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Price 40 Yemeni Rivals



Promise of international aid will help combat screw-worm fly epidemic

By: Hamed Thabet

SANA'A, April 23 — Yemeni National Atomic Energy Agency and United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) will donate goods and services worth US \$50,000 to Yemen for this and next year in order to combat the screw-worm fly emergency (also known as myiasis or fly strike), said Khalid Al-Ahmed, the general manger of examination and authorization in the Atomic Energy Agency.

The Ministry of Electricity and Agriculture recently participated in a conference held by the Atomic Energy Agency to help support Yemen's fight against myiasis.

According to Mansour Al-Qadasie, the general manger of the veterinary laboratory in Ministry of Agriculture, international experts will come to Yemen in the coming days to study the situation and then contact others in the region like Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Oman.

"We cannot just work in Yemen its

self, because countries in the region have the same problem, and screwworm fly will move and travel to other countries, which is why there must be joint work," said Al-Qadasie.

One of the solutions to the problem could be circulating sterile insects to breed with the infected flies, noting that the sterile insect cannot give birth to a normal one." said Dr. Ghalib Al-Eryani, general manager of the Agriculture Ministry's Animal Wealth Administration.

"If the epidemic spreads, Yemen will suffer huge economic losses estimated in the billions from animal wealth revenues," added Al-Qadasie.

The danger of myiasis stems from its rapid spread, which makes it a fatal epidemic causing tremendous humanitarian and economic losses within a short period, notes Al-Ahmed.

Also, screw-worm fly can hurt people as well. The flies' eggs can be implanted into people, especially those with poor access to sanitation. The attacks may

lead to death, particularly among those children living in polluted environments. Additionally, it may kill the elderly unless the larvae are extracted and the site is purified via suitable antibiotics.

This epidemic could also decrease an animal's ability to produce milk and meat, in addition to widespread animal death. Treating the disease sometimes requires cutting out the animal's infected organ, Al-Eryani added.

The Ministry of Agriculture said that Yemen can rid itself of screw-worm fly in 10 years. The screw-worm fly appeared in Yemen for the first time in December 2007, and is now spreading to other areas. The seven governorates are already suffering form screw-worm fly are Sa'ada, Al-Hodeidah, Hajja, Taiz, Al-Mahweet, Amran, and Al-Jawf, according to Al-Ahmed.

10,592 villages have been surveyed since December 2007, and there are 10,902 infected and cured sheep, 268 cows, 229 camels and 4132 goats.



Myiasis has also caused 1,116 animal deaths, said Al-Ahmed. Over 63,000 other animals have been vaccinated since last December, and there are currently 34 field teams working on the problem.

The conference resulted in a contribution of US \$50,000 to combat the problem. The support will focus on finding a quick solution by strengthening the central veterinary laboratory and also improving the agricultural laboratories, adds Al-Eryani. To improve laboratories, the donation will provide advanced microscopes for diagnosis and have a



Myiasis has caused more than 1,000 animal deaths while over 60,000 other animals have been vaccinated since last December.

special training for Yemeni staff on the screw-worm fly. The training will also focus on controlling the disease through field observations of the flies' movement and biological characteristics. The training courses will be started as soon as possible, using international experts

and will take 30 to 40 days.

The most important thing is local participation. "There should be some real means that can be used to teach the locals and the farmers in order to make them aware [of the problem]," said Al-Ervani.

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Army leaders foil mediation, say Houthi supporters

By: Yemen Times Staff

SA'ADA, April 23 — Citizens in Sa'ada province, the scene of fierce clashes



between the army and Al-Houthi rebel group, are apprehensive that the army and the Houthis might resume warring after several months of respite, wellinformed local sources told the Yemen Times

"The Qatari delegation left Yemen last Monday after reaching an impasse due to the Northern Area Commander Ali Mohsen Al-Ahmer refusing to implement the agreement appendix signed by the government represented by Abdul-Karim Al-Eryani," the sources added. The appendix states that life should go back to normal with the army abandoning houses, farms, civil facilities such as schools, courts and local governance buildings. According to the agreement,



the army shouldn't set up more than one checkpoint in each county of the province.

"The Presidential Committee has settled down in Sana'a and suspended all types of mediation activity between the government and the Houthis," the source said.

In an exclusive statement to the Yemen Times, Sheikh Saleh Habrah, representative of the Houthis, commented on the Qatari Mediation Committee's failure yesterday saying that, "The reason why the Qatari efforts landed at a deadlock was the Military Area Command's refusal to implement the agreement article providing for 'bringing life back to normal' in Sa'ada."

"The departure of the Qatari Committee coincided with an unprecedented smear campaign launched by pro-police apparatus newspapers against the state of Qatar. Al-Shomoa Newspaper, one of the main military settlement advocates since the 2004 eruption of Sa'ada war, claimed last Sunday that Qatar aims to put an end to Sa'ada war, serving a hidden Iranian agenda with U.S. support," Habrah explained.

"The authorities had detained Sheikh

Presidential-Qatari-Houthi Committee, last Tuesday and held him in an undisclosed location, giving no justification for the detention," He added.

Habrah said that they had spared no efforts to break the ice. "We have forwarded suggestions many times for settlement, all of which fell on deaf ears. The Houthis have repeatedly reiterated their intent to leave their mountain positions entirely and are willing to return to their villages, work, farms and houses. They said they are ready to abandon all counties and Azzan mountain no later than 15 days after the army's abandonment of citizens' houses, villages and farms.'

He warned of the serious situation, pinpointing many breaches committed by the army and the security forces since the Houthis lifted the siege on Brigade 17's commander and two battalions in the Jum'a bin Fadhil area before several months

"Frequency of breaches has increased. Military presence is visible in Khawlan bin Amer area and other areas. Citizens are harassed at checkpoints and gunshots are fired at villages and across roads," he

said.

gunmen, Habrah accused the military of the murder or at least collusion. "The man was murdered near a military post that directly overlooked the road where he was driving. This incident could not have been done without the military's

involvement or collusion. The authority hurled this charge at us on the grounds that the murder occurred in Al-Hadb area, within Sahar county, to south of Sa'ada.

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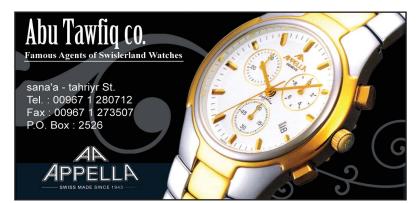
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Commenting on the killing of MP







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Around the Nation



In brief

SANA'A

Rare reptiles seized at Sana'a airport

- Yemeni authorities have seized 3000 chameleons and 350 lizards at the Sana'a airport planned to be smuggled to abroad, the althawra daily has said. The rare reptiles that only live in Yemen, were put within banana products that would have been exported via the airport.

The paper said an Arab citizen along with a Yemeni collected the chameleons and lizards from three provinces in Yemen to smuggle them and sell them in other countries.

The two persons were arrested and referred to prosecution and the reptiles were handed over to the Authority for Environment Protection and the Sana'a Zoo

Cabinet forms committee to study

draft law of improving judiciary The cabinet formed on Tuesday a committee to study a draft law presented by Minister of Justice over making further judicial reforms in order to enhance independence of the judiciary.

The draft aims at improving performance of the judiciary in accordance with constitution. The cabinet asked the committee to

raise its report on the draft as soon as possible. Meanwhile, the cabinet agreed on a cooperation agreement between Yemen

and Turkey in health field which was signed last February, 2008. The cabinet also referred a draft law of shafting posts in the state units which aims at modernizing services units and

enhancing efforts of combating corruption.

ADEN Japanese oil tanker Takayama

arrives in Aden seaport The Japanese oil tanker "Takayama"

arrived on Tuesday in the seaport of Aden that has been attacked by Somali pirates in the Arab Sea.

Sources at Aden Seaport told Saba that Yemeni technical cadres at the harbor would provide the tanker with all the required technical repairs to fix the damages so it would be able to continue its journey to the Saudi seaport Yanbu'e.Worth mentioning, the Japanese oil tanker was fired on in the Gulf of Aden, off Yemen on Monday. None of the 23 crew on board the Takayama was injured and the tanker was capable of continuing its voyage.

Yemen fines Egyptian boat

Yemen's coastguards have seized an Egyptian boat illegally fishing in Yemen's territorial waters in the Red Sea that was fined \$ 10.000, the GPCrun almotamr.net has said. The sum has been sent to the state safety through the fish authorities. The boat did not hunt fish in the areas

identified by a license it had got according to an earlier agreement between Yemen and his government fishing in Yemen's territorial waters. In last March, a Yemeni court had ruled

By: Mohammed Bin Sallam

SANA'A, April 22 - A workshop on democratic reform in Yemen and its effects on economic and social development was organized in Sana'a on Sunday. The event was attended by more than 60 social, political and economic dignitaries from Yemen and other Arab states.

Inaugurating the workshop, Yemeni Social Affairs and Labor Minister Amatarrazaq Ali Hummad affirmed that countries can not have legitimate authorities unless three main parties, represented by the government, private sector and civil community organizations are involved in development.

She highlighted the negative effect of the financial reform program on the poor, stressing that the government must provide social welfare for them. "We don't want people to wait until the end of each month for a low government salary that doesn't cover all the basic necessities of individuals and families," Hummad said.

Hummad added that in order to alleviate poverty, her ministry began implementing a training program in 17 Yemeni governorates, which, according to her, aims to train the targeted groups on bee and cattle raising, cell phone maintenance and other activities, confirming that such programs and training usually succeed in achieving their sought-after objectives.

The Social Affairs and Labor Minister praised recommendations of

the second paper, presented by researcher Abdulbaqi Shamsan on "How to have the state's job reflected in social security policies." According to Hummad, the paper's recommenda-

tions are objective and achievable. Tunisian researcher and intellectual Salahaddin Al-Jawrishi stressed that economic and social rights constitute one entity and they cannot be divided or separated from each other. "The right to work, for instance, doesn't exist at the expense of the right to have easy access to education, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) aren't able to concentrate their efforts on Millennium achieving the Development Goals, topped by eradicating poverty, without observing and diagnosing the notable collapse affecting the traditional market amid unequal competition between domestic and foreign products," he maintained.

This came as part of his personal vision on democratic reforms in the Arab region from the social and economic viewpoint contained on his study entitled "Economic and Social Rights." Al-Jawrishi's study concentrated on the international reference for economic and social rights, plus various aspects of the Universal Declaration for Human Rights, the relevant international covenant and Declaration of the Right to Participate in Development. The study also discussed other international initiatives, their position about the G8 countries' plan to support development, the

World Bank's' vision and the other Arab and regional visions concerned with economic reforms.

Workshop discusses democratic reform, its effects on development

A study of Yemen's economic reform and its effects was presented as well. The study compared social security systems in Europe and the United States, citing France, which witnessed a countrywide protest against amending its social security system, and Germany, where citizens took to the streets protesting against a government's alleged attempt to reduce danger compensation, which, according to protestors, is one of citizens' basic rights.

According to the study, social security systems in the Arab world need to be amended in order to help the concerned citizens meet current challenges and transformations that directly threaten their interests, as well as risk their livelihoods in the near future.

The study likens social funds to a mechanism that helps poor people and vulnerable groups overcome difficulties and health problems, therefore stressing the necessity of diagnosing the persisting issues of these funds and suggesting workable solutions for them.

In an attempt to address notable health problems, Al-Jawrishi's study advised the relevant NGOs in Yemeni society to examine health care in the country and put a stop to deterioration of medical services in the governmental sector.

The study also listed education



A view of the Workshop.

among the top priority issues in Yemen that need immediate intervention. It argued that international donors no longer recognize that Yemeni citizens have free access to education, particularly as families find themselves gradually obliged to contribute to education spending throughout the various school grades. It blamed polices of the region's states for the notably poor education quality and student's slow scholastic progress.

The study also highlighted the phenomenon of school dropouts, mainly among girls, describing the phenomenon as "the new illiteracy." It went on to say that children drop out of school due to multiple social and economic factors.

The two-day workshop was organized by the Human Rights Information and Training Center (HRITC) in coop-

eration with the Arab Non-governmental Network for Development (ANND). The network has just initiated a project entitled "Democratic reforms in the Arab region: Focus on economic policies" in association with the United Nations' Democratic Fund (UNDEF).

Targeting the Arab states of Lebanon, Egypt, Morocco, Bahrain, Sudan, Yemen and Jordan, the project aims to enhance democratic developments in the Arab region via the involvement and interaction of all those concerned at national and regional levels. It also aims to shed light on the various factors of economic and social change, which it considers an integral part of successful democratic reforms and key to enhancing political and social change in the Arab states.

Taiz bakeries protest state-mandated bread price

Taiz bureau

TAIZ, April 20 - Bakery owners gathered in front of the Industrial and Commercial Chamber in Taiz yesterday to protest the bread price resolution issued by the Cabinet and the local council in the governorate. The protestors considered YR 180 for a kilogram of bread is too little, maintaining that the resolution doesn't take the cost of bread production into account.

Ismael Abdul Fattah, a bakery owner, said that the resolution is unjust, as it forces bakers to sell bread per kilogram. He pointed out that some bakeries are obliged to buy flour in debt as they are unable to cover the production expens-

"When a sack of flour was YR 3,000, the price for a kilogram of flour was YR 140. Now a sack of flour is YR 6,500 and the resolution came to specify the price of a kilogram of flour at YR 180," said Abdul Fattah, noting that protest activities will continue and escalate until the government reconsiders the resolution. Saeed Ahmed Qassim, another bak-

ery owner, said that the price of bread is extremely unjust and unacceptable, noting that the resolution is not based on an objective study that considers both the citizens and the bakery owners' needs.

Mansoor Al-Selwi, owner of Al-Rahida bakery, indicated that a bakers' syndicate is going to be formed in Taiz to express their needs and demands. He further added that the authorities in Taiz aim to extort them under the pretext that they follow up the bakers' commitment to the price and weight limitations. He added that he will close his bakery unless the industrial and commercial chamber responds to bakers' demands. Sultan Al-Asbahi, director of the Industrial and Commercial Office in Taiz, said that Cabinet resolution 8 for the year 2008 is just and serves both customers and bakery owners. He also pointed out that the resolution came after many consultations and technical studies were conducted in this regard. He added that bakery owners committed to work according to the price and weight resolution.

Al-Asbahi said that his office has so far transferred 74 people to prosecution for not adhering to the price and weight limitations, noting that they will be fined YR 10,000 each, according to law, or their bakeries will be closed temporarily at first, and then permanently if they persist on violating the mandated price. He also said that the resolution applies to the whole republic and not only Taiz, noting that many resolutions were issued in the past regarding selling bread per kilogram and not according to the number of loaves. He went on to say that these resolutions were ignored by bakery owners as there were no strict procedures against those who violated them, but now strict punishments will be enforced against any violations committed with regard to bread price.

New law to regulate gubernatorial elections

By: Yemen Times Staff

SANA'A, April 23 - Republican the judiciary committee within 48 Abdullah Ahmed Ghanem, head of the decree 86 for the year 2008, regarding hours after the results are announced, ruling party's political office, as saying the bylaw of electing governors and Sana'a's mayor, was issued on Monday. The government approved the decree on Sunday.

Any candidate can impugn the election results by submitting a petition to

governors from April 27 to an unspecified day in May. The website quoted

U.N. agencies in Yemen add extra security precautions

Bv: Yemen Times Staff

SANA'A, April 22 - The United Nations is closing some of their offices in Yemen at least for the time being in response to security threats following recent attacks on foreign institutions and possibly related to an Al-Qaeda threat posted online two weeks ago.

Various United Nations (U.N.) sources, all of whom wished to remain anonymous because of the sensitivity of the information, confirmed that some of the U.N.'s agencies have asked staff members to work from home for the time being.

The Associated Press (AP) reported Monday that the United Nations recently put up blast walls and sandbags around the complex, which is being guarded by Yemeni security forces. The AP also reported that staff members at various U.N. agencies already have left Yemen, according to U.N. High Commission for Refugees' regional spokeswoman, Abeer Etefa. Neither Etefa nor other U.N. sources

would confirm the number of staff members who have left the country. All of the 13 U.N. agencies in Yemen are

still working and there is no evidence or talk of permanent closures.

In his latest online statement over two weeks ago, Ayman Al-Zawahiri (also known as Thawahiri), who is considered second in command in Al-Qaeda under Osama Bin Laden, responded to questions posted online on various jihadist websites. During the two hour-long recording, Al-Zawahiri said, "The United Nations is an enemy of Islam and Muslims: it is the one which codified and legitimized the setting up of the state of Israel and its taking over of the Muslims' lands."

U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon denounced the statement as "totally false and unacceptable." A spokesperson from the U.N. added that the Secretary General wants the U.N. to be seen as a friend of the Muslim world.

The U.N. offices in Algeria were attacked in December 2007 by a group calling themselves Al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb. More than 60 people were killed in the two explosions and more than 10 were U.N. staff members. Most of the dead were Algerians, not foreign nationals.

Al-Jaashin go home at last

By: Yemen Times

on the case of three Egyptian boats that were illegally fishing in the Yemeni territorial waters and fined them \$ 150.000 for each.

DHAMAR

Dutch ambassador praises Beinon antiques museum

A Dutch delegation headed by the ambassador Harry Buikema expressed administration for what they saw in Beinon Antiques Museum in Dhamar province.

During his tour in the museum, the ambassador praised the antiques and manuscripts which reflect Yemeni inheritance since three thousand years. Worth mentioning, Dhamar is one of the richest archaeological areas in the world which tell about the oldest civilization

ABYAN

GTZ to support water, sanitation projects

Governor of Abyan Mohammed Shamlan held a meeting on Tuesday with chairman of water sector in German Technical Cooperation (GTZ) Roland Ranger.

During the meeting, they discussed a number of topics related to improving the situations of the local water and sanitation projects in some of districts of the province funded by German side which amount 20 million Euros. Governor affirmed the importance of quick implementation of water project in the province. For his part, GTZ official affirmed continued support for water and sanitation projects, pointing out to the last stages of preparation and implementation process will begin next September 2008.

The decree's 45 items state that the Ministry of Local Administration is to prepare and supervise governor elections. The bylaw also says committees are to be formed to supervise the elections at the governorate level, with each committee to consist of three to five members and chaired by someone who is not below a deputy minister position.

According to the bylaw, voting for the governors will be confidential. For candidates to win the election, they or their representatives must be present during voting and ballot counting. In their absence, the supervising committee is to select another candidate to fill the winner's place.

Hussein al-Junaid, deputy minister

at the MWE, told IRIN his ministry

was drafting a national strategy in

cooperation with the UN Economic

and Social Commission for Western

Asia (ESCWA) regarding vehicular

emissions, which he said were the

Al-Junaid said an international

expert would visit Yemen to review the

data gathered so far, but he gave no

main source of air pollution.

the bylaw says.

Additionally, the bylaw says any candidate running for governor should meet certain conditions, being at least 40 years of age and holding a university degree or any equivalent certificate. Candidates should also have at least 10 years of practical experience in the government or private sector.

A candidate must also have the recommendation of 10 percent of the local council members. A member of the local council should not recommend more than one candidate, and if he/she recommended more than one candidate, then his/her recommendations are regarded invalid.

Elections delayed

The Ministry of Defence's website, www.sep.net, said that the ruling General People's Congress (GPC) changed the time of the elections of

that the GPC's General Committee decided to make April 27 a day for President Ali Abdullah Saleh's announcement for governor elections.

Ghanem didn't specify when exactly the elections would be held, but he said delaying the election day would give time to complete necessary measures for the elections.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Local Administration said on Tuesday that gathering recommendations by the current governors from local council members with the aim to use them [recommendations] for the election of governors is illegal.

The ministry added that the committees tasked with supervising the elections would not consider such recommendations. It further noted that it is preparing a sample recommendation in accordance with certain conditions.

Efforts to reduce air pollution

SANAA, 22 April - (IRIN) - The date for implementing the plan. Ministry of Water and Environment "After the 1990 Gulf War, thousands (MWE) is working to reduce air polluof Yemenis returned to their homes and tion caused by vehicle emissions and brought their cars with them. A lot of thus save on associated health costs the cars were very old and polluted the amounting to an estimated US\$100 environment," he said. million a year in Sanaa alone.

He said the diesel used in Yemen contained impurities, making air pollution worse.

According to the UN Environment Programme, Yemen is one of the few countries in the world still using leaded petrol.

There are very few lead-free petrol stations

"Inhaling car exhaust [fumes] puts people's health at risk as they include lead. This causes several diseases like

respiratory system diseases, renal failure, bone calcification, and ophthalmia," al-Junaid said.

The government has taken some steps: vehicles manufactured before 2000 are not allowed into the country and taxes on new cars have been reduced to 5 percent, he said.

A report by Fareed Shaaban from the American University in Beirut, who visited Sanaa in 2006, said the main sources of air pollution were vehicles, saws used for cutting stones, and power plants.

The report was entitled Air Pollution Sanaa: Reasons, Risks and in Solutions. It said Sanaa had 250,000 cars and five power stations.



Twenty five people from Al-Jaashin tribe received compensation

Bv: Saddam Al AShmori For the Yemen Times

SANA'A, April 23 - Al-Jaashin residents returned home last Tuesday after a long wait lasting about two months, during which they staged 12 sit-ins before the Cabinet and Parliament.

The people of Al-Ansi district, known as Al-Jaashin, were evacuated at the end of 2006 from their district in Ibb governorate to Sana'a, where they voiced their protests in front of the Cabinet, Parliament, the Ministry of Human Rights and the Ministry of Local Administration. During the sitins, the protestors demanded removing the siege and oppression carried out by Sheikh Ahmed Mansour, who habitually forced them to pay large sums of money under the pretext of zakah (alms).

He also made many people leave their farms and homes, subsequently confiscating their property.

Twenty-five people from Al-Jaashin

tribe received compensation from an unknown source amounting to YR 4,600,000 (US\$ 23,000) collectively. MP Mohammed Abdullah Al-Oadhi distributed the funds and promised to return them to their homes safely, affirming that what Mansour did won't happen again. The people were then transported to their homes, accompanied by Al-Qadhi's secretary, though notably without the parliamentary committee that was formed to resolve the issue.

Many press conferences were organized for the evacuated people, in which they revealed the violations they were exposed to by Mansour's soldiers, who they said confiscated their property and deprived them of their livelihoods.

Members of Al-Jaashin praised the role of human rights organization HOOD and the Media Agents Forum in solving their issue, but they considered the compensation they received as only a small part of what Mansour had plundered from them.

Around the Nation

Point 10 of the presidential initiative

24 April, 2008 **3**

WHAT IT MEANS...

which Yemeni topics are discussed and analyzed by Yemeni and international experts. Contributions and comments are welcomed, they could be sent to yteditor@gmail.com. What it means is an analytical feature of Yemen Times, in which Yemeni topics are discussed and analyzed by Yemeni

n his ten-point constitutional initiative, President Ali Abdullah Saleh proposes in point 10 that "in the elections of members of the House of Representatives (HR), 15% should be allocated to women and the elections law should include a clause to this effect." This last point, unlike all the other points, is very vague and the embedded ambiguity is not accidental. It is the essence of politics in Yemen when it comes to women and their political rights.

First of all, it is not clear whether the president is talking about a constitutional or legislative amendment. In this regard, it could be argued that a constitutional amendment is unavoidable for any type of quota to be adopted. But that is only one way of reading point 10. Second, and more significant, it is not clear whether point 10 offers women a quota of parties' candidates or of the HR's seats. If point 10 means the former, the political representation of women will remain the same. Each party is expected to let women run on its behalf in every district it knows for sure it is going to lose.

Third, assuming that point 10 is offering women 15% of the HR's actual seats (a very unlikely move), one might still wonder how the regime is going to fulfill such a promise, especially under the current electoral system—the so called single member district plurality system. Reserving certain districts for women will be very problematic constitutionally and

Yemen's

advocate

equality.

men" in every dis-

Yemen Times regrets announce that "What it means" feature of Yemen Times will not continue after April 30, 2008. If you like this feature and you wish it to continue please send feedback to yteditor@gmail.com

Continued from page 1



Dr. Abdullah Al-Faqih dralfaqih@yahoo.com

edging the women's right to political representation in the HR only begs the question: "What about the Shoura Council, the Council of Ministers and elected local councils?" Additionally, if Yemen has committed itself in international agreements to give women at least 30% of all political positions, why should it not fulfill its obligations to Yemeni women?

It would be a mistake on the part of Yemeni women if they think the current administration will stop cheating them when it comes to their political, civil, and social rights. They must recall unfulfilled promises by the government in many past instances. In the last presidential and local elections of September 2006, for example, the ruling General People's Congress (GPC) failed to deliver on its pledge of allowing women to run for 15% of elected local positions. Furthermore, wherever women decided to run as independents, they were intimated by practically. In fact, it GPC members and forced to opt out is almost certain that of elections. The opposition parties "strong are not much different from the GPC, except that they are willing to trict will resist such a give women their share as long as move even if they their men's share is not affected. It is very unlikely that the current

gender clan-based Yemeni political regime Fourth, acknowlwill deliver anything meaningful in

excluded groups.

Army leaders foil mediation, say Houthi supporters

The authorities claim that they have detained some suspects implicated in the murder, which is untrue and we have not been informed."

Local sources in Al-Hadb area told Yemen Times that the suspects had eaten lunch on the day of the murder in the house of an allegedly pro-state person. Al-Hadb is close to the ambush scene that claimed the lives of MP Daghsan, his son, one of his guards and injured six others, three of whom were hospitalized with serious injuries.

The Sa'ada local authority exchanged accusations with the Houthis over the murder. Each of them claimed the other side was involved in

said that Al-Hadb tribes follow Sheikh Abu Ubaid and that they have not been infiltrated by the Houthis. "There are no Houthi supporters among our tribesmen," the sources said, suggesting that the murder might have been a revenge killing.

On the other hand, tribal sources

Meanwhile, sources close to the Daghsan family said that they thought the Houthis were unlikely to be involved in the death of their relative. They do not point the finger in any direction.

Earlier Al-Husaini tribes, clans the Daghsan clan, tribally disclaimed

Sources said that representatives of the tribes that may have wanted to take revenge on the Daghsan clan participated in the funeral rituals to prove their innocence. The sources added they did not kill the deceased MP because they could have simply announced it according to tribal conventions. It is customary when a Yemeni tribe takes revenge for the killing of one of its members, they send out certain signs and fire gunshots near the grave of their deceased to "tell him" that they have taken revenge on the killer or one of his relknown to have historical feuds with atives and that he may rest in peace. The identity of the perpetrator or per-

terms of rights to Yemeni women because before it extends these rights to women, it must extend them first to men. Women should also realize that rights are often taken and not given as handouts. And whenever they are given by a regime, they can be easily taken by the same regime or by its successors. It is evident that under the current regime, political repre-

sentation of womenand for men as wellwill remain the same. From time to time, a woman who can perform the role of a man and represent the men in power will be appointed in a position where she has no real power and cannot do much for women.

In light of the current Yemeni situation. women and their supporters should ask for the addition of three new articles to the constitution. The first article should state: "Citizens are equal before the law; they are equal in public rights and duties, and discrimination on the basis of sex, color, origin, lanprofession, guage, social status, or belief, is prohibited except in cases where discrimination is positive and enhances equal citizenship rights, and the law should specify punishments in cases of violations." Such a statement is very important not only for women but also for all other

The second article should read "Thirty percent of all elected public institutions at the central, regional, and local levels should be reserved for women, and political parties should compete for these seats under a proportional representation electoral system. The law should make it the duty of the electoral commission to make sure that female nominees

on party lists have been selected and ranked in the lists according to secret intra-party balloting." The third article should state "Thirty percent of all public institution positions which are fielded by presidential appointments at the central, regional, and local levels should be reserved for women, and the law should specify the cases where

exceptions can be made, provided that they do not violate the principle of equal citizenship, the principle of equal opportunity, and the qualifications required for taking a specific

The author is a Yemeni activist, analyst, and professor of politics at Sana'a University.



NOTICE TO BRITISH CITIZENS IN YEMEN

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- Through the Foreign Office online registration service, Locate, which can be found at https://www.locate.fco.gov.uk/locateportal/;
- By email to registrations.sanaa@fco.gov.uk;
- In person at the British Embassy. Please bring your passport. Opening hours are Saturday to Wednesday, 0800 - 1200.

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ISLAMIC RELIEF YEMEN

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1. Position: Reference: Disaster Preparedness and Response Officer -Coordinator DPRO-C/IPD/190408 Responsibilities:	3. Position: Orphan and Child Welfare Programme Field Officer (Aden Based): (Females Only) Reference: OCWPFO/IPD/190408	WE ARE CURRENTLY LOOKING FOR FOLLOW- ING CANDIDATE:
 Netsponsionities. Develop and strengthen disaster preparedness capacity to respond to disasters in an effective and efficient manner Assist to reduce the impact of disasters on people / communities most at risk through capacity building and organizational development activities Design, implement, coordinate, develop, monitor and evaluate IRY's disaster activities in line with IRY strategy Provide direction and support to programme staff Establish linkages with GO, NGOs and other institutional donors Prepare project related narrative and financial reports for IRY and donors Requirements: Graduate in Development studies or any other Social Science Minimum of 3 years experience in development and emergencies Excellent command of the English and Arabic languages (written and spoken) Ability to write proposals and develop linkages with INGOs and GO Skills in financial, time and management are essential together with working knowledge of Microsoft Word, Excel and Internet applications database use, and advanced Internet search engine tools 	 Responsibilities: To participate in all orphan and child welfare programme activities To be responsible for implementing activities of orphan and child welfare programme as per policy and procedure on the field level To be responsible for continuous registration and monitoring of sponsored orphans for their welfare and development of livelihood status To liaise with families, schools and other relevant authorities To be an effective assistant to orphans programme team to improve and implement the project and to gather and analyse all related data To implement all work related to programme objectives To prepare timely reports To organise various events for children To be able to intensively travel to the field Requirements: University degree in social science or equivalent At least 3 years experience in development Fluency in English and Arabic (written and spoken) are essential To have a good understanding of child rights and protection issues Good computer skills in (Word processing, Excel, PowerPoint & usage of internet) 	 1- LOGISTIC MANAGER Requirements: Bachelor degree with minimum 3-5 years experience in same field Computer Knowledge with number of Microsoft office applications Good Team Working Skills Good Command of English Both written and spoken Can Handle deadline & pressure
 Responsibilities: Develop new programmes and projects based on donor funding. Assist in overseeing the implementation of all programme related activities and providing all needed support and direction. Coordinate, develop, monitor and evaluate programmes and projects activities Prepare periodic reports on the progress of operational projects and related plans both narrative and financial. Requirements: Graduate in Development Studies or any other social Science Minimum 3 yrs senior development and emergency relief management experience. Ability to write proposals and develop linkages with INGOs and GO Working knowledge of Microsoft Word, Excel and internet applications. Excellent command of the English language (advantage to have Arabic) Good communication skills 	 Please send a copy of your CV latest by <u>06th May 2008.</u> Admin Department Islamic Relief Yemen, P O Box 15088, Sana'a, Republic of Yemen Fax No: 01-415998 Or Email: info@iryemen.org Applicants should be sympathetic to the values and principles of Islamic Relief Islamic Relief is an equal opportunities employer. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted. Islamic Relief is an international relief and development charity with its headquar- ters in the UK that aims to alleviate the suffering of the world's poorest people 	 Excellent Knowledge of air/sea freight Import/export Excellent Knowledge of Marketing & Sales/Customer support Excellent Knowledge of International Freight Forwarding Networks Please fax your Resume within two weeks on Fax #.00967-1-410848 or by email info@sigmagroupyemen.net

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Last date for applications to be submitted is 27.04.08. Applicants will be called for interviews at Taiz and Sana'a .

The first flight date is 27- April- 2008.



Report

Water shortage changes not only lifestyles but village customs too

By: Almigdad Mojalli almigdads8@yahoo.com

he shortage of water made Mohammed Nasser and many others in his village of Basseq give up their traditional customs. Mohammed used to host anybody whether they be passers-by, election committees, census-takers and anyone in between, but now he is not even able to provide the essentials for his own family because of the water shortage affecting their agricultural products.

"Ten years ago, we had a very happy life. Everything was available and we could buy and do anything we wanted, but now the water shortage and long absence of rainfall have turned our life upside down," said Nasser. "We have no water to irrigate our land, which is the main source of [our] livelihood. Consequently, we were compelled to abandon a lot of our customs and habits.'

Ten years ago, Basseq villagers were content. Water was available and they grew wheat, all kinds of grapes, almonds and qat. The revenues were abundant and they didn't care about education or state employment because the income at that time was equal to the salary of a general manager in the state. Now, out of the 20 wells that used to provide the village with water, only two still function. "Each one could at least irrigate 90 square meters after providing people with drinking water. Now, 18 of them have run out of water and the other two provide for the entire village, whose population exceeds 1,000 people, with drinking water," said Sheikh Mohammed Mabkhout.

The two wells aren't providing enough drinking water for the village's people. At the same time, people need to irrigate their lands not for crops, but to keep trees alive. The only solution is to bring water by "whites," the name



Out of 20 wells in the village, only two still provide people with drinking water

for trucks that carry water tanks, from Bani Hushaish 20 kilometers to Basseq. However, some of the people can't afford to buy water. "Only the people who have whites can irrigate their land, while the others have difficulty getting water to drink because one white coasts YR 3700 (US \$18.50) and this is a very big sum for them," Mabkhout explained.

In 1984, the villagers made a dam on the top of the village on their account but because this dam was made without government approval or help, it wasn't constructed well and it collapsed. During the past three years, the villagers demanded that the government build them a dam, but the project has stalled indefinitely. " I went to the Ministry of Agriculture, explained the situation of the water shortage in the

village and asked them to allocate funds to build a dam for the village but they procrastinated," said Yahya Ahmed, local council member.

The animal trade also provided wealth for the Basseq villagers but as a result of the shortage of rainfall and water, that source of revenue too has waned as there are no pastures. "Ninety five percent of the villagers depend completely on agriculture and animal wealth. In the past every family had at least a cow, ten sheep, goats and some chickens. Now there are no pastures and people can't provide food for the animals," said another villager, Ahmed Moqbel. "Most people sold their sheep, goats and cows to provide for other needs like sugar, wheat and rice."

The cessation of animal and agricultural wealth made the villagers live

very poor lives. People now are unable to provide many essential foodstuffs for their families like meat, milk, wheat, rice, and ghee. The lands are totally dry, prices unreasonably and people have no solution. According to Mabkhout, 80 percent of the villagers live on less than US \$2 a day, and more than 60 percent buy meat only once a month. Some families live like prisoners on bread and water only. "People suffer destitution. The cows, sheep and livestock that used to provide them meat, milk and eggs went away and the farms that provided them with the value of wheat, rice and ghee are dry now," said Mabkhout. "There are four families in our village that eat only bread and nothing else."

This compelled many people to leave the village in search of jobs. Many of the of them tried to work as soldiers, but were not accepted into the military because they don't have any qualifications. Others went to Dhamar governorate where wheat is grown in order to work and provide at least a little sus-

tenance for their families, while some others trade qat. "About 50 percent of the villagers left their homes, some of them with their families, looking for a livelihood. This is the season of rainfall and nothing so far. Price hikes are unreasonable and people get poorer. I don't know how can people survive,"

five sheep for the occasion, served alongside many other kinds of food. Nowadays, these rituals have all but disappeared. The duration of the wedding has shrunk to just one day and the invitations are restricted to family members only. Instead of slaughtering many cows and sheep, people now slaughter at most two lambs. They also use a recorder to play music instead of hiring live musicians.

Murad Hameed, 28, got married eight months ago to one of his distant relatives. He invited only his close family members for one night and one day. "When I was young, I never imagined that my wedding would be boring like this," said Hameed. "I always dreamt of a very nice wedding attended by all of my friends, neighbors and relatives, but poverty and the water shortage obliged me to make it in a very short period and exclusively for close relatives. I bought only half a cow and my friends learned about my marriage two months later and blamed me for not inviting them," he explained.

But Hameed was more fortunate than Ziad Abdulkareem, who is going to be married in six weeks. Ziad realizes his circumstances and the rituals of the wedding aren't as important for him as having his wife. "My family and I can't afford a cow or to invite our relatives to attend my wedding. So my father-inlaw is going to make a small party for my wife at his home. In the evening, of the village's women. Residents looked pale, dirty and miserable. They dispersed and disappeared immediately after the burial, not wanting to invite visitors in to their homes. Only one man invited in visitors, khalid Saeed. When the man served poor quality water, he apologized profusely. "Please excuse us, but the water that we had from the well in the morning has finished," he said. He explained why all the people disappeared after the burial; they are very generous but they don not have enough provisions to invite in guests, preferring to leave quickly rather than facing the embarrassment of inviting visitors inside.

"People have become very poor and can't even feed their kids. It is so difficult for them to invite people and they stop that," said Khalid Saeed

Delivery Occasion

In the rural areas of the northern governorates of Yemen, when a women is in the delivery period after she had a baby. she spends 45 days at home and her relatives and friends visit her every afternoon. Usually, the husband is responsible for the expenditures of the first half of the 45 days and has to bring special food, water and drinks for the visitors as well as musicians. On the 20th day the father, brothers and sisters of the woman visit her and bring a lamb as well as money and many presents. They stay there till the second day when the



People import water 20 kilometers to their village at YR 3700.

my father-in-law and his brothers and sons will bring my wife to me," said Abdulkareem. "I have nothing to offer my guests, for I can neither do anything nor invite anyone. I gave all my money as a dowry to my father-in-law," he added

since time immemorial, but the water

shortage compelled people to abandon

this custom. In the past, visitors to this

village were invited into the homes of

its people for at least seven days. Two

weeks ago, there was a funeral for one

husband has to slaughter for them. Nowadays, people have abandoned these rituals. "Now when the woman delivers, she stays at home for only for 15 days and her father and other relatives visit her only one day and bring-



For Basseq village, the future looks dry.

Naji Mohammed, another villager, complained.

Hospitality

The water shortage, which led people to poverty, obliged them to give up many of their traditional customs, since they can't afford the cost.

Marriage Custom:

In the past, a wedding in Basseq lasted from four to seven days. The family of the groom invite around 400 people, slaughtering three cows and more than

Hospitality is one of the most praiseworthy traits that Arabs in general and Yemenis in particular are known for

ing a few presents for them. Also, people cancelled the idea of the musicians and the women's sessions in the afternoon," said Um Abdulhakeem Nasser. Water shortage led to poverty, which changed the rich traditions of Basseq. Everyday people get poorer and prices get higher.

"The state has to find solutions, build dams and support agriculture, otherwise this village will be free of people after five years," warned Mabkhout.

World Food Program feeds 77,000 Sa'ada residents despite ongoing conflict

By: Sarah Wolff

hile hikes worldwide food shortages have affected

all Yemenis, some of the most vulnerable to hunger and starvation are those residents in the north, who are being subjected to continued warfare. The World Food Program, or WFP, has been one of the few international agencies permitted to visit Sa'ada governorate throughout the ongoing fighting in the region. When the war in Sa'ada

lished a field office in the region price and rented storage facilities to help and provide displaced Sa'ada residents with the food they needed. Since then, the agency, which is part of the United Nations' team in Yemen, has expanded its services

to include not only the original recipients of the food aid - the internally displaced people - but also Sa'ada returnees and those affected by the war in general. The WFP now assists approximately 77,000 people in the area with the help of Islamic Relief, which distributes and monitors rations in

lieu of the WFP. escalated in 2007, the WFP estab-

> WFP Representative and Yemen Country Director Mohammed Al-Kouhene spoke with the Yemen Times about ongoing aid to warravaged Sa'ada and how the agency maintains neutrality in such a situation.

As an objective and neutral body, how does the World Food Program deal with the conflict in Sa'ada?

The WFP distributes food to all accessible conflict-affected populations in Sa'ada, regardless of race, gender, religion or political views. We ensure the delivery of food assistance to the right beneficiaries based on a long registra-

tion and verification process conducted responsible for food distribution. by WFP trained staff.

Is the WFP able to distribute food throughout the region or only in certain parts?

We've been unable to reach some areas in Sa'ada due to security constraints; however, based on a recent survey, so far, we've been able to reach approximately 80 percent of the affected population.

Are there parts of the Sa'ada region that the WFP wishes it could have better access to?

There are affected areas that are inaccessible to the WFP; however, displaced people from some of those areas continue coming to Sa'ada city to collect their food rations.

What does the WFP expect the food stability situation to be like once the Yemeni government and Houthis hold to their agreement and the fighting ends?

We expect the recovery process to take some time because some have lost their property, businesses and even their main sources of income. We're monitoring the situation closely and based on the variables of the situation, we'll determine whether to conclude, extend or elevate the operation to another level, including supporting recovery activities through the WFP's regular development program in Yemen or through a specific project.

How do they manage to distribute food to the needy in light of this? Once the distribution lists are set, the WFP organizes the distribution points and delivers the food to the intended

beneficiaries.

What channels does the agency use to distribute food in Sa'ada and how exactly is it distributed?

We've had a team deployed in Sa'ada

since its operation began last June and

the team is responsible for tracking

commodities and supervising food dis-

tribution. The agency also has Islamic

Relief as [its] implementing partner

Opinion

Why does the authority attempt to abort peaceful struggle?

By: Adel Ameen

6

Yasin Sa'eed Nu'man, Secretary General of Yemeni Socialist Party (YSP), is famous for his being more able to describe Yemen's status quo, analyze and diagnose its constituents, as well as explore its reasons and potential real consequences in an incomparable style. One hardly sees other experienced politicians in Yemen follow more or less the same style of Nu'man while dealing with pressing national issues.

24 April, 2008

During one of his meetings with YSP leaders and grassroots in Al-Dhale' governorate, Nu'man provided the attendees with his personal interpretation and analysis of Yemen's status quo and why it continues to worsen. He also unveiled his vision with regard to furious actions in the southern governorates, plus the relevant threats.

"The current turmoil in the nation is the result of an authority lacking the required capacity to adopt or discuss a successful national project," he said. "This authority has no national project, except for pursuing poor policies that encourage property theft and official oppression until the extent of making some people search for ethnical and sectarian strife to defend themselves and protect their property."

Regarding the furious actions in

South Yemen, he noted that the authority wants to make such moral and peaceful actions go indecent and violent so that it will be easier for it to ban them. Lacking an effective national project, the authority turned to behave in an extremist manner in dealing with issues of South Yemen, thus producing unprecedented aftermath in the Yemeni history, according to Numan.

Nu'man held the authority accountable for breeding extremism after its poor policies made people lead a miserable life, thus becoming pessimistic about the possibility of building a democratic state based on the National Unity's principles, ratified on May 22, 1990. He also blamed it for making the national crisis more complicated, confirming that this crisis will continue to worsen with the passage of days.

What happens in the south?

The South part of Yemen experiences a difficult security situation, having become a ground for endless conflicts between the authority and citizens protesting against their government's failed policies and arbitrary practices on a daily basis. The authority has no good policy due to lacking a national project. Ongoing clashes in the southern cities, which first broke out in Al-Dhale' and led to the excessive deployment of troops and tanks in these cities, aimed to force legal actions go violent so that they can be easily prevented.

Claiming constitutional rights via remain unnamed, confirms that

peaceful protests, oppressed citizens of South Yemen strongly rejects all the forms of violence and rioting. Strong determination to continue the peaceful struggle until demands listed by oppressed citizens are met is why protesters gain increasing popular support, and at the same time perplex the authority. How one can imagine that an

authority, claiming to enhance democracy and respect human rights and public freedoms, confronts peaceful and legal actions with crackdown and oppressive military operations. This authority can not behave in a way contravening the Constitution and Law unless it fabricates pretexts and inauthentic reasons justifying why it uses force and atrocity in dealing with such actions. This is what actually happened in Al-Dhale', Radfan, Al-Hawta, Al-Habelain and Tawr Al-Baha.

Away from the apparent and direct causes of clashes between citizens and government troops, what happens these days in the southern governorates is a process through which protests were transformed from peaceful struggle into scenes of violence, rioting and destruction. It is a malicious attempt machinated by the authority to restrict peaceful and legal protests, and place protestors in dock in order to get rid of them and their intolerable protests.

In the same context, one of the Islah Party leaders, requesting to

mobilization of military troops and equipment to the protest scenes is meant to change legal actions into rioting and peaceful struggle into chaos. However, the YSP Secretary General describes what is happening in the southern governorates as an official attempt to abort peaceful struggle and bury alive an emerging democracy in a critical moment.

According to politicians and political analysts, what is currently happening in the southern governorates is an indicator of a regime on the way to losing its legitimacy. They hold the view that the authority mobilized military troops and equipment to the scenes of peaceful protests, thereby making protests go violent, in an attempt to escape addressing pressing economic issues - which continue to worsen and responding to legal demands listed by oppressed citizens.

Other opposition leaders accused the authority of preplanning such apparently violent events in order to justify any subsequent action it may take to abort peaceful struggle and crack down on protestors. They described the events as 'a micro war', which is projected to magnify.

What is done by the security and military forces can be understood only from the viewpoint that notable procedures, taken by the government to eliminate peaceful struggle, had been prepared for months ahead of the bloody events.

Source: Al-Sahwa Weekly

Yemen and Somalia share insecurity

By: Mosa Al-Namrani

hree consecutive blasts hit a public girls' school based in Sana'a near the U.S. Embassy, believed to have been the potential target, and such an event was followed by a huge fire destroying a tourist hotel downtown but the perpetrators have not been identified. The authorities claim that the fire was

caused by a rehearsal aircraft that broke the sound barrier while hovering over Sana'a, but such an official statement was denied by military experts. Other blasts targeted a foreign residential

compound in the Hadda area, occupied intelligence agents over the security by foreign experts working for the American Hunt Oil Company, which filed a lawsuit against Yemeni government to a French court last year after the government failed to fulfill its obligations to the company.

The northern province of Sa'ada has been suffering bloody confrontations between Houthi supporters and army personnel, backed by pro-government tribesmen since June 2004. In the south part of the country, dozens of political leaders and human rights activists have been detained over riots and vandalistic acts that swept major cities in the south. Leaders of angry protests are exchanging accusations with

turmoil in the southern governorates.

Official sources were quoted as saying that at least a security soldier was killed and another seven injured in an attack on a checkpoint on one of the highways leading to Hadhramout. The sources doesn't rule out that the assault was launched by terrorist groups while others attributed it to quarrels over drug trafficking.

The Political Security Organization kidnapped popular artist Fahd Al-Qarni and took him to an anonymous place in a manner, which attorneys described as 'illegal'. In the meantime, Yemeni Information Minister issued a decision disbanding the independent Al-Wasat

weekly, which was assessed by Yemeni Journalists Syndicate as a flagrant violation against press freedom while the minister insisted that the paper deserves to be closed.

Oppressed citizens from Ibb's Ja'ashin district, who were evicted by a powerful sheikh from their villages, still sleep outdoor in one of Sana'a areas overnight without any blankets. Do pictures of Mr. President and his party's slogan protect them from the hot sun during daytime? Parliament directed the relevant authorities to investigate the case. But as these authorities did not respond to Parliament's directions, Ja'ashin women deserted their homes and joined their husbands and relatives camping in Sana'a in search of justice. Until the time of writing this article, many construction engineers are still held captive in Khawlan area, east of Sana'a, while their kidnappers listed numerous demands for the government to meet. The country's interior ministry is negotiating with these kidnappers via mediators in an attempt to release the abductees. All such events are the outcome of less than two weeks of Yemen's age, and therefore terrify those concerned about Yemen's dire situation that continues to worsen. Although the turmoil is very obvious, the government claims that there is security and stability in its territory. During its meeting with western officials, Yemen's Justice Minister declared that there are neither political detainees nor opinion prisoners in his country. A quick glance at the current situation nationwide persuades one to believe that Yemen and Somalia share the same security turmoil.

COMMON SENSE

Americans, look out!

here can be no peace in this region. That is what many Arabs are saying, as they see so many forces vie for filling gaps here and there, with most of the political structures of all the Arab States showing no signs of ever placating to the wishes of their people, while they rush to placate to the wishes of their masters in Washington or even Tel Aviv. On the other hand, one cannot help wonder



By: Hassan Al-Haifi

why some of the richest of the Arabs find ways to spend millions in one night on gambling or even worse on the pleasures of the bed, while half of the people in the Arab World are hungry and the other half are illiterate.

We need to really look at ourselves as a nation, not some individual "sovereign" cantons that were created by cartographers in the drawing rooms of former greedy imperialist powers.

It is the work of these cartographers that gave us the tragedy that continues to unfold daily in the Holy Land, the holiness of which evaporated when Lord Balfour gave his promise to the sleazy Rothschilds and their partners in the very active International Zionist Establishment. In return for Balfour's "promise", the Zionists were able to change the Isolationist Woodrow Wilson into a belligerent war monger in advocacy of a war that had no justification then if viewed in the context of American interests.

But then American interests have never of any worry to the International Zionists, particularly the American elements in that sleazy international mafia. In fact, no one has brought more harm to the interests of their sponsors than the IZE (see Common Sense, Issue 1147).

One is not worried about American interests anymore, because even the American people have been taught now to avoid taking that into consideration when thinking politically. How could they? A large chunk of the American public is now beginning to feel the crunch of the heavy indebtedness, which the Neo Cons powered by the IZE have left their country in.

Even their own finances have been put in disarray as their inability to meet mortgage payments becomes a haunting dilemma for which no end is in sight. Even the big banks in the US are seeking ways out of this inability to meet debt service by their customers, so they begin appropriating a sizable chunk of their yet unearned profits to cover "doubtful debts" of their customers.

This is what happens when even the most reputable bankers (Citibank, Bank of America, etc.) are caught unaware that their ability to manage their assets is not very much better than the financial management of developing countries, which can't even manage enough funds to meet the daily bread needs of their populations, let alone cover the debt service on the mortgages of their homes. The latter is another matter, which will be dealt with separately, because there is the issue of corruption and the prevalence of narrow selfish interests in the latter over all other interests.

Here, one wants to try to comprehend how educated societies can be railroaded to accept Zionist tyranny and the horrendous misguidance to public opinion in the West, which the IZE has managed to instill so systematically, across all levels of public scrutiny.

An American friend has just informed this observer that two of his



Source: Al-Tagheer.com

colleagues in an academic institution of a high caliber have lost their jobs because they refused to placate to the requirement of the dissemination of the Zionist distortion of the history of the Holy Land and insist that the land of Palestrina has been with the Palestinians since anyone can remember in all the history backs that go back to the Epic of Gilgamesh.

Because of this insistence on sticking with the truth, two distinguished professors are out of a job and surely will not meet any mortgage debt payments until God knows when. When you have hit the blacklist of the Zionist Lobby in the United States, there is no telling when you could ever get another job again.

It is hard to believe that in the United States, one of its founding fathers, Benjamin Franklin had warned that the American people should be careful about a certain element that will work to take over the major areas of the American economy and then render all the decisions related to the undertakings of the United States without regard to the interests of the overwhelming majority of the United States. The dramatic thing about this discovery is that this was predicted by Franklin to occur two hundred years after the Establishment of the United States.

So now it is the United States along with Palestine and later it is the world!

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

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Al-Qaeda's PR strategy on the internet: Free propaganda

The violent Islamists of al-Qaeda, the notorious international terror network, may be accused of promoting an antiquated ideology, but when it comes to the movement's PR strategy, they adhere to the most modern standards. Alfred Hackensberger reports

New communication methods

on television of bearded men in turbans preaching an Islamic world revolution would have caused furrowed brows of disbelief. Most European viewers would have thought it a joke or an episode of "Candid Camera." Today, however, bearded religious figures are a standard and recurring feature of the news. Especially Osama Bin Laden and his lieutenant Ayman Zawahiri.

en years ago, the appearance

Since 9/11, the two al-Qaeda leaders have regularly appeared in video and audio messages, which are then broadcast around the world by the international media. Of course, we only get snippets, as the seemingly endless monologues on the final victory of Islam are simply out of the question for a modern media audience used to a constant flow of varied information.

Besides, the messages are much too long for any available broadcast or print format. Bin Laden and Zawahiri don't care. Once could hardly imagine a better way to freely distribute their propaganda.

The terrorist leaders are familiar enough

with the media world to know that any format, no matter how successful its initial run, tends to wear thin over time. This is why the two al-Qaeda "anchormen" have instructed the movement's media department, as-Sahab, to come up with a new communication format to add a breath of fresh air into the monotonous presentations.

As-Sahab chose to introduce an interactive element to the new propaganda. Nowadays, this technique forms an integral component of the PR strategies of newspapers and television and radio stations to foster "customer loyalty."

From December 2007 to January 2008, anyone with a command of Arabic could direct their questions to Ayman Zawahiri on a website sympathetic to the group.

Last week, the answers finally came as an audio message from the al-Qaeda lieutenant, who was extremely pleased at the flood of questions he received. With the "help of Allah," claimed Zawahiri, he selected the "90 most

important" questions and especially turned his attention to those that were critical.

An inadvertent error

With the first batch of questions, it already became clear that al-Qaeda had launched its new interactive game not only for PR purposes, but also to justify its actions. "Who is it that has killed innocent people in Baghdad, Algeria, and Morocco in your name? Why doesn't your organization conduct attacks in Israel? Is it simply easier to kill Muslims in the marketplace?" Such themes were repeatedly raised by other questioners.

They regard the killing of thousands of innocent civilians as unacceptable and this has cost al-Qaeda all most all of its support among Muslims that it has enjoyed, in part, since 9/11. Instead of attacking the real enemy, they have killed Muslim women and children.

With respect to Israel, Ayman Zawahiri's answers may still convince a few sympathizers. He boasts of the attacks on a synagogue in Tunisia and on an Israeli tourist hotel in Kenya. "Didn't we fire two rockets at an El-Al plane in Kenya?" he asks.

On the death of innocent civilians, he could only say, "we have not killed any innocent people," and should this have nevertheless happened, "it was an inadvertent error.'

Human shields There was a massive negative reaction to these statements in Algeria, where on 11 December 2007, 41 people, most of whom were Algerians, were killed by an al-Qaeda attack on a UN building.

The response will probably be similar in Baghdad, where every day countless people die while shopping, on the way to work, or going to school. The families of the victims will find Zawahiri's justification irrelevant. He claims that the occupation troops in Iraq misuse civilians as a "human shield." This is, incidentally, the same argument used by American President George W. Bush to explain the "collateral damage" suffered by the Iraqi civilian population.

During the Lebanon War in the summer of 2006, the Israeli government also claimed that "human shields" were being used by Hezbollah terrorists. Similarly, this was meant to cover up the of innocent civilians. deaths

The downfall of the USA and Iran The questions and answers were otherwise relatively uninteresting and aimed at Islamic insiders. There were questions on al-Qaeda's position on Hamas, on Yussuf al-Qardawi, the influential Egyptian sheik who condemned the terror organization on Al Jazeera, the Arabic news channel, and on al-Qaeda's attitude towards Iran.

Zawahiri spoke of the downfall of the



Al-Qaeda's media strategy is inseparable from its political strategy: Ayman al-Zawahiri, Osama bin Laden's "deputy", is a standard and recurring feature of the news

USA, which began with 9/11, and, as with all great empires, will not take place at once, but could last another ten years.

The al-Qaeda lieutenant had no objections to a possible American attack on Iran. After all, it would be against the

Shiite infidels, who only sully the pure Sunni teachings. It wouldn't matter who emerged victorious from such a conflict, as the winner would be seriously weakened and therefore easier for al-Qaeda to attack and annihilate. Source: Qantara.de 2008

Is there moral progress?

By: Peter Singer

fter a century that saw two world wars, the Nazi Holocaust, Stalin's Gulag, the killing fields of Cambodia, and more recent atrocities in Rwanda and now Darfur, the belief that we are progressing morally has become difficult to defend. Yet there is more to the question than extreme cases of moral breakdown.

This year marks the 60th anniversary of the United Nations General Assembly's adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In response to the crimes committed during World War II, the Declaration sought to establish the principle that everyone is entitled to the same basic rights, irrespective of race, color, sex, language, religion, or other status. So, perhaps we can judge moral progress by asking how well we have done in combating racism and sexism.

Assessing the extent to which racism and sexism have actually been reduced is a daunting task. Nevertheless, recent polls by WorldPublicOpinion.org shed some

indirect light on this question. The polls, involving nearly 15,000 respondents, were conducted in 16 countries, representing 58% of the world's population: Azerbaijan, China, Egypt, France, Great Britain, India, Indonesia, Iran, Mexico, Nigeria, the Palestinian Territories, Russia, South Korea, Turkey, Ukraine, and the United States. In 11 of these countries, most people believe that, over their lifetimes, people of different races and ethnicities have come to be treated more equally.

On average, 59% say this, with only 19% thinking that people are treated less equally, and 20% saying that there has been no change. People in the US, Indonesia, China, Iran, and Great Britain are particularly likely to perceive greater equality. Palestinians are the only people of whom a majority sees less equality for people of different racial or ethnic groups, although opinion is relatively evenly divided in Nigeria, Ukraine, Azerbaijan and Russia.

An even stronger overall majority, 71%, regards women as having made progress towards equality, although once again, the Palestinian territories are an exception, this time joined by Nigeria. Russia, Ukraine, and Azerbaijan again have significant minorities saying that women are now treated less equally than they once were. In India, although only 53% say that women have gained greater equality, an additional 14% say that women now have more rights than men! (Presumably, they were thinking only of those females who are not aborted because prenatal testing has shown them not to be male.)

Overall, it seems likely that these opinions reflect real changes, and thus are signs of moral progress toward a world in which people are not denied rights on the basis of race, ethnicity, or sex. That view is backed up by the polls' most striking results: very widespread rejection of inequality based on race, ethnicity, or sex. On average, 90% of those asked said that equal treatment for people of different races or ethnic origins is important, and in no country were more than 13% of respondents prepared to say that equal treatment is not important.

When asked about equal rights for women, support was almost as strong, with an average of 86% rating it important. Significantly, these majorities existed in Muslim countries as well. In Egypt, for example, 97% said that racial and ethnic equality is important, and 90% said that equality for women is important. In Iran, the figures were 82% and 78%, respectively.

Compared to just a decade before the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, this represents a significant change in people's views. Equal rights for women – not simply suffrage, but also working outside the home or living independently - was still a radical idea in many countries. Openly racist ideas prevailed in Germany and the American South, and much of the world's population lived in colonies ruled by European powers. Today, despite what happened in Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia - and appeared to be on the verge of happening after the recent disputed election in Kenya no country openly accepts racist doctrines.

Unfortunately, the same cannot be said about equal rights for women. In Saudi Arabia, women are not even permitted to drive a car, let alone vote. In many other countries, too, whatever people may say about gender equality, the reality is that women are far from having equal rights.

This may mean that the surveys I have quoted indicate not widespread equality, but widespread hypocrisy. Nevertheless, hypocrisy is the tribute that vice pays to virtue, and the fact that racists and sexists must pay this tribute is an indication of some moral progress.

Words do have consequences, and what one generation says but does not really believe, the next generation may believe, and even act upon. Public acceptance of ideas is itself progress of a kind, but what really matters is that it provides leverage that can be used to bring about more concrete progress. For that reason, we should greet the poll results positively, and resolve to close the gaps that still exist between rhetoric and reality.

Peter Singer is Professor of Bioethics at Princeton University and Laureate Professor at the University of Melbourne. His books include Animal Liberation, Practical Ethics, and, most recently, The Ethics of What We Eat. Copyright: Project Syndicate, 2008. www.project-syndicate.org

Gazan Holocaust

By: Jennifer Loewenstein

round 10:30pm on the night of February 28, M and his wife S spoke in low tones in a dark room dimly lit by a batteryoperated lamp. They were trying to decide if it was still safe to send their children to school and decided in favor because the elementary school building is in a safer part of the city near a number of international offices. The electricity in the building had been out 10 hours by then and the couple pulled blankets around them to keep warm in the damp winter air. They live on the 6th floor of Shifa Tower, an 11-story apartment building housing more than a hundred families.

When the blast occurred that took out the Interior Ministry building across the street, there was no time to think about what to do. M flew into his children's bedroom and threw himself over the sleeping body of his son, Basel, to shield the young boy's body from the glass shattering in the windows beside his bed. Then after a matter of seconds the three young children, two girls and the boy, were taken to the windowless kitchen, all of them now fully awake and crying out in terror. M threw blankets and pillows around them where they huddled for the night in restless sleep and dreams of horror, their mother sobbing silently over them as she caressed

their faces.

M returned to the children's room in time for the second deafening blast that made him put up his arms instinctively. When he let them down and looked out into the night sky, it was all brown, the earth from underneath the destroyed buildings was swirling around outside the bedroom windows and he could see nothing but flying debris, smoke and a wall of dirt. For some time he could not hear well, only watch-dazed- hypnotized by the silence after the aerial strikes.

In the morning, no one went outside. "This is a black day in Gaza," M wrote; "a holocaust as (Israeli deputy defense minister Matan) Vilnai put it. There is an attack every five or ten minutes. It keeps our nerves on edge and our senses strained. There is so much rage at what is happening; especially the scenes of murdered children and babies. I am so busy I don't know how to describe my feelings. I work to avoid feeling because right now that's too unbearable."

Watch as A, a Hamas soldier, runs for his life into his house. His pursuers miss shooting him so they launch three rockets into the house on the edge of Jabalya camp killing everyone inside (four family members). They are angry now so every house in the way gets the same treatment and without the "militant" to guide their next moves: rockets fired into the interiors of homes with no knowledge of who is inside. Eye-wit-

nesses report this and worse: a six month old baby girl becomes tiny body parts with her mother and brother. A small child is cut apart by shrapnel and screams that she doesn't want to die just before leaving this world. The mothers and fathers cannot protect them so they weep and scream at the funerals that this side of the world never views, especially during basketball season.

Who really cares about these children? Every Palestinian is a militant because everyone (sooner or later) wants Israel off their land, out of their lives, and forgotten like a horrible dream. It is for this reason that they are all equal targets: none of them is intelligent enough to understand that their land isn't their land, their lives are not their lives, and their horrible dream is their present and future. Have no pity on those who don't get it.

The night strikes from F-16s and helicopter missiles continued throughout the day on Friday the 29 and into the first weekend in March, unceasing in their ferocity and indiscriminate killing revenge for the death early last week of an Israeli student at Sapir College outside Sderot. For every one Israeli life, scores of Palestinians must die. God help us now that two Israeli soldiers have been killed fighting on occupied land, against unwilling slaves; killing innocent people to maintain a 60-yearold injustice. Brace yourself, Gaza. You will pay dearly for the continuation of

this crime.

Let us not reflect too much on what all this means. How, for example, would the 47-year-old Sapir College student like to know that his death has been far more useful to his State than his life? For in death he provided another pretext to carry out mass murder of the Arab Untermenschen blocking the otherwise pleasant view to the sea in the southeastern Promised Land. His death challenged the Israeli rules of combat: the "We kill and You Die" warfare, the only type allowed by the Neo-Jewish Masters and their allies in the United States who have no intention of making a just peace with the lower forms of life in their midst. The sanctimonious demand that the Qassams must be stopped is a deliberate lie intended to make you forget that the Qassams provide a near foolproof pretext for grabbing more of Gaza and setting more of it to ruin; and that the Qassams are the result of systematic national torture and evisceration, borne themselves of occupation, caused by it, improved upon by periods of siege, sadism and mass killing.

Peace would require relinquishing regional hegemony. Peace would demand sharing the land and the resources equally. Peace might, heaven forbid, require democratic decision making in a region where the Israelis are not better, more entitled, more deserving of Their Way than everyone else in the neighborhood. Well, sorry, but these are

not on Israel's agenda. The leaders of the hapless Sderot student's racially pure dreamland are grateful for his dying: Now the angry flames of intolerance can burn on feverishly. Into those flames the bodies of each dead Gazan man, woman or child should be flung, like books, to consecrate the ritual, the burnt offering, of those who owe the latter-day Israelites their Modern Day Zion. In Holy Victimhood shall We Reign Supreme.

Surely this would satisfy Interior Minister Meir Sheetrit who bellowed that if it were up to him, Israeli soldiers going into Gaza should shoot "everything that moves" like babies and toddlers, grandfathers and mothers, orange trees and wasted-away donkeys pulling cartloads of rotten vegetables; like flowers and seabirds, chickens and goats, rats and cockroaches. A scorched-earth policy will suffice. They'll create their apocalyptic wilderness and will call it peace. No one needed Sheetrit to legitimize the strategy of creating oblivion from hell. Untermenschen who can be denied food, water, fuel, electricity, medical supplies, the right to leave and return home, the right to not to die in an ambulance that without the proper permits, the right to their own land and their own nationhood precisely because they are lesser human beings can also be picked off one by one or in groups or in families or because they are "militants," or all of the above, who deserve no fair hearing, due process, photographs, names, headlines, stories, grief or televised tear-jerker funerals to commemorate their sacrifices. In such a world contexts are an insult to the intelligence of the policy-makers.

Plea after plea from human rights organizations, legal organizations, religious charities and leaders, children's welfare organizations, medical aid projects, refugee relief societies, international humanitarian agencies, celebrities, parliamentarians, foreign policy analysts and countless others go not only unheeded but unread, unheard, a waste of one's time. Is there a reason why the carnage in Gaza is continuing before our very eyes and no State or Non-state actor strong enough to make a difference is bothering to step in? The shame is ours, for Israel and its US Master have long since resided in the lowest circle of Hell for betraying the name of humanity.

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Business

Food Crisis Threaten Yemen's Stability

By: YemenTimes Staff

he skyrocketing prices of wheat, cereals, and other grains have had a tremendous impact on populations reliant on the international markets to supply the needed grains, and Yemen has been affected significantly where the price of a 50-kg sack of wheat has increased from 3300 in the end of 2007 to over 7200 today. This increase affects primarily families which spend most of their income on basic foods and necessities, and now having to stretch their budgets more in order to be able to continue to afford buying the same quantities of food.

In explaining the bigger picture, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) indicated that the growth in global demand for grains is increasing by 3 %, while production is at lower rates, and have increased to 2.6% this year as grain producing countries slightly increase their grain plantations. This indicates that the gap in supply will continue to push the prices of grain higher, forcing grain importing countries like Yemen to rather pay a bigger bill or start searching for other sources of grain, including reliance on domestic income-generation, constituting 15 production.

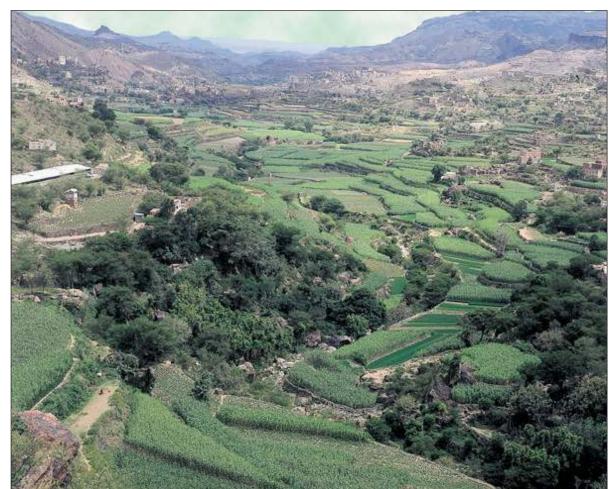
Indeed, several measures in that front mainly driven by the high prices of wheat and grains has resulted in increasing domestic production of grains from 730 thousand tones in 2006 to over 940 thousand tones in 2007, with a direction to continue increasing production and yield per acre of agricultural land. However, Yemen's imports of wheat have doubled since 2004, while the percentage of domestic production of grains is providing the local market with around 8 % of the total market demand of grains.

This indicates that there is a long way to go until Yemen decreases it dependence on the international market for supplying the Yemeni consumers with their grain demands, thereby making Yemen more vulnerable to the shocks of the international markets and the increasing costs of grains, which have resulted in considerable economic hardships for the people of Yemen.

Revival of Yemen's Agriculture

There are approximately 1.5 million households in rural Yemen, 79 percent of which depend on farming or livestock as the prime source of income-generation, constituting 15 percent of the economic production of the country. This means that 1.18 million households produce 21 percent of the non-oil economic production while the other 1 million households are responsible for the reminder economic activity. Paradoxically, agriculture employs 55 percent of the workforce in producing the 15 percent of non-oil economic activity.

The process of agricultural production in Yemen is highly subjective to the availability of water resources as well as types of irrigation, for example the middle highlands are dependent on rainfall receiving an average annual rainfall of 500 to 800 mm resulting in the cultivation of 44 percent of the area, representing 61 percent of the total farms in Yemen, while other areas such as the Tehama region receive an average annual rainfall of 50 to 100 mm, resulting in cultivating 26 percent of the area and representing 10 percent of the total farms in Yemen. Therefore, rain is key factor with regards to the quantity of production. This pattern of agricultural production also explains the population concentration in the middle highlands, constituting slightly over half the population of the country.



The governorates of Taiz, Dhamar, and Lahej are the top three producers of grains in Yemen.



Grain and cereal production in Yemen is dependent is almost completely dependent on rainfall.

Cereals constitute 50 percent of agricultural production, with the governorates of Hodieda, Dhamar, and Hajja leading the way, depending on rainfall to play a prime factor in determining the quantity of output. However other measures have been put in place to help improve production of cereals, including using genetically modified crops, improved irrigation, harvesting, and extension services provision to farmers, and the cultivation of new lands to be used for agricultural purposes. However, the prime risk which faces domestic cereal production if the availability of water resources and rainfall.

Dependence on Rainfall

The currently experiences draught is raising concerns among farmers regarding this agricultural season during the summer of 2008, where

rainfall is usually expected in the beginning of April in order to start plantations, farmers across the country are worries if a limited amount of rainfall this year will affect not only their production in Yemen, but will push the price of wheat higher in the domestic and international market, thereby resulting in more economic hardships, famine, and instability in the country.

Livestock and fishing also provide importance sources of rural incomes: 91 percent of all households involved in agriculture hold some kind of livestock, whether it is cattle, sheep, goats, camels or chickens. FAO indicates that the growth rate of the volume of livestock products reaches 5 percent per annum, making livestock products one of the most important sources of income and key to improving livelihoods in rural Yemen.

Business in Brief

CBY reduces interest on commercial bank deposits

The Centreal Bank of Yemen has decided to reduce the mandatory deposit percentage of commercial banks from 10 % to 7 %, and remove any interests paid on that amount. The central banks justified this measure by reducing the burden on the central bank as a result of paying the interest, and motivate commercial banks to invest in the local economy.

Endowments to adopt a business plan

he Ministry of Endowments and religious affairs announced a business plan to reinvest endowments funds in business enterprising, and to manage endowments in a commercial manner with the objective of profit, expansion, and increasing the total worth of the endowments.

Yemen's Mango production increases

emen's production of Mangos has increased by 25169 tones in 2007 compared to 2006, totaling production to 369434 tones in 2007. While estimated in 2008 indicate that production will exceed 400 thousand tones.

PM: Government will support joint investments

Prime Minister Mujawar has reiterated that the government of Yemen is fully supportive of joint ventures wit businesses from the gulf, he indicated that while meeting with the board of directors of the Arabia Felix domestic airline, which a joint venture between the government of Yemen and Saudi counterparts.

First quality control conference held

The first conference on quality control was held last week in order to discuss issues of quality systems and monitoring, as well as benchmarks of quality among domestic industries in Yemen.

Yemen's rail system to start in 2011

emen's ministry of transport indicated that the studies of Yemen's railroad system will conclude by 2010, following which Yemen will bid out the rail system through the Build-Operate-Transfer mechanism.

Reinventing energy

By: Jeffrey D. Sachs

he world economy is being battered by sharply higher energy prices. While a few energy-exporting countries in the Middle East and elsewhere reap huge profits, the rest of the world is suffering as the price of oil has topped \$110 per barrel and that of coal has doubled.

Without plentiful and low-cost energy, every aspect of the global economy is threatened. For example, food prices are increasing alongside soaring oil prices, partly because of increased production costs, but also because farmland in the United States and elsewhere is being converted from food production to bio-fuel production.

No quick fix exists for oil prices. Higher prices reflect basic conditions of supply and demand. The world economy – especially China, India and elsewhere in Asia – has been growing rapidly, leading to a steep increase in global demand for energy, notably for electricity and transport. Yet global supplies of oil, natural gas and coal can't keep up easily, even with new discoveries. And, in many places, oil supplies are declining as old oil fields are depleted.

Coal is in somewhat larger supply and can be turned into liquid fuels for transport. Yet coal is an inadequate substitute, partly because of limited supplies and partly because coal emits large amounts of carbon dioxide per unit of energy, making it a dangerous source of man-made climate change. In order for developing countries to continue enjoying rapid economic growth and for rich nations to avoid a slump, it is necessary to develop new energy technologies. Three objectives should be targeted: low-cost

should be targeted: low-cost alternatives to fossil fuels, greater energy efficiency and reducing carbon dioxide emissions.

The most promising technology in the long term is solar power. Total solar radiation hitting the Earth is about 1,000 times the world's commercial energy use. This means that even a small part of the earth's land surface, notably in desert regions, which receive massive solar radiation, can supply large amounts of electricity for much of the rest of the world.

For example, solar power plants in America's Mohave Desert could supply more than half of that nation's electricity needs. Solar power plants in Northern Africa could supply power to Western Europe, while solar power plants in the Sahel of Africa, just south of the vast Sahara, could power much of West, East and Central Africa.

Perhaps the single most promising development in terms of energy efficiency is plug-in hybrid technology for automobiles, which may be able to triple the fuel efficiency of new automobiles within the next decade.

The idea is that vehicles would run

mainly on batteries recharged nightly on the electricity grid, with a gasolinehybrid engine as a backup to the battery. General Motors may have an early version of this by 2010.

The most important technology for the safe environmental use of coal is the capture and geological storage of carbon dioxide from coal-fired power plants. Such carbon capture and sequestration, or CCS, is needed urgently in major coal-consuming nations, especially China, India, Australia and the U.S. As key CCS technologies already have been developed, it's time to move from engineering blueprints to actual demonstration power plants.

For all of these promising technologies, governments should be investing in the science and high costs of early-stage testing. Without at least partial public financing, the uptake for these new technologies will be slow and uneven. Indeed, most major technologies that we now take for granted – airplanes, computers, the internet and new medicines, to name just a few – received crucial public financing in their early stages of development and deployment.

It's shocking and worrisome that public financing remains slight because these technologies' success could translate into literally trillions of dollars of economic output.

For example, according to the most recent data in 2006 from the

International Energy Agency, the U.S. government annually invested a meager \$3 billion in energy research and development. In inflation-adjusted dollars, this represents a decline of roughly 40 percent since the early 1980s and now equals what the U.S. spends on its military in just a day and a half. The situation is even more discouraging when we look at the particulars. U.S. government funding for renewable energy technologies (solar, wind, geothermal, ocean and bioenergy) was a meager \$239 million - or just three hours of defense spending. Likewise, spending on carbon capture and sequestration was just \$67 million, while spending for energy efficiency of all types (buildings, transport and industry) was \$352 million.

Of course, developing new energy technologies isn't America's responsibility alone. Global cooperation on energy technologies is needed to increase supplies and ensure that energy use is environmentally safe, especially to head off man-made climate change from using fossil fuels.

This not only is good economics, but also good politics, as it can unite the world in our common interests, rather than dividing it in a bitter struggle over diminishing oil, gas and coal reserves.

Jeffrey Sachs is an economics professor and director of the Earth Institute at Columbia University. Copyright: Project Syndicate, 2008. *

DIA is a French international development NGO working in Yemen, Morocco, Cape Verde and Comoros. Its main objectives are the promotion of social justice and the improvement of living conditions for the most marginalized people. DIA has been active in Yemen since 1999 mainly in Taiz Governorate in two geographical areas (rural areas along the Red Sea cost by implementing Watsan projects and Taiz city for the social integration of the marginalized people). One project is currently funded by European Commission, the second one by European Commission and French Embassy in Yemen.

DIA is looking for:

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GENERAL ACCOUNTANT

The General Accountant will be under the supervision of the General Administrator and will be in charge of the daily follow-up of financial & administrative operations over 2 bases :

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- Follow-up human resources, contracts and various files related to the employment.
- Take part in archiving and installation of an efficient classification system for administrative documents;
- Other tasks and requests on a day-to-day basis when required;

Profile

Professional experience	Minimum 2 years in a similar position
Skills	 Highly proficient standard of spoken and written English and Arabic; Ability to carry out multiple tasks within tight deadlines and work under pressure and as part of a team; Strong computer skills (Excel, Word,and other Software); Maintaining accounting records for special accounts and projects; Rigor, dynamism;

Deadline to apply: May 07th, 2008.

(CV + application letter in English) have to be delivered to the address below: DIA office - Kalaba / across to the path of Al.Saffa' Mosque- the New Dairy Road - Taiz Phone: 04 274 927

Or sent by emailing: olivier.madrelle@justdia.org

EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Interview with Olivier Roy Muslim radicals are perfectly "westernized"

Olivier Roy is one of the most renowned experts on political Islam. In this interview with Michael Hesse, he talks about religious fundamentalism, Islam in Europe, and explains why the Muslim middle classes in the West ought to be recognized as a western faith community, not as an alien culture

Mr. Roy, are Europe's difficulties with its Muslims a subject of hysterical oversimplification?

TIMES

Olivier Roy: At least oversimplification. The picture usually presented is that of a "Muslim community" – meaning they are all the same, all stick to Islam – united in refusing "western values" and bringing into Europe the conflicts of the Middle East. In fact the Muslim population in Europe is very diverse, not only because of different origins, but because they made different and often complex, even contradictory, choices.

Some tend to preserve as much as possible a pristine culture in terms of language, diet or endogamous marriages, other play on secularization, speak better French and German than Arabic or even Turkish and just try to be integrated; others, also largely westernized, try to recast a purely religious practice in a Western secular environment by taking models on protestant and Jewish forms of religious belonging; and finally some young "bornagain", joined by converts, are fascinated with a de-culturalized fundamentalist brand of Islam, like e.g. salafism, which criticizes as much traditional Muslim cultures - the culture of their parents as they do with western cultures.

If the – for want of a better word – "traditional Europeans" enable Muslims to feel at home as new Muslim Europeans, could they become a source of cultural enrichment and economic dynamism?

Roy: We should make a distinction between "faith communities" and "ethnic cultures"; integration is usually implemented at the expense of traditional ethnic cultures, but Islam can be, and should be, recast as a "faith community" and should then be treated on an equal foot with the other religions. Practicing Muslim believers call for equality, not for a status of a cultural minority, but they are systematically sent back to a status of a "foreign" ethnic culture.

But the ascending Muslim middle classes in the West want to be recognized as a western faith community, not as an alien culture. This brand of religious practice and perception is usually advocated by a growing educated middle class, who is a factor of economic growth.

But links with the country of origin

culture - Turkey for instance is westernizing itself at a very high speed – but of economic exchanges: in the case of Turkey, where there has been a tremendous economic growth and social change in the course of the last 20 years, the mutual benefit between the guest country and country of origin is obvious. Joint-ventures and coming and going of educated and business people are changing the patterns of "emigration": it is no more a pressure from unskilled, poor workers longing for settling in the West; it is now more an exchange. Immigration has also contributed to the development of the country of origin, and both societies are more converging than diverging.

And what if we fail, will there be regular suicide attacks in London, Paris, Berlin ... ?

Roy: I don't think that the situation is so dramatic. The issue will not be "Muslim migrants" versus "white society", because too many Muslims are already integrated, even if their integration is not sufficiently acknowledged.

In fact if we fail, there certainly will be three kinds of radicalization: a fringe of second generation Youth, whatever their social and economic background, will be tempted by a violent Islamist radicalization; the bulk of the young, disenfranchised, jobless, school dropouts will better indulge in petty delinquency and grey economy, with outbursts of clashes with the police but no religious dimension, and finally some traditional conservative milieus will lock themselves in a cultural and religious ghettos.

Would you say that in Europe, European culture and Muslim culture are clashing?

Roy: The debate - Danish cartoons, blasphemy, freedom of expression – is not between a liberal west and an obscurantist East. Most European religious conservatives are in favour of limiting freedom of expression, the French Catholic Church, for instance, won a court battle two years ago to ban an add using "The Last Supper" in a supposedly offending way - the apostles being replaced by half-naked young women. Most catholic bishops are opposed to gay-marriages. And by the way many Muslims are very critical of the lack of freedom and democracy in Arab countries, whose regimes we are



Olivier Roy, author of "The Failure of Political Islam"

for instance.

It is not a debate on cultures, it is a debate on values, and the debate is inside Europe - should we consider the Spanish catholic Church as Muslim just because they oppose secularization. separation of church and state, gay marriage and absolute freedom of religion? A last point: the modern brands of fundamentalism (wahhabism, but also protestant evangelicalism) are not the product of traditional cultures, but on the contrary the product of a crisis of traditional cultures, the product of deculturation and globalization. Religious tensions are linked with the crisis of traditional cultures, and are not their expression.

Scientists emphasize the cultural diversity of Muslim immigrants in Europe. So is it at all feasible to assume that there is such a thing as religious unity in Islam?

Roy: Immigrants don't belong to a specific culture or to a specific ethnic group. Intermarriages, linguistic changes, change of citizenship shake the traditional identities. But what we are doing, when we speak of a "Muslim community" is to use religion as a way to create a new ethnic and cultural identity. We use the term of "Muslim" as a neo-ethnic term. In fact, the only common factor among many second and third generation migrants is Islam as a mere religion, not as a culture. And we do not want to see the growing de-connection between Islam as a religion and Islam as a culture. We push young Muslims to an ethno-cultural identity that most of them reject. They want to be considered as "Muslim" and "citizens", and not as "Muslim citizen". But they do not feel welcome in this direction.

As far as Islam as a religion is concerned, there are many currents. I stressed the role of *salafism* in the pheers, rediscovering faith and religious practice. But in many cases, people don't consider themselves "born again" for the rest of their lives. Radicalization is a generational phenomenon. Individual trajectories are far more complex and span all the diversity and trends in Islam.

Sufism, for instance, enjoys a remarkable development in the West as well as in Turkey, Egypt or Morocco, and it attracts many converts. New thinkers openly speak of "reformation" while many conservatives stress the fact that *sharia* is more about values than about laws. Due to Western democracy, new Muslim thinkers find more room in Europe than in so-called secularist – but nevertheless authoritarian –Arab regimes.

What is your view of the notion of Islamo-fascism?

Roy: It simply does not make sense. Fascism is a system of laws, institutions and ideology centered on a dominant and all-encompassing state power. But if we refer to Islam as a religion, it is like Christianity: a mix of beliefs, norms and values; state and ideology are not an issue. Sharia is not a political ideology, it is a legal system, which may be seen as obsolete, conservative, patriarchal, but has been used as a political reference only very recently. Sharia is never developed by a state; on the contrary: any endeavour by a state to promote *sharia* is either at the expenses of the state, because it looses the control of the judiciary, or of sharia, when the state transforms the evolutive process of adapting norms to reality into a state code. On the contrary: fascism means that the law is defined by the state, not by an independent corporation of the learned.

Political Islamism, as in the case of Iran or the Muslim Brotherhood, is on the contrary based on Islam as an ideology, not as a legal system. There may be some elements in radical Islamist movements reminding us of communism and fascism, as well by the way in the secular Arab Baas party, but it is an instrumentalization of religious references in the political field, not a logical development of the Koran and the Tradition of the Prophet.

If we refer to Islamism, that is Islam as a political ideology, it is something rather new, it goes back to the 1920's, and has given birth to a broad spectrum of political attitudes, from the Muslim brothers to the AK party in Turkey. The same way that Marxism gave birth to Walter Ulbricht and Willy Brandt.

What is to be done against Islamic fundamentalism and the terrorism of Al-Qaeda?

fundamentalists are political radicals, and there is in fact little religion in Al-Qaeda. Fundamentalism is a permanent trend in any religion and it does not make sense to promote from outside a "good" Islam; fundamentalism will always attract some people. The issue is to make room for a credible mainstream Islam, which will fill the religious demands of the bulk of the Muslims. We should avoid the trap of Ben Laden: the West thinks that Islam is at the root of radicalization, hence we automatically see in Ben Laden the vanguard of the Muslim world. On the contrary, we should fight him as a terrorist, not as a Muslim.

In fact, young terrorists don't become terrorists because they went to the mosque and read the Koran. They go for action. They are the real heirs of the ultra-left of the 1970's: obsessed by America and the Wall Street, they are anti-imperialist more so than supporters of *sharia*. Look at the video-filmed staging of the beheading of the hostages in Iraq: it reproduces the killing of Aldo Moro by the Red brigades in Italy, and it has nothing to do with traditional Muslim imagery.

The narrative of the young terrorist is that of an individual hero jumping to save the *umma* from the western barbarism. Religion does not play a big role in the process of individual radicalization. We should delegitimize this heroism, debunk the narrative of heroism, instead of calling the Muslim community to condemn terrorism.

Let's stop speaking of religion and culture, which are rather irrelevant, and speak about politics and generational radicalization.

What does multiculturalism mean?

Roy: Nothing. It is a slogan which pretends to manage the co-existence of different cultural groups, at a time where cultural identities are in crisis. Multiculturalism supposes that Islam as a religion is embedded in a distinct culture that maintains itself from one generation to the next. One can be a good citizen and at the same time identify primarily with a culture that is not the dominant one. In other words, the citizen's relation to the nation can be mediated by a communitarian sense of belonging.

But the problem is that today's religious revival – whether under fundamentalist or spiritualistic forms – develops by decoupling itself from any cultural reference. It thrives on de-culturation: the young radicals are indeed perfectly "westernized." Among the bornagain believers and the converts, Islam is not seen as a cultural relic, but as a religion that is universal, global and that reaches beyond specific cultures, just

Tariq Ramadan, a Muslim reformer, insists that Islam, properly interpreted, need not conflict with a democratic Europe. Is he right?

Roy: Yes of course, the same way that conservative orthodox Judaism, evangelical Protestantism or conservative Catholicism don't conflict ... or do conflict. They have a different agenda, they flourish in a different space, but they agree on some basic rules about democratic institutions and settlements of disagreements. Nobody asks the Pope to reconsider his stand on abortion in order to be admitted as a "true" European.

Religions cannot be brought under the yoke of politics and it is why, at the end, democracies have established a more or less consistent separation between church and state.

Europe's problem with its migrant Muslims, the pathology of the Inbetween People, would exist even if there were an independent, flourishing Palestinian state, and if the United States, Britain, and some other European countries had not invaded Iraq?

Roy: Yes, of course. We tend to overestimate the influence of the Middle crisis in the radicalisation (or lack of radicalisation) among Muslims in the West. In Paris a pro-Palestinian street demonstration never brings more than some 10,000 people in the street, while there are some 2 or 3 Million potential Muslims in and around Paris. The murderer of Theo van Gogh in Holland never mentioned Iraq, Afghanistan or Palestine, but only the blasphemy. We are confronted here with a generational problem (which was exactly the case, by the way, in the seventies with the European ultra-left), not with a geostrategic issue. And, by the way, Bin Laden had attacked New York before and not after the US invasion of Iraq.

The roots of radicalization are inside the West, not in the Middle East. Let's deal first with integration of Muslims and of Islam as a Western religion, and stop to focus on Middle East wars on which we have no leverage, and from which European Muslims are far more distant than we often think. The socalled Muslim anger against the West did not touch the bulk of the Western Muslims except in Great Britain, but in continental Europe radicalization of Islam concerns only a fringe of uprooted second-generation Muslims. They have no real existence, except in our nightmares.

Source: Michael Hesse 2008

Part of this interview was previously published in the German daily, Kölner



Readers' View

Life in Yamalazhoo

By: Hashim Al-Harazi harazih@gmail.com

ou may not like my ideas, the perspectives I present, the issues I shed light on or even me as a person. I can't blame you. I won't criticize your opinion or duel against your intellectuality.

Still trying to figure out what I'm blabbering about? Well, let me lay it out for you. I'm the anarchist in your super supreme almost-perfect system, whether international or local, government or communal.

I'm that nagging voice in the back of your head telling you to go right when you should go left and vice versa, always confusing you with a million alternative solutions, jumbling up your feet and knocking down your system of logic with indecision and vacillation.

I love democracy and would die for the cause, but hey, way to go Stalin you rock! Viva la Communism! I'm the Greenpeace activist, the hippie, the environmentalist, yet also the oil and gas tycoon. Did I mention that I'm a Rockefeller?

Let's put it this way, I'm Pandora's Box catching you by surprise and bursting into flames in your face. I'm full of contradictions, wonders and worse, nightmares - things you adore as well as those you despise.

Cutting to the chase, for my own peace of mind and yours, we shall assume that I know anything and everything, the philanthropist, the jack of all trades – but unlike any other, I actually am a master of all.

Yes, ladies and gentlemen, I do like talking about myself because I'm happy with my own state of mind. Insanity? Heck, I am what I am, like it or not. The world we live in today created this concoction out of me.

So, welcome to my - no wait, I mean your world, folks, and allow me the pleasure of escorting you through this fantastic voyage in a sarcastic world seemingly ruled by the most skilled cynics of our day - including me!

You want to know what's happened? Well then, take this brief ride with me and you'll hopefully catch a glimpse of my story, which in essence, is your story and everyone else's in this country of a thousand warlords, but no warriors, so read on and cheer for the system!

It's a nice, shiny day in a land called "Yamalazhoo." Perfect weather for a car ride through the upper class residential areas. No, you don't want to go north of the city because it's crowded, there are traffic jams, it's smelly and smog fills the air. Besides, you live there anyway, so it's time for a little treat to visit the "uptown" paradise.

Oh, good question, my friend. Those are street islands used to separate lanes, create roundabouts, etc. Yes, they do have an abundant amount of space here. The plants and trees in these islands are

the majority always wins, whether you like it or not!

It doesn't matter anyway, the word election comes from the Arabic word ilak, meaning for you. You just kick back and relax while they make all the decisions and choose what's best for you and lead on with it while you nod your head ignorantly, gleefully being screwed over and over again.

You're laughing! Good, that's a sign of you accepting things as they are and the first step to learning the "Wacheche" way of life. Nope, no common sense whatsoever here, and if you want to keep those lips of yours from kissing dirt six feet under, you'd better drop the word logic from your vocabulary and for both our sakes, keep your voice down.

So, as I was saying, my friend, in other words, the term election is a figure of speech meaning direct appointment. Why the astonished look on your face? The voting process – even down to the ballot boxes - was monitored, you say?! Interesting. By who, if I may ask?

Ah, of course, several credible international and local agencies. They were there during the voting and the counting process, staked out near the ballot boxes 24/7. Oh, of course, silly me, they're only human, so how could they? So, who else was there? Only a couple of soldiers! I'm sorry, I misheard you. A couple of *hundred*, yes, that sounds about right. Yes, for each voting station. Oh, I don't know, there must be more or less somewhere around 300 stations.

Army, tribesmen and guns – give me a break! It's a well-known fact that Yamalazhoo is one of the most militarized societies, so you shouldn't worry about the abundance of soldiers and firearms on the scene. Besides, they're there to protect you from the much anticipated attack of "alien invaders" keen to disrupt our elections.

And they may as well vote de facto, already being there for their candidate which is also yours, whether you like it or not, and who will win eventually, by hook or by crook, whether monitored or not. It's a totally legal and perfect system, isn't it?

So, you didn't vote because you were intimidated! My friend, if those machine guns were pointed at me, I'd surely have had a fatal heart attack! Heck no! Voting, elections and politics aren't for me. Besides, I already told you, it's a direct appointment with an almost prophetic predictability.

Please don't talk to me about those vague policies engraved in stone and recopied on paper in a hundred different rephrases and formats and then rearticulated to finally be sourced and traced back to the original stone tablets of the loophole-filled ever-changing Constitution, which no one actually cared enough to read. Very funny! Okay, let me give you an example.

A couple of years ago, an anti-corruption law was passed, supposedly ratthem out?! Are you kidding?! That poor soul's bloody lips would be kissing the tarmac if he raised so much as an eyebrow. Yesterday, that same shy chap was roaring like a lion. Well, that was because it was us and we pose a threat to the system - the usual suspects of thievery and the like - and the government hates competition. Whereas in the case of its officials, it knows very well that they don't lie, cheat or steal unnecessarily.

The law above all ?? The answer to that is no and that's the beauty of Yamalazhoo. There's no specific law or order. Oh, forget the legal manuscripts, laws and bylaws and all that mumbojumbo. I don't know who wrote that useless text anyway, wasting his time on something that won't be enforced or abided by. Oh wait, they don't recognize the word waste - my bad!

It just hit me that there surely should be a purpose to that effort. They were working for you, my friend, remember *ilak*, so don't be surprised. You see, your taxes, tariffs, resources and all of that income they take from you, which we talked about earlier, has paid off.

In return, they're using that hardearned money for laws, mechanisms and personnel – like those men we saw earlier in the unmarked car (yes, I'm afraid that's from your own money too, as they certainly didn't get it from Treasure Island!) - and an iron clad system for you to abide by and be ruled with.

Now, don't be so greedy. They don't have to abide by the same laws or adhere to the same mechanisms. You paid for a service and they're providing it, so that's as far as your rights go in this transaction. It's common sense, my friend, so why that contorted look on vour face?

Of course, they're above the law they created it! You don't tell your children to go to bed at 8 p.m. and expect them to retort that you should too. This makes sense because aren't they like your parents? Don't they know better? Who has control of everything around you? Who sets the rules, prices, salaries, taxes, working hours...should I go on? Simple and pure logic of illogic, my friend.

There's a law governing them too, but it follows a different set of rules, that is, the law of the jungle. In other words, the rule of the strong. It's like this, the deeper your pockets are, the stronger you are and the stronger you are, the deeper your pockets will become in direct proportion.

The weak involuntary aid in the rise of the strong, while the strong in turn pick on the weak and parasitically balloon in wealth, authority and muscle. The more wealth you acquire, the stronger you become, with the exceeding authorities and even law and order becoming an increasingly relative term.

A perfect system, isn't it? Yes, it's been like this for as long as I can remember and it will remain so for as

is possible, so the answer to your question is yes. You can become one of

them if you pay good attention to me. In Yamalazhoo, there's an ancient and hidden secret art known only to a very few and it's called the "Wacheche." To become one of the "chosen," you must learn the Wacheche. The process is erroneous, long and involves many sacrifices at first, but it pays back handsomely.

The technique is known as "wiggling," wherein you basically wiggle your tail at the very sight of a carefully selected candidate from among the chosen. Forget about dignity, morals or any ideals you may have and bury them with the rest of the bones in your backyard.

You'll wiggle at that chosen one until he takes notice of you. You'll be obedient, you won't bite at his shoes or trouser hems. You'll roll when told, jump, sit and fetch too. More wiggling won't harm you, as long as you're at it. You'll be a loyal servant to a master.

Remember that you're expendable and a nobody crawling face down in the dirt, so never look your master in the eye. Wiggle! Wiggle! Soon, you'll master the Wachehe.

You'll start seeing things from a different angle because you're slowly grasping how your master looks at the world around you. It's a type of insight. Your master just ruffled your hair and scratched behind your ears. Excellent! Be a good pet and lick that hand generously

Wiggle even more, concentrate, focus your energies, become your master's tool, duplicate his every move, his thinking patterns, how he carries himself. Wiggle harder! Wiggle! Bravo!

Your master just bought you your first gold collar; you should be jubilant. Don't mind the chain gripped tightly in his hands and jerking your collar; you'll soon get used to it. Bark in appreciation! Wiggle!

Are you feeling the sensation yet? Yes, that's the "third eye" opening up, my friend, and the light is coming in. Wiggle! Don't ever forget to wiggle and never stop. "Enlightenment." You now know! You're a royal hound. Over time, as evolution has it, you'll walk erect on two feet.

Wiggle and wiggle some more. Fear not, that's just you wiggling out of your own skin and becoming your master's image, a duplicate, a chosen one. Rejoice as the light pours over you with wealth, power and authority.

Hmm...no, real wisdom and knowledge aren't part of this enlightenment nor are they important to you anyway as a chosen one. Be done with such useless questions and enjoy your moment. Yes, bow down your head and drop your ears. Good boy! You're wiggling intuitively now, how admirable. You're a brilliant student. You'll forever wiggle now. Congratulations, that's the "ultimate Nirvana."

What are you pointing at? Oh, that!



To love before or after marriage: A contrast ! (Part 1)

ocial customs and traditions love' sake.

as well as religious beliefs

tive topics like marriage.

marriage or to marry first and let love

ence in this field, so I can't say which

Which one should precede the other

is the question that is discussed in this

article and I hope readers, especially

those who have experience, give their

viewpoints as a matter of an open dis-

come closer to one other to discover

each other's personality. It tells each

one how the other thinks, feels, behaves

and deals with others. Knowing such

things before marriage gives a clear pic-

ture to the couple of what married life is

like, offering them a chance to think or

give up in case they or any one of them

does not want to go further for mar-

The feeling of love, I think, is strong

enough for people to establish a kind of

mutual understanding that lightens their

marriage life. In such a stage, each one

tries to understand the other, doing

his/her best to strengthen the relation-

ship so that it goes on after marriage;

otherwise they stop at a particular point.

a picture of how life after marriage will

be. Before marriage, the man can real-

ize how his would-be wife will manage

things and what the extent of her satis-

faction is. Similarly, women get an idea

of the husband who would be her part-

A romantic relationship before mar-

riage makes the couple fight any diffi-

culties that may occur in the process of

best to overcome any obstacles which

may shake the marriage, which some-

times becomes like an ultimate dream

for both of them. He sometimes accepts

ner in life and her children's father.

Love before marriage gives each one

case is better than the other.

emails of the newspaper.

riage

A love relationship makes marriage play a dominant role in one's as a dream. In this case, to achieve this decisions, especially in sensidream becomes a responsibility not only for the man but also for the lady. Unlike some other societies, it is not a Both, subsequently, plan and work rule in Yemen whether to love before together. They help each other in many respects, considering marriage a win for come later. Actually, I have no experiboth.

In many cases, parents do not hesitate to accept the proposal of the man who has a love relationship with their daughter. They also do not ask for much dowry or any difficult demands, keeping in mind the daughter's feelings and the social reactions towards her and towards the family as a whole. Love in this case makes marriage easier.

A love relationship actually stabilizes the thinking and feelings of both. Having love relation, the couple no longer wastes time thinking about or searching for their future husband or wife. Emotionally, they become satisfied, and subsequently mental, psycho-

Instead of proposing one then the other, it becomes easy for lovers to settle such matters since they already have their mate in mind. At the same time. they are satisfied with their choice. This paves the marriage life for them, overcoming any trivial matters which may occur in days to come. As a result, the number of divorce cases becomes less when marriage is based on love than marriage without love.

These are some of the positive aspects of love before marriage. There might be other privileges, and there are some disadvantages as well. Especially persons of experience, married persons can depict the topic clearly. The topic is therefore left open for readers to give their comments and points of view. Next week, Part 2 of this article will discuss the advantages of marriage before love so that readers can comment on that topic as well.

On the bases of these comments, a conclusion can be drawn so that it may be helpful for those who constantly wonder whether love before marriage is better or marriage before love. This eventually serves the person in his personal future life and, subsequently, marriage. The lady facilitates the solves some social problems related to process of marriage. The man also does marriage.

Maied Thabet Al-kholidy is a writer from Taiz, currently doing his M.A. at English Dep, Taiz Uni. He is an ex-editor of any conditions or demands just for English Journal of the University.

cussion. In this part, I am going to shed light on some privileges of love before marriage. In the second part, maybe next week, I am going to shed light on the privileges of love after marriage. The conclusion will be drawn on the basis of readers' opinions, which can be sent for publishing to my email or the Love relation before marriage offers logical and social rest is established. a good situation in which the couple can

TIME

exotic and just for show.

No, they don't belong to anyone; they're for the "public," of which you definitely are not one. The "public" likes these type of things and they sure do have the money and resources for it.

You may say, 'What a waste,' but that word isn't common in the updated version of our dictionary. My friend, I don't think they ever thought that. I mean, come on, these people don't think in terms of bread, potatoes and tomatoes.

Besides, it honestly looks nice and denotes the existence of a civil society, if such a thing with the merest implication of being civil actually exists down in these quarters in the first place.

Yes, that building you're pointing to is the home of the official for whom you voted and elected last summer. You're right, it is a castle indeed and you should see the garden inside - a couple of acres or so. I'm sorry, did you say corn?! Of course not! It's an exotic garden, so why would he plant maze and barley when they have those north of the city at the plantation where you're working? My friend, as I said, the word waste isn't in their dictionary.

Where did he get the money, you ask? Well, from Yamalazhoo, where else! Yes, through several "wiggle" channels, taxes, tariffs, natural resources, you know - government income. Oh, it's definitely your money, but I'm afraid it's doing nothing for you, so yes, he gets to enjoy it alone.

Hey, you elected him, not me. Oh, so you didn't vote for him and don't know anyone who did. Don't argue with me. I know you and your people represent 99 percent of this nation's population, but you're still considered a minority and ified by Parliament. The government and even some international agencies and organizations joined in this massive collaborative effort of a mafia-affiliated orchestra playing a cacophony of transparency, democracy, yadda, yadda, yadda, and singing "America, the land of the..."

Ahem, I'm sorry, I forgot that the updated version of the anthem had that typo removed and replaced with, Yamalazhoo, the land of the poor." The clerk who plagiarized the first version might have forgotten to customedit it or believed us simple folks not bright enough to notice. Either way, I'd be more than glad to sing to Satan himself, if you'll pay for my gas today.

Anyway, we've strayed off the topic, so back to anti-corruption. Oh, so you do remember all of the hubbub, the media coverage and all that fuss. Excellent! Now, look out the window to your right. What do you see?

Yes, they're officials, not civilians. Those are officials - the elite noblemen, you know, the high-born. Those surrounding them are civilians, godforsaken just like, us but with certain privileges, such as the aura of authority enshrouding them due to their dangerous gear. Those aren't toys, for crying out loud! They're grown men, so those are AK-47s and that's a grenade - yes, the kind that goes "kaboom!" shredding everything around it into a million pieces.

No, they don't need a government license plate because that fancy vehicle is enough identification, in addition to the mean-looking armed-to-the-teeth men occupying it, of course.

You want that skinny hap of an excuse for a police officer to check

long as I can foresee. Change, a handing over...well, I guess, after all, they're humans with a limited life span. They'll pass away with their children taking over and continuing to build upon their fathers' legacies. Of course, they will.

You don't build a house over a lifetime simply to hand it over to stranger at the end of your life instead of your own offspring or, at the very least, your family. What sort of flawed logic are you employing? You most certainly don't expect them to give away such an empire - especially to the likes of you! What planet did you come from anyway?

But, my friend, it's Yamalazhoo, which means anything and everything



By: Somaya Al-Shameery SOMAYA_HMD@HOTMAIL.CO.UK

Oh, book, forgive me. I've filled your pages with sad words: I've filled your lines with heartbreaking letters And ripped your pages one after the other, Searching for the perfect words that might help express The sorrow that lives deep inside me. Oh, book, once again I've failed to assimilate myself to this Unpleasing atrocious world, Where one becomes a monster in an instant.

That's just the devil cashing in your soul, Mr. Chosen One - among many. You'll come to realize that the term "chosen one" is relative, i.e., a low breed to some and a noble steed to others, but that's the beauty of the pecking order.

The more you wiggle, the higher you rise, soon becoming an expert in the ancient art of Wacheche, enlightened through the "ultimate Nirvana, and so enchanted by the euphoria that you cease to be a human being from the land that time itself has forgotten. You yourself will forget about the millions around you who are dying of hunger, disease and conflict as you finally become a proud and loyal official of Yamalazhoo.

Where war has become simple and existence has become a threat, Where honesty and truth are nowhere to be found, Where selfishness has replaced generosity and Where money has become master and its owner a slave. Oh, dear book, I could call you a rescuer, a saver or maybe a secret keeper. You and no one, but you I reveal my true feelings And I don't have to worry that you may betray. You help take the heavy weight off my chest. I can call you a dear friend of mine.

On the hills of my homeland

By: Nashwan A. Nosheer Al-Khawlani Senior, Ibb University English Department nashwan336@yahoo.com

Beyond my hills, it stands My eyes have no scene but her and I Behold! I say The unseen places, the untouched beauties Of the fascinating lady Whose evergreen eyes, glamour and glow I adore and it adores deeply in dreams Before it hears Something draws, attracts, lures Many a person to her The unknown voice says It is the beautiful oasis And no place for winter or naked trees We do not miss the spring So are the flowers Like the daughter of Saddat It looks It affords everything one needs So no one is sick of her If there is such a one, he is sick of life It is Saddat's princess Whose fair and welcomed evergreen hands Of high-clouded hills, on which I still stand Seeing with my eyes the compassionate nature And the kindest creatures Of the fascinating lady That embraces each and every one Comes, admires, loves and adores, staying.

To others, like an oasis it looks They come, both residents and foreigners. To enjoy the enchanting morning Of the beautiful spots They come for a walk or a wonder The homely atmosphere, it wears them Not feeling homesick No one comes, but will get a walk back I travel to unseen scenes Feeling exile from home But traveling to her home from home I feel At night, the moonlight talking And my eyes with the stars of the darkest sky Or rather, it is of the brocaded jewel Of the fascinating lady Whose traditions, customs, roots and letters I have addressed since my infancy. Through our mutual silence We feel that she hears us and smiles As all lovely things dance everywhere To those who stand, seeing Its ineffable beauty, Smelling the most purified air And I think it is the perfume of Arabs That is like a mélange of different flowers Of a worldly spring I have lived so long unfeeling As I feel now like a king O, my dearest lady, The honey of millions, You afford the precious unique things Of life to me Although I have nothing in return But a heart full of love for you, My lady, my lovely Ibb.

إعلانات مبوبة

24 April 2008

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مكتب أحمد محسن المريسي للخدمات العقارية حدة - الحي السياسي ٢٨٥٥ ٧٣٣٨ الأصبحي – بيت بوس – مكتب ٦٧٩١٦٦ – سيار ٣٣٤٧٢٩٨٤

للإيجار في الحي السياسي يرجى الإتصال ٧٦١٧٠٢٦٤٢

١ شقة ٣ غرف ، حمامين ومطبخ. الإيجار الشهري ٢٥٠ دولار ٢٠ شقة ٤ غرف حمامين ومطبخ. الإيجار الشهري ٣٥٠ دولار -٣ شقة جديدة، تشطيب لوكس، ٤ غرف، ٣ حمامات، مطبخ ٥٠٠ دولار -٤ شقة مفروشة ٣ غرف، حمامين، مطبخ. الإيجار ٤٠٠ دولار ه فيلا دور واحد، ٤ غرف ، حمامين، مطبخ وحوش للسيارات ٨٠٠ دولار ٦٠ فيلا دورين، ٩ غرف، ٤ حمامات، مطبخين وحوش للسيارات.

للإيجار في فرع بيت بوس يرجى الإتصال مع ٧٣٣٤٧٢٩٨٤ لإيجار في فرع حده ، المدينة السكنية . يرجى الإتصال مع ٧١١١١٠٨٢٣

للبيع أو الشراء، لدينا العديد من الفلل فئة دور واحد جديد في منطقة بيت بوس، المثلث الذهبي، الإسكان المهندسين، الشباب والرياضة. وكذلك فئة دور وبدروم ودورين ودورين وبدروم . يرجى الإتصال مع ٢٨٥٥ • ٧٣٣٨



وظائف شاغرة

 شركة رائدة في اليمن تبحث عن سكرتيرة تكون يمنية الجنسية ولاتقل خبرتها عن خمس سنوات وحاصلة على الشهادة الجامعية وتجيد اللغة الإنجليزية واستخدام الحاسوب والمراسلات التجارية عبر البريد. يرجى إرسال السيرة الذاتية على فاكس 22.210



باحثون عن وظيفة

• محمد أحمد – بكالوريوس محاسبة – خبرة خمس سنوات عن العمل في الفترة في أي محافظة المسائية.

> VVV1VTVET الإبتدائية الثانوية (مناهج وزارة العامة مناهج خارجية) للتو ا صل ٧٣٤ . ٨٢٨٧٩

٧٣٤ . ٨٢٨٧٩ • طه حسين الرعيني - يجيد صيانة الكمبيوتر مرتبة الشرف من ىرىطانيا – يجيد

> ومشاكلها الداخلية والخارجية. للتواصل: ٧٣٣٥٣٠٠٠٠

خبرة ٨ سنوات

للتواصل: ٧٧٧٠٧٠٠١١

•محمد صادق - دبلوم محاسبة خبرة في مجال المحاسبة - يبحث عن – تقدير جيد – دورات في الكمبيوتر عمل في الفترة المسائية في أي مجال – دورة في مجال التسويق – حاصل (يفضل الحسابات) على رخصة قيادة – لبق ويجيد إقناع للتواصل: ٧١١٠٠٣٢١٢ العملاء

للتواصل: ٧٧٧٢٢٤١١٥

• محمد عبد الرحمن - دبلوم محاسبة برامج تطبيقات الحاسب الآلى – تقدير جيد – دورات في الكمبيوتر – دورة في مجال التسويق – حاصل على رخصة قيادة – يجد التعامل مع العملاء قيادة – يبحث عن وظيفة. للتواصل: ٧٧١٨١٨٤٢٠

• أحمد فؤاد الريفى - ثانوية عامة (قسم • أيمن شريف عباس - بكالوريوس أدبى) ثلاث دورات في اللغة الإنجليزية- برامج يمن سوفت دورة تدريب مبيعات من شركة الجدول الشرف – خبرة في الحسابات – دورات المحاسبية - يبحث (شركة كندية لبنانية - يرغب في العمل محاسبية من مصر - نظام محاسبي

للتواصل: – ٤٠٦٩٧٧ ٠٤/٤٠ للتو ا صل : ٧٣٤٨٧٢٤٩٩ • مستوى ثالث – كلية التجارة مجاسية

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> في العمل في أي مجال مهندس اتصالات والكترونيات – للتواصل: ٧١٢٢٦٧٥٨٣

الكمبيوتر والإنترنيت – ٤ سنوات

- خبرة ٩ شهور في الإستقبال وإدخال البيانات – لديه رخصة للتواصل: ٧١١٦٦٠٧٣٠

محاسبة – تقدير جيدجداً مع مرتبة المتكامل (يمن سوفت) - دورة في تصميم نظام محاسبة التكاليف – يجيد اللغة الإنجليزية – يجد التعامل مع الحاسب الآلى والمراسلة عبر الإنترنيت – يرغب في العمل في مجال تخصصه. للتواصل: ٥٦٥ ٧١١٢٤٣ •أمين عبدالرحمن - بكالوريوس علوم أرض (جيولوجيا) - تقدير عام جيد - دورات في اللغة الإنجليزية - يجيد

استخدام الكمبيوتر والإنترنيت – يرغب

عقارات

V1T.T.099 • للإيجار: فيلا جوار مصنع حده للمياه وشركة واى للإتصالات – دورين مع حوش دائری واسع للتواصل: ٧١١٩٣١٧٢٣

• للإيجار: فلة متميزة في صنعاء – الموقع ممتاز- مكونة من و٣ أدوار وبدروم

للتواصل: ٤٠٠٤٤٣-٧٣٣٢١٨٨٢٤ للبيع: فيلا دور حجر مسلح – المساحة ١١ لبنه – مكونة من ٥ غرف مع مجلس وصالة و٣ حمامات ومطبخ – الحوش دائري – يتسبع لعدة سيارات - شارعين خلفي وأمامي - الموقع بيت



يوس للتواصل: ٧٧٧٤ ، ٨٧١١

• للبيع:سيارة هونداي - بترول -



باسم محمد عبده الشيباني

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F 007040	فاکس : ۲٦٧٦١٩
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ت: ۲۰۰۰/۱۰۲۰۰۸ -۱۰

Tel: 01-531221/531231

مستشفيات



موديل ٢٠٠١ - اللون بني - نظيفة

للتواصل:

وزارة المواصلات ٢/٢/١١٠/١٢/٣، السياحه ٢٥٤٠٣٢،

الصليب الاحمر ٢٠٣١٣١/٣، تليمن ٧٥٢٢٢٢٧

بنك التضامن الإسلامي ت: ١/٦٦٦٦٦٦

بنك اليمن والخليج

بنك اليمن الدولى

بنك التسليف الزراعي

ورب کار ت: ۲۷۰۷۵۱

لبنك العربي

بنك المركزى:

شهادة ايزو ١.

NIIT لتعليم الكمبيوتر

الىنەك

ت: ۲/٥٨٥/٢ -١٠

تأجير سيارات

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

صنعاء ت: ١-٤٦٨٣٠٥

فاکس : ٤٠٧٤١٩ - ٠١

المكلاء ت: ۳۰۷٤۹۲-۰۰

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البريد السريع

عدن ت: ۲۰۰۲۳۷۱۹۹ تع; ت: ۲۵۰۳٤۳۰

ت: ٤٤٥٥١٨/٧-٤٤٢٠٧٣

فاکس: ۲۷۰۸۰٤

فرع شیراتون ت: ٥٤٥٩٨٥ عدن ت :۰۲-۲٤٥٦٢٥

ت : ۱۰۵۰۳۳۰۰

ت: ۲۷٤۳۱٤ -۰۱

زاویه (Budget) ت: ۳۰۹٦۱۸۰۵۰٦۳۷۲ فاکس: ۲٤۰۹۵۸

هيرتز لتآجير السيارات صنعاء ت: ٤٤٠٣٠٩٠

مستشفى الثورة ت: ١/٢٤٦٩٦٧-٦٦ المستشفى الجمهوري ت: ٠١-٢٧٤٢٨٦/٨٧ مستشفى حدة الأهلى لمستشفى الالمانى الحديث E-mail: felixpene@hotmail.com

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فنادق



: معلومات) - جامعة صنعاء - يجيد للتواصل: ٧٣٣٦٦١٣١٩ - التعامل مع لغات C.net , visual

•ثانوية مهنية صناعية – دورات في الكمبيوتر - دورات في الإنترنيت -اللغة الإنجليزية كتابة دورة مكثفة في صيانة الكمبيوتر – دورة ونطقا – تقدير ممتاز في المحاسبة – دورة تطبيقية في مجال فى الكمبيوتر – خبرة الإتصالات السلكية والاسلكية – شهادة فى دراسة الشركات خبرة كمساعد إدارى – شهادة خبرة

• بك محاسبة – خبرة في برامج

•عبدالرحيم محمد - بكالوريوس لغة إنجليزية (جامعة حضرموت) - دبلوم



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

للإعلان في هذه الصفحة يرجى الإتصال على الرقم التالي 268661 /01 وإرسال الإعلانات المجانية على فاكس01/2

ت: ۲۳۷۵۰۰ -۰۱ فنق شيراتون فندق موفمبيك ت: ٥٤٦٦٦٦ - ١٠ فاكس: ٥٤٦٠٠٠ فاکس:۲٦٠٨٢٤ ت: ۲٦٠٨٢٤ فندق تاج سبأ ت:۲۷۲۳۷۲ -۰۱ فرع عدن :ت/ ۲۳۷۸۲۹ - ۲. فاکس/۲۳۷۸۲٤ فندق ریلاکس ان ت: ٤٤٩٨٧١ -٠١ فندق وأجنحة الخليج السياحي بنك التجاري ت: ٢٧٧٢٢٤ فاكس : ٢٧٧٢٩١ ت: ۸/۱۰۲۱۳۰ - ۲۰۲۱۳۰ -۱ مصرف اليمن البحرين الشامل ت: ٢٦٤٧٧٥,٢٦٤٧٠ فاکس: ۲٦٤٧٠٣,٥٠٣٣٥٠ ت: ۶۰۷۰۳۰ -۰۱

معاهد

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شركات للتأمين

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مدارس

ت: ٤١٤-٠٢٦/٤٢٤-٤٣٣ درسة رينبو مدارس صنعاء الدولية ت: ۳۷۰۱۹۱/۲ فاکس:۳۷۰۱۹۳ ت: ۶/۸۲۵۸۹٤ مدرسة التركيه الدوليه ت: ۲۰٦۱٥٩ مدرسة الماجد اليمنيه

ىبغربات

ت: ۲۷۰۷۵۰ العالميه للسفريات والسياحه ت: ٤٤١١٥٨٩/٦٠

مطعم ومخبازة الشيباني (باسم محمد عبده الشيباني) تلفون : ٢٦٦٦٢٥ – ٢٥٢٥٩٠ فاكس : ٢٦٧٦١٩

FedEx نعاء ت: ٤٤٠١٧٠/٦٧ الحديده ت: ٣٤٩٨٢ ت: ٤١١٩٨٨ع المكلا ت: ۳۰۲٦٤١ شبوه ت: ۲۰۲۳۲٦ سيئون ت: ٤٠٢٤٦٩

لنسيم للسفريات

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مطاعم



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Addis Ababa's former fuel wood carriers lead bright, colorful new lives as weavers

By: Sarah Wolff

emenis and other visitors to Addis Ababa long have been struck by this city full of colors. Mosques and churches are painted bright turquoise and banana yellow; restaurant interiors and even roadway billboards are resplendent in tropical greens and pinks. But the most vibrant colors are found in the cloth woven by former female fuel wood carriers.

Located in the foothills of the Entoto Mountains lies a barracks-like concrete building filled with 13 looms and numerous spare parts stacked up against each other. Light filters in through the wire Addis Ababa for 15 years, risk their covering the windows, creating a pattern on the floor. This might not seem like an optimal work environment, but for the group of women looming cloth here, this is a paradise far from the horrors of their past of collecting fuel wood in the nearby eucalyptus forests.

According to the World Bank, which funds a program for an estimated 15,000 female fuel wood carriers - known as WFCs – in the capital of Addis Ababa, 90 percent of Ethiopia's energy comes from biomass fuels like wood and charcoal.

Women like Kiongete Jemal, who carried fuel wood from the mountains into



Women and young girls like this one who carry fuel wood are in physical danger because of the hard labor and security conditions in the forest. Photo courtesy of the World Bank

health and sometimes their lives just to make their living this way.

The work is physically strenuous and the women constantly fear attack or rape by Ethiopian security forces monitoring the forests to ensure that the women aren't cutting down the eucalyptus trees, which are protected by law because they are an endangered resource. The women technically are only allowed to collect branches or wood that falls off the trees naturally.

"There were no options and no other jobs," said Jemal, who began carrying fuel wood at age 10. "Even if we knew it was bad, it was the only choice."

"The guards hassled us and there were rapes," said Kozoi Kunta, another WFC who spent 18 years carrying wood down to Addis Ababa from the Entoto forests. She said she was overjoyed when she heard about the opportunity to work in a safe and stable environment, earning living wages for herself and her family.

The Ministry of Women's Affairs and the Former Women Fuel Wood Carriers Association, or FWFCA, administers the project, which recruits women in the forests and offers them an alternative: learning how to loom, embroider and design everything from tablecloths to dresses with high-quality Ethiopian cotton.

The association spends eight months training the women, but only after they've proven themselves ready and able to truly change their lives. They are asked, "If you have an alternative, are you willing to start from zero again?" explained Elias Enat, an employee working on the financial end of the program, "We then prioritize the real [serious] ones.

"They came to the forest to talk to us and said, 'You'll be able to have a better

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If you're in Addis Ababa and want to buy any hand-woven textiles, look for the sign advertising the Women's Cooperative Shop, run by the Former Women Fuel Wood Carriers Association in the Entoto neighborhood.

life," Kunta recalled while spinning yarn on a low wooden stool, "When I heard this, I was so happy."

FWFCA's weaving workshops are close enough to the hills to be able to see the current fuel wood carriers trekking back down to the city, huge bales of sticks strapped to their hunched-over backs. It's hard to imagine Jemal ever doing that job, as she looks completely comfortable and even dainty while pushing the loom back and forth.

The association also has 12 designers, including Jemal, who are trained in tailoring for two and half years. She has been weaving for eight years now and her favorite things to create are dresses.

Once the designing and weaving are completed, the tangerine scarves and pale yellow bedspreads are sold at a nearby women's cooperative shop, from which the weavers receive the bulk of the returns. It's a small shop, but tended with care, also by former fuel wood carriers. The saleswoman offers customers beverages as they peruse the tiny sales floor, which is packed to the brim with the cotton creations.

Although, as Jemal said, "Anything is better than collecting wood because of the hard labor," this job in particular seems to suit her. For Jemal and the other WFCs, the loom creates not only new garments, but new lives as well.



Ethiopia is famous for hand-loomed textiles. Former women fuel wood carriers must be trained for eight months before they are able to weave creations like these. Photo courtesy of www. smallplanetfund.org.

Crown Agents Britain And JK Trading Yemen Introduce their Partnership

Moneer Al-Homaidi

Sana'a, April 14 - Held at Sheba Hotel, Crown Agents and JK Trading introduce their partnership in front of the British Ambassador and very important foreign and local traders.

In the beginning of the seson Mr. Jamal Al-Korshi





General Manager of JK Trading, started the session by welcoming warmly all the attendants and introduced in brief the two companies and the mutual relationship between them in a gentle manner. In addition to that, he introduced the Business Development Manager of the Crown Agents Company, Middle East Mr. Steve Brady in order to explain in depth to all attendants the key role of their company and the partnership of the two companies.

Mr. Brady mentioned that the Crown Agents Company has been an international development company providing direct assistance, consultancy and training for public sector modernization, particularly in financial management, banking, and procurement and logistics for 176



years of experience. He added that, for long time, Crown Agents was a British public corporation: but today, it is owned by the Crown Agents Foundation. The members of the foundation are organized with a keen interest in their activities including firms, non governmental organization and international bodies.

Furthermore, one of the most important things is that Crown Agents helps countries and public and private sector entities so as to grow. He said, "To achieve that is to work in partnership with our clients to transfer the skills, ideas, and material resources each needs at every stage of their development. Then, our client will be able to identify the best solution to their particular problems".

Not only that, but also, Mr. Brady stated that there are many training courses provided by Crown Agents in order that it can develop the partnership with its clients. Moreover, Crown Agents has now established a permanent office located adjacent to JK Trading. The Yemen Country Manager, Mr. Mark Pegler, is currently administrator for three governmental development projects and Crown Agents will continue to grow their business in Yemen through 2008/2009.

On the other hand, by the end of the presentation, all attendants were obviously impressed with the two companies and the successful partnership between them. Then the session ended with delicious dining banquet mixed with long conversation on every table.

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