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After Bush praises Yemen's role in combating terrorism U.S. blasts Yemen for releasing "terrorist"

By: Amel Al-Ariqi

Washington, Oct. 28 — U.S. presidential candidate Rudy Giuliani called on the U.S. government to cancel \$20 million in aid to Yemen for releasing Jamal Al-Badawi, who is believed to be linked to the 2000 bombing of the USS Cole destroyer in Aden.

Giuliani, former New York City mayor and now an aspiring presidential candidate for the Republican Party, argued for Yemen to turn over Al-Badawi to the U.S. for trial. "Until Al-Badawi is rearrested, America should use all means at its disposal to pressure Yemen to stop siding with terrorists. As a first step, I urge the U.S. government to cancel the more than \$20 million in aid scheduled to be delivered to Yemen. Terrorists must be held accountable for their actions and so must the governments that offer them safe harbor," Giuliani stated.

A Yemeni Interior Ministry source said on Sunday that Al-Badawi was still detained, in comments carried by a Web site (www.26sep.net) that is very close to

the government. The website did not give more information.

Al-Badawi was sentenced to death in 2004 for his role in bombing the USS Cole, which killed 17 U.S. soldiers, but that sentence was reduced to 15 years in prison.

Al-Badawi was among a group of 23 prisoners, including many suspected Al-Qaeda figures, who escaped from a Sana'a jail last year. He turned himself in about two weeks ago, but remains wanted in the U.S., which has put a \$5 million bounty on him.

Details of the decision to release Al-Badawi from prison were not known, but a Yemeni government official who asked not to be identified told Reuters on Thursday that Al-Badawi remained "under close scrutiny and control by security forces."

According to a statement Friday by the U.S. Justice Department's National Security Division, "The United States is dismayed and deeply disappointed at the Yemeni government's decision not to imprison [Al-Badawi].

"We've communicated our displeasure to Yemeni officials and will work with the Yemeni government to ensure that Al-Badawi is held accountable for his past terrorist actions," the statement continued.

It pointedly referred to Al-Badawi as one of the FBI's most wanted terrorists, noting that New York City prosecutors want to get their hands on him.

Such U.S. criticism comes a week after the most recent visit by Francis Townsend, President George W. Bush's assistant for Internal Security and Combating Terrorism Affairs, who conveyed a message to Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh affirming U.S. support for Yemen in development, education, military, security and fighting terrorism, according to the official Yemeni press.

It was unclear if Townsend discussed Al-Badawi's case with the Yemeni side.

However, CNN quoted U.S. officials as saying that Al-Badawi's case is inconsistent with cooperation between U.S. and Yemeni counterterrorism officials. In this regard, Yemen's official Saba News

Agency reported that a Yemeni military delegation, headed by staff commander Gen. Ahmed Ali Al-Ashwal, left for Washington on Saturday for talks with U.S. Defense Ministry officials and staff.

Speaking to Saba, Al-Ashwal said the delegation will discuss with U.S. officials the means to enhance military cooperation between the two nations, particularly training Yemeni personnel and officers in the United States as well as bringing U.S. experts to Yemen to train Yemeni anti-terrorism military units here.



Al-Badawi (inset) was sentenced to death in 2004 for his role in bombing the USS Cole, which killed 17 U.S. soldiers.

Sit-ins continue in southern governorates

By: Mohammed Bin Salam

SANA'A, Oct. 28 — About 20,000 people marched in protest Saturday in city of Mukalla of Hadhramout province celebrating the 44th commemoration of the 14th of October revolution against the British occupation.

The Political Activities Coordination Committee (PACC) said in a statement that local authorities in the southern province of Hadhramout "a massive

matchless public rally."

The authorities in charge of Mukalla city stood against the rally earlier but retreated to avoid any possible confrontations. However, the PACC statement said that the authorities attempted to stop the rally by hiring some people who tried to "change the rally into a chaos and riots." However, the local residents foiled their attempts, making it peaceful, the statement added.

For the second time, the authorities prevented Al-Jazeera Satellite team from airing the rally. The team was not allowed to cover a similar rally held on 14 October in Radfan.

According to the PACC, the security authorities detained Al-Jazeera team and cameramen and confiscated their cell phones after attacking them while they were in their hotel.

However, the chairman of the executive committee of the Joint Meeting Parties, JMP, in Hadhramout confirmed that the rally was successful, though the authorities attempted to cancel it.

Meanwhile, the executive committee of the JMP condemned preventing Al-Jazeera team from covering the event. It also denounced the detention of the Hadhramout Press Website editor.

The committee described such acts as stupid and adverse to press freedom and violate the constitution and law. Such acts go against the Yemeni democratic experience, violating civil rights and international charts, reflecting a political bankruptcy of the authorities that gave orders to occupy the room of the Al-Jazeera team by security personnel during staging the JMP's rally.

The authority also confirmed that such measures would lead to more insistence on the part of the JMP to continue staging peaceful sit-ins and national festivals whatever the obstacles are. It further noted that the JMP would resort to using all legal measures to sue the wrongdoers.

Moreover, the protesters holding a rally in Al-Shuhada' square in Radfan postponed changing their open-ended sit-in to the square of the governorate building which was supposed to be carried out Sunday morning. The protesters demand the local authority leaders to promptly arrest the suspects involved in a previous incident in which five protesters were killed and 15 others were injured. They also demanded the authority to refer them to the prosecution for investigations.

The protesters' decision came after delaying the date of transporting the protesters in view with giving a chance to the members of the local council in Lahj province, who participated in the sit-in staged in Al-Shuhada' square last Saturday, to sit with the governor to convince him to immediately arrest the suspects and hand them over to Radfan's prosecution court.

However, many speeches were delivered during the rally denouncing the murder of the unarmed people killed by the security authorities. They also demanded the authority to arrest the perpetrators and send them to the prosecution court in Radfan.

Incitement among the southern military associations and the Yemeni authorities have caused worries and agitation in the southern provinces. The military retirees' associations go into confrontations with the security forces as well.

The situation worsens day after day indicating the futile efforts made by president Ali Abdullah Saleh to contain the crisis aggravated more by the confrontations that occurred between the police and the protesters in Radfan on Wednesday. These confrontations ended by detaining some protesters, making the military retirees associations consider them as an insistence of the authority to exacerbate the crisis.

Saleh meets opposition leaders

Furthermore, Saleh met on Saturday the secretary-generals of the JMP and agreed on raising all national issues to have a serious dialogue and negotiations between them all as well as the other political parties.

Media outlets said, "Leaders of the JMP were clear and serious in raising solutions for the difficulties, crises and recent events from which the country suffers due to the authorities' wrong policies in regard to the national and decisive issues including bad treatment of the authority toward results of destructive internal wars headed by the 1994 war."

Concerning Saleh's initiative and the JMP project of political and national reforms, the president showed a thorough understanding of the necessity of raising all the issues related to the political and constitutional reforms in serious dialogues.

In a press release issued by the JMP over the meeting with president Saleh,

the opposition affirmed that it proposed its vision to the president "toward the most important national issues, reviewing recent events and stressing the importance of finding serious solutions that would achieve the public interests."

For its part, the JMP confirmed that it would maintain serious dialogue according to the regulations and provisions reached by it and the ruling party.

The meeting ended by emphasizing the importance of maintaining dialogues as the latter are the most civilized way aiming at finding suitable solutions of different problems and challenges hindering the progress as well as shaking the stability of the country.

The two sides agreed on holding continuous meetings in view of Finalizing the dialogues and placing mechanisms that lead to achieving and implementing commitments stipulated by the code of issues and regulations of dialogue signed on 16 June this year.

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In brief

German support sought for cultural activities in Yemen

Oct. 28 — On Sunday, Culture Minister Mohammed Al-Maflihi discussed with German ambassador to Yemen, Michael Klor-Berchold, possible German support for various cultural activities in Yemen, particularly the capital city's first cinema festival to be held next summer. The two officials discussed aspects of cultural cooperation between their countries and the means of enhancing them, as well as the importance of training and qualifying Yemeni staff in cinema and various Yemeni arts.

Draft law for presidential research prize approved

Oct. 28 — The Yemeni Cabinet on Tuesday approved a project under Republican decree for a presidential prize for Yemeni researchers and directed concerned ministers to complete legal measures for its issuance. The draft law aims to encourage unique scientific research leading to knowledge that broadens and enriches scientific, technical, cultural, social and educational thought.

The prize will include the fields of natural science, mathematics, energy and alternative energy, computers, information technology, the environment, agriculture, fisheries, health and medicine, society, administration, finance, banking, education, physics, law, engineering and water.

ABYAN

Unique baby marriage celebrated

Oct. 28 — A strange marriage held earlier this month excited residents of Homer village in Qataba region. For the first time in the region, locals were surprised to attend a unique marriage ceremony between a two-year-old groom and his 18-month-old bride.

The reason for the marriage was the insistence of the bride's father, who had sworn to marry his daughter to her cousin. A large procession of cars and attendees escorted the couple with the traditional shooting of firearms to celebrate the unique wedding.

ADEN

CCTV installed at oil refinery

Oct. 28 — After recently winning the estimated \$860,000 tender, Romanian firm UTI Systems on Saturday launched the installation of closed-circuit television (CCTV) at Aden oil refinery. It's the first time CCTV will be installed at the refinery since its establishment in 1954. The refinery's daily petroleum production is 100,000 barrels.

SANA'A

Domestic airline to launch

Oct. 28 — A domestic airline will launch its first official flight by the beginning of 2008 under recent partnership agreements signed between Yemenia Airlines and three Saudi firms to establish the domestic carrier, according to an informed source. The agreements indicate that the new firm's capital is an estimated \$100 million.

24th Sana'a International Book Fair inaugurated

Oct. 28 — For the seventh day, visitors to the 24th Sana'a International Book Fair have been increasing. Organized by the General Book Authority and opened Monday by Prime Minister Ali Mujawar, the 10-day exhibition involves 270 publishing houses, 12 Arab and foreign nations, and features more than 300,000 books in varying fields. Additionally, Book Authority Chairman Faris Al-Saqqaq notes that establishment of the Yemeni Publishers Union will be announced officially on the sidelines of the event.

Yemen warned about tsunami sea tides

By: Ismail Al-Ghabri

SANA'A, Oct. 28 — Japan's Meteorological Agency warned Yemen about potential tsunami sea tides after an earthquake hit Indonesia's Sumatra Island last Thursday.

A statement issued by the National Center for Meteorology said, "The tsunami's effects are expected to be strong in the Indian Ocean. Cautions by the Japanese Meteorological Agency are final information, if not modified by the source itself."

In a telephone interview with the Interior Ministry's General Administration of Civil Defense about how it took measures regarding the warning, Mohammed N. Al-Shaba'an, director of disasters and emergency at the Civil Defense, stated, "Our administration took its own measures, including contacting all coastal governorates to protect themselves from the effects of the tsunami sea tides."

He went on to say that it officially informed all fishermen working in Yemeni regional waters, as well as conducted a comprehensive awareness campaign for all fishermen to educate

them about the danger.

Al-Shaba'an said the administration also contacted local authorities and branches of civil defense apparatuses, informing them of the Japanese weather agency's warning. Local authorities also should notify about any emergency incidents that may occur in regional waters, he added.

The administration further coordinated with the National Center for Meteorology to discover any changes in wind movements. Additionally, it liaised with all governmental and non-governmental bodies to take the warning seriously, as well as to be well prepared for any incident by seeking facilities for rescue operations and other set-ups required in such cases.

Al-Shaba'an pointed out that his administration's tasks aren't limited to sea tides and disasters; rather, it also conducts rescues during fires, flooding and wars. As a civil defense body, it is appointed for all humanitarian tasks.

"This administration is connected to an international information network; it receives information on emergencies or any type of disaster," he concluded.

The Yemen Times received a 2005

report from the Ministry of Water and Environment on the effect of sea tides caused by earthquakes and tsunamis in East Asia and their influence on Yemeni coasts.

The report indicated that the Dec. 24, 2004 tsunami on Indonesia's Sumatra Island caused massive damages due to its enormity, affecting all coasts east of Al-Mahrah governorate, as well as southeastern Socotra Island and the Aden coast.

Three fishermen were lost, in addition to as many as 150 fishing boats, as well as damaging fishing nets, tourist facilities and automobiles.

Overview

Yemen is exposed to environmental disasters and emergencies due to its geological and natural terrain, population growth on its mountaintop summits and mostly due to its location in an active seismic belt in the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden.

With its unique variety of natural resources and environmental systems, which are sensitive to pollution and disasters, Yemen is more exposed to disasters and natural emergencies.

Socotra's residents refuse the new road

By: Hamed Thabet

SANA'A, Oct. 25 — Socotra's residents are displeased for the new road project, saying it will destroy the wildlife protectorate

"The budget for new road project in Socotra is around \$40 - \$50 million and it is 189 Kilometers long and 8 meters wide. The new road is wider than the road from Sana'a to Hodeidah with a capacity for 5 cars." Said Paul Scholle an expert in Socotra Island.

According to the residents the road does not serve the villages and areas in any way "but instead will endanger 307 rare kinds of plants". Said Ahmed Suliman, one of the residents in Socotra and Deputy of General Authority.

Nadim Taleb, Director of Natural Protectorate in the Conservation and Development Program in Socotra noted, "The new road will destroy many plants which are unique and not found anywhere else in the world, and as it is a fact that 307 varieties of plants are just in Socotra Island.

"We as a Development program are eager for having coordination before decision is taken on any of these projects."

He added, "These rare plants are so sensitive and susceptible, and any side reaction or bad action will destroy



The new road endangers the wildlife in Socotra Island.

everything, and then no Socotra will exist."

"We the Program Committee and residents in Socotra and many Environmental Organizations will do our best to stop this project.

"If they review the republican decision or rule '275' which banned any activities that harms and damage Socotra's wildlife, and this road project is one of the activities that will harm

the wildlife, and hence this project must stop immediately." Noted Taleb.

There are around 40000 people live in Socotra, which is about 400 km from Yemen coast. They live a primitive life and main economic activities on which the population of Socotra relies upon are livestock, fishing, date palm plantations and primitive household gardens, with some minor forms of primarily opportunistic trade.

YALI teachers still demand their right to a formal solution

By: Fatima Al-Ajel

SANA'A, Oct. 28 — The Yemen American Language Institute, or YALI, Teachers and Employees Union assured in a statement that teachers still are demanding their rights from YALI administration and further denied reports that they are preparing their own language institute.

Administration officials are calling on the teachers, who remain on strike, to return to the institute. Director Greg Olson states, "I'm still contacting some teachers individually and asking them to return to the institute. We have a new plan to solve the matter in coming months and there are new contracts with teacher requirements."

However, Wajdi Shief, head of the teachers' representative committee, says the contract problems remain unresolved. "We've only heard from other people that there are new contracts with teacher requirements, but as head of the committee, I haven't received any formal letter about them," he maintains.

He wonders why YALI administra-

tion didn't inform the committee of such news, especially if there are new solutions for teachers, as claimed. "As a committee, we require YALI administration to deal with the issue formally and solve the problem legally according to Yemeni Labor Law. I think this is a normal right to demand," Shief comments.

Attorney Khalid Al-Anisi, who represents the teachers, notes that the contract issue isn't a big deal that YALI administration couldn't solve for this long. He explains, "The teachers have the right to require a formal response from YALI administration, but right now, there's no communication between administration and the teachers' committee."

"It's difficult for the committee to deal with an administration that has no competence to make a decision about such problem," he continued, adding that it's better that the two sides find a natural solution to the problem as soon as possible.

There have been reports that, due to the teachers' sit-in, the committee will establish its own language institute.

While Shief affirmed that there is a new institute, he stressed that it doesn't represent YALI's teachers union; rather, it's the private business of several teachers who have the right to start such a business.

"I hope the new institute will create better quality teaching in Yemeni institutes and develop Yemeni students' skills and abilities, especially since there is a lack of quality institutes," Shief remarked.

The union says that if YALI administration refuses its demands, it will continue legal proceedings and called upon all concerned authorities, civil community and human rights organizations to stand by its side. "We'll make it a public issue. We initiated proceedings with the International Syndicates Union, but I can't publish any news about that until everything is fixed," Shief noted.

He expressed his sorrow at the situation at YALI. "The strike plays a role in this matter, but if the administration is serious about solving the problem, all sides - teachers, students and administration - will be satisfied," he concluded.

Demonstrations and sit-ins won't hinder investment

By: Almigdad Dahesh Mojali

SANA'A, Oct. 28 — President Ali Abdullah Saleh says investment requires stability. "Unfortunately, some people's demonstrations and sit-ins create obstacles to such investments." However, he affirmed that investment in Yemen will progress by removing such obstacles and encouraging investors.

The president made these statements Saturday at an extended meeting about issues associated with investment in Aden, Abyan, Lahj and Al-Dhale'.

At the meeting, the General Investment Authority chairman reported on investment activities in Yemen, positive results of the conference on Exploring Investment Opportunities in Yemen and measures taken to better the nation's investment climate.

According to the chairman's report, the authority has registered major investment projects totaling YR 193.9 billion in agriculture, tourism, industry, fisheries wealth and service projects. It indicates that such projects will

provide more than 8,000 jobs.

Between April and September of this year, the authority registered YR 32.6 billion in projects in Aden, a YR 4.5 billion increase compared to the same period last year, while in Lahj, it registered approximately YR 11.9 billion worth of projects for the same period.

The director of Developing Port Cities also gave a report pointing out projects achieved this year, as well as future projects. The report noted achievements of the first phase of Aden's corniche and developing the governorate's Al-Drein industrial zone, as well as other development projects in Aden.

Prime Minister Ali Mujawar then headed the meeting, discussing reports on investment, health and services in these four governorates, which he said received good shares of such investment projects due to their attractive investment features.

He called on all to gather their efforts to better Yemen's investment environment and overcome all challenges facing its investment process.

Yemeni American boxers "The Lion" wins again

MICHIGAN — Oct. 27- American boxer, of Yemeni origin, Brian "The Lion" Mihtar, scored his eighth KO victory in oct.26 at Eastern Michigan University Convocation Center in Ypsilanti

The boxing fight, which was watched by at least 2,500, was very fast and ended at 1st round TKO at 1:33 sec. "it was a really fast fight. I don't know what to say except for thanking God almighty for giving me the courage and strength to do what I did," commented Mihtar after the fight.

As the bell rang for the 1st round, Mihtar jumped on his competitor and threw three punch combo, two to the head and one to the body and caught his foe clean, he went down beat the count and got back up, then I rushed in and threw a straight right and broke his nose as collapsed, the fight was then stopped.

With this impressive victory, he has improved his record to 8-0 KO.

Mihtar, was born as Abraham Mihtar on August 18, 1979 in Detroit Michigan, U.S.A. is from the Mihtar family which hails from the village of Meswara in the country of Yemen.

He began boxing in 1998 after being drawn to the sport by former world champion "Prince" Naseem Hamed,



also of Yemeni descent. After seeing Hamed at New York's Madison Square Garden, Mihtar returned to Detroit and went straight to the gym. He emerged in 2005 as a promising middleweight prospect in Detroit's fight game. Reportedly known for a concrete chin, punching power, elusive defense and body punching, Mihtar has drawn large crowds of Arab American boxing fans to his fights

Mihtar repeatedly reveals his will to come to Yemen and work with the Yemeni youth and set up an exhibition boxing event. "I'm just waiting for an invitation from the Yemeni government"

he told Yemen times.

Mövenpick Hotel Sana'a New General Manager always on the move



Mövenpick Hotel Sana'a had the pleasure to receive the newly-joined General Manager, Mr. Nasir Saudi.

Mr. Saudi started his career in hospitality industry in 1976 in Holiday Hotel Acaba, in his homeland Jordan. In 1979 he enthusiastically joined Grand Metropolitan Hotels (the first owner of Intercontinental Hotels) until July 2007. During the entire period it was a real challenge that molded him into a well-rounded hotel career person. Assigned as General Manager to most part of European and Middle Eastern countries; from the elite cities like London, Greece, Dubai, Oman,

Saudi Arabia, Mr. Saudi now is in the historical country of Yemen.

With 31 years of experience gained from different branded hotels & resorts, Mr. Saudi is always on the move; putting up plans, meeting and visiting the Yemeni market and so on. His ultimate goal is to increase the market awareness about the services the Swiss Branded hotels like Mövenpick Hotel Sana'a can offer, and to promote Yemen as one of the best touristic attraction in the Arabian Peninsula.

Suicide car bomber kills 7 in Iraq's Kirkuk

By: Mustafa Mahmoud and Sherko Raouf

KIRKUK, Iraq (Reuters) — A suicide car bomber killed at least seven people on Sunday in a huge explosion that ripped through shops and set cars ablaze in the northern Iraqi oil centre of Kirkuk, police said.

Some 25 people were also wounded in the blast, said Major-General Torhan Abdul-Rahman, deputy police chief of Kirkuk, a volatile city claimed by both Kurds and Arabs that has witnessed regular bomb attacks and shootings.

Another police official put the death toll at eight.

Clouds of dense, black smoke rose into the sky as fire-fighters, helped by residents, tried to extinguish the flames. Twisted wrecks of cars lay scattered in the street, in front of the blackened ruins of shops.

Crying, Haimen Mahmoud, 28, accosted a friend in the street. "Is Nadhim alive or dead?" he asked. "I don't know," his friend replied. Shocked survivors could be seen on their mobile phones, reassuring loved ones that they were alive.

A police official said 25 shops and 10 cars were destroyed in the explosion, near a bus terminal in the Kurdish area of al-Haseer in northern Kirkuk. Despite the scene of devastation, the death toll was low because many of the shops were closed.

A middle-aged motorist who



A partially burnt vehicle is seen on a road after a bomb attack in Kirkuk, 155 miles north of Baghdad, October 28, 2007.

declined to be identified said the blast shattered the windows of his car. He was slightly wounded by flying glass.

"Kirkuk is not a place to live any more. Wherever you go there are roadside bombs and car bombs. The security forces cannot find a solution for the terrorism," he said.

Kirkuk, which sits on Iraq's north-

ern oil fields, is shared by Kurds, Turkmen, Shi'ite and Sunni Arabs.

Kurds want it to be incorporated into their largely autonomous Kurdistan region, but Arab residents strongly oppose that. A referendum on the issue, due by the end of the year, is expected to be delayed until 2008.

Analysts have warned of a bloodbath unless the international community and the Iraqi government pay more attention to settling the city's disputed status.

Kirkuk's police chief escaped a car bomb attack on his motorcade earlier this month in which seven people were killed and 50 wounded.

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Battles rock Mogadishu for second day

By: Abdi Sheikh

MOGADISHU (Reuters) — Fighting raged for a second day in the Somali capital on Sunday as Ethiopian troops clashed with Islamist-led rebels in the heaviest battles for weeks.

Fearful residents covered behind closed doors as mostly Ethiopian forces supporting the interim government sought again to crush heavily armed insurgents.

Marking a major offensive, gun and artillery duels that began in Mogadishu before dawn on Saturday resumed in force. In one part of the coastal city, local media said insurgents had seized a police station after the officers guarding it fled.

Elsewhere, scores of angry residents took to the streets to vent their fury at the latest violence, burning piles of tyres that sent plumes of thick black smoke into the sky.

"They have started firing again and I have no way to move my family," said Sahra Osman, a widow with five children.

"I have been fleeing my home and returning since the Ethiopian troops arrived here, but now I can't even hire a wheelbarrow."

She lambasted both sides for fighting in the city centre among thousands of women and children, instead



A woman wounded during clashes is helped by relatives at the Madina Hospital in Somalia's capital Mogadishu, October 27, 2007. Fighting raged for a second day in the Somali capital on Sunday as Ethiopian troops clashed with Islamist-led rebels in the heaviest battles for weeks.

of picking a remote rural location.

At least 15 people have been killed so far, local media says, including as many as seven Ethiopian soldiers. Dozens of civilians have been wounded by stray bullets and shrapnel.

Hospitals cut off

Elmi Hussein, a Mogadishu man whose cousin died in Saturday's bat-

les, said it was better to be killed outright than to suffer the fate of the injured in the Somali capital.

"The wounded die painfully here," he told Reuters. "The roads to the hospitals are always blocked whenever war starts and people die from loss of blood."

The fragile Somali government, which has U.N. backing, has been

shaken by an insurgency of Iraq-style roadside bombings, assassinations and suicide attacks since it routed a hard-line Islamist movement in January with the help of Ethiopian tanks and warplanes.

On Saturday, Ethiopia's arch-foe Eritrea suggested Addis Ababa might soon withdraw some of its troops from Somalia as part of a plot to invade Eritrea ahead of a late-November deadline for the two nations to agree on their disputed border.

Ethiopia has denied all such Eritrean allegations in the past, but the new fighting in Mogadishu looked to mark a renewed effort by Ethiopian forces to crush the insurgents.

The latest battles with the rebels, which Somalia's government says include foreign fighters linked to al Qaeda, come as tensions at the top of the fledgling Somali administration threaten to split it wide open.

Analysts say President Abdullahi Yusuf and Prime Minister Ali Mohamed Gedi have feuded almost from the moment they came to power in late 2004 following two years of peace talks in Kenya.

But their rift widened this year after they backed rival concerns hoping to exploit the nation's potential oil resources.

Palestinians say Israel cuts Gaza fuel supply



By: Nidal al-Mughrabi

GAZA (Reuters) — Palestinian officials complained that Israel cut fuel supplies to the Gaza Strip on Sunday but Israel denied it had started to implement sanctions it plans to impose in response to rocket fire from the Hamas-run enclave.

Supplies have fluctuated in the past and there was some doubt on the amounts of fuel pumped across the frontier from Israeli suppliers to Palestinian businesses. The Israeli supply company declined comment on deliveries. It said it was acting on orders from the Defence Ministry which it would not disclose.

There was little obvious immediate impact within Gaza, which Israel declared an "enemy entity" in September. The government decided to impose fuel sanctions last week but said it would act gradually and aimed to avoid a "humanitarian crisis".

An official from the European Union, which funds fuel oil to Gaza's only electricity generating plant, said that pumping of this product had stopped from the Israeli side with about a quarter of the day's planned supply undelivered.

An association for fuel merchants in Gaza said only about half the day's expected deliveries of petrol and diesel had been made and that the Israeli supply company had told customers that it was acting on orders from Israel's defence ministry.

Mojahed Salama, head of the Palestinian Authority's Petrol Agency based in the West Bank, said Sunday fuel imports showed a 40 to 50 percent reduction in diesel and petrol supplies and a 12 percent reduction in fuel for the power plant in Gaza.

A spokesman at Israeli fuel supply firm Dor Alon would say only that it was implementing orders received

from the Defence Ministry but declined to say what those orders were or whether supplies to Gaza had been cut. Israel's Haaretz Web site quoted the company as saying it had orders to reduce supplies to Gaza.

But a spokesman for the Israeli military at the Gaza border denied there had been any change in supplies: "No instructions have been received from the defence minister, and therefore there have not been any cutbacks," said Captain Shahdi Yassin.

Hamas rule

Hamas Islamists routed the Palestinian Authority forces of President Mahmoud Abbas and seized control of Gaza in June.

Israel and its allies shun Hamas for refusing to renounce violence against the Jewish state, leaving the coastal strip of 1.5 million people effectively cut off from the outside world.

Food, fuel and other imports continue to reach Gaza by a variety of makeshift arrangements but the main commercial transit routes have been closed to normal activity.

The United Nations has told Israel, which withdrew troops in 2005 but continues to control Gaza's borders, it must not inflict collective punishment by denying vital supplies.

Salama, who is part of Abbas's administration in Ramallah, said he had been informed by Dor Alon that the Israeli Defence Ministry had issued an order limiting the flow.

"We sent the supplying company the same daily requests but they said they were sorry and that because of the new imposed sanctions they could only send us a reduced quantity," Salama told Reuters.

Mahmoud al-Shawa, who heads the association of petrol company owners in Gaza, gave a similar account.

Fidel Castro pokes fun at George Bush

HAVANA (Reuters) — Ailing Cuban leader Fidel Castro poked fun at President George W. Bush on Sunday for proclaiming "Long Live Free Cuba," likening it to Spain's king saying the same during his colonial rule over the island.

Bush said the transfer of power from the ailing Fidel Castro to his brother Raul as of July 2006 was unacceptable, proclaiming liberty was more important than stability and ending his comments in the speech to the U.S. State Department on Wednesday with "Viva Cuba Libre."

The slogan was first used by Cuban independence fighters, known as Mambisis, in 1868 as they began their decades-long war against Spain's colonial rule. It was also the battle cry of Fidel Castro's guerrilla fighters in the late 1950s.

Raul Castro often ends speeches with the slogan instead of Fidel Castro's "Motherland or Death."

"I never imagined I would hear the words coming from the mouth of a U.S. president 139 years later," Castro said in an essay titled "Bush, Mambi?"



Television footage shows Cuban leader Fidel Castro speaking during a state television broadcast September 21, 2007. Castro poked fun at President Bush on Sunday for proclaiming "Long Live Free Cuba," likening it to Spain's king saying the same during his colonial rule over the island.

carried by the official media.

"It's as if a king in those times, or his governor, proclaimed 'Viva Cuba Libre,'" Castro said.

Castro, 81, has not appeared in pub-

lic since undergoing a series of abdominal surgeries and has looked frail in occasional video clips and pictures, although he writes regularly and is said to participate in government

decisions.

Bush said on Wednesday he would maintain sanctions against Cuba and called on the Cuban people, military and police to join efforts to open Cuba to multi-party democracy.

Foreign Minister Felipe Perez Roque accused Bush of encouraging a violent uprising against Cuba's Communist government.

Castro compared the Mambisis, who freed their slaves, with President Abraham Lincoln's abolition of slavery, then quoted Lincoln's famous words in reference to the Bush speech.

"You can fool some of the people all of the time or all of the people part of the time, but you can't fool all of the people all of the time," Castro said.

Cuba on Sunday marked the 48th anniversary of the death of revolutionary hero Camilo Cienfuegos, who disappeared in a plane crash, and earlier this month that of Guerrilla fighter Ernesto Che Guevara.

"For what their names symbolize, we respond to the false Mambi: Viva Lincoln! Viva Che! Viva Camilo!" Castro concluded.



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Qat sellers bribe gov't workers to avoid taxes

Qat sellers say they pay money to tax collectors in order to pay partial taxes for selling qat. Qat taxes are 10 percent, with the tax authority collecting approximately YR 2 to 3 billion annually, according to Tax Authority officials. **Hamed Thabet reports.**

“Many tricks are used to evade taxes. For example, instead of paying the taxes levied upon us, we pay the tax collector some money. At other times, we offer him a bag of qat to satisfy him so he'll reduce the amount of taxes we must pay the authorities,” explains 25-year-old Ashraf Wajeh Al-Deen, a qat seller at Al-Qadisiyah market in Sana'a.

“Another trick is to hide most of the bags and display only a few for inspection, which helps us pay less,” he added.

Salim Al-Sawadi, another qat seller from Sana'a, says, “Most of the time, if the tax is YR 4,000, tax collectors take YR 2,000 – YR 1,000 for themselves and the other for the authority.”

The process
Taxes are collected in two ways: at qat markets and at checkpoints through which qat sellers bring qat into the city.

Three tax authority officials, each with their own tasks, are sent to qat sellers to collect taxes: a tax collector, a supervisor and an expert whose job is to determine qat quality. The tax collector obtains the money, the supervisor watches over the process to see if it goes right and finally, estimating the qat is the most important part, due to which tax is imposed,” tax collector Ruzaiq Quraish explains.

Tax collectors then give qat sellers a treasury bond or bill for this process in order to make them pay the tax.

The difference between qat tax collectors and security officials is that tax collectors are sent to qat markets to collect money from qat sellers whereas security officials supervise the tax collectors to ensure that everything is going properly or not and are responsible for giving directions to the qat tax collectors. Tax collectors hand over collected funds to their officials, who then send it to the Finance Ministry, according to tax

authority officials.

Taxes are collected from qat sellers according to how much qat they have and its quality. Taxes start from a minimum YR 550 to a maximum of YR 6,000; however, in some exceptions, taxes are more for a few large qat sellers who sell hundreds of bags of qat, tax authority officials note.

“Qat sellers sometimes give us the cold shoulder and won't pay because they say we take money from them; however, we're so kind and understanding with them. If anyone from our team takes money for himself, he'll be punished and charged,” Quraish warns.

He adds, “No qat tax collector has been caught stealing money on the job because nearly all are doing it; everyone is taking a share. The share differs from one tax collector to another depending upon how much he gains from qat sellers every day and what kind of qat sellers he's dealing with – large or normal ones. That's why it's hard to say how they share the profits.”

Former tax collector turned qat seller Mohammed Al-Jaradi explains, “Money is collected daily, but sometimes when

It's a known fact that even though qat is getting more expensive every day, qat sellers have their own ways to sell their quantities, as many Yemenis must get their qat by the end of each day, no matter how expensive it becomes, qat sellers say.

According to a study by Kuwait University, seven million Yemenis chew YR 756 billion in qat.



Qat is widely sold throughout the country's local markets

qat sellers are gone or unavailable, the tax collector must try again the next day to obtain the unpaid taxes, which should go to the Ministry of Labor.”

He continues, “Usually, no officials care about the government; all they care about is their pockets and how much they can gain from qat sellers. For sure, this is better for us too, because we pay less.”

Regarding why he became a qat seller, Al-Jaradi says, “Seeing the fantastic profits qat sellers make, I decided to become one of them because there's liberation; anyone can escape from taxes. I'm now making more money than I used to and I'm happy about that.”

Qat sellers cheat customers

Al-Deen admits, “We use many different tricks on customers to make them buy our qat and not go to other qat sellers. Moreover, it depends on their knowledge of qat quality, but in the end, we win and they always end up paying the price we've targeted them to pay.”

He adds, “People end up buying because most qat sellers deal alike and almost all of us agree to keep the same price. There are exceptions for some regular customers who always deal with us and have special pricing.”

“Sometimes, particularly in the winter when qat is rarer, we increase prices,

often doubling them. For example, if a bag of qat ordinarily is YR 700, we'll increase it to YR 1,200 or 1,400 because customers don't have any other choice but to pay it.” Al-Deen explains.

Additionally, “Whenever only one bag of qat remains, we just hide the old qat to be sold the next day, mixing it with three to five other bags in order to camouflage it to the customer. This trick works perfectly most of the time because very few people are experts in qat and know whether the qat is good or not.”

However, he notes, “Famous qat sellers never do this because they care about their reputation. For that reason, they just sell their reserve and sometimes take a loss.”

According to Al-Jaradi, the main factors determining the price of qat are reputation and location, appearance (the brighter the better) and the season of the year.

“In order to gain customers' trust, we swear by God's name more than 10 times. For sure, most of the time we're dishonest in our swearing, but it's a valid and influential means of increasing the price.”

However, Al-Sawadi, who sells qat in Al-Madinah market, notes, “Qat sellers never incur a loss because most Yemenis chew qat.”

Al-Deen further explains, “Knowing the customer at first sight is our secret. By focusing on his teeth, cheeks and the way he looks at the qat, you can discover his level of knowledge. Some of our customers are very clever and don't get deceived, while some are irksome because they keep trying to get discounts.”

“The best customers are emigrants because they really will pay anything without asking for discounts, so we take our shot by increasing the price as much as we can,” he admits.

A profitable business

“In our business, we make only profit. A small qat seller clears at least YR 4,000 to 7,000 in profits, after expenses, while some make between YR 25,000 and YR 30,000 a day. It depends on the qat offered and its quality. YR 400 to 600 is the least profit for each bag of qat and sometimes more,” Al-Sawadi explains.

“Qat sellers and qat farmers are the best traders in Yemen because both profit. Qat farmers make profits from qat sellers and qat sellers from customers. Of course, most of the time, qat sellers profit more because they manage the market and can increase prices when necessary. However, qat farmers profit more in some cases; for example, when qat isn't found or in the winter, when qat isn't available as in the summertime.”

“Despite summer stagnation, we profit because qat is much cheaper. Qat is expensive in winter, so we increase the price,” Al-Sawadi notes.

Qat ins and outs

Distinguished by the need to get the product to market as fresh as possible – as it takes five to 14 hours from field to customer – qat usually is marketed in the nearest towns and cities, such as Hamdan, Arhab, Bani Hashish, Shasan, Sanhan, Khawlan, Rada, Al-Hatha, Al-Beidha, Damt and many other places that are qat sources.

Qat markets are practically everywhere in Sana'a, which has some famous and highly populated qat markets, including: Shumaila, Ans, Al-Balili, Al-Rihab, Darsil, Al-Madinah, Al-Qadisiyah, Al-Hasabah, Hadda, Hajar, Al-Da'iri, Hayel, Nuqum, Beit Baws, Al-Maqaleh and Al-Sawad.

From best to least, the various qat types are: Al-Shami, Al-Geifi, Al-Thola, Al-Omari, Al-Aansi, Al-Ahjari, Al-Shasani, Al-Arhabi, Al-Khawlani, Al-Hamdani, Al-Hatha, Al-Gaili, Al-Matari, Al-Amari, Al-Dhale', Al-Aqari and lastly, Al-Sowti.

According to Al-Deen, “Prices differ according to the quantity or the season; for example, a bag of Al-Geifi usually costs YR 3,500, while Al-Sowti can be found for YR 300. Al-Shami is considered the most expensive, costing YR 8,000 or sometimes more.”

Obviously, the best qat costs more than the regular. Also, the taste of the qat will determine whether it's good or bad quality.

Afternoon or evening qat parties are a daily part of Yemeni life wherein men and women gather separately on the top floor of a house, in a café or in the workplace, leaning on cushions, drinking cola, smoking, chatting, gossiping and chewing qat. It's a very cozy atmosphere for women especially for gossiping and being free from household chores.

Qat sellers very often market qat, as there are various venues for selling it. Often with their own transportation, sellers bring qat from farms in their cars or sometimes hire others' cars for this purpose.

Additionally, large qat sellers will purchase a plot of qat farmland that will be under the seller's control, who brings laborers to harvest it and then sells it directly to consumers. Customers also may buy their qat directly from farmers, especially if they are near urban concentrations.

Due to the market's unavailability, qat sellers avoid losses by buying and selling small quantities, but regardless, qat sellers know how to regulate their business activity based on how many customers they have each day.

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Words of Wisdom



To improve governance in Yemen, there is clear need for re-training our officials. We need the people in charge to really believe in the need for change in the way they manage public affairs.

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

OUR
OPINION

A good Example

The government of Yemen depends on Oil for around three quarters of its revenue, the money used to finance its operations, pay the salaries of half a million employees, and invests in the country's infrastructure and modernization. At least this is the theoretical part of what the government is using the income generated by Oil sales.

But we are running out of Oil, ever since the peak in production in 2002, Yemen's Oil production is decreasing while Oil reserves are running low, this fact puts a lot of pressure on the Ministry of Oil, and in turn the Oil companies operating in Yemen, to pump out more oil and expand exploration activities in an attempt to discover additional Oil reserves.

Minister of Oil Khalid Bahah says that a daily digest of Oil production is faxed every day to the Prime Minister and the President, two persons who are constantly monitoring the situation and are worried if the price of oil slumps what impact that will have on the government's ability to finance its operations.

The Ministry of Oil has made several attempts to encourage Oil companies to invest more in their exploration activities, and has also voluntarily established a transparent bidding process to allow companies to compete for Oil fields, thereby ruling out any opportunities for intermediaries and corruption to take place in the process. This action increased the confidence of Oil companies in Yemen and reduced the risks associated with dealing with corruption.

The Minister undertakes routine visits to the premises of Oil companies and talks to its expatriate and local staff, on every visit the minister is accompanied with a note taker who records any issues that need follow up including solving recurring problems with customs and other government agencies, and thereafter he follows up to ensure that these issues are sorted out, even if took him to raise the issue to the president personally, which he did on more than occasion.

A year ago, Bahah went to Oslo to participate a conference on the Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative (EITI). It was a relatively new mechanism about disclosure of Oil production, Oil revenues, and other relevant details which enhances transparency in the sector through making such information public. It was a long and bureaucratic process until an application for Yemen to join the initiative was sent to the EITI council, and we await completion of formalities towards joining the initiative, hopefully soon.

Bahah made many promises, he promised to discover more oil and increase production significantly, he promised to revive the Aden refinery and distribute unleaded fuel throughout the country, he also promised to Yemenis 90 percent of the workforce in the Oil sector, but most importantly, he promised Yemen to join the EITI and provide a mechanism for the public to monitor Oil production and revenues. We can see that he is trying to live up to most, however he has set a high standard for himself and increased our expectations from his ministry, and we hope that he would be able in realizing all of his promises during his service as Minister of Oil.

The Editorial Board

New Yemen... Better Future:
Upside down Picture

By: Raima Al-Shami

"I have been searching for money to buy a sack of flour for six days, I prefer death to humiliation." These are the last words uttered by the 71-year-old woman Tamim Al-Qubati after she felt unable to accumulate the required money for a sack of flour for her family members. She had no choice but "death or humiliation". Al-Qubati is one of millions of Yemen victims who are experiencing 'New Yemen and Better Future' with starvation, poverty and suffering.

The aged women sold all her chickens that were her sole source of income for YR 1,700, but this money was not enough to buy a sack of flour whose price exceeded YR 6,000. So, no meaning for such a life on earth when all the people are sentenced to die from hunger, and there will be no option except for 'death or humiliation'.

We have spent one year from the age of 'New Yemen & Better Future', the platform via which President Saleh won confidence of his people to complete 36 years in power in exchange for fulfilling promises contained in his platform,

improving living standards of his people, fighting corruption, and eradicating poverty and unemployment within two years. We don't know why 'New Yemen' has turned out to be a big fool, starving people and confiscating their rights. Furthermore, people have been deceived by new constitutional amendments to grant President Saleh extra two terms and additional ten years in power.

Mr. President! Why do you deceive us? This is one of a series of questions that have been raised after more than one year of false promises including (New Yemen...Better Future). Does 'New Yemen & Better Future' mean starvation? Do the Yemeni people really live the stage of 'New Yemen and Better Future' while the price per 50 kg of flour has exceeded YR 6,000? What options other than death or humiliation the Yemeni people have before them in order to get rid of the dilemma of 'New Yemen & Better Future'.

We don't say that starvation, wars and corruption are the only features of the first year of the age of 'New Yemen & Better Future', but people who live the new Yemen can assess the current situation and have their own decision on this matter. Also, nobody can say that promises made

by President Ali Abdullah Saleh to establish 'New Yemen & Better Future' for his citizens have become the biggest fool in history ever committed by a ruler to deceive a country with 22 million-strong population. The task will be left for millions of people who are living the stage of new Yemen to evaluate their own situations, and it will be clear that they might not want Mr. President to 'Continue the March' and have his country progressing backward. At the end, only President Saleh has the best decision to continue his new Yemen this Way.

The situation of our homeland today makes one burst into tears of blood. The People turned to lament their fate under a totalitarian regime having starvation and poverty of its people, plus chaos, rampant corruption and civil wars, as the most important guarantees for its stay in power. It is now that the Yemeni people understood well that the regime foments conflicts, chaos and civil wars in order for citizens to remain living under the poverty line, fight hard for subsistence and suffer illiteracy and backwardness.

At the very beginning, President Saleh launched his platform "New Yemen... Better Future" in the wake of last year's elections to

finalize Chapter Four of Sa'ada War to the north of Yemen. Then, he shifted the conflict scene to the southern governorates in order to use force against enraged people protesting peacefully to claim their constitutional rights. In addition, many innocent demonstrators, who streamed into streets claiming a stop to the looting of public and private property, and land grab, were shot dead by the merciless police, whose duty changed from maintaining security and stability into killing

oppressed citizens.

Poverty and starvation are the two most prominent features of the first year of the age of 'New Yemen ... Better Future' as the deteriorating living standards of people exacerbated, thereby forcing more than two-thirds of the country's population to live below the poverty line with an average per capita income of less than one dollar per day.

Source: Al-Wahdawi.net.

Repression does
not bring stability

By: Zaid Al-Shami

Popular concerns are increasing with the passage of days because of price hikes, poor services, and lack of justice and equality. On the contrary, protests tend to adopt peaceful means, the most recent of which is the collection of tens of thousands of signatures in Marib governorate in a civilized behavior proceeding to the advantage of people and Joint Meeting Parties as well.

The escalating demands in the country reflect the negative situation, which Yemen has reached as a result of imprudent policies adopted by the consecutive governments of the General People Congress. In addition, corruption has spread

rampantly in all the government institutions while we still hear unsatisfactory justifications and baseless excuses, coupled with blaming unknown parties for the spread of administrative and financial corruption.

The way the government describes what usually happens can no longer be tolerated or accepted. And, people vented their anger at the government for attributing skyrocketing prices of basic foodstuffs to international factors and alleging that all the world countries share the same problem. This compels us to say to the government that we no longer accept its carelessness and indifference toward the deteriorating situations in the Country of Belief & Wisdom, as authority is a composition of political decisions, financial and human capacities, and broad powers. And, those holding such powers and authorities have no right to escape from the responsibility toward the deteriorating situations.

All the false excuses and justifications are over while the current government policies are primarily responsible for the repeated crises.

We don't know why the authority gets upset with the peaceful struggle. We are also shocked at why this authority foments chaos and rioting and works on transferring the squares of sit-ins and protests into battlegrounds and scenes for firing at protestors. This is a strange behavior as the government, along with all its agencies, is expected to maintain public safety, security and stability.

Currently, the means of prevention and repression have become unable to stop angry protestors who

take to streets of main cities to claim their constitutional and legal rights. Also, such means can never resolve any real problems but they may help these problems to increase. Those, who plan to face any peaceful demands with violence and vandalistic acts, should review their wrong policies and strategies. They should quit all the means of beating, killing, kidnapping and attacking as such means are no longer applicable at a time the Yemeni people are realizing that other world countries have progressed much in the areas of democracy, human rights and public freedoms.

What makes the mud moister is the campaign launched by the official media against the effective political forces in Yemen, as they denied any effectiveness for their existence, shunned their viewpoints and comments, and accused them of treason. The country's problems will continue to increase until the authority recognize the availability of these problems, begin diagnosing their causes and identifying those who cause them and then suggest possible solutions to them. If no admission of the deteriorating situation is being made, the country and its people will reap nothing more than thorns.

If our brothers in the ruling party don't acknowledge the existence of effective political forces in Yemen, the country's situation will go from bad to worse. Admitting what happens in real-life situation means that the government and its ruling party have got out of the gloomy tunnel.

Source: Al-Sahwa.net

SILVER LINING

Al-Rawee & the
victimized rule of law

Salal al-Rawee was slaughtered like a goat at the hands of savage tribesmen at the criminal investigation office in Ibb Oct. 13. The irony is that the perpetrators are the head of the criminal investigation office at Thamar governorate, the security officer of Thamar University and a professor at the same university accompanied with a group of armed tribesmen. Exploiting their security positions, they managed



By: Mohammed
Al-Qadhi

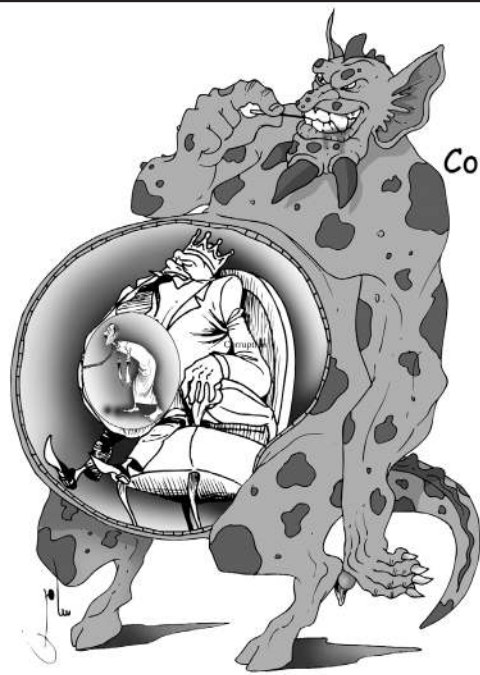
to go through with their guns all security checkpoints stationed along the way from Thamar to Ibb governorate. They went into the criminal investigations office and asked for the defendant Salah al-Rawee. They camouflaged the security men at the office and when Salah was brought from his cell, they stabbed him with their Jambias or daggers and then shot him dead. Some managed to escape and go back dancing after this great victory, while others were arrested. Not only this, the tribesmen descending from al-Hadda in Thamar invaded the city of Ibb again and destroyed the small house of al-Rawee and continued threatening to kidnap his son. They also protested to demand the release of the murderers.

The 45-year old al-Rawee bought a piece of land from the endowment office in Ibb several years ago. An influential colonel from al-Hadda tried several ways to manipulate the man to get that piece of land, but no way. Al-Rawee stuck to his right to own that piece of land. Due to lack of money to construct a house on it, he preferred to grow it. The uncontrolled colonel continued harassing the man and his family to the extent of beating of his wife, according to her speech to al-Nidaa weekly last week. He was put in jail for several months. However, he came out like a hero despite his pale appearance and frustration with a corrupt real estate system that transferred the ownership of the land to the colonel. He decided to build a small room to uphold his ownership of the land. He lived in the small room with his family. And while the government was celebrating the 44 anniversary of the 14 October Revolution marking the end of injustice, the colonel was leading a group of armed men to pound the small room of al-Rawee at night. He resisted and they fired their guns to shoot him but, to his wife's story, they missed their target and instead shot their colonel instead. Al-Rawee informed the police and surrendered to the criminal investigations police that did not protect his life. He was given to his opponents to simply kill and then celebrate outside the police station their victory over the state, or, so to speak, celebrate killing the state and the rule of law.

The perpetrators who are supposed to be the protectors and implementers of law and order behaved like a criminal gang and their tribal sentiments were stronger than their loyalty to the state and its regulations. This shows the situation of law in our country. Nobody is ready to respect even if they are working as its actors. The murder of al-Rawee is truly heinous crime that should bring hell loose. He is the victim of the deflowered law and order, of the absence of justice and the prevalence of the jungle law where influential figures are ready to devour the poor people who have no tribal backup. Yes, the tribal system has been acting against any efforts to establish a state ruled by law and order. The parliament discussed the case and decided to set a fact-finding mission. As usual, the tribal heads have started acting to settle down accounts through tribal norms. The government, of course, bows to the tribal norms and in this way, the rights of the people get lost. Such submission to the rule of the tribe will continue to cripple any attempts to build a state of law.

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SKETCHED
OPINION



By: Samer

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Yemen Press Review



26 September Weekly, Organ of the Yemeni Army
Thursday, October 25

Top Stories

- Presidential system in the suggested constitutional amendments is the most suitable for Yemen, says analytical study
- Military retirees: We have perceived President's credibility and determination to solve our issues
- World Bank approves extra grants for Yemen's development
- German tourist visits Marib once again ten years after he was kidnapped
- Saudi king affirms his government's support for Yemeni unity
- Custodian of the Two Holy Shrines King Abdullah Bin Abdul Aziz met Wednesday Yemeni Foreign minister Dr Abu Bakr al Kirbi, who relayed to his majesty a message from his brother Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh on bilateral ties and the ways to promote them in various areas, as well as the common Arab issues in Palestine and other Islamic countries and Peace Conference, the weekly reported. It added that the Yemeni official discussed with king Abdullah mutual cooperation between Yemen and friendly Gulf states.
- During the meeting king Abdullah confirmed his support for Yemen's unity, stability and safety, saying that what concerns the Kingdom does also concern Yemen. He also expressed

the key issue of holding Yemeni-Saudi coordination council's meetings in the Hegira Calendar month of Dhu-al-Qi'da.

In another article, the newspaper reported that His Highness Sheikh Abdullah Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, UAE Foreign Minister stressed the necessity of developing relations between the United Arab Emirates and Yemen bilaterally as well as Yemen and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), plus the importance of holding regular meetings between Yemeni and Emirate officials in order to achieve the common interest of their people and promote the bilateral relations between the two Arab states.

This came during his reception by Foreign Minister, Dr. Abu Bakr Al-Qerbi who is currently visiting the UAE. His Highness Sheikh Al Nahyan laid more emphasis on the developments in Yemen and the efforts expended to combat terrorism in the nation.



Al-Wahdawi Weekly, Mouthpiece of the Nasserite Unionist Popular Organization (NUPO)
Tuesday, October 23

Top Stories

- Yemen and Qatar reach cooperation agreement on higher education
- Hajja sheikhs begin open sit-in in solidarity with Nahshal
- Parliament forms special committee to investigate citizen's murder at Ibb jail

- Women Journalists Without Chains condemns arbitrary procedures preventing media from covering Radfan events

- Joint Meeting Parties call ruling party for dialogue to address issues of southern governorates

The Supreme Council of Joint Meeting Parties called the ruling party to return to the dialogue table according to the previously agreed-upon principles, warning of any conducts contravening the political agreements and conventions related with dialogue, the weekly paper reported in the lead story. In a statement, of which a copy was obtained by Al-Wahdawi.net, JMP held the organizations, which attempt to label other opposition parties and forces as incredible, unserious and pay no attention to the persisting national problems and public demands, accountable for any negative consequences of such conducts.

According to the weekly newspaper, the JMP leadership warned the authority and the ruling General People Congress of shifting people's attention away from political and national reform programs. It insisted on the government to remain committed to amending the Election Law and reshuffling the Supreme Commission for Elections and Referenda, the term of which is due to expire this November.

The JMP renewed its attitudes toward dialogue and national responsibilities, which it declared in Ramadan, in order to overcome any challenges posed to the national development. It called the government to seriously respond to demands of people in the southern governorates and quit any impoverished decisions

and procedures that help exacerbate national congestions. It also insisted on the government to stop its arbitrary procedures against peaceful protests meant for claiming legal rights, show respect for judiciary and its role in dealing with various issues, and enhance equal citizenship.



Al-Sahwa Weekly, Mouthpiece of the Islah Party
Thursday, October 25

Top Stories

- President Saleh to meet JMP leadership in Aden Saturday
- Retirees and jobless youths stage mass demonstrations in Lahj governorate
- France extends 130 million Euros in aid to Yemen, opens an office for French Development Agency in Sana'a
- Aden JMP branch denounces government policies for exacerbating crises
- Parliamentary committee discloses corruption cases costing the state billions of riyals
- Retirees and jobless youths sue mosque preacher

The Coordination Council of Military and Civil Retirees' Societies and jobless youth associations in the governorates of Aden, Dhale', Lahj, Abyan, Shabwa, Mahrah and Hadramout, filed a lawsuit against Nasser Al-Shaibani, Preacher of Al-Janad Mosque for instigating security

personnel to exercise violence against protesters while giving the Eid sermon, the weekly newspaper reported in its lead story. Filed by the defense-advocate Ali Mahmoud Al-Araziqi to Taiz Appeal Prosecution, the lawsuit demanded investigating the defendant Nasser Al-Shaibani for calling retirees disbelievers.

According to the newspaper, the suit included several charges against Al-Shaibani, who gave a fatwa permitting bloodshed of protestors and demonstrators, who claim their constitutional rights during the Eid sermon before President of the Republic. The retirees societies also threatened to sue a penal action against Al-Shaibani to the UN Security Council.



Al-Methaq Weekly, Mouthpiece of the General People Congress (Ruling Party)
Monday, October 22

Top Stories

- GPC Permanent Committee in Lahj governorate to hold meeting on Tuesday
- Minister of Youth & Sports directs concerned agencies to award Yemeni champs in Olympics
- GPC General Secretariat invites all Joint Meeting Parties for dialogue
- Police arrest a worker for throwing a hand grenade at an oil company
- President Saleh directs military officials to immediately resolve retiree's issues

H.E. President Ali Abdullah Saleh, Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, gave directives to officials in the interior and defense ministries, and the Central Organization for Political Security to immediately resolve any remaining retirees' issues on November 15 at the latest, the ruling party's mouthpiece reported. This came during his meeting with representatives of military and security retirees at Palestine Hall in Aden. Saleh discussed with retirees' representatives numerous subjects related with addressing pensioners' issues and listened to reports forwarded by the concerned officials in the interior and defense ministries, and COPS about the serious steps that has been so far taken to improve the situations of pensioners and those dismissed from their military and security jobs.

According to the reports, 96 percent of the retirees' cases have been resolved and the taken measures included promotion and reinstatement of dismissed officers and cashing any accrued entitlements to retirees. The newspaper added that President Saleh also directed the concerned government agencies to tackle land-related problems under the chairmanship of Vice-President Abdurabbu Mansour Hadi. He also ordered the establishment of provincial offices in all the Yemeni governorates to be concerned with the affairs of retirees and martyrs' families. "You must not give any chance to those who want to exploit your issue and make out of it a pretext to damage the nation and its unity, Saleh addressed retirees. "All the Yemeni people should make use of the past lessons in order to avoid repetition of the tragedy."

The decline of Ahmedinejad

By: Mehdi Khalaji

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmedinejad may be gaining support across the Muslim world for his fervent criticism of the United States, but inside Iran, he is losing strength. His political rivals are gaining new positions of power, and the population is increasingly unhappy with the economy's continuing decline.

Since its inception, the Islamic Republic has had a weak presidency; ultimate authority rests with the Supreme Leader, first Ayatollah Khomeini and now Ayatollah Khamenei. The Islamic Republic's first president, Abolhassan Bani Sadr, was dismissed from office a year after his election. Ever since, the regime has been intolerant of a strong president, and has repeatedly demonstrated that

the office is subservient to the Supreme Leader.

Ahmedinejad's election two years ago came with great expectations, with the new president pledging to "bring oil prices to the dining table of all households in Iran," and to crack down on corruption. Yet many of his first appointments were rewards to his supporters and cronies in the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps and the Basij militia, armed groups that mobilized voters on his behalf during the campaign. For example, an the Oil Ministry gave a \$1.3 billion no-bid contract to an oil company associated with the Revolutionary Guard, and Ahmedinejad appointed his brother-in-law as cabinet secretary.

Steps like these may have been overlooked in better economic times. But the Iranian budget is now running a 15%-of-GDP deficit, and foreign

reserves are shrinking, despite the oil boom. Instead of distributing oil revenues through a program of low-cost loans, as promised, the government has been forced to ration gasoline, as economic promise has given way to crisis.

Tensions have also been on the rise since Ahmedinejad fulfilled his campaign promise to enforce Islamic strictures on social life. For two years, police have waged an intense campaign against women and young people. Last summer, more than 150,000 women were arrested in Tehran for wearing "bad veils," and barber shops have been given specific instructions on acceptable hairstyles for young men.

Demonstrations by bus drivers, school teachers, women's rights activists, and students have been brutally suppressed, with dozens of arrests. Photos and video clips of police beating civilians in Tehran and other

cities have been disseminated on the Internet.

But now Ahmedinejad's opponents are moving to reassert longstanding constraints on the presidency. His foremost rival, Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, a former president who Ahmedinejad defeated to win the post, has had a remarkable reversal of fortune, reemerging as leader of the Assembly of Experts, the powerful body that elects Iran's Supreme Leader and that can even remove a Supreme Leader from office.

Moreover, conservatives who had aligned themselves with Ahmedinejad are now criticizing him openly. Even Ayatollah Khamenei, who as Supreme Leader is also commander-in-chief of the armed forces, has taken steps to demonstrate his authority, recently firing the leaders of the Revolutionary Guard and the Basij militia.

Among Iran analysts, it is thought that these moves were intended to revitalize the military, particularly given the possibility of conflict with the US. But experts also note that the former commanders were close to Ahmedinejad and had made a great effort over the last two years to help him implement his agenda.

While Ahmedinejad continues his verbal attacks on the US, he does not control the policy-making apparatus that will decide about Iran's nuclear program and its relations with the international community. The threat of sanctions remains potent, and the Iranian business community – not to mention the public – has felt the sting of isolation.

Considering the tangled involvement of Iran's leaders in the economy, the effect of sanctions should not be underestimated. The economy remains the

one area of Iranian life where Ahmedinejad retains considerable power. But here, his record is weak, and his pronouncements only exacerbate the problem by increasing Iran's isolation from the global economy.

So, as disputes with the West come to a head, it is important to recognize the power shifts underway inside Iran's opaque political system. Ahmedinejad may be making increasingly challenging statements, but he does not have the authority to act on them. Indeed, only a military confrontation with the US can bring him back to the center of decision-making. American policymakers should bear that in mind.

Mehdi Khalaji, trained as a Shiite theologian in Iranian seminaries, is a visiting fellow at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy. Copyright: Project Syndicate, 2007.

The high cost of feeling low

By: Peter Singer

Depression is, according to a World Health Organization study, the world's fourth worst health problem, measured by how many years of good health it causes to be lost. By 2020, it is likely to rank second, behind heart disease. Yet not nearly enough is being done to treat or prevent it.

The study, led by Saba Moussavi and published last month in The Lancet, also revealed that depression has more impact on the physical health of those who suffer from it than major chronic diseases like angina, diabetes, arthritis, and asthma. Yet in the same issue of The Lancet, Gavin Andrews and Nickolai Titov, researchers at the University of New South Wales, reported that Australians with depression are far less likely to receive an acceptable level of care than patients

with arthritis or asthma. This pattern is consistent with reports from other developed nations.

Treating depression is often, if not always, effective, and without it, those who suffer from depression cannot live happy, fulfilling lives. But, even in narrow cost-benefit terms, it makes sense to spend more on treating depression.

A study of 28 European countries found that depression cost them \$118 billion in 2004, or 1% of their combined GDP. The cost of treating depression accounted for only 9% of this huge sum. A much larger share was lost productivity. Richard Layard, of the Centre for Economic Performance at the London School of Economics, has said that mental illness is Britain's biggest social problem, costing 1.5% of GDP. He estimates that while treatment may cost £750 per patient over two years, the result is likely to be an extra month of work, worth £1880. Lord Layard advocates more psychotherapy

rather than drug treatment.

In the United States, a research team headed by Philip Wang of the National Institute of Mental Health in Rockville, Maryland, reported similar results last month in the Journal of the American Medical Association. Wang's team conducted a randomized controlled trial that showed that depression screening – to find workers who could benefit from treatment – was cost-effective, reducing health insurance costs to employers, decreasing absence due to sickness, and increasing job retention and productivity.

Depression is also costly in developing countries. In China, according to a recent article by Teh-wei Hu and colleagues in Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology, depression costs 51 billion renminbi, or more than \$6 billion, per year at 2002 prices. A few years ago, a research team led by Vikram Patel reported in the British Medical Journal that depression is common in Zimbabwe, where it was

often known by a Shona word that means "thinking too much."

Around the world, many primary care physicians underestimate the seriousness of depression. Many of them lack adequate training in recognizing mental illness, and may not be up to date with treatments options. Patients, too, may fail to seek treatment, because mental illness still carries a stigma that can make it harder to acknowledge than a physical illness.

The problem has been aggravated, in the US at least, by the refusal of some health insurance policies to cover treatment for mental illness. Thus, the US Senate's recent approval of the "Mental Health Parity Act" is a significant step forward. The legislation, which still has to pass through the House of Representatives, would require health insurance plans provided by employers to cover treatment for mental illness at a level similar to coverage for general health care. (Unfortunately, the legislation will

do nothing for the 47 million Americans who have no health insurance at all.)

Depression is an individual tragedy that is multiplied more than 100 million times worldwide. So, while we can and should do much better at treating it, perhaps the more significant question is whether we can learn to prevent it.

Some depression appears to be genetic, in which case genetic therapy may ultimately offer a solution. But much mental illness appears to depend on environmental factors. Perhaps we need to focus on aspects of living that have a positive effect on mental health. Many recent studies show that spending time relaxing with family and friends contributes to how happy people are with their lives, while long working hours, and especially long commuting times, contribute to stress and unhappiness. Of course, relaxed and happy people can still become depressed, and stressed and unhappy people may not be depressed, but it is a

reasonable hypothesis that happier people are less likely to become depressed.

LaSalle Leffall, who chaired the President's Cancer Panel, wrote to President George W. Bush in August, saying, "We can and must empower individuals to make healthy choices through appropriate policy and legislation." If that is true for encouraging healthy diets and discouraging smoking, it is no less true for lifestyle choices that promote greater mental health. Governments can't legislate happiness or ban depression, but public policy can play a role in ensuring that people have time to relax with friends, and pleasant places to do it.

Peter Singer is Professor of Bioethics at Princeton University. His books include Practical Ethics, Pushing Time Away, The Moral of the Story, and, most recently, The Ethics of What We Eat. Copyright: Project Syndicate, 2007.

Impacts of global warming and climate change

By: Raymond Branke, MSc. and Magdi Masgidi, MSc.

Climate change is happening now and is transforming life on Earth faster than previously believed and its impact is worse than expected – this is the essence from the Fourth Assessment Report of the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), published earlier this year.

Environmental scientists and policy-makers from all over the world have been patiently waiting for this meta-study which summarises the present knowledge and research results on global warming and the inevitably connected climate change and gives the most precise description to date of what has caused temperatures to rise from 1800 right up to now. This report is certain to have a major political impact on the ongoing debate about climate change.

The 450 main authors and about 2,500 supporting experts worked over the past six years on the 2007 IPCC report, analysed calculations from hundreds of computer models and screened some 30,000 data sets from more than 70 international studies, documenting changes to water circulation and ice zones as well as to flora and fauna over a period of at least 20 years.

Distinct evidence:

According to the IPCC, researchers observed distinct changes in the Earth's climate including atmospheric composition, global average temperatures, ocean conditions, and other climate changes. More than 85 percent of the data indicate "changes in a direction that would be expected as a reaction to warming."

The report lists vast of evidence for a global climate change:

- 1 Changes in the atmospheric composition: Carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide, which are all long-lasting greenhouse gases "have increased markedly as a result of human activities since 1750 and now far exceed pre-industrial values."
- Eleven of the twelve years in the period 1995 - 2006 rank among the top 12 warmest years in the instrumental record since 1850. Warming in the last 100 years has caused about a 0.74°C increase in global average temperature. "Average Arctic temperatures increased at almost twice the global average rate in the past 100 years."
- "Mountain glaciers and snow cover have declined on average in both hemispheres." At the same time



Extreme transformation: Climate shifts cause unpredictable calamities all over the globe.



that the intensity and length of the dry season has already increased in wider areas since the 1970s, especially in the tropics and subtropics. Thus, the African coast, Mediterranean Basin, South Africa, and parts of South Asia have become drier. Lands affected by drought are more vulnerable to flooding once rain falls. This phenomenon has already been observed in some parts of Asia and Africa, where droughts have become longer and more intense. Associated declining crop yields due to prolonged drought could put hundreds of thousands of people at risk for starvation.

Additionally, more than one-sixth of the world's population live in areas supplied by water sources from glaciers and snow that will "very likely" vanish, causing severe droughts, according to the report.

Hot temperatures and dry conditions also increase the likelihood of forest fires. In the conifer forests of the US for instance, earlier snowmelts, longer summers and an increase in spring and summer temperatures have increased yearly amount of land burned by 650percent and fire frequency by 400 percent since 1970.

Stronger storms and increased storm damage

The IPCC report also indicates that rising temperatures will cause tropical storms and hurricanes to become more intense causing more damage to coastal ecosystems and communities. As sea surface temperatures rise, developing storms will contain more energy, since hurricanes and tropical storms get their energy from warm water. At the same time, other factors such as rising sea levels, disappearing mangroves and wetlands, and increased coastal development threaten to intensify the damage caused by hurricanes and downpours.

Conclusion

Projected climate changes due to global warming have the potential to lead to numerous and varied future large-scale and possibly irreversible effects on the environment and for human life at continental and global scales. Most of the consequences of global warming would result from one of three physical changes: sea level rise, higher local temperatures, and changes in rainfall patterns that would directly lead to flooding of low-lying coastal areas, glacier retreat, and altered patterns of agriculture, but predictions for secondary and regional effects also include more frequent and intense extreme weather events, an increased spread of infectious diseases with drastic economic impact.

Besides marginal positive benefits of global warming, significant negative impacts are projected, that drive most of the scientific and political concern about global warming, leading to political activism advocating proposals to mitigate, eliminate, or adapt to it.

glacial lakes are increasing in both size and number, potentially leading to deadly floods.

- Permafrost in mountainous regions and at high latitudes is warming increasing the danger of land slides.
- There has been an increase in hurricane intensity in the North Atlantic since the 1970s, and that increase correlates with increases in sea surface temperature.
- As the temperature of rivers and lakes rises, their thermal stratification and water quality is changing.
- River currents, affected by melting glaciers and ice, are speeding up during spring.
- Springtime is starting earlier, causing plants to bloom earlier and changing the migrations of birds.
- Many plants and animals are expanding their habitats into mountainous regions and higher latitudes that are becoming milder.

Human responsibility

For more than a century now, people have been relied on burning fossil fuels such as oil, coal and gas for their energy needs, emitting enormous amounts of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere, with the result that carbon dioxide concentrations are now the highest in 150,000 years. Other, even more potent greenhouse gasses are also significant, as is massive deforestation. These human influences "have had a recognizable effect on many physical and biological systems", the IPCC report states. The observed changes in temperature and climate are considered "very unlikely" to be naturally occurring phenomena and with "very high confidence" that humans were responsible for most of the observed increase in globally averaged temperatures since the mid-20th century due to the observed increase in anthropogenic greenhouse

gas concentrations."

The UN experts not only describe the current situation. They also explore how landscapes and ecosystems will develop in the future as global climates change. In its summary, the report estimates that temperatures in the next 30 years will rise by 0.7 degrees Celsius. By 2100, temperatures could raise by as much as 6.4 degrees Celsius depending on the amount of greenhouse gases that will have been released into the atmosphere.

Rising temperatures will have consequences

The IPCC report lists in detail the potential consequences for most of the world and expect the most dramatic changes in terms of climate and landscape will take place in the northern-most latitudes due to the greatest relative warming. But other parts of the Earth will be also affected: Africa south of the Sahel zone will face extensive droughts. Small island states in the Pacific and the densely populated river deltas in Asia will suffer from flooding as sea levels rise. But southern oceans and the Atlantic are expected to be less effected. In most instances, global warming will cause negative effects for both humans and the environment across the globe. Some expected positive aspects - such as temporary better agricultural and forestry yields in northern Europe - will be more than outweighed by the expected negative effects due to rising temperatures and inevitably combined perils.

Changing landscapes and nature at risk

Rising temperatures and changing patterns of rain and snow are forcing plant communities to adjust by moving toward cooler and more humid areas and animals that depend on them will have to follow in order to survive. But

the rapid nature of climate change is likely to exceed the ability of many species to migrate or adjust. If the warming trend continues at its current rate, IPCC experts predict that one-fourth of Earth's species is likely to fall victim to climate change by 2050 as they will have no chances to adapt.

Extensive changes in landscape and ecosystems due to rising temperatures are expected over wide areas, for instance in the tundra, thawing permafrost will allow shrubs and trees to take root and grasslands of North America will likely become forests. Tropical rainforests will be replaced by savannah in those regions where groundwater decreases. Some specialised species and communities from polar regions, alpine meadows or natural oases may be left without any remaining viable habitat. In the tropics, increased sea temperatures are causing more coral reefs to "bleach," as the heat kills colourful algae that are necessary to coral health and survival.

Rising seas

As the Earth heats up, the report expects sea levels to rise due to thermal expansion of oceanic water, posing serious threat to lowlands throughout the world and speeding up the melting of the ice sheets that cover Greenland and Antarctica, that worsens the problem by adding even more water. In the past 100 years sea levels have risen at a rate of 1 to 2 mm/year; since 1993 satellite measurements indicates a rate of 3 to 4 mm/year. Current projections - that all exclude the contribution from ice sheet flow due to a lack of basis in published literature - suggest that sea levels could continue to rise between 180 to 590 mm over the next 100 years, depending on the chosen scenario.

Rising sea levels threaten to flood low-lying areas and islands, threaten several hundred million people in

densely populated coastal regions - particularly river deltas in Asia, erode shorelines, damage property and destroy ecosystems such as mangroves, salt marches and wetlands that protect coasts against storm events. The impacts may not only be related directly to flooding with increased loss of property and coastal habitats, an increased flood risk and potential loss of life, but may also include inhibition of primary production processes, agriculture and aquaculture through decline in soil and water quality, loss of non-monetary cultural resources and values, impacts on and loss of tourism, recreation, and transportation functions.

Inhabitants of some small island countries that rest barely above the existing sea level are already abandoning their islands, some of the world's first climate change refugees.

Increased risk of heat-related deaths and droughts

The UN climate panel also expects "increasing deaths, injuries and illness from heat waves, storms, forest fires and droughts." In 2003, for example, extreme heat waves linked to climate change caused more than 20,000 deaths in Europe and more than 1,500 deaths in India.

The scientists warn that in addition to heat-related illness, climate change may increase the spread of infectious diseases and pests that were once limited to the tropics - such as mosquito-borne malaria - may find hospitable conditions in new areas that were once too cold to support them. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that climate change may have caused more than 150,000 deaths in the year 2000 alone, with an increase in deaths likely in the future.

As temperatures rise globally, evaporation from land and surface waters also increases, leading to more frequent and more severe droughts in many areas, with potentially devastating consequences for agriculture, water supply and human health. The report stated that it is very likely that the dry season and heat waves would increase, and pointed out

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Addressing the health needs of youth

Yemeni youth: Not lost, just undiscovered

For Yemen Times

Yemeni youth are a huge lost opportunity. Males either plant and chew qat atop some rural mountain area or aimlessly roam the streets of large urban cities, while females are at home, doing chores and delivering babies (in both rural and urban areas).

Although there's some truth to the above statement, it carries a lot of stereotyping and injustice for the broad slice of the population pyramid comprising huge undiscovered potential.

What usually comes to mind when discussing the challenges facing youth are issues like poverty, unemployment and religious extremism. Is this because health is taken for granted as being integral in general development issues? Or is it because there's actually little data on youth health?

Other prejudices against youth are that they don't care about their health, that they're healthy or that they already know enough about their health.

Why youth are important in talking about health is a question with many answers. Youth not only form the largest proportion of the population, they also are the dynamo that should move development processes forward in all fields. High expectations from youth do not mean that they're all ready for this role.

Youth still are considered a vulnerable group social- and health-wise due to the multiple physical and psychosocial transitions they experience during this period. Adolescence particularly and youth is a period that's not so well defined legally or socially and which somehow confuses those in this age group.

Especially in Yemen, it's also a

period that plunges one into experiences such as marriage, reproduction and employment at an earlier age than expected. This translates into the fact that Yemeni youth not only worry about pursuing their education, career and fun, youth-related adventures, they also constantly face the dilemma of making important decisions about their health in an environment that doesn't consider such decisions important or that assumes they are already predetermined.

They may not recognize it, but youth are eager to learn more about what keeps them healthier and they're concerned about issues requiring proper health consultation and support. They need to know more about nutrition, reproductive health, HIV/AIDS and drug abuse, as well as they want to know about the health consequences of conflicts and migration. They have many unanswered questions!

Due to lack of awareness that it's important that such questions be answered by specialists and in the absence of reliable and trustworthy sources of health information, youth usually rely on their peers and social/traditional myths for their health consultation. Mass media is another information source that may not always be comprehensive and reliable.

A study by the National Population Council on youth knowledge, orientation and information needs¹ revealed some interesting information in this area. For example, 73.7 percent of male study samples thought reproductive decisions should be made by the husband alone and 34.4 percent of female respondents thought the same. This reveals the traditional concepts that youth have regarding important health issues such as reproduction, as well as explains the

health seeking behavior of many young females when it comes to reproductive health.

Only 57.8 percent of the study sample had heard about human rights, which we assume include the right to make reproductive decisions. Additionally, only 59.2 percent had heard about family planning, which isn't so shocking considering that one-third of the sample didn't know what population growth means!

Nevertheless, the study also revealed some positive facts. For example, 85.9 percent of those who had heard about family planning supported it, which indicates that access to information is vital for behavioral change. Seven out of 10 knew about HIV/AIDS, with little discrepancy between males and females.

Youth identified the media as their main source of information on health issues, in addition to health centers for family planning and health education. This means more should be invested in media to answer youth health questions.

The study also revealed that youth believe in their role in promoting health, particularly the positive role that females can play in this field. Access to information is essential and we can't deny that many programs have been designed and implemented to promote health among youth, although mainly in cities. Education materials and activities were tested in schools and feedback was positive. However, there's the other side of the coin: If youth are better aware of their health, are health providers ready to cater to them?

Youth health-seeking behavior is quite different than that of adults and elderly. Their characteristics as youth put an extra burden on health providers to accommodate their needs. For example, issues of

confidentiality, affordability and social acceptability always should be considered when providing youth health services. Additionally, a friendly environment that's appealing and secure for youth, mainly for females, is essential to attract youth into health facilities.

Professional staff should be trained in counseling in order to help youth learn about their needs, their strengths and potential, as well as limitations within their context. Linking health services with empowerment in life skills will increase demand on health services since most youth suffer poor economic conditions.

More importantly, broad thinking should govern youth health programs. Limiting health programs targeting youth to those regarding reproductive health and HIV/AIDS is wrong and actually may cause disinterest in other young people who aren't married or who feel intimidated by such topics.

Many other health challenges face Yemeni youth, including malaria, tuberculosis, malnutrition, qat and smoking, to name a few. The key players in this domain aren't only health professionals and centers; parents, teachers, media, peers, youth clubs and associations also are important. Nontraditional partners, such as religious and community leaders and police, also can be active.

Last but not least, youth should own such efforts to promote better health. Their participation is mandatory in order to gain youth confidence and establish accountability. Peer education programs have proven successful worldwide and should be applied in Yemen more comprehensively.

Investing in youth health has a major impact upon productivity, poverty eradication and gender equality, so can we give it more attention?

The world is not enough for humans

By: David Biello

Since 1987 annual emissions of carbon dioxide—the leading greenhouse gas warming the globe—have risen by a third, global fishing yields have declined by 10.6 million metric tons and the amount of land required to sustain humanity has swelled to more than 54 acres (22 hectares) per person. Yet, Earth can provide only roughly 39 acres (15 hectares) for every person living today, according to the United Nation's Environmental Program's (UNEP) Global Environment Outlook, released this week. "There are no major issues," the report's authors write of the period since their first report in 1987, "for which the foreseeable trends are favorable."

Despite some successes—such as the Montreal Protocol's 95 percent reduction in chemicals that damage the atmosphere's ozone layer and a rise in protected reserves of habitat to cover 12 percent of the planet—humanity's impact continues to grow. For example: Biodiversity—The planet is in the grips of the sixth great extinction in its 4.5-billion-year history, this one largely man-made. Species are becoming extinct 100 times faster than the average rate in the fossil record. More than 30 percent of amphibians, 12 percent of birds and 23 percent of our own class, mammals, are threatened.

Climate—Average temperatures have climbed 1.4 degrees Fahrenheit (0.76 degree Celsius) over the past century and could increase as much as 8.1 degrees F (4.5 degrees C) over the next unless "drastic" steps are taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions from, primarily, burning fossil fuels. Developed countries will need to reduce this globe-warming pollution by 60 to 80 percent by mid-century to stave off dire consequences, the report warns. "Fundamental changes in social and economic structures, including lifestyle changes, are crucial if rapid

progress is to be achieved."

Food—The amount of food grown per acre has reached one metric ton, but such increasing intensity is also driving rapid desertification of formerly arable land as well as reliance on chemical pesticides and fertilizers. In fact, four billion out of the world's 6.5 billion people could not get enough food to eat without such fertilization. Continuing population growth paired with a shift toward eating more meat leads the UNEP to predict that food demand may more than triple.

Water—One in 10 of the world's major rivers, including the Colorado and the Rio Grande in the U.S., fail to reach the sea for at least part of the year, due to demand for water. And that demand is rising; by 2025, the report predicts, demand for fresh water will rise by 50 percent in the developing world and 18 percent in industrialized countries. At the same time, human activity is polluting existing fresh waters with everything from fertilizer runoff to pharmaceuticals and climate change is shrinking the glaciers that provide drinking water for nearly one third of humanity. "The escalating burden of water demand," the report says, "will become intolerable in water-scarce countries."

The authors—388 scientists reviewed by roughly 1,000 of their peers—view the report as "an urgent call for action" and decry the "woefully inadequate" global response to problems such as climate change. "The amount of resources needed to sustain [humanity] exceeds what is available," the report declares.

"The systematic destruction of the earth's natural and nature-based resources has reached a point where the economic viability of economies is being challenged," Achim Steiner, UNEP's executive director, said in a statement. "The bill we hand our children may prove impossible to pay."

Source: www.sciam.com



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Chairman of Board of Directors, General Manager of the National Bank of Yemen

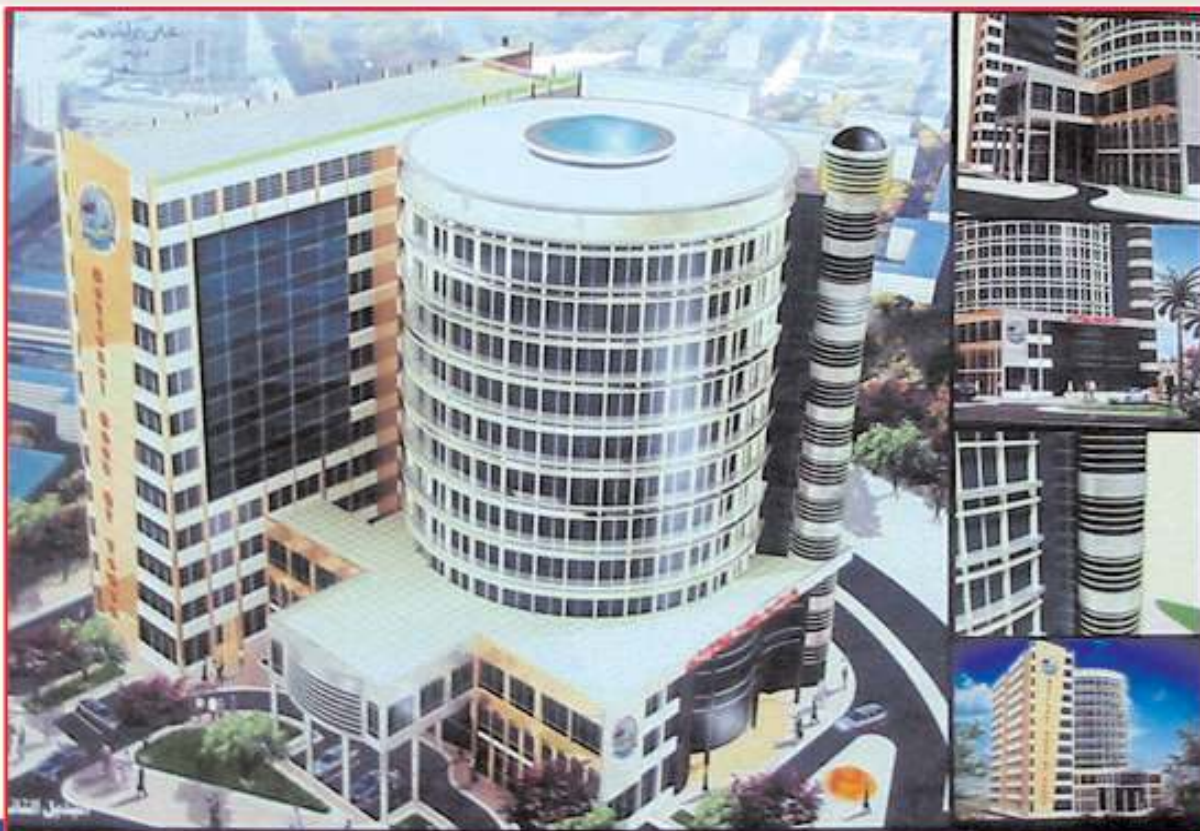
In execution to the election program of His Excellency The president of the Republic Ali Abdullah Saleh which contain preparing Yemen to receive the investors regionally and internationally with aims to encourage development and suitable infrastructure for the investors and dealers in Yemeni Banking Market, a contract for designing building consisting of fifteen floors was signed on Wednesday 24 Oct. 2007; the building includes the Head Office of the National Bank of Yemen, with Main Branch, and a hall for dealers in financial papers. This is the first building of a bank to be designed and established according to international specifications in the Republic of Yemen and distinguished landmark in banking industry regionally . The project will be carried out in two stages . It is expected that the first stage of the project will be carried out with establishing ten floors during the first term of the next year .

Contract of designs preparation was signed by Dr. Ahmed Ali Omar Bin Sunkar. Manager of the Administrative and Financial Department on behalf of the National Bank of Yemen and the Engineer Mamdouh Mursy Mohammed, on behalf of the Arab Consulting Engineers, Manager in charge of Yemen Office .

The contract signing ceremony was attended by Mr. Abdulkareem Shaif , Deputy Governor, the General Secretary of the Local Council of Aden Governorate, Mr. Abdulrahman Mohammed Al-Kuhali, Chairman of Board of Directors, General Manager of the National Bank of Yemen, Mr. Abdulhameed Mackawee member of Board of Directors, the First Deputy General Manager of National Bank of Yemen, as well as members of Board of Directors, Mr. Abdullah Abdo Saleh , the General Manager, Ministry of Finance Aden Governorate, Dr. Sameer Abdul Razaq , the General Manager of Ministry of Planning Aden Governorate, Mr. Hussien Abdullah Mackawee, the General Manager Ministry of Industry office Aden Governorate and Mr. Ahmed Hadi the General Manager of the Chamber of Commerce, Aden and distinguished clients of the Bank .



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Inspired by the Qur'an Al-Rabahi: An untrained artist



Ahmed Al-Rabahi standing next to one of his best paintings.

Artist Ahmed Al-Rabahi recently was nominated by the Ministry of Culture to represent Yemen at the 14th International Exhibition of the Qur'an held in the Iranian capital of Tehran during Ramadan. Yemen Times reporter *Hamed Thabet* interviews the artist.

Al-Rabahi, who has never studied fine arts, has adopted in his wall paintings Qur'anic words with rich meaning and connotations of great works, building and overlapping colors and words in consecutive blocks and lines of tortuous successive formations reflecting the vision of fine art and philosophy emanating from the heart of the universe.

He says the idea occurred to him during his daily reading of the Qur'an, which caused him to absorb more of what was written. "All of my paintings of the stars, the sunset, the dawn and many other things related to nature are from the Qur'an. Because I was a tour guide for 15 years, I had time to look closely at God's creation in this world and the miraculous nature of the Qur'an."

"The objective is to reflect on the details of the universe around us that says, 'Almighty, by creating the skies and the earth and the alternating of night and day, these are signs for men to understand' and 'God is almighty and truthful.'"

According to him, there are 130 of his paintings at Beit Al-Thaqafa Museum in Sana'a. Al-Rabahi participated in his first academic class in 2003, first writing the Qur'an on 30 to 40 pages and through subsequent practice, writing it on 15 pages, then 12, then seven, six, five, four, three,

two and finally, one page.

His most recent work was writing the entire Qur'an on one page, using Qur'anic words and phrases and like "There's no god but Allah," "Thanks be to Allah" and "In the name of Allah the merciful," outlining the new forms of some characters with simplicity and clarity.

This recent painting depicts Allah's majesty written in a new style with many secrets and was displayed at the exhibition. His entire body of work took seven years to complete, owing to writing in such small lines.

During those seven years, the talented Yemeni says there were no huge difficulties, except for financial problems because he wasn't working. "I sometimes faced insolvency, but Allah helped me and money came to me to continue my work. I also had some eye problems because I was writing such small lines, as well as backache for sitting at least five hours a day from early morning to 10:30 a.m. and then from 2 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. I've now been given support by the Ministry of Culture and mobile GSM company MTN."

Al-Rabahi notes that when he faced insolvency or financial difficulties, he sold some of his paintings to friends but to no one else. "I did this because I had no other choice. Instead of asking my friends for money, it was better to sell some of my paintings," he explains.

Al-Rabahi vows to continue what he has started until his dying day. He's also planning to come out with another style of art that will have the same idea and spirit of portraying the Qur'an's meaning.

"My message of peace must reach the whole world. Being nominated by the Ministry of Culture to represent Yemen at the 14th International Exhibition of the Qur'an was very important to me, as this was just the beginning. The last painting is simply the path to the next one. This exhibition, which was held Sept. 27 through the end of Ramadan, will be a starting point for me to other exhibitions."

Al-Rabahi uses no special pens or paper for his paintings. "All of my materials are available for anyone. I use size 3-4 or size 5 pens and write on cheap paper that anyone can afford. Additionally, I don't use any type of visual aids while writing because doing this type of writing for seven years has made my eyes accustomed to small lines."

These days, the artist says he's working on other paintings with the same meaning, but in different styles. He hopes to send his message to the world, telling them the Qur'an's peaceful message.

In this regard, "I received an

invitation from a Kuwaiti artist to exhibit there, which I'll do after this exhibition, and I'll soon go to Switzerland and Germany to participate in their exhibitions."

He adds, "I'm also dreaming of creating a project to spread literacy among children that says, 'Read what the most generous Lord taught by the pen, Allah, the almighty and truthful.'"

Al-Rabahi studied pharmacy in Germany before completing political science studies at Sana'a University. While working as a tour guide, he quit and began reading the Qur'an. At first, he was just reading and delving deeply into its meaning, but "Later on, I started to write and I've been doing that for about seven years now."

"To be honest, I'm not an artist, so there's no artistic memoir. All of my achievements are a result of loving and reading the Qur'an, scrutiny and worship. While I was reading, I realized its importance and started writing it down on regular paper, subsequently writing it on better paper."

"I've never studied art or anything in that field, so this is why I wish critics and specialists would tell me what type of art this is. As I said, I have no idea about art or those things related to it, so if anyone would do that for me, I would be grateful," he concluded.

Arab Cultural Center, S. Korea's First Window to Middle East



A replica of a camel is on display at the Korean Center for Arab and Islamic Culture in Incheon. / Korea Times Photos by Kim Se-jeong

Replicas of a camel and examples of pottery welcomed guests in the lobby area, and on a wall a sign read "Korean Center for Arab and Islamic Culture."

The newly decorated space was a presentation of life in the Middle East, the first to open in Korea. The many items on display were a major part of the presentation.

In the corner was an example of an Islamic house interior with cushion blankets adorned with oasis patterns and a desk and chairs set made of wood. Several male and female mannequins were dressed in Muslim clothes and garments - one mannequin decorated with jewelry was a belly dancer.

This is what one can expect from the Center for Arab and Islamic Culture located in central Incheon, nearly one and half hours away from Seoul by subway, that had its grand opening last Monday.

Short presentations on Muslim culture were also on offer. For example, during the Unified Silla Kingdom (B.C. 57-935), Muslims first came into contact with Korea through trade.

The items on display were all donated by embassies in Seoul.

The opening ceremony was attended by 30 representatives from 15 Middle Eastern countries. Some were ministers and others government officials who traveled to Incheon attend the celebration.

Amre Moussa, secretary general of the League of Arab States, said in his written congratulatory remarks that "with the opening of the Korean Center for Arab and Islamic Culture, many Koreans gathered at the center have shown a warm welcome for the

future of cultural exchanges between Korea and the Middle East."

The cultural center has a library of Islamic books, audio tapes, music, movies, CDs, web resources and 20 Arab TV channels.

One room with a closed door named "Business Center" is what both Korea and the Middle East would ultimately want through the cultural exposure.

Staff at the center said the business center would assist those who'd like to open a business in the Middle East with information and consultation.

The Middle East has become an important trading partner for Korea, accounting for 12 percent of the entire trade. Because of oil and gas imports, Korea embraces more trade deficits than profits.

Jang Geon, professor of Arab economy at the Hankuk University of Foreign Studies, said, "However, the Middle East has not been attractive to Korea until recent years, and it has great potential."

He said the area's economy is booming as oil prices soar, and "countries in the Middle East are looking into investing their oil money into sectors like education, services, finance, in which Korea is strong," Jang said.

Jang, emphasizing cultural understanding and personal networking in business with the Middle East, said, "To Arab people, once you are friend, they'll trade with you."

The center looks forward to opening "The Street of Arabs" in Cheongna area, northern Incheon, in 2012, where it will present more extensive elements of the Arab and Middle Eastern culture.

The cultural center will be open to the public from Nov. 1.

Source: *The Korea Times*

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Bronze Man statue back in Yemen

By: Hamed Thabet

Yemen welcomed home its Bronze Man statue on Oct. 26 from the Louvre Museum in Paris where it had been for nearly 10 months for repair.

Abdullah Ba Wazeer of the Public Authority of Antiquities and Museums said,

"The Louvre doesn't have anything like this bronze masterpiece statue. Experts in charge of repairing and studying it were amazed at its scrupulous workmanship."

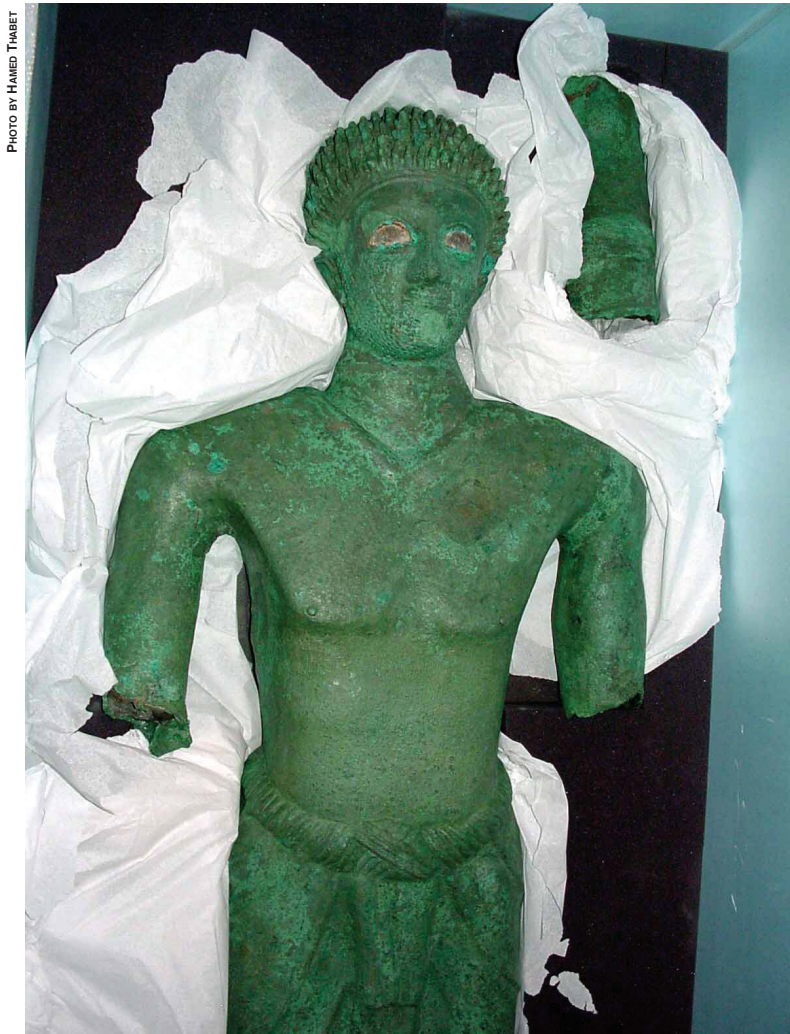
This magnificent statue will help Yemen increase and promote its tourism programs, he noted, adding that it will be the center of attraction and interest for both Arab and foreign tourists.

According to Ba Wazeer, the statue's repair at the French museum is regarded as an initiative for future cooperation, adding that sometime between Nov. 9 and 12, Yemen is expecting to receive another statue known as Henri Lori in a ceremony inaugurated by the director of Louvre.

"There will be more collaboration with the Louvre in the future. When Henri Lori arrives here, we'll discuss more opportunities and strategies for exchanging and repairing antiquities," Ba Wazeer assured.

Dating back to the sixth century B.C., the Bronze Man statue is a unique masterpiece at the National Museum and its height, body and sides make it one of the world's rare antiquities. Made of bronze and filled inside with burnt mud, the statue's body is quite soft, which is very rare.

Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Jindari, director of the National Museum in Sana'a, stated, "Our museum now is complete by



The Bronze Man statue is now in National Museum.

receiving the Bronze Man statue, as it's the most valuable antiquity."

He continued, "The statue's presence in the Louvre was an unusual advertisement for Yemen and its history. Many who saw it became more aware about the existence of Yemen, which is very beneficial for tourism."

According to Al-Jindari, the importance of repairing the statue not only was for maintenance, but also for study. After it was cleaned, 12 inscriptions were discovered written on its body in the ancient Yemeni language known as Al-Musnad.

Ba Wazeer remarked that before being sent to the Louvre, the Bronze Man statue was dirty and subject to deterioration. "Additionally, we couldn't study it, but many things have changed since its repair; for example, the 12 inscriptions that were unseen, but now we can read what's written," he explained.

Officials assure that further research will be done on the Bronze Man statue to learn more about it.

According to National Museum officials, the 12 inscriptions on the statue's body reveal the name of the kingdom from which it came, as well as its purpose. It was from ancient Yemeni King Howtar Athat, whose father was Bin Rathow.

"The statue was presented as a gift to the moon gods in Nashaq in Al-Beidha

governorate and since it was an offering, it was placed in the temple," Al-Jindari explained.

The Bronze Man statue was a contemporary of the Yemeni statue "Maedi Karab," an ancient king in Sabaeen civilization. This statue also is made of bronze and is approximately 65 centimeters in length. Several spiritual books mention Maedi Karab between 1,200 B.C. and 200 A.D.

"Of course, as experts at the Louvre Museum said, the one who made the statue [Howtar Athat] was rich because in those days, such material was expensive and not everyone could afford it," Al-Jindari explained.

"Preparations are underway to display the Bronze Man statue at the National Museum. Its opening day will be Saturday and it will be located on the ground floor with two other statues, Dammar Ali Yahbor and his son, Tharam Lahnam, who were kings of Sheba, Thoreyda, Hadramout and Yamamah or Yamnat," Al-Jindari pointed out.

An expert team soon will arrive to participate with a Yemeni team to study the Bronze Man statue and other antiquities. "In the future, we'll have our own qualified specialists to handle the same type of conditions. We're planning to do this as soon as possible," Ba Wazeer noted.

He went on to say that the five-year agreement signed with the Louvre Museum includes repairing antiquities

and exchanging temporary museum exhibits, as well as qualifying a Yemeni team.

French firm Andre Chenue S.R., Yemen's Marib Travel & Tourism and Yemenia Airlines cargo division transported the Bronze Man statue.

The statue's case was placed in a specialized compartment in the airplane with a perfect environment in order to protect it from damage. Additionally, a special type of sponge was placed inside to avert breakage and damage due to turbulence.

French experts took the utmost care to return the Bronze Man statue without damage or problems, which they did successfully. The Yemeni team's experts here also were very professional and handled the statue carefully.



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The statue dates back to the sixth century B.C.



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Improve Your English: 309

I. What to Say

Situations and Expressions (98):

Some frequently used legal terms (III)

Legal English generally uses very lengthy sentences which has led to the impression that it is very difficult to understand. The fact of the matter is that the so-called complexity of the language of Law is due to its syntactic properties rather than the number of words used. There are quite a few French loan words in the English legal register, some of which are as follows:

French loan words in the English legal register

assault: attempt to apply unlawful force to the body of another person.

battery: the carrying out of a threat by coming into physical contact with another person.

covenant: an agreement contained in a deed.

devise: the giving of a legacy in a will.

felony: a classification of serious crimes.

indictment: a formal statement of a crime prepared for trial by jury.

larceny: theft, carrying away of goods without the consent of the owner.

plaintiff: a person who brings an action in civil law.

pleading: written statement setting out the arguments that will be put forward at the trial.

reprieve: temporary suspension of the carrying out of a sentence imposed in a criminal case.

slander: defamation in a non-permanent form, such as words or gestures.

tort: a breach of duty which gives rise to civil action at the hands of an aggrieved person.

treason: a betrayal of allegiance owed to the reigning sovereign.

verdict: the decision reached by a jury as to whether or not a person is guilty

II. How to Say it Correctly

Correct errors, if any, in the following sentences

- You won't be able to go to the next higher class unless you won't pass the exam.
- I don't know if or not it's true.
- Supposing if you don't get the scholarship this year, you should try again next year.
- Since setting up, the firm has been making steady progress.
- Don't take the bike without to ask Taher's permission first.

Suggested answers to the previous issue's questions

- Although it was raining heavily, she went out. Or, It was raining heavily, but she went out.
- We would have avoided the traffic jam if we'd set out a bit earlier.
- If I knew what you wanted, I'd help you.
- If our team were to win the match today we would become champion.
- I would (or should) be grateful if you could (or would) comply with my request.

III. Increase Your Word Power

(A) How to express it in one word

- Dried food, hay, etc. for farm animals, horses, etc.
- All the leaves of a tree or plant.
- Put warm water or cloths, lotions, etc. on a part of the body to lessen pain.
- Touch or stroke lovingly.
- Foolishly bold.

Suggested answers to the previous issue's questions

- Get a person to accept something of little or no value by deceit or trickery: **fob** (vt)
- Meeting points of rays of light, heat, etc: **focus** (n)
- Person with old-fashioned ideas which he is unwilling to change: **fogey** (n)
- Slight peculiarity or defect of character, of which a person is wrongly proud: **foible** (n)
- Person that contrasts with the qualities of another: **foil** (n)

(B) Words often confused

Bring out differences in meaning of the following pairs of words

- wine, whine 2. clean, clear 3. frenetic, frantic
- recall, recoil 5. procure, acquire

Suggested answers to the previous issue's questions

- concept** (n) (idea underlying a class of things): We must help children from concepts about different phenomena.
- notion** (n) (speculative knowledge that is not based on experiment or demonstration): I have no notion of what you are talking about.
- oral** (adj) (using the spoken, not the written): Students

are taking an oral exam.

verbal (adj) (connected with words and their use): He made a verbal error.

3. **law** (n) (rule made by authority for the proper regulation of a community): The government has made a law against country arms.

rule (n) (decision made by an organization): All borrowers must obey library rules.

statute (n) (the body of written law established by parliament): All the statutes are compiled in several volumes.

bye-law (n) (regulation made by a local authority such as a town or a company): The company has formulated a new set of bye-laws

4. **skill** (n) (ability to do something expertly and well): Learning a foreign language is a matter of learning a set of new skills.

strategy (n) (a particular plan for winning success in a particular activity, as in war, a game, a competition). The intelligent strategy of the captain crowned the team with success.

5. **begin** (vt) (take the first step of activities and states that come into existence. It is preferred when the predicate denotes a state of mind or mental activity): The classes will begin after two days.

start (vt) (make sudden movement or change of position): The train has started to move.

(C) Synonyms and Antonyms

(i) Synonyms

Choose the word that is closest in meaning to the one given at the top

- pay**
a. offer b. settle c. remit d. return
- provided**
a. equipped b. attached c. furnished d. bestowed
- sounded**
a. heard b. hinted c. appeared d. looked
- course**
a. syllabus b. training c. rough d. period
- muttered**
a. cursed b. found c. told d. said

Suggested answers to the previous issue's questions

Word	Synonym
1. frugality	economy
2. foray	incursion
3. garrulity	loquaciousness
4. furore	excitement
5. traverse	cross

(ii) Antonyms

Choose the word that is most opposite in meaning to the one given at the top

- surfeit**
a. superior b. fined c. underfed d. tall
- simulated**
a. feign b. genuine c. imitate d. separate
- stubborn**
a. obstinate b. ductile c. stub d. fife
- sublime**
a. ordinary b. ridiculous c. superb d. bright
- suppress**
a. restrain b. provoke c. show d. punish

Suggested answers to the previous issue's questions

Word	Antonym
1. rejoice	lament
2. remarkable	average
3. repeal	apply
4. spasmodic	frequent
5. sententious	prolix

(D) Spelling

Choose the correctly spelt word

- a. accent b. askent c. aksent d. akecent
- a. acept b. aksept c. accept d. accept
- a. aksentuate b. accentuate c. acksentuate d. ascntuait
- a. akess b. acksess c. access d. akcesh
- a. akeshion b. acession c. akcession d. acession

Suggested answers to the previous issue's questions

- absurd, 2. abundant, 3. abusive, 4. academic, 5. accelerate

(E) Phrases and idioms

Use the following in sentences

- like a cat on hot bricks 2. suit (someone) down to the ground
- make heavy weather of 4. waste one's breath
- a flea in one's ear

Suggested answers to the previous issue's questions

- have the patience of Job (to be extremely patient):

You should have the patience of Job to face the crisis.

2. **a piece of cake** (something very easy or simple to do): The grammar exam was a piece of cake unlike other exams.

3. **have a sinking feeling** (to have a feeling of pessimism about a forthcoming event): The accused has a sinking feeling about the forthcoming judgment in his case.

4. **get into a state** (to become upset): The interview will be only a formal chat; there's no need to get into a state about it.

5. **run out of steam** (no longer to have as much energy or enthusiasm): They decided to start the project, but soon ran out of steam.

IV. Grammar and Composition

(A) Grammar

Fill in each blank with the most appropriate Latin phrase given below

status quo, ad nauseam, ego, bona fide, per capita, post mortem, curriculum vitae, persona non grata, vice versa, pro rata

- Duty-free goods may be purchased only by ——— travelers. Please show your flight-ticket when buying.
- Applicants for this post should write enclosing a detailed ———.
- Rental rates for our cars are \$20 a day. Longer periods will be charged ——— with no reductions.
- He was barred from this country in 1985 and has been ——— ever since.
- Everyone must do what she wants, listen to what she says, go where she decides to go. No one is important. She really has got a big ———.
- Some people just went to preserve the ——— in this country, but others want change, reform, development.
- A great many British people spend their holidays in America, and ———.
- The ——— examination showed that she died of cancer.
- Canada has a ——— income of over \$20,000.
- I'm afraid he's rather a boring person. He goes on and on ——— about his political views.

Suggested answers to the previous issue's questions

- The company went out of business because they did not even have sufficient funds in their account to pay their employees.
- I'd be happy to lend you \$5 as long as you can give it back before the weekend.
- The annual interest rate is 15%, so if you borrow \$100, you have to pay back \$115 at the end of the year.
- The highest-paid company directors in this country have an annual income of more than \$1 million made up from salaries and bonuses.
- She agreed with the bank manager that she would repay the money in twelve installments of \$50 per month.
- The government went to a group of international banks to ask for a loan of \$20 billion.
- You haven't forgotten that you owe me \$25, have you? When will I get it back?
- He borrowed a further \$200, on top of the original \$800, so his total debt was \$1000.
- In most countries, the more you earn in your job, the more tax you have to pay.
- The company had to borrow a large sum of money so that the business could expand.

(B) Composition

Expand the central idea contained in the maxim
127. DON'T COUNT YOUR CHICKENS BEFORE THEY ARE HATCHED

Expansion of the topic of Lesson 308

126. A Penny Saved is a Penny Earned

To save is to keep and add to an amount of money for later use. To earn means to get money by honest work. They are mutually complementary and are identical in their objective and outcome. Saving presupposes prevention of wastage which is tantamount of generating resources. Earning similarly implies addition. It is incremental. If we want our own resources to register an upward growth we have necessarily to unleash our efforts in both directions. There are plenty of examples to substantiate the truth of the maxim. At home or in the work place, we leave electric bulbs burning although there is no need. This is wastage of very vital energy. If we stop the wastage, it is same as generation of power.

V. Pearls from the Holy Quran

"No partner has He. This am I commanded, and I am the first of those who submit to His Will." S6: A163

VI. Food for Thought

"The man who doesn't read good books has no advantage over the man who cannot read them."

—Mark Twain

Getting the best out of the child

Children feel good when they feel cared for, supported and liked. Care should be taken to nurture the child both physically and psychologically to ensure a harmonious growth.

Parenting is all about unlocking the child's abilities. There's no magic formula or special tricks. No secrets or shortcuts. It's just an approach, a set of strategies that breaks down the barriers, builds bridges and unlocks potential. Like all enterprises, there are moments when one has a sense of fulfillment and times when one has a sense of frustration or even despair. But a carefully planned and insightfully executed approach is likely to yield good dividends.

Giving the child a sense of fulfillment

The child should be trained to dream. We should get the child realize goals and encourage him/her to see the steps that will be necessary to get to that goal. Children who are optimistic about their abilities to set goals usually experience a sense of fulfillment. This acts as a springboard for new learning because 'nothing succeeds like success.' It gives parents a sense of fulfillment to see the child scale greater heights of success.

Boosting the child's morale by appreciation

Key factors in designing web sites



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widely preached and important user interface design principle is to understand who your users are and what they want to do. With the web there are so many users with so many different purposes.

b) Where does it start? The programmer usually has the ultimate say on where a user enters his program and barring crashes, where they leave. The web site users have no such controls. Many web designers naively assume that people will start at the home page and drill down from there. In reality people will bookmark pages in the middle of a site, or even worse, enter a site for the first time from a link and find themselves at an internal page.

c) Where does it end? When a user exits the program, your responsibility ends. In the web they are just as likely to leave your site via a link to a third-party site. Your clean, easy to understand navigation model breaks down when someone leaves your site, but, of course, for them it is a single experience.

d) User Centered Design: Graphic user interfaces were designed to give users control over their personal computers. Some of the users do not know how to use the system and they are expecting a level of design sophistication from all graphic interfaces, including Web pages.

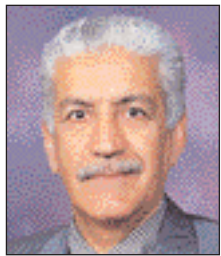
e) Clear Navigation Aids: Most user interactions with Web pages involve navigating hypertext links between documents. The main interface problem in Web sites is the lack of a sense of where the user is within the local organization of information.

a) Who are the users? The most

Continued on page 2

EILT Panorama

The spirit of literary criticism: From the Renaissance to the 18th century



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The Renaissance Criticism

The Renaissance period was one of general enlightenment in which a flood of new ideas came in with the new learning, accompanied by a revival of men's powers, a fresh vision of things and a new spirit of initiative. Literary theory and criticism received a new emphasis and there was a marked change in outlook from theocratic to secular. There was a spurt of translations.

General Characteristics of the Renaissance

- 1- change of outlook from theocratic to secular.
- 2- A trend toward translation of the ancient knowledge.
- 3- An admiration of the aesthetic beauty of the ancient masterpieces.
- 4- The invention of the printing press spread the literary texts.
- 5- A general awakening.

Sir Philip Sidney:

Sir Philip Sidney (1554 – 1586) is an English poet, courtier and soldier. His efforts in defending poetry is expressed in his critical essay *The Defense of Poetry* originally *Apology for Poetry*. In this essay he defended poetry against Puritan objections. It remains the finest work of

Elizabethan literary criticism. In this essay, he argued the poet's superiority to the philosopher. He differs from Aristotle in preferring epic to tragic poetry.

Critical Synopsis of Sidney's "Defense of Poetry"

1- Antiquity of poetry: Poetry in all nations has preceded other branches of learning. It was poetry which gradually enabled man to read and understand learning of other kinds. Philosophers and historians have in the beginning appeared under the mask of poets. The beauty of Plato's works depends on poetry.

2- Poetry: Its universality: Poetry has flourished in all ages and countries.

3- Poetry: its continuity: Poetry is long lasting. It began early in history.

4- Universal veneration of poets and poetry. Both Greeks and Romans honored poets: They regarded poets as prophets. In Greek, the word 'poet' means maker or creator. The poet alone can fashion a perfect lover, a perfect friend, a perfect valiant man and he is truly creative.

5- poetry is an art of imitation: Its purpose is to teach and delight.

6- Poetry is superior to all other branches of knowledge.

7- Poetry gives us knowledge of virtue.

8- Poetry has a divine music.

Division of poetry:

Sidney divides poetry into three divisions: religious, philosophical and true kind of poetry. Religious poetry praises God. Philosophical poetry deals with knowledge of philosophy, history, astronomy...etc. The true kind of poetry is heroic, lyric, tragic, comic, satiric, iambic, pastoral. There can be no evil in poetry. Poetry does not give us knowledge of virtue, it allures men to virtue. It leads to virtuous actions.

To him love poetry is not bad itself, it

shows an appreciation of beauty.

John Dryden

Dryden was a versatile writer in all branches of literature. Dr. Johnson called him "the father of criticism." The only formal work that he left behind is his "Essay on Dramatic Poetry."

His Critical works are:-

- Essay on satire
- Essay on Heroic Tragedy
- Essay on Fables

Joseph Addison

He represents neo-classical attitudes tempered by good sense, a large share of tolerance, positive good taste. His essay on Milton's *Paradise Lost* is remarkable in content and style.

Alexander Pope

Pope was interested in improving the methods and standards of criticism in general. His chief critical works are:-

- 1- An Essay on Criticism
- 2- Letters
- 3- Preface to Shakespeare
- 4- Preface to the Translation of the Iliad.

Ben Johnson

Ben Johnson presides over the early 17th century literary scene. Ben Johnson like Sidney has a high conception of poetry. Ben Johnson says, "a poet has a god in him" He has a divine breath. Johnson is the first modern critic to give criticism an important place as a creative work. As for principles of order, restraint, harmony, he takes the examples of the Greeks. As for style, he cares for pure and neat language. He also cares for the harmonious fitting of parts in a sentence. Johnson accepts the classic order in a deeply critical spirit.

Dr. Samuel Johnson: (1709 1784)

Dr. Samuel Johnson is one of the major figures in the 18th century literature. He praised Shakespeare for creating universal characters who act and speak as the reader thinks that he should himself have spoken or acted on the same occasion. In his "Preface to Shakespeare" he manifested both morality and general nature.

His works are:-

- Preface to the Dictionary of the English Language
- Preface to Shakespeare
- Lives of poets

Neo-Classicism

At the beginning of this era stands John Dryden and at the end of it is Dr. Samuel Johnson. In its first phase during the Restoration Age (1660-1700) which is presided by John Dryden, Neo-classicism is liberal and moderate. In its second phase during the 18th century it becomes more and more narrow, slavish and stringent. Alexander Pope, Addison then Dr. Johnson are the leading critics of this second phase.

This school of criticism is called *Neo-Classicism*. It is also turned *Augustan*, because the writers of this time considered that their time was brilliant and glorious in literature as the age of king Augustus Caesar of Rome, the age which produced writers as Horace, Vergil and Quintillion.

There are various reasons for the rise of Neo-Classicism in the second half of the 17th century. The excesses of the Metaphysical – the followers of John Donne – naturally led to a revolt in favor of order, balance and sanity in literature.. Then there was the predominance of French influence.

General Characteristics

- 1- "Follow nature" is the center of the Neo-classical creed.
- 2- To follow nature means to follow the rules of the ancient masters for they were based upon nature.
- 3- Emphasis was laid upon "reason and good sense". Emotion and fancy must be controlled by reason.
- 4- A balance must be maintained between "fancy and judgment."
- 5- The poets must deal with universal truths and general ideas.
- 6- The function of poetry was to instruct and delight. The didactic function was considered more important than the aesthetic one.
- 7- The poet must reward virtue and punish vice.
- 8- Tragedy must purge the soul of pride and hardness of heart.
- 9- Much thought was given to the style and diction of poetry. The language of poetry should be noble and elevated. Common words were avoided.
- 10- The poet must use the style proper to the genre, in which he was writing. For example, the diction proper to satiric poetry would be improper for the epic which is superior and tragic.
- 11- Rhyme was superior to blank verse.

A letter to the learners of English: 9 Why should you read newspapers?



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Dear student friends,

A newspaper is a rich and inexpensive source of information; it gives us news, advertisements, weather reports, business information, opinions of various people on a variety of things and so on; there is information for every section of the society, information to satisfy all readers. In these days of technological boom, other media are trying to overtake the print media – newspapers – but without success, as newspapers are still the least expensive and most widely-reaching source of information all over the world. Moreover, a newspaper is 'fresh', when compared to a book, as it gives us the 'now and here' information in a 'tasty' way. That's why thousands of people glue themselves to newspapers every morning.

It's no doubt the best source of general knowledge. Those who face interviews for jobs or higher courses of study or scholarships do need to have up-to-date knowledge of the happenings in the world and their only source is the newspaper. Of course, the news bulletins on the TV are also helpful, but they are the second best, as the newspapers can be read and retained for a long time and referred to whenever needed. One can take notes from them, if necessary; and cuttings from them can be saved for future reference.

Newspapers have an additional help for the teachers and learners of English. Teachers of English can use them as additional materials in their classes for developing language skills and communicative skills of the stu-

dents; for example, news items and stories can be used periodically as reading materials in addition to the ones in the textbooks; the 'hot' news can form the basis for debates in the classes; advertisements can be used for teaching, writing or reference skills. They are more useful because they are current, interesting and 'eye-catching and ear-pricking', unlike the most-often dull textbook materials.

Students like you can benefit from newspapers; they can be a very good aid for developing your reading skills; they provide you with what you want – stories, news items, announcements, advertisements, jokes, etc. Newspaper language is different from that you find in your textbooks; it is creative, full of life and energizes you. News writers take special care to make their writings attract the readers and so use the language in a special way. Each story in a newspaper is an artifact; it is the result of hard work, deep thinking and continuous development in writing. It has something special for every reader. Some of the newspaper stories are good pieces of literature for you to read and enjoy.

One of the questions most of my students, past and present, invariably ask me is 'How do I develop my English?' and my only answer is 'Read English as much as you can', as I have written several times, I'm convinced that reading is the only means of developing English for Yemeni students and it is reading skills in English that they need to a great extent as users of English as a foreign language. Newspapers are the only inexpensive source for you to read in English and develop your reading skills. Recently I saw an announcement in the Yemen Times about their collaboration with the universities in order to help the students get the newspapers easily. Make use of this opportunity and get the benefit out of it; alternatively, you can form smaller groups, call them Readers' Clubs, in your universities. I'll write more about this in the following letter. Good luck.

Yours affectionately,
Dr M N K Bose.

School as a torch-bearer

School provides a congenial environment for acquisition of skills and getting to grips with some content areas. However, the concept of school has undergone a dimensional change according to the modern educational theories which are based on the needs of the learners and those of the society.

Yet, in Yemen we cling on to the same age-old views that the total educational process aims at teaching the students how to read and write. Many vital needs of the learner are ignored either by the curriculum or by the teachers because they are considered unimportant, though they are highly significant factors in forming the student's character and personality, for example, how to adapt with the changing environment, how to be responsible for his/his conduct, how to be neat, clean, disciplined, hard-working and respectable.

The students should be taught how to cultivate an open mind and a positive attitude. They also must be taught lessons about personal hygiene including cutting and cleaning their nails and hair



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etc. Added to that, they should be taught how to participate in classroom discussion in the class and school which will instill in them a substantial measure of self-confidence to face the big problems in their real life in the larger society. So, the teacher who is considered the pivot in the teaching-learning process should groom the students in coping skills and strategies. Above all, the curriculum must include many examples and experiences so as to augment the moral and ethical standards of the young minds who are the architects of tomorrow.

Supervision of practicum: Stages of counseling

Dr. Ramakanta Sahu

The Practicum component on a teacher preparation course offered at the Faculties of Education has immense potential to sensitize the pupil-teachers to improve their perceptions of and insight into the teaching technology. It has two significant principles and parameters: pupil-pupil interaction and the supervisor-pupil interface. As teacher educators, it is highly essential for us to be aware of the different stages of counseling relationship during micro-teaching / peer-teaching sessions.

The act of counseling on the part of a teacher-educator subsumes three important stages:

1. Exploration
2. Understanding
3. Initiative

Exploration

In this stage of the lesson the counselor tries to explore the different aspects of the lesson. He plays the following roles and asks the following questions:

Roles

- a. Attends (the supervisor empathizes with the teacher-pupil. Without

being a hindrance, he/she lends physical and moral support to the teacher during different stages of the lesson)

- a. Reflects (the supervisor demonstrates critical awareness about the different strategies used and offers judicious observations, comments, suggestions, etc.)
- b. Affirms (the supervisor plays a supportive role with regard to the approaches, methods, techniques, aids, etc. being used)

Questions

- The supervisor uses elicitive techniques to help the teacher see through the strengths and shortcomings of the lesson.
- a. How do you feel it went
 - b. Talk me through the lesson so you thought
 - c. So you felt ...
 - d. I liked the way you... was very nicely handled

Understanding

In this stage the counselor adopts a criti-

cal perspective to alert the performer about her performance and the strategies adopted.

- a. Personalizes: How do you feel about the class you were teaching?
- b. Focuses: What were your objectives / strategies?
- c. Activates: What issues do you think are becoming clearer to you now?

Initiative

In the light of the peer observations and counselor comments, the performer is asked to rethink the lesson.

- a. Summarizes: With hind sight, what might you have done differently?
- b. Negotiates: How do you feel about the lesson now?

The discussions conclude with the supervisor and the teacher-pupil arriving at a consensus about the areas to work on.

Continued from page 1

Key factors in designing web sites

Clear, consistent icons, graphic identity schemes, and graphic or text-based overview and summary screens can give the user confidence that they can find what they are looking for without wasting time.

f) Bandwidth and interaction: Users will not tolerate long delays. Research has shown that for most computing tasks the threshold of frustration is about ten seconds. Web page designs that are not well "tuned" to the network access speed of typical users will only frustrate them.

g) Simplicity and consistency: Users are not impressed with complexity that seems gratuitous, especially those users who may be depending on the site for timely and accurate work-related information. The interface metaphors should be simple, familiar, and logical - if users need a metaphor for information design, choose a genre familiar to readers of docu-

ments, such as a book or a library. Highly unusual, "creative" navigation and home page metaphors always fail because they impose an unfamiliar, unpredictable interface burden on the user.

h) Navigation: A rich set of graphic navigation and interactivity links within web pages will pull users' attention down the page, weaning them from the general-purpose browser links and drawing them further into your content.

i) Visual hierarchy: The primary task of graphic design is to create a strong, consistent visual hierarchy in which important elements are emphasized and content is organized logically and predictably. Graphic design is visual information management, using the tools of page layout, typography, and illustration to lead the reader's eye through the page.

j) Consistency: Establish a layout grid and a style for handling a text and graphics, and then apply it consistently to build rhythm and unity across the pages of a site. Repetition is not boring; it gives the site a consistent graphic identity that creates and then reinforces a distinct sense of "place" and makes a site more memorable.

k) Page dimensions: Although Web pages and conventional print documents share many graphic, functional, and editorial similarities, the computer screen, not the printed page, is the primary delivery site for Web-based information, and the computer screen is very different from the printed page.

l) Scrolling: In long Web pages the user must depend on the vertical scroll bar slider to navigate. In some graphic interfaces the scroll bar slider is fixed in size and provides little indication of the document length relative

to what's visible on the screen, so the reader gets no visual cue to page length. In very long Web pages small movements of the scroll bar can completely change the visual contents of the screen, leaving the reader no familiar landmarks to orient by.

m) Page layout: Laying out web pages involves a bit of wizardry. HTML was designed by engineers and scientists who never envisioned it as a page layout tool. Their aim was to provide a way to describe structural information about a document, not a tool to determine a document's appearance.

n) Accessibility: Many accessibility issues have to do with presenting certain types of content. But the user can take measures with the design to improve access for users with physical disabilities, particularly those who use assistive technologies to access Web pages.

ANY GUESSES?

1. What is a 'ball park figure'?
2. What is the difference between 'He lives by the mosque' and 'He lives near the mosque'?
3. What do you understand by 'pinkie'?
4. What is meant by 'nadir'?
5. Do you know what 'bribery-oath' is?

Suggested answers to the previous issue's questions

1. The idiom 'paying through the nose' means 'it is expensive!' When you say you've paid through the nose for something it means, you've paid too much or a lot of

2. The word 'studied' means 'carefully considered, intentional, deliberate.' So the expression 'studied indifference' means deliberate indifference.
3. A 'charlatan' is 'a person who deceives others by falsely claiming to have a special knowledge or skill, specially in medicine.'
4. 'Mickey mouse question' means a question that is 'nonsense, trivial, and time-wasting.'
5. The expression 'oodles of things to do' means 'a great amount, lots of things to do.'

Index of situations and expressions (Lesson Nos. 201 to 300)

Lesson No.	Theme	Date	Sit & Expr	Lesson No.	Theme	Date	Sit & Expr
201	Expressing emotions (x)	15 Sept 03	55	251	Thank you wishes (iii)	30 Aug 04	70
202	Expressing emotions (xi)	22 Sept 03	55	252	Marriage Anniversary (i)	6 Sep 04	71
203	Expressing emotions (xii)	29 Sept 03	55	253	Marriage Anniversary (ii)	13 Sep 04	71
204	Expressing emotions (xiii)	6 Oct 03	55	254	Marriage Anniversary (iii)	20 Sep 04	71
205	Wedding Anniversary	13 Oct 03	56	255	Good Luck messages (i)	27 Sep 04	72
206	Felicitating a teacher (i)	20 Oct 03	57	256	Good Luck messages (ii)	4 Oct 04	72
207	Felicitating a teacher (ii)	27 Oct 03	57	257	Good Luck messages (iii)	18 Oct 04	72
208	Felicitating a teacher (iii)	3 Nov 03	57	258	Good Luck messages (iv)	1 Nov 04	72
209	Felicitating a teacher (iv)	10 Nov 03	57	259	'Miss you' wishes (i)	15 Nov 04	73
210	Tribute to a teacher (v)	17 Nov 03	57	260	'Miss you' wishes (ii)	29 Nov 04	73
211	Tribute to a teacher (vi)	24 Nov 03	57	261	'Miss you' wishes (iii)	13 Dec 04	73
212	Tribute to a teacher (vii)	1 Dec 03	57	262	Good wishes for the new arrivals	27 Dec 04	74
213	Tribute to a teacher (viii)	8 Dec 03	57	263	Entry to a new home	17 Jan 05	75
214	Giving a send-off (bon voyage)	15 Dec 03	58	264	Job Advertisement (i)	31 Jan 05	76
215	Expressing condolence of comfort (i)	22 Dec 03	59	265	Job Advertisement (ii)	31 Jan 05	76
216	Expressing condolence of comfort (ii)	29 Dec 03	59	266	Job Advertisement (iii)	28 Feb 05	76
217	Good wishes for success in exam (i)	5 Jan 04	60	267	Job Advertisement (iv)	14 Mar 05	76
218	Good wishes for success in exam (ii)	12 Jan 04	60	268	Job Advertisement (v)	28 Mar 05	76
219	Good wishes for success in exam (iii)	19 Jan 04	60	269	Job Advertisement (vi)	11 April 05	76
220	Expression of love	26 Jan 04	61	270	Job Advertisement (vii)	25 April 05	76
221	Birthday wishes (i)	2 Feb 04	62	271	Job Advertisement (viii)	9 May 05	76
222	Birthday wishes (ii)	9 Feb 04	62	272	—	—	—
223	Birthday wishes (iii)	16 Feb 04	62	273	—	—	—
224	Birthday wishes (iv)	23 Feb 04	62	274	Institutional ads	18 July 05	77
225	Birthday wishes (v)	1 March 04	62	275	Commercial consumer ads	1 Aug 05	78
226	Good wishes on the engagement	8 March 04	63	276	Commercial ads	15 Aug 05	79
227	Wedding wishes (i)	15 March 04	64	277	Social service ads	29 Aug 05	80
228	Wedding wishes (ii)	22 March 04	64	278	Goodbye and good luck wishes	19 Sept 05	81
229	Wedding wishes (iii)	29 March 04	64	279	'Love you' wishes (i)	3 Oct 05	82
230	Wedding wishes (iv)	5 April 04	64	280	'Love you' wishes (ii)	17 Oct 05	82
231	Wedding wishes (v)	12 April 04	64	281	'Love you' wishes (iii)	21 Nov 05	82
232	Expressing regret, repentance (i)	19 April 04	65	282	'Love you' wishes (iv)	5 Dec 05	82
233	Expressing regret, repentance (ii)	26 April 04	65	283	'Love you' wishes (v)	19 Dec 05	82
234	Mother's Day (i)	3 May 04	66	284	'Love you' wishes (vi)	2 Jan 06	82
235	Mother's Day (ii)	10 May 04	66	285	'Love you, daughter'	16 Jan 06	83
236	Felicitations on the Graduation Day (i)	17 May 04	67	286	Love you, friend'	30 Jan 06	84
237	Felicitations on the Graduation Day (ii)	24 May 04	67	287	Welcome home	27 Feb 06	85
238	Felicitations on the Graduation Day (iii)	31 May 04	67	288	Good wishes on retirement	27 March 06	86
239	Get well wishes	7 June 04	68	289	Advertisement idiom	27 March 06	87
240	Friendship Day (i)	14 June 04	69	290	Advertisement idiom	27 April 06	87
241	Friendship Day (ii)	21 June 04	69	291	Social Ads	27 April 06	88
242	Friendship Day (iii)	28 June 04	69	292	National integration function of ads	29 May 06	89
243	Friendship Day (iv)	5 July 04	69	293	Mother's Day (iii)	29 June 06	90
244	Friendship Day (v)	12 July 04	69	294	Tribute to a husband	31 July 06	91
245	Friendship Day (vi)	19 July 04	69	295	Wishes for a sister (i)	4 Sept 06	92
246	Friendship Day (vii)	26 July 04	69	296	Wishes for a sister (ii)	5 Oct 06	92
247	Friendship Day (viii)	2 Aug 04	69	297	Wishes for a sister (iii)	30 Oct 06	92
248	Get well wishes	9 Aug 04	68	298	Wishes for a sister (iv)	4 Dec 06	92
249	Thank you wishes (i)	16 Aug 04	70	299	Wishes for a brother	1 Jan 07	93
250	Thank you wishes (ii)	23 Aug 04	70	300	Thank you, teacher! (i)	1 Feb 07	94

Expansion of paragraphs (included in the lessons)

1. Stone walls do not a prison make, nor iron bars a cage
2. As you sow, so you reap
3. A rolling stone gathers no moss
4. Fortune favours the brave
5. Health is wealth
6. Prevention is better than cure
7. Necessity is the mother of invention
8. Every dark cloud has a silver lining
9. Rome was not built in a day
10. All that glitters is not gold
11. Look before you leap
12. Honesty is the best policy
13. To err is human, to forgive divine
14. Forgiveness is the noblest revenge
15. Man lives in deeds, not in years
16. Man is born free, but is everywhere in chains
17. The pen is mightier than the sword
18. Work is worship
19. Knowledge is power
20. Child is the father of the man
21. If winter comes can spring be far behind?
22. Slow and steady wins the race
23. A stitch in time saves nine
24. A bad workman blames the tools
25. Fools rush in where angels fear to tread
26. It is better to light a candle than to curse darkness
27. A bird in hand is worth two in the bush
28. Money is a good servant but a bad master
29. Duty performed is a moral tonic
30. Time and tide waits for none
31. Haste is waste
32. A hungry man is an angry man
33. Art lies in concealing art
34. A fool sees not the same three that a wise man does
35. A man is known by the company he keeps
36. Example is better than precept
37. A friend in need is a friend indeed
38. Prevention is better than cure
39. An empty vessel sounds much
40. Courtesy costs nothing
41. Charity begins at home
42. Beggars are not choosers
43. Beauty lies in the eyes of the beholder
44. Old is gold
45. Barking dogs never bite
46. Brevity is the soul of wit
47. Beauty is not skin deep
48. Better to reign in hell than to serve in heaven
49. Bad workmen blame the tools
50. Books are no substitute for experience
51. Fame is the last infirmity of a noble mind
52. Failure is the pillar of success
53. Friendship is seldom lasting but between equals
54. Fashions in dress are much less harmful than intellectual fashion
55. Every dog has his day
56. Distance lends enchantment to view
57. Discretion is the better part of valour
58. Character is destiny
59. Cowards die many times before their death
60. Cut your coat according to your cloth
61. Flattery brings friends, truth enemies

62. God helps those who help themselves
63. Great men have always second great recompense
64. He who pays the piper controls the tune
65. Humor is the salt of life
66. Handsome is that handsome does
67. Habit is the second nature
68. Hope springs eternal in human breast
69. He prayeth best who loveth best
70. He makes no friends who never made a foe
71. He who never changes his mind has no mind to change
72. If wishes were horses, beggars could ride them
73. If you would have peace, be prepared for war
74. An idle mind is the devil's workshop
75. Laugh and the world laughs with you, weep and you weep alone
76. Lend your ears to all, tongue to few
77. Life is not a bed of roses
78. Love knows no barriers
79. Liberty cannot exist without discipline
80. Life is action, not contemplation
81. Man doesn't live by bread alone
82. Men never learn from history
83. No pains, no gains
84. Neither a borrower, nor a lender be
85. No man is a hero to his valet
86. One man's meat is another's poison
87. One must be poor to know the luxury of living
88. One is as young as one feels
89. One sparrow does not make a winter
90. Prosperity gains friends, but adversity tries them
91. Might is right
92. It's never too late to mend
93. The crown and glory of life is character
94. Perseverance is the hinge of all virtues
95. Penny wise, pound foolish
96. Poverty is the mother of ill health
97. Strike the iron when it is red hot
98. Spare the rod, spoil the child
99. Sweet are the uses of adversity
100. To profit from good advice requires more wisdom than to give it
101. Today we know more, but feel less
102. The duty of the historian is to narrate, not to comment
103. The hand that rocks the cradle rules the world
104. Patience and forbearance can overcome mountains
105. Reading maketh a full man
106. Beauty is truth, and truth beauty
107. Lives of great men teach us to make our own life sublime
108. If you think you're beaten, you are
109. There is a divinity that shapes our ends
110. Sweet are the uses of adversity
111. Fortune favors the brave
112. Those who live in glass houses should not throw stone at others
113. A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush
114. The early bird catches the worm
115. You can't judge a book by its cover
116. A barking dog seldom bites
117. Better late than never
118. A new broom sweeps clean
119. Beauty is only skin deep
120. Let sleeping dogs lie
121. He who hesitates is lost

Learn to read: Facts and myths for parents

By Janet Twyman Ph.D

We all agree that "Read to Succeed" is more than a marketing slogan. It is truth in today's globally competitive world for our children. Yet we as parents still suffer from learning to read myths, perhaps passed on from our parents, perhaps propagated by society. If we as parents truly want our children to "read to succeed", we need to overcome these myths and help our kids by supporting what really is proven to work for reading success.

A child's (and a person's for that matter) ability to read sets the tone for life success. There is no controversy over this statement. We have all seen the literacy rate studies where the US falls behind many other countries. We have all heard about the "No Child Left Behind" push from the US government and the increased pressure on our school systems to deliver measurable test improvement scores on basic literacy. We all agree that "Read to Succeed" is more than a marketing slogan. It is truth in today's globally competitive world for our children. Yet we as parents still suffer from learning to read myths, perhaps passed on from our parents, perhaps propagated by society. If we as parents truly want our children to "read to succeed", we need to overcome these myths and help our kids by supporting what really is proven to work for reading success.

Hard-to-Believe Learning-to-Read Facts:

If we want to make a difference for our children, we need to know and accept the learning-to-read facts without hiding our heads in the sand:

The following facts give you an idea of the severity of our nation's reading problem:

Nearly 40% of Fourth Graders have not mastered basic reading skills. It's nearly 60% in California, and almost half of these children live with college-educated parents. Source: -- Council for Basic Education If a child is a poor reader at the end of First Grade there is a nearly 90% probability that the child will remain a poor reader at the end of Fourth Grade. Source: -- The Public Library Association Experts say about 5% of the nation's children learn to read with ease, almost intuitively. An additional 20% to 30% learn to read with relative ease once they enter school and begin formal instruction. However, the bulk of children (about 60%) have difficulty. Source: -- Council for Basic Education Hard-to-Believe Learning-to-Read Myths:

Now, consider the following myths that we as parents accept without thinking as true, but are in fact not true at all. These Learning-To-Read Myths help perpetuate poor reading skills and prevent us from taking action to make a change.

MYTH: Kids learn to read by being read to.

FACT: Reading to young children will help develop their interest in reading. Many children learn bits and pieces this way; however, "being read to" does not equal "learning to read." And only 5% of children actually learn to read by being immersed in reading. Learning to read is not like learning to speak, where children literally "soak up" a spoken language. Children must learn the skills necessary for reading, and for all but a few, this requires

explicit instruction.

MYTH: Reading is a natural process that will happen on its own when a child is ready.

FACT: There must be a certain level of reading readiness, and most two-year-olds, for example, are not ready to read. At one time, reading was thought to develop naturally, when a child was "mature" enough, but this is no longer the belief. Research now indicates that the 4- to 6-year-old range is the sweet spot for teaching reading. Beyond the age of 6 or 7, teaching a child to read is simply a game of catch up. Most children do not learn to read "on their own" - and if a child is struggling to read at age nine, the Council for Basic Education maintains there's a 75% chance he or she will have difficulties with reading throughout high school.

MYTH: All kids will learn to read in school.

FACT: Not necessarily. The range of entering skills among young children - regardless of their background - varies widely, and is extremely challenging to manage even for our best teachers. Providing individual attention and interaction based on each child's unique capabilities, and managing an entire class at the same time, is a daunting challenge. Yet reading experts say that children need lots of practice with reading fundamentals (phonics, sounding out, blending, etc.). Given the "facts of life" in a classroom - overall student/teacher ratios and general work overload - most teachers do the best job they can. However, too many children are being left behind. One thing is clear: Too many of our children cannot read or have difficulty reading. And, if they don't read fluently, the chances for a fulfilling life - in terms of job skills, financial stability, or academic achievement - are greatly diminished.

What Parents Can Do With Your School

As in all problems parents have to solve, understanding and distinguishing between the true facts and the "conventional wisdom" myths is the key to making improvements. This first step is education. Take these facts and myths to your kid's teacher, your kids school administrators, your school district and your friends. Ask them what they think. Ask them to dispute these facts and myths. Challenge them to face the truth about what it takes to teach a child to read, and to explain to you how they are addressing these issues. Ask them if they are focused on improving their reading programs? Ask them if they have a plan... are they embracing technology; do they have individualized reading programs? What are they going to do?

Get active. Get loud. Email this article, or better yet, print it out and take it to your kid's educators in person. Make a difference for your children with your school system. Quite literally, your child's future, and the future of our great nation depends on it.

What Parents Can Do On Your Own: In part II of this article, we will offer help and suggestions as to what you as an individual parent can do on your own to help your young child to "Read to Succeed". Stay tuned. The future of your children, and our nation is in your hands.

Source: www.edarticle.com

SCIENCE QUIZ LINE

Tick (✓) the most appropriate choice

tRNA, mRNA, DNA, amino acids

1. First law of thermodynamics is a law of

- conversion of energy
 conversion of mass
 conversion of temperature
 conversion of momentum

2. What is a buffer solution?

- strong base and strong acid
 weak base and weak acid
 weak base and strong acid
 weak acid and its conjugate base

3. The place where the killing or capturing of any animal is prohibited is known as

- botanical garden
 national park
 wildlife sanctuary
 bird sanctuary

4. Which is the correct sequence of code transfer involved in the formation of a protein?

- DNA, rRNA, tRNA, mRNA
 DNA, mRNA, tRNA, amino acids
 mRNA, DNA, amino acids

5. Apple is known as a false fruit because
- its inferior ovary is small
 it is the fleshy thalamus which forms the fruit
 the pericarp is inconspicuous
 none of these

Suggested answers to the previous issue's questions

1. The reason why some mutations which are harmful do not get eliminated from gene pool is that they are recessive and carried by heterozygous individuals.
2. The region around equator with low pressure and little wind is known as doldrums.
3. The maintenance of a significant proportion of world's biodiversity by maintaining organisms in their natural state is known as in situ conservation.
4. Grassi is the scientist who studied the complete life history of malarial parasite plasmodium in man

From deconstruction to new historicism



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A group of dons at Cambridge, while bitterly opposing the award of an honorary degree to Jacques Derrida, called him a 'charlatan', 'a trickster', and a 'malevolent influence' on the impressionable mind (The Times of India, May 25, 1992). Though Derrida won the honorary degree after a historic battle of the ballot, the acrimony against the deconstructionist guru is symptomatic of the pervasive attitude of hostility that exists in the academes even after more than three decades of the Johns Hopkins proclamation of Derridean deconstruction. Deriding deconstruction as an instance where logic has got itself out of hand is understandable, for deconstruction shakes the very foundation of the traditional critical creed: that poems do mean something about the world, about reality. Deconstruction seeks to reverse this logocentric stance of an incarnationist perspective of embodied meaning so fondly celebrated by the New Critics and stubbornly refuses to assign meaning to a text. This assertion that "there is something truly revolutionary about refusing to assign meaning to a text: Gerald Graff says, "is perhaps the ultimate descent into the politics of silliness" ("Cooperation" The New Historicism 174). In 1986, the year in which Graff was mounting this counter insurgency against the smugness of deconstruction, John M. Ellis in Against Deconstruction spoke of the

bullying tactics of deconstruction which, he thought, was no more than sheer militancy against the notion of determinate meaning upheld by different versions of traditional criticism.

The militancy of the deconstructionists has of course not gone totally unrewarded. If there is an important sterility in the theory of deconstruction, there is also immense success in its effort to displace the notion of text-reality nexus by the more sophisticated notion of textuality, the notion that problematizes the concept of closure, the concept of text as a bounded construction. A text, as Roland Barthes aptly remarks, is "a multidimensional space in which "a variety of writings, more of them original blend and clash" (Image, Music Text 146). The two-fold identity of a text consists, firstly of its being in the discursive mode, of being an activity of writing, and secondly in its openness to multiple readings in terms of other texts inevitably inscribed into it. Thus, despite the oft-repeated charge that the deconstructionists are anti-historical, they do seem to reflect a sense of history which takes into account not only the historical fact of writing as a district field of enquiry, but also the assumption that there is implicit in all our reading a tendency to historicize the text by positioning it among texts already written. It is perhaps this perception of an inevitable historicity in the deconstructionist project that led Frank Lentricchia to hope in 1980 that history might "well determine the direction of critical theory in years just ahead" (After the New Criticism, 1980).

While deconstruction did salvage texts from the delimiting bounds of aesthetic autonomy and restored the centrality of the reader, what seemed totally barren in deconstruction was its abortive attempt to eliminate meaning from the text by dislodging it from its historical sites of production and consumption. It is this sterility in deconstruction that led Edward Said, Herbert Lindenberger and Jonathan Culler to emphasize, in the 1983 MLA conven-

tion, the importance of history to the future of criticisms. It was in fact in 1980 that Stephen Greenblatt's book, Renaissance Self-Fashioning: From More to Shakespeare opened the possibilities of a new critical theory that Greenblatt called New Historicism in an introduction to a special issue of Genre in 1982. New Historicism is of course not a total break from deconstruction. It does not consider history merely as a temporal sequence of events. For the New Historicist, "the bases of historical knowledge," as Paul de Man aptly suggest, "are not empirical facts but written texts" (Blindness and Insight 165). In other words, New Historicism encompasses the deconstructionist strategy of textuality and views history essentially as a discursive practice. It is in terms of an openness to the insights and procedures of deconstruction that New Historicism can claim to be different from the old historicism of the thirties. For the New Historicist, history is not a directly accessible unitary past with the qualities of objectivity and permanence, but a process by which past is constructed and invented by the subjective self who, as Greenblatt asserts, is "fashioned by cultural institutions - family, religion, state" (Renaissance Self - Fashioning 265).

New Historicism is an attempt to salvage critical theory from what Terry Eagleton calls "the hedonist withdrawal from history" (Literary Theory 150) and an assertion that all our representations of the world, our readings of texts and the past are informed by the politics of our own historical position. Against a teleological and totalizing conception of history held by such older historicists as Edmund Wilson, Lionel Trilling and E.M.W. Tillyard, the New Historicists perceive history as relationships of differential power, as a process by which past is constructed or invented by the imperatives of power-relations in a particular society and at a particular moment of time. New Historicism thus attempts to surmount the deconstructionist assump-

tion of self-reflexivity of the text of endless play of signifiers and seeks to locate the text within a 'social network' where as Louis A. Montrose observes, "individual subjectivities and collective structures are mutually and continuously shaped" ("Professing the Renaissance" The N. H. 15). In 1980, Greenblatt christened this project of linking material and social practices with textual readings as "cultural poetics" and later in 1989, he spoke of a "poetics of culture" that aimed at "a study of the collective making of distinct cultural practices and inquire into the relations among these practices" ("Towards a Poetics of Culture", The N.H. 3)

The New Historicists, in their assertion that all our readings of texts and the past are informed by the values, politics and material practices governing our historical position, see their own historical position as dominated by the politics of class-struggle, of "encounter between an authority and an alien" (Renaissance Self Fashioning 9). Thus Greenblatt deconstructs the "cultural logic of the Renaissance" to explore the power-relations epitomized in the complementary and conflicting relationship between the glorified body of the king and the tortured body of the deviant. In fact, the New Historicists have been labeled as leftists whose argument is best summed up by Frederic Jameson in his book The Political Unconscious: Narrative as a Socially Symbolic Act (1981) in which he declares that all texts are a part of a single story of the class-struggle as it has manifested itself throughout history, which is "the single vast unfinished plot."

Greenblatt's concept of the "poetics of culture" as a topological description of New Historicism suggests both historicist and Methodological concerns. While poetics implies production and principles of organization, culture embraces the materiality of history in terms of the production, distribution and consumption of material practices. AS Louis A. Montrose puts it, New

historicism may be characterized "as a reciprocal concern with the historicity of texts and the textuality of history." Montrose explains the two terms thus:

By the historicity of texts, I mean to suggest the cultural specificity, the social embedment, of all modes of writing. By the 'textuality of history', I mean to suggest firstly that we can have no access to a full and authentic past... unmediated by the surviving textual traces of the society... and secondly those textual traces are themselves subject to subsequent textual mediations when they are construed as the documents upon which historians ground their own texts, called 'histories' ("The Professing the Renaissance... "The N. H. 20).

In speaking of the textuality of history, the New Historicists relate themselves to the deconstructionist theory of textu-

ality, while in speaking of the historicity of texts, of the social embedment of all modes of writing, they have redeemed deconstruction of its aimless procedures.

In his presidential address to the MLA in 1986, J. Hillis Miller, while expressing his deep concern for the future of criticism, lamented that literary study in the past few years had turned 'toward history, culture, society, politics, class and gender conditions, the social context, the material base' (PMLA, 1987, 283). Interestingly, this historical turn seems to have actually reinvigorated criticism and textual analysis in terms of the assertion that any discourse is a network of connections among texts, authors, cultures and societies. New Historicism as a critical theory can thus look forward to a new phase of liberal imagination that encompasses the insights of old historicism, the reading practices of deconstruction and the ideological critique of the marxists.

POETRY CORNER

My homeland



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Wherever I go East or West
Certainly, my homeland is the best
Rainy weather, cold and thick mist
Give air beauty and us all the rest.

Ibb, the natural paradise, is a warm nest
For everyone who comes as a tourist
Its wonderful scenes can't be described on a list.

Surrounded mountains with green carpet get dressed
Early morning shines with magnificent rays, first
Trees and flowers dance when birds sing, next.

A new day opens its arms with soft voice tells
Watch me even a glance before I dismiss.

Night changes it into a plate full of bright pearls
One can't believe he is on the earth or in the skies.

Don't judge until you come and test
We aren't, as it is said, terrorists.
Helping and loving others is our interest.

I had a hope to be

Lubab Al-Mayass
Sana'a

I had a hope to be the one
For whom the stars, the sun, and the moon
And all that is boon,
Will become eternity.

Yet, the stars I found,
Awakening the moon
And empty clouds,
Said aloud
"We'll sing for you no more"

'We'll sing for you no more,

Do you dare to ignore
That every man and woman,
And every child is a tale,
That can never ever falter

Can they ever falter indeed,
To make art and poetry
When all that's achieved
Feeding heart and imagery?
Then, let it be.

With a heart wide opened,
And a sweet imagery,
To bear all that happened
No more sweet nor opened,
Rather broken

University: A springboard for self-exploration and augmentation



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The central focus of university as an institution of advanced learning is not to impart instruction as a school does. The university is supposed to teach, train, do research and serve the community by offering relevant programs in the community services centers: consultations, training, solving problems in the community. Universities encourage scholarship, research, exploration and training on some specific skills or professions. Unlike the university, schools offer instruction relating to basic information in different fields. If a school basically imparts knowledge, students in the university are supposed, to quote Tennyson, "To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield". A university student goes beyond knowledge and comprehension to application, analysis, synthesis, and evaluation- to use Bloom's Taxonomy. Critical appreciation and personal judgment are valued at this stage more than received opinions.

The role of the university changes from time to time. Some people believe that the university helps in chiselling out the true gentleman. As a matter of fact, the university is a social institution

designed to prepare skilled young people for jobs in major sectors of a nation's economy and to do advanced research in collaboration with business and industry. However, a sizeable segment of college freshmen have a misconception that the role of the university is similar to that of schools or institutes. For example, many students join departments of English here in Yemen, to learn basic communicative skills in English. Their goal is primarily to achieve literacy, not exploration or scholarship. This is a false start and the sooner our students come out of it the better for them.

Universities, as research centers, provide necessary training on professional careers as teaching, translation, or journalism. With its intellectually stimulating environment, the university cultivates students' personality as well as develops their creativity by providing them with insight and analytical skills for future careers. The technological and socio-economic advancement in this globalization era have created a high demand for workers with varied occupational skills that can be acquired at universities. The prospective employers are on the look out for graduates who have the necessary critical thinking and problem-solving abilities to adapt to new situations. This is achieved only if students undergo proper training to discipline themselves.

Seeking communicative goals only is, therefore, not enough in this academic milieu.

The success of the university is measured through an interrelated system of recruitment, retention, achievement and progression of its students. For the university to succeed, it has to respond to the demands of the job market. Without catering for the market, the university output is good for nothing. That is why needs analysis is a major step in curricu-

lum planning. If graduates do not fit in the target market as teachers, for example, then our aim of serving our candidates and our community is defeated. Therefore, recruitment of our graduates is a signal of our success. A second criterion of the university's success is the rate of dropouts. This shows to what extent the university is able to retain its population. A sustainable rise in attendance reflects the success of the university. This indicates that the university meets the needs of its students. Thus by providing an appropriate professional training, we try to place our products in an appropriate position in the society.

Success of our efforts is measured, in addition to recruitment and retention, by comparing our products with their counterparts from other universities. The employability of our graduates in the job market is the testing ground for our reputation. When meeting graduates from different parts of the country in some interviews, we can judge the relative status of a particular university.

'The good remains' is a law very true in the competitive job market. People come to rate the university through the success of its graduates. Demand and supply is another criterion that determines success of a university and that is why the university has to be sensitive to the target market. Competition becomes higher when the market is saturated, particularly the public one. In the fitness of things, it is our duty to measure up to the expectations of our community and our students so as to be counted as a successful university. This implies that the curricular input has to be strong enough so that our graduates stand up to the challenges. Therefore, it is not enough to be content with merely basic communicative skills while studying at the Department of English, Faculty of Education, and that is also not what the

university looks for.

The last criterion for evaluating the university's success here is progression. When many of graduates seek higher studies, this implies success too. It means our products are able to progress through the educational pyramid. Students who look only for basic communicative skills are obviously unable to climb the pyramid for their aim is neither scholarship nor exploration.

Such aspiring goals of the university education demands cultivating the professional skills of the academic staff regularly to keep them abreast with the ever expanding frontiers of knowledge. When left stagnating for a long time without fresh ideas, the level of the staff drops down and this naturally affects the efficiency of the university which acts as a lever for transforming the society, enabling it to take a quantum leap into the future.



YOUTH FORUM



Peace

Peace is the target of everybody in this universe. Everyone is yearning for it especially in this unrelenting age, age of technology and turmoil. However peace is an important word in the life of Muslims. Peace in Islam has a lot of significance:

- one of the names of Allah is that He is the Peace.
- The root of the word Islam is *slm* and *salam* means peace and greeting.
- Muslim is the name attributed to the person who has submitted himself to Allah in peace.
- Peace be upon you is the greeting used by Muslims in their life and also after they die. It is the

greeting from the one who enters the graveyard to the ones who are in their graves.
- The greeting to angels after salat is 'Peace, blessing and mercy of Allah be upon you'.

Peace is a part of the composite body of Islamic religion. As such, any member who belongs to the order must honor and cultivate such a feeling.

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Worship and respect

The difference between worship and respect must be clearly understood.

Respect can be shown to any body, but worship is only for Almighty God. Frequently excessive respect for people other than God verges on worship, but we must take serious note of this and curb the tendency. All of Allah's creation deserve respect, but only the Almighty deserve worship.

Ammar Mohammad Al-Adwani

READERS' VIEWS

Dear Dr. Sahu,

The heart feels it, the mind thinks of it, the hand writes it and the eyes watch and read it. A thing of beauty is a joy forever. Education supplement, the beautiful green garden full of colored flowers, appears monthly with its bright smiling face to feed all readers with the essential requirements and new information in the educational field.

On behalf of all readers, I would like to express my thanks and gratitude to you, Dr. Sahu, for your great efforts in publishing these educational pages and presenting them to readers as a plate full of shining pearls.

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