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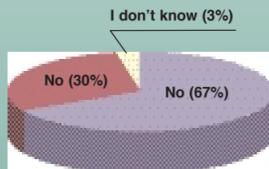
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**Interactive Poll**  
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This edition's question:

Do you think 2007 going to be a bad year for Yemeni journalists?

- Yes
- No
- I don't know

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

## Military option seems impossible to end Sa'ada war

By: Mohammed bin Sallam

SA'ADA, Feb. 28 — Fierce confrontations between government forces and Al-Houthi rebels are ongoing in various Sa'ada governorate areas, leaving behind hundreds of killed and injured, together with immense material losses involving military hardware and both public and private property. However, the exact number of casualties is unknown, as there have been no statements from either side.

The ongoing war also has paralyzed trade and damaged area residents' interests as authorities have imposed more restrictions. Further, transport between Sa'ada and other Yemeni governorates and areas has been congested, with the same applying to telecommunications.

However, since Monday, confrontations have decreased in Al-Talh Mountains and surrounding areas, where clashes peaked during the past week.

Media sources report that since Monday, army forces have intensified their offensives against Al-Naqah and other nearby mountains where the largest number of Houthis congregated following the second war in Sa'ada in 2005. Since then, rebels have dug caves and trenches for themselves and their



Yahya Al-Houthi

families.

Moreover, numerous confrontations occurred during the same time period in Al-Habayel area and other mountains in the area of Saqeen, which borders Haydan district, but losses haven't been recorded yet.

According to some observers, the human situation has become very serious, with most villages and areas on the various battlefronts having suffered human disaster. Further, residents can't contact other places or even leave their areas for other locations where security exists.

Additionally, foodstuffs haven't reached the area since confrontations erupted at the end of January.

Several international organizations warn about the Yemeni army's excessive use of power, further warning against committing any crimes that could be considered war crimes. Amnesty International demanded the Yemeni government deal transparently in the war, as well as with civilians or military victims.

Continued on page 2

## Intimidated journalist appeals to authorities

By: Adil Al-Khawliani

SANA'A, Feb. 28 — Journalist Khalid Dallaq has appealed to the attorney general and the interior minister to intervene in easing the state of intimidation and fear he has experienced for eight days, as he and his family often are followed and intimidated by a military leader without any clear reason.

Dallaq told Nasspress.net that two soldiers have been stationed in front of his house for a week under the pretext that they want to arrest and transfer him to Prosecution after military leaders filed suit against him. They told Dallaq that the appeals court sentenced him to eight months in jail, but with suspended execution, and fined him YR 150,000.

According to Dallaq, the soldiers say something is seriously wrong, particularly after his defense attorney went to the capital appeals court to learn whether his client has been sued and why he's being followed.

Dallaq expressed curiosity at authorities using force and following him without consulting the judiciary and law or respecting human rights. He added that he has suffered much from being followed by the authorities.

Dallaq noted that he's sorry because the other party in the case isn't considering proposals offered by the attorney general and the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate three days ago. Both the attorney general and the syndicate obliged the two sides to handle the issue and end their dispute.

The journalist pointed out that the attorney general suspended the aforementioned case in prosecution and courts in order to tackle the issues in a friendly manner. "I abided by the agreement, but the other party [the authorities] are escalating the issue," Dallaq lamented.

In a statement released last week, the Press Freedom Center condemned Dallaq's intimidation and following by authorities. It further denounced the silence of both officials and civil community organizations, who haven't shown any reaction to Dallaq's ordeal. The center urged all those concerned to intervene in putting a stop to all arbitrary practices against journalists by influential individuals.

Continued on page 2

## Yemen on alert to combat locusts

By: Amel Al-Ariqi

SANA'A, Feb. 28 — Yemen is preparing to face potential desert locust swarms following a warning by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization last week, according to an official at Yemen's Ministry of Agriculture.

"We've put in place an emergency plan to combat a potential locust outbreak following reports of a spate in nearby Eritrea and Sudan in December 2006," said Abdu Far'e Al-Rumaih, general director of the agriculture ministry's Desert Locusts Control Center. "Last week, we received reports that Sudan has already combat desert locusts, so we're expecting the locust infestation from Eritrea," he noted, adding that the main areas possibly affected by infestation are in Hajjah, Hodeidah and Abyan governorates.

Continued on page 3



Yemen experienced locust infestations in 1986, 1987 and 1993, which was a particularly serious outbreak.

## Islah confirms its solidarity with JMP and Sheikh Zindani

By: Yasser Al-Mayasi

SANA'A, Feb. 27 — The Yemeni Islah Party concluded on Monday its fourth conference which lasted for three days. In its concluding statement, Islah assured it will work on developing its different structures and adjust its systems and bylaws. It further stressed it will adhere to the Joint Meeting Parties' vision and work with the opposition to correct all aspects relating to the electoral process according to the Agreement of Principles signed by opposition parties and the General

People Congress, the ruling party. The statement also showed solidarity with Sheikh Abdulmajed Al-Zindani and denounced American accusations against him. It further asked the government to exert efforts to release Sheikh Mohammed Al-Moayyed and Mohammed Zaid who are detained over baseless terrorist accusations in America after they were kidnapped from Germany in 2003.

The conference re-elected Sheikh Abdullah bin Hussain Al-Ahmer as chairman of Islah's higher authority, Mohammed Al-Yadomi as deputy chair-

man and Suliman Al-Ahdal chairman of Islah's judicial authority.

Further, the party elected 130 people as members of its Shoura Council. The party also stressed the importance of creating a political dialogue among all political forces and helping Yemen's development by an optimal exploitation of economic resources together with securing enough allowances for health and education in a way that creates real and sustainable development.

It also emphasized the importance of enhancing the partnership between Yemen and other countries, especially

Gulf countries. Further, the statement asked the government to exploit the grants and loans to serve the economic and social development and to show transparency in their administration. Moreover, the statement called for ensuring workers' rights especially those affiliated with the private sector. It also criticized some private companies and establishments' violations of labor law and the International Labor Code Yemen ratified.

Additionally, the statement asked for supporting women and eradicating illiteracy among them.

## Businessmen continue protest against sales tax

By: Yemen Times Aden Bureau

ADEN, Feb 28 — Many merchants and businessmen in Aden expressed their resentment to new amendments in the sales tax law, confirming that they will continue their strike unless and until something is done in this matter.

Ahmed Hadi Salem director of the Chamber of Commerce in Aden stated that businessmen will continue the strike while closing their shops and retail outlets in several districts of Aden in protest against the regulations in the sales tax law, which they feel, are harming their businesses.

"Heads of the Chamber of Commerce offices around the country met with the Prime Minister Abdulqadir Bajamal and demanded change in the

applied taxes recommending the government to invite an internationally renowned organization specialized in taxes to study the current taxation system in Yemen and suggest alternatives that would solve the business sector's problems with regards to this matter. However, the government did not appreciate our recommendation and nothing was done about it," said Salem emphasizing that the private sector is ready to abide by any laws so long as they allow reasonable returns to the sector.

According to Mohammad Hassan Al-Zubairi chairman of the Yemen and Gulf Bank, the sales tax is a method for limiting purchase price hikes, and which is enforced by the International Monetary Fund and World Bank.

"Consequently, the end prices for the consumers will increase and so the purchase power will decrease and the poor would become poorer," he added. However, Al-Zubairi commented that businessmen reject some of the sales tax regulations because it will oblige them to allow tax personnel to visit them regularly for tax collection and inspection.

"The state should focus on ports and entry points to the country and work the new sales tax law gradually in a way that does not affect the citizen or the private sector negatively," he concluded.

The private sector in Yemen has been pressurizing the government for the last few weeks to reconsider its actions and invest more in infrastructure and facilitation of investment. Although the tax

authority has broadcasted advertisements explaining that only large businesses will be affected by the tax and advised them not to be misinformed or manipulated by larger businesses as most merchants who went on strike will not be affected by the tax law.

Previously last month, hundreds of Yemeni businessmen, investors and merchants congregated at the Sana'a Chamber of Commerce in solidarity with Yemeni businessman Jamal Al-Mutareb who was subjected to a harsh media campaign from September 26, the official newspaper of the Yemeni armed forces. Al-Mutareb expressed his fears of the consequences for the government's policies related to economy and investment with specific reference to the General Sales Tax.

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## In brief

## HODEIDA

## Fishermen trained

Feb. 26 — The fishermen training course on fish quality and means of preserving them started last Saturday. In coordination with the Fish Quality Control Project, the Hodeida Fisheries Office organized the event at the Marine Sciences Center with the aim of promoting fish exports. As many as 20 fishermen from Hodeida and some fish cooperation societies are attending the seven-day course, which aims to train fishermen on the meaning of fish quality and its importance, as well as instruct them on how to use the means of maintaining the quality of the product for a longer period of time.

## HADRAMOUT

## Deaf and mute teaching programs developed

Feb. 27 — The Deputy Governor of Hadramout for Valley and Desert Affairs Fahd Saleh Al-A'ajam and Ms. Lieza King, the Australian Volunteer in deaf and mute teaching programs discussed the means for developing the mechanism of teaching deaf and mute in the governorate. The discussion aims to ensure this social group their right to good quality education. Al-A'ajam praised the efforts so far pursued by the Australian volunteer in training several teachers on the sign language and the scientific methods of teaching deaf and mute.

## IBB

## Symposium condemns terrorism

Feb. 26 — Civil community organizations and youth activities in Ibb governorate condemned during a Sunday's symposium the acts and vandalism launched by terrorist elements in some areas of Sa'ada. The symposium confirmed that the terrorist acts including highway activities, intimidating innocent people and assaulting public interests, are plotted by foreign forces, who aim to reach their goals at the expense of Yemen's interest, national unity, security and stability. The symposium called on Yemeni people to confront such terrorist plots against Yemen.

## SANA'A

## Security cooperation between Yemen and UAE

Feb. 27 — UAE Deputy Minister of Interior Saif Abdullah Al-Shafar has just arrived in Sana'a for talks with Yemeni officials on different areas of security cooperation between both Arab states. The UAE official told the media that he visited Yemen to take part in signing a security cooperation agreement between the interior ministries in both countries with the aim of enhancing official efforts to confront all forms of crimes. He praised the mutual cooperation between Yemen and his government. The two sides discussed the means of strengthening security cooperation, fighting terrorism and smuggling, as well as training security personnel and exchanging experiences.

## Jordanian official leaves Yemen

Feb. 27 — Chairman of the Jordanian Youth Supreme Council Atef Odheibat departed Sana'a Tuesday following his several-day visit to Yemen. Odheibat described his tour as successful and declared that both Arab countries agreed to place the agreements between the Yemeni Ministry of Youth and Sports and his council into effect. He added that the two sides are due to carry out projects, aimed at serving youth and sporting activities in the two brotherly countries.

## ADEN

## Tourists appreciate Aden

Feb. 26 — A group of 18 French and Polish tourists declared earlier this week that they appreciated Aden's historic and ancient monuments, which according to them, reflect the cultural, historical and civil dimension achieved by the Yemeni man through different stages of Yemen's history. The team said it is happy to visit Yemen and know about its historic and tourist attractions, mainly the architectural style.

## Sana'a Assembly summit concludes in Ethiopia

SANA'A, Feb. 28 — The Sana'a Assembly's fifth Summit concluded Monday in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa in the presence of Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh, Sudan's President Omar Hassan Al-Bashir, Somali President Abdullahi Yusuf Ahmed, and Ethiopian Prime Minister Meles Zenawi.

During the meeting, the leaders tackled ways of enhancing cooperative relations among their countries in all fields. They also discussed the latest developments at the international and regional level, at top of which the developments in the Horn of Africa.

Concluding their summit, the leaders agreed to set up a secretary for the Sana'a Assembly, with Sana'a, the capital of Yemen, as its premises. The leaders agreed to discuss a number of issues of mutual interest regarding the situation in the Sana'a Assembly state members, as they intend to achieve

and maintain peace and security in the Horn of Africa and south of the Red Sea.

The leaders announced their commitment to help maintain security and stability in Somalia. The summit renewed its commitment to find an inclusive and permanent solution to the problem in Somalia and respect the independence and unity of that country in a way that matches up with the goals and principals of the UN and African Union as well as the UN Resolution No (1944) for 2007.

The summit also urged to promptly spread African peace-keeping forces in Somalia.

The leaders, moreover, welcomed the initiative of the Somali Transitional Federal Government regarding national reconciliation and talk that involves all factions in the country. They called on Somalis to cast away all forms of violence and

terrorism.

The summit appealed to the international community to assist the Somali people in order maintain peace and security that have been achieved so far. The leaders appreciated the efforts made to enhance the peace agreement in eastern Sudan and Darfur as well as the latest efforts to involve all factions in the peace process in Darfur.

The leaders, meanwhile, appreciated the positive developments of the relations between Sudan and Chad, condemning all forms of violence and terrorism.

The summit praised Mecca Agreement, and called on the Security Council to implement the Road Map as well as all the relevant international resolutions and Arab peace initiative in order to establish a Palestinian state and end all forms of blockades imposed on the Palestinian people.

## Rising Suns of Japanese Cinema come to Sana'a

SANA'A, Feb. 26 — The Embassy of Japan, with the support of the French Cultural Centre, inaugurated the second Japanese Film Festival in Sana'a. Continuing for three days and showing a total of six films, the festival offered the predominantly Yemeni audience a valuable and fascinating insight into various aspects of modern Japanese society.

The event was opened by the Deputy Japanese Ambassador, Matahiro Yamaguchi, who said that the Japanese Embassy was glad to be able to contribute to the diversity of cultural events available in Sana'a, further asserting that such knowledge and understanding of other cultures is one of the very bases of civilization itself. Shown in their original Japanese with Arabic subtitles, the audience were regaled with a diverse display of Japanese cinema, ranging from the chilling contribution of Director Kiyoshi Kurosawa with his horror film 'Pulse'(2001), to the moving animation classic 'Tombstone for Fireflies'(Hotaru No Haka) (1988) from Studio Ghibli and directed by Isao Takahata.

With most foreign films available in Yemen hailing from within the Arab world or from the two warring moguls of modern cinema that are Hollywood and Bollywood, the festival was a rare glimpse into a booming film industry gaining increasingly international acclaim. The 1950s have been considered the zenith of Japanese cinema, with the release of such films as 'Seven Samurai' and Akira Kurosawa's 'Rashomon'. More recently, the 2001 Hayao Miyazaki classic 'Spirited Away' catapulted Japanese animation, the cinematic style for which the country is perhaps best known today, once again onto the global scene, earning itself a US Academy Award for Best Animation Feature.

Speaking to Yemen Times, Terumi Yamazaki, Cultural Attache to the Japanese Embassy in Sana'a, noted the difficulty in finding Japanese movies with Arabic subtitles, informing us that films included in the festival were kindly provided by the Japan Foundation, a semi-governmental



agency, from their archive in Cairo, Egypt. The efforts of all involved, particularly the Japanese Embassy and the staff of the French Cultural Centre, were, however, appreciated by all for providing a fascinating insight into such a culturally-rich nation as Japan.

## Diplomatic team visits Soqatra Island

SOQOTRA, Feb.27 — Diplomats and ambassadors concluded on Monday a three-day visit to Soqatra, the largest Yemeni Island, about 500 miles south-east of Aden.

The visit was organized by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The aim of the visit is to inform foreign ambassadors and diplomats in Yemen about the national wealth and investment chances available on the Island, said Ibrahim Saeed, Head of Ceremonies Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The diplomatic team toured many natural and tourist conservation areas, such as Thi-Hamari Marine Protectorate and Thi-Tawah mountainous area, and then they visited the project of regrowing the dragon blood tree in Shabahan region.

The team also visited the general assembly for environment protection and Sawm program for Suqatri development and they got information about the activities of the session in developing the Island projects.

The ambassadors expressed their

admiration for the island, which they described as a valuable gem, hoping to visit it again. They thanked the ministry for organizing this successful visit.

The UNDP official, Flavia Pansieri said that the Soqatra's heritage is important and that the locals' language needs to be documented, hoping UNESCO would perform its role in this field.

The ministry has already organized similar visits to the island. Saeed said the ministry is preparing other visits to the island.

## Al-Tuhaif's lawyer seeks her release from death penalty

SANA'A, Feb. 28 — At the request of Judge Abdullah Al-Olif, a first instance court session was held Monday in Mahwit governorate to investigate Amina Al-Tuhaif's involvement in a traffic accident that led to killing her daughter and determine her complicity in the accident or not.

Al-Tuhaif arrived at the court under tight security to protect her from an exceptional attack by her husband's family.

Supreme Court lawyer Shadha Mohammed Nasser, who is Al-Tuhaif's attorney, is requesting Mahwit governorate's public prosecution review Al-Tuhaif's death sentence due to new evidence in the case.

Mohammed Sa'eed Ali, a fellow attorney in Nasser's office who attended the court session in Nasser's stead, is seeking to have the case dropped and release Al-Tuhaif from the death sentence, especially following her daughter's death.

"The court doesn't have the right to



Lawyer Shadha Mohammed Nasser.

sentence Al-Tuhaif to death just because she became the only inheritor from both her daughter and her husband. So the death penalty is impossible to apply in Al-Tuhaif's case," Nasser stated.

Al-Tuhaif now should be free according to Yemeni law, which prohibits executing those found guilty when they were under age 18 at the time a crime was committed, so she

should be released immediately. Additionally, failing to release any prosecution against her will be injustice. Nasser noted that the case's next session will be after two weeks.

Nasser clarified that what official newspapers and other media outlets have published about President Ali Abdullah Saleh's amnesty decision is incorrect. "If President Saleh has commuted Al-Tuhaif's death sentence, it's only gossip. The information many newspapers published was untrue and it's just a way to skew public opinion about the case," she added.

Al-Tuhaif remains imprisoned, but if such newspaper reports were correct, Al-Tuhaif might have been freed long ago.

Al-Tuhaif, a wife and mother who was just 16 when the alleged crime was committed, is accused of killing her husband Hizam. In reality, her family executed her when they deprived her of education and her childhood and forced her to marry as a child.

## Draft law to fight terrorism and money laundering

SANA'A, Feb. 25 — Yemen and Saudi Arabia have future plans and programs to expand their cooperation on fighting drug smugglers, according to Brig. Khalid Al-Radhi, the general manager of Drugs Fighting Administration at the Interior Ministry.

Al-Radhi pointed out the earlier cooperation resulted in conducting extensive courses on how to fighting smugglers from which 50 Yemeni officials benefited. The courses were taught by experts from the Drugs Fighting Administration and King Faud University.

The Yemeni government also intends to endorse a new and united draft law to fight money laundering and terrorism financing as an alternative to the law on money laundering issued in 2003.

General Manager of Legal Affairs at the Yemeni Central Bank Mustafa Saif told Mayo News the unified draft law for fighting money laundering and terrorism financing will be presented to the cabinet within the few coming days after finalizing its formulation in collaboration with United Nation Office on fighting Drugs and Crime.

The draft law comes in line with the law issued by the United Nation Office on Fighting Drugs and Crime and in a way that fits with the international standards.

Yemen sought U.N. cooperation in this respect during the visit paid by the office's executive director Antonio Maria Costa to Yemen a month ago.

Costa assured that his office is keen to help Yemen on aspects relating to fighting organized crime and money laundering.

The cabinet approved on Saturday forming a committee to evaluate the efforts relating money laundering and terrorism financing. Forming the committee, according to Saif, aims to prepare for the evaluation undertaken by Financial Work Group for Middle East and North Africa on Fighting Money Laundering and Terrorism Financing.

The financial work group aims to identify the systems followed in fighting money laundering and terrorism financing in Yemen and provide the required legislations. It also aims to verify the international cooperation in this respect according to the international standards represented in the 40 recommendations of the United Nation Office on Fighting Drugs and Crime on Money Laundering and the nine special recommendations on terrorist financing.

He further indicated the joint evaluation for the international team together with the Yemeni side will start by sending a questionnaire relating to all systems implemented and applied in security and banking aspect.

The Money Laundering Committee submitted its report for the last six months to the cabinet during its session held on Saturday to discuss all accomplishments achieved by in this respect.

Saif also assured Yemen has achieved a lot in fighting money laundering and terrorism financing together with providing the required legislations. It also participated in many periodic meetings and organized many national symposiums and workshops to discuss these two issues and create an awareness of their risks.

## Continued from page 1

## Military option seems impossible to end Sa'ada war

According to sources close to the rebels, the continued raiding and use of fighters and heavy weapons by government forces, in addition to the involvement of influential individuals who don't want the war to end, will lead Houthi to expand the war to other Yemeni towns and areas.

In related news, several Sa'ada residents reported that Al-Mahather, Harf Sufian and other locations for the first time witnessed mass evacuations to Sa'ada city and other nearby areas where there are no confrontations after authorities told residents to leave their homes in order to enable government forces to get Houthis out of the area.

Yemeni authorities instituted a media blackout from the end of January and further cut all telecommunications in order to hide what's happening on the war fronts.

Media sources affiliated with the ruling party expressed their disapproval of Abdulmalik Al-Houthi's decision to accept President Ali Abdullah Saleh's call for Al-Houthi rebels to descend from the mountains and participate in the Yemeni political process. They further disapproved of his welcoming a Joint Meeting Parties' statement aimed at finding a peaceful solution to the Sa'ada situation.

The ruling party's Al-Mithaq newspaper doubted the existence of any such initiative by the JMP and maintained, "What the five parties [the JMP] have issued is a weak statement that doesn't say anything. They just want to endorse the issue for their political and malicious scores."

Commenting on the ruling party's upset, a JMP source responded, "Such upset expresses the authority's real dilemma in the war in Sa'ada."

According to Aleshteraki.net, the source added, "[Abdulmalik] Al-Houthi's welcome of the Joint Meeting Parties' initiative and his acceptance of President Saleh's call to form a political party and hand over their heavy arms invalidates all alleged war excuses and further reveals that the authority is waging war with no aim except to kill and tear up national unity."

For his part, Deputy Interior Minister Mutaher Rashad Al-Misri stated that securi-

ty apparatuses seized documents carried by some arrested Houthis revealing those who are standing behind them and their links abroad.

In an extended meeting with military leaders and Sa'ada dignitaries on Tuesday, Al-Misri noted, "The documents displayed a dangerous magnitude for sedition and plans against the interests of Yemen and its people."

He added, "These elements are implementing foreign plans aimed at settling scores over Yemeni land at the risk of Yemen and Yemenis' interests."

Al-Misri further assured political and military leaders' resolve to root out Houthis after it exhausts all peaceful options.

Yemeni Members of Parliament on Wednesday discussed a request by Justice Minister Jazi Al-Aghbari to withdraw immunity from MP Yahya Al-Houthi, who now is living in Germany. Among the votes, 170 MPs voted in favor of withdraw immunity from him, seven opposed it and one abstained from voting.

Accusations in Al-Aghbari's letter include illegal contact of foreign nations in a way that harms Yemen's economic, diplomatic and political position and further, attempting to incite sectarian and ethical differences between Yemenis.

Additionally, Yahya Al-Houthi, who is Abdulmalik Al-Houthi's brother, conducted numerous interviews with satellite TV channels, radio stations and electronic web sites prior to his departure and at a time when he was among the mediation committee members. In such interviews, he defended the Faithful Youth Organization, describing its followers as the wronged who have right on their side.

Following his departure from Yemen, he began contacting foreign parties to internationalize the issue and further contacted those who call themselves "the opposition abroad" in order to unify their efforts against the state and seek the help of foreign states. He also conducted interviews with television and radio stations and web sites, including Arabia Satellite Channel, Al-Alam, Nass Press, Marib Press and Al-Wasset newspaper.

## Intimidated journalist appeals to authorities

## Additional press violations

The Yemeni Journalists Syndicate denounced the Ministry of Telecommunication's blackout of the Popular Forces Union Party-affiliated Shoura.net, demanding the ministry immediately release the web site.

According to the syndicate, such measures are a violation of press freedom and it called on concerned parties to take swift action against all of those who violate press freedom.

In the same context, a security officer at Islah's Fourth General Conference prevented Maribpress.net reporter Ali Al-Ghulaisi from attending the conference's concluding session on Monday.

Al-Ghulaisi affirmed that the security officer, who was in charge of searching entrants at the

door, belongs to the Yemeni intelligence organization. The officer accused Maribpress.net of being loyal to Yahya Al-Houthi.

"I asked the officer to allow me to enter the conference hall like the other reporters and correspondents from local and international media, but he refused," Al-Ghulaisi recounted. "The officer told members of the conference's Organization and Media Committee to say that Maribpress.net is extremely engaged in Al-Houthi information and isn't free to cover the Islah Party conference."

Officials at the web site expressed their concern over such conduct by authorities and their animosity toward independent journalism in Yemen.

## Yemen on alert to combat locusts

Al-Rumaih stressed the importance of fighting the locusts in desert areas before their arrival at the agricultural areas. "Yemen could lose YR 164 billion [\$840 million] if these locusts plague our crops," he predicted, adding that four teams currently are monitoring the situation: two in Hodeidah governorate, one in Hajjah and the fourth in Abyan.

"There will be 42 teams in all, as set out in the emergency plan, and all teams will be used once the locusts arrive in Yemen," he explained.

Last Friday, FAO reported that locust numbers continued increasing in January along the Eritrean coast and adjacent coastal areas of Sudan. Other Red Sea and Gulf of Aden countries could face significant infestations of the crop-devouring insects this winter due to

unusually good rains and favorable ecological conditions. The U.N. body warned that Yemen could experience a locust infestation either at the end of February or the beginning of March.

"Small-scale breeding is in progress in coastal areas of Saudi Arabia and Yemen, and reports of locust concentrations on the north-west coast of Somalia have been received by FAO," the organization said in a statement.

There are two types of locusts in Yemen: desert locusts and local breeding locusts, however, the latter aren't considered any real danger because they exist in "small numbers" Al-Rumaih indicated.

Yemen experienced locust infestations in 1986, 1987 and 1993, which was a particularly serious outbreak. Additional outbreaks in 2002 and 2004 were successfully controlled.

# War crimes suspects named in Darfur

By: Emma Thomasson

THE HAGUE (Reuters) — The International Criminal Court chief prosecutor named a Sudanese minister and a militia commander on Tuesday as the first suspects he wants tried for war crimes in Darfur and suggested more could follow.

Chief prosecutor Luis Moreno-Ocampo asked pre-trial judges to issue summonses for Ahmed Haroun, state interior minister during the height of the Darfur conflict, and militia commander Ali Muhammad Ali Abd-al-Rahman, also known as Ali Kushayb.

"Our work sends a signal: those who commit atrocities cannot do so without impunity," he told a news conference, adding that prosecutors were still gathering evidence of crimes in Darfur.

Haroun is currently Sudan's state humanitarian affairs minister, a post below the full ministerial level. Prosecutors said Kushayb was a commander of the Janjaweed militia who led attacks on towns and villages, where dozens were killed.

In a 94-page filing, ICC prosecutors accused the two of criminal responsibility in relation to 51 counts of alleged crimes against humanity and war crimes in 2003 and 2004, and urged Khartoum to make sure the suspects appear at the court.

Experts say some 200,000 people have been killed and 2.5 million others driven from their homes in Darfur since 2003, when rebels took up arms against the government, charging it with neglect. Khartoum says about 9,000 people have died.

U.N. and African Union observers blame pro-government militias for the worst atrocities. The Sudanese government has denied arming the Janjaweed, which it describes as outlaws.

Sudan said the ICC had no right to try the suspects and questioned the evidence gathered by its investigators.

"All the evidence the prosecutor referred to is lies given to him by people who bear arms against the state, bear arms against citizens and kill innocent citizens in Darfur," Justice Minister Mohamed Ali al-Mardi said in Khartoum.

**High and mighty not immune**  
Human rights groups welcomed the ICC



A displaced Sudanese family in north Darfur, September 6, 2006. The International Criminal Court's chief prosecutor will name the first suspects accused of committing war crimes in Sudan's Darfur region on Tuesday and human rights activists hope he will pursue senior figures. REUTERS

move, particularly as it targeted a minister, the first government figure the ICC has named as a suspect after focussing on rebel leaders in other investigations into Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

"I think that it is a very important and welcome development," said Louise Arbour, United Nations' High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Arbour, whose office has accused Khartoum of systematically failing to protect civilians and bring those responsible for violence to justice, said she hoped the move would be a "strong deterrent" against continuing bloodshed.

She said that she expected the investigations to continue and that charges would be brought against high level officials from both the government and the rebel side.

Moreno-Ocampo said investigations were continuing and noted his office was monitoring the spill-over of violence from Darfur into Chad and the Central African Republic. He said fighting in Darfur made investigations difficult, but his team had taken 100 witness statements in 17 countries.

The prosecutor said the evidence collected showed Haroun funded the Janjaweed from an unlimited budget that was not publicly audited and was seen personally delivering arms, ammunition and well-guarded boxes to the militia in Darfur.

He said Kushayb was seen giving orders to the Janjaweed, personally inspecting a group of naked women before they were raped by men in military uniforms and personally participating in summary executions, one involving at least 32 men.

Haroun's office said he was in Jordan this week for medical treatment but would be returning to Sudan shortly.

Sudan's justice minister said Kushayb had been in Sudanese custody since November on suspicion of violating Sudanese laws and was under investigation for actions in Darfur.

**Cooperation**  
The ICC is only supposed to prosecute when national courts are unwilling or unable to act, but rights groups say Khartoum's own investigations into Darfur have been largely for show.

Moreno-Ocampo said Khartoum had largely cooperated with his investigators although it had not given them all the information they requested or allowed them to interview the two suspects.

He said prosecutors had taken into account Sudan's own Darfur investigations, including into Kushayb's activities, but said their case was still admissible because it encompassed more extensive allegations.

He said it could take several months for the ICC to decide on whether to issue summons or arrest warrants.

The U.N. Security Council asked the ICC in March 2005 to launch an investigation into the violence in Darfur, which the United States has called genocide, a charge Khartoum denies.

The charges against the two suspects do not include genocide, but Moreno-Ocampo said he could not rule out that this might be included in future investigations.

The ICC, the world's first permanent war crimes court, started work in 2002 and is now supported by 104 nations, although still not by Russia, China and the United States.

# Bosnia peace overlord's role extended until 2008

BRUSSELS, Feb 27 (Reuters) — The powerful role of Bosnia's peace overseer was extended for a year from July due to concerns about the political stability of the Balkan state, the outgoing holder of the post Christian Schwarz-Schilling said on Tuesday.

Separately, the European Union adopted plans to cut its 6,000-strong peace force in Bosnia to 2,500 by June, EU officials said, saying they had few concerns about security.

Bosnia's Peace Implementation Council (PIC) agreed to extend the mandate of the international high representative despite Russia's opposition, Schwarz-Schilling told a news conference.

The office, created to oversee implementation of the Dayton peace accord ending the 1992-95 war, has powers to sack officials and impose laws. It had been due for abolition on June 30 following full transition to the Bosnian government.

"Politically, however, the authorities of Bosnia-Herzegovina have yet to rise to the challenge of ownership, and additionally the regional situation remains poten-

tially volatile," Schwarz-Schilling said, referring to an imminent decision on the status of neighbouring Serbia's break-away province of Kosovo.

"Under such circumstances, maintaining the (high representative) is both the most prudent and responsible situation for now," said the former German minister, who will step down on June 30. His successor has not been named.

Bosnian Prime Minister Nikola Spiric said he was not opposed to the extension of the mandate as such, but it might limit the incentive for dialogue and compromise in his country.

"Why should anyone participate in dialogue when they know someone can simply impose a solution?" he told reporters, referring to the international pro-consul's powers.

The PIC includes Balkan, EU and Middle Eastern states as well as the United States and Canada.

Bosnian leaders failed last week to break a year-long deadlock over unification of police forces, a condition for establishing closer ties with the European Union.

# Rice softens over Iran role in Iraq

The US will attend a meeting hosted by the Iraqi government in April along with Iraq's neighbours Iran and Syria.

The two Middle East countries are being asked to help stabilise Iraq, and the US presence marks a significant change in the Bush administration's approach to the countries.

Condoleezza Rice, the US secretary of state, made the announcement in remarks prepared for a senate commission on Tuesday.

"We hope that all governments seize this opportunity to improve their relations with Iraq and to work for peace and stability in the region," Rice said.

She said that US and Iraqi officials agreed that success in Iraq "requires the positive support of Iraq's neighbours".

"I am pleased to announce that we are also supporting the Iraqis in a new diplomatic offensive: to build greater support, both within the region and beyond, for peace and prosperity in Iraq," she said.

Other Arab countries and Iran have not confirmed their attendance or the level of delegates they would send.

Others invitees include members of the Arab League and the five permanent members of the UN Security Council.

**Nuclear issue**  
Rice's announcement comes in spite of the US's ongoing confrontation with Iran over its nuclear programme.

US officials say Iran is seeking to develop nuclear weapons, while Tehran says its enrichment programme is for domestic energy.

A UN Security Council deadline for Tehran to suspend uranium enrichment has just expired, and the US wants the council to expand the limited sanctions the world body has imposed on Iran.

Speaking about the US shift in policy, Tony Snow, the White House press secretary, told reporters the Bush administration is "happy that the government of Iraq is taking this step and engaging its neighbours. And we also hope and expect that Iran and Syria will play constructive roles in those talks."

However, Snow said the agenda "is being set up by the government of Iraq. And the conditions, especially for bilateral conversations with the Iranians, are pretty clear".

The Bush administration in recent weeks had increased its public criticism of Iran's role in Iraq, charging it with supplying deadly weapons, including advanced technologies for the most lethal form of roadside bombs.

It has also accused Syria of harbouring anti-Iraqi government forces and allowing weapons to cross its border.

Source: Aljazeera.net

## JOB VACANCY

The Republic of Yemen (The National Population Council-Technical Secretariat) has received grant no. (YEM-305-G03-H) from the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM), The Technical Secretariat announces a job vacancy for "Program Officer" at the AIDS UNIT of the National Population Council-Technical Secretariat.

### Responsibilities:

Under the direct supervision of the Program Director, the incumbent will be responsible for the following duties:

1. Coordinate and manage program activities from substantive, administrative and financial points of view, manage strategic planning and systematic coordination of activities,
2. Provide leadership in advocating program objectives, and in assuring that all interested parties are well informed about the program activities and goals.
3. Ensure timely preparation of the Strategic plan and Quarterly Work plans/Progress Reports/Budget Forecasts;
4. Guide and orient the efforts and contributions of consultants, government counterparts, towards the achievement of program objectives.
5. Organize and manage all administrative activities required to maintain the flow of resources.
6. Ensure proper coordination and partnership in common development efforts.
7. Provide regular professional guidance to the supervised program staff as far as their professional enhancement and learning are concerned.
8. Arrange independent assessment/evaluations of activities' implementation within program.
9. Undertake regular field visits (if relevant).

### Qualifications:

- University Degree in management or related field.
- 6 years of professional experience in relevant fields.
- Knowledge of donor compliance requirements and standards.

### Skills:

- Good command of English language (both spoken and written).
- Excellent computer skills.

Interested Persons are requested to submit their C.V'S to (The executive Manager of AIDS Project Unit-National Population Council) within a week from the date of announcement,

On the following contact address:

The National Population Council  
Amran Street, next to the Shura Council  
Tel; 228509 – 228654  
Fax: 228633 - 231215

## U.S. investigates how bomber got close to Cheney

WASHINGTON (Reuters) — It is unclear how a suicide bomber was able to get close to a U.S. base in Afghanistan where U.S. Vice President Dick Cheney was staying, the White House said on Tuesday.

"At this point, people are still investigating what happened, so we don't have a firm answer for you," White House spokesman Tony Snow told reporters.

Up to 14 people were killed, including one American and one South Korean soldier, in an attack on the Bagram base rebels said was aimed at Cheney. A U.S. official said Cheney was about half a mile (1 km) away on the base and never in danger.

Snow called it an "isolated attack" and declined to say whether it was a sign of Taliban strength.

"We've often said about acts of terror: An individual who wants to commit an act of violence or kill him or herself — very difficult to stop. But I'm not sure that you can draw larger conclusions about any organisation based on an incident such as this," Snow said.

President George W. Bush's initial reaction to the attack was concern about whether Cheney was all right, he said.

The U.S. vice president is expected to meet Bush on Wednesday after his return from a trip that included last-minute stops in Afghanistan and Pakistan.

His visit was aimed in part at voicing concerns to Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf and Afghan President Hamid Karzai about the threat from al Qaeda and its Taliban allies on the Afghan and Pakistani borders, with a spring offensive from the Taliban expected in the spring.

# Announcement

## Invitation to Tender for the Supply and Delivery One Twin Screw Work Boat

Yemen Port Authority ( Port Of Aden ) intends to announce for the above tender.

The tender document is available to bidding companies at a cost of US\$ 150.00

Quotations are to be submitted **On Wednesday 4th April 2007**

For collection of tender document or more information, please contact:

**YPA – Head Office  
Tawahi – Aden  
Tel: 967- 2 – 204638 / 202669  
Fax: 967- 2 - 205805 / 201541  
Email: dgd@yemen.net.ye and  
ypaplanning@y.net.ye**

LUMIX

عدسة تقليدية ٣٥ ملم



عدسة بزوايا عريضة ٢٨ ملم



٢٨ ملم  
تشعرون معها  
بالفضح  
الملموس

تتميز كاميرا لوميكس FX50 بعدسة رائعة ٢٨ ملم تضيف المزيد إلى كل صورة لتلتقطها. فيمكنك بواسطتها الحصول على صورة أوسع شمولاً بالمقارنة مع عدسة الكاميرا العادية ٣٥ ملم. وستجد في كل صورة تلتقطها بكاميرا لوميكس FX50 مزايا مختلفة لا تعد ولا تحصى.

كاميرا أنيقة بعدسة ذات زاوية واسعة ٢٨ ملم



بدون تقنية ISO الذكية مع تقنية ISO الذكية

لتقطات فائقة الوضوح للأجسام المتحركة في إضاءة خافتة



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FX07 • عدسة ذات زاوية واسعة ٢٨ ملم • ١٠ ملايين بكسل • ١٠ ملايين بكسل • ١٠ ملايين بكسل

LX2 • عدسة ذات زاوية واسعة ٢٨ ملم • ١٠ ملايين بكسل • ١٠ ملايين بكسل • ١٠ ملايين بكسل



كاميرا  
FX50

- ٧.٢ ميجابكسل
- عدسة ذات زاوية واسعة ٢٨ ملم
- عدسة ليكا دي سي - فريزو-الحرث
- خاصية تحكم أوتو-الفلش مع تقنية 'ميت الصورة' (MEGA O.I.S)
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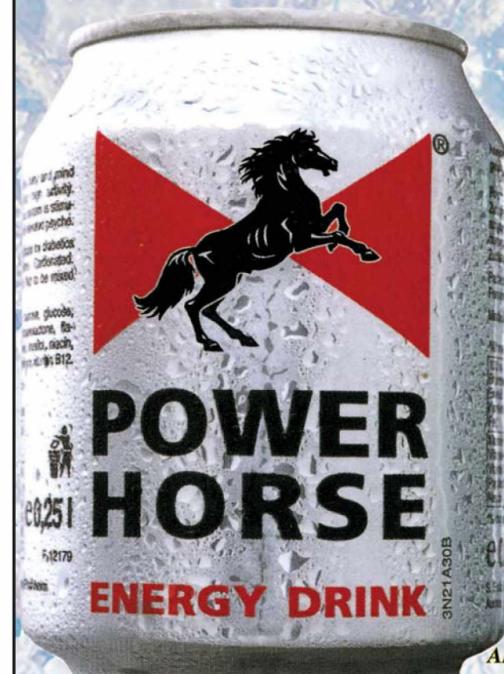
الجمهورية اليمنية- صنعاء • شارع الزبيدي: هاتف: ٢١٤٢٣٥/٦ • فاكس: ٢٠٧٢٤ • شارع حدة: هاتف: ٢٠٠٧٢٢-٢٠٠٧٢٨ • فاكس: ٢٠٠٨٢٤ • شارع المكل: هاتف: ٣٠٤٦٢٢ • فاكس: ٣١٦٤٦٦ • الحديدة: تليفاكس: ٢٠٥٨٥٥ • عدن: هاتف: ٢٤١٢٧١ • فاكس: ٢٤١٢٧٩ • المكلا: هاتف: ٣٠٤٦٢٢ • فاكس: ٣١٦٤٦٦

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## JOB VACANCIES

## الشركة اليمنية للغاز الطبيعي المسال YEMEN LNG COMPANY



The Yemen LNG project involves the construction and operation of a gas pipeline, a harbour and a liquid natural gas processing plant at Balhaf which will export 6.7 million tons of LNG per annum. The project offices are based in Sana'a and the project has an anticipated lifespan of over 20 years. Yemen LNG Company is now recruiting the temporary and permanent staff that will construct and manage the project. All candidates applying for these posts must be Yemeni nationals

### APPLICATION PROCESS

- Download the Yemen LNG Application Form from the Yemen LNG Website WWW.YEMENLNG.COM
- E-mail the completed form to HR@YEMENLNG.COM only.
- Do not make duplicate applications by post, fax, etc.
- Yemen LNG will contact potential candidates. Applicants not contacted by 30th April 2007 will have been unsuccessful on this occasion.

Closing Date: 21st March, 2007

**Job Title:** Head of Sales Administration - Ref No. 123

**Reports to:** Commercial & Shipping Manager

**Work Location:** Sana'a

### Duties & Responsibilities:

- Integrate and play key role in Yemen LNG's senior management team;
- Manage commercial, legal and operational aspects of Yemen LNG sales contracts and take full responsibility for proper contract implementation;
- Represent and protect Yemen LNG's commercial interests vis-à-vis Company's international customers;
- Establish and manage relationship with customers and inform customers on project progress through Monitoring Committees;
- Prepare and agree Annual Delivery Programme for LNG deliveries with customers and supervise the programme's proper implementation;
- Co-ordinate with Shipping Department all aspects related to maritime transportation;
- Ensure that all technical aspects of operations are handled;
- Manage and maintain database with market intelligence and analyse how market developments may affect the company;
- Develop department procedures including procedures for the Annual Delivery Programme and for invoicing in collaboration with Finance and Operations Departments;
- Negotiate Master Spot Agreements with potential future spot buyers.
- Supervise Plant and Finance Co-ordinator and provide coaching where needed;

### Qualifications:

- Bachelor or higher degree in Business Administration, Sales & Marketing or other relevant discipline;
- Minimum 10 years of relevant work experience, in the oil & gas industry;
- Sound understanding of issues related to the commercialisation of hydrocarbon products and maritime transportation;
- Very good negotiation skills and evidence of the management of complex, high value contracts;
- Excellent managerial and interpersonal skills with capability of operating in a multi-cultural environment;
- Excellent written and spoken English including a sound understanding of legal and technical gas industry jargon;
- Very good computer and numerical skills.

**Job Title:** Internal Audit Analyst - Ref No. 131

**Reports to:** Internal Auditor

**Work Location:** Sana'a

### Duties & Responsibilities:

- Carry out and document internal audit testing on regular basis and report on any irregularities or deficiencies found.
- Analyze events and transactions and their impacts to achieve the internal audit objectives.
- Assist in developing an internal audit plan and audit programs necessary to promote effective audit.
- Prepare comments and recommendations for audited divisions.
- Carry out all physical internal audit activities.
- Carry out specific audit as and when required.
- Apply, in appropriate circumstances, knowledge of basis of Information System (IS) audit techniques.

### Qualifications:

#### Essential:

- Accounting/Finance degree or professional qualification.
- At least 3 years previous Audit & Control experience.
- Good inter-personnel skill e.g. team worker, proactive...etc.
- Good report writing skills.
- Fluent in both written and spoken English and Arabic

#### Desirable:

- IT Audit Experience

# Bridging basic education gender gap in Taiz

By: Craig Anderson  
For Yemen Times  
and Nisreen Shadad

“Japan’s BRIDGE (Broadening Regional Initiative for Developing Girls’ Education) project has reached deprived places and implemented projects concerning girls’ education where the Ministry of Education didn’t reach,” said Deputy Minister of General Education Hasan Ba’aum.

The Japan International Cooperation Agency’s girls’ education project held a workshop Feb. 24 wherein JICA shared the project’s progress with the Yemeni government, including lessons learned and best practices from its experience.

Mahdi Ali Abdusalam, director of Taiz governorate’s Education Office, explained, “The six pilot districts were selected from particularly deprived rural areas where both female teachers and students were greatly outnumbered by their male counterparts, as well as having high female student dropout rates. Further, these districts are poor and citizens are unable to provide their children basic school materials.”

The difficulty citizens face to reach such districts and the schools in these districts meant that students, particularly girls, couldn’t study and numerous schools closed. “After six months of study, we selected the most deprived cities, as well as the poorest,” Abdusalam noted.

He stated that the project’s objectives are to improve girls’ access to educational opportunities at the basic school level in Taiz governorate, and through step-by-step evaluation, to develop a model that subsequently can be replicated across various Yemeni governorates.

Mawiyah, Maqbanah, Al-Waza’iya, Al-Mokha and Dhubab.

The project supports Yemen’s goal of providing basic education for 95 percent of children between ages 6 and 14 by the year 2015, aiming to do so by reducing the currently significant gap between the number of girls and boys enrolled in school.

Taiz governorate was singled out as a suitable region to launch the scheme due to being Yemen’s most highly populated region, in addition to displaying the greatest disparity between the number of girls and boys attending school.

Further reinforcing this is the project’s focus on Islamic education, a vital aspect in the scheme’s sustainability. Promoting consideration of such sayings by the Prophet Mohammed (pbuh) as “Seeking knowledge is every Muslim’s duty” and “Educating your daughter is a religious duty” allows the project to exist in line with prevailing religious beliefs and succeed in communities where the mosque often was the only previous source for education.

Abdusalam ascribed the low number of girls attending school to difficulties they face and lack of female teachers. “Parents need a safe environment to be able to send their daughters. When preparing a good environment, fathers send their daughters to schools,” he noted.

He ascertained that the project’s sustainability is founded upon the ability to mobilize local community participation to the highest level possible, as well as procure full support at both local and national government levels.

Emily Allardyce, a specialist in girls’ education on the JICA-BRIDGE team, stressed, “The project is not an imposition of foreign values upon



Satisfied female students from Al-Farwaq school in Mawiyah district.

districts. “Awareness has been raised further through radio and media campaigns,” Allardyce added.

Further features of the project also include implementing organized financial planning and budgeting within the 56 schools involved in the selected districts, improving the quality of school educational environments, as well as providing adult literacy classes. These classes are considered vital in their ability to change adult perceptions of the importance of education and subsequently encourage more of them to send their children to and keep them in school.

In the first year (2005-2006), JICA approved just over YR 28.4 million for 276 projects in 56 pilot schools in the six Taiz districts, with such projects set to exist as a model for other similar projects. JICA allocated 74.2 percent of funding to improve school educational environments, such as by constructing and repairing classrooms and hiring teachers. Remaining funds were allocated for other activities, such as purchasing water tanks, school bags, sewing machines and radios.

The results clearly are palpable. For example, in Maqbanah district’s Al-Jabri School, teachers previously forced to write on doors in place of blackboards now have been provided blackboards as a result of JICA funding.

In the workshop, the BRIDGE team received feedback from the government regarding the project’s improvement. Minister of Education Abdusalam Al-Jawfi considers the project a model one. Since the government has followed up the project’s philosophy

and strategy step by step. “We’ve observed an increase in the number of girls attending schools.”

The project will run through 2008, at the end of which it aims to have the average number of girls attending school to 85 percent, as compared to boys. Up to now, the project has attained a 75 percent average.

However, Yemeni residents in these districts are wary that such a project

will continue at the same quality once Japan leaves it to the Yemeni government in 2008. “If the Japanese leave the entire management of the project, we’ll begin from zero [meaning that the accomplishments they achieved will be diminished],” ascertained Ahmed Mohammed, general director of Maqbanah district’s education office.

The challenge now is to maintain the

level of success and ensure its momentum, which will be impossible without the Ministry of Education’s full support. At this stage, all parties involved, from each individual in the pilot communities right up to those at the government level, must work together if such an important project is to continue successfully after JICA’s withdrawal and if it’s to be a model for other such projects in the future.



A classroom scene from a school involved in the JICA BRIDGE project.

The project showcased the scheme’s unique and successful “bottom up” approach to educational development, wherein those communities selected to participate are given the responsibility to decide how they want to use the Japanese funding they receive.

JICA launched the three-year project in June 2005 in association with the Ministry of Education, Taiz governorate’s Education Office and smaller district education offices in six districts of the governorate: Sam’e,

Yemen. It’s being carried out in line with local cultural norms. The communities have been involved with the scheme’s planning from its very inception and must remain doing so if we want the project to continue successfully after JICA’s withdrawal next year.”

Added to that is women’s participation through the formation of mothers’ and fathers’ councils and raising awareness of the opportunities for girls’ education in the targeted



Bab Al-Mandab School, Dhubab, one school honored for exemplary displays of community participation in school activities



## Tender No. 3 / 2007 extension announcement

The Yemeni Radio and TV Corporation announces the extension of its tender number (3/2007) for supply, supervise installation, test, guarantee and hand-over of an integrated television system (audio / video) for transmitting religious rituals.

The tender is open until Wednesday 14/ 3/ 2007. And envelopes will be opened at 11:00 AM of the same day at the corporation's preemies.

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

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

##### No. 1

**Title:** Staff Assistant (WFP Representative's Secretary)  
**Post Level:** G-5  
**Contract Type:** Fixed Term  
**Period:** 12 months after three months probationary period  
**Duty Station:** Sana'a

##### Tasks and Responsibilities:

- 1) Receive, screen and log correspondence, reports, etc. and forward to the appropriate officer; maintain a log in system and follow up to ensure that replies are timely or that action is taken within the established deadline.
- 2) Screen, assess and refer telephone calls and enquires to appropriate staff; provide information on a variety of questions such as the division's programme and activities as well as sensitive information.
- 3) Coordinate and expedite office wide responses to sensitive telephone and written enquires on behalf of the WFP Representative.
- 4) Maintain and update WFP Representative filing and reference system including confidential files, performance evaluation reports and disciplinary actions.
- 5) Identify and extract information from various sources and prepare briefing notes and/or resume for inclusion in correspondence and reports; draft moderately complex correspondence and review all outgoing correspondence for composition and style as well as grammatical accuracy, factual correctness, and adequacy of treatment as well as adherence to WFP procedures.
- 6) Handle the Electronic Registry Management Programme (filing system).
- 7) Perform other related duties as required.

##### No. 2

**Title:** Staff Assistant  
**Post Level:** G-3  
**Contract Type:** Fixed Term  
**Period:** 12 months after three months probationary period  
**Duty Station:** Sana'a

##### Tasks and Responsibilities:

- 1) Receive, screen and log correspondence, reports, etc. and forward to the WFP Representative's Secretary.
- 2) Maintain a log in system and follow up to ensure that replies are timely or that action is taken within the established deadline.
- 3) Screen, assess and refer telephone calls and enquires to appropriate staff; provide information on a variety of questions such as the division's programme and activities as well as sensitive information.
- 4) Maintain and update the Electronic Registry System, and review all outgoing correspondence for composition and style as well as grammatical accuracy, factual correctness, and adequacy of treatment as well as adherence to WFP procedures.
- 5) In-charge for Incoming and Outgoing Pouch.
- 6) Assist the Admin/Finance Section in photocopying and any other task required, and act as a backstopping for the WFP Representative's Secretary during her/his absence.
- 7) Maintain attendance records of staff in the office.
- 8) Perform other related duties as required.

**Education:** Secondary School Education.

##### Experience:

**At G5 Level:** At least Two-Three years of secretarial experience.

**At G3 Level:** At least two years of experience of support or secretarial experience.

• Fluency in both oral and written of English and Arabic Language.

• V.Good computer skills and ability to use word processing and other technology equipment. Thorough knowledge of modern office methods, knowledge of protocol.

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 **07 March 2007** in closed envelope clearly marked: (Application for Staff Assistant Vacancy No. 1 or 2, at WFP Sana'a) at the following address: **World Food Programme, Sana'a, Villa No. 22 - Nwakshut St. St. No. 21, Diplomatic Area, P.O. Box 7181, Republic of Yemen.**  
Tel: 01 214100/101, Fax: 01 205515.

# Arab Reform Bulletin

Arab Reform Bulletin  
نشرة الإصلاح العربي  
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## Yemen: Empty economic reforms slow bid to join the GCC

By: Gregory D. Johnsen

In November 2006, Yemen walked away from a two-day donor conference in London with \$4.7 billion in pledges over the next four years. The conference was a necessity for Yemen, an extremely poor country with a dire economic outlook for the coming decade. But even more than by the influx of aid, Yemen was encouraged by the fact that the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) sponsored the conference, pledged more than half of the \$4.7 billion, and agreed to hold a follow-up conference designed to highlight investment opportunities in Yemen for GCC states.

Yemen has been trying to join the GCC since 1996. This desire is largely driven by economic concerns, which are often masked by the rhetoric of historical and cultural ties. Yemen is eager for the significant and continuing aid that would come with GCC membership, as well as the investment capital that would flow into the country. The move would also provide a partial solution for Yemen's massive unemployment problem, which is well above 40 percent. Entry into the GCC is a safety net against failure.

The Yemeni government and GCC Secretary General Abdul Rahman Al Attiyah estimate that an additional decade is needed before Yemen is ready for full membership in the organization. But even this seems optimistic.

Yemen's economy is in disastrous shape, with more than 42 percent of the population living below the poverty line. It relies almost entirely on oil, supplies of which may be exhausted by 2015. Tragically, donors have overlooked the situation in Yemen due to a debilitating combination of negligence and fatigue, exacerbated

by rampant government corruption that Yemen has only recently tried to curtail. Prior to November's conference, foreign aid to Yemen stood at \$12 per capita compared to \$33 for similarly poor countries in Africa.

Yemen also has rather cold relations with some of the GCC states, any one of which may veto Yemen's entry should it ever be put to a vote. Kuwait, for example, is still angry at Yemen for siding with Iraq during the 1990-91 Gulf War. Yemen sat on the UN Security Council at that time, and the series of abstentions and "no" votes that it cast at Kuwait's expense could very well continue to cost Yemen dearly in the future.

Continuing Kuwaiti animosity may be offset somewhat by concern on the part of other GCC members, particularly Saudi Arabia, about Yemen's potential to become a failed state. Allegations of weapon smuggling and terrorist infiltration into Saudi Arabia from Yemen are routine and the Kingdom is willing to do a great deal to encourage Yemen to maintain security. It also removed a major point of contention between the two countries when Crown Prince Sultan, who is largely responsible for the kingdom's Yemen policy, signed the final maps to resolve a lengthy border dispute in March 2006.

Yemen's biggest step forward in its attempt to join the GCC was directly linked to security concerns in the immediate aftermath of the September 11 terrorist attacks. At a December 2001 summit in Oman, the GCC granted participation rights to Yemen in the fields of education, health, sports and social affairs. But as security fears cooled, so too did the speed of integration. By 2004, Yemen's prospects looked so bleak that President Ali Abdullah Salih joked in an interview that now

that the GCC had let Yemen into its football tournament the next step would be letting it participate in the basketball tournament.

Just as security fears will ensure that Yemen is given a lifeline, economic concerns will prevent that lifeline from growing into anything resembling full membership in the GCC. Its member states are extremely worried about what a massive influx of Yemeni workers would do to their economies. Following the 1990-91 Gulf War, Saudi Arabia expelled roughly 850,000 Yemenis from the country, most of whom have never been allowed back in. Even countries such as Oman and Qatar, which have often seemed favorable to Yemen's full integration, place severe restrictions on Yemenis visiting their countries.

GCC states have not yet had to take a decisive stand on integration, as Yemen is still working on reforming its laws to bring them more in line with GCC norms. Many of these reforms, such as the campaign against corruption, dovetail with steps that Yemen is taking to satisfy other foreign donors such as the United States and the World Bank. But the pace of change has been slow, and many of these reforms exist primarily on paper, designed more for external consumption rather than for instigating real change in the country. No combination of internal reforms, however, will create enough jobs to erode unemployment and keep pace with a population that is growing by 3.9 percent a year. So far, Yemen's GCC neighbors remain thoroughly unconvinced.

*Gregory D. Johnsen is a Ph.D. candidate in History and Middle Eastern and Islamic Studies at New York University.*

## Gulf States and Yemen: Challenges to freedom of expression

By: Rafia Al Talei

Among the achievements and setbacks in liberties in Arab countries in recent years, increased freedom of information and expression is often cited as being clearly on the positive side of the ledger. But in many countries, traditional and new media continue to face significant challenges, some of them enshrined in law and others in custom. At a time when the Internet is spoken of as a medium that governments or dictatorial regimes cannot control or manipulate, in Arab countries many websites continue to be blocked or shut down. In fact their managers are often arrested, along with those who write for the websites any content that annoys high ranking government officials. Blocking websites is considered normal and is widely practiced in Oman, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates, particularly against websites that criticize governments, provide sensitive information that the government does not want circulated to the general public, address sensitive religious issues, or are considered "libertine" (a euphemism for pornographic).

Traditional media outlets face no less difficult conditions, as Gulf countries force censorship of domestic publications and forbid distribution of foreign publications containing controversial articles about the country in question. Levels of freedom of expression vary in these countries; in general Yemen and Kuwait permit greater freedom, while Oman and Saudi Arabia rank at the bottom.

In a December 2006 conference in Amman about media laws in the Gulf states and Yemen, journalists discovered that press and publishing laws in their countries

were so similar as to appear copied from one country to another, particularly in areas relating to punishing or criminalizing press activities. These laws blur distinctions between the person of the head of state and his actions, placing both off-limits for criticism. In most Gulf states, with the exception of Yemen, prohibitions against defaming the sacred are taken to cover not only religions and religious symbols but also parliamentary institutions and deputies and the decisions they make in addition to heads of state, foreign governments, and the like.

Another common point among press and publication laws in Gulf countries is that they give governments broad powers to close, suspend, or ban media outlets. All of these states have extensive licensing requirements to allow the publication of any newspaper or periodical and require high levels of financial investment, which amounts to imposing forms of pre- and post-publication censorship.

Journalists participating in the Amman conference agreed on an agenda of actions to begin addressing these problems. First, they will propose specific new language to be added to press and publication laws in order to increase tolerance of freedom of expression. They will work towards the passage of laws enshrining the principle of the free flow and publication of information as an important basis for sustainable development, anti-corruption efforts, and good governance. They will also work for judicial independence and the encouragement of judiciary undertakings to present interpretations more in line with the constitutional texts. Furthermore, journalists agreed on the importance of encouraging civil society groups to take an interest in promoting media freedom,

reporting on related developments, and holding governments accountable for meeting their obligations under international conventions on freedom of expression.

Another area needing work is overcoming self-censorship, corruption, and fear among journalists and elevating professional standards. This will involve raising awareness about laws related to the media and encouraging contacts with members of parliament in order to highlight the importance of free media. In addition, journalists need to write codes of professional conduct and set up independent press councils to help develop professional standards and protect media workers. During the recent Amman conference, journalists discussed how to establish a Gulf media watchdog group to publicize violations of media freedoms and create a unified strategy to defend them.

Gulf and Yemeni journalists believe that political reform and development cannot be achieved without guaranteeing the independence and freedom of media outlets. They also know that governments will spare no effort to weaken their opponents, either by continuing old repressive methods or by devising new ones. This is why journalists at the Amman conference closed with an urgent appeal to all those who wish to support the democratic reform process—inside their countries and interested international parties—to stand by journalists in their efforts to achieve greater freedom of expression.

*Rafia Al Talei is an Omani journalist. This article was translated from Arabic by Judd King.  
Source:  
www.carnegieendowment.org*

## Do Egyptian prisons have enough place for 70 million Egyptians? Those who are silent today maybe tomorrow's detainees

The undersigned organizations express their strong condemnation of the detention policy which has been increasingly used by the Ministry of Interior lately and while threatens that detention may become the only way chosen by the Egyptian regime to deal with its opposition or what it considers to be problems with no solution except to put those involved behind bars.

The recent period has witnessed wide detentions among the Moslem Brotherhood, starting from Azhar students who organized a show inside the university protesting the police oppressive police and the rigging of students' elections, where security forces raided the university hostel and violently arrested 180 students in addition to a number of university professors and businessmen from their homes.

Few days ago another round of detention involved Dr. Mohamed Ali Beshr members of the Guidance Bureau of the Brotherhood, Dr. Esam Hashish, professor at faculty of engineering, Cairo university and member of the administrative bureau of the brotherhood for the Giza governorate, four businessmen including Engineer Medhat Haddad, member of the administrative bureau of the brotherhood in the governorate

of Alexandria, Osama Sharabi, a businessman from Alexandria, Abdel Rahman Seoudi, businessman from Giza and Khaled Ouda from Assiut, a businessman and university professor. It should be noted that the recent round of detentions followed a declaration by the brotherhood that they plan to form a political party, a matter which the brotherhood was frequently invited to do by wirens from other political background. The rationale was that the brotherhood "should stop working in the dark".

Two days ago we learned that the detentions were not limited to the Brotherhood, but extended to what was described as a "fundamentalist organization" which was accused of supporting the brotherhood. Maybe tomorrow we shall read about another organization arrested because they support the group which supported the brotherhood!!!

If today's detentions involve the brotherhood more than anybody else,

we should not forget that yesterday's detentions involved others who supported the judges' movement for the independence of the judiciary, and those who struggle for democracy and against rigged elections and the constitutional changes which ensure the maintenance of the state of emergency and torture. Since we arte about to enter into a new phase of constitutional amendments, not approved except by a narrow circle of the men of the ruling party, and which will probably result in a permanent state of emergency disguised as the "law against terrorism, we are to expect that 2007 will be a year congested with protests and consequently also, oppression, detentions and torture.

And away from the circles of politics, the Egyptian ministry of Interior used its detention plicy against street children, after the disclosure of the what has come to be

known as the "turbine gang" and instead of the Egyptian government bearing its responsibility towards those children who are victims of the existing social and economic conditions, instead of dealing with them as children in danger, the Ministry of Interior chose to treat them as potential causes of danger and organized a campaign to arrest them from the streets and allies to put them in police stations under the mercy of police officers and their assistants.

Also less than a week ago, Miss Howaida Taha, correspondent of the Qatar based El Jazeera satellite channel spent two days at the state security prosecution where she was interrogated regarding her coverage of torture stories and citizens' complaints of the bad treatment they receive in police stations.. the assistant to the Minister of Interior does not stop threatening Egyptian bloggers concerning what they publish on the net concerning torture crimes.. and the threat of imprisonment continues to follow Egyptian journalists who cross "the red lines". Only recently, during the

strike of railway drivers, the photographer of El Masry El Yom daily newspaper was threatened by detention because he was doing his job.

The list is endless: oppression of journalists, political activists, university professors, students, workers, peasants and even children. The scenery brings to mind the 1981 arrest when a massive round of detentions included each and everybody who had an opinion to voice, irrespective of their backgrounds or ideologies. Does the regime have enough place in its prisons for all those, taking into consideration that those prisons are already full of detainees who continue to be there upon the orders of the Ministry of Interior, sometimes without trial and at other times despite trials where the court ordered their release? Do they still have place in those prisons where every week detainees are organzi9ing hunger strikes protesting maltreatment and bad living conditions? Where are they taking the country?

The undersigned organizations

calls upon all groups, public figures, civil society organizations and political parties struggling for democracy to voice their protest to the police of detentions which is a violation of human rights irrespective of the political stand or ideology of the detainees. We call upon them to express their rejection of this policy which has become the only instrument used by the Egyptian regime and to pressure and lobby for the release of all detainees, political and nonpolitical and for the lifting of the hand of the Ministry of Interior off the lives of people.

*Egyptian Association against Torture  
Arab Organization for Criminal Reform  
Nadim Center for rehabilitation of victims of violence  
Arab network for human rights information  
Human Rights Association for Assistance of Prisoners  
Hisham Mubarak Law Center  
Association for Freedom of Thought and Expression  
Association for Human Rights Legal Aid*

# Palestinian reconciliation between Mecca and Washington

By: Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Maqaleh

It has been clear that Washington will not approve the Mecca Agreement between Palestinian parties because it does not want the Palestinian blood shedding to stop. America sheds blood in Iraq and Afghanistan and wants it to be shed everywhere across the world to satisfy a buried wish which started to come into existence day after day.

Condoleezza Rice's recent statements do reveal some of the American vagueness and obscurity following to the meeting involving Fatah and Hamas in Mecca's Holy Mosque. Rice tries to say that the agreement reached upon is invalid unless Hamas is excluded from national unity government being described as an extreme organization.

This absolute denial for the Mecca Agreement and forming a national unity government clearly indicates that the American Administration wants the

conflicts between Fatah and Hamas to continue and it is ready to fuel these conflicts to serve Israel-the entity that cost America a lot and still as long as it is completely biased to the aggressor, Israel, that rejects the real peace and acts continuously against justice, right, mind and conscience.

It is certain that Arabs, whether pro or against, do not want America to abandon its only love in the Middle East and they further do not expect to receive even a 10 percent of the interest given to Israel; however, they wish America can view the case from interest's eye. Arabs want America to recognize that Palestinians have the right to have their own independent state that can hold their dreams and contain all of them regardless of their political trends and tendencies. Further, they want America to get away



By: Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Maqaleh

from sowing sedition between Palestinian factions who fight for the sake of one issue as this will be in favor of none.

The Mecca agreement was the beginning for Palestinian reconciliation and a new start for a brotherly partnership away from shedding bloods of innocents and strugglers. The result of the agreement was brilliant and the climate of Mecca where feelings of a billion and a half Muslims meet helped to minimize some extravagance and foolishness of some heedless parties. It made them realize they are brothers and they have a common enemy who swallowed lands and people and are ready to gulp what remains.

This reconciliation, if not buried alive by America, will strengthen Palestinians' position in the world and open new doors before the new government, being a unity government

and not formed by one party.

Out of Bush's mistakes together with those of other extremists in his administration, America has let in an unprecedented moral and political labyrinth and luckily the publicity machine that used to stand by them has entered a new phase where the circumstances imposed upon it to review its attitudes in order not to be a party involved directly in the mistakes committed by the White House against Arabs in general and Palestinians in particular.

The big question ahead that occupies minds: Which of the two cities will succeed to draw the Palestinian future, Mecca or Washington? Is it Islam and Arabism or treason and surrender? The coming few days are to answer and therein there will be no space for speculations or expectations.

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

## COMMON SENSE

### Policy or arrogance? In either case, the fumbling continues

It is really hard to understand through which type of lenses the Administration of George W. Bush is looking at the world. A very dear American friend recently confided to this observer: "... it is really difficult to understand how American policy is being shaped for Yemen and elsewhere in the region." The observer could not help but respond by noting: "The US policy was never construed to be wise, prudent or even fruitful, in this region, especially since the Administration of George W Bush took the helm." Even American citizens are, for the most part (as the polls clearly show) flabbergasted by the consistency of the insistence by the Bush Administration that, no matter how things look on the ground, they are right and the whole world's vision is blurred to the maximum. Nothing is further than the truth. Even with Dick Cheney, the Supervising Engineer, it seems for all the Neo-Con Agenda in the past, present and future, 'til death do them part, being a close-call victim of his own fumbling, the Bush Administration still continues to assure the not so gullible world anymore, that they are doing the right thing for the United States and the rest of the world.



By: Hassan Al-Haifi

Even with the unflinching and resolute allies of the United States, the United Kingdom, hinting its obvious desire to break the course and get out of the Iraqi quagmire, the United States continues to believe to the point of arrogance that there is only one course to stay and that is the course of death and destruction and senseless bloodshed we have been seeing since the hurried, albeit internationally approved (then) invasion of Afghanistan.

No observer in his right mind is finding any logic, or good sense of any kind in the ongoing mayhem that is now filling the world. We now have Somalia joining the bloody fray. Across the Red Sea from there we have Yemen enmeshed in a senseless bloody feud in Sa'ada that has firmly taken root for the last three years. In an apparent sectarian battle, with no side coming up with any clear signs of victory, it is clear that continued firming of blood revenge is taking roots as each side claims its relentless hold on righteousness and "faith is on our side". In the end, it is the people of Sa'ada, who are the unlucky victims, with no respite seen for them in the foreseeable future. Again, it is the President of Yemen, who can and will eventually have to bring the bloody mess to a halt, knowing full that all those who are loosing their lives, limbs or homes are Yemeni citizens (on both sides of the bloody mess) and deserve his sympathy on an equal footing, regardless of their positions (political, sectarian, geographical or otherwise). It should be noted that the civilian population of Sa'ada are indeed the ones paying the heaviest price in this indecisive feud that will only bring further pains to all concerned, unless the President takes note of the tragic consequences of the bloody mess, which only benefits those who thrive on wars, without regard to the national interests of Yemen and to the cardinal rule of Islam that, division and "sectarian" conflict is indeed anathema to Islam. After all the religion of Islam was meant to unify all believers in God under one common umbrella, with the brotherhood of Islam as the prevailing feeling of all those who adhere to the faith, whether they are Sunnis, Shiites, Zeidi or Salafi. In fact, any one who breaks from this cardinal rule is neither serving Islam or even the national interests of Yemen, no matter what arguments they have.

One is still hopeful that President Ali Abdullah Saleh will again restore peace and calm to the Governorate of Sa'ada and will continue to deliver on his promise of implanting state authority in Sa'ada by carrying the badly needed projects that have been promised to the people of Sa'ada time and again. The people of Sa'ada can be made more loyal by these projects than by all the ordinance that the war lords can unleash in the governorate. The people of Sa'ada are hedging heavily on this hope and the people of Yemen, in general are looking forward to the merciful omen of the President, in great anticipation for the cessation of all violence, even if such senseless bloodshed is condoned by Washington D.C.

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

## Toward a new social contract

By: Faruq Barakat

The new continued attack of the large Middle East project is the most negative aspect to come out of 2006 - a year that passed with few positives and numerous negatives. Such a project aims to abolish the concept of the Arab World during its infancy,

the independent state or the national liberation movements following the age of colonization, fragmentation of the Ottoman Empire and Sykes-Picot Agreement. This agreement was violated by the sequence of events following collapse of the Soviet Union and Socialism in the early 1990s of the last century, appearance of the new monopoly global system and capitalism.

Additionally, Israel is expected to control the Arab social fabric in particular and this control may expand to reach other non-Arab countries like Iran, Turkey, Afghanistan and Pakistan. In the age of capitalism, Israel is due to demonstrate its economic dominance in the region as its military had been superior to Arab countries during the Cold War.

Despite the temporary absence of a new multi-pole world and the international support for third world countries, the Arab regimes, particularly the republican and nationalist ones, are in need of reviewing the nature of their internal situations and foreign policies in order to achieve real political, economic and social reforms. These reforms will lift restrictions on the public democratic freedoms and achieve equal citizenship and social justice.

The age of oppression and injustice have passed and will not return, however, its effects seem to be persistent in our day-to-day life.

On the contrary, politicians, intellectuals, educated people and civil community organizations have to work harder to highlight the values of forgiving, solidarity and cooperation, as well as to reinforce them in the Arab nations at the time of the brutal capitalist attack. Also, these people and organizations have to bring about a new social contract between the Arab states and their people to confront the colonial projects, mainly the large Middle East Project. As we acknowledge the necessity of spreading the values of freedom, democracy, equal citizenship, social justice and peaceful transfer of power without constructing a strong wall between us and the new Middle East project, this means that we reject establishing such projects, which are usually accompanied by fragmentation and disintegration, as well as spreading the sectarian and ethnic war in every single Arab country. These projects pave the way for anarchy leading to the collapse of Arab regimes and then replace them by new weak regimes that allow the new colonization forces to absolutely dominate these countries.

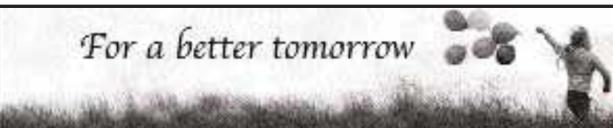
The policy of anarchy, which is successfully applied in Iraq, is unique. It is the other face of the coin of Divide To Control Policy. We referred to this policy as a live example forcing us to confront the fragmentation and bloodshed projects and highlight the values of Arab and Islamic solidarity, cooperation and forgiving. We praise the Saudi

noble role, represented by King Abdullah's call to stop the Palestinian bloodshed, in Mecca Conference, which came up with forming Palestinian national unity government involving all the Palestinian factions. We have to emphasize that Saudi Arabia has worked hard for a long time with the aim of devoting its sincere efforts to stop the Arab-Arab conflict. In addition, Egypt exerted great efforts in reconciling between the Lebanese conflicting factions, which culminated with Al-Taef Treaty. We shouldn't forget the mediation efforts of Egypt, the Arab League and the Arab Peace Initiative, which proved itself as the only real initiative for tackling the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

We deeply thank Saudi Arabia and other Gulf Cooperation Council and donor countries that lavishly supported our country at the London's Donor Conference and the rounds of the Yemeni-Saudi Higher Coordination Council.

The main goal of this article is to sincerely praise the spirit of forgiving, solidarity and brotherhood between Arab countries instead of discrepancy. This is the right time for the Arab and Islamic countries to unify their efforts and confront the foreign colonial projects.

Source: Al-Ayyam



## Respecting investment

Investment and the increasing of foreign capital is proof of the increased development in any country or society while the stable security helps stabilize investment. This is the ideal solution to unemployment and other economic problems, as it raises the development rates.

Attracting investment and foreign capital is not a sentiment or propaganda. The capital is a coward because it usually frequents the safer places where laws are enforced and investors enjoy a good climate to initiate business. Unlike other countries in the region, Yemen attracts fewer investments due to multiple political and economic conditions it has experienced. These conditions hindered investors and giant investment firms from making rapid economic development.

Lack of awareness about attracting investment and investors is a great barrier posed to them. Some of the laws haven't yet been placed in effect and this makes investors lose confidence to invest in Yemen under the pretext the state creates multiple crises before investors. In addition, the Yemeni government officials prefer their personal interest to the public interest and have no interest in development.

Yemen is blamed for posing more obstacles to local and foreign investors, particularly as most of the foreign investors came to Yemen with the aim of investment and implementing giant projects aimed at tackling the country's accumulated economic problems. Foreign investors left Yemen after they faced restrictive laws and opportunistic officials, who only seek partnership with investors in return for protection. The investor views this kind of

partnership as unfair and feels, from the very beginning, the absence of law and order, as well as the lack of responsibility.

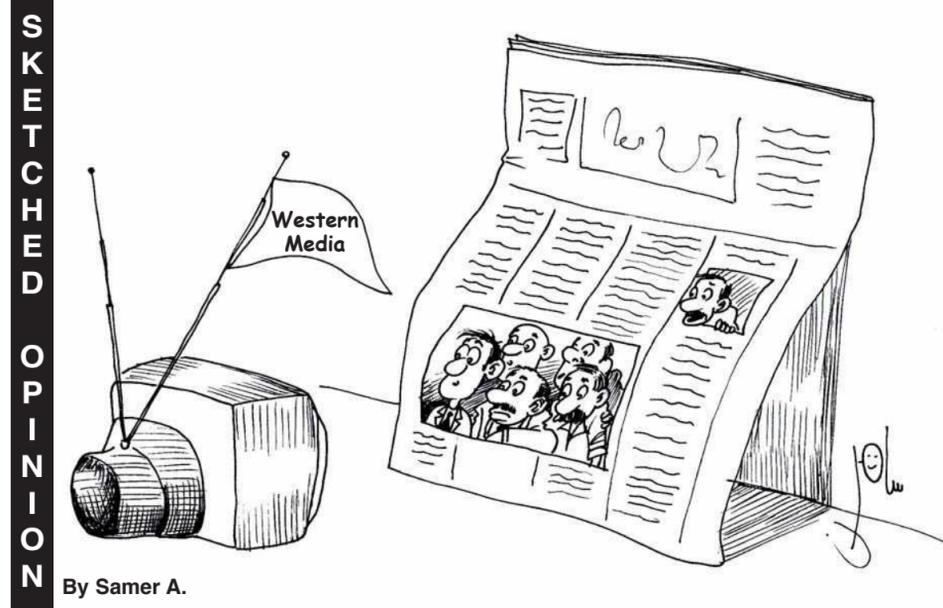
Yemeni officials constitute a barrier to any legal amendments aimed at making available better investment climates. In such a situation, pressure and harassment have developed into a way forcing local investors to cease their projects in the country and exercise business abroad. As the local investors prefer other countries to their homeland, foreign investors hesitate to invest in Yemen. Following the deterioration of the investment climate, our duty is to establish an investment climate in a way to satisfying investors. In the meanwhile, amending laws to facilitate investment is the parliament's duty. President Saleh and some patriotic cabinet ministers felt the great risk after local investors seemed to prefer foreign countries to their homeland. This compelled Saleh to declare that he will be the direct supervisor of the investment process and eliminate officials who are unaware of investment-related interests.

There should be a great respect for the President's call while Yemeni people, parties and organizations have to play a primary role in driving the wheels of development in the country forward.

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# Did they fool you on Iraq? Are you ready for Iran?

By: David Swanson

A majority of Americans supported attacking Iraq, but now a majority of Americans say it was the wrong thing to do and that they were lied to. If you are among those who supported the attack on Iraq but now believe you were mistaken, then you have one step up on our president — he's never publicly admitted a mistake in his life. In fact, he once demonstrated the difficulty he has in even imagining being wrong by unsuccessfully attempting to recite the following wise saying: "Fool me once, shame on you. Fool me twice, shame on me."

In the next month, you may very well have the opportunity to be fooled twice by the same president. And years from now — if we're all still alive — you may have occasion to face that same difficult conclusion: "Shame on me." But why let it come to that? Why not get wise to the lies beforehand?

To understand the lies we're already hearing and the lies we may soon hear about Iran, it's important to understand just what was wrong with attacking Iraq. Bush, Cheney, Rumsfeld, Powell, Rice, and the rest of them told us that Iraq was behind the attacks of 9/11/2001 and that Iraq

possessed massive amounts of chemical, biological, and nuclear weapons and the means and intent to use them on the United States. These were lies, but they would not have justified attacking Iraq even if true. The idea that they would have done so is based on more lies.

One of these underlying lies is the idea that the attacks of 9/11 were an act of war. They were a massive crime by a small gang of criminals, one that has grown dramatically as a result of the U.S. attack on Iraq. Had that gang of criminals received assistance from the government of Iraq, then the leaders of that government would have been guilty of those crimes as well. The United States would have been entirely justified in seeking to prosecute them, but steps to make such a prosecution possible would have had to be weighed against the harm done. Killing 600,000 Iraqis, as we have now done, cannot be justified by the need to prosecute someone for assisting in the killing of 3,000 Americans, particularly if we kill another 3,000 Americans in the process.

Another of the underlying lies is the notion that nations should be attacked if they possess dangerous weapons. Of course, Bush is not about to attack any nation that actually possesses dangerous

weapons. This is why North Korea has developed nuclear weapons and why Iran wants to: they'd prefer not to be attacked. Iraq was attacked precisely because it did not possess weapons of mass destruction. But if it were acceptable to attack nations that really did possess such weapons, then any nation that chose to could attack any of several nations around the world at any time and be justified in doing so. In fact, attacks on the United States would no longer be WMD, since we possess more WMD than anyone else.

There is a reason why it is illegal to attack another nation: war is worse than anything else. Were Iraq actually attacking the United States, the United States would be justified in defending itself. But nothing else that Saddam Hussein could have done — nothing other than actually attacking our nation — could have justified us in killing 600,000 of the people who already suffered the misfortune of living under his rule and our economic sanctions. The victims of wars are almost entirely not the people who start wars or the people who are blamed for starting wars. That is why starting wars is illegal, no matter how evil you think someone is.

This is the lesson we need to draw from Iraq so that we don't get fooled again: wars can be based on lies, but

whatever those lies may be, if our nation is not being attacked by another nation, the war is still unjustified.

Does that sound like the statement of an appeaser of the Nazis? I'm not suggesting that we sit back and wait until we're about to die before we act. On the contrary, I want to suggest that, unlike what we did to Germany for many years prior to World War II, we should engage in active diplomacy, foreign aide, and friendly relations, so that we do not ever reach the point where war seems a plausible option. What we have been failing to do with North Korea for the past several years is as significant as anything we have done to Iraq. The absence of diplomacy is necessary to make wars possible. The failure to engage in diplomacy is as morally wrong as the initiation of wars.

So, what have we been told about Iran? We've been told that Iran has an insane and evil ruler. Yeah, well, frankly, who doesn't? If he and Dick Cheney want to get in a ring together, I say let them. Do the people who live in our two countries have to die, have to watch their children die, have to see their family members burned to death because our president calls their country an axis of evil member and their president hates Israelis?

We've been told that Iran is developing nuclear weapons. But

they're several years away from actually having any; they would still have no way to hit the United States with them; and they would only try to do that if they wanted to immediately die from return strikes.

We have not been told (and what we are not told is just as important) that the U.S. military is drawing up plans for war with Iran and has sent armed ships that are now on their way to Iran. What scattered, but credible and verified, reporting there has been on this is collected here: <http://www.afterdowningstreet.org/irannews>

But we have also not been told that Iran was behind the attacks of 9-11 or any other attack. So, we have reason to expect that we may soon be told that Iran has attacked one of our ships. If we are told that, it will probably be a lie, but it will not justify a war even if true.

This is because we will have sent armed ships into their waters — an unprovoked act of war. We will have acted first, and illegally. Imagine if Iran announced that the United States was part of an axis of evil, and then sent armed ships into the Chesapeake Bay. Then, finally, you would get me to agree that the use of violence was justified.

Then, finally, our Department of Defense, would have a purpose related to defense. The United States

would be justified in firing on Iranian ships in the Chesapeake Bay. But so will Iran be justified in firing on U.S. ships that threaten Iran.

It comes down to this: our government wants to find a way to attack their country. It is up to us not just to tell pollsters we disagree — as over 90 percent of us do — but to take actions to prevent it. Almost 60,000 of us have already signed a petition at <http://www.dontattackiran.org>. That's a first step. Contacting your Congress Member and Senators is a second. Calling talk shows and writing letters to the editor is a third. Let's make next month's U.S. elections about which candidates for Congress will pledge not to attack Iran. Let's raise the issue before the White House does. Let's call this preemptive peacemaking.

*David Swanson is the Washington Director of Democrats.com and co-founder of the AfterDowningStreet.org coalition, a board member of Progressive Democrats of America, and of the Backbone Campaign. He serves on a working group of United for Peace and Justice. He has worked as a newspaper reporter and as a communications director, with jobs including Press Secretary for Dennis Kucinich's 2004 presidential campaign.*

## The missed opportunity with Russia

By: Jonathan Power

WHEN I tuned in this morning to Danish radio's classical station it was to hear the opening bars of Rachmaninov's third piano concerto. It draws on Russia's deep repository of folk music but turns it, moulds it and polishes it into one of the most sublime pieces of music ever written. Who says Russia's deep beyond cannot join with the pulse of civilised Europe?

Is Russia not part of the "European house", as former Soviet president, Mikhail Gorbachev, used to say? Catherine the Great said the same in 1767 — "Russia is a European state". Muscovy has been an integral part of Christendom since the tenth century.

Churchill was right to regard the

Bolsheviks as "a baboonery". But even Lenin saw himself as heir to the French revolution and in the early 1920s the Commintern discussed the possibility of a United States of Europe. When the chains of communism fell away many Russians, especially the educated, thought in Vaclav Havel's phrase, of "the Return to Europe."

Back in 1905 when Russia basked in its liberal political progress and imbibed the giants of world literature that it had produced — Pushkin, Lermontov, Turgenyev, Tolstoy, Dostoevsky and Chekhov. (Which other country can equal this achievement? — perhaps only Britain and France, but then we have only to mention the marvellous music of Tchaikovsky, Rimsky-Korsakov and Mussorgsky, and the performances of the Ballet Russe, to realise that Russia was at that time in a class on its own.) All that was needed then, as the histo-

rian, Norman Davies, has written, was "an indefinite prolongation of the European peace."

At that moment in time all seemed possible. Peace was very real and of long continuance. No one imagined that political leaders could be so crass or small minded to be rolled by the petty conflicts that launched the continent into its worst ever war, and then, failing to clear up the mess that created, be dragged into one even worse a generation later.

Today, a decade and a half after the end of the Cold War, we are in danger of missing the greatest chance that history has ever bestowed of making Russia part of Europe. It is easy for Europeans to blame America for the present state of growing hostility. Indeed, the Americans have not been wise. President Bill Clinton's decision to break a solemn promise made to Gorbachev and expand Nato's mem-

bership up to near Russia's borders ("the most fateful error of the entire post Cold War era" in George Kennan's words), and the constant effort to undermine the traditional Russian reach into the Caspian basin have been highly provocative and little understood by Russia's intelligentsia much less the patriotic man in the street.

More recently, the abrogation of the Anti-Missile treaty, in which President George W Bush won President Vladimir Putin's concurrence, is being undermined by the Pentagon's decision to build interceptor missiles in Poland and radar in the Czech Republic.

But it is the European Union that had the influence, the reach and the power to call a halt to all this. The trouble is it never made a convincing case or could develop a coherent alternative policy. When German Chancellor, Gerhard Schroeder, went out of his way to embrace Putin he was simply derided

by most of his peers.

When nobody is pushing the other way the American juggernaut fills the vacuum, as Robert Kagan argues in his recent book, "Dangerous Nation". That is in the nature of a superpower in what was for a time a unipolar war. One senses that President Bush started off with warm personal feelings towards Putin, but it is to misread the power of the military/industrial/academic/journalistic complex to think even a president can halt America's age-old proclivity to be expansionist if there is no resistance.

Russia has not made it easy for itself — the chaos of the liberal Yeltsin years and the subsequent reaction by the puritanical, hard-minded, Putin, not least the war in Chechnya which was won by using evil tactics that western armies can only dream of.

Yet Putin-bad is overwhelmed by Putin-good and Europe, if it had devel-

oped the will, could have made it Putin-better. Even today in Russia websites keep the intelligencia well informed. The Russian elite, especially the scientific one, is totally plugged into its western counterparts. The arts are flourishing. Putin will respect the constitution and stand down at the end of his second term.

The question today is how to draw out the best in Russia and how not to provoke the worse. This means that Europe as a whole must devise a muscular policy, worthy of its own political and economic clout. This means not letting the Americans set the pace with Russia, any more than they are allowed to in French, Swedish or British politics.

*Jonathan Power is a widely published commentator and can be reached at [JonatPower@aol.com](mailto:JonatPower@aol.com). Source: [www.khaleejtimes.com](http://www.khaleejtimes.com)*

## July 27, 1880: A key date the British troops should look up

By: Robert Fisk

OUT of the frying pan, into the historical fire. If only British leaders read history. In 1915, the British swept up from Basra, believing that the Iraqis would reward them with flowers and love, only to find themselves surrounded at Kut al-Amara, cut down by Turkish shellfire and cholera. Now they are reinforcing Nato in that tomb of the British Army, Afghanistan.

Hands up any soldiers who know that another of Britain's great military defeats took place in the very sands in which your colleagues are now fighting the Taliban. Yes, the Battle of Maiwand — on July 27, 1880 — destroyed an entire British brigade, overrun by thousands of armed Afghan tribesmen, some of whom the official enquiry into the disaster would later describe as 'Talibs'. The

Brits had been trying to secure Helmand province. Sound familiar?

Several times already in Helmand, the British have almost been overwhelmed. This has not been officially admitted, but the Ministry of Defence did make a devious allusion to this last year — it was missed by all the defence correspondents — when it announced that British troops in Helmand had been involved in the heaviest combat fighting "since the Korean War".

The Afghans talk of one British unit which last year had to call in air strikes, destroying almost the entire village in which they were holding out. Otherwise, they would have been overrun.

General Burrows had no close air support on July 27, 1880, when he found himself confronting up to 15,000 Afghan fighters at Maiwand, but he had large numbers of Egyptian troops with him and a British force in the city of Kandahar. Already, the

British had cruelly suppressed a dissident Afghan army — again, sound familiar? — after the British residency had been sacked and its occupants murdered.

Britain's reaction at the time was somewhat different from that followed today. Britain's army was run from imperial India where Lord Lytton, the Viceroy, urged his man in Kabul — General Roberts, later Lord Roberts of Kandahar — to crush the uprising with the utmost brutality. "Every Afghan brought to death, I shall regard as one scoundrel the less in a nest of scoundrelism." Roberts embarked on a reign of terror in Kabul, hanging almost a hundred Afghans.

The commander of the rebellious Afghans was Ayub Khan, whose brother was forced to abdicate as king after the Kabul uprising. When Ayub Khan re-emerged from the deserts of the west — he marched down from that old warlord territory of Herat

towards Kandahar — the luckless General Burrows was sent to confront him.

Almost a thousand British and Indian troops were to be slaughtered in the coming hours as Ayub Khan's army fired shells from at least 30 artillery pieces and then charged at them across the fields and dried-up river at Maiwand.

The official British inquiry — it was covered in red cloth and ran to 734 pages — contains many photographs of the landscape over which the battle was fought. The hills and distant mountains, of course, are identical to those that are now videotaped by 'embedded' reporters in the British Army.

Outgunned and outmanoeuvred, the British found themselves facing a ruthless enemy. Colonel Mainwaring of the 30th Bombay Infantry wrote a chilling report for the authorities in Delhi. "The whole of the ground ... was covered with swarms of 'ghazis'

and banner-men. The 'ghazis' were actually in the ranks of the Grenadiers, pulling the men out and hacking them down with their swords."

The wreckage of the British Army retreated all the way to Kandahar where they were besieged, until rescued by General Roberts himself, whose famous march of 10,000 troops from Kandahar — a distance of 300 miles covered in just 20 days — is now military legend.

History, it seems, haunts all British adventures in the Middle East. Who would have believed that after the British reached Baghdad in a 1917 invasion, they would face an insurgency which, in speed and ruthlessness, was an almost exact predecessor to the rebellion which the British and Americans would confront from 2003?

Lloyd George, then prime minister, stood up in the House of Commons to insist that the British occupation force

had to stay in Iraq. Otherwise, he warned, the country would be plunged into civil war. Sound familiar?

One of the greatest defeats of British forces anywhere in the world had occurred more than four decades before Maiwand, on the Kabul Gorge in 1842, when an entire British army was wiped out by Afghan fighters in the snow. The sole survivor, the famous Doctor Brydon, managed to out-horse two armed Afghans and ride into the British compound in Jalalabad.

So now the British are to reinforce Afghanistan yet again. Flying by Chinook to Kandahar will not take as long as General Roberts's 20 days. British soldiers are unlikely even to enter Kandahar's central square.

But if they do, they might care to look at the few ancient cannon on the main roundabout: all that is left of General Roberts's artillery.

*Source: The Independent.*



### Yemeni Nationals Only

Canadian Nexen Petroleum Yemen announces the following **vacancy**:

#### Applications Specialist

Sana'a

#### Minimum Requirements:

- Education: Bachelor's degree in Computer Sciences or an equivalent combination of experience and education. Fluent in English - reading, writing, and speech. Proficient at technical writing, with a strong grasp of IT terminology.
- Experience: A minimum of 6 years of industry experience in software application development and support, and 3 years of supervisory experience. Can demonstrate a consistent career path of increasing experience and responsibility in the programming environment, in association with the Oil and Gas Industry. Exposure to both Financial and Logistics systems. Exposure to Lotus Notes; Oracle based systems; Access Db's; FoxPro Db's;
- Knowledge: Possesses comprehensive understanding of RDMS (Relational Database Management System) concepts. Demonstrable programming skills in a variety of program languages - Visual Basic 6/ Visual Basic 2003-2005, Oracle, Clipper/FoxPro, and VBA. Extensive operational knowledge of Database related software. Specifically Oracle, SQL Server 2000-2005, Lotus Notes, FoxPro; C++, Java, VB Script, JavaScript; Familiar with flow charting techniques; Conversant with accepted Project Management practices (PMBOK), and the use of MS Project.

For further information or to apply for this position please visit our website:

<http://www.nexeninc.com/Careers/Yemen/>

#### Application Criteria:

- All applications **must be submitted** through our online application system.
- Online Applications must be submitted **NO later than March 25<sup>th</sup>, 07**
- A member of our recruitment team will call you if you are selected for a test and interview.
- Selection will be based on the most qualified applicants.
- Applicants can check the status of their application online using the above URL.
- 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**.



### Yemeni Nationals Only

Canadian Nexen Petroleum Yemen announces the following **vacancy**:

#### Service Rig Tool pusher

CPF

#### Minimum Requirements:

- Completion of Secondary education (12 years)
- 5 years experience in Tool pusher position, or combination of Tool pusher/Driller experience. Drilling experience would be an asset. Supervisory experience would be an asset.
- Strong computer skills, good working knowledge and usage of: Excel, Word, Outlook & rig tower sheet reporting. Must be capable of learning SAP and working with SAP processing applications.
- First Line Well Control certificate or equivalent, first aid certificate or training, gas testing course, H2S training, hazard materials training, safety training.
- Very good written and spoken English skills.

For further information or to apply for this position please visit our website:

<http://www.nexeninc.com/Careers/Yemen/>

#### Application Criteria:

- All applications **must be submitted** through our online application system.
- Online Applications must be submitted **NO later than March 25<sup>th</sup>, 07**
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- Faxed or Handed In CV's will **NOT be considered**.



### Yemeni Nationals Only

Canadian Nexen Petroleum Yemen announces the following **vacancy**:

#### Driller 3 Positions

CPF

#### Minimum Requirements:

- Completed Secondary (Technical) Education (12 years)
- A minimum of 5 years experience (Non Nexen training) as the driller or assistant driller on a service rig, or equivalent experience
- Good understanding of service rig & support equipment as well as good knowledge of downhole tools & equipment.
- Able to perform manual labor
- Certification tickets in: Well Service BOP, First Aid, Gas Testing, H2S, Hazardous Material Training, and Firefighting Training.
- Very Good written & spoken English.

For further information or to apply for this position please visit our website:

<http://www.nexeninc.com/Careers/Yemen/>

#### Application Criteria:

- All applications **must be submitted** through our online application system.
- Online Applications must be submitted **NO later than March 25<sup>th</sup>, 07**
- A member of our recruitment team will call you if you are selected for a test and interview.
- Selection will be based on the most qualified applicants.
- Applicants can check the status of their application online using the above URL.
- 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**.



### Yemeni Nationals Only

Canadian Nexen Petroleum Yemen announces the following **vacancy**:

#### HR Administrator

Sana'a

#### Minimum Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree in Business Administration, Human Resources or equivalent.
- Minimum of three years experience in an administrative role within a busy department, preferably HR, of a large organization.
- Computer skills (Excel, Word) and abilities. Experience in HRIS Application & Crystal Reports or other reporting databases is required. Knowledge of Lotus Notes and/or other data base applications is an asset.
- Strong command of the English language, both verbal and written.

For further information or to apply for this position please visit our website:

<http://www.nexeninc.com/Careers/Yemen/>

#### Application Criteria:

- All applications **must be submitted** through our online application system.
- Online Applications must be submitted **NO later than March 12, 07**
- A member of our recruitment team will call you if you are selected for a test and interview.
- Selection will be based on the most qualified applicants.
- Applicants can check the status of their application online using the above URL.
- 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**.

# Yemenia conducts workshop to enhance performance

Yemenia  اليمنية



SANA'A, Feb. 17 - Over the period February 11 to 12 – Yemeni airways, Yemenia, held a workshop for its Sales Department on Best Practices within the airline sales environment of Yemenia. Forty five area managers attended the workshop which also aimed to improve communication and review the developments achieved by Yemenia's commercial administration.

The workshop also focused on clarifying the authorities of area managers and regional managers together with highlighting the importance of communication and communication channels within the company as they facilitate the contacts between the company's different departments and administrations.

During the workshop, Yemenia deputy manager of commercial affairs, Abdullah Al-Mutareb, tackled many aspects and pointed out the successes achieved by his administration. He further added the existence of 55 area managers together will enable them to exchange views about work mechanisms.

Al-Matareb further noted the company has introduced new and

developed systems and assured the importance of qualifying the cadre to deal with these new systems.

The workshop also discussed revenue management, a practice that responds to supply and demand principles in a way that improves revenues for the company, maintaining that offering the right price to the right customer at the right time, in addition to offering discounted prices, will encourage people to travel.

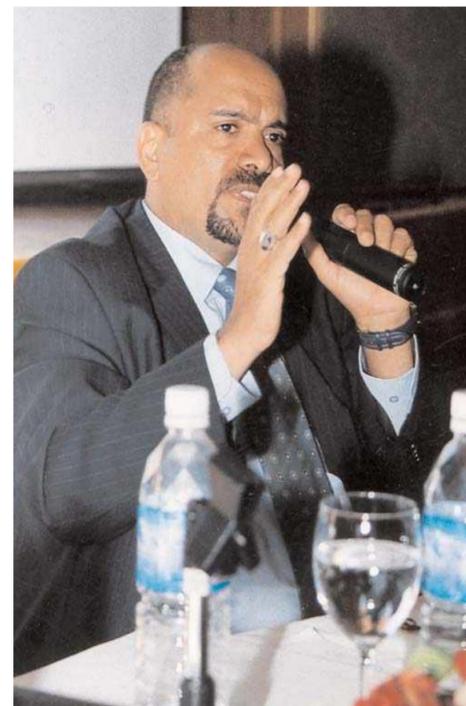
He also revealed his company is to start issuing electronic tickets during the next two months and this will save the money and enable customers to book via Internet and need not to go to Yemenia offices.

Al-Mutareb went on to say that old Sana'a International Airport built during the 1970s holds just 250,000 passengers and Yemenia managed to transport more 1.2 million messengers during the past year and the airport is no more capable of containing the increasing numbers of passengers. He also hinted that such problems will be resolved by 2008, when the new airport will be inaugurated.

Wolfgang Gehring, aviation and tourism consultant, said the



Mr Al-Mutrreb



Mr Al-Haddi



Mr Wolfgang



Mr Chris



workshop comes as extension to performance boosting project in Yemenia and further pointed out it was an educational workshop as it focused on the importance of communication between different the company's different administrations.

For his part, Revenue Management Director Ahmed Hussain Al-Haddi spoke further about Revenue Management, a new department within Yemenia whose primary responsibility is to increase the company's revenues.

Christian Fleischer from Sabre Airline Solutions, indicated that his company signed an agreement with Yemenia in September 2005 to conduct a corporate turnaround project which has resulted in improvements in the Commercial, Finance and Operational areas of

Yemenia.

Fleischer further declared Yemenia chose Sabre Airline Solutions based on their reputation within the Gulf and Middle East region for consistently delivering service and value to their customers. Additionally, after looking at other options within the marketplace, Yemeni chose Sabre's AirMax Revenue Manager forecasting system which Yemenia has been using AirMax since December 2006.

Yemenia announced vacant positions for staff to use the new AirMax system and applicants were then interviewed and selected. Fleischer also maintained that Sabre has introduces to Yemenia new automated business processes which have greatly improved the efficiency of the organization.

# Better business through generations

By: Faisal Al-Safwani &  
Raidan Al-Saqqaf  
alsaqaf@gmail.com

Family firms provide jobs for 80 percent of Yemen's total workforce, but they still face a lot of problems, according to analysts. The First Conference of Family Firms in Yemen stressed the necessity of transforming the family firms into institutions, working according to the government systems, caring for quality, separating between ownership and executive management and opening units for studies and researches in every company.

The two-day conference brought together businesspersons from the United Arab Emirates, Oman, Saudi Arabia and Egypt, with the majority of people taking part in the conference coming from the second generation of the family firms.

The conference discussed the reality of family firms in Yemen, containing family disputes and organizing the mechanisms and methods of transferring power from one generation to another.

Domestic disputes between family members were among the persistent problems posed to the progress of these companies, in addition to excluding women from the executive posts in these firms, individual ownership and the control of these companies by the founding men from the first generation. Problems can occur when power shifts from that founding generation to the successors.

The conference disclosed that the family firms contribute to the gross



Bajammal indicated that family businesses should step-up their act in the new global economy in order to survive.

domestic product by 95 percent in the Arab countries, 20 to 90 percent in the Americas, 70 percent in Europe and 80 percent in Spain and Italy. The family firms provide jobs for 80 percent of Yemen's total workforce, 75 percent of the workforce in the Gulf Cooperation Council states, 57 percent in the U.S.

These firms constitute up to 95 percent of the overall number of companies in the Arab Gulf and exceed 85 percent in the Middle East and North Africa.

The family firms are characterized by the fact that their capital isn't divided into shares and ownership is integrated with management most of the time. These firms may be small or large enterprises.

## Participants arguing

Participants talked about their personal experience in establishing and running their firms and explained with high transparency the persistent difficulties posed to their businesses.

A study, presented by Dawood Al-Hedabi, University of Science and Technology Rector, revealed that the most persistent problems threatening future of these firms is that people of the first generation are not ready to transfer the executive posts to the second generation's individuals. The most important thing is the strong correlation between the job and management.

Al-Hedabi argued that private establishments in Yemen number up to 110,938 constituting 99 percent of the total number of establishments working

## What's on the Agenda for Family Firms

1. Corporate Governance
2. Domestic Disputes
3. Succession Planning
4. Structural reforms

in Yemen. The private sector provides jobs for 80.5 percent of the total workforce.

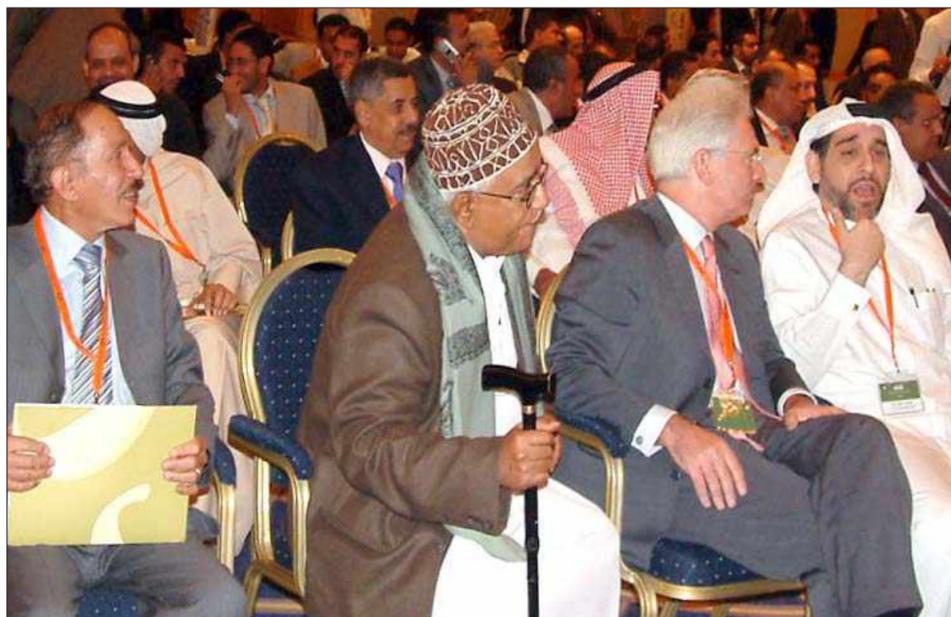
The study recommended separating ownership from management and making available a legal system for the firms to settle any domestic disputes and suggest suitable mechanism to ensure the bond of generations and transferring power easily from one generation to another.

Ahmad Hassan Bazara'ah, Chairman of Shamil Bank of Yemen and Bahrain, said the conference is significant due to the conditions and challenges experienced by family firms. He indicated that these firms are due to expire as the second generation ends.

"Only 15 percent of these firms are to survive after the second generation ends because of the disputes that are bound to appear between members of the third generation. This makes it very difficult for these firms and their managements to take any strategic decisions necessary for developing firms and helping them survive," according to Bazara'ah.

Tareq Sa'eed Abdulwase', one of the third generation members in Hayel Sa'eed Group of Companies, confirmed that the mutual respect between members of the second and third generations in Hayel Sa'eed Group help tackle any disputes between trade families.

"The charitable works offered by the group have a great role in making families stronger and helping firms to survive," he added.



Local businessmen were very interested in sharing their experiences with other businessmen from the region, and hear their views on regional economic and business affairs

## Business in brief

### Malaysian PM and business delegation come to Yemen

Malaysian Prime Minister Datu Seri Abdullah Badawi is currently visiting Yemen accompanied by a delegation of officials and businessmen representing 21 major Malaysian corporations seeking investment opportunities in Yemen, and trade cooperation with Yemeni partners.

### President Saleh calls for an international conference for the reconstruction of Somalia

President Ali Abdullah Saleh has called on the international community to arrange a special conference focusing on the reconstruction of war-torn Somalia, in order to develop Somalia and stabilize the region.

### Businesses strike against Sales Tax

Most medium and large businesses went on strike last Tuesday in order to strengthen the standing point of Yemeni Chambers of Commerce as they renegotiate the terms of the General Sales Tax law which was first issued in 2001. The business community is demanding the gradual implementation of the reviewed sales tax within a period of five years, to be fully implemented by 2012.

### Yemen participates in Jeddah's eighth economic conference

A high level delegation headed by Salim Saleh Mohammed, special economic advisor to president Saleh, has participated in Jeddah's eighth economic conference and have arranged a seminar to discuss the Yemeni-Saudi economic partnership at the same time as the conference.

### Yemen: Attempts to improve business environment are intensifying

Under-Secretary to the Minister of Planning and Cooperation, Dr. Mohammed Al-Hawiri has stated that a reforms package to improve the business environment, as well as the mechanisms in-place to register new businesses, is being developed in order to make Yemen a more attractive destination for investments.

Economic observers and people interested in the private sector's affairs expected the conference to come up with positive results with regard to situations of the private sector's companies. These results are due to be reflected on the local economy's situations, as several people hope that the conference be

### GAI: 8 percent annual growth in number of new investments

The General Authority for Investments has indicated that the average growth in the number of new investments for the period 1992-2006 was 7.9 percent, with a significant increase in the amount of paid-up capital for investments, especially since the oil boom of the last few years, dominated by Investments in the industrial and manufacturing sectors.

### Yemen is the largest producer and exporter of Bananas in the region

Yemen has topped the list of banana producers and exporters in the region for the last five years, with an annual review exceeding 7.5 billion Riyals in 2006. Bananas are the largest agricultural export of Yemen and are shipped to countries in Europe and around the world.

### Yemen bans importation of livestock from the horn of Africa

The Ministry of Agriculture has banned livestock imports from the horn of Africa due to fears of spreading a deadly disease among livestock in Yemen. The ban, however, is conditional upon several health tests on the livestock prior to their importation

### Ministry of Works to construct 6000 housing units

The Ministry of Civil Works and Roads has proposed a plan to construct 6000 housing units within the next five years, dedicated to people with limited income and underprivileged segments of the society. The units are to be located in sub-urban areas around main cities.

### Hadhramout witnesses a tourism boom

Over 28,000 tourists visited Hadhramout governorate last year, while over 10 world-class hotels and resorts are being constructed in order to keep up with the growth in the demand for tourism in Hadhramout, especially in Socotra Island, which is considered a must-visit destination for most adventure tourists coming to Yemen.

held every year or every two years.

Regarding members of the family, the conference emphasized the necessity of training individuals, enhancing the teachings of Islam and respecting seniors. Also, it recommended inviting eligible people from outside the family to run family firms.



## 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 Ministry of Education/School Feeding Project, Sana'a. This post is open to Yemeni nationals; female candidates are encouraged to apply.

**Title:** Data Analyst  
**Period:** One Year  
**Duty Station:** Sana'a, Ministry of Education.

### Tasks and Responsibilities:

The Data Analyst will be responsible for the following:

- 1- Update the database after each distribution.
- 2- Clean data prior to data entry.
- 3- Establish a link with World Food Programme.
- 4- Transfer data files from excel to access form.
- 5- Train project's staff on excel and access use.
- 6- Prepare monthly reports about activities carried out during the month.
- 7- Keep close coordination with WFP CO

### Requirement

- 1- University degree on Computer Science or related field
- 2- Two years experience in data analyzing
- 3- Clear communication skills
- 4- Fluent Arabic and English
- 5- Perform any other tasks as required
- 6- Duration one year contract

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 **07 March 2007** in closed envelope clearly marked:

(Application for Data Analyst Vacancy, at WFP Sana'a) at the following address:

World Food Programme, Sana'a, Villa No. 22 - Nwakshut St. St. No. 21, Diplomatic Area, P.O. Box 7181, Republic of Yemen.  
Tel: 01 214100/101, Fax: 01 205515.



## إعلان وظائف

منظمة ماري ستوبس الدولية - منظمة غير حكومية لا تتوخى الربح في مجال الخدمات الإنسانية وليس لها طابع سياسي أو ديني .. تتركز نشاطاتها في تقديم المساعدة للمجتمع لتسهيل الحصول على خدمات الصحة الإنجابية وتهدف إلى زيادة الموارد المخصصة واستخدامها الاستخدام الأمثل .

افتتح أول مركز في صنعاء في يونيو ١٩٩٨م وفي سيئون في نوفمبر ١٩٩٩م وفي عدن في يناير ٢٠٠٢م وأخيراً في تعز في يونيو ٢٠٠٢م ، يعمل في مراكز المنظمة كادر صحي مؤهل من الأطباء، والقابلات والكوادر الصحية المؤهلة ذات الخبرة الطويلة .

الخدمات المتوفرة: تنظيم الأسرة ، معالجة الأمراض المنقولة جنسياً ، رعاية الحوامل ، تطعيم النساء والأطفال ، خدمات الصيدلية والمختبر، الفحص الدوري للنساء ، التعقيم صحي .

تعلم منظمة ماري ستوبس الدولية - اليمن عن حاجتها لأربعة منسقين حقلين للعمل ضمن خطتها في توسيع نشاطها من خلال افتتاح مراكزها الجديدة في العديد من محافظات الجمهورية وفق الشروط التالية:

- شهادة دبلوم بعد الثانوية كحد أدنى .
  - خبرة في مجال الصحة الإنجابية والتسويق لخدماتها .
  - خبرة في الإشراف على خدمات الصحة الإنجابية والتدريب أثناء الخدمة .
  - خبرة في وضع الخطط الإستراتيجية لأنشطة مراكز المنظمة .
  - إجادة اللغة الإنجليزية كتابة ولفظاً .
  - يمتلك / تمتلك مهارات القيادة والعمل بروح الفريق .
  - يمتلك / تمتلك مهارات التدريب .
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The tender document is available to bidding companies at a cost of US\$ 200.00

Quotations are to be submitted **On Wednesday 18th April 2007**

For collection of tender document or more information, please contact:

**YPA - Head Office**  
**Tawahi - Aden**  
**Tel:** 967- 2 - 204638 / 202669  
**Fax:** 967- 2 - 205805 / 201541  
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Please send the documents to the attention of:

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Petroleum Exploration & Production Authority  
Department of Petroleum Environment  
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Tel: 00967-1-441221 Ext.: 121  
Mobile: 00967- 777139031  
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# THROUGH THE MIND'S EYE

## A passage to Iraq

By: Maged Thabet Al-Kholidy  
maged\_thabet@hotmail.com



Some powerful nations repeatedly raised various common mottos to invade and sometimes colonize others. Whether we call it "invasion," "occupation," "colonialism" or "imperialism," by all means, it offers nothing but harm and destruction to such targeted countries.

Actually, it's not strange to see such countries spend a huge amount of money and devote armed forces and people for other nations' sake. Whether they settle safely or unsafely, invaders and colonizers are no more than enemies. Even though they settle for a long period of time, native peoples never accept them as friends and, of course, one day, sooner or later, they will be driven out.

The 19th century English novelist E. M. Forster depicts all of this in his novel, "A Passage to India," about British colonization in India. History currently is repeating itself in the case of the U.S.-British occupation of Iraq. The terms and even the techniques may differ, but the aims remain the same. Instead of India, we now have Iraq and regarding this point, what Forster calls "A Passage to India," is actually what we may call "A Passage to Iraq."

Peacekeeping, freedom, justice, welfare, etc., are mottos the U.S.-British forces raised to invade Iraq. In "A Passage to India," British settlers in India claim similar mottos, as British city magistrate Ronny describes: "We're out here to

do justice and keep the peace...I'm out here to work, mind and hold this wretched country by force. We're not pleasant in India and we don't intend to be pleasant. We've something more important to do."

By the way, the "peace" occurring in Iraq actually isn't peaceful due to the daily blasts and military attacks that kill dozens of people every day. Everyone is enjoying "freedom" so that Iraqis live - I'm sorry, exist - by keeping quiet and doing nothing while surrounded by freedom offices whose easiest response is jailing, if not killing, anyone requesting help. Welfare is everywhere except in a small area of the world called Iraq where the smell of dead bodies is the only thing to enjoy.

This is the same freedom, welfare and peace Indians received from their British colonizers as depicted in "A Passage to India." The British humiliated and aggressively treated the Indians, declaring, "The best thing one can do to a native is let him die." These are the glorious achievements colonial and imperialist systems sincerely offer any nation that may give such clients the chance to treat its own land.

Greedy nations often spend a lot of money to invade and settle in others with the claim of keeping peace and freedom. One should ask, "Why aren't such amounts spent on poor countries in South Africa, for example, to save people from disease and starvation?"

A comparison between such poor countries and others like Iraq and

India answers the question in the sense that nothing is offered free of charge. Though there are many reasons, absorbing a nation's wealth and natural resources is first; thus, we realize where Iraq's oil has gone and why Indians led such poor lives during British colonization.

This is the situation: instead of building a country's infrastructure for the nation's welfare, they run after the country's incomes to increase their own glory. Nobody denies that the U.S. has built something in Iraq - it's a great pipe to pump oil for their own interests. Alas, the oil that was Iraq's main source of income has become useless under U.S. welfare, freedom and peace.

Similarly, India's trade and shipment income no longer were for Indians who, furthermore, became mere consumers of English products like clothes and food, which Indians sufficiently produced for themselves before colonization. English people enjoyed good financial status on account of Indians who lacked it in their own land. Forster's description of the city of Chandrapore as divided into two completely different parts offers a glimpse of the poverty and miserable life Indians led compared to the English.

It's a mathematical game such countries play everywhere: "What's the income of losing so and so?" This is what every individual, child, old man or woman should learn and should be taught to others as a national duty because the future is

mysterious and all should awaken awareness to ensure a better tomorrow for generations to come.

In fact, the relationship between invaders and colonizers with native peoples soon breaks down. There seem to be some relations between the U.S.-British soldiers and some of the Iraqis. However, these relations are either for personal benefit or just a trap for American and British people. Such relationships are unreal and soon will fade away.

The relationship between Indian Muslim Dr. Aziz and English ladies, Mrs. Moore and Miss Adela, who seem to be good friends at the beginning, doesn't continue and instead, they become hostile enemies. Actually, it's not only a matter of different cultures, religions, lifestyles, etc., but something lies deeply that keeps a great distance between the natives and the colonizers.

Surely, there must be a deep-rooted hatred and negative response toward the aggressive invaders. Even those who run after personal benefits feel disdain and hatred. Nearly four years have passed since Iraq was invaded and every day sees a wider negative response toward the American and British people.

This is what Ronny reveals in "A Passage to India," stating: "I've had 25 years' experience in the country and 25 years seemed to fill the waiting-room with their staleness and ungenerosity. During those 25 years, I've never known anything but disaster resulting when the

English and Indians attempt to be intimate socially. Intercourse, yes. Courtesy, by all means. Intimacy, never ever."

How can such a hard-headed nation like Iraq accept an American or British soldier who daily kills innocent children and women; who leaves nothing undestroyed in search of armless militants (what they call terrorists) and who absorbs the country's oil and its natural resources?

In "A Passage to India," it's not only the relationship between Aziz and the English ladies that negatively ends, but also his relationship with Fielding, who comes to India as a mere schoolteacher. Many times, Aziz tries to befriend such an armless English teacher, but he constantly fails and instead, they become enemies.

It's not only a man-to-man or a nation-to-nation or even a culture-to-culture relationship. Nevertheless, it's a relationship between a native seeking peace and a happy life in his own land and a strange, hostile client who settles by force in others' land for nothing except to rob the country of its wealth, impose aggressive rules upon its people and utilize its location as a center of power and authority to threaten neighboring areas. No nation accepts this.

Although an English author, this is what Forster brilliantly depicts at the end of his novel when Fielding and Aziz ride two horses together.

Though they are supposed to control the horses' destination, the horses go separately because there's something deeper, as Forster describes in his words: "But the horses didn't want it. They served apart. The earth didn't want it, sending up rocks through which riders must pass single file. The temples, the tank, the jail, the palace, the birds, the carrion, the Guest House that came into view as they issued from the gap and saw Mall beneath, they didn't want it. They said in a hundred voices, 'No, not yet,' and the sky said, 'No, not there.'"

Thus, the Iraqi people will never surrender and one day, they'll drive out the U.S.-British forces like the Indians did to the British settlers in 1948. It's a lesson invaders and colonizers should learn - that the time will come to push them out barefoot if death lets some escape.

To conclude, in any colonized or invaded country, every drop of shed blood turns into a fountain of revolutionary anger, every penny exploited will be repaid and every friendly peace-loving individual soon will devote himself to violence to cleanse the homeland of such dirty mercenaries. This can be realized only through the mind's eye.

Maged Thabet Al-Kholidy is a 26 year old writer from Taiz, currently doing his M.A. at English Dep, Taiz Uni. An ex-editor of Eng. Journal of the Uni. (maged\_thabet@hotmail.com)

### Universal Crossword

Edited by Timothy E. Parker

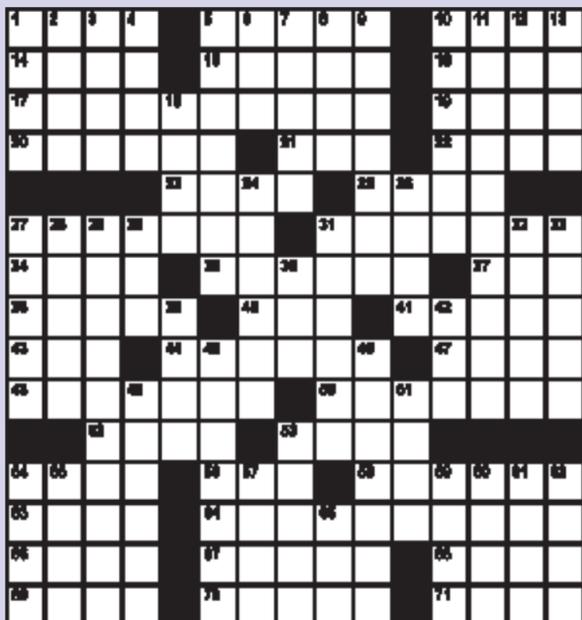
- ACROSS**
- 1 Seizes suddenly
  - 5 Headquartered
  - 10 Vigoda and Burrows
  - 14 Sacred image
  - 15 Remove, as a knot
  - 16 Java neighbor
  - 17 Bright notion
  - 19 Support beam
  - 20 Six musicians
  - 21 Hawaiian garland
  - 22 A unit of force
  - 23 Toward shelter
  - 25 Turns right
  - 27 Ne'er-do-well
  - 31 New York university
  - 34 Flash of inspiration
  - 35 Withdraw formally
  - 37 Metallic rock
  - 38 Mutual agreements
  - 40 Director's call
  - 41 Made two-by-fours, e.g.
  - 43 Self-esteem
  - 44 Fair-sized musical groups

- 47 Rowlands of "Hope Floats"
- 48 Detection devices
- 50 Type of movement
- 52 Statistical information
- 53 Bill of fare
- 54 Sailing vessel
- 56 Bovine bellow
- 58 Painting on moist plaster
- 63 Diva's highlight
- 64 Light used by pro cameramen
- 66 Split with violence
- 67 Duck down?
- 68 Very painful
- 69 They have little ones
- 70 Administer-ed medicine
- 71 What rings lack

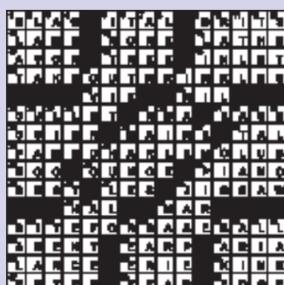
- DOWN**
- 1 Pen points
  - 2 4,840 square yards
  - 3 Constricting snakes
  - 4 An irritated state
  - 5 Hurries

- 6 Colony dweller
- 7 Fur wrap
- 8 The Emerald Isle
- 9 Minor deity
- 10 Waited
- 11 Party with little presents?
- 12 Zealous style
- 13 Royal address
- 18 Close-by
- 24 Puts into office
- 26 "\_\_\_ Tu" ('70s hit)
- 27 Dries, as dishes
- 28 Old saying
- 29 Something a runner may catch
- 30 Part of a retaliatory exchange
- 31 State of fitness
- 32 Team building, perhaps
- 33 Commemorative piece
- 36 It can get behind the eight ball
- 39 Lampblack
- 42 Get on in years
- 45 Tight on space
- 46 Redd's Fred
- 49 Ranch settings
- 51 Horse racing track
- 53 States of mind
- 54 Unit of length
- 55 Square footage
- 57 Buckeye State
- 59 Word of choice
- 60 Before long
- 61 Electrical cable
- 62 Poems to sing
- 65 Ball supporter

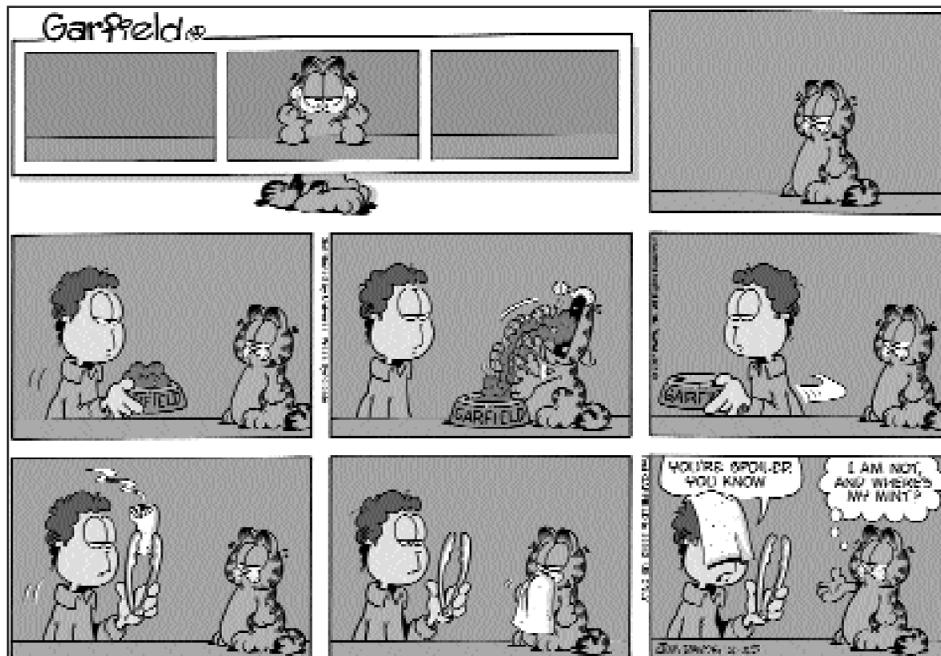
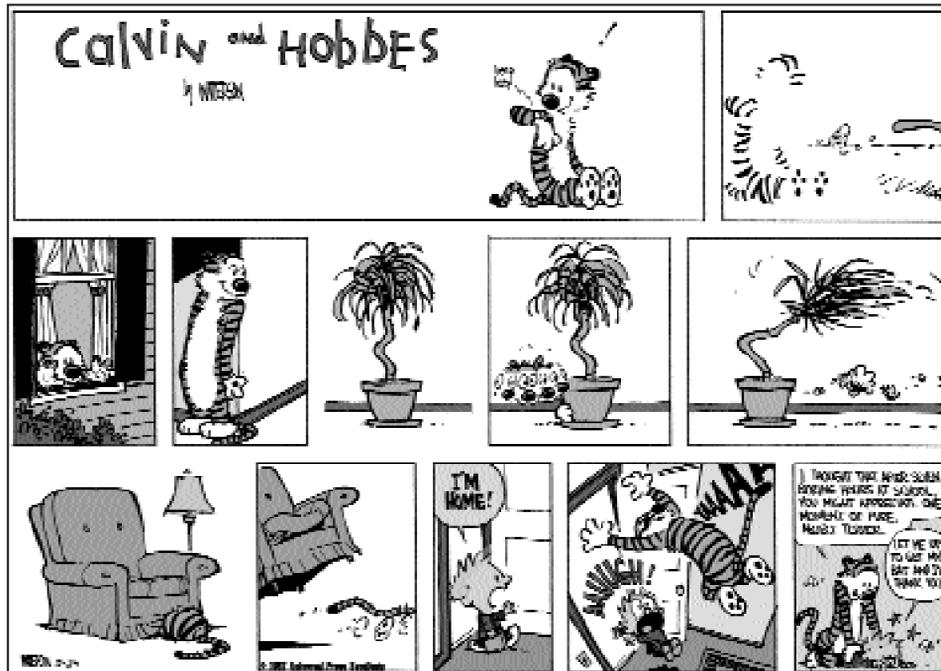
"WEATHER OR NOT" By Donald L. Blocher



PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER



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 حدة - الحي السياسي - الأصبحي - بيت بوس  
 سيار: ٢٨٥٥ - ٧٣٣٨٠ - مكتب: ٦٧٩١٦٦  
 تعالو معنا إلى منطقة الأصبحي وبيت بوس...  
 شارعنا كبيرة والمباني جديدة وحديثه والأسعار أقل من حدة والحي السياسي والمسافة 10 دقائق فقط.  
 للإيجار: ١ - فيلا صغيرة، ٥ غرف، حمامين، حوش سيارة، حي الإسكان جوار المقالع: الإيجار الشهري ٣٠٠ دولار.  
 ٢ - فيلا ٣ أدوار، ١١ غرفة كبيرة، ٥ حمامات، ٢ مطابخ مع الدواليب، مرفق ٣ السيارات. الأصبحي الجديد. الإيجار ٧٠٠ دولار  
 ٣ - فيلا جديد، دورين، ٨ غرف، ٤ حمامات، مطبخ، مساحة الأرضية ٢٠٠ لينة، بيت بوس، بين الخمسين والثلاثين متر. الإيجار ٧٠٠ دولار  
 ٤ - فيلا دورين، الأصبحي القديم. الإيجار المطروح ٤٠٠ دولار شهرياً بحاجة إلى تحسينات وتغييرات، مساحة الأرضية ١٧ لينة. إذا لديكم الرغبة والصور... اتصلوا بنا  
 نسعى لتقديم الأفضل والأحسن في مجال الإستثمار العقاري

الجامعة الجديدة.  
 للإستفسار: ٢١٠٥١٦ / ٧٧٧٧٢٨١٠٢ /  
 • للبيع: عمارة في شارع هاييل مكونة من ثلاثة أدوار وسبع شقق. للتواصل: ٧٣٤٤٩٧٨١٦ أم أحمد

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 • **البيع: عدة محل سيديها متكامل مع كيبوتريث + ناسخ خارجي + منظم كهرباء كبير + طاولات وكراسي**  
 للتواصل: ٧٧٧٧٩٠٢٣٥ - ٧١٢٣٥٤٩٨٣  
 • **البيع: مركز اتصالات مع الإكسسوارات، على شارع رئيسي وبسعر مغري جداً.**  
 للتواصل: ٧٣٣٢٠٦٤٥٢

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 • محمد عبدالله - دبلوم فني تجارة - دورات في اللغة الإنجليزية - خبرة في مجال الحاسوب - يرغب في العمل في أي شركة.  
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 • **ناصر عبد الحبيب - هندسة كهرباء (تخصص حاسبات وتحكم) - يجيد اللغة الإنجليزية - يجيد استخدام كافة برامج الكيبوتريث - يجيد استخدام الإنترنت - يجيد استخدام نظام Oracle**  
 للتواصل: ٧١١٨٧٣٩٢٣  
 • **إبراهيم محمد مسعد الرياشي - ثانوية عامة - يجيد اللغة الإنجليزية نطقاً وكتابة - سائق - دورة عسكرية أمنية في الخارج وخبرة في هذا المجال لمدة ٥ سنوات - خبرة في العلاقات العامة ونظام الإشراف والمراقبة.**  
 للتواصل: ٧١١١٨٦٠٥٨ - ١٠٦٠٥٥١  
 • **محمود صغير - حاصل على تمهيدي ماجستير مناهج وطرق تدريس عام ٢٠٠٥م - بكالوريوس لغة عربية - دبلوم معلمين - خبرة في مجال التدريس منذ العام ١٩٩٥م - حاصل على أكثر من عشر شهادات تقدير وخبرة ومشاركة. يرغب في إعطاء دروس خصوصية للراغبين في ذلك.**  
 للتواصل: ٧١٢٢٦٢٨٣٤  
 • **عمار نعمان - بكالوريوس كيمياء (كلية العلوم - جامعة صنعاء). حاصل على دورة تدريبية في وزارة النفط وكذلك دورة تدريبية في المقاييس وظبط الجودة - خبرة في تدريس مادة الكيمياء في إحدى المدارس الأهلية الدولية.**  
 للتواصل: ٠١/٦٧٨٨٥٠٠ - ٧٣٣٨٤٥٦١٩  
 • **علي محمد - مبرمج كيبوتريث - مسئول قواعد بيانات - رئيس قسم إستحقاقات - خبرة في برامج المشتريات والمخازن - خبرة في مجال التدريس والتدريب - مؤسس ومدير معهد سابقاً - خبرة في مجال البرمجة والصيانة لمدة سبع سنوات - خبرة في مجال المحاسبة لمدة أربع سنوات فقط. يبحث عن عمل للفترة المسائية فقط.**  
 للتواصل: ٧٧٧٢٢٧٠٤٩

• **يحي حسن القليسي - بكالوريوس لغة إنجليزية + دبلوم سكرتارية - يجيد اللغة الإنجليزية كتابة ونطقاً مع إجادة تامة لإستخدام الكيبوتريث. يرغب في العمل في أي مجال مناسب.**  
 للتواصل: ٧١٢٤٨٧٤١٠٠١ / ٣٠٦٦٢  
 • **مدرس متخصص في اللغتين العربية والإنجليزية يريد إعطاء دروس خصوصية لجميع المراحل خاصة الثالث إعدادي والثالث ثانوي (الأسعار مناسبة)**  
 للتواصل: ٧٣٣٩٤٦٣٣٥  
 • **شوقي أمين - ثانوية عامة - سنة ثالثة تجارة (قسم محاسبة) - مستواه جيد في اللغة الإنجليزية - دبلوم سكرتارية كيبوتريث - خبرة في العمل في مجال المخازن لمدة ست سنوات - يبحث عن عمل في أي مجال مناسب.**  
 للتواصل: ٧٣٣٤٠٩٦٥٢  
 • **طبيب حاصل على بكالوريوس مختبرات لديه أجهزة مخبرية متكاملة يبحث عن مستوصف أو مركز صحي بحاجة إلى فتح مختبر.**  
 للإستفسار: ٧٣٣٦٥٠٠٤٠  
 • **أحمد محمد التهامي - بكالوريوس علوم حاسوب بتقدير إمتياز مع مرتبة الشرف (الثاني على الدرجة) - خريج جامعة العلوم والتكنولوجيا - لديه معرفة جيدة جداً باللغة الإنجليزية - يرغب في العمل كمبرمج أو كمدرس لغات برمجة.**  
 للتواصل: ٧١١٩٦٦٦٥٢

**سيارات**  
 • **مطلوب شراء سيارة نوع بوني تكون في حالة جيدة وبسعر مناسب.**  
 للتواصل: ٧٣٤٢٦٦٥٥٧ علي

**عقارات**  
 • **للإيجار: فيلا دورين فيها ١٠ غرف، ٦ حمامات، ٢ مطابخ، غرفة حراسة، موقف سيارتين، حديقة دائرية. الموقع حدة جوار شارع إيران وشارع الصفر. تشطيب ممتاز. تصلح مكتب أو سكن (جاهزة للسكن فوراً).**  
 للإيجار الشهري: ١.٢٠٠ \$  
 للإستفسار: ٧٣٣٨٠٢٨٥٥  
 • **للإيجار: شقق سكنية مكونة من غرفتين ومن ثلاث ومن أربع غرف مع حمامين ومطبخ وصالة وبلوكونة في شارع تعز وفي شارع الزراعة وفي حدة - جوار قاعة القبة وفي حي**

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 يورب كار: ٣٧٠٧٥١ - ٣٧٠٧٥١ فاكس: ٣٧٠٨٠٤  
 هيرتز لتأجير السيارات صنعاء: ٠١-٤٤٠٣٠٩  
 فرع شراون: ٥٥٥٩٨٥  
 عدن: ٠٢-٢٤٥٢٥٠

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 فاكس: ٠١-٤٧٤١٩  
 عدن ت: ٣٧٠٧١٩٩  
 تعز ت: ٤٠٢٥-٢٤٣  
 المكلا ت: ٥٠٢-٧٤٩٢  
 Infnit Education T: 444553  
 NIIT لتعليم الكيبوتريث: ٤٤٥٥١٧/٧-٤٤٢٠٧٣

**البريد السريع**  
 صنعاء: ٤٤٠١٧٠/٧٧  
 الحديدة: ٢٤٩٨٢  
 إب: ٤١١٨٨٨  
 المكلا: ٣٠٣٤١  
 شبوه: ٢٠٣٣٦٦  
 سيئون: ٤٠٢٤٩٩  
 DHL: 441099/8/7/6  
 ARAMEX: ٤٤١٠٢٤/٥

**مستشفيات**  
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 المستشفى العموري ت: ٠١-٢٤٦٨٧/٧  
 مستشفى حدة الأهلي ت: ٠١-٤١٣٨١  
 المستشفى اليمني الألماني ت: ٠١-٤١٨٠٠٠  
 فاكس: ٠١-٤١٨١١٦  
 المستشفى الألماني الحديث ت: ٠١-٦٠٠٠٠٠-٦٠٠٠٠٠  
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 E-mail: felixpene@hotmail.com

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 فندق فرساي ت: ٠١-٤٢٥٧٠/٧  
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 فندق موفينيك ت: ٠١-٥٤٦٦٦٦  
 فندق تاج سبأ ت: ٠١-٢٧٣٣٧٣  
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**معاهد**  
 معهد يالي ت: ٤٤٨-٣٧-٣٧ فاكس: ٤٤٥٤٨٢ / ٣٧٤-٤٤٨-٣٧  
 معهد اللغة الألمانية ت: ٣٠٠٩٥٥  
 المعهد البريطاني للغات والكيبوتريث ت: ٣٦٦٣٣٣  
 فاكس: ٥١٤٧٥٥  
 معهد كاروكوس ت: ٥٢٤٣٤/٥ فاكس: ٥٢٤٣٤  
 معهد لينك ت: ٢٤٠٨٣٣ - ٥١-٦١٢٣ فاكس: ٣٦٥٥٧٧

**شركات للتأمين**  
 الوطنية للتأمين ت: ٧٣٧١٢/٧٣٧١٢٠ فاكس: ٧٣٧١٢٤  
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 الشركة اليمنية الإسلامية للتأمين وإعادة التأمين صنعاء ت: ٢٨٤٩٣٢  
 عدن ت: ٢٤٤٢٨٠  
 تعز ت: ٣٥٨٨١  
 شركة التأمين صنعاء ت: ٧٣٧٨٠٦/٧٣٧١٢/٧٣٧١٢٠ فاكس: ٢٤٧١١٧  
 عدن ت: ٢٥٠٣٤٥  
 تعز ت: ٣٥٠٣٤٥

**مطاعم**  
 مطعم ومخبزة الشيباني (باسم محمد عبده الشيباني)  
 تلفون: ٢٦٦٣٧٥ - ٥٠٥٢٩٠ - فاكس: ٢٦٦٦١٩

**كوبون للإعلانات الشخصية المجانية (كل الاعلانات الشخصية بدون أي مقابل)**  
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## Tarim: Symphony of eternal beauty

By: Ebrahim Mohammed Ba Monger  
ebra1982@hotmail.com  
For Yemen Times

One would be surprised to discover a paradise in a vast desert, but there really is one! Visit Tarim and one can experience true beauty as never seen before. Amazing historical sites, ancient museums and the most attractive scenes stand side-by-side in this unique slice of beauty.

Tarim is one of Hadramout's historic

cities, as well as its previous religious capital. It has been and remains a radiant center of science and knowledge, in addition to being the center of religious dissemination since Islam emerged. Religious monuments and education centers were built everywhere, with the most well-known institutes being Ribat Tarim and Dar Al-Mustafa.

Tarim is an ancient historical city named for its founder, King Tarim Bin Hadramout Bin Saba, more than 2,400 years ago. Both the cities of Shibam and Tarim are named for the two tribes of

these names.

Tarim is famous for its great number of mosques, commonly said to be more than 360, the same number of days in a year. Thus, it became known as the city of worship (Abadeh).

The city also is famous due to the abundance of palm trees in farms, gardens, parks and the several palaces built throughout Tarim.

As soon as one arrives in Tarim, ancient eras spring to mind. One begins to lose control of his vision as the eyes wander around the magnificent palaces, the sides of which are crowned with branches of palm trees and which have been decorated with designs using al-noora, a white plaster type of paint. This white paint beautified the city's palaces in such a way that it made Tarim itself appear as a jewel in the heart of Wadi Hadramout.

Tarim was the pre-Islamic political capital of the Kandeh kingdom in Hadramout. It remained the political capital until 1927 when it was seized by Bader Abu Twirk, who changed the capital to Sayoun. Tarim has retained its status as the capital of religion since the beginning of the Islamic era until the present day.

Tarim is located 35 kilometers north-east of Sayoun on the west side of the main channel of Wadi Hadramout. It lies approximately 356 km. from the city of Mukalla, the capital of the Hadramout, and approximately 750 km. southeast of the capital of Sana'a. It is overlooked by mountains in the east and by palm groves in the west and south.

At 2,070 feet above sea level and a total land area of approximately 3,500 square km., the population of Tarim exceeds 100,000 inhabitants. Tarim's mud architecture is an extension of the land and the people's rights linked to it. These form the technical architecture and cultural roots of traditional building. The technique has evolved through building

with mud via trial and error.

Since the beginning of humanity, man has used the building material intelligently and instinctually in many forms and patterns. Certain materials improve its properties, such as adding hay, lime, cement, straw or other substances.

Such features have caused Tarim's buildings to highlight the physical style, especially when building palaces, mosques, etc. The 175-foot archaeological landmark of Al-Mihdar Mosque, is evidence of the progress of such architectural art in Hadramout. It was built in the early 14th century by Awad Silman Afif and his brothers, who are sons of Tarim. It is considered as evidence for visitors, researchers and one of the landmarks of the city of Tarim.



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We sincerely thank all our readers for their active participation & valued support.

# Education

A free monthly Supplement offered by Yemen Times and presented by Dr. Ramakanta Sahu

No. 13

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## Improve Your English: 301

### I. What to Say

Situations and Expressions (95)  
Thank you, teacher!

**A** teacher is a great nourisher. He lights the candle of knowledge in and dispels the gloom of ignorance from the minds of learners. He puts the interests of the students above his personal self and relentlessly works to extend the frontiers of their mental horizon.

- It's your approach, your words, your zeal, which shines in us, as an inspiration to live up to your ideals. Here's bowing down to you for being a teacher beyond compare.
- You're truly special because you always help me to strive for the best.
- Teacher! You are my inspiration... The care, the concern, the guidance you shower, the values, the morals, the ethics you instill in me always help me go ahead in the right direction. Thanks for being such an inspiration.

### II. How to Say it Correctly

Correct errors, if any, in the following sentences

1. Opening the book, the pages had been torn.
2. Waiting in the queue for half an hour, Adnan suddenly realized that he had left his wallet at home.
3. I cut me when I was chopping vegetables.
4. My sister drew herself the picture.
5. The coffee in this coffee shop is the best one in town.

Suggested answers to the previous issue's questions

1. 'Do you like your present?' 'It's just the thing (that) I was hoping for.' (or 'it's just what I was hoping for.')
2. You are free to do whatever you want.  
Note: Present Simple is used to refer to the future after 'whatever'
3. You don't mean to tell me that's the man (who/that) you paid the money to?
4. The man who broke the window wants to see you.
5. I recognized Adel easily. He was the only boy (who was) wearing a red jacket.

### III. Increase Your Word Power

(A) How to express it in one word

1. Political system in which states control most of their internal affairs
2. Weak, faint, without energy
3. Pleasing manner of speaking or writing
4. Of or like a cat
5. Friendly association or companionship

Suggested answers to the previous issue's questions

1. Not easily pleased and quick to find fault: **fastidious** (adj)
2. Showing self-satisfaction, quiet contentment: **complacency** (n)
3. Condition of being very tired: **fatigue** (n)
4. All the animals of an era or an epoch: **fauna** (n)
5. Indiscreet action, remark, etc.: **faux pas** (n)

(B) Words often confused

Bring out the difference in meaning of the following

1. green grocer, greengrocer
2. intellect, intelligence
3. emulate, imitate
4. stationery, confectionery
5. self, shelf

Suggested answers to the previous issue's questions

1. **failing** (n) (a weakness or a fault of character): None is immune to little failings.  
**failure** (n) (lack of success): All my efforts ended in failure.
2. **snob** (n) (person who despises person of lower social position): He is known to be a snob.  
**snub** (vt) (treat a less senior person with cold behavior): He felt offended when he was snubbed by the official.
3. **conceit** (n) (too much pride in oneself): Mohammed is full of conceit.  
**deceit** (n) (causing a person to accept as true something that is false): She is so innocent that she is incapable of deceit.
4. **require** (vt) (need; depend on for success): Success requires hard work.  
**requite** (vt) (repay; give in return): You should not requite kindness with ingratitude.
5. **fatalism** (n) (belief that events are decided by fate): I am a strong believer in fatalism.  
**fatality** (n) (misfortune or accident that causes

death or destruction): Many lives are lost by flood, cyclone or other fatalities.

(C) Synonyms and Antonyms

(i) Synonyms

Choose the word that is closest in meaning to the one given at the top

1. **delineate**  
a. to mark out with lines  
b. to represent by a sketch or picture  
c. to draw  
d. to describe
2. **denouement**  
a. unraveling of a plot or story  
b. the issue  
c. event  
d. outcome
3. **devious**  
a. out of the way  
b. round about  
c. winding  
d. erring
4. **discourse**  
a. conversation  
b. reasoning faculty  
c. a treatise  
d. a process of combat
5. **dissimulate**  
a. to pretend  
b. to conceal  
c. to disguise  
d. to dissemble

Suggested answers to the previous issue's questions

- | Word          | Synonym                      |
|---------------|------------------------------|
| 1. debilitate | enfeeble                     |
| 2. dissipate  | to dispel                    |
| 3. decree     | an order by one in authority |
| 4. deflect    | to turn aside                |
| 5. defray     | to meet the expenses         |

(ii) Antonyms

Choose the word that is most opposite in meaning to the one given at the top

1. **hunch**  
a. slavery  
b. kingly  
c. empirical  
d. hindrance
2. **humorous**  
a. ludicrous  
b. serious  
c. dull  
d. funny
3. **inborn**  
a. acquired  
b. congenial  
c. outborn  
d. snatched
4. **idiosyncrasy**  
a. insanity  
b. sanity  
c. normal  
d. singularity
5. **impede**  
a. hinder  
b. expedite  
c. interfere  
d. stop

Suggested answers to the previous issue's questions

- | Word        | Antonym      |
|-------------|--------------|
| 1. grip     | release      |
| 2. gratuity | remuneration |
| 3. gullible | shrewd       |
| 4. honorary | professional |
| 5. holiness | profanity    |

(D) Spelling

Choose the correctly spelt word

1. a. scintilating  
b. scintillating  
c. skintilating  
d. scientilating
2. a. suggestion  
b. sugestion  
c. suggestion  
d. suggeson
3. a. tomarow  
b. tomorrow  
c. tomorrou  
d. tumorrow
4. a. trenquility  
b. tranquility  
c. tranquillity  
d. tranquillity
5. a. tapestry  
b. tapestry  
c. tepestry  
d. tapestrie

Suggested answers to the previous issue's questions

1. recipient
2. satellite
3. skeleton
4. sovereignty
5. spree

(E) Phrases and idioms

Use the following phrases in sentences

1. turn tail
2. cook someone's goose
3. on edge
4. be music to someone's ears
5. run (something) to earth

Suggested answers to the previous issue's questions

1. **upto one's ears in** (something) (deeply involved in something): I have no time to spare as I am upto my ears in finishing the assignment
2. **play a losing game** (to attempt to do something in which one is more likely to be defeated): When he decided to contest in the election against the

President, he knew that he was playing a losing game.

3. **lead (someone) a merry dance** (to cause someone much unnecessary trouble or inconvenience): He is leading us a merry dance by not deciding whether to sell the house or not.
4. **The pot calling the kettle black** (used to describe someone who is criticizing another person for doing something that he/she also does): Mohammed blames Hussein for being irresponsible but that's the pot calling the kettle black – he always avoids responsibility.
5. **a near thing** (the act of having narrowly avoided an accident or punishment): You should drive carefully – that was a near thing when you overtook that bus.

### IV. Grammar and Composition

A. Grammar

Use one of the following words in its correct form in sentences 1 – 10

- |              |           |           |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|
| contentment  | delight   | contempt  |
| boredom      | shock     | pleasure  |
| disgust      | happiness | anger     |
| astonishment | joy       | amazement |
| surprise     | approval  | fear      |
| amusement    | sadness   |           |

1. To my \_\_\_\_\_, he arrived unexpectedly on the doorstep with a huge bunch of flowers.
2. Children of all ages can enjoy themselves in \_\_\_\_\_ parks.
3. During the school holidays he suffered from intense \_\_\_\_\_.
4. Her parents happily gave their \_\_\_\_\_ when she told them she wanted to marry Jim.
5. He raised his fist in \_\_\_\_\_ at the driver who had just crashed into him.
6. The death of a loved one causes great \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Many people suffer from a \_\_\_\_\_ of heights.
8. It gives me great \_\_\_\_\_ to present you with this prize for achievement.
9. For many people a simple life is the best way to find true \_\_\_\_\_.
10. He was a very superior man, who always treated other people with \_\_\_\_\_.

Suggested answers to the previous issue's questions

1. Mujahed: 'I wish I didn't sell my house.'
2. Rawia: If only I didn't tell my boss yesterday what I thought of him.
3. Adel: I wish I didn't commit the offence so that I won't have to be in prison.
4. Nora: I wish I had prepared myself more efficiently so as to succeed in the interview.
5. Jamal: I wish I hadn't bought the cheap old car.
6. Mohammed: I wish I hadn't ventured into the drive without being fully familiar with the route.

B. Composition

Expand the central idea contained in the maxim  
119: A NEW BROOM SWEEPS CLEAN

Suggested answers to the previous lesson's questions  
118: BETTER LATE THAN NEVER

It is better to accomplish a task even though it is late than to give it up on the grounds of delay. When we propose to do something, we are not always in control of all the relevant factors. For some unforeseen reason there may be some delay. Some people in such circumstances become impatient and tend to abandon the attempt altogether which is not advisable. All may not be lost. Instead of losing hope one should unleash efforts in the right direction and may even achieve success at the nick of moment. A positive attitude, an optimistic mindset culminates in a positive result, notwithstanding some delay in the beginning. Examples can be multiplied from our day-to-day life. We sometimes give an appointment to meet someone; but if we are delayed for some unforeseen contingency, instead of canceling the appointment we should still try and make it. The poet may say "In delay there lies no plenty..." but in actual life sometimes when delay becomes unavoidable, one should still give it a try, although one should try to keep to the time and commitment at all costs.

V. Pearls from the Holy Quran

"Your Lord is full of mercy all-embracing; but from people in guilt never will His wrath be turned back."  
—S6:A147

VI. Food for Thought

It is better to deserve an honor and not get it, than to get one, and not deserve it."  
—Mark Twain

## Emerging concepts in literary domains Geopolitics and literature



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The term "geopolitics" is often used to signify any locational approach to political issues or any political understanding of space. The word 'space' has a broader explanation of a thing that even covers up the region outside the Earth's atmosphere, in which all stars and other planets etc are situated. But in the discipline of geography, space is a field or container usually describable by a two or three – dimensional metric of co-ordinates. In the field of literature, space is recognized for the fluidity, relationality, and multiplicity of the experiencing subject that marks an uneasy gap between the established subject and a discourse of spatial essentialism. The term 'spatial essentialism' connotes the relation of the size, shape and position of things, and relation of objects to each other in shape. In

a very literal manner the term comes to explain the relation of people's ability to an understanding of size, shape, position and depth. The early twenty-first century, particularly in modernist literature acquires new meaning as the generative site of the global imagination. The multiplicity of location, the objective practices of surveying, circumscribing, and recording inscribe the motion of intellectual territorial mastery. The works like Henry James's *The American* Joseph Conrad's *Under Western Eyes*, E.M. Forster's *A Passage to India*, T. S. Eliot's *Notes Towards the Definition of Culture*, Christopher Isherwood's *Berlin Novels* and Virginia Wolf's *The Years* bear testimony to changing modes of previous knowledge and assumptions that occasion the turn to a non-problematized discourse. The growing impact of globalization transforms the nature of spatial relations; the further reflection on the nature and condition of our knowledge will no doubt influence the new mapping strategies and thus those relations.

The Swedish political scientist Rudolf Kjellen coined the term *Geopolitik* in 1899. He came to understand the term in order to signify a Darwinian understanding of state power as dependent on territorial growth. In course of his working on the concepts formulated by the German geographer Friedrich Ratzel, he realized the philosophy that stronger organisms survive by displacing the weaker.

Continued on page 2

## Script your success story Effective communication and interpersonal skills



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A number of communication related behaviors have been identified by researchers, most of which are inherited e. g. sociability, public speaking, assertiveness etc. Others are genetic predispositions, such as communication apprehension. The notion behind these alternative approaches is that, genetics may predispose a person to certain traits, but environment factors increase or reduce the development of these traits. Every day of our life we find ourselves in hundreds of situations requiring communication- all these situations are called contexts of communication. A context or situation is a specific type of environment that produces specific requirements for successful communication. Some of the typical communication contexts are: interpersonal communication, public communication, group communication, and communication in career settings. Communication is always carried out with a purpose. We acquire the skills of communication so that we can convey our messages appropriately. The four important components of effective communication are: (i) *rate*: this refers to the tempo of speech, too fast or too

slow (ii) *pitch*: this refers to the range of voice- too high or too low (iii) *volume*: a good volume is one which can be comfortably heard by the listener (iv) *appropriateness*: speech delivery must be tailored for the speaking occasion. Communication can be effective only when it is appropriate.

The inability to communicate effectively can create conflict and also impede its effective management. There should be a common experience between two or more persons for an effective communication.

The salient features and essentials of good communication are as follows:

1. **Clarify ideas before communicating**: the more systematically a message is analyzed, the more clearly it can be communicated.
2. **Examine the true purposes of communication**: the person has to determine the objective of the communication.
3. **Take the entire environment, physical and human into consideration**: the physical setting, the social climate, and past communication practices should be examined in adapting the message to the environment.
4. **Beware of the overtones as well as the basic content of the message**: voice, tone, facial expression, and choice of language, all influence the listener's reaction to the communication.
5. **When possible convey useful information**: people remember things that are beneficial to them.
6. **Follow up on Communication**: one must solicit feedback in ascertaining whether the other person understands the communiqué.

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# ELT Panorama

## Translation: An Arabic perspective



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Translation is a newly established science and a very old art. It is as old as the human history. However, we can not fix a definite date for the early start of translation and the same thing can be said in case of translation from and into Arabic.

For sure, there had been translation prior to the establishment of Dar Al-Hikma; however, it was not a systematic one and we know very little about it.

Under the Abbasid Caliphate (750 – 1200), translation, like other sciences, witnessed a strong boost and it was made a systemic one. Translation progressed at that time as a result of the progress achieved in all aspects of life and due to the prevalence of stability. Caliphates were interested in all subjects and used to pay scientists and thinkers handsomely for their outcomes. It is even said that some Caliphates like Harun Al-Rasheed and Al-Mamun (813 – 833) used to give gold against the weight of the book written or translated.

Dar Al-Hikma, a school of translation, was established under Caliphate Al-Mamun's rule who delegated the scientist Hunain bin Isaac to establish and supervise its work.

In Dar Al-Hikma, and under the supervision of Hunain and the auspices of the Caliphates, translators used to translate Greek and Latin books according to their interests and specializations. The translation, most of the

time, was a literary one, particularly with scientific works. Translators rendered a large number of Latin and Greek classics on different subjects ranging from medicine, astronomy, science and physics to philosophy, logic and even literature.

Additionally, there had been translations of Indian and Persian classics and many Arab writers got influenced by them when writing their own masterpieces as of *Ibn Al-Muq'fa* and *Al-Ja'hiz*.

However, most of these translations did not reach our hands as they had been thrown into Tigris River when Moguls invaded Baghdad and overthrew the weak Abbasids Caliphate in 1258.

Later on, translation started to decline due to the collapse of the Islamic state in Baghdad and, earlier to that, there had existed independent state countries. These state countries were weak and subject to wars and internal problems and coups. Being busy with wars and problems, they gave up their encouragement to science and its people.

Since then, Arabs have been dormant, forgetting everything about their glorious past. They have just confined themselves to chanting the names of those celebrated scientists, thinkers and forefathers.

Towards the end of the medieval period, Europe started to witness what was known to be the Renaissance. The western nation then woke up and opened their eyes to what had been left by Arab, Greek and other nations. They contacted the Arab-Islamic culture via the Moorish Spain. They established the Teldo School of Translation, the place where most Arabic classics were translated.

For ages, most Arabic Classics had been reference materials in colleges and universities Europe wide. The best example to be cited here is Ibn Sinna, known in the west as Avicenna (980 – 1037), whose *Kitab Al-Shifa* (The

Book of Healing) was a reference material in European universities for hundreds of years.

He further introduced medieval Europe to the principles of logic and the way to gain knowledge and placed science and religion on equal footing as sources of knowledge and understanding of the universe. Another major contribution was made by Ibn-Rushd (Averroes, 1126 – 1198), whose writings and commentaries influenced medieval Europe a lot and further introduced the Aristotelian approach to studying nature by observation and reasoning.

Thus, Arabic culture influenced other languages and cultures and a large numbers of Arabic words have been introduced to those languages. Additionally, the contact of the western culture with the Arabic culture resulted in the progress of the former. West and other cultures also adopted the Arabic counting system instead of the Roman one which is long and tire some. The concept of Zero was introduced by an Arab mathematician, Al-Khwarizmi.

We do find an echo of the Arabic literature in many European literatures. There are many examples of this. Many European writers have been influenced by the book of the *Thousand Nights and a Night* and further *Qais and Lila Story* influenced many a writer including Shakespeare and his masterpiece *Romeo and Juliet* and several others.

Translation was brought back into focus during the 19th and the beginning of the 20th centuries. The translation wheel started to move once again during the early part of the 19th century under the rule of Mohammed Ali Pasha.

Pasha was ambitious and aspired to dominate the whole Islamic world. To achieve this end, Pasha exerted his efforts to upgrade his army and military equipment through the help of countries that were superior to him at that time in terms of power. He used to send missions to the then developed coun-

tries. Upon their return, Pasha asked them to translate new scientific and military books into Arabic. However, translations were confined to books needed by the army and no more.

Towards the end of the 19th century, translation started to bloom and there existed fine translations of many European plays, stories, and novels. However, the whole process was not regulated and some translations were undertaken for material profit.

Recently, there has been a great interest in translation, though most of the translations so far were made out of personal interest or under the stress of need as for the scientific books. In fact, there exists no system to define what to translate and why.

In the long run, we can not overlook the great role played by what is known to be the National Project for the Book in Egypt that translated hundreds of books from English and some other languages. Still, the path is too long and translation should cover all languages and cultures that can be of help for Arabs to develop.

Unlike the status of translators in Europe and America, Arab translators are underpaid and their job is considered secondary. This reflects itself in the amount of the translated works. It is said that what has been translated by Arabs since the dawn of the Islamic civilization may not be equal to what is translated in Spain over a single year.

In order for Arab to develop, they should pay a prime attention to translation and translators. There should be a body to define and specify the priorities and the translations we need at the present time. Translation, over the ages, has been a source for development and progress for nations and I assume so with the Islamic nation.

Moneer Al-Omari is a Yemen Times translator and journalist. He is interested in translation theory and practice.

## A letter to the learners of English: 2 Should you learn English? (i)



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Dear learner friends,

If I ask you this question, what will be your answer? I have asked this question to many Yemeni learners of English in schools as well as colleges. Their answers were interesting and educative: some said they want to go abroad to study or earn; some said they want to get good jobs; some said they want to help the foreigners if they come across them; and some others said they don't want to learn English but have to because it is a part of their schools curriculum. The answers of the college students weren't different; some said they want to go abroad to study further; some said they want to get lucrative jobs; some said they want to teach in colleges; some said they can talk to non-Arabic speaking foreigners about Islam when necessary and some others confessed they have been pushed into English classes by their parents!

Whatever be their answers, I am glad that Yemeni learners are aware of the advantages of learning English: to pursue higher studies either inland or abroad; to communicate with non-Arabic speaking foreigners; to accumulate world knowledge; to be able to get remunerative jobs in multinational companies; and to be useful to themselves in their lives.

English, whether we like it or not, happens to be the international language as it has won the race against French, especially because of its 'open door' policy (English doesn't hesitate to borrow words from other languages, when necessary). It is the most widely used language in the world, though, like Mandarin Chinese in China, it is not the language spoken by the largest number of people in one country there is hardly any part of the world where English is not used either as the mother tongue or second language or foreign language. Because of this spread, it has gained the present status and importance.

English, fortunately or unfortunately, is the language of opportunity. Even if you are the first ranker or a gold medalist in your subject, say computer science or biochemistry or biotechnology, dentistry, commerce, unless you have good communication skills in English, it is difficult to get better jobs with your specialization. Any advertisement for jobs in agencies like UNDP, FAO, World Bank, CanOx, YemenHunt mentions as one of the requirements 'proficiency in English and Arabic'.

Now, tell me if you should learn English or not. In addition, private agencies also prefer those who have good English skills; sometime ago, one of my research scholars found in his survey that employers in private agencies (eg. Thabet group of companies) prefer to employ Yemenis who are good communicators in English. Learn English well and you will be one of those who get jobs in these agencies easily. Good luck.

Treat the alphabet of a language and system of numbers as your two eyes.

Yours affectionately,  
Dr.M.N.K.Bose

## Speaking English fluently

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### Idea units and word groups interface

Before beginning to speak, you should grasp the main idea of what you are going to say. Then generate idea units and find word-groups to express these idea units. If you are capable of a continuous flow of idea units and an uninterrupted flow of word-groups, then there is no fear of a break-down in your speech. This correspondence between idea units and word groups can ensure fluency.

### How to ensure the flow

In uttering the word-groups you need to see that your single utterance of word or word-groups are marked by an instant flow of one word into another. For this purpose you have to see that the end of one word flows into the beginning of the word next to it. This means that you don't allow any gap or pause between the words of word-groups. If you allow pauses or gaps between words, you would be stuttering which would render your speech unnatural and often difficult to follow.

Usually there is a transition between the end of one word and the beginning of the next. This is called a *junction*. In order to ensure smooth flow of the language, you should have proper understanding of the junction between one word and another. There can be the following four types of junctions:

1. Consonant – consonant junctions
2. Consonant – vowel junctions
3. Vowel – vowel junctions, and
4. Vowel – consonant junctions.

### Consonant – consonant junctions

Consonant – consonant junctions occur when one word ends with a consonant and the next word begins with a consonant as well. eg. *dead night, back door*. We can have two types of consonant – consonant junction

- a) Junctions brought about by two consonants eg. *bad boy*
- b) Junction created by more than two consonants eg. *next door*

In case of two consonants, try and produce partly sound of the first consonant and pronounce the next consonant of the second word fully. e.g. *fast passenger* should be pronounced as *faspassenger*. You should drop the word-ending consonant 't' from the first word.

Similarly, in case of junctions originated by two consonants, omit the last consonant of the first word. Thus *next door* is to be articulated as *nextdoor*.

### Consonant – vowel junctions

When the first word ends with a consonant and the second word begins with a vowel, treat both the consonant and the vowel as a part and parcel of the same word. So *walk-in* is said as *wa-kin*, 'good idea' is pronounced as *goo-didea*, *keep earning* becomes *kee-pearning* and so forth.

### Vowel – vowel junctions

We have in this group of junctions the first word of the word-group ending with a vowel and the next word of the same word-group beginning with a vowel. The word-ending vowel of the first word determines the quality of the junction. If the first vowel sound is /i/, feel the presence of very, very gentle or mild sound of 'y' at the junction. e.g. *be open* becomes *be-y-open*, *he explained* is said as *he-y-explained*. If, however, the first vowel ends with the sound of 'o' or 'u', add a very mild sound of 'w' at the junction. Thus, *go over* is pronounced as *go-w-over*, *grow up* tends to be articulated as *grow-w-up*. For words ending with the sound of 'a', remember to add a gentle 'y' at the junction.

As such, *Sana'a is* becomes *Sana'a-y-is*, *tea is* is said as *tea-y-is* and so on.

### Vowel – consonant junctions

Finally, in word groups where the first word ends in a vowel with the next word beginning with a consonant, simply glide over the junctions in a normal manner without any extra effort. Hence *we want, too much, me too, so that* are pronounced as such without the addition of any intermediary sounds.

Continued from page 1

## Geopolitics and literature

Kjellen's theories had perhaps their greatest influence on the ideology that informed Nazi Germany. It was supposed to be the dominant paradigm in the west until the end of the cold war in 1904 for world power focusing on territorial control of Eurasia. Brian Blouet, a western geographer has defined geopolitics as a land based ideology that locates power in territorial magnitude, and makes its goal the carving up of Earth's space. Blouet identifies globalization as originally a maritime-based ideology deriving in large part from the Dutch. Ian Baucom has recently observed that the Dutch Seaborne Empire was inherently imperialist; however it would be helpful to describe the Cartography of globalization as mapping fluidities when water threatens to become an article of imperialist control. Barlow and Clarke have pertinently discussed that "water promises to be to the 21st century. What oil was to the 20th century: the precious commodity that determines the wealth of nations." But the geopolitical paradigm shifts to that of globalization as the world becomes increasingly based on the international or global circulation of capital, information, goods, and services etc.

Analyses of early twentieth century cartography have exposed the encodings of its predominantly Euro centric and masculine perspectives and the primacy given to the borders and frontiers as delimiting boundaries. Let us take into account the acknowledged personalities and literary giants of the time who discussed the privilege of a Northern and Western focalization with its foregrounding of geopolitical relations based on discrete territorial units. In *A Passage to India*, E.M. Forster presents an exquisite

picture with extant remains how the West and the East can not enjoy the sense of personal relationship. At one stage Forster reveals the situation with the geographical details and an enshrined geopolitics:

"To regard an Indian as if he were an Italian is not, for instance, a common error, nor perhaps a fatal one, and Fielding often attempted analogies between this peninsula and that other, smaller and more exquisitely shaped, that stretches into the classic waters of the Mediterranean." (P-61).

Forster not only stops here but he also wants to conclude the situation with a bursting note where the spatial essentialism hovers through and through and the novelist has designed to sum up the book with these comments: -

"... The earth did not want it; ... The temples, the tank, the jail, the palace, the birds, the carrion, the guest house, that came into view as they issued from the gap and saw Mau beneath: they did not want it, they said in their hundred voices, "No, not yet and the sky said, No, not there." (P-317).

The partition of Africa generated one of the most blatant of geopolitical maps. They have been recorded in another of Forster's novels, when the former Margaret Schlegel observes a map in the offices of her husband's company. "On which the whole continent appeared, looking like a whale marked out for blub-

ber." (*Howards End*, ch- 23) Not only was the world divided into nations; ideological identities were demarcated as regions of the globe. The geopolitical imagination is still strongly reflected in numerous books published on globalization today. A common image, seen on many book covers, is a lightly sketched schematization of the globe focalized from a position in outer space. The cover of Philip Darby's. *The Fiction of Imperialism: Reading Between International Relations and Post colonialism* images a portion of the Asia – Pacific Ant Farm by Yukinori Yangi (1994). It is a story about the ant farms connected by plastic tubes. The live ants travel inside this tubes carrying grains of colored sand flag to flag. The recognizable symbols of the individual flags become intermixed, and the installation gradually dissolves and evolves into one universal flag.

In literary studies, the geopolitical closed space paradigm and the operative model for first- wave postcolonial studies where in opposition to the imperial Centro focussed on the distinctiveness and autonomy of identities. Arif Dirlik in his observation has raised the issue of the post colonial nation – state as a product of colonialism in its assumptions of national economic and political organization and its aspirations to the purity and homogeneity of national identity. According to Smith and Katz, geopolitical imaginary has structured not only the space of "Capitalist patriarchy and racist imperialism" but the space of resistant and revolutionary discourse as well.

As the globe revolves, the continental outlines are ultimately distinct and blurred, separated and conjoined. Landforms also do not dominate over connecting seas, but the hollow core itself inscribes the blank space of the unknown. Ultimately, there is always

space of absence to remind us that we never absolutely reach the other side. Globalization as it has become an important subject in the 21st century, tells us that the globe is a realm of endless connection. Once we move out of the bounded geopolitical, out of absolute space, a myriad new geopolitical metaphors emerge to stimulate new imaginings of global space. We need these images to organize our observation, and we need constantly to examine the literal ground, on which these metaphors depend. Globalization is a process towards increasing complexity and increasing simplification. It is the way towards grander and more intricate conceptualizations of the whole and it is the method to be acquainted with the face of a stranger whose eyes are meeting for the first time. It is a great deal of discussion of global and local. If the threat of a new geopolitical lies in laying claim to the globe, it is the imaginative geographies of its myriad individual that can restore the cognitive ecological balance with the views from other eyes. Literature comes to rescue the geopolitics and like an "objective correlative", it presents a set of objects, a situation, a chain of events, which shall be the formulae of that 'particular' emotion. T.S.Eliot in one of his poems has very suggestively hinted at the relation between literature and geopolitics. He writes:

"...History may be servitude,  
History may be freedom. See, how they vanish,  
The faces and places, with the self,  
Which, as it could, loved them,  
To become renowned, transfigured,  
in another pattern."  
(Little Giddings)

## Effective communication and interpersonal skills

7. **Communicate with the future as well as the present in mind:** most communications are designed to meet the demands of the current situation. However, they should be in accord with the long range goals as well.
8. **Support words with deeds:** don't contradict yourself by saying one thing and doing another.
9. **Consult:** consulting with others can be a useful method of obtaining additional insights.

10. **Be a good listener:** by concentrating on the speaker's explicit and implicit meanings one can better understand what is being said.

The Interpersonal Effectiveness is for individuals wanting and willing to learn how to apply interpersonal skills to modify aversive environments and to obtain their goals in interpersonal encounters. Following behaviors are helpful to increase interpersonal skills in an individual:-

- Standing up for your rights in such a way that they are taken seriously.
- Requesting others to do something in such a way as they want to.
- Refusing unwanted or unreasonable requests (learning to say no).
- Balancing immediate goals with that of long-term goals.
- Respecting your own values and beliefs.
- Acting in competent ways
- Keeping commitments

- Listening effectively
  - Golden Rule: - treating others, as you want to be treated.
- Hence, interpersonal communication is all about satisfying you, when you manage to satisfy your needs. An understanding of interpersonal communication and needs is essential, not only in facilitating your insights into group processes, but in helping you predict the situations that will be more or less satisfying and productive for you.

## New horizons in health education A prenatal dental care training module



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It is highly essential for any training module in dentistry to envisage a vital component involving prenatal dental care. This short article sheds lights on the parameters and principles of such a component.

### Before pregnancy

Dental examination and treatment should not be regarded as an isolated episode undertaken during pregnancy. Dental care is an essential part of health care which should continue through childhood, adolescence, the child-bearing years and throughout life. The individual's needs should be served by preventive dentistry programs, established early in life and continued throughout life in addition to the provision of operative or surgical procedures needed for restoration or rehabilitation from dental disease.

Prior to pregnancy a regular program of dental care based on a preventive dentistry program should be well-established. Regular examination, including radiographic examination where clinically indicated, should be made prior to pregnancy and dental treatment during pregnancy should be a continuation of treatment programs, especially preventive dentistry programs, established earlier. Treatment planning should allow for the possibility of pregnancy and necessary radiographs should be made prior to pregnancy.

As an essential part of the pre-treatment medical history, all women of childbearing age should be asked whether they may be pregnant.

### During pregnancy

Established preventive dentistry programs and uncomplicated restoration or rehabilitation programs should continue throughout pregnancy as needed. Some concessions to the patient's physical state may be necessary.

Dental radiographic examinations should be avoided wherever possible. In general, elective treatment is best performed in the second trimester of pregnancy, the fourth, fifth or sixth month. Clinical sessions for elective procedures should not be unduly prolonged.

When treatment or preventive dentistry have not recently been received, the initial examination should be restricted to clinical observation and an appropriate

preventive program implemented.

In advanced pregnancy, posture should be such that the mother is in a position of comfort and that the fetal mass does not press unduly on the inferior vena cava.

Prolonged elevation of body temperature should be avoided as it has been shown to affect developing cells. The most likely rise in body temperature encountered in dentistry is from acute infection. This could be from mucosal flaps associated with erupting molars, from acute periodontal or periapical infections, or generalized stomatitis. Prompt treatment of such infections is essential to avoid increase in body temperature.

In addition to the increase in body temperature associated with acute infections, acute or chronic infections may produce toxins. The effect of such toxins on the developing child is not known.

A sound diet is desirable during pregnancy. General dietary principles should be applied, and sucrose-containing foods and drinks should be minimized.

Known teratogenic substances should not be used or prescribed. The benefits of any therapeutic substances should always be considered against possible adverse effect on the developing child. Effects on unborn children may arise from a wide variety of drugs and therapeutic substances, some of which are listed here.

Antibiotics and chemotherapy agents available through the Dental pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme

Tetracyclines are incorporated in developing calcified tissues and should not be used during pregnancy.

The safety of the sulphonamides, sulphamethoxazole with trimethoprim has not been established and should not be used in pregnancy.

Metronidazole has been shown to be mutagenic in some tests and possible teratogenic. Its use should be avoided.

Other antibiotics should only be used when the benefit outweighs any likely adverse effect against the unborn child.

### Local anesthetics

Prilocaine may cause methaemoglobinemia in some tests and possible teratogenic. Its use should be avoided.

While doses of felypressin used in dental local anesthetics are small, substances to felypressin have been associated with uterine contractions and should also be avoided where possible.

The local anesthetic of first choice in pregnancy is lignocaine two percent with a low concentration adrenaline which should not exceed 1:100,000 (10 ug/ml).

### Non steroidal anti-inflammatory agents

**Analgesics:** Aspirin has been implicated by several studies as a possible cause of certain birth defect, although these observations have not been substantiated. Paracetamol has not been shown to have any teratogenic or other effect on the unborn child. Topical analgesic preparation can safely be used in pregnancy

**Anti-inflammatory agents:** The safety of preparations in this group, which includes mefenamic acid (ponstan), ibuprofen (brufen) and indomethacin (indocid) in pregnancy has not been established. Ibuprofen may delay the onset of labor.

**Glucocorticoids:** Glucocorticoids should not be used during pregnancy as adequate studies have not been done to exclude the possibility of teratogenic effects. Animal studies have shown a teratogenic effect.

### Dental treatment during pregnancy

Most dental procedures should be provided but clinical sessions should not be unduly long. However, where there is reason to avoid certain procedures such as taking radiographs, and when a patient is unsure whether or not she is pregnant, these procedures should be deferred until the patient's condition has been confirmed.

Established programs of preventive dentistry should continue throughout pregnancy and a plaque removal, prophylaxis and topical fluoride treatment should be performed regularly, preferably during the first and third trimester of pregnancy.

Where no regular preventive dentistry programs have been commenced they should be started during pregnancy and continued after the confinement.

Where community water supplies are not fluoridated fluoride supplements should be prescribed. A daily supplement of 1mg of fluoride ion is recommended from the fourth month of pregnancy.

Sedation employing nitrous oxide and oxygen or intravenous diazepam should be avoided wherever possible.

Radiographic examinations should be avoided wherever possible.

### Postnatal dentistry

Soon after the birth of the baby the mother should have a thorough dental examination which may include a radiographic examination. A prophylaxis, plaque removal and topical fluoride application should be performed.

While the baby is being breast-fed it should have a fluoride supplement (0.25 mg fluoride daily).

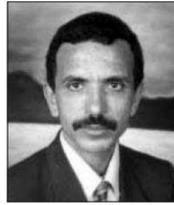
When dietary milk is reconstituted or diluted with fluoridated water, a fluoride supplement should not be given.

Where fluoridation does not exist fluoride supplements should be employed with the following recommendations:

- 0 - 1 years 0.25 mg fluoride ion daily
- 1 - 2 years 0.5 mg fluoride ion daily
- 2 years and upwards: 1.0 mg fluoride daily.

Mothers should be counseled against the use of sucrose and other foods with high sucrose content for their infants.

## A significant leap forward Sana'a University: Innovative quality assurance measures



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Sana'a university recently launched the University Education Development Centre (UEDC) that is to be in charge of the academic standards and quality of teaching and learning in the whole university. The idea of establishing such a centre has been in the air for about two years. During these two years a team was formed to formulate guidelines for reviewing the university programs. The team includes experts in higher education from Yemen, UAE, Egypt, etc. for the university felt there was a need to develop academic programs to keep abreast with new developments in the world: globalisation, academic accreditation, quality assurance agencies, required academic standards, major fields tests, etc. The UEDC comprises four units: 1) Evaluation and Quality Assurance Unit, 2) Education Technology, 3) University Teaching and Programs Development Unit, 4) Research, Textbooks Writing, and Translation Unit. These units are assigned to Dr Mahub Anam, Dr Yehia al-Shehari, Dr Radman Saeed, Dr Ayid Sharyan respectively.

In the operationalization of the UEDC, the general committee looks at the centre plan. The committee includes the University administration (rector, vice rectors, finance department, etc), Faculties representatives, including some deans, who belong to different fields and sciences, as well as the members of the centre. The main goals of the UEDC are to:

1. improve and develop the standards for the academic programs in all the faculties of the university
2. check if the university programs achieve the mission/vision of the university
3. diagnose the weak and strong points of the academic programs, enhancing them and pinpointing the weak parts so as to improve them
4. check if the programs' outcomes meet the needs of the market and society at large
5. discover if the academic environment is suitable for the university objectives,
6. improve the academic programs in the light of the quality assurance criteria.

These goals are to be achieved through a four-stages plan.

The first phase (Jan- March 2007) focuses on Preparation and Training. This stage aims at:

1. bringing a common understanding of the procedures and concepts of the academic criteria of evaluation available with the general and sub-committees that are responsible for developing and evaluating the academic programs in the Faculties of the University
2. raising an awareness about the academic guideline for developing and evaluating the academic programs, explaining the procedure included to make it efficient for participants

3. mastering the necessary skills for managing the evaluation process of the academic programs so as to develop them according to the approved model in the guide and the by-laws

4. understanding the new concepts in the field of developing the academic programs: quality assurance, self-evaluation document, external evaluation, academic accreditations, terms and conditions for developing and evaluating academic programs

5. knowing the experience of other universities in the world

The second phase (April-December 2007) analyses the existing situation of university programs. During this stage the UEDC is to:

1. train the members of the sub-committees on how to evaluate the programs in their faculties
2. maintain academic standards for the programs in different faculties
3. collect data about the programs
4. write the self-evaluation document for departments at different faculties
5. approve the self-evaluation document

The third phase (Jan-August 2008) deals with developing the university programs. This stage aims at:

1. training the members of the sub-committees on how to develop the programs in their faculties
2. putting goals and intended learning outcomes for the developed academic programs
3. designing the developed academic programs
4. designing the textbooks
5. writing course description for the course.

Phase four (September- September 2008-2009) aims at:

1. approving the developed academic programs by the departments and councils concerned
2. making available the support

required for implementing the developed academic programs.

3. piloting the developed academic programs on the new students who join the university in the academic year 2008-2009. This is followed by formative evaluation. The process of evaluation is to be implemented for the succeeding years till the first group graduates.

In addition to the four-year plan, the UEDC has other activities: starting a journal devoted to the development of higher education, doing research on university education issues, training new teachers joining the university, issuing some bulletins every two-months to raise the awareness about quality assurance, etc. Research in the journal is not limited to the center. In fact, we accept participations from all faculties affiliated to the university or the country at large. Thus researchers are welcomed to participate in this journal to develop higher education at Sana'a university in particular and the zone in general. The centre offers services and consultations in the area of university education development to all higher institutions in and outside the country. In the process of revising, developing and evaluating the university programs, the centre drafts plans to move from quality assurance to Total Quality Management in the university. This implies the development of academic programs as well as administration, infrastructure, learning resources, etc. Relationship with similar institutions in and outside the country is of paramount importance and it is bound to be an essential component to the nature of the mission of the centre.

As the head of the Research, Textbooks Writing, and Translation Unit, I have the pleasure to invite collaboration of institutions concerned that deal with development of higher education to undertake further research in this field. It is hoped that with the establishment of this centre, higher education in Yemen will take a new shape; it will measure up to the level of international standards. It will be a resource center that all universities can benefit from.

## ANY GUESSES?

1. What is 'ritz'?
2. What is implied by 'Civvy Street'?
3. What is 'pre-emptive action'?
4. What does the word 'clueless' mean?
5. What is meant by 'Lucre'?

### Suggested answers to the previous issue's questions

1. 'Veto' is a Latin word meaning "I forbid." It is 'the constitutional right to reject a legislative enactment.' It refers to the right of a permanent member of the U.N. Security Council to reject a resolution.
2. The sentence 'He is dead' refers to the state or condition. On the other hand the sentence 'He has died' means that he is no longer alive. The difference between the two sentence is the same as the

difference between 'He is gone' and 'He has gone.'

3. The term 'Mysophobia' means 'morbid fear of contamination.'
4. A person with 'chutpah' is a brave, self-confident person. This self-confidence often makes him/her appear extremely offensive or rude. As a result, he gets pleasure in hurting the feelings and sentiments of others.
5. The term 'Commonwealth' literally means 'Commonwell-being.' 'Wellbeing is the other name of 'riches.' Commonwealth of Nations is 'an organization of independent states which were formerly parts of the British Empire, established to encourage trade and friendly relations among its members.'

## SCIENCE QUIZ LINE

Tick (✓) the most appropriate choice

1. Why it takes more time for cooking vegetables at hill stations?
  - Vegetables grown on hills have some salts which make these hard
  - Water on the hills is impure, so vegetables do not get cooked properly
  - On hills atmospheric pressure is low, so water boils below 100 °C and does not supply enough heat for cooking
  - None of these

2. Who discovered circulation of blood in human body?
  - R. Koch
  - Alexander Flemming
  - William Harvey
  - Pasteur

3. Inborn errors of metabolism in human beings were first studied by
  - Archibald Garrod
  - W. Harvey
  - K. Landsteiner
  - Louise Pasteur

4. The process by which the genetic material is carried from the donor cell to the recipient bacterial cell by a lysogenic virus is known as
  - Transduction
  - Transcription
  - Transformation
  - Translation

6. Which of the following phenomena does not occur on Antarctica?
  - Aurora Australis
  - Tornado
  - Mirage
  - Wind storm

3. The structures in the body of man that help to keep him warm are the fatty layer in the skin.

2. The salt tolerant forest ecosystem occurring in tropical and subtropical intertidal region of the world is mangroves.

3. The scientist who discovered single-celled animals is A. Leeuwenhoek.

4. Light intensity is measured by using a photometer.

5. Evolution may be defined as discontinuous genetic variation.

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## POETRY CORNER

### I fancy you

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I fancy you  
Wherever you go  
Whatever you say  
I will be waiting for you  
I fancy you  
I will find you  
Wherever you are  
On the moon  
Under the oceans  
At the deep of your emotions

And I am still saying  
I fancy you  
Whenever the sun lights  
Whenever the moon shines  
The more I see you the more I fancy you  
The nearer you are the more I stick to you  
Whatever they say  
Do not be far  
Wherever you are  
You are like a star  
It is impossible to forget you  
For ever I will still say  
Wherever you go  
Whatever you say

I fancy you  
You may refuse you may accept  
They may say 'yes'  
And may say 'no'  
But for me I do insist  
That you will be mine  
That is what makes me fine  
And makes me paint  
The picture of a bright future  
It is our fate, do not make it late  
Now or never, to be together  
Just say as I say  
Wherever you go  
Whatever you do  
I fancy you

## EFL Workbooks: Much ado about little

The workbook which is appended to a textbook occupies a significant place for EFL learners at any stage. It is considered a means for assessing the students' performances regularly. But in order that workbook is an effective instrument of learning, it must suit the stage, and abilities of the students. However, unfortunately, these elements are not properly taken into consideration at the time of planning and preparing the syllabus. There are too many questions in the Workbook, designed in different ways, focusing on the same idea and revolving round the same item. Different examina-



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tions involve many types of questions to evaluate the different skills including

the grammatical points, vocabularies, reading skills and listening and spoken abilities which are intended to be scored and tabulated.

Nevertheless, what we notice in our workbooks from 7th to 3rd secondary class are merely questions which do not efficiently evaluate the students' competencies. In addition, they are too many to be answered in a period of 45 minutes. I may dare challenge any talented teacher whether or not he/she can complete all the lessons of Pupils' book and half of the drills given in the Workbook. As such, it is highly essential to try and redesign to make them more relevant and suitable for the Pupils' book exer-

cises. It is also pertinent to focus on the aspects relating to the future needs of students learning English as a foreign language. Hence, Workbooks have to be planned to support and assess these concerns.

We should keep in view the fact that Yemeni students learn English to help them in communicating with the outer world and to enable them to benefit from the knowledge of different sciences and cultures. In order to fulfill these targets, the questions must be restructured in the Workbook so as to enhance the competencies and skills of our learners and avoid meaningless exercises.

## Yemen Times English Departments Alliance Network Project - 2006

### Introduction

Since its establishment in 1990, the Yemen Times has been in close contact with readers from various domains, especially university academics and students. Building on this history of close relations, the Yemen Times has decided to create an official network of readerships in all the English Department around the republic.

### Modalities

A senior professor at the English department will represent the Yemen Times in his or her university. He/she would be Yemen Times Focal point and would act as an intermediate person between the department (professors and students) and the Yemen Times management. The Focal point's operational costs will be covered by the Yemen Times in addition to providing a regular remuneration agreed and stated in contract.

### Responsibilities of Yemen Times Focal Point (YTFP)

The YTFP will be responsible for the following:

- Receive the subscription issues of the Yemen Times (number of issues to be decided later)
- Be in charge of distributing the newspaper and collecting the subsidized price agreed upon
- Create a network of contributors to the newspaper and arrange the mechanism of publishing their contributions and provide feedback to the newspaper
- Ensure that the Yemen Times is adequately available in the local area
- Promote the English department and the youth issues through the Yemen Times
- Identify potential future journalists or writers among the students and communicate with the Yemen Times for providing internships for them
- Attend the annual gathering sponsored by the Yemen Times and recommend a select group of students to attend the event in Sana'a

### YTFP expectations

In return for the above responsibilities, the Yemen Times would provide the



Focal point with the following:

- A fixed remuneration decided through an official contract based on these terms of reference.
- The Focal point would receive a free complementary copy of all issues of the Yemen Times and other publications issued by the Yemen Times establishment
- The Focal point will be invited to attend the Yemen Times annual events with all expenses covered
- The Focal point would receive an official Yemen Times Identity card so as to facilitate his or her work as representative of the Yemen Times.

### Prospective outcomes

- an increase in the spread and coverage of the newspaper
- an increase in the readership in terms of quantity and quality
- enhance the skills and abilities of Yemeni students around the country in English
- provide a number of students with professional training through internships at the Yemen Times and hence potential jobs
- create a network of intellectuals and activists which could pose as a foundation for future projects
- create a better transparent interaction between the readership and the Yemen Times
- increase the public ownership of the newspaper

### Contact details

Kindly send your cover letter superscribed: "Yemen Times English Departments Alliance Network Project", with your contact details and feedback to:

**Ms. Nadia Al-Sakkaf**  
**Publisher and Chief Editor**  
**Email: editor@yementimes.com**  
**Fax: 01-268279**

## READERS' VIEWS

Dear Editor,

Let me first of all congratulate you on the wonderful services rendered by your esteemed Magazine to Yemenis and non-Yemenis inside and outside Yemen through its coverage of umpteen beneficial and informative topics. But obviously 'each pleasure has a pain'. The Education Supplement presented by Prof Sahu is a part and parcel of Yemen Times that definitely adds to the usefulness of the magazine and encourages many overseas readers to send their contributions. Kindly keep it up and make the Supplement available and surfable to your readers.

**Arif Ahmed Al-Ahdal**  
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**India**

## Developing special interest group (SIG) in ELT in Yemen

**Abdih Mohammad Dawood**  
**An M.Ed student**  
**Department of English**  
**Faculty of Education**  
**Hodiedah University**

**W**e the teachers of English in Yemen teach English in very very difficult circumstances. Most of us have no training in ELT (neither pre- or in-service) those who did their B.Ed (English) in the Department of English, Faculty of Education have been fed with theories which are of little use in the classroom. This pre-service training has neither equipped them with the competence in English nor with the skills to teach the subject. And in-service

training in ELT is unheard of. But we have to teach textbooks (The Crescent Package) which need high order of ELT skills. Thus when no help is available we have to help ourselves. We, some practicing teachers and the students of M.Ed. in the Department of English, Faculty of Education, Hodiedah University, have, therefore, formed an (SIG) to help ourselves to grow professionally and help our learners learn English. We will share our problems, expertise and experience, try and solve some of our problems through mutual contact through SMS, E-mail, letters and meetings. We have contacted some ELT experts in Yemen and abroad to help us in this regard. We are grateful to Dr. M. Kundu, Department of English who gave us this idea of forming an (SIG) and promised us his full sup-

port. Presently Abdih Mohammad Dawood Hajj, Department of English, Faculty of Education, Hodiedah University is our coordinator. We cordially invite our fellow teachers of English to join our group. In future we plan to have our branch (SIG) in other parts of Yemen also. Please join your hands with us to improve the teaching/learning of English in Yemen. To become a member of the group, please contact one of the following:

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2. 711158088
3. 712544182
4. 711179430
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# Digital education

By: Chris Dede and Eamon Kelly

**H**enry Kelly's "Games, Cookies, and the Future of Education" (Issues, Summer 2005) provides an excellent synthesis of challenges and opportunities posed by technology-based advances in personalized entertainment and services. An aspect of this situation deserves further discussion: Children who use new media extensively are coming to school with different and sophisticated learning strengths and styles.

Rapid advances in information technology have reshaped the learning styles of many students. For example, the Web, by its nature, rewards comparing multiple sources of information that are individually incomplete and collectively inconsistent. This induces learning based on seeking, sieving, and synthesizing, rather than on assimilating a single "validated" source of knowledge as from books, television, or a professor lecturing.

Also, digital media and interfaces encourage multitasking. Many teenagers now do their homework by simultaneously skimming the textbook, listening to a MP3 music player, receiving and sending email, using a Web browser, and conversing with classmates via instant messaging. Whether multitasking results in a superficial, easily distracted style of gaining information or a sophisticated form of synthesizing new insights depends on the ways in which it is used.

Another illustration is "Napsterism": the recombining of others' designs into individual, personally tailored configurations. Increasingly, students want educational products and services tailored to their individual needs rather than one-size-fits-all courses of fixed length, content, and pedagogy. Whether this individualization of educational products is effective or ineffective depends both on the insight with which learners assess their needs and desires and on the degree to which institutions provide quality customized services, rather than Frankenstein-like mixtures of learning modules.

During the next decade, three complementary interfaces to information technology will shape how people learn. \* The familiar "world-to-the-desk-

top" interface, providing access to distant experts and archives, enabling collaborations, mentoring relationships, and virtual communities of practice. This interface is evolving through initiatives such as Internet2.

\* "Alice-in-Wonderland" multiuser virtual environment (MUVE) interfaces, in which participants' avatars interact with computer-based agents and digital artifacts in virtual contexts. The initial stages of studies on shared virtual environments are characterized by advances in Internet games and work in virtual reality.

\* Interfaces for "ubiquitous computing," in which mobile wireless devices infuse virtual resources as we move through the real world. The early stages of "augmented reality" interfaces are characterized by research on the role of "smart objects" and "intelligent contexts" in learning and doing.

The growing prevalence of interfaces with virtual environments and ubiquitous computing is beginning to foster neomillennial learning styles. These include (1) fluency in multiple media, valuing each for the types of communication, activities, experiences, and expressions it empowers; (2) learning based on collectively seeking, sieving, and synthesizing experiences; (3) active learning based on experience (real and simulated) that includes frequent opportunities for reflection by communities of practice; and (4) expression through nonlinear associational webs of representations rather than linear "stories" (such as authoring a simulation and a Web page to express understanding, rather than a paper).

All these shifts in learning styles have a variety of implications for instructional design, using media that engage students' interests and build on strengths from their leisure activities outside of classrooms.

Kelly's article provides readers with a timely and comprehensive look at what is needed to address glaring shortfalls in the U.S. education system. The article underscores the lack of investment in R & D on new educational techniques that would use the up-to-date technology currently available. By conveying how increased investment in educational R & D can improve teaching and learning, Kelly is making an excellent case for the adoption of the Digital Opportunity

Investment Trust (DO IT) legislation.

Although the article notes the low rankings of U.S. students as compared to international students in recent studies, not enough emphasis is placed on the fact that our students are performing alarmingly poorly in the fields of math and science. A study conducted in 2004 found that U.S. students ranked 24th in math literacy and 26th in problem-solving among 41 participating nations and concluded that U.S. students "did not measure up to the international average in mathematics literacy and problem-solving skills" (Program for International Student Assessment at www.pisa.oecd.org). Additionally, U.S. students are becoming less interested in math and science. There has been a steady decrease in bachelor degrees earned in mathematics and engineering in U.S. universities during the past decade.

While our students are not meeting global standards in mathematics and science and are losing interest in these subjects altogether, the United States has become increasingly reliant on foreign talent in these fields. In 2000, 38% of all U.S. science and engineering occupations at the doctoral level were filled by foreign-born scientists (up from 24% in 1990). Filling these critical occupations with foreign talent has become a more complex issue with the war on terror and as global competition for the best and the brightest in science and engineering increases dramatically. During the 1990s, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development saw a 23% increase in researchers, whereas the United States saw only an 11% increase.

There is a critical need to change these trends in math and science. We need to build up domestic talent and interest in these crucial areas and provide necessary incentives to attract foreign talent. Increased investment in R & D and educational technology, as outlined in Kelly's

article, can begin to address this need. Kelly's article highlights efforts by the National Science Foundation, Department of Education, Department of Defense, and Department of Homeland Security to improve training and educational technologies, but does not stress enough that DO IT is a comprehensive effort that will research and improve teaching and learning techniques that can permeate all U.S. educational institutions. It is important to stress that DO IT legislation would help to fill the current market failure that Kelly mentions ("Conventional markets have failed to stimulate the research and testing needed to exploit the opportunities in education"). DO IT will foster collaboration among educators, cognitive scientists, and computer scientists to research and develop the most effective methods of teaching and learning, using today's technologies. DO IT will help to ensure that the U.S. education system does not continue to fall behind all other sectors and nations that have embraced the potential of technology.

We are facing a crisis in public education and math and science education; Kelly presents an excellent case for the need to increase educational R & D and succeeds in demonstrating how currently underutilized technologies can improve the learning process.

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### Just dream

When you sit alone and close your eyes  
 Try to hear a very quiet music  
 Open your wings to fly  
 Anywhere you want to go  
 You can swim in your imagination  
 wherever you want  
 And reach the dearest one  
 Laugh, talk, laugh and laugh  
 Dilate what happens in your life  
 Is there something new to tell?  
 That time you can feel and live in  
 Another world, forget yourself also

All the time without counting  
 The second, the minute, the hour  
 You can live there for one century  
 But  
 Dream, dream, dream  
 That is only a dream, nothing else  
 Just dreams

**Fatima Ali Salim Amhari**  
**Level 2, Department of English**  
**Almhara Faculty of Education**  
**Hadhramout University of Science & Technology**

### Goodbye

The sun is going down  
 I wish to let you know my earnest desire  
 I would like to share with you  
 My feelings  
 And make you ponder over my circumstances  
 I'm the face behind the face  
 Waiting for the opportune moments  
 To prove how worthy I am  
 I shudder at the twists and turns of life.  
 Is it my destiny? All along I suffered for you

I never wanted to exert my power just  
 To hurt you  
 Rather I would like to be the one  
 To tell you're how admirable you  
 indeed are  
 Give me a chance to prove my worth to you.  
 The sun is about to set, leaving me alone  
 But how can I say goodbye?

**Amal Abdullah Al-Maswari**  
**Level 4,**  
**University of Science & Technology, Sana'a**

### The lost dream

Why I dream I don't know because  
 The world is killing the dreams  
 In this world dreams are blunders  
 They cruelly uproot our innocent childhood  
 And destroy this world which we live in  
 Yet I look for virtue  
 And its manifestation  
 A truth that may lead the dream to be realized  
 I ask you, why killing the children,

why uprooting the trees, why not  
 make home for the innocent people,  
 While I and you, you and I dream of  
 peace for humanity.

**Hend Moroshed Thawabeh**  
**Level 4**  
**Faculty of Education**  
**Department of English,**  
**UST, Sana'a**

### Welcome to Yemen

To the place where I belong  
 My love blossoms into a song  
 Where I call my country and say  
 How beautiful you are today  
 Yemen! Where from shall I begin

White is her dress and blue is her sea  
 She is my lovely place to stay  
 Where I can go down into the sea  
 Leaving myself to the waves of the sea  
 And with fishermen I can sail

With Old Sana'a I should start  
 Describing its beautiful white heart  
 Where old fashioned houses are built  
 of mud  
 And people wear their traditional attire  
 And children with big smile say

When you pass by green land  
 You can just be sure  
 In lbb that you are  
 O, boy  
 On the green field I lay on peace  
 Poring over to the sky  
 And in silence I smell the fresh air  
 And listen to the vaquero's song  
 The pastoral of his traditional song  
 Ah, Yemen  
 How many places you can show me  
 And every part of you is inscribed  
 inside me  
 You can come to Yemen to enjoy  
 The beautiful places that you can see  
 Live your dream as you want  
 "Welcome to Yemen." I again say.

"Welcome to Yemen."  
 Standing on Bab Al-Yemen I remember  
 When my old great-grand ancestors  
 became free  
 And history wrote about them and  
 said  
 "Live free as you always be."

Looking to the world with new eyes  
 Saying welcome to every one who  
 comes here  
 Aden, O, Aden  
 Aden is Yemen's bride as she always  
 is

**Rania A. Hagag**  
**MA student, Faculty of Education**  
**Sana'a University**

## WONDERWORD

by DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** First read the list of words, then look at the puzzle. The words are in all directions — vertically, horizontally, diagonally, backward. Circle each letter of a word found and strike it off the list. The letters are often used more than once, so do not cross them out. It is best to find the big words first. When you find all the words listed in the clues, you'll have a number of letters left over that spell the Wonderword.

### CLUES

Advertiser	Company	Impression	Reasons	Software
Analyze	Compare	Interview	Record	Statements
Approve	Computers	Invite	Refreshments	Suggestions
Assemble	Cosmetics	Location	Reject	Table
Assumption	Courtesy	Microphone	Response	Talk
Audience	Evaluate	Monitor	Results	Tapes
Beer	Event	Movie	Room	Television
Benchmark	Experiment	Music	Sample	Test
Beverages	Film	Office	Screen	Time
Business	Food	Opinions	Seats	Topic
Check	Gender	Participate	Selection	Video
Children	Guest	Quota	Show	
Comments	Host	Random	Slides	
Commercial	Ideas	Rank	Snacks	

### FOCUS GROUPS

Solution: 12 Letters

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

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