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Yemeni Journalists express solidarity with Al-Jazeera

SANA'A, Nov 29 - Hundreds of Yemenis joined a protest earlier this week in front of Al-Jazeera Headquarters in the capital Sana'a. The protesters showed their solidarity with Al-Jazeera news station against the United States unjust policy towards it. Many protesters lifted slogans and signs blaming the U.S for attacking human rights and the freedom of the press. Numerous businessmen, journalists, and intellectuals were gathered at the arena of the protest. "We are here to tell The United States that it has lost its respect in the eyes of all Arab people", said Kamal Al-Asbahi, a protester. "It is only looking to insure the success of its policies, not looking at the problems that could erupt from its unjust policy", he added.

Head of Al-Jazeera Office in Sana'a, Murad Hashim, commented to the Yemen Times concerning the protest as he said "these protests shows how the people feel about taking their rights. We here are not offending any country in specific, but want to know the truth of the story. The hundreds of people who attended in solidarity with our news station are also standing here demanding their own rights, he said".

After the protest was held, hundreds of late comers to the protest flocked Al-Jazeera house showing their respect and firm stance with them. "We are

here to stand with the rights of all journalists and writers, not only Al-Jazeera", said a protester. "Al-Jazeera is the only station we still trust" he added.

In the meantime, an alliance of 20 Yemeni associations, organizations and syndicates, called the British government to disclose ties plan. They also asked the British and American Human rights organizations to pressure the Bush and Blair administrations to reveal this document, and to stop this unethical war.

The Alliance also expressed consolidation with press freedom in Yemen. They expressed concern over the recent convictions against journalists and writers as part of the continuous assault against journalists.

Earlier this week, the Britain's Daily Mirror newspaper alleged that US President George Bush planned to bomb the TV station in Qatar. Bush disclosed his plan to target al-Jazeera, a news station with mass popularity in the Mid-East, during a White House face-to-face meeting with Tony Blair on April 16, 2004.

Al-Jazeera is accused by the US of fuelling the Iraqi insurgency. Al-Jazeera infuriated Washington and London by reporting from behind rebel lines and broadcasting pictures of dead soldiers, private contractors



Crowd of citizens and journalists expressing solidarity with Al-Jazeera.

YT PHOTO BY MOHAMMED BIN SALLAM

and Iraqi victims. In April 2003, an Al-Jazeera journalist died when its Baghdad office was attacked during a US bombing campaign. In November

2001, Al-Jazeera's office in Kabul, Afghanistan, was destroyed by a US missile, although no staff was in the office at the time.

As confrontations in Sa'ada break out again Al-Houthi vows to avenge

SA'ADA- Nov. 29- Yahya Badraddin al-Houthi, brother of slain Hussein Badraddin al-Houthi, warned that al-Houthi supporters announced that the authorities will be responsible for any attack against foreign interests and offices in the country. He warned, for the first time, that one of the aims machinated by the authorities is implementing the plot of attacking foreign interests and offices in Yemen and then to accuse al-Houthi followers of doing so. He spoke of provocations against citizens by the army and security

troops in the area and urged the authorities to abide by the reconciliation items and tackle the issue through the peaceful dialogue.

This statement was given to the Yemen Times after the bloody confrontations between the security troops and some of al-Houthi armed supporters, affiliated to the "Faithful Youth Organization" broke off again three days ago. Latest Yemen Times reports revealed that a number of army tanks attacked a hill near al-Khafaji mountain where a group of Faithful Youth entrenched last Tuesday. Following fierce clashes in the area of Qaherat al-Nass, near Suq al-Talh, a market for arms sale. Eight policemen died in the fighting, US-backed Radio Sawa reports so far. Yemen Times learned that there 3 soldiers dead and 15 wounded while 4 of Faithful Youth dead.

The confrontations started in al-

Khafaji Market, 15km northwest of the city of Sa'ada at noon last Monday and continues on irregular basis. Groups from the Faithful Youth Organization entrenched on tunnels and bridges, as well as on the limits of farms surrounding the market in order to fiercely confront the security troops.

Yahya al-Houthi an independent MP, who is currently residing in Sweden, requested the Arab countries, Arab League, international community, European Union and the international organizations to intervene in the crisis and persuade the Yemeni authorities to stop their recurrent violations and military actions against aged men and innocent women and children in Sa'ada. He had warned of the resumption of war in a press release last week.

"The regime tries to create a unreal battle in the area in an attempt to show the powerful countries that Yemen fulfilled its promises to eliminate ter-

rorists in the area," an opposition leader, who asked not to be identified, said in a statement about the new crisis in Sa'ada. "The authorities should recognize others, respect the amnesty issued by President Saleh last September, free the detainees and order the military troops to return to their sites, which are far away from the area," Yahya al-Houthi claimed.

In the same province of Sa'ada two weeks ago similar confrontations took place in Bani Muadh but were stopped without any victims.

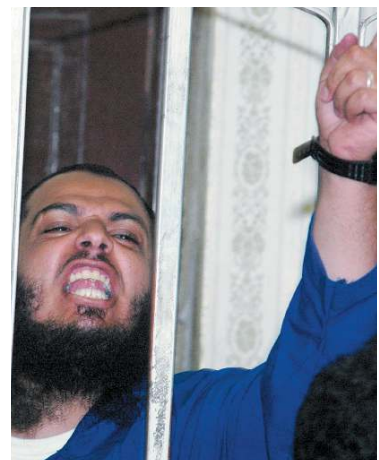
The Faithful Youth organization was led by cleric Hussein Badraddin al-Houthi who was killed in September last year by the military troops in the north province of Sa'ada. The group's demand is that authorities have to stop hunting for al-Houthi supporters and the Faithful Youth members and compensate for the damage left by the war on the houses of locals in the area.

Jarallah Omar's assassin executed

SANA'A - Nov. 27 - Ali Jarallah Al-Sa'awani was executed last Sunday morning after found guilty of murdering Jarallah Omar by the juridical authorities. The execution took place at the Sana'a Central prison with the presence of several lawyers, journalists and blood relatives of the late Jarallah Omar.

Jarallah Omar was the assistant secretary-general of the Yemeni Socialist Party (YSP) and was one of the leading opposition politicians in the country. He was shot dead during the Annual conference of Al-Islah party on the 28th of December using a pistol which was smuggled into the conference for that purpose.

Ever since the murder, political leaders and lawmen demanded transparent investigations in order to reveal the motivations, sponsors and beneficiaries of Omar's murder. Public opinion demanded that the investigation results and evidence naming alleged plotters be publicly revealed. According to Lawyer Mohamed Al-Miklafi, the execution is a party of the ruling, which involves another five accomplices who were imprisoned. He said: "The case of disclosing the parties involved, whether they are individuals or agencies, is still pending. The per-



Ali Jarallah Al-Sa'awani, the assassin

petrators should not escape punishment".

The President of the Republic, who is also the head of the Supreme Judiciary Council, had upheld the death penalty on the assassin; however, what is of a great concern is the governmental cover up of the crime; most evident is this speedy execution. Reliable sources indicated that the case would be internationalized if the authorities continue considering it as a criminal case, especially as it is widely believed to have serious political motivations.

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New AIDS cases in Yemen & Saudi

SANA'A, Nov. 27—One hundred and twenty one new cases of AIDS were registered by Ministry of Health in the past six months, the UPI news agency reported.

The president of the National Program for Combating AIDS, Fawziya Gharama, said that 48% of the registered cases were at an advanced stage of the disease. She said the largest number of cases was found in Sanaa, followed by Taiz and Aden.

Taha Abdullah Hajer, head of the Yemeni Association for the Prevention of AIDS and governor of Omran province, estimated that there are around 20,000 AIDS cases in Yemen. He added that only 2,000 cases are officially registered at the Ministry of Health. Most of the cases were discovered by coincidence through regular blood tests and blood donations.

Hajer noted that each discovered case has the potential of transmitting the HIV virus to a range between 37 and 100 people, according to the World Health Organization. "This would lead to the increase of AIDS cases in Yemen beyond projections and expectations," he warned.

quitted by the courts, but security authorities continued holding them for precautionary reasons. Many of these prisoners were originally deported from elsewhere outside the country. Saudi authorities deported twenty of them, while three were Guantanamo detainees handed over by USA authorities. The rest of the prisoners are accused of being involved in terrorist acts relating to the USS Cole bombing.

Al-Mansorah prisoners continue hunger strike

SANA'A -Nov. 29 - Seventy prisoners in Al-Mansorah central prison in Aden carried out a hunger strike that had started beginning of this week. The efforts of the Security Commander in Aden did not succeed in convincing them to give up their strike. They even refused to meet their relatives and visitors.

The prisoners' hunger strike came in protest for their being detained without conviction or referring them to judiciary. Some of them were

Conference of Arab Women Union to be held

SANA'A, Nov. 28—The united conference of the Arab Women Union will be held next Thursday and Friday in Sana'a, with delegates from Arab states, civil community organizations, Arab League and United Nations organizations. Ms Ramziah Al-Eryani, head of Yemeni Women Union, stated that the conference will deal with many topics that aim to create a new perspective to rise the role of woman, support her abilities, and activate her role in different fields. A preparatory committee has been formed to arrange for the conference and prepare the documents to be discussed. The committee includes Tunisia, Palestine, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and Yemen.

On the other hand, many delegations participating in the conference arrived in Sana'a. Chairwoman of the Syrian Women Union Sua'ad Bakur said in a statement to Saba Agency that she looks forward that the Arab woman would be united through this conference, adding that this conference would represent the opportunity for exchanging experiences and would help in making an Arab strategy, such as the head of the Tunisia delegation Ms. Kheiriah who stated that she would review successful experience of the Tunisian woman in various fields during the conference.

European Film Festival in Aden next week

ADEN, Nov. 28—The European Film Festival 2005 will be featured on December 3, 2005, stated the Sana'a-based British Council and its partners in the European Film Festival 2005.

Being an annual festival, the European Film introduces some of the best movies in made by the European film industry over the

recent years. This year's number of films participating is greater than ever.

The collection to be screened will include British, German, Austrian, Finnish, French, Italian, Dutch, Polish and Turkish films.

In previous years, the Festival presented films which were specific to certain countries which have

Yemenis mourn Saif's death

SANA'A, Nov.28—A large number of Yemeni people attended last Wednesday the funeral of the Yemeni Islamic Scholar Omar Ahmad Saif, deceased at 78 years of age. The deceased devoted most of his time to jihad and the Islamic call in different parts of the Muslim world. He is known to be included in the most wanted list created by the United States of America for being linked to al-Qaida. He was related to Osama bin Ladin and was considered one of Bin Ladin's close acquaintances.

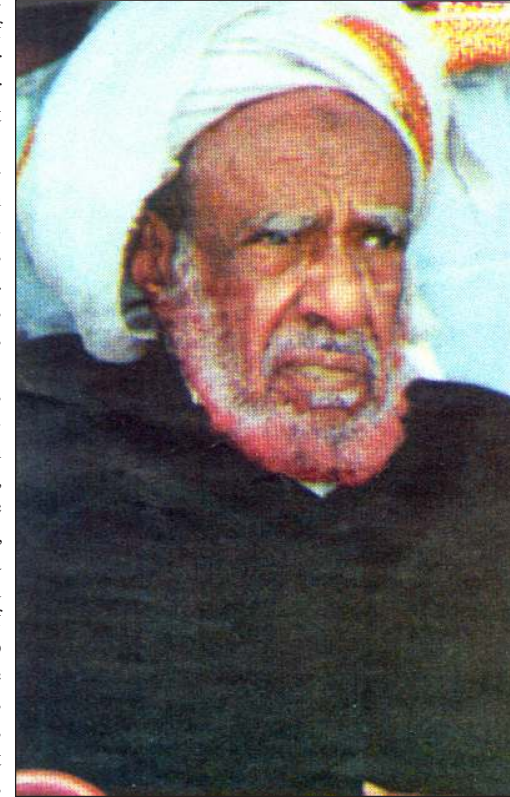
Late Omar Ahmad Saif was born on Oct. 16- 1927 in Haifan District-Taiz and during his life he was a member of the Yemeni Ulama'a Society. He participated in leading Yemeni youth who had participated in the Jihad in Afghanistan against the former USSR along side with Shiekh al-Zindani.

Omar Ahmad Saif was the Preacher of the Great Mosque in Sana'a in the reign of Yemen's late President Abdullah Al-Sallal. He was a member of the first al-Shoura Council, representing Taiz during President Abdulrahman al-Eriani's rule. He was

imprisoned during al-Eriani's rule because of conflicts with the former president and released later in the reign of President Ibrahim al-Hamdi.

After Yemen's Re-unification, Saif was elected an MP for the city of Hodeida and joined the People's General Congress Party. Then he was appointed as the spiritual religious leader of the Party.

Omar Ahmad Saif was one of the prominent figures including Sheikh Abdulmajid al-Zindani, who opposed to the Statute of the Re-unification State, which they believed is of a secular nature. He moved from Sana'a to al-Jawf calling people to object to the constitution where he lead what was known as the million protesters demonstration in protest against the united Yemen's proposed constitution.



Late Omar Ahmed Saif

Readers' Voice Yemen Times features "Readers' Voice" a popular way for our readers to interact with us. This is your opportunity to have a say on world and local affairs. This edition's question: Do you think that major Islamic personalities instigated Jarallah Omar's assassination as his lawyer alleges? - Yes - No - I don't know Last edition's question: Will the opposition parties agenda for reform receive positive response? No 51% Yes 37% I don't know 12% Go to our website at: yementimes.com/#poll and have your voice heard

Musharraf to visit Yemen

ISLAMABAD: Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf will visit Kuwait, Yemen and Saudi Arabia next month and also attend the third extraordinary summit of the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) at Makkah, Online news agency reports.

Foreign office spokesperson Tasneem Aslam Monday said Musharraf would make an official visit to Kuwait and Yemen Dec 3-6 and attend the OIC summit Dec 7-8. Kuwait is Pakistan's third largest economic partner in the Gulf Cooperation Council and a principal

source of oil and petroleum products. It is currently financing seven projects in Pakistan worth \$245 million. Musharraf's visit to Kuwait was aimed at strengthening economic relations and exploring further avenues of cooperation, particularly in promoting manpower exports to

Kuwait. Referring to the OIC summit, Aslam said Musharraf would deliver a keynote address at the meet. She said the Kashmir dispute would be discussed at the OIC summit along with problems and challenges faced by the Muslim world.

Opposition threatens to boycott presidential and local elections

SANA'A, Nov. 26—The Joint Meeting Parties threatened that they will not participate in the next presidential elections if the High Committee for Elections continued overstepping their authorities and undermining their rights in violation of the law.

The joint meeting parties renewed their refusal in reducing the number of the voter committees from 5620 to

2400. They said in their release that they are surprised at this resolution that contradicts the law.

The joint meeting parties also warned of the risks that would subject the voter's lists to fraud and contestation favoring the ruling party, it also questions the credibility of the upcoming presidential and local elections.

Mr. Abdo Al-Jondi, head of the

information committee in the high committee for Elections and referendums said in a press release that their committee is keen in the involvement of organizations and political parties in the voting committees. He confirmed that the joint meeting parties insisted on 11 thousand committees resulting in an unnecessary and large number of committees. However he said that they

are ready to accept the suggestions of the parties and committees only if Joint meeting parties accept the changes in voting committees. Al-Jondi said that they are authorized to form and distribute voters committees over neutral sectors of the civil societies and the universities, expressing sorrow for joint parties boycotting the voters committees.

Japanese traditional games in Yemen

TAIZ, Nov. 28—The Japanese Traditional Games show will be displayed a few days later. It will feature mostly paper planes. It will take place in Sana'a and Taiz.

The show is organized by the Japanese Embassy, Al-Sa'eed Foundation for Science and Culture, the Ministry of Culture and Tourism and the Yemeni-Japanese Friendship Society.

The show will be staged at the

Culture House in the city of Sana'a during December 4-11 and at the headquarters of Al-Sa'eed Foundation in the city of Taiz, 260 kms south of Sana'a, during Demeter 14-24.

It is noteworthy that the paper planes are considered to be among the traditional Japanese games. They had transferred from China to Japan about two thousand years ago and it was limited to the high class before the laity could enjoy them.

Yemen's Press freedom tops discussion themes at Al-Ahmar Forum

NewsYemen- Sanaa: The issue of press freedom was the focal point of discussion during last Monday's session at the Forum of Abdullah bin Hussein Al-Ahmar in Sanaa.

The meeting, which was attended by powerful Sheikhs, officials, diplomats, and prominent personalities, witnessed a debate about the situation and future of journalists and media in general.

While some members of the ruling party, tribal sheikhs and members of the Shoura Council defended strict measures regulating the press, some called for easing restrictions on journalists and went to the level of demanding the authorities to abolish the Ministry of Information and allow non-governmental TV and radio stations to emerge.

Among those reformists was member of Shoura Council Ali Lutf Al-Thowr who said that the press and publications law needs to be updated regularly, hoping that the new press law would arrive to the parliament soon for debate and approval.

Al-Thowr said that it is no longer important to have a ministry for information as the world has become a global village and information has become easily accessible through different means of technology. He said, "We hope that satellite TV channels would be established to provide a platform where opinions and counter opinions could coexist."

Yemeni journalist Ahmed Abdulrahman Qarhash agreed with this

view noting that freedom of the press is a right not a privilege, yet the law had imposed restrictions on it, not regulations. He stressed on the necessity to allow free electronic media to emerge.

Another Shoura Council member Ahmed Al-Salami said that by referring to courts to try journalists and not attempting to use its security might, the government is doing the right thing, yet he noted that "the Ministry of Information has no reason to exist and has no mission other than to obstruct the freedom of expression."

"I believe that reaching to the courts for justice is a good step taken by the government. It is much better than beating or kidnapping journalists. Such acts could only be carried out by the mafia," Qarhash said.

Concerning new proposals to change some penalty regulations in the press law from imprisonment to financial compensation, Qarhash asked "how could you fine an already broke journalist?"

He said "I believe the pressing issue now is not to adjust the press law but to have a comprehensive reform program that has priority over everything else."

Meanwhile, a view opposing press freedom was also strongly present in the forum. Yahya Qahtan, a member of Shoura Council, defended regulations that restrict freedom of expression and he based his opinion on Islamic sharia from Quran and Sunna. He even called for applying Islamic punishments on journalist who violate the law, among

those means of punishment, he preferred 'old-fashion whipping'.

Sharaf Al-Fodai, a leading figure in Islah Islamic party, said the government is adjusting the press law to protect itself from journalists and not the contrary. "In the meantime, there is no one protecting the public from journalists." He called for developing more severe punishments on journalists violating the press law and called for stricter conditions for individuals seeking to be journalists. Among the conditions he suggested was to be at least 25 years old before applying for a journalism-related post.

Omani ambassador present in the discussion, Abdullah Al-Badi, said that there is apparent confusion between print and electronic media. He noted that each should have its own regulations. "We are all with freedom. But when it comes to defaming others, this is wrong. The insult could even extend to the neighbors. Hence it is vital to regulate this freedom." He compared the situation in the Arab world to that in the West and said that press laws in Western countries have been adopted to match their needs, however "we have our religious heritage and that comes first, before their press laws."

Yunus Hazza', the head of the political department of the General People's Congress accused journalists of terrorizing the public. He said that journalists are terrorizing citizens and terrifying investors from investing in Yemen. However, he added that a democratic nation could only exist if it

has free media and an independent judiciary.

Mohamed Al-Tayyib, the head of the Human Rights and Civil Society Committee of the Shoura Council diplomatically defended press freedom noting that it is the pillar in any democracy. He said that any adjustments to the press law would probably not take Yemen backward.

"All, including the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate, should participate in molding the new press law to make it in its best form. There should be policies regulating press freedom and that is the case in many developed democratic countries," he said.

Yasser Al-Awadhi of the GPC said that there is certainly shortage in professionalism among Yemeni journalists, but he added "I cannot talk about the freedom of the press unless there is freedom of the media in general."

He hinted that the upcoming Seventh Assembly meeting scheduled for next month in Aden would tackle reforms in the press law and may even suggest canceling the Ministry of Information altogether.

The forum continued with a diversity of opinions all focusing on press freedom, which has suffered tremendously in recent months as more than five major attacks against journalists were carried out in 2005, causing concern among reformists in the country and pro-democracy international organizations abroad.



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Ministry of Interior prepares lists of arms retailers



Spread of arms in Yemen: Yemeni citizens carrying arms

SANA'A, Nov. 29—Sources at the Ministry of Interior said that their ministry acquired the names of arms dealers who import weapons and retail them inside the country, however, the sources confirmed that no actions will be taken against arms dealers until a law prohibiting carrying arms has been approved by the parliament.

Such a law has aroused a wide controversy in the parliament, however, if approved; the law will result in decreasing crimes and violence. Arms trade is practiced widely as there are specialized markets for retailing and

selling a variety weapons to consumers and even to the Ministries of Defense and Interior. Estimations indicate that Yemeni people possess more than 20 million pieces of heavy and light weapons, while official numbers claim that total arms do not exceed 9 million pieces.

Civil Society organizations in Yemen had organized a convoy to the Parliament demanding that a law prohibiting arms trade be approved, especially since three Years have passed since this law was relegated by the cabinet to the parliament.

Mr. Mohamed Ali Alhawri, head of

the Defense Committee in the Parliament said that the approval of the law was hindered due to personal interests. Some of the MPs insist that the law or arms control and regulation of 1993 should be implemented instead of the new law. They think that it is a bit lenient and does not involve the big sharks in arms trading. a national alliance named 'Towards a community free of arms' was formed last Thursday by Civil Society Organizations. The membership of this alliance is open for all wishing to join for the call for approving the eminent law.

Sheikh Al-Hokaimi symposium

ADEN, Nov. 29—A three-day symposium, on the reformist Sheikh Abdullah Ali Al-Hokaimi, was concluded in Aden University hall last Monday. It was organized by the Study Center under the sponsorship of Aden university rector Dr. Abdulkreem Rasie.

Dr. Abdulkreem addressed the representatives of the different universities, study, cultural and press centers.

Dr. Rasie confirmed that this symposium is going to be a guide for

researchers, academics, and the future generations who will follow the model of Sheikh Al-Hokaimi, because his pioneer role as one of the patriots who led civilizations' dialogue should be followed.

Dr. Rasie praised the researches presented on Al-Hokaimi's works. He said he would approve the recommendations of the symposium and Aden University will print the researches and publish them in a book. Al-Hokaimi's articles and heritage will also be pub-

lished. The symposium also recommended that the university research and studies should be encouraged. A hall in Aden University should be called after Al-Hokaimi in addition to a street in Skaikh Osman, in Aden. The symposium reviewed researches on Hokaimi's national struggle, and his role in reform and enlightenment. The participants also reviewed the role that Al-Hokaimi played in establishing the Free Yemeni Movement.

Teenager still held hostage by teacher

SANA'A, Nov. 29—Seventeen year old Nazeeh Ali Dirhim son of Ali Dirhim a prominent businessman is still not released yet. Ali Dirhim owner of Yedco Company in Hodiedah has reported the kidnapping of his son on the 6th of last month by a group from Bani Dhabian, led by Colonel Ahmed Saleh Abdullah Altahiry, a teacher in the Special Forces. Apparently the businessman had occupied a land in Aden that belonged to Altahiry, who claims to have proof to this. While Dirhim claims to be the rightful owner of the disputed land which he had legally bought from the government.

Although the location of the kidnapped teenager are known to be in Garadh area in Bani Dhibian, 80 kilometers south of Sana'a authorities have still not taken measures for the release.

However a security officer concerned with the case told Yemen Times

that they surrounded the area and arrested 25 persons since the kidnapping. The arrested people belong to Bani Dhabian but were arrested as hostages while they were in Sana'a. The hostages were taken so as to exercise pressure on Bani Dhabian Tribe to carry out an exchange release in return for Nazeeh's freedom. The Ministry of Interior has reported that it is collecting evidences of the abductor's whereabouts and his place of work.

This is not the only case of its kind carried out by this tribe. Bani Dhibnan and al-Hada tribe lead by al-Houmaidi member of Bani Dhabian is still holding hostage son of Abdullatef Alsudie, a Sana'a perfume merchant. He was abducted after Dirhim's son, however not much has been said about his case.

Other tribes have condemned the whole issue complaining about the states double standards in dealing with abduction cases. Stating that had the

kidnapped people been from the president's tribe then the state takes extreme measure to rescue the hostages. However, with more than 3 weeks passed since the kidnapping of citizens from other Yemeni places although the location and kidnapers are known. Son of Abdullatef Alsudie was also taken Bani Dhabian area on the demands that the rights of a fellow tribe's man should be established. This fellow used to be a partner in a shop of the victim's father.

The Yemeni Council for businessmen and investors sent a letter to the Minister of Interior, holding him responsible for the increase in terrorist acts that threatened stability. They warned of the prospect of the transference of capitals abroad due to such acts. The letter said that the leniency of the authorities towards the abductors encouraged them to continue their operations against the businessmen.

Yemen: Amnesty International deplores execution after unfair trial

Amnesty International greatly deplores the execution of Fuad 'Ali Mohsen al-Shahari, who was executed by firing squad in Taiz this morning. A lawyer and former member of the opposition Socialist Party, he had been on death row for over nine years. He was sentenced to death for murder in 1996 at the end of a grossly unfair trial.

The execution was carried out despite many appeals by Amnesty International and others, including the European Union, and Yemen's own Human Rights Ministry, one of the country's leading judges and Yemeni human rights groups.

Fuad al-Shahari was sentenced to death in November 1996 when he was convicted of the murder of Captain Mohammed al-'Ameri, a security official and member of the ruling General People's Congress Party, during a gun battle earlier that year. After his arrest, Fuad al-Shahari was held incommunicado for one month during which, he alleged, he was tortured and forced to confess to the killing, which he denied committing. This "confession" - four different versions were said to have been included in the charge sheets - reportedly formed the basis for his con-

viction. The court failed to investigate his allegations of torture and prospective defence witnesses were said to have been deterred from appearing to give evidence by the presence of armed men in the court.

Despite this, the Court of Appeal upheld the death sentence in May 1999. A further appeal was rejected by the Supreme Court in March 2004, though by the Commercial Division not by the Criminal Division of the court that would normally consider such cases. Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh ratified the death sentence on 6 September 2005 after the Attorney General's office reported that it had reviewed the case on the President's instructions but found no procedural errors.

This morning, two hours before he was executed, lawyers acting for Fuad al-Shahari sought to obtain a court injunction to prevent his execution, in accordance with Article 529 of Yemen's Penal Code. The Code provides that in such cases, execution should be deferred pending the court's consideration of the defence petition, but in this case the execution proceeded as planned.



AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

Fuad al-Shahari's involvement in the largely southerner-dominated Socialist Party, which fought and lost a bitter civil war in 1994 against the northern-based General People's Congress, together with the unfair nature of his trial, has long given rise to concerns that the case against him may have been politically-motivated or influenced by tribal factors.

Ideal methods for protecting juvenile delinquency

SANA'A, Nov. 29—The Supreme Council for motherhood and Childhood, organized a workshop for training juvenile police. The workshop was organized in cooperation with the Swedish Rada Barnz and the UNICEF. It will train the police women in the General Administration in the Ministry of Interior. The trainees will receive training on the ideal methods of protecting the juveniles. 35 women juvenile police from five governorates will

participate in this workshop. In the opening session several speeches concentrated on the importance of the security treatment to the juveniles. The Deputy Minister of Guidance and Endowments warned that Yemen is subjected to immense increase in the number of delinquencies if the poverty rate increased in Yemen.

In a release to Yemen Times, Mr. Zaki Ahmed Osman, an officer in the

Swedish Organization for children Care said that, their organization aims at qualifying the new administration to apply modern mechanisms of protecting the juveniles. It is noteworthy that there are no juvenile police in all the governorates, with the exception of the Secretariat.

Juveniles in Yemen face many violations in the prisons due to lack of juvenile courts. There are only five of these in the whole Yemeni Republic.

British Ambassador visits SEEDS

SANA'A, Nov. 28—His Excellency the British Ambassador in Sana'a, Mr. Michael Gifford, paid a visit to SEEDS Education (Skills Empowerment and Enterprise Development Solutions) centre.

During his tour of the centre's classes, he met students who are studying British educational programmes offered by SEEDS, such as the International Foundation Year (IFY), which offered by SEEDS Education. He later met the management board and discussed the possibility of cooperation and the ability of the centre to offer other international programmes.

Mr. Gifford encouraged the centre

to increase its efforts to implement good-quality services. The centre is accredited by the British educational provider, NCC Education, and provides NCC's international programmes in language training, computer and management programmes in Yemen.

After his visit, the Ambassador said, 'I am pleased to see this example of growing links between Yemen and a British educational and training company like NCC

Education. The British Embassy and British Council look forward to working with SEEDS and NCC in the future.'



Mr. Michael Gifford, British Ambassador to Yemen



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Announcement

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Mr. Mustafa Shakeeb Al-Khamiri is no longer working with us. He is not representing (YES) in any kind of communication. And therefore we will not be responsible for any transactions made with him after the announcement date.

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H.E. Ali Abdullah Saleh

President of the Republic

on the 38th anniversary

of glorious November 30 Day

and to the Yemeni people wishing our
homeland continued advancement
and prosperity under his wise leadership

Many Happy Returns

Eng. Abdullah Ahmed Baqshan

Chairman of Board of Directors

Yemeni Fish

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Yemeni Fish
The quality fresh fishery of Yemen

Before and after 9/11 Americans point of view on Muslims

By HAKIM ALMASMARI
Hakim Almasamri@ hotmail.com
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Rebecca Jovanski
Laborer

"I feel very nervous when I see Muslims. I lived in a neighborhood, which had some Muslim houses. After the September attacks, I had to move to another city. I think that it is not right to oppose them, but there is still a weakness in me that makes me scared when I see them. I know that by time this mentality will change. I am sure of that".

John Dowe
Cashier

"Before the September attacks, we had no problem with Muslims. They were treated appropriately like any eth-

nic minority in the United States. After the attacks, the media played a big role in making us feel that Muslims are the enemy, especially after President Bush used the word "crusaders" when mentioning the war against Afghanistan. We all know that the crusaders amplify the wars taken place by Muslims and Christians".

actions that until today is a conspiracy. You cannot blame a religion or its followers for any wrong doings of the people. Christians are now indulging in gay marriages and elections are spreading across America to allow such actions. So does this mean that Christianity is a bad religion or its not being followed appropriately? We have to deal with this situation logically".

Tony Williams
Senior Citizen

"I live in a neighborhood crowded by Muslims and I feel safe around them. I think it's because I have been living in their communities for a number of years now. That made me understand who Muslims really are and what they stand for. I treat Muslims like any other person living in America, and when comparing them to other ethnic minorities, they are probably the most united and straightforward people. This in return shows honesty and love for one another".

As you see, opinions differ from one another. Some feel nervous when even mentioning such an issue, fearing that words could haunt them in the future. In general, you cannot find one opinion as people differ in feelings. The media in the west went through a destructive campaign against Muslims picturing them as people who are heartless and support the killing of innocent people. Muslims in America are doing as much as they can to change that philosophy. Islam is a religion of love, peace, and tranquility. Will things go back to normal as time passes? Only time will tell.

Recently, I was touring the United States, and wanted to know the feelings of Americans towards Muslims residing in the United States after the 9/11 attacks in New York and Washington. Many people around America were asked of how they felt about Muslims living in the United States. Some answered positively and some not. Here are some replies.

Mike Richards
Computer Engineer

"In my point of view, Muslims are a big part of this country and are a building stone for the future of America. You are not talking about a couple of people; Muslims in America outnumber ten million citizens. You will notice many people feeling more awkward when being around Muslims and even seeing them.. Many Americans feel hatred towards Muslims because they are given a bad name in general by the media."

Dwayne Johnson
Nurse

"I do not know, sometimes it's too much. Nowadays everywhere you go in America you will pass by Muslims. I don't think Muslims are the problem. They are very nice and honest people. Many of my colleagues are Muslims from Syria and Pakistan, and we understand each other completely. Things have changed to the worse after 9/11, but through time, relations will return to what they were before".



The Yemeni community denounces terror in Amman

By Tawteen Agha
FOR YEMEN TIMES

The carnages of the terrorist blasts which hit tourist hotels in Amman on the 9th of this month, aroused an over whelming revulsion to terrorist deeds.

This mobilised the public Arabic and Islamic attitude against the terrorism and terrorists.

The Yemeni denounced this action which distort the image of Islam.

Al-Jamhoria newspaper had interviewed the Yemeni opinion on this issue and filed the following:

Devilish style of Jihad

Fazie Abdo Mahioob- a fruit seller said, "these blasts whether they are made by Zarqawi or any other group have noting to do with religion or humanity. Even the devil may not do what they did. It is high time for our nation to combat it by developing awareness against this phenomenon which has no country, religion or identity. The distasteful pictures that we saw, shows that they do not care whether they target women, children or any other innocent victims.

Zarqawi terrorism

We met Hosnia Al-Mikhlafla, a mother. She said, "How do these people think that they are Muslims while they terrorized innocent people. They killed infants on the laps of their mothers. If Bin Laden and Zarqawi think that this is jihad, they should be resisted till we get rid of their evil deeds. If they are caught, they should be stoned as people do to the devil in the pilgrimage.

Facing terrorism

Mohamed Abdulla Saeed, an employee, said, "Our hearts go out to the families of the victims of terrorist bombings and we offer our condolences to the victim's families. We denounce this distasteful action and vow to do what ever is necessary to fight terrorism because it is against humanity, civilization



The long arm of terrorism: Amman witnessed an unprecedented and unexpected terrorist attack that jolted the society into sheer alert.

and religion. Al-Zarqawi and Bin ladin who often claim responsibility after each operation, are only subvert, killers and criminals. They should be punished as followers of the devil.

It is a disaster

Abdulbari Suliman Al-Hidndi, Medical assistant, said that "What happened in Amman was a humanitarian calamity committed by a terrorist group that have nothing to do with Islam", he continued, "Islam is a religion of justice, equity and leniency." "We hope that the Jordanian people will go through their plight. It is now time to tell terrorist Zarqawi and his blood thirsty cliques that they have nothing to do with Islam and have gone too far into Satanic rather than Islamic behavior. This sort of behavior brings in more consolidation with the international community to fight terror. We send a message to Zarqawi saying that if you want a jihad you should do that by spreading peace love and tolerance and not through hatred and killing. I would like to

remind Zarqawi that lighting a candle is better than cursing darkness."

Disgraceful and covered

Mohamed Abdo Farie, Mayor of the Ashrafia area, said "we are sad at what happened in Amman. It is a covered work of terrorism, and it is not at all Islamic. It could be a work of people who want Islam to appear as a terrorist religion. The true Islam calls for love and not terror and treachery."

Yemenis' feelings are with Jordanians

Lawyer Ali Saeed Alsdeeq, spoke about the solidarity spirit that the Yemenis showed with their brothers in Amman. They stand by their side to enable them to overcome their grief. Lawyer Sideeq added, "As Yemeni lawyers, we denounce this action and our hearts go to the Jordanians. This action is not justified under what ever name it comes. We denounce this action and send our condolences to the victim's families."



Job Vacancies

The Embassy of the United States of America announces for immediate job openings.

"Commissary Manager (ERA)"

The Manager has operational responsibility for all facets of the ERA's business operation, which include a commissary, video club, and a café. The Manager supervises the ERA accountant. The Manager reports to and is supervised by the Board Chairperson or his/her deputy.

Required Qualifications:

Education: Some college experience is highly desirable. Work experience can be used in lieu of university experience.

Prior Work Experience: Will be considered on a case-by-case basis as long as it relates to retail sales.

Language Proficiency: Level IV (fluent) in written and spoken English.

Knowledge: Routine business practices, inventory controls, cash management.

Skills and Abilities: Use of a computer and special software applications for inventory controls and banking systems.

Grade/Salary: To be determined based on qualifications.

Deadline: December 05, 2005

"Purchasing Agent"

The position is located in the Procurement Section under the direct supervision of the Procurement Supervisor. The Incumbent acts as a buyer performing local purchases of off-the-shelf materials.

Required Qualifications:

Education: Completion of secondary school.

Prior Work Experience: A minimum of one-year experience in the field of procurement. One year of business school or college may be substituted for work experience.

Language Proficiency: Level III (Good) English and Level IV (Fluent) Arabic is required.

Knowledge: Must know local market in order to obtain required items quickly at the lowest price possible.

Abilities: Level I typing, use of calculator, word processor, and spreadsheets is required. Must also possess a valid local driver's license with good and safe driving skills. Must be able to organize and maintain files according to Department of State requirement.

Grade/Salary: Ordinarily Resident:
FSN-05 (Full Performance Level)

Not Ordinarily Resident:
FP-09 (Full Performance Level) (NOR Salary to be confirmed by Washington)

Deadline: December 10, 2005

"Housing Coordinator"

The position is located in the General Services Office under the direct supervision of the S/GSO. Incumbent plans, coordinates, and manages the lease/rent portion of the Embassy housing program and identifies properties for addition or deletion from the housing pool. Incumbent liaises with property owners and initiates and prepares diplomatic correspondence in both English and Arabic languages relative to leasing or termination of leases for real estate. Incumbent coordinates with local city or municipality and national Government officials in completing requirements for leasing actions. Incumbent reports indirectly to the Residential Supervisor and directly to the American Supervisory General Services Officer (S/GSO) and is responsible for inspections of residential buildings and equipment on scheduled basis and upon request to determine the nature and condition of the structural integrity and home safety of proposed new leases. Incumbent is designated as a Contracting Officer's Representative (COR) in communicating maintenance issues or repairs on leased residences. Incumbent prepares Scopes of work of maintenance needs to bid out or to perform in-house repairs. Incumbent accomplishes engineering inspections of construction and maintenance work performed by contractors and in-house personnel, ensures compliance with specifications, acceptable work practices and workmanship and provides written reports to the Facility Manager.

Required Qualifications:

Education: Completion of vocational training is required. Graduate of an accredited four years college with studies in Architecture, or Civil engineering is desired. Documented supervisory experience in managing construction projects is necessary.

Prior Work Experience: Two years of experience in construction management or as Maintenance Inspector or Planner & Estimator.

Language Proficiency: Level III English (reading and writing) ability along with a complete ability to read and interpret correcting blue prints, schematics, piping diagrams, O&M Manuals, etc.

Knowledge: Construction practices and skills, local construction codes, applicable U.S. Codes, established maintenance practices, Planning and Estimating associated with construction and maintenance projects.

Abilities: Must possess a valid motor vehicle driver's license and be able to operate vehicles under one ton. Must have excellent organizational skills and be able to interact with contractors, Landlords, and subordinate maintenance personnel. Must have AutoCad LT, AutoCad 14 software training and other

training in computerized maintenance management of Project Management software.

Grade/Salary: Ordinarily Resident:
(1) FSN-07 (Trainee Level)
(2) FSN-08 (Full Performance Level)
Not Ordinarily Resident:
(1) FP-07 (Trainee Level)
(2) FP-06 (Full Performance Level) (NOR Salary to be confirmed by Washington)

Deadline: December 10, 2005

"Driver"

The position is located in the Motorpool, of the General Services Office, American Embassy, under the immediate supervision of the Motorpool Supervisor and the general supervision of the A/GSO. Employee will be responsible for routine driving work for GSO.

Required Qualifications:

Education: Completion of elementary school is required.

Prior Work Experience: Must have good driving experience in and outside of Sanaa.

Language Proficiency: Level II English ability (limited) and fluent Arabic is required.

Knowledge: Must be familiar with local traffic laws and areas traffic patterns.

Abilities: Must have a valid Yemeni private license.

Grade/Salary: Ordinarily Resident:
FSN-03 (Full Performance Level)
Not Ordinarily Resident:
FP-BB (Full Performance Level) (NOR Salary to be confirmed by Washington)

Deadline: December 10, 2005

How to apply: All Interested nationals should complete OF-612 or submit a current C.V. (with awards, recommendation letters, copies of degrees earned) that addresses the qualifications and requirements of the position, as listed above, and send it to the Human Resources Office, American Embassy, Dhahr Himyar Street, P.O. Box 22347, Sanaa. Yemen, Tel: 755-2000, Fax: 303-182 no later than above the deadlines.

NOTE: ALL ORDINARILY RESIDENT APPLICANTS MUST BE RESIDING IN COUNTRY AND HAVE THE REQUIRED WORK AND RESIDENCY PERMITS TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR CONSIDERATION.

Bangladesh explosives most powerful yet

DHAKA, Nov 30 (Reuters) - The latest attacks by suicide bombers in Bangladesh using the most powerful explosives ever in the country showed that militants are becoming more sophisticated, police said on Wednesday.

Nine people were killed and 65 wounded in Tuesday's blasts near court buildings, which police and lawyers said were part of a campaign by Islamic militants to terrorise the judiciary before it puts rebels detained for other bombings on trial.

"The bombs that exploded yesterday were the most powerful we have seen. We can't immediately say what kind of explosives they used but they were highly destructive," said a police officer.

"The terrorists have not only acquired advanced technology and training but also changed their operational tactics," he said.

One of the bombers entered the court complex in Gazipur, 30 km (20 miles) north of Dhaka, donning a black robe to disguise himself as a lawyer, and set off the bomb strapped to his body, police and a witness said. He died along with five other people.

Shortly beforehand, a bomb went off at a police checkpoint outside a

court building in the southern port city of Chittagong, apparently detonated by another suicide bomber.

Three people died in that attack and the suspected bomber, who was wounded, has been arrested.

A police officer said the suspected bomber, who gave his name as Abul Bashar, had travelled to Chittagong from northern Tangail district.

"I have no remorse. I did what I was supposed to do and I did it as per the will of Allah," he was quoted as saying.

Police said Tuesday's attacks were the second time suicide bombers had struck this month, but with greater force. Two judges were killed in a bomb attack carried out by a suspected suicide bomber in the coastal town of Jhalakathi on Nov. 14.

The man was wounded in the attack and is in police custody, but no details have been released.

Wave of bombings

Bangladesh has been hit this year by a wave of bombings blamed on militants demanding Islamic law in the mainly Muslim democracy.

Hundreds of people from two outlawed Muslim groups, Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen and Jagra Muslim

Janata Bangladesh, have been arrested, but politicians and security experts said there was still a climate of fear in the country.

"I am afraid this is not the end of the game. We can still be their target," said a lawyer who asked not to be named.

"The militants are deadly and operate with strong motivation and precision," he said, adding that he couldn't give his name for fear of reprisal.

The State Minister for Home Affairs Lutufuzzaman Babar said earlier this month that there were reports that the Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen had set up a 2,000-strong suicide squad.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia, who was touring the coastal Patuakhali district when the bombs exploded on Tuesday, vowed tough action against those involved in acts of terrorism.

"The bombers were enemies of Islam and enemies of the country. We will do everything and anything needed to stop them," she told a public rally.

Bangladeshi lawyers have called for a day of protest on Wednesday ahead of a countrywide general strike on Thursday against the latest attacks.

Bush: Touring the border, puts emphasis on enforcement

DENVER, Nov. 29 - President Bush traveled on Tuesday to El Paso, at the front lines of the fight to deter illegal immigration, where he took a tour along the Rio Grande to emphasize his message that he intends to strengthen the border.

A Border Patrol officer along the Mexican border's El Paso sector, which President Bush visited on Tuesday.

His remarks continued a pronounced shift from his early emphasis on ensuring a way for businesses to employ illegal immigrants temporarily, to a focus on keeping illegal immigrants out.

"We've got a comprehensive strategy that says we're going to enforce this border," Mr. Bush said, answering questions from reporters before flying on to Denver. "We're going to prevent people from coming here in the first place."

The president's change in emphasis has been driven by the politics of the issue as Congress prepares to take up legislation addressing border security and immigration. Conservatives in his own party are far more focused on deterring the flow of migrants over the border than on providing a stable

labor pool for businesses.

Many Republicans view with suspicion, if not outright opposition, what was initially the centerpiece of Mr. Bush's policy: a guest worker program granting illegal immigrants who are already in the United States a right to work legally for a specified number of years, but then requiring them to return home.

Those critics of the plan have said it comes too close to granting amnesty to lawbreakers. Other experts on immigration say it would be unfeasible, arguing that few of the workers would agree to leave the United States voluntarily when their legal status ended and that without the lure of legal permanent residency or citizenship, they would not sign up for the program in the first place.

On Tuesday, Mr. Bush said again that he wanted any plan passed by Congress to include the guest worker program. He brought it up both in El Paso and in a later appearance here at a fund-raiser for Representative Marilyn Musgrave, Republican of Colorado. In a recent statement of principles for overhauling immigration, Ms. Musgrave emphasized improving border security. She made no mention of a

guest worker program but said she would oppose any amnesty provisions.

Mr. Bush sought to allay that concern.

"Amnesty would say to other illegal aliens, 'Come, and you can come into America and get citizenship automatically,'" Mr. Bush said at the fund-raiser, which brought in more than \$450,000 for Ms. Musgrave. "No, I'm for a bill that strengthens our border by providing people with a tamper-proof identity card to let them work in America for jobs Americans won't do, on a temporary basis, and then go back to their country."

Democrats said Mr. Bush had delayed too long in addressing the problem.

"It is time for President Bush to resist those on the right who rely on fear tactics to prevent our broken system from being fixed," said Senator Edward M. Kennedy, Democrat of Massachusetts. "As business leaders and experts understand, true immigration reform must be realistic and comprehensive, strengthening our security while bringing an underground economy above ground."

Opposition hit by crackdown in Egypt's election

Egypt's police detained 200 members of the Muslim Brotherhood yesterday in a crackdown that the banned opposition movement said was designed to limit its chances in a final round of legislative elections due later this week.

Final results printed in official media yesterday gave Islamist candidates - running as nominally independent because the Brotherhood is banned - 29 more seats in run-off

voting in the city of Alexandria and other areas on Saturday.

This brought their tally to 76 seats overall, five times what they hold in the current parliament and with third of 444 seats still to play for in final round of voting.

President Hosni Mubarak's National Democratic party (NDP) still looks set to retain a large majority and has now gained more than 200 seats.

But Mohamed el Sayyed Said, the deputy director of the Al Ahram centre for political and strategic studies, said the scale of the Brotherhood's success had caught the NDP off guard and fuelled concern among secular intellectuals who fear the rise of fundamentalist Islam.

Egypt's legislative elections have also underlined Washington's dilemma in pushing for greater democracy in the Middle East.

George W. Bush, president, has urged Mr Mubarak, a long-term US ally, to lead the way. As elsewhere in the Arab world, Washington is now confronted with results that are unfavourable.

The Brotherhood was banned in 1954 but has survived frequent crackdowns by developing strong grassroots support through social work and proselytising. While it has embraced democracy, it retains a

strongly anti-Israeli and anti-American line.

More secular leftwing and liberal opposition parties have collected only a few seats between them, confirming the Brotherhood as Egypt's only organised opposition force.

While Mr Mubarak may come under pressure to reconsider the Brotherhood's legal status in the future, for now his government's response has been to crack down.

Nearly 1,000 Brotherhood supporters were detained before and during Saturday's polling.

Civil society groups monitoring the elections said police blocked off access to Islamist supporters in some constituencies on Saturday. In Alexandria, this provoked scattered rioting.

Judges supervising voting called for re-runs in six of 122 constituencies contested.



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Words of Wisdom

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

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

**OUR OPINION****Tragedy of an honest Yemeni judge**

One of the main reasons for Yemen being an underdeveloped country is the judiciary system, or rather the corrupt judiciary system. It is the implementation of order and rule of law that sustains a civilised nation. Without that, Yemen turns into the jungle it is today.

The judiciary system in Yemen is one of the most corrupt in the world. In fact Yemen in the transparency index is ranked 132 and considered a corrupt country. Ironically as a government Yemen jumps to ratifying any international convention there is just to be considered a democratic and progressive country. And when it comes to stances within the international community, the Yemeni government demands justice from the world. High official representatives of Yemen speak loudly in international conferences about the double standards of the world's supreme powers and about the urgent need for reforming the UN's Security Council. But when it comes to endorsing democracy and human rights within the nation, it becomes an internal affair and the government barks loudly at any approaching shadow.

Recently I came across a very interesting phenomena, an almost extinct one. I met an honest Yemeni judge. He's always in office on time, and always doing his homework before attending court sessions. He actually reads the cases and studies them before ruling. He does not take bribes and he tries to enforce order in his office. The catch here is that he tries to enforce order. Frustrated he mumbles about how no one listens to his orders, how all ignore their responsibility and duty and how other judges overrule his statements on no grounds. "I feel that the whole system is against me" he said. And that is quite true. The judiciary system in Yemen is not an independent one. It is manipulated politically and one could easily get away with daylight murder just because he has some big shot as a cousin.

Understanding this, most activists and human right advocates demand two things over and over again: independence of media and that of the judiciary system. Media plays a vital role in educating people, and the judiciary system imposes order and justice. The Yemeni people's heads are manipulated with corrupt media and their fates are manipulated with corrupt judiciary. There are very few people like the judge I just mentioned and I hope that he survives the evil flood for this nation to survive.

Nadia Al-Sakkaf
Editor-in-Chief



Independent Cultural, Economic & Political Weekly
First English Newspaper in Yemen, founded in 1991
by Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaq

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Angela Merkel meets the world

By CHRISTOPH BERTRAM

At long last, Angela Merkel is Germany's new – and first woman – Chancellor. Although continuity will remain the hallmark of foreign policy, Germany's international engagement under Merkel will sound and feel different from that under Gerhard Schroeder's leadership.

Schroeder came to power seven years ago representing a new generation whose formative experience was not the Cold War, European integration, and transatlantic friendship, but German unification and the restoration of national sovereignty. For him and the team that took over after Helmut Kohl's 16-year reign, Germany had become a normal country, no different from other European heavyweights like France or Britain.

Indeed, one of Schroeder's first major foreign-policy experiences was the EU summit of 1999, where the leaders of France and Britain played rough with the newcomer from Berlin. The lesson that Schroeder drew was to insist that Germany could no longer be taken for granted and would demand a role commensurate to its size and weight. Self-assertion became the watchword of German foreign policy.

Thus, when Schroeder claimed special circumstances for Germany's failure to meet the budgetary ceilings of the European Union's Stability and Growth Pact, he seemed to be arguing that the restrictions should apply only to smaller countries, not to the big players. When he rightly opposed America's war against Iraq, the pride of standing up to the world's only superpower was palpable. When he established a close personal and political relationship with Russian President Vladimir Putin, he signaled to the world – and to the EU's sensitive new Eastern European mem-

bers – that Germany's foreign policy would no longer be constrained by the past.

In fairness, it should be acknowledged that it was under Schroeder that Germany shed hesitations to deploy soldiers abroad. His support for international crisis missions in Kosovo, Bosnia, or Afghanistan required considerable political courage and made Germany one of the major contributors to international stability efforts. To have removed the issue from domestic ideological controversy ranks as a major achievement of Schroeder's tenure. But it was also meant to convey that Germany had grown up into a proper international power.

With Merkel, the substance of Germany's foreign policy will change little, but the assertive style will be muted. American leaders will welcome her election as proof that the estrangement in bilateral relations is over. But that alienation already largely ended earlier this year, when the Bush administration realized that allies are good to have and that Germany is an important one. Merkel will reintroduce the warmth that has been missing under Schroeder, but she will not become America's yes-woman.

Nor will she abandon special relations with Russia, to which every German chancellor since Adenauer has attached major importance. But she has already made clear that Germany's neighbors to the East will have no reason not to feel bypassed. She may even want to confirm that message by making her first official trip abroad not to Paris but to Warsaw or Vilnius.

On the European project, she is as committed to integration as her predecessors have been. She will continue to emphasize close relations with France because there is no alternative; Britain, absent from the euro zone and the Schengen border regime, remains the odd man-in of the EU.

But there will be no new initiatives on integration until leaders in the countries that rejected the Constitutional Treaty are ready for a new try. Then Merkel will be in a key position to add weight to a new effort for moving the EU forward. She will continue to favor the eventual admission of the Balkan states, but she has left no doubt of her opposition to full membership for Turkey, which is the major substantive change from the Schroeder era (although her government will not block the start of negotiations in early October).

In fact, there is very little Merkel has to do after her election to make her mark on foreign policy; the visible change of style will suffice, at least at first. In any case, she will have her hands full pushing through the economic reforms for which she will be elected and which are her top priority. There are indications that Germany is finally emerging from years of economic stagnation, not least thanks to the reforms started under Schroeder. At home, Merkel can hope to reap the rewards.

Abroad, Merkel has no need to demonstrate that Germany is a big country in Europe; her partners are fully aware of this. But it is also more than just a normal country: Germany remains central to holding together the two international institutions that will continue to assure its well-being, the European Union and the Atlantic alliance. There are some indications that Merkel is more aware of this than Schroeder was. One can only hope that this recognition will serve as her guidepost when tough decisions must be made and changes in style alone will not be enough.

Christoph Bertram is Director of the German Institute for International and Security Studies (SWP) in Berlin.

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Kenya's democratic hope

By BINAIFER NOWROJEE

Kenyans have much to celebrate this week. They lined up in large numbers, peacefully cast their ballots, and resoundingly rejected a flawed constitution that had been hastily forced upon them.

The November 21 referendum marks another pivotal step towards consolidating Kenya's transition to a real democracy. The "no" vote not only forestalled attempts by President Mwai Kibaki and his inner circle to tighten their grip on power, but it also confirmed to ordinary Kenyans the power of the ballot box.

While the Kenyan public appeared to show their high regard for legal process and participatory democracy, the run-up to the referendum revealed the government's much uglier face. The Kibaki administration used this year to entrench power in the hands of a small ethnic Kikuyu clique. Reformers within the government not only capitulated to the backsliding, but actively contributed to it.

Two years ago, the picture looked a bit brighter. Billing itself as a reform government that would promote respect for human rights and the rule of law, the Kibaki government promised Kenyans a new constitution within 100 days of taking office in 2003. The draft constitution had been many years in the making and had been crafted following extensive national consultations. It contained provisions that would have removed excessive presidential powers and given Kenyans a stronger bill of rights.

What the Kibaki government failed to mention was that it would change

this draft at the last minute. After stalling for two and a half years, the day before the draft constitution was due to expire, the government hastily pushed through Parliament an alternate draft that preserved strong presidential powers, weakened the bill of rights, and rigged the electoral percentages needed to win the presidency. The participatory process, so critical in any constitution making, was hijacked. The public was presented with one choice: "yes" or "no."

The frenzied campaigning for the constitutional referendum began in uproar. Through a combination of financial incentives and menacing threats, including two incidents of police shootings during demonstrations, the Kibaki government ordered the nation to vote yes.

The rhetoric of reform was dropped as President Kibaki handed out title deeds of national trust and parkland to gain votes. Public employees were informed that the draft constitution was a government project that they had to support, and newspaper and broadcast journalists were warned that their licenses could be revoked after a radio station aired an interview with a parliamentarian who opposed Kibaki's constitution.

Anticipating the 2007 election, the government announced the creation of 47 new electoral districts. These steps barely veiled an agenda intended not only to guarantee electoral victory, but also to cement political dominance by the Kibaki's ethnic group.

But ordinary people rejected Kibaki's power play, reclaiming their nation's path through the ballot box – an idea that is still almost unheard of in the Kenyan context. Kenya's bumpy road

to democracy is no different from that of many other countries in Africa whose political transitions were heralded with high expectations. Kenya has suffered the inevitable democratic backsliding, the continued corruption, and the unfulfilled reform agendas that remain persistent themes elsewhere on the continent.

One of the most important beacons of hope remains a change in mindset of the Kenyan public. Having been buoyed by the successful and peaceful 2002 election that brought in the promise of change, the Kenyan public remains loudly outraged by the government's failures to make good on its promises. Radio call-in shows have burgeoned and public discourse is at its most lively. While public euphoria and high hopes have been dampened, Kenyans remain resolutely engaged in the democratic process.

The Kibaki government should be acknowledged for gracefully conceding defeat, but true credit goes to the Kenyan public for its unwillingness to allow the authorities to dispense with the rule of law. Ordinary Kenyans played a key role in changing the outcome of what, ten years ago, would have been a done deal.

The many other Africans who lament their nations' flagging democratic transitions would do well to draw strength from Kenya's milestone. The international community's challenge will be to help ensure that the political space claimed by the Kenyan public remains open.

Binaifer Nowrojee directs the Open Society Initiative for East Africa.

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**COMMON SENSE**

By Hassan Al-Haifi

On the merits and demerits of foreign expertise

Undoubtedly the process of development of any country will simply not be the same without having to rely on the endless stream of foreign expertise that flow in and out of the country. One could say that such expertise is both necessary and desired if any country can hope to quickly absorb the fast and accelerating pace of progress the world is experiencing. Many local professionals of various fields have enjoyed the experience of acting as mediums for expertise transfer and indeed have learned a lot from what most of the experts have to offer Yemen as they developed useful skills and knowledge in their professional careers at home and in other countries. Needless to say many of the donor funded programs are cocluded with the required use of experts both to help transfer some particular field of knowledge or professional skills or just to help the donor get a feel of where their money is going.

Much of the success of the experts in carrying out their tasks will rest on some very important fundamental elements of a combination of behavior, professionalism and more importantly a grasp of the essence of human relations. This observer has had the pleasure as well as the few but disheartening disappointments of sharing a few days, months and even years with so many experts spanning the various fields of professional skills and social services. One must say the experience was for the most part worth it, enriching and all together helpful in molding the perceptions of the observer on so many important issues of human development. This column has itself been enriched with by the wisdom and character undergoing more refinement as the time goes by from many of the experts who crisscrossed paths along a life of ongoing enhancement of awareness. To those who have contributed to the nurturing of the mind of this observer, in addition to their unfailing contribution to the development of the Republic of Yemen, one must say thank you. Their names will span a list that the space here-in will not suffice for. However there are those who are worthy of special mention and it would do great justice to them to have the record make note of their noticeable contribution to Yemen's development in some form or another. Some are from the private sector and some are from donor countries or organizations, who truly showed a genuine interest in truly leaving their mark on Yemen.

At the start the observer recalls Dan Lowery (Citibank), who introduced a few of Yemen's outstanding bankers to modern banking and sound financial management. His success in measured by leaving the impressions that do not wear out with time on those he worked. In public service, this observer will also recall John Doyle of Kennedy and Donkin (UK) Power Engineering Consultants, whose impressions are recalled every time when one remembers that it was K & D, which set up most of the planning and developed the engineering for most of the infrastructure for electricity that we are still enjoying (special mention should be given to former Minister of Electricity and Water HE Mr. Mohammed Hassan Sabra, who smoothed the way for both the foreigners and Yemenis to deliver all that their skills and acumen could muster up in those dynamic years of the Seventies and Eighties when the Yemen General Electricity Corporation (later the Public Electricity Corporation) was the most important industrial producer of the land and the most active with a portfolio encompassing some 20 international credits (donor financing and supplier credits), at the time when oil was still a dream world for Yemen, in the hundreds of millions of US dollars. K & D and especially the skillful and well coordinated planning of Mr. John Doyle were instrumental in getting the infrastructure that turned lights in the cities of Yemen transforming their inhabitants from those who depended on kerosene lamps and sesame oil lamps to enjoyers of the latest that digital technology could provide for their homes. That was a long time ago it seems, but had we followed through on the Master Plan produced by K & D, Yemen would not be experiencing any of the current agonies of power off and power on and a lot of savings could be realized not just by the individual or domestic consumers, but also the economy of Yemen.

On the contracting side, one could not help forget the many Italian, Korean and even Yemeni engineers who diligently sought to leave the impressions wherever their minds and tools landed.

In donor support, special mention should be mentioned to the likes of Dr. Ahmed Uthman, Gianni Brizzi, Dr. Chris Ward, and Dr. Nadir Mohammed, just to mention a few from the World Bank, who really showed a feel for providing genuine expertise that had the interests of Yemen at heart. Their openness and cordiality were worth special mention also and more than made up for some of the obnoxious so called "experts", who considered their work Yemen a fulfillment of their destiny, which placed the ego above all considerations. Then there were the many bilaterally donated experts under the programs of GTZ, the Dutch Government, the Japanese, Kuwaitis (that was sometimes ago when we were buddy-buddy with the Kuwaitis) and Brits, who also left lasting impressions on the mind of many of those who worked with them both in Government, private sector and civil society and without leaving the future generations of Yemen with a heavy debt burden.

On the bad side, we have had some experts, who have forgotten that the success of their missions really rests on how well their work is organized and the mutual respect with their domestic counterparts. These kind of experts somehow manage to get away with a lot without allowing for their domestic counterparts a breath of fresh air even as they pour on them tons of work and insist on have it produced in unreasonable time frames. This observer has seen such situations more than once and was flabbergasted to find that these people had no sense of the awesome negative vibes they create with the people they work with. First of all they come with the notion that what they demand is an absolute right even if there is no contractual obligation to warrant such claims. No matter, they are here to create a good impression on their bosses and their ambitions cannot be compromised for any such ghasly (to them anyway) considerations as recognition of normal human capacity, reasonableness in the interpretation of the contractual obligations that govern their work together. Moreover, they insist that they also have the right to demean anyone who disagrees with them, especially in the propriety of the ideas they put forth, etc. They flower their work with sophisticated terminology, which would be counterproductive to their mission of expertise transfer as most of the beneficiaries are unable to absorb them. The worst part is that the domestic vehicles for transferring this expertise are not accorded the recognition they deserve for the output they have produced in terms of volume pushed upon them beyond what any reasonable contractual obligations would entail, which is taxing sometimes even on the health of those who have been faced to cross unfortunate paths with such experts. More follows.

Iran's nuclear lies

By **Kenneth R. Timmerman**

Mohammad El-Baradei, the director general of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), is pressing the agency's board of governors to make one last effort to find a diplomatic solution to Iran's nuclear ambitions before sending the case to the United Nations Security Council for possible sanctions. A decision to refer Iran to the Security Council could come as early as November 24, when the IAEA's board meets to discuss "new information" discovered by inspectors on the ground.

Thanks to the IAEA's inspectors, we now have a fairly detailed picture of Iran's nuclear archipelago - at least those facilities that the Iranian government has been forced to open. We know that Iran has discovered, mined, and milled natural uranium, the basic building block of any enrichment program, without telling the IAEA. We know that Iran built a uranium conversion facility in Isfahan to convert uranium yellowcake into uranium hexafluoride gas (UF6), the feedstock for uranium enrichment, without the required prior notifications to the IAEA.

We also know that Iran built an underground uranium enrichment plant at Natanz, hardened it against missile attack, and erected dummy buildings on the surface to conceal it from overhead surveillance. The authorities agreed to open this facility to the IAEA only after its existence was confirmed by commercial satellite imagery, and they appear to have swept the underground halls of whatever equipment was installed before the inspectors arrived. Once fully operational, these facilities will give Iran mastery of the entire nuclear fuel cycle.

For eighteen years, Iran's government concealed these activities from the IAEA, in clear violation of its safeguards agreement. For this reason alone, the IAEA's board must refer Iran to the Security Council for further actions, as required by the agency's charter.

Non-nuclear nations that sign the

IAEA's charter, as Iran has, pledge to abandon all efforts to develop nuclear weapons. In exchange, they are given access to nuclear technologies. But that pledge requires complete, transparent cooperation with the IAEA. Instead, Iran has been playing cheat and retreat.

"With Iran, we realized that mastery of the fuel cycle makes you a virtual nuclear weapons state," a top aide to El-Baradei told me. "That was a wake-up call for all of us."

But a wake-up call that allows the IAEA's board to go back to sleep is useless. For two and a half years, the European Union has made every effort to get Iran to cooperate fully with the IAEA and come clean about its nuclear activities, to no avail.

When the IAEA announced it wanted to inspect a suspected enrichment cascade within the Revolutionary Guards complex at Lavizan-Shian, Iran's government stalled for months until it could raze the site. When it asked to visit a suspect lab within the Parchin defense production plant, the Iranians stalled. When they finally allowed a small team in, they limited their movements, in violation of Iran's commitments.

El-Baradei has stated that the IAEA has found "no evidence" of a weapons program in Iran - a statement that Iranian leaders have since cited as proof of their peaceful intentions. But the IAEA has no authority to determine whether or not a country has a nuclear weapons program. That is up to the UN Security Council. The IAEA's job is to determine whether a nation has violated its safeguards agreement, and El-Baradei has made it abundantly clear that Iran has.

Understanding the intentions of Iran's leaders is not as difficult or as ambiguous as some believe. Eighteen years of concealment constitutes a powerful track record. So do Iranian leaders' own statements.

For example, in 1986, then-president Ayatollah Ali Khamenei gave a pep talk at the headquarters of the Atomic Energy Organization of Iran. "Our nation has always been threatened from outside," he said. "The least we can do to face this danger is to let our enemies

know that we can defend ourselves."

In 1988, Ali Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani - the supposed "moderate" candidate in Iran's recent presidential election - spelled out what that meant in an address to the Revolutionary Guards Corps. "We should fully equip ourselves both in the offensive and defensive use of chemical, bacteriological, and radiological weapons," urging the audience to "make use of the opportunity and perform this task." At a Jerusalem Day rally at Tehran University in December 2001, he uttered one of the regime's most sinister threats. "The use of an atomic bomb against Israel would destroy Israel completely, while [the same] against the world of Islam only would cause damages."

Iran's regime has only grown bolder since then. Foreign Minister Kamal Kharrazi declared in June 2004 that Iran "won't accept any new obligations," and must "be recognized by the international community as a member of the nuclear club." Similarly, in March 2005, Rafsanjani reiterated Iran's refusal to dismantle its nuclear fuel cycle facilities, as the EU and the IAEA had demanded, insisting that "we can't stop our nuclear program and won't stop it."

In these circumstances, the risk entailed by doing nothing far outweighs the costs of referring Iran to the Security Council. Indeed, Iran may already be enriching uranium secretly. If it used the centrifuges that it purchased from Pakistan's nuclear impresario A.Q. Khan, it could have enough fissile material to produce 20 bombs. With Iran continuing to shelter top al-Qaeda leaders, this raises an even graver threat: that terrorists get hold of nuclear weapons.

The dangers of allowing Iran to go nuclear ought to be obvious. Even to El-Baradei.

Kenneth R. Timmerman, author of Countdown to Crisis: the Coming Nuclear Showdown with Iran, is President of the Middle East Data Project.

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Living on a volcano

By **MICHEL ROCARD**

As I write this, violent clashes with the police have been going on for nearly two weeks in the suburbs of Paris and other French cities, with cars being set on fire at a rate of nearly 1,000 per night. Why is this happening? How far can it go?

The existence of thousands of unemployed young people, without income or roots, idle and knowing only violence to express their quest for recognition, is not particularly French. Everyone remembers the Watts,

Newark, and Detroit riots in the United States in the 1960's, and the riots in Liverpool in the UK in the early 1980's, as well as in Bradford, Oldham, and Burnley in recent years. Likewise, France witnessed riots in Vaux-en-Velin, near Lyon, 20 years ago. So it is important to distinguish what is common to many developed countries and what is specific to France.

All the developed economies have undergone profound changes over the last 30 years. We have gone from managerial to stockowner capitalism, from economies with large doses of state direction to far more deregulated markets, from the active and expansive social policies of the 1960s and 1970s to a world in which such spending is constantly shrinking.

Although wealth has been growing constantly - GDP has more than doubled in the last 50 years - the share of wages in the total has diminished by 10%, even while millions of the rich have become much richer. Everywhere, this has meant massive pauperization of the least favored part of the population. In rich countries, mass poverty, which seemed to have been eliminated around 1980, has reappeared. Access to good education, and even more so to the labor market, is increasingly restricted for many young people, especially those who come from poor or single-parent families or from minority ethnic backgrounds, languages, or religions.

These people feel rejected and unrecognized. "Because they want to break us, we will break everything" is the motto that best expresses their mood. There are untold reservoirs of social violence in all of our lands.

But against this shared background, France exhibits some important distinctive features. First, demography: for the last 50 years France has had much higher fertility rates than the rest of Europe - 1.9 children per woman, compared to the European average of 1.6 and the German or Spanish rates of 1.3.

In Germany, every generation entering the labor market is smaller than the one exiting it. In France, by contrast, 200,000 to 300,000 more people enter the labor market than leave it in each generation - and this does not include immigration, which, although slowing recently, represents a large number of job seekers. As rates of economic growth have declined, this has meant growing unemployment.

Then there is geography: France's massive urban concentration around the capital - Paris and its suburbs contain nearly 20% of the population - is unique in Europe. The sheer number of confused and disoriented young people has overwhelmed the French system's capacity to integrate them - even though its capacity in this regard is, in fact, impressive.

Indeed, France has opened its public

educational system to an extraordinary degree, refusing all group rights to minorities, but vigorously affirming personal rights, including full access to all social services, regardless of language, religion, or skin color. The system is cracking, but only because of the limits of its absorptive capacity, not because of its core principles.

In these circumstances, every French politician has known for the last 20 years that France has been living with a growing risk that isolated incidents might coalesce into a critical mass of violence. The task of social workers and police, therefore, is to try to resolve - quickly and discreetly - each particular incident, in order to dampen the revolt.

What needs to be done also has been well known since 20 years ago, when a nonpartisan report by a cross-party group of big-city mayors unanimously agreed on measures to be taken: efficient repression, highly developed social prevention, a permanent local police presence, and a renewed effort at reintegrating delinquents.

The difficulty with implementing this policy has been that its preventive aspects - social support and reintegration of delinquents - appear to the frightened population living in the affected areas as being "soft on crime" and overly generous. But for the past three years, France has had a government that no longer believes that a socially oriented urban policy works. It believes only in repression and says so openly. As a result, local police forces have been reduced from 20,000 to 11,000, while the national riot police (CRS) have been reinforced.

France is now experiencing a practical demonstration of this insane and totally inefficient policy, with the Minister of the Interior, Nicolas Sarkozy, providing a telling illustration of the new orientation when he described the rebellious young as "scum." It was the proverbial match thrown by a careless smoker into a parched forest. The young responded with a vengeance to Sarkozy's provocation.

The main risk now is that events in the suburbs of large French cities will serve as an example to other young people, whether in the less urban areas of France or in other European countries, who feel socially excluded and are, perhaps, just as prone to violent outbursts. Solving the problems underlying the French revolt will require time, discretion, mutual respect, community-based social and police work - rather than a centralized, repressive approach - and a lot of money. But France is by no means the only country that should be worried.

Michel Rocard, a former Prime Minister of France and leader of the Socialist Party, is a member of the European Parliament.

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Future Youth

Voices of tomorrow delivered today!!

Soul of life

Done by: FNFR Group.
Email: FNFRfriends@yahoo.com

When you have a soul that means you are alive. Each creature has a soul to live, but I think only human beings souls are different from other creatures. Human beings are in need of a soul to share with. What I am trying to say is that people need a friendship's soul to make them human beings. Every day, we meet a lot of people, deal with different characters but in the end, we look for a friend who is close to us.

Friendship is one of the highest degrees of relationships whom every one looks for. A friend is a person that you consider everything to you. Unfortunately there is a common concept in the minds of people that says friendship is a self-interest relationship and it becomes difficult to find a real friend. Many people take this concept seriously, but I can say NO, for those who think this way.

I know a story that happened in real life. This a story proves that friendship could be a medicine doctors could describe.

There was a girl called Fatma, she had three friends who were too close to her. Those four friends were together everywhere they go. They were studying in the same collage. Anyone who saw them would say they were one. Those girls had a unique friendship that makes people around them wonder. They were like the air for each other. That's why they didn't even think or imagine that one day they would separate. They thought that they would be together forever.

The nightmare turned out to be

reality that they would not meet again because they finished their studies in the collage. After two months Fatma was sick, she gave up talking or eating. Her health went from bad to worse. Her family was worried about her. They took her to a hospital. There was a professional doctor who recovered her disease, but unfortunately he did not know what was her problem exactly. She didn't respond to medicine. No one knew the reason behind her illness.

After one month, Fatma wrote a message saying, "I want to see my friends." The family didn't understand what their daughter meant. Immediately they send message to the three girls saying "please, come your friend is sick, she wants to see you." They three girls went to their friend's house quickly. When the door was knocked, Fatma woke up and ran to the door. The moment Fatma saw her friends, she got well. The doctor and the family were wondering and they realized that the separation of those friends was the main reason for Fatma's illness. The doctor believed that friendship could be medicine that has a positive effect on the condition.

When people hear or read like this story, they either ignore it or don't believe it especially these days. But... only... only the one who has a real friend can believe and feel and know the meaning of these stories.

After what seem ages away from friends, it becomes difficult to describe one's feelings and emotions.

Nothing can be done
Only gazing at moon and sun
Or write many words of pun
Which describe our feelings as fun.
So do what can you do,
Before your happy days go.

Signs

By **SHADY FAROOQ**

It is very funny and shameful at the same time to see the signs that are hanged on the walls indicating the names of the shops or their purposes. In the beginning it appears ok but then if you look at it again you find out a plunder in the spelling of the words and names that were put on these signs.

The question is : is it the writer fault, or is it the translator's or the owner's who thought he knows English and he doesn't need to check the spelling. For the locals (Yemenis) that is on problem because they will only read the Arabic side, but for the foreigners it's really embarrassing especially when you read the same words

spelling differently in two places.

What is the solution through which we can avoid such spelling mistake? From my point of view, the responsibility is on the owner who should choose an educated writer or if he knows English himself he should check the spelling from the dictionary for such purposes.

The reason behind this is that I was walking with some foreigners, friends of mine, showing them my lovely city when they noticed these mistakes and started laughing at them.

It was really embarrassing for me to answer their questions regarding this subject.

I hope such signs will be vanished and such mistakes will be corrected.

Eternal Love

K. P. Janardhanan,
Mobil:711537212
Yemen dairy& Juice Industries,
Hodeidah

The dried leaf of an oak Tree,
Fell in love with A budding flower,
Murmured in her ear
For Anew lease of life!

Before the natures long -
Out stretched hand grab me,
Take me to your fold,
Give me what I lost.

Foolishness, though my angel, help me,
To turn back the hands of that big clock,
The desire to live with you,
Is burning with in me.

Dear old! You are reading -
The last chapter in the book of life,
Where many a question,
The wise any fool alike failed to answer.

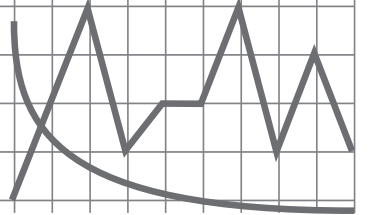
Wide opened from page one,
That book life in front of me,
To read, To rediscover, To interpret
Life as seen through my own eyes.

Waste no time my saver,
Take this cup of gilttered wisdom
Drink, you drink the honey of my know - how,
I, the intoxicating wine of your youth.
Go no deep in life's intricacies,
Don't concentrate on its bitter part,
In the guise of teachings,
Religion, denied us that sweet bowl!
OH ! that sweet bowl !!

What is life? Nothing but love!
Love, any love alone!
Is it wrong to be loved, being loved?
Love! Enjoy life to its last drop!

Oozing... the drips of life's honey,
Clicking away the seconds of the pendulum!
Waste no time my young
Come!, thrill me by your bubbling youth!!!

YT Business



Yemeni expatriate women, the privileged ones

YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Facts on the ground have proved that Yemeni expatriation is not confined to men but rather extended to the woman. There are large numbers of expatriate women with their husbands or sons as well as those born abroad to Yemeni parents. This situation is also applicable to non-Yemeni wives of Yemeni men.

Studies exclusively on this issue point out that the Yemeni expatriate woman is distinguished by living inside a family environment that is very strong in its cohesion that does not differ much from family pattern she was living in inside the homeland. This is also the environmental situation for girls born in expatriation places. Those girls have been brought up to be mostly described as traditional. This means it is rather the same general family atmosphere in the homeland, added to it some privileges due to benefiting from the health circumstances available there, especially in advanced countries. There are also means of comfort, residence, food and clothes and the like facilities. Expatriate mothers try to benefit from and adapt to the new society in which they are living. They seek to keep firm their family entity and benefit from some information they acquire with regard to clothes, house arrangement and food.

Researcher Fatima Mohammed Bin Mohammed, member of the Shoura council, mentions in her study on reality of Yemeni women in expatriation that the important phenomena of the expatriate Yemenis are their tendency to live as groupings within a one city and one residential quarter. This makes it easy the process of acquaintance and family closeness. Consequently this situation influences the new entity with character-

istics of family environment. It is to be noted that Yemeni expatriate community entertains familiarity and acquaintance let alone that this social entity is similar to a small example of a remote homeland with regard to habits, traditions and ways of living and means of communication. The researcher also affirms that the Yemeni expatriate woman, more specifically those who have expatriated at a certain age after their being born and brought up in the homeland, are sticking more to their national and religious identity and keener on religious duties and Arab and Islamic values and moral conduct. Moreover, they convey and implant those values in their children. According to the researcher those are the basic source of the children religions education under non-existence of Arab and Islamic schools specifically in the western countries. Those mothers bear the greater burden this affair because of fathers preoccupation in their everyday businesses. Expatriate mothers give this matter a big care because of their realization that the question of religion deserves to and must be adhered by children while they are still young to be immune against the non-Arab and non-Islamic environment.

Expatriate Yemenis usually carry with them their habits and traditions wherever they go. Therefore, it is noticed that the Yemeni women, particularly the non-employed, are more attentive to performing duties inter-family relations with Yemeni and Arab families. They do not miss occasions such as weddings, national religious celebrations and performing prayers of Eids as well as family gatherings.

Concerning the economic condition of the Yemeni expatriate woman the researcher has indicated that it is better than in the homeland. She attributes that

to the developed economic situation in the countries of expatriation compared to Yemen. In addition, marriage is a major source for gaining money and most of those women shoulder the responsibility of housekeeping as the husbands are busy with their jobs and businesses most of the time. The economic condition of the expatriate woman in Africa comes in the first place followed by the Gulf then in Europe and America. In Africa the expatriate Yemeni woman has greater participation as she owns capitals and projects yielding various kinds of income. The women who mostly depend on men are those expatriates living in the Gulf.

The study concluded in monitoring some a group of problems the Yemeni expatriate woman faces, mainly the bad financial and moral circumstances as a result of marital problems especially when the husband abandons her and his children mostly without family sustenance. Other problems are ignorance, illiteracy and shortage of awareness of most of expatriate women and impact of that on their way of thinking and facing psychological problems and crises due to their ignorance of the simplest ways of dealing with the new life and the new society. Among other problems is the fathers fear about their daughters to be influenced by the non-Arab society and this pushes them to give their daughters to early marriages there or sending them to the homeland to get married. This, in most cases, renders them victims of many crises and failing marriages. The other thing is that feeling of alienation may reach the degree of split in personality of many girls who have studied in the countries of expatriation due to contradiction between the reality outside the family environment and the outside. The question gets more aggravated among girls who are born to foreign mothers.

Trichet takes control at the ECB

By Melvyn Krauss

The announcement by the President of the European Central Bank, Jean-Claude Trichet, that interest rates would be raised at the next meeting of the bank's Governing Council on December 1st, could be a defining moment in his presidency.

By pre-announcing the rate increase, which senior ECB officials call a move towards greater transparency, Trichet firmly demonstrated his leadership of the Governing Council. Press leaks by dissident members had sowed confusion in the public's mind as to the bank's concerns and intentions before the announcement.

Even though a consensus had emerged in the Council that a December interest rate hike would be necessary, a handful of holdouts on the ECB Governing Council – some with their own very private agendas – leaked misleading and, in one instance, clearly false information to the press in a futile attempt to thwart the increase.

In an anonymous leak to a major financial news service, an ECB official falsely maintained that unanimity was needed for a rate hike, implying a single dove could stop it. Infuriated by what he considered to be guerilla tactics, Trichet effectively silenced the mischief-makers by the bold stroke of pre-announcing the rate hike two weeks before the meeting.

This is not the first time communications has been a problem for the ECB. On more than one occasion, under both Trichet and former ECB chairman Wim Duisenberg before him, press leaks and the tit-for-tat responses they engender, made the Governing Council sound more like a cacophony of discordant voices than a serious deliberative body.

Now, to his credit, Trichet has done something about this long-standing problem, although not without ruffling some feathers in the process. The doves are furious about the pre-announcement, and some hawks – perhaps nostalgic for the more collegial style of Wim Duisenberg – regard Trichet's move as “showing off” and “taking control.” Indeed, a leading Dutch financial newspaper attacked the pre-announcement as a sign of Trichet's weakness rather than strength, implying that he had lost control of the Governing Council.

This is unfair. The recalcitrance of the holdouts against the consensus – a direct challenge to Trichet's leadership – gave the ECB president little alternative. What was he to do? Let the holdouts undermine his personal credibility and that of the bank?

The unwillingness of frustrated minorities to accept consensus may well require the ECB president to take more control of the governing board than it has been used to in the past or, indeed, feel comfortable with in the future. More than anything, the pre-announcement contro-

versy demonstrates that a renewed spirit of consensus and collegiality in the ECB's Governing Council is sorely needed.

Because Trichet's pre-announcement of a moderate interest rate hike conjures up visions of a Fed-like series of small interest rate hikes over an extended period of time, the ECB president also pre-announced his disinclination to follow in US Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan's footsteps in this regard. Indeed, a case even can be made that with the new leadership at the Federal Reserve expected to embrace European-style “inflation targeting,” we may be entering a period in which the Fed follows the ECB on critical monetary matters rather than the other way round.

“Inflation targeting” means that a central bank puts the pursuit of price stability above all other objectives. This is what the ECB does – and what the Fed's Alan Greenspan does not do. “Inflation targeting” also means the central bank follows certain specified rules. This too is what the ECB does and Greenspan doesn't do.

Ironically, the “inflation targeting” advocated by Greenspan's nominated successor, Ben Bernanke, lies closer to ECB monetary policy than to the discretionary activism that the Fed has practiced during Greenspan's long tenure.

Melvyn Krauss is a senior fellow at the Hoover Institution, Stanford University.

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Eyes wide shut on Global Warming

By J. BRADFORD DELONG

The Kyoto Treaty on controlling climate change was, as Harvard professor Rob Stavins puts it, “too little, too fast.” On one hand, because it covered only those countries projected to emit roughly half of the world's greenhouse-gas emissions by mid-century, it was not an effective long-run safeguard against the dangers of global warming. On the other hand, because it required significant and expensive short-run cuts in emissions by industrial countries, it threatened to impose large immediate costs on the American, European, and Japanese economies. In short, the Kyoto agreement meant lots of short-term pain for little long-run gain.

The European Union and American economists in the Clinton administration argued for passage of the Kyoto Treaty only by creating models for something that wasn't the Kyoto Treaty. They projected that developing countries would enter the Kyoto framework at some point, and would trade their rights to emit CO2 and other greenhouse gases to the United States and Europe in return for development aid.

But, all these years later, I have yet to meet anyone who knows what they are talking about who is prepared to defend Kyoto as a substantive global public policy. “It was a way of getting the ball rolling,” on climate change, say some. “It was a way of waking up the world to the seriousness of the problem,” say others.

Under neither of these interpretations can those who negotiated and signed the Kyoto Treaty be said to have served the world well. Of course, the world has been served a lot worse since. President George W. Bush sided with

his vice president, Dick Cheney, in denying that a global-warming problem even exists (his treasury secretary, Paul O'Neill, and his administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, Christine Whitman, disagreed). This has probably cost the world a decade of wasted time in developing a policy to deal with the problem, particularly given that intentional inaction is likely to continue until Bush's term is finished.

But the political cards will be reshuffled, and there will be a new deal on global warming, when America next elects a president in November 2008. By 2009, the US may have a State Department willing to speak up again. Unless we are extraordinarily fortunate and learn that climatologists have overlooked some enormously important channels of carbon sequestration, the models predicting global warming will still be grimly accurate in 2009.

When the time comes to revisit international policies on global warming, two things should happen. First, the world's industrial core must create incentives for the developing world to industrialize along an environmentally-friendly, CO2- and CH4-light, path. Slow growth of greenhouse-gas emissions in rapidly-growing economies must be accompanied by credible promises to deliver massive amounts of assistance in the mighty tasks of industrialization, education, and urbanization that China, India, Mexico, Brazil, and many other developing countries face.

Second, the world's industrial core must create incentives for its energy industries to undertake the investments in new technologies that will move us by mid-century to an economic structure that is light on carbon emissions and heavy on carbon

sequestration. Providing the proper incentives for effective research and development will not be easy. Public programs work less well when the best route to the goal – in this case, the most promising post-carbon energy technologies – is uncertain. Private R&D is difficult to encourage when investors suspect that success would lead the fruits of their work to be taken by some form of eminent domain and used throughout the world with little compensation.

The world could continue to close its eyes to global warming and hope for the best: a slightly warmer climate that produces as many winners (on the Siberian, Northern European, and Canadian prairies) as losers (in already-hot regions that become hotter and dryer), and that the Gulf Stream continues warming Europe, the monsoons are not disrupted, and that the Ganges delta is not drowned by stronger typhoons. Or perhaps we are hoping that the “we” whose interests are taken into account when important decisions are made will not be the “we” who are among the big losers. Perhaps we will continue to close our eyes.

But our chances of ensuring a more sustainable world would be higher if we had not allowed ourselves to be blinded for the past decade by the combination of the public-relations stunt known as the Kyoto Treaty and the idiocy-as-usual known as the Bush administration.

J. Bradford DeLong, Professor of Economics at the University of California at Berkeley, was Assistant US Treasury Secretary during the Clinton administration.

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Invitation for Bids -IFB#33/05 for the Construction of Al Kadan Malhan Rural Road

Republic of Yemen
Rural Access Program
IDA Credit No.3514 Yem

- This Invitation for Bids follows the General Procurement Notice for this Project that appeared in *Development Business*, issue no. **626 of Mar16, 2004**.
- 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 Al Kadan Malhan**. This contract will be jointly financed by the Government of Yemen.
- 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 Kadan Malhan RR (23.13 km) in Al Mahweet Governorate**. The construction period is **17 months**.
- 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.
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from:
**The Ministry of Public Works and Highways (MPWH)
Rural Access Project, Central Management Office (RAPCMO)
Off 60 M Ring Road and Algiers, St., Near Sana'a Expo Center
Phone/Fax : 00967-01-448109/104/449422
Fax : 00967-01-448106
E-mail: 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**
- Qualifications requirements include:
 - Average Annual Construction Turnover of **similar to the project cost**
 - Substantial completion of **1 similar nature project**.
 - Availability of liquid assets and/or credit facilities **US\$350,000.0**.
 - Availability of the construction equipment,

- A margin of preference for eligible national contractors/joint ventures **shall be applied**.
- 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.
 - Bids must be delivered to the address above at or before **11:00 AM, Jan 1, 2006**. Electronic bidding **shall not** be permitted. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened physically **11:00 AM, Jan 8, 2006** in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend in person.
 - All bids **shall** be accompanied by a **Bid Security of US\$60,000.0** or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency.

Needs of rural women

MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

A study conducted by the Agricultural Research Station in the governorate of Abyan, has concluded that the Yemeni rural woman is an active partner in development. She generally carries out all works in farms such as harvesting, storing and drying crops as well as raising and feeding animals.

The study that included 26 families in 22 villages in governorates of Abyan, Lahj and Dhaleh, aimed basically to

gather data and statements on the countryside woman working in agriculture. The study focused on the Yemeni rural woman needs and role in agricultural development, confirming that, in some villages, the woman performs also the process of irrigation when there are torrents to save soil from being swept away. These are very hard tasks usually done by men.

The study, conducted during the agricultural season of 2004-2005, also made it clear that around 62% of families included in the study owned agricultural lands and 15% of them the woman is the owner of the land. It pointed out that

some families possessing agricultural lands lease them to those who do not own lands or to those whose property is a small land. The return of renting the land could be an annual amount of money or in a share of crops.

The study also touched on role of essential services that have been introduced to those villages and that some development projects give training to women on sewing and weaving as well as training young men on maintaining water pumps and veterinary. Those training courses have helped in improvement of rural women conditions.

Jawf temple reveals pre-Islam political-religious system

By YEMEN TIMES STAFF

A new historic site was discovered in July 2004 by Dr. Mounir Arbash, inscription researcher from the Sana'a-based French Center for Archeology and Social Sciences (CEFAS), and Remy Audouin, French archeologist, in as-Suda town in al-Jawf area, north of Sana'a. The historical role of the area was earlier suggested but it could not be explored due to security instability in the past.

The discovery is in the form of a temple dating back at least to the eighth century B.C. The significance of the temple is that it shows for the first time religious rituals in the Arabian Peninsula that will contribute to a better understanding of the political-religious system and the hierarchy of deity.

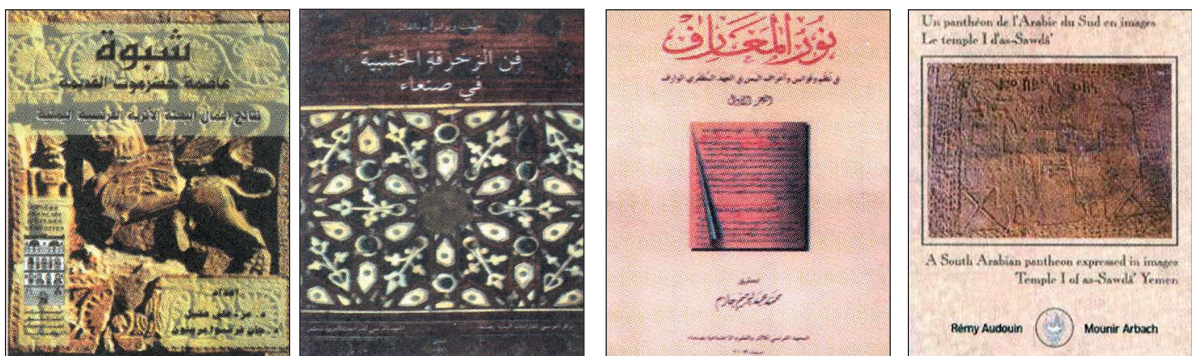
The researchers have introduced the discovery in a book titled "A South Arabian Pantheon Expressed in Images: Temple I of as-Sawda' Yemen".

The book was published along with other books in a workshop organized by the CEFAS for Archeology and Social Sciences at al-Ju'ami House on Tuesday Nov 24, 2005 under the slogan of "Treasures from Yemen's Old and Modern History". The workshop was attended by Ministry of Culture Khaled al-Rowaishan, Deputy Minister of Higher Studies Mohammed Muthar, and CEFAS Director Mr. Jean Lambert as well as historians, intellectuals, pressmen, French donors and a number of interested people.

Along with the above mentioned book, other books sponsored by the CEFAS were introduced among them were "Shabwa: Capital of Ancient Hadhramout" prepared by Azza Aqil and Jean Francois Breton. It features the results of Yemeni-French archeological expeditions shedding light on the history, construction, agriculture and trade in



Some of the participants in the workshop. (From the left) Jamal al-Hadhrami, Mohammed Jazzem, Dr. Hussein al-Amri, and Dr. Mounir Arbash.



Three new books celebrated at the workshop

the ancient kingdom of Hadhramout whose capital city was Shabwa. Another book was "From the Gold of Sultan to the Light of Allah" which is a profound study of the decorations of Al-Abbas Mosque in Asnaf, Sana'a province. This book aims to uncover the mysterious history of this great mosque.

"Wood Carving Art in Sana'a" is another book introduced during the workshop which deals with the most finely chiseled woodworking in Sana'a

as one of the best Arab cities.

The collection includes "Yemen towards the Republic" which is a valuable book featuring rare photos on pre-Revolution Yemen starting in the second half of the 19th century until the republican era. This book was authored by a team of Yemeni, Arab and foreign researchers under the supervision of Francois Burgat.

During the workshop some authors gave introductions on their works.

Among the speakers were Dr. Hussein al-Amri, author of "Drafts of Properties of Five Imams and their Heirs," Jamal Abdul-Rahman al-Hadhrami, son of late Abdul-Rahman al-Hadhrami, who authored "Tihamh in History," Mohammed Abdul-Rahim Jazzem, editor of "Noor al-Ma'arif" (Light of Knowledge), and Dr. Mounir Arbash, coauthor of A South Arabian Pantheon Expressed in Images: Temple I of as-Sawda' Yemen"

German team uncovers key inscription in Sirwah



By YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The archeological activity undertaken currently by a German team in Sirwah, Marib Province, have led to the discovery of a new archeological inscription at a temple dating back to times before Christ, said head of the German team which works under the German Archeological Institute.

The archeologists told the press that the inscription, uncovered in Almaqah Temple, is seven meters long and includes new and important information that will highlight the type of life in those days.

The works of the team were started in mid November, 2005, and will continue until January of the next year.

Sirwah is one of the very old Yemeni towns which was very well-

known during the Sabai Kingdom's reign. It was the second most important town after the city of Marib, the Capital.

Sirwah, which lies 40 kms to the west of the ancient city of Marib, is sometimes called Al-Khirbah.

Some historians maintain that it was the first capital for Sabi people in the second century B.C. until king Karb Eil Watar, took Marib as the seat of his state. Since then, Sirwah lost its political significance and this is apparent from the name of Al-Khirbah (ruins) by which it is sometimes known.

Historians say that the most important archeological site in Sirwah is the temple of Almaqah and the columns of the outer marble fence surrounding it. The fence of the temple is 16 meters high and the finds collected in that area indicate that the temple was established in the seventh century B.C.

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Sick young farmers

BY AMEL MOHAMMED ALARIQI
SADAM AL-ASHMOREE

Zaid Altweli, nine years old, does not go to school. He is busy working with his father in their own field "I and my eight brothers are working in the field from eight in the morning until three in the afternoon" he said. "We don't go to school because we don't have the time. Our father is forcing us to work in our Qat field".

Zaid is one of 292,000 children who work in the agricultural sector, according to a study, which estimated the total number of children working in Yemen to 624,000 children. The study found 97% of the children working in the agricultural sector receive no money for their labor since they work for their own families. 3% earn "trivial amounts". 55% of them are working in agriculture and crafts and the rest are working as vendors in public places.

The poverty and low family income, and the involvement of the family members in agriculture, are considered the most important factors for children to work according to this study.



Zaid Altweli



Fawaz Haza

Mohammed Yahia Alshaws, 11 years old, explained the cause that forced him to work when he said, "we are four brothers. I am the youngest. I work because my father is dead and there is no one we can depend on for our life". Fawaz Haza Ahmed is 14 years old and live in Hada village 10 km from Sana'a, said that he is planting vegetables with his father. Sometimes he works in construction to earn money and help his family. "Many times I become sick because of the anti-insect that I use to spray the plants with", he added.

Fawaz may represent thousands of children that get sick as a result of their work in the field.

Though ministry of social affairs and labor claimed that there is no reliable statistics for the number of children who

are working, an official field study, which has been prepared by a team of this ministry, exposed that children who are working in the agricultural sector, are undergoing many infections and diseases. The study, which covered three governorates (Sana'a, Albitha and Dhamar), mentioned that 45% of the children are suffering of dermatitis, 30% of ophthalmia that may develop to become blindness, 20% are suffering of intestinal disease and 5% have epilepsy.

The study attributed the reasons of such diseases to the misuse of herbicides and insecticides. Many children, according to the study, don't use any kind of protection means during spraying the plants with insecticides. Unconsciously they confuse these poisons with water without looking at the instructions that are written on the containers. The direct and constant exposure to dust also makes the

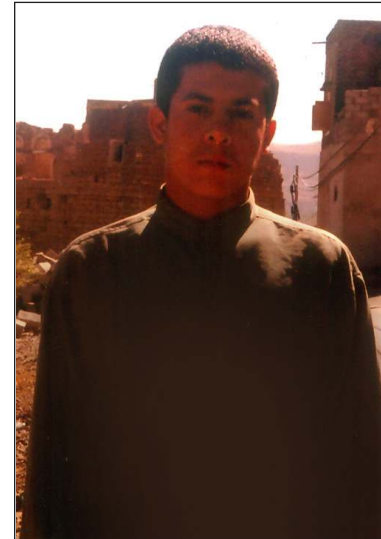
children an easy object to respiratory diseases such as asthma, allergy, etc.

Most children who work in the fields tend to work quickly, paying no attention to close the spray and thus some of the herbicides get to their neck and shoulders. They get inflammations in a form of burns.

According to the study 90% of the children from those regions chew Qat that is polluted by herbicides. 56% of the children who spray those poisons are between 8-10 years old.

The study added that one of the elements that help to spread these infections is the preference of the parents to send their children to work in the field instead of sending them to school. 40% of the children do not go to school whereas 60% of them attend the school irregularly.

Recently, a parliamentary report warned of water pollution. It insisted that 50% of children fatality is due to diseases that are caused by water pollution. Based on the report, 30% of the children died because diarrhea, 30% because of malaria. The report mentioned that 55,000 die each year, which is the same as 151 child everyday.



Mohammed Alshiba

Ministry of Health lacks of labs to test dengue

Dengue spreads in Shabowa

AMEL ALARIQI

Parliament report exposed that 1000 infections of dengue were registered in Shabowa (458 km southeast of Sana'a) governorate until the 8th of June 2005. The report blamed the ministry of public health and population, saying that ministry does not provide facilities and equipments to fight this disease. The report warned that dengue fever will spread to all provinces of the governorate if the ministry does not take any procedures against this disease.

The report pointed to the national program to fight malaria which is also responsible for fighting dengue fever, mentioning that the efforts made to fight this disease are not enough, because of the insufficiency of technical, financial and human abilities. The report said that the budget of this program is less than 1% of the approved ministry's budget. The report insisted that the ministry is lack of labs to test the infections. The report asked the ministry to evaluate the situation by sending field teams in all the governorates of Yemen.

Medical resources mentioned that Ali Huseen Ashal, a parliamentarian, blamed the government and asking it to take its responsibility to save citizens' lives. Majed Aljuneed, deputy in health ministry, underestimated the risk of the disease when he said that Yemen is not the only country which have this disease, there are 128 countries infected by dengue fever that appeared in east Asian

countries fifty years ago.

Dengue fever, which can be treated, is an infectious disease carried by mosquitoes and is found mostly during and shortly after the rainy season in tropical and subtropical areas.

Dengue fever can be caused by any one of four types of the dengue virus: DEN-1, DEN-2, DEN-3, and DEN-4. A person can be infected by at least two, if not all four types at different times during a life span, but only once by the same type.

Since dengue fever was first detected on 16 December in the small city of Zabid in Hudaidah, 124 cases of infection have been reported. By mid-January seven people in the city had died of the disease, the ministry report said.

Dr. Hashim Elzein, WHO representative in Yemen, said that type 1 was discovered for the first time in some districts of Shabwa province in July 2002, then appeared again in 2003 in Ataqa city, the capital of Shabwa province.

"The results from the laboratories showed that people from whom blood was collected in Hudaidah and Zabid, as well as those from Shabwa, were exposed to dengue fever before 2002," he explained.

The danger of dengue fever depends on its type the doctor explained: "We have to differentiate between dengue fever and dengue hemorrhagic fever. Dengue fever is usually without bleeding, but dengue hemorrhagic fever is with hemorrhaging and people can bleed from the gums, the intestines, stomach or from the nose, as well as other symptoms," Dr. Alzein said.

Deterioration of our marine resources

BY DR. AKRAM AL-KERSHI
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL & EARTH SCIENCES
FACULTY OF SCIENCES
SANA'A UNIVERSITY

The marine ecosystem bordering Yemen extends for about 2200 km long and contains a large number of species of plants and animals, many of which are economically important species and vital marine resources. Local inhabitants have used these resources in a sustainable manner for hundreds of years. However, the pressure on these resources has recently substantially increased. Mangrove habitats, which are very important nursery and feeding grounds for a large number of marine species, are threatened by woodcutters, camel grazing, pollution and reclamation. Beautiful coral reef habitats have been adversely affected by various disturbances such as pollution, shipping, fishing activities, sedimentation, coral predators and global climate change. These have caused major declines in living coral cover in many places including Socotra



DR. AKRAM AL-KERSHI

Island. Catches of shrimps and lobsters have dropped sharply over the past few years. Although natural fluctuations are common, these resources might already be exploited beyond the maximum sustainable yield. Recent decline in cuttlefish fishery indicate a recruitment collapse, and over fishing of sea cucumbers is very obvious.

Fishing is a traditional profession for thousands of Yemenis who are using various types of fishing gears and fishing methods. Catches of important pelagic fishes such as the Indian mackerel and the Spanish mackerel

indicate a sharp decline during the last few years. Other major pelagic resources have also shown a regular decline since 1993-1994. Sharks are mainly caught for their fins, which are exported and fetch high price in the international markets. Shark catches also dropped sharply in the last few years. Recent years have shown a steep decline in numbers of exported aquarium fishes. Sea turtles, seabirds and marine mammals also threatened.

Overexploitation, habitats destruction and pollution have lead to the deterioration of many natural resources all over the world. Thus conservation of natural resources becomes one of the major global environmental concerns. In Yemen, there are no adequate and justifiable data for the formulation of suitable regulations and control measures to protect and conserve those resources, which are threatened due to environmental and anthropogenic causes. The rapidly growing population and rate of development threaten the sustainability of many marine resources. Protective measures, stocks assessments and proper management are needed to prevent the deterioration of our marine resources.



Yemen International Telecommunications Co. (TeleYemen) Vacant Announcement

Yemen International Telecommunications Co. (TeleYemen), would like to call qualified candidates to apply for the following vacant posts within its main office in Sana'a.

1) Manager Human Resources.

Main Duties and Responsibilities:

- Aim to achieve a homogeneous work force in Sana'a area and all TeleYemen Regional offices.
- Control and interpret the application of the Labour Law, Social Insurance Regulations and TeleYemen By-Laws, Rules and Regulations.
- Control the relevant returns to local Administrations, Ministries, Companies and answer queries arising there from.
- Manage and control the activities and internal administration.
- Control and administer all routine matters concerning staff in TeleYemen.
- Deal with follow up all cases filed in the courts with the coordination of the Company solicitor.
- Control and manage Training Department.
- Collect data for sake of comparison with that of TeleYemen such Job Descriptions, salaries, medication and other fringe benefits.
- Rest duties are contained in the Job Description.

Required Qualifications, Experience, Knowledge and Skill:

- Master Degree in Business Administration, with minimum of 10 years experience in the field of HR, Personnel and Administration.
- Must be able to develop and form procedures.
- Proficiency with Microsoft office tools.
- Good understanding of telecommunications.
- Fluent English and Arabic written and oral communication skills is required, a third language (French) is a strong plus.

2) Manager/Engineering Information Technology & Data.

Main Duties and Responsibilities:

- To define specifications of engineering IT and internet equipment.
- To define IT & data process and procedures.
- To manage IT & Data processing including planning of relatives required infrastructure and architecture of an IT type & data equipment needed for communication services.
- To set up KPI's analyze and report status and performance related to engineering IT & issues.

Required qualifications, experience, knowledge and skills:

- Master Degree in Telecommunication / Computer Engineering, with minimum 10 years experience
- Initiative, self motivated and target oriented
- Good computer skills
- Certified for CCNA, CCNP, TCP/IP, Unix, Networks
- Be able to work under pressure
- Fluent English and Arabic written and oral communication skills is required,
- A third language (French) is a strong plus.

Interested candidates may submit their application letter with detailed Curriculum Vitae ONLY to the following address no later than 10.12.2005:
Please note that only candidates who fulfill above requirements will be considered.

C/O Manager Human Resources TeleYemen, P.O. Box 168, Sana'a, Republic of Yemen

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Ahmed Hayel Saeed Anam,
Deputy Chairman - General Manager

30 NOVEMBER

Ronaldinho named European Footballer of Year

PARIS (Reuters) - Ronaldinho completed a hat-trick of awards when he was named European Footballer of the Year on Monday.

The 25-year-old Brazilian forward won the vote by European soccer journalists organised by French soccer magazine France Football after guiding Barcelona to last season's Primera Liga title.

Frank Lampard, an inspirational member of Chelsea's Premier League-winning side, came second in the vote. Fellow England midfielder Steven Gerrard, who was instrumental in Liverpool's surprise Champions League triumph, finished third.

"To be here with all those great players applauding me is a dream come true," said Ronaldinho after receiving the golden ball trophy at a ceremony in Paris attended by several former winners.

"This gives me motivation to keep working and try to emulate them."

"I have the chance to do for a living what I like the most in life, and that's playing football. I can make people happy and enjoy myself at the same time."

Ronaldinho received the plaudits of international coaches when he was named FIFA World Player of the Year last December, an award he is tipped to retain next month.

He was then honoured by his fellow professionals when he won the inaugural FIFPro World Player of the Year trophy in September.



Brazilian soccer star Ronaldinho kisses his Ballon d'Or (Golden Ball) award as European Footballer of the Year during a press conference in Paris November 28. REUTERS

Big favourite

Ronaldinho's skill and vision are the pulse of Barcelona's exciting football. He was a prominent member of Brazil's 2002 World Cup-winning team and is likely to be one of the main attractions at next year's World Cup finals in Germany.

The Brazilian was a big favourite for the award before he scored two wonder goals in Barcelona's 3-0 defeat of Real Madrid earlier this month.

The list of Ballon d'Or winners, starting with Stanley Matthews in 1956, features many exceptional players, among them Johan Cruyff, Franz Beckenbauer and Michel Platini.

Former Real Madrid favourite Alfredo di Stefano, who collected the trophy in 1957 and 1959, was among the former winners who attended the 50th anniversary of the award.

AC Milan's Ukraine striker Andriy Shevchenko, who won in 2004 and came fifth in this year's vote, was also present.

In everyone's thoughts was former Manchester United and Northern Ireland winger George Best, the 1968 winner who died on Friday.

Best had lost his trophy but organisers asked his former United team mates Bobby Charlton and Denis Law to go on stage to receive a replica of the golden ball for the late winger's family.

"He was a wonderful player who always had the spirit of the game in mind," 1966 award winner Charlton said of Best.

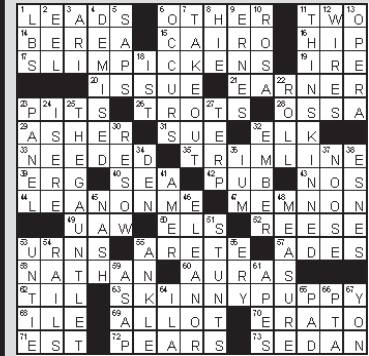
"He would have loved to be here with us tonight."

Universal Crossword

Edited by Timothy E. Parker

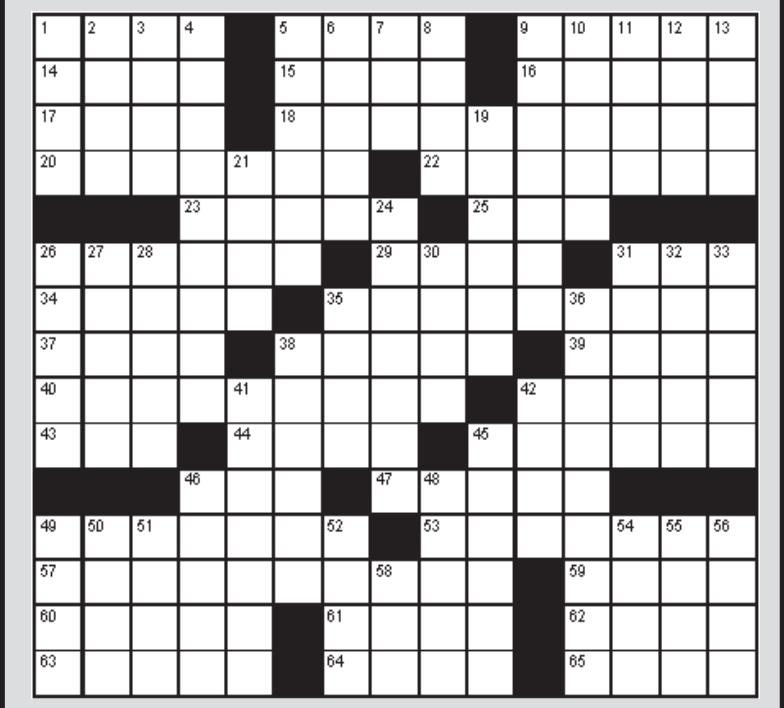
- ACROSS**
- 1 Thick hair masses
 - 5 Nails down just right
 - 9 Harp part, sometimes
 - 14 Moisturizer ingredient, often
 - 15 ___ Hari
 - 16 It could be stuffed
 - 17 Nettle
 - 18 Where a guitar player keeps his plectrum?
 - 20 It began after 1945
 - 22 Most inexplicable
 - 23 Has it coming
 - 25 Flanders of cartoons
 - 26 Learned scholar
 - 29 Adding machine key
 - 31 Start of the fourth qtr.
 - 34 Bring to joy
 - 35 Anguish
 - 37 Relaxed rejection
 - 38 Sordid
 - 39 "Disco Duck" singer Rick
 - 40 Diminutive dessert?
 - 42 Hook's "halt!"
 - 43 Part of a teacup
 - 44 Fabled 1945 underachiever
 - 45 Points of view
 - 46 "Shop ___ you drop"
 - 47 Kind of numeral
 - 49 Took for granted
 - 53 Drinker's rule of conduct?
 - 57 Seller of chess pieces?
 - 59 Wild mountain goat
 - 60 Computer post
 - 61 Democratic donkey designer Thomas
 - 62 The absolute minimum
 - 63 Slow to understand
 - 64 They're all in your head
 - 65 Catches on to
 - 21 Opposite of wax
 - 24 Position in the House
 - 26 Word with common, good or horse
 - 27 Oahu adieu
 - 28 Cloudy diffused matter
 - 30 Like some ducks
 - 31 It has arms and waves
 - 32 Word with ice or cedar
 - 33 Critical evaluations
 - 35 "___ me out!"
 - 36 Moving forward, as troops
 - 38 Mountain climber, e.g.
 - 41 Needle prick protection
 - 42 Out-of-favor apple treat
 - 45 Stings
 - 46 Capital of Tunisia
 - 48 Quite rotund
 - 49 Flattered most sincerely
 - 50 Unvaried
 - 51 Graceful swimmer
 - 52 "Consider it ___"
 - 54 Heckelphone kin
 - 55 It may be hammered out
 - 56 Correspondent's kisses
 - 58 Braggart knight of the Round Table

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER



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"LITERAL-MINDED" by Gayle Dean



Vaughan dismissed for 58

LAHORE (Reuters) - England captain Michael Vaughan was dismissed for 58 in the third over after lunch on the opening day of the third and final test against Pakistan on Tuesday. Vaughan, returning to the opening slot in place of Andrew Strauss, had added 101 for the first wicket with Marcus Trescothick after winning the toss. England need a victory to square the series.

* Vaughan, replacing Strauss who has returned home for the birth of his first child, strikes early boundaries across a lightning fast outfield. He off-drives Rana Naved fluently for a four then plays a less controlled shot from the same bowler to third man for another



England batsman Marcus Trescothick plays against Pakistan on the first day of their third and final cricket test in Lahore, Pakistan November 29. REUTERS

boundary. 10-0

* Vaughan takes boundaries off Shoaib Akhtar and the fast bowler's replacement Mohammad Sami. Trescothick needs three-quarters of an hour to get off the mark but is quickly into his stride with two fours through the covers and one off his legs. 39-0

* Vaughan brings up the 50 with a swivel pull to the boundary off Naved. It is the 16th half-century opening partnership between the pair. Trescothick, on 18, edges off-spinner Shoaib Malik but the ball bounces off wicketkeeper Kamran Akmal's pads. 51-0

* Vaughan takes three more fours off a Sami over and Trescothick punches a further two off

the paceman's next over. 76-0

* Vaughan brings up his 14th test half-century from 70 balls with nine fours, taking a single from off-spinner Shoaib Malik. 93-0 at lunch

* Shoaib returns for the second over after lunch and Vaughan demonstrates how well he is seeing the ball by pulling him to the long-on boundary. The shot brings up his sixth test century partnership with Trescothick. 101-0

Vaughan succumbs to a careless shot, sweeping Malik straight to Mohammad Yousuf at square-leg. He had hit 10 fours from 91 balls 101-1.

Rooney key to England's World Cup success

LONDON (Reuters) - England head to the World Cup in the tantalising knowledge that Germany 2006 is their best chance of reaching a major final since Bobby Moore's men triumphed in 1966.

Almost 40 years of disappointment have followed with England lacking either the players, the luck or a combination of the two to get to another final since then in either the World Cup or European Championship.

Now they have a potent mixture of youth and experience, plus a born match-winner in Wayne Rooney, two years after his thrilling four-goal blast at Euro 2004.

During the 1998 World Cup, a 12-year-old Rooney played street football with his friends after an England game, pretending to be Michael Owen.

Next June, the two men will lead England's attack, backed by a formidable midfield featuring David Beckham, Frank Lampard and Steven Gerrard, plus some of Europe's best defenders.

After a wretched start to the season, which included a 4-1 friendly drubbing in Denmark and a humiliating 1-0 qualifying loss in Northern Ireland, England finished the year in style.

They won European Group Six after beating Poland at Old Trafford and optimism over England's chances increased when they came from behind to beat Argentina 3-2 in a



Manchester United's Wayne Rooney gestures after scoring against West Ham United during their English Premier League match at Upton Park in London, England, November 27. REUTERS

friendly in Geneva on November 12.

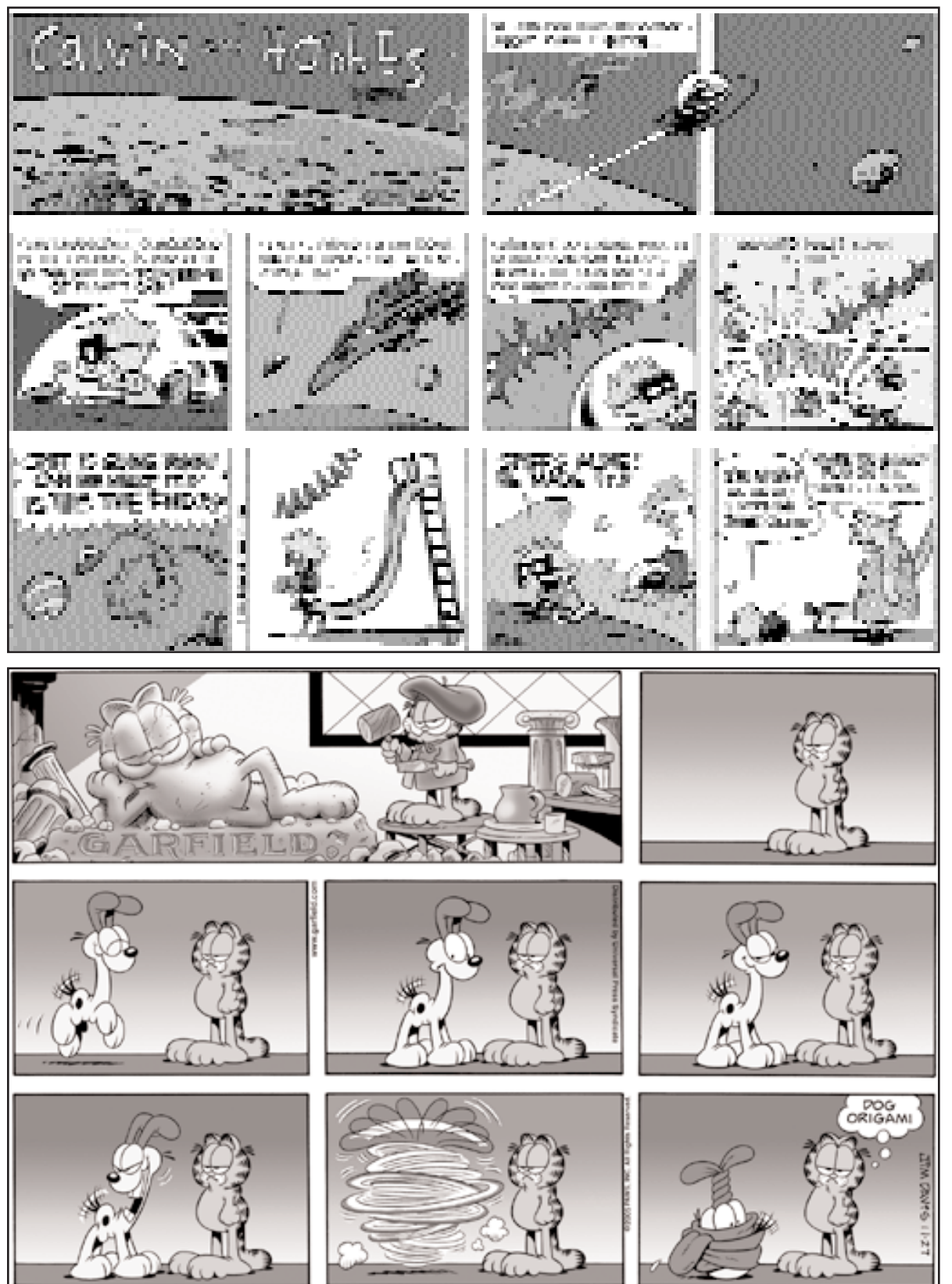
Now coach Sven-Goran Eriksson needs to fine-tune his first XI and pray there is no repeat of the injuries which blighted England's 2002 campaign.

Paul Robinson is a clear first choice between the posts, as are Ashley Cole and Gary Neville as full-backs.

However, four players: Rio Ferdinand, Sol Campbell, John Terry and Jonathan Woodgate are chasing the two central defensive places and questions remain in midfield.

Does Eriksson play with a "flat" four with Joe Cole on the left, or with a diamond, with Ledley King in a defensive holding role?

Either way, their fans will expect this much-hyped England side to deliver.



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Khalifa: Successful example in expatriation journey



Singer Fursan Khalifa with Arabian jasmine over his shoulders standing in a crowd of his lovers among them Mr. Amin Derham.

By YASSER AL-MAYASI
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YEMEN TIMES STAFF

A large number of people interested in musical arts and culture attended last Wednesday the awarding ceremony of the famous Yemeni singer Fursan Khalifa, who has been living outside his homeland since 1972. He lived in the UAE after he found a convenient climate for the distribution of his creative musical arts.

The event was organized by the Ministry of Culture & Tourism in the presence its minister Mr. Khalid Al-Rowaishan. The distinctive singer deserves what has been done and more as he managed to create a noble picture of the success of Yemenis abroad when they find the suitable climate for demonstrating their talents.

One can remember that there are many Yemeni talented people who score successful achievements outside their country without any help of their

government, which turns to award them after they gain reputation outside Yemen. Today, these stars are not our possession, rather they are the wealth of those who helped them and drew the plan for their success.

Despite the efforts of the governmental bodies over the last few years in awarding creative Yemenis, the government was late in doing so. The rewarding and commemoration of creative figures usually comes after such figures received honors from others. Such commemoration was supposed not to be held. The Yemeni boxer Nasim Hamid, the Singer of Arabs Abu Bakr Salim, the famous singer Ahmad Fatahi, coupled with other Yemeni creative physicians and engineers are some of the successful examples who gained reputation and fame abroad.

However, the Yemeni singer Fursan Khalifa is the focus of his article. Fursan Khalifa was born in 1941, at the time when the country was enduring difficult conditions. Nonetheless, Khalifa was considered lucky as he

was born in the city of Aden, which was a better place to live in comparison to other cities in Yemen at that time. The spread of education and schools in the city of Aden made of its children a well-cultured category. The British occupation of Aden had an effective role in upgrading its education and it had a great influence on the culture of locals.

Khalifa completed his secondary education in the sixties at the St. Joseph High School in which he managed to shape a picture of his future. This school, which was affiliated to the Catholic Church, had a theater for staging different school activities, including singing, acting and other fine arts. This theater constituted the starting point of Khalifa's success. The income of the theater used to fund pupils who could not pay the schooling fees.

Despite the fact that in the fifties and the sixties, the population of Aden had not exceeded 400 thousand, there were 4 theaters in the city, which helped in demonstrating the talent of many



Singer Fursan Khalifa, with his wife on his left side, in the Cultural Center in Sana'a.



Salim and Mohamed Sa'eed Abdullah.

Amin Derham is one of those who had an integral role in discovering the talents of Fursan Khalifa and helping him to score great success. He narrated that Khalifa was ambitious "and when I knew that he masters playing the Oud (lute) and has a nice voice, I asked him to join the famous singers in the cities of Aden and Lahj in order to pursue in the profession in a better way."

"I even asked some famous poets to write for him in order to compose and sing. His first song appeared in 1957 and he continued singing and composing for a long time. He used to join other singers from Lahj for the sake of entertaining the prisoners, particularly during important occasions," Derham added.

Khalifa completed his high school in 1961 and was granted a scholarship to study in the Music Institute in Cairo. During his study, he used to come

from Cairo to Yemen every year to join the Yemeni people in celebrating occasions of Yemen's revolutions. In Cairo, he paved the way for his success and recorded a number of songs that earned him fame and respect, leading him to be known as "Farid al-Atrash of Yemen".

After he completed his study in Cairo, he met an Iraqi girl who since then became his lawfully wedded wife. In 1972 he moved from Cairo to the UAE and has resided there up until today. In addition to singing, he pursued other professions to sustain his children, two sons and two daughters. His elder daughter has grown to be a famous poetess in the UAE, while his younger daughter works as an announcer in the Rotana TV Channel. His two sons are now studying in UAE universities.

Today, after sixty years of his age, Fursan Khalifa still looks young and enjoys vitality and creativity.

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