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Al-Ahdal wins medal for second stage in "One Million Poet" contest



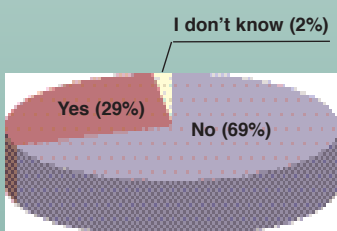
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Readers' Voice

Last edition's question:

Do you think that the regime will allow electing governors?



This edition's question:

Do you think Shaif Al-Haimi will be rearrested after his statement that he was tortured by National Security?

-Yes
-No
-I don't know

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

Sulfis recruited to fight Houthis Sa'ada war escalates

By: Mohammed bin Sallam

SA'ADA, April 29 – A tribal source mentioned that fierce confrontations are escalating between Yemeni government forces and Houthi followers in Sa'ada, located some 245 km. north of Sana'a, leaving hundreds killed or injured daily.

It added that the governorate's hospitals no longer are capable of holding the increasing number of victims among soldiers and their supporters from Sulfis and tribal fighters, while Houthis receive no medical attention. The sources questioned the role of Doctors without Borders and the Red Cross organization, which are absent from scene, as well as the weak role of the Yemeni Red Crescent organization in Sa'ada.

Sources also mentioned that Yemeni army forces supported by helicopters and fighters still are attacking areas where Houthis exist, especially Dhahian city, which has been the scene of the fiercest and longest clashes between the two sides since the war began. The Yemeni army also is attempting to seize Bani Mu'ath district's Fakawah Shi'eb, where Houthis have their largest camp.

Helicopters are bombarding Razih district north of Sa'ada, particularly as Houthis are centered in the district's



This mountainous area of Razih has rocked by heavy bombardment by the government forces. Inset: Mortar shells collected by locals.



government buildings in Al-Qal'ah area. Army forces continue their attacks on Houthis on Burkan Mountain.

Sources also revealed that Yemeni army forces withdrew to Al-Dhai'ah area due to strong resistance by Houthis, as well as to enable armed helicopters and mortars to secure the

way leading to Razih, which Houthis had occupied by the start of this week.

Further, Al-Talh, Al-Saifi and several areas near Magz witnessed violent battles late Saturday evening and Sunday morning; however, neither side's losses have been identified.

"Sahar's Al-Sanarah and Al-Ablah Mountains also witnessed similar clashes, as large numbers of Houthi loyalist were seen last Saturday in mountains near Al-Ablah Mountain, so army forces bombarded the mountain last Friday with mortars and Katyusha missiles," a source reported.

Confrontations between both warring sides are ongoing in Bani Mu'ath, killing and injuring large numbers of fighters. Moreover, a helicopter waged an air raid on Houthis centered on Sabr Mountain.

Al-Thawri case adjourned

By: Ismail Al-Ghabri

SANA'A, April 29 — On Saturday, the Press and Printing Prosecution adjourned the investigation of a case the Ministry of Defense brought against the Yemeni Socialist Party-affiliated Al-Thawri newspaper for publishing an article and photographs dealing with the Sa'ada conflict.

The Defense Ministry claimed the photos were fabricated and from the Iraqi war, not Sa'ada. It also criticized journalist Abed Al-Mahthari's article entitled, "Ezrail's (the Death Angel) Kingdom," accusing him of seeking to disturb public order.

Because Al-Thawri Editor-in-Chief Abu Bakr Abdulraziq Badheeb didn't attend the session, prosecution only investigated Al-Mahthari and then adjourned until May 5. In its lawsuit, the

Defense Ministry requested arresting Al-Mahthari and Badheeb and referring them to the appropriate court, in addition to halting the newspaper's publication.

Al-Mahthari assured that the accusations against him are baseless, noting that the lawsuit simply is the military institution's attempt to suppress press freedom. The charges come within the framework of an authority-imposed media blackout concerning the more than three month long escalating Sa'ada war, wherein inhumane crimes are on the increase.

Also editor-in-chief of Al-Diyyar newspaper, which the Ministry of Information withdrew from the market months ago, Al-Mahthari was sentenced on March 11 to a year in prison for his opinions.



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Citizen referred to court for accusing police of torture

By: Mohammed Al-Jabri

SANA'A, April 28 — On Saturday, the Specialized Penal Prosecution referred Shaif Al-Haimi's case to the Sana'a Penal Court to try him on charges of theft and practicing vice, the Ministry of Defense web site has reported.

The decision was made after an official National Security source refuted Al-Haimi's statements that police tortured and beat him.

The source said Al-Haimi and his colleague Ahmed Al-Sairafi were arrested on charges of forming "a dangerous gang" practicing robbery, vice and impersonating officers from National Security and the Criminal Investigation Bureau.

"Al-Haimi's claims that he was tortured while being investigated at National Security reflect his abnormal and depraved behavior," the source said, adding that the National Security apparatus has the right to sue him.

According to the source, Al-Haimi and Al-Sairafi stormed into a capital city apartment on Nov. 2, 2006, claiming to be National Security officers, and confiscated property. Security authorities arrested Al-Haimi, who Penal Prosecution sent to National Security for investigation. There, his friend Al-Sairafi confessed to the crimes they committed together.

The national security officer further noted that because Al-Haimi began shouting and kicking doors, the officer in charge of detention shackled his hands. "Al-Haimi injured his hands intentionally and poured hot water on his own body in order to cause burns," he reported.

At a symposium organized last Monday by human rights groups and civil society organizations, Al-Haimi



Shaif Al-Haimi

disclosed his ordeal during his month-long detention at National Security, being accused of stealing a police officer's mobile phone.

Al-Haimi alleged that seven National Security police officers arrested him at midnight and led him blindfolded to detention on charges of stealing a mobile phone belonging to one of them.

"As I cried out in pain, investigators increasingly beat me. When I cried out with thirst, they doused me with cold water, forcing me to be silent. While I was crying in pain, they brought a bottle full of urine and forced me to drink it and then pour some on my head. They even put a bar of soap in my mouth and tied it. Many times, they put a shoe into my mouth while beating me with thick military shoes, which made me go deaf in my left ear," Al-Haimi recounted to the group last Monday.

Continued on page 2

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In brief

SANA'A

International symposium disabuses safe means for dealing with Electromagnetic radiations

April 30 — the International Symposium on Safe Means for Dealing with Electromagnetic Radiation (ISS-MDER) is concluded today (Monday). The symposium, which started last Saturday, is the first of its kind in Yemen that focuses on the safe way to be followed when dealing with radiation in Yemen. Minister of Telecommunications and Information Technology Kamal Aljabri pointed out that the symposium will shed lights on the latest information and research regarding the optimal use of this technology on the regional and international level.

About 120 Yemeni, Arabic, and foreign experts are participating in the symposium, which is organized by Ministry of Telecommunications and Information Technology and sponsored by the telecommunications companies (TeleYemen, Yemen Mobile, MTN Yemen, and Sabafon) discusses number of work papers on health and environmental effects of electromagnetic radiation as well as biological influences of them.

VP Receives Canadian medical team

April 29 — Vice President Abdu-Rabu Mansour Hadi received on Saturday the Canadian medical team that is specialized in cancer diseases, headed by Marten Repson, who is currently visiting Yemen to carry out surgical operations for the stricken with cancer tumor. The visit aims to discuss facilitations to establish five specialized centers to treat cancer tumors in different Yemeni governorates.

Hadi was briefed by the Canadian team on the results of its visit to Hadhramout as well as discussions over establishing cancer tumors center in Mukalla.

SHABWA

YR 30 millions allocated for projects

April 29 — Shabwa deputy governor Ali bin Rashid discussed on Saturday, with the technical officer of the US embassy in Sana'a, the mechanism of allocating and implementing basic development projects, which will be granted this year by the US embassy to Shabwa Governorate, according to priority in terms of actual needs.

The YR 30-million-worth US aids are divided into urgent and planned aids, and allocated for public health, education, agriculture, and irrigation sectors. The meeting reviewed new directions of US aids, and stressed that offices concerned need to list and locate required projects.

ADEN

New books to children rights society's library

April 27 — The Children Rights Society in Aden could get more 5000 different titles, head of the society Abdullah Noaman said. The new books are for the library of the society's clinic that offers free treatment services for limited-income people in Aden. He said that almost 50% of Aden children visit the library to get different information. He added that the local authority repaired and extended the clinic with YR 25 million to include more sections for expecting women, eye diseases, pharmacy and laboratory, pointing that the society has a plan to establish a unit to provide food for children who suffer malnutrition.

The society's plan will include field visits to secondary schools and delivering lectures on reasons of AIDS/HIV and protection against it in cooperation with the National Population Council.

HAJJAH

Studies to setting up tourist resort in Yemen

April 26 — A delegation of Canada's Chemical Vapour Metal Refining Inc. (CVMR) has studies possibilities of setting up a tourist resort in Maidi islands. The delegation of the company held on Thursday a meeting with Hajjah governor Mohammed al-Harazi over natural features of the islands and possibilities of building the resort in one of the Maidi islands which enjoy international standards, at a total cost of \$ 150 million. Al-Harazi pointed out to the factors of investment in the governorate, voicing readiness of the governorate to offer all aspects of support to enable companies to carry out their investments successfully.

Camran Khozan, president and chief executive officer of CVMR said that the aim of the visit is to finalize studies over the project. He said that the project would create jobs for locals.

Hundreds of demonstrators demand arresting Qusailah killers

SANA'A, April 29— Some Members of Parliament together with many sheikhs and hundreds from Al-Mahweet governorate congregated before Presidency Palace in Al-Sabaen in protest against non-arrest of those who killed Col. Ali Mahmoud Qusailah, head of Criminal Investigation office in Mareb after being trapped by the end of the last month by unknown people.

Hamoud Qusailah, Col. Ali's father, pointed out the end behind such demonstration is to ask authorities to arrest those responsible for killing his son and accused the state of being impaired. He further noted that the demonstration will continue until the killers are arrested. He also added that President Saleh promised to arrest killers within twenty days.

Hamoud elaborated that his son was in an official task and delegated by high ranking officials to perform it; however, he did not reveal the nature of this task.

Sheikh Hamoud Qutainah asserted the demonstration will continue until their demands are met by state represented in arresting those involved, maintaining "this is the aim for which we are peacefully demonstrating."

Demonstrators' media committee set strict rules for them to follow including asking the demonstrators not to bear any firearms and to follow the instruc-



Sheikhs raise Qusailah photos in protest against non-arrest his killers.

tions of the organizing committees as well as standing in those places meant for that end.

Ali Qusailah, from Bait Qusailah in Al-Mahweet's Dhul' Kawkaban, was born in 1964 in the Capital. He is married and has got five children. He graduated from Police Academy, batch 23. He assumed many security posts in the Capital. In 2001, he was appointed as head of Mareb's Criminal Investigation Department and assistant chairman of Mareb's security department. He received many training courses including a course on anti money laundering in France, an other one on anti terrorism

in US and on Crisis Management in Saudi Arabia.

The National Organization for Defending Rights and Freedoms, known as HOOD, demanded Interior Ministry to investigate the circumstances of Qusailah's killing as well as Maj. Saleh Taisan, head of Al-Matemah district security department in Al-Jawf governorate.

It also stressed the importance of quickly arresting those accused of committing the crimes in order to meet the fair punishment so as not to make security soldiers and officers subjected to assassinations.

European Film Festival for first time in Hodeidah

SANA'A, April 29 — The German Embassy in Sana'a announced that the 11th European Film Festival will run from May 5 to 31, 2007.

"After more than a decade, the Festival has grown into a large and attractive event - joining many Yemeni and European partners, and thus reflecting the idea of European diversity in unity. While the Festival started in Sana'a, it later expanded to Aden, and will now be presented in Hodeidah for the first time," said the embassy in a press release issued on Saturday.

The Festival is organized by the Embassies and Cultural Agencies of eight European Union member states, the

Delegation of the European Union Commission, the Embassy of Turkey, and the Ministry of Culture.

According to the embassy, nine current European films will be shown from nine different countries, representing a variety of genres and topics. There are touching documentaries, like the Spanish film "On The Other Side" about Muslim immigrants in Spain, or the German film "Rhythm Is It!" covering an exciting youth music project in Berlin. There are films reflecting issues highly debated in Europe, like the Dutch film "The Assault", the film from France, "Divine Intervention", or the Czech contribution, "Dark Blue World". There is also some

comedy on offer in the film chosen by the Delegation of the European Union Commission: "Big Plans". Dramatic stories like "Lovelom" come from Turkey and from Italy there is "100 steps". A literary adaptation based on a novel by the famous author Jane Austen, PRIDE AND PREJUDICE, hails from the United Kingdom.

All films will be shown in their original language with subtitles in Arabic or English.

Each film will be introduced by a member of staff of the respective Embassy or Cultural Agency. All films start at 8pm and the facilities have been chosen in order to welcome families.

Government and private sector agree on tax sales' mechanism

SANA'A, April 28 — The government of Yemen and private sector last week reached an agreement on activating tax sales according to a new mechanism that satisfies both sides and complies with the commercial conditions for the private sector.

Chairman of Taxes Authority Ahmed Ghaleb said the mechanism, which will be effective until 2008, takes into consideration the state's rights in taxes by 5 percent according to the Customs mechanism. The mechanism will also

work on decisions made by ministry of traded on taxes according to the law, he added.

Both government and private sectors have agreed on forming a joint committee to follow up implementing the new mechanism and find solutions to tariff, commercial cheating, and customs' fraud. They also agreed to form another committee to set a national strategy to combat smuggling of goods. Also, the two sides agreed to review investment and trade laws as well as ways to

eliminate investment obstacles.

"The agreement took into consideration eliminating all worries and reservations of the businessmen and traders and enabling Taxes Department to collect the state's public revenues in a transparent way," Ghaleb said.

Ghaleb further noted that the Taxes Authority reached an agreement with representatives from the General Federation for Commercial and Industrial Chambers regarding implementing the new mechanism.

Guard critically injured in Taiz

TAIZ, April 29 — An exchange of fire between bike drivers caused a serious injury to Mansour Abdulkhaleq, a guard affiliated with Ahmed Abdullah Al-Shaibani Group of Companies, last Wednesday.

As soon he came out to see what is going on, he was shot three times in his neck and he was rushed to a nearby hospital.

Many citizens declared that bike drivers, under the effect of alcohol,

used to terrify citizens and randomly fire their guns against citizens or among themselves if they are in difference.

Beir Al-Wafi community chief accused security of remissness. Also, he pointed out that two of the perpetrators were arrested; while the other two are still at large. Aymen Jamil, 13, told Yemen Times that the perpetrators pointed their pistols at his head accusing him of informing the police about them.

Police Attackers referred to military judiciary

SANA'A, April 28 — Local sources said Saturday security authorities have finished investigations into an attack against military police personnel that occurred two weeks ago in the capital city of Sana'a.

Investigations show that armed men used thirty six weapons and five military vehicles in their attack against the police.

40 armed men attacked a group of military police who were guarding a piece of land in west Sana'a, killing three and injuring one. The armed men belong to Abdul-Latif Al-Dhaneen, whose father is the Commander of the South Military Area. The police fought back and killed three attackers and injured another three, including Al-Dhaneen.

The police were guarding the land on the directive of President Ali Abdullah Saleh.

According to preliminary information, the 20 accused have been sent to Military Prison, while another three are receiving medical treatment as they were injured in the attack. Another accused managed to run away.

The land belongs to Sheikh Khalifa Bin Zaid, President of the United Arab Emirates. Diplomatic sources said the UAE embassy in Sana'a submitted a cession of the land and its documents to the state should it lead to violence and fighting. Other sources, however, said the land belongs to the head of Sheikh Khalifa's Office.

Drunkard attacks citizens and property



A policeman stands beside the car that was broken.

TAIZ, April 29 — Jawher Ali Jawher went on a drunken rampage, in which he fired random shots from his pistol last Saturday morning in Hawth Al-Asharaf zone, Taiz. He also attacked a telecommunication center owned by Abdulraman Al-Naqib, causing damages to the center's cabinet and front door.

Further, he attacked a car belonging to Wadhah Al-Kuhali and broke its rear and

front windscreen. He also fired at a police vehicle at Al-Hawdh intersection.

Eye witnesses mentioned the perpetrator was heavily drunk. Jawher has previous convictions; but has managed to escape detention because of mediation.

The victims demanded judicial authorities arrest the perpetrator in order to stop his attacks against citizens.

Continued from page 1

Sa'ada war

"Last Saturday morning, Houthis attacked Al-Sanarah and Al-Ablah military sites inside Sa'ada city using mortar shells. This is the second time confrontations have expanded into the governorate's capital," a source noted.

The Houthi attack on the two military sites was timed to coincide with President Ali Abdullah Saleh's meeting with Sa'ada Sufi preachers before Friday prayer, a step observers understood as a cover for continuing the war and holding scholars accountable for such a decision.

The Yemeni Armed Forces-affiliated 26September.net web site reported that several military units managed to seize two areas previously controlled by Houthis. It added that military forces forced Houthis out of Bani Mu'ath area. Many fled to nearby areas and some surrendered. Government forces also seized large quantities of weapons and munitions, as well as cars used by Houthis in that area.

The web site went on to say that clashes are ongoing in some areas neighboring Razih and Qataber districts and that the Yemeni army aims to take full control of both districts.

President Saleh announced the Yemeni government's determination to halt the Houthi movement led by Badraddin Al-Houthi, indicating that the only option left for Houthis is to surrender and hand over their weapons to government authorities.

"We have assured many times that Houthi loyalists have no way out except to surrender their arms and themselves to authorities if they want to escape death and prevent bloodshed," the president said, addressing a group of Sa'ada Sufi scholars.

He added that what Houthis are doing is an abomination that should be terminated because it is harming the nation and citizens' interests, stressing his government's resolution to eliminate Houthis and quell their revolution.

"Resorting to war was imposed upon the state in order to face aggressive Houthi acts. It was necessary for the state to act responsibly to face such elements and force them to abandon their aggressive acts," Saleh maintained.

He went on to say that the slogans Houthis chant are misleading and deceive ignorant elements, thus leading them to death. "By their slogans, they really mean death to the revolution and the republic. They also kill innocent citizens and security and armed forces personnel," the president alleged.

Saleh concluded that scholars should stand against such sedition because it's a national, religious and moral duty, calling on them to

spread awareness among the public and warn them against insurrection against the state.

Agence France-Presse quoted a foreign diplomat as saying, "Over 1,000 Yemeni soldiers have been killed since the war erupted at the end of January."

The diplomat added that, "War is catastrophic. There will be no military solution. At a certain point, the two parties will have to negotiate...but such negotiations may take place after two weeks or 10 years."

Several Arab organizations, mostly Egyptian, have called for halting the war and expressed their concern about human rights violations resulting from excessive use of arms by security and army forces, something occurring under the total media blackout.

These organizations, in collaboration with Yemeni ones, called on President Saleh to end the crisis and allow the media, human rights organizations and international relief agencies to visit the area to determine the situation there and perform their human tasks.

British Intelligent Magazine recently published a report indicating that arms tradesmen, military leaders and Sufi sheikhs are the beneficiaries of the Sa'ada war and that Yemen's political system has joined the rivaling forces to seize state resources.

"Prolonging the war will benefit no one but the ruling and corrupt minority by suspending development reforms demanded by the Gulf Cooperation Council, which finances half of the budget required for the required reforms against \$4.7 billion," the magazine reported.

It added, "By weakening the Zaidi minority, Yemeni armed forces will remove the last obstacle before the Sufi stream to have full control of Yemeni religious and political life."

Media sources from Abyan mentioned that a senior jihadist leader, also affiliated with the ruling General People's Congress party, is supervising the training of more than 10,000 Sufi jihadists amassed from various areas. They are being provided arms to fight side by side with government forces alongside 5,000 others already fighting Houthis in Sa'ada.

The sources added that some Sufi leaders are exerting efforts to recruit extreme Sufis in Ibb, Dhamar and Taiz to fight against Houthi loyalists in Sa'ada.

Further, an Aden-Abyan army leader, described by the U.S. State Department as a jihadist, joined the Sa'ada war in February to fight against Houthis. The regime used same elements as a paramilitary organization during Yemen's 1994 Civil War against the Socialists.



Horia mash'hor, Dalia Anam, and Rmzia Al-Ariani head the symposium.

speaking and hearing impairments, limp, fracture of arms and mental disorders. Based on the survey's results, women are denied the right to work after marriage, particularly in rural and remote areas where there is no enough awareness about human rights and equality.

More than 87 percent of those surveyed said that families are responsible for abuse and violence against women, as 191 of the registered cases, accounting for 35.9 percent of the total sample, complained that they are abused by their husbands while 186 of the registered cases (34.9) told that they are mistreated by their fathers.

Non-family abusers are responsible for 62 abuse cases (11.6 percent), the survey indicated, adding that all the mistreatment and violations are com-

mitted at work by employers or bosses. 11 cases (2.1 percent) were committed by unknown abusers. The authorities including the ruling party, police, and prosecution have a hand in women's mistreatment and sufferings. The survey listed psychological problems, economic, and social deterioration, physical injuries and home eviction as some of consequences associating with violence and mistreatment.

According to women, who complain of abuse and violence, the community culture, poor awareness about women's role and disrespect for women's status are some of the reasons behind the increased numbers of abuse cases. Other causes of violence and mistreatment include the absence of legal institutions as well as alcohol and drug abuses.

Celebrating Yemeni secretaries

By: Fatima Al-Ajel
fatimafnfr@yahoo.com

For the second time, Yemeni firms organized a celebration for secretaries due to a strong belief in the important efforts secretaries do in their work.

In cooperation with several companies, the Sana'a Trade Center arranged a special celebration for the second annual Secretaries Day on Thursday, April 26. Nearly 30 secretaries and firms participated in the celebration. Secretarial work once was the realm of women; however, today finds several men working in these positions.

Secretarial work is a worldwide career, as nearly every office has a secretary, or some may be called "receptionists." Secretaries Day is set aside to thank and appreciate all the hard work that secretaries do for their employers.

Most people consider secretarial work as a female career. Relatively few men become secretaries and only in specific conditions. Although there are both male and female secretaries in many Yemeni companies, only women



Several Yemeni secretaries celebrated the second annual Secretaries Day at the Sana'a Trade Center. This celebration primarily was a reward for Yemen Times staff, but also a good opportunity to thank the newspaper's editor-in-chief, executive secretary Abeer Al-Shami noted.

participated in the Secretaries Day celebration.

Commenting on this, Alina Abdullah, one of the celebration's organizers, said many male secretaries were invited to participate in the celebration, as well as the previous one; however, they refused to share in such occasion. "Next year, we hope male secretaries will agree to participate in the day because it's a career for both

men and women," she mentioned.

Most bosses prefer employing female secretaries because they believe women are more active and organized in their job and that they perform all of the job's responsibilities patiently, as opposed to male secretaries. Because the word secretary is associated more with women, this article will use female pronouns throughout the remainder.

Actually, a secretary is considered a mirror of a company, as she reflects its appearance in every aspect. Nowadays, many office specialists identify secretarial work as an administrative assistant because he or she often steps in for the boss during his absence.

Keys for a successful and qualified secretary

A secretary must possess several char-

acteristics in order to be successful at her job. At the celebration, Abdulkhaliq Hojairah, a specialist and lecturer from Al-Najah magazine, reviewed several keys that make a successful secretary, focusing on those skills that help an executive secretary to rehabilitate and improve herself in her field.

The word secretary is derived from the word secret; thus, maintaining confidentiality is the main quality a secretary must possess, after which everything else easily can be trained. A tactful and active secretary increases a company's customer base and reflects a good reputation about the company.

On their job applications, many firms request a secretary know at least two languages and be experienced in using modern technical communication tools, such as a computer.

Participant Adnan Al-Sadah presented nearly 30 tips on secretarial telephone skills, noting, "Every secretary must know how to deal with the phone because it's the most important communication tool used on the job, both now and in the past."

Administrative Professionals Day, formerly known as Secretaries Day, is observed worldwide on the third or fourth Wednesday in April. Harry F. Klemfuss of the Philadelphia marketing firm Young & Rubicam created Administrative Professionals Week and National Secretary's Day in 1952 in recognition of such position's importance and value to a firm and to encourage more women to become secretaries.

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HITS-Unitel a telecommunication company is pleased to announce vacancies for both male and female candidates to fill the below positions in:

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Position	Reference
Customer Service representatives	CS-03-07
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RF Planning Engineers	EN-06-07
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YAMAN

Request for Expressions of Interest Monitoring and Evaluation

Basic Education Development Project
IDA Credits& Multi Donors, Trust Funds.

This request for expressions of interest follows the General Procurement Notice for this Project that appeared in the Development Business dated November, 2006. The Ministry of Education (MOE), Republic of Yemen has received a credit from the International Development Association (IDA) and Multi-Donors Trust Funds towards the cost of the Basic Education Development Project and intends to apply part of the proceeds of this to payments under the contract for the above-mentioned consulting service.

The Project Administration Unit now invites eligible Consultants (Firms) to indicate their interest in providing the above mentioned Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) consultancy services. Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services profiles, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills, etc.).

The main objective of this technical assistance is to: Assist in the enhancement of planning capacity and of implementation effectiveness of education system at all levels. The consultant, also, will help MoE in developing and implementing an M&E system that is effective, comprehensive, integral and standard in education sector. Consultants also, will help MoE to build capacity of MoE in the relevant departments, in by providing skill training, structuring of an M&E system.

The selection of the consultants will be in accordance with the procedure set out in the World Bank's Guidelines: "Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers, May 2004" Interested consultants may obtain further information during working days Sat.-Wed. From 10:00 AM to 12:00 noon at the address below to which the expression of interest must be delivered by May 15, 2007.

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60 m Southern Rd. -Bait Meyad
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EXTERNAL VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 03/07

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) invites applications from qualified Yemeni nationals for the following position:

Title: Programme Officer
Level: National Officer Category – B
Type of Contract: Temporary Fixed Term
Duty station: Sana'a
Duration: One year with possibility for extension.

Under the supervision of UNICEF Child protection and HIV/AIDS Specialist, the programme officer is expected to undertake the following tasks:

1. Participate in the formulation and development of programme goals, strategies and approaches for the UNICEF plan of cooperation. Plan, implement and monitor assigned activity.
2. Participate with UNICEF/Government/and other partners in the development of strategies. Methodologies and identification of new approaches for improving programme expansion with emphasis on community participation through the community based interventions and child centred initiatives.
3. Review and evaluate the technical institutional and financial feasibility and constraints of child protection projects in coordination and collaboration with Government and other national and international partners.
4. Provide technical support to Government and Non-Government Organizations at the national, governorate and district levels in the planning, development and implementation stages of the Child Protection programme. Plan and conduct training activities for national and sub-national Government personnel for the purpose of capacity building at central and regional levels and expansion of coverage of services
5. Undertake field visits and surveys to monitor and evaluate project implementation, identify problems and propose remedial action. Identify alternative courses of action to accelerate/improve programme delivery.
6. Assist in the development of the work plan for the sector and monitor compliance to ensure objectives and targets are met and achieved
7. Coordinate with Operations/Supply staff on supply and none-supply assistance activities. Approve where applicable, disbursement of funds related to Education ensuring proper liquidation and accountability, and that activities are within established plans of action and the programme budget allotments.
8. Exchange information/ideas with other programme sectors to contribute to achievement of overall country programme objectives. Participate in establishing effective monitoring, information and reporting systems. And in the development of communication materials and strategies to support advocacy and community participation

Qualifications and Skills Required:

- Advanced university degree in social sciences, administration or anthropology
- Minimum of three years work experience in similar position
- Experience/preparedness working in an international, intercultural team
- Fluent in English and Arabic languages
- PC literate with good command of all MS-Office standard applications
- Flexible, open minded, highly motivated and stress-tolerant

Interested and qualified individuals should send their application along with the curriculum vitae to - The Operations Officer, P.O. Box 725, Sana'a, Republic of Yemen. Applications received after May 05, 2007 will not be considered.

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VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

An Oil Company in Yemen announces the following vacancies:

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Education: College Degree

Experience: 5 years or more in Oil & Gas Industry

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

OUR
OPINION

Media for children

I was very amused when I saw Dina, a girl of 8 years old fighting with her mother over the morning newspaper. Dina was arguing that she too wanted to read the paper and learn about the international headlines and local news. Before this incident, I had never considered children below 14 as a target group for what we like to call serious journalism. Why would Dina, and other children, want to know about world politics, for example? But when I thought about it more, I realised that it is only fair that children want to participate in their surrounding environment and have an opinion about their country's or the world's politics. After all, they are the future leaders.

Most of the regular Arabic publications and periodicals dedicated to children are limited to comic books and stories translated from other languages. There is no newspaper dedicated for children.

This educational gap is not only limited to media targeted towards children, for there is also a shortage of adult media which is concerned with child issues. Some organisations are trying to fill in the void by encouraging journalists to approach this neglected area. UNICEF-Yemen had just concluded a three day workshop in Ibb for rural journalists coming from Ibb, Taiz and Dhale', which aimed at sensitizing journalists towards children rights and issues. The workshop was under the theme "Journalists lead the way", which is apt to their role in real life.

The journalists were interested in these topics and most of their complains was that publishers and editors in chief did not encourage articles about children, let alone stories directed towards children. Another problem was the technical skills required to tackle such issues.

Dina's demand to read the newspaper, despite the fact that it might just go over her head, made me feel guilty. As a leading journalist, I know it is my responsibility to provide her and all the other children with constructive and educating material in order to equip them with sufficient knowledge to play their role in the near future as adults.

Director Mimi Leder touched this issue in the brilliant movie "Pay it Forward". I am particularly talking about a particular scene at the beginning of the movie where the seventh grade teacher Eugene Simonet (Kevin Spacey) asks the students what do they think the world expects from them. Trevor McKinney (Haley Joel Osmont) replies that the world expects nothing from them as children because they are too young to influence life. But then Eugene asks them a striking question: what if time comes and you are a part of the adult life and discover that the world is a big disappointment?

You would have to see the movie (that is if you haven't yet) to know what I am talking about. But the bottom line is that there has to be a preparation phase for children while they are in their growing phase so that when they come of age they are ready and prepared to face the real world and make the best of it.

This is why it is important to create media for children. The whole future is for the children, so wouldn't be asking too much if we dedicate some of our time for them? I don't think so.

Nadia Al-Sakkaf
Editor-in-Chief

International Criminal Court
Who benefits from rescinding the decision?

During one of its sessions, chaired by Yahya Al-Ray'i, Parliament rescinded its previous decision regarding admission to Statute of the International Criminal Court. This caused Yemen to lose a gold opportunity to beautify and improve its image in the eye of the world. According to parliamentary sources, rescinding the decision is concerned with the lack of quantum at the session when the decision was taken. Other parliamentary sources confirmed that the decision wasn't the only one taken during the session, and that other decisions weren't revoked. In addition, Parliament took tens of decisions in the presence of a similar number of MPs, and some of these decisions are concerned with significant laws or loan agreements, some of which total up to millions of dollars.

From the context, in which the decision was rescinded, the reason isn't concerned with the procedural aspects for Parliament to take its decisions or approve any draft laws. The main reason is political and it increases fears on the part of authorities and MPs with regard to approving entry into the International Criminal Court. Some of these fears are related with intentionally created concepts while others emerge due to ignorance of ICC content.

But, those who opposed the agreement and provided false explanations still insist on their rejection of this court and its statute. Also, they left the top place of opposing this court to the other team that has become a victim of misun-



By: Ali Al-Sarari

derstanding the statute. This has been apparent through the division and fragmentation of the Islah Party's Parliamentary Bloc members. As the majority of members belonging to this bloc retained their support for the statute, others worked hard to revoke the decision, thus offering a precious service to the objectors.

Within the same arrangement, it has been made clear how terrible is the political easiness that forces politicians to pay the cost in an issue, which is not theirs. The tricky leakages have succeeded to persuade MPs of the Islah Party Parliamentary Bloc that ICC Statute will be the only means due to be used by the U.S. to arrest Sheikh Abdulmajid Al-Zindani, who is wanted by the U.S. for allegedly funneling money to terrorism. This charge is not authenticated by any announced evidence.

Fearing any harm to Al-Zindani, the enthusiastic people turned to oppose the ICC Statute, which functions as the best guarantee for Al-Zindani to confront the U.S. demands for his arrest. The Statute ensures Al-Zindani the right to be tried before a Yemeni tribunal and in conformity with the Yemeni laws. Also, it doesn't oblige the Yemeni authorities to hand over Al-Zindani to the U.S. Administration over alleged charges.

If we suppose that Al-Zindani may be, one day, handed over to the U.S. authorities, such will not be one of the fruits of Yemen's approval of the ICC Statute. Instead it will be

the fruit of security coordination and the approval of mutual security agreements, which are secretly signed by Yemen and the U.S.

Those who fear any harm to Al-Zindani should learn that the Israeli and U.S. governments top the list of countries who oppose ICC. Both U.S. and Israel exercise various forms of investigation and pressure to prevent other world countries from joining the ICC in order to protect their armies who are serving in hostile wars against other countries.

During their wars, the U.S. and Israel commit crimes against humanity, and to end these brutalities, the ICC was established to punish those who commit these crimes. Additionally, the statute is not implemented retrospectively nor does it pass any sanction on acts committed before it was approved.

It is important for those who fear any potential risk to Al-Zindani to bear in mind that the ICC is only held when the domestic judiciary is paralyzed or is unable to maintain justice. These people had to comprehend the lesson of the arrest of Sheikh Mohammed Al-Moayyad and his companion Mohammed Zayed by the German authorities and then handing the pair over the U.S. authorities to try them.

Although Germany signed and approved the ICC Statute, it didn't extradite the pair in conformity with this statute. Instead, the European country handed the pair over to the U.S. Administration under a mutual security agreement, which it reached with the U.S. Such a security agreement is the basis that decided fate of Al-Moayyad and his companion as we heard and saw.

If Yemen approved the ICC Statute at that time and the charges attributed to Al-Moayyad and his companion comply with the statute's goals and implementation mechanisms, the pair's fate would be totally different. It was supposed for the pair to be tried in a Yemeni court according to the Yemeni law.

The most significant objections to the

statute succeed since they allow harms to be paid to Yemen's national sovereignty and this is a baseless pretext because the Yemeni judiciary is the instrument, through which the ICC implements its goals. It is not possible for a Yemeni suspect to be tried in another country and according to the international conventions except in case that the Republic of Yemen collapses. In this case, there is no meaning for Yemen's national sovereignty, and if the Republic of Yemen becomes unable to try a suspect for any reason, we will know the one who benefits from not trying those who commit crimes against humanity.

Yemen had the chance when Parliament approved the ICC Statute to confirm its seriousness and credibility to be part of the democratic system and the modern humanity. This can help raise Yemen's status and persuade international donors to lavishly support it.

No doubt that the numerous benefits, which Yemen is due to gain by approving the statute, are due to be replaced by losses after rescinding the decision. The worst thing is that rescinding the decision revealed the real intents behind playing with the subject, as well as the reports on human right abuses and crimes against humanity. Those, who commit crimes against humanity, are usually released.

This is an indicator that we missed development. We should acknowledge that Ms. Amal Al-Basha, Chairwoman of Arab Sisters Forum, has bravely struggled and organized meetings and discussions to provide MPs, politicians and civil community activists with details about the ICC Statute and its benefits. When Parliament approved the statute, all the MPs received congratulations for being convinced that the statute is right.

Ali Al-Sarari is a Yemeni Journalist and a well-known politician. He is the head of the information department at the Yemeni Socialist Party.
Source: Al-Thawri Weekly

Bribery and professional ethics

By: Awatef Al-Sharjabi

Regretfully, there are many employees, who don't abide by professional ethics while in charge of many routine administrative procedures in several offices, institutions, authorities, and ministries. In the public sector job, which is the government employee's daily task, he/she must perform well for a monthly salary, turns to create obstacles and barriers to the progress of procedures. Public sector employees tend to prolong procedures of clients in government offices in order to force clients pay them bribes. Seeing the money, the employee in charge of clients' procedures does his job in a better way. We say 'he' and 'his' as the phenomenon is usually exercised by male employees.

What surprises us is that such malpractices are exercised in public without shyness while receiving bribes doesn't carry any penalties on the bribed employees. Bribes have become commonplace among junior employees and senior officials, as well. Employees bear in mind that receiving bribes is similar to rewards, as well as a primary condition to improve their performance.

When one inquires about the causes of the spread of the immoral phenomenon that hin-

ders procedures and convey bad impression about government workers, he is due to find out numerous factors such as the low salaries, expensive living standards, and the lack of firm measures and penalties against those who take or accept bribes.

Clients, who have not enough money to pay bribes in order for their procedures to be accelerated, don't think about raising complaints to any government parties since they absolutely believe that no attention will be drawn to their complaints, nor do the concerned parties react to the phenomenon.

Bribery remains bribery and promoting government employees to extort citizens in pursuit of procedures and exercise such illegal conducts is an insult of the state, as well as the law and order. It appeals to the mind that nothing will be done or achieved unless there are bribes.

It has become apparent that clients, who can afford to pay bribes, promote government employees to exercise the bad habit. Some clients automatically move their hands to their pockets in order to pay bribes to those in charge of their procedures to help them finish the procedures on due time. They got the cell phones or land lines of employees to contact them with the aim of accelerating the progress of their procedures in exchange for bribes.

What upsets us is that such misconducts have become one of the primary requirements of the job and are exercised in public without any feeling of shyness. Exploiting the ineffective job-related laws and obligations, the simple employee asks for bribes just as he sees the client and doesn't take into account the financial condition of the client. Such a bad habit blinded clients and employees as well against ethics of the public job and made them blindly view bribes as a legal right accrued to government employees.

We are frightened as the misconducts have become rampant in all the government facilities with no exception while employees leave their disks and duties to roam in the corridors in search for clients to extort them. What is the real reason for the spread of the bad habit? Some attribute the phenomenon to low salaries and others to the expensive living standards. Above all, the phenomenon is symptomatic of the lack of clear conscience on the part of the government and its workers, indifference of control and audit authorities toward the phenomenon and absence of effective job laws and regulations.

Source: Al-Thawra Daily

SILVER LINING

The government
and firearms control

Last week, the government decided to close down all firearm shops that spread all over the country. This sounds great and has delighted everybody aspiring to see a country ruled by law and order. However, is the government able to do that? This is the question. It is easy for our government to draft nice laws and take serious decisions but it is difficult for it to put them into action.

The government has failed several times to get the parliament debate and endorse a stalled draft law controlling the ownership and use of firearms. The influential tribal figures at the parliament and outside, mainly Sheikh Abdullah al-Ahmer crippled all efforts to get it passed. Last year, the ruling party caucus managed to put the draft law collecting dust for years on the agenda of the parliament but nothing happened since then as the action was just a quick response to the kidnapping of the German and Italian tourists.

The ministry of interior used to allege that it could not control the firearms as it had no legal instrument to do that and insisted that the new draft law was meant to give it enough privilege and power to control this chaos of firearms. The ministry already approved a new by-law, which is a relative attempt to legalize the chaos of gunned escorts, so as to organize the escorts of high ranking government officials.

I do not know how the government can control and close down the firearms shops without having the power of the law it used to ask for. I understand if the ruling party and its government are serious about this headache of firearms carrying and using, it should start from the parliament and get the draft law approved. This is really the first step that will demonstrate whether the government is serious about this problem or not.

I believe it is not that difficult for the government to get the draft law endorsed by the parliament, in which the ruling party has the majority. Once it is endorsed, the government will have a legal instrument to use. I know some might allege that laws are never enacted or respected and thus fruitless. Here lies the trick. If the government is serious about the control of weapons, it has first to respect the law itself and then moves to enact it on the ground. Once the citizens feel the government respects the law, they will have to respect that as they have a model then. They just need to sense equality and no one is superior upon the law.

The government decision concerning the firearms shop closure has been taken just one day after the Investment Opportunities Exploration Conference wrapped up. It wanted to show its seriousness in providing a good environment for investments.

Truly, it is a good tactic for the government to bring confidence into the hearts of investors. However, the government measures, in this respect, imply that the control of firearms should not be taken haphazardly. Further, those measures pinpoint that actions on the ground should be based on legal and institutionalized procedures, which would prove our capacity to attract foreign investments, rather than random decisions.

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



By: Mohammed
Al-Qadhi

SKETCHED
OPINION

Government
vs.
Corruption

By: Samer

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Yemen Press Review

By: Adel Al-Khawlani



Al-Shoura Weekly, Organ of Yemeni Popular Forces Union (YPFU)
Wednesday, April 25

Main Headlines

- Government decides to shut down arm trade shops
- Shamlan locals appeal to military leader for being oppressed by air force soldiers and officers
- Family Welfare Society workers go on strike over poor standards
- Admitting defeat, Sa'ada rebels turn to kill children, abduct aged people, rape women
- Official documents disclose embezzlements, forged contracts valuing millions
- Corruption cases cost government over YR 25 billion

An official report revealed that the corruption cases, registered by the Central Organization for Control and Audit, cost the national economy financial losses exceeding YR 25 billion, the weekly newspaper reported. It added that the report, which was distributed recently, stated the financial losses were caused by 1044 corruption cases recorded by COCA over the past four years. The report clarified that the total corruption cases, which were discovered over the past four years, number up to 361 leading to financial losses exceeding YR 200 billion.

According to the newspaper, COCA received reports on 683 corruption cases, which caused Yemen lose more than YR 2 billion, in addition to large sums in foreign currencies. The report was released while the concerned judicial authorities neither tried nor questioned any of the officials

involved in corruption cases and public money embezzlements.



Al-Wahdah Comprehensive Political Weekly
Wednesday, April 25

Main Headlines

- Gulf and Yemeni investors to establish an Islamic bank in Yemen
- Authorities take firm procedures to restrict arm bearing, close arm trade stores
- Intensive arrangements for Yemeni President's Washington-bound visit
- Academics: April 27th is a celebration of democracy, an approach to a proper political life
- HR Minister: Reforming legislations tops our agenda
- General Tax Authority reaches agreement with private sector on sale tax implementation mechanism
- Success of Investment Opportunity Exploration Conference requires us to eliminate obstacles, make dreams come true, Deputy Prime Minister says

The comprehensive political weekly quoted Deputy Prime Minister for Economic Affairs and Minister of Planning and International Cooperation Abdulkarim Al-Arhabi as saying: "The Investment Opportunity Exploration Conference, the activities of which were concluded last Monday, is the first of its kind in terms of the number of investors and participants, particularly those coming from the Gulf Cooperation Council member states." In a statement to the newspaper, Al-Arhabi confirmed that

the conference is not a chance for contact between investors and the Yemeni government, which reviewed its plan concerned with the investment environment.

Al-Arhabi declared that the government is serious to boost investment, attract investors, showed readiness to listen to their concerns and provide them with all the facilities. "The conference is a success story, as the Yemeni government and investors signed several agreements and investment projects worth \$4 billion," the official noted.



Al-Nidaa Comprehensive Political Weekly
Wednesday, April 25

Main Headlines

- Government announces that Investment Opportunity Exploration Conference is an annual activity, GCC Secretary-General stresses continued coordination
- Yemen mediate between top conflicting government officials of Somalia
- Red Crescent Society sets up new tents for Sa'ada displaced locals
- Petroleum coal prevented in cement factories
- Survey: 83% back the idea of electing governors instead of appointing them

The weekly paper reported on its front page that 83 percent of the surveyed citizens and 73% of the surveyed local council representatives, who belong to the ruling General People Congress, back the idea of directly electing governors instead of

appointing them, according to a public opinion poll, carried by the Yemen Polling Center in six governorates including the capital Sana'a. Also, nearly 67 percent of those surveyed want deputy governors to be directly elected in lieu of being appointed while 31 percent of the sample disagree with the idea, according to the poll. Compared to responses to the previous question, the number of interviewees backing such an idea declines because they consider governors (not deputy governors) to have more dominance over the executive offices than any other officials.

The survey clarified that the main problems and obstacles posed to local council's experience in Yemen in its infancy stage, from the interviewees' viewpoint, are mainly related with the unlimited powers exercised by the government's executive offices. Ninety-two percent of the local council members, who were interviewed, believe that the executive authorities dominate all the main duties and powers and hinder their performance. Fifty percent said they realize similarities between tasks, duties and powers delegated to local councils and the government's executive officials.



Al-Tajamu Weekly, Organ of the Yemeni Unionist Congregation Party (YUCP)
Monday, April 23

Main Headlines

- Investment Opportunity Exploration Conference puts Yemen before serious challenges
- Opposition and independent MPs reject Mujawar's government platform

- Pictures allegedly published by Al-Thawri weekly about Sa'ada fighting are really taken from other sources showing graves in Iraq, security sources say
- Sana'a-based Political Development Forum praises Mauritanian will and responsibility
- Sa'ada fighting kills 860 government troops, 300 Al-Houthi supporters

Hundreds of victims have been killed or injured up until now in the Sa'ada fierce clashes between the government troops and volunteers, on the one hand, and Al-Houthi-led rebels, backed by tribesmen and loyalists, on the other, the YUCP-affiliated weekly quoted medics and local sources as saying. Those who strongly support leader of the rebellion Abdulmalik Al-Houthi, are Sheikh Abdullah Al-Rizami fellowmen in Al Salem area.

The medics and local sources said that up to 860 government troops and volunteers, and 300 Al-Houthi supporters have died in the fighting while 900 people on both sides were wounded, 180 seriously. The sources added that more than 1200 of Al-Houthi supporters have been arrested and transferred to political security jails in the capital and other governorates.



Al-Methaq Weekly, Mouthpiece of the General People Congress
Monday, April 23

Main Headlines

- Bajammal: The Investment Opportunity Exploration Conference is an important step

toward activating political dialogue

- Authorities approve investment projects in several governorates
- Two Free Zone strategic projects available for investors
- Arab Women Investors Union awards Saleh in recognition of his role in reaching development
- Saleh: We work hard to achieve real partnership, Yemen ever open for investors

"Toward Permanent Mutual Interests" was the slogan of the Investment Opportunity Exploration Conference, which was inaugurated by President Ali Abdullah Saleh last week in the Capital Sana'a, the ruling party-affiliated weekly reported in its lead story. It added that businessmen and investors representing as many as 650 Yemeni, Arab and foreign companies, as well as 69 ministers, senior government officials and experts from the brotherly and friendly countries, participated in the conference. Organized by Yemen in cooperation with the General Secretariat of Gulf Cooperation Council, the conference aims light on investment opportunities and benefits in different sectors of the country. Also, it aims to promote around one hundred investment opportunities with an estimated cost of nearly \$8 billion.

At the conference's inaugural session, Saleh ascertained that Yemen is ever open for investors and the state cares for removing any difficulties or obstacles posed to investment projects. "We exert hard effort to make available real partnership with our brothers and friends, based on reaching mutual interests. The Yemeni government is committed to work on facilitating the progress of investment projects via the General Investment Authority," the weekly newspaper quoted Saleh as saying.

UNICEF YEMEN

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SANA'A, REPUBLIC OF YEMEN
TEL: (967.1) 211 400
FAX: (967.1) 206 092

EXTERNAL VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 04/07

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) invites applications from qualified Yemeni nationals for the following position:

Title: Programme Assistant
Level: GS-5
Type of Contract: Temporary Fixed Term
Duty station: Sana'a
Duration: Eight months

Under the supervision and guidance of the Child Protection and HIV/AIDS Specialist in UNICEF Sana'a office, the Programme Assistant - shall be responsible for the following duties:

- 1- Collects information mainly from records and reports and prepares periodic and ad hoc reports on program and project activities.
- 2- Organizes data and information, prepares and maintains records, documents and control plans for the monitoring of project/program implementation.
- 3- Contributes to the preparation of reports, project documents and submissions to governments by providing information, preparing tables and drafting relatively routine sections. Prepare background information for use in discussions with governments and other organizations. Participate in the briefing and debriefing of project personnel with a view to benefit from and contributing to such initiatives.
- 4- Scrutinizes plans of operations, exchanges of letters and takes appropriate follow-up action. Assists in the administrative process of government requests for assistance.
- 5- Carry out specific administrative operational/control tasks for project/programme activities.
- 6- Perform other duties as requested.

Qualifications and Skills Required:

- Completion of secondary education, preferably supplemented by technical or university courses.
- Six years experience and progressively responsible clerical or administrative work, of which at least one year is closely related to support of program activities.
- Good analytical and data processing skills.
- Proficient computer user and good knowledge of common computer applications.
- Proven experience of working in a multi –sect oral/multi – cultural environment.
- Fluency in written and oral English and Arabic

Interested and qualified candidates should send their application along with the curriculum vitae to the - Operations Officer, UNICEF Sana'a, P.O. Box 725, Sana'a, Republic of Yemen. Applications received after May 05, 2007 will not be considered. Only the shortlisted candidates will be contacted. **UNICEF encourages qualified women candidates to apply. UNICEF is a non-smoking environment.**

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FAX: (967.1) 206 092

EXTERNAL VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 05/07

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) invites applications from qualified Yemeni nationals for the following position:

Title: Child Protection Specialist
Level: National Officer Category – C
Type of Contract: Fixed Term
Duty station: Sana'a

Under the supervision and guidance of the Child Protection and HIV/AIDS Specialist of UNICEF Sana'a office, the Child Protection Specialist shall be responsible for the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of assigned projects. The Child Protection Specialist responsibilities include:

- 1- Contribute towards the preparation of the situation analysis by compiling data, analyzing and evaluating information and writing chapters of the analysis.
- 2- Design, prepare, implement, monitor and evaluate assigned specific project(s) in area of policy development, capacity building and targeted services provision of child protection.. Analyze and evaluate data to ensure achievement of objective and/or take corrective action when necessary to meet project objectives. Assist in the development and/or introduction of new approaches, methods and practices in project management and evaluation relevant to child protection.
- 3- Contribute to the preparation of the sectoral documents for the Country Program Action Plan (CPAP).
- 4- Undertake field visit to monitor projects, as well as conduct periodic project reviews with government counterparts and other partners. Propose and/or undertake action operational procedures affecting project implementation and management.
- 5- Participate in the development of sectoral work plan. Ensure compliance to specific assigned objectives. Provide guidance and support to staff in meeting programme/project objectives.
- 6- Assist government authorities Ministry of Social Affair and Labour (MOSAL) to plan and organize training programmes. Identify training needs and objectives for the purpose of capacity building and programme sustainability as well as promotion and advocacy.
- 7- Meet with international agencies covering the management of projects. Participate in meetings with ministries responsible for programme/project review and follow-up recommendations and agreements.
- 8- Coordinate with the operations/supply staff on supply and non-supply assistance activities ensuring proper timely UNICEF and government accountability. Certify disbursements of funds monitor and submit financial status report to the Child Protection and HIV/AIDS Specialist.
- 9- Prepare programme/project status reports required for management board, donors, budget review, programme analysis, annual reports etc...

Qualification and Skills Required:

- Advance University degree in social science or related fields.
- Five years experience in social sector programming and fiscal works and experience in Administration, Monitoring and Evaluation and implementation at local level in support of development program activities of a UN agency.
- Good analytical and data processing skills.
- Proficient computer user and good knowledge of common computer applications.
- Proven experience of working in a multi –sect oral/multi – cultural environment.
- Fluency in written and oral English and Arabic.

Interested and qualified individuals should send their application along with the curriculum vitae to - The Operations Officer, P.O. Box 725, Sana'a, Republic of Yemen. Applications received after May 05, 2007 will not be considered. **UNICEF encourages qualified women candidates to apply. UNICEF is a non-smoking environment.**

Al-Ahdal wins medal for second stage in "One Million Poet" contest

By: Nisreen Shadad

In an effort to embolden all talented poets both inside and outside of Yemen, Minister of Culture Mohammed Al-Maflahi honored young poet Abdulrahman Al-Ahdal on April 22.

Al-Ahdal participated as a contestant on the television program Sha'ir al-Milyon on the Abu Dhabi channel, in which poets compete to win a prize of one million Emirati dirhams.

"This celebration is but an expression of our interest in those gifted people inside and outside Yemen," Al-Mu'alimi observed.

"Al-Ahdal was one of the innovative poets who participated in the ninth round of the 'One Million Poet' contest. "Through this program, he was one of the distinctive poets," the minister added.

Al-Ahdal participated in the program last month, which is specialized for distinctive Middle Eastern poets, receiving the "One Million Poet" medal for the second round, the stage before the final one. Moreover, he received another medal for the most debatable poet due to the topics he had chosen.

"There were approximately 5,000 participants, from which 48 were selected and then 24 for the second round and I was one of those 24 poets," Al-Ahdal said. "Although I wasn't the winner, I was the only one with the highest votes, having received 94 percent. For me, it's enough to have a place in the people's hearts and to receive their love," he explained.

Four out of the 24 poets competed to reach the third round against each other in the second round, seeking to qualify for the third final round.

From the second round, four poets nominated: Al-Ahdal from Yemen, Mubarak Al-Mansouri from the United Arab Emirates, Mohammed Mureibad Al-Azmi and Khalid Al-Anzi, both from Saudi Arabia.

Large numbers, including diplomats, attended the show. Dignitaries included Emirati Sheikh Abdullah bin Khalid Al-Nahyan and Sheikh Zaid bin Sultan Al-Nahyan.

Al-Ahdal's life has proven that problems are the food of creativity. He was born in the Tihama and lived in a home made of straw. His mother died when he was 10 years old and his father married another wife. "After my mother's death, I missed the source of passion and kindness. I felt that I was alone and that I had no voice or anything to live for in the governorate, so I left the Tihama when I was 12 to live in Hodeidah."



Mohammed Al-Maflahi honors innovative Yemeni poet Abdulrahman Al-Ahdal.

However, Al-Ahdal really left his village to seek knowledge. Since his family was qualified in numerous Islamic sciences, as well as literature, he preferred to go to the source of knowledge and study under scholars' hands.

Because it gave him very little knowledge, he left school at an early age to study in a traditional school. Most study of this type takes place in mosques where scholars teach various books in different fields, particularly Islamic sciences and Arabic language. Students can choose the subject in which they'd like to go deeper.

"Traditional schools are much better than schools nowadays because school curriculums control our minds and abilities. However, in traditional schools, knowledge is stronger and the teachers are scholars. It gives the learner the chance to surpass the knowledge he feels in himself," Al-Ahdal observed.

"After studying a book of one of the scholars, we then must teach it as a type of practice under the scholar's supervision. The scholar then can measure our level of understanding and comprehension of the book and consequently, gives us an *ijaza*, which is equal to a school certificate and says I not only passed the course, but I also can teach it," he explained.

Al-Ahdal studied Islamic studies and literature in the Tihama for five years before traveling to Hadramout. "I studied under great scholars who greatly influenced my entire life for five years. I received numerous *ijaza* in Arabic and Islamic studies."

Although Al-Ahdal is still young at 25 years old, he has excelled in numerous arts and sciences, especially poetry writing. Within one poem, he cleverly employs various types of verse, skillfully mixing traditional verse with free or blank verse to make his poems vivid and powerful.

He sometimes uses rhyming poetry from everyday speech, as well as rhymes in standard Arabic, to produce an effect on both ordinary and educated listeners.

Able to swim skillfully among the poetic arts and verses, Al-Ahdal commented, "Attendees at the show were amazed by the powerful language. The vocabulary I use and the eloquent responses I give make my poems more effective."

The young poet has participated in several lectures both inside and outside of Yemen, in addition to the "One Million Poet" show. According to him, the program has given him the chance to clarify his personality and make his thoughts and ideas emerge. "I like this program because through it, I expressed my thoughts, ideas and beliefs. Through it, I see myself as I am."

As he says himself, Al-Ahdal likes to touch on hot and sensitive issues. "My poem, 'The Daughter of Arabism,' is the one that most effectively moved attendees and listeners. In that poem, I combined the Gulf dialect, Yemeni dialect and standard Arabic. While writing it, I actually shed tears and the listeners of this poem also shed tears. The poem uses Arabic language, the language of the Qur'an and the language of those who dwell in paradise," he explained.

According to Al-Ahdal, Arabic language has become a stranger in its own homeland, suffering and living in dire circumstances. "I think Arab countries lack cultural preservation." Thus, he devotes his poems, particularly "The Daughter of Arabism," for the Arabic language.

Additionally, Al-Ahdal writes numerous books, research, and collections. "I now dream of publishing my collections and books," he added.

Al-Ahdal was born in al-Hodeidah in 1971 and currently lives in Abu Dhabi. He has a divan (collection of poems) in print, as well as other publications such as The History of Yemeni Art in the Age of the Islamic State, Notions on al-Aidarous' Poetry, and a book on the artistic journey, entitled, The Redolent Whiffs and Rainy Clouds

Literary Corner

By: Abu Al-Kalima Al-Tayybah

Culture and the revolution in Yemen (2)

In his literary way, Baraddooni analyzes the revolutionary track from its pre-1962 informal hodge-podge of underground cells tied by a loose camaraderie of friendship and common academic accomplishments over the span of three decades or so after the war with Saudi Arabia. Indeed, Baraddooni insists that most of the political maneuverings and activities prior to the 1948 Revolt against the Imam Yahya of Yemen is left a lot of track history by all the poetry and letters written by outspoken critics of the Imam. For many of these critics, the speaker's platform in the famous mosques of Sana'a (for people like Mohammed Abu-Talib (known as the "Orator"), letters to teachers or parents (like the former Grand Mufti and great liberal religious scholar of Yemen Ahmed Mohammed Zabarah), or the hundreds of verses that started to make their way to underground newspapers and transfer by word of mouth from one person to another (such as the poetry of Mahmoud Al-Zubeiri, Ahmed Al-Shami, Ibrahim Al-Hadhrani and so many others. Yes, opposition to the state presented itself as a rich opportunity for many a literary and scholastic aspirant to let out the steam that lay hidden in much of the intelligentsia that prevailed in the 1930s and 1940s, most of him went through the same grueling academic orientation that existed then. It was indeed grueling academic training, but it certainly left Yemen with a treasure of scholars and masters of verse and eloquence unparalleled in any other Arab or Moslem country and gradually diminishing, since the Revolution of 1962 took it upon itself to eradicate all that is associated with the past, good or bad, on the naive assumption that all that comes from the past is evil. For all its possible questionable deficiencies in modern government, the old Imamic institutions of learning were unrivaled in the output they produced over the long one-thousand years' history of the Zeidi Imams. There were many great scholars that came out of the

scholastic institutes that not only dominated their teachings with Zeidi theology, but also allowed the institutions of the other sects to flourish and grow with an openness that eventually made Yemen one of the most open and tolerant areas in the Islamic World, in which free religious opinion was sanctified and the state was not reluctant to lend support to all institutions of learning, irrespective of their sectoral association. Thus, we can see how the opposition forces of the 1930s included Zeidis as well as Sunni (Shafei) constituents, who had an equal respect for each other and recognized each other's spiritual as well as intellectual attainments. Thus, we have Zubeiri and Ahmed Mohammed No'uman (Zeidi and Shafei respectively) as the fathers' of organized opposition to the Imam as far back as the early 1940s, who decided to take the battle against the Imam outside of the then independent part of Yemen and started the "Free Yemenis Movement" in Aden. In looking at the roster of the early founders of the movement, one can see that indeed, Yemen's intellectual community sought to bring Yemen out of its darkness and catapult it to the 20th Century. Needless to say, the English were all too pleased to accommodate a movement in Aden that would keep the Imam busy from looking at the Southern part of the country and hoping to add an independent South to the Imamic domain that made up the Mutwakelite Kingdom of Yemen. In this venue then, a very lively and dynamic Revolutionary culture evolved that was characterized by high scholastic attainment and an unrivaled degree of affinity amongst constituents that came from all religious sectoral affiliation with a remarkable tolerance that may never be equaled even in these modern times of oppression and abuse of power, by most of the states in the Moslem World. The author contends that the Revolution of 1962 did not allow for any literary account to thrive during its early days, and only allowed the

official version of all events to circulate among the audio and visual (press) channels that prevailed in Yemen in the heyday of the Republic. The first book that the author suggests showed any real degree of analysis and documentary truth to what transpired in the tumultuous period of Yemen's history was the account written by the "Free Officers" of the Revolution, which in itself tried to promote the leadership of General Juzailan as a leading organizer and commander, without whom the Revolution might have not succeeded. However this account in itself came far too late to make it any worthwhile study of the events that transpired in the hectic early days of the Revolution. Issued seventeen years after that fateful day of Yemeni history, the book's rendition would be both stale and less worthy of factual record, as many of the real facts would be subject to distortion and personal aggrandizement, beyond the reasonable and objective, as the author rightly contends.

In his description of learning, prior to the Revolution, the author noted that the institutions of learning were then poor and very weakly organized, but nevertheless did exist and according to the author did provide the foundations of learning that motivated scholars and intellectuals to seek to expand their horizons in all the lively fields of learning that have yet to receive attention by Yemeni intelligentsia, such as nationalism, democracy, rule of law and so many other facets that have yet to attain institutionalized status. This was made more possible as many Arab scholars of renown have also developed their own aura of thriving cultural pursuits, especially in Egypt and the Levant, with the rise of the cultural giants such as Mahmoud Abbass Al-Aqqad and Georgi Zeidan, just to name a few.

Culture and the Revolution in Yemen
Author: Abdullah Al-Baraddooni
Language: Arabic
Publisher: Arab Writer's Press
Year Published: 1991 AD
No. of Pages: 574

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Taiz water crisis looms, solutions presented

By: Yemen Times
Taiz Bureau

For the past two decades, Taiz city has been suffering miserable water scarcity, particularly given that the city's population is on a marked increase. The indicators are alarming concerning a real disaster due to massive water shortage and lack of any attempts to contain the looming crisis.

City residents amount to as many as 600,000, while its 46 wells produce only 657,498 cubic meters of water. As a result, water sometimes is cut for three to four weeks, causing both health and environmental problems.

Several water projects were conducted in the area beginning in the 1960s, but unfortunately, such projects provided only temporary solutions; thus, within the course of a short time, the problem has returned and residents' suffering is hovering again.

In cooperation with USAID, the first water project was conducted in Taiz in the 1960s, wherein water was provided from Al-Haima area, approximately 25 km. northeast of Taiz. The city's population was only around 20,000.

A few years later, another project was established in Al-Houban neighborhood, with water supplied from Al-Houjala area north of Taiz. This project produced 4,100 cubic meters per day, but water quality was poor because it was salty and dusty.

In an effort to serve the city, 21 wells were dug in Al-Haima area in 1982, but they weren't deep and their production was roughly 19,000 cubic meters per day, which wasn't nearly enough to meet the entire area's water needs.

Owing to continuous construction expansion and population increase, available water resources no longer suffice and the need for new sources was urgent. Additionally, by 1987, water supply in those 21 wells had decreased to 7,000 cubic meters per day due to shortage of rainfall, which supplies groundwater.

In an attempt to solve the water problem, 13 wells were dug in 1995 in order to divert a potential crisis; however, they produced only 2,500 cubic meters of water, serving as only a momentary and partial solution. In that same year, the entire city of Taiz experienced a 40-day water cut to homes, thus creating numerous economic and health problems for city residents, who were forced to spend a lot of money to buy drinking water from shops.

After this, the International Development Corporation instituted the \$11 million Taiz water project, with the Yemeni government providing approximately 10 percent of the civic work cost.

The project aimed to solve Taiz's water scarcity problem and save the city from a dangerous crisis, as well as decrease the period of water cuts in the area to 10 days by providing 3,000 cubic meters of water daily. It also aimed to explore new water resources, thereby improving essential rural water service and establishing an institutional framework to decentralize water supply administration in Taiz governorate.

The project had three components, one of which related to the local water supply and sanitation authority, enabling it to study, design and assemble new water pipes to transfer water from Hibair area to the main water line, as well as change Al-Houban



Children are forced to leave school and walk for miles everyday to in search of water.

pump and provide a water sterilization station.

The second component assisted the Public Authority for Water Resources to assess and renew water resources 40 kilometers outside the city in all directions. The project's third component concerned dam construction and digging wells in southern Taiz's mountainous areas. Project construction was completed in 2000 and since then, it has begun serving city residents.

There are several reasons for Taiz's water scarcity and the continual increase in water demand, paramount of which is the area's geological characteristics. Engineer Abdulsamad Mohammed Al-Shuj'a, director of the Water Resources Authority branch in Taiz, maintained that one of the outstanding reasons for water scarcity in Taiz is that the city is situated on a base of rocks, which don't store water, in addition to a shortage of rainfall, which would greatly help to replenish groundwater. Al-Shuj'a added that continuous construction expansion and the resulting increase in population also aggravate the problem.

Regarding current irrigation methods, Al-Shuj'a confirmed that such methods represent one of the reasons that increase the water problem, pointing out that a systematic irrigation system could help save a lot of water. He also indicated that qat trees consume a huge quantity of water, whereas such water could be used for essential plants.

For his part, Mahmoud Mohammed Abdulwali, director of Taiz Local Corporation for Water Supply and

Sanitation, maintained that available water resources are insufficient to meet the area's water demands and that relying completely on groundwater is a key cause of wasting water.

He further added that unsystematic, haphazard digging of wells, together with lack of education to make the public aware of good methods of utilizing water, as well as lack of coordination between involved bodies, are all ominous regarding a real and disastrous future for the city.

Abdulwali also disclosed that his corporation has spent more than YR 1.5 billion seeking water resources in Taiz, but the project failed due to lack of cooperation between incumbent authorities. At the same time, he said, another more than YR 3 billion project aiming to protect the city from rainwater failed for the same reason.

Ahmed Sa'eed Al-Wahsh, director of the groundwater protection project in Taiz, said that aside from wasting water and unsystematic well digging, migration from rural areas into the city puts huge pressure on the city's water and expands the gap between demand and available water supply.

Additionally, he pointed out that rainwater isn't exploited by building water barriers, although they could greatly benefit irrigation and supply groundwater, especially given that rains fall only in summer in Yemen. Such water could be retained for use in other seasons. Moreover, Al-Wahsh said that even rainwater settling on house roofs could be exploited.

Asked about the groundwater protection project's role in tackling the area's water crisis, Al-Wahsh mentioned that it had held numerous activities to raise public awareness in general, and that of farmers in particular, regarding dealing with water issues properly and following systematic irrigation methods.

Concerning seawater desalination, Al-Shuj'a explained that desalination should be a last resort because it's costly, particularly if conducted by an

investment company because tariffs will be so high that citizens can't pay them. However, if such a project is conducted by the government and supported by donors, the price will be reasonable and citizens could afford it.

Water sector experts confirm that the radical solution for water shortage in Yemen in general and Taiz in particular can come via water exploitation by building dams and retaining rainwater, which both help with irrigation and supplying groundwater.



The water crisis force many to take extreme measures to capitalize on the water resources through digging of random wells.

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- Friendly with PC productivity applications.
- Very good command of English, and Arabic.

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- Proven proficiency in management and strategic thinking in creative and media issues.
- Ability to manage teams and to supervise them.
- Excellent leadership, communication and persuasion skills.
- Thrive on seeking novelty, acquiring knowledge and following innovation and change mainly in market trends.
- Friendly with PC productivity applications.
- Very good command of English, and Arabic

Account Executive

- University degree or equivalent diploma in Advertising, Marketing, Public Relations or Business Management.
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- Good organizational, communication and interpersonal skills and ability to work in a team.

Art Director

- University degree or equivalent diploma in Advertising or Graphic Design.
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- Ability to understand people thoughts, feelings and behavior.
- Thrive on seeking novelty, acquiring knowledge and following innovation and change mainly in the movie and music worlds.
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- Strong knowledge in Macintosh computers maintenance.
- Very good command of English, French and Arabic.

Copywriter

- University degree in any of Communication Art, Literature, Languages, Advertising or proven adequate proficiency.
- Excellent command of English, and/or French and Arabic.
- Ability to understand people thoughts, feelings and behavior.
- Thrive on seeking novelty, acquiring knowledge and following innovation and change mainly in literature, movie and music worlds.
- Friendly with Macintosh productivity software.

Graphic Designer

- University degree or equivalent diploma in Advertising or Graphic Design.
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أعلن الأخ الأستاذ / علي محمد سعيد أنعم - رئيس مجلس إدارة الشركة الوطنية للأسمنت التي يجري العمل حالياً في استكمال التجهيزات الإنشائية والفنية للشركة بمنطقة المسيمير محافظة لحج بأنها سوف تبدأ إنتاجها مطلع العام القادم ٢٠٠٨م جاء ذلك في كلمته التي ألقاها صباح أمس الثلاثاء ٢٤/٤/٢٠٠٧م أمام الجمعية العمومية في اجتماعها العادي بكلية العلوم الإنسانية والاجتماعية بتعز والذي تم فيه إقرار الميزانية السنوية المنتهية للشركة حتى ديسمبر ٢٠٠٦م وإخلاء طرف مجلس الإدارة حتى ٣١/١٢/٢٠٠٦.

وأضاف رئيس مجلس الإدارة في كلمته بأنه تم حتى الآن استكمال أكثر من ٩٥% من أعمال الحضريات و ٥٩% من الأعمال الإنشائية الخرسانية للمشروع و ١٨% من تصنيع الإنشاءات المعدنية ويتوقع أن يتم استكمال كافة التجهيزات مع نهاية ديسمبر ٢٠٠٧م مؤكداً للمساهمين الأهمية التنموية للشركة التي جاء انشاؤها مواكبا لحاجة التنمية الوطنية خصوصا في قطاعات الاستثمار العقاري والإنشاءات الذي شهد خلال العقد الأخير نموا متزايدا في مختلف محافظات الجمهورية مع تصدير الفائض من الإنتاج إلى الأسواق الخارجية الأخرى.

من جانبه أشار الأخ المهندس / خالد أحمد هائل - المشرف الفني على المشروع في تصريح صحفي بأن الشركة الوطنية للأسمنت هي شركة مساهمة عامة يصل عدد المساهمين فيها إلى حوالي (٤,٠٠٠) مساهم من مختلف شرائح المجتمع وتبلغ تكلفتها ٢٠٠ مليون دولار في حين تصل طاقتها الإنتاجية إلى ١,٦٠٠,٠٠٠ طن سنويا كما يعمل في المشروع حاليا أكثر من ٢٠٠٠ عامل في مختلف الأعمال الإنشائية والفنية ويتوقع أن توفر الشركة عند بدء الإنتاج الفعلي فيها أكثر من ٥٠٠ فرصة عمل رسمية.

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Yemen Times continues celebrating its 16th anniversary with Diplomatic Club Bowling at Fun City



Haitham cheers enthusiastically



“Strike!” shouted Michael Hankey, knocking down all 10 pins with his first ball. No wonder he came in first with 162 points at the Yemen Times-Diplomatic Club bowling event – Hankey is good at the game, winning the day before completing his contract as American Citizen Services’ vice council at the U.S. Embassy in Yemen and heading home.

Hankey wasn’t the only diplomat who displayed a knack for knocking down pins. Andrew Dombrowski, political officer at the same embassy, came in second with 128 points. Besides being an enthusiastic player, Dombrowski also was one of the event’s organizers.

Coming in third was Yemen Times Managing Editor Raidan Al-Saqqa with 117 points.

The bowling event, which took place last Thursday at the Fun City bowling alley, was an initiative sponsored by the Yemen Times to gather the diplomatic community in a friendly and informal atmosphere. The event follows on the 16th anniversary celebrations of the newspaper. The Diplomatic Club, which organized the event, is a social gathering place for those within the diplomatic community in Yemen where they can organize events and celebrations.

“The point is to gather people in a friendly atmosphere and simply to have fun outside of the formal diplomatic working atmosphere. It’s open to everyone in the community, so we encourage others to join,” said Haitham Abu Al-Faul, club chairman and secretary at the Jordanian Embassy.

Moroccan counsellor Moulai Zaine El-



Ladies and gentlemen, we present the winners to you: Mike first place (above center), Andy second place (left), and Ray third place (below).



Moussaoui, who attended the event with his family, looked great in his sporting outfit and cap as he exclaimed, “Today is for fun. I’m so excited and ready to play!”



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