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Inside:

- 3** Are Yemeni boys becoming 'mouse potatoes'?
- 10** Kidney failure patients in Yemen in great need of support
- 12** Ahmed Fathi: I've received great honor in Yemen

Readers' Voice
Last edition's question:
A Yemeni doctor's allowance is three times less than the average salary paid to a foreign nurse. Based on this, do you think medical services rendered for Yemeni citizens can reach a high standard?

I don't know (5%)
Yes (18%)
No (77%)

This edition's question:
In past elections, major Yemeni parties relied heavily on women to achieve victory. Do you think these parties will fulfill their promises to give women their fair quota of local council seats?

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

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

Saleh calls on parties to grant women local council seats

By: Amel Al-Ariqi

SANA'A, Aug. 20 — President Ali Abdullah Saleh yesterday called on the other political parties to allocate a fair portion of their local council seats for women, adding that he hoped a woman would be nominated in the presidential election.

Saleh received approximately 200 women at the presidency office, representing various political parties, women's organizations and civil society organizations, who arranged a march yesterday morning, demanding political parties fulfill their promises to support and encourage women candidates to run in local elections.

As head of the ruling party, the General People's Congress (GPC), Saleh confirmed that the GPC will fulfill its promise to grant women 15 percent of its local council seats. He pointed out that he ordered the Supreme Commission for Elections and Referendum (SCER) to support female candidates, whether they



Women gathering at the Presidential Palace demanding the parties to fulfill their long overdue promises to place more candidates in local elections.

belong to political parties or are independent.

Rashida Al-Hamadani, head of the Women's National Committee, appreciated the president's attitude; however, she pointed to the difficulties of achieving

notable change in such limited time. "Unfortunately, Monday is the last day to receive candidacy applications, which means women have a very limited time to apply," Al-Hamadani noted.

Continued on page 2

UN supports women's election participation

SANA'A, Aug. 20 — The United Nation System in Yemen is committed to supporting notational efforts towards development, democracy and the respect of human rights.

It is strongly committed to promoting full participation of Yemeni women in all aspects of social, economic and political life. In line with the constitution, national laws and Yemen's international rights obligations the UN is promoting women's participation in the upcoming local council elections in September.

The current local council elections represents an ideal opportunity to translate into reality the repeatedly expressed political commitment to women's participation in public life. The UN system is concerned at the extremely low number of women who have so far enrolled as candi-

dates for the upcoming local council elections. Increasing the number of women is a logical step in the development of Yemen's democracy, as there are no legal or religious impediments to the election of women public office and to their participation in political life.

The United Nation system in Yemen calls therefore on all political parties to encourage and support women running for office.

It calls further on civil society organizations and women's groups to encourage and facilitate women's candidatures.

The United Nation System in Yemen remains committed to provide all support it can to the promotion of women's political participation and to the strengthening of Yemen's democracy.

Al-Houthis and government breach cease-fire

By: Mohammed Bin Sallam

SANA'A, Aug. 20 — Army troops attacked followers of Badrudin Al-Houthi last Thursday in Sa'ada governorate's Al-Masnaa area. Media reports said the attack, in which army tanks and heavy artillery were used, resulted from clashes between groups of Al-Houthi followers and what they alleged is a group of drug traffickers doing business between Yemen and Saudi Arabia.

The sources didn't mention details about losses due to the attack and clashes, while Al-Houthi followers say they often have confrontations with drug traffickers active in that border area.

Security authorities previously arrested Al-Houthi supporter Shaie Hassan Saraah while he was hospitalized at a Sa'ada hospital due to a traffic accident. His colleagues rescued him and took him to the hospital, after receiving assurances from Sa'ada's governor that he and his companions wouldn't face any punitive measures from security forces there. However, police arrested him and his three companions and subjected them to investi-

gation. On the Monday before last, a soldier shot a Bani Khalifa citizen for writing a slogan against the United States and Israel, the same slogan the Al-Houthi movement insists on circulating and shouting.

Abdulmalik Badrudin Al-Houthi, brother of religious leader Hussein Al-Houthi, sent an Aug. 9 message to President Ali Abdullah Saleh offering reconciliation between the Houthi movement and the state due to the consequences in Lebanon.

In his letter, Abdulmalik stated, "Our stance at this stage is no different from

the official stance and doesn't contradict it so as not to detract from it," clarifying, "These circumstances actually prepare us to remove differences and solve the problem. By dictating such stance's unity, the problem can be solved completely."

As the movement's most prominent field leader, Abdulmalik further declared, "We demand an opportunity to activate the popular stance," noting that, at this stage, he doesn't think the main concern is silencing any voice rising against what he described as Israeli and U.S. arrogance.

Continued on page 2

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Government refuses opening ballot centers for Yemenis abroad

SANA'A, Aug 20 — The Supreme Council for Elections and Referendum (SCER) are refusing to open ballot centers in countries where many Yemenis expatriates live, according to local media.

The SCER decided not to open voting centers in other countries because they state there are fewer than 500 Yemenis registered in any given country.

The SCER's refusal is attributed to its fear that these expatriates will vote for Joint Meeting Parties (JMP) candidate, said the same source. Upon the intelligence reports which foresaw

expatriates to vote against General People's Congress (GPC) candidate President Saleh.

"The matter has nothing to do with authority or intelligence, but the fact is there is not enough expatriates registered in the voters' registry and the government is unable to pay all costs," said Abdu Al-Janadi, head of media sector in SCER, explaining that it would cost millions of dollars.

Another SCER observer explained the further problems for balloting centers abroad.

"Most Yemenis living in America or Britain do not reside in the same cities

so ballot centers, mainly the Embassy or the Consulate," he said.

"As for those expatriates in Gulf countries, especially in Saudi Arabia...all of us know these countries have their characteristics and they will not allow any democratic practices whatsoever as it can play a passive role in inviting their people against the regimes," he added.

The number of Yemeni expatriates in Saudi Arabia alone reaches 1 million and a further 70,000 in the UAE, as well as thousands in each of America, Britain and the other Gulf countries.

Yemeni authorities ban mobile phone campaigning

SANA'A, Aug 20 — Timed with the approach of the Yemeni presidential and local elections' fever the Telecommunications and Information Technology Ministry warns about the exploitation of text messages during the campaigning.

The ministry says any mobile phone company found issuing partisan messages under any pretext will lose their operating license, according to a report by Yemeni Army's publication, 26 September.

The same source, which is close to presidency house, mentioned a warning letter sent to the three mobile

companies, Sabafon, Spacetel and Yemen Mobile, indicating the ministry will take legal procedures in case these companies violate their operating agreements.

"TIGM will not hesitate to withdraw the operation license from any company which does not abide to the agreement," according to 26 September.

The focus in the past has been on Sabafon, according to informed sources, claiming complaints from citizens asking it to protect them from blackmailing messages they received asking for contributions for

people in Lebanon and Palestine or support cancer-afflicted patients.

The paper added that these people asked the ministry to stop Sabafon from these practices, saying that donations do not reach their goals and they are made for partisan ends.

Sabafon is owned by Hamid Al-Ahmer, an opposition leader, in supporting Bin Shamlan's campaign.

They have over 1 million subscribers and some feel the ministry is acting on the the government's fear of the potential of Al-Ahmer to send persuasive messages to his subscribers.

Former military personnel ask for justice

SANA'A, Aug 20 — Officers and soldiers, from northern governorates, forced out of service before 1990 are asking to be reinstated or to now receive their pensions.

The military were part of the armored and parachute forces and were forced from service due to the political conflicts prior to Yemen's reunification in 1990.

The former soldiers want to improve their living standards.

According to Al-Shoura.net, a number of these individuals sent a letter to President Saleh, asking him to settle their situation and reinstate them in their units. Saleh referred the letter to the defense minister, but the issue was then delayed.

The soldiers say they were subject to arrest by military police and they were forced to sign a service waiver to be set free.

"Officers and soldiers were abused and inhumanly treated. That counteracts with the toleration and national reconciliation, aiming to turn the past's page and close political disputes' file," according to Al-Shoura.net.

The soliders and officers sent off from their units have staged a number of sit-ins in front of Ministry of Defense and the Individuals Affairs Department and some demonstrators were arrested.

Claiming their rights were confiscated and Saleh's Amnesty Resolution was not applicable to their case, dozens of soldiers dismissed after 1994's war staged a sit-in last month in front of the General Peoples' Congress headquarters, demanding reinstatement to their units and their rights in full.

The demonstrators noted that there

are more than 8000 officers and soldiers who suffer from these government practices. Further, they added, "They were not included by the General Amnesty Resolution as they belong to northern governorates."

The problem is not just a focus for former soldiers of the North.

In the South there are nearly 6000 military personnel who staged a sit-in in Lahj governorate in June.

They are seeking reinstatement to the units they were with in 1994. The authorities responded to their demands, but only 1000 of the former soldiers were reinstated.

The South's 1000 former military personnel will receive their allowances under President Saleh's directives and more will be reinstated to their units, said 14 October, an official news paper.

Government is losing street children

SANA'A, Aug. 20 — The Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor does not know how many street children are in Yemen, according to a ministry official.

The Ministry of Social Affairs and Labor (MSAL) intends to conduct a number of field studies across the republic to record accurate figures for problem.

The MSAL started a training course for those working with social care houses, orphans and street children.

Adel Dabwan, civil defense manager at MSAL, pointed out that these field studies will include the capital, Taiz, Aden and Al-Hodeidah as they are the most highly populated areas in Yemen and they have the most street children.

Dabwan also added that the number of social houses in these four governorates reaches 23, hinting that rural areas lack such houses and there is no intention to expand centers outside of these regions.

The number of street children in

Sana'a governorate, according to a previous study conducted by MSAL, there were 15,000 children on the streets. In the mean time, this phenomenon is on increase due to the spread of poverty and more drop-outs from school.

The new field studies will be conducted by the High Council for Childhood and Motherhood and financed by the Arab Council for Childhood and Development, according to Dabwan.

Model United Nations in Aden 23 and 24 August, 2006

SANA'A, Aug. 20 — For the first time in Aden the popular Model United Nations role-play game is being played.

The game is popular with students all over the world and regularly students gather in commissions of up to 50 participants and model an official diplomat of a country, an international organization or international non-governmental organizations.

The most important roles in Model United Nations are played by the students as they represent the president of commission and his vice-president. The president opens formal sessions, organizing the speakers list, reminding the fellow diplomats to agree on an appropriate speaker's time and reminding them to stick to the diplomatic contacts. Of course all contextual influx needs to come from the students representing the discussing parties. The students are asked to submit speeches on the topic, exchange arguments and transmit their opinions in a comprehensive and complex way, not using more time than allotted by the committee. Formal sessions can

be interrupted by an informal session during which students discuss arguments informally and draft common statements. Finally, the participants vote on a common statement submitted by at least five parties. Of course, the spoken and written language will be English as in the real diplomatic life.

On the initiative of the German Development Service (DED) and the Cultural Department of the German Consulate together with the French Cultural Center (CCCL), AMIDEAST, MALI and the American Language Center these Model United Nations will be held in Aden for the long-term development of Yemen with students representing countries like Germany, France, the USA, international organizations like the European Union and the Gulf Cooperation Council and Yemeni ministries.

The objectives of this event are: The participating students will improve their spoken and written English language and will learn about diplomatic conducts, finding com-

mon solutions to difficult standpoints, and reflect on the actual social and economic situation of Yemen and its future development potential.

Forty students will be invited to participate in an introduction seminar Aug 17 at AMIDEAST with guest speakers from the German Development Service and Yemeni ministries. The final Model United Nations will take place on Aug 24 at the American Language Center, Khormaksar.

Model United Nations in Aden is the first common project between all language institutes in Khormaksar. There are still some places available to participants. Interested students are requested to contact Mr. Jochen Moninger in the department of Cultural Affairs in the German Consulate in Khormaksar by Aug 14, as the selection of the participants will be finalized on the Aug 17 for the orientation seminar. This program hopes to grow and occur annually, possibly in cooperation with a real United Nations body like UNHCR or UNDP.

New oil agreements on the table

SANA'A, Aug. 19 — The Ministry of Oil and Minerals will sign new oil agreements for 14 oil blocks in November, said Khaled Bahah Minister of Oil and Minerals in a symposium held Monday on the present and future of oil.

Bahah said new oil fields will start production soon. Also, they aim to improve the institutional work at the ministry with their 14,000 employees.

Ahmed Abdellah, head of Oil Exploration and Production Authority (OEPA), made it clear that oil exploration phases before the Reunification saw failures as some companies couldn't understand the closing of topography lands. But the present phase, he added, is

improving and seems promising as there is understanding for the geological, scientific and administrative concepts.

"The present phase focuses on oil explorations on qualitative and quantitative basis that would lead to new explorations and increase oil and gas reserves," Abdellah noted.

Other participants presented papers that dealt with producing and marketing oil and mineral wealth.

There are currently 26 oil exploration blocks, of which 12 are for production and 22 international companies working in Yemen on 51 oil-producing fields. There are 421 exploratory oil wells, and 1403 developed wells.



Khaled Bahah: New oil fields will start production soon.

News in brief

Hajja:

Eight tradesmen brought to justice August 19th — The Industrial and Commerce office in Hajja subjected eight tradesmen to legal investigation for manipulation of goods prices. The tradesmen were caught during a campaign launched national wide to ensure stability of prices as per ministerial instructions issued July this year to fix the commodity prices in Yemen.

Lightning kills 12 people

August 17 — Twelve people died because of lightning during last week in Hajja governorate alone. The ongoing rainy season coupled with lack of awareness has caused the death of many civilians in the mountainain areas, said governor of Hajja Mr. MoOhammad Al-Harazi. As a consequence, the governorate has dedicated five million YR for purchase and instalment of equipment to mediate the risk of lightning.

Hudaidah:

69 kilos of Hashish burned August, 17th — Local authorities in Haramout provenance burned around 69 and a half kilograms of Hashish confiscated earlier this year. The burning took place post an awareness session on the dangers of drugs at Balfaqeh Cultural Center. The session was attended by the governor deputy,

head of the general attorney at the governorate and a number of concerned individuals and authorities.

Anti-Malaria campaign

August 18 — A medical survey of 3260 under-9 students for anopheles indicated that 200 were found positive to the mosquito-borne disease," said Abdul-Rahim al-Shamiri the director of the National Anti-Malaria Program, Tihama branch to Saba news agency.

This testing comes under the program's current campaign against the disease in coastal regions of the country. The program distributed free 70,200 mosquito nets in Qanawes, Zaydia, Maneera, Maghlah, Kamaran, Dhuha and other counties in Hudaidah governorate.

Amran:

Closure of 30-health establishment August 19th — The public health and population office in Amran closed down 30 health establishments because of not fulfilling legal requirements for practicing health care. Dr. Abdulghani Al-Ghuzi director of the health office said that this closure took place as a part of a campaign starting in July and will continue until 25th of this month. The campaign targets various health centers, pharmacies, and clinics in the governorate in order to ensure adequacy of performance and

furnishing and the quality of health care provided.

Zabid:

Historical Zabid threatened by rain August 19 — Buidling in the national historical reserve in Zabid are reported by Saba news agency to be damaged because of heavy rains. The roof of the Al-Shabraik gate in the city collapsed as well as the southern part. The General Director of Historical Cities Protection Authority office in Zabid town Araf al-Hadrami called on the authority to take essential procedures to maintain the monument and save it from complete ruin. Additionally, he said that the rains caused damage in other historical monuments in the town and the electricity and telecommunication services were cut off.

Ibb:

French gliding display August 19th — The French gliding team gave a special parade in Ibb skies as a part of the fourth Tourism Festival last Saturday. Dr. Amin Juzailan director of the tourism office in Ibb said that the team, who visited Ibb for three days, is contributing to promoting tourism to the governorate. The festival will conclude coming Thursday with a match between Itihad and Sha'ab football teams competing to win the festival trophy.

Continued from page 1

Saleh calls on parties to grant women local council seats

Women's National Committee Vice Chairwoman Huryah Mashhoor said only 53 women candidates — including 26 women representing the GPC (21 at the district level and five at the governorate level) — will run in local council elections. "We depend on the parties' promises to encourage and support women's nomination; however, we were shocked to learn the number of women candidates," she remarked.

Mashhoor pointed out obstacles women face within their political parties or if they're independent candidates. "Many parties prefer to support powerful social figures that impact society instead of supporting a woman. Additionally, independent candidates face legal restrictions; for example, they must

receive a portion of votes for recommendation," she explained.

Mashhoor also called for local and international support to pressure political parties to encourage women to run in the elections and support independent women candidates by removing obstacles facing their nomination.

"We call on all Yemeni women not to vote for parties refusing to support women for local council seats," Yemeni Women's Union president Ramzia Al-Eryani stated, referring to the Islah party, which offers no women's nomination.

She noted that such parties are mobilizing women to vote, but have discouraged them from standing as candidates.

According to government statistics,

the number of registered female voters has nearly tripled — from 15 percent of total voters in 1993 to 42 percent in 2003. However, during the same period, the number of female candidates running in elections fell from 42 percent to 11 percent.

Thirty-six of 125 women candidates won local council elections in 2001, including two at the governorate level in Aden and Abyan. At the district level, three women won the post of secretary-general — in the Capital secretariat, Ibb and Lahj — and one woman won Tahir district's director-general post, the only Yemeni woman in such a position. The remaining 30 councilwomen are ordinary members of local district councils.

Al-Houthis and government breach cease-fire

He also proposed a type of coordination in activating popular and official stances, justifying his proposal by saying it's incorrect if the official stance is serious and prevents a clear and supportive popular attitude from emerging.

In the letter, a copy of which the Yemen Times received, Abdulmalik asserted that the nation's current situation and developments in Lebanon prepare the movement and the government to solve the great problem between them, as Hezbollah ideology is near to the goals of Al-Houthi followers, particularly the severe enmity toward Israel and its U.S. ally.

The Yemeni army fought fierce bat-

les with followers of Hussein Al-Houthi from June to Sept. 2004 before killing him, but that didn't end the war, which erupted later.

September.Net web site disclosed last Thursday that President Saleh urged Sa'ada's governor to complete previous efforts to resolve the conflict resulting from and causing the Sa'ada events. He also urged convincing remaining Al-Houthi elements entrenched in mountain areas to come down and work as good citizens, pointing to the positive dealing and response to Abdulmalik's previous message to the president, asking him to seize the opportunity of Hezbollah's victory over Israeli aggression to solve the

Sa'ada war's consequences and the endeavor to unify the internal front.

This development comes at a time when Shoura.net published news of an attack the state launched last Thursday using tanks and heavy artillery against a group of Al-Houthi followers in Sa'ada.

The 2004-2005 Sa'ada events have remained stagnant despite all reported efforts and mediations to solve the problem before the upcoming presidential election. The eye-catching thing about these events and their ramifications is that the moment the president announces a truce or reconciliation, events erupt anew and in a fiercer manner.

Are Yemeni boys becoming 'mouse potatoes'?

By: Mohammed Al-Jabri

"I don't like playing football or doing anything else as much as I like browsing the internet, which includes everything," says 11-year-old Wael Al-Hammadi.

Al-Hammadi states that he prefers going to internet cafes to enjoy himself before school reopens. "I want to exploit my vacation to get to know the internet. They say browsing the internet brings the world into your hands," he notes, adding that he's come to know about hundreds of and games and music without having the chance to play any because "most of the web sites are in English," he explained.

Al-Hammadi is just one example of thousands of Yemeni boys who spend much time in cyber cafes. "You perhaps can find boys in nearly every internet cafe, especially during their summer vacation," Sana'a internet cafe owner Faisal Hadi suggests.

However, Hadi clarifies that boys usually aren't allowed to enter internet cafes during school hours. "When schools open, some employees don't allow any young boy to sit or use the internet, especially when he comes in his school uniform. But we can't do this when they return from school and also when it's vacation."

Boys vs. parents

Over the past six years, internet cafes have increased markedly in Yemen, namely in major cities. For many boys, these newborn places are good for entertainment. However, parents begin worrying about their sons who always visit internet cafes, thinking they are places where they'll come to learn immoral values.

"The internet can expose our sons to pornography and inculcate them with decadent values," said one father sitting near an internet cafe waiting for his son to prevent him from entering it. This is why they send their sons to Qur'anic schools, language institutes, summer school camps, etc.

"This year, when summer vacation began, I sent my sons to a Qur'anic school in the morning and a private language institute in the evening," Fahmi Al-Ansi says, "because I learned that my two sons used to go to internet cafes. I don't like them to be internet-addicted."

A 'mouse potato' may spend long hours at the computer playing games, surfing the internet, checking favorite web sites, instant messaging or reading email. He might even be doing homework or researching a school project. The engaging nature of computers and the internet makes it easy to lose track of time.

Although some parents resort to strict measures, the fact of boys going to internet cafes has become unavoidable because they visit internet cafes despite their parents' attempts. Abdul-Rahman Taher, a 44-year-old father of three, says, "My son says he's playing with his friends when in reality, he's using the internet. He simply says he's at a mosque but in fact, he can be found in a nearby internet cafe. A father can't help observe his son(s) all the time."

In most cases, boys visit internet cafes before or after they go to the private learning institutes to which their parents send them. Abdul-Rahman, 15, confesses that he surfs the internet two to three hours a day after finishing his language classes. "I can't stop using the internet. Every day, I go to an internet cafe near the institute where I study, but no one knows about this except my friends. If my father learns about this, he won't allow me to leave the house anymore," he explained.



During summer vacation, most boys like to spend much time on surfing the Internet.

YT PHOTO

Thus, at times, parents must search for their sons in internet cafes. Hadi recounts that once a mother, likely in her 40s, came into his internet cafe searching for her son. "She seemed angry at the time. She passed every internet user in the cafe, staring at their faces in the hope that she'd see her son. She left the cafe, warning me not to allow her son to use the internet," he added.

Such incidents can end in a quarrel between a father and an internet owner. According to some Sana'a neighborhood locals, some fathers threaten internet owners not to allow their sons to use the internet. "A few months ago, a quarrel erupted between an internet employee and a father whose son used to spend hours surfing the internet. The father already had warned the employee not to allow his son to use the internet," said Ahmed Nasser, a resident of Sheraton St. neighborhood in Sana'a.

Not only this, boys themselves face problems obtaining money to use the internet. "Getting money is a problem, as I need YR 200 every day for the internet. My father sometimes gives me money and sometimes he doesn't. In any case, I have good friends who always lend me money," Abdul-Rahman said. Hadi says he notices some boys, who seem to be friends, have problems over who'll pay for the internet. "This is why anyone wishing to use the internet should pre-pay," he added.

A vast world "The internet enables us to know about things that aren't in Yemen," 14-year-old Omar Al-Ahjeri, says, "It's an imaginable world where you can get what you ask. I just search in Google for anything I wish. Woo, I can talk to and hear people overseas."

According to some internet owners, boys' interests actually vary to some extent, with the majority preferring chat web sites while others like entertainment sites. "If they aren't forbidden, then nearly all boys would browse sexually explicit materials," 25-year-old teacher Nasser Al-Hamami says.

He goes on to say that a few years ago, all internet users, including boys, were able to visit pornographic web sites. At that time, internet cafes had partitions separating one computer from another, thus giving users full freedom to surf the web sites they wanted without others knowing. "Even women, especially university girls who'd never seen a single pornographic photo, were able to view innumerable sex photos and sometimes porn movies," he continued.

However, by government decision, such partitions now have been removed, thus limiting users' freedom to browsing just those sites that don't seem immoral. At that time, internet cafes suffered losses as customer numbers began to decrease. The cost of using the internet decreased as well. "This set yet another trend as users began to turn to online chatting and spend a lot of time at a lower price," social expert Mohammed Mujahed says.

According to Mujahed, most young boys visit chat web sites for a couple of reasons. On one hand, they use the internet for entertainment and online chatting serves that purpose. On the other, practically no boys use the internet to search for information, knowledge or the like, so they turn to online chatting instead.

"Of course, especially nowadays, boys have an irresistible desire to visit pornographic web sites, especially as they've heard much about them either from their friends or by chatting with others on the web. But they find themselves watched by others and may be dismissed from the cafe if they do so," Mujahed noted.

Despite instructions inside internet cafes warning users not to visit immoral web sites, some boys are unembarrassed to surf sexual photos. "Some boys sit with their friends in internet cafes and feel courageous enough to visit pornographic web sites. The internet owner sometimes seems helpless and can't kick them out to avoid fighting with them," Mujahed explained.

"When a child visits a pornographic web site, I immediately shut down his

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computer and kick him out. Of course, this sometimes causes problems for me," Hadi commented.

Moreover, most internet cafes set up games on computers so it's easier for boys to play them instead of downloading them from the internet. "I once went to an internet cafe to email a friend of mine. To my surprise, all of the users there were boys just playing computer games. The cafe owner said he provides internet service only in the evening, while customers only can play games in the morning," Al-Hamami recounted.

The internet first was introduced in Yemen in 1996, with very limited users at that time. Official statistics for 2000 showed that the percent of internet subscribers was 3.51 for every 10,000 people, 4.7 percent for every 10,000 people during the second half of 2002 and 8 percent for every 10,000 people by the end of 2002.

There were 36,600 computers in 2000, that is, one computer for every 500 citizens, and 0.82 percent for every 100 people in 2002. Statistics at that time show the number of computers as 140,000.

World Internet usage and population statistics

World Regions	Population (2006 Est.)	Population % of World	Internet Usage, Latest Data	% Population (Penetration)	Usage % of World	Usage Growth 2000-2005
Africa	915,210,928	14.1 %	23,649,000	2.6 %	2.3 %	423.9 %
Asia	3,667,774,066	56.4 %	380,400,713	10.4 %	36.5 %	232.8 %
Europe	807,289,020	12.4 %	294,101,844	36.4 %	28.2 %	179.8 %
Middle East	190,084,161	2.9 %	18,203,500	9.6 %	1.7 %	454.2 %
North America	331,473,276	5.1 %	227,470,713	68.6 %	21.8 %	110.4 %
Latin America/Caribbean	553,908,632	8.5 %	79,962,809	14.7 %	7.8 %	350.5 %
Oceania / Australia	33,956,977	0.5 %	17,872,707	52.6 %	1.7 %	134.6 %
WORLD TOTAL	6,499,697,060	100.0 %	1,043,104,886	16.0 %	100.0 %	189.0 %

NOTES: (1) Internet Usage and World Population Statistics were updated for June 30, 2006

Source: www.internetworldstats.com

Job opportunity Padzey

Project to Support Animal Production in Two Zones of Yemen

The Padzey Project is a four year project resulting from the cooperation between French and Yemeni governments. The project is implemented and supervised by the General Directorate of Animal Resources of the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation.

The project aims to support rural development in animal production areas in order to alleviate poverty in two pilot rural areas of Yemen

1. Wadi Mawr area, with a specific focus on fattening program of small ruminant.
2. Taiz area, with a specific focus on traditional goat cheese production.

1- Project Coordinator:

The prospective Padzey Coordinator must have:

- A MSc degree in veterinary medicine from a recognized university.
- Not less than 5 years experience of fieldwork in animal health related context.
- A working experience in project development and implementations.
- A demonstrable capability in planning, organizing and implementation of filed activities.
- A good knowledge of field activity and relationships with farmers.
- Computer knowledge with a good experience
- Fluency at oral and written English, with good communication skills.

2-Accountant:

The prospective Padzey accountant must have:

- A university degree in accountancy.
- Work experience of at least 5 years, in financial issues in similar projects.
- Fluency in spoken and written English.
- She/he will have to take possible missions at the project's location, be able to take initiative and responsibilities and to work in the afternoons.
- Experience in designing financial system.
- Computer skills (word and excel).

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PADZEY project fax: 561913 - Tel: 561 914

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Yemen Times

ELECTIONS Update

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Yemen's electoral system: A comparative study

In 1993, the newborn Republic of Yemen held its first multiparty parliamentary elections. A year earlier, in August 1992, a commission called the Yemeni Supreme Commission for Elections and Referendum (SCER) was formed to observe and run the elections. It is considered the Arab world's first permanent, independent election commission.

Until now, as an elections mechanism – whether local council, parliament or presidential – Yemen has used what's known as plurality voting or the plurality system, whereby the candidate with the most votes wins. As it is, each electoral system has its advantages and disadvantages, and some would argue that continuing to use the plurality system and the same voter registration mechanism might not be the best option for democracy in Yemen.

Composed by: Nadia Al-Sakkaf

One definition of an election is a decision making process whereby individuals vote for preferred political candidates or parties to act as their government representatives. A voting system is a means of choosing between several options based on input from numerous voters. A voting system consists of rules for how voters can express their desires and how these desires are aggregated to yield a final result.

Most voting systems are based on the concept of majority rule or the principle that more than half of voters should see their desired outcome. Given majority rule's simplicity, those unfamiliar with voting theory often are surprised that such a variety of voting systems exists or that popular voting systems can produce results not supported by more than half the voters.

If every election had only two choices, the winner would be determined using majority rule alone. However, when there are three or more options, there may not be a single option preferred by a majority. Different voting systems may yield very different results, particularly in cases where there's no clear majority preference.

Popular voting systems can produce results not supported by more than half the voters. If every election had only two choices, the winner would be determined using majority rule alone.

Various electoral systems

Most electoral systems can be categorized as either majoritarian or proportional. Majoritarianism, often referred to as majority rule, is a political philosophy or agenda asserting that a majority of the population is entitled to a certain degree of primacy in society and therefore, has the right to make decisions affecting society as a whole. As explained above, when three or more options exist, there may not be a single option preferred by a majority.

On the other hand, proportional representation, sometimes referred to as full representation or by the acronym PR, is an electoral system delivering a close match between the percentage of votes groups of candidates obtain in elections and the percentage of seats they receive. In other words, if the category of grouping is religion, for example, all religions would be represented according to their percentage in the population. Therefore, the proportional election system allows all minorities to be represented.

Proportional representation exists in various forms, such as party list proportional representation, wherein the above-mentioned groups directly correspond with candidate lists usually given by political parties.

Within this form, further distinction can be made, depending on whether or not a voter can influence the election of candidates within a party list (open list and closed list, respectively).

Another type of electoral system under proportional representation is the single transferable vote (STV), which doesn't depend on the existence of political parties and where the abovementioned "measure of grouping" is left entirely up to voters themselves.

There also are electoral systems, single non-transferable vote (SNTV) and cumulative voting, which, due to their behavior, sometimes are categorized as "semi-proportional" or "pseudo-proportional."

Faced with the pros and cons of either the majoritarian or proportional electoral system, some nations opt for a mix of the two, known as the mixed election system, usually defined as a combination of the proportional system and the FPTP (winner-takes-all, single seat district) system, thereby attempting to achieve some of both systems' positive mechanisms.

For example, a state with a bicameral parliament may choose a winner-take-all system for elections to the lower body and a variant of proportional representation for elections to the upper body.

This mixed system usually is needed for large populations to balance election mechanisms focused on local or nationwide elections in terms of the goal of proportional representation. Other examples include nations with very diverse voting populations in terms of geographic, social, cultural or economic realities.

Some of these systems are designed to ensure proportional representation of various groups within the electorate, as are additional member systems, wherein extra seats can be given to parties under-represented in the legislature.

To a crucial degree, voting procedures used to elect candidates determine whether elections are considered fair and their outcomes legitimate. Procedures mean the rules governing how votes are aggregated in an election and how a winner or winners are determined.

One woman asked, "If we can't select our husband, how can we select the president of the country?"

The electoral system in Yemen

The president of the Republic of Yemen is elected by direct popular vote to serve a seven-year term. The president appoints the 111 Shoura Council members and the 301 House of Representatives (Majlis Annawab) members are elected by popular vote to serve six-year terms.

The 1999 presidential election was the first to elect the president by popular vote. Prior to this, the legislative branch selected a five-member presidential council to head the executive branch. Currently, a presidential candidate must receive the nomination by at least 10 percent of the legislature to participate in the general election.

Ali Abdullah Saleh was elected presi-

dent in the 1999 election, securing 96 percent of the votes and facing only one opponent, Najeeb Qahtan Al-Sha'abi. Total voter turnout was estimated at approximately 66 percent. The Yemeni Socialist Party (YSP) wanted to field a presidential candidate, but because the party had boycotted 1997's legislative elections, it had no parliamentarians and so couldn't ensure its nominee's approval.

There are five presidential candidates this year, all males, the most prominent of which is current president, Ali Abdullah Saleh, and next is Faisal Bin Shamlan, candidate of the joint opposition parties, known as the Joint Meeting Parties (JMP). Yemen is planning to use the popular vote again to decide winners in local council, parliamentary and presidential elections.

To a crucial degree, voting procedures used to elect candidates determine whether elections are considered fair and their outcomes legitimate. Procedures mean the rules governing how votes are aggregated in an election and how a winner or winners are determined.

However, the choice of electoral system and the elections' design can play a decisive role in their outcomes. Reusing the same method means political minorities won't be represented. Moreover, according to the International Foundation for Election Systems (IFES), voter registration is as low as 10 percent in some isolated areas of Yemen.

Marginalized populations such as women, youth and the disabled face challenges deterring them from engaging in the political process. Illiteracy is prevalent and many Yemeni women never have participated in an election nor had the opportunity to vote freely for a candidate of their choice.

IFES has been bringing together a wide range of stakeholders in Yemen's electoral system, including senior government officials, political party representatives, civil society activists and legal experts, to thoroughly examine and reform Yemen's current election and political party law.

Stakeholders participate in public policy dialogues wherein their voice concerns about elements of Yemen's election and political party law, which, if amended, would make for freer, more equitable elections in Yemen.

Via a constructive exchange of opinions, stakeholders reach consensus on needed reform in areas of law identified, refine their understanding of where specific difficulties lie, study other developing democracies' approaches to resolving such problems and form their positions on the best approach to strengthening Yemen's electoral law.

Reforming the election law

While Yemen's 2003 parliamentary elections generally were well-conducted and a significant improvement upon previous elections, they demonstrated that the election law needed amending to improve the electoral process's impartiality and transparency and deal with several omissions, procedural gaps and technical contradic-



A voter sticker to promote 2003 election awareness among women. It says: "Women have equal voting rights to men. They are given voting card on which their pictures must be there."

tions. These matters needed addressing before the 2006 presidential and local council elections.

IFES completed an in-depth analysis of Yemen's election law in Jan. 2004, identifying five priority areas to be addressed before the 2006 elections: the statutory voter registration update schedule, dispute resolution mechanisms, the ballot-counting venue, the process of appointing election subcommittee members and local council election procedures.

Marginalized populations

Approximately 74 percent of Yemen's population lives in rural areas where many citizens have no access to television or radio news and many are uninformed about their political rights. Additionally, only 30 percent of Yemeni women are literate, compared to 70 percent of men. According to the SCER, a large number of Yemeni citizens eligible to vote aren't engaged in the political process. IFES's project targeted these citizens.

In her report on this topic, Kathryn Lynch reported that IFES used 2004 census data and 2002 SCER registration figures to identify five governorates for voter education, including Ibb, Al-Hodeidah, Hajjah, Dhamar and Hadramout. IFES's field teams included NGO representatives from the Arabic Sisters Forum, Civic Democratic Initiatives Foundation, the Democracy School and Women Journalists Without Chains.

The teams faced several challenges, including a number of citizens who didn't understand the importance of voter registration and participating in the political process.

One woman asked, "If we can't select our husband, how can we select the president of the country?"

Concerns ranged from the lengthy distance between villages and registration centers, lack of transportation, the problem of some men prohibiting women from registering and the impact of sheikhs telling citizens whether to register or for whom to vote.

The only place teams were turned away was Kaedana district, where the mayor said the training wasn't important and ordered local sheikhs to deny access to the villages. The mayor even threatened to have police arrest the teams. The SCER branch office in Kaedana also dismissed the voter education training, saying it was unnecessary.

Discrimination isn't only social, there is also political marginalization and mar-

ginalized organizations wouldn't be able to represent their people effectively. When elections are based on proportionality rather than plurality, seats are allotted to parties commensurate with the number of votes polled.

Votes go to individual candidates and voters indicate their preferred politician by circling the number assigned to him or her on the ballot. Such an electoral system enables minorities to be represented in Parliament and hence, yields a true representation of the people.

According to research by Ahmed Abdulkareem Saif, doctoral candidate on Yemen's electoral system in the Department of Politics at England's University of Exeter, the first-past-the-post (FPP) system in a traditional society like Yemen's would increase the importance of kinship preferences, which would deepen the sub-national identity at the expense of party electoral programs, thus downgrading the level of Parliament's professionalism.

This system also disfavors small parties, depriving them of parliamentary rep-

resentation. Opponents of this election system call for proportional representation (PR), claiming it minimizes personal and financial influence, allows political parties to form coalitions, gives priority to programs and enables parties to choose the most qualified, not the most socially influential, candidates.

However, regarding representation, the existing FPP system has shortcomings. For example, in the 1997 election, at the constituency level, 116 MPs won with less than half (some as few as 23 percent) of all votes in their constituencies. At the national level, as Table 1 shows, when adding up all of the constituencies' results to get an overall state of Parliament, all MPs got 55 percent of all votes cast and 33.7 percent of all registered eligible voters.

In the 2003 parliamentary elections, the ruling General People's Congress (GPC) won a landslide victory, winning 226 of 301 elected seats. Saif argues that although the FPP system produces a majority government, in both Yemeni elections, small parties won 12 and five seats in the 1993 and 1997 elections, respectively. However, in a nascent democracy like Yemen's, this system probably provides a stable majoritarian government allowing for certain cooperation between Parliament and the government. In the short run, this possibly is desirable to allow democratic institutions to further consolidate and institutionalize.

According to the international Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA), Yemen's democratization efforts face several major obstacles, including a culture based chiefly on tribal affiliations, "which put a few rich men in absolute authority over all women and most other men."

"In other words, this is a culture of power, which accepts pluralism in form and legislation, but rejects it in practice," stated an IDEA report published in November last year. The report went on to note that current electoral system loopholes limit the chances of opposition parties garnering the number of parliamentary seats needed to be effective. The report also points out that Yemen's Constitution stipulates single-member electoral districts, meaning "voters vote for individual candidates

Voter registration is as low as 10 percent in some isolated areas of Yemen. Marginalized populations such as women, youth and the disabled face challenges deterring them from engaging in the political process. Illiteracy is prevalent and many Yemeni women never have participated in an election nor had the opportunity to vote freely for a candidate of their choice.

rather than party lists, and this, combined with other parties, has helped kill pluralism before it's had a chance to develop."

Such imbalance has yielded a Parliament unable to hold government accountable, the IDEA report concludes. "This again strengthens the executive branch at the expense of the legislature."

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S88

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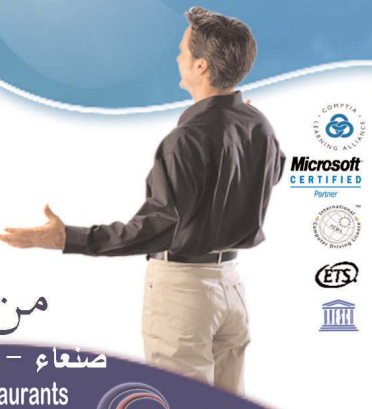
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The Road to a Better Future

Words of Wisdom



The rate of population growth is an extremely vital factor in the ability of the country to successfully develop. It is imperative that the government, Non government organizations, the media, educationists, and intellectuals join hands to make it clear to families that a large number of children is a burden which neither the parents nor the society can handle

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



OUR OPINION

Modern protest in Yemen

Traditionally, since the majority of Yemenis live in a tribal and traditional culture, when something goes wrong, influential individuals in the tribe solved the issue. The conflicting parties would visit the Sheikh or the village preacher, describe their problem and abide by the agreed decision.

Today, although many parts of Yemen still use these traditional means for solving disputes, it seems that Yemenis are learning the modern means of protest. If you read the local media, especially recently, you will find that at any given time, there is at least one demonstration, strike or sit-in. Most of them are arranged by the local NGOs or associations such as doctors, teachers and lawyers syndicate, Yemeni Women's Union or local charities. Sometimes the protest is against an international issue such as the war in Lebanon or it may be a very local issue such as teachers in a certain district not receiving their salaries over one month.

Interestingly, to make the transition from a traditional style to a modern one, an in-between style evolves. The end of last year the motorbike owners gathered in a demonstration at the parliament and slaughtered a bull just like they would do in a tribe in front of the Sheikh.

Sometimes the demonstration goes out of control like when the prices rose and people went mad in the streets and started a wave of destruction. Sometimes the protest is so lame that no more than 10 people gather and their cumulative influence is discarded. Sometimes it is not by Yemenis but a protest or sit-in is carried by migrants in Yemen who are suffering from certain circumstances, resembled by the Somalis demonstrating in front of the UNHCR last year.

Even when the political parties want to convey a point they drive the people into the streets even if the people are unaware or convinced of the cause. Whether it is true the ruling political party paid people to go into the streets and demand Saleh run in the election does not matter, but the notion itself is an indication of how this style of protest can be used.

In general, the way Yemenis evolved in the manifestation of their views and expressions is worth admiring. It is very easy to carry out an apolitical demonstration anywhere in the country. Many times the result is not guaranteed compared to the old means where the disputing parties would not get out of the Sheikh's house unless they had an agreeable solution. But never the less it is a new democratic trend and it is quite promising.

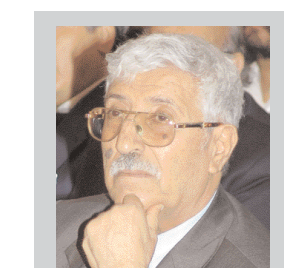
Nadia Al-Sakkaf
Editor-in-Chief

We won... resistance is the solution

The Arab citizen bowed his head for 50 years and suffered numerous defeats can now raise his head and say we have won a victory. If he is asked about signs of victory, he can proudly point to the heavy losses the enemy sustained at the hands of a group of the sons of our nation and by some of its heroes.

The month-long war between the Arab nation, represented by a resisting segment of its sons in Arab Lebanon, and the United States of America, represented by the Zionist entity, saw the resistance the victor.

The Arab citizen can indicate to the nation's reservoir of countless heroes. The latest war proved to the world the Arabs are capable of being a power that must not be underestimated and that their Zionist enemy is conquerable. The years of frustration and stages of exporting the psychological feeling of defeatism have weakened our national spirit and made the Arabs appear weaker than their enemy - who get support, weapons and moral backing from America and the



By: Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Maqaleh

West.

We can begin to ask what lessons the nation has learnt from the war and our answer is that the resistance itself is the solution. It is the form of any of our wars with all enemies and those occupying our territories. This lesson is not only what the Lebanese resistance has proved because it's seen with the resistance in Palestine and Iraq. The time will come when the Arab regimes truly represent the nation and the will of liberation and riddance of the nightmare of occupation, and then they can give the people the green light in expressing their anger and creating the means by which they'll realize their goals. Surely, the Arabs will not stay

on the margin of life because of the failure of some of the regimes. It is their right to express their wrath against what is going on and to prove their patience lasted longer than it should. The resistance must begin inside the occupied and desecrated land and not outside because that way no one misunderstands it and describes it as terror, as it always the case.

While celebrating this victory, we must keep in mind that while the Zionist enemy retreated from Lebanon a defeated army it will now double its reactions against the Palestinian resistance. In order not to prevent the enemy from acting this way all hearts of the nation and capabilities must join and mobilize to support the Palestinian resistance to maintain their resistance. They cannot kneel or bargain after the destruction their lands and all their victims because resistance is the solution.

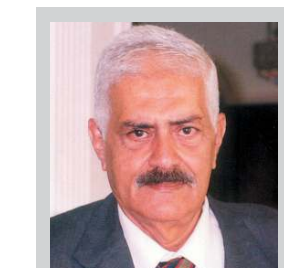
Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Maqaleh is Yemen's prominent poet and intellectual. He is the director of the Yemeni Center for Studies & Research.

Liquidation of Hezbollah is the target

It appeared hard for the Israeli Prime Minister Ulmert to get down off the tree after he Israeli army establishment was exposed to humiliation. Therefore he mobilized his military machine and escalated the war on the two fronts: the north against Hezbollah and the south against the Palestinians. What Israel was doing in Gaza it is now doing in Lebanon where it has bombarded bridges and residential houses and killed or wounded hundreds of innocent people. It raided the airport and imposed a complete air, land and sea blockade on Lebanon.

Israel was aiming at instigating the Lebanese against the resistance. And in fact Bush did not hesitate supporting Israel and said Israel has the right to defend itself. That phrase constituted a motive for Israel to continue its aggression and granted it full authority and a green light to do everything and anything. Bush gave Israel an excuse to destroy Lebanon just for the sake of two prisoners.

What had happened constituted the opportune opportunity for Israel to push Hezbollah from the Lebanon's south. America, France and the United Nations participated together in the



By: Dr Abdulaziz Al-Tarb

scheme and the goal was deployment of the Lebanese army on its borders.

The tepid reaction in the United Nations and the Security Council were intentionally imposed by the United States to abort a resolution at the Security Council demanding cessation of the attacks on Gaza and tried to prolong and delay the issuance of a resolution regarding Lebanon and its argument was that there was no use for it. America wanted time to enable Israel to deal a deadly blow to Hezbollah with the aim of expulsion of Hezbollah from the south completely. It is a goal Israel has been working to achieve for many years particularly after Hezbollah has been representing a balance of horror since they forced Israel to withdraw from south Lebanon May 24, 2000.

Presently the aggression on Lebanon aims to drag the government of Lebanese Prime Minister Al-Seniora to a stand-still through which Israel could end the resistance, disarming them and allowing the deployment of the Lebanese army in the south which practically means the full implementation of the UN Security Council resolution 1559.

The strange matter is the statement by Bush in imposing a blackout on the genocide Israel is perpetrating on the Palestinian and Lebanese territories, saying Syria must account for its acts. That is a kind of confusion that could be uttered but by a maniac who has lost his way. Maybe Bush wanted that statement to give Israel an excuse to extend its military operations to Syria, which could be convenient for him.

When will the Arab and Islamic peoples and rulers understand that the liquidation of Hezbollah will be the last stage and target of the Arab and Islamic resistance in all Israel's continued abstinence.

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

SILVER LINING

Elections and the worry of violence

Attack and counterattack brand the heated ongoing arguments and media barrage between the opposition coalition and the ruling GPC. The current rhetorical fight between the two sides is a bad omen that the upcoming elections might be violent.

Last week, the National Democratic Institute (NDI) country representative Robin Madrid expressed concerns about potential violent elections.

I do share her concerns because the launch of these campaigns, which should officially kick off next Wednesday, focus on personal attacks rather than policies. These politicians waste much of their time in arguments that do not serve the public need, but are just badmouthing and insults.

One could imagine when reading the media outlets of the two sides that these people are going to war rather than voting. Hey guys, please tone down your rhetoric as media can always start a war but cannot stop one.

I understand the fact that Yemenis are heavily armed. In moments of tension the guns speak louder than the logic, particularly in tribal areas where people are easily irritated. We constantly hear scaring reports of armed killings between tribesmen, sometimes for petty reasons. It's important the National Defense Council banned arms carrying at the polling centers. But enforcement is most important.

The two sides signed the agreement of principles to ensure fair and free elections through neutralizing public resources, media, and army. This agreement is considered good and the signatories should respect it and work to meet its terms. The failure of the two sides to do that puts us all in hot water.

I know both sides are responsible for the success or failure of the agreement, but the majority of the responsibility has to fall on the ruling GPC because it has the power and influence to direct all election processes.

For God's sake, let the people have a say without influence or intimidation because those evil tricks cause hell to break loose. When the fire starts, it is not easy to put it out.

The Yemeni people have got enough problems. There is poverty, unemployment, water shortages and food shortages - to list the ones at the top of the list. They do not need any more headaches to worsen their lives.

We look forward to democracy and elections can be an instrumental tool for change to have a better tomorrow. We do not want elections and democracy to drive us into turmoil and chaos. We need a democracy that builds rather than blows us apart. We are already have problems.

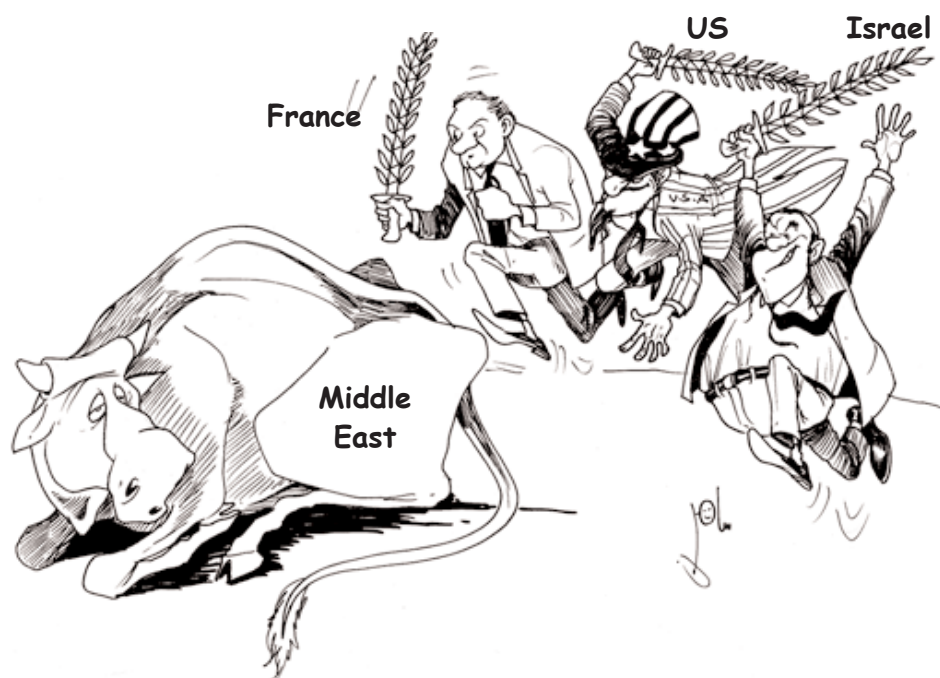
By no means should the opposition keep mute and surrender to violations and abuses of the elections process, but they should resist and stand up to them peacefully.

And the PGC people should be wise enough to know that if they pull triggers then no one will win. We all lose if our country falls into chaos and disorder. We should take the example of Somalia very seriously and realize the aftermath of any stupid act from both sides - stupid is as stupid does.

Mohammed Al-Qadhi is a Yemeni journalist and columnist.
(mhalqadhi@hotmail.com)



By: Mohammed Al-Qadhi

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By: Samer (samer_art@maktob.com)

Letters to the Editor

Memories of Yemen relived
From 1992 to 1997, I worked in Yemen as a tour leader for a Dutch travel organization cooperating with a Yemeni agent. In 1997, with great pain in my heart, I left for personal reasons. This year, I thought it was about time to visit my Yemeni friends again, who have been in my heart for the past nine years. It wasn't only the friends I wanted to see again, but also that very special country that captured my heart from the moment I set foot on its ground in 1992.

A year ago, Aug. 19, was my personal "D-Day," as I landed at Sana'a International Airport again for a two-week visit. My dear friends were there and we made a wonderful trip to their hometowns, Hobeish in the Ibb region and Al-Beidha. Their trust in me as a non-Muslim, their friendship and their hospitality was overwhelming. I have no words to express my gratitude, not even in my mother tongue.

The other thing I was very pleasantly surprised by was the way Yemen has

developed during this past decade. I know there was lots of talk in the early '90s about getting electricity nationwide and paving all roads and there were great plans to end the waste and rubbish problem.

Well, I must congratulate Yemen's government and the Yemeni people on the great achievements that have been made. In certain areas of the country, you could compete with Western Europe, meaning that it's obvious that a lot of work has been done in Yemen in the past 10 years, whereas that can't be said of most European countries.

Last July, the United Nations published a report saying that Yemen still is in the top 50 least developed countries. I wouldn't worry too much about that. With the pace Yemen is getting things organized and improved (due to good government skills), combined with the positive attitude and greatness of heart of all Yemenis and with God's help, of course, Yemen will find its place in the future just as it did in the past.

Once again, thank you very much, Yemen and Yemenis, for a tremendous experience! See you soon.

Mart van de
Morteloazefreek@skynet.be

Proud to be Yemeni

I am proud to be Yemeni and I love my country. I am studying medicine out of Yemen, but my heart is attached to my great country. I believe in democracy and I call every patriotic Yemeni to vote in Yemen's presidential election.

Only as Yemeni can we make a difference and we can build our country if we sincerely believe that. If we love our country we should vote to make it a better one. Yemen could be much better and more secure if we all work together as a team. I would love to see Yemen with more opposition parties regardless of their ideological direction just only to prove to those inside and outside the country how Yemen looks at the future.

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Kidney failure patients in Yemen in great need of support

By: Amel Al-Ariqi
amel11ariqi@yahoo.com

"I left my family, my school and my home to be able to attend these sessions," 13-year-old Abada Abdullah said, speaking about the kidney dialysis she must have while confined to her bed, unable to move her small body freely due to the many tubes connecting her to the kidney dialysis machine.

"I left my parents and my eight sisters in Amran governorate to live with my uncle in Sana'a to receive treatment for kidney failure, which I suffered nine months ago," she added.

Razaz Mohammed Abdou, 16, of Mahwit governorate also left his family and school to live in Sana'a with his father. "I've had kidney dialysis for three years. I must attend the center twice a week for this purpose," he explained.

Abdullah and Abdou aren't the only children in a room containing 17 dialysis machines at Al-Thawra Hospital's kidney center in Sana'a. According to a dialysis department nurse, the center also receives infants with kidney failure who must access the room for dialysis.

Nephrology consultant Dr. Najeeb Abuesba confirmed that the number of kidney failure patients in Yemen is increasing, pointing to the fact that no statistics or scientific medical studies exist to estimate the number of such



Dr. Najeeb Abuesba

Some kidney failure patients have lost consciousness awaiting their turn at the crowded center, the only one offering kidney dialysis.

patients in Yemen. "Unfortunately, there are no studies estimating or research on the reason for the increasing number of Yemenis suffering kidney failure."

According to Abuesba, many indexes require study and research in this field. "For example, it previously was very rare to see patients from Ibb governorate at the center, but nowadays, most patients suffering kidney stones or kidney failure are from Ibb governorate, which leads us to think of the causes. Maybe they're chewing qat that's been sprayed with bactericide,

maybe the region's water is polluted or contains a high salt rate or maybe there are other reasons that must be discovered," he surmised.

The only center

"I've seen patients lose consciousness awaiting their turn for kidney dialysis," said Amat Alrazak Al-Thulaya, who was hooked up to a dialysis machine, "I feel sorry for them. They come from distant regions seeking this treatment which is unavailable in their areas."

Hussein Mohammed Abdullah agrees with Al-Thulaya, adding, "I spend five hours in one trip from Marib to Sana'a, costing me YR 6,000 just to get to this session. I must attend these sessions twice a week, so imagine my loss."

Abdullah noted that many citizens in his region are suffering due to pollution from petroleum mining. "I personally know 12 people from my region with kidney failure and two of them have passed away," he said, calling for establishing such a center in Marib.

Dr. Ahmed Al-Ansi, director of Al-Thawra Hospital in Sana'a, pointed out that the center daily receives hundreds of patients exceeding its capacity. "Our kidney dialysis machines are working 24 hours a day, which will affect their competence," he warned.

Abuesba noted that the center covers 13 Yemeni governorates and kidney dialysis costs the hospital \$4,000 daily. "Patients must have three kidney dialysis sessions per week, that is, at least 15 hours a week. However, patients at the center receive only two dialysis sessions, which means only six to eight hours, thus delaying their recovery," he explained.

He called on all involved organizations to establish and provide centers in various Yemeni regions to handle the increasing number of kidney disease patients. "I suggest arranging national campaigns to support kidney failure patients, like these annual campaigns launched to support cancer patients. If kidney failure patients receive proper treatment early, they will recover sooner and return productive individuals to society," Abuesba asserted.

Kidney failure causes and treatment

The kidneys are a pair of organs whose functions include removing waste from the blood and regulating body fluids. When kidneys become unable to perform their function well, this can lead to what's called kidney failure or sometimes renal failure, which slows or stops blood filtration, thus causing toxic waste to build up in the blood.

"There are no studies estimating or research on the reason for the increasing number of Yemenis suffering kidney failure."

"There are two types of renal failure. Acute renal failure may be caused by bacterial infection, injury, shock, congestive heart failure, drug poisoning due to misusing drugs or severe bleeding following surgery. Many diseases like malaria and bilharzias also can lead to this type of kidney failure. The second type, called chronic renal failure, is a progressive deteriorating of kidney function over a long time period and can be caused by diseases such as diabetes," Abuesba explained.

Some patients use dialysis for a short time while their kidneys recover from injury or disease while others must have dialysis their entire lives or until they have a kidney transplant.

"I'm now conducting a study on 110 patients who entered the center during the previous eight months suffering acute renal failure. Results have revealed that most of the children were suffering malaria and diarrhea and 25 percent of the women experienced acute bleeding after childbirth, while many other patients had kidney stones and high blood pressure."



A patient underwent kidney transplant surgery, Al-Thawra hospital.

According to Abuesba, treatment may include drugs to address the underlying cause or stimulate proper kidney function; kidney dialysis, wherein the blood is filtered mechanically; or in some cases, kidney transplant. "There's no other treatment for these patients," he confirmed.

Kidney transplants finally available in Yemen

The center is the only one in Yemen performing kidney transplants and such surgery wasn't even available until 1998. "Kidney transplants began in Yemen in 1998, in cooperation with the kidney center in Al-Mansoura, Egypt. Such surgeries were performed seasonally, about two cases per year, with Egyptian medical teams visiting Yemen and performing the surgery on patients who already had many tests in Egypt and had returned to Yemen for the operation," Abuesba explained.

However, since the center's 2004 opening, Yemeni medical teams now perform such tests and surgeries. "We freely do kidney transplant surgeries, on average one operation weekly. The center also provides patients with drugs they must use after the operation," Abuesba said, confirming that while the patient doesn't pay for the operation, the donor sometimes must pay \$200 to \$300 for the tests.

Taha Ahmed Ali Al-Maqlahi, 26, from Ibb governorate's Wadi Bana recently had a kidney transplant after suffering bilharzias and kidney stones, which affected one of his kidneys.

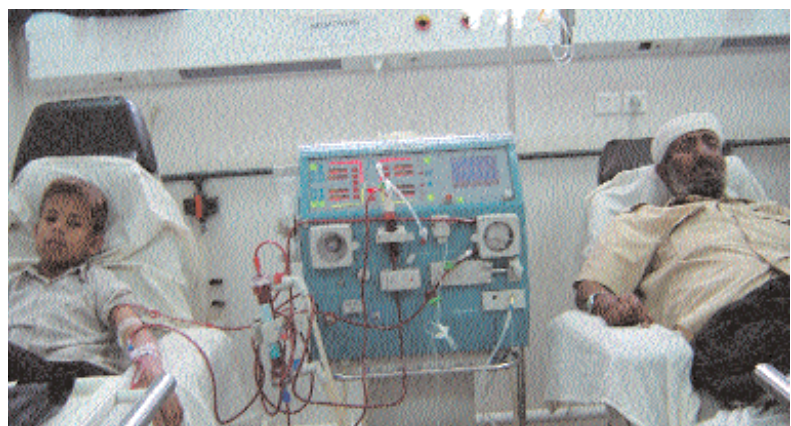
"The doctors at the center recommended a kidney transplant, so I prepared myself to travel abroad for the tests and the operation. However, I finally decided to do the surgery at the center, with my sister as the donor," he recounted.

However, not all patients are as lucky as Al-Maqlahi. Sixty-year-old Abdullah from Marib mentioned that he can't have a kidney transplant because he has heart disease, so he's had kidney dialysis for two years.

Misusing drugs, acute postnatal bleeding, malaria, bilharzias, diabetes and bacterial infection can lead to kidney failure.

Abuesba explained that treating severe kidney disease may include kidney dialysis, a procedure wherein blood circulates through a machine that removes waste and excess fluid from the bloodstream. Some patients use dialysis for a short time while their kidneys recover from injury or disease while others must have dialysis their entire lives or until they have a kidney transplant.

"Kidney transplants are the most common transplant operations and they have an excellent success rate. Unfortunately, there aren't enough kidneys available for those who need them," Abuesba added.



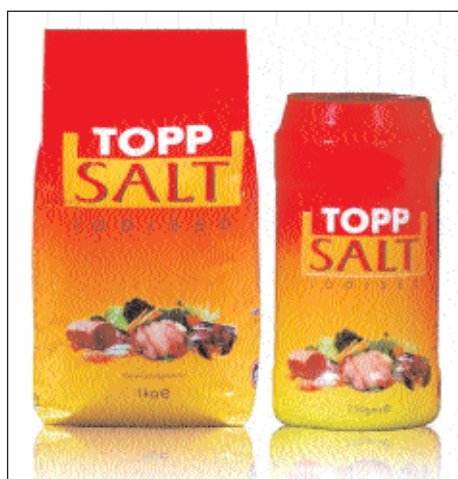
Patients hooked up to kidney machines at Al-Thawra hospital.

Does your diet contain iodine?

By: Lita Mathews
microlita@yahoo.co.in

Salt is best known as a flavoring for food. In traditional medicine, it commonly was used in water to induce vomiting in cases such as poisoning. Such saline solution also was used as a purgative and as an enema to rid children of threadworms.

Sea salt, a salt obtained by evaporating seawater, is used in cooking and in products such as cosmetics. Its mineral content gives it a different taste from table salt, which mostly is sodium chloride. Sea salt typically doesn't contain as much of the essential nutrient iodine as does iodized table salt.



Iodine can be found naturally in air, water and soil. The most important source of natural iodine is the ocean. Approximately 400,000 tons of

iodine escape from oceans every year as iodide in sea spray or as methyl iodide, produced by marine organisms. Iodine in air can combine with water particles and precipitate into water or soil. Iodine in soil combines with organic matter and remains in the same place for a long time. Plants growing in this soil may absorb iodine and then cattle and other animals will absorb iodine when they eat the plants, which help introduce the element into the food chain.

Iodine deficiency occurs in areas where there's little iodine in the diet - typically in remote inland

areas, semi-arid equatorial climates and above sea level mountain plateaus. Although such lands are fertile enough, they lack significant iodides. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration recommends 150 micrograms of iodine per day for both men and women, as it's an essential trace element necessary for proper production of thyroid hormones thyroxine and triiodothyronine.

Thyroid hormones play a very basic role in biology and iodine is the building material of these hormones, which are essential for growth, metabolism and the nervous system. Iodine deficiency gives rise to goiter, so-called endemic goiter and also is

the leading cause of preventable mental retardation, which is caused by lack of thyroid hormone in an infant.

Iodine promotes healthy hair, nails, skin and teeth. Natural sources of iodine include seaweed, such as kelp and seafood. Salt for human

consumption often is enriched with iodine. Iodine deficiency is combated by adding small amounts of iodine to table salt in the form of sodium iodide, potassium iodide and potassium iodate, which product is known as iodized salt. So next time, ask your grocer for iodized table salt.

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During his visit to Mercure Aden Hotel with Mr. Didier Morwl, Area Manager Accor Yemen, he awarded Mr. Jalal Qneibi, Hotel Manager, and Mr. Khaled Gaber, General Accountant in charge, with the Silver Medallion for their 10 years of loyalty with Accor.

Mr. Didier Morel has been awarded last year by Mr. Denis Sorin in Sofitel Taiz with the Golden Medallion for over 20 years of loyalty with Accor.

1st Wedding anniversary
August 18th, Friday '06

Our hearty Congratulations & best wishes to Mr. Pratheep, Planning & Marketing Manager, Alfa Panasonic on this special occasion..... Many many happy returns Yemen Times

The happy couple celebrated the anniversary at the Indian Restaurant with their relatives and friends



الشركة اليمنية لخدمات الدفع والبطاقات
Yemen payments and Cards Co.

SabaCard A success story



البنك التجاري اليمني
Yemen Commercial Bank

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His Excellency Sheikh Mohammed Bin Yehya Al Rowaishan the chairman of both Yemen commercial bank and *SabaCard* confirms that “*SabaCard* is the first of its type in Yemen and it was the result of a clear vision and very well defined goals. The capital investment of *SabaCard* was structured to leverage the readiness of *SabaCard* as the main processing center and provider for local Banks in terms of card products & payment services and to meet the direction and willingness of Central Bank of Yemen to support a central switch in Yemen that has the infrastructure to provide local banks within national switching services.



Sheikh Mohammed Bin Yehya Al Rowaishan

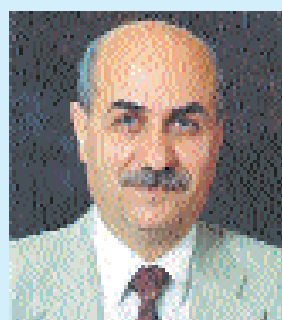
SabaCard is equipped to provide local, regional & international switching services for local banks.

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An official proposals & offers were addressed to all banks in Yemen in order to enjoy the services of *SabaCard*, in the mean time we welcome any bank in Yemen to become a shareholder in *SabaCard*, also his Excellency the governor of CBY is officially aware of *SabaCard* willingness & readiness to support local banks needs.

His Excellency Sheikh Mohammed Bin Yehya Al Rowaishan added that *SabaCard* represents the most convenient solution for the Banking sector as it will help local Banks to minimize its capital investment and reduce time and effort in this regard.

On the other side Mr HanI Idris the executive consultant of retail and marketing in Yemen Commercial bank and the general manager of *SabaCard* company clarified that both YCB and *SabaCard* had a accomplished a unique achievements in the Payments & Cards business in the Yemen Market.



Mr HanI Idris



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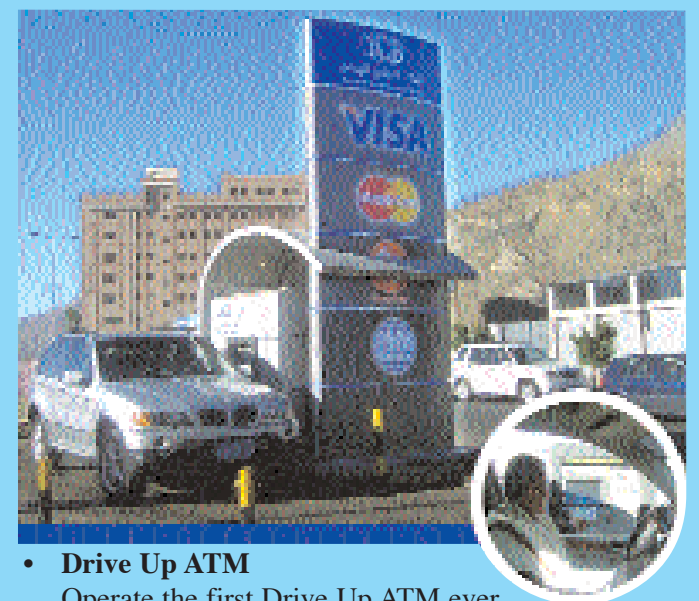
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In the mean time, *SabaCard* and YCB are planning to launch more unique payment products and services in the Yemeni Market shortly.

Ahmed Fathi: I've received great honor in Yemen

By: Nahlah Al-Qadasi

Ahmed Fathi is one of the sweetest Yemeni voices that stands out in Yemen and abroad. Having liked the arts since he was a small child, great artist Ahmed Qasim called him "the marvel child."

Traveling to Egypt to satisfy his artistic lust, Fathi excelled there, thus deserving to be called "the lute king." He composed a number of lute pieces, further mixing lute and piano. Additionally, he composed a piece entitled, "To the good souls of Mother Theresa and Princess Diana" and presented it at London's Queen Elizabeth Hall in 1997.

Despite his long absence, Fathi remains attached to his country. He has a number of national musical pieces reflecting his strong connection to his country. He has contributed markedly to the development and enrichment of Yemeni song. He also aids Yemeni legacy and song to spread at the international level.

How did you get started?

I started playing the lute while studying at preparatory school and became the school's singer. When I was 10, I was recognized as the zone's artist. At age 14, I released the first album of my own

Artist's bio

Though born in Hodeidah city as Ahmed Fatah, his stage name is Ahmed Fathi. Married with four children – two boys and two girls – he resides in the United Arab Emirates and Egypt. Having been engaged in the arts since he was 8 years old, the singer, composer and lute player has more than 15 albums on the market so far.



Ahmed Fathi

entitled, "In Modest Hodeidah" (Fi Al-Hodeidah Alwadee'a), including a number of songs celebrating Hodeidah city. Following that first CD's success, I released a number of successful CDs, with some songs achieving vast success, particularly "Lilateen" (Two Nights).

I later moved to Aden, where I enjoyed a remarkable companionship with the great singer, Ahmed Qasim, who greatly supported me and helped with the lyrics of a wonderful song, "Dakhaltu Gant Redhak" (I Entered the Paradise of Your Satisfaction). I presented this song at a large celebration attended by Yemeni song figures like Mohammed Sa'ad Abdullah and Mohammed Murshed Naji.

In 1976, I received a Secondary Diploma of Music and later was granted a scholarship to do my Bachelor of Arts program in Cairo. I received my Master of Arts with distinction from Paris's High Institute for Arabic Music in 1988. Since then, I've exerted my efforts both in and for music.

Your love for your hometown is evident in some of your songs. What does this mean?

Although I live abroad, I visit Hodeidah every year, especially toward the end of Ramadan and the advent of Eid to be

with my father. Hodeidah means a lot for me because I have nice memories of it. Further, I have many friends there. It represents many things that can't lapse from my mind.

You were expected to participate in Yemen's Arab (Yemen Al-Arab) operetta celebrating Yemeni reunification's 16th anniversary but you didn't. What was the reason?

At the very beginning, I was contacted to be in charge of it and do all of the required things like setting song lyrics and selecting singers. A week before the celebration, I was surprised by a call from artist Abdullah Rashad Saudi telling me that everything was ready. He requested I join the other singers for the occasion, but I refused, telling him that the one who starts something should remain with it until the end. I didn't want to be a guest of honor, so I decided not to participate.

Yemen's artistic legacy is rich. In your opinion, what's the artist's duty to his legacy?

First, the artist should become conscious of his homeland's legacy and he should study and understand it well. Further, when he deals with it, he should address it from both a scientific and cultural view in order not to harm it. He can add to it, treating its musical language, if needed. He also can use modern techniques to capture and register it, thus serving his own national legacy.

Who are Yemeni poets with whom you've collaborated?

The first poet I collaborated with was the late Ibrahim Sadek, who wrote the songs, "Lilateen" (Two Nights), "Mish Mushkila" (No Problem) and "Awdat Bilqis" (Bilqis's Return).

Further, I collaborated with poet Abdulgani Shawkat on one song and

poet Abdullah Ghedwah on several Tihama songs. I also collaborated with poet Mahmoud Al-Haj on more than 30 songs, in addition to Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Maqaleh, Mutahar Al-Eryani, Sultan Al-Surimi and lastly, with poetess Fatma Al-Aushbi on a first collaboration with her.

What about your national songs?

There are too many, including "Awdat Bilqis" (Bilqis's Return) and "Al-Fa'ar fi Qafs Al-Etham" (Mouse in Jail), as well as Al-Maqaleh's song, "Talagi, Talagi" (Shine, Shine). However, according to critics, my most important work was Al-Watan's "Shumoukh" (The Home's Glory), which was chosen to accompany Yemen's TV news for three years.

What do you think of singing in different dialects, particularly as you sang a song in Egyptian dialect on your last album?

In my opinion, a singer can sing anything, but he must excel. Singing in other dialects adds to the artist's balance.

What certificates and awards have you achieved during your artistic career?

I received numerous Arab and international awards from the Egyptian Opera House, London's Queen Elizabeth Hall, the Arab World Institute and the High Institute for Arabic Music, both in Paris.

However, the 2004 Ministry of Culture honor within Sana'a activities as the Arab Cultural Capital was the most important honor for me, as well as the honor I receive in my hometown and from its university, which granted me an honorary decorate.

You describe your daughter as a talented singer. What's her latest news?

The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam 43

Translated by Edward FitzGerald

**Oh, thou, who didst with
pitfall and with gin
Beset the road I was to
wander in,
Thou wilt not predestination
round
Enmesh me, and impute my
fall to sin?**



Ahmed Fathi with Nahlah Al-Qadasi

Though she sang three songs with me on my last album and despite her creative talent, Bilqis was hesitant about singing. She finally decided to withdraw from the arts and remove her photos from the market, saying she won't return to singing. She wants to concentrate on her studies, as she's a faculty of medicine student and this is her choice.

What's your latest artistic news?

A new album with 10 songs composed by poets like Al-Maqaleh, Al-Surimi, Al-Haj, Al-Aushbi, Abdulhadi Al-Khadhir and the late Abdullah Al-Baradoni, as well as a group of Gulf poets. I hope the album will earn people's acclaim.

Hanbalah Center for Documentation records time

By: Saleh Akbour

Scott Rice of North Arizona University, a researcher on Islamic history in areas on the Indian Ocean, currently is visiting the Hanbalah Center for Documentation based in Aden governorate's Sheikh Othman district.

His objective is to gain firsthand experience of the center's contents and research Aden's history and the reformist movement under British reign, as well as the social, political and cultural aspects of that period.

Rice said the visit is the first of its kind to Aden and the center. "It's within the program to tour Aden and see historical landmarks – whether political, social or cultural – British colonization left in the city," he explained.

He added that he's now working on a book on urban areas under the Italians, who formerly rule Somalia, and issues related thereto.

Rice plans to leave Aden and return after visiting the British Library to examine its contents authored by Adeni personalities like Mohammed Ali Louqman, Ahmed Al-Asnaj and Mohammed Al-Abbadi pertaining to political, social and religious conditions, as well as the reformist movement under British reign.

He mentioned that the Hanbalah Center assisted him greatly in obtaining important historical information related to topics he's going to tackle in his study of Aden during the British era.

"I've found cooperation on the part of the center's personnel, most importantly from Ali Abdu Salem, its board of trustees chairman," he said, urging more interest in the center to preserve its contents, which include a large number of folk references.

Concerning his impressions of Aden, Rice expressed his admiration of the city for its beauty and friendly residents, who offered cooperation and facilitated his stay.

Born in 1965, Rice is married with two children. Last week, the center

honored him as one of 10 international media personalities, also including Flag Miller, a U.S. researcher currently visiting the center to research the history of Yafi'ee poetry.

Establishment of the Hanbalah Center for Documentation

The Hanbalah Center for Documentation is a private scientific, cultural and documentary center voluntarily established by Yemeni personality, Idrees Ahmed Hassan Hanbalah.

The center's genesis occurred when Idrees' father, Ahmed Hassan Hanbalah, opened an office for personal cases at the front of his home on Oct. 8, 1939. The office later was passed onto his son, poet Idrees. Since Dec. 8, 1951, it's been known officially as the Hanbalah Center for Documentation. Idrees wrote in his will, dated April 17, 1984, appointing a board of trustees called the Hanbalah Center for Documentation's Board of Trustees, which Salem has chaired, and absolutely delegating that it run the center's activities in the public interest.

Center objectives and duties

Through its activities and functions, the center aims to achieve certain objectives, including:

- thorough compilation and comprehensive treatment of documents related to the life and activity of the center's founder, Idrees Hanbalah
- selective compilation and treatment of data particularly related to Aden governorate's cultural, social and sports life and generally, to the whole country
- inclusive filing of publications and pamphlets published nationwide
- technical treatment of such documents and setting up bibliographic and non-bibliographic databases and indices

-providing documented information to its users, including governmental and non-governmental organizations, individuals, researchers, etc.

-creating contacts for collaborating and exchanging information and experiences with concerned local and

international organizations by means of symposia, group discussions, workshops, training courses, exhibitions and contests

- encouraging young researchers and promoting studies and research
- providing textbooks
- publishing various publications, etc.

The center's contents

The center enshrines Idrees Hanbalah's personal belongings, including his private papers, diaries, correspondence, handwritten poetry and articles, family photo albums, personal files, private collectibles, souvenirs, medals, certificates, etc.

Library

The center's library contains approximately 1,863 titles, of which are 144 rare books and 250 periodical titles, in addition to newspapers the center has archived since the 1940s. The center also keeps rare books published over the period from the 21st century back to the 1960s. The library is based on the Dewey decimal system and mostly frequented by Aden University and higher studies students.

Archive

Containing some 750 million objective files the founder collected since the early 1940s, these files concern various aspects of his life, career and activity. The archive also keeps important documents related to political, cultural, social, sports and educational aspects in Yemen.

Audio library

Comprised of some 350 audio tapes and 50 videos, the audio library features a number of Yemeni, Arab and international singers and musicians, as well as some radio programs and rare lectures.

Photo archive

The archive contains a priceless photo collection depicting Aden's zones and developmental stages, as well as snapshots reflecting the area's political, social and cultural history.

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Under-17's prepare for Asian Cup

The national Under-17 football team is in the final stages of preparation for their Asian Cup competition. The team left Sana'a Wednesday night for their last training camp in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. This session will last 16 days while they prepare for the start of the tournament on Sept 3 in Singapore. The training camp started with an internal camp led by a national coach Abdullah Fothail. A number of players were added to the team after they successfully passed through the preliminary qualifying held in Doha. The team then headed to Cairo for 25 days to hold its first abroad training camp where the team won all of its friendly matches. In the Malaysian camp the team will take up three matches in which it will face the Malaysian team. This match will determine the final roster for the squad competing in the finals in September.

Yemen's U-17 national team is in the second grouping, which includes Iran, Iraq, and Tajikistan. If the team places in the top two they will move onto the quarter finals and a chance to move through to the Sept 17 final. The team will play its first round matches according to the following table:

Yemen vs Iran	Monday, Sept3, 2006
Yemen vs Iraq	Tues, Sept 5, 2006
Yemen vs Tajikistan	Thurs, Sept7, 2006



Yemen's Under-17 football team prepare for Asia Cup in Singapore.

Asian Cup hopes are setback

Second-half goals gave Japan a 2-0 win over Yemen in an Asian Cup qualifier last Wednesday.

Japan have a maximum six points from their first two games and are level with Saudi Arabia in Group A.

The Japanese hosts dominated possession in the first half but failed to breakthrough to the disappointment of the 40,913 fans at Big Swan Stadium in the northern city of Niigata. Yemen were solid in defense, throwing

virtually everyone behind the ball.

The opening goal for Japan came in the 69th minute and then in the second minute of injury time Japan buried a close range rebound after Yemen goalkeeper Salem Saeed saved a free kick.

Japan are the three-time Asian Cup winners and just competed in the World Cup Saudi Arabia thumped India 3-0 earlier Wednesday giving them no chance of qualifying.



Japan and Yemen battle for a header in Niigata, Japan.

Yemen's defeat leaves them in a serious predicament with only the top two from each group qualifying for the finals in July next year, co-hosted by Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand and Vietnam.

The two teams will face each other in Yemen's next match on Sept. 6 in Sana'a. They will then have two more matches with one in October against Saudi Arabia and then in November on the road in India.

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VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The United Nations Development programme (UNDP) invites *Yemeni Nationals* to apply for the following position with its project "The Decentralization and Local Development Support (DLDSP)"

Post Title: Administration Assistant (SC-5)

Duration: Full Time-06 months (renewable)

Responsibilities

- Provide clear communications and friendly outlook between the DLDSP, UNDP, other donors and the Government of Yemen.
- Prepare service and direct payment requests from DLDSP to UNDP.
- Be familiar with UNDP procedures for procurement and human resource management.
- Coordinate all DLDSP expenditures with the CTA and the DLDSP accountant.
- Provide and overall documentation service to DLDSP. This will include: photocopying, filing, distributing and recording documents in hard and soft copies.
- Establish a retrievable filing system of all reports and documents from the DLDSP districts and the public expenditure management training materials.
- Answer telephones, forward calls and take and deliver clear messages.
- Prepare, receive and send faxes and make sure that all incoming and outgoing faxes and recorded, distributed and filed.
- Undertake the role and requests at UNDP and responsibilities of petty cash custodian for DLDSP.
- Follow up all requests at UNDP and report any bottlenecks to the CTA.
- Perform other tasks as directed by the DLDSP Chief of the Technical Adviser.

Qualification

- BA in business administration, accounting or related fields.
- At least 3-5 years of relevant experience.
- Good computer skills (MS Office software).
- Fluency in Arabic language (written, spoken and reading).
- Good English Language (written, spoken and reading)

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 Thursday, 31 August 2006

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VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The United Nations Dispensary in Sana'a invites Female Yemeni Nationals to apply for the following position:

Post Title: Dispensary Female Nurse (G4/I)

Duration: Full Time-06 months (renewable)

Responsibilities:

- Attend the United Nations Dispensary on a full-time basis.
- Maintain the United Nations Dispensary in good order and keeps the inventory of medical supplies and equipment up-to-date.
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- Assist in maintaining records of all visits and treatment as well as records of all medical supplies in the United Nations Dispensary or facilities established outside of the United Nations Dispensary.
- Perform any other duties as required.

Qualification

- Diploma in Nursing with 2 years experience.
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VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The United Nations Department for Security & Safety (UNSS) invites *Yemeni Nationals* to apply for the following position:

Post Title: Driver (G-2)

Duration: Full Time-06 months (renewable)

Responsibilities

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- Logs official trips, daily mileage, gas consumption, oil changes, greasing etc.
- Collects and delivers mail or documents when required.
- Occasional ground checks of security related information.
- Ensures that the steps required by rules and regulations are taken in case of involvement of accident.
- Performs any other duties as required.

Qualification

- Primary education, driver's license, knowledge of driving rules and regulations and chauffeur courtesies, skills in minor vehicles repair.
- Four years experience as a driver, safe driving record; preferably with some international organization.
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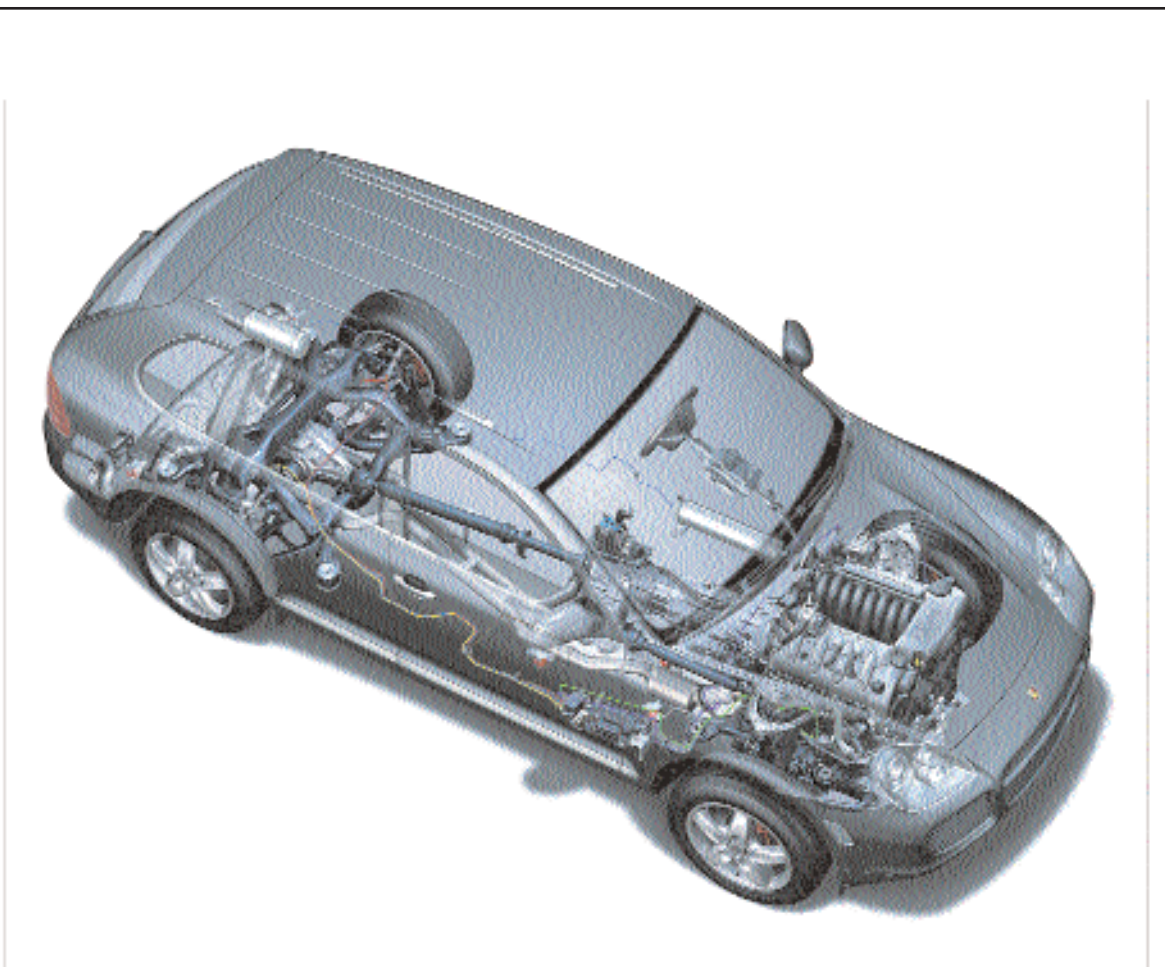
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Yemen Times exclusive Elections Update

In upcoming weeks Yemen Times will run our election coverage leading up to voting on September 20.

In this issue in the page 5 article we chart Yemen's march into democracy.

In upcoming issues we will have exclusive interviews and profiles of each of the main candidates and we will chart their progress as the voting date nears.

There will be an overview of the local councils and how those elections will have an impact on Yemenis.

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نوكيا 6070