

Hertz
Take A Break From Your Work Load and Take Hertz Along with you.....
Universal Rent a Car
Sana'a Tel: (01) 440309, Aden (02) 245625
Sheraton Branch (01) 545985

DHL
EXPRESS
we move the world
Sana'a: Hadda St. (01) 441099/8776, Zubairy St. 249878
Aden: (02) 245627/8, Tair (04) 252455
Hodeidah: (03) 286689, Mukalla: (05) 354844
Seiyun: (05) 404288, Ibb: (04) 407418

Inside: ▶



3
The crisis of Somali fugitives to Yemen



5
"It is up to you what you make of your shadow..."

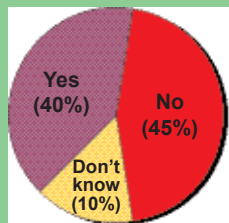


8
Sana'a beauty centers: business and therapy

Readers' Voice

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

Last edition's question:
Was the apology of the Danish prime minister and newspaper sufficient to solve crisis in the Muslim world.



This edition's question:

- Whom do you think was behind the escape of the 23 Al-Qaida prisoners?
- The CIA so as to be able to capture the prisoners outside Yemeni territory and take them to court in USA
 - As above but in cooperation with some Yemeni authorities
 - Al-Qaida was behind the escape of its members
 - There are other possible explanations

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

23 Al-Qaeda suspects escape from Political Security Prison

By: Adel Al-Haddad

SANA'A, Feb. 4 — Twenty-three suspected Al-Qaeda members escaped Friday from Political Security Central Prison in Sana'a. Some of the escapees are the most important and dangerous members of Yemen's Al-Qaeda network.

The fugitives escaped through a more than 300-meter long underground tunnel. The tunnel was dug from under the women's prayer yard at Al-Awkaf Mosque to Political Security Central Prison, crossing the prison yard to prisoners' cells.

Thirteen escapees belong to the Al-Qaeda network accused of attacking U.S. Navy Destroyer USS Cole, killing 17 American soldiers, and French oil super-tanker Limburg docked in Aden Port, spilling 90,000 barrels of oil into the Gulf of Aden.

The top fugitives are Jamal Badawi and Fawaz Al-Rabyee. Al-Rabyee was sentenced to death in August 2004 after being

convicted of leading a 14-member group linked to the terrorist Al-Qaeda organization. He was found guilty of the October 2002 Limburg bombing. Al-Rabyee also is wanted by U.S. authorities because of suspected links to wanted terrorist and Al-Qaeda leader Osama Bin Laden.

Badawi was sentenced to 15 years in prison for the October 2000 USS Cole bombing but his sentence was converted afterwards to a death sentence. He escaped from an Aden prison in 2003 but later was arrested and returned to prison after being found in a mountain cave in bad health.

A similar escape occurred in 2003 when 10 suspected Al-Qaeda members escaped from Political Security Central Prison in Aden. Two suspects, Jamal Mohammed and Fahd Mohammed Al-Kasa, were major Al-Qaeda elements involved in the USS Cole attack.

Senior Interior Ministry officials held emergency meetings, as the escape is considered one of the most dangerous imple-

mented by Yemen's Al-Qaeda network. Ministry officials said Saturday that authorities had begun investigating to determine if the fugitives received inside or outside assistance. They said a massive manhunt is underway and that the fugitives' photographs were distributed to all police stations and intelligence agents in Sana'a and throughout the governorates. Yemeni authorities decided to reshuffle prison officials, as well as dismiss the prison chief and his deputy.

The escape happened a day before the trial of top Al-Qaeda suspect Mohammed Hamdi Al-Ahdal and 14 suspects accused of involvement in terrorism operations in Yemen, especially the 2000 terrorist attack on the USS Cole.

This incident is expected to outrage the U.S. administration, which will be disappointed and likely inquire about security at the prison as well as in Yemen. The U.S. administration believes Yemen is Bin Laden's ancestral home.

Continued on page 2



Al-Awkaf mosque through which the Al-Qaeda suspects escaped. Inset: Fawaz Al-Rabaei, a prominent suspect. PHOTO BY ADEL AL-HADDAD

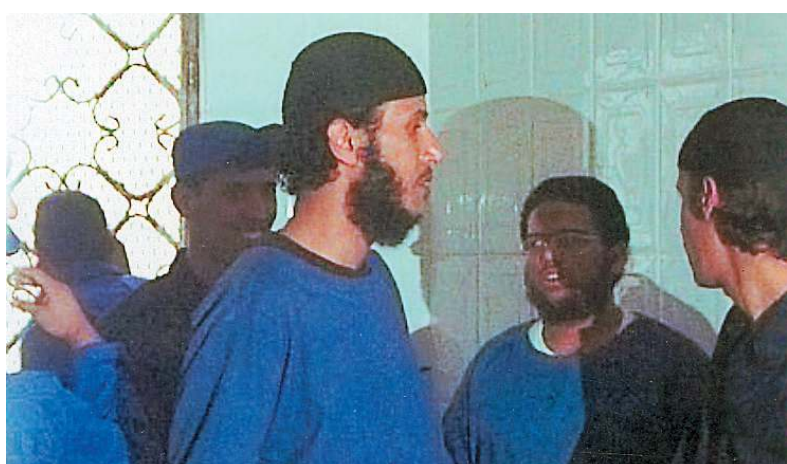
Specialist Court tries 14 for targeting foreigners

By: Yasser Al-Mayasi

SANA'A, Feb. 5 — the Specialist penal court began trying 14 suspects accused of forming an armed gang and targeting Yemeni security and military sites as well as western interests in Yemen.

In the session headed by Judge Mohamed Al-Baadani, prosecution read its findings. It accused the suspects of forming an armed gang to kidnap American nationals in Yemen and target military and security leaders as well. Prosecution charges affirmed that suspects noted foreigner gathering places at the Sheraton Taj Sheba Hotel and a Hadda residential complex.

Forging Civil Status stamps also was among charges. The forgery was meant to prepare identity cards for the accused to travel to Iraq to fight for-



Suspects during trial. PHOTO BY FOUAD AL-HARAZI

igners there. According to prosecution, six kilos of TNT were found with the suspects who intended to blow up security officials' houses. Prosecution claims also revealed that between 2004 and 2005, the suspects surveyed residents on the whereabouts of American nationals.

Prosecution revealed that the accused confessed to renting a house and buying a computer to forge IDs. Most suspects denied the allegations, saying they forged the IDs to go Iraq to fight Americans there. Suspect Ali Sufian assured that he gathered the youth for "Jihad" in Iraq and did not think of targeting Americans in Yemen.

Continued on page 2

Crises in Parliament

Discrepancies leading to postponement of the Parliament first session, 2006, attributed to personal and political differences.

By: Mustafa Rajeh

SANA'A, Feb. 5 — Members of Parliament were informed suddenly last Saturday of postponement of its first session by a week. The session was scheduled to elect the Speaker, his deputies and the Parliament board together with parliamentary committees. The proceedings were meant to implement new amendments replacing the Speaker's previous six-year term of office with three periods of two years each.

Sources indicated discrepancies leading to the postponement, attributing it to personal and political differences. However, the parliamentary bloc of the ruling party, the General People's Congress (GPC), had nominated Sheikh Al-Ahmar (president of the opposition Islah party), who still is in Saudi Arabia for medical treatment. Sources said he will undergo a gall-bladder operation and then complete his medical examination.

Under-the-table divisions over the election method have leaked out. Al-Ahmar insisted he would not run in the election unless he was the only nomi-



Speaker of Parliament Sheikh Al-Ahmar.

nee, as he preferred to be chosen by Parliament uncontested. GPC sources said regulations stipulate the nominee's presence. The GPC parliamentary bloc is expected to meet by the end of this week to inform its members of the decision to re-elect Al-Ahmar. However, the posts of deputies and committee heads were not determined.

Continued on page 3

Sa'ada escalation takes a new turn

SA'ADA, Feb. 5 — Confrontations continued across Sa'ada between army and Believing Youth groups headed by cleric Badrdeen Al-Houthi.

Tribal and media sources said last week's death toll reached 60 from both sides.

Sa'ada sources said military operations expanded to Sahar, Kitaf and Baqim districts, leading to dozens of deaths and injuries. Military forces now surround approximately 250 insurgents thought to be responsible for attacking military patrols.

According to sources, a large number of forces have been shelling the Hajarat Fula area near Al-Talh for several days in an effort to purge entrenched insurgents. Confrontations also continued in Kitaf and Baqim.

Confrontations took a new turn when Al-Houthi followers used military vehicles to attack army and police posts in Sa'ada, a military source told Ray news network Saturday, Feb. 4. Several Al-Houthi followers in military uniform attacked a military post killing a number of soldiers and seizing arms and vehicles at the post. The source said soldiers were surprised by the vehicle, which they mistook for one of their own, when the attackers jumped out and began firing. Military

officials confirmed that the seized vehicles were used in other operations. Al-Motoon residents in Al-Jawf near Sa'ada said military helicopters

bombarded a mountainous area in the district where Al-Houthi insurgents are thought to be hiding.

Continued on page 2

ALSAEED TRADING CO. LTD.
A member of H.S.A. Group of companies
EXPORT & IMPORT
Republic of Yemen - Taiz, P.O. Box: 5351
Tel: 00967-4-232727 Fax: 00967-4-223851
E-mail: ALSAEED@ALSAEED.COM.YE
Website: www.alsaheedtrading.com

Want service and value?
Budget
Car Rental
National and International Reservations
Now Open
Reservation Tel. 309618 - 506372,
Reservation Fax. 240958
24 hours (Hot Line) 733652317

Global Leader
HYUNDAI
HEAVY INDUSTRIES CO. LTD.
POWER/SAFETY/TECHNOLOGY
We build a better future
A new chapter in construction equipment has now begun.
هيونداي
للمعدات الثقيلة
Technology in each design
CRAWLER EXCAVATOR WHEEL LOADER
ZTCO
شركة زوبين للتجارة والصناعة
ZUBAYEN TRADING & INDUSTRY CO.
2718 شارع زوبين (097-1441078) ج.ع. (02114410718) صنع
م.ع. (097-2) 200083 هاتف (097-2) 200001/2 فاكس
E-mail: zubaeyen1@net.ye
اوبيل اوجيديس الجمورية العربية
Sole Agent in Yemen

YEMEN COMMERCIAL BANK **YCB** البنك التجاري اليمني
APPLY NOW
1234 1234 1234 1234
KHALED M. YOUSEF 12/08
SabaCard
ATM POS
Head Office: Sana'a, AlZubairy St., Al-Rowaishan Building
Tel: 00967-1-277224-Fax: 00967-1-277291-P.O.Box: 19845, -Swift: YECOYESA
www.ycb.com.ye

Hundreds of dead birds in northwest Yemen

HAIS, Feb. 5 — Villagers have expressed concern as hundreds of chickens in Hais, Hudeidah governorate died mysteriously.

An Al-Tihami village woman said, "Chickens suddenly fell ill and died, as well as those in the chicken factory. I myself know of more than 50 dead birds belonging to my neighbors."

Local resident Mujeeb Al-Silwi confirmed this, adding, "Although we see dying birds everywhere, no one has come to check whether this epidemic is dangerous or not. We have had no government attention whatsoever until now."

The Bird Flu Operation Chamber in

Sana'a affirmed that it had not received any prior reports from that area regarding dead birds and that it would look into the situation. A specialized chamber doctor emphasized that so far, not a single case of bird flu has been confirmed. He noted that chamber staff are working round the clock as a precautionary measure against the disease's spread in Yemen.

In recent months, dead birds were reported in various Yemeni regions, but they were confirmed as Newcastle disease, an epidemic with symptoms similar to bird flu.

Lying midway between Taiz and Hudeidah in northwest Yemen, Hais is

a hilly area with insufficient infrastructure. Most locals work on farms and raise livestock, in addition to a small percentage working in the education sector. Local residents are becoming alarmed because they have heard about the bird flu epidemic through radio and television channels.

Most commonly known as bird flu, avian influenza is an infectious bird disease caused by type A strains of the influenza virus. The disease occurs worldwide. While all birds are thought to be susceptible to avian flu infection, many wild bird species carry the virus with no apparent signs of harm.

Limiting child labor in Ibb

By: Nashwan Dammaj
Yemen Times Reporter

IBB, Feb. 5 — In cooperation with UNESCO, the Childhood Friends Society (CFS) began a child labor workshop Saturday. The first of its kind in Ibb province, the four-day workshop will discuss child labor issues in Yemen, aiming to limit the worsening trend.

Abdullah Al-Ba'adani, Yemeni Writers Union Chairman in Ibb, stated that the government is responsible to fulfill children's needs including basic education and health care. He pointed out that the government realizes there is high unemployment among parents and acknowledges that it is accountable for providing social security to poor families forcing their children into labor to subsist.

During the workshop, child speaker Salma Fuad Al-Sayyadi spoke about the Children's Parliament, making recommendations related to child and human rights.

CFS Chairwoman Majidah Al-Showaiter indicated that the child labor phenomenon worsens with each passing day. She mentioned the society's activities in dealing with such a wide-

spread trend in developing countries due to lack of public awareness, high illiteracy rates and population explosions.

According to Al-Showaiter, the society pursues efforts to curb the spread of child labor in coordination with international organizations. She said until now, CFS has accommodated 30 children, providing their basic needs.

Amin Al-Warafi, Ibb Deputy Governor and Local Council Chairman, affirmed that holding such workshops indicates there is more priority and attention being given to children — the most important component in social development. He emphasized that children should be granted their education and health rights to become effective members of society.

Ibb University lecturer Dr. Ahmad Al-Haboub presented a working paper on the social aspects of child labor and factors behind the trend's proliferation. As many as 30 judicial, security and



Participants of the workshop.



Two girls from Ibb in the workshop

media participants, as well as chairmen of local Ibb societies, are taking part in the workshop.

Protests continue against drawings of Prophet

By: Yasser Al-Mayasi & Ridhwan Al-Saqqaf

SANA'A, Feb. 4 — Yemenis nationwide still are protesting drawings of the Prophet Mohamed by Danish newspaper Jylland Posten and other European newspapers. Friday mosque preachers in various Yemeni governorates condemned the Danish and Norwegian newspapers' conduct disgracing Muslims and the Prophet Mohamed.

Mosque preachers held the view that other European newspapers' republishing of the drawings implies intentional humiliation of the Prophet Mohamed and an attempt to taunt Muslims worldwide.

According to mosque preachers, such immoral and irresponsible conduct contravenes all religions' values and tenets and breaks international laws banning harm to religions, establishments and religious scholars.

In Sana'a, Islah Shura Council Chairman and Iman University Rector Sheikh Abdulmajeed Al-Zindani demanded those attending Friday prayers work hard to protect Islam and Muslims' dignity. He affirmed in his sermon that Muslim nations must boycott Danish products and demanded Arab and Islamic governments exert efforts to issue a law banning any illegal conduct against Islam. He also criticized non-Muslim scholars who claim the drawings do not harm Islam's prophet.

Aden's Al-Rahman Mosque preacher commented that false



Yemeni women in the demonstration that took place on Feb. 1. ARCHIVE PHOTO

democracy that disgraces Muslims and their prophet is not democracy; rather, it is a war on Islam and Muslims. He noted that Islamic statesmen did not terminate their countries' Danish ambassadors, but they had disappointed the nations protesting the drawings. He said the world should acknowledge that Islam and Muslims will never tolerate any humiliation of the Prophet Mohamed and that boycotting Danish products is the least Muslims should do to batter Denmark's economy.

Hundreds of Aden citizens gathered after Friday prayers to distribute pamphlets insisting on boycotting Danish products to force the Danish government to apologize to Muslims.

Citizens in Mukalla burned Danish products and the Danish flag in reaction to its media's conduct.

Numerous parties, syndicates and public organizations released statements denouncing the drawings of the Prophet Mohamed saying they attack Islam and Muslims. The statements called on Arab nations to break relations with Denmark and boycott its products.

Sana'a University economists and academics affirmed that boycotting products is a civilized method preferred to controversy and bad-mouthing. According to economists, the estimated loss from boycotting Danish and Norwegian products has exceeded a billion Yemeni Riyals.

Political argument leads to killing of Islah party member

AL-DHALIE, Jan. 29 — Ma'ath Abdu Salah Al-Maliki, a member of the Yemeni reform group Islah, was killed by a General People's Congress (GPC) member in intense arguing about the Hamas organization's huge victory in last week's Palestinian Parliamentary election.

Al-Maliki was killed during a qat-chewing session while arguing intensely with some of his relatives about the possibility of repeating

such an event in Yemen's next local and presidential elections.

The argument turned into a competition between the GPC and Islah. Al-Maliki insisted Islah could overcome the GPC and win upcoming elections, as happened in Palestinian elections. The murderer became angry with Al-Maliki, who persisted in Islah's ability to win the next election.

Al-Maliki believed Yemenis are dissatisfied with GPC ruling party

policies, particularly in Al-Dhalie province, as demonstrated by nationwide protests against oil product price hikes in July 2005. Angry protesters of GPC policies attacked its headquarters, expressing their anger at the government.

Other qat session attendees reportedly did not support the Islah party. They said the ballot boxes would lead to wide-ranging alterations in the next election, as happened in Egypt and Palestine.

Turkish Airlines inaugurated in Yemen with two weekly flights

SANA'A, Feb. 5 — On Saturday, Turkish Airlines celebrated inauguration of the first Sana'a-Istanbul route twice weekly. A maiden flight carrying 111 passengers departed for Istanbul Sunday.

International Tourist Group Chairman Alwan Al-Shibani said the weekly direct flights will generate trade and tourism activity between the two countries. Al-Shibani asserted that Istanbul's position as a gateway to Europe will encourage tourism to Yemen. The link also will encourage more Turkish businessmen to seek

investment opportunities in Yemen.

The Turkish Minister of Transport and Communication said Turkey and Yemen enjoy strong commercial relations, which the flights will help promote. He added that the flights will further stimulate cultural and tourist activity between the two countries. He noted



that Turkish Airlines owns 83 planes and intends to establish 134 new routes covering most of the world.

Quit Power Movement calls for political parliamentary regime

SANA'A, Feb. 5 — The Quit Power Movement (QPM) held an extraordinary meeting Friday to discuss its program, a list of voluntary regulations and a memorandum to the Joint Meeting Parties (JMP) and civic organizations.

Participants discussed QPM issues with transparency and approved a seven-member commission, three of whom represent women: Rashad Salem Ali, Abdurrahim Mohsen and Anisah Mohamed Ali. A four-commissioner committee was elected to unite QPM partners in efforts for change, democracy and updating.

Salem Ali briefly explained the motives behind establishing QPM, its goals and its successful functions at local and international levels, as well as its donors and supporters. He said Yemen's deteriorating living standards, rampant corruption, the regime's irresponsible practices and its failure to perform its duties and tasks were the primary reasons behind establishing QPM.

He added that other international convention violations and human rights abuses necessitated QPM's founding to usher in peaceful democratic change. According to Salem Ali, QPM was created with the main objective of establishing a democratic, political and civil parliamentary regime. QPM is preparing to take part in upcoming local and presidential elections through a national project based on public support.

He noted that QPM has received huge public support, attracting new members from various social classes and governorates. On an international level and in compliance with the international legislature, QPM presented a civil project based on human rights respect and democratic systems.

Regarding financial support, Salem Ali emphasized that QPM does not receive grants from local or international parties, nor does it accept any financial assistance, which has been announced and is based on previously set conditions. It simply receives unconfined moral support, he added.



Rashad Salem

He continued, "Through our program, we intend to unify activities of the Yemeni democratic opposition and form a national democratic constituency to support opposition candidates."

"We often receive calls from Yemenis abroad expressing their solidarity with and supporting the movement and its program aimed at establishing a political, democratic and civil parliamentary regime and eliminating the current regime's corruption and remarkable discrimination," he added.

Continued from page 1

23 Al-Qaeda suspects escape from Political Security Prison

The official list of the suspected prisoners as distributed by the Ministry of Interior consisted only of 22 names, excluding Hamdi Al-Ahdal. The names are: Yaser Naser Al-Homikani, Mohammed Sa'eed Al-Omda, Fawzi Mohammed Al-Wajeh, Zakria Hasen

Al-Baihani, Abdurrahman Ahmed Basora, Abdullah Ahmed Al-Remi, Fawaz Yahya Al-Rabe ai, Hizam Saleh Mugli, Gamal Mohammed Al-Badwi, Zakria Hasen Al-Baihani, Abdurrahman Ahmed Basurah, Ibrahim Mohammed Al-Hoidi, Ibrahim Mohammed Al-

Mukri, Aref Saleh Mugli, Shafik Ahmed Zaid, Gaber Al-Bana'a, Hamza Salem Al-Kuaiti, Omer Sa'eed Gar Allah, Abdullah Yahya Al-Wa' adi, Khaled Mohammed Al-Batati, Kasem Yahya Al-Remi, Mohammed Ahmed Al-Remi, Mansour Naser Al-Baihani.

Specialist Court tries 14 for targeting foreigners

Suspect Faisal Abdulaziz Al-Fotaini, 30, confessed that he prepared an explosive belt to blow up security premises in February 2004. Suspect Mohamed Ali Haida confessed that he forged Civil Status stamps to make IDs for some suspects to go Iraq. Suspect Mohamed Qaid confessed to preparing a remote control electrical circuit for detonation, however it failed to operate. Suspect Adnan Abdulkareem also

admitted preparing a detonation device for use in Iraq. Suspect Hamid Radman noted that he went to security offices when they summoned him and has been detained ever since.

The court adjourned until next Saturday to enable some suspects to authorize lawyers to stand on their behalf. Other suspects were allowed to make photocopies to submit their plea. Security arrested the 14 suspects

May 9, 2005 south of Sana'a in Shomila. They were found with weapons, explosives and explosive belts, together with plans to conduct terror operations by attacking residential complexes occupied by foreigners and security personnel. They were about to carry out their plans when they were detained. Security said the cell was led by a Mohamed Sofian Al-Amari.

Crises in Parliament

Indications point to the split over parliamentary posts as an extension of conflicts between influential GPC members who experienced severe strife over the General Secretary's post at their seventh conference last month in Aden. Prominent personalities lost their Central Committee positions, including Foreign Minister Abu Bakr Al-Qirbi and Al-Ahmar's

son, Hussein. Hussein's loss was considered a message to Al-Ahmar, whose differences with the president have become public in the past few months.

The GPC announcement to nominate Al-Ahmar followed a meeting of the two men in Aden during the Eid holiday. After this meeting, Al-Ahmar declared his support of

President Saleh's candidacy in September's elections.

Despite the fact that Al-Ahmar heads the Islah party, he has been an important ally of the president since coming to power in North Yemen in 1978. Despite soured relations in the past six years over U.S. relations, the War on Terror and differing stances on Islah after it became an opposition party, the two men remain important allies.

Sa'ada escalation takes a new turn

Authorities reportedly warned local residents to keep away from the areas, following escalating confrontations there.

These developments followed a governmental committee's failed mediations led by Al-Baidha governor Yahia Al-Shami.

A committee source told media, "The committee came to an agreement with Al-Houthi followers based on four points, summed up as: a gen-

eral pardon, release of detainees, compensation for losses and ending voiced slogans and chants against America and Israel in governorate and district capitals. However, they may continue doing it in Al-Houthi villages."

MP Yahia Al-Houthi confirmed in a letter to the Yemen Times that he and Al-Houthi the father are ready to negotiate an end to armed confrontations. The father ordered his followers

to stop the "Death to America! Death to Israel!" slogans, if they are the reason behind continued military action.

Military authorities are imposing a media ban in Sa'ada and Al-Jawf. Journalists are prohibited from traveling to conflict areas to report on residents' circumstances. Civil and security officials also are prohibited from making any statements. According to journalists, if anyone dares to release any information, he will lose his job

Telephone call centers: a haven for women who date

Half an hour passed and still she was sitting in one of the telephone call centers. A young man suddenly appeared and she followed him to his car.

By: Mohammed Al-Jabri
Jabri333@yahoo.com

Over the past 10 years, telephone call centers have spread markedly throughout Yemen's main cities. This, in turn, has made it easy for people to keep in touch with others inside and outside the country. But young people – most notably women – find it appropriate to use telephone call centers as places to await men with whom they have a date. A woman goes to such a center, phones the man she has a date with and waits there until he comes and takes her by car.

In fact, telephone call centers are good places for women to wait. For one thing, waiting for someone on the street, outside shops or public places seems inappropriate for women in Yemeni society. They even feel embarrassed to wait on outdoor benches. A man can await a friend in a café, supermarket or on the street, but this is not true for a woman. These factors and others lead women to turn to telephone call centers when awaiting someone, most notably for dating.

Telephone call center employee Lutf Ali says, "Every day, I see a lot of women come to this center. What strikes me most is that a woman is supposed to leave the center after making telephone calls, but she has a seat and waits for several minutes until a man comes and takes her by car."

Suspicious places

Telephone call centers therefore have become places for decadent women. Some behave immorally, laughing and looking seductively at other clients who come to call. Inside a telephone booth, a woman sometimes removes her veil to apply cosmetics or lipstick and make sure she looks good. Consequently, some young men deliberately visit such centers only to tease or flirt with the women inside. A young man usually stands by the call center entrance, where he spends hours watching the women inside.

A client confessed that he once entered such a center to phone his friend. He went into a booth and noticed a young woman standing in another booth waving at him. He went to her and she told him she was ready to go with him to a furnished apartment where they could spend the night together.

Ali explains that some men come to call centers only to tease or flirt with any woman sitting inside. "In fact, this puts telephone call center employees in embarrassing situations, for they think it is impolite to ask women to leave the center."

Many have begun to get the impression that women who frequently spend time in telephone call centers are not decent due to their bad behavior and conduct while in such places. By looking at telephone call centers around Sana'a University, the picture becomes clearer.

One can find numerous women coming in and out of these centers and easily spot 10 to 15 women sitting together on a



A woman in a telephone call center.

bench inside. Two or three suddenly leave and get into a waiting car. University student Mahmoud said he once saw a luxury car approach a call center. A moment later, four young women exited the center and immediately got in the car.

Many consider this seductive behavior on women's part. "By sitting in a call center for several minutes, women give the impression they are going on a date," Mahmoud said. But this is not true of all women. One easily can distinguish between decent and indecent women. A polite woman will just make a call and then leave, while those who remain for some time are considered licentious.

Alternatives

"Telephone call centers should not be used for dating," call center employee Mansour Ahmed said. Of course, there are other places where men and women can meet, date and talk freely. Private parks exist nowadays, especially in Hadda zone. In such places one can find youths of both sexes to date. A woman sometimes waits in her workplace until

the man she has a date with arrives and takes her. Several young men and women find an opportunity to date in high-class restaurants. In fact, this phenomenon has become apparent in Yemeni society due to the increasing number of licentious youths. It is not surprising to see a man driving his car, following a woman walking on the street.

Such people try not to be discovered by others while they do so. Three years ago in a Sana'a neighborhood, a man parked his car in front of a house, from which a woman came out and got into his car. Upon seeing them, neighborhood residents did not allow them to drive off and immediately beat the man, for they considered it an immoral act unacceptable by society. This is why most women worry when they go on a date or meet someone outside. When a woman awaits a man in a telephone call center, she usually seems anxious and worried for fear that some relative may discover her.

The question arises: Why do Yemeni youth conduct such cautious behavior? Do they fear censure by their society?

The crisis of Somali fugitives to Yemen

A large number of Somalis succeed in escaping into Yemeni territories, because there are many outlets along the Yemeni coastline, which cannot be controlled thoroughly. Those Somalis leave their homeland in search for better life.

By: Walid Jubran

When the Somali civil war broke out in 1991, most of the Somalis fled to neighbouring countries, such as Kenya and Yemen where they remained as refugees. Since then, a great number of Somalis has illegally infiltrated into Yemen without being registered, for there are many outlets along the coastline which the guard coast authorities cannot control.

Mr. Abdul-Malik Aboud, head of the Foreign Affairs in the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) premises in Yemen, says controlling all the outlets along the Yemeni coastline is very difficult for

Yemeni authorities. He adds that there are fourteen outlets through which Somalis infiltrate into Yemen, while the Yemeni authorities are unaware of such outlets. Moreover, the UNHCR premises in Yemen confessed that number of Somali refugees in Yemen has reached to some 78,000, while three years ago there were around 49,000 Somali refugees.

The problem here, however, is that there is no precise statistics of Somalis living actually in Yemen. That is mainly because most of them do not register at the reception centers, fearing they would be arrested over their infiltrating to Yemen.

Here, the UNHCR register refugees

arrive to Yemen at two main reception centers: one is located in Maefa'a (Aden governorate) and the other in Bi'r Ali (Shabwa governorate).

Observers concerned with this issue state the huge influx of Somalis to Yemen has increased after the UNHCR announced there are sex reception centers for registering refugees all over Yemen.

Risks

When infiltrating into Yemen, Somalis risk their life. They are subject to death and piracy in consequence. Along the Somali coastline, there are smugglers who use boats to help Somalis infiltrate into other neighbouring countries

namely Yemen. Mr. Aboud described those smugglers as "death traders who have no conscience".

Some refugees say one has to pay \$30-50 in order to be brought to Yemeni coastline. Here smugglers put 90-100 persons in one boat. "As we get ready and set out our voyage, smugglers do not allow anyone aboard to move so that the boat remains in balance. Even they may shot anyone who moves," said a Somali refugee.

Sometimes they are subject to death as their boat capsizes. A month ago, seventy Somalis were reported dead when their boat capsized near Shabwa coast. Yemeni authorities announced thereafter that they could lift 70 dead Somalis who tried to infiltrate into Yemen. Sourced affirmed the total number of those who were on that boat was 110, and that only three managed to survive.

Status of Yemen and Somalis

Yemen has now a big challenge as many Somalis still infiltrate into the country. This has effect at the economic and social level of Yemen. But however difficult this may seem, the Yemeni government is still committed to helping and providing shelter for all the refugees. Undoubtedly, Yemen is a developing country, where the economic, social, health and educational sectors need much effort to be improved.

The existence of Somalis in this poor country brings about obstacles before it.

The government, in this regard, has to provide them with facilities, especially health aids. At first, those arrive to Yemen and register at the reception centers should undergo medical examinations to make sure they do not have infectious diseases, and this in fact costs the government much. Not only this, much attention has



Dead Somali refugees in Yemeni shores

SANA'A INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

PROVIDING A HIGH QUALITY EDUCATION FOR 35 YEARS

A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE

Beautiful purpose-built facilities on a spacious 34 acre site in a countryside setting. Sports facilities include soccer and softball fields, basketball and tennis courts. Large indoor multi-purpose area for volleyball, basketball, badminton, gymnastics, table tennis, musical and dramatic productions. Bus service available.

Main Campus

- ❖ Performance-Based curriculum for 5 years of age through secondary school
- ❖ Personalized education/small class sizes run by highly qualified & experienced teachers
- ❖ Over 40 computers available for student use, and computer instruction for all ages
- ❖ Extensive after school activity program involving music, art, craft, drama, & sports
- ❖ Advanced Placement (AP) college level courses available for qualified students
- ❖ Graduates attend American, Canadian, European, and Middle Eastern universities

SIS Pre-School

- ❖ Specific age appropriate experiences for 2, 3 and 4 year olds
- ❖ Attractive premises near the French Embassy including a garden and play area
- ❖ Certified experienced British teacher assisted by paraprofessionals
- ❖ School hours are from 7:55 a.m. to 12:00 noon (Saturday through Wednesday)
- ❖ Arabic program from 12:00 noon - 2:30 p.m.

Box 2002, Sana'a, Yemen Phone: 370 191-2 Fax: 370 193
Email: gordonblackie@qsi.org Web site: http://yem.qsi.org

Accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools (MSA)
Member of Quality Schools International

JOB OPPORTUNITY

IT Helpdesk Support Specialist

A well established international oil company seeks a self motivated and enthusiastic IT Helpdesk Specialist to join our office in Sana'a.

Job responsibilities:

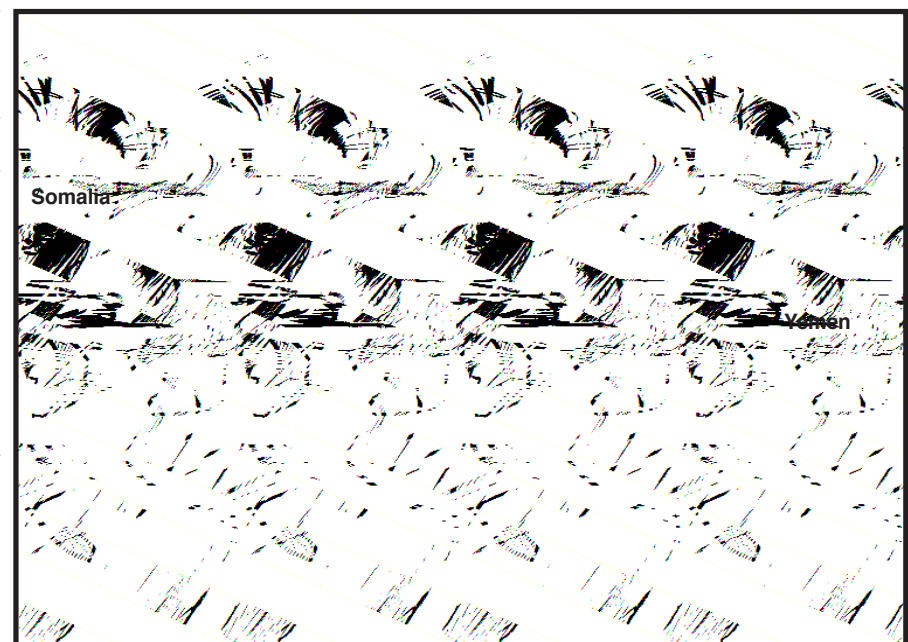
- Install, maintain and administer office computers and peripherals.
- Operating system/Applications support.
- Maintain office LAN/WAN.
- Administering office telecommunication system.
- Ability to diagnose Windows server problems.
- Attend Users calls, find appropriate solutions and escalate as necessary.

Minimum Requirements:

- Tertiary degree or equivalent in computers.
- Relevant experience.
- Good exposure to MS applications and technologies.
- Ability to diagnose Windows Server problems.
- Excellent problem solving skills.
- Excellent oral and written English/Arabic skill is a must.

Interested candidates with the necessary qualifications and experience are requested to submit applications, together with detailed CV by facsimile to +967 1 410314.

Deadline to receive applications is Wednesday 15th Feb 2006.



Walid Jubran is a Yemeni journalist.

We present our warmest congratulations to the
pioneer
of the modern Yemen & maker
of achievements

H.E. Ali Abdullah Saleh

President of the Republic of Yemen
and to the Yemeni people

On the occasion of The New Hijri Year 1427

Many Happy Returns!

On behalf of the company
Mohammed Hussain Al-Haj
Executive Director

نتقدم بأجمل التهاني وأطيب التبريكات إلى
باني نهضة اليمن الحديث وصانع الإنجازات
صاحب الضخامة الرئيس /

علي عبدالله صالح

رئيس الجمهورية

وإلى كافة أبناء الشعب اليمني الكريم
بمناسبة السنة الهجرية الجديدة ١٤٢٧ هـ
وكل عام وجميع بخير،

عنهم :

المدير التنفيذي

محمد حسين الحاج

SAFER

شركة صافر لعمليات الاستكشاف والإنتاج
Safer Exploration and Production
Operations Company (SEPOC)

Book review:

The Tainted Shadow

“It is up to you what you make of your shadow...”

Review and interview by: Nadia Al-Sakkaf

Not until you reach the end do you realize from where the title comes. “The Tainted Shadow” is a unique novel that could start a new trend in creative writing. Maleeha Kamal, the 22-year-old author, not only describes the life of Sara, a Yemeni Jewish girl, but the life, death and afterlife of the main character’s relatives and friends. Sara becomes Arwa after she reverts to Islam. Her quest for truth, love and peace touches the reader and invariably makes one relate to her. The entire story’s abstract approach downplays the melodrama that sometimes tends to dominate individual chapters.

This novel clearly has a message and although it could be taken as light reading, it carries some heavy thoughts to the attentive reader. “It is up to you what you make of your shadow...” the main character says at novel’s end. As if directing its message to the reader, Arwa indicates that one’s deeds in this life are one’s choice, upon which destiny in the afterlife depends. The novel’s descriptions of heaven and hell and punishment or reward are intriguing. Yet, although the reader has the freedom to agree or disagree with the author’s judgments, one must admit that the writing compels the reader to stop and think.

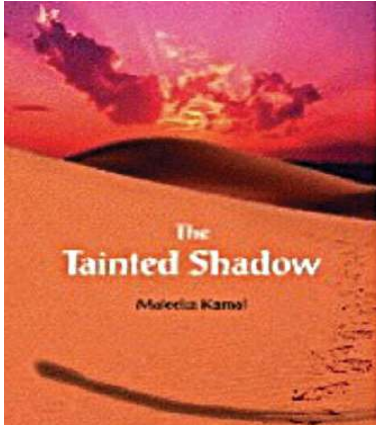
The story is based in Yemen, particularly the southern part of Aden and neighboring towns perhaps centuries ago. There are some factual misconceptions which would be realized only by historians or well-versed Yemenis, yet the overall description is fairly accurate. Surprisingly enough, author Kamal has never been to Yemen, yet her vast imagination helped her fill in the history blanks – a good start for a promising writer.

Q: Could you tell us about yourself?

A: I am 22 years old, married with a 1-year-old girl. I shuttle between Jeddah,



Maleeha Kamal



Saudi Arabia, and London, where I was raised.

Despite studying Environmental Policy and Economics at London School of Economics, I decided to busy myself with my passion – writing. Whenever I write, I feel myself trapped in an incubator and this enables me to constantly evolve as an individual. I must say, it was a well-deserved break from lectures!

I began writing long before university. This novel began there, but poetry and short stories have spewed out of this head for as long as I can remember. I feel that writing is a very relevant medium, especially given today’s plastic age of electronics, to sustain the real lifeblood of creativity – human thought.

Q: Do you think you relate in any way to your novel’s main character and her struggle in life?

A: All writers have a component of their own life experience integrated in their fiction. In the same way, I also am related directly to the protagonist, Sara. She wanders through life with a separate identity to that of the environment in which she grows up – being a Jew planted in a Muslim environment. This conflict deliberately was the novel’s contextual basis so readers can see similarity between the two communities, rather than the expected hatred spotlighted by

contemporary media. Every community, culture or religion has its positives and negatives. Likewise, Sara extracts the positives available to her and builds her inner self. Like every human being, her insoluble dichotomy is healed through her soul.

Similarly, I was from a Muslim background and born in a cosmopolitan city, London. My family was not that religious and I had school peers who had no religion. That was the first spark for me. I supposedly was ‘Muslim,’ others were Christian, Hindu, etc., and then there was this weird group with no religion. As I got older, previously claimed ‘Christians’ now called themselves ‘atheists.’ Hindus remained Hindus, but were nominal believers. My best friend was an Orthodox Jew.

So from then on, I embarked on a journey to color my spirit. I felt its presence in every action I took – this invisible body moving, thinking and feeling in parallel motion with me – and I felt it fair to decide to which group it should belong. I felt it necessary to belong to a faith group so I could feed it whenever it needed to be fed. I studied parts of the Torah, the gospel of Barnabas, the Bible and then the Qur’an. When I had questions about the Torah, I was met by crude stares saying, “Who is this nosy kid?” so I irrevocably shrank back into my hole of dissatisfaction. When I asked people who stated they were Christians

about their faith, they had no clue. It was when I read the Qur’an that I realized that even kids younger than me knew what they were talking about! The Islamic community was better-read and better-informed than the Christian or Jewish groups. For every question, I got a solid answer. I felt proud to be a Muslim. I re-birthed myself into my roots. It was only many years later that I discovered the reason for this trend and disparities between awareness levels and I put that answer in the novel.

Q: Do you consider yourself a religious person? What was the message you wanted to convey through your work?

A: I am a Muslim and I try to keep myself on the straight path as much as I can. There are always better or worse routes on the way, but I try to maintain a balance.

In present times, where emotions can be expressed through much technology, it is every individual’s duty to maintain a balance. From my writing, all I hope to give my readers is personal value. That value will be at its premium if they turn and take a look at their inner selves and go on an expedition to find their spirit’s identity.

Q: What inspired you to write such a novel?

A: The backbone of my inspiration was my own life experience. Writers can’t write anything of any substance without a significant life experience from which they themselves can grow and perhaps feed others too.

Q: Why Yemen? How difficult was it to get information about Jews’ lives in Aden in the 18th century?

A: The social and historical context was chosen very specifically because unlike other Middle Eastern countries, Yemen comparatively has resisted the temptation and alluring spin of globalization. In doing this, Yemen has preserved its history and its people’s social identity from Westernization. This is an excellent aspect because the whole world is being cloned into one culture. This type of

The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam 15

Translated by Edward FitzGerald

**And those who husbanded
the golden grain,
And those who flung it to
the winds like rain,
Alike to no such aureate
earth are turn’d
As, buried once, men want
dug up again.**

polarization was ideal for the novel. Also, Yemen historically has been the coffee market’s world leader – ahead, but still lagging enough to remain happy on its own. This economic advantage was ideal for my novel. For me, Yemen was a symbol that shouted, “Money can’t buy happiness!”

Initially, it was quite difficult to find information about Jews in Yemen. But when I began to see what strong ties were evident between the communities, I couldn’t resist. It was an excellent template for my story.

Q: Living in Saudi Arabia, are there any risks in writing such a story?

A: Hmmm...Jews and Muslims in the same book and the protagonist is a Jew and a Muslim too! It’s very controversial and stimulates the reader’s feelings and expectations straight away. As Sara develops in the story, the reader automatically does too. Saudi Arabia is very tolerant when it comes to volatile subjects. I myself was surprised to see a novel on homosexuality at the leading bookstore. So no, the Saudi nation takes on different opinions very well.

Q: I understand you are working on a second novel. Could you tell us about it?

A: My second novel is a bit on the low now, but it’s about parents and children and how they relate to the physical environment. Oooh, I see a raised eyebrow. It sounds really cheesy at present but I assure you, the finished piece will be worth waiting for!

Q: What feedback do you expect to get from Yemeni readers, especially Yemeni Jews?

A: From Yemenis, just what I am receiving right now from my readers, regardless of their background – satisfaction that a young Muslim is expressing contemporary subjects in exotic settings. From extremist Muslims and Jews – identification with the other community through a spiritual magnifying glass.

Q: What would you advise young writers struggling to complete their first literary work?

A: Keep going, no matter what. Write whenever you get time, even in the most awkward places. I have a 1-year-old daughter and I find myself writing sometimes when we’re in the car and my husband is driving! And remember, your writing only needs to matter to you. If it succeeds in doing that, it will succeed with others.

From Sana’a to Istanbul... From Istanbul to the world!

From Istanbul to Sana’a:		
Day	Departure	Arrival
Sat / Wed	20:05	01:45

From Sana’a to Istanbul:		
Day	Departure	Arrival
Sun / Thur	02:45	06:30

Turkish Airlines will start round-trip service between Sana’a and Istanbul on February 2nd, 2006. Fly to this very special metropolis connecting Asia and Europe, with the outstanding service of Turkish Airlines. Quickly reach all the major hubs in the world while enjoying a unique flying experience.

TURKISH AIRLINES
www.thy.com
www.universalyemen.com

For reservations contact Universal offices at the following locations:
 SANA’A - GSA office - Tel: 01 445970 Business Travel Center - Tel: 01 441158/ 59/ 60 Al Qasr Street - Tel: 01 272895/ 6
 Zubairy Street - Tel: 01 267929 Movenpick Hotel - Tel: 01 546061/ 3 ADEN - Tel: 02 240816/ 241534
 TAIZ - Tel: 04 252504 HODEIDAH - Tel: 03 208691/ 3 IBB - Tel: 04 410782 MUKALLA - Tel: 05 354843/ 45
 RADA’A - Tel: 06 551659 SEIYUN - Tel: 05 404288

حان الوقت لتطلق ليديك العنان

مع برنامج التأهيل للشهادة الدولية للحاسب والإنترنت IC3

تقدم مراكز نيوهوريزون برنامج تدريبي للتأهيل للحصول على الشهادة الدولية للحاسب والإنترنت IC3 وهي شهادة دولية لا عسى عنها، لكل الناس، وتعتبر معياراً دولياً يؤكد أن حامل الشهادة يملك المعرفة والمهارات الأساسية للحاسب والإنترنت. يتم الحصول على الشهادة بعد اجتياز ثلاثة اختبارات بنجاح.

لماذا التدريب للحصول على الشهادة الدولية IC3

- تقدم في أكثر من 60 دولة و 8 لغات منها اللغة العربية.
- 270 خبير من 19 دولة الشتركوا في تأسيس مقياس ثقافة الكمبيوتر.
- ثلاثة اختبارات فقط موزعة على ثلاثة مواضيع رئيسية (مبادئ الحاسب، التطبيقات الأساسية، تطبيقات الإنترنت).
- أسئلة عملية تدمج أحدث تقنيات الاختبار الإجرائية من خلال مزيج من الأسئلة المعتمدة على المعرفة Knowledge-Based والمهام المعتمدة على الأداء Performance-Based.
- حساب النتيجة تلقائياً يعني نتائج اختبار فورية والحصول على نسخة رقمية من النتيجة في الحال بمجرد إكمال الاختبار.
- يمكن للمتردد الالتحاق بالاختبارات في أماكن مختلفة في العالم.

شركة نيوهوريزون لتدريب الكمبيوتر الوكيل المعتمد لشهادة IC3 و MOS باليمن.

العنوان: صنعاء - مركز صنعاء التجاري - شارع الجزائر.

تلفون: 449356/718/9
فاكس: 448547
البريد الإلكتروني: info.yemen@newhorizons.com
www.newhorizons.com

Words of Wisdom



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

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

OUR
OPINIONTerrorism of
the war against
terrorism

The 16th annual report by the independent human rights organization, Human Rights Watch, contained many surprises. Reviewing key human rights issues in 68 countries and drawing on events through November 2005, the report highlighted numerous facts. However, the most alarming conclusion in my view was that in 2005, evidence emerged showing that several of the world's leading powers now consider torture – in various guises – a serious policy option. Under the pretext of fighting terrorism, many of the world's leading powers deliberately have ignored even basic human rights and launched a new trend of "guilty until proven innocent" attitudes toward any suspects.

The problem with this is that suspicion is very subjective; hence, any normal action by ordinary human beings could make them a terrorist suspect. This probably explains why the lives of many minorities in foreign countries have turned into a routine of discriminatory interrogation and ill treatment.

The backlash, according to the report, is that such human rights violations generate indignation and outrage that spur terrorist recruitment, undermine the public's cooperation with law-enforcement officials, which is essential to exposing secret terrorist cells, and cede the moral high ground to those combating the terrorist scourge. Therefore, this will cause a vicious cycle of terrorism and a culture of fear around the world.

Moreover, this new attitude of leading powers has trickled down to less powerful countries like Yemen. After the United States September 11 event, the War against Terrorism became an umbrella under which Yemen's government unleashed its national security forces and liberated itself from any international or national commitment to human rights. The worst that can happen to anyone these days is to become a terrorist suspect. In the past, many governments experienced serious security threats, from invasion to civil war, which put their citizens' lives at risk. The current terrorism threat is different only in that citizens of the major Western powers appear prominently among the victims.

The report concludes with a basic yet vital solution. There is an urgent need for enlightened leadership – for governmental leaders who still embrace human rights to stand up, reject this misguided approach to fighting terrorism and reaffirm that even in the face of a serious security threat, respect for human rights is good for all.

Nadia Al-Sakkaf
Editor-in-Chief

Will the Arabs continue
playing in the timeout?

The Arabs are pre-ordained to live in an inflammable region. Thus it is predestined that they have to get used to the lava gushing out of that volcano, then to surrender to that situation and convince themselves that they are powerless victims unable to face the dangers or at least fortify themselves and protect their interests.

This false conviction has brought with it all forms of meekness, indifference and weakness. It has generated a stance that ascribes all their problems and crises to fate and consequently to foreign schemes and imperialistic conspiracies as well as external factors. No one admits of neglectfulness in performing responsibility and duties. None wants to stand up in defense of the land and honor at this critical stage the nation is experiencing and suffering from injustice, from both foreign and the kith and kin. This is how the Arab scene looks as troubled, instable and burdened with concerns and problems. And thus seems the Arab entity, submissive and receiving successive blows without showing any defensive response. Those who have the decision-making in their hands have come out with a decision of playing in the timeout, going to extremes in the game of hopeless waiting and wrongly using them. Any observer of those practices can see clearly those indicators. Among those disgraceful practices are:

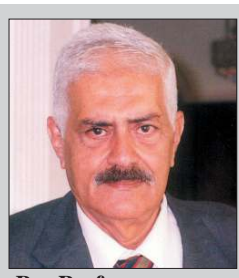
-exaggeration in unleashing resounding slogans and phrases that have intoxicated the Arabs for more than sixty years. There are always words without being followed by acts, not even a kind of formalism, to give them some kind of credibility and objectivity. Even those words are stripped of their objectivity and meanings. What an official says is not as important as how and when he says it. What he says is valueless without being followed by decisions, stances and radical curing. How and when the leader practices his acts is more valuable than the act itself.

-with absence of accuracy and timing, deception and enlargement of lies have changed to addiction of another plague, i.e. the entertainment of submissiveness in every walk of life, our decisions and acts. The role of being active has become something of a marvel for the Arabs, if not among the impossible.

-paralysis has affected the Arab joint action and has influenced most of internal activities related to it and the big issues as well. All effective and serious initiatives have frozen, except some beautifying operations and token movements for keeping situations as they are and calming down crises.

-those practices changed into a habit exhausting Arab potentials and disappointing them. They work under effect of intoxication is leading to taming the Arab masses and makes them used to surrender to the bitter reality under the absence of the spirit of responsibility and sacredness of duty.

-absence of the sense of responsibility has led to avoid treatments and refusal of recognizing the present and future dan-



By: Prof.
Abdulaziz Al-Tarb

The question is where our duties, responsibilities, and plans are, and where are our resolution, decisions and efforts to unite the ranks for confrontation and defeating the enemies in defense of our rights, lands and interests. It seems there is no ray of hope or light at the end of the long dark tunnel. There are only words without acts and illusions without efforts and surrender to the "general" time as a weapon; some claim it had achieved what was hoped for many times in the past.

In occupied Palestine the alleged farce of democracy is repeated. One government falls, early elections are held and a new government comes to resume implementing the same Zionist scheme. The Israelis make fool of us and of the world after they exchange roles and alternatively put on the masks of hawks and doves. Directing this farce contains demonic details and bribes of alliance with remnants of the Likud, and remains of the Labor. Between them lie the small rightist parties performing the role of blocker to any decision or step to be taken. As for the Palestinians and the Arabs they have only to play in the timeout.

In Iraq there are elections succeeding elections and constitutions follow a constitution. Meanwhile, the country is drowned in labyrinths of massacres, sectarian seditions, and plots of partition. Terrorism influence is aggravating and the occupation is enhancing its bases and realizing its goals despite the losses it sustains and difficulties it is facing. Frequent postponements and frequent promises, conferences, mediations and initiatives are active whereas the innocent blood is shed and the Iraqi wealth is being exhausted and the nation's destiny faces more dangers. Nevertheless, they have to wait and hope for soon solutions to salvage what is possible of Iraq.

In Syria and Lebanon, there are successive postponements to decide the situation and disclose the fact about the assassination of Lebanese former Prime Minister Rafiq Hariri. We have to wait for many months. Months should be dedicated for work of the international investigation committee, the state of watching, anxiety and stagnation in the two countries, crises, exhaustion of energies and freezing of projects, more rifts in Lebanese-Syrian relations, instigation of sectarian seditions, threats to national unity and spread of despair and disappointment. Even the resistance in Lebanon began to lose some of its capabilities and state of unanimity, by virtue of which it had scored victory over Israel and forced it to withdraw from Lebanon.

Intrigues in Egypt began after the parliamentary elections, defeat of opposition parties such as the Nasserites and al-

Wafd, non-nomination of Copts and women by the ruling National Party and success of the Muslim Brotherhood by more than 20% of parliament seats. Also in Egypt there are the sentence of five years imprisonment against Aymen Nour, the United States demand for his release and granting the opposition and civil society organisations more freedoms in work, in line with the principle of democracy.

In Yemen there are the return of bloody battles in Saada, the ruling GPC party comes out of its 7th conference by accusing the opposition parties- the JMP- of bidding in their initiative about the program of comprehensive reform needed at this stage. Also there is the president's back down from not nominating for the upcoming presidential elections. The year 2006 in Yemen is witnessing local elections in April and presidential elections in September. The economic situation pushes the public to demand for food security, security, medicine and curbing unemployment and inflation. We have to wait for what happens after interference of the Central Bank and taking control of one of the national banks that was distinguished in areas of credit and development and granting small tradesmen and contractors facilities to carry out projects and employment of labor.

Those samples of issues give a clear-cut image of the Arabs' condition nowadays and their loss in oceans of crises and secondary details and western illusions. Against all that, the right is lost, the land usurped, the fact hidden, interests confiscated and the citizen's needs neglected and his hopes disappointed.

The process of retreat continues and the Arabs are prevented from catching up with developments of the age and benefiting from its scientific wealth and exploiting their available riches.

What I dread most is that after the end of playing in the timeout we will discover we have to return to it and enter into its whirlwinds. The days of decision are coming tomorrow, or in months or a year. Are we going to look for another timeout and gamble with our interests and destinies of the people; in their present and future?

These sad words are not meant for taking part in a process of self-torture while we are receiving the year 2006. They are meant for pinpointing the points of disease and describing our present situation and agonies that are torturing every Arab human. They are meant to be a call for reawakening and preparation for the great imperative tasks and surprises expected from the current course of events. Is there an Arab strategy being planned for this stage? This is a call for the Khartoum Arab Summit. Are there initiatives for joining forces and fortification of fronts while waiting for what consequences there are going to be in Palestine, Iraq, Syria and Lebanon, Sudan and Yemen and in various parts of the Arab land, which possesses riches and all resources of development?

Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Tarb is an economist and a professor in Political Science and an expert in administrative development. He is the head of a number of professional associations, such as the Arab Group for Investment and Development.

COMMON
SENSE

By: Hassan Al-Haifi

Unnecessary Provocations
& some important corrections
What is with Europe?

The European Community was thought to be really mature in not letting itself become driven to creating an aura of friction between the continent and the entire Moslem World. In fact, one would think that with sizable Moslem communities in Europe, any European would think twice about suggesting any form of intimidation that would provoke anger amongst not only Moslems outside the Moslem continent, but also within the European Community, many of whom are also citizens of European countries. Why all this fuss about some silly cartoons drawn by persons who were not just merely showing "their freedom of self expression". One would wonder why any cartoonist far away in Denmark would find it necessary to waste his talent on intimidating illustrations of hate and prejudice, without reason or cause, especially as Moslems have never brought any harm to him or to Denmark, as far as anyone knows.

But, had it all ended there, it would not have been so dramatic. But why should there be a systematic effort to make sure that all of Europe is embroiled in such obvious efforts to foment hatred and bigotry and to break the sanctity of people who have found that imagery in religion is counter-productive and leads to unfortunate misunderstandings. This is not freedom of speech at all but really a well organized effort to test the European's people taste for meaningless hate mongering disguised as "freedom of speech" or freedom of the press. Someone or some people are certainly behind this evil streak that has been allowed to stain the modular attitude that modern Europeans have generally displayed in dealing with the peoples of other religions and cultures. Is it really in interest of the Europeans also to join the Zionist – Evangelical "Crusade" in order to protect some mischievous cartoonist, who must have been driven by lucrative offers to foment such an ugly project, certainly drawn by those who thrive on human conflict. One would almost be ready to say that such mischievous minds are neither serving the ideals of free speech or the hopes for world peace, which is what the observer believes is not what the mind set of most Europeans would find "enjoyable". This observer was not at all impressed by a "Frenchman" who suggested that no one should prevent the Europeans from enjoying the "right to laugh", as if religion has now become no more than a laughing matter to this and those many others, who view intimidating cartoons on other people's sacred personalities as laughing matters. For fifteen hundred years, Moslems have avoided projecting any images of their revered Islamic heroes or messengers (including Jesus, Zachariah and the many apostles revered both by Christianity and Islam, not to mention the many prophets and messengers of the Old Testament, including Jacob, Ishmael and Isaac and the patriarch of all prophets, Ibrahim), for no other reason except to make sure that Moslems do not succumb to idol worship of any form; i.e. to keep their monotheism sacrosanct and intact. For fifteen hundred years, real faithful Moslems never defied the sanctity of religious edifices of other religious persuasions in their midst and have insured that other people's religious beliefs are tolerated with all due respect. Surely, modern Europeans can not fail to realize that it is not in anyone's interest to succumb to the prodding of those with evil inclinations, who have found it worthwhile to serve their narrow and bigoted interest by fomenting religious strife in this world, without any rational explanation for unleashing such factional strife.

There is an obvious desire with some people to increase anti-Moslem hatred in Europe, in the wake of Europeans being cold to supporting the repression with which the Israelis have continued to "govern" the occupied territories of Palestine and it is not difficult to discern that an evil Zionist hand is behind all this hate mongering. As Abdul-Bari Atwan of London based Al-Quds Newspaper said, Moslems living in Europe have always applauded the tolerance that Moslems have enjoyed in Europe and have used Europe as a model of tolerance that would put most of the repressive regimes in the Arab World to shame in this modern age. No one would find any meaningful justifications for such senseless provocation, without succumbing to the notion that there must be an evil intent behind all this desire to ignite European – Moslem animosity and there is no laughing matter in this for anyone, not even for those who want to enjoy laughing at the expense of the deeply felt spiritual inclinations of other human beings.

Corrections to last Common Sense on the Doha Conference

While reporting on the Doha, Qatar Conference on Enriching the Middle East's Economic Future in the Common Sense of Issue 917, please note the following corrections:

The Conference was inaugurated by speeches by HE Sheikh Hamad Bin Jasim Jabr Al-Thani, First Deputy Prime Minister and foreign Minister of Qatar and Former President Bill Clinton of the United States.

The participants from Yemen also included Mr. Abdul-Rahman Hayel Sa'eed An'am (Vice Chairman of Hayel Saeed An'am Group) and Mr. Abdul-Rahman Hayel Saeed An'am, Director of HSA, in addition to Mr. Mohammed Al-Ba'dani, Deputy General Manager of Yemen Liquefied Natural Gas Company (YLNG), whose names were inadvertently erased from the article.

On another note, Ms. Farida Hashem (the name was also inadvertently erased in the article), Senior Consultant of Felixia Associates of London played a significant role in helping to coordinate the project between the various parties involved.

The Conference will have more detailed coverage in this and/or the next issue of YT, as the complete final recommendations and results have just been publicized.

Hassan Al-Haifi has been a Yemeni political economist and journalist for more than 20 years.

Letters to the Editor

Fear of human
disaster in Red Sea

As we know there is always some very hazardous trip which the only horn African refugees pay its price while crossing the 300km gulf of Aden, the latest one approximately 400 desperate refugee had lost their lives, during the latest two months of the last year, its running from Death and to death was the day to day activities which always happens in that death Sea.

Moreover we had heard the calls of international human rights organizations expressing their deep concern about that tragedy and as usual this does not change the ways and reasons, which causes the death of the desperate refugees, before its beginning in 1992, the first was Goobweyn Ship which was the first to sail from Somali to Yemen during the onset of the civil war in Somalia.

The sole explanations were the poor infrastructures of both the source and target

countries which could not make possible to contain that everlasting human tragedy on one hand. And the unwillingness of the international community to effectively address the root cause of the problem fo at least to diminish.

We believe as a Somali refugee intellectuals in Yemen that if the international community does not take a preventive and responsive steps towards these desperate horn African refugees there would be a real human disaster which will happen during the upcoming months. This has few explanations:

First a prolonged drought that hit the southern west of Somalia had a wide impacts of the great new influx to Yemen for the upcoming months particularly from The region of Geode in Southern Somalia was the hardest-hit by the regional drought that had affected the neighbouring Ethiopia and its epicentre in northern Kenya.

People living mainly from rearing cattle sold to their

Kenyan neighbours to buy grain, their animals had started dying by the hundred and thousands. Inter-ethnic clan fighting had worsened as rival clans battled for the few remaining water points in the barren region, as aid workers said the crisis was as much a water crisis as it was for food, as said by aid worker

Second: the Somalis has fed up and carry a very low hope to the current federal government to work out their differences and restore law and order properly. However I was told by one of the new arrivals that he fled from Somali particularly the south-west region of Geode after as he said had saw all his cows killed by famine so I have determined instead of dying like the animals it better to die on the Sea" He added, so owing to the above mentioned reasons the expected flow out for the refugees from death, Prolonged drought, and violence will also greatly affect an already scant humanitarian response in the

death sea.

Therefore we Somali refugees intellectuals are appealing to the Yemeni government and international human rights organizations, United Nations to take preventive steps and actions to the expecting human disaster in Red Sea as the end of the calm seasonal seas is beginning to end which the already known unscrupulous human traffickers which are also the main sources of that repeating tragedy are exploiting these desperate Refugees mentionable cases of the inhuman practices are ordering desperate refugees to jump into the sea before approaching the coast, and the technical developments of the vessels which is the second case of the drowning results in red sea.

We hope this would be prevented as we have latest information that huge number of refugees are waiting to be smuggled to Yemen.

Sadat Mohamed Yusuf
dgeesh@hotmail.com



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

Publisher & Editor-in-Chief:
Nadia Abdulaziz Al-Sakkaf

Head office:
Telephone: +967 (1) 268-661
Fax: +967 (1) 268-276
P.O. Box 2579, Sana'a

Email: yementimes@yementimes.com
For advertisement: ads@yementimes.com
Website: http://www.yementimes.com

Branches:

Aden Bureau Chief: Ridhwan Alawi Ahmed Tel: +967 (2) 347-057, 346596; Fax: +967 (2) 347-056 Email: ytdaden@y.net.ye	Taiz Bureau Chief: Imad Ahmed Abdullah Tel: +967 (4) 217-156 Telefax: +967 (4) 217-157 P.O.Box: 5086, Taiz Email: yttai@y.net.ye	Hodeidah Bureau Chief: Talat Hamoud Saif Telefax: +967 (3) 206-886
---	---	--

Regional Distributors

KSA: Saudi Distribution Co. Jeddah, Tel: 6530909 Tlx: 605350 P.O. Box: 13195	Qatar (Doha): Dar Al-Sharq Printing, Publishing & Distribution Tel: 4654265, Fax: 4661865 P.O. Box: 3488	Dubai: Dar Al-Hikma Tel: 00971 506589158 P.O. Box 2007
--	--	---

Policies:

- All opinion articles that have not been written by Yemen Times staff on the Opinion and Op-Ed pages do not necessarily represent the newspaper's opinion and hence YT could not be held accountable for their consequences.

- Letters to the Editor must include your name and signature, address and telephone number. Letters should not exceed 2,000 characters in length. We reserve the right to edit letters and articles for clarity, style, length and legal contents. Any article or letter submitted cannot be returned to the writer under any circumstances.

- To advertise in the paper, contact the advertising department in any of the offices of the newspaper.

Yemen Press Review

By: Mohammed Khidhr



As-Sahwa weekly, 2 Feb.2006.

Main headlines

- Condemned the offense against the Prophet, demanded the Danish government to apologize, Islah Shoura demands reformation of the Election Commission, think seriously to take part in elections
- Because of it's admitting of violations, Politicians demand for a new election commission
- Disease kills 14 children in Jawf, Health ministry held responsible for deterioration of health situation in the country
- Teachers Union calls for resuming protests
- In celebration of the Prophet Hijra, seminar on peaceful migration to a society of rights and freedoms

The newspaper political editor has devoted his article on the latest insult carried out by one of the Danish newspapers against the person of Prophet Mohammed. He says the Arabs and Muslims had undergone campaigns of libel during the second half of last century and beginning of this century especially after the events of 9/11. Since then the severity of those campaign increased to the extent the Arabs and Muslims have become the more peoples in the world exposed to campaigns of hatred and defamation. Voices rose high condemning those campaigns and warning of their danger on world peace, addressing calls to those in charge of western media and thinkers in the hope they would contribute to stop those unjust campaigns. Many Arab and Islamic circles felt happy about calls launched by many western establishments for dialogue with the Islamic world. They hoped that the dialogue could contribute, even a little, in changing the way many of the western elite and establishments they deal with Islam.

The Danish offending caricatures that ridiculed the Prophet Mohammed have formed a big shock to all Muslims in the world and disclosed the volume of flagrant enmity against Islam and Muslims. Since the beginning of the publication of those caricatures in the Danish newspaper Jyllands-Posten, diplomatic efforts began to urge the Danish government to take an attitude observing feelings of the Muslim peoples. But the Denmark prime minister had then refused to receive the Muslim ambassadors to his country. The Danish attorney general also refused a lawsuit against the newspaper submitted by some Islamic organizations in Denmark, considering the caricatures as were part of the freedom of opinion.

The first reaction to the insult against the Prophet was boycotting all Danish goods, which is an effective weapon proved to be good in such attitudes and issues. It should be used with all those

who fight Islam and Muslims and disdain their feelings. The Danish government has to realize that offending the Prophet of Muslims could open wide the door of a cultural war in which no one has any interest in and it will prepare atmospheres for miscommunication with cultures and peoples and threatens world peace and stability.



Al-Wasat weekly, 1 Feb.2006.

Main headlines

- Praised the American system and said, "No republican regimes but in Iran and Israel.", Yahya al-Houthi: My father demanded not to repeat the slogan and the authority do not want them to keep silent.
- Eight cases of suicide in Lahj
- Increased operations of weapons smuggling through Yemeni coasts, hundreds of Somalis drowned in the sea
- The intelligence authorities arrest families of the escapees; Defense Ministry considers escape of two Houthi supporters from prison as failure of security authorities

Editor in chief of the newspaper writes in his article that Yemen's security and stability and even its existence, as the rest of the Arab and Islamic countries, is dependent on or represented by the person of who governs them. They feel anxious for fear of any sudden mishap to affect the man, and would perhaps put the country in an uncertain situation. For this reason when an Arab president visits a hospital it becomes not just ordinary news reported as is the case with heads of states in the democratic world. In the Arab countries this news is mostly accompanied with analyses with anxiety on future of the country that that president rules. It is a crisis the Arab countries are living. In the case of Yemen there is an additional problem. It is the absence of institutions capable of taking care if a mishap happens, God forbid! Maybe the present institutions are those of the tribe and the military. Both of them are factors of panic more than stability. Of the reasons for that is that both of them bear their contradictions inside.

The establishment of real institutions is the factor that would protect Yemen against many of what might harm it if the absence of such institutions continues.



Al-Wahdawi weekly, organ of the Nasserite Unionist Organization, 31 Jan.2006.

Main headlines

- Spiraling rise in prices of goods and

- food supplies
- Election commission is violation of laws, intentional forging in voters records
- Al-Atwani: The Arab homeland suffers from regimes' practices
- JMP challenges neutrality and qualification of the Election Supreme Commission
- Air raids on positions of Al-Houthi followers in Saada
- Najah Wakim: America drags Lebanon to sectarian war
- Nasserite Organization head of information office calls on the Arab regimes to sever their relations with Denmark

Writer Jalal al-Sharaabi says in an article Saada has entered the new year with a third war. The number of killed and wounded have increased and their corpses scattered on heights and plains in a war we have not until now known its justifications. Presently, it seems there is a total blackout the authority practice concerning what is going on there on the ground. At the time the authority had begun distribution of the first batch of reparations on victims of its wars in Saada nearly a week ago, its forces continued their battles in more than ten places in Saada. The authority that had mobilized all its might to kill Hussein Badrudin Al-Houthi that resulted in the killing of hundreds troops and al-Houthi followers, had announced its pardon after all those confrontations and provided father of al-Houthi with material and moral support. Now the battles have been declared anew with a more pitched manner but no one from the press, parliament members or human rights organizations have access to observe the human tragedy of the citizens of Saada. Even the social notables or political parties have not tried to offer advice to the authority to use the reason and logic in this confrontation. The facts are: the victims in this confrontation are the Yemeni citizens, the warmongers have found in this confrontation a good opportunity for wealth.

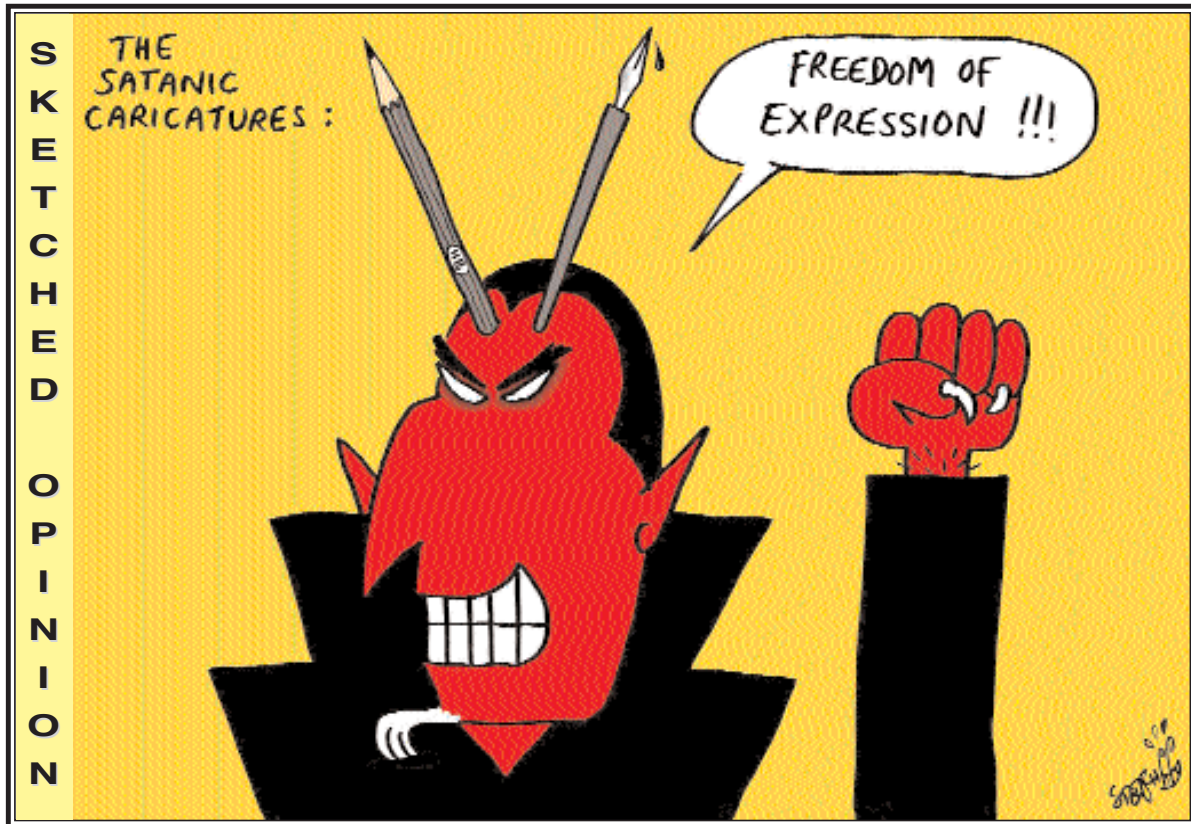
We have to abandon terror, which is a goal no one can refuse but against that we have to raise our voices and tell the authority to stop the war of Saada for safeguarding and saving the blood of our kith and kin.



Al-Mithaq weekly, organ of the General People's Congress (GPC), 30 Jan.2006.

Main headlines

- The president back home after a visit to Germany
- Emphasizing the GPC commitment to decision of the election commission, Al-Barkani: Islah party is used to receive the price before going to any electoral process
- Yemeni expatriates take part in the upcoming presidential and local elec-



The True Costs of the Iraq War

By: Joseph E. Stiglitz

The most important things in life like life itself are priceless. But that doesn't mean that issues involving the preservation of life (or a way of life), like defense, should not be subjected to cool, hard economic analysis.

Shortly before the current Iraq war, when Bush administration economist Larry Lindsey suggested that the costs might range between \$100 and \$200 billion, other officials quickly demurred. For example, Office of Management and Budget Director Mitch Daniels put the number at \$60 billion. It now appears that Lindsey's numbers were a gross underestimate.

Concerned that the Bush administration might be misleading everyone about the Iraq war's costs, just as it had about Iraq's weapons of mass destruction and connection with Al Qaeda, I teamed up with Linda Bilmes, a budget expert at Harvard, to examine the issue. Even we, as opponents of the war, were staggered by what we found, with conservative to moderate estimates ranging from slightly less than a trillion dollars to more than \$2 trillion.

Our analysis starts with the \$500 billion that the Congressional Budget Office openly talks about, which is still ten times higher than what the administration said the war would cost. Its estimate falls so far short because the reported numbers do not even include the full budgetary costs to the government. And the budgetary costs are but a fraction of the costs to the economy as a whole.

For example, the Bush administration has been doing everything it can to hide the huge number of returning veterans who are severely wounded - 16,000 so far, including roughly 20% with serious brain and head injuries. So it is no surprise that its figure of \$500 billion ignores the lifetime disability and healthcare costs that the government will have to pay for years to come.

Nor does the administration want to face up to the military's recruiting and retention problems. The result is large re-enlistment bonuses, improved benefits, and higher recruiting costs - up 20% just from 2003 to 2005. Moreover, the war is extremely wearing on equipment, some of which will have to be replaced.

These budgetary costs (exclusive of interest) amount to \$652 billion in our conservative estimate and \$799 billion in our moderate estimate. Arguably, since the government has not reined in other expenditures or increased taxes, the expenditures have been debt financed, and the interest costs on this debt add another \$98 billion (conservative) to \$385 billion (moderate) to the budgetary costs.

Of course, the brunt of the costs of injury and death is borne by soldiers and their families. But the military pays disability benefits that are markedly lower than the value of lost earnings. Similarly, payments for those who are killed amount to only \$500,000, which is far less than standard estimates of the lifetime economic cost of a death, sometimes referred to as the statistical value of a life (\$6.1 to \$6.5 million).

But the costs don't stop there. The

Bush administration once claimed that the Iraq war would be good for the economy, with one spokesperson even suggesting that it was the best way to ensure low oil prices. As in so many other ways, things have turned out differently: the oil companies are the big winners, while the American and global economies are losers. Being extremely conservative, we estimate the overall effect on the economy if only \$5 or \$10 of the increase is attributed to the war.

At the same time, money spent on the war could have been spent elsewhere. We estimate that if a proportion of that money had been allocated to domestic investment in roads, schools, and research, the American economy would have been stimulated more in the short run, and its growth would have been enhanced in the long run.

There are a number of other costs, some potentially quite large, although quantifying them is problematic. For instance, Americans pay some \$300 billion annually for the "option value" of military preparedness - being able to fight wherever needed. That Americans are willing to pay this suggests that the option value exceeds the costs. But there is little doubt that the option value has been greatly impaired and will likely remain so for several years.

In short, even our "moderate" estimate may significantly underestimate the cost of America's involvement in Iraq. And our estimate does not include any of the costs implied by the enormous loss of life and property in Iraq itself.

We do not attempt to explain whether the American people were deliberately misled regarding the war's costs, or whether the Bush administration's gross underestimate should be attributed to incompetence, as it vehemently argues is true in the case of weapons of mass destruction.

Nor do we attempt to assess whether there were more cost-effective ways of waging the war. Recent evidence that deaths and injuries would have been greatly reduced had better body armor been provided to troops suggests how short-run frugality can lead to long-run costs. Certainly, when a war's timing is a matter of choice, as in this case, inadequate preparation is even less justifiable.

But such considerations appear to be beyond the Bush administration's reckoning. Elaborate cost-benefit analyses of major projects have been standard practice in the defense department and elsewhere in government for almost a half-century. The Iraq war was an immense "project," yet it now appears that the analysis of its benefits was greatly flawed and that of its costs virtually absent.

One cannot help but wonder: were there alternative ways of spending a fraction of the war's \$1-\$2 trillion in costs that would have better strengthened security, boosted prosperity, and promoted democracy?

Joseph E. Stiglitz, a Nobel laureate in economics, is Professor of Economics at Columbia University and was Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisers to President Clinton and Chief Economist and Senior Vice President at the World Bank. Copyright: Project Syndicate, 2006. www.project-syndicate.org

Kuwait's Parliamentary Revolution

The world has been transfixed by the victory of Hamas in the Palestinian election. But a different assertion of democratic and parliamentary power, this time in the Gulf sheikhdom of Kuwait, which possesses 10% of world oil reserves, may prove to be equally important. Every sign indicates that the wave of democratization in Kuwait is irreversible, and the impact of these changes extends beyond Kuwait to all the other oil-rich Gulf countries, which are also ruled by emirs and sheikhs.

Indeed, these rulers now have much to ponder. The death of Kuwait's ruler, Sheikh Jaber al-Sabah, on January 15, 2006, was followed by unprecedented national disquiet, which led to the rapid abdication of his designated successor, Saad Al Sabah. Nothing like this had ever hit the Al Sabah family, which has ruled Kuwait for two centuries.

Traditionally, the role of ruling Emir alternated (according to a tacit agreement) between two rival branches of the Al Sabah family - the Al Jaber and the Al Salem. The succession was always strictly a family affair, and any disputes remained behind closed doors. However, with Sheikh Jaber al-Sabah's death, the succession was not only subjected to feverish public debate, but the Kuwaiti press and Parliament were key actors in determining the outcome.

Kuwait's political system is considered the most modern among the Arab Gulf sheikhdoms and monarchies, because all citizens - men and women alike - elect its parliament. Elections with universal suffrage, combined with a relatively free press, meant that the succession became a public issue, debated in the media and by academics for months as Sheikh Jaber was dying.

With the taboo on discussing the succession broken, talk about the physical and mental fitness of the likely successor became commonplace, and members of the ruling family who objected to the prospect of being ruled by a severely incapacitated crown prince came to enjoy broad support.

Thus, immediately after Jaber al-Sabah's death, the succession became a national concern. What in the past would have been a straightforward palace coup spilled out onto the pages of newspapers and into the corridors of Parliament. The Crown Prince's abdication became inevitable.

The cabinet of ministers affirmed the succession of Sabah al-Sabah as the new ruler, which was then ratified by Parliament. For the region, this was an

historic moment. For the first time, an Arab parliament had voted a head of state out of office and asserted its will in choosing the successor.

Parliamentary supremacy, one of the key issues in any country's democratization, appears to be at hand in Kuwait.

Of course, Kuwait will now experience enormous tensions between the transparent rule of a true parliamentary government and the still powerful legacy of a hidden family-run state. But the old rule of force and intrigue by which other Gulf rulers have been deposed has been replaced by a modern principle - the Al Sabah have surrendered their exclusive control over the succession to the will of Parliament, which alone could provide the legitimacy that the new Emir needs.

The consequences of this assertion of parliamentary authority will be enormous. Parliamentary ratification did not simply provide a rubber stamp to a palace coup; its approval was conditional. Emirs who need parliamentary approval to secure popular legitimacy must now reckon with the need to share power.

In exchange for voting to pass over the unfit Crown Prince, Kuwait's par-



By: Mai Yamani

liament is now demanding even more political and economic reforms, including the formal legalization of political parties, the separation of the position of prime minister from that of crown prince, and even for the prime minister to be chosen from outside the Al Sabah family. This was a true parliamentary revolution.

According to Kuwait's constitution, the new ruler has one year to appoint a crown prince, but he has to appoint a prime minister immediately. The delay is significant, because Kuwaitis are unaccustomed to this kind of parliamentary influence. The new Emir will now need to navigate skillfully between the Al Sabah family's factions and a newly empowered parliament.

The victory of Parliament in Kuwait's succession crisis is likely to lead some of Kuwait's neighboring autocracies to stiffen their resolve against modernity and democracy. But Kuwait shows that there will invariably come a moment when holding onto feudal ways is no longer an option. The Kuwaiti model may be risky, but the alternative - simply ignoring the need for change - could prove fatal.

Mai Yamani, the author of *Cradle of Islam*, is a Senior Research fellow at Chatham House, the Royal Institute of Economic Affairs.

Copyright: Project Syndicate, 2006. www.project-syndicate.org

Sana'a beauty centers: business and therapy

By: Amel Mohammed Al-Ariqi
Amellariqi@yahoo.com

The spread of beauty centers offering cosmetic services and products in Sana'a has become a remarkable phenomenon. Some centers recently have begun providing their mostly female customers treatments and products dealing with skin problems, obesity and even some disfigurement problems. Although such centers are outside Ministry of Health monitoring, beauty center owners insist that Yemenis long for such services because they are needed.

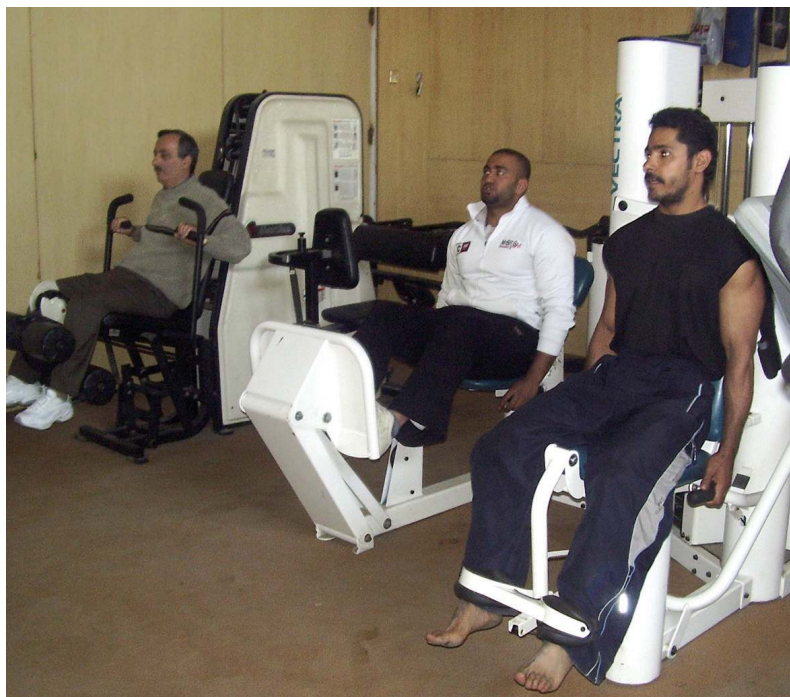
For women only

A Hadda Street beauty center, owned and operated by a Yemeni and his Philippine wife, provides customers cosmetic services such as cleaning, softening, protecting and coloring hair, skin, nails, lips and eyes.

"Our customers are women. We don't allow any male to enter the center unless he is under age 10," the owner noted. Also, employees are women of different nationalities. "We respect customers' privacy, so I hired women to offer these services. The only men you see are me and a boy and we work in the café outside the center," he added.

The center also contains a section with many exercise machines and equipment. Hind from Egypt said such equipment is important to keep the body fit. She said many women experience obesity or miss their previous body shape after giving birth, so they come to the center and follow diets and a nutrition system she prescribes for them in addition to exercise.

"I ask the customer to follow a particular nutrition and exercise program according to her situation, health and need," she said. "It is important for me to know the customer's medical history and background. For example, if the customer has suffered heart disease, I have to consider this in her program," she added. According to the owner, customers vary in age and nationality. "Yemeni women make up the largest number of our cus-



Center offers physical therapy.

tomers," he added.

The beauty center also has a small outside café where fast food, hot and cold drinks and shisha are provided. The owner commented that such services aim to satisfy customers, although such services may be against the regime they customer are following. "In the end, it is business," he said.

An Australian woman who refused to be photographed expressed her satisfaction of services offered at the beauty center. "It is the only center I use when I come to Sana'a," she said. Another customer said she comes often to use the exercise equipment to maintain her fitness and energy.

Physical therapy

Amjed from Iran also directs a Hadda Street beauty center. He mentioned that the center was established mainly to offer medical and cosmetic services. However, he could not get permission from the Ministry of Health; therefore, it has become a tourist center. "Unfortunately, Yemenis have no idea about the medical

center concept. They don't know the importance of the services such a center may offer. What they want is only a place to chew qat and smoke," he said.

Although the center has no Ministry of Health authorization, it offers physical therapy to several customers. Fatima has two or three weekly physical therapy sessions at the center. "I got a blood clot in one of my legs and I had an operation in Sana'a," she said. "After the operation, my doctor sent me to this center to get physical therapy. I have been treated here for seven months. I feel much better," she added.

Raad had surgery in Jordan on his upper spine. "When I came back, a doctor sent me to this center to rehabilitate my spine," he said.

Saddam, the center's physical therapy supervisor, said he previously worked in a physical therapy center where he was trained to use it for patients. He pointed out the importance of the beauty center's exercise machines in treating customers. "Our customers, whether men or women, use such machines to rebuild and rejuvenate their damaged limbs," he said.

nate their damaged limbs," he said.

Expert and laser

"We are distinguished by the expensive modern equipment we use to provide customers with perfect, healthy care for their skin or hair," said Abdulkarim, another center owner. He stated that the center's international cosmetics cannot be found in Yemeni markets. "We also use laser and a machine that produces water vapor to cure skin problems," he said.

Rima Kammel from Lebanon is an expert, having worked in this field for eight years. She said the beauty center's customers are Yemeni women between the ages of 15 and 45, adding that it also receives women of different nationalities. "A skin cleaning session costs between 5,000 YR (about \$25) and 8,000 YR (about \$28). Customers usually need one to six sessions monthly," she added.

"The main skin problems Yemeni women suffer are tan or brown skin, peeling and acne," she said. "We refuse to treat skin with any kind of infection. We ask customers to see a doctor first," she added.

Absent Ministry of Health

Surgeon Dr. Marwan Ali said beauty center owners are merely traders. According to Ali, the Ministry of Health should be responsible for observing and monitoring activities inside such centers. "It's very dangerous for amateurs to give a diet or nutrition program, as an incorrect system threatens the body and will subject it to disease and collapse," he warned.

He pointed out that those who operate such centers are not Yemenis and that they claim they have the experience and qualifications enabling them to offer such therapy. "Unfortunately, Yemenis - especially women - believe them and go to their centers," he said.

Physical therapist Dr. Ahmed Almedhwah said those offering physical therapy in beauty centers are not experts in this regard. "They receive a few months' training course and then claim they are physical therapists. Their concept of physical therapy is a massage," he said.

According to Almedhwah, physical therapists must do manual muscle testing, electrical testing, perceptual and sensory testing, as well as measure range of joint motion. Functional activity testing is important to determine patients' ability to perform necessary tasks to care for themselves.

In treating patients, physical therapists may employ one or more of the following procedures: heat treatments using water at various temperatures, melted paraffin wax, infrared and ultraviolet lamps, ultrasonic waves producing heat internally and diathermy (applying electrical current to generate heat in body tissue).

Physical therapy also includes massage, bandaging, strapping and applying and removing splints and casts. Physical therapists also instruct patients and their relatives in exercise techniques.

centers; therefore, Yemenis may turn to beauty centers seeking a cure. "The physical therapy center in Sana'a and maybe two other centers outside Sana'a are the only ones offering physical therapy under Ministry of Health control," he noted.

Dermatology specialist Dr. Elham Mutahar said it is important that beauty centers employ experts and specialists. "Randomly applying cosmetics will affect the skin and create problems such as spots and wrinkles," she warned.

Mutahar referred to types of cosmetics available in markets and possibly in beauty centers containing ingredients that harm the skin. "An expert or skin doctor knows such ingredients and their effects upon the skin," she added.

She said the Ministry of Health and similar authorities must monitor cosmetic products entering Yemen. She also






expensive cosmetic producers in one of the beauty center

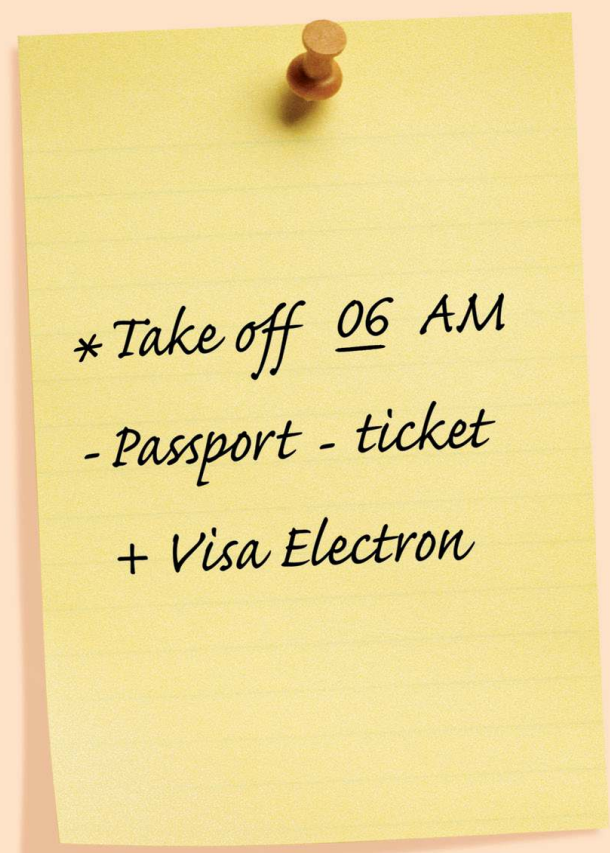
"The Yemeni concept of physical therapy is not clear, so he or she may pay 2,000 YR or 3,000 YR for a massage session, thinking it is physical therapy; whereas hospital physical therapy would cost 500 YR."

Almedhwah confessed that although such therapy is important in rehabilitating the body before and after surgery or in treating disfigurement, Yemen lacks such


referred to the risk of beauty centers' use of lasers. "An expert is the only one who can use a laser on the skin. Laser misuse may lead to serious consequences like blindness."


Mutahar concluded, "Whether these beauty centers are for business or therapy, they should be under Ministry of Health supervision."




IBY Visa Electron..
Wherever you are .. Your account with you

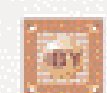





For more details please call us on 01 - 407030 or visit our website at www.ibyemen.com



سافر اليوم وادفع غداً



بنك اليمن الدولي
INTERNATIONAL BANK OF YEMEN



الخطوط البريئة الجديدة

967 1 204635 • فاكس: 211722 • 211699

Yemeni Premier League to resume

SANA'A, Jan. 4 - The Yemeni Premier League started last Thursday after a three-week delay. It is the first time for the league to kick off on the third week, that is two weeks later than its usual time every year.

Yemen Football Federation Media officer Abdurrahman Aqeel mentioned the Minister of Youths and Sports sent a letter to the Yemeni Football Federation (YFF) demanding the temporary committee take prompt procedures to ensure start of the tournament and abandon any other considerations.

Aqeel pointed out the Minister of Youths and Sports ordered freezing any penalties, including fines amounting up to 100,000 Riyals, imposed by the YFF contemporary committee against clubs boycotting the tournament.

The Premier League has been delayed by three weeks as nine teams refused to join the tournaments until their demands are met, an issue making the crisis reach an impasse. Some teams boycotted the tournament under the pretext the draw meeting was illegal.



Delaying the tournament and exacerbating the crisis between teams and the YFF raised tension among sport fans nationwide. According to Ali Al-Asemi, a football lover, the Yemeni football will experience a critical situation unless concerned officials take preventive measures. He attributed the Yemeni football crisis to the lack of awareness and dedication of sport officials coupled with the absences of game-related regulations and bylaws.



SOON Yemenia Flies To China

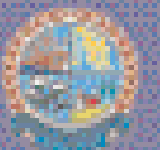


Yemenia  اليمنية
www.yemenia.com

For more Details please contact Yemenia offices your Agent
Hadda: 218777, Zubairi: 500600, Abdul-Mughni: 208555, Bir Ubaid : 600902, Shu'oob: 250003, Hasaba: 258000 or IY GSA

The Board of Directors of the National Bank of Yemen approves the Bank's Audited Financial Statements for the year ending 31 December 2005

البنك الأهلي اليمني
National Bank Of Yemen



Mr. Abdul Rahman Mohamed Al-Kobali
Chairman of the Board and General

The Board of Directors of the National Bank of Yemen held its Annual meeting on Sunday, 29 January 2006 to approve the Financial Statements of the Bank for the year ending 31 December 2005 and to hear the Report of the Bank's external Auditors Dahman, (RSM).

The meeting, which was held at the Bank's Head Office in Aden, commenced with the speech of Mr. Abdul Rahman Mohamed Al-Kobali, Chairman of the Board and General Manager.

In his speech, Mr. Al-Kobali stated that the National Bank of Yemen, despite the increased challenges that face the banking sector and due to the dedication of the Bank's employees and the continuous support from the owner (Government), ended another excellent year and succeeded in achieving the best results since its establishment.

In addition, Mr. Al-Kobali announced that NBY in 2005 realized good results and noticeable achievements in all its financial, organizational, and services levels. The Bank continued also to maintain its broad client's base, which characterizes the combination of its deposits as well as its ability to attract various types of deposits, the fact that reflects the Bank's success in strengthening its client's confidence and trust and to attract new clients while maintaining the old ones at the same time.

The Chairman of the Board of directors added that the results and the achievements, which the bank succeeded in establishing during the year 2005, were due to a flexible strategy adapted by the management of the Bank. This strategy consisted of securing high returns, effective risks control while concentrating at same time on ensuring the satisfaction of our customers and service qualities, improve productivity, operation efficiency, cost effectiveness and supporting the capital base of the Bank.

Furthermore, Mr. Al-Kobali pointed out that this was the third consecutive year that Bank has increased its paid up capital by 48.1% over the previous year. This increase made the capital of the Bank to become one of the highest in the Yemeni banking sector and represents 68.1% of total owners equity which forms about 9.1% of the Bank's assets by the end 2005, thus reflecting a continuous growth in the capitalization of the Bank.

Further, the Chairman of the Board of Directors added that the Bank continued to maintain high percentage of liquidity of 80%, which is one of the highest in the banking industry. This fact enables the Bank, at all times to face all unforeseen circumstances and to meet all of its commitments.

In addition, the Chairman and General Manager of the National Bank of Yemen Mr. Abdul Rahman Mohamed Al-Kobali announced that the developments in the financial indicators of the Bank are reflected in the rating that the Bank has received from the international rating agencies during 2005. Whereas Capital Intelligence, the international rating agency, has rated the Bank for long-term foreign currency as 'B'; short-term foreign currency as 'B' which is equal to sovereign rating of the Republic of Yemen. It also rated the financial strength of the Bank as 'BB', the highest rating given to any commercial bank in Yemen; and rated the outlook as 'stable'. In its report Capital Intelligence pointed out that, National Bank of Yemen has excellent local presence, efficient management, and conservative lending policy which has resulted in improving the Bank's asset quality and its financial position.

In his speech, Mr. Al-Kobali added that the National Bank of Yemen would continue in the next year its successful path and will continue to achieve greater accomplishments in terms of efficiency, development, and profitability. In 2006 the Bank aims to introduce innovative banking services and products which suit the requirements of our esteemed customers.

The Auditor's report which was read by Mr. Dahman Awadh Dahman of Dahman (RSM), stated that the financial statements, in their opinion, present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Bank as at 31 December 2005, and the results of its operations, its cash flows and changes in owner's equity for the year then ended in accordance with the International Financial Reporting Standards.

The Board of Directors conveyed their profound gratitude and reverence to His Excellency, The President Ali Abdullah Saleh, President of the Republic of Yemen, for his prudent leadership and foresight, and his sound guidance for setting up a suitable climate for the comprehensive economic development that our country is witnessing. The Board of Directors also extend their gratitude and appreciation to the Prime Minister, the Deputy Prime Minister the Minister of Finance under whose supervision the Bank operates- and to the Governor of the Central Bank of Yemen, for their continued support to place the Bank in high standing and for their continued assistance for the banking sector in Yemen, which contribute in large for the growth of the Yemeni economy.



In The Name of God
The Compassionate, The Merciful

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

Condolence

عزاء ومواساة

“يا أيتها النفس المطمئنة ارجعي إلى ربك راضية مرضية فادخلي في عبادي وادخلي جناتي”
“صدق الله العظيم”

With mourning and grieving hearts we
Express our deepest condolences to

بقلوب مؤمنة بقضاء الله وقدره، نتقدم
بأحر التعازي القلبية إلى

H.E. Abdul Aziz Abdul Ghani
Esq. Chairman of Shura Council

معالي الأستاذ/ عبدالعزيز عبدالغني المحترم
رئيس مجلس الشورى

On the death of your brother,
Jalal Abdul Ghani, who passed
away on Friday 3 February 2006.

بوفاة المغفور له بإذن الله تعالى أخيه، جلال عبدالغني،
الذي وافته المنية يوم الجمعة الموافق ٣ فبراير ٢٠٠٦م.

May Allah The Almighty,
Merciful rest his soul in peace in
paradise and to grant his family and
relatives all patience.

تغمده الله الفقيد بواسع رحمته وألهم أهله
وذويه الصبر والسلوان

On behalf of all Canadian Nexen
Petroleum Yemen, Management,
Employees, Workers and
Partners in the Masila Block (14).

الأسيافون/ كافة عمال وموظفي ومنتسبي شركة
كنيديان نكسن بتروليم يمن وشركاؤها في قطاع
المسيلة (١٤).

“إنا لله وإنا إليه راجعون”

أليستر موني
الرئيس والمدير العام

علي السحياقي
المدير التنفيذي

Alistair Mooney
President and General Manager

Ali M. Sohaiki
Executive Director

Yempac
CARGO
للتغليف والنقل في اليمن

THE BEST IN PACKING & FORWARDING

الفضل في التغليف والنقل في اليمن

Tel.: 967-1-447126/7
Fax: 447128
Email: yempac@y.net.ye
P.O.Box: 3366.
SANA'A REPUBLIC OF YEMEN.
WEB: http://www.yempac.com.

Travels

Al-Nasim Travel & Tourism. For domestic & international air tickets with price busters all airlines.

Tel: 219890/270750
Alkumaim Trading Center Hadda st.

Cargo

TransGlobal logistics & Services Ltd. Worldwide Movers

Tel: 01-442266/442135 Fax: 01-442133
P.O. Box 16884, Sana'a, Rep. of Yemen.
Email: transglobal@yemen.net.ye
Email: transglobal2@yemen.net.ye
Website: www.transglobalyemen.com

Cargo

Al-Nasim Cargo Forwarders for packing, customs clearance, domestic & international forwarding air & sea.

Contact: Al-Nasim cargo forwarder. Al-Zubairi St Sanaa. Tel: 275903 / 216048 / 407905

ITS Global Logistics, Tel: 967-1-218142 (5 lines) Fax: 967-1-209940, Email: itsgroup@y.net.ye
itsglobalistic@y.net.ye P. O. Box 25159, Sana'a, R.O.Y. Business Development, 73217750, Customer Service: 73212272 Operations: 73217752 Exemptions 73214700. Global Logistic Solutions International Freight Forwarding (Land/Sea/Air). Weather Proof Packing, Removals & Warehousing International Door-to-door services (Worldwide). Customs clearance, Exemptions, www.ITSGLOBALLOGISTICS.COM

YEMEN PACKING & FORWARDING CO.(YEMPAC CARGO) Tel: 967-1-447126/7, Fax: 967-1-447128
E-mail: yempac@y.net.ye
Operations: 408518/7904603
Sales & Mkt: 408517/73208898, Clearance: 408518.
Global Logistic Solutions International Freight Forwarders (Land/Sea/Air). Weather Proof Packing, removals & Warehousing International Door-to-door services (Worldwide). Customs clearance, Exemption

Situation Vacant

Required: Sales Engineer for instrumentation product services age 24-30, experience minimum 3 years, excellent English

Send your CV to 01-240624

Required: Tow English teacher in Academic British institute + one computer teacher for contact: 601841

Job Seekers

Salwa Saeed - High School - Good use computer and internet - and study English - I want to work any where.

Contact Address: 235878 or 711595801.

Hussein Mubarak - Experience: financial Asst., purchasing, Translation+Correspondence

Al-Zahra Stationery
For School & Office Supplies
ALL YOUR NEEDS UNDER ONE ROOF.
Hadda Str. Sana'a Infront of Yemenia Airline,
Tel: 240207 Fax: 268041, E-mail: ALZAHRA@Y.NET.YE

مكتبة الزهراء
لبيع الأدوات المكتبية القرطاسية، الهندسية، ولوازم المكاتب.
كل ما تحتاجونه، تحت سقف واحد..
شارع حدة، امام الخطوط الجوية اليمنية
ت: ٢٤٠٢٠٧ - فاكس: ٢٦٨٠٤١

Al-Shaibani Restaurant Super Delux
بإسم محمد عبده الشيباني
صفاة - شارع حدة - أمام مركز الكيم التجاري
تلفون: ٥٠٥٢٩٠ - ٢٦٦٢٧٥
فاكس: ٢٦٦١٩٠
ص.ب: ٥٤١٥
Email: shaibani@yemen.net.ye
P.O. Box: 5465

العين أعلى جوهره فحافظ عليها
نظارات نديم
نحط بأيديكم خبرة ٤٥ سنة
يوجد لدينا أطباء متخصصون في طب وجراحة العيون
متواجدون خلال الفترة المسائية
تخفيض ١٥٪ عند شراء النظارة لحامل هذا الإعلان
شارع علي عبد المظني جوار معرض رادو - التحرير - صفاة - تلفون ٧١٧٥٢٩٩٦ - ٧١١٩٩٩٩٢

cashier , Receptionist, Store keeper, Librarian , driver dispatcher, Security, gen.services
ence+Mangoment+Secretariat+Public Relation+Computers programs and Maintenance.
Tel:711832070.
Email:int_16@hotmail.com.
Yemeni male graduate from great Britain college from 98 until may 05. the subject out as(IT) computer+ Business + Math's + English language+ business English 5 years work experience plus a course in selling and marketing in the biggest + companies in the gulf region-looking to work as a marketing or administration manager in Yemen sales Mr.Waleed Saif
for contact: 00966551512923/77770655-01/300949.
Graduate from Sana'a University specialist public relation and I have secretary computer and I can speak English very well.
Saleh Hussein Al-fohed Tel: 77830159 - 71613653
Hussein Mubarak - Experience: financial Asst., purchasing ,

secretary computer - English language good in writing and speaking-driving license experience(warehouse keeper-inventory control-follow up purchasing) for contact:73409652
Adel Al-Sharafi-B.A. degree , English, teacher of ICIDL for 3 years in Yemen Holland(ICI)- 5 years in computer maintenance net Cafe building- very good in typing Arabic and English for contact: 73174751

حرة التصاريح وطلبات الإقامة طرأ واقعا وعدي
الأعمال والتجارة الأخرى
خالد سعيد قارع الحمادي
لترتيب كافة السجلات الحكومية
أيتسام
فألف الف مبروك
مكتب علي المذحرجي - مدير قائم الكوالت - مكتب أحمد الجدي - الحمادي
مكتب الجدي - رئيسية العدل والتوثيق - مكتب الحمادي

Ahmed Muraishi
Real Estate Rentals
Tel: 733802855
Hadda and Diplomatic Areas

- For Rent, Fully Furnished Villa, 2 Story, Big Garden, Dip. Area \$1200 a month.
- Furnished Flat in Aden. 2BD. RM., 1Bth., 1Kit., Lovely and unigue Remodeled monthly \$500.
- 2 story villa in HADDA, near Iran st. 10 rooms, 6 Bath., 2kit., Monthly \$1200.
- One story + Full Basement Villa, in AL-ASBAHI, Garden + More. Only \$500 a month.

secretary computer - English language good in writing and speaking-driving license experience(warehouse keeper-inventory control-follow up purchasing) for contact:73409652
Adel Al-Sharafi-B.A. degree , English, teacher of ICIDL for 3 years in Yemen Holland(ICI)- 5 years in computer maintenance net Cafe building- very good in typing Arabic and English for contact: 73174751

Real Estate
Lovely one story + basement villa in Hadda. The perfect residence for any family: 5 rooms, 3 baths, kitchen, extra rooms in basement, very nice garden, please call:733802855
For rent fully furnished flat, Hadda'a area..2 bed rooms , 3 bath rooms fully equipped kitchen,six chairs dining room European sitting room.Yemeni mafraj: monthly rent \$700 please call 733802855

Computers
Laptop Toshiba Satellite pro Pentium 4 H.D.: 40 G.B., RAM 512 MB, CD-Rw, 2000 MB/h, Screen TFT: 15, Resolution Screen: 1200x1600 M.Pixel, Price \$1000 dollars.
For more information

Important Numbers
Per line, Per year \$300 Only

191, Water Problems 171, Telephone enquiries 118, Accident (Traffic) 194, Foreign Affairs, 2025447, Interior Affairs 2527017, Immigration 2507613, Inter-City Bus Co. 2621113, Ministry of Communication 3251101/2/3, Radio Station 282061, Tourism 254032, TV Station 3320012, Red Crescent 203131/3, Tel-Yemen 7522202, Y.net 7522227

Vehicles
For sale:Nissan car , Gulf states specifications , golden color , full options, model 2001, in a good condition.

GULF PHOTO CENTER
DIGITAL PHOTO EXPRESS

سحب الصور من الفلوبي - الميديا - الفلاش ميموري وجميع انواع شرايح كاميرات الفيديو والفيديو
نقل الأفلام الفوتوغرافية وشرطة الفيديو الي سيدي روم
تغطية كل الحفلات والمناسبات بالفيديو والتصوير الفوتوغرافية
كما يوجد لدينا كادر لخدمات متخصص لتصوير الميديات والحفلات والاسماء والأعراس

Head Office - Sana'a - Hadda St. Oppite Gatar Airways
Tel. : 200785
Fax. : 407670

Branch :
Algeria St. - around of Baghdad St.
Tel. : 218708

Relax-Inn ريلاكس إن
Luxury Furnished Apartments
أجنحة وشقق عائلية مفروشة
daily, weekly, monthly, yearly
The best place for you and your family

يومى . اسبوعى . شهري . سنوي
المكان الأفضل لك ولعائلتك
صفاة - حدة - الحي السياسي
ت: 449871

Diplomatic Area-Hadda - Sana'a
Mobile: 711941279 سيارة: 733660074

Al-Adalah Magazine
To those who are concerned about Justice and legal issues in Yemen, a new justice magazine, called Al-Adalah is now it 8th issue.

For more information on the ancient Chinese pharaohs art of healing. Call Dr.A.Latif A.Mageeda consultant in Yoga,magnet therapy and Acupressure at : 73524031

Lost items
BAIJU RAJAN, lost of my Indian passport no.E7088003, If some one find it please contact ME NO. MOB: 71179718 JIJU

COURIERS
ARAMEX Sana'a: 4410245, Aden:243124 Hodeidah:219643, Ibb:406882 Taiz: 213489, Mukalla 309190
FedEx Sana'a: 440170, Aden: 248177 Hodeidah:234982, Ibb:411988 Mukalla 302641,Seayn: 402469 Shabua: 202326

AIRLINES
Continental Airlin 278668/283082
Egypt Air 273452/275061
Gulf Air 440922
Lufthansa 213400/219252
Qatar Air ways Fax:506038, Tel:5060305

BANKS
YBRANCH OF FOREIGN BANKS:
Yemen Gulf Bank Fax:260824 Tel:967-1-260823
CALYON Corporate and Investment Bank
Head Office: Al-Zubiry St. 274371/2/3
Al-Qasr St. 272802/1/20
Aden : Al-Ma'alla St. 02/247023/4
Hodeidah 26th Sept. St. 03/219506/7
Taiz Al-Mugama'a St. 04/210568/9/50
Mukalla:Hay Addis-main St. 05/352917-306560
Shamil Bank of Yemen & Bahrain Tel. 264775-264702. Fax. 264703.503350

Yemeni Banks:
Central Bank 274310/1
Yemeni Islamic Bank Sana'a: 401552-205678 251816 213517 Hodeidah: 271623/4

HOSPITALS
Modern German Hospital Tel. 418000, Fax: 418116 E-mail: felixpene@hotmail.com Fax: 601889
The First Consultant center for the skin, venereal Diseases & Infertility 205517-7380737
Orthopedic & plastic specialist Hospital+967-1-633922
E-mail:orthosp@hotmail.com
Al-Jumhuri Hospital 274285
Al-Thawra Hospital 246366
Yemen Specialized Hospital 224963

HOTELS
SANA'A:
Al-Yamama Palace Suites: 236230
Best Western Hadda Hotel: 415212/5
Hadda Town: 415900
Raipon Hotel & Suites 504016/7/8
ADEN:
Amoudi Plaza Hotel (02) 247000/1-5
Elephant BayBeach Resort (02) 202055

INSURANCE COMPANIES
Arab Insurance Company Sana'a 606810/1/2/3/4/5 Fax 6 Aden:257875-260827, Taiz: 260744

RESTAURANT
Al-shaibani restaurant super delux Tel: 266375 - 505290 Fax:267619
Indian Restaurant (home delivery available) 447118
Contact: Mr. Sunny Joseph 263925-71150769
Chilli House Rest. for brost, Cabab etc... 73568079

SCHOOLS
Canadian International School 418510, 423364
International Turkish Schools Sana'a 4482589 Taiz 205993
Al-Hussein National Schools 412826/7
Sam Yemen International School Diplomatic Area Tel: 440353-440354 fax: 440355
Al-Majd Yemen School 206159
Middle East Modern School 447118
The English School 419308
Tulip School 412249
Ibnhams Modern school 671275, 671140
Rainbow Pre-School 414-0264/424-433

Supermarket
AL-JANDUL Supermarket. 01-422210

Translations
Wantqa Int. Auth. Trans. Arabic-English-Fre... German-Russian-Italian- Spanish-Polish-Dutch-Iranian-Turkish-Eriterea-Amharic. 01-240515

TRAVEL
Abu Yaser Travel&Tourism tel:611560
Falcon Business Travel Center Tel: 446250 Fax: 446251
Al-Nasim Travel 270750
Al-Sunidar Fax: 265202 Tel: 241667/500808
Apollo Business Travel Center Tel: 444000/888
Arabian Peninsula T & T Tel. 414755/410302 Fax: 414798
Murjan Travel Fax : 400555 Tel/ 216028 / 466881
Universal Business Travel Center Tel: 441158/9/60

UNIVERSITIES
American World University, Rep. by IS academy Tel. 01-417441 Fax: 412039
University of Applied and Social Science Sana'a: 412442 Fax: 412441 Aden: 234533 / 234960
Queen Arwa University 449971/2
Sana'a University 250553/4/5
Alandalus University Tel:675567, Fax:675885

Coupon for Free Classified Ads. (All Personal Ads - All Free of Cost)

For Sale Required Available For Lease For Hire/Rent Job Require Situation Vacant Others

Details:

Contact Address:

Please cut this coupon and send it to Yemen Times fax: 268276 or P.O. Box 2579 - Sana'a
For more info. contact Mr. Rashid, 268661/2/3, 71200540

Five million riyal Dar Al-Hajar model on display

Yemen Times Staff

A 1.6 x 2-meter wooden miniature depicting Dar Al-Hajar (The Rock Palace), the rock mountain palace located in a suburb of Sana'a, is on display Feb. 1-14 at Bait Al-Thaqafah (Culture House). Constructed by craftsman Morshid Al-Ghuthaifi, the model outshines other exhibits, which include female artists Arwa Al-Yarimi and Malukah Al-Fudhail displaying paintings and traditional crafts.

Dar Al-Hajar was the palace of Yemen's Imam. With its stories and the orientation of its facades, the palace commands tremendous views of the valley, in the center of which it stands atop a lofty rock. It was used, often as a summer retreat, by the different dynasties that ruled Yemen and then by the Yemeni imamate from 1602 to 1835. It was built on the ruins of a much older, perhaps pre-Islamic Sabaeen structure known as Du Siadan. The rock contains numerous caves used for storage, burying the dead, etc., in addition to a well shaft running from high atop rock down to the water table.

This is the second model of its kind constructed by 57-year-old Al-Ghuthaifi who began this new profession a couple of years ago. "I



Wooden miniature of Dar Al-Hajar.

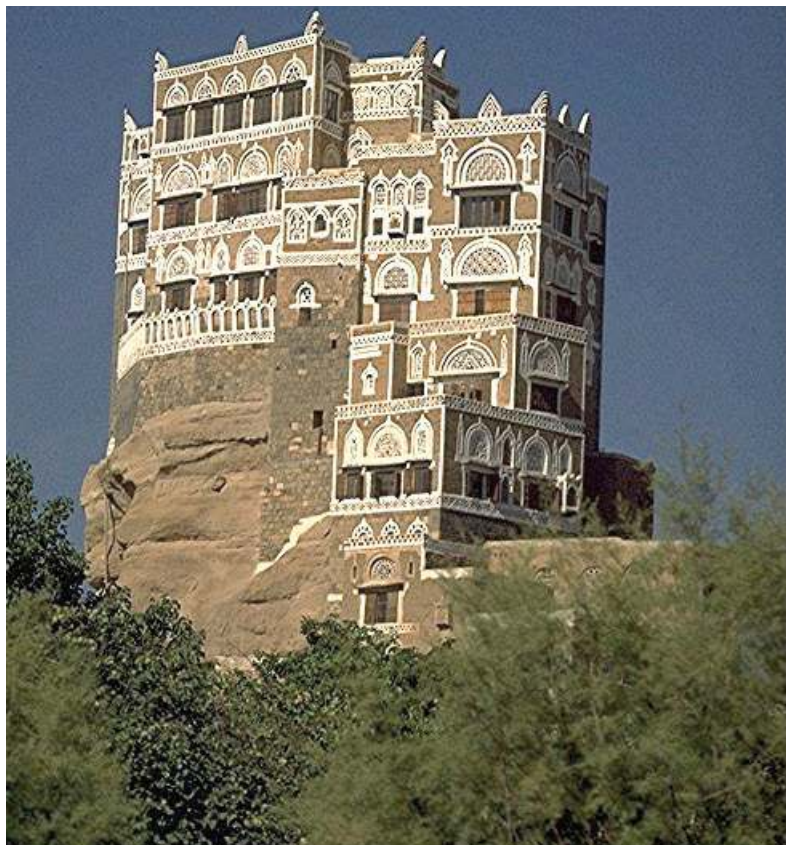
protects me from the menaces of aging." He also participated in 2004 Sana'a Arab Culture Capital activities.

The piece is 95 percent accurate and took a year to make, Al-Ghuthaifi said. The first model took nearly the same amount of time but was less accurate at approximately 70 percent. "This time, I was very meticulous. I took the measurements of the palace and the cluster of houses adjacent to it. Every four centimeters in this miniature represents one meter in reality," he explained.

Al-Ghuthaifi sold the first model to the Republic Presidency for three million riyals. "I hope I can sell this one for five million riyals. That would be a bargain," he said.

The model weighs 99 kilos and moves on hidden wheels. It also collapses into some 21 pieces. Traditional Yemeni house models usually are made of plaster but this one is made of wood with the help of paste, glass, paint and other artificial additions.

Al-Ghuthaifi now is considering depicting another Yemeni landmark, Sayoun's Al-Sultan Palace in Hadhramout province. "If I am commissioned officially by the Ministry of Culture, I will have to go to Sayoun and spend a couple of weeks to measure the palace's dimensions before I can properly reduce it to a miniature," he concluded.



The real Dar Al-Hajar in Wadi Dhar.

was a carpenter. After retirement, my children wanted me to rest," he recalled.

"Rest means rust," he quipped, "I couldn't remain idle, so I embarked on this type of art. It is fantastic and

YEMEN - AMERICA
YALI
LANGUAGE INSTITUTE

Yemen's Premier Language Institute Since 1975

**Announcing Term 91:
February 18 - March 22**

**Registration:
February 12 - 15**

Classes Available at 9 Levels
(Mornings, Afternoons & Evenings)

- Self-Access Multi-Media Lab (Video/Software/Reading & Listening)
- Extra Computer Lab for all Students
- Plus Many Special Courses
- TOEFL Preparation Course

For information, contact YALI at:
448 039 or 445 482/3/4 FAX: 448037
E-Mail: info@yali.org.ye

سمن تتوارثه الأجيال

القمرية
سمن نباتي عالي الجودة
صافي

Kamaria

**CONSOLIDATED CONTRACTORS
INTERNATIONAL COMPANY - SAL**

CONSTRUCTION OF MECHANICAL
AND HEAVY CIVIL PROJECTS

- Petrochemical plants, refineries.
- Heavy, light industrial plants.
- Power and desalination plants.
- Fuel and water storage tanks.
- Oil fields auxiliary installations.
- Air purification for industry.
- Marine docks, harbours, deep sea berths & refinery terminals.
- Offshore structures and modern stern cranes.
- Pipelines construction and maintenance.
- Prefabricated accommodation & office facilities.
- Sewage treatment plants & collection main works.
- Airports, roads, light ax, bridges & fly-over-ars.
- High quality buildings & sports complexes.
- Water treatment plants, room air & distribution systems.

Sanaa
Tel: (967-1) 441638
Fax: (967-1) 441630
E-Mail: cccyemen@y.net.ye

Aden
Tel: (967-2) 377328
Fax: (967-2) 377716
E-Mail: cccaden@y.net.ye

الشركة اليمنية للتجارة والإنشاءات (المحدودة)
Yemen Trading & Construction Co. (Ltd.)

INGERSOLL-RAND
AIR COMPRESSORS

IR
Ingersoll Rand
Drilling equipment

INGERSOLL-RAND
Motocompressore

Sana'a Tel.264005/6, Fax:240624, Email:YTCC@Y.NET.YE, Aden: Telefax: 247387, Hodeidah: Tel. 208829, Fax: 205817

الأسرة

شكّل نمط حياة وتصميم أول لفافة
مياه نظيفة مستوحاة من الفن. نحن مستوحون بأفكارنا وتصاميمنا ومناخنا
التكنولوجيا نوكيا الطوية من أجل استخدام أفضل
شاشة ملونة متألقة مع 65,000 نيت
نظام بحث متطور، 127MB، على الخريطة
سور الفلغ مع كاميرا VGA متقدمة ومستقبل الفيديو

NOKIA 7360

7360 55
NOKIA
Connecting People