

YEMEN

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Readers' Voice Last edition's question:

What do you think is the number one reason for the

difficult traffic in Sana'a?

Inadequate traffic

authority (13%)

Road unworthy vehicles (4%)

Bad roads and infrastructure (32%)

This edition's question:

Do you think the call for a

revolution is serious or is

it another political ploy by

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and have your voice heard

the opposition?

- Yes it is serious

- I don't know

- It is a political ploy

Irresponsible

drivers (51%)

Official sources: Crime declines by 35%

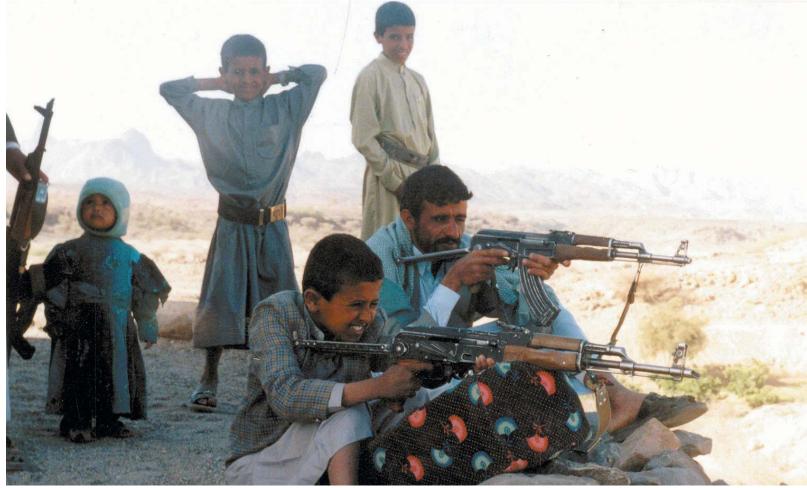
By: Saddam Al-Ashmouri For Yemen Times

SANA'A, September 4 - People were mixed when the government made a decision to prevent the carrying of firearms in main cities. Some of them supported the decision, considering it a positive step. Some of the governorates such as Al-Mukalla, Rada', Sana'a and Amran experienced massive marches in support. Some sheiks, who always have armed body guards, also stand for the decision. "We are the first ones who will drop fire-arms"," Sheik Sanan Al-Khawlain said.

He also added, "The government has taken this historical step to get rid of this dangerous phenomenon. However, the consequences will be dire as the community is used to carrying fire-arms for decades. It is so hard for the individual to drop his weapons."

"I think that firearms have led to crimes all over the country", Al-Khawlani added.

Major General, Al-Qawsi, the Ministry of Interior's deputy, confirmed



Qat trees flare war in Sa'ada

By: Mohammed Bin Sallam

SA'ADA, September 5 — A number of people were killed and injured yesterday, Wednesday Sept 5, during the fighting taking place for three days in Al-Malaheet area located within Al-Dhaher district in Sa'ada governorate.

Fighting is taking place between Al-Malaheet locals and army forces because the army imposed money taxes on Qat farmers who are advocating Al-Houthi. The army forces picked up Qat trees and sold them for their own pocket.

Wednesday's injuries are a follow up to the Monday causalities when more than four were killed and six injured from the both sides. Army is taking a Health Unit in the area as a shelter, and base for their operations.

> Want service and value?

Abdul-Malik Al-Houthi, the leader of the Houthi insurgents in Sa'ada, cautioned the authority that "continuing to murder his loyalists" after killing one of them in Bani Mu'ath area at the hand of the army the last weekend, "will only casue more blood shed". He also condemned the army's behavior against women and children accusing them of attacking homes and looting jewelry and valuables and threatening the locals.

He called this behavior "a disgrace".

More detainees

The relatives of the 47 detainees including seven children in Al-Noussairayah prison in Hajja charged with Houthism, appealed to the general of the northwest area, the Major General Ali Muhsein Al-Ahmar to release their sons.

The message mentioned that its owners made a complaint to Ali Muhsein Al-Ahmar after their detainees were thrown into prison for six months. They are in miserable conditions and

Carrying weapons is a traditional practice among many Yemeni families passed from generation to the next. Despite government efforts only 2000 pieces were confiscated during the last week since the beginning of the ban. Over 60 million pieces of light weapons are estimated to be in the position of Yemeni people.

that the ratio of crime had declined by 35 percent during the last week of August. "1522 weapons caches have been controlled, of which 48 percent are from the capital secretariat of Sana'a," Al-Qawsi declared.

However, the Ministry of Interior had mentioned, in its annual report on mortality, that deaths and injuries due to the use of fire-arms during the period from 2004 to 2006 stands at 23, 577. .

According to the report, an astonishing 84,72% of these incidents and crimes are caused by the spread of firearms between people.

Moreover, in 2004, a law had been issued to regulate carrying,, as well as possessing weapons. However, the law faced strong objection by the parliamentarians as they have a significant number of bodyguards. The parliamentarian, Fuad Dahaba, said, "We as parliamentarians would be a typical example in following with alacrity. However, the problem is that the government had taken the decision all of a sudden. It should have been taken gradually. It is hard for the community to accept it as fire-arms are a source of pride among tribal communities."

equality in this respect. All people should be equal according to laws. But when the law is applied to some people and not others, it will trigger hatred in the state," Dahaba added.

However, the ministry of interior announced the application of a bylaw to the regulation for the protection of senior government officials. Yet parliamentarians, members of consultative council, ministers, and higher judges can obtain licenses for pistols for their bodyguards. A 60 day time limit was given for the commitment, as well as for licenses. The security parties will conduct campaigns at the level of the secretariat of Sana'a and main cities of the governorates to control violators. However, the decision stressed the importance of hiding bodyguard weapons, even they are licensed. In regards to the implementation aspects of the government's decision, the Deputy of the Ministry of the Interior confirmed that no incidents had taken place in the first day of the plans application. The source praised the response of the state's officials as well as security and military leaders in complying with the law. This plan will be implemented in three phases. The first phase will last

for three months, however, the second and the third will continue until September 2008.

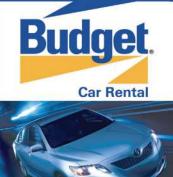
Moreover, security forces had conducted campaigns from 2004 to 2006 to control weapons levels that were reaching 213,106, including 3115 pistols, 251 grenades, 204 various fire-arms and 41,573 ammunitions.

Saleh Azam, whose gun was confiscated, said, " I don't care about confiscating my gun since the law will be applied for everybody."

However, some people referred to the constitutionality of the law: Additionally, sheik, Ali Bin Sudah. said, "The pride of the tribesmen is in their fire-arms. I think nobody will leave his weapons whatever the cost. Weapons have been with us since the revolution and have become a symbol of manhood. It may be possible to apply this decision at the entrances of the main cities but in the provinces it is impossible to do so, "he added.

For social figures and businessmen who desire to possess pistols, they should head to the Office of the Minister of Interior for the issuance of a license.

Finally, the Ministry of Interior urged all Yemeni people to play their vital role in cooperating with them to fight this negative scourge and to enhance stability for the safety of Yemen.

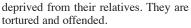


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The message confirmed the disability of local authority officials to take a decision to release the detainees, though all the officials said "these detainees have nothing to do with Al-Houthi and they are stopped for precautions only."

According to local sources, the major general of the northwest area is the real ruler of three governorates, namely; Hajja, Sa'ada and Hodaidah. The local authority officials cannot adjudicate many issues including the detainees without referring to Ali Muhsein and hearing his viewpoint in this respect.

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6 September, 2007

Around the Nation



Caso

The guarantee of good behavior

endorsed by the local council in

Hajja. Somebody has got to be lying,

innocent detainees, he is accused now of

Yemen Times attempted to get more

information from Sukhaib, chief of the

political security, about the detainees;

however he said he has no more to say.

"If you need more information, you could

ask Uncle Ali", referring to the president.

however, evidence does not lie.

having a link with Al-Houthi.

In brief

SANA'A

2

First festival for blind women Sept 5 — Al-Aman Foundation for blind women will be launching its first festival for blind females on Sept 10. The foundation will be launching the national day for blind women in Yemen on that very day. The day comes in recognition of the abilities of blind women as productive members of the society.

Political parties and women during elections

Sept 4 — The role of political parties in promoting women as candidates in the coming Parliamentarian elections 2009 will be discussed in a seminar coming Saturday Sept 8. The Sisters Arab Forum for Human Rights foundation at the second democratic forum organizes the seminar.

17 EU scholarships out for grabs

Sept 4 — The European Union Erasmus Mundus is offering 17 scholarships for higher education degrees for Yemenis based on competition. The program runs in partnership with Sana'a and the Science and Technology Universities, as well as Universities of Dhamar and Ibb.

DHAMAR

2008 investment budget

Sept 5 - Thirty executive office and 12 local council in the districts of Dhamar governorate are participating in the making of the 2008 investment budget.

ABYAN

Modern irrigation techniques Sept 5 - modern irrigation techniques were the highlight of the one-day workshop organized by the Ministry of Agriculture's office in the governorate. Fifteen agricultural specialists and guides participated in the workshop, which aims at minimizing the waste of underground water.

TAIZ

Rural development project Sept 5 - Rural development project in animal zones covered a wide range of activities and projects in Taiz since it started in 2005. The project has recently conducted a number of awareness workshops to accompany the productive activities regarding animal wealth care and dairy products.

For over a month Nisreen Shadad has been following the case of an illegal arrest of some forty detainees in Hajja, three of whom are 15 years old. The detainees have been arrested on suspicion of having links with Al-Houthi insurgent in Sa'ada. As to why they are kept in prison without evidence, head of the political security cynically told Nisreen to ask the president.

By: Nisreen Shadad

HAJJA, Sep. 5 - Thus far, there have been two official orders to release the 40 detainees of Hajja, accused of terrorist conspiracy, and give them a fair trial. In spite of this, there has been no action. The first order issued by the general prosecutor in Sana'a, Abdullah Al-Ulufi on August 13, as an endorsement to this, governor of Hajja, Abdullah Al-Harazi, ordered the release of the detainees on August 25 a few days before he was transferred to Al-Mahra governorate.

Fifteen of these detainees have gone on a hunger strike starting Tuesday Sept. 4. The 40 detainees have been imprisoned for up to five months on grounds that they are potential terrorist who may do harm

Despite the bloody clashes and four deaths caused by the demonstrations in Aden and Muklla last week, sit-ins and protests are still being organized in many governments across Yemen. Demonstrators protest against government corruption and overbearing price hikes, demanding the authority to stop its "policy of starvation" as well as applying reforms

By: Yemen Times Staff

SANA'A, Sept. 5 - Thousands of protestors in Al-Dale' governorate, south of Yemen, called on Yemenis around the republic to subvert the existing regime. They announced this during a massive march which took place in Al-Dale', on Tuesday Sept. 4. They demanded a serious dialogue to redraft the unification terms, ones that would be acceptable for the two parts of Yemen

"The Sana'a regime is now over and has met all conditions to be removed," read the statement of the demonstartion.

The protestors denounced the attacks by security officers in Aden and Hadhramout against demonstrators. As a consequence Dale' citizens carried out this solidarity march. They repeated slogans, denouncing the attacks and refusing the hunger policies.

They also held the president, prime minister, minister of interior, the chief of the political security body and other security officials accountable for the

in the future.

The excuse for not following up on the instructions of the highest authority in the governorate is that the detainees did not produce a guarantee for good behavior stating they would not indulge in any anti-government act in the future. Adel Farhan, the general trustee of the local council and the vice-president of the security committee, said, "There are orders to release the detainees, however they are but ink on papers."

Yemen Times tried to phone up the general prosecutor for more information about his orders to release the innocent detainees and provide give a trial for the accused, but Abdullah Al-Ulufi, hung up.

Somebody is lying:

Seven of these detainees have already produced the document (see image on right). However, they are still in prison. Saleh Sukhaib head of the political security in Hajja - the apparatus responsible for political and terrorist criminals - criticized the documents the 7 detainees produced as not in the "exact format we need"

In fact, chairperson of the local council Ahmed Haidar explained to Yemen Times that the document is fake, despite of the fact that his college and deputy

signed it and endorsed it.

You want to know more? Ask uncle Ali

Relatives of the seven detainees including three children aged 15 years old, said they had been running around from one authority to the other in order to get their loved ones released.

Ali Wazzan, a high level police officer, confirmed that the head of the security asked them to bring a guarantee from sheiks. When they gave them, they asked for a commercial guarantee as the first one is not acceptable. Lastly they said they don't have orders to release the seven detainees.

Ahmad Arman, the executive secretary of HOOD organizations for defending rights and freedoms said, "The role of the court (judge) is still weak in Yemen, therefore orders couldn't be carried out. While in theory, the court has the absolute power to arrest as well as to release people, in reality the political security is in full control."

Wazzan said that he is sure that the seven detainees' represented by HOOD are innocence. They were studying the Zaidi curricula with Majd Al-Din Al-Muayadi in Sa'ada. When the war in Sa'ada has started they came back to Hajja

Äfter several days, they were phoned

added. Teachers return to hold sit-ins and

Adel Farhan confirmed that they both by Farhan and asked to come to the security office. They immediately went and then they put in the prison.

Al-Muayadi, according to Wazzan, is a well known Zaidi scholar. He is teaching many students in Sa'ada Zaidi schools. Al-Houthi was one of al-Muayadi's students. Al-Muayadi disagreed with Al-Houthi's behaviors and thoughts because he was extreme.

"Al-Muayadi's teaching is moderate and here in Yemen, Zaidists don't feel that they are different than Sunnis. We pray and fast together. The difference between Zaidism and Sunnis is in fatwas (legitimate orders), however we agreed in the basis (the creed), said Wazzan.

There are many students attended Al-Muayadi's teachings, but not all them are Houthists. "Al-Muayadi was not arrested as he is known as a moderate.

"What leads the government to fight this particular group (Houthists) is because they have clashes with police men and they killed some of them," Wazzan said. "There are numerous sects here in Yemen, freely practicing their belief, but once their thoughts become extreme putting Yemen stability in danger, Yemeni government has to take a stand", he added.

Due to Wazzan's sympathy with the

A call for a revolution

in the two governorates. They also demanded to place these names on the human rights violators' list, informing the international organizations concerned about human rights.

Security officers have been spread out since early morning on the roads, and entrances of the cities as well as some of the state utilities throughout this week. The are preparing to control for any violent acts that may occur especially that last Saturday protesters blocked public road connecting Sana'a and Aden.

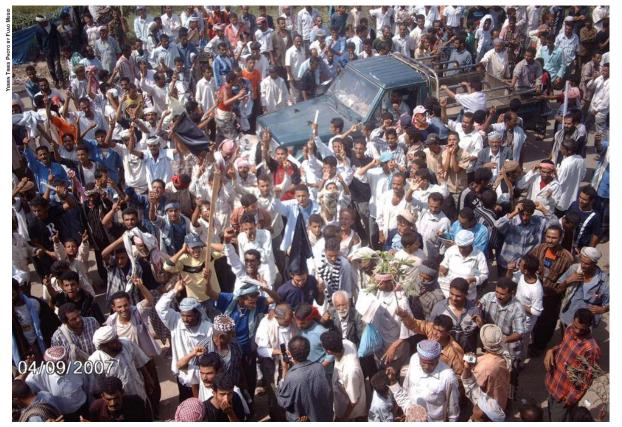
Teachers too

During their sit-in held in Al-Tahreer Square in Sana'a, on Tuesday Sept 3, teachers demanded the government to approve the second phase of wages strategy. The second phase of the strategy has been pending for over a year now since July 2006, as the third phase started from July 2007.

The teachers demanded their payment of around YR 82 billion in aggregate. The sum has already been approved in the general budget of the current fiscal vear.

They also demanded their wages doubled to be at least YR 100,000 (\$500) in retrospective for year 2006-2007 and an even further increase to YR 130,000 (\$650) starting from July 2007.

Teachers working in rural areas demanded an additional as allowances for working conditions such as those posted in rural areas or far away from their homes. According to the employment laws of teachers, there is a provision of an increase between 30 - 60%



Protesters in Dale' called on Yemeni in other governorates to revolt against the current system.

Ahmed Nassir Al-Rubahi, chief of wages schedule. Yemeni Teachers Syndicate, said, "Those in charge of the Ministry of allowances teachers deserve, and which are specified in the teacher's Law," he Education treat teachers with all-inclusive mentality."

Most of the inspectors, schools'

ment, indicating that thousands of the transferred teachers are still waiting for their payments. "We denounced the obligatory cuts which the teachers were exposed to especially those cuts taken from the presidents' subsidies," Al-

IBB

National campaign against cancer

Sept 5 — The foundation stone of a cancer treatment health center has been laid in Ibb as the land for the project has been secured this week. The local council in Ibb promised th eland while the governor called on charitable people to donate to the Al-Amal Center for cancer treatment at Al-Thawra General Hospital in Ibb. Currently the center is treating 249 cases with an overall cost of around 144 million Yemeni Riyals.

ADEN

Assistance to fishermen

Sept 4 – The Yemeni Coast Guards Authority has started a charity project in which items and in-kind goods are distributed among fishermen in Aden, Abyan, and Lahj. The items include schoolbooks and bags and uniforms for the children, and fishing equipments for the fathers.

HADRAMOUT

Optical fibers network underway

Sept 5 - The digging for a 96 kilometres long optical fibers cable network between Yemen and Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is almost completed. The project costs almost 350 million Yemeni riyals and the 36 fiber cable will improve the communication services in the region.

violations and suppressions happening for such considerations.

protests due to the government breach of

deputies are deprived from that entitle-Rubahi declared

"The government is manipulating the

Tribal sheikhs of Yemen revolt

Powerful sheikhs of Yemen have come together in order to play a significant role in the future of Yemen. They formed the National Solidarity Council and every now and then come up with a public statement to make sure they are heard and remembered when the time is right. This time, they revolt against corruption, or so they say.

SANA'A, Sept 4 - Chairman of the National Solidarity Council, Sheikh Abdullah Bin Hussein Al-Ahmar, who is also the member of the Parliament, and who is also the son of the strongest tribal figure in Yemen, AND who is also of the same tribe as the president, stated that "The council is a revolution against corruption. The council is established with the aim of addressing citizens' concerns in different areas, cooperating for the sake of suggesting suitable solutions to any problems and educating citizens about their rights and duties, and how to defend their rights in conformity with the Constitution and laws placed in effect."

The council has already gained members from outside the tribal community. Politicians, academics, activists, and even those who belong to the ruling party have taken sides with the solidarity council. The council is also winning the hearts of journalists as it declared its solidarity with journalists, who are usually subjected to harassments, claiming the government to respect press freedom, give the chance to pressmen to do their national job, specifically as they are members of the fourth authority and protect them from arbitrary practices and right abuses. Despite the fact, those journalists in the past had been the subjects of harassment by some tribal sheikhs who could not accept "criticism", but none of these incidents have taken place in the second half of this year, yet.

In its first meeting on Monday, the council urged the government to respect people and suggest the possible solutions to their sufferings due to price hikes and poverty. It also insisted on the government to expedite application of the wage law and care for ensuring all the legal rights of military and civil servants to help them improve their living.

Worth noting is that the government is trying to achieve weapon-free cities, where weapons are heavily carried especially by tribal men and their numerous bodyguards. But this law was not mentioned as a priority in the council's meet-

Regarding investment, NSC confirmed that the security and judicial infringements are the primary reason behind the absence of investment and investors in the country, demanding the concerned authorities to provide a good climate for investment. It harshly criticized public job exploitation for personal gains. Many of these sheikhs are also the biggest

investors in the country.

The body called for paying closer attention to women's issues and empowering their effective presence in different spheres including politics. However, not a single female is a member of the more than thousand member council.

"The council is not against the state, as the state is for everyone. People will support the state when they see it doing right," Al-Ahmar said, "We are not partial toward to a particular group, and the council was established for the sake of the nation. We are always ready for cooperating with the state to reform infringements."

According to its plan, the council will count all the social, administrative and living issues, which citizens suffer in each governorate, and in light of the reached findings, the NSC General Secretariat will set a draft plan to suggest possible solutions to these issues in cooperation with political and social forces, and civil community organizations.

In addition, NSC plans to conduct a comprehensive study on the tribal situation in Yemen, which is expected to develop any positive tribal traditions and habits and get rid of the negative ones. It recommends the concerned authorities to make use of the tribal traditions in serving the local development, strengthening contacts between tribesmen in different areas, enhancing cooperation and boosting the public interest.

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International



Harsh justice where **U.S. relies on Iraq tribes**

By: Peter Graff

AL QAIM, Iraq (Reuters) - Seated between his police chief and a U.S. Marine battalion commander, the Iraqi mayor opened his weekly security meeting by explaining how he had authorised one of the local tribes to carry out a summary execution.

The police had caught two men who had killed another policeman.

"As you all know, the Iraqi court system is still weak," said Mayor Farhan Ftehkhan, while an interpreter translated for the benefit of the Americans.

"Yesterday I met the sheikhs, and they decided to kill them as soon as possible. So the tribes took their decision and they killed those criminals.

The sheikhs carried out their summary execution in the district of al Qaim in Iraq's vast western desert province of Anbar, where Sunni Arab tribes once hostile to U.S. forces have now joined the Americans to drive out al Qaeda militants

The area, once one of the most dangerous in Iraq, is now one of the quietest. Rows of houses reduced to rubble by heavy fighting are being rebuilt.

The U.S. commander in Iraq, General David Petraeus, is expected to cite the changes in Anbar when he testifies to Congress on September 10 about the impact of U.S. President George W. Bush's decision to send more troops to Baghdad and Anbar.

Bush himself made a surprise visit to the province on Monday, showcasing what he said was one of the main success stories of his military strategy.

But the summary execution is a sign of the compromises that U.S. forces still have to make.

"We are working hard to get the rule of law stood up here," said the Marine battalion commander, Lieutenant-Colonel Jason Bohm, speaking after the security meeting at a border outpost overlooking the Euphrates river as it pours in from

Syria. "We still have a way to go."

New courthouse

Across the street from Mayor Ftehkhan's office is a courthouse, newly reconstructed with American aid, gleaming with fresh yellow paint.

The Americans have helped train judges. They recruited and trained bodyguards to protect them. They have put in place a brand new team of investigative

policemen.

But the new court is authorised to hear criminal cases only if the maximum sentence is five years or less. Murder cases must be tried in the provincial capital Ramadi, where the court is not yet fully functioning, Bohm said.

According to Bohm, the two killers had lured a policeman to a meeting after they learned he was engaged to marry one of their relatives, and bludgeoned him to death

The victim and the killers were from the same tribe. The tribe's elders feared that if they waited for Iraqi justice to reach its verdict, there would be tit-for-tat revenge killings and many more tribesmen would die.

The mayor and police agreed to turn the suspects over. The elders had them shot.

The execution of the two suspects without a proper trial would clearly be a crime, Iraqi legal experts said.

Iraq does have capital punishment for murder, but executions may only be carried out legally by the Maximum Crimes Office in Baghdad after a proper trial, said criminal law expert Ahmed Abid in Baghdad.

We live in a country with courts, and the actions of this mayor and the sheikhs send the wrong message to the world," he said.

U.S. forces said they learned about the summary execution only after it had taken place. Bohm said they did what they could to make clear that they did not approve.

"I met with the mayor. I met with the judges. I met with the Iraqi police. I told them we did not condone this," he said.

"In their mind they had done nothing wrong. That's the way it was done for centuries."

The sheikhs made no effort to deny they had carried out the summary execution. In fact, they provided Bohm with meticulous documentation of their "verdict", bearing their signatures and stamps, as well as a video showing the killers? confessions.

In an interview later in his office, Mayor Ftehkhan acknowledged the execution might cause difficulty for his American guests but said he had no choice but to ensure the men were executed before a vendetta could erupt.

"Yes, it is embarrassing for the Americans. But if we did not resolve this issue this way, there would be more bloodshed in the town," he said.

Howard backs Bush on Iraq as Asia-Pacific talks begin

By: Rob Taylor

SYDNEY (Reuters) — Australian Prime Minister John Howard vowed to keep Australian troops in Iraq despite mounting pressure at home to withdraw, as annual Asia-Pacific meetings began in Sydney.

"Our commitment to Iraq remains. This is not the time for any proposals of a scaling down of Australian forces," Howard told a joint news conference with U.S. President George W. Bush, pointing to next week's crucial progress report to the U.S. Congress on the American troop surge in Iraq.

"It's historic work, Mr Prime Minister, and it's important work, and I appreciate the contribution that the Australians have made," Bush replied to the veteran Australian leader, whose support for the war in Iraq is clouding his re-election hopes.

The two men then clambered aboard a luxury yacht, and accompanied by a dozen zodiac boats packed with heavily armed, black-clad security personnel, sped across Sydney harbour to join several hundred Australian troops and sailors for lunch at the Garden Island naval base.

"I'm looking forward to you buying me lunch today. I'm a meat guy," Bush joked to Howard, who has been prime minister since 1996. It was genuine camaraderie between

two old friends whose popularity has suffered over the four-year war in Iraq. Australia has about 1,500 troops in

and around Iraq, while the United States has 160,000 soldiers there. Bush rewarded Howard for his loyal-

ty by signing a treaty with him on Wednesday giving Canberra improved access to top-secret U.S. military technology and intelligence.

Australia had long complained of U.S. restrictions on weapons technology and information because of Washington's concerns about espionage.

Biggest security operation



U.S. President George W. Bush (R) walks to his limousine with Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice (C) upon their arrival in Sydney for the annual APEC summit, September 4, 2007.

Economic Cooperation summit this weekend in order to prepare for next week's report to Congress on the Iraq war.

Australia has launched the country's biggest ever security operation, including erecting a 2.8 metre (9 feet) security fence that has virtually cut Sydney centre in two, and which has put residents in a grumpy mood.

Australia has never experienced a terrorist attack within its borders. Anti-war activists plan mass week-

end protests, expected to draw up to 20,000 people onto the streets against Bush's visit and the Iraq war. "I have absolutely no doubt that minority groups will engage in a level

of violence not previously experienced in Sydney," police chief superintendent Steve Cullen said.

But at an anti-Bush rally at Sydney Railway Station on Tuesday ahead of the President's arrival, media outnumbered the noisy but peaceful protest-

Trade liberalisation and climate change top the agenda at the APEC meetings, and Bush wants the group's 21 economies to agree to a strongly worded pledge to reinvigorate the Doha round of world trade talks.

Bush and Howard also talked about the rise of China, whose President Hu Jintao is also in Australia and was expected in Sydney for APEC later on Wednesday.

Hu visited a farm near the Australian capital, Canberra, to watch sheep being shorn. China is Australia's biggest wool export destination and resource market, and - in contrast to Bush - Hu has received a warm public reception in Australia.

Ice sculptures of Bush's and Howard's face were placed by protesters near Sydney's famous Harbour Bridge to slowly melt in the sun, symbolising the refusal of the United States and Australia to sign the Kyoto climate pact.

About 40 trade and foreign minis-

ters, including U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, gathered at Sydney's main convention centre on Darling Harbour to hammer out a declaration for their leaders to consider at a weekend summit.

A draft of that declaration, obtained by Reuters, says the 21 APEC members will try to develop a more robust approach to strengthening food and product safety standards in the region.

APEC has begun work on a recovery programme to revive trade in the event of a terrorist attack and a set of principles "to help protect the food supply against deliberate contamination", the draft declaration said.

On trade, APEC will focus this year on "behind the border issues", competition policy, strengthening capital markets, combating corruption, promoting good governance, and a more certain legal and regulatory climate.

The draft declaration, however, gives short shrift to a U.S.-backed Free Trade Area of the Asia-Pacific.

Dozens of Afghan insurgents killed

KABUL (Reuters) - Afghan and U.S.-led coalition forces killed nearly three dozen insurgents overnight in a series of confrontations in southern areas rife with Taliban guerrillas, the U.S. military said on Wednesday.

A provincial official said separately that several civilians were killed in an operation of U.S.-led troops against suspected Taliban in an area of Ghazni province on Wednesday.

The U.S. military confirmed the

militants, but did concede non-combatants were injured.

Violence has been surging in the past 19 months in Afghanistan, the bloodiest period since the Taliban's

removal from power in 2001. The nearly two dozen insurgents were killed in two separate clashes in the southern province of Kandahar on Tuesday, while 10 more were killed in fighting in the neighbouring province of Uruzgan, the U.S. military said.

es failed September 4 as Afghan National Security Forces, advised by coalition forces, repelled and killed nearly two dozen enemy fighters in separate battles in northern Kandahar province," the U.S. military said in a statement.

Taliban fighters attacked an observation post near a coalition base in Uruzgan province with rocket-propelled grenades, it added.

A Taliban spokesman denied any

account of what happened.

The clashes were the latest in a number of confrontations in the Taliban-dominated south in recent weeks in which the U.S.-led military says coalition forces have killed hundreds of insurgents.

The Taliban concede some losses, but say Afghan and foreign troops vastly exaggerate enemy death tolls.

More than 7,000 people have been killed during the past 19 months in

Among those targeted were networks

China denies Pentagon cyber attack

Al-Jazeera — China has denied reports that its military was involved in hacking into the US defence department's computer network, labelling such claims departments. 'wild accusations" that it said "reflect a

er networks of British government

officials, reported that PLA-linked hack-

ers had also been attacking the comput-

Bush arrived early for the Asia Pacific ers

Cold War mentality"

Describing the accusations as "groundless" Jiang Yu, spokeswoman for the foreign ministry in Beijing, said China had "consistently opposed.... all internet-wrecking crimes, including hacking"

She said China too had also been a victim of attacks from hackers.

The rejection follows reports quoting mostly unnamed officials pointing the finger at the Chinese military over cyber-espionage attacks on government computer networks in the US, UK and Germany.

On Tuesday Pentagon officials admitted that hackers had gained access to an unclassified email system in the office of the US defence secretary.

But a spokesman declined to comment on reports that a division of China's People's Liberation Army (PLA) was responsible for the latest hack.

"It is often very difficult to pinpoint the true origin of a particular intrusion," the official said.

'Total certainty'

However a report in the Financial Times, citing former and serving US officials, said the PLA was behind the hack, described as the most successful cyber attack yet on Pentagon networks.

The FT cited one source as saying there was a "very high level of confidence ... trending towards total certainty" that the PLA was to blame.

The US and China are both widely believed to conduct cyber-espionage against each other but the issue rarely goes public.

On Wednesday Britain's Guardian newspaper, citing unnamed government

in the foreign ministry and the House of Commons, the lower house of the British parliament, which was forced to shut down part of its network following a hack attack last year.

The reports come a week after China deflected claims in German magazine Der Spiegel's reporting that hackers backed by the Chinese military had gained access to the German foreign ministry and the offices of Angela Merkel, the German chancellor.

Merkel was reported to have raised the issue with Chinese leaders during a visit to Beijing last month.

'Never a threat'

According to the Pentagon, the email security breach occurred a few months ago and caused the system to be taken down for three weeks, but was "never any threat to the classified systems".

It added that hackers attempt to infiltrate the Pentagon's system hundreds of times a day.

Earlier this year a Pentagon study said that China's military emphasises hacking as an offensive weapon, citing Chinese exercises in 2005 that included hacking "primarily in first strikes against enemy networks".

The reports on the alleged hacking come as the US president, George Bush, is scheduled to hold talks with his Chinese counterpart at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (Apec) summit in Sydney this week.

Asked to comment on the reports on Wednesday, Bush largely side-stepped the issue, saying "we understand that we're vulnerable in some systems".

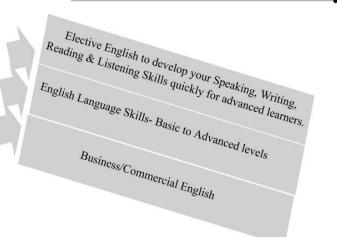
"We've got great relations with China, from a diplomatic perspective," he added.

operation, saying the victims were

'Iwo attempted insurgent ambush- losses. There was no independent Afghanistan



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- Good command of written and spoken English, as well as computer skills

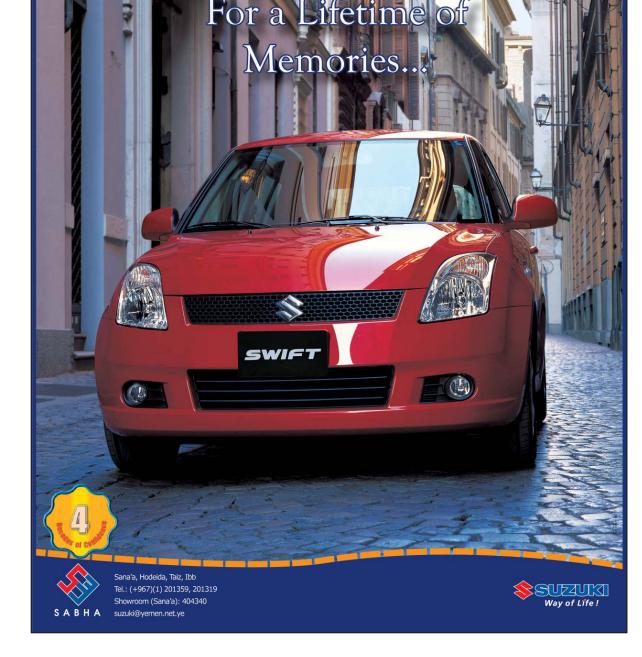
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Report

Summer camps: Fun beyond school walls

By: Fatima Al-Ajel fatimafnfe@yahoo.com

Ministry he of Education, along with the help of Islamic endowments, and youth groups has organized 2 month summer camp programs.

This year alone nearly 250,000 youths have enrolled in 700 summer camps that have opened throughout Yemen. Together with the children, the camp mangers are yearning to realize their motto: "Together for National Identity, Enhancing Building Capabilities and Developing Youth Skills. The following are reports from around the country, including Taiz, Hodeidah, Hadramout, and Aden.

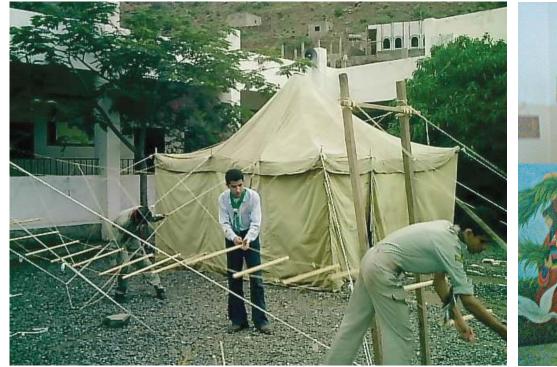
TAIZ Maged Thabet AL-Kholidy **For Yemen Times**

On July , high ranking officials launched its Summer Camps in a number of centers all over the city.

"We try to touch upon activities of different types so that participants get chances to join us for whatever there interests may be", said Mr. Asa'ad Alkabab, a member of the Governorate's Supreme Committee of Summer Camps.

The camps are broken down into 70 centers: 20 for females, 43 for males and 7 for the university levels.

Activities here are held according to age group and contact sports, such as tennis, volleyball, football and basketball are under the strict supervision of qualified coaches. It is to be emphasized that boys centers are not only relegated to schools, but



Outdoor camping skills were reuquired for camps in Taiz.

tackle for the future.", said Taha, the camp supervisor. However, in spite of these notable achievements, the supervisor was not satisfied. "Only 65% of our goals have been achieved", he said.

Saqre Abdu Saed, one of the active participants in Taiz, said that youths spent summer vacation in the streets, doing nothing. "Now, it is completely different with the summer camps. "It is a good idea for them to take There, they experience various advantage of idle time to develop their skills, " he stated.

Dr.Abdulqader Mughalis of Taiz University clarified that the

Football matches were the main sport event during camps. Youth from Taiz

languages and computer science. Girl's schools also encompassed a large number of participants and "equally various activities are planned to cover a maximum of areas

interest," of said Miss Amahalrahman Gahaf, a member of Summer Camps Committee. In the Arwa School's camp the

number of participants has reached 230 students of different levels. activities like tennis, football, volleyball, basketball, housekeeping, cooking, computer science, English and mathematics.

Wala'a Sadeq, a secondary school participant in housekeeping, and computer science, expressed her interests in these camps saying that: "it offers me a chance to learn many things instead of spending the summer vacation doing nothing. Taking advantage of the time is a good thing, and this is what these camps offer us,"

she added.

Mushera Qasem, a participant in volleyball, English and computer science said that she was "amazed at the camp. No where else could we get such a change."

Summer centers in Taiz University Dr.Abdulqader Mughalis, Taiz University, clarified that the university believes in the youth's role as a wealth for the future. There fore, the University started making a discussion around the leisure time problem, from which youth are suffering during the summer vacation. In addition, there are 7 centers in the university present beside the various lectures languages and computer study.

medial and moderation". Hassan also indicated to 18 fixed

centers throughout the year for the holy Qur'an memorization. The first batch will graduate next year It is confirming that the local authority has a plan obligating the public applicants eradicate the illiteracy of 3-5 persons.

HODEIDAH

Abdulwahab Abdulqawi Alsofi For Yemen Times

Hodeidah governorate is sponsoring 65 various training summer centers. These centers run from July 14-August 20. Those that are participating are of many different ages and often are guides and scouts. Furthermore, the total number of the participants estimated at these centers is 19,500. They are distributed in many centers in the governorate. They are 32 centers are for male youths and 12 centers are for female youths which are distributed in all districts . also, there are Six centers are varied among colleges' centers beside other centers for sports, computer and crafts.

The Ali Ibn Abi Taleb School (260 students) focuses on learning the English and Arabic Languages. Additionally, cultural activities are included, such as a study of Quran. Students also undertake trips to to learn factories about manufacturing.

Ali Bari, the manager of the centre and the chief of the school activities

The centre has.

In the nearby Oqba center, 500 students are in attendance. Fatima Al Shareef, the chief of the centre said that she could not imagine this number of participants. "We almost don't have the room", she said enthusiastically.

An exhibition for some of the products of a girl's summer camp in Hodeidah

HADRAMOUT Fatima Al-Subban For Yemen Times

Mr. Abraham Ahmed Al-Habashi, the General Manager of the Sports & Youths Ministry Hadarmout Branch, said that the number of Summer

Centers, to provide everything necessary with respect to activities and classes.

Nagat Saleh, a mother of two campers, said "I herald these camps and I would advise others to send their children instead of playing in the street or trying to learn the Holy Quran at home."

ADEN **Fathan Saleam** For Yemen Times

Aden, like other governorates, has activities and youth camps, such as the Khadeeja Bint Khoiled summer



identity and the establishment the

exercising before a match.

also to many other centers that include a plethora of different age groups.

A number of lectures have been delivered in the fields of human rights, Qat disadvantages, and the dangers of crime. "These lectures help the participants to be aware of the current problems that they should

university strongly believes that the camps will bear fruit for our future. Therefore, we came up with this idea to challenge idle time during the summer months. A committee has even been appointed to supervise these centers. The university has inaugurated seven centers for both physical activities like sports training, in addition to lectures in

Medial and moderation

Abdu Mohammed Hassan, the manager of the endowments office in Taiz, said that the office has 12centers in the regions of the town working under a slogan "reinforcement of the national

in Al Hawak district, said that the centers in general are adequate and active. However, maintaining such active centers need a considerable financial subsidy, he said .

In Khadem Khaleb School's summer centre. It included400 male students .Primarily an English learning institution where the students studied about Islamic culture and history. Sports were also available, such as volleyball, and Tai Kwan Do

Girls like sport, too.

centers are approaching 21 in the coastal directorates and there are 6 centers on Souqtra Island. Furthermore, it has been attained from government sources that these centers are becoming ever-expansive, with more centers this year than last. For general information about the centers, a general directory was issued by the Supreme Committee for

center for girl scouts in Al-Mansoora. The number of the scouting participants is 350, varying between 15-25 years old and the number of the supervisors is 14, with its head Hoayda Abdullah.

There are 10 Aden sections for camps, in which groups are stratified according to their interests. There are many popular activities, including the household management classes, as mentioned previously. In addition to this, the beauty parlor section is also very popular among young ladies.

The Aden centers aren't just classes either, as students also take trips to local hospitals and even school book presses.

Scout leader Anhar Jamal said "this camp is fantastic and better than the previous camps. I have learned many things here and have improved immensely. I hope everyone who wants to learn can come So do not lose the chance."

Also Aden has another summer camp in Al-Ghurbani school in Seerah district. Though, the center has many activities, it faces many difficulties, such as the difficult transportation, the shortage of computers in the centers, and the coordination between the organizing sides of these summer camps. Similar problems, unfortunately have been very common in camps throughout the country.

Computers attract many students, particularly boys.

Girls learned new skills through handicrafts activities.



Opinion

Media politics, where is it taking us?

he Yemeni authorities pin great hopes in the meeting requirements of benefiting from the Millennium Challenge Account's funds, however, in fact what they are currently doing doesn't qualify them for success but for collapse. Yemen got a second chance to be included in the list of countries eligible to receive funds from the MCA during 2007 after it was dropped from the list of the nominated countries in 2005 because it failed to meet the requirements of obtaining funds.

The primary reason behind Yemen's failure was linked with the series of harassments, assaults and violations the press was subjected to, particularly the repeated physical beatings suffered by prominent journalists. The authorities' denial of its connection with the repeated attacks on journalists doesn't help in dropping all the charges attributed to its security and military apparatuses that are responsible for violations. Evidence of these violations is very clear.

Instead of reforming themselves and correcting their mistakes, the authorities accused media of being involved in a conspiracy to convey bad impression about Yemen and harm its reputation. Consequently, the poor country will be dropped from the list of states eligible for MCA's funds. Despite this, Yemen has undertaken to carry out probes on the nature of violations that target pressmen and punish perpetrators. This commitment was one of the reasons behind nominating Yemen once again to receive MCA funds. In addition, the Yemeni government committed itself to meet the other requirements, particularly taking practical steps to fight corruption.

As the situation remains unchanged, 2007 is pondered upon as a decisive year for the Yemeni authorities. The year tests the extent of seriousness of the authorities, as well as the credibility of the commitments and undertakings it has made. The authorities perceive that their conducts are monitored and no one accepts to be harmed by their

negligence and indifference.

As the facts related with Yemeni authorities' interaction with other organizations over the past three decades verified that any commitments made by the government ultimately led to disappointment since the government has no credibility. Even if the government tried to be serious, it cannot achieve anything due to the nature of its goals and interests.

The fact is that the lack of seriousness was very evident since the very beginning after the needy state was given another chance to qualify itself for obtaining MCA funds. The official institutions used to say that the U.S. Administration's acceptance to nominate Yemen for MCA's funds once again is a victory for the government and a defeat for the opposition. They went on to say that this acceptance is an evidence of the regime's successful policies, as well as its moves in various fronts, and considered it as an indicator that the world hears from the regime and ignores any tricks and instigations machinated by the opposition. The regime behaves this way to be the only source who has faith in its fabricated propaganda. It forgot about the commitments it made and began to talk about a new trick by the opposition before acknowledging its weaknesses.

Now, we are drawing nearer and nearer toward the end of the first half of 2007 while the Yemeni

government hasn't made any crucial step toward meeting the 11 conditions set before it in order to pass the MCA's test. Four of these conditions are related with press freedom but it is apparent that the authorities failed to meet these conditions. The famous American organization called 'Liberty House'

revealed in its most recent report, published a few days ago, that Yemen's 2006 elections retained Yemen in the list of partially free countries while the recent mediarelated procedures transformed it into a non-free country.

The new thing in press freedom is that the Yemeni authorities don't maintain the situation as it was before the 11 conditions was listed for Yemen to meet. Instead, the situation deteriorated and went from bad to worse. This means that Yemen failed to meet the requirements related with press freedom.

After the Liberty House released its report, Yemen experienced other hostile procedures against press freedoms, particularly as the ministries of information and telecommunication forced SabaFon Company, a GSM-service provider, to devote its services in favor of some media institutions to publish its news stories via the short messages. Both ministries concealed the Ishteraki.net. which is run by the Yemeni Socialist Party, and before this, it concealed the Shoura.net that is affiliated with the Popular Forces Union. In the meantime, the current information minister Hassan Al-Lawzi refrained from granting licenses for new newspapers and magazines. He froze any applications for publication licenses in a measure contravening the constitution and law. This means that the information minister froze

the Press and Publication Law and exceeded the limit of the powers delegated to him. He seems to exercise powers of the legislative authority.

Generally, Yemen harms its reputation amid the media procedures and policies taken by the current information minister, who seems to struggle with the aim of applying ancient media policies. He brought such policies from the caves of the totalitarianism age, or the age of what was known as the Arab Republic of Yemen when Al-Lawzi was occupying the post of information minister in the final days of the age.

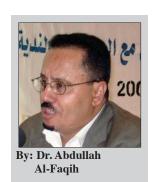
The hostile procedures taken by the current information minister against press freedom and the nature of media policy, which he passes on official media constitute two of the dangerous indicators about how the situation of press will look like in the future. This means that the country uproot the principles of democracies, which it claimed to enhance while attempting to improve its situation among countries of the real democratic move.

Really, the world knows that Yemen is not a democratic country but it had a relative openness toward press freedom. Now, the country is on the edge of returning to the caves of the totalitarian regime. Predicting the closure of the MCA's doors on the face of Yemen by the advent of 2008 is not an adventure. These doors were not only closed by the hands of U.S. officials because the Yemeni officials preceded them in doing so on the face of their country. Exercising hostility against press freedoms is an original tradition of the current Yemeni authorities.

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



t is possible for anyone, who is permanently residing in a particular country and has an ID card and passport from this country, to enjoy all the basic rights and political, economic, social and cultural freedoms of a citizen. That individual may be merely a voter because his/her economic and social conditions don't qualify him/her to play any effective role or to exercise any right except for the suffrage (the right to vote in any election). Also, this



A third requirement of voters' situation is that all the citizens must enjoy equal rights and have equal access to protection without any discrimination under the effective laws. Citizens must have the right to form civil community organizations and political parties, as well as to obtain information and distribute it. They should also have the right to own auditory and visual media means and enjoy judicial protection from any attacks and human right abuses by the according to their wills.

It is this kind of institutions that deprives citizens of education, job opportunities, and safe and stable life.

The author is an activist, analyst, and professor of politics at Sana'a University. He welcomes sending comments to his email: draflfaqih@yahoo.com Source: Al-Ahali Weekly.

COMMON SENSE

Who cares, we want war!

ince the Administration of George W. Bush set its foot in the White House, all we could see are war clouds painted red, white and blue hovering over the Middle East," said Eli, speaking at the lunch table of the newly built hotel atop the City of Sana'a. He continued somewhat pessimistic: "First, Afghanistan; then for no rational reason, Iraq; then the Levant and God only knows how many covert operations are underway! Now we have ..."



"Wait Eli, you got your current events mixed up!

The War in the Levant was fought between Lebanon led by Hizbullah and Israel" Hussein always wanted to show off his knowledge just when needed the most.

Eli was ready with the answer, although he felt he should be allowed to continue his former piece of conversation: Do you think that Israel was gung ho on fighting Hizbullah! Only American prodding caused the Israelis to go trigger happy against anything that moved in Lebanon. Even still, the American taxpayer put up the dough for the whole campaign! That is not all; Israel will get a bonus of US \$ 30 Billion consisting of the latest state of the art killing technology! That is also at the poor US taxpayer's expense, I have been working in the Middle East for thirty years. People's attitude towards us Americans have changed tremendously since I first came. Frankly speaking, if I was an Arab, I would be hunting Americans left and right with whatever I can lay my hands on! Look at the way Mr. Bush speaks and look at the reality of the world. They are what you might say 'worlds apart'.

His Yemeni friend, Hussein, brought him to where he left off, "You were just about to mention a new area of imminent warfare. Where is this new area? For sure, it is not North Korea! After all what does Israel have against North Korea?"

Eli felt somewhat pleased at returning to where he left off before, "You are quite right, Hussein, it is not North Korea! If you remember what happened two summers back in Lebanon, the Israelis now want to hit back at what they believe is the source of all that might that Hizbullah accumulated. Of course, Israel wouldn't dare hit at Iran. Therefore, they go back to the gullible Americans again. Apparently, they have easily convinced the Bush Administration that hitting at Iran means ending all their and our troubles. I of course do not see it that at all! I think hitting Iran would be the most foolish thing the United States could do now. I really believe that if one remembers what happened in Lebanon two summers ago, it is not hard to see the same predicament falling on the United States that befell Israel only this time multiplied many times over as the scales of the antagonists would dictate. I dread to think how the world would be, if cut off from the most vital source of oil for the industrialized countries of the world today. I think those war hungry American officials in the Administration think that it might not be a bad idea to deprive Asia and Europe from Middle East oil for a while, in order to hit back at their steadfast economies. They probably think the United States could withstand loosing oil from its Middle East sources, while the other industrialized economies could be brought to kneel once again to the mighty US. I am not sure if that is good for the United States or not. But then, one should not expect any good to come out of the United States with the war mongers at the helm in the White House, or to expect these gunslingers to look for what is good for the United States."

"I think that if most Americans felt like you, then the Administration would not be so prone to submit to the wishes of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee," said Hussein feeling proud at knowing for what AIPAC stood.

Eli knew what to say to that, "AIPAC and all the other pro Zionist groups in the United States would never allow the American people to know about the real truth of the politics of the region. Otherwise, the smooth flow of American tax dollars to Israel would be subject to a clog in the pipeline. That would then be the end of the lifeline that allows Israel to menace the region just like the United States is menacing the world."

"So, you think that the Bush Administration is adamant at having a war against Iran?" Hussein asked, still unsure about what the future holds.

Eli spoke after finishing off his last sip of coffee: "Even after the International Atomic Energy Agency said there is really nothing to worry about as far as Iran's nuke potential for now, Bush says 'who cares; we want war!' I would not be surprised if George Bush, Cheney and all the other war hungry members of the Bush administration would like this to be the final blessing that GW left the American people to remember him by; as if we do not have enough calamities already by which to remember the worst Administration in US history without any competition!"

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

individual may be a subject whose main job is to obey the rulers. So, how does the situation of a Yemeni citizen look like?

As far as citizenship is concerned, it can bee achieved by the type of constitution that ensures all the political, economic, social and cultural rights of citizens. This citizenship may also be achieved via adopting the type of political regime that allows citizens to enjoy their rights and expand their scope over time in a way coping with the most recent developments and changes.

Citizenship can be achieved when all citizens enjoy their basic rights as ensured by the constitution and concerned laws. However, for Yemenis it is very difficult to consider them citizens. At the social front, the unemployment rates are estimated at 40 percent of the work age population and 50 percent of the youths.

As a result of the high unemployment rates and low individual income,

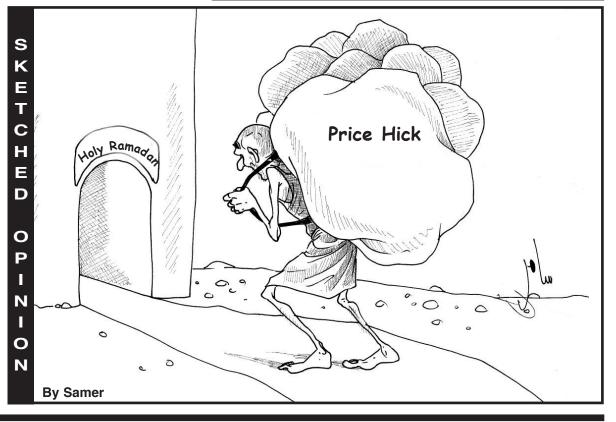
coupled with the unfair distribution of wealth, most of the Yemeni people – with minor differences – live below the poverty line. Illiteracy rates among Yemen's adult population, aged 15 years and over, exceed 50 percent, but when it comes to rural female population the illiteracy rates nears 80 percent. In light of the effective laws and the constitution concerned with political and civil rights, any Yemeni is eligible to be a voter only and not a citizen.

According to some facts, many of the Yemeni people are not eligible to be even voters, as the situation of voters necessitates constitutional guarantees, plus an enhancement of the political regime and exercise of political rights such as the right to participate in the elections both as a voter and a candidate. Additionally, the situation requires that citizens participate in faire and free elections. There should be organized systems based on balanced and equal relations and mutual respect between voters and authorities. state's agencies or influential persons in the community.

Contemplating on the constitutional, legal and institutional environment of the political regime in Yemen, on the one hand, and the daily practices, on the other, it evidently appears that the different political and civic rights of Yemenis are absent or missing. The constitution and other various laws don't offer sufficient guarantees for protecting human rights. The political regime was designed in a way, thereby transferring the legal and constitutional texts, concerned with rights and freedoms, into merely ink on papers. Then, the daily practices came to confirm the absence of justice and equality.

The Yemeni citizen realizes that he is living in the age of equal citizenship, rights and freedoms after many constitutional and legal texts were replaced by fraudulent statements.

These changes usually take place in many institutions that lack partiality and attempt to amend the effective laws



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TEMEN **Op-Ed** 6 September, 2007 **7** Al-Mujahidat, armed Hamas women in Gaza

By: Bassem Roomie, The Media Line Ltd

earing a long, draped robe and black headscarf, with a rocketpropelled grenade on her shoulder, Fatima, a 27-year-old woman living in Khan Younis, is a member of the special armed women units known as "Al-Mujahidat," which are part of Hamas' military wing.

Fatima recently finished her bachelor's degree in social Islam from the Islamic University, a Hamas stronghold in Gaza. Her father was killed during an armed clash with Israeli soldiers few years ago and two of her five brothers are active members of Al-Qassam Brigades.

After the Israeli pullout from Gaza in 2004, Hamas decided to form the armed women's groups.

"I heard about an armed women's cell being formed in Khan Younis from my friends at the university. But joining the group was not an easy decision for me, especially as I was a student and at home I used to help my mother in taking care of the family."

Eventually, for the love of Jihad and martyrdom. Fatima joined the armed women's unit operating in southern Gaza a year ago.

'Yes, now I am a member of the al-Qassam Martyrs' Izzaddin Brigades," she told The Media Line.

Fatima believes that Hamas' overwhelming victory in last year's parliamentary elections was evidence of its growing power and a step towards the realization of its vision for an Islamic Palestinian state. After the election, she says, "I made up my mind and joined the group."

The group is made up of 32 women, most of them from families supportive of Hamas.

Fatima says, "Their husbands and relatives are either members of Izzaddin al-Qassam or martyrs killed by the Zionists."

According to their religion, jihad has been imposed on all Muslims, males and females alike, and these women are obeying the call for jihad, which literary means "the call for struggle" against non-Islamic enemies to defend Muslims and their property. Those women have the honor of competing with men in the jihad for the liberation of the land and the creation of the Islamic state, according to Fatima.

"We simply love jihad and its path and no one imposed that on us" she adds.

The armed women are in contact with their male counterparts in the al-Qassam Brigades, but there are no

direct exchanges between the two militant groups. Communication is conducted only through middlemen, mainly high-ranking officers.

Hamas decided to form the armed women's units after the Israeli withdrawal from Gaza. Since then, according to Fatima, the women are being trained by their male counterparts in secret camps scattered all over Gaza, founded on the ruins of the evacuated Israeli settlements, or inside the large tracts of the orange groves. Practical training includes planting roadside bombs and firing rockets and mortars. Theoretical training, on the other hand, is carried out at mosques after pre-dawn prayers.

Hamas relies on mosques for its daily indoctrination of youth with the culture of Jihadism. The Islamic group has strong enlistment through mosques advocating its ideas of struggle and martyrdom. In three years the number of mosques has jumped from 200 to 600 in Gaza City alone, since Hamas started using them as arms depots and training centers for the newly recruited operatives.

Fatima, who also teaches Quran at the mosque as a second duty, describes the growing opportunities for Hamas women.

"Islam has honored women and given them a role to play in all aspects

of life," she says

The role of women in Jihad is not only to encourage their male relatives to participate but also to be on the front lines and actively take part in the fighting.

Previously, Hamas used women during the Israeli army's incursions into Gaza to observe the tanks, collect information and forward it to al-Qassam male fighters, who then moving accordingly.

In January 2004 Hamas allowed the first woman to carry out a suicide attack at the Erez checkpoint on behalf of Hamas. Today, there are hundreds of Hamas women fighters in Gaza ready to take to the streets and stand up to any Israeli assault.

In its founding declaration of 1988, Hamas emphasizes the significance of women for jihad. Moreover, this Hamas gender revolution has also increased its popularity amongst the Palestinian people and simplified its mission to root out the [Fatah-Controlled] Palestinian Authority and establish an Islamic state.

Last June al-Qassam women played a significant role during Hamas' all-out assault to rout its Fatah rival in Gaza. Those women, who appeared veiled, took part in the active battle.

During the offensive to take control of Gaza, Fatima was one of few

women who took part in the attack on the Preventive Security Service, the Fatah stronghold in Gaza that was viewed by Hamas as the place used by pro-Israeli collaborators to spy on the mujahidin.

Hamas militiamen took over all Fatah security compounds, including the PA chairman's residence, known as al-Muntada. This offensive has, in practice, divided the Palestinian areas into two separate entities, with Fatah in the West Bank and Hamas in Gaza.

After eliminating what she calls "collaborators," Fatima believes that Hamas is now moving into a more difficult period.

"We are headed toward the phase of construction after the second liberation of Gaza," she says.

Today, many women have joined jihad, especially since Hamas' takeover of Gaza, and they are willing to lay down their lives for the sake of Allah, in order to bring happiness to the nation and to remove its torment and distress caused by the occupation, she says enthusiastically.

"There are several armed women's cells being formed all across the Gaza Strip," she confirms.

Fatima believes the Palestinians are becoming a nation of jihad on the threshold of liberation, and that they reject humiliation and submission. She also considers the Hamas takeover of Gaza as a prologue to the great victory and the liberation of the rest of the Palestinian areas

Fatima is longing for martyrdom for the sake of Allah and for the liberation of the Palestinian people from the Israeli occupation and its collaborators, the expression used by Hamas operatives when referring to moderate Fatah rivals.

Fatima's wish is to participate in a battle against the Israeli army if it invades Gaza.

"I am impatiently waiting for that day and follow the steps of the hero Reem al-Riyashi," the first Hamas woman who carried out the suicide attack at the Erez crossing in 2004.

According to a source in the PA there are far more than 32 mujahidat, more likely several hundred.

In the streets of Gaza, opinion on the women fighters is divided: followers of Fatah believe that women should stay at home and raise their children, while Hamas supporters believe the mujahidat are doing exactly what they need to do, and regard them as heroines.

Female followers and sympathizers of Hamas raise their children according to Hamas ideology, thus their children are learning it at home, as well as at Hamas-operated kindergartens.

Palestine and National Socialism: Correcting the picture

In his study about attitudes to National Socialism in Palestine, historian the writer shows that there are no grounds for claims that all Palestinians approved of National Socialism. Götz Nordbruch read the study

By: René Wildangel

he Encyclopaedia of the Holocaust is considered to be one of the best reference works on the mass murder of Jews in Nazi Germany. It also contains a detailed entry about the Palestinian mufti Haj Amin al-Husayni. In fact, the encyclopaedia's entry on this cleric is longer than the one on Adolf Hitler.

Historian René Wildangel's recently published study may be considered to be a protest against the interpretation of history suggested by the respective lengths of these encyclopaedia entries.

Over the course of approximately 400 pages, Wildangel does more than simply offer new insights into contemporary Palestinian perceptions of National Socialism. What makes his study particularly interesting is his crit-

icism of the existing body of research into the attitudes of the Palestinian public to National Socialism.

Wildangel positions his study quite clearly in this body of research by repeatedly addressing a publication that has to date been showered with praise, namely the study conducted by Klaus-Michael Mallmann and Martin Cüppers and published in 2006.

Criticism of existing research

In their work "The Crescent and the Swastika: The Third Reich, the Arabs, and Palestine" (Halbmond und Hakenkreuz. Das Dritte Reich, die Araber und Palästina), which is marketed as the "first comprehensive overview" of Arab-Nazi relations, Mallmann and Cüppers conclude that the only thing that prevented a "German-Arab mass crime" against the Jews was the defeat of the Germans in



North Africa.

According to the two authors, the Arab population in both Palestine and other Arab countries was, after all ready to start slaughtering the Jews once the Germans marched into Egypt. Wildangel makes no bones about his

opinion of this theory. He states quite

clearly that the policy of eliminating the Jews was first and foremost a German crime, pointing out that no-one would ever seriously consider talking of a "Franco-German mass crime" against the Jews in view of the collaboration of

Wildangel is also quite clear about the fact that there were indeed both collaborators and ideological rapprochement in Palestine - Amin al-Husayni being one prominent example. However, his evaluation of archive material in Germany, Great Britain, and Israel and, above all, of contemporary Palestinian sources demonstrates that not all Palestinians admired National Socialism.

ical and political contacts frequently met with explicit opposition in the Palestinian population. The resulting debates are reflected in reports and articles published in Arab newspapers, some of which expressed their support for and some of which expressed their opposition to National Socialism.

Rejection of National Socialism Despite the publication of reports detailing Hitler's purported achievements, the prominent newspaper "Filastin" specifically spoke out in favour of a democratic form of society. Moreover, the fascination with the national euphoria in Germany and Hitler's personal ability to mobilize the masses, did not prevent fundamental criticism of the ideological convictions on which National Socialism was based.

After the war, even radical Arab Nationalists distanced themselves ideologically from these convictions. "While they did partially embrace anti-Semitism and/or racism, they had nothing in common with the eliminating character of the Nazi regime."

Regarding the war years too, Wildangel's conclusions differ in significant points from assumptions that are generally made in other works of research in this field. He states, for example, that in sharp contrast to parts of Egyptian society, Palestine did not greet the German progress through North Africa with enthusiasm.

"The myth surrounding Rommel the Desert Fox," who is often seen as the symbol of Arab sympathies with National Socialism, "which grew out of the fact that Arabs in Egypt and other Arab countries were thrilled by the German General and the fact that war was being waged against the colonial power that was Great Britain never really developed in the Arab newspapers (of Palestine)."

There are a number of such assessments that correct the image of pro-German euphoria in Palestine in Wildangel's study. For this reason, his work comes at just the right time and makes an important contribution to the ongoing controversy about the ideological and political attitudes of the Arab movement to National Socialism.

Hopefully Wildangel's work will receive as much attention as the theories of Mallmann and Cüppers.

René Wildangel:"Zwischen Achse und Mandatsmacht. Palästina und der Nationalsozialismus" (Between the Axis and the Mandate Power: Palestine and National Socialism). Klaus Schwarz Verlag, Berlin 2007, 444 pages Translated from the German by Aingeal Flanagan

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Freedom of the press before the Moroccan elections: Censorship of taboo-breakers

the French authorities with the Nazis.

He points out that Husayni's ideolog-

As the parliamentary elections on September 7 approach, the Moroccan justice system is muzzling independent journalists. Criticism of King Mohammed VI. is met with repression.

By: David Siebert

ad times for press freedom in Morocco: just last week Mustapha Hurmatallah, journalist from the Arabic daily "Al Watan Al An", was sentenced to eight months in prison.

He was accused of having published "classified documents" about the Moroccan security apparatus's "war against terror".

"This decision is politically motivated and is meant to intimidate journalists," criticized Jim Boumelha, President of the "International Journalists' Federation" (IFJ).

Weekly magazine confiscated

In early August the authorities had already confiscated 100,000 copies of an issue of the French-language weekly magazine "Tel Quel" and its Arabic sister edition "Nichane".

The journalist and publisher Achmed Benchemsi had dared to criticize a speech by the king regarding the upcoming parliamentary elections. Now he faces proceedings for "insulting the king".

In recent years Morocco was regarded as a country in which freedom of the press had made great strides. Independent critical weekly magazines such as "Le Journal Hebdo", "Nichane" and "Tel Quel" established themselves on the magazine market and made a name for themselves as taboo-breakers. With features such as "Moroccans and Alcohol", "Homosexuality in Morocco" and "The King's Fortune", they regularly stir up controversy.

For many, the new, lively press environment in the kingdom is proof of the young King Mohammed VI's efforts toward democratization. In contrast to neighboring Algeria, private radio and television stations are permitted.

Report warns of steps backward

But despite the new liberal winds blowing in the world of the media, complaints from journalists' associations are growing. A current report by the American NGO "Committee to Protect Journalists" (CPJ) warns that press freedom in Morocco has taken "considerable steps backward" in the past five years.

"Unlike in Tunesia, for example, the authorities exert pressure indirectly, via the justice system", says Joel Campagna, author of the CPJ report. "A number of independent media were saddled with extremely high damage claims due to supposed slander.

"The Moroccan journalists we spoke to left no doubt about the fact that the decisions were meant to punish journalists who are critical of the regime."

As early as 2005 the justice system twice upheld damage claims against "Tel Quel" to a total of over 80,000



Protests against the labour market policy of the Moroccan government in Rabat. It's not only journalists who experience repression, but all active members of the civil society

euros. According to testimony by Moroccan journalists and lawyers, these penalties were nine times as much as the fines customary in such cases.

In April 2006 the justice system imposed a record fine of 270,000 euros on Aboubakr Jamaï, publisher of the "Journal Hebdo" – the highest damage claim ever upheld against a journalist in Morocco.

The magazine had questioned the objectivity of a report by the "European Strategic Intelligence and Security Centre" (ESISC) about the West Saharan independence movement Polisario. The private European think tank responded by suing for damages. In January 2007 Jamaï, who is regarded as a pioneer of the new critical

journalism in Morocco, stepped down from his position as publisher to prevent the impending fine from ruining the magazine.

During the cartoon controversy the magazine's editorial office was repeatedly besieged by demonstrators who accused the journal of slandering Islam. "Reporters without Borders" suspects that the protests were stage-managed by the authorities.

Violation of "sacred values"

The Arabic magazine "Nichane" was also victimized by censorship early this year. On the basis of the article "How the Moroccans Laugh about Sex, Politics and Religion" the journalists Driss Ksikes and Sanaa Elaji were sentenced to three years probation and a 7,200 euro fine for violating the "sacred values" of the monarchy and Islam. "Nichane" received a two-month publication ban

The fact that freedom of opinion in Morocco is still subject to strict boundaries is also shown by the new press law: admittedly, instead of the previous 26 offences it lists only four for which journalists can be punished by imprisonment.

However, whoever criticizes the royal family, "undermines the morale of the army" or questions Islam or the integrity of the nation state can still be punished with up to five years in prison. Within the past five years 13 journalists have been convicted of these offenses.

Punished with disbarment

But it is not only journalists who face problems when they broach taboo subjects: when a group of lawyers from the Tetouan province accused the local justice and police authorities of corruption and abuse of office last year, five of the lawyers were punished with disbarment.

Other active members of the civil society experience repression as well. Every day Boulevard Mohammed V. sees protests by hundreds of young people who are unemployed despite their university diploma. More than 30% of university graduates in Morocco are unable to find work.

"We have suffered a great deal of repression and violence at the hands of the police. There were injuries, broken bones, some people are still traumatized. On one day alone more than 30 demonstrators were injured", reports Samira, a 30-year-old unemployed linguist.

Prison terms for activists

Many members of the "Moroccan Human Rights Organization" (AMDH) were arrested after the annual May Day demonstrations. "Supposedly they chanted slogans criticizing the king. In Morocco that is regarded as a punishable offense", explains Abdelhamid Amine, vice president of the AMDH.

Ten of the human rights activists who are also active in other organizations such as ATTAC and the unions were sentenced to prison terms of up to three years, as well as hefty fines.

One of those arrested was Mohammed Bougrine, a 72-year-old human rights activist who spent a total of 15 years in prison back under the old king Hassan II.

Skepticism about the reform policies

As the parliamentary elections approach, the Makhzen - as the powerful clique comprising the royal family, the business world and the state apparatus is known - is reacting increasingly nervously to criticism by the opposition.

Abdelhamid Amine feels that recent events have confirmed his skepticism regarding the monarchy's reform policies: "It proves that we are still a long way from democracy. There was some progress in the area of human and civil rights. But it is not anchored in the constitution and can be revoked again at any time."

Translated from the German by Isabel Cole

Business



Customer service: An alienated concept?

lthough customer service, in principle, is an integral part of any successful sales and marketing strategy, it is a neglected issue which takes a far much lower priority according to a customer services survey, undertaken by Yemen Times.

A Consumer perspective:

According to the survey, consumers equally undervalue the importance of customer care and after sale service. Unless the product purchased falls within the durable sector, such as a vehicle, a mobile phone or an electronic item, then the issue of customer service is negligible. According to Mohammed Al-Anisi: "I bought four mobile phones during the last three years, all of these were from the same brand, because I know if something goes wrong with it, I can take it to the dealer to fix it under warranty."

Similarly, Aydarous A. says: "When buying a computer, a printer, or any technological item you must think about the after sale service. For example, you don't want to buy a printer whose ink is not readily available, or a computer which you will not be able to upgrade easily. These sorts of issues things fall within the realm of customer service and have a strong impact on the decision of whether a purchase is made at company A or company B."

On the other hand, others see the whole notion of customer service as a scam. says Su'ad: "I bought a Stereo from a very reputable Japanese company. However, after a couple of months, it broke down and began to make weird noises. When I took it to the dealer, he told me it was a dust problem and couldn't help me. Additionally, every time he touched it, he wanted to charge me 5000 Riyal."

"There is no such thing as customer service in Yemen" says Reyadh, "even though it is in the terms and conditions of the sale agreement and is, in many cases, documented in the invoice or warranty. When you start facing problems, they either tell you we don't have the spare parts, and sometimes they tell you they fixed the problem only to find out a couple of days later that they did not fix it, only patched it up..." Reyadh also added: "I bought an air conditioner which did not cool



Personal relations play a strong role in customer service, the motto customer is always rights has not been adopted in Yemen vet.

since day one. After installation, the retailer said he thought that there was no Frion. After that, he said it was a problem of wiring. Then they replaced it with another air conditioner, which was an older model, saying that my model was out of stock, charging me installation costs twice, and that was after three weeks of unpleasant discussions and negotiations with them."

A Business perspective:

"Customer service is a competitive advantage of great importance to us..." says Tareq AbdulWase'e, General Manager of United Insurance, "in the insurance business it is of great importance that you provide the best service and keep your clients very satisfied about the service you provide. Lousy customer service would eventually drive you out of business".

Sami Sabha, a cargo and shipping agent, added to AbdulWase'e's claims: "I am astonished how the concept of customer service is severely under appreciated; it can make or break your business. I see many companies that do not care about their clients' complaints and end up losing them ... "

Apparently, although several companies seem to highly value customer service, there are others who admit that they are lousy at it. For example, a manager at an electronics retailer in Sana'a stated that "customer service is expensive... too many people end up damaging their products because they do not even read the operating manual. When my profit margin is 5-10 percent of the item's sale price, why should I end up paying for a whole crew of maintenance specialists and customer care agents and also lock up large amounts of my capital in spare parts. I think that the customers should pay for all this".

Another such executive added: "we usually have sale seasons twice a year where we give marginal discounts, however all products sold during this period are not returnable and nonexchangeable. Furthermore, when they are sold they are sold without a warranty, just a promise to provide spare parts.

He also added: "in many cases customers are extremely price sensitive. If your price is a 1000 Riyals lower than your competition, then they buy from you. That's why

we are under a lot of pressure to cut back on prices and customer service expenses.

A Third perspective:

A source at the Customer Protection Agency stated that there should be a role played by the government in order to protect customers, since any sale transaction is a legal contract which should be governed by terms and conditions to protect the rights of the consumer as well as the businessman.

Assisting Secretary-General of the Yemen Association to Protect Consumer, Yassin Al-Tamimi, stated that the responsibility to protect consumers is a germane one and that all stakeholders should play important roles to protect consumer rights.

At current stages and with the consideration of market realities that exist in Yemen, customer service is still an alienated concept; many consumers are unaware of their rights. In addition to this, a legal framework does not provide the details to govern it. Furthermore, business feel constrained and may entertain bankruptcy because of the costs of maintaining good service.

Business in Brief

The establishment of Hajja University

he Magistrate of Hajja has stated that the governorate has a strategic developmental plan that includes the establishment of a university that will provide further educational opportunities for the residents of the governorate. Other components of the developmental plan include doubling the number of feeder roads and expanding electrical coverage.

Bidding process for industrial zones launched

he Ministry of Trade and Industry has officially announced that it has finalized the background paperwork and has launched the bidding round for construction of two industrial zones in Hodieda and Lahej. The bids will compete on a long-term development and management contract for the respective zones. The winners will be announced in December.

Iran to support Yemen's development

he Iranian Ambassador to Yemen, Hassan Kaliman, has told Prime Minister Mujawar that the Islamic Republic wises to support Yemen's development. The ambassador also stated that possible areas for developmental cooperation will include energy, construction, manufacturing and also food processing ..

Sa'ada reconstruction fund calls for assistance

he Director of the Sa'ada reconstruction fund, Prime Minister Mujawar, has instructed the social organization of development to subsidize the operating expenses of the fund until the end of next year. He also called on the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation to get in touch with regional and international donors to provide all the assistance possible, including humanitarian aid for some 35,000 refugees.

Shoura council discusses **COCA's performance**

he Shoura Consultative Council has held discussions with the administration of the Central Organization for Control and Audit on its solvency and financial performance. Sources at the Shoura council stated that COCA's operating expenses have to be reduced and that the system for monitoring desperately needs upgrading.

Food supplies will satisfy

stated that the media has a responsibility to play a major role in educating the Yemeni people on basic economic concepts and urged the public to participate to participate in the process.

Saudi 100% - An effort to keep investments safe

he Director of Investments in the Ministry of Expatriate Affairs, Mr. Abdulraman Al-Zubaidi, told Nabanews that investors intend to put the slogan "Saudi 100%" on any investments they undertake in Yemen in order to protect it from corrupt officials who habitually exploit investors entering the country. In fact, the President of the Republic gave the Saudi King a commitment to safeguard any Saudi investments in Yemen during a donors conference last year.

Al-Mutawakel briefs diplomats on Yemeni Trade policies

he Minister of Trade and Industry has briefed Yemeni L diplomats of the diplomatic club on the policies and practices of the ministry with regards to promoting international trade and welcoming industrial investments. He stated that Yemen's 2025 vision includes a focus on manufacturing, tourism and agriculture. Furthermore, he has requested that the ministers keep this in mind in their diplomatic work.

Japan supports community development projects

he Japanese government has given two grants, totaling **U**S\$ 120,706, to two community development projects, including basic education, heath services and irrigation. The grants also include US\$ 34,500 to buy a bus that has the ability to transport disabled students to a training school in Amran governorate.

Government Officials learn from Chinese investment policies

delegation from the General Investment Authority is A currently visiting China in order to learn from the Chinese experience in attracting investments and facilitating foreign trade. The also includes delegation businessmen who will be attending an international trade exhibition and meet with Chinese businessmen.

Mareb Dam to access more agricultural land

he second phase of expanding the Mareb dam irrigation channels is expected to start before the end of this year. It is expected to cost U.S.\$ 23.9 million and will be financed by the Abu Dhabi development fund. The expansion will include 84 kilometers of irrigation channels to serve over 7.4 thousand acres of agricultural land in Mareb governorate.

The road to post-war recovery

By: Graciana del Castillo and Edmund S. Phelps

or the world's advanced countries, a key challenge is to broaden economic and social inclusion without diminishing the economic dynamism they already have. . The problems of war-ravaged countries are far more acute and their choices much more constrained. Indeed, they confront a double challenge: to create dynamic economies and to promote, at the same time, economic and social inclusion. Without both of these elements, national reconciliation will likely prove impossible.

Social exclusion in industrial countries imposes costs throughout society that policymakers must address with effective and targeted measures. Lack of jobs, for example, often leads people, particularly the young, away from work and into dependency on drugs and crime. Society, then , needs to pay for the costs of crime prevention policies and the administration of justice.

A flexible labor market, as many suggest, will not in itself promote inclusion. Welfare programs in warravaged countries often aggravate joblessness by reducing work incentives and creating a culture of dependency. Minimum-wage laws and labor agreements often make the least productive employers. So what these countries need are more employment opportunities and higher salaries in the private sector for these workers.

Specifically, a wage subsidy program that lowers the cost of hiring full-time unskilled workers could make it more attractive for firms to hire them. At the same time, on-thejob training would make the program attractive to workers and to society as a whole. Governments could afford the cost of the subsidies since cutting unemployment would not only lower public security costs, but would also reduce the need for welfare programs.

In countries coming out of war or other conflicts, efforts at inclusion are futile in stagnant economies. Without both dynamism and inclusion, the path to peace will be elusive, as recent experiences in Kosovo, East Timor, Afghanistan, Iraq, and many countries in Africa illustrate.

Thus, post-war transitions require that policies that encourage dynamism and inclusion go hand in hand. Economic recovery needs to begin as soon as possible, not only because this is essential to maintaining political and social stability, but also because donors are unwilling to support economic reconstruction unless countries do their part to create an environment conducive to ensuring its sustainability. In the midst of political, social, and

workers unaffordable to law-abiding institutional vulnerabilities, as well as the vast damage to human and physical infrastructure that are the legacy of conflict, this is a monumental task.

Policymaking in these war torn economies is unique. Most countries in post-conflict situations suffer from weak fiscal positions, rendering the provision of internally financed subsidies impractical in most cases.

Moreover, foreign assistance, while stable in "normal" developing countries, often exhibits sharp spikes in countries undergoing war-to-peace transitions. In many cases, post-conflict aid can reach extraordinarily high levels after the conflicts ends, both in per capita terms and relative to the size of the recipient economies. Typically, however, this type of aid declines very rapidly.

Low-income countries in the normal process of development, for example, receive steady inflows of official foreign assistance of about 3% of their gross national income. By contrast, aid reached 95% of gross national income in Rwanda soon after the conflict ended, but fell to 20% within five vears.

Consolidating peace following violent conflict has little chance of success unless jobs are created and the economy is quickly stabilized and brought onto a path of investment and growth with low inflation. The United Nations reckons that if economic reconstruction fails in terms of promoting dynamism and inclusion, countries in the transition to peace have an even chance of reverting to war.

Leaving aside the cost in terms of human lives, the economic costs of maintaining peace are but a fraction of what would be required for humanitarian assistance, military intervention, and peacekeeping operations should the country relapse into conflict. Hence, effective financing for peacetime is a good investment of donors' resources and a major factor in conflict prevention.

But donors need to avoid some common mistakes. In many cases, economic reconstruction has failed partly because donors required that their own nationals or companies be used. This policy has often led to programs that countries do not want and to employment of foreign experts for tasks that nationals could and should have performed. By providing domestic firms with wage subsidies for hiring unskilled workers, donors would increase the effectiveness and fairness of their assistance in support of national-led reconstruction and conflict prevention.

Given lower labor costs, local businessmen could decide to invest under the conditions of uncertainty and high risk that characterize post-conflict situations. The advantages in terms of

demand during Ramadan

he Ministry of Trade has told media sources that the existing food supplies will be sufficient to meet the forecasted demand during the holy month of Ramadan. Additionally, he mentioned that the ministry is monitoring market fluctuations closely and is ready to intervene if any black markets arise or its supply falls short of demand.

Lawzy: Media should help in development

he Minister of Communications Hassan Al-Lawzy has called on national media to step up its act and marshal efforts towards promoting economic development in the country. He also

employment creation, reintegrating former combatants into productive activities, savings from safety-net programs, and improved public security would be many. This type of aid would also provide political support for the authorities from a population grateful for policies that promote job creation.

At the same time, this policy would have neither the fiscal cost associated with government-financed subsidies, nor the distortions caused by the difficulty of cutting subsidies once the government has offered them. Grantsupported subsidies would remain in place for a finite period, and donors would gradually phase them out as aid programs expire. Furthermore, such

Saudi Arabic to donate US\$ 1.75 million for anti-locust operations

he Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is donating vehicles, L equipment, spraying gear and chemical agents for anti-locust operations. They are be used under the supervision of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization in order to limit the devastating effects that locust swarms have on the Yemen's agricultural industry.

subsidies would help reactivate the private sector, which is essential as large-scale post-conflict aid withers to the low levels that are common under conditions of normal development.

Graciana del Castillo, a Director of the Centennial Group, teaches at Columbia University and is author of the forthcoming book Post-Conflict Economic Reconstruction. Edmund Phelps, Nobel laureate in economics for 2006, is Professor of Economics at Columbia and author of Rewarding Work, which is being reissued this autumn.

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Report

Interfaith marriage in the United States

nterfaith marriages come in many forms - unions between people of different Abrahamic traditions (Judaism, Christianity, and Islam), between branches of a religion (such as Catholics and Protestants) or sects of a religion (Evangelical and Pentecostal), between monotheists and polytheists, or between believers and atheists.

TIMES

Interfaith marriage rates in the United States

Anecdotal evidence and a few studies point to a rise in interfaith marriage in the United States. In a 1995 study by Klaff, it was found that 16% of Jewish households established before 1965 had had a non-Jewish spouse, while that number had risen to 69% for families established between 1985 and 1990.

A 1998 study by James D. Davidson found that while interfaith marriages made up 30% of all marriages sanctioned by Catholic churches in 1997, but these rates varied greatly by diocese, between 6 percent in Brownsville, Texas to 71 percent in Burlington, Vermont. Davidson's research pointed to the percentage of Catholics in the area as having a great impact on the rate of intermarriage. For example, Brownsville's low intermarriage rate of 6 percent can be largely explained by the area being 80 percent Catholic, so there is less likelihood of even meeting non-Catholics. In contrast, dioceses in areas that are less than 10 percent Catholic have an average interfaith marriage rate of 51 percent.

While interfaith marriage may be becoming more common, particularly in areas with greater religious diversity, coupling along faith lines is far from the religious education of their chilrandom. People still show a greater tendency to marry within their faith, because of who they are likely to meet and also the practical consequences. Couples who have been raised in the same religion have one more aspect of compatibility in their relationship, and individuals may face pressure from their families, communities, or places of worship to marry someone of the same faith.

Reactions of religious institutions and families

Interfaith marriage is almost universally discouraged by religious institutions, who cite evidence suggesting that people in interfaith marriages are more likely to disagree or divorce and less likely to attend services, pray, and agree and comply with all religious tenants.

Both the families of people in interfaith couples and their respective religious institutions are also often concerned about how future children will be raised. Religious institutions worry that interfaith marriages will make them lose future followers, because the children from these relationships would be less likely to practice a religion strictly than children from a same-faith marriage. The family of a person in an interfaith couple may also be concerned about whether he or she will convert or raise their children in the other religion.

Conversion: One way of avoiding future conflicts

In some interfaith relationships, one partner chooses to convert to the other's religion before or after marriage in order to unite their family and simplify dren. Conversion rituals vary greatly; converting from one Protestant faith to another may only involve attending the new church, since many types of Protestants accept the validity of each other's baptisms. Switching from one Abrahamic religion to another can be much more difficult. While in Islam conversion can be

very simple, involving saying the shehada, other religions have much more complicated rituals for conversion. In Judaism, conversion includes ritual circumcision for men, choosing a new Jewish name, and the mikvah – a ritual immersion in water. Catholicism has a lengthy process of religious instruction, which culminates in the Easter Vigil, when converts are baptized, receive their first holy communion, and are confirmed into the church.

In all of these religions, conversion is supposed to only take place if these acts are undertaken with sincerity, and Judaism in particular holds that the conversion must take place for its own sake, not for any other motives. Therefore, it is expected that people who convert for future spouses are doing so for spiritual reasons, not because they wish to avoid future conflicts in their marriage.

Children: The greatest challenge of an interfaith marriage

Deciding how to raise children is almost universally cited as the greatest challenge of an interfaith marriage. In some religions, there are religious rules concerning which parent is expected to determine the religion of the children. For example, in Judaism, religion is determined by the mother's faith, so that a child with a Jewish mother is considered completely Jewish, while a child with a Jewish father is considered not Jewish at all by the standards of more strict sects, unless he decides to convert. In Islam, religion is expected to be determined by the father through his role of religious education as the head of the household.

Because of these expectations for how religion is passed on, some Jews consider it more problematic for a Jewish man to marry a non-Jew than for a Jewish woman to marry a non-Jew. Likewise, some Muslims believe that it is acceptable for a Muslim man to marry a non-Muslim but nearly an act of apostasy for a Muslim woman to marry a non-Muslim, because then she would be expected to convert or at least raise her children as non-Muslims.

However, many religious communities do not espouse these rigid guidelines, and many if not most couples in interfaith marriages make a more personal choice about whether to raise their children with one religion, both, or none. These couples may face problems, though, if one or both of them become more religious or change their views on the religious upbringing of their children.

Interfaith marriage decisions in practice

Two online forums recently held discussions prompted by Christian women who had married, or were considering marrying, Muslim men. In general, the people responding advised proceeding cautiously in an interfaith marriage, although a few noted their personal

experience in amicable interfaith marriages.

The largest problem in these marriages was understood to be raising children while respecting each other's beliefs. One man wrote, "Interfaith marriage can work, when one of the partners does not care about which faith his/her kids grow up with, or if both are not practicing their faith and their kids are brought up pretty much faithless. Anything else, and you looking at trouble the minute you have kids." Another agreed, writing, "Here in the U.S., just from the anecdotal evidence I've heard, it seems most interfaith marriages fail or are unhappy ones. The ones that do seem to be successful are those where the issue of kids is off-the-table for one reason or another."

Two Christians who responded to the post warned against the marriages. One man wrote, "eventually you will forsake your faith in order to assimilate. You will have sold yourself for the price of one husband—Don't do it " Another warned that "most women who were once Christians convert to Islam once their husbands had converted to Islam or once they are married to a Muslim men."

Two men who had Christian wives and had converted to Islam after their marriages had very different opinions. One wrote, "if you love each other truly then God will see you through all of your problems. We must always remember that marriage has problems but when two people love each other nothing can stop them ... not even religion." Another described he and his wife's choice to "not specifically raise [their children] Muslim or Christian...

We decided to teach them about both religions and let them decide when they get to a mature age to know what path they want to take ... I think it can work if both people compromise." However, he admitted that "It would have been different if when we married I was a Muslim. Then, I would have made it clear to her before the marriage about the kids being raised as Muslims."

However, this approach of teaching both religions and allowing the children to make their own choice was not easily accepted by the audience. One male atheist, who had been raised by a Christian and an atheist, advocated this approach, but an American Christian woman disagreed, writing that "it is wholly unfair to teach children two completely different opposing views about God...Children need guidance, and if they see mom opposing something dad is teaching, there can be chaos in the home." An American man who had converted to Islam agreed with her, saying that children raised with two religions were less likely to view religion as important and that he would "much rather have someone raised in a wrong religion, but believe in religion itself as important (because they might find the right religion one day), rather than have someone raised in many but not believe religion itself as important."

In spite of the challenges described and the warnings they receive, the two women remained hopeful that in their own marriages, love and compromise would ease their differences.

Source: Tagrir Washington - Anne Marie Brooks

The evolution of America's women's colleges

1968, Nancy Okowitz, Barbara Dibble, and the rest of their Freshman class at a small women's college in New York were greeted by the Juniors and Seniors with a lively rendition of "I want to get married; I want to be a wife. I'm sick and tired of this darn college life. Talk, dark and handsome, or short, ugly and fat, I want to get married, and that's the end of that!"

Okowitz and Dibble were shocked as the girls flashed their engagement rings and announced their distain for academics. Men's colleges were just considering opening their doors to women, and women's colleges were in the process of transitioning from a finishing school-style environment into institutions focused on the academic preparation of women who wished to work outside of the home. While women attending these colleges in the 60s may have seen a transitioning of schools with the changes in women's roles in society, the most recent graduates of women's colleges have a very different impression of what it means to be educated at a women's college. Instead of pearls, high tea, and rigid rules, they associate their colleges with small classes, beloved traditions, and empowerment.

degree and meet a nice Cornell boy."

Throughout the 20th century, as women moved into the workforce, women's colleges became more plentiful and more academically- and careerfocused. However, in the late 60s, traditionally men's colleges began to admit women, and many women's colleges also became coeducational. Those colleges that chose to continue to admit only women adapted to emphasize that their institutions allow women to "enter any sphere, including those traditionally reserved for men."

How students decide to attend women's colleges

Dibble described Marymount College shortly before she arrived as "where the nouveau riche plunked their daughters to get them educated and marry well. Her freshman year the school had already begun to transition and bring in new talent with "a huge influx of scholarship kids." At that time, women's colleges were a popular choice for women who wished to pursue higher education. Now it is commonly estimated that only about 3 percent of women planning to attend college will even consider a women's college, and women's colleges have presented a little over 1 percent of all diplomas in recent years. Of those students who do consider attending a women's college, the decision is often based on the individual

school, not necessarily whether that

Stephenson, a 2007 graduate of Agnes Scott College, specifically looked for women's colleges when she chose her college. She had initially been talked out of attending a women's college by male friends and family members, but after her first semester she transferred from her co-ed university to Agnes Scott, a women's college. She writes, "I felt I had made the wrong decision. I have nothing against co-ed universities, but for me I really wanted to experience what a women's college had to offer."



The benefits to women's education

community in which I was allowed to grow."

Recent graduates also disagreed on whether the all-women experience produced "cattiness." Stephenson found that "the women I encountered were incredibly competitive, and sometimes that was detrimental to the classroom environment." However, Merkel contends that "the concept that women are catty and backstabbing all stems from the competition women put themselves in with other women as a result of patriarchy."

The coed transition

Women's colleges began transitioning to coeducational institutions in the early 70s, when the first men's colleges began accepting women. While there were over 300 women's colleges in the 1960s, now there are only around 60 in the country. Some of the former women's colleges, such as Vassar and Wheaton, have become independent coeducational institutions. Others, like Radcliffe, merged with nearby traditionally men's schools. Barnard became an "independent affiliate" of Columbia University, and several women's colleges in Boston have developed programs allowing cross registration with neighboring coed institutions. However, not all women's colleges have been able to survive the transition. After a partnership with Fordham University, Marymount College, Dibble's alma mater, closed in 2007. The campus was taken over by Fordham for their degree programs, and current students were offered the opportunity to transfer to another Fordham program or another institution

In 2004, Wells College made the decision to admit men the following fall. The students responded by holding a week-and-a-half long protest against the decision. A 2005 Wells alumna, part of the last class to graduate while it was still a women's college, wrote, "It was a devastating decision. Not because I am against coeducation, but because I felt it was the wrong move for Wells. ... If it does [survive the transition], it will be a new Wells, and not the one I attended." Many students transferred, and the Freshman class that entered in 2004 only had one year of 'women's education' before the college became coeducational.

Holmes' alma mater will also become coed this fall. "It's kind-of sad," Holmes writes, "but I'd rather it continue as a college than become a nursing home, etc." She has noticed a lack of understanding of the history and situation at schools that have recently changed, "It's weird to talk to girls who attend a recently co-ed school and don't really care that the women's institution 'died."" Lyles described this phenomenon as "The spirit of the place is lost in the transformation" to coeducation and women at coeducational institutions cannot understand what was lost. While many graduates of women's colleges understand the financial pressures that the schools are under, which is often alleviated by admitting men, they value their college experiences and see a continuing need for women's education.

A brief history

Seminaries (women's private secondary schools) were first established in the early 1800's, in order to provide women education, as they were not allowed into men's colleges at the time. Women's colleges were founded several decades later, with the idea of providing women with educational preparation more similar to that which men received.

Young female graduates in the late 19th century were not necessarily trained for a career. Historian Louise Boas wrote of Wheaton College's founders' expectations that the school "was to train some of its pupils to be teachers but its training would be mainly for those who would become wives and mothers. For them education was of the greatest importance that they might live their own lives intelligently; and intelligently guide the lives of those who would be entrusted to their care." Recent graduates refer to their colleges in years past as being "steeped in southern upper class tradition" and "a place to get a worthless liberal arts

school is all women or coeducational. Women's colleges often have smaller classes and a more close-knit atmosphere than coed institutions, and these factors in and of themselves can make a great difference to the women visiting the campuses. Ferrelle Lyles, a 2007 Sweet Briar College graduate, said, "The fact that it was all women or coed did not make a difference for me.... When I decided to go to an all women's college, it really came down to the close knit environment and courses offered along with the professor-student ratio that made up my mind for me." Ariel Merkel, a 2005 Wells alumna, expressly did not want to attend a women's college – until she visited her alma-mater. She stopped by Wells on her way to a coed institution and changed her mind. "I immediately saw the difference between wells and the other coed schools I was visiting," she wrote.

Unlike Lyles and Merkel, Eleanor

At the time Okowitz and Dibble were attending college, the U.S. society had a very different perception of the role of women than it does now. At women's colleges, those rules of conduct were circumvented and women were likely to take active leadership roles. Dibble said, "I did a lot of things [at a women's college] that I would have deferred to boys," such as organizing a strike against the Vietnam War on campus.

Recent graduates of women's colleges feel that women still become more actively engaged and involved in their education when they are without men. Cecily McAndrews, a 2007 Mount Holyoke graduate, described her classmates as an "incredible collection of smart, savvy, well-traveled women" and said that "the professors actively encouraged us to speak." Stephenson explained this trend as a result of women feeling "more comfortable in an academic setting without men and are therefore better able to speak their minds." Linsey Holmes, a 2007 graduate of Randolph Mason Women's College, agreed, stating, "I think the presence of guys changes women."

Lyles experienced coed college education while taking summer courses at "Those Georgetown University. women who regularly attended women's colleges were just as engaged and outgoing as the men, and much more so than the female students from regular co-ed institutions," she writes. This trend has also continued after college, as "in the workplace now, I find that my education in an all women's

institution inadvertently prepared me to be a stronger and more confident woman in a workplace dominated by men. Because I know I can hold my own in a single-sex environment, I know that it is no different than in a coed one."

The drawbacks of women's education

While Okowitz and Dibble were in college, on the weekends the girls would be bussed to nearby men's colleges for dances. Dibble described it as "an unnatural experience," but over her years there, most women stopped attending these dances in favor of other forms of entertainment. For Okowitz, this unnatural interaction with the opposite sex contributed to her decision to transfer to a coeducational university for her last two years.

Some of the recent graduates from these institutions express similar feelings about the lack of interaction with the opposite sex; however, overall they are happy with their experience. McAndrews writes, "I'm sad I don't have more male friends, and sometimes it felt a bit claustrophobic, but overall I was very happy there." Holmes originally considered transferring, because "I hadn't really found a niche and felt there weren't enough social events." However, now she's content with her experience; "I didn't date, but I feel there's time for that. Perhaps I do feel somewhat uncomfortable around guys my age, but this should pass. ... I don't know how I would be different had I attended a big co-ed university, but I value the education I was given and the

Source: Tagrir Washington - Anne Marie Brooks

6 September, 2007

Youth



The Youth Forum section is an uncensored space for youth-related issues written by Yemen Times readers.

Hot summer for **English learners**

By / Mohammed Saleh Ali Almogri A student at Sana'a University Faculty of education Department of English mohammedalmoqri@yahoo.com Photos by / Jasmin Mansour

uring summer period people spend their vacations in different things that they might think it provides them a kind of utility for their own interest. Some prefer to do anything, but to go and pay visit to places instead. However, the case with some English learners in the faculty of education differs.

As learners of English language, students are in need for intensive practice so as to get along with the language. Yet, practice in a place is not as a practice in other places. In other words practice in faculty of education during summer is something that one cannot describe through words. Students there are characterized by some special qualities, such as their means of talk, the ability of fabricating ideas that runs their topics and everyone has enough freedom to say what ever comes to his/her mind as well as giving proposals that keeps the course on and on.

'The idea of this course occurred as I experience the student's level in terms of speaking at the collage, throughout the academic years. In this period students in the faculty focus on some specific study of the language ignoring the most important skill which is spoken. As a result it became a normal thing to find some students whom cannot talk as it must be after four years of intensive collage studying', said Abdulqader Algarbani the runner of the course. "As a matter of fact this course is not only for students of faculty of education as it is for all English language learners and we hope to expand our ideas and becomes much better and better", he added. "I can say that I never found such activity like this within my study, really faculty of education is the place where you can develop your English skills perfectly and in a short time too", said Jasmin Mansour a student from faculty of arts.

The question that one may ask is how this course is being held? Well, first of all this course is being held in the faculty of education where



Arranging debates and discussions was one of the hot activities in sana'a university.

from the faculty and other faculties such as Arts 'Arhab faculty', faculty of Comers and Economic and some Institutes too, and sometimes teachers attend. "As a student I found this course very beneficial for English learners since it contains various activities that help students to improve their English quickly" said Omar a student from faculty of Comers and Economic. "I was lucky since I am a friend of the teacher, he is the one who offered me to join this course" he added. Actually the time of the course is from 10:00 am till 12:30 pm. In this time students are approximately free according to some of them.

The thing that attracts the attention is that the topics that are being discussed are high and at the same time "hot" since it concerns youth and country affairs generally such as unemployment, early marriage, chewing qat, women's work and rights... etc. students believe that such kinds of topics forces them to take a part in the discussions as these topics are serious and available within the society. Moreover their viewpoints may differ from each other. However they have such excellent ideas that never come to one's mind as it said "great minds think alike"

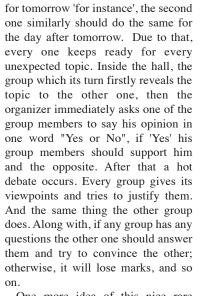
Another fair matter that students do there is that they manage their affairs democratically. Every idea one of them suggested they directly make vote for it. Their instructor,

has been elected to be the head when they started setting this idea last summer as he was the owner of this idea. His job is to manage the conversations, doing the attendance, arranging the turns among speakers and other missions more than teacher does

What is more attractive is their way of organizing the discussions. They have divided themselves into two groups, each group must contains boys and girls, not just this, every group should be against the other within the conversations for the sake of encouraging everybody to speak so that everyone defends his group viewpoints. On the other hand, each student should stand on the stage to speak, whether to introduce himself to his friends in case it is the first time or to act one of the famous characters in the world and answers any question his friends might ask concerning that person.

Additionally, one of the marvelous ideas they adopt is that one of the two groups must prepare a topic secretly





One more idea of this nice rare summer course is "the extempore speeches" which take place in the first half an hour of the time that is to prepare some serious and sometimes embarrassed questions in a pieces of papers then a student choose one and answer the question in compulsory.



By: Maged Thabet Al-kholidy majed_thabet@hotmail.com

omen's call for gender-equality has been one of the prominent issues of public some of women, if not all, take only forget (actually neglect) the others.

Thousands questions may be raised regarding what are exactly the women's rights. Some women, rights, raising the motto of 'genderany aspect of life.

broad in its meaning. Some men, however, accept it as the women's 'full' rights to behave as equally as women call for? men. Such men have to respect them as if they deal with men. But women themselves sometimes differently.

Suppose a man accepts the idea of 'gender-equality', keeping it in makes no distinctions in his treatment with both sexes.

Dealing with women as friends, he behaves in the same way he does with men. He takes the matter easy so that no one can blame him for even as a personal relation as a friend or classmate.

The same thing may happen if he meets a woman in the street. He two sexes. But the moment he does so, women may kick him out for being hard-hearted with them.

In terms of respect, the man may announce his full respect to women as he does with men. He never thinks badly of any one of them. His relations with them may get interests. Men, to a certain limit, stronger, respectfully thinking that gradually accept this idea. They, they are as friendly as men. But a themselves, sometimes, offer such war is suddenly launched against rights to women. But, unfortunately, him for being a man of 'dead emotions', or may be 'cool instinct' the rights that please them and if, at least, a women thinks of him differently.

A real situation happened once reminds me of 'gender-equality' That was in a bus where a man and simply, take that matter as women were about to fight. The education, work, and share some woman was in front of the man, social and political activities. While keeping her eyes moving on every others announce war for more par of his body. The man might have remembered 'gender-equality' for equality' as the main principle in he suddenly looked at her. He was about to be beaten by the woman The term 'gender-equality' is and other passengers in the bus on the claim that he was looking at her. Is this the 'Gender-equality' that

In marriage, both men and women women's rights and must deal with are in need of each other. But it is only the man who is responsible for everything. This is not meant only break such rights in certain the marriage expenses, but also situations, claiming that they are includes many procedures after. The women, and must be dealt man is responsible for on the first night of marriage, he is also responsible of satisfying her in all the aspects. It is not important mind whenever he deals with whether he gets responsive 'female'. A woman, for him, is like reactions offered by her or not. He a man. It is 'gender-equality'. He satisfies her by all the means, but she may not, advocating that she is 'a woman'.

With his family members, he may talk normally, expressing feelings and thoughts with no restrictions. No longer boundaries restrict him to violating the gender equality. He deal and even to speak differently may phone one of these women with the so-called 'fair-sex'. He either for work requirements or feels happy with that. But soon he is blamed for being 'rude' or 'shyless' in his treatment with the 'Eve's daughters'.

I just wonder, is this the equality avoids not to neglect her, thinking that women fight for. Is it only the that this is against 'gender-equality'. aspects that please them, while other He may ask to take her home by his aspects are not equality to them? Is car instead of leaving her there any one to reply? Or it is a transporting from one bus to mere a trick, you, women, play another. Innocently he deals with whenever you feel to win. I hope, at her. But a loud voice may stop him least, one replies not only to me but at once, charging him with to all those, male and female, who 'rudeness', and 'shamefulness' for ask themselves thousands times such a way of treatment with what 'gender-equality' exactly implies. The answer, I hope, must At work, the same shit may take not be through prejudice or place. Having been responsible for a selfishness but through the mind's

students consist of different levels Abdulqader who is their colleague,

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- 3- HR manager having five to ten years of experience in the same field. Priority is given for the one who has good command of English, written and oral and good user of computer.
- 4- Accountant manager having three to five years of experience in the same area. The applicant must be qualified enough to administer accounts in productive factories. He/She should be able to use computer.
- 5- Accountant with good experience at high level of counting and good command of English and computer.
- 6- Commercial correspondent having experience in the same capacity as well as oil services. He /she should have solid knowledge of English, written and oral and good user of computer.

CVs are to be sent to fax: 01428109 Cell phone: 733977758

11.09.2007 is the deadline for receiving CVs.

By: Hanan Al-shibami University Science and Technology

e always heard about the killing of human beings, but have you been heard about the killing of thoughts. It might that happens in our schools and universities .In fact I am not here to blame any one, but I want to state the problem that we live on it.

Today in our schools and universities, the role of the students are merely either to listen or to write whatever the teacher say or write and in the exam they have been memorized whatever they have been taught and vomit on the exam paper at

the time of the exam. After one week of the exam they forget every thing that they learn. they are like chairs but they are movable chairs. We cancel the role of the student's mind to think and create and concentrating on the memory that students have. Unfortunately the hands that help us, it might kill us at the same time. We sentence the student's mind in death with out any fault just because we convince that we use the probable method to teach.

To sum up, if we apply the new method in our schools and universities, we will get a lot of benefit; one of these benefits is to give the student's mind to think and create new things at least that will help us to reach what develop country reach.

Friends for ever

By: Abdullah Bin Abri Al-Nahdi alnhdi2001@yahoo.com

Friends for ever At Amideast they met each other They studied together They became a family with their father What ever happened it doesn't matter We will stay friends for ever Standing in the rain without cover Like someone without friends or brother

It is time to say bye to more than one flower Every one will sad even the weather They were successful there wasn't any failure They helped us to understand the grammar We will miss them in the winter or summer Our tears will roll down Like the river If the people offered to me Evil tower I'd say my friends are better

women.

lot of work for a long period of time, eye. thinking that it is a human duty to help women because they are 'fair Majed Thabet Al-kholidy is a writer responsibilities equally between the University

sex'. As a project of 'gender- from Taiz, currently doing his M.A. equality', he may suggest at English Dep, Taiz Uni. He is an distributing work duties and ex-editor of English Journal of the



By: Abdul_nasser Al_Abdali alnhdi2001@yahoo.com

All of us live sometimes and then die This is a truth we must believe and not deny That only Allah remains alive and will never die With no any doubt for asking why As it is mentioned in the Holy Quran Before we deliver and see the sky And keep forever as obvious proof and reply Can everyone read and see by eye As clear as the sun without confusion or lie O, look at the birds when they fly Up and up in the sky

By two wings can never make by All of us whatever we try Think of earth ;more wet than dry And of air on which our lives do rely Think if you asked when will you die Today, tomorrow or on the day of cry You still keep silent and then get shy For only Allah who knows the reply As all we have is given by To live sometimes and then die This is a truth we must believe and not deny That only (Allah) remains alive and will never die.

إعلانات مبوبة

6 September, 2007



11

للبيع: فيلا دور مستقل من حق المدينه السكنية حده وتقع في الشوارع لأولى للمدينه، قريبه من السوق، مساحة الأرض حوالي ٨ لبن، ٥ غرف، مامين ، مطبخ وحوش دائري.

معر اللبيع: ٣٥،٠٠٠،٠٠٠ مليون. اتصلو على رقم ٧١١١١٠٨٢٣ للإيجار: مبنى ٣ أدوار، كل دور يحتوي على ٤ غرف، حمامين، مطبخ صالة، حوش يسع ٣ سيارات والموقع في قلب المدينة جوار شارع صفر، يده. مكتب أو سكن جماعي . الإيجار الشُّهري: ١٥٠٠ دولار قابل للتفاوض شقة مفروشة، حده، المديَّنه السكنيه، ٤ غرف ، حمامين، مطبخ وصالة .ور أرضي. الإيجار الشهري: ٥٠٠ دولار

شقة غير مفروشة، المدينة السكنية حده. دورثاني ٥ غرف، ٣حمامات طبخ وصالة. الإيجار الشهري ٣٥٠ دولار. اتصلو على رقم ٧١١١١٠٨٢٣ منى . -شقة مفروشة ، حده، المدينة السكنية ، ٤ غرف، حمامين ، مطبخ وصالة الدور الثاني. الإيجار الشهري : ٥٠٠ دولار ٧١١١١٠٨٢٣ · شقة مفروشة، دور ثاني، جديد، تشطيبات ممتازة، حده، المدينه ، غرفتين

وم، استقبال، مطبخ مفتوح، حمام، ٧٠٠, ٧٠٠ \$ شهرياً

باحثون عن وظيفة

 شوقى 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 - مشتروات متابعه) نوع المخزن (مخازن مستشفی – مخازن مصنع – مخازن الكترونيات)– يبحث عن عمل مناسب. للتواصل: ٧٣٣٤٠٩٦٥٢

•صادق - دبلوم محاسبة (المعهد الوطني)-دبلوم سكرتارية كمبيوتر نظام محاسبي - يمن سوفت - محاسبة فنادق سابقا - يرغب في العمل في مجال تخصصه أو في أي مجال آخر – قادر على توفى ضمانة. للتواصل: ٧٣٣٤٨١٧٨٤

•على – بك سياحة وإدارة فنادق – تعز + تطبيقات يمن سوفت تعز - خبرة في إدارة فنادق ٣ نجوم - يرغب في العمل في مجال التخصص أو في أي مجال آخر. للتواصل: ٧٧٧٢٦١٣١٢ / ٠٤ •عادل- ليسانس آداب جغرافيا – تعز-خبرة في

مجال المخازن – قادر على توفير ضمانة. للتواصل: ٧٣٤٣٠٩٢٩٩

 مسعد على عبدالله – بكالوريوس هندسة تكنولوجيا المعلومات (جامعة عدن) - حاصل على شهادة CCNA – يجيد اللغة الإنجليزية كتابة ونطقا – خبرة ست سنوات. للتواصل: ٥ ٧٧٧٨٨٣٩٨

• هاني الشرفي – خبرة ١٠ سنوات في الكمبيوتر والإنترنيت – خبره في مجال البرمجة وهندسة الكمبيوتر. – يرغب في العمل في شركة. للتواصل: ٧٣٣٥٣٧٦٤٨

•محمد عبدالله – بكالوريوس محاسبة (تقدير عام جيد) - حاصل على دورات في الكمبيوتر(ويندوز - ورد - اكسل - انترنيت) - حاصل



Haddah st. infront of Al- Komaim Center Tel: 266375 - 505290 فاکس : ۲۹۷۶۱۹ Fax: 267619 ص.ب : ٥٤٦٥ Email: shaibani@yemen.net.ye P.O Box: 5465

> VVV. 17717 للتواصل: ٧٧١٨١٨٢٤.

• عبد الكريم الحيدرى، 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 الإنترنيت، مهارات عالية جداً بمجال محركات البحث وما يتعلق بال Excel وال wordوملحقاتها، يجيد اللغة الإنجليزية كتابة ونطقا. يبحث عن عمل في

أى شركة تجارية أو في مجال النفط. للتواصل: ٧٣٣٧٨٣٧٧٣ أو ١٢٣٩٤٣ • عدد الإله – بكالوريوس حاسوب – يجيد اللغة الإنجليزية كتابة ونطقا – خبرة في المراسلات التجارية - عمل لسنوات في تنصيب وبرمجة شبكات وصيانة الحاسوب - عمل لسنوات في برمجة الحاسوب. للتواصل: ٧٧٧٩٠٩٦٩٠

سارات

• للبيع: سيارة سكودا - أوكتافيا - موديل ۲۰۰۲ – ۲۰۰۳ – فی حالة ممتازه – تم صيانتها في الوكالة من الصدام إلى الصدام -مع ضمامة للقطع لمدة سنه كاملة وتأمين طرف ثالث لمدة ٩ أشـهر.

للإستفسار: ٧١١١١٤٤٧٧٠

•للبيع: سيارة مرسيدس موديل ٩٠ – اللون رمادى – نظيفة جدا–فتحة سقفE–260 ۲بستون جیرعادی. السعر:\$۰۰۰۷

للتواصل: ٧١٢٠٠٠٤٤٨

عقارات

 للإيجار : فيلا مكونه من خمس غرف مع مجلس – حمامين ومطبخ وحوش يتسع لسيارة - قريبة من شارع تعز . الإيجار: ٢٥٠ دولار شهريا للتواصل: ٥ ٧٣٣٨٠ ٢٨٥



M&M Logistics & Aviation Services Tel: 01-531221/531231 Numbers النسيم للشحن والتوصيل ت: ٤٠٧٩٠٥ ت:۱-٤٤٤٥٥٠،٤٤١٩٣٥ لإشتراك في هذه المساحة الإتصال مستشفيات تحويلة ٢١١ ٢٦٨٦٦٢

مستشفى الثورة ت: ١/٢٤٦٩٦٧-٦٦ المستشفى الجمهوري ت: ٠١-٢٧٤٢٨٦/٨٧ ت: ۱۰۱۰ ٤۱۲۹۸۱ -۱۰ مستشفى حدة الأهلى ت: ۲۰۰۰/۱۰۲۰۰۸ -۱۰ المستشفى الالماني الحديث فاکس: ٤١٨١١٦ E-mail: felixpene@hotmail.com

فنادق

فندق فرساي ت: ۲ /۰۱-٤۲٥۹۷۰/۱ -۰۱ ت: ۲۳۷۵۰۰ -۱۱

بقلوب مؤمنة بقضاء الله وقدره نتقدم بأحرالتعازي وأصدق المواساة إلى عبدالاله على سلام عبد الله عبدالاله على سلام لوفاة المغفور له بإذن الله تعالى الوالد /

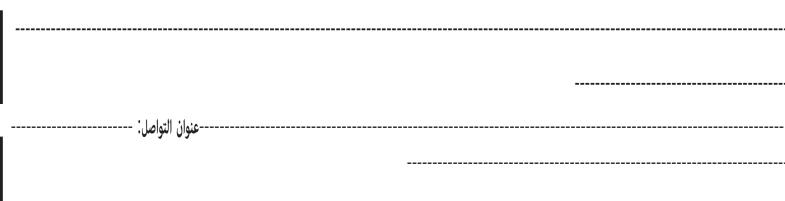
على سلام سائلين المولى عز وجل أن يتغمدالفقيد بواسع رحمته ورضوانه ويدخله فسيح جناته وأن يلهم أهله وذويه الصبر والسلوان (إنا لله وإنا إليه راجعون) الأسيفون:

•فقدت رخصة سواقة صادرة من صنعاء

على دورة في النظام المحاسبي المتكامل(يمن سوفت) - خبرة في مجال محاسبة عملاء -خبرة في نظام الاونكس برو.

مهدى عبدالله على الشويع – احمد عبدالله على الشويع محمد الحمادى - عبدالله أحمد الحدادى





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)

فاکس:۲٦٠٨٢٤ ت: ۲٦٠٨٢٤ بنك اليمن والخليج فرع عدن :ت/ ۲۳۷۸۲۹– ۲. فاکس/۲۳۷۸۲٤ البنك التجاري ت: ٢٧٧٢٢٤ فاكس : ٢٧٧٢٩١ مصرف اليمن البحرين الشامل ت: ٢٦٤٧٧٥,٢٦٤٧٠٢ فاکس: ۲٦٤٧٠٣,٥٠٣٣٥٠ ت: ٤٠٧٠٣٠ -١٠ نك اليمن الدولي البنك العربي ت: ۲/٥٨٥/٧٦ -١٠

طوارىء الكهرباء ١٧٧، طوارىء الشرطه ١٩٩،

۲٥٠٧٦١/٢، وزارة المواصلات (تلفون) ٧٥٢٢٢٠٢،

وزارة المواصلات ٣٢٥١١٠/١/٢/٣، السياحه ٢٥٤٠٣٢،

الصليب الاحمر ٢٠٣١٣١/٣، تليمن ٧٥٢٢٢٢٧

. الشئون الخارجيه ٢٠٢٥٤٤/٧، الشئون الداخليه ٢٥٢٧٠١/٧، الهجرة

الىنەك

ت : ۱-٥٦٣٨١٣

تأجير سيارات

مراكز تدريب وتعليم الكمبيوتر

آبتك لتعليم الكمبيوتر (تركيز على الانترنت، مناهج، تجارة إلكترونية)

صنعاء ت: ١-٤٦٨٣٠٥

فاکس : ٤٠٧٤١٩ - ٠١

المكلاء ت: ۳۰۷٤۹۲-۰۰

Infinit Education T:444553

البريد السريع

سنعاء ت: ٤٤٠١٧٠/٦٧ الحديده ت: ٣٤٩٨٢

ت: ٤١١٩٨٨ المكلا ت: ۳۰۲٦٤١ شبوه ت: ۲۰۲۳۲٦

سيئون ت: ٤٠٢٤٦٩

عدن ت: ۲۰۰۲۳۷۱۹۹ تعز ت: ۲۵۰۳٤۳-

ت: ٤٤٥٥١٨/٧-٤٤٢٠٧٣

فاکس: ۲۷۰۸۰٤

فرع شیراتون ت: ٥٤٥٩٨٥ عدن ت :۲٤٥٦٢٥

اویه (Budget) ت: ۳۰۹٦۱۸۰۵۰٦۳۷۲ فاکس: ۲٤٠٩٥٨

هیرتز لتآجیر السیارات صنعاء ت: ٤٤٠٣٠٩

ت: ۲۷٤۳۱٤ -۱۰

الإطفاء ١٩١، طوارىء المياه ١٧١، الإستعلامات ١١٨، حوادث (المرور) ١٩٤،

الإذاعة ٢٨٢٠٦١، التلفزيون ٣٣٢٠٠١/٢، مؤسسة الباصات للتنقل داخل المدن ٢٦٢١١١/٣،

\$

نك التسليف الزراعي

یورب کار ت: ۲۷۰۷۵۱

لبنك المركزى:

شهادة ايزو ۱.

NIIT لتعليم الكمبيوتر

FedEx

فندق موفمبيك ت: ٥٤٦٦٦٦ - ١٠ فاكس: ٥٤٦٠٠٠ فندق تاج سبأ ت:۲۷۲۳۷۲ -۰۱ فندق ریلاکس ان ت: ٤٤٩٨٧١ -٠١ فندق وأجنحة الخليج السياحى ت: ۸/۱۰۲۱۳۰ - ۲۰۲۱۳۰ -۱

معاهد

معهد يالي ت: ٣٨٠٣٧-٢/٤ ٤٤٥٤٨٢ فاكس:٤٤٨٠٣٧ ت: ۲۰۰۹٤٥ معهد اللغة الألمانيه المعهد البريطاني للغات والكمبيوتر ت: ٢٦٦٢٢٢ فاکس: ٥١٤٧٥٥ معهد کاروکوس ت: ٥٣٢٤٣٤/٥ فاکس: ٥٣٢٤٣٦ معهدأیکتك ت: ۲۲۰۸۳۳ - ۵۱۰۶۱۳ فاکس: ۲٦٥٥٣٧

شركات للتأمين

الوطنية للتأمين ت :۲۷۲۹۲۲/۲۷۲۸۷۳ فاكس:۲۷۲۹۲٤ صنعاء ت: ۲۰٦۱۲۹/۸/۱۳ مأرب للتأمين الشركة اليمنية الإسلامية للتأمين وإعادة التأمين صنعاء ت: ۲۸٤۱۹۳، عدن ت: ۲٤٤۲۸۰ تعز ت: ۲٥٨٨٨١ شركة اليمن للتأمين صنعاء ت: ٢٧٢٨٠٦/٢٧٢٩٦٢/٤٣ عدن ت: ۲٤٧٦١٧ تعز ت: ۲۵۰۳٤٥

مدارس

ت: ٤١٤-٠٢٦/٤٢٤-٤٣٣ مدرسة رينبو ت: ۲۷۰۱۹۱/۲ فاکس:۳۷۰۱۹۳ مدارس صنعاء الدولبة ت: ۹/۸۵۲۸۶۶ مدرسة التركيه الدوليه ت: ۲۰٦۱٥٩ مدرسة الماجد اليمنيه

مدغريات

ت: ۲۷۰۷۵۰ النسبم للسفريات ت: ۲۰/۱۹۸۹ع العالميه للسفريات والسياحه

مطاعم

مطعم ومخبازة الشيباني (باسم محمد عبده الشيباني) تلفون : ٢٦٦٦٣٥ – ٥٠٥٢٩٠ فاكس : ٢٦٧٦١٩

للإعلان في هذه الصفحة يرجى الإتصال على الرقم التالي 268661 /01 وإرسال الإعلانات المجانية على فاكس01/268276

YEMEN TIMES

Yemen's first and most widely-read English-language newspaper

International award for Yemeni Islamic architecture

By: Yemen Times Staff

emen received two of Aga Khan nine Foundation (AKF)'s awards handed in Kuala Lumpur on Tuesday Sept. 4, 2007. Minister of Culture Dr. Mohammed Al-Muflihi received the two awards, on behalf of Yemen. The first award honors the historic Al-Ameriya Complex in the town of Rada', and the second recognizes the historic town of Shibam, Hadhramout province, whose architectural characteristics are still intact

The Aga Khan Award was established in 1977. It is one of the most renowned international architectural awards. It is presented once every three years to projects of outstanding achievement in terms of design, technical innovation, service to society, and / or environmental sensitivity.

Al-Ameriya Madrasa

This historic landmark is significant as a wonderful and rare model of Islamic Yemeni architecture for it incorporates all Islamic decorative styles. This architectural masterpiece displays the characteristics of eastern and western Islamic decoration. It is rare to find such diversity in one place. It attracted governmental, nongovernmental and even international attention. The government



The restoration endeavor preserved the original remarkable spirit of Al-Ameriya in terms of design, architecture, decorations and construction raw material. Moreover, it resurrected old handicrafts and made use of the same raw materials as used in originally building Al-Ameriya under the reign of Sultan Amer bin Abdul-Wahab of the Tahirite Dynasty in 1504 A.D.

of the Netherlands participated in the restoration efforts of this historic landmark and provided financial and media support.

The Dutch participated in financing the woodwork and preparing the ground

floor, making it into a museum showing tion the different stages of restoration right from the miserable initial status of the tact

building. In association with the Social Fund for Development, the Dutch also financed, cleaned and fitted color decorations.

The work was carried out by an Italian expert team, Yemeni Antiquities Authority specialists, and a number of Yemeni craftsmen from the area of Rada'.

According to the AKF's Award Committee, Al-Ameriya deserves this award for its architectural distinction as the restoration project involved a large number of craftsmen and archeologists and required the training of numerous laborers. These skilled people will play a role in the future in protecting and maintaining various architectural and historic sites in Yemen and the rest of the Muslim World and will contribute to the conservation of the human civilization heritage.

The restoration endeavor preserved the original remarkable spirit of Al-Ameriya in terms of design, architecture, decorations and construction raw material. Moreover, it resurrected old handicrafts and made use of the same raw materials as used in originally building Al-Ameriya under the reign of Sultan Amer bin Abdul-Wahab of the Tahirite Dynasty in 1504 A.D. (910 After Hejra). No modern-era materials have been used in the restoration process that was masterfully faithful to the original designs and contents of Al-Ameriya Complex. Al-Ameriya Madrasa and Mosque (Al-Ameriya Complex) in the town of Rada' have recently been nominated for international awards, most important of which is the Aga Khan Award for Architecture which Yemen received on Tuesday Sept 4,2007.

Historic town of Shibam

Among the recipients of the 2007 Award is the Yemeni-German Shibam Urban Development Project. The project is a technical cooperation initiative aimed at rehabilitating the historic city of Shibam through an integrative approach that combines heritage conservation strategies with economic development for the local community.

ving tional support.

To date, more than half of the spectacular 6-9 storey mud buildings of the city have been

upgraded and rehabilitated through a flexible subsidy scheme that provides local residents with incentives to restore their historic homes. Traditional skills for mud construction created a large demand for labor and the ranks of mud builders were organized through the efforts of a Mud Architecture NGO that insured the ancient knowledge of the trade are adequately being passed on to new apprentices.

Furthermore, Agricultural projects in the oasis around Shibam rehabilitated the historic spate irrigation system. Literacy programs and educational support for women improved women's access to income generating activities. Craftspeople were trained to develop their products and to capitalize on tourist revenue potentials. The Local

Restoration phases of Al-Ameriya Madrasa and Mosque in Rada'

The first phase extends from 1983 to Dec 1999: domes were maintained and ruined parts were rebuilt. The second phase from 2000 to 2005: restoration of interior decorations, internal and external gardens, installing lightings. Restoration expenses were increased. Worked continued uninterrupted from the second half of 2000 until completion in 2005. The costs of both phases were to the tune of 162 million riyals calculated as of work commencement in March 1983 until inauguration in Sept 2005. The third phase includes an action plan to finalize restoration efforts, add final touches and maintain prayer halls, accommodation rooms and the Madrasa.









Government developed solid waste pro-

grams and infrastructure projects.

Combined with the improvement of the

These initiatives established "a viable

alternative to the mundane mass archi-

tecture found in many economically

depressed parts of the world", as stated

historic houses,

by the Jury.



The Shibam Urban Development Project has approached the city as a living

community rather than a historical artifact frozen in time.



Al-Ameriya Madrasa historic landmark is significant as a wonderful and rare model of Islamic Yemeni architecture for it incorporates all Islamic decorative styles.

In its verdict, the Jury highlighted "that the Shibam Urban Development Project has approached the city as a living community rather than a historical artifact frozen in time".

Since the year 2000 the Federal Government of Germany has provided funds in support of the efforts by the Yemeni Ministry of Culture to preserve, upgrade and develop the world heritage site of the historic city of Shibam. The German development agencies GTZ and DED implemented the project in collaboration with the General Organization for the Preservation of Historic Cities in Yemen (GOPHCY). The technical cooperation program has worked with community based NGO's, local government and the residents of the city to improve living conditions, restore historic houses, develop economic activities, and establish sound urban management practices. The Social Fund for Development of Yemen provided addi-

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