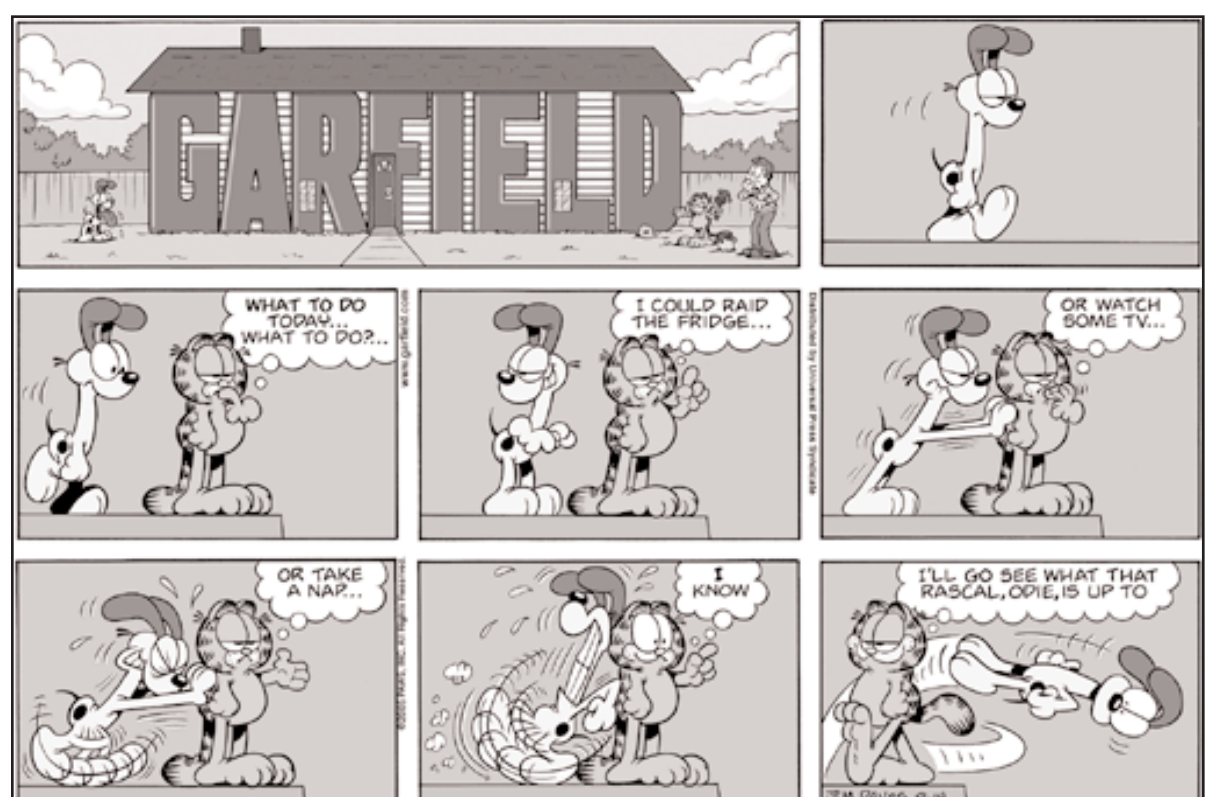
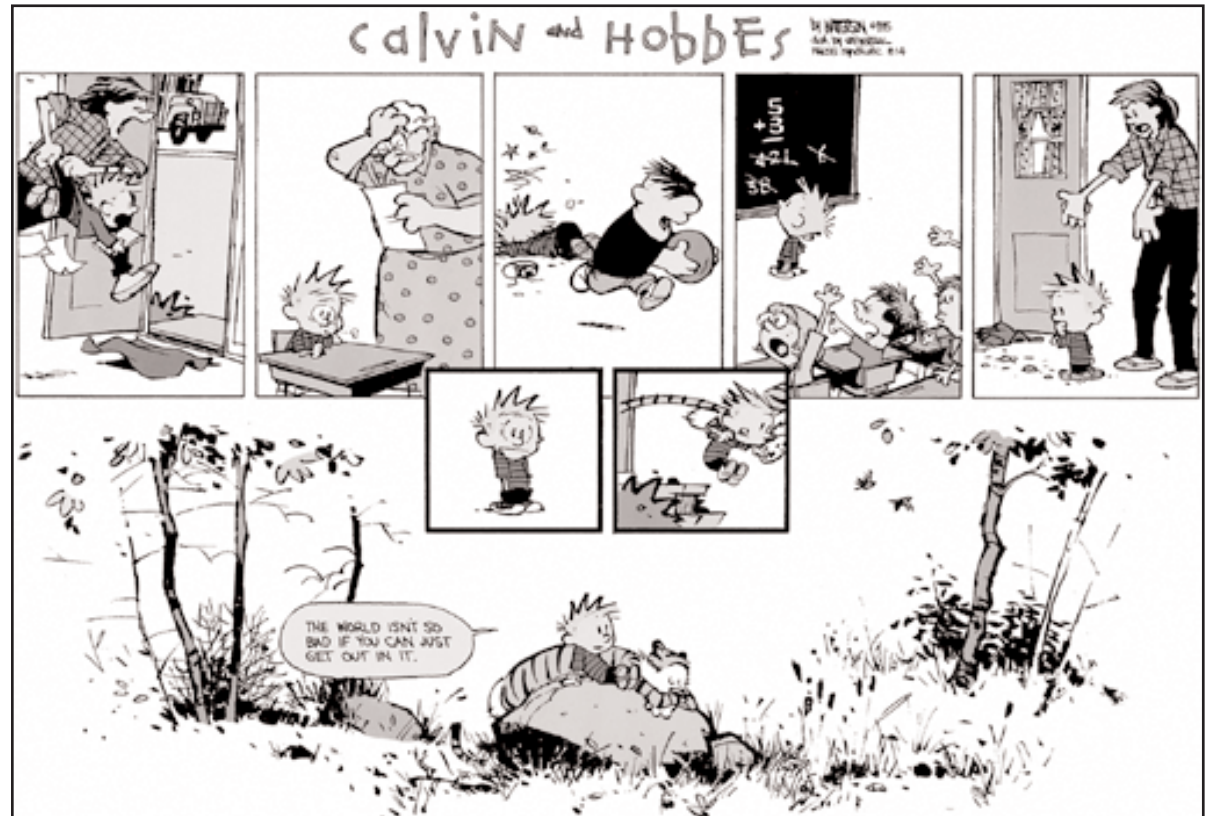
1. void (5) e	2. equator
3. largest land mammal (8) e	3. tasta
4. eather scarf (3) b	4. Relic
5. ny one from A to Z (6) l	5. metior
6. eapeating Sound (4) e	6. term
7. pposite of male (6) f	7. rap
8. nfortunate (7) u	
9. en (5) s	

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Dance and Music in the Haraz Mountains

By MICHELLE ANNAND
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES.

The Haraz Mountains are the ideal retreat for rest and recreation away from the pressures of city life. Aside from the refreshing mountain air, the spectacular views, and opportunities for invigorating walks, something else is going on, regularly and with great fervor and enthusiasm.

It happens at the Al Hajjarah Hotel in the village of Manakha every night, reviving and sustaining an ancient Yemeni tradition, thanks to Abdullah Mohammad Al-Aqel, who passed the tradition on to his sons, and for the last twelve years, has shared the celebrations almost nightly with visiting foreigners. Abdullah and his sons continued operating the business, despite a downturn in tourism after September 11th, and the need to relocate the hotel a few years ago.

Music and dancing have always been important for Yemenis, and even when the Imam Yahia outlawed music and dancing, the people continued behind closed doors. Musicians moved to Aden, which was under British rule, especially the 'ud and mismar (flute) players, whose instruments became harem, forbidden to be played.

All this changed again after the Revolution in September, 1962. Fortunately, the Bara' dance was never outlawed, and always continued to be performed at festivals and weddings.

"Our ancient drums and were used in the past to alert people of danger, call them to a meeting or lead the tribe into battle. Now the drums are played at wedding celebrations," says Abdullah Al-Aqel.

The 'ud is often played also, an instrument, attributed with healing powers, "invigorating the body and placing the temperament in equilibrium, a remedy which calms and revives hearts", wrote Mohammad Shihab al-Dia in Cairo in 1982. The Arabian 'ud is the grandfather of the Western lute. The songs sung to the accompaniment of the 'ud are love songs that are passed on by oral tradition from generation to generation.

The tradition of dance is also passed down from generation to generation. There are two different types of dancing: one slow, graceful and romantic, usually accompanied by the 'ud, the other energetic and athletic, where the drums weave the exciting atmosphere. The Sanani (of which there are three dances) and the Kawkabani dances can be performed by both men and woman, while the Bara' is strictly reserved for a Yemeni male. There are different Bara' for the different regions in Yemen; - they are the Harazi, Matar, Safani, Al-Hami, Hadathi, Hamdan and Al-Habi.

Ahmed, youngest son of Abdullah, and one of the main dancers at Al-Hajjarah Hotel, is of the opinion that the best Bara' are the Harazi, Matar and the Al-Hami. The Bara' dance is taught to the young boys simply by imitating the dance steps repeatedly until finally they start to know



Abdullah al-Aqel (Father) & son Ahmad

the patterns and movements. I observed some of the very young boys beginning this process, managing to wear a large adult-sized jambiya, and to hold it up above their heads in the appropriate fashion. Their movements were uncoordinated, but one could see that with the way they were avidly watching their fathers and uncles, that in a few years they too would be confident performers of this exciting and dramatic dance, that serves to emphasize the cohesion of the group.

Abdullah, the oldest son of Abdullah Mohammad Al-Aqel, who is currently working with education, spoke about the threats to tradition in Yemen, through the introduction of satellite TV, and how this changes the focus of the people who sometimes begin to imitate Western ways, and forget their own unique traditions.

Time spent in the Haraz Mountains, at

the Al-Hajjarah Hotel was of great enjoyment and a learning process. I was very grateful as a foreigner to be able to participate

in the Yemeni music and dance traditions with the family, both as an observer and as a performer. Being from a Western dance background, with some exposure to African and Arabic dance, it was both challenging and insightful to see how dance and music evolved and played its role here, serving the people in their different localities and tribes across Yemen, throughout the centuries.

Thank you to Abdullah Mohammed Al-Aqel and his sons of Al Hajjarah Hotel, Manakha, for preserving the traditions with such great enthusiasm and vitality, and for sharing it so generously with the visiting foreigners from many different parts of the globe.



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