

Hertz
HERTZ LEASE
 You are in safe hands...
 Universal Rent a Car
 Sana'a Tel: (01) 440309, Aden (02) 245625
 Movenpick Branch (01) 546063

YEMEN TIMES

Europcar
 YOU RENT A LOT MORE THAN A CAR
 Special Offer from europcar Yemen
 Rent 7 days pay 6 days
 Email: europcar@y.net.ye
 SAM CITY HOTEL AL-QIYADA ST. P.O. BOX 3072,
 SANAA, Head Office Tel: (01)270751 Fax: (01)270804
 Airport Office Tel: (01) 346686 - Fax: (01)346665

Thursday, 22 November, 2007 • Issue No. 1105 • Founded in 1991 by Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf • www.yementimes.com Price 40 Yemeni Riyals

Inside:



4
 Efforts to reduce rising number of female qat chewers



5
 U.S. Embassy offers exchanges to English teachers, women in law, business



8
 Aidrous Bazaraa: "We are preparing for the post-joining WTO era in more than one way"

Women demand 30% quota in nominations

By: Rasha Jarhum
 For Yemen Times

SANA'A, Nov. 20 — A symbolic court verdict came out last Monday to oblige the President, Prime Minister, and Parliament to allocate a 30% quota for women's representation in the political sphere. The verdict stated that gender equality should be enforced, in line with a constitutional article that sanctions equality between men and women. Additionally, the verdict emphasized the importance of amending all discriminatory legislative provisions against women. Moreover, it urged the relevant parties to encourage women, help them become more involved in elections, and ensure that there is 30% quota for women in the national lists of all political parties' nominations in the 2009 Parliamentary elections. Furthermore, the verdict determined that female candidates should be economically empowered to participate effectively in the democratic process.

Standing up to listen to the national anthem during court proceedings had an empowering impact as it inaugurated the tribunal, which was set with the sole purpose to expose, condemn, and prosecute violations against female candidates during the past Parliamentary and Local Councils elections in 2003 and 2006 respectively.

"This court is meant to break a solid wall that has been blocking the lights of justice to shine upon us all. The idea of establishing a popular court is brilliant and we cannot claim that it is ours. The concept belongs to an international organization called *The Advocacy* based in Tunisia, founded by the great-

est revolutionist in the past century, Nelson Mandela. Many popular courts have been conducted in many other countries and in the Arab world." Amal Basha stated in her opening speech. She further stated exclusively to Yemen Times that, "This tribunal comes as part of our ongoing campaign to empower women in politics. It gives women a voice to repudiate female marginalization in political participation. Therefore, the main aims of the court are to highlight the low representation of females in the Parliament and Local Councils and shed light on the violations and breaches that female candidates were subject to due to the absence of justice." She added, "We are, in general, prosecuting the election system that discriminates against women."

The Studies and Research Center hall was organized to look like a court, which consisted of plaintiffs, defendants, judges, and witnesses, along with a public audience of more than 350 international and local participants.

The plaintiffs consisted of representatives of the Watan Coalition, Sisters Arab Forum (SAF), female and male human rights activists, with former female candidates as the victims. They were represented by attorneys Ahmed Al-Wade'e and Shatha Nasir. Additionally, discrimination, violence, family pressure, corruption, political parties' poor support, and the inferior perception towards women formed the set of violating offenders. Defending these were vice-chairperson Shawqi Al-Qadhi and lawyer Afra'a Hariri. At the witnesses stand stood the Yemeni

Observatory for Human Rights, the European Commission Elections Report, the National Democracy Institute (NDI), and seven former female candidates. Finally, the judges included lawyers Jamal Al-Gu'bi and Mae'en Sultan.

Witnesses took the stand one by one testifying against the ugly violations. Aishah Thawab, who ran in the 2006 elections as an independent in Hajjah, illustrated, "I have been subject to enormous harassment and violations. Shots were fired at voters by supporters of the GPC party candidate; my agents were beaten and removed from voting boxes by a witness of the Security Authority; the GPC Branch president threatened teachers who were supporting me, confiscated their salaries, and transferred them to remote schools; GPC supporters circulated rumors that I have illegally married more than once, that I am against the president, that I cooperate with U.S. and British organizations and will give them control of the country if I win, as with events in Iraq; additionally, the Supreme Election Commission Monitor [female] was forced to sign the final general result; voting boxes were stolen in most elections centers." She further elaborated that she has discredited all these violations in court and that the case has been ongoing. Additionally, the elections results have still not come out for Center 260 in Abs District, Hajjah.

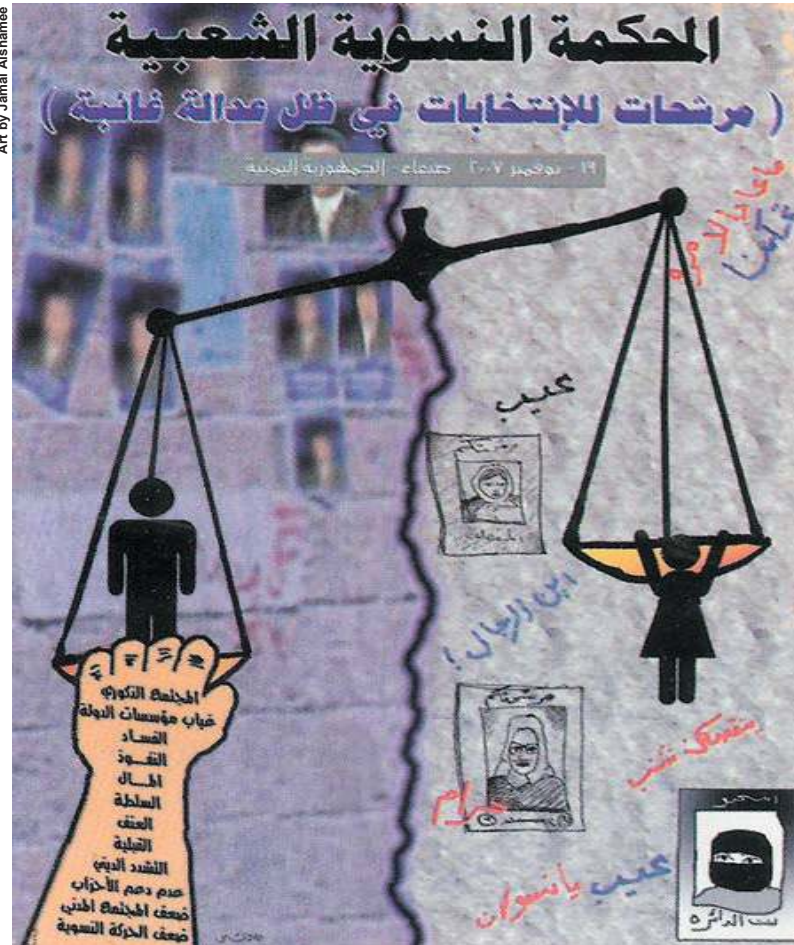
Nagat Al Sinwi, who ran in the 2006 elections in Taiz, reported similar violations. She stated that firearms were shot on the voting day, which led many voters to boycott. She further elaborated, "I was prohibited from conducting

my own electoral campaigns; many fake names were added to the female voters list; some centers were closed early; my agents were kicked out of voting box committees; the process of counting was late in some centers; they threatened to confiscate the financial benefits of my poor supporters given to them by the Social Care Fund; and one of my brothers was suspended from work."

Basharah Yehya, who ran in the 2006 elections in Ma'afar, reported a different violation. She stated that she was subject to violations from fellow female political party members. She claimed that, "female political members in elections committees pressured female voters to vote for their affiliated political party candidates."

Mahfotha Al-Sefaf, who ran in the 2003 elections in Mahwit, testified about violations she was subjected to. She stated, "I was subject to many violations. Fake electoral IDs were made using children's names; the elections committees' members were substituted with others; in many centers, voting began the evening before the voting day; additionally, influential persons interrupted elections committees and requested that they vote for the GPC candidate."

Ghaliyah Al-Basha ran in the 2006 elections in Dhamar. She was supposed to provide testimony during the symbolic court but was not called to the stand, although it was on the court agenda. She stated exclusively to the Yemen Times, "A public speech was delivered by a Parliament member stating that voting for a woman is shameful and instead the people should vote for the JMP Candidate." She further



The Justice Scale is tilted towards Men.

added, "Voters were paid to vote for the other candidate; my agents were kicked out of elections committees; my working team was prevented from voting; closing of voting boxes was delayed until 10 pm due to an alleged unavail-

ability of red wax; three voting boxes disappeared until 1:30 pm; one committee agent admitted that 150 votes were inserted in favor of the other candidate."

Continued on page 3

Marib citizens lash out at government over corruption

By: Mohammed Bin Sallam

MARIB, Nov. 21 — Thousands of people from different social groups gathered in a huge sit-in in Marib city, 160 km east of Sana'a, claiming the government to carry out comprehensive reforms in the nation and fight rampant corruption. The protestors insisted on the authority to pull out troops from populated areas, oblige oil

companies to specify particular benefits for the governorate, establish an oil college, reform the election mechanism, have voting centers distributed fairly, correct voters' registers, implement sanitation and road projects, provide illumination to streets of the city and release locals detained in security jails.

The protestors insisted on government to approve at least 10 percent of the returns from Marib's oil exports for development projects in the governorate such as providing its districts with electricity and drinking water, claiming that basic foodstuffs be priced like they were prior to last year's presidential elections.

The sit-in pressed the authority to compensate those suffering from environmental pollution, support farmers, reduce diesel prices, create more job opportunities for the idle youth in the governorate and give them priority to work for companies and contractors, as well as achieve 70 percent of public services in Marib districts.

The demonstrators stressed the necessity of giving the governorate its

share of jobs in the military and civil institutions including senior positions in the government. They claimed their governorate's share of scholarships, urging the local authority to increase the number of social insurance beneficiaries under the supervision of a multi-district committee.

At the rally, attended by thousands of Marib locals, Sheikh Mohammed Bin Ahmad Al-Zaidi said people gathered in the huge rally to voice their concerns and sufferings. Giving a speech on the governorate locals' behalf, Al-Zaidi said, "Marib population suffered a lot despite their patriotic positions on different occasions. The government abandoned us, deprived us of basic services, raided our safe villages with armed forces and threw innocent citizens in prisons without any clear reasons."

"Citizens in the governorate want to exercise their legal rights and nothing more," he added, calling on all the political parties and organizations, and social personalities to back oppressed citizens while claiming their constitutional rights.

Al-Zaidi urged media personnel to play a vital role in publicizing concerns and sufferings of people in the eastern governorate, pointing out that the rally involved all the social and tribal groups in Marib. Concluding his speech, the tribal sheikh told his fellowmen, "No one can silence you and

you have to continue struggling until the government meets your demands."

The rally's statement, read out by Makhhoat Al-Sharif, stressed that military servants should be neutral in the coming local and parliamentary elections particularly as they outnumber eligible voters in the governorate.

Participants at the rally emphasized the necessity of caring for teachers, increasing their salaries and improving their living standards, as well as providing schools with educational equipment, encouraging girls to continue their education, separate boys from girls in classrooms and prevent co-education in the different grades of schooling. The rally's statements urged military and security soldiers to back oppressed citizens while voicing their concerns.

In Abyan's Modya District, hundreds of citizens organized on Monday a public rally, attended by participants from Lahj and Al-Dhale' governorates, in order to press on the security authorities to release those detained during protests. Some activists in the governorate gave speeches at the rally, venting their anger at the government, which they described as 'bankrupt and unable to offer something new for Yemen and its people'. They accused the government of fueling seditions and revenge killings between citizens, demanding it to conduct serious reforms and stop creating new crises.

"We strongly condemn all the forms of crackdown against peaceful protests and sit-ins. We will no longer tolerate the authority's conduct, killing citizens, and arresting rights activists and media personnel, participants said in the concluding statement. "The government must interrogate and punish

influential persons who violate citizens' rights and plunder their lands, and free those detained by police at the protest scenes, mainly BG Nasser Al-Nuba, Chairman of Retirees' Societies Coordination Council, and Hassan Ahmad Ba Aum."

Continued on page 3

Want service and value?
Budget
 Car Rental
 National and International Reservations
 Reservation Tel. 309618 - 506372,
 Reservation Fax. 240958,
 Hadda, Reservation Tel. 411727
 24 hours (Hot Line) 733652317

عبر العالم في الوقت تماماً
The World on Time
FedEx
 Express
 خدمات التخيلص للعملاء مجاناً
 SANA'A Tel.: 440170/67 صنعاء

ALSAEED TRADING COMPANY
 A Yemeni Closed Stock Company
Yemen's Major Exporter of FMCG products.
 Yemen, Taiz - P.O. Box 5351
 Tel: 0967 (4) 232727 (10 Lines)
 Fax: +967 (4) 223851 / 231642 / 219112
 E-mail: alsaeed@alsaeed.com.ye
 Website: www.alsaeedtrading.com

WEST END WATCH CO
Abu Tawfiq co.
 Famous Agents of Swislerland Watches
 Sana'a - Tahriyr St.
 Tel.: 00967 1 280712
 Fax: 00967 1 273507
 P.O. Box : 2526
 Email : bimedetc@yemen.net.ye

STAR SECURITY
FOR SECURITY
Guards Patrolling Services
 Star Security Officers undergo a rigorous background check, one of the most extensive in the security field) as a commitment towards our clients
 1-Protection and safety of Business men and VIPs
 2-Embassies, Hotels, Hospitals, companies
 3-Commercial banks, Commercial trade centers
 4-Oil companies, and Oil production field
 5-Factories, universities and schools, public or private
Special Guards Training Courses
 1-VIPs protection 2-Site protection 3-Health and safety 4-First Aid
 5-Fire protection and Hazardous Liquids 6-Firm arms usage
 7-Self defense (Martial Arts 8-Communications and delegation art)
Security Consultancy
 Security sites consultancy and Exposure Consulting
 Carried by a top British security advisor and consultancy personnel's
Electronics and Surveillance Systems
 1-Security surveillance consultancy
 2-Installation of electronic digital surveillance cam, CCTV
 3-Full training on surveillance equipments, handling and operation
 4-Special training for maintenance and after sales service
 Our top Managements enjoys a high level of experience due to the different nationalities
 British Security officers working as Security advisors as well as British/Yemeni managers,
 with a well high qualified Yemeni personnel's and technicians, Which has given us the
 edge in understanding our customer's needs in a better way
Company Security Consultant and advisor
 Mr. Darren Parnaby
 We Operate 24 Hours Aday
 Republic of Yemen Sana'a - Police Academy Street Tel:+967 1 514218 /514222 Fax: +967 1 514219 P.O.Box:2991
 E-mail: STARCO@YNET.YE WWW.STARCOYEMEN.COM
 E-mail: S.S.S@YEMEN.NET.YE

المنشئ في الجزيرة
Al-Hadi Modern Hospital
 بالتعلم والخيم... نرضى مرضانا
 صنعاء - فرع عمران - ت : ٤٤٤٤٤٤ - ف : ٤٤٤٤٤٤
 Email : info@hadithalhi.com
 www.hadithalhi.com

KONICA MINOLTA كونيكا مينولتا
 الأت تصوير متعددة الأغراض
 www.konicaminolta.com
HITACHI MULTI MEDIA PROJECTORS
InFocus أجهزة عرض
MAGNER currency counters
LAUREL الأت عد وفحص النقود
KARDEX Storage & Archiving Solutions
كارديكس حلول آليه للحفظ والاسترداد
 www.kardexinternational.com
Thabet Son Corporation مؤسسة بن ثابت للتجارة
 صنعاء - 278546/7/8 - شارع حده - 207691 - شارع السكين - 446073
 تنز : 214306 - عدن : 244625 - الحديدة : 204488 - المكلا : 316710
 الموقع على الانترنت : www.thabetson.com.ye - البريد الالكتروني : tsc@yemen.net.ye

In brief

German support sought for cultural activities in Yemen

Oct. 28 — On Sunday, Culture Minister Mohammed Al-Mafalahi discussed with German ambassador to Yemen, Michael Klor-Berchtold, 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.

IFC holds "Doing Business" conference

SANA'A, Nov. 20 — The International Finance Corporation (IFC) and the World Bank in Yemen have organized a conference in order to present their "Doing Business 2008" report to Yemeni officials and the business community. The conference included a thorough presentation of Yemen's performance in the report, including an explanation of factors which have contributed to a better business environment and improved the ease of doing business.

The conference also discussed case studies from Egypt, the UAE, and other countries which have successfully improved their business environment. The conference paid special attention to one statistic, the number of days to start a business, concerning which Yemen had the third-worst rank in the world due to the lengthy period required to start a business. This factor is critical for new businesses entering the local economy.

Officials from the Ministry of Trade

and Industry who were present at the conference contested the IFC's results and questioned the data methodology. During the active debate, private organizations helped illustrate why Yemen has the third-worst ranking, specifying details of the bureaucratic process adopted by several government agencies. The discussion was useful to the leadership of the Ministry of Trade, who promised to 'look into the matter.'

Overall, The 2008 Doing Business report indicated that there is very little change in Yemen's position; although several indicators improved slightly, while others slightly deteriorated. Yemen is ranked 113th globally. Yemen occupies the ninth rank in the region, ahead of Egypt, Iran and Syria.

The report stated that fundamental transformations have taken place in the global arena; for one, Eastern Europe has surpassed East Asia in terms of ease of doing business, while

several countries have undertaken deep-rooted reforms, resulting in significant improvement in the ease of doing business. One such country was Egypt, labeled as the top performer in 2006/7.

Regionally, the report indicates that Saudi Arabia ranks the highest, and is 23rd globally in terms of ease of doing business, ranking higher than other countries such as Malaysia, France, South Korea, and South Africa, countries known for their attractive business environments and destinations for global investment.

The report provides objective measures of business regulations and their enforcement across 178 countries, as a result of the cooperation of thousands of professionals around the world. Therefore, it is used as a guide for investors and businessmen to study the business environment in countries into which they wish to expand their operations through trade and investment.

HOOD uncovers five detainees in Yemeni Economic Corporation special prison

SANA'A, Nov. 20 — The National Organization for Defending Rights and Freedoms, known as HOOD, has discovered five detainees, some of whom have been there for seven months, imprisoned at a special prison within the Yemeni Economic Corporation.

HOOD immediately sent a message to the public prosecutor, requesting he release Yasser Abdullah Al-Idrisi, who has been imprisoned at the special YEC prison since April 14, despite orders to release him and send him to public prosecution.

In response to HOOD's message, the public funds prosecutor has directed YEC's general manager to send Al-Idrisi and his documents to the primary appeals prosecution to investigate the reasons for his more than seven-month imprisonment.

A HOOD team that visited the YEC premises last Monday confirmed that five detainees are being imprisoned in a small room built of cement and bricks off the main building. Additionally, the team found a back door leading to another cell used to hide detainees if the prosecution representative comes to inspect.

Besides Al-Idrisi, the team says the detainees currently imprisoned at the YEC are: Ahmed Al-Souswah, previously imprisoned from May 27 to July 17 and now detained again since Nov. 12; Mohammed Al-Harazi, imprisoned since Sept. 9; Jamil Al-Raimi, imprisoned since Nov. 18 and Khalid Al-Raimi, imprisoned since the same date under the pretext that he is Jameel Al-Raimi's brother.

Jamil Al-Raimi is accused of broadcasting half-hour pornographic films on screens in numerous Sana'a streets. Vehicles stopped in intersections and hundreds of citizens gathered to shout loudly, condemning what was occurring.

HOOD's letter contains a complaint by Al-Idrisi, who accuses the YEC of imprisoning him for more than seven months simply for being a contract employee, further alleging that the YEC also attempted to compel him to pay a large sum of money.

Al-Idrisi is appealing to the public prosecutor to act according to presidential directives to transfer him to prosecution for conviction or acquittal.

The YEC prisoners further informed

a HOOD attorney that there might be as many as 15 detainees being held in one room, some of whom are civil citizens not employed by the YEC. They also allege that some of them were beaten, including Jamil Al-Raimi, who was exposed to many beatings on his head during investigation and in front of YEC leaders.

The prisoners also maintain that a 12-year-old juvenile, an ex-prisoner named Aziz Al-Wa'a, was held hostage there for two days until his father came.

HOOD attorney Abdulrahman Barman says the YEC refuses to submit the detainees to prosecution because some are implicated in financial scandals involving YEC officials; thus, if they are sent to prosecution, many financial violations will be disclosed.

Barman further believes the prosecution is in league with the YEC; otherwise, it would have reported the special YEC prisons to the government.

He adds that HOOD plans to send a complaint to the Yemeni Parliament, asking it to inspect YEC branches, as HOOD fears that such prisons exist at all YEC branches.

Ministry of Culture pays tribute to Al-Rabahi

SANA'A, Nov. 21 — The Ministry of Culture paid tribute to artist Ahmed Ar-Rabahi by giving him the Culture Shield in recognition of his creativity. Ar-Rabahi wrote the complete Qur'an on a 30x40cm board, with Allah written in the center. Previously he had penned portions of the Qur'an on 130 different boards.

At the celebration, Mohammed Al-Mafalahi, Minister of Culture, praised Ar-Rabahi and his creativity for artistically representing the Qur'an in an unprecedented manner, unique in the Arab world.

Al-Mafalahi went on to say that "what Ar-Rabahi has been given today is only a portion of what he deserves for his message of peace and love. This celebration recognizes his commendable efforts and hard work."

Ar-Rabahi worked continually on the minuscule Qur'an for seven years. The lettering is unique, as he penned the Lam letters (equivalent to the letter L in



Ar-Rabahi penned the Lam letters (equivalent to the letter L in English) in Allah as two separate Lams instead of joining them. 70 surahs are contained in the word Allah.

English) in Allah as two separate Lams instead of joining them. 70 surahs are contained in the word Allah.

Moreover, the writing on the board cannot be read unless shown on a cinema screen or projector device. The artist attributes this to the small handwriting. Chapters of the holy book are separated

by signs and stars. The verses are written in green and red, with white indicating the beginning of a surah. The board is the smallest one in the world.

Ar-Rabahi told the Yemen Times that he submitted a copy of the Qur'an to Guinness World Records in London in order for the feat to be recognized.

Four murdered in intra-family conflict in Dhamar

DHAMAR, Nov. 21 — A man killed both his mother- and father-in-law, his brother-in-law's wife and her 4-year-old son three days ago because of family conflicts.

Inciting his actions was the fact that his wife and their four children had gone to her parents' home due to his continuous abuse of her. This often happens in different areas of Yemen when a wife is abused or insulted by her husband, she escapes to her parents' home. However,

this time the consequences were horribly unexpected.

According to local sources, the murderer, who was also a school teacher in Madinat Al-Sharq, another district in Dhamar, was in a vehicle with his father-in-law late one night and killed him. When security forces arrived to investigate the crime early in the morning, he continued his spree by killing his mother-in-law, his brother-in-law's wife and her child, who was thrown from the roof

of the house.

Only his wife and children were spared, concealing themselves in an isolated room of the house, in which the other victims, except the child, were shot to death.

The killer intended to shoot his wife and children to death, but his gun ran out of bullets. Reaching a dead end, he gave up and turned himself in to security forces, who took him to the center of the district to finalize procedures with him.

Fortnight later Ministry of Agriculture discover why birds die in Yemen



Agriculture Ministry teams carry out test to find out why birds in many governments in Yemen die.

SANA'A, November, 21 — An official source stated that the tests carried out by the teams of the Ministry of Agriculture to verify why birds in many governorates die, will be announced fortnight later.

Ghaleb Al-Eryani, Director General of the General Authority for Animal Resource in the Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation did not rule out that birds die in Yemen due to bird flu disease, adding: "It may be attributed to the winter season as we receive many notifications informing us that birds die in this season every year."

The authority had announced that it sent many teams to some governorates such as Ibb, Taiz, Lahj, Damar and Amran. Locals of such governorates made notifications to the authority informing us that birds die in their farms, "Despite the limited resources and halting of surveillance for a long period of time, teams moved to the infection places to take samples and test them in the labs."

Al-Eryani went to say that Yemen received an international fund from FAO amounted to \$300,000. Yemen is involved in the World Bank program. More than one million dollars was allocated to assist Yemen in preparing precautionary measures. There are some other amounts allocated to fight the bird flu and the risk of infection. However the World Bank declared that

if surveillance and veterinary services are not provided, the aid will be withdrawn.

He added that the authority will hold a meeting next Saturday to discuss the role of private sector in fighting possible outbreaks of the bird flu, adding: the private sector is the most disadvantaged one in case the bird flu disease emerges.

Millions of riyals will be lost, affecting the national economy, causing the state to spend years bringing poultry back to the country. He also invited the private sector to move and cooperate to enhance the surveillance process as well as to combat the disease. The Yemeni shores are a transit station for birds migrating from Africa to Europe, he further noted.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation announced the ban of importing all kinds of birds and their products coming from Saudi Arabia. The latter has already exterminated 90,000 birds as infected with H5N1 virus emerging in a farm producing poultry chicken. Yemen imports around 60 percent of poultry from Saudi Arabia, according to Ghaleb Al-Eryani.

It is worth to mention that the ban is a precautionary action and having no effect on the vast trading process between the two brotherly countries which share borders.

وظائف شاغرة

تعلن مؤسسة رائده في مجال الخدمات النفطية والتوكيلات العامه عن حاجتها لموظف علاقات عامه ومراسلات تجاريه ويشترط فيه الخبره في مجال الخدمات النفطية والمراسلات التجاريه

لمدة لاتقل عن ثلاث سنوات.

للتواصل يرجى إرسال السيره الذاتية على

فاكس رقم ٠١/٤٥٠٠٣٤



Vacancy Announcement

SIPCO E&P Yemen invites Yemenis only to apply for the position of

Finance Controller

Responsibilities:

- Registering and processing invoice for payments to vendors on the payable software system.
- Prepare all business entries and keep all accounting books.
- Maintain up to date accurate accounting software.
- Prepare budget, accounting, financial reports and other reports.

Qualifications:

- A bachelor's degree in accounting.
- 2 years experience in the same field in gas and oil industry (more experience will have the priority).
- Good knowledge in tax, customs, social security and financial Yemen regulation.
- Fluent in both Arabic and English.

Interested, please send your C.Vs and covering letter to:
The following e-mail: nabeel-amer@sipcyemen.com.ye
Note (only selected persons will be contacted for the interview)
Deadline for applying on: 28/11/2007

Report: Aden's hospitals can be responsible for the spread of epidemics

ADEN, Nov. 21 — Aden governorate experiences poor health standards, about-to-collapse medical facilities, and deteriorating levels of sanitation as well as nutrition, said a parliamentary committee on Tuesday.

The committee, which carried out field visits to many public hospitals in the southern governorate, expressed its concerns that ministry of health has not implemented actions on the ground for the second five year plans (2001-2005) related to health sector in Aden.

"The problem is that, even though there are survey and field visit many government hospitals, the situation is deteriorated." The report noted.

The report, which Prepared by the

Parliamentary Public Health and Population Committee confirmed that services of health sector in Aden still poor although there are some spent money on other projects which are not related to the plan.

"Noticing that supervision in government hospitals from the local assembly was almost nonexistent. And they just requested simple things like; cleanliness and stationery for the hospital." Said the report.

The report criticized the absence of clear policies and visions to suggest possible solutions to the persisting problems in different health institutions, confirming that facilities are exposed to collapse due to climate-related factors,

negligence, and lack of maintenance.

According to the report many medical facilities are good maintenance. Furthermore, and the hospitals' poor sanitations are responsible for the spread of many diseases and epidemics.

The committee affirmed that the governorate's health facilities need to be supplied with qualified staff in order to provide good medical services. It indicated that the called-upon hospitals lack the simplest medical equipment, mainly in intensive care units and operation rooms, adding that hospital administrations don't care for providing the necessary equipment though they receive returns from the poor medical services they offer.

Clerics mediate between political dispute parties

SANA'A, Nov. 21-Ninety Yemeni clerics have decided to mediate to solve dispute between political elites and give them advices to avoid current crises

The sheikhs, including Abdul-Majid Al-Zindani, Mohammed Ismael Al-Amrani, Abdul-Wahab Al-Dailami and Mohammed Al-Sadiq Moghales, have confirmed in a statement the right of people to ask for their legal rights according to constitution and laws.

The statement of so-called Yemeni Clerics Forum, signed by ninety clerics, called upon all Yemeni clerics "to hold a symposium to discuss current situations in the country and showing religious duty towards such events". Their statement was following other statements released by clerics in Hadhramout condemning latest protests and sits in that Yemen has witnessed, especially in southern provinces and a

statement by Yemeni Clerics Association regarding events in Sa'ada.

The clerics have formed a preparatory committee for the symposium and assigned some clerics to contact with senior officials and leaders of political parties to listen to their visions about the current crisis and give them advices to avoid disputes and unite efforts to save the country's interests. "The country is witnessing bad situa-

tions that encumber people and political disputes that threaten Yemen's unity and its present and future," said the statement. It pointed that Yemen also faces foreign menaces that target its security and stability, as it said. "We have to refer to the Holy Qura'an and the Sonna of prophet Mohammed to keep our unity and spread religious brotherhood amongst Yemeni people," said the clerics

Continued from page 1

Women demand 30% quota in nominations

Bilqis Al-Lahbi, SAF Program Officer, stated to the Yemen Times, "This court is attempting to clearly identify the real reasons behind why female candidates are not elected, as well as to find a way to resolve these violations. The court is also an outlet for women's organizations, international and local human rights organizations, the media, diplomatic bodies, political parties, legislative makers, and to anyone interested in empowering women in the 2009 Parliament elections."

The symbolic tribunal was organized by the Sisters Arab Forum for Human Rights (SAF) and Watan Coalition, in cooperation with the National Endowment for Democracy (NED). The Watan Coalition was established in 2005 by mainly female activists to support female candidates

in the 2006 Local Council Elections, and has been supported by Sheikh Hameed Al-Ahmar and Yehya Ali Salih.

Marib citizens lash out at government

According to the statement, the prevalent oppression is evidence of the government's failure and inability to play its role in the required way and do its duty in resolving the persisting problems, which citizens face. The government would rather combat corruption and punish corrupt individuals.

After the rally was over, the security forces arrested nearly 30 of the participants and threw them in prison. This procedure provoked rage among citizens in the governorate who then sent a note to the concerned authorities holding them accountable for any bad consequences.

In Abyan's Al-Mahfad District, many military soldiers staged a sit-in on Monday claiming the government to give them their salaries, which they say, have been withheld since 2002. The soldiers escalated their sit-in into a peaceful demonstration in the city's main street. They demanded the concerned agencies in the governorate to improve their living standards and release their withheld salaries without any illegal deductions, as well as give them arms like their colleagues in other governorates.

In Hodeida, 200 soldiers held a sit-in at the governorate premises for the fourth time in two weeks, claiming to be reinstated into their military and security institutions. Some of the protestors complained they were dismissed from their jobs in the army without any obvious reasons while others said their jobs were given to other people. The sit-in involved pensioners who claimed the government

to review their payments and improve their living standards like it did for their counterparts in the southern and eastern governorates. They said that Hodeida governor promised to reinstate them into their institutions two weeks ago but such did not happen.

Many lawyers in Aden denounced the increasing human rights abuses. Staging a sit-in Sunday in front of the Appeal Court, they insisted on handing over the wanted policemen to the judicial authorities to be punished for what they committed against lawyers this week.

"Lawyers staged a sit-in after they could no longer tolerate arrogance of policemen, who usually violate the law and repeat assaults on lawyers," Saleh Dhaiban, Secretary General of the Aden Branch of Yemeni Lawyers Syndicate ascertained. "This week the police attacked both lawyers Najeeb Al-Jehafi and Waleed Muharram without any legal justifications."

Man and medicine: Facts I witnessed in Germany

By: Brig. Gen. Ahmed Bin Abdulaziz Thuabab



I went for medical treatment to the magnificent country of Germany on Dec. 19, 2006. In comparison with all of my other trips, I was astonished by the unprecedented and unexpected results when seeking medical treatment in the friendly and brotherly countries.

I believe this also was true for my friends and colleagues, who used to frequent Western countries annually. I pushed this aside because what I witnessed in Germany left all that I had heard behind. I came out with absolute certitude that German potential, techniques and means are exceptionally pioneer models. The care, attention and kindness that I received made me aware of the significance of the perfect performance, distinction and sincere genuine unbiased humanitarian demeanor.

It is a wish that one will find a compassionate atmosphere where he feels safe and secure. Doctors and employees in German hospitals provide such a haven that the help you receive rids you of your miseries.

The attention they give to their patients isn't confined to just one phase or task; rather, it is a series of integral procedures which boost patients' morale. It makes him sure of recovering, overcoming his illness and resuming a hopefully healthy life.

This ensures belief in the integrity of such medical institutions' policies. It also ensures that their priority isn't profits. Their top priority is to diagnose a patient's case and determine appropriate

treatment for it. This is done in as short a time possible due to their competent equipment, without any extra complications that aim to exploit the patient. There aren't any needless procedures that can cost patients unnecessary charges. They endeavor to be transparent and clear, avoiding any inexplicable steps. In my opinion, the difference between them and the others is that others' major interest is to charge as much as possible at the patient's expense, rendering the medical career a profit-making occupation and depriving it of any humanitarian value.

Those who go to Germany, especially from the Arab world, undoubtedly will identify the great progress in medical therapy. I pose a question here to my fellow citizens who seek medical treatment abroad. Is it better to go to Germany or other countries?

No doubt, Germany is unmatched. As mentioned, I went to Essen University Hospital and was treated by Dr. G. Gerken, who provided all of the abovementioned care.

Paid Advertisement



Job Announcement

The YPHR/ Health Systems 20/20 Project funded by USAID announces two vacant positions. The HS20/20 project focuses on health systems strengthening world wide. In Yemen the project provides support at the central level to activities such as Health Information System /Immunization, National Health Accounts and Geographical Information System components. The project also supports the five USAID -targeted governorates of Al-Jawf, Amran, Sa'adah, Marib and Shabwa. The following positions will work as part of the project team in Sana'a with travel to other governorates.

Position 1: HIS/ Immunization Technical Specialist

- Lead the Immunization Information System project and aspects of other Health System projects including planning, training and implementation of all project activities.

Skills/Knowledge Required:

- BS/BA (minimum) or MPH/MHE/MBA, or a Doctorate Degree (desirable), in Public Health, Economics, Business, Statistics, or other related field.
- 6-10 years of relevant professional experience with a BS/BA, 5 years with a Masters Degree; or 2-4 years of such experience with a Doctorate Degree.
- Relevant experience areas include Immunization, Public Health, HIS System Strengthening, and Statistics.
- Excellent inter-personal and communication skills.
- Substantial experience with computers, internet, data processing, and spreadsheets
- Strong writing skills.
- Fluency in English and Arabic strongly desired.

Position 2: Communication, Training and Monitoring Technical Specialist

- Work collaboratively with the project team and focus on supporting the implementation of the Communication, Monitoring and Training components of the project which include training, packaging of information for public consumption, monitoring results and dissemination of outputs.

Skills/Knowledge Required:

- A University degree in a Communication, Education, Statistics or related field.
- 3-5 years of professional experience in the communication, education, monitoring or related field.
- Excellent inter-personal and communication skills.
- Substantial experience with computers, internet, data processing, and spreadsheets
- Excellent writing skills.
- Fluency in English and Arabic required.

Deadline for application is Nov. 28, 2007. Only short listed candidates will be contacted. Please send CV and a cover letter in English to Fax: 967 1 302 722, or email to ralmansoury@yemenphr.com.

ACCA

Career in Accountancy!

Presentation about ACCA* teaching at CMT House.

Tuesday 27 November 2007

ACCA* Representative and teachers will be available to provide information

* ACCA: Association of Chartered Certified Accountants (UK)

Location: CMT House, Mujahed St.

Time: 7.00 pm

It's for free.

Do you want to know more?
Please contact us:

CMT House

... نساعدك لتقدير أفضل ... دار الإدارة

info@cmthouse.com 264968 265224 513649 513648 صنعاء

Efforts to reduce rising number of female qat chewers

A month-long campaign to reduce the number of women who chew qat, a popular mild narcotic, got underway in Yemen on 15 November.

Funded by Qatar Charity, a non-governmental organisation (NGO) based in Doha, Qatar, and run by SOUL, a Yemeni NGO, the campaign seeks to educate women about the health risks - malnutrition and underweight births in particular - of chewing qat and of smoking.

Dr Arwa al-Deram, executive director of SOUL, told IRIN that the campaign is specifically targeting pregnant women and girls at secondary schools. "Posters and brochures will be distributed in medical facilities for mothers as well as secondary school students. We are also going to stick posters on public transportation vehicles. These posters illustrate the danger of qat and smoking [of cigarettes and water pipes] on the lives of mothers and their babies," she said.

Al-Deram added that her organisation will send mobile phone text messages about the dangers of qat and smoking and send similar e-mails to the more than 100,000 people subscribed to Yemen Net, the national telecom company.

"We have prepared radio and television programmes that can educate mothers on the danger of [chewing] qat and smoking," she said. About 70 volunteers are involved in the campaign, which is initially confined to Sanaa, the capital. If it succeeds, it will be rolled out to other areas of Yemen, according to al-Deram.

More women chewing qat

"The situation is worrying as we notice that more women are becoming qat chewers. Even educated women have



SOUL is distributing posters calling Yemeni women qat chewers to be aware of qat's risks.



developed the habit, whereby chewing qat and smoking are regarded as signs of modernity," she said, adding that about 70 percent of Yemeni women are qat chewers.

Ebtesam al-Jaadi, a media officer at SOUL, said that in one of their studies they found that newborn babies of mothers who chewed qat during pregnancy were underweight. "Qat can reduce the amount of a mother's breast milk and this leads to malnutrition among children. Smoking, which is associated with chewing qat, can also

change the taste of the breast milk," she added.

According to Dr Abdul-Rahman Thabet, a professor of pesticide toxicology and environmental pollution at Sanaa University, illegal pesticides used in the cultivation of qat can have detrimental health effects. He said that the placenta, which connects the developing foetus in the womb to its mother, does not protect the foetus from a pesticide's toxic chemicals, which would be circulating in the mother's body if she were a qat chewer.

"Consequently, the foetus is exposed to pesticides during its development in the womb. The effect this has on foetal development can lead to irreversible, permanent health problems after birth. This is because the mechanisms which provide some protection against toxic chemicals in adults are not fully developed in the foetus," he said. Thabet added that a mother can pass on a significant portion of the accumulated pesticides in her body to her infant.

Source: www.irinnews.org

FALCON HOLIDAYS

EGYPTAIR Karnak

CAIRO 7 NIGHTS \$460

SHARMALSHIKH 5 NIGHTS \$640

NILE CRUISE 7 NIGHTS \$1200

Notes:

- * Price is per person in double bed room.
- * Air Tickets and accommodation are included.
- * Nile Cruise require 2 to 3 weeks advance booking.

More informations are available on:

www.falcontravelye.com

Or call us on: **4 4 4 1 1 8**

Falcon Travel & Tours, Al-Ashtal Building opposite Green Land, Hadda Street.

AL-MUTAHAR FOR IRANIAN CARPETS

Handmade carpets

Headquarters: Movenpick Hotel, Telefax: 208065

Branch: Sana'a, Iran St., branching from Haddah St. In front of Al-Jandool Supermarket. Tel: 425945

ACCA

Revision Seminars

CMT House is pleased to announce ACCA

Revision Seminars for:

- F9 (Financial Management) on Nov 29th and 30th

- F5 (Performance Management) on Dec 7th and 8th.

Do you want to know more?

Please contact us:

CMT House

تساعدك لتقدير أفضل ...

دار الإدارة

info@cmthouse.com 264968 265224 513649 513648 صنعاء



Job Opportunities

The French Agency for Development (Agence Française de Développement : AFD) opens a new office in Sana'a and seeks Yemeni staff

SECRETARY/ACCOUNTANT

Job description

Clerical works :
Photocopying, faxing, mailing... Organise meetings
Perform translations
Maintain an adequate filing and archiving system
Answer phone calls & receive visitors at the Agency

Accountability :
Daily accountability: register all the expenses, translate the nature and allocate proper accounting and financial codes (with AFD software)
Prepare & send monthly accountability to head quarter.
Perform cash inventories & bank reconciliations
Check fund transfers & manage petty cash

Education/skills requirement

Education degree & area : Minimum of two years post secondary education in accountability or other closely related areas.

Work experience : A minimum of two years practical experience in accountability, preferably in an international firm or organisation.

Others : Experience with working with computerized accounting systems.

Language skills : Arabic : mother tongue. Excellent French & English language skills (written and spoken).

Contract description

Full time. Permanent contract with a mandatory probationary period of three months
Attractive salary (according to experience)

DRIVER/LOGISTICIAN

Job description

Drive AFD staff in Sana'a and sometimes in the backcountry.
Participate to the preparation of field visits

Take care of administrative procedures

Ensure the maintenance of the vehicle

Organize and ensure regular office purchases

Participate actively to the setting up of new AFD office in Sana'a (furniture, network, telephone exchange...)

Answer phone calls & receive visitors at the Agency

Education/skills requirement

Education degree & area : Secondary school diploma (minimum).

Work experience : A minimum of two years practical experience in the same field, preferably in an international firm or organisation

Others : minimum computer skills.
Good knowledge of the administrative organisation and procedures in Yemen.
Former police officer would be a plus

Language skills : Arabic : mother tongue. Good English language skills (written and spoken).
Knowledge of French would be an asset.

Contract description

Full time. Permanent contract with a mandatory probationary period of three months
Attractive salary (according to experience)

Application should contains a completed resume' and cover sheet
A written test and/or interview may be held

Contact person : Simon Goutner - project officer. E-mail : goutners@groupe-afd.org
AFD Sana'a Agency (temporary address)
French Embassy, French Trade Commission
Khartoum street, (ex-Moujahed street) P.O Box 1054. Fax : 967 1 269 068

U.S. Embassy offers exchanges to English teachers, women in law, business

The U.S. Embassy in Yemen has recently announced the opening of the competition for the Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA) program for the academic year 2008-2009, and the competition for the Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI) Legal and Business Fellowship Program (LBFP) for young Middle Eastern women for 2008. *Mohammed Al-Jabri* interviews Megan Goodfellow, Cultural Affairs Officer at the American Embassy, regarding the two programs.



Megan Goodfellow, Cultural Affairs Officer at the American Embassy, regarding the two programs.

“The Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant (FLTA) program was started in 1986, but it is still relatively new in Yemen. We haven't sent Yemeni participants to the U.S. on this program yet, but I'm optimistic that this year we will have a number of qualified candidates. We are accepting applications now for this program for academic year 2008-2009.

“The overall goal of the program is to strengthen foreign language instruction in the U.S. and to give qualified teachers an opportunity to improve their English and teaching skills.

Criteria for selecting candidates
 “Candidates for the FLTA must be between 21 and 29 years old at the time of their application. They must be a Yemeni citizen with a Bachelors degree or equivalent. A Masters degree is preferred but not required. They must be a teacher of English or training to become a teacher of English. Teachers from both public and private schools are welcome to apply. The ideal applicant is mature, independent, flexible, willing to explore a foreign culture, and has a great sense of humor.

“Candidates must be fluent in English, but they do not need a TOEFL score to apply. If they are selected, the U.S. Embassy will pay for them to take the TOEFL exam.

“FLTA participants will gain that understanding during their time in the U.S. Participants will be able to meet other teachers from around the world. We hope the participants will continue their relationship with the Embassy when they get back. We will keep in contact with them and see how the program has changed their lives in Yemen.

“We have a good relationship with the Ministry of Higher Education and officials there have agreed to help us to promote our cultural exchange programs. We presented the Ministry with information on the programs the U.S. Embassy offers, and they've been very supportive.

Program for women
 “The Middle East Partnership Initiative Legal and Business Fellowship Program (LBFP) was established in 2005. The U.S. Embassy will nominate one or two Yemeni women for this program. Applicants must be women currently working in business or law who have a Bachelors degree in business or law or a Bachelors degree in another subject with three years of work experience in business or law. The LBFP will take place in the U.S. from the end of March to the end of August 2008.

“The LBFP is a fellowship, not a training program, so it's important that the candidates have either a degree or experience or both in either law or

business.
 “The LBFP places women in U.S. companies or law firms for a four-month fellowship program in which they will use their existing knowledge and skills along with the knowledge they'll gain from program's one-month academic component at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School.

“The LBFP selects women from throughout the Middle East, including Algeria, Bahrain, Egypt, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, UAE, West Bank & Gaza, and, of course, Yemen.

“We believe that women who participate in the LBFP will come back to Yemen with the experience, enthusiasm, and confidence to create positive change in their communities and in their professions. The LBFP program also provides a great opportunity for them to network with other young professional young women from the Middle East.

Opportunity for better understanding
 “People often have misconceptions of each other based on what they see on television or in the movies. The Yemeni participants in all of the U.S. Embassy's cultural exchange programs are able to describe themselves, their lives, families, their beliefs, and their culture in their own words to the Americans they meet while in the U.S. They're able to be cultural ambassadors for Yemen, demonstrating their proud history and traditions. Likewise, when they come back to Yemen, they can describe America in their own words to their families, friends, and colleagues. It's one thing to hear about another country, but something very different and special when you can experience life in another country yourself and share those experiences with others. Who could do a better job of explaining the U.S. than a Yemeni who's seen and experienced it for him or herself?

The Legal and Business Fellowship Program (LBFP) is funded by the U.S. Department of State's Middle East Partnership Initiative (MEPI). It provides young women in business and law an opportunity to practice their skills and gain experience to help them grow as professionals and advocate for an improved investment climate and legal reforms. The five-month program will take place in the United States from March 30, 2008 to August 28, 2008. Fellows will participate in a one-month academic program at the top-ranked University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School or School of Law in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Each participant will then conduct a four-month fellowship with a large

U.S. company or a top-tier law firm in one of the LBFP target cities in the United States. Participants will first gather in Washington, D.C. for an orientation program. At the conclusion of the fellowships, they will return to Washington for a re-entry workshop that includes discussion of how they can leverage their alumnae status. The program will consist of a one month US-based academic program followed by a fellowship with a company or law firm. The program will start and end with orientations in Washington, D.C. The academic portion will be at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School which will provide overall management and coordination between the business and law schools.



Tender Announcement

Sana'a University announces an international tender regarding, preparation of the studies and engineering designs for the **Central Laboratories**, and invites interested consultant companies and offices (residing and out-siding the republic) wishing to participate in this tender to submit their offers, at the following address:

Republic of Yemen – Sana'a University
P.O. Box (1247) tel. (01464677)
The General Administration for Financial Affairs –
Wadi Dhahr Road

Tender documents can be obtained upon submitting a written request to the general secretary, against non-returned amount (US\$200). Bids should be submitted in 2 envelopes (technical financial) sealed by red wax original bid + 3 copies and duplicated (in Arabic and English).

A primary security (bid bond) with amount (US\$3,000), by payable cheque from a bank recognized in the Republic of Yemen or a bank guarantee valid for (120 days) from the envelopes opening date to be attached with the bid.

The date of opening bid (technical envelopes) shall be at: 11:00 a.m. on **Sunday, December, 16, 2007** in the presence of the bidders or any party representing them.

ISO Workshop

ISO Quality Management December 3rd, 2007

Topics include:

- Why ISO?
- 8 basic elements of ISO
- Case studies
- How to register in Yemen?
- Discussion and questions

Trainer:

Howard Whyte (USA) has been the Senior Quality Assurance Manager for Sermatech International, Inc. for the past 12 years. Prior to that, he was the Director of Quality for both TWA and Pan Am airlines. Howard has established quality management systems for numerous companies.

**Do you want to know more?
Please contact us:**

CMT House

نساعدك لتقدير أفضل ...

دار الإدارة

Together for change

By: Mohammed Dhaifullah Hashem

It has become a widespread phenomenon that aged people, youths, women and kids in this country usually criticize the standing regime and vent their anger at the miserable conditions they are living, as well as the unstable situation which, they say, is symptomatic of the government's wrong policies. It is now that the Yemeni people are experiencing the worst situation in their national history as the US dollar is priced at YR 200 and inflation reached its climatic point while citizens found themselves obliged to acclimatize with ongoing price hikes.

Education was offered for free, self-sufficiency was available everywhere and water was flowing in valleys. But now the unwise regime is responsible for water shortage, aridity of valleys and farmlands, exhaustion of fisheries and minerals, mishandle of loans, plus the lack of honesty and credibility. It is also responsible for exhausting any beautiful elements of nature in this nation.

If all the Yemeni people, including the opposition forces and civil community organizations, don't unify their lines and come together for the sake of required changes to rescue the country from unknown calamity, they will regret seeing their unexpected destiny. It is impossible for submissive people awaiting the unknown to liberate their nation and themselves from oppression, looting and poverty. Change can only be made by free and open-minded people, who detest injustice, totalitarianism and oppression, and have faith in justice, security, liberty and equality.

Submissive people are those who admit that the ruler is the only eligible and more able force to lead this nation.

Change can never be made through optimism and hopes, since it is the product of sincere struggle. What remains when people run out of optimism and turn pessimistic perceiving that situations are impossible to improve in the future? When the regime talks about corruption and comprehensive reforms, people consider such talks as a green light for corrupt officials to do what they want.

The absence of strong and decisive words regarding changes, and scarcity of real men to advocate changes helped generate corruption, injustice, illegal influence, chaos and poverty. The current situation only produced yes-statesmen, who only articulate what is dictated to them. Injustice has its harmful consequences on any ruler, irrespective of his power and tyranny, and history is the best witness to this while punishment will cover the tyrant and the silent community that never reacts to what is happening.

If judicious and wise people don't stand firmly against this regime, the catastrophe will occur excluding no one. This time, the alarm bells are totally different, as everything around us warns of a blazing catastrophe having rulers and the ruled its firewood. Judicious people have to warn the regime that "What has happened until now is enough and no need for pouring more oil on the fire." They should say to this regime that "By fortune, you have ruled Yemen and stayed in the throne for a long time, and no one of those who ruled the country before you was as lucky as you."

This regime, which is so lucky to remain in power for a longer period of time, might have converted the widely-spread rage and dissatisfaction into gratitude, blessing and immortalization by letting the constitutional institutions operate according to the juris-

dictions delegated to them. And then it could oversee performance of these institutions and hold them to account in event they failed to do their duties well or made difficultly correctable mistakes. Regrettably, the unwise regime controlled all the sensitive businesses and disarmed the constitutional authorities from any jurisdictions devolved to them by effective laws.

History immortalizes great men only such as the late Zayed Bin Sultan, former ruler of United Arab Emirates, Mahatir Mohammed, former Prime Minister of Malaysia, Nilsson Mandela, former leader of South Africa, and others, who were honored by their peoples. Such leaders led their countries toward the best and had never been engaged in recollecting alleged past achievements, nor did they badmouth their peoples.

All the people have to bear in mind that an unprecedented catastrophe is nearer and nearer, unless the government takes tough measures to put a stop to rampant corruption, injustice, looting of public and private property, and confiscation of citizens' rights. Those who underestimate what has been happening in the southern governorates thirteen years now are either stupid or foolish because they don't realize that inhabitants of these governorates have been suffering repeated agonies. In addition, stability, security and justice in these governorates were replaced by looting of property, chaos, human right abuses, liquidation and marginalization.

Those who denounce sit-ins and protests in the oppressed governorates should rather put the blame on the unwise officials, who created such congestions. The unwise officials usually recollect their victory in the 1994 Civil War, pride such achievement and

renew wounds of the war every year by producing intolerable and disgusting words without taking into account the inevitable consequences of their conducts in this respect.

People should blame those who left wounds of the war uncured without providing any kind of treatment, however, the past 13 years were enough for healing these wounds. The one who never tasted bitterness of the southern governorates should rather remain silent and give no comment.

The northern governorate of Sa'ada had tasted the same bitterness in 2004 and is now suffering consequences of the wars. The governorate was wholly destroyed in the repeated wars due to the use of various types of heavy weaponry, which devastated the infrastructure and killed thousands of innocent civilians and soldiers. As a result of the government's wrong policies in dealing with the wars, jails in Sa'ada, Hodeida and Hajja were heavily crowded with prisoners, employees were dismissed from jobs and thousands of houses turned into wreckage. Most of the cities and villages in the governorate were transferred into military barracks and checkpoints while locals were charged with rebelling against those who beat the drum for the regime (Officials who pretend loyalty with the regime in order to reserve their illegal interests).

Joint Meeting Parties have to prepare themselves from now for organizing mass protests and sit-ins nationwide in order to prevent the anticipated collapse of the country. Opposition leaders have to bear in mind that nothing but enthusiastic revolution can put an end to corruption and corrupt officials who are leading the nation toward unknown destiny.

Source: Al-Thawri Weekly.

COMMON SENSE

On donors and doughnuts

"I am not sure that the world is getting safer as life goes on. It certainly is not getting any more peaceful. That is for sure." Khalid was in the mood of opening up a political discussion.

His friend Aziz was trying to see what point was Khalid getting at: "Khalid, with the world population getting crowded in a world with limited space and resources and deteriorating air, how can you expect such cutthroat economies that the West has built up over the centuries to leave anyone alone, if the latter happen to be living where the vital resources that keep those economies humming are found. There is no question about it, friend, it is a dog-eat-dog world. In such a world there is not enough time to discern the logic of cohesiveness and human integration, let alone the right of equal access and equal benefit from the world's resources."

Khalid was trying to find fault with his world as well: "Aziz, you know and I know that we should not simply point our fingers at the West and say, 'those are the villains of the world', who are out to starve the already malnourished peoples of the world to death. In fact, I can pretty much tell you that it is we who are letting the West get away with so much for so little. It is we who are forgetting that we must catch up to them, if we ever hope to enjoy life the way they are enjoying life and to be able to impose our will on them or at least to reach some kind of conciliation with them on how to go about sharing the bounties of the Lord".

"No, Aziz the West has no interest in sharing anything with anyone. How can they? They have built up economies and developed societies that can only be sustained by geometrically progressive consuming economies and societies and if they are unable to sustain the way they are devouring the world's meager resources, then they will have no time to see how they can give us the crumbs that many a developing country has had to rely on to keep its people from going into extinction.

So, they will insist to us that, if you are not going to allow us to bleed your resources, then you simply will not have any more blood to circulate those crumbs we give you to keep your bodies going. You see there used to be the 'haves and the have nots' in the world. Now they are more diplomatically labeled as the "donors and the donees". Khalid was apparently trying to evolve the classification of states in our current global scene.

"No, Khalid. There is no such term as 'donees'. They are actually recipient states. Surely, you haven't forgotten our last international relations course in College, when it was only just three years ago. I hope you are not going to say 'donees' when you have to give our country's statements at the United Nations General Assembly, are you?" Aziz was getting his friend's terminology in proper order.

Khalid had a quick adjustment to make in his terminology. At least the term would be more widely used: "How about calling these recipient states doughnuts? Actually, I would prefer to use that for the leaders of most of these impoverished states. The people of the world really have nothing to gain anyway from the billions of dollars that the West keeps hassling us about that they provide in aid. If you ask me, about the only people who benefit from the bread crumbs provided by the donors, as well as all the wealth they are hoarding from selling our resources so cheaply, are the doughnuts that drive the killing tools of our armed forces, and effectively control our destiny, on behalf of their masters in DONORLAND (Europe, North America, some pretenders of wealthy states, who are not aware that as far as the real donors are concerned they are nowhere near their class).

In fact, even the wealth of the latter is in the control of the donors and they can only direct their wealth where the donors tell them to, if the pretenders wish to see if they can make use of some of it. So, they go about arranging big weapons purchase contracts, which will never be used in any battle against 'foreign aggressors', but rather on the people the buyers rule.

Otherwise, the wealth is in the hands of Western bankers, who continue to channel even the money of these pretenders to places the latter never even know about."

Aziz wanted to tell another side of the same horrendous waste story that Khalid was driving at: "You know I saw how one of the members of one of these families that rule one of these pretentious states to wealth boasting how he furnished his living room for US \$ 600 million. They even showed it on CNN. I was so stunned by the figure that I decided to call this doughnut the doughnut with the most frosting on it, because this kind of extravagance is simply unbelievable and defies all sense of reason, logic and taste.

When he was told that he was nothing more than a doughnut, he explained that he wanted to fulfill the taste requirement at least, no more no less, because it would be ludicrous to try to fill anything else. No one in the West would allow him to even try to invest those funds in worthwhile ventures that bounce back with benefit to the citizens of his country."

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



By: Hassan Al-Haifi

Regime and social security fool

By: Ahmad Al-Maqrami

When the regime imposed what it called 'dose reforms' on the Yemeni people, it undertook to apply a package of financial and administrative reforms, plus many economic procedures that can help improve the living standards of people. Authorities vowed to control its expenses, and not to leave any gap for corruption and corrupt individuals, as well as rationalize its spending without waste of funding, protect its property and prevent lootings. They also pledged to be tough in implementing the financial and administrative reform program with the aim of eliminating all the aspects of corruption and public

money embezzlement.

The government has been since then asking people to fix belts on their bellies and tolerate the hard living conditions for a short period of time. Within a short time period, as the government claimed, the situation would come back to normal, the national economy recover and people's living standards improve while blessing and prosperity will prevail throughout the nation.

But, as usual, the government has not fulfilled any pledges or promises it made. It never fought corruption, nor did it carry out any processes of financial and administrative reforms while situations have gone from bad to worse. The only thing, which the authority did without any delay, is implementing the dose reforms or the subsequent doses that never happened

throughout the history of Yemen.

The unwise government's spending helped corruption to become rampant, and superfluous expenses did not stop at a specific limit. Rationalization of the spending has seen no illumination while the Yemeni citizen tolerated all the consequences of consecutive doses. Corrupt officials seized the opportunity to loot public property in a terrible manner.

It seemed that one of solutions aimed at alleviating sufferings of the poor and jobless guys in exchange for applying the dose is granting them financial assistance, or the so-called social security in order for their living standards not to deteriorate. Regrettably, the amount of money, which the General People Congress's government approved for the poor as a

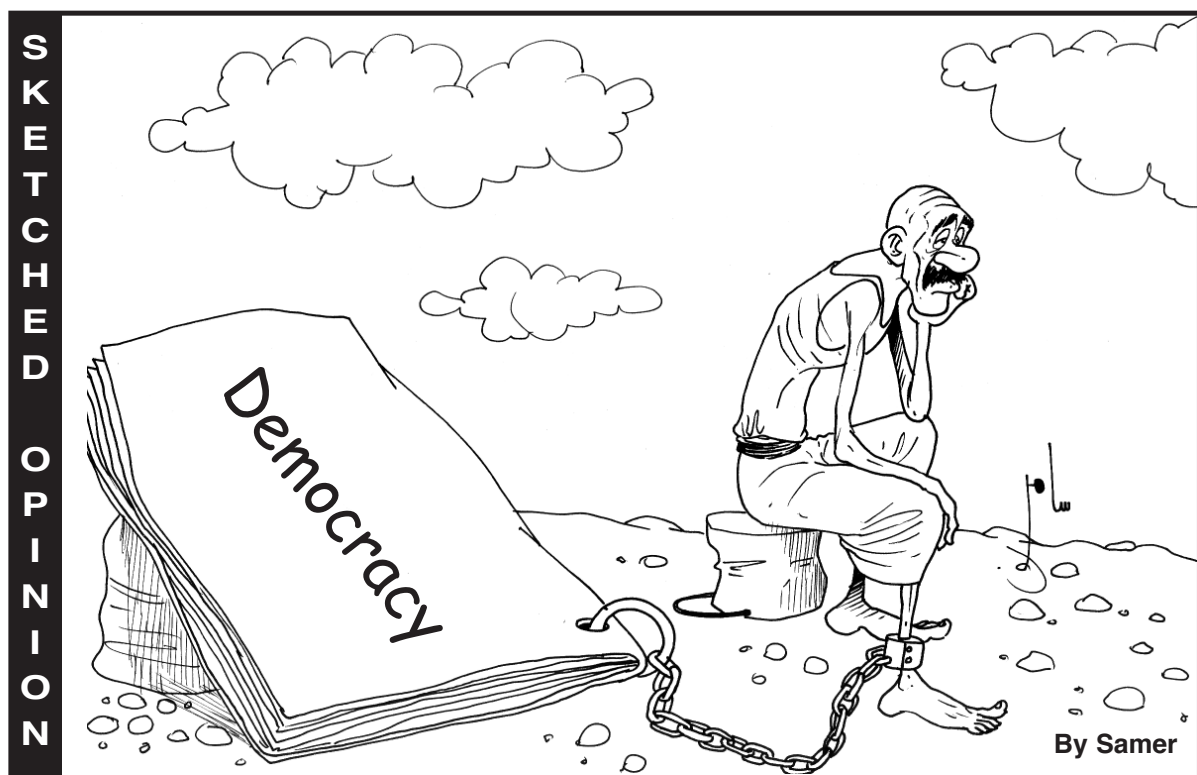
social security, was very small and is of no benefit to reduce their sufferings.

In return, the government's successive doses come to destroy what is moist and dry. They helped poverty spread and prices skyrocket, coupled with unexpectedly increased costs of water and electricity bills, and transportation expenses. Having contemplated at the unbelievable price hikes, all the amounts of money (YR 2,000 and 3,000 per month) cashed under the guise of social security are comparatively low and, therefore, impossible to improve the deteriorating living standards of people. This amount is not enough for paying for 25 kg of wheat in the state of 'New Yemen'.

Nevertheless, the government has been reminding its people on different occasions and at the times of general elections of the social security it approved to alleviate sufferings of the poor and the needy, which, in fact, has nothing to do with the deteriorating situations in the state of 'New Yemen'. In total contrast, the regime distributes various kinds of luxurious cars and villas, plus large lands to influential persons and senior government officials, particularly these days, in order to face sit-ins in the southern governorates, and deprive people and the poorest communities of their basic rights.

To sum up, the regime, which is wasting public money without any sense of accountability, have to feel ashamed of its behaviors and let the deprived people benefit from the wealth of their nation. The poor and the needy should be given precedence over influential persons and high-ranking officials. In addition, the regime has to increase the amounts it approved for the poor and the starving orphans rather than giving expensive cars to corrupt officials in exchange for loyalty with it.

Source: Al-Sahwa.net



By Samer

YEMEN TIMES

www.yementimes.com

First Political bi-weekly English Newspaper in Yemen. Founded in 1990 by Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf

Tel: +967 (1) 268-661

Fax: +967 (1) 268-276

P.O. Box 2579, Sana'a, Yemen

E-mail: editor@yementimes.com

Advertisement: ads@yementimes.com

Letters: letters@yementimes.com

Publisher & Editor-in-Chief
Nadia Abdulaziz Al-Sakkaf

Managing Editor
Amel Al-Ariqi

Feature Editor
Mohammed Al-Jabri

Head of Design Dept.
Ramzy Alawi Al-Saqqaf

Editorial Staff

Al-Ajel, Fatima
Al-Ghabri, Ismail
Mojalli, Almigdad

Copy Editor

Dana Patterson

Offices

Aden Bureau:
Ridwan Alawi Ahmad
Tel: +967 (2) 347-057, 346596
Fax: +967 (2) 347056
Email: ytaden@y.net.ye

Taiz Bureau:
Imad Ahmed Abdullah
Tel: +967 (4) 217-156,
Telefax: +967 (4) 217157
P.O. Box: 5086, Taiz
Email: yttaz@y.net.ye

Subscription rates:

Individuals: YR 7,000
Yemeni companies/corporations: YR 8,000
Foreign companies/organizations: \$ 80

Policies:

- All opinion articles that have not been written by Yemen Times staff on the Opinion, Op-Ed and Youth pages do not necessarily represent the newspaper's opinion and hence YT could not be held accountable for their consequences.
- Letters to the Editor must include your name, mailing address, or email address. The editor reserves the right to edit all submissions for clarity, style, and length.
- Submissions will not be returned to the writer under any circumstance.
- For information on advertising, contact the advertising department at any of the Yemen Times' offices

Can anything slow the dollar's fall?

By: Roman Frydman and Michael D. Goldberg

“Denial,” that state of willful blindness in which bankers and central bankers claim not to be worried about America's falling currency, seems to be ending. Now even European Central Bank Governor Jean Claude Trichet has joined the chorus of concern.

When the euro was launched, the US dollar-euro (\$:€) exchange rate stood at \$1.16/€1. At that price, the dollar was undervalued by roughly 10% relative to its purchasing power parity (PPP). Initially, the dollar's price rose, but since 2002, it has, for the most part, fallen steadily. Every day seems to bring a new low against the euro.

In the face of the dollar's ongoing fall, policymakers have seemed paralyzed. The reasons for inaction are many, but it is difficult to avoid the impression that they are related to the current state of academic theorizing about exchange rates.

Simply put, economists believe either that nothing should be done or

that nothing can be done. Their so-called “rational expectations models” predict that exchange rates should not deviate from parity in any lasting way. Believing that they have found a way to model how currency traders think, they see no need for intervention because, save for temporary deviations, markets always get currency values right.

“Behavioral economists,” by contrast, acknowledge that currencies can depart from parity for a long period. But they attribute this to market psychology and irrational trading, not to the attempts of currency traders to interpret changing macroeconomic fundamentals. This implies that intervention is not only unnecessary; it is ineffective: Faced with wide swings and trading volumes of \$2 trillion per day, central banks are helpless to counteract traders' irrational zeal.

But both the “rational expectations” and the “behavioral” models are flawed, because they seek to generate exact predictions of human behavior. Both disregard the fact that rationality depends as much on individuals' imperfect understandings of history and society as on their motivation.

If we place “imperfect knowledge” at the heart of economic analysis, the

implications of our limited ability to predict market outcomes becomes clear. When it comes to currency markets, parity levels based on international trade are merely one of many factors that traders consider. In attempting to cope with imperfect knowledge, they are not irrational when they pay attention to other macroeconomic fundamentals and thereby bid an exchange rate away from its parity level.

In the euro's rise against the dollar, euro bulls supposedly have been reacting to America's current account deficit, the strong euro-zone economy, and rising euro interest rates. What is irrational about factoring in such fundamentals when trading a currency?

Of course, persistent swings from parity do not last forever. While movements in macroeconomic fundamentals may lead bulls to bid the value of a currency further from parity, doing so simultaneously fuels concern about a counter-movement back to parity – and thus capital losses – which moderates the desire to increase long positions.

Relating the riskiness of holding an open position in a currency market to the exchange rate's divergence from parity levels suggests a novel way to

think about how central banks can influence the market to limit departures from parity.

Although the exchange rate ultimately reverts back to its PPP benchmark, in a world of imperfect knowledge market participants might ignore this possibility in the near term.

But if central banks regularly announced their concern about significant departures from PPP, as they do now about inflation prospects, they would heighten traders' concern that other traders will consider it increasingly risky to hold open positions that imply further movement away from parity levels.

This should moderate bulls' willingness to increase their long positions, thereby limiting the magnitude of the swing.

To implement this “limit-the-swings” proposal, a central bank would announce its estimate of parity values every month, together with a comprehensive explanation of its estimates.

It would also make known to currency traders its concern about excessive departures from its estimated parity values and its readiness to intervene at unpredictable moments to impede

further departures from PPP. This policy would be even more effective if it were known that more than one central bank – say, the Fed and the ECB – were prepared to intervene.

This strategy does not imply a pre-specified target zone for exchange rates. Given the size of currency markets, such targets almost always fail. Instead, our limit-the-swings strategy implies that, as the exchange rate moves further away from parity, central banks should intervene. The possibility of unpredictable interventions would reinforce the effect of the bank's regular announcements of the parity values on traders' perception of increased risk.

While this proposal shares some features with inflation targeting, it may actually achieve its goals more effectively. Both involve announcing benchmark levels. In both cases, central banks attempt to affect macroeconomic outcomes directly as well as by influencing market participants' expectations.

As Milton Friedman emphasized, however, the links between monetary policy and inflation are “long and variable.”

By contrast, the link between official intervention and exchange

rate movements is much more direct and potent. Given massive trading volumes, direct intervention can alter supply and demand for currencies only on the margin.

But the limit-the-swings policy may amplify intervention's effects by diminishing market participants' desire to push the exchange rate away from PPP.

Our proposal to reduce – but not eliminate – swings from parity recognizes that price fluctuations may be crucial for markets to ascertain the price of assets with an uncertain payoff.

But currency swings, if too wide and protracted, can hurt competitiveness and require costly resource allocation. These effects often lead to calls for protectionist measures, which may reduce the benefits from international trade and real economic activity. Only by acknowledging the limits to knowledge can monetary and exchange rate policies have a better chance of succeeding.

Roman Frydman and Michael D. Goldberg are the authors of *Imperfect Knowledge Economics: Exchange Rates and Risk*.

Copyright: Project Syndicate, 2007.

The soft power of the United Nations

By: Joseph S. Nye

Joseph Stalin once dismissed the relevance of “soft power” by asking, “How many troops does the Pope have?” Today, many self-styled realists dismiss the United Nations as powerless, and argue that it can be ignored. They are mistaken.

Power is the ability to affect others to produce the outcomes one wants. Hard power works through payments and coercion (carrots and sticks); soft power works through attraction and co-optation. With no forces of its own and a relatively tiny budget, the UN has only as much hard power as it can borrow from its member states. It was created in 1945 to be the servant of its member states, and Article 2.7 of its charter protects the sovereign jurisdiction of its members.

After the failure of the League of Nations in the 1930's, the UN was designed to have the Security

Council's permanent members act as policemen to enforce collective security.

When the great powers agreed, the UN had impressive hard power, as demonstrated in the Korean War and the first Gulf War. But such cases were exceptional.

During the Cold War, the Council was divided. As one expert put it, its permanent members' veto was designed to be like a fuse box in an electrical system: better that the lights go out than that the house burn down.

Despite those limits, the UN has considerable soft power that arises from its ability to legitimize the actions of states, particularly regarding the use of force. People do not live wholly by the word, but neither do they live solely by the sword.

For example, the UN could not prevent the invasion of Iraq in 2003, but the absence of its imprimatur greatly raised the costs to the American and British governments.

Some American leaders then tried to de-legitimize the UN and called for an alternative alliance of democracies.

But they missed the point: Iraq policy had divided allied democracies, and, with its universal membership, the UN remained an important source of legitimacy in the eyes of most of the world.

The greatest damage to the UN's legitimacy has been self-inflicted. For example, in recent years the internal bloc politics among its member states produced a Human Rights Council with little interest in fair procedures or the advance of human rights.

Likewise, administrative inefficiency has led to poor performance of high-profile efforts like the oil-for-food program.

The job of UN Secretary General involves very little hard power, but some people have filled the post with great effect, using their soft power resources to leverage the hard power of governments.

For example, Dag Hammarskjöld seized the opportunity of the Suez Crisis created by Britain and France's invasion of Egypt in 1956 to persuade governments to create peacekeeping forces – an institution that is not mentioned in the UN original charter. In the wake of the UN's failures to prevent genocide and ethnic cleansing in Rwanda and Kosovo in the 1990's, Kofi Annan worked with others to persuade governments to recognize a new responsibility to protect endangered peoples.

But such innovations have their limits. In the aftermath of the 2006 Israel-Lebanon War, states turned once again to UN peacekeepers, as they have in dealing with the problems in the Congo and Darfur. But, while there are currently more than 100,000 troops from various nations serving in UN peacekeeping missions around the world, member states are not providing adequate resources, training, and equipment. Moreover, governments have

found ways to delay effective international action, as has been the case in Sudan.

It remains to be seen whether China, concerned that its oil trade with Sudan might jeopardize the 2008 Olympics, will decide to exert more pressure.

Similarly, while the General Assembly may have agreed that states have a “responsibility to protect,” many members agreed only in a very limited sense. Many developing countries, in particular, remain jealous of their sovereignty and fear that the new principle could infringe it.

For example, in the aftermath of the recent government crackdown in Myanmar (Burma), the Secretary General was able to send a representative to the country, but with powers limited to reporting and attempted mediation.

That may be enough to influence some governments, but the Burmese junta recently expelled the UN's representative after he warned of “a

deteriorating humanitarian situation.”

The UN has impressive power – both hard and soft – when states agree on policies under Chapter 7 of the Charter. It has modest but useful soft power when great powers disagree but are willing to acquiesce in a course of action.

And it has very little power when the great powers oppose an action, or repressive member governments ignore the claims of the new “responsibility to protect.” In such cases, it makes no sense to blame the UN. Soft power is real, but it has its limits.

The fault lies not with the UN, but with the lack of consensus among member states.

Joseph S. Nye is University Distinguished Service Professor at Harvard and author of *Soft Power: The Means to Success in World Politics*.

Copyright: Project Syndicate, 2007.

Stay the course in The Hague

By: Patricia M. Wald

After eight years on the job, Carla del Ponte is about to step down as the chief prosecutor for the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY) in The Hague. Set up by the United Nations to prosecute those on all sides in the Balkan wars – Serbs, Bosnian Muslims, Croats, and, later, Albanian Kosovars – who committed atrocities, it is imperative that the UN appoint a new prosecutor prepared to carry on del Ponte's work.

The ICTY was the first international criminal tribunal since the Nuremberg and Tokyo Tribunals at the end of World War II. Despite a slow start, it has compiled an admirable record in bringing to justice and providing fundamentally fair trials for some 80 indictees, including generals, heads of state, and brutal prison camp commanders. The flagship for successor war crimes courts in Rwanda, Sierra Leone, East Timor, Cambodia, and the permanent International Criminal Court, the ICTY is now in its final phase, slated to close its doors in 2010.

These final years will be critical, not only for the ICTY's reputation and legacy but for international humanitar-

ian law (the so-called “laws of war”). The ICTY has overseen the development of a phenomenal body of jurisprudence that brings life to the abstract precepts of international law. It has clarified the meaning and obligations of the Hague and Geneva Conventions on the treatment of prisoners and civilians in occupied territories. That record must not be wasted.

Many of the highest-level trials are just beginning or will soon commence, and a substantial number of appeals are pending, which raise as yet undecided issues of the law of war. While only four ICTY indictees remain at large, two fugitives – Ratko Mladic and Radovan Karadzic – are among the most notorious suspects who must face justice before the ICTY's work can be considered complete.

As a former judge at the ICTY, I can attest to the indispensable role that prosecutors inevitably play. They ensure that key legal and factual issues get raised, that the best evidence is obtained – often through diplomatic means, but often at risk of life and limb in hostile territory – that guilty pleas do not dilute the truth, and that sentencing recommendations are commensurate with the crimes' true dimensions.

The UN has given the ICTY three excellent prosecutors: Richard

Goldstone from the South African Constitutional Court, Louise Arbour from the Canadian Supreme Court, and Del Ponte, a formidable prosecutor from Switzerland.

They have amassed a talented and dedicated corps of litigators whose meticulous preparation and thoughtful analyses have been critical to the court's work. Since leaving the ICTY, I have personally participated in annual joint training sessions for the appellate litigators of all the international criminal courts and know well that the caliber of the ICTY prosecutors' work remains high.

Yet a crisis looms. Del Ponte, whose term expires at the end of the year, has just returned from Belgrade, where she sought again to try to facilitate the arrest of Karadzic and Mladic. By all rights, her deputy, David Tolbert, an American lawyer with nine years of service at the Tribunal, should step effortlessly into her shoes. Tolbert's legal shrewdness, scholarly international law background, and smart management style are indisputable.

Tolbert has been especially successful in spearheading the Tribunal's self-correction process to remedy earlier shortcomings in the efficiency, length, and cost of trials. His appointment has been endorsed by del Ponte, other past

prosecutors, and the top lieutenants and staff of the Prosecutor's office, who sent a letter of support to the UN Secretary-General. Even if Mladic or Karadzic are not turned over to the court, there are several top military and civilian leaders of the Srebrenica massacre whose cases are not yet finished, making the need for Tolbert paramount.

Alas, the UN's ways are not always easy to comprehend, and it is reportedly contemplating the appointment of an outside prosecutor with no prior experience at the ICTY. If that happens, the ICTY will lose its chief prosecutor and its deputy, and a large number of the staff will reportedly leave as well.

Those of us who have been playing a role in the birth and maturation of this grand experiment in international justice urge the UN to think hard before detouring from the proud tradition left by eminent Nuremberg prosecutors Robert Jackson and Telford Taylor, and by the first three ICTY prosecutors. The UN should stay the course with Tolbert as the ICTY's fourth and final prosecutor.

Patricia M. Wald, a former judge on the ICTY, is a former Chief Judge, US Court of Appeals for the Washington, DC circuit.

YEMEN - AMERICA
YALI
LANGUAGE INSTITUTE

Yemen's Premier Language Institute Since 1975

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SPECIALIST VACANCIES

YALI, Yemen's largest and most respected English language institute, with enrollment of more than 2,000 students per term, has immediate openings for qualified and experienced Information Technology (IT) Specialists. The **Senior IT Specialist** will report directly to the YALI director and will supervise a **Junior IT Specialist**. These positions are opportunities to work in a dynamic, international environment and offer a competitive salary with benefits package.

Responsibilities and Duties
The IT specialists are responsible for managing all YALI information technology resources, including but not limited to 100 computers, ten printers, five servers and numerous network accessories. The IT specialists administer and secure YALI's network, deploy system software updates; maintain YALI's database; install and maintain all hardware and software in YALI's two computer labs and on individual PCs; and maintain YALI's website. The IT specialists are also responsible for adhering to and enforcing IT policies.

REQUIREMENTS

- University degree in information technology or related field required (preferred for junior position)
- Minimum four years' work in information technology, including LAN administration, hardware and software trouble-shooting and database development (two years for junior position)
- Yemeni citizenship desired; work permit, if non-Yemeni, required
- Ability to pay attention to detail and ability to work well with others in team and to be client-oriented.
- Women are especially encouraged to apply for this and all positions at YALI.
- Fluent English required

TO APPLY:
Submit cover letter, CV, salary history and references to YALI no later than December 2, 2007 via email to yali@amideast.org. No hand submitted CVs will be accepted. Only qualified candidates will be contacted for interviews.

Aidrous Bazaraa:

“We are preparing for the post-joining
WTO era in more than one way”

Toyota is one of the most successful brands in the country, having established themselves over half a century ago as a synonymous with quality and reliability. With the changing consumer demands and market economics Toyota is transforming itself in terms of product range and marketing techniques in order to cope up with these changes. In this Interview, the Managing Director of the Automotive Machinery and Trade Center Mr. Aidrous Bazaraa talks to YemenTimes about their strategy for the upcoming period.

YT: Kindly brief us on the history of the Automotive Machinery and Trade Center and Toyota in Yemen.
AB: Since the 1950s, the founder of the Automotive Machinery and Trade Center Hajj Abu Baker Omar BaZaraa started working in the Automotive Industry. He first started importing American vehicles, and also the Czech Skoda vehicles. By 1956 we imported the first Toyota which was a Land Cruiser, and the founding of the Automotive Machinery and Trade Center (AMTC) as the sole agent of Toyota in Yemen, and the start of Toyota's success story in Yemen. In 1970 and upon the establishment of the Socialist system in the south of Yemen which banned privet sector activity, AMTC shifted its operations to the Northern Part of the country and established its headquarters in Sana'a. Up until the bless unification of 1990 and the collapse of the socialist system, our operations have expanded to reach the whole of Yemen.

YT: Toyota vehicles are the market leaders in Yemen, what is the competitive advantage you attribute this leadership to?

AB: Toyota's competitive advantage lies in the fact that it has endurance and quality of build. Toyota vehicles have been tested through the fifties and sixties in all terrains and can handle difficult driving conditions, in addition to the availability of after-sale service which has established confidence in the Toyota brand. Toyota today ranks as the Number One brand in terms of quality and reliability and customer satisfaction, not only in Yemen but also in the whole world.

YT: DO you see a change in market dynamics and a more stiff competition with other brands, models, and promotions by agents of other vehicles in Yemen?

AB: The truth is that Yemeni customers are more aware about the advantages and disadvantages of any brand, including Toyota. The prime asset Toyota has is the fact that buying a Toyota is a safe investment in terms of reliability, available of after-sale service, and the value in the second-

hand car market. Toyota vehicles also have the advantage of technological and design superiority, which makes it the country's favored car in all segments.

YT: You innovated a new marketing retail strategy through the adoption of certified distributors. How viable is this strategy and are the price differences between you and your agents sustainable?

AB: The Strategy to use distributed isn't a new invention and has proved successful in other places, and our experience with our retailers and distributors is a very pleasing and a successful example of marketing, as we have achieved record sales and wide market coverage. In terms of pricing, distributors have a pricing advantage in order to help them compete at a profitable margin for them.

YT: There are importers who claim that buying and importing new cars from neighboring countries is significantly cheaper than buying the new cars from you or your distributors. How do you comment on this claim?

AB: This is a very important point. It might be true that the prices of some showrooms and car importers from neighboring countries lower than our prices, that is due to government policy where customs charge different rates for people who import their personal cars, compared to the higher rate they charge us as a commercial establishment. The advantages these people get include Sales Tax and Value-added Tax exemptions, and these persons also don't pay corporate and income tax from their operations.

The other thing is that many intermediaries are taking advantage of these exemptions and end up competing with vehicle agents such as ourselves, this is a violation of the trade law in place and costs the government considerable amounts in forfeited revenue. The other thing is that such cars might mortgaged cars in their home countries and are sold illegally to Yemeni customers, examples include vehicles which are bought in installments and are -



Aidrous Bazaraa

legally speaking - the property of banks and other companies, and brought into the country illegally. Such issues do not only affect the credibility of the system in place but also affect the country's balance of payment, through buying cars from intermediaries, not their original sources.

YT: Is there an impact from the used cars imported from neighboring countries or from the United States affecting your operations, including after-sale service?

AB: The used car market in Yemen is a large one in the region, and most used cars entering the country are either junk vehicles which outlived their life spans or are sold to the country as recyclable goods. there is a huge negative impact of importing

used cars, not only in terms of affecting the economy but also in terms of environmental consequences and passenger safety.

YT: We know that uncertified and varying types of spare parts available within the local market. Do you have a strategy where you raise awareness on the importance of buying genuine spare parts?

AB: This is another problem affecting many countries, where poor quality of spare parts affect vehicle performance and will require routine replacement. such spare parts do not necessarily be less expensive that original spare parts, but will surely be another burden on the car's owner. We have launched an awareness campaign in order to educate our customers of the importance of buying certified spare parts, especially for critical parts such

as the gearbox, engine parts, and the break pads.

YT: The disappearance of models such as the Camry and the Rav-4 from your product portfolio due to the non-availability of unleaded fuel. Is this affecting your sales and the relationship between Toyota and its customers in Yemen?

AB: For over five years we've been working with relevant government agencies in order to provide the unleaded fuel, this isn't the demand of Toyota only but it is an environmental and human welfare demand, as the fuel available in Yemen which includes lead affects the health of humans and other living creatures, and was proven to be a health hazard. With regards to our product line, it is true that the absence of Camry and Rav-4 models will affect our operations, but we hope that the government of Yemen will expand the distribution of unleaded fuel at the soonest possible. as this is the future direction and a critical issue for the environment.

YT: How would Yemen's accession to the WTO affect your operations as a sole agent in Yemen?

AB: We have started preparing for the Post-joining WTO era in more than one way, but i must emphasize that large corporations are here to stay especially since we have the ability to provide a complete package in terms of after-sale services, and have a sell-and-run scenario.

YT: What are your future expansion plans in the country?

AB: AMTC has now become a parent company for a number of corporations, including the Arab Iron and Steel Company. We also have considerable investments in the banking sector, and we have ambitious expansion plans for the future.



Yemen to establish 11 industrial zones

By: YemenTimes Staff

The Ministry of Trade and Industry has confirmed plans to establish eleven industrial zones throughout the country. Although this announcement has been made previously, the Minister of Trade and Industry Dr. Yahya Al-Mutawakel indicated that Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) are the targeted business organizations which will play a major role in the development of the industrial zones, contrary to other statements that industrial zones will thrive as a result of foreign direct investment and large-scale projects.

The Ministry of Trade and Industry is also finalizing preparations for the Arab Conference for Small and Medium Enterprises, under the theme of Quality and Creativity for a better

industrial future. It is considered by many as an effort to connect local SMEs with their counterparts from the region, in order to share experiences and discuss business opportunities.

The largest proportion of Yemeni SMEs are focused within twelve subsectors, mainly within the service sectors. While there are very limited SMEs in other subsectors particularly within the industrial sector, thereby raising questions if Yemeni SMEs will be interested in venturing into the industrial zones.

The strategy for developing SMEs focused on improving financial services and sources of funds for promising SMEs, while the industrial zones promise tax free business operation, as well as an opportunity to attract large number of SMEs in order to create a viable collective subsectors within the industrial zones. Such models have proven to attract

multinational corporations to invest in industrial zones where supplementary industries already exist.

Small and Medium Enterprises are the second-largest employer in Yemen, giving direct employment for around 700,000 workers, and indirect employment to another 200,000. However, there are around 350,000 SMEs working in the country, indicating that SMEs average 2 - 3 employees each.

The Government of Yemen through various agencies aim at stimulating the growth of the SME sector, through providing grants and technical assistance through the Social Fund for Development and its Subsidiary the Small and Micro Enterprises Promotion Service (SMEPS), which has had a notable impact on the growth of SMEs in the country.



Yemen hopes SMEs would be effective in establishing industrial zones

Business
in Brief

A Billion Saudi Riyals in programmed assistance to Yemen

The Yemeni-Saudi coordination council has programmed One billion Saudi Riyals in development assistance, for the health, vocational training, energy, judiciary, fisheries, agriculture, air transport, minerals and higher education.

Al-Mutawakel: Yemen to adhere to WTO regulations

Minister of Trade and Industry Dr. Yahya Al-Mutawakel has stated that Yemen is striving in order to ensure full adherence to the World Trade Organization's regulations relating to protecting local industries. He also emphasized the importance of technical assistance to help Yemen's accession to the trade organization.

PM Mujawar discusses development of banking sector

Prim Minister Mujawar has met with the Yemeni bankers association, and discussed a number of possible legal changes in the banking law in order to help commercial banks grow and expand their portfolios, as well facilitating bank mergers in preparation for the upcoming phase for liberalizing the banking sector.

US government trains

Anti-corruption committee on combating corruption

The United States Government has conducted a training retreat for members of the Anti-corruption committee on how to train corruption. The training also included helping the committee formulate the National anti-corruption strategy and also the national alliance for integrity in order to limit the devastating impact of corruption on the country.

Al-Attar: Dubai Ports to renegotiate Aden Port management contract

Director of the General Investment Authority Salah Al-Attar has stated that negotiations with Dubai Ports Corporation was resumed after a three-year halt in negotiations. Al-Attar stated that the two parts will come to a final consensus and with regards to the future of the Aden port shortly.

Tax simplification project launched

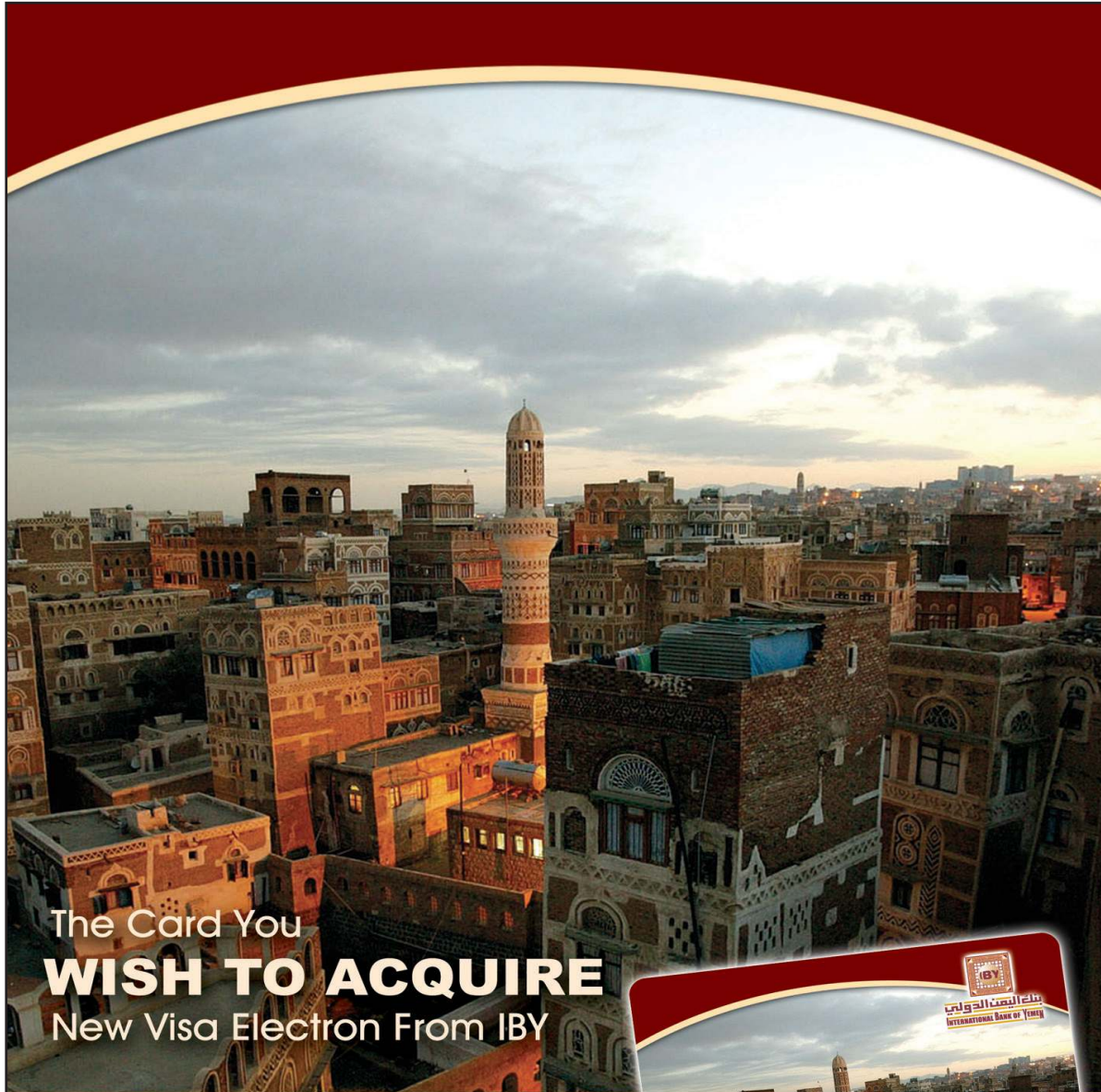
The IFC and the Yemeni tax Authority has signed an agreement in order to embark on a Tax simplification project in order to enhance efficiency within the tax authority and increase the number of tax payers through revising the taxable structure administered by the authority.

Population Council warns of population explosion

The National Population Council has warned that Yemen's continuous population growth is harmful to the economy and social peace, calling on Civil Society organizations and the media to play a role in creating awareness of the true size of the problem. The council is also participating in the national population conference which will be held from the 10-12 December in order to discuss population growth in the country.


74 percent of Yemen LNG's plant completed


Sources at the Yemen Liquefied Natural Gas company has indicated that 74 percent of the construction of the Liquefaction plant located in Belhaf bir Ali. The plant will start operation towards the end of 2008.



The Card You
WISH TO ACQUIRE
New Visa Electron From IBY

- No Security Deposit No Margix.
- With No Issuing or Annual Charges.
- An Account at IBY is all you Need.




INTERNATIONAL BANK OF YEMEN  **بنك اليمن الدولي**

Your Goal is Our Goal


cardcentre@ibyemen.com

For more information, Please Contact us on: 01-407030



دانو DANO

Your health at its peak



Because life is full of challenges, Dano powder milk provides you with all the vitamins & calcium you need to maximize your concentration, your dynamism and your energy. Dano has a rich creamy taste and is perfect for all family members regardless of their age. A great taste for the best quality.

التميز في التعليم

TLC
Training & Language Center
مركز (تج) ال (سج) لللغات والتدريب

متعة التعلم معنا

You love to learn
We love to teach

TLC Offers you...

- * Easy to get to location .
- * Spacious classrooms .
- * Choice to study the time you want .
- * Distinguished teachers .
- * Multi-media lab for registered students to develop their language skills .
- * Café with tasty food .
- * Fee reduction on third term after studying 2 consecutive terms .
- * Free focused courses on Thursdays .
- * Free dictionary with CD- ROM for every newly registered student
- * Wireless internet .



Registration for Courses
Sat. 24/11 - Wed. 5/12
9:00 am - 1:00 pm
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm

Start From
08/12/2007
To
16/01/2008

TLC is offering a \$20 reduction for term 1

صنعاء - مقابل شارع صفر - بإتجاه السفارة الألمانية

For further information
E-mail: info@TLCyemen.com www.TLCyemen.com - Fax: 01-410975 TEL: 01-420393/418042/410974

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

The banner of kingship

By: Adel Hassan Al-Adlany
English language graduate
Amran faculty

Allah said, "Bethink thee of the leaders of the children of Israel after Moses, how they said unto a prophet whom they had, 'Set up for us a king and we will fight in Allah's way.' He said, 'Would ye then refrain from fighting, if fighting were prescribed for you?' They said, 'Why should we not fight in Allah's way when we have been driven from our dwellings with our children?' Yet, when fighting was prescribed for them, they turned away, all save a few of them. Allah is aware of evildoers." (Sura 2 Al-Baqarah, verse 246).

For the informed reader, it can be easily realized that there is wisdom beyond these verses of the Qur'an. These verses mention certain rules of Allah's in the late 11th century before Christ (1012 B.C.), more than two and a half centuries after Moses, when the

children of Israel wanted to overcome their enemy. They ordered a prophet of theirs to select or send them a king in order to be their word and so that they would be under one banner, one in rule and decision making instead of experiencing separation, disagreement and repeated defeat before their enemies.

So, their prophet told them that Allah had selected or sent them Saul to be king over them, but they rejected him because he wasn't from the descendants [al-asbat] who reigned and ruled generation after generation. The children of Israel said cunningly, "How can he have kingship over us when we are more deserving of the kingdom than he is, since he hasn't been given wealth enough?" (Sura 2 Al-Baqarah, verse 247)

Because Saul was, in their eyes, just like one of the common people, he wasn't qualified to have kingship, despite the fact that he was one of them. They saw that he didn't have the qualities of their intellectual beliefs, so they said no one could have kingship or prophecy except those from the

descendants (the sons of Jacob).

If we look carefully, we find that by selecting Saul as king, Allah wanted to teach them that He gives kingship or prophecy to those of his human creatures whom He wants. The matter is not related to heredity. Also, the intellectual correction they believed in and which had been used and known among them wasn't revealed by Allah; rather, it was simply myths. This was the reason for losing their faith at that time and the mission of the prophet Mohammed (pbuh).

The prophet Mohammed also was not of their progeny. "When there came to them a book (the Qur'an) from Allah, confirming that which was with them - although before, they used to pray for victory against those who disbelieved - but when there came to them that which they recognized, they disbelieved in it, so the curse of Allah will be upon disbelievers." (Sura 2 Al-Baqarah, verse 89) Many people and jinn believe in Him better than them without myths or authoritative sources, such as priests and pastors, due to the

fact that kingship pertains to Allah. Since we are of Adam and Adam is of the dust of the earth, it's better to benefit and learn from the stories in the Qur'an.

Over time, the children of Israel believed in Saul's rule after a miracle by Allah. "And their prophet said to them, 'Indeed, a sign of his kingship is a chest that will come to you, in which is assurance from your Lord and a remnant of what the family of Moses and the family of Aaron left, carried by the angels. Indeed, in that is a sign for you, if you are believers.'" (Sura 2 Al-Baqarah, verse 248)

Therefore, they believed in Saul, with the exception of a few. As a result of their mythical faith in noble descent and in comparison with Islamic instructions, we find that the system of rule or reign is not restricted to certain individuals; rather, it is via consultation and selection, and vice versa with a king or sultan, so as to preserve a nation's unification, as Allah says in Sura 42:38 and Sura 3:159, "and consult them in the matter."

Educated youth between qat or drugs

By: Marwa Baabbad
not_likeothers@hotmail.com

One day, I saw one of my friends stealing. I was shocked and I wondered why. In the end, I discovered that he did it just to buy qat. Since then, I started thinking deeply. Am I going to be like him? Is this the end of any qat chews?

I then decided to quit chewing qat. I began developing the talents I have and how to improve them. My father helped me a lot in this. I'm now feeling that my life is getting much better. I'm studying in the morning, working in the afternoon and exercising in the evening. I really feel self-satisfied. It's a fantastic and realistic example that motivates us to think about the talents we have that might turn us into talented individuals.

I spoke with a group of educated Yemeni youth and asked them their opinions about qat.

Akram Al-Hazmi, 22, is a former qat chews who likewise saw the truth about himself and then quit. Many Yemeni youth discovered themselves long ago and don't chew qat.

Computer math student Nashwan, 22, is totally against qat chewing. He doesn't chew it because he believes that it's useless, aside from being both

money- and time-consuming, "I divide my time between studying in the morning and doing my favorite hobby, navigating the internet, in the afternoon. I sometimes hang out with my friends in the evening before returning home to study. I feel that my day is full of many good and interesting things, so I don't feel like chewing qat at all."

Between qat chews and non-chews is a group in between.

Amar Al-Nozily, 23, a student in the Faculty of Arts, English department, is one youth who is against the idea of chewing qat, but under the pressure of traditions and customs in Yemeni society, he can do nothing except join them in chewing on occasions such as weddings and funerals.

"As a young person, I can't sit with them without sharing with them in qat because I'd feel like a stranger and they'd make me feel that I'm in the wrong place," he explains, adding, "But this rarely happens because I mostly try to avoid it."

Likewise, 23-year-old medical student Sami Sa'eed doesn't like chewing qat, but at times, he's forced to subject to his society's traditions. "It's OK if qat helps me get involved in society, particularly businessmen's meetings, which are based on qat; however, I

don't do it unless it's on very special occasions."

Finally, the most common example among youth is the regular qat chews.

Computer programmer Mohammed Abdullah, 25, chews qat nearly every day, considering it an important aspect of his life. "It helps me work and it also helps me and my friends meet with each other. I work in the morning and chew qat in the afternoon. I don't consider it a negative or a harmful thing because it's better than drugs."

Many Yemeni youth have adopted this idea that qat is better than drugs, adamantly protesting, "We aren't taking drugs; we're just chewing qat!" However, I'd like to invite you all to speak frankly. You say this, but the situation has become very serious. Many young men have begun to take drugs and become hypnotic, while some others have mixed the two, which may destroy their lives and their nervous systems, as medical research shows. So, is this really true that qat is much better than drugs?

Statistics about qat

Statistics on the damages of qat from the National Association to Face Qat Damages reveal that qat consumes

approximately 65 percent of total water usage in Yemen.

Citizens spend more than YR 2.4 billion per day on qat, so eight million qat chews spending an average of YR 300 per day on qat equals nearly \$12.1 million. In terms of lost productivity, eight million qat chews being absent from work for five hours per day equals 40 million lost working hours daily.

Additionally, Yemeni families spend more than 65 percent of their budget on qat

The number of cancer cases due to chewing qat treated with chemical substances is 12,000 per year, with treatment of these cases usually being done abroad at the average cost of \$3,000 for each case. Approximately 118 chemical substances and poisons are used to spray qat planted on 40 percent of fertile land in Yemen - and these phenomena are increasing.

Damaging health, family and the environment, qat is considered the number one enemy of Yemen and the main reason for its underdevelopment.

In past years, awareness campaigns have targeted 3 million citizens, including students, government employees and those from various groups of society, in places such as Abyan, Hadramout, Ibb and Taiz.

Through The Mind's Eye

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



Jealousy: Is it men's or women's right?!

In the Arab and Islamic societies, jealousy is considered as a basic human feeling not only towards relatives or people but also towards things related to dignity, religion, society, etc. in this article I comment only upon the personal jealousy particularly that takes place between lovers, and husbands and wives.

Actually, the reason of this feeling is a matter of culture. The sexes may naturally have this feeling. But a problem occurs from time to time about who has the right to be jealous, the man or the woman.

I am not going to say my opinion about this right now. In this issue, I just shed light on this topic and leave it for you, dear readers. It is a critical issue, and all can give suggestions and opinions. Here I present some of the common views of some people. But most of them look partial to their sex. You, however, may give unbiased views so that a better conclusion can be drawn to settle such a social topic.

Though some people consider jealousy as a common feeling of both women and men, some others look at it differently with certain reasons and justifications. In this case, a man gives the right to the woman to be jealous exactly like him, and he respects that. Similarly the woman admits the jealousy of man and also she respects that.

Some men, however, look at jealousy as a right of men only. They restrict women's behaviors, especially wives, with the claim that they feel jealous for them.

On the other hand, such men reject any right of women's jealousy, advocating that they are men and they can do anything since it is not considered as a social shame as in the case of women. They behave freely even if their wives are there with them.

Such men take the right to marry more than one wife as a pretext. For this reason, they may love, make relations, flatter, marry, ect. Nobody can blame them. But if the wives do any thing like these, it is taken as a matter of religious and social disloyalty to husbands and to their families as well.

Some men are with the idea that women can have jealousy. But they do not have the right to take any procedure against them. Women in such a case, can not shout, or stop men to do any unlikely behaviors. They have only the feeling to be jealous. So they must do everything for the husbands in order not to look for other. Men in this case take it as a mere feeling that a woman has only to be positive to the

husband, i.e. she should offer him all means of comfort and enjoyment.

Some men are very aggressive and firm in this point. They consider themselves as the controllers of everything. Wives for them are just wives who must only follow all the men's orders.

Such men do not believe in jealousy at all. For them, women must follow their instructions and orders not because their jealous but because they should follow husbands in everything. Similarly, women have no right even to think of jealousy or any other right.

For women, on the other hand, some of them consider jealousy as a right of women only. They have some reasons for this. One of the reasons is that they should control the men's behaviors under the umbrella of jealousy. By this, they think that men will obey them and no longer think of doing anything like establishing relations with other women, or to marry.

In such cases, women even stand against of the husbands' work with women. Sometimes, they keep the men's money and never give them unless they get sure what for they need any sum of money. They observe all the men's behaviors and contacts, claiming that it is only jealousy to them.

To some women, men have no right to feel jealous towards them. They advocate that they are self-confident, and they are not doing any thing wrong even if they contact other men for formal or informal relations.

They also advocate that men can do many things if they have chances. A man can, for example, divorce the wife, or marry another one. Nobody can stop him. But women can do nothing like these. "It is the right of women to be jealous not the men", they always say.

The above cases are there at least in our society. They make me, and hopefully, every one of you to think about the topic so that a better understanding can be offered to the whole society. As I said in the beginning of the article, this is not my viewpoint; it is only a survey of the common attitudes in our society. You, as readers, can make the discussion further through writing your comments and opinions, sending them for publishing to the newspaper. A better comment and opinion is the one which deals with topic impartially through the mind's eye.

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

Don't follow "supermodels," strive to be yourself

By: Saif Hamoud Na'aem
Saif_dion@yahoo.com
Sana'a University
Faculty of Art, English Dept.

Youth are the new hope, comprising a considerable portion of the generations in every part on our small planet. Nations of the world work hard to exploit their youths' energies in whatever they are capable. Focusing on youth issues and interests is a very important cause. In this regard, we find innovative projects building what remains incomplete in many fields and coming up with new inventions.

The choice to follow the wrong pacemaker and act like him or her is a sizeable matter deserving to be highlighted and discussed more widely. Thus, I'm putting forth my point of view here and I'm awaiting yours, dear reader.

It is so shameful and pathetic to see our new generation, with our fresh minds, acting out in a dreadful rap influenced by the bad rap of the Western world. I'm sorry to say this, but the Eastern world also has its negative points too. We've become proficient in taking the bad impressions from the Western world, ignoring the positives under the common

pretext that "It's too high to reach."

However, we should face this obstacle and work as hard as we can. It's not a matter at all of whether you're rich or poor; rather, it depends on how faithful you are to your homeland and what you believe in.

Young men and women seemingly have begun to imitate those vulnerable, brittle and famous people around the world, which surrounds us with a multitude of examples, considering them "supermodels," whose cheap styles become the fashion that worsens every year in the name of the "new look." This causes youths' charisma to become careless and garish unless their hair is styled in another hazy way to express themselves. More than anything else, the way of dressing is the blunder reflecting the mess inside their minds.

Instead of teaching them how to behave civilly and respectfully, these impressions taught them the exact opposite, pouring toxic stuff into their imaginations instead of establishing good deeds in their minds and flourishing their schemes, causing them to become lost somewhere between the popular and the less popular.

Over time, what we receive unconsciously from such supermodels becomes as chains around our minds, limiting our passions and making us

loafers. Being affective and creative is hard to comprehend and we won't be able to reach that high star, even if we try. Even so, we still have the opportunity to do better and be someone rather than a no one.

As humans, we will sin and make mistakes throughout our lives because we forget the good intentions within us. Through all of this guilt, we have the righteous bell in our minds that will inevitably ring at the suitable time, telling us that it's time to confess that we were wrong and repent for what we mistook.

It doesn't benefit us to have such pacemakers in our lives and it's imperative not to become a copy of him or her; rather, try to rationalize how to reach higher than that person. Don't negate your personality, but simply find the clues in your talents. Release your imagination, giving it the light of education, faith and mellifluous dreams. Don't stop at what you've achieved because you still have much more to give throughout your life.

We are eager to have adventures, challenges and bright achievements during our youth in order to be proud and have immense histories to tell our children. Indeed, it sounds amusing to have such histories, but in order to do so, we must do our duties as Muslims to follow righteous indi-

viduals, complete our education and do our hobbies so that we can discover our talents. This will distinguish us from others, which is why we should work hard to develop them and be who we are and masters of ourselves.

Friends eternal

By: Nasser Hamami
hamamin20010@yahoo.com

Friends eternal,
You're a true friend
and I want you to know
that our love for each other
has helped us to grow.
We've been through some tough
times,
but we've made it through.
The only one I ever trusted was you.
You helped me through anger,
you've chased away fears.
You held me through sadness
and kissed away tears.
You stayed by my side
when the world turned away.
You helped me see joy
when the skies were all gray.
You were the rainbow
at the end of the storm.
You help me be different
when I shouldn't conform.

You held my hand
when you knew we would fall.
Every heartache,
you saw me through it all.
I'm not sure
I'm always the best friend to you.
I know I'm not perfect,
but this much is true,
When life gets you down,
and there's nowhere to turn,
I'll help you through and
I'll share your concern.
I'll try my best to return every favor,
When you're sure that you'll drown,
I'll be your lifesaver,
Even if we both go down.
Whether we sink or swim
doesn't matter at all,
Just know that I'll be there
whenever you call.
I'll pull you out
when life pulls you under.
I'll be the sun
when there's lightning and thunder.

And when it's all over,
and we've fought every war,
There's one thing I promise,
of this I am sure,
When the time comes
that we're put to our rest,
Be sure that you know that,
my friend, you're the best.
And if there's a heaven,
I know you'll be there.
If you die first,
then you'll hear every prayer
and soon I'll join you.
But just know until then
that I'll miss you each day
'til I see you again.
At the end of the tunnel,
you'll be my guiding light.
You'll lead me to heaven,
away from the night.
We'll be there together
and we'll never grow old.
We'll walk hand-in-hand
on streets paved of gold.

**CLASSIFIED
ADVERTISEMENTS
PAGE**

Damascus Street (Hadda) Sana'a, Republic of Yemen
Tel.: 00967 - 1 - 418545/6/7/8
F.O.Box: 16183
Fax: 00967 - 1 - 418549 - 418564
E-mail: Shamherhotel@hotmail.com

فندق وأجنحة شامهر
Shamher Hotel & Suites

COLOP
self-inking stamps
اختتام ذاتية التخيير

الوكيل الوحيد:
مؤسسة بن ثابت للتجارة
Thabet Son Corporation
Showroom Telefax 269924
Sana'a - Mujahed St. - Beside Al-Basha Grocery

“Dreams + Teams” for developing young leaders

By: Hamed Thabet

The point of the Dreams + Teams for young leaders program is to develop young leaders and global citizens through international sports awareness. The program is under the patronage of the Youth Sports Trust and the British Council, working in partnership. Dreams + Teams uses the global language and diversity of sport, the arts to develop leadership skills and active citizenship. [Participants] also will be encouraged to become more aware of other cultures,” explains Elizabeth White, director of the British Council in Yemen.

She adds, “Twenty students, 10 each from Al-Rashid School and Al-Jazeera School – of course, boys and girls equally from the two schools – are responsible to train 100 children to practice what they learn from their teachers. The point is that we want to link the two schools in order to allow them to share their experiences and what they’ve learned. Moreover, we want to create a joint venture between Yemeni and British schools regarding sports, culture and the arts.”

Khadija Al-Surhi, director of Dreams + Teams in Yemen and deputy director of the British Council, explains, “This program is in two steps, the first of which is focused on two weeks of teacher training by British teachers, Rick Stephens and James Schone, who are specialized in the field.”

She continues, “In fact, another program is going to be about joint ventures in government schools and the British Council is working with 24 government schools in this regard. Moreover, there will be another 16 schools in the near future and another 16 by the end of March.”

Schone, who is an advisor for



Children with their teachers and Elizabeth White, director of the British Council in Yemen and Khadija Al-Surhi, director of Dreams + Teams in Yemen and deputy director of the British Council.

Dreams + Teams internationally, further explains, “We began training pre-adolescence from ages 14 to 17 in order to teach them how to be leaders, teaching them skills such as cultural activities and coordinating festivals, as well as teaching them how to trust themselves.”

Chris Shute, charge d'affaires at the British Embassy in Yemen, notes, “This type of training and program is very normal in Britain. Moreover, this pro-

gram’s success today makes me so happy. I hope these kinds of programs will spread across the country.”

He points out, “We will continue doing more projects like this in Yemen. This is just the beginning and we will see its effect upon children. On the other hand, teaching children how to trust themselves and how to be leaders will be useful for their country in the future.”

Schone notes, “This program is in 40 countries worldwide. Yemen is one of the important countries we’re focusing on because children here have talent. The only problem is that they don’t have the opportunity to strengthen those talents.”

One of the Yemeni trainers, 21-year-old Adnan Al-Qasous, says, “My first training experience was in 2003 at Yemen Modern School. Since then, I received training, during which I was so worried and strained. However, after I went through this program, I started to trust myself more and I learned new things that I never dreamed of. It’s a nice feeling being a leader, but it’s also a great and difficult responsibility.”

He adds, “I became a trainer for very young children in this program. At first, it was very difficult to get along with them, but after the second day, they started to be serious and said, ‘We feel that we’ve really changed and improved.’”

Fifteen-year-old Suha Al-Eryani,

expresses, “This training helped me discover the abilities I didn’t know I had, such as confidence and leadership. In the beginning, I was afraid that I would fail or that I couldn’t make it. But now, once I was trained and put in a practical situation, I feel that I’m not the same person I was before. Moreover, many barriers were lifted during this training, such as boys and girls could talk and work together.”

She adds, “Girls in our country don’t

have many opportunities for activities or to bring out their talents, so a program like this which teaches us how to do different things helps girls to have confidence in their abilities.”

Al-Jazeera School Director Rathiah Al-Shu’ur, recounts, “The British Council visited us and suggested this program. After consulting with the school, we agreed on the idea. The only problem we had was regarding the sports component, which had boys and girls together; however, the British Council agreed to cancel that portion.”

She continued, “When I talked to my students about the training, all of them were so excited. I really saw the difference in their attitude and how they managed it in record time.”

She adds, “For sure, there will be this type of program and training in our school, which will cooperate with Al-Rashid School in order to exchange experiences.”

Al-Rashid School Director Khalid Qahtan remarks, “We have great trust and confidence in the British Council.

It’s not the first time they’ve worked with us, so, of course, after discussing the program with our teachers, we agreed to it. The only problem we encountered was some parents refusing to let their daughters participate in the training, but some did allow them.

“The most interesting thing was that one of my students came to me the first day and said, ‘Teacher, I feel that I’m a different person now. That’s why this type of training and program is going to help our students do better in their lives and will be the fundamental of this school,’” he concluded.



Children with their teachers during the festival.



Schone, who is an advisor for Dreams + Teams internationally and Elizabeth White, director of the British Council in Yemen with the Yemeni children.

Yemeni media reps participate in 3rd Arab Media Forum

Young journalists and media representatives from Yemen are participating in the 3rd Arab Media Humanitarian Forum on the Rights of the Child, which starts on 25 November in Dubai.

The Forum is an annual event organized by the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF), in partnership with the Dubai Press Club and al-Bayan Newspaper. It aims to highlight and promote one aspect of the Rights of the Child each year with and through the Arab region’s media. It will end on 27 November.

UNICEF Yemen is supporting the participation as part of its efforts to mobilize the rural journalists to play an active role to bring voices from the village on children and women development issues into the mainstream media. In 2007, UNICEF Yemen organized a string of media mobilization workshops in the governorates of Al-Hudeidah, Ibb and Aden to get field based journalists on board and motivate them to accord priority attention in reporting back from the village to bring voices and views of

children, young people, families and community leaders on the Rights of the Child and their development issues.

Mohammed Al-Jabri, IRIN correspondent and an editor at Yemen Times; Nabila Al-Hamood, Radio Aden; Samia Al-Nabahani, a writer at Al-Ossrah Magazine; Dfaa Naji from Al-Mashail Youth Magazine; and Nada Al-Shura’e, representative of Child Parliament are participating in the Forum for this year.

Naseem-ur-Rehman, Chief Communication and Information at UNICEF Yemen, will be accompanying the team and will lead a session in the Arab Media Forum on Media and HIV/AIDS.

The objective of the Third Forum is to enhance the role of Arab media in promoting the development, protection and participation of adolescents as full-fledged citizens building on their assets and potential.

The Forum will include participants from Algeria, Egypt, Gulf countries, Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia, and Yemen. Mr. Abdel-Rahman Ghandour,

UNICEF Regional Chief of Communication; Mr. Mahmoud Kabil, UNICEF Regional Goodwill Ambassador for the Middle East and North Africa, and Wolfgang Friedl, Communication Specialist will participate in the Forum.

The First Arab Media Humanitarian Forum on the Rights of the Child met in Dubai in December 2004, with the participation of fifty media professional from 13 countries. The Forum reviewed the situation of children in the Arab World, discussed the implications of applying the human rights approach to media coverage of issues related to children and reviewed experiences of media coverage. It also drafted an Arab Charter on Media of the Rights of the Child.

The Second Arab Forum on Media and the Rights of the Child met in Dubai, May 2006. The Forum reviewed the situation of Girls’ Education in the Arab World in terms of enrolment, dropouts, social factors that influence Girls’ Education and educational inputs (teachers, curricula, buildings, sanitation ... etc).

NOKIA
Connecting People

Cut through style

A fashion masterpiece featuring innovative design along with multimedia and connectivity features. Enjoy up to 9 hours playing time of your best tunes on the music player with exchangeable music themes and album art support. Store more music, photos and high quality videos on the microSD card with expandable memory of up to 2GB. Snap defining moments in still or stunning video quality on a 2 megapixel camera with 8x digital zoom.

NOKIA 7500

733 11 33 55
إصدار على هذا الرقم
معرفة سعر الهاتف نوكيا
مستشار مبيعات

الريفي: 275106 - القيادة: 561700 - مركز صنعاء التجاري: 448504 - حدة: 513800 - عنصر: 289477
عبر: 02 243321 - الجديدة: 03 22 44 42 - تعز: 250817 - 04 - الكلا: 05 302412

Printed by Yemen Times Est. for Press, Printing & Publication
طبعت في مطابع مؤسسة اليمن للتأجير المحاسنة والنشر