

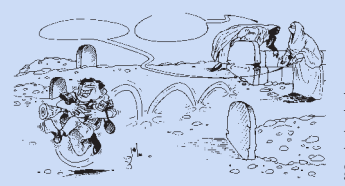
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## Saleh threatens Houthis with war

By: Mohammed Bin Sallam

SANA'A, August 19 — President Ali Abdullah Saleh threatened Houthi leader, Abdul Malik Al-Houthi with military settlement. Saleh told Al-Wasat independent newspaper in its issue published last Wednesday, "If the Houthi leader does not behave himself and abide by all the decisions of the committee, there is no other alternative other than settling the situation militarily. It is the final and decisive solution."

May news net, a General People's Congress affiliate, said that members of the Qatari delegation assisting in implementation of the ceasefire agreement left Sana'a last Thursday for Al-Doha. Their departure was in response to the obstinacy of Al-Houthi who has refused to abide by all articles of the ceasefire agreement as well as putting obstacles in the way of its implementation within the 20-day time limit.

"The efforts exerted by the presidential committee consisting of representatives of political parties in the parliament along with Qatar delegation to supervising the implementation of Sa'ada ceasefire agreement during the last months until Thursday, have reached to impasse. This is ascribed to the stubborn attitude of Abdul Malik Al-Houthi and his loyalists according to the scheduled ceiling to

implement the articles of the ceasefire agreement," a source from the presidential committee revealed to May news.

The presidential committee in conjunction with the Qatari delegation determined a 20-day timetable to implement articles of the ceasefire agreement in light of its assessment of the tasks achieved by the committee in the last period.

The committee along with the Qatari delegation considered the timetable a final, binding and irrevocable program. A copy of this program will be submitted to the local authority and Abdul Malik Al-Houthi, provided that the two parties announce their commitment to implementing the program within 48 hours maximum.

Sheikh Saleh Habra, representative of Abdul Malik Al-Houthi, denied that Houthi loyalists have erected new military sites or raised additional conditions outside original articles of the ceasefire agreement signed in Al-Doha on July 16.

In a statement published by Al-Eshtraki.net, Habra stated, "We completely deny that new military sites have been originated since ceasing fire two months ago. We also assure you that what has been published by the media in this regard is baseless."

In respect to raising additional conditions not present in the schedule approved by the presidential committee,

Habra said, "This is not true too. We did not pose any additional conditions outside the articles of the announced agreement. What we did is that we made a response to the words of the two committees in the specified timetable." The response, signed by Abdul Malik Al-Houthi, contained a group of technical remarks and measures related to the articles of the current agreement.

Media sources mentioned last Thursday that Houthi loyalists established new military sites in the area of Takhia and raised new conditions which were not included in the timetable approved by the Qatari and presidential committees.

Well-informed sources stated that Qatari committee members returned to Al-Doha for the second time since signing the agreement two months ago to negotiate with their political leaders.

Sources close to members of the presidential committee and Houthi loyalists reported that Qatari delegates returned to Al-Doha to negotiate on some articles, assuring their contact with the two parties. They intend to return to Sana'a soon.

Last week, Qatari delegates participated in a discussion on issues raised by Al-Houthi in response to what was included in the presidential timetable for applying remaining articles of the ceasefire agreement.

According to the same sources, the message Al-Houthi sent to the two committees included issues ignored by their schedule such as a decree of amnesty and a return to normalcy. It also highlighted the necessity of withdrawing army forces from villages and farms of the citizens seized during the war.

Lack of trust between the conflicting parties as well as the continuation of media campaigns accusing Houthis of terrorism and conspiracy have contributed to hindering full implementation of the ceasefire agreement.

Houthi informed presidential committee members about the continuation of clashes in Sha'llalah in Washah district in Hajjah governorate as well as in Thowab in Haidan district. They also demanded that priority be given to restoring stability in those two areas as related to the first article of the agreement.

The United Nations World Food Program (WFP) announced the commencement of implementing their three-month operation, valued at \$1.3 million, to provide food assistance to 36,000 people displaced by the armed conflict in Sa'ada governorate.

The United Nations mentioned that this operation is a continuation of the WFP's previous two-month operation, by which some 20,000 displaced received assistance during June and July.

The statement also pointed out that Mohammed El Kouhene, WFP representative in Yemen, ensured the continuation of providing food assistance to aid humanitarian efforts in Sa'ada.

## Why is this child in prison?



Three children aged 15, including Wael Ghalib (above) are campaigning against their detention. See Nisreen Shadad's report on Page 2

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## Strong clashes at Sana'a University

By: Yemen Times Staff

SANA'A, August 19 — Strong clashes occurred between soldiers and students enrolling at Sana'a University last Sunday in the yard of the Faculty of Trading and Commerce.

An eyewitness confirmed that soldiers and students fired shots during the enrolling process. One student, Ameen Al-Shubati, was injured and taken to the hospital after a soldier beat him in the head with the back of his pistol. The eyewitness indicated that the incident occurred in sequence with student protests against the enrolling committee at the Faculty of Trading and Commerce, accusing the faculty of unfairly distinguishing between students in the enrolling process. The eyewitness added that four of the soldiers were carrying weapons and about four others carried cudgels.

The General Union of Yemeni Students condemned the firing of shots and bashing of students with cudgels during the enrolling process. Redhwan Mass'oud, head of the General Union of Yemeni Students considered these acts as terrorism against university stu-

dents and asked the concerned authorities to transfer the soldiers to the judiciary to be punished and to substitute the military guards with civil guards.

Abdul Malek Al-Sayighi, head of the General People's Congress (GPC) at the Faculty of Trading and Commerce, considered that Mass'oud's demands were geared toward clearing the university yard of security in order to encourage fighting and to attack university guards attempting to quell ensuing violence.

Al-Sayighi affirmed that the incident occurred when a group of Islam-affiliated students started distributing some enrollment forms and partisan

slogans to students. He added that one of the Islam-affiliated students was the first to fire shots.

Al-Sayighi expected further incidents in the future and considered such incident the result of a lack of awareness among students of enrollment procedures.

There were more than 1,000 students and only one committee to receive students' documents while there were three committees last year.

It is expected that Yemeni universities, in which the enrolling period started Saturday, August 18, will receive about 65,000 students for the 2007 - 2008 academic year.

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# Baghdad mortar attack kills 10 as clashes reported

By: Paul Tait

BAGHDAD (Reuters) - A mortar attack killed 10 people on Sunday in a Shi'ite district of eastern Baghdad where witnesses reported clashes between U.S. forces and Shi'ite militiamen.

The U.S. military last week launched a new nationwide offensive targeting Sunni Islamist al Qaeda and Shi'ite militias.

Washington and the U.S. military say they fear al Qaeda and militias will step up attacks to try to influence debate ahead of a report on the Iraq war due to be presented to Congress in mid-September.

At least four mortar rounds fell in al-Obeidi, which is close to Sadr City, a sprawling Shi'ite slum and stronghold of powerful anti-American cleric Moqtada al-Sadr and his Mehdi Army militia. More than 40 other people were hurt.

Al-Obeidi residents reported clashes between U.S. forces and the Mehdi Army in the area after at least one U.S. vehicle had been attacked by a roadside bomb during a patrol a day earlier.

Police and residents said those clashes appeared to be separate to the mortar attack in a different area of al-Obeidi.

The U.S. military could not immediately comment on the reports of the clashes.

Major-General Rick Lynch, com-



Residents stand near the rubble of a house that was damaged after a mortar attack in Baghdad August 19.

mander of U.S. forces south of Baghdad, said he believed up to 50 members of the Iranian Revolutionary Guards' Quds force were in his area of command, training militia fighters to use mortars and rockets.

"We are concerned primarily about the training of Shi'ite extremists. We think there are about 50 members of the Iranian Revolutionary Guards," Lynch told a news conference.

An Iranian Foreign Ministry spokesman in Tehran called Lynch's accusations "baseless" and said they were not new.

Lynch said there had been an increase in mortar and rocket attacks on U.S. forces in his area of command and that rocket attacks were becoming "more accurate and more effective", a fact he attributed to more sophisticated Iranian weaponry.

Washington has accused Shi'ite Muslim Iran of fomenting violence in Iraq through its support for Shi'ite militias.

Iran denies the charges and blames the 2003 U.S.-led invasion for the sectarian violence between majority Shi'ites and minority Sunni Arabs that has killed tens of thousands.

The latest U.S. offensive is part of a security crackdown Washington says is meant to buy time for Iraq's fractured Shi'ite-led government to reach a series of political benchmarks.

U.S. President George W. Bush said on Saturday while political progress was being made at a local level, Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki's government still had many important measures to resolve in order to meet those goals.

Maliki, under pressure from over his government's negligible progress, was preparing for a second round of crisis talks on Sunday with political leaders from Iraq's Shi'ite Muslim, Sunni Arab and Kurdish communities.

An opening round of talks on Saturday were described by Deputy Prime Minister Barham Salih as "cordial but candid", but they did not reach agreement on any of the key issues.

Washington wants signs of political progress towards reconciliation before U.S. ambassador Ryan Crocker and General David Petraeus, commander of U.S. forces in Iraq issue their report.

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# Hurricane Dean threatens Jamaica

By: Horace Helps

KINGSTON (Reuters) - Jamaica urged people to leave low-lying areas and head to evacuation centres on Sunday as powerful Hurricane Dean bore down on the island, after killing at least four people on its path through the Caribbean.

Dean was a Category 4 hurricane, the second-highest on the five-step Saffir-Simpson scale, as it neared the verdant and mountainous island but it was expected to strengthen into a rare and potentially catastrophic Category 5 as it heads toward Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula on Monday.

Peninsula on Monday.

The Jamaican government urged people to flee low-lying and landslide-prone areas, put troops and police on alert and bussed people to evacuation centres.

But residents of one low-lying seaport town close to Kingston refused to flee.

"We are going nowhere," Byron Thompson said in the former buccaneer town of Port Royal, settled by pirate Henry Morgan in the 16th century. "In fact, if you come by here later today you will see me drinking rum over in that bar with some friends."

The Jamaican power company said it

would switch off electricity after 10 a.m. local time (4 p.m. British Time).

Lines formed at gas stations and supermarkets were crammed as shoppers bought batteries, flashlights, canned tuna, rice and water. Campaigning for August 27 elections was halted.

Dean packed sustained winds of 145 miles per hour (230 km per hour) and its eye was about 180 miles (295 km) east-southeast of the capital Kingston at 8 a.m. EDT.

### Storm warnings

Hurricane warnings were also in effect



A resident of Port Royal watches the sky before the arrival of Hurricane Dean in Kingston, Jamaica, August 19, 2007. Hurricane Dean bore down on Jamaica and the Cayman Islands on Sunday and threatened to pound Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula as a rare Category 5 storm.

for the Cayman islands and parts of Haiti and a tropical storm warning was issued for parts of Cuba and the Dominican Republic.

Dean was the first hurricane of what is expected to be an above-average 2007 Atlantic storm season.

Officials in the Dominican Republic, where the hurricane sent 18-foot (5.5-metre) waves crashing onto southern beaches, said a 16-year-old Haitian was swept out to sea.

That brought to at least four the number of victims since Dean roared into the Caribbean between the Lesser Antilles islands of Martinique and St. Lucia on Friday.

Dean was moving west-northwest at 18 mph (30 kph) and was being watched closely by energy markets, which have been skittish since a series of storms in 2004 and 2005 toppled Gulf of Mexico oil rigs, flooded refineries and cut pipelines.

The latest computer models showed Dean tracking just to the south of Jamaica. That could mean its most damaging winds in the northeast quadrant could slam Kingston.

It was then expected to pass the Cayman Islands, a wealthy British territory and financial centre, and hit Mexico's Yucatan Peninsula early in the week.

After that it was likely to aim for the northern Mexico coast rather than threatening the most critical U.S. offshore oil and gas production areas further north.

Mexican authorities began evacuations from the Caribbean coast, while U.S. President George W. Bush issued an emergency declaration for Texas to free up federal help and funds.

The U.S. space shuttle Endeavour hastily departed the orbiting International Space Station in order to land back on Earth a day ahead of schedule in case the storm forced NASA to evacuate its mission control centre in Houston.

Cuba declared a hurricane emergency for the southeast provinces of Guantanamo, Granma and Santiago de

Cuba, and westernmost province of Pinar del Rio and the Isle of Youth, evacuating tens of thousands of people from low lying areas in the four provinces and along the entire southern coast.

Dean's destructive core passed south of Haiti's southern coast, and there were no immediate reports of emergencies. But tropical cyclones frequently trigger flash floods and mudslides in the deforested, poverty-stricken country of 8 mil-

lion.

Category 5 hurricanes are rare. Until the record-breaking 2005 Atlantic hurricane season, records showed only two years — 1960 and 1961 — with more than one Category 5 storm.

But in 2005, four hurricanes reached that strength — Emily, Katrina, Rita and Wilma — triggering debate about the impact of global warming on tropical cyclones.



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# Peculiar funeral customs pervade Yemeni governorates

By: Abdul Qadir Al-Emad  
For Yemen Times  
ab.alemad@gmail.com

Every community has its own cultural beliefs and traditions for various situations and occasions. Visiting the graves of religious sheikhs, especially those who passed away a long time ago, is a habit practiced in several governorates of Yemen. In Dhamar governorate, this tradition is well-known. The purpose of these visits lie in peoples' strong belief in receiving blessings from deceased clerics.

On a trip to Wasab Al-Aly (90 kilometers to the west of Dhamar City), a visitor may discover customs practiced by natives of some sub-districts such as Al-Seef. Both male and female residents are good and humble, living a simple life in a very rugged mountainous area. The peaks of mountains remain green throughout the year, adding to the region's natural beauty. The locals are as attractive as the area in which they reside.

Although it is isolated like an island, Wasab is very interesting and its natives have been bestowed with innocence and openness. It is very rich with customs and traditions that a visitor can rarely find anywhere else in Yemen.

## Life After Death

Much more astonishment lies in the belief of people on the matter of life after death. In different ways people think that dead people come to life again but are invisible. Consequently, the locals of Wasab practice different customs related to these "invisible spirits."

The focus of this article is on the funeral customs practiced by women as well as men. Women usually send roses and flowers to their relatives who have passed away, while men send bottles of a specific perfume called Jannat Al-Na'eem.

Both men and women consider a

newly-deceased person as their messenger to the after-life. This is not a new custom but a very ancient tradition that successors inherited from their ancestors. The mystique is that people from different ages approach the custom in different ways. Residents of Wasab believe that nobody from amongst their people goes to Hell after death, but that Paradise is ordained for them. Fatima, like other native women of the region, believes that only non-Muslims are going to Hell.

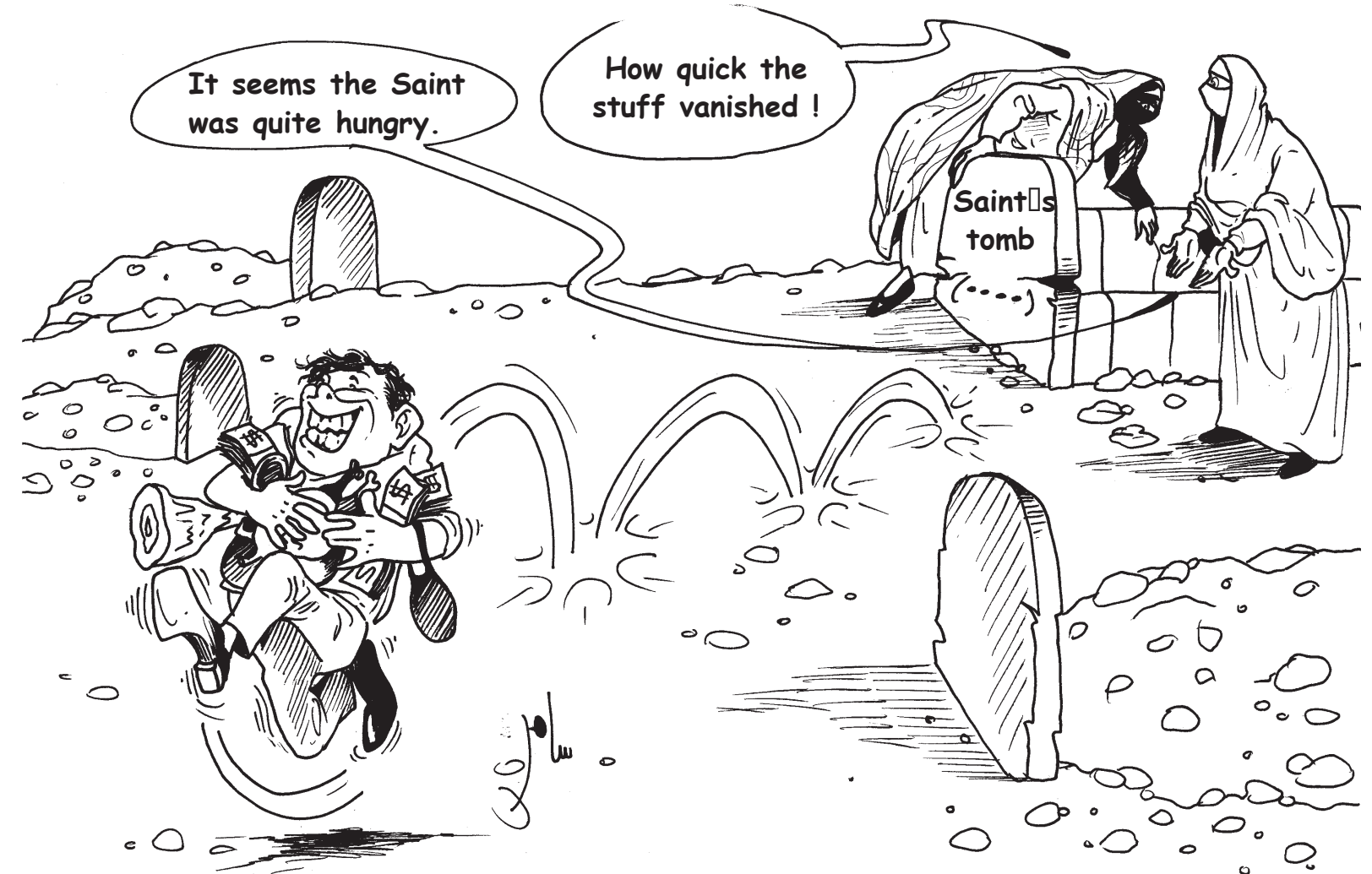
At the funeral of Kasim Ali, a Wasab native, Fatima sent bouquets of flowers and asked Ali to deliver them to her husband who passed away ten years ago. She said to Ali, "Please take these flowers to my husband and convey my regards to him." When asked how a deceased person can carry flowers to her long-time deceased husband she replied, "He is now dead but after being left by us under the ground of the graveyard, he will meet all of those who passed away before and will submit the messages to all of them. You know, they are living after death in the same neighborhood which is the graveyard."

20-year-old Mohammed Ameen sent his grandfather a bottle of Jannat Al-Na'eem perfume. Fatima and Mohammed were not relatives of Ali but were his neighbors, so they did not appear as upset as his relatives. In fact, they looked somehow pleased because they found a messenger to their deceased relatives.

Locals consider taking photos of the funeral as inconsiderate and harmful, especially to the relatives of the departed person. Their funeral customs symbolize their belief in the saying: "The people die, but spiritually they stay alive."

For Saad, a teacher at Al-Farroq school, all these thoughts and beliefs are baseless. "Illiteracy and lack of enlightenment are two rulers of these innocent people," Saad added.

Banning the cleaning of houses on Monday & Thursday nights is another



local tradition connected with death. Ghazal Hussein explained that cleaning up rooms of the house or clothes is dangerous on Monday and Thursday nights because she believes that these nights are blessed nights (Be'ooth Nights). "We feel terrified that the ghosts of our people who passed away in the past may come to life again," Hussein mentioned.

On these alleged "blessed" nights, locals burn incense to honor their beloved dead because they believe that their deceased relatives visit them during these nights. "We feel that that they are with us inside the houses but invis-

ible, so we use perfume and incense on these two nights weekly," Hussein added.

Paying daily visits to the graves of the dead religious sheikhs or clerics in order to gain more blessings from these deceased religious men is another tradition practiced. These visits are mostly made by women, especially the elderly. On their way to visit the deceased, women carry candles and burn incense to make the area smell good.

Several years ago, locals would place money and coins at graves. After Al-Eshaa' prayer children would visit the graves in order to collect the money

that the women left behind.

Simbulla is a local woman who strongly believes in this myth. Everyday after Maghrib (sunset) she carries two candles and incense and stands at a grave, mumbling and murmuring some prayers to the dead person to make her cow healthier and to produce more milk. "Generally, we do so because these people are able to solve our problems such as increasing our income and curing diseases that we suffer from," she stated.

Abduh Abbas, a local intellectual, points out that the cause of discrepancy in thoughts and beliefs lies in the big

gap between the old and young people. "Nowadays we have a number of educated generation who never believe in such fables or myths, but the old people particularly the illiterate, the majority of them are females," he stated, adding, "I think it is the lack of infrastructure like roads, typical schools and illiteracy-erasing centers. There are educated girls who completed the primary school, however they find themselves obligated to follow the same traditions." He concluded, "Whatever people have in mind, their beliefs should be respected and if possible they can be corrected wisely."

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# For Yemen to be a true democracy, it must promote better freedom of expression

Organized by Yemeni Journalists Syndicate in cooperation with ARTICLE 19 organization, a two-day workshop for journalists was conducted to support liberal press law, which encourages freedom of expression and professional journalism.

By: Nadia Al-Sakkaf

In December 2005 a number of journalists led by the syndicate created 7 guidelines for a new press code to govern print media in Yemen. This action came as a response to a new version of the current Press and Publications Law number 25 of the year 1990, proposed by the Ministry of information and the Consultative Council. Journalists rejected the proposed draft as being more oppressive and limiting press freedom. However, the Yemeni government is still attempting to pass the new code, arguing that if the journalists think it is not a good law, then why should not they recommend another legislation and present it for discussion.

"Media in Yemen does not need a press law to govern the profession of journalist. We don't see a doctors' or a farmers' law, or that of any other profession. Then why should journalism have its own law? The freedom of expression is a right to all people and not just journalists and hence, practicing this right in established democracies is governed by civil laws," said Saeed Thabet, first deputy at the Yemeni

expression and one which had successful stories in promoting local media communities enhance the press freedom space in their countries. ARTICLE 19 is an international human rights organization, which defends and promotes freedom of expression and freedom of information all over the world.

One of the success stories of legislating freedom of expression, which ARTICLE 19 supported, is the Law of Georgia on Freedom of Speech and Expression. This is a progressive law and is considered a significant step in promoting freedom of expression in the country. It elaborates on the content of the right to freedom of expression, explains its fundamental status in a democracy and provides clear principles on when it may be restricted and the safeguards that need to be in place to prevent abuse of those restrictions.

ARTICLE 19 has been to Yemen on several occasions in the past, and funded events to promote better media legislation in Yemen in partnership with local organizations, under the framework of the organization's global campaign for freedom of expression. Sarah Richani, Middle East Programme Officer and Daniel Simons,

a law which restricts the practice of journalism to persons with special qualifications or experience.

*This right shall include freedom to seek, receive and impart information and ideas*

This means freedom of expression is not only the right to publish but also to collect information. Therefore a law that prohibits journalists from accessing certain public facilities, or one which puts taxes on media outlets is a limitation on freedom of expression, because it creates obstacles against receiving or disseminating information.

*Information and ideas of all kinds*

Freedom of expression does not only include useful or correct information. It is about any kind of information regardless of type or context. It is precisely persons who have controversial or unpopular opinions who need the protection of the right.

*Regardless of frontiers*

It is a universal right that extends beyond political borders and information should be allowed to flow not only within countries but between countries. Governments should in principle not impose prohibitions against foreign information.

*Either orally, in writing or in print, in the form of art, or through any other media of his choice*

Regardless of the medium, the right of expression should be guaranteed whether it is through radio, TV, public campaigns...etc. For example, a law which limits broadcasting only to government control violates this element.

*The difficult balance*

Yet, in order to balance freedom of expression with other rights of individuals and of society as a whole, article 19 paragraph 3 recognizes that the state can limit the freedom of expression. However, limitations have to fulfill three criteria before they can be allowed. Firstly, a law must be issued in which the limitation is clearly outlined. This gives people who want to use this right a chance to understand their boundaries and know if they are going to cross the line.

Secondly, the state has to have a legitimate purpose for legislating this limitation. International law recognizes only the following purposes as legitimate: protecting the rights or reputations of others, national security, public order, public health or public morals.

Finally, the limitation must be necessary to achieve its legitimate purpose. It must not be overbroad but narrowly drafted, so that it does not limit freedom of expression more than strictly necessary. In case of violating this, the penalty should be proportional to the harm inflicted by the person whose use of expression caused a harm of such nature.

*Broadcasting*

Although the right of expression is guaranteed through any kind of media, the situation for broadcasting regulation raises special problems. In many established democracies, there are no regulations for the print media, because it is thought any person should be able to publish without official permission, yet there are regulations for licensing of radio and TV channels. The reason is that technical requirements impose a limitation of the possible number of stations sharing the same air. Therefore, an independent commission must be created to regulate the licensing of broadcast media. The overall objective of this commission is to create a balanced plurality in broadcast media. Usually, members of this commission are appointed by the parliament, the candidates are originally nominated by either the public directly or by stakeholders. In established democracies, the trend is that members of this committee must not be senior government employees or senior officials at political parties. They also must have a clean criminal record and not be investors in the local media. Other criteria are provided so that members reflect the diversity of the society and possess relevant expertise. A member of the committee may be removed after violating any of the selection criteria, or if the member cannot perform the duties due to ill-health or has violated his or her responsibilities as member of the commission. The removal must be confirmed by parliament and can be appealed against in court.

The independent commission will usually start by making a plan for the future of the broadcasting sector. This plan identifies how the available airwaves will be used, reserving frequencies according to

three main classifications: whether it is radio or TV broadcasting; whether the coverage is national, regional, or local; and whether it is a state, commercial, or non profit broadcasting station. At each of these levels, the plan will reserve frequencies for different types of stations, for example with a focus on news, culture, sports or children. The granting then depends on competition between the applicants who must prove their worth of getting the license.

Another example is that a journalist cannot advise of the parliamentary system as an alternative to the current ruling system used in Yemen.

Within the right to freedom of expression, there is the right to access of information. Through this right, the state should create a mechanism by which it facilitates people's access to information, and penalty to state employees who deny this right. However the Yemeni press code allows journalists to only access information that is already public. It even incrim-

**“ No new press code can be passed without the journalists syndicate approval, this I can assure you. —Hamdi Al-Bukari ”**

**Yemeni Press Code and the Right to Expression**

Lawyer Nabil Al-Mahmadi is the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate legal advisor. He described the Yemeni Press Code as a "clear violation of the constitution and of the international declarations Yemen has ratified." He explained that there is an internal as well as an external dimension to freedom of expression as a matter of concept. The internal dimension prohibits the state to enforce beliefs and attitudes

inates a journalist who accesses information from another source other than the person concerned, regardless whether the information is true or false. "How else will journalists do their jobs if only they have to get the information from the main source? Will a corrupt official give journalists the details of his bank account?" asked Al-Mahmadi.

The external dimension is related to the organization of the media outlet. The question must be whether the outlet is vio-

**“ The purpose of this event is to come out with a common vision on next steps to create a better legislation which promotes freedom of expression. —Saeed Thabet ”**

through legislations. For example, a law that forces journalists to respect Yemeni heritage violates this law because it tells them what to respect and his violates their right to personal convictions. "The tragedy is that there are laws in the Yemeni legal system in which the penalty for someone who disrespects the national heritage or historical achievements with the death penalty according to article 103 of the crime and penalty law," he exclaimed.

lating the freedom of expression article in its outcome. Yet the press code imposes restrictions on practical matters such as source of funding, shareholders, staff and internal charters. The ideal case is that media outlets should not be exposed to the threat of being shut down by authorities because of their structure regardless of their performance or outcome. The reality of the current press code violates the essence of the right to freedom of expression, according to Al-Mahmadi.

## Yemeni Journalists Syndicate's broad guidelines for press regulations

- The press law should commit to the international laws and treaties Yemen has ratified including Sana'a Declaration of 1996.
- Releasing audio and video media broadcasting from state ownership and ensuring the right of access to information for journalists while protecting them from any harm or harassment that could be caused because of the profession.
- Endorsing the role of media in society development and implementing transparency that fights corruption through the positive role of media in society.
- Clear separation between the limitations and constraints aiming at regulating the profession and protecting rights within the international framework and between oppressive constraints that limit the freedom of expression without legitimate reason.
- Although media is a public message dealing with mass communication it is also a financial activity subjected to profit and loss. Therefore, the rights of the people working in media must be achieved to maintain a dignified and stable life for them.
- Eliminating all prohibitions in practicing journalism and using an ethical code of conduct as an alternative for regulating the practice.
- The only legitimate reference for any penalty against journalists is the judiciary system. Journalists are not to be imprisoned, or their media outlets shut down because of practicing their profession. Any financial fine must not exceed 50 percent of the monthly salary of a journalist.
- Monitoring the media in Yemen is to be the job of an independent supreme council supervised by the Consultative Council. The media supreme council is to consist members of the civil society in order to transfer the state owned media into national media 51 percent owned by the government and 48 percent presented as public shares.
- Achieve flexibility, fairness, and balance between journalists' rights and responsibilities in practicing their profession and to facilitate their work through provision of the requirements they need to do their job.

**“ Freedom of expression is only sought against the state. In other words, only the state is accountable for ensuring this freedom. —Nabil Al-Mahmadi ”**

Journalists Syndicate.

According to Thabet, the syndicate tested the extent of government cooperation in a simpler issue regarding job descriptions of people working in the media. The minister of information dumped the proposed manual for job descriptions "not inside the drawer, but he simply dumped it underneath it." The syndicate did not receive a response or reaction to their proposal for months and it put the credibility of the ministry's claim to accepting suggestions into question.

"Yemeni journalists of all affiliations should come together and agree on a better version of the press code which does not constrain freedom of expression. Let not our political differences blind us to what is best for our profession. We need to include modern international standards in media, in order to support democracy in our country," said Hamdi Al-Bukari head of the professional and training affairs at the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate. Al-Bukari is initiating through the syndicate a national campaign to promote a better press code. With the assistance of international organizations, and cooperation between Yemeni journalists, the campaign would exert pressure on the parliament and decision makers to side by a freedom of expression.

Article 19 is one of the international organizations working on freedom of

legal officer represented ARTICLE 19 at the workshop.

"Media law is about two things: how to ensure people can express themselves and voice opinions through the media, and second how to balance this right of expression against other rights such as individual reputation or public safety," said Simons at the workshop.

**The right to freedom of expression**

In order to truly guarantee the right to freedom of expression governments must work on two levels. Governments should not harass media or stop it from expressing views, and governments must take measures to ensure people can express their rights through providing a suitable environment for doing so.

Article 19, paragraph 2 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the UN's main human rights treaty which Yemen ratified in 1987, defines the meaning of the right to freedom of expression. The definition includes five elements.

**Everyone shall have the right to freedom of expression:**

Everyone, regardless of nationality, gender, or age...etc has the right to expression. Therefore, in essence a law which allows only Yemenis to work in the media violates this element of the article, as does

**“ Freedom of expression is guaranteed in the Yemeni constitution. It is also guaranteed in article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and article 19 of the international convention on Civil and Political right. This ratification means Yemen has promised the other 159 ratifying countries it would ensure freedom of expression for people living in Yemen. —Daniel Simons ”**

## Case example

Costa Rica ratified the *American Convention on Human Rights*, a regional treaty intended to give effect to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, in 1970. The law was that for anyone to be a journalist he or she must become a member of the "colegio" (syndicate), which was in reality controlled by the state. Journalists, who were denied the membership because of their opposition to the state, raised a case against the Costa Rican government at Inter-American Court of Human Rights in 1985. The state's argument was that this law, which gave control to the syndicate over who is to become a journalist, would protect the profession of journalism and was necessary to protect the right of people to receive accurate and credible information. However, the court ruled in favor of the journalists on the basis that the harm caused by the syndicate control could prove much more than that of allowing anyone to become a journalist. "In truth, general welfare requires the greatest possible amount of information, and it is the full exercise of the right of expression that benefits this general welfare... A system that controls the right of expression in the name of a supposed guarantee of the correctness and truthfulness of the information that society receives can be the source of great abuse and, ultimately, violates the right to information that this same society has."



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Dove Energy Limited invites *Yemeni Nationals* only to apply for the position of Electric Technician (Position in Sharyoof -CPF)

**Responsibilities**

- Assists in the development, construction, and installation of new electrical systems and maintenance, repair or replacement of electrical equipment
- Capable of reading and understand the electrical drawings and be able repair and troubleshoot general electrical equipments and switchgears.
- Knowledge in Caterpillar engine electric / Electronic circuits and variable speed drives is an added advantage.
- Should have experience in both LV and MV industrial equipments and switchgear.
- Should independently perform tasks like power and control cabling / terminations up to the standards.
- Recommends changes in circuitry or installation specifications to simplify assembly and maintenance.
- Operate bench lathes, drills, or other machine tools to fabricate parts.

**Qualifications and Experience Preferred**

- Should be Yemeni Nationality
- Bachelor/ Diploma in Electrical or equivalent
- Over 4 years of work experience
- Desert oilfield position working 4 weeks on -4 weeks off
- Possess good working knowledge in preventive maintenance in electrical system
- Good problem-solving and analytical skills
- Must be independent, self-motivated and committed
- Good speaking and writing skills in both English & Arabic languages
- Ability to work in teamwork environment

Interested candidates are request to submit their CVs and applications by mail to the Dove Energy, Human Resources Department, by email to: [hr@doveyemen.com](mailto:hr@doveyemen.com). Responses will only be made to short listed candidates. Kindly do not contact the company to ask about the status of your C.V

The deadline for receiving applications is 1st

  
**DOVE ENERGY LIMITED**  
**VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT**

**Vehicle Mechanic**

Dove Energy Limited invites *Yemeni Nationals* only to apply for the position Vehicle Mechanic (Position in Sharyoof- CPF).

**Job Description:**

- Routine oil changes, tire rotation, fluid changes, battery inspections, electrical system testing, brake inspections and replacement etc for all company's vehicle (Toyota 4\_4).
- The log sheets must be completely filled in with accurate information as the maintenance is performed and submitted to the maintenance department
- Prepare list of recommended parts to be stocked considering the operating conditions.
- Discuss problems with car drivers or vehicle operators to discover faults, listen to engines, fit and operate special test equipment and test drive vehicles
- Services and repairs gasoline and diesel engines, manual and automatic transmissions, rear ends, drive lines, clutch, brake and electrical systems, air conditioning and related equipment, fuel and cooling systems, hydraulics, and air brakes at a vehicle maintenance facility or the site of a vehicle breakdown in sometimes inclement weather.
- Performs wheel alignment and general overhaul of equipment including disassembly as required, repairing or replacing of damaged or malfunctioning parts or mechanical units, including camshafts, crankshafts, pistons, rings, connecting rods, bearings, valves, and lifters.

**Qualifications and Experience Preferred**

- Should be Yemeni Nationality
- Over 4 years experience as mechanic
- Good speaking and writing skills in both English & Arabic languages
- Desert oilfield position working 4 weeks on -4 weeks off
- Ability to work in teamwork environment
- Basic Computing skills including knowledge in using MS Office applications

Interested candidates are request to submit their CVs and applications by mail to the Dove Energy, Human Resources Department, by email to: [hr@doveyemen.com](mailto:hr@doveyemen.com). Responses will only be made to short listed candidates. Kindly do not contact the company to ask about the status of your C.V

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**VACANCY Accountant**  
 For the Basic Education Development Project (IDA Credits & Multi-Donors Trust Funds)

The Basic Education Development Project (BEDP) at the Ministry of Education (MOE) seeks applicants for the position of Accountant. Under the general direction of the finance manager, the Accountant will be responsible for ensuring that procedures are implemented

**Main Tasks:**

- Prepare the withdrawal applications, claims, and related governmental letters
- Record transactions in the computerized accounting system of the financial activities of the Program-
- Make the necessary vouchers and receipts for all deposits and withdrawal to and from the credit , and record them in the predefined chart of accounts in the system.
- Make a monthly replenishment of the S/A and maintain the necessary control registers for all procured civil works, goods, & technical assistance.
- Follow-up with related ministries and the Central Bank of Yemen.
- Make a monthly reconciliation of the special account and other current accounts(if any),make a necessary adjustments and monthly closing entries
- Make sure that all bank statements, withdrawal applications, claims, correspondence are properly filed and easily accessible once required.

**Qualifications:**

- A minimum of Bachelor's degree in Accounting.
- Minimum of 3 years of professional experience in accounting.
- Reasonable knowledge of International Accounting Standards.
- Familiarity with the government's and IDA's requirement.
- Experience in the use of accounting softwares.
- Proficiency in both Arabic and English.

All Applications along with a detailed resume and supporting documents should be submitted by **Wednesday September 5, 2007**, to the following address:

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 Basic Education Development Project  
 Project Administration Unit  
 60 m Southern Rd. -Bait Meyad

Tel: 00967-01-619160, Fax: 00967-01- 619219





# Yemen Press Review



**Al-Sahwa Weekly, Mouthpiece of the Islah Party**  
Thursday, August 16

**Main Headlines**

- Nationwide protests against corruption and skyrocketing prices
- Houthis take new military positions, list new demands
- Abdurrazaq is the Islah Party's candidate in Constituency 21 bi-elections
- Monthly salary per Anti-corruption Authority member set at YR 500 thousand.
- Fighter jets and armored vehicles strike demonstrators in Abyan
- Sana'a University Rector threatens to cut salaries of the dead, syndicate demands him to quit post
- Government and tradesmen exchange accusations over price rises
- U.S. House of Senates: Yemen on the way to failure, authorities play with reforms

The weekly reported in its lead story that a U.S. House of Senates' report expects Yemen to be a totally failed country within the few decades to come due to the large number of obstacles posed to reforms and development in the vulnerable country. Released by the U.S. Congress Research Service, the report revealed that oil reserves in Yemen are on the way to deplete unless there are serious efforts to explore new oil blocks.

The Congress report described Yemen as underdeveloped country as most of its areas live a state of lawlessness. It went on to say that 43

percent of Yemen's population lives below the poverty line, and only 33 percent of the female population can read and write. According to the report, one-third of Yemen's children are not enrolled in primary schools and that the country is in an urgent need for the construction of extra ten thousand schools in the years to come in order to meet the growing demand of the country's rapid population growth.



**26 September Weekly, Organ of the Yemeni Army**  
Thursday, August 16

**Main Headlines**

- President Saleh: Don't pour more oil on the fire, we aren't anxious about unity
- Technical Institute for Armed Forces established under republican decree
- Prime and Minister and Saudi companies discuss investment opportunities in Yemen
- Vice President: Agriculture is the main pillar of national economy
- National conference for unity and social peace in Sana'a
- Yemen to have four new satellite channels

The Yemeni army's organ reported that a contract has just been signed between Yemeni General Corporation for Radio and Television and Arab Corporation for Satellite Communication (ArabSat). The agreement finds space assignment for four new Yemeni satellite channels.

There will be two educational channels and a channel for young

people as well as a channel dedicated to tourism during the first stage of implementation. A fourth channel, to start during the last stage, has yet to be identified. They'll start trials in November of next year and hope to be broadcasting later that same year. The contract is worth approximately \$2.3 million.



**Al-Wahdawi Weekly, Mouthpiece of the Nasserite Unionist Popular Organization (NUPO).**  
Tuesday, August 14

**Main Headlines**

- Prominent NUPO leader holds government accountable for repeated crises, poor living standards
- Taiz citizens take to streets in protest against price hikes, deteriorating living standards
- Joint Meeting Parties' leadership discusses phenomenon of foodstuff skyrocketing prices, security situation in Sa'ada
- Locusts infest Sana'a while Gulf tourists increase their prices as delicious food
- Yemeni Physicians and Pharmacists Syndicate accuses government of breaking agreement, threatens to escalate protest
- Yemeni Journalists Syndicate demands Interior Ministry to take necessary measures against pressman's liquidation threats
- Government lashes out at Taiz protesters for allegedly fuelling riots
- Border guards foil attempt to smuggle consignment of weapons from Yemen into Saudi Arabia
- According to the weekly

newspaper, Media reports said on Monday that Saudi border guards at the Najran region on the Saudi-Yemeni border foiled an attempt to smuggle a consignment of weapons to the Kingdom. "The would-be smugglers, along with the consignment of weapons, fled back to Yemen," the weekly paper quoted a Saudi official as saying.

The Saudi Okadh paper reported that Assistant Commander of Border Guards positioned in Najran said the consignment contains 16 missiles, 16 armored covers, five anti-tank mines and 3,000 bullets of heavy machineguns. The military official added that the rear border guards and patrols recorded the suspicious movements of unidentified individuals and found quantities of explosives and ammunition hidden beneath rocks. The official went on to say that the traffickers fled the scene toward Yemen after they were prevented from trafficking the consignment into the Saudi territory.



**Al-Methaq Weekly, Mouthpiece of the General People Congress (the ruling party)**  
Monday, August 13

**Main Headlines**

- Wounded ruling party secretary general returns home following medical checkups
- Economic Corporation Director: We set mechanism to sell flour and wheat to consumers at cost price
- Organizations concerned with children discuss Yemen's childhood issues at a workshop
- International welcome to enhancing

health system in Yemen, says Health Minister

- Human Rights Ministry receives up to 400 complaints within 8 months
- Oil and Minerals Minister confirms availability of gas in markets
- Sa'ada committee sets 20-day time lime to execute agreement

The presidential committee set up to monitor the Sa'ada ceasefire set a 20-day time limit to carry out the agreement aimed at ending the sedition in Sa'ada, the ruling party-affiliated weekly reported in a front page article. The news paper added that the committee and the Qatari team said that this date was "final and fixed." The two sides must announce their acceptance of the 20-day limit within 48 hours.

It went on to say that the deal sets dates for the Al-Houthi surrendering their strongholds on several mountains in order to allow the army to regain control of the sites as well as both sides releasing those captured during the conflict. It also stipulates that Abdulmalik Al-Houthi, Abdulkarim Al-Houthi, and Abdullah Al-Razami must travel to Qatar within two days. The committee called upon all concerned parties to abide by the agreement in order to reach a peaceful solution and rebuild Sa'ada.



**Al-Wahdah Comprehensive Political Weekly**  
Wednesday, August 15


**Main Headlines**

- Presidential Committee examines Government's and Houthi's reactions

- Government forms committees to import and plant wheat in Yemen
- Firm procedures to control supplies, prevent price hikes, says Trade and Industry Minister
- Many sheikhs reject National Solidarity Coalition
- Authorities plan to establish 24 tourist projects in Aden
- Swarms of desert locusts infest Taiz, Sana'a and nearby governorates
- French Archeological Team to resume work in Hadramout after Ramdan
- Official report reveals human rights abuses in Rada'a prison

An official report exposed the bad health and poor situations, which inmates of Rada'a Central Prison, Al-Beidha governorate, are suffering, the weekly newspaper reported in a front page story. According to the newspaper, the report stated that the health situation of prisoners is very bad and they are deprived of even the simplest means of healthcare. There are many inmates, who suffer chronic diseases and are thrown in dirty rooms while the jail officials know nothing about them.

Prepared by the Yemeni Ministry of Human Rights in last July, the field report, of which a copy was obtained by the newspaper, clarified that the jail lacks the necessary maintenance. It added that several prisoners are suffering psychological disorders due to the mistreat they receive in prison. The jail administration doesn't abide by the legal conditions for the treatment of prisoners. The report disclosed that many cases are being jailed under orders from Al-Beidha Governor, Chief of Security Department or any other security officials without referring them to the court or the prosecution for trials.




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# YEMEN: Rapid urbanisation threatening capital's water supplies

**“T**hat's not the city I want to remember,” Al-Dhamari, 80, said, standing at the entrance to the old city and gesturing towards the urban sprawl extending as far as the eye can see.

Sanaa today extends well beyond the ancient clay walls. In 1975, the city's population was 135,000. Today it is over two million and, according to government estimates, growing at a rate of 7 to 8 percent a year. At around 3.5 percent, Yemen's population growth rate is one of the highest in the world today.

Over 70 percent of Yemen's 21 million inhabitants still live in rural areas, but rapid urbanisation is fast emerging as a considerable challenge for this largely desert nation - one of the driest, poorest and least developed countries in the world.

Sanaa's rapid growth, fuelled by a boom in investment, construction and a steady influx of labour migrants from rural areas, has not been without consequences: Many migrants live in misery, face disease, and lack the most basic requirements for a dignified life, the UN Development Programme (UNDP) reports. The municipal authorities are increasingly unable to provide basic services.

deputy minister of Yemen's recently established Ministry of Water and Environment, told IRIN in Sanaa. “You can't imagine life without water, and without water, people will just have to leave and migrate somewhere else,” he predicted.

His admission is telling, but one often echoed by senior members of the government and indicative of a real crisis at hand.

“The root problem is water,” Abdul-Ghani Jamil, deputy governor of Sanaa Governorate told IRIN. “Without water there is no life, making all these other issues secondary.”

**Nationwide water scarcity**  
Sanaa's water problems are indicative of those of the nation - only magnified.

Yemen faces a chronic imbalance in the population-water resources equation as a result of its increasing population and absolute scarcity of water resources.

The National Water Resources Authority (NWRA) estimates that the total renewable freshwater resources for the country are just 2,500 million cubic metres (MCM) a year, of which 1,500 MCM is surface water and 1,000 MCM groundwater.

At the same time, however, experts say current demand is 3,200 MCM a



Rapidly depleting water resources have forced residents of Sanaa to buy water from private sources. Water levels are dropping by six metres a year in the Yemeni capital.



Yehia Al-Dhamari, 80, rarely ventures beyond the walls of old Sanaa. Rapid urbanisation has seen the Yemeni capital grow by as much as 8 percent a year

as a result of urbanisation, water scarcity, waste, and poor management.

In most countries in the region, wells rarely go deeper than 200 metres, while in Sanaa it is not uncommon today for wells to reach aquifers 600-1,200 metres down.

“These are the last aquifers. We don't have any more water resources after that,” Al-Asbahi said. “This is where the water stops.”

**Buying water**

But for many residents in the city, the water stopped long ago.

“I have been living here for two years and have always had to buy my water from outside,” Haider Mohammed Alsady, a 21-year-old literature student, complained, pointing to the waterless tap in his simple two-room Sanaa flat.

Only 15 to 25 percent of residents drink from the city's official network. The rest buy from an army of private water vendors that roam the streets selling water from the city's private wells, as well as from nearby villages.

The fact that water and sewage pipes run in parallel with each other means that a similar proportion of people are not hooked up to the city's fledgling sewage system either.

“Water supply is linked to sanitation. There is no getting around that,” the UNDP's Al-Asbahi said, noting that many of the large-scale housing projects now springing up in the city have their own water resource systems as well as sewage systems.

**Future strategies**

The debate over how to tackle the city's water crisis continues. The government has raised the possibility of changing the country's economic base so that

people switch away from water-based activities to non-water based activities. But this is politically very sensitive in a country where 50 percent of the population works in agriculture.

A series of dams to collect rainwater have been mooted, but there are questions as to whether the ambitious multi-million dollar plan could ever get off the ground.

“Unfortunately, the cost of this is

very high,” Al-Hamdi said.

Feasibility studies show that a dam near Sanaa would provide the city with a sustainable seven MCM of water a year, while at the same time eight MCM was currently being lost in the irrigation system, he said.

“We could use the money for the dam to improve the irrigation system instead, resulting in greater savings over the long term,” he suggested,

stressing the need for integrated water management, including wiser water usage and irrigation efficiency.

As the debate goes on, time is running out: “This capital city is under threat of being the first in the world to run out of water,” the deputy minister said bluntly. “And we don't want to be famous for that.”

Source: IRIN



Haider Mohammed Alsady, a 21-year-old university student in Sanaa, says he never gets any water out of his taps, forcing him to purchase water from outside. Photo: David Swanson/IRIN

While the provision of health, education, and housing services, are a problem, it is the rapid depletion of the city's already scarce water resources that is putting its very survival in jeopardy.

“Probably the city will become a ghost town,” Dr Mohammed Al-Hamdi,

year - a gap of 700 MCM.

NWRA Deputy Chairman Abdullah Al-Dhari said the average Yemeni's share of renewable water resources was 155 cu. m. per year - one tenth the average of most Middle Eastern countries and one fiftieth of the world average.

As the population grows that share shrinks further, the government official told IRIN, warning: “In the years to come only 80 cu. m. will be available.”

But in Sanaa that reality is closer than ever: Water levels are already dropping by six metres a year in the Sanaa basin, the NWRA said.

**The last aquifers**

So serious is the deficit in the city's total renewable freshwater resources that the authorities are now digging deeper into the city's ancient strategic aquifers - resulting in lower water tables and declining water quality.

“The water is becoming more saline,” Qahtan Al-Asbahi, a UNDP programme officer with the NWRA conceded, leading to a rise in health problems, particularly kidney ailments.

“We're using well beyond what we can,” Al-Asbahi said, citing a commonly held view of water experts that water would run out in 15 to 20 years in Sanaa

| Water usage facts   |
|---|
| • Agriculture accounts for 93 percent of all water use in the country; 75 percent of this is ground water                               |
| • It is estimated that the narcotic qat leaf accounts for about 30 percent of the country's total water usage                           |
| • Overall irrigation efficiency is low (30 to 40 percent)   |
| • Municipalities use about 6 percent of the water.  |
| • About 45 percent of urban households are connected to the public water supply network, with the rest being served by private vendors. |
| • Fewer than half the households in rural areas have access to safe water; 19 percent have access to safe sanitation                    |

Source: NWRA

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# Financial support needed to preserve historic cities

By: Nisreen Shadad

“**B**ring back the undamaged bricks of my building,” a man in the Old City of Sana’a demanded, asking those responsible for repairing ancient buildings to not substitute the undamaged bricks of his home with the new bricks, which he claims are weak. Another woman residing in the same city stated that the news bricks in her home began to crumble.

In a three-day symposium on urban and community development held by the Center of Architectural Training and Studies, numerous reports were presented. The symposium intended to clarify the role of the General Organization for Preservation of Historic Cities (GOPHCY), the importance of cultural heritage considering the historic settlements of Sana’a, Bir Al-Azab and Al-Rawdah, the conservation plan and its importance for the preservation of the historic settlements as well as recommendations made during workshops.

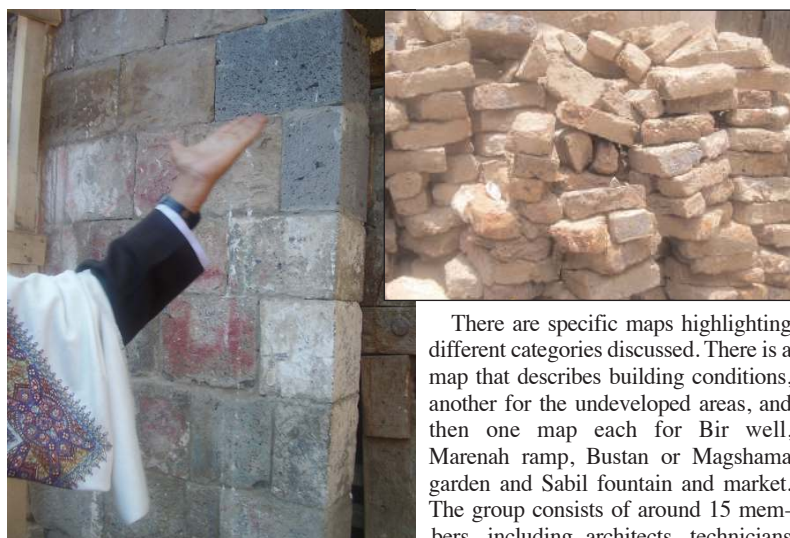
The symposium was held under the auspices of Minister of Culture Mohammed Al-Maflahi and the GOPHCY in cooperation with DED foundation.

The director of GOPHCY, Abdullah Issa, talked about the importance of protecting Yemen’s culture heritage in general and the historic cities in particular. He shed light on the importance of drafting a comprehensive map of the ancient cities as well as including local community members in preservation efforts.

Planning is one of the most important



The Minister of Culture inaugurated the first stage of the conservation plan.



A man complained of substituting the undamaged bricks of his home with the new weak bricks and leaving the damaged as they are.

aspects needed by an association and is considered one of the top priorities in protecting historic cities. Group work undertaken by the Center of Architectural Training and Studies, headed by Nabeel Munassar, achieved the first step of the conservation plan. The first inventory analysis of Sana’a, Bir Al-Azab and Al-Rawdah is included in around 40 thematic maps, featuring the different conditions of physical structures in these three cities.

“Now we have a plan that has a clear vision about each building, with its photo, the name of the owner and all data about the building, so that easily we can get all information of any ancient architectural building,” Issa stated.

Adel Homaid, an architect, shared, “We worked on this project for two years, and it is considered the first step of protecting the historic cities. We have made a field survey in three cities; the Old City of Sana’a, Al-Rawdah and Bir Al-Azab. Each building in these three cities has a particular number. Clicking on its number on the map, we can see its picture and get all information about it.”

There are specific maps highlighting different categories discussed. There is a map that describes building conditions, another for the undeveloped areas, and then one map each for Bir well, Marenah ramp, Bustan or Magshama garden and Sabil fountain and market. The group consists of around 15 members, including architects, technicians and archeologists. Five architects are interested in entering the data and two to GIS; a program in the computer, according to Homaid.

The beauty of historic cities is not only in their architecture, but also is personified through the hospitality of their residents. According to Tolle, country director of DED, a foreigner who was questioned about his visit to the Old City of Sana’a first praised the hospitality of its people. After that, he praised the city’s architecture. Tolle encouraged symposia and workshops like that held by GOPHCY. “The fruit of this discussion that was held for three days will last for the next thousand years,” Tolle stated.

The economic situation in Yemen is one of the challenges historic cities face. Local economic prosperity is the basis of development. “All efforts must work together, avoid mistakes and use resources to create the feeling of the ownership,” Tolle remarked.

Tolle is pleased with the partnership that has existed between DED and GOPHCY since 1991, providing his organization with 21 plans to protect ancient cities such as Shibam, Hadramout and Sana’a.

The impetus behind protecting Yemeni heritage lies in the awareness of society. “If we can’t make the local community involved in our projects, I don’t think we will succeed. This is the first step we have to take, as our relationship with the civil community is not on a high level,” Al-

Maflahi stated, adding that while international support is also key in safeguarding Yemeni heritage, the main responsibility lies with Yemenis themselves.

“The main thing we are in need of in the Ministry of Culture is to reformulate the frameworks of all organizations as well as associations that work in this field and give the specialists the chance to take their appropriate role. Add to that, we have to review the ways of protecting our heritage,” Al-Maflahi remarked.

## Zabid in danger

The reason for establishing the GOPHCY was due to the existence of two executive offices in Sana’a for the purpose of preserving historic cities; therefore the government shut down one of them and left the one that is located in the Old City of Sana’a with its cadre. In 1993, the city of Zabid was added to the World Heritage list. The city’s weak infrastructure is due to it being located far from our executive office. Further, this office was interested only in the Old City as how can we with very few people and low finances protect all the historic cities in Yemen. In Shibam, there is an executive office so that we can easily observe the current problems and work to solve them. Now, we have branches in Aden and Jibla, according to Issa.

The World Heritage Committee decided to retain the historic town of Zabid on the list of World Heritage sites in danger for a further two-year period. According to UNESCO, the city is subjected to regular reports, the latest of which is to be submitted by the Yemeni government by February 1, 2008.

## Obstacles to intervention

Issa explained the obstacles he has faced as a director of the GOPHCY. “The organization’s essential role is technical; however we are observing and controlling those who are trying to violate the rules. We couldn’t concentrate on the main specialty, we spend a lot of time penalizing violators and jailing them.”

One of the main obstacles that needs to be solved currently is the intervening of outside bodies of authority. “The authorities should achieve their goals and responsibilities without intervening with the responsibilities of another place. I think if the local councils, the endow-



The drain issue, in the Old City of Sana’a, is a disaster. “Before a day, water filled this place,” Hassan Lutf, director of the local council in the Old City, stated.

ments office, the labor office, the security and the prosecution achieved their responsibilities without looking to their ‘individual interests,’ we can protect the Yemeni historic cities,” Issa stated.

He added, “One of the barriers the organization suffers from is the ‘construction license’ that is responsible to give the people the agreement of constructing. At the beginning, the organization was in charge of that; however now it becomes the responsibility of the labor office. The labor office gave us the license to construct and neglected our conditions therefore we returned the authority to give the agreement to the organization. People construct, though their construction conditions don’t match the construction conditions of the historic cities. They get the agreement from other places that charge fees for the license. Add to that, no one can stop them, though they are violating the rules. I have to bring permission from the prosecution to stop it and sometimes prosecution permission to stop the construction does not work.”

Even in the technical field, which is basically the responsibility of GOPHCY, outside bodies intervene. “Some of my commands are not executed and many projects which are of GOPHCY responsibility are carried out without our permission. Rather than working as a ‘director,’ I become a ‘correspondent’ running from one person to the other asking them the reason behind neglecting the official organization that is in charge of these projects and can complete them alone.

We have to not run after our individual interests. Each office should know its own responsibility without transgressing in ours,” Issa stressed, adding that his organization lacks financial support from the Ministry of Culture, particularly in Zabid.

Ahmed Al-Qadhi, the deputy of the Minister of Culture said he confirmed the Ministry of Culture’s cooperation. “We want Issa to inform the ministry of the budget and we will consequently discuss it with the Ministry of Finance.”

**Yemeni handicrafts are about to vanish** “If the Ministry of Culture does not protect Yemeni handicrafts, they will vanish,” al-Ayzari stated a member of a local council and head of Sana’a sheikhs. Around 14 handicrafts vanished in the Old City of Sana’a.

“Taxes are the biggest problem the worker in handicrafts faces,” Motahar Taqi Al-Din, the director of General organization for tourism development, revealed.

“Our handicrafts are made outside Yemen with cheaper prices. Machines that have the ability to make 10 belts that holds the Jambia are imported, so what is the handicraftsman who spends 20 days to make a belt to do,” Issa questioned.

“I am ready to work in canceling the taxes of the handicraftsmen, but with the condition to be accurate in their works as well as to train more handicraftsmen. We are seeking pure works and trainers in this field,” Issa said.

## REPUBLIC OF YEMEN - MINISTRY OF WATER AND ENVIRONMENT SANA’A BASIN WATER MANAGEMENT PROJECT (SBWMP) VACANCIES ANNOUNCEMENT

The Republic of Yemen has received a credit from the International Development Association (IDA) toward the costs of Sana’a Basin Water Management Project and it is intended that a portion of the proceeds of the credit will be used to cover the eligible payments against the cost of the installation of Different Irrigation Systems/Networks. Now the Project Coordination Unit (PCU) invites qualified and experienced local Specialist/Engineers to apply for the following posts:

### 1- Senior Irrigation Systems Design Engineer (Specialist in Irrigation Engineering)

Under the overall guidance of the Director General, Sana’a Basin Water Management Project, and the direct supervision of the Irrigation Component supervisor, the National Irrigation Systems Design Engineer shall:

1. Participate with the Social Mobilization Team and the Technical Team of the Project Irrigation Component in reviewing and assessing the applications received from farmers for installation of appropriate irrigation systems, and ensure that the criteria set for selection is being adhered to the project guidelines;
2. Review the designs, drawings and bill of quantities for both pressurized and gravity irrigation systems produced by the project Irrigation Engineers;
3. Overall follow-up for the project engineers supervising the installation works of the pressurized irrigation systems (drip, sprinklers, bubblers) and the gravity systems (conveyance and distribution) which would be undertaken by both the Project’s field engineering team and also by the Contracting Companies on both pilot demonstration and private farms, and ensure that the design layout and installation criteria is being properly implemented;
4. Liaise with IPAC staff in the dissemination of appropriate irrigation practices and technologies to farmers by designing and participating in field day demonstrations, training courses, seminars and workshops;
5. Conduct regular local market surveys to collect data on the quality and price of irrigation equipment available on the local market, and on their adequacy to meet the needs of the irrigation water sector in Sana’a Basin;
6. Regular monthly report on progress of implementation under the Irrigation Component, quantify the achievements, highlight obstacles encountered and present recommendations for the smooth and timely implementation of the work plans; and
7. Within the present terms of reference, carry out other duties as requested by the Irrigation Component Supervisor and the Director General, Sana’a Basin Water Management Project.

### Qualifications and Requirements:

- Master degree in Irrigation Engineering, Agricultural Engineering with major in Irrigation Agronomy.
- At least ten years of field experience within the country in irrigation engineering related field works. Specifically, experience in design of on-farm pressurized irrigation systems including drip, bubbler and sprinkler is essential, as well as experience in field installation of these systems.
- Good knowledge in using Engineering software (ARCGIS, AutoCAD, ... etc.).
- Fluency in English language.
- Good working relations under team management.

**Duration of Assignment:** Initially for probation period of three months,

then annual contracts will be offered thereafter.

### 2- National Irrigation Systems Engineer (Specialist in Irrigation Agronomy)

Under the overall supervision of the Director General of Sana’a Basin Water Management Project, and the Senior Irrigation Engineer, he/she shall have the following tasks:

1. Participate with the Social Mobilization Teams of the Project in reviewing and assessing the applications received from farmers for installation of appropriate irrigation systems on their farms;
2. Conduct detailed field assessment on the status of farms selected by the Social Mobilization Teams for final approval, and to ensure that the criteria set for selection is being adhered to;
3. Prepare detail designs of different irrigation systems including production of detailed designs and complete bill of quantities for both pressurized and gravity irrigation systems to be installed on pilot demonstration and private farms, based on the surveys conducted by the project’s surveying team, (Drip, bubbler, sprinklers, and water conveyance networks...etc.);
4. Supervise installation of the pressurized irrigation systems (drip, sprinklers, bubblers) and the gravity systems (conveyance and distribution) on both pilot demonstration and private farms, and provide farmers with initial training on site in operation and necessary maintenance for the systems;
5. Assist the Senior Irrigation Engineer and the IPAC staff in the dissemination of appropriate irrigation practices and technologies to farmers through field day demonstrations, training courses, seminars and workshops;
6. Collect data related to the efficiency, equitability and effectiveness of distribution of irrigation systems under the project, and on their adequacy to meet the needs of the irrigation water sector in Sana’a Basin;
7. Regular monthly report on progress of implementation of the approved Irrigation Component work plans, quantify the achievements, highlight obstacles encountered, and present recommendations for the smooth and timely implementation of the work plan; and
8. Carry out any other related duties as requested by the Sana’a Basin Water Management Project.

### Qualifications and Requirements:

- University degree in Irrigation Engineering/Agricultural Engineering with major in Irrigation Agronomy.
- At least five years of field experience in irrigation systems design, installation, supervision, operation and maintenance and engineering related works. Specifically, experience in field installation of on-farm pressurized irrigation systems including drip, bubbler and sprinkler is essential, as well as experience in operation and maintenance of these systems.
- Good computer literacy.
- Fluency in English language is an advantage.

### Duration of Assignment:

Initially for probation period of three months, then annual contracts will be offered thereafter.

### 3- National Senior Social Development / WUA Specialist

The Social Development / WUA Specialist is to be responsible primarily for

overseeing and managing the project’s local social and organizational development interventions for both the demand management and irrigation improvement component (Component 1) and the supply management and recharge improvement component (Component 2). This will require him/her to work in close with the project social team for Component 1 & 2 and collaboration with GDI/MAI, social development / WUA Specialist shall:

1. Work closely with the project SMTs for component 1 & 2, review and evaluate the activities implemented, spot weakness’ and suggest recommendation for better future implementation;
2. Participate in the process of assessment and selection of participating communities through definition and application of criteria related to socioeconomic characteristics, social and organizational readiness, and willingness of communities and water user organizations to assume both benefits and responsibilities relating to project interventions;
3. Review and supervision of work plans preparation and execution, and definition of process adjustments from cycle to cycle in response to encountered constraints and difficulties;
4. Oversee in particular the social and organizational development of the WUAs for village well fields management and dam and recharge systems operations and maintenance, including legal and organizational establishment, setup of financial and administrative procedures, and corresponding management training;
5. Contribute to definition and execution of community social, economic and institutional baseline, monitoring and evaluation exercises, assess from these the level of satisfaction of water users, WUGs and WUAs with project-supported interventions and of the corresponding social benefits, and propose actions to be taken for needed improvements;
6. Mediate in and/or address as needed social difficulties that may arise as a result of project interventions, such as conflicts within and between WUGs and WUAs, between participating and non-participating WUGs and WUAs, between government agencies and local communities...etc.; and
7. Provide social and organizational development inputs to the project M&E system, reporting and decision-making related to Components 1 & 2.

### Qualifications and Requirements:

- Master degree in sociology and, preferably, a qualification in economics.
- Have at least five years practical experience in these fields.
- Fluency in English and Arabic languages.
- Good computer skills.

**Duration of Assignment:** Initially for probation period of three months, then annual contracts will be offered thereafter.

Applications accompanied by CVs and supporting documents shall be delivered to the project address as follow: SBWMP, 60m. Street, Sana’a ROY. Tel.: (00967-1-469159/7/6), Fax: (00967-1-469158), E-mail: (saldubby@yemen.net.ye).

**The deadline for receiving applications is Saturday 01st September 2007.**

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تلفون: ٢٦٦٣٧٥ - ٥٠٥٢٩٠  
فاكس: ٢٦٦١٩٠  
ص.ب: ٥٤٦٥  
Email: shaibani@yemen.net.ye

Required qualified Engineers Architect and Structural / Designer, experience not less than 5 years, preferably Yemeni nationality.

send CV and qualification certificates to Fax: 01 445389 or e-mail: yemenkuwait@y.net.ye.

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years , fluent in English, field work, excellent English computer knowledge of ms office as sector manager for a leading company in Yemen.  
CV TO be fax to 01-506642

accountant with 6 years of experience.  
Contact: 733 236 746

computer knowledge in MS-office, good English, experience in office administration, document drafting  
Contact: 734009976 - 733829579

Villa for rent, located in Hadda, consists of 5 rooms, 2 baths, 1 kitchen, XXL garden, with terrace enough for 6 cars, for only \$ 800 a month.  
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for more information please contact: 733813799

### Job Seekers

Abdulkarim, diploma computer, CCNA1,CCNA3 from cisoo networking Academy, has an experiences in computer and networks maintenance.  
English writing and spoken.  
Contact: 777 504 558

A 25 year old Russian physiotherapy specialist, has a certificate from a Habarovsk University in physiotherapy wants to be employed in Yemen. Contact through email at lonely\_margo@mailgogle.in fo.

Naji Khamis, Bachelor degree in Chemical engineer, diploma in computer & English language Seven years experiences in Administration. Mukall-Hadramout.  
Contact: 777 006 904.

### Lost items

Indian Passport number: B1991595 with the name of MR.ANITYAANAND is lost, If any one has any information about this passport, please call immediately no 734216713.

### Real Estate & Furniture

For rent in Al-Asbahi, 2 floor villa, consist of 8 rooms, 4 baths, 1 kitchen, garden terrace for 4 cars , lease for only \$ 500 a month. for foreigners.  
Contact: 777408711

Ghailan Al-Kawaty, Bachelor in English language, Sana'a university.  
Contact: 734 812 869

Ibrahim Mohammed, diploma engineering in University Sana'a, tofel course in American Embassy, training police academy in Qatar., Familiar in waste hazardous&non hazardous contaminated materials, Grey & sewage waste.  
Contact: 711186058 - 712386058- 01/600551

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For sale, Toyota Corolla, model 2004, Golden color, good condition, suitable price.  
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Mohammed Al-Qalisi, bachelor degree in accounting, diploma in computer, specialized in Yemensoft accountant system, English very good.

Teachers of English language for grade 1 up to9, teacher of Math's & Science for grade 7,8 and 9, the qualifications: Bachelors in same field  
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### أرقام مهمة

## IMPORTANT Numbers

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| Yemen Commercial Bank       | Tel: 01 277224 Fax: 277291 |
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| CAC Bank                    | Tel: 01 563813             |

### HOTELS

|                    |                               |
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| Sheraton Hotel     | Tel: 01 237500                |
| Movenpick Hotel    | Tel: 01 546666 Fax: 01 546000 |
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| Al-Thawra Hospital | Tel: 01 246967/66             |

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Rainbow Pre-School 414-026/424-433  
International Turkish Schools Sana'a 448258/9  
Taiz 205593

Al-Majid Yemen School Tel: 206159

### Supermarket

AL-JANDUL Supermarket. Tel: 01-422610

### Translations

Urwa Wautqa Int. Auth. Trans. Arabic-English-French -German-Russian-Italian- Spanish-Polish-Dutch- Iranian-Turkish-Eriterea-Amharic.  
Tel: 01-240515

### TRAVEL

Falcon Holidays Tel: 444118  
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### UNIVERSITIES

American World University, Rep. by IS academy  
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University of Applied and Social Science  
Sana'a: 412442 Fax: 412441  
Aden: 234533 / 234960

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## Alchemy: contemporary jewellery from Britain

Alchemy: contemporary jewellery from Britain presents the work of eight jewellers who challenge conventional parameters of jewellery design. The British Council Exhibition lasts until 12 September at Sana'a Trade Center. By experimenting with materials, references and scale they question our inherited notions of value, identity and adornment the exhibition is organised by the British Council's Art, Architecture & Design team. Solange Azagury-Partridge, Naomi Filmer, Tanvi Kant, Andrew Lamb, Shaun Leane, Lina Peterson, Laura Potter, and Scott Wilson – each exemplify a unique approach to jewellery practice. Alchemy was created by Alison Moloney and Dana Andrew, British Council Arts Group, London.

Britain has long enjoyed an international reputation for innovation in jewellery. The mutable culture of adornment over the past century and the commitment of educational institutions to developing original creative practice have ensured the potential for jewellery as an important medium for creative expression. In the 1970s and 80s Britain's designers expanded the concept of jewellery through the materials and techniques they used and the questionable wearability of the forms they created.

Their departures from tradition had a lasting effect, and a new generation of designers and makers continue to enlarge the form and meaning of jewellery in Britain in varied and surprising ways.

British Council Director in Yemen, Elizabeth White said: "I am delighted that we can bring this exhibition to Yemen. In this part of the world, jewellery is an important element in women's dress, and the fine craft of jewellery making in Yemen hoes back centuries. It's fascinating to compare rich traditions of Yemeni jewellery with the approaches of these contemporary jewellers from Britain.

I hope that everyone with an interest in jewellery – which is all women, and not a few men – will have the chance to come and see this glittering



Dipped Brooch by Lina Peterson.

exhibition."

The diversity of work by each jeweller in this exhibition reflects a cultural climate that nurtures the



10 Optical Necklace 18ct yellow gold diameter 190mm 2001 by Andrew Lamb.

and desirability of the hand made.

From necklaces made of paper or recycled fabric to theatrical diamond rings and full body sculptures, jewellery can be approached on many levels – aesthetic daring, technological and material innovation, commercial

The exhibition is touring the countries of the Arabian peninsula. In Yemen, as well as the exhibition, the British Council in Yemen is organizing a workshop by Laura Potter on jewellery making for young women with an interest in jewellery design.



Laura Potter's Lifetime Medal



Naomi Filmer's Hand Manipulation Piece.

individual. Meanwhile, in the commercial context of mass manufacturing, the work of this new generation highlights the unique value

enterprise, semiotic or personal significance, pure craft – presenting an alternative vision of adornment for the 21st Century.



Hook my Heart Ring by Shaun Leane



Tanvi Kant's Neckpiece detail multicolour

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