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Monday, 5 September 2005 • Issue No. 874 • Price 30 Yemeni Rivals • Founded in 1991 by Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saggaf

The role of insurance **P10**

in development

Violent assults against freedom of press continue **Military Intelligence** frees arrested journalist

Sociology

ignored

P4

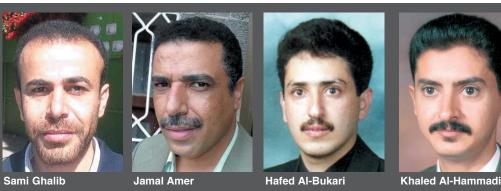
P5

BY HASSAN AL-ZAIDI YEMEN TIMES STAFF

SANA'A- Sept. 3- The Military Intelligence part of the Authority, Ministry of Defense, freed last Thursday Khaled al-Hammadi, correspondent of the London-based al-Nida newspaper and photographer of Associated Press (AP). The journalist was kidnapped by military intelligence officers during his stay at Arsh Balqis Hotel in the city of

Marib, 160km east of Sana'a, where he was accompanying a number of Italian tourists.

Al-Hammadi was taken to Sana'a and



put in an isolated cell until last Thursday's morning. "During my detention, I was prevented from making contact with my family. I was deprived of food and water for 24 hours," Khaled said.

The kidnapping took place through a an anonymous phone call to his mobile that ordered Al-Hammadi to answer to an Air Forces Commander in Sana'a on Wednesday afternoon. When AlHammadi replied that he was in Marib the Intelligence Forces in Marib in coordination with that of Sana'a was sent to where he was residing at the hotel, and he was bundled into a military vehicle and taken to Air Force prison in Sana'a.

Ecosystem to fight poverty P12

The journalist was detained on charges of publishing reports in al-Ouds al-Arabi Paper describing the status of

the Yemeni Air Forces as inefficient and technically feeble. After publishing this report and being circulated nationally and internationally, an official source at the

Yemeni laborers on strike

AMEL MOHAMMED AL-ARIQI YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Sept 3 - Sana'a, YT: The General Federation of Yemen Workers' Trade Union GFYWTU declared on 3rd September in an extraordinary meeting with the leaders of its sub-committees its rejection of the new Strategic law nr.43 for the year 2005 concerning employment and wages. The Union described this strategy as a breach of the international treatments and the Yemeni constitution and that it doesn't meet the minimum standard. The Union demanded negotiation with the government to discuss the wages policy, employment issues, retirement and other fundamental issues that concern laborers. The Union stated the 15th of September as deadline for the government to start this negotiation, otherwise it will use its own right of calling the workers in the public, private and mixed sector to express their objection in suitable way.

The GFYWTU released a statement

in which it mentioned that consecutive governments failed to enforce executive laws in line with international conventions and treaties of the World Labor Organization WLO that Yemen has already ratified. According to the statement, this failure created a very complex economic situation increasing unemployment rates to exceed 45%.

The Union asserted that the economic reform program recently adopted by the government should not be implemented at the expense of laborer's rights, stressing that no development can be achieved without social justice.

Worth mentioning is that many international and Arab trade unions such as the General Federation of Trade Unions in Syrian Arab Republic, Kuwait Trade Union Federation and the International Confederation of Free Trade Union ICFTU have displayed their support the GFYWTU through sending messages to the president Ali Abdullh Salah and Abdulkader Bajmal the Prime Minster demanding recon-



Member of the GFYWTU in an extraordinary meeting

an established fact that Yemen is sliding further towards higher unemployment rates and widespread poverty, and international pressure such as the one currently exercised by the World Bank therefore increases, there is all the more reason to involve the GFYWTU sideration of the new strategy. "as it is and maintain sound industrial

Relations in Yemen " ICFTU said . The GFYWTU represents 350 thousands Yemeni laborers who belong to 14 trades unions working in the public, private and mixed sectors Most of these unions have threatened the government to go on strike against the new strategy of wages.

Ministry of Defense warned last Thursday all the local media means and correspondents of foreign papers and agencies of publishing any stories about the military and security forces.

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The official source considered news relating to the national security and military secrets as red lines that should not be crossed, adding that the press should not publish any information or stories on these institutions unless the concerned sides are permitted to do so, and the papers who violate should face up legal consequences of what they commit.

Procedures taken against Khaled al-Hammadi are part of a series of harassments and hassling of journalists witnessed in the country over the last few months. Half a month ago, unidentified persons broke into the AP's and al-Nida weekly's offices and robbed all the equipment there. A reliable source told the Yemen Times the case has been referred to the Attorney General last Wednesday for investigation after the case was attributed the doorkeeper of the building in which the AP office exist. The case of al-Nida weekly was attributed to the calligraphic designer, while no further investigation were taken.

During his latest meeting with Chief of the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate and Jamal Amer, al-Wasat chief Editor, mysteriously kidnapped and subjected to beating, Minister of Interior Rashad al-Alimi pledged to complete investigation

of Amer's case, confirming the plate number of the car which took Amer belongs to a deceased republican guard officer called al-Matari. Al-Matari was granted this number in 2001, and after his death the car was sold with the plate number to another person. Later on the plate number was submitted to the Ministry of Defense.

The Yemeni Journalists Syndicate (YJS) has shown concern over the harassment of journalists and hassling of journalists in Yemen. A member of the YJS's council described what journalists and journalism are subjected to as madness. He pointed out up until today the Ministry of Interior has never shown any response to reports of the YJS demanding the investigation into harassments of al-Nihar weekly staff members and the assassination attempt on its managing editor Haj'e al-Jihafi who was handed a boobytrapped envelope that badly injured his face last month.

The website of al-Wahdawi Net Paper, owned by the Opposition Unionist Nasserite Party was exposed to electronic destruction. The state-run al-Thawrah daily launched a media attack over the last few weeks upon some independent newspapers and their reporters who allegedly publish news against the authorities. It accused the YJS of being controlled by the opposition party leaders and newspapers.

Continued on page 3





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In a country claiming rule of law **Basic human rights violated**

BY ADEL AL-KHAWLANI YEMEN TIMES STAFF

SANA'A- Sept. 4- Sitting down in front of the Presidential Palace, waiting

DIAMANTE

أول طباخة بإشعال ذاتر

* ستانلس استيل

* مفتاح مع القراعة

۱ الفرن يعمل بباب مغلق

for justice and restoration of their properties from influential robbers, al-Ahsab's children - Bassam, Fuad, Navef and Hisham - were dragged along with their mother by a police vehicle to al-Sabeen Police Station.

"I was released after a 28day imprisonment to stay with my homeless wife and children," narrated Ahmed al-Ahsab, 45, father of 16 children. "The second day I went to bring them a breakfast to the tent pitched in front of the Presidential Palace. When I came back I was shocked to find no-one."

He went on, "Later I was informed by telephone that my children, along with their mother have been dragged by a police vehicle and detained in the prison of al-Sab'een Police Station. I reported that to the Hood Organization, Social and Democratic Forum, and Ministry of Human Rights."

On her part, the 55-year-old mother said "As I refused to go with the police, I was harshly pulled and beaten on different parts of my body; violently, I was grabbed along with my frightened children from the tent and bundled into the police vehicle by eight soldiers. We stayed for over 11 hours in prison without food and water."

She added: "We have been detained in prison for 11 hours and a half. That was on Thursday August 25, until the coming of lawyer Ahmad Arman, a representative

Near their shelter, Al-Ahsab and his wife and children carrying documents of their case and waiting for justice

from Hood Organization."

Fuad, her second eldest child, described the ordeal, "I was dragged on my belly along with my other three brothers by a major as we insisted to remain in the tent.'

"I refused to go to prison to claim the release of my children and wife, mother of 16 children, since I believed this is a flagrant violation of human rights in general and women and children rights in particular. Such a violation is committed by security authorities that are supposed to protect us," the father said.

The family has stayed in a small tent in front of the Presidential Palace for two and half months waiting for justice after different governmental parties failed to bring those who robbed their properties and attacked them to justice.

Continued on page 3



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Youth Workshop

Under the patronage Mr.Abdualrahman Al-Akwa'a, the minister of Youth and Sport, and Mr. Ahmed AL-Kuhlani, the State Minister-Capital secretariat, the Yemeni Union for Sport for All and its branch in the capital organized last week at the Yemeni Center for Studies and Research the 9th workshop for the youth of the capital entitled "No for Revenge. Fanaticism and Discrimination, Yes for Security and Stability".

A large number of young people attended the workshop and listened to lecturers. The lectures centered on rejecting violence and extremism and invited youth to seek their future and participate in building their nation to continue the peace, security and stability of the status quo.

The lecturers, who were from the older generation, displayed their experience before the revolution in which they were deprived from the basic things and oppression they live in during the Imam rule. The lecturers explained for the youth that the life now is better than ever and they have and enjoy many facilities that their grandfathers and fathers were deprived of. They advised the youth to invest their youth appropriately, far from the fanaticism and violence, to benefit and share in progress of their country.

Mr. Abdualkareem AL-Maqaleh, the head of Yemeni Center for Studies and Researches, attended the workshop along with Mr. Ali Al-Sallal, al-Shura'a Coucil member, and a number of distinguished people.

Around the Nation

55 corruption cases with more than YR 33 billion discovered

SANA'A- Sept. 1- In a report for the Central Organization for Control and Auditing, published on the 22nd of May in the news paper last week, the organization said that it discovered (55) corruption cases, costing YR.3.170.000.000.33000277, in addition to \$11.931. The report added that there are also other material losses in

real estate and cars. The organization of corruption cases, which are costing had also received lately, other (175) corruption reports from its affiliated bodies costing a sum of about YR (75.890.941) in addition to \$(11.500). Some of these cases were brought to

prosecution while others were ignored.

It worth mentioning that thousands

millions are discovered each year. Though they are brought to prosecution they are never tried, because some influential individuals interfere and stop them. No official was ever tried during the last decade with the exception of the theft cases of small officials who have no one to protect them.

Readers' Voice

Times features Yemen '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 government will comply with the demands of the trade unions and reconsider the new strategy of wages? Yes

No I don't know

Bid for new cement plant in Mukala

EMukala Yem. Sept. 1- Engineer Abdulla Ahmed Bogshan, Chairman of Arab Yemeni Company for Cement, said in a press release that their company received bids to import mechanical, electrical and control equipment for a new cement plant. Big international companies specializing in cement equipment have contested the right to import this equipment. From these, he mentioned the German (POLYSIUS AG) and (KHD), the Chinese (SINO-MA) (CNBM) and the Canadian Indian (FLS).

As for the erection of the electrical

Among these are the American (CATERPILLAR) and (GE), the Finish (WARTSILA), Saudi (Alfanar) and the German (MANB& W). He said that

25 educational social workers in Marib trained in social welfare

BY HASSAN ALZAIDI YEMEN TIMES STAFF

A course for 25 officials from the educational office in Marib, kicked off last Saturday and will continue until the 8th of Sep. This course concentrates on the community participation in educational process by activating the parents' councils.

Mr. Ahmed Bin Saad General manager of the Educational office in Marib confirmed that this course comes in coordination between their office and the German project for Basic Education (GTZ).

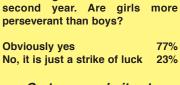
He said that their office is seeking to develop and reform the educational process by upgrading educational personell and enrolling the community in this process

Mr. Bin Saad expressed gratitude to the (GTZ) project for their efforts in upgrading education in this gover-

norate. He requested all the organizations and other concerned bodies to support education in this remote area, especially basic and secondary girl's education.

He confirmed that though the rates of girls enrolment gives good indications, but it still needs support, namely in furnishing the necessary needs that motivate girl's education.

mineral corrosion- resisting cement and all sorts of cement that will satisfy the needs of Hadramout and the neighboring governorates. It is a Yemeni Saudi joint investment company that is established by the presidential decree (205) on20.7.2005



Last edition's question:

The secondary school results

revealed girls distinction for the

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with its Arabic & English Departments, announces the beginning of the registration for the new academic year 2005/2006 at its location in Al-Zera'ah Street, near Al-Huda Mosque, Sana'a Tel: 466555/405831, Fax: 217780, P. O. Box: 1663 Email: cambridge@yemen.net.ye

me True



Yemen deports Indonesian students

By HASSAN ALZAIDI

SANA'A-(YT) About 80 Indonesian religious students were recently deported by Security authorities; a reliable security source told Yemen times. The students were studying in Religious schools and centers that were formed in violation to the law.

The source confirmed that the students entered Yemen as tourists, and then their visas were illegally changed for study purposes.

These procedures came in the wake of an increase in number of foreign students of African and Asian origin, in the Salafi (scripture) religious schools and institutes.

A sourse told Yemen times that some foreign students are now studying in remote Yemeni areas. In an unprecedented incident, the number of foreign students in the Salafi Damaj institute reached bout 200 students

The governmental measures followed the bloody clashes of Sadaa. The government wants these schools and institutes to be under its direct control as it is skeptic of their curricula content.

This year, the government banned all summer centers, during the school

summer vacations, which are outside the sponsorship of educational offices. The ministry of Endowments allocated a sum of a million Yemeni Rials for these summer centers, together with the costs of teaching.

The merger of religious institutes in the ministry of education, which was prior to September 11, aroused controversial debates among the Yemenis. These institutes used to be run by the Muslim brotherhood.

The governmental decision to control summer camps and centers was not fully observed by Islah party leaders. Some of them made centers and camps for Koran teaching in Islah dominated areas. Two centers which were outside the government control wrapped up last Wednesday. Under the leadership of Abdulrahman Al-Imad, one of these concluded in Demt in Ibb governorate. Other two Islah centers, which were also outside government control, were concluded in Marib governorate.

The variation in religious schools and centers is attributed to the diversification in religious creeds and the increase in religious education especially the Whabi creed. It is now taking lead after the close down of the schools of the Shiat , Athna-ashr and Zaidi creeds, following Sadaa events.

Juveniles & Children

about to be finished.

station that will generate 45 megawatts, engineer Bogshan confirmed that their company had received bids from five famous companies.

specifications of the third bid of the erections and civil establishments are It worth mentioning that among the objectives of this project of the Arab company for Cement production is to produce Kliniker, traditional cement,

in Workshop

With the cooperation of UNICEF and Save the Children Sweden and Under the auspices of Mr. Abdualakareem AL-Arhabi, the minister of social affairs and labor, the Higher Council for Motherhood and Childhood wrapped up on Wednesday 31 August a three-day workshop entitled "Child Rights Convention and the Two Optional Protocols). The workshop was devoted for raising awareness about the Child Right Convention and the two option protocols among people who work with juveniles.

Mr. Abdo Mohammed AL-Hakemi, the first deputy minister of social affairs and labor, pointed out in the opening ceremony to the importance of organizing such workshop to raise awareness among the people who work with juveniles particularly in courts "We have to pay more attention to the children as this segment will be the future leaders. So we have to provide them the appropriate environment through they can be brought up well socially, psychologically, culturally, healthily and intellectually, and in which they can enjoy their basic rights and we can protect them from deviation.

Mr. AL-Hakemi further mentioned the conventions that Yemen has already ratified in the childhood field and the laws issued related to children and juveniles as well as laws to prevent the worst forms of child labor to come accordance with the international child rights conventions and legalizations. He revealed that the Yemeni government has founded centers and housed to shelter the street children and juveniles.

Ms. Fatihia Mohammed Abduallah, the deputy secretary general of the Higher Council for motherhood and Childhood, also pointed out to the some articles of the Child Right Convention that relate to selling children and using them sexually and immorally. She also invited not only to modify and heal the laws but also to pursue and fellow up the juvenile and guide and educate him/her to then incorporate him/her in the society to positively play a role in society progress.

Ms. Fatihia further called to increase the awareness campaigns among the people who deal accurately with juveniles who were innocent children but unfortunately for some reasons turned into criminals, and to organize rehabilitating courses for the employees working with juveniles.

Yemen Times met Mr. Waleed Mohammed AL-Basheer, Program Manager at Save the Children Sweden, who clarified "Workshop of today is part of program jointed between UNICEF, Save the Children Sweden and the Higher Council for Motherhood and Childhood. The workshop focused on training and awareness raising on the Child Rights Convention and the two option proto-

cols. The participants are judges, social workers, lawyers, staff from attorney general and NGO community. The workshop also will have some focus on juveniles' justice and law and related laws. Save the Children Sweden is working together with Higher Council for Motherhood and Childhood and UNICEF to promote juveniles' justice in Yemen and we have supported the establishment of the national network for care the juveniles' offenders and children confront with law in Yemen in September last year. People remember in February that the network has submitted a proposal for revision for the juveniles' law to the parliament to discussed it and we hope the approval and endorsement of the parliament for the revised version. We will Continue working with UNICEF to support the Higher Council for Motherhood and Childhood that coordinated with different authorities and government ministries. We hope that Child Rights Convention, the law, the policies will be implemented and that is why the participants of today are the responsible people for the implementation. We are keen to see the national convention as well as the international legalizations implemented and not only kept in the drawers as treaty or papers. So that we invited today the juveniles court judges, social workers and all the responsible. We are so happy to be a part of event today.'

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Around the Nation

Impressions of a Polish ambassador in Yemen

Poland established diplomatic relations with the Republic of Yemen in 1990, immediately after the unification of the two Yemeni states. I am happy to say that the government of the Yemen Republic acted with the same pace and opened the Yemeni Embassy in Warsaw a few months later. Poland and Yemen have today close and friendly relations, widely reflected in good political, economic and commercial cooperation. Several hundred Yemenis studied in Poland. They do serve their own country - Yemen - in the fields of their education and, I am happy to say, many of them contribute in maintaining and further developing Polish -Yemeni ties.

TEMEN

Both Poland and Yemen have been experiencing growing pains in the last 15 years. I know very well Yemeni history of the last 15 years and, while trying to promote history here, in my dayto-day activities, Polish economic, cultural and political goals, I am also bringing the dramatic Yemeni history to the knowledge of the Polish political, economic and cultural elites. Polish – Yemeni political consultations that we conducted a few months ago revealed that, indeed, the views and positions of both governments on the most important international issues are very close if not identical. Thanks to that we have an excellent cooperation in bilateral relations and maintain it through international organizations as well.

Taking this opportunity I want to thank my many Yemeni friends: after its own historical upheavals of the last fifteen years, and after concluding its membership, first in the NATO and then in the European Union, Poland is now opening its foreign policy towards the Arab world, including Yemen, with its own economic initiatives and with much increased volume in developmental assistance. I am sure that we shall have the opportunity to speak



much more specifically on that in coming months.

It worth mentioning that, the polish people have marked their 25th anniversary for the emergence of Solidarity movement. It is the memory of the establishment of the most powerful movement in the history of the Soviet empire that brought about the downfall of communism in Poland and also in Central and Eastern Europe.

Automobiles and Motors Trading Center introduces the all new Hilux

By Hassan Alzaidi Yemen Times Staff

SANAA- Last Saturday, in Taj Sabaa Hotel, the Automobiles and Motors Trading Center inaugurated Toyota Hilux 2006. It was entirely magnificent as Toyota comes first in this exhibition.

Mr. Aidros Ba-Zaraí, deputy Chairman addressed the ceremony reviewing the modernization phases that Hilux car had undergone, till it became a magnificent, comfortable Family car. He said that because the Hilux is broader, it is used for transport. The new Hilux which comes



within the international unique development project (IMV) will be a gate for grand car models.

He insured that the new Hilux will be a friend of the environment because it uses an electronic fuel injector that discharges no harmful gases from the exhaust valve.

Aidros said that they are now on their way to accomplish their deep-rooted progress in Yemen. He also reviewed the new specifications and merits of Hilux, and said that it is no wonder that

the Hilux Pick up is the first car in Yemen. Mr. Aidros also said that the traits of Hilux place it at the top and its owner never regrets the money he pays

for it. In his speech, Mr. Noman AlSuhaibi General Manager of customs confirmed the advantages that the Center furnishes by giving their clients the cars that are more peaceful and for it. Car in Yem Yemeni envi a result of often cast ou The guest documentar explanations Helix 2006.



more suitable to their environment.

He confirmed that the 5% customs deduction will reduce smuggling, and there will be more inclination towards buying cars from car agencies.

Mr. Arif Alzawka First deputy of the Capital Secretariat confirmed the distinct role of the Center as the reliable distributor for Toyota all over Yemen. He said that Toyota is still the leading car in Yemen, confirming that the Yemeni environment suffered harms as a result of the discharges old cars often cast out.

The guests watched with interest a documentary film and listened to explanations about the new model of Helix 2006.

Sana'a International Exhibition opened

Coinciding With the annual revolution celebrations, the Ministry of Trade and Industry is preparing to organize the Sana'a first International Exhibition in Apollo Center, in Sana'a Expo.

Mr. Iqbal Bahader, Deputy Minister of Ministry of Trade and Industry, said Sana'a first International that Exhibition is considered to be the first great important function because it constitutes a number of foreign and Arab countries that are looking for new markets in Yemen and trade exchange with Yemeni businessmen. He added that his ministry is looking forward to render this exhibition successful; because it has a long term competition aims. He explained that the exhibition came at a time when Yemen had already strengthened its commercial and economic ties with many international countries. Mr. Omar Al-Nihmi Marketing Manager of Apollo international for Exhibitions said that the exhibition is gaining importance because of the huge functions that contain exhibition sections of many Arab and International companies.



Continued from page 1

Military Intelligence frees arrested journalist

Secretary General of the YJS Hafiz al-Bukari described the media attack launched by al-Thawrah as "irresponsible conduct" harming journalists and correspondents. He claimed interrogating al-Thawrah Managing Editor, a member of the syndicate, for disrespecting his colleagues. Hafiz emphasized that al-Thawrah daily never published any statements by the YJS and the reactions of journalists to the flagrant violations of the Yemeni press law and ethics code. In the same context, Khaled Salman, Editor-in-Chief of al-Thawri, mouthpiece of the Yemeni Socialist Party appeared in court along with two of his reporters Nabil Subai and Fikri Qasim, at the Capital' South Court. The pair was accused of humiliating President of the Republic in a case launched against the paper and its reporters by the Press and Publications Prosecution. Additionally, another suit was filed against the paper by the leadership of Marine Forces and Coastal Defense, part of the Ministry of Defense.

The court is expected to continue looking into these cases next Wednesday. In the context of the Arab and international reactions to the harassments of Yemeni journalists, the Parisbased Correspondents Without Borders Organization confirmed in its recent statements "despite declarations of President Saleh on more than one occasion to support the press freedom, the independent media in Yemen are still subjected to continued hassling."

On its part, Amnesty International urged for immediate investigation into the harassments of journalists and media establishments.

It has become normal to see opposition and independent newspapers always attacked by the authorities from time to time causing political controversy in the country, particularly as the presidential and parliamentary elections draw nearer. It is worth mentioning that the recent development come as many of the independent newspapers elevated the level of their writings reaching by that high level authorities and persons not used to being subjected to questioning and criticism by the media.

Journalists in Yemen lead a life dominated by fear and concern due to severe procedures taken against some of their colleagues. The threat, harassment, kidnapping and attack of media personnel and the robbery of journalistic offices emerged after the establishment of Yemen's Re-unification in 1990.

Numerous journalists believe that such procedures and violations are dangerous indicators of the future of journalism and expression of opinion ensured by the Yemeni constitution and the international accords and conventions. Especially that there are many opposition and independent newspapers in Yemen in addition to the new trend towards electronic press in Yemen, which are targeted by the editorials of the official newspapers recently

Basic human rights violated

Al-Ahsab's children, who left their home in Maghrib Ans, Dhamar Governorate, suffer from deadliest diseases due to cold, storm and heavy rains for two months, and moreover guards at the Presidential Palace took the tent away several times, leaving



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He added that, the exhibition which is organized for the first time is considered as a commencement for an annual big trade function which, comes as a result of continuous coordination between the Government and the private sector.

He called the Yemeni industry and businessmen to visit the exhibition to meet their counterparts and negotiate the prospects of trade exchange with them.

The exhibition is organized by the Ministry of Trade and Industry in coordination with Apollo for International Exhibitions, and support of The General Association of Trade and Industry and the Chamber of Commerce in the capital Secretariat and the Yemenis Industrial Society. them without shelter, said eyewitnesses.

The perpetrators have been for a long time harbored by directors of Dhamar's Security Department and the Criminal Investigations Bureau. The press believed such a practice of authorities encourages perpetrators and influential robbers to do what they want.

The family is now taking shelter in a basement of a modest hotel owned by a man of charity in the capital city of Sana'a. "We are waiting for justice and our rights," said the aged wife.

The family feels frustrated after the failure of a two-and-half-month sit-in in front of the Presidential Palace and resorted to appealing to President Ali Abdullah Saleh and the human rights authorities to bring the perpetrators to justice and hold the concerned parties aiding them accountable for what they committed.

Qualifications required

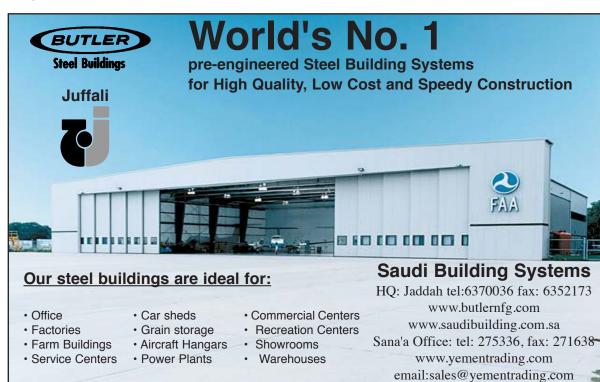
- be a university degree holder
- be proficient in Arabic and English using computer skills
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Please fax or e-mail your CV in English, the names of 2 referees and a letter of application (one side of A4 only) setting out how you can contribute to the Girls' Education Project. Applications must be received by 11 September. Candidates short listed for interview will be invited to attend the Taiz Office on 15 September.

Fax: 04 266431, tel 04 266 6771 E-mail BRIDGEyemen@hotmail.com





Report



The spread of gat in America

HAKIM ALMASMARI YEMEN TIMES STAFF Hakim_Almasmari@hotmail.com

hrough the ages, the North African originated Qat leaf passed threw centuries where in most situations, it was of no value. It is believed to have existed in the African and Yemeni trade market even before coffee. Rarely was it noticed that people got together for the so-called Qat

session. Nowadays things have changed dramatically. From east to west, Qat has spread so vast that in the present time, Qat shops are even spread in the very heart of The United States and Europe. Although some shops are illegal, in parts of Europe some Qat shops are as visible as local restaurants. The use of Qat has become a popular leisure time activity for many Africans and Asians abroading in the United States as well. Recently, a growing

number of white Americans have been

أرسلوا أموالكم إلى مصر، لبنان، فلس الأردن، سوريا أو العراق خلال دقائق* برسوم تبدأ من 10 دولار آمريکي** ناية 1,000 كثر من 1,000 - 2,000 دون حساب بنكي • دون رسوم إستلام صلوا بيونيون للصرافة في اليمن على 1 210540 🚽 👷 👘 🖑 UNION FOR EXCHANGE ترن بونيون مين... يونيون المسرافة UNION FOR EXCHANGE ويسترن يونيون عدن شارع مدرم المعلا ۲۲۰۲٤۱ شارع جمال ۲٦٦٢٧٠

noticed chewing the Qat leaf while at work or on assembly lines under the slogan of chewing tobacco. They believe that it lifts their spirit, sharpens their thinking and increases energy.

American Qat chewers admit that Qat has long existed in the United States. Some put the number as far back as the 1950's. Yemeni's living in the United States spend over \$3 million for Oat on a yearly basis. This number is gradually increasing as more people are introduced to Qat daily. "We have large Deewans, "Qat chewing halls" in America, some ranging to over 10 meters in length", said Ali Saleh, a Yemeni residing in the United States. He continued, " On Friday nights, Qat is like Jummah, a must".

In America, bunches of Qat sell 5 times their usual price in the U.K, and in some situations, 20 times the original price of that of its native country. In the United States, the selling price for a day supply ranges between \$40-\$80. Highly organized gangs in Britain are making 200 million pounds annually smuggling Qat into the U.S and Canada.

Most Qat is shipped to the United States via Britain on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays. These dates are chosen in order for the products to be available by the weekend for local costumers. Due to it being extremely perishable, it loses its potency in 3 days. Smugglers have to work extremely hard to sell Qat before it loses its value. In most situations, they are usually shipped just hours of their arrival in the U.K.

Britain is the only western country, which has not yet banned the use of Qat. In 2003, over 20 Britons were arrested in the U.S for Qat trafficking. Because of ethnic minorities, Qat continuously keeps on spreading across the United States. It could be found in numerous ethnic markets, restaurants, and shops throughout North America. Yemeni's, Somali's, and Ethiopians

are usually the highest bidders for Qat. In places like New York, Boston, Detroit, Washington and Seattle, Qat chewing is sometimes very noticeable on weekends, holidays and vacations.



In 1998, a Yemeni man was arrested for growing 1,000 Qat plants in a land that belonged to him. It was recognized as the first Qat plantation recorded in the United States. Since then, Qat plantation has only been noticed on a couple of occasions. Actions were taken appropriately to end such illegal practices.

Yasser Abdo Rabbu, a Yemeni citizen residing in Detroit, has been living in America for almost half a century said, "My greatest fear was the risky outcome of my children being raised in the United States. As they got older and passed threw high school, I decided on a family trip to Yemen. In Yemen, I introduced Qat to my three sons. Weeks later, they fell in love with the precious leaf and saw it as a suitable substitution for many inducements that surround their daily life in the United States. This habit followed them to the United States".

Nearly eighty percent of Qat shipped to American soil usually passes uncensored and untouched, while in rare situations it gets seized. Most of Qat seizers occur in New York airports. Other cities where Qat seizer became publicized include Detroit, Minneapolis, San Jose, New Jersev and San Diego.

U.S. authorities took a stronger approach towards Qat after it realized that it is spreading fast in a number of Arab communities around the country. Bringing Qat into America would carry the same sentencing as bringing internationally banned drugs such as cocaine or heroin. There are two substances in Qat, which are classified as illegal in the U.S, which are Cathinone and Cathine. Some states took no serious actions against Qat until the federal ban on Cathinone came into effect in 1993, before that, it what seen as a normal issue. Cathine was banned in 1988, five years prior to the ban of Cathinone.

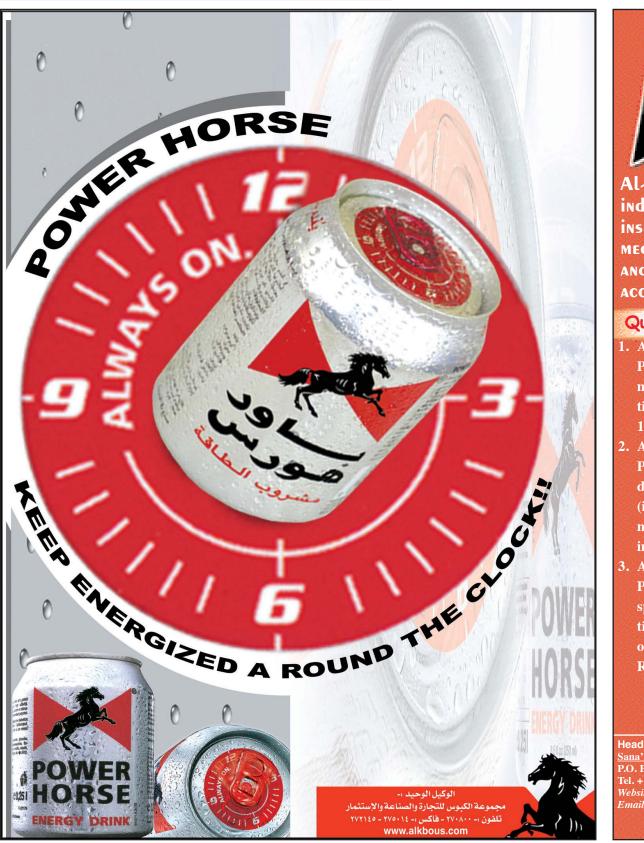
A law abiding citizen in most American states who would want to know the legal status of Qat before using it, would not find it on the federal list for banned substances. Qat, in some states is not recognized by the law as an illegal substance. This is solely of it not being spread and used in those states, due to the absence of Qat chewing ethnic groups. When arrested

for possessing Qat, the charge itself is known as possession of Catharine not Oat.

Under all circumstances, for Yemeni's residing in the United States, Qat is just an issue, which can lead to no harm or violence. It is part of their culture and tradition, which many can't just forget. For some people it is a tool used to help busy themselves in their leisure time, rather than committing actions, which Islam forbids.

"With the many inducements that surround us as Yemeni American, we can busy ourselves by chewing Qat rather then indulging in unlawful religious acts, which include drugs, sex and liquor"said Omar Mo'zib, originally from Taiz.

Even in a society like America, culture and religion still plays a major role in the Yemeni American's personal life. Many admit chewing Qat only to keep them away from things far worser. In this situation no blame is given to them. On the contrary, it is still illegal in the United States, and abiding by it's laws as a citizen is exactly what Islam teaches us and orders us to put into practice.





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An Individual or Group Health Insurance Policy (including family members) to cover specified benefits (including hospitalization) for an annual maximum sum insured of US\$ 7,500, per insured person in the Republic of Yemen and abroad worldwide.

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- Policy (including family members) to cover specified benefits (including hospitalization) for an annual maximum sum insured of US\$ 3,000 per insured person in the **Republic of Yemen only.**
- 5. An Individual or Group Health Insurance Policy, to cover medical expenses (including hospitalization) and other specified benefits during travel abroad for business or pleasure for an maximum sum insured per trip of US\$ 300,000 per insured person worldwide.
- 6. An Individual Hajj and/or Umra Health and Accident Insurance Policy valid for thirty days to cover pilgrims traveling to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for:
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YEMEN

Report

Despite the persistent need to tackle social issues Sociology ignored

BY TAIZ BUREAU

espite the significance of sociology as a field of inquiry and its close relation with social issues, the findings of this human science are largely ignored. This theoretical science is marginalized and no attention drawn to it by the official parties in the country nor does it attract attention of the ordinary citizen who lacks awareness on the vitality of such a science.

Sociology is ignored despite the fact it is very important to the process of development, and several countries are perceived to rely on this science in suggesting cures for different social issues. Our focus is on sociology, its concept, its role and difficulties and barriers posed to it.

Integrated into life aspects

At the outset, Dr. Abdurrazaq Mahmoud, Head of the Department of

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- إجادة استخدام الكمبيوتر

Sociology, Taiz University talked about the concept of sociology and the role it plays in solving social issues. He defines sociology at the science which studies the social phenomena, human groups and it falls into several names such as the



Abdulsalam al-Usofi

rural and urban sociology. This means sociology is the science that integrates in different lives of societies. Regarding the role of this science in the theoretical and practical aspect, Dr. Abdurrazaq said, "some British universities are interested in theoretical aspect while the American universities show more interest in the practical aspect, but the in the third world, this science faces plenty of obstacles restricting its role in real life situations.'

Study of the problem

Dr. Abdurraq mentioned the problem is difficult to study without field visits, quoting the phenomenon of divorce, an issue whose solutions can not be provided without making field tours and raising questions to the divorced in order to illicit their viewpoints. Fourth level students in the department of sociology finish their study without being given any assignment to conduct a field research on the phenomenon.

Viewed as atheistic department

Then we shifted to Dr. Omar Ishaq, Professor of Domestic Sociology who talked about difficulties facing its department during its establishment.

The Department of Sociology was founded in a time when people lacked awareness of the importance of this science, Dr. Omar said adding that numer-



Huria al-Gunaid

ous people are found to write about this science without visiting the department. Students are realized to join the department without any previous knowledge of what they will study. Most of those who join the department have low scores in the secondary education.

Mr. Abdussalam al-Yousifi , Head of the Department of Societal Guidance and Applied Psychology at the Higher Institute for Teachers gave us a similar viewpoint. He said the absence of the role of awareness on the role of sociology compelled numerous educational institutions to conduct studies on the rarest social issues.

"We are not aware of the benefits this science offers for society and the social issues," Abdussalam Yousif added.

On her part, Horia al-Junaid, a demonstrator at the Department of Sociology, Taiz University said students join the department, but not out of self motivation and think that they will not have any role in the real life situation; a student is found to study at the department and at the same bear in mind that there is not value of his career.

What students say?

The viewpoints of students at the department should be studied and examined as they are though of as the main pillar in activating such a science and applying what they have studied in the



VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) invites Yemeni Nationals to apply for the following position with its project "Strengthening National Human Rights Capacity"



Senior Legal Consultant for the Complaints Department MHR (SSA-7) **Responsibilities**

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- Assist with the translation of English materials and the training of staff and/or participating in the internal discussion pertaining to these materials.
- Assist international complaints consultant with implementing his/her tasks and as per the CTA's instructions.
- Undertake any other tasks assigned by the CTA.

Qualification

- Possess university degree in law or legal profession
- From five to ten years experience in the legal profession
- Excellent command of the English and Arabic languages
- Excellent communication and writing skills (in both languages)
- Proficiency in standard computer software (Microsoft Word, Excel and Power Point) and ability to use Internet.

Interested candidates are requested to visit our website at: http://www.undp.org.ye/undp-vacancies.htm for detailed term of reference of the position and may submit their applications indicating the title of the post applied for by mail to Human Resources Unit and response will only be made to short listed candidates. UNDP is an equal opportunity organization and female candidates are encouraged to apply.

UNDP, P.O.Box 551 Sana'a/Fax: 448841/E-mail: (registry.ye@undp.org) The deadline for receiving applications is Wednesday, 14thSeptember 2005

real life situation. These students are supposed to play a vital role in raising public awareness about the importance of sociology in tackling different issues.

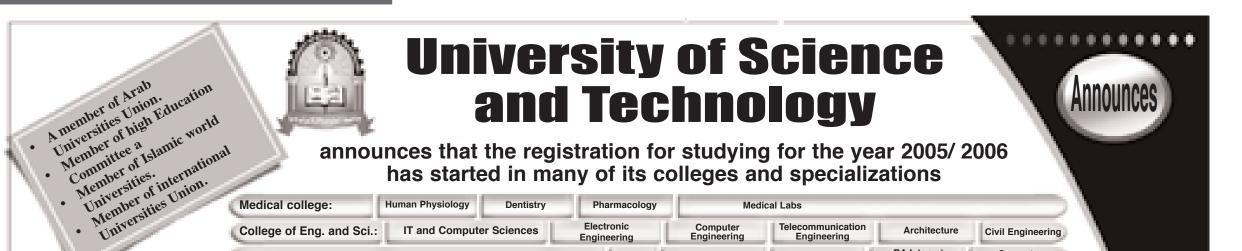
Mofid Othman a second level student at the Department of Sociology spoke about the main objective of joining this specialization saying: "studying at this department helps us get closer toward social issues and think we are part of this society which is full of complicated problems that are in need of immediate cures

Najat Hassan, a first year student at the department pointed out: " we were given assignments to study problems of our surrounding, among theme the lack of water and electricity, however no attention is drawn to these research areas

by the concerned parties." She added, "any sociologist should have integral role in schools, universities, companies and social cares.

Showing the reason for choice to study at the Department of Sociology, Muadh Mansour said, "I joined the department out of self-desire as this field is connected with our daily life; I have a desire to contribute to building my society and solving its issues, and sociology is the tool by the help of which we suggest solutions and cures for various problems.

Numerous students showed relatively similar desires for joining the Department of Sociology topped by their interest to help in suggesting solutions to some complicated social issues.













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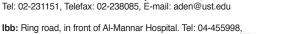
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University of Technology

Science and

Arab

5 September, 2005

Saddam trial to begin on **October 19 : govt source**

BAGHDAD (Reuters) - Saddam Hussein and several aides will go on trial on October 19, an Iraqi government source said on Friday.

The process, for the killing of dozens of Shi'ite villagers at Dujail in 1982, will therefore be starting just a few days after a referendum on a new constitution that the U.S.-backed authorities intend to bury the legacy of his dictatorship.

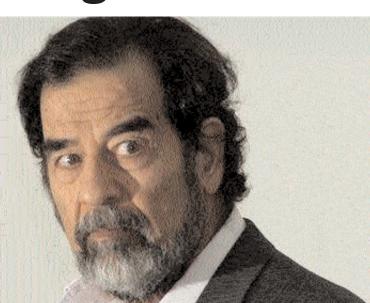
The source, who is not attached to the Special Tribunal trying the deposed president and his aides for crimes against humanity, forecast a quick trial and execution.

"After what he did, how can we not execute him?" he said.

On Thursday, Iraq hanged its first three criminals since Saddam was overthrown in 2003 and officials in the Shi'ite-led government have made clear they want a death sentence for the man they blame for the deaths of many thousands

The trial may stir passions among some minority Sunni Arabs, who dominated Iraq under Saddam and before. In some demonstrations this past week against the new constitution, his face has reappeared in public, on placards and posters.

Saddam followers also play a role in the violence against U.S. troops and forces loyal to the Shi'ite-led govern-



A handout photograph released by the Iraqi Special Tribunal on Aug 23. shows former Iraqi president Saddam Hussein being questioned by Chief Investigative Judge Ra

ment.

For that reason, the timing of the trial has been sensitive; judicial officials indicated last month that the Dujail hearings would be ready to begin by the beginning of October, so the choice of October 19 appears politically driven to avoid it clashing with the referendum campaign.

The referendum is due to take place by October 15 and the Electoral

Commission, which will set the exact date shortly, has said it is likely to be on or very close to the 15th.

Question of timing Officials from the Special Tribunal which is trying the deposed Iraqi leader and his associates for crimes against humanity declined comment. They have in the past complained that government leaders were pre-empting their statements.

Job Vacancies

The Yemen LNG project involves the construction and operation of a gas pipeline, a harbour and a liquid natural gas processing plant at Balhaf which will export 6.7 million tones of LNG per annum. The project offices will be based in Sana'a and the project has an anticipated lifespan of over 20 years. Yemen LNG Company is now preparing to recruit the temporary and permanent staff who will construct and manage the project.

All candidates applying for these posts must be Yemeni nationals

IST HELPDESK COORDINATOR – Reference No. 022 Reports to the IST Manager, the job holder is responsible for responding to all IST users requests for assistance. He/She has a target of resolving 70% of users' problems on the initial call. The post requires the development and maintenance of system for tracking user calls and the eventual solution. The job holder will produce regular analytical reports that can be used for identifying areas for improvement to facilities or services. He/She will monitor the consumption of IST consumable materials; publish documentation to assist the users of IST facilities and services, maintain an electronic department filing system and manage the file access permissions on this system. The ideal candidate will hold university degree on IT and must have previous work experience on the field. The job holder must be able to communicate easily with a wide variety of users and be able to clarify and understand their problems as they call. The job holder must be able to communicate easily with a wide variety of users and be able to clarify and understand their problems as they call. He/She must have sufficient IT and Telecoms knowledge to either resolve the problem or to route it to the appropriate specialized support. The job holder should be proficient in particular in common office applications and must be able to use them to produce regular reports. This permanent staff position is based in Sana'a. The successful candidate will have a University degree (B.Sc) in Engineering or Computer Science and 2-4 years experience on Windows NT System Administration.

IST NETWORK ADMINISTRATOR – Reference No. 023 Reports to the IST Manager, the job holder is responsible for backing up the servers on a daily basis and storing the back up tapes in a safe place designated by the IST Manager. The job holder will develop a tape tracking system to ensure that data can be recovered quickly when required. He/She will be responsible for creation / deletion / management of Network accounts, distribution of authorized software via GPO's and ensuring accurate inventories of such software. Also, administration of SQL database servers, monitor disc space usage and establish quotas for the most efficient use of network server disc space and services on a continuous basis to ensure rapid restoration in the event of a failure of services using MS Operations Manager (MOM). The ideal candidate will hold university degree on IT and must have previous work experience on the field. The job holder must have detailed up to date knowledge of MS Windows 2003 Server including Active Directory, MS Exchange 2003 Mail server, MS SQL Server 2000, MS Windows Server Update Services (WSUS), Veritas Backup Exec 10 for Windows servers and Linear Tape Open (LTO) devices, Microsoft Operations Manager (MOM), Symantec Anti Virus Enterprise edition and ISA Server 2004. The job holder must be able to communicate easily with a wide variety of users and be able to clarify and understand their problems. He/She must be able to clearly specify any new requirements and negotiate the supply of these needs effectively with suppliers. The successful candidate will have a University degree (B.Sc or M.Sc) in Engineering or Computer Science and minimum 3-5 years experience on Windows NT System Administration.

IST SECURITY PLANNING AND COORDINATOR (Two Post)-Reference No. 024 and 025

Reports to the IST Manager, the job holder is responsible for establishing and maintaining IS Security Procedures including, establishment and maintenance of a Yemen LNG Information Systems Security Policy, establishment of contingency planning (Disaster recovery) plan and periodic testing of plan, review and audit of Network administrator's privileges. The job holder will review and audit Firewall Policies, review of NTFS file access permissions, audit of Operating Systems and Anti Virus updates and review the performance and quality of IST infrastructure facilities and propose upgrade or evolution options. The job holder must have detailed up to date knowledge of MS Windows 2003 Server including Active Directory, MS Exchange 2003 Mail server, MS SQL Server 2000, MS Windows Server Update Services (WSUS), Veritas Backup Exec 10 for Windows servers and Linear Tape Open (LTO) devices, Microsoft Operations Manager (MOM), Symantec Anti Virus Enterprise edition and ISA Server 2004. The job holder must be able to communicate easily with other IST specialists. They must be able to influence and negotiate in order to achieve optimum and practical solutions and be consistent in their approach especially on matters of IS security. The successful candidate will have a University degree (B.Sc or M.Sc) in Engineering or Computer Science and minimum of 5 years experience on Telecoms Engineering or MS Windows Server administration

IST TELECOM ENGINEER – Reference No. 026

Reports to the IST Manager, the job holder is responsible for responding to all IST Users requests and monitoring the international leased circuits (Main Links and VSAT back up links) between Yemen LNG offices in Sana'a, Project offices in Paris and Operational base at Balhaf. Provision of availability figures compared with Service Level Agreements. The job holder is responsible for ensuring the continuous operation of PABX, Pstn Lines, ISDN lines, mobile Telephone systems including GSM, internet Access lines, VPN encrypted links, videoconferencing systems, VHF/ UHF marine and aeronautical radio systems, vehicle tracking systems, multiplexors, Routers, Firewalls in the YNLG LAN / Wan, administration of Internet Access Firewalls. He/She will also be responsible for liaison with Government agencies on the provision and maintenance of frequency licenses, design, implement and maintain local area cabling from IST equipment rooms up to and including office outlets. The job holder must have detailed up to date knowledge of the following technologies: optical Fiber Transmission Systems, Very Small Aperture Satellite Transmission Systems (VSAT), Microwave, VHF, UHF and HE radio systems ALCATEL OmniPCX PBX VPN encryption videoconferencing dynamic routing protocols (BIP or

Sharon, Abbas to meet this month: Israeli paper

JERUSALEM (Reuters) - Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas will meet this month, their first summit since Israel removed Jewish settlers from occupied Gaza, an Israeli newspaper said on Saturday.

Citing Israeli political sources, Haaretz said in its online edition that the leaders would hold talks at month's end, after they return from a Sept 14-16 summit at the United Nations.

Israeli and Palestinian officials were not immediately available for comment.

Israel's withdrawal from Gaza and a corner of the West Bank last month has stirred hopes of new progress on a U.S.led "road map" to peaceful Palestinian statehood.

A statement from Sharon's office said Abbas called the move a "brave and historic decision" and voiced hope that it would "open a new page ... for the



Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas waves to students during his visit to Ahmed Shawki school REUTERS his visit to Ahmed Shawki school

sake of peace and the future of both peoples and the region."

Sharon and Abbas held their first summit in February, soon after the latter's election to succeed the late Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, and declared a ceasefire seen as key to Israel's plan to removal settlers from occupied land.

At a second meeting, in Jerusalem on June 21, the two cemented an agreement to coordinate the Gaza pullout but failed to bridge differences on other issues such as Abbas's request for other confidence-building measures.

Iraq buries stampede dead, unity efforts falter

BAGHDAD (Reuters) - Iragis mourned on Friday and buried more of the 1,000 killed in a stampede, but while the country struggles to come to terms with the tragedy, a march aimed at reconciling Sunni and Shi'ite Muslims did not go ahead.

Iraq's two main religious communities had planned a joint march in Baghdad as a show of unity and a sign the stampede could become a catalyst for improved relations between them.

But although members of both communities arrived at Baghdad's big Um Al-Qura mosque to pray together, Sunnis easily outnumbered Shi'ites, and despite calls from religious leaders on both sides, there was no peaceful demonstration.

Instead, the three-day mourning

period for the victims of the tragedy was disrupted by a small car bomb killing at least one person, less than 3 km (2 miles) from the bridge where nearly 1,000 died in the stampede on Wednesday, police said.

Fears of a suicide bomber in a huge crowd of Shi'ite pilgrims marching to a religious ceremony triggered the rush, causing the biggest loss of life in a single incident since the U.S. invasion in March 2003.

Most of the dead were women and children who suffocated or were trampled as thousands leapt off the A'imma bridge into the Tigris river near the Kadhimiya mosque in north Baghdad. At Friday prayers in the Um Al-Oura mosque, the preacher accused Shi'ites of kidnapping and killing 36

Sunnis, while in a mosque in the impoverished Shi'ite district of Sadr City, the preacher blamed incompetent authorities for the stampede.

"The government should do its best to punish the negligent ones and dismiss weak ministers who used their positions to serve their interest and parties," Seyyid Abdul Zahra Al-Suweidi said, calling on the defense and interior ministers to resign.

The defense minister is a Sunni while the interior minister belongs to a rival Shi'ite Islamist movement to Suweidi.

In the Shi'ite holy city of Najaf, 160 km (100 miles) south of Baghdad, funerals continued on Friday, although most victims were buried on Thursday.

OSPF), Cisco Catalyst 2950, 3750, 2651XM, Cisco Router 2600 series, Cisco PIX Firewall. The job holder must be able to communicate easily with a wide variety of users and be able to clarify and understand their problems as they call and must be able to clearly specify any new requirements and negotiate the supply of these needs effectively with our suppliers. He/She must be able to ensure that services provided by external suppliers are supplied as per the agreed contracts and that any deficiencies are rectified or reconciled. The successful candidate will have a University degree (B.Sc or M.Sc) in Telecommunications or Electronic Engineering and minimum of 5 years experience on Telecommunication Operations.

IST USER SUPPORT ENGINEER – Reference No. 027

Reports to the IST Manager and is responsible for Installing and supervising external services with the installation of personal computers (PC's) and or peripheral devices for Yemen LNG users and ensures that inventories of such equipment are kept fully up to date at all times. The job holder is also responsible for maintaining or supervising external services with the maintenance of personal computers (PC's) and or peripheral devices for Yemen LNG users, installation of software on PC's when software is not distributed by GPO, ensures that inventories of such software are kept fully up to date at all times. He/She will provide support of common office software, technical systems software, business applications software e.g. IDEA's, development of Web pages publishing software. The job holder must have detailed up to date knowledge of the following common office software such as Windows XP Professional & IE 6.0, MS Office 2003 Inc Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Access and Outlook, MS Visio 2003, MS Project 2003 and Microsoft Outlook and Outlook Express. In addition, the job holder should have a good knowledge of technical systems software such as Adobe Illustrator, AutoCAD 2002, Corel draw, Aldus PageMaker, Photoshop Software. The job holder should have a good knowledge of Web Page design and associated software and must be able to communicate easily with a wide variety of users and be able to clarify and understand their problems as they call. He/She must be able to clearly specify any new requirements and negotiate the supply of these needs effectively with our suppliers and ensure that services provided by external suppliers are supplied as per the agreed contracts and that any deficiencies are rectified or reconciled. The successful candidate will have university degree (B.Sc or M.Sc in Computer Science and minimum of 5 years experience on Information Systems user's support.

All applicants for these positions must be fluency in written and spoken Arabic and English and candidates will be tested to assess their current level and training needs.

Applicants should send their CV with a short covering letter explaining why they believe they are qualified for the post to:

The Human Resources Department Yemen LNG Company P.O. Box 15347 Sana'a, Yemen

Deadline: Thursday, 22 September 2005

Candidates applying from outside Yemen may apply by e-mail to: HR@YEMENLNG.COM.YE

Candidates selected for interview will be contacted by Yemen LNG. Please do not send your CV more than once and do not telephone the company to discuss your application

> Company website WWW.YEMENLNG.COM

Syria willing to receive UN investigator on Hariri

DAMASCUS (Reuters) - Syria is willing to receive a U.N. investigator probing the assassination of Lebanese former no date has been set for the visit, a Syrian official source said on Saturday.

The source said Syria was willing Prime Minister Rafik al-Hariri but to cooperate fully with the U.N. meet in Damascus.

probe led by Detlev Mehlis, who has asked to interview Syrian officials in connection with the killing. It was not clear who Mehlis would

World

TEMEN Hope emerges for New **Orleans but struggles remain**

NEW ORLEANS (Reuters) - The desperately sought arrival of government help was bringing a measure of hope to hurricane-ravaged New Orleans on Saturday but officials warned the city faced a long, difficult climb out of crisis.

After days of waiting that magnified their despair, the survivors of Hurricane Katrina greeted military convoys arriving in the flooded city to confront rampant lawlessness and bring desperately needed food, water and medical care.

Criticized at home and abroad for his administration's slow response to one of America's worst natural catastrophes, President George W. Bush acknowledged the results of government aid efforts were "not acceptable" and vowed more help was on the way.

But fear and bitterness still pervaded the Southern city founded by the French in 1718 and long celebrated for its vibrant culture and lifestyle.

Thousands were feared dead after Katrina smashed into the U.S. Gulf Coast on Saturday. Corpses rotting in the sun and uncontrolled looting pre-



Refugees queue to receive rations from the U.S. National Guard at the New Orleans Convention Center Sept. 2. The desperately sought arrival of government help was bringing a measure of hope to hurricane-ravaged New Orleans on Saturday but officials warned the city faced a long, difficult climb REUTERS out of crisis.

sented images once thought unimagin- powerful country. able in the world's richest and most Survivors remaining in the city

struggled to get out and recalled frightful stories of murder, rape and hunger.

Visiting New Orleans after touring storm-hit Mississippi and Alabama, Bush pledged New Orleans would recover its lost grandeur but admitted recovery would require attention "for a long period of time.'

He signed a \$10.5 billion relief package for Gulf Coast areas hit by Katrina. Bush and Congress have described the measure as a down payment on what will be a larger amount of money arriving in coming weeks.

At a news briefing in the state capital, Baton Rouge, Louisiana Gov. Kathleen Blanco said she presented a shopping list of needs to Bush that included the return of a Louisianabased combat team from Iraq to help with disaster relief at home

"We have never needed them so much," she said.

Describing the situation in New Orleans as "still very tenuous," Blanco said: "I have heard that people are feeling the military presence. There's still some danger because power's not up and the nights are dark.

Japan LDP still ahead, but opposition edges higher TOKYO (Reuters) - Japanese

Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi's Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) held onto a hefty lead one week before elections, but its main rival edged higher with many voters still undecided, opinion polls showed on Saturday.

Koizumi called the September 11 election after LDP rebels joined the opposition last month to vote down bills to privatize the postal system, a huge organization with \$3 trillion in assets that is the at the center of his reform agenda.

The unusually dramatic election, which includes Koizumi's dispatch of what the media is calling "assassins" against LDP "traitors," has grabbed the interest of Japan's often apathetic voters.

Although the LDP remains strongly ahead, with 42.2 percent of voters saying they support it compared to 18.5 percent for the largest opposition Democratic Party, the Democrats are starting to narrow the gap, a poll by the daily Yomiuri Shimbun showed.

Koizumi has said that he will resign if the LDP and its coalition partner, the New Komeito, fail to win a majority. Katsuya Okada, the leader of the Democrats, has made a similar promise if his party cannot take power.

The poll was held over three days after campaigning began on August 30 and involved 2,036 voters. A total of 37.9 percent of voters said they would vote for the LDP in single-seat districts, down from 39.2 percent in a mid-August poll.

In contrast, the number of voters who said they would vote for the Democratic Party in the same districts rose to 19.2 percent from 14.1 percent.

Support in proportional representation districts - where people vote for the party, not for individual candidates - shifted in a similar way, with



Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi, also president of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party, attends a group interview at the party headquarters in Tokyo Sept. 1. The LDP held onto a hefty lead one week before elections but its main rival edged higher with many voters still undecided, opinion polls showed on REUTERS Saturday.

the LDP losing ground slightly while the Democrats edged higher.

However, the two parties were neck and neck among uncommitted "floating voters," those who support no particular political party and are seen by many experts as key to the final election results, with an even 12 percent supporting both the LDP and the Democrats for single-seat districts.

With 60 percent of these voters undecided, however, their movements could prove decisive.

A similar survey by the Asahi Shimbun found that 80 percent of floating voters had yet to make up their minds.

U.S. lawmakers tell N.Korea to end nuclear crisis

BEIJING (Reuters) - Two U.S. congressmen told North Korea during a visit to Pyongyang that the clock was ticking to find an amicable resolution to the crisis over its nuclear ambitions.

If the current round of six-party talks aimed at persuading Pyongyang to scrap its nuclear weapons program fails to bring results, the United States has said it may refer the issue to the U.N. Security Council.

North Korea says sanctions would be tantamount to a declaration of war.

"When the talks resume on September 12, we fully expect them to conclude in short order," Tom Lantos, the ranking Democrat in the House International Relations Committee, told a news conference in Beijing on Saturday after a four-day visit to



Pyongyang. "If we can't agree on principles within a reasonable span of time, there

is very little patience in the American public to engage in protracted discussions," he said, referring to the verifi-

able denuclearisation of the peninsula. The fourth round of six-party talks

involving the two Koreas, the United States, Russia, Japan and host China is scheduled to resume in the week of September 12 after a five-week recess. Japanese daily Mainichi Shimbun said on Saturday that the United States

and North Korea would hold talks in Beijing around September 11. U.S. delegate to the talks,

Christopher Hill, would meet his North Korean counterpart Kim Kve-gwan. the North's Vice Foreign Minister, the Mainichi quoted diplomatic sources in Washington as saying.

North Korea had demanded the bilateral meeting as a condition for agreeing to resume the six-way talks, the Mainichi said.

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Opinion

Words of Wisdom

5 September, 2005



8

The fall-out from technology notably advances, 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 TEMEN TIMES **OPINION**

Change rumored in government structure

The structure of the new government for the first time in history will be as a collation government composed of representatives of the strongest three or four political parties in Yemen, or so say rumours from the top. It is rumoured that there will be changes in the current government prior to the celebration of Independence Day on the 26th of September so as to give hope to depressed Yemeni hearts when they go out in the streets chanting for the life of the president and our glorious revolution 43 years ago. The constitution gives the right to the president to make changes in the current government in one of three cases: during or post presidential elections, parliamentary elections or in the third case "whenever seen necessary". Therefore, if any changes are thought to happen during this month it will come under the third category. There is vital need to "get rid of" a few ministers before a new government is restructured as a whole in April next year.

Rumours are also that there will be four to five ministers removed from their positions and these are Power, Education, Higher Education, Health and perhaps Civil Services as well. Considering that these Ministries are not where the actual problem resides the changes would seem even to a simple layman a waste of time if not an understating of the public mind. Nevertheless the changes, if at all, would be effective for a period of seven months. While Bajamal's government – which is reported to be the worse government in Yemen's history according to international reports and political observers - was not successful in any of the reform programs it attempted, then what could it possibly do in 7 months? The new ministers would probably spend most of this duration getting acquainted with who is who and how to get in the good books of you know who.

Notwithstanding all this, there is talk that a way out would be found through creating a collation government. The new prime minister would most probably be someone from the south, and a number of names are already being recommended to the President to pick the future substitute for Ba Jamal. It could be either one of other two Hadrami candidates Ba Sundowa or Ba Surra, or perhaps as published in al-Wihdawi last week current governor of Aden Dr. Yihya al-Shuaibi. However, all these names are in any case loyal to the ruling party in one way or the other, leaving very little space for a real collation government. Unless of course the main ministers in the new government such as Minister of Finance for example come from a strong opposition political rty such as the YSP then there would not be much change in the government's attitude or behaviour all the same. In fact, if a collation government takes place and includes pseudo representatives of the opposition then the country would really be politically off balance, and have grave and enduring political consequences.

Corruption the greatest solicitude

would like it very much the idea of contemplation that is scrutinizing and searching for factual explanation 5 5 to talking about corruption. What concerns most is the applicable aspect of this talk rather than its formalistic one that is lacking serious action

Abdulaziz al-Tarb

related matters and aspects, is the essential topic for the majority of the people, seeking clear-cut answers to their questions, answers bearing serious purport, not the contrary.

The legal opinion on doting the i's and crossing the t's with regard to how to draft a law that stop the serial of corruption, has to be taken seriously by the government, and it has to listen carefully and legally to viewpoints of people who believe in the work in the legal work for years and have left their imprints in this regard, people who are known for their uprightness, at a time there exist many kinds of whims and deviations.

I am also confident that fighting corruption demands collective efforts with sincere intentions in favor of this country. Those efforts are exerted by people harboring good will towards the country and its sons, people who are capable of effecting balances between rights and duties. Those who give priority to their legal, moral, financial, productive and tax duties and obligations towards the state and its institutions, waiting for rights to be deservedly granted.

big worry in Iraq and the

wider Middle East is that

Islam and modernization

are enemies. But Malaysian

history over the past three

decades shows that this belief is mistaken.

In fact, Islamization has proved to be an

effective political means of reconciling

the majority of Malays to the country's

In the early 1970's, when it was still an

overwhelmingly agrarian country and

Islamization was just gaining momentum,

Malaysia embarked on its so-called "New

Economic Policy" (NEP), designed to

help the majority Malays gain a bigger

share of the country's wealth. After three

decades of spectacular economic growth,

many Malays have become prosperous

and content not only through secular cap-

italism, but through the country's

renewed sense of Islamic identity, one

which - for the most part - embraced

rapid economic development.

By Ooi Kee Beng

To pass a contemporary and impartial law for encountering corruption and its supporters with any exclusion of names has become now an urgently important matter. The ordinary citizen who has rushed to the streets demanding for his right to dignified living, healthy food, clean residence, convenient position and good

medicine, would do that again. In their private meetings and discussions, the citizens have reached to explanations and analyses tending to be pessimistic, closer to crisis of confidence in comparing between word and action, particularly in the question of combating corruption. In order to annul that tendency and abolish its extension, there must be actual embarkation on part of the government on listening to experienced men of law. Discussion should be made public with a legal clarity of phrases to avoid any legal interpretations that one character could change adversely the equation where the corrupt would be the winner and the homeland the loser.

The UN General Assembly had adopted the UN Convention Against Corruption in its resolution No. 58/4 on 31 October 2003. Many states have endorsed it. Yemen has endorsed the convention under the law No. 47 for 2005 issued on 3 August 2005.

Endorsement of the UN Convention Against corruption in these very circumstances we are leading, especially fol-

Islam as a tool of modernization

Ibrahim into his United Malays National

Organisation (UMNO), the dominant

party within the country's ruling coali-

tion. The strategy worked well, and

helped defuse Islamic opposition to the

wrenching changes that accompanied the

country's rapid economic modernization.

increased his influence within the party,

unsettling many of the old guard. Matters

came to a head after the 1997 financial

crisis, when Anwar, the deputy prime

minister, adopted an even more economi-

cally liberal approach than Mahathir.

Partly in response to this challenge,

charges of sodomy and abuse of power

invigorated the reformasi movement, as

growing anti-UMNO and anti-Mahathir

sentiments took hold among Islamic-

minded Malays. This culminated in poor

electoral results for the ruling coalition in

Anwar's bizarre trial and sentencing on

Anwar was sacked.

November 1999.

During the 1990's, however, Anwar

lowing the rise in oil products prices and spiraling prices of all goods and services, and employees are not getting any increase in their salaries, makes it imperative to request the president of the republic to send files of corruption, submitted by the Central Apparatus of Audition, to prosecution so that the officials involved in this situation would stand trial. This would help gain the public participation in annihilating the phenomenon of corruption as long as there are a number of appropriate treatments. Fighting corruption requires a national

unity government working for its political future and interest of the nation, away from unnecessary appropriations and this would urge the citizen to be very accurate in selecting his representatives at local councils and next parliament.

The president is requested to work out suitable and necessary treatments particularly after he has given a two-year space of time to a government that offered mere promises while the citizens have paid all their obligations whereas the government has not met is obligations stipulated at the time of granting it confidence.

Would the citizen remain mute against a government that does not respect its decisions or carry out its promises, with the existence of market depending not on supply and demand rule? The market does only pursue a policy of continuous rising of prices under absence of the state monitoring on goods and products. The state does not monitor weights and quality of those goods and products. It is really corruption of values, customs and responsibility, aloof from accountability.

minister, helped UMNO regain the

Islamist moral high ground that the PAS

It was the beginning of America's glob-

al "war on terror" in 2001, however, that

brought the political march of the Islamist

parties to a screeching halt, as it provided

an excuse for the government to crack

to portray itself as sufficiently Islamist.

So, before stepping down, Mahathir went

so far as to declare Malaysia a de facto

Muslim state. Eyebrows were raised and

questions were asked about the lengths to

which Mahathir would go to counteract

This trend continues. One of Badawi's

first acts after taking over as prime minis-

ter in October 2003 was to introduce the

concept of Islam Hadhari. This vague

term was finally fleshed out with a list of

ten principles in September 2004, all but

one of which, however, was without reli-

gious connotations. Nevertheless, this

But this only renewed UMNO's desire

down on the Malay right and the PAS.

had been claiming.

the Islamist appeal.



The real superpower reveals His strength

n all of modern times, the United States and many other industrialized advanced countries have been spared the devastating effects of natural disasters and quite often this has led to a feeling of serenity that these countries are immune to any major calamities. Or they are at a level of preparedness to meet all natural calamities. This last week Hurricane Katrina revealed there is a lot of power up there in the Heavens and that to take it for granted that man has progressed in so many ways and can avoid any suffering that nature can inflict is foolish and somewhat arrogant. Yes, there is indeed a SUPERPOWER out there, up there or around there that can still outclass and outsize mankind in destructive capacity by leaps and bounds cutting across economic and social differences without any discriminatory tendencies and belying the oft circulated myth that on this planet man is invincible. Katrina showed that even the mightiest power can be subject to nature's uncontrollable devastating "force majeure" and the United States for once was turned into a helpless country that was to be given a real taste of Heavenly Power. This is not of course a display of pleasure at seeing the United States hit by any tragedy, for no sane mind would cheer at the suffering of any fellow men and women, especially innocent common people going about their lives. There are those in many countries that have reached powerful status that get carried away with their own assumptions of their invincibility in this world and their ability to bring all mankind to kneel to them. It is a significant lesson to take note of that there are times when the forces of nature can be unleashed to remind mankind that arrogance is not an acceptable trait to live by, it is an understanding that is strongly held on to by most God-fearing people. For the first time in America's history it is now on the receiving end of assistance from the other countries of the world, after some of its leaders have made it a point often to remind the world that America has given and done so much for the world and therefore has a right to be listened to, wrong or right. Yes, all the world should respond positively and aid their fellow human beings along the Gulf of Mexico, because it is the right thing to do from a humanitarian point of view and it is a reminder to all the nations of the world that human beings everywhere are better off by helping each other than seeking ways to dominate and control the lives of the human race on the pretext that a certain nation has amassed all the muscle it needs to prevail above all nations. It is an erroneous conjecture that human power can ever defy the elements or even stand strong against their synchronized energy to bring death and destruction en masse even to the most powerful and especially the most arrogant. The world rightly responded to Katrina's devastating attack against the United States and this is worthy of recognition, by all of humanity that we are all in this world together and we should look for ways to make our combined resources in service to mankind. There is a lot of untold suffering that is going on in the world, without any natural calamity, and the haves are simply not doing enough to alleviate the sufferings of the have nots. On the contrary, we are seeing the haves even willing to exacerbate already devastating social conditions in other parts of the world, just so they can continue their monopolization on the enjoyment of the amenities of life, by disseminating needless wars and unleashing lethal and destructive weapons to add even more misery wherever the economic interests of the mighty can be served, without regard to the suffering this brings with it to millions of the malcontent of this planet. God may have spoken his word in America as he has done to so many great nations that have gotten carried away with their presumptions of undefeatable strengths. Arrogance is irrational and unnatural if human beings are to find avenues

By Prof. Dr.

in this issue that occupies dreams of the people. The talk about corruption and its

The Editorial Board

TIMES

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modernization. (Of course, paradoxes appear every now and then, such as when globalization is advocated alongside demands for stronger censorship.)

Islamic-minded politicians such as Anwar Ibrahim gained prominence when Islamization took off in the 1970's. But the Islam they promoted was not backward looking; instead, it sought to shape a modernizing economic policy that took note of Muslim sensibilities.

Faced with the grassroots popularity of this movement, by 1982 the government of then Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamed decided to co-opt Anwar

embassies'

Gulf tourists

approval before the

marriage is consummat-

ed. As for the Yemenis

there

The Islamist party, Parti Islam SeMalaysia (PAS), took power in the states of Kelantan and Trengganu and strongly threatened UMNO in other northern states. The personal conflict between Mahathir and Anwar thus led to an apparent rupture between Malaysia's Islamist political forces and the modernizers of UMNO.

So, once again, Mahathir felt pressure to adopt a strategy aimed at preventing Islam from becoming a tool of opposition. This impulse strongly affected his choice of a successor when he decided to step down as prime minister. His choice of Abdullah Badawi, the current prime

Letters to the Editor

damage to the social The answer is simfabric is so extensive **I** ple: enforce the law and may be taints the when it comes to the reputation of the entire foreigners i.e require population.

> mutahar.abdallah@ sa.pwc.com

whose sole objective is Policy of Aggression, to make a quick buck, and this time it's Iran treatment as social ter-The article "Policy rorist with the harshest ▲ of Aggression, and punishment. One more this time it's Iran" suggestion is to limit questions why the U.S. tourism to families and can't learn from its misnot allow kids under, takes. The reason is that the aggression is not a say, 25 into the country. My fears are, considmistake in the view of ering how things go President Bush. Bush is around Yemen, we may itching to use his B61be talking about the "gravity bomb" 11 same thing 5years down nuclear weapon on Iran. Presently, the U.S. has from now when the

converted private (Savanna River)nuclear power plants to the production of tritium for the use of the B61-11. M. abdallah (see www.acronym.org. u k / d o c s 0202/doc07.htm)

What the world has here is a Christian tyrant war criminal whose ultimate goal is control of world resources. The only thing that can stop Bush at this point is a humiliating defeat in Iraq at the hand of the insurgents and the Iraqi public. Right now, it's looking good for the world and bad for Bush. **Robert Lindh** lindh@starband.net

move appeared to be all that was needed for Islam-minded voters to return to the fold of the ruling front.

In the general election in March 2004 – the first since Mahathir stepped down after 22 years in power - moderate Muslims helped Abdullah Badawi to a landslide victory. The release of Anwar Ibrahim soon afterwards raised the new premier's prestige further as a leader who could heal intra-Malay, and intra-Muslim, conflicts.

Since then, Abdullah Badawi has been popularizing the concept of "Hadhari," shaping it as a means to shift Islam's focus from its sanctioning function to its civilizing potential and rendering it less ideological. In Malaysia today, Islam is being presented as a generator of civilization and culture, and not merely as a source of religious inspiration. This has helped to counter extremist tendencies domestically and provides a conceptual platform for moderate Islam. Islam Hadhari tries to project the idea that UMNO's materialism and nationalism do not contradict Islam.

With various feints and strategies, Malaysia has effectively managed the tensions between a secular, modernizing agenda and the Islamic faith that the Malays profess. By making Islamists and Islamist sentiments a part of the process of modernization, Malaysia demonstrates that Islamic faith and economic growth can be reconciled if politicians are clever enough not to treat them as contradictions.

Ooi Kee Beng is a Fellow at Singapore's Institute of Southeast Asian Studies, and Coordinator of its Malaysia Studies Program. Copyright: Project Syndicate, 2005.

should be outlawed and combined sincere efforts produce greater affinity among people of all ethnic, religious and racial affiliations. Nature remains the real superpower of this world and God in his awesome wisdom will always make sure that human beings recognize his presence in every facet of our lives. As if that was not enough, the discontent, even in the most powerful country in the world will not be hesitant in showing their long held feelings of inequity and unfair treatment by their regimes. The obvious states of anarchy, even in such trying times, in New Orleans and other cities reflects the dichotomy of having centuries of injustice release anger and civil disobedience amidst a colossal catastrophe, just so as to make sure that all remember that without justice, rage is ready to be released at the slightest opportunity by the victims of injustice and social neglect, especially when the society is able to direct its abundant resources for the benefit of all its members. When will mankind ever come to the realization that human beings need each other and that there is no rationality in believing that any group can prevail above all other groups? The ability to suppress, clamp down or contain opposition to oppressive ideas is never a rationale for undermining the rights of other human beings and no stockpiled arsenals will ever assure eternal success of human power harnessed for serving the welfare and affluence of just a few.

for world peace and economic cohesion, where suffering

A great American writer once wrote some ten years ago that America can never assure itself eternal power over all the nations of the world. He suggested that American will start seeing its eminent decline within the next fifty years. His argument was 1) that it is an undeniable historical fact that all empires or great nations have risen to great levels of power only to eventually collapse and fall back into the dusty pages of history books; and 2) that America was already displaying signs of social decay and degeneration (mind you this was at a time when the United States was at its ultimate zenith of economic and military prowess). He did not even include possible natural calamities. It is said that Yemen's greatness in ancient history collapsed with the collapse of the Marib Dam alone, which legend has it was gnawed by a rat. If Katrina is to be remembered for anything, it is that real power will always be wielded by the Al-Mighty and, in many cases, when it is so wielded as it was in the Gulf of Mexico, this is to remind mankind that they are all meek and helpless under Him.

Press - Op / Ed

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By Samer A.

International and local repercussion

denouncing assault on journalist

Columnist Dr. Hosni al-Jawshaie wrote

saying he all for economic and demo-

cratic reform adopted by the American

president George Bush has greatly

scaled down after some Arab leaders

become convinced that his call would

bring radical currents to power. The

remark means here the Islamic trend and

those trends would not accept to coexist with the state of Israel. The American

president has preferred to continue deal-

ing with corrupt and dictatorial regimes,

implementing all that the American presi-

dent wants and what Israel wants. Bush

has the view that this is better than national and democratic regimes that

would disturb its policies and refuse deal-

what Bush has announced of ambitions

plan to render the Middle East to be a

paradise of democracy on Earth. In order

to hide America the scandals of corrup-

tion of many regimes in the region, it has

hidden the annual report of the United

Nations, which is called the report of the

human development in the Arab World

The corruption of some governments

in the Arab world has become an

approach followed and protected from

inside and outside. Domestically, there

are legislations protecting this corruption

and those legislations are approved by

What has happened is contrary to

ing with the Zionist state.

and Middle East states.

parliaments of those states.

Jamal Ame

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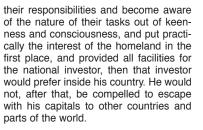
- Main headlines Part of trying the accused of forming "Sana'a Cell" by Believing Youth, The court decides arrest of the accused Intisar al-Siyanni
- Results of basic and secondary schools Two French companies win contracts
- of buying liquefied gas Crimes of killing and stealing rose
- 21% in previous years
- King Abdullah of KSA offers SR 1.5 million to fight polio in Yemen
- Hadramout workers demand to work for oil companies
- Proportion of the infected with dengue increase in Shabwa
- Investigations continue into killing of a cashier in Lahi
- Documents disclose forgery in official letters concerning state real estates

In its back page column "Stop" the newspaper discusses the question of investment saying recently talks about sto apportumities investments have become much. People Job apportunities

have begun repeating the word of investment and about existence of a genuine willingness I the question of attracting Arab and foreign capitals into the country. Besides, there is the talk about knowing about the actual reasons for the phenomenon of disinclination of large number of national capitalists from investment inside, preferring the investment

abroad We would not bring something new if we say that many national investors view the question of building a factory, or establishment of a project or entering in partnership with a foreign investment in any part of the world, would bring hem bigger gains and returns under big facilities and incentives, but, as they see it, they would achieve half or quarter of profits and gains in case they tried to use their money in investments inside the county.

This matter makes it imperative on the all Yemeni concerned and in charge apparatuses to accelerate their serious steps and follow sound and proper plans and ways guaranteeing the proof contrary to that belief and to prove precedence of investment inside over abroad. The time the authorities and executive machinery in every governorate realize

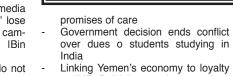




detained in Guantanamo Bav YSP's decision t reconsider its media address, causes "mercenaries" lose heir reason. Libel and extortion campaign targeting Nouman and IBin Dagher

Al-Ansi: New PGC members do not know their charter, the earlier generation forgot it

Observers: Washington behind increase of their influence amid political and press circles. Report: Liberals in Yemen receive American



to IMF, Politicians and economists: Heritage Organization's report promotes for foreign guardianship

HOlu

The political editor of the newspaper has written an article saying the guestion development of education curricula is the ideal means for the Masonic forces. This mater has become posing a thereat to our sons the students who find themselves having sterile curricula alien to nature of the society structure or the Arab and Islamic values. In other words, there is an aim targeted to an important stronghold of the homeland, i.e. the segment of students. They are the first of those harmed by changing curricula according to the Masonic approach that intends to inflict the largest amount of damage on education for the realization of external goals planned for their implementation through programmed ways.

Here we find ourselves obliged to sound the alarm against what is machinated by Masonry against education curricula. We have to assume that we are encountering a new challenge to the society attacking genuine the values to create a climate prevalent with secularism under pretext of fighting terror as well as deletion of texts urging for cooperation and solidarity and facing injustice and non-submission to whoever wants to impinge on the national constants. In confrontation with such a case, it is inevitable to really realize the importance of being aware about schemes of conspirators and forces that offer themselves o any foreigner and show full willingness and preparedness to work hand in hand with him in line with his interests as soon as they get assurances they would be rewarded for their subservience.



Main headlines More than 1000 people killed in Al-

- Al-Haq party of Yemen condemns sectarian events in Iraq
- Ferocious campaign against press freedom, journalists seek political asylum
 - the pretext of reporting the breakdown of a military aircraft. The ministry of

Air Force arrests journalist Khalid al Hammadi Child laborers in Yemen amount to

447 thousands

The newspaper editor in chief writes in his article that change for the best in any society has its own conditions and constituents. It begins with understanding the society's segments needs and requirements. These are considered as basic foundations in platforms of political parties and civil society organizations as well as for their activities and stances.

We in Yemen are in need for emer gence of an active and effective force for their process of change composed of persons and individuals who are close to the people's woes and aspirations so that they would be able to play their role in the formation of a collective public opinion bearing in its major components the requirements of the coming stage. As a matter of fact, the change in itself represents a revolution on many of phenomena of disorder in the state and society.



Main headlines

- Warnings of international reports, Would they pave the way to infection of federalism and chaos?
- Washington praises Yemeni democracy beginning of the year and rebukes at the end of the year



he harsh attacks on the

mounted last week with the

arrest of our colleague

Khaled al-Hamadi under

professionals

By Mohammed Hatem al-Qadhi mhalqadhi@hotmail.com

Who is devastating Yemen?!

ourselves fed up of reporting or writing about such incidents.

Hey folks, beware that you have done nothing remarkable to be reported and remember that you even do not know how to get rare good things reported abroad. You lack such a media policy and are heedless to the role the media can play in our life. You do respect and honor illiterate tribal sheikhs more than intellectuals. You should remember that we can not hide your attacks on the human rights activists and media people. This is not our job to beautify your ugly performance and wrongdoings. Do not expect from us to market you outside while you have rotten apples in the show. I believe it is not journalists who are harming the country and distorting its image outside. It is you folks who is doing that; you heedlessly attack journalists and violate human rights without any attention to the consequences. Do not expect that what you do inside can remain secrets. Remember that we are living in a global village Yemeni people and the world were proud of Yemen's experience of press freedom during the last few years. But, now you have tarnished this impression and accelerated your attacks and violence against journalists. Press freedom was our asset and credit but now we have nothing to be proud of in the world. We are no more "a bacon of democracy" in the region. Therefore, we should question: who is harming or devastating the country's image or reputation outside? Is it journalists or your bad performance people? The world bases its reports on your performance and measure it according to your respects to democracy, press freedom and human rights. Don't you think that such reports are based on your wrongdoings and not on what is written by journalists who just reflect the reality. Isn't Yemen the lonely loser by the end?!

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Continued from back page

The Yemeni-American entrepreneurial spirit in Oakland, California

Yemeni Profiles

Over the years, I had the chance to visit many areas where Yemenis have settled. In Oakland, I was struck by the extreme of the two profiles I observed. There was the Yemeni-American who came to Friday's prayer dressed in traditional Yemeni clothing. This image was contrasted by the Yemeni-American in a suite. The dagger was a stark contrast to the silk tie worn by the younger man. Both individuals are successful businessmen yet they represent the old and the new. They embodied the struggle of two generations: one holding strongly to Yemeni traditions, and the other that is more accepting of the reality of being Yemeni-Americans. The suite presented the modern outlook, but could not hide or mask the pride in his Yemeni heritage and the man's commitment to the core values. As I stood to greet friends after the prayer, I could not help but overhear the group next to me plan for a gat session that would start at 2:00 p.m. and in another circle I later joined people were inquiring about a recent sale of a store that netted a Yemeni about \$500,000. I later learned the sellers are following a wave of other Yemenis who are buying gas stations and properties in the Midwest. Some Yemeni-

Americans are moving out of cities and towns to exploring business opportunities in other regions and states, but many are staying behind, playing an important role as business partners in their communities.

Building a Business and Helping a Community

The Gazzali family in Oakland represents an example of a second-generation Yemeni-American family who are determined to make it in the business world. Their task is unique and difficult as they manage the first supermarket to open in East Oakland in more than 10 years. Their full service, supermarket was a dream envisioned and pursued by their late father who died weeks before the grand opening. Their father. Abdo Algazzali, and his brothers opened their first grocery business in 1969. His business skills eventually led him to owning and managing other businesses and properties. Algazzali educated his children and had both the sons and daughters involved in helping him in various businesses. Rahban, the oldest of children is now managing the supermarket where he, his brothers and sisters also work. Some of his siblings have obtained their college

degrees: others are still going to college and working in the business at the same time. The Gazzali family has invested a lot in an

area that many big businesses once considered too risky and their path to a grand opening was filled with obstacles. "We encountered resistance from some city officials, but some were very supportive," said Rahban Gazzali. Coming up with the capital was another obstacle the family faced and the "community had a lot of doubts," said Rahban. Against all odds, the Gazzali family pursued this ambitious business project intended to help revitalize this neglected area of East Oakland. When they opened, more than 60% of the employees were locals and the rest were family members.

As one walks into the supermarket, one can feel the energy, the desire to succeed, and to make it as a Yemeni-American business with a determination and perseverance, characteristics of hard-working Yemenis. The Gazzali fam ily will have to compete with the newly opened Walmart, and foodmax, but their commitment to the community the live in leaves them undeterred. Their father's legacy is typical of Yemenis who attempt the impossible and posi tion themselves to win against all odds.

considering accountable those who caused displacement of Al-Rizg family of Aden

Defense lawyer in the case of Sana'a Cell deems trial as groundless and violating the law

The newspaper political editor, writing on the Sana'a Cell recent trial, he says last Monday a new development has occurred in the Criminal Court that is trying the people involved in Sana'a Cell case. He says the development was embodied by fabricating charges of conspiring for assassination of the American ambassador to Sana'a and attacking the embassy. Those accusations were against four people, as spelled out by the prosecution that did not specify exactly the date when the event had taken place and that of the alleged attempt, just mentioning it had happened between the years 2004 and 2005.

Those following up proceedings of the trial found out that such development, in its kind and timing, aroused query about who would be the beneficiary from including the American embassy and the ambassador in the case, especially that such charges had not been brought forward by any security or media side since the announcement about the existence of such a cell.



- Opposition refuses dialogue through foreign embassies' windows
- TAwfiq al-Khamiri seeks funding sources from neighboring countries for his electoral campaign
- The Nationalist Social Party nomi-President nates Ali Abdullah Saleh as its presidential candidate

defense came up last Thursday with a warning to Arab and international reporters not to "cross the red lines" of reporting military and security issues, considering them top secrets and taboos.

media

I do not really know where the secret lies in reporting the breakdown of a military aircraft. Actually, it is not the incident that hurt the big guys but the fact that the journalist said the maintenance budget is being pocketed by some people in charge and this is why our aircrafts fall down.

The arrest of al-Hamadi is an acceleration to the attack momentum on journalists who feel insecure at the moment. Al-Thawra official daily newspaper also instigated the officials outrage against the correspondents of the foreign media in its editorials last week. We have been accused of being' agents who have fallen into the trap of tarnishing the image of the country for personal gains". We have also been accused of frightening the foreign investments of the situation.

Hey guys, we are just journalists, not opposition politicians, so as to attack us in such a ruthless way. We have no business but to report the truth and what is going on . We are not mercenaries or agents but to the truth. We do care about our country more than you do. You always say these people report only the bad things taking place in the country. Please show us the good things; the stock market exchanges, the big investments and others of such stuff we can report to our readers abroad. We do have just trials of terrorists, tribal feuds, battles with extremists or rebels and many more similar ailments our country is plagued with. We are

Business & Economy



Business The role of insurance in development

upposing a big incident occurs at a factory or and industrial complex, and material damage occurs causing financial loss arising from the cessation of production, legal liabilities to third parties, and compensation for workers injured, what are the exploitable sources available to defer such financial losses resulting from damage to assets and liability claims? The solution is of a socioeconomic dimension

Perhaps one could resort to personal resources; such as, emergency reserves allotted for such purposes. But, supposing such funds are not available or are insufficient for the purpose of adjusting the costs of repairing or replacing damaged assets, compensating workers and paying for liabilities, one would need to resort to borrowing from a bank. Except, that the chances of a bank accepting an application for a loan consequent to such an incident are bleak because of the confidence exhibited by the borrower not to mention the loan conditions which could be harsh.

To avoid having to be confronted with such a scenario, if the unfortunate party had resorted to Insurance, they would have saved themselves much pain and suffering by simply paying a fixed premium to an insurance company in consideration for the acceptance of transfer of the risk; thus, entitling the Insured party to compensation for their loss which would put them back into the same state they were in prior to the occurrence of the incident.

Another question any individual could ask himself/herself is, if I am the breadwinner of the family, and I was to lose my life or become disabled or lose my job, who would then support my family ?

From custom and past tradition, when there was strong family ties, if a member of the family was afflicted by a misfor-



By Mujib Abduljabar Radman mujib@y.net.ye **General Manager Al-Watania Insurance** Company

of the demands of modern living, people have become pressed for funds and can hardly assist their next of kin. Therefore, the likelihood of the family becoming poverty stricken is imminent and especially in the

tune, one would expect

assistance in cash or

kind: but today, because

absence of social security (like in Europe where the social security would provide such a

family with their minimum needs for survival). Therefore, the sole available alternative would be insurance, which could offer levels of protection for individuals covering health care and paying steady incomes in case of a fortuity to the family.

Capital as we know is the result of the accumulation of surpluses from production minus depreciation. Capital in this case can be interpreted as material wealth in the form of plant, machinery, buildings, etc. and combined together form national wealth. Capital could be exposed to depreciation and depletion from two sources. The first is from natural depreciation/depletion (wear and tear/storage), and the second is from exposure to sudden occurrences that cause damage.

Protection from the first exposure can be sought by utilizing stronger and more durable materials or the allotment of cash reserves for the purpose of replacing worn-out assets with new ones. But such measures would only suffice for the purpose of replacement where wear and tear is consistent (perhaps one year or more depending on the nature and composition of the asset) but supposing the asset were exposed to damage from a sudden occurrence what would be the solution for such an accelerated need for replacement. Allotment of Reserves would not be suitable solutions for such fortuities.

Therefore, in essence, Insurance is a

social tool for spreading the burden of loss that has fallen on an individual amongst a group of people. It is a mechanism that depends on the law of large numbers. The aggregate of the shares of individuals (insurance premiums) is utilized to adjust the damage that was inflicted upon the individual.

The economic benefits of insurance can thus be experienced by individuals and establishments alike; and ultimately, the national economy through the spreading of the losses across the whole and simultaneously compensating them or returning them to the same state they were in prior to the occurrence of the loss.

In this way, Insurance not only offers equitable protection to national wealth in all in forms; but, it also simultaneously offers protection to individuals, private and public establishments (government).

Below are interpretations of the effects of Insurance on the Economy:

assisting to increase levels of retention against losses through the formation of emergency reserves (this is what project managers used to resort to in the absence of insurance and which was later considered misuse of wealth, even when kept in fixed deposit accounts with bank interest, considering that the interest was insufficient and susceptible to decrease by inflation not withstanding the fact that it meant the withholding of wealth that could be better utilized for the expansion of current projects). In lieu of a fixed premium payable to an insurance company, a project manager could manage liquidity in a more profitable manner.

the provision of a higher degree of protection to the Capitalist against loss of material assets caused by natural disasters and human error related to modern industry. Insurance is also capable of extending cover to include loss of profit from cessation of production from a hazard insured against causing material damage. In this manner, Insurance plays also a socio- economic role by

compensating for total or partial material losses that are caused to property. This means that property owners receive in the form of cash, compensation for the equivalent of what was insured to reinstate such property which guarantees permanency for the workforce and continued maintenance of production limits.

- facilitates the exchange of international trade with dependence on cargo marine. land, and air insurance policies as collateral security
- In addition to the insurance of tangible investments against what is known as political and commercial risks encouraging government legislation and decrees to allow for the transfer abroad

of the proceeds of documentary letters of credit or the value(s) of imported goods and audited profits on investments

- the promulgation of knowledge about precautionary measures to combat and mitigate loss exposure. This role is a complementary element in the management of risk (diagnosis of source of risk, risk evaluation, risk retention and risk transfer to another through Insurance).
- the resorting to reinsurance by developing countries for the purpose of mitigating losses (transferring shares of the burden of losses onto the shoulders of the reinsurance companies) and recovering hard currency for claims paid in

Exchange Rate for the Yemeni Rial

Currency	Buying	Selling					
US Dollar	192.5500	192.8000					
Sterling Pound	347.4800	347.9300					
Euro	237.7900	238.1000					
Saudi Rial	51.3400	51.4100					
Kuwaiti Dinar	659.4200	660.2700					
UAE Dirhem	52.4200	52.4900					
Egyptian Pound	33.3400	33.3900					
Bahraini Dinar	510.7400	511.4000					
Qatari Rial	52.9200	52.9900					
Jordanian Dinar	271.7900	272.1400					
Omani Rial	500.1400	500.7900					
Swiss Franc	153.7000	153.9000					
Swedish Crown	25.4800	25.5100					
Japanese Yen	1.7388	1.7410					
Source: Central Bank of Yemen							

local currency.

For the national wealth to grow and prosper, the government needs to give the national insurance industry a boost by introducing legislation making insurance compulsory, setting standards compatible with international trade and industry, monitoring the industry, and issuing directives whenever necessary for the enhancement of the insurance industry.

Nine projects in meteorology and air navigation

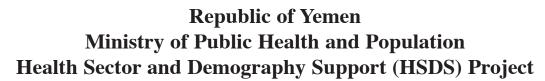
BY MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI YEMEN TIMES STAFF

he general authority for civil aviation and meteorology is currently implementing nine projects of air and sea meteorology in a number of airports and seaports in Yemen as part of the national plan of civil aviation. The projects under construction are aimed at meeting demands and requirements of preparation and supply of Sana'a aviation, as approved by the navigation committee of the Middle East countries, along the political boundaries of the Yemeni Republic, the Arabian Sea region and the Indian Ocean to 60 degrees east. The projects' agenda includes the establishment of complete meteorological systems for measuring elements of aerial weather at Sana'a Airport. The cost is YR 11 million, covering equipment for information monitoring in an automatic way

and sending them directly through computers at the meteorology tower and the office of weather forecasts at the airport in addition to meteorology sector at the main center.

The project aims at updating and modernizing meteorology systems at the airport. It includes the installation of information monitoring system at the northern meteorological station at the airport/ runway 18 that include apparatuses for measuring temperature and relative humidity, duration of sunshine and an apparatus for measuring air pressure, speed of winds direction and measuring the quantity of rainfall. Winds system would be installed at the end of runway 36, including apparatus for measuring speed and direction of winds and a cell of solar system. This is part of a project of upgrading wind apparatuses at a number of international airports at a cost amounting YR 56 million and 613 thousand in order to ensure regular monitoring of winds elements mechanically and with ordinary methods and to ensure safety of air traffic

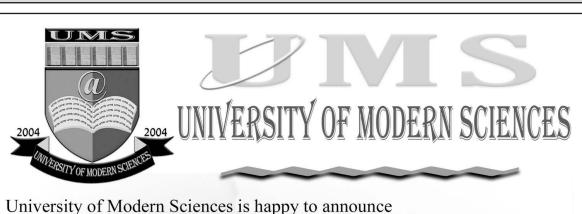
The general authority of civil aviation and meteorology had earlier embarked on implementation of four projects in a number of governorates, including three stations for surface and sea monitoring at a cost of YR 41 million and 406 thousand, among them a station for sea monitoring in Aden, that has been finished recently, in addition to two stations in the cities of Mukalla and Al-Makha, now under construction plus the implementation of a project of a station receiving satellite photos from the second generation MSJ. This is under construction at a cost of YR40 and 75 thousand. The project aims to enhance the capacities of the National Center for Meteorology and the office of forecasts with information and satellite photos that are useful in studying the atmosphere according to specifications of the world organization of meteorology.



Announcing Vacancy for the Post of Financial Management Specialist

The Ministry of Public Health & Population (MoPHP) has received a grant from the European Commission (EC) to implement its Health Sector and Demography Support (HSDS) Project. targeting Taiz and Lahj governorates. The project is coordinated centrally by the Health Policy and Technical Support Unit (HPTSU) within the MoPHP, and is implemented by the Governorate Health Offices (GHO) of Taiz and Lahj.

The HSDS project seeks to applicants for the post of "Financial Management Specialist" who will be responsible for fiduciary and financial management as well as auditing of funds utilized by implementing parties. The "Financial Management Specialist" will be based in Sana'a, and will report and be accountable to the Project Coordinator, and wil work closely with the GHO's, and other relevant departments of the MoPHP.



the commencement of the registration into bachelors programs in its' various colleges with multiple specializations for the academic year 2005-2006:

The "Financial Management Specialist" will be responsible for the following:

- Manage all aspects of the project's financial transactions and related arrangements with implementing parties which 1. includes review of requests for funds, facilitation of approved payments, withdrawal applications, follow-up on clearance of advances transferred to recipients of funds, etc.
- Record, collect, and file supporting documentation, of all financial transactions of the project and ensure that they 2. have been properly authorized and in accordance with EC guidelines, budget, and financial management guidelines
- Prepare regular financial statements for the HSDS project to be submitted to the Project Steering Committee, EC 3. and other bodies.
- 4 Conduct audit of funds and advances transferred to recipients of HSDS Project funds.
- Ensure that the project is audited annually according to the requirements of the project. 5.
- Provide financial and accounting support to the Project Coordinator including verbal and written communication 6. documentation and archiving, and follow-up on all financial matters with the relevant parties.
- 7 Act as the focal point for all dialogue on financial matters related to the project.
- Assist the recipients of HSDS project funds (as may be required) to understand and implement EC and HSDS 8. fiduciary procedures to ensure that disbursement is in accordance with EC and HSDS regulations and guidelines.
- 9. Assist in procurement performed (such as preparation of bidding documents) by the HSDS project and ensure that procurement and tendering procedures are according to EC and HSDS project regulations and guidelines.
- 10. Travel to the governorates as may be necessary.

Qualifications:

- A minimum of 5 years of financial management, accounting, and auditing experience.
- A minimum of a Bachelor's degree in accounting or audit.
- A good knowledge, and use of the generally accepted financial management, accounting, and audit principles
- The ability to operate financial management and accounting software, keep updated financial management and accounting records, and books of accounts.
- Proficiency in speaking and writing in Arabic and English.
- Familiarity with EC and government financial procedures and guidelines.

Expressions of interest must be delivered to the address below by Wednesday the 14th of September 2005. Interested consultants may obtain further information and the Terms of Reference (ToR) for the post at the address below during official office hours.

Health Sector and Demography Support (HSDS) Programme Health Policy and Technical Support Unit (HPTSU) **3rd Floor- Ministry of Public Health and Population** P.O. Box 1352 - Sana'a - Republic of Yemen Tel: +967(1) 220592 - Fax: +967(1) 220593 Email: <u>healthpolicy@y.net.ye</u>



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Culture

TIMES

The Voyages Of Zheng He The fleet of the dragon in the Yemeni waters

By IRENA KNEHTL Email: iren_knehtl@yahoo.com For the YEMEN TIMES

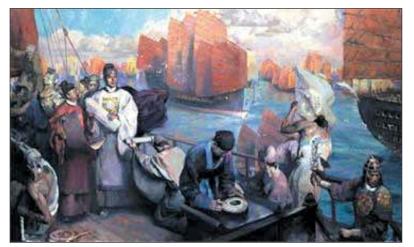
his years marks the 600th anniversary of the first of seven great voyages to south and west seas by China most celebrated admiral Zheng He, (pronounced Jung Hug), a Muslim eunuch in the imperial Ming Dynasty (1368-1644). Exactly 600 years ago this month the great Ming armada weighed anchor in Nanjing, on the first of seven epic voyages as far west as the Gulf of Aden and Africa. The anniversary is being widely celebrated inside and outside China with exhibitions and articles. A replica of an ancient ship used by the Chinese sea voyager, who established the maritime silk route 600 years ago will set sail this month from the Chinese port city of Qingdao.

Zheng He was a remarkable commander whose voyages of trade exploration and goodwill led to the exchange of knowledge and goods as far a field as Yemen and the east coast of Africa. As the "Admiral of the Western Sea", Zheng He lead Chinas most ambitious voyages of discovery. Ordered by the Ming Emperor to sail to "the countries beyond the horizon" and "all the way to the end of the earth", under his command, the royal fleet of the Ming Dynasty set off for the South China Sea and the Indian Ocean, heading for Persian Gulf, the Gulf of Aden and East Africa. An unprecedented massing of naval power and boasting of the most advanced nautical technology and the biggest maritime fleet in the world in the 15th century. His armada of giant junks was several times bigger than any of the fleets Columbus commanded nearly a century later. And his ships were five times longer than those of the celebrated Portuguese

Eunuch", he was eventually chosen to lead one of the most powerful naval forces ever assembled. Says Professor Liu Ying Shenkg of Nanjing University, he was ashamed of being a eunuch, adding there was little information about this aspect of Zhneg He life. Described as tall and handsome with long earlobes, fierce eyes and skin, rough like the surface of an orange..

This was a China on the rise. His fleet included 62 baochuan ships that were 400 feet in length, 170 feet across, had nine masts and a deck space of 50.000 square feet. There were 300 total vessels in the fleet. This vast fleet set sail in July, 1405 from Liujia Harbor near Suzhou on a distant voyage. More than 27.800 men included sailors, clerks, interpreters, officers and soldiers, artisans, medical men and meteorologists. One board the ships were large quantities of cargo that could be broken down into over 40 different categories, including silk goods, porcelain, gold and silver ware, copper utensils, iron implements, cotton goods, mercury, umbrellas and straw mats. The ships, described collectively as the "swimming dragons" boasted as many as nine masts apiece, and the largest could hold 1000 people. Dotted with dragons eyes in order to help them "see", they carried soldiers, doctors, cooks, astrologers, traders and holy man. The senior captains were eunuchs. Zheng He himself was seven feet tall with a waste five feet in circumference, and a voice as loud as a huge bell. He was described as a deeply spiritual man who believed in the unity of all religions. For China, the expeditions were an important source of information about foreign countries. In all, the fleet landed in more than 40 countries and the crew members brought back tales of exotic places and customs.

The fleet sailed along the coast of Fujian, and after crossing the South



explorer Vasco da Gama. With more than 300 oceangoing vessels and a crew of nearly 30.000 men, Zheng He helped transform China into the regions and perhaps the worlds, 15th century superpower. By the end of his fleets seven voyages, China had become an unrivaled naval power. It has established itself as a trade and diplomatic force, its authority backed up by the thousands of troops who accompanied Zheng He on his travels. . Exactly 600 years ago this month, a huge fleet left port in 1414 and sailed westward on a voyage of trade, exploration and discovery. Its commander was, without question, the most towering maritime figure in the four thousand years annals of China. A visionary who imagined a new world and set out consciously to fashion it. He was also a profoundly unlikely candidate for admiral of the Dragon Throne. Born and raised in the mountainous heart of Asia, several weeks travel from the closest port, in 1371 in Kunyang, a town in south west Yunnan Province as Ma He. Ma stood for Muhammed. Son of a rural official in then Mongol province of Yunnan, his family were part of minority group known as Semur and were Muslims. They originatelly came from Central Asia. Both his grandfather and father had made onland the pilgrimage to Mecca Mukarrama. Their travels and tales contributed much to young Mas knowledge of the far off lands. He grew up speaking fluent Arabic and Chinese. Yunan then was one of the last strongholds of Mongol support, holding out long after the Ming Dynasty begun. After Ming armies conquered Yunnan in 1382, Zhen He was taken captive and brought to Nanjing. The eleven year old boy was made a servant of the prince who would become the Emperor. Ritually castrated, he was trained as an imperial eunuch. Renamed Zheng He, "The Three Jeweled

China Sea reached such places as Vitenam, Java and Sri Lanka, along the west coast of India and further west into the Indian Ocean. Sailing north west in the Indian Ocean, they had visited Yemen, Iran and the Holy Cities of Islam Mecca and Medina, in the Western Indian Ocean Somalia and East Africa. No matter what country Zheng He visited, he called on the ruler of the land, presenting him valuable gifts in token of Chinas desires to develop friendly relations and inviting the host sovereign to send emissaries to China. Wherever he was, he



was a massive shadow on the horizon. As the shadow rose, it suddenly became a moving cloud of tautly ribbed sail, aflame in the tropical sun. The cloud draws closer and an enormous city appears. A floating city, nothing the world has ever seen before. Stretched across miles of the Indian Ocean in terrifying majesty lays the armada of Zheng He.

In late 1942, Zheng Ho was ordered to make a fourth and most ambitious voyage to Arabia. It wasn't until late 1413 or early 1414 that Zheng He embarked on his expedition with 63 ships and 28.560 men. The goal of this trip was to reach the Persian Gulf at Hormus, Salalah, Aden, and Jiddah, Hormus then was known as the city of unparalled wealth and goods, including pearls and precious stones that would drew the Chinese voyagers Detachments of this expedition sailed south along the eastern coast of Africa almost as far south as Mozambique. During each voyages, Zheng Ho brought back diplomats from other countries or encouraged ambassadors to visit Nanjing on their own. On each return voyage the fleet anchored at the Malacca base, where provisions, tribute, and gifts were stored in warehouses. From Hormus he fleet proceeded to Salalah, in present day Oman.

Those were the days... white dhows were still built and repaired in the ship yard, the glory that once made Arabia the stuff of poetry and legend. Passed the present Omani province of Dhofar, yet only a few doors away, the glorious town of Mukalla, once a center of the world, torpid, sand - colored town. Those were the cities whose wealth and fame drew the Chinese treasure ships 580 years ago. A Manhattanite looking Shibam in Hadramwut. Here entire cities are build out of mud brick, he observed in his diary. Onwards to Aden, the greatest port in the world. A great and noble and fine city. When the Chinese fleet arrived in what is now southern Oman and Yemen, proud perhaps to have traversed the South China Sea all the way to the Indian Ocean, they were greeted by master Arab navigators, who had been traveling to China, to Guangzhou, for centuries. But now the Admiral was remarkable

that here money was growing on trees, or at least in them. Frankincense, coveted for religious ceremonies in Rome, Egypt and Jerusalem, was more valuable than gold. And how the 1st century A.D. Pliny the Younger called Yemen the richest area in the world.

"We have... beheld in the ocean huge waves like mountains rising sky-high, and we have set eyes on regions far away hidden in a blue transparency of light vapors, while our sails, loftily unfurled like clouds, day and night continued their course rapid like that of a star..." writes Zheng He in his diary.

Darkness, cold and silence of the Arab Sea. He will soon be there. The white minarets of Aden, their shade that oblivion awaiting him and calling him, and it was towards them that his life was drifting. He seem to have reached the end of a long journey. He established the silk route of the sea. He had spoken the first words in Arabic and then continued in Chinese. He did not want the soldiers accompanying him to be aware of his doubts. The name Zheng He hung like a balast on him. He was again Ma, Mohammed, the name his father had given him. The great Admiral of the Western Seas, now his hand folded, and five times a day, prayed to the God of his childhood. He will soon be there. His eyes will repeat tirelessly the cry of the pilgrims

Labbaika, Alahuma! Labbaika, Allahuma! Here I am, Lord!

His eyes searched for Mecca Mukarrama on the horizon, but it was not until the end of another day journey that he saw the holy city, and then only when he arrived before its walls. The town where the Prophet was born, peace and blessing be upon him, which is situated at the bottom of a valley surrounded by mountains which protect it from prying eyes. He entered the city through Bab al-Umrah, the busiest of its three gates. The streets was very narrow, and the houses clang to one another. But better constructed and richer than those of Jiddah. The suq was full of fresh fruit, in spite of the aridity of the environment. Henceforth his every step, was transported into a world of dreams. This city, built on this sterile soil, seemed never to have had any destiny other than contemplation. At the center, the Noble Mosque, the House of Abraham, and at the heart of the mosque, the Kabba, an imposing building which longed to walk round until one become exhausted, each of whose corners bear a name: the corner of Iraq, the corner of Yemen, the Black Corner, the most venerated, facing eastwards. It is there that the Black Corner is embedded. He will be touching it and touching the right hand of the Creator. He would cover

Literary Corner The history of Yemen (3/3)

Author: Scholar and Sheikh Abdul-Wasi'a Bin Yahya Al-Wasi'y Al-

Yamani Language: Arabic

Publisher: Yemen's Grand Library, Sana'a

Year Published: First Printing 1947, Second Printing 1991 Number of Pages: 140

rom Chapter 10 to Chapter 15 Al-Wasi'y goes into some of the details of the British occupation of the Southern part of the coun-He starts off by some backtry. ground information on Hadhramaut, which at the time the first edition was published was a sultanate under British protection. He notes that the British interfered in clashes between the local leaders and eventually sided with one of them to gain influence and eventually win administrative and defense authority.

But in Chapter 11 the author returns to the early days of British interest in Yemen and the occupation of Aden in October 19, 1839 which started with Al-Tawwahi area, which then did not have more than "600 fishermen living in huts", according to the author. But due to the "inevitable clashes that were bound to result between the Sultan of Lahj and the British" the British begin to encroach further into Aden until they fully took over the city. Aden, says Al-Wasi'y is a "beautiful harbor which overlooks the Gulf with the same name. The English have "fortified the port that make it impossible to take the port from them except by a force majeure or extraordinary force" because of the natural fortifications surrounding the and interlacing the city "unless it is done from the sea, but their "boats, armor and large artillery make it almost impossible". So the English continued to encroach upon more territory in the South, but basically mainlined full administrative control to the Crown Colony of Aden. Sometimes this was done by trying to convince the reigning sultans to sell to them or else get any of his relatives to sell them the area, as they did when they took over the Sheikh Uthman Area, which they bought from the brother of the Sultan who had heretofore refused to sell to them. Al-Wasi'y included in this section of the book a report by a Commandant Crawford, a former British Admiral who retired and went on a private visit to Yemen. The Commandant said the Imam Yahya requested him to give a report on some of the regions that were under dispute between the Imam and the British. In the report, the Admiral tried to discourage the British from further encroachment in Yemen, because they will always encounter hostility. Further in the book, the author goes into a description of the mountain ranges in Yemen, noting the major high elevations and the area covered by the mountain ranges. He also notes the several streams, rivers and wadis that interlaced these ranges with details of some of the streams that came to Sana'a. In this section he recounts an interesting story of a for-

mer King of Yemen, whose name was Taghtakin (died 543 AH). He was determined to buy and possess all the land in Yemen, so he would "fully own the country". The people of Yemen found this to be unacceptable, "so a few good people got together and agreed to enter a mosque and not to leave the mosque until this king dies. They entered the mosque and resided inside it for three days fasting at daytime and staying up in prayers throughout the nights. On the third day the king died.

On chapter 13, the author gives a detail account of where the minerals of Yemen can be found. Gold for example can be found in Rada'a, Khoulan – Sirwah and Utumah and even Mount Nuqum East of Sana'a.

In Chapter 14, Al-Wasi'y discusses the region of Asir, starting with an explanation of how it got its name. It was named after Asir Bin Issa, because his mother took three days to give birth to him (the word asir in Arabic means hard). He then describes in detail how the Turks occupied the region in the 1865 by first agreeing with the local leaders to give them wealth and allow them some authority, etc. and then eventually end up killing them, as was the case with the region of Haraz in, where they also killed many of the Ismaelite sect followers. Al-Wasi'y notes that Asir was always a part of Yemen and even the Turks administered the region from Sana'a. after "the Great War", the Turks left Asir and King Abdul-Aziz occupied the region and "it is still in his hand up to now (1947).

In Chapter 19 of the book, we go back again in history, with the Prophetic History and the eventual rise of Islam in Mecca with the coming of the Prophet Mohammed. In Chapter 20 Al-Wasi'y talks of the history of Yemen after the rise of Islam: the different governors that were assigned by the different Caliphs, or successors, who ruled the Islamic State after the Prophet Mohammed died, to administer Yemeni which originally was divided into three regions, the Northern region with the administrative center in Sana'a, the Al-Janad area and surrounding regions and Hadhramaut. Yemen was not spared the political battles between the disputing contestants for the Caliphate and many massacres occurred as the Caliphate changed hands from the Orthodox Caliphs (the 4 subsequent successors to the prophet Mohammed (PAUH) to the Umayyads to the Abbasids. The author then describes the different indigenous states that arose; the Sulayhis, the Zeidi Imams, the final Turkish occupation of Sana'a in the late 19th Century and the triumph of Imam Yahya against the Turks in 1904. The rest of the book is a public relations effort for the Imam Yahya Hamid-Al-Din and his reign and the accomplishments of Imam, giving articles written by foreign Arab scholars and visitors to Yemen. He then gives an accounting of the international bilateral agreements signed with Yemen, as discussed in Part 1 of this critique.

made a careful study of the customs and habits of local residents. His was en epoch when in Asia entire cities were put to the sword. It is the epoch of the Inquisition in Europe, when thousands of Muslims and Jews were burned at the stake. In the context of his century religious fanaticism. Zhen Hes was far ahead of its time and indeed ahead of our own fanatic times. with his plea for tolerance, and peaceful co-existence.

The main destination of the Chinese treasure fleet in the Indian Ocean was the Malabar Coast of India and its cities Calicut and Cochin. Cochin was described as his favorite city, reportedly because of the religious tolerance. Viewed from the rocky outcropping of Dondra head at the southernmost of Sri Laka, the first sighting of the Ming fleet the Stone at leisure with his tears and kisses. He will drink the blessed water of Zamzam.. His spirit would be simply open to the spirit of God as a flower to the morning dew. He would be returning with joy each morning.

His eyes were full of silence. The sea has brought the Chinese people to the summit of the rock, the earth shaken with their cries of triumph. His

achievements show that China had the ships and navigational skills to explore the world. China has a very old seafaring tradition and

Chinese ships had sailed to India as early as during the Han Dynasty. The Chinese compass started out as a fortune telling instrument. In dark weather they look to the south pointing needle, and use a sounding line to determine the smell and nature of the mud on the sea bottom and so they knew where they are.

And so it was. When Zheng He returned from his seventh voyage in 1433, he was sixty two, and he was heading to the final Place. Where no man is a stranger before the face of the Creator. But he opened up trade routes that are still flourishing today, and gained strategic control over countries that are once again looking to China as undisputed regional leader. After Zheng Hes voy-

ages, China turned away from the seas and underwent a period of technological stagnation. It lost the technological lead in navigation and gradually became weak. China today is facing the challenge of the Ocean. China has set July 11, the date Zhneg He set out on his first voyage, as its Maritime Day. The Zheng He expedition 600 years ago offers much to think about. As for the ports that launched Zhen Hes fleets, they are long gone.

Through the centuries, China has struggled to find its proper place in the world. The pendulum has shifted back and forth between openness and insularity, between the spirit embodied in Zheng He and that of others who argued for rolling back into insularity. China would not emerge again as a naval force until the past decade or so. As the 21st century dawns, China again is on a mission to open itself to the world. China, meanwhile, is clamoring for membership in the World Trade Organization, which will make the nation an equal partner in a transparent, globalized economy. The big picture now is that China is open. The message is that Zheng He foreshadowed Chinas 21st century emergence as a world power. China today is once again growing stronger all the time, and Chinas style of peaceful development has been welcomed all over the world. Zheng He was Chinas first big ocean trader, who stands for peaceful coexistence and scientific navigation

China is an important trading and investment partner to Yemen. So far the Chinese investment includes fields such as shipping, oil, fishing, transport, construction etc. Many more Chinese companies are viewing Yemen as distribution center and gateway to their target markets in Africa. President Saleh is due to visit China in early spring 2006.



silent. His grandfather came to mind. He

remembered how his grandfather had

told him that that once upon the southern

stretches of Arabian Peninsula, in partic-

ular Yemen, were known as Arabia Felix

or Happy Arabia, thanks to its strategic

location overlooking the sea - lanes link-

ing Asia to Europe, and thanks too, to the

frankincense trees nurtured by their mon-

soon rains. His grandfather used to say

BY AMEL AL-ARIOI YEMEN TIMES STAFF

hen Ali Aben Abi Talb said " if poverty was a man I would kill him " he was noticing the intractability of the problem. Poverty is not a man, it enslaves men, but it cannot be killed by one. Poverty is a global crisis

Today nearly three billion people live on less than two dollars a day. 1 billion children live in poverty (1 in 2 children in the world). 640 million live without adequate shelter, 400 million have no access to safe water, 270 million have no access to health services. 10.6 million died in 2003 before they reached the age of 5.

Poverty's influence is not restricted to human life but also on environment. Many studies have shown that there is a strong and reciprocal relationship between poverty and the environment. A poor environment is considered a main factor which leads to poverty, and conversely, poverty leads to the misuse and depletion resources.

However, programs to reduce poverty often fail to account for the important link between them. "Traditional assump-



Most poor people depend on nature to get their income



The mismanagement of the natural sources leads to poverty

tions about addressing poverty treat the environment almost as an afterthought ' said Jonathan Lash, president of world resource institute (WRI), which released a report that is endorsed by the UN, and comes two weeks before a major summit to review progress on the Millennium Goals. The first and possibly most important of those goals is to halve the number of people living in poverty by 2015.

According to the report, environmental organizations have not addressed poverty and development groups have not considered the environment enough. ""If the natural resource base is not managed for the long term, if it is exploited and polluted for short-term gain, it will never provide the fuel for economic development on the scale demanded to relieve poverty," the

World Resources foreword says

This emphasis on the role of environment to reduce poverty comes due to the fact that most of world's poor are rural poor, who depend on nature for their income. Therefore, the report concluded, that it is important to stress the urgent need to look beyond aid projects, dept relief and trade reform and focus on local nature resources.

In Yemen and according to World Bank reports By the late 1990s, 42 percent of the population lived below the poverty line. In rural areas, the number is 45 percent. Low average income means that 18 percent of the population is unable to afford adequate nutrition. Despite improvements in health services, 46 percent of children under five are malnourished.

The results of the national survey of the poverty phenomenon in Yemen conducted by the central statistical Bureau in 1998, pointed out that poverty in Yemen is basically a rural phenomenon as 81% of the total poor and 83% of those who

suffer from absolute poverty reside in the rural areas.

The poor, In Yemen as in other countries, are sufferers of the deteriorating environment when it takes place, and at the same time they are those who contribute to environmental degradation unintentionally. They are forced to satisfy their immediate basic needs through the uncontrolled utilization of the available natural resources like over use of the water resources, and overgrazing in the rural areas, land clearance for timber and fuel, and over hunting of the rare and expensive animals together with the over utilization of marginal lands. Consequently this leads to disappearance of these resources, then the rise of the poverty rates in the rural areas forcing numbers of rural poor to migrate to the cities. When they arrive in the cities and join the urban poor who reside in the regions marked with the absence of the basic services like safe drinking water and a system of sanitation etc. that exposes them to epidemics and infectious diseases.

The dangers of the over utilization of the natural resources are not limited to the disappearance of one of the resources or lowering of its value, but the impact of this exploitation can cause very dangerous consequences on the environment and speeds up its deterioration. For example, we can note the shortage of water and its pollution, desertification (often called creeping sands) and the spread of wasteland areas.

Obviously there is a mismanagement of natural resources in Yemen. Since Yemen is characterized by rich biodiversity and natural resources in the sea and on land, associated with different climatic conditions. Therefore Yemeni environment requires to be rehabilitated to enable the poor to utilize natural resources both wisely and for wealth.

Why redheads are more prone to skin cancer

BY MIRANDA HITTI

here's a new clue about why redheads have higher skin cancer rates than people with black hair. Skin pigment chemistry could play

a role. The finding was announced in Washington, D.C. at the 230th national meeting of the American Chemical Society.

University chemistry Duke professor John D. Simon, PhD, and colleagues studied structures called melanosomes from human hair. Melanosomes make melanin, which

from red and black human hair, since it's hard to get melanosomes from human skin. They tested the melanosomes with a sophisticated laser.

Fending Off Sun Rays

Melanosomes from black hair were only affected by high energy ultraviolet-B (UV-B) light. In the real world, the atmosphere filters that out, according to the researchers.

In contrast, melanosomes from red hair were affected by UV-A and UV-B radiation. They lost electrons in a process called oxidation, which stresses cells and can damage DNA.

Thus, exposure to everyday UV-A

WebMD in an email.

By the way, UV-A and UV-B radiation aren't just around on sunny summer days. They're present yearround, so keep sun protection strategies in place after summer fades. Preventing Skin Cancer

Nothing can completely undo sun damage, although the skin can sometimes repair itself. So it's never too late to begin protecting yourself from the sun.

Your skin does change with age. For example, you sweat less and your skin can take longer to heal. But you can delay these changes by staying out of the sun. Follow these tips to help

greater 30 minutes before sun exposure and then every few hours thereafter.

Select cosmetic products and contact lenses that offer UV protection.

* Wear sunglasses with total UV protection.

* Avoid direct sun exposure as much as possible during peak UVradiation hours of 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. * Perform skin self-exams regularly to become familiar with existing

growths and to notice any changes or new growths. * Eighty percent of a person's lifetime sun exposure is acquired



Public Health Affairs

Safe and potable water is a human right

ave we ever asked ourselves, why the majority of Sana'a's population is forced to drink refined water instead of drinking water from piping system? However this behavior has already become a phenomenon in many cities in Yemen, still there is a category of population who cannot afford purchasing refined or mineral water. There is a perception among the population of some cities that water is not safe, so they kept on using it for domestic purposes except drinking and cooking. There are justifications that support people's perceptions.

Water is essential for life next to air. It is possible to survive for prolonged periods without food, but survival beyond a few days or so is difficult, if one is deprived of water. Supply of safe and potable drinking water to the community is of utmost importance in maintaining positive health measures. It is a top priority for governments to take in consideration when establishing infrastructure of new cities.

While investors are making wealth and the number of refining factories of mineral water becomes bigger, the suffering of people is more and livelihood is worsened by increased prices and paying for a sip of water.

The outstanding problem is due to imbalance in setting priorities for the implementation of some infrastructure projects, mainly water supply system and sewage system. The previously mentioned two projects could not be constructed separately in different periods of time. While there is water supply system, there should be a sanitary sewage system.

Until the beginning of Ninetieth there was no complete sanitary sewage system in Sana'a and several cities in Yemen. Usually in urban and rural areas the importance is given to water supply either by constructing a project or traditional storage. Sewage system is ignored. It is expressed by sewage dug wells at the sides of dwellings in cities and villages, which are considered a source of contamination

Now, what is the risk of drinking water contamination?

If Sana'a is taken as an example, the source of water supply is wells (underground water). Through a special pumping system water is obtained from wells to many supply stations in purification and chlorination processes to make it potable (these processes take place in cities only). Then it is pumped into a piping system to reach people for consumption. During this stage contamination occurs. The sewage dug wells scattered between houses, full of faeces and decayed matters usually leak in the surround-

Water is pumped into the piping system under a certain pressure to reach every house. When the pressure inside the piping system falls due to many causes (interruption of water supply in some districts, unplanned random population settlements) taking in consideration damages in many old pipes, the leakage from sewage dug wells reaches inside the cavity of the piping system of water supply. When water is pumped again it carries all microorganisms and toxins that cause water-borne diseases (mainly diorhaea). A question will be raised, that water has undergone chlorination. Right, but in spite of that, millions of pathogenic microorganisms are available in a cubic milliliter of infected matters, and that high dose overcomes the chlorination process of water.

Thus water becomes contaminated and unsafe for consumption and could be a source of gastrointestinal infections

Regardless of all recent efforts done by the Ministry of water and Environment in the construction of sanitary sewage systems in many cities particularly in the capital, still the role remains incomplete. A full coverage of this essential service should be achieved. Strengthening and expanding the coverage of water supply system is required. An efficient maintenance system for these infrastructure projects should be established under the inspection of a strong local authority.

A lot of work should be done by the government to regain the population's trust regarding water. Positive steps and evidence of change could change perceptions. Hence people's suffering would be alleviated.

And until that perception changes positively, opening the tap and taking a safe potable sip of water will be a dream.

But when that dream is realized please remember forever that water is a great wealth which we must not

gives skin and hair their color. The scientists took melanosomes

and UV-B levels might rattle red hair pigments and contribute to the different skin cancer rates, Simon tells protection factor (SPF) of 15 or prevention habits in your child.

prevent skin cancer:

before age 18. As a parent, be a good * Apply sunscreen with a sun role model and foster skin cancer

Why more women die after heart bypass

BY PATTI CONNOR WEBMD MEDICAL NEWES

new study may help shed light on why women are twice as likely as men to die following heart bypass surgery.

Death rates after coronary artery bypass graft (CABG or "cabbage") have been considerably higher in women than in men, writes researcher Ron Blankstein, a cardiologist at the University of Chicago Hospitals.

"Our study shows that a significant degree of their higher mortality rate may be due to the fact that women generally have smaller bodies," write the researchers in a news release.

Yet they also write that the higher death rates seen in women may in part be due to the fact that many women are referred for treatment at a more advanced stage than men.

The study appears in Circulation.

CABG is heart surgery that treats coronary artery disease - atherosclerotic plaque that blocks arteries that feed blood to the heart. The surgery reroutes or bypasses these blocked arteries.

During CABG, a segment of a healthy blood vessel from another part of the body is used to create a detour around the blocked portion of the artery, thereby allowing oxygen-rich blood to flow freely into the heart.

Smaller Bodies, Higher Risk

In general, people with smaller bodies may have smaller coronary arteries that are more difficult to operate on, Blankstein explains.

As part of their study, the researchers sought to determine how much of a role additional factors might play in women's increased death rates. They included:

Increased age

- · Advanced disease
- The presence of other diseases or health conditions

They established a database of 15,440 patients who underwent CABG at 31 Midwestern hospitals from 1990-2000. The women averaged 66 years of age; men on average were 63. The death rates took into account various risk factors.

Overall, 4.2% of the women and 2.2% of the men died during or immediately after surgery; that's a 90% higher death rate for women than men.

"Nearly half of the excess mortality may be because women were often older and sicker at the time of the surgery than men were," Blankstein notes.

When other risks were factored in, the gender gap in death rates decreased significantly, from 90% to 49%.

The gap narrowed even further when the researchers took into account patients' body surface area, or BSA. BSA is a way of measuring body size based on height and weight.

When women's lower average BSA was factored in, a large part of women's higher death rate was explained.

In fact, the death-risk gap between the two sexes went from 49% to 22%.

"Our study shows that body surface area, or body size, is a very important independent predictor for mortality on

top of all the other risk factors," says Blankstein.

The risk isn't confined to women exclusively. The researchers determined that for men as well as women, the smaller the body surface area, the higher the risk of dying.

Worth the Risk

According to Blankstein, women should not allow the risks to discourage them from having the surgery. "For many patients," he says, "CABG still represents the optimal therapy for their coronary heart disease."

Overall, he says, additional research is needed. "After accounting for lower BSA and other risk factors, why are women still 22% more likely to die after CABG than men are? That is a critical question for future research," he says.

Researchers need to explore potential factors such as differences in body fat composition, which may make tissues and blood vessels harder to heal, and the role of hormones, especially in postmenopausal women, he says.

different districts. There it undergoes



DP

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) invites Yemeni Nationals to apply for the following position with its project "Electoral Support Project for the Supreme Commission for Elections and Referenda"

Post Title: Voter Education Assistant (SC-5) **Responsibilities**

- Assist the project experts to liaise and coordinate with local partners, authorities, NGOs and media.
- Provide voter education expert with written translation and oral interpretation services (English/Arabic), as and when necessary.
- Report back to the voter education expert, and assist with voter education campaign strategy for 2006 presidential and local elections.
- Assist professional compile and prepare background materials, briefing notes for meetings, minutes and monitoring exercises.

Qualification

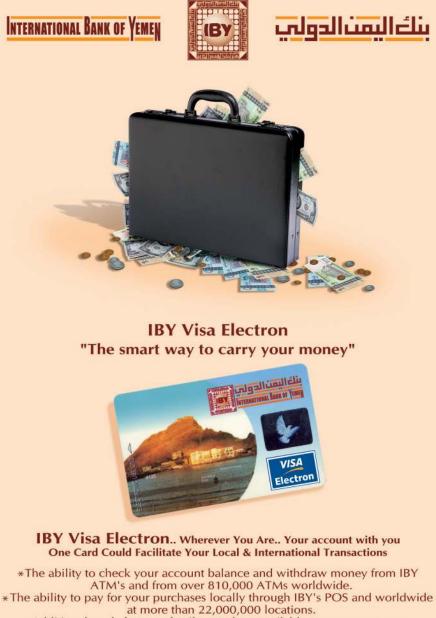
- A minimum of a university degree in the field of political science, education or media.
- A minimum of three years experience working with NGOs, media or educational institutes
- Excellent communication and reporting skills.
- Fluent in English, with demonstrated excellent written translation and interpretation skills (English/Arabic).
- Have good knowledge of television, radio and print production within Yemen
- Have good knowledge of civil society organizations in Yemen.
- Ready to undertake travel throughout the country as and when required.

Interested candidates are requested to visit our website at: http://www.undp.org.ye/undp-vacancies.htm for detailed term of reference of the position and may submit their applications indicating the title of the post applied for by mail to Human Resources Unit and response will only be made to short listed candidates. UNDP is an equal opportunity organization and female candidates are encouraged to apply.

UNDP, P.O.Box 551 Sana'a/Fax: 448841/E-mail: (registry.ye@undp.org) The deadline for receiving applications is Wednesday, 14thSeptember 2005



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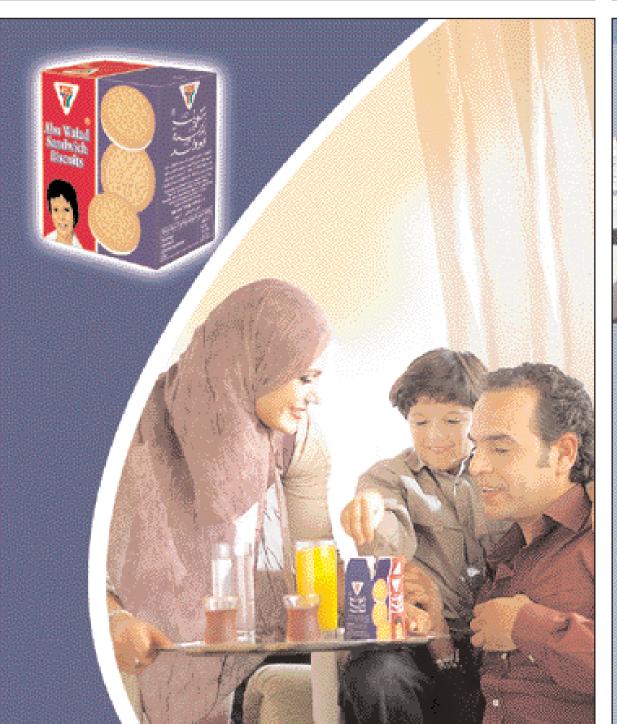
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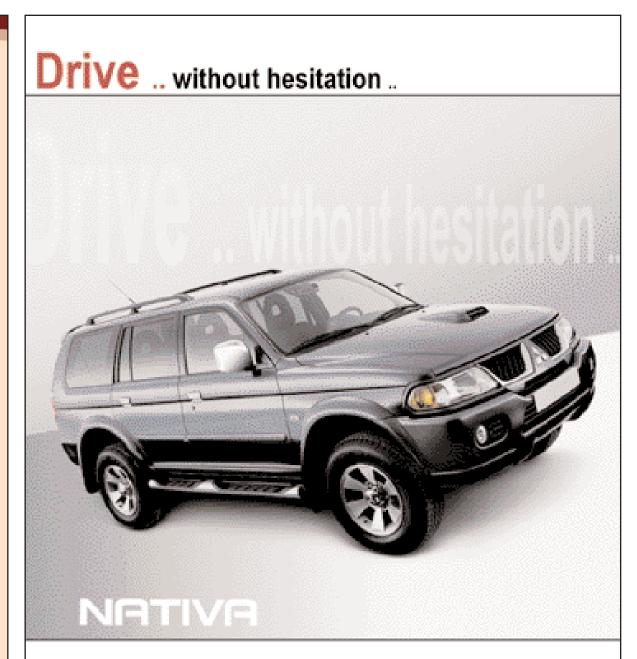
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Reportage



Sana'a International Exhibition **Great step in merging Yemen** in international economy

Speech of Mohamed Abdo Saeed, Chairman of Speech of the Minister of Industry and Trade **General association for Chambers of Commerce** and Industries

he first round of Sana'a international Exhibition comes in the context of the interest of the leadership of the Yemeni General association of the Chambers of Commerce and Industry, to activate national economy through organizing such economic functions that brings together prominent business men of the brotherly and friendly countries

The meeting of the Yemeni businessmen with their counter parts in the exhibition will hopefully result in fruitful accomplishments by getting these important businessmen to be acquainted with the Yemeni prospects and the privileges that the investment law grants to regional, Arab and foreign investors.

We are looking forward to the exhibition to enhance exchange of trade between our country and the friendly countries through the economic debates that will be held along side the exhibition.

I hereby submit my heart felt compliments to Apollo International Exhibitions Company for their continuous success in organizing Mohamed Abdo Saeed international and domestic exhibitions.

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Organization.

We hope for extensive participation in the years to come.

Speech of Yemen Industrial Society

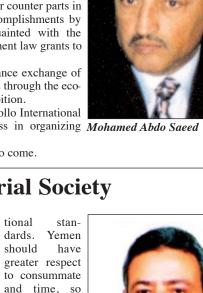
Sana'a first International Exhibition that will be tional organized on 1-7 September 2005 is considered to be an important way to bolstering economic consolidation between our country and the outside world, by increasing the amount of trade exchange and the attraction of foreign investment. This will certainly broaden the base of economic growth and hence the economic development.

The economic reforms that Yemen started since 1995, are aiming at restructuring Yemeni economy in order to cope with the modern international globalization, where export and import were liberalized and constrictions that fetter trade were also removed. This is in addition to other measures that will secure our involvement in regional and international organizations such as the gradual enrolment in the Gulf cooperative council and joining the great Arab trade organization as well as the World Trade Organization.

We are still in need of further steps in spite of what we have so far achieved. Yemen needs to consider and make use of its regional position because it is an important safeguard in the face of the global challenges. It is also a gate to explore lucrative chances in our endeavor to pull ourselves out of the long recklessness that we beleaguered ourselves in.

It is obvious that, since Yemen had chosen to be engaged into globalization, it will consequently be able to merge into its regional circle, which will give Yemen a chance to gradually build its abilities to merge into the International economy.

Our country needs to reconcile its economic,



Dr. Abdulwahid Al-Afori General Manager of the

should also make efforts to form an economic bloc for African Horn and Red sea countries. It should also strengthen its role in the Indian Ocean bloc. These efforts should be in coordination with the part that it plays in the Great Arabic free zone. This should not make us ignore the active participation in the international functions of the South countries that protect the international interests of its under developed members which Yemen is among them.

Society

The Yemeni government should coordinate between all these functions to achieve its comprehensive goal of a smooth gradual integration into regional and international economy, with the least

"Coinciding with the 43rd anniversary of the 26 September Revolution and the 42nd of the 14 October Revolution on the 30th of November, the First Sana'a International Exhibition of local and international products was held.

"If future industry relies on rates of development and their role in improving living per capita income, the government strategy in this respect depended upon a plenty of political procedures that help push wheels of the national economy forward.

"In the same context, exhibitions of local and international trade, aims to enhance the competitive capacity of the local products, increase the volume of trade exchange with the external world and promote the Yemeni products.

"All such activities reflect the care and attention of the Yemeni government in general and the Ministry of Industry and Trade in particular to organize such events that have a crucial importance in developing the economic and trade relations between Yemen and the external world.

"These activities help Yemen benefit from other experiences to develop Yemeni products and raise their competitive ability in international markets.

"The first round of the exhibition proved to be a distinctive leap with regard to organization and

attracting international investments into the country as well as activating the role of the national capital to upgrade the trade and economic ties and create broader horizons with effective part-The nerships. exhibition aims to



promote H. E. Dr. Khalid Sheikh tourism particu-

larly as it accommodates large scores of tourists and visitors from different Arab and foreign countries. It creates a chance for acquainting with components of diversified tourism in the country including the ancient and historic sights that date several centuries ago."

Concluding his speech, "Dr. Sheikh said I hope all the companies, taking part in the event, the organizing administration and those who contributed to the success of the exhibition all the best and I am grateful to them for their efforts."



Speech of organizers

"There are many reasons for us to pay close attention to the proceedings of this latest trade



exhibition. For one, the progress of international trade impacts upon us all as rates of economic development create jobs and wealth for general society. Quoted now are some thoughts and reflections of various attendants of the exhibition.

"The SIEX is an important fruit of continued cooperation between the government and the private sector in the frame work of the wise policy adopted by Yemen under HE President Ali Abdullah Saleh who gave orders to providing a suitable climate for national and foreign investment.

"Among the reasons that necessitated staging the first round of Sana'a International Exhibition (SIEX 2005) are the unlimited openness remarked these days in different countries all over the world. The exhibition creates a kind of competition between international manufacturers in terms of quality and price to reach the most important goal that serves nations and governments."

Sheikh Hamid Abdullah al-Ahmar, Chairman of the Board of Directors



2005 held under

administritive, legal and judicial systems in addiloses and fruitful chances tion to building its infra structures to suit interna-

Speech of Chairman of the Chamber Of **Commerce and Industry Capital Secretariat**, **Mahfodh Salim Shamakh**

Our local markets are famous for their strong demand and consumption marketing on the local, regional and international levels. This is attributed to the strategic geographical position that it occupies on the international trade rout. This necessitates a support for these markets by providing it with the scientific systematic services, to support these consuming markets taking in consideration that the international exhibitions are a successful marketing method. The step of publishing of thorough information directories about the companies that participate in the exhibitions comes in the second place. We strongly support these promotion activities that will be a great service to the investments that will flow into the local markets and the local economy at large.



Mahfodh Salim Shamakh







world economy following a successful core for a trade and economic function staged annually with the support of all the concerned parties to help Yemen become an easy market to attract investors from world countries and consumers from the neighboring ones.

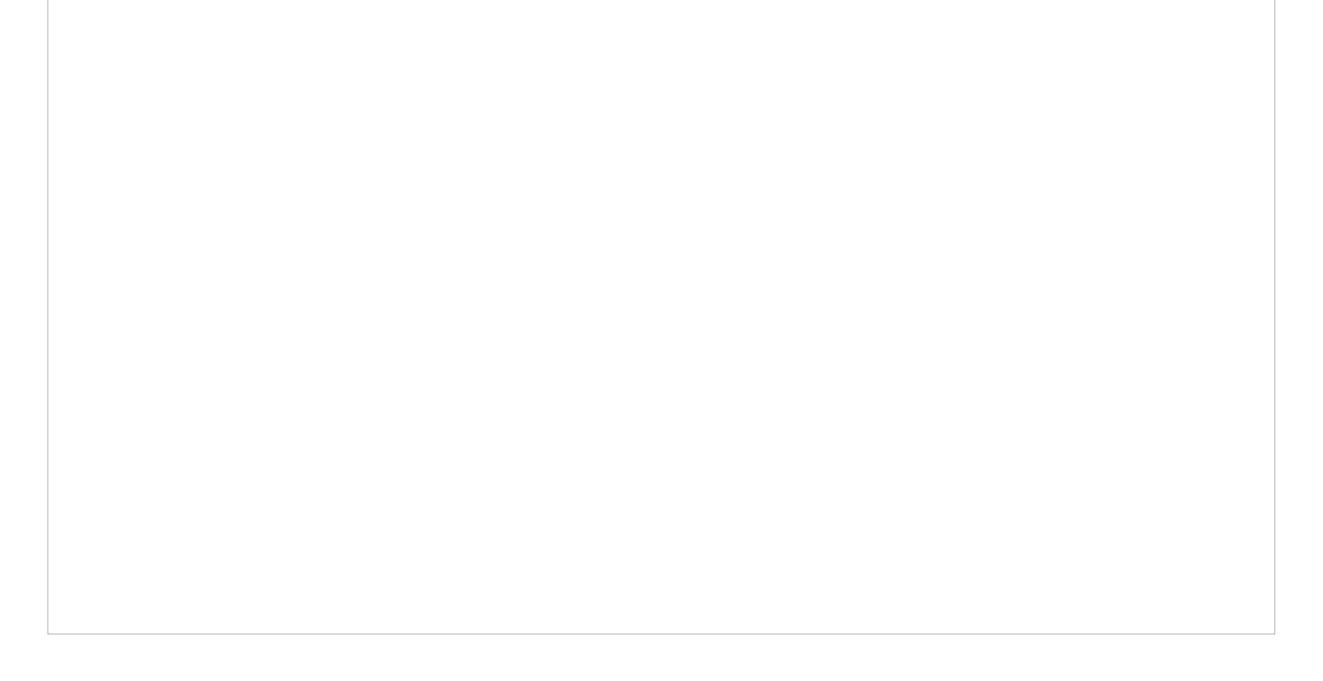
"The exhibition helps activate trade exchange between Yemen and other countries and contribute to the exchange of experiences and competences to improve performance of the national product and enable it enter the international exhibition.

"Indirectly the exhibition attracts the world tourism and popularize the ancients and historic sights and investment climate enjoyed by Yemen.

"To sum up, said the organizers, "we thank all those who contributed to the success of SIEX 2005 and hope the SIEX 2006 to come with blessings and prosperity.

> Tawfeeq al-Nihmi, **General Manager**

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS PAGE







Yemen's first and most widely-read English-language newspaper

The Yemeni-American Entrepreneurial Spirit in Oakland, California

By Shaker Lashuel Yemen Times U.S. Correspondent

he streets of Oakland are known for being dangerous, and tough. According to crime statistics, Oakland has the highest violent crime rate among the nine largest cities in California. Yet, this has never stopped Yemeni-Americans from establishing themselves as a business power in this town. The corner grocery stores, the ones hidden in quiet neighborhoods, and the huge super market that was recently opened with the help of the city, "Gazzali", are Yemeni-American owned. Yemeni-American businesses are definitely part of this Oakland business and community scene. The two mosques established by Yemeni-Americans with the help of other Muslims attest to the presence of a community that is strong and vibrant in this town.



Yemenis in California

Although there are no historical



records to refer to at this point, personal stories of early Yemenis lead us to conclude that the Yemenis arrived in California in the late 40s, early 50s. Their early jobs were in the farming fields and many of them worked as farm workers who lived transient lives moving from one town to the next. They followed the harvest around the state earning below minimum wages and living under substandard conditions. They picked potatoes in towns where they were ready for harvest and when that was done they packed and left for another town to harvest other crops such as cotton, lemons, oranges, peas, and other vegetables and fruit. Despite the transient nature of their lives. Yemenis became visible in dense agricultural centers i.e. Sacramento, Irvine. Yemeni farm workers found farming a familiar work as many of them had left their own fields back in Yemen. Familiar did not translate to easy for many. The fields were so vast, and the work was strenuous and rigidly organized. Many of them began to look for a way out of climbing trees, and carrying buckets of produce under a torturing sun. The conditions of farming, the low wages they received, and the transient life style provoked Yemenis to explore other venues

From Farmer to Businessman

for achieving the American dream.

Few of them moved quickly to organize their own groups and became small contractors. The first Yemeni store was opened in California in the late 50s by one of these small contractors. From that point on, opening businesses in California became another way of making good money and owning a piece of America. Businesses gave the Yemenis the autonomy, control and the financial mobility that was not available in farming. Businesses became the main



ent locations around the state from Fresno to Modesto and eventually to the San Francisco Bay area. Today, Yemeni businesses can be found in many Californian cities and towns, but they are concentrated mainly in 5 areas: the San Francisco Bay area (including Oakland). Modesto. Merced. Fresno. and Bakersfield. In places like Oakland, Yemeni-Americans

have established themselves as an important business force. They own more than 250 small businesses and can be found in every neighborhood.

Yemeni-American Business Power

Many Yemeni-Americans feel that if they unite they would be a stronger economic factor in the towns where they live and work. Several organizations have formed to achieve that but have failed to make that dream a reality. The potential of a strong, united, Yemeni-American business community in the Bay area was shown when the Yemeni-American Grocers Association was able to lead a boycott and forced the Frito

apologize for insensitive and insulting remarks. The organization is "facing many challenges, but we have made manv accomplishments," said Mohamed Algossaary, one of the YAGA leaders. Mohamed is struggling to

convince his fellow Yemeni-American businessmen to join the organization. His task is not a simple one. "Many store owners don't understand the power they can have as members of our organization," he explained.

He remains optimistic and knows that his organization's ambitious goals can only be achieved if the store owners unite under one business umbrella

When I discussed the organization with him, his enthusiasm and optimism never faltered. His dream for a successful business entity that empowers Yemeni-American businesses remained He reminded me that as alive. Yemenis, "we have to continue to work hard to make it.'

To be continued on page 9





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