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**Readers' Voice**

Last edition's question:  
 Do you think refugees are acting out of control threatening UNHCR staff?

I don't know (25%) Yes (64%) No (11%)

This edition's question:  
 Do you think the State could continue its control over wheat prices during the holy month of Ramadhan when demand is highest?

- Yes  
 - No  
 - I don't know

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## Security chief promises Waeel will be freed

By: Nisreen Shadad

HAJJA, August 22 — Seven of around 40 people imprisoned without trial and accused of having links with Al Houthi are to be released. They have been in prison for up to five months. The seven include three children aged 15, one of whom, Waeel Ghalib, was pictured on the front page of the Yemen Times on Monday.

Khalid Al-Anisi, executive director of the National Organization for the Defense of Rights and Freedoms, who has been acting for the seven, says that they are being released because the sheiks in charge of their village in Hajja and the MP for the district of Miftah have both guaranteed the "good behavior" of the Seven.

"This means the seven have agreed not to belong to, or support any political group that opposes the government. They should also make a commitment not to follow any radical school of thought. This includes all religious schools of which the government disapproves."

The director of the central security in Hajja, Ali al-Timbala, said: "The prisoners were arrested because they are working with al-Houthi or supporting him or studying his rebellious thoughts. The seven prisoners are actually the prisoners of al-Miftah district only. The other prisoners are from other districts. I have received orders from the Governor to release these seven only."

Al-Timbala says that all the prisoners were arrested in Sa'ada and categorically denies that children of 15 have



Three children aged 15, including Waeel Ghalib (above) will soon be free from prison.

been imprisoned. He said all the prisoners were older. The Yemen Times has files which show that children under 15 are among those detained. And that some of the prisoners were arrested in Hajja.

The director of Security added that the other prisoners were being kept in jail because they have not brought guarantees from the powerful people, such as Sheiks and district MPs.

Ghalib Mukbil al-Ahnumi is sceptical about the release. His son is one of the seven and he has been told before that they are about to be released but nothing happened.

Al-ahnumi, a teacher in al-Zaidi dawween (a room where students gather for religious studies after school) said the government closed these dawween before the first war of Sa'ada. They arrested six people from al-Miftah district; three of them teachers.

"I was one of the teachers. For 21 days we are in the prison, after that we were released.

When we see everything calm down, we open again to study our religion. Students are almost 40 in number. When the Security authorities got to know that we were open they closed us once again and arrested seven. Three of them are children and one of them is my son. They said they are arrested us because they think that the war in Sa'ada will soon spread to Hajja."

Al-Anisi says that Zaidists are a Shia sect whose beliefs place them half way between Shia and Sunni. "Zaidis say

that their belief is a far cry from Houthism belief as Houthism are actually Ja'afarya. This sect (Ja'afarya), believes that the ruler has to be one of Hassan and Al-Hussein ancestors, (al-Hassan and Al-Hussein are the sons of Ali bin Abi Talib). However, Zaidism believes that the priority for the ancestors of Al-Hassan and Al-Hussein, but it is not a condition. If there is someone better he can be the ruler."

Only one of those detained has known links to al Houthi. Abdullah al-Sharafi said the real reason of his arrest is because he is a husband of Yahya al-Houthi's daughter. (Yahya al-Houthi is a brother of the leader of Hessian and Abdul Malik; the leaders on Houthism movement).

Khalid al-Anisi, says everything to do with the arrests and detentions is illegal. It is not illegal in Yemen law to have links with Al Houthi or support their cause. There have been no warrants for arrest, no trials. Some people have been in prison for up to five months.

Furthermore, Al Anisi says there is no legal justification or indeed mention of the need for "good behavior guarantees" in the law. It is up to a judge to decide, once a case has been to court, to decide what constitutes "good behavior". For example, it could mean that if a man is charged with beating his wife then "good behavior" would mean refraining from beating his wife. But it is only a judge, and not the Security Authorities, that have the right to demand such under-takings.

## Government fixes wheat and flour prices

By: Fatima al-Ajel

SANA'A, August 22 — The Yemeni Economic Corporation has for the last week been providing flour and wheat in all governorates at lower prices than those of public markets.

The government fixed the prices for wheat and the flour at YR3, 700 for a 50kg bag: some traders were asking up to YR5, 500 for the same size bag.

The Yemeni Economic Corporation provided trucks from which to sell the wheat and flour in public neighborhoods that are far from the corporation's headquarters. The fixed prices were displayed on the trucks to announce to the citizens the decreased prices. Distribution trucks can be found in five areas throughout Sana'a. "We received some of the local councils' trustees in some areas asking to provide their areas with the wheat and flour as a service for the public," Ali Jaerallah, sales manager for the

Yemeni Economic Corporation, explained.

The trucks are distributed in different areas according to the size of the population. "The trucks are available until we make sure all the people get enough wheat. The sellers work from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m.," Jaerallah mentioned.

According to Saba news agency, the general manager of the corporation, Brigadier Ali Al-Kuhlani, reported that the corporation along with its branches, provide consumers with flour and wheat via direct selling centers distributed in all the governorates of the republic.

Earlier President Saleh had criticized the government for being unable to stabilize prices of wheat and flour. He therefore approved the new operation, which will cost \$2 billion. He granted the Economic Corporation

additional funds, valued at YR3 billion, to import wheat in order to meet consumer demand.

Al-Kuhlani also reported that strict measures are being taken against some employees and general managers who manipulated and worked against the rules. Additionally, some managers are under investigation.

A report published by the Ministry of Trade quoted that the United States Wheat Association stated that the current prices for wheat stand at \$253 per ton, compared to \$150 per ton last year, while shipping costs increased from \$50 dollars per ton last year to \$92 dollars this year.

The ministry issued a statement reporting, "The price of US wheat reached to an unprecedented level. It is currently roughly at \$342 for one ton reaching to the Yemeni ports."

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## In brief

## SANA'A

**Qawwali performance night**  
Aug 22 — Renowned Indian Artist Mr. Mohammed Ahmed & Group will give a Qawwali music performance (traditional form of Islamic / Sufi music) at the Yemeni Cultural Centre on Friday August 24 at 07:30 PM.

The event is organized by the Indian embassy on the occasion of the 60th Anniversary of India's Independence and under the patronage of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations.

## UN vacancies for Yemeni citizens

Aug 22 — Vacancies dedicated for Yemeni nationals are announced at the UN's website [www.un.org/depts/OHRM/examin/exam.htm](http://www.un.org/depts/OHRM/examin/exam.htm)

Deadline for applications is Oct. 31 and interviews for the short list will start in February 2008.

## Inmates enrol in university

Aug 22 — Fourteen inmates confined at the central prison in Sana'a have registered in law and arts colleges at Sana'a University. The enrolment comes as a result of cooperation between the Prison Authority and the Ministry of Education in order to rehabilitate the inmates and provide them with better opportunities to integrate in the society once they are out.

## ADEN

## 20 children educated on violence against children

Aug 22 – Shawthab Foundation for children organized a workshop, started last Monday, to educate 20 school pupils between ages 11 and 18 on the violence against children, for three days.

How to deal with media, interventions, and how to get psychological help were among the topics discussed in the workshop, which was sponsored by Save the Children – Sweden and included students from 18 schools.

## LAHJ

## Deaf and dumb computer training

Aug 21 — Eighteen deaf and dumb locals in Lahj governorate received a training on computer applications for two weeks. The training, which was organized by the head of the deaf and dumb association in Lahj, assisted these disadvantaged people in coping with everyday life and becoming productive elements in the society.

## MARIB

## How to fight terrorism

Aug 21 — Fighting terrorism from the Yemeni experience was the title of a seminar in Marib Law College last week. Security officers and anti-terrorism specialists participated in the seminar which was attended by academics, teachers, and students from the city. The seminar came as one of the activities the Yemeni government is organizing in order to contain any terrorist attacks similar to the one that happened few months ago in Marib targeting Spanish tourists.

## DHAMAR

## Fire consumes warehouse

Aug 21 — One of the main warehouses of Dadiyah Commercial Group in Dhamar governorates was consumed by a huge fire last Monday morning and caused a financial loss over 22 million Yemeni Riyals. Police is still investigating the causes of the fire, which luckily did not cause any human injuries.

## SOCATRA

## Precautionary measures to prevent increase in gas prices

Aug 22 — Al-Esea establishment which is the only agent in Socatra Island for gas, Petrol, and Diesel supplies are currently carrying out monitoring visits to the retailers in order to ensure that there is no manipulation of gas prices taking place in the island. Currently, the visits are so important because of the advent of the holy month of Ramadan, when the demand for these items increase significantly.

## Sa'ada confrontations resume

By: Mohammed Bin Sallam

SA'ADA, Aug. 22 — Army forces launched Sunday a violent attack on some mountains north of Sahar district controlled by Houthi loyalists. According to locals in the district, the army used heavy mortar shells targeting large groups of Houthi loyalists who were seen heading to those mountains. The same evening, gun shots were heard in adjacent areas. So far no casualties on either side have been reported.

This charge comes in the wake of accusations directed by Abdul Malik Al-Houthi against the army, which were delivered earlier to the presidential committee and Qatari delegates assigned to supervise implementation of the ceasefire agreement that was supposed to end the 8-month conflict.

A local source confirmed that Houthis were preparing themselves for the resuming of war and were transporting large quantities of food, which they have stored in the areas and mountains of Al-Naq'a'a, north of Sa'ada.

At a time when most Sa'ada residents live in panic, Houthi loyalists attacked a military vehicle in Dhahyan city, killing two soldiers and wounding four.

Confrontations are still occurring

between Houthi loyalists and tribesmen in some areas of Haidan where Houthi followers accuse many of the military units of supporting and encouraging followers of Sheik Hussein Ahmed Bin Hesham an influential figure in Sa'ada to attack Houthis. This charge comes in the wake of accusations directed by Abdul Malik Al-Houthi against the army, which were delivered earlier to the presidential committee and Qatari delegates assigned to supervise implementation of the ceasefire agreement.

## War spilling over to other governorates

Qatari delegates attempted to settle disputes between Houthis and the government in order not to allow the war to expand into other governorates. Yet the mediation failed and clashes between the state and the Houthis commence again. The government holds Houthis accountable for the failed negotiations, while the Houthis accuse the government of not being sincere in allowing political plurality in the country. This came amid a substantive media attack on the Houthis, despite the agreement to cease media campaigns between the two sides.

Groups of military vehicles patrol Sa'ada on a daily basis, carrying weapons and ammunition, in addition

to helicopters that reached the governorate the beginning of this week.

State officials admitted to increased security measures all over the country because of the political and social turmoil, especially in the southern and eastern governorates of Yemen. The increasing number of protests staged in more than one governorate due to the deteriorated economic situations has added extra burden on President Saleh.

The president had displayed his commitment to ending the war in Sa'ada in more than one public statement during the last few weeks especially that information on the financial expense of the war has leaked to the public reaching as high as two billion US dollars.

Sources from Sa'ada governorate reported that five sons and grandsons of the scholar Badr Al-Deen Al-Houthi, founder of the cult, started a hunger strike inside the political prison in Sana'a, protesting against their detainment without charge since the beginning of this year.

Fighting between government forces and al-Houthi followers in Sa'ada first broke out in 2004. Fierce clashes at intervals over the past three years have claimed the lives of more than 700 government forces and wounded about 5,300, and displaced more than 60,000 Yemenis from their homes..

## Journalists mourn freedom of expression



Journalists wrapped paper into a shape of a dead body pretending it is freedom of expression and mourned.

SANA'A, Aug. 22 — A corpse made of newspapers was the creative piece in a syndicate funeral this week. The corpse was "freedom of expression" which was supposedly murdered by the Ministry of Information.

The freedom corpse was carried on the shoulders of journalists, activists, and protesters, who placed it in front of the gate of the cabinet, where the protesters recited verses of the Holy Quran.

Tawakul Kurman, chairperson of

Women Journalists without Chains commented on this performance, saying that it is natural for journalists to believe their freedom of expression is murdered in the hands of the ones supposed to protect it. She persisted that the journalists struggle has only just begun and that they will continue to fight until every citizen has the right to establish a newspaper, a TV or Radio channel.

"The Ministry of Information announced that it intends to establish four new state satellite channels, producing ridiculously unprofessional nauseating programs."

Sameer Jebran, a journalist whose request to license a newspaper was denied by the Ministry approved of the dramatic performance because "actions speak louder than words".

"Despite international criticism, the regime resorts to violating the right to freedom of expression even more," he said.

## Disabled call for their rights

SANA'A, Aug. 19 — The way the media portrays disabled people has been criticized and as a result a committee of journalists has been set up to improve the image of the disabled and to increase public awareness of their desire to be an active part of society.

The criticism and the plea for change came in a workshop organized by Al-Aman Association for Blind Women. Fatima Al Akil, head of the Association explained that 70 per cent of her membership registered after they saw a programme on television or heard a programme on radio explaining the work the association was doing. It is an example of the good that can be achieved if the media helps to raise awareness.

Mohammed Homa'd, the chief of the national union for disabled associations explained that the media rarely plan to make special programs relating to disabled problems in Yemen. And when they tend to draw a negative picture of the disabled. He pointed out that many of the disabled are graduates making a contribution to society and even if they are not graduates they are still willing to make a contribution.



Students at Al-Aman Association sing for the attendees.

"The disabled have their rights in society but the media never reflect such rights instead they talk about the importance of supporting them with charity," he said.

The new committee that has been formed to improve the situation con-

tains members from both the government and the independent media. Nour Ba Abad, the deputy assistant for the social care sector said that "it is important to work with the different media regardless of the media's direction or interests.."

## National Solidarity Council threatens to sue

SANA'A, Aug. 22 — The Chairman of the week-old National Solidarity Council, Hussein Bin Abdullah Al-Ahmar, has accused figures in authority of are lobbying the public to discredit the council.

He also said during a press release held last Sunday in Sana'a that parties-well-known for many- are working on dissociating political powers as well as Yemeni tribes tearing them into pieces so as not to be power balances in the community, according to him.

He also added that the council members are trying to avoid conflicts in the Yemeni community and have no intention of trying to replace any political party. "We are working for the sake of Yemen. We will support whoever is right, regardless affiliation."

Al-Ahmar denied that the council is supported by external parties, affirming that it depends mainly on the members' subscriptions.

"We don't follow any one. We will sue those who promote such lies."

"Yes I have some kind of relations with Libya particularly with General. Al-Qathafi. I have received a trading deal from Libya. This is a common thing like any other tradesman. But it has nothing to do with establishing the national solidarity council. It is a shame to accuse someone of his patriotism. We are a Yemeni assembly, aiming at contributing to build the country and combat corruption."

He also called on Yemeni people to maintain solidarity with his open-for-all-council, announcing his opposition to fanaticism, sectarianism, and racism.

In a statement released by the solidarity council, Al-Ahmar said that the council has been born out of the suffering of the people of Yemen. This suffering is caused by bad policies

undertaken by the authority that leads the county. Al-Ahmar says it is now time for change and this is why the council has been created.

The Council consists of a 60 percent majority of the General People Congress, 20 percent of the Islah party, and 10 percent independents or from other parties.

Al-Ahmar highlighted that the country lacks power balance and lives in deteriorating and retreating in different areas, pointing out that these situations are in need of changes leading to establishing (National Solidarity Council) announced before this last week. We have to participate so as to make the required change. The council will bring tribes together within the constituents of the civil society, he added.

The institutional conference of the National Solidarity Assembly was held on Sunday, July, 29, 2007 in the capital city of Sana'a.

It was attended by more than 1500 persons from the sheiks, dignitaries of Yemen spanning the republic governorates. The council is the first tribal assembly established as an organization of the civil society organizations, aiming at enhancing national unity and tackling revenge issues between tribes as well as combating corruption.

The council aims at maintaining national unity and principles of the republic system, protecting constitution and law. It also aims at educating citizens to create united attitudes in the public issues and to enhance the spirit of affection and cooperation and to be united in solidarity, contributing to solving revenge issues and other social phenomena that bring hurdles to development, according to Hussien Al-Ahmar.

## Locusts threaten neighbouring countries

SANA'A, Aug. 22 — The serious locust blight currently affecting Yemen could spread to neighbouring countries such as Oman, Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and Iran, the Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation, Mansour Al-Hawshabi confirmed this week.

These countries, therefore, should support Yemen's current efforts in combating locusts in the hope that the swarms can be contained and not reach neighbouring countries.

Al Hawshabi praised FAO and the UN for their efforts to help Yemen. The FAO has been supporting the Desert Locust Control Centre for the past tens years. And Since June the UN's Central Emergency Response Fund has given Yemen some US\$ 2.4. million.

Hashim Al-Shami, FAO-UN's representative in Yemen said that locusts swarms had now reached the central area. Their presence could be exacerbated by recent rain fall both sides of the Red Sea which aids breeding particularly in Tihama areas.

He underlined the seriousness of the current situation by pointed out that the swarms could have a devastating affect on the country's agriculture production. Food prices increased last year by 29

per cent and any shortages caused by locust damage could further affect prices. Some 30 per cent of the country is already considered "fragile in terms of food security", he said.

"A dollar spent on survey and control of desert locust infestation could have a high rate of return and sustain food security and availability as well as preventing further escalation of unemployment rates".

The locust blight has started in January this year along the Eritrean coast and adjacent coastal areas of Sudan. According to Abdu Far'e Al-Rumaih, general director of the agriculture ministry's Desert Locusts Control, Yemen has been facing significant infestations of the crop-devouring insects due to unusually good rains since March.

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

Yemen witnessed similar locust invasions in 1986, 1987 and the most serious outbreak in 1993. Other invasions occurred in 2002 and 2004; however, they were successfully controlled.

## More suspects in Marib's attack arrested

SANA'A, Aug. 22 — Yemeni security arrested last Saturday an Egyptian and two Yemenis suspected to have links to al-Qaeda and the terrorist attack on the Spanish tourists convoy in Marib last July.

Egyptian Mohammad Yaqot was arrested inside a hotel in the capital Sana'a as he was suspected of attacking Spaniards in Marib, killing eight Spanish and two Yemenis, stated a security source, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The source said that Yaqot, who is an alleged al-Qaeda member, entered Yemen illegally few months ago. The source did not release the names of the two Yemenis, and it was unclear if they were suspected of belonging to al-Qaeda, which the authorities have blamed for the attack.

Egyptian embassy in Sana'a said that it had no information regarding the arrest of the Egyptian.

Yaqot is the second Egyptian announced to be involved in Marib's attack, which took place on July 12, when a car packed with explosives ran into a convoy of 13 Spanish tourists on

a tour of an ancient temple in Marib, killing eight Spanish tourists and two local drivers and wounding five Spanish tourists, two Yemeni drivers, and four police guards.

After days of Marib's attack the security forces killed the Egyptian Ahmad Basyoni Dowaidar. At that time the police said that Dowidar was the mastermind in planning for the Marib's attack on the Spanish convoy, however, later the police investigation revealed that Dewidar had offered only logistic support to the group consisted of ten people, who carried out the plot.

Official news agency quoted "informed source" saying that the police has arrested last week "a number of terrorists involved in the attack on the Spanish tourists convoy" the source added that the police also arrested some people tried to protect "the terrorists". Further, the source affirmed that the arrest process did not cause any casualties.

Worth-noting, the Ministry of Interior has offered a \$75,500 reward for information leading to the capture of those behind the attack



## Fatah al-Islam seeks Lebanon truce

Al-Jazeera — Fatah al-Islam fighters battling the Lebanese army in a refugee camp have asked for a ceasefire to allow their families and remaining civilians to be evacuated.

The army, which continued to fire artillery shells into Nahr al-Bared overnight, said it would not agree to a formal truce, but would halt the bombardment to allow people to leave.

Zheina Khodr, Al Jazeera's correspondent outside the Palestinian camp near Tripoli in northern Lebanon, said on Wednesday: "The Lebanese army is saying it will not accept a ceasefire but it will allow the family members to leave."

"It is estimated that there are around 60 family members inside."

### Noose tightening

"The army have been shelling the camp since the early hours of the morning."

"It is tightening its noose around the camp ... there are some reports that food and water are running out," she reported.

Mohammed Hajj, a spokesman for religious officials trying to broker an end to the fighting, said that a member of the group approached him overnight to arrange a ceasefire.

"Abu Salim Taha contacted us and asked for the civilians, meaning the Fatah al-Islam families, to be evacuated and for the army command to arrange this," Hajj said.

"We contacted the army which welcomed the offer and gave assurances for the safety of the civilians."

### Negotiations

Hajj said Fatah al-Islam was counting the number of civilians that needed to be taken out so it could inform officials.

A spokeswoman for the International Committee of the Red Cross said she was aware of the ongoing negotiations, but no formal request had been made to the agency for assistance.

Most of the camp's 31,000 residents left soon after the fighting began on May 20.

The fighting has left at least 200 people dead, including 141 soldiers, in the deadliest internal unrest since the country's 1975-1990 civil war.

Sniper fire from inside the camp killed a pregnant Lebanese woman and a Lebanese soldier on Tuesday, the National News Agency said.

## Downed helicopter in Iraq kills 14 U.S. soldiers

BAGHDAD (Reuters) — Fourteen U.S. soldiers were killed when their helicopter crashed in northern Iraq on Wednesday, the U.S. military said, in one of the worst incidents of its kind in the four-year war.

The military said in a statement that initial indications suggested the Black Hawk helicopter had suffered mechanical failure.

"There were no indications of hostile fire," the statement said.

"Two UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters were on a night operation when one of the aircraft crashed. That helicopter had been carrying four crew members and 10 passengers," it said.

The crash was the worst since January 2005, when 31 service personnel were killed when a Marine transport helicopter was downed.



A U.S. Blackhawk helicopter flies past the setting sun as it prepares to land at the fortified Green Zone in Baghdad, February 14, 2007.

## CIA inspector's report on 9/11 faults leaders

By: Randall Mikkelsen

WASHINGTON (Reuters) — Former CIA chief George Tenet failed to follow through on his 1998 declaration of war against al Qaeda and the agency diverted counterterrorism money for other uses in the years before the September 11 attacks, according to an agency report released on Tuesday.

A summary of the 2005 report by the CIA inspector general was declassified under protest by agency Director Michael Hayden in response to a law passed by Congress earlier this month.

The report said top CIA officers "did not discharge their responsibilities in a satisfactory manner" and it described a "systemic breakdown" in a watch list for tracking terrorism suspects who seek to enter the United States.

"It's really pointing the finger at the CIA's executives," including Tenet,

said Barbara Elias of the National Security Archive, which collects and publishes declassified documents.

The report recommended that the agency consider disciplining Tenet and other officials. But Hayden rejected that recommendation, endorsing a 2005 decision by his predecessor as CIA chief, Porter Goss.

"There was never a question of misconduct," Hayden said.

Although the officials had been unable despite their best efforts to prevent the September 11, 2001 attacks, "they have prevented other acts of terrorism, and they have saved innocent lives, in our country and overseas," he said on the CIA Web site.

Tenet, who was awarded the country's highest civilian honour, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, by President George W. Bush in 2004, called the report's findings "flat

wrong".

The report said that in December 1998 Tenet signed a declaration saying "we are at war" and he directed that "no resources or people" be spared to contain al Qaeda and its leader, Osama bin Laden.

The declaration was issued four months after al Qaeda-linked bombings at U.S. embassies in Tanzania and Kenya.

However, the report said, the CIA focused too narrowly on tactics and never developed a broad strategy against al Qaeda before the September 11 attacks. Tenet, it said, "bears ultimate responsibility for the fact that no such strategic plan was ever created."

Tenet and others persuaded Congress to increase counterterrorism spending, but officials were not effectively using the money they had, the report said.

## China storm death toll rises



Relatives of victims who were killed by a landslide grieve at a village in Lianjiang county, southeast China's Fujian province Aug 20.

BEIJING (Reuters) — A typhoon killed at least 36 people as it swept across southeast China this week, destroying crops and battering homes, Xinhua news agency said.

Typhoon Sepat, which hit at the weekend and was expected to linger as a tropical depression through Thursday, caused losses of nearly 5 billion yuan (332 million pounds) in the provinces of

Fujian, Jiangxi, Zhejiang and Hunan, Xinhua quoted the Ministry of Civil Affairs and local meteorologists as saying.

Landslides caused at least half the deaths. A tornado spun off the storm in Zhejiang's manufacturing hub of Wenzhou, which produces everything from shoes to cigarette lighters, killing several people.

Disaster officials in the Philippines said three people drowned in flooding caused by Sepat and parts of the capital and surrounding provinces remained under water.

Taiwan's disaster centre said one person had died and several had been injured in the typhoon. About 2,500 people were evacuated and nearly 9,000 homes were still without electricity.

## Bush 'frustrated' with Iraqi PM



Nuri al-Maliki is under increasing pressure over the political situation in Iraq.

Al-Jazeera — George Bush has withheld his support from the embattled Iraqi prime minister and warned that voters could decide to replace him.

The US president said on Tuesday there was "frustration" with Nuri al-Maliki, a day after two US senators suggested the Iraqi parliament remove his government if it fails to make progress on national reconciliation.

As US support for al-Maliki ebbed further, Ryan Crocker, the US ambassador to Iraq, described Iraq's political progress "extremely disappointing".

Bush, at a summit in Canada, said that the Iraqi people, not their government, deserved credit for reconciliation efforts.

"If the government doesn't respond to the demands of the people, they will replace the government."

"That's up to the Iraqis to make that decision, not American politicians," he said.

Bush acknowledged it was difficult for Iraq to make the transition to democracy, but did not repeat his past assertions of confidence in Iraq's struggling prime minister.

"There's a certain level of frustration with the leadership in general," Bush said.

### 'Failed' leadership

On Monday, senators Carl Levin, the chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, and John Warner, the panel's top Republican, said they were not optimistic about the political situation in Iraq.

"We believe that the recent high-level meetings among Iraqi political leaders could be the last chance for this

government to solve the Iraqi political crisis," they said in a joint statement following a visit to Iraq.

Iraqi leaders had "failed to meet their own political benchmarks on sharing power and resources, changing de-Baathification laws, scheduling provincial elections, or amending the constitution," Levin said.

"So I hope that the Iraqi assembly, when it reconvenes in a few weeks, will vote the Maliki government out of office and will have the wisdom to replace it with a less sectarian and a more unifying prime minister and government," he said.

### Sunni boycott

Bush insisted that the US troop surge in Iraq had made it possible for what he described as a "bottom-up" political reconciliation driven by Iraq's people, not its political leaders.

Crocker and General David Petraeus, the most senior US commander in Iraq, are to report to the US Congress by mid-September on their efforts to halt sectarian violence and return Iraq to viable self-governance.

"It's not just the issue of the prime minister, it's the whole government that has to perform here," Crocker said.

He added that Washington expected a "serious effort to achieve national reconciliation."

Maliki has called a reconciliation summit in an attempt to rescue his crumbling national unity government.

However, it has been boycotted by key political blocs, including the main Sunni group the National Concord Front.

## Student riots spread in Bangladesh

Al-Jazeera — At least 50 people have been injured in Bangladesh as a violent student protest, that began at Dhaka University, spread across the capital and the country.

The clashes with police continued on Wednesday despite an apology from the interim government and the closure of an army camp at the university gymnasium, one of the student demands.

In the capital, students from half a dozen colleges and universities took to the streets in support of their colleagues at the Dhaka campus, the largest in the country who boycotted lectures for the third consecutive day.

At least six vehicles were burned and similar clashes with police were reported in the northwestern town of Rajshahi, the southern coastal town of Barisal and several other places.

At least 50 people were injured in the fighting at Rajshahi university and at a college in Khulna city in the southwest, witnesses said.

"The situation is deteriorating as teachers now have come out to join protesting students," said a police officer in Dhaka.

The violence has shut shops, forced public transport off the streets and caused panic among residents in affected areas, witnesses said. The Bangladeshi army had begun to withdraw troops from the camp at the Dhaka University gymnasium after fighting on Tuesday left at least 150 students injured.

Soldiers had been stationed in the university's gymnasium since they were deployed there in January by the



The violence was the first major defiance of emergency laws imposed in January.

military-backed interim administration following months of political violence.

### Restrictions

The government issued an apology over the incident and confirmed the troop withdrawal had begun late on Tuesday. Students, fed up with the army presence, had begun rioting on Monday.

Police used tear gas and rubber bullets to try and disperse the students who responded by throwing stones and wielding sticks. A statement from the information ministry issued on

Tuesday evening said: "The interim government deeply apologised for the incident and ordered immediate withdrawal of the army camp from the campus and an inquiry into the unfortunate incident."

Jubilant students chanted "victory, victory" and lit candles to celebrate as troops began their departure preparations, but were subsequently told to calm down by the university's acting vice-chancellor, AFM Yusuf Haider.

Similar clashes the previous night injured more than 100 people. The violence started when students began

protesting against the presence of army troops during a football match at what is the country's largest university.

Protests and street assemblies have been banned in Bangladesh since the interim government took power on January 12 under a state of emergency.

Monday's fighting was the first major defiance of the restrictions and spread across campus after troops reportedly assaulted several students.

The interim administration has said it will crack down on political corruption before holding an election late next year.



أحمد النجاشي وأطوبى للتبرعات تبرعاً  
للشباب النشيط /

**نبيل أحمد قاسم الدولة**

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# Yemen needs “200 times more” money allocated for scientific research

By: Almigdad Dahesh Mojali  
& Saddam Al-Ashmouri

Most countries give scientific research priority when allocating the national budget but in Yemen, scientific research is the last concern. Sana'a University has a budget of YR5 billion but only YR2 million is allocated for scientific research. “The budget of the scientific research is zero and I say zero because two million is zero when you compare it to five billion which is the budget of the university,” Dr. Ali Al-Ashwal, dean of the Faculty of Engineering at Sana'a University said.

[President Saleh last month directed the government to allocate YR100 million as a support for scientific research. This is a very small sum. We need two hundred times this amount to be able to provide the universities with laboratories, libraries, an electronic library and new references,” Dr. Ahmed Mohammed Al-Kebsi, vice rector of academic affairs for Sana'a University stated.

Dr. Mahmoud Shamsheer, vice dean of the Faculty of Languages at Sana'a University, expressed, “The YR100 million that President Saleh allocated for scientific research equals only US\$500,000. If you divide this sum between the nine Yemeni universities with their different faculties, you will find that it does nothing.”

Dr. Ali Al-Meri, vice dean of the Faculty of Medicine at Sana'a University, stated, “We hear in every meeting, every year and with the arrival of a new rector for the university that there will be a budget for scientific research but ‘til now no budget has appeared for scientific research and researchers always finance themselves.” Al-Meri added, “The state, the Ministry of Higher Education...we all believe in the importance of scientific research in developing the country but unfortunately



Modern societies invest in research and development because they know it is their gateway to a better future.

what we always say is totally different from what we do.”

In the same context Dr. Shamsheer expressed, “There are many research fields. For instance, the researcher can research chronic diseases, the diseases in the hot areas, but such research needs much money, huge mechanisms, human resources, scientific resources, etc.” Dr. Shamsheer added, “We need \$3 million annually at least to be distributed over faculties. This \$3 million equals YR600 million and this sum can do something good for scientific research.”

If universities can not finance student research, the private sector should help. Sometime they do. “There is support from different authorities such as hospitals, medicine companies and that depends completely on the level of the relation between the financing authority and the student,” Dr. Al-Meri revealed.

But both teachers and students complain that the private sector does not contribute enough. Dr. Al-Kebsi posited that the private sector does not realize that it is an integral part of the society and

therefore has to contribute to the country's development. “We want the private sector to change and to support the field of research concerned with disease prevention and protecting the environment,” he added.

Researchers in Yemeni universities face many difficulties but the financial problem always comes first. Hani Anees, 25, a graduate of engineering, complained, “I graduated last year from the university and our graduating research project cost about YR200,000 and the faculty didn't supply us with any money. So, my three colleagues and I were compelled to share the cost of the research. We were doing practical work into how water could be pumped by air from ground level into the tanks in our homes. We got the highest marks for this.”

Dr. Shamsheer clarifies the funding situation: “For masters and doctoral students, if they are from a Yemeni university, they have scholarships from the university, so the university gives them per diem, transportation allowances, accommodation, money for printing and

books.”

But for undergraduates it is different. Dr. Al-Ashwal said: “The research that students do before graduation isn't called research. We can consider it training because students just collect information from some books about a subject and bring their findings to us. Therefore, this research doesn't have any support.”

Lack of money is not the only worry for universities. Dr. Abdul Salam Mohammed Dalaq, Faculty of Medicine, stated, “In my opinion, the main obstacle for the researchers is the lack of financial support. But there are also other serious problems. There is a lack of an authority responsible for observing and evaluating research, and to make researchers choose the subjects that may serve the society. Another obstacle is the lack of supervisors specialized in precise scientific specializations. Furthermore, the absence of the participation of the private sector in supporting scientific research and the lack of modern references.”

Students agree: Al-Shara'abi says, “One of the limitations that researchers face is lack of knowledge regarding research methods that students have to study in order to facilitate the steps of their research. The main problem that all students face is the lack of financial support; some research costs much money such as research undertaken by students of the faculties of engineering and medicine...The university has to support its students financially.”

And Yasser Ahmed Thabet, a medical laboratories researcher agrees: “In my opinion the most striking obstacle that we face is the absence of direction and evaluation from the beginning of writing research until the stage of discussing our research. Lack of training is another problem we always face in the way of scientific research and academic writing along with a complete absence of research mechanisms and laboratories, causing students to look for private laboratories to [perform] research.”

Nojoud Al-Shara'abi, Faculty of Pharmacy adds yet another problem: “The lack of new references is considered one of the most striking problems because what's there for us is old and inadequate, and if they are available, they are at very expensive prices.”

The lack of funding also limits where students go to do their research. Most research is executed in big cities, not in small cities or rural areas. Some students prefer not to go outside of big cities in order to avoid spending money. Others prefer not to venture to rural areas or to other cities because they are females. “In some research... researchers do their research in their cities and prefer not to go to the rural areas due to two reasons. The first is that most of the students are girls and are unable to move to any distant places and to remain there for the duration of the research period. The second reason is the cost of transportation and accommodation becomes a heavy burden for them since they are still students and have no financial resources,” Dr. Al-Meri explained.

All this can result in doctors being under

trained.

Dr. Dalaq explains, “When the students of medicine graduate from the university they have weakness in scientific skills and this is attributed to many reasons. For example, the practical period that students spend during their study in the university isn't enough. Also, big reduction in the laboratory tools which are necessary for the students during the study and research periods. But we put a solution for this problem; a student has to work for five years after he graduates before announcing oneself as a doctor.”

Despite all these short comings, Dr. Al-Kibsi claims that scientists have been able to contribute much to Yemen's development: “When we come to talk about what the university has done for the society through scientific research, we look at the cadres in the public and private institutions, factories and corporations. All of them are the outputs of the university. The development that Yemen has witnessed in all fields is a result of the outputs of the university.”

But all agree that so much more could be achieved with more funding.

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## 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 been 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 been 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.**



# Yemen could become like Palestine

It has been 17 years now since Yemen's National Unity was established. The establishment of this unity left behind a widely-spread controversy between its proponents and opponents, the latter cast doubt on survival of this unity, specifically after the 1994 Civil War, which broke out when the unity was four years old. Every side reads the unity and interprets its content according to his/her own thoughts and the unity's harmony with his/her own interests and goals.

The real-life situation tells that the unity has achieved a lengthily-awaited dream, on the one hand, and constituted an approach for restoring confidence to the Arab citizen, on the other. It proves that if there is a will, dreams and ambitions are easily reachable even amid regional and international fragmentations and conflicts.

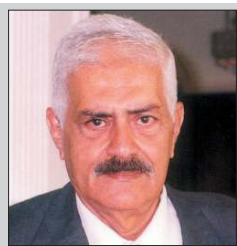
The national unity was initiated in 1972, but it remained merely a dream, which had been controlled by the Cold War between the two poles (the Soviet Union and its Socialist Army, one the one hand, and the United States of America and its Western Army, on the other). The idea of establishing Yemen's unity was enhanced after the 1979 War between the two parts of Yemen and the consecutive assassinations of a president from

South Yemen and two presidents from North Yemen.

The joint institutions and companies began forming union committees and preparing new systems, which culminated in drafting the Constitution of Unified Yemen. The bloody events of January 13, 1986 forced the then Arab regimes to review the unity or fragmentation of Yemen, based on the fact that the events had left behind tragic consequences impacting emotions and feelings of Arabs.

We can not claim that the Arab idea was backing the National Unity after the 1994 Civil War. But will of the people, who belong to different social classes and political organizations, stood by the legitimacy troops to ensure survival of the great achievement (the unity) during the worst times of Arabs.

We and others may have numerous remarks about what is required from the regime after amending the constitution and conducting presidential and local council elections for more than once since the unity was established. Also, we shouldn't forget the successes reached at London Conference, as well as the positive results the Sana'a Investment



By: Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Tarb

Conference came up with. But, the National Unity demands the ruling General People Congress to review a variety of issues and suggest workable solutions to them in the light of what is contained in the President's platform, which has won a national consensus.

For their part, Yemen's opposition parties are needed to exert pressure on President Saleh and his ruling party to interpret speeches into actions because we realize that gradual reform amid the current democratic practices and pluralism is the only practical approach. Gradual reform is the most useful move for Yemen and its economic, social, and political conditions, as I believe that sudden changes may cause fierce reactions to happen, democracy to disappear, and law to be breached.

This is why I felt compelled to say that Yemen is in an urgent need to encourage its people, belonging to different tribes and political organizations, to come together and work for their society. In addition, President Saleh's platform needs to be implemented. Otherwise, the ruling party will find itself experiencing a situation similar to what happened in the most recent Palestinian

parliamentary elections when the majority of Palestinians voted for Hamas though they weren't fond of Hamas Movement. But they were enraged by violations and rampant corruption observed under Fatah's regime.

Yemen's coming parliamentary and local council elections require the ruling party to work on planning good solutions to the rampant corruption and price hikes, as well as to create more job opportunities and to enhance security and equality. Otherwise, results of the coming elections may reverse expectations.

These are the internal and external domains in the national unity's history that requires us to conduct more studies and analyses. Further, those domains require parties and civil community organizations to suggest applicable alternatives to the current situations. Additionally, to maintain Yemen's stability and smooth prosperity at the time of regional and international crises, the state mustn't allow political conflicts and sectarian seditions to erupt.

*Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Tarb is an economist and a professor in Political Science. He is the head of the Arab Group for Investment and Development*

## COMMON SENSE

A not so tough question for Mr. Bush:

## Who are the real cold blooded killers?

Quite often Mr. George W. Bush uses the phrase "cold blooded killers" to denote the insurgents, he is supposedly challenging in Iraq and Afghanistan and just anywhere else in the world where trigger happy US GIs, intelligence officers or security personnel are given a free hand to shoot at anything "suspicious", threatening or just for the hell of it. For the most part, most of these killings have actually been civilian hits with the number of innocent civilians (women and children mostly).

Of course all these killings are justified by US military brass, Defense Department officials and Bush Administration officials as accidents or collateral damage and other lightly dubious excuses that even a third grader would find difficult to swallow.

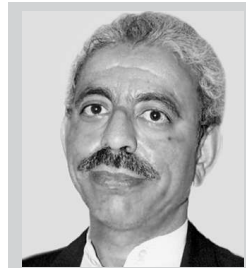
So as not to be outdone by the American cowboy affinity with spilling blood for fun and games, the Israeli "Defense" Forces and security apparatus and other paramilitary units (including "lunatic" murderers) in illegal Israeli settlements seem to find it permissible to race with their American allies for the number of civilian kills per mission.

The number of civilians killed by sanctioned and unsanctioned American (and Israeli) ordnances of all kinds would be enough to make the Marquis de Sade salivate. Yet, Mr. George W. Bush continues to label his enemies as Cold Blooded Killers while stating that his forces in Iraq and elsewhere are carrying a heavenly ordained messianic mission to liquidate the Saracen bandits that stand in the way of fulfilling the prerequisites for the Day of Judgment. One only needs to look at Human Rights Watch, United Nations Human Rights and Amnesty International reports for the hundreds of violations of international laws and conventions concerning the treatment of civilians free or under occupation that American and Israeli forces have inflicted over the last decade, just to get a sense of who the real cold blooded killers are these days. If that is not enough, even the cold-blooded bulldozer killing of Rachel Corrie, an American advocate for Palestinian rights in the Occupied Territories on March 16, 2003 was cause for Mr. Bush to reward to reward the Israelis with US 10 billion (see <http://yementimes.com/article.shtml?i=628&p=opinion&a=1> and substitute Corrie Smith with Rachel Corrie accordingly). On the repeated killing of civilians in Iraq, the following link gives some interesting highlights (<http://www.globalpolicy.org/security/issues/iraq/occupation/report/atrocities.shtml>). Surely, Mr. Bush is not hoping that the excessive use of the term "cold blooded" killers would be sufficient enough to exonerate him or his Israeli friends for all the thousands of civilians, who have lost their lives "for the love of Israel" over the years that Mr. Bush has vowed to carry out his evangelical mission to enrich Raytheon and the other weapons manufacturers within the American military industrial complex and to ensure the fulfillment of Eretz Israel as Zionist demagogues envision it to be.

One has no justifications or rationale for the murder of civilians, no matter who undertakes such killings or who instigates them. But it is widely suggested that even the civilian killings by so-called insurgents in Iraq are actually carried out by civilian security apparatus covertly contracted to help decorate the American flogs in Afghanistan and Iraq.

One important fact to remember is that all these American misadventures of the Bush Administration are actually for the "love of Israel" and so far all the rationale used to justify them (Weapons of Mass Destruction, Saddam and Al-Qaeda and Bin Ladin and the Taliban, etc.) have all been proven to be a fallacy, either by their obvious falsehoods or by their deliberate failures. This has been proven on more than one occasion by independent studies, as well as the Administration's own "fact finding" missions. So for the love of God, who are the real cold blooded killers of our times?

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



By: Hassan Al-Haifi

# When democracy and dictatorship look alike

Almost every Yemeni politician talks about Yemen as if it was the paradise of democracy in the world. The Yemeni leadership sometimes appears to be seriously considering exporting democracy along with oil to brotherly and friendly countries worldwide. The only obstacle to such a move, as it seems, is the fear that the world will misunderstand Yemen.

There is a precedent to international society's failure to understand Yemen. It occurred in August 1990 in the aftermath of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait. During the crisis, Yemen refused to condemn the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait and either voted against or abstained from voting on some key United Nations Security Council

resolutions. At that time, and in that particular crisis, the Yemeni officials claim that Yemen acted the way it did because it wanted to serve as a mediator and a peacemaker. Yemen even came up with a peace initiative which conditioned Saddam's withdrawal from Kuwait with Israel's withdrawal from Palestine. But the country was deeply misunderstood by international community. It was alleged then that Yemen was supporting Iraq, an accusation that is, according to officials, totally unfounded.

When the impoverished, the unemployed, and the starved Yemenis complain of corruption, misery, lack of



By: Dr. Abdullah Al-faqih

justice, and poor social services, they are more often told to thank the leader for giving them democracy. Although people sometimes need food more than democracy, they are made to believe that democracy is what matters most.

To prove to Yemenis that Yemen is a democracy, state media is usually opened to Yemenis to thank the leader for his achievements. They are even told what to say exactly in his praise. If they fail to utter words of admiration, their voices would be replaced with skillful announcers.

State media in Yemen is very considerate. The Yemeni satellite TV

channel sometimes allocates two hours and more for the evening prime time news just to praise the miracles of the leader who had just completed 29 years of reign. Although the Yemeni president ostensibly got into office through elections, he nevertheless still celebrates the first time he ascended to office in north Yemen on July 17, 1978. And because Yemen is immensely democratic, the president usually orders state institutions to celebrate the occasion on behalf of the people.

Yemen indeed is such a strange democracy. Only in Yemen you can have more voters than the people of voting age. Only in Yemen you can win before counting the ballots. Only in Yemen you can win 110% of the actual registered voters, and only in Yemen the dead can still enjoy their right to vote. Only in Yemen you can simultaneously have a democracy and keep the same president. Only in Yemen the same speaker of parliament. Only in Yemen the same vice president, and even the same press secretary.

Yemen's problem is not with the lack of democracy as enemies of the nation and the leader may suggest. It is rather with the failure of others to read Yemen's democracy. It is also with traitors such as independent journalists who dare to express their opinions or cover state secrets such as the recent war in Saddam. Yemen's problem is not illiteracy, which is a blessing but with literacy, which entices people to own newspapers and to start questioning.

Yemen does not allow its citizens, political parties, and various groups to establish independent and private TV and radio stations. It even sent some plain clothed security officers several weeks ago to repress and disperse a three-month long peaceful protest, organized by journalists and civil society activists, calling for liberation of the media. It also puts journalists in

jails and accuses them of terror.

This is not because Yemen suffers from a democratic shortage or an autocratic surplus but because Yemen does not want to become like Iraq. The Yemeni leaders think, and they are the only leaders in the world to think this way, that the American invasion of Iraq came as a result of Iraqis having private TV stations after the invasion. They also think that the Lebanese had a civil war between 1975 and 1990 just because they now have private and partisan TV stations.

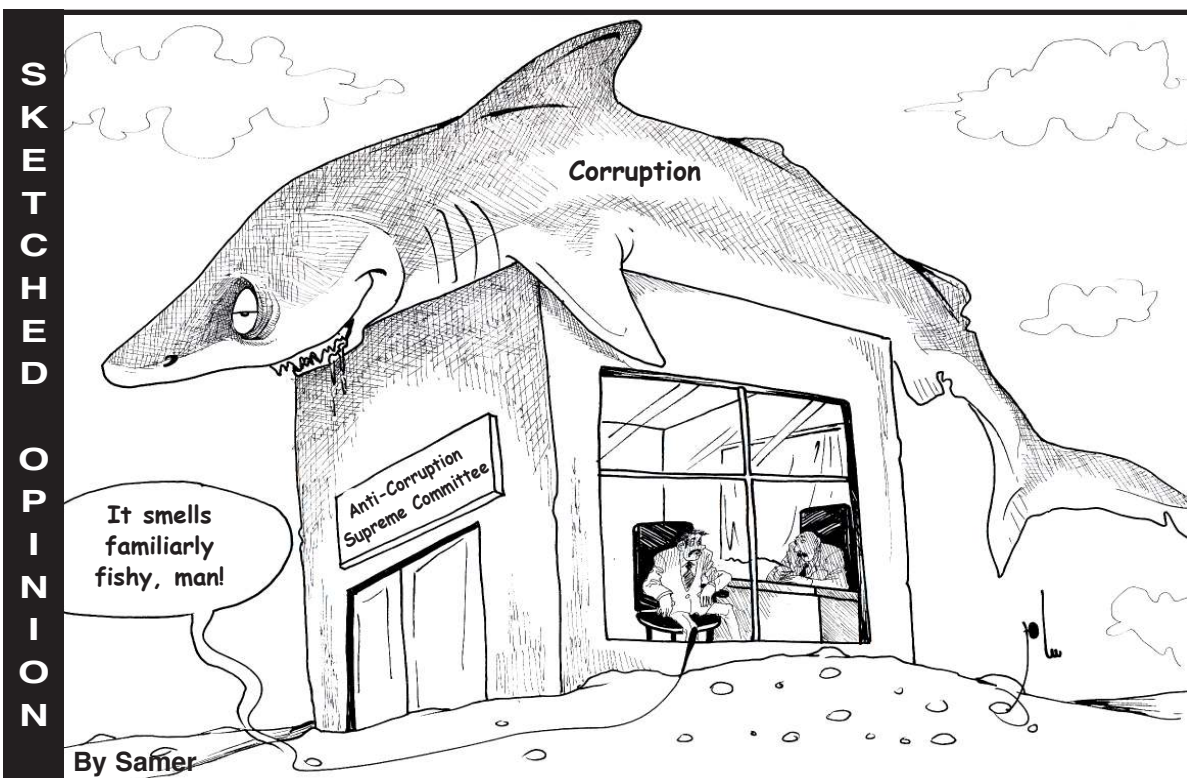
Even though genius Yemeni politicians seem to believe that free mass media is one of the causes of violent conflicts within societies, they miserably fail to explain why the Yemeni society is still having frequent violent conflicts even in the absence of free media.

Understandably, Yemen's democracy

does not look like other democracies. To some people, it may even look more like a dictatorship. That is not because Yemen is not a democratic country. The reason is deeper than that, which cannot be understood by either journalists or foreigners. According to the mentality of the state officials, the Yemeni society has its own special characteristics that make Yemen's democracy look like dictatorship.

Yemen's friends should know, however, that Yemen's democracy is like wine in some countries, which is only sold to foreigners. As to citizens who dare to test it, they can do that only at their own risk.

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# Beware of Mid-March

By: Jihad el-Khazen

The andiron triangle is an old Arab saying which means a great misfortune or a disaster. It is named after three stones forming a triangle inside which the fire is kindled and the pot is put on the top. In the Arab world we have thirty misfortunes, but today I content myself with three to adhere to the proverb boundaries.

Regarding Lebanon, I fear that in the midst of the controversy between the March 14 Movement and the March 8 Movement a new president of the March 15 type will be elected, and then each party will be obstinate enough to reject agreement inasmuch as it will discuss him.

One day separates the majority from mid-March whereas one week separates the opposition from it, and mid-March is the day when Julius Cesar was assassinated. He achieved fame in Shakespeare's play that was

named after the Roman emperor; therefore the expression Ides of March means, as Cicero says in his letters, a sudden and important change or a surprise threat, ie it means those Arab andirons.

The fortune-teller in the play warned the Cesar of an imminent danger and said to him, 'Beware of mid-March.' In Latin, the word means the middle of long months or the 13th of short months, ie those made up of 30 days. There was also the word Nones which referred to the 5th of the 7th of the month according to their calendar. I remember from my reading of the play when I was an adolescent, that the Cesar heard another warning. In fact there is a line in which he says about his wife, 'And Calpurnia yelled three times while sleeping: Help! Help! Help! They are killing Cesar.'

The story is well known. Brutus had organized a plot against Cesar during one night. The Romans, who had a republican system and an elected council, were not satisfied with

Cesar's rule. History books say that Brutus belonged to the opposition and shared in the civil war against Julius Cesar. After the victory achieved by the latter, he pardoned his opponent and the two men became friends. For this reason, Cesar was surprised when he found out that Brutus, along with other people, had stabbed him in the back. As a result he uttered another very famous phrase, 'Even you Brutus', or Et tu Brute, in Latin.

Historians say it is likelier that this phrase was written by Shakespeare and was not uttered by Cesar. There is also disagreement among the poets. While Shakespeare makes Brutus an ideal man and Julius Cesar a tyrant, Dante considers Cesar in The Divine Comedy an oppressed man and puts Brutus at the lowest levels of hell for betraying his friend.

I can draw a link between all the above and Iraq, the andiron triangle indeed. Our misfortune in Iraq is greater than what we are facing now. According to history books, the

conspirators were in a hurry because Julius Cesar was getting ready to leave Rome on March 18 at the head of an army to carry out a military operation in Partha, today's Iraq.

I will not rely on Shakespeare in my talk about the misfortunes of Iraq. I rather choose from the poetry of Elyia Abou Madi that many readers asked me to quote once more after I have recently invoked his poetry on Lebanon.

In his poem Al-Rashid's Epoch, Elyia Abou Madi says: 'Abou Ma'moun, your memory on earth is deeply-rooted like firm lofty mountains...

This orient is miserable after your rule

It has become so weak that it is on the brink of collapse...

Their servility has made them fear the coward the same way they fear the despot...

What a shame the Arabs feel vis-à-vis their ancestors, when the masses of slaves became the rulers.'

The Iraqi tragedy today is much greater than what Elyia Abou Madi complained about around a hundred years ago. The tragedy has struck every Arab country and in Palestine it is mixed with the air and water.

The Palestinian leadership has disappointed its people, and Hamas and Fatah in particular achieved for Israel in two days what the latter failed to achieve in sixty years. Once again, I condemn both factions and say those concerned with the cause are the most successful conspirators against it.

While thinking about the Palestinian issue, I recall the Shakespearean statement 'To be, or not to be: that is the question'. After the partition of Palestinian land into two strips or flocks, the main issue has become the existence of the Palestinians and not the mini-state to be created over 22% of Palestinian territories.

Hamlet, the prince of Denmark, had said the above mentioned statement, or maybe Shakespeare had quoted him. He talks about the tribulations of

life in a long poem and fears the unknown in the afterlife. He believes that life is bad, but death can be worse. But today, maybe there is nothing worse than the life of the Palestinians... except for the life of the Iraqis.

As I referred to Shakespeare and his sayings while discussing the andiron triangle in the Arab world, I conclude with something that might relieve our miserable souls. From among the statements of the most famous English poets that became proverbs repeated by the whole world in different languages, I quote, 'Discretion is the better part of valour', as mentioned in the play of Henry IV, part one. However, we all know that Al-Mutanabbi was a thousand years ahead of him in expressing this meaning and the famous second hemistich in a poem of his says, '[Opinion] occupies the first place and [bravery] comes second.'

Source: Al-Hayat Newspaper.

# India's democracy at 60

By: Shashi Tharoor

At midnight on August 15, 1947, a new nation was born on a subcontinent ripped apart by a bloody partition. Independent India came into being as flames blazed across the land, corpse-laden trains crossed the new frontier with Pakistan, and weary refugees abandoned everything to seek a new life. A less propitious start for a fledgling nation could scarcely be imagined.

Yet, six decades later, the India that emerged from the wreckage of the British Raj is the world's largest democracy, poised after years of rapid economic growth to take its place as one of the giants of the twenty-first century. A country whose very survival seemed in doubt at its founding offers striking lessons in constructing, against all odds, a working democracy.

No other country embraces such an extraordinary profusion of ethnic groups, mutually incomprehensible languages, religions, and cultural

practices, as well as variations of topography, climate, and levels of economic development. In 1947, India's leaders faced a country with a million dead, 13 million displaced, billions of rupees worth of property damage, and the wounds of sectarian violence still bleeding. Given this, and the challenges of administering a new country, integrating the "princely states" into the Indian Union, and reorganizing the divided armed forces, they could have been forgiven for demanding dictatorial powers.

But India made a strength out of its major weakness. To the American motto, "E Pluribus Unum," India could only counter, "E Pluribus Pluribus." Instead of suppressing its diversity in the name of national unity, India acknowledged its pluralism in its institutional arrangements: all groups, faiths, tastes, and ideologies survive and contend for their place in the sun.

This wasn't always easy. India suffered caste conflicts, clashes over the rights of different linguistic groups, religious riots (mainly between Hindus and Muslims), and separatist threats. Despite many

stresses and strains, India has remained a freewheeling multi-party democracy – corrupt and inefficient, perhaps, but nonetheless flourishing.

It helped that India's founding fathers, from Mahatma Gandhi on, were convinced democrats. India's first and longest-serving prime minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, spent his political career instilling in his people the habits of democracy: disdain for dictators, respect for parliamentary procedures, and abiding faith in the constitutional system.

As prime minister, Nehru carefully nurtured the country's infant democratic institutions by showing them respect, even deference. For example, on the one occasion that he publicly criticized a judge, he apologized the next day and wrote an abject letter to the India's Chief Justice. Though there was no serious challenger to his authority, Nehru never forgot that he derived his power from India's people, to whom he remained astonishingly accessible.

By his personal example, democratic values became so entrenched that when his own

daughter, Indira Gandhi, suspended India's freedoms in 1975 with a 21-month State of Emergency, she felt compelled to return to the Indian people for vindication. Having imbibed the most important of her father's values, she held a free election, which she overwhelmingly lost.

Though Indian politics is hardly immune to the appeal of sectarianism, its people have come to accept the idea of India as one land embracing many differences of caste, creed, color, culture, cuisine, conviction, costume, and custom, yet still rallying around a democratic consensus. The heart of that consensus is the simple principle that you don't need to agree all the time – except on the ground rules about how you can disagree. India has survived all the challenges that have beset it for 60 years because it has maintained a consensus on how to manage without consensus.

For example, India permits all religions to flourish while ensuring that none is privileged by the state. This includes the granting of group rights, under which Muslims are

governed by their own Personal Law, distinct from the common civil code. If America is a melting-pot, then India is a *thali*, a selection of sumptuous dishes in different bowls. Each tastes different, and does not necessarily mix with the next, but all belong on the same plate.

No one speaks seriously any more of the danger of disintegration. Separatist movements in far-flung places like Tamil Nadu and Mizoram have been quietly defused by a simple formula: yesterday's secessionists become today's chief ministers (the equivalent of provincial or state governors) and tomorrow's opposition leaders.

Moreover, democracy in India is not an elite preoccupation, but matters most to the underprivileged masses. Whereas in the United States, a majority of the poor do not vote, – turnout in Harlem was 23% in the last presidential election – in India the poor turn out in great numbers.

As a result, the explosive potential of caste division also has been channeled through the ballot box, with the lowest of the low attaining high

office. Mayawati, an "untouchable" woman, has ruled India's most populous state, Uttar Pradesh, as Chief Minister three times, and now enjoys a secure majority.

More generally, the logic of the electoral marketplace means that no single communal identity can dominate others. Three years ago, India, a country that is 81% Hindu, saw a Roman Catholic political leader (Sonia Gandhi) make way for a Sikh (Manmohan Singh), who was sworn in by a Muslim (President Abdul Kalam). By contrast, the world's oldest democracy, the US, has yet to elect a president who is not white, male, and Christian.

Democracy has sustained an India that safeguards the common space available to each identity. That idea has knit together a country that many thought would not survive, and whose 60th birthday is therefore well worth celebrating.

Shashi Tharoor is a former Under Secretary General of the United Nations. Source: Project Syndicate, 2007.

# Cold war syndrome

By: Henry Kissinger

The debate about missile defence, nearly 50 years old, has been reignited by the plan to deploy elements of the American missile defence in the Czech Republic and Poland.

Familiar Cold War arguments have reemerged as Russia challenges the necessity of the deployment and asserts that it is really designed to overcome Russian strategic forces rather than Iranian threats as the US administration claims. But in addition to invective, the Kremlin has also put forward a bold initiative for creating an unprecedented NATO-Russian collaboration in resisting an Iranian nuclear missile threat.

The Cold War aspect of the debate harks back to an issue that has bedevilled strategists ever since the advent of nuclear weapons: whether it is possible to distil from the cataclysmic consequences of nuclear war a military strategy that a society can survive. During the Cold War, the dominant American strategic doctrine sought deterrence through the mutual capacity for annihilation. But as the projected casualties of the mutual assured destruction (MAD) strategy approached tens of millions, governments recoiled before the implications of what their planners had wrought. The advent of ballistic missiles in the 1960s produced pressure for a defence against the new threat. In practice, only the United States and the Soviet Union had the military capacity to develop what amounted to shooting down the equivalent of a bullet in space, and only the United States had the industrial capacity to build it on a global basis.

In the United States, the concept of missile defence had a rough passage. Proponents of the mutual assured destruction strategy rejected it as unnecessary and wasteful; advocates of arms control denied that the consequences of nuclear war should – or could – be mitigated. To their mind, making nuclear war more tolerable might also make it more likely, tempting a first strike by one side or the other in the belief that its defences could blunt the counterblow. Arguments such as these led Congress to strangle the missile defence system that President Richard Nixon had proposed in 1969. In order to preserve its nucleus, the Nixon administration, in 1972, negotiated the Anti-Ballistic Missile Treaty, which froze existing missile defences on both sides in parallel with an agreement that achieved the first restraints on the Soviet offensive missile buildup.

In the following decades, the international environment changed dramatically and forced a reconsideration of the earlier decisions: First, the collapse of the Soviet Union eliminated for the foreseeable future the conceptual basis for the MAD doctrine; second, technical progress made missile defence a much more realistic prospect; third, the proliferation of nuclear weapons and missile technology has generated unprecedented dangers of accidental and rogue state launches. Involved as well was a moral issue. How could any president explain, after even the most limited nuclear attack, why, in possession of a plausible technology to mitigate its consequences or to avoid them altogether, he chose to leave the population unprotected?

These considerations convinced the Bush administration to withdraw from

the ABM treaty in 2002 and to begin the construction of a global missile defence system aimed at overcoming limited attacks, especially from rogue states.

Russia, which accepted the withdrawal from the ABM treaty in 2002 with little, if any, controversy, has reacted in a neuralgic manner to the Polish and Czech deployment. This should not be a surprise. Moscow has always shown great interest in missile defence – indeed, the Soviet Union was a pioneer in deploying missile defences around Moscow in the mid-1960s.

The current American-Russian dialogue, therefore, on one level repeats a traditional pattern. But its implications go well beyond strategic considerations. Implicit in President Vladimir Putin's conduct since his critical Munich speech is a deep resentment over the advance of the NATO military establishment toward Russia's frontiers in disregard of what Moscow regards as assurances that this would not happen – especially with respect to advanced military technology.

Moscow's tactics reflect its rhetoric. It has launched an intense diplomatic campaign to pressure NATO and the US to revoke the missile defence deployment in Central Europe. It has withdrawn previous assurances that none of Russia's missiles will be aimed at NATO territory.

But there are straws in the wind that imply a more constructive attitude. Putin has made an intriguing proposal of potentially profound, long-range significance: to link Russia's existing missile tracking radar installations in Azerbaijan or those planned for Southern Russia to the American and NATO defence missile system against

Iran. While the proposal is unacceptable as put forward, it contains a vision of how to implement parallel strategic interests that might set a precedent for overcoming other global challenges. Russia and the United States face an emerging world order whose threats as well as prospects transcend what any national state, no matter how powerful, can deal with by itself. Proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, radical jihadism, the environment, a global economy all impose the need for cooperative approaches. At the level of the presidents and foreign ministers, this seems to be understood, and relations are friendly and characterised by serious cooperative efforts. Yet in the public dimension, something approaching Cold War attitudes is reemerging.

This trend must not be permitted to take hold. The US and Russia are no longer in a competition for global leadership. The military deployments of the two sides are no longer aimed at each other because each faces greater perils than that represented by the other. Serious Americans understand that many global problems crucially affecting future stability and progress can best – perhaps only – be solved by American-Russian cooperation. By the same token, Russian leaders cannot fail to know that while their country has made a spectacular recovery, it has a long way to go and nothing to gain from a global contest with the United States.

Each side, of course, has also national interests that are not necessarily congruent. America needs to show greater sensitivity to Russian complexities. Moscow must understand that its point regarding being taken for granted has been made and that threats are not the way to

achieve a sense of common purpose.

The immediate challenge is to deal with the missile defence issue. For America, the NATO alliance has been the bedrock of its move from isolation to international engagement. It therefore should not be asked to bargain away an enterprise agreed to by the Czech Republic and Poland to underline their ties to America and that US leaders consider important for American security. But what America can and should do is to limit the proposed deployment to its stated objective of overcoming rogue state threats and find ways to define specific steps that separate the anti-missile deployment in Central Europe from a strategy for a hypothetical and highly implausible war against Russia.

Beyond this vestige of traditional arms control looms the prospect of a new approach to international order. Putin's initiative to link NATO and Russian warning systems could be – or could be made – an historic initiative in dealing jointly with issues that threaten all countries simultaneously. It is one of those schemes easy to disparage on technical grounds but, perhaps like Reagan's Star Wars vision, a harbinger of a future posing entirely new creative opportunities. It permits one to imagine a genuinely global approach to the spectre of nuclear proliferation, which has heretofore been treated largely through national policies. And such an approach could become a forerunner for other issues of comparable dimension.

Of course, it is quite possible – perhaps even likely – that the Kremlin proposal is largely a tactical manoeuvre: to expose" non-existent American designs against Russian strategic forces; to split NATO by

exploring Russian proposals in the NATO-Russian Council; and to make the new proposal conditional on abandoning the planned US deployment in Poland and the Czech Republic.

It would be a pity. For a successful negotiation – even a serious effort at one – would put the non-proliferation negotiations with Iran in a radically new framework and, in time, perhaps lead to a wider approach to other global challenges. The Russian proposal therefore deserves detailed exploration. How would such a system operate? How would the proposed system respond to its own warnings? How will other nations with comparable interests be brought into it?

If these questions can be answered positively – if, in other words, the countries involved link their strategies on the non-proliferation issue – a new framework for a host of other issues will come about.

A debate started over the most destructive weapons will have culminated in sketching a road towards a more peaceful world.

Dr Henry Kissinger is by far the most admired Secretary of State in US history, a diplomat par excellence, and a top intellectual of our times, informed as he is by a 'deep historical knowledge, wit, a gift for irony, and a unique understanding of the forces that bind nations'. He had injected a new dynamism to the US foreign policy during his term between 1973 and 1977, that, among other things, effected a major turn-around in Sino-US relations. He continues to hog limelight, unveiling refreshing thoughts about the state of the world. Source: Khaleej Times online.



# Obstacles to investment in Yemen

By: Anwar Mughram  
For Yemen times

Undoubtedly, the attractiveness of the business environment is a fundamental concern for the private sector, as its operations and growth will lead national macroeconomic growth towards more trade, income and more job opportunities in turn reducing poverty and spreading prosperity.

A recent study by a local think tank has asserted this fact, indicating that the study of obstacles to business investment as well as the need to gain information and analysis is critical for decision makers inside and outside the government, in order to allow them to formulate certain pro-investment policies.

The study has exhibited a very important point which was noted by one of the interviewed investors, he said that Yemen is not among countries which have a secure banking industry, he pointed out that foreign banks do not accept issued guaranties by Yemeni banks, not even letters of credit issued from several banks operating in Yemen. He added that he, as an investor, intended to establish a large manufacturing project in Yemen but needed additional financing from an international bank. For his surprise, all regional and international banks declined his loan application in spite of providing the required documentation, indicating that documentation from Yemen is invalid, in addition to Yemen's being a high-risk country.

The report stated that problem as one of genuine concern, as it is limited to Yemen and the negative and untrustworthy image it has in the region.

The report classified the obstacles hindering investment in Yemen to several categories, starting from legal and administrative obstacles, to structural and technical obstacles as well as documenting several case studies from the survey which explain a number of these obstacles.

#### Administrative obstacles

These obstacles include the corrupting bureaucratic system which consumes

the energy of investors and wastes their time, money in the governmental offices when starting taking the preliminary procedures prior to staging any project. Additionally, the lack of measures and standards while appointing the administrative leaders. There are so many corrupt officials supposed to be before prosecution accused of embezzling public money. Instead of prosecuting these corrupt, they are exalted to a higher position, resulting in negative impacts at the level of performance. Consequently, they can not deal with different problems forming a dismissal factor for the local and foreign investments.

#### Lack of qualified human manpower

The lack of adequately qualified local human elements to deal with foreign investors is considered one of the prime investment obstacles, graduate accountants are unable to do proper book keeping, engineers do not understand the basic maintenance operations, and administrative staff who suffer from inefficiency and redundancy. Even the relatively more qualified staff is unable to use computers and can not speak English and need intensive and expansive training in order to qualify them for the job, after which they tend to ask for more salary and threaten to leave the job regardless of their employment contracts.

#### Structural obstacles

The weak infrastructure such as the underpowered electricity grid, poor roads and transport facilities, poor Internet and communication networks and other infrastructure issues discourage investors, knowing that they cannot outsource any of their activities and that they must establish a complete operation, which means a substantial investment which increases the risk.

#### Financial obstacles

Duties, taxes and other fees are another obstacle, in spite of being regulated by the law, there is an inefficient system to gather data and impose such fees, in addition to the handicapped mechanism in place which is a hustle to too many investors, according to the survey.



Many investors hope that investing in Free Zones would be better through taking advantage of the many tax and customs exemptions offered in these zones

#### Technical obstacles

For a business enterprise to grow and prosper in Yemen it needs all sort of technical assistance from other supplementary bodies, such as the chamber of commerce, the board of audits, market research agencies, ministry of trade, the banking industry, and many other bodies which facilitate the growth of any enterprise. Other weaknesses include the weakness of the institutions of technical education and vocational training in providing labor market with the technical and vocational cadre. The private sector is the third side in the partnership with the country as well as the civil society organizations.

#### Judicial obstacles:

Local and foreign investors have been shocked time and again by the Yemeni judiciary in general and by the commercial judiciary in particular, as the later is specialized in adjudicating business and investment issues, such as the fact that judges in these courts do not know the rules of the international law, are unfamiliar with international commercial agreements, do not wish to address violations of several

Yemeni laws such as Intellectual property law among others, coupled with the slow legal procedures which result in substantial damage to business operation, in addition to the fact that corruption is evident within the legal system.

#### Survey Results:

The study quoted a number of obstacles faced by financial and business institutions in the public, mixed and private sectors, focusing primarily on the private sector and contacted some 686 local and foreign business ventures in Sana'a, Taiz, Aden, Hodaidah and Hadhramout.

#### Smuggling phenomenon

The study showed that 96.6 percent of the respondents affirmed that the phenomenon of smuggling is a very important obstacle of the investment in Yemen. This factor leads substantial damage in the local economy due to smuggling goods and commodities. These goods are not exposed to taxes or customs, they are cheaper than goods which entered the country legally, and flood the market forcing businessmen into a position where they cannot compete with smugglers, most respondents were in the vehicle, electronics, mobile phones, computers and technology segments.

#### Security situations

The study stated that 89.5 percent of the respondents said that the security situations and the lack of stability obstruct investment in Yemen, this makes investors worried;

In the tourism sector, 94.6 percent of the respondents see kidnapping and terrorism as one of the prime obstacles for investment in the tourism and hospital sector.

Other respondents said that this problem of lack of security jeopardized themselves as well, on several occasions, businessmen or members of their families have been kidnapped for a random or even to settle scores between competing businessmen, even when entering into commercial disputes with other persons instead of resorting to judiciary.

#### Insufficiency of power

The study showed the 95.4 percent of the sample mentioned that the insufficiency of power supply and power interruptions as an obstruct investment and expansion, electricity power covers only 30 percent of the republic areas. While existing power supply is subjected to interruptions causing damage to machinery and frozen food-stuff, thereby increasing overhead and making business operations more expensive than it should be

#### Weak and inadequate transportation

The study mentioned that 67.1 percent of the sample individuals stated that the weakness and insufficiency of transportation system is an obstacle to investment, paved road links do not connect the whole country, on several occasions several inter-city roads are blocked either by tribes, poor road infrastructure or other reasons, there is also an underdeveloped cargo transportation facilities in the country.

#### Fiscal obstacles

The study showed that 98.1 percent of the sample individuals stated that the instability of the value of the local currency is another obstacle for investment as dealings in Riyals usually depreciate faster than any other cur-

rently resulting in a capital loss. However, 94.7 of the sample said that price hikes, inflation and declining purchasing power also limit the growth of their business.

Obstacles related to economic policies

86.1 percent considered the absence of economic stability one of the investment obstacles. Whereas, 70.6 percent said that the economic growth hinders investment in Yemen. However, 81.7 percent of the study sample mentioned that the containing inflation as well as treating unemployment obstructs investment. Moreover, 86.1 percent of respondents agreed that the failure of the economic policies related to distributing income equally and connecting the financial reform.

70.8 percent stated that the financial and administrative reforms program did more harm that good and obstructs further investment in Yemen. Moreover, 88.5 percent of the study sample indicated that the weak demand as well as the smallness of market size is considered one of the investment obstacles.

#### Legislative and legal obstacles

Respondents said that there are a group of legal and legislative obstacles for investment in Yemen. 90.4 percent of respondents said that the income tax law is a legal obstacle, while 87.4 percent said that labor tax obstructs investment. Whereas, 88.8 percent confirmed customs law one of the legal obstacles.

#### Administrative bodies

61.4 percent of the respondents considered current measures relating to investment complicated, however, 96.5 percent of the businessmen said that the law of tenders as well as the current mechanism of winning government contracts hinders investment in Yemen. Bribery is one of the investment obstacles related to administrative bodies, according to 99.5 percent of the respondents. Furthermore, 97.6 percent of the respondents considered financial and administrative corruption one of the obstacles.

Customs and taxes exemptions positively affect investment, according to the survey, however, around 47.7 percent of investors do not consider tax exemptions to encourage investments.

#### Recommendations of the study

• The study stressed the importance of selecting right leaders and competent administrative and technical cadre according to vocational measures. It also emphasized the necessity of following up all aspects of corruption and administrative deviation.

• The study also mentioned that the stability and unifying principles ruling the processes of investment as well as updating laws facilitating measures are the primary approach to providing appropriate investment climate.

• It also recommended providing good infrastructure in order to attract investments concerning infrastructure.

• It went on to say that projects in need of loans must work on achieving proper balance between the capital of project and obtained loans. So loans will not exceed the acceptable limits financially and commercially.

• The study mentioned that there is a pressing need for knowing the consumers' requirements and their desires. There must be some kind of cooperation between national and international insurance institutions to provide insurance cover of the marketing activities with proper conditions and costs.

## Business in Brief

### Minister of Agriculture: Locust threat is very serious

Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation Dr. Mansour Al-Hawshabi has stated that the Locust threat isn't limited to Yemen for it will have an impact on the regional agriculture, calling for neighboring countries to help Yemen in combating locust as new generations hatch and new swarms are expected.

### Yemen-Ethiopian Economic ties enhanced

The joint Yemeni-Ethiopian Ministerial committee was concluded in Addis Ababa last week, with the agreement to set up a joint free trade zone as well as revising the labor agreements between the two countries. The committee also agreed to implement a cultural and tourism program to enhance the ties between the peoples of the two countries.

### Investment law to be revisited

Director of the General Authority for Investments Salah Al-Attar has stated that the authority is studying several revisions on the existing investment law, in order to ensure that the law supports the one-stop shop concept which the authority has adopted in order to ease procedures for investors.

### Al-Mutawakel: Maximum Retail Prices must be set

Minister of Trade and Industry Dr. Yahya Al-Mutawakel has stated that the private sector must disclose retail prices of all products and commodities, adding that the government will take all measures required in order to regulate the prices and supply of commodities to the market and protect the rights of consumers.

### Bahah: Post-oil Yemen will survive

Minister of Oil, Gas and Minerals Khalid Bahah has stated that though intensive exploration activities are in place to slow the decline in Yemen's oil production, Yemen must prepare for the post-oil era through ensuring proper utilization of this resource at the meantime. He stated that on the sidelines of setting up the Yemeni committee to implement the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative.

### Report: Huge gap between theory and practice

Parliamentary report on the business environment in Aden reported that there is a huge gap between the legislation and regulatory framework that governs business operations, and the current practices in Aden governorate, as many of these practices are unlawful yet are still practiced by authorities, such as multiple taxation and non-implementation of pro-businesses legislation.

### Central Bank supplies market with US\$ 68 million

Central Bank of Yemen has sold around US\$ 68 million last Monday in order to maintain the value of the Riyal and slow down inflation, the US\$ has reached 199.4 Riyals per dollar in the local market in spite of the global decline in the value of the dollar.

### Rajihi group to expand to Yemen

Director of Saudi-based Al-Rajihi investment group has stated that the group is considering a serious investment in Yemen, including setting up a bank and an investment company, as well as several luxurious hotels and resorts, with an initial investment of around US\$ 200 million.

### Israeli shipment blocked at port

News sources reported that the authorities of Hodeida commercial port has blocked a sugar shipment which was bought from an Israeli company, noting that the current laws forbid any dealings with Israel or any Israeli entity.

### Yemenia Accident: Bad weather

Minister of transportation stated that the drift of Yemenia Airlines while landing in Sana'a airport last week is due to the bad weather condition and hailstorm which affected Sana'a at the time. He stated that the airport was closed while investigators gather information about the incident for recording purposes.



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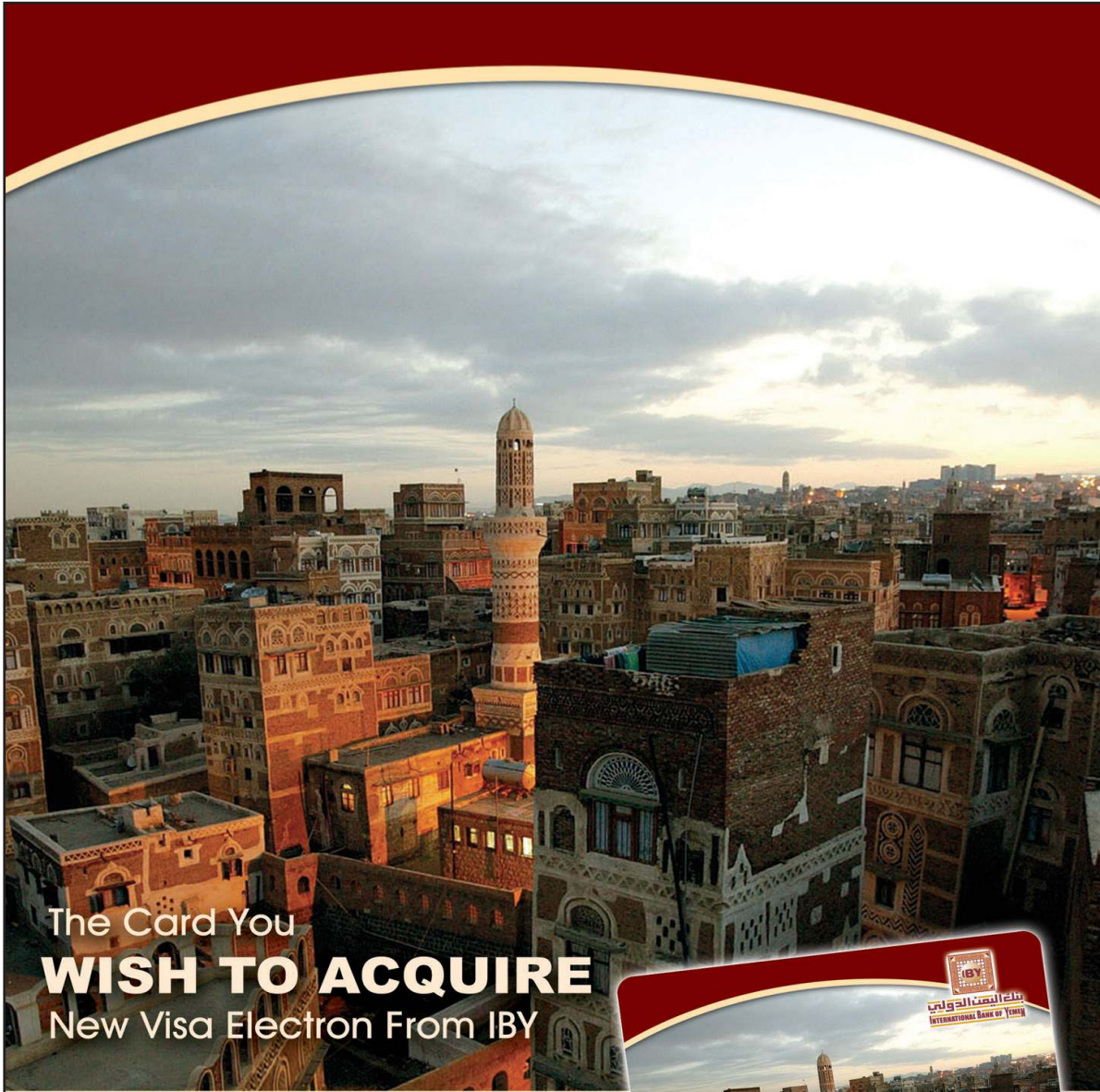


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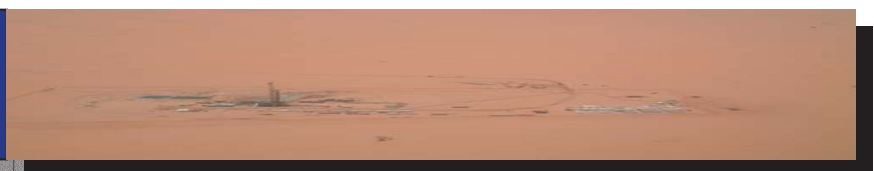
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## Job Vacancies OMV (YEMEN)



OMV (Yemen Block S2) Exploration GmbH, a branch office of OMV Exploration & Production GmbH the independent operating division of OMV AG, is the leading oil and natural gas group in Central and Eastern Europe. Currently we are operating over 450 oil and gas fields worldwide, both onshore and offshore, with a wide variety of challenging exploration & appraisal projects. Due to our recent successes and outstanding growth we want to expand our team in Sana'a and at our oil field operations in Block S2 in the Shabwah region.

### Procurement Supervisor

#### Job Duties:

- Maintains approved vendor / bidders list for materials/services
- Prepare Tenders and Quotations in accordance with Company procedures for the required materials or services
- Evaluate Tenders and Quotations and recommend vendor for order/contract placement
- Supervises preparation of Purchase/Service Orders
- Advise Logistics Supervisor of any contractual conditions with vendors that could impact shipping of materials/ equipment
- Preparation of procurement documents prior to submission to the Operating Committee and PEPA for approval, P&L Manager to approve submission
- Follow up on approval of procurement documents with the Operating Committee and PEPA
- Be proactive, identify and bring to the attention of the P&L Manager, any potential problems which could delay purchase of materials/ equipment and could have an adverse effect on Operations by non placement of orders /contracts
- Development of subordinates
- Conduct negotiations with vendors through to order/contract award
- Identify new sources of supply for materials and equipment
- Liaise and follow up with all vendors on contract performance
- Monitor the Procurement processes, to ensure cost effective and timely acquisition of equipment/materials and services for Operations
- Prepare reports and inform P&L Manager on procurement related activities
- Develop and maintain work schedules and personal resources planning for Procurement personnel

#### Minimum requirements:

- Minimum 10 years Oil and Gas industry experience in the field of Procurement and Logistics with E&P / Service Companies with 5 years in a supervisory position
- PC Literate in MS Windows, MS Office and Computerized Materials Management Systems, ideally experienced with the Maximo System
- Fluent in Arabic and English, written and oral
- Proven ability to interact with people, clear fluent expressive use of verbal and written language to convey information and ideas
- Proven track record in supervising all Procurement functions with experience in Logistics functions required to support Company Operations
- Ability to optimise teamwork with both subordinates and managers
- Excellent man management and communication skills, proactive approach to problem solving
- Should be commercially astute and have excellent negotiation skills
- Location: **Sana'a**

### Warehouse Supervisor

#### Job Duties:

- To manage an engineering warehouse having high value inventory items in a controlled manner following the computerized inventory control system.
- To coordinate with the Rig management for day to day requirements on a regular basis.
- To prepare and update records of inventory on daily basis and have effective communication with the stores accounting section.
- To ensure documentation for receipt and issues and posting them in the system.
- Must have identification knowledge of material and ensure their safe housekeeping.
- Carry out periodic physical stock checking independently.
- To brief his supervisor on day to day activities seeking guidance and approvals in order to streamline the work.
- To have effective liaison within Procurement and Logistics Department and end users.
- To maintain complete records and filing system in a proper manner for Audit trail and control purposes.
- The incumbent is required to maintain highest degree of Integrity, Ethics and Discipline which is the prime requirement of the Job.
- Required to follow HSE standards and policies issued from time to time.
- Any other duty assigned to him

#### Minimum requirements:

- MBA in Finance/IT or Bsc Engineering Mechanical/Chemical/petroleum/industrial
- The incumbent Must have a minimum 7-10 years experience working in Engineering warehouse in computerized environments with a reputable E and P Company.
- Fluent in English reading and writing and should have ability to control the inventory management, handling of materials, identification knowledge of materials
- Location: **Field**

### Buyer

#### Job Duties:

- To prepare tender documents, tender enquiries upon receipt of valid request for materials or services (RMS) in accordance with the procurement policies and procedures for both local and international requirements. The RMS requires careful scrutiny before initiating procurement process.
- To attend Pre award and Post Award correspondence in consultation with the procurement supervisor/procurement Manager.
- To prepare comparative statement and coordinate with the end users after technical evaluation by them on a regular basis. All communication either through E mail or written must be available with the files.
- Final approval on the evaluation to be obtained from the Procurement Manager.
- Prepare Purchase orders/Service Orders and or Contracts whichever is applicable after obtaining due approvals from the competent authorities for signatures thereafter seeking approval from the Finance Manager/General Manager.
- To brief his supervisor on day to day activities seeking guidance and approvals in order to streamline the work.
- To have effective liaison within Procurement and Logistics Department and end users/requisitioners/indentors.
- To maintain complete records and filing system in a proper manner for Audit trail and control purposes.
- The incumbent is required to maintain highest degree of Integrity, Ethics and Discipline which is the prime requirement of the Job.
- Required to follow HSE standards and policies issued from time to time.
- Any other duty assigned to him.

#### Minimum requirements:

- MBA in Finance/IT or Bsc Engineering
- The incumbent must have a minimum 3-5 years experience dealing in and working with a reputable E and P Company
- Fluent in English reading and writing and should have ability to generate documentation.
- Location: **Sana'a**

### Field Doctor

#### Job Duties:

- Ensure that the company clinic operates according to company standards.
- Promote awareness and effective preventive medicine practices.
- Examine and treat employees using the highest medical standards while maintaining doctor/patient confidentiality and a medical record for each employee.
- Maintain emergency medical equipment in a state of permanent readiness.
- Produce monthly health reports and use statistics proactively in order to detect trends and propose preventive solutions.
- Produce HSEQ reports and financial statistics relating to healthcare on a monthly basis.
- Report to the local manager immediately after treatment of any major injuries or occupational illnesses while respecting doctor/ patient confidentiality.
- Inspect kitchens and food storage weekly. Randomly check supply trucks from caterers to ensure food is delivered at an acceptable standard. Manage the health of catering staff employees - maintain records and medical certificates.
- Ensure that all employees have the company recommended vaccinations and keeps the vaccination records updated.
- Assist in the investigation and reporting of any accident that may occur.
- Assist in health and/or safety audits of the company facility.
- Conduct health training and company health campaigns as required, after discussions with the local manager: first aid training, food and water hygiene, sexually transmitted diseases, fitness, Malaria, etc.
- Audit the local health facilities in order to assess the access and quality of medical care available.
- Maintain the emergency response plan up to date.
- Perform any other reasonable tasks as agreed upon with the local manager

#### Minimum requirements:

- Graduate of an approved Medical School
- Certificate of emergency medicine in remote areas
- 3 year experienced in Oil Field Emergencies
- Fluent written and spoken English for all senior and site medical officers
- Location: **Field**

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# Dancing with pains

By: Radhieh Amer

Life is the plushest stage that has been existed up to now. On this stage, we perform the experiences of our life. It does not matter how thrilling or dull our experiences are or how we believe our life should be. Each experience is unique, matchless, and of interest to someone else. A single incident of our everyday events can be expanded into a massive number of articles that are of various interests from one into another. There are some of our experiences that can not be forgotten. One of my experiences that would, as I think, leave a permanent spot in the wall of my memory is that being a director of English Department of one of the institute where I was working there as an English teacher.

When I started working there, I was an English teacher whom could hardly get the job there. Nothing was in my mind more than being a teacher there. Even sometimes I thought that I would go out of that place for there were no enough classes for all the teachers there. I was supposed to be the one who has to go out for I was still a university student and a result of that I had no certificate as others. Days pasted with the company of months. In the fifth month of my working there, I got surprised when the secretary came to me and told me that I am one of the candidates to be a director of English Department after the resign of the director of the department. At that time, I told her that she must be kidding. Such idea never occurred in my mind. Once I was struggling to be only a teacher there especially after I lost my job at the other institute, I would be responsible there and for that department.

After that situation with the secretary, I went home and tried to think profoundly of that issue due to many things. One of them is that I

know myself well that I am so sensitive for the thing around me and this will reflect itself in one way or another on my job. Then I am only an inexperienced girl whom known among her classmates that she was not sociable. In fact, I was so due to social circumstances that do not allow me to keep pace with the surrounding. Something else that I thought of it deeply was that I am only a girl from a village and more from so conservative family which of the opinion that the girl has to be a housewife not more than that. Also I thought that if I will work there as a director for that department this would help me in my future having better job.

At that time, I asked one of my brothers what his opinion of such thing is. At the beginning, he opened his eyes widely and inquired ironically, "Does our life experiences limit or expand our ability especially with one like you?" I could not understand him but I know one thing which is that the way of answering my question actually provoked me for a while but I tried to contain myself and think of that subject.

At last, I decided to launch the work there as a director besides handling a class. That was the thing through which the manager of the institute talked about the salary hinting that he, especially at that time, would not be able to pay me a fixed salary but he would give me some amount of money from time to time till the institute pass the financial problems. That time, I accepted such thing thinking innocently or you may say that I was stupid more than anything on the world.

The institute was approximately empty. Being a director there, I had, from my point of view, to work hard to make something new. I started to change the whole system there. I started with the brochure for the sake of making a new one which meets the

needs of the students and the institute at the same time. For that purpose I visited many places trying to gather information. I worked day and night to make the new rules that should be followed by the administration, teachers, and the students as well for the good of all. Also we (the administration) distributed advertisements for the institute and we did a lot of things though the manager was all the time complaining of my ways of working in which he had to pay a lot more he imagined, as he was repeating all the time. Really I got tired of his ideas and notions of managing the institute. However, I was yearning to reap the fruit of my tiredness.

For a period of time, I thought that I did succeed. We started many classes and I had qualified teachers whom I felt they all were my own sisters and brothers. Now, I had the right to ask the manger for a fixed salary. I had proved myself as a successful director and as a teacher at the same time as everybody says even the manager himself. Then after long discussions with him which really were fruitless, he gave me a trashy number. At that time, I wanted to leave but I dared not to do so.

I could not imagine myself away from that wonderful staff and my dear hard working students. For, anyone reads these lines; he/she says what a stupid way of thinking. I agree with but sometimes we find ourselves under the control of our emotions to a great extent. Truly, I could not leave the ones (teachers, students, and workers.) whom I gave all of my hard work, cooperation, time, and love. That time, I told myself that you may have approximately nothing financially but you are the richest one here by such kinds of students and teachers.

It was enough for me to feel and taste the love in their words and their ways of dealing with me. That institute was a warm house for us all as teachers

as well as students themselves. Every one of them said so and more.

Working there was not easy at all. I encountered many thorny problems in which I succeeded in solving some of them and failed in tackling some others. I was excited to take part in the teachers' duties and to exchange our point of views about the problems faced in the classes. In fact, what was more exciting for me was sharing with the students their own problems either inside class or out. I was all the time happy sharing with them what were in their minds. Although I was not teaching them all, of course, every students there dealt with me as if I was his or her teacher or closer than that. Their respect and kind words washed away my tiredness as well as the pressure of my work at the institute and my study at the university.

Suddenly, everything changed. Some female teachers and the secretary started to deal in a strange way towards me. That time, I struggled and attempted to keep my temper and understand why they were doing so. Unfortunately, I could not understand them all though I considered all of them as my own sisters. As a result, I decided to leave such place and such people for I was working there because I was so comfortable with them all. Now since I lost that sublime feeling, I had to leave that place at least with little good memories in the bag of my life for those teachers and with so sweet memories for the students I used to deal with.

Frankly speaking, that place enabled me to experience the people around me. I got convinced that I have to change my innocent look to all the things and the people around me and stop scarifying for everyone. That place left two big questions inside me "Who was mistaken? And what was wrong? Hopefully, one day I would find the answer for those tiring questions. But at least, I have learnt how to dance with pains.

## THROUGH THE MIND'S EYE



# Still Strangers, aren't they?

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

Friendship is a strong relation. It is sometimes stronger than brotherhood, love, and even marriage. Only true friends feel this!

Sometimes, two persons start friendship through email, chat, or even through mobile, but their relation go stronger not only as friends but as lovers, businessmen/women, or such alike. Some others, unfortunately, take it as a fun, wasting time, claiming that they are mere 'strangers'.

Due to the widespread of modern means of communications, relations among people take place faster than before. Not all the people are alike in their personalities. Some of them, for example, are frank and honest with all, while others feel more honest and sincere in a relation through email or chatting or mobile rather than relations with normal friends or relatives.

Accepting others as friends in such a way is good. There might be no reasons for that. It is a mere feeling according to which at least one or both trust each other. Maybe because they do not know each other face to face, so they do not doubt or fear each other. The relation may go stronger with the process of time, thinking and feeling of each other as real 'soul mates'.

No advantage is sought by any one of them. No boundaries exist between them while exchanging secrets or personal affairs. They exchange secrets which might have been told to none ever before. They, or at least one of them, really 'miss' each other, feeling that they would get lost if a day passed without any contact. Both, or at least one of them, respect, like, and sometimes feel a 'dire need for each other'.

However, when one of them 'misses' the other one or, at least, misses to hear the other's 'voice' or news, that feeling might not be felt by the other who may reject the other's feeling when says 'I miss you'.

The real problem really occurs when one of them is 'moody' or 'selfish'. Nevertheless, the other accepts him/her with all prose and cons. For, He/she forgives whenever he/she gets abused, and never says no when that 'friend' 'needs him/her' though he/she gets rejected in his/her needs.

A more complicated case occurs when one of them does not accept the relation in the same way the other does. By this, he/she does not feel as the other does, nor does he deal frankly and honestly like the other one. He justifies him/herself by claiming that they are still 'strangers' and one day they will go apart.

It is really surprising to say 'mere strangers' though they know each other more than what the others know. I think, at least, they can not be called strangers, and they will not go apart except if they (or one of them) want(s) so.

What to call a relation like this? Actually the one who keeps on saying this is really pessimistic. I do not know why he/she keeps on saying that 'we will go apart sooner or later'. Is he/she a god to say this, or a prophet to foresee others' fortune? Sorrowfully, he/she is not.

Actually, every one of us meets thousands of people a day. Every one of us has hundreds of relatives, friends, colleagues, classmates, etc. A close friend is something else in spite of the means of communication. It is only a matter of trust and intimacy through which one can make an enemy a close friend.

Face to face acquaintance is good, maybe to take pictures together. It is also good for those who are miser because using internet or mobiles to contact is costly to them. It can also develop true friendship. But this does not keep friends of the internet or mobile as strangers.

So it is not a matter of seeing, looking, or even having a picture of such friends together. It is, however, a matter of accepting others, who are good, of course, as friends, dealing with them honestly and frankly. Only through this the distance fails to shake their relation and they will no longer remain as "mere strangers".

The world has become a small village due to the widespread of the electronic ways of communication. The idea is not to stop face to face relations. It is, nevertheless, to widen one's scope of relations because everyone can have friends any where in the world. The only thing one needs is an email Id, or mobile number, taking the matter easily through the mind's eye.

*Maged Thabet Al-kholidy is a writer from Taiz, currently doing his M.A. at English Dep, Taiz Uni. He is an ex-editor of English Journal of the University.*

# The death will come, guys!!

By: Abdulkreem Al-Aawage  
abdulkreem\_h\_alawage@yahoo.com

The title of this article is the new slogan of some youths today, especially when you ask someone: Why don't you look after your study and after your future and why do you lose your money on chewing qat and smoking nargila? He/she replies immediately: The Death Will Come, Guys!

This means that there is nothing in this life deserves to pay any labor for

it. In addition, there is nothing to make you save your money or your time for it. In fact, it is a new mode for some youths who begin tracing it and practicing it in their daily life.

This phenomenon can be noted obviously throughout the carelessness of students at schools and of the graduated students of secondary schools and universities. It is very dangerous for the youths themselves and it can reflect its bad and dark shadows on all of them. Therefore, we need to look at this situation as a problem. In fact, it is now small, but day by day it may get bigger and

bigger.

No doubt that it can be as a result of the bad surrounding economy, unemployment position, and the ghost of corruption which is around us? However, we have to look for solutions and guide this slide of the society to the correct way and try to persuade them that the next days perhaps be better and to be aware that such thinking probably lead them to lose or to deviate of the main target of our existence on this globe. Further, we should convince them that by this they will lose their values and then come to unexpected end.

The youths need guidance as they are not at maturity to judge things well. And, because they see problems as frustrations, they resort to flee of all by chewing qat or joining bad friends' sessions, which may lead them to what is beyond that.

Nevertheless, I am sure that journalists, intellectuals, and preachers will play a crucial role in helping this significant slide of the society to take the right way and to give up this destructive mentality. However, we have to start now and not to wait to be drowned in its serious consequences.

## Passer-by under Rain

By: Jameel S.A.Shamsan  
shokry733@hotmail.com

It has been raining. The street washed their faces, before I came from my carton cottage in the corner of street. I felt some wet on sandals under my feet, between my toes. "They and the bottom of nails will change to back." This thing hopped to my mind quickly when I walked. The sky sneezed a big sneezing and little spray fell upon everything in street. I touched my head, it began wet.

It rained dogs and cats, I didn't mention. I felt the wet of water in my body. The drops began to fall from my hair in front of eyes and on my nose, I didn't mention. I felt revival when I kicked water into small hole... "Protect yourself under balcony or you will catch flu." Someone who stood under balcony shouted. I heard him clearly but I didn't mention. "He looks like crazy." He told another near him. "No, I am not." A barefooted passer-by in front of me replied.

## Complaining

By: Ahlam Abdu Awad  
Sana'a University  
Faculty of education

Complaining without having pain  
Complaining without seeing the beautiful plain  
Complaining without looking at the sky's birds  
And day and other went on,

And complaining still go on.  
Suddenly , come the day  
With changed the way  
From a house which is yours  
To a field with its foes  
To be a small bird,  
Which hasn't even his own field.  
'will you live happy here',?  
Said the bird who doesn't know  
in which day he will die.

## 'For my soul'

By: Lamis Abdulkarim Shuga'a.  
lamis\_shuga@yahoo.com

Sending you with the swallow,  
My best greetings many ways.  
The swallows and the seasons know,  
What I miss all the days.

Sweet swallow mine, stay with me,  
Torment me not all moments nor  
tarry few minutes,  
You're my hope, my life you see  
Words of my poems, sense of my  
sonnets.

Calling to God to bless you,  
Keep our life together for each  
other,  
God let not jealousies exist even few,  
Not six nor five, and nor altogether.

I blame my heart, my darling!  
That loves your madness in silence.  
Fast it makes my heart-beating,  
Let me see you just a glance.

The loveliest time with you I may  
find,  
Come; live in my heart, in my mind.

'Be Mine'

Would that O my dreamy paradise!  
Be mine and I'm yours forever.  
Let me see you just a glance,  
And don't tell me never.

I've long to see your eyes,  
If only O my sweetheart!  
Harking my hopeless calls,  
Come and with love we'll start.

Your shadow hunts at night,  
Whispering and making me sleep-  
less.  
Your face and eyes ah, mere shad-  
ow,  
Come to stop my eagerness.

Like the moon, appear and disap-  
pear,  
Teach me how to be patient,  
Or liberate me from your tempting  
tie,  
Make me not your pendant.

You kindle longings in my mind,  
Let their branches forever grow,  
The flowers get bigger and bigger,  
Let them reach heights; allow your  
love to flow.

## Bravo....!

By: Adel Hassan ALadlany  
A fresh English language  
graduated  
Amran Faculty

Read and write, more obligation  
Look and speak, following  
translation  
Ask and answer, teachers now  
Do not be idle as dead bought  
Swim in the lines of many books  
Surely, find corals and pearls  
Take the wisdom whether exiting  
As the prophet Mohammed's saying

Oh, my buddy, let me say  
What those traits cause delay  
Haughtiness, shyness, along with  
play  
In the classroom, keep you away

Oh, my friend let me say:  
Just remember; you are made of  
clay  
Being arrogant goes astray  
Humble! Simple! Will obey  
Allah guide you to best way

Oh, my brother, oh, fellow  
Wake up! Take care! And elbow  
Our route fraught with throe  
So be active and mellow  
Not daydreaming or zero

Are you a teacher? Yes or no.  
If the former, then do glow  
Diligent, ambitious be ditto  
As far as thou well grow  
Harvest results of mango  
Build up homeland, forward go  
Singing the melody of bravo...



عندما تتضح الرؤيا ..  
فأعلم انها طبقت بمطابخ يمن تايمز

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و الطباعة و النشر

شارع حدة خلف مبنى السفارة الفلسطينية  
 صنعاء - الجمهورية اليمنية  
الهاتف : ٠١-٣٨٦٦١/٢/٣  
فاكس : ٠١٧٧-١-٣٨٦٦١  
ص. ب. : ٢٥٩٩ صنعاء اليمن

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ورلد لينك ت: ١٠٤٤٥٥٠٠٤٤١٩٣٥

**مستشفيات**

مستشفى الثورة ت: ٠١/٢٤٩٦٧-٦٦  
المستشفى الجمهوري ت: ٠١-٢٧٤٣٨١/٧  
مستشفى حدة الأهلي ت: ٠١-٤١٣٨١  
المستشفى الالمانى الحديث ت: ٠١-٦٠٠٠٠/٦٠٢٠٠٨  
فاكس: ٤١٨١١٦  
E-mail: felixpene@hotmail.com

**فنادق**

فندق فرساي ت: ٠١-٤٢٥٩٧-١/٢  
فندق شيراتون ت: ٠١-٢٣٧٥٠٠  
فندق موفيك ت: ٠١-٥٤٦٦٦٦  
فندق تاج سبا ت: ٠١-٢٧٢٣٧٣  
فندق ريلاكس ان ت: ٠١-٤٤٨٧١  
فندق وأجنحة الخليج السياحي ت: ١٠-٦٢٣٥٠-٦٠٢١٥/٨

**معاهد**

معهد يالي ت: ٤٤٨٠٣٩-٤٤٥٤٨٢ ٢/٤-٤٤٨٠٣٧ فاكس: ٤٤٨٠٣٧  
معهد اللغة الألمانية ت: ٢٠٠٩٥٥  
المعهد البريطاني للغات والكمبيوتر ت: ٢٦٦٢٢٢٢ فاكس: ٥١٤٧٥٥  
معهد كاروكوس ت: ٥٢٢٤٣٤/٥ فاكس: ٥٢٢٤٣٦  
معهد أليكس ت: ٢٤٠٨٣٣-٥١٠٦١٢ فاكس: ٢٦٥٣٧٣

**شركات للتأمين**

الوطنية للتأمين ت: ٢٧٢٧١٣/٢٧٢٧١٣ فاكس: ٢٧٢٧١٣  
مأرب للتأمين ت: ٢٠٦٦٢٩/٨/١٣ صنعاء ت: ٢٠٦٦٢٩  
الشركة اليمنية الإسلامية للتأمين وإعادة التأمين ت: ٢٨٤١٩٣  
صنعاء ت: ٢٤٤٢٨٠  
عن ت: ٢٥٨٨١١  
تغز ت: ٢٧٢٨٠٦/٢٧٢٩٦٢/٤٣  
شركة اليمن للتأمين صنعاء ت: ٢٤٧٦١٧  
عن ت: ٢٥٠٢٤٥  
تغز ت: ٢٥٠٢٤٥

**مدارس**

مدرسة رينبو ت: ٤١٤٠٠٢/٤٢٤-٤٢٣  
مدارس صنعاء الدولية ت: ٣٧٠١٩١/٢ فاكس: ٣٧٠١٩٣  
مدرسة الزكية الدولية ت: ٤٤٨٢٥٨/٩  
مدرسة الماجد اليمنية ت: ٢٠٦١٥٩

**سفرات**

التسيم للسفرات ت: ٢٧٠٧٥٠  
العالمية للسفرات والسياحة ت: ٤٤١١٥٨٩/٦٠

**مطاعم**

مطعم ومخبازة الشيباني (باسم محمد عبده الشيباني)  
تلفون : ٢٦٦٦٧٥ - ٥٠٢٩٠ - فاكس : ٢٦٦٦١٩

**مطعم و مخبازة الشيباني**  
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فاكس: ٢٦٧٦١٩  
ص.ب: ٥٤٦٥  
P.O Box: 5465  
Email: shaibani@yemen.net.ye

للتواصل: ٧٣٣٩٩١٣٩٩  
• متخصص في إدارة المكاتب والمراسلات التجارية والبنكية - يرغب في العمل مع شركة ممتازة أو بنك.  
للتواصل: ٧٣٣٤٤٨٨٨٥

عن عمل في أي شركة تجارية أو في مجال النفط.  
للتواصل: ٧٣٣٧٨٣٧٧٣ أو ١٢٣٩٤٣  
• عبد الإله - بكالوريوس حاسوب - يجيد اللغة الإنجليزية كتابةً ونطقاً - خبرة في المراسلات التجارية - عمل لسنوات في تنصيب وبرمجة شبكات وصيانة الحاسوب - عمل لسنوات في برمجة الحاسوب.  
للتواصل: ٧٧٧٩٠٩٦٩٠  
• أحمد - خبرة وكفاءة في المراسلات التجارية والعلاقات الخارجية - إجادة تامة لأعمال الترجمة الفورية والكتابية - يرغب في العمل في الفترة المسائية.  
للتواصل: ٧١٢٦٦٠٦٠٠  
• شوقي أمين - ثانوية عامة - سنة ثالثة تجارة (قسم محاسبة) - جيد في اللغة الإنجليزية - دبلوم سكرتارية كمبيوتر - خبرة في مجال المخازن لمدة ست سنوات (أمين مخازن - مراقب مخازن - مشتريات متابعه) نوع المخزن (مخازن مستشفى - مخازن مصنع - مخازن الكترونيات) - يبحث عن عمل مناسب.  
للتواصل: ٧٣٣٤٧٥٧٦٤

**سارات**

• للبيع (للجادين): سيارة قراند فيتارا XL7 - موديل 2004 - مواصفات خليجية - نظيفه جدا - اللون أبيض لؤلؤي.  
للتواصل: ٧٣٤٣٤٣٣٣٠  
• البيع: سيارة تويوتا كورلا - موديل ٢٠٠٤ - اللون برونزي ذهبي - نظيفة جداً وبسعر مناسب.  
للتواصل: ٧٣٣٤٧٥٧٦٤

**عقارات**

• للإيجار: فيلا دور مع البدروم - الموقع: بيت بوس.  
للتواصل: ٧٧٧٤٠٨٧١١  
• للبيع: ٤٤ لبنه حر، حده، منطقة العيش القريبه من شارع حده، شارعين ركن، مسوره ومطله على أضواء المدينه مساءً ، البصيره مسجله ومعمده بالسجل العقاري ومسدد ضريبتها.  
سعر البيع: اثنين مليون ريال للبنه  
للتواصل: ٧٣٣٨٠٢٨٥٥

أجمل التهادي والتبريكات نرفها للشباب الخلاق  
مسير قاصم السقاف  
بحساسة دخوله القفص الذهبي  
قالف ألف مهروركي  
المهنتون:  
محمد محمد السقاف - حميد محمد السقاف - مصطفى محمد السقاف  
محمدي أبو بكر السقاف

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

**تفاصيل الاعلان:**

عنوان التواصل:

قص هذا الكوبون وارسله إلى صحيفة يمن تايمز على فاكس ٢٦٨٢٧٦ او على صندوق بريد ٢٥٧٩ - صنعاء لمزيد من المعلومات اتصل ب (ت ٢٦٨٦٦١/٢/٣)

**مكتب أحمد محسن الرئيسي**  
للخدمات العقارية  
حده - الحي السياسي - الأصحى - بيت بوس  
سيار: ٢٨٥٥٠ ٧٣٣٨٠

**طلبات خاصة لتسكين أجناب**

١- مطلوب دور واحد ٤ أو ٥ غرف ، حمامين ، مطبخ ، بحاله جيده مع حديقته مناسبه في الحي السياسي . أحياء الجوار للشوارع التاليه : الدائري ، الجبوتي ، الجزائر ، عمان ، بغداد والزبيرى بإيجار شهري في حدود سبعمائه دولار  
٢- مطلوب في حده ، فيلا جديده بتشطيب ممتاز. دور كبير أو دورين متوسط مع حوش كبير من ٢٠ لبنه إلى ٣٠ لبنه بإيجار شهري في حدود الفين دولار أمريكي وعقد لمدة سنتين .  
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\* إذا لديكم الرغبه بشراء عقار  
لدينا مخزون كبير جدا من الأراضي ، فلل بجميع المقاسات والأحجام ، مباني سكنيه وتجاريه وشقق للبيع .  
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**وظائف شاغرة**

• تعلن مدارس طيبة التربوية عن حاجتها إلى مدرس لغة الإنجليزية، ومدرس لمادة الاجتماعيات للمرحلة الأساسية. فمن يجد في نفسه الرغبة التقدم إلى الفرع الرئيسي: (السنينة - جوار كلية الناصر للعلوم الطبية - هاتف ٣- ٢١١٩٦٢)

**باحثون عن وظيفة**

• محمد عبدالله - بكالوريوس محاسبة (تقدير عام جيد) - حاصل على دورات في الكمبيوتر (ويندوز - ورد - اكسل - انترنت) - حاصل على دورة في النظام المحاسبي المتكامل (يمن سوفت) - خبرة في مجال محاسبة عملاء - خبرة في نظام الاونكس برو.

للتواصل: ٧٧٧٠٦٢٢٦٢ - ٧٧١٨١٨٢٤٠  
• عبد الكريم الحيدري، ميكانيك سيارات ولديه عدة شهادات خبره - مستواه جيد في اللغة الإنجليزية (محادثة).  
للتواصل: ٧١٢٥٦١٠١٧  
• خبرة ١٠ سنوات خارج وداخل اليمن في الأعمال الإدارية، سكرتارية، علاقات عامة، نراسلات تجارية، تسويق، عبر الإنترنت، مهارات عالية جداً بمجال محركات البحث وما يتعلق بال Excel وال word وملحقاتها، يجيد اللغة الإنجليزية كتابة ونطقاً. يبحث

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للإشتراك في هذه المساحة الإتصال على  
تحويلة ٢١١ ٣٨٦٦١

طوارئ الكهرباء ١٧٧، طوارئ الشرطة ١٩٩، الإطفاء ١٩١، طوارئ المياه ١٧١، الإستعلامات ١١٨، حوادث (المرور) ١٩٤، الشؤون الخارجية ٢٠٢٥٤٧، الشؤون الداخلية ٢٠٢٧٠١/٧، الهجرة ٢٥٠٧١١/٣، وزارة المواصلاات (تلفون) ٧٥٢٢٢٠٢، الإذاعة ٢٨٠٦١، التلفزيون ٣٣٢٠٠١/٢، مؤسسة الباصات للنقل داخل المدن ٢٦٢١١١/٣، وزارة المواصلاات ٢٥١١٠١/٢/٣، السباحه ٢٥٤٠٢٢، الصليب الاحمر ٢٠٢١٣١/٣، تليمن ٧٥٢٢٢٢٧

**البنوك**

بنك اليمن والخليج فاكس: ٢٦٠٨٢٤ ت: ١-٢٦٠٨٢٣  
فرع عن: ٢٢٧٨٢٩ - ٢ فاكس/ ٢٢٧٨٢٤  
البنك التجاري ت: ٢٧٢٢٤ فاكس: ٢٧٢٢١  
مصرف اليمن البحرين الشامل ت: ٢٦٤٧٥٠٣٤٧٠٢ فاكس: ٢٦٤٧٠٣٥٠٣٣٥  
بنك اليمن الدولي ت: ٤٠٧٠٤٠٠  
البنك العربي ت: ٢٧٦٥٥٥/٢  
بنك التسليف الزراعي ت: ٠١-٥٢٣٨١٣  
البنك المركزي ت: ٠١-٢٧٤٣١٤

**تأجير سيارات**

زاوية (Budget) ت: ٢٠٩٦١٨٠٥٠٦٢٧٢ فاكس: ٢٤٠٩٥٨  
يورب كار ت: ٢٧٠٧٥١ فاكس: ٢٧٠٨٠٤  
هيرتز لتأجير السيارات صنعاء ت: ٠١-٤٤٠٣٠٩  
فرع شيراتون ت: ٥٥٥٨٥٥  
عن ت: ٢٠٢٤٥٦٢٥

**مراكز تدريب وتعليم الكمبيوتر**

أتك لتعليم الكمبيوتر (تركيز على الانترنت، مناهج، تجارة إلكترونية) شهادة ايزو ١.  
صنعاء ت: ٠١-٤٢٨٣٠٥  
فاكس: ٠١-٤٠٧٤١٩  
عن ت: ٢٠٠٣٢٧١٩٩  
تغز ت: ٤٠٢٥٠٣٤٣  
المكلا ت: ٥٠٢٠٧٤٩٢  
T: 444553  
Infinet Education  
نيت تعليم الكمبيوتر ت: ٤٤٥٥١٨/٧-٤٤٢٠٧٣

**البريد السريع**

صنعاء ت: ٤٤٠١٧٠/٧٧  
الحديدة ت: ٢٤٨٢٣  
إب ت: ٤١١٨٨٨  
المكلا ت: ٣٠٢٢٤١  
شبه ت: ٢٠٢٢٢٦  
سيئون ت: ٤٠٢٤٦٩

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## Suhail Star and the promise of happiness



The Canopus star bright in the southern sky. source: NASA



**A**strology has been one of the main sciences for people in Arabian Peninsula. Reason being is that they used the stars in many of their everyday tasks such as traveling, planning the harvest seasons, or even making decisions regarding marriages or going into battles. One of the important stars mentioned by historians is Suhail Star or Yemani Star. This star takes its later name from Yemen because it appears from the south opposite the north polar star. It is also known in English as Canopus. It is the brightest star in the southern constellation of Carina, and the third brightest star in the night-time sky, to Sirius and the sun.

Arab historian Ibrahim AL-Jarwan, who is an astrologist in UAE said that Arabs used to become optimistic once the Yemani star is visible because it means the weather will become better as temperature will decrease and the

rain will pour down promising a good harvest. Arabs also believed that when this star shines divers will be lucky to find more and better pearls. The star is usually seen between 15 and 28 August

In the influential Pahlavi (Middle Persian) book of animal fables Kalila wa Dimna, the star was mentioned as Anvar-i-Suhaili or The Lights of Canopus. Canopus is also known as the Great Star of the South - a name and a legend only to many North American observers.

This star like others, disappears from the skies in certain times of the year only to return in August 24 and gradually takes into the sky until midnight in the last days of December. It then reappears after sunset end March and could disappear again until August. Arabs in ancient days worshiped heavenly bodies and especially worshiped Canopus or Najum Suhail as it is known in this region.

## Oddly enough news

### UAE father of 78 eyes new brides for century target

DUBAI — A one-legged Emirati father of 78 is lining up his next two wives in a bid to reach his target of 100 children by 2015, Emirates Today reported on Monday.

Daad Mohammed Murad Abdul Rahman, 60, has already had 15 brides although he has to divorce them as he goes along to remain within the legal limit of four wives at a time.

"In 2015 I will be 68 years old and will have 100 children," the local tabloid quoted Abdul Rahman as saying.

"After that I will stop marrying. I have to have at least three more marriages to hit the century."

The United Arab Emirates newspaper splashed its front page with a picture of Abdul Rahman surrounded by his children, the eldest of whom is 36 years old and the youngest of whom is 20 days old. Two of his current three wives are also pregnant.

Abdul Rahman said his large family lived in 15 houses. He supports them with his military pension and the help of the government of Ajman, one of seven emirates that comprise the UAE, which includes the Gulf trade and tourism hub of Dubai.

Islam allows men to marry up to four women at a time, though most marry only one. The UAE is a Muslim country but is home to migrants from around the world.

### Court tries 18 for cross-dressing

BAUCHI, Nigeria — Eighteen Nigerian men accused of dressing up as women during a party at a hotel went on trial Tuesday before an Islamic sharia court in the northern state of Bauchi.

Dozens of residents shouted abuse

and hurled stones at the men as they were escorted into an armored prison vehicle after the hearing, prompting police to fire tear-gas at the crowd.

The men, mostly in their 20s, were arrested in a Bauchi hotel on August 4. Police say they were dressed as women, which is illegal under the state's sharia penal code.

The offence is punishable by up to a year in prison and 20 lashes by cane.

The accused, who tried to hide their faces as they were jeered on their way in and out of court, deny the charge. One of them told Reuters they went to the hotel for a graduation party.

Muhammad Bununu of the Hisbah Commission, a body charged with enforcing sharia law in the state, told reporters the accused were "addressing each other as women and dressing themselves as women."

"They said they went to the hotel to witness a wedding between a male and a male," he said.

The police brought handbags and suitcases containing women's high-heel shoes and clothing to the court as evidence.

The 18 are not formally charged with homosexuality, which is illegal in Nigeria and considered immoral by the vast majority of people, both Muslims and Christians.

Bauchi is one of 12 states in the predominantly Muslim north that started a stricter enforcement of sharia law in 2000 -- a decision that alienated sizeable Christian minorities and sparked bouts of sectarian violence that killed thousands.

Sharia courts have been active for centuries but under British colonial rule their powers were curtailed. In the 12 states, they regained the right to impose strict punishments such as death for adultery or sodomy and amputation for theft.

Only one man, a convicted murderer hanged in 2002, is known to have been executed under sharia law since it was reinforced in the 12 states.

Nigerian media had originally reported that the 18 men arrested in Bauchi were charged with sodomy and facing death by stoning, raising concerns among human rights groups who sent observers to Tuesday's hearings.

But Bununu said the reports were incorrect.

Judge Tanimu Abubakar adjourned the case until September 13 to allow time for a Bauchi state prosecutor who is taking over from the police to familiarize himself with the evidence.

### Frozen bodies found, 40 years later

GUWAHATI, India — The snow-preserved body of an Indian soldier was given to his family Tuesday, nearly 40 years after he died in a plane crash in the Himalayas, an official said.

Soldiers discovered the frozen bodies of Mahendranath Phukan and two other victims half-buried in snow on a glacier at an altitude of 17,500 feet on a search earlier this month.

"The body is intact and not decomposed," said an army commander, who asked not to be named in keeping with army protocol.

The corpses were discovered close to where an army plane crashed in 1968 in the mountains of Himachal Pradesh state, but the army has not yet disclosed the identity of the other two victims.

Only one other body has even been found following the crash, in which all 102 passengers are believed to have been killed.

Phukan's body, wrapped in the Indian flag, was given to his family Tuesday morning in Deodhai Gaon Deuri Chuk village in Assam, a state in northeastern India, the commander said.

Source: Reuters

