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 Anyone who fights  
 corruption faces corruption



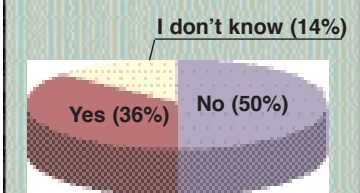
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### Readers' Voice

Last edition's question:  
**Is it right to jail Al-Rai Al-Aam newspaper's editor-in-chief for republishing the Prophet Mohammed cartoons?**



### This edition's question:

**Could it be true the attacks on Yemen Socialist Party members are retaliation for the relative victory the opposition gained in the recent elections?**

- Yes
- No, it has been on going since before
- No, there is no relation
- I don't know

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 and have your voice heard

## International funds to Yemen may be up to \$5.5 billion, Al-Arhabi says

By: Yasser Al-Mayasi

SANA'A, Nov. 28 — "International donations to Yemen to fund the third plan for its economic and social development may amount to as much as \$5.5 billion," Minister of Planning and International Cooperation Abdulkarim Al-Arhabi said earlier this week. "Yemen's program to carry out reforms and fight corruption is one of the most important factors behind the success of the London Donors Conference," he added.

Al-Arhabi said Parliament currently is discussing corruption combating, financial liability and tender laws. "Reforming the tender system has been given top priority since it's responsible for embezzling public funds," he explained, "The government has taken serious steps to reform the tender system in cooperation with U.S. and British firms."

Among the factors helping to make the donors conference a success was judicial reform, as well as reforms in several other areas concerning donors. The most recent presidential and local elections, which expanded the scope of public participation in decision making, also constituted one of the factors behind the conference's success, according to Al-

Arhabi. He noted that Yemen's 2006 elections garnered both regional and international respect, particularly as several nations considered it a distinct experience in the Arab world.

"Had these elections not taken place successfully, the Donors Conference would've had little chance of succeeding. President Ali Abdullah Saleh's presence also had its effect on making the conference a success," Al-Arhabi recounted.

He expects international funding for Yemen's 2006-2015 economic and social development plan to amount to as much as \$5.5 billion thanks to sincere commitments from regional and international development funds. According to Al-Arhabi, such funds are some of the main sources in the plan's funding scheme.

He revealed that donors welcomed Saleh's declaration that Yemen will join the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) for mining. "For the first time in its history, Yemen has an investment program based on proper policies and standards," he noted, "In the past, we prepared a five-year plan and included in it a list of items to purchase."



Abdulkarim Al-Arhabi

Al-Arhabi clarified that U.S. funds to Yemen will come via the Millennium Challenge Account (MCA), for which it failed to qualify in the past. "This year, we met with MCA officials, gained their trust and took important steps in this regard. We've been assured that Yemen will qualify for the MCA," he explained.

The minister pointed out that after receiving these funds, Yemen faces great challenges related to how to use them and achieve goals sought. "We have two documents about the capacity and implementation mechanism, as well as a clear vision of how to use the funding," he noted.

Continued on page 2

## YSP calls on authorities to stop targeting its members

By: Mohammad Al-Jabri

SANA'A, Nov. 29 — The Yemeni Socialist Party's General Secretariat denounced illegal practices against its members who staged a sit-in Sunday in Aden governorate protesting an attempt to destroy the party's premises in Al-Qallowa district of Aden governorate.

In a statement issued Tuesday, the YSP stated such arbitrary practices are continuation of practices by the state's influential figures to target leaders and activists in the party, with attempts to control the party's properties and documents.

On Monday, security forces in Aden governorate attacked a number of YSP members and activists who staged a sit-in with their backdrop their party's premises under destruction. More than 17 people were reportedly detained and beaten at the site.

"Security forces hit and detained members of the party, including three people who are members in the party's central committee," said the YSP statement. Security forces beat protestors with the gun butts and cudgels, and then brought them to a local police station.

The general secretariat held authorities responsible to providing protection for its members and take the responsibilities for any attacks they might face. It further renewed its demands for the authorities to implement President



Saleh's directives to bring back the YSP's properties and documents that have been seized since the secessionist war of 1994.

Sources at the party said the building was destroyed by an influential figure, with protection from security

forces, who claimed the building belongs to him. Nasspress website quoted Nadheer Hassan, member of the YSP's Central Committee, saying the detainees were set free after Aden's governor interfered in the case. Hassan noted police refused to deal with the directives of Al-Mina'a Court not to destroy the building until a judicial verdict is issued.

"The building belongs to the YSP according to ownership contracts, and directives of President Saleh and that the party regained it in 1997," he added.

Hassan also expressed surprise at destruction of the building although the case file is still in justice.

But Aden's Gov. Ahmed Al-Kuhlani denied the detention, saying security forces helped prevent clashes.

"A person has bought a building with official documents and building licenses, but YSP members claim the building to be their property and that was about to cause confrontations between the two sides," Al-Kuhlani told almotamar.net, the website of the ruling party in Yemen.

## Full political participation of women has to be achieved

A documentation on female candidates' stories lead by the Yemen Times, and a lobbying Initiative with wives of decision makers lead by the Women National Committee were the outcomes of the seminar on women political participation last week.

By: Khalil Al-Khaubari

SANA'A, Nov. 25 — Women are struggling to gain a better political position and exercise their citizenship rights. Their struggle was vividly noticed during the recent elections when female candidates were discriminated against, threatened and not supported to say the least.

The National Women Committee, Integrity Bridges for Social Development and the Yemen Times jointly held a symposium Sunday to discuss women's political participation, especially in the most recent local elections, and how they can overcome obstacles hindering their participation in political life.

In a speech, Integrity Bridges Executive Director Donna Kennedy-Glans congratulated



Yemeni women have come a long way in their struggle for their rights, but they still have much more to achieve, according to Integrity Bridges Executive Director Donna Kennedy-Glans (right).

ulated Yemeni women for the last elections and called on them to be stronger in their battle to exercise their rights.

"The electoral process is heated in any country and people throw about criticism and negative comments. We do the same in Canada, but now you've passed the elections and you should think of what you would be doing next," Kennedy-Glans stated.

She insisted women struggle for their rights — even creating her own new idiom: Gender jihad. "You are struggling to develop a female presence in politics and I provocatively call it gender jihad," she explained. "The struggle we have inside the big jihad is to balance or harmonize relationships between men and women in all parts of our lives, including politics."

Kennedy-Glans then went on to compare

women's political situations in Canada and Yemen.

"In Canada, since the first election in 1921 wherein women could run for office, which is a long time — decades — 3,400 women candidates have stood in 39 elections and only won 426 times. Only one female prime minister has held one term in office, which is the shortest of any prime minister in Canada. It was impressive, but I wasn't happy with it."

"At the close of the 2006 nominations, we had federal elections. There were 380 women and 1,200 men among the 1,600 candidates confirmed by our government. Women represented 23 percent of the total candidates, which I think is an awful statistic."

Concluding her speech, Kennedy-Glans stated, "There are no legal obstacles stopping women from running for poli-

tics in Canada or Yemen. We all know we have rights, but the problem is the number of women running for office or those who are winning isn't increasing, rather, it's in decline."

Rasheeda Al-Hamdani chairperson of the Women National Committee told her exciting story about her struggle to gain office of Sana'a Governorate in the recent elections. She was one of the female candidates competing in a tribal region during the local council elections. Al-Hamdani highlighted the obstacles and difficulties she faced.

"Although I wasn't welcomed by the tribal sheikhs and influential persons, I prepared an electoral program and the society read my program," she explained. "I visited a number of villages and talked to people at their sessions."

Continued on page 2

## Campaign to eliminate lead in gasoline

By: Mahmoud Al-Harazi

SANA'A, Nov. 28 — Yemen is one of 22 countries still using leaded gasoline, but wheels are in motion to eliminate the use for cars in country.

"Replacement of lead-free gasoline will be within the framework of the third five-year plan for development and alleviating poverty from 2006 to 2010. In keeping with the Arab environment ministers and other Arab countries, including the GCC, which are decreasing use of leaded gasoline," said Mahmoud Shedioaw, chairman of the public authority for protection of the environment.

Yemen is one of few countries still using lead in gasoline which can primarily affects children and the development of the mental and nervous systems in all people.

The Ministry of Water and Environment, the Ministry of Oil, the Ministry of Transport and the Environment Protection Authority are all working together to get rid of lead in gasoline, which needs time and effort, but there are some organizations that will help the ministries and with cooperation between ministries they hope to reduce the environmental pollution.

"We will get rid of lead in the gasoline and will be used some another addition which it is not harmful to the environment and humans in particular," said the minister of water and environment, adding that the idea for eliminating lead in gasoline may have come too late.

The minister said Yemen has been slow to ban lead because of a lack of awareness on this subject. And now "we are working on a refinery in Marib to produce unleaded gasoline."

The problems of environmental pollution lead to the presence of many diseases and most of these diseases are respiratory diseases and cardiovascular diseases caused by pollution, according to Dr. Zaid Ahmed Atef, the deputy director-general of the Al-Thorah hospi-



The water minister was the first to volunteer for a lead blood test, as a part of an environmental friendly campaign.

tal in Sana'a. "A scientific study says that the children's ability to absorb the pollutants is higher than the elderly," said Atef.

To keep children from absorbing the pollutants the problem needs to be treated at the source of pollution.

"Cars are the key reason for existence of lead in the air and in the human body and in our country there are more than 70 percent of the existing cars contributing to the presence of lead," said Mohammed Al-Audarous, the head agent for Toyota cars in Yemen.

There is a plan to create a new committee concerned with the problem of pollution to apply a strategy to eliminate lead.

The minister of water gave a blood sample to test for lead in his blood and now a complete testing campaign will include school children, traffic policemen, trade shopkeepers, and drivers especially the buses drivers.

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## In brief

## Aden

## Common beats, hip hop music and dance

Nov. 29 — The German Embassy and the French Embassy, together with the Ministry of Culture and the City of Aden, are presenting a Music and Dance Festival entitled "Common Beats: Hip Hop Music and Dance" from Nov. 25 to Dec. 12. Common beats will feature two French and two German artists with an Arab background who will pass on their experience to 14 Yemeni participants from Sana'a, Aden and Hodeidah in a two-week workshop, culminating in open-air Concerts in Aden, Hodeidah and Sana'a. The workshop, as an alternative to chewing qat, is supposed to animate the young to be sportive and creative. The workshop will produce a CD.

## WHO health care cooperation

Nov. 28 — The Governor of Aden, Ahmad Al-Kuhlani, met the regional expert from the World Health Organization, Raqy Al-Zantee, and they discussed joint cooperation between Aden Governorate and the WHO in projects such as designing national plans for health care with contribution of the Social Fund for Development, the General Authority to Protect Environment and the Cleaning Fund. The WHO offered detailed explanations on fighting hepatitis B and C inside hospitals to prevent it from spreading. The two sides agreed on a number of proposals which aim to build the capabilities of staff to fight the disease. They also agreed on including the national plan for fighting the disease among the projects of the SDF in all governorates.

## Technical preparations for American trade delegation

Nov. 28 — The director of Yemen Port Service and general manager of Aden port, Mohamed Abdul Wase, discussed on Monday with the commercial attaché in the U.S. Embassy, Susan Platt, technical preparations for the coming visit of an American trade delegation to Aden. They also discussed the trade and economic relations between Yemen and America. The U.S. trade delegation will include a number of representatives of American trading companies. The delegation will discuss the investment activities in Yemen and possible contribution of American investors in Yemen.

## Hadramout

## Scientific, cultural cooperation between Yemeni and Egyptian universities enhanced

Nov. 28 — Hadramout University for Science and Technology signed an agreement with Alexandria University for cooperation. Alexandria University will provide experienced teaching staff and facilitates the there will be an exchange of teachers and students in both universities.

## Hodeidah

## Sanitation project for environment disaster

Nov. 28 — The Governor of Hodeidah, Mohammed Shamal, met an operation official of OPEC Fund for international cooperation in Yemen, Norey Refat, who is visiting Hodeidah City to evaluate sanitation projects and find solutions to complete projects as soon as possible. The governor affirmed importance of pacing works in this project to avoid an environment disaster. He voiced readiness of the governorate to offer all assistance.

## Sana'a

## Training program on water project design and management

Nov. 28 — The GTZ offices in Syria, Jordan, Egypt and Yemen in cooperation with FAO organized a training program last week with aims to build the capacity of staff in water management projects funded by donors. According to the program management this is a convenient time to stage the workshop, particularly as Yemen got nearly US \$7 billion from donors. The program concentrates on monitoring project implementation.

## Riyadh

## GCC's approve four institutions

Nov. 27 — The Saudi Cabinet, chaired by King Abdullah bin Abdul-Aziz al-Saud, approved the integration of Yemen into four institutions of the Gulf Cooperation Council, which were approved in the GCC's Muscat summit in 2001. The institutions areas follow Health Ministers Council, Arab Bureau of Education for the Gulf States, Labor and Social Affairs Ministers Council and Arabian Gulf Football Cup Tournament.

## Earthquake and rockslide hit Ibb

IBB, Nov. 29 — A light earthquake hit the district of Al-Qafr a few days ago, but there were no casualties or property loss reported. Eyewitnesses told Yemen Times locals in the area are afraid of similar earthquakes to hit the area in the days to come.

Two soldiers, Abdulkafi Al-Ba'adani and Ahmad Al-Qadami said a huge rocky mountain broke loose in Abdan District and according to the two soldiers, the rockslide damaged the road leading to the city of Taiz and blocked the traffic. On the following day, a geological team from Taiz University rushed to the scene of the rockslide, reported the occurrence and examined its causes.

Some people, however, attributed the rockslide to construction operations to cover the road surface with tarmac.



The scene at the rockslide in Abdan District.

## Drilling in "Virgin Yemen"

HADRAMOUT, Nov. 26 — The first testing well in Hadramout is being drilled by the Contractors Union's Company for oil and gas, affiliated with World Contractors Union's Companies.

Hani Shehadah, the company's regional manager, said they expect good results in one month for the well they called Al-Noukhilat 1. The company first made geological studies of bloc 49, of which the company received exploitation rights in April.

Shehadah also pointed out his company is the general operator for the bloc 49, with a share of 32 percent. Other partners are Australian Oil Search Company, the Hungarian Mull and the Yemeni Company affiliated with the Yemen's General

Establishment for Oil and Gas.

He further revealed the company intends to dig two other wells within the same bloc as part of the agreement made with the ministry. The company also holds the rights to bloc 33 in Hadramout and bloc 45 in Al-Mahara.

"We plan to invest US \$40 million next year in works involving studies and exploration activities for 4 to 6 wells within the three blocs. We are looking forward to having more promising results to develop the district's infrastructure and create jobs for Yemeni workforce," added Shehadah.

He also mentioned that his company started its executive activities just three months after receiving the right to work. As the company prepares for

digging activities and it is buying materials with a long shelf life in order to perform and expand their plans in Yemen's oil field.

Contractors Union's Company participates with 10 percent in bloc 14 run by Canadian Nexon in Hadramout's Al-Maseela. It also participated in implementing the infrastructure for Yemen's oil sector for Aden's refinery and oil facilities in Mareb and Al-Maseela together with water projects, buildings and roads.

Concluding his remarks, Shehadah praised the atmosphere of investment in Yemen's oil sector and the facilities provided by the government and the Ministry of Oil and further declared Yemen is still virgin and a lot of opportunities exist.

## Festival held in Mukalla's Khour to support Beit Hanoun

MUKALLA, Nov. 28 — The Mukalla branch of the Islamic Charitable Society to defend Al-Quds held a festival last Thursday in solidarity with the distressed residents of Beit Hanoun in the Gaza Strip. The society also launched a \$1 million campaign.

Festivities included reciting Qur'anic verses and Islamic songs. In a speech, society chairman Ahmed Bazuhair expressed his thanks to all who support

the warriors in Palestine who are defending their rights and fighting a well-equipped army. Video snapshots later were shown on a screen, highlighting the distress and plight of Palestinians.

For his part, Salim Saleh Abdulhaq from the local authority explained, "The unity of our religion calls for sympathy and support, so this caused us to establish the society, which is responsible for sending donations to Palestinians." He

further announced that the local authority was donating YR 250,000 for Palestinians.

In his speech, Sheikh Ahmed Al-Mu'alem declared, "If we're unable to sacrifice our souls for Islam, we must fight with money, so I call upon all people to donate as much as they can."

The festival concluded with a scene depicting the plight of Palestinians and denouncing Arab indifference.

## Regional meeting for the birds

SANA'A, Nov. 26 — The International Council for Protecting Birds in the Middle East is meeting to discuss ways to safeguard birds in the region.

The annual regional meeting, wrapping up today, Nov. 27, is discussing initiatives, plans and projects all prepared by the regional partners of the council for the best way they can protect birds.

With the participation of 25 experts and specialists in bird protection from nine Middle East countries, the meeting discussed the way to build an active regional partnership aiming to protect birds and further formulate a regional strategy to keep the wetlands located migration routes.

Additionally, the meeting discussed issues involving settling birds and migrating birds facing the threat of extinction. The initiatives and projects include a sustainable hunting project and wings over damp lands project.

The project is implemented in 12 countries, including Yemen that will benefit the administrative plan for



Arab officials at the regional meeting about birds protection.

protecting the wetlands in Aden.

A project was earlier established by the Yemeni Society for Protecting the

Natural Life in order to protect Aden's wetlands as it is one of stations for migrating sea birds.

## Symposium establishes HRITC's democratic priorities

AMMAN, Nov. 28 — The Human Rights Information and Training Center (HRITC), in collaboration with Al-Adalla Center for Human Rights and under the support of the Middle East Partnership Initiative, organized a symposium on civil society's role in making democratic changes.

During the symposium, Al-Adalla Center presented a paper dealing with civil society's role in the current situation. Participants also discussed the

results of field surveys conducted by Gamal Al-Khateeb and Lina Al-Noubani to specify social and democratic priorities in Jordan.

According to the symposium's outcomes, legal reforms regarding civil society and guaranteeing general freedoms topped the priorities.

HRITC is responsible for enhancing democratic dialogue between civil society organization representatives and official institutions and parliaments in

the Arab region.

Having initiated the dialogue in Yemen, then Bahrain and now in Jordan, the Democratic Dialogue Center aims to submit a report to Future Forum at the end of this month about the progress of democratic dialogue.

Yemen, Italy and Turkey led the Democratic Dialogue Enhancing Program. Yemen also is in charge of freedom of expression and media independence.

## U.S. program assists Yemeni CSOs

SANA'A, Nov. 28 — On Tuesday, U.S. ambassador to Yemen, Thomas Krajetski, announced the launching of the second phase of the ambassador's private program for autonomous aid.

In a press conference, Krajetski stated that six Yemeni civil society organizations will receive support for 2007, including the Women and Children's Development Society (SOUL) in Sa'ada, Al-Wa'ad (promise) Social Charitable Female Association in Sana'a, the Peace and Development Society in Al-Jawf, Al-Sada (echo) Charitable Association in Sana'a and Al-Mona'a (hope) Social Charitable Female Association, also in Sana'a.

The ambassador further stressed that the program aims to support charitable organizations and societies in order to improve the social and economic situations of poor and deprived citizens through projects like digging wells, furnishing kitchens or establishing farms to raise bees and cattle. Thus, such societies and organizations can improve their income and depend upon autonomous efforts.

Krajetski also noted that the program is designed to develop the economic and social situations in Yemeni villages and cities by



Thomas Krajetski U.S. ambassador to Yemen.

providing financial support to those societies needing assistance. The program also aims to revitalize previously established vital autonomous projects, such as computer and sewing classes and other handicrafts.

Concluding his remarks, Krajetski expressed his hope that "Yemenis will benefit from the support, amounting to \$50,000, just as it has for the past year."

## Continued from page 1

## International funds

He admitted that the government system suffers numerous problems, which in turn compelled the government to come up with an ambitious administrative reform project. According to Al-Arhabi, the project will take much time to improve the state's administrative system. He said Yemen has a well-known and distinct experience manifested by special implementation units and the Social Fund for Development.

"These mechanisms are competent and can operate with the help of good policies and funds management," Al-Arhabi ascertained, "Some Yemeni investment projects received international awards in recognition for their success and distinction and its experience was offered to others to learn from it."

He disclosed that human resources and both rural and basic service development top the Yemeni government's agenda, which was prioritized in light of available funding. "A six-month meeting with donors will assess work progress according to plan, as well as serve as a kind of monitoring by donors or the government. The government agreed to hold a meeting with donors every other year under the name, 'Donors Conference,' to assess what's been implemented," Al-Arhabi went on, "The London conference was different than previous conferences because it coincided with Yemen's efforts to join the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)."

Yassin Sa'eed Noman, Secretary-General of the Yemeni Socialist Party

(YSP), confirmed that the opposition values all government efforts thus far expended in tackling economic issues, indicating that tackling the country's economic situation is everyone's duty.

According to Noman, both opposition and civil community forces seek partnership in mechanisms aimed at improving the economy but they don't seek government posts. He stressed the necessity of implementing comprehensive national reforms, as previously discussed in a Joint Meeting Parties (JMP) project.

Islah Party Secretary-General Abdulwahab Al-Anisi ascertained that Al-Arhabi's remarks were objective and he urged concerned parties to create a national partnership base. "Reforms concern everyone. Everyone has the right to participate in implementing political and economic reforms to create a better future for Yemen," Al-Anisi stated, "It's impossible to separate political reform from economic or social reforms."

"For the government to carry out real reform, it should get closer to citizens and establish a partnership with them," Sultan Al-Atwani, Secretary-General of the Nasserite Unionist Organization, added, "Fighting corruption and reforming the state administrative system can help make extra money available to fund development projects." He pointed out that the Yemeni government responds to conditions set by other nations, but doesn't consider any advice from local parties.

## Political participation of women

Al-Hamdani was surprised at the end of the electoral process, saying men instead of women were voting for her, especially educated ones. "Although I lost the office, I think I established democracy in people's minds," she concluded. Yemeni political life recently witnessed a huge action on the level of women's political issues. Many demonstrations were organized and a lot of talks were held to promote women's political positions and encourage female nominations.

But there were a lot of struggles for women in the elections. "We documented all of the violations against women. We also met political parties and requested their support in the last elections. Additionally, we supported independent candidates with YR 100,000 each," said Suha Ba Shareen from the Watan Coalition.

Concerning obstacles standing before women in their struggle for their political rights and the solutions to such obstacles, Husniya Al-Qadri said, "The

position of women is frustrating and without help from the political parties, women's positions won't improve. We should have a quiet and logical dialogue with the parties. We also should gain the support of men. Al-Qadri is hoping that support will come through dialogue.

"If we break down the cultural silence within our society and fruitfully talk with the parties, we'll see competitive female Members of Parliament in the next election," she said. "Women should be distinguished in their work so they will reflect a nice picture of themselves in society's eyes."

The symposium recommended a meeting with leaders' wives to discuss women's Issues and try and gain the leaders support through their wives the Women National Committee committed themselves to this initiative. It also recommended publishing a book illustrating the stories of women who ventured in political life and stood as candidates in previous elections, a publication which will be lead by Yemen Times.



## North Korea sets terms for nuclear halt

BEIJING (Reuters) - North Korea wants sanctions dropped and the United States to free its overseas bank accounts as preconditions for dismantling its nuclear programme, Yonhap news agency said on Wednesday, terms likely to become a sticking point in negotiations.

North Korean envoy Kim Kye-gwan made the demands in meetings in Beijing on Tuesday with representatives of other countries in six-party talks on ending the North's nuclear weapons programme, the South Korean news agency said, citing a source in Beijing.

North Korea agreed to return to the talks -- which involve South Korea, China, Japan, Russia and the United States -- after its first ever nuclear test last month triggered U.N.-backed sanctions.

U.S. officials have said they want North Korea, without condition, to stand by last year's agreement in which it said it was committed "to abandoning all nuclear weapons and existing nuclear programmes". In return, the other nations held out economic, political and security incentives.

Pyeongyang agreed to return to the talks after Washington said it was willing to address its concerns about financial restrictions, tightened in September 2005 when U.S. regulators named a Macau bank, Banco Delta



North Korean soldiers talk at the truce village of Panmunjom in the demilitarized zone which separates the two Koreas, about 55 km north of Seoul, in this Nov. 23 file photo. North Korea wants sanctions dropped and the United States to free its overseas bank accounts as preconditions for dismantling its nuclear programme, Yonhap news agency said on Wednesday, terms likely to become a sticking point in negotiations. REUTERS

Asia, as a conduit for illicit North Korean cash from currency counterfeiting and drug trafficking.

But the North has also said it would be unthinkable for it to return to talks

until the United States ended the financial restrictions.

"Kim called on the U.S. at a Tuesday meeting to re-open its frozen accounts at Banco Delta Asia, a lifting of the U.N. resolution against the North and the end of individual sanctions as preconditions for its dismantling its nuclear weapons," Yonhap quoted the source as saying.

U.S. General B.B. Bell, the head of U.S. forces in South Korea, said on Wednesday that the North was building nuclear weapons for political blackmail.

"I'm not worried about their nukes militarily," Bell said. "I see this as a political instrument much more so than I see it as a military instrument."

"The North has built nuclear weapons as an instrument of political policy in order to blackmail nations in the area."

In an address to business leaders in South Korea, Bell said he did not think the government in Pyongyang would collapse soon but that Pyongyang hoped their nuclear ambitions may cause fissures in the U.S.-South Korean military alliance.

Kim and U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Christopher Hill are scheduled to meet for a second day of talks in Beijing on Wednesday, a senior U.S. State Department official said.

"The primary purpose of this particular meeting (on Tuesday) was to talk to the North Koreans about ... what North Korea needs to do," said the official who declined to be identified.

"The operating premise here is good faith actions in return for good faith (actions)."

The Beijing talks are designed to lay the groundwork for a fresh round of six-party talks which Hill has said he hopes can be held in December.

## Two NATO soldiers killed in Afghanistan



U.S. soldiers maneuver their vehicles up a mountain during a patrol in Bagram, Afghanistan, November 16, 2006. REUTERS

KABUL (Reuters) - A roadside bomb killed two NATO soldiers in Afghanistan, as the alliance decided to increase its forces in the country to overcome a resurgent Taliban.

Tuesday's attack struck a combat patrol in Logar province, about 60 km (40 miles) south of the Kabul, NATO said.

The Taliban has launched a wave of attacks in recent days, killing six NATO soldiers in the past week.

On Monday, two Canadian soldiers died when a suicide bomber rammed his car into their convoy in the southern city of Kandahar.

NATO leaders at a summit in Riga will declare their determination on Wednesday to prevail over the Taliban, but the increase in troop

numbers is only small.

Afghanistan was the sole focus of Tuesday's working dinner at the summit in the Latvian capital, and many of the 26 member nations expressed hope the most dangerous ground mission in NATO's 57-year history could yet succeed.

A NATO spokesman said three countries had pledged more troops and a majority had agreed to ease restrictions on where and how their forces could fight in Afghanistan.

He declined to name the countries, but said they were in addition to Canada, Denmark and the Czech Republic, which have already made public pledges to increase troop levels.

"A number of nations said they will

look to increase, in some cases substantially, their financial commitments to the civilian efforts in Afghanistan -- development assistance, reconstruction," he added.

Still, several major nations made it clear they had not completely lifted restrictions.

Italian Prime Minister Romano Prodi said Italy's position on troop locations and numbers had not changed and it would only move forces "in extremis".

But France, Germany, Italy and Spain, who sparked a row by refusing calls in September to send troops to the Taliban's southern heartland, promised to send help to trouble zones outside their patches in emergencies, officials said.

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تتشرف  
المدارس التركية الدولية - عدن

ADEN

أن ترفع لسيادتكم أحر التهاني بمناسبة عيد الإستقلال الوطني المجيد الـ ٣٠ من نوفمبر، ومساهمة منا في تطوير المجال التعليمي في اليمن، سوف يتم إفتتاح المدرسة التركية الدولية - عدن في تمام الساعة التاسعة والنصف صباحاً وذلك يوم السبت الموافق ٢-١٢-٢٠٠٦م برعاية الأستاذ محافظ محافظة عدن الأخ / محمد أحمد الكحلاني

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  - b. an application must be submitted in person to the Netherlands Embassy. The applicable form can be downloaded from the Nuffic-website. The required documents (besides the admission letter) are listed on the form. Files must include these documents before presenting it to the Fellowship Officer of the Netherlands Embassy.

Please note that all stages of the procedure are free of charge. Non of the universities/institutions (Dutch or Yemeni) can or may charge you for their services.

The Netherlands Organization for International Cooperation in Higher Education (NUFFIC) administers the NFP on behalf of the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. Detailed information/brochure is available on the NUFFIC website at [www.NUFFIC.NL/NFP](http://www.NUFFIC.NL/NFP). To obtain a hard copy brochure or any further information on the Netherlands Fellowship Programme, please visit the Netherlands Embassy (tel: 01-421800) during fellowship office hours, every Sunday between 14.00 and 15.00 hours.

### The Embassy calls upon ex-alumni of the Netherlands Fellowships Programme

The embassy hereby would like to invite interested ex-alumni to contact the Netherlands Embassy

The Embassy is attempting to revive a Netherlands Alumni Association in Yemen. By subscribing to the membership of this Association, the Embassy will be able to keep you informed on relevant developments with regards to academic co-operation between Yemen and The Netherlands and on events which may be of interest to Yemenis who spent some time in our country. The Embassy, or the Association itself, may organize social events where Yemeni alumni can meet and exchange experiences, with each other or with Dutch citizens.

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## Hussein Hazib:

# Anyone who fights corruption faces corruption

An interview with Hussein Hazib, head of Sana'a governorate's Education Office.

By: Mohammed Al-Jabri

**How do you assess girls' education in the countryside and to what extent is their turnout in education?**

The problem here lies in the methods that encourage girls' education. Educational institutions aren't established in a way that encourages girls to join. Also, the number of female teachers in the countryside is insufficient. The biggest problem for girls begins when they reach seventh grade because that's where they're forbidden or unwilling to continue their education because the teacher is male. The government is monitoring this issue and trying to address it, but requirements thus far haven't been met.

The problem will remain as such, however, if girls in the countryside aren't given job opportunities. We notice that after women receive job posts, they complain to the Sana'a governor or the head of the Education Office that they can only work in the city of Sana'a. It's a big problem, indeed. I can say that the girls' educational level in Sana'a governorate is good, as 28 to 38 percent are in school, but truancy still occurs when they reach ninth grade.

**The beginning of this academic year began slowly. What mechanism ensures that the curriculum is taught and finished on time?**

Well, we've made much effort and increased the number of classes, as shown in their class timetable. Last September, people were very busy with the elections, although it involved only one day for them to vote. Then came Ramadan, followed by the eid vacation. But after that, we sent supervising teams into schools and everyone (including teachers) felt like they had lost part of this academic year but should continue their efforts at that stage.

**Compared to last year, has the**



Hussein Hazib speaking to Yemen Times reporter, Mohammed Al-Jabri.



Mr. Hussein Hazib

**education situation improved and what are your aims this year?**

The situation is better than last year in many aspects. In fact, we've had various aims since my 2004 appointment as head of this office. First, we found an administrative flaw, wherein some employees were teaching in one location while receiving their salaries in another, but we overcome this problem. Further, we reformed the office's relationship with the Ministry of Finance, as well as incorporated society into educational issues. Citizens also are our aim because we're keen to bring the educational experience to them.

We now meet with local councils in each district and [prominent] social figures, where we clarify educational issues and problems for them. We ask [the local councils] to be cooperative because we've authorized them to discuss these problems, including lack of textbooks, chairs, etc. We found the local councils very approachable and responsive. However, at the same time, they were surprised to realize that they bear part of the responsibility for faults in the education process because they didn't follow up education workers in their districts.

Another issue involves chairs. This year, no student will study without a chair. The Minister of Education first announced this aim and we've achieved most of it. Other aims include managing final exams, which previously didn't go smoothly. A few years ago, a day before final exams approached, thousands of students searched in vain for their exam notices in order to be allowed to sit an exam and complete their education files. But thank God, we didn't have this problem last year because we made much effort.

We also aim to convince local councils to allocate society's [financial] allocations for educational institutions because there are no allocations for such institutions. We also work toward achieving the Ministry of Education's aims.

**Why do some localities and villages still lack sufficient numbers of teachers?**

Sana'a governorate isn't attractive for teachers. Secondly, this governorate's students don't study the most required specializations, like math and English. Most teachers are hired from other governorates to teach here. However, some of these teachers teach for a short time and then look for influential figures in order to teach in other locations. Locals want a school in each village without considering how to provide teachers for them.

Expanding the school system without teachers figures prominently, especially as there are teachers who move to other governorates without finding replacements for them. Sana'a is the only governorate from which teachers move, but to which no teacher is moved into. To tackle this issue, we designated only one day in August to allow those teachers with legal exceptions to move to other governorates.

Also, as a teacher is hired to teach a specific specialization, we often find that a sheikh, prominent social figure or a political party will move that teacher to work in administration but not teaching.

We now insist that only six people work in every administrative department while others teach. Also, we oblige headmasters and their deputies to teach half the number of classes as ordinary teachers. We also insist on bringing schools together into one district, an issue we put before local councils.

Other problems include the stance of local councils, as they hold themselves separate from teachers: they don't blame teachers who don't perform their tasks. [The Education Office] no longer is directly responsible for this, so we should ask the local councils to do this, not vice versa.

**Sana'a governorate teachers are teaching subjects in which they're not specialized. What's your comment on this?**

Headmasters and heads of educational centers commit such violations. We don't accept such behavior and we punish those who

allow it. In fact, the reason for this is that teachers specialized in needed subjects don't prefer to work in certain schools.

**Headmasters and heads of educational centers bear diplomas or high school certificates. On what basis do you appoint them?**

This is the result of the past few decades. What we do now is appoint only those who meet the requirements and deal with current headmasters and district heads fairly. If they work well, it's OK. Many were appointed when they had only a high school certificate, but they continued their higher education.

**To what extent do you depend on decentralization in running the Education Office?**

We're perhaps the only sector applying a decentralized system. I can say frankly that no other sector except education has applied decentralization fully. We ask local councils and the committee assigned to amend local authority law in order to set strict regulations regarding the technical and educational side, which should be assigned to the Education Office.

When a district head or local council secretary-general appoints a teacher or an inspector, that's not within his authority. People mix education tasks with administrative and financial tasks. The latter should be within the local authority, whereas education should be centralized. If any official can direct and issue orders, then things won't go well.

While decentralization has reduced our problems, it has created others. The reason for this is misunderstanding of the law, but I support a decentralized system.

**Why do many Sana'a governorate teachers do their work while wearing traditional dress?**

Many schoolteachers don't adhere to wearing official uniforms, coming to work in their traditional clothes. I have this problem even at this office where I issued orders not to allow any education worker to enter unless he's in official uniform. We would be considered oppressors if we oblige students to wear school uniforms while teachers don't.

*the girls' educational level in Sana'a governorate is good, as 28 to 38 percent are in school, but truancy still occurs when they reach ninth grade.*

**What are the main problems you encounter in the Education Office?**

There are three main problems. The first involves us (education workers) and is represented by negligence in our performance. The second problem regards society, which has two sides: one related to tribal-social problems and the other represented by tribal, social and partisan interests. When we inaugurate schools or



Hazib explains that the Education Office has seen many improvements since 2004.

announce vacant jobs, these problems come to the forefront, but we handle them quietly.

The third problem involves those higher than us and who direct us. We sometimes have differences with them but, thank God, we cope with them easily. However, a bigger problem occurs when we talk about those [officials] equal to us in the Ministry of Civil Service and the Ministry of Finance, who go outside their duties and the law, as if only they are honest.

I think the one who appointed me to head the Education Office was wrong to do so without giving me the power to order a pay out of even 10 riyals. Therefore, I can say that when the office was authorized to sign checks, the faults were very few, but today's faults are bigger. These issues aren't codified, but rather, they go according to mood. Anyway, the financial system never complies with the current situation, so they should review it.

**Why is the educational level of Sana'a governorate students deteriorating?**

I think I referred to this issue above. The problem also exists when high school and diploma graduates teach students basic education without knowing what good education means. Students in Sana'a governorate live within five walls: the four walls of the classroom and the fifth is the teacher.

**Are there any private schools in Sana'a governorate?**

Very few, but the Capital Secretariat's Education Office granted them licenses. There aren't more than seven such schools, but we'll work to shut them down until they come under this office.

**Is it true that there are teachers still receiving their salaries while they're at home or working other jobs, with the understanding that heads of educational centers and headmasters will share their salaries?**

You should ask this question of the local councils because they've been responsible for paying teacher

salaries since 2002, so they must follow up such cases. If we discover any case like this, we take strict measures against such individuals. The question of whether heads of educational centers or headmasters share the salaries of these teachers is an accusation that exists, but without evidence. We're convinced it's there and we've worked to overcome such problems. In fact, yesterday, we agreed with the higher postal authority that teachers will receive their salaries at post offices. There are no allocations for educational institutions because this is a door to corruption.

*Students in Sana'a governorate live within five walls: the four walls of the classroom and the fifth is the teacher.*

**Is it true, as some say, that the Sana'a governorate's Educational Office is famous for corruption?**

The changes for the better we've recently made have affected the interests of many. For example, when we decided not to allow teachers to move to other governorates and when we solved the problem of final exams, this also affected the interests of many people. [These people] now want to insult us with charges of corruption. I challenge – in the literal sense of the word – anyone to bring evidence that we're corrupt in. They can't because there's no evidence. I admit that there are shortcomings regarding employees' attendance, but people should understand that the people of Sana'a governorate come from the countryside. They come to the office between 10 a.m. and noon, after which they return home, but they still are available. We also work outside the office on weekends, during qat sessions and until late at night. Anyone saying the office is corrupt is being unfair simply because he was affected by our strict procedures. Anyone who fights corruption faces corruption and is insulted.

## Fighting swords with pens

BAGHDAD, 27 Nov 2006 (IRIN) - Freelance journalist Samir Khairallah, 31, walks a tight line between reporting the news and not becoming the news. With ongoing insurgent attacks and brutal sectarian violence plaguing the country, he must be careful about what he writes and whose 'side' he is perceived to be on.

"Iraqi journalists are in constant danger. Different groups are targeting us without any real explanation. Sometimes it is just because we have written a story that portrays different ideas to what they have," Khairallah said.

According to the Committee to

Protect Journalists (CPJ), 86 journalists (65 Iraqis and 21 foreigners) have been killed in Iraq since the US-led occupation of Iraq began in 2003. CPJ said another 36 media workers have been killed and dozens others kidnapped.

After five threats, Khairallah still works as a journalist but has moved house a number of times to stay out of the firing line of militia fighters and insurgents who have accused him of being a traitor because he works with foreign media at times.

"Foreign journalists depend on us to deliver stories to their newspapers because they cannot go out on the streets, we are ones who go under

fire. I get money for it but in the mean time they do not offer us security equipment or insurance that could support our families [if we are killed]," Khairallah said.

"Many of my colleagues have been killed in Iraq for working with foreign media or working as translators for the US army. We are considered betrayers and are given death as our sentence," he added.

Khairallah works long hours to earn enough money to support his wife and two children. With a notebook and pen in hand, he leaves his house very early in the morning to avoid Baghdad's traffic and get to his appointments on time. For five years

he has been writing for local and international media outlets.

Before the war, Khairallah was getting paid as little as \$5 per story and today he gets around \$10 from local newspapers and \$20 from international publications, but he did not want to disclose their names for security reasons.

The work is often dangerous and he must be quick on his feet to avoid any trouble.

"Sometimes I give a fake name in interviews so that I am secure [when the article is published]. Before I submit my articles to a newspaper, I read them carefully and check whether they are likely to cause a bad

reaction from any group in Iraq - because if they do, it could mean my death," Khairallah said, adding that he prefers not to have his name alongside any story he was written.

Because of the fear factor, Khairallah said that there is no press freedom in Iraq. Journalists are often forced to take one side of a story just to be sure they will not be killed.

Khairallah said he is trying to please all sides in his reporting, but said there is increasing pressure on him to choose which side he is on. He fears that he may have to change profession if he has to compromise his neutrality.

"What we really need is an

understanding in Iraq that journalists are neutral people who are simply transmitting the news to the world and not promoting more fighting and sectarian differences," he said.

Khairallah feels that he lives in the shadows of foreign journalists, who often get accolades for articles that he really gathered the bulk of the information for. He feels unappreciated. He dreams of being a famous journalist one day, and of receiving prizes for his work.

"I hope one day my name will be recognized, maybe when Iraq gets true democracy and press freedom becomes a reality and not a theory," he said.





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- Please make sure that your Application contains all the needed personal, **contact** and **qualification** information.
- Faxed or Handed In CV's will **NOT be considered**.



### WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME OF THE UNITED NATIONS (WFP) VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The WFP office in Yemen is seeking qualified candidates to fill the following vacancy in its main office in Sana'a. This post is open to Yemeni nationals; female candidates are encouraged to apply.

#### Finance and Administrative Officer (NOA):

Under the overall supervision of the Country Director and the direct supervision of the International Finance and Administrative Officer, the Finance and Administrative Officer will be responsible for the management of Finance, Administration, Human Resources Operations related to the Country Office and three sub-offices which shall include but not limited to the following:

#### A) Finance:

- Tracking and monitoring of all funds received by Country office to ensure cost effective management.
- Identifies problems in financial and administrative areas and suggest alternative solutions to resolve issues in compliance with WFP policies, rules and procedures.
- Prepare and submit financial and administrative reports regularly.
- Provide guidance and coaching to CO staff on the application of relevant financial and administrative rules, procedures, and systems.
- Set up proper account procedures and systems.
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#### B) Administration:

- In charge of major administrative tasks related to procurement of office equipments and vehicles and responsible for coordination with UN agencies regarding Common Services/Premises to ensure work performed according to standardized specification and directives.
- Ensure travel arrangements for all WFP staff including project staff in and outside the country.
- Advise Country Director and Senior staff on extensions, transfers, establishment and abolition of posts, as well as monitor the appropriate use of various types of employee contracts.
- Perform other related tasks as required.

#### Essential qualifications:

Advanced University Degree in Business Administration, public administration and Management Degree with advanced training courses in management and finance.

#### Experience and Skills:

- At least five to six years experience in administration and finance, preferably with International organization and/or with private sector.
- Advanced computer skills.
- Good drafting skills in Arabic and English.
- Good Leadership and Managerial Skills.
- Ability to work under pressure and meet deadlines.
- Ability to work in a multicultural environment with a good understanding of local customs and traditions.

Interested applicants should deliver their applications along with their detailed CV's in English.

All applications to be submitted to the WFP office in Sana'a not later than **08 December 2006** in closed envelope clearly marked:

(Application for Finance/Admin Officer Vacancy, at WFP Sana'a) at the following address: World Food Programme, Sana'a, Villa No. 22 - Nwakhut St. St. No. 21, Diplomatic Area, P.O. Box 7181, Republic of Yemen. Tel: 01 214100/101, Fax: 01 205515.



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القلبية إلى فخامة الأخ المشير /

### علي عبدالله صالح

رئيس الجمهورية اليمنية

وإلى اللواء الركن /

عبد ربه منصور هادي

نائب رئيس الجمهورية

وإلى رئيس وأعضاء مجلس النواب

وإلى رئيس وأعضاء مجلس الوزراء

وإلى رئيس وأعضاء مجلس الشورى

وإلى محافظي المحافظات والقيادات الأمنية

والعسكرية

وإلى كافة أبناء الشعب اليمني الكريم بهذه

المناسبة الغالية ..

التي نسأل الله أن يعيدها علينا وعلى وطننا الحبيب

بالخير والتقدم والازدهار

وكل عام وشعبنا ووطننا بألف بخير

## مجموعة هائل سعيد أنعم و شركاه

عنهم :

علي محمد سعيد أنعم

رئيس مجلس الإدارة

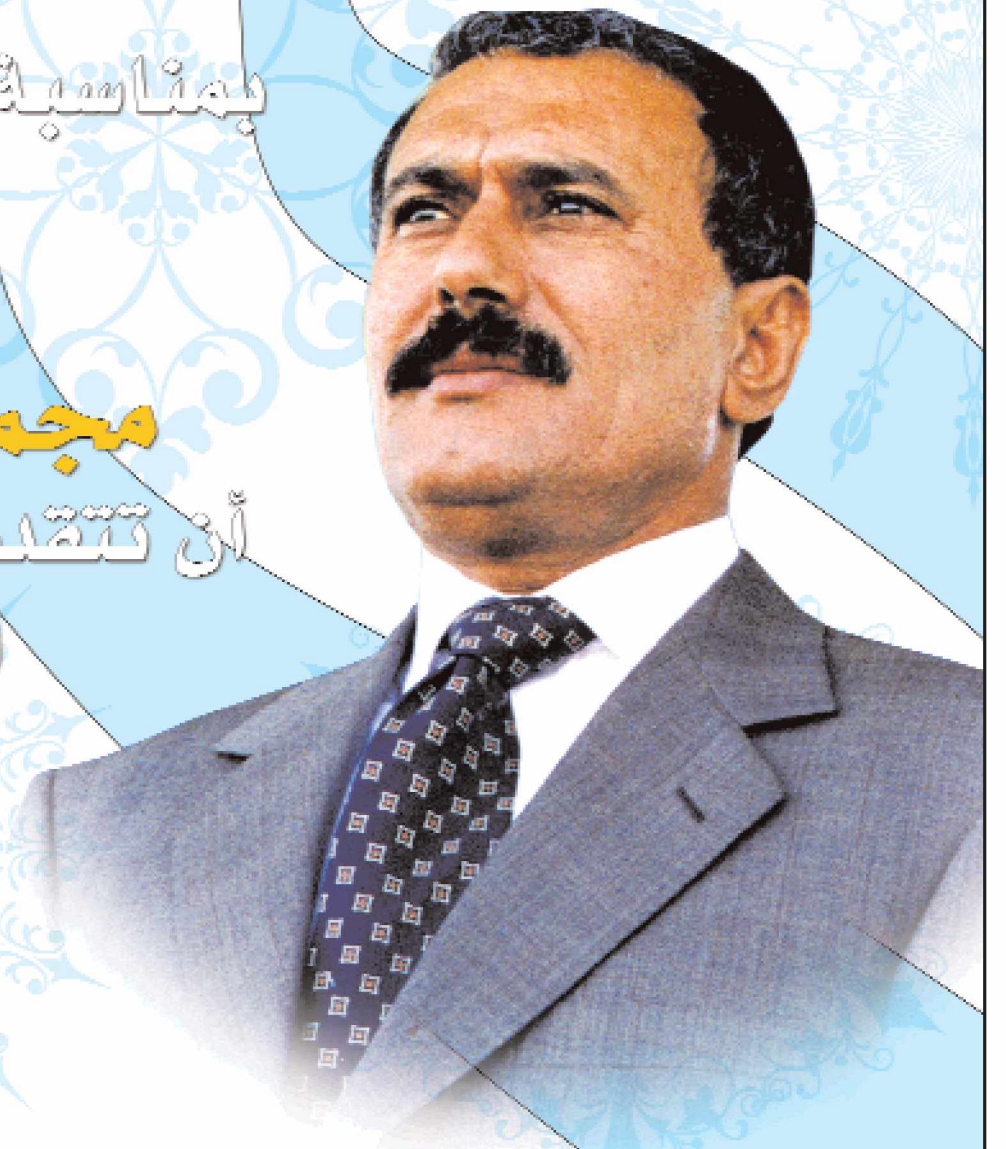
أحمد هائل سعيد أنعم

نائب رئيس مجلس الإدارة

المدير العام



FSA



30 November



On the occasion of issue 1000:

## A better Yemen remains our mission

When I looked at the eyes of many employees in the evening of June 2, 1999, I could sense a feeling of anger mixed with anxiety and determination. How couldn't they be feeling that way as they heard the shocking news about the sudden death of the founder and editor-in-chief of Yemen Times in a mysterious traffic accident a few hundred meters away from the premises?



By: Walid Al-Saqqaf

achieve the mission drawn by the founder – make Yemen a better country.

While we celebrate the 1000th issue of the paper, I can only look back to see that we have indeed come a long way from where Al-Saqqaf left us more than seven years ago. But I'm still not satisfied.

We are all not yet satisfied with the level of the newspaper and the pace it is in to achieve its goals. Yet again, one thousand editions is merely the beginning to produce a stronger and more professional independent newspaper that can be more influential.

But to be realistic, one must seriously consider the challenges that lie ahead.

One of the gravest challenges that Yemen Times is facing, and so are all Yemeni private media for that matter, is the continuing repression of journalists and the shrinking margin of press freedom.

The cruel and unjustifiable court sentence issued on Saturday against colleague Kamal Al-Olofi of Al-Rai Al-Aam news-

paper is yet another grim reminder of those challenges. Al-Olofi was sentenced to a one-year prison term, a fine, and ban from writing and his newspaper was ordered to be closed down. This comes while many lawsuits against journalists are in Yemeni courts.

Hardships facing private newspapers and journalists go beyond legal cases. The grim reality is that Yemen is heading to catastrophe in terms of economic sustainability. Yemen and a few more countries were listed among those failed states that could, at any time, collapse. Journalists have already been leaving the country seeking better opportunities abroad. The regime has been turning a blind eye to the deliberate intimidation of the opposition press, with little measures taken against violators. It should not be surprising therefore to find journalists seeking asylum in other countries.

All of these developments suggest the country must head in a new direction. Yemen Times, along with other responsible media outlets must push to that direction. The press has always been seen as a watchdog and a defender of people's rights

to live with dignity, health, and hope for a better future.

During his presidential campaign Saleh had a very long list of promises to the people. Yemen Times will have to do more investigative stories that focus on the president's performance in implementing his own program and hold him accountable on behalf of the people. And I believe this is what it will be doing.

This will be a tribute to Yemeni citizens, all the loyal readers and parties involved in the production and sustainability of the newspaper.

The Times will work to play its noble role in making Yemen a better country. It is the role set by its founder more than 15 years ago when he said, "We use the Yemen Times to make Yemen a good world citizen."

Together we shall make this part of our mission... and rise to the occasion.

*Walid Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf is the eldest son of Dr. Al-Saqqaf, founder of the Yemen Times. He is a Yemeni journalist and was Editor-in-Chief of the Yemen Times previously.*

## COMMON SENSE

## The price of democracy and foreign connivance in Lebanon

It is hard not difficult to understand why Lebanon must undergo continuous crisis. This ongoing series of crisis, range from the political tic-for-tat we can expect from competing domestic political forces, to unlimited warfare, with outside forces involved. To get a gist of what is going on in Lebanon, one needs to understand that Lebanon was once a part of the Greater Syria area or the Levant. In other words, not since the days of the great Phoenician Empire, which even posed a challenge to the then growing might of Rome, Lebanon has hardly been an independent state.

Usually, it was run under the administrative structure that governed Syria, Lebanon Jordan and Palestine, whether under regional Arab rule in the days when the Arabs could see themselves as being a uniform region in the early days of Islam to the days of Ottoman predominance. The Crusades had a strong influence in giving Lebanon traits making it somewhat different from the other Levantine partners. Then the French mandate of Greater Syria, Syria and Lebanon only, after the Sykes-Picot agreement between the United Kingdom and France, secretly arranged during World War I to chop up the Middle East to suit the interests of the then dominant imperialist powers, helped to reinforce the Christian influence in Lebanon.

Through a special formula of dividing authority among the various factions of Lebanon as an independent state, Lebanon managed to survive a couple of decades of peaceful coexistence up to the early 1960s, when the demographics began to change in favor of the less fortunate Shiites and their Sunni brothers. But then the more deprived factions began to seek more political power and more access to economic prosperity, which was mostly confined to the Christian factions.

When the Palestine Liberation Organization moved from Jordan to Lebanon this managed to tip the delicate factional balance of power which has maintained a relative peace between the Lebanese ethnic groups, the Civil War dragged Lebanon into an abyss of ongoing problems and even the withdrawal of the PLO did not help alleviate problems. With the PLO gone, the Shiites were quickly able to organize into a decisively effective political and military force. While the Syrian presence might have helped expedite this development somewhat, surely the generally democratic environment was the major reason for allowing Hezbollah to reach prominence, not only domestically but regionally as well, proving even to be a deadly deterrent against Israeli nuisance and mischief.

What transpires from now on will definitely have an important regional impact, but one is inclined to believe that if left alone, the Lebanese can work out their troubles. While many have pointed to the Syrians for the latest assassination, even before any serious investigations have confirmed such, one should not rule out that Israel has the ability and the conniving spirit to wreak havoc in Lebanon, even by murdering its officials. Surely, foreign investigators have come to realize the strong possibility of Israeli involvement in several assassinations in Lebanon, including the death of Eli Hobeika, who was once a chummy ally of no other than Ariel Sharon. Furthermore the free atmosphere of Lebanon, coupled by the weak domestic government intelligence apparatus, allows Israel considerable leeway for Mossad operations. Nowadays, keeping Lebanon in perpetual crisis, means keeping Hezbollah occupied from continuing to compromise the now proven superficial might that Israel used to paint as being perpetual and invincible.

The timing of the recent assassination of Pierre Gemayal would lead the observer to believe that none of the other influential forces in and outside of Lebanon have to gained from such an act more than the fruits that Israel would hope to harvest, principally draw Hezbollah into an intertwined domestic battle, while it concentrates on trying to find a way out of its unrelenting battle with the embattled and impoverished Palestinians, whom it has to negotiate with now, while the Palestinians are at their lowest position of weakness, politically and economically, thanks to the last five years of broad scale misery as only the Zionist machine can churn out.

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

By: Hassan Al-Haifi

## Unforgettable love and wishes for continued success

My wholehearted congratulations to the Yemen Times, the widespread English-language newspaper, its Editor-in-Chief Nadia Al-Saqqaf and all of my fellow staff members on hitting its 1,000th issue last week.

Because my memories and experience with the Yemen Times are deep-rooted and date back more than seven years, I find it difficult to talk about all of them in one article, so I'll only concentrate only on those major memories.

When I first came to Yemen from Iraq in the final quarter of 1999, the Yemen Times was my first destination in looking for a job. I visited the previous editor-in-chief and my current close friend, Walid Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf, who was very hospitable and understanding. I introduced myself and presented my resume and papers in the process of applying for a job.

A few days after our first meeting, I was happy to hear that I'd been appointed the newspaper's deputy editor-in-chief. That's my first beautiful and successful memory with the Yemen Times, after which I embarked on my serious hard-working journey with this esteemed newspaper.

From my first day at the newspaper on Nov. 1, 1999, I found it to be a well-organized media institution regarding its editorial, administrative and distribution departments, in addition to being fully computerized. I spent several days reading previous issues of the Yemen Times, especially those published in the days of its founder, the late Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf, in order to gain a fuller understanding of its beginnings and the standards with which it had begun.

In doing so, I discovered that the Yemen Times is a well-established newspaper with professional journalistic style

in covering news stories, reports and opinion articles dealing with societal problems and daring to criticize mistakes and shortcomings in citizens' everyday lives without neglecting to present solutions.

This means it isn't a newspaper concerned with criticizing simply for the sake of criticism – this is what's termed constructive criticism. This explains why the newspaper has a large and widespread readership. I also discovered that its founder exerted great efforts to establish this leading Yemeni press institution, at which he really excelled.

The experiment of working for an independent private-sector newspaper was new to me because in Iraq, where I previously was editor-in-chief of the Baghdad Observer, a state-run English-language daily, I wasn't used to this type of journalism, which differs in style and policy. Therefore, it took me some time to adapt to this new experiment.

I tried hard to start and be successful in this new experience. Gradually, my writing has taken on a different style and shape in the way of tackling social woes and analyzing political events.

I really loved my new job and the working atmosphere, beginning from the editor-in-chief, Walid, to every one of the editorial staff and the rest of the newspaper staff, all of whom are cooperative, friendly and work as a harmonious team.

In particular, the former editor-in-chief and I gathered very cooperative and harmonious staffers who worked hard to continuously introduce new ideas for the newspaper's development in every aspect, especially from an editorial standpoint. We used to discuss in detail any step we wanted to take in this regard, cal-



By: Mohammed Khidr

culating all possibilities for success or failure. We never rushed anything.

The Yemen Times previously published once a week, every Monday. After working at the newspaper for approximately two years, it came to my mind to suggest publishing twice a week. The editor received the idea cautiously, so we decided to study all of the aspects thoroughly.

After much thought and a full study, the idea was submitted at a meeting including the editorial staff and the technical, advertising and finance departments. Every department offered their opinion, which enriched the proposal, and all endorsed a decision to embark on the new project, which later saw light and succeeded.

As illustrated in the abovementioned example, the Yemen Times depends on a very good management style that seeks input from all staff to assure cooperation and success in any project proposed in the newspaper's favor.

However, printing the Yemen Times previously was a real problem, as it was printed at various printing presses, which meant taking the newspaper's final films to the printer and being at its mercy regarding timing and print quality, especially for colored photos. Many times, the paper was late to newsstands, bookshops and subscribers, which is very dangerous to the newspaper's credibility. For this reason, issues must be distributed very early within the capital city and the governorates.

Therefore, the Yemen Times was forced to change its printer and accept its own terms of contract agreement. Here again, we discussed the idea of the newspaper having its own printing press, the



By Samer A.

## Letters to the Editor

## New world body in view of Veto-crazy of U.N.!

The problem of veto and the inhuman attitude of the present United Nations vis-à-vis Palestinian problem can be solved only when:

- A) Truly secular polices are followed by U.N. One fails to understand that why the people in Israel and Palestine (Jews & Muslims) cannot live together in one country? It was a blunder to have conceived different countries on the basis of different religions.
- B) Either U.N. is revamped and Vetoless U.N. is reconstituted (or another such world body comes into existence) on the basis of ideology reduced to legal form for the enforcement of Human Rights based on the dignity, freedom & liberty of all the human beings on the concept of international sovereignty in contrast to national sovereignty.

But international sovereignty can be exercised and it means something, only when it realizes:

- 1) International sovereignty is basically commitment to non-violence and is the result of scientific mind which characterizes the confident contemporary mankind, immensely empowered by mind blowing advancement in science and technology thus ridding it of the fear of nature and of uncertainties of subsistence.
- 2) Any sovereignty is not confined to merely civil activities and measures of state through police and administration but essentially depends on ultimate exercise of martial power (all the three armed forces of land, air and marine).
- 3) International sovereignty means nothing if there is no international body like the U.N. to exercise this sovereignty with the constitutional consent and its mandated help of international

armed forces contributed by the member states themselves.

- 4) International sovereignty is a democratic legal system whereas national sovereignty is an imperialist political system.

Though U.N. was constituted precisely on the principle of international sovereignty, but the U.N. has defeated its entire purpose by:

- 1) The greed and over optimism of bringing all the countries under one umbrella without realizing that first of all international sovereignty will have to fight against national sovereignty for its survival.
- 2) Making the mess of HR by incorporating political and other cheap populist rights in various covenants of the U.N. with its member states.
- 3) By not giving any importance to the enforcement of HR.

Hem Raj Jain  
Dwarka, New Delhi

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## Policies:

- All opinion articles that have not been written by Yemen Times staff on the Opinion, Op-Ed and Youth pages do not necessarily represent the newspaper's opinion and hence YT could not be held accountable for their consequences.  
- Letters to the Editor must include your name, mailing address, or email address. The editor reserves the right to edit all submissions for clarity, style, and length.  
- Submissions will not be returned to the writer under any circumstance.  
- For information on advertising, contact the advertising department at any of the Yemen Times' offices



*Arab satellite media***Al-Jazeera: The enigma from Qatar**

**On 1 November 1996 the Arab news network al-Jazeera started broadcasting from Qatar. Its bold news coverage sent shockwaves through the Arab world, and soon became the target of stinging criticism from both Western and Arab governments.**

By: Larissa Bender

**T**aysir Alony has made a name for himself. When the Taliban destroyed the Bamiyan Buddha statues in March 2001, the star reporter from al-Jazeera was the only journalist to film their destruction, and the images were seen by viewers around the world.

Today moviegoers can see "The Giant Buddhas", a documentary film by German filmmaker Christian Frei that explores the story of the famous Buddha statues. Taysir Alony is also interviewed in the film. And when the US launched a military campaign against the Taliban after 9/11, Taysir Alony was the only journalist to report live from the front.

*"al-Jazeera" is recognized around the globe. It has become the 5th most recognized international brand, ranking behind household names like Apple, Google, Ikea, and Starbucks.*

#### Exclusive broadcast rights agreement with CNN

That live news coverage from Afghanistan made the Qatar-based satellite news network al-Jazeera world famous. Images from Afghanistan made their way into German homes, and CNN signed an exclusive broadcast rights agreement with al-Jazeera.

Five years later and ten years after the founding of the world's leading Arab satellite news network on 1 November 1996, "al-Jazeera" is recognized around the globe. It has become the 5th most recognized international brand, ranking behind household names like Apple, Google, Ikea, and Starbucks.

Al-Jazeera has established a worldwide network of bureaus and correspondents and launched a number of subsidiary channels, including three sports channels, a documentary channel, a live channel, and a children's channel. Viewers who are particularly keen on staying informed on world events can subscribe to al-Jazeera Mobile and receive text messages on their cell phones. An estimated 40 to 50 million Arab-speaking viewers regularly watch the network.

#### Circumventing censorship

An English-language channel has been in the planning for over a year and will soon provide non-Arab viewers with news and information from – and about – the Arab world. On 26 March 2003, the TV station was

honored with a special prize from the British organization "Index on Censorship" for its courage in circumventing censorship.

This groundbreaking TV channel funded by the Qatari government owes its meteoric rise in popularity to the professionalism of its staff and its determination to produce a counterbalance to CNN and BBC for the Arab "man on the street." When the Emir of Qatar launched al-Jazeera, 80% of the staff were former employees of the BBC World Service's short-lived Arab Language TV station, and the new Qatari channel immediately sought to break the Western news monopoly on reporting for the Arab world.

#### The Arab CNN

Only two years later, during the allied attack on Iraq in 1998, al-Jazeera correspondents were the only journalists to report live from Baghdad. People around the world started to talk about the "Arab CNN."

For the first time in the Arab world, a news channel had gone on the air that was not afraid to tackle controversial issues. The broadcasters had taken up the cause of promoting democratization in the Arab world and advocating human rights, and they worked to break political and social taboos.

Talk shows with names like "presenting the other side" and "more than one opinion" were a novelty in the Arab world, offering various points of view and, for the first time ever, giving Arab opposition leaders a platform to express their ideas – all of this in a part of the world where the media is normally strictly controlled and censored by the state.

#### Interviews with Israeli experts, journalists, politicians

At the same time, al-Jazeera was the first Arab TV station to let Israeli experts, journalists, and politicians have their say. All this boosted the credibility of the new TV station and established new journalistic standards for the Arab world.

But the network soon came under criticism. For instance, its exclusive coverage – in 1998 in Iraq and later on in Afghanistan – raised many questions as al-Jazeera was the only news channel accepted by the governments of these countries. The station was accused of being too close to the Taliban and Saddam Hussein.

It was a similar story during the Iraq war in 2003. Critics argued that up until the overthrow of Saddam Hussein, al-Jazeera had devoted virtually no airtime to the Iraqi opposition.

The Baghdad bureau of the Qatar-based TV station has been closed

since August 2005. Governments in countries like Kuwait, Algeria, and Jordan also have their difficulties with the station – and Saudi Arabia has never allowed al-Jazeera reporters to work in the country.

*During a US air strike on the Baghdad headquarters of al-Jazeera in 2003, a journalist and a technician were killed during a broadcast.*

#### Trouble with the US

Even the US has had trouble accepting the media competition from Qatar. Images of US soldiers killed in action and civilian casualties in Afghanistan and Iraq clearly contradicted the official "mission-accomplished" rhetoric of the US administration, which endorsed the notion of "surgical" military operations. Time and again, the station's coverage led to US accusations of "false reporting," and in 2001 the al-Jazeera bureau in Kabul was even destroyed in a US air raid.

During a US air strike on the Baghdad headquarters of al-Jazeera in 2003, a journalist and a technician were killed during a broadcast.

#### Mouthpiece for top terrorists

But the most severe allegations ever made against al-Jazeera were that it has allowed itself to be used as a mouthpiece for top terrorists like Osama bin Laden and Aiman al-Zawahiri. Abu Musab al-Zarqawi and other terrorist groups in Iraq. The network has received a number of videos showing terrorists threatening to kill hostages, and videos from terrorists claiming responsibility for attacks.

*Five years after September 11th, two of the masterminds behind the attacks were allowed to give their farewell speech to the world, thanks to al-Jazeera.*

Some of this footage has been broadcast in full length and with the original sound. It was only after stinging international criticism that al-Jazeera changed its policies and only played excerpts of the tapes.

Yet even short film sequences can have a powerful impact on young Arab youths who are unemployed, have few prospects for the future, and harbor a hatred for their own governments and "the West."

#### Musab al-Zarqawi, terrorist and trend-setter

In April of this year, al-Jazeera broadcast clips all day long of a video that it had received from Abu Musab al-Zarqawi. It showed the terrorist leader of the Iraqi al-Qaida group as he walked through the desert, armed

to the teeth, and explained to his virtual viewers how it was the duty of every Muslim to resist the occupying forces. He was dressed in black and wore his trademark wool cap.

A few days later, an Arab newspaper published an article about a new phenomenon that had emerged in the Palestinian occupied territories, where many youths had started to wear so-called al-Zarqawi caps as a new-found symbol of resistance!

Just a few weeks ago, shortly before the fifth anniversary of 9/11, Osama bin Laden again used al-Jazeera to address his latest message to the world. The network had received a video tape with almost 90 minutes of material, produced by al-Qaida's own media production company "as-Sahab," complete with English subtitles. Some of the broadcast excerpts showed Osama bin Laden with Ramzi bin al-Shibh, who is currently in US custody, as the two men apparently planned the attacks of September 2001.

Five years after September 11th, two of the masterminds behind the attacks were allowed to give their farewell speech to the world, thanks to al-Jazeera. In response to widespread condemnation for showing such videos, the station stands by its claim that it only broadcasts material that is newsworthy.

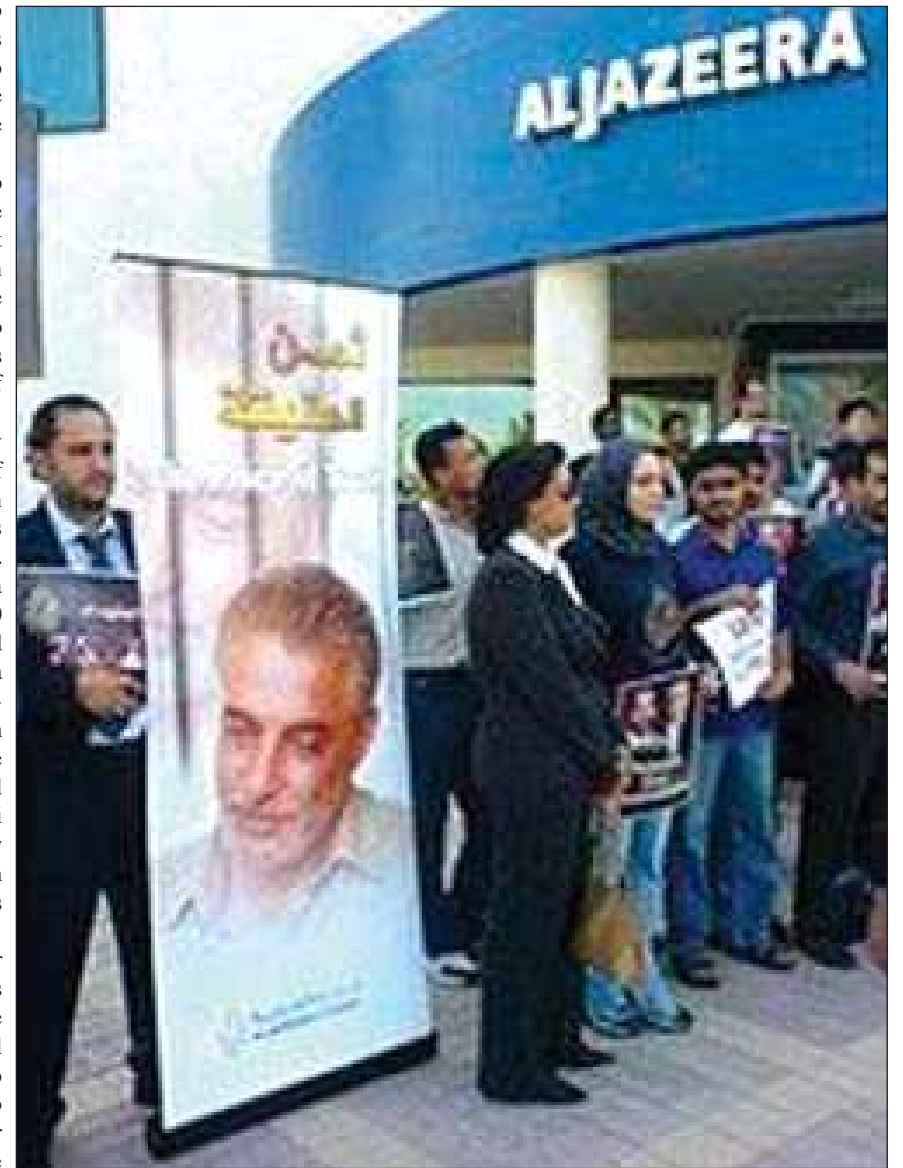
#### Showing graphic and disturbing footage

Another source of criticism has been the station's policy of showing shockingly graphic images, including mutilated corpses and severely injured soldiers and civilians, images that most Europeans would consider an affront to human dignity. Footage of the recent fighting in Lebanon was particularly disturbing. The al-Jazeera bureau chief in Berlin justified the broadcasting of such pictures by pointing out that different cultures have different ways of dealing with death.

"This business of violating a dead person's dignity when you show his body is a Western notion. Nothing like that exists in the Arab world," said Aktham Suliman, head of al-Jazeera Germany, in an interview with Qantara.de.

#### Increasing loss of independence?

Recently a number of Arab intellectuals have criticized the network from an entirely different perspective. They accuse al-Jazeera of allowing itself to be increasingly manipulated by the Muslim Brotherhood. The Tunisian lawyer and journalist Khaled Choukat, who



An event in support of jailed al-Jazeera star reporter Taysir Alony, who was convicted by a Spanish court of acting as an al-Qaida courier.

lives in Rotterdam, is among the most outspoken critics.

He maintains that the station has lost its independence and "has been reduced to a political and ideological organization that merely proclaims its points of view to Arab viewers." He goes one step further when he writes: "Al-Jazeera has been hijacked by the international Muslim Brotherhood organization (...), loyalty to the organization has now taken priority over the professionalism of staff members."

Choukat also leaves no doubt that the Islamic scholar Yusuf al-Qaradawi is the man behind this development.

Yusuf al-Qaradawi, who likes to think of himself as a proponent of a "moderate Islam," has been with al-Jazeera right from the beginning with his regular Sunday program, "Islamic Law and Life." A widely respected scholar in the Islamic world, his controversial views can be seen on his website, where he defends Palestinian suicide bombers as a legitimate defense against Israeli policies.

Al-Qaradawi feels that such attackers have the status of martyrs, a term that is commonly used in the news coverage of al-Jazeera to describe people who die in the cause of defending their country – but is not employed by the network's anchors

and reporters to refer to suicide bombers.

#### Mixed results

Ten years after the founding of the world's leading Arab satellite TV news network, what has happened to the noble intentions of yesteryear? Has al-Jazeera degenerated to "Bin Laden TV"? Is the station dominated by the Muslim Brotherhood? Does it still intend to break social and religious taboos? Has its courageous news coverage instilled fear in the hearts of Arab dictators?

There are no clear answers to the many questions surrounding al-Jazeera. In any case, the founding of al-Jazeera has stirred up the Arab world. Arab regimes may not have stepped down in favor of democratic governments, but thanks to al-Jazeera, dictators can no longer do as they please without the general public knowing about it.

One of the star al-Jazeera correspondents of the early years, however, has been behind bars in a Spanish prison for a number of years. Taysir Alony was convicted in 2005 of acting as a financial courier for al-Qaida in Afghanistan.

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**Welcoming international students to America**

By: Maura Harty

**I**nternational Education Week is November 13-17. Across America and in more than 100 countries, schools and organizations will hold events to recognize the many ways in which international education enriches our communities, our nation, and most importantly the scholars and students we welcome to the more than 4,000 outstanding educational institutions in the United States.

The U.S. Department of State is proud of our role in making that welcome possible. In FY 2006, the Department issued more than 590,000 visas for international academic and vocational students and exchange visitors to study or conduct research in the United States – an all-time record. This figure is 14% higher

than last year, and over 5% above the previous high in FY 2001. The numbers are particularly notable from countries like China and India, but we've seen increases over the past several years from every region in the world.

After the 9/11 attacks, the State Department made major security enhancement changes to our visa process. These changes were essential to meet our primary mission to ensure the security of our nation's borders and the safety of our citizens and of visitors to our country. There are those who believe increased border security must involve an inherent trade-off: that securing our borders means also closing our doors to international students and other visitors. The State Department has always maintained that meeting both goals – a policy we call "Secure

Borders, Open Doors" – is not only possible, it's imperative. We are meeting both, every day.

Supporting international education is a matter of national security. Foreign students contribute over \$13 billion annually to the economic well being of the United States.

Their work is part of the academic and scientific research that spurs innovation and fuels our knowledge-based economy. But much more important are the interpersonal exchanges that leave lasting, positive impressions. These, in turn, shape international opinions of our people and our nation more accurately than media headlines.

The best advertisement for America is America, and there is no better way to learn about the United States than to live and study and work here. We welcome students from around the

world, for they will be the next generation of world leaders: former presidents of France, Indonesia, and Mexico; the king of Jordan; and the UN Secretary General, to name just a few, all studied in the United States.

Some of the changes we made following 9/11 regrettably created the perception that the United States had permanently removed the welcome mat for international students. These and other factors resulted in a decline in the number of international students applying to American colleges and universities. Because we believe the loss of even one foreign student is one too many, we have made the commitment to ensure that applying for a U.S. visa is not an impediment to legitimate foreign students.

Since 9/11, we have worked tirelessly to increase the transparency,

efficiency, and predictability of the visa process, with a special focus on students. Students can now apply for their visas 120 days before the start of their program, and schedule their appointment as soon as they have been accepted to school. Our embassies and consulates give priority to student visa applications, and we post appointment wait times on our website. Today, 97% of qualified applicants receive their visas within two days.

Changed procedures are only part of the story, however. Public diplomacy – through occasions like International Education Week – is another. Officials, from Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice down, have taken every opportunity to speak to students, faculty, parents, and other audiences here and around the world about the breadth and richness of

educational opportunities in the United States. Our message to international students is clear: we need you, we want you, and we will help you get here.

The visa numbers are encouraging, and indicate that promising young scholars from around the world are hearing our message. But because we hope to see even greater improvement in the future, we will not stop there. During International Education Week and throughout the year, the Department of State will continue to strike the right balance between protecting our borders and welcoming international students, and thereby ensure the current and future security of our nation.

Maura Harty is Assistant Secretary of State for Consular Affairs at the U.S. Department of State.



# Both sides will benefit from GCC integration, World Bank VP says

Interview by: Dr. Hamdan Dammag  
Photos by: Saddam Al-Ashmouri

**M**any considered the London Donors Conference earlier this month a successful mission. Daniela Gressani, World Bank Vice President for the Middle East and North Africa Region, was very noticeable during the conference. Dr. Hamdan Dammag met Gressani during her first visit to Yemen prior to the conference and conducted the following interview.

**Is this your first visit to Yemen?**

Yes, but I hope it will be the first of many.

**What's the significance of your visit to Yemen and what do you aim to achieve?**

There are two things, the first of which is to learn about Yemen. I've been in this new position as World Bank vice president for the Middle East and North Africa region for a few months, so I need to learn many things about Yemen. I previously worked in this region as an economic policy manager, but I didn't have a chance to visit Yemen at that time. So regarding Yemen, there's plenty of learning and catching up to do.

My second objective is to ensure that we're fully prepared for the important London meeting Nov. 15 and 16, wherein the donor community, including both Western and GCC (Gulf Cooperation Council) donors, will come together to discuss Yemen's needs as well as its achievements.

**How will the World Bank help Yemen at the London conference?**

We've been working closely with the Yemeni government in terms of documenting Yemen's achievements during the past two months, as well as the commitments and forms needed for Yemen to progress further.

The second thing is that several important measures must be taken in order to prepare Yemen to engage with donors. I think one of the most important has been preparing for the public investment plan, on which the World Bank has been providing input to the government. The other thing is to look at new mechanisms, options to implement projects and activities to be funded by donors, which the government has done with technical input from us.

**What are your expectations of Yemen in this conference?**

I hope Yemen will be successful in raising its profile in the international community. This conference has two objectives:

Yemen isn't well known nor are its accomplishments well known. Its challenges also aren't well known, nor its government's commitment to taking action to overcome these challenges, so the international community needs to better understand these.

But of course, the conference isn't only about raising money. It's also to raise the financial resources for Yemen to progress toward implementing social programs in education, health and social protection and implement improvements in its basic infrastructure. Money is going to be an indicator, but not the only one.

**Last year, Christiaan Poortman, the previous WB Vice President for the Middle East and North Africa Region, said the WB will decrease its aid to Yemen by 34 percent; however, it was announced this year that the new Country Assistance Strategy (CAS) for Yemen will be \$400 million. Does this indicate that the Yemeni government's performance has improved since last year?**

Actually, \$400 million isn't an accurate figure because that's for a four-year period, so what we have is approximately \$100 million per year. As you said, the WB decreased its assistance by 34 percent in response to Yemen's poor performance regarding economic governance, which we consider very important because it's a big obstacle to development.

However, funds available to Yemen under the new assistance strategy increased, not by 34 percent, as previously decreased, but by one-third of that, I think. This was done in response to the fact that Yemen has taken important steps. I think a number of measures the Yemeni government has taken have been impressive in the area of good governance and fighting corruption.

So far, these are legislative measures, which are necessary, but of course, we want to ensure that they're translating into fact on the ground and that they're implemented. We certainly are open to increasing Yemen's assistance again, but as I said, we hope we'll see results on the ground by implementing these legislative measures.

**Can you tell us more about the new Country Assistance Strategy (CAS) for Yemen, which includes 19 projects for 2006-2009?**

My colleague Mustafa [Rouis, manager



Daniela Gressani, World Bank Vice President for the Middle East and North Africa Region talking to Hamdan Dammag.

of the WB office in Yemen] is more familiar with the details; however, I can tell you generally regarding Yemen that what we're trying to achieve is to provide support in two main areas, one of which is the social sector. Yemen has made progress in education, but still has a large gap to close with its neighboring countries in order to fully realize its population's potential.

The second area involves infrastructure. Again, investment is needed to complement and enable a stronger power sector. Investment also is essential for creating jobs. So these are the two main directions.

**How do you think Yemen will benefit economically by joining the GCC? Does the WB have a vision concerning this?**

Yes, we do. In fact, the [Yemeni] government has asked us to work with it on an action plan to maximize the benefits of integrating over time. But such integration isn't an event that will occur at a certain date; rather, it's a process that must be built up. Of course, we plan to engage the GCC in contributing to this process.

There are fairly obvious benefits for Yemen, as well as the GCC nations. I think these mostly arise from two things, one of which is improving trade. I think there's room to improve trade relations between Yemen and the GCC.

The second area of mutual benefit is better integration of the labor market. At this point, Yemen exports labor, while the GCC imports a significant number of

laborers.

Lastly, closer collaboration in the private sector can be the axis of establishing businesses and moving capital across borders. All of these will benefit both Yemen and the GCC nations.

the "right of establishment," the fact that they must follow the same regulations to create a business in one country or another and they're not considered foreign investors. This has contributed to technology transfer, an employment generation and growth in both nations.



**Without a doubt, Yemen needs to improve its governance, fight corruption and improve the environment for the private sector.**

**So you really think the GCC also will benefit by integrating with Yemen?**

Yes. Yemen is a large country from which the GCC will benefit through trade and labor market integration, as well as private sector integration. In my previous WB assignment, I was responsible for new European Union members. I witnessed first-hand the mutual benefits of the integration, which came from trade, the labor market and the financial sector.

I think maybe the biggest stance of these countries came from what's called

There's no reason why we also shouldn't be able to achieve these benefits from Yemen's integration with the GCC.

**My last two questions are about the World Bank in general. It's always in the public's perception, and this is real, that the World Bank serves corrupt regimes, especially Third World countries, more than the poor in these countries. What do you say about this?**

I think the WB is an institution that was set up to work with governments. However, we're trying very hard to do

Essentially, this is done in two ways, one of which is making the government more sensitive about and aware of this issue. The WB conducts several comparative studies comparing Yemen to other countries regarding governance, corruption and the private sector. You can see from these studies that without a doubt, Yemen needs to improve its governance, fight corruption and improve the environment for the private sector. The first thing is to try to improve awareness and, at the same time, identify exactly what can be done to remedy the situation.



## VACANCY

Programme Co-ordinator  
(Based in Sayoun, Yemen)

### Who we are

We at Oxfam have worked ceaselessly in Yemen since the 1983 Dharmar earthquake. As well as suffering from natural disasters, Yemen is one of the world's least developed countries and many factors combine to slow development further. However, with a number of community-based schemes and projects, especially in more rural areas, we're helping local people to get involved in decision making processes, helping to end violence against women and providing primary health care. We're also advancing a woman's right to make a living, the legal rights of poor communities and long-term disaster preparedness.

### The role

Managing our sub-office in Seiyun, you'll work closely with our Country Programme Manager to oversee each programme's delivery and quality, with emphasis on health, livelihoods and early marriage campaigns. Able to consistently provide technical and programme management support, you'll ensure each programme meets its milestones, while constantly striving to achieve a wider impact. Of course, you'll appreciate the need for local participation and make sure external stakeholders from the government, donors and civil society are included in each programme's development. And, you'll handle staff training, donor budget considerations and management reporting.

### What we're looking for

The importance of this role means it's essential that you have a proven track record in programme management and at least a degree-level qualification in development, social sciences, economics or business studies. Highly analytical and organised when it comes to strategic programming and management, you must also possess excellent representation, negotiation and influencing skills. These will be coupled with strong communication abilities, natural flexibility, the capability to work effectively under pressure and a real commitment to addressing the challenges of poverty. Fluent English and Arabic are essential.

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## Tender Notice for distribution agency

Project Reproductive Health and Support to Basic Health Services (Consulting Services for Social Marketing of Contraceptives through the Private Sector) in Yemen

Contract no. BMZ Nr: 2004 65 740  
IFB: MSI/GOU/KfW YEMEN CSM

The Government of Yemen through the Ministry of Public Health and Population, has received funding from Kreditanstalt fur Wiederaufbau for consulting Services for Social Marketing of Contraceptives through the private sector Project Phase (Project component : Social Marketing of Contraceptives)

On behalf of the Ministry of Public Health & Population and under the above contract, Marie Stopes International-Yemen invites distribute agencies to introduce their proposals to distribute contraceptives related to Social Marketing Project in Yemen.

Interested agencies may obtain further information from:

Social Marketing Project  
Marie Stopes International-Yemen  
E-mail ([mcsmdirector@y.net.ye](mailto:mcsmdirector@y.net.ye))

Deadline for submission of proposals to Marie Stopes International-Yemen 10th Dec.2006.



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and to all Yemeni People

On the occasion of 39<sup>th</sup> anniversary of independence  
day 30<sup>th</sup> November.

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## Food security in Yemen:

The problems of today  
and the prospects for tomorrow

By: Mahuob Al-Kamali  
& Raidan Al-Saqqaf  
alsaqaf@gmail.com

It has become clear that the economic and social developments which are taking place in Yemen during the past decades also have a negative impact on food production and the agriculture sector in the country, leading the country towards an acute problem represented in a low level of self-sufficiency and an increase of dependency on foreign imports to satisfy our food needs.

This problem holds the potential to develop into a real crisis in the event of political, social or economic instability or in the event of natural disaster or catastrophe causing interruption of food supplies from the international market to the importing countries such as Yemen and in turn supply shortage, especially in any case of political or economic sanctions.

The results of field surveys conducted in Yemen during the past years reveal that 17.6 percent of the population is unable to get the minimum level of daily calorie requirement in their diet, and that 87 percent of the people living on less than US \$2 per day reside in the country side and are most vulnerable and worst affected.

Such indicators point to the difficulty in achieve the Millennium Development Goals by 2015 and more intense increased efforts are needed to improve food security, and reducing levels of malnutrition indicators in Yemen especially among the young.

**The Problem**

Statistical indicators show widespread malnutrition among children and infants. Surveys say about 52 percent of children younger than five years old suffer chronic malnutrition. This percentage even increases to 56 percent for children living in rural areas, comparing to 40 percent of children living in urban areas.

Furthermore, the proportion of underweight children amounts to 46 percent of the total number of children. The figure reaches 50 percent in rural areas compared to a rate of 36 percent in the urban areas. This percentage increases to reach a high of 52.1 percent in mountainous regions.

The reason for the deterioration in levels of nutrition to several economic factors such as low income levels, the disruption of families dependent on the remittances of expatriates-impact of the second Gulf War, the high rate of inflation and the allocation of a relatively high part of household expenditure on consumption of qat. Statistics show that qat accounts an average of 11.2 percent of average household expenditure against 52.9 percent of expenditure for food.

**Food Production**

There has been an increase in consumption of food in general and of grains in particular, due to the increase in population growth, according to official reports. Moreover, consumption patterns are in constant change with an increase of consumption during the month of Ramadan.

However there has been a decline in domestic production of grains from about 765.3 thousand tons in 1990 to 672.2 tons in 2000; parallel to that a decline was seen in the growing lands of grains from 844.8 thousand hectares to 619.6 thousand hectares during the same period. Despite that, there has been an expansion of agricultural areas from 1,121 thousand hectares in 1990 to 1,280 thousand hectares. This

## The Impact of the food crises on Yemeni Children

Factor (children 0-14 years)	Percent*	Estimate
Children suffering from underweight	32%	3,183,710
Children suffering from undernourishment & starvation	36%	3,581,674
Children suffering from malnutrition	46%	4,576,583
Under-fives mortality rate	11%	

\* Source: Social Watch & UNDP – 2005 Numbers

increase of 14 percent was in the areas of cereal crops and what constitute a comparative advantage of vegetables and fruits, cash crops and fodder.

The areas planted with vegetables increased from 52 thousand hectares to 62 thousand hectares during the same period and an increased production was also witnessed from 696 thousand tons to 766 thousand tons.

**Critical Food Situation**

Some troubling signals emerged during the month of Ramadan of this year 2006 which may lead to a catastrophe for the Yemeni citizens manifested in the sudden and continuous rise of prices of commodities in the Yemeni market, especially in basic commodities (wheat, rice, flour and sugar).

For instance, price of bread increased 100 percent in some cities, particularly in the city of Hodeida, where the price of bread has skyrocketed 100 percent of its former price and hence the selling price rose from YR 5 to YR 10 without any increase to the weight of the bread. The reason behind that was said to be the increase of flour price from YR 2700 for 50 Kg to YR 3200 before Ramadan.

As such we face a challenge to secure food which requires the improvement of our natural resources productivity in both high production areas and margin areas and paying attention to the provision of food in all areas where the nexus between the spread of poverty among the population and the fluctuation in production rise from one year to another.

**Food Imports**

According to economists, it constitutes a huge risk for Yemen to continue to depend on imports to solve food consumption problems, as imports of grains and its derivatives increased from about US \$218 million in 1990 to over US \$313 million in 2005.

Moreover, the rate of self-sufficiency of grains accounted for only 37.6 percent, while an increase of imported food rose from US \$537 million in 1990 to more than US \$726 million this year which leave us in a critical situation of food security.

**Future Challenges**

Official reports confirm the Yemeni government faces several challenges due to population growth and consumption volume increase where the problem is not only about the increase of the price of the bread, but extends to other issues which will require improvement of the food security level in Yemen.

**Some of these challenges are:**

- The weakness of food crops efficiency and productivity, limited availability of agricultural and veterinary services and the weak attention paid to the development of the capacities of rural women.
- The scarcity of capabilities and the absence of any forms of encouraging the cultivation of food crops which require less

- water.
- Limited opportunities for financing and lending to agricultural producers, fishermen, rural development projects and productive assets and modern technical possession.
- Difficulty in the maintenance and rehabilitation of agricultural terraces and the limitation of soil erosion and desertification.
- The weakness of capabilities to develop rural areas and to improve the living conditions of the population in rural areas.
- The absence of policies that limit qat growing areas, which has been grown at the expense of food crops due to its attractive high returns in comparison to food crops returns.
- Low level of coverage for health care services, maternal and child health, particularly in rural areas of Yemen and the limited support for nutrition programs, school health and the basic services to the family health.

**Actions to improve food Security**

The Yemeni government adopted many policies and programs designed to raise the food security level in the context of many national documents for the coming years, however, its efforts with the private sector failed to stop the escalation of the sudden rise in prices.

The private sector justified rising prices with the increase of costs in the transfer of food to the local markets, however, this claim was denied by the ministries of transport, trade and industry.

The Yemeni government confirms its efforts towards to secure food for citizens at suitable prices; however, indicators show an exacerbation of the crisis is very alarming and disturb the living society of Yemen which has become dependent on the provision of nutrition from grains imported from abroad and by the private business sectors.

On the other hand, the private sector seems careless upon the rise in prices in the Yemeni market even though goods supply is much more than the demand and justify that with the rise in global prices, claims that were also denounced strongly by the General Consumer Protection Association.

Therefore, the government plays a major role and is supposed to undertake studied mechanisms to overcome the problem of food security in the future and activating its plans in this area, those include:

- The Third Five-Year Plan for economic and social development aims to increase agricultural production in order to contribute to a higher level of food security, and to improve farm income and the alleviation of poverty and reduction of unemployment.
- Strategic agricultural and food security which aims at the enhancement of food production, the improvement of statistical information on the agricultural sector, the removal of price distortions, the enhancement of market efficiency, increasing income support for the poorest,

and to enhance the efficiency of social assistance for the poor.

- Public health strategy under the Second Five-Year Plan, which aims at raising the level of coverage for health services through a variety of health programs to combat malnutrition, reducing infant mortality and upgrading services programs of maternal and child health.
- The Strategy for Poverty Alleviation which seeks to achieve many goals such as upgrading social services specially health care services, through the application of the health areas, focusing in rural areas, as well as the infrastructure services of water, electricity and education.

- Enhancing the partnership with donors and international institutions to support techniques and methods that contribute to the improvement of agricultural production and crop productivity, preservation of water consumption and increasing the efficiency of its usage as well as the implementation of programs to develop water stocks of possible sources, support and encourage farmers to use modern irrigation methods and reducing waste through the means of traditional irrigation, and the development of policies and effective mechanisms to support the delivery of agriculture and fisheries. In order to upgrade the production of food crops and fish wealth development and preservation in addition to the activation of population policies and reduce fertility rates, through the implementation of projects to support poor families and encourage them to continue education particularly females and encourage families to delay the age of marriage, as well as supporting special programs to raise the level of nutrition and maternal and child health coverage, upgrading health care services in the direction of achieving the goal of the Millennium and face various diseases caused by malnutrition.

In this regard, many of the Arab countries and other countries of the developing world in Africa, Asia and Latin America have preceded us in finding solutions to problems of food security through agricultural research, field testing and laboratory procedures to ensure the significant contribution of the agricultural sector in the provision of food for the population.

One of those solutions and procedures was to identify the possibility of bridging the deficit in the balance of the food gap by reducing the importation of some goods such as wheat, after finding out possibilities of replacing those with other alternatives in order to use them as replacements to produce the same products with the similar characteristics and advantages that is not less in quality and which may even be superior in terms of its benefits.

## Business In Brief

**President Saleh visits YLNG plant**

President Ali Abdullah Saleh visited the Yemen LNG plant located in Belhaf, Shabwa Governorate to inspect the progress of project construction. He was informed that 37 percent of the plant has already been constructed at a cost of around US \$1 billion, while the total cost of the project is around US \$3.5 billion. President Saleh also gave special instructions to security agencies to be on alert and implement all measures to protect this strategic project, which is expected to be the prime source of income for the government within the next decade.

**Fahem, Gama & Litwin build 480 MW power plant**

The Ministry of Electricity and Public Electricity Corporation last Monday awarded to a consortium composed of the Fahem Group, Gama Enerji of Turkey and Litwin of France a mandate to build, own and operate a 480 MW power plant. To be located in Mabab, near Sana'a, the power plant will produce electricity from natural gas to be supplied from the Mareb gas pipeline. This modern, state of the art gas turbine power plant will bring a major contribution to the enhancement of national power supply. This project shows the growing success of the Government's policies to attract private investments into the development of national infrastructure, to favour the cooperation between Yemeni and foreign companies and to attract foreign finance and technologies

**Budget of social funds increases by 89 percent**

Prime Minister BaJammal has approved the 2007 budget for the social funds for development with an increase of 89 percent compared to the 2006 budget, reaching YR 27.2 billion financed mainly by the government and also from several development organizations. The fund financed 1,592 small and medium size projects during 2006 focused mainly in rural areas and impoverished communities.

**Final deliberation on Watani Bank bankruptcy**

The Specialized Preliminary Court withheld the case of the Watani Bank bankruptcy for final deliberations, the court will issue the verdict on Dec. 12 and will sentence the chairman and the higher administration of the bank, who are being accused of unethical behaviour and violating the

code of conduct resulting in the loss of over YR 19 billion from shareholder funds and bank clients.

**New Oil Discoveries in Al-Mahara**

The Ministry of Oil and Mineral Resources has indicated that several new oil discoveries in Al-Mahara governorate will be announced soon, adding that the year 2007 will be of great momentum for the oil industry in Yemen as it will witness the first off-shore oil exploration activity in Yemen. The minister also indicated that minimum required Corporate Social Responsibility spending by oil companies will increase from US \$100 thousand this year to US \$500 thousand next year.

**Oil Exports Exceed US \$3.5 billion**

Oil exports exceeded US \$3.5 billion during the first ten months of 2006, compared to US \$2.57 billion for the same period in 2005, with an increase of 37 percent, the increase is boosted by the surge in oil prices in the International market in spite of slight reduction in oil production in Yemen.

**Riyadh to host Yemen-Gulf committee deliberations**

The Yemeni-Gulf Committee will hold its Yemeni conference in Riyadh on the Dec. 20. The conference for investing in Yemen is deemed to have a great success exceeding that of the donors' conference and will attract large investments especially from Gulf based corporations.

**French Development Agency to expand to Yemen**

Following the recent visit of President Saleh to Paris, the French ambassador Gilles Gauthier has expressed the desire of the French development agency to expand operations to Yemen. The French International Cooperation Minister will visit Yemen in December and the Yemeni Minister of Planning and International Cooperation will visit France in January to strengthen mutual ties.

**First Fish Farm in Yemen**

Companies of Germany has announced it will start operating the first closed fish farm in Hadhramout, to produce 500 tons of shrimp and prawn among other types of fish per year. The project utilizes an area of 8,000 square meters with an initial cost US 20 million.

## OPINION

Building an economy  
from scratch

By: Raidan Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf  
alsaqaf@gmail.com

A mechanism to monitor progress in the post-donors conference era is essential, while the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation is recruiting the services of international and renowned economists to oversee the progress made, the ministry has pledged to meet with representatives of donor countries every six months to view the progress, in order to ensure Yemen makes progress in accordance to the third five-year strategic plan, donors know about it and in turn realize their pledges into finance accessible for the government in order to advance progress.

For the first time in a long time, the government seems to know what it's doing. Their workable plan got the endorsement of the international community and donors, a mechanism to monitor progress indicating that Yemen learnt from the mistakes following the Paris 2002 conference, and a revolutionary policy towards industrialization of the Yemeni Economy.

Advisors to the prime minister seem to know what they're doing, the concepts behind the Aden-Lahej-Abyan Industrial Triangle is indeed a brilliant one, Lahej has received several focused government and private-sector investments such as the two cement factories recently established, one by the government and the other by Hael Saeed Industrial group. While the Abyan Basin is known for quality

agricultural productions such as cotton and bananas, while Aden is the commerce and industry hub of the country besides having the most prosperous industrial area in Yemen with investments in sugar, oil refining, iron, steel, petrochemicals and other industries.

All the factors critical for success are available from labor to natural resources to a new power plant to access to international markets and government support, what is still missing is the financing and this is why we all are looking forward to the "Invest in Yemen Conference" in Sana'a on Feb. 7.

The aspirations of the Yemeni government aren't far apart from the reality and the newfound sense of direction can mean a new start from Yemen's economy, especially when it's the case of a country like Yemen: Building an economy out of scratch. Today, Yemen still has a shrinking agricultural-based economy providing income and livelihood to some 70 percent of the society, while all industries in Yemen are unsustainable extractive industries with a few minor exceptions, providing some 70 percent of government income.

This shift is the ultimate challenge, should anything go wrong in the implementation of the third developmental plan, if corruption takes the best out of development funds, or if the plan fails to meet its target of 7.1 percent growth per annum, then all what would be left in the Yemeni economy is scratch and unfilled election promises leading to socio-political instability shaking the region.



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# Haunted by the past

By: Faozia Bawi  
Faljibawi75@aol.com

We live in a judgmental and discriminating society that is unkind, harsh and biased. I would like to share the story of a beautiful, emotional, sensitive, kind-hearted, amiable, and self-sacrificing young lady named Sawsan who has been referred to me for case evaluation.

Sawsan, 27 and divorced, comes from a modest and conservative Egyptian family residing in the United States. She was married at a young age to please her parents' wishes not knowing what she was putting herself into. The husband had no self worth, no morals/ethics and cruel to her in every aspect of life.

She tried to make the relationship work because there were children involved, but unfortunately that didn't succeed. After several years of an increasingly unhappy life being abused verbally, emotionally and mentally, she decided to end the misery and get a divorce.

The process wasn't easy for her especially since she was the one requesting to be divorced. After so much hardship and a great deal of social stress, she was able to divorce herself and move on with her life.

Years passed and she met Marwan, a 29-year-old gentleman of Syrian descent. Sawsan and Marwan found comfort in one another and became real good friends.

As time passed, Sawsan grew so fond of him. She found him to be a noble man with a great personality and characteristics she always wanted in a man. She saw in Marwan the person she was searching for and he found in her a person that was rare and unique, a person he would want to spend the rest of his life. He was astonished by her beauty, wisdom, and caring personality.

As time passed, Marwan began to express how much he admires her.

Several months after meeting Sawsan, Marwan told her that he loves her and that she has taken over his life; he also told her that he spoke to his family about her.

This revelation made Sawsan feel happiness she never felt before; she couldn't believe what she was hearing. She knew deep in her heart she loved him as well but never imagined that it is possible for her to fall in love and feel loved in return. This marked the first time in her life she feels happiness.

In the midst of this happiness, a shiver ran through her body and a sudden fear arose within her. She realized Marwan never asked her about her past and that she needs to let him know about everything. He never questioned why she wasn't married and she never brought it up because it was something she wanted to keep in the past and never thought she would fall in love with Marwan or there could be something more than friendship between them.

The moment of truth scared her and she didn't know how to approach it, but knew for a fact that she needed to tell him everything.

She managed to break the news to Marwan. He was in shock and denial. He couldn't believe or accept the fact that the person he fell in love with and had plans to form a family was previously married and divorced. He admitted to Sawsan that although he had previous relationships he never imagined being with someone who had a previous relationship. He acknowledged the fact that although he loved her so much, the relationship wouldn't go anywhere.

Hearing this news hurt Sawsan so much it made her wish she was never born. After several discussions the couple agreed to give the relationship a chance although Marwan was determined it was a dead end. Several months later he told her that he took a decision to end the relationship between them and that it shouldn't go any further

because it wasn't going to take them anywhere.

Sawsan's past came to haunt her and all her dreams shattered as glass in front of her eyes. She tried to hide her feelings and treat him as a friend, but he was convinced it was impossible and wanted nothing to do with her; not even her friendship although he still cared for her and she was a great person.

Sawsan had no choice other than to carry her pain and walk a long journey of heartbreak and despair; a journey of struggle. She is suffering emotionally and mentally and is in severe depression. She is being denied happiness because of a choice she didn't make for herself. She is being denied love because God's destiny for her was to marry and divorce.

Sawsan and Marwan's story is real and is only an example of the double standard society we live in. What kind of society is this that gives men the freedom to have premarital relationships and still be accepted while at the same time denies women the right to love and be happy because of a previous matrimonial relationship. Is this what our society and religion are based on? I am sure there isn't anything in the Quran that gives men this right. Do women in Sawsan's situation have the right to love, remarry, and lead a happy life? Well, the answer to this particular question lies within each and every one of us.

# Great fate

By: Fuad Noman  
fn\_0012000@yahoo.com

So great  
So great  
A beautiful bird sang  
With your smiling soul  
My inspiration's hymn  
Felt my fate was born  
so white and great  
Before I read your soul's page  
My life would have been blind hope  
But when I saw your eyes' portrait  
A real brightness  
went into my bottomless soul  
I felt my love's demarche

so accurate and right  
You always bestow  
my life a new date  
When I looked  
within your heart's floodlight  
My love tried to get in touch  
With your soul's highness  
So  
My heart's choice never  
be getting misplaced  
I still remember  
Within the current of cascade  
To my captive heart  
How gentle smiles you sent!  
You plant your goodness free  
In my trembling soul's land

You never wait for gratitude  
Until the end of time as I feel  
You still create my love's deal  
To be  
The shining smiles  
On the innocent child's face  
For all stars, the unique colors  
For the sun's light,  
For singing birds  
For each race  
No brain's power can brood or  
guess  
How the depth of your warm zeal  
is!  
No majesty can arrive  
At your great place

# Wooden Souls

For his appeal,  
The secret of seas can reveal  
How the sea's rage had to flay  
When the moon took a trip far away  
My soul's hankering can't delay  
To paint his smiling falcate ray  
By the ink of my tears  
On my skin's clay  
My heart's waves have to obey  
Otherwise  
Behind the night's veil  
Spleeny darkness!  
Under the disguise of sky  
The poisonous tears of sly  
Falling down

As flames in the heaven's eye  
The dawn's brims became  
scorched and dry  
While the stars celebrate  
With the imminent light's dart  
The deadly drops of time  
Falling heavy and sharp  
The moon picks out  
The sound of subdued harp  
But he rebuffs to cry or carp  
Rows of worms creep on  
The inane wooden souls  
Those sacked in frozen stores  
Unable to offer the powerful pores  
They just offer the false bores

Pretending the depth of doles  
It is the hoax of great goals  
In the expired fouls  
How can the naked doors be blocked  
up?  
The wooden souls  
Only germinating the weeds  
Stabbing our life's roots and seeds  
In the dark quintessence  
Always survives the show of greed  
"For the barking dogs, the moon  
never hogs"  
Only  
The seven secrets of seas conceiving  
The influence of ocean peace creeds

By: Nasser Alabdali  
nssralabdali@yahoo.com

Life is of different colors, but one might curiously wonder: what is the color of street boys' life? Is it white, green, blue, or black? Actually, The answer of this question is in streets and to know how to answer it we need to see and then consider what is happening to that mass of people in our society. Our society, for instance, has a

quite number of houseless boys who have been already taught the art of corruption in terms of immorality. So, they become very dangerous on their society since they affectively threaten its security and stability. Some of them are thieves and the other some criminals.

Actually no one is born either a thief or a killer, but a society makes the teacher and the thief, the doctor and the murderer in terms of the absence of humanity and a wake conscience. Therefore, we should not

criticize them negatively for it is not their fault rather it is ours. Thus, having stated the nature of street boys' life very shortly leads us to know what kind of color their life is enjoying.

Certainly it is black in the form of a permanent windy winter in which they are spiritually dead. Physical dead people in contrast to them are much better for they have a grave at least to sleep in peacefully. So they should be sympathized instead of uselessly criticized.

# Street boys?!

## Universal Crossword

Edited by Timothy E. Parker

**ACROSS**

- 1 Hidden supply
- 6 Emulate Odysseus
- 10 Devoted following
- 14 "My Cherie \_\_\_"
- 15 Perimeter
- 16 On open waters
- 17 Party munchies, e.g.
- 19 Burn to a crisp
- 20 Work unit, in physics
- 21 "\_\_\_ American Cousin"
- 22 Mensa aspirant's hurdle
- 24 Musical practice piece
- 27 Biting productions
- 28 Some McDonald's fare
- 31 Skin soother
- 32 Crackerjack
- 33 "Out of here!"
- 37 Winner of four gold medals in 1936
- 38 Strong pesticide
- 39 Ripped off
- 40 Money rolls
- 41 Inconclusive result

- 42 Like some caps
- 43 Common side order
- 45 Unconventional
- 49 Solemn observances
- 50 Eased state
- 51 Clear tables, e.g.
- 52 Railways with a view
- 55 Asia's shrunken sea
- 56 Healthy serving
- 60 Gas container
- 61 Hooked on
- 62 One should hesitate when seeing this
- 63 Wapitis, e.g.
- 64 Matter of grammar
- 65 Labor leader Chavez

**DOWN**

- 1 Diner of sorts
- 2 Arabian chieftain (Var.)
- 3 Like many a cold sufferer
- 4 Cuddle
- 5 Palindromist's preposition
- 6 Gas up

- 7 Carbon monoxide's lack
- 8 Of a previous time
- 9 Propose a compromise
- 10 Succulents of a sort
- 11 Guide with a flashlight?
- 12 Auto dealership offer, perhaps
- 13 Bakery items
- 18 Balzac's sculptor
- 23 Liquid amts.
- 25 Dilutes
- 26 Strange sky lights
- 27 Splinter group
- 28 Type of chart
- 29 Corn Belt state
- 30 Weighed-down
- 33 Selling point
- 34 Old sports venues
- 35 Sheltered from the wind
- 36 Double-digit bills
- 38 Eschew the fat?
- 39 Like a baby's skin
- 41 Rush hour certainty
- 42 Washing machine sound
- 43 Professional charge
- 44 Man who was happy it was Friday?
- 45 Speechify
- 46 Wild in the wild
- 47 Part of a military formation
- 48 Swindles
- 51 Vegas ventures
- 53 Peru's capital
- 54 The sun, for one
- 57 Cell messenger
- 58 TV regulators
- 59 Fish spawn

"FARE WELL" by Judy Huckley

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14					15					16			
17				18						19			
20				21				22	23				
	24	25	26				27						
28	29						30						
31							32			33	34	35	36
37							38					39	
40					41					42			
					43					44			
45	46	47	48					49					
50							51				52	53	54
55					56	57				58	59		
60										61			
63													65

PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER

S	C	A	B	F	U	C	H	R	E	C	A	P
O	L	I	O	N	L	Y	E	V	O	K	E	
M	E	S	A	T	W	A	S	C	E	D	A	R
B	A	L	L	P	O	I	N	T	P	E	N	
R	E	V	E	R	S	R	E	A	S	T	E	R
R	E	S	E	T	E	R	N	S	B	I	E	
A	R	C	S	I	T	S	E	T	A			
P	E	N	C	I	L	S	H	A	R	P	E	N
U	T	A	H	I	T	E	R	A	W			
F	A	R	A	M	E	N	T	S	N	A	C	I
F	L	Y	T	R	A	P	A	C	T	M	E	A
B	O	X	O	F	C	R	A	Y	O	N	S	
B	A	Y	O	U	V	E	R	A	A	R	T	S
E	V	E	N	S	E	T	O	N	M	A	L	E
T	E	P	E	E	R	A	N	K	S	L	E	D

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Calvin and Hobbes comic strip panels 1-10. Calvin is talking to Hobbes about a girl named Goldilocks. Hobbes is skeptical and says 'I'm ready for bed, Dad. What's tonight's story going to be?' Calvin says 'There's one... readings on dialectical materialism, you'll love it.' Hobbes says 'Forget it, Dad. You can't get me to sleep off that stuff.' Calvin says 'Will you read us THIS story? Hobbes wrote it, huh?' Hobbes says 'Goldilocks and the three tigers.' Calvin says 'Oh boy, this is gonna be GREAT!' Hobbes says 'Once upon a time there lived a young girl named Goldilocks. She went into the forest and saw a cottage. No one was home so she went in.' Calvin says 'They quickly divided Goldilocks into big, medium, and small pieces and dunked them in the porridge that...' Hobbes says 'Calvin, I'm not going to finish this. This is disgusting!' Calvin says 'I don't know why I let you talk me into this. GOOD NIGHT!' Hobbes says 'GLICK' Calvin says 'He didn't even look at our illustrations. Now I'm all hungry.'

Garfield comic strip panels 1-4. Garfield is sitting on the couch. Odie is barking. Garfield says 'I'm ready for bed, Dad. What's tonight's story going to be?' Odie says 'There's one... readings on dialectical materialism, you'll love it.' Garfield says 'Forget it, Dad. You can't get me to sleep off that stuff.' Odie says 'Will you read us THIS story? Garfield wrote it, huh?' Garfield says 'Odie, I'm not going to finish this. This is disgusting!' Odie says 'I don't know why I let you talk me into this. GOOD NIGHT!' Garfield says 'GLICK' Odie says 'He didn't even look at our illustrations. Now I'm all hungry.'



# إعلانات صبوبة

**مكتب أحمد محسن المريسي**  
للخدمات العقارية  
حده - اخي السياسي - الأصحبي - بيت بوس  
سيار: ٢٨٥٥ - ٧٣٣٨ - مكتب: ١٧٩١٦٦

- للبيع: 30 لينة حر في تبة زرتل - سواد، مخططة، على شارع 10 متر جنوبي، الواجهة حوالي 40 متر والمعمق حوالي 33 متر.
- سعر اللبنة 420.000 أربعمئة وعشرون الف ريال يمني.
- للبيع: أرضية تجارية ممتازة، حر، مساحتها ١٢ لينة، على شارع الأربعين متر، بيت بوس، خلف حي الوزير السابق. القادم من حده إلى شارع تعز، الواجهة التجارية ٢٦ متر، وعمقها حوالي ٢٠ متر، الإتجاه غربي.
- سعر اللبنة ٢٠٠.٠٠٠ ريال يمني.
- أرضية تجارية درجة أولى، على شارعين. شارع الحسين متر وشارع ١٦ متر، مساحتها حوالي ٣٦ لينة، قربه من مدارس السعيدة، بيت بوس. ومن جولة دار سلم الأحياء المجاورة تشهد نمواً عمرانياً تفوق أي توقعات. تصلح لتجار الخبز والحديد، مواد البناء/سيارة، كبرياتيات، طقم صحن، بلاط سيراميك، رخام وغير ذلك. أيضاً لورشات حديدية لمصانعة السيارات.
- الإيجار الشهري: ٧٢٠ سبعةمئة وعشرون دولار. "أبلاشاه"
- نسعى لتقديم الأفضل والأصن في مجال الإستثمار العقاري

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ارياج عدد اثنين ، موديل ٢٠٠٢ ، نظيفة جداً، السعر مغري. للتواصل: ٧٣٣٦٧١٦٨٠

• كيبويراتناك، ادوات كهربائية، تلفونات، و أشياء اخرى

• للبيع: كيبويرات لابتوب نوع DEL  
- INSPIRON 1310  
RAM(1GB), 4 بنتيوم  
H.D(40GB) CPU(1.8GHZ)  
711135907 للتواصل:

• علي أحمد النظام - بكالوريوس لغة إنجليزية - جامعة ذمار - إجازة تامة للإنجليزية كتابة ونطقاً  
• للتواصل: ٧٣٤١٧١١٤٨٠  
• مدرس لغة عربية (مصري الجنسية) - خبرة ١٥ عاماً لديه إستعداد لتدريس اللغة العربية للأجانب - مستوى متوسط ومتقدم للإستفسار:  
• بكالوريوس محاسبة - أربع دورات في اللغة الإنجليزية في نهد يالي - حسن المظهر - قدرة على تطوير بيئة العمل - يرغب في العمل في الفترة المسائية  
• للتواصل: ٧٣٣٢٢٢٠٠١  
• بكالوريوس محاسبة - دبلوم سكرتارية - حاصل على نظام يمن سوفت - خبرة ثلاث سنوات محاسبه - يرغب في العمل في نفس المجال.  
• للتواصل: ٧٣٣٣٧٦٧٠١  
• شافيف السعيدني - بكالوريوس لغة إنجليزية - يرغب في العمل في أي مؤسسة أو شركة تجارية بدوام كامل  
• للتواصل: ٤٦٦٥٨٩ - ٧٣٣١٨٨٢٩٦  
• طالبة لغة إنجليزية في جامعة صنعاء - تجيد استخدام الحاسوب - تود العمل في الفترة المسائية فقط.  
• للتواصل: ٧٣٣٨٦١٢٦٠  
• أيوب دبان - بكالوريوس لغة إنجليزية - جامعة صنعاء - دبلوم سكرتارية - دورة محاسبة (أ-ب) - خبرة في مجال البيع والشراء والمراسلات التجارية - يرغب في العمل لدى مؤسسه أو شركة بدوام جزئي  
• للتواصل: ٧١١٢٧٨١٦٠/٧١١٨٣١٥٢٤  
• هشام عبد القادر الشوكاني - بكالوريوس محاسبة ومراجعة - جامعة صنعاء - دبلوم سكرتارية كيبويرت - إجازة فن مسك الدفاتر المحاسبية - خبرة مدة سنتين  
• للتواصل: ٧١١٩٩٣٥٨٤

**سيارات**

• للبيع: سيارة جراند فينارا XL7، فرامل EBS، جير اتوماتيك، تحكم سيدي من السكان، سبعة راكب، أبواب ريموت كنترول،

غرفة المتعلقين بشارع الزوارق وشارع الأحياء وشارع...  
للبيع: ٣٠ لينة حر في تبة زرتل - سواد، مخططة، على شارع 10 متر جنوبي، الواجهة حوالي 40 متر والمعمق حوالي 33 متر.

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**الانذار**  
IMPORTANT Numbers  
للإشتراك في هذه المساحة الإتصال على تسمية ٣٦١ ٢٦٦٦٦٦

**مستشفيات**

- مستشفى الثورة : ٧٣٦٩٦٦/٧/٨٠
- المستشفى الجمهوري : ٧٣٤٢٨١/٧٧
- مستشفى حدة الأمل : ٤١٣٩٨١
- المستشفى اليمني الألماني : ٤١٠٠٠٠٠
- فاكس : ٤١٨١١٦
- المستشفى الألماني الحديث : ٧٣٠٠٠٠٠/٧٣٠٠٠٠٠
- فاكس : ٤١٨١١٦
- E-mail: felixpene@hotmail.com

**فنادق**

- فندق فرساي : ٤٥٧٥٠٠/٧/٢
- فندق شيراتون : ٣٧٥٠٠٠
- فندق موفيك : ٥٤٦٠٠٠
- فندق تاج سبا : ٣٧٣٧٣٧
- فندق رايكس ان : ٤٤٩٨٧١
- فندق واجنحة الخليج السياحي : ٦٠٢١٣٥٠ - ٦٠٢٣٥٠

**معاهد**

- معهد يالي : ٤٤٨٠٢٩ - ٤٤٨٠٢٧/٤٤٨٠٢٧
- معهد اللغة الألمانية : ٣٠٠٤٥٠
- المعهد البريطاني للغات والكمبيوتر : ٣٦٦٣٣٣
- معهد كاروكيس : ٥٣٤٤٤٥/٥
- معهد أليكس : ٤٤٤٤٤٤/٤٤٤٤٤٤

**شركات للتأمين**

- الوطنية للتأمين : ٧٣٧٧١٧/٧٣٧٧١٧
- مارب للتأمين : ٣٠٦١٣٣/٨/١٣
- الشركة اليمنية الإسلامية للتأمين وإعادة التأمين : ٣٨٤١٣٤
- صنعاء : ٣٨٤١٣٤
- عدن : ٣٨٤١٣٤
- تعز : ٣٨٤١٣٤
- شركة اليمن للتأمين : صنعاء : ٧٣٧٨٠١/٧٣٧٨٠١
- عدن : ٣٨٤١٣٤
- تعز : ٣٨٤١٣٤

**مدارس**

- مدارس صنعاء الولاية : ٣٧٠١٩١/٢
- مدرسة التريكة الوليه : ٤٤٤٤٤٤/٩
- مدرسة المجد النبويه : ٣٠٦١٥٩
- مدرسة رينبو : ٤٤٤٤٤٤/٤٤٤٤٤٤

**مطاعم**

مطعم ومخازنة الشيباني (باسم محمد عبده الشيباني)  
تلفون : ٣٦٦٣٧٥ - ٥٠٢٩٠ - فاكس : ٣٦٦٧١٩

• مطلوب شراء بيت من ثلاث غرف وحمامين على أن يكون السعر مناسب.  
• للتواصل: ٧٣٣٦٢٤٣٧٤  
• للبيع: بقالة فتحتين على شارع المرور، الموقع ممتاز.  
• للإستفسار: ٧٣٣٤٠٧٠٨٣  
• للإيجار: فيلا تتكون من بدروم وأربعة أرواق، كل دور يتكون من صالنتين كبيرتين وثلاثة أجنحة. الموقع: حدة بجوار شركة صافر.  
• للتواصل: ٧٣٣٧٢٥٥٨٢  
• للإيجار: فيلا دورين بحديقة، تحتوي على ١٢ غرفة، ٥ صالات، ٦ حمامات، ٢ مطابخ مبلطة بسرماميك كاملة وفيها خطوط تلفونية. الموقع في مدينة هائل بيت بوس بشارع مسلف.

**عقارات**

• مطلوب شراء بيت من ثلاث غرف وحمامين على أن يكون السعر مناسب.  
• للتواصل: ٧٣٣٦٢٤٣٧٤  
• للبيع: بقالة فتحتين على شارع المرور، الموقع ممتاز.  
• للإستفسار: ٧٣٣٤٠٧٠٨٣  
• للإيجار: فيلا تتكون من بدروم وأربعة أرواق، كل دور يتكون من صالنتين كبيرتين وثلاثة أجنحة. الموقع: حدة بجوار شركة صافر.  
• للتواصل: ٧٣٣٧٢٥٥٨٢  
• للإيجار: فيلا دورين بحديقة، تحتوي على ١٢ غرفة، ٥ صالات، ٦ حمامات، ٢ مطابخ مبلطة بسرماميك كاملة وفيها خطوط تلفونية. الموقع في مدينة هائل بيت بوس بشارع مسلف.

**البنوك**

- البنك التجاري : ٧٧٣٧٤٤
- مصرف اليمن البحري الشامل : ٣٦٦٧٥٠/٣٦٦٧٥٠
- بنك اليمن الدولي : ٤٠٧٠٣٠
- البنك العربي : ٣٧١٥٥٠/١
- بنك التسليف الزراعي : ٥٣٣٨١٣
- البنك المركزي : ٣٧٤٣٤٤

**تأجير سيارات**

• زاوية (Budget) : ٣٠٦١١٨٠٠/٣٠٦١١٨٠٠
- يورب كار : ٣٧٧٠٧٥١
- هيرتز لتأجير السيارات : صنعاء : ٤٤٤٣٣٩
- فرع شيراتون : ٥٤٤٣٥٠
- عدن : ٣٧٤٥١٣٠

**مراكز تدريب وتعليم الكمبيوتر**

• بنك تعليم الكمبيوتر (تركيز على الانترنت، مناهج، تجارة إلكترونية) شهادة أيزو ١.

- صنعاء : ٤٠٣٨٣٥
- فاكس : ٤٠٧٤١٩
- عدن : ٣٧٣١٩٩
- تعز : ٣٥٠٣٤٣
- المكلا : ٣٠٣٧٤٢

**البريد السريع**

- Infinit Education : 444553
- NIT لتعليم الكمبيوتر : ٤٤٤٠١٨/٧-٤٤٤٠٧٣

**FedEx**  
Federal Express

- صنعاء : ٤٤٠١٧٠/٦٧
- الحديدة : ٣٤٩٨٢
- إب : ٤١١٩٨٨
- المكلا : ٣٠٣٦٤١
- شبوه : ٣٠٣٦٦٦
- سيئون : ٤٠٢٦٦٦

• مخازن - مراقب مخازن - يبحث عن عمل مناسب  
• للتواصل: ٧٣٣٤٠٩٦٥٢  
• ثانوية عامة (علمي) - دبلوم سكرتارية - يجيد اللغة الإنجليزية كتابة ونطقاً.  
• للتواصل: ٧٣٣١٣٢٤٧٠  
• محمد خرويه - مهندس معماري - مصري الجنسية - خبره ثلاث سنوات في أعمال التصميم والتنفيذ - خبره في العمل مع الأجانب - خبره سنتان في اليمن (السفارة الأمريكية - تصميم وتنفيذ العديد من الأعمال) - يجيد استخدام الحاسب الآلي واللغة الإنجليزية - يرغب في العمل في شركة أجنبية أو شركة بتترول أو شركة مقاولات كبرى  
• للتواصل: ٧١١٠٧٠٧٤٥  
• محمد أحمد علي - خبير طويلة في مجال السواقه - يبحث عن عمل مناسب في هذا المجال.  
• للتواصل: ٧٣٣٩٤٣٨٨١  
• مروان عبده قايد - بكالوريوس تربية - التخصص كيمياء - التدبير جيد - يرغب في العمل في أي مدرسة.  
• للتواصل: ٧١٢٤٠٥٩٣٦  
• عبد الرحمن محمد - بكالوريوس لغة إنجليزية - خبرة ثلاث سنوات في الترجمة والمراسلات العامة - يجيد استخدام لحاسوب والإنترنت.  
• يرغب في العمل في هذا المجال.  
• للتواصل: ٧٧٨٦٠١٣٧  
• بكالوريوس علوم حاسوب (قسم برمجة) تقدير جيد جداً مع مرتبة الشرف ( من أوائل الدفعة) - خبرة في مجال تدريس مواد الحاسوب - دورات متعددة في مجال برمجة النظم مثل اوراكل و فيجوال بيسك + شهادات تقدير - يجيد اللغة الإنجليزية كتابة ونطقاً - يرغب في العمل في مجال تخصصه أو في مجال متعلق بالتخصص.  
• للتواصل: ٧١١٩٩٠٤٢٠

• أحمد يحي حميدان - مستوى رابع قسم لغة إنجليزية (جامعة العلوم والتكنولوجيا) - الأول على الدرجة بتقدير إمتياز - يرغب في العمل في المساء (نصف دوام).  
• للتواصل: ٢١٩١٥٠ / ٢١٦١٥٠  
• يحي الأشول - فني أشعة - حاصل على مؤهل ٨٥/٨٤م الترتيب الأول - حاصل على عدة دورات ولديه شهادات خبرة - يجيد استخدام أي نوع من الأجهزة - يبحث عن عمل في أي مكان.  
• للتواصل: ٧٣٤٢٣٢٤٦٦  
• منير علي القباطي - تجارة - خبرة جيدة - خبرة ممتازة في مجال الدهانات - خبرة جيدة في مجال الكمبيوتر والانترنت - يبحث عن عمل في أي مجال.  
• للتواصل: ٧٧٠٨٠٩٤١  
• شوقي أمين أحمد يوسف - ثانوية عامة - سنة ثالثة تجارة قسم محاسبة - مستوى جيد في اللغة الإنجليزية - دبلوم سكرتارية كيبويرت - خبرة في مجال المخازن لمدة ست سنوات (أمين مخازن - مراقب مخازن - مشتريات متابعه) - يبحث عن عمل في أي مجال مناسب  
• للتواصل: ٧٣٣٤٠٩٦٥٢

• فواز صالح أحمد - ليسانس لغة إنجليزية (جيد جداً) - دبلوم لغة فرنسية - يجيد استخدام الحاسب الآلي - خبرة في التدريس والترجمة لمدة ثلاث سنوات له كتب منشورة في الترجمة يرغب في العمل في مجال تخصصه.  
• للتواصل: ٧٣٣٠٣٦٦٩٥  
• كمال محمد أمير - بكالوريوس فيزياء - جامعة صنعاء - حاصل على شهادة من المعهد المهني تحكم ميكانيكي - لديه شهادة خبرة في الكهراء لمدة خمس سنوات من إحدى المصانع المشهورة في اليمن، حاصل على دورتين في اللغة الإنجليزية يرغب في العمل لدى إحدى الشركات في اليمن.  
• للتواصل: ٧٣٣٦٨٨٠٣٧ - ٧٧٧٧٦٦٣٧٢  
• رؤوف نصر محمد - ثانوية عامة - حاصل على دورتين لغة إنجليزية - خبرة في مجال الفنادق لمدة ثلاث سنوات - حاصل على شهادة خبرة في القسم كافي شوب - مساعد طباط - يرغب في العمل لدى إحدى الفنادق المشهورة.  
• للتواصل: ٧٣٣٩٢٥٩٤ أو ٧٣٣٩٢٣٧٩  
• فهد علي السقاف - بكالوريوس لغة إنجليزية - دبلوم برامج تطبيقية على الحاسوب - دبلوم صيانة كيبويرت في الهند - دورة في المحاسبة - يرغب في

**مطعم و مخبازة الشيباني**  
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باسم محمد عبده الشيباني

صنعا - شارع حده - أمام مركز الكيم التجاري  
تلفون: ٣٦٦٣٧٥ - ٥٠٢٩٠  
فاكس : ٣٦٦٧١٩  
ص ب : ٤٤٦٥  
Email: shaibani@yemen.net.ye

**وظائف شاغرة**

• يعمل مركز اللغة البريطاني BLC عن حاجته إلى:  
- مدرسين ومدرسات لغة إنجليزية  
- عدد ٢ سكرتيرة  
الشروط:  
- الحصول على الثانوية العامة  
- لايشترط أي جنسية أو خبرة  
- التدريب والتأهيل يتم لدى المركز  
• للتواصل: ٤٤٠٧٠٢/٣

**باحثون عن وظيفة**

• فوز صالح أحمد - ليسانس لغة إنجليزية (جيد جداً) - دبلوم لغة فرنسية - يجيد استخدام الحاسب الآلي - خبرة في التدريس والترجمة لمدة ثلاث سنوات له كتب منشورة في الترجمة يرغب في العمل في مجال تخصصه.  
• للتواصل: ٧٣٣٠٣٦٦٩٥  
• كمال محمد أمير - بكالوريوس فيزياء - جامعة صنعاء - حاصل على شهادة من المعهد المهني تحكم ميكانيكي - لديه شهادة خبرة في الكهراء لمدة خمس سنوات من إحدى المصانع المشهورة في اليمن، حاصل على دورتين في اللغة الإنجليزية يرغب في العمل لدى إحدى الشركات في اليمن.  
• للتواصل: ٧٣٣٦٨٨٠٣٧ - ٧٧٧٧٦٦٣٧٢  
• رؤوف نصر محمد - ثانوية عامة - حاصل على دورتين لغة إنجليزية - خبرة في مجال الفنادق لمدة ثلاث سنوات - حاصل على شهادة خبرة في القسم كافي شوب - مساعد طباط - يرغب في العمل لدى إحدى الفنادق المشهورة.  
• للتواصل: ٧٣٣٩٢٥٩٤ أو ٧٣٣٩٢٣٧٩  
• فهد علي السقاف - بكالوريوس لغة إنجليزية - دبلوم برامج تطبيقية على الحاسوب - دبلوم صيانة كيبويرت في الهند - دورة في المحاسبة - يرغب في

**كوبون للاعلانات الشخصية المجانية (كل الاعلانات الشخصية بدون أي مقابل)**

بيع | شراء | إيجار | إستئجار | طلب وظيفة | وظائف شاغرة | غير ذلك

تفاصيل الاعلان:

عنوان التواصل:

فص هذا الكوبون وارسله إلى صحيفة يمن تايمز على فاكس ٣٦٨٢٧٦ او على صندوق بريد ٢٥٧٩ - صنعاء لمزيد من المعلومات اتصل ب (٣٦٨٦٦١/٢/٣)



## The sun always shines in the UAE

As UAE prepares to celebrate its 35th anniversary of the National Day, it is only fair to give a small glance of this beautiful country. Its naturally desert climate and its convenient location in the Arabian Gulf has endowed it with warm seas and cozy beaches. Together with a booming economy, where trade and tourism are encouraged, it also makes for the ultimate shopping destination. Its state-of-the-art tourist infrastructure with numerous world-class hotels, sports events and shopping spectacles held annually, ensures its position as the Middle East's number one tourist destination.

Every year, tourist attractions are constantly being upgraded and added - from one of the world's largest aqua parks to cultural and wildlife museums.

### The United Arab Emirates - not just a desert land...

Though 65 per cent of its 85,000 square kilometers area is desert, it is characterized by rich microclimates and micro-ecologies. You will find hills, valleys, different kind of dunes, plains, marshes and even mangrove forests. The desert extends from the westernmost tip of Abu Dhabi at the borders of Saudi Arabia, towards east to the land border with Oman and the Indian Ocean.

Six emirates have their coastline on the



Arabian peninsula stretching between the Musandam peninsula and the Qatar peninsula. Fujairah is the only emirate that lies on the Gulf of Oman. The northern coastline runs along the Arabian Gulf all the way to Oman. 750 kilometers of coastline runs along the Arabian Gulf while 75 kilometers lie on the eastern side along the Arabian sea.

From wind towers to towering Skyscrapers, The UAE has a unique blend of traditional Arab, Islamic values and culture with the modernity of a cosmopolitan living environment. It celebrated its 25th year of formation in 1997. Its massive oil wealth is being wisely utilized to keep pace with technology and social changes the world is experiencing. As a result, tourists will find the UAE a modern country with thriving sky scraper filled cities no different from modern cities in Europe or Asia.

Due to its location the UAE has been able to act as a connecting link between Europe and the Indian subcontinent, the Far East and Africa since time immemorial. It is still playing the role of intermediary between these vastly different cultures, the only difference being that air travel has significantly increased the number of visitors who come to the UAE. Traditional Arab hospitality and a delightful winter climate complemented by a highly sophisticated infrastructure and crime-free environment, have also con-



tributed in recent years to creating an ideal atmosphere for the development of tourism. The UAE is also endowed with an extensive coastline, sandy beaches and varied landscape, where a wide variety of activities can be indulged, ranging from powerboat races to sand-skiing. Manicured golf courses provide ready enjoyment and for the less active shopping opportunities abound. In addition, the country's deep-rooted cultural heritage, accessible in the many cultural centers and at traditional sports such as falconry, camel-racing and horse-racing, has been a powerful attraction for tourists. The UAE has also become a much sought after venue for conferences, regional and international exhibitions and major sports events such as the Dubai World Cup, the Dubai Desert Classic Golf Tournament, and polo and cricket competitions.

Being literally crime-free is not the only thing that makes the United Arab Emirates one of the most attractive places to live in. Its amazing amalgamation of the traditional values of the East and the modern technologies of the West, being a melting pot of various nationalities and cultures living together and working in

harmony and a standard of living that is comparable to the world's most advanced nations makes it one of 20th century's success stories.

### The camel

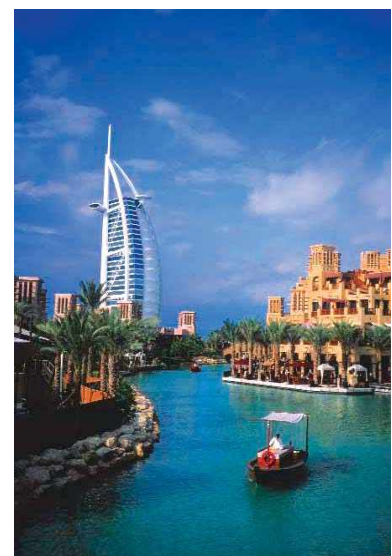
Uniquely adapted to the desert, the camel was the mainstay of the semi-nomadic lifestyle that was practiced by many of the UAE's inhabitants. The largest tribe in the UAE, the Bani Yas, roamed the vast sandy areas that cover almost all of the emirates of Abu Dhabi and Dubai.

### Date palms

Over the centuries, bedu families that had spent the winter searching for grazing for their camels returned in the summer to the oasis gardens in the hollows of the dunes to harvest the date crop.

### Fishing

Although modern fishing methods are employed in the fishing industry of today, traditional techniques remain popular with artisanal fishermen. Extensive tidal



On the occasion of celebrating the 35th anniversary of the National Day, H.E. Emirates ambassador to Yemen, Ali Saif Sultan expressed his happiness with the occasion. "It is of great pleasure to forward my heartfelt congratulations to H.H. Shiekh Khalifa bin Zaid Al Nahayan head of state and H.H. Mohammad bin Rashid Al Maktoum deputy head of state and governor of Dubai on the occasion. Through less than four decades since the establishment of UAE Dec. 2, 1971 there has been tremendous progress and continuous achievements." In his statement he did not forget to mention Late Zaid bin Sultan and Rashid bin Saeed Al Maktoum for their efforts and vision to make UAE what it is today. He also commended the good relations between Yemen and UAE and the



H.E. Ali Saif Sultan

healthy partnership the two countries have in many fields, explaining that the recent conference in London was yet another indication to the good will UAE government has towards Yemen.

shallows, which are characteristic of much of the Gulf coast, are ideal for fishing with traps or cast nets.

### Boat building

Dhow construction remains very much a living tradition in the Emirates with at least as many traditional craft being built now as at the beginning of the last century. Dhows with inboard motors are still used for regional trade and fishing, but it is the hugely popular traditional sailing and rowing races that continue to foster the traditional craft.

### Pearling

Pearling has been an important economic activity in the region since ancient times, but the trade fluctuated throughout the centuries.

### Falconry

Falconry, once an important way of sup-

plementing the diet of the UAE's desert inhabitants, is now enjoyed as a traditional pastime.

### Horses

Ancessor of today's racing thoroughbreds, the Arabian horse has played a noble part in the history of Arabia.

### Music, dance and poetry

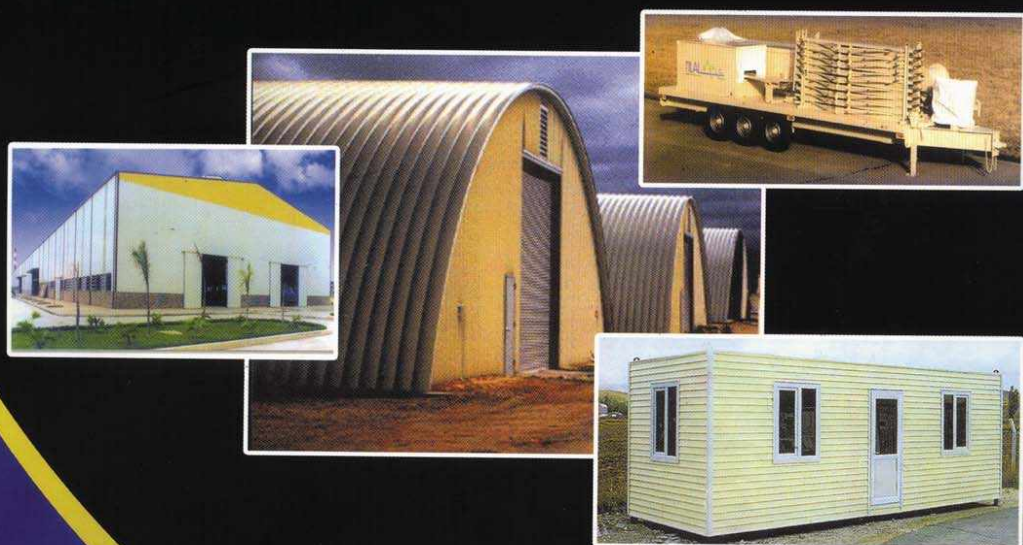
Songs were composed to accompany different tasks, from hauling water at the well, to diving for pearl oysters out in the Gulfing and shellfish gathering (including the harvesting of pearls) would have been the main pursuits, and moved to the interior in summer, where pastoralism and, eventually, horticulture, were practiced.

Tourist material and pictures source: UAE Interact

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