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**Readers' Voice**

Last edition's question:  
Significant splits and differences in viewpoints have surfaced among opposition leaders. Do you think the ruling party is behind these differences?

I don't know (12%)  
No (19%) Yes (69%)

This edition's question:  
A field study has revealed a fearful increase of illiteracy among Yemeni youth and children. Do you think the Yemeni government would work for rectifying the economic, social and cultural situations to help fight illiteracy dissemination among these important segments of the population?  
Yes No I don't know

Go to our website at: [yementimes.com/#poll](http://yementimes.com/#poll) and have your voice heard

# GPC leaders: We will accept nobody but Saleh

By: Yasser Al-Mayasi

SANA'A, April 30 — General People's Congress (GPC) leaders declared this week their adherence to Ali Abdullah Saleh's candidacy for another presidential term. They released a statement reading: "we will never accept anyone as our presidential candidate other than Ali Abdullah Saleh."  
Sheikh Yasser Al-Awadhi, deputy head of GPC parliamentary bloc said his party, considered the biggest political organization in Yemen, will never take part in Yemen's upcoming presidential elections if pressure fails to convince Saleh to come back on his decision not stand in the poll.  
In a statement to media, Al-Awadhi confirmed the GPC will stand in the

poll as a voter without naming a presidential candidate in this case.  
He indicated pressures on Saleh to run for president have not succeeded up until now. Al-Awadhi stressed that GPC leaders will continue exerting pressure on Saleh, saying he is optimistic that the statesman will listen to the voice of his party at the end, preferring the national interest to his desire for rest.  
Head of PGC Media and Culture Office Tareq Al-Shami said it is difficult for his party to name a candidate other than Saleh. He added that Saleh's decision not take part in the elections shocked the GPC and made it in a critical situation.  
According to Al-Shami, if Saleh insists on his decision, the ruling party will only take part in the local elec-

tions and quit the presidential ones. "Saleh is my only candidate for the upcoming presidential race as the GPC leaders unanimously agreed at the party's seventh general conference in Aden last year", he said. Al-Shami insisted on what Al-Awadhi said earlier.  
GPC leaders have been putting pressure on Saleh since he declared ending his rule saying he wants to rest and it is time for new youthful faces to rule the nation in July 2005.  
Statements by the ruling party fueled outrage among opposition leaders who criticize behavior of GPC

officials. Yemeni Socialist Party leader Ali Al-Sarari said the ruling party's statements signify that the GPC is the president's party and not a party for the people. "GPC does not seek nor does it reflect ambitions of the people," Al-Sarari commented.  
Yemen's political scene experiences sharp controversies over the upcoming presidential and local polls, coupled with the Supreme Commission for Elections and Referendum refusing to involve other parties in voter registration committees.



Al-Awadhi



Al-Shami



Al-Sarari

# QPMPDC changes into Yemeni Movement for Change

By: Yemen Times Staff

SANA'A, April 30 — In a press release, of which a copy was obtained by the Yemen Times, Quit Power Movement for Peaceful Democratic Change (QPMPDC) approved changing its name into the Yemeni Movement for Change (YMC).  
The decision was taken at the QPMPDC commissioner's extraordinary

meeting on April 15 following a series of discussions, dialogues and exchange of viewpoints between movement members and supporters.  
The movement's statement said tasks and responsibilities were distributed among the YMC staff. Rashad Salem Ali was appointed a commissioner of the movement and Hussein Zeid Ibn Yahya its official spokesman.  
The YMC decided to send a letter to Joint Meeting Parties (JMP), as it considers this coalition the cornerstone for peaceful and democratic change in the country. According to the YMC, the JMP is responsible for building a democratic, parliamentary and civil system of governance in Yemen, but it cannot achieve this goal alone without any allies.  
In its letter, the YMC called on opposition parties and civil community organizations to form a broader electoral coalition under the name of "National Democratic Congregation" to involve all public forces inspiring for a new Yemen and democratic governance. It added: "for the sake of comprehensive political reform, the congregation members will take part in Yemen's presidential and local elections under the slogan 'Nation is for all'.  
The YMC stated it plans to include all public forces inspiring for change and political reform in a unified front to manage the upcoming elections and achieve real reforms meeting expecta-

tions of the Yemeni people. The front is expected to be termed "Historic Bloc for Change."  
According to the YMC statement, all the social forces, particularly the JMP are responsible for achieving a peaceful and democratic change and comprehensive political reforms via a unanimously agreed project to boost role of civil community organizations and Yemeni opposition.  
The organization reported to the Attorney General Dr. Abdullah Al-Olufi that it received a statement from the family of the French citizen named Ahmed Dedosh confirming his illegal arrest since January 2 this year. They also complained that he has been tortured during the detention.  
HOOD stated that this arrest is illegal as it violates Article No 48 of the Yemeni constitution and Article No 7 of the penalty law procedures.

# Last chance for Al-Qaeda suspects

By: Yemen Times Staff

SANA'A, April 30 — The State Security Specialized Penal Court (SSSPC) scheduled Al-Qaida's 19 suspects final session for the 21<sup>st</sup> of this month. This will be the suspects' last chance to defend themselves before the final verdict is made. The defense lawyers will present their last and strongest evidence in the defense of their clients who face charges of involvement in an armed gang plotting to kill foreigners in Yemen as well as Yemenis, endangering the national security, and forging ID cards and passports.  
This was announced in yesterday's court session for the 19 Al-Qaeda suspects including 4 Saudi citizens, charged with connections with Al-

Qaeda network and accused of plotting attacks against western interests in Yemen. The court allowed prosecution to respond to the appeal presented by defense-advocates of suspects No. 18 and 19 Jalal Al-Kadas and Aqil Al-Kuhali. At the hearing, suspects renewed their denial of the charges attributed to them, describing them as false as they claimed to know each other during their current imprisonment.  
During the hearing, suspect Mohsen Bal'eed complained that he was subjected to beating seven times in the political security and insisted on his extradition to Saudi Arabia, claiming he is a Saudi and not a Yemeni. Bal'eed confessed that he forged his ID card at age 17, disguised to have the name Ammar Ahmar Saleh Al-Hazmi for the purpose of traveling to Iraq.  
The other Saudi suspect Mohamed Al-Qahtani confessed that he came from Iraq in the company of an Iraqi patient, one of those injured in Iraq battles. He said he will surrender himself to the Saudi Embassy in Damascus but fears torture. Al-Qahtani denied that he does know other suspects saying it was only in prison when he recognized them.  
All suspects claimed the main reason for their trial is traveling to Iraq. Confirming their sentiments they shouted from inside the dock, "Allah is the Greatest, Victory to Islam, Muslims, Usama Bin Laden, Aiman Al-Dhawahri, Mus'ab Al-Zarqawi and all militants in the Islamic countries."  
The defense-team termed the trial a drama and demanded the court judge not to play along, labeling the indictment as false, as no crime actually happened. It called for the court not to pro-

long the case-related procedures or withhold the case. Lawyer of Saudi suspects Abdulmalik Al-Sanabani said prolonging case procedures and trials constitutes an extra burden on the suspects' families who attend each session.  
At another session, the court discussed case of Nawaf Mohamed Behaibeh, 23, accused of harboring and hiding suspects Jamal Al-Badwi and Fahd Al-Qasa'a after they escaped from Aden political security prison in April 2003. The pair is charged with bombing the USS Cole.  
The prosecutor read out the indictment, explaining that Nawaf Behaibeh, along with others, formed an armed gang that assaulted officials authorized to arrest Al-Badwi, Al-Qasa'a and other wanted suspects. Behaibeh denied the charge attributed to him by the prosecutor. "The charges are false and confessions were made due to psychological pressure," he said.  
The court concluded the session to enable Behaibeh's lawyer to view the case file and the prosecutor to present evidence in support for the indictment.  
Al-Badwi, Al-Qusei' and eight other suspects are accused of the USS Cole Attack in October 2000. They escaped Aden political security prison in April 2003 and were recaptured. In September 2005, Al-Badwi was sentenced to death, but the Appeal Court reduced the sentence to a 15-year imprisonment term. Under the preliminary verdict, Al-Qusei' was sentenced to ten years in prison. Suspect Jamal Al-Badwi escaped along with other 20 accomplices through a tunnel stretching from the political security prison in Sana'a to a nearby mosque last February.

# Foreigners detained in Yemen without clear charges

SANA'A, April 30 — A French citizen is currently being held in the political security custody for no obvious reasons according to the National Organization for Defending Rights and Freedoms (HOOD).  
The organization reported to the Attorney General Dr. Abdullah Al-Olufi that it received a statement from the family of the French citizen named Ahmed Dedosh confirming his illegal arrest since January 2 this year. They also complained that he has been tortured during the detention.  
HOOD stated that this arrest is illegal as it violates Article No 48 of the Yemeni constitution and Article No 7 of the penalty law procedures.

According to Article No 246 of the crime and penalties law, foreigners' detention is a crime that deserves a five-year imprisonment.  
Ismael Yaqbu is the second French detainee who has been reported by special sources to the Yemen Times as being held since long for no obvious reason. The only information the newspaper received is that he recently converted to Islam and is held now at the Political Security prison without clear charges. The same source says that there is another detainee in the prison holding German nationality and married to a Yemeni. The source says the German is also detained with no clear charges.

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## Al-Baidhani proposes debate with president Saleh

By: Yemen Times Staff

SANAA — Dr. Abdulrahman Al-Baidhani said "If president Ali Abdullah Saleh has changed his declared stance and nominated himself to the upcoming presidential elections, it would be my great hope to jointly take part in a debate where we will debate what Yemen is suffering of unemployment, poverty, hunger, suicide and terror and how to treat these diseases the Yemeni people are suffering."

In a message he had sent to Yemen Times last Saturday, Al-Baidhani said "I would welcome a debate with the president on causes of this suffering and why has it begun? How did it continue? Why the existing governance was unable to treat it? Why does it want to continue in this inability which the world states talk about, to the extent we have been described as the poorest country on earth?"

Al-Baidhani asked the latest three successive heads of government to admit their failure in effecting any reform, as

was that confirmed by the former deputy premier Ahmed Soufan who had told the media that Yemen had become the poorest country in the world.

Dr. Al-Baidhani emphasized in his message he would not at all events back down from nominating himself and that his stance was that because the majority of the Yemeni people's conditions have reached the summit of poverty and the state's negligence in tackling this tragedy despite its knowledge of its diagnosis and cure. He said "The situation dictates on everyone capable to volunteer to save the people and turn a new chapter for the birth of the modern state for which the revolution broke out."

Dr. Al-Baidhani concluded his message by saying "No doubt you have followed up some mercenary writers who have been trying to fill with suspicion the legitimacy and eligibility of some contenders for nomination to the presidential elections. Among such that is what some have alleged that my wife is a foreigner in an attempt to exclude me from nomination,

whereas the reality is that my wife was Egyptian then acquire the Yemeni nationality fifty years ago, i.e. before the revolution. His Majesty the late Imam Ahmed had ordered to consider her a Yemeni and supplied her with a Yemeni passport and then granted her a diplomatic passport which she is still keeping it. She had used to smuggle weapons to the revolutionaries from Egypt until the outbreak of the revolution. Some of them are still alive to testify because they used to receive those weapons at Cairo airport secretly, exposing her life to danger of the Imamate regime spies."



Al-Baidhani

## Dangerous illiteracy rise among youth in Yemen

SANAA — A scientific study distributed to the media and published by News Yemen some days ago warned against the existence of a real danger facing the Yemeni youth, males and females, due to aggravation of alphabetical illiteracy and spread of illiteracy of knowledge.

The study was conducted by 37 researchers in 100 districts of 10 governorates and targeted 3 thousand youths of both sexes. It indicated that 26.9% of youth did not enroll in education, 39.3% had previously joined education and 33.7% are presently enrolled in education. The study attracted the attention that the educational process does not suffer from the quantity and capabilities as much as it's suffering from corruption of administration, the type of curricula and inefficiency or poor qualification of the teacher and respect of the profession, which should be focused on more than other matters.

48.4% of those subjected to research were unanimous that the solution for raising the level of education lies in providing efficient teachers, 45% thought in improvement of curricula. The study demanded for more qualification and training of teachers, reforming the administration of schools, and development of curricula in harmony with requirements of development and speeding variables of

science and knowledge, and also the curbing of political and partisan investment in the educational process.

The study focused on studying knowledge and tendencies of the youth and discussing the needs of information. It included the age segment of 13-29 years, and was supervised by the government National Council of Population and the support from international organizations and Yemeni government parties, revealed that the youth do not realize he problem of imbalance between the volume of population and available resources as well as the problems of environment. It revealed that 2.6% of them understand the environment problem and 2.9% are aware of the responsibility concerning the problems of environment, a matter the study deemed as a state heralding a dangerous deterioration required to be faced among the youth circles and should be enlightened about it. The youths were unanimous that the population problems confronting them were those pertaining to economy (27%) and unemployment (23%), and 67% of them view that the solution was in providing job opportunities. The study has revealed that 96.9% of female youth and 89% of male youth do not support the habit of smoking and that of qat-chewing, nonetheless, the study demanded not depend on this result

because the youth tendencies in the society tend to cover up the problem instead of admitting it in preparation to solve it.

On the role of youth and their social participation, the study explained that 80.7% view that their participation in elections is very important against 3.1% who think of the non-importance of their taking part in elections. The study considers this a positive development of awareness concerning the importance of political participation through elections, some of them attributed rating 26.7% attributed non-participation in political activities to the spread of illiteracy and 20% to non-conviction in the importance of participation.

On the sexually communicable diseases, 53% of the polled youth view that they are aware of the diseases transferred sexually, 70% from male youth, and 95% of them know that AIDS is one of those diseases, while 78.8% of them mentioned they knew about those diseases through television programs and other media instruments and awareness symposiums.

The study stressed the importance of focusing on rural areas in holding symposiums dealing with reproduction health topics and finding suitable ways to reach the youth who are not enrolled in schools in order to enlighten them on matters related to reproduction health.

## Yemen joins Global Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles

For Yemen Times

SANAA, April 29 — Yemen have joined the Global Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles, stated the Chairman of the Environmental Protection Authority, Mr. Mahmoud M. Shidiwah. "While it is both technically and economically feasible to phase out leaded gasoline in Yemen, there is a need to implement a number of measures to overcome restraints. In supporting this aim we have joined the Global Partnership for Clean Fuels and Vehicles," he stated.

"Furthermore, we have launched in cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme a project aiming at national commitment building to phase out leaded gasoline. Pilot blood lead level measurements will be taken in Sana'a, the results of which will feed into a national workshop," he added.

Yemen is one of the only 25 countries in the world still using leaded gasoline. Human exposure to lead is a serious health problem. Lead is a hazardous heavy metal and a known neurotoxin. It has been shown that even at a low level of exposure to lead, such as below 10 microgram/dl can cause serious and persistence damage to the nervous system. Children's health is most vulnerable to lead because their nervous systems are not fully developed.

CIM-Expert within the Ministry of Water and Environment, Dr. Lia Sieghart said that

Airborne lead is one of the most serious urban air pollutants in Yemen. More than 85% lead emissions from automobiles consists of highly toxic inorganic



Yemen is one of the only 25 countries in the world still using leaded gasoline.

lead, which is easily absorbed into the body due to the small size of combustion derived lead particles. "A recent assessment concludes that the annual economic cost of air pollution in Sana'a is estimated at around US\$ 100 million. However, the introduction of clean fuels and vehicle technologies would not only benefit the health and environment in the cities, but also contribute to addressing regional and global environmental issues such as transboundary air pollution and global warming," says Dr. Lia Sieghart.

"The use of leaded fuel prevents the use of catalytic converters. Catalytic converters can be instrumental in improving the air quality in Yemen's cities as they reduce vehicle emissions by more than 90%," she added.

"We feel, although lead phase-out is expected to be a highly cost-effective

measure - particularly in terms of the impact on health and the environment - strong commitment, the appropriate policy intervention, public awareness and understanding forms part of a broad, consensus-building effort," says the Minister of Water and Environment, Eng. Abdul-Rahman Al-Eryani. "The lack of information and misconceptions concerning the use of unleaded gasoline in older passenger cars presents one of the largest obstacles to changing consumer behavior. We see that efforts need to be concentrated on informing the public on risks posed by lead. Our next aim is the development of a country strategy and an action plan to phase out leaded fuel. The proposed strategy would help identifying the appropriate mix of instruments needed and thereby paying attention to country-specific features," concludes the Minister.

## Yemen, Czech sign cooperation agreement

SANAA, April 29 — Yemen and Czech Republic signed a 5-year development cooperation agreement between Saturday, under which Czech will fund Yemeni projects in areas of water, human development and electricity.

Yemeni Minister of Planning and International Cooperation Abdulkarim Al-Arhabi represented Yemen while signing the agreement with Czech Foreign Minister Peter Pethari during his three-day visit to Yemen.

Both sides discussed ties of mutual cooperation between the two friendly countries and how to further develop

relations in political, economic, trade and investment areas.

Al-Arhabi stressed Yemen's interest to enhance its relations with Czech to help fulfill joint ambitions and interests. He pointed out the cooperation agreement reached with the Czech Government functions as a frame for organizing assistance and listing priority projects in different sectors to be implemented during the period 2006-2010, coinciding with the third five-year plan for development in Yemen.

In his turn, the Czech Foreign Minister showed his country's interest to strength-

en its relations with Yemen in different political and economic areas, and activate relations of cooperation between private sectors in both countries and encourage Czech investors in initiate businesses in Yemen, particularly in the sectors of oil, gas, infrastructure, water and tourism.

Pethari ascertained that his government is ready to offer assistance to Yemen to develop human resources, as well as scholarships for Yemeni students to study in Czech. He declared his government would implement a water desalination project in the Yemeni Island of Socotra.

## Sana'a University: a thorough evaluation by international team

By: Yemen Times Staff

SANAA, April 30 — The Department of English of Sana'a University's Faculty of Education is currently undergoing a thorough evaluation by an International Quality Assurance Team funded by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). This spans the period from April 27 to 31st of May 2006. The review team is both from the British quality assurance and some Arabs. The UK Reviewers are Dr. Robert Schofield, Review Coordinator, and Dr. Frank Adams, a Review Specialist. The Arab Review Specialists are Dr. Mezziane Mohamed, Director, Scientific Council, Faculty of Social Sciences, Oran Essenya, Algeria and Dr. Ali Ahmed Ali Madkour, Dean, Institute of Education, Cairo University, Egypt.

The review team began Saturday April 27, by meeting the senior staff: Dean, Vice Dean, head of the Department, etc. Then they met the program staff. A long session of about three hours took place to discuss varied aspects of the program: academic standards. The revisers met the

students of the department and were impressed by the students. This was followed by another meeting with the staff to discuss the learning opportunities and progression. Meeting with former students who graduated from the department was very fruitful and delightful at the same time. Dr. Robert Schofield said: "The former students were more than excellent."

The review team met people who were concerned with the quality assurance: the dean, vice dean for academic affairs, Dr. Mahoub Ana'am, Dr. Ayid Sharyan, Dr. Jayraman, Dr. Mohammad Al-Mekhlafi. Today the report is to be drafted while on Tuesday the team is going to give an oral feedback in the presence of the rector and faculty mem-



(Clockwise) Dr. Mezziane Mohamed, Dr. Frank Adams, Dr. Robert Schofield, and Dr. Ali Ahmed Ali Madkour discussing the program with the Department's postgraduates.

bers.

This project comes as a result of an agreement between Sana'a University and the UNDP. The review program is entitled Enhancement of Quality Assurance and Institutional Planning at Arab Universities. It selects some universities from the Arab World to review their programs to draw attention to any shortcomings and enhance the quality of higher education.

## Haiyel Saeed Prizes for Science & Arts, distribution ceremony

Imad Al-Saqqaf  
Taiz Bureau

Al-Saeed Foundation for Sciences and Culture organized in Taiz city on 27 April 2006 a ceremony for distribution of the late Haiyel Saeed Anam prize for Science and Arts. The ceremony was under patronage of foreign minister Abubakr Al-Qirbi and the governor of Taiz governorate Ahmed Abdullah Al-Hijri.

At the beginning of the ceremony, Dr. Al-Qirbi delivered a speech expressing his great pleasure and pride at the level of the foundation performance toward the society and the activity that is being held annually and for the ninth time. He added that repetition of the event was not for the purpose of media propagation but rather for what it offers to Yemen characterized by all meanings of true understanding of the problems of scientific research, appraising the efforts of the council of trustees and leadership of the foundation in their absolute seriousness and in managing matters related to the prize aloof from any influences or calculations outside the committee. He added that aim was that the prize could be of a genuine value in honoring of all Yemeni creative and researchers who present the scientific production in contribution to enhancement of human thought. It demonstrates, through its multiplicity, image of the Yemeni researcher. Dr. Al-Qirbi also emphasized that the prize would not be awarded except to those who meet scientific terms and criteria.

The foreign minister stressed the importance of being armed with science and knowledge instead of explosives and to keep away from then thought of accusing others with blasphemy and extremism and to tackle ideas with dialogue. He insisted that the groundwork from which to start should be based on love, justice



A view of the awarding ceremony.

and peace, praising the private sector role and the businessmen as well as the role played by Al-Saeed Foundation in contribution to encouragement of scientific research and culture as they constitute the essential pillar of development and growth.

The ceremony was also addressed by a number personalities among them Mr Ali Mohammed Saeed Anam, chairman of the prize trustees council, the member of Shoura Council and Mr Mohammed Ali Al-Farran, the winner of the prize of the ninth session. Director-General of Al-Saeed Foundation for Science and Culture Faisal Saeed Farie reviewed in his welcoming address the prominent and pioneering role of the foundation in encouraging science, scientists and researchers and in holding of many cultural and scientific activities. Mr Farie had also announced about expansion of the foundation activity and opening opportunity for all researchers from Arab countries.

Dr. Yusuf Mohammed Abdullah had earlier read out decisions of the arbitration committee for the prize that had been withheld from five of its fields due not meeting criteria and provisions of the prize. In the sixth field the prize was awarded to Islamic studies by researcher Ali Al-Farran for his research titled

"Impact of endowment, inheritance and social joint responsibility". The ceremony also granted the foundation's coat of arms and honored the French Cultural Center for antiquities and social Sciences and a number of literary and scientific personalities. The prize awarding ceremony was attended by deputy of the

ministry of culture Hisham Ali bin Ali, Sheikh Abdulrahman Mohammed Ali Uthman, Dr. Mohammed Abdullah, member of the Shoura Council and a host of intellectuals and those interested in scientific affairs.

On the other hand, the governor of Taiz Ahmed Abdullah Al-Hijri and Dr. Hussein Al-Amri, member of the Shoura Council and Dr. Yusuf Mohammed Ali Abdullah, deputy of the ministry of culture for antiquities affairs opened on Wednesday 26 of April Taiz International Fair for the Book and Information Technology, organized by Al-Saeed Foundation for Science and culture (26April-5 May 2006) at Al-Saeed Exhibitions Hall. Eighty publication establishments and houses from six Arab, in addition to Yemen, countries take part in the fair. Mr Farie told Yemen times that the number of book titles of this year amounted to 150 thousand titles on cultural, political, religious, medical fields as well as university and children books and software and computers. It may be recalled that some Arab countries are taking part for the first time in this year such as Tunisia, represented by the Arab Organization for Education, culture and Sciences in addition to France by the French center for Antiquities and Social Sciences.

## First media course for Hadramout students kicks off

By: Saleh Al-Batati

HADRAMOUT, April 30 — As part of its preparations for the Fourth University Student Week, Hadramout University of Science and Technology launched on Saturday the first media course, which is due to last until Wednesday May 3. The course involved 48 students from different faculties in the university and is attended by media personnel and professors majoring in media. The course plan covers visits to media institutions.

Hadramout Information Office Manager Ali Baqi expressed said that the

course constitutes a crucial step toward developing students' talents and media skills. He emphasized the need for opening a media college at the University to meet the needs of applicants.

Delivering the university speech, Prof. Abdullah Bahashwan praised the media personnel for covering events of the Third University Student Week. He hoped that students to do their best during events of the Fourth University Student Week due to take place this month.

Bahashwan advised students to apply what they learn in real-life situation and utilize experiences of participating media

personnel and briefed them on how to convey facts objectively and honestly.

He promised to issue the first newspaper in the university in the coming weeks to publish activities of the university and help students apply what they learn.

The course's inaugural ceremony was held in the presence of Prof. Abdullah Hussein Al-Ja'afari, the University vice-rector for Academic Affairs and Dr. Salem Mohamed Bin Salman, General Manager of Students' Activities and Services at the university and many lecturers.

Al-Hakimi to YT:

# “Ballot is the only option to change the current situation”

Abdullah Sallam Al-Hakimi is one of the Yemeni opposition leaders residing in Egypt, and one of the prominent personalities in Yemen politics. He has a proposal for ideal governance, which he shared with the Yemen Times through an interview with him in his residence in Cairo. Some people support Al-Hakimi and his proposal while others oppose him for the same reason. Al-Hakimi was interviewed by: Mohammed bin Sallam.

**Q. Can you please explain the reasons for your bid to stand in Yemen's upcoming presidential elections?**

A. I declared my bid for presidency since I have a complete vision to change the current situations in political, economic and social areas. This was included in my electoral program, which I presented several months ago and the program covers the main features for my vision of change. As I did not find any visions for change, similar to mine, by other personalities declaring their intentions to run for presidency, this made me decide to stand for office in the upcoming presidential elections.

**Q. Do you think candidates will demonstrate a fair competition in case President Saleh does not back out on his decision not stand in the elections?**

A. Whether Ali Abdullah Saleh quits or insists on staying in power, the prevalent situation, particularly relating to the electoral management and the state's relations with the ruling party make it impossible for candidates to have fair competition.

**Q. What is the likelihood of any citizen to become president of Yemen?**

A. In the shadow of corrupt regime controlled by military and tribal forces and showing dominance over the government institutions, it is impossible for the country to have free and fair elections based on the principle of equivalence and real competition. As no minimum guarantees to ensure fair, free and transparent elections are available, it is a waste of time and effort to take part in the ballot. A patriotic government is needed to be responsible for supervising and managing the electoral process and this proposal was presented several years ago by x-president Ali Nasser Mohamed, who encouraged a parliamentary decentralized system rather than a presidential one. The proposal is practical and objective and without it, free and fair poll will be impossible, particularly as the Supreme Commission for Elections and Referendum (SCER) violated the law and the constitution and proved to be unfair and partial. In addition, effective international monitoring and supervision of the upcoming presidential elections are necessary to ensure a poll with at least the minimum of integrity and transparency.

The general situations in the country have gone from bad to worse, seemingly breeding an atmosphere of

**As no minimum guarantees to ensure fair, free and transparent elections are available, it is a waste of time and effort to take part in the ballot**

anarchy. Unless the upcoming presidential elections change the current regime, the time period for change to take place will be long. Good will is very important for change, which is impossible to achieve as the current regime appears disabled and bankrupt.

**Q. What are the successful aspects of your electoral political program you presented to the public?**

A. The electoral program, which I presented is not theoretical, rather it

involves practical mechanisms such as establishing a federal regime to end the absolute centralization of governance and set an outline for administrative division to achieve this goal in its important areas, mechanisms and legislations. Additionally, the program suggested a list of clear solutions to eradicate poverty and unemployment in the country and achieve social equity in the framework of an open economy providing facilities and motives that boost investment. There was a list of practical solutions to eradicate revenge and tribal killing, integrate tribes into the civil community and positive political participation, in addition to other solutions regarding military and security institutions. Nevertheless, I believe there is more tendency and likelihood to apply the program easily as long as will and commitment are there.

**Q. What is your viewpoint about the likelihood of a JMP candidate to win the upcoming presidential elections?**

A. JMP represents the earnest and real political opposition. Consequently, these parties are obliged to fulfill their general political duty, particularly the right to stand in the upcoming presidential elections through their consensus on a single presidential candidate, meeting the following requirements such as to be: strong and have a large number of supporters, a real and serious rival and well-qualified and competent enough to manage the

**Unless the upcoming presidential elections change the current regime, the time period for change to take place will be long.**

country in the shadow of difficult and exceptional conditions. If the JMP cannot fulfill such a persistent and urgent need, it will have negative impacts on the opposition role, presence and influence in the political scene. What applies to presidential elections does too to the local elections. I think there is a historic opportunity before the JMP to play the role of a real opposition and they are eligible to take the responsibility.

**Q. What in your opinion are the effective solutions to rescue the country from its current situation?**

A. Whether I win the elections or not, my electoral program includes multiple solutions, remedies and mechanisms to rescue the country from the current situation. With regard to how this will be achieved, we have no choice to make change except for the ballot boxes despite the fact the current regime will not give up power voluntarily. I think the majority of Yemeni people have reached the point of explosion because of being unable to tolerate issues of corruption, poverty, unemployment and suffering. Yemeni people are ready to make a change through the elections. The most important thing is that how can we achieve elections with at least minimum integrity and transparency and not exposed to vote fraud. Only through this, one can be sure that the Yemeni people are able to make. To make myself clear, if you ensure me free and fair elections, I will ensure you comprehensive change, which is the greatest challenge facing us.

**Q. Is the Yemeni opposition able to fulfill people's needs and ambitions?**



A. I think the opposition is able to do so in case its current coalition grows into a front or a unified political bloc, representing the JMP even if this bloc only includes the Islah, Yemeni Socialist and Nasserite parties. Only in this case I confirm that the opposition will play a pivotal and primary role in the sought political change. Now, the opposition has before it a historic criterion represented by the upcoming presidential and local elections, and these parties' future is determined by their will to make change.

**Q. You talked about the federal governance. Do not you mind giving us more details about this issue?**

A. Throughout my life, I never heard that federalism in managing state and society's affairs leads to dividing countries except through the official media in Yemen. Federalism is no threat to the national unity, in fact it helps enhance and strengthen unity. But the real concern of the official media is consolidating and reserving corruption not the unity claiming that unity opposes federalism. Federalism is a complete political system recognized by nations worldwide and I think there is no need to explain it even from the theoretical point of view. But from the practical point of view, federalism has roots deeply extending to our national and regional history. The tribal structure, its traditions and relations constitute part of the federalism and since old times, Yemen has never

**Federalism is no threat to the national unity, in fact it helps enhance and strengthen unity.**

stabilized except through federalism and this fact was cited during the eras of Sheba, Hemyar and Ma'een, as well as during the Islamic and Ottoman eras. Therefore, Yemeni liberals advocate for federalism.

**Q. You were one of those opposing 1994 Civil War. From your point of view what are the war's consequences that the Yemeni citizens still suffer today, and are there any possible solutions for them?**

A. All the events the country went through starting with pre-re-unification wars until 1994 Civil War broke out over ethnic and regional conflicts. As governance in Yemen is based on

absolute centralization, the problem has been represented by flagrant contradiction between governance on the top place and facts and geographical and population

**I will never run for president in elections having no minimum integrity, freedom and transparency.**

considerations on the bottom. There is a category in the form of a small village, which rules the country and the Yemeni people. Out of the people it made a special feudalism for it. This category by all means wants to maintain its dominance, which is not in line with reality until the final minutes of life. This is the main factor that fuels recurring political and social crises in the country and it is bound to continue fueling catastrophic crises in the days to come. I do not know why there is an objection to a president from the southeastern area to rule the country. I have no objection to this proposal that has become an urgent national need to maintain unity and ensure security and stability. The area of a president to rule Yemen is not as important as establishing a democratic federal system to put an end to centralization of governance and make the real power stem from the lower base (the ruled) and not to be imposed from the higher post (the ruler). In my opinion, this is the fundamental solution.

**Q. How do you predict Yemen's future?**

A. If the current regime remains to spread corruption, oppress people and help increase poverty, unemployment and suffering among the majority of citizens, a terrible volcano will break out. This volcano is destined to break out unless change takes place. It will swallow everything in its way and drive Yemen to a tragic situation worse than that experienced in Somalia for several years. And any expected anarchy will be too difficult to settle.

**Q. Will you run for president even if the elections are not fair and free?**

A. I will never run for president in elections having no minimum integrity, freedom and transparency. Why should I take part in a ballot subjected to vote fraud? I will not take part in the elections so that I don't give legitimacy to something lacks it.

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## IPI Condemns Harassment and Intimidation of Yemeni Journalists



Abed Al-Mahthari

Jamal Amer.

VIENNA, April 28 - The International Press Institute (IPI) strongly condemned the ongoing campaign of harassment and intimidation against two journalists in Yemen, namely Abed Al-Mahthari, editor-in-chief of the independent weekly Al Deyar and Jamal Amer, editor-in-chief of Al Wasat.

According to IPI statement published in its website, Abed Al-Mahthari remains in hiding after escaping an attack by armed assailants on 19 April. Since 2004, Al-Mahthari has been investigating and reporting on alleged arms trafficking in northern Yemen near the Saudi Arabia border. In May of 2004, after receiving two death threats, Al-Mahthari was forced to temper his

reporting but has since renewed his investigations.

In recent weeks, Al-Mahthari has reported on alleged corruption of security forces and cooperation with arms dealers, the threats against him are thought to be in connection with these reports. On the evening of 19 April, Al-Mahthari received a call from an unidentified source warning that he would be killed that night.

Al-Mahthari averted the attack by having a friend drive his car away from his family home. The car was followed by two men, driving a military style vehicle with a private license plate. The assailants followed the driver of Al-Mahthari's car to his home, where they smashed down the driver's front door.

They then looked for Al-Mahthari at the Al Thawra publishing house. When the assailants were unable to find him they returned to Al-Mahthari's car, took several items from within it and then smashed it with weapons they had been carrying.

Although the assailants were identified by several witnesses who saw them attack the vehicle, the two have not been arrested and Al-Mahthari remains in hiding.

A campaign of intimidation is also being waged against Jamal Amer. Al Wasat released a statement on 26 April voicing concern that Amer's movements and activities have been closely observed since his August kidnapping. On 23 August 2005 Amer was kidnapped by armed assailants who threatened to kill him if his newspaper continued to publish articles about corruption and abuse of power in the government.

The 26 April Al Wasat statement was released shortly after a group of individuals, led by a political security officer, visited the street of Amer's family home, inquiring about his apartment building, the license plate number of his vehicle and the names of his children's school.

Amer, who is currently in the United States as part of the International Visitors Program has become the victim of a smear campaign attempting to discredit him and the critical information reported by his newspaper.

Articles published this week in state-controlled publications have accused Amer of being connected to Israel's intelligence organization, of acting as an "agent of the West" and of working to "meet the needs of the imperialist opposition forces abroad."

Commenting on the action being taken against Al-Mahthari and Amer, IPI Director Johann P. Fritz said "The targeting of these two editors paints a disturbing picture of the varied methods being used to silence critical voices in the Yemeni press."

"The increase in both direct and indirect attacks on independent journalists is cause for serious concern, particularly since many of the attacks carried out in recent months have taken place with complete impunity."

"If the Yemeni press is to be able to carry out its important watchdog role, journalists must be free to carry out their work without fear of intimidation and harassment," Fritz added.

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## Enlightenment Field Workshop Carried out by Population Education Project (YEM/02/PO5)



With the cooperation of UNFPA, the Population Education Project (PEP) has conducted at Radfan district in Lahjj governorate from 16 to 18 April, 2006 a further enlightenment activity reproductive health, family planning, HIV/AIDS, STDS, gender issues and the role of population education in raising awareness towards population issues.

52 participants, 21 females and 31 males who represent districts education offices, school administration, some teachers and school health and school activities supervisors from eight districts (Radfan, Al-Had, Yafae, Al-Meflehi, Halimeen, Yahr, Habel Jabr and Al-Melah) have attended the workshop.

Mr. Hans Obdeijn, UNFPA representative, Dr. Afrah Thabet, the project supervisor, the secretary general of the local council at Radfan district and the Dean of Faculty of Education of Radfan district have attended the closing session.

The enlightenment workshop aimed at:

- Raising awareness of the participants towards the different mentioned topics.
- Encouraging the participants to help students implement peer education and participate in awareness raising activities within their communities.

Dr. Welaya Abdo Qaid  
Population Education Project Coordinator

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# Murder crimes the highest in 2005, security reports

The ministry of Interior issued its official crime-related report on the 22nd of April. The report mentions statistics of the crimes committed in 2005.

By: Yasser Al-Mayasi

Official reports and statistics recently issued by the ministry of interior about crime in Yemen for year 2005 revealed that the number of committed crimes was 936 cases. The report classified the crimes into three categories: widely spread crimes, average spread and limited spread crimes.

The crimes' rate also varies in number from one governorate to another. Ibb governorate came first in willful murder crimes, scoring 101 cases. The Capital secretariat came next with 96 registered cases. There were 94 cases in Amran, 85 in Dhamar and 77 cases in Taiz. The rest of the 76 cases were distributed among the other governorates.

Also, the report confirmed that car robbery cases were 624 around the republic. There were 268 arson cases committed in 18 governorates. One hundred and three fraud cases were reported in 18 governorates.

The statistics showed that currency forgery crimes were 107 in 15 governorates, of which the Capital secretariat came first followed by Saada and Taiz.

According to the report, willful murder and burglary were the most widespread and common crimes during the past year. They were followed by attempted murder, intentional assault, damaging private properties and car and trading stores' theft occurring in 20 governorates. Coming third was the act of stealing private car contents and resisting authorities. Arson, highway robbery and drinking alcohol was the fourth most wide spread crime regis-

tered in 18 governorates.

Simultaneously, an economic report recently issued by the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, considered poverty as a greatest challenge to development. It warned that crime rate would rise in Yemen due to increasing poverty, unemployment rates and expense of living. The report considered unemployment as a serious ongoing economic problem rising from 11.9% in 2000, to 16.3% in 2005 of the total population. These problems are concentrated in the age groups of 15-19 and 20-24.

The report warned of the negative impacts of unemployment, which are evident in the continuation of decline of living standards, the failure of families to avail sufficient food and appropriate medical treatment. This is in turn increases the peoples' vulnerability to diseases and epidemics. Many families due to their economic need opt to sending their children out of school and into the labor market. By that, aggravating unemployment and increasing crime risk especially theft and murder.

The mentioned report of the Ministry of interior depended on the security records provided by authorities around the republic. However, there are a number of murder cases, robbery and burglary that are not reported to the security. These crimes are often resolved by the sheikhs or through arbitration especially in the remote areas. Generally, the crimes that are not reported to the security are not intentional and are often caused by mistakes. Honor crimes are also not reported to security because they are a blemish according to Yemeni society culture and traditions. Many social experts warn of spread of such crimes especially as law is not enforced and that economic deterioration which is the cause of most of the crimes is not addressed.

# Al-Fatemi: Please save my life

In 1997, Dhamar governorate witnessed a terrifying murder in which two men were killed. Mohammed Hasan Al-Fatemi is accused of killing Abdulrab Hamoud, which Al-Fatemi denies. Below is the story of how the incident occurred, as narrated by his brother Shajei Al-Fatemi and some case documents.

By: Mohammed Al-Jabri  
binjabr@gmail.com

Late in the afternoon, Mohammed Hasan Al-Fatemi went to his farm to do his usual work. There he met a few friends, including his cousin Ahmed. They all decided to sit under an acacia tree near the farm to enjoy the weather's tranquility.

Laying aside their arms and sitting on the comfortable, verdant ground, the friends talked to one another until a car suddenly appeared. It was 5 p.m. and silence dominated the scene. It turned out to be the car of Sheikh Ahmed Mohammed Al-Fatemi, accompanied by armed men.

The evil hour approached as Mohammed Hamoud and his brother Abdulrab got out of the car and immediately opened fire on Al-Fatemi. The two sides exchanged fire, resulting in a horrifying scene. Al-Fatemi was shot by four bullets in his chest and chin, while Mohammed Hamoud was injured slightly by one shot. Abdulrab was injured badly and Ahmed's father was killed by random fire, as he just observed the fighting.

Abdulrab died on his way to the hospital. His life could have been saved if the car that carried him had not broken down on the way to the hospital. Al-Fatemi was brought to Al-Thawra Hospital's intensive care department in Sana'a, undergoing several operations and remaining there more than a month.

Exploiting Al-Fatemi's hospital stay, Dhamar's public prosecutor managed to direct the case against him. Based on this, the case was referred to the Western Court headed by Judge Abdul Wasei Al-Mujahed, while Al-Fatemi, his father and his two brothers, Shajei and Ali, were sent to prison. They remained there a year, during which no one followed up their

case.

Four witnesses testified about the crime in Al-Fatemi's absence. Al-Fatemi still maintains that he did not kill Abdulrab; rather, his own brother killed him. "I saw Mohammed Hamoud shoot Abdulrab while we were exchanging fire," Al-Fatemi stated.

At this point, Al-Fatemi was engaged in another case with Judge Al-Mujahed. The Supreme Court asked Al-Mujahed to attend to looking into the case, but he refused. Instead, he sentenced Al-Fatemi to death, but the judgment was appealed.

The trial continued in the Appeals Court, with Judges Al-Shami and Al-Quhali canceling his death sentence and issuing another sentence stipulating that Al-Fatemi must pay blood money to Abdulrab's family. Upon learning this, the head of the Appeals Court concealed the new sentence, but the two judges sent a copy of it to the court's Penal Unit.

The Appeals Court Penal Unit approved the death sentence, which was sent to the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court upheld the death sentence based on the witnesses' testimony.

On May 3, 2004, the attorney general sent the general case report to President Ali Abdullah Saleh to approve the death sentence. Two months later, Saleh approved the death sentence, in light of which the attorney general ordered the head of Appeals Prosecution to complete the procedures to fulfill the death penalty.

In December 2004, the four witnesses attended Western Court and confessed that their testimony was false. They were: Musleh Al-Okbi, Ali Ammari, Mohammed Asker and Fuad Al-Fatemi. Western Court Judge Abdullah Al-Jur mouzi issued official documents that their testimony was



false and issued an order to stop fulfilling the death sentence.

The case then was referred to the Supreme Court and then the attorney general to look into the falsehood of the witnesses' testimony. The attorney general ordered the head of Public Prosecution to investigate the witnesses, but the death sentence again was approved without conducting a trial of the witnesses.

Al-Fatemi is a 27-year-old farmer, married with three sons and a daughter. He received basic education in Dhamar governorate's Bait Al-Fatemi village. He previously had some problems with Abdulrab's family over some village lands.

### Letter of appeal

To: President Ali Abdullah Saleh  
Amnesty International  
The Ministry of Human Rights  
Human Rights and Defending  
Freedoms organization (HOOD)

I am appealing to all of you to look into my case. I have been sentenced to death, although I am not guilty. I will be placed before the firing squad at any moment. I have lost hope in my case, so I now put my hope in you to save my life. I am sure I did not kill Abdulrab. I am oppressed, so please do not disappoint me.

The oppressed,  
Mohammed Hasan Al-Fatemi



# Labor Day's origins

By: William Harris

If there are two pin-points to locate the summer season in the US, they are the Fourth of July, the origins of which we know since school days, and Labor Day about which we seem to know almost nothing. My first surprise with the books this rainy morning is that in England "Labour Day" is still the First of May, celebrating along with most of the world this May day of celebration. On the one hand this is the day set aside by the Second Socialist International in 1889 to commemorate Labor, and is retained as such by all former Communist countries and most socialist states as well. But in England this was superimposed on an ancient May Day which can be traced back to Roman times when the springtime holiday of Flora ranged from April 28 to May 3. If March First was the start of the Roman year and the day to begin planting, then May First was the time of the blossoms which indicated that everything had been done right, a tribute to the agricultural labor of the past two months. This is suspiciously near to modern Easter, at April 23 in the year 2000, formerly a lunar computation and it may have come from India and Egypt the same date as May Day. May Day in England may have a double root after all.

Labor Day in the United States, Canada and Australia is quite different, tracing its origins back to the "Noble Order of the Knights of Labor in America," an organization which was

founded in Philadelphia on Thanksgiving Day 1869 through the efforts of Uriah S. Stephens and six associates, all garment cutters. This was started as a trade union but soon changed into a broad spectrum social and philanthropic organization under the guidance of Stephens who was himself a Mason and fostered a Mason-like direction. A secret ritual was initiated, of which no copy has been found in writing, a first local assembly was called in 1773 and that same year a second assembly of ship carpenters and caulkers employed in Cramp's shipyard in Philadelphia was called. From that point membership grew, a new constitution was adopted in 1882 even admitting women members, with a membership of near a million workers in the mid 1880's. This was the high-water mark, by 1900 other Unions were in place and the Knights had shrunk to only 130,000.

It was probably the two parades of the Knights in New York City in 1882 and 1884, when membership was at its peak, that spurred Colorado in 1887 to designate the first Monday in September a legal holiday, a date which Congress approved in 1894, while in 1909 it was approved in all states except North Dakota and Arizona, although in Louisiana it was observed only in New Orleans parish, and in Maryland, Wyoming and New Mexico it could be proclaimed annually by the governor if so wished. Slowly Labor Day became a national holiday, a long weekend of end-summer festivities, with little more than a token tip of the hat to "Labor."



ARCHIVE PHOTO

As this last century ended, Unionism with its long and hard-won history in the fight for acceptable working conditions, pay and benefits, was on the decline. A thriving US economy which believes that big business and capital

power are the surest advisors in the running of the country, has largely bypassed the massed force of the once-powerful unions. Might it not be suitable for us to pause today to think how far the old union activities have brought

us in improving the life of the common man? And we might think soberly for a minute about Labor Day as a memorial to the vanished men and women of the 19th century who gave us the economic base our working men and women

enjoy. This is a time to visit distant family, to take vacation trips to resorts, to spend money freely and fully enjoy the prized days of this grand holiday weekend.

Source: [ancienthistory.about.com](http://ancienthistory.about.com)

# With a new Yemenia Airways

**U**nder the patronage of Captain Abdul-Khaleq Al-Qadi, Chairman of Yemenia, Yemenia Airways held a meeting for the company's officials and employees on Thursday at Movenpick Hotel, Sana'a. The meeting aimed to make the situation of Yemenia clear for all, in an effort to cope with the recent changes and stand united in front of the challenges they face regarding the development of world carriers and flights.

During the meeting, Cap. Al-Qadi called on the company's officials and employees to enhance their efforts and unite their abilities and skills to work hand in hand for the sake of achieving the company's strategic development plan.

"Today we are looking at the current situation of the company. We would inform you about what the company is doing at present and what the strategic long-term and short-term plans are," Capt. Al-Qadi addressed the attendants.

Al-Qadi stressed on the future of Yemenia Airways and the position it would occupy among competing air carriers worldwide. "What is the future of Yemenia and what is its place among competing air carriers? What is its place in the midst of commercial rivalry? What is its place in the midst of high rise of fuel and other challenges? Therefore, Yemenia



**Captain Abdul-khaleq Al-Qadi**

has to have a cooperative, joint vision towards future, in an effort to enhancing our technical abilities to further make our national company step forward and move towards a better future that exceeds time in a profitable, commercial competition," Al-Qadi said.

Regarding Yemenia's current posi-

tion, Al-Qadi made it clear that Yemenia used to work in an environment that lacked rivalry. That was an advantage for Yemenia, and during that period Yemenia did not think of extending its services and air fleet to stand before the new changes and challenges. But it had to have a place among other world carriers and compete with them, especially to ensure a better bright future for the company.

"Over the past few years, we have adopted new polices of development, because the world of flights is a world of rivalry, where emotions and complements have no place. If we could not compete in this world, then Yemenia would not survive. The air carriers that depend on emotions in their work have no place in world flights. We have to have a basis to start from. We have to have our own characteristic. And this can be achieved by extending, improving and enhancing our services and buying new airplanes."

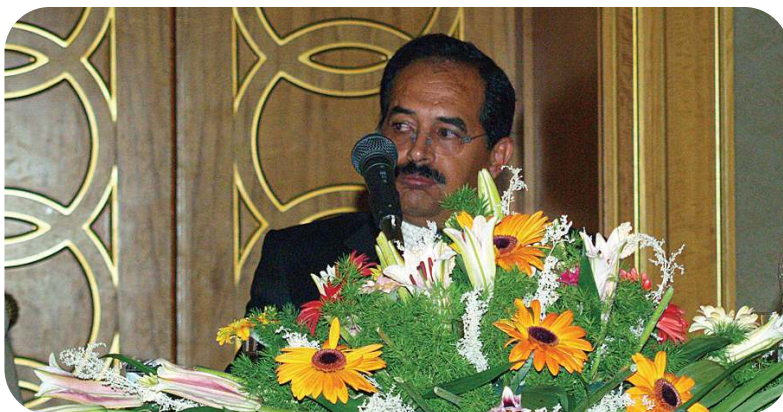
"Yemenia Airways could achieve fruitful results that are effective for join-

ing the procession of information technology development. This is evident in making Yemenia's air fleet more modern and providing it with the most modern airplanes." Also, there are other improvements regarding information technology, such as e-ticketing, internet booking, on-line services, etc. Yemenia has signed a number of agreements with different air carriers in an effort to modernize its services and improve its status. It has signed a multi-million dollar long-term agreement for the supply of a wide range of airline IT solutions from the Dubai-based IT supplier, Mercator's RAPID revenue accounting solution.

Yemenia also signed an agreement with Dnata which is probably the largest, most innovative, most successful supplier of air travel services in the Middle East, whereby Dnata will manage the services of passengers and Sana'a Airport. It has also signed another agreement with Cyber Solution in order to enhance the performance of workers in different fields.

On the other hand, Mr. Al-Qadi thanked the efforts of Gulf Cooperative Council (GCC) towards Yemenia. "I greatly thank the efforts of the GCC and directors of Gulf air carriers for accepting Yemenia Airways in Gulf Insurance with a 50% discount comparing with what we used to pay for foreign Insurance companies," Al-Qadi remarked.

"Yemenia should have a place in the world map and we should be proud of



# strategic policy proves a success



with good intention. We should be loyal to Yemenia of which we should be proud. In conclusion, I would like to congratulate you on the advent of International Labor Day," Al-Qadi added.

On his part, Mr. Chin representative of Cyber Solution Company delivered a speech on this occasion, where he gave an overall idea about the role of Cyber in improving Yemenia. He said the future of Yemenia is very important, and Cyber is working on three bases. These are: Financial Assistance, Operational Assistance and Functional Profitability Assistance.

ourselves. We should double our efforts. If our capabilities are limited, then no one will need our services. The world is going on making development, and we will enter a new environment. We are at the beginning of developing our systems and services. We have made improvements in IT systems, and we will then enter a new system, which is Oracle Business Solution. We have to work as one team,

Mr. Chin made it clear that there are challenges in front of Yemenia, most notably Crude Oil Prices and Yemenia's debts. Fuel prices are now 45% higher than last year. The expected fuel bill for Yemenia will be 35% higher than it used to. The original debt of Yemenia is Y.R 6.6 billion, of which Y.R. 2.4 has been paid back. While there will be rough times for Yemenia, this year the future of Yemenia is essentially bright.



Hard times will be addressed during 2005:

Record fuel prices; Old debt that must be restricted; changes to work habits and styles; improvements in productivity.

"People have to embrace change not resist change. You have to look at yourself to improve Yemenia Airlines," Mr. Chin addressed the attendants.

Mr. Abdullah Lutf Al-Mutarreb, Commercial director of Yemenia, said everyone's responsibility is to make Yemenia reach the top of success. "Let's hope to reach the top of success, and I am sure we can. Let's make a vow to feel able to make a change and reach our goals. We have competent employees and we

should make use of them. We have no excuse as to making improvements. We have to have a new spirit to cope with difficulties and make success. The commercial Department has a goal and that is "the challenge year." If we failed to achieve this goal, then our position will be subject to danger."

Al-Mutarreb, moreover, explained in brief some of the improvements Yemenia has made. Some of these are: Internet Booking, Desktops, E-Ticketing, Interline through Check-inns, Passport Readers, Call Centers, Advanced Seat Preservation, Air Come, FFP system, IOSA system, BSP system and Code Share.



## Words of Wisdom



The Republic of Yemen cannot afford to develop on the basis of the traditional snail-pace growth rate. We need a strong force and zeal to address such grave issues as excessively high population growth rates, rapid depletion of water resources, corruption and mismanagement, etc.

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

OUR  
OPINIONYemen's  
double curse

The recent incident in the Qat market where a man threw a hand grenade after a quarrel has brought to my attention the double curse this country suffers: Qat and weapons. The mass addiction to the Qat plant coupled with the spread of arms among the local citizens causes tragic incidents where people's lives are in threat occasionally. However, the fact is that Yemeni people are not aggressive by nature, otherwise with the long spread of arms and the short arm of law the country would be soaking in blood everyday. Yet this is not a reason why something should not be done to avoid such risk. The irony of this is that there had been a number of unimplemented regulations to control the spread of both. Moreover, many Yemenis who speak against carrying weapons or chewing Qat do them both. This means it is not a matter of legislation nor is it a matter of awareness, as much as it is a matter of enforcement of law and providing the alternative. Yemeni youth argue that if they do not chew Qat then their social life would be non-existent. Others claim that they have nothing better to do because of the lack of social entertainment centers around the country. And obviously the reason people – mostly from tribal areas – attribute to carrying light arms in Yemen is security. Apparently, they believe that they would need to defend themselves against others who in turn are carrying weapons for the same reason and the story goes on.

Traditionally, Yemeni people of the north pride their men in carrying what is called a Jambia. A Jambia is a twisted dagger hung on the waist on a decorated belt worn as a traditional sign of manhood. Young boys can't wait to get their own, but when they do they are not preached on how to use them as a matter of a code of conduct, this is why the use of this weapon often goes wrong. Unfortunately, the concept of manhood has been degraded through the years. Today Yemeni men wear the Jambia along with rifles or pistols without consideration of the consequences. Only rule of law can solve this problem in Yemen, but what if the implementers themselves are happy with the way things are? This is the same for Qat chewing, as majority of Yemeni people; both men and women chew Qat. How then, would this country get out from this double curse? And how many more hand grenades need to be thrown to make our government take this issue more seriously?

Nadia Al-Sakkaf  
Editor-in-Chief

## Letter to the Editor

## Just a question

We are proud of Yemeni professors who compose books that are used as curricula material in our universities. All of this "goes tumbling down," when we get the notion that some of these respectable professors do not take into consideration that not all students are able to buy their books. However, when some students borrow these books, the professors insist the student buy them. In the case that the student doesn't buy the book, some professors will deduct from their grades and even fail the students. It is an immoral and inhu-

man way of dealing with students. I hope that such treatment ends in the near future.

Lastly, I just want an answer to a confusing question: If these great people do not serve their country, then who does?!

Asma Ali Moharram  
Thamar University

With respect to those  
who still are standing

I am a teacher. Yes, I am. Practicing this great job was never one of my plans, as I never found it the least interesting. However, I am doing it now.

## Palestinians: where to?

Despite the political and ideological differences emerged on the Palestinian arena for long years, the Palestinians, with all those differences, remained an embodiment of solidarity and steadfastness in the face of the invader who occupied their land and compelled many of them to flee their homeland.

That solidarity has been a matter of high appreciation by their Arab brethren and by all the honorable in the world. Nevertheless, an amount of deformation has recently begun to appear in the life of the Palestinians and their country, blemishing the image so established in the minds. That was made after a wave of abnormal differences falsely introduced at a time the country is still groaning under the colonization occupation. That development has made all their Arab brethren and the honorable in the world express fear that the ideal picture formed about the Palestinians would be marred and also the reputation of their courageous struggle throughout more than half a century.

Would it be possible that the Palestinian weapon could be targeting the Palestinian citizen? A question of this sort was rather impossible to be asked before this time and arousing it at the present time is unacceptable and unexpected because the ongoing battle dictates unity and turns the arms



By: Dr. Abdulaziz  
Al-Maqaleh

towards the enemy that usurped the land. The enemy is committing carnages against the legitimate owners of the land without being deterred for this grave act by any force, from inside or outside the country. Added to that is the collapse of the Arab front which resulted in the enemy's capability to infiltrate into some Arab capitals, which

placed themselves in service of the new empire, namely, the United States of America.

The United States considers Israel as a forward military base used for dominating and controlling the region as well as remodeling it in accordance with the imperialist goals aimed at building the colonialist world.

The sons of the Arab nation in all Arab countries and the honorable in the world are still betting on the Palestinians wakefulness and their learning from the long experiences and the example of that wise old man story. An old wise man once summoned together his sons and asked each one to break his stick singly. All the sons managed to do that easily. Then he asked them to put all the sticks together and try to break them. There and then the sons failed to break them because the sticks were no longer single but composed one bundle. This is a piece of wisdom the Palestinians have to inevitable comprehend and believe in. This wisdom is not only good for them at

this crucial circumstance, but rather useful for all the Arabs and for any people struggling for liberation and salvation from serfdom of occupation.

Hamas assumption of power via the free and honest elections is an exemplary start for peaceful transfer of power in a country suffering from occupation and killing. The duty makes it imperative on every Palestinian people to welcome and dedicate himself heart and soul for supporting this beginning that paves the way for assuming power by the way of polling boxes instead of by force and coups. Time is still available for the success of this experiment. It is the time for all of the Palestinian national action factions to protect the experiment and render support for it despite the existence of different subordinate points of views among them. If, God forbids, happened the contrary and the Palestinians began to indulge in fratricide, they will, by that act, not only achieve the enemy's goal but also rather be unanimous on committing the most dangerous suicidal operation in their history.

The Palestinians under the organization of Fatah are Palestinians strugglers and so are the Palestinians under Hamas. All of them are Palestinians struggling for one cause. Under no any circumstances, they should be disunited by political affiliations or let the quest for posts lead them to offend their long struggler.

Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Maqaleh is Yemen's prominent poet and intellectual. He is the director of the Yemeni Center for Studies.

## Arab economic incapability (2-2)

I would like here to be specific and say the Arab street full comprehends that the Arab regimes have their calculations and estimations within the frame of their readings of the Arab situations and regional and international balances. That nevertheless represents a healthy sign and maturity in Arab dealing with crises. However, that should not be a justification for continued building of the minimum level expressing a unified Arab will, that meets and stick together behind one goal enabling the nation to exploit its resources properly and to build the minimum level of self-sufficiency particularly in the area of food.

There is nothing that could drop that prevent claim on the existence of a gap between the Arab street and the regimes except express and clear stands live to the challenge imposed by data of the present dilemma that has become open to moiré aggravation and singling out negative reflections on the economic and social situations of most of the nation's peoples.

Here I am more interested to emphasize that I am talking of practical decisions joining ranks, uniting energies, deepening solidarity and ant invest resources in reliance on the nation's huge potentials and capabilities that can affect and influence in the course of events through wise economic and social policies acting in harmony with the age lan-



By: Prof. Abdulaziz  
Al-Tarb

guage and variables. I do not think we will be capable of forcing ranks tightly together and uniting energies before our possession of the ability and courage to remove the causes of incapability that impedes our movement and paralyze our will. We have to courageously admit that the reality of incapability the nation is experiencing and reflects on the ground fearsome revivifications is a natural product for continued insistence of some of us on putting aside the voice of reason in reading the reality and consider as easy the policies of running away and avoiding confrontation and not working hard for changing this reality to the better.

We have also to recognize that if there are some excuses in this state or that on the causes of its incapability of accomplishing independent development up until now or its dereliction in stabilization of the bases of social justice and pursuit of corruption or the inability of some of these states to keep pace with the democratic tide, spreading rapidly in all world countries. This is also associated with inability to renew and develop the thought. The thing that could not have justifications while we are facing the fearful challenges of globalization is that some Arab countries feel of incapability of wringing out their right to choose the right path to make fore the self-incapability for accomplishing independent development, that could be attained via joining

into an integrated Arab system, under claim of fear from anger of the big powers that do not accept their following that road for reasons pertaining to their goal and strategic intentions.

We have to look at countries and groupings having circumstances similar to ours and do not possess constituents of unity and integration available for us. Nevertheless, those countries and groupings, whether in Asia or Latin America, managed to own their independence of decision and did not care about any threats and maintained the road of integrated development for the prosperity of their peoples.

Those in Asia and Latin America that have done that have not drawn the swords of challenge for the aim of confrontation but rather have built their calculations out of their understanding that the big powers proceed in their policies from a basic rule, i.e. that of interests, as much as others could be closer to that rule the more the big powers respond with the same degree of their getting from them.

If we want to benefit from others experiments we have to stop the bickering and conflict among ourselves because that does not only hinder our movement forward but rather leads to our inability to see and comprehend the dangers threatening all of us.

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

COMMON  
SENSE

By: Hassan Al-Haifi

When Bush has it tough,  
Bring out Al-Qaida tapes

One cannot help in noticing that even in this crazy unpredictable world that we are facing, there are patterns that the observer cannot help but notice, which may have many implications. In the latest polls, the Bush Administration is facing what appears to be mounting criticism at the performance of the Bush White House and the concerns about the possibility of a new misguided adventure against Iran. Whatever the case, what concerns us here is that one cannot fail to observe that the increased appearance of "Al-Qaida" videos and tapes have turned out to be a useful instrument for the Bush Administration to show that, "Hey people, we really have an enemy out there, so don't think this Administration isn't on the ball!" In other words, with the mounting criticism and all the difficulties faced by the Bush White House, the latest influx of Al-Qaida tapes seem to be a sort of bail out for the Bush Administration. On the other hand the number of Al-Qaida "video clips" seems to increase with the intensity of the pressure faced by the Bush Administration. This week, we had a special feature presentation of a tape by no other than Abu Mus'ab Al-Zirqawi, a heretofore convict who has now become a leading member of the notorious "Al-Qaida" establishment. Of course, this new entry may have backfired to work against the notorious group, because quite frankly most Moslems are appalled by the daily bloodletting of innocent Iraqis by "Zirqawi" and therefore only added strength to the assertion that Zirqawi was "appearing" only to give credence to the neo-con contention that there is a real terrorist danger out there and the world should not look down upon their efforts to contain this villainous threat. Even Moslems who support or lean towards comprehension of the right of the Iraqis to resist American occupation really have no stomach for the type of resistance that the Al-Qaida of Mesopotamia is adopting. Thus, for many Moslems the latest Al-Qaida tapes of Bin Laden, Al-Zawahiri and Al-Zirqawi are reinforcing the contention that the role that these icons of terror are playing on behalf of the self-declared guardians of the world against terror. With the mounting vigilance against Iran, many Moslems are wondering why Al-Qaida would be interested in making a case for the United States in its unilaterally declared war on the Moslem World, as they see it. Is Al-Qaida pursuing the interests of the American neo-cons or simply looking for a way out of their poorly conducted campaign to distort Islam's image as a religion of tolerance and guardian of human rights, none of which have entered the Al-Qaida dictionary and which have exited from the White House dictionary ever since AIPAC got its strong foothold in Washington?

One cannot help in noticing that most Moslems were not impressed with the "Zirqawi" attempts to project himself at the vanguard of militant Islamism and his efforts to give himself prominence as someone to be reckoned with in the Iraqi political equation. Neither was his anti-Shiite diatribes, which some thought to give strength to the fomenting of a feud between Shiites and Sunni. The latter is viewed by a majority of Moslems as being more in service to the interests of the occupier than the defense of Islam.

For non-Moslems, however, the tapes might have a different perception, as most non-Moslems are unfamiliar with the intricacies of Islamic political thinking and thus will view the tapes as strengthening of the Bush Administration's image among the American public.

To add strength to the contention of an apparent pattern as described above, Ayman Al-Zawahiri appears on the eve of the UN Security Council Resolution for giving Iran a deadline to halt its research and development work on nuclear energy.

Of course, it is difficult to assert for sure that there is a direct relationship between Al-Qaida's public relations efforts and the US "War on Terror", but the observer cannot help but wonder at the dubious circumstances of the increase in the Al-Qaida's efforts just when the White House needs them the most.

To give weight to this, there is the increase in violence as well, in more than one location, including the Sinai explosions. Judging from the Egyptian TV stations, the Egyptians seem to suggest that the explosions do have a dubious nature and may be traced to Israel's own clandestine nature in this intertwined complex web of events. Egypt's former strong stances against the Zionist state, such as the October War victories and the tie for that that proceeded the 1973 Arab Israeli War can easily be revived is what the Egyptians were saying. Such tapes are usually reserved for the Anniversary of the October War, but this time we are getting an early show presentation that coincided with the attacks on Sinai. Perhaps, as the Egyptians seem to say, the Israelis are not happy with the Egyptian's efforts to bring the Palestinians together or even with the appearance of Hamas leaders coming and going to Cairo on a frequent basis.

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

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# Yemen Press Review

By: Mohammed Khidhr

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Al-Wasat weekly, 26 Apr 2006.



Al-Nidaa weekly, 26 Apr 2006.



Al-Wahdawi weekly, organ of the Nasserite Unionist Organization, 25 Apr 2006.

**Main headlines**

- Authority entrusts elections administration with commanders of military areas, threatens pro-regime political parties by cutting support
- Intensified security measures following Dhahab explosions
- Chairman of the chamber of commerce and industry accuses Monetary Fund of creating sedition in the country
- Al-Zindani discloses recruitment of mad persons to assassinate him
- Novak to "al-Wasat": I expect the GPC to employ the state resources to target the opposition
- Pressures to clear decayed insecticides, increase in smuggling goods into the Yemeni market
- Mayor of the capital gives directives to meet cleaning workers' demands
- Abdullah Sallam al-Hakimi writes we consider ourselves and movements as part and parcel of the Yemeni opposition movement represented by parties of the JMP, in solidarity and integration with it although we are independents and not partisans. Nonetheless, we believe that the JMP has acquired with efficiency representation of the Yemeni opposition and consequently we consider it as a reference of any effort and partisan and independent opposition movement. In my viewpoint I do not agree with some writers opinions about the latest JMP's press conference, described as being weak or confused.

On the contrary I consider it as successful and represented a qualitative step in the course of the Yemeni opposition. It has not been a fault for the JMP not announcing its candidate for the presidential elections up until now. It may be the opposite. It was maybe a clever measure from the tactical standpoint in facing the political adversary, i.e. the state that possesses money and authorities.

The JMP would face grave challenges regarding the process of the upcoming presidential and local elections, particularly the presidential elections. As it is its habit in sabotaging political process, the regime plans to encourage one of the prominent personalities in the JMP to declare himself a presidential nominee as competent to the one that the JMP would select to those presidential elections with the aim of creating a kind of dispersing votes and large amount of confusion in the JMP unified electoral rank.

The second goal is to create schism inside the party to which that candidate is affiliated and consequently be reflected

negatively on the JMP bloc.

**Main headlines**

- Constitutional amendments draft withdrawn from the parliament, Meeting between the president and Islah leaders breaks barrier of crisis between the GPC and opposition
- Interior minister al-Aleami meets Yemen Journalists Syndicate council
- Deputy of the American ambassador considers 2005 as a bad year for journalists
- The capital's court of appeal re-imprisons two Syrian nationals on charges of smuggling antiquities
- The JMP insists on illegality of elections measures, the supreme commission denies postponement of presidential elections
- Mohammed Mohammed al-Maqaleh writes that there are three big facts in the opposition address concerning the electoral process the authority should have read their indications and political dimensions very well.

The first fact is that the parties of the JMP would not take part in the electoral process in its various measures and would not recognize its results as long as the authority insisted on keeping the present elections commission as it is, without any change guaranteeing its balance and impartiality and independence. The stand against the present management of elections proceeds from two reasons. The first is that its constitutional and moral legitimacy is no longer standing especially after confession of some of its leading officials of committing exposed crimes of forging led to change in results of elections in favor of the ruling party. The second is after it has been ascertained that because if its formation is part of the executive power and an instrument in the hands of the ruling party.

The second fact is that alliance of the JMP would remain consistent and would not dismantle until holding the presidential elections and announcement of their results and rather until the opposition realizes its joint political program. Thus, the writer maintains, the authority's wagering on dismantling the JMP before the date of elections is a losing betting.

The third fact is that the JMP that groups the Islah, the YSP and the Nasserite and other parties, is in fact a strong political alliance and has a large-scale influence and impact among the people and the strength of the alliance comes out of its representation of two thirds of Yemeni voters' voices. It is also out of the unity of its stand and expansion of its social and political base as well as

most of the segments of the society is looking for a change and an authority representing them actually.

The writer says upon this basis a weak authority gong alone in forged elections means madness and going to a point of no return.

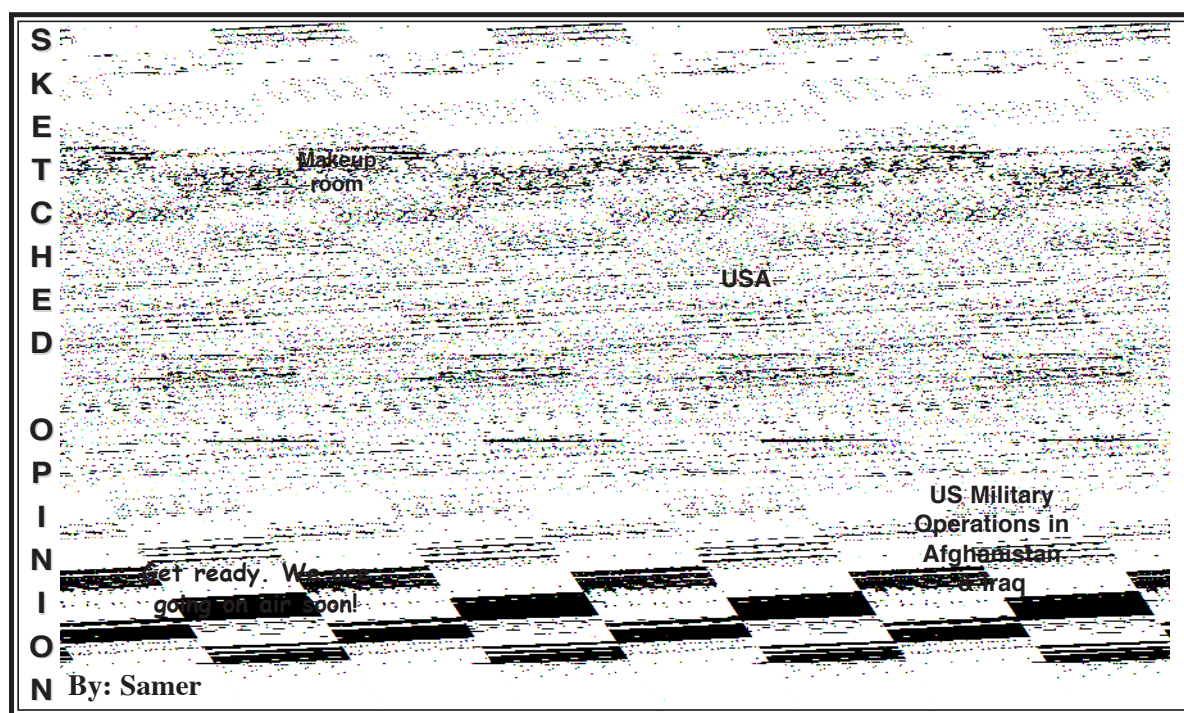
**Main headlines**

- The ruling party drives children into elections process, manipulation in electors records
- The president backs down from constitutional amendments
- The JMP expresses its regret for non-seriousness of the GPC leadership in reaching positive results of the dialogue
- Presidential candidate Abdulrahman al-Hamdi: Members of the military establishment will not hesitate in contributing to change
- Thirteen persons imprisoned on accusation of planning for attacks on foreign interests in Sana'a
- The new Iraqi government embodies sectarianism
- Hundreds of poultry extinct in Al-Saddah
- A child kidnapped in Taiz

The writer Ahmed Saeed says in an article the ruling party, with all the powers it owns on instruments of winning the elections, will not be able to go alone to attain the coming constitutional due in isolation from completion of the political equation of authority and opposition. It is a fact that should not be set aside or exceeded otherwise the equation will be lost and there would be a return to trenches of totalitarianism the people have got rid of after great suffering and sacrifices.

The volume of hindrance and abortion attempts against the dialogue between the president of the republic and the JMP last week indicates that there are some in the ruling party leadership having interest in fabricating crises to impede any progress for laying correct bases for the democratic course.

Stopping dialogue at this timing has its dangerous implications. They are the pre-occupation of the public opinion with political and media bickering to cover scandals of violations of the law in the process of registration and squandering time in a manner the political forces will not find an opportunity for achieving a joint action serving the democratic equation and the homeland and consequently protecting the state and its political directions. There is no decisive way for surmounting the difficulties blocking sound-



ness of the procedures of the coming elections other than dialogue and guarantees of its success that all parties of the political system would agree upon.



Al-Mithaq weekly, organ of the General People's Congress (GPC), 25 Apr 2006.

**Main headlines**

- Receiving a French delegation and representative for the Jewish sect in Amran, The president: Poverty a fertile environment for terror and extremism growth, Yemen's Jews receive all rights of citizenship as guaranteed by the constitution
- Crisis inside the Islah party, al-Zindani and al-Tharihi consider "regionalism" of Qahtan as political tampering and demagoguery
- Islah warns the YSP against ignoring of treatment of the secessionist war sequels
- Parties of the JMP announce willingness of nominating president Ali Abdullah Saleh to presidential elections, The GPC calls them to join it in convincing the president to back down from non-nomination

The newspaper's editorial puts a question about the party that led the dialogue to a deadlock and whether the dialogue merely a means for passing and wasting of time.

The editorial goes on that as for us in the GPC (the ruling party) the door of dialogue has remained open and it is not part of our culture and behavior to use dialogue for reaching a deadlock. The editorial goes on to mention that dialogue is a respectable value and serious practice. Among the bases that must be related to dialogue is respect of the other and agreement on issues and subjects of dialogue provided the issues must express realistic needs and to be built on what is existing and its development and not for its demo-

lition.

It mentions that some number of leaders in the JMP wait on the dialogue and allege that the GPC was the cause in failure of the dialogue through the past period and they know well that they do not excel in dialogue but in the field of political deals and gaining personal inter-

ests or ministerial posts. They had been used to in the past that what they could not obtain in elections they will have via exceptional deals and agreements. This is a means that should not continue as the democratic experiment has become rooted and the citizen has become the owner of decision and will in choosing his



## Al-Alimi and media: concrete results expected

Last week, the Interior Minister Rashad al-Alimi promised to hold the perpetrators of the attacks against journalists accountable. He said he ordered the arrest of the well-known tribal Sheikh Faris Mana'a for his intimidations and threats against Abed al-Mahthari. During his meetings with the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate board members, al-Alimi announced that his men are still investigating into the attacks journalists have been going through, promising the prosecution of the people behind such assaults. He acknowledged that the hostile attitude towards the journalists is because of the lack of a democratic culture among the people including security recruits. The man also promised to appoint a spokesman and establish an information center to provide the media professionals with the information they need.

This is really a great change and initiative which we all should thank the minister for. However, we need to see concrete results that demonstrate this new trend of al-Alimi, who is also the deputy prime minister, reflecting an attitude of the whole government.

I know that journalists can face intimidations from different people but the most important sources of that have been the security personnel. They have a hostile attitude towards journalists, envisaging them, mainly foreign media reporters, as "enemies of the country and agents who care only about their personal benefits." Of course, the list of accusations can go on. A number of journalists have been beaten up or harassed in different ways, even while covering ordinary events like protests or sit-ins of government employees.

I know sometimes it is not attitude of the government but we can not afford to continue to pay the price of the ignorance and lack of elegance of the security men. As the interior ministry gives its staff lectures on the love of the country, its leaders...etc, it can also give lectures on how to deal with journalists in a respectable manner; they should be educated that journalists are not the enemies of the country and that they are doing their job which should be respected and facilitated. Journalists are not trouble-makers as they are perceived; they do serve the country and have to afflict the comfortable and comfort the afflicted; they have to report on the wrongdoings of the officials and hold them accountable. This is the job of journalists in a democracy.

With regards to the important issue of access to information, the interior minister, who is very respectable, polite and civilized as a person, himself has been exercising a great monopoly over information sources relating to security and he used to speak only to some state-run

media, making us as foreign media correspondents hover like hungry wolves, forced to quote the 26 September weekly of the army for our reports related to security issues. Opening an information center will mean a breakthrough in the relationship between the journalists and his ministry. We do not want anything from him, but information when it is needed. It is our right to ask officials give us the information we need. It is also the right of the people to be informed. Access to information is the headache of journalists not only with the interior ministry but also with almost all the government officials. And if this initiative comes from the interior, the others will certainly follow suit. We need official spokesmen who can provide information to the people just like in any democratic society based on transparency and openness.

I understand that the Yemen government has been facing hard times and harsh criticism from the donors and international human rights and media organizations; they organizations have been also urging the government to at least show evidence it is seriously investigating violence against media professionals. They have clearly put the improvement of the media situation as a parameter or condition for the flow of their donations. All sorts of dirty trickery and cloning of newspapers should be stopped.

Hey guys! You always claim journalists are distorting the image of the country and producing false reports on the country. We are not; we are not tribesmen blackmailing you by kidnapping; we do just need the correct information from you and let us work freely. Again, we are not the ones who are damaging the country's reputation. It is you and your misbehavior that is damaging the country. We have been, rather, a source of pride for the country, being praised by the international community; it is for the remarkable scope of press freedom we have had that the international community had committed itself to support Yemen and its democratization drive. The backsliding steps we have made have invited the uproar of the world community which has started setting conditions for its support.

Any how, we do not care about who is behind the announced change in the attitude towards the media as much as about the concrete results of the announcement of al-Alimi. Yemen government committed itself to the respect and protection of media freedom. We need to see concrete results demonstrating this commitment. Let us keep our fingers crossed in the hope of a genuine change and best wishes to journalists all over the world on the cassation of the International Press Freedom Day which meets the third of May.

# The morality of capital punishment

By: Gary Becker

The US is often criticized for its refusal to abolish capital punishment. Many now claim that abolition of capital punishment is a precondition of a civilized criminal-law system. Nobel laureate Gary Becker disagrees.

European governments are adamantly opposed to capital punishment – the European Union bans it outright – and some Europeans consider its use in the United States barbaric. Indeed, many European intellectuals argue that not just capital punishment, but punishment in general, does not deter criminals.

But, whereas Europeans, with crime rates well below American rates for the past half-century, could long afford to be relatively "soft" on most crimes, they have seen their crime rates increase sharply during the past twenty years. By contrast, American rates have fallen, in part because of greater use of punishment.

This includes capital punishment. I support executing some people convicted of murder because – and only because – I believe that it deters other murders. If I did not believe that, I would oppose capital punishment, because revenge and other possible motives should not be a basis for public policy.

Serious empirical research on capital punishment in the US began with a pioneering study by Isaac Ehrlich, published in 1975 in the *American Economic Review*. Some subsequent studies have sometimes found a much weaker deterrent effect, while others have found a much stronger effect. The available data are quite limited, however, so one should not base any conclusions

solely on the econometric evidence.

Of course, public policy on any punishment cannot wait until the evidence is perfect. But, even with the limited quantitative evidence available, there are good reasons to believe that capital punishment deters.

Most people, and murderers in particular, fear death, especially when it follows swiftly and with considerable certainty following the commission of a murder. As David Hume put it in discussing suicide, "no man ever threw away life, while it was worth living. For such is our natural horror of death..." Likewise, Schopenhauer believed that "as soon as the terrors of life reach a point at which they outweigh the terrors of death, a man will put an end to his life. But the terrors of death offer considerable resistance..."

Opponents of capital punishment frequently proclaim that the state has no moral right to take anyone's life, including that of the most reprehensible murderer. Yet that is absolutely the wrong conclusion for anyone who believes that capital punishment deters.

To see why, suppose that for each murderer executed (instead of, say, receiving life imprisonment), the number of murders is reduced by three, which is a much lower number than Ehrlich's and some other estimates of the deterrent effect. This implies that for each murderer not executed, three innocent victims would die. In fact, the government would indirectly be "taking" many lives if it did not use capital punishment.

Saving three innocent lives for every person executed seems like a very attractive trade-off, and even two lives saved per execution seems like a persuasive

benefit-cost ratio for capital punishment. Admittedly, however, the argument in favor of capital punishment becomes less clear-cut as the number of lives saved per execution falls. But, even if only one life were saved per execution, the tradeoff might still be desirable if the life saved is much better than the life taken, which would usually be the case.

Many people object to comparing the quality of the life spared and the life taken. Yet I do not see how to avoid such a comparison. Consider a career criminal who robs and kills a victim who led a decent life and left several children and a spouse behind. Suppose it would be possible to save the life of an innocent victim by executing such a criminal. To me it is obvious that saving such a victim's life must count for more than taking the criminal's life. Obviously, not all cases are so unambiguous, but a comparison of the qualities of individual lives must be part of any reasonable social policy.

This helps explain why capital punishment should be used only for murders, and not for lesser crimes. When the tradeoff is between taking lives and, say, reducing property theft, the case for milder punishments is far stronger. Although severe assaults, including some gruesome rapes, may approach some murders in severity, and might conceivably call for capital punishment, I do not support its use in these cases.

A powerful argument for reserving capital punishment for murders is "marginal deterrence." If assault were punished with execution, perpetrators would have an incentive to kill their victims to avoid discovery (which is a major reason why the severity of punishments more generally should be matched to the severity of crimes).

Gary S. Becker is Nobel laureate in Economics and Professor of Economics and Sociology at the University of Chicago.  
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كاليون  
بنك التمويل والاستثمار

CRÉDIT AGRICOLE GROUP

YEMEN BRANCH



AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MANAGEMENT OF CALYON CORPORATE AND INVESTMENT BANK - YEMEN (Branch of a Foreign Bank) SANA'A, REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of CALYON Corporate and Investment Bank - Yemen Branch (the Bank), consisting of the balance sheet as at December 31, 2005, the related statements of income, cash flows and changes in lead office equity for the year then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Bank's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit.

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing and the requirements of relevant Yemeni laws and regulations. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We have obtained and understood the information and clarifications that we deemed necessary for our audit and we believe that our audit provides a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of CALYON Corporate and Investment Bank - Yemen Branch as at December 31, 2005, the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended, in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards promulgated by the International Accounting Standards Board, and applicable local laws and regulations.

M. Zohbi Mejjani  
Associated Accountant  
Sana'a, February 5, 2006

BALANCE SHEET AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2005

ASSETS	Note	2005 YR 000s	2004 YR 000s
Cash on hand and reserve balances with Central Bank of Yemen	5	11,285,914	10,600,864
Due from banks	6	15,973,841	21,252,578
Treasury bills (net)	3e7	17,373,841	11,498,515
Treasury bills with repurchase obligation	3e8	4,084,816	3,999,941
Central Bank of Yemen certificates of deposit	3e9	3,100,000	9,600,000
Loans and advances to customers (net)	3a10	10,115,149	7,334,622
Debit balances and other assets	13	493,260	594,668
Property and equipment (net)	3a14	260,327	305,271
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>64,884,962</b>	<b>63,187,139</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND HEAD OFFICE EQUITY</b>			
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
Due to banks	15	15,556	69,547
Customers' deposits	16	58,982,440	59,963,063
Credit balances and other liabilities	17	1,256,274	970,927
Other provisions	3a18	123,860	121,605
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>65,918,130</b>	<b>61,725,142</b>
<b>HEAD OFFICE EQUITY</b>			
Paid-up capital	19a	2,241,620	1,304,525
Statutory reserve	19b	794,981	665,788
Retained earnings	19c	1,434,287	2,091,614
<b>TOTAL HEAD OFFICE EQUITY</b>		<b>4,470,888</b>	<b>4,061,927</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND HEAD OFFICE EQUITY</b>		<b>64,884,962</b>	<b>63,187,139</b>
<b>CONTINGENT LIABILITIES AND COMMITMENTS (NET)</b>	3e20	<b>14,415,112</b>	<b>10,987,427</b>

(The accompanying notes from 1 to 34 form part of these financial statements.)

Robin de Monty  
General Manager

Auditor's report attached.

M. Zohbi Mejjani  
KPMG Mejjani, Hassan Hassan & Co.

Jean Marie Carrier  
Chief Operating Officer

STATEMENT OF INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005

Note	2005 YR 000s	2004 YR 000s	
Interest on loans and due from banks	21	1,794,924	1,470,487
Interest on treasury bills and certificates of deposit	22	3,512,739	3,481,463
Less: cost of deposits and borrowings		(3,338,023)	(3,240,355)
Net interest income		1,949,178	1,711,594
Commissions and fee income on banking services	23	393,835	360,111
Gain from foreign currency transactions	24	157,628	187,498
Other operating income	24	387,902	382,411
Net operating income		2,888,535	2,641,614
Less:			
Commission and fee expenses on banking services	25	(45,256)	(38,703)
Allowances provided	26	(130,860)	(136,742)
General and administrative expenses	27	(1,307,275)	(1,335,617)
and depreciation	28	(97,540)	-
<b>NET PROFIT FOR THE YEAR BEFORE TAX</b>		<b>1,309,323</b>	<b>1,130,512</b>
Less: Income tax for the year	3)	(448,025)	(365,461)
<b>NET PROFIT FOR THE YEAR</b>		<b>861,298</b>	<b>765,051</b>

(The accompanying notes from 1 to 34 form part of these financial statements.)

Robin de Monty  
General Manager

Auditor's report attached.

M. Zohbi Mejjani  
KPMG Mejjani, Hassan Hassan & Co.

Jean Marie Carrier  
Chief Operating Officer

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005

Note	2005 YR 000s	2004 YR 000s
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Net profit for the year before tax	1,309,323	1,130,512
Adjustments to reconcile net profit to cash flows from operating activities:		
Depreciation	14	81,236
Deposits	11	(180,816)
Allowance used	11	(41,973)
Allowance provided	11	(169,920)
Translation differences on allowance balances in		
Foreign currencies	11/18	31,368
Income tax paid		(352,263)
Net loss on sale of fixed assets		50
		(352,765)
<b>Net decrease (increase) in cash</b>		
Mandatory reserves with Central Bank of Yemen		(2,889,265)
Loans and advances		(2,378,690)
Debit balances and other assets		(81,392)
<b>Net increase (decrease) in liabilities</b>		
Due to banks		(5,991)
Customers' deposits		(860,823)
Credit balance and other liabilities		(21,261)
Net cash (used) in operating activities		(3,127,539)
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Payments to purchase fixed assets	14	(20,327)
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets		81
Net cash (used) in investing activities		(19,250)
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>		
Four year zero coupon Treasury bill		(450,327)
Net cash (used) in financing activities		(450,327)
<b>Net (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>		
Net cash and cash equivalents, beginning of the year		(6,207,907)
Cash and cash equivalents, end of the year		(4,792,495)
<b>Cash and cash equivalents, end of the year</b>		<b>1,415,412</b>
Cash on hand		1,021,191
Due from banks		11,975,685
Treasury bills maturing in 3 months or less		17,373,841
Treasury bills with repurchase obligation maturing in 3 months or less		4,084,816
Central Bank of Yemen certificates of deposit maturing in 3 months or less		3,100,000
Certificates of deposit maturing in 3 months or less		3,000,000
		(1,501,011)
		(4,792,495)

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN HEAD OFFICE EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005

Year	2005 YR 000s	2004 YR 000s	Retained Earnings YR 000s	Total YR 000s
Balance at 1/1/2005	1,304,525	665,788	2,091,614	4,061,927
Transferred to Head Office	-	(450,327)	(450,327)	-
Income tax paid on equity	13	(89,995)	(89,995)	(89,995)
Net profit for the year		129,182	861,298	990,480
Transferred to statutory reserve		(129,182)	-	(129,182)
Balance at 31/12/2005	1,304,525	794,981	1,434,287	4,470,888
Balance at 1/1/2004	1,304,525	531,024	1,797,100	3,632,649
Transferred to Head Office	-	(335,810)	(335,810)	-
Income tax paid on equity	13	(69,995)	(69,995)	(69,995)
Net profit for the year		114,764	1,142,644	1,257,408
Transferred to statutory reserve		(114,764)	-	(114,764)
Balance at 31/12/2004	1,304,525	665,788	2,091,614	4,061,927

(The accompanying notes from 1 to 34 form part of these financial statements.)

Robin de Monty  
General Manager

Auditor's report attached.

M. Zohbi Mejjani  
KPMG Mejjani, Hassan Hassan & Co.

Jean Marie Carrier  
Chief Operating Officer

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED DECEMBER 31, 2005

**1. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**  
CALYON Corporate and Investment Bank - Yemen Branch (the Bank) is a branch of CALYON Corporate and Investment Bank, whose head office is in Paris, France, and is wholly owned by Crédit Agricole SA - France (CA SA). The Bank is licensed and operates in the Republic of Yemen as a branch of a foreign bank in terms of the Bank's Law no. 38 of 1998. The Bank is engaged in commercial banking through its Head Office in Sana'a and four other branches in Hodeidah, Aden, Taiz and Mukalla.

**2. BASIS OF PREPARATION OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
The financial statements are prepared on the historical cost basis, in accordance with current International Financial Reporting Standards promulgated by the International Accounting Standards Board, and prevailing local laws and regulations, including rules and instructions issued by the Central Bank of Yemen (CBY).  
The preparation of financial statements in conformity with International Financial Reporting Standards requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the application of policies and reported amounts of assets and liabilities, income and expenses. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and various other factors that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances, the results of which form the basis of making the judgements about the carrying values of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. Actual results may differ from these estimates.  
The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognized in the period in which the estimates are revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods.  
In order to comply with local regulations, the items listed below are not presented in accordance with International Financial Reporting Standards:  
- Loan allowances are calculated using minimum fixed percentages in accordance with CBY circulars no. 6 of 1996 and no. 5 of 1998;  
- The allowance for general risks calculated on contingent liabilities and commitments is included in provisions, and not in Head Office equity;

and  
- The allowance for general risks calculated on performing loans is included in allowances and provisions for credit facilities, not in Head Office equity.

3. SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

**a. Translation of foreign currencies**  
The Bank maintains its records in Yemeni Rial. Transactions in other currencies are recorded during the financial year at the prevailing exchange rates at the date of transaction. Balances of monetary assets and liabilities in other currencies at the end of the financial year are translated at the prevailing exchange rates on that date. Gains or losses resulting from translation are taken to the statement of income.

**b. Revenue recognition**  
Revenues are recognized on the accrual basis. However, in order to comply with the requirements of CBY circular no. 6 of 1996, the Bank does not accrue interest on non-performing loans and credit facilities. When an account is treated as non-performing loan, all uncollected interest related to the three months prior to categorizing the loan as non-performing is reversed from income and transferred to uncollected interest.

**c. Treasury bills and Central Bank of Yemen certificates of deposit**  
Treasury bills are presented in the balance sheet at face value less the balance of unearned discount outstanding at the balance sheet date.  
Treasury bills with repurchase obligation are presented in the balance sheet at cost at the balance sheet date. The related accrued interest is included in interest receivable.

Central Bank of Yemen certificates of deposit are presented in the balance sheet at face value at the balance sheet date. The related accrued interest is included in interest receivable.

**d. Allowances and provisions for loans and contingent liabilities**  
In order to comply with CBY circulars no. 6 of 1996 and no. 5 of 1998, allowances and provisions are made for specific loans, overdrafts and contingent liabilities, in addition to a percentage for general risks calculated on the total of other loans, overdrafts and contingent liabilities, after deducting balances secured by deposits and bank guarantees issued by worthy banks. Allowance is determined based on periodical comprehensive reviews of the credit portfolio and contingent liabilities. Accordingly, allowances are provided in accordance with the following minimum rates:

Performing loans and contingent liabilities (including special attention)	1%
Non-performing loans	15%
Substandard debts	45%
Doubtful debts	100%
Bad debts	100%

Loans are written off by debiting the allowance if procedures taken towards their collection prove useless, or if directed by CBY examiners upon review of the portfolio.  
Loans to customers and banks are presented in the balance sheet at amortized cost net of uncollected interest, specific and general allowances for collectibility.

**e. Contingent liabilities and commitments**  
Contingent liabilities and commitments to which the Bank is a party are presented off balance sheet, net of any margin held from the customers, under "contingent liabilities and commitments", as they do not represent actual assets or liabilities at the balance sheet date.

**f. Cash and cash equivalents**  
For the purpose of preparing the statement of cash flows, cash and cash equivalents consist of cash on hand, cash balances with CBY other than reserve balances, demand deposits with other banks, and investment in treasury bills that are due within three months of the issuance date.

**g. Impairment of assets**  
The Bank reviews the carrying amounts of the assets according to their materiality at the balance sheet date to determine whether there is any indication of impairment. If such indication exists, the assets' recoverable amount is estimated and compared with the carrying amount and any excess in the carrying amount is charged to the statement of income.  
Any increase in the value of assets is also recognized in the statement of income, provided that the increase does not exceed the original recoverable value of the asset before impairment.

**h. Property, equipment and depreciation**  
Property and equipment is stated at cost less accumulated depreciation and impairment losses, if any. Depreciation is charged to the statement of income on a straight-line basis over the estimated useful lives of items of property and equipment. The depreciation method, useful lives and residual values, if any are reassessed annually by the bank's management. The estimated useful lives are as follows:

Details	Years
Computers	5
Equipment and furniture	10-50
Motor vehicles	5

Improvements and renovation expenses of the Bank's rented branches are amortized over the lesser of their useful lives, or the period of the lease of the branch.

**j. Taxation**  
Corporate tax rate is calculated in accordance with the prevailing laws and regulations in the Republic of Yemen.  
A provision is provided for tax liabilities after appropriate review of tax assessments received. Due to the nature of Yemeni tax accounting, provision is provided for tax liabilities related to deferred tax. If deferred tax assets exist, their clearance is not usually definite in the foreseeable future. Accordingly, such assets are not recorded.

**k. End of service benefit**  
End of service benefit is calculated on a basis of one month basic salary for each completed year of service, or any parts thereof.

**4. FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS AND MANAGING THEIR RELATED RISKS**

**4.1 Financial instruments**  
The Bank's financial instruments consist of financial assets and liabilities. Financial assets include cash, deposits with banks, treasury bills, certificates of deposit, loans to customers, debit balances and other assets. Financial liabilities include customers' deposits, due to banks, credit balances and other liabilities. Financial instruments also include rights and obligations in the form of contingent liabilities and commitments.  
Note 3 to the financial statements includes significant accounting policies applied for recognition and measurement of these financial instruments and their related revenues and expenses.

**a. Fair value of financial instruments**  
Applying the valuation bases for the Bank's assets and liabilities stated in the notes to the financial statements, the fair value of recognized financial instruments does not differ significantly from their book values at the balance sheet date.

**b. Forward contracts**  
The Bank deals in forward contracts only to the extent necessary to cover its needs for foreign currencies or its customers' needs to meet their obligations in foreign currencies as a result of their operations through the Bank. All forward contracts entered into are short term in nature. The value at risk at balance sheet date was not material.

**4.2 Managing related risks**

**a. Interest rate risk**  
Interest rate risk arises from the possibility that changes in interest rates will affect the value of financial instruments. The Bank performs a number of procedures to limit the effect of such risk to the minimum level such as:  
- Correlating interest rates on borrowing with interest rates on lending;  
- Considering the discount rates for different currencies when determining interest rates, and  
- Controlling the matching of maturity dates of financial assets and liabilities.

Notes 29 and 30 to the financial statements state the maturity dates of the Bank's financial assets and liabilities and their related average interest rates applied by the Bank during the year respectively.

**b. Credit risk**  
Loans and credit facilities to customers and banks, current accounts and deposits with banks and rights and obligations from others are considered as financial assets exposed to credit risk. Credit risk represents the inability of these parties to meet their obligations when they fall due. In order to comply with CBY circular no. 10 of 1997 regarding credit risk exposure, the Bank adheres to certain minimum standards in order to properly manage its credit risk, including:  
- Preparing credit studies of customers and banks before dealing with them and determining the related credit risk rates;  
- Obtaining sufficient collateral to minimize credit risk exposure which may result from financial problems of customers or banks;  
- Follow up and periodical review of customers and banks in order to evaluate their financial positions, credit rating and the required provision for non-performing loans, and  
- Distributing the credit portfolio and balances with banks over diversified sectors to minimize concentrations of credit risk.

Note 31 to the financial statements indicates the sectorial distribution of the credit portfolio.  
**c. Exchange rate risk**  
Due to the nature of the Bank's activity, the Bank deals in a number of foreign currencies, hence it is exposed to exchange rate risk. In order to minimize the exposure to exchange rate risk, the Bank attempts to maintain balanced foreign currencies positions, by matching assets and liabilities in compliance with CBY instructions and the requirements of CBY circular no. 6 of 1998, which specifies that individual net foreign currency positions should not exceed 15% of the Bank's capital and reserves, and that the aggregate net open position for all foreign currencies should not exceed 25% of the Bank's capital and reserves.  
Note 32 to the financial statements indicates the significant foreign currency positions at the balance sheet date. The Bank has no significant exposure to highly inflationary foreign currencies.

**5. CASH ON HAND AND RESERVE BALANCES WITH CBY**

	2005 YR 000s	2004 YR 000s
Cash on hand	1,020,944	1,202,145
Mandatory reserve at CBY	12,264,723	9,375,438
Other cash balances	247	23,261
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>13,285,914</b>	<b>10,600,864</b>

Mandatory reserves at CBY represent reserves required by regulations. These balances are not available for the Bank's daily business.

**6. DUE FROM BANKS**

	2005 YR 000s	2004 YR 000s
Foreign banks	1,566,932	1,478,826
Current accounts	(2,400,620)	(1,731,681)
Time deposits	13,967,572	10,010,597
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>14,073,484</b>	<b>11,223,472</b>

**7. TREASURY BILLS (NET)**

	2005 YR 000s	2004 YR 000s
Treasury bills due within 90 days	17,300,000	11,650,000
Less: Unearned discount	(326,159)	(151,485)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>17,373,841</b>	<b>11,498,515</b>

**8. TREASURY BILLS WITH REPURCHASE OBLIGATION**

	2005 YR 000s	2004 YR 000s
Treasury bills with repurchase obligation within 90 days	4,084,816	3,999,941

**9. CENTRAL BANK OF YEMEN CERTIFICATES OF DEPOSIT**

	2005 YR 000s	2004 YR 000s
CBY certificates of deposit due within 90 days	3,100,000	9,600,000

**10. LOANS AND ADVANCES TO CUSTOMERS (NET)**

	2005 YR 000s	2004 YR 000s
Temporary overdrafts	774,802	774,802
Overdrafts	5,999,538	5,006,813
Loans	3,222,625	2,137,665
Import bills negotiated under LCs	338,316	180,783
Discounted commercial papers	31,300	31,328
Staff loans	245,784	192,038
	11,077,085	8,333,429
Less:		
Allowance for loans and advances	11	(777,543)
Uncollected interest	12	(174,933)
	(952,476)	(952,476)
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>10,115,149</b>	<b>7,334,622</b>

**11. ALLOWANCE FOR CREDIT FACILITIES**

	2005 YR 000s	2004 YR 000s
Balance at beginning of the year	822,708	40,412
Provided during the year	80,856	15,000
Allowances reversed	(169,920)	(169,920)
Translation difference on allowance balances	4,690	4,690
Less: allowance used (written off)	(41,272)	(41,272)
<b>Balance at the end of the year</b>	<b>722,131</b>	<b>55,411</b>

**12. UNCOLLECTED INTEREST**

	2005 YR 000s	2004 YR 000s
Balance at beginning of the year	956,132	40,412
Provided during the year	136,342	-
Allowances reversed	(109,951)	

# Pesticides: the necessary evil

One of the consequences of technological progress and industrial revolution has been the release of a large number of chemicals into environment. Although, considerable research efforts have been made into a variety of alternative pest control methods in recent years, use of chemical pesticides is still the mainstay in modern agriculture and public health programmers. At the same time anxiety over chemical pollution has made the study of hazardous effects of pesticides as one of the principle areas of research.

In particular organochlorine



By: Dr. Mohammed Alhifi

insecticides have been extensively investigated and today several of them have been suspended from general application in the USA and other countries. Nevertheless, it's felt for the time being that

pesticides are necessary evil and in absence of any feasible substitute, their use will continue to combat the vast range of vectors of diseases. With the slow development of civilization, so man has gradually realized the extent to which pests harm his crops, annoy him and transmit diseases to both human and

domestic animals.

The use of chemical to kill pests is not a new concept. As early as the late 16th century arsenic could be used to kill insects and the Chinese used arsenic sulphide as an insecticide. The use of arsenical compounds has continued, and during the early part of the 20th century, large quantities of such compounds as lead arsenate were used to control insect pests. Another arsenical compound Paris green (Copper Aceto-arsenite) was extensively applied to pool the standing water in the tropics, in attempts to control malaria-transmitting mosquitoes. It was not realized at the time how persistent arsenical pesticides were, although it is now known that they can persist in soil for 40 years, and many orchard

## Effect of pesticides on embryonic development

Some of the pesticides used today in the modern farming, are very poisonous. Even if used in low concentrations of pesticides, but their accumulation can reach a level where health is affected. The fetus also can not escape pesticides, a team of American and Canadian Scientists found pesticides and industrial chemicals in the amniotic fluid of fetus. Some pesticides have the potential to cause birth defects if the exposure to a fetus occurs at a critical time in pregnancy. In the recent studies we have carried out a study to test the effect of insecticide called as Dimethoate (commercially marketed in the brand name of Perfekthion) on the embryo development during the early stages of organogenesis using chick embryo as a model in our experiments. This insecticide is classified by the WHO in the class II (organophosphate), and it is used dramatically in the growing of Qat and during the cultivation of fruits and vegetables. So lots of people including pregnant women are getting exposed to Dimethoate through Qat. Results indicated that Dimethoate has potential to induce serious abnormalities during the

embryo organogenesis as follow:

1-Affecting the brain shape and size (undefined brain and microcephaly).

2-Opening and wavy shaped neural tube.

3- Diffusing of the somites and 4-Heart miss-position or sometimes missing of the heart.

Abnormalities such as those mentioned above are serious since these are the beginners of the organs. For e.g. somites will contribute to the development of the vertebrae and some parts of the skull. In addition the nephrotomal band (a part of the somites) will contribute to the transformation of the kidney. So any disturbance during this stage that somites might be affected, will alarm with gross abnormalities that may be induced such as missing some parts of the skull, neck scholiosis (carved neck), missing of the eye (exophthalmia) or some parts of the limbs (phocomelia). In the same study it is also proved that Dimethoate inhibits the acetylcholinesterase (the enzyme which is playing important role in transmitting nerve impulse) by 40% of its activity at normal situation. Deformities in brain

development suggest the defective cell proliferation. Inhibition of acetylcholine esterase (AChE) suggests disruption of nerve function during the embryo development. Inhibition of AChE might be due to the linkage of Dimethoate with Cholinesterase active group. This inhibition suggests a possible damage to the Central Nervous System (CNS) by Dimethoate during the embryo development. As has been reported the accumulation of acetyl choline in the heart and brain induce the bradycardia and heart arrest. This may explain the sudden death of some youth while chewing the Qat sprayed with insecticides (such as Dimethoate), while they were enjoying a healthy life before. In the sight of the present researches, the concern governmental institutions should implement laws to control entrance of pesticides to the country and spreading of the awareness should be made amongst farmers and consumers in general. The agriculture products specially fruits and vegetables should be monitored for examination the level of pesticides the people are getting exposed to.



Chemical pesticides is still the mainstay in modern agriculture and public health programmers.

soils still contain large amount of these chemicals. For instance, in a recent survey of arsenic residues in arable soils in Canada, residues of arsenic ranging from 11-121 PPM were reported. Although it was known that organochlorine were very persistent, up till the early 1950s there was little anxiety as to possible long-term ecological hazards caused by their use. There was some evidence that large residues in soil could be phytotoxic, small quantities of some were reported from plant and animal tissues and in cows' milk and

there were some instances of fish being killed when water was sprayed in antimalaria and other pest campaigns, but unavoidable hazards and of little concern.

As pesticides pass in most cases directly or indirectly into the foodstuffs. For many pesticides legal limits (tolerance doses) are imposed regarding the residues that may be left in the food stuffs. By tolerance dose is meant the quantity of a substance that may be absorbed by one person from his daily diet in the course of a lifetime without coming

to any harm as far as can be judged from present scientific knowledge. The level at which a pesticide dose not make damage to the biological system is expressed as milligrams per kilogram of body weight. In ordinary circumstances, one hundredth part of this dose is then prescribed as the safe limit for human being.

Dr. Mohammed Alhifi holds a Ph.D. in Environmental Toxicology. He is a lecturer at Dept. of Biology, Faculty of Education in Arhab, University of Sana'a.

# From depression to freedom

Clinical depression affects roughly one in four people at some point in their lives. It is a severe and prolonged state of mind in which normal sadness grows into a painful state of hopelessness, listlessness, lack of motivation, and fatigue. But, however well defined, clinical depression is many things to many people, varying from mild to severe. Mild depression can result in brooding on negative aspects of self or others, feeling resentful, irritable or angry much of the time, feeling sorry for oneself, and needing constant reassurance from someone. It can also result in various physical complaints that do not seem to be caused by any physical illness.

As depression worsens, feelings of extreme sadness and hopelessness combine with low self-esteem, guilt, memory loss, and concentration difficulties to bring about a severely painful state of mind. To make things worse, there may be a change in basic bodily functions. The usual daily rhythms seem to go wrong: can't sleep, or sleep too much, can't eat, or eat too much. Enthusiasm for what are usually enjoyable activities fades. Sometimes, there is even a feeling that life is not worth living and that one would be better off dead.

The most commonly used treatment for major depression is antidepressant medication. It is relatively cheap, and it is easy for family practitioners, who treat the



By: J. M. G. Williams

majority of depressed people, to prescribe. However, when the episode has passed, and medication ceases, depression tends to return, and at least 50% of those who experienced an initial episode of depression find that depression comes back, despite appearing to have made a full recovery.

After a second or third episode, the risk of recurrence rises to 80-90%. Early onset depression (before 20 years of age) is particularly associated with a significantly higher risk of relapse and recurrence. For those who have been suicidal in the past, any depressed mood is likely to be accompanied by a return of suicidal thinking.

The problem with viewing antidepressants as the main method for preventing recurrence is that many people do not want to stay on medication for indefinite periods, and when the medication stops, the risk of becoming depressed again returns. Finding new ways of helping people stay well after depression demands an understanding of why depression keeps returning.

During a period of crisis in which someone becomes depressed and suicidal, an association is learned between the various symptoms (low mood, physical pain, suicidal tendencies, and so on). This means that when the negative mood returns, for any reason, it will tend to trigger all the other symptoms – a process called "cognitive reactivity".

The discovery that the link

between negative moods and negative thoughts remains ready to be reactivated even when people feel well is hugely important: it means that preventing future crises depends on learning how to keep mild upsets from spiraling out of control. Research has shown that combining the ancient practice of meditation with modern psychotherapies can accomplish this.

Based on Jon Kabat Zinn's Stress Reduction program at the University of Massachusetts Medical Center, Mindfulness-based Cognitive Therapy (MBCT) combines modern cognitive behavioral therapy with meditation practices to help people become more aware of the present moment, including getting in touch with moment-to-moment changes in the mind and body (see [www.mbct.co.uk](http://www.mbct.co.uk)).

In weekly classes (the atmosphere is that of a class, rather than a therapy group), and by listening to CD's or tapes at home during the week, participants learn the practice of mindfulness meditation. The classes also include basic education about our moods, and several exercises from cognitive therapy that show the links between thinking and feeling and how participants can best look after themselves when a crisis threatens to overwhelm them.

The MBCT approach helps participants in the classes to see more clearly the patterns of the mind and to learn how to recognize when their mood is starting to sink. It helps break the normal link between negative mood and negative thinking. Participants develop the capacity to allow distressing moods, thoughts, and sensations to come and

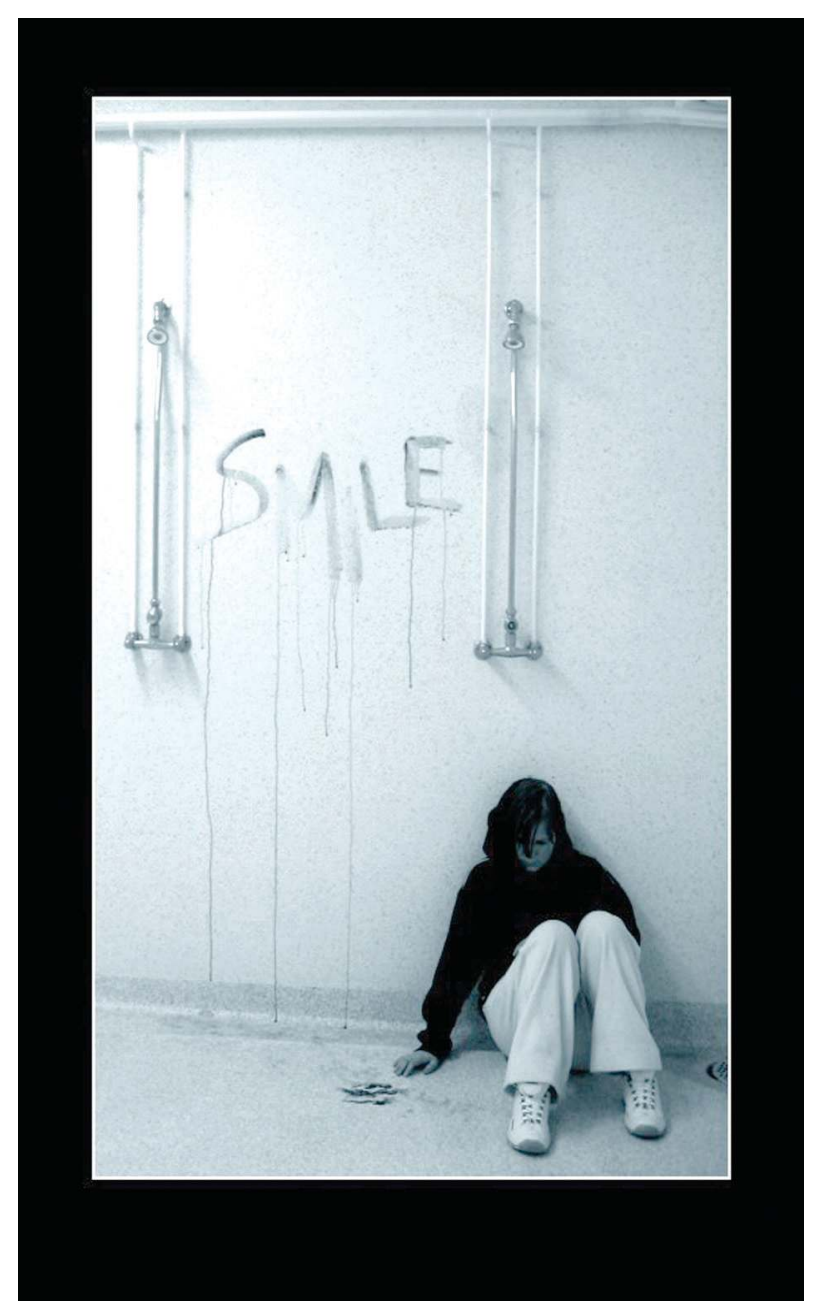
go, without having to battle with them.

They find that they can stay in touch with the present moment without having to ruminate about the past or worry about the future. Thus, they come to see with greater clarity and conviction how to approach moment-by-moment experience skillfully, taking more pleasure in the good things that often go unnoticed or unappreciated while dealing more effectively with the difficulties encountered, whether real or imagined.

Two controlled clinical trials have demonstrated that MBCT can reduce the likelihood of relapse by about 40-50% in people who have suffered three or more previous episodes of depression. As a result of such findings, MBCT has now been included in the British government's national guidelines for treating recurrent major depression.

But this implies a redefinition of treatment itself. As our understanding of depression grows and we see that it is a recurring problem, the emphasis is shifting from cure to prevention. Mindfulness-based approaches have already proven that they will play an enormously important role in this.

J. M. G. Williams is Professor of Clinical Psychology and Wellcome Principal Research Fellow at the University of Oxford. His books include *Cry of Pain: Understanding Suicide and Self Harm* and (with Zindel Segal and John Teasdale) *Mindfulness-based Cognitive Therapy for Depression: a new approach to preventing relapse*. Copyright: Project Syndicate, 2006.



Sadness grows into a painful state of hopelessness, listlessness.

# Vacancies

A trading company requires applicants to fill the following posts:

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Duration: 20 months  
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Part of this job beside driving is to run for errands as requested. Will have to drive outside Sana'a (especially to Marib)
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Working knowledge of MS Office (Word, Excel, Access, Power Point, Outlook). Organize documents, answering phone calls and sending faxes.
  - 3) **Electrical Engineer**  
Duration: 18 months  
Fluency in English written and spoken is essential  
Must hold a degree in Engineering from a local or foreign university. Courses abroad is appreciated. Able to analyze electrical scheme and drawings
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Fluency in English written and spoken is essential  
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Email: smart\_ye@yahoo.ca

# JOB VACANCY

A beverage company, being a regional leader in the Beverage industry, has recently opened a new office in Sanaa and is interested in hiring the following positions for the newly established office:

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Successful candidate would receive a competitive package & would work in a dynamic atmosphere with the opportunity for development as the company has expansion plans for the market in the coming 3 years.

Interested applicants can fax a copy of their CV to:  
01 625 660 Attn: 'Job Vacancy - # 1/06 or # 2/06'

**Note: Only short listed candidates would be contacted**

## Europe Aid/Fisheries MCS/YE/2006/1/W



The Yemen MCS Fisheries Project intends to award a works contract for an extension to the existing Ministry of Fish Wealth building in the south Al-Safiah District of Sana'a Republic of Yemen with Financial assistance from the Asia & Latin America (ALA) programmer of the European Communities The tender dossier is available for inspection at:

Yemen Fisheries MCS project, Ministry of Fish Wealth.  
Djibouti Street, Sana'a  
Po.Box 12145, Republic of Yemen.  
Tel :- (01) 444156 Fax :- (01) 444157 PLT Mobile:- 711453300, PIU Director Mobile:- 733200207, Email: [degmfwe@v.net.ye](mailto:degmfwe@v.net.ye) The deadline for submission of tenders is before close business 10 May 2006.

Correction of the "Qualification Requirement" in UNDP Vacancy Announcement which was published in Yemen Times on 20th April 2006:



Position: "National Project Coordinator"  
Project: "Clean Development Mechanism Project".

Kindly read the qualifications requirement for the above position as follows:

**Qualifications:**

- Possession of a Master Degree in Environmental Science/Social Science or equivalent and working experience in environmental programmes/projects with at least five to seven years overall experience.
- Good experience in government administrative structure.

**Languages:**

- Good command of Arabic and English languages

**Skills:**

- Computer skills.
- Good communication skills.
- Excellent writing skills.
- Excellent ability to foster involvement of relevant stakeholders.

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, P.O.Box 551 Sana'a/Fax: 448841/E-mail: [registry.ye@undp.org](mailto:registry.ye@undp.org)  
The deadline for receiving applications is Wednesday, 10 May 2006

UNDP is an equal opportunity organization and qualified female candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.

## Yemeni Nationals Exciting Career Opportunities in Oil and Gas Operations

Our Clients, International Oil and Gas Operators, are seeking to expand their Operations in Yemen. For their existing production and to operate new fields coming on stream in the near future, they are seeking the following personnel for full time staff employment.

### QHSE SUPERVISOR

The QHSE advisor reports to the Site Supervisor and is directly responsible for directing the site QHSE officer implementing the QHSE policies for all field and CPI operations while striving for continual improvement. The QHSE advisor provides the required technical support and training to field personnel to achieve QHSE policies and procedures, participates in HAZOPS for new projects. He is responsible for all QHSE field reporting requirements for any non-compliance, accidents and incidents. Candidates must demonstrate a minimum 10 years experience in onshore Oil and Gas production operations and in an high H2S environment

### SENIOR FIELD / PLANT OPERATORS

Reporting to the field Site Supervisor, with regular liaison with the Artificial Lift supervisor and drilling / work-over supervisors, **Field and Plant Operators** are responsible for the day-to-day activity associated with the operations and maintenance of all producing, water disposal and water or gas injection wells. This includes the production of both high and low GOR producing oil wells and both water and gas injection wells. **Field Operator duties** include the monitoring of the conditions of roads, pipelines and right of ways and right-of-ways, the operation and maintenance of well site equipment and monitoring of well performance.

**Plant Operators** will operate and trouble shoot all field equipment, including LV generators, DCS systems, static and rotating pumps and compressors, flare systems and safety equipment, Permit to Work procedures.

Candidates will have a technical diploma in their discipline, plus a minimum of 5 years experience in onshore oil producing and gas injection wells, at least three years in a supervisory role.

### JUNIOR FIELD / PLANT OPERATORS

The **Junior Operators** will report to and assist as directed by the senior operators. Work will include performance of equipment checks, daily laboratory tests of produced fluids, assistance with production reports preparation and well monitoring. They will possess a technical diploma or equivalent plus minimum three years experience in an onshore oil / gas production environment

### ASSISTANT JUNIOR PLANT OPERATORS

Technically competent, with high school diploma or equivalent, and minimum one-year technical experience of mechanical or electrical equipment

### MAINTENANCE SUPERVISOR

Reporting to the Field Site Supervisor, responsibilities include the maintenance management functions for the field. These include the development and implementation of preventive maintenance (PM) schedules, maintaining equipment history and liaising with the CPF Site Supervisor for PM implementation, improvements and modifications.

### MAINTENANCE TECHNICIANS (Electrical / Instrument and mechanical)

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### MATERIALS SUPERVISOR / WAREHOUSEMAN

The **Materials Supervisor/Coordinator** is directly responsible for the monitoring, tracking, inventory and safe keeping of the drilling and production materials maintained in the warehouse. Excellent organizational skills, MS Office suite proficiency, and high school diploma or equivalent. Knowledge of oil and gas equipment terminology, inventory control and purchasing cycle procedures essential.

The **Materials Warehouseman** is directly responsible for assisting the Material Supervisor as required with the monitoring and tracking of inventory being stored in the warehouse with his prime duty being insure materials are stored correctly and in their proper locations. Safe keeping of the drilling and production materials maintained in the warehouse. Duties include P.O. Issuance, expediting and materials tracking using Company MAISY system

Minimum 3 years experience in similar materials environment critical.

All positions will require in depth knowledge of and adherence to the Company's Health Safety and Environmental procedures. Candidates will possess a valid driving license, (at least 5 years) be physically fit and competent in written and spoken English. Senior positions will require good computer skills including Microsoft packages and internet / email usage.

All positions are based at the onshore Central Production Facility (CPF) where a 24 hours 7-day operation is in progress. Work rotations are 35 days on site 12 hour shifts, followed by 35 days paid leave. Full camp accommodation and messing is provided. Occasional after hours work for emergency breakdown maintenance or repair may be necessary.

All positions offer excellent career prospects, including training and promotion opportunities.

Competitive salaries, including paid leave, will be offered to selected candidates



Full job description can be viewed on [www.Oilexec.com](http://www.Oilexec.com) where applicants can apply online or send CV's (résumés) to [Yemen@oilexec.com](mailto:Yemen@oilexec.com) where applicants can request further information. C.V.'s can also be faxed to + 9712 6444 329.

**Interviews will be scheduled in Sana'a in May.**

أحمد التتاعي والتبركات نرفعا  
للأستاذ  
ياسر الادريسي  
بمناسبة الزفاف الطيبون  
المهنتون /  
عمك / محمد الحمادي - وائل الحمادي - رشيد السقاف  
م / ياسين الاضيحي - حسين الادريسي -  
وجميع الاهل والاصدقاء - كافة موظفين كمبيوتر في  
وكل المحبين

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ  
وَالصَّلَاةِ وَالزَّكَاةِ وَالصَّوْمِ وَالْحَجِّ أَتَمَّ اللَّهُ عَلَيْكَ مَا تَبَوَّأْتُمُ الدِّينَ وَالْأَهْلِيَّةَ وَالْأَرْحَامَ  
اللَّهُمَّ صَلِّ عَلَى مُحَمَّدٍ وَعَلَى آلِ مُحَمَّدٍ وَبَارِكْ وَسَلِّمْ

ببالغ الحزن والأسى تلقينا نبأ وفاة الصحفي  
والإعلامي البارز

**الأخ/ معروف سعيد حداد**

وبهذا الخطب الأليم لا يسعنا إلا أن نرفع تعازينا

الخالصة ومواساتنا الصادقة إلى

جميع أفراد الأسرة الكريمة وكافة آل (حداد)

سائلين المولى عز وجل أن يتغمد الفقيد بواسع رحمته

وعظيم غفرانه ويلهم أهله وذويه الصبر والسلوان...

«إنا لله وإنا إليه راجعون»

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الأستاذ/ خير الدين النسور - نائب رئيس مجلس الإدارة

الدكتور/ همدان زيد مطيع دماج - مدير التحرير

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The American Embassy and AMIDEAST are pleased to announce that applications are now being accepted for master's degree studies in the United States under the J. William Fulbright Scholarship Program. Applications are for Fulbright grants beginning August/September 2007. Fulbright grants provide funding for two years of master's degree study in the U.S. in all fields of study except medicine, dentistry, pharmacy and engineering.

### Qualified applicants must have:

- A Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science (four or five-year degree) from an accredited institution awarded at least one year prior to application;
- Demonstrated ability to undertake advanced studies with "Very Good" or higher grade point average (Yemeni educational scale);
- One-year work experience (volunteer or paid); and
- English language skills.

Applicants must also be Yemeni citizens currently residing and working in Yemen.

Excellent applicants holding bachelor's degrees in any field of study are welcome to apply. Learn more about studying in the U.S. by visiting AMIDEAST offices.

To obtain application forms and to receive further details, please visit or contact AMIDEAST at:  
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AMIDEAST Aden: 162 Miswat St., P.O. Box 6009, Khormaksar, Aden. Tel/Fax: 02-232-345, 02-235069. GSM: 711421313. E-mail: [aden@amideast.org](mailto:aden@amideast.org)

### Complete application submissions must include:

1. The Fulbright application, available at AMIDEAST;
2. Contact information, including phone number(s) and location;
3. An International or ITP TOEFL® score of 550 (scores may not be older than 2 years from date of application);
4. Certified copies in English of all undergraduate transcripts and undergraduate diplomas; and
5. Three letters of recommendation in English from individuals familiar with the applicant's achievements.

NOTE: Applicants who do not have a valid Paper-Based International TOEFL® score should contact AMIDEAST immediately to arrange for the ITP TOEFL® examination.

COMPLETED APPLICATION PACKETS MUST BE RECEIVED AT AMIDEAST OFFICES IN SANA'A OR ADEN NO LATER THAN JUNE 14, 2006.

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An immediate vacancy exists at the IFC Office in Sana'a for a **Finance Analyst**.

### The applicant is expected to meet the following requirements:

- A degree in Accounting, Finance, Business, Economics. Recognized professional accreditation (CPA, CIMA, ACCA) will be an added advantage.
- At least 3 years of experience in corporate setting with a distinct advantage of experience in donor-funded operations and knowledge of the World Bank procedures.
- Sound knowledge and understanding of accounting theory, concepts and principles, financial accounting reporting, budgeting, cost allocation.
- Proven practical skills in General Ledger, Accounts Payable/Accounts Receivable, account reconciliation, budgeting, analysis of financial data, preparation of financial reports.
- Advances skills in Excel and Access, working knowledge of Microsoft Office, Internet, Lotus Notes applications. Knowledge of SAP System will be an advantage.
- Strong English language skills preferably with an ability to prepare, present and discuss findings in a written or oral form. Strong analytical and research skills are desired.
- A good team player able to work in a multi-cultural environment.
- Ability to prioritize tasks, manage time efficiently and flexibility to absorb ad hoc tasks and work under pressure.

### The incumbent will perform the following duties:

- Undertake control, planning, analysis, management and reporting processes for IFC funds including preparing and regular monitoring of Program budgets, ensuring funds use in compliance with WB/IFC policies and procedures and prepare required financial reports.
- Process variety of accounting transactions using SAP system; perform Cashier duties and maintain petty cash journal; perform accounts reconciliation; monitor Trust Funds.
- Monitor staff time recording and leave and attendance using appropriate systems.
- Maintain asset inventory and conduct regular physical checks of assets to update records and identify inconsistencies.
- Keep financial files according to donors' requirements, maintain internal databases, provide guidance on WB/IFC policies to internal and external clients, provide training to junior staff.

For full consideration, please submit your letter of application accompanied by the CV attention: Office Administrator before May 20 via e-mail: [WBYemen@worldbank.org](mailto:WBYemen@worldbank.org)

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

# Sana'a Forum for Young Poets, shows masterpieces, honors Kamal Abu Deeb

By: Yemen Times Staff

About four hundred poets from around the Arab World attended the Second Forum for Arab Young Poets which was held on April 22-26 at the Cultural Center in Sana'a.

The event was inaugurated by Minister of Culture Khaled Al-Rowaishan by the opening of a Yemeni plastic arts exhibition and some of the Ministry's publications.

Later, the speech festival began with Al-Rowaishan calling this second round of Young Poets Forum as "Mohammed Al-Maghoot Round." Al-Maghoot is a renowned Arab writer from Syria who died last month.

The speech of the preparatory committee was delivered by Yemeni poet and writer Abdul-Karim Al-Razihi. He said the participants are establishing in Sana'a a "democratic republic" for poetry.

Egyptian poet Karim Abdul-Salam delivered a speech on behalf of the participants, pointing out the significance of this event which somehow makes up for "Arab political and cultural failures."

The inauguration ceremony saw Arab musical pieces performed by Yemeni singers.

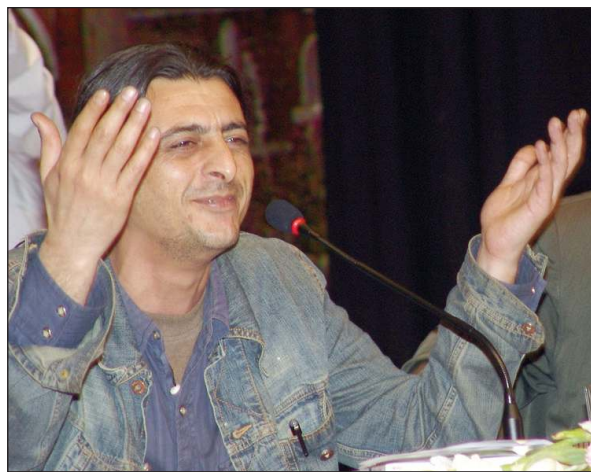
The ceremony was attended by cultural and intellectual notables such as Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Maqaleh, Kamal Abu Deeb and other Arab guests.

Throughout the week, some ten poetic recitals took place with many poets delivering the best of their creation. Criticism also found a place among the poetry-dominated function. A number of critical sessions were presented by Yemeni and Arab critics such as Dr. Salah Fadhl, Egyptian, Dr. Hatim Al-Sakr, Iraqi, Dr. Mohammed Abdul-Muttalib, Egyptian and Dr. Salman Kasid, Iraqi.

The Arab poets also took a tour of some attractions in Yemen such as Al-Mahweet province. They expressed their admiration of the country and the people. On the eve of Wednesday, a closing ceremony was held at the Cultural Center at which the participants were awarded. Their speech underscored the importance of organizing such activities and encouraging the Arab talents so as to achieve awakening in all aspects of life.

The conclusive statement of the Forum called for adoption of effective literary criticism and freedom of expression and thought. They also advocated the coexistence of generations and literary genres without discrimination as well as the essence of creation irrespective of narrow categorization.

The statement also suggested the following: regular annual holding of the Forum; setting up criteria that live up to



Young Arab poets recited the best of their works, treating a variety of different subjects.

the ambitions and objectives of the Forum; compiling the contributions of the participant poets and critics in one book; varying the activities of the Forum every year; organizing work sessions for poets and critics to enliven the Forum and hosting a website for the Forum.

### Kamal Abu Deeb honored

As part of the activities of the Sana'a Forum for Young Poets, famous Arab critic and poet Kamal Abu Deeb was honored. The honoring began with a critical session on the works of Abu Deeb. Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Maqaleh (from Yemen), Dr. Salah Fadhl (from Egypt) and Dr. Hatim Al-Sakr (from Iraq) took part in the session which was coordinated by Dr. Ibrahim Al-Jaradi.

Dr. Al-Maqaleh presented a critical paper on the celebrated intellectual titled "Laud of Friendship." He pointed out that Abu Deeb should be recognized justly for the radical shift he caused in the structure of the modern Arab criticism.

"He is among few Arabs who lived in

the West and realized without doubt the dimension of its imperial project aiming at controlling the World culturally and politically," he added.

He continued that Abu Deeb once had a friend with similar attitudes to intellect, art and people. That was the late thinker Edward Said. "They resembled each other and cooperated to correct the misrepresented image of Arabs in the West. They understood how dangerous it is to melt oneself in the otherness and get astounded at technical achievements. They also realized the importance of modernism as an inevitable necessity in life, literature and arts and for countering the conventional constant styles in literary creation and criticism." He said that both men gave the West more than what they gained from it.

The friendship between Al-Maqaleh and Abu Deeb was formed, according to the former, through a series of surprises. The first one was Abu Deeb's "The Rhythmic Structure of Arab Poetry," which was published while Dr. Al-Maqaleh was a PhD student at Ain Shams

University, Egypt. The second one predated the first. It was through Abu Deeb's majestic rendition of Edward Said's "Orientalism". "I had not known that translation should be as charming and fascinating," Al-Maqaleh noted.

The third surprise was when Al-Maqaleh met Abu Deeb in person for the first time when the latter came to Sana'a as a visiting professor to the Arabic Language Department at the Faculty of Arts. "I was astonished at his humility, beauty of soul, purity, and diligence," described Al-Maqaleh.

The fourth surprise that further enhanced the bond between Al-Maqaleh and Abu Deeb was the latter's "Convincing Views Toward a Structural Approach to Pre-Islamic Poetry." According to Al-Maqaleh, that book increased "our contact with our old poetic tradition."

Then, Dr. Salah Fadhl spoke about the critical experience of Kamal Abu Deeb. He gave an account of situations where he met Abu Deeb who is a "critical lifetime companion and an energy that emanated in the 1970s of the last

## The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam 27

Translated by Edward FitzGerald

Then to the rolling Heav'n  
itself I cried,  
Asking, "What lamp had  
destiny to guide  
"Her little children  
stumbling in the dark?"  
And - "A blind understanding!"  
Heav'n replied.

century."

He added, "His project grew in the womb of poetry. He was in the first place a poet. He was distinguished among the structural critics by this warm, fertile, creative growth."

He enumerated characteristics of the critical language of Abu Deeb such as simplicity, freshness, and accuracy. All that enabled him to "jump over the approach barricades and mix the achievements of generative structural criticism with the linguistic structural criticism."

Then he concluded his presentation with three points summarizing the most remarkable achievements of Abu Deeb which are: the theoretical establishment of Arab poetics; re-reading of Arab poetry in totality; and presenting a brand new criticism construction.

Then Dr. Hatim Al-Sakr took his turn in describing the experience of Abu Deeb whose critical works are

"infectious." He then listed some of the characteristic features of Abu Deeb as a critic starting from the 1970s of the last century up to the present day.

At the end, Minister of Culture Khalid Al-Rewishan stepped onto the stage and delivered a speech saying that we should recognize our intellectuals who contribute much to our life. "They are the towering trees who taught us how to speak," he said.

Then a host of young poets along with the Minister and the guests of honor presented a memorial, certificate of recognition and an honorary plaque to Dr. Kamal Abu Deeb who, on his part, dedicated his honors to three Yemeni figures: Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Maqaleh, Khalid Al-Rewishan and novelist Zaid Mutee' Dammag. "I also dedicate it to Yemen, Sana'a and the Qat of Sana'a", he added describing that it was in Yemen where he knew "how to listen, think and become a human being".



Dr. Kamal Abu Deeb delivering his speech.



(From left to right) Dr. Salah Fadhl, Dr. Kamal Abu Deeb, Dr. Hatim Al-Sakr and Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Maqaleh

# A new Yemeni film in a Paris movie festival

By: Yemen Times Staff

The film of Yemeni director Hamid Al-Oqabi is currently taking part in a three-day festival in Paris, France.

"Al-Ritaj Al-Mabhoor" is a film based on a poem, having the same title, by Kuwaiti poet Abdulaziz Su'ood Al-Babutain. The dramatic and cinematic treatment of the film has got critical praise.

Al-Oqabi wrote the scenario of the 35-minute film. It was shot in different areas in Yemen including the historical city of Zabid, Old City of Sana'a, and Dar Al-Hajar.

The technical crew of the film was French. The film starred Sa'di Yonus, Iraqi, Linda Al-Khalidi, a French oriental dancer, and three kids: Abdul-Rahman Al-Oqabi, Tayseer Al-Zabidi and Kadhim Al-Oqabi.

Director Hamid Al-Oqabi says that he tried first to shoot the film in Kuwait, Jordan, and Algeria. Those attempts were foiled due to security concerns and prolonged procedures. Then he decided to come to Yemen.

He narrated his experience with the poem: "I



Hamid Al-Oqabi.

lived in the poem and tried to make it into a short story. Then I reread it and attempted to further dive in it and fly in its atmospheres."

He put no restrictions on his imagination and eventually arrived at a dramatic treatment. Then came the writing of the scenario which was later referred to the poet himself for remarks. The director then incorporated the poet's observations and rewrote the scenario. "I still read the poem today even after writing the scenario," he said.

This is his third poem-based film. His first one titled "An Attempt to Write with a Poet's Blood," was based on a poem by Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Maqaleh titled "An Attempt to Write with Al-Khawarij's Blood."

The second film was based on

a poem by Sa'di Yusuf titled "The Hymn of Life."

His future enterprise is expected to be another film based on Baisan Abu Khaled's "Elegies of Insanity."

Hamid Al-Oqabi was born in the province of Hodeidah, Yemen, in 1972. He is now doing a PhD in France related to aesthetic and theoretical contribution to cinema.

# May Nasr sings at Culture House



May Nasr singing at the concert.

By: Yemen Times Staff

Lebanese singer May Nasr sang a number of songs on the eve of Tuesday April 26 at the Sana'a-based Culture House. The concert was organized by the Orient Cultural Organization which is directed by Dr. Abdul-Wahab Al-Maqaleh. The concert was attended by a large audience including Sana'a Mayor Dr. Yahya Al-Sha'eebi.

Mai sang a group of songs originally performed by Lebanese celebrity Fayrouz. She also sang Egyptian songs that drew applause from the audience. Her dedicated performance compelled wonder.

As she described herself, May was introduced to her mentor and spiritual father Mr. Fareed Abul Khair in 1997 who patronized her in terms of music direction and also introduced her to his closest friend Mr. Zaki Nassif. She took voice training and classes and continued since 2004 to take voice training with Mrs. Badia Haddad, former voice trainer of Fayrouz.

May Nasr made solo performances and took part in group events as well as Radio and TV appearances.

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Be Our Participant in Our Advance

The Youth Forum section is an uncensored space for youth-related issues written by Yemen Times readers.

# From the outside, looking in...

By: Amenah bint Natara  
amenahbintnatara@hotmail.com

In the past few years my interest in Yemeni society has gone from a fascinating interest to an intense fascination and a move to action. You will ask what action would you take and in what direction? And directed to whom?

Well, for that I have to give you some background. Presently I live in NY where I am surrounded by Yemeni, in their Deli's (24 hour grocery stores), in the Masjid and in my place of work - one of the biggest NYC Public Hospitals and besides the oldest one in America. Yemen has from the beginning been a place of mystery yet of almost "home calling" to my soul. And for years I have endeavored to read on different aspects of the society. Its food, its music, its poetry and its ways; all of these are so similar to my own maternal culture.

As I have gotten to know Yemenis through conversations, their questions and their answers to my questions, the books I read, the music I hear and the events I see unfold within the country; my fascination has, to say the least, intensified. When things happen there, I feel as though my adopted "homeland" is calling and tugging at my heart strings. And recently I have made conscious efforts to help Yemen in any way that I can, be it through my own line of work in Healthcare or through Academic circles with my professors and fellow students and even at the Masjid where I put all of my life experiences to work to bring about information that is of use to all Yemeni here and back home. And I volunteer where I can, putting as much into the effort as I can...a way of bringing my little bit of excellence to what Yemen means.

Recently the flurry of activity is increasing in Yemen; elections, social and economic changes and hopes these bring about, as well as opinions on a variety of subjects that brings out that inquiring mind in Yemen. Not all is rosy however, and I need not bring this to the table; you are more aware than I what goes on within Yemen...I happen to see from the outside for now.

Where I want to lend my voice and my opinion is in education relating to women's issues. Why not, I happen to be a woman...but like most things in life one has to sometimes go around the block a few times before one can go straight in through the front door. So I start here, where this voice of Yemen starts -the Yemen Times.

A woman's role as I see it is varied and is now in this new millennium changing rapidly because of the advances in technology, the expectations of societies world-wide on us and closer to home the

expectations and needs of our children and husbands. And it is because of these needs and expectations that I feel Yemeni women need to jump-start their lives to propel them further into the cutting edge, shall we say, of society. We need to be informed for our children's sake. We should be, and usually are, the front line answerers to our kids questions in life...we have them most of the time...their attention is riveted on us and ours on them...so it behooves us to be informed in many ways to better bring up our children for their own future...

Imagine; in the last twenty years we have had an explosion of usage in television, VCRs, DVDs, mobile phones, internet and the latest SMS, iPods and satellite radios...only God knows what else will come along the next twenty years...Wouldn't our children be better served if we knew not only how to use these devices but understand -more importantly, how these things impact our lives for better and for worse?

For better...we can communicate rapidly; with ease and with much more assurance...if for example, our spouse, son or daughter, are away from the house, work or school we will always find them on their mobiles...no longer do we have to wait with a tinge of anxiety until they return. We can see the latest news from around the world; bringing us closer to fellow Muslims or to other on this planet and we can see how they live, interact and share their ideas on life. We can form our own opinions and understanding of this vast yet ever shrinking world we live in...we will know what our children see, and we may feel what they feel when they see those images transmitted from high above our heads.

For worse...we all too quickly get things thrown in our faces; sometimes faster than we can assimilate and digest properly. No sooner are we getting comfortable with an idea, when a new one smacks us on TV, in the newspapers or in that call that comes in the middle of the night from a far off land...we have so many family now spread across the world that its unavoidable. And we may not always take to new things well, or indeed, not at all. We may reject off hand something new because we may not understand where it is coming from and why is it arriving so quickly or for that matter, what to do with the thing in the first place.

So with this in mind we need to remember that education for women is necessary, as they are the teachers of our children from before birth; it is a known fact that babies know their mother's voices way before they are actually born; that they feel what their mothers feel from the very womb. It is imperative knowing this, to educate women to have healthy bodies for

healthy babies; making a conscious choice to seek healthcare help for themselves and for their children's sake. And once they have delivered their children that they, as mothers, continue to understand that every word, every action or non-action on their part affects their children.

How so? Well imagine you have a daughter and as she grows you don't guard your mouth in front of her and she hears things that she at her tender age can't possibly understand but will imitate her mother and the adults around her (that is how children learn -through imitation). She will repeat in almost everyway what her mother did or said- whether she understands it or not when she is of similar age. Now imagine this young girl getting ready for marriage; not knowing what she is doing or why- it spells disaster for the future husband and the family she marries into because they are unaware of who she really is...blind imitation does not make a person whole; understanding why and what you do does.

Let's take the example in the other direction...the woman has a boy and he

grows up hearing what his mother says and does as maybe, opposed to what his father says and does...knowing that he is learning through imitation, the lack of explanation will create a void not easy to discern or remedy. So the boy grows up to be a man and he continues to imitate what he has learned at home and in the outside world, and when he marries he will probably insist that his wife and children say and do in exact imitation what he learned at his mother and father's side. There is nothing wrong in this; except where he does not actually know why he is doing or asking others to do these things.

What you see happening is a mountain created out of a mole hill. What started out as one woman getting married and having a child turns into a society that if it remains with out certain explanations and limitations can turn into a society with issues...And you will probably say, no way...you're exaggerating...but am I?

When was the last time you asked your self how could someone have said or done what they had just said and done? When was the last time you said something and

later on asked your self what ever possessed you to say or do that? When was the last time you demanded an apology from someone who did or said something you considered un-called for? And when was the last time you heard, watched on TV or read something that was said or done that made absolutely no sense to you?

It is because we have asked ourselves these questions that it becomes imperative for us to really take a look at our thoughts, our feelings and what we know to assess if we are where we need to be. There will be a ton of things we will never know, granted. But there are things that we should know that we have to seriously think about.

Those are the things that pertain to our goals in life; what we want for our children (be they girls or boys). What we want for our spouses; many women don't consider this when they enter a marriage -their aspirations for their husbands may not even be thought as either necessary or needed. Actually it is both; if your husband knows and understands what you would

like him to be in the future as a person, as a father, as the head of the family or the tribe and as your life-mate, he has a better chance of getting there and of seeing what others want for his happiness if he knows you support him not only as a husband but as a fellow human being. Not to mention, it serves as an example to your children of what constitutes a good working relationship between husband and wife and fellow family members.

Yemeni society is growing exponentially, making it hard to catch up along certain lines; however, this does not preclude us setting goals for ourselves and ensuring the future of our children and their children. Education is a must- in it is included the education that entails understanding of values, principles and ideas, as is careful analysis of the directions our lives can take. We will never know for sure where we will end up, Allah knows best, in the meantime, however, we need to make our steps solid and worthy of our heritage. There are a lot more Yemeni in this world and the world is watching from the outside in...

## CONSULTANT ASSIGNMENT ON MANAGEMENT TRAINING EVALUATION TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Credit Administration Unit-CAU (Client) within Ministry of Health and Population intends to hire an individual consultant who will be contracted to carry out the evaluation of the management training delivered by the Health Management Training Center (HMTc).

### OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the consulting assignment are: (i) to evaluate the training programs delivered, and (ii) based on the evaluation to prepare suggestions on improvement of them.

### SCOPE OF WORK

The consultant should

1. Evaluate of the physical and financial capacity and sustainability of the training programs to meet MOPHP strategic needs:

- Relevance and coherence of the training programs to the National Health Policies;
- Relevance of training programs to trainees needs;
- Capacity of the training programs in supporting life-long learning.

2. Evaluate the quality of training in term of input, process and output dimensions concerning:

- Training resources;
- Training competencies and skills;
- Training materials used;
- Training methodology;
- Quality of curriculum

3. Evaluate the impact of the training

- Improvement of the trainees' skills and knowledge;
- Improvement of trainee's performance;
- Improvement of trainees' behaviors and attitude;
- The impact of the external and internal (working) environment on the optimal use of the acquired knowledge and skills of the trainees to improve their performance;
- Changes in the health services performance (organizational and managerial change).

4. These tasks should be achieved through

- Visits to the HMTc to examine samples of the trainees' field reports, training materials and methods as well as trainees' evaluation;
- Meeting with MOPHP leadership;
- Field visits, development and examination of scientific sample groups at governorate and district levels to measure the impact of the training on improving trainees' performance, to meet their supervisors and colleagues, and

to study the internal and external environment that might affect their performance.

### EXPECTED OUTPUTS

1. Submission to CAU Director a draft written technical report on the results of the evaluation and recommendations. The report should be submitted in 3 months after the commencement of the assignment. A team of MOPHP staff will review and comment the report in 15 days. If the consultant did not receive any comment, he/she may consider the report accepted.
2. Submission to CAU Director the final technical report on the results of the evaluation and recommendations. This report should be submitted in 15 days after receiving the MOPHP Team's comments.
3. Submission to CAU Director a proposal on setting up a mechanism for ongoing monitoring of training effectiveness. This report should be submitted to the CAU Director with the technical report. The reports should be submitted in English language in 2 hard copies and 1 electronic file.

### REQUIRED QUALIFICATION AND EXPERIENCE OF THE CONSULTANT

- PhD or Master Degree in Public Health or Health Management;
- 5 year experience in training;
- Experience in training evaluation;
- Fluent in Arabic and English languages.

### OTHER REQUIREMENTS

The Consultant should provide (i) technical proposal containing the methodology, the work plan an organization, (ii) itemized financial bid, and (iii) his/her comments on this TOR.

The Consultant will be expected to hire and manage a competent team to carry out the data collection and evaluation. His/her bid should include the composition, tasks, cost and qualification of this team. The cost of the work of the team should be given as separated items in the above mentioned financial bid.

Deadline for application is 3rd of May 2006

## A world for women

By: Ensijam

Technology has made tremendous progress and impact in the world of communications. People living in the era of modernization have benefited from the many inventions that helped improve their lives. Taking this into account then, it is important for women to learn about technology. The question then becomes how can they be encouraged to be involved? Women as human beings have the same mental abilities as men even though around the world, men consider women as second class citizens. In Yemen a man doesn't believe in a woman's abilities to learn or get involved in governmental issues except for her role in the home. (Which is an interesting point, considering homes are run like mini governments with your leaders and your constituents, with your treasury and banking system, shopping-procurement systems and your operations system that includes healthcare, waste management, daycare, education and other familial institutions)

In western countries, a man uses her as a model for selling his goods and services; or uses her body as a tool to attract customers be these customers male or female. Yet in both cases men believe it is necessary to hide the enormous abilities that exist within women.

Religiously, women have the same exact rights and obligations to learn and in their responsibilities to Allah they share equally with men and will be held accountable in equal manner as men will.

Traditionally, it is important to note, people have believed that behind each great man there is a great woman. Great poems in Arabic literature speak of the importance of teaching women knowledge on a variety of subjects for those who seek their development and well being.

Because women are part of this world and half of the society, she has the right

to get involved in its technology. She has about seven roles in her family that she has to know and juggle well; as mother, wife, sister, aunt, grandma, daughter, and so on. That means if she had learned about modern inventions and its technology, she would be able to manage her life and effectively prove herself in a man's mind.

According to recent research in Yemen, 95% of women don't waste their time chewing Qat or smoking. They are healthier and time that enables them to keep on learning more than men. Women have stronger ambitions so they are willing to learn about technology not only for themselves, but for their family, and their society, instead of wasting their time in chewing Qat or smoking.

Technological breakthroughs have made changes in the physical world. What was once the limited domain of men has now opened up for women so they can participate in jobs previously considered too difficult encouraging women to get involved.

The governments and other institutions have to come up to speed with regards to a woman's involvement in the technological world. There are countries that are coming "of age"; sending women on missions to different countries or who donate scholarships within their country for female participation. This is important because it is the educational component in our society that produces doctors, teachers and scholars who will continue to effectively explain and improve a woman's role and her abilities as a productive member of society including the family. This productive role is what also ensures economic and social growth of our country.

A woman considers her search for learning and its implementation as worship to Allah which has the same value as giving birth to babies.

Ensijam is a graduate from Sana'a University.

Note: This advertisement is repeated to rectify an inadvertent mistake in its title (issue 941, 27 April) which read "Consultant Assignment Management Trading Evaluation" where it should be read as "Consultant Assignment Management Training Evaluation"



## Mr. Alistair John Mooney

President & General Manager

&

## Mr. Ali Sohaiki

Executive Director

The management team and all staff of  
**Canadian Nexen Petroleum Yemen**

and its Masila Block (14) Partners,

Present their heartiest congratulations to

## H.E. ALI ABDULLAH SALEH

*President of the Republic of Yemen*

and all laborers in Yemen on the occasion of the

" **International Labor Day - May 1<sup>st</sup>**"

wishing Yemen and its wise leadership more  
prosperity, progress and achievements.

The company also congratulates its outstanding  
employees who have been honored for this year 2006.

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والأستاذ / علي محمد السديقي

المدير التنفيذي

والإدارة العليا وموظفو شركة

كنيديان نكسن بنر وليج يمن

كافة وشركاؤها في قطاع المسيلة ( ١٤ )

بأحر التهناتي القلبية إلى فخامة الأخ /

علي عبد الله صالح  
حفظه الله

رئيس الجمهورية اليمنية

وإلى جميع أبناء الشعب اليمني وجميع عمال

اليمن بمناسبة

الأول من مايو - عيد العمال العالمي

متمنين للجمهورية اليمنية وقيادتها الحكيمة

المزيد من الإنجازات والتقدم والرخاء .

كما نتنهنز هذه الفرصة لتتقدم بخالص التهناتي

القلبية لموظفي الشركة المثاليين المكرمين

للعام الحالي ٢٠٠٦ بهذه المناسبة.

# May 1<sup>st</sup>

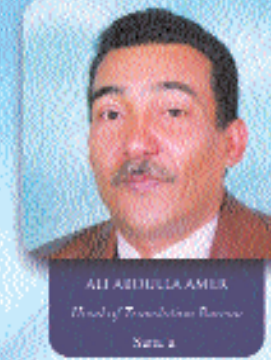
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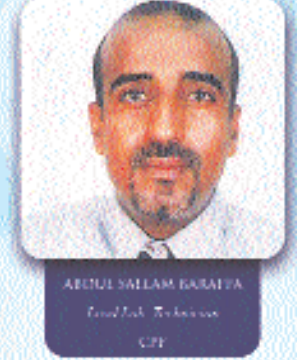
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Project Specialist  
Masila



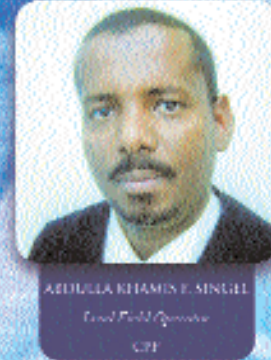
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Mass & Social Administrator  
Masila



ALI ABDULLA AMER  
Quality Transition Review  
Masila



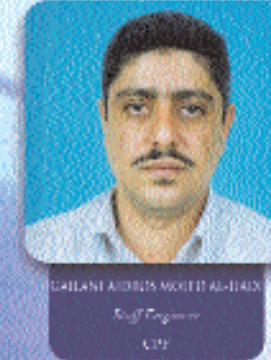
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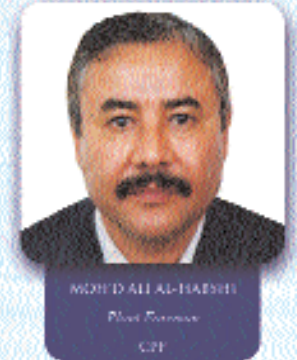
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Field Field Operator  
CPT



FOUAD SANTEI TADIY ARIAN  
Field Operator  
CPT



GALANI ABDUS WOLDI AL-HADI  
Shift Operator  
CPT



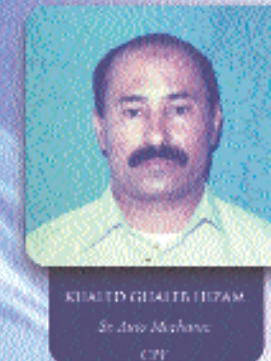
MOUT D ALI AL-HADI  
Plant Operator  
CPT



SALEM ABDULLA BADIA  
Plant Operator  
CPT



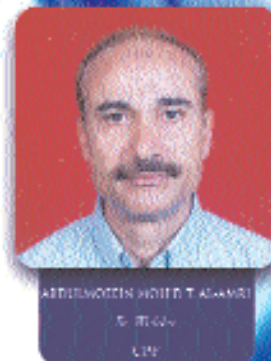
KHALID HIDIR AHMAD BASTIANI  
Sr. Shift Technician  
CPT



KHALID GHALEB HUZAM  
Sr. Shift Machine  
CPT



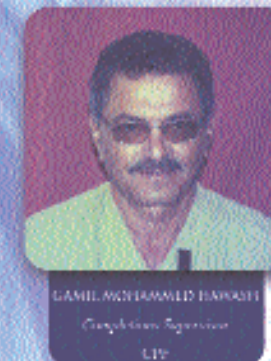
ALI KHAMIS MOUTI AL-HADI  
Lead Electrical Technician  
CPT



ABDULWOTIB WOTIB T. AL-HADI  
Sr. Tech  
CPT



OMAR MOHAMMED S. GHILANI  
Lead Mechanic  
CPT



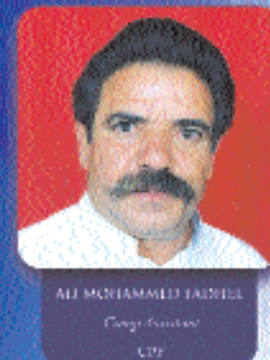
GAMEL ABDHAMED HAWSAH  
Completion Supervisor  
CPT



AKRAM ABDULLA MOUTI AL-HADI  
Access Supervisor  
CPT



AMTER AHMED ABDULMAGITE  
Sr. IT Supervisor  
CPT



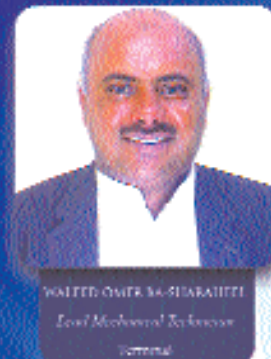
ALI MOHAMMED FADHIL  
Charge Operator  
CPT



ABEER KARIMHAN HAMDAN  
Oil Movement Operator  
CPT



SALEH AHMED ALI SA-TAJIDI  
Sr. Transportation Administrator  
CPT



WALID OMAR AL-SARAITI  
Lead Mechanical Technician  
CPT

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## Shabab Al-Qotton champs of volleyball tourney

By: Ismail Al-Ghabiri

Shabab Al-Qotton Team won the volleyball tourney championship following his win over its host Al-Saqr 3-2 sets in an exiting game Thursday's afternoon at Al-Saqr Club Hall in Taiz.

Shabab Al-Qotton won the title for the first time in its history when it qualified for the final after defeating Al-Shurtah team who failed to retain the title for the second time in a row.

The champions played Al-Saqr in a strong battle attended by thousands of fans. The guests triumphed the first and second sets 25-18 and 25-17 while Al-Saqr came back to win third and fourth sets 25-22 and 25-21. But via their experience the visiting teammates scored ultimate victory in the fifth set 16-14 to win the title for the first time.

Meanwhile, Al-Shurtah downed Helal Al-Sawbari at Al-Emad Hall in Sana'a 25-18, 25-17 and 25-13.

With its won over Al-Saqr, Shabab



Al-Qotton increased its points up to 34, occupying the first place while Al-Shurtah remained in the second place with 27 points and Helal Al-Sawbari ranked seventh in the tourney with 21 points.

Shu'alah booked the third place early with 30 points in the final competitions of the seventeenth round last week and meet Wahdat Aden on Friday.

Ahli Al-Hodeidah beat its guest Al-Mina from Aden 3-2 to occupy the fifth place with 27 points, with a

set-difference from Al-Saqr who has the same number of points while Al-Mina remained in the seventh place with 25 points.

In Abyan, Sayoun Team won 3-1 sets over its host Khanfar to rank sixth in the tourney with 26 points while the loser remained in the eighth place with 23 points.

Al-Shurtah led the away round after it defeated all the teams, but it lost two games in the home round, one to Shabab Al-Qotton and the other to Al-Mina.

## Chelsea Wins 2nd Straight League Title

By KRISTYNA RUDZKI

LONDON — Chelsea won its second straight Premier League title Saturday, and Birmingham City and West Brom were relegated from English soccer's top league.

Manchester United striker Wayne Rooney was carried from the field with a broken bone in his right foot that may jeopardize his World Cup chances.

With two games remaining, Chelsea clinched the title with a 3-0 home victory over second-place Manchester United with goals by William Gallas, Joe Cole and Ricardo Carvalho.

Birmingham City tied 0-0 with Newcastle, and West Brom didn't play. They were relegated to the League Championship, the level below the Premier League, because Portsmouth — the team ahead of them — defeated Wigan 2-1.

Sunderland was relegated several weeks ago.

Elsewhere, it was: Liverpool 3, Aston Villa 1; Fulham 2, Manchester City 1; Everton 1, Middlesbrough 0.

Rooney grimaced in pain and clutched his right foot after a collision with defender Paulo Ferreira 10 minutes from the end of United's loss



Chelsea players celebrate after the soccer match against Manchester United at Chelsea's Stamford Bridge ground in London Saturday April 29, 2006. Chelsea won the game 3-0 and also clinched the Premier League title for the second year running.

at Chelsea.

Manchester United later announced that Rooney had "a fracture of the base of the fourth metatarsal" that will idle him for six weeks. England begins the World Cup on June 10, exactly six weeks away, against Paraguay.

In breaking the domination of Man United and Arsenal, Chelsea parlayed the riches of billionaire Russian owner Roman Abramovich into trophies. However, the Blues won one fewer

trophy this year than last — and made few friends doing it.

"During the season I have thought a couple of times to close the door and say goodbye," manager Jose Mourinho said. "Not at that moment, but to do it at the end of the season."

Mourinho has developed a reputation as a good tactician and motivator, but many have soured on his defensive style of play and his inability to lose gracefully.

Awarded a winner's medal after the match, Mourinho threw it into the crowd, saying he'd won one last season. When he was given a

replacement, he also threw that to the crowd, explaining the fans had played a major part in Chelsea's 44-game unbeaten run at home.

Off the field, Alan Curbishley, one of four coaches mentioned to take over England's national team, resigned as manager at English Premier League team Charlton. The announcement was made just before Charlton's game against Blackburn.

Source: <http://www.chron.com>

## Sha'ab Ibb downs Al-Yarmouk 4-1 as postponed round resumes



Sha'ab Ibb team.

Opening the second round's competitions, which were postponed for disputes between teams, Sha'abi Ibb downed its host Al-Yarmouk team 4-1 in last Friday's meeting in Sana'a. The visiting team increased its points up to 19 advancing to the fourth place while Al-Yarmouk remained in its fifth place with 18 points.

Helal Al-Hodeida thrashed their guest 22 May from Sana'a 5-1 to stand third in the tournament with 22 points while the visiting team went back to the 11th place with 14 points.

In Mukalla city, titleholder Al-Telal scored 2-1 victory over its host

Sha'ab Hadramout to rank eighth in the tournament with 16 points while Sha'ab Hadramout remained in the tenth place with 16 points.

At Al-Shuhada Stadium in Taiz, Al-Rashid defeated its guest Ta'awen Ba'adan 3-1. Basem Sa'eed scored twice for Al-Rashid in minutes 1 and 17 of the first half and Ismail Abu Bakr Othman netted third in minute 43 of the second half. Sudanese professional player Omar Al-Sadeq scored the only goal for Ta'awen Ba'adan in minute 15 of the second half. Al-Rashid raised its points to 16 to rank ninth in the tournament while the loser retarded to the last place

with 11 points.

In Abyan, Hassan faced a 2-1 loss at home soil during its meeting with Shabab Al-Jeel. Striker Mohamed Al-Tahous scored the first goal for the visiting team in minute 11 of the first half while Wasim Al-Qa'ar answered for his side in minute 13 of the second half. Al-Tahous added the second goal for the visitors in minute 43 of the second half increasing his side's points to 11.

In Aden, Al-Shu'alah drubbed Tadamun Shabwah 4-1 to rank 12th in the tournament with 12 points while the latter remained in the sixth place with 18 points.

## Rooney is ruled out for six weeks

LONDON, England suffered a massive blow when it was confirmed on Saturday night that star striker Wayne Rooney had broken his right foot at Chelsea and would be out of action for six weeks.

Their opening World Cup fixture against Paraguay is exactly six weeks away, on June 10.

There was more disturbing news for coach Sven-Goran Eriksson when it was revealed that Newcastle striker Michael Owen would need another scan on his foot after making his comeback at Birmingham.

Rooney was carried off at Stamford Bridge during the 3-0 defeat to Chelsea after a challenge by Paulo Ferreira.

First reports at the ground suggested that the injury might not be a threat to his place at the World Cup finals, but later Manchester United issued a statement saying that the player had fractured the base of the fourth metatarsal on his right foot.

Rooney fractured the fifth metatarsal on the same foot during



Rooney was injured after a challenge by Chelsea's Ferreira.

the Euro 2004 quarterfinal defeat against Portugal and it was 10 weeks before he played again.

Although Rooney will now miss United's last two games of the season and England's pre-tournament friendlies against Hungary and Jamaica, Eriksson may still feel it worthwhile to keep him in the squad in case he recovers sufficiently to

play a role during the tournament.

In 2002 David Beckham broke a bone in a foot before the finals in Japan and although he was able to take part he was not at his best.

Owen, who was returning after a four-month absence with a broken foot, played the last 30 minutes of Newcastle's 0-0 draw at Birmingham. He was limping near the end and team officials said he would see a specialist on Monday.

"When he (Owen) came in he said he was a little bit concerned -- he wasn't quite 100 percent happy with it," Newcastle manager Glenn Roeder said. "But no sharp pain."

"The thought of Rooney and Owen not playing for England is not worth thinking about," Roeder added.

To complete a bad day, Chelsea captain John Terry, expected to be a key man in England's defense in Germany, picked up a gash on his leg in a challenge from Rooney and required about a dozen stitches.

Source: [www.cnn.com](http://www.cnn.com)

## England lands Cricket World Cup

India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh will share the 2011 World Cup after beating opposition from a joint Australia-New Zealand bid.

But the 50-over tournament will take place Down Under four years later as agreed by ICC delegates beforehand.

English authorities were told last month they could hold the 2019 event if they pulled out of the race for 2015.

The decisions still need to be rubber-stamped by the International Cricket Council annual conference in July.

The joint Asian bid won the vote on 2011 by 10 votes to three even though, under the traditional ICC rotation, it was Australasia's turn to hold the event.

The Asian bid was also submitted late, the four countries having been granted an extension to 21 April to present their case to the ICC after failing to meet the first deadline in March.

Officials from India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh admitted there is work to do over the next five years.

"We did a great job. The four countries put together an impressive presentation and we got 10 out of 13 votes," said Lalit Modi of the Indian cricket board.

"We are looking forward to it. A lot of work has to go in."

"A lot of infrastructure needs to be put in place. We are mentally geared up for it. We will do the task at hand."

Australia and New Zealand shared World Cup matches between them the



last time the event took place Down Under in 1992, with Pakistan winning the final in Melbourne.

New Zealand and Australia were dismayed to miss out on the 2011 World Cup but welcomed the 2015 event.

"I believe our joint 2011 bid was of the highest possible standard so I am naturally disappointed that we were unsuccessful," he said.

"The 2015 Cricket World Cup will be a great event for Australasia," said New Zealand Cricket chief Martin Snedden.

"We have the infrastructure and capability and while 2015 may sound a long way off planning will soon begin."

England hosted the first three World Cup tournaments in 1975, '79 and '83 and the event returned in 1999 when it was won by Australia.

The event takes place in the West Indies for the first time in 2007.

Cricket Australia chief executive James Sutherland also welcomed the decision to award Australia hosting rights to the 2009 ICC Women's World Cup.

"Winning the rights to host the next global women's tournament is exciting news for the growth and development of women's cricket in Australia," he said.

Meanwhile, the Twenty20 World Championship, which will be given a trial run in an invitational tournament next year, will coincide with Australia's next visit for the Ashes.

The event is planned at two venues, spread across nine days involving the world's top eight teams.

In a model used for Twenty20 Cup finals day in county cricket, a match starting at 1000 GMT would coincide with evening in Australia and New Zealand.

A second game at 1400 would meet prime time in Pakistan and India and a final match starting at around 1800 would be ideal for TV viewers in the UK.

Source: [www.bbc.com](http://www.bbc.com)

## Overath urges FIFA to ban Iran from World Cup finals

Former West German international midfielder Wolfgang Overath suggested on Friday Iran should be banned from the 2006 World Cup finals because of a call by Iran's president to move Israel to Europe.

Overath, the president of Bundesliga club Cologne and a member of West Germany's 1974 World Cup winning team, said FIFA should consider banning Iran due to the remarks from President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad that have sparked widespread condemnation.

"Such comments from a head of state are really grounds enough to exclude a country," Overath said in an interview on German television ahead of Friday's World Cup draw in Leipzig.

Iran is one 32 countries that have qualified for the tournament.

The Iranian president also suggested that the Holocaust might not have happened at a news conference in the Saudi Arabian city of Mecca that followed his call



in October for Israel to be "wiped off the map".

In Berlin, the German Foreign Ministry said it had summoned Iran's ambassador to protest against the remarks.

Historians say six million Jews

were killed in the Nazi Holocaust.

Iran's official news agency IRNA quoted Ahmadinejad as saying of the Nazi Holocaust: "Some European countries insist on saying that Hitler killed millions of innocent Jews in furnaces..."

"Although we don't accept this claim, if we suppose it is true, our question for the Europeans is: is the killing of innocent Jewish people by Hitler the reason for their support to the occupiers of Jerusalem?" he said.

"If the Europeans are honest they should give some of their provinces in Europe -- like in Germany, Austria or other countries -- to the Zionists and the Zionists can establish their state in Europe."

Overath scored 17 goals in 81 matches for West Germany between 1963 and 1974. As well as winning the World Cup in 1974 he also played in the 1966 final which the Germans lost to England.

Source: [www.isfa.com](http://www.isfa.com)

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## Melodies from the green farms

By: Ismail Al-Ghaberi

Villagers in Yemen are not only known for their diversified agriculture customs, but are also well-famed for their different musical styles bestowed on them by the countryside environment.

Yemeni rural territories enjoy unique multi-faceted folkloric implications including rural music that has enriched people's culture over the ages and are deeply rooted in the personality of the Yemeni villager despite foreign influence, historical eras and local hardships.

Yemeni folkloric songs and melodies are special and unique in the sense that they are reflecting an exquisite musical style illustrating and distinguishing the people's life in Yemen with all its peculiarities. For instance, farmers have their own styles



People like to dance at the melodious country songs.

and rhythms, and so do laborers, fishermen...etc.

There are songs for happy occasions like marriage, and sad ones that express hardships displaying inner sentiments of the people of different social segments. Even children have their own melodies and rhymes.

Despite the fact that the Yemeni rural music can be said to be variant and multi-dimensional in its rhythms, which is due to the

*From Udein, I am anxiously waiting for a caravan leader's arrival.*

diversification of terrains and environment, most of the music have one aspect in common, this is nature and love for the land.

The environment, nature of work, and living styles all are implied in the musical style of people and express in a very magnificent way their

psychological interaction with the environment around them, whether plain agricultural, marine, or mountainous lands.

The rhythmic styles as well as poetry composed express the human experience of people living in different terrains and all this differentiations contribute in complementary way to the spiritual integration of Yemeni People living in a unified country.

*I hope to be a cameleer of a black caravan  
To spend time walking with my lover*

There are established musical movements or schools in different parts of Yemen. For instance, AlQumandan musical style in Lahj, Mohammed Juma Khan in Hadmaout, Ayoob Taresh in Taiz.

*Shall I compare my lover to a new illuminating torch?*



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هاتف ذكي • اختراع سري • تصاميم سريعة • قطع غيار أصلية • ضمان لمدة سنة

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