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Can the achievements of the 26 September Revolution be maintained?

43 years now

BY YASSER AL-MAYASI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

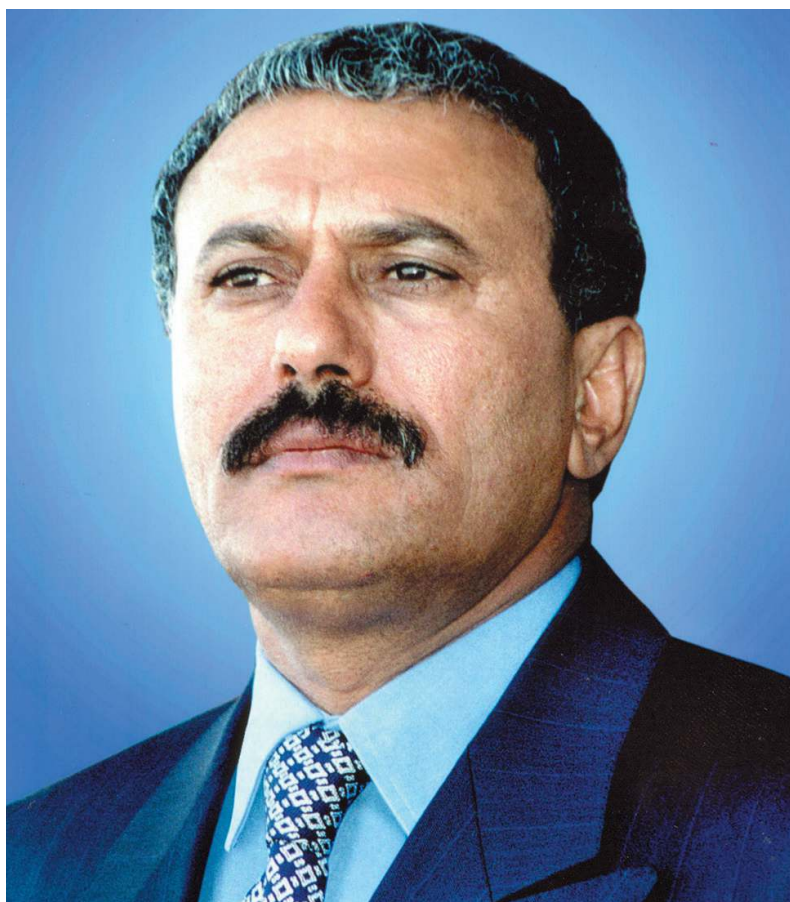
SANA'A- Sept. 26- Today, Yemen celebrates the 43rd anniversary of the 26 September Revolution of 1962. 43 years have passed since a number of Yemeni liberals revolted against the totalitarian regime that forced Yemenis to lead a secluded life of illiteracy and poverty.

These liberal revolutionaries sacrificed their lives and all they possessed to get rid of tyranny and open new pages in the history of democracy in Yemen, forging a new modern future for their nation. They tried several times to make a change in the situation of living until they succeeded in the glorious victory of 1962.

The country hailed the republican regime and toppled the oppressive monarchy, which had been depriving the Yemeni people of freedom and democracy.

The price for making a change is not easy to afford. It is this day, the 26th of September, which gives an accurate elaboration of what the Yemeni revolution has achieved so far. Today we should know that the Yemeni nation had suffered for long time from unstable life, lack of education and health care, coupled with basic unmet needs.

The 43 years that have passed should be measured in the light of developmental achievements in different areas including education and health care. It is on this day when the record of the ambitions and hopes of Yemenis is remembered; it is an international measure for any revolution across the world.



President Saleh

Having a glimpse at the past 43 years, we should specify when the developmental revolution in Yemen started as such never happened in 1962. We should know when the national security was provided since it was not in 1962

when all the Yemenis in the two parts of the country overcame sufferings and hardships. As people in North Yemen overthrew the totalitarian regime, South Yemen's people drove away the British occupation.

For a long time, Yemenis had led a life prevailed by difficult economic conditions and illiteracy that created conflicts leading to instability in the life of Yemenis, and therefore in the 60s and 70s there had been no move toward development as all the political and tribal forces were conflicting for attaining power, and showing dominance. These years saw a spread of violence that claimed lives of several innocent people and left negative impacts on the process of development, mainly before President Ali Abdullah Saleh assumed power of north Yemen.

We should make a mention of the beginning of Yemen's real course of development, and moreover, more emphasis should be laid on the development process, why it appeared a bit late, and how it was impacted by conflicts.

Yemen started to see a real development in the reign of Ibrahim al-Hamdi who was sworn in President of North Yemen after al-Eriani's regime was overthrown. Al-Hamdi announced the 13 July Movement to correct the vulnerable situations in Yemen. He set his developmental policy by announcing five-year plans to cover all the Yemeni areas and worked hard to gain the confidence of that public that had been enduring hardships, conflict, corruption and chaos as different political and tribal forces were racing to rule the country.

Although Ibrahim al-Hamdi stayed in power for a short time, from 1974-1977, after a series of conflicts- he could found the Cooperation Network that helped citizens implement their plans and developmental projects. Development was initiated by the build-

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ing of roads and the establishment of functioning educational facilities.

Additionally, citizens enjoyed equal life under new systems and laws in spite of the influence of some tribal sheikhs whose roles had been marginalized by al-Hamdi's policy. The Yemeni citizen started to experience the developmental projects that is important for his/her daily life, as well as to get rid of the conflict that had been exacerbating their living standards.

The Yemeni nation found itself in the battleground when Ibrahim al-Hamdi was assassinated in 1977 to be succeeded by Ahmad Hussein al-Ghashmi who stayed in power for a few months. Al-Ghashmi was murdered as he received a booby-trapped bag machinated by a group of people to avenge for al-Hamdi's death.

Following the assassination of al-Hamdi and al-Ghashmi the future of Yemen seemed to grow to the unknown mainly after the culmination of political and tribal conflicts. The scourge of conflict encouraged the two powers in the

world, the U.S.A. and Russia to intrude in Yemen's internal affairs. After al-Hamdi and al-Ghashmi had been murdered, the country experienced a state of anarchy, citizens started to buy arms and ammunition to protect themselves from the conflicting political and tribal forces that raced for power and revenge incidents spread in different parts of the country. The state of anarchy experienced in Yemen hit the process of development.

Abdulkarim al-Arashi, who was at the time Chairman of the Popular Founding Council that was formed by al-Ghashmi, shouldered the responsibilities of the President. Al-Arashi who remained in power for a few days could bring a new formula for governance through the formation of a temporary presidential council that included Lieutenant Colonel Ali al-Shaiba, Abdulaziz Abdulghani and Lieutenant Colonel Ali Abdullah Saleh who was elected President in 1978 by the Parliament.

Continued on page 3

PFUP claims change of parliamentary regime

SANA'A-Sept. 22 - The Public Forces Union Parties concluded their third conference in Sana'a last Thursday, which was under the slogan of 'Towards reform that accomplishes public justice, freedom and development'.

In their final communiqué they confirmed the necessity of reform. They invited the Joint meeting Parties 'six parties' to announce their initiative and the violent practices of the authorities which lead to Sa'ada war and the verdicts against the clerics.

The communiqué denounced the eclectic economic reforms and concentrated on crack down on corruption. They also called for the rapid implication of the wages set up and to prohibit officials from working in trade.

The conference issued a number of decisions; here are some of their excerpts:

• Internally

The conference commissioned its general secretariat to indict the Interior Minister, Parties and Organization Committee and the Ministry of Information for their abstinence to carry out their constitutional duties in defend-



Mr. Alrobae (center) running the meeting.

Photo by Shura Net

ing the Party's newspaper and premises against the assaults they were subjected to. They fired all the members who aided in robbing the party's documents and possessions.

• On local policy

The communiqué confirmed that it would be a real catastrophe unless the deteriorating financial conditions are rapidly addressed. They also called on Yemen to live up to their internal and external financial commitments.

The conference called the Joint parties to accelerate their political reform initiative in justice, development and liberty, which calls for separation of powers, neutralization of armed forces, impartiality of judiciary and change to Parliamentary rule. They also called for the impartiality of the ministries of information and local governing, neutralization of public funds and jobs in political contest and elections.

It confirmed that the presidential post should be neutral and should not be used for the good of a single or a collection of parties.

The communiqué condemned the authority's crack down on political opponents, which led to a bloody war that covered most of Sa'ada's villages and which claimed hundreds of innocent lives.

In their communiqué, the public forces condemned the political convictions against each of the clerics (Yahia Aldailami), (Mohamed Miftah) and

judge (Mohamed Loqman). The communiqué also condemned the unjust verdict against Mohamed Almoayed and his aide. It called on America to reconsider its policy on the definition of terrorism. It appealed to the international human rights organizations to work for their rapid release.

The public forces called for women's support, in order to play their natural role in the political process and broaden their opportunities by allotting them a parliamentary quota.

The communiqué went on to say 'Freedom of expression is at a stake because of the crack down of the corruption lobby on journals and journalists due to their intolerance to criticism. They announced their consolidations to the journalists that are facing trial due to political stance.'

• On local governance

The conference called for the basic right of direct election and comprehensive governance rights that allow for the election of heads of the councils.

• On socio economics

The conference confirmed that the recent international development and economic reports that placed Yemen among the least developed countries, should be taken seriously.

The conference highlighted the Human Development Report that was issued by the UN and which described conditions in Yemen as grim.

As for the last price hikes, the conference condemned the selective economic reforms that placed the entire burden on the simple citizen. They believe that real reform lies in fighting corruption.

Mr. Abdurrahman Alrobae was elected as secretary general for the second time.

The large number of attendance of the leaders of the joint parties, civil societies

and other social personalities confirmed the consolidation of political spectrum to the forces and their condemnation to corruption of political life and split of political parties.

Sheikh Abdullah Al-Ahmar and Yaseen Saeed Noman were among the most prominent figures that attended the conference.

President orders amnesty for Al-Houthi supporters

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Sana'a 25th sep- In a speech on the occasion of the celebration of 26th of September revolution that put an end to Yemen's religious rule and transformed it into a republic, President Ali Abdullah Saleh announced yesterday an amnesty for all jailed supporters of a slain Shiite rebel cleric who waged an insurgency against the state last year. "We have declared an amnesty for the supporters of Hussein al-Houthi" Saleh said in a speech carried by state television "We have pardoned them despite the blood that has been spilt," he added.

Yemeni forces killed al-Houthi who led a radical group that wants to install

Shiite clerical rule and arouse violence against the United States and Israel. More than 200 rebels during fierce fighting were killed last year as well.

A new round of fighting erupted in March in which 700 rebels and security forces were killed. The government blamed Al-Houthi's father- Sheikh Badr el-Deen al-Houthi for that and arrested hundreds of his followers. The elder Houthi has agreed to stop fighting.

Saleh referred that the government would compensate the family of Imam Ahmed Hameed al-Deen, Yemen's last Islamic leader whose assets were seized after the army coup in 1962.

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Dengue fever kills CPP chief

TAIZ- Sept. 19 - Dr. Ali Mohsen al-Dumaimi, Chief of Physicians and Pharmacists Syndicate (CPP), died last Monday from dengue fever.

Relatives of the victim told the Yemen Times that after being infected with the disease, the victim was immediately rushed to the Military Hospital in Taiz where he died three days later.

Large number of doctors considered death of al-Dumaimi a big scandal and stigma on the Ministry of Public Health and Population that has always denied the spread of dengue fever cases.

The Ministry never revealed any information on the epidemic or the numbers of sufferers. Physicians and pharmacists accused the Ministry of Public Health and Population and Taiz's Health Office of dealing with the issue with no transparency and clearness. The concerned authorities never took precautionary measures to help curb the scourge of dengue fever, particularly in the coastal areas.

In workshop on recommendations of International Committee for Children Rights,

Violations of children rights

By HASSAN ALZAIDI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

SANA'A - 20Sept. - Last Monday the supreme council for Motherhood and Childhood, organized a work shop to follow up Yemen's third periodical report on the execution of recommendations of the international Committee for Children Rights. The workshop was made in cooperation with the Swedish organization for children care and UNISEF.

Dr. Nafisa Aljaefi, managing Director of the Higher Council for Motherhood and Childhood displayed the challenges that faced execution of children's rights treaty. She said that children's courts were established, besides national committees for combat of violence against children and protection for children living in the street.

Children services and protection programs that include school, health-care and social service centers are also reviewed. Dr. Aljaefi said that a new database is going to be established on children's conditions to spread information on children's rights. She also said that the level of media coverage on this issue is far too low.

Dr. Nafisa added that it is a major challenge to fight issues as poverty increase and the meager help that is



presented by the state and the government and the international organizations. confirming that media amount of coverage is very little. The vast geographical nature of Yemen contributes to impeding children rights and the Yemeni private sector has limited effort to invest in children recreation.

The workshop interviewed the International children's rights recommendations. The organization recommended that Yemen should take rapid measures to preserve children rights. They also called that priority should be given to the raising of the penalty age.

Mr. Waleed Albasheer addressed the meeting on behalf of the UNISEF and the Swedish children care organization. He confirmed that achievements that were accomplished due to the joint efforts with Yemeni authorities. He said that there is still a lack of information on children's conditions and measures should be taken to overcome some problems. He added that there should plans to carry out these international recommendations, for the huge focus it is receiving. Several workshops and symposiums were held on this matter and solutions were rec-

ommended. He assured that the UNISEF and the Swedish organization will be supportive of the High Council for Motherhood and Childhood in organizing a joint plan that he wished the workshop will adopt.

A child read the recommendations of the fifth session of the Child Parliament. Most important among these decisions are those that call for the importance of forming sponsor-committees in the governorates that are connected to an emergency health office that reports serious child diseases rapidly. It also reports violations against children. The recommendations also suggested punishments against parents that get their children involved in armed conflicts.

The Parliamentary human rights committee's recommendations also demanded legal measures against security men who refuse to release imprisoned children in spite of the President's directions or who ordered the use of ammunition against demonstrators that killed a number of children. There was also a recommendation on raising public awareness against sexual assault. A call for furnishing free school uniform was also recommended.

Mr. Abdullah Abo Halifa head of the legislative committee in the council, confirmed their support to all the legal

Readers' Voice

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

This edition's question:

Do you think the Yemeni Government will put pressure on the U.S. Administration to not file any more charges against Sheikh Al-Zindani?
Yes
No
I don't know

Last edition's question:

Will the last protest succeed in getting a law for organizing the bearing and owning of arms, which is fund among officials and parliament members?

No 59%
Yes 34%
I don't know 7%

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measures that are to be taken to deal with child affairs. They will see to it that financial and personal items are catered for.

Yemen children suffer deterioration in their educational, health conditions. Epidemic diseases are prevailing among the children especially in remote areas without proper care from the concerned authorities

Committee formed to defend al-Hilah

SANA'A Sept. 22- A number of social personalities and activists in political, social and human rights areas called for the formation of a committee to defend Abdusslam Ali al-Hilah, a Yemeni who was kidnapped by the Egyptian authorities in their territory, during his visit to an Egyptian company in Sept. 21-2002.

The committee, which is made by human rights activists, will be responsible for the following up on the procedures of al-Hilah's case until his release is secured.

Himiar Abdullah Bin Hussein al-Ahmar (MP) who is al-Hilia's class-

mate and close friend was appointed to chair the committee. Mohamed Shayef Jarrallah, a Shura Council member and Sheikh Abdulkarim Qasim (MP), will aid al-Ahmar.

The Egyptian authorities claim that they handed al-Hilah to the US authorities immediately after his capture, which have detained him in the US Bajram Air Base in Afghanistan since then. According to Egyptian sources, the victim was later on transferred to Guantanamo Bay.

The Committee authorized Lawyer Mohamed Naji Allaw to coordinate its works along with Ms. Rahma

Hujaira, Head of Yemeni Female Media Forum. The committee has also appointed Eng. Ali Hussein al-Ansi, Sheikh Abdullah Jubran al-Farz'e, Zeid al-Jamra, Lawyer Abdurrahman al-Hilah, Dr. Yahya Faz'e and Samir Amer as an executive team for the committee's activities.

The committee launched the first of its activities in an event Thursday Sept. 22, marking the passage of three years since the kidnapping of al-Hilah. The event was staged in front of al-Hilah's house located in Zaid Bin Sultan Street in the capital city of Sana'a.

Journalist training course for election coverage, launched

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

SANA'A- Sept.22- A training course for journalists for election coverage, was held with the support of the civil Democratic Support (MADA) and the International Services Fund in the BBC.

Election expert Mr. David Water addressed the course saying that there are a number of workshops that will be held for journalists and editors in Sana'a, Aden, and Al Hudieda. They will be on how to cover the elections and the questions that the voters want the nominees to answer, in addition to how the press should be neutral.

Mr. Abdo Al-Janady head of information center in the Supreme Commission for Elections and Referendum (SCER) confirmed that the media should reflect the views of both government and the opposition. He assured that media has a vital role in establishing the fair democratic governance.

He added that Yemenis should give a special attention to economic question in the parties' programs.

He confessed that there were some irregularities, but the media should



play a role in avoiding more of them and spreading democratic values.

He said that our mentality in regard to women issues is affected by 7th century values and we still consider women as house wives. This is not the case in the polls, because there are equal rights to both sexes.

In his speech, Mr. Hussein Omar Basaleem, deputy minister in the Ministry of Information, urged the media stations to join the workshops to make use of the long experience of the BBC team.

He said that the government cancelled journalist's detention in the new draft of the journalists' law.

The British embassy representative said that they are proud of executing a training course for developing journalists' skills, that will cover the elections with the BBC and that they aim at neutral and credible elections.

Along side this course the Journalist failed to reach a consensus on what should the journalists' role be during the elections, where the political spirit dominated the discussions.

Holy month exhibitions launched

TAIZ- Sept. 20- Hayel Sa'eed Group of Companies & Partners launched exhibitions of the holy month, due to last up until Oct. 10, in Taiz, Sana'a, Aden, Ibb, Hodeida and Mukalla.

The Taiz exhibition, staged at al-Saeed Exhibitions Hall in Usaifera, was opened by Mohamed al-Hayajim, Deputy Governor of Taiz, Shawqi Ahmad Hayel Sa'eed Ana'am, Chairman of the Group, and a number of officials and social personalities.

As many as 10 manufacturing and trade companies, belonging to Hayel Sa'eed Group of Companies and Partners, many national companies and wholesale shops are taking part in the exhibition.

Shawqi Saif al-Hakimi, acting general manager of Mas Advertising Company (the organizing company) told the Yemen Times that Hayel



Sa'eed Group exerts precious efforts to offer distinctive services for consumers during the holy month of Ramadan.

It is worth mentioning that shopping

during the holy month of Ramadan tops priorities of the majority of Yemeni families, who usually make a change in some of their basic needs.

Following increase in hashish trafficking

Saudi authorities abort smuggling 115 kilos

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

SANA'A- Sept.24- Security sources report that the Saudi guards have announced the seizure of 115 kilogram of hashish after a trafficking operation inside the kingdom over the Saudi Yemeni boarders at Al-Dhahran last Saturday. The operations took place at several boarder points. Source says that traffickers managed to escape into Yemeni boarders after they were spotted by Saudi guards.

The groups of traffickers were trying to infiltrate into the Saudi boarders by a Hilux truck through the Alb boarder point, but when the Saudi guards followed them they left their car and fled on foot into the Yemeni boarders. The guards found the car with 53 kilos of hashish and a machine gun inside.

Hashish trafficking has increased lately over Yemeni Saudi boarders. Yemen used to be a passage to a large amount of narcotics. Two months ago a tribal group in Marib Governorate

caught two cars carrying an amount of hashish that costs about a million and a half US dollars. A Saudi national was killed in dispute with a tribal group after they accused him of drug trafficking to the Kingdom.

The Yemeni Authorities have lately established a drug trafficking combat department. A joint cooperation between the two authorities is underway now to combat child, weapon and narcotics trafficking, which is a problem on the increase for both nations.

Sira court continues riot case trials

ADEN- Sept.20- Headed by judge Jamal Mohamed Ahmed, Sira primary court continued in its second session on Tuesday, the trial of the 47 suspects accused of the riots and looting incidents that took place last July. Accused lawyers attended the session.

On Monday and Tuesday, the court listened to Judge Hamad Saeed Muflihi member of the appeal prosecution in Aden, who explained the legal basis for prosecuting the suspects. The prosecution accused them of disturbing public stability and not responding to police orders to disperse. They also committed riots that led to destruction of public and private properties.

Judge Omar asked prosecution to present prosecution evidences and witnesses to the session of 25/9/2005.

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Yemen asks Washington to lift accusations on Zindani

BY HASSAN ALZAIDI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

SANA'A- Sept. 24- In a petition to the US government, Yemen asked the American authorities to lift the accusation on Sheikh Abdulmajeed Alzandani, head of Al-Iman University and head of the consultant council of Islah party, one of the largest opposition parties in Yemen.

26th September newspaper, which is close to the president, said in its Thursday issue, that many of the information on which the Americans based their accusations were not true, and it depended on reports for newspapers that oppose the Sheikh.

The newspaper continued that if there are any accusations against Zandani, they should be presented to the Yemeni government, which will take legal measures against him.

The official response came after Sheikh Zandani evoked the President to

stand to his side to lift his name from the accusation list. Zandani accuses the government of ignoring him by deliberately hiding the facts and he wondered why the Yemeni representative in UN did not defend him when the decision against him was being discussed in the Security Council.

Sheikh Zandani said that the president had promised him that he would discuss his case with the American authorities during his next visit to America.

In 2004 American treasury accused Zandani of having cooperated with Bin Ladin for many years, and considered him to be one of his leaders, one of the organizers of training camps and of having an active role in purchasing arms for terrorist organizations. They asked The UN to add his name to the terrorist's lists.

Following the official American declaration of adding Zandani to the Terrorist's list, Yemeni Government asked the American government to present material proof for their accusations.

Zandani's disciples now guard him heavily, and his escort is said to be equal to that of the president.

Zandani has lately limited his movements and is said to be dedicating himself to his new invented medicine for treating diabetes. Many patients are now crowding to be treated by this new medicine. Sources say that he has tried to find a medicine to cure AIDS, following his announcement that he cured a woman who used to have aids.

Al-Iman University, which is headed by Zandani, is facing hard times now after the contraction of the local and international economic aid that it used to receive. This matter decreased the number of its students that were once 6000.

Zandani declared that as a Yemeni citizen, he has the right to be protected by the Yemeni government.

Zandani is a famous Islamic cleric in Yemen and a prominent leader of the Islah Party. He is considered to be the most popular in this party.

SCDP & Darwin Initiative: Environmental Education and biodiversity in Socotra

BY MOHAMMED AL-JABRI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Under the patronage of Minister of Water and Environment, the Socotra Conservation and Development Program (SCDP) and Darwin Initiative Project held its Preparatory workshop on Environmental Education promoting biodiversity conservation in Socotra on 17-18 September at the Shahrani Hotel Sana'a. The Project's partners include the SCDP, Ministry of Education, The Environment Protection Authority (EPA)- Socotra Branch, Yemeni Islands Protection and Development Authority, Yemen Wildlife Protection Authority, Roderick Dutton (Durham University), Barrie Cooper (RSPB training trainers) Tony Milroy (Aridland, field project), Miranda Morris, Tony Miller, Richard Porter, Wilfgang Wranksi (scientific data), Sue Christie (educational materials) and others.

By way of introduction, Dr. Abdul-Rahman al-Eryani (SCDP) along with Roderick Dutton initiated the workshop and gave an outline introduction to the Darwin Initiative Project which is UK funded. After that Mr. Mohammed Shedawah, head of the EPA, delivered keynote speech of the workshop in which he emphasized on the importance of the Environmental Education and inculcating such values into young learners, which in turn would contribute to the success of the Project. He also referred to the relationship between man and environment, which should be made clear both by educational and environmental means. Strengthening the Environmental Education, he said, is essential for gaining the required results. He added that the importance of the



Project lies in including a constellation of scientists from prominent universities.

The agenda of the workshop and the aims of the Project were stated in the first session. According to Mr. Roderick Dutton, the Project aims to ensure thorough Environmental Education that accompanies the school curriculum that future generations of people on Socotra know about and concerned for the sustainable management of their island's unique flora and fauna heritage. The Project will produce classroom and field educational materials. It will then focus on training trainers, who will then train other teachers. The Project will also covert scientific knowledge into stimulating educational materials and approaches.

On the other hand Mrs. Umm al-Sa'd Abdul-Hai, a Curriculum Advisor, mentioned the vital role played by the Ministry of Education and the steps to be taken with regard to the

Environmental Education. She gave a presentation on the Environmental Education in MoE Programs. She also mentioned the proposed role of MoE in the Project, of which some are:

- Survey curricula for environmental concepts in each subjects;
- Prepare a matrix or a network of concepts found and how it was included;
- Produce an activity book for basic education level including class and out of class activities for pupils to gain environmental livelihood skills;
- Prepare a teacher guide to help him execute the activities and how to deal with the contents of the curriculum.

Other topics discussed in the workshop focused on the phases of the Project and the suggestions to be taken into consideration. Dr. Abdul-Rahman al-Eryani gave an overall evaluation of the workshop stating that the Project would last for three years. He also thanked all the participants and appreciated their suggestions.

Coalition of civil societies denounce preventing Sana'a University Student's organization right

SANA'A-Sept. 24- The Yemeni Civil Society coalition, denounced the efforts of denying Sana'a university students their right in organizing themselves. The coalition considered this a violation of rights guaranteed by article 58 of the Yemeni constitution. It urged the University authorities to cancel all the decisions and regulations that ban parti-

san activity in the university. The university regulations ban political activity, which is unconstitutional, because the student's practices are not political, and they are just forming associations that protect their rights. Membership in political parties is a constitutional right for all citizens, and the university has got no right to use it as a pretext to punish the

students for it. All students have the right to organize themselves regardless of the parties they are affiliated to. The university is supposed to be a place for qualifying their students to be tolerant leaders, who often observe other's rights. It is a pity that the executions of these decisions are to be carried by riot and terrorism combat forces.

Yemen mobile: a year of distinction

BY HASAN ALZAIDI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

In the presence of engineer Abulmalik Al-Malami Minister of Telecommunication and IT, Mr. Ahmed Alkohani, State Minister and secretary General of the capital and a number of officials and medias, Yemen Mobile marked its first year of distinction and declared its forty days new deductions and facilities to contributors, starting from 20/9/2005 up to the 30th of October 2005. The facilities are as follows:

- Reduction of bill line from YR 8000 to YR3000
- Reduction of prepaid line (Suhail) from YR4000 to YR 1000 with a full year grace period
- Reduction of 50% of call price after

the first minute

- Reduction of 50% of international and local (SMS)
- Reduction of 50% of internet service cost (Web)
- Increase of 50% in validity of Suhail card, where the validity of the YR1000 card increased from 40 to 60 days and the YR2000 card increased from 80 to 120 days in addition to the grace period

These reductions come as rejoice over the festivals of the revolution and the month of Ramadan. It also marks a start of an extra distinctive new year for Yemen Mobile, whose contributors are exceeding (200) thousands.

Yemen Mobile and the General Corporation for Telecommunication have also decided to give the Yemeni Journalist Syndicate members, in press

& electronic medias, the following facilities:

- All Syndicate members will have free lines of the bill type with a unified cost.
- Reduction of 40% of the calls cost for Syndicate members whose value is equal to Yr3/minute.
- Free hosting for all registered newspapers and magazines sites, whether they are official or partisan up to 2007.
- Free qualification courses for Journalists in the City of Information & Technology for learning of Computer and Internet and to Acquire journalistic skills.
- These facilities will be offered according to a specific mechanism that would be coordinated with the syndicate and the public relations in the Ministry of Information.

Continued from page 1

43 years now

1978 see the beginning of President Saleh's rule. Saleh took power in a proper democratic way and in a time the country was experiencing internal violence and external pressure as different international forces had been attempting to attract Yemen toward them. Conflicts never directed Yemen toward development.

President Saleh did already score a great success in dealing with the difficult situations, violence and backwardness. By his wisdom, Saleh could bring stability and reach an agreement with all the political forces in the country. He achieved the National Pact that helped restore confidence and push forward the wheels of development that started during al-Hamdi's reign.

After restoring stability and security to the country, the donor countries extended different kinds of assistance and support to improve Yemen's development.

A great number of the 26 September revolution achievements have been scored, really and not a kind of praise, during the reign of President Saleh who has just entered the 28th year in power. The National Unity, which was established in 1990, coincided with the political and partisan plurality and the freedom of expression and press. What more needs to be said.

After 1990, Yemen's need for development increased though it faced different economic challenges, particularly after over one million Yemeni expatriates in the Gulf countries left their businesses and returned home. This was an extremely significant event in the course of Yemen's modern history. Following the Second Gulf War, most of the Gulf countries stopped supporting the Yemeni government whose efforts were also challenged by the rapid population growth.

43 years now, no one can deny what has been achieved in different areas, and we can't say we have attained sufficient developmental achievements and projects, rather, we still suffer from various problems and are in persistent need for better development.

We can't deny the fact that many things have been achieved but acknowledge that corruption can erase achievements and stain achievers. The Yemeni decision-makers should maintain the achievements of the 26 September Revolution and protect them from corrupt individuals who are the real enemies of development, liberty, equality and the ideals for which every Yemeni lives his life

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Invitation for Bids

IFB#30/05 for the Construction of Al Ashmour -Maswar DC and Bait Salah Rural Road

Republic of Yemen
Ministry of Public Works & Highway
Rural Access Program
IDA Credit No.3514 Yem

1. This Invitation for Bids follows the General Procurement Notice for this Project that appeared in *Development Business*, issue no. 626 of Mar16, 2004.
2. The Republic of Yemen has received a credit from the International Development Association towards the cost of Yemen Rural Access Program and intends to apply part of the part of the proceeds of this Credit to payments under the Contract for the Construction of Maswar DC and Bait Othaqah - Bait Salah Rural Road. This contract will be jointly financed by the Government of Yemen.
3. The Ministry of Public Works and Highways Rural Access Project Central Management Office now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for the construction of Al Ashmour -Maswar District RR (22.33 km) & Bait Salah (8.30km) in Amran Governorate. The construction period is 17 months.
4. Bidding will be conducted through the International Competitive Bidding (ICB) procedures specified in the World Bank's *Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits*, and is open to all bidders from Eligible Source Countries as defined in the Bidding Documents.
5. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from:

The Ministry of Public Works and Highways
Rural Access Project, Central Management Office (RAPCMO)
Off 60M Ring Road and Algiers St. Near Sana'a Expo Center
P.O.Box: 16472;
Fax: 00967-01-448106
Tel: 00967 01 448109/104/449422
Email: rapcmu@y.net.ye
Sana'a, Republic of Yemen

and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given above from 9:00 AM to 2:30 PM

6. Qualifications requirements include:
 - Average Annual Construction Turnover of twice the project cost
 - Substantial completion of 2 similar nature projects.
 - Availability of liquid assets and/or credit facilities US\$400,000.0.
 - Availability of the construction equipment,

A margin of preference for eligible national contractors/joint ventures shall be applied.
7. A complete set of Bidding Documents in English may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written Application to the address above and upon payment of a non refundable fee US\$150 or the equivalent in any freely convertible currency, plus the cost of courier for overseas delivery of US\$50. The method of payment will be cashier's check, or direct deposit. The Bidding Documents will be sent by courier for overseas delivery.
8. Bids must be delivered to the address above at or before 11:00 AM, Oct. 19, 2005. Electronic bidding shall not be permitted. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened physically 11:00 AM, Oct. 19, 2005 in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend in person.
9. All bids shall be accompanied by a Bid Security of US\$70,000.0 or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency.

Dr. N'oman to YT:

“26 September Revolution embodied hopes and ambitions of present and future generations”

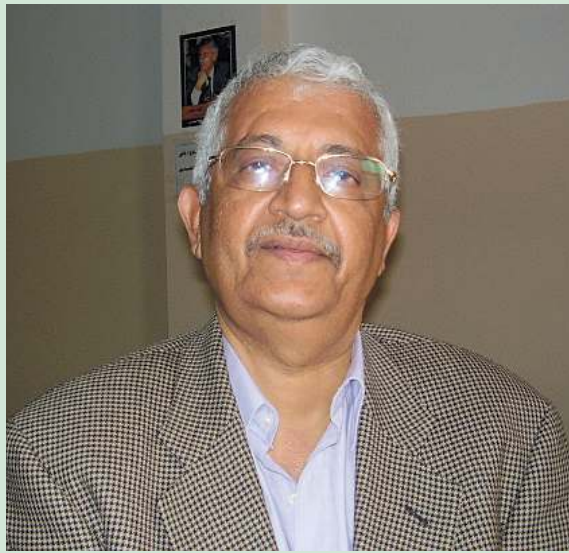
INTERVIEWED BY MOHAMED BIN SALLAM YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Dr. Yasin Saeed N'oman, Secretary General of the Yemeni Specialist Party (YSP), is one of the prominent Yemeni personalities who gained reputation for their precious efforts that culminated with the establishment of the national unity in May 1990. He is one of the few people who strongly objected to the secession of the country.

Dr. N'oman favored to leave Yemen and reside in the UAE after the 1994 war broke out. By the advent of 2005, he decided to return home along with a number of YSP leaders to reshuffle their party. In the YSP's fifth conference, he was elected secretary general of the party to succeed, Saleh Ubad Moqbil, the symbol of struggle who decided to rest after an old age. He returned home with the intention of taking part in building a democratic country to fulfill the ambition of all Yemenis.

Before achieving the national unity, Dr. Yasin Sa'eed N'oman had been appointed several times and occupied prestigious posts such as the Parliament Speaker in 1993. Due to his support for justice and democratic values the majority of Yemenis loves him.

In the YSP's head-office, the Yemen Times met with Dr. N'oman while he was discussing the future of the



Dr. Yasin Saeed N'oman

party with some party members. He dedicated part of his precious time to give answers to the following questions:

Q: Monday the 26th of September is the 43rd anniversary September Revolution as the majority of the Yemeni people calls it, and a military coup d'état as some politicians favor to term it. How do you name it, how do you assess the course of years following the revolution, and why did leaders who have consecutively ruled Sana'a for over 40 years now fail to achieve the six goals of the 26 September Revolution except for achieving the national unity?

A: At the outset, it is my pleasure to congratulate all the Yemeni people on the 43rd anniversary of the 26 September Revolution. Undoubtedly, all what is said about the 26 September Revolution by any party will never leave an impact to such a meaningful word "the Revolution", the event which fulfilled hopes and ambitions of generations. If the current generation could not achieve its

goals, the generations to come, with no doubt, will do so.

Regarding the names and terms given to the 26 September Revolution, I have been accustomed to naming it "Revolution". When I first heard about it in the Sana'a Radio as a "Revolution", I strongly believed that it is so. In a particular stage of history, it became a revolution of hope and ambition for the Yemeni people and the regime, the latter is known as the dominance of the State's affairs all around the world. These days we can say the 26 September Revolution has a positive effect in our minds, and the minds of the past and contemporary generations.

When assessing the revolution, it should not be assessed by regime, but by the great hope linked to it, which will be, for sure, fulfilled by the generations to come.

Talking about the six goals as none has been achieved is an exaggeration since

various things have been relatively achieved, mainly in the respective of economic and political life. But the goal that reads: "eliminating social discrimination" has not been achieved. Social discrimination has vastly spread due to the false economic policies adopted by the consecutive regimes.

In other areas, something has been achieved but without the ambition, this means such revolved within the scope and limits of the regime and not at the level of the Revolution.

Q: Numerous politicians and military leaders recollected events prior to and after the 26 September and 14 October Revolutions; no two people agreed on a unified issue, so how best do you assess what has been allegedly written about the two great events?

A: First, I do not want to say that politicians should not write history, since politi-

cians deform history when they write about it. It is the right of politicians to express their viewpoints on certain events and they should not write history since it is the major of historians, based on several historic facts. The writer of history should rather be neutral and not a politician.

Sorrowfully, in the Arab community, we usually find that a politician experiences two stages of his age; in the first stage he makes confusions to correct them by writing in the second stage. Therefore, of what has been written so far, there is something good and something bad.

Q: What about those who endorse official and personal documents?

A: I cannot evaluate all what has been written and published and I respect every one's effort, but let me say that history is written in another language, another style and a different method, which is the method of historical research. The style of history is different from what politicians write.

Q: Do you consider May 22-1990 a real revolution that is more important than the 26 September and 14 October Revolutions, or do those who believe so exaggerate?

A: I think that each revolution has preliminary steps, and the 22 May is a revolution that is not different from the 26 September and 14 October Revolutions. The 22 May event should not be assessed by the State or the political regime, it can rather be assessed via its ambition and national project. In the light of this project may or may not be achieved.

Q: Can you please give us a glimpse of your tasks and efforts to help the YSP restore its weight and status in the country?

A: We have numerous tasks to do, and if we discuss a group of them, the matter will be a bit complicated, however, the main tasks focus on empowering the party and as its political and intellectual role is difficult to be attained, it is impossible to talk about future tasks. Now reshuffling the party is underway in order to enable us perform all the political and national tasks during the coming period of time.

Q: What is the point you reached by dialoguing with the ruling people's General Congress and other parties?

A: We have a committee to dialogue with the ruling party. The committee is responsible for discussing the normalization of relations with the ruling party and how we can purify the political life from antagonism. Regarding the preliminary dialogues with the opposition joint meeting parties, they concentrated on political reforms and we also have a joint political program to discuss together.

Q: Many party leaders talked about reforming the course of the Re-unification and the change of regime, how can this be done and what is the required political regime?

A: Reforming the Re-unification course has become an important political term and we are taking the matter seriously. Our talk should be in and not outside the party; this means that during the last period of time, talk on reforming the Re-unification course took place within limits of the party. After the party's latest conference, reforming the Re-unification course has become an acceptable political term within the party, but what is the content of such a phrase. This is what we are seeking and discussing and we all should reach a joint attitude toward such a phrase.

Concerning the change of political regime, the YSP never lifted slogans claiming the change of regime. We do not only talk about reform as others do, rather we devote our talk to reforming the political regime in a way to maintain democracy and political plurality. Democracy should be pushed to a particular goal that is the peaceful handover of power. If the reform we are talking about requires constitutional amendments, it certainly will require legal amendments. We are discussing such a topic and at the same time take into account an important matter.

The YSP believe that women rights issue has been ignored, however, in the future a positive political role for women is required, and reforming the situation of women should be part of the political reform.

Q: Are you still adherent to the doc-

ument of pledge and accord as a means for political reform?

A: We never deal with things as if they are dignified objects or "the cow of Hindus, we do not deal with abstract names but with the contents of things. Contents we are talking about today concerning the political reforms are all embraced in the document of agreement and accord. So what does matter is the content and not forms.

With respect to directions of the opposition joint meeting that is now discussing the political reform, we have a plenty of ideas and viewpoints to be presented for discussion.

The ideas start by talking about local governance with entire powers and also about the constitutional reforms and reinforcing the democratic life. All these points are all devoted to reforming the political regime, a fact topping the agendas of political parties, even the PGC. I think that the PGC is also interested in political reforms because it suffers from the dominance of the state as other political parties do.

Q: Is it true that there are numerous voters who want the political regime to be a parliamentary and a presidential regime?

A: We should not predict events before they occur. We want a political regime based on a primary base. This means the government should be responsible and at the same time held to account.

Q: Several newspapers mentioned that you have new plans, which you work on implementing and they are related to the media address of the party. Do not you mind giving us an idea about the limitations and principles of this address.

A. There is no principles and I am not a

person who favors to talk about principles. The exalted principles in the life of politicians are fabricated except for what is really known as the religious principles. In our media address, we want to avoid enraging address and prefer a just one. The enraging address, which is consumed and loses its vitality in a short period of time, should be avoided. We laid more emphasis on the opposing, objective and critical address that usually yields positive results. This conduct will help take us from the circle of action and reaction in order to avoid an address of crisis. We should avoid such a kind of address in order not to be blockaded in an enraging address judged by reaction.

Q: What about the properties and facilities belonging to the YSP, is the government ready to return them to the party?

A: We claimed the authorities to return our properties that are seized by them and specified them. We discussed this more than once and the matter is left to them. Regarding the headquarters of the party, which is now occupied by the Ministry of transportation, President Saleh gave frank directives to officials to quit the building, but these officials are still hesitant.

Q: Any final comment?

A: We are talking about the project of political reforms and each party in the opposition joint meeting has a viewpoint, however there are common factors in the light of which we prepare the state of the peaceful transfer of power. We need not talk on a democracy separated from this fact. This state that was built in a particular stage of history objectively contradicts the course of democracy due to various reasons. In brief, it is my pleasure to say that we want the state to be prepared for the peaceful handover of power.

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للفترة من ٩/٢٠ إلى ١٠/٥/٢٠٠٥ م
من ١٥ - ٣٠ شعبان ١٤٢٦ هـ

فرصة التسوق الرمضاني



YGB (The Premier Bank in Yemen) signs agreement with National Fin. and Exchange Co.

An agreement of Remittance from Yemen to India was signed on Monday, 19th of September by Mr. Maqbool Shamsi, General Manger of Yemen Gulf Bank (YGB) and Mr. Ranga Rajan, GM of National Finance and Exchange Company in Bahrain. This agreement will open the door towards the clients to send their money (remittances) to India through YGB directly and quickly.

Instead of using the mail that takes long time and lot of money, the clients can use this service that is now offered by YGB to send their money which is guaranteed to reach the beneficiary in 24-72 hours Mr. Shamsi said.

He explained that this agreement makes YGB cooperating with many banks in India. Therefore, when a customer comes to us to send the remittance, the YGB will use the internet, which is considered the fastest communication channel in the world, and advice those banks to transact these remittances to reach the beneficiaries (receivers) in the same day. I'd like to announce that the first 500 remittance, will be free of commissions and charges.

Since YGB guarantees a rich and homogenous set of modern and advanced services and products that equal the most important Arab and international services, it cooperates with international financial institutions such as National Finance and Exchange Company. We covered different banks either public or private banks. We deal with 9900 bank branch-



Mr. Maqbool Shamsi, GM of YGB

es in India. So I think this service is the best, cheapest, and fastest that allows the customers sending money as remittance and allow receivers getting the money on the same day. Mr. Rajan said. "We are looking forward extending this service to include Philippine since I suppose that many Indian and Philipians families are working in Yemen and need such service " he added

The agreement signing was attended by the chairman of YGB, Mr. Mohammed Al-Zubeiri and the heads of the sections of the YGB. Worth mentioning that Yemen Gulf Bank is considered one of the best banks in Yemen that improved its superiority and discrimination. Since its establishment in 2001, it could create a prominent name of itself to be one of the important contributions to the financial and economic development in the Republic of Yemen.

The YGB seeks to extend its services to meet clients' requirements either by increasing its branches or increasing the number of Automatic Teller

Machines ATM. Therefore it tends to open four new branches beside the two present branches that are in Sana'a-Shawkani street and the other in Aden-KhurMakser. On other hand, it tends to enhance its relation with clients by meeting their different, renewed and increasing requirements . The most important services that offered by YGB:

- Accepting all types of deposits
- Providing individuals and companies with personal and amortized loans
- Issuing letters of guarantees
- Discounting bills and bonds
- Implementing express internal and external transfers
- Issuing credit cards(Master card & Visa Card)
- Selling and purchasing foreign currencies
- Selling and purchasing banking cheques
- Safety box service
- Banking services for ladies only

The YGB is the first bank in the Republic of Yemen that offered electronic banking services, in accordance with the quality and cost standards. For example a client can check all operations related to his or her account, and can enquire about the balance, print statements of account, order a cheque book, ask for stopping a cheque, know the exchange rate, change the secret number .etc by internet, telephone, SMS.

Furthermore, the YGB updates and develops computer sets and systems continuously in order to cope with the new technologies and developments in

the YGB operations.

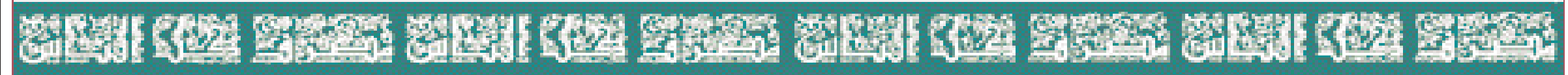
"Our priority is customer satisfaction" said Mr. Shamsi explaining the reason of using excellent quality and competent technology. Therefore, YGB manages successfully by promoting its financial position and increasing its share in the banking market



بنك اليمن والخليج ش. م. ي
Yemen Gulf Bank y.s.c.



From right to left: Mr. Maqbool Shamsi, GM of YGB; Mr. Mohammed Al-Zubeiri, Chairman of YGB, and Mr. Ranga Rajan, GM of National Finance and Exchange Company in Bahrain.



يتقدم رئيس مجلس إدارة مراكز قيوهورايزون السيد / عبدالرحمن السرمي وكافة الموظفين بأحر التهاني وأطيب التبريرات للأخ /

علي عبدالله صالح

وذلك بمناسبة الذكرى الثالثة والأربعون لثورة السادس والعشرين من سبتمبر وتكافة أبناء الشعب اليمني، ومزيداً من التقدم والإزدهار في ظل قيادتنا الحكيمة، وكل عام والجميع بألف خير.

43

Mr. Abdulrahman Al-Sirmy
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SEPTEMBER

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EU powers demand UN report over Iran atomic plans

VIENNA (Reuters) - The EU's top powers submitted a resolution on Friday to the U.N. nuclear watchdog requiring Iran to be reported to the Security Council over what the West fears is a covert atomic weapons program.

The Europeans intended to force a vote on the issue at the 35-nation governing board of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). This will lead to a showdown with Russia, China and developing countries who oppose the EU plan, diplomats said.

IAEA spokeswoman Melissa Fleming told reporters the resolution had been formally submitted and the board would convene on Saturday at 1300 GMT to decide on it. The document, seen by Reuters, was sponsored by Britain, France and Germany, who have been negotiating with Iran on behalf of the EU.

It requires Tehran to be reported to the Security Council, which has the power to impose sanctions, but at an unspecified date — watering down an earlier demand from the Europeans for an immediate referral.

This meant Iran would most likely not be referred to the Council until the IAEA board meets in November, diplomats said.

Iran denies seeking atomic bombs and says its nuclear program is only for generating electricity. However, it concealed its atomic fuel program from the IAEA for 18 years.

The resolution said Iran's "many failures and breaches" of its nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Safeguards Agreement "constitute non-compliance" with the pact.

It added there was an "absence of confidence" that Iran's atomic program was exclusively peaceful and this gave rise to questions "within the competence of the Security Council".

In Washington, the U.S. State Department was confident a vote calling for referral would get through the board and said the U.N. body needed to send a clear message to Iran.

"We believe that at this board of governors meeting, there needs to be an effective response to that (Iran's) defiance and that failure to abide by their international obligations," said State Department spokesman Sean McCormack.

"If a vote were to be taken today, we



Iran's Permanent Representative to the United Nations in Vienna Mohammad Mehdi Akhondzadeh Basti briefs the media during an IAEA Board of Governors meeting in Vienna, Sep. 22. The European Union's three main powers have dropped a demand that the U.N. nuclear watchdog report Iran to the Security Council over its atomic plans due to opposition from Russia and China, diplomats said on Thursday. REUTERS

think there are the votes, a majority of votes for a referral to the Security Council," he told a regular briefing.

Several diplomats at the meeting said the Iranians had shown a letter to individual board members on Friday stating that if the resolution were passed, Tehran would end snap IAEA inspections under a special protocol of the NPT and would begin enriching uranium at a mothballed facility in Natanz.

Any vote on the resolution at Saturday's IAEA board meeting could be blocked by delegations failing to turn up from Russia, China and as many as 12 of the 14 non-aligned states, diplomats said. A vote would require two thirds of the board present.

Under orders

The EU drive, led by France, Britain and Germany, has won support from around 20 or 21 countries out of 35 on the board to send Iran to the Council. But five days of backroom talks with Russia, China, South Africa, India and others opposed to the move failed to break the deadlock, diplomats said.

"Consensus is impossible. That's clear," a diplomat said. A simple majority is enough to pass a resolution.

While India remained opposed to the resolution, it has come under U.S. pressure to take a tougher line on Iran and Prime Minister Manmohan Singh

of India urged Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad in a phone call to adopt a "flexible position", the New Delhi Foreign Ministry said.

This was to avoid a confrontation and Iran should "make concessions" to this end, the ministry quoted Singh as saying.

The EU trio are backed by the United States, Australia, Japan and other Western countries.

These countries say that since Iran hid its uranium enrichment program for 18 years it can only prove it is not seeking atom bombs by renouncing all sensitive nuclear work.

Iran has denounced the Western attempt to restrict its program as "nuclear apartheid" — an argument which found some support among developing countries.

It says that as a signatory to the NPT it is entitled to a peaceful nuclear program. The EU resolution condemned Iran for breaching NPT rules by concealing potentially weapons-related activities from the IAEA.

Permanent Security Council members Russia and China fear a Security Council report would spark an international crisis.

Russia is building a \$1 billion nuclear reactor at Bushehr in Iran and considers Tehran a key ally in the Middle East. China needs Iran's energy resources to fuel its booming economy.

U.S. Army soldiers make abuse claims in Iraq, Afghanistan

WASHINGTON (Reuters) - A U.S. Army captain and two sergeants recounted in a Human Rights Watch report on Friday how Iraqi inmates near Falluja were beaten with a baseball bat, stacked clothed in pyramids, deprived of food and water and put in painful positions until they fainted.

The abuse often occurred under orders or with the consent of superior officers, said the captain, who served in Iraq and Afghanistan.

He also described U.S. forces abusing prisoners in Afghanistan, including sleep deprivation.

The captain said he sought for 17 months to raise concerns about detainee abuse through his military chain of command and to receive clearer guidance on treatment of detainees. He said superiors told him to look the other way and that his efforts could damage his career.

The three, not identified by name in the report or by the Army, said soldiers in the 82nd Airborne Division at a forward operating base near Falluja carried out the prisoner abuse.

U.S. Army spokesman Paul Boyce said Army criminal investigators had spoken to the captain, whom he described as an unidentified officer, and opened a probe into the allegations he made "that he may have witnessed or heard about acts of detainee abuse during his military service in Iraq and Afghanistan."

This account of incidents that took place at the base from summer 2003 to spring 2004 was similar to abuse occur-



ring at about the same time at Abu Ghraib jail on the outskirts of Baghdad.

"We would give them blows to the head, chest, legs, and stomach, pull them down, kick dirt on them. This happened every day," said one sergeant in a statement in the report.

"Leadership failed to provide clear guidance so we just developed it. ... We heard rumors of (prisoners) dying so we were careful. We kept it to broken arms and legs..."

"In retrospect what we did was wrong, but at the time we did what we had to do. Everything we did was accepted, everyone turned their heads," the sergeant said.

under orders

"I witnessed violations of the Geneva Conventions that I knew were violations of the Geneva Conventions when they happened but I was under the impression that that was U.S. policy at the time," the captain said in the report.

Human Rights Watch identified the captain as a graduate of the U.S. Military

Academy at West Point, New York, who served in the 82nd Airborne Division in Afghanistan from August 2002 to February 2003 and in Iraq from September 2003 to March 2004. He commanded a rifle company in Falluja and is now at Special Forces school at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

"He is the epitome of an honorable officer trying to do the right thing," said Human Rights Watch's Tom Malinowski.

Asked whether the captain would be punished by the Army for going public, Boyce said, "Lord, no." But Boyce said he could face potential punishment "if he were implicated in acts of detainee abuse that he committed." Boyce said the Army did not know the identities of the sergeants.

"This is another predictable report by an organization trying to advance an agenda through the use of distortions and errors in fact. It's a shame they refuse to convey how seriously the military has investigated all credible allegations of detainee abuse and how we've looked at all aspects of detention operations under a microscope," said Lt. Col. John Skinner, a Pentagon spokesman on detainee issues.

The accounts given in the report, Human Rights Watch said, contradicted claims by the Bush administration that detainee abuse by U.S. forces was not systemic or a matter of policy.

Suicide car bomber targets Iraqi army in Baghdad

BAGHDAD (Reuters) - A suicide car bomb exploded near an Iraqi army checkpoint in Baghdad on Saturday, destroying several cars and sending a column of smoke into the air, witnesses said.

There were no immediate reports of any casualties in the attack, which occurred near a restaurant on a square

in the Karrada district of the capital. Iraqi police and the army sealed off the area.

Reuters television pictures showed several police cars and ambulances at the scene, with sirens wailing.

The blast followed an attack on Friday in which a suicide bomber blew himself up at a bus station killing at

least five people and wounding 17, police said.

Separately, a U.S. soldier was killed by a roadside bomb southeast of Baghdad, the U.S. military said on Saturday.

The death raises to 1,911 the number of U.S. troops to have died in Iraq since the start of the war.

Israel launches air strikes in Gaza after attacks

GAZA (Reuters) - Israel launched air strikes in the Gaza Strip on Saturday after Palestinian militants mounted several rocket attacks on the Jewish state from the territory, wounding five Israelis.

The missile and rocket attacks capped 24 hours of the worst violence in the area since Israel completed a pullout of troops and settlers from Gaza on September 12 after 38 years of occupation.

A Hamas militant was slightly wounded in the air strikes, which the Israeli army said had targeted weapons foundries used by militants in Gaza City and in the north of the Gaza Strip.

Militants said they fired more than 20 rockets into Israel on Friday in what they termed a response to a blast at a Hamas rally in Gaza that killed 15 Palestinians and an Israeli army raid in the West Bank that killed three Islamic Jihad militants.

The militants blamed the explosion at the rally on Israel, but the Jewish state denied any involvement and the Palestinian Authority said Hamas itself had caused the blast.

It criticized the militant group for displaying munitions among thousands of civilians.

The army sealed off the West Bank and Gaza on Saturday, denying entry to Palestinians who work in Israel among others. Israel has said it would respond severely to any Palestinian attacks launched from Gaza.

Militants have said they would honor a truce they declared in March at the request of Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas but would respond to any Israeli attacks.

Israel fires three missiles
Witnesses said Israeli helicopters



A Palestinian boy stands next to a crater after an Israeli air strike in the Gaza City neighbourhood of Zeitoun Sep. 24. REUTERS

fired three missiles in the strikes in Gaza.

One missile hit a foundry in the Gaza City neighborhood of Zeitoun, a Hamas stronghold, but its owner said the building was not used to manufacture weapons or munitions.

The army said the five Israelis were wounded by flying shrapnel from a rocket that landed in the southern Israeli town of Sderot, in the worst such attack since militants declared the truce.

Palestinians are still celebrating Israel's withdrawal from Gaza, which the United States hopes could be a step to reviving a stalled peace "road map" plan.

Palestinian authorities took charge on Friday of a border crossing for the first time, processing thousands of travelers from Gaza into Egypt following Israel's pullout.

Israel had sealed the Rafah

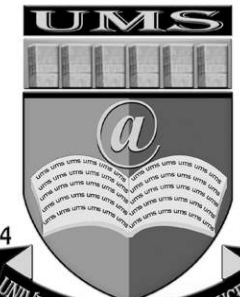
terminal, Gaza's sole conduit to the outside world via Egypt, before completing its removal of forces, saying it would be shut for six months pending renovations and proof Palestinians could rein in Gaza militants.

But with Israel's consent, the crossing was opened on Friday for 48 hours to Palestinians who study, work or need medical treatment in Egypt or elsewhere.

Palestinians hope Gaza will become the embryo of a state in the territories Israel captured in the 1967 war. They want their state to include the larger West Bank and Arab East Jerusalem.

While uprooting all 21 of its settlements in Gaza, Israel retains about 120 in the West Bank. Along with its Gaza pullout, the Jewish state dismantled four settlements in the West Bank.

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26 SEPTEMBER

Compagnie Générale De Géophysique

Ali Abdullah Saleh

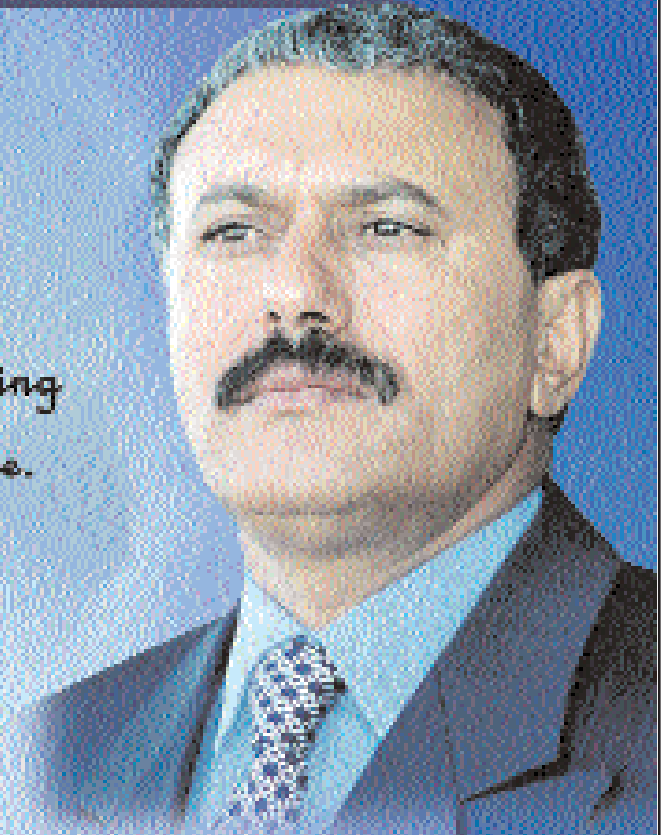
We wish to Yemen the best of success and progress towards building a strong country headed by its wise leadership for years to come.

الشركة العامة للجيوفيزياء

تقدم بأحر التهاني والتبريكات إلى رئيس الجمهورية الأخ /

علي عبدالله صالح

وإلى كافة أبناء الشعب اليمني بمناسبة الذكرى الثالثة والأربعين لتورة السادس والعشرين من سبتمبر متمنين لليمن العبير قديماً في طريق التقدم والنجاح والإزدهار



الشركة العامة للجيوفيزياء

26

CANADIAN
nexen

SEPTEMBER



Mr. David Mitchell - President & General Manager
& Mr. Jamil Al-Ariki - Administration Manager,
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H.E. Ali Abdullah Saleh

President of the Republic of Yemen
and the Yemeni people,

on the occasion of the 43rd Anniversary of the 26 September
Revolution wishing the Yemeni leadership many more
achievements, Progress and Prosperity.

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و الإدارة العليا وكافة موظفي وشركاء شركة كنديان نكسن بتروليم شرق
الحجر المحدودة قطاع ٥١ بأحر التهاني القلبية إلى
فخامة الأخ

علي عبدالله صالح

رئيس الجمهورية حفظة الله

وإلى كافة أبناء الشعب اليمني بمناسبة الذكرى الثالثة والأربعين لتورة
السادس والعشرين من سبتمبر الخالدة متمنين للقيادة السياسية وللشعب
اليمني المزيد من التقدم والإزدهار



البنك الوطني
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ولكافة أبناء الشعب اليمني، ومعرباً من التقدم والازدهار في ظل قيادتنا الحكيمة،
وكل عام واليمن بألف خير

WATANI BANK
Presents their heartiest
congratulations to the President

Ali Abdullah Saleh

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

26
SEPTEMBER

البنك الوطني
WATANI BANK




تتقدم
الشركة المتحدة للهندسة والسيارات المحدودة
الوكيل العام لمرسيدس بنز
بأحر التهانئ وأطيب التبركات للأخ /

علي عبدالله صالح

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ظل قيادتنا الحكيمة، وكل عام واليمن بألف خير

United Engineering & Automobile Co Ltd.
Present their heartiest
congratulations to the President

Ali Abdullah Saleh

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

26 **SEPTEMBER**




الشركة المتحدة للهندسة والسيارات المحدودة

Words of Wisdom



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

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



OUR OPINION

43 years and many more to come

Whilst celebrating the 43rd anniversary of the Yemeni revolution today, many activists are becoming more critical of the achievements that Yemen has won throughout the years since the revolution. This in itself is a sign of increasing awareness that the Yemeni people have started to witness, which is defiantly a good sign. Yemenis are becoming more analytical of what is being fed into their minds through various media tools, especially government controlled media. This is not exclusive to Yemen; in fact one could say that Yemen has been lagging behind in the wake-up movements going in the Middle East off late. Syrians' open participation in UN sponsored workshops in Syria, elections in Saudi Arabia and Iraq, as well as various street protests in Cairo, are all signs of the demand for and even action towards change in the region. Yet the problem in the Middle East has not been a lack of demand for change, but rather the ability to exercise it under never ending regimes.

The idea behind peaceful passing of power has not been understood at all among the Arab leaders, for they are either kings, or presidents thinking of themselves as kings. What is more saddening is that in the whirlwind of self centered egoistic achievements caused by time such as discovering oil or feeble improvement in infrastructure, these achievements have been miraculously credited to Arab governments. For that matter when numerating the various facets of development in Yemen, the president should be ashamed to say that education, infrastructure, health or any of the basic services have improved. Because even though they really have improved compared to what they were like half a century ago yet that is really not credited to the "enthusiastic" leaders whose first priority is definitely not their nations.

Moreover, the limited institutional change that has occurred in the Arab systems seems to be more or less externally driven. The elections in Egypt for example have been one way or the other supported by the US policy. It seems that there has been a change in the Bush administration policies indicating "the United States now shares a number of important goals with reformers and democracy activists rather than the increasingly illegitimate authoritarian kings, presidents and revolutionary holdovers of the region". This indirectly has led to forcing a larger democratic space in Egypt a fact that was visible during the recent elections. Another example was the municipal elections in Saudi Arabia, which is a step forward towards political change in spite of the official statement indicating that this change is not a result of the pressure from USA, but is internally induced. Although the Bush administration's drive towards a more democratic space in the Middle East is very much interest-driven, it remains that such pressures do assist in creating change in the region.

Whatever the case may be, 43 years have passed in Yemen since the revolution and it is now time to plan the next steps with vision. Planning a future for Yemen rather than fooling around abusing the country's resources. Every post comes with obligations and responsibilities, but unless there is a monitoring power that ensures fulfillment of these duties, there will be no control over corruption, just like it is the case now in Yemen. The people and their representing, national organizations should internally drive this monitoring power, even if this means sacrificing so much for the sake of our country.

The Editorial Board



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by Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf

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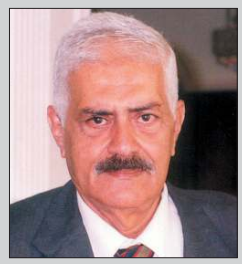
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The president & upcoming elections

President Ali Abdullah Saleh is heading for winning a third presidential term pursuant to the operative constitution in case he would run for the upcoming presidential elections in 2006. Up until now candidates have by their personal characteristic announced their intention to run the elections, except for the political parties that have not yet determined their stance towards nomination or regarding the president's statements about non-intention to nominate for the coming elections.



By Prof. Dr. Abdulaziz al-Tarb

Preponderant wining of the president could be attributed to many reasons and considerations. The more important of those reasons is that according to the constitution the president would assume a final presidency term and the Yemenis would grant him this chance. In this regard they have their many reasons; some of them emotional and others because there are no strong competitors for him and even with the supposition of the existence of those, preponderance goes to president Saleh who the Yemenis see in him the image of continuity and stability of their country against grave internal and external challenges. The majority of the people if Yemen consider him symbol moderateness provided that he would wage a war on corruption strongholds and translate his last tenure in the establishment of the state of happy Yemen ruled by law and order and to lay foundations of peaceful transfer of power.

It is obvious that the presidential elections would take place a year after holding the ruling party's conference and five months following the local elections. They would be election of transitional characteristic in prelude to later full-fledged competitive elections where then the Yemenis would have the opportunity to elect from among the new candidates; president Saleh, whom they have known for more than thirty-five years and lived with him in good and bad days, would not

be then among them. The idea of the state and its symbol is settled and deep-rooted in the Yemeni conscience and many of us in Yemen (more than 23 million people) prefer to have president Ali Abdullah Saleh stay in power and oppose him rather than to be forced at this stage to deal with a new president

who they do not know the extent of his capability of running the state affairs. Leaders of the ruling party request the president respect the will of the people and members of the General People's Congress party I maintaining presidency of the state and running for the upcoming presidential elections and through his statements and field visits, the president confirms his intent to fight corruption and to grant the government a last chance.

We believe, rather emphasize, that the coming local councils elections would witness much competition in which the ruling party may lose much. Therefore, the president is required to effect the appropriate change that would enable his party to win and not only to compete. This would not ensue unless associated with combating corruption, reconsidering the law of wages and salaries to curb the rate of inflation and rise of prices, removing impediments of investment, founding commercial arbitration and referring files of corruption and corrupters to prosecution and court.

Thus, the battle of upcoming presidential elections appears to be decided before their beginning, otherwise they would witness many disturbances, competition, and chaos in absence of opposition parties and their programs in enlightening the people. The president's opportunity for accomplishment of political reforms and the national unity is not only out of response to partisan and non-partisan opposition but also in response to requisites of development and reform forced by social movement and the need for renewal of legal and administrative mechanisms.

I am of the view that the president should hurry in restoring the smile to the face of the citizen's face, to work for the formation of a national government able to fulfill his ambitions and oversee the upcoming elections, even though the remaining time is not quite enough. Nevertheless the citizen would feel credibility of the regime in its approach of change and reforms and fighting corruption in word and action. Thus the electoral battle would be decided for the society due to the weight the president entertains amongst the entire public who the political parties have succeeded to attract only a small proportion of them and that proportion is not much dependable on. This puts the political forces before the option of submitting realistic demands and reviving the younger generations' interest in the public's general affair instead of squandering efforts in fighting a losing war.

As for the candidates who have stepped forward and stated of their intentions to the runs the elections, they would favor, despite of the result that is known beforehand, in adding a meaning to competition to presidency. It is hopeful that other candidates would be granted an enough space and opportunity to address their masses and to arouse the issues they think they should put forward on the basis that the entire world is changing while we do not change.

First our political situations are, permanent presidency, absent accountability and superficial parliament, people that have lost their right to make their life, a lack of watching, and the government is weak and corruption has increased.

Second we have to change Yemen seriously and our practical solutions are:

- A president for two terms only, does not dominate the executive power and subject to accountability,
- Constitution restoring to the public their right and sovereignty and a strong parliament,
- remove the corrupt and send to court,
- Implementation of the principle of financial obligation,
- And a law for ministers' trial.



COMMON SENSE

By Hassan Al-Haifi

How revolutionary are we, truly?

In this 43rd anniversary of the Yemeni Revolution, there is a lot of discussion recently about how much of a success story have we made of all those who gave their lives and devoted all their energies to safeguard the revolution and maintain the Republican regime. While granted, we are far from being the true manifestation of any republic per se, there are those who would say that certainly had it not been for the Revolution, Yemen would have quite a different profile than what we are seeing at present. Now of course this argument can be taken for its positive ramifications as well as its negative connotations. Needless to say that there were indeed many genuine Republicans, who had wanted the 26th of September Revolution to be the launching of a Yemen that will once again take its rightful place as the vanguard state of the Arab World. There is a lot of heritage that lies within the high peaks of this very tested country and there is enough it to ignite a cultural leap that could serve as a model to all the other Arab states. But realistically, many opportunists have made much of these ideals somewhat dormant, if not subject to further inundation with a myriad of foreign intrusions and concepts that in many cases hampered the realization of the hopes of many of the true patriots, many of whom were the victims of elements of the very forces that they had hoped were at least advocating for the same ideals. Yes, the Revolution did pave the way for many Yemenis to rise to the forefront of the political spectrum and economic ladder, albeit not always in an open, transparent and responsible manner. For sure, the case would have been different if the Revolution had not prevailed as it did. There are also many Yemenis, who insist that Yemen is not yet where it should be economically, politically and culturally. For this reason, they feel that the true Revolutionaries have been let down by the succeeding generations that took on the helms of political activity in the land, while the remaining Revolutionaries, who have not yet passed away are frankly bewildered at what happened to all the ideals and the visions that the true patriots had espoused and saw as fitting enough for many of their fellow heroes of the Revolution to give their lives for? How did such a slip up occur? The blame for sure can not be confined to Yemen and the forces that worked to bring this situation about are not solely within the confines of the Red Sea, Arabian Sea and the Empty Quarter Desert. A myriad of foreign forces and influences played a significant role in not allowing the Yemenis to set an independent course for the country to take, this being sadly to say with the help of many of the opportunistic Yemenis, who sought to give themselves a place in the history of the country. However, these political opportunists, unfortunately were not guided by principles, or even patriotic inclinations. They were guided by the principle of "it's a dog eat dogie world. In such a world success is not gauged by ideals or principles, but get whatever you can, whenever you can and don't worry about the how, as long as you get there safe and sound, with a net worth and a niche in the establishment, that will do more than enough to satisfy the ego.

Yes, Yemen is revolutionary in spirit and Yemenis are great followers of causes that have entrenched values to steer them and which operate on high moral beliefs and the pursuit of an amicable position with the Lord Al-Mighty. But what happened over the ages is that even religion has been allowed to become dominated by petrodollar spiritualism that is anathema to the inclination of Yemenis by their nature and works strenuously to eradicate a thousand years of religious heritage, not only that of the Zeidi Sect, but also that of its sister sect, the Shafe'i sect, both of which are considered the most forward looking and enlightened renditions of the Islamic Message. Materialism has also crept into this country, set in by geography and a long history of migratory tendencies that kept the country in a long era of slumber and insensitivity to the rapid developments that the world witnessed over the past few centuries. For all this period, it seemed that the only way Yemenis were to take a genuine place in the world is "if they could only leave Yemen", because, simply put, the obstacles to progress in Yemen were so enormous. The considerable size of Yemeni communities in a disparate configuration not subject to any geographical cohesion or relativity attests to this unusual "pioneering spirit". Even after the Revolution, in both of its manifestations 26th of September and 14th of October, emigration remains the most successful path to honest success by Yemenis, while at home honest success becomes a mind-boggling challenge exaggerated ten fold by the prevalence of much evil that clouds the social fabric incessantly so. Yemenis are no doubt fatalistic in nature and quite often lay their aspirations on a consistent aura of optimism that is in itself also mind-boggling. Perhaps it is the strong faith in the strength of Allah to turn the tide miraculously, forgetting that the Qur'an has said "Allah does not bring change upon a nation unless the nation strives to bring change within itself!" So, in theory we could say that faith has been made to serve adverse causes and allow the forces of evil to have their way, politically, socially and economically. Even faith has become misunderstood: the faith in God and the faith in the Revolution. We are where we are today, because we have forgotten that unless we stand by our faith it its pure unadulterated format, we begin to even loose faith in ourselves as an industrious productive nation and our definitions of right and wrong, good and bad and all the other redeemable contrasts have become distorted for the most part. No this is not what the 26th of September Revolution was envisioned to produce. On the contrary, it is obvious that we have even betrayed that noble moment in our history and let much of what the Revolution came to relieve us of turn right back in a counteroffensive unleashed by the very elements that the Revolution sought to liberate. It seems that Yemen was bound to remain an abyss of paradoxes that still remain out of tune with the aspirations ignited by the many hopeful moments of Yemen's modern history: the September and October Revolution, the unification of both former sovereign parts of Yemen and as remote as they can be from a world that is vent on reaching globalization in all spheres of life. Happy Anniversary and many happy returns to all Yemenis, in the homeland and wherever they may be, as they are still in the hearts of the people in the homeland and the homeland definitely is still in their disappointed hearts (disappointed in us, of course for not being true to the Revolutionary spirit).

To vote or not to vote

By FATIMA FOUAD

The international community is so eager to transform their successful democratic processes to our countries. One of their great visions for change in the Middle East is through elections. Frankly, this is a great idea that some of our governments are following. Egypt being in the lead, but it will be interesting to note that the people care less for the whole election process. They still do not know why they have to play a game bound to lose.

I was in Egypt in the period of the presidential elections and I saw no sign of enthusiasm. Sure the parties played a big role and the TV bored us to death with the election campaigns of people who promised to solve all of Egypt's problems but still, there was something lacking, the general public just didn't seem to be interested.

You see, in western communities, people often boast about their right to vote, they feel that they have been consulted, that they have a say in how they are governed, most of all, the elections to them is an indication that their country is still alive, that their democratic processes are healthy and well. In our communities you cannot touch the same impact, people often complain about having to drag themselves to the polling stations, and still we shove it down their throats without asking ourselves what is the problem.

Democracy promoters thinks that if we introduce the concept and work to realize

it then people will gradually comprehend its importance and soon practice their rights. What they fail to see is that this is not a question of comprehension, the frustration of Arab citizens stems from the fact that change has been slow. Their societies failed in producing someone they can trust. The elections campaigns presented people who came out of the blue, with ambiguous election campaigns. It presented parties with limited means and big ambitions. It was absurd to assume that one of those people could actually have a weight against the current president.

In addition, the whole psychology of the Arabic people reveals serious obstacles to change; how many times did I hear the phrase "a devil you know is better than a devil you don't". Most of the people just surrendered to the fact that the Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak is best because they simply knew him more than all the rest.

We also have to recognize that Arabs live in such a parental society. Respecting people who are older and who have more experience is considered a virtue in our communities. People often think that if they didn't vote for Mubarak then they would be biting the hand that fed them all these years. Most of the people conceive stability with what they are comfortable with; they do not want to deal with a new headache (president) that will start all over again.

The whole issue is not a matter of awareness, anyone who has seen "Bakhit & Adila", -an Egyptian comedy film that

helped analyze the incentives and challenges behind parliamentary elections - would know that people understand the politics, even the dirty politics behind such elections. The questions of integrity of elections and fraud are not the main problem here, we ought to ask ourselves why was there such a low turnout in the ballot stations? Why did 24 million registered voters out of 32 decide to weave their rights to vote?

The Egyptians know that if these elections were serious, the president should have stepped down and left the scene to more promising candidates. That was the only chance for these elections to be free and fair. The people then would have moved to practice their rights because they simply would want to have a say on who will rule them. But with the way things went this time, no one bothered because it was just too obvious.

There are lots of question marks, and few steps taken to understanding the politics of reform in the Middle East. There is a big deficiency in our Arabic systems as it keeps failing the general public. The bureaucracy, the whole economy of favors and the politics of corruption are overburdening Egypt. The Egyptian's presidential elections have proven to be a big waste of time, money and resources. The international community has to realize that change cannot come overnight. In the same time, we cannot afford losing more resources in trying bogus democratic projects. There needs to be a serious focus on institutions and civic participation.

Tribal rule

Governance in Yemen used to be autocratic and dominated by Imams. It was then followed by the unstable time of anarchism and influence directly after the revolution, until the leader Ibrahim Al-Hamdi reorganized the system and reinstated Republican rule.



By Mazin Al-Saqaf

Then came president Saleh, whose rule is not given a name by historians up to now. Writers and researchers are still at a loss on what name is to be given to his term of rule, but most of them have the tendency to call it a period of tribal governance.

It is true that Yemen has been ruled by a tribal regime all through the last 27 years, which helped president Saleh to stabilize his government, in addition to

other factors of course. The prevailing motto along all this period was not the rule of the law, but the law of origin.

The tribal law was not governed by any constitution or law. Those who used to plunder the states wealth were often protected by their tribes.

It could be that this matter has been tackled several times later and in a better way than this article but what made me retackle it at this stage, are the suggestions that were published in Al-Ayam news paper by some of our intellectuals, in a symposium, who demanded that the tribe should be given more say in political life, because it is more efficient than parties and the other modern institutions in defending their membership.

One feels that the tribe is a matter of fact in our life, and that one couldn't be against their norms, but one feels sure to be against ruling through it, in place of constitution and law.

It is true that the tribe used to be ruling all through the previous years but this is not good excuse that it should continue to be an alternative for the modern institutions. The logical matter is to empower the existing institutions to return the State's prestige that was undermined by tribal loyalty. Tribal loyalty has become an alternative to state's loyalty. We should not be surprised however, as the cultural geography of our land implies that power will fall along tribal cleavages.

Citizens used to repeat the slogan "God, State, Revolution", and now after more than 40 years of revolution will we return to 'tribe, tribe, tribe'? I hope not.

Yemen Press Review

Review By Mohammed Khidhr

Al-Wahdawi weekly organ of the Nasserite Unionist Organization, 20 Sep.2005.

Main headlines

- Heavy damage inflicted by torrential rains on Taiz population
- Interior minister admits the arrest of 2245 citizens from protest demonstrations
- Government before the parliament, PM Bajammal admits existence of complications facing wages law; al-Soufi acknowledges the dilemma in his ministry
- Official and opposition sources: No contacts with the Zionist enemy and no normalization with its entity
- Oil ministry employees demand stop of al-Salami oppression
- Beating and humiliation against Wahdawinet correspondents in Hays security prison
- Dengue kills Taiz doctors' chairman
- Islah Shoura: JMP project meets the people's aspirations

The newspaper's political editor writes that the equation on which democracy is based is not correct and defeated intentionally. The quantity on the one side represents the political system with its weight and might based on constituents that are originally of the public but confiscated; the other quantity on the other side of the equation is result of the popular political action which lacks constituents of weight and power and those the political system monopolizes for itself.

It is not possible to be equal with regard to a candidate coming from strongholds of the regime and another coming from the popular political action, even if he comes from an environment possessing some money. The power does not only lie in the possession of finance, but rather in apparatuses and military might, the media arsenal and the partial bridges of interests that rise above peoples' interests and above all concepts of freedom and democracy that the oppressive regimes try to cover up themselves with. Under such umbrella those regimes try to prevent any political force from growing bigger and to become capable of realizing competition and transfer of power.

Al-Wasat weekly, 21 Sep. 2005.

Main headlines

- Leaders in the JMP considered it part of the political reform project, A Nasserite leading member dis-

- closes that Islah has come up with an idea of government coalition and the new vision a prelude
- New vision by the JMP instead of the political reform project
- New international resolution obliging states on not fomenting terror
- After the release of 200 prisoners in Sana'a and Saada, the "slogan" postpones negotiations between the authority and the Houthis
- Large-scale criticisms to the central bank policy, Aburas resignation arouses dispute among MPs
- From account of the technical education and vocational training institution, The ministry of finance discovers a half million dollars worth forged check

Editor in chief of the newspaper says in his article that talk was going on concerning a new government formation or cabinet reshuffle at least. Opposition parties deny that propositions were submitted to them about the question of participation in a government coalition, claiming that they had not even known about it.

Statement given by the Nasserite Organization assistant secretary-general in which he disclosed that the Islah party was contacted for taking part in the government and it had delayed the reply until after submitting the issue to the JMP, clarifies the mentality of these parties in dealing with issues that concern the country. They deal with the same manner of the authority in that of its dependence on secrecy and considering the issue as if it is especially for the parties and their leaders not as national issues that concern all the people.

What would the new government, whether reshuffled or completely changed; coalition or a one-party, do in a 360 days? That is if we supposed it would work twelve non-interrupted hours a day, in order to rescue the country from the existing corruption and re-formulate the political, economic and social life according to the utopian visions that builds good cities on illusions.

Al-Mithaq weekly, organ of the General People's Congress, 19 Sep. 2005.

Main headlines

- The president: The achievements accomplished for the homeland, one of the products of the revolution and the republican regime
- Al-Eryani: Yemen is keen on compatibility of its legislations with human rights charters
- Convening the regional conference on democratic change in Sana'a, support for the democratic dialogue and enhancement of civil society role

- Yemeni-European dialogue begins in Brussels
- Demonstration by civil society organizations demanding for a law regulating carrying of weapons
- Establishment of a national museum for sciences

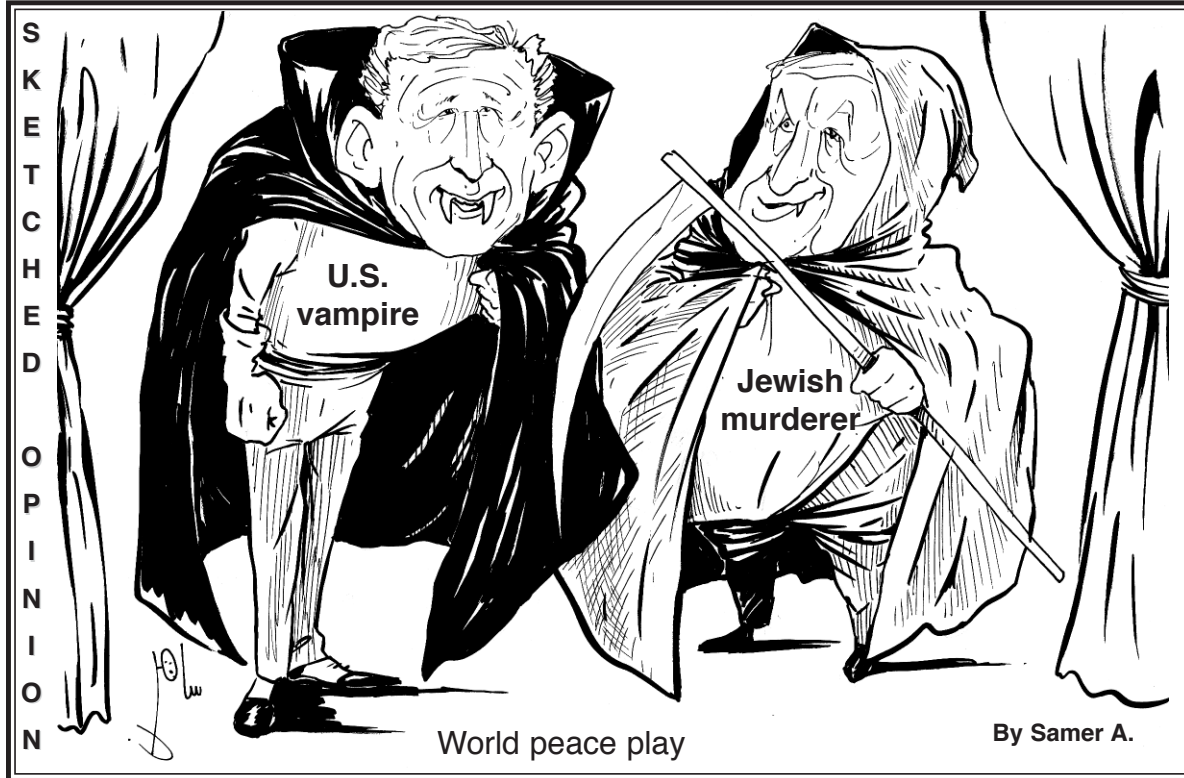
Columnist Dr Abdulaziz al-Maqaleh says in his article that it has not occurred in his mind that the Israeli withdrawal from Gaza, with all the media tumult that accompanied it, was merely one percent the land of Palestine and the withdrawing settlers do not exceed two percent of the remaining settlers that are staying in the West Bank and Jerusalem, of whom Sharon confirms they would not leave their settlements under any internal or external pressures.

It is the right for the Palestinians to feel happy and to celebrate the restoration of even one handbreadth of their occupied land. The return of Gaza to freedom, though it was not complete, it can be a herald to a comprehensive return of the remaining of the land of Palestine. That limited withdrawal removes a heavy burden from the Zionist entity. However, the astonishing thing is the attitude of an Islamic country that speedily announced the establishment of diplomatic relations with Israel justifying that by the withdrawal measure which should not represent anything deserving a price to be adopted by Arab and Islamic states. Surely the impression that the stand of that Islamic country has created for the Arab citizen is that the question of establishing diplomatic relations with the Zionist entity was already set and the Israeli partial withdrawal from Gaza was the fig leaf of the politicians of that country have removed to show their real stand.

As-Sahwa weekly, 2 Sep 2005.

Main headlines

- Congratulating the Yemeni people on the Revolution anniversary, The Islah party calls for surpassing the negatives and evaluating the performance
- Renewing it refusal of the policy of doses, Islah Shoura approves the JMP project for political reform
- Press law anew, The government refers the draft law to the Shoura Council with more restrictions
- Interior minister reveals figure of the arrested during the demonstrations and admits the receiving of Yemenis from Guantanamo
- MP Mayou: Justifications of additional appropriation not convincing and justification for the government tampering with public



World peace play

By Samer A.

Columnist Zaid Ash-Shami writes saying we have constitutional and legal legislations representing groundwork for entering the group of democratic countries and make Shoura (consultation) in which we believe as obligatory for the authority. After the unity, we have held three parliamentary elections, and presidential and local elections and more than one referendum. There are popular and trade unionist organizations, political pluralism, and we have independent and political parties' organ press. Nevertheless the others do not recognize our democracy and put us under the term of emerging democracies and sometimes we are categorized among the states that violate human rights and at the top of the list of countries that practice corruption.

The fact is that the phenomena of democracy and pluralism have not reached yet to the stage of actual and effective practice. The authority is still afraid of the other opinion; it works very hard to change the will of the voter and spends huge amounts of money to prevent the people from getting their rights to wealth and power. Targeting the press and the journalists who expose corruption confirms the direction of gagging mouths and inability to use argument against argument. Are we a democratic country at a time the parliament is unable to hold the government accountable for constitutional and legal violations? That has pushed the MP Aburas to tender his resignation from the parliament explaining that the parliament's inability to call the corrupt to account.

Al-Tagamu weekly, organ of the Yemeni Unionist Congregation, 19 Sep. 2005.

Main headlines

- Coalition government, the solution
- Al-Soufi accuses the MPs with practicing hegemony and pressure

- Grant offered by the American Institute for protection of the Sabaeen inscriptions
 - Pressures mounting against Syria
- The newspaper editorial is devoted to discuss the question of the president's nomination for the upcoming presidential elections. It says it has become certain that the president Ali Abdullah Saleh has surprised all, including the General People's Congress, when he announced on 17 July this year he would not run for the coming presidential elections, and was determined to give the chance to a young leadership to shoulder the responsibility.

Since that date the GPC has been looking for an outlet from the presidential impasse. We think they have only one solution, which is continuation of contacts with leaderships of the

parties represented in the parliament for formation of a national unity government to face the accumulating economic, political and security problems and to give the political excuse for the president to back down from his decision. This would be an introduction for reaching an agreement on how to produce the entire issue in a way to convince the inside and the outside in the importance of the president's continuation in leading the country and a coalition government and then moving gradually towards assuming power.

Thus the president and the GPC could have guaranteed continuation in power in a way appearing for securing success to a coalition government and the main opposition parties would have moved to power without elections and the two parties' goal is the supreme interest of the country.

SILVER LINING
By Mohammed Hatem al-Qadhi
mhalqadhi@hotmail.com

Is the political regime serious about firearms law?!

Last week, the capital Sana'a saw the protest against the firearms, demanding their ban in the main cities and the issuance of the firearms carrying and possession control that has been collecting dust in the parliament for several years. It is good that the firearms law turns into a public issue. Of course, public participation in all the issues is very much needed and I have been really happy when I heard that some NGOs were going to run a protest against firearms chaos in the country.

However, does this mean that the ruling party that enjoys the majority in the parliament has flailed to get the draft law endorsed? Or is it only to satisfy or fool international community pressure on the political regime?

During the last few years and particularly after the terrorist attacks in the US, the question of Yemen's all sorts of weaponry has become a global issue that matters to everybody. We have been reading reports about weapons smuggling from Yemen to Somalia. This means that there are concerns from the international community about this issue as such weapons might fall into the hands of terrorist groups.

The pressure on Yemen to put an end to this issue of weapons should not end at a protest pushed by the ruling party to demand the parliament pass the draft law. This is the behavior of a weak authority that in spite of its majority in the parliament has not been able to pass the law. This is ridiculous and funny. Tribal Sheikhs are more powerful than the state and its democratic institutions including the toothless parliament. But, again it shows that the ruling party which has opposed such a law presented by the socialist early 1990s is not very much serious about the law.

We all know that big influential tribal guys are themselves weapons businessmen and will, of course, defend their interests that include weapons trade. These tribal guys are themselves very much present at the core of the system. Such a big amount of weapons at the hand of the tribesmen has given them more power and privileges. They, therefore, are not ready to give in easily.

These tribesmen and their weapons have hampered all efforts to build a civilized state based on the rule of law and order. This is because they live by this chaotic situation and get enriched in such a way. This should not be looked at as a prejudice against tribesmen and the tribe in general. But I do believe that if the society remains tribal, no real development will take place. Tribesmen believe that they can rule themselves without the need to the law set up by the parliament even if they are its members. This institution added to them some more power and even immunity.

It is very important to have such kind of link between the sophisticated structure of the tribe and weapons as well as state in Yemen which decides a lot about Yemen's politics. I know it is a challenge to address the question of weapons or firearms in the country, mainly in the northern tribal part. But, it is not impossible. What we need a strong political regime that have the will and courage to start addressing this issue standing behind most of all our headaches and plights. Our political regime should come to believe that addressing this issue should not be only for the sake of the international community or pressure from this or that. Rather, it should well understand that it is a question of development and future of a nation at large. When this happens, then it will be possible to tackle the issue

China's Struggling Public Intellectuals

By MERLE GOLDMAN

Is China's political environment loosening up, or is the government cracking down? It's hard to tell. President and Communist Party General Secretary Hu Jintao sometimes seems to be going both ways simultaneously.

For example, Hu has decided to honor the memory of his mentor, former General Secretary Hu Yaobang, in order to burnish his aura as a reformist. But, in many ways, Hu Jintao's tenure as the head of the fourth generation of Communist leaders, which began when he became party secretary in 2002, differs sharply from that of his mentor.

Hu Yaobang was a founder of the China Youth League, regarded as a relatively liberal institution in the People's Republic, who in the 1980's promoted political reforms and rehabilitated virtually all the victims of the Mao Zedong's purges. By contrast, the younger Hu has narrowed the public space for political discourse that had opened up during the latter years of his predecessor, Jiang Zemin, when market pressure was forcing media outlets to be more daring and wide-ranging.

Since taking over, Hu Jintao has arrested a number of outspoken journalists in an effort to rein in the media. His government has also detained an array of public intellectuals who have been critical of its policies, including cyber-

dissidents Liu Di and Shi Tao (who was arrested thanks to Yahoo's collaboration with the police in identifying him) and freelance writers Yu Jie and Liu Xiaobo. Military doctor Jiang Yanyong was detained in 2003 after he publicly rebutted the Party's assertion that the SARS epidemic had been brought under control. In 2004, he was placed under surveillance when he called on the Party to revise its judgment of the 1989 Tiananmen demonstration.

Hu's tightening of controls over political discourse and the media intensified with the publication in September 2004 of a list of "Top Fifty Public Intellectuals" in *Southern Weekly*. The list, dominated by intellectuals who in the 1990's had called for freedom of speech and political participation, appeared with the statement: "This is the time when China is facing the most problems in its unprecedented transformation, and when it most needs public intellectuals to be on the scene and to speak out."

On November 23, 2004, an article in the Shanghai Party Committee's orthodox *Liberation Daily* disagreed. It attacked the concept of "public intellectuals," claiming that their "independence drives a wedge" between intellectuals and the Party and between intellectuals and the masses.

Hu's leadership has tried to draw public attention to the growing gap between rich and poor. But its reaction to the

book *A Survey of Chinese Peasants*, which is based on interviews over several years with farmers in the poor province of Anhui, was a telling reminder that public intellectuals are not welcome to contribute to that effort.

The authors, the husband-and-wife team of Chen Guidi and Wu Chuntao, who spent their early years in the countryside, described in detail the imposition of unfair taxes by local officials and the authorities' rapacious seizure of land farmed by rural residents. The increasingly impoverished lives of peasants that the book vividly documented resulted from the very abuses of power that Hu Jintao had declared himself to be against. Yet, in February 2004, one month after its publication, *A Survey of Chinese Peasants* was banned.

Hu's government has also tightened controls over the media. Reports on peasant and worker demonstrations against corrupt officials and illegal property confiscations have been banned. Those who dare to protest, such as Beijing University journalism professor Jiao Guobiao, are silenced.

Similarly, Wang Yi, a law lecturer at Chengdu University who called for freedom of speech and association, was barred from teaching. The liberal journal *Strategy and Management* was closed down. Even the editor-in-chief of *China Youth Daily*, the newspaper affiliated with Hu Jintao's own China Youth League power base, which had been

aggressive in exposing official corruption, was recently detained.

Hu Jintao's rule is not a return to the Mao Zedong era. Despite the regime's vast means of censorship, its embrace of new communications technologies like the Internet make it increasingly difficult for the party to maintain effective control over people's views.

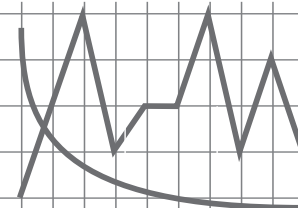
Moreover, persecution of political dissenters does not now reach far beyond the accused to involve their associates. While scores have lost their positions and others have been imprisoned, most are briefly detained and then allowed to find other jobs in China's burgeoning civil society.

By comparison with the late 1990's, however, the space for political discourse has undeniably narrowed, crushing expectations that the country would continue on a liberalizing course. Hu Jintao may have made a genuflection to his more liberal mentor, but in the two decades since the elder Hu's fall from power, even as private space has expanded, China has become a politically far less open society.

Merle Goldman, the author of the forthcoming book From Comrade to Citizen: The Struggle for Political Rights in China, is an associate of the Fairbank Center for East Asian Studies at Harvard.

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YT Business



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

At the second phase of wages law,

New salary increase to be granted

By MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The minister of civil service and securities Hamoud Khalid al-Soufi declared about a new increase in salaries and wages of the state employees would be granted directly during the next year with the beginning of the second stage of the national strategy of wages the government is adopting over five phases with the aim of improving the

living standard of the employees. He made it clear that the first stage of the strategy now under application would end with the end of implementing the tasks required to be finished by units of public service before the end of this year.

At a news conference held in Sana'a recently, the minister explained that the first stage focused on the principle of reform and stabilization of the actual situations in order to be the launching pad for the second state of the strategy so that the increment to be dispensed to

real employees in the administrative machinery.

He said all public employees would benefit from the national strategy of salaries and wages in addition to their benefit from the financial and administrative reforms that come within and part of the reform program.

The minister said the strategy included reforms like the restructure and



Hamoud Khalid al-Soufi

building, employment description and evaluation, the plan of distribution of the workforce aimed at raising efficiency and improving performance and standard of quality. He pointed out that those reforms were related also to comprehensive system to fix the situation of public

administration and that required references and work to be accomplished at future stages.

Minister al-Soufi said also the ministry of civil service had received in the past ten days 600 cases of double-dipping the beneficiaries took the initiative to report about, benefiting from the grace period granted to them by the president of the republic for the purpose of settling cases of double jobs.

The period ends on 10 October 2005. On the other hand Mr al-Soufi said the ministry would in the coming days form

a technical committee special for media men to supervise measures of transfer and fixing of employment in the new structure of wages in a manner easing those measures and guaranteeing that all journalists and media men working at government media institutions get all rights and privileges that the law of wages and salaries granted.

Too much saving, too little investment

By RAGHURAM RAJAN

Talk abounds of a global savings glut. In fact, the world economy suffers not from too much saving, but from too little investment.

To remedy this, we need two kinds of transitions. How well the world makes them will determine whether the strong global growth of the last few years will be sustainable. This is the central message of the IMF's *World Economic Outlook*, which will be released this week [editors: on Wednesday, September 21st 2005] on the eve of the Fund's 2005 Annual Meeting.

First, consumption has to give way smoothly to investment, as past excess capacity is worked off and as expansionary policies in industrial countries normalize. Second, to reduce the current account imbalances that have built up, demand has to shift from countries running deficits to countries running surpluses. Within this second transition, higher oil prices mean

consumption by oil producers has to increase while that of oil consumers has to fall.

The current situation has its roots in a series of crises over the last decade that were caused by excessive investment, particularly the bursting of the Japanese asset bubble, crises in emerging Asia and Latin America, and the collapse of the IT bubble in industrial countries. Investment has fallen off sharply since, and has since staged only a very cautious recovery.

The policy response to the slowdown in investment differs across countries. In the industrial countries, expansionary budgets, coupled with low interest rates and elevated asset prices, has led to consumption- or credit-fueled growth, particularly in Anglo-Saxon countries. Government savings have fallen, especially in the United States and Japan, and household savings have virtually disappeared in some countries with housing booms.

By contrast, the crises were a wake-up call in many emerging-market countries.

Historically lax policies have become far less accommodative. Some countries have primary fiscal surpluses for the first time, and most emerging markets have brought down inflation through tight monetary policy. With corporations cautious about investing and governments prudent about expenditure – especially given the grandiose investments of the past – exports have led growth. Many emerging markets have run current-account surpluses for the first time.

We should celebrate the implicit global policy coordination that enabled the world to weather the crises of recent years. However, the fact that rich countries are consuming more, and are being supplied and financed by emerging markets, is not a new world order; it is a temporary and effective response to crises. Now it needs to be reversed.

Indeed, it is misleading to term this situation a "savings glut," for that would imply that countries running current-account surpluses should reduce domestic incentives to save. But if the

problem is weak investment, then a reduction in such incentives will lead to excessively high real interest rates when the factors holding back investment dissipate. Policy, instead, should be targeted at withdrawing excessive stimulus to consumption and loosening the constraints that are holding back investment.

There are reasons to worry whether the needed transitions will, in fact, occur smoothly. First, with asset prices like housing fueled by global liquidity, goods prices kept quiescent by excess capacity and global trade, and interest rates held down by muted investment, domestic and external imbalances have been easily financed. The traditional signals provided by inflation expectations, long-term interest rates, and exchange rates have not started flashing. Instead, bottlenecks are developing elsewhere, as in oil. It may well be that easy financing has given economies a longer leash.

The worry, then, is that when the signals change – as they must – they will change abruptly, with attendant harsh

consequences for growth. Alternatively, prices such as that of oil will have to move more in order to effect the most pressing transitions, creating new imbalances.

Policymakers should not see higher oil prices as an aberration to be suppressed, but should focus on underlying causes. Second, more investment is needed, particularly in low-income countries, emerging markets, and oil producers (though less in China, the exception that proves the rule). But the answer is not a low-quality investment binge led by government or fuelled by easy credit; we know the consequences of that.

Instead, product, labor, and financial markets must be reformed so that high-quality private-sector investment emerges. It is here that the good may have been the enemy of the perfect. Strong exports and decent government policies have enabled some countries to generate growth without the reforms that can create the right incentives for investment.

These countries are overly dependent on demand elsewhere, which in turn is unsustainable. With the right reforms, adopted in concert, the world can make the needed transitions. But one of the risks associated with the large current-account imbalances we now face is that politicians may decide to blame one or another country and espouse protectionist policies.

That could precipitate the very global economic downturn that we all want to avoid. If, instead, countries see the transitions as a shared responsibility, each country's policymakers may be able to guide the domestic debate away from the protectionism that might otherwise come naturally. Each country should focus on what it needs to do to achieve sustained long-term growth. In that possibility lies the well-being of us all.

Raghuram Rajan is Economic Counsellor and Director of the Research Department at the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

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	Financial Administration	Business Management	Marketing	Accounting	MBA & MIT	Graphic & Digital Media	Interior Architecture		
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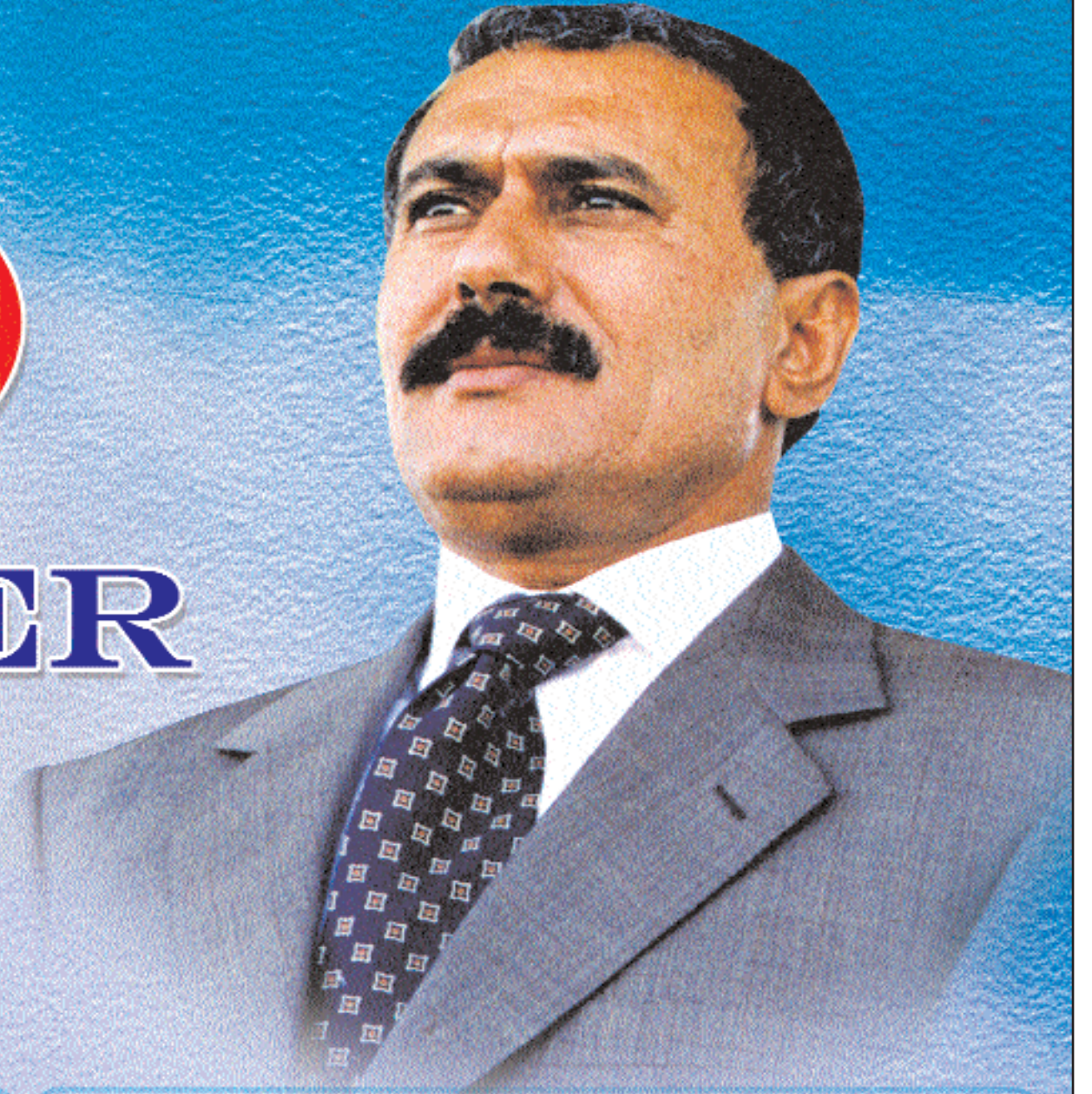


الطريق إلى مستقبل أفضل

University of Science and Technology

26

SEPTEMBER



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President and General Manager,

Mr. Ali Sohaiki,
Executive Director,

The Management Team, all staff of
Canadian Nexen Petroleum Yemen
and its Masila Block (14) Partners
Present their congratulations and
sincere wishes to

H.E. Ali Abdullah Saleh

President of the Republic of Yemen

On the occasion of 43rd Anniversary of
26 September Revolution
and the Holy Month of Ramadan
Many Happy Returns

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الرئيس والمدير العام

الأستاذ / علي السحيقي،
المدير التنفيذي

والإدارة العليا وموظفي شركة

كنيديان نكسن بتروليم يمن
كافة وشركائها في قطاع المسيلة (١٤)
يتقدمون بخالص وأطيب التهاني والتبريكات
القلبية إلى فخامة الأخ /

علي عبدالله صالح
رئيس الجمهورية اليمنية
حفظه الله

بمناسبة الذكرى الثالثة والأربعون
لثورة ٢٦ سبتمبر الخالدة
وحلول شهر رمضان المبارك
أعاده الله علينا وعليكم بالخير واليمن والبركات
وكل عام وأنتم بخير

CANADIAN
nexen

Director of Maison des Metallos:

The process of art creation is like creating a human being

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Mr. Gerard Paquet, director of Maison des Metallos, visited Yemen last week. He imparted to us not only the purpose of his visit but also his lifetime commitment. Through a cosmopolitan outlook, he hopes to find our world positively changed. One can find his philosophy to be appealing as it counts on human and artistic values and a good deal of pacifism. As he describes himself, he is a "dreamer," whose dreams usually come true.

Old cooperation:

He told the Yemen Times that this is not the first visit for him to Yemen. The first was a little more than one year ago, namely in last June when he came with a few friends invited by the Municipality of Sana'a and the French Embassy. The purpose of the first visit was to see what to do in different fields – cultural, and artistic as well as fields that have to do with light design and metropolitan planning.

He said, "The Mayor of Sana'a wanted to see how the municipalities of Paris and Sana'a could communicate as there has been partnership between Sana'a and Paris initiated a long time ago. The agreement was signed by Mr. Jaques Chirac when he was the Mayor of Paris." He said that nothing pertaining to that agreement has been realized since then.

"I came back to Paris and made proposals but things in Paris, as in any other place, are very slow. Therefore, I decided to take the initiative and start the action from my cultural establishment I own in Paris, 'Maison des Metallos'. We started and decided to build a relationship between the Sana'a-based French Cultural Center and our house, 'Maison des Metallos'."

They started doing things through especially music, working for a long time. He went on narrating, "I believe in long and not in short things. Musicians from my cultural house came several times to Sana'a. They managed to find musical pieces that would be palatable to both Yemeni and French audiences. The leader of our choral put the music into notes and, working along with Yemeni musicians, performed a concert in Paris. That showed the emotional and artistic value as well as the human quality of the work. I was very moved myself at the Paris concert particularly when I saw Yemenis who live in France crying."



Gerard Paquet

At one of the concerts organized at the French Cultural Center in Sana'a, a congregation gathered in the garden of the Center to listen to Yemeni songs performed by French artists and French songs performed by Yemeni chorals. That drew cheers and applause from the audience who were ecstatic and jubilant at the merge.

A purposeful initiative:

The initiative has a purpose. According to Mr. Paquet, it is not just doing things for doing things. "When you really do things together with your head, heart and sensitivity, then you start to know each other and then all the barriers that exist in our minds, not necessarily immediately, will vanish. So, each has to start."

In his last visit, he came with an architect, an urbanist, and a light designer. They had an appointment with Sana'a Mayor and discussed cooperation in technical fields. "As far as light design goes, there is a big project by Sana'a Municipality to illuminate the Old City of Sana'a. The light designer we brought is very famous. He is the one who made the lighting of the last Olympic games in Athens. He is going to make proposals

for the lights. He lived in Algeria and he knows that there is a deeply rooted light design tradition in the Arab World. He is not going to propose for Sana'a the same thing as, for example, Paris. There will be something creative and characteristic of Arab tradition; an invention of something that will make sense and is very seldom done in the whole world.

The value of togetherness:

"I told the Mayor and the French Ambassador that what we are going to do, if this is done and if the Mayor decides it, is more than to do it. What is more important is that the achievement will set an example. I strongly believe that all over the world this is the way to try to do things, TOGETHER. Everyone means what he is with his own history, culture, what he is as a man, woman, society. Yet, we have to live all together on the same planet. We have to find the way to link together, to create a common space and a common story. That has to do with the story in our head about what a human being is, individually, socially and spiritually. I think that the process of art creation is like and is a metaphor of the process of creating a

human being.

"This is one step after another. There have been possible and impossible things because of Yemeni and French reasons. Usually I say I never hurry because I have no time to lose. We are in a world where everything is done hastily. Afterwards, one look and find nothing except for bad things of course – suffering, wars, death, terrible things, etc. We will take time and invest in a human point of view. We will make mistakes on the road. Everyone does. But we do better the next time. We need to find the way to link all together with confidence. One has to have confidence and infuse confidence in those he is working with. This is the only way to build on a human point of view."

He believes that even the dreams we can have together. "As I told the Mayor, I am like Martin Luther King, 'I made a dream and usually my dreams come true.' Usually in the world, we oppose dreams and reality. They actually are not opposites. However, they are interlinked. Dreams are the source of life because they deal with imagination and spirituality and help you project. But then we have to work diligently and confidently with all your senses. A part of my dream is to expand the cultural concerts into big open ones attended by thousands of people and enlivened by Yemenis, French and people from all places."

The Roads of Peace:

His conviction is that we are in a world that changes very fast but the inhabitants of this planet have to be together. "The information travels marvelously instantly from one end to another end of the world. We are a mass of about six billion people. There are difficult times ahead of us for several reasons: wars, ecological problems, natural resource crisis, etc."

Mr. Paquet thinks that we have probably to invent a way to live together, which may be very different from all the models we have, both traditional or so-called modern. Through a project he called the Roads of Peace, he expresses practically his conviction that the exchange between people via artistic, scientific and intellectual sorts of activities, people can coin that model.

"As it has kept strong traditions, your country can teach us a lot of things. What we have to invent is to link all together very old tradition through which human beings really got up and we have to face all those new things that encounter us as a process of artistic creation. All those things have to be merged by human beings by means of work and interchange. We – I don't know where, when and how; no one can tell - have to work on those roads to make sure that this model can emerge and exist. You cannot decide in advance which one it is. It will be the result of a countless number of communications and exchanges. Great projects start with small things and then grow up slowly. When you plant something, it sprouts slowly. You cannot eat without the natural rhythm and tempo. The same thing applies to music and social life.

"I pondered on the world and tried to understand the world the way it is. Seeing it, I said to myself if we keep on this way, we are going to organize our desperation. I don't find this very exciting. Should I just look at it? No. I should do something. I always think that one has to take their own responsibility. Most barriers and all the conflicts and wars always start in the heads of people. This shows that the example of dialogue is feasible and that the dialogue on a human and artistic perspective is possible. Although slowly, but with tenacity and strong will and quietly, we will prevail."

The text of the Roads of Peace was written early this summer. It is going to be published in a book at the end of

Literary Corner

By: Abu Al-Kalmah Al-Tayyibah

An Anthology of Arab Humor In Arab Literature(3-3)

The anthology under review is no significant, not just from a literary standpoint, but also because it gives the reader of these modern times a vivid portrayal of the social life that prevailed in the various intervals of the post-Islamic history of the Arabs. The character of such life was also prevalent in the various "opened" territories that fell under Arab or Islamic rule, in which the Arabic language was the key medium of communications in officialdom, the scholastic community and among the elite. The significance of Arab poetry as a medium of giving rulers news about the trends in public opinion continued at this period as well, because of the rhythmic nature of Arabic poetry and its structure. As such it is easy to memorize. I know of many people who can memorize thousands of verses of several poets, from the past and from the present, and the verses flow of their lips like any normal conversation coming out of their mouths and it is really outstanding to listen to these people. Even if they may have forgotten a line or two the unique structure of Arabic poetry enables them to realize this quickly and entice them to go to reciting the missing verse.

When the Abbasid Caliphate became relatively weak and the califs succumbed to the proddings and dictation of the people of the occupied territories, namely the Persians and the Turks (in all their various genealogical orientations) and have lost their charisma over the subjects as a whole and their charisma amongst the Arabs in particular, a poet could not help but recite the following verses:

A Caliph in a box,
Among servants and conquered subjects

He says what they tell him to say
Like the sayings of a parrot.

Then there is the poetry of wisdom and proverbs that are to give guidelines on life and some civility to society:

The wealth of the the bankrupt
Don't be a slave to hope, as
wishes thinking
Is only capital of the bankrupt.

On the other hand there are the discontent among the poets as well (Chapter 2), many of which recited poems that were made in jest at their miserable lot, with a clear indication that they still have their dignity nevertheless given in a somewhat sarcastic way:

This is Omer Ibn Al-Hudeir describing his miserable feelings at misfortune always raining upon him:

I stood not knowing where to go,
And which matters should I be
committed to ride on

I wondered at ill-fates that
occurred in sequence,
With the misfortune of my
poverty oall my life a wonder

When I sought the rope of
subsistence to relieve me,
And it did not prescribe for me
from its fresh water sea any drink.

Then he went on to describe
how he sought the hand of a poor
girl from her father, hoping that
he could be rewarded a better fortune
in life. All he could come up with
a son, who was just as miserable as
he was, and had he wanted to hide
behind his shadow from an evil,

The light of the sun would have
come from where it sets!

He continues in later verses:

If I see good in my dreams then
it will depart,

But if I dream an evil,
Then from me it will surely be
close!

If I pursue an endeavor, I wish
to succeed in,

I would only meet up with
awks and rabbits .

Before is a legions of
deprivation,

And behind me all one sees are
legions of poor poets

There are also many nice poems
about a man who describes how he
had to bear the annoying noise of a
rat at night, so he went on this long
discourse about why a rat should
only stay up at night, the time of
his sleep and escape from the
struggle for life. Why can't the rats
eat and wake up like humans, and
he asks several questions about
how he could bring himself to
cause him so much annoyance. He
then decides to get a mousetrap and
sets it up. When it catches the
scoundrel, the latter starts
shrieking and screaming:

Its painful cries rose as I he saw
me,

And sought my sympathy by
showing his broken limb

It called me by its tongue of
condition, to you verily do I

Repent, so please release me and
let me be.

He did feel sorry for him and let
him go. When his friends saw this
as foolish he says:

I cared not for the resentment of
all my friends,

After having gained the
satisfaction and acceptance of me
by that rat!

the year or the beginning of next year. "The Roads of Peace" is the title of his book, his conviction and the action he is going to lead. He welcomes Yemenis to contribute to this project.

Opinionated people:

Mr. Paquet expressed his being very deeply irritated by the misery and suffering of people but the real cause for his "The Roads of Peace" is the fact that "each one believes he is right. We have to share the truth. There is no other way."

He describes the dialogue between the orient and the occident as a necessity but do not believe in conventional ways of dialogue. "Some think this [dialogue] should be tackled at international political and economic conferences. I am not sure this is going to work. I have my own outlook on real things. What is real is what you see.

Beyond that is dense invisibility where life finds its way.

"Each of us has responsibility for what is going to happen. All of us have power if we DECIDE. Most of the archetypes such as the political and economic theories have proved themselves to be a failure. We don't know yet what works well. Nevertheless, I say put your stone beside mine to build the desired model. I'll bet that millions around the world think the way I do. They aspire to a world with peace where we have security and normal life. The art process is a very good metaphor of human creation.

At the end of his talk, Mr. Paquet expressed his happiness to be in Yemen, "Land des Saba". He congratulated Yemenis on the occasion of the 26th of September Revolution which set Yemen on "the right path and in the right direction."



French and Yemeni musicians play music and sing at a concert in the garden of the French Cultural Center

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تقدم
مجموعة شركات اخوان ثابت
بأجمل آيات التهاني والتبريكات للمشير/

علي عبدالله صالح

رئيس الجمهورية

وذلك بمناسبة الذكرى الثالثة و الاربعون لثورة السادس و العشرين من سبتمبر الخالدة
و لكافة أبناء شعبنا اليمني
متمنين مزيداً من التقدم و الازدهار في ظل قيادتنا الحكيمة .
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Noise pollution ... soon in Yemen

BY AMEL AL-ARIQI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

We used to discuss water-, land- and air pollution in Yemen, but what is called

"sound pollution" or "noise pollution" is rarely discussed. In spite of the effects of this problem becomes noticeable in our life. For example a wedding, which is supposed to create joy and happiness, it creates misery for those who are forced to listen to the loud music that is played night and day for at least 7 days.

Various Construction works that need tools and machines, such as the metal drilling, produce loud noise. People are raising their voice in order to talk in a workplace, using the cars' horn without a cause. All these examples and more improve that we are undergoing noise pollution.

Not all people are affected the same way by the same sounds. Often we take the sounds we hear everyday for granted. On different occasions and in varying situations, however, common everyday sounds can interfere with our routine task. When this happens, sounds become noise. This noise becomes pollution when it causes health problems, social psychological harmful effects for short or long time.

Regardless of the noise that comes out

the electronic appliances, metal drilling, air plane take-offs, the psychological studies exposed that people who stay in noisy places in situations that are not qualified as an emergency, expose these forms of behavior:

1. Lack of awareness
2. Lack of responsibility
3. Selfishness
4. Lack of respect for others
5. Lack of respect for themselves
6. Defiance and abusive behavior

The violator(s) have an inability to discern and predict the negative consequences of what his action will do to others. Besides that, studies indicate that children that are born and grow up in a noisy atmosphere are tended to be noisy and some times violent.

Unlike the industrial countries that are undergoing this problem seriously because of the over-existence of factories and the domination of machines, noise pollution is not the first local environmental problem in Yemen, since it is still considered a development country. However we cannot ignore or deny that urbanization reflects itself on our lives, whether we like it or not, and we have to face this urbanization and its advantages and disadvantages, such as noise pollution.

Noise pollution effects

The World Health Organization



(WHO) suggests that noise can affect human health and well-being in a number of ways, including annoyance reaction, sleep disturbance, interference with communication, performance effects, effects on social behavior and hearing loss. Noise can cause annoyance and frustration as a result of interference.)

There are immediate effects that may be temporary or may become longer lasting. These include cardiovascular problems with an accelerated heartbeat and high blood pressure, gastric-intestinal problems, a decrease in alertness and ability to memorize, nervousness, pupil dilation and a decrease in the visual field. Effects that might be longer lasting include insomnia, nervousness, bulimia, chronically high blood pressure, anxiety, depression and sexual dysfunction.

Exposure to noise is also associated with a range of possible physical effects including: colds, changes in blood pressure, other cardiovascular changes, increased general medical practice attendance, problems with the digestive system and general fatigue.

There is fairly consistent evidence that prolonged exposure to noise levels at or above 80 dB(A) can cause deafness. The amount of deafness depends upon the degree of exposure.

Noise causes also a social irritation when it generates conflicts between the

participating and nonparticipating groups. There is a difference between loudness of an unwanted sound and the annoyance it causes. People generally tolerate noise more easily if they are causing it, if they feel it is necessary, and/or if they know its source. Sources claim that noise causes 50% errors in technical works, 20% of labor accidents and wastes 20% of days work.

When complaints are made about noise, try to identify which specific characteristic of the noise is offensive so that control measures can be explored. Is the noise too loud, too unpredictable or too high-pitched? Solutions may include such actions as having neglected equipment and systems serviced, or enclosing noisy machines in a separate room. When noise sources are diffused, isolating people with dividers may offer some relief, if they are at least 5 feet high and are placed as close to the floor as possible.

People who work in a very noisy environment or who have excessively noisy leisure time activities should wear ear protectors. With protectors, employees can remain in that environment for 8 hours. The highest permissible noise exposure for the unprotected ear is 15 minutes per day.

We need to get benefits from other countries experience in noise reduction

in the public sphere. Australia is the most advanced with noise reduction regulations. Examples of what some Australian states are doing to reduce noise include:

- Lawn mowers, chain saws and jackhammers must carry a "noise" label.
- When police in Adelaide, a city in southern Australia, spot an unsafe or noisy car on their roads, they suspend the car's registration until it is repaired in an authorized garage.
- In New South Wales and in some parts of the U.S., noisy vehicles can be stopped and tested by the side of the road.

Switzerland is the only country that requires that the best possible technology for reducing noise shall be used. Contractors, for example, must encapsulate already low-noise-producing truck engines with the costs covered by the users. The Swiss Society of Engineers and Architects has defined the required norms for soundproofing building interiors: stairwells, lifts, and heating- and ventilation system.

The government must put rules and impose fines to those who don't take this issue seriously and exceed the limitations by disturbing the peaceful atmosphere in the vicinity. Even more important is that we all pay attention to the problem and act responsibly and respectfully towards one another.

Memorizing in your sleep

Where does the mind go when we sleep? As dreamers, we have long suspected this mysteriously sealed condition leads a purposeful life of its own. Science, however, has only lately supported a specific role for brain activity during sleep: cementing the memories we acquire while awake. In the issue of Learning & Memory, Sidarta Ribeiro, Constantine Pavlides, and colleagues (Rockefeller University) show that exposure to a "memorable" environment causes the brain to turn on a gene called zif-268 during subsequent sleep. Because activation of zif-268 can alter nerve cell behavior, this discovery offers an intriguing glimpse of how the sleeping brain could consolidate recently formed memories.

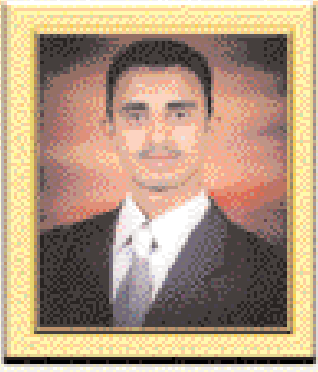
In rats, certain brain cells that activate during daytime exploration tend to reactivate during sleep. Scientists speculate the sleeping brain reenacts waking activity in order to lay down lasting memories, but the way it might do this is unknown. Ribeiro and colleagues focused on the contribution of zif-268, which turns on after heightened brain activity and is associated with strengthened communication between nerve cells.

The researchers exposed a group of rats to novel, enriched environments (labyrinths with toys) and another group of rats to their normal home cages. Afterwards, the rats went to sleep, passing through successive stages known as slow wave and rapid eye movement (REM) sleep. During slow wave sleep, zif-268 turned off in all rats, regardless of which environment they had experienced. During REM sleep, however, zif-268 turned on in rats that had explored the labyrinths and stayed off in rats that had not. This retrieval of zif-268 activity during REM sleep may couple with other reactivated brain mechanisms to "process" memories of novel experiences. Such processing may in turn prove important for memory consolidation. So sleep well: Nature's sweet restorer has a job to do.



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ACCESS MENA Project Concludes Child Labor Combat Activities in Three Govs

Within its efforts aimed to combat the phenomenon of working children and encourage their enrollment in schools, ACCESS MENA Yemen Project concluded a number of awareness activities and training courses in the governorates of Hajja, Ibb and Abyan. These activities, held under the patronage and support of local authorities in the three governorates from 21 Aug.-7 Sept. 2005, included speech, songs and theatre festivals which embodied the suffering of working children and dropped out of schools.

Addressing the audience in the festivals, Dr. Jamal Al-Haddi, director of the project, welcomed the representatives of the local authorities and praised the positive




cooperation with the project shown by the administrative units leaderships. He also reviewed the project's objectives and components in the enrollment of working children to schools in the targeted governorates.


On the other hand,




ACCESS MENA project organized three psycho-social training courses in which more than 60 male and female psycho-social specialists, basic education teachers, school headmasters and educationalists in the three governorates took part.

It is worth noting that ACCESS MENA Yemen Project, adopted by the Charitable Society for Social Welfare (CSSW) in cooperation with CHF International, seeks to enroll more than 3000 male and female working children in basic education, vocational training, and illiteracy eradication classes in the governorates of Hajja, Ibb and Abyan through the four years of the project's period (2004-2008).

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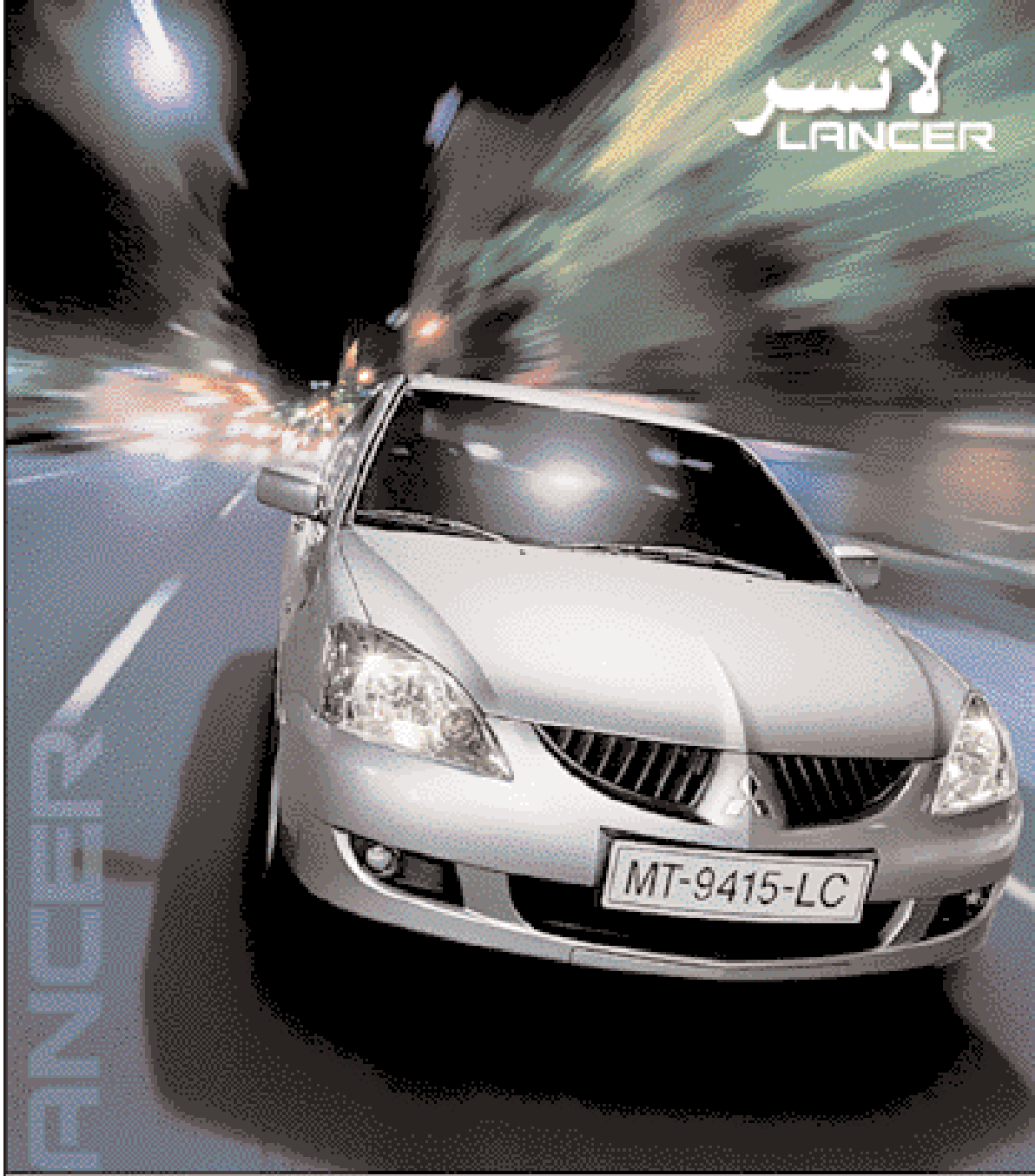
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Through eastern eyes

An autobiographical writing romances the complex 'self'. The symbiotic relationship between one's innate personality and the social persona, forms the core of an author's account of his life. The Journal of Curriculum Theorizing states that an "Autobiography cannot tell what the life is that is being written, it can only use the self to express the trace of its unspeakable end, absence-presence, and origin." The current literary trend being a fascination with expatriate fiction, one can see these days a great number of writers feeling the need to map their own identities because they have been historically stratified from their native roots. With the "cross-over" cult gaining prominence in all fields of humanities, the ethnocentric expatriate genre has added a new flavour to autobiographical novels. In the case of émigré writing, the autobiography takes the form of a bi-cultural treatise. The cornerstone of such novels is a tour d'horizon of the experiences one encounters while on his/her maiden visit to the land of one's dreams. In most cases this fantasy-land is England. In British fiction one often comes across blatant comparisons with non-English races in order to define the essence of the English character; in the words of Edward Said, "European superiority over Oriental backwardness." But the opposite i.e. delineating the oriental spirit by placing it beside the so-called superior race is indeed a rarity. Just as the 20th century saw the paradigm shift from incident to orient in Post-Colonial literature; correspondingly, on the threshold of the millennium we discover a change of perspectives from 'bios' to 'autos'-which is now re-defining the post-colonial Diaspora. According to the Oxford English dictionary, Diaspora is a word with a Greek root literally meaning dispersed. It is mainly used to describe the migration of the Jews. The term refers to "any body of people living outside their traditional homeland". Fundamentally, this term is an offshoot of western/European colonization. Thus the autobiographical text of an expatriate writer becomes double-edged. There is a blending of admiration and resentment, rootlessness and uncertainty, leading to an ambivalent stance on the part of the writer. The coupling of homelessness and nostalgia along with a fascination for things occidental accounts for the ambivalent quality and hybridity that underline the writings of Diaspora novelists.



By AMRITA SATAPATHY
PH. D SCHOLAR
UTKAL UNIVERSITY
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have written about their visits to England have already been conditioned since their childhood. The conditioning has come in the form of stories, books, poems or rhymes. Therefore the borders defining the author's fictive notion and the realistic observation of the alien land blur. They view England through a prison of texts.

In his 'A Passage to England', Nirad Chaudhuri writes that his visit to England as an adult had been exciting and interesting. That's because he was able to see all the things and places he had longed to visit as a child. The paintings, statues, beautiful landscape, theatre, the fine buildings, gardens, the food and music, together form a collage of intense experiences which he is unable to explain coherently. All these represent an idea of civilization; an ideal civilization, which his native country lacks. Ignoring the misconceptions and the prejudices that cloud the atavistic Indian mind-set, he illustrates a favourable image of England and its eminent citizens. He admits that he arrived to the land of his boyhood fancies with "an enormous load of book-derived notions". He classifies them into two categories. He calls his earlier ideas truer; these are the ideas acquired from literature, history and geography. According to the writer these childhood ideas were wide-ranging and created a homogeneous picture of England. Tennyson's *Break, Break, Break* and Wordsworth's *Upon Westminster Bridge* along with Shakespeare and Webster had already painted a very idyllic image of England in young Nirad's mind. The second set of influences came from the media- the political, social and economic news that were broadcast in the radio. By the time he made it to the country of his imaginings, he had already memorised the features of England and Europe from his reading. Thus, entering England, he compared the "authorised version" of the England he already knew with the makeshift version that was presented to him: "[t]he famous chalk cliffs did not stand out glimmering and vast, as Matthew Arnold had described, but seemed like white creases between the blue-grey sheet of the Channel...".

Interestingly Nirad Chaudhuri perceives England as "not-India". This negates the theory of defining the orient from the occident's point of view. The colonized is no more the effeminate exotic. No more is it a subject for dissection by the rational colonizer. The writer very subtly brings to light his 'Indian-ness' through this binary opposition. Though the writer's idea as regards England might have been a little coloured but his attitude as to its people is neither inflated nor deflated. A travelogue, *A Passage to England* is a vivid account of the author's 8 weeks visit. The word 'Passage' in the title is a multilayered one. From the literal point it suggests a journey from one place to another. But symbolically the passage is- from childhood flights of fancy to

adult realism, the passage of time, the transitory nature of the various images of England, a shift from occidental fascination to orient identification. The book is not a scathing indictment of the megalomaniac England. Rather it is concerned with the private life of the English public as a nation. The initial image of England is always very dreamy and pleasant. It is a country of the birds, flowers, green countryside, picturesque villages, and quaint towns. The old world charm that is portrayed in every Elizabethan literary work makes a strong impression on a young reader's mind.

The first chapter 'A World of Illusion' posits this fact. But again it is a two fold one. The author suggests that since he is a Hindu, for him the world is an illusion. Sometimes for the author, the idea and the image collate to form a composite picture of England. He feels that whatever he had read in books did not contradict what he saw. The idea of England remains unchanged. But when the author enquires about the Cumnor Hills and the Bablock Hythe, his friend makes an interesting comment about Indians coming to England with strong literary associations. The very image of England is an illusion. It changed the author's idea of what the country actually is. Thus Nirad Chaudhuri at one point says, "The only ties felt in the heart that we can have with England are those created by the things of the mind". The sense of illusion is highlighted in 'Meeting the Third Dimension'. What matters is the manner of perception, "...we in the East in one, a rarefied way, and they in the West in another, a concrete way". The English scenery according to him is three-dimensional, unlike the Indian landscape that is plain and flat. It is the light that contributes to the sense of unreality, he suggests. He finds the colours more pronounced and as it were frozen. The light effects cause the English countryside to look 'stereoscopic'. In India the surroundings appear

of nature. He finds the countryside, neither natural nor quite artificial. That industrial and over-populated England could be so pastoral in appearance, surprises him. This very idea is alien to a man who comes from a country where nature plays a great hand in building or destroying lives. In the East one can see "man's cruel and endless struggle with Nature". For the first time perhaps, Nirad Chaudhuri finds fault in the literary conception of his land of dreams. He

is man who has made the country and God, the town.

In the first half of the travelogue there is a constant swing between the native and the host country. The comparisons and contrasts are glaring but not severely projected. It is very subtly done. Nowhere does the author degrade his the country of his origin; nor does he exalt England. It is vastly different from Prafulla Mohanti's conception of England in *Through Brown Eyes*. Nirad Chaudhuri's idea of the country is an amalgamation of history and tradition. It displays the complexities as well as the simple attractions colonial mind feels towards the British Empire. Like a child he feels elated at finding the harmonious blend of cathedrals, industries with woods and fields and flowers. The symmetry amazes him. There is neither the rejection of urbane civilization nor the cutting down of forests. Each is given its own space to grow and proliferate. For him it is the two faces of an ideal civilization. "In India for centuries the forests have been giving shelter to the peasants whenever they are threatened by oppression or anarchy. In the West they are they are providing shelter from a disquiet which has become normal and quotidian". In 'The Palazzo And The Basilica' Nirad Chaudhuri says that the cathedral, people, forests and fields form one landscape.

London is a place of contradictions. As a travel writer, Nirad Chaudhuri thinks, "London's modernity is old-fashioned, but it is living and creative. The best way to understand the city is to go through its innumerable little lanes, courts, by-ways and alleys. It is the large assortment of the human habitation that gives London its character. Therein lies the city's vastness. In *The Mother City Of The Age* he discusses at length the imaginary London, the real London and the London as it appears to a foreigner. "For me...London stood out vast, stark and powerful...". The city is big and complex physically and intellectually. But its beauty is genuine and not a photographic trick. He finds the real London much more romantic than the pictures or the books he had gone through earlier. The landscape is the same everywhere and stirs up an unswerving mood. He samples the historical monuments and finds them to be architectural jewels. Both the St.James Park and the St.Paul's Cathedral exceed his expectations. He finds the park at par with the Tuileries and the church a supreme example of English classicism. But then there are faces of London; the city steeped in history and the city of the masses i.e. the suburban London, which the intellectuals and aesthetes fear. The journey into the Suburbia is scary for Nirad Chaudhuri. He finds them grey and grimy and quite out of sync with his image of London. But nevertheless it

gives him a complete idea of what the city actually is. He admits that these visits helped form a "truer idea of the structure and function of London, than I could have by merely seeing its sights". The "brickwork of outer London" is incessantly oppressive for him. It stifles the spirit. It induces a kind of exhaustion that is "overpowering" and "crushing". He also comes to know the London that throbbled with power and vitality. This was Greater London. The visitor comes to realize that there is much more to city than meets the eye. "It is no longer a historic city" but "the base of a new mode of existence". Unlike Paris London doesn't seem to be frozen in time. "It has absorbed its past...in its present". Thus London for Nirad Chaudhuri is the "archetypal city of our age". He labels it as the "Mother Megalopolis of our era". He makes an interesting comparison at this juncture. According to him the visit to London helps him to know Calcutta, his native land. He sees Calcutta as a "half-caste offspring of London". Both Calcutta and London are old and young at the same time. He understands Calcutta by tracing its ancestry to London. What Nirad Chaudhuri is trying to do is now termed in the world of ethnic Diaspora as 'Acculturation'-maintaining his cultural identity and establishing relations with others.

A Passage to England is written from the point of view of a traveler. It is witty, informative and extensively detailed. Nothing escapes this veteran anglophile's eye. There is no quest for identity here. But the oscillation from host country to the homeland though not very much pronounced, is certainly there. The first part of the book *The English Scene* describes the sights and sounds of the London metropolis. He assumes the role of a narrator, acquainting the reader with his experiences of a city he has always dreamed of since his kindergarten days. Chaudhuri becomes a kind of omniscient narrator, truthfully recounting the incidents with objectivity and originality. He displays a profound understanding of the English milieu. He is extremely responsive to his surroundings and keeps making interesting comparisons with the 'bookish' idea of London as well as with images gleaned from the past. The travelogue is built around the writer with the English scene as the backdrop. Nowhere do we find the author being overwhelmed by the city. He is independent and involved simultaneously. That is because in a travelogue the narrator and the author share the same persona. And moreover the real world and the world of the story become one seamless entity. Thus, *A Passage to England* is a record of events, sights and personal feelings with a nostalgic concoction of fiction and reality. The London portrayed by Nirad Chaudhuri reflects the views and attitudes of a cultured man. He reflects on its glorious historical past and evaluates two entirely different civilizations.

The symbiotic relationship between one's innate personality and the social persona, forms the core of an author's account of his life.

"London's modernity is old-fashioned, but it is living and creative."

very silhouetted. Apart from the natural landscape, even the architecture gives an impression of solidity. In India things look very hazy, almost like a mirage.

Eventhough, throughout his life, Nirad. C. Chaudhuri has put forward aggressively pro-English views, when it comes to Kipling's view on the East and the West, he aggressively rejects it. In 'Oh, East is East, And West is West...' he posits a contrary theory that the East and the West will never be able to meet not because of Anglo-Saxon pride or Hindu xenophobia, but because of temperament. It is nature that divides the two cultures. In England the author sees a more symbiotic relationship between man and nature; "...man and nature have got together to create something in common". Through his description of the colour 'green', he brings to light the essential difference in the two i.e. in the East, man is either a parasite or a victim

feels that the man-nature relationship in England is a Wordsworthian concept, which any Indian will fail to comprehend. Similar is his perception of the rivers, in 'By The Rivers of England'. The rivers in England are a scenic compliment to the surrounding and pose a contrast to the rivers the author has known all his life. In India people have never tried to bridge the gap between the rivers and themselves. But in England the rivers acquire a kind of 'territoriality'. Unlike the English, for whom rivers are an elemental part of life and civilization, we Indians remain in contact with our water-bodies only through religion. Nirad Chaudhuri's eye for detail and his strong acumen give us the sharp contrast between the two cultures. He finds the English rivers "wild in origin but cultivated in behaviour". But Indian rivers are romanticized and revered. Life, landscape and rivers form an integral part of England.

In 'Who Made the Town?' one comes across what an English town is in reality. In the author's view, Indians suffer from an "artificial didacticism of the anti-town pose". As a child he had written a number of essays on the disadvantages of town life. But he is proved wrong. "Neither the thrush nor the blackbird had been driven out of London, for I was awakened by their song in the heart of the town". He feels that every country should have its equal share of town and villages. During his stay in England he comes to realize that the only way of differentiating a town from a village was a matter of degree and not kind. He calls the small English towns "a species by themselves". They are totally different and independent from their bigger cousins. He classifies them into market towns, cathedral towns, manufacturing towns and university towns. Indian country towns have all the squalor of the big cities and lack in basic facilities too. They are neither aesthetically appealing nor very comfortable. The relationship between the town and the country in England is very cordial. The presence of Cathedrals in the in country and parks in cities vindicates his statement. Nirad Chaudhuri very cleverly challenges William Cowper's "God made the country and, man made the town". He finds that the country and the town fit together perfectly. And together they add to cheer and well-being of the country in a larger sense. In England it

Readers Forum

A word of gratitude

Yemen Times is the first English newspaper in Yemen established in 1991 by Dr Abdulaziz Al-Saqaf. This newspaper is useful for many reasons. It includes many interesting and relevant features such as Around The Nation, Business and Economy, Culture, Health, Sports and Education. However what is very important for us is the page of Education as English teachers and learners. The page benefits the readers through all those different subjects not only at the level of general information or to enhance the stock of vocabulary, structure of words and sentences, but to develop in the readers a strong language sense. The advantages of the page of Education is all the more important for us as English teachers and learners of English specially because there is a talented and skillful expert such as Dr Sahu at its helm. It is an established fact that he is the pioneer of this page which is one of the important pages in the newspaper. This is because it includes several informative segments e.g. Improve your English which presents facts about the facets of English such as idiomatic expressions, similar words

in pronunciation and correct spelling etc... There are also the discussions presented on various aspects of the English Literature, Curriculum as well as the contributions of the readers or youths. It is a large free forum for all even doctors, teachers and learners of English. There is no doubt that this page is enriching all teachers or learners alike. It is heartening to read the ideas of talented Drs such as Dr Bose and Dr Abraham... Their topics are very relevant for anyone interested in English because they show in their writing solutions and methods for many practical problems teachers face. However, to be fair, the pioneer of all this is Dr Sahu. This is because he is presenting and choosing what must be put on the page of Education. To conclude, I would like to present my heartfelt thanks for Dr Sahu and for all those Drs and youths who share this valuable enterprise and I would like to advise all my colleagues and students to pay more attention to our lovely newspaper Yemen Times.

Abdulkreem Al-Aawage
An English Teacher
Al-Sadda Ibb

WONDERWORD by DAVID CUELETT

What is the word that is used by the scientist to describe the study of the relationship between the mind and the body? The word is 'psychology'. This word is derived from the Greek words 'psyche' and 'logos'. The root of the word 'psyche' is 'psuché', which means 'soul' or 'mind'. The root of the word 'logos' is 'logos', which means 'study' or 'discourse'. So the word 'psychology' means 'the study of the mind'.

CLUES

1 Across	8 Across	15 Across	22 Across	29 Across
2 Across	9 Across	16 Across	23 Across	30 Across
3 Across	10 Across	17 Across	24 Across	31 Across
4 Across	11 Across	18 Across	25 Across	32 Across
5 Across	12 Across	19 Across	26 Across	33 Across
6 Across	13 Across	20 Across	27 Across	34 Across
7 Across	14 Across	21 Across	28 Across	35 Across

Answers: 1. Psychology, 2. Mind, 3. Soul, 4. Study, 5. Discourse, 6. Research, 7. Experiment, 8. Psychology, 9. Mind, 10. Soul, 11. Study, 12. Discourse, 13. Research, 14. Experiment, 15. Psychology, 16. Mind, 17. Soul, 18. Study, 19. Discourse, 20. Research, 21. Experiment, 22. Psychology, 23. Mind, 24. Soul, 25. Study, 26. Discourse, 27. Research, 28. Experiment, 29. Psychology, 30. Mind, 31. Soul, 32. Study, 33. Discourse, 34. Research, 35. Experiment.

SCREEN SAVERS Solution: 51 letters

Y L W A R D B E G O D E E P N W A I T C P
S A K J A A R M A R I Q L O C E N D I L M Q
L O U G S U N N O R S R L T U R I O R I O L L
U K E N T I S I D A S T I S T I O T S S A
O L A M I N G O O O O A A C R O N E L I I
L N L M E P I E W M R L T L A V G O V U T
S A A R M S I O R A N R E D O T L I A L O T E
U D R E T O L H A C O S E V E N Y W M I E R
O A T I T I S I D A S T I S T I O P O S A L D
I I R G O L A D I L A S I N O A E I S T O A
G N S P R I O L T L U W D S E N D O S I A X
I O L E D J N N T S G R N O S O G O Y M R
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R I S I G N I T I C A P P E A R L I S I N O I E
I S H A I L Y A E S E P I N D E S U N G L I V
O E E I N S T A E R C A I F O K E F U S T I A
L N E U A W I G R O R A S B W T I O U S
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AL-HODEIDAH:

Bride of the Red Sea



COMPILED BY:
YASSER AL-MAYASI
ESHRAQ AL-BODIGI
YEMEN TIMES' STAFF

Al-Hodeidah is the most famous harbor of Yemen in the Red Sea and a widely known fishing region throughout the history of mankind. It was used during the 15th century as a ship-fleet depot after it expanded from a small village to a local port. Later, one of the Sultans defeated the Portuguese, and made the port free of their control. In 1961, the port was re-constructed according to modern standards.

The important sites of the province are:

Beit-al-Fakeih:

Situated 60 km from Al-Hodeidah on Taiz-Hodeidah road, this was during the seventeenth and eighteenth century the storage station of the coffee crop, which used to be exported from Al-Mokha harbor. During those periods, the town prospered through expansion of its dwellings and variations of its activities. Christine Yanbour, a famous foreign explorer in 1763 A.D. described it by writing, "It was the biggest commercial market in the world for coffee". He saw numerous businessmen of Europe in it, together with, others from Persia, Turkey, Morocco, India and other countries, undertaking commercial transactions. It is distinctive in its buildings as it is constructed out of plain red bricks.

Its people are known to wear short skirts known locally "Al-Lahaf", which are the male costumes of the inhabitants living in all coastal regions of the two Asian and African continents.

Zabid:

It is an important town that once played a big role in the political and edu-

ational history of Yemen, situated south of the province about 100 km far away. It is only 18 km of a distance from the nearest coast of the Red Sea. The name of the town originated from Wadi Zabid, which crosses the whole town and when in flood, flows across the city and into the Red Sea. Its architecture is a distinctive product of Al-Zaydah State's rulers, who re-constructed the town during the ninth century.

The town originally was fenced all around with a wall of four main gates. This wall is still in good condition, while the gates are partially kept within their former pattern for the last two hundred years.

The town of Zabid is one of the most famous religious and scientific centers, not only of Yemen, but also all over the Islamic world. It is known to be the center of education and scholars and still a city renowned for its Islamic schools and universities, which go back as far as 802 AC.

Zabid was a center for the weaving, dyeing and tanning industries, famous for textiles manufacturing, and used to have more than 300 dyeing industries of which only a few remain and on a very small scale.

Other known historical structures of the town are the "Ashari Mosque" namely related to Abu Moosa Al-Ashari, one of prophet Mohammed's companions, the Medina Souq, and Zabid tourist castle.

Manakha:

It is 120 km to the west of the capital and 135 km away from Hodeidah; it is the center of Haraz region with the 3000 m high mountain, Djebel Shibam. Manakha itself is situated between these mountains and it was an important straight for the Ottoman Empire. In

Manakha, architecture and landscape are in harmony; it has a fascinating architectural style and old souq (market).

Heis:

It is situated southwest of Al-Hodeidah on the Taiz road, and is 28 km away of the coast. It used to be the commercial spot of coffee at the time of Al-Mokha port's prosperity. The same pattern and architectural style of Zabid also constructed it. It was also famous for industrial manufacturing of clay pots and kitchenwares.

Al-Khukha:

Al-Khukha is a fishermen's village, which boasts one of the most beautiful tourist beaches on the Red Sea, decorated by palm groves.

Even more interesting in Al-Khukha is the fact that wherever you dig a hole in the sand, you will find fresh water.

There is a tourist village in the area and many tourists prefer to stay in Al-Khukha for one or two nights. Sleeping outside under the palm trees with the stars as your roof definitely is an experience.

Al-Sukhnah:

It is a mineral swimming bath that was used once by Imam Ahmed, the last pre-republic ruler, as his personal resort.

He also built his own palace around this resort. During winter seasons, the inhabitants now come to this bath for curing their skin illnesses.

Souq Al-Khamis:

About 40 km to the northeast of Al-Luhayya and a couple of km off the main road is a small village that seems completely desolate for most of the week.

The name of the village, Souq Al-Khamis, literally means "Thursday Market", a market place with very few permanent dwellers. It serves the people of Hajour, Al-Sharafayn and Hajjah. On Thursday mornings the village swarms with hundreds of traders and their customers.



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