

Hertz
Take A Break From Your Work
Load and Take
Hertz
Along with you.....
Universal Rent a Car
Sana'a Tel: (01) 440309, Aden (02) 245625
Movenpick Branch (01) 546063

YEMEN TIMES

DHL
EXPRESS
we move the world
Sana'a: Hadda St. (01) 441099/87/6, Zubairi St. 249878
Aden: (02) 245625, Fax: (04) 252455
Hodeidah: (03) 208689, Mukalla: (05) 354844
Seiyoun: (05) 404288, Ibb: (04) 407418

Monday, 4 February 2008 • Issue No. 1126 • Price 40 Yemeni Riyals • Founded in 1991 by Prof. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf www.yementimes.com

Inside:



5
Yemen nears one Millennium Development Goal, but still has work to do



12
The appalling state of Sana'a school toilets



14
The flourishing of Yemeni handicrafts

Salafis plan to foil Qatar-brokered deal

By: Mohammed Bin Sallam

SA'ADA, Feb. 3 — The Yemeni government and Houthis signed on Friday a peace deal in Doha, containing procedures for implementing an agreement, reached by both parties last June, to end the war. However, reports indicate that Salafi groups are planning to foil the peace deal.

Qatari Crown Prince Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamed Al Thani attended the various peace deal proceedings.

Yemeni presidential political advisor Abdulkarim Al-Eryani signed the agreement on the Yemeni government's behalf, while Sheikh Saleh Ahmad Ali Habra represented Abdulmalik Al-Houthi and his supporters in the Doha deal. Habra flew to Qatar after the government insisted that he carry a written authorization from Houthi field leader Abdulmalik Al-Houthi.

In turn, the Houthis demanded that Northwest Military Flank Commander Ali Mohsen Al-Ahmar, who they believe is responsible for the ongoing fighting, attend the event. Accused of harboring extremist Salafis, Al-Ahmar then attended the proceedings, which was the first time for him to do so.

The event was also attended by Parliament member Yahya Al-Houthi, brother of slain Hussein Badraddin Al-Houthi, the founder of the 'Faithful Youth Organization' in Sa'ada. The MP, who came from Germany, is considered as the leader for the Houthis' political front abroad, in which he gained political support for his followers. He fled Yemen before Yemeni authorities could arrest him, after they took a series of firm procedures against him, revoking his parliamentary immunity and attempting to extradite him via Interpol.

The Qatari committee that supervised the first stages of the Doha Agreement withdrew from Sa'ada after failing to persuade the conflicting parties to abide by the agreement.

Media sources said the most recent agreement concentrated on specifying clear methods of applying the previous



Displaced people in Sa'ada waiting for the government aids.

agreement and resolving humanitarian issues.

Other sources mentioned that the new deal did not include any new conditions from either side, which concentrated on humanitarian aspects of the crisis such as the release of detainees, providing aid to displaced families and compensating those whose property was damaged in the previous wars. The same sources indicated that Qatar worked tirelessly to persuade the conflicting parties to accept the peace deal.

According to observers, the time selected for ending the Sa'ada crisis coincides with the Second Consultative Meeting for donors, currently organized by the Yemeni government, Gulf Cooperation Council's General Secretariat and World Bank. They said the date assigned for signing the deal has political implications, as Yemen wants to confirm to donors that it is serious about providing an appropriate climate for the consultative meeting, as well as showing that Sana'a is still committed to donors' conditions with regard to enhancing stability, security and democracy.

"The Yemeni government and Houthis signed the Doha Agreement on Wednesday, while the Qatari government took charge of releasing the remaining \$300 million of a grant

pledged for Yemen's development projects allocated for its third Five-Year Plan (2006 - 2010)," noted international observers interested in Yemeni affairs.

Political writer Sa'eed Thabet said in a statement to some media outlets that he is pessimistic about the new deal's success. "The new deal between the government and Houthis will be short-lived, despite the Qatari government's efforts to make it a success. We hope the conflicting parties will cease bloodshed, end the Sa'ada fighting and restore safety and security to citizens of the war-torn governorate," Thabet declared. "I fear that the deal may only be a short break for both parties to prepare themselves for a new war."

The political writer said he didn't know whether the deal persuaded both parties to overcome any disputed points. He further questioned, "Did Houthis accept abandoning their strategic positions and laying down their arms, or did the government accept giving Houthis some entitlements in exchange for their journey to Doha via a neighboring country's airport instead of Sana'a Airport?"

Thabet labeled the government's news blackout regarding its deal with Houthis and keeping all representatives anonymous at the event as a 'big shame', particularly as Qatari sources revealed that

Al-Eryani represented the government and Sheikh Habra the Houthis at the agreement. He added that neither delegation cares about citizens' lives.

Thabet commented that the recent deal is merely escapism from the current political, economic and security issues plaguing the country.

The journalist expressed his wish that the agreement would reach successful results and that life in the restive governorate would gradually return to normal. "We have to question those who signed the deal, as well as the powers and influence they enjoy in order to bring the conflicting parties together and help them reach a compromise," he went on to say.

The Houthi representative, who flew to Qatar along with the government's delegation on Wednesday following coordination by the Qatari Ambassador in Sana'a, carried with him a large number of case files, 400 belonging to those detained over suspected connections with the Sa'ada fighting and displaced citizens. Additionally, Al-Houthi stated that some of the files contain legal violations committed by the government.

Media sources in Sa'ada reported on Sunday that a helicopter was shot down in Juma'a Bin Fadhel of Haidan district. Witnesses said they saw the helicopter on fire after being shot down by Houthis.

The Houthi field leader released a statement saying that a military detachment struck the Juma'a Bin Fadhel area with tanks and mortars on Wednesday, adding that the operation continued for more than seven hours.

The statement further claimed that Abdulaziz Al-Shihari, a Salafi extremist and commander of the 17th Military Detachment deployed in Haidan district, led a military campaign composed of nine trucks transporting soldiers to Al-Zerka area, where he started an operation in Juma'a Bin Fadhel area.

Al-Houthi lashed out against the military operations, which according to him undermined peace negotiations in Doha, accusing the government of not being serious about resolving the crisis peacefully.

Qarnaw
For Oilfield Services
QARNAW
(A Member of Al-Shaif Int'l Group)
Qarnaw focuses on delivering the best solutions and multi-services to our clients.
Tel: 01 448447/8, Fax: 01 448446, 3rd Floor, Sana'a Trade Center, Sana'a, Republic of Yemen
E-M: godwin@qarnaw.com W: www.shaifgroup.com

ROYAL Microwave Oven
Your comfortable life begins with us.
ROYAL 5 in 1
شركة ركنس التجارية المحدودة
3803 ص.م. صنعاء - الجمهورية اليمنية
01-400447/8, 01-400445/6, 02-263112/1
02-263112, 04-238337/8, 04-238337/9
04-238312
الآن أصبح التسوق عبر برنامج الركنس مع خدمات التجارة الإلكترونية

Atlas
EASY LANGUAGE
Discover the world of Atlas
Where reality and myth & where simplicity and technology meet
Specialized dictionaries (medical, engineering, commercial, scientific, legal, public relations, political, military and sports)
Comprehensive guide to English level tests. Ideal for college and university students. Clear vocal facility.
مجموعة الأطلس للتجارة والمقاولات المحدودة
Al-khulaki Group For Trading & Construction Ltd.
350842- الكلا 395571/2 الشيخ عدن 282429 لدى فروعا: شعوب 606152 صنعاء ت: 244625
والدى موزعنا: صنعاء - الجابري - العسكري 272975 مكتبي 240419 المظفر 207692
أبو توفيق 280302 جميل الدبيبي 505921 عدن - العدل 253772 نجر - تيب توب 239899
العديدة - مكتبة أدبي 219336 إب مركز الشارقة 409094 الكلا - مكتبة شيام 303090 دمار - أبو صدام 501409

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

الوطنية للتأمين
AL-WATANIA INSURANCE
www.alwataniainsurance.com E-mail: alwatania-insurance@net.ye
Sana'a, Tel. (01)272713, 272874, Fax: (01)272924, G.M. (01)276745, Hodeidah: (03)219941/44, Fax: (03)219945
المستشفى الوطني الحديث
Al-Hadi Modern Hospital
بالمعلم والقيم .. نرضى مرضانا
صنعاء - فرع عطان - ت - ٤٤٤٤٤٤ - ٤٤٤٤٤٤ - ٤٤٤٤٤٤
Email: info@hadithalahl.com www.hadithalahl.com

AL-JEEL AL-JADEED GROUP
A world of books & stationery
الورق الأكثر مبيعا في العالم
www.aljeel-aljadeed.com

KONICA MINOLTA
كونيكا مينولتا
Choose your best MFP Products Lineup
Thabet Son Corporation مؤسسة بن ثابت التجارية
Sana'a: Tel.:278546-8 Fax:283596, Taiz: 2190357 Fax:214306, Aden: Tel.:244625 Fax:246787, Hodeidah: Tel.:204488 Fax:204490, Mukalla: Tel.:316710 Fax:316711
E-mail: tsc@yemen.net.ye, Website: www.thabetson.com.ye

imagine sharpness better than real
SAMSUNG
SAM Digital
IT-Telecom & AV
Tel.: +967 1 494700 - 494999

SABA YEMEN INSURANCE CO. (S.Y.C.)
ثقة . حماية . بلا نهاية..
Head Office
47 Alzubairi St. - Ishaq Bldg. - Sana'a
P.O.Box: 19214
Tel: (+967-1) 420908-240984
506115-506118
Fax: (+967-1)240943
ADEN BRANCH
Queen Arwa St., Crater-Aden
P.O.Box: 70154
Tel.: (+967-2)254866-253464
Fax: (+967-2)259469
Mobile: 77920997
HODEIDAH BRANCH
AL-Tahreer Square, Hodeidah
Opposite of Security Police Dept.
P.O.Box: 4256
Tel.: (+967-3)219584-204390
Fax: (+967-3)219588
Mobile: 733570436
TAIZ OFFICE
Gamal St., beside Yemen Commercial Bank - Taiz
Tel.: (+967-4)251844
Fax: (+967-4)259444
Mobile: 734513208

شركة سولس ومليز (س.ي.م.)
Aden Silos & Mills Co. (S.Y.C.)

Yemen Commercial Bank **YCB** البنك التجاري اليمني
Child's Treasure Program
for better future
Toll free 8008000 Phone 01-299988
www.ycb.com.ye

In brief

SANA'A

Two dead in explosion at Sana'a University

Two people were killed and 25 others wounded on Saturday in a bomb explosion inside a buffet at the Sana'a University roundabout on Ring Road.

Mohammed H. A., 30, threw a hand grenade inside the buffet while a number of students were inside, leading to the deaths of two persons and injury of 25 others from grenade fragments.

Security has arrested the accused. 19 of the injured were transferred to Kuwait University hospital, while 6 others were taken to Al-Jumhuri hospital to receive medical treatment. A security source said that the police have launched an investigation into the cause of the incident, which appears to be a family dispute.

UN aid for Yemen discussed

Minister of Planning and International Cooperation Abdul-Karim al-Arhabi, along with representatives of UN organizations in Yemen, discussed on Saturday the achievements made from \$250 million in aid given by the UN to Yemen for the period 2007-2008.

The minister noted the importance of focusing on cooperation efforts in coming years on documenting UN aid to Yemen concerning issues of water, population, women's empowerment, reproductive health, the environment and supporting government efforts to boost good governance. He confirmed that outcomes of implementing the document would help the government implement its third Five-Year Plan, spanning the period from 2006 to 2010.

ADEN

Austrian tourists arrive in Aden

A group of 17 tourists from Austria arrived on Saturday in Aden city. The tourists visited historical and archaeological sites in the city, such as the Aden Cisterns, Seirah Castle, the National Archaeological Museum, popular markets and Adeni beaches. The tourists expressed their admiration of Aden's sights.

HODEIDAH

Free anti-mosquito bed nets distributed in Hodeidah

The National Program for Combating Malaria has distributed 44,641 free insecticide-impregnated bed nets in the Tihama district of Hodeidah province.

Hassan Mohammed Al-Hard, coordinator of the operation, stated that the remaining nets (36, 912) have not been distributed yet due to the lack of data and family surveys that he stated should be carried out by local councils in the targeted districts, which are al-Mansoriah, Bayt al-Faqih, Bura'a, al-Tahaita, al-Hujailah, al-Salif and al-Luhaiah.

Al-Hard added that these nets would be distributed as soon as the family surveys are conducted by the local councils

HADRAMOUT

President orders rehabilitation of Bin Sina hospital in Mukalla

President Ali Abdullah Saleh asked the cabinet on Saturday to allocate YR 1 billion to rehabilitate Bin Sina Hospital in Mukalla city of Hadramout governorate. The sum would be used to supply the hospital with medical equipment.

SA'ADA

UNHCR to support displaced people in Sa'ada

Sa'ada Governor Mutaher al-Masri held talks on Wednesday with Groana Bercim, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) representative to Sa'ada, on a number of issues related to humanitarian assistance provided by UNHCR for affected areas due to the clashes between the Yemeni government and Al-Houthi group.

Both sides discussed aspects of cooperation to provide electricity for displaced persons in some areas and procedures for the distribution of tents and humanitarian assistance for those affected by the war.

Yemen, Pakistan agree on military, economic cooperation

By: Yemen Times Staff

SANA'A, Feb 3 — Pakistani prime minister Mohammedman Soomro left Yemen on February 2 after a two-day visit to the country, where he met with high-ranking Yemeni officials. The visit, which started on February 1, aimed at boosting defense cooperation between Yemen and Pakistan.

The Pakistani official also discussed economic relations and ways of enhancing them. The visit came in response to an invitation from Yemeni prime minister Ali Mujawar.

The visit came amid fierce and continuous clashes between government troops and supporters of Abdul-Malaki Al-Houthi in Sa'ada.

Yemeni defense minister Mohammad Nasser noted that Yemen needs Pakistan's help and support to improve its medical corps and military hospitals.

He said: "We are proud of the military progress made by Pakistan, and we are satisfied with the military training given to Yemeni officers in Pakistan."

"The bonds between the two coun-

tries are strong and will become stronger with the passage of time," he added.

Economic ties

The Pakistani prime minister held talks with Mujawar on issues related to economic cooperation between the two countries. In a meeting with Yemeni and Pakistani businessmen in Sana'a, the two premiers called on the businessmen to support government efforts to enhance commercial and investment relations in their countries.

Mujawar said the governments of Yemen and Pakistan intend to establish technical, economic, investment and commercial committees to follow up on agreements between the two countries.

He also welcomed Pakistani investors to Yemen, saying, "It is important to widen the commercial exchange between Yemen and Pakistan," adding that his country is keen to develop its relations with Pakistan, specifically in wheat and rice imports.

"Continuous contact and exchanged visits between the two countries on

public and private sector levels contribute greatly to relations development between the two countries," he said, adding, "The horizon of cooperation between the two countries is broad."

Mujawar stressed the importance of the private sector's participation in developing bilateral economic relations. "It is important to collectively encourage businessmen from the two countries to establish joint investment companies and support their governments' efforts to achieve comprehensive development," he said.

Soomro, meanwhile, supported Mujawar's comments, stating the private sector can play a key role in developing relations.

He stressed on the possibility of establishing joint projects between Yemeni and Pakistani businessmen in the fields of cement, steel, oil, and pharmaceuticals.

During the talks, Yemeni and Pakistani investment authorities signed a cooperative, technical protocol. Another agreement was signed between the commercial chambers of the two countries.

Four Arabian leopard cubs burned to death

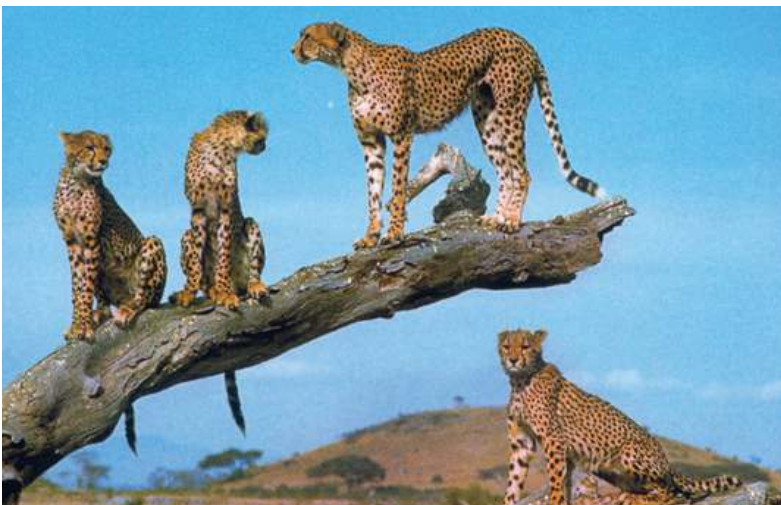
By: Hamed Thabet

DHAMAR, Feb 4 — Four Arabian leopards in Otma'a Wildlife preservation were burned last December by an unknown hunter, said Abdulwahed Al-Bahri, the head of information committee in the Otma Wildlife Preservation.

Al-Bahri confirmed that the four cubs died after being burnt, but their mother survived.

According to Al-Bahri, the hunter, a local from the preservation, was planning to sell the leopards to Sana'a zoo. "It was an accident. According to the information I received from locals, this hunter caught five leopards, four cubs and their mother. In the process he started a fire in order to make them dizzy, but unfortunately some of the cubs were burned to death, while their mother escaped," Al-Bahri told the Yemen Times, rejecting the Environmental Protection Authority statement which denies the incident, adding that the news excited wildlife NGOs, which demanded more details about the incident from the authority.

Badri Al-Samhi, sheikh of Al-Aras, an area close to the preservation, noted that Arabian leopards and hyenas are killed every day by locals in order to protect their livestock. "These Arabian leopards are not seen every day, and they have their own special hideouts.



And what usually happens is that when [locals] find a chance to attack the animals, they do. In these cases, locals open fire on them and kill them."

Al-Samhi noted that the leopards are very rare and in danger of becoming extinct.

Badri Al-Samhi, sheikh of Al-Aras, an area close to the preservation, noted that Arabian leopards and hyenas are killed every day by locals in order to protect their livestock. "These Arabian leopards are not seen every day, and they have their own special hideouts.

days."

The Arabian leopard is one of the world's most endangered species; less than 100 are believed to survive in the wilds in the whole of Arabia.

A nocturnal and very secretive animal, it grows to no more than 1.3 meters in length from head to tail, compared with African leopards, which can reach 1.8 meters and up to twice the weight. The size and very pale earth color of its coat, with small, widely-spaced spots, are adaptations to the bare, rocky habitats in which it lives.

Al-Saqqaf announces resistance movement against web site blocking

By: Yemen Times Staff

SANA'A, Feb. 1 — Yemenportal.net Editor Walid Al-Saqqaf has officially declared the start of a movement to resist web site blocking in Yemen as part of an internationally supported program that helps apply the experience (resistance movements) in other Arab nations.

As founder of the currently blocked web site, Al-Saqqaf stated, "Being handcuffed without being able to react to this irresponsible campaign against web sites is the primary reason for starting our resistance movement, considered the first of its kind in an Arab country."

The phenomenon forced Yemeni web site representatives to hold the first meeting in Jan. 22 in Sana'a, sponsored by Yemenportal.net.

Al-Saqqaf labeled this blocking of web sites based on their political positions, their opinions or news stories they publish as "a shame upon the Yemeni regime." According to him, this shame must be eliminated because it has harmed Yemen's reputation as a nation advocating respect for democracy and human rights.

"Blocking Yemenportal.net has added a regional and international dimension to the phenomenon, as numerous international organizations have denounced the procedure, demanding the Yemeni regime respect the commitments it has made in front of the international com-

munity regarding the right to obtain information and express oneself freely," he noted.

Numerous international organizations, including the Paris-based Reporters Without Borders and the Arab Press Network, the New York-based Committee to Protect Journalists, the Washington-based World Press Freedom Committee and PEN World Voices have deplored the Yemeni government's blocking of Yemenportal.net and other web sites.

Announced by Al-Saqqaf, the campaign will pressure the Yemeni government to cease blocking web sites in Yemen, thereby allowing Yemenis full access to all news sites.

According to the Yemenportal.net editor, the blocking of his site has contributed greatly to internationalizing this phenomenon of web site blocking in Yemen and letting the world know about the arbitrary and oppressive procedures its government is taking against news web sites, in particular.

"When the [Yemeni] government bans a news web site, this reflects that it is not credible and not serious about developing democracy in Yemen," Al-Saqqaf observed, pointing out that the threats some web site editors face — including Salem Bamadouh, editor of the blocked Shabwappress.net — are another risky indicator necessitating the government defend such web sites

instead of blocking them.

"Yemen's political leadership must understand that the time of blocking web sites and suppressing opinions is over. In order to enhance democracy and human rights, the [Yemeni] government must tolerate various viewpoints and let individuals express themselves without restriction, as this is one of the most important rights ensured by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which Yemen has endorsed and marks annually," Al-Saqqaf explained.

He continued, "Our resistance movement has its own web site with all of the news stories and opinion articles from the blocked web sites, which residents in Yemen may visit without any restrictions."

Adennews.net, Adenpress.net, Shabwappress.net, Hadramoutnews.net, freeyemen.net and Yemenportal.net are just some of the sites whose content may be displayed via the movement's special link (http://blocked.arabiportal.net/yemen).

Al-Saqqaf further urged all of those whose web sites have been blocked to contact him at his address admin@yemenportal.net so their sites can be added to the accredited list of sites accessible by visitors within Yemen through the movement's link.

Additionally, the resistance movement has discovered a new mechanism allowing editors to reach their blocked

Solar lamps for Socotra



The Head Manager of National Program of Socotra Archipelago Conservation and Development Program (SCDP) receives Solar lamps from the deputy head of the German Embassy in Sana'a.

By: Hamed Thabet

SANA'A, Feb 2 — Germany recently donated 100 solar lamps to the island of Socotra for the third time in four years. These lamps, which generate light from stored solar energy, are safe to use on the environmentally fragile island in the Arabian Gulf.

The solar lamp project serves two main purposes. First, it aims to bring eco-friendly technology to Socotra, replacing environmentally damaging and expensive gas lamps. Second, the project will generate a small income for the women of Socotra, who will be taught how to operate and care for the lamps.

Like many areas outside of Yemen's larger cities, Socotra lacks consistent and affordable electricity. Even though 75 percent of Yemenis reside in these rural regions, they receive only 8 percent of the country's electricity, according to the Ministry of Electricity. The other 92 percent of total electricity in Yemen goes to cities.

The Ministry of Electricity also said that 77 percent of rural families still rely on old-fashioned gaslights. The rural families spend around eight percent of their income on light, while urban residents pay only five percent of the income and enjoy better service.

However, solar lamps work effectively for 6 to 7 hours — even in remote areas — as long as they are charged for 3 to 5 hours in the sun and cleaned regularly.

This is the third such program for Socotra's residents aimed at providing electricity to remote areas.

"At first only 100 Socotra locals submitted their names in order to get solar lamps, but now there are about 500 who want them," said Michael Reuss, deputy head of the German Embassy in Sana'a. "The project will start in 2 weeks and we will send the lamps by air or ship, so that by the end of next month it will be ready."

A German expert will come to

Socotra in order to train six women how to use, repair and sell the solar lamps. The Socotra Women's Association, a local NGO, will receive the money made from the sales.

"We would like to see stronger government involvement in financing solar and wind energy technologies, as sun and wind power are widely available in Yemen," said Reuss. "Also, gas oil energy is getting more expensive every day. It is time that people think of alternatives to gas, as many cannot afford it."

The solar lamps will be sold to locals for YR 5,000, though they are valued at \$100 each. Socotra residents can buy the lamps in installments to ease the initial cost burden. The German Embassy says that they are charging locals for the lamps instead of donating them, in order to prevent them from reselling them.

Reuss also said that if the project is successful, there will likely be other plans and donors for solar- and wind-powered energy programs. However, he did not have specific information about when or if the next donation would occur.

The first 100 lamps were donated by Germany in 2004, with the second 100 donated by the German Lions Club Association, a worldwide volunteer and service organization, in 2006. The present donation is on behalf of Siemens, an international technology and power company.

In addition, there were other donations for Socotra, like solar water pumps. Two solar pumps are still working after four years in two protected areas, Dehamri and Arsel, according to Malek Abdulaziz, Head Manager of National Program of Socotra Archipelago Conservation and Development Program (SCDP), who added that they received 4 more extra solar pumps for Socotra earlier in the year, given from GAF small grand project from UNDP with local communities.

sites and upload articles using complicated programs made just for this purpose, but only blocked web sites may upload articles.

Al-Saqqaf requested the editors of blocked web sites to stay in touch with him so they may determine the ideal resolution to this problem.

The Yemenportal.net editor praised the international support his project has received from various organizations worldwide, including Sweden's Örebro University, which approved the portal as a scientific research tool contributing to an academic study of Yemeni electronic media.

Additionally, he thanked Swedish media for covering the blocking of his web site, which has prevented thousands of Yemenis and others inside the country from visiting the site's content and forum contributions numbering nearly a quarter of a million posts since May 2007.

As an alternative to his blocked site, Al-Saqqaf has launched http://yemen.arabiportal.net, which readers within Yemen may access. Visitors to the site may register as new members in order to gain access to the latest developments related to the blocking, as well as learn about alternatives if web sites are blocked.

In an interview with the International Journalists' Network, Al-Saqqaf said earlier, "With the support of Yemeni and

other regional and international web sites, the portal plans to initiate a long-term resistance movement against web site banning.

"We'll open a new domain and promote it by sending messages to its members and through other web sites. Thus, when the government closes one domain, a new domain will open and its address emailed to subscribers so they can update their bookmarks with the new domain."

He added that what's even more exciting about this project is that the portal also will create a special section on its home page dedicated to all web sites banned in Yemen.

Al-Saqqaf regrets that the situation regarding press freedom in Yemen has deteriorated rapidly and sunk so deep that many journalists have lost hope, with many considering the 1994 Civil War between North and South Yemen as the turning point.

That war ended a coalition between two former regimes and resulted in a strong central government led by current President Ali Abdullah Saleh, who celebrates 30 years in power this year. The pessimism in this sense doesn't come from nowhere but rather from a series of broken promises by the regime regarding enhancing press freedom and opening up the Yemeni nation by ending imprisonments and the broadcast media monopoly.

WHAT IT MEANS...

What it means is an analytical feature of Yemen Times, in which Yemeni topics are discussed and analyzed by Yemeni and international experts. Contributions and comments are welcomed, they could be sent to the feature's coordinator: Dr. Abdullah Al-Faqih (dralfaqih@yahoo.com).

Illegal fishing in Yemeni waters

By: Dr. Ali Al-Asali

Yemen's fisheries sector increasingly has contributed to its food supplies and security, with an estimated 70 percent of fresh and canned fish caught annually going for domestic consumption. The per capita average increased from 6 kilograms in 2002 to 9 kilograms in 2004. Although well below international levels, this per capita average has reduced red meat imports.

The fisheries sector provided more than 315,000 jobs in 2004, compared to only 100,000 in 1990. This significant sector employs approximately 65 thousand people and 250,000 others in related activities such as marketing and selling fish.

Yemen's fisheries workforce represents approximately 3.5 percent of its overall economically active population, supporting some 1.7 million dependents, or 8.6 percent of the nation's total population.

Fishing pirates

Fish resources, marine organisms and fish fauna at numerous points along the Yemeni coasts of the Red Sea, the Gulf of Aden and the Arabian Sea are wasted,

destroyed and looted, thus jeopardizing the country's fisheries.

Available information indicates that at least 60 active multinational fishing vessels, some of which are unlicensed, are operating in Yemeni waters. Not only do they fish a mere 25 kilometers off the Yemeni coast, they use explosives to force fish outside their habitats.

Undoubtedly, current fish production levels don't meet Yemenis' needs, especially given the nation's growing population, which is causing dwindling per capita shares of fish, poorer health standards and worse conditions in general.

The Yemeni government decided in 1996 to allow Arab and foreign firms to operate in its territorial waters for a fee, which provided the public treasury with considerable revenue, 20 percent of the harvested quantity. However, the move didn't include those firms fishing in deeper waters (200 meters).

As a result of lax controls and monitoring of such waters due to lacking means of control and an insufficient presence by coast guards to protect Yemeni economic waters in deep-sea areas, hundreds of thousands of tons of fish remained untapped.

Deep-sea fish account for only 4 percent of annually produced fish. This led to fishing companies – both ministry-

licensed and unlicensed – to continue fishing by flouting the restrictions included in the licenses.

The most flagrant violation is damaging the marine environment by wiping out marine plants, coral reefs and harming fish reserves, in addition to catching all types of fish, regardless of season. Such acts of destruction and vandalism incur heavy losses for Yemen's economy, both now and in the future.

Government efforts

The Yemeni government is keen to conserve and protect its marine environment, but protecting and preserving fishery resources and marine ecosystems requires cooperation by many countries because a sea isn't the sole property of any single country. For example, the Red Sea is one marine entity whose waters are inseparable, as fish are living organisms that move from one place to another.

Of course, what happens on Eritrean shores affects Yemeni shores, just as what happens on Egyptian shores affects Djibouti's shore. This means there must be coordination among those countries located on the Red Sea and the Gulf of Aden, not only to protect marine life but also to fund and conduct pertinent studies. In this regard, Yemen has ratified

numerous international and regional treaties and agreements seeking to coordinate multiparty efforts.

In order to enhance control measures, Yemen's Ministry of Fishery Resources introduced a satellite monitoring system in 2003 to control and monitor the activity of unlicensed commercial fishing boats. The European Union financed the \$3 million project, which focuses on developing the fishery sector's potential by establishing completely effective controls to ensure sustainable use of living marine resources.

Another of the project's objectives is to establish an accurate state-of-the-art system for marine inspection and control, in addition to improving the administrative, technical, legal and financial capabilities of local staff and providing the necessary levels of control and inspection in order to enforce applicable laws, regulations and rules in connection with fisheries conservation and protection.

Ideal exploitation of living marine resources entails rational usage based on scientific principles and a balance between marine organism production and annual renewable yield. This can be achieved only by conducting scientific studies on marine populations to determine the areas where they live, where and when they reproduce, the volume of

their reserves, their maximum sustainable annual fishable yield and fishing efforts during the fishing season.

Further, it necessitates defining the specific time and area of the fishing season, the maximum annual production of each type of commercial fish, the fishing effort (including number of boats, fishing days, etc.), prohibiting harvesting where and when fish reproduce and activating marine controls and inspection to ensure implementation

None of the above excludes the need for a Yemeni fishing fleet to replace Arab and foreign companies' boats in order to protect Yemen's fishing reserves and optimize their use. The illegal presence of foreign fishing vessels in contiguous waters must be stopped and no outsiders should be allowed to fish in Yemeni waters without permission by Yemeni authorities.

Other measures include prohibiting any acts that damage marine ecology within the economic zone, including dumping garbage, discharging oil, detonating explosives, dredging seabeds, etc.

Dr. Ali Al-Asali holds a doctorate in agricultural economics and a minor in fisheries marketing from Iraq's Baghdad University, the author teaches at Sana'a University's Faculty of Agriculture.

Former United Nations Resident Flavia Pansieri to Yemen Times:

“Qat is holding Yemen back”

Flavia Pansieri has worked as the United Nations Resident Coordinator and United Nations Development Program Resident Representative in Yemen for the past three years. This week, she leaves Yemen in order to assume her new post as head the United Nations Volunteers Program in Geneva, Switzerland. Yemen Times' Nadia Al-Sakkaf interviewed Pansieri and asked her to reflect on her experience in Yemen.

Q: What were the main priorities of the United Nations (UN) during the last three years and what will be its priorities for the next three years?

A: Every four years, the UN carries out the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF), which is a document for the whole United Nations System; where we stand, what are the challenges, what is needed to do and what resources do we have. It does not address all the issues in the national plans because of limited resources, but the ones where we think that UN we can bring greatest added value. This has four basic pillars. The first one is:

- Promoting rule of law and good governance.
- Provision of the social services and needs.
- A program of economic wealth that creates employment and increases Gross Domestic Product (GDP).
- The area of women and gender equality.

The government is currently conduct-

ing a review of its plans, and we are happily supporting this.

Q: Will there be changes in the near future?

A: So for the future what I see is not a dramatic change in priorities but perhaps a greater drilling down on how to specifically engage in any one particular area.

Authorities often complain that there is little aid coming into Yemen, which I fully support and is right, but at the same time the relatively small donor community here is pretty cohesive and therefore able to leverage other strengths.

Q: Tell us about the donor community in Yemen?

A: The donor community has a regular meeting every two months to see how best to improve our coherence.

Q: Has it been challenging for your work in a country like Yemen? How do you work out these challenges?

A: I think we are all keen to see Yemen



Flavia (right) with Nadia Al-Sakkaf, editor-in-chief of Yemen Times.

change and progress. But this has to be change with stability. There is no country that the environment is not politicized. The challenges are there because the process of the country's development is through the negotiation between the country's different forces and powers. The essence of the democratic process is to have an open way to negotiate these differences in order to reach a consensus.

In essence, the UN is a change agent and we cannot come in and say, "This is what you have to do." The important thing is to gradually help people. It applies to corruption, to gender equality, to human rights, freedom of the press, democratic process...etc. and I think at times we have unreasonable expectations of us.

Q: What about the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) for example?

A: Yes, the MDGs are very ambitious and I would be delighted to say that we will meet all the goals, but it is very unlikely. The important thing however, is to have that goal and to continue at the policy and implementation level to

do as much as possible to get as close as possible. We may miss the targets, that are sad, but the important thing is to not let go; to keep going.

Q: But Yemen is on track to meet the MDG for primary school enrollment?

A: That is right, that is the one - if things go well - we might meet.

After that we need to do some kind of assessment because they are all in doubt. The MDGs are a very powerful tool, because they give you direction and yet the journey is very important, as is how to get there eventually. These are change processes, it takes time.

Q: Do you have any regrets about your work in Yemen?

A: I don't want to hide the fact that I leave with a heavy heart. This is because I see that the country and the people are in pain. The economic situation is difficult. The combination of internal and external strains means that there is a real need for quick and stable development. I think we in the UN want to help support activities such as

enterprise and skills development and all of those things that make it possible for people to help themselves.

But even Yemenis are reluctant to invest in their country when they see there is a problem with the judicial system, land disputes and unstable environment...

Q: How do you propose Yemen can pull its act together, because it seems there is this flood coming and you are talking about planting saplings in its way?

A: I think what is important is to convey a sense of hope. We can do it; we need to do it together. That is why I think the international community has an important role to play in contributing to Yemen's stability.

There needs to be a focus on vocational and secondary education between the national authorities and the donors. There is a lot of investment that goes to education. I am not saying that everything is perfect, but that there is a sense of progress.

Where I see is a concern is that in the health sector the national investment is very low. You need a healthy body in order to have a healthy mind in order to learn well. Health statistics are scary.

It is also a concern that so much of the country's resources are being depleted by Qat. And when I talk about this, I don't talk about water which is an obvious concern, but I also talk about disposable income in the families: If it goes to Qat it does not go to health or education for the children.

It has a positive element of contributing to social cohesion and is a basic feature of Yemen which is by large a very equalitarian culture. Around the Qat session you can have the minister and driver together. It is bringing together of different levels of society that is important, but there is no question that the downsides are much more than the positive. Qat is holding Yemen back.

Q: So what can we do about the qat issue?

A: I think what is important is not to demonize, but to gradually change attitudes about it, because people have to first accept the fact that it is not good. Then to have a government intervention by making it more difficult helps them behave as they know that they would want to.

The advocacy must take place through media and role models. I think it is very important for the country's leadership to say: "this is not healthy."

Not to mention a beautiful country like Yemen and you go around and see all those Qat plastic bags, it is really very sad.

Q: Can you tell Yemen Times' readers a little bit about your new position?

A: Let me say one thing: In the UN, we have to move on every three years or so between positions. It was difficult for me to find a place that would compete with Yemen in interest and the human richness.

I will be moving to run the UN Volunteers Program in Geneva. I think this is the single one position that has been able to make me able to accept the idea of leaving Yemen.

I have felt incredibly privileged throughout my assignment in Yemen. I can only be grateful for this opportunity. This program (UNV) is not as active as I would like in Yemen; we have about thirty volunteers, some of them national and some international. They work in different areas and with different UN agencies.

I must say that in my three years working in the UN in Yemen, we have tried to encourage volunteerism.

Q: How do you think your experience in Yemen will influence your new job?

A: In the Arab region there is a sense of charity and compassion. It is not called volunteerism, but it is there. For example, the concept Zakat, the whole attention to helping those who have less than you do.

Whenever the moment comes to leave the assignment, the question is: "Have I done enough?" because you realize that it has been such an enriching experiences that you learned so much that it almost feels selfish. And you really hope that your efforts had been translated into making things better. Yemen is a very warm and welcome place and I felt at home from day one.

Q: What will you take with you from Yemen?

I am taking an enormous amount of splendid memories and a large numbers of photos that would remind me of this country and its people.

I am also taking two cats with me that I brought from Socotra, which I think will make my life very problematic because they are extremely lively.

They will be reminding me every second of how much I am missing Yemen.



Pasha and Bilquis, two kittens found in Socotra, will accompany Flavia to her new destination.



بسكويت
زينة
أبو دحمة



... وتستمر الحكاية

Yemen nears one Millennium Development Goal, but still has work to do

By: Almigdad Dahesh Mojalli
Dahesh95@yahoo.com

Although Yemen is on track to meet the United Nations' Millennium Development Goal of universal primary school enrollment, more work still must be done to keep Yemeni children in school after they enroll.

As of 2006, 75 percent of Yemeni children were enrolled in primary school, according to UNICEF's December 2007 Children's Progress report.

Over the past few years, Yemen's Education Ministry has constructed as many schools as possible nationwide. As Education Minister Abdulsalam Al-Jawfi explains, "The number of schools built annually increased from 200 to 1,200. There are 16,000 schools in Yemen, 80 percent of which contain primary education classes."

However, according to the minister, the dropout rate increased 10 percent, particularly among female students.

Al-Zubairi School teacher Ismail Zabarah says students drop out for a variety of reasons, including poverty, lack of incentives and the poor quality of the education system. "Students drop out if the school is far from their home or there aren't enough teachers," he notes, adding, "They also drop out due to poverty and the need to work."

"The government built neighborhood schools three years ago, but that's not enough," says Jamal Al-Azab from the Khawlan countryside. "Schools may be near three or four villages, but far from two others. Because we can't provide our children vehicles to pick them up from school every day, we really need more schools," he adds.

Dropouts begin in fourth grade,



Right to Left, Dr. Abdul-Salam Al-Jawfi and Almigdad Mojalli during the interview.

when 10 percent of girls leave school and from there, the rate increases in each grade. Minister Al-Jawfi explains that Yemeni families, especially those in smaller villages, often refuse to send their daughters to school when they reach age 11, the age when girls cease interacting with males. Villages have no girls-only schools and mixed schools have male teachers.

Despite understanding the importance of attending class, many students attend only mid-term and final exams. "It's very important to attend class because some subjects are extremely difficult to understand without a teacher," points out Yahya Ayid, deputy headmaster at Al-Kibsi School in Sana'a.

Yemen previously was off-track regarding the primary school enrollment Millennium Development Goal, but the Education Ministry concentrated its efforts, resulting in many new projects. "Education in Yemen faces many challenges, but as a result of interested officials within the

education sector, we have numerous strategies through which we can achieve those goals," minister Al-Jawfi notes.

He continues, "It's now easier for us to reach the targeted children. We've redistributed teachers to those districts needing more teachers and gathered parental councils in those districts to give incentives for them to send their children to school. We aim to enroll 95 percent of children in primary schools by 2015."

Many Sana'a schools provide students all necessary facilities and utilities. For instance, Al-Shaheed Mutahar Zaid School in Sana'a has good sanitation and the number of classes is proportional to the number of students. Headmistress Shafiqah Al-Nizari adds, "We have a complete science lab with instructional aids, a computer lab with internet and all of our school's furnishings are complete."

In contrast, other schools are unable to provide books to students and even teachers. Omar Bin Abdulaziz School

in Bani Hushaish, located 25 kilometers east of Sana'a, struggles to obtain enough teachers and operates with an incomplete syllabus.

"The toilets are completely destroyed and there's no science lab," headmaster Adel Al-Sumaie laments, adding, "[Students] have never seen any instructional aids other than the cartoon posters they occasionally create for themselves."

Many education specialists agree that city schools generally are doing better than those in rural areas, not only in terms of facilities, but also with regard to their graduates.

"Our challenge is to enable education to reach Yemen's remote and mountainous districts," Al-Jawfi points out, "For example, we've built 400 schools in Amran within the past two years and the same is true in the other governorates. We've now reached the deserts and the far regions of Yemen."

While the minister knows Yemen hasn't yet reached its goal of near-total primary school enrollment, he maintains that his department has begun reaching those targeted districts needing the most help.

In addition to constructing schools in most Yemeni districts, Al-Jawfi notes that his ministry has awarded contracts to 1,000 new female teachers from those same districts in an effort to set an example that educated women can get jobs. Additionally, it serves as an incentive for Yemeni girls to attend and stay in school.

Even though Yemen's enrollment rate is good, there are still problems regarding the quality of education children receive.

As father Mohammed Al-Hammadi complains, "We must re-explain the lessons to our children because some teachers aren't sufficiently qualified or are only high school graduates."

Ali Qadi, headmaster of Al-Hayof



Students in cities have better education facilities than those in rural districts

School in Sana'a governorate, remarks,

"In my opinion, the quality of education is weak because of the curricula itself. Many teachers don't know what teaching methods to use because an education expert hasn't visited the field to determine a suitable syllabus for students."

Al-Jawfi responds, "The two main challenges involve quantity and quality. The quantity challenge regards the number of enrolled students, which is still below the requirements qualifying us to achieve the

Millennium Development Goal."

He continues, "Regarding quality, experts have found that 110,000 teachers – both male and female – only possess high school qualifications, which means we must enhance their abilities and qualifications. Consequently, we've held numerous training courses for such teachers."

Although Yemen is working hard to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, there's still much work to be done, as 25 percent of Yemeni children still aren't enrolled in primary school.



Dropouts being in fourth grade.

Middle Eastern students face new obstacles in U.S. Higher Education

By: Nada El-Eryan

Every year, high school seniors must make a tough decision in deciding which college to attend. For many Middle Eastern students, this decision is much more complex, as they must also decide in which country to go to college. Europe, Asia and the U.S. have much to offer in higher education. Many choose the U.S. based on prestige and transferability of the degree. In fact, there are currently 34,803 Middle Eastern students studying in the U.S.

Sammy (who asked his last name to be withheld) attended a private school in Jordan which provided a University Counselor to assist him in making his decision to attend an American university. Many international universities send representatives to magnet private schools in the Middle East to lure students to their institutions. Much like in the U.S., these institutions set up information booths to inform students about their schools at University fairs. While Sammy chose a U.S. university, some of his friends chose to study in Europe and Canada.

Programs of Study

Many U.S. institutions have ongoing ties with Middle Eastern countries to recruit students for a particular field. For example, George Mason University recruits Saudi Arabian citizen for its nursing program. However, the biggest deciding factor in choosing a course of study is usually the parents of the student. Sammy, who lives in Jordan, is a senior Industrial and Systems Engineering major at Virginia Tech. He chose his major because his father is an engineer and he excels in math and science.

"Back home, it's lawyer, doctor or



engineer." Sammy had considered changing his major to biology or geography since they interested him more than engineering, but felt that his parents "would not have appreciated [him] being a geography major." By and large, international students are more interested in math and science than American students are. Of the international collegiate student body, 35% choose to major in a math- or science-related field, as opposed to only 23.4% of American students. Fewer international students choose pre-professional degrees than their American counterparts, 36% versus 42%, respectively.

Once the students graduate, many have the option of staying in the U.S. and being sponsored by a company or returning to work in the Middle East. The economic situation is a major factor in deciding where to go after graduation. Since much of the Middle East is still developing economically, it is difficult for entry-level professionals to break into the field. Sammy's plan is to work in the U.S. for a few years and then going back to Jordan. He says that this is also the case for most of his classmates.

Doctorate students, however, are

more likely to stay in the U.S., especially if they are from a war-torn country. Less than ten percent of Doctors from Gulf States stay in the U.S. upon graduation versus their other Middle Eastern counterparts, where up to 60% of Doctors stay in the U.S. War-torn countries are not able to provide work opportunities to Doctors the same way as the U.S. Exchange Programs. The U.S. government sponsors several programs to increase the number of foreign applicants in the U.S. For example, the Fulbright Foreign Student Program is a highly coveted study abroad program aimed at both US citizens and foreign nationals. Students must go through a rigorous application process to earn the Fulbright Scholarship and even then must excel academically to keep the scholarship. AMIDEAST, a non-profit organization located in Washington, D.C., has a partnership with the U.S. Department of Education to award and monitor Fulbright Scholarships to students in the Middle East. According to their website, there have been over 1000 students studying in the U.S. from the Middle East under the Fulbright program since the 1970s.

Other nonprofits and nongovernmental organizations also sponsor Middle Eastern students to earn their degrees in the U.S. or provide information on such programs. The Arab-American Institute lists several study-abroad programs as well as scholarships for Arab-Americans and Arabs studying in the U.S. on their website.

New Challenges

Students who come to study from the Middle East face new challenges due to increased security after 9/11. The increased U.S. presence in the Middle East and accounts of discrimination against Arabs has caused animosity towards the U.S.

New visa regulations are arguably the main cause for decreased applicants. After 9/11, the Department of Homeland Security required any foreign national from several countries in the Middle East to register with the government in order to screen for potential terrorist ties. Consequently, many students face stricter regulations on temporary visas due to their countries of origin. While this practice has been suspended, students from the Middle East still generally face a more stringent application process.

As a result, many students felt criminalized and have looked elsewhere to continue their education. Europe, Australia and Asia have had increased applicants from the Middle East. Many American institutions also have satellite campuses abroad and in the Middle East, which as become another option for students who are unable or unwilling to attend school in the U.S. These students are still able to get an accredited American degree while foregoing visa problems and possible discrimination.

After 9/11, Sammy did not directly face any anti-Arab discrimination, but

admitted, "There were a few ignorant [people] in the dorms." He had no desire to change schools or leave the U.S. because of the discrimination. Many institutions have created support systems for their international students, which have helped students adjust to life in the U.S. and the college lifestyle.

Overall, U.S. institutions are still the most desirable for Middle Eastern students. They offer a variety of programs of study and degrees. The education can be taken back to the Middle East or used anywhere in the world.

Source: Taqdir Washington

gtz Office Sana'a

Vacancy Announcement for National Personnel for the Institutional Capacity Development of the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation Project (PN. 04.2139.6-001.00- ICD-MPIC) done by the GTZ Office Sana'a.

Senior Expert for Management and Organization

Requirements:

- Knowledge on management and organization issues in the public sector, in Yemen and the region (such sectors as health, social, education, etc...)
- Knowledge on planning and monitoring issues is also of advantage.
- Excellent skills in English and Arabic,
- Excellent interpersonal and social or presentational skills.
- Higher or post graduate degree preferably in Economics or Social Sciences.
- Minimum of five years of working experience in International Cooperation projects.
- Experience in working for the Yemeni public sector required.

The senior expert will act as an intermediary between the project and the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation (MoPIC). He/She will also act as a substitute Team Leader and Assistant to the Principal Advisor. The candidate will receive intensive training for the task in regards to specializations in organizational advice, capacity works as well as in technical issues such as monitoring and evaluation."

Interested Candidates of suitable qualification are invited to send their application and an up-to-date CV in Arabic and English latest by **10th February 2008** to:
By mail:

The GTZ Office Sana'a
Human Resources Officer
Vacancy Announcement "Senior Expert for Management (GTZ/ICD-MoPIC)

By Fax:
Vacancy Announcement "Senior Expert for Management (GTZ/ICD-MoPIC)
Fax number: (00967-1) 412 539

Only short listed applicants will be invited for interview on **15 & 16 February 2008**.



The Board of Directors of the National Bank of Yemen approve the Financial Statement ending 31 December 2007



Mr Abdul Rahman Mohamed Al-Kuhali
Chairman of the Board

The bank continues its policy to keep with the latest techniques in the field of information technology.

The Bank's Executive Management and the employees presented these achievements made during 2007 to His Excellency President Ali Abdulla Saleh in a acknowledgement of gratitude of his prudent leadership and directives to achieve apprehensive economic development in our country and the stability of investment environment to enhance Yemeni economy.

The Board of Directors held its annual meeting on Tuesday, 29th Jan. 2008 in the presence of all its members and participation of the bank's executive managements to approve the bank financial statements for the financial year ending of December, 31 2007 and hear the report of the external auditor Messrs Dahman RSM. The meeting began with a speech by Mr Abdul Rahman Mohamed Al-Kuhali the chairman of the Board of Director General Manager who announced that the performance of the Bank in 2007 was a continuation of the yearly increasing growth. The bank was able to continue to achieve distinguished results and achievement, good quality of the bank assets, and increasing profit from operation, net profit and strong base owner's equity. These results came in harmony with the strategic objectives and confirm in the bank's successful dealing with all changes in Yemen banking market. They also provide additions rewards to the Yemeni Government (the owner) and bank clients as well.

The Chairman of the Board of Director further added that: in 2007 with support from our prudent government we raised and strengthen owner's equity. They went up to Yemeni Ryal 9,720 million due to the profits made this year which rose to above Yemeni Ryal 3,600 millions with increase of 37.4% (2006). The capital adequacy in the end of 2007 was according to international and local requirements 46%. The bank also achieve highest return to average owner's equity rising up to 30.5% in 2007.

The Chairman of the Board of Directors clarified in his speech that in 2007 the bank continued its policy to keep with the latest techniques in the field of information technology. The bank dispatched request for proposal which were prepared by an international consultant firm for a selected number qualified international IT companies in order to acquire advanced information systems in compliance with the bank's strategy to lay down comprehensive technical solutions for banking services and product and offer them to clients within reasonable cost and in time, in addition to automations of procedures. We expect to begin application of this strategic project simultaneously with the restructuring of the bank and its branches early next year in order to

introduce the innovation that are in line with the requirements of the clients and comp tented with the services provided to them consisting of all means of convenience and ease

On the other hand the Chairman of the Board of Directors stated that, in confirmation of the pioneer role of National Bank of Yemen among Yemeni bank, in terms of issuing of Financial Statements which are quarterly interim review, and six monthly interim review using verification and disclosure standard concurrent with transparency in their edition and presentation review of its annual financial statements. The bank in 2007 edited and prepared financial statements according to International Standard reports presently prevalent and applicable mandatory from 1st January 2007.

He added saying : this continuous success and distinguished results and achievements in the bank performance in the last year contributed to the bank winning for second consecutive year, the Best Bank in Yemen Award for 2007 by the British Bankers magazine Financial Times magazine .It also qualified to the win highest rating for its strong financial position among Yemeni Banks from the International Capital Intelligence for 2007.

Mr Dahman Awadh Dahman external accounts auditor- read his report which demonstrated the fairness of financial statements of the bank for year ending 31st December, 2007 .

The Bank's Executive Management and the employees presented these achievements made during 2007 to His Excellency President Ali Abdulla Saleh in a acknowledgement of gratitude of his prudent leadership and directives to achieve apprehensive economic development in our country and the stability of investment environment to enhance Yemeni economy. They also expressed thanks to the Prime Minister, the Minister of Finance, the Governor of the Central Bank of Yemen ,and all ministers and heads of departments ,and government agencies and bank honorable clients for their continuous trust and loyalty in the bank.

The board of Director also expresses his thanks to the bank executive management and all staff for their dedication, efforts and performance of duties in professional manner.





Tender No (2) for 2008 Yemen General Corporation for Radio and TV announces tender No (2) 2008 for

Procurement, guaranty, delivery of mobile broadcasting and digital (professional) recording devices and their accessories for the Public Program broadcasts- Sana'a and the Second Program- Aden as well as local broadcast.

The manufacturing companies specialized in this field must apply to the head-quarter of the corporation Engineering Sector- General Administration for Projects – Sana'a-next to the Ministry of Health and Population during the working hours....

Tender fees \$ 100 non-refundable

Those interested to have a copy via courier (postal) \$100 will be added as postal fees

General Conditions:

- 1- Bond guaranty with 2.5% of the total value of the bid and valid for four month of envelopes opening date.
- 2- Copy of the tax card valid for 2008.
- 3- Copy of the register certificate for the general tax on sales valid for 2008.
- 4- Copy of the commercial register valid for 2008.
- 5- Copy of the insurance card effective for 200.
- 6- Copy of charity card valid 2008.
- 7- The bids are to be presented in envelopes sealed with red wax.
- 8- Abiding by special and general conditions available in the tender documents.

Date and place of opening envelopes:

Envelopes will be opened at 11:00 AM on Wednesday, February 27, 2008, in the corporation headquarter.

For more detail please visit our website: www.ygertv.com, or send email to info@ygertv.com

INVITATION FOR PREQUALIFICATION

WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION IN PROVINCIAL TOWNS PROGRAM II:

- LOT 2 PROJECT TOWN OF AL SHEHR, REPUBLIC OF YEMEN
- EMERGENCY SANITATION MEASURES AL SHEHR

The above Project is jointly financed by the Federal Republic of Germany through the Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW) and the Republic of Yemen through the Local Corporation for Water Supply and Sanitation Hadramout – Coastal Area. The Local Corporation, intends to prequalify contractors for four Contract Packages for the following:

Contract Package 1: Water Supply Transmission System: Two no. reinforced reservoirs 2,500 m³ and 500 m³; DN400 transmission pipeline approx. 11 km; Two no. chlorinators, Reequipping of 6 no. wellheads; Overhead power line extension 300 m; Village water distribution tertiary pipelines approx. 2 km, and Procurement of vehicles and equipment.

Contract Package 2: Water Distribution and Sewage Al Shehr – East: Water primary and secondary pipelines DN 500 to DN 80 approx. 16km; Water tertiary network approx. 20 km and approx. 3,500 house connections; Sewerage collection system: Pipelines, manholes etc. length approx. 20km; and approx. 1,800 house connections.

Contract Package 3: Water Distribution and Sewerage Al Shehr – West: Water primary and secondary pipelines DN 500 to DN 80 approx. 16 km; Water tertiary network approx. 20 km and approx. 3,500 house connections; Sewerage collection system: pipelines, manholes etc. length approx. 20 km; and approx. 1,800 house connections.

Contract Package 4: Coastal Collector Sewer, WWTP and Outfall: Gravity sewer DN450 uPVC 750 m; PE force main DN 400 4,000 m; Two sewage pumping stations; Wastewater treatment plant (lagoon system) 2,250 m³/day; and Effluent pipeline DN600 1,500 m.

Pre-qualification will be governed by the KfW's 'Guidelines for Procurement of Supply and Work Contracts under Financial Cooperation with Developing Countries.' Pre-qualification documents may be purchased upon payment of a non refundable fee of US\$ 200.-.

Dorsch Consult Project Office,
Villa Bajarash no. 9,
60 m Street, Fuor Area
Al Mukalla,
Republic of Yemen
Tel. 00967 5 371589 / 371584
Fax. 00967 5 371587

Project Manager of PEA
Attn.: Eng. Saeed Frag Khanbash
Mobile: 733 535911
E-mail: khanbash@y.net.ye
Project Manager Consultant
Attn: Keith Roberts
Mobile: 712 995585,
E-mail: keith_Roberts@dorsch.com.jo

Applicants may submit applications for pre-qualification for any number and combination of the four Contract Packages, a separate application should be submitted for each Contract Package. Applications should be submitted in sealed envelopes, delivered to the above address on or before 10th March 2008 and be clearly marked as follows: "Application to Prequalify for Water Supply and Sanitation in Provincial Towns Program II, Lot 2 Town of Al Shehr / Emergency Sanitation Measures Al Shehr, Contract Package No. (1, 2, 3 or 4 as applicable)." Two copies of the completed prequalification documents should be submitted for **each** Contract Package.



UNHCR

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
Haut Commissariat des Nations Unies pour les réfugiés

INTERNAL/EXTERNAL VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Title of Post: **Field safety Assistant**
Post Number: **10011359**
Category and Level: **GL6**
Location: **Aden**

Date of Entry on Duty: **1st March 2008**
Duration: **One year**
Closing Date: **13 February 2008**

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Under the direct supervision of the Head of Sub Office Aden, in coordination with the UN Regional Field Security Officer, the incumbent is expected to perform the following duties, guided by the humanitarian principles and values of the United Nations, and adhering to the UN Code of Conduct:

1. Undertakes regular and ad hoc security assessment missions to the field when requested by the supervisor, assists the supervisor in the same task in order to gather information and analyse the overall security situation as well as the security situation related to a specific area. Makes appropriate recommendations.
2. Maintains relations and co-operation with local authorities and other agencies on issues of security.
3. On the basis of the security assessment, provide assistance to the supervisor in evaluating the level of risk, the existing security measures for the safeguarding of staff, beneficiaries, property, UNHCR premises, and UNHCR staff members' private residences and makes appropriate recommendations and arrangements for their improvement.
4. Assists the supervisor in constantly, monitoring the security situation vis-à-vis the implementation of UNHCR's activities, and security of beneficiaries, and makes appropriate recommendations and arrangements for improvements.
5. Provides recommendations and assists in the preparation and maintenance of security guidelines, measures, standards and MOSS for UNHCR Offices in the field.
6. Assist in reviewing security and evacuation plans and proposes improvements and necessary changes, and assist in ensuring that all staff members are familiar with these plans.
7. Assists in/conducts training on security awareness, preparedness and response.
8. Provides security advice to all staff including advice on warden system, radio communication procedures, travel procedures, recognition of explosive devices, fire safety, physical security of UNHCR premises/property and staff residences, equipment required for security measures and other security issues and precautions to be taken.
9. Conducts/assists in security briefings.
10. Monitor, updates and maintains database of security incidents.
11. Assists in preparing Situation Reports.
12. Maintains staff movements tracking system according to the requirements of security situation at the duty station/area.
13. Responds to staff security emergencies and provide immediate assistance.
14. Performs other security-related duties as required.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Knowledge and Skills: Completion of secondary education, preferably supplemented by technical or university courses in a field related to the work of the organization.

Experience: Five years of progressively responsible field based work, of which at least one year was closely to security activities.

Languages: Fluent in Arabic with very good knowledge of English (particularly writing skills) .

For Internal Candidates:

Priority consideration will be given to staff members whose grades are equal or below that of the post advertised. Only candidates who have served one year in their present post will be eligible for consideration as internal candidates in connection with the vacancy. Candidates who do not meet the criteria as internal candidates can be considered as external candidates.

For External Candidates

If no internal candidate is qualified, external candidate will be considered.

Gender Balance Policy:

Applications from equally qualified female candidates will be given priority consideration.

If you wish to be considered for this vacancy, please submit your application and UN P11 form or a well elaborated C.V. to the Administration Section, UNHCR, Sub-Office Aden P.O. Box 6090, Aden before the closing date.

IMPORTANT:

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED AFTER THE ABOVE MENTIONED CLOSING DATE WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, YOU MAY CONTACT THE ADMINISTRATION SECTION OF UNHCR.

Tel No.: 235111/231441 Fax No.: 02-234406

APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN SEALED ENVELOP TO:

HEAD OF SUB-OFFICE Aden
P.O. Box: 6090,
Aden- Republic of Yemen



The Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE) in Sana'a, Yemen is seeking Assistance for the following tasks to be funded by German Financial Cooperation (KfW Development Bank)

Pre-Selection Note for Consulting Services

for the Provincial Towns Open Program (PTOP)

Description of the Project: Assistance shall be provided under the Provincial Towns Open Program (PTOP) to the Ministry of Water and Environment for the planning and implementation of improved water supply and sewerage/sanitation facilities and services in a still to be defined number of eligible provincial towns in Yemen with a population of at least 10,000 inhabitants. The overall objectives of the program is to reduce health risks to the population and to contribute to the conservation of scarce water resources in the program areas.

Services Required: Transaction Consultant supporting the Program-Executing Agency, the General Directorate for Urban & Rural Water Supply and Sanitation under the authority of the Deputy Minister for the Water and Sanitation Sector: (i) Preparation, structuring and administration of PTOPTOP, (ii) Training of MWE staff in program preparation and management, (iii) Elaboration and dissemination of information and marketing material on PTOPTOP, (iv) Screening of applications, support and feedback to applicants, (v) Elaboration of ToR for local consulting and design services and tender document templates, (vi) Authorisation and follow-up of project contracts for goods and services, (vii) Coordination of supporting activities of GTZ and BGR, (viii) Auditing of compliance with project objectives and concepts and regular monitoring of milestone achievements and, (ix) Know-how transfer in order to ensure that by the end of the consulting assignment MWE is fully capable of independently managing the consecutive PTOPTOP program phases.

Applications: In English language, one original and one copy to MWE and one copy to KfW (Deadline: February 29, 2008, 1600):

KfW Development Bank
Department L II c/2
Mr. Gunter Walter
Palmengartenstraße 5-9
60325 Frankfurt, Germany
Tel. : +49 69 7431 3143
Fax. : +49 69 7431 3279
email: gunter.walter@kfw.de

Ministry of Water and Environment (MWE)
Project Coordinator PTOPTOP
Sana'a – Yemen
P.O. Box: 692
Tel.: 00967 – 1-425 342/3
Fax.: 00967 – 1-425 344
email: abuamer232@yahoo.com

Documents to be submitted: (i) Corporate profile and status; (ii) Evidence of financial resources; (iii) Legally binding signed declaration of undertaking; (iv) Relevant references from the last ten years; (v) Curricula Vitae of Consultant's foreseen key-personnel and statement of personnel structure and (vi) Declaration(s) regarding cooperation and associated firms.

The pre-qualification will follow the latest version of the "Guidelines for Assignment of Consultants in Financial Cooperation Projects" (refer to www.kfw-entwicklungsbank.de). Pre-qualification information sheet is available free of charge at the following address: gunter.walter@kfw.de.

Words of Wisdom



The problem is the helplessness people feel. Most people feel they have lost control, and even a sense of direction. They drift along with the current. They feel uncomfortable with the flow as they believe there is no one in charge. This is because the Yemeni individual is used to an autocratic system in which things are predetermined and people are given exact roles to play.

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

OUR
OPINION

Ignoring the younger female generation is a big mistake

Women's movement in Yemen has witnessed several changes throughout the years. The movement's history differs between South and North Yemen and more recently in the united Yemen. This difference is due to several factors such as the British occupation and the socialist regime in South Yemen. Yemeni women in the south have gone through a much wealthier experience than women in the north. The generations of Yemeni women raised in the southern parts quarter a century ago have had the opportunity to enjoy a relatively good education and role in the society even more substantial to the role Yemeni women have today. That was the time when a real women's movement was formed and one that was much more effective in participating in the public sphere. Although at that time political freedom as such was non-existent, yet women's ability to participate and produce made them the pioneer women we see today. Yemeni women in the north did not have an equal chance, yet there had been a few names of women who struggled and carved the first few miles against all odds. These women, both southern and northern, are the ones in the limelight today representing women's movement.

However, there is a critical mistake that has taken place historically in women's movement in Yemen. There had been no preparation for a second and third line generation, the ones who will carry the movement forward. This is not a problem limited to the movement only, it is a common mistake in the political and intellectual arenas of this country. The people who are in the front line today, have been the same people for the past twenty years almost. And when they go, there will be a vacuum, or worse a space filled with under experienced youth. It is the narrow view of the country's strategy makers, only I had hopped that Yemeni pioneer women knew better.

In many of international and national conferences are to find the list of participants repeated again and again. Having the same names indirectly leads to having the same agenda and consequently the same speeches. I am not undermining the experience of the Yemeni women leaders, it's just that they have forgotten to pass this experience to the younger generations so that progress is created. There has not been much space given to younger generations, and development opportunities had not been distributed fairly.

Nadia Al-Sakkaf

Has the ruler understood the lesson?

By: Mohammed Al-Yousefi

We have less than fourteenth months ahead of the country's fourth parliamentary elections, but less than one year until the Supreme Commission for Elections and Referendum (SCER) announces the voter registration committees, plus other arrangements for the elections according to the law. Such a short distance of time places the new SCER, which has not yet been formed, in a critical situation, mainly as multiple, big and urgent tasks are awaiting it.

The deadline for accomplishing the scheduled duties is drawing nearer and nearer while the ruling party evasively avoids conducting real reforms for the election system. Having a good electoral system is the basis for carrying out real reforms to ensure that Yemeni people practice their electoral rights in fair, free and transparent elections that can help repair people's trust in the democratic process as a whole.

In Yemen, the democratic process is believed to have lost its

content because the ruler and its ruling party play with its various steps, preceding from the use of state's capacities such as public money, senior government posts, the official media and the army, to its dominance over SCER and utilizing it to their advantage. Frankly speaking, the ruling party exploits the higher election authority, supposed to be neutral and independent, in its favor whenever the country has an election, and therefore manipulates the votes to produce the same result and same winner every time.

Oddly, the General People Congress (GPC), indicated above as the ruling party, still is refusing to respond to opposition's demands for reforming the election system, regarded as one of the top priority requirements for the coming time period. Instead, GPC is currently attempting to amend the Constitution according to a special agenda that serves certain personal and partisan interests. Such a behavior is believed to have nothing to do with demands of the nation and the encountered challenges that necessarily requires a national compromise and real partnership to overcome the standing risks nationwide.

As far as I am concerned, the Joint Meeting Parties' project [vision], concerning amending the Election Law, which was submitted for discussion and distribution to the public opinion, necessitates that all the national forces should be serious about the validity and usability of this law, as well as the opposition's suggestion for amending it. The JMP project for reforming the electoral process is the product of a real experience so far gained by the opposition coalition throughout the various election rounds until the moment.

The project implies that it has had close relation with the electoral experience and diagnosed its weaknesses and limitations, which the GPC, I think, knows well, but its will for reforming them is still intentionally absented due to selfish desires.

The JMP vision of reforming electoral violations and ensuring fair and free elections is not a new project for the ruler, who once committed himself to addressing the noticeable violations and limitations by signing and approving recommendations contained in the European Union Election Observation Mission's report on Yemen's presidential and

local council elections of September 2006.

Additionally, the project and its vision for reforming the Election Law today represents a consensus, agreed by the majority of political parties and civil community organizations, plus the international organizations that monitored Yemen's most recent vote.

The matter makes the ruling party find itself in a direct confrontation with a public desire for implementing reforms in the country, taking into consideration that a transparent and sound election system is key to carrying out the comprehensive reform program. Nevertheless, the ruling party's talk about dialogue, partnership and other relevant subjects remains merely for media consumption unless the party shows a real desire for enhancing the democratic process and

peaceful transfer of power via a faire and transparent electoral mechanism.

The ruler has to understand he doesn't have much time to continue cheating democracy and partnership, and making decisions alone without involving other political partners, mainly as the country is experiencing inflaming turmoil and congestions nationwide because of the government's poor policies. The Yemeni people are holding the government accountable for the deteriorating situations in the different parts of their country.

It is time for the ruler to respond to demands of his people and start undertaking real reforms. Also, he has to understand that his people have chosen the peaceful struggle as a means for having their demands met.

Source: Al-Sahwa Weekly.

Three faces of a state waging war on society

Despite differences of historians, sociologists and legislators over the numerous details of the state's structure, they seem to unanimously agree that our state is an oppressive body, employed to serve the interests of a particular social class and abandon others. Max Fiber, one of those great men, states that one of the state's most important jobs is the exclusive usage of force to keep social peace, however, all of them confirm that such doesn't require all the state's jobs.

A state must not organize social work and solidarity between members and institutions within the society. With the emergence of modern democratic states, our state has become unable to reproduce itself or update its structure. Then, any conflict taking place among



By: Abu Bakr
Al-Saqqaf

components of the state doesn't seem to threaten its unity, and therefore it may be clear-cut evidence of its recovery and development.

In case of having such components and conditions selected, as the case of our Arab states, the borrowed outer decoration contravenes the essence of the modern state's components. The behavior demonstrated by our government implies that it is not a state for its people, therefore it wages a war on them. Instead of organizing its people and addressing their issues and concerns, the Yemeni authority turns to wage a war against them, thereby stereotyping itself as 'a state of sustainable wars'. The government mostly depends on power and forgets about other things, essential to its establishment and survival.

Via its unusual policies, the Yemeni government confirms that force and war are the only means for its statesmen to exercise property theft, rob the national resources and make money illegally. As a result, the state's strategy for using force and waging wars appears to have an obvious economic job.

Sa'ada, South Yemen and Shara'ab are three faces for this state. The powerful centers of this state exerted joint efforts in machinating and waging the Sa'ada

war, which has been so far accompanied by a media war over ideology of some members of the Yemeni society. The state harassed several individuals over their affiliation and loyalty with the Zaidi sect, however, some of the sect loyalists did not commit any sin to deserve such torments.

In Shara'ab, the state harshly reacted to the strategies, adopted by many locals to defend themselves, protect their human dignity and advocate peaceful living under social justice, with an unprecedented use of power and excessive deployment of troops. It combined the military and security forces together against innocent women and children.

Two weeks ago, at least two people have been reportedly killed and seven others injured in the Hashimi Square of Aden city. Such an incident is clear-cut evidence of continuant bloodshed that first began in 1994 at the Square of Liberty in the city.

All the Yemeni citizens living in the south parts of the country, except for those who are loyal with the government, have undertaken not to halt the peaceful struggle until they obtain all their constitutional and legal rights. According to the Yemeni southerners, the government has been losing its legitimacy since the 1994 Civil War.

All the wars so far experienced in Yemen reflected the state's unfamiliar hatred and animosity toward its citizens, notably in the most recent Sa'ada war when the government resorted to seek the support of influential tribesmen in its arbitrary assaults on the restive governorate's residents over allegedly being loyal with Al-Houthi-led rebellion.

Source: Al-Ishteraki.net

SILVER LINING

From Madrid to Gaza & public agony disregard

President Ali Abdullah Saleh urged the Spanish government to release detained Al-Jazeera correspondent Taysir Alluni, convicted on charges of having links with Al-Qaeda operatives".

This is how the state-run media reported it a few weeks ago. It even reported during Saleh's departure to Madrid that one of the main issues he would discuss with the Spanish government was the release of Alluni. This is fine.

But the question of the Spanish-Syrian journalist should not top the talks between the president and the Spanish government officials. There are many more important issues concerning us as Yemenis; how to make use of the developing relationship between Yemen and Spain for the welfare of Yemeni people, rather than trying to teach the Spanish how to respect press freedom.

Whenever the Yemeni-Spanish relationship is mentioned, the question of the Alluni jailing comes up. Even the Syrian government is not as concerned with Alluni as the Yemeni regime is. I am not able to find any explanation for this, other than hunting for heroism. The president is obsessed with people praising him and his "great achievements," which include assisting Alluni's release.

It is paradoxical and ironic that the man who approves of intimidation, harassment of journalists and website-blocking in Yemen can go to Madrid and urge the Spanish government to overturn a court verdict and release Allwni as a gesture of respect to press freedom.

Another interesting issue is the mobilization of protesters against the Israeli acts in Gaza Strip. The ruling party, as well as some Governmental No-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) like Kana'an for Palestine, did their best to push school kids and even government employees to go to the streets last week and carry posters for the president, "the Arab Knight," who never lets down his people in Gaza.

Yet the regime is willing to kill scores of Yemeni citizens who had the guts to the streets and voice their concerns in the southern governorates during the last few months.

The regime encourages protesting in support of Palestinians or the Lebanese and makes donations to build schools and villages in Palestine and Lebanon while it begs for donor support to this or that project. The people in charge feel the agony of these other people but disregard their public suffering at home. When it comes to its own people's concerns, their voices are silenced and their protests are fiercely put down.

We still remember the July 2005 bloody confrontations between police and protestors, as well as the repression of the protests in the southern governorates and the tens of lives they claimed as a result.

To drive the point home, the regime tries to find anything outside of Yemen that might divert its people's attention from their real concerns and daily pains. Nevertheless, this fruitless tactic will not be able to achieve its objective, for the public agony is becoming intolerable and the consequences will be dire unless Yemeni issues are addressed immediately.

Dr. Mohammed Al-Qadhi (mhalqadhi@hotmail.com) is a Yemeni journalist and columnist.

SKETCHED OPINION

National issues



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

Copy Editor

Dana Patterson

Head of News Dept.
Mohamed bin Sallam

Senior Reporter
Ismail Al-Ghabri

Head of Design Dept.
Ramzy Alawi Al-Saqqaf

Editorial Staff

Al-Ajel, Fatima
Addu'ais, Essam
Mojalli, Almgiddad
Thabet, Hamed

Offices

Aden Bureau:
Ridhwan Alawi Ahmed
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: yttaiz@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

Yemen Press Review



Al-Sahwa Weekly, Mouthpiece of the Islah Party
Thursday, January 31

Top Stories

- Yemeni regime unable to address demands of the time, says JMP spokesman at NDI's political systems symposium
- Sheikh Sa'atar offers one million reward for information on a corruption-free government agency
- Former JMP spokesman: Islah Party adores late Sheikh Al-Ahmar thanks to the man's notable national efforts
- Bassurra warns against politicizing security issues, demands that youth's problems be addressed
- Hadramout University staff and Socotra medical workers begin comprehensive strike
- Qatar resumes mediation efforts to end Sa'ada fighting

Field leader of rebels in the Yemeni northern governorate of Sa'ada Abdul-Malik Al-Houthi revealed to al-Arabia.net that the Qatari government will resume its mediation efforts to end the ongoing war between the government forces and his followers, the weekly paper reported in a front page article. It added that an official delegation and another one from the Sa'ada rebels will leave Sana'a Wednesday to Qatar, according to Al-Houthi. Both sides will hold negotiations there with the aim of containing the escalating crisis.

According to Al-Sahwa, the resumption of mediation efforts coincided with ongoing clashes between the two sides. Al-Houthi said that the government fired 20 rockets

against his loyalists on Tuesday, and in the meantime, expressing his hopes that both sides can reach a compromise or an effective agreement in the Gulf state.

The weekly continued that security and military troops increased their checkpoints on the roads on Monday and Tuesday, notably on the roads and mountains between Majaz and Sehar districts in order to prevent any supplies and reinforcements from reaching Houthis. This came after some security checkpoints failed to discover the road through which three Houthis' cars, loaded with huge quantities of weapons and ammunition, moved from Dhehian to Haidan, according to reports released by security monitoring centers. These reports revealed that three cars moved to the areas of military and security operations in the governorate.



Al-Wasat Independent Weekly
Wednesday, January 30

Top Stories

- Yemen's press freedom deteriorates, poverty bound to fuel more popular rebellion against government, reveals U.S. report
- Security violations become rampant in several Yemeni governorates
- GPC parliamentary caucus head: Parliament members to select new speaker in a democratic manner
- Gaza events fuel partisan competition between Islah Party and GPC
- YSP leader labels ruling party's charges as "scornful" while former

JMP spokesman says they are ambiguous

- Qaeda spokesman praises Nasserite Party leaders, criticizes Islah Party, vows more plots against U.S.
- Official efforts mobilized in support of the Qatari mediation committee

As the government troops have never made any notable progress in their ongoing fighting with Houthi followers in the Haidan district of Sa'ada, other military and security detachments launched a broad offensive on the Sehar district and fired more than 60 rockets on the Naqa'a and Matra areas, the independent weekly reported in its front page. The weekly said that it has learned from Qatari sources that scheduled discussions between Yemeni Prime Minister Ali Mohammed Mujawar and his Qatari counterpart were expected to concentrate on the renewed Sa'ada clashes and the possibility of resuming the Qatari mediation committee's efforts to contain the crisis after this committee left Yemen a few months without any clear position about the Sa'ada events.

The newspaper stated that the Qatari mediation committee held the military field commanders accountable for hindering efforts aimed at reaching positive results under a previously made agreement between both conflicting parties. It continued that Northwest Military Flank Commander BG Ali Mohsen Al-Ahmar visited the Gulf state over the past few days to brief the mediation committee on his government's position about the fighting.

According to the weekly, the military troops resumed a few days ago their operations on various Sa'ada areas and villages, mainly the Matra area, where the Houthi hardliners including their leader Abdulmalik Al-

Houthi, were believed to be hiding. The Juama'a Bin Fadhel was also subjected to strikes with heavy mortars from a military site in Marran district.



Al-Methaq Weekly, Mouthpiece of the General People Congress (Ruling Party)
Monday, January 28

Top Stories

- President Saleh in an official visit to Spain
- Prosecution gives forcible orders to capture 7 suspects involved ancient site robbery
- Hadramout organizes public function on fighting terrorism
- Shara'ab locals complain of corruption exercised by Islah Party
- NDI conference discusses development of Yemen's political system
- Those advocating reconciliation are responsible for the dire situation in South Yemen, says Shoura Council member

"Unless President Ali Abdullah Saleh expended sincere efforts to contain the 13 th January crisis and persuade the conflicting parties make painful concessions, killing and bloodshed may continue for years, the ruling party's mouthpiece quoted the Shoura Council member Mohammed Al-Aidarous as saying. He expressed curiosity about the so-called 'Reconciliation and Forgiveness Rally', saying "I am shocked at the behavior of those advocating reconciliation and forgiveness, however, they themselves plot to damage the national unity, and even if

they are on the right path, with whom they want to reconcile."

"Those people have to reconcile with themselves first because they are the ones who fabricate crises and create problems on their paths. They destroyed every beautiful thing in this nation. They destroyed life in the South, particularly on January 13, 1986. Now, they are announcing forums for reconciliation and forgiveness, however, they are first advised to reconcile with themselves and resolve their own issues before they move to reconcile between others," the official reacted.

Al-Aidarous praised the hard efforts so far expended by President Saleh to contain the crisis of South Yemen, adding that other judicious men also played an integral role in ceasing bloodshed and fighting between the conflicting parties. They persuaded the conflicting parties to come to the dialogue table and reconciled between them, unlike the malicious elements who use reconciliation and forgiveness as a cover to implement their dishonest plots. "Today, people need not be engaged in disputes that have negative consequences on the national economy," he concluded.



26 September Weekly, Organ of the Yemeni Army
Thursday, January 31

Top Stories

- Belgian General Tourism Department thanks Yemen's Military Hospital staff for providing incomparable medical care for injured tourists

- Civil Service Ministry drops 31 multi-post employees from government payrolls
- Yemen to host meetings of Arab financial institutions
- Prime Minister concludes successful visit to Qatar
- European states praises democracy, respect for human rights and women's political participation in Yemen

Many European states and leaders praised the unique democratic development, respect for human rights and policies to boost women's political participation in Yemen, the weekly reported. This came during President Ali Abdullah Saleh's official visits to Spain and Belgium. In Brussels, President Saleh was received by deputy chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee in European Parliament Baroness Emma Nicholson, who came to Yemen during the 2006 presidential and local council elections as EU Election Observation Mission Chief Observer.

According to the weekly, both sides discussed various fields of mutual cooperation between Yemen and the European Parliament as well as the EU support for Yemen's democratic and political development.

The European official said she is amazed by democracy in Yemen, pointing out the advanced steps in Yemen in terms of freedom of expression, women participation and human rights as well as democracy. Saleh and some European officials discussed European-Yemeni ties and efforts to close Guantanamo detention. Saleh renewed Yemen's call to close the detention and hand over Yemeni detainees to their government, adding that the detention's policies contravene principles of human rights and democracy of United States.

exceed:
Language Center

TERM3
February 16 • March 19

Registration/ Placement: Term Round
Sat – Wed 9:00 – 6:30 ; Thurs 9:00– 1:00
(except during the last 3 days each term or on holidays)

...exceeding all expectations



Special for Term 3

General Features

- More than 1250 students served in first two terms.
- Commitment to student- centeredness and to high level student satisfaction.
- Free Thursday mini-courses and English movies.
- Recreational and sporting activities (in English).
- Full-service Multi-Media Lab (by subscription).
- Free wireless Internet.
- Convenient and simplified registration and placement processes throughout each term.

- New Post-Graduate EXCEED level (level 8).
- Women-only beginner level classes (mornings).
- TOFEL (and formal) Essay writing course.
- TOFEL Preparation (2 – Term) course (Feb 16 – April 30).



Algierr Street, Near 60m Road
Sana'a, Republic Of Yemen

Phone: +967 (1) 537 871/2/3/4/5
Fax: +967 (1) 537 876
contact@exceededucation.org
www.exceededucation.org

Operational Priorities

- Ensure both student satisfaction and success; students came first at Exceed !
- Provide excellence in educational programming and instruction , using state of the art language teaching methodology and technology.
- Prepare students with full proficiency in English needed for success in careers or in higher academic degree study.
- Create a "home away from home" environment of comfort which supports the learning process; learning a second language takes sustained effort, but it should be fun.



VACANCIES

Dome Trading Contracting Company is an EPC contractor specializing in Electro-mechanical Projects, in addition to maintenance and trading activities in the oil & gas industry and the power sectors. Due to the continued expansion of our activities we are currently looking for the following qualified people to join our team:

1.) Senior Human Resources officer

Job Profile: Based in Head office, the job will involve overnight travel to remote locations,

Qualification Criteria

- Degree in Human Resources management or a relevant specialization
- Five years experience in a company employing at least 500 people
- Good computer skills (MS office)
- Good communication Skills
- Fluent in English and Arabic

Key Responsibilities

- Recruiting staff.
- Proposing policies and closely working with line managers.
- Analyzing training requirements in conjunction with managers.
- Administering payroll & gathering necessary information regarding payment of employees.
- Follow up and update Leave applications & schedules. Preparation of leave master plan
- Preparing annual recruitment plan for the company by coordinating with line managers
- Closely following up the employee health insurance and health affairs
- Coordinating with insurance organizations regarding company personnel.

Female candidates are encouraged to apply for this position.

2.) QHSE Supervisors (Three Positions)

Job profile: The positions are field based involving coordinating all QC and HSE site requirements. He shall report to the head of QHSE

Qualification Criteria

- Diploma in any Engineering/science field
- Fluent English and Arabic

We endeavor to offer successful candidates a competitive package. It is the policy of Dome to ensure that its employees' benefits are above those of its competitors. Nationals of Yemen will be given priority.

If you meet the above conditions, send your CV and application letter to:

Dome Trading and Contracting Company Limited,
HR Department
P.O Box 16187,
Sana'a Republic of Yemen
Or Email admin@dome.com.ye

Last date for receiving application will be 12th Feb 2008
Only shortlisted candidate will be communicated to

IOSH/NEBOSH training

Trained First Aider

Five Years experience in the oil and gas sectors as a Safety/QC officer

Valid Yemen driving License

Training in ISO QMS/EMS/HSE will have an added advantage

Key Responsibilities

- Coordinating with client on all QHSE contractual Requirements.
- Implementing all contractual QHSE requirements on site
- Ensuring that Required PPE is available to employees
- Driver assessments
- Ensure Vehicle monitoring device are functioning
- Ensure Safety training and induction of new personnel

This position is not appropriate for female candidates.

3.) Store Keeper (One Positions)

Job profile: The position is Sana'a based involving coordinating all Asset Management and Store keeping requirements, shall report to the Accountants.

Qualification Criteria

- Diploma in Store keeping and Management.
- Fluent English and Arabic
- Three Years experience in warehouse keeping.
- Training in ISO QMS/EMS/HSE will have an added advantage

Key Responsibilities

- Issuing of materials, tools, consumables.
- Recording and maintaining records.
- Receiving and checking against materials the materials ordered for description.
- Checking Quantity and Damage of Materials.
- Inventories.
- Store materials to preserve fitness for use and determining suitable conditions for storage.

This position is not appropriate for female candidates.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Al-Mawarid Company for Educational and Health Services (MCEH) provides practical and high quality education and medical services to Yemeni people in Yemen and its neighboring countries. It started its operations in Sana'a, Yemen in 1992 with the establishment of a community college, which was expanded into the private University of Science and Technology (UST) in 1994 and subsequently added five branches across Yemen. In 2005, the administration of the UST added a university Hospital to its operations-University of Science and Technology Hospital.

The MCEH is implementing an investment program that includes activities such as the expansion of the UST's facilities and capacity in Sana'a and Taiz and increasing the hospital services and its bed capacity as well.

An Environmental and Social Review Summary Report for the project has been prepared by the International Finance Corporation (IFC) as part of its environmental and social due diligence. The report has been available for public review since Jan 23, 2008 on the IFC website and at the administration office of the University of Science and Technology, Sana'a, Yemen.

Members of the public can view the Report until Feb 29, 2008.

Questions may be directed to Prof. Dr. Dawood Al-Hidabi,

Tel: +9671373247 Fax: +9671373234



Yemen International Telecommunications Co. (TeleYemen) Job Opportunity

Yemen International Telecommunications Co. (TeleYemen), would like to call qualified candidates to apply for the following vacant post within its main office in Sana'a.

● 1) Manager Human Resources

● Main Duties and Responsibilities:

- Aim to achieve a homogeneous work force in Sana'a area and all TeleYemen Regional offices.
- Control and interpret the application of the Labour Law, Social Insurance Regulations and TeleYemen By-Laws, Rules & Regulations.
- Control the relevant returns to local Administrations, Ministries, Companies and answer queries arising there from.
- Manage and control the activities and internal administration.
- Control and administer all routine matters concerning staff in TeleYemen.
- Deal with follow up all cases filed in the courts with the coordination of the company solicitor.
- Control and manage Training Department.
- Collect data for sake of comparison with that of TeleYemen such as Job descriptions, salaries, medication and other fringe benefits.
- Rest duties are contained in the Job Descriptions.

Required Qualifications, Experience, Knowledge and Skill

- Master Degree in Business Administration, with minimum of 10 years experience in the field of HR, Personnel and Administration.
- Must be able to develop and form procedures.
- Proficiency with Microsoft office tools.
- Good understanding of telecommunications.
- Fluent English and Arabic written and oral communication skills is required, a third language (French) is a strong plus.
- Interested candidates may submit their application letter with detailed Curriculum Vitae ONLY to the following address no later than 1.3.2008 :-
- Please note that only candidates who fulfill above requirements will be considered.

C/O DCEO/Manager Human Resources, TeleYemen, and must be sent by EMS Sana'a, Yemen Republic.

www.teleyemen.com.ye



لبنان الدولية للدراسات والبحوث
LEBANESE INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Lebanese International University (LIU)

Yemen - Sana'a Campus

LIU has part-time and full-time positions open for qualified instructors with a minimum education of Master's degrees, outstanding oral and written English communication skills, as well as teaching / training experience for at least three years.

LIU also has a position open for a librarian trained in the Anglo-American Cataloguing rules version 2, (Library of Congress) with cataloguing and circulation control experience in an educational environment for a period not less than three years.

LIU is pleased to announce the following dates for its English placement tests. These tests are required for all applicants to all areas of the university curriculum:

- Saturday, the 2nd of February, 2008 at 09:00 (AM).
- Wednesday, the 13th of February, 2008 at 09:00 (AM).
- Saturday, the 23rd of February, 2008 at 09:00 (AM).
- Wednesday, the 5th of March, 2008 at 09:00 (AM).

For further information contact our numbers below

Al Rowaishan Square - Sana'a - Tel: 01/50 21 75
Khor Maksar - October Area - Aden - Tel: 02 / 23 13 45

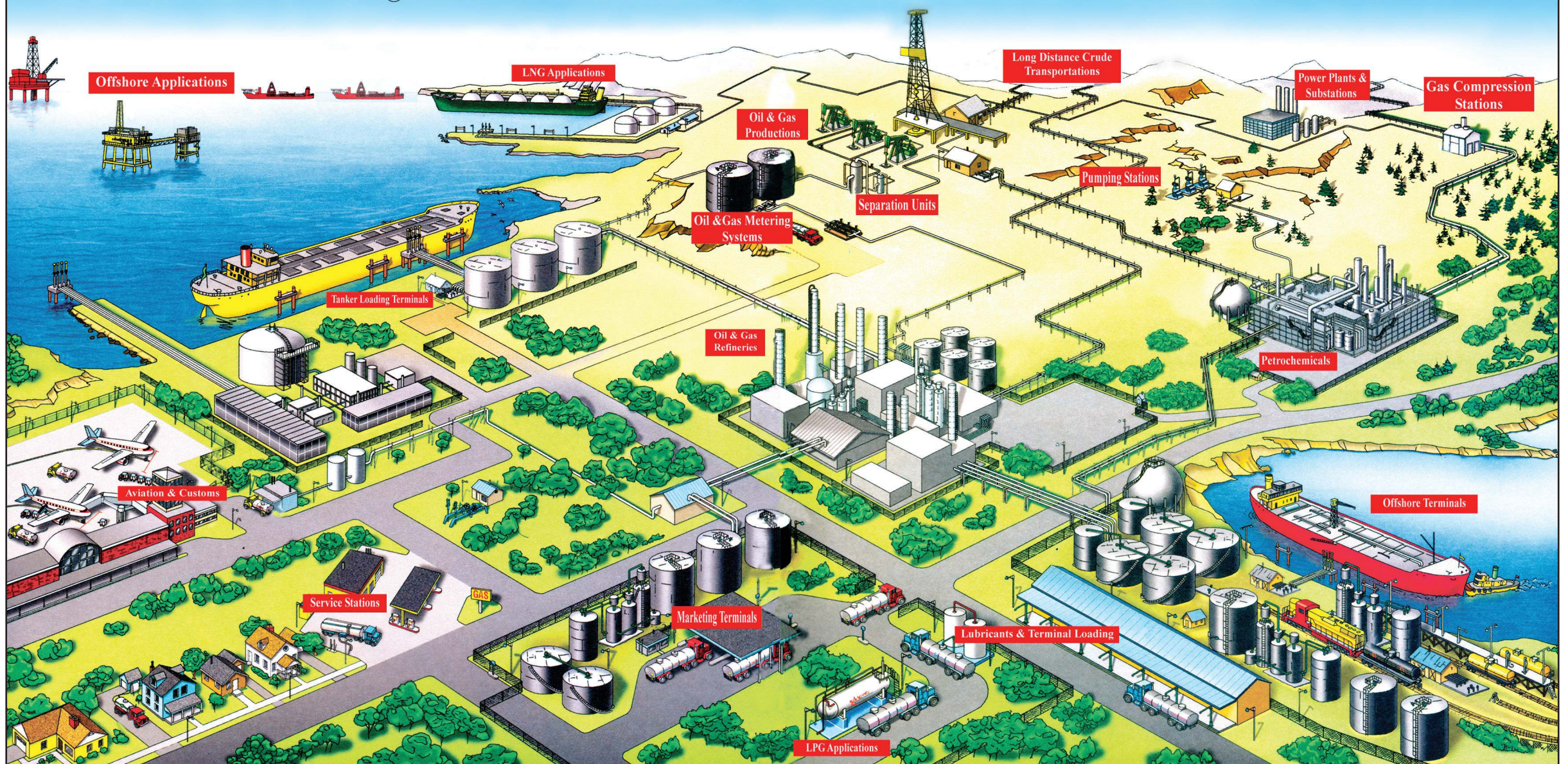
www.liu.edu.lb


HORIZON AGENCIES & COMMERCIAL SERVICES (HACS)

P.O. Box : 15408 Sana'a, Republic of Yemen

Tel : + 967 - 1 - 421508 / 421532 Fax : + 967 - 1 - 421514

Email: horcom@Y.Net.Ye Website: www.HACS-Yemen.com

Served Markets
Typical Market Applications

AGENT FOR:
FMC Technologies
Smith Meters

Solar Turbines
A Caterpillar Company

FMC Technologies
Fluid Control / Pumps

DRESSER Masoneilan
DRESSER Consolidated
MURPHY
FW Murphy

inversys
FOXBORO
Enraf
Score Group plc
Intelligent Valve and Gas Turbine Solutions

KITE


The European Commission, for and on behalf of the
Ministry of Human Rights, announces the launching of a

Call for Proposals

under the
"Sharaka" Programme,
addressed to Yemeni NGOs active in the field of Human
Rights.

The relevant Guidelines can be obtained from the
Delegation of the European Commission to Yemen (address below) or
downloaded from EuropeAid's website at
<http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/cgi/frame12.pl>
(Select "By Country"; Select "Yemen" and tick on "Open" and "Grants", and click on
"Submit")

Interested organisations are strongly encouraged to attend the

Information Session

on this Call for Proposals, which will take place on
Wednesday 6 February 2008
from 9 am - 2 pm
at the
Sheraton Hotel in Sana'a

The deadline for the submission of concept notes is:
Saturday, 1 March 2008 at 15.00 PM

Delegation of the European Commission to the Republic of Yemen
Diplomatic Area, Junction St. no. 1 and no. 16 (Opposite Hawaii Billiard
Club), Sana'a, Yemen, tel. 01-440883/4/5



The appalling state of Sana'a school toilets

By: Hamed Thabet

Most of Sana'a's approximately 270 public schools have no toilets, while those that do are in such unhygienic conditions that neither students nor teachers can use them. Further, at least six to eight schools within the capital's eight public school districts have no bathrooms at all. At best, Sana'a public schools have three to six toilets for every 4,000 to 5,000 students, but without soap, water and a clean toilet, these bathrooms aren't fit for student use.

The capital city's public schools handle between 430,000 and 450,000 students, most of whom are elementary students, while school attendance for those under age 12 increases 10 to 15 percent annually.

According to an international study by the World Health Organization, schools should have one toilet for

every 100 students. With both public and private schools in Sana'a averaging 5,000 students, instead of the 20 to 30 toilets required at each school, there are none at all.

While some students wait all day long until they get home to use the bathroom, it's more common for students – particularly boys – to urinate in the schoolyard or along school walls. Others wait until they have a break and use public toilets such as those in Tahrir Square.

"Because there was no bathroom at our school, at break time, my friends and I would urinate next to the wall," admits Ahmed Basiri, who graduated last year from Al-Kuwait High School. He adds, "Many others would bring an empty water bottle to urinate in and this was normal."

Bad toilets = sick kids

According to a group Education and Resources for Improving Childhood Continence, children and young adults

must empty their bladder and bowels regularly and completely in order to remain healthy. Because children and young adults spend at least half their waking hours at school, how much they drink and how often they use the bathroom at school is an important health consideration. Students often avoid school toilets because they are unpleasant, dirty, smelly, not private enough and lack basic hand washing or drying facilities.

Such conditions mean students may try to "hold it," often until they get home, which results in a number of health problems.

The ill effects of bad bathroom habits include dehydration, constipation, bladder infections and incontinence, which in the long run, can contribute to serious illnesses, such as kidney disease.

No room for schools, no room for toilets

Sana'a governorate education director Hamid Qotran admits that many schools don't have toilets, explaining, "The main reason is that many of those school premises previously were mosques or private homes. The Education Department approved such locations because it had no other choice."

Due to lack of funds and a lack of open space to build schools, many such buildings have been reappropriated as schools during the past 10 years. For instance, public schools in the Old City, Azal, Tahrir and Al-Lail neighborhoods all use reappropriated buildings.

According to Qotran, with as many 150 students in each classroom, some schools such as Abdul-Nasser and Al-Kuwait had to use their only bathrooms as classrooms in order to accommodate all of the students.

According to Najwa Qanba'a, manager of guidance and health awareness at the Education Department, the department must send specialized officials to approve any rented premises before it can become a school and they intend to do so in the future. She adds, "Unfortunately, this has never happened yet, but we hope it will in the near future."

Dueling ministries neglect school sanitation

This problem is caused by lack of coordination and cooperation between the Ministries of Education and

Health, according to Nabil Nasser, director of the Health in Schools program, who says both ministries have a responsibility to monitor school health.

This year, the two ministries have agreed to create a committee to handle school health problems. The committee will visit schools and submit reports to both ministries, thereby enabling them to pinpoint problems and find solutions. However, the committee hasn't visited any schools yet.

Nasser maintains that his office previously submitted reports to both ministries, but they never achieved any results. He notes that his bureau is overwhelmed by the responsibilities and that school programs badly need more funding.

"Our department is supposed to be responsible for all schools in Yemen, but the problem is that the Education Ministry has allotted only YR 6 million (\$30,000) for us to do our job," Nasser explains, further querying, "How can we establish programs for five million students when that's only one Yemeni riyal per student?!"

Free public education strains budget

While lack of funds is a common theme, one cause of such budgetary shortfall was the cancellation of a bill requiring every student to contribute financially to their education: YR 150 for elementary students and YR 200 for high school students per year.

The governor of Sana'a canceled the article two years ago so that education would be free for elementary students, but such action left already impoverished public schools with even more of a financial burden.

"Funds collected from elementary students used to be between YR 300,000 and YR 400,000, so there was a shortage after it was canceled," Qotran explained, noting, "Education should be free, but there must be some sort of compensation."

Solutions

"There will be more projects to rebuild and fix unqualified Sana'a schools," Qotran says. "This request has been submitted to the Education Ministry and the local council and we are awaiting an answer."

So far this year, 30 new schools have opened in Sana'a. The Education Department directorate has established



Lack water and soap can cause many diseases.

YT PHOTO.



Public schools toilets have become unusable. YT PHOTO BY HAMED THABET

17 projects to provide services to old schools, in addition to introducing 205 new and well-educated teachers (including foreign teachers) into the system.

Additionally, Qanba'a proposes that all 500 public and private schools in Sana'a be inspected because many private schools face the same

problems. Further, she advocates more health awareness programs and better teacher training.

As Nasser concludes, "Because it's everyone's responsibility, we must work together to provide our children a better life. I assure you that it'll be very difficult, but we must start as soon as possible."

VACANCY

One of leader companies requests for an executive secretary wit the following conditions:

1. Have Bs in English language
2. Minimum 3 years experience in correspondences (Arabic & English)
3. Minimum 2 years experience in secretary and filing.
4. Ability to use computer (M.S. Word, Excel, Internet Explorer & Outlook express)

Who find with himself desire to applied to the above mentioned vacancy, send his CV to Fax: + 967-1-203151

VACANCY

A leading International Construction Company has the following.

Vacancies for immediate filing:

- 1- **Sales Engineer.**
- 2- **Civil Engineer:** Good administrative, skills & experience in a Project Management.
- 3- **Project Planner:** Good experience to work on primavera software.

All candidates must have good computer and communication skills in English.

Please e mail your CV to info@polypus.com.ye or saif.polypus@gmail.com.
Mobile: 711 735 660

The Lucifer Effect

By: Phillip Zimbardo

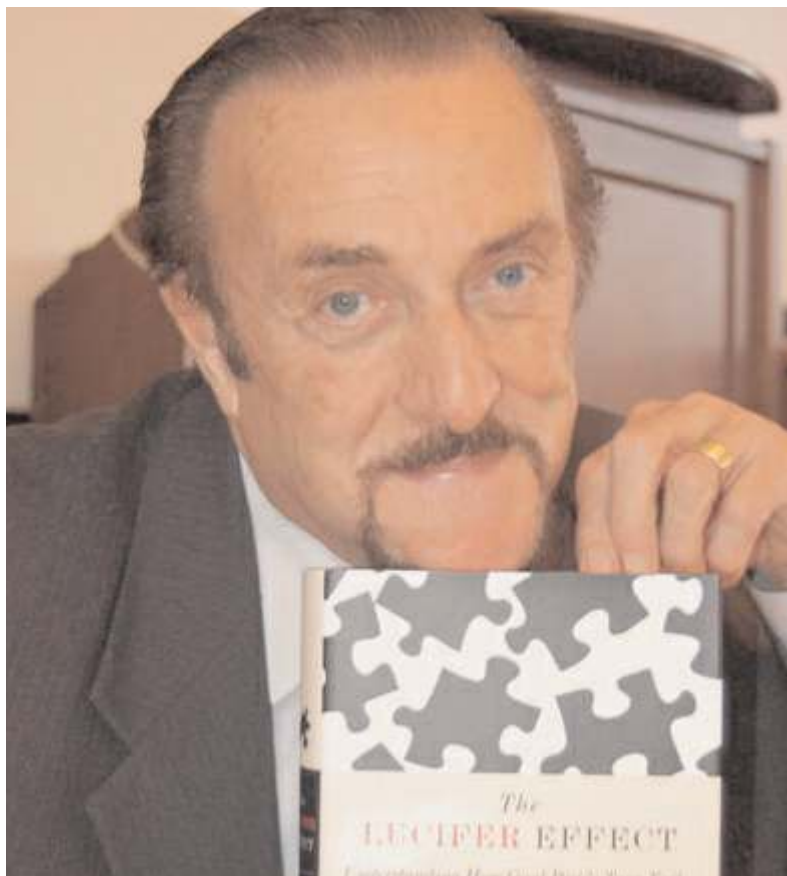
Why do good, ordinary people sometimes become perpetrators of evil? The most extreme transformation of this kind is, of course, the story of God's favorite angel, Lucifer – a story that has set the context for my psychological investigations into lesser human transformations in response to the corrosive influence of powerful situational forces.

Such forces exist in many common behavioral contexts, distorting our usual good nature by pushing us to engage in deviant, destructive, or evil behavior. When embedded in new and unfamiliar settings, our habitual ways of thinking, feeling, and acting no longer function to sustain the moral compass that has guided us reliably in the past.

Over the past three decades, my research and that of my colleagues has demonstrated the relative ease with which ordinary people can be led to behave in ways that qualify as evil. We have put research participants in experiments where powerful situational forces – anonymity, group pressures, or diffusion of personal responsibility – led them blindly to obey authority and to aggress against innocent others after dehumanizing them.

My recent book *The Lucifer Effect: Understanding How Good People Turn Evil* describes the radical transformations that took place among college students playing randomly assigned roles of prisoners and guards in a mock prison created at Stanford University. It goes on to establish direct parallels with the abuses committed by American soldiers at Iraq's Abu Ghraib prison, presenting much of the social science research illustrating the power of social situations to dominate individual dispositions.

This body of work challenges the



traditional focus on the individual's inner nature, dispositions, and personality traits as the primary – and often the sole – factors in understanding human failings. Instead, I argue that while most people are good most of the time, they can readily be led to act anti-socially, because most people are rarely solitary figures improvising soliloquies on the empty stage of life.

On the contrary, people are often in an ensemble of different players, on a stage with various props, costumes, scripts, and stage directions from producers and directors. Together, they comprise situational features that can dramatically influence behavior. What individuals bring into any setting is

important, but so are the situational forces that act on them, as well as the systemic forces that create and maintain situations.

Most institutions that are invested in an individualistic orientation hold up the person as sinner, culpable, afflicted, insane, or irrational. Programs of change follow either a medical model of rehabilitation, therapy, reeducation, and treatment, or a punitive model of incarceration and execution. But all such programs are doomed to fail if the main causal agent is the situation or system, not the person.

As a result, two kinds of paradigm shift are required. First, we need to adopt a public health model of pre-

vention of violence, spouse abuse, bullying, prejudice, and more that identifies vectors of social disease to be inoculated against. Second, legal theory must reconsider the extent to which powerful situational and systemic factors should be taken into account in punishing individuals.

Although much of *The Lucifer Effect* examines how easy it is for ordinary people to be seduced into engaging in evil deeds, or to be passively indifferent to the suffering of others, the deeper message is a positive one. It is by understanding the how and why of such deeds that we are in a better position to uncover, oppose, defy, and triumph over them. By becoming more "evil smart," we build up resistance to having our moral compass reset negatively.

In this sense, *The Lucifer Effect* is a celebration of the human capacity to choose kindness over cruelty, caring over indifference, creativity over destructiveness, and heroism over villainy. At the end of my narrative, I invite readers to consider fundamental strategies of resisting and challenging unwanted social influences, and I introduce the notion of "the banality of heroism." After all, most heroes are ordinary people who engage in extraordinary moral actions.

With this in mind, I propose a situational perspective for heroism, just as I do for evil: the same situation that can inflame the *hostile imagination* and evil in some of us can inspire the *heroic imagination* in others. We must teach people, especially our children, to think of themselves as "heroes-in-waiting," ready to take heroic action in a particular situation that may occur only once in their lifetime.

Philip Zimbardo is Emeritus Professor of Psychology at Stanford University. See www.lucifereffect.com. Source: Project Syndicate, 2008.



Sigma Company Yemen and Fosroc International Dubai introduce their Products



Sigma Company are distributors of Fosroc in Yemen for over 12 years. They have a very successful track record of providing total customs solutions to the construction industry in Yemen. Over the years they have developed in to a full fledged one stop operation to provide Fosroc products, it's application & specification support to the Construction Industry. Sigma have participated in prestigious projects like Yemen LNG, Aden airport, Hodeidah airport, Sanaa airport and Amran Cement factory extension Project. Fosroc is an international supplier of high performance chem-

ical based products to the construction, refurbishment and related industries. It operates globally through a network of operating companies licensee's distributors and agents.

Fosroc's worldwide presence includes group companies in 20 countries, (employing over 1500 people), with experts to over 100 other countries.

Fosroc has over 70 years experience in supply of specialist chemicals and have gained the acknowledgement as "Market leaders" in quality production and supply of the most comprehensive range of high performance construction chemicals serving the construction industry.

Fosroc have developed a sub-

stantial reputation for innovation products in concrete admixtures, concrete repair, grouts and anchors, industrial flooring, joint sealants, waterproofing and epoxy coating.

Fosroc's Product Portfolio Comprises of :

- Additives for the cement and readymix/precast concrete industries
- Formulated cement based product for grouting, concrete repair and flooring markets.
- Formulated polymer based products for the waterproofing, sealing and protection of structures.
- Engineered system for cathodic protections.

Sana'a, Jan.30, 2008, held at Sheraton Hotel, Sigma Company Yemen and Fosroc International Dubai arranged a seminar in order to introduce Fosroc Products and special products for Cement aid to their honorable guests coming from different Yemeni cement factories, ministries, universities and very important persons.

Mr. Zaki Hashid, the General Manager of Sigma, welcomed

warmly all the attendants and started to introduce the two companies and the mutual relationship between them. He mentioned that Fosroc company is an international supplier of high performance chemical based products to the construction refurbishment and related industries. Based in Dubai, it operates globally through a network of operating companies, licensees, distributors and agents. He added

that Sigma Company, established in Yemen in 1993, has been dealing with Fosroc products since long time such as, Admixtures for concrete, Surface Treatments for motor and concrete, Grout and Anchors, Concrete Repairs, Industrial Flooring, Protective Coatings, Joint Sealants, Waterproofing, Adhesives, Electrochemical Products, and Building Products. today, we dedicated ourselves to show and supply mostly all the contractors companies and cement factories all the products we have. Not only that, but also we serve technical assistance to all as possible as we can.

In addition to that, Mr. Sanjay Bhome, Regional Business Manager of Fosroc, presented gently to the audience overview about the Fosroc company. He said that Fosroc company is a division of JMH Group, a privately owned international company based in Dubai. It is leading supplies of construction products and has operating companies across Europe, the Middle East, and Asia with exports to over 100 countries worldwide and over 70 years of experience in supply of specialist chemicals. Then, he explained in details the Construction Trends and Worldwide Growth, the Role of the Chemicals, the Types of the Chemicals, Cost and Fundamentals Advantages, Customers Support, and Project References.

He added that Fosroc company delivers not only products but even solutions. It offers constructive solutions approach to each project, integrating products with knowledge expertise, service and ongoing support. Our market led innovation allows us to provide a customized and dedicated response to customers specific project needs.



General Manager Sigma Company Yemen - Mr. Zaki A. Hashed.



Regional Manager Fosroc Dubai - Mr. Sanjay Bhome.



Mr. Fatzunhear Ngopil - Fosroc Malaysia "Specialist Grinding Aids Products"

Fosroc's extensive product range also enables us to provide innovative solutions to complex and difficult problems. Besides, constructive solutions are delivered through combination of products and services.

In the third phase of the presentation, Mr. Fatzunhear Ngopil, General Manager of Fosroc Grinding Aids, explained brilliantly special products for Cement aid. He mentioned that Fosroc Grinding Aid Business started in 1999 and then expanded to the south East Asia, India, and China under the new product brand name "CEMAX".

Fosroc is considered as one of the markets leaders in grinding aids for cement industries.

He added that Fosroc Company has a Laboratory at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

The laboratory provides technical supports worldwide such as, product evaluation with different clinkers and cement compositions, product improvement and cost engineering, new product evaluation for specific customer requirements, evaluation in general applications of cement grinding aids. Furthermore, there are another laboratories, one in China for Asia and the other in France for Europe. he stated that "grinding" means

reducing particles size to a smaller size. Grinding depends according to two major factors such as, mechanic and kinetics material grindability. And then, he explained in depth the mechanism of agglomeration. That is, first, due to effect of fragmentation and attrition during grinding process, the fine cement particles charge up with static electricity. Second, the attraction between positive and negative electrostatic charges on

the particles lead to agglomeration.



Third, strong electrostatic charges are built up on the newly created surfaces

(Ca²⁺ and O²⁻) as well as on the metallic component inside the mill by conductivity

(Ionic separation). And also, he expressed the Factors influencing agglomeration. In the last point of his presentation, he presented Cemax performance enhancers and its strength.

In the end of the seminar, on the other hand, different striking ques-

tions raised by specially different doctors from universities and important persons from the audience face to face with Mr. Fatzunhear Ngopil. They asked in order to enquire and know about the products in general and how to produce cement output.

In that moment, Mr. Fatzunhear Ngopil, General Manager of Fosroc Grinding Aids could persuade the questioners in a good manner. And then, the audience reflected their satisfactions mixed with a nice smile.



MTZ LOGISTICS LTD

VALUED SERVICES:

- AIR & SEA FREIGHT
- PROJECT CARGO HANDLING
- HANDLING OF HEAVY EQUIPMENT
- INLAND TRANSPORTATION
- CUSTOMS BROKERAGE
- INT'L DOOR TO DOOR SERVICES
- PACKING & REMOVALS
- EXEMPTIONS / DOCUMENTATION

For Further Details Please contact us:

P.O.Box # 18161
Sana'a Republic of Yemen
Telephone : 00967-1-408848
Fax : 00967-1-410848
Mobile : 00967-77781870 7111780670

SATISFACTION ALL OVER THE WORLD

MEMBER OF ACA NETWORK

ACA
Association of Cargo Agents

WWW.MTZLOGISTICS.COM

سيجما

أكثر من مجرد لون

حلول طويلة الأجل

حماية دائمة لاستثماركم

شهرة متنامية في كافة أنحاء الشرق الأوسط

سيجما

TAIZ STREET - NEXT TO ESTEGBAL HOTEL - TEL: 1128000

Fosroc Products

- Admixtures Concrete
- Surface Treatment
- (Mortar And Concrete)
- Grouts And Anchors
- Concrete Repairs
- Industrial Flooring
- Water Proofing
- Joint Sealants
- Protective Coating
- Electrochemical
- Adhesives

المنتجات الصناعية

- مواد المضافة للخرسانة
- مواد معالجة الأسطح
- مونة الجص والخرسانة
- مواد التثبيت للخرسانة
- الأرضيات الصناعية
- عوازل المياه
- مواد التثبيت والخرسانة
- مونة التثبيت والخرسانة
- مواد التثبيت والخرسانة
- مواد التثبيت والخرسانة

Sigma Co

Plot Street 52, Villa No. 39
Sana'a - Republic Of Yemen
P. O Box : 19141
Fax : 00967-01-410848

www.sigmagroupyemen.net

Phone: 00967-01-410848 / 38

The flourishing of Yemeni handicrafts (Part 1)

By: Nisreen Shadad
For Yemen Times

Many traditional Yemeni handicrafts are in great demand due to their elegant style and the high quality of raw materials used. However, many more have disappeared completely or are in danger of losing their identity because each craft demands a set of specialized skills and raw materials of high quality. Because Yemen's raw materials are exported outside the country, their prices have increased.

A September 2007 field study attempting to catalog and document traditional handicrafts in the Old City of Sana'a found that while 28 percent the area's residents are craftsmen, most have discontinued such work for several reasons, most importantly, low income and more cheaply imported similar handicrafts.

The national team of the General organization of Antiques and Museum, under the auspice of the social Fund for Development, worked for a year to document all Yemeni handicrafts, which are an important part of the nation's cultural heritage created by various civilizations throughout centuries of history. Thus, they are experiences handed down from generation to generation.

The seven-member research team consisted of: Amat Al-Bari Al-Owadi, Amat Al-Razzaq Jahaf, Abdulqadir Al-Shaibani, Zaid Al-Faqih, Ibrahim Al-Hadid and Abdulaziz Ibrahim.

Team leader Al-Owadi believes that imported handicrafts randomly affected Yemeni handicrafts. According to initial team estimates, Jahaf says only 35 percent of such handicrafts exist today in the Old City, which threatens craftsmen with losing their livelihoods.

Further, because raw materials have become rare, many craftsmen depend



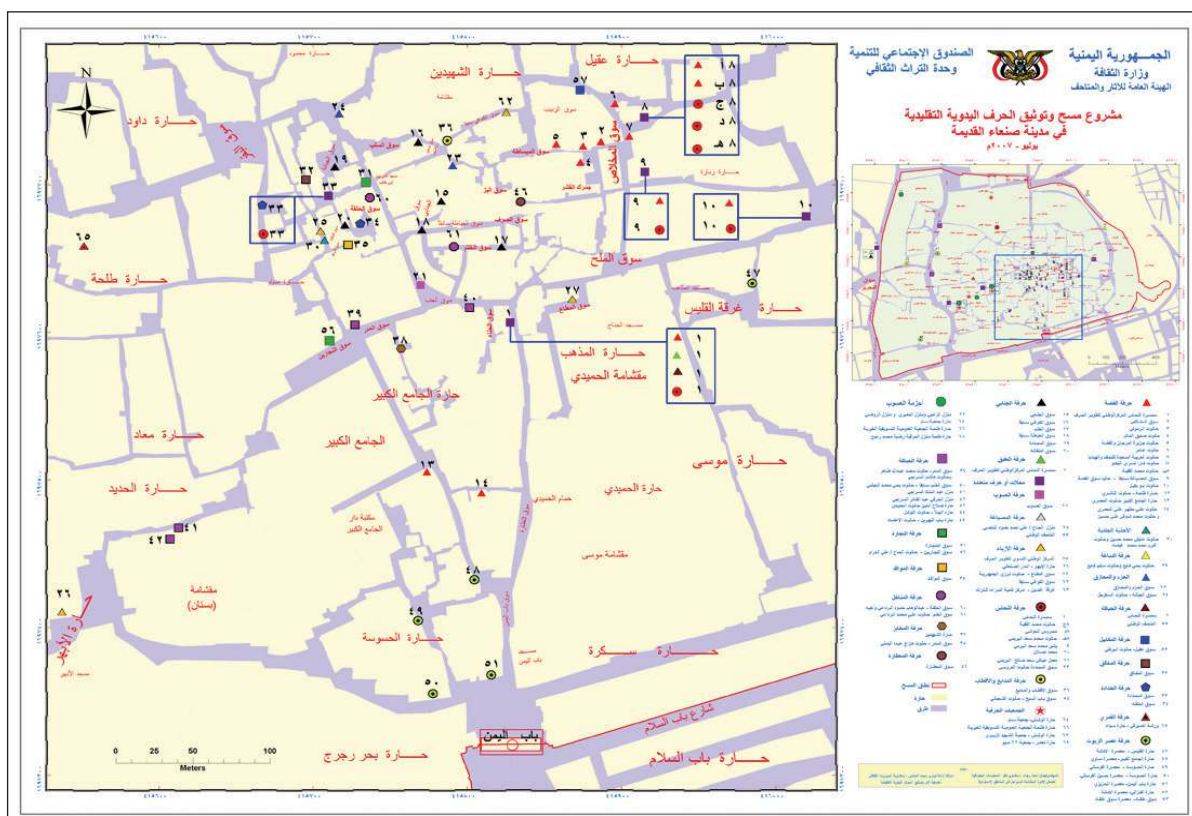
Recovering the Holy Quran with leather.

on exported raw materials, which affects the quality of the handicrafts.

Flourishing handicrafts

The importance of traditional handicrafts, according to Jahaf, rests in their being exquisitely handmade from local materials and then refined with skill and creativity into unique products.

According to Al-Owadi, only six out of 27 Yemeni handicrafts continue to flourish today. They are: al-hibaka (sewing), al-hizam and al-mahaziq (belts and ribbons), al-asoub (wooden jambiya sheaths), al-nuhas (copper



A project to catalog and document traditional handicrafts in the Old City of Sana'a.

work), al-mawaqid (fireplace or oven for baking bread) and al-makhbaz (a bakery tool used in an oven or tanoor).

Al-hibaka (sewing)

Although this craft is very ancient, it has flourished in Yemen due to its various uses. For example, al-hibaka preserved important documents and transcripts, as well as being used to wrap al-asoub (jambiya sheaths).

Jahaf refers to 35-year-old Mohammed Al-Thawr, an Old City craftsman working in this handicraft since he was 11 years old and now specializing in wrapping al-asoub in elegant fabrics.

Mohammed Tahir, 24, recovers books by removing the book's cover, affixing paper and cardboard, followed by a piece of cloth placed over the cardboard. After this, he begins sewing the borders of the book.

Al-hizam and al-mahaziq (belts and ribbons)

The most important material in this handicraft is the leather. Many people buy belts, particularly at the time of the Hajj, choosing them because they are strong and can protect money and important documents.

Working at this craft in the Old City, 75-year-old Ali Al-Haimi explains, "I've done this type of craft since I was 10. At that time in the '60s, there were about 100 leather tanneries, with leather coming to Sana'a from Sa'ada, Taiz, Dhi Sifal and Mahwit.

Specializing in saddles and bridles, Al-Haimi now is the only one making them.

The main problem such craftsmen face is the high price of local leather. "Local leather is high quality, but unfortunately, it's exported outside Yemen, so then we're forced to use imported leather of low quality," laments craftsman Khalid Safarjal, who now has left such work because it



A lantern made of cooper.

yields a low income.

Al-asoub (jambiya sheaths)

The plural of al-aseeb, there are different types and forms of al-asoub, according to the particular area and social class. There are two types: the abovementioned aseeb jambiya and aseeb al-thuma.

With different types, the method and materials used to cover al-asoub vary, but the usual materials are textiles, gold and silver threads, silk threads and leather.

Al-nuhas (copper work)

Based on historical evidence, Yemenis worked at this craft for a long time before the Islamic period. As Jahaf notes, Ibrahim Al-Buraihi's book, "Al-hiraf wa al-sina'at fi dhaw nuqush al-musnad al-janubi" (Handcrafts and Industry in Light of Southern Musnad Inscriptions), mentions that copper and alabaster rings with musnad inscriptions written inside them have been found in Al-Faw village.

Nowadays, the raw materials for copper mostly are used to manufacture arms and weapons and no evidence proves its continued use in making

copper handicrafts, which include perfume bottles, lanterns, glasses and pots.

According to Jahaf, Mabruk Al-Yarimi, 29, Bashir Al-Yarimi, 37, and Ayish Al-Yarimi, 33, are the three brothers in the Old City who are considered the most skilled in copper handicrafts and the ones who provide them to merchants, importing the necessary raw materials from India, China and Germany. The brothers learned the craft from their uncles, who supposedly learned it from Jews.

The main problem they face, Jahaf notes, is goods from India, which are cheaper and low quality.

Further, although the three brothers have excelled at the craft, they aren't allowed to put their own stamp upon their goods. As Jahaf explains, "Traders insist on preventing them from stamping their goods by threatening not to buy their goods."

"The rights of these creative brothers aren't preserved because during our research, we found many traders claiming that they made the crafts. However, after a lengthy search, we discovered the truth that the three brothers are the main source for most copper handicrafts," Jahaf concluded.

Al-mawaqid (fireplaces or ovens for baking bread)

Neither rural nor urban Yemenis can dispense with this handicraft. Bread made in a traditional oven or tanoor is healthier and more delicious, being eaten in both restaurants as well as homes. However, as Jahaf points out, "The traditional ovens we see today aren't the real al-mawaqid because those are no more than 50 years old."

Al-makhbazat (breadmaking tools)

Al-makhbazat are as important as the tanoor itself. A makhbaza is which bread is made and then baked in a tanoor. "Twenty-five craftsmen work at this craft in the Old City today. Many people, even some tourists, prefer this type of bread to other types," Jahaf notes.

CULTURAL SERIES FACES & TRACES

Faces & Traces is a cultural series of concise biographies of local or international famous and obscure personalities in fields such as literature, arts, culture and religion in which these individuals contribute affirmatively. It is a short journey in contemporary history, attempting to tackle numerous effective characters in human civilization.

Moustapha Akkad, a brilliant Muslim moviemaker in Hollywood

Prepared by: Eyad N. Al-Samman

Syrian-American film producer and director Moustapha Akkad was born in Aleppo, Syria in 1935 to a poor family whose father worked as a customs officer.

Having been educated in and graduating from Aleppo schools, he went to the United States in 1954 to study film direction and production at the University of California in Los Angeles, where he studied how to stage motion pictures and television productions. Graduating in 1958 with a theatre arts degree, Akkad spent another three years obtaining a master's in cinema studies at the University of Southern California.

Completing his studies in the early 1960s, Akkad was anxious to get to work, so he began knocking on studio and television network doors in California. After a lengthy struggle searching for proper work, in 1962, Akkad met director Sam Peckinpah who became his Hollywood mentor through whom he received rigorous practical training. Peckinpah continued encouraging the young man until he found employment as a producer at CBS.

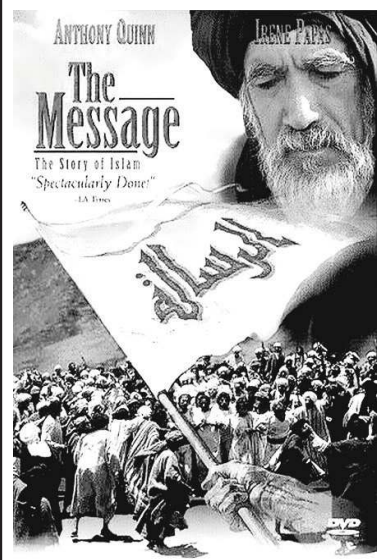
Thus, Akkad began his professional career in 1962 as a production assistant for Peckinpah in his movie, "Ride the High Country." While working at CBS, Akkad produced "How Others See Us," a TV series documenting how foreign students view Americans. A subsequent series, "Caesar's World," was a travelogue featuring actor Caesar Romero visiting various parts of the globe.

Akkad eventually formed his own corporation, Akkad International Productions, for producing and directing documentary programs and television series.

Throughout his life, Akkad produced 13 movies, three of which he directed himself. Filmed in Morocco and Libya, his masterpiece, "The Message," was released in 1976 in both English and Arabic.

It took seven years to raise funding, develop a script and then gain the approval for each page of dialogue from the foremost Islamic Sunni and Shi'ite scholars. When it finally was made public in the United States in 1977, it had a disastrous opening in Washington, D.C., where a sect of African-American converts to Islam stormed several capital offices and took hostages, demanding the film not be shown.

Starring Anthony Quinn and Irene Papas, the film is about the origins of Islam and other aspects from memoirs regarding Islam's Prophet Mohammed (pbuh). Costing around \$17 million to make both versions, the English version alone earned more than 10 times that amount. Translated into 12 languages, the movie still is banned in some Arab countries today, including Egypt and Syria.



Akkad formed Filmco International Productions in 1978 to produce the first of eight "Halloween" movies – originally entitled, "The Babysitter Murders" – a low-budget spine-chiller that broke all box office records for an independent film with Akkad serving as executive producer. He later owned the long-running franchise that spawned seven further variations on the original Halloween theme.

The "Halloween" movie series includes: "Halloween II" (1981), "Halloween III: Season of the Witch" (1982), "Halloween 4: The Return of Michael Myers" (1988), "Halloween: The Curse of Michael Myers" (1995) and "Halloween H20: 20 Years Later" (1998).

In 1980, Akkad produced and directed his next epic project, "Lion of the Desert," about real-life Bedouin leader Omar Mukhtar, who fought Mussolini's Italian troops in the deserts of Libya, thereby causing his arrest by the Fascists, who publicly hanged him.

Next, Akkad produced a 1985 horror movie entitled, "Appointment with Fear," about a detective searching for a serial killer who lives in a fortified abbey. Departing from the horror genre, Akkad's "Free Ride" (1986) is a comedy about a young man who intentionally involves himself with gangsters in an effort to gain the attention of his lover.

The last Akkad-produced motion picture was 2002's "Halloween: Resurrection."

Although he spent many years living in the West, Akkad dreamed of an Arab city for cinematic productions where films about the glorious achievements of Muslims could be made periodically.

Additionally, Akkad was in the process of producing an \$80 million picture, for which he already had the script, to be filmed in Jordan and featuring Sean Connery about Saladin and the Crusades.

Throughout his life, Islamic causes such as Chechnya, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Andalusia occupied Akkad's thoughts; for instance, he wanted to produce a movie about Chechen leader Mohammed Al-Shishani, who fought Russian czars in Chechnya.

Akkad's other planned cinematic projects were about Sabiha, the Andalusian queen of Cordoba, and also about the delegations England's King John III sent to the Muslim caliph in Cordoba in 1213.

Akkad's social activism was evident, with his serving as early as 1965 on the advisory board for the Islamic Foundation of Southern California. Moreover, he steadfastly supported fundraising efforts of the National Association of Arab Americans and the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee.

Akkad and his 34-year-old daughter Rima were killed during the 2005 bombings in Amman, Jordan at the Grand Hyatt hotel. His daughter died instantly, while Akkad succumbed to his injuries two days later on Nov. 11 and was buried in Aleppo.

Akkad was a brilliant man who brought the true story of Islam to life in the West through his exceptional international cinematic works.



Al-makhbazat (breadmaking tools)



An ancient bridle.

**CLASSIFIED
ADVERTISEMENTS
PAGE**

The niqab through a foreigner's eyes



Sarah before niqab...



... and after niqab.

By: Sarah Wolff

Swathes of black fabric glide through the streets of Sana'a, floating elegantly toward me as I stumble along the sidewalk. With my too-short abaya, my headscarf coming unwrapped and my heavy and clumsy gait, I am an American woman living in Sana'a – and it seems that everyone knows it.

However, I wouldn't ever complain about Yemen because I'm treated better here than in my own country. Yemenis have a general respect for each other that's extended to foreign visitors and residents and I appreciate this thoroughly. It's the main reason I enjoy living here so much.

People sometimes stare or point at me and every once in awhile, I see them laughing at me and it makes me want to disappear. But lucky for me, there's a way for me to vanish by wearing a *niqab*, the full-face veil covering all but a woman's eyes.

Although some outside the Muslim world think that wearing the niqab is limiting, I can attest to the advantages to going fully-veiled in Yemen, even for non-Muslims like myself.

Aside from its religious significance,

the niqab offers a way to remain anonymous in a globalized and ever-shrinking world. No one can tell that you're a foreigner until you speak, so people assume you're Yemeni, which means cheaper taxi fares, less attention from men on the streets and way less pointing and laughing.

Although I regularly wear a hijab (headscarf) outside the house out of respect for local and Islamic culture, I decided to wear a niqab one day as an experiment. So one morning, I tied a face veil over my abaya and hijab and stepped out the door.

As I walked around Bab Al-Sabah, I imagined that wearing the niqab somehow would make me magically invisible, but I was wrong. In fact, I stood out possibly even more than before.

Because I didn't know that I was supposed to place the niqab's eye slit directly under my lower eyelashes, I had worn mine with the fabric drooping down my nose and my sunglasses stuck through the eye slit.

This immediately gave me away to the nut vendor on the street, who didn't even bother with Arabic. "One hundred riyals, please," he said in halting English. So much for going incognito.

When I got to my office and told my coworkers about my experiment, they

explained what had blown my cover and al-hamdulillah, no one was offended.

However, I correctly wore it home from work that night and found it not only totally uncomfortable (the lower part of my eyes hurt from being rubbed), but also slightly disabling because I had no peripheral vision. I was quite worried about tripping on an errant stick or stone beyond (or below) my eyesight.

As I walked, I kept lowering my head to keep the veil from flying up over my head and exposing me. I soon realized that I was looking down at the street – a lot.

The niqab felt like a barrier between me and everyone else on the street because I could see them, but they couldn't see me. Suddenly, I was a just another black-covered entity without a smile and without a personality.

I became more timid, demure and subtly submissive as I dodged oblivious men on the street, something I never had to do when I went about unveiled.

While wearing a niqab created a tangible distance between myself and others, that just might be the point. As I circled Tahrir Square, I pondered the niqab again. "Tahrir" means "liberation" in Arabic, and I think wearing the veil gives Yemeni women their own sort of liberation.

CCTV
Permeates anything
Observers everything
Doesn't Miss a thing
Panasonic like nothing else

Panasonic
ideas for life

الوكيل الوحيد في الجمهورية اليمنية
ALFA شركة ألفا المحدودة



**CONSOLIDATED CONTRACTORS
INTERNATIONAL COMPANY - SAL**

**CONSTRUCTION OF MECHANICAL
AND HEAVY CIVIL PROJECTS**

- Petrochemical plants, refineries.
- Heavy, light industrial plants.
- Power and desalination plants.
- Fuel and water storage tanks.
- Oil fields ancillary installations.
- Air purification for industry.
- Marine docks, harbours, deep sea berths & refinery terminals.
- Offshore structures and underwater works.
- Pipelines construction and maintenance.
- Prefabricated accommodation & office facilities.
- Sewage treatment plants & collection networks.
- Airports, roads, highways, bridges & fly-overs.
- High quality buildings & sports complexes.
- Water treatment plants, reservoirs & distribution systems.

Sanaa
Tel: (967-1) 441638
Fax: (967-1) 441630
E-Mail: cccyemen@y.net.ye

Aden
Tel: (967-2) 377328
Fax: (967-2) 377716
E-Mail: cccaden@y.net.ye

NOKIA
XpressMusic

Press Play

مفاتيح موسيقية تعمل بلمسة واحدة.
ملاءمة مع نماذج ملفات موسيقية
متعددة. جودة صوت عالية النقاء.
إمكانية تخزين ملفات موسيقية قابلة
للتوسيع لحفظ حتى 3,000 أغنية
مع بطاقة SD سعة 4GB، مدة إستماع
إلى الموسيقى أكثر من 20 ساعة.



**Nokia 5310
XpressMusic**
الفل*



**Nokia 5610
XpressMusic**
الورد*

HYUNDAI
HEAVY INDUSTRIES CO., LTD.
Innovation

شركة زُبيّن للتجارة والصناعة
zubayen Trading & Industry Company
Sana'a (441575/571) - Fax : 441579 - E-mail: zubayen1@y.net.ye
Aden (205060/1/2) - Fax : 205063 - E-mail : zubayena@y.net.ye

ZTCO



733 11 33 55
تلفون : 289477 - 513900 - 448504 - 561700
05 302412 - 250817 - 04 250817 - 03 22 44 42

الوكيل الرئيسي : صنعاء شارع الزبيري
تلفون : 289477 - 513900 - 448504 - 561700
05 302412 - 250817 - 04 250817 - 03 22 44 42

الوكيل الرئيسي : صنعاء شارع الزبيري
تلفون : 289477 - 513900 - 448504 - 561700
05 302412 - 250817 - 04 250817 - 03 22 44 42