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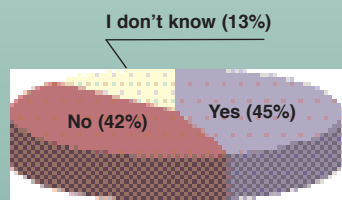


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## Readers' Voice

Last edition's question:

Do you think that Libya and Iran really back Al-Houthi-led rebellion in Sa'ada governorate?



This edition's question:

Which do you think is the highest priority to help women's development in Yemen:

- Maternal health care
- Education
- Political participation
- Legal protection
- All must be dealt with simultaneously

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

## YJS denounces attack on journalists

By: Mohammed bin Sallam

SANAA, March 6 — The Yemeni Journalists Syndicate denounced security authorities' harassment against three journalists, describing the act as dishonorable.

The syndicate said Monday in a statement that Al-Nida weekly newspaper Editor-in-Chief Sami Ghaleb, Al-Nass newspaper Editor Najeeb Al-Yafa'e, Marwan Dammaj secretary general of the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate and Hamdi Al-Bukari, the Journalist Syndicate's head of Training and Profession Affairs, were assaulted by security men while they were at the Capital Publications and Press Prosecution to follow up on Al-Wahdawi newspaper Editor-in-Chief Ali Al-Saqqaf's case brought against him by President Ali Abdullah Saleh's son, Ahmed Ali. "For no particular reason all the security members were very hostile and acted aggressively against us. We feel this has to do with the general attitude the security has against journalists in Yemen," Said Dammaj.

The attack continued even after the three journalists left the prosecution yard. A security man accompanied by several other civilians followed the three and continued their insults, calling them bad names, while some directed arms toward them, the syndi-

cate added. Ghaleb asserted that the security men's behavior reflects state officials' hostility and incitement against journalism. The insults also reveal the security men's culture, which seems as if they live in a different lifetime, he added.

The syndicate requested Attorney General Abdullah Al-Ulfi investigate the incident and refer the assailants to judiciary. "What's surprising is the attitude of the prosecution member who passively handled the case once informed by the syndicate's secretary-general, announcing beforehand the journalists' responsibility for what happened to them," the syndicate noted in its statement.

It further remarked that such acts and violations against journalists and press freedom reflect the effects of incorrect mobilization against journalism.

Still, concerned authorities took no action when Prime Minister Abdulqader Bajammal's guards attacked journalist Mohammed Al-Ghubari, the UAE Al-Bayan correspondent. Influential individuals continue to attack Abed Al-Mahthari, edi-

tor in chief of Al-Diyar newspaper.

### Al-Wahdawi attack condemned

For its part, the Center for Training and Protection of Press Freedoms condemned security men's attack upon Al-Wahdawi newspaper's headquarters, as well as the arrests of Ali Al-Saqqaf and Muath Al-Maqtari an editor in the same newspaper and further, the search for journalists Ashraf Al-Rifi and Adel Abdulmugni journalists in Al-Wahdawi newspaper.

The center added that such assaults are within the framework of a campaign targeting journalists in order to silence them and that such acts don't suit a state adopting democracy, plurality and respect for opinions.

Security men raided Al-Wahdawi headquarters last Wednesday to arrest Al-Saqqaf and the other three journalists, claiming they had high-level directives to arrest them. However, they found only Al-Saqqaf and Al-Maqtari, who were taken by force to the police station in a dishonorable manner. They still are searching for the other journalists.

Al-Saqqaf's prosecution case was adjourned until next week at the request of the newspaper's lawyer.

## Twelve convicted of terrorist attacks

By: Yasser Al-Mayasi

SANAA, March 7 — The Appeal Penal Court convicted 12, out of 14 accused, of forming an armed gang to implement criminal acts, including threatening state security by planning to attack foreign nationals, and Yemeni security and military targets.

In a session chaired by Judge Sa'eed Al-Qatta' and attended by General Prosecution chairman Sa'eed Al-Aqel, the court sentenced the convicts to terms ranging from two to six years.

Convicts Ali Sufian, Al-Amari, and Mohammed Futain, were sentenced to six years and Al-Zubair Abdurrahman, Al-Mikhlaifi, Hassan Al-Haddad, and Jamal Al-Qamadi, are to serve four year terms. Mohammed Haider, and Ahmed Al-Muradi, were sentenced to three years. Abdulkarim Addin and Sami Al-Shaibi received two years for lesser charges.

The court also upheld a first-instance



judgement against Ibrahim Al-Wissabi, Hamid Radman, and Badr Al-Hassani, and confiscated the assets of the convicted.

The Primary Court sentenced the other members of the gang in April 2006. Security apparatuses arrested the convicts in May 2006 in the Shumaila area of Sana'a. They were in possession of suicide belts, explosives, and arms. Their aim was to target foreigners and Yemeni military and security personalities. They were also in possession of fake stamps and forged identity cards, which were to be used to implement their plans.

## Yemen celebrates International Women's Day

Yemeni women's government and non-governmental organizations have decided to take the battle of fighting violence against women, which the United Nations chose for its 2007 international theme, to legal grounds.



By: Nadia Al-Sakkaf

SANAA, March 7 — This year, Yemeni organizations are celebrating the 30th anniversary of International Women's Day, since its 1997 establishment by the United Nations, which is recognizing this year's event under the theme, "Ending Impunity for Violence Against Women and Girls."

However, in Yemen, the Women's National Committee and the Yemeni Women's Union are dedicating 2007 to legal protection of women. The union is celebrating Women's Day today in

the presence of Brigitte Girardin, French Minister Delegate for Cooperation, Development and Francophony.

This year's celebration emphasizes achieving social and legal justice for Yemeni women. A documentary film reflecting the union's accomplishments in fighting for women's issues also will be shown. Among other issues, the documentary reflects the fact that 30 out of 33 women candidates succeeded in winning seats in last September's local council elections.

Continued on page 2

## War continues, government warns media about coverage

By: Yemen Times Staff

SA'ADA, March 7 — The Sa'ada war has entered its second month, with all information indicating its expansion in geographic, social and sectarian contexts. Casualties are increasing on both sides, together with the number of residents displaced from their areas and villages, and food supplies into the governorate are cut off.

Sources mention that fierce confrontations continue between the Yemeni army and Al-Houthi loyalists on various fronts, felling dozens more victims within the past few days.

A military source mentioned on Tuesday that the human losses among Houthis amount to 160, including leading elements, as well as 40 unidentified bodies. He added that there are numerous injured, while many others have been arrested in various areas.

Al-Sahwah.net quoted local sources as saying that more than seven civilians were killed and another four

injured in fierce clashes in Sahar district.

The source also revealed that five military personnel were killed and another three injured during confrontations while combing Bani Muath area on Monday morning.

It added that military leaders met with sheikhs and dignitaries from Majd and Razih districts earlier this week seeking their help in fighting and eradicating Al-Houthi supporters.

During the meeting with dignitaries from Razih — the only district not witnessing confrontations since the first war in 2004 — the military leaders asked locals to protect their district and prevent Houthis from penetrating it, maintaining that the armed forces will take on the responsibility if locals fail.

The demands were presented after leaked information mentioned that Houthi groups are present in the district, according to the sources.

Continued on page 2

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## Attacks kill 149 Shi'ite pilgrims in Iraq

By: Habib al-Zubaidi

HILLA, Iraq (Reuters) — Insurgents killed 149 Shi'ite pilgrims heading for the holy Iraqi city of Kerbala on Tuesday, including 115 when two suicide bombers blew themselves up in one of the deadliest attacks of the 4-year war.

The attacks, just over a year after the bombing of a Shi'ite shrine in the city of Samarra, are likely to increase sectarian tensions between majority Shi'ites and Sunni Arabs that are pushing the country to the brink of all-out civil war.

Two suicide bombers strapped with explosives detonated themselves almost simultaneously in a busy street lined with tents in the city of Hilla, south of Baghdad, killing 115 people, local hospital officials said.

The tents had been set up to offer food, drink and resting areas for pilgrims. At least 200 people were wounded in that attack, the hospital officials said.

"I saw one of the suicide bombers. He was about 40 years old. He blew himself up and I saw parts of bodies flying around," a witness, who declined to give his name, told Reuters.

Another witness described scenes of chaos, with sandals and tattered clothes lying among pools of blood and tents on fire.

"I watched the second bomber run into the crowd and blow himself up. Everyone around him was shredded to pieces," the witness told Reuters as he sobbed.

Shi'ite Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki blamed Sunni militants and supporters of former President Saddam Hussein for the "barbaric crime", according to a statement from his office.

U.S. President George W. Bush insisted on Tuesday a new security plan in Baghdad was making gradual progress, despite the killing of nine U.S. soldiers north of the capital in two separate bomb attacks on Monday.

More than 3,185 American soldiers



Morgue workers wheel the bodies of Shi'ite pilgrims after they were killed in a car bomb attack in Baghdad, March 6.

have died in Iraq since the U.S.-led invasion in March 2003.

Defending his plans to deploy 21,500 more U.S. troops to Iraq, Bush said in a speech to the American Legion veterans organisation: "The mission is America's mission and our failure would be America's failure."

Security in Hilla is tight for fear of a repetition of suicide bombings and attacks on Shi'ite religious rituals by suspected Sunni insurgents of the sort that killed 171 people in Baghdad and Kerbala in March 2004.

Insurgents also launched attacks on pilgrims in and around Baghdad, again defying Maliki's crackdown.

Among those attacks, a car bomb in the southern Baghdad district of Doura killed 12 people, police said.

### Streams of pilgrims

Masses of Shi'ite pilgrims are heading to Kerbala on foot and by bus to commemorate Arbain, the end of a 40-day mourning period since Ashura, which marks the death of Prophet Mohammad's grandson in 680. Kerbala, one the holiest cities in Shi'ite Islam, lies 110 km (68 miles) south of Baghdad. Hilla is nearby.

It is just over a year since the

February 22 bombing of a Shi'ite shrine in the city of Samarra. That attack, blamed on Sunni al Qaeda, unleashed the wave of sectarian violence that threatens to tear Iraq apart.

U.S. military commanders had warned that militants might launch assaults outside Baghdad, where more than 90,000 Iraqi and U.S. troops have intensified operations to rein in violence.

The United States invaded Iraq in 2003, partly to end abuses committed by then-President Saddam Hussein.

But the U.S. State Department said in its annual report on human rights abuses that worsening sectarian violence and terrorism undercut any progress in human rights in Iraq.

"On one side, predominantly Sunni Arab groups such as al Qaeda in Iraq, irreconcilable remnants of the Baathist regime, and insurgents waging guerrilla warfare violently opposed the government and targeted Shi'a communities," the report said, adding the United States' own record was in question.

The report also highlighted the role of Shi'ite militias and security forces attached to some ministries "nominally allied with the government who committed torture and other abuses."

his recent negotiations on Darfur, said the Sudanese government at times was still backing militias, such as the Janjaweed, accused of rape, pillaging and murder. But he said it had stopped aerial bombardments as of February 11 in north Darfur, where violence has decreased.

He said the various rebel movements, especially in south Darfur, were trying to consolidate their positions while fighting increased between tribes and clans that had little to do with government action.

Khartoum and one rebel group signed a peace agreement in May. Eliasson is trying to engage the other rebels groups to sign on. He said Sudanese officials indicated their readiness to consider amendments, but not to renegotiate the whole deal.

## U.N. members frustrated with Sudan delay on Darfur

By: Evelyn Leopold

UNITED NATIONS (Reuters) — U.N. Security Council members voiced frustration on Tuesday that Sudan's President Omar Hassan al-Bashir had still not answered a U.N. letter sent six weeks ago on beefing up African peacekeepers in Darfur.

At issue is an interim force to bolster 7,000 African Union troops with some 3,000 personnel, mainly engineers, logistics and medical units as well as helicopter pilots. This group would plan for a far larger African Union-U.N. force.

Although agreed in principle, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon wrote al-Bashir a letter six weeks ago to finalise arrangements and was promised an immediate reply.

"There is a lot of frustration among council members," South Africa's U.N. Ambassador Dumisani Kumalo, this month's council president, told reporters after a closed meeting.

The Africa Union and the United Nations wrote to Sudan on Tuesday, saying they had decided the final form of the peacekeeping force should include 19,000 to 20,000 troops and nearly 6,000 police in Darfur, said Hedi Annabi, an assistant secretary-general for peacekeeping. Sudan has in the past raised objections to such high numbers.

France's U.N. ambassador, Jean-Marc de La Sabliere, warned that the 15-nation council could consider sanctions if Sudan did not respond. The European Union has already urged more sanctions but Russia and China remain opposed.

"I am disappointed that we have not yet received the letter," de la Sabliere said. "If it does not come, then we'll have to see what to do and there are some delegations on the council thinking about taking measures."

### Political process

The five permanent council members with veto power -- the United States, France, Britain, Russia and China -- held a private meeting called by Britain to discuss how to spur Khartoum into action.

"Security for people in Darfur is essential, human access is crucial and a political process to permit all that to happen with a cease-fire is what this is all

**إعلان وظائف**

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## Indonesia crash kills 49 as scores escape

By: Dwi Prasetyo

YOGYAKARTA, Indonesia (Reuters) — At least 49 people died but scores escaped after an Indonesian passenger jet overshot the runway and burst into flames on landing in the cultural capital of Yogyakarta on Wednesday.

Dozens of passengers leapt from the plane's emergency exits into surrounding rice paddy fields to escape the inferno, which reduced the plane to a smouldering wreck of twisted metal.

Pujobroto, chief spokesman for national carrier Garuda, said flight GA 200 was a Boeing 737-400 plane carrying 133 passengers and seven crew when it crashed at around 7 a.m. (0000 GMT) after a scheduled flight from Jakarta.

One survivor told Reuters that passengers had been warned the flight would be turbulent and that most reacted calmly and orderly under the circumstances.

"As we approached the ground and I could see roofs from our window, the plane was still swaying and shaking," said Ruth Meigi Panggabean, who works for the aid group World Vision.

"Then the plane was slammed to the ground and skidded forward and slammed once again before it came to a stop," she said.

Provincial Secretary Bambang Susanto told Reuters that 48 bodies were recovered from the crash scene and one other person had died at the city's main medical centre.

The flight was carrying a large group of Australian diplomats, government officials and journalists who had been accompanying Foreign Minister Alexander Downer, who was not aboard, on an official visit to Indonesia.

Downer said nine Australians were on board the plane. Five were injured and four were unaccounted for -- an air force liaison staffer, an Australian Federal Police officer, an embassy staffer and a journalist.

Garuda's media office said the plane carried just eight Australians, as well as two Japanese, two Brunei nationals and seven other foreigners.



Smoke pours from the wreckage of a plane at Yogyakarta airport in this March 7 video grab.

Downer and Australian Prime Minister John Howard said they had received no information that would suggest terrorism or sabotage was a factor in the disaster.

### Tourist destination

Yogyakarta, around 440 km southeast of the capital, Jakarta, is known as the cultural heart of Indonesia and is very popular with tourists, although it is the off season at the moment. Its Adi Sucipto airport is known for its relatively short runway.

The crash came a day after two powerful earthquakes hit the neighbouring Indonesian island of Sumatra, killing 72 people according to the country's disaster management agency.

Crash survivor Din Syamsudin, the head of Indonesia's second-largest Muslim organisation, Muhammadiyah, told Elshinta news radio of his lucky escape.

"Some passengers wanted to get their hand luggage. I cried to them, 'Get out, get out!'" he said.

"The plane was full of smoke. I just jumped from two metres high and landed in a rice field." He said the plane burst into flames soon after he escaped.

World Vision's Panggabean said

under the circumstances, "the passengers were fairly calm and the evacuation process was quite orderly".

Survivors were taken to a number of area hospitals.

"We are treating 10 to 15 passengers. They are all fine. An 8-months-pregnant woman is o.k., and so is her baby," said Constantine, a nurse at Panti Rapih Hospital.

Aviation disaster expert Robert Heath said aircraft speed might have been a factor in the crash.

"From what I can see so far the aircraft appeared to land intact and that may point to excess speed being a factor," said Professor Heath, from the University of South Australia.

"The fire may have been caused by the nose wheel hitting things as it ran off the runway or engine destruction."

Indonesia has suffered from a string of transport accidents in recent months, including an Adam Air plane that disappeared in January with 102 passengers and crew on board, and a ferry sinking in late December in which hundreds died.

The series of accidents had sparked the government to set up special commissions to look at the state of transportation safety in the sprawling archipelago of 17,000 islands.

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# Festival for the Palestinian cause

By: Nisreen Shadad

Landmarks divided and dignity trampled, mosques destroyed and sisters, as well as children, abused and tortured. From the bombardment of Iraq and Lebanon, to Afghanistan and mass graves in Bosnia and Kosovo, to human rights abuses in Kashmir – if these don't anger Muslims, then what will?

The Palestinian Women's Union inaugurated the seventh "Palestinian Children Awakening the Ummah" festival on March 1, attended by many legal and political activists, as well as Deputy Council members, mosque imams and the family of Waleed Khalid Mesha'al (Khalid Mesha'al is the Head of Hamas Political Bureau, lived in Syria). The festival was held under the auspices of Sheikh Abdullah bin Hussein Al-Ahmar, in coordination with the Ministry of Culture.

The festival reflects the insistence of Palestinian children. "We've reached the conviction not to cede our rights. We'll go on, whether to win the victory or be martyred," declared Umm Abdulrahman Muneer, organizer of the celebration.

The event included several songs reflecting the zeal of Palestinian children's hearts, although Israel kills them by undertaking massacres without sparing women and children. Even



(from left to right) Mohammed Iz al-deen al-sheikh Khleal is fond of the martyr's sight, Hiba; his sister, is proud of being a martyr's daughter.

when the bullets, missiles and bombs destroy their homes, it never breaks their spirits.

"I'm without an identity, a home or a father – just as my enemy wants me to be. However, I will say as my martyred father said, 'We will obtain the victory. We are returning to you, Palestine,'" Hiba Al-Sheikh



Khalil declared came with her mother and little brother and sister from Syria, adding, "My father taught me to be proud of being a martyr's daughter."

Iz al-deen al-shaikh Khleel was one of the unique Mujahedeen in Palestine. "My father was a mujahed in Palestine. He contacted Ahmed Yaseen; the previous leader of Hamas group, in a clever manner by having my mother sent letters in the form of capsules. She then sent them with one of the youths into the dead places because nobody knows who sent the letter or the information inside such capsules except the leaders at that time, Yaseen and Yahya Ayash; was a member and



Though we were blown to pieces by an Israeli mine or bomb, we will never surrender, said Palestinian children

chief bombmaker of the Hamas organization.

"Occupation forces arrested my father in 1992 and sent him to Marj Al-Zuhour in Lebanon. He tried to return to Palestine, but he couldn't, so he traveled to Syria. I was born in 1994 and we all lived all there. However, my father was far from his homeland and his heart was there with Yaseen and the other mujahedeen. They contacted each other, but I don't know how. In 2004, Zionists foisted a bomb into his car, and when assured that he was inside, they detonated it."

"What I like the best during this festival is when the boys carry the martyr," 10-year-old Mohammed Izadeen Al-Sheikh Khalil commented.

Mesha'al noted, "All of us gather under Palestine's shade to renew the conviction before Allah not to forfeit a single grain of sand because it is the

prophets' dwelling and the fondness of the saints' hearts. It is Al-Faruq's [second caliph Omar bin Al-Khattab] conviction to us that we save it and keep it Islamic. All Muslims should gather in support of this holy land. We should moan when it moans until it is returned to Muslims."

"Even children aren't protected, as they are killed and tortured. Palestinian children are suffering and living under severe emotional strains. Although they live in such pain, they stand firmly, without fear, hesitation or retreating," he added

"Al-Aqsa Mosque faces several plans to destroy it and build the temple. The issue isn't only ours, but it's an issue for every Muslim in the world," he urged.

He concluded, "Palestine will never be returned unless we as Muslims come back to our religion and apply Islamic instructions. Not only this, we need to feel the pain of others. As much you are late in coming back, the Muslim victory will be late. We won't relinquish the right to prostrate in Al-Aqsa's mihrab."

A play also was performed to talk about confronting the occupation. A little girl played the role of the mother's dante. She explained the feelings of a mother when her son is arrested and tortured, displaying the strong faith of a Palestinian woman who encourages her child, as well as adults, to fight bravely and never return unless he achieves victory and brings back their homeland.

Another play reflected the irony Palestinians live in as they await international legitimacy to return their homeland. "Leave the delusions of peace because we are dealing with

those who only know how to transgress," one player said before saying goodbye to her child and going to fight.

A third play explained Palestine's value to all Muslims, declaring, "It's a holy land concerning the night the Prophet Mohammed (pbuh) ascended to the seven heavens, so when will you get angry?"

At the end of the festival, Hussein Abdullah bin Hussein Al-Ahmar, noted, "Children's stones represent a unique picture of heroism. With their small stones and greater than normal steadfastness, Palestinian children make their enemy afraid to face such children with their small stones."



Waleed Khalid Mesha'al, came with his family to participate in the festival.

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The attendees as well as Palestinian children swear not to forfeit even single sand of the holy land.

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# Prices...where to?

By: Awatef Al-Shara'abi

We are daily shocked by skyrocketing prices, which laws and regulations find difficult to control.

Prices fluctuate between hikes and further hikes, as well as the mood of shopkeepers and wholesalers. Such a fact is the be-all-end-all criteria for evaluating the situation, while consumers seem to be stupid and indifferent, as if price hikes have become a law passed upon society.

Wholesalers and grocers exhibit their consent to such prohibitive prices by

paying for any commodities without bearing in mind that the greedy policy of traders is backed by consumers' stupidity and indifference, coupled with the inability of concerned government parties to control prices, which usually rise according to the mood of traders.

The suffering of submissive citizens begins with buying expensive commodities, whose prices skyrocket daily without any clear reason or justification, supposedly taking into consideration the scarce purchasing power of the poor and the fluctuating purchasing power of the middle class. The latter group hardly can be seen in Yemen due to the prohibitive prices and

hard living conditions in cities and rural areas as well.

Prices start increasing gradually by YR 10 while we don't understand the nation's economic situation and citizens don't see any tangible reforms in their living standards. Citizens have no alternative but to accept the daily rising prices until they've lost their basic right to the protein of yoghurt and eggs because the price of the former has jumped from YR 70 to YR 90 and, via the joint efforts of traders, is expected to be YR 100. The egg, which isn't manufactured by man, now is priced at YR 30.

Tomatoes appear for some time and

then disappear as if they are shining stars that can't be seen in the sunlight. Gas agents roam from street to street, asking YR 600 per filled cylinder. When asked why a gas cylinder is YR 600, sellers push their carts onward without any response.

In this situation, the question persists: Is it possible for us to discuss the national economy and its components, as well as issue economic publications about progress and development? Is it possible for us to write about money and business? Is it possible for us to become integrated into those countries with strong economies?

Source: Al-Thori newspaper

## COMMON SENSE

### Is Iran deserving of all this belligerency?

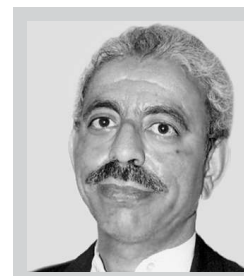
While the American White House is stubbornly pursuing support for its belligerent attitude towards the

Islamic Republic of Iran, the apparent display one sees in the international arena now is that Iran is indeed winning this hopeless cause the United States is again fostering on behalf of Israel. The most obvious reason for this fiasco by the Presidency of the

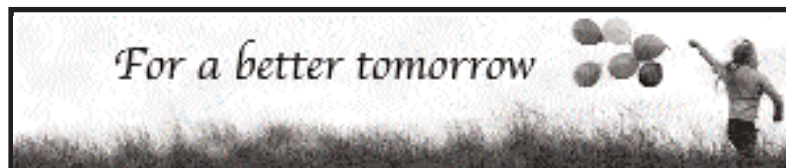
United States under George W. Bush is that to this date, notwithstanding all the claims and tough-talk rhetoric followed by Washington, there is really no basis for the bulk of the accusations bombarded on Iran. For the past thirty years or so, since the religious scholars of Iran decided that Iran (and to a certain extent the region was ripe for a new culture in its political and social affairs. Notwithstanding the misleading representations lashed out against this dramatic regime change, in the end, the new regime proved to be a respectable presentation than that which had existed under the despotic benevolent dictator, Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi. It is worth noting that the latter was "America's Policeman" in the region, as often labeled by the Pro-Zionist press in the United States. It is noteworthy to mention that the regime was put in place by the once effective CIA regime making machinery in 1953. The latter can be understandably bought as good rising why many Americans would have a strong gripe against the United States, as the Pahlavi regime brought more than 500,000 Iranian citizens, most of whom were engaged in peaceful protest against the repressive regime and the police apparatus (Savak) that loomed and terrorized most of the Iranian population inside and outside of Iran. This observer recalled as a student in the US in the early years of the Seventies of the last Century that it was almost impossible to get any Iranians to talk about their domestic politics, let alone express their free opinions. The obvious reason was that the Savak had created a horrible fear raising apparatus that terrorized most of the Iranians, no matter where they lived.

On a more current note, this observer was listening to a news analysis discussion on the highly respectable Deutsche Welle Satellite German TV Broadcasting Channel (in English). The discussion centered on the Iranian nuke issue and the apparent sound of the roar of war drums emanating from Washington (albeit as reflection of the wishes of the International Zionist Establishment). The panel included a German writer, an Iranian writer and an American politician from the Republican Party. It was the latter that caught the attention of the observer (Sorry, I am unable at this time to recall his name), because for one, he indicated that the Grand Old Party was indeed undergoing a serious split, obviously raised by the fumbling of the Bush Administration (see Common Sense of YT Issue 1029). On one side you have the gung-ho neo-cons, who insist that their bloody agenda is the only logical approach to US foreign policy. On the other hand, there are the Republicans, who tend to believe that the approach presented by the Iraq Study Group co-chaired by the well known James Baker (a close friend and (safe to say now) former mentor of the Bushes. Even more interesting was the suggestion presented by this Republican that Iran actually deserves to be treated in a more respectable manner, owing to the historical and cultural legacy that the Iranian people have behind them and to the fact that to date, Iran has not gone beyond demanding to be allowed the legitimate right of Uranium enrichment, which is not a violation of any international conventions, especially if it cannot be proven that this is not yet leading to any military adventures. Moreover, the American GOP member noted that there are indeed checks and balances within the current Iranian regime that ensure that the Government or any of its officials do not get too far out of line. This was indeed significant in that it confirmed that indeed all is not lost in the United States. Even Republicans are looking for a way out of this aura that the current Administration in the White House has gone out of its way to create in the world. While this may sound like a speck of dust in a whirling sandstorm, it is enough cause to state that indeed the Iranians have succeeded also in convincing Americans on the right side of the spectrum that American deserves far better than all the headaches that George W. Bush will leave behind when he and his cronies leave office. The only wish is that this would happen sooner than later.

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



By: Hassan Al-Haifi



### No to killing children

All religions and laws ban the killing and transgression of human beings, irrespective of reasons and justifications. To achieve justice, religions and laws stipulate executing those who kill others, particularly in the case of wilful killings. The penalty is heavier when the victims are women and children.

Looking at different stages in human history, we find that millions of children have died in conflicts caused by others' policies. Children pay the price for the foolishness of adults, as they are subjected to murder, hunger and thirst, which are the result of clashes and wars. Those children who don't die suffer various diseases or psychological disorders due to such terrible scenes. Their problems grow worse and their tragedy harder as many of them become victims of reckless driving and road accidents.

Yemen recently has experienced strange crimes contradicting social values, such as children being killed by those quarreling with their parents and families. Such problems originate due to the lack of justice, as well as the poor application of law and order.

The most recent such crime was when gunmen shot dead Taha Mohammed Al-Awadhi as he returned from school in the south of the capital. The perpetrators killed Al-Awadhi after they failed to abduct him over a land dispute between his family and some Sana'a sheikhs.

Despite all of the justifications of the dispute, the child's murder is

unjustified and rejected by law and religion. An incident like this requires security and judicial authorities to immediately

contain the issue and investigate it to reinforce justice and compensate childhood. Regretfully, the case was ignored without any government intervention, which has helped the problem grow into armed clashes between the two tribes.

Civil community organizations, particularly those concerned with defending rights and freedoms, should work hard to increase public awareness not to engage children in others' clashes. Since this didn't occur, it means these organizations aren't interested in children's rights.

We don't stand by a certain party because justice is the only criteria for specifying the oppressed party. We stand by all children who are victims of vicious clashes. Additionally, we demand more reinforcement of law, social justice and stability because the media has a weak role regarding children's issues. Killing children without immediately issuing fair verdicts affects social stability and makes the situation of children enrolled in schools more risky.

Yasser Al-Mayasi is a Yemeni journalist specialized in children and business. ymayasi@yahoo.com



By: Yasser Al-Mayasi

### Mauritania and its bridal democracy

By: Samia Al-Aghbari

I hesitated too much before writing about Mauritania, a country which originally belongs to Arab and Islamic culture. Mauritania, overlooking the Atlantic Ocean, is the western gate to the Arab world.

Mauritania is a world rich in thought and creative variation despite the poverty and the social and economic suffering of its citizens. I fear that my writing about this forgotten country will not be able to do it justice, and anytime I decide to write about something there, I am immediately confronted by conflicting ideas.

I have decided to delay writing about Mauritania; land and man, customs and heritage. Mauritania is a country which has an amazing ability to adapt itself to all cultures, whether they be Arabic, Islamic, African or otherwise.

I cannot, however, delay writing about the way in which democracy is conducted in Mauritania these days, in a manner similar to that in which a wedding ceremony is conducted. This fact gives us some hope of an Arab democratic ideal which can be imitated. Though the state of Mauritania was recognized only during the 1960s, the political activity, despite all its earlier hindrances, is considered admirable and calls for a brighter Mauritanian future. The Military Council of Justice and Democracy, which overthrew the former regime in 2003, made constitutional amendments which ensured a peaceful transfer of power.

What makes me admire them most is this celebration of democracy similar almost to a wedding ceremony, which includes artistic celebrations together with poetry and ardent speeches. Further, the 19 presidential candidates presented their electoral platforms without insulting each other in this democratic bridal ceremony, not democratic

battle.

Women's participation and support added to this spirit of toleration and friendliness throughout the electoral campaigns. Any observer of the campaigns of presidential candidates, though from different political streams and trends, will not notice any tensions or accusations. Each candidate tried to present his electoral platform quietly and with faith and then left the public to decide.

It can also be noticed that the Mauritanian citizens in general, and woman in particular, are aware of all prime issues concerning society. They want the coming president to treat problems like poverty and unemployment and supply basic services such as health, education, water, electricity and roads. They also seek justice and equality irrespective of sex or race. This is also true regarding the attitudes of candidates towards foreign issues such as Arab-Arab relations, relations with Israel, Islamic and other international issues.

However, this does not mean that Mauritania does not belong to its Arab or Islamic surroundings, as perhaps we saw with the former regime which was overthrown as a result of its relations with Israel. It seems as if they are trying to say they can think of decisive and complex issues while at the same time considering issues such as their inability to secure basic needs such as drink, clothes and adequate housing. The Mauritanian citizen has become even more aware of his rights and basic requirements than the electoral candidates.

I am certain that the tolerant and peaceful Mauritanian people will not abandon their national principles and Islamic identity, and that their exertions towards freedom, democracy, justice and equality are the right path for achieving the Arab dream, represented in a comprehensive Arab unity based on firm pillars.

I further think that the presidential elections, regardless of their results, will help fix these pillars of democracy and peaceful transfer of power, and there will be scientific courses on democratic practices from which many Arabs and Muslims can learn.

Some people doubt the success of democracy in Mauritania, under the pretext of its tribal and positional disposition, as well as the ease with which votes can be bought due to poverty. My optimism springs from the unlimited public reaction of the Mauritanian people with all of their factions and doctrines working towards making the democratic experience a great success. They strive to make their candidates win but without insulting others, and neither arms nor chaos were present during the elections.

Mauritanians have a real conviction, after long suffering, that democracy and a peaceful transfer of power are the solution to all problems that hamper comprehensive and sustainable development in their country.

Source: Al-Thawra Newspaper



By: Samer A.

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Offices

Aden Bureau:  
Ridhwan Alawi Ahmed  
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Fax: +967 (2) 347056  
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Saeed Al-Batati  
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Fax: +967 (05) 360303

Taiz Bureau:  
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# Europe, America, and the Drumbeat of War with Iran

America's capital is once again abuzz with talk of war, not only of the latest "strategy for victory" in Iraq, but now also of military action against Iran. The harder it becomes to discern any rationality in the Bush administration's actions, the louder the rumor mill grinds.

## Will Bush order an air and Special Forces attack on Iran?

Ever since Bush's State of the Union address at the end of January, hardly a day has passed without something happening in connection with Iran or without the Bush administration's ratcheting up its rhetoric. Clearly, the US is also pressing ahead with preparations for an air strike. (A more extensive military commitment is scarcely possible, given how overstretched US ground forces already are.)

Indeed, the confrontation with the Iranians in Iraq is visibly intensifying, and it may be gathering strength elsewhere as well. A bomb directed at

the Iranian Revolutionary Guard recently exploded on Iran's border with Afghanistan. And there are, of course, new attempts by the United States to drum up "evidence" of an Iranian threat that may justify an attack.

Is this all a bluff? The world could perhaps calmly wait for an answer, but for the fact that the progress of Iran's nuclear program and the approaching end of President Bush's term might create an incalculable dynamic of its own. As with Iraq, America's strength may be enough to start a war, but not to win it. But the consequences of a military adventure in Iran would far surpass those of the war in Iraq. Doing things by halves yet again in the Middle East would be the worst of all possible options – bad for the region and bad for its neighbors. The first among the neighbors affected would be Europe.

So how has Europe, with its vital security interests at stake, responded to these developments? British Prime Minister Tony Blair has already adapted to the US administration's new confrontational rhetoric. French

President Jacques Chirac unguardedly speculated that an Iran with one or two nuclear bombs might not pose a serious threat, given the possibility of nuclear retaliation – his musings so startled French officials that they quickly jumped in to correct the President's comments. German Chancellor Angela

Merkel gives speeches at security conferences that find favor in America, but otherwise Germany prefers to stay in the background.

Across Europe, risk avoidance seems to be the order of the day, even at the expense of the common interest and NATO solidarity. The German navy is defending the Lebanese coast against Hezbollah, while other European nations bear the brunt of policing Lebanon on the ground. In Afghanistan, Germany, with its strong military presence in the north, has been turning a deaf ear to calls for help from



By: Joschka Fischer

the Canadian allies fighting a revived Taliban in the south. Germany now wants to send some Tornado jets for reconnaissance purposes – better than nothing, but not by much.

In terms of security policy, Europe is stagnating, if not regressing, at the very moment when unity is needed more than ever.

The Big Three of Europe – and Germany, as the current EU president in particular – must find a way to act together in strategic security matters. If they don't, Europe will largely cease to matter when the going gets rough. And the going is now getting quite rough in Iran and the Persian Gulf.

Should Iran be attacked this year, the consequences will be borne first and foremost by the region, but also by Europe as the Middle East's immediate western neighbor – and they will be felt for a long time to come. Indeed, Europe will have to share the costs if

Iran prevails and becomes a nuclear power. So there is much at stake for the old continent.

To be precise, two overriding EU security interests are at stake: avoiding a war with Iran and preventing Iran from becoming a nuclear power. These two apparently contradictory interests can be reconciled and translated into a common strategy by adopting a three-pronged approach based on efficient isolation, effective containment, and direct negotiations.

The Europeans – led by Merkel, Blair, and Chirac – should agree to assure the US that Europe is ready to pay a high, perhaps very high, economic price by taking decisive action to intensify the sanctions against Iran. But they should offer this only on two strict preconditions: that the military option be taken off the table, and that all parties involved – including the US – enter into direct negotiations with Iran.

The policy of isolation coupled with direct negotiations would be strengthened further by a common strategy toward Syria, aimed not at

"regime change," but at "coalition change" – that is, drawing Syria away from its close alliance with Iran.

It was both right and important that the EU Council of Foreign Ministers agreed on sanctions against Iran. Faced with the threat of financial sanctions, Iran's political elite is increasingly realizing the price of its confrontational course. It is imperative to further this process in a resolute manner, while at the same time rejecting military adventurism.

It is up to Europe to prevent the two worst developments in Iran – war and nuclear armament – by acting jointly and with determination. Vital European and transatlantic interests are at stake. It is thus Europe's responsibility – and especially Germany's, as the current EU president – to act now.

*Joschka Fischer was Germany's Foreign Minister and Vice Chancellor from 1998 to 2005. A leader in the Green Party for nearly 20 years, he is now a visiting professor at Princeton University's Woodrow Wilson School. Source: Project Syndicate.*

## Is China heading back to the Dark Ages?

By: Prof. Tom Plate

The irrepressible Mohamad Mahathir, while still enthroned as Malaysia's long-reigning prime minister, once muttered something to the effect that people do not have the right to know everything and that it won't exactly kill them if they don't.

This cavalier attitude toward freedom of information – so revered in the West – is of course not unknown in Asia. But Mahathir was no dope. As the Information Technology revolution unfolded in front of our eyes, he became one of the first of Asia's leaders to recognise the importance of timely economic and political information in the context of the country's development.

The problem for Asia's leaders who pined for continued economic growth was thus how best to square the need for information with the desire to maintain governmental control of it. These days, that problem seems

increasingly dramatic in China – with its system of surveillance that overhangs everything like an oppressive rain forest.

In recent university and media appearances, I have been struck by how worried many people are about China. Goodwill and high hopes for the world's most populous state are evident almost everywhere. But, increasingly, doubts about the wisdom of the central government's public-information policies cross the face of questioners.

People wonder how China can possibly move forward if its media policies are heading backwards. Recently, a lively group of students and professors at famed Nanyang Technological University here in Singapore were assembled to discuss contemporary media issues (under the semi-competent baton of your intrepid columnist). The range of students' interests was sweeping, but one was especially struck by a particular student's question. This obviously bright NTU student from mainland

China wondered how one can be hopeful about China if its media policies are not evolving in pace with its economic and global ambitions.

The premise of her question was right on point. China's media policies do seem to be undergoing a back-to-the-future directional change. As a recent review of the just-published second volume of the authoritative mainland tome "China's Media & Entertainment Law" put it: "A few years ago, it was possible to talk about a combination of liberalisation and censorship in the Chinese media industry. Now the story is more about censorship and a variety of other restrictions as the Chinese government seeks to reassert control after a period of rapid change."

The review was deftly penned by James Paradise, a UCLA Ph.D. candidate in political science and a former journalist at AsiaMedia (<<http://www.asiamedia.ucla.edu/>> [www.asiamedia.ucla.edu](http://www.asiamedia.ucla.edu)).

The book under scrutiny was a collection of essays, some written authoritatively by Chinese government

officials. Mr. Paradise quotes this from the authors themselves: "In mid-2005, the PRC government suddenly tightened the reins on China's media sectors, slowing and in some ways reversing its recent liberalisation of the television industry.... [These changes] coincided with the turnover of top SARFT [State Administration of Radio, Film and Television] officials." It appears China is unembarrassed about official directional change in its media policy that might bring back at least some of the distress-making features of the bad old days of Mao. Maybe my Western preoccupation with issues of media freedom and information access is, in reality, foolishly parochial.

Two twinges, though, make the genuine anguish of the NTU student from the mainland more than academic. One comes from the vivid

recollection of economic development in other parts of Asia that gave rise to an increasingly monied and assertive middle class. From Seoul to Taipei, that profound sociological development forced governments to lighten up on media control. The result was to spawn, with dizzying rapidity, near-modern economies that were suddenly wildly competitive globally. Hong Kong, with as vigorous a media environment as anyone, sits proudly atop Asia's list of leaders in per-person income. Behind this Special Administrative Region of China are media lively South Korea and Taiwan. To be sure, Singapore tops them both, and sports a media system that can only be described as unique (controlled but high-quality).

But this little gem of a city-state cannot be compared to anything or anyone else. Perhaps China is

incomparable at the far other end of the country-size spectrum. In its totality, its economy chugs in as one of the world's largest overall but not per capita. In terms of per-person income, it hovers in the middle of Asia's ladder. And so the question is whether a restrictive media policy will permit it to rise to the level of South Korea or will push it down in the other direction.

It may not be too Western-centric to suggest that in reducing media freedoms, China's leaders may be putting at risk its long-term chances of continued success. That, in any event, is the billion-person question that has so many people in Asia worried.

*Prof. Tom Plate, a member of the Pacific Council on International Policy, is founder of the Asia Pacific Media Network.*

*Source: /www.khaleejtimes.com.*

## Let Arab Americans help

By: Rebecca Abou-Chedid

Throughout much of America's history, racial and ethnic minorities have faced hardships which have highlighted both the best and worst tendencies of our nation. The successes of the civil rights era are felt not just by African Americans but by all of our country's minority communities. Similarly, during World War II, Japanese Americans suffered internment but have since been at the forefront of protecting other communities suffering racial or ethnic prejudice. In the aftermath of 9/11, the responsibility of leading the struggle to protect civil liberties, keeping our nation secure and bridging the growing gap between the United States and the Arab world falls on Arab Americans.

As the daughter of a Lebanese immigrant, I have always had an interest in the status of the Arab American community as well as the relationship between the United States and the Arab world. After graduating from college, I moved to Lebanon to work as a teacher for AMIDEAST. My students included Lebanese from many of the country's diverse religious and ethnic communities preparing to begin their university studies.

Interacting with these students afforded me the invaluable opportunity to learn how young Arabs viewed my country. Through our discussions, I came to realize that the treatment of Arab Americans was a major contributor to their impressions of America: when Arab Americans suffer hate crimes or discrimination, Arabs also feel pain; alternatively, the acceptance and success of our community in the United States shows Arabs abroad that their culture, religion and history are respected.

Since 2002, the Arab American Institute has commissioned an annual survey in six Arab countries (Morocco,

Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates) to determine impressions of America and the key factors involved in forming those opinions. The polls, conducted by Zogby International, show that while Arabs generally view American culture and people positively (although even these numbers have experienced a downward trend), attitudes towards American foreign policy are so negative that they drive overall favourability numbers to alarmingly low levels.

The good news is that large majorities in most countries (e.g. over 70% in Morocco, Jordan, and Lebanon) say that they would like to know an American, and a plurality of those who have travelled to the United States had a positive impression of their visit. Unfortunately, not many Arabs have actually had the opportunity to meet an American – the range is from only 14% in Saudi Arabia to 41% in Jordan – and even fewer have travelled to the US – from a high of 22% of Emiratis to only 9% of Moroccans.

This is where Arab Americans play a vital role. During this summer's war in Lebanon and the ensuing evacuation of American citizens, many Americans were surprised to learn that over 25,000 of their compatriots regularly spend their summers in Lebanon. This was not, however, a surprise to Arab Americans who have always maintained a tradition of visiting their countries of origin and remain dedicated to building positive relationships between their country and that of their ancestors. At the same time, for the majority of Americans who will never travel to the Arab world, their Arab American neighbours have embraced the opportunity to share with them the generosity and hospitality that characterise Arab culture.

Arab Americans serve as ambassadors not only at the individual

level, but can, and should, be engaged by their government. The Iraq Study Group reported recently that of the 1,000 employees in the American Embassy in Iraq, only 33 speak Arabic, 6 of them fluently. While it is true that not all Arab Americans speak Arabic, there is a cultural intimacy and religious respect that Arab Americans—including Christian Arab Americans—possess which is invaluable to U.S. efforts to understand and act responsibly in the region in a manner that benefits both Americans and Arabs.

Moreover, both Arabs and Americans care deeply about family and education and large numbers in both societies reserve a significant role for religion in daily life. Why not emphasise these shared values rather than focus on the issues on which we differ? If, for example, the United States decides to aid in Lebanon's reconstruction by building a school in the southern village of Bint Jbeil, why not send Arab Americans whose parents came from that very village to dedicate the school as a gift from their government? The impact that a delegation of Arab Americans empowered and respected by their government would have throughout the Arab world should not be underestimated.

The relationship between the United States and the Arab world is in crisis and American credibility is at an all-time low. What we need is to build a different relationship. This entails not only a change in foreign policy, but creating different attitudes on both sides. Arab Americans can offer a representation of America that Arabs can trust, recognise and identify with. Let us help.

*Rebecca Abou-Chedid is the director of government relations at the Arab American Institute.*

*Source: [www.commongroundnews.org](http://www.commongroundnews.org).*



## JOB VACANCY ISLAMIC RELIEF YEMEN

Islamic Relief Yemen (IRY – A British INGO) is announcing the following vacancy for National professional personnel:

**1. Position:** Finance & Admin Manager  
**Reference:** FAM/IPD/250207

### Responsibilities:

- Maintain systems and controls to ensure the efficiency, integrity and transparency of the field office and sub-office operations in accordance with guidelines provided by Islamic Relief Head Quarters and internationally accepted accounting standards.
- Ensure all accounting records and supporting documentation for all financial transactions is maintained in a systematic order and in safe and secure conditions in the field office and sub-offices.
- Provide quarterly and where required monthly financial reports to the Islamic Relief HQ Finance department.
- Ensure the effective and efficient working of budgetary, accounting, reporting and internal control systems for the field and all sub-offices.
- Liaise with external auditors, government departments, banks regularly.
- Manage and undertake local internal audits of the field and sub-offices including implemented projects.
- To work as part of a team and liaise with the Country Director, field and sub-offices teams and HQ Finance department and Programmes Division.
- Oversee purchasing inventory, transport and procurement of project material
- Manage the monitoring and carrying out different of tasks related to custom clearance, vehicles, visas, etc...
- Maintain smooth office operations including provision and operation of equipment
- Perform other duties as deemed necessary

### Requirements:

- Minimum 3 years experience as a qualified Accountant (ACCA/ACA/CIMA/CCAB) or equivalent internationally recognized accounting qualification.
- Excellent communication skills with the ability to present financial matters to non-financial managers and discuss proposals in English with institutional donors and other relevant parties.
- Ability to manage and supervise finance and non-finance staff in multiple and remote locations.
- Ability to think strategically.
- High degree of computer literacy.
- Bilingual – Arabic & English
- Proficiency in accounting software preferably QuickBooks.
- Disposition of a team player.
- Ability to work independently and provide initiative in improving finance functions.
- Willing to travel to remote locations and in difficult terrains.

Please send a copy of your CV latest by 15th March 2007.

Admin Department – Ref: FAM/IPD/250207

Islamic Relief Yemen, P O Box 15088, Sana'a, Republic of Yemen Fax No: 01-415998 Or Email: [secretaryir@y.net.ye](mailto:secretaryir@y.net.ye)

**Applicants should be sympathetic to the values and principles of Islamic Relief**

**Islamic Relief is an equal opportunities employer. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.**

## How to Make EU Integration Popular

By Daniel Gros and Stefano Micossi

Across the European Union, fears about globalization and antipathy to integration and immigration have produced massive political fallout, including the failed French and Dutch referenda on the Union's draft constitutional treaty and a de facto moratorium on accession talks with Turkey. The European Council and the Commission have watched helplessly, as if the matter was not in their hands.

Conventional wisdom suggests that the EU's inability to meet the challenges of integration is due to rigid economic structures and inadequate human capital – weaknesses that can only be tackled effectively by national policies, where the Union has little role to play. But substantial policy spillover across the EU justifies strengthened policy coordination for labor-market and welfare reform.

Outdated labor-market rules are the key reason why the full benefits of the internal market and monetary union have failed to materialize. Labor-market rigidities – above all in France, Germany, and Italy – impede adjustment to the increased competition of integrating markets. Those who lose their jobs cannot find new ones because of barriers to entry, while high long-term unemployment makes those who do have jobs feel threatened. Viewing immigrants and internal market integration with alarm, both groups thus have increasingly turned against Europe.

If they cannot reform, France or Italy eventually may be tempted to renege on free movement of goods, services and labor – and perhaps even abandon the euro – with disruptive consequences for all members. Therefore, there is a common interest in fostering national policies that are consistent with integration in the internal market.

The benefits of coordination are likely to be reinforced by policy "learning," as confirmed by evidence that reforms tend to spread in waves.

Structural reforms are usually resisted because of uncertainty about the costs and their distribution. One way to weaken this resistance is to involve not only ministers and heads of government in exchanging information on policy design, but also those who resist change, notably trade unions.

After all, a clear message by the European Council would have a much stronger effect if it expressed not only the wishes of heads of governments, but also broad acceptance at all levels of society. Only then can one hope for full implementation of reforms and the virtuous circle of improved expectations and economic performance that should have been set in motion by the European Council's Lisbon summit seven years ago.

The experience of successful reform in the Anglo-Saxon and Nordic countries shows that Europe need not be condemned to stagnation, provided that it renounces rigid employment protection. The key to overcoming resistance is to give affected workers grounds to hope that they can find a new job. The European Council might also recommend that any relaxation of employment protection be accompanied by the establishment of a minimum wage – determined as an agreed proportion of the statutory wage for regular long-term employment. With such a comprehensive policy package, resistance to change would likely diminish.

Immigration poses even greater policy challenges, since newcomers are widely perceived as threatening jobs and crowding out natives from social services. There is ample evidence that restrictions on immigration in one country divert migrant flows to other EU countries, and that migration is attracted by generous welfare entitlements. Moreover, well-functioning labor markets attract migrants with higher qualifications, while countries with rigid employment protection are targeted by the low-skilled and those willing to work illegally. Labor migration also presents challenges for source countries, for it diminishes their pool

of young and educated workers.

Policy coordination can provide effective remedies to these negative spillovers. Two measures would be particularly useful. First, the old member states should immediately lift remaining restrictions on the freedom of movement for workers from new member countries. Any minimum wage would automatically also apply to immigrant workers, mitigating "unfair" competition for low-skilled jobs.

Second, the EU should enact a common scheme for admission of immigrant workers from outside the Union. Such a scheme should include a "point system" for selecting applicants for residence and work permits, which would assign each applicant a score based on objective criteria, typically including language ability, education, and experience. This approach has been successfully implemented in Australia, New Zealand, and Switzerland; Germany and Great Britain are following suit.

By establishing a common "welfare floor" throughout the EU, providing an effective safety net to native workers whose jobs are threatened by integration, and adopting a coordinated policy on immigration, European citizens would be reassured. This, in turn, might reduce their hostility to migrant workers while offering migrants an equitable and fair legal framework.

These labor-market and immigration policies should become the focus of policy coordination within the EU. By concentrating on policies to sustain integration while at the same preserving the European social model, the European Council would again become a relevant policy forum where the real needs and hopes of citizens could find effective responses.

Daniel Gros is Director of the Centre for Economic Policy Studies, Brussels, and Stefano Micossi is Director General of Assonime, a business association and think tank in Rome, and a former Director General for Industry at the European Commission. Copyright: Project Syndicate, 2007.

## Business In Brief

### Investment conference delayed

The joint Yemeni-GCC committee responsible for the Yemen Investment Conference has decided to delay the conference for the third time until April 23-25. The committee didn't state any particular reason, but claimed that the additional two-week delay will assist the public relations agency in better marketing the conference and in turn, increase regional and international participation.

### COCA report: 30 percent of 2005 budget never collected

The Central Organization for Control and Audit has issued a report indicating that 30 percent of the 2005 government income was accounted for but never deposited into government accounts at the Central Bank.

The total amount due is YR 330 billion, including YR 126.6 billion from the Ministry of Electricity, YR 51.9 billion from the tax authority, YR 42 billion from Aden Refinery and YR 31.4 billion from the Ministry of Oil, with the remainder distributed among other government departments.

### Businessmen's Council criticizes Sana'a Chamber of Commerce

The Yemeni Businessmen's Council has criticized the Sana'a Chamber of Commerce following its call for a mass strike to protest the sales tax, asserting that a strike will freeze the economy, inflate prices and discourage investors from coming to Yemen.

In response, Chamber of Commerce President Mahfoudh Shammakh described the council's leadership as "government agents" who are strangers to the trade profession and employ terrorizing techniques in their practices.

### Malaysian firms eye Yemeni projects worth \$2.18 billion

Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmed Badawi and his accompanying

delegation's recent visit to Yemen proved successful in fostering Malaysian-Yemeni economic ties. Malaysian firms were offered projects in education, infrastructure development, oil and gas, power generation and power transmission in order to develop Yemen's economy.

Regional and international donors have pledged more than \$5.6 billion in development aid for this particular purpose.

### Yemeni exports increase 15 percent in 2006

Yemen's total international trade reached \$2.19 trillion in 2006, compared to \$2 trillion in 2005, while 2006 exports were \$1.23 trillion, a 15 percent increase over 2005. Imports remained constant in 2006.

### Hadramout governor: local communities should monitor oil companies

Hadramout Governor Abdulqader Hilal has indicated that local councils and local communities should play an active role in monitoring international oil companies' operations in the governorate in order to report any environmental or legal violations.

This is especially important regarding the Yemenization policy, which requires oil companies to employ a certain percentage of their staff from those areas where they are operating.

### Five bids to administer Aden Industrial Zone

Minister of Trade and Industry Khalid Sheikh has stated that the ministry has received bids from five international firms (Japanese, Chinese, Kuwaiti, Italian and Yemeni) seeking to administer and manage Aden Industrial Zone, which is located within Aden Free Zone. He stated that the winning bid will be announced during the April 23 Yemen Investment Conference.

### Social Fund for Development to finance 933 projects in 2007

The Social Fund for Development has approved financing 933 projects worth \$86 million in various parts of the country. The projects are focused on creating small and micro-enterprises in areas of education, rural development, resource management and services.

### Central Bank to keep currency stable

The Central Bank of Yemen sold \$81 million last Sunday in an attempt to stabilize the value of the rial against the U.S. dollar in the domestic market. This comes in a series of numerous interventions by the Central Bank to build confidence in the Yemeni rial and maintain an acceptable level regarding the currency's inflation. The Central Bank has a reserve of more than \$7 billion.

### Oil Search to build

#### Yemen's first offshore oil wells

Australia's Oil Search Limited has begun preparations to dig Yemen's first offshore oil wells in Block 15 located across from Al-Shehir city's shore in Hadramout governorate. The well drilling will start before the end of March, after being delayed from 2006 due to late delivery of the oil-drilling ship.

#### Yemenia issues first e-ticket

Yemenia Airways has issued its first e-ticket for the Dubai-Sana'a route. This comes as part of an exercise to test and gradually implement the e-ticketing system, wherein customers may plan, book and pay for their Yemenia tickets online without having to visit a travel agent or buy a traditional ticket because all that's needed is a digital printout of the boarding pass purchased online. The system will be implemented on all Yemenia routes by 2008.



Jannah Hunt Oil Company is currently recruiting for the position of Human Resources Manager. The minimum requirements for this position are as follows:

#### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

- Education:** B.S. Degree in Business Administration.  
**Experience:** 10 to 15 years or more in upstream Oil and Gas Industry. Managerial experience is also required  
**Language:** Proficient in Arabic and English (Oral and Written)

#### JOB REQUIREMENTS

The candidate will manage the overall Human Resources functions of hiring, promoting, transferring and terminating employees according to operational needs. The candidate will also be in charge of labor relations and interface with various government institution. He will also administer the company policy pertaining to all HR functions.

- Manages the hiring, promoting, transferring, and terminating of employees according to operational needs, conducts performance evaluation, and developing training plans for the company. Plans with concerned departments recruitment needs for all position openings for all expatriates and nationals.
- Represents management in dealing with Labour Relations issues with national employee's union.
- Assists upper management in the planning and implementation of JHOC'S Yemenization plan and future staffing needs of all operations.
- Keeps the Director of Human Resources & Administration of the company informed on the Human Resources function of the Company and advises on any extraordinary occurrences which may require special attention.
- Interfaces with government organizations; i.e. YICOM, Yemenization, Ministry of Labour, & GCSS.
- Performs other related duties as assigned.

IF YOU MEET THE ABOVE REQUIRMENTS PLEASE EMAIL YOUR CV TO THE FOLLOWING EMAIL ADDRESS. PLEASE NOTE WE WILL ONLY ACCEPT CV'S THROUGH EMAIL SUBMISSION.

JANNAHRECRUITER@Y.NET.YE

ALL CANDIDATES MUST BE YEMENI NATIONALS - DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING YOUR CV FOR THIS POSITION IS March 15TH, 2007.



Jannah Hunt Oil Company is currently recruiting for the position of Audit Coordinator. The minimum requirements for this position are as follows:

#### MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS

- Education:** B.S. Degree in Finance or Accounting.  
**Experience:** 5 years or more in upstream Oil and Gas Industry. Managerial experience is also required  
**Language:** Proficient in Arabic and English (Oral and Written)

#### JOB REQUIREMENTS:

The candidate will be responsible for coordinating financial and accounting audits of the company as well as some daily treasury duties. He will report directly to the Manager, Finance. He will have to demonstrate effective interpersonal communications skills with various company departments and external auditors and must possess excellent working knowledge of Personal Computer applications including Microsoft Office.

- Schedules and coordinate company, government and partner audits
- Prepares office space and gathering all requested documents prior to audit commencement.
- Maintains control over auditors' queries and preparing a daily schedule of the overall audit status.
- During the audit, prepares and responds to auditor's queries.
- Distributes and follows up on company personnel and their response to queries assigned.
- Prepares formal responses during and after the audit.
- Instructs records personnel in the retrieving of appropriate documentation.
- Maintains audit query records and supporting documentation that pertains to the audit.
- Manages daily banking transactions and documentation
- Prepares monthly cash module entry.
- Oversees administrative personnel on the disbursement of checks.
- Performs other related duties as assigned.

IF YOU MEET THE ABOVE REQUIRMENTS PLEASE EMAIL YOUR CV TO THE FOLLOWING EMAIL ADDRESS. PLEASE NOTE WE WILL ONLY ACCEPT CV'S THROUGH EMAIL SUBMISSION.

JANNAHRECRUITER@Y.NET.YE

ALL CANDIDATES MUST BE YEMENI NATIONALS - DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING YOUR CV FOR THIS POSITION IS March 15TH, 2007.



**VIERA Link**: التقنية الأولى من نوعها في العالم  
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تشغيل سهل



تقنيات فييرا بلازما عالية الوضوح مع ميزة وصلة فييرا الخاصة يمكن الآن أن تقول وداعاً للتكاملات المتعددة المتشابكة. عند وصل الأجهزة المتوافقة مع نظام الوصل فييرا باستخدام كابل HDMI يصبح التشغيل بلمسة واحدة الاتجاهات أمراً ممكناً. وذلك لتسليط عن العاجلة إلى عدة أجهزة تحكم عن بعد لا تشغل فضاء المسكن.

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- ميزة إعادة عرض تقنية السينما المنزلية بلمسة واحدة
- ميزة إعادة عرض تقنية DIGA بلمسة واحدة

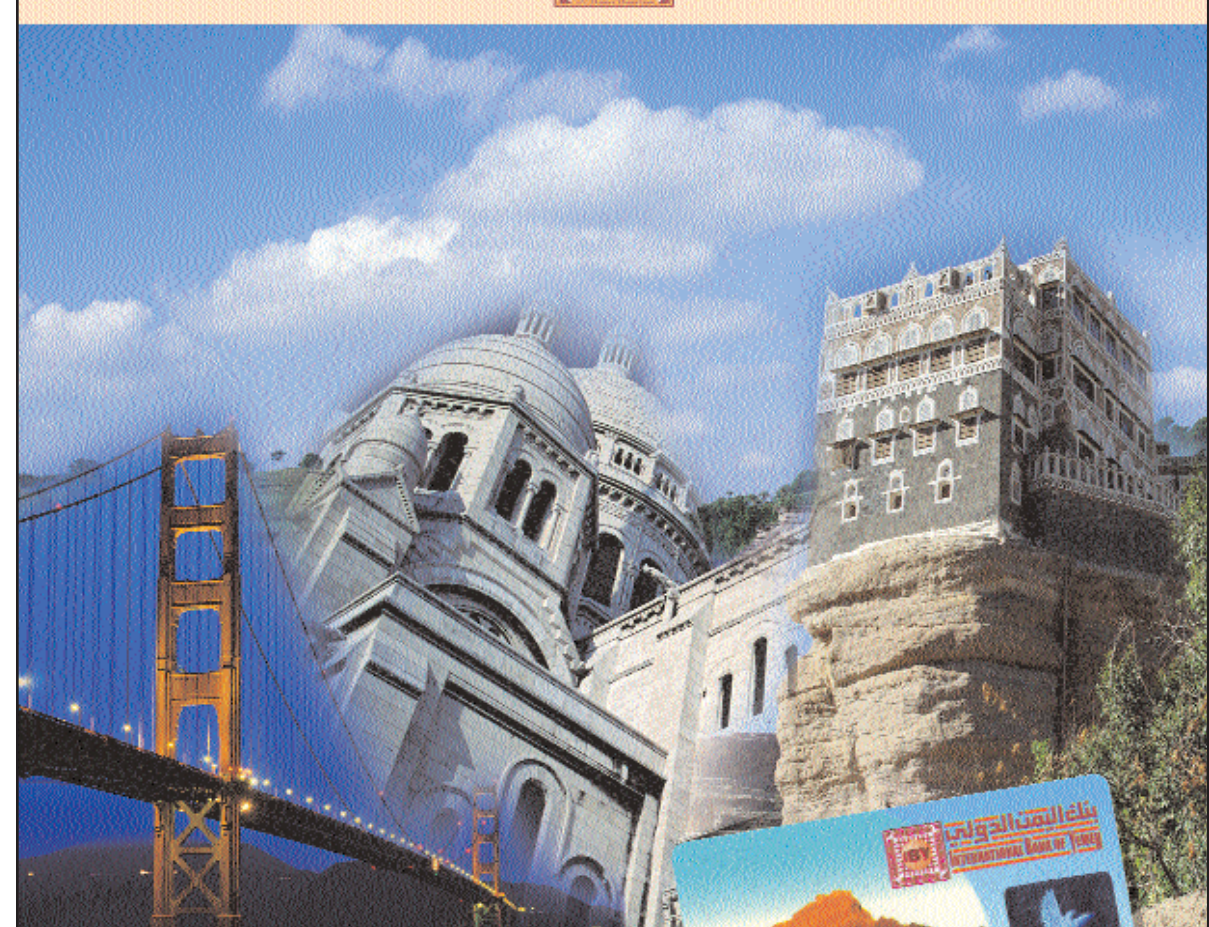
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# JOB VACANCIES

## 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 on the Gulf of Aden 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 who will construct and manage the project.

**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 April 2007 will have been unsuccessful on this occasion.

**All candidates applying for these posts must be Yemeni nationals**

**Job Title:** SAP BASIS Administrator - Ref No. 132 **Work Location:** Sana'a  
**Reports to:** Head of Information Systems Technology

**Duties & Responsibilities:**

- Manage all local environments for SAP R/3 and BW and provide BASIS support: backup, restore\ recovery, reboots and disaster management.
- Create SAP client copies and refresh training environment when needed
- Log and execute transport orders from one environment to another environment including OSS notes, support pack application, and technical upgrades
- Monitor and manage hardware\server performance: hardware and technical infrastructure survey and monitoring, installation and troubleshooting, operating system installation, printers and spool management in SAP environment
- Monitor and maintain Oracle Database: Tablespace monitoring and management, Tuning, Database incident and problem management records.
- Test authorization profiles and perform user\authorization activities of end users for both R/3 and BW
- Maintain system security and manage SAP related software: SAP GUI, protection\ anti-virus application, security SAP Routers
- Generate system statistics and monitor Key Performance Indicators to determine system usage and users' licenses and maintain all technical infrastructure related documentation

**Qualifications:**

- Bachelor degree in computer Science (Technical Aspect) or equivalent
- SAP certification in BASIS (essential).
- 5 years experience or more in SAP BASIS administration, preferably in the oil and gas industry
- Hands-on involvement in at least two SAP implementations or upgrades, for the full project life cycle as part of the core SAP project team
- Excellent interpersonal and teamwork skills
- Excellent communication skills both in English and Arabic

**Job Title:** Camp Administrator - Ref No. 133 **Work Location:** 40 km from Balhaf  
**Reports to:** Camp Construction Manager

**Duties & Responsibilities:**

- Maintain the site Yemen LNG personnel register, including the rotation schedule
- Assist in the administration of authorised travel documentation and monthly time sheets.
- Maintain the site Yemen LNG personnel dossiers (visa, passport, work permit etc) and Visitors register and organise on site accommodation.
- Maintain site stationery and personnel equipment allocation records
- Liaise with relevant Joint Venture and Yemen LNG on all IT matters
- Maintain document control of site\ project administration

**Qualifications:**

- Diploma in Business Administration or equivalent
- Minimum of three years' experience in office administration positions
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills, including written and spoken Arabic and English
- Excellent knowledge of Microsoft computer applications
- Strong organisational skills

**Job Title:** Budget & Cost Control Analyst - Ref No. 134 **Work Location:** Sana'a  
**Reports to:** Operations Manager

**Duties & Responsibilities:**

- Prepare Operations budgets and review them with Section Heads
- Allocate / verify Cost Codes within all Operations Sections
- Track monthly commitments and expenditure & analyse Finance Department (Operations) reports
- Liaise with Finance on all issues relating to Operations budgets, costs and expenditure
- Liaise with Balhaf Cost controller on issues relating to budgets, costs and expenditure
- Produce monthly Operations expenditure summaries for Operations Manager and Section Heads of amounts committed in close corporation with Finance
- Provide ad-hoc reports as and when required to Manager and Section Heads

**Qualifications:**

- Degree in accounting or equivalent
- Minimum of three years' experience of budget and cost control, ideally in the oil and gas industry and in multi-venture environment
- Excellent knowledge of Microsoft computer applications and accounting systems.
- Well-organized with excellent analytical skills and the ability to work autonomously but also to assist others in accordance with systematic information management processes
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills, including written and spoken Arabic and English

**Closing Date:**  
**21 March 2007**

[WWW.YEMENLNG.COM](http://WWW.YEMENLNG.COM)

# Watch out, hypocrisy ahead!

By: Salwa Yehia Al-Eryani  
zolahka2003@yahoo.com

None can deny Yemeni life has changed significantly. I expect such changes will not end, even if we try to limit them. We should not panic since change is inevitable in all living and solid things. The point here is why classify change as a negative.

The other day, I was coming home from a friend's house and I passed a small shop only selling cigarettes, chewing gum and soap. On the white wall near the shop, I read the phrase, "Honesty available here." I smiled and then I laughed. The seller meant that he sells honestly and that he is an honest man, but the phrase gave the impression they sold honesty to those who want to buy it.

The idea was worth smiling about. If honesty were a product like cigarettes or chewing gum, who would want to buy it in the first place? In our time, being honest simply means losing friends and those around you, especially your boss. It means losing a certain degree of dignity reached in your career. It means losing happiness and satisfaction while gaining neglect and enmity.

Being honest will cause many to criticize you and describe you as rude, crazy or a foolish philosopher who thinks he can change the world. Think of how many times you swallowed your honesty and instead smiled, lied, complimented, and even thanked. I would like to share some examples that came to mind:

1. A few months ago, everyone was discussing who would be Yemen's next president. Some knew the answer and some wondered, but all were discussing it. Yet the answer had been around for years, so what were the candidates doing and what were they promising? Based on the big "IF", they were promising do such and such, to change this or that if they became president. The very possibility of all this was inconceivable so why were they even saying it in the first place?

Now imagine these candidates as honest. They would admit no one could be president other than the president himself. They would admit citizens would vote, but the result was already settled. Why would well-known thieves of our lands

and public wealth say they would fight against corruption and theft in this country? How could they convince anyone they would work against their own profitable gains? It makes no sense. Why not be honest, admit their guilt and announce they are sorry for what they did. Announce they cannot bear it any longer. What would happen?

Those on the receiving end of this cannot fight corruption either. The first group cannot fight against it because no one fights against their own advantage, and the second group cannot fight it because they are too hungry to take any action. You have to admit, revolutions and demonstrations, even football matches, require full stomachs. It is that simple!

2. One day, as I was coming home from a birthday party with my kids, wearing masks on their faces and hats on their heads, we stopped at a red traffic light. By us, a young girl about 11 years old was covering her face with a heavy white scarf. By the weight of it I doubted she could breathe well under it. She knocked on my car window, but I did not look at her. I had not taken any money with me in my bag to give her. She knocked on the window again, so I looked at her as she nervously motioned for me to open the window, which I did. She held in front of my eyes a small box of medals and said, "Buy one". I replied, "No, thank you".

Without any hesitation, she exploded, yelling, "Why won't you buy one? People tell us not to beg, but when we collect money and buy something to sell, people refuse to buy!" She then naturally lost her temper, threw the whole box of medals in the air, and shouted, "Off!" which made all of the passengers in the cars surrounding us look at us. I was embarrassed. She moved away, the traffic light turned green and all the cars moved forward.

I thought about her with deep sympathy in my heart. She definitely had thought, "These happy people have expensive cars, some the price of a house. Their kids play and eat cake, yet they do not give us one riyal! How cruel!" Honestly, no one can blame her.

If this angry, hungry girl were honest, would she say to those inside brand new cars, "Why won't you help me? It is not your money but the money of the Yemeni people?" These thieves, who sometimes receive such cars as a gift, pay nothing for

them. A signature will do!

How could anyone blame this girl if she chose to go in a car with a stranger? She does not want to sell her body and she does not want to see the car from inside; but she needs to eat - nothing more and nothing less.

3. At a wedding last summer, a young boy entered the wedding hall clutching in his hand small strips of paper, which he handed out to our row of women. We read them. It explained his father was a truck driver who lost his leg in a car accident and his mother was sick. It mentioned he had six brothers and sisters, and was the oldest earning a living.

The boy looked clean but very humble and it was clear that his father had been a truck driver only a few months earlier. An accident changes life from acceptable to hellish. We all gave him what we could and he took his strips of paper again and turned to move away. One of the attending women, well known for her wealth and authority, called to him loudly, so he returned and stood in front of her.

She began searching for money in several bags: one was for her Qat; one was for her veil, scarf and coat; one smaller bag was for her mobile; a long shaped bag was for each of her shoes, with the shoe bag divided into two spaces, and one bag was empty, as I guessed, was her head. Those bags were gems.

Because her search took a long time, the boy was embarrassed and started to get extremely shy. In my opinion, keeping him waiting for such a long time was an insult. We were all examining him from head to toe and his eyelashes fluttered nervously.

Although it was not me awaiting money from this woman, I felt just as bad. What is she looking for all this time? (It took her about half an hour.) Why does not she let him go? Is she going to give him \$100 or recommend him to a job, earning a monthly salary? Poor child was already squeezing his wet strips of paper.

I could not stand him standing there any longer. I was about to ask him to leave, when she asked him loudly, "Do you have YR 500?" He nodded and gave her the YR 500 he had collected from all of us. In return, she gives him a YR 1,000 bill! All that traffic jam for YR 500?!

I remember for just a second our expressions of surprise and disappoint-

ment on our faces. I mean, why not give him the whole YR 1,000? It was not even the price of her daily Qat, which she spits out every day. I am sure it definitely was not the price of her pair of shoes, or even one shoe. How did she have the heart to take YR 500 back from him, a beggar?

After a few minutes, we snap out of our shock, and as usual, the women begin practicing their hypocrisy, smiling at her and telling her that Allah will reward her. Some told her she was kind-hearted, which no one is nowadays. I watched them. How dare they say those things? How dare they convince her of what she had done, was perfect?! This is the reality of women in Yemen! I would like to tell them the woman who took back YR 500 from a beggar, would give you nothing but promises in return!

4. Another Yemeni worth mentioning is the one that says they do not do what they actually do. Those who have fantastic villas with gardens and swimming pools complain they have taken absolutely nothing for their years of service to country and government. They are ones travelling several times a year to Europe or Asia.

These individuals better known for their modern cars, mobiles and plasma TV. Their children own the laptops, iPods, Mp3 players, motorized cars and such. Nevertheless, they tell you they have taken nothing for their years of service and sacrifice in pursuit of the Yemeni good!

They are the ones with long sermons on patience. Sermons on the need to control one's desires according to the urgency. Yet they go crazy if they have a bad flu and are not sent, at the government's expense, to the Mayo Clinic!

These people also burst at the seams when their darling, eldest son finishes high school. After what they have spent, if they do not see their son on a government scholarship to a U.S. university, they will have a stroke and charge both education and medical expenses!

Let us not forget those who build these tremendously imaginative mosques named after them, always talking of a simple life and praying under shaded trees just as in the Prophet Mohammed's time! I mean, come on, what is this?

All I know is in this country the phrase should be, "Honesty does not live here!"

## THROUGH THE MIND'S EYE

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



### When Bodies sing more!

By: Maged Thabet Al-Kholidy

On the airwaves, satellites especially, music channels outnumber the rest. Ordinarily consumers will not object to the increasingly low quality of the products watched on these channels. People rarely consider the pros and cons of watching these channels even on mute. Yet others are seriously the direct or indirect relation between the Arab situation and the aims and objectives of the channels' producers.

Public opinion on one-end claims there is no danger in such channels because they are a reflection of reality. According to them, society is unharmed since the situation presented is similar or worse than what they present. The quality of songs, i.e. words, melodies, singer's voices, no longer counts. It is the singer's age and dancer's quality that counts.

At the other end of the spectrum, opinion is completely against these channels for the social, religious, and moral dangers they may bring. Society, from childhood to adulthood, is influenced, attracted, and tempted by the invariably present female semi-naked body, may lead males to think of nothing more than satisfying sexual desires.

Songs, if they actually could fit the category, are the main "business" contents of these channels. The commercials and the competitions sponsored are for financial sake. Around the clock aired you see the same songs, the same singers with the same required "tempting" teams. No longer evaluated for their words or musical melody, these video songs evaluate the size of protruding parts and dancing skills of women, the "white meat!"

Competitions, with trivial questions, may make money but do not widen your cultural or intellectual horizons. The younger set will spend time burning into them, watching but never listening. It is amazing to see a deaf person fighting to

watch such channels in avid interest.

I do not think it qualifies as art, music, or dance. Dancing is a crafted skill. These videos focus on corporal qualities and proportions. Whatever we call it, it makes no difference. The present situation is nothing more than a mirror of the low quality of man's life. Created by man, these channels directly affect man and vice versa. They show nothing more than the physical and psychological state of affairs for many (especially Arabs) who are just shaking their bodies in front of the western world. They laughed at first, satisfying their morals and principles will always come second.

For those who claim such channels are the reason for much of the backwardness in the people's lives. These videos directly influence mental states and lifestyles for most its audience. These "spicy" songs are attractive to all, especially youth, men and women. It excites and leads into almost unshakable thoughts. They show them what most will not see in their bedrooms at home.

Let us not forget the time and money spent on these videos and broadcasted competitions. But it is a business, where companies spend time and money producing the shows, videos and the commercials that preview these shows. Actually, they have the right because they know well that audience is more interested in these channels rather than pedagogic or news channels.

The blame or advice should be directed at the viewers. It is not a crime to watch them, but one must consider potential harm to society in general. No need to say more, maybe I am wrong. A better solution is to let people judge for themselves. I hope that will be a thoughtful and mindful process.

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

## Universal Crossword

Edited by Timothy E. Parker

### ACROSS

- 1 Foolhardy
- 5 Hot spots
- 9 Beauty
- 13 Sax type
- 14 St. Louis' Gateway, e.g.
- 15 Police squad
- 16 Epee event
- 17 Ring foe
- 18 Put on a new crew
- 19 Start of a quip
- 22 Indiana cheerleader's request
- 23 Realm of Otto I (Abbr.)
- 24 Word with "beginning" or "end"
- 25 Kind of trader
- 26 More than mislead
- 28 Freshwater fishes
- 30 Workout targets
- 31 Exiled dictator Amin
- 33 Name
- 34 Wire measure
- 35 Middle of the quip
- 39 Syringe dosage units, briefly

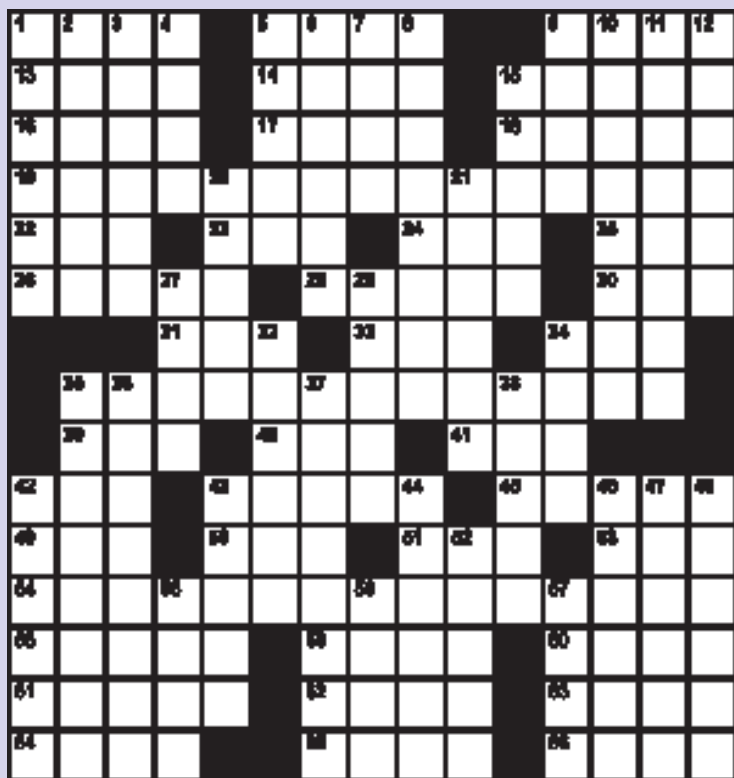
- 40 Long fish
- 41 West Bank org.
- 42 Cold mo.
- 43 Ordnance supplier
- 45 Milk provider
- 49 Greek letter
- 50 "Graphical" start
- 51 Landing abbr.
- 53 Letters from your parents?
- 54 End of the quip
- 58 Actress Irene
- 59 Exam words
- 60 Morales of "NYPD Blue"
- 61 It gives a banana its smell, for one
- 62 "Fudge!"
- 63 Bygone U.S. gas brand
- 64 Capone nemesis
- 65 Nelson or Mary Baker
- 66 Some grasses

### DOWN

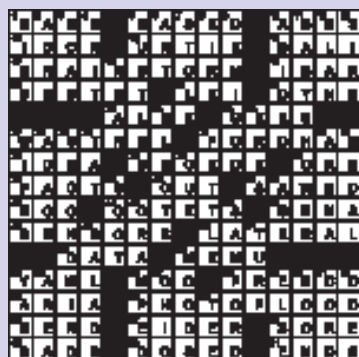
- 1 Tire type

- 2 Grads
- 3 Hardly a one-hit Wonder
- 4 You can dig it
- 5 Forest deity
- 6 Showed to be true
- 7 Land measure
- 8 Faster route, perhaps
- 9 Song for Simon and Garfunkel, e.g.
- 10 Where some crashes take place
- 11 Like Everest, barely
- 12 Sweethearts
- 15 Hillside for Burns
- 20 Old sitcom
- 21 Cyndi Lauper hit
- 27 Tiny and Robbins
- 29 "The Story of \_\_\_ H."
- 32 European peninsula
- 34 Mind-set
- 35 Place for cold storage
- 36 Narrations
- 37 Summer cooler
- 38 Promotional statement
- 42 English poet John
- 43 Dogpatch denizen
- 44 Commentator and former NFL player Ahmad
- 46 Formal, sartorially
- 47 Put in a crate, e.g.
- 48 Sine and cosine, e.g.
- 52 Out of practice
- 55 Singles
- 56 Gridiron unit
- 57 Scoff

### "QUESTIONABLE SKILL" By Robert H. Wolfe



### PREVIOUS PUZZLE ANSWER



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**سيارات**

- مطلوب شراء سيارة نوع بوني تكون في حالة جيدة وبسعر مناسب.
- للتواصل: ٧١٢٤٤٢٥٧٩
- صدام الصبري - بكالوريوس لغة إنجليزية - دورات في مجال الكمبيوتر والانترنت - خبرة في مجال العلاقات العامة - خبرة في المراسلات التجارية والتسويق - يرغب في العمل في أي مجال مناسب.
- للتواصل: ٧١١٨٣.٣٨٥
- محمد عبدالله الزراعي - دبلوم فني (قسم محاسبة) - لديه دورات في اللغة الإنجليزية - خبرة في مجال الحاسوب - يرغب في العمل في أي شركة مناسبة.
- للتواصل: ٧٧٧.٤٣.٠٠٤
- توفيق محمد عبده - مهندس ستالات - يجيد تركيب كل الأعمار العربية والأوروبية والروسية والأسبوية بمهارة عالية - يرغب في العمل في مجال تخصصه.
- للتواصل: ٧٣٣٤٢٤.٠٩٩
- علي سلطان سعيد - دبلوم فني - تخصص كهرباء - خبرة في مجال تسليك المباني وصيانتها لمدة أربع سنوات - خبره في مجال الكهرباء - خبرة في مجال كهرباء وميكانيك اللوحات الإعلانية الثابتة والمتحركة - لديه القدرة على لف المحركات الكهربائية - لديه قدره القدرة على صيانة جميع الأجهزة الكهربائية - يرغب في العمل في أي مجال.
- للتواصل: ٧٣٤٤٠.٥٨٠٣ / ٧٣٣٦٦٩١٤
- محمد عبدالله - دبلوم فني تجارة - دورات فب اللغة الإنجليزية - خبرة في مجال الحاسوب - يرغب في العمل في أي شركة. للتواصل: ٧٧٧.٤٣.٠٠٤

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٢- فيلا ٣ أدوار، ١١ غرفة كبيرة، ٥ حمامات، ٢ مطابخ مع الدواليب، موقف للسيارات، الأصبحي الجديد. الإيجار ٧٠٠ دولار

٣- فيلا جديد، دورين، ٨ غرف، ٤ حمامات، مطبخ، مساحة الأرضية ٢٠ لينة، بيت بوس، بين الخمسين والثلاثين متر. الإيجار ٧٠٠ دولار

٤- فيلا دورين، الأصبحي القديم. الإيجار المطروح ٤٠٠ دولار شهرياً بحاجة إلى تصيانات وتغييرات، مساحة الأرضية ١٧ لينة.

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- عبدالله عمر سعيد - بكالوريوس هندسة نفط (جامعة السودان) - حاصل على درجة الشرف - خبرة جيدة في نظام الهيدروليك والنيوماتيك

للتواصل: ٧١١٨٩١٢٩١

- أديب بشر - بكالوريوس هندسة الكتروليات (قسم اتصالات) - خبرة في تصميم وتركيب الشبكات LAN - خبرة في صيانة الأجهزة الالكترونية والكمبيوتر.
- للتواصل: ٧٧٧٢.٠٩٤٣٠
- ٧١٩٩٦١٢٧
- أديب علي - بكالوريوس هندسة الكتروليات (جامعة اب) - تخصص اتصالات - لديه عدة دورات في مجال السنترالات والتراسل الريفي والشبكات والانترنت/
- للتواصل: ٧٧٦٥٧٤٦٣
- ٧٣٣٢٧٤.٤٨
- ناصر عبد الحبيب - هندسة كهرباء (تخصص حاسبات وتحكم) - يجيد اللغة الإنجليزية - يجيد استخدام كافة برامج الكمبيوتر - يجيد استخدام نظام Oracle
- للتواصل: ٧١١٨٧٣٩٣٣
- 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

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**مستشفيات**

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- المستشفى الجمهوري ت: ٠١-٢٤٣١٦٦/٨/٩
- مستشفى حدة الأهلي ت: ٠١-٤٣٣٨١
- المستشفى اليمني الألماني ت: ٠١-٤٣٣٨١
- فاكس: ٠١-٤٣٣٨١
- المستشفى الألماني الحديث ت: ٠١-٦٠٠٠٠-٦٠٠٠٠
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- E-mail: felixpene@hotmail.com

**فنادق**

- فندق فرساي ت: ٠١-٤٣٣٧٠/٧
- فندق شيراتون ت: ٠١-٢٣٧٥٠
- فندق موفينيك ت: ٠١-٥٤٦٦٦
- فندق تاج سبا ت: ٠١-٢٣٣٧٣
- فندق ويلكس ان ت: ٠١-٤٤٤٨٧
- فندق وأجنحة الخليج السياحي ت: ٠١-٦٣٣٥٠-٦٣٣٥٠

**معاهد**

- معهد يالي ت: ٤٤٨-٣٧/٣٤-٤٤٨-٣٧
- معهد اللغة الألمانية ت: ٢٠٠٩٤٥
- المعهد البريطاني للغات والكمبيوتر ت: ٣٦٦٣٣
- فاكس: ٥١٤٧٥٥
- معهد كاروكوس ت: ٥٣٤٤٤/٥
- معهد ألكس ت: ٥١-٦١٢-٢٤٠-٨٣٣
- معهد ألكس ت: ٣٦٥٣٧

**شركات للتأمين**

- الوطنية للتأمين ت: ٢٧٧١٣/٢٧٧٨٣
- مأرب للتأمين ت: ٢٠-٦١٢٧/١٣
- الشركة اليمنية الإسلامية للتأمين وإعادة التأمين ت: ٢٨٤٨٣
- صناعات ت: ٢٤٤٨٠
- عدن ت: ٣٥٨٨١
- شركة اليمن للتأمين ت: ٢٧٧٨-٦٧٧٧٣/٢٧٧٨٣
- عدن ت: ٢٤٧١٧
- تغر ت: ٣٥٠٢٤٥

**مدارس**

- مدارس صناعات الدولية ت: ٣٧-١٩٣
- مدرسة الزكية الدولية ت: ٤٤٣٥٨/٩
- مدرسة المعاهد اليمنية ت: ٢٠-٦١٥٩
- مدرسة رينبو ت: ٤٤٠-٣٦٤٤-٤٤٣

**مصرفيات**

- السيم للسفريات ت: ٣٧-٧٥٠
- العالمية للسفريات والسياحة ت: ٤٤١١٥٨/٦٠

**مطاعم**

مطعم ومخبازة الشيباني (باسم محمد عبده الشيباني)  
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- الطفلة ١٩١، طوارئ المياه ١٧١،
- الاستعلامات ١١٨، حوادث (الموتور) ١٩٤،
- الشؤون الخارجية ٢٠٢٥٤٤/٧، الشؤون الداخلية ٢٥٣٧-١٧، الهجرة ٢٥٠٧٦١/٣، وزارة المواصلات (تلفون) ٧٥٣٣٠٢،
- الإقامة ٢٨٢٠٦١، التلفزيون ٣٣٠٠١٢،
- مؤسسة الباصات للنقل داخل المدن ٢٦٣١١١/٣،
- وزارة المواصلات للنقل داخل الساحة ٢٥٤-٣٢،
- المطيلب الأحمر ٢٠٢٣١٢/٣، تلمين ٧٥٣٢٣٧

**البنوك**

- البنك التجاري ت: ٣٧٣٣٤ فاكس: ٣٧٣٣١
- مصرف اليمن البحرين الشامل ت: ٣٦٧٥٥, ٣٦٧٥٠
- فاكس: ٣٦٧٥٠, ٣٦٧٥٠
- بنك اليمن الدولي ت: ٠١-٤٧٠٣٠
- البنك العربي ت: ٠١-٧٧٥٥٥٤
- بنك التسليف الزراعي ت: ٠١-٥٣٣١٣
- البنك المركزي ت: ٠١-٣٧٤٣٤

**تأجير سيارات**

- زاوية (Budget) ت: ٠١-٦٣٣٧-٠١-٦٣٣٧ فاكس: ٢٤-١٥٨
- يورب كار ت: ٣٧-٧٥١ فاكس: ٣٧٠٨٠
- هيرتز لتأجير السيارات صضاء ت: ٠١-٤٤٣٠٩
- فرع شيراتون ت: ٥٥٩٨٥
- عدن ت: ٠٢-٢٤٥٦٢٥

**مراكز تدريب وتعليم الكمبيوتر**

أبتك لتعليم الكمبيوتر (تركيز على الانترنت، مناهج، تجارة إلكترونية) شهادة ايزو ١.

- صناعات ت: ٠١-٤٣٣٠٥
- فاكس: ٠١-٤٧٤١٩
- عدن ت: ٣٧٧١٩٩
- تغر ت: ٤٠٢٥-٢٤٣
- المكلا ت: ٥٠٢-٧٤٩

Infinet Education T: 444553  
NIIT لتعليم الكمبيوتر ت: ٤٤٥٥١/٧-٤٤٣-٧٣

**البريد السريع**

صناعات ت: ٤٤٠١٧٠/٧٧  
الحدیده ت: ٢٤٩٨٣  
إب ت: ٤١١٨٨٨  
المكلا ت: ٣٠٣٦٤١  
شبهه ت: ٢٠٣٣٦٦  
سيئون ت: ٤٠٢٤٦٩

DHL: 441099/8/7/6  
ARAMEX إرامكس صضاء ت: ٤٤٠٢٤/٥

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عنوان التواصل:

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

## Jewelry discovery among National Museum antiquities

By: Abdulaziz Al-Jindari

Classical historians wrote about the excessive richness ancient Yemeni kingdoms enjoyed. They described their homes' ceilings as being adorned with gold due to their dominance over the spice trade, whose prices were very high at that time because they were used in performing religious rituals.

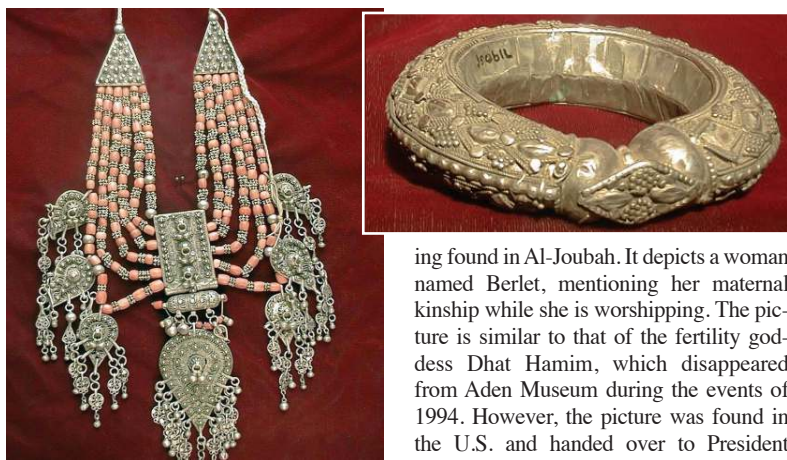
Despite such luxury and richness, as well as an abundance of mines from which minerals and gold were extracted, archeological exploration implemented by both Yemeni and foreign missions didn't yield large quantities of gold. According to Hamid Khalifa, Museum staff discovered gold antiquities are scarce in Yemen because they were melted down and reformed, particularly during the Islamic era.

A Yemeni citizen recently unearthed a treasure including various types of necklaces, rings, earrings and bracelets, as well as other gold pieces, while he was digging in his yard in Al-Jawf's Hamdan district, where one of the ancient Yemeni kingdoms flourished. This kingdom left behind numerous archeological traces, such as cities, temples, walls and palaces.

The discovery was brought to Sana'a and a special committee, including this writer, was formed to check them. The committee met at the National Museum and the pieces were carefully checked and studied with the help of an Italian archeologist working for the Italian archeology mission in Yemen. Additionally, the committee consulted several goldsmiths in the Old City of Sana'a.

After extensive study and comparison to similar types of jewelry existing on some ancient Yemeni artifacts and inscriptions, the committee concluded that the pieces belonged to a very important woman dating back to the first century B.C.

Aware of the precious collection's



In the past, Yemeni women used to wear necklaces made of silver and coral and they preferred to wear bracelets made of silver.

importance, together with pieces from elsewhere, President Ali Abdullah Saleh directed the National Museum to buy the pieces and add them to the museum's holdings.

All of the pieces were documented and photographed and each piece was given a separate ID, including all of the necessary information regarding its description, weight, dimensions, the source and the date it was housed in the museum. The pieces are exhibited in a special safe within the Ma'een Kingdom Hall in the pre-Islamic department.

### The jewelry collection contains:

- A necklace made up of 28 conical pieces connected by small chains. In the middle are two large pieces linked with two different-shaped loops. There are animal inscriptions on the large pieces, including an ibex's head, eyes, mouth, ears and nose. The ibex's horns are long and bent toward the back. In the middle of the necklace is a circular piece made of precious stones. This necklace is important because it's a copy of one worn by a woman in a paint-

ing found in Al-Joubah. It depicts a woman named Berlet, mentioning her maternal kinship while she is worshipping. The picture is similar to that of the fertility goddess Dhat Hamim, which disappeared from Aden Museum during the events of 1994. However, the picture was found in the U.S. and handed over to President Saleh, who in his turn gave it back to Aden National Museum.

- A collection of plain, circular-shaped bracelets of various sizes; however, their ends are decorated.
- A collection of earrings, including two oval pieces connected by a curled chain ending in two semi-circular pieces with different types of decorations. There's also a rectangular piece with circular decorations in the middle and at the edges.
- A collection of short chains shaped like hair curls. The front side ends in an ibex's head with its horns bent toward the back.
- A gold ring with an oval center.
- A circular gold ring with an indented center and raised edges.
- A collection of robes made of precious stones and including various decorations ranging from man-like shapes to a man's head. They are framed with gold.
- A collection of small cylindrical gold pieces ending in dome-shaped circles with connected by small chains.
- A group of small gold pieces of various sizes and shapes.
- Another group of various-shaped gold pieces, such as conical, cylindrical, domed, etc.

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