

Hertz
 With Hertz
 Freedom Rates,
 anything's possible
 Low Rates & Flexibility
 Free Unlimited Mileage
 Universal Rent a Car
 Sana'a Tel: (01) 440309, Aden (02) 245625
 Sheraton Branch (01) 545985

Inside:  **3** International: Iran starts enrichment work, upping stakes with West: diplomats  **6** Report: This is Amina  **10** Business: Unorganized economic sector comprises 69 percent of labor force 

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:
 Do you think the new government will be able to implement reforms and reduce corruption?

Yes (24%) I don't know (11%) No (65%)

This edition's question:
 President Saleh rejected the European threat to suspend aids to Yemen in case the Yemeni government is not committed to implementing reforms demanded by the west. As it seems impossible for the required reforms to be implemented during the six months to come, do you think the Europeans will suspend aids to Yemen?

Yes No I don't know

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

President to donor countries: We accept consultancies, not resolutions and dictates

In his first government meeting since cabinet reshuffling, President Saleh stressed that donor countries should not set conditions on their aid to Yemen. He also insisted on the importance of achieving political and economic reforms and fighting corruption.

By: Yasser Al-Mayasi

SANA'A, Feb. 15 — In the first government meeting Feb. 14 since recent cabinet reshuffling, President Saleh said such reshuffling was not only for the sake of change but necessary to implement policies and jobs. He added that the new government will control corruption and resume reform, particularly economic reforms, confirming that such reform tops government reforms.

The president asserted that reforms the movement is implementing are initiated by the GPC government, not dictated by any other bodies. He declared that foreign or outside resolutions will not be accepted and will receive no

interaction from national forces or Yemenis. He stated that such dictates are refused because they are true words concealing directives.

President Saleh affirmed that if donor aid contains conditions, Yemen will not accept it, stating that Yemen accepts consultancies, not resolutions. "We make use of consultancies in democracy, economic and administrative reforms and in fighting corruption," he added.

The president's announcement and the cabinet reshuffling follow six months of donor delay granted to Yemen's government to accomplish reforms, with which the government agreed to comply. The postponement resulted from donor discontent at the

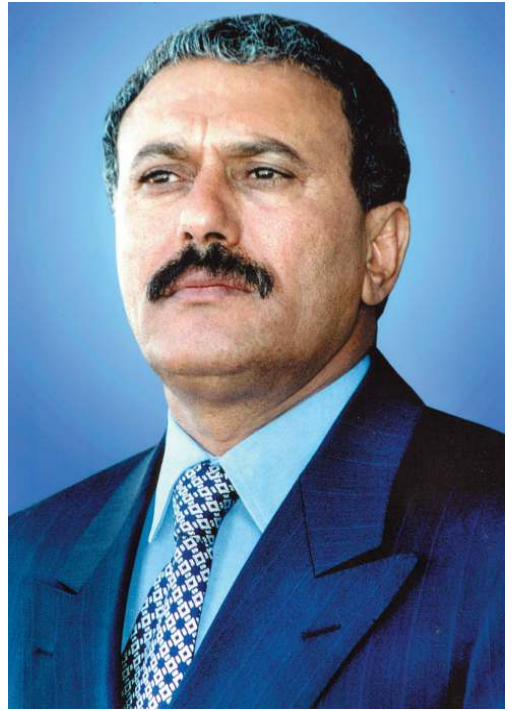
Yemeni government's lack of response. Following a meeting with international organizations, donors presented their demands, stipulating that the government respond to them in the six months preceding presidential elections.

Demands that were disclosed include amending and developing election law by May to be implemented before September's elections; guaranteeing journalists' protection, indicting and punishing oppressors, as well as reforming legislation to secure true protection; and submitting a draft law granting women 15 percent of key government posts, allocating the same in election law.

Donors demanded revealing some governmental body budgets, publishing

them in a simplified manner that the public could understand. They also stipulated there be transparency in the tender law. Banking system and investment environment reforms also were among donor demands, with banks being forced to comply with Brazil's treaty.

Donor demands followed Yemen's failure to qualify for the U.S. Millennium Program, which stipulates certain implementation standards. The World Bank also decreased its aid to Yemen by 34 percent, as well as the European Union and other donor countries, because of what they deemed corruption and anarchy. International reports also revealed concern over expected immense deterioration of Yemen's economic situation.



President Saleh

Pressures force Parliament to retain former board

Parliament reelected Sheikh Abdullah Bin Hussein Al-Ahmar its speaker without attending the session or showing a nomination bid, while presidential pressure forced the majority of ruling party members to oust Al-Shadadi and Al-Wajeh and expand the former board's power.

By: Mustafa Rajih

SANA'A, Feb. 15 — Parliament reelected its former board Wednesday with Sheikh Abdullah Bin Hussein Al-Ahmar its speaker, though he was absent from the session and did not request nomination. A majority of MPs claimed the new bylaw stipulates these conditions, reversing expectations related to its board.

Last Monday, the ruling party bloc elected Sakhr Al-Wajeh and Mohamed Ali Al-Shadadi to the Parliamentary board, but pressure from President Saleh on Tuesday helped Ja'afar Ba Saleh, Dr. Abdulwahab Mahmoud and Yahya Al-Ra'ee retain their board posts.

MPs attending Parliament's last session said Al-Ahmar won 241 of 273 total votes, Al-Ra'ee won 197, Mahmoud won 173 and Ba Saleh won 167, while loser Al-Wajeh came in last with 125 votes.

Ruling party internal voting resulted in Al-Ra'ee's win with 143 votes, 104



Sheikh Al-Ahmar

for Al-Wajeh, 101 for Al-Shadadi, 97 for Mahmoud and 70 for Ba Saleh.

Pressure forced Al-Shadadi to withdraw from the candidate list Wednesday morning, while Al-Wajeh's insistence caused him to lose only in the voting.

Continued on page 2

Inspectors and educators continue demonstrating throughout Yemen

Most major cities in Yemen witnessed mass protests organized by the Yemeni Teachers Syndicate (YTS) and the Teachers and Educational Vocations Syndicate (TEVS). Demonstrators demanded the government cancel ministerial decrees against inspectors and improve the living standards of teachers and education officials.

By: Adel Al-Haddad

SANA'A, Feb. 14 — The Yemeni Teachers Syndicate (YTS) and the Teachers and Educational Vocations Syndicate (TEVS) organized enormous public demonstrations in Sana'a and in most major Yemeni cities.

More than 10,000 Yemeni inspectors, teachers and education officials gathered in Tahrir Square, moving to Parliament and then to the Cabinet building. Demonstrators were protesting against 2006 ministerial decrees No. 11 and 12 issued by the Ministry of Education and government false promises. The two decrees order many Yemeni inspectors to begin teaching again and to evaluate others through interviews.

Experienced inspector Abdu Hasen said the decrees force many experienced inspectors to teach again, although they have spent five to 15 years in the inspection field. The decrees don't take into consideration



Inspectors and educators demonstrated against the Ministerial decrees.

PHOTO BY ADEL AL-HADDAD

their years of experience nor qualification and training courses taken, conducted by international organizations like UNISO.

Sana'a inspector Amat Al-Gafoor Ali Al-Amari said the ministerial decrees are absolutely false because they are not based on surveys or evaluations. "I shocked when I heard the decisions, having spent so many years in inspection," she stated.

Angry demonstrators sent protest letters appealing to President Abdullah Ali Saleh, Prime Minister Abdulkhader Bajammal and Minister of Human Rights Amat Al-A'aleem Al-Soswah.

YTS Chairman Ahmed Naser Al-Rabahi cited illegal faults in the two decrees, saying he considers them human rights and legal violations, such as inspectors evaluating based on quantity rather than quality. Also, some inspectors were appointed without mentioning their years of experience and qualifications while experienced inspectors were forced to return to teaching.

Al-Rabahi stated that Minister of Education Abdulsalam Al-Gofi knew about such violations in the decrees and promised to mend them. "What a pity, he did not keep his promises. I hoped Al-Gofi would not put us and him in such a situation," he added.

Continued on page 2

Trial begins for Al-Qaeda's number two man in Yemen

Official sources confirmed that half a million dollars was designated for Al-Qaeda terrorist operations in Yemen in 2002.

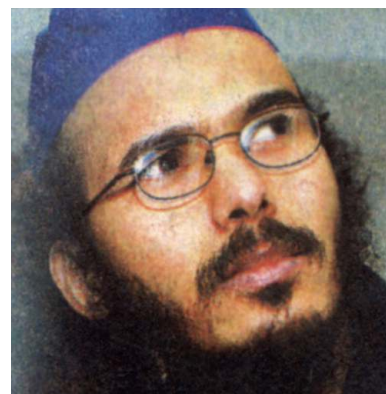
By: Yemen Times Staff

SANA'A, Feb. 14 — The Specialized State Security Court began its first session in trying two Al-Qaeda suspects. Mohamed Hamdi Al-Ahdal, 35, nicknamed Abu Asim Al-Maki, is suspected of being Al-Qaeda's number two man in

Yemen. He is from Al-Hodeidah in west Yemen, but was born in Al-Madina, Saudi Arabia. The second Al-Qaeda suspect is Ghalib Abdullah Ali Al-Zaidi, 28, from Marib governorate in east Yemen.

The session was attended by a large number of journalists, Amnesty International representatives and those interested in terror cases. Prosecution accused the suspects of participating in an armed band to commit criminal acts. It also accused them of collecting money to support armed operations against Western interests in Yemen.

Prosecution focused on first suspect Al-Ahdal's role in planning and targeting Western interests and helping to collect money to finance the terrorist operations. He was a connecting link between sup-



Mohamed Hamdi Al-Ahdal

porters and executioners and considered Al-Qaeda's finance officer in Yemen.

Prosecution confirmed that second suspect Al-Zaidi's role was to cover and protect Al-Ahdal and other suspects. He was also accused of conducting some operations aimed at destabilizing security and killing army personnel.

Prosecution decisions and investigations also mentioned Al-Ahdal's confession to joining criminal actions targeting Western interests. He joined the band in 2000 after becoming acquainted with Abu Ali Al-Harithi, Al-Qaeda's top man in Yemen. Al-Harithi was the one who planned the October 2000 USS Cole attack in Aden. He was killed by an unmanned U.S. predator drone in Marib in 2002.

Attorney investigations and the Prosecution indictment pointed out that Al-Ahdal trained to use various types of arms, including bombs, rockets and land mines. He collected money in the name of the Caucasus Charitable Society. He is said to have received \$44,000 from a man named Kamal Abu Hijazi, the former Al-Qaeda financial officer in Yemen, in addition to 1,061,500 Saudi riyals. Al-Harithi also gave him 50,000 Saudi riyals from Osama Bin Laden to finance Al-Qaeda operations in Yemen.

Continued on page 2

عبر العالم في الوقت تماماً
 The World on Time
FedEx
 Express
 SANA'A Tel: 440228/30 صنعاء


Versailles
 For Hotel Flats


 Tel : 425970/1/2
 Yemen - Sana'a , Demashq St. (Hada) - P.O.Box : 16605

Yemen refuses U.S. interrogation request, announces reward for information

While refusing U.S. request to interrogate detainees taken into custody following the escape of 23 Al-Qaeda suspects, Yemen's government announced new details of the prisoners' escape, as well as a YR 5 million reward for information on the fugitives.

SANA'A, Feb. 15 – On Tuesday, Yemen's Interior Ministry announced a YR 5 million reward (\$25,600) for information on any of the 23 Al-Qaeda escapees who dug a tunnel out of their prison at intelligence service headquarters in the southern Sana'a suburb of Hadda on Feb. 3.

The ministry established a telephone number for information on the fugitives, assuring the public that it guarantees the highest degree of confidentiality for those providing tip-offs, Saba news agency reported.

The pro-government September 26 daily newspaper said a total of YR 115 million has been allocated to help apprehend the fugitives, whose pictures recently were distributed throughout Yemen's provinces to avert or prevent their smuggling abroad.

The United States' request to interrogate detainees held by security officials following the escape was rejected by Yemeni authorities. Speaking on condition of anonymity, a Yemeni security official told media that authorities rejected the U.S. request because it would have violated Yemen's sovereignty; however, he didn't say when such request was made. Detainees include seven security officers and more than 105 individuals, mostly fugitives' relatives and members of Islamic groups.

Approximately 200 of the fugitives' relatives and friends, as well as several prison guards, were detained for interrogation, the latter of which also were suspended from their jobs. The detainees are suspected of passing information and tools to the escaped prisoners, media said.

Since the 23 men escaped, anti-terrorism units have conducted a huge search in Sana'a and other areas. Yemen issued international arrest warrants and asked Interpol to help find and arrest the escapees.

Last week, the White House expressed "enormous concern" about the threat posed by the fugitives. "They're dangerous individuals. It's a shame they've escaped. I'm hopeful that they'll be recaptured," U.S. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said as U.S. Navy ships patrolled Yemen's coast in a multinational effort to recapture them.

Among the escapees were 13 men convicted in the 2000 bombing of U.S. destroyer, the USS Cole, and the 2002 attack on French oil tanker, Limburg, in Aden.

Based on information from what it called informed sources, the September 26 newspaper last Tuesday reported new details about the tunnel through which the detainees fled their prison. Using steel food pots and cooking utensils, the men dug a 44-meter-long tunnel from their cell to a nearby mosque. They first dug three meters down from the cell floor and then continued toward the mosque, digging a tunnel measuring 60 by 80 centimeters wide.

Continued from page 1

Inspectors and educators continue demonstrating throughout Yemen

Taiz governorate demonstrations were considered the largest, with more than 30,000 protesting against the government, reminding it of Yemeni teachers' conditions.

Security forces arrested and detained Hadramout YTS Chairman, Akeel Muhammed Al-Attass, more than seven hours during Makkala demonstrations. More than 5,000 took part in Hadramout governorate demonstrations, including more than 500 women. Al-Attass was arrested Monday, as well as YTS activists Omar Al-Akbari and Mohammed Bawazeer, who tried releasing Al-Attass but were arrested for two hours, according to a press release sent to the Yemen Times. YTS denounced oppressive procedures of Security Director Omar Bamashmouh, who it said violated human rights and laws permitting Yemeni citizens to demonstrate and express their protest peacefully.

More than 1,000 demonstrated in Mahwit governorate after numerous delegations with the Deputy Governor, who threatened to suspend a quarter of the salary of those protesting against the government. Many cities, including Aden and Lahj, saw mass demonstrations by protesters supporting Yemeni teachers' demands.

Approximately 5,000 educators protested in Amran governorate in response to a call by TEVS. During the march, protestors delivered a letter to the Amran Governor, asking him to listen to and meet their demands through the Constitutionally-approved wage hierarchy.

The Amran Education Office general manager and the chief of TEVS noted the names of teachers who joined the demonstration, forced school principals to prevent teachers from protesting and threatened to suspend their salaries.

Outraged educators are not only

demanding canceling 2006 ministerial decrees No. 11 and 12, they also request the government keep its promises to improve Yemeni teachers' living standards and give every teacher his or her rights and true position. Teacher Faten Khalefah Rajeb said equitable salary decreases for teachers holding bachelor's degrees and diplomas is not fair. "We want our lawful rights to be given to us, as we are the guardians of generations," she stated.

Al-Rabahi claimed the Ministry of Education threatened to suspend salaries of YTS members participating in the demonstrations. Moreover, some schools' doors were closed so teachers couldn't demonstrate, he added.

Parliamentary education committee spokesman, Muhammad Najeb, stated during the demonstration that the committee supports the demands of Yemeni teachers, inspectors and educational officials.

Trial begins for Al-Qaeda's number two man in Yemen

The Prosecution indictment also stated that Al-Ahdal hid in Al-Zaidi's house in Marib following the USS Cole attack. While in Marib, he became acquainted with suspects Ali Gasim Al-Raimi and Ibrahim Hoidi, who are accused of attacking the French tanker Limburg in Makkala in 2002. The acquaintance followed their escape from Aden Security Prison. During this meeting, Al-Ahdal informed Al-Raimi about his group's plan to attack an American airplane on a Sana'a Airport runway.

The Prosecution indictment indicated that Al-Ahdal used aliases to hide his identity while in Marib. Following Prosecution's account, Al-Ahdal and Al-Zaidi denied the accusations. Al-Zaidi alleged that the accusations are baseless and fabricated, demanding that those accusing him be prosecuted.

He noted that there are continuing disputes between his tribe and the government. Al-Zaidi also called for improving his prison situation and releasing him because he is ill.

The court agreed to have a doctor examine him and submit a report on his condition. It also allowed Al-Zaidi's relatives and friends to visit him. It instructed Prosecution to submit its evidence at the next February session. The court also allowed Al-Zaidi and Al-Ahdal's lawyers to see their case records in order to submit their defense at the next session.

Al-Zaidi was arrested when summoned along with some tribal sheikhs to the president for investigations on the disappearance of some terrorists in Marib in 2003.

The security apparatus considers Al-Ahdal one of the most dangerous

Al-Qaeda elements. He joined fighting in Chechnya and Afghanistan, but left field work following amputation of one of his legs. He took the job of follow up, coordination and financing and was the connecting link for financing several Al-Qaeda operations in Yemen. Government reports confirm that amounts spent by Al-Ahdal in 2002 reached half a million dollars and were used to buy weapons and explosives to carry out terrorist operations.

A Saudi-born citizen of Yemeni origin, Al-Ahdal completed secondary schooling in Saudi Arabia. He worked in the honey trade and headed the Caucasus Charitable Society. He was detained during his wedding party, imprisoned for a year and two months in Saudi Arabia and then extradited to Hodeidah city in Yemen.

Pressures force Parliament to retain former board

Nothing changed in Parliament except a bylaw amendment stipulating Parliament's board be elected every two years, Head of the Nasserite Parliamentary Bloc, Sultan Al-Atwani, said in a statement. Parliament realized it was necessary to re-elect its board, as the bylaw had been put into effect. According to Al-Atwani, the voting result was anticipated beforehand, as it appeared in harmony with higher directives but

not the will of MPs.

MP Ali Al-Mamari said the presence of other blocs inside Parliament was the primary motive forcing blocs not to re-nominate those elected in the internal vote.

Sources said the elections took place publicly, pressuring MPs to re-elect former board members. As many as 28 vote cards noted ironic comments and contained names of MPs who were not candidates.

Al-Atwani protested recently appointed Aden Governor Ahmad Al-Kuhlani's presence in the session and his involvement in the vote. During the session, Al-Atwani said Al-Kuhlani uttered the constitutional oath to serve as governor, after which he had no right to take part in the vote.

Yesterday's vote in its form was perceived to be in favor of Al-Ahmar, who was elected in his absence and without a bid for candidacy.

In Brief

- The London-based Yemeni Opposition Bloc for Reform, Change and Advancement (YOBRCA) earlier this week held deliberations with factions and Yemenis in Britain and other European countries. YOBRCA agreed to form an exile government in London with the main objective to reform Yemen's state of affairs and rescue it from the Sana'a regime's practices. Haider Al-Attas, the first Prime Minister of Unified Yemen, is expected to chair the exile government.

The Yemen Times telephoned Abdullah Sallam Al-Hakimi, residing in Cairo, inquiring about published reports in Al-Quds Al-Arabi newspaper. Al-Hakimi denied being present in London, saying he was told of the project by phone.

- Protests against European and Danish media following published drawings of the Prophet Mohamed (pbuh) continue in various Yemeni cities and villages, particularly Ibb. The Cultural Center organized a protest last week, drawing prominent citizens, artists, writers, journalists, social and religious symbols. Protesters agreed to entirely boycott Danish, Norwegian and French products and insisted on imposing penalties on local and foreign media that republished the drawings, insulting Muslims' feelings worldwide.

- Political opposition parties grouped under the Joint Meeting Parties (JMP) in Abyan's government in southern Yemen demanded the Elections Supreme Commission resign, calling for formation of an impartial commission to ensure free and decent elections.

The JMP condemned violations of the authority practices against Yemeni journalists and civil society organizations, as well as its oppressive policies. The most recent violation was closing Radafan Charitable Society without legal cause. The JMP confirmed its solidarity with the society in restoring its social and charitable activities.

- Member of Parliament Mohammed Al-Hazmi of the Islah party requested Parliament's presidential body declare constituency 8, represented by former Sana'a mayor Ahmed Al-Kuhlani, as vacant. Al-Kuhlani was appointed Aden governor in last week's cabinet reshuffling in the Yemeni government.

Al-Hazmi's request was based on pro-

visions in Article 80 of the Constitution preventing an MP from assuming any executive authority position except the cabinet.

- A delegation of British investors and businessmen will arrive in Sana'a for a three-day visit the beginning of March to explore investment opportunities in Yemen.

The businessmen represent large British firms in areas of construction, natural gas, petroleum, health care, tourism, fish wealth and sea ports.

- Yemeni Minister of Youth and Sport Abdulrahman Al-Akwaa admitted that his ministry did not render due care to youth due to concentrating most of its interest in the sport of football, in particular.

At a news conference earlier this week, Al-Akwaa said, "Children and youth comprise 76 percent of Yemen's population. ... Yemeni political parties do not offer help to enrich the national strategy for youth and childhood. Their concepts have caused us to make many mistakes in preparing a strategy concerning youth." Al-Akwaa did not rule out his party, the General People's Congress, from causing such mistakes.

- Earlier this week, a local official in Al-Jawf governorate demanded formation of a committee to investigate distribution of large quantities of expired medicine to citizens there.

The official said he learned that the YR 60 million worth of medicine was stored poorly in a governorate building for approximately three years.

The expired medicine was discovered after several health centers in governorate districts complained that the drugs were dispensed less than a month before their expiration.

- British non-governmental organization BB Trust last Monday began a four-day leadership skills training course in Aden. Several radio and newspaper correspondents are among course participants. Topics include developing leadership skills, effective leadership and successful administration, institutional communication, how to manage work teams and other relevant issues.

- Final preparations are underway for the Egyptian-Yemeni Joint Higher Commission's sixth session scheduled

Feb. 25-March 2.

The two countries' prime ministers will co-chair meetings, which will be attended by several Egyptian and Yemeni businessmen. Commission membership comprises a number of ministers and officials of both countries.

- The Attorney-General, head of the South Secretariat Court, last week issued an order for immediate investigation into a complaint filed by three Somali women who said they were sexually attacked by security men after they dispersed a mid-December Somali sit-in last year.

The Attorney-General also asked the HOOD organization to submit the women's statements, indicating they were raped, to Prosecution on demand. The refugee women also will stand before Prosecution to register their statements.

- Sana'a Textile and Weaving Factory workers rallied at the Ministry of Industry and Trade protesting the delay of their June 2005 salaries. They also protested withholding of salary increases approved according to the July 2005 government implemented wage strategy. Last year, Parliament intervened following similar protests, rendering pledges to protesters which have been fulfilled until now.

- Hundreds of teachers in the Al-Udein area of Ibb province protested salary deductions, with some complaining that their salaries were deducted completely. More than 60 Al-Udein Education Office employees were surprised to find their salaries suspended by district officials without reason.

Teachers and other Al-Udein District employees did not receive their January salaries up until now, protesting the procedure they consider arbitrary.

- The Riyadh-based Philippine ambassador, Baharim Guinomla, and his delegates will visit Yemen Feb.16-22. He will meet with government officials, Asian ambassadors and the Filipino community to bid a fond farewell, as he is transferring to Turkey in the near future.

His delegates, Vice Consul Romulo Israel, Jr., attorney Gernie Usudan and Carmelita Hidalgo, will conduct consular services 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Sana'a Sheraton Hotel during the visit. All Filipinos in Yemen needing consular services are requested to proceed to the Sana'a Sheraton Hotel during this period.

CBY warns of granting loans to blacklisted parties

In its general note, the Central Bank of Yemen (CBY) warned other banks operating in Yemen not to grant loans to blacklisted firms and businessmen and demanded banks improve their situations, raise their capital and join the integration process.

By: Yasser Al-Mayasi

SANA'A, Feb. 14 – This week the Central Bank of Yemen (CBY) demanded all commercial and Islamic banks operating in Yemen improve their financial state, increase their capital and conduct banking activities according to law.

The CBY insisted other banks raise their capital to 6 billion Riyals as soon as possible or begin integrating with each other if unable to apply recently issued laws and decisions.

During his meeting with different bank managers this week, CBY governor Abdurrahman Al-Samawi affirmed that banks operating in Yemen must not grant loans to those who never fulfill their obligations or repay their debts.

According to Al-Samawi, the CBY has labeled such parties irresponsible and blacklisted them according to banking and CBY law. The CBY distributed a general note to all banks operating in Yemen warning them of granting loans or deposit facilities to 323 individuals, trade firms and small stores listed in its note.

The CBY published such names in its general note after Watani Bank (a commercial bank operating in Yemen) declared bankruptcy and formed a special committee from banking's monitoring sector to study data presented by commercial and Islamic banks.

The committee conducted questionnaires and collected field data in light of which it decided to prevent banks from granting loans to those

blacklisted including businessmen, influential parties and citizens indebted to local banks. The committee approved the decision for all banks nationwide.

The CBY blacklist contains names of prominent individuals, trade and service firms, tourism and travel agencies, hotels, private hospitals and commercial groups. Additionally, some real estate offices, stationery stores, egg and sweet shops were blacklisted as well.

The combined budget of commercial and Islamic banks operating in Yemen grew by 14 percent in 2005, reaching YR 754 billion by the end of 2005 as compared to YR 660 billion in 2004, a YR 94 billion increase. CBY savings abroad rose to more than \$6 billion in 2005.

In the light of exchange rate stability in Yemen, the CBY announced that it reduced obligatory savings on foreign currency deposits from 30 percent to 20 percent, but approved holding obligatory savings on local currency deposits at the usual rate of 10 percent.

Qatar Airways awards top agents in Yemen

Qatar Airways celebrated its annual awards night at the Movenpick Hotel in Sana'a Feb. 8, distributing awards and appreciation certificates to its top selling agents in Yemen.

Qatar Airways operates scheduled flights to 69 destinations across Europe, Africa, the Middle East, the Indian subcontinent and the Far East, including recently launched routes to Berlin, Madrid and Nairobi.

The airline steps up a gear next month when it launches non-stop daily flights to Hong Kong March 27. It hopes to add up to 10 new destinations by the end of 2006, including cities in Australia and North America.



Saddam: We Are On Hunger Strike

Saddam Hussein has said that he and his fellow defendants at his Baghdad trial have been on hunger strike for the last three days. The declaration came as the former Iraqi dictator made a typically boisterous entry into the courtroom. There were reports over the weekend that Saddam would stage a hunger strike, but these were later denied.

Saddam has been angry over his treatment by new chief judge Raouf Abdel-Rahman.

He said: "We have been on hunger strike for three days to protest the way they brought us to court."

When Mr Abdel-Rahman told Saddam off for not standing when he addressed the court, banging his gavel in the process, the former President replied: "Hit your own head with that gavel."

He also shouted his support for Iraqi insurgents, crying out: "Long live the mujahdeen."

Saddam and his seven co-accused face charges over their alleged role in the 1982 massacre of 143 Shi'ites north of Baghdad and have all pleaded not guilty.

The prosecution is trying to show a direct link between Saddam and the killings, and has called members of the former regime as witnesses.

The two who appeared on Monday were unwilling to give evidence and said they had been forced to take the stand.

Cheney lacked license when he accidentally shot another hunter

WASHINGTON (AFP) - US Vice President Dick Cheney did not have a legal permit to hunt quail when he accidentally shot a 78-year old hunting partner over the weekend, the White House says.

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department informed Cheney that he lacked a stamp for hunting "upland game birds" in the state when the shooting incident occurred, the vice president's office said in a statement.

Texas authorities said they would issue a warning citation to Cheney but impose no penalty or fine for failing to have the seven-dollar stamp.

The revelation was sure to aggravate a public relations headache for the White House, already under criticism for waiting a day to disclose the shooting incident.

Cheney shot prominent lawyer Harry Whittington in the neck and chest with birdshot on Saturday as the two were out quail hunting on a Texas ranch.

Whittington's condition was improving and described as "stable" by doctors at Christus Spohn Hospital Memorial, where he was treated for wounds to his shoulder, upper body, chest and neck.

News of the shooting was first revealed not by the White House but by the owner of the south-Texas ranch, Katharine Armstrong, where the incident took place. Armstrong spoke to the local newspaper, the Corpus Christi Caller-Times, which had called her after getting a tip.

President George W. Bush's spokesman Scott McClellan as well as Cheney spokeswoman Lea Anne

McBride insisted that the delay between the incident and its confirmation by the White House was due to a focus on securing Whittington medical care.

McClellan also said that details about the shooting were trickling in throughout the night and that the White House needed "to get the facts together."

"It was an accident. Unfortunately, these types of hunting accidents do happen from time to time," the spokesman told a frequently contentious briefing with reporters.

Asked why getting Whittington medical attention was incompatible with releasing details of the incident, McClellan said that the vice president's office had "worked to get that information out."

But the Caller-Times reported Monday that McBride, after confirming the incident around noon (1800 GMT) on Sunday, had refused to say whether the vice president's office would have disclosed the incident if the daily had not contacted her after getting a tip from an unnamed Armstrong family member.

"I'm not going to speculate," the daily quoted her as saying.

Confirming Armstrong's account, local police and state game officials said the vice president had spun around to target a bird and shot his fellow hunter instead.

"The investigation reveals that there was no alcohol, or misconduct involved in the incident," the Kenedy County sheriff's office said in a statement.

An interview with Whittington had confirmed Cheney's account, the sheriff's office said.

The Caller-Times also reported Monday that the US ambassador to

Switzerland and Liechtenstein, Pamela Willeford, was part of the hunting party.

An incident report by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department said that Whittington had gone to retrieve a downed bird when Cheney wheeled around with his 28-gauge Perazzi shotgun and shot him by accident.

The weather was sunny and "clear" when the accident occurred and both men were wearing blaze orange hats and vests, the report said.

The Dallas Morning News reported that Whittington also lacked the proper stamp for hunting quail.

Gaming officials said they had been issuing oral warnings instead of fines to hunters who had failed to update their licenses under the new rule.

Cheney's staff members had asked state authorities for all necessary permits beforehand and were never informed about the need for a seven-dollar stamp for quail hunting, his office said in its statement.

While awaiting a warning from game wardens, "the Vice President has sent a 7 dollar check to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, which is the cost of an upland game bird stamp," it said.

The incident made the front pages of The Washington Post, The New York Times, USA Today and The Wall Street Journal, most of which noted soberly that Cheney's office had not gone public with the information when it happened.

Late-night talk show hosts, who typically mine such incidents for laughs, were not broadcasting over the weekend, making Monday night the first time they will be able to train their sights on the mishap.

Iran starts enrichment work, upping stakes with West: diplomats

VIENNA (AFP) - Iran has restarted uranium enrichment work by putting its feedstock gas into centrifuges, defying the West with a program that could make nuclear reactor fuel or atom bomb material, diplomats told AFP.

It came as Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad insisted his country was not worried about possible sanctions and Tehran said talks in Moscow aimed at finding a compromise to the long-running international standoff would not go ahead as planned later this week.

Uranium enrichment is seen as a red line by the United States and European Union in the dispute over Iran's nuclear program, as it is crucial to making atomic weapons.

Putting uranium hexafluoride (UF6) gas into centrifuges, which distill out enriched uranium, is a major escalation by Iran, and comes amid threats by the Islamic republic to withdraw from the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT).

In an interview published Monday, Ahmadinejad said that nations calling for economic sanctions would lose far more than Tehran.

"I believe those who want to impose limitations on us will lose more than us," he told USA Today newspaper in an interview conducted Saturday.

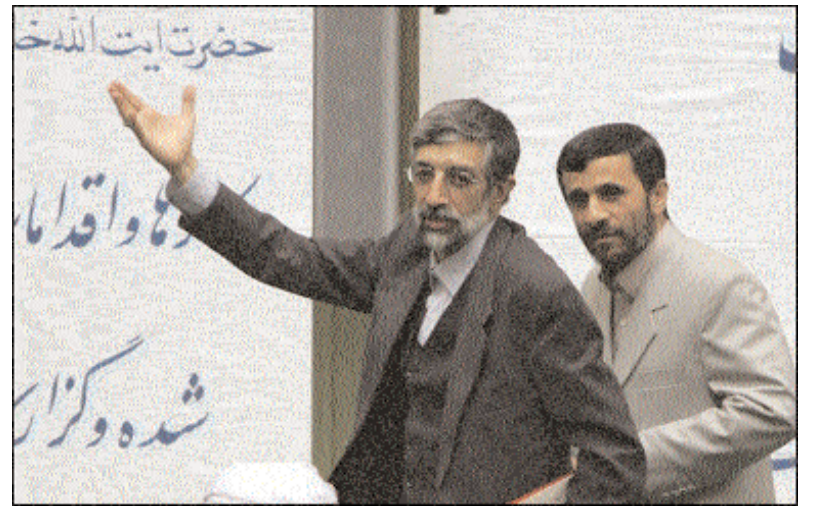
Separately, Iran said Thursday's planned talks between Tehran and Moscow on a compromise to enrich uranium on Tehran's behalf in Russia, so that it would not acquire the strategic technology, would not go ahead.

Russia however said talks could still be held.

The United States and EU governments fear Iran's nuclear program could hide atomic weapons development, a claim strongly denied by Tehran which says it is for strictly peaceful civilian nuclear power.

Iran had earlier Monday said it would resume uranium enrichment even before the UN watchdog International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) meets in Vienna next month to decide whether to recommend UN Security Council action.

Meanwhile French Prime Minister Dominique de Villepin arrived in Moscow for a 24-hour visit due to include talks with Russian President Vladimir Putin.



Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad (R) and government spokesman Gholam Hossein Elham. Iran has raised the stakes in the standoff with the international community over its nuclear activities, announcing it would resume uranium enrichment even before the UN nuclear watchdog meets next month Elham said

Villepin said in an interview published Monday in a Russian newspaper that the international community was willing to negotiate with Iran on the nuclear crisis if Tehran took steps to end the standoff.

But diplomats' comments in Vienna appear to show Iran is following through with its threat to carry out enrichment.

"Iran has put gas into centrifuges at its pilot enrichment plant in Natanz," one diplomat said.

The diplomat, who asked not to be named due to the sensitivity of the issue, said Iran had not yet fired up the whole 164-centrifuge cascade but had "over the past two or three days" started work with some centrifuges.

A second diplomat said Iran was doing "preliminary work" with "stand-alone" centrifuges, almost certainly putting uranium gas into single machines rather than a whole cascade.

The diplomat said this was necessary in a step-by-step approach involving first getting centrifuges running, then operating a pilot plant, which Iran has dubbed research work, and then moving on to industrial-scale enrichment with thousands of centrifuges.

Iran says it wants to produce low enriched uranium, which is not refined enough for weapons.

But it wants to install over 50,000 centrifuges at Natanz, an array which could produce enough highly enriched uranium every two or three weeks for one atom bomb.

IAEA inspectors are Tuesday to visit Natanz, where Iran is threatening to remove surveillance seals and cameras, diplomats said.

But one diplomat said some seals and surveillance cameras would remain in place as they would be monitoring the production of nuclear fuel rather than enrichment.

Although Iran had suspended uranium enrichment work until talks with an EU negotiating troika broke down last month, it has since August been making the feedstock UF6 at a conversion plant in Isfahan.

The West has seemed ready to let Tehran pursue this work, which technically is part of the activities the EU says should be suspended, as long as it did not actually enrich.

The IAEA's 35-nation board of governors voted February 4 to report Iran to the Security Council, but left a one-month window for diplomacy on getting it to return to a full suspension of enrichment-related work and cooperate more with IAEA inspectors.

Preval expected to speak out after demonstrations mar Haiti vote count

PORT-AU-PRINCE (AFP) - Rene Preval, 63, was expected to appeal for calm in Haiti following protests over a vote count that put him short of the 50 percent he needs to be elected president in the first round.

Tension remained high as Preval supporters insisted the frontrunner be declared president, despite the partial results.

Discontent was further fueled by the long wait for the official outcome, which was yet to be announced one week after the election.

On Monday, a Preval supporter was shot dead as protesters took over the streets of the capital, barricading roads, storming a luxury hotel and setting tires alight.

Protesters blamed UN peacekeepers for the death, but a spokesman for the UN Stabilization Mission (MINUSTAH)

insisted the troops only fired two shots in the air and never shot at the demonstrators.

Preval, a former president who enjoys strong support among the millions of impoverished Haitians, was expected to issue an appeal for calm among his supporters.

His arrival in the Haitian capital Monday already help ease the tension. Preval met with UN and Haitian officials as well as diplomats after flying in from his hometown of Marmelade.

"He came to calm people. It is very important he should do that," said Brazil's ambassador to Haiti, Jose Paolo de Andrade Pinto.

Brazil, which leads MINUSTAH, asked the United States to organize a UN Security Council meeting on the new tensions in Haiti. The United States is council president for February.

Washington, for its part urged Haitians



Supporters of Haitian presidential candidate Rene Preval show pictures of him in front of a burning barricade in Haiti's capital Port-au-Prince. Preval, 63, was expected to appeal for calm in Haiti following protests over a vote count that put him short of the 50 percent he needs to be elected president in the first round.

to respect the outcome of the elections.

Former South African Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu on Monday also urged the demonstrators to remain calm.

"You must show the world that you abhor fighting," the Nobel peace laureate said, speaking from the terrace of the luxury Montana hotel, where protesters briefly took over the garden, swimming pool and tennis court.

Demonstrations were also reported in Cap-Haitien, Haiti's second largest city, and in other parts of the impoverished Caribbean country.

Similar protests two years ago turned into a popular uprising that forced Jean Bertrand Aristide, Haiti's last elected president, to flee. Haiti has been rocked by turmoil since, but the violence eased shortly before the February 7 elections.

Monday's demonstrations started after authorities announced the latest partial

results, showing Preval had 48.76 percent of the vote with 90 percent of the ballots tallied.

Preval, 63, had a huge lead over his 31 rivals, several of whom have said they would support him in a second round.

At least one of the candidates claimed irregularities in the vote count.

"I am ready to accept Mr Preval's victory if it is proved that the vote was manipulated," said Jean Chavannes Jeune, who placed fourth with five percent of the vote.

A runoff would be held on March 19, with Preval competing against runnerup Leslie Manigat, 75, also a former president who had 11.8 percent in the partial results.

Preval was president from 1996 to 2001. A former ally of Aristide, he served as prime minister in his government in 1991, but his aides say the two men are no longer in contact.

British military police make arrest in probe over Iraq abuse videos

LONDON (AFP) - British military police have made an arrest during a probe into video footage apparently showing British troops abusing civilians in Iraq, a case that has stirred fears of a backlash from Muslims.

A Ministry of Defence (MoD) spokesman told AFP that the arrest was made on Sunday "in conjunction with this investigation" but declined to say where it took place or confirm whether the person was a serving soldier.

But BBC television news reported on Monday night that the person arrested was indeed a soldier - Corporal Martin Webster from the 1st Battalion The Light Infantry.

The BBC stressed that it was not clear whether he was being held as a witness or a perpetrator.

The channel also aired footage, said to be have been filmed moments before the alleged abuse, showing the regiment coming under mortar fire.

A 2004 BBC interview with Webster was also shown, in which he talked about filming events during his tour of duty, describing how locals were "really, really accepting" at first but "the last month was absolutely hell".

Riots occurred during the day and firefights at night, he said, revealing that the area became known among troops as "the Wild West".

The Royal Military Police investigation into the "extremely serious allegations" is at very early stage, according to the MoD spokesman.

The MoD has also ordered an "urgent investigation" into the footage, which has been aired on television worldwide since the News of the World weekly broke the story on Sunday and published photo stills from the video.

In the pictures, troops appear dragging four young Iraqi civilians off

a street and into an army compound, where they are punched, kicked and hit with batons.

The video - thought to have been made in 2004 during street riots in southern Iraq, where British forces are concentrated - is said to show a minute's worth of the attack, with 42 blows counted.

The tabloid News of the World said the scenes were filmed by a corporal who can be heard egging on his colleagues - described by the mass-circulation tabloid as "a rogue squad of British soldiers".

Defence sources quoted by The Times newspaper said all British units in Iraq had been put on alert because of serious concern that the pictures could provoke a backlash against troops there.

Britain took part in the US-led invasion that toppled Iraqi president Saddam Hussein in 2003 and has maintained more than 8,000 troops in

the south of the country as part of efforts to restore security and build democracy in Iraq.

Britain also backed the US-led war in Afghanistan following the September 11, 2001, attacks and recently decided to deploy thousands more troops there as part of a North Atlantic Treaty Organisation expansion aimed at stabilising the nation.

Analysts warned that the footage would bolster a feeling among Muslims that they are vulnerable to abuse and could fuel rage spectacularly demonstrated by the reaction to caricatures of the Prophet Mohammed in European newspapers.

Britain has until now avoided much of the fallout as most news organisations here have refrained from carrying the caricatures, first published in Denmark in September 2005 and reprinted throughout Europe.

British troop vanguard leaves for Afghanistan

LONDON (AFP) - The first of thousands of British combat troop reinforcements left for Afghanistan as part of a NATO expansion there, the defence ministry said.

The 150 men from 42 Commando Royal Marines will protect army and Royal Air Force engineers due in southern Helmand province, where remnants of the ousted Islamic militant Taliban regime and drug traffickers are active.

The army and RAF personnel are due to set up camp for the 16 Air Assault Brigade which will deploy in the summer, the ministry said.

"Our function will be providing security," the unit's commanding officer, Colonel Ged Salzano was quoted as saying by Britain's domestic Press Association news agency.

"Where we are going we are vulnerable but having said that we have put a grouping together that is as robust as it could be," Salzano said. "It contains a significant proportion of the unit's firepower."

Last month Defence Secretary John Reid announced the deployment to Afghanistan of 4,600 additional troops, including 3,300 for a special force tasked

with reconstruction and fighting the drug trade in Helmand province.

Some 1,100 British troops are already in Afghanistan.

Following a brief peak in July of 5,700 British troops, Reid explained numbers were then expected to stabilize at about 4,700 after the withdrawal of engineers and some other forces.

The new contingent will form part of a three-year expansion of the NATO force to some 18,500 troops, including 9,000 in the south, with commitments from the United States, Canada, Romania and Estonia, his ministry told AFP.

It is the third phase of the expansion of NATO, which has already deployed in Kabul and northwest Afghanistan in a bid to stabilize the nation, rebuild it and help impose the authority of Afghan President Hamid Karzai's government.

Separately, some 18,000 troops under US command are deployed in Afghanistan, including in southern and eastern Afghanistan to hunt for remnants of the Islamic militant Taliban regime and their Al-Qaeda Arab allies.

The NATO expansion will allow the United States to reduce its presence there.



الشركة العالمية للعقارات المحدودة

INTERNATIONAL REALSTATE COMPANY LLC

P.O.BOX 16440, Sana'a Republic of Yemen, ص.ب. 16440 صنعاء الجمهورية اليمنية
Tel: 00967 1 415753, Fax:- 00967 1 414223 هاتف:- 9671414223-: فاكس: 9671415753

ATTENTION PROPERTY OWNERS WE BUY, SEAL & RENT

VILLAS, FLATS, COMMERCIAL LAND
WE ARE IN LONG TERM LEASE OF
VILLAS, FLATS, COMMERCIAL LAND

WE RENT: VILLAS, FLATS & COMMERCIAL
LAND NUMBER OF VILLAS & FLAT FOR RENT
IN HADDAH

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A HOUSE

PLEASE CONTACT:

INTERNATIONAL REALSTATE COMPANY
LLC
P.O.BOX 16440, SANA'A, REPUBLIC OF YEMEN
PHONE: 01 415753, FAX: 01 414223
E-MAIL: OBAROIL@Y.NET.YE

إلى جميع مالكي العقارات

نحن نبيع, نشترى ونأجر
فيلل, شقق, وأراضي تجارية وبيوت

نحن بصدد الآن لتتجير الفيلل و الشقق و الأراضي
التجارية

والعديد من الفيلل و الشقق للأيجار في منطقة حدة

هل تبحث عن عقار

للاستفسار الرجاء الاتصال :-

الشركة العالمية للعقارات ذ.م.م
ص.ب. 16440, صنعاء, الجمهورية اليمنية
هاتف: 01415753, فاكس:- 01 414223
البريد الإلكتروني:- OBAROIL@Y.NET.YE



Buy, Sell and Rent, Villa, Apartments Commercial Land And House Plots.
شراء, بيع وأيجار فيللا شقق والأراضي التجارية وأرضي لبناء البيت

INTERNATIONAL BANK OF YEMEN



بنك اليمن الدولي

For the first time in Yemen
You can pay for your purchases using VISA Card..



VISA

Locally through IBY's POS..

Plus The ability to check your account balance and withdraw money from IBY ATM's



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

Almuhallath 01 448390

SabaFon
celebrates it's
5th
birthday

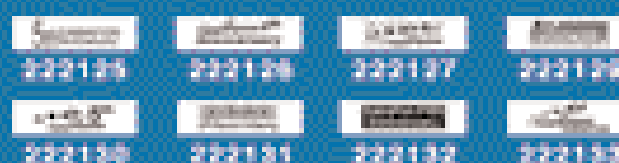
We are now 5 years old... and during this time we have continued to be the leading GSM provider in Yemen. We want to thank all our customers and staff for the continued support and confirm our commitment to providing you with new and exciting products and services in the years ahead.

You could share us the celebration and send our best Logos and Picture Messages to your friends:

Logos:



GREETING (PICTURE MSG):



SabaFon celebrates its

5th
Birthday



For more information call 211 or visit www.sabafon.com

MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANT

A leading multinational service company is seeking to recruit a dynamic Management Accountant for its Sana'a head office, with a university degree in Accounting and three to five years of post qualification work experience in audit or accounting in any of the leading multinational audit firms or other multinational organizations.

The following requirements are considered as a minimum:

- Good working knowledge of generally accepted accounting principles
- Proficiency in the use of computer programs, including MS Office applications and Emails
- Excellent written and spoken English
- Self-motivated and quick learner
- Problem solving aptitude and high energy level
- Team player with good communication skills
- Should be Yemeni National

We as an organization offer the following:

- Excellent growth potential.
- Excellent training (both formal and informal).
- A professional work environment with extensive and well-developed internal control and financial procedures and policies.
- A well structured performance appraisal process.
- Yearly increments based on performance.

Interested candidates who believe they fill the requirements should send their complete Resume and a self-written motivation letter to the following email address: leoaussie@gmail.com



The Embassy of the United States of America announces for immediate jobs opening within its organization.

“ERA Manager”

The Manager has operational responsibility for all facts of the ERA’s business operation, which include a Commissary (dou’kan) and video club. The Manager reports to and is supervised by the Employee Recreation Association Board Chairperson or his/her deputy.

Desire Qualifications:

Education: High school required. work experience can be used in lieu of university experience.
 Prior work experience: Will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
 Language Proficiency: English Level IV (fluent) in written and spoken English.
 Skills and Abilities: Use of a computer and special software applications to include inventory management.
 Knowledge: Routine business practices, inventory controls, cash management.

Workweek Schedule: 20-40 hours/week to be determined based on interview.

How to apply: All interested nationals should complete OF-612 or submit a current C.V. (with awards, recommendation letters, copies of degrees earned) that addresses the qualifications and requirements of the position as listed above and contact the Embassy Human Resources Office, American Embassy, Dhahr Himyar Street, Sanaa. Tel: 755-2000, Fax: 303-182 no later than the February 26, 2006.

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

Villa For Rent
 In sana'a City - Haddah Zone , a new villa consists of Basement and (2) Stories , (9) rooms , (4) Halls , (7) bathrooms , (2) Kitchens , courtyard capacity (5) cars , and gate - keeper room .
please call :733715393

Special Offer Buy one, get one FREE

To celebrate our 5th Birthday. We want to make you a special Offer **BUY ONE, GET ONE FREE** which will allow all Sabafon new customers to get FREE SuperNaba Line when buying new SuperNaba Line.

Sabafon celebrates its **5th Birthday**

Item	Validity Period	Grace Period	Units	Current Price	Promotion Price
7124--- 7125--- First line 900 YR.	30	60	30	2 SuperNaba	2 SuperNaba
Second line FREE	30	60	30	1 Extra Scratch Card	1 Extra Scratch Card
Scratch Card 800 YR.	14	14	80	3200 YR.	2000 YR.

*No Government taxes apply.
 **The 800YR Scratch Card to be recharged in the first line immediately when purchasing the line.



Available in all Sabafon's Points of Sales and for more Info visit www.sabafon.com or call 211



This is Amina (Part 2 of 2)

This is the second part of Amina's story. Here, as told in her own words, we'll learn how her husband was murdered and how she was accused of killing him.

I was at home when my husband Hizam and his friend arrived. They talked about a problem between Hizam and Mohammed Ali Said Qaba'il (my husband's murderer). My father-in-law, Hassan Qaba'il, asked me to leave the room for fear I would tell others what they intended to do. Hizam also agreed that I leave them alone and go to the adjacent room.

He slept with his father and friend that night. When asked why, they said they had to write some documents for Qaba'il. In the night silence, I could hear them talking. I discovered that Qaba'il had ill intentions and was planning to... They disputed with Mohammed Qaba'il over some money.

In the morning, my father-in-law Qaba'il asked them if they had fulfilled what they agreed upon, but they replied they would fulfill it the next night. I told Hizam that I heard them talking the previous night, but he said they were just kidding and asked me to keep it secret. He promised to buy me a new dress and be sweet if I kept the matter secret. However, he did not fulfill his promise.

Two days later, I went to Mohammed's father and told him all I had heard. I went with him to Al-Tawela city in Al-Mahwit governorate where he bought me clothes. The next day (Friday), people gathered and Mohammed told them what Hizam and his father Qaba'il intended to do. He also held them responsible for any harm to his sons. Hizam and his friend were afraid.

A week later, while sitting in the mosque for iftar, a problem ensued between Hizam and Mohammed over dates. Hizam threw dates at Mohammed's face and then they all left. Hizam spent much of his time at his sister's house.

One day, his enemies came to me to learn the time of his coming home. When Hizam arrived, I told him about them, but he asked me not to tell his father Qaba'il. He asked me to leave the door open because it was hot, then he went to bed. We used to leave the door open every now and then, but this time when I opened it, by chance I faced... who came in and murdered Hizam by suffocation.



By: Shadha Mohammed Nasser

It was too dark for me to see, but I heard something going on in the room. I switched on the light, saw ... and shouted. One of them covered my mouth and tried to tie me up. I began to resist but they hit me. They threatened they would accuse me of killing Hizam. I didn't know about women's prisons or death sentences because I was a child.

When my father-in-law searched for Hizam, he found him in the mosque's well. They thought he died naturally, but his sister doubted it. The Sheikh sent the village youths, including me, to the Investigation Bureau (IB). My father accompanied me.

Mohammed's father sent a girl to threaten me if I told the IB about the incident. The IB head handed me over to my father, as he found no evidence. I told them I did not like going back to Hizam's home. I also told them how my husband died and who killed him.

The other youths were released while Mohammed and I remained there. During the investigation, I was assured they would set me free. I remained there three days and when the accused (Mohammed) learned that I told the IB about the incident, he confessed that I was his partner in killing Hizam, which was not true. The IB manager fabricated a story that I was in love with Mohammed, asking him to write that I murdered Hizam and was in love with him. I was a child at the time and did not understand what they intended to do. I was just thinking of returning home. Mohammed was shackled in three cuffs to confess to having a relationship with me.

The case file was referred to Prosecution, which began investigating Mohammed. But as for me, a Prosecution member came to

interrogate me and asked me to sign my fingerprint on the record. I had no lawyer and my father assured me there was no Prosecution torture and that the situation there was better than the IB.

My trial continued for a year, after which my case was withheld. The judge was ordered to postpone issuing my judgment. His secretary then replaced him. He retried my judgment for six months. I unexpectedly was sentenced to death. I was shocked and threw a chair at the judge's head. I fainted and then they took both of us to the hospital. There the judge swore he would commit himself to upholding the death penalty to take revenge on me or else he would not be a judge.

Prosecution was sympathetic, offering me an appeal petition before the Court of Appeals. I was stressed psychologically and began a hunger strike. The Court of Appeals head visited me at the women's prison. I was brought to a hospital to determine my age and a decision was issued that I was young. This ran counter to the previous decision that I suffered from hysteria. Prosecution was aware of my miserable situation. But the appeal judgment ignored Prosecution's decision and upheld the first sentence. Thus, the judge proved himself a real judge. The Supreme Court also upheld the death sentence. My life came to an end.

I managed to escape from prison twice with the help of some who felt I was being oppressed. The first time I escaped, I was arrested and returned to prison. The second time, I escaped to my family, which fearfully received me. My brother told my father that I escaped from prison. He asked him whether to return me to prison or allow me stay. My father told him to wait until he came home.

My father arrived with the village sheikh, my uncle and my cousins. They took me by car and handed me over to Al-Mahwit's governor. I was then sent to Central Prison in Sana'a. I came to learn that Hizam's family wanted to implement my death sentence and forgive Hizam's murderer.

I was brought to Al-Mahwit governorate in 2002 for my scheduled execution and placed before the firing squad. In that moment, I recalled the time when I was a child, deprived of childhood and education, when I married without knowing what married life was. I remembered being wedded to death, with my mother weeping for

me; escaping into the mountains and fainting; my father-in-law Qaba'il punishing me by putting a black substance onto my eyes and getting pregnant with my first child. At that time, I was indeed a child needing a mother's care.

Alas, for my daughter, I wish I could see her and caress her. I wish she could have a doll and be educated. I wish she will not marry at age 9. I wish she will know I am a victim and have been oppressed.

As I was placed before the firing squad, I felt my feet were very heavy as I saw death. Why? I was innocent. I did not kill Hizam, nor was I a partner in murdering him either. But who would believe I was innocent? No time to discuss. My life came to an end. How would I die then?

Hizam's murderer and I were asked to lie down on the ground to be executed together. I asked them to execute me after executing Hizam's murderer, because I realized the Qaba'il family would forgive him.

I told them I was pregnant. They didn't believe me, but the judge insisted on making sure whether I was pregnant or not. I was taken to the hospital, where examinations showed I was pregnant in my third month and three weeks. Some insisted on executing me, justifying that the embryo had not matured yet. The judge and the Appeals Court judge decided to return me to prison. I was given a stay of execution until my baby reaches age 2.

I spent nine years in prison, six at Al-Mahwit Prison and three at Sana'a Central Prison, where women are taught to read, write and sew. All women prisoners study, but I cannot be like them because I must look after my son.

I know I will die. I die slowly every day. I have fasted every day except Sunday and Friday since I was sent to prison. I pray to Allah every day to save my life from this blight. I wish I will be set free and take my daughter because there is torture in Al-Mahwit. I do not want to live in Al-Mahwit again. I wish I could do something for her and for

my son. My family used to visit me in Al-Mahwit Prison, but in Sana'a Prison, my parents only visited me once.

That was the story of Amina Abdullah Ali Al-Tuhaif, born in Hijrat Bani Al-Abbas, Al-Mahwit governorate. She is now 22 years old. She is the second child in a family of five sisters and one brother. All her family members are illiterate, except her elder brother.

commuted Amina's death sentence. I told her this news and she believed me. She still was imprisoned on my second visit, so I thought it was a matter of payment. When I followed up her case, a prison employee told me the information I got was untrue.

In conclusion, this is Amina, a wife and mother accused of killing her husband Hizam. She is beautiful, simple, kind, poor, innocent, oppressed and clever. I respected her



Amina has two daughters, Arham and Amani. Arham died at age 6 in a car accident. A prison guard raped Amina and as a result, she gave birth to a boy named Nassar.

When I visited her at Central Prison, she asked me to buy her a bike so she could rent it to prisoners' children and get some money. When a woman asked her to sell sweets in the prison, she ate them instead, an indication of the fact that Amina still was young and deprived of childhood rights.

When she told me about her case, I went the Prison Department where I learned that President Saleh had

wish not to publish her photo in newspapers or magazines because she is "a daughter of village and traditions" and her family may get angry to see her photo published. Her family already executed her when they deprived her of education and childhood and forced her to marry as a child.

I remember the words of the head of the European Union Commission when he said to me, "I follow up the cases of all Aminas."

Shadha Mohammed Nasser is a Supreme Court lawyer.

Vacancy

Siemens AG Yemen Branch Company is seeking high qualified local personnel for the positions of OMC and Radio BSS engineers with the following requirements:

OMC:

- University degree with minimum rate V. Good in computer engineering or related field.
- Two years experience in system administration of OMC, SC, RC and SPOTS.
- MCSE certified and Minimum one year experience in the IT, TCP/IP protocol, computer LAN field and IP sub-netting.
- Minimum one year experience in UNIX system administration.
- Cisco certified Engineer (CCNA) with one year field experience.
- Fluent in English and Arabic Languages.
- Hardworking and highly motivated person.
- GSM experience is preferred.

Radio BSS:

- University degree with minimum rate V. Good in communication or related field.
- Three years experience in BSS (installation, commissioning and system trouble shooting) for BTS, TRAU and BSC.
- Fluent in English and Arabic Languages.
- Hardworking and highly motivated person.

If you fulfill the above requirements, please send your CV and application letter to the following address not later than February 28th, 2006.

Fax: 412314
P.O. Box: 18611
Sana'a - Yemen



VACANCY CLINIC SERVICES COORDINATOR

Marie Stopes International in Yemen, a leading international reproductive health organisation, seeks to recruit a qualified and experienced Midwife to supervise and coordinate all the services provided in MSIY clinics.

Tasks include:

- Supervision, management and training of clinic staff
- Monitoring quality of care in clinics, to ensure maintenance of MSI standards
- Stock control and audit of clinics
- Regular reporting to Head Office and Ministry of Public Health & Population
- Liaison with Ministry departments and donors to comply with and improve service provision
- Promote Family Planning activities in clinics and surrounding communities
- Assist with fund-raising and income generation in MSIY programme
- Assist Country Director with strategic and programme planning
- Identify and research opportunities for programme expansion

Person specifications:

- Must be a qualified Midwife
- Must have experience working as a midwife in Yemen
- Must have good relations with the Ministry of Public Health & Population
- Must be a strong advocate for Family Planning
- Must be able to travel frequently within Yemen, and occasionally outside Yemen
- Must have good spoken and written English
- Must have good computer skills
- Must be highly motivated, active and willing to learn new skills

Due to the nature of the work, female candidates will be preferred. This post is open to Yemeni nationals only.

Please send your CV and cover letter in English to Marie Stopes International in Yemen fax: 425906 or to mshanady@y.net.ye

Vacancy

Cantex Mine announces its need for a male or female accountant with the following requirements:

- At least five years experience in accountancy.
- Management experience.
- Fluent spoken and written English language.
- Computer literate with master of internet.

Those interested in the job should present their applications together with their particulars to the company's office in Baghdad Street (The east branching street, in front of Al-Motawkil Hospital,) next to the Red Cross office.

Telephone: 408909- 408914

The applicants will undergo personal interview to choose the competent person, and in case of satisfactory requirements, Yemenis will be given priority.

VACANCY

EQUIP 1, a USAID funded project working in the field of educational development has the following position opening for Yemeni candidates only:

Financial Assistant

She / he will be responsible for the major job function of the position. She / he will be part of the team.

Qualifications & requirements:-

The candidate should be capable of:

1. Initiating and clearing the project payments in a timely manner.
2. Inputting the monthly cost in accounting system.
3. Ensuring that costs are allocated to the correct element of cost.
4. Reconciling monthly project payments with bank statement.
5. Issuing, tracking and reconciling cash advances.
6. Reviewing subcontractor and vendor invoices for accuracy.

Additional Qualifications:

1. Payroll experience.
2. Knowledge of QuickBooks software.
3. English Language skills.
4. Excel software skills.

Experience in developing budget projections would be an added advantage.

All interested candidates should have a minimum of B.S. degree in accountant with a minimum of 5 years of professional experience in accounting position preferably in the private sector or in a development project.

All interested candidates may send their CV's with supporting documents of experience no later than Feb. 25, 2006 to the following address

[Female candidates are strongly encouraged to apply].

Attn.: Financial Manager

Fax: + 9671 304109

P.O. Box 22377

Sana'a - Yemen

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) invites Yemeni Nationals to apply for the following position with the "UNAIDS":



Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS
UNAIDS
UNICEF • UNDP • UNFPA • UNDCP
ILO • UNESCO • WHO • WORLD BANK

Post Title: Administrative Assistant (G-5)

Responsibilities

- Create and maintain registry files containing all administrative, financial and legal documents for UNAIDS office.
- Formulate correspondence in English/or Arabic, ensure conformity with established procedures and accuracy of statements before being signed by the responsible officer, and ensure follow-up.
- Handle all travel arrangements for the UCO,UNAIDS consultants and UNAIDS visiting missions including visa applications, travel, hotel reservations, per diem etc..
- Manage procurement of office equipment/furniture according to UNAIDS and UNDP regulations.
- Follow-up on the UNAIDS operational budget with strict adherence to UNDP guidelines..
- **Programme Support**
- Support the preparation of meetings of the Theme Group on HIV/AIDS, and other UNAIDS meetings.
- Support the implementation and follow-up of the UN Learning Strategy on HIV/AIDS,etc, etc
- Perform other duties as deemed necessary.

Qualification

- Completion of at least secondary school and training in secretarial and office system, A university degree in a related field would be an asset. A combination of education and work experience would be accepted. .
- Minimum of five years experience in UN finance and administration.
- Computer skills in the use of office and software applications including MS,word, Excel, power point, and internet search is a must.
- Excellent knowledge of both written and spoken English and Arabic.

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

UNDP, P.O.Box 551 Sana'a / Fax: 448841

E-mail: (registry.ye@undp.org)

The deadline for receiving applications is Monday,20 February 2006

Invitation for bid "Second Time"

Ministry of Local Administration announces its bid No 3/2006 which has been previously announced under No.[8/2005] for establishing information program system in the Ministry's premises and local Governances as stated in the Terms and Specifications book. Documents for this bid can be purchased from Store and Purchase department in the ministry's headquarters upon payment of non-refundable fess of YR. 100.000.

The following documents are required for identification:

- 1- 2.5% preliminary bid security by a check valid for 90 days from the date of tender opening and free of terms. Any inconsistent bids will be cancelled.
- 2- Local companies should attach a copy of qualification certificate valid for 2006.
- 3- Local companies should attach tax card valid for 2006.
- 4- Local companies should attach insurance card valid for 2006.
- 5- Local companies should attach Zakat card valid for 2006.
- 6- Prices of units should be written in letters in their respective places in Quantity tables. Any inconsistency will result in canceling the bid at envelop opening session.
- 7- Closing date will be 30 days starting with publishing this advertisement in Althorah, 14th October or Yemen Times newspaper.
- 8- Foreign companies should have a legal representative office in Yemen.
- 9- The bids [tenders] That are submitted by the national [local] companies with the partnership of foreign companies must submit partnership documents, along with defining and determining the type [kind] and nature of partnership. This documents have to [must] be approved legalized by related competent authorities in Yemen and abroad as well.
- 10- It must be understood that any bids that tack or do not meet the terms and conditions or any part of them will naturally be ignored and will be considered need and void.

**Cargo Custody Transfer Coordinator [CCTC]**

Safer Exploration & Production Operations Co. [SEPOC] is Currently seeking experienced personnel to work in Marine Terminal. Successful candidates will work a schedule of 28 days on and have 28 off.

Major Responsibilities:

1. Perform daily calculation of cargo inventory.
2. Perform calculation of cargo offloaded to export tankers.
3. Conduct laboratory tests of the FSO's crude and water ballast for offloading operations.
4. Prepare and distribute cargo export documentation.
5. Communicate with SEPOC operations office and FSO Master on export tanker nomination approval, and cargo claims.
6. Calculate export tankers laydays and demurrages.
7. In coordination with loading Master No.1 maintain communications with pipeline / production personnel in the field as required.
8. Supervise and direct FSO's independent inspector.
9. Prepare and sign Notes of Protest as required for offloading operations.

Minimum Requirements:

- Must have university degree, B.S., Chemical Engineering from a recognized & reputed university.
- Must be fluent in English written and oral.
- Must have computer skills with Microsoft word, Excel and Microsoft projects.
- Must have 5-7 years experience in this field.
- Must have a strong work ethic with a "can do" attitude.

All candidates must be **YEMENI NATIONALS**.

Deadline for the applications: **February 20, 2006**.

If you meet the above requirements, please forward your **resume only** to:

Safer Exploration & Production
Attn.: Human Resources Department

P.O. Box 481

Fax: 01-414610

Sana'a Republic of Yemen

or

E-mail: Saferhr@y.net.ye

Please do not phone us. We will call you for an interview if you are a successful candidate.

The "Destruction Bird" has been arrested

"T aer Al-Kharab" (Destruction Bird) is a new novel by famed Yemeni novelist Habib Serori, also a computer science expert and professor at Rowan University in France. The novel was printed by Al-Afif Cultural Foundation in Sana'a in the final days of 2005 and carried the edition number (420/2005) in house copies. The novel was distributed to libraries and publishing centers with no problem.

A surprise emerged when officers at Sana'a International Airport prevented "trafficking" of the novel when 10 copies were to be sent to Serori by the publishers. In order not to disturb readers by recounting the reality of official illiteracy, violation of remits and aggression by the regime and law, coupled with officers' unlimited moods in treating people, I will leave novelist Serori to narrate the ordeal of his novel, which was prevented from reaching Paris as if it was a stigma upon Yemen and a scandal that must be harbored.

In a letter sent to the writers union and the journalists syndicate, Serori said airport officers seized the novel, objecting to its title. The controversy between the officer and the novel's carrier lasted two hours. Serori indicated that it is normal for oppressive regimes to prevent entry of books into their territories, but preventing book exports from their lands to other countries is a new contrivance, topping illiteracy, oppression and destruction.

Preparing himself to fight bird flu, the officer was confused in distinguishing between "Destruction Bird" and the flu carrier, as well as between entering and departing the country. This is why he prevented the novel from reaching its destination.

We must not forget that this officer was raised on the sufferings of citizens, absolute hatred of freedom and aggression toward knowledge, science and creativity. Every day and every moment he feeds from the criminal sermon targeting political opposition and defaming journalists. This sermon also is skeptical of the pen and its holder. What do other people want him to do? His action at the airport allows him more freedom to be influential, harm others with his temper and speak of things that never concern him.

Serori's complaint and the ordeal of his novel being prevented from passing through the airport disclose shocking acts and misconduct. Sana'a International Airport police, who failed dozens of times to stop armed and terrorist attacks on the airport, seemed brave enough to deter "novel trafficking" Sana'a International Airport police have been made responsible for detecting authenticity of literary titles and the extent of their romanticism. This officer did not read the novel and even if he might, he will not understand it



By: Abdulbari Tahir

because he does not understand the title, which he wants to change to "The Love Bird" or "The Emotions Bird."

It is impossible to argue with the officer in written or oral form, but if he understood "Destruction Bird" as a scandalous stigma, why tolerate the existence of such a stigma in Yemen and prevent it from departing the country? It is difficult for anyone to make this officer understand previous and current monitoring of newspapers and books banned under Yemen's Constitution and 1990's Press Law No. 20. His behavior in preventing export of a novel printed at the ruling party's printing house violated remits and freedoms, as well as freedom of opinion and expression.

The provoking question is, "What motivates a police officer or a soldier to encroach so easily upon the rights of others, particularly in determining what is warranted and unwarranted beyond his remit?"

We know this officer will not be held to account for his conduct, but can he or the parties that appointed him justify such scandalous acts? The "Destruction Bird" incident is isolated from the various contexts of oppression impacting press freedom in Yemen, particularly over the past few years. Oppression of press freedom reached its climax in 2004 and its detestable fruit is Yemen's topping the list of countries

practicing oppression against the press freedom.

The survey of the past year's violations and attacks against the press, conducted by Yemeni and international civil and journalistic organizations, was frightening. Dragging journalists to court and issuing unjust rulings against Al-Ussou, Al-Tajamu and Al-Rased newspapers never seemed enough for the state's apparatuses. Courts also issued verdicts under which many journalists faced fines and imprisonment. Several journalists were subjected to kidnapping, beating and threats of murder as military and security apparatuses practiced kidnapping and terrorism acts.

The state intends to draft a new press law to eliminate the remaining limited margin of freedom, despite the fact that Yemeni journalists collectively oppose the draft.

Last year, the Ministry of Culture and Tourism rejected entry of the "Intisar Book" (Triumph Book) by a famed Islamic scholar into Yemen. Authored by master of rhetoric, Yahya Bin Hamza, the book embraces ethics adhered to by scholars in various places. Preventing export of Serori's novel was the inaugural act of the New Year, while last year's blacklist disclosed the wiretapping of Al-Jazeera correspondent Ahmad Al-Shalafi, which sparked outrage and tension in the journalism community.

Abdulbari Tahir is a Yemeni Journalist and the former chairman of Yemeni Journalists Syndicate

Rumsified: Al-Basooos war general

U . S . Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld announced in a press conference that the War on Terror will last 40 years. He asked U.S. legislators to provide \$70 billion for this purpose (it is understood that this is only the first installment).

In the old Arab legacy, many wars erupted between tribes, lasting as long as Rumsfeld mentioned or longer. One that continued 40 years is known in Arab history as the Al-Basooos War. Al-Basooos was the name of a famous she-camel known for its speed in camel racing, which Arabs did in those days. The tribe organizing the race ambushed Al-Basooos so the tribe that owned it would lose. The plot was discovered and war erupted between the two tribes, continuing for 40 years. Many people from the two tribes and their allies died in the war.

This is what one of the pillars of the new Evangelical-Zionist Christian fundamentalism wanted - namely Rumsfeld - who also is the cornerstone in a U.S. administration that led two wars in Afghanistan and Iraq. He is the same person who declared that Europe is growing old and should follow the United States, the spearhead of Western capitalist civilization. Despite the fact that Rumsfeld's announcement went



By: Atif Awad

unheeded by Arab media, it contains a much serious matter that should be considered. The first enemies in this war are Arabs and Muslims, despite the justification Rumsfeld and Western Zionism always claim - namely "fighting terror."

The war that will last 40 years, as specified by Rumsfeld, is a Western American Zionist war against an enemy other than terrorism. The concreteness of such an enemy necessitated such a time period so Rumsfeld and his successors can defeat it. This enemy is none other than political Islamic groups around the world. Zionists then will be able to exchange toasts when their stubborn enemy is defeated.

According to current Arab-Islamic state of affairs, one can say that "Political Islam" is to dominate the Arab political arena. It has proven itself an emerging power after resolving its conflicts, which have been present since the establishment of its first organized factions, namely the Muslim Brotherhood movement in 1928.

This Arab political trend has established a new Islamic political language, as well as new generations of politicians dominating the scene that Rumsfeld will need 40 years of war to restrain.

Atif Awad is an Egyptian journalist and short story writer residing in Yemen.

Burning embassies is not the way

By: Tawakkol Karman

A s Muslims, we have nothing to be alarmed about in terms of freedom of speech, as we are the ones provided with wisdom and the miraculous Qur'an.

We are not to call for tyranny and bans on freedom. It is obvious that we cannot stop publication of what we view as indecent in our sacred faith. The telecommunications revolution and future sciences tell us this. Let me say frankly that demanding closure of the Danish newspaper that insulted our prophet and the other newspapers that followed suit is a lack of common sense. Yet, failing to make use of Western freedom of press and other technologies to show the West the values of Islam is intellectual failure and a guilt that should not be linked to Islam. However, adopting censorship in dealing with the West is a woeful mistake against Islam and our prophet.

It is certain that official bodies were behind the rage that spread throughout the Arab world. Yet, governments

were the main inciters of the people, undertaking to magnify the insult and determining the method of retaliation as well.

It remains skeptical whether those who burned the Danish and Swedish embassies in Damascus and Beirut were politically, rather than religiously motivated. The stylish slogans used in demonstrations hid other things. God did not order the burning; it is not the prophet's norm. Even if it was voluntary public rage, it undoubtedly contributed to spreading offense and paved the way for future prejudicial behavior. The result of burning embassies and treading on flags is the self-same objective these drawings wanted to highlight. It was their intention to say that Muslims are terrorists and their religion is a peril to Western civilization.

What was the outcome of these enraged behaviors? Obviously, it was not to respond to the insult. It was even prudent not to provoke it. However, it was a basic ideal in the media profession. Some of those deprived of journalistic fame and lacking any fans tend to seek fame by

insulting pillars of humanity. In most times, their publications will remain unread, rendering them to be the editors and the readers.

However, things take a different turn if they are met with angry reactions, as their readership surely will increase. Now that the Danish illustrations have been read widely and other cartoonists have followed suit by adding more drawings, a question arises about the wisdom of such enraged reactions, reenacted in Sana'a, Amman, Rabat and Cairo. Do we expect to burn these cities' embassies and ban their trade? It is certain that the aim of all this was not to receive an apology or to wipe out the offense. Like the old racist, extreme, hidden agenda, it was the desire to rupture dialogue with the West, to draw a wedge and stir up religious, societal and cultural conflicts. Yet, the common interests of these groups that came together pose a great threat to humanity at large and the Islamic nation and authorities should be aware of their danger. They should not follow in their tracks and they should avoid the irrational artificial conflicts they often arouse.

I do not want to belittle or be indifferent to the insults to our prophet (pbuh). I denounce insulting our prophet and announce that my heart is filled with his love. Yet, I refuse that his position should be employed for ignoble political gains. However, I protest being used as a tool because of this love to spread the offense and turn naive individuals into heroes. The drawers of these illustrations were made famous by our actions and more light was shed on their drawings as well.

The agenda of burning embassies and treading on flags has its objective, of which seeking an apology for defaming our prophet is not among them at all. Yet, apology or no apology, officially financed conferences, seminars and debates will not stop.

The concurrent burning of the embassies in Beirut and Damascus did not come out of the blue. Those who still dream and long for the 'old days' are seeking to restore them through hatred and incendiary actions. I am aware that it is rather unsafe to say such things and there are many who advise that it be overlooked. Yet, it would be a misuse of religion to ignore it because our religion is a complete network of values and principles.

Tawakkol Karman is a Yemeni journalist and heads Women Journalists Without Constraints (WJWC).

Indicators on cabinet reshuffling

It is too early to comment on the recent cabinet reshuffling resulting in replacement of 15 ministers. However, we can read the new reform move through resultant indicators.

T he recent cabinet reshuffling was rather strange and full of contradictions since it came just a week after 23 top Al-Qaeda prisoners escaped from Political Security Central Prison. The announcement of the new appointments was supposed to be topped by security officials. Political Security Chairman Ghalib Al-Qamsh retained his post despite rumors circulating on Yemeni streets that he would be replaced after the Al-Qaeda prisoners' escape.

The Minister of Interior, who is responsible for security and prisons, was promoted to Deputy Prime Minister in addition to retaining his post in the Interior Ministry, which seemed unable to arrest the fugitives.

The Minister of Interior may not be held accountable for the Political Security Central Prison scandal since the Al-Qaeda suspects were imprisoned in an organization affiliated with the presidential office. Nevertheless, the official must be held to account for the escape of Al-Houthi supporters a month ago and the security absence in Taiz

province. The new cabinet appointments were supposed to take place in the Interior Ministry and the Central Bank of Yemen was to open a new horizon to implement economic reforms entitlements, which still are stumbling until now.

At first glance, one may think the reshuffling was broadly significant. After more than 10 years in his post, Minister of Finance Alawi Al-Salami was transferred to the Shoura Council. No one expected such a minister, whose name is inscribed in the Ministry of Finance, to leave office for Al-Asali. Al-Asali himself never aspired to be appointed Minister of Finance. Over the past period, the new minister was known for his excessive writings defending the regime and the ruling party. His writings can be likened to mere political records for media consumption.

According to his records, the new Finance Minister does not appear to be an economist eligible to manage the state's finances. What is of crucial importance is that Al-Asali's record and his academic and political activities make him a personality of sharp antagonism and political reactions, causing him to lose trust among independent academics and opposition parties.

Al-Asali was appointed Ministry of Finance Undersecretary when the Islamist Islah Party was involved in the coalition government following the 1994 civil war. He quit Islah and joined the ruling party, the General People's Congress, before his appointment in the new government.

Another shock to media is the appointment of Hassan Al-Lawzi to a second term as Minister of Information. Al-Lawzi, North Yemen's Information Minister in the 1980s, has a history that does not qualify him for a period of growing democracy and freedom. It also seems there has been no change in his behavior. On the contrary, he became more oppressive toward press freedom and media openness. While a majority of state officials did not back the new draft press law of the past few months, Al-Lawzi topped the list of those supporting the law. Additionally, he was the head of the Shoura Council Media Committee. His conduct led him to be criticized by the opposition journalism community and official media as well.

However, replacing governors was beneficial to a great extent. Transferring Yahya Al-Amri from Sa'ada to Al-Beidha was required during the Sa'ada war. A new Sa'ada governor can play a vital role in calming security tensions in the province, as he will not appear to be a party in the war.

Mustafa Ragih is a Yemeni journalist



By: Mustafa Ragih

YEMEN TIMES

First Political bi-weekly English Newspaper in Yemen.
Founded in 1991 by Prof. 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: ytaden@y.net.ye

Taiz Bureau Chief:
Imad Ahmed Abdullah
Tel: +967 (4) 217-156
Tel: +967 (4) 217-157
P.O.Box: 5086, Taiz
Email: yttaiz@y.net.ye

Hodeidah Bureau Chief:
Tahal Hamoud Saif
Tel: +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: 00971506589158
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.

Letters to the Editor

A different point of view about the cartoon misunderstanding

In the West, any writer who criticizes Islam knows he could be killed. It's almost a cliché: Write blasphemy and you will die. Therefore, writers have self-censored their thoughts. This situation can't be ignored any longer. The Danish newspaper published the cartoons so we all could see what happens. If Islam wants to be a major religion in the West, then it needs to adapt to increased scrutiny and exposure to free speech - even the tasteless and blasphemous. We equate censorship with oppression because they walk hand in hand. I wish all people could understand this simple truth. Please don't

think this incident was a Zionist conspiracy or hatred toward Islam. This was just a test of free speech and I would say we have a long way to go.

**Bob
builderbob1024@gmail.com**

The difference

Christians in the U.S. have put up with "art" depicting Jesus Christ in urine, for example. The difference is, Christians don't riot and burn down things because of it. We protest and try to stop it legally, but not by rioting. It comes with freedom.

**EL Robbins
cogpk@hotmail.com**

High praise for the Yemen Times

First of all, I want to thank you very much

for your efforts in publishing the most attractive and wonderful topics. I appreciate the honest staff who present the best image of Yemen. I always feel pride and happiness when I have purchased your unique newspaper. I have just read several headlines and stories, especially those tackling and discussing internal and external issues, not only with attention and care, but also with honesty, frankness and authenticity.

It's necessary to know precisely the huge responsibility you bear in order to recognize the heaviest burden you carry and deeply understand the vital role you represent. I am not here as a lecturer or a preacher to teach those

previously taught. Please pardon if I hurt you or poke my nose in others' lives and affairs.

Since I love you through your revered newspaper and its world-famous writers, thinkers, cultural, political, economic and intellectual personalities, I stand humbly and respectfully before this marvelous independent newspaper to express my deep heartfelt feelings for such an honorable and modest newspaper.

You don't expect the appreciation and admiration I sense for you, particularly regarding recent weekly editions, without discriminating between articles or writers because all of them were and still are very good.

Sultan Ali Mansour

WORLD REPORT 2006 – Part 3

Of the Human Rights Watch British Complicity with Torture

The United States is the only major Western democracy to openly espouse detainee abuse by its own interrogators, but Britain has adopted policies that would make it complicit in torture. In 2005, Prime Minister Tony Blair proposed sending terrorist suspects to governments that have a history of torturing such people—a policy that the United States had already adopted, in a practice sometimes referred to as “extraordinary rendition.” The U.N. Convention against Torture prohibits without exception sending anyone to a country “where there are substantial grounds for believing that he would be in danger of being subjected to torture.” Yet, following precedents set by the Bush administration, the Blair government proposed sending terrorist suspects to places such as Libya, Jordan, Algeria, Morocco, and Tunisia—all governments with notorious records of torturing radical Islamists.

The U.N. Convention against Torture prohibits without exception sending anyone to a country “where there are substantial grounds for believing that he would be in danger of being subjected to torture.” Yet, following precedents set by the Bush administration, the Blair government proposed sending terrorist suspects to places such as Libya, Jordan, Algeria, Morocco, and Tunisia—all governments with notorious records of torturing radical Islamists.

At the U.N. General Assembly in New York, the British delegation, working with the United States, objected to a resolution affirming that diplomatic assurances do not relieve governments of the duty never to send suspects to countries that are likely to torture them.

At the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg, the British government contended that this duty should be balanced against security needs—that an absolute prohibition should be made conditional. Britain encouraged other European governments to join it in this retrograde position.

Canada’s Ambivalent Position

The Canadian government, to its credit, held probing, public hearings in 2005 into the role played by Canadian

officials in Washington’s shipment of Maher Arar, a Canadian citizen of Syrian extraction, to Syria, where Syrian authorities predictably tortured him—despite the U.S. government’s claim to have received assurances from Syria that it would not mistreat him.

The Bush administration continued in 2005 to detain large numbers of people without charge or trial and without regard to the laws of armed conflict.

In this respect, Canada showed significantly greater concern with a single act of possible complicity in torture than the U.S. government has shown about its systematic use of torture. Yet a Canadian law permits the detention and expulsion of immigrants and refugees on national security grounds to countries where they risk torture. The U.N. Human Rights Committee, in reviewing Canada’s record, said that such transfers “can never be justified,” echoing concerns expressed in May by the U.N. Committee against Torture when it reviewed Canada’s compliance with the torture convention.

Detention

The Bush administration continued in 2005 to detain large numbers of people without charge or trial and without regard to the laws of armed conflict. Sometimes it forcibly “disappeared” them into one of its secret overseas detention facilities, making them highly vulnerable to torture. Under customary laws of war and the Geneva Conventions, a state can detain enemy combatants without trial until the end of an armed conflict. But the Bush administration extended that principle beyond recognition.

Counterterrorism as an Excuse for Silence

The same calculus that led the Bush administration to adopt policies of abusive interrogation and arbitrary detention—the belief that human rights can be sacrificed in the name of fighting terrorism—led it to disregard the promotion of democracy, let alone human rights, with respect to governments that it viewed as allies in its “global war against terrorism.”

The willingness to sacrifice basic human rights principles in the name of fighting terrorism hit a new low around the issue of enforced disappearances. “Disappearances” occur when governments seize people without

acknowledging their detention, leaving them highly vulnerable to torture or execution, and their families in a painful limbo, knowing nothing of the fate or whereabouts of their loved ones. A long-term effort at the United Nations to complete a treaty outlawing “disappearances” reached a milestone with the adoption of a draft by a working group of the Commission on Human Rights.

The continuing need for unanimity, combined with an opaque decision-making process and a lack of leadership among E.U. members, produced a dynamic that favoured muted responses toward human rights violations in third countries.... The E.U. managed to achieve consensus and play a positive role by sponsoring critical resolutions at the United Nations on human rights in the DRC, North Korea, Sudan, Uzbekistan, and Turkmenistan.

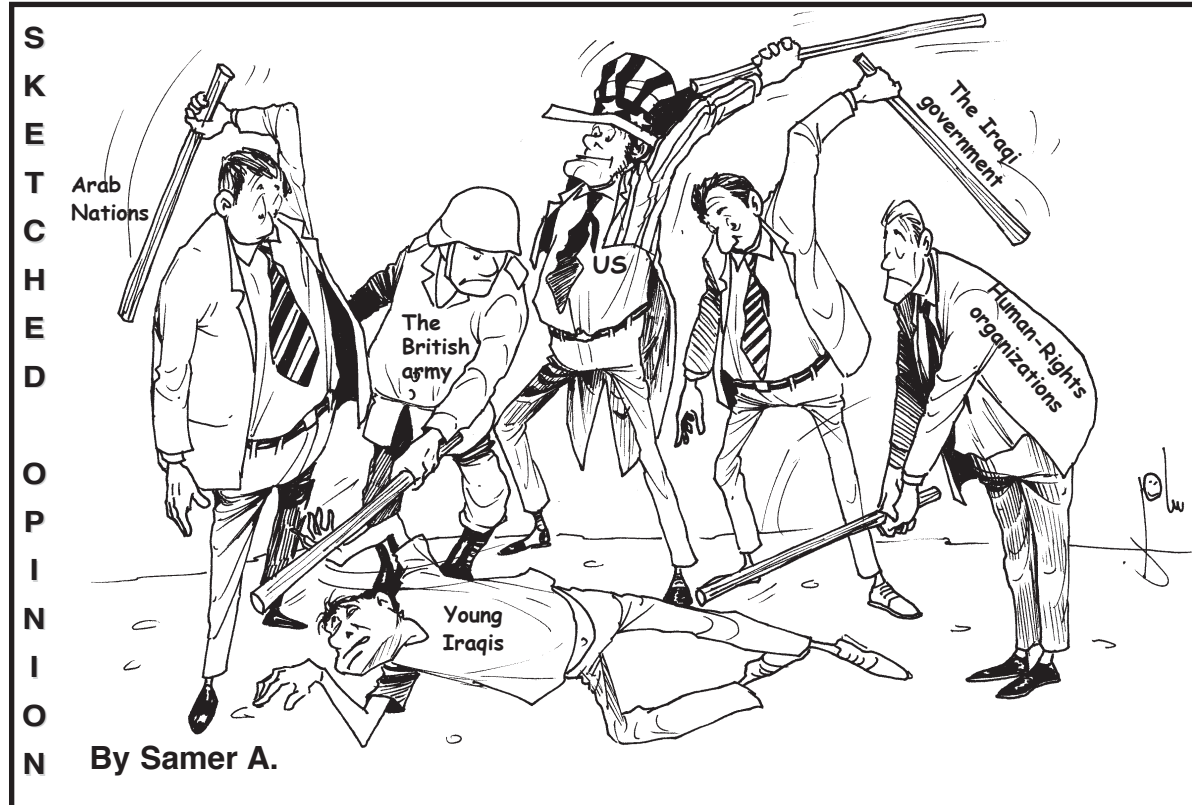
The European Union

Washington was not the only cause of the global leadership void on human rights.

The European Union might have filled the gap, but instead it continued to punch well below its weight, due in part to institutional disarray and in part to competing priorities. The need to achieve consensus among twenty-five members was part of the problem. The proposed new constitution would have streamlined foreign policy decisions, easing the need for unanimity among its members as well as strengthening the E.U.’s chief foreign policy representative. However, the constitution suffered a major setback when voters rejected it in referenda held in France in May and the Netherlands in June.

The continuing need for unanimity, combined with an opaque decision-making process and a lack of leadership among E.U. members, produced a dynamic that favored muted responses toward human rights violations in third countries. However, with regard to E.U. accession countries, a transparent process coupled with the ability of any single member to block progress for an aspiring state tended to raise the bar on human rights. Positive pressure for improvement was thus exerted, most notably on Turkey.

When it came to external protests or interventions, however, the E.U.’s



decision-making procedures tended to work the other way. When E.U. governments had already agreed to common pressure, as in the arms embargo imposed on China following the Tiananmen Square massacre of 1989, their consensus rules favoured perpetuation of the status quo, even though France and Germany, among others, sought to end the embargo. More commonly, though, in the case of new initiatives, E.U. procedures favored weak responses.

The E.U. managed to achieve consensus and play a positive role by sponsoring critical resolutions at the United Nations on human rights in the DRC, North Korea, Sudan, Uzbekistan, and Turkmenistan. But the E.U. generally failed to give teeth to its human rights protests by effectively using its many trade and cooperation agreements to press for human rights improvements in countries benefiting from massive E.U. assistance and trading privileges.

Key European governments also continued to supply peacekeeping troops in the Ivory Coast and logistical support to African Union troops in Darfur. But the E.U. did not act with similar forcefulness when it came to abuses by governments with which it maintained closer relationships. In Angola, Ethiopia, Rwanda, and Uganda, for example, the E.U. condemned abuses but did not put the governments on notice that they were in serious breach of their human rights obligations, including those written into the agreement that regulates European assistance to such countries. One positive exception to the E.U.’s

For most of the year, the E.U. collectively utterly failed to raise concerns about the U.S. practice of “disappearing” terrorist suspects.

disregard for other government’s binding human rights commitments with it came in the case of Uzbekistan. It took more than four months, but in October, the E.U. finally decided to partially suspend its partnership and cooperation agreement with Uzbekistan because of President Karimov’s refusal to permit an international inquiry into the Andijan massacre. This was the first time the E.U. had suspended any such agreement on human rights grounds—an important precedent on which to build but also a sad commentary on the lack of seriousness with which the E.U. typically has treated the legally binding human rights requirements in all such agreements.

For most of the year, the E.U. collectively utterly failed to raise concerns about the U.S. practice of

“disappearing” terrorist suspects. The sole exceptions were national investigations opened in Italy, Germany, and Sweden into the CIA’s role in seizing or luring suspects from their soil and sending them to Egypt or Afghanistan.

The ICC received a major boost in March when the U.N. Security Council gave it jurisdiction over atrocities committed in Darfur.

The E.U. became more assertive only in the face of broad public outrage triggered by evidence that was made public in November suggesting the United States had maintained secret detention facilities near airports in Poland and Romania. Only then did several national parliaments and prosecutors launch investigations, the European Commission opened an informal inquiry, and the E.U. foreign ministers requested clarification from the United States about CIA activities on E.U. territory.

Why Hamas won

By: Imran Khan*
mimraan.khaan@gmail.com

Everyone was stunned by the Islamic hard-line militant group Hamas victory in recent Palestinian territory elections. Many feared that Hamas was in a strong position, but never thought it could sweep the elections. Does this illustrate that people like militant groups and voted for them because of their hard-line stance against Israel? Well, I don’t think like that. I don’t believe people of any country like militant or extremist groups to come into power. It’s not our nature to go for extremism.

But we saw Palestinians give their votes to extremists in their recent elections, so does this mean I’m wrong? I still will not change my words and will say that people don’t like extremism at all – there are a few reasons why.

If we look at recent history, the Taliban took over Afghanistan in 1996 by force and imposed a few hardships on Afghans, trying to reach their goals by pressuring and forcing the people. Its rule ended in 2001 after the U.S.-led war against it. Since then, if we look at recent polls, the majority of Afghans don’t want the Taliban back, saying things are much better now.

The other example I can mention is that of the 2002 Pakistani general elections, wherein religious parties won considerable numbers of Parliament seats, which they never before had won in the history of Pakistan. They even won one provincial government by complete majority, as well as won an important opposition leader’s National Assembly seat.

Many believe giving votes to religious parties was a reaction against the U.S. war on Afghanistan, but there also were other reasons, as voters thought perhaps the change would bring something good to them, as nothing happened in their favor in the past. But after coming into power, the religious parties did nothing and things were the same. People saw no big changes in their

lives. Reaction against the religious parties came in last year’s local government elections when voters rejected their nominees. If people only voted for them because of U.S. policies, then I don’t think the religious parties would have lost the local elections, as the U.S. still has a presence in Afghanistan and Iraq.

On other hand, in Pakistani tribal areas, the Taliban is trying to achieve the same kind of influence that Hamas has in Palestine, for example, by killing bandits who were looting and killing people. Commoners there welcomed such moves. If the government is not protecting citizens and there is no law, such people can gain citizens’ sympathies by removing a few bad problems. In the Palestinian case, if we simply summarize, then Israel’s unjust actions against Palestinians created Hamas and Fatah, the long-ruling corrupt party, which also did nothing to better Palestinians, so they let Hamas win the election.

These events clearly suggest that when people have no other choice, they will go for anything. The fault is not voters who choose these types of extremists, but the government’s and those who hold power but don’t consider commoners’ miseries when they have the resources and means to change their lives.

So, responsibility lies on every government to better its citizens. If it keeps doing that, then no one will ever think about going toward extremism or anything similar. It’s very simple: if someone does good things for us, we appreciate it, but if someone harms us, we are ready to fight. The message is loud and clear – now it is the time to think about changing a few things in the right direction. Then election results will never stun anyone.

Muhammad Imran Khan is assistant director of Pakistan’s National Electric Power Regulatory Authority (NEPRA). He is an economic and commerce specialist and a freelance writer for several international newspapers.

Meet your neighbors

Years ago, American society slowly and voluntarily gave up the use of the word “nigger” to describe African-Americans. The word is racist, insulting, and legal. It hurts people’s feelings, and that was reason enough for a nation to stop using the word. That’s also reason enough not to publish hurtful cartoons.

Integration is a process that begins in conflict that leads to awareness and ultimately adjustments. Thus it may be an encouraging turn of events that western people and Muslims are having a heated discussion about the publication of derogatory cartoons of the prophet Mohammed. Both are standing for very sensitive and core values of their societies: respect for the prophet Mohammed on one hand and freedom of the press on the other.

Freedom of the press is what most westerners consider the primary bulwark against tyranny, and they consider free speech as perhaps their most fundamental right. Thus many have been willing to accept ridicule of their own beliefs as a necessary cost of free speech, including “art” depicting the Virgin Mary smeared with cow dung, and television comedy shows that satirize Jesus as a cartoon figure on a weekly basis. But this does not mean that others would make this same choice. In fact while any depiction of the prophet Mohammed is considered blasphemous according to Islam, so is any depiction of Moses, Jesus, and the Virgin Mary.

Some see Muslim outrage at the cartoons fundamentally as an attempt at



By: Jane Novak
jane.novak@gmail.com

Western groups boycott products of a variety of reasons but often to assert their values, and it is an effective and peaceful way to influence business practice. When millions of Muslims boycott a country for insulting the prophet Mohammed, it should be seen for what it is, an expression of hurt and an assertion of values. The cartoons are perceived as, and may have been, a taunting and deliberate provocation on behalf of the newspaper. One woman said, it “showed that they care little for our feelings.”

But because several European newspapers are asserting their right to be rude, it does not mean that they represent all western people in this regard.

The positive statement somehow being missed is the rejection of the depiction of Islam as a violent religion. The picture of the prophet Mohammed with a bomb in his turban implies that Islam promotes terrorism and that has infuriated millions of Muslims. Those Western “experts” who selectively quote from the Koran or Hadiths to make their case as to “the danger of Islam” should take care to listen to people like Isma, a female protester in Yemen, “We don’t want to fight them. We are here in peace to express our love for our messenger.” This message should be received with friendship not belligerence.

It is difficult to overestimate how personally and sincerely many Muslims feel insulted. But listening to the people of the Middle East is extremely difficult when their voices are drowned out by extremists and censored by their own governments. The message of the protests, anger and dismay at the

mischaracterization of the prophet Mohammed as a terrorist has been nearly obscured by the vitriolic rhetoric of extremists who are exploiting the incident for their own political purposes. A sign saying “Behead all those who insult Islam” cropped up at one demonstration.

Some Islamic countries have laws prohibiting criticism of the nation’s ruler and also the rulers of “brotherly” (Muslim) nations, making it difficult to understand the poverty, corruption, repression, torture, and censorship that exist in some countries. Communication with the West is actively discouraged through many means including internet censorship and laws against publishing abroad.

But one thing that can be understood from the protests is that most Muslims accept the concept of the legitimacy of civilian immunity from terrorists. Many also feel civilians should be immune from foreign governments occupying or bombing them and their own governments attacking them with impunity. One premise we all may agree upon is there are many kinds of terror that civilians face, and they all are equally illegitimate. Another may be that good manners are important.

Jane Novak is an American journalist and political analyst. This article first published in the US.

Works Cited:
Quotes
http://www.jobserver.com
http://weekly.ahram.org.eg
Headline:
http://www.humaneventsonline.com

Unorganized economic sector comprises 69 percent of labor force

By: Yemen Times Staff

A recent economic study recommended development of the unorganized economic sector, encouraging it to incorporate with and shift toward an organized economic sector. The study mentioned this as one important solution to absorb unemployment and affect required economic development.

Prepared by Yemen's General Federation of Trade Unions, the study pointed out that the unorganized economic sector's contribution to Yemen's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is between 20 and 30 percent, comprising approximately 69 percent of the labor force. The study engaged a sample of 800 workers in the unorganized economic sector and relevant parties from government institutions, trade union organizations, employers and civil society organizations in the capital secretariat and the governments of Aden, Hodeidah, Hadramout, Thamar, Sana'a, Taiz, Lahj and Dhaliq.

The sampling revealed that more than 50 percent of those workers are youths aged 16-30, rising to 67 percent between the ages of 16 and 40. As for the workers' education level, the study found that 25 percent hold general secondary school and technical certificates, 9.7 percent are illiterate and 5.24 percent hold a university degree, with one holding a higher education degree.

The study also illustrated work hardships in the sector, revealing that 55.7 percent work as peddlers, 45 percent work more than 10 hours a day and 87



View depicting a typical popular market in Yemen with peddlers displaying their goods in carts or on street sidewalks.

percent do not have a weekend holiday. Seventeen percent of those sampled were exposed to work incidents, while only 0.3 percent received compensation. Additionally, 89 percent of such workers work without job contracts and 80 percent have not registered with employment offices, as well as 47 percent do not possess permits for the profession they work in and 85 percent do not know their legal rights.

The study recommended the necessity of integrating the unorganized labor sector into the economy by encouraging establishing small enterprise cooperatives and offering facilities and services to develop the sector's activities. Recommendations also called for making a social contract and political commitment to deal positively with concerns of this sector's workers.

It also requested incorporating funding and administrative needs, legal protection, securities coverage and trade union organization with plans and programs for development and fighting poverty. The study recommended offering lending facilities to small enterprises and instructing funding sources and programs to offer more loans and assistance to cooperatives and small projects.

Nevertheless, the study pointed out the difficulty of defining the unorganized labor sector's volume and the proportion of its GDP contribution. It affirmed that within the past 10 years, the sector has witnessed significant growth characterized by randomness, disorganization and substandard conditions, circumstances and labor rights, as well as easy access to them.

The first attempt to study and estimate Yemen's unorganized labor sector volume was in 1996, when it was defined as being composed of small projects employing 14 workers and those economically active outside institutions. That study estimated Yemen's small enterprise volume at approximately 95 percent of total enterprises, whose GDP contributions were between 20 and 30 percent.

The first five-year plan for economic development (1996-2000) was the first government document to clearly mention the unorganized labor sector. The document differentiated between unorganized labor sector activities for potential development and display activities of individuals earning their living in outside enterprises on sidewalks and back streets.

The General Federation of Trade Unions' study identified the unorganized labor sector as an economic activity conducted outside official criteria. It includes production activities and exchanging legitimate goods and services, but lacks work licenses and does not abide by rules and licenses of geographic distribution or tax obligations. Such activities mostly are incompatible with labor rules and regulations.

This sector's growth and expansion in Yemen can be attributed to two problems: poverty and unemployment, which are ascribed to increased population growth, increased numbers of those entering the labor market, migration from the countryside, returning Yemeni labor from abroad and low production levels.

In brief

Guinean Oil Search fails to invest in Yemen

The Guinean Oil Search Company reported that it did not discover commercial quantities of hydrocarbons in Yemen's Nabraja-9 well. The company added that it intended to dig a lateral well toward the direction of oil producing well Nabraja-5 where it expects geological formation to be more encouraging. Oil production from Nabraja-5 well began in July, averaging 15,000 barrels per day, and is expected to reach 50,000 bpd in the last quarter of 2006.

Yemeni banks combined budget exceeds \$4 billion

Yemeni banking apparatus' foreign assets rose to approximately \$6.5 billion, compared to \$5.7 billion at the end of 2005. A recent Central Bank of Yemen report revealed an increase in the gross combined budget of Yemeni commercial and Islamic banks to \$4.15 billion at the end of 2005, compared with YR 686 billion at the end of 2004. The report mentioned that the banks' deposit volume reached YR 638 billion, a YR 18 billion increase over 2004.

According to the CBY report, its foreign assets rose to \$6.1 billion by the end of 2005, encompassing 17.2 months of revenues.

New seaport at Dhabba in Hadramout

The Minister of Transport recently announced that the ministry is scheduled to construct a new seaport in Dhabba area, Hadramout governorate to begin in the near future. He said an international consulting company is preparing project studies and designs, indicating they will be complete in the next three months, after which project work will begin.

The minister said another investment firm is conducting studies and designs for a re-development project and qualification of Mokha Port.

Ways to finance income-yielding projects discussed

Directors of the Social Fund for Development and the Fund for Financing Small Enterprises, along with technical and vocational institutes in Aden governorate, last Wednesday discussed the means of funding projects to produce income and create job opportunities, in addition to training plans to upgrade skills.

Attendees, including a German technical team, discussed the possibility of benefiting from German expertise in this field. Such expertise is aimed at developing plan activities in a manner compatible with Yemeni labor market needs and supporting development societies acting in accordance with Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor laws in such training and qualification.

Denmark sustains YR 7.5 billion annual losses due to Yemeni boycott of its products

Yemeni consumer anger intensified against a Danish newspaper's insult to Islam by preferring to continue boycotting Danish products. Yemeni consumers have substituted Asian, Southeast Asian and Chinese imports for Danish products.

Some consumers said they preferred buying products from Communist China, which they said respects religions, rather than European products. Consumers added that Yemenis are committed to their religion and prophet and that the Danes alone will lose in Yemeni, Arab and Islamic markets. Experts have estimated YR 7.5 billion in annual losses to Danish companies as a result of its products being boycotted in Yemeni markets.

CBY provides banking market with \$96 million

The Central Bank of Yemen recently put \$96 million into circulation in the banking market to meet its foreign currency needs in an attempt to prevent further deterioration in the national currency exchange rate. The measure came in response to the rial value receding by one point against the dollar when it reached YR196 against the dollar.

A CBY source confirmed that the bank will continue watching the market, taking necessary steps to achieve local currency exchange price stability against the dollar and other currencies.

This is the third time in 2006 that the CBY has interfered by pumping dollars to support market exchange rates.

Aden's Salt Establishment

By: Yemen Times Staff
Aden Bureau

The name of the city of Aden has long been associated with the sea and its beautiful seaport. It possesses a strategic location and is surrounded by mountains on all sides. This encouraged many Western countries to occupy Aden, which Britain did in its January 19, 1839 invasion of the city.

During its 129-year occupation, Britain built Aden's infrastructure, paying much attention to the port by rehabilitating it to receive large ships to benefit its own interests.

As Aden became associated with its port, it also became associated with the salt industry, of which Aden is considered one of the first cities famed for salt production. In 1886, the Italian Salt Company built special basins to produce salt in an area called Al-Mamlah, the remains of which still stand. There are still ruins of canals, bridges and wind-

mills, inside of which are wooden barrels and straps - resembling water-wheels - for carrying seawater. The Italian salt factory remains still exist on the eastern side of Al-Mamlah.

In 1908, the Indian-Adeni company built the state Salt Establishment's present site on the Aden International Airport side. Following 1967 independence, a presidential decree was issued concerning the Salt Establishment aimed at modernizing and repairing salt basins and increasing production capacity from 20,000 to 150,000 tons.

Personnel worked hard to preserve the Salt Establishment and its assets, as well as produce high quality salt. Thus, it earned several bronze and gold prizes, the latest of which was the 2001 European gold prize. The Salt Establishment also annually contributed millions of Riyals to the state budget from salt revenues, as well as employed 120 workers, including 50 daily wage employees.

The establishment plans to build a \$2

million salt refining unit, which will help it better develop, as well as increase the number of salt basins to 60 instead of the present 35.

Despite all the gains and efforts of the Salt Establishment as one of the best public sector institutions, it faces a number of difficulties for which the state cannot find solutions. The corrupt Aden land mafia has seized some establishment land to build a petrol station within the salt basin area, disregarding the negative environmental impact such a station will cause by poisoning citizens, as salt is a substance for human consumption. In return, the Salt Establishment has filed a lawsuit against building the petrol station there, but the case has not yet been decided.

The Salt Establishment recently received a directive to transfer it and all its assets to the Yemeni Economic Establishment's Aden branch, which will manage it. One wonders why such action was taken, whether the Salt Establishment failed to run at the



Facilities at a salt factory.

required level or whether it simply faces what is occurring at Aden container

port, which until now is in a state of confusion.

Symposium: Absence of budget planning causes increased disorder and poverty

A Yemeni political and economic experts symposium discussed state budget disorders and floundering projects, their economic impact and how to solve them.

By: Mahyoub Al-Kamali

The state's general budget was blamed as being the major cause plucking the living from the mouths of the poor. This was said because the budgets do not draw up successful remedies and solutions to citizens' problems nor create job opportunities by building strategic projects to provide a multitude of opportunities for tens of thousands of unemployed roaming the streets of the capital and other cities.

Annas Establishment for Press recently held a symposium in Sana'a on state budgets and their role in alleviating poverty and unemployment. A group of Yemeni politicians and economists attended the symposium, discussing aspects of the disorders and floundering projects at this stage, the burden of indebtedness and ways to emerge from the bottleneck of citizens' living crises. The essential question was whether government budgets resolve what Yemen's economy suffers and the public's living conditions.

In this regard, Nasserite Unionist Organization Secretary-General Sultan

Al-Atwani stressed that citizens' suffering increases with every newly approved budget, wondering about increased prices usually accompanying increased oil quantities. He added that drawing up the budget should be based on revenues increase to create a development jump, added to what was allocated already.

Al-Atwani pointed out that 600 projects are proposed by direct orders and only 25 percent of project budgets are spent on them, whereas 75 percent of the allotted sums go in favor of influential personalities. He considers what is occurring in Yemen as organized corruption to plunder the country's riches. Those in charge of the country's administration play the role of liquidating the wealth in coming years and then leave. He said, "The [budget] plan represents a yearly program to measure the extent of what is achieved with regard to citizens living in a better way, but regrettably, we have not seen this."

Al-Atwani also touched on government rhetoric when signing border agreements with neighboring countries, in talking of reducing defense and security budgets while surprising citizens

with increased defense and security allocations, questioning the whereabouts of those allocations and about the existence of security.

In response to a question by the symposium manager about the source of funds the ruling party spends on its election campaigns, Al-Atwani replied that such funds come from two sources: ruling party-dominated institution budgets and government-proposed appropriations. He affirmed that supplementary appropriations are not spent on development as much as for confronting the opposition, adding, "Additional appropriation is additional revenues loss."

Economic expert Dr. Mohammed Al-Sabri justified additional appropriations, blaming the opposition for concentrating on the general budget and forgetting economic unit budgets that reach general budget's level. He attributed existing corruption to spending inefficiency and ruled out its being intentional. Member of Parliament Sakhr objected to this position, saying, "The present corruption is intentional and premeditated."

Al-Sabri cited spending inefficiency by giving the example of an institution that claimed it bought a bed for \$2,000

while the real price was \$600. He demanded the government improve its purchasing situation. He deemed weapons purchasing as a demand and military salaries as social care, describing the budget as "unplanned," evidenced by its failures.

Al-Wafi, deputy head of the Islah party economic office, agreed with Al-Sabri regarding the rise in military salaries but disagreed about weapons purchasing, indicating the existence of tax failures and legal negligence toward smuggling, saying, "The government is lenient. There must be some fierceness."

Al-Wafi said 2005 actual state revenues were approximately one trillion Riyals, clarifying that government-stated oil decreases are nearly unmentionable and that it can make up for them with new oil discoveries. He considers government talk of sales tax not enough, confirming that the law was not enacted. Also, he said the present budget is used to benefit some people and completely against developmental goals.

According to Al-Wafi, 40 percent of the budget goes to defense and security. Sakhr said the budget does not reflect actual implications, noting that it was issued by law but violated more than other laws. Also, final budget accounts were not implemented, especially concerning investment.

Future Youth

Voices of tomorrow delivered today!!

A freedom of speech!

By: Najla Abu-Taleb
najla10@hotmail.com

Although not one to advocate censorship, evidently the latest wave of Islamophobic tirades sweeping Europe has hit a sore nerve, not just within Muslim communities in Europe, but beyond.

The national newspapers of the small Scandinavian country of Denmark and its closest neighbor, Germany, have repeatedly published these contentious cartoons in the name of freedom of speech.

I find this fascinating, especially when we compare the anti-Semitic histories of the two countries. Notably, Germany, which began Jewish degradation with the rise of unquestionable anti-Semitism in the 19th century and ended with institutionalized genocide of the concentration camps.

Islamophobia has had its own concentration camps, whether it be those of the Occupied Territories or, closer to home, the massacres and yes, genocide, of Muslims in the 1990s Balkan War.

Normally, I would argue that these cartoons are meaningless and raising attention to them will only raise their profile. However, let's be a little bit more rational about this, given the obvious prejudices that exist – certainly, European countries against the 'other.' History verifies this.

So let's turn the tables. The crux of the question is: Whose freedom of speech is more worthy? Obviously, not the Jews or the Muslims. More

importantly, is it a question of values or a question of color?

In part, it is about the herd mentality and the explicit tenets of the Universal Declaration of Rights – embodying state and individual rights – to be used only against a specific criteria deemed responsible by those who feel a sense of ownership in what these rights mean and to whom they apply.

This also has been heightened by the EU's response, so disgracefully articulated by German Chancellor, Ms. Angela Merkel, on the Hamas victory in the first Palestinian parliamentary elections and potential EU funding withdrawal. This reminds one of the farcical Algerian elections, which resulted in a military coup supported by the West and specifically sustained by the French. A military dictatorship obviously is easier to control than an elected representative Islamist government. Where is the UDHR? And more importantly, who is there to police it?

The West has demonstrated its irresponsibility and poor judgment for a long time now. It's high time for change and a thorough understanding of the meaning of terms such as freedom of speech, rather than being used as a recourse to justify bigotry and racism against whichever people.

Thus, I am for the people power we have seen across the world of economic sanction against governments that allow this to persist under the guise of liberalism or free speech.

Note: France and Spain, which also have large Muslim minority populations, also reprinted the cartoons.

The Prophet: Mohammed

By: Nadia Ali Al-Shwafi
Faculty of English
Ibb University

As the last of Allah's prophets and messengers, he is considered the seal of the prophets and the leader of the messengers sent by Allah to all humanity. He is called the prophet of peace, mercy and forgiveness. He is the prophet of Islam and the caller of peace. Islam is the religion Allah asked Mohammed to spread to Arabs and non-Arabs. The word "Islam" is derived from salam, meaning peace.

He purified the hearts and souls of his people of aggression and hatred. He said, "Allah has no mercy on those who have no mercy for others." In addition to that, he said, "Powerful is not he who knocks the other down, indeed powerful is he who controls himself in a fit of anger." He taught his people how to behave well

and be kind to each other. He did not ask his people to hurt or harm anyone (Arabs or non-Arabs). He asked them to be a good example for others. He encouraged them to minimize the value of life and its pleasure to increase their humanity and be able to gather all human beings under the roof of love, faithfulness and brotherhood.

Moreover, he told his people not to be conceited because, "Allah does not judge according to your bodies and appearances but He scans your hearts and looks into your deeds." He told them not to be proud and arrogant. He told them they are equal and no one is better than another, except if they do better deeds. He told them they are from one origin and there is no priority of Arab over non-Arab, except through piouness.

So Mohammed did not call for war, but he called for peace. He called for equality and mercifulness. Then why are those evil people trying to hurt him? Are

they afraid of him even after his death? Why are they afraid of him if they are doing good deeds? Do they believe their deeds are wrong? If they think so, they can reform them and Allah (forgiving and merciful) will forgive them. And if they think their bad deeds will lead them to the dark side, the time is not over. There is enough time to do good deeds. Islam removes all bad deeds that happened before Islam. But if they are trying to hurt our prophet without any reason, I can tell them that they are unreasonable. They are trying to hurt the most excellent example and the most successful personality in the history of mankind. They really must be treated because they are trying to hurt a dead man (yes, he is alive in our hearts and lives in paradise now). I want to tell them that if they are trying to hurt our feelings, they cannot because we are considering their words and deeds unreasonable. We compare their words and deeds with the words of a madman.

The wings of love

By: Fuad Noman
nomanfuad@hotmail.com

The second flight of love has arrived late

When she landed on my soul's ground

She saw her past love's dream
In a different state can be found
Again she opened her heart's gate
For the great love she does wait

But it is too late
For a new love my heart can not germinate
It is too hard to love without vibrant heart

Love has no sense
If it comes from one part
If I have done a mistake,
why should not you make me awake?

Love can't stop and walk in a dark park
Since a true adoration can't wear a face mask

Then, let me know how to ask
Oh my God!
The fever of love is a strong sore-ness

It can't lead us for a bit of happiness
For love

A loyal heart has only one task
It is a burning passion spark
Why should you blame my heart if it investigates?

Recently the snow of past has started to melt

So what is my guilt?
But I don't know how jealousy in soul germinates

I'm actually so confused
If my first love is to be told refused,
Why is my heart always abused?

The poverty in the hearts only

By: Abdulkreem Al-Aawage
abdulkreem_h_alawage@yahoo.com

The poverty is in our hearts. These are few words that indicate a great meaning. The homeland has ample bosom. The earth is full with wealth and sources.

The youth cope here and there for study and for jobs. It is the reality, best earth for wiser people. Everything is available but there is no care for anything.

As it is said and heard, every minute that there is corruption in demonstrative and financial sectors which lead to what we have talked about before, the

poverty.

It is not the poverty in the economic field. It is the poverty of hearts which make those officials in the offices of the different ministries sell the jobs for those who pay more, sell the certification at schools for those careless students, and create the obstacles in any routine treatment to get what is called nowadays, the cost of qat.

It is the darkness of heart, which makes some, let the piles of herbicides enter the country in illegal way.

It is the poverty and blindness of heart, which make some bad people in the agricultural field to waste the gifts of the donor countries in trivial projects or even in unknown ways.

What is the solution for these hinders?

They must be solved and tackled quickly to get everyone of this society his right in life and in equality as others.

I am such as the others wandering for to know that there is corruption and speak about this dangerous disease in the different formal and informal media and in the sessions of parliament and without taking any positive steps to face or to cope those difficulties.

It is a question that put itself to everyone. Have we not got the evidences and means to face all those obstacles and hinders or we are consent of all that because we have got some benefits and interests from such bad situation?

NOTICE

It is with great pleasure we announce that P&O Nedlloyd and Maersk Sealand liner networks will be combined and branded under the name "MAERSK LINE" EFFECTIVE FROM Feb. 12th 2006, with due considerations to our esteemed customers requirements, we have designed a global network that will continue to serve your business and create opportunities in global commerce.

- optimal routing of cargo.
- greater flexibility with an increased number of sailings.
- more direct port pairs.
- a complementing hub structure.
- increased capacity to cater for the volumes for our combined customer base.
- a global network with a distinct local touch; our network of own offices worldwide.

From February 12th 2006 Maersk Line and its agents will continue to honour its commitments in order to offer our customers stability of network and services throughout to meet the future expansion of global markets. In order to serve you better after the cutover date we seek your support and cooperation on following matter.

1. If you are holding a PONL Bill of Lading kindly continue to approach following agents for completing formalities until further notice:

Sheibani Shipping & Clearing Corp.

Postal Address:
P.O.BOX 4063 Almina Street
Hodeidah, Yemen
Tel.: +967 3 208466 / 73 / 77
Fax: +967 3 208471
E-mail: shehod@yemen.net.ye
shehod-ops@yemen.net.ye

Sheibani Shipping & Clearing Corp.

Postal Address:
P.O.BOX 4333
Crater, Aden
Tel.: +967 2 243319 / 240914
Fax: +967 2 240813
E-mail: sheaden@yemen.net.ye

MAERSK LINE AGENTS IN YEMEN

United Yemen Shipping Co. [S.Y.C.]
P.O.BOX 4139 Kilo - 7 Sana'a Street,
Hodeidah, Republic Of Yemen
Tel.: +967 3 228697 / 228608
Fax: +967 3 228845
E-mail: ahdmla@y.net.ye

اعلان

يسرنا ان نعلن باننا و ابتداء من تاريخ 12 فبراير 2006م سوف يتم دمج الخطتين الملاحيين العالميين التابعين لكلا من شركة P&O Nedlloyds و شركة Maersk Sealand تحت شركة موحدة باسم Maersk Line حيث و يضم الخطين تمكنا بالقيام بتصميم و اعداد شبكة ملاحية عالية اخذين بعين الاعتبار تلبية متطلبات زبائننا الكرام لنتمكن من الاستمرار في خدمة اعمالهم و مصالحهم و خلق الفرص لهم بالتبادل التجاري العالمي من خلال:

- افضل الطرق لنقل البضائع.
- مرونة عالية مع زيادة عدد الرحلات.
- تواصل ثنائي مباشر بين الموانئ.
- بناء منظومة عمل متكاملة.
- زيادة السعة الاستيعابية وفقا لمتطلبات العملاء التجارية.
- إنشاء شبكة من مكاتبنا المتخصصة بالاستعانة بشبكة مكاتبنا في العالم.

و عليه و ابتداء من تاريخ 12 فبراير 2006م سوف تقوم شركة Maersk Line و وكلائها بالاستمرار بالقيام بالتزاماتها تجاه عملائها وذلك بتوفير الاستقرار لخطوطها و خدماتها في كل انحاء العالم لمواكبة التوسعات المستقبلية للأسواق العالمية.

ولكي نتمكن من تقديم خدمات افضل بعد موعود التغييرات المرتقبة، نامل دعمكم و تعاونكم في ما يلي:
1- في حالة حياتكم على بوليصة صادرة عن شركة PONL يرجى التكرم بالاستمرار بالتواصل مع الوكلاء التاليين لإنهاء معاملتكم وحتى إشعار آخر.

مؤسسة الشيباني للملاحة و التخليص

العنوان البريدي:
ص.ب: 4333
كرنتر - عدن - الجمهورية اليمنية
تلفون: 240914 / 243319
فاكس: 240813 / 243319
عنوان إلكتروني: sehaden@yemen.net.ye

مؤسسة الشيباني للملاحة و التخليص

العنوان البريدي:
ص.ب: 4063 شارع الميناء
الحديدة - الجمهورية اليمنية
تلفون: 208466 / 73 / 77
فاكس: 208471 / 73 / 77
عنوان إلكتروني: shehod@yemen.net.ye
shehod-ops@yemen.net.ye

وكلاء شركة ميرسك لاين في اليمن

الشركة اليمنية المتحدة للملاحة [ش.ي.م]
ص.ب. رقم: 4139 كيلو سبعة شارع صنعاء
الحديدة - الجمهورية اليمنية
تلفون: 228697 / 228608
فاكس: 228845 / 228697
عنوان إلكتروني: ahdmla@y.net.ye

تهانينا Congratulations

بمناسبة الثقة الكبيرة التي أولتها لهم القيادة السياسية الحكيمة
ممثلة بفخامة الأخ /

علي عبدالله صالح
رئيس الجمهورية
حفظه الله



يتقدم
السيد / أليستر موني، الرئيس والمدير العام

و
الأستاذ / علي محمد السحاقي، المدير التنفيذي

وكافة موظفي ومنتسبي شركة كنيديان نكسن بتروليم يمن وشركاؤها في قطاع المسيلة (١٤)
بخالص التهاني وأطيب التبريكات

إلى دولة الأستاذ / عبدالقادر عبدالرحمن باجمال، رئيس الوزراء

وإلى كافة أعضاء حكومته الرشيدة

بتوليهم مهام إدارة الحكومة الجديدة

متمنين لهم النجاح في مهامهم الوطنية النبيلة

For gaining the trust of the wise leadership represented by
H.E. President Ali Abdullah Saleh,

**Mr. Alistair Mooney, President and General Manager,
Mr. Ali Mohammed Sohaiki, Executive Director,**

And all staff of

CANADIAN NEXEN PETROLEUM YEMEN-BLOCK (14)

And its Masila Block Partners

Present their warmest congratulations to

H.E. Mr. Abdul Qader BaJammal, Prime Minister
And the new Cabinet for holding the new government,
Wishing them all success and prosperity,
In their national responsibilities.

تهانينا Congratulations

بمناسبة الثقة الكبيرة التي أولتها لكم القيادة السياسية الحكيمة
ممثلة بفخامة الأخ /

علي عبدالله صالح
رئيس الجمهورية
و دولة الأستاذ /

عبدالقادر عبدالرحمن باجمال،

رئيس الوزراء
يتقدم

السيد / أليستر موني، الرئيس والمدير العام

و

الأستاذ / علي محمد السحاقي، المدير التنفيذي

وكافة موظفي ومنتسبي شركة كنيديان نكسن بتروليم يمن وشركاؤها في قطاع المسيلة (١٤)
بخالص التهاني وأطيب التبريكات

إلى معالي الأستاذ / خالد محفوظ بحاح

بمناسبة تعيينه وزيراً للنفط والمعادن

في التعديل الحكومي الذي جرى يوم السبت الموافق ١١ فبراير ٢٠٠٦م

For gaining the trust of the wise leadership represented by

H.E. President Ali Abdullah Saleh,

And

H.E. Abdul Qader BaJammal, Prime Minister,

Mr. Alistair Mooney, President and General Manager,

Mr. Ali Mohammed Sohaiki, Executive Director,

And all staff of

CANADIAN NEXEN PETROLEUM YEMEN-BLOCK (14)

And its Masila Block Partners

Present their warmest congratulations to

H.E. Mr. Khalid Mahfoudh Bahah

On the occasion of appointing him as Minister Of Oil and

Minerals on Sunday, 11 February 2006

NATIONAL WATER RESOURCES AUTHORITY Request for renders for a "Fleet Tracking System"

The National Water Resources Authority, (NWRA) is engaged in managing groundwater extraction by the licensing and control of drilling rigs operating within the Sana'a Basin. To this end NWRA invites companies with expertise in Fleet Tracking System to submit quotations to supply and install a comprehensive GPS-GSM or fully satellite-based fleet tracking system for between 100 and 200 Rigs. This is to be a stand alone government-owned and managed system (i.e. rental agreements will not be entertained) the requirement is for precise passive tracking; not two-way communication. The outline specifications are:

- The provision of robust and secure GPS receiver/ GSM or satellite transmitters on a fleet of up to 200 drilling rigs.
- Supply and installation of a central Receiver-Control station with large color monitor, computer, software, color printer, appropriate cabling and roof antenna.
- Provision and installation of a full-color detailed integrated computerized UTM-based map of the Sana'a basin of Yemen with \pm zoom capability and vehicle location resolution to better than \pm 50 meters.
- The provision of both screen and hard copy of up to four daily position reports and a "locate vehicle on demand" capability.
- The provision of appropriation training for 3 to 5 NWRA staff in the system operation.
- A system capability for future modular upgrades for up to 800 rigs and up to 10 control stations throughout the GSM-serviced areas of Yemen.

The tender offer should be accompanied with the following:

- A bid bond of cheque payment for 2.5% of the bid offer valid for three months and issued from a local Bank in Yemen.
- A copy of a valid Tax Card with regard to local companies.
- Copy of valid insurance card with regard to local companies.
- A copy of qualification documents from manufacture.
- A copy of the agency document from authorized agent in Yemen representing foreign company and certified by the concerned authorities.
- The offer must be technically, financially, and commercially complete to be submitted in one original and three copies.
- The bid must be subjected to tax which is mentioned in Yemen law.
- The offer must be sealed by red wax.

The deadline of submission of offers is on Saturday 4/3/2006 at 11AM at NWRA office.

National Water Resources Authority of Yemen
P.O. Box 8944, Sana'a
Yemen (Amran Road, Sana'a, Yemen)
Tel: +967 1 231733, 251530
Fax: 967 1 231530
E-mail: NWRA-HQ@y.net.ye

الهيئة العامة للموارد المائية دعوة لتقديم عطاءات توريد وتركيب اسطول متابعة الحفارات

تقوم الهيئة العامة للموارد المائية بإدارة الموارد المائية وبما في ذلك المياه الجوفية وذلك عبر مراقبة الحفر العشوائي في الجمهورية اليمنية، وبهذا الخصوص تدعو الهيئة العامة للموارد المائية الشركات ذات الخبرة في أنظمة المراقبة و المتابعة لتقديم عروض اسعار لتوريد وتركيب نظام مراقبة ومتابعة تحركات الحفارات يعمل بنظام الـ GSM أو الـ GSP أو يعتمد كلياً على الأقمار الصناعية وذلك للعمل بين 100 أو 200 حفار، سيكون هذا النظام نظاماً مستقلاً تمتلكه وتديره الحكومة (أي بمعنى لا تعتمد اتفاقيات تاجير) النظام المطلوب هو للمتابعة الدقيقة السلبية وليس نظام ايصالات ذو اتجاهين .. المواصفات العريضة للنظام هي كالتالي:

- توريد جهاز استقبال قوي ومأمون من نوع الـ GSM أو الـ GSP أو اجهزة ارسال عبر الأقمار الصناعية تعمل على مجموعة الحفارات مكون من عدد يصل لغاية ٧٥ حفار .
- توريد وتركيب محطة تحكم جهاز استقبال مركزي مع شاشة ملونة ضخمة وكمبيوتر وبرمجيات وطابعة ملونة والتسليك المناسب وهوائي سقف.
- توريد وتركيب خارطة ملونة بالكامل ، مفصلة ، موحدة تعمل بالكمبيوتر وتقوم على نظام الـ UTM لحوض صنعاء في اليمن مع إمكانيات نظام تزويم \pm وحل تحديد موقع سيارة لأفضل من \pm متر.
- تقديم تقارير على شاشة وعلى نسخ ورقية لاربعة مواقع يومياً والقدرة على تحديد موقع السيارة عند الطلب.
- توفير التدريب لعدد من 3-5 من موظفي الهيئة العامة للموارد المائية على تشغيل النظام .
- قابلية النظام لعملية التحديث المستقبلية ليستوعب لغاية 800 سيارة ولغاية 10 محطات تحكم على مناطق تشغيل الـ GSM في اليمن.

يشترط لقبول العطاءات إرفاق ما يلي :

- إرفاق ضمان بنكي بواقع 2.5% من قيمة العطاء صالح لمدة 90 يوماً من آخر موعد لتقديم العطاء.
- إرفاق صورة من البطاقة الضريبية صالحة المدة مع إحضار الأصل للمطابقة.
- إرفاق صورة من السجل التجاري صالح المدة مع احضار الأصل للمطابقة.
- إرفاق سند تسديد رسوم المناقصة
- ان يكون المتقدم وكلياً معتمداً أو مفوضاً رسمياً للشركة المصنعة.
- على المتقدم إرفاق شهادة مزاولة المهنة لتوريد مثل هذه الأعمال.
- تقدم الاسعار بالعملة المحلية أو ما يعادلها من العملات الأخرى .
- تقدم العطاءات بمظاريف مختومة بالشمع الاحمر من اصل وصورتين الى إدارة المشتريات والمخازن بالهيئة بصنعاء
- الهيئة غير ملزمة بقبول أقل الاسعار والعطاءات غير المستوفية للشروط.
- رسوم العطاء 10000 ريال لا ترد

سيتم فتح المظاريف بمقر الهيئة بصنعاء شارع التلفزيون جوار مجلس الشورى يوم (السبت) الموافق 2006/3/4 الساعة الحادية عشره صباحاً بحضور الموردين أو المندوبين.

ص.ب. (٨٩٤٤) شارع عمان - صنعاء - الجمهورية اليمنية
هاتف: (٢٣١٧٣٣ - ٢٥٦٩٢٧) - ١ - ٠٠٩٦٧ - ١ - فاكس (٢٣١٥٣٠) - ١ - ٠٠٩٦٧
بريد الكتروني: NWRA-HQ@Y.NET.YE

Request for Proposals

Yemen's National Water Resources Authority (NWRA) invites companies with scientifically qualified staff in the field of crop-water requirements and analysis of irrigation efficiency, to submit proposals for:

A STUDY TO CONSERVE GROUNDWATER THROUGH MORE EFFICIENT CROP WATER USAGE.

The objectives of this study are to:

- (1) Determining the optimum crop-water usage for a range of crops-qat, cereals, fruit and vegetables, under the full range of environments within Yemen.
- (2) Optimization of cropping patterns and calendars for irrigated annual crops.
- (3) Capacity building in NWRA to measure crop water requirements as a part of their medium-term monitoring infrastructure.
- (4) Preparation of guidelines to farmers for conservation of irrigation water through improved irrigation efficiency, and the elimination of over-irrigation.

This study, to be conducted in stages over 18 months, is funded by the Royal Netherlands Embassy, and will involve a detailed analysis of crop-water usage with a view to improving irrigation efficiency and hence groundwater conservation, throughout Yemen.

Tenders should conform to the following documents and requirements in addition to technical and financial proposals:

- A bid bond of cheque payment for 2.5% of the bid offer, valid for three months, and issued from a local bank in Yemen.
- A copy of a valid Tax Card with regard to local companies.
- A copy of valid insurance card with regard to local companies.
- The offer must be technically, financially and commercially complete, to be submitted in the form of one original and three copies.
- The bid must be subjected to tax, in accordance with Yemen law.
- The offer must be sealed with red wax.

The deadline for submission of offers is, 12.00 noon on Saturday, March 11th 2006. Companies interested in submitting offers are invited to contact NWRA's chairman for the *background, Terms of Reference* and detailed *Request for Proposals*.

NWRA's contact details are:

National Water Resources Authority of Yemen, NWRA,
P.O. Box: 8944, Sana'a, Yemen (Amran Road, Sana'a, Yemen)
Tel: +967 1 231733 Fax: +967 1 231530;
e-mail: NWRA-HQ@y.net.ye

Request for Proposals

Yemen's National Water Resources Authority (NWRA) invites companies with suitably qualified staff in the field of socio-economies within the water sector , to submit proposals for a study on:

'Options for Changing the Economic Incentive Structures for Groundwater Extraction in Yemen'.

The objectives of this study are to:

- a) Identify which factors are driving groundwater overdraft in Yemen
- b) Identify realistic incentives to motivate the agricultural sector in reducing its groundwater extraction from rapidly depleting aquifers, and
- c) To make recommendations for implementing water conservation incentives as part of 'water basin management plans'.

This five-month study, funded by the Royal Netherlands Embassy, will involve a detailed analysis of farmers' water usage and on-farm practices, attitudes, traditions and micro-economic constraints within the wider context of the socio-economic and political environment.

In order to facilitate this 3-basin study it is expected that interested international companies will utilize field specialists with local knowledge.

The tenders should conform to the following documents and requirements:

- A bid bond of cheque payment for 2.5% of the bid offer, valid for three months, and issued from a local bank in Yemen.
- A copy of a valid Tax Card with regard to local companies.
- A copy of a valid insurance card with regard to local companies.
- The offer must be technically, financially and commercially complete, to be submitted in the form of one original and three copies.
- The bid must be subjected to tax, in accordance with Yemen law.
- The offer must be sealed with red wax.

The deadline for submission of offers is midday, 12.0 noon on Saturday, March 11th 2006.

Companies interested in submitting offers are invited to contact NWRA's chairman for the *background, Terms of Reference* and detailed *Request for Proposals*.

NWRA's contact details are:

National Water Resources Authority of Yemen, NWRA,
P.O. Box: 8944, Sana'a, Yemen (Amran Road, Sana'a, Yemen)
Tel: +967 1 231733 Fax: +967 1 231530;
e-mail: NWRA-HQ@y.net.ye

**CLASSIFIED
ADVERTISEMENTS
PAGE**

Valentine's - the day of love in Yemen

Valentine's Day is mainly a Western tradition. But during the last ten years, also many Yemenis have embraced Feb 14 as a day of expressing love. This is what Valentine's Day means to a handful of people in Sana'a.

By: Amel Al-Ariqi & Adel Al-Haddad

Abeer, a school student: "To me, Valentine's Day is a very special day. I have no boyfriend or husband to celebrate it with, so instead I have made my own ceremonies. I wear red clothes, listen to romantic music, buy chocolate, and in general try to be in a good mood. Many of my friends from school celebrate Valentine's Day. The girls give each other flowers, toys, cards and chocolate, sometimes they even give their teachers presents."

Akram Ali, an employee at a private company: "Valentine's Day is all about refreshing love and emotions with sweet words. The gifts are secondary."

Lwo'ai Khaled, a university student: "I consider Valentine's Day a unique chance for lovers to be together and express mutual emotions as well as gifts to show their appreciation of each other. I prefer to celebrate this day by going to public parks. This year I gave my love a red toy bear and a red rose."

Samira, an employee at a private company: "I did not celebrate Valentine's Day until I got engaged

two years ago. My fiancé usually calls me on the morning of Valentine's and invites me to a restaurant where we

have lunch and exchange gifts. These gifts are not expensive ones. It is more important to us, that they are special in some way, so we make some of the gifts ourselves. For instance, for last year's Valentine's Day I had collected a lot of romantic poems from the internet and put them in a notebook. As far as clothes are concerned, I like to wear something red, but not too attractive. I don't want to attract the attention of my workmates or people

in the street, so I wear something simple like a red shirt or a red brooch."

Manal, a university student: "I never celebrate Valentine's Day. The celebration of such a day does not belong within our religion and beliefs. In Islam, we celebrate Friday of every week and Eid. To express your love in one particular day seems weird to me. I mean, if you love someone you can express this love the whole year.

Waiting for a certain day to buy gifts does not make sense to me."

Haifa Hasen, a government official: "Valentine's Day makes me think of my first love. For two years I have celebrated this day by exchanging gifts with my loved one. Usually I

give him red flowers."

Mashari Al-Husini, a housewife: "On every Feb 14 in the last seven years, I have celebrated Valentine's Day with my husband. I think this day is a nice opportunity for couples to refresh their feelings towards each other."



Many Yemenis chose to celebrate Valentine's Day by giving presents to their loved one. PHOTO BY: ADEL AL-HADDAD



The story of Valentine's Day

Every year on February 14, many gift shops in Yemen are filled with flowers, hearts, toys and greeting cards. But why was this particular day chosen to be the day of love?

By: Adel Al-Haddad
alhaddad.ade1@gmail.com

The history of Valentine's Day is not completely clear. There are several stories about this day that is celebrated in the name of St. Valentine. However, it is a tradition that derives from ancient Rome, where the month of February was the month of spring and subsequently, a month of romance.

The most famous legends about this day involve a priest called Valentine who lived in the third century in Rome. Emperor Claudius II, had ordered Roman soldiers not to fall in love and not to marry. He thought that single men were better soldiers than married ones, because married men would probably rather stay with their families than fight enemies. But Valentine felt that the emperor's decree was oppressive. He challenged Claudius II and secretly married young lovers. When the emperor discovered what was going on, he sentenced the priest to death. As a result, Valentine was beheaded on February 14th around 270 AD. After his death he was considered a saint, and his day of passing have since been honoured as a day of love.

According to another legend, Valentine himself was actually the first one to send a Valentine greeting, while he was in prison. He fell in love with a



The story of these Valentine balloons begins in ancient Rome.

PHOTO BY: ADEL AL-HADDAD

young girl and sent her a letter signed 'from your Valentine'. An expression that is still used today. Others believe that St. Valentine was killed because he helped Christians escape from being tortured in Roman prisons.

Another explanation is that February used to be the month where Romans celebrated the pagan festival of Lupercalia. On the 14th it was the custom that names of Roman girls was written on pieces of paper and put into jars. Then, young men would pull out a piece of paper, and the girl whose name was on it, would be his companion for a year. But two hundred years after the death of Valentine, the patrons of the early Christian church wanted to stop this tradition of shifting partners at random. Around 498 AD Pope Gelasius declared February 14th to be St. Valentine's Day, and the idea that this day is a day of romance grew from there.

A Valentine is nothing like
A chocolate or a rose.
For in a week these shall be gone,
But Valentines remain.

If love were always sweet to tongue
Or fragrant to the nose,
Each day would be like Valentine's,
And we would go insane.

A Valentine just hangs around
Waiting to be kissed
Long after special days have passed
And every days are here.

So one is wise to choose one well
And chocolate to resist.
For in the midst of mania
It's nice to have one near.

Rory Dall O'Caghan

نوكيا 6270
Nokia
Connecting People