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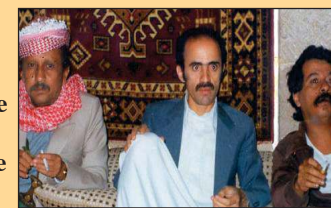
Inside: ▶



5
Teachers vs state



10
Health Minister: There is no bird flu outbreak in Yemen so far, we are prepared to tackle it

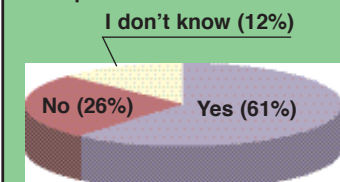


12
Abdullatif Al-Rabee': a sad-happy Yemeni mural

Readers' Voice

Last edition's question:

As the U.S. Administration demands inspecting the Iman University, do you think multinational students enrolled in the university will face interrogation in case inspection takes place?



This edition's question:

Do you think the Yemeni government should allow USA to inspect Al-Eman University?

- Yes, totally
- Yes, but only under UN supervision and the Yemeni government
- No, there's nothing to inspect at Al-Eman University
- No, it is an internal affair of the Yemeni government

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

Symposium on "Yemen: From Cooperation to Partnership" concludes

By: Mohamed bin Sallam

SANA'A, May 14 — The 26 September weekly organized Sunday a symposium on "Yemen: From Cooperation to Partnership" at the Newspaper's premises. The event was held under the patronage of Dr. Abdulkarim Al-Iryani and in the presence of more than 20 ministers and foreign ambassadors to Yemen.

Inaugurating the symposium, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates Dr. Abu Bakr Al-Qirbi affirmed the Yemeni diplomacy led by President Ali Abdullah Saleh for the past 28 years reached commendable achievements at the Arab and Islamic levels.

Political Advisor to President of the Republic Dr. Abdulkarim Al-Eryani emphasized what has been achieved by Yemen in improving its external relations and shifting from cooperation into partnership made of its external policy a typical example for other countries in the region and worldwide.

"Agreements Yemen signed with many countries transforming relations

from cooperation into real partnership in economic, cultural and political areas without any beforehand conditions are the most prominent evidence of Yemen's successful policies," Al-Eryani said.

He mentioned the 26 September weekly selected a good title for this year's symposium in line with the strategic goal of Yemeni partnership reflected by the country's moves toward GCC entry. The goal gained more significance following the historic decision reached by the latest Gulf Summit concerning Yemen's admission to the GCC.

"Qualifying Yemen for GCC admission encourages us to improve our systems to be like those of the other Arab countries without any harm to the national interest as the partnership is based on joint interests," Al-Eryani stated. "So we have to form the technical and legal committees to make any necessary amendments prior to Yemen's admission to the GCC to avoid any expected confusions."

According to Al-Qirbi, the Yemeni diplomacy tackled many infringements



Participants discussing the symposium themes.

and violations and made available a register of successful accomplishments at the national level and internationally.

Al-Qirbi pointed out that Yemen reached good achievements in settling border disputes with its neighbors and

transforming borders into bridges of love, peace, cooperation and partnership via its wise policies.

"Evidence and facts of Yemen's accomplishments, even after the 11/9 Terrorist Attack on the U.S., helped the country's external policies to score success. Such policies proved that they are

able to settle any issues and help the country avoid any problems and be a primary ally in fighting terrorism. Yemen's external policies enhanced the country's stance when it opposed the U.S.-led war against Iraq," Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates added.

Continued on page 2

Ninth fugitive in jail, HOOD opposes military trial

By: Amel Alariqi

SANA'A, May 13 — Yemeni security arrested the ninth escapee who broke out from a prison in Sana'a in February as reported by official media.

The man was identified on Thursday as Abdullah Ahmad Al-Raymi, who had been serving a prison sentence for terrorist offences. A security source was quoted on the Ministry of Defense Web site Thursday as saying, "Abdullah Al-Raymi was recaptured following a successful intelligence operation in cooperation with the anti-terrorism department

and security agencies that lasted for three weeks." The source said Raymi was seized in the province of Mareb, east of the Yemeni capital, Sana'a.

Last month Khaled Mohammed Al-Batati, was the eighth recaptured man of the 23 escapees. Al-Batati, who was convicted last year of plotting to blow up the embassies of Britain and Italy and a French cultural centre in Sana'a was serving a three-year prison term in a jail in Sana'a before he escaped with and 22 prisoners tunneling their way out of the prison on February 3rd this year.

According to official sources, 13

among the 23 fugitives are Al-Qaeda suspects. The fugitives escaped through a tunnel they dug from a cell in their prison at intelligence service headquarters in the southern Sana'a suburb of Hada'a, to the toilets of a prayer hall for women using steel food pots and cooking tools.

Listed among the Al-Qaeda fugitives is the second main convict in the USS Cole bombing, Jamal Al-Badawi. He had been serving a 15-year jail term. Four other convicts in the attack serving jail terms from four to 10 years also fled the prison.

Also among the escapees was Fawaz Al-Rabyee, whom a state security court sentenced to death in August 2004 after convicting him of leading a 14-member group linked to Al-Qaeda. Rabyee, who is wanted by US authorities over suspected links to Osama bin Laden, was found guilty in a spate of attacks including the Limburg attack.

Six convicts in the Limburg attack have surrendered to authorities, but none of the convicts in the Cole bombing was recaptured, security officials told Deutsche Presse-Agentur dpa.

Continued on page 2

"No American delegation to inspect the university," Al-Eman University responds

By: Yemen Times Staff

SANA'A, May 14 — Yemen Times received yesterday a formal letter from Al-Eman University responding to what has been published in the newspaper Thursday's issue. The letter reads as: According to legal right of response, we hope that you publish this remark in the same place where the said article was published. The article's title "Al-Eman University opens doors for inspection," is untrue; because the university is under control of concerned Yemeni authorities, and no foreign body has the power to inspect Yemeni institutions. The article mentioned that Al-Eman university rector's office manager confirmed the



authenticity of press reports that an American delegation will inspect the university. This is also not true.

Furthermore, it contradicts the quoted text of the rector's office manager, published in the same article.

We would like to confirm again that there will be no American delegation to inspect the university. As it is clear from the statement contained in your article, it is only the American Ambassador who is invited to visit the university. This visit is in response to directives of the President and it will be through the foreign Ministry.

We confirm that there is nothing to be inspected in the university as it consists only of study premises, a campus for students and teachers, halls of residence and Yemeni and other Muslim students studying in the university with their embassies' consent.



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Locals in Al-Qaeda appeal to President over rights abuse

By: Nashwan Dammaj

IBB, May 14 — Several people in Al-Qaeda city, Ibb province, released a statement last week denouncing the acts of the Central Security soldiers who beat, badmouthed and threatened some locals without any obvious reasons. Soldiers on board a Central Security vehicle arrested Abduljalil Saleh Al-Samman for not lifting a new national flag during the passing by of the President's convoy.

In the statement, locals confirmed they bear witness on assaults against innocent citizens who are appealing to the President to liberate them from such oppression, "as the attack against a single citizen is an attack against everyone."

Victim Abduljalil Al-Samman said

Central Security troops in Al-Qaeda assaulted him for not replacing the old national flag on the front of his shop with a new one because the President's motorcade was driving through Al-Qaeda to Taiz. "Two Central Security vehicles forcibly grabbed me from inside my shop alleging that I refused to replace the old flag with a new one. They did not allow me to lock my shop and took me immediately to the Security Department without giving me any chance to speak," Al-Samman described his ordeal.

"Soldiers on board one of the police vehicles returned to the shop and scorned the other workers saying that they will do whatever they want. When my cousin Fayeze responded to them saying they could never do anything, they pointed their guns at him and

dragged him," he went on. "They beat him severely and took him forcibly to the Security Department, alleging they beat my cousin because he defamed the President of the Republic."

Al-Samman added: "at the security department, officers ordered us to forgive soldiers who beat us since we defamed the president, but we refused to abandon our rights as there is a law protecting everyone."

Security Department Chief sent officers from the criminal investigation to Al-Samman's family members in an attempt to persuade them to forget about the case but they refused to abandon any oppression against them. They collected signatures of locals in the city to send a letter of appeal to the President urging him to ensure protection and rights of citizens.

600-businessman delegation to visit Mukalla

By: Saeed Al-Batai

HADRAMOUT, May 13 — A 600-businessmen delegation headed by Saudi Deputy Prime Minister and Crown Prince Sultan Bin Abdulaziz is due to pay a visit to the Yemeni city of Mukalla in the days to come, a reliable source in Saudi Arabia told the Yemen Times.

Upon its arrival in Yemen, the Saudi team is to stay in Hodeida to participate in the 16th Anniversary of Yemen's Re-unification before heading for Mukalla. The visiting team is expected to sign with the Yemeni side many agreements on trade cooperation, customs tariffs and other matters of mutual concern.

The parties concerned make arrangements for a celebration to be held on June 1 to mark the arrival of the Saudi delegation, and around one thousand T-shirts displaying photos of President Saleh, Custodian of the Two Holy Shrines and Prince Sultan have been distributed among locals. The celebration will be sponsored by Sheikh Abdullah Ahmad Bagshan who belongs to a Hadrami origin.

The same source added the visit is to conclude with laying the foundation stone of the biggest teaching hospital in the republic due to be connected with Riyadh's Specialized Hospital at a cost of 30 million dollars, offered in support from Saudi businessmen of Yemeni origins. The Hospital will

carry the name of Prince Sultan Bin Abdulaziz.

"The delegation is the fruit of Prince Sultan's recurring calls on Saudi businessmen to invest in Yemen and Sheikh's Bagshan coordination," the source added.

According to the source, the visit is to see inaugurating Mukalla Cement Factory and the Tomato Canning Factory in Sayoun, aimed at gravitating investors toward the agricultural sector in Hadramout governorate, which has the largest fertile area in the country.

Several activities are currently staged in Mukalla such as cleaning of streets and furnishing the Republican Palace and hotels to receive the Saudi businessmen.

British court sentences Naseem Hamed to 15 months in jail

LONDON, May 13 — Former world boxing champ Prince Naseem Hamed of Yemeni origin was jailed for 15 months last Friday for destroying the lives of a couple in a head-on smash. Hamed was also banned from driving for four years and ordered to take his driving test again.

The ex-featherweight champion drove "suicidally" as he showed off to a pal in his 200mph £320,000 Mercedes McLaren, with the registration NAS 1.

The boxer was doing 90mph on the wrong side of the road and approaching a blind dip in bank holiday traffic when he crashed into a car. Hamed admitted dangerous driving. He told police he had been "irritated" by a car braking in front of him.

Questioned by police about the smash, the boxer said he hadn't driven the car much and its power was "unbelievable". He also admitted: "At the time, I was just so hit up and so frustrated with a car in front that was braking. It was irritating." Hamed's car hit the Burgins' Golf with such force that it stopped it and actually shunted it backwards.

The former champ denied leaving the



Naseem Hamed in his glorious days.

scene of the accident, but admitted running home to get help for his bleeding passenger, businessman Asif Ayub, 26. Hamed had committed four previous speeding offences. Martin Sharpe, defending, said: "He realises nothing he can say can ever make up for all the hurt his actions have caused."

Jailing father-of-two Hamed, Judge

Goldsack said: "Your fame does not mean you fail to be dealt with in any different way. I have no doubt the only possible sentence here is an immediate custodial sentence. It is far too serious for anything else."

Naseem Salim Ali Hamed, the Sheffield-born son of Yemeni parents, was just seven when he pulled on a pair of boxing gloves. His potential was quickly spotted by trainer Brendan Ingle. He turned professional at just 18, fighting as a bantamweight, soon moving up to featherweight. His showmanship and arrogance were backed by skill, speed and a powerful punch.

By 1994, he beat Italy's Vincenzo Belcastro to take the European super-bantamweight title. The following year, aged only 21, he captured his first world title, the WBO featherweight belt from Steve Robinson. An eight-round victory over American Tom Johnson captured the IBF title. He then won the WBC title in 1999.

But in 2001, he lost his title to Mexican Marco Antonio Barrera in Las Vegas. The Prince never regained his crown.

Yemeni woman between reality and ambition

By: Lina Al-Maghribi

TAIZ, May 9 — The participants in the symposium of "Yemeni Woman between Reality and Ambition" demanded for establishing a center to support the women candidates. The symposium conducted by Faculty of Arts, Taiz University came out with many recommendations which aim at serving woman and pushing her into the political scene.

The recommendations include translating the woman's development strategy through increasing the number of women in leading and decision making positions and establishing centers for supporting women candidates. Other recommendations

include fighting woman's illiteracy and fighting girl's school dropouts.

The symposium also urged research centers in Yemeni universities and other concerned centers to conduct research studies on woman's situations, problems and needs. It also called for activating the law in regard to woman's rights and offering social insurance for the poor.

In addition, the symposium called for supplying medical services across the country and deciding upon roles for woman to play. Woman, according to the symposium, should be given chance to practice her rights and duties in the light of constitution. Girls' education should be reconsidered and a strategy for developing girl's education should also be set.

Finally, the symposium called for adopting a media policy to spread awareness among working women of their legal rights and provide counseling and educational services about those rights. Civil institutions should follow certain techniques to get rid of those obstacles hindering woman's participation.

Many researchers of both genders submitted their working papers about woman's rights and duties in order to elevate woman's status. The symposium was attended by the Engineer Abdulkader Hatim, Deputy Governor for technical and environmental affairs and Dr. Ahmed Al-Madhaji, vice-president of Taiz University in addition to a number of those interested in woman's issues.

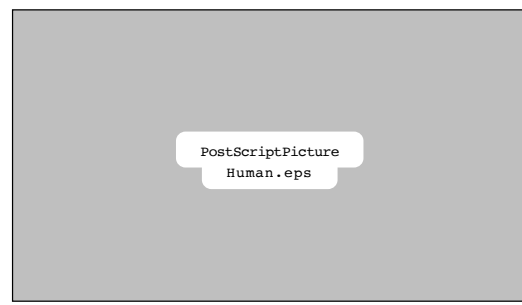
First conference on investment, human development in Yemen

By: Saddam Al-Ishmoury

SANA'A, May 10 — In a press conference, many companies and economic foundations in Yemen announced Tuesday the first Conference on Investment and Human Development due to take place on May 28-29.

Chairman of Jubari Company for Investment and coordinator of the event, Ali Al-Jubari, said the Investment and Human Development Conference aims to achieve a remarkable move in Yemeni private sector and open new horizons for Arab capitals to be invested in various projects.

Al-Jubari added the conference will help draw an investment map based on database containing requirements and statements of investment and overcome any difficulties facing such a vital sector. He indicated the conference would make use of decisions and recommen-



Businessmen discuss the first investment and development conference due on May 27-29.

dations reached by Sana'a Declaration.

Economic Expert Abdulaziz Al-Tarb, deputy head of the conference supervisory committee stated: "the conference will be the actual inauguration of investment in Yemen, as well as an approach to qualify Yemen to join Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)."

"The conference will be the begin-

ning of an investment action based on well-established companies having scientific structures and obvious goals to provide guarantees to businessmen and overcome any barriers posed to the investment process," Al-Tarb added.

He indicated the conference would contribute to facilitating investment procedures and make available guarantees for investors away from any bureaucratic considerations. It would achieve a joint remarkable leap to serve the society.

The conference will be staged in the presence of numerous trade companies, associations and unions in addition to ministries concerned with investment in Yemen.

Unidentified disease kills 300 sheep in Hadramout

HADRAMOUT, May 10 — An unidentified disease killed at least 300 sheep in rural areas around Mukalla city causing horror among shepherds depending on sheep as the main source of income.

Mohamed Faraj Abdou, Manager of Hadramout's Agriculture and Irrigation Office indicated that his office sent a team including an

agricultural engineer and a veterinarian immediately after it heard such news.

Diarrhea is the main symptom of the disease while the concerned committee could not diagnose the disease, but it took a blood sample of infected sheep to be examined at Hadramout University Laboratory and sent another sample to Sana'a.

The committee produced a preliminary diagnosis of the disease saying it symptomatic of Sever Acute Respiratory System and malnutrition due to drought in the area. The primary cause of the high death toll of sheep is poisonous grass and it is not the first time for shepherds to lose a great number of sheep, according to the committee.

Continued from page 1

Symposium on "Yemen: From Cooperation to Partnership" concludes

He said Yemen took the initiative to create partnership with the neighboring countries and progressed toward Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) entry. "Yemen's wise policies helped it to establish the Sana'a Congregation and leave certifiable fingerprints in reforming the Arab League," the official noted.

Ninth fugitive in jail, HOOD opposes military trial

Immediately after the 23 prisoners' escape, Yemeni security forces set up checkpoints throughout Yemen to try to catch them. Additionally, the Interior Ministry announced a YR 5 million reward (about \$25,600) for information on any of the escapes. Ministry officials said, at that time, the authorities had begun investigating to determine if the fugitives received inside or outside assistance. Local press reported that Yemeni authorities decided to reshuffle prison officials, as well as dismiss the prison chief and his deputy.

Chaired by Minister of Information Hassan Al-Lawzi, the symposium discussed various themes including "Yemeni diplomacy: transformations and successes over the past 16 years", as well as Yemen's efforts to enhance the joint Arab solidarity.

The third and fourth themes concentrated on Yemen and the GCC and

In this regard, the National Organization for Defending Rights and Freedoms (HOOD) said that referring security officers, who are accused of causing the escape of 23 prisoners from the intelligence prison, to military judiciary was illegal.

The head of the organization, who is also a lawyer, Mohammed Naji Alaw said in a letter to the General Attorney that military courts are specialized in looking into crimes committed by soldiers and officers in armed forces or into crimes that occur inside military

Sana'a Congregation for cooperation as an important step toward stability in the Horn of Africa and the Red Sea. Themes No. 5 and 6 discussed Yemen and the Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) and Yemen's political system's development and its relation with security and stability.

camps and bases and other places the belong to the armed forces.

Alaw said that the suspects belong to a security organization, not to a military one. Alaw said the security officers should be tried before a normal penal court.

"The most important priority of justice and defending rights is to refer a suspect to the specialized court" said the letter.

The letter urged the prosecution to correct such "illegal measure" and to refer the case to a specialized court.

Rocket falls on Saudi territory

NAGRAN, May 11 — A tribal source who asked not to be identified declared that a rocket, thought to be Katyusha, fell on the Saudi part of Haradh border outlet close to Nagran District last week.

The same source added that, "Saudi security forces have besieged the area

and none was allowed to come close to it. We have no information in regard to casualties or property loss."

It is worth mentioning that a Katyusha rocket fell on agricultural lands in a site called Al-Huriz in Ragla Village to the south of Negran City in 22nd May 2005.

A Yemeni security source in Sada Governorate confirmed that neither Yemeni authority nor tribal parties had had relation to the fired rocket. He pointed also that Yemeni Army had made no maneuvers at the borders with Saudi Arabia at that time.

WFP, UNICEF and WHO intensify cooperation

SANA'A, May 10 — A memorandum of understanding was signed on 10th May 2006 between the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the World Health Organization (WHO). The signing ceremony was hosted by WFP and was attended by a number of UN officials from WFP, UNICEF, WHO and UNIC as well as journalists from the Yemeni media.

In his statement to Al-Thawra daily newspaper, Dr. Mohamed El-Kouhene, WFP Representative in Yemen, said that the agreement aims at intensifying the coordination efforts between the 3 UN agencies so as to overcome the problems faced by Yemen in the areas of health and education, particularly girl's education in rural regions.

Dr. El-kouhene has expressed his optimism that the agreement will achieve positive results and will contribute to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals in Yemen. As for the implementation mechanisms of this agreement, Dr. El-kouhene indicated that a technical working group has been established and will meet shortly to define the geographic areas and the categories of beneficiaries to be assisted. Asked why WFP took the initiative of bringing together the 3 agencies, Dr. El-kouhene indicated that cooperation and coordination between the 3 agencies is already a reality on the ground. "What we are doing is inten-



Representatives of UN agencies shake hands after signing the agreement.

sifying it and updating the joint operational framework." Referring to the ongoing joint visit of the Executive Directors of UNICEF and WFP to Panama and before that to Africa, which aims at intensifying the joint effort to reach the MDGs in that region, Dr. El-kouhene added that "we are in a way following the foot steps of our heads. We need to work together, because none of us can achieve the expected goals alone, but the 3 of us can. We can achieve more, better and faster."

On his part Mr. Ramesh Shrestah, UNICEF's Representative said that UNICEF has already collaborated with both WFP and WHO in the areas of education and health, indicating that "such agreement will formalize more and strengthen the partnership

by all interested in issues of health and education." He added that the agreement we have today will further strengthen the partnership between the 3 agencies.

Dr. Hashim El-Zain, WHO's Representative said that "this day is really a historical day in Yemen," indicating that the programme which seems to be small in papers, is a huge one and it is a good opportunity for all of us to complement each other activities in order to have a real good effect. He said that the work of the 3 agencies together, will strengthen the cooperation and also will encourage others from other UN agencies to join us in these areas. He concluded that we are hoping to attract other partners to join us in this initiative in the future.

Director of Endowment Office in Ibb resigns

IBB, May 9 — Mr. Fuad Yahia Mansour, deputy of Ibb Governorate and director of Endowment office resigned on May 6 this year.

Reliable recourses said that Mansour's resignation came following his failed attempts to fight corruption in

the governorate and carry out reforms. His efforts were curbed by some influential forces whose interests were threatened by his reforming approach.

Yahia Mansour was appointed as director for the endowment office only six months ago. The office remained for

a long time without a director following the suspension of the former in-charge by the attorney general. He was accused of embezzling one and a half billion Yemeni rials from the endowment funds, during his four-year term at the office.

Yemen Commercial Bank (YCB) commences electronic services

Yemen Commercial Bank declared the era of its new Electronic Banking Services; ATM debit card, POS, Phone Banking, SMS Banking, Internet Banking and e-refill for prepaid GSM through ATM & POS.

In this regard, his Excellency Sheikh Mohammed Bin Yahia Al Rowaishan, the chairman, indicates that this era confirmed the leadership of Yemen Commercial Bank in the local market as its one of the first National Banks in Yemen.

Yemen Commercial Bank is a closed shareholding company established on February 4, 1993 by a group of key Yemeni businessmen and financial market leaders with 90% share and 10% for Yemen Oil Company.

Through its network of 8 branches in Sana'a and main cities, Yemen Commercial Bank is able to provide a comprehensive Banking Services to all Market Sectors.

His Excellency adds that, YCB is the first commercial bank that was established after the Yemeni unity and YCB provides its retail and corporate clients a range of banking products and services in a professional and efficient environment, using the advanced methods and techniques to enter the international markets through its network of correspondents world wide.

Mr. Ayed Al Mashni, the General Manager, reports that the Bank aims in 2006 to open 5 new branches in Sana'a

and other main cities and he adds that Yemen Commercial Bank was one of the first banks in Yemen to implement a real time on line automation project for its Banking operations which improves the customer service level, in addition to its normal Banking services such as; Deposits in Yemeni Ryal and other currencies, Remittances, Current & saving accounts, Personal Loans, Swift and other services.

YCB invests on its equipped and qualified employees member in introducing a unique services which leads to position YCB as one of the market leaders.

Mr. Hani Idris, the Executive Consultant, Retail and Marketing believes that Yemen Commercial Bank capitalized on its strengths, as it was one of the first Banks to issue Visa and Mastercard Charge Cards In Yemen, also it was the first MoneyGram agent in Yemen.

Recently Yemen Commercial Bank was able to launch in few months time five electronic Banking Services, namely; ATM Debit Card, POS, Phone SMS, and Internet Banking.

Mr. Idris, indicates that, Yemen Commercial Bank will launch an average of one product / program /service every month during the Year 2006 plan, this aggressive plan will assure the leadership of Yemen Commercial Bank in the Banking techniques and customer delivery systems.



Yemen Commercial Bank (YCB) headquarters

Iraq War refugees trapped in no man's land

"Every morning we wake up and go around to find water and other things from the truck drivers. We are living by begging," says Khabat Mohammadi, who is one of about 200 refugees stranded on Iraq's border with Jordan.

According to an article on ABC News, many of the refugees fled the al-Tash refugee camp in Iraq's western Anbar governorate in January 2005 following clashes between rebels and U.S. occupation forces there. Because Jordan refuses to let them into the country, they are stuck in a lawless no man's desert land, which is prone to harsh weather conditions and isn't under any governmental jurisdiction.

The refugees are Iranian Kurds. Most left Iran in 1982, or were born in Iraq. They lived in a refugee camp about 90 miles from Baghdad before the 2003 U.S. invasion. But after the fall of Baghdad, they received threats.

"I saw about 20 armed men with their faces covered," Abdullah Hassan Zadeh told Human Rights Watch in May 2003. "We tried to confront them, but they threatened us with their weapons and told us to go away."

About 1,100 of the Iranian Kurds escaped Iraq right after the invasion. Others tried to remain in the war-torn country. But eventually, they realized that they must flee the violence. In January 2005, about 190 of these Kurds decided to leave Iraq for Jordan. But the attempts of the group stranded at the border weren't successful. When they arrived at the Jordan-Iraq border, Amman had already accepted many refugees onto its soil.

At a press briefing in April 2006, Jordanian government spokesman Nasser Judeh told reporters that Amman had reached its threshold for refugees, according to the Jordan Times. "Iraq is surrounded by five countries," he says. "I find it very strange that the emphasis is on Jordan to open up its borders to anybody and everybody."

And so the group found themselves stranded in the middle of the desert, where they have been living for the past 16 months. About half of the refugees are children. Beside the few donations that the refugees receive from time to time, no one provides them with any food, water, medicines or shelter. Their children can't go to school. Windstorms tear apart their tents and expose them to the harsh weather conditions, especially in the winter.

Marcy Newman, an American researcher living in Amman who visited the camp twice, shot some photos that show partially collapsing makeshift tents. "Some of the tents are made out of scrap cardboard and things like that," she says.

In addition to their terrible living conditions, the refugees also feel unsafe living close to the country they escaped. "Really, it is a lawless area," says Bill Frelick, Human Rights Watch refugee policy director. "It is a highly dangerous, insecure area because you don't have rule of law there... When you're inside a country, you always have the hope to at least be integrated locally, or to be resettled to another country," says Frelick.

"But if you're in a no man's land you're really just in limbo." In an attempt to resolve the issue, the group was offered a resettlement in the Kawa refugee camp in the northern Iraqi governorate of Erbil which has been set up in September 2005 following an agreement between the Kurdish Regional Government (KRG) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

Vandana Patel, UNHCR Iraq protection officer in Amman, says that there



"If you're in a no man's land you're really just in limbo...."

are 1,300 Iranian refugees living in the Erbil camp who receive appropriate assistance provided by UNHCR and the local authorities.

"They will have access to education for their children," says UNHCR representative Robert Breen. "They will have access to health for all members of their family. The men will have access to employment."

But the refugees fear that going back to any part of war-torn Iraq would endanger their lives by putting them at risk of violence that made them escape the country in the first place. "We refuse the UNHCR proposal to move us to northern Iraq," says Mohammadi. "About 65 of us came from there, and

we all know it's not a safe place."

The refugees hope that time could help their cause. But UNHCR and the Jordanian government insist the group could remain in this no man's land for 40 years and they still wouldn't be allowed into the Promised Land. "[The camp in Iraq] may not be the solution that they prefer," says Breen. "But I'm afraid it's the only solution that's been available to them."

But the no man's land refugees insist that they wouldn't even consider the UNHCR solution. "We only want to live like humans," says Mohammedi. "If we die at the border it is better than to die in the north of Iraq." source: www.aljazeera.net

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Palestinian PM makes plea for aid

Palestinian Prime Minister Ismail Haniya has appealed for a concerted regional effort to ensure that funds get through to the Palestinian people.

In an interview with the BBC Arabic Service, he said the Arab League had been given the names of 160,000 unpaid government employees.

He said the league had been unable to use donated monies to pay their wages because of the Israeli occupation.

Mr Haniya said efforts were being made to find a way to pay the salaries.

Mr Haniya said it was not just the government that had the duty of getting the salaries paid: the Palestinian president, financial institutions and Arab countries also shared the responsibility.

"There must be a unified relationship between all these parties to ensure the funds reach the Palestinian people," Mr Haniya said.

Mr Haniya confirmed that most Arab states had offered financial aid in line with the recommendations of the Arab summit in Khartoum last March.

Fuel supplies resumed

Earlier on Friday, fuel supplies began arriving at petrol stations in the West Bank, diffusing a mounting crisis over petrol shortages.

Israeli company Dor Energy, which is the sole supplier of petrol and cooking gas to the Palestinian territories, agreed on Thursday resume deliveries.

Supplies had been cut off because of unpaid Palestinian Authority bills

totalling about \$26m (£14m), and petrol stations across the West Bank had been closing as they ran out of fuel.

The Palestinian Authority has been in deep financial crisis since Hamas took it over, following its election victory in January.

Western donors have cut off direct financial aid, and Israel has been withholding \$55m a month in tax and customs revenues that it collects on the Palestinians' behalf.

Protest clash

Reports from the West Bank say Israeli forces have fired tear gas and rubber bullets to break up a demonstration against the barrier Israel is building there.

A number of people are said to have been injured, including two foreign pro-Palestinian activists and a photographer for an international news agency.

The protest took place near the village of Bilin, where Palestinian, Israeli and international activists hold a regular weekly demonstration against the barrier.

Israel says the West Bank barrier is designed to stop suicide bombers from entering, but Palestinians see it as an attempt to grab West bank territory.

The International Court of Justice issued an advisory ruling in 2004 that the barrier breached international law where it is built on occupied territory and should be dismantled.

Source: www.bbc.co.uk

Cuba elected to UN Council on Human Rights

On May 9, 2006, elections took place at the United Nations Organization in New York to integrate the 47 member countries new Council on Human Rights. Cuba was elected for a period of three years to the new Council by 135 votes, 8 more than two thirds of the actual 191 members of the UNO.

The election of Cuba is the obvious result of the international recognition of the Cuban internal and external prestige in defence of Human Rights, and it came out regardless the declared intention of Cuba's most

aggressive and persistent adversary to do whatever possible, exerting every kind of pressures on other member states, in order to keep Cuba out of the new Council.

That is the adversary that has imposed and maintains on the Cuban people the most prolonged, criminal and obsolete economic and commercial war, in gross violation of the Humans Rights of the peoples on both sides, a blockade that has been repeatedly rejected by the overwhelming majority of the International Community at the UNO

General Assembly every year since 1992.

For the vote of May 9, Cuba has put no other pressure on the members of the UNO than its achievements on education, health and respect for every human being, not only within its boundaries, but wherever and whenever help for other peoples is needed in this World.

We, Cubans, do not impose on others to be like us. We firmly believe in the right of every nation to have the political, social and economic system that their people decide. We only

wish to be let in peace to build our Society the way the Cuban people has elected and fully support, without any external interference or pressure.

The election to the new Council on Human Rights is also a strong commitment for Cuba to continue working on behalf of the rights of all the peoples on this endangered Planet.

Those who voted for Cuba on May 9 will not be deceived. We are convinced and rely confident that a better World is still possible. Cuban Embassy in Sana'a 11 May 2006

Announcement

Extension of period of tender

The Yemen MCS Fisheries Project hereby extends the period for tenderers to submit their bids for the 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, Project Implementation Unit, Djibouti Street, Sana'a, PO Box 12145 Republic of Yemen.

Tenderers should deliver their submission by 1200 local time at the PIU, Djibouti Street on Wednesday 17 May 2006. The tender opening session will be held at the Ministry of Fish Wealth at 1100 local time on Saturday 20 May 2006.

THIS ANNOUNCEMENT SUPERCEDES ALL PREVIOUS ADVERTISED DETAILS

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Teachers vs state

While teachers staged sits-in and carried out strikes all over the country in demand for improving their status, the state continues to take arbitrary and abusive procedures against them, according to the reports of teachers' syndicates.

By: Mohammed Al-Jabri

The three teachers' syndicates (Yemeni Teachers Syndicate, High Syndicate for Educational Professions, and Technical and Vocational Education Syndicate) demanded the government attend to teachers' legal rights and payment of financial allowances included in the new wage law.

On October 17, 2005 the Yemeni Teachers Syndicate (YTS) granted the government a few days' respite until the end of October; otherwise teachers would resort to all forms of protests. In its meeting, the YTS also adopted different protesting activities, and called on all teachers to:

- Go out on a general strike all over the country as from November 22 2005;
- Wear red badges as from November 26 and continue for two days;
- Go out on partial strike as from November 29 till December 1;
- Go out on inclusive strike on December 3.

On November 22, teachers staged a sit-in nationwide. In Sana'a, the sit-in was held across at the ministerial Cabinet's premises. A delegation from the teachers' syndicates met with the Minister of Education, Minister of Technical Training and Vocational Education, and State Minister and Secretariat Mayor. The delegation discussed teachers' demands, which the government representatives described as "legal, indisputable demands." The authorities asked the delegation for yet some more time until the end of December to execute the details of the new wage law.

The same day, the three teachers' syndicates held a meeting to discuss the outcome of the sit-in, and decided to postpone the strike agreed upon. During that period, they held different meetings with the Minister of Education and other officials from Ministry of Civil Service. The government had not fulfilled its promises toward teachers' demands till the end of December, and consequently the syndicates issued another statement and called on teachers to:

- Organize peaceful demonstrations nationwide on February 14, 2006;
- Go out on gradual strike, starting with wearing red badges as from March 14.

In practice, teachers all over the country held demonstrations on February 14 to protest against the government's hesitation in the implementation of their legal demands. On March 21, they went out on a massive strike throughout the country, and the government responded to their protest with arbitrary as well as abusive procedures. Teachers' syndicates denounced such illegal acts and arbitrary measures by the Ministry of Education and educational bodies against teachers. Arbitrary and abusive measures included incidents of dismissal, threats of suspending salaries of those wearing red badges, insulting teachers using offensive terms, threatening female teachers, and arresting some others, and the like.

Teachers' syndicates appealed to the President of the Republic, Ministry of Human Rights, the Parliament, Attorney General and Minister of Education to look into such illegal acts. They called on teachers to hold a massive demonstration, this time to protest against illegal practices by education authorities, to be held on April 3. But one day before the demonstration, President Saleh met with the heads of teachers' syndicates and assured them regarding their demands. They saw it as a positive response, and the teachers' syndicate decided to postpone the demonstration

until further notice.

The YTS has reported all the illegal acts against teachers throughout the country.

Capital Secretariat

The Capital Secretariat is said to have witnessed the largest protests. Teachers who responded to protests faced a variety of abusive measures in some 55 schools. Such measures were taken by educational authorities and local authorities. They included threatening teachers, intimidating female teachers and reporting them to the Ministry of Education; teachers were dismissed from schools, and were accused of belonging to political parties, most notably Islah Party; some teachers were also insulted verbally and were forbidden from signing in the attendance list; some others were forbidden from entering class rooms; headmasters and /or headmistresses dispensed with the services of some teachers and deducted part of their salaries; in similar cases, teachers were threatened to be fired.

Here, thousands of teachers took part both in the strikes and sits-in. On November 22, around 5,000 teachers staged their first sit-in in front of the Cabinet premises; and on February 14 more than 10,000 teachers held a rally at Al-Tahrir Squar and then marched to the Parliament and Cabinet Premises. March 28, around 7,000 teachers staged a sit-in at the Cabinet. Anti-riot forces, supported by security forces, tried to prevent them from approaching the place.

Sana'a governorate

In some schools, the headmaster threatened protesting teachers to dismiss them from school, suspend their feeding, and lock them out of their accommodation. The head of the educational Center suspended 5 teachers from work. Another headmaster dispensed with the service of 16 teachers. Some teachers were threatened to be fired, and their salaries to be suspended and deducted, while other teachers were moved to other schools.

Sana'a governorate witnessed similar protests as 85% of teachers staged different strikes and sits-in. Approximately 1,000 teachers staged a sit-in in front of the Governorate premises in March 28, while security authorities tried to prevent them from entering the Capital Secretariat to join their colleagues in the sit-in before the Cabinet premises.

Taiz governorate

Teachers in 60 schools faced illegal measures throughout the governorate. Mr. Abdulrahman Moahammed Al-Maqtari, General Secretariat of Yemeni Teachers Syndicate-Taiz Branch, was arrested by security authorities and remained in custody for few hours. In one district of the governorate, a headmaster arrested 10 teachers and sent them to prison where they remained for six days. Mr. Abdu Mohammed Al-Raimi, a prominent leader at the YTS, was also arrested. Education authorities practiced illegal acts against teachers. They included replacing some headmasters with other teachers; some headmasters were suspended from work; teachers were not allowed to sign on the attendance list; they were offended by insulting words; some were deleted from the attendance list; and others were deliberately dropped from the salary record.

In some schools, a few education officials threatened teachers by bringing security forces to force them out of school. In another school, the head of the Education Office of Taiz governorate ripped off the red badge of teacher Ragheb Saeed Abdu. Teachers



Teachers all over the country held demonstrations and staged sits-in asking the government to fulfill their legal demands. They behaved rationally during those protests, and in most cases security forces, with support from Anti-Riot forces, were present to prevent any kind of riot. No attack between the two sides was reported although police arrested some teachers and tried to prevent them from approaching the Cabinet premises in Sana'a city.



Yahya Al-Hakim



Mohammed Al-Maghrabi



Ibrahim Al-Otomi



Ahmed Al-Rabahi

were also threatened unless they stop strike. Some were threatened to be excluded to remote schools.

The largest number of teachers participating in the protests was reported in Taiz. More than 45,000 teachers took part in the sit-in of November 2005. On February 14, around 30,000 teachers took part in a massive demonstration and marched main streets. Statistics showed that 90% of teachers were in favor of the protests.

Ibb governorate

The YTS of Ibb reported different illegal measures against teachers all over the governorate. It observed 20 cases of forceful change of the work location; 15 cases of sacked teachers; and 60 cases of redistributing teachers among schools. According to its final report, the arbitrary procedures by the local authority included:

- The General Secretariat of the Governorate, in participation with the Education Office, signed on dismissing and expelling teachers, in addition to issuing a joint statement to prevent the strike.

- Headmasters and headmistresses visited schools and threatened teachers; sent soldiers to threaten teachers; approving the dismissal of teachers; provoking parents against the teachers.

Hadramout governorate

Security authority arrested Mr. Aqil Al-Attas, head of YTS in the governorate, as he refused to abstain from organizing demonstrations, and remained in detention for five hours. He was arrested again after the demonstration in which 5,000 teachers took part. He was released after seven hours. The General Secretariat of the YTS and Mr. Mohammed Omer Ba Wazeer were also arrested for two hours. Teachers did not participate, however, in the demonstration of March 28. According to the YTS's

statistics, 95% of teachers were in favor of the protests.

Other governorates

In Al-Baida governorate, 80% of teachers and education workers held similar protests. In Abyan governorate, 1,500 teachers took part in the demonstration of February 14, but they did not hold another one on March 28.

About 70% of teachers and education workers in Al-Hudeida governorate conducted sits-in and went out on strikes. They did not, however, participate in the massive sit-in of March 28.

In Dhamar governorate, teachers as well as education workers participated in the protest of November 2005. They also staged a demonstration on March 28. Other governorates witnessed similar protests and similar illegal practices by the different educational authorities.

Teachers Syndicates

The three teachers' syndicate showed consolidation with teachers and their demands. Mr. Hussein Nasser Al-Khawliani, head of the YTS at the Capital Secretariat, said the government seems to be unable to fulfill its obligations toward teachers' demands, which is discredit on its part. "The illegal practices against teachers contradicted the democratic trend of the government. They included dismissal from school, dispense with the service of teachers, ripping off the red badges on teachers' shirts, using insulting words. Some teachers were moved to remote allocations, and some were fired. Students from the Faculty of Education were brought to replace them, which directly breaks the law. Some teachers were arrested by security forces. Some headmasters deducted part of teachers' salaries. I hope the government shall not make us resort to protest again," Al-Khawliani said.

The head of the Technical and Vocational Education Syndicate, Mr. Yahya Al-Hakim, stated that the syndicate first resorted to talks, and then to conducting protests as the government did not respond to their demands. "As the government assured us it would not take any procedure against teachers who participated in the sit-in and strikes, we were shocked to hear some teachers complain against wrongful deduction from their salaries. In Hadramout, our colleague Fahmi Al-Yazidi was suspended from work and his workplace was shifted. His case is still in abeyance. In Taiz, Mr. Issam Al-Maqtari was treated badly and was insulted by the head of the Vocational Education Office who interrogated him. He was also threatened to be killed. Last month, teachers in Baghdad Institute were distressed to find that their salaries were deducted."

Mr. Ahmed Al-Rabahi, Secretary General of the YTS, made it clear that "We wish we would not resort to protests and that the government would respond to our demands. It is for the government's interest and everyone's interest to reach a mutual agreement regarding this matter. Our demands are legal. We have broad vision for the education sector if the government would not meet our demands... It is strange that the official media stood against protesters who only demanded what is rightfully theirs. Official media should take a correct way in dealing with social issues. What drew our attention most were the words of a journalist who belongs to the ruling party as he said, "We attack you yet sympathize with you!" this shows the contradiction of the official media as they confess to our legal demands and, at the same time, doubt our demands... There is yet another syndicate known as Educational Professions Syndicate. It is more governmental than the government itself. It stood against teachers'

protests and demands. It is an awful tool in the hands of the government to terrorize teachers during their protests. It has no base. The president himself considered our demands legal. The Ministry of Education has been trying to raise a law suit against the credibility of the three teachers' syndicates."

For his part, Mr. Mohammed Al-Maghrabi, member of the High Syndicate for Educational Professions, said, "What is so strange is that while we demand our legal rights instated in the laws of this country, these laws are ignored by the same government that created them. This way teachers advocate for the law more than the government and even our protests are legally granted by law. Teachers provide an example to the society that "Not to stay silent when your rights are compromised, rights are taken not given."

Mr. Ibrahim Al-Otomi, social and information representative at the YTS, said, "Protestors were insulted and threatened. The head of an Educational District accused a female teacher of being AIDS infected as she wore a red badge. While they staged a sit-in in front of the Parliament, teachers also faced illegal measures by security forces. They tried twice to arrest me. Our colleague Mr. Nasser Al-Qawwas was arrested. What is strange is that such illegal measures were practiced in the Capital Secretariat, which is the security pillar in the country's capital, the center of civilization."

On May 11, the Minister of Education, Dr. Abdulsalam Al-Jawfi, confessed before the Parliament that the government made decisions that included punitive measures against teachers. The decisions also included the spread of Political Security members in schools to arrest any teacher who organizes strike and/or sit-in. Al-Jawfi described these decisions as decisions to protect the country.

Out of time

By: Bruce Porter

The Catskills were just breaking into color last September when I drove up to the New York State Correction Facility at Woodbourne, a medium-security prison sitting on a hillside overlooking the village. It was built of red brick by the Works Progress Administration in the 1930s, and from a distance resembles a Catholic monastery, albeit one surrounded by a chain-link fence and razor wire. The inmates are mostly long-termers, many having spent their prior years in a maximum-security place like Attica or Dannemora, and were transferred to Woodbourne to get ready for their first parole hearing, although winning early parole from Governor George Pataki's administration is a dim hope at best. These days even model prisoners can end up serving their entire sentences before being released. Woodbourne is considered pretty mellow compared to where they'd been — the correction officers are less abrasive, the prisoners older, not so quick to anger. And there's little violence, owing partly to the fact that a third of the population is on antipsychotic medication.

I'd been invited to teach a semester-long course in journalism by the Bard College Prison Initiative. Started in 2001 with support from the Episcopal Social Services, the Bard program offers liberal arts courses — philosophy, English, history — that a select group of prisoners can take toward earning a bachelor's degree. The chance for a higher education was another thing Pataki did away with when he barred inmates back in 1995 from applying for government

school loans to pay for it. The Bard program is free, and it exists because of enthusiastic support from the wardens, who know that prisoners taking college courses are the least likely to get into trouble, and the least likely to return to prison once they get out.

Before being escorted through to the cell area, visiting professors must sign a paper saying they have been advised of the rules — don't give out your address, don't accept phone calls from inmates — and that they have viewed a twenty-minute cautionary video consisting of skits acted out by corrections personnel. It's a solemn production, suggesting that, were it not for the video, we all might be thinking it perfectly okay to smuggle cocaine into the prison and engage in sex acts with inmates.

Unlike modern prisons, where the cellblocks radiate off a central control pod, Woodbourne was built with a maze of staircases and underground tunnels, with low archways and steam pipes you have to watch out for lest you crack your head. The classrooms sit along a basement corridor with the hall-side walls made of glass so passing corrections officers can see what's going on inside. When I arrived, at 1 p.m. on a Thursday, the guys were all there, fifteen of them, sitting at tables formed in a C shape, most in their mid-thirties, all black or Hispanic, and they were all smiling. The Bard classes were clearly the high point of their week.

They started by asking what I wanted to be called — Mr. Porter? Professor P? I settled for the latter, and we got down to the object of the course, which would be to make them into ace newspaper reporters. It wasn't that they were likely to land a newspaper job. Eleven of the fifteen were in for homicide, after all, not an

easy sell to the personnel department, never mind that by the time they got out they would be a little old to start off as cub reporters. On the other hand, learning to distinguish between facts and hearsay, and learning how to write clearly and to describe accurately and quickly the things they observed, would be assets in any endeavor, even in a prison setting, where a lot of things go down and where it's important, sometimes vital, to get the facts straight.

We started off examining the U.S. Constitution and how this document was what afforded them the freedom to write anything they wanted to. "In prison?" one asked. Well, probably not in prison, I allowed. But regardless, they had a surprisingly thorough knowledge of the First Amendment, and also of Jefferson's battles with the Federalists, something Columbia journalism students are pretty hazy on. Bard professors had done a good job with history.

Okay, next let's talk about facts, I said. What's a fact? "Something somebody tells you that happened," said a guy named Carlos, who you could see by his white jacket had come from kitchen duty. Oh, really? I said. If the police tell you they shot a guy because he had a gun, does that make it so? That got a quick no. "It's something you read somewhere," suggested another. Oh, really? I said. You believe everything you read in the newspapers? No, again. Finally, we got down to it: A fact in a news story was something the reporter could prove existed. But prove how? You have to witness it yourself? they asked. That's one way, I said, whereupon they looked at each other and nodded in self-approval. We were off and running.

For the next several weeks we

practiced writing news stories. I'd acquired fifteen Olivetti portables from eBay for about twenty dollars each, and we set them up around the tables. It took a few minutes for the guys to get the hang of them — set the margins, do the tabs. But pretty soon the room was clattering with action, all of them pounding like demons, as if deadline were a minute away. One of them, Manny, with aquiline features and a close-shaven head who turned out to be the class clown, kept ripping sheets of paper out of the roller and balling them up, throwing them over his shoulder and littering the floor. "Hey, Professor P, that's the way they do it, right? Just like in a real newsroom!"

The place erupted in laughter; a corrections officer passed by the window and shot us an odd look. As I would learn, prisoners can laugh louder and longer and get more of a kick out of things than any group I know. The loudest laughter was a fifty-one-year-old black prisoner with a braided ponytail and the nickname "Whisper," for his breathy way of talking, who has spent twenty-eight years of his adult life behind bars. He got to laughing so hard at a story about me being a bumbling white reporter trying to cover the 1964 Harlem race riot that tears were rolling down his cheeks. Their craving for funny stories made me think of the Preston Sturgis movie on the Great Depression, Sullivan's Travels, where a film director posing as a tramp learns that hard-luck people — hoboes, prison inmates — don't want movies with a social message; they want to be made to laugh.

The guys also liked being jerked around by the professor. I'd pretend to send them out to accident scenes. It was raining, blowing hard. I told them. A tree had fallen on the top of a car, two teenagers sent to the hospital. I'm the traffic cop, how would they get the story? "So what happened?" they asked the cop. "An idiot could see what happened," he barked at them. "The tree fell over on the car." Lots of laughter. "Were the injuries serious?" they asked. "What do I look like, a doctor?" More laughter. They called the hospital, asked about the victims' condition. "I'm just the operator, how on earth would I know?" This laid them out.

Find out who you're talking to, for God's sakes, and ask precise questions, I told them. And be aggressive. Jefferson wanted the press to challenge authority. "Hey, Professor P, you're asking us to be aggressive?" said Julian, with tied-up dreadlocks, doing fifteen to life. "They told us that's our problem." They all laughed again.

Soon they got more proficient at nailing down the details. And, whether or not it grew out of their prison experience, they all demonstrated a healthy skepticism when it came to buying what people said. One news story involved a man found lying in his car with stab wounds, who'd told the police he'd picked up a female hithiker who'd tried to rob him and then knifed him after she discovered he had only two dollars. Writing that story, Columbia students tend to put down whatever the guy said as fact. At Woodbourne, there was major doubt as to whether he was telling the truth. Maybe he'd done something to get stabbed for, maybe the guy tried to assault her, suggested Anthony, a sharp Hispanic prisoner doing ten to twenty years for manslaughter, who was learning the carpenter's trade for when he got out.

Six or seven weeks into the course, snow now thick in the hills, they'd really begun to get the hang of it, to the extent that probably half of them could walk into a small paper and do the job as well as anyone, maybe better with a little practice. Dwelling on their newfound capacity invariably made for a sad drive home, as I imagined how things might have turned

out differently for them. I didn't know much about their murder charges, other than what was on the corrections department Web site — that in each case it had been in the second degree, the unpremeditated variety. So probably it was an impulsive act, maybe committed in the face of provocation, and they'd been nineteen or twenty at the time. Yes, I told myself, the other person had died. Nonetheless, I still felt exceedingly sad thinking that here these guys had finally found a real vocation, one they liked and that they could be pretty good at. But it was too late for them.

For the second half of the term I wanted to have them report on their lives in prison. But how? Inmates tend to rank up there with police officers and public school teachers when it comes to complaining, and I didn't want a lot of griping about overcooked food or administrative screw-ups. Thanks to a novelist friend, Emily Prager, I got the idea: Have them interview their pals on what they liked about prison. This, of course, fairly threw them. But, Professor P, we hate prison, why can't we write about that? Because everybody knows that story, I said. You're news reporters, and the news is, you know, new.

Reluctantly, over the next week they hit up fellow inmates in this regard, with trepidation in some cases, because they knew these guys weren't going to like the question either. Here's one of the leads. "Animal stands out among most inmates. His 6-foot-9-inch, 250-pound muscled frame was the result of years spent lifting weights. He has an array of ghoulish tattoos and a gnarled razor scar that runs down the right side of his cheek. I could not help but feel a bit uneasy as I approached the front of his cub, where he sat preparing a peanut-butter-and-jelly sandwich." Nice touch, that sandwich, I told the writer.

In the end they persuaded just about everyone to talk. One inmate, Jose I'll call him, told one of my reporters that he liked Woodbourne not for any program, but for how it had turned out to be a "gangster's paradise." "For Jose," the story said, "prison is like a jail shopping network, where profiling, signifying, and slick talking purchase the company of hustlers, thugs, and killers. Caring very little about the overall expense of perhaps coming back to prison or being killed, he associates affluence and success with such a crowd. As Jose says, 'Watch, Cuz, I'm a push a Lexus, have a phat crib, I'm connected with some real ballers now.'"

On the other hand, a number of inmates credited prison with saving their lives. One was Fast Freddy, six feet tall, weighing 130 pounds, a high school track star before he got addicted to crack cocaine. He was interviewed by a thirty-three-year-old student named Lino, one of my best reporters. Lino was tall, well-muscled, and fairly fierce looking himself, with a deadeye stare and a scar down the side of his face — fierce, that is, until he broke into a smile, seeing how well he could do this stuff. "I was out there snatching purses from old women, even stole from my mother," he quoted Fast Freddy as saying. "And one day I snatched a purse from an old lady who had a son that was being sought by police for three homicides. I became so scared I ran straight to the police precinct and turned myself in." In Freddy's perspective, if it were not for prison he would have been hunted down and killed. Freddy has taken the time here to acquire a GED and is currently a teacher's aide in the vocational welding shop and is seeking to complete his apprenticeship as a certified welder.

The last story they'd write would be about Christmas in prison. There's

no tree or presents, of course. At Woodbourne, a Catholic charity furnishes them all with Christmas cards to mail, and the Salvation Army gives out "Care Bags" containing a toothbrush, tube of toothpaste, comb, shampoo, and a wash cloth — a prosaic collection that doesn't elicit much enthusiasm. The day itself usually starts off fairly grim, they reported. The guards are grumpy, because they have to be in prison, too, not home with their families. And, as Carlos the kitchen worker wrote, "Most of the guys wake up feeling depressed and agitated because they may not have gotten any mail, or they may have been expecting a food or clothing package that may not have arrived. Someone always seems to get into a beef on Christmas morning. If it's not over the shower, it's over the phone; if it's not that, then it's over the TV, but either way a fight always takes place."

The prisoners tend to wake up thinking about home, about when they were little boys, the age when their happy memories generally come to a halt, what with the teenage years spent in and out of trouble, until the big thing happens that lands them in prison. And in recalling the early years, they understandably feel a little sorry for themselves. "From the cell the snowy world beyond the barred windows is less a harbinger of good news than a reminder of opportunities lost," wrote Julian, the one with the gathered-up dreads. "I'm a little put out by how much the scene below looks like a postcard, not unlike the picture postcards I used to get from U.S. relatives as a boy in Jamaica. As a youngster, the snow always represented something far away, mythical. Now, that's how I feel about Christmas, which I no longer experience."

Food looms large on Christmas, because it's tied to the same memories. Normally, the meals at Woodbourne get cooked twice, once at a central facility, where the food is then put into freezer bags and trucked to the prison, and again when it's dumped into kettles of boiling water before serving. On Christmas, however, the administration goes out of its way to provide something nice, and enough of it so the inmates can eat all they want. This year it would be roast beef, rice, fruit juice, and cake with icing for desert. "In comparison with the other meals served here," Lino wrote, "this particular meal tasted like something out of a four-star restaurant."

Food and childhood were also on Lino's mind when he woke up that day. "I can picture my family at Christmas preparing to put the finishing touches on the multiple-course meal they have been preparing for the past day or two," he wrote. "Deep down, I can smell the roast pork, rice, and pigeon peas, candied yams and apple pie. My parents' entire home with a warm and cozy feeling . . . The person who I miss the most is my fifteen-year-old son, who I only spent one Christmas with. Whenever I speak with him during this time of the year, I can hear the sadness in his voice."

"Christmases in jail are mostly like any other day. Just when I begin to feel the Christmas spirit, there is something that reminds me of where I am. I remember Christmas 2004 clearly. I was watching a Soul Train Christmas special. There were rhythm & blues stars singing Christmas carols. Half way through the show the correction officer called for the count. We were directed to return to our cubicles. On this particular day the count was not correct, and by the time we returned to the recreation room the show was over."

Bruce Porter is the special assistant to the dean at the Columbia Graduate School of Journalism. Source: <http://www.cj.org>

**Republic of Yemen
Ministry of Public Health and Population
Health Reform Support Project Credit 3625
Credit Administration Unit
Announcing Vacancy for the Post of Credit Administrator**

The World Bank financed Health Reform support Project (HRSP) seeks applicants for the position of **Credit Administrator** at the Credit Administration Unit (CAU). The **Credit Administrator** will report and be accountable to the Minister of Public Health and Population or his designated representative as head of the Project Steering Committee (PSC), and will work closely with other staff of the CAU, relevant departments of the Ministry of Public Health and Population (MOPHP), Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, and the Ministry of Finance.

1. General administration of the project:

- Coordinate and manage the implementation of the HRSP, administer the CAU and be the liaison with all stakeholders.
- Coordinate the work of the CAU in the areas of procurement, finance, and supervision of project activities.
- Make day to day decisions to ensure that the project implementation plan is executed on schedule in order to achieve the project development objectives.
- Ensure that consultants and auditors are appointed on time.
- Act as a **secretary general** to the PSC.

2. Planning and implementation:

Assist the MOPHP general departmental and programme directors responsible for implementation of the project in developing project implementation plans, and communicate this to all levels of project management. The Credit Administrator will also provide administrative support for the effective implementation of such plans in a timely manner.

3. Monitoring and evaluation and performance review:

Collaborate with MOPHP general departmental and programme directors responsible for implementation of the project to monitor performance and outcome indicators and standards against which to measure performance.

4. Reporting:

Coordinate the preparation, analysis, and interpretation of results concerning the financial, procurement, and physical progress of project activities, to support effective day-to-day decision making, planning, and reporting to the PSC and for meetings involving MOPHP general departmental and programme directors responsible for implementation of the project and other relevant parties.

5. Personnel management:

Manage and coordinate the work of the CAU personnel and evaluate their performance on a regular basis to ensure that their tasks and actions are in line with the plan and their terms of reference.

- Act as the liaison with various government committees/organizations and other stakeholders with regards to the project's implementation.
- Prepare for and work closely with World Bank supervision missions which take place about twice a year.
- Any other tasks as deemed necessary for efficient administration of the Credit.

Qualifications:

- A minimum of ten years of public or private sector managerial experience.
- A minimum of a Master's degree in management/business administration, public health, health policy, planning and finance, or a related field, with a solid knowledge of financial management and procurement.
- The ability to think strategically, translate ideas into plans and actions and supervise their implementation.
- Proficiency in speaking and writing in Arabic and English.
- Good interpersonal and communication skills.
- Proficiency with computers and all office software applications.
- Familiarity with the government and World Bank financial and accounting procedures.

Expressions of interest must be delivered to the address below by **5th June 2006**. Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

**Credit Administration Unit
Health Reform support Project
4th Floor-Ministry of Public Health and Population
P.O. Box 1330 – Al-Hasabah – Sanaa-Republic of Yemen
Tel: +967(1) 252225 - Fax: +967(1) 251622 Email: hrsp@y.net.ye**

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عرض خاص لمشترياتكم بدءاً من ١,٠٠٠ ريال فما فوق من شملة هاري يخولكم في الدخول على سحب الجائزة الكبرى

Words of Wisdom



Parents and family elders are not providing good role models, either. Many adults spend their time chewing qat and watching satellite TV programs that represent the lowest common denominator, the children's recreational needs are mostly neglected, leaving them to wander off into the streets and mix with bad company.

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

OUR
OPINION

Hail the teachers

The Yemeni constitution is known to be one of the very good constitutions generally. The laws articulated within it promote law and order, freedoms, civil organization and even gender balance. To top the cake, the Yemeni government is one of the very few governments worldwide that supports international agreements and treaties. The state has ratified almost every existing international agreement, almost without any reservations at all. If there were to be a competition for defining the best global citizen, our government probably would win, of course only theoretically. This is because we could have the best systems, yet there is a huge gap between what is and what is supposed to be. Obviously, this is an old story, but what is relatively new is that unfortunately our government is somewhat shameful about it.

In this issue you will read a report about tragedy of the education syndicates for two years now. There is almost no actual syndicate work in Yemen, and the little that there is, is being crushed under the ignorance and arrogance of some officials in the country in spite of all protecting laws. There has been a very good step forward when the government exempted girls from school fees recently. But this is simply not enough; education should be compulsory not only for free.

I believe that teaching is a noble profession. However, in Yemen teaching is one of the least financially rewarding professions and even one of the most looked down upon career wise. "Oh he/she is just a teacher" is a typical phrase we are used to. Not only school teachers get their souls drained off their bodies everyday, university professors are sharing the gloomy picture too. There is no country in the world that does with university professors like in our country. It is a massacre! Just when the university professors have reached their professional high and are able to give the most, they are forced to step down.

Education is the way forward. Other governments like that of Malaysia and Tunisia knew this long ago and invested a respectable share of their national revenues in promoting this sector. Many of the high technical and skilled jobs in Yemen are filled by international recruits because there is no local substitute. Yet, despite acknowledging this problem and working on enhancing the educational sector, all actions by the state today are pushing the wheel backward. I feel there is no worse act than humiliating teachers and threatening to make their living worse by either moving them to remote work stations, cutting down their salaries or simply firing them. I dread to think of the future and how our students are going to land up when they are old enough to participate influentially in the society. The education sector needs prime attention from the donors also. If the international organizations assisting Yemen truly want to help, this is what they should be working on now because this is what Yemen needs desperately.

Nadia Al-Sakkaf
Editor-in-Chief

Criticizing moral deviation
of broken intellectuals

When an intellectual goes bankrupt, or when getting more intellectually broken, he will not hesitate on declaring war against everything including himself and then others. Bankruptcy is not that of money as money comes and goes, but it is that bankruptcy of morals. Among these comes the epistemic bankruptcy of which the deviation of the intellectual increases whenever his bankruptcy goes up. This will be clear in his dealings with his friends and enemies alike whether they agree with him or not. Such sort of broken people increase in number with the passage of time and they become a burden and danger for themselves before others who bear the consequences of their bankruptcy. These bankrupt people have trouble in their depth with aggressive obsessions which calm down only to move again.

What is strange about such broken intellectual is that he can not see nor recognize himself. If he had seen his reality one day, it would have caused him to feel disgust. So he may give up or belittle his excessive broken self due



By: Dr. Abdulaziz
Al-Maqaleh

to the stress of his feelings of bankruptcy which alienate him from others. Consequently, he will not mind attacking others nor setting free his aggressive intentions towards those whom he think to be a stumbling stone in his way and a cause for his bankruptcy. His foolishness and his aggressive way of morals. This is destitute of all meanings of balancing turn with the passage of time to be a morbid case. Such case will tranquilize only with increased snapping, hurting and facts turning over. In addition, he will use and borrow the big terms to use out of their place to speak of things he does not know and they are not of concern to him.

This broken intellectual may not realize that his attack against a certain person or issue will earn him or it more interest and attracts other people's attention to this person's qualities or that issue which has been hidden. When the bankrupt finds reactions turn against him, he will not apologize nor give up his hallucinations. Yet, he will be more agitated and he will strongly stick to his deviating style which arouses the pity and concerns of those around him. He

does not merit the honor of enmity as the deserving for such honor are those who are healthy not unhealthy. They leave behind them their traces on the daily life and they meet with strong peers and competitors. None will compete with this broken nor wish to be his peer under no condition.

The phenomenon of the bankrupt people who have no concern except to revenge their bankruptcy on successful people does rise in our Arab World. It is not confined to certain Arab country. It is a sign of societies' deterioration and a real picture for degeneration of the level of knowledge. I do not want to refer to those evidences scattered here and there. For it is sufficient to hint at the disease which has not got enough study from those who care about the psychological and moral health of societies and it is the base for the physical one. The studies conducted by psychologists will help in this respect. In the main time, studying such phenomenon will protect our nation's youth from falling into this sort of cultural bankruptcy whose victims and samples have increased in number.

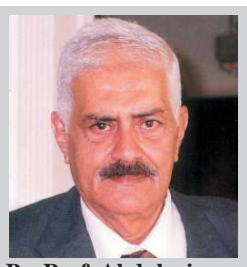
Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Maqaleh is Yemen's prominent poet and intellectual. He is the director of the Yemeni Center for Studies.

Dialogue in a changeable world

If you want to approach someone and wanted to remove whatever barriers between him and yourself, a logical and constructive dialogue is conducted between both of you. Such a behavior applicable between persons and individuals can be applicable to relations among states and civilizations.

To remove the fabricated gap between Islam and the west each party must know the party's principles, ideas, objectives and intentions. This could not be attained unless there is dialogue. You present your own intentions and I present you with my own intentions and purposes as they are and then the deformed and false image would have been removed. The religion of Islam is a religion of dialogue and its principal principle is that there is compelling in religion.

Hence, the history has not witnessed a program more open to dialogue than that of the Prophet Mohammed. History has not witnessed a ruler more patient towards iniquity of debating parties and their injustice more than him, despite of the long distances, difficulty of traveling and its dangers. The Prophet was used to send to those dialogues such men as having strong faith in religion and entertained a huge ability of knowledge and tolerance of pain.



By: Prof. Abdulaziz
Al-Tarb

Dialogue associated with mutual respect is a necessary demand at a time when some are ignorant about the truth and reality of Islam and its civilization. Dialogue is the sole means for displaying facts and truths. The more we contact the world the more we would be able to portray the real image that has been deformed by those with evil intentions as well as the deformation perpetrated by some Muslims out of ignorance or without it.

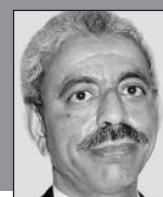
The language of dialogue must benefit from the essence of the experiment and changes taking place in the world and also from its lessons. Nevertheless, we have no right to accuse the other of being our enemy and conspire against us because surely this is not in favor of our international relations and does not serve the reciprocal interests with the other. If we, the Arabs and Muslims, are not able to conduct dialogue among ourselves, how can we then ask for success with the other while we refuse self-criticism and have not put to motion the wheel of internal dialogue?

It remains very important to activate the dialogue leading to interaction and rectification, first of all at the internal level. It is one of the characteristics of the contemporary international community. The Arab media still believe that the traditional language among governments

is the ideal one. This is a mistake because the experiment and reality proved the opposite in the west. Their public opinion is the motivator and the effective and the west has assimilated the lessons very well and the Arab media cannot appeal to the western media but with science and thinking with truthfulness and clarity rather than sedition, accusation of betrayal and creation of sorts of tension and confusion.

I follow up with great interest what is going on in Yemen first and in the rest of Arab countries of dialogues about the future of the political action and the aspired for reforms. I have reached to a full conviction that peoples are not built by trading insulting words for each other. The ruler should know and realize that tomorrow he would go to the opposition. Therefore, he must maintain the stage of genuine dialogue towards the best with a way respecting the other's submissions and views whatever different the other's programs and goals are. We have to agree on knowing the shortcomings in the way of dealing with each other and to reform the house from inside in order to occupy our position among other nations. We have to understand these bases in our daily dialogues at home, school, office or the party!

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

For laws to be meaningful:
The Judiciary must be
independent

The issue of a free judiciary is one of the most important elements of a democratic society and it goes without saying that if the judiciary of any country is not given the independence necessary to carry out its function, then that country has not achieved a major standard of democratic and progressive governance.

One of the major obstacles to development in Yemen and in most of the Arab World is that the judiciary is subject to controls and at best influence of the executive branch of government. In some cases, there is also interference in the work of the judiciary by social and elitist elements in the society. That is why it is difficult for the judiciary to carry out its duties in a fair and judicial manner, which will ensure that laws are interpreted properly and more important that laws are enforced equally on all citizens who break them or think that they are immune to proceedings based on these laws.

Experience and several studies have clearly indicated that without an independent judiciary, society tends to lean towards anarchy and chaos and the deprived in the society have no recourse to turn to deal with their grievances. Furthermore, with a judiciary unable to do its work freely and without interference from any powerbrokers or lobbies, it is difficult to see how a favorable legal and institutional climate can be assured in any country suffering from a weak and dominated judiciary.

In Yemen, there is also an obvious need to ensure that the Courts are able to deal with the hundreds of cases sitting and waiting for judicial decisions without the interference of the executive branch. This means relinquishing the Supreme Judicial Council and leaving the Supreme Court to supervise and monitor the progress of the judicial process in the country. This will significantly give the President greater freedom in dealing with the already many issues that he must contend with as part of his executive duties and furthermore enhance his image as the protector of the laws and the people living under these laws.

The case of the fight between the Egyptian independent judges and the state run judicial council is a clear case in point when the judiciary finds itself unable to render independent decisions based on law and its interpretation of these laws. This case is important because the decisions involved have to do with an important process of democratic government. The right of the people to freely elect the officials can be rightfully supervised by the judiciary, but if such supervision is going to be subject to the influence of a powerful executive branch of government that insists on immortalizing their overwhelming power in that government, how can one honestly say that indeed democratic government has indeed been achieved.

There are of course basic concepts in democratic government that cannot be compromised and an essential element as such is separation of powers and the existence of a free and independent judiciary. Egypt is not alone in this respect and Yemen is not the only Arab state that needs to put such important essentials of democratic practice into play. But Egypt and Yemen can take the lead in the Arab World if they fully recognize that the independence of the judiciary is absolute and well established. Otherwise the Arab World will continue to suffer from many problems associated with poor governance and weak law enforcement. The latter are breeding grounds for social discontent and a climate that cannot be considered amicable to local or foreign investments, all of which are needed to restore vitality to the economies of both of these important Arab states.

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

Letters to the Editor

The US intentions of
war on Iran

Here goes a saying, "Those who do not feel the music think the dancer mad." The outlook of the globe after 9/11 incident looks quite bleak and disappointing not only for those who have been the victims but also for the aggressors. Sometimes it seems as if most of the rulers [of the Muslim States] already ensured Uncle Sam of their full support about which the ignorant public is simply unaware.

The poor public are keeping to pray to Almighty Allah for thwarting the impending war against Iran, the grounds

against which has already been levelled. When I see the leaders of Muslim States holding meetings specially with regard to resolving the burning issue of US-Iran, it reminds me of a story as to who will bell the cat. They are spending alot on their officials and private tours and trips from one country to another and holding meetings, but ironically, results are so far coming negative. The time is running out and nobody knows what will happen next moment.

The other day holding a copy of the Arab Times, I met a friend who asked me about the US intentions and preparations of war on Iran. Well, by reading the

papers and watching news is what one can keep themselves abreast of the gravity of situations. Anyhow, I answered him, "Just wait a little bit more." He asked me, "What for?" I had not yet answered him, he questioned me, "Don't you see the unity of our Muslim leaders? If they would remain so, US can never ever attack Iran." I knew he uttered so just in an extreme anguish.

I am afraid that if situations go on at such a pace, the day is not far off to see a Third World War [we have been listening and talking about so far] but I believe it would wind up the world too like a carpet is rolled up. So that's what's the result of advanced and

higher education and literacy. Let me ask you if an ignorance is not bliss? I guess it is.

Needless to say that from Islamic standpoint, a man is the most superior of all creatures spread on the surface of earth that's why he is called 'Ashraful Ma'looaqaat' but the socialists have defined him to be a social animal. Well, under the existing circumstances, if viewed carefully, he seems to have fallen far below the line of being an animal. Why? Because he lost trust and faith. He lost true spirit of love. He lost kindness. He lost mind. He lost sense. Yes, sense too. Because he does not think that the step he is due to take will

multiply problems and hardships not only for himself but for the rest of his fellows too.

Therefore, let me correct [or add] something more to the definition made by the honourable socialists that it is true that man is a social animal but a violent one. Since we always watch in documentary movies on wildlife where the forest guards always try to catch and cure the abnormal animals that go mad otherwise it's shot dead. Therefore, now the world — we are living in if compared to a forest — I am sure one will find enormous peace and satisfaction in forest. No fighting, no arguments, no backbiting, no mud-

slinging, no faultfinding, and no war against you. Is it not a peaceful and ideal life?

Barkatullah Marwat
marwat@kuwaitnet.com

Yemeni doctors:
Victims of their time

I don't agree totally with the writer of the article entitled "Yemeni doctors: to heal or to steal". Not all her points of view are correct. As a matter of fact, not all physicians are greedy and looking for money. I agree with the writer that both goodness and badness are in everywhere. Vice and virtue are existed forever and one can't be available without the other. In fact, the private sector

nowadays is necessary to encounter the people's needs and to get better healthcare. Most of doctors who don't find their opportunity in the government are practicing their career in the private hospitals and in their clinics. They serve sick people. It's natural to earn from their career to face the life's needs. I agree with you that some of them look for money but it is not a general view. You see that the public hospitals are suffering from crowded people every day. I think that private hospitals is a good solution not only in Yemen but in all the world.

Mohammed khoshafah
Alameed Institute - IB

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Yemen Press Review

By: Mohammed Khidhr

Al-Wahdawi weekly, organ of the Nasserite Unionist Organization (NUO), 9May 2006.

- Main headlines**
- Tribal armed clashes in Ibb
 - JMP to the President: Existing election record torpedoes legitimacy of upcoming elections results
 - Arab National Conference elects new general secretariat
 - JMP leaderships meet civil society organizations
 - Foreign Policy Magazine: Yemen among 16 most unstable countries in the world in 2006
 - Watani Bank depositors sue the Central Bank of Yemen
 - NUO's assistant secretary general Al-Rada'ie: We won't enter elections as false witnesses, elections supreme commission changed into adversary
 - Political Security in Ibb arrests director of Jibla hospital
 - Lawyers demand dismissal of the Attorney General

Writer Abdullah Abdulaleem says the Yemeni unity has constituted a national gain for the people of Yemen who have struggled and offered the dearest sacrifices for the achievement of this great goal that has been one of the aims and principles of the revolutions of 26 September and 14 October.

Our people in the north and the south maintained their defense of the revolution and continued their struggle for the accomplishment of this goal that was realized on 22 May 1990. Thousands of Yemeni strugglers had fallen during stages of the national struggle and the national movement had offered many martyrs who had fallen after the unification of the homeland under feeble justifications and aims void of any content. It has tangibly been proved in the events of the war of 1994 summer that claimed around 11 thousand deaths and losses estimated at \$ 12 billion.

Today we are celebrating this great historical event at its 16th anniversary, we wonder about what we find of development happened to the Yemeni reality. It is a reality moving from bad to worse, represented by the price doses, from which the people are suffering, the corruption at various levels, and the increase of the volume of unemployment that is expanding inside the society including the youth of both sexes.

What happens in the country is regrettable despite of the capabilities that are squandered by people unqualified for preserving the public property, especially while we are raising the slogan of reform which is not

actually practiced. Is it possible now to review what we have negatively practiced and to begin building a better future and eliminate the corrupt in all of the state institutions, to apply what is submitted on many occasions and to change those slogans into reality?

The change requires a strong will and a courageous political stand. Has time come to practically translate that, given the fact that the Yemeni unity has accomplished great tasks, mainly ending the division for good? With the realization of the unity a greatest achievement has been done, i.e. the achievement of democracy, political pluralism, the freedom of political parties to work inside the society, the freedom of change, the freedom of the press and establishment of non-governmental civil society organizations and societies.



Al-Nidaa weekly, 10 May, 2006.

- Main headlines**
- Parliamentarians deny withdrawing draft of constitutional amendments
 - Saleh, Bin Ghanim and Yassin, most prominent competitors for presidency
 - Yemen Observer, Al-Rai Al-A'am and Al-Huriyah newspapers resume publication, Editors in Chief: Bajammal's decision came to rectify Information Ministry mistakes

Writer Mohammed Al-Ghubari says in his article since the United States has adopted what it has called the "Greater Middle East Project", the modernization movement in the Arab countries is facing two kinds of internal and external inferno. Internally the activists of modernization face charges of being agents to the west and seeking to bring destruction to their countries, in reference to the Iraqi example, the other aspect of inferno is connected to the hypocrisy practiced by the administrations and establishments affiliated to them in dealing with ruling systems in the region.

Promoters of the project of democracy and freedoms in the Middle East, as that is considered one of the determinants of the war on what is described as terror, would cause you a shock when they shed phrases of praise on a state that allowed holding partial municipal elections, another forbidding partisan work and a third intending to think of giving a very small area to its citizens to choose their representatives at legislatures that do nothing but to vote for government proposals.

Generally, the defect lies in the American administration and its organizations ignorance of countries

having political pluralism, as is the case with Morocco and Yemen, and moreover the defect is bigger when they consider the Arab peoples as not fully qualified to choose their rulers or to have balloting boxes to which the political parties resort and achieve equal opportunities in assumption of power. Maybe Yemen can be taken as an example in this regard. Since the acknowledgement of political pluralism and multi-party system, those who have connection with the American administration view the existence of ballot boxes in Yemen as a great accomplishment because it happens in an area governed by authoritarian monarchic regimes that do not recognize political parties and do not admit the right of people to political participation.

After the elapse of 15 years on this beginning, those have not changed their view and they still think that holding elections and coming and going of parliaments and election of local councils is a great action that those people should not be ambitious for more, even if those institutions have not done anything.

The hypocrisy practiced by the American administration and some of its organizations changes in many countries into certificates of good conducts for governments and a factor aborting the democratic change and frustration for the movements that struggle for attaining a genuine democratic rule.

Al-Mithaq weekly, organ of the General people's Congress (GPC), 8 May 2006.

- Main headlines**
- President Saleh: Yemen promising in its oil, gas and mineral wealth
 - The public continue appealing to the president to back off from his decision of not running the presidential elections
 - PM Bajammal: Yemen unity ended the biggest political corruption in Yemen's history
 - Dr Faris Al-Saqqaf: Parties of the JMP incapable of meeting their commitments to civil society organizations
 - International organizations express astonishment for sending them complaints by parties of the JMP instead of the concerned sides
 - To be held in June, The 4th conference of local councils to diagnose reality of the experiment, discuss working papers on developing decentralization system
 - Exemption of girl pupils from duties would encourage 150 thousand girls to enroll in education
- The writer Hassan Ahmed Al-Lawzi

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By: Samer



says the great success achieved in the process of registration of new electors who have become legally eligible for elections is no doubt attributed to the good work done by the young persons who have fulfilled their duties as it should under the leadership of the supreme commission of elections. They have deserved all kinds of praise and appreciation and acquired a national certificate for their performance despite the great difficulties surrounding them. The deep awakening and keenness on implementation of laws and taking deterrent and correcting measures are enough to make us all assured that the reasonable movement in the democratic process is moving forward towards the realization of one of the greatest national goals in this year distinguished by the presidential and local elections.



Al-Wasat weekly, 10 May 2006.

- Main headlines**
- The president warns from election fever, the JMP prepares for massive festival in Taiz
 - After confirmation by the JMP and the GPC reaching a deadlock, Al-A'nisi waves with boycotting, Al-Shami advises the opposition not to step up
 - Saudi crown prince to discuss Hadramout investment, not to attend May celebrations
 - After discussion on electoral violations, Sheikh Al-Ahmar: The solution in the hands of the President
 - An opinion poll: Majority of the Yemenis want a civilian president
 - The parliament recommends approval of oil agreements not subjected to world competition

- Confrontations in Nadirah
Party affairs editor of the newspaper wrote saying exchanged statements between leadership of the JMP and the GPC and all of them emphasize unprecedented estrangement and that their dialogue has reached a dead end and there is no gap for a possible outlet. Despite the recognition that the state has reached to this extent of political despotism, despite of its danger that expresses despair more than the non-existence of possible solutions and ways, it could be on the other hand read in a different way. It is that both parties of the dialogue were aware they were only playing the role of dialogue parties and knowing for sure that the time they were using was no more than introduction for a different subject whose place and time has not been defined yet. Under this consideration, dialogue parties from the JMP and the

GPC have wasted months of meetings without having minutes recording a difference or document an agreement to be cited when one of the parties would try to acquit itself from a certain stand.

Leaders of the JMP are still talking about the GPC as a party with which the dialogue has reached a dead end. The JMP has raised the ceiling of its opposition when they have become certain that concessions would only lead to more of them. That has urged the authority to try as much as possible to destabilize trust among the parties of the JMP. The president of the republic, rather than the GPC, is capable of deciding the dispute with the JMP in any way and with any concessions I think that as long as the opposition was unified it could be a strong part of the political equation in order to get significant concession in favor of democracy and the people.

SILVER LINING

By: Mohammed Al-Qadhi
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Towards effective and fruitful elections

I know that democracy is never limited to voting. It rather involves other practices for democracy, as John Kennedy said, is never a final achievement.

However, election is a very important process in any democratization and transformation drive. It enables the people to be the driving force of change because of their power to take the decision and choose their rulers. In other words, it is elections that determines and demonstrates the participation of the people in the overall governance process.

This can take place if the election is fair and free where the people decide and choose without any influence or intimidation. But, we can not talk about democracy where elections are carried out fraudulently. To ensure a fair play, the voter registration process must be clean and transparent. The voter register must be free from repeated and underage voters. The Supreme Commission for Elections and Referendum (SCER) announced last week that there were 126,000 underage voters and another 64,000 duplicated voters. This is what the SCER has disclosed and the voter register is pregnant might be more than that.

Of course, such kind of register in addition to many other sorts of influence exercised on voters will never entail the will of the people. Voters here turn to be just a means for false testimonies decorating a false and phantom democracy. That is, elections become fruitless in such circumstances of frauds and irregularities. They produce frustration whereby the people feel democracy is just a big lie and a mere hypocrisy meant to appease the foreign countries rather than a means for influencing change at home. Furthermore, they become confident that their votes make no difference

and thus do not go to the polling booths.

Let us have a look at the current parliament structure; it is composed most of influential tribal figures and businessmen. Some of these MPs are hardly literate and enjoy absolute authority on their citizens in their constituencies. Some even still have private prisons. Most of these people, of course, never voice the interests of their people, but their own. This or that influential guy can run for parliament several times and win. When he retires or dies, he is replaced by his son in some cases. Most of these parliamentarians are weak and even influenced by the government. By the end of the day, we tend to have a toothless parliament which is unable to hold the government accountable, its main business.

Another detriment to improve the effectiveness of elections is the single-member electoral system which, according to International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance report published last year, has helped to kill pluralism before it has had a chance to develop, limiting the chances of opposition parties to gain the number of parliamentary seats that would boost their competitiveness. This means that we have to consider the reform the electoral law, addressing the loopholes so as to strengthen party pluralism which is tremendously backsliding and is on its last leg.

I know we are still a fledgling democracy where we should not expect things to be perfect overnight. Yes, this is true. But, if we are serious about establishing a real democracy, its grounds should be solid and transparent. Elections can not be effective and encouraging broad public participation unless they are fair and free. Otherwise, they become a waste of time and efforts and above all a false testimony to tyrannical and oppressive regimes, resulting in further frustration and extremism.

Should Iran be attacked?

By: Joseph S. Nye

President George W. Bush has said that Iran's development of nuclear weapons is unacceptable, and recent press accounts suggest that his administration is exploring preventive military options. In Iran, President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad has defied the diplomatic efforts of the European Union and others, using the nuclear issue to stir rally domestic support. Is it too late to prevent a showdown?

Iran claims that its nuclear program is aimed solely at peaceful uses, and that it has the right to develop uranium enrichment and other technologies as a signatory of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT). But it spent 18 years deceiving inspectors from the watchdog International Atomic Energy Agency, leading some countries to argue that Iran destroyed its credibility and forfeited its rights to enrichment on its own soil.

Russia has offered to provide nuclear enrichment and reprocessing services for the civilian reactor it is building in Iran. If Iran were interested solely in peaceful uses, the Russian offer or some other plan (such as placing stocks of low enriched uranium in Iran) could meet their needs. Iran's insistence on enrichment inside the country is widely attributed to its desire to produce highly enriched uranium for a bomb. Would an Iranian bomb really be so bad? Some argue that it could become the basis of stable nuclear deterrence in the region, analogous to the nuclear standoff

between the United States and the Soviet Union during the Cold War. But statements by Iranian leaders denying the Holocaust and urging the destruction of Israel have not only cost Iran support in Europe, but are unlikely to make Israel willing to gamble its existence on the prospect of stable deterrence.

Nor is it likely that Saudi Arabia, Egypt, and others will sit passively while the Persian Shia gain the bomb. They will likely follow suit, and the more weapons proliferate in the volatile Middle East, the more likely it is that accidents and miscalculations could lead to their use. Moreover, there are genuine fears that rogue elements in a divided Iranian government might leak weapons technology to terrorist groups.

These are the dangers that lead some to contemplate air strikes to destroy Iran's nuclear facilities before they can make weapons. At first glance, a "surgical" strike may look tempting. But military options are less attractive when carefully analyzed. Iran's nuclear facilities are dispersed; some are underground. If one adds suppression of air defenses, such a strike might involve roughly 600 targets - far from surgical.

Moreover, while an air strike might set back Iran's program by a few years, it would solidify nationalist support for the government and the nuclear program, particularly because one attack would not be enough. The process of protracted strikes could thwart positive political changes among the younger generation, thus reducing the chances of a more democratic and benign Iran

emerging in the future.

At the same time, Iran has effective means of retaliation. It might not be able to close the Strait of Hormuz, but threats to refineries, storage facilities, and tankers would send oil prices even higher. Moreover, Iran's support of terrorist organizations, such as Hezbollah, could bring violence to other countries. With the outcome of Bush's ill-advised war in Iraq uncertain and his legacy depending heavily upon finding a political solution, Iran's support for Iraqi Shiite radicals could give it considerable leverage.

When Bush administration officials say that "all options are on the table," they are warning the Iranians that the use of force is possible. But one is tempted to believe when they add that they are now focused on diplomacy. As Theodore Roosevelt once said, negotiations may go better when you talk softly but carry a big stick. At the same time, however, Iran knows how costly it would be for the Americans (and perhaps the Israelis) to use force, which reduces the effect of the threat.

At present, a diplomatic solution does not look promising. Iran has threatened to leave the NPT if sanctions are imposed, and Russia and China worry that even modest targeted sanctions could escalate and ultimately legitimize an American use of force that they wish to avoid. China wants to preserve its access to Iranian oil, and Russia seeks to preserve a valuable commercial market. But both realize that a failure to resolve the issue in the context of the UN (in which they are major stakeholders as permanent members of the Security

Council) could severely damage the future of that institution.

Today, the diplomatic package consists mostly of penalties, albeit the small ones of targeted sanctions. Their main effect will be psychological if widespread support for them creates a sense in Iran that it has isolated itself. Unlike North Korea, Iran is more likely to care about its international standing.

The diplomatic package could be made more attractive if the US would add more positive incentives. Through a credible intermediary, the US could offer to consider security guarantees and relief from existing sanctions if Iran agrees to forego domestic enrichment and accept the Russian offer, perhaps garbed as an IAEA-backed international consortium in which Iran could participate. This would mean abandoning the temptations of coercive regime change that hamstrung American diplomacy in Bush's first term.

By increasing economic and cultural ties, diplomacy might unleash the soft power that could contribute to more gradual regime transformation over the longer term. Meanwhile, such an approach might avoid the costly use of force and buy time for a more benign outcome than what lies at the end of the current path of events.

Joseph S. Nye, a former Assistant US Secretary of Defense under President Clinton, is Professor at Harvard and the author of Soft Power: The Means to Success in World Politics.
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Minister of Health to YT:

There is no bird flu outbreak in Yemen so far, we are prepared to tackle it

In an exclusive interview with Yemen Times, the Minister of Health Dr. Abdulkarim Yehia Rasae talked about several issues related to the health system in Yemen, the bird flu pandemic, the lack of doctors and their distribution in the country and the ministry's vision and future plans regarding the Millennium Development Goals. He was interviewed by Dr. Hamdan Dammag, Managing Editor, and Amel Al-Ariqi, Health Page Editor.

Q: Is it correct that you asked MPs to ask people to eat chicken as the country is free of Bird Flu?

A: No, it is not like that. In one of the parliament sessions, one MP said that the government provided the Ministry of Health with 2 billion YR to fight bird flu. This MP asked the government to pay farmers and poultry's owners as well. I told him that we can compensate farmers only after the spread of the disease. Our view was that if MPs, who are refusing to eat fowls, want to support the farmers then they should buy and eat chickens as well as convincing people in their constituencies to do so as there is no infection of Bird Flu yet, and we have said that many times.

Q: As we know, the monitoring process is the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture whereas the Ministry of Health is responsible for watching the infection among humans. How can you confirm that Yemen is completely free of bird flu among human and poultry?

A: There is a constant collaboration between the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Agriculture. We receive daily reports from the monitoring department in the Ministry of Agriculture which shows that there is no infection among the poultry yet. Some reports mentioned that some fowls perished in some farms, but these reports also indicated that this was due to other diseases like Newcastle disease. I, as a Minister of Health, confirm to you that there is no infection of Bird Flu in Yemen until this moment, whether among people or birds.

“ I can tell you that there is a doctor for 600 people in the city of Sana'a, a doctor for 12,000 people in Dhamar governorate and a doctor for 90,000 people in Otma province. ”

Q: Can you tell us what did you do to face such pandemic?

A: The Ministry is following plan and precautions that all Arab countries are adopting to face this disease. This plan was prepared with the cooperation of world Health Organization (WHO). We have also the national plan of Ministry of Health and Population to fight this disease. According to this plan, we are working to equip medical institutions and hospitals with equip-

**The Minister in Brief**

Dr. Abdulkarim Yehia Rasae was born on November 3, 1958, Yemen. He did his M.B., B.Ch in the Faculty of Medicine, Al-Azhar University, Cairo in 1982. He has an MSC in Pediatrics from the Faculty of Medicine, Cairo University, in 1988 and M.D. in Pediatrics, Faculty of Medicine, Sana'a, Cairo University, in 1993. He was the Rector of Aden University from 2003 until 2006. He was also a Professor of Pediatrics at the Faculty of Medicine, Sana'a University, from 2000 to 2003. From 1997 to 1999, he worked as a Deputy Minister of Health for Medical and Health Services.



Dr. Abdulkarim Rasae (left) showing the Managing Editor the daily reports the Ministry receives on bird flu monitoring in Yemen.

ments that we will buy such as ventilators, as the disease may lead to failure in respiratory system. We also provided medications such as the Tamiflu - we prepared 250,000 tablets for adults and 4000 bottles for children. We also provided special uniforms for some workers and doctors who received training courses in many medical establishments around the country. Regarding raising the awareness among people, the Ministry is launching an educative flashes and programs in the national TV and radio.

Q: The prime Minister suggested putting the medical colleges under the supervision of the Ministry of Health. What is your opinion on such suggestion?

A: Well, this system of putting Medical colleges under the supervision of the Ministry of Health is adopted in some countries such as Iran, which is known by its distinguished medical health system. However, while this system is not adopted in any Arab country, Yemen may consider following this system in the future if we find it better than others'.

Q: Yemeni authorities have ordered the closure of medical faculties in

private universities for failing to meet the minimum education criteria so what about the students who graduated from these universities?

A: The Ministry is not going to deal with any graduate student from a private university except those graduated from the Science and Technology University, which has a recognition from the Ministry of High Education and the Supreme Universities Council. The other students can be moved to public universities according to the council's decision.

“ I call female doctors to undertake their humanitarian duties not only in the cities but also in the rural regions. ”

Q: Newspapers recently reported many cases related to medical malpractice and doctors' errors. How do you deal with such cases?

A: There is a draft prepared by the Supreme Medical Council. This draft is now in the parliament and the cabinet to adjust it in order to make it a law that defines the penalties and punishments in medical malpractice cases.

However, such issue is related to the existence and need of forensic medicine. We need an authority that examine, improve and define the deficiency sides or malpractices that lead to ambiguous death as an example. Therefore, the Ministry of Health with the cooperation of the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Justice are thinking to establish such a forensic authority.

Q: You directed an investigation over the reasons behind the death of an infant in Al-Sabeen hospital (Sana'a). What is new in this case?

A: The Ministry is still investigating the case. The doctor involved in this case is still suspended as it has been found that there was negligence in

dealing with the case.

Q: According to the statistics, there is a doctor for 10,000 people in Yemen and doctors are not equally distributed around the country. How do you deal with this matter?

A: In fact we find that most of the doctors are centralizing in three governorates: Sana'a municipality, Aden and Taiz. I can tell you that there is a doctor for 600 people in the city of Sana'a, a doctor for 12,000 people in Dhamar governorate and a doctor for 90,000 people in Otma province. The Ministry is considering a draft law that forces doctors to work in the rural areas. In my last visit to the University of Sana'a, I spoke about this draft with the Faculty of Medicine's students. I also asked influential people not to interfere and try to prevent the implementation of this law.

Q: Does this usually happen?

A: Yes. When I was a deputy in the Ministry of Health, we began at that time to prevent the centralization of doctors in these governorates. We faced lots of pressure from many personalities who tried to affect our decision. I also call female doctors to undertake their humanitarian duties not only in the cities but also in the rural regions. I really wonder why some parents do refuse sending their daughters to work in other governorates while they accept sending them abroad to get their medical degrees. I want also to confirm that there are orders from the Prime Minister to support and encourage the medical staff by recompenses those who work in the rural regions.

Q: Is it right that the Ministry has decided to set a unified price for medical examinations and treatments in private hospitals?

A: The Ministry carried out many investigations in the private hospitals. We found a lot of malpractices and breaches. I ordered to change many managers and directors of such medical

facilities in many governorates. We noted real corruption in these institutions due to the lack of monitoring from the local authorities in these governorates. Thus, in the Ministry we are still studying specifying a unified price for medical treatments in private hospitals. In addition, we are looking at how to classify private hospitals. That is, we will put fees according to the services provided by these hospitals, the cost of the equipments used, the health care quality... etc. At the present, the fees are random as every hospital put prices regardless the quality of the medical services it provides.

Q: What are the main obstacles hindering the implementation of your plans?

A: The Ministry of Health undergoes many obstacles. The Ministry is planning for the next years to work on raising the per-capita share of individuals regarding medical services. In Bahrain, for example, the individual share is 100 US Dollars while in Jordan it is 150 US Dollars per person. In Yemen, it is only 3 US Dollars.

There is also unfair distribution of funds to the medical services. The government allocates 5000 YR (approx. 25.5 US Dollars) per bed in Al-kwait Hospital, 8000 RY (approx. 40.8 US Dollars) per bed in Al-thawra Hospital while one bed in a hospital in Hajja governorate (supported by Saudi Arabia) is allocated 200,000 US Dollars yearly. We hope to raise the budget of the hospitals to improve the medical services. In this regards, I put this issue in one of the cabinet meetings and I can say that I found an understanding. Talking with donor countries also helps us to finance medical projects and programs. For example, the donors support the polio companies and malaria program.

Q: A month ago, newspapers reported that a monitoring medical committee has found two non-Yemeni doctors with a license to practice medicine although they had no medical knowledge. What is your comment about that?

A: Giving licenses is the responsibility of the local authority in the governorates. Local authorities' role is to watch, supervise and change, whereas the role of the Ministry of Health is to evaluate the performance of the medical institutions there. The Ministry gives a primary licence for practicing medicine in the basis of a letter from the General Authority of Investment. Then the Ministry has no authority at all, even the reconstruction of medical institutions became the responsibility of the local authorities. As a Minister of Health, I can't change a director of a hospital because this is the responsibility of the local authority according to the law.

“ Health Management is the weakest point in the health system and I believe more attention must be given to this point. ”

Q: How do you describe Yemen's health condition?

A: Health situation in Yemen is poor and is categorized number 141 amongst 191 countries around the world. There are diseases and non-diseases problems related to health management, health information system and low coverage and accessibility.

The condition is terrible with high infant and maternal mortality rate, Malnutrition, low birth weight, high prevalence of diarrhea disease, acute respiratory infections, Malaria, complication of pregnancy and deliveries. There is also an increase in the prevalence of communicable and non-communicable disease.

Q: What are the areas of cooperation between the Ministry and its partners?

A: Areas for cooperation are many, but as a priority, the Ministry considers the following:

- Increasing reproductive health services at all district hospital and health centers, as 75% of the deliveries take place at the community level not by trained health personnel.

- Increasing coverage and accessibility to Primary Health Care and that will be through providing affordable health care to minimize incidence and prevalence of communicable disease, which will reduce infant mortality rate and maternal mortality rate.

We have here a five-year health plan (2006-2010). Any future cooperation should be according to this plan. Programs include health management system, essential service packages with special focus on Primary Health Care, quality Assurance and blood safety and training.

“ we are looking at how to classify private hospitals. That is, we will put fees according to the services provided by these hospitals, the cost of the equipments used, the health care quality... etc. ”

Q: What is your plan concerning Millennium Development Goals?

A: The development process and health should go in line with the government Millennium Development Goals and Poverty Reduction Strategy Plan. In this regard, I suggested to the Yemen Development partners many measures that can be taken such as the provision of free contraceptive pills to rural areas where 75% of the population live. I also pointed at the importance of human rights, which should be respected via providing decent Maternal Child Health Family Planning (MCH/FP) services for woman in general and those living in the rural areas in particular.

“ The condition is terrible with high infant and maternal mortality rate, Malnutrition, low birth weight, high prevalence of diarrhea disease, acute respiratory infections, Malaria, complication of pregnancy and deliveries. ”

I mentioned the social health insurance that will improve the performance of the health system and provide additional resources for funding good quality of health care. It is the essence of health sector reform. I asked for technical and financial support in this area.

As for Health Management, which is the weakest point in the health system at all, I believe more attention must be given to this point. This can be achieved by using different ways and means like training, planning, utilization, decentralization and accreditation.

I also referred to District Health System, which needs to be core for HSR at the district with more emphasis on simplification of financial procedures, community participation, financial sustainability and transparency. Health care provision must be provided integrated in the district level.

To achieve such goals, the Ministry plans to enhance and strengthen donor harmonization and alignment through agreements on specified 5 to 6 priorities with more emphasis on Primary Health Care, Reproductive Health, Health Management and joint health sector review.



The Minister of Health talking to the Health Page Editor.



إعلان عن فتح باب الترشيح لجوائز المرحوم الحاج / هائل سعيد أنعم للعلوم والآداب الدورة الحادية عشرة، ٢٠٠٧م



قرر مجلس أمناء جائزة المرحوم الحاج / هائل سعيد أنعم للعلوم والآداب فتح باب الترشيح للجائزة للعام ٢٠٠٧م، الدورة الحادية عشرة لكافة الأساتذة والخبراء والباحثين والأدباء والمتخصصين في مجالات العلوم الطبيعية والاساسية والتطبيقية والتكنولوجية والتنمية والإبداعية الأدبية، وذلك تجسيدا لنهجه وأسانيه في رفعة مجتمعه وتحويره وتحليدا لأثره الخيرة في كافة مناحي الحياة، وقد قررت مؤسسة السيد للعلوم والثقافة ومجلس أمناء الجائزة أن تكون موضوعات الجائزة لهذا العام في المجالات والاوراق التالية:

- جائزة العلوم الطبية:
- الغاث وميكروبات الضم (دراسة ذات علاقة بتسوس الأسنان والتهاب اللثة).
- جائزة العلوم البيئية والزراعية:
- تطبيقات الطاقة الشمسية في اليمن.
- جائزة العلوم الاقتصادية:
- تقلبات سعر الصرف وأثره على المتغيرات الاقتصادية.
- جائزة العلوم الانسانية والاجتماعية والتربوية،
- التعليم في اليمن، مشكلاته وتأثيراته وآليات

تطويره.

جائزة العلوم الإسلامية:

القرآن ودوره في اصلاح المجتمع.

جائزة الإبداع الأدبي:

تاريخ الأدب اليمني في العصر الإسلامي.

جائزة الهندسة والتكنولوجيا:

التعليم الفني والمهني وسبل

تطويره.

جائزة الآثار والعمارة:

العمارة الطينية في اليمن.

ضمن الشروط الآتية:

١- المسابقة مفتوحة لكافة الأساتذة والباحثين

والشخصيين والأدباء الذين قاموا بعمل بحثي

علمي متميز أو ذي قيمة اجتماعية، وإبداع أدبي

خالق.

٢- أن يكون المتقدم لئيل الجائزة ينيا أو عربيا.

٣- أن لا يكون المتقدم قد نال جائزة من الإنتاج

القدم من أي جهة أخرى وتندرج ضمن هذا رسال

الدبلوم العالي والتاسشير والتكوتوا.

٤- أن تراعى الأصراف الأكاديمية والعلمية في

الأصمال البحثية والإبداعية المقدمة للتنافس، مع

إعطاء أهمية خاصة للينود التالية-

أ- الأصالة والمنهج وأسلوب العرض.

ب- الإضافة إلى المعرفة إضافة جديدة.

ج- اللغة ودقتها.

د- المصادر الوثائقية والمرجعية وحدائتها

وعلاقتها بموضوع العمل.

هـ- مدى إسهام العمل على الواقع

اليمني.

٥- تقبل المؤسسة طلبات المتقدمين وقرشيحات

الجامعات والهيئات العلمية والإبداعية القائمة

باليحوث والدراسات العلمية والإبداعية.

٦- يجوز للفاضلين بإحدى جوائز المرحوم الحاج

هاائل سعيد أنعم للعلوم والآداب في السابق التقدم

للمسابقة في التخصص نفسه أوفي تخصص آخر

مرة أخرى، وكذا الذين لم يحالفهم الحظ فيسمح

لهم بدخول المسابقة بشرط أن يقدموا نتاجا

جديدا غير الإنتاج السابق إضافة إلى توافر

الشروط الأخرى.

٧- تتضمن مسوغات الترشيح:

أ- السجل العلمي أو الإبداعي للمرشح.

ب- نبذة مختصرة عن حياته وإنتاجه

وميراثه لترشيحه لئيل الجائزة.

ج- أربع نسخ من كافة الوثائق والمعلومات

الأخرى المذكورة في النموذج المتوفر لدى

الأمانة العامة للجائزة، والذي من

الضروري التقيد بتعليمات ملئه لتسهيل

عمل الأمانة.

٨- أربع نسخ من البحث أو الإنتاج للقدم تليل

الجائزة على أن تكون ثلاث نسخ منها غير مدون

عليها اسم المرشح.

٩- أن يكون الإنتاج للقدم للتنافس مطبوعا، مع

إرفاق قرص (CD).

١٠- لا يعاد الإنتاج للقدم إلى مرسله سواء فاز

لترشح أو لم يفز.

١١- لا تقبل الاضرائسات على قرارات المؤسسة

بشأن منح الجائزة.

١٢- تقبل الترشيحات لغاية ٢٣ نوفمبر ٢٠٠٧م

كحد أقصى.

التحكيم:

يتم عرض الإنتاج المقدم للجائزة على

لجان تحكيم من ذوي الاختصاص من

الباحثين برتبة أستاذ أو من المشهود لهم

بالكفاءة والخبرة الطويلة في مجالهم العلمي

والأدبي وموضوعيتهم في التقييم والتحكيم

وذلك بواقع ثلاثة أعضاء لكل مجال من

مجالات منح الجائزة، وتعتبر قرارات اللجان

نهائية بعد اعتمادها من مجلس الأمناء.

الجوائز:

تخصص المؤسسة في كل مجال من المجالات المذكورة جائزة مالية بقيمة (٥٠٠.٠٠٠ ريال) مليون ونصف مليون ريال يمني، كما تقدم مع الجائزة التقديرية شهادة ودع الجائزة للفاضلين في حفل يرعاه رئيس مجلس الأمناء وذائيه ويتم الاعلان عنه في وسائل الإعلام المختلفة، كما تستضيف المؤسسة الفاضلين عند حضورهم حفل توزيع الجوائز وتتحمل تكاليف السفر والإقامة.

المراسلات:

ترسل الترشيحات على العنوان الآتي:

مؤسسة السيد للعلوم والثقافة

مجلس أمناء جائزة المرحوم

الحاج / هائل سعيد أنعم للعلوم والآداب

عناية: مدير عام المؤسسة، أمين عام الجائزة

تعز - الجمهورية اليمنية

ص. ب: ٥١٦٢ - تليفاكس: ٢١٧٢٢٦-٤

البريد الإلكتروني: E-Mail: alsaeedaward@net.ye

E-Mail: alsaeedlib@y.net.ye

موضوعات التنافس على الجائزة (الدورة العاشرة، لعام ٢٠٠٦م)

- جائزة العلوم الطبيعية:
- جائزة العلوم البيئية والزراعية:
- جائزة العلوم الاقتصادية:
- جائزة العلوم الانسانية والاجتماعية والتربوية:
- جائزة العلوم الإسلامية:
- جائزة الإبداع الأدبي:
- جائزة الهندسة والتكنولوجيا:
- جائزة الآثار والعمارة:
- ملحوظة: ١- تنطبق كافة الشروط العامة للجائزة والمعتمده في كل الدورات على هذه الدورة.
- ٢- يعتبر تاريخ ٢٣ نوفمبر ٢٠٠٦م الموعد الأقصى لقبول الترشيحات.



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Abdullatif Al-Rabee': a sad-happy Yemeni mural

By: Atif Awad

Before six years, namely on the 22nd of April 1993, Abdullatif Al-Rabee', the poet, artist and satirist who made people laugh and weep, passed away.

This Yemeni voice ceased. He used to offer harmonious creation - an art-inspired mural whose lines and shades were wrought by the fingers of Fate. The circumstances that traversed Yemenis at those times of the history of the country had colors that by no means had mercy on the generation of Al-Rabee'.

A dreamy voice ceased to exist. He had his place among the chorus of dreamy Yemenis with distinction, originality and patterns filled with Yemeniness and Arabism, and with all that is human, noble and robbed.

This Yemeni mural had its own difference. It could, along with a few other Yemenis, transcend its confines and the geographical frontiers to show off its magnificence, majesty, originality and Arabism all over the national Abdullatif Al-Rabee' introduced himself as a voice bouncing off the wall of imprisoned yet quaint Yemen.

May you rest in peace you who wanted Yemenis and Arabs to have ceaseless tireless voice? May you rest in peace, Abdullatif Al-Rabee', and blessed by Allah as you were born and loved your grandma "Faze'ah"

Is "Faze'ah" the old woman in the village in which you were born and she was the midwife? Is she the old woman who told you the first tales you ever heard? Tell me, Oh Abdullatif!

Poverty and oppression

In the village of Khaw, which is part of Al-Hujariyah district, Taiz province, his grandma "Faze'ah" embedded into his mind a galore tales about the village and its dwellers, about those who died while very young and the women who died leaving their nestlings, those who fell victim to fever and had no cure in

incantations. She told him of herbs that failed to cure a young mother on the delivery moment.

Faze'ah related also to her grandson tales about how poverty pervaded the village and other villages in the country and the oppression and depravity of the henchmen of Imam. She told him of those who died of hunger, disease, ignorance and those who immigrated. "Those who immigrated, my son, are the ones who could surely survive but we had no new about them," she would tell him.

Abdullatif Al-Rabee' quoted the tales of his grandma's tales. "One day, my grandma Faze'ah told me about those who revolted against the tyrant but were annihilated before the very eyes of their families. Their blood was shed." His father Judge Mohammed Al-Rabee' was killed in the aftermaths of 1948 Revolution.

A modern poet

Mature, Abdullatif Al-Rabee' wrote like someone who writes with the brush of his heart. He used the colors his grandma had inculcated in his consciousness and his mild heart. Abdullatif wrote on his mural saying:

Today, nobody died

Thus did the city's window tell me

On Friday I wash myself away

And perfume my body with the smell of cemetery

With whom should I perform the merriment prayer

I am the wood of sin.

Hit the nails of virtue in my body

My words are like the foils of sadness

And as sharp as the blade of weeping

Yet, Abdullatif died one day. We, his friends and family, buried him in Khuzaimah Cemetery in Sana'a, the city he liked most. For its sake he returned following the completion of his study in Hungary. He came back carrying a major in architectural engineering in 1969 and worked for Sana'a Municipality as an engineer and artist. He adorned the streets and parks



A sketch of Abdullatif Al-Rabee'.

of Sana'a with wonderful sculptures that showed the extent of his skill.

He worked also as a journalist for Al-Mustaqbal newspaper. He had a column of the backpage with the pen name *Farhan Al Maghmoum* (The Happy among the Sad). With curt phrases and high professionalism and a clear view of the target he believed in, his narrow column was the organ of all dreamy people and the dissidents of the manacles and fetters of free thought.

With his "sharp" column, Abdullatif provoked many diehards, those who had not been accustomed to the freedom of expression and thought. *Farhan Al Maghmoum* became such a name. The column was praised by the public as it bravely tackled thorny issues. In certain arenas, people were criticizing it and its author branding him as blasphemous.

Describing the choice of the title (*Shur Al-Baliyah*: Arabic for the worst of calamities) and penname (*Farhan Al Maghmoum*) of the column, Abdullatif said, "We, Arabs and Yemenis are living in the worst of calamities. This ironically invites laughter. *Farhan* is also the Yemeni-Arab citizen who has no right to laughter due to the misery of his condition. He must live sad and has to do nothing to change this miserable

situation."

A plastic artist

Abdullatif was also a plastic artist who fell in love with visual art without pedantry. In his Sana'a-based house, which he designed, he had an atelier that enshrined many a painting. A plastic art reader would not fail to discern the different stages of his life in the lively energetic paintings that exude beauty and humanness.

I told him once "I think that I see Old Egypt in some of your paintings." He explained, "I went to Egypt in 1958. My family had arranged my education over there and I did not weep on departure. In the schools of Halwan and Shubra in the city of Cairo, I lived my preparatory and secondary school life. I was a member of the families of my friends both Muslims and Christians. I spent my time with them on holidays and vacations. I lived at the heart and not the margin of Egypt and experienced the intimacy and familiarity of the Egyptian people."

He added, "I shed no tear when I left my people here but I wept much when I traveled from Cairo to Hungary in 1963 for my university study. My visits to these 'dears' did not discontinue since I returned from Hungary to Yemen."

Abdullatif draw with words in one of his poetry collections or rather he engraved with words in his poetry collection "The Shroud...The Body":

*My ID card shows me not,
I am not the otherness,
The otherness is not they,
A fingerprint is not enough to prove identity.*

A question is a bridge to another question.

*I am water,
I occupy the basin of tears and the hangman's forest,
And utter words when I utter not...*

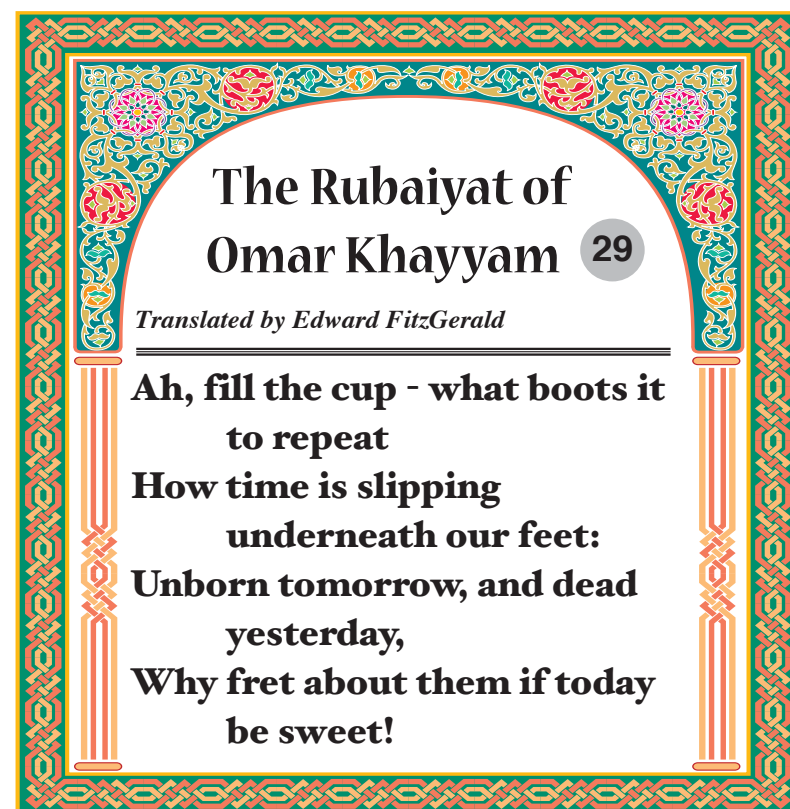
Abdullatif Al-Rabee' died. He died when the city he loved ceased to supply him with what could have perpetuated the rhythm of his breath and pulse.

He died by a heart attack on a Sana'a eve when all hospitals had no oxygen.

The mural of color, word and satirical joke died on the night when the Yemen-Arab city closed its window in order for him not to wash his body, at the moment when the city told him that tonight "Nobody died," but it was Abdullatif, the Yemeni mural, who died.

That mural was the "woods of sin." May you rest in peace, oh voice still echoing in poetry, cities and sublime murals.

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



The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam 29

Translated by Edward FitzGerald

Ah, fill the cup - what boots it
to repeat
How time is slipping
underneath our feet:
Unborn tomorrow, and dead
yesterday,
Why fret about them if today
be sweet!

Literary Corner

By: Abu Al-Kalmah Al-Tayyibah

Yemen: The People and Culture (III)

Author: Qadhi Abdullah Abdul-Wahhab Al-Shamahi
Language: Arabic
Publisher: Dar Al-Hana Printing
Year Published: 1973
No. of Pages: 370

While still talking about the Sabaeen Kingdom, Al-Shamahi contends that the first

Western interest in Yemen came with Alexander the Great, who was interested in ending the trade monopolies of the Kingdom of Saba and its Northern counterpart, Phoenicia. He sent his naval commander "Tabarkhourous", to Yemen to learn about the Sabaeans. The latter returned to Alexander the Macedonian, after the latter had left Egypt and turned to face the Persians to confront the Emperor Darius and eventually defeat him. The explorer came to Alexander with a discouraging report on Yemen, in terms of trying to take the country, noting its difficult terrain, while mentioning the splendor under which Saba was enjoying its mercantile position. The aggressive Alexander postponed his plans for the conquest of Yemen and died before embarking on his South Arabian adventure. Nevertheless, the Ptolemy's of Egypt followed through with their previous master's plans and infringed upon the navigational routes of the Yemenis with the help of the Abyssinians. The author states that this seriously damaged Yemen's position and slowed down any further development of Yemen.

In the meantime, the Romans had expanded their realm to most of the areas in the Middle East (the Fertile Crescent and North Africa, and it wouldn't be long before they also eyed for Yemen. So the Yemeni King "Al-Yashruh Yahdhub" I, was ready for them, as he also felt that Mareb no longer suitable as a capital, as it was easily exposed to attack. So he probably moved the capital to the mountainous area of Dhu Raidan, in what is now Hamdan.

In 24 BC, the Emperor Augustus of Rome ordered his commander Illus Gallus to conquer Yemen and bring it under Roman domination. He took with him troops from what is now Syria and Jordan, which was then dominated by the Romans and the author says "500 Jews", as a continuation of the oppression the Jews were facing from the Romans. He followed the trade routes from Jordan to Mareb, but when he reached Najran, he met a formidable force that "obliterated" the Romans and their allies, leaving only the rear guard commanded by Gallus to return home and report on the debacle. Here the

author insists on refuting what the Roman historian Estrabon suggested that the Romans were defeated by the hardships of the desert, and it wasn't terrestrial hardships and climate that defeated the Romans, but the fighting spirit of the Yemenis, who have always made Yemen the graveyard for any aspiring conqueror over the ages. The King of Yemen then was "Al-Yashruh Yahdhub" II.

The Himyarite Kingdom

The author contends that Himyar was no more than a continuation of the Sabaeen Kingdom, since Himyar are descendants from Saba Ibn Yashjub Ibn Ya'arub. The Himyarite Kingdom lasted from 115 BC to 525 AD. The capital of Himyar was Dhu Raidan. Himyar had two epochs, the First Epoch (from 115 BC to 275 AD and the Second Epoch (from 275 AD to 525 AD). There were 17 kings that reigned in the First Epoch and 12 have been found of the Second Epoch according to the author. According to the author also, the First King of the Second Epoch, Shimir Yahr I'ish Bin Yassir Yahn'im ordered an expedition to Persia led by Dhu Hazfar.

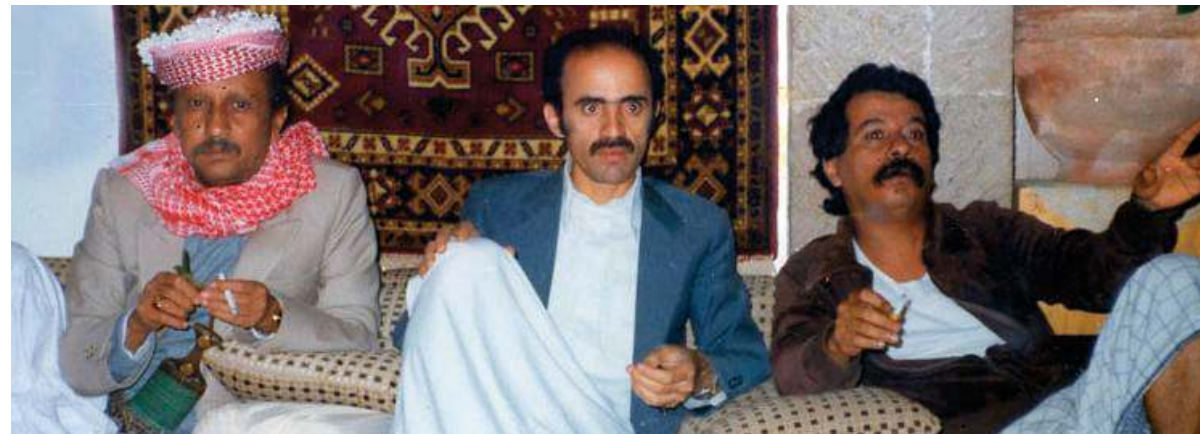
In this period Abyssinian interest in Yemen grew and an attempted invasion was undertaken by Alali Iskandi, with the help of Byzantium and was driven out in 372 AD by Karb Yahamin. The Abyssinians introduced Christianity to Yemen and then it was on and off between the Persians and their allies in Yemen and the Abyssinians and their allies (the Yemeni Jews, who kept exchanging hands. Dhu Nawas was a famous Himyarite King, who fought the Abyssinians bravely, until he was betrayed by his own followers, but he kept fighting until he was drowned in the Straits of Bab Al-Mandab. Although the Abyssinians did get a fairly good foothold in Yemen, there were several areas they were unable to penetrate.

There were six Small Kingdoms, as the author calls them, that also prevailed in Yemen:

Qataban (1000 BC to 400 BC); 2) Hadhramaut (1020 BC to 295 AD); 3) Awsan (800 BC to 115 BC); 4) Jaba or Habban, coincided with Qataban to a certain extent and was situated West of Qataban; 5) the Emirate of Sim'i, which is situated where the Tribe of Hashid is now situated, coincided with Saba and later merged into it; and 6) the Emirate of Arba'a. There is very little known about the last one.

The author notes that Himyar was a spartan state and had undertaken extensive military activity against the Persians, the Romans and the Abyssinians.

'The name is based on the Arabic pronunciation given by the author.



Abdullatif Al-Rabee' (right most) with his friends poet Abdulaziz Al-Baghdadi (center), and novelist Zaid Mutee' Dammaj.

The Capital of Spirit

By: Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Maqaleh

Sana'a! Capital
Of the spirit!
Her gates are seven
And Paradise
Her gates are seven.
Each gate will satisfy a desire
For you, traveler,
And from whatever gate you have
entered:
Peace be upon you,
Peace be upon Sana'a.
Sweet in her water, sweet

In winter the drought is a friend
In summer even the dogdays are light
At the down-pour of sunlight
She awakes,
Departs from the dusk of time
A lady,
The perfection of femininity.
Did she rain down from a book of
mysteries?
Or did some rhymes conjure her
From the spring of an ancient
Dream?

(Mecca is the Capital of Qur'an

Paris is the Capital of Art
London is the Capital of Business
Washington is the Capital of Might
Cairo is the Capital of History
Baghdad is the Capital of Poetry
Damascus is the Capital of Roses
And Sana'a is the Capital of Spirit.
She guards a trove
Of dreams in her depths,
In courtyards where lustrous weddings
take place.
Qasidahs are born from her rock,
But it's the color white that writes
them

And the night that inscribes this story,
weighed down
By clusters of melancholy
And braziers of perfume.
On the smooth inner wall
Of Bab al-Yaman
A poet writes:
Sana'a! Hospice of Light! Enter
In peace, kiss the ground ten times
And draw from her fresh beauty
A nectar that will add a lifetime to
your life.)

A poem from *The Book of Sana'a*

New publications by Al-Kalema Attaiba Center for Searches and Studies

By: Yemen Times Staff

The seventh and eight publications by Al-Kalema Attaiba Center for Searches and Studies have come out. The first one is entitled "Revenge" and is a legal and

realistic study of the reasons for and solutions to this phenomenon.

The book is authored by Dr. Sa'eed Mansour Mawfa'ah. The book includes parts that deal with the definition of revenge, its history, Islamic stance on it, its reasons and rules and its various repercussions. The book ends on a note

of the effective remedies for this phenomenon that is alien to the Muslim community.

The second publication is entitled "The Prophet's Birth Celebration: Origin and Nature." The author is Sheikh Ahmed bin Hassan Al-Mu'allim. The book provides information on

how the celebration took root, and its originator and purpose.

The author also mentions the way the Prophet's companions used to show their love of the Prophet (PBUH). He lists a number of situations in which the righteous predecessors expressed their love towards the Prophet.

Al-Saqr leads league's 15th round



Al-Saqr team.

Al-Saqr football team from Taiz defeated its guest team Ahli Sana'a to lead the Premier League's fifteenth round. Helal Al-Hodeida drubbed 22 May team from Sana'a 3-1 in the fifteenth round's concluding match.

Sha'ab Ibb beat Al-Yarmouk 1-0, Al-Shu'lah scored a 2-1 victory over

Tadhamun Shabwa and Al-Teel won over Sha'ab Hadramout. Al-Rashid team from Taiz surprised lovers of the game by thrashing Ta'awen Ba'adan.

The table below shows the ranks of Premier League teams and their points after the fifteenth round was over:

Team	Plays	Win	Draw	Loss	Goals for	Goals against	Points
Al-Saqr	15	9	4	2	25	11	31
Helal Hodeida	15	8	4	3	26	14	28
Sha'ab Ibb	15	6	5	3	26	16	26
Ahli Sana'a	15	7	4	4	24	15	25
Al-Yarmouk	15	6	4	5	19	18	22
Al-Rashid	15	6	4	5	17	19	22
Al-Teel	15	7	1	7	19	22	22
Hassan	15	4	7	4	14	13	19
Tadhamun Shabwa	15	6	-	9	18	27	18
Al-Shu'la	15	3	7	5	16	19	16
Shabab Al-Jeel	15	5	3	8	18	22	15
22 May	15	4	3	8	17	22	15
Sha'ab Hadramout	15	4	3	8	12	23	15
Ta'awen Ba'adan	15	3	2	10	20	24	11

Whadat Aden Karate champion

Whadat Aden scored the top place last week in the karate championship for the President's Loyalty Cup held in Taiz. The three-day competition was organized by the Yemeni Karate Federation (YKF) in collaboration with the Various Industries Company.

Ten karate teams including Whadat Aden, Al-Saqr from Taiz, Salahaddin from Ibb, Khanfar from Abyan and the Republican Guards competed for the

title. The Republican Guards Team stood second and Al-Saqr third.

The cups and certifications of merit to talented teammates were awarded by Eng. Abdulqader Hatem, Deputy Governor of Taiz for Technical and Environmental Affairs, Abdullah Al-Ammari General Director of Youth and Sports Office in the governorate, MP Jaber Abdullah Ghaleb and Muneer Saif, Head of YKF Branch in Taiz.

Tenth Coastal Volleyball Championship kicks off



By: Ismail Al-Ghabri

Competitions of the Republic Tenth's Coastal Volleyball Championship kicked off last Wednesday in Hodeida. The event, organized by the Yemeni Volleyball Federation (YVF), involves ten teams who qualified from tournaments, which took place in Aden, Hodeida and Mukalla.

YVF Secretary-General Khaled Al-Banna said the ten teams will enter a ten-day competition for the title, adding the encounters will help the parties concerned select the National Team, due to be made up of five of these teams competing for the title according to the coastal volleyball system.

The selected team will partake in the first international championship, which Yemen will host on May 18-21 with the participation of ten teams from Oman and Sudan. The event will coincide with Yemen marking the

16th Anniversary of the national unity.

According to Al-Banna, the winner will obtain a sum of 75 thousand Yemeni Riyals plus the top place cup and two gold medals while second-placed team will get a sum of 50 thousand Yemeni Riyals plus two silvers.

He pointed out that the ten Yemeni teams went through good preparations before the republic championship, thought of as a test for qualifiers for the international event.

Al-Banna added the international coastal volleyball championship is to be run by a national refereeing staff of eight referees according to the international conventions of the game.

He noted the YVF prepared two fields on Huneish Beach according to international standards and specifications for the event, as well as to promote coastal tourism in a country rich with nice beaches free of any environmental pollution.

Liverpool wins 3-1 on penalties

Liverpool beat West Ham on penalties to win a thrilling FA Cup final.

The Hammers took an early two-goal lead thanks to Jamie Carragher's own goal and Dean Ashton's close-range strike, before Djibril Cisse pulled one back.

Steven Gerrard lashed home an equaliser after the break before Paul Konchesky's speculative cross put West Ham ahead.

Gerrard's stunning last-minute strike forced extra-time, with Pepe Reina saving from Bobby Zamora, Konchesky and Anton Ferdinand in the shoot-out.

Dietmar Hamann, Gerrard and John Arne Riise all scored from the spot for Liverpool, with only veteran Teddy Sheringham finding the net for West Ham.

The game began with all three major injury doubts on the pitch.

Liverpool were able to select Xabi Alonso while West Ham included Ashton and Matthew Etherington.

Ashton was instrumental as West Ham shocked Liverpool by taking the lead after 21 minutes.

His brilliant pass released Lionel Scaloni, whose cross was unwittingly turned past Reina by the intruding Carragher at the near post.

Another error, this time by keeper Reina, handed West Ham a two-goal advantage six minutes later.

Etherington's tame shot should have posed no problem for the goalkeeper, but he fumbled the ball at the feet of Ashton, who bundled home from close range.

Liverpool desperately needed to hit back quickly and, after Peter Crouch had a header ruled out for offside, Cisse threw the favourites a lifeline after 31 minutes.

The French striker met Gerrard's raking pass on the volley to fire a firm finish past Shaka Hislop.

Ashton was a constant source of danger and was only inches off target with an angled drive as Liverpool struggled to contain the striker.

Reina made amends for his earlier mistake with two crucial saves in the space of seconds just after the restart.

After Etherington's cross had exposed the Liverpool defence, Reina blocked from Yossi Benayoun and Marlon Harewood in quick succession.

Liverpool were level after 54 minutes thanks to their most potent threat, midfielder Gerrard.

The inspirational captain lashed a fierce drive high past Hislop after Alonso's free-kick was headed down by Crouch.

But just as Liverpool seemed to have assumed control, West Ham regained the lead in freakish fashion.

Konchesky's left-wing cross was speculative at best, but it caught the back-peddling Reina off guard and floated in at the far post.

As the clock ticked around to 90 minutes, Gerrard was Liverpool's saviour again when his first-time drive from fully 35 yards flew past Hislop's right and into the net.

In extra-time, Riise almost scored a goal to rank alongside Gerrard's with a long-range effort that flew just over the angle.

West Ham almost snatched victory with 90 seconds left of added time when Nigel Reo-Coker's deflection was turned on to the post by Reina. A goalmouth scramble followed before Harewood, who was suffering badly from cramp, shot wide with the goal at his mercy.

It set up a dramatic penalty shoot-out, with Reina making up for a poor performance during normal time with three crucial spot-kick saves. Source: www.bbc.com

First Round		World Cup 2006 table	
Date	Venue	Details	Time
Fri 9th June	Munich	Germany v Costa Ric	18.00 hrs
Fri 9th June	Gelsenkirchen	Poland v Ecuador	21.00 hrs
Sat 10th June	Frankfurt	England v Paraguay	15.00 hrs
Sat 10th June	Dortmund	Trin&Tob v Sweden	18.00 hrs
Sat 10th June	Hamburg	Argentina v Ivory Coast	21.00 hrs
Sun 11th June	Leipzig	Serb&Mont v Holland	15.00 hrs
Sun 11th June	Nuremberg	Mexico v Iran	18.00 hrs
Sun 11th June	Cologne	Angola v Portugal	21.00 hrs
Mon 12th June	Hanover	Italy v Ghana	15.00 hrs
Mon 12th June	Gelsenkirchen	USA v Czech Rep	18.00 hrs
Mon 12th June	Berlin	Brazil v Croatia	21.00 hrs
Tue 13th June	Kaiserslautern	Australia v Japan	15.00 hrs
Tue 13th June	Stuttgart	France v Switzerland	18.00 hrs
Tue 13th June	Frankfurt	South Korea v Togo	21.00 hrs
Wed 14th June	Leipzig	Spain v Ukraine	15.00 hrs
Wed 14th June	Munich	Tunisia v Saudi Arabia	18.00 hrs
Wed 14th June	Dortmund	Germany v Poland	21.00 hrs
Thur 15th June	Hamburg	Ecuador v Costa Rica	15.00 hrs
Thur 15th June	Nuremberg	England v Trin&Tob	18.00 hrs
Thur 15th June	Berlin	Sweden v Paraguay	21.00 hrs
Fri 16th June	Gelsenkirchen	Argentina v Serb&Mont	15.00 hrs
Fri 16th June	Stuttgart	Holland v Ivory Coast	18.00 hrs
Fri 16th June	Hanover	Mexico v Angola	21.00 hrs
Sat 17th June	Frankfurt	Portugal v Iran	15.00 hrs
Sat 17th June	Kaiserslautern	Italy v USA	18.00 hrs
Sat 17th June	Cologne	Czech Rep v Ghana	21.00 hrs
Sun 18th June	Munich	Brazil v Australia	15.00 hrs
Sun 18th June	Nuremberg	Japan v Croatia	18.00 hrs
Sun 18th June	Leipzig	France v South Korea	21.00 hrs
Mon 19th June	Dortmund	Togo v Switzerland	15.00 hrs
Mon 19th June	Stuttgart	Spain v Tunisia	18.00 hrs
Mon 19th June	Hamburg	Saudi Arabia v Ukraine	21.00 hrs
Tue 20th June	Berlin	Ecuador v Germa ny	16.00 hrs
Tue 20th June	Hanover	Costa Rica v Poland	16.00 hrs
Tue 20th June	Cologne	Sweden v England	21.00 hrs
Tue 20th June	Kaiserslautern	Paraguay v Trin&Tob	21.00 hrs
Wed 21st June	Frankfurt	Holland v Argentina	16.00 hrs
Wed 21st June	Munich	Ivory C v Serb&Mont	16.00 hrs
Wed 21st June	Gelsenkirchen	Portugal v Mexico	21.00 hrs
Wed 21st June	Leipzig	Iran v Angola	21.00 hrs
Thur 22nd June	Hamburg	Czech Rep v Italy	16.00 hrs
Thur 22nd June	Nuremberg	Ghana v USA	16.00 hrs
Thur 22nd June	Dortmund	Japan v Brazil	21.00 hrs
Thur 22nd June	Stuttgart	Croatia v Australia	21.00 hrs
Fri 23rd June	Cologne	Togo v France	16.00 hrs
Fri 23rd June	Hanover	Switzerland v S Korea	16.00 hrs
Fri 23rd June	Kaiserslautern	Saudi Arabia v Spain	21.00 hrs
Fri 23rd June	Berlin	Ukraine v Tunisia	21.00 hrs
Second Round			
Sat 24th June	A - Munich	GAW v GBRu	17.00 hrs
Sat 24th June	B - Leipzig	GCW v GDRu	21.00 hrs
Sun 25th June	C - Stuttgart	GBW v GARu	17.00 hrs
Sun 25th June	D - Nuremberg	GDW v GCRu	21.00 hrs
Mon 26th June	E - Kaiserslautern	GEW v GFRu	17.00 hrs
Mon 26th June	F - Cologne	GGW v GHRu	21.00 hrs
Tue 27th June	G - Dortmund	GFW v GERu	17.00 hrs
Tue 27th June	H - Hanover	GHW v GGRu	21.00 hrs
Quarter Final			
Fri 30th June	A - Berlin	A v B	17.00 hrs
Fri 30th June	B - Hamburg	E v F	21.00 hrs
Sat 1st July	C - Gelsenkirchen	C v D	17.00 hrs
Sat 1st July	D - Frankfurt	G v H	21.00 hrs
Semi Final			
Tue 4th July	Dortmund	A v B	21.00 hrs
Wed 5th July	Munich	C v D	21.00 hrs
3rd Place Play Off			
Sat 8th July	Stuttgart		21.00 hrs
FINAL			
Sun 9th July	Berlin		20.00 hrs

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) invites Yemeni Nationals to apply for the following position with its project "Strengthen Shoura Council"

Post Title: National Project Manager/ SC-A
Duration: 06 months (renewable)
Responsibilities

- Responsible for strategic planning and implementation of the project activities according the agreed project work plan.
- Prepares term of references of the international and national consultants in consultation with two legislative bodies, United Nations Development Programme and Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC).
- Establishes norms of work between the Consultative Council and Parliament.
- Monitors the progress of the project activities against the work plan, and recommends and implements remedial actions as appropriate.
- Manages the human resources of the project.
- Assesses, prescribes and manages the changes which may be necessary in staffing, procedures, office layouts, and budgets.
- Arranges and attends Project Board of Directors meeting as reporter to the Board.
- Prepares Project Board of Directors minutes of the meeting, distribution of minutes and follow-up on its recommendations.
- Perform other duties that related good governance related activities, when requested

Qualification

- A Master degree in Political Science or equivalent.
- Five to seven years of experience in the same field of study.
- Experience in managing any of governance programmes/projects and/or worked under governance portfolio not less than three years.
- Good experience in Government administrative structure.
- He/she will have strong communication skills as well as analytical and writing abilities.
- Fluency in English and Arabic.
- Excellent Computer skills.

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)
 The deadline for receiving applications is Wednesday, 24 May 2006

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

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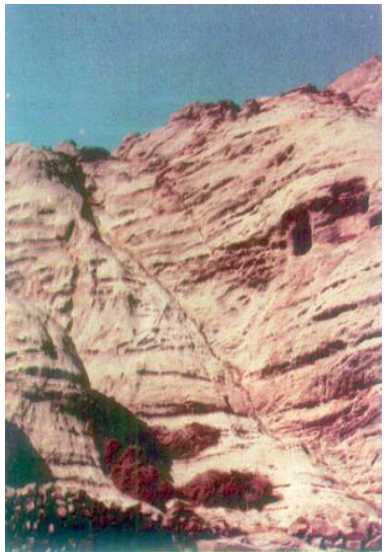
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The cavemen of Yemen

By: Ismael Al-Ghabiri

Before one depicts the various aspects of life for the Cavemen of Yemen, it is necessary to take a glimpse at the geographical features of those areas chosen especially by those cavemen as their dwelling places. The area is namely the highest mountainous summit of Maswar Al-Mantab, situated to the south of the Haja Governorate, and surrounded by Al-Sharqi, Nagra and Al-Shaghera mountains.

Fort Al-Mantab is located at the peak of the mountain's range that averages a height of about 3000 m., above sea level. The Fort is embraced by



Caves of Maswar Hajah are still inhabited by those who cannot afford to live in houses.

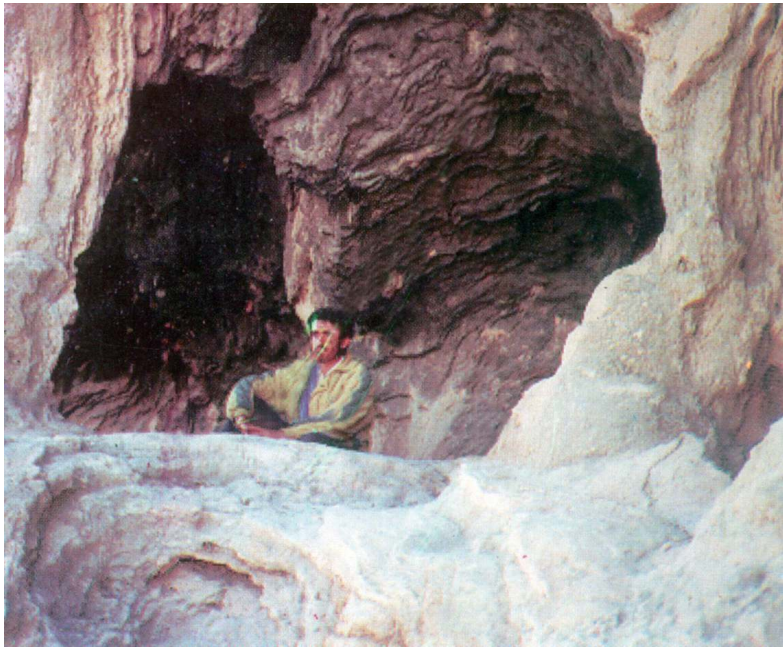
many large valleys; to the south there is Layed Valley through which smaller valleys pour their waters into the Eyal Ali, Al-Sarebi, Attwa, and Bani Al-Awwam valleys. To the north of the Fort other valleys like Sharas, Al-Sharqi and Bani Mahdi are noteworthy as well; where streams of water flow along the way towards the Moor Valley to the north of Hodeidah.

The mountains of Maswar Al-Mantab are partially separated by valleys, agricultural areas, water streams and other watercourses that cut through the rocks, supplying water to the caves nearby. These mountains are considered an important historical site in Yemen where one can observe small water streams and waterfalls throughout the area. The mountain has a peak wide enough to embrace several villages and water reservoirs ensuring constant water access to its residents.

The Fort of Al-Mantab is referred to by the great Yemeni historian Abu Alaskan Almandine as the "Tukhla Mountain" and can only be reached through three gates. In that well protected and fortified peak, nature's beauty and mankind's greatness mix in attractive harmony luring visitors to the area.

A live snap shot of the scenery in this area acquaints you with the type of life the cave dwellers lead. The Okban, Hood, Al-Sabbahi, Al Mokbel and Suhuf cave are collectively located as particular residential areas. These cave dwellings are a normal part of the daily life of the civilians of the region.

Superficially, one may think these people are but a minority of those who



Caves have provided shelters and protections for their dwellers throughout Yemeni history.

arrived in the area long ago as outsiders and therefore were secluded from the mayor group. In actuality these cave dwellers are highborn people said to be descendants of the Sabaeen. Most of the Sheikhs and tribal leaders have taken the caves as their ruling residence. From here official decisions are dispensed on the day to day problems and disputes of the neighboring villages and their inhabitants.

To this date taking caves as homes is still considered a tribal inheritance passed over to the new generations from their ancestors. Their belief in abiding by these traditional thoughts

has been deeply-rooted into their culture and has become an integral and essential part of their personalities.

In recent times life in the caves has been adapted for more stable living conditions. The caves have been widened and sub-divided from within to meet the needs of the dwelling family members. Water is now supplied to the caves through canals cutting through the rocks of the mountains.

The residents of the caves are a cooperative people and owners of vast agricultural lands. Men and women, as well as some children, are mostly working on farms and grazing their livestock. The cultivated crops are

stored in special barns built into the rock formations nearby their caves. Similarly they also store the fodder of their livestock in these barns.

Cave dwellers are leading normal lives. For example, according to their social norms cave women may marry non-cave dwellers as there is no tribal convention prohibiting that right. Children also are not deprived of their right to education. On the contrary, many of the cave dwelling children are enrolling in schools and the institutes nearby their residences.

An interesting anecdotal event took

place in this area in 1984. As a result of landslides that struck the territory, government officials rushed to offer aid to those who had lost their caves.

The offer was to build a modern residential camp for them. The cave dwellers felt, at first, obliged to leave their damaged caves and live temporarily in the newly-built houses. But as soon as they could retrieve their power, they went on to repair their own caves and leave behind the "movement" of government granted homes they could not adapt themselves to live in.



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