

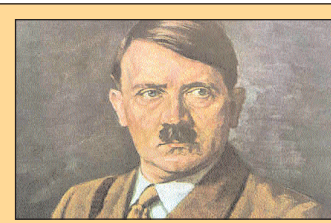
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Readers' Voice

Last edition's question:
Yemen requested a total of 48 billion dollars in aid in order to meet the Millennium Development Goals. If granted, do you think Yemen will truly be able to achieve the goals by 2015?

Yes (27%)
I don't know (3%)
No (70%)

This edition's question:
Former Iraqi President Saddam Hussein was sentenced to death and his associates sentenced to ranging terms. Do you think the court issuing the judgments is a legitimate one, particularly when Iraq is under occupation?

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

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World Bank expresses full support for Yemen in London Donors' Conference

By: Hamdan Dammag

SANA'A, Nov. 5 — Daniela Gressani, the World Bank Vice President for the Middle East and North Africa Region, met President Ali Abdullah Saleh on Sunday. In the meeting, World Bank's role in supporting Yemen in the upcoming donors' conference in London next month was discussed. Saleh expressed his hope the World Bank will participate in making the London conference successful.

Speaking about her meeting with the President, Gressani described the meeting as productive. "I was fortunate to have the opportunity to meet him. I think he was very much focused on economics and on the importance of taking Yemen to the next level in terms of the welfare of its population in terms of job opportunities for young people," Gressani told the Yemen Times. She also added "He is also looking forward to the London meeting as a means of cementing a stronger relationship between Yemen, Western donors and the GCC."

Visiting Aden tomorrow, Gressani said there were two main objectives for her visit to Yemen, first to learn about



Daniela Gressani stressed on the importance of the coming donors conference in London.

Yemen and second to "make sure that we [World bank and Yemen] are fully prepared for the important London

Saddam sentenced to hang for crimes against humanity



Saddam during the trial.

By Yemen Times Staff

BAGHDAD, Nov. 5 — Iraq's High Criminal Tribunal sentenced the former Iraqi leader, Saddam Hussein, to death by hanging for crimes against humanity in the 1982 killings of 148 people in the Shiite town of Al-Dujail.

Under the verdict, Saddam's half brother Barazan Al-Takriti and another senior official in his regime, Awad Al-Bandar, were also sentenced to death.

The former vice president, Taha Yasin Ramadan, faces a lifetime sentence and three other officials from Hussein's regime received imprisonment terms ranging from 15 to 22 years.

Chief Judge Ra'ouf Rashid, cleared one suspect, Mohamed Azzawi, of any charges attributed to him due to a lack of adequate testimony. The chief judge forced one member of Hussein's defence team, Ramsy Clark, to leave the courtroom. Clark is a former U.S. Secretary of Justice.

Different media quoted the defense team as saying Saddam Hussein, 69, enjoys a high morale and he was engaged in a heated debate with members of the tribunal over violence and the U.S. losses in Iraq only hours before Rashid's verdict was read.

Continued on page 2

Security frees German arrested for Al-Qaeda links

By: Amel Al-Ariqi

SANA'A, Oct. 5 — The German Embassy yesterday confirmed the release of a German man arrested with seven other foreigners for alleged Al-Qaeda links and smuggling weapons to

Islamists in Somalia.

The embassy neither defined nor gave any further information about the freed man, but it assured that the Yemeni government didn't ask him to leave Yemen.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, a security source said earlier that the man was handed over to two German diplomats late Thursday. "The German national was freed following interrogation of the eight foreigners, which revealed that he wasn't involved with the rest in smuggling weapons to

Somalia," the source said. The other suspects include three Australians, a Dane, a Briton and a Somali.

Meanwhile in Australia, Rabiah Hutchison, mother of two of the Australian detainees, appealed for help from Australia's government. She said the focus shouldn't be on her or her past connection to terror figures, but on her two sons, Mohammed and Abdullah Ayub, who are the sons of radical Indonesian Muslim leader Abdul Rahim Ayub. He headed Jemaah Islamiyya in Australia until fleeing shortly after the 2002 Bali bombings in Indonesia.

A strict Muslim who wears a burqa, Australia-born Hutchison divorced Ayub in the mid-1990s. She went to Afghanistan with her boys sometime around 2000, but left after the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in the United States.

An Australian-based spokesman for the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade in Australia confirmed that the men were in good health, but still didn't know the nature of their charges. "The consul from Riyadh visited the men on Nov. 4," the spokesman said.

"The purpose of the visit was for the consul to provide normal consular services to the arrested men, which includes monitoring their welfare and seeking to ensure that their cases are being handled appropriately and in accordance with local law," he added.

Bomb explodes in Sana'a

By: Saddam Al-Ashmouri

SANA'A, Nov. 5 — A bomb exploded in the middle of a street in Sana'a and it caused injuries to four people, two seriously.

The explosion took place on Nov. 5 at about 10 a.m.

A statement released by the Ministry of Interior revealed the bomb was thrown by an unknown person and cleaning workers found it and started playing with it causing its explosion to injure them.

The injured were quickly rushed to the hospital to meet the required treatment.

Appeals court acquits 19 Al-Qaeda-linked suspects

By: Mohammed Al-Jabri

SANA'A, Nov. 4 — A Sana'a appeals court acquitted 19 alleged Al-Qaeda members Saturday on charges of conducting terrorist acts targeting Americans in Yemen. The court ruled that the suspects, who included five Saudi nationals, were innocent of plotting to assassinate Westerners and blow up a hotel frequented by Americans.

However, Judge Sa'eed Al-Qatta did convict six of the suspects of forging official documents, but stated that the court found no evidence that the 19 had formed an armed gang.

Ali Hussein (also known as Abu Ali Al-Harethi), Ammar Fadhel, Abdullah Al-Shejarah, Mohammed Hadhban and Saudi nationals Mohammed Al-Qahtani and Muhsen Mubarak were convicted of forging official documents. Hussein

and Fadhel were sentenced to three years' imprisonment, beginning from their arrest date, while the remaining four were sentenced to time served and subsequently released.

The 13 other suspects acquitted were Jamal Saif Al-Maqrami, Abdullah Hassan Al-Obadi, Ali Mohammed Al-Kurdi, Majed Al-Zahrani, Mohammed Al-Qirshi, Bandar Al-Hasani, Ahmed Hizam Al-Zaheri, Sa'd Abdul-Ghani Al-Baloushi, Musaed Al-Barbari, Mohammed Sa'eed Al-Kabsh, Hassan Al-Baili, Jalal Al-Kadas and Aqil Jar Allah.

During their four-month trial, the suspects maintained their innocence, with several alleging that they were arrested because they had fought in Iraq.

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Beit Hanoun - a resident's account

The town of Beit Hanoun in the northern Gaza Strip has been under siege since early Wednesday. The Israeli army says it is trying to root out Palestinian rocket squads, who fire from Gaza into Israel. Ibrahim al-Za'anin, a 55-year-old Palestinian Authority employee, describes conditions for him and his family in his hometown.



A militant died and two were badly injured when this van was hit.

Three days ago the Israeli army was only 10m from my home. Now I can hear heavy fire coming from Israeli military aircraft and the tanks. Sometimes we hear the RPG missiles launched by the militants too. However, I haven't seen the militants with my own eyes because I cannot leave my home. We don't know what exactly is going on outside the walls of our home. We

follow the news on local radio stations. They broadcast live SOS messages from people trapped in their homes. The Israeli special forces positioned on the roofs of houses are firing on anything that moves. Conditions are very bad. We haven't had electricity or water since the night of Tuesday into Wednesday. I have a son who is suffering from an allergy that makes breathing difficult. His medicine has run out and I cannot leave my home to get more. There is a full curfew. Today [Saturday] they let women out for two hours to buy food for the first time; but after half an hour, the Israeli soldiers fired into the air and told them to return

home immediately. We have had Israeli military incursions in Beit Hanoun before, but this is the worst.

Terror
Some members of my extended family have been injured. All are civilians. They were injured either inside their homes or in the courtyard. I know the parents of some of the

young people who were killed because they are the same age as me; in their fifties.

There is an atmosphere of terror; fear and anxiety for the future. We don't know what will happen to us.

We no longer feel safe, even inside our own homes.

Until now, the Israeli forces have not allowed the Red Cross to visit the places asking for urgent help.

My youngest daughter is 11. She will not even go to the toilet on her own, she is so paralysed with fear.

Even when they are at home, children feel constant fear because of the heavy firing and the noise of the aircraft.

I think this offensive may last for 10 days.

But it will not achieve its aims; the resistance movement remained active through more than 35 years of occupation because of the absence of a political solution to the Palestinian question.

Source: BBC NEWS

"My youngest daughter will not even go to the toilet on her own, she is so paralysed with fear."

Bush attacks Democrats on Iraq, takes fire

By: Steve Holland

GREELY, Colo. (Reuters) - President George W. Bush vowed on Saturday to stick with the war in Iraq and Democrats said they would fight for a new course in the conflict in the final weekend of campaigning before Tuesday elections in which control of the U.S. Congress is at stake.

"I understand the consequences of retreat," Bush told thousands of Republican loyalists at a rally. "That's why we'll support our troops, that's why we'll fight in Iraq, and that's why we'll win in Iraq."

He was unfazed by a heckler at the rally for Colorado Republican Rep. Marilyn Musgrave's re-election bid. "Get out of Iraq," the heckler shouted from a perch on a tractor before he was

hustled out.

Democrats, feeling good about their chances of seizing the Republican-led House of Representatives and possibly the Senate as well, said it was time for a change.

"We will fight for a new direction in Iraq to change the president's failed course so that our troops can finally come home," said House Democratic candidate Lois Murphy of Pennsylvania in her party's weekly radio address.

The unpopular Iraq war has been the leading factor in the election campaign and there are alarm bells ringing for Republican candidates.

A Newsweek poll released on Saturday said 54 percent of likely voters would vote for Democratic candidates and 38 percent for the

Republicans. Bush's approval rating was 35 percent in the poll, which was taken on Thursday and Friday and has a margin of error of 3 percentage points.

The nonpartisan Cook Political Report said Republicans would be lucky to limit their losses in the House to 20 to 25 seats and four or five seats in the Senate. Democrats need 15 seats to command the House and six in the Senate.

"But the chances of this thing going bigger -- far bigger -- still exist, and there are quite a few veteran Republican strategists ... who are bracing themselves for that distinct possibility," report author Charlie Cook said on his Web site.

Papers say rumsfeld must go
Bush has sought to boost Republican

turnout by defending the Iraq war and accusing Democrats of lacking a plan to win it. Making the war a central theme is a political gamble given deep American unease about it. He has had the sprawling U.S. military community largely behind him in the war.

But several newspapers widely read by U.S. military personnel called for the resignation of Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld over Iraq, rejecting Bush's stated plan to retain Rumsfeld for the remaining two years of his presidency.

"Rumsfeld has lost credibility with the uniformed leadership, with the troops, with Congress and with the public at large. His strategy has failed, and his ability to lead is compromised," the Army Times, Navy Times, Air Force Times and Marine Corps Times

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- Must have good computer skills, with particular emphasis in word and Excel.
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The Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) in Sana'a, Yemen is seeking Assistance for the following tasks to be funded by German Financial Cooperation (KfW Development Bank):

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LOT 1: **Ja'ar/ Zinjibar** - Abyan Water and Sanitation Local Corporation
LOT 2: **Al Shehr** - Hadramout Water and Sanitation Local Corporation (Coastal Area)

Description of the Project: Assistance shall be provided under the Provincial Towns Program II (PTPII) to the Local Water and Sanitation Corporations of Abyan and Hadramout for the planning and implementation of improved water supply and sewerage/sanitation facilities in the three towns of Ja'ar/Zinjibar (Lot 1: 52,000 inhabitants) and Al Shehr (Lot 2: 55,000 inhabitants). The overall objectives of the program is to reduce health risks to the population and to contribute to the conservation of scarce water resources in the program areas.

Services Required: (i) Inventory and assessment of the current situation, (ii) Preparation of detailed design and tender documents, (iii) Assistance in contract award, (iv) Construction supervision and (v) Quality control and commissioning of works.

Applications: One hard copy in English language to (Deadline: November 20, 2006, 16⁰⁰):

<p>Lot 1 and 2 KfW Department L II c/2 Mr. Gunter Walter Palmengartenstraße 5-9 60325 Frankfurt, Germany Tel. :+49 69 7431 3143 Fax. : +49 69 7431 3279 email: gunter.walter@kfw.de</p>	<p>Lot 1 Local Corporation WS&S Abyan Governorate Att.: Eng. Walid Ali Othman (Project Manager of PEA) Zinjibar – Main Road, Yemen P.O. Box: 5972 Tel.: 00967 2 606055 Fax.: 00967 2 606056 email: lwsaabyan@yemen.net.ye</p>	<p>Lot 2 Local Corporation WS&S Hadramout (Coastal Area) Att.: Eng. Saeed Frag Khanbash (Project Manager of PEA) Al-Mukalla City, Yemen October Area Tel.: 00967 5 350 368 Fax.: 00967 5 351 783 email: Khanbash@y.net.ye</p>
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Documents to be submitted: (i) Corporate profile and status; (ii) Evidence of financial resources; (iii) Legally binding signed declaration of undertaking; (iv) Relevant references from the last ten years; (v) Curricula Vitae of Consultant's foreseen key-personnel and statement of personnel structure and (vi) Declaration(s) regarding cooperation and associated firms.

The pre-qualification will follow the latest version of the "Guidelines for Assignment of Consultants in Financial Co-operation Projects" (refer to www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de). Pre-qualification information sheet is available free of charge at the following address: gunter.walter@kfw.de.

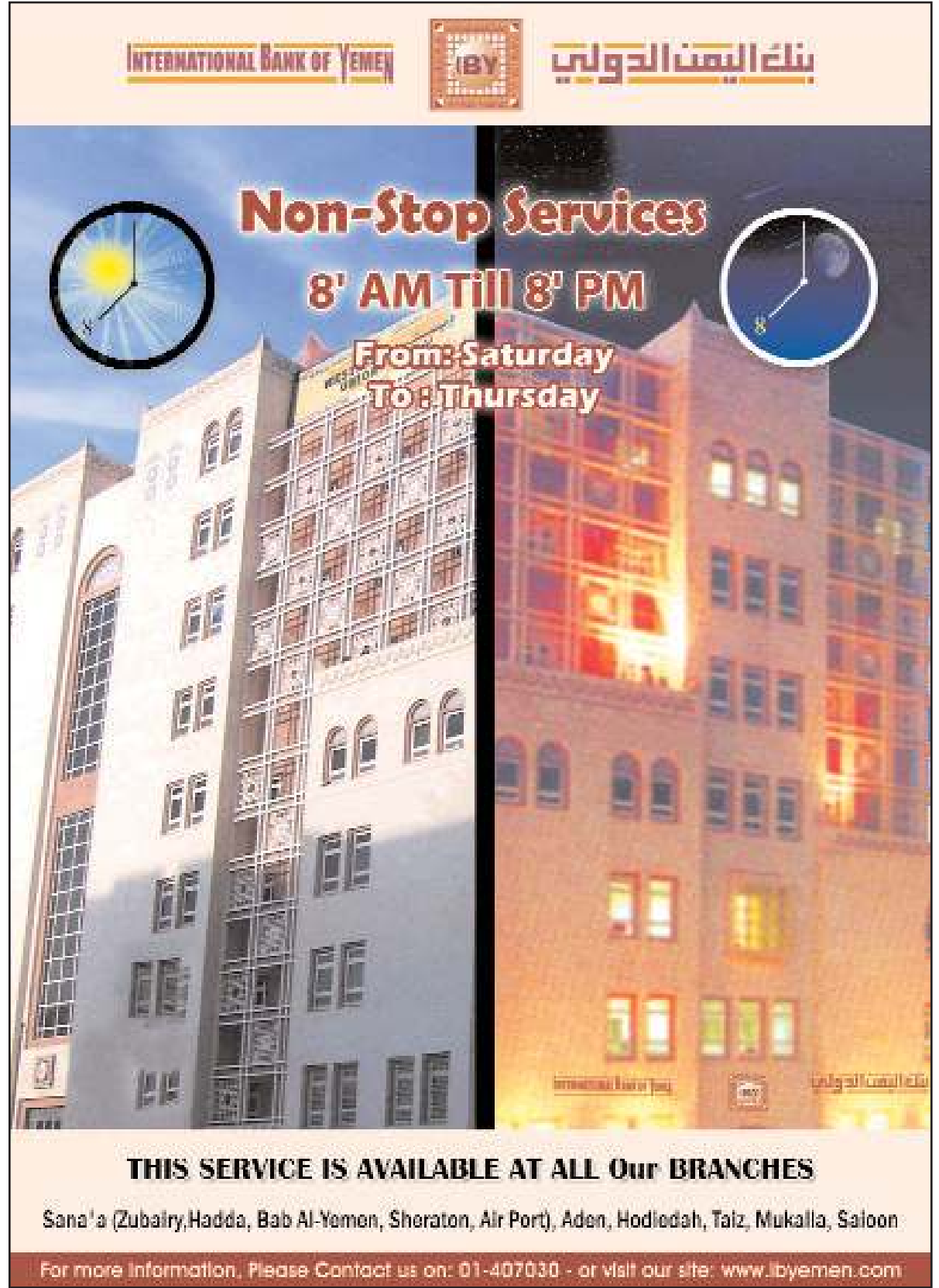


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Tender Announcement

Maritime Affairs Authority (MAA) would like to announce a public tender (no 5/ 2006) for the construction of MAA Sana'a headquarters (government funding from 2007 budget). All specialized companies and class A contractors interested in taking part in this tender are kindly advised to apply to MAA Head Office, near the Yemeni-German Hospital, Hadda Street, to obtain a copy of the tender conditions and specifications in return for a non-refundable sum of US \$ 1000

Bid submission shall meet the following requirements:

- 1- Enclosure of a bid bond in favour of MAA covering at least 2.5% of the bid price in the form of a payable cheque or a letter of unconditional bank guarantee issued by an accredited bank in Yemen, in favour of MAA and valid for 90 days of from date of opening the bid envelopes,
- 2- Enclosure of a copy of the tax card,
- 3- Enclosure of a copy of the applicant's classification certificate,
- 4- Enclosure of a copy of the insurance card,
- 5- Enclosure of a copy of the trade permit,
- 6- Bids should be submitted in envelopes secured with red wax,
- 7- Any bid that does not meet the requirements stated above will not be considered,
- 8- An overview of the applicant should be provided, and
- 9- Attending the meeting set for surveying the construction site on Saturday, 16 December 2006.

The deadline for bid submittals is 10:00 a.m. on Monday, 25 December 2006. The bid envelopes will be opened at 11:00 a.m. on the same day at MAA head office.

إعلان مناقصة

تعلم الهيئة العامة للشؤون البحرية عن رغبتها في إنزال المناقصة العامة رقم (5) لعام 2006م لإنشاء مبنى المركز الرئيسي للهيئة بصنعاء (تمويل حكومي ضمن موازنة عام 2007م).
فعلى الشركات المتخصصة والمقاولين المصنفين من الدرجة الأولى الراغبين في دخول المناقصة التقدم بطلباتهم إلى الهيئة العامة للشؤون البحرية - المركز الرئيسي الكائن بشمارع حدة جوار المستشفى اليمني الألماني - صنعاء، والحصول على نسخة من الشروط والمواصفات نظير مبلغ وقدره (\$1000) فقط ألف دولار أمريكي لا ترد.

- ويشترط لتقديم العطاءات ما يلي:-
- 1- إرفاق تأمين ابتدائي لصالح الهيئة لا يقل عن نسبة (2.5%) من إجمالي قيمة العطاء بموجب شيك مقبول الدفع أو خطاب ضمان بنكي غير مشروط صادر من أحد البنوك المعتمدة في الجمهورية صالحاً لمدة 90 يوماً من تاريخ فتح المظاريف.
 - 2- إرفاق صورة من البطاقة الضريبية.
 - 3- إرفاق صورة من شهادة التصنيف.
 - 4- إرفاق صورة من البطاقة التأمينية.
 - 5- إرفاق صورة من ترخيص مزاولة العمل.
 - 6- تقديم العطاء داخل مظروف مختوم بالشمع الأحمر.
 - 7- لن ينظر في أي عطاء لم يلتزم بالشروط المحددة أعلاه.
 - 8- تقديم نبذة عن مقدم العطاء.
 - 9- الالتزام بحضور الاجتماع المخصص للتعرف على الموقع ميدانياً لجميع المتقدمين والذي سيتم عقده يوم السبت بموقع المشروع يوم السبت 16/12/2006م.

علماً بأن آخر موعد لتقديم العطاءات سيكون في تمام الساعة العاشرة من صباح يوم الإثنين الموافق 2006/12/25م وسيتم فتح المظاريف في تمام الساعة الحادية عشر من صباح نفس اليوم بمقر الهيئة.



Yemeni women and illiteracy: Fact, fate and the fight

By: Fatima Al-Ajel
fatimafjr@yahoo.com

"It is never too late to be who you might have been." George Eliot.

The power of education has been recognized in the 21st Century. Across Yemen, many women are starting to assess their lives realizing what lies behind reading and writing. Has the realization come too late?

Women in their twenties, and many well into their thirties and beyond, have decided its time to return to school. Many now study with their kids and younger brothers. These women realize the importance of Jimmy Carter's statement, "The only real failure is not to learn."

Latifa Al-Aizi a 50 year old, mother of ten and grandmother to ten grandsons. She studies in an Illiteracy Eradication Center in Sana'a. She decided to study after all her children had finished their studies and had graduated from the University of Sana'a. "I realized I was the only illiterate in the family. I worked hard rearing my children to become solid members of society. Now it's my turn. Why am I illiterate? Is it my fate? - I don't think so."

Mahdiah Al-Marani a 55-year-old mother wants to read and write like her

neighbor who studied in another Illiteracy Eradication Center five years ago and has now memorized the whole Qur'an.

Nadia Al-Howati has a different story. Her four children study in private schools and constantly need help with their homework. "I feel shy and sorry when my kids ask me to explain any misunderstanding they have with their class work. They thought I was as educated as their friends' mothers." Nadia, forced to opt out of school to get marry, now she wishes to start from the beginning and finish regardless of the difficulties she may face. She is doing this not only for her children, but also for herself.

There are women that regardless of their responsibilities towards home and children, find their husbands to be supportive going as far as wanting to teach them to read and write. "My husband", says Latifa Al-Aizi, "always encouraged me to study, but I felt I was busy with my kids and their education. I thought it wasn't important to spend time learning how to read and write. Now I realize and feel sorry for those wasted years."

Latifa is among those whose families have become supportive champions in their cause to become literate. Latifa says that the whole family appreciates who she is and has promised to help her. "My husband bought books and a small black board so I could practice what I

learn in class. My daughters", she adds, "spend an hour each day reviewing my homework. Then there is my grandson who's in the first grade who has installed himself as the professional teacher and his grandmother as the faithful student."

Unfortunately, negative aspects of our society and the application of social rules close the door to education. The often repeated proverb that says "a woman has two choices in life: either a husband or a grave", has effectively ingrained a negative mentality into the fabric of Yemeni life concerning education. Young girls do not have the support of their families; conditioned only to be wives and mothers -the only viable choice before death. How tradition is applied only victimizes the women who are the largest illiterate group in our country. We live in the 21st Century yet people continue to hold on to negative and meaningless ideas about women and education. Nadia blames her Father and brothers. "They forced me to marry while I was still in the fifth grade. I couldn't reject nor discuss the matter with them."

The not so fortunate ones like Hajjah Mahdiah, count themselves among the majority of Yemeni families. These families see returning to school as useless. Hajjah Mahdiah's family says she is too old to learn; that her level of comprehension is low. "My sons are not keen on my studies. They believe that the best age for learning is in early childhood and often repeat the proverb -that learning on childhood is like the decorations on the rocks- especially if I couldn't memorize or understand something quickly enough."

For 28-year old Bushra Nasir neither age nor levels of comprehension ever came into account when deciding she was not going to school. She is still the only uneducated girl in her neighborhood. Her father and brothers say it is shameful for girls to go to school, receive co-education; and mix with men. Even when studying in school does not automatically give you Co-Ed arrangements; most classes being single sexed. Bushra tried to convince her family of the importance of studying. They didn't give her the chance. "I begged them to let me study even at my age; that it was better than nothing. But they said it was too late to start and that it was not suitable for me to study with children or in illiteracy centers." We wonder what then would be considered suitable?

At 40, Sadiyah Raziag remembers her father did not allow her to go to school.



Yemeni women persevere in their studies.

She kept hoping that once she married her husband would allow her to study. Unfortunately, her husband was as cruel as her Father. "My husband said I could not balance between my duties at home and anything else that could happen outside my home. I lost the hope. But I swear my daughter will study and continue until she finishes; even if I have to stand against my husband."

Twenty-eight year old Nawil was forced to leave school while she was in the 5th grade but never gave up for a minute. She secretly studies in an institute and tells her family she is learning handicraft skills. "If one of my family members would find out I am studying, he might never allow me to leave the house." Several times, Nawil has commented, her family has hit her because she has spoken of her dreams to finish school some day and become a famous journalist.

Confucius said, "If you think in terms of a year, plant seed; if in terms of ten years, plant trees; and if in terms of a hundred years, teach the people." This is the belief of many educated people, who understand the importance of literacy, that compels them to volunteer to teach at these Illiteracy Centers pro bono, never looking for money or fame. They seek Allah's satisfaction.

Ramzia, a volunteer at a center, aims

to decrease illiteracy among Yemeni women. "I believe if a person has the intention to learn or do something; that person will do it regardless of age, gender or what have you." Samiah Al-Yemeni, owner of a center and volunteer teacher, focuses on one of the main reasons for illiteracy. "Illiteracy will never end as long as students can opt out of school. The problem of illiteracy might be limited by stopping this phenomenon."

The questions remain: When will education for both men and women become mandatory in Yemen? When will the option to take your children out of school become illegal?

The women who enter these centers are serious in their resolve to learn to read and write; wanting to be something more in the future. "I observe students as they make efforts to study seeing the difficulties some suffer, yet they continue to attend classes especially the women between twenty and thirty", Ramzia states. "I always tell my students the stories of those who came before them, coming to study at these centers and how they succeeded and became solid members in the community. Now some of these women hold high positions in society." She adds, "I do this to motivate my students into never giving up."

Statistics, however, are bleak. 80 percent of the international Muslim population is illiterate. Some estimate Yemen has about 7 million illiterates. However, the 2003 estimates of the World

Factbook, while defining a person literate as a being 15 and over who can read and write in their native language, states Yemen has an overall literacy rate of 50.2 percent. Males they state have a literacy rate of 70 percent while women come only as far as 30 percent.

These numbers confirm records from the Illiteracy Eradication and Adult Teaching Organization that estimates an overall illiteracy rate of 49.3 percent. It mirrors the rate of females being at 67.9 percent illiterate and males at 34 percent. The organization goes one step further and states that the overall illiteracy rate in urban areas goes down to 38.3 percent while in rural areas it jumps to 57.6 percent. Within the productive workforce, literacy rates at 10.45 percent.

Regardless these numbers are staggering, considering Yemen's population currently at 21.45 million and growing annually at a rate of 3.46 percent. That women account for 70 percent of the total amount that is illiterate could mean female numbers go well into the ten million. That is too many illiterate women.

Yet there are efforts out there in society to help eradicate illiteracy. The program created by the Educational Channel called, "Let us learn" is one. It is methodology aims to use every scientific and behavioral form available. Their objective is to eradicate illiteracy in Yemen by direct television broadcasting.

"We live in the 21st Century yet people continue to hold on to negative and meaningless ideas about women and education."



It's never too late to learn: An old woman starts learning from the bottom of education ladder.

Education as a strategic deterrent in a backward society (Yemen as a case) (Part 2)

By: Mohammed Al-Maitami

There is no real prospect of making essential change in education in Yemen, even though the latest government program presented to parliament in July 2003 devoted a large part of its content to educational issues. This program was characterized by nonspecific and vague objectives, which did not address the issue of education in an appropriate and effective manner, and it lacked a new vision of educational philosophy to replace the existing one, which might be described, at best, as money and time consuming. Education in Yemen since the revolution has been the object of political maneuvers and a captive of backward and extreme ideologies at the same time. For instance, the Marxists institutes established in South Yemen by the leftist ruling party and the religious institutes established in North Yemen at the beginning of Al-Hamdi ruling regime have propagated the values and beliefs of extremism and backwardness over several Yemeni generations. The religious institutes continued to receive financial and political support from the Yemeni government and neighboring countries up to the moment when president Saleh decided to close them 3 years ago. In spite of the official hubbub around solving the chronic educational problems, the practical results do not reveal any seriousness or a clear vision of how to revive these stagnant institutions. All the high Yemeni officials in charge of the educational system in Yemen during the last three decades are either unintelligent, shallow or lacking the broad philosophical vision required for leadership in the field of education. Those few who are intelligent and enlightened have been manacled by the corridors of powers. When change is

proclaimed, the change never affects those officials who are responsible for failure. On the contrary, they are often rewarded for failure and for mistakes that have been perpetrating in the name of their government. This is the change under the game of "pulling the wool over your eyes."

Even though Yemen spends more than 20% of its budget on education or 8% of its GDP, which is equivalent to the level of expenditure of Sweden or Denmark, the outcome of this educational expenditure is very discouraging. In spite of Yemen's relatively high level of expenditure, the absolute number of illiterates has increased and educational outcomes have dramatically deteriorated. Education in Yemen has been transformed from an instrument for a progressive change and advancement to a station for reproducing the backwardness in its various forms. This was a result of the backward nature of the educational philosophy and curriculum, bad governance and widely prevailing corruption, and also because of the inefficient nature of public expenditure on education. For example, more than 90% of total expenditure on education is current expenditure. This is a very large percentage which leaves only an insignificant portion for investment in new buildings and institutes, maintenance of existing buildings and increasing the scientific and technical capacity of Yemeni educational and academic institutions. Within the last three decades, for instance, only 12000 schools has been built in the whole country including private's ones, while 72000 mosques had been built in the same period.

The annual average expenditure per student on basic and secondary education in Yemen is extremely small. It barely amounts to \$US105 and this is 1/15th the international average, 1/29th

the Swedish average, 1/30 the Danish average and 1/45 the average in the United States. And if we take into consideration the gap between Yemen and these countries in terms of level of infrastructure development we will see how far Yemen is from development and advancement, how difficult it will be for Yemen to integrate successfully into the globalized world. This is why the human capital in industrial advanced counties is the main source of the wealth and power and the main factor for strategic deterrent. These facts should make the Yemeni officials, who argue that Yemen spend on education as much as the developed industrial countries do, feel obliged to rethink their arguments. This means they should rethink and recalculate the way they design and spend the budget for education, how to extricate the educational sector from corruption and bad governance and, more importantly, how to adopt a new philosophical approach and curriculum of education for modern civilization.

Indeed, in terms of financial resources, Yemen has enough money to improve the level of education. This money could be deducted from defense budget and transferred to the education sector. We could go further in our suggestion to decrease the defense budget to the minimum possible. However, defense expenditure as a deterrent is a political myth, because no one can exactly tell us how much defense is enough defense? How much money must a country spend to achieve a sound and sustained defense? These are among the most difficult questions in economics and there is no real answer. Finding the appropriate level of military preparation for sound deterrence is not a science, as has been shown in Iraq recently and in the former Soviet Union previously. It is more a mixture of

rational action, insight and acumen on one hand, and prudent preparation for emergent contingency on the other hand. In many case in the third world, military expenditure is simply a respond to the personal inclinations and desires of leaders to accumulate wealth. Military leaders generally tend to exaggerate the potential threat against which they seek to be prepared, whereas wise and shrewd politicians tend to question the necessity and usefulness of these preparations and are inclined to increasing defense capabilities through enhancement and improvement of the social, political and economic structures of their countries in which the highly educated citizen is the foundation.

Yemen today, more than any other time in its modern history, is enjoying relative peace with its neighbors. And this will enable it to reduce its defense budget to a minimum. By decreasing this expenditure to 2.5% from about 7% of GDP, Yemen will save almost 47-50 billion Rials that it could invest in education and health. The continued weaknesses and deficiencies of these two sectors represent the greatest threat to economic and social development in general, and to national defense in particular.

Failure spawns change, and the need for change in the failed and useless educational sector in Yemen is vital and critical and cannot be postponed. Change is what has been implemented by the Americans, Japanese and Koreans and they nowadays enjoy the fruits of the radical change in curriculum and philosophy of education they made. Yemen determinately should follow their lead.

Mohammed Al-Maitami is Professor of Economics, Sana'a University and a visiting Professor at Georgetown University.

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Words of Wisdom



Gentlemen, Yemen does not need more money! It needs a system. Yemen need accountable officials, and it needs people with some decency in the way they work. If the IMP, World Bank and other organizations pump loans into Yemen, where will it go? More importantly, how will it be paid? Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf (1951-1999) Founder of Yemen Times



OUR OPINION

A national question

Governments of true democratic countries consult their people whenever they make a crucial or a national decision. Decisions to change the currency, sign an international treaty on trade, such as joining the WTO, or to join a collation of countries, such as the GCC, all involve national input. Eventually national decisions and their consequences fall on the people, whether in their business, their study or their day-to-day life.

I deeply respected the Dutch and French because they polled the people on whether to adopt the European Union's constitution last year. I envied them because they gave a say to their people.

In our case the government is looking to join the GCC. Not that this is a bad step or a good one for that matter. What basis has this decision been made and to what extent is the public or their representatives involved? A few days ago Prime Minister Bajamal presented the government's strategy on the development requirements Yemen needs in order to achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015. How are these requirements and priorities decided? We were been told at the Foreign Minister's Joint Meeting on Wednesday this plan is based on research and evaluation. I want to see the research so I can share my say. Not only this, how did the government come up with the number of \$48 billion dollars as the required funding? And what are the measures of accountability taken to ensure this money is used the way it should? Very less of this information is made available to the public?

Last year, I watched the Jordanian Minister of Finance give a long detailed lecture live on TV to present the country's economy, projects and plans. It was simplified so a common educated person would be able to understand, yet it held so much information. Also there was a question and answer session whereby the audience, who were comprised of different segments of society, explained their doubts and was provided with direct and credible answers. The minister also provided an address and a phone number for future queries and suggestions. Anyone who watched the presentation, or logged into the ministry's website, would be able to use it. I don't know first hand if this mechanism worked or if people used the address to get answers or provide questions, but I was, and still am, overwhelmed with the respect that minister give his people.

"This is about your country, your resources and your future and you need to know. We need you to help us make the best decisions, because this is a national question," he said.

The Yemeni government should start respecting its citizen's minds and involve them in the decision making process, especially regarding issues of national and international scopes.

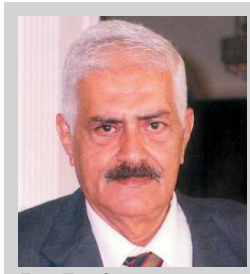
Nadia Al-Sakkaf Editor-in-Chief

Retirement age: End of productive journey?

Generally, the pensionable age is set at the age of 60 and retirement is the judgment that a person is no longer able to work and has to retire. Nevertheless, this equation is presently no longer appropriate and many countries have now extended the retirement age to 65 years. In my view the retired is an adjective proper for describing the employee who does not work. Here his presence and absence are at an equal footing with respect to the productive process.

In reality creativity is not confined to a certain age. Rather, innovation and creativity crystallize and mature after the age of 60 and they are enhanced by experience and wisdom of the years. The best works of many innovators came after the age of 60. Most of scientists in various areas have offered the best of what they possess after they have passed the age of 60. Many poets and writers have produced their best works later in life.

People at the age of retirement, 60 or 65, can be help by easing the burden of their responsibility by appointing them as counselor or advisor handling affairs of a number of personnel or reduce their hours at institutes and colleges.



By: Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Tarb

This move can be applied to surgeons at hospitals. The goal is to create young talent to succeed them. They have to be honored by the head of the state and granted distinguished degrees before pensioning them, as what happens in the army, security and diplomatic career.

Specifying the age of retirement at the age of 60 is an unfair decision and illogical, and maybe inherited from the middle ages. Personally, I have reached the age of 60 and I feel younger than my sons and my grandchildren. Over the long years of my career I have acquired experience, knowledge and influence and relations, as well as to the scientific standard that I bear, which cannot be available during youth. I have become more stable and less emotional and able to judge and analyze matters rationally

away from emotion and whims.

Some would think extending the age of retirement deprives youth of job opportunities and precludes young blood from productive institutions. This thought is incorrect. It is especially so when we realize jobs need brains rather than muscle. Most productive or creative jobs presently depend on reason, especially with the contemporary tendency to mechanization and dependence on advanced electronics. Man is no longer in need of muscles as much as brains.

The best evidence of that change was when the Chinese leadership wanted to renew its blood and replace the leadership - they chose leaderships that have exceeded the age of 70.

We are in need of the experienced workers. We have to encourage them before leaving for pension to have prepared the alternative workers in all facilities, ministries and institutions if we are preparing Yemen as a modern state entertaining law and order.

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

London Donors Conference and Yemen's challenges

I wrote in this column some weeks ago the post-elections era is filled with several challenges for the regime of President Ali Abdullah Saleh both on the political and economic levels. The challenges on the political level, represented by the elections of the governors and districts directors as well as that of the Shoura council members, are an easy task to carry out. Saleh already said the governors of the governorates will be elected by the representatives of the local councils. He might make other decisions in this respect in the near future as such reforms need a political decision.

However, it is the economic challenges that are difficult to face as their implementation needs financial resources beyond Yemen's capacity as well as harsh reforms. The government needs to address serious economic issues such as poverty, unemployment, corruption which all pose major obstacles to development.

The government has started talking about steps to enhance transparency and reduce corruption. It said a committee for tenders will be set up from independent personalities known for their integrity and the tenders draft law is being amended. The government approved a draft of their corruption law last November and says it is now under amendment with the help of international expertise. Already the government launched an awareness campaign against corruption and its hazards with support from the U.S. and European through different mass media including billboards and posters in over 700 sites, 300 out of it were placed in Sana'a.

Another challenge facing the government is that these reforms are not realized by and getting support of the public as the people do not see any concrete results of them on their lives. For instance, the government has been saying it will crack down on corrupt officials and influential figures, but it remains just talk; we have not seen, for example, the prosecution of corrupt officials. And because of this the people have no faith in the ability and seriousness of the regime to stand up to such serious issues. The government is not even able to put such issues under discussion in its institutions.

These efforts of Yemen and particularly the recent elections have been welcomed by the U.S. and European countries. But there is concern among the donors that these reforms made by the government are just meant to please them. There are also concerns that the donors conference turns into a sort of public relations between the donors and the Ministry of Planning as the donors still think Yemen has failed to invest and appropriately use its loans and grants.

The Gulf countries, mainly Saudi Arabia, are motivated to make the conference a success. The GCC general secretariat already started negotiation with Yemen on how its economy can be rehabilitated and qualified. The U.S. is pushing countries to extend a hand of support to Yemen as they foresee the hazards of the collapse of the system in Yemen and its impact on other countries. The fall of Yemen will make it a better environment for terrorism which the U.S. and the international community do not want.

The Americans, the Europeans and the Saudis have extended warm congratulations to Saleh on winning the elections. This move might send signals of good support expected from these countries at the donors conference. It is true the recent elections are a step forward in the democratization drive. However, they are not reason enough for the donors to pour their money into Yemen at the London conference next week. The GCC already said, in its dialogue with Yemen, it takes into account the international standards of the World Bank and other agencies. The donors, in fact, need to see serious economic reforms in practice to ensure money is spent efficiently and appropriately and, above all, for the overall welfare of the Yemeni people. There must a mechanism on the basis of which the donors make sure their funds are spent properly. It is only this commitment that can make the donors conference a golden opportunity for Yemen's government to bring more funds to overcome its monumental economic challenges.

During the elections campaigns Saleh promised he would wage a war on corrupt and influential crooks and this is the only way out for bringing foreign investments into the country; it is also the reform of the judiciary and in particular the commercial judiciary which can help create a better investment environment. For investment of the Aden port in particular it is the key element for Yemen's prosperity - as oil is gradually running out. Yemen needs fair and independent judiciary, security, competent administration and, of course, a good infrastructure.

However, the most important challenge is the cronies around the president. Will they wake up and stop drawing a rosy picture for the president about the situation in Yemen. Are they aware of the future of 22 million people whose country is on its last legs? Is the government aware reform is a national necessity and urgency and not just to appease the West and donor countries? They should realize this conference is the last chance for Yemen to demonstrate its eligibility for reform and improve itself and cope up with the international community which will leave us on our own if we collapse. Will they learn the lesson of Somalia?

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

Poverty poses a problem to rich countries too

By: Mohammed Al-Ariqi

It is good the issue of poverty and the poor is one of the major issues the United Nations addresses. The subject has become deep inside literatures of the international organization and many conferences and summits are allocated for it, the most prominent of which is held early this century.

With the Millennium Challenge Account the countries participated in the summit have pledged to achieve its goals including the improvement of the situations of the poor in all aspects. The rich countries and donor organizations promised to assist poor countries to help them overcome the difficulties and crises impeding the achievement of those objectives.

It is true governments, organizations, groups and individuals are responsible for tackling their issues

by themselves and with their own efforts and capabilities, but that does not relieve the international community from contributing to eliminate poverty.

The consequences and danger of poverty are possible to attack in many areas in the world by many ways that can easily monitor now through multi aspects. Such aspects for instance are witnessed with the increasing migration of people from poor countries to rich countries. This matter has become a source of anxiety, annoyance and fear from flooding their cities with those migrants. Those countries are presently afraid the migrants could affect their social fabric and their security and economic situations. Values of social coexistence to welcome other races and religions have disappeared in those countries. They replaced them by putting restraints and barriers to prevent entry of migrants. Many countries have taken new strong and strict measures - even against those already residing or naturalized in their country.

The desire for migration by the youth of some poor countries has become a tragedy because they face great difficulties living in their own countries, especially difficulty getting job opportunities. Getting to new countries can involve many kinds of danger and risk of life - sometimes drowning in the sea or through being shot by border guards. They can end up as victims of gangsters who rob them of all what they have saved for the realization of the dream of migration. Thus they return to their homelands in a poorer and more tragic condition than before.

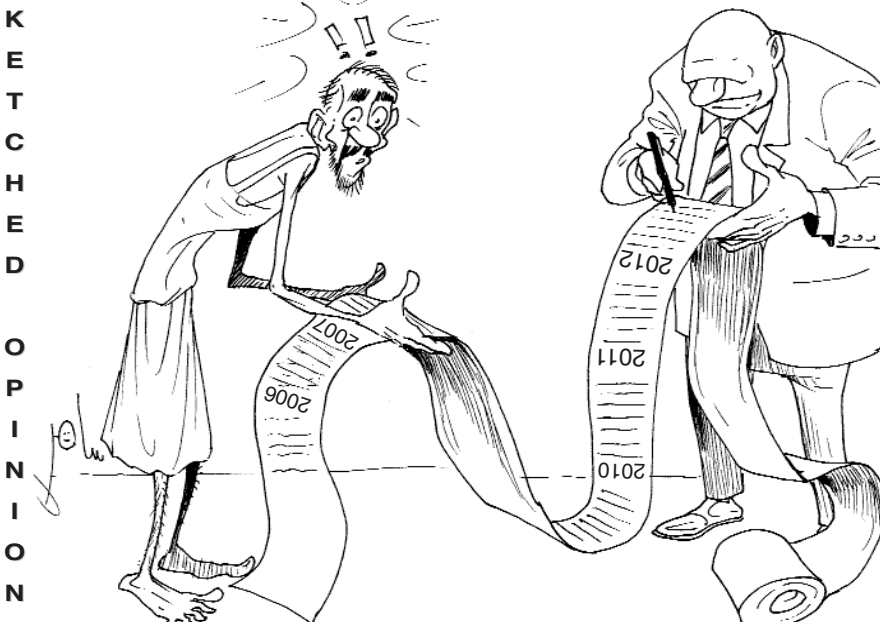
The essential point justifying the demand from rich countries to offer help and assistance to the poor countries to surmount their difficult situations proceeds from moral, political and economic criteria. For a long

time rich countries have dealt with poor countries on the grounds of unilateral interest. The poor countries became mines for withdrawing their natural wealth in return for the cheapest prices and as markets for exporting to them products of the rich country's factories. The rich countries have not stopped instigating rebellions, wars and conflicts which the poor countries have been witnessing and those events have put those poor countries away from devoting their efforts to construction and development. The rich countries are still responsible for what they have done, directly or indirectly, in impoverishing some societies because they behave in a hypocritical way and do not care about the humanitarian situation, as a result of their double standard. For instance how can the Palestinian society eliminate poverty while it is under the Israeli occupation and the worst and ugliest ways of suppression and terror and blockade are practiced against them, as well as the means of impoverishing practiced by Israel? There is no serious step to end this tragic situation in Palestine. They could have solved the issue in hours if they had the credibility and moral values.

Out of these scenes, the solution of the problem of poverty and improving the situation of the poor has become associated with and dependent on the political, economic and education performance by the developing peoples and the societies by themselves. They can wring out their rights, impose their demands and prove their existence in the international arena so advancement and renaissance will not remain monopolized by the rich countries.

By: Mohammed Al-Ariqi is a Yemeni journalist and writer. Source: al-Thawra Newspaper

Time table for carrying out the electoral program



YEMEN TIMES website information, contact details, and policies.

Hitler the artist

Compiled by: Nisreen Shadad

Using the name Adolf Hitler in conjunction with the title of artist obviously is an unusual combination and requires a short explanatory introduction. Hitler, of course, was a key historical figure and his artistic ambitions may be familiar to many,

since his early attempts to establish himself as an artist at least are mentioned in all of his major biographies.

However, the real scope of these early activities is less well known. Most historians offer only a few samples of Hitler's art, if any, among the obligatory collection of historic photographs. An interesting and perhaps even decisive part of his life inevitably is

overwhelmed by the sheer mass of other, historically more relevant, information.

The considerable volume of work produced over the years merits attention and precise analysis. The estimated total of between 2,000 and 3,000 drawings, sketches, watercolors and oil paintings certainly attests to the seriousness of his intentions. His art undoubtedly reflected his philosophy and his life, in

turn, derived considerable substance from his art.

In October 1907, at age 18, Hitler applied for admission to the Vienna Academy of Fine Arts. Two days of examinations were required, with candidates choosing from groups of themes like "Expulsion from Paradise," "Episode from the Deluge," "The Hunt," "Spring," "Death," "Joy," "Music" and "Dance." Surviving examination drawings include Nos. 44 and 46.

In the classification list for entrants, academy officials wrote the following entry after Hitler's name: "(Born in Braunau-on-the-Inn, upper Austria, April 20, 1889, German, Catholic. Father civil servant. Four classes in Realschule. Few heads (drawn). Test drawing unsatisfactory."

Hitler wasn't alone: 85 candidates failed the examination, 52 of whom had their records marked, "test drawing unsatisfactory." Most others who failed received no comment. Of the total 115 candidates, only 28 were accepted for first-year studies.

Academy standards were high and selection criteria were rigorous: failure was neither uncommon nor proof of inability. However, academy acceptance virtually guaranteed recognition by the rather closed circle of artists in Austria and made critical and commercial success easier. Artistic careers outside academy circles also were possible, but considerably more difficult and unusual.

After his unsuccessful bid for admission, Hitler briefly took art lessons from a Viennese sculptor and attempted to enter the academy a second time the following year. Once again, he was rejected, this time on the grounds that his art exhibited more architectural than artistic skill. Although he admitted architecture was his great love, his lack of a secondary school diploma effectively barred his pursuing architectural studies at the technical institute.

He was bitter but undaunted by this rejection and determined to succeed as an artist on his own. During these years in Vienna, often in poverty, he read voraciously and attended lectures, concerts, the opera and the theater. To earn his living, he painted and sold his work both in various framemaker shops and on the street.

His intense fascination with architecture was reflected in his numerous drawings of houses, churches, public buildings and city scenes. Another of his loves – classical music and opera – also appeared as a frequent theme in his art and he often designed stage scenery and costumes for opera productions for his personal

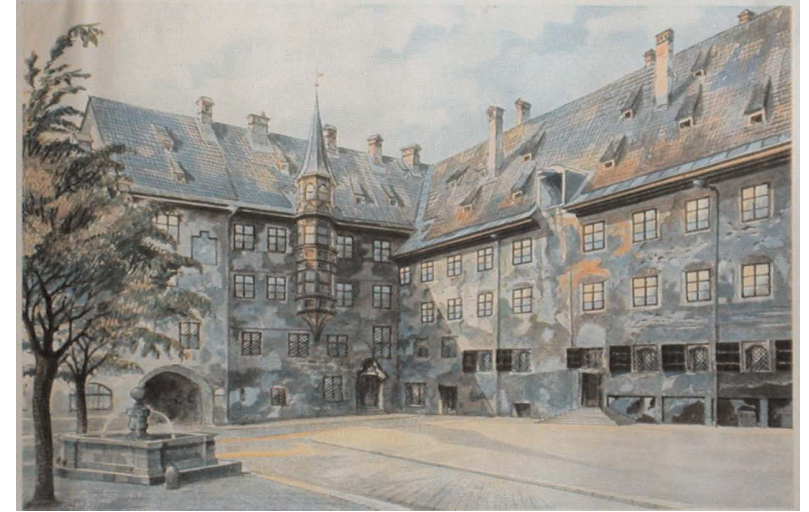
pleasure.

When one examines the body of Hitler's work, his profound debt to 19th century influences is readily apparent. Although he claimed that his concept of art wasn't the product of any single influence but rather the sum of all that came before him, his style consciously reflected works of earlier artists.

Hitler felt most at ease with the traditions of Greco-Roman Classicism, the Italian Renaissance and 19th century Neoclassicism. He was convinced that the essence of art was derived from the technical ability to show "clear" and "realistic" representations of life, as well as symbolic subjects.



This was a common print displayed in nearly all military headquarters of the Reich.



This 1914 painting is entitled, "The Courtyard of the Old Residency in Munich."

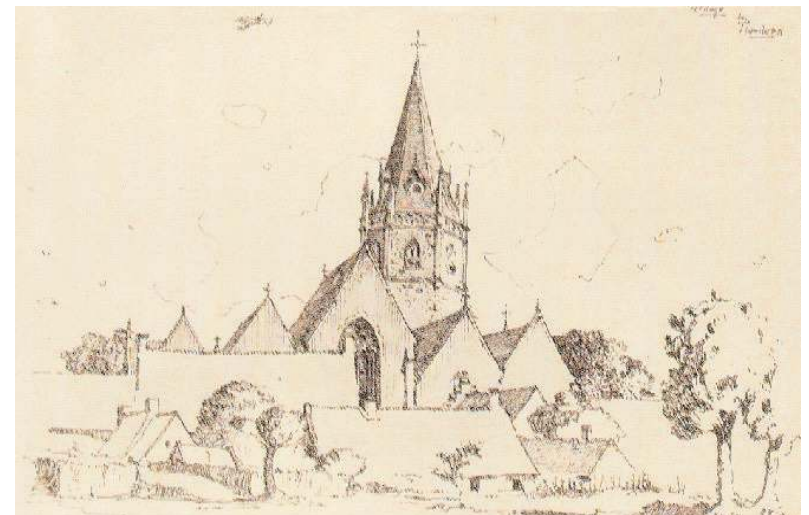


This painting, also from 1914, is entitled, "Ruins of a Cloister in Messines."

Prominent late 19th century watercolorist Rudolf von Alt (1812-1905) was one of Hitler's favorites – "my teacher," as he said. He adopted Alt's preference for realistic, detailed scenes done in delicate tones and precisely copied Alt's typically cloudy skies. Copies of Alt's work are

Germany's cultural history.

Hitler commemorated the event by commissioning Professor Klaus Buchner to make a miniature set of the figures and floats, each painted in detail. Later, he also worked on plans for the House of German Architecture, which was to be built directly across the



This painting from 1917 is entitled, "Ardoye in Flanders."

represented in the catalog by No. 146 and No. 210. When he was Chancellor, Hitler discreetly arranged for Alt's family in Vienna to receive a state pension.

Hitler had an encounter in 1926 that decisively influenced his ideas about architecture. He met Munich architect Paul Ludwig Troost (1878-1934) and soon became a devoted disciple, even to the extent of adapting Troost's furniture designs for his apartment. He previously had selected the location and, together with Troost, quickly planned the future House of German Art, whose 1938 museum opening was marked by an elaborate celebration of

street from the art museum. After Troost's death in 1934, his style continued to flourish under Albert Speer and Hermann Giesler, master architects of the new government.

One common misconception that Hitler stopped painting after or even during World War I simply isn't true. As his political activities increased after 1919, his artistic output shifted toward urban planning, NSDAP matters and even technical subjects. Upon the outbreak of World War II, Hitler's artistic activities increasingly concentrated on technical or architectural topics.

Resource: www.adolfhitler.ws

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Expression of Interest

Basic Education Development Project

Credit No. 3988-YEM and Grant No. TF-053721

These requests for expression of interest follow the General Procurement Notice for this project that appeared in Development Business and Dg Market dated Feb.2, 2005.

The Ministry of Education (MOE), Republic of Yemen has received a credit from the International Development Association (IDA) and Multi-Donors Trust Fund towards the cost of Basic Education Development Project and intends to apply part of the proceeds of this credit & grants to payments under the contracts for the below-listed consulting services.

The Project Administration Unit now invites eligible **consulting firms and individual consultants**, as stated below, to indicate their interest in providing the services. Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills, etc.).

- 1. Review and Develop Curricula, Textbooks, and Teachers' Guides for basic Education in the Republic of Yemen, MOE, (Firm)**
The objective of this technical assistance is to improve the quality of Learning, through review and development the existing Curricula Documents, Textbooks and Teachers' Guides as well as Building capacity and skills of MOE staff in developing and designing Curricula documents, textbooks and teachers guides, strengthening the system for cost effective textbooks production and distribution .
- 2. Assessment of Community Participation Activities, Girls Education Sector, MOE, (Individual Consultant) Re-advertisement**
The objective of this technical assistance is to assess the experience of community participation that was implemented in Sana'a, Amran, Al-Mahweet, Al-Dale'a, and Raymah Governorates, identify strengths and weaknesses and the role of community involvement to improving the quality of education.
- 3. Evaluation of the Literacy and Adult Education Strategy, Literacy and Adult Education Organization, MOE, (Individual Consultant) Re-advertisement**
The objective of this technical assistance is to review and evaluate the Literacy and Adult Education strategy and organizing workshop for developing the strategy.

The selection of the consultants will be in accordance with the procedure set out in the World Bank's **Guidelines: "Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers, May 2004"** Interested consultants may obtain further information during working days Sat.-Wed. From 10:00 AM to 12:00 noon at the address below to which the expression of interest must be delivered by November 29, 2006.

Basic Education Development Project
60 m Southern Rd. -Bait Meyad
Tel: +967-1-619160, Fax: +967-1- 619219
Email: info@bedp-yemen.org

Yemeni women are the first victim of water crisis, study said

By: Amel Al-Ariqi
amall11ariqi@yahoo.com

Yemeni women are still the first victim of water crisis and agricultural mutations, said a study titled "A brief overview of water and gender situation in Yemen."

The study prepared as workshop paper conducted by Frédéric Pelat and discussed in a workshop of Gender mainstreaming in Integrated Water Resources Management in the Arab Region. According to the study Yemeni Women are the first affected, directly or indirectly, by water depletion and the water crisis in Yemen.

In rural areas, young girls take on the responsibility of fetching drinking water as a traditional task.

Yemen is suffering from a pressing water crisis, acknowledged since the mid-90's, essentially caused by the overuse of groundwater resources for the agricultural sector. Annual withdrawals from groundwater resources are now exceeding renewable resources by up to 36 percent, said the study which added that agriculture remains an important sector with up to 77 percent of Yemen population still living in rural areas and nearly 60 percent involved in family-based and traditional farming production, where women have an essential vital role.

"It can be asserted that by tradition, Yemeni women have to guarantee the continuous good running of any

household by bearing all daily tasks. Among these tasks, fetching water for domestic purposes is certainly the most sensitive issue. But it has to compete with increasing roles either in traditional dry farming or in more recent irrigated agriculture," noted the study.

In rural areas, young girls take on the responsibility of fetching drinking water as a traditional task. Sometimes helped by boys, girls go out several times a day to fetch water for the entire family. Often walking and carrying heavy containers on their heads or riding donkeys, they spend several hours each day going long distances on uneven landscapes between houses and their water sources either a spring, a shallow well or more often a cistern, a characteristic rainwater harvesting structure called birka.

The water fetching duty is additional to other responsibilities devoted to women of all ages. They are often in charge of rearing livestock, fetching fuels, cooking or looking after the youngsters when mothers are busy in daily agricultural occupations. Adult women are more responsible for a large amount of the daily agricultural activities while men are more in charge of seasonal works. But both of them will cooperate for major operations such as harvesting.

Water related tasks have become very tough work, consuming much time of the day, causing girls to miss time from school and affecting their health, as water containers are often very heavy. There is a very strong connection between domestic water, health problems and education. Many rainwater collection structures have deteriorated and women have to look for new resources further away, beyond borders of their territory, often putting

themselves at risk regarding moral customs in the area.

In agriculture, problems caused by deteriorated canals and water loss in the degraded water structures are particularly sensitive, leading to potential tensions between farmers. Here too some women have become heads of households due to an increasing migration of men and have to carry out most of the agricultural activities, including irrigation, from which they were more or less set aside in the past. In 2001, the percentage of households headed by women in rural areas was 12.2 percent, but it was 10.4 percent in urban areas, according to the "Women and men in Yemen, Statistical portrait" painted by the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation, Central Statistical Organization (CSO), with the support of the Dutch cooperation and ESCWA.

"Traditionally absent from irrigation operations, women have necessarily been more and more involved due to many men migrating to cities or Gulf countries to find new sources of income," the study added.

Studies on women's and men's role in agriculture in Yemen are rare and mostly outdated, but the results of this study might still be valid today.

Women are the ones to organize water allocation and distribution for the various needs of the house and the

Women are the ones to organize water allocation and distribution for the various needs of the house and the family every day.



Besides their regular chores around the house, rural women are also burdened with the scantiness of water as they have to walk long distances to fill their buckets.

family every day. They evaluate quantity, quality and prioritize water for drinking. Then they keep water for people's hygiene. They will prioritize remaining quantities for washing the food, cleaning the dishes, cleaning the house, and might keep an amount of water for some animals. They will finally reuse remaining waters to water some plants mainly grown in pots or in very small plots beside the house,

vegetables or flowers, according to their needs and preferences.

In the urban regions, the poorest women have the same preoccupations as any other women in rural areas regarding water: fetching the precious and bad quality resource from source in the city – mostly wells. Others will benefit from the municipality water projects which periodically supply houses or buildings with water that has

to be stored by all means not to be lost. Some families have one or several tanks automatically storing water. Poorer women, as it is the case in Sana'a Old City, have the responsibility to use containers to collect and store the running water when the resource is flowing. These women have to be available and act very quickly and efficiently during these moments.

Invitation for Bids Republic of Yemen

Ministry of Public Health and Population Health Reform Support Project-Cr. 3625

PROCUREMENT, SUPPLY, and INSTALLATION OF INVENTORY and PERSONNEL SOFTWARE

This invitation for bids follows the general procurement notice for this project that appeared in United Nations Development Business (UNDB) issue no. (607) on 16th May 2003. Al-Thawara Newspaper issue no. (13944) on 28th May 2003. and Yemen Times issue no. (641) on 12th June 2003.

The Republic of Yemen has received a credit from the National Development Association (IDA) towards the cost of its Health Reform Support Project, and intends to apply part of the proceeds of this credit to payments under the contract for procurement and supply, and Installation of Inventory and Personnel Software Bid No.(93).

The Credit Administration Unit (CAU) now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for procurement, supply, Installation of Inventory and Personnel Software as follows:

Description	Amount of Bid Security Required US\$
Lot No.1 Personnel Software	1000
Lot No.2 Inventory Software	1000

The bidders may bid one or more Lots, and should quote separate prices using the forms provided for one or more Lots. The bid evaluation will be conducted per Lots.

Bidding will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding procedures specified in the World Bank's Guidelines: Procurement under IDA Credits, and is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the guidelines.

Interested eligible bidding may obtain further information from Credit Administration Unit (CAU) and inspect the bidding documents at the address below from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm during official working days.

A complete set of bidding documents in English language may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a nonrefundable fee of **USD\$ 50.00** for local bidders, the method of payment will be in cash or certified check and documents will be submitted by hand.

Bids must be delivered to the address below by **11:00 a.m. on 10th December 2006**. Bids must be accompanied by a bid security as indicated above. Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened in the presence of bidders representatives who choose to attend at the address below at **11:00 a.m. on 10th December 2006**.

Credit Administration Unit-Health Reform Support Project (HRSP)
Ministry of Public Health & Population
P.O.Box 1330-Al-Hasabah-4th Floor
Tel: + 967(1) 252224-Fax: +967(1)251622
E-mail:hrsp@y.net.ye

VACANCY

(Financial Assistant)

for the Basic Education Development Project
(IDA Credits & Multi-Donors Trust Funds)

The Basic Education Development Project (BEDP) at the Ministry of Education (MOE) seeks applicants for the position of a Financial Assistant who will be responsible for the entire daily routine finance tasks of the project and will form with the financial officer the financial department which will work closely with all sectors and departments of MOE, Governorates Offices and Districts Offices of MOE involved in the Project implementation .

The Financial Assistant would:

- Update Fixed Assets Sys. and maintain files of Fixed Assets.
- Enter all the financial transactions on daily basis into the Financial Sys.
- Maintaining proper filing for all accounting documents.
- Prepare bank reconciliation for all bank accounts on monthly basis.
- Prepare the accounting reconciliations on monthly basis for , Contracts, Resources Centers, ...etc and prepare the necessary adjustments.
- Insuring that the Contracting System is updated on the appropriate time and follow up with FO at the governorate level.
- Prepare Initial financial analysis of data & preparation of the project basic data (plans, cost, budget, actual ... etc).
- Prepare The Financial Monitoring Reports and Cash Disbursements Plans.
- Assist Finance Officer in facilitating the work of the external auditors.
- Assist Finance Officer in the assessment of FMs capacities at the governorates level.
- Assist Finance Officer in maintaining overall integrity of financial statements and accounting records.
- Assist Finance Officer in developing, proposing, implementing & supporting changes or improvements to financial policies & procedures.
- Any other tasks as required by the project Financial Officer and the Project Director.

Qualifications:

- A minimum of Bachelor's degree in Accounting or Business Administration with major in accounting and finance.
- Minimum of 5 years of professional experience in a financial management and accounting position, preferably in the private sector.
- Familiarity with the government's and IDA's financial management requirement is a plus.
- Experience in the use of accounting programs and software.
- Proficiency in both Arabic and English.
- Good interpersonal and communication skills

All applications along with detailed resume and supporting documents should be submitted by **November 15, 2006** at the following address:

Basic Education Development Project
60M Southern Road, Bait Meyad
Tel: 01-619160 / Fax 01-619219

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United Nations Day - 61 Years Long live our planet, and its peoples Long live the United Nations!

"For the tenth and last time as Secretary-General, I offer friends and colleagues around the world my best wishes on United Nations Day. I have spent almost my whole professional life working for the United Nations - so this day, and the values that it stands for, will always be special for me."

UN Secretary-General, Kofi Annan

By: Yemen Times staff

The anniversary of the entry into force of the United Nations Charter on 24 October 1945 has been celebrated as United Nations Day since 1948. It has traditionally been marked throughout the world by meetings, discussions and exhibits on the achievements and goals of the Organization.

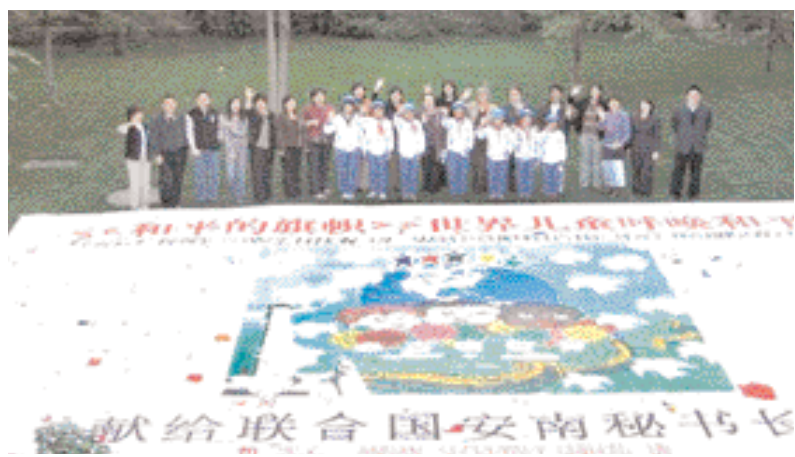
In his press statement, Kofi Annan talked about the positive steps the UN has achieved during his term over the past 10 years. He also narrated the challenges facing the UN in the future. His final advice was: "At this time of all times, we cannot afford to be divided. I know that you, the peoples of the world, understand this. Thank you for all the support and encouragement you have given me, throughout these 10 difficult but exciting years. Please urge your leaders to work with my successor, and make the United Nations ever stronger and more effective."



UN celebrations around the world:

Yemen

To mark the 61st anniversary of United Nations Day, the Charitable Society for Social Welfare (CSSW), in cooperation with UNDP, organized an event in Sana'a to celebrate the day with U.N. agency representatives in Yemen. Approximately 20 young girls from various Yemeni regions gathered Saturday in Sana'a to sing, welcome and appreciate U.N. efforts in Yemen, calling for more support to fight poverty, illiteracy and disease.



UN Day celebrates in China

Head Quarters USA

A concert by the National Symphony Orchestra of Greece has marked this year's celebration of United Nations Day on Oct 25, in the General Assembly Hall. The concert was sponsored by the Government of Greece and the Alexander S. Onassis Public Benefit Foundation. The 62-member National Symphony Orchestra presented the poetry of Odysseus Elytis (Nobel Literature Laureate, 1979), Georges Seferis (Nobel Literature Laureate, 1963) and C. P. Cavafy, set to music by composers Manos Hadjidakis, Mikis Theodorakis, Spyros Samaras, Dimitris Laghios and Dimitris Papadimitriou. In addition to the concert, an exhibition entitled "In Praise of the Olive", emphasizing the mythology and history of the olive in the Mediterranean region and in Greek culture, was on display until 25 October 2006 in the North East Gallery of the General Assembly Visitors' Lobby. The exhibit explored the subject of the olive tree and its fruit at length, covering its role in daily life, habits, customs, social and economic relations, as well as its contribution as an inspiration in various forms of art and as an international symbol of peace.

China

On the occasion of the 61st Anniversary of the United Nations and the UN Day, a World Peace Flag painted by the children from 51 countries was presented today to the United Nations in China, with the support of the China Association for Promoting Children's Culture and Art.

Around 800 children of different origins, religions and backgrounds got together on 21 October in Beijing to paint their vision and best wishes of peace on a giant flag to disseminate their messages to the world. This World Peace Flag was then exhibited on the Great Wall before it arrived at the UN Compound in Beijing.

The 100-square-meter flag will then be sent to the UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan at the UN headquarters in New York.



Yemeni Girls celebrates UN day.

Greece:

Greek poetry and music featured at the UN Day annual concert that took place Wednesday evening at the UN General Assembly auditorium to mark the 61st anniversary of the founding of the United Nations, which was organized by Greece for the first time.

The concert, entitled "Greece: Poetry and Music", was praised by UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, who thanked the Greek government and the Alexander S. Onassis Public Benefit Foundation who helped "for us to be all together at this concert," which was performed by the 62-member National Symphonic Orchestra of the Greek Radio and Television foundation (ERT) and leading artists at the hall of UN General Assembly, after midnight Greek time. The anniversary concert, a tribute to culture and peace entitled "Greece: poetry and music", commemorated the 61st anniversary of the founding of the United Nations, as well as Greece's participation in the UN Security Council as a non-permanent member for a two-year term covering the 2005-2006 period.

Japan

This year is significant in that it marks the 50th year since Japan joined the UN. To celebrate, 22 UN-related organizations in Japan are collaborating held variety of events and to reaffirm our commitment to fostering the mission of the UN and the aspirations for peace of its "Peoples and Member States".

Ted Turner, founder of the US-based CNN television network and contributor of some 1 billion dollars to the UN through the UN Foundation that he established in 1997, participated in the symposium. The main event was an international symposium commemorating "Japan at 50 in the UN", which took place on Oct 25 at the UN House (UNU Centre building) in Shibuya, Tokyo, the main venue of the UN Day celebrations in Japan.

Workshops were also held for persons seeking to further their understanding of the UN system or those interested in working in a UN organization. Other commemorative events were planned for regions where offices of UN agencies are based outside of Tokyo: in Fukuoka, Hiroshima, Kobe, Osaka, Nagoya, Toyama and Yokohama. These events will be held at various times from October through December.

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