

New parliamentary respite to seek lost parties agreement Al-Naqeeb: "No dialogue between GPC, JMP about election committee"

By: Aqeel Al-Halali For The Yemen Times

SANA'A, July 2 - Parliament last Tuesday approved suspending discussion on a project to amend a law regarding the Supreme Commission for Elections and Referendum in order to achieve political agreement between Yemen's main parties within the formation of such committee.

The government proposed a project last November to amend the election law to stipulate that committee members be judges, which caused reservations within the Joint Meeting Parties, who demanded the committee be comprised of politicians, based upon partyagreed principles. However, the ruling General People's Congress suggests the committee be formed in accordance with the number of voters in the April 2003 parliamentary elections.

The state-run Saba News Agency reports that the Yemeni Parliament - in which the GPC holds 229 out of 301 seats - approved suspending discussion of the project to amend the public election law "out of its belief regarding the importance of political agreement and achieving the nation's supreme interests, as the involved parties and political organizations continue the process of political dialog.'

It also pointed out that Parliament expressed its sorrow at the absence of JMP parliamentary bloc members from Parliament sessions, claiming they changed their decision regarding boycotting Parliament.

JMP parliamentary bloc members have been boycotting such sessions since June 9 in protest against the amendment project's placement on Parliament's schedule.

Aidaroos Al-Naqeeb, head of the Yemeni Socialist Party's parliamentary bloc, says Parliament's endorsement of suspending discussions about the election law amendment project comes within the context of the national relationships between the political parties, noting that the JMP parliamentary blocs clarified their reasons for boycotting the sessions in a previous press release sent to the speaker of Parliament.

Al-Naqeeb maintains that the JMP will state its attitude next Wednesday



JMP parliamentary bloc members have been boycotting sessions since June 9.

toward Parliament's decision to suspend discussions about the elections.

Regarding news of current dialogue between the JMP and the GPC related to forming the election committee, Al-Naqeeb denies any such dialogue. "I don't have any information about a dialogue or any discussion between the JMP and the GPC regarding forming the election committee," he said, at the same time warning that the "election committee might turn to be a political crisis."

He added that, "The GPC had to find a convenient background for dialogue with the parties about the constitutional amendment," further demanding that "a credible electoral environment should be provided in which to hold the upcoming April 2009 parliamentary elections."

SCER Secretary-General Sha'if Al-Hussaini recently declared that the continuing disagreement between the parties about the committee until late June "means adjourning the next parliamentary elections.'

For its part, the International Association for Voting Systems indicates that, "Since a Supreme Election Committee wasn't formed and declared last March, this increases the potential for hindering preparations for the upcoming parliamentary elections."

Since the SCER's legal period ended last November, the political parties have failed to reach an agreement on how to form the sixth election committee.

The first election committee was formed in August 1992 and included 17 members headed by Judge Abdulkarim Al-Arashi, while the second sevenmember committee was formed in July 1993, chaired by Muhsen Al-Ulofi.

The third committee was formed in November 1997 and headed by Abdullah Barakat. Alawi Al-Attas was head of the same election committee in 1999, which included seven members.



Aidaroos Al-Naqeeb

Also including seven members, the fourth election committee was formed in 2001, headed by Khalid Al-Sharif.

Parliament approved adding two more members to the Supreme Committee in June 2006, thereby increasing its number to nine, according to agreed principles between the GPC and the JMP.

Security authorities launch precautious detentions according to affiliation: War continues in three governorates

By: Mohammed Bin Sallam

SA'ADA, July 2- Reliable sources in Sa'ada said that confrontations between the Yemeni army and Houthis are still fierce in different districts in spite of the contradictory information reported by the two warring sides.

The sources said Houthis continue their abrupt attacks against military and



security targets inside Sa'ada city despite the extensive existence of the military and security forces.

Last Sunday afternoon, Houthis attacked a General Security camp located to the south of Sa'ada city after they had attacked a camp belonging to the 15th Garrison with portable rockets on Saturday, the sources said.

"Attackers launched four shells believed to be mortars against the security camp injuring a lot of soldiers," said the sources. The General Security residence is located within a complex that includes central security forces and police.

Later, a source close to Houthis confirmed the attack and said that the General Security head was inside the

Sufyan in the Amran governorate, tribal sources said that a public road linking Sana'a with Sa'ada governorate is still blocked, hindering the process of providing the government forces with supplies. Some citizens are allowed to move within their villages to get their needs in the area

In Bani Hushaish, located to the southeast of Sana'a, local sources said that confrontations between the army and the tribesmen in the Shawkan region near Khawlan Al-Teyal and Sanhan, which is President Saleh's ancestral village, continued until Wednesday morning. The army posted on its affiliated website, www.26Sep.net, that it launched attacks on the area from five directions. Houthis said they resisted the

Al-Ghad newspaper reported this week that military intelligence forces are conducting similar investigations within their own ranks to root out men affiliated with or who cooperated with Houthis. According to Al-Ghad, the security members have been providing the Houthi supporters with information related to military operations carried out by the government forces in Sa'ada governorate, regions of Harf Sufyan and Bani Hushaish. The sources said that a number of the

accused either offered information to Houthis or breached secrecy and caused failure in the arrest operations that were imminent against a number of important Houthi leaders by helping them to avoid those operations.

Sana'a University sources said that anti-terrorism forces broke into one of the university's residence halls and arrested 16 students from Sa'ada governorate

Eyewitnesses said that around 30 soldiers in four military vehicles broke into rooms in the C and D buildings in the university's charitable residence and arrested 16 students from Sa'ada and ostensibly took them to prison in Sana'a. Authorities didn't allow detained students to take their final exams except for three students who were allowed to take their tests after mediation with influential tribal sheikhs.



residence during the attack. Regarding the situation in Harf

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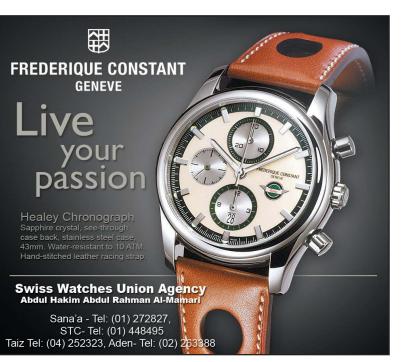
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attack.

Media sources said that security forces are conducting investigations with relatives of former officials in the government and leaders from the ruling party who are thought to be associated with the Houthis in Sa'ada. According to media reports, these officials were arrested during the last few weeks because they were found with ammunition and liaison devices on their person. Some of them were arrested while allegedly on their way to visit Houthis and their supporters in Sana'a city and areas in Sana'a, Amran, Hajja, Dhamar, Mahwit and Al-Jawf governorates.

In addition, the military accused these men of leaking information that contributed to spoiling the military operations carried out by the army and security forces in Sa'ada, Harf Sufyan and Bani Hushaish against Houthi supporters and hindered the process of clearing these areas of Houthi control and securing the passage of military supplies.

Well-informed sources have already said that during the last few weeks that the different security apparatuses are imposing tightened check procedures in Sana'a and the other governorates and that they have arrested 600 people believed to be Houthi supporters.



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Around the Nation



Death of U.S embassy attacker while in prison raises suspicion

By: Almigdad Mojalli

SANA'A, July 2nd-The death of the man convicted of attacking the American embassy in 2002 at the central prison last Saturday raised doubts among many Yemeni humanitarian rights activists, as well as Yemeni Parliament members

The death of Sameer Yahva Awad Al-Dera'ai, the man who was convicted of attacking the American embassy with two explosive devices in 2002, was announced on Monday by brigadier general Motahar Al-Shoaibi, the manager of the central prison in Sana'a.

"Al-Dera'ai died on Saturday morning in the prison dispensary after infected by sudden stroke led to death," said Al-Shoaibi. Al-Dera'ai, who is in his late twenties, was sentenced seven years in prison and was supposed to be released March 2009.

The National Organization for Defending Rights and Freedoms, also

known as HOOD, demanded investigation into Al-Dera'ai's death.

"The need for investigation into the issue increases as the issue has a political dimension," said Khalid Al-Anesi, the executive director of HOOD. Al-Anesi said he suspected health care negligence and that prisoners suffer because they are not given periodic medical check-ups, which is their right. Al-Anesi said that prison facilities

need to provide health care for prisoners and that the investigation should not be restricted to the autopsy only.

There are more than 2,200 inmates Sana'a central prison, where there is a small clinic running under the supervision of the capital secretariat's health office with the help of the prison's management.

Al-Shoaibi denied the rumor that Al-Dera'ai was given a poisonous injection and said that he had seen doctors merely one day before his death to be treated for a leg injury. Al-Shoaibi pointed out that Al-Dera'ai'sbody has

already been sent to Al-Jumhouri hospital for an autopsy.

Regarding the rumor that Al-Dera'ai received a poisonous injection, the Member of Parliament Mohsen Ba Surrah stated that the situation of the country in general and its prisons particularly make anything possible. However, MP Shawqi Al-Qadhi said, "I don't think that the state has any benefit from killing Al-Dera'ai, as his crime is like any other crime."

Al-Dera'ai is the second fatality that took place in the Sana'a central prison during the last six months and the ninth since 2007. Prison officials have admitted that the facility has had a high fatality rate compared to previous years. Last week before Al-Dera'ai death, the Parliament summoned the Ministers of Interior, Justice, Human Rights and Labor over alleged human rights violations - including poor medical care in Yemeni prisons - following a report made by the Parliament's Freedoms and Human Rights Committee ...

Sunrise Towers project ready to begin in October, says Prime Minister

By: Mahmoud Assamiee

SANA'A, June 30 – Prime Minister Ali Mujawar laid out the draft for the Sunrise Towers Project, located in the Dhar Himyar area east of Sana'a city, on Monday.

The project will cost US \$100 million, and is scheduled to break ground in October.

Officials working with the project received Mujawar and briefed him on its components, describing how this project represented investment cooperation between the Yemeni public investment sector and the United Arab Emirates' private sector. The officials said that they had carefully considered the preservation of Yemeni archeological sites before locating the project in the Dhar Himyar area.

Mujawar confirmed the government's

desire to provide various forms of support for such construction projects in cities throughout Yemen, and primarily in the capital of Sana'a.

The project, which will contain eight towers and be built on an estimated area of 30,200 meters, will be carried out by UAE Insha'a Construction and Investment Company, part of the Bin Ham group, with partnership from the Yemeni General Holding Corporation for Real Estate Development and Investment, which will contribute approximately 40 percent of the capital for the project.

Salah Al-Attar, the manager of the General Investment Authority, signed the agreement on behalf of the Yemeni company, and Sultan Mohammed Al-Manhali signed for the Bin Ham group. Following the signing ceremony, Al-

Attar announced that the project would

be finished in 2011 and will contribute to Yemen's tourism industry.

He stated that the project marked the beginning of other strategic partnerships; local and foreign, in all service and production sectors, particularly highlighting the role of the United Arab Emirates in supporting the Yemeni economy.

Al-Attar affirmed that the project, along with the government's efforts for restructuring the investment environment and providing opportunities to foreign investors, would enhance economic cooperation between Yemen and the United Arab Emirates.

Al-Manhalil declared that the construction of the sixteen-story towers, which contain 960 housing units with complete services, restaurants, health and sport clubs and swimming pools, will begin next October.

14-Year-Old boy killed by Al-Dhale' security while walking home

SANA'A, June 29-A 14-year-old boy was killed last Friday when a Security Administration soldier in the Jahaf district of Al-Dhale' governorate shot him while the boy was on his way home from his classmate's house.

According to the boy's uncle, Abdulhakim Al-Hawairi, the victim's family blames the soldier, Bassam Al-Sayadi, and the district chief of the Security Administration, "who always incites the soldiers against the residents of the district."

The family of the victim said that the soldier shot the child deliberately while he was coming home from his classmate's house where the boys had been studying together. After he was shot, the child was taken to Saber hospital in Aden where he died shortly afterwards.

The residents of the district have organized an ongoing sit-in protest since last Friday in front of the Jahaf police station. JMP leaders, members of the

local council and citizens said that they are staging the sit-in to demand that the authorities bring the perpetrators to justice.

The local press sources in Al-Dhale' governorate said that authorities have arrested the accused soldier and have suspended the district chief of the Security Administration.

During the investigation, Al-Sayadi said that he received explicit orders from the district chief of the Security Administration to shoot anybody who gets close to the administration building. The soldiers said that the chief informed the soldiers that they may be subject to attack by some of the local residents. Local media sources attributed the security chief's worries to a quarrel that occurred between him, the local residents and the principal of Khalid Ibn Al-Waleed school when the security chief asked for money in return for guarding the school during examinations.

JMP Political parties, non-governmental organizations and local sheiks released a statement demanding the state to return the accused soldier with the crime weapons to the district's prison. This statement also demanded the participation of the local council in the investigation to ensure a fair trial.

Yemen Times contacted the manager of the Criminal Investigation Administration who refused to comment on the issue.

Seyaj Organization for Protecting Childhood, which was the first organization to reveal the story of the boy's death, condemned the crime and asked the security and judiciary authorities to bring the perpetrators to justice to be punished. The Seyaj Organization expressed its support for the protesters and said it is worried for Yemeni children who are exposed to crimes like murder, rape, psychological and physical aggression.

New law to guarantee rights of people living with HIV

SANAA, 28 June (IRIN) - A Yemeni non-governmental organisation, made up of members of parliament, has prepared a draft law aimed at guaranteeing the rights of people living with HIV and preventing the spread of the virus. If approved, Yemen would be the third Middle Eastern state to pass such a law, after Djibouti and Sudan.

"People's rights are guaranteed in the constitution but we want to reinforce them through a specific law," said Abdul-Bari Dughaish, chairman of Parliamentarians to Prevent HIV/AIDS, which drafted the law.

He told IRIN/PlusNews that the proposed law also aimed to reduce stigma directed at people living with the virus and to guarantee their right to lead normal lives by prohibiting discrimination against HIV-positive people seeking accommodation and services.

It would also outlaw the dismissal of workers based on their HIV status. HIV-positive people risked being fired from their jobs and their children dismissed from school, because contracting the virus was sometimes viewed as a punishment from God, he commented.

Dughaish cited the example of a Yemeni man with kidney disease who travelled to another state on the Arabian Peninsula for treatment. "When doctors discovered he was living with HIV, they refused to treat him," he said.

The eventual goal was for people ith HIV to be treated in the same way



The draft law guarantees the right of HIV-positive children to attend school and incorporates AIDS education into the school curriculum

hepatitis patients," he said.

"A public employee living with HIV should get fully paid sick leave until his health condition is stabilised, but if medical tests prove he cannot continue working, he should be granted leave with full salary until he retires on pension," states the draft legislation.

Under the proposed law, a child living with the virus would have the right to education and could not be excluded from school; people with HIV would get free medical care at public health facilities, as well as free psychological and social care; those whose rights had been violated would have access to legal advice and help in pursuing legal action. Medicines as people with other chronic health medical equipment used to combat conditions. "Those living with HIV HIV/AIDS would be free of taxes and

Dughaish said the draft law would also commit the Ministry of Health to educating people about HIV and how to prevent it, and to adding information about HIV and AIDS to Yemen's school curriculum. "We want to tell people that anyone can be HIV-positive. It is not only associated with sexual transmission," he said.

There are about 2,400 registered cases of HIV/AIDS in Yemen, but studies suggest that for every reported case, 20 to 30 go unreported.

The draft law also makes provision for a government fund to be established to support HIV-positive people and their families, and for the state to seek assistance from the private sector and international donors to accomplish all the goals set out in the proposed legislation.



Sayun Popular Arts performs in the UK

By: Yemen Times Staff

SAYUN, July 1 — Sayun Popular Arts returns to the United Kingdom this summer July 9-16 to participate in the Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod in Wales and the Liverpool Arabic Arts Festival.

Sayun Popular Arts is a group of eight musicians from Yemen's south-

ern Hadramout region, who perform traditional Hadrami and Bedouin songs on instruments such as the oud or lute, flute and violin, with vibrant percussion accompaniment.

The group is one of the region's best and oldest groups founded in 1963. Led by Shukri Hassan Baraja', it boasts more than 40 musicians and dancers, including both men and women. They've played festivals all over Yemen, as well as international festivals in Jordan, Paris and Zanzibar.

They first visited the U.K. to much acclaim in 2002 to participate in the Diaspora Music Village Festival. Seconds after they started their set at Kew Gardens, the entire audience was up and dancing to the infectious rhythms.

Much of this music accompanies traditional dances at marriages and other social events, so don't be surprised if the musicians get out of their seats for a bit of Hadrami dancing amid the audience.

This year's Liverpool Arabic Arts Festival is particularly significant because the city is the 2008 European Culture Capital.

Sayun Popular Arts will perform at a special family day concert, together with Egypt's the Bedouin Jerry Can Band.

The group also will play for the Yemeni community in the town of Sheffield at the invitation of the Yemeni Community Association and its chairman, Saleh Al-Noud.

Bordering the Arabian Sea, the

Sayun Popular Arts performs at the 2002 Diaspora Music Village Festival in Kew Gardens near London.

Hadramout lies along major maritime routes from Africa and Europe to the east; thus, it has absorbed centuries of cultural and musical influences. Within this music, you'll find African dance rhythms, such as Liewa and Bambila, accompanying lyrics peppered with words in Hindi or Swahili.

Paul Hughes-Smith, a music advisor for the London arts charity, Cultural Co-operation, is coordinating the Yemeni group's visit. He was also responsible for selecting them based on their previous visit to London in 2002 to participate in the Diaspora Music Village Festival, organized by Cultural Co-operation.

"They were a great success here then, with such a varied and interesting repertoire of Hadrami music revealing the influence of many styles, including Indian and African rhythms and words reflecting Yemen's position on the sea routes between Africa and India. So, I immediately thought of them again when I was looking for a group to bring to Liverpool this year," Hughes-Smith explains.

He added that he's also taken them

to the Sauti za Busara Festival in Zanzibar in 2005, where their Swahilitinged lyrics again were a great success. The group also received an invitation from the Welsh festival, Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod, a long-running and prestigious festival at which many groups compete for prizes.

The visit of Sayun Popular Arts is being funded by the British Yemeni Society, the Yemeni British Friendship Association in Sana'a, the British Council and the Yemeni Embassy and sponsored by Yemenia Airways.

Hughes-Smith particularly praised the support of the British Council and its director in Yemen, Elizabeth White, and its arts officer, Salah Salem.

He added, "I hope that in the future, some cultural exchange program can be started between the U.K. and Yemeni musicians and artists that would be supported both by the British Council and Yemen's Ministry of Culture."

The Culture Ministry had planned to support Sayun Popular Arts' U.K. visit this month, but later declined.

can lead as normal lives as diabetics or customs duties.

Refugees increase this summer, despite sea risks

By: Wojoud Hassan Mujalli For The Yemen Times

SANA'A, July 1 - More than a hundred African immigrants, mostly from Somalia, arrive to the Yemeni coast daily, according to the United Nations refugee agency in Yemen.

Aouad Ba-Obaid, a UNHCR field specialist working at the Mayfa'a Refugee Reception Center, confirms that an average of 95 to 120 people arrive to the Gulf of Aden coast daily, despite rough waves and unstable weather conditions

"Since the beginning of this year, the Mayfa'a Reception Center has registered more than 9,800 arrivals, while the rest have found their way to major Yemeni cities," Ba-Obaid says, adding that on many occasions, the center receives between 700 and 900 refugees in one day.

He continues, "Compared to past years, refugee voyages have increased notably this year, despite rough sea conditions, particularly in May and June, as people kept taking the chance to cross the rough sea rather than remain in their unsafe hometowns."

All African refugees come to Yemen

via risky voyages over the Red Sea, during which many lose their lives before even reaching the Yemeni coast.

"So far this year, there's been a notable decrease in the number of deaths of African refugees coming to the Yemeni coast, with only around 385 deaths being registered as a result of the risky sea voyages," Ba-Obaid notes.

Two types of boats come to the Aden Gulf coast: small boats that can carry 25 to 30 people and big boats that carry between 100 and 150. However, small boats are better for making a safer, as well as a faster, journey. In the past, the cost was between \$40 and \$70, but it's now between \$100 and \$150.

"The UNCHR team is strong and efficient, working 24 hours a day to meet all of the necessities of the refugees along the coast," Ba-Obaid

The Mayfa'a Refugee Reception Center is located in an isolated semiarid area in Lahj governorate (approximately 100 miles west of Yemen's commercial capital, Aden) with harsh climactic conditions.

The refugee population permanently living in Kharaz Refugee Camp is comprised of mainly vulnerable individuals who are dependant upon UNHCR assistance, mainly refugee women and children. More than 60 percent of the camp's total population is under age 18, with women heading 50 percent of the families.

UNHCR senior protection officer Samer Haddadin says, "The number of refugee camps remains the same, but a new reception center has opened in Ahwar in Abyan.'

He adds, "Some 3,228 refugees arrived in January and 2,502 in May, while 606 refugees were registered last month, although not daily. The largest boat that came had 95 people in it."

UNHCR has a responsibility to assist governments in identifying and protecting refugees within migratory flows, so the Yemeni government, represented by the Human Rights Ministry, plans to draft a National Law for Refugees to the Yemeni Parliament to insure more protection measures for African arrivals seeking refuge in Yemen.

"Regarding the national law to protect refugees, the Human Rights Ministry has suggested the Yemeni Parliament form a committee, of which UNCHR is part," Haddadin said.



Around the Nation

In Brief

SANA'A

Police seize 715,000 capsules of drugs Sana'a International Airport seized Sunday evening 715,000 capsules of drugs which have been hidden inside water heaters of a Syrian trader, 26sept reported Monday.

The media office of interior ministry said that shipment arrived in Sana'a airport on 6th of June, but the trader came last night to get the shipment.

The office said that the airport police arrested the trader and the person who tried to help him in the clearing customs for the shipment.

Investigations are underway with them, the media office said.

Journalist's Aid course concluded

18 journalists, representing different media outlets, concluded on Monday a course on Aids and reducing discrimination against those infected with the disease.

The course, which was organized by Yemen Journalist Syndicate in cooperation with Progreso Organization, discussed notions and knowledge on the disease, transmission ways and protection against it as well as knowing causes of Yemen's vulnerability of spreading the disease and the increase infection of it among women.

The participants discussed in the three-day course media role in protection against Aid and avoiding discrimination while reporting on the disease. The lecturer of the course Erfan Akhtar affirmed that the course was active and realized its targets on educating participants on the disease and how to cohabitate with infected people.

Then the participants declared the Association of Journalists Supporting Issues of Aids Cohabiters for allocating social support for supporting these people.

France grants Yemen ¤ 26 mln to implement ESCADA

France is to finance a project of Electricity Control Center in Yemen (ESCADA) at a total cost of ¤ 26 million.

Minister of Planning and International Cooperation Abdul Karim al-Arahbi and the chairman of the French Agency for Development's office in Sana'a (AFD) Christian Philament singed the finance agreement here on Monday.

Al-Arahbi praised the keenness of the French government on enhancing the development progress in Yemen, highlighting growing development of the Yemeni-French relations.

For his part, Philament affirmed the agency's keenness on reinforcing the current cooperation relations between Yemen and France through financing a number of development projects in Yemen.

HM registers further 180 cases of dengue fever

Health Ministry registered 180 case of

dengue fever within week, the ministry's report said.

According to the report, the cases increased since beginning of this year from 1903 cases to 2083 on Saturday. The cases appeared in Shabwa, Abyan, Hodeida, Hadramout and Lahj governorates.

Dengue fever is a virus disease which has hit about 120 countries around the world since the middle of the last century.

Yemen, WB discuss al-Saleh project for reducing unemployment

Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation Mansor al-Hoshabi held a meeting on Monday with acting representative of world bank in Yemen over implementation of al-Saleh project for reducing unemployment.

They also discussed activities of agricultural sector to fulfill food security and obstacles facing agricultural project funded by the WB in several governorates.

AAEU 17th technical conference concludes its meetings

The 17th Technical Conference of the Arab Agricultural Engineers Union (AAEU) concluded its meetings here on Tuesday.

In the conclusion session, the participants recommended the necessity to encourage organic agriculture in Arab world to insure the food security, calling on issuing legalizations prompt countries to establish especial institutions concerning organic agriculture.

They emphasized the importance of setting up a consultative regional office for the Arab Investment Authority and other similar bodies to be interested in spreading out and settling the organic agriculture all over the Arab world. He requested the Arab scientific research foundations pay attention to the applied researches of organic agriculture devel-

opment. The Deputy Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation Abdul Malik al-Arashi pointed out the importance of the conference that discussed vital issues. topped by the organic agriculture and its impacts on the Arab agriculture.

The 4-day conference was participated by 70 Arab researchers discussed 38 papers presented by a number of Arab countries talked about many essential issues.

Youth summer camps' budget approved

The government approved in its cabinet regular meeting held on Tuesday a budget of youth summer camps for 2008 and its general program to be launched on July 17th across the country.

The camps are 31 contain 718 centers, 382 for male youth and 134 for female, 48 centers for educating religious duties, 30 for female scouts, 34 for vocational training, 34 for educating computer and languages, 58 for sports and 8 centers for university students.

More than 200 thousands male and female participants will make use of these 40-day long camps.

There are also 600 centers for educating 100 thousands students on memorizing Holy Koran in the capital Sana'a and country's governorates.

ABYAN

Plan to grow wheat in Abyan discussed

A meeting of agricultural bodies' leaders in Abyan governorate discussed on Monday the executive mechanisms to carry out a wheat growing plan under the national program for developing the wheat agriculture.

The Abyan governor Ahmed al-Maysari, who headed the meeting, prompted the agricultural officials and related bodies in the governorate to pay more attention to growing wheat in the governorate's costal area based on the results of the researches conducted by Kood Agricultural Researches Station

Al-Maysari requested the branch of the Cooperative Agricultural Credit Bank (CAC Bank) to offer all the loan facilities for the agricultural Cooperative.

LAHJ

Swedish organization supports refugees in Aden, Lahj

Governor of Lahj reviewed on Tuesday with delegation of Save the Children Sweden its support for refugees in Kharaz camp in educational and health fields. They also discussed arrangements for holding a meeting with Youth refugees in the provinces of Aden and Lahj.

The meeting also reviewed the coordination aspects between SERAG program of the Swedish Organization and the Youth and Sports Office in province to establish a joint summer centre for youths in the camp.

And preparing a related program including many of cultural, sport and art events.

The governor accented Yemen's attention to the refuges' affairs, praising the government and non-government organizations' aid for the refugees Kharaz camp.

SAADA

RCS assistance to displaced people in Saada discussed

Saada Governor Hassan Man'a held a meeting on Tuesday with the head of Red Crescent Society Office in Saada Abdul-Qadar Showait over assistance offered by the society to the victims because of destroyed acts in some regions of the governorate.

The governor affirmed important humanitarian role of the office to reduce suffering of the displaced people in camps thought its relief assistance such as food and medicine.

He expressed readiness of the Saada local authority to offer all support for the society to do its mission and reach affected areas.

implement the agreement effectively.

Bahrain and Yemeni Islamic Bank create strategic partnership

Bahrain Islamic Bank and Yemen Islamic Bank signed an agreement for a strategic partnership which made BIB an effective shareholder at the YIB.

Prime Minister, Ali Mujawar, Yemeni officials, and high-ranking officials from the two banks attended the signing ceremony.

BIB Chairman, Khalid Abdullah Al-Bassam, and YIB chairman, Abdullkareem Abdullrahman Al-Aswadi, expressed their delight at the agreement. Al-Bassam said that the BIB is looking forward to this partnership and that it poses as their investment in Yemen. In his turn al-Aswadi explained that this is not the first agreement of its kind between the two banks as the BIB has had continuous cooperation with the Yemeni Islamic Bank in the past.

BIB representative in the Yemen Islamic Bank, Khalid Mohammed Al-Dosari, said that the Bahrain Islamic Bank, as a result of the agreement, has an influential portion of the Yemen Islamic Bank shares. This means BIB reconstructs the Yemen Islamic Bank structure and its system according to the well-known and international banking rules and standards. For the coming three years, the two banks will prepare a new strategic plan in order to provide good services to the bank's customers and shareholders in the Yemeni market, as well as opening new branches in different Yemeni governorates such as, Hadhramot, Abyan, and others. He added that the bank wishes to establish collective financial funds in each branch. The Yemen Islamic Bank has already contracted international specialists to update the bank's policies, such as crediting, employees' affairs, and cash management. Additionally, the Yemeni Islamic Bank also will update its system into a modern system in order to provide the best banking services in the Yemeni market.

and "YES" programs annually. Students get the opportunity to study in America for the Bachelor's degree in addition to scholarships to Egypt and Lebanon. Furthermore, many Master's Degree scholarships of Fulbright are granted to study at America.

Prados expressed his appreciation of the staffs' efforts, which lead to the institute's success.

Connecting Classrooms Conference

How do we support the children and young people of our countries to become active citizens of the future?

This is a question that will be posed to 170 educational experts, officials and practitioners, from over 15 countries in the Middle East and North Africa, and the UK, who will be attending the British Council's Connecting Classrooms Conference.

Held over 3 days, from 7th July, the conference aims to draw out, how those working in education, can support children and young people develop their skills and understanding of a global culture, so that they can contribute positively, both in life and work, to a global society. Experience from current projects -ICT in Education, Networking English and Innovative Approaches to Learning - that have brought together practitioners and decision makers from the region and the UK, will be shared with delegates to demonstrate what has been possible while also using these projects to provide a platform for future activities. The conference will engage and look for the opinions of all involved in the educational process at schools level, and will seek recommendations for the best approach to achieving the skills and understanding that we all so want our future generations to have, and how countries, through working collaboratively, can achieve this together. HE Youssry El Gamal, Egyptian Minister of Education will address the conference on the first morning, and he will take part in a discussion panel on the Future Visions of Education, together with senior Education officials from the UK, Palestine and Syria. During the conference The British Council will introduce the delegates to a new partnership programme called Connecting Classrooms. Connecting Classrooms is a five year programme that establishes a strategic framework for shaping the agenda for International Education in schools. This will be achieved through 3 core elements of Collaborative Curriculum Projects, Professional Development for Internationalising Education and International Awards. Through this initiative students will be empowered with an understanding of their own identity and inter-connectedness with the world around them, and equipped with the skills to contribute constructively to their society in all its forms. Teachers, school leaders and education professionals will benefit from the opportunities to exchange expertise and benchmark their own practice and performance against international standards. Mr. Abdul Jabbar Al Wajeeh from the Education Office will represent Yemen where he will be discussing how Yemen can benefit from this project.

Through Connecting Classrooms, young learners from the region and the UK will be supported to become true 'global citizens'

Prime Minister Fukuda Lays Out Policies for Emissions Cut and a "Low-Carbon Society"

Prime Minister Yasuo Fukuda unveiled wide-ranging policies Japan would pursue to mitigate global warming, including a reduction of greenhouse emissions by a maximum of 80% by 2050 and a start of emissions trading on a trial base in the autumn. He also said it would be possible to cut Japan's emissions by 14% from the current level by 2020.

hard on Japan, which was already far advanced in emissions cuts relative to other emitters at that point.

thing else the importance of technological innovation to advance a "low-carbon policy," including energy-saving electric bulbs and houses, and more solar power generation.

Innovations, he suggested, would turn measures against global warming into new opportunities for business, rather than a deterrent. Fukuda thus went further than before in favor of emissions trading and an environment tax, ideas domestic industrial circles dislike.

Isolate Mugabe Starting with **African Union Summit**

Freedom House urges the African Union to lead a global effort to exclude Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe from regional and international bodies, starting with Monday's African Union summit in Egypt. Mugabe has vowed to attend the summit which comes just days after he held a one-party presiden-

The Somali Peace Process to move

The third round of the Somali peace process is expected to resume next week in Jeddah, and then move to Mecca, for the signing of agreements reached at the end of negotiations. It will be recalled that the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) of Somalia and the opposition Alliance for the Reliberation of Somalia (ARS) signed an agreement on 9 June in which both parties committed themselves to resolve the Somali crisis through peaceful means. Furthermore, the two parties agreed to establish committees to

to Saudi Arabia

The details of these have yet to be worked out. Meanwhile, despite numerous calls by different groups in Somalia and the Diaspora, the ARS splinter group, led by Sheikh Hassan Dahir 'Aweys', still based in Asmara continues to reject the peace process. Apparently quoting Eritrea, Sheikh Aweys has called on an 'innocent' Saudi Arabia not to be lured into a process which, amounts to a wishful thinking, and is a waste of time. Sheikh Aweys argues that those trying to make peace in Somalia have the ulterior motive of trying to amass money and power.

MTN concludes social development campaign



Their News year of 1990, believed to be unfairly

But Fukuda stressed more than any-

Amideast-Aden celebrates 10 years anniversary

Held at Sheraton Hotel, Amideast-Aden institute celebrated its ten years anniversary. The management honored its local and foreign teachers as well as many employees, in the presence of social figures together with many students and teachers in addition to members of media.

Director General Edward Faris Prados, inaugurated the celebration by welcoming guests, describing the great success which the institute achieved since its establishment. He said that Amidest-Aden for the past ten years, has been offering many services including English Language courses...and granted two hundred English courses scholarships in both the "ACCESS"

The "Fukuda vision for a low-carbon society" was announced in a speech made at the National Press Club on June 9. The prime minister stressed the importance of switching to a low- carbon society and called on the nation to "take the first step now," seizing on the transition as "a new chance for economic growth" and to "heighten Japan's presence in the world community.'

In order to achieve the goal, he proposed a sweeping review of the tax system, including the creation of an environment tax. Another point that drew attention was his call for a 40-times increase in Japan's solar power generation by 2030. Externally, he expressed Japan's readiness to contribute up to \$1.2 billion to a multilateral fund to fight global warming which Japan, the United States and Britain will set up.

The long-term goal of curtailing greenhouse gas emissions by 60-80% was in line with Japan's proposal for cutting in half the world's emissions by 2050 made at last year's G-8 summit which agreed to give "serious consideration" to the idea. On the possibility of a 14% reduction from the current level by 2020, Prime Minister Fukuda promised to draw up a concrete midterm quantified national target some time next year.

For both midterm and long-term targets, the potentially knotty point of hard bargaining among major emitter nations will be which year to choose as the base year to calculate future reductions after the Kyoto Protocol. Japan appears to have 2005 in mind as it is unhappy with the Kyoto Protocol base

tial runoff election marked by widespread violence targeted at opposition party leaders and supporters.

"With these sham elections, Mugabe defiantly squandered whatever good will and legitimacy he had left on the continent," said Jennifer Windsor, Freedom House executive director. "The African Union can set a powerful precedent and send a clear message of hope to the people of Zimbabwe by isolating Mugabe and pushing for his swift exit from the country's political arena."

Such action would be consistent with the African Union's mandate to promote "democratic principles and institutions, popular participation and good governance" and uphold the organization's credibility on the African continent.

The African Union should send a high-level mediator, backed by peacekeeping forces, to negotiate a transitional government, which would create conditions for free and fair elections in Zimbabwe.

"It is time to match words of condemnation with deeds that will send a clear message to Mugabe's murderous regime," said Windsor. "It is unacceptable to sit idly by watching Mugabe's cronies tabulate ballots while Zimbabwe's people count their dead, their wounded and their meager food supplies. African and international leaders cannot allow one man to decimate the lives of millions in the name of his own vain political pursuits."

Zimbabwe is ranked Not Free in the 2008 edition of Freedom in the World, Freedom House's survey of political rights and civil liberties, and in the 2008 version of Freedom of the Press.

MTN mobile communication company concluded its 21 day long campaign titled "21 days of MTN care" The campaign focused on social development and this is the second year, which the company creates such a campaign.

It aims to make it an annual event to help develop society and support the state's constructive efforts to promote Yemen's progress. The company supported many suitable development programs and encourages others in the private sector and other stakeholders to follow suit

Over 800 MTN employee participated in the campaign's activities and several community work in the health, environment, education, social care homes sectors among others.

MTN takes the responsibility to be an effective member of the society through cleaning the environment, plantation, blood donation, open day for orphanage care, launching a kitchen at Al-Tahadi Association fro disability, a bakery for Al-Shawkani home for orphans, Aden Athletic marathon, let me learn educational campaign for little girls, awareness of the risks of plastic bags, and many other activities and events.

In the concluding celebration of the campaign the company hosted a number of art and musical performances ates in.

and awarded the partner and supporting companies who helped make this campaign a success.

The celebration was attended by many VIPs and social firgers from the government and private sector. Lutf Al-Alaya Deputy Minister of Social Affairs, Abdulmalik Al-Radhi Sana'a city Governor's deputy, and Jamala Al-Baidhani director of the Al-Tahadi Association for disability praised MTN's efforts in promoting social development and their contribution to the local development and society based organizations.

They considered MTN as a symbol of positive businesses that live up to its social responsibility in providing humanitarian and social services to those who need it. And they called on other private sector companies to copy MTN's example.

Executive Director of MTN, Raed Ahmed explained that the MTN International Group's strategy is based on promoting the development of the societies it works in through providing modern communication technology and brining the country to the international level.

He mentioned that the social and charity activities of the company are a world wide event that MTN carries out in all of the 21 countries it oper-

4 3 July, 2008

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متوفر في الأسواق الوكيل الوحيد النخيل للتحارة العامة: ٥٩-٥٣٨ - ١



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MTN Yemen Family Day

MTN Yemen Family Day was celebrated on a Manager Mr. Mohammed Nasher, the bright sunny Thursday in this June, with love and affection among the employee families. It revived the bond of togetherness that we share with our near and dear ones under the same roof. Family Day is not just an event of families but it's a sacred occasion that strengthened our spirits and emboldened our sense of belonging.

The entrance of Fun City was filled with cheerful faces converging from different governorates. Children grinned as they received their presents and the parents were met by entertaining sequential events. Cakes were cut and served and the music band entertained the crowd with three young girl-dancers enlightening the stage. A hilarious comedian drama was performed by some of the employees. Thirty eight fabulous prices were given out at random depending on the raffle draw, and four major vacation trips were also distributed. A number of group pictures were taken.

MTN Yemen seized the opportunity of merging the family day celebration with the honoring of employees who had completed a five-year service in the company. Sixty nine employees were awarded by top management for their dedication and hard work. The air filled with humor and the spirit of brotherhood that MTN Yemen has always been proud of, was vividly perceived due to the combination of the two events. The C.E.O Mr. Raed Ahmed, Deputy C.E.O Mr. Ali AbdulWareth, Human Resources General

executive directors, and other key figures attended the ceremony.

Strong families are the cornerstone of a strong MTN family, and the well-being of families is a shared priority for all the employees. As MTN supports families, we help strengthen the opportunity and hope, not only of those involved on the family day, but also affect the communities that had the privilege to share the joy with MTN employees.

MTN calls on the society by celebrating this day to observe the habit of spending time with family members and reaffirming the important relationship between parents and children and the vital role that families play in our society.

The scenario of MTN's family day was breath-taking and this virtue of the celebration is one of the many events that MTN is keen on for the benefit of its employees and the society at large.



Report

Saudi-style volunteer virtue patrols scour Hodeidah for "sinners"

By: Alia Ishaq and Emad Al-Sakkaf

ince 2007, religious extremist morality guards have begun policing Hodeidah governorate in the name of protecting virtue. However, some residents claim that the selfappointed guards, who aren't affiliated with government police, began roaming the streets looking for vice activities years ago.

Such morality guards, who have practiced their virtue policing publicly and freely over the past year, are said to be supported by former Hodeidah Governor Ahmed Abdullah Al-Hajri. However, the new governor of Hodeidah, Ahmed Salem Al-Jabali, has been cracking down on religious vigilantes, who have been arrested and charged with violating the law for taking on a responsibility belonging only to police.

One of the group's activities is to keep an eye on men and women who are together at the beach, in marketplaces or any other public places. The religious vigilantes will demand the man and woman produce documents proving that they are related. If they can't, the group of them then goes to the police, which has the authority to arrest the pair if they deem it proper. Because of this, some accuse these morality guards of harassment.

Since they began policing the streets, these vigilantes have "arrested" numerous men and women, charging them with prostitution.

According to the government-affiliated October 14th newspaper based in Aden, morality guards have even set traps to arrest girls. According to its report on the phenomenon, "The religious group has telephoned some young women, claiming that they want to have a forbidden relationship with them and them, waiting for them to arrive and then taking them to jail, in addition to testifying against them [in court]."

Khaled Ayesh, director of the National Human Rights Forum, calls such morality guards a joke. "What gives these people the right to interfere with others' freedoms and personal lives?" he asks, noting that the majority of Hodeidah residents are angry and believe that these morality guards are hampering their personal freedoms.

But, in fairness, Ayesh admits, "I have to say that a few people in Hodeidah are happy about some of what this group is doing."

Who are they?

Members of the morality guard maintain that they are volunteers working on behalf of the community, which they claim is filled with sins that must be fought. Their leader, Daoud Al-Jeni, says the reason for their work is the increasing number of sins within the community, including prostitution.

He adds that he and his fellow volunteers keep an eye on those suspected of such sins in an effort to prevent "obscenity," although he points out that their role focuses on alerting police to such incidents.

Al-Jeni admits that morality guards arranged with local police to storm three homes suspected of being brothels, which led to the death of one homeowner during clashes with police. He adds that several women in the homes were jailed and referred to court.

However, he claims that one woman was released after paying a YR 50,000 bribe, further accusing some police and criminal investigation officers of cooperating with such individuals in covering up for them.

According to Ayesh, these groups

then making an appointment to meet aren't volunteers at all, but are paid and supported by certain businessmen and several extremist sheikhs in Hodeidah. He says that those who now monitor others often were just like their targets before taking up the cause. "Many of them were sinners themselves who suddenly wanted to do something good for Islam," Ayesh says.

Harassment

Abdullah Al-Kawlee, director of Hodeidah's tourism office, says these socalled morality guards have affected tourism in the area because they harass people, sometimes blackmailing them for money in order to leave them alone. As a result, this has discouraged both travelers and citizens alike from walking around freely with their families.

Hodeidah governorate's new security director, Abdulwahab Al-Rathi, describes such youths who monitor others as "a group of vagrants on the streets." He maintains that their activities have been stopped, adding that their leaders have been arrested and referred to prosecution, as Yemeni law allows no one except police to conduct such activities

Al-Rathi declares that he wants to stop the group's harassment and get citizens back to walking around freely without fear.

Col. Ahmed Al-Jeed, general director of criminal investigations in Hodeidah explains that the group was being supported and backed by influential individuals, noting that his department has tried several times before to arrest these religious vice patrol groups, but that it wasn't possible because they were backed by those in power.

The director adds that even though members of the morality guard group have been arrested, they will continue to try and conduct their previous monitor-



ing activities, although he vows that his department will do whatever it can to stop them.

Al-Kawlee has noticed several changes since this group first appeared; for instance, a disco and a bar at one tourist hotel were closed and four Arab female dancers were deported to their countries. The hotel owner and its manager also were arrested by order of previous Hodeidah Governor Al-Hajri.

A growing trend

According to citizens, this trend can be seen in other areas, such as Aden, and that anti-vice volunteers are sprouting up

in other governorates as well. According to the Yemen Observer

newspaper, six university students three males and three females - were attacked this past May in Aden after several volunteer morality guards in that governorate saw them walking together on the street.

The students told police that the men intercepted them and began beating them on the street after arguing with them. One girl claimed that she was attacked, telling the paper that one morality guard held her arm and started screaming at her, saying, "Why are you walking with this boy? Haven't your parents told you

that it's shameful for a girl to walk with a boy?"

Some citizens are concerned that these volunteer morality guards will increase or follow the controversial Saudi or Iranian models, where such guards are state-approved.

Hodeidah resident Hadi Al-Showia says he's scared the morality guards will show up again and become even more extreme. "It's ridiculous that each time I go out with one of my female relatives, I should have to carry documents proving that we're related!" he complains, adding, "I just hope this is the end of this phenomenon."

The shadow of death in the Arabian Sea

By: Sa'eed Al-Batati albatati88@yahoo.com For the Yemen Times

of the worst ne experiences in 54-yearold Salem Bahasen's life occurred just two months ago when he spent a few days as a captive of Somali pirates.

their two boats.

Through their broken English, the Yemeni fishermen managed to speak with the pirates and because Bahasen was the captain, they ordered him to sail to the Somali coast.

"I told them we were just fishermen and that they could talk to our firm and make their demands. We didn't know what their demands were, although they once mentioned offhandedly that

They left without telling us why they had captured us or why they left us," Bahasen said.

During the four-day drama, Borum Seafood lost six small boats, each worth approximately YR 1 million (\$5,000), and 50 tanks of gasoline.

Back on land, the company was very concerned for the fishermen's lives. Sahel Awadh, who works in the firm's fishing department, said his



It happened while the fisherman was with a group trolling the Arabian Sea for tuna. Bahasen works for Borum Seafood, one of the largest fish exporters in Yemen. As they sailed, they spotted two boats approaching.

"We thought they were fishermen we'd seen the day before from the Yemeni Fish Company," Bahasen recounted at the firm's .He is headquarters in Shiher, located in Hadramout governorate.

Once they neared Bahasen's boat, he and his crew realized that they were Somali pirates and "We realized there were a lot of problems in store for us," he said.

Somali pirates are notorious in this area. Instead of fishing for themselves, they seize other boats and steal the fish of other fishers. The unfortunate fishermen tried to evade the Somali vessels, but the pirates were faster, so Bahasen and his crew sent out a call for help via radio. Another fishing boat received the call and informed Bahasen's supervisors in Sheher about the incident.

However, help didn't arrive soon enough, and on Tuesday, April 1, a new drama had begun. The heavily armed pirates fired into the air and then boarded Bahasen's boat. According to the abducted fishermen, they were captured just 50 miles from the Yemeni coast.

Bahasen's crew consisted of 28 fishermen from various coastal areas in Hadramout, while the pirates numbered nine, all armed. Seven came aboard while the other two remained in

they wanted \$300,000 in ransom," Bahasen recalled, adding, "We didn't put up any resistance because we were unarmed and feared for our lives."

They sailed for more than 20 hours until they saw the Somali coast, which according to Bahasen, was about 15 miles from their boat at the time.

"As we approached Somalia, they asked me to stop. They then took one of our [smaller] boats accompanying our primary boat. A man named Khalifa left in the smaller boat, but returned back two days later with another seven armed men," Bahasen said.

While in Somali waters, other boats full of men approached the seized vessel, but most were forced back by gunfire. Bringing back some food from Somalia, the pirates directed their cohort, who then was sailing the seized fishing boat, to head for the Indian Ocean. "As soon as we saw the food, we abandoned hope of any release," Bahasen said.

As they sailed the Indian Ocean, the Somali pirates spied a French yacht and decided to raid it. As Bahasen recalled, "Seven pirates left our boat and attacked and captured the French yacht. One pirate then returned from the seized yacht and took the rest of the pirates with him, along with their food and other things."

Thinking the pirates had deserted them because they suspected the French yachters would fetch a higher ransom, the Yemeni fishermen breathed a sigh of relief at their departure. "We couldn't believe it!

department learned about the incident from another fishing boat that had received the distress call from Bahasen's.

"On our boat is a handheld device affixed by the Ministry [of Fishery Wealth] and connected to a satellite to identify our location and ensure that we don't go beyond Yemeni waters," Awadh explained, adding, "We pay ¤3,000 seasonally to a French company for this service."

As soon as it learned about the kidnapping, Borum Seafood contacted the Ministry of Fishery Wealth to ask them to identify the kidnapped fishing vessel's location. However, according to company staff, the ministry replied that its satellite wasn't working, but it would be repaired the next day.

So, "We called the French company in Paris and they sent their reply within hours, by which we learned of the boat's location," Awadh recalled.

Although the horrific memories are still fresh their minds, the Yemeni fishermen say they had no other option but to return to sea and continue fishing.

Tragic stories

In a similar incident, a group of 34 Yemeni fishermen from Hadramout completed their laborious day of fishing and went to sleep on their boat. However, they awoke at midnight to find their boat had been seized by a group of heavily armed pirates. Despite being in Yemeni waters, the fishermen were accused of fishing illegally in Somali waters.

Local Yemeni fishermen are terrified due to piracy problems. Many of them have refused to sail into deep waters.

and brought them before a tribal leader, who demanded they pay \$8,000 for their release. After lengthy discussion and numerous pleas, the Somalis agreed to accept \$2,000 up front, with the rest to be paid to someone they knew in Mukalla. This individual then would forward the money to the pirates. The Somali pirates took hostage a Yemeni citizen working in Somalia. The hostage called his friends in Mukalla to pay the remaining \$6,000 to the pirates' contact there.

Several sources claim that numerous fishermen have been killed in incidents such as these, while others went insane due to their capture and mistreatment.

The pirates took them to Somalia Since the beginning of this year, approximately 15 instances of piracy have been registered in Hadramout alone.

Call to protect Yemeni waters

Omer Al-Habishi, deputy general manager of Borum Seafood Company, says this piracy problem has terrified local fishermen, many of whom have refused to sail into deep waters to search for fish living there, such as tuna.

He suggests, "One way to protect our waters is to enhance the protection afforded by the [Yemeni] Coast Guard because this protects them not only from pirates, but also from illegal

fishing." Well-known marine biologist and dean of Hadramout University's Faculty of Environmental and Marine Science, Mohammed Al-Mashjiri, notes that Yemen has a right to protect its commercial fishing areas, which extend outward up to 50 miles from the Yemeni coast. However, he says the Yemeni Coast Guard can't do this job properly using its old and very basic boats."The Coast Guard must be bolstered by modern technology because our Coast Guard vessels can't cope with these increasing incidents of piracy; therefore, our coast guards should work in conjunction with coalition forces in the Indian Ocean," he asserts.



JOB VACANCY Information Analyst, Yemen

A multi-national FMCG Company operating in Yemen is seeking to hire a highly qualified candidate for the vacancy of Marketing Information Analyst based in Yemen.

Qualifications & Competencies:

- B.A. in Marketing or Business Administration from a reputable University
- A higher Education degree is a plus.
- A minimum experience of 2 years in Marketing / Research / Information Analysis is a must.
- Outstanding Computer skills, especially: Excel, PowerPoint and Charts.
- Outstanding Reporting and Presentation Skills.
- Outstanding communication skills in both Arabic and English.
- Outstanding leadership and interpersonal skills.
- Agility and ability to travel for business purposes inside and outside Yemen.

If you possess the above and interested please forward your resume' to the below e-mail address no later than 13th of July, 2008. Only qualified candidates will be contacted.

Email address: informationyemen@googlemail.com



SUPPORTING REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH, POPULATION AND **DEVELOPMENT IN YEMEN**

The UNFPA Country Office in Yemen, Sana'a, is looking to fill the post of: Gender Programme Support Unit Coordinator for UNFPA in the Women National Committee

Type of contract: SC contract , one year renewable. **Duties and Responsibilities:**

Under the overall guidance of UNFPA and direct supervision of the Women National Committee as Gender Programme Component Manager (PCM), the coordinator will perform the following duties:

I. Technical Advice

1) Provides technical advice to the Women National Committee as PCM for the UNFPA Country Programme, mainly in terms

Invitation for General Bid No.(4) 2008

The Yemen Tourism Promotion Board (YTPB) announces its interest to invite bidders for general bid to deliver the work of reworking the current map of YTPB in a GIS format.

Objectives:

- 1- For the new map which will be done in a GIS format to be spatially accurate.
- 2- To be able to have a map to be updated and maintained in a more efficient and cost effective manner.
- 3- To allow the use of better and more sophisticated datasets, i.e digital elevation model (DEM) and 3D map representation.
- 4- Bidders must provide previous works.
- 5- Bidders who are willing to participate in this tender have to submit written applications to YTPB to receive Bidding Documents for an amount YR 10.000 nonrefundable .
- 6- Bidders have to apply during the official working hours at (08:00-15:00) to:

YTPB - ALHASABA STREET- MINISTRY OF TOURISM BUILDING.

Bids must be submitted in sealed envelopes addressed to the YTPB mentioning the project name, Tender number and name of bidder procurement department. The following documents must be contained in the bid:

- 1- A Bank Guarantee for a lump % 2.5 out of the proposal . Bank Guarantee has to be valid for not less than 150 days from date of Bid Opening. Bank Guarantee may be substituted with a payable cheque.
- 2- Valid tax card (foreign bidders not conducting any business in Yemen have to submit VAT reg istration document in their countries).
- 3- Insurance card (insurance card is required for companies having business in Yemen and eligible for benefits of the General Social Security Corporation in Yemen).
- 4- Registration and classification certificate. (in case contract is awarded and the winning bidder has no registration documents, relevant registration document will be requested as a condition for contract implementation).
- 5- GST registration certificate.

A foreign bidder may provide the equivalent documents indicated in 2,3 and 4 from its country of registration as appropriate.

The dead line for submission and bids opening will be 11:00 AM on Tuesday 15/7/2008. Bids received after this deadline will be returned unopened.

Bid Opening will take place at YTPB-ALHASABA STREET- MINISTRY OF TOURISM BUILDING office of Executive Director and the same time mentioned above, in presences of bidders or their authorized representatives.



The ICRC is a neutral and independent international organisation

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in Yemen is looking for suitable candidates to fill the following vacancy:



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2) Assists in the preparation of papers, briefs and reports related to the PCM work in particular and on general gender and women empowerment activities for relevant forums as may be required and contributes to related special events

II. Programme Coordination

- 1) Supports the PCM in coordinating and ensuring the proper implementation of the annual work plans by all IPs at central and governorate levels
- 2) Assist PCM monitor progress in implementing activities and reporting expenditure of each IP through quarterly reports and regular coordination meetings
- 3) Undertakes monitoring field visits to the targeted governorates and districts to report progress and identify constraints the need attention of the PCM and UNFPA.
- 4) Contributes to preparation/organization and participates in UNFPA gender programme reviews, evaluations and assists in completion of the relevant reporting;
- 5) Facilitates knowledge sharing on lessons-learned and effective/good practices among IPs and supports PCM in data collection and processing activities;
- 6) Provides logistic support to the gender thematic group meetings and activities;
- Assist PCM organize quarterly gender component level progress meetings with IPs, and produce quarterly and annual gen 7) der component progress reports.

III. General

- 1) Liaises between PCMs and various component implementing partners and works in close collaboration with UNFPA Country Office on programme and financial matters
- Keeps abreast with UNFPA and PCM's policies, programmes and applies them to the given conditions; 2)
- Assists in preparation of reports and performs any other related functions as directed by PCM.
- 4) Liaise with the Governorate Coordinators to ensure integration and coordination of the activities among the gender component IPs and between the country programme components.
- 5) Provide support to the PCM in regard to Programme Steering Committee meetings as may be required.

IV. Working Environment

- 1) The incumbent will be based at the PCM's premises and work closely with their relevant staff as well as with the PSU finance/administrative assistant:
- 2) She/he reports on all above-mentioned tasks to the PCM. The PCM in close collaboration with UNFPA, will supervise and evaluate the performance of the PSU Coordinator;
- 3) Works closely with WNC HQs and branches in governorates, UNFPA National Programme Officers, UNVs, NPPPs, CST advisors and UNFPA missions as may required.

Qualifications and Experience Required

- Post graduate degree in gender, social or other relevant sciences;
- At least 5 years of professional experience, preferably in gender or women empowerment programmes/ projects;
- Excellent professional knowledge of English and Arabic and the ability to clearly communicate and report in these languages;
- Adequate computer skills, good interpersonal communication and team building skills.

Please send your application to: UNFPA, P.O. Box 7272, Sana'a.

Deadline for application: July 19, 2008

Please note that only candidates who fulfil the above requirements will be short listed and notified.

UNFPA is offering equal opportunities however qualified females are strongly encouraged to apply.

Warehouse Manager

(100% based in Sana'a – Male or Female)

YOUR TASKS:

Warehouse Management

- Ensures that warehouse is kept clean and meets safety standards at all time.
- Organises trucks for loading.
- Organises and maintains a good access to goods.
- Verifies goods received and submits detailed list of items.
- Ensures storage of goods according to specifications.
- Ensures proper labelling of goods. (Bin cards)

Stock Management

- Maintains accurate stock control at all time and able to use Waybills, bin cards and stock cards
- Anticipates stock outage by applying a monthly order system ensuring the continued functioning of the operation.
- Anticipates need of the fast-moving and high-value parts to enable consolidated orders to Logistic
- centre.

Order Processing

- Initiates partial shipment of goods available in stock depending on the degree of emergency.
- Initiates shipment procedures and arranges transport to the field.

Others

- Provides statistics and other reports.
- Performs necessary paperwork and assures follow up to administration and other departments.
- Hires and manages daily workers (loaders) when necessary.

Selection requirements:

- Secondary school, business administration.
- Minimum 2-3 years experience in a similar position.
- Driving license with experience.
- Good knowledge of written and spoken English
- Organized and methodical person, ability to work independently, to take initiatives and to deal with people.

Please submit your application (letter of motivation, CV, copies of certificates/diplomas) to the ICRC, Administration, Baghdad Street, Street No 19 - PO.Box 2267, fax 467 875, Sana'a.

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

The last date for receiving the applications is 15.07.2008



The Sheba Center for Strategic Studies (SCSS) announces the following vacant positions.

1. Economics Studies Program officer

Qualifications and Skills:

- Managing the program in terms of research publications, website and related projects: At least MA in economic science:
- Three-years experience:
- Fluent in English and skilful in using PC:

2. Political Studies program officer Qualification and skills:

- Managing the program in terms of research publications, website and related projects:
- At least MA in political science;
- Three-years experience; Fluent in English and skilful in using PC.

3- Polling Supervisor

Qualifications and Skills:

- Planning and implementing polls.
- Analyzing the collected date.
- At least 5-tars experience.
- A wide knowledge and excellent skills in analytical software's such as SPSS and a like.

Interested applicants must mention the position applying for and send their CVs with covering letter to the address mentioned below:

Fax: 967-1-6777879

Email: hr@shebacss.com





SUPPORTING REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH, POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT IN YEMEN



The UNFPA Country Office in Yemen, Sana'a, is looking to fill the post of Post Title: Technical Assistant for the BDN program

To provide support to the MoPH&P in the area of Community-Based Initiative (CBI) / Basic Development Needs (BDN) as Technical Assistant.

Type of contract: SC contract, one year renewable.

I. Objectives / Overview of the Programme:

To work with the National authorities, especially the Ministry of Public Health and Population (MoPH&P) in the area of CBI in order to develop a sound workable BDN model that can be replicated nationally for wider population coverage.

- 1. To develop a model socio-economic development programme based on the BDN approach for improvement of health and better quality of life.
- 2. To build national capacity for institutionalization of the BDN approach and its expansion for wider population coverage.
- 3. To advocate for national ownership of the programme and its inclusion in the national development plan.

II.Main duties and responsibilities

The incumbant will have the following duties and responsibilities:

- 1. Maintaining record of all programme related activities including progress documentation and financial record;
- 2. Maintaining communications with staff of the BDN partners and offices;
- 3. Organizing meetings with government officials, BDN partners and other stakeholders;
- 4. Preparing background documents for, and drafting minutes of meeting and other panel recommendations; 5. Providing summaries on programme policies and procedures to the BDN partners and ensuring that all part-
- ners performing in line with those policies;
- 6. Monitoring the implementation of work plans and the corresponding budget;
- 7. Responsible for grant awards, training and capacity building management; 8. Perform any other duties as requested by the programme.

III. Oualifications and Experience Required Oualifications and Experience Required:

- 1. University degree in social science, public health, economics, or other related disciplines;
- 2. At least 5 years of professional experience in a relevant development field;
- 3. Sound analytical, conceptual and problem solving skills;
- 4. Knows and manage herself/himself
- 5. Excellent written and oral communication skills:
- 6. Ability to work under pressure, manage multi-task requirements and high degree of initiative;
- 7. Excellent interpersonal and diplomatic skills and the ability to reach out to multiple audiences;
- 8. Ability to recognize politically sensitive issues and the judgment to handle them appropriately;
- 9. Excellent knowledge of written and spoken English;
- 10. Knowledge of computer softwares (word processing, spreadshet, database, etc) and database management skill and experience.

Please send your application with a covering letter to: UNFPA, P.O. Box 7272, Sana'a. Deadline for application: 19 July 2008

Please note that only candidates who fulfil the above requirements will be short listed as notified.

UNFPA is offering equal opportunities however qualified females are strongly encouraged to apply.





EXTERNAL VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 14/08

The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) invites applications from qualified Yemeni nationals for the foll

| Child Protection Officer |
|---------------------------|
| NOA |
| Fixed Term |
| Sana'a, Republic of Yemen |
| |

تمل التعاني واطب التبريكات للمتغنيس / بمناسبة ارتذاقة المولود فالف الف ميروق : volizal جميع الأهل والاصدقاء

مح اجمل حقود القل والرباحين ونهور الزنبق ندف أأتكر وأطيب التعاني والتبريك

بمناسبة النجاح والتخرج منه جامعة صنعاء – كلية الأداب – قسم اللغة الفرنسية

متمنيه وراجيه لها حياه علمية وعملية ومستقبل متردهر

فالف الف ميروق



واللك /تأصر عبدريد ذرجم - إخوانك/رانش وراقل و اشرف ويوسف وجبريك وحبد ديد - أخواقك/(شراج وسباح ورافتد - الجده /أم حبد الله ويدود - الخال / عبد الله صالح ودود والثورجه والاولاد - الخلائك /أم حبدالله العواقي وأم سالم مرسى وأم حزي التحالاتي وأم علي السماوي وجميع بناك الخلالات - الاستالاة / لطيفة ضيف الله المواضى - الصديقات / فاطمة الكاشف وحسنية على وهيفاء المفتى وسبير أحمد و تجلاه حمزة وسلوى الماوري - وجميع الأهل والاصدقاع

Under the supervision of the Chief of Child Protection and HIV prevention, (L-3), the incumbent will perform the following main responsibilities:

- Investigate queries regarding the authorization, delivery or payments and follow ups with Finance, Administrative, Supply and Programme staff on processing of payments to governments and civil society organizations and liquidation of accounts. Ensure that activities are aligned with annual work plan. Participate actively in the development, implementation and monitoring of the annual work plan.
- Collect and analyse data and background information related to child protection subprojects and provide updated information on financial and administrative status for analysis and report purposes. Analyse status of child protection sub projects and recommends appropriate adjustments. Prepare tables, graphs and other statistical data for technical review and monitoring purposes. Build up a body of knowledge on child protection issues in Yemen.
- Follow up project activities by nurturing constructive relations with counterparts on project activities. Recommend courses of action to the supervisor. Actively network with wide range of actors to advocate child protection issues.
- Monitor the flow of supply and non-supply assistance to local authorities. Draft supply and financial documentations. Collect and record information on supply and non-supply inventory, distribution and utilisation.
- Undertake on-going field visits to UNICEF project sites for the participation in, or observation of project activities and local conditions. Prepare routine information on results of visits and project progress and ensure adequate and timely follow up.
- Arrange visits to project sites for government and other partners, which include providing information and briefing on project activities and status.
- Draft briefing notes, advocacy messages, sections of donor, annual and other reports as required by the Office, Regional Office and Head Quarters.

Qualifications and Skills Required:

- University Degree in Law or any social sciences. Specialized training in child protection is desirable.
- Fluency in English and Arabic is required.
- Five years progressively professional work in project management, including data collection and analysis in the area of child protection. Experience in advocacy and social mobilization an asset.
- Ability to research, analyses, evaluate and synthesise information.
- Ability to clearly and concisely express ideas and concepts both orally and in writing.
- Proven skills in communication, networking, advocacy and negotiation, especially at the community level.

Interested and qualified individuals should send a letter of interest along with their curriculum vitae or filled P-11 form. Applicants currently working for UN agencies might want to include copies of their performance evaluation reports (most recent two reports) to yemenhr@unicef.org

Applications received after 30 July 2008 will not be considered.

"UNICEF encourages qualified women candidates to apply. UNICEF is a non-smoking environment."

Opinion

Mr. Dimitroff! Keep rocking **'A goat even if it is flying'**

By Abduljabbar Sa'ad

hank you Mr. Dimitroff, as you helped us restore trust in our mental faculties after we were about to lose it. Do you imagine Mr. Dimitroff that opposition voices such as Dr. Al-Mutawakil, Mohammed Qahtan, Abdulwahab Al-Anisi, Mohammed Al-Sabri and others convinced us to be cynical about ourselves? They also made us cast doubt on the European Union Election Observation Mission (EUEOM) that observed Yemen's elections in 2006 and told us that 83 percent of the electoral process was good.

The various discrepancies and violations, which you named as 'faults' don't affect the final result of the election, nor can they be considered organized rigging, according to you.

But voices of such opposition figures made us doubtful about the election results, as well as the testimonies by your institution and other local and international observers assessing the electoral experience in our country as distinctive. This also persuaded us cast doubt on authenticity of the vote results announced by Supreme Commission for Elections and Referendum, whose membership was shared by representatives from both ruling and opposition parties.

Mr. Dimitroff, we are weak in a country where voices of invaders (opposition figures) destroy our sovereignty and values, and these invaders don't respect their homelands, nor do they recognize rights of people.

We are weak in our country due to lack of really strong voices to confront deception and tricks of native invaders. Dimitroff! We lack the nice voice like yours to help us deal with such invaders. We took a deeper breathe when we read your true words.

Mr. Dimitroff! You are lucky for not being Yemeni, Arab or Muslim, which is why you avoided being deceived by these invaders. If your salary comes from our opposition or if this opposition is entitled to give you something as you do for them, they will surely deprive you of every right and leave you starve until death because you don't hesitate to say the truth in public.

Mr. Dimitroff! These invaders are professional in telling lies and want people to communicate their lies to others. Because you speak the truth, you have become a target of irresponsible journalists, claiming to support irresponsible opposition. These irresponsible journalists don't cease telling lies, fabricate facts and magnify small things with the intention of hurting their people and government, elected by people under international observation.

These irresponsible journalists instigate the public opinion against their government in order to justify external intervention in our domestic affairs and make Yemen look like Iraq nowadays.

Sir! Don't be surprised by the position of Jamal Amer, who tried to convince you to condemn governors' election and shift your attention away from criticizing JMP's decision to boycott the election.

In fact, you are always present in support of the truth and true facts on the ground, which is why you gained high respect and reputation among Yemeni people. During his interview with you, Amer did not believe that he was speaking to Peter Dimitroff, Country Director of National Democratic Institute for International Affairs, known here in Yemen as NDI,

particularly when you told him the following:

"The important point in this respect is that we see the indirect election of governors as nothing more than a final outcome of 2006 elections, which we view as legitimate and successful yielding landslide victory for GPC. We should not forget that other political parties devoted all their resources and capacities to the presidential race at the expense of local council elections.

"There were violations and fraud during the 2006 election, but these violations and fraud were not conducted at the official level or in an organized manner, which is why we saw those elections as legitimate. Now, we see that the election of governors is a reflection of 2006 votes, and this is what helped it be legitimate.

"The issue that GPC ran in the election alone is because of its landslide victory in the previous election. We wanted the other political parties to participate in the election as this is key to fostering the democratic process."

Mr. Dimitroff! You made your interviewer stunned like you surprised us too because our brothers in the opposition, even before 2006 elections prejudge facts before they occur. They told people the election is rigged before it was conducted. They continued to say this again and again until they made us and Amer forget the real facts.

Mr. Dimitroff! As we support neither the authority nor the opposition, we totally agree with what you say. We support your words that are based on facts on the ground.

You also said:

"I think that people's legal demands with regard to livelihood and good work represents crude for any political forces worldwide. Political parties have to adopt people's demands and address them on the ground. It is legal for the opposition to stage demonstrations in solidarity with political detainees, however, parties should work in line with the national interest. Political parties may have different policies but agree upon protection of homeland and its political system.

"With respect to calls for secession here and there, parties should have clear positions about these calls since those who advocate secession are minorities behaving in a way contradicting interests of the majority of Yemeni people. Political parties or people of Yemen may tolerate harming the national unity by any one.

"When political parties try to weaken or hurt their homeland, this means that they harm themselves. And if they carry the hammer of destruction, this means they destroy themselves and others. When these parties decide to boycott elections, this means that they admit their weakness and inability to compete in the election. By boycotting the election, these parties shoot themselves with 'mercy bullets'." These statements imply that you are a strong believer in facts as they appear on the ground. Mr. Dimitroff! Your words are too precious and so is your silence. And this reminded me of an issue from the popular folklore telling that "A guy saw a crow from distance and believed that it is a goat. When his friend told him what he was seeing is a crow, he insisted to say that it is a goat. The crow then flew hovering over his head, and his friend told him 'see it is a crow, isn't it? However, that guy insisted to say 'It is a goat even it flies'."

Source: Al-Wasat Weekly

In defense of facts as they appear on the ground

By: Abdulaziz Al-Hayajim



The author continued that Dimitroff is merely interested in creating activities for his institute by making Yemen conduct elections, even if these elections are accompanied by frauds and discrepancies. He also praised the former Country Director of NDI Robin Madrid, saying "Tribute to the kind

accept any objective criticism, be it made by President of the Republic, a statesman, a ruling party official or an international expert. They don't accept any objective statements like yours.

Had the opposition parties had a wise man, he would have advised them how to be loyal with their homeland and care about protecting its unity and stability. Homeland protection must be given precedence over partisan activities and objectives.

ties in Yemen to demonstrate a positive position about threats posed to Yemen's security and stability? The irresponsible attack might have been meant to silence 'a free voice' and put a stop to objectivity.

Source: Al-Thawra State-run Daily

COMMON SENSE

A standstill moment

t appears that the War in Sa'ada is going to bring everything in the country to a standstill for a while to come. With the booms getting louder to those living in the periphery of Sana'a and the pictures getting uglier of the images being exchanged over the internet, one wonders if the Yemeni leaders can't come to realize that their fellow citizens really deserve better than this. Can the authorities here realize that before trying to pacify the rest of the world, they can start first by pacifying their own homeland? It is not that Djibouti should not live in peace, but when the booms are getting ever closer



By: Hassan Al-Haifi

to the capital city, one wonders if Yemen should be a priori point to pull full throttle on all the attempts for peace to peace at home, before worrying about the welfare of others, who are not even at full scale war yet. The war in Sa'ada is no more a confined war on the people of Sa'ada but a nightmare that is beginning to haunt the still world we have become accustomed to for some time. The moment that many have dreaded and saw coming for quite some time now has become so frighteningly real. The continuing parade of ambulances to and from the airport signifies something very unpleasant and the early sounds of all those Migs in their various numbered formats breaking the peaceful morning quiet and interrupting the chirping of the birds soon after the sunrise bring this ugly war ever so closer to the once happy suburban peace that characterized the periphery of the City of Sana'a. The people of Sana'a have almost come to believe that war is forbidden on them and on all those who bring war to them. But alas, wishful thinking can be so unhealthy sometimes, when at night the still evening becomes an evening of looming danger as the sounds of machine gun fire and the pounding artillery even cease the dogs from chasing the speeding cars that the ears hear, but the eyes have no sense of their destination inside the high mud walls that surround the small yard of the peaceful suburban home of this observer. Nevertheless, it is clear that we are at war and with whom does not really matter anymore. because war is deadly to all those who declare it, fight it, resist it, cry against it, scream for a halt to it - to no avail. It is war and war just hovers like a deadly storm taking anyone and everyone on its way with burning ferocity. It is war and there is no way to bring a peace to it, around it or before it, before it engulf one's peaceful abode. The deadly ignorance of just exactly what is really happening in Sa'ada and now Bani Hushiesh and elsewhere in Yemen makes the observer shudder at the thought of imagining the possible evil that may befall relatives there, who are as far away from being on any side of the animosities unleashed in this war as one can imagine, but in war, when you are in the middle, that would not make a difference at all. There is too much random fire in the air! Random fire does not care if you are friend or foe. You are simply an easy target and that is all that matters to random fire. It is an ugly inhumane reality we live in when war has dominated the sky, the earth and the sea. "Why the sea?" One might ask. The Somalis are dying by the scores daily as their leaders squabble over an empty earth, which has yet to accept one in peacetime let alone during war. Or, is there something that is hiding beneath the surface that makes all this killing worthwhile. For the people in the area, it does not make a difference what is above ground or below the surface. They have never been the happy beneficiaries of God's good Grace on the land. That is divinely ordained for our leaders and their masters elsewhere in this world, who have turned the entire world into a play board for their interests to be determined by the destructive volleys that destroy our peace in the morning and in the t night.

For most of the people in Sana'a the peace has been shattered and even the ID searches along the roads leading into and out of Sana'a means one cannot find laborers to work the last inches of grape plants that still adorn the yard outside the yard surrounding the modest dwelling we call home. The migrant workers are complaining of undue duress because they never thought that IDs are necessary for common workers in their home turf. Our future and destiny has been tampered with beyond repair and there is nowhere to run, nowhere to hide as Martha Reeves and her Vandellas once said a long time ago.

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

and announced national issues in public, the opposition opened fire at the man and his organization. It uttered words that are impossible to be produced by a drunkard.

JMP expressed to NDI by phone its annoyance about what Dimitroff stated during an interview with Al-Wasat Weekly when the man criticized JMP member parties, likening them to a bus, which is driven by five people and doesn't stop for those on the roadside.

The man compared the opposition's threats to boycott the upcoming elections to'a mercy bullet', which the opposition may fire at itself.

Al-Thawri Weekly, Official Newspaper of Yemeni Socialist Party (YSP) published a series of articles containing harsh criticism against Dimitroff. And, in another article published by Al-Wasat weekly under the headline "Dectagratic Institute", the author accused Dimitroff of being partial with the authority and seeking to gratify it.

pub- lady."

Accusations and defamations against Dimitroff multiplied until the reader may get convinced that the international official is a traitor for the government and the ruling party. Due to such false accusations, the readership may be persuaded that Dimitroff came to Yemen in order to make money for finishing his under-construction house in his homeland.

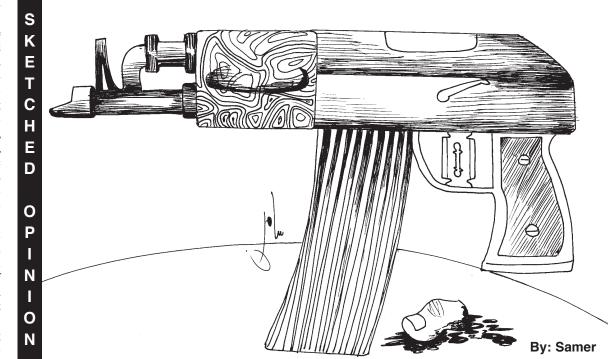
The author of the article in question continued accusing Dimitroff and EU representative, saying, "All that is simple in the dictionary of Dimitroff and EU representative and they don't offer something good for Yemen." This statement makes us remember a Yemen example reading, "a blind woman variegates a crazy one."

Mr. Dimitroff! They deny what you say but they themselves tell lies. They don't want anyone to say that this is right and that is wrong. They don't want to hear an objective speech, disclosing both positive and negative extremes of the equation. They don't

Our fault is that we attribute false charges to the international expert and attack him in an irresponsible manner. It is not faulty if we utilize his experience and make use of his advice, particularly when he said, "All the ruling and oppositions parties must understand that states of mature democracy, such as the United States of America, don't experience ideal democratic experiences. Instead, these countries benefit from any mistakes they commit in order to improve their democratic experiences."

Consequently, the gubernatorial election that took place recently in Yemen should be looked at as a crucial democratic transformation in favor of local governance with broad powers. Things develop step by step, not at once.

Did Dimitroff make something wrong when he advised political par-



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Can the Guantanamo ruling fix America's image?

By: César Chelala

TEMEN

ew York, New York -The recent US Supreme Court ruling that recognises the rights of Guantanamo detainees to challenge their detention in US civilian courts - possibly paving the way for a permanent closure of the facility is a serious rebuke to the controversial detention policies of the administration of President George W. Bush. However, it is also an excellent opportunity for the current administration to demonstrate its commitment to American security while simultaneously beginning to heal one of the rifts that has harmed the global standing of the United States, particularly in the Muslim world.

America's image has taken a beating since evidence of torture and abuse at Guantanamo, as well as the Abu Ghraib prison in Iraq, was first revealed. These facilities have housed terrorism suspects rounded up since 9/11, and while US officials say many are guilty, human rights activists ask how they can be so certain given the lack of specific charges and legal protocol.

Most of the approximately 270 prisoners still at Guantanamo have been in US custody for more than six years without ever being charged with a crime, according to the June 2008 Human Rights Watch report, Locked up Alone: Detention Conditions and Mental Health at Guantanamo.

Suspects held at Guantanamo have been detained in conditions which amount to cruel and inhumane punishment, marking serious breaches of the prisoners' basic human and health rights. Practices used against the prisoners have included forced feedings of hunger strikers, jabbing food tubes through their noses and keeping them in prolonged isolation.

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) says these practices

amount to torture. In 2004, Dr. Robert Jay Lifton reported "increasing evidence that doctors, nurses and medics have been compliant in torture and other illegal procedures in Iraq, Afghanistan and Guantanamo Bay." The ICRC charged at the time that US interrogators engaged the participation of medical personnel in what the committee called "a flagrant violation of medical ethics."

Detainees at Guantanamo spend an average of 22 hours a day by themselves, in cells lacking natural light or fresh air. They may occasionally be visited by an attorney or a representative of the ICRC, but are mainly cut off from family, friends and even each other.

These conditions of prolonged isolation not only violate international legal obligations, but can also create or aggravate mental health problems that may lead to suicide attempts. It is estimated that there have been four suicides and hundreds of suicide attempts

by prisoners at Guantanamo. In June of 2006, three detainees were found dead in what the Pentagon said was an "apparent suicide pact." Barbara Olshansky of the Center for Constitutional Rights - which represents hundreds of Guantanamo prisoners - said that the detainees "have this incredible level of despair that they will never get justice." Prison commander Rear Admiral Harry Harris, however, stated that this was not an act

of desperation but rather "an act of

asymmetric warfare committed against

us.' Many of the prisoners released from Guantanamo have complained of beatings, sleep deprivation, prolonged constraint in uncomfortable positions, forced feeding and injections, sexual and religious humiliation, and other physical and psychological mistreatment. These accusations were confirmed by ICRC investigators. The Bush administration, however, has consistently rejected the ICRC findings.

In a series of reports, Amnesty International has called the situation in Guantanamo "a human rights scandal." But the 12 June Supreme Court ruling gives us all cause for some optimism. Kenneth Roth, executive director at Human Rights Watch, commented that "the Supreme Court decision has stripped Guantanamo of its reason for being: a law-free zone where prisoners can't challenge their detention." He added that the ruling is "not only a landmark victory for justice, it's a big step toward establishing a smarter, more effective counter-terrorism policy.'

In his dissent of the decision, US Justice Antonin Scalia wrote that it will "almost certainly cause more Americans to be killed. That consequence would be tolerable if necessary to preserve a time-honoured legal principle vital to our constitutional republic. But it is this Court's blatant abandonment of such principle that produces the decision today."

However, these positions are not necessarily mutually exclusive when it comes to protecting American lives, and also moving forward to try - and, when necessary, convict - the prisoners at Guantanamo.

Court cases finding prisoners either guilty or innocent of the crimes that have allegedly landed them there will go a long way in proving that rule of law upheld in the US Constitution is a successful model, bringing to justice those who are threats to American security, and freeing those who are found innocent through legal proceedings.

César Chelala is an international public health consultant and co-winner of an Overseas Press Club of America award for a human rights article. This article was written for the Common Ground News Service (CGNews) and can be accessed at www.commongroundnews.org.

African Americans help lessen Islamophobia

By: Faheem Shuaibe

Oakland, California - African American Muslims have a role to play when it comes to the widespread Islamophobia (an irrational fear of Islam) that is prevalent in the West. The unfortunate fact is that some Americans see Muslims as ! a disease to be rooted out. However, as is the case with immunisation, the "disease" can sometimes also be the source of a cure

African Americans have faced derisive stereotyping before - including public name calling and a complete exclusion from basic human rights. Such behaviour created a marginalised cultural category and position in a pathological culture. And African Americans have struggled for generations to overcome this categorisation.

So, when some in the United States negatively and aggressively stereotype Muslims as many people once did African-Americans, it provokes a latent hostility in the United States, conjured up by certain talk show hosts and others who use such labelling to garner support with their audiences, and reinforces an ethos of opposition or aggression.

Shortly after September 11, 2001, a woman wearing Muslim clothing while grocery shopping in San Gabriel was attacked by a Caucasian woman yelling, "America is only for white people!" This was reminiscent of the treatment of African Americans at "Whites Only" lunch counters during the Civil Rights era of the 1950s and 1960s. Such incidents demonstrate the extent to which Muslims have become the new ostracised minority in our nation, how they are being "Otherised" in the present atmosphere.

The solution? Nothing less than a cultural revolution.

Cultures are born out of the problems faced by groups of people and the solutions they seize upon. The schema for cultural development follows this pattern

First, a group of people faces a special problem, such as racial or religious marginalisation or misunderstanding. Second, those who possess the requisite instincts follow their natural impulses and propose a solution; for example, to demonstrate for basic human rights. Third, successful results of implementing the solution, such as the introduction of new civil rights legislation, lead to the fourth step, the formulation of an articulated ideology the Civil Rights movement. Fifth, that ideology takes shape as an institution, and finally, a culture reinforcing that ideology is born.

All human beings live within a culture, whether by choice or by default. One culture can only be replaced by another culture, either through migration or transformation. While some would say that the West is becoming increasingly Islamophobic, it is understandable that Western culture is afraid of losing its current identity and having it replaced - as it is sometimes perceived - by Arab, Asian or African cultures identified as Muslim.

As an American – who happens to also be Muslim - I can certainly understand. In America, all Muslims are free by law to practice Islam unimpeded, regardless of whether they are Sunni, Shi'a or a member of any other Muslim sect. Unfortunately, the growth of Islamophobia undermines that freedom. Ironically, the solution to Islamophobia in the United States could very well come from African American Muslims - those who converted to Islam beginning in the Civil Rights Era, rejected the character traits and cultural mores that American culture had imposed upon the "ex-slave", and are playing a significant role in American society.

What role can African American **Muslims play?**

as Muslims

First, in order to mine this group for the cure, there must be more interaction overall in order that we may get to know one another - as Americans and

Second, the key is to gain insight into the world-view that governs the African American Muslim disposition and actions. Namely, the fact that true African American Muslims hold sacred the absolute equality of all human beings and embrace the timeless, universal values of the Qur'an - values which disapprove of jealousy, vengeance and prejudice.

Highlighting the unique African American Muslim experience should lead the western world to ask, "If this is what Islam can produce, even from a people whose culture was so utterly decimated, then what in Islam do we really have to fear?"

The rights and entitlements afforded African American Muslims are unparalleled anywhere in the Muslim world today. African American Muslims, at one time arguably the most dehumanised population in history, are productive and patriotic American citizens who play a role, through their social and political participation, in shaping American society.

African American Muslims are therefore in a unique position to embrace such American symbols as the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States while still striving to defeat Islamophobia.

African American Muslims are a sign of how Islam can take a vanquished people and turn them into productive and active participants who help to shape their political and social environment. They are a people that have faced discrimination and fear before and are equipped to play a significant role in pushing back against a new incarnation of cultural discrimination and misunderstanding -Islamophobia.

Faheem Shuaibe is a national leader in the African American Muslim community, resident Imam of Masjidul Waritheen in Oakland, California and director of the Mohammed Schools of Oakland. This article is part of a series on African American Muslims written for the Common Ground News Service.

Why Are There So Many **Plane Crashes in Iran?**

By: Ben Lefell

Trends in Newsrooms 2008

What skills are needed in the multimedia newsroom? Do you reporters know what the term "mojo" means? How can the readers be integrated into the news cycle? The recently published annual Trends in Newsrooms report answers these questions and many others linked to the transformation tak-

The Media Line

ver the last several years boarding a domestic flight in Iran has become like playing Russian roulette.

Since 2002 there have been nine fatal air crashes, with as many 302 killed in a single flight, and a combined death toll of nearly 700. Some of these flights were military transports, while some were commercial flights with soldiers or Revolutionary Guardsmen on board, and others purely commercial.

Each of these flights was in Iranian air space, by no means hostile territory. So who or what is to blame for these tragic endings to seemingly regular flights?

"The maintenance of the aircraft themselves is a key component," suggests Philip Butterworth-Hayes, consultant editor at Jane's Airport Review. "The operation of the aircraft within the air traffic control system is the other thing."

The maintenance of the aircraft could certainly be an issue.

"The fact is Iran is a country which has been subjected to sanctions for the better part of 30 years. If you don't have free access to regular trading with the most experienced parts of the world in civil aviation safety, it stands to reason that you won't have the best equipment available to you," says David Kaminski-Morrow, deputy news editor of Flight International Magazine.

Some Iranian officials have expressed a similar but more acutely

Iran National Carrier (Iran Air) Davoud Keshavarzian told the official Iranian news agency IRNA: "Sanctions prevent Iran from purchasing aircraft, even if only 10 percent of the parts are U.S.made."

Whether or not the U.S. makes it extremely difficult, which they likely do, for Iran to acquire airplane equipment, placing blame on America does not bring back those who perished in the crashes. Furthermore, it must be considered irresponsible to put an aircraft carrying a nation's military personnel and citizens in the air when the managing director of the national carrier feels he cannot adequately acquire the equipment necessary to fly safely.

Butterworth-Hayes strongly disagrees with Keshavarzian's point of view.

"The United States is not the only supplier of parts. Europe supplies just as many airplanes now as the U.S. does. A lot of Iran's infrastructure is based on Russian equipment and Russian equipment can be flown [in] just as safely as American or European equipment. So to blame America is not feasible," he says.

Explains Kaminski-Morrow: "They have to go through other channels. It makes it more difficult. The Iranians are not going to fly completely dilapidated aircraft."

The fact that Iranian officials have blamed America for some of their aviation problems raises an interesting point.

insists Butterworth-Hayes. "In terms of civil aviation safety the political dimension should play no part whatsoever."

The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) was created in an attempt to elevate civilian safety above the political spectrum and implement principles, procedures and systems for air navigation and safe international civil transport.

All countries that are part of the ICAO - and by default all of their air carriers, Iran included - must abide by the regulations in place as a minimum standard for safety. However, while the ICAO oversees civil aviation, for military aviation the safety regulations are entirely up to the individual country. The situation becomes complicated

for a company like Saha Airline Services, an airline that is owned by the Iranian Air Force but also has domestic civilian flights.

One of Saha's three Boeing 707s, a plane which is made for military transport, had a gear or tire failure upon landing and ultimately crashed at the end of the runway, killing two passengers.

Saha is one of the few airlines in the world that uses the Boeing 707 for civilian transport. As a subsidiary of the Iranian Air Force but carrying civilians, it is intriguing as to which set of safety regulations are followed - ICAO or air force standards.

"You must look at the international statistics. From an international statistical point of view there does seem "The issue of politics and aviation to be a much greater prevalence of

crashes than civil transport," says Butterworth-Hayes.

"This is a global phenomenon. A lot of it is to do with the type of airplanes being flown, and the fact that the military does not need to abide by ICAO regulations."

If equipment can be acquired and safety regulations followed, regardless of sanctions, then clearly there may be another factor at play, possibly foul play.

On February 19, 2003, an Iranian Ilyushin-76 carrying 302 members of Iran's elite Revolutionary Guards crashed into the side of a mountain killing everyone on board. The government did not launch an investigation into the crash, merely citing bad weather, and actually called off a search for the black box due to bad weather.

The Iranian government later revised the number of casualties to 275. However, the Iranian Ilyushin-76 has a maximum capacity of about 140 passengers, so where did all those extra passengers come from? Perhaps the crash had nothing to do with bad weather and the plane was overloaded? Regardless of whether foul play was

involved, or simply not adhering to safe flying regulations, it does not matter what has caused plane crashes in the past, Butterworth-Hayes says.

"Transparency and openness and global standards are key; there shouldn't be any aircraft crashes in the world. We know so much about aviation now; there should not be one aviation crash."

ing place in newsrooms around the world. APN spoke to John Burke, the report's editor-in-chief, about this year's trends.

APN: What is the publication Trends in the Newsroom and what is new and interesting about this years trends?

John Burke: Trends in Newsrooms is the annual report of the World Editors Forum (WEF) that analyzes the best practices in digital and new media developments in newspaper newsrooms. The report focuses mainly on new media trends because the World Editors Forum sees multimedia news production as a permanent part of every newsroom. Whereas newspaper newsrooms were once only expected to produce text stories and images, we see a growing trend towards the "jackof-all-trade journalist"; editors and journalists are increasingly expected to have a basic knowledge of how to write a story, take a photo, conduct a video interview, create a Flash infographic, interact with their readers through blogs, comments and social networking, etc. The entire media landscape has changed very rapidly because of the Internet and digital technologies. Trends in Newsrooms documents these changes and presents them as practical examples so that readers can learn from and adopt similar practices in their own newsrooms.

APN: Is there a lot of information about news trends that concern or profile the Arab world?

JB: No region is specifically high-

lighted in Trends in Newsrooms. However, because of the report's focus on new media, examples tend to come from Western nations.

In the Arab world, consumer technologies such as broadband Internet access and advanced mobile devices are not yet developed in the same way. For these reasons, the professional media in the Arab world has not been exposed to the new media technologies profiled in Trends in Newsrooms in the same way that media in Western nations have been. Because of the speed with which these technologies proliferate, however, there is no doubt that newsrooms in the Arab world will be soon forced to adapt. Indeed, several large publishers in the Arab world such as Al Nisr which publishes Gulf News, are already adopting new media in their everyday news production.

APN: Do you think this book would interest Arab newsrooms?

JB: Still, there are several things that Arab media can learn from Trends in Newsrooms. There is an entire chapter on multimedia training that will help Arab newsrooms prepare for the inevitable changes in news production with which they will soon be faced. There is also a chapter on innovative newspaper designs that reflects how newspaper website design is being adopted in print editions.

International Report



A lost generation: Iraqi refugee children in Lebanon

(MENASSAT) -- Millions of refugee children around the world suffer from and witness some of the worst forms of violence committed either against them or the people they love during war.

Eventually it becomes a way of life. Ali, 14, came to Lebanon two years ago with his parents and five brothers after fleeing Baghdad after their lives were threatened.

"The conditions were very bad," says Ali. "The crime. They would slaughter people in front of our eyes."

"If you were Shia and wandered into a Sunni neighborhood then they would kill you. And if you were Sunni in a Shia neighborhood then you would be killed," adds Ali.

Ali told MENASSAT that his family decided to leave Baghdad despite the fact that they had no car to get to the border.

The trip was an arduous one having to make a good portion of the journey by foot until a car was willing to pick them up and travel to the Syrian border. Eventually, they made it to Syria and beyond - entering Lebanon illegally via taxi.

In a 19-page report titled, "Trapped! The Disappearing hopes of Iraqi



Iraqi children preparing for math class. Beirut, Lebanon.

Refugee Children," the aid organization World Vision warned of a lost generation of Iraqi youth in 2007.

World Vision has released two reports highlighting the plight of Iraqi youth in Jordan and based on interviews with children the organization estimates that out of 10 million refugees worldwide, up to five million of these refugees are children.

schools face the risk of dropout due to differences in curriculum.

"To preserve the young generation

growing up today, we need to shield

children from violence, enhance

humanitarian access and provide more resources targeted to children's specific

According to the United Nations

High Commission for Refugees

(UNHCR), nearly 50,000 Iraqis are

fleeing across the border each month.

Estimates put the number of Iraqi

refugees in Jordan, Syria and Lebanon

As many as half, of the estimated

50,000 Iraqis in Lebanon are children.

Residing in a mainly Shia suburb of

Beirut, Ali is one the few Iraqi children

"I am learning to read, write and how

to use the computer here in Lebanon,"

says Ali. "We can go outside and play

in Lebanon. In Iraq we couldn't. I

would rather go back to Iraq because

here the kids pick on us because of our

Access is limited in Lebanon's over-

crowded public schools and private

schools are too expensive for most

refugees. Those already enrolled in

needs," World Vision says.

at more than two million.

with access to education.

Catching up

refugee status."

"English is by far the most difficult subject for my children in school. By the time we came to Lebanon, before the war in 2001, my children had been out of school for nearly two years," says Fatima, a mother of five from Basra.

"Transport is so expensive here. It's

nearly US\$50 per month," she said. "I can't afford that. I would rather not eat or drink if it means my children could go to school. Not going to school is like being put back in time."

A recent survey by the Danish Refugee Council found that only 40 pct. of Iraqi children living in Lebanon have pursued studies after elementary school. More than half of the 560 households interviewed did not send their children to school.

"They are unable to be put inside of a structured learning environment at the moment," says Robert Beer, Education Project Coordinator for the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) in Lebanon. "What these children need is an intensive program 5 or 6 days a week."

The Norwegian Refugee Council opened an Education Resource Center to support the Iraqi refugee community in providing intensive learning to Iraqi children. And one element of the assessment is providing mental health services and treatment.

"What we do is we academically test children through the center," says Beer. "So they come in for a half a day's academic and behavioral assessment. And then we create an individual file on each child and then the idea is that we then tailor an academic program to filling in the gaps in their education so that they are enabled to perform at a mainstream Lebanese school."

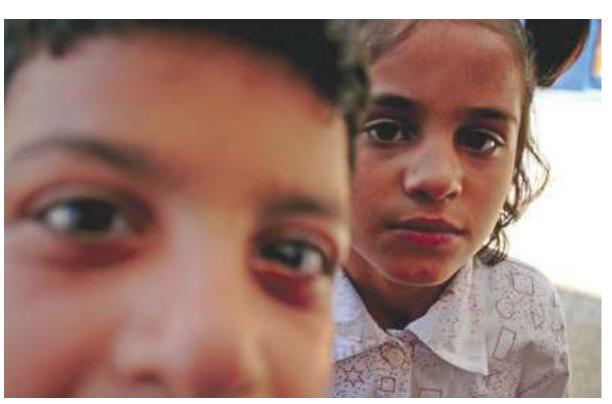
Violence

"Iraqi children have faced problems because of the Iraqi violence," says Charles Nasrallah, Director of Insan Association in Lebanon. "Here in Lebanon they are also facing problems of not being welcomed."

Since the US-led invasion of Iraq, more than 12 pct. of the refugees that have fled to Lebanon say they were kidnapped, threatened or experienced traumatic events, according to the Danish Refugee Council.

Sitting in the courtyard of her school day Hanin, 14, has already had a traumatic life. Hanin fled Baghdad with her mother and brother after witnessing the death of her father.

"I'm not happy nor sad," says Hanin. "They poured gasoline on my father and set him on fire."



Kids in the courtyard after school.

Grace period

Life is anything but stable for Iraqis residing in Lebanon. Many live in hiding for fear of being discovered by the Lebanese authorities.

"I was afraid for my brother," says Hanin. "He was detained in prison because he didn't have the legal papers to stay in Lebanon." Lebanon is not a signatory to the 1951 Convention on the Status of Refugees.

According to a Human Rights Watch report released last December, "Rot Here or Die There: Bleak Choices for Iraqi Refugees in Lebanon," Lebanon has the largest number of refugees and asylum seekers in detention in the region.

The Danish Refugee Council found estimates that nearly 77 pct. of the roughly 50,000 Iraqis in Lebanon entered the country illegally. Unlike Jordan and Syria, which host the majority of Iraqi refugees, Lebanon has a policy of detaining Iraqis who are in the country illegally.

Hope came on February 17th of this year when the Lebanese government announced plans to regularize the status of illegal Iraqi refugees in Lebanon. For

a period of three-months Iraqis were given a grace period to legalize their status by locating an employer to sponsor their prolonged stay in the country. Caritas Lebanon was successful in securing the release of 177 Iraqis who had been detained and the UNHCR was able to get them another employment extension to search for a Lebanese

sponsor

UNHCR and Caritas paid the \$633 regulations fee to the government to pay for their release. According to Caritas many Iraqis found it difficult to get Lebanese interested because they don't know anyone.

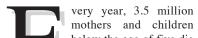
The grace period ended on June 16, 2008.



Iraqi children at a center in Southern Beirut play in the courtyard in between classes.

The Fight for Food

By: Marc van Ameringen



or minerals to their foods since time immemorial; indeed, since the

Humans have added essential vitamins against malnutrition a policy priority; into perspective, the regular move of for the EU and G8 to make different they also must invest.

The equation is straightforward: beginning of the twentieth century, Ä160 million for fortification year.

EU institutions between Brussels and

food fortification has been a major programs could improve the health of While the latter is an understandable

political choices that help keep 3.5 Strasbourg costs Å200 million per million mothers and children alive and well.

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Marc van Ameringen is Executive Director of the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition.

elow the age of five die in poor countries because they do not have the nutrition they need to fight common diseases. Three-quarters of them could have survived diarrhea or malaria if they had been properly nourished.

For those who do survive, the future looks grim: all studies show that children who are undernourished in the first two years of life suffer health problems and lag in development for the rest of their lives. Insufficient nourishment impedes their capacity to learn, fitness to work, and ability to develop their talents. Besides the human suffering, the economic costs of malnutrition are huge: according to the World Bank, countries where malnutrition is most prevalent lose, on average, between 2% and 3% of their GDP. The issue is not severe and acute malnutrition, which hits populations suddenly, usually as a result of conflict. The question is how we attract the attention of the European Union and the G8 countries to the malnutrition that experts call ihidden hunger,î which affects one in every three people worldwide. It is caused by imbalanced nutrition or a lack of vitamins and essential minerals that enable the human body to grow and that maintain its vital functions.

For example, recent data show that even a moderate deficiency of Vitamin A results in higher mortality. In fact, we could avoid the death of at least one million children every year by improving their intake of it.

Doing so would not be difficult.

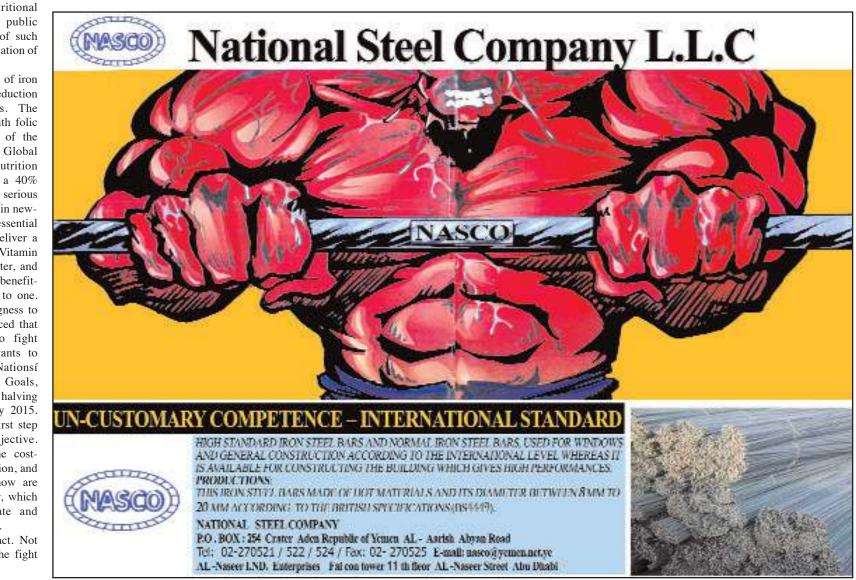
government policy in developed countries to reduce nutritional deficiencies and improve public health. All scientific studies of such interventions prove that fortification of basic foodstuffs works.

Chile promoted the addition of iron to milk, resulting in a 66% reduction of anemia amongst babies. The fortification of maize meal with folic acid in South Africa ñ one of the projects supported by the Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN) ñ was followed by a 40% reduction in spina bifida, a serious deformation of the neural tube in newborn babies. Moreover, these essential interventions cost little and deliver a lot: to enrich cooking oil with Vitamin A costs less than \$0.10 per liter, and fortification in general has a benefitto-cost ratio of at least eight to one. What is missing is the willingness to act. At GAIN, we are convinced that there is an urgent need to fight malnutrition if the world wants to achieve the United Nationsí Millennium Development Goals, which commit the world to halving global poverty and hunger by 2015. Fighting malnutrition is the first step toward reaching this objective. Science has demonstrated the costeffectiveness of food fortification, and the technologies and know-how are available in the private sector, which has the capacity to innovate and deliver products to the poorest.

Europe and the G8 must act. Not only do they need to make the fight

one billion people. To put that amount expense historically, the time has come friendly version

www.project-syndicate.org







Invitation for General Bid No. (10) for the year 2008

The TV and Radio General Corporation announces its interest in inviting for general bid number (10), 2008, for importing, supervising installation, checking, operating, confirming, and submitting an unwritten guarantee for Generating Units for electricity with its multi-system stuff of the TV transmitting station.

All the interested candidates apply with their written request for this bid during the official work time to the following address:

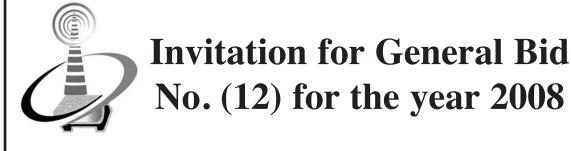
The TV and Radio General Corporation – Engineering Sector General Administration for Projects Tel: (01/ 230752)

For buying and getting the entire bid documents with receipt: $(300 \)$ non refundable. The deadline of selling the documents is 23/7/2008.

The file should be enveloped and sealed with the red wax and submitted to the secretary of bids and out-bids committee of the corporation. The file should be addressed with name of the authority, the name of the project, the number of the bid, and the name of the applicant, and the file should include all the following documents:

- 1- Submitting unconditional banking warranty with amount to (8500\$) valid for 120 days starting from the day of opening the files or by a payable check.
- 2- Submitting a copy of the taxing card valid for 2008, (all the foreign bidders, who don't work in Yemen, submit a copy of the register documents for extra cost taxation from their countries.
- 3- Submitting a copy of the insurance card valid for 2008 year (the insurance cards are only requested from those companies which have assets in Yemen and have the right to benefit from the revenues given by the general corporation for social insurance in Yemen).
- 4- A copy of valid certificate of registration and classifications.
- 5- A copy of the alms card valid for 2008.
- 6- A copy of the commercial register valid for 2008.
- 7- A copy of work license valid for 2008.
- 8- A copy of register certificate concerning the public sales taxes valid for 2008.

The deadline of receiving the documents and opening the files at 11:00 am on Monday morning 28/7/2008 at the main branch of the corporation.



The TV and Radio General Corporation announces its interest in inviting for general bid number (12), 2008, for importing, supervising installation, checking, operating, confirming, and submitting an unwritten guarantee for Generating Units of electricity with its stuff for the local Radio channels.

Invitation for General Bid No. (9) for the year 2008

The TV and Radio General Corporation announces its interest in inviting for general bid number (9), 2008 for buying, importing, supervising installation, checking, operating, confirming, and submitting an unwritten guarantee for Two TV Tape less Cameras and recording and showing video with its multi-system stuff.

All the interested candidates apply with their written request for this bid during the official work time to the following address:

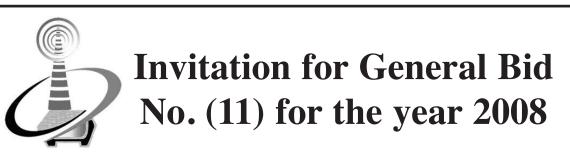
The TV and Radio General Corporation – Engineering Sector General Administration for Projects Tel: (01/ 230752)

For buying and getting the entire bid documents with receipt: $(300 \)$ non refundable. The deadline of selling the documents is 23/7/2008.

The file should be enveloped and sealed with the red wax and submitted to the secretary of bids and out-bids committee of the corporation. The file should be addressed with name of the authority, the name of the project, the number of the bid, and the name of the applicant, and the file should include all the following documents:

- 1- Submitting unconditional banking warranty with amount to (5600\$) valid for 120 days starting from the day of opening the files or by a payable check.
- 2- Submitting a copy of the taxing card valid for 2008, (all the foreign bidders, who don't work in Yemen, submit a copy of the register documents for extra cost taxation from their countries.
- 3- Submitting a copy of the insurance card valid for 2008 year (the insurance cards are only requested from those companies which have assets in Yemen and have the right to benefit from the revenues given by the general corporation for social insurance in Yemen).
- 4- A copy of valid certificate of registration and classifications.
- 5- A copy of the alms card valid for 2008.
- 6- A copy of the commercial register valid for 2008.
- 7- A copy of work license valid for 2008.
- 8- A copy of register certificate concerning the sales taxes valid for 2008.

The deadline of receiving the documents and opening the files at 11:00 am on Monday morning 28/7/2008 at the main branch of the corporation.



The TV and Radio General Corporation announces its interest in inviting for general bid number (11) 2008, for importing, supervising installation, checking, operating, confirming, and submitting an unwritten guarantee for Generating Units of electricity with its stuff for Yamania Channel.

All the interested candidates apply with their written request for this bid during the official work time to the following address:

The TV and Radio General Corporation General Administration for Projects Tel: (01/ 230752)

For buying and getting the entire bid documents with receipt: $(300 \)$ non refundable. The deadline of selling the documents is 23/7/2008.

The file should be enveloped and sealed with the red wax and submitted to the secretary of bids and out-bids committee of the corporation. The file should be addressed with name of the authority, the name of the project, the number of the bid, and the name of the applicant, and the file should include all the following documents:

- 1- Submitting unconditional banking warranty with amount to (5800\$) valid for 120 days starting from the day of opening the files or by a payable check.
- 2- Submitting a copy of the taxing card valid for 2008, (all the foreign bidders, who don't work in Yemen, submit a copy of the register documents for extra cost taxation from their countries.
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The deadline of receiving the documents and opening the files at 11:00 am on Tuesday morning 29/7/2008 at the main branch of the corporation.

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Business

The cost of war on Sa'ada's economy

By: YemenTimes Staff

he ongoing confrontations in northern Yemen has had its toll on different aspects of life. Now in its 5th Month, the 5th Sa'ada war has proven to be the most vicious conflict in this part of the country during the last century, with devastating economic and human consequences.

Sa'ada governorate was known to produce some of the best agricultural crops for the country, including pomegranates, grapes, and apples, for sale in the domestic market as well as export for good margins, however, neither the local market or the international market received any of the produce for this year, due to the rebellious Al-Houthi group which destabilized the northern parts of the country.

For the last five months, thousand of workers were out of job due to the inability to work in agriculture during the time of war, and in consequence thousands of families lost their only source of income, thereby living in starvation and economizing on whatever little they might have.

In spite of the censorship and media blackout, YemenTimes had the unique opportunity of getting a small glimpse of the economic realities of the people of Sa'ada during the last few months. In the city of Sa'ada, most shop owners and businessmen close their shops and hide their inventory in order to keep it for their families or to avoid having



army personnel steal it, others open for a few hours and sell the products at 200-300% of their regular price, as the supply of foodstuff and other products into the governorate has completely stopped, with the exception of a few smugglers who supply basic items such as wheat, cooking oil, and selected medications, usually brought in from other governorates or stolen from camps or humanitarian assistance trucks. There is no business in Sa'ada city's abandoned markets, there are

only three shops in the whole town where you can buy a cookie – which is considered a luxury, two of these are next door to the governor's office.

The realities in rural areas are by far worse, where the wrath of war has destroyed any signs of livelihood, according to many displaced persons who are living in camps in Sa'ada city. They say that they were systemically starved away, with the supply of water, fuel, and electricity stopping, they had to leave as they can't live without

water, only to hear from other displaced persons who followed them to the camps that their houses were destroyed, and their farms burnt out by the military who are seeking the rebels.

There is no economic activity whatsoever in the war zone of Sa'ada, agriculture has been destroyed, and it will take at least a few years for it to recover. Houses and businesses have been destroyed, lives ruined, and for the current generation, only a reminder of what was will stay in their minds.

Doing good efficiently

By: Finn E. Kydland

olicymakers can concoct many excuses not to invest in global aid and development projects. Three weeks ago, I joined a group of five Nobel laureates and three distinguished economists to undermine one of those excuses, by providing information about where money can achieve the most good. For each issue examined, we focused on benefits relative to costs. To guide our thinking, we asked ourselves: if we had, say, an extra \$75 billion to spend, where could we achieve the most good? We put each challenge on an equal footing. Massive media hype about some problems was irrelevant.

At the bottom of our list were the least cost-effective investments the world could make, with the best places to spend money at the top. The lowest place (see list) was given to dealing with climate change through cuts in CO2 emissions.

This finding was based in part on research by a lead author for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change - the group that shared last year's Nobel Peace Prize - who noted that spending \$800 billion over 100 years solely on mitigating emissions would reduce inevitable temperature rises by just 0.2 degrees Celsius by the end of this century. Even taking into account some of the key environmental damage from warming, we would lose money on the investment, with returns of just \$685 billion. That does not mean that the planet should ignore climate change. A better response would be to increase dramatically research and development into low-carbon energy- an option that gained a respectable mid-placed ranking on our list. It makes little sense for the world to impoverish itself by embracing a poor solution to one problem when there are more pressing challenges that can be resolved at smaller expense. Similarly, we gave a low ranking to solutions to the challenge of outdoor air pollution. Many measures used in the developed world to reduce vehiclecaused smog - including particulate filters and "inspection and maintenance" schemes - are prohibitively expensive in the developing world. We could get slightly higher benefits by focusing on indoor air pollution. One and a half million people die each year from the effects of using solid fuel on poor stoves without ventilation. Getting improved stoves to half the people affected would cost \$2.3 billion. Our top-ranked solutions were in areas that we don't hear much about. Unglamorous interventions like deworming would allow children to be

RANKING WORLD INVESTMENTS

- 1. Micronutrient supplements for children (vitamin A and zinc)
- The Doha development agenda
 Micronutrient fortification (iron and
- salt iodization) 4. Expanded immunization coverage
- for children5. Improving agricultural technology
- De-worming and other schoolbased nutrition programs
 Lowering the price of schooling
- Increasing and improving girls' education by paying mothers to send them to school
- 9. Community-based nutrition promotion
- 10. Support for women's reproductive role to reduce gender inequity
- 11. Low-cost heart attack drugs for better nourished; lowering the cost of

schooling would see children and count nations benefit. firs We concluded that there would be high benefits from providing micronu-

developing countries

- Malaria prevention and treatment
 Tuberculosis identification and
- il- treatment 14. R&D in low-carbon energy tech
 - nologies to combat global warming 15. Bio-sand filters for household water treatment
 - 16. Pumps and wells to improve water coverage in rural areas
 - 17. Conditional cash transfers to increase the number of children
 - receiving education 18. Peace-keeping in post-conflict situations to reduce the risk of civil war
 - 19. HIV "combination" prevention package
- 20. Total sanitation campaign to reduce the number of "open defecation"
- 21. Improving surgical capacity at district hospital level

ple of the globe's challenges, but we could achieve a lot more if we focused first on where our spending would be most rational.

22. Microfinance to women to reduce gender inequity

- 23. Improved stove intervention to reduce indoor air pollution
- 24. Large, multipurpose dam in Africa to improve water coverage
- 25. Inspection and maintenance of diesel vehicles to reduce outdoor air pollution
- 26. Low-sulfur diesel for urban road vehicles to reduce outdoor air pollution
- 27. Diesel vehicle particulate control technology to reduce outdoor air
- r pollution 28. Tobacco tax to reduce heart disease and cancer
- 29. A package of R&D and mitigation to combat global warming
- 30. Mitigation of carbon emissions to reduce global warming

Prize in Economics in 2004, is Chair in Economics at the University of California, Santa Barbara, and was a member of the Copenhagen Consensus 2008 Export Panel Convright: Project

Business In Brief

Yemen to develop Food Security Strategy

I n consultation with donors, the government of Yemen has finally agreed to develop a food security strategy aiming at reducing the impact of food price shocks on the Yemeni people, improve nutrition levels, as well as create a strategic reserve of food to Yemen.

France Funds Electric Management Project

The French Development Agency in Yemen has agreed to fund Yemen's electric control system (ESCADA) with 26 million euros. Implementation of this project is expected to decrease the waste in energy levels as well as reduce diesel consumption for electricity generation.

MPIC: Poor Monitoring Delays Development Projects

International Cooperation declared that the prime reason for delay in the implementation of development projects is due to the poor monitoring of progress in implementation in accordance to the requirements of donors. This was with specific reference to the implementation of donor pledges during the 2006 consultative meeting.

Workforce survey completes fifth phase

Administered by the central statistical organization, the fifth phase of the workforce survey was completed, concluding surveys in Taiz and Aden governorates. The survey aims at helping the government do proper economic planning to consider labour available and employment opportunities required.

Central Bank pumps US\$ 742 million in 2008

The Central Bank of Yemen has already pumped US\$ 742 million so far in 2008 in several interventions in order to stabilize the currency exchange rate in the country, the most recent intervention was on the 25th of June for US\$ 97 million.

80 million Riyals disappears from court

he Ministry of Justice is investigating the disappearance of around 80 million Riyals from the treasury of the commercial court in Sana'a, which was seized as a result of several on-going lawsuits.

Tenders Authority calls for Transparency

Director of the newly-formed Supreme Tenders Committee has called on all government agencies to adhere to transparency standards as stated in the tenders law, adding that his committee will follow on government tendering procedures and will deal severely with any officials who violent tendering law.

Fisheries to Develop a Fishing Database

The Ministry of fisheries and marine wealth has a plan to develop a fishing database, to include statistics on Yemen's wealth of fisheries, annual production, returns, as well as the number of fishermen, fishing boats, fishing associations, and other actors in order to be able to develop a proper strategy to develop the fisheries sector.

Construction of Sana'a Towers to start before year end

bint before year end irector of the General Authority for Real Estate Development and Investment Saad Sabra stated that the construction of Sana'a towers project will start by October of this year. The project will consist of eight residential sky scrapers along with suitable facilities and immunities.

President Welcomes Japanese Investments

uring his meeting with the Japanese vice minister of foreign affairs, president Saleh has reaffirmed his appreciation of Japan's official development assistance to Yemen, calling on the Japanese government and people to invest in Yemen promising that the government will do all it can to facilitate Japanese investments.

Shoura Council Advises Reforming Electricity Sector

The Shoura Consultative Council

has advised that the government reforms the electricity sector in such a manner that will reduce the burden of subsidizing electricity generation on the national budget. Adding that the budget has paid up 138 billion Riyals in subsidies for electricity generation, and this number must be reduced.

Felix airlines delays launch

emen's new domestic airline 'Felix' has announced that it will delay the launch for one additional month, until October 26, 2008. The delay was attributed to the holy month of Ramadhan, within which most business activity slows down.

Hyundai Inaugurates showroom in Lahej

The National Trading Company, agents of Hyundai in Yemen, has inaugurated their show room, maintenance facility, and spare parts store in Lahej governorate last week. This investment costed over 400 million Riyals.

YemenMobile Expands network coverage

Provide the end of the expansion will allow the expansion of the expansion will allow the expansion of the e

trients – particularly vitamin A and zinc – to undernourished children in South Asia and Sub-Saharan Africa. These help prevent neonatal death. The cost is tiny: reaching 80% of the world's 140 million or so undernourished children would require a commitment of around \$60 million annually, while the economic gains would eventually clear \$1 billion a year.

Providing iron and iodized salt is another top investment. Fortifying products with iron costs as little as \$0.12 per person, per year. We know that iron deficiency leads to cognitive and developmental problems. For \$286 million we could get iodized salt and fortified basic food items to 80% of those in the worst-affected areas, with benefits estimated to be roughly nine times that sum.

A solution of a different sort is the removal of trade barriers. Even accounting for the costs to short-term losers (say, particular industries or workers with certain skills), the overall long-term benefits can be large. Unless the economies of developing countries grow, they will remain mired in poverty. By reducing trade barriers, per capita income will grow, enabling poor countries to address other problems by themselves.

This was the second Copenhagen Consensus. While our bottom-ranked solutions remained more or less the same as four years ago, the top-ranked item in 2004, prevention of HIV/AIDS, was rated lower this time because of subsequent progress.

This project provides a sound basis on which to measure and compare different uses of scarce resources. It might be fashionable to talk about just a couFinn E. Kydland, awarded the Nobel Syndicate, 2008.

2008 Expert Panel. Copyright: Project Syndicate, 2008.

The Embassy of Italy in Sana'a officially informs that a selection procedure has been opened to recruit an

INTERPRETER/TRANSLATOR

Job aim:

To support Embassy's various activities, particularly in the commercial field, providing timely and accurate oral/written translation in the following languages: Arabic/Italian/English.

Essential competences and skills;

- Excellent written and oral communication skills in Arabic, Italian and English;
- Flexibility and capacity to work in a dynamic environment;
- Ability to interact with people;
- Administrative skills;
- Good knowledge of informatics' main tools;
- Secondary School diploma;
- Driving License valid for Yemen;
- Yemeni citizenship or foreign nationality with at least 2 years of residence in Permit

Candidates can obtain a reference model for their application form contacting the Embassy of Italy in Sana'a, for a detailed job description and any other inquiries please contact the Italian Embassy in Sana'a – Safiah Janubia P.O.Box 1152 tel. 269164/5

Closing date for application is July 31, 2008

The Italian Embassy in Sana'a is committed to a policy of equal opportunity and welcomes applications from all sections of the community



Request for Proposal

The World Bank intends to issue a Request For Proposal (RFP) for the selection of a Architectural and Engineering Firm to provide a full range of architectural and engineering services for the construction of a new World Bank Office Building in Sanaa, Yemen. The scope of work is primarily geotechnical studies, base building construction, interior fit-out and installation of new utilities connections, HVAC, plumbing, electrical work and communication infrastructure installations.

The Solicitation, **RFP 09-0032** will be available to interested firms from Saturday, July 5, 2008 through Friday, July 25, 2008

A copy of the RFP may be obtained by sending an e-mail to the designated Contracting Officer, (Kamal Altafullah, e-mail: kaltafullah@worldbank.org) referencing the following information:

- 1. Solicitation Number: RFP 09-0032
- 2. Company Name
- 3. Contact Person Name and Title
- 4. Address
- 5. Telephone Number
- 6. Fax Number
- 7. Contact's Email Address

Copies of the RFP can also be collected in person from the World Bank Office in Sanaa by contacting: **Mr. Naji Abu-Hatim**, Hadda, Street No. 40 (Off, Damascus Road), P.O.Box 18152, Sana'a, Republic of Yemen, tel.: (+967-1) 421 623/8; fax: (+967-1) 413 709



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Human Resource Advisor Position # 0830

- Conducts employee orientation and provides advice and information to employees on a variety of aspects related to the human resources policies to maintain good employee relations in the workplace.
- Collects and enters Expat time sheets and prepares excess days reconciliations to ensure expat pay is completed accurately and in a timely way.
- Assists with HR correspondence with government to provide support in the implementation of all Nexen HR programs and initiatives.
- Collects all relevant data from new employees, prepares letters for translation and follows up with Travel and Administration to obtain approval of MOM for new employees coming into Yemen
- Arranges and coordinates orientation, safety and on boarding activities for new employees and works with camp administration to ensure new employees are informed of policies.
- Coordinates internal announcements for new employees, employee changes, job postings and other employment notices to ensure information is correctly distributed.
- Responsible for timely data entry and the integrity of the information in ABRA as it relates to expatriate employees and contractors
- Assist with the recruitment process for field positions, scheduling, interviews, references and documentation
- As required assist with the National invoice review process and other employee benefits related to leaves of absence, National vacation tracking at the Terminal etc.
- Updates all National policy & procedures including Field Job descriptions to ensure they are accurate.

Minimum Requirements:

- a. Bachelor's degree in Business Administration, Human Resources, Liberal Arts or Social Sciences discipline.
- b. Minimum of 3 years experience in an administrative role, preferably within an HR Department.
- c. Intermediate knowledge of word processing, spreadsheets and data base applications such as Lotus Notes and HRIS applications.
- d. Very good knowledge of English.

\bullet if you would like to apply for this position please send your resume to:

- Recruiting_yemsana@nexeninc.com
- Applications should be submitted NOnter than July 15th, 2008. Faxed applications will not be considered.

Your Goal is Our Goal

AMERICAN



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Nexen is a Canadian-based, global energy company growing value responsibly. We are strategically positioned in some of the world's most exciting regions: the **North Sea**, deep-water **Gulf of Mexico, Middle East**, offshore **West Africa** and the **Canadian Athabasca** oil sands, Nexen has attractive compensation package with a great focus on individual training and other benefits including medical coverage for the employee and his Family including parents. Nexen has job opportunities at two projects in YEMEN. Canadian Nexen Petroleum Yemen - Masila (BLK14) & Canadian Petroleum Yemen East Al-Hajr (BLK51).

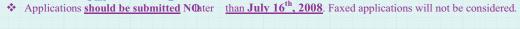
Warehouseman Position # 98125

- a. Locates materials in SAP catalogue to match user's request. Finds items in store and removes requested quantity for issue. Completes Goods Issue Slip (GIS)
- b. Validates coding and recipient authorization prior to releasing material.
- c. Ensures all end users are notified by telephone or e-mail when orders are available for pick-up.
- d. Conducts cycle counts on a regular basis to validate SAP data base accuracy. Initiates adjustment requests as required to correct any discrepancies.
- e. Scans material and user ID (bar-code scanner) to record goods issue in real time.
- f. Directs contract labor Foreman to assist in work Completion
- g. Ensures all on-site contract labor for Logistics work in accordance with Nexen's safety standards and Responsible Care awareness (use of Personal Protective Equipment - PPE, Hazardous Material Handling, and Forklift/Crane safety operations/certification verification).
- h. Demonstrates thorough knowledge of Hazardous Chemical Handling including successful completion of the EH&S Chemical Safety course, appropriate MSDS knowledge and application, proper use of Personal Protective Equipment and proper Hazardous Signing. Demonstrates thorough knowledge of Company's Responsible Care initiatives.
- i. Demonstrates knowledge of MEPAW Browser to look up and report status of open orders in transit.
- j. Maintains the orderly storage of received parts and supplies according to commodity classification. Includes determining bin location for storage of new line items, and reallocation of existing stored items.
- k. Participates with Supervisor in weekly rounds for Housekeeping Schedule.
- I. Chairs monthly Safety Meeting on a rotating basis.
- m. Participates in annual physical inventory audit.

Minimum Requirements:

- a. Completion of grade12 education.
- b. 2 years' storekeeping experience or equivalent.
 c. Good knowledge of English (oral and written).
- c. Good knowledge of English (oral and written).d. Good PC skills required. SAP knowledge an asset.
- d. Good PC skills required. SAP knowledge an assee. Ability to work in a multicultural environment.
- e. Ability to work in a maticalitation of them.

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Readers' View



What should be the definition of a millionaire?

By: Ivan Simic *ivansimic10@gmail.com* **Belgrade, Serbia**

millionaires, millionaires, millionaires. Day after day, we watch and read about millionaires – actor millionaires, singer millionaires, heiress millionaires and others. Every day, the number of the world's millionaires increases with lightning speed.

This "millionaire" phenomenon has become very important in our global society. In fact, millionaires and billionaires sometimes are front-page news, ahead of even domestic or global issues. In relation, large numbers of companies, newspapers and television stations are conducting detailed research on these treasured assets...but are they all really millionaires? According to the encyclopedia, a millionaire is an individual who resides in a household whose net worth or wealth exceeds a million units of any currency. However, it also may be one who owns a million units of any currency in cash, bank or savings accounts.

Because the world has faced rapid development in its global economy from the 19th century to today, it's come to the point where being a millionaire isn't prestigious like it was before. Now that there are plenty of millionaires and billionaires around the globe, they need a new expression in order to distinguish themselves.

Thus, today we have multimillionaires (a net worth of two or more million), hectomillionaires (a net worth of a hundred or more million) and billionaires (a net worth of one or more billion).

In the past 10 years, with the enormous growth of hectomillionaires and billionaires, millionaires and multimillionaires with just a few million are considered middle class millionaires. In contemporary language, they just aren't super rich.

Looking at the 2007 World Wealth Report (a report on individuals with a net worth of at least \$1 million in all assets except their primary residence) - Annual World Wealth Report from Merrill Lynch compiled by Capgemini, we can see that the world's High Net Worth (HNW) population grew to 9.5 million, with their assets increased to \$37.2 trillion.

Merrill Lynch also reports that there are 9.5 million HNWI millionaires worldwide and 95,000 multimillionaires (UHNWIs with more than \$30 million). In 2007, Forbes Magazine reported 946 billionaires in the world, with total accumulated wealth of \$3.5 trillion. Looking at private banking, a High Net Worth Individual (HNWI) is one with a net worth of \$1 million or more in investable assets (not including primary assets). An Ultra High Net Worth Individual (UHNWI) refers to those individuals or families with at least \$30 million in investable assets.

According to the previously mentioned definition, a millionaire is any individual owning a million units of any currency, but according to private banking, a millionaire is one who owns a million U.S. dollars. Thus, those with ¤800,000 aren't counted as millionaires in their countries.

No one, including beneficiary banks, recognizes these individuals as millionaires, but if we exchange this amount for U.S. dollars, these individuals become millionaires, so can this report on the number of the world's millionaires be true? There's no definition or internationally recognized model for the U.S. dollar being the currency to identify or count the world's or individual wealth. Yes, the United States dollar has been the "de facto" world currency since the 20th century, and even as of 2007, the dollar still had the largest share at 63.3 percent of foreign reserve holdings, while the euro had some 26.5 percent.

However, since 2000, the dollar's share has been falling and the euro's has been rising. As of December 2006, the euro surpassed the dollar in combined value of cash in circulation. The value of euro notes in circulation has risen to more than p610 billion, equivalent to \$800 billion; therefore, the euro has become the currency with the highest combined value of cash in circulation in the world.

A million U.S. dollars exchanged in other currencies doesn't always make a millionaire. For example, \$1 million at the May 23 exchange rate was equivalent to ¤634,698.99, £505,114.98 or

265,450.01 Kuwaiti dinars.

Looking at the above example, we can see that the Kuwaiti dinar was the strongest currency unit. In fact, the Kuwaiti dinar is the world's highest valued currency unit, having been re-pegged to a host of currencies since May 20, 2007. However, the Kuwaiti dinar isn't so called "hard currency," isn't of very much use outside of Kuwait and is tied to that nation's economy. On the other hand, Britain's pound sterling and the euro are hard currencies. They are reserve currencies and currencies with good buying power that are widely accepted as a reliable store of value, yet we don't see them as a model for counting world wealth.

The U.S. dollar isn't the strongest currency unit, especially now, when even the Cuban convertible peso and the Azerbaijani manat are stronger than the dollar! Therefore, using U.S. dollars as the currency unit or as a model to identify millionaires is giving the wrong picture of who is a millionaire in the world.

It's very simple: companies that conduct research and others should conduct their research based upon the highest valued currency – if not the Kuwaiti dinar, then the euro or the British pound sterling, those higher currencies that remain so.

Thus, what should be the definition of a millionaire? Perhaps a millionaire is an individual whose net wealth exceeds a sufficient amount of units of any currency when exchanged at a million units of the world's highest valued currency unit or the world's highest anchor currency unit. It also may be one who owns enough units of any currency when exchanged worth a million units of the world's highest valued currency unit or the world's highest anchor currency unit in cash, bank or savings accounts.

If an individual has enough currency to buy a million of the world's highest valued currency unit or the world's highest anchor currency unit, then that person should be counted as a millionaire. This way, we'd have only around 100 billionaires and much fewer millionaires, which would make some sense and bring back the original meaning of being a millionaire or a billionaire.



Primary and secondary school exams: a responsibility of all

Il of us have heard of the various means devoted to the success of primary and secondary and school examinations, the purpose of which is to achieve success not in only completing this process peacefully, but to achieve the ultimate aim of the examinations.

Exams are a means to evaluate students' educational level. This contributes to producing educated and qualified personnel who, in one way or another, will help develop our nation in numerous aspects. If this exam goal fails, there will be no educated or qualified personnel and, as a result, no any attempts to develop "our poor country."

Educational success is the foundation stone to developing a country and this stone foundation largely depends upon successful examinations. The authorities attempt to achieve this, but they sometimes don't. Nevertheless, each of us is responsible for the success of the exam process.

What astonishes me and many others is that many families do their utmost to ensure that their sons and daughters pass their exams, doing so by spending a lot of time and money to offer what they term "assistance."

Let's consider some examples in which families try, as they believe, to help those students taking primary or secondary exams.

For example, some parents attempt to get to know the staff who will observe their children's examinations. They do this before exams begin either to attempt to establish relationships with them or sometimes replace them with others. Such parents spend large amounts of time and money only for this, claiming that they're "helping," without realizing the negative impact on their children's future, as well as the entire nation.

In another case, some parents accompany their children to the examination center on the first day of exams for the sole purpose of offering help, sometimes not knowing whether their sons and daughters actually need such help or not. Once at the exam center, such parents use every possible means to contact their children inside the examination hall, sometimes paying the head of the center or security guards to let them into the hall, where they then offer the observers money to let the students cheat.

Parents also sometimes bring teachers with them to answer their children's exams questions. The answers then are passed to the students either by the parents themselves, security guards, the exam observer or even the head of the examination committee.

Some parents also prove to be extremely sincere and helpful to their children following exams, for which they've made every attempt to help the students, continuing to offer their "assistance" afterward by paying not just security guards or exam observers, but some (I'm sure it's not all) educators, who promise parents that they'll do many things to ensure that their children pass their exams with high scores.

And they keep promising as they take money from these parents. What's interesting is that these educators always claim that such funds are to be paid for the sake of other higher ranking educators with more authority, but do such individuals really do anything for these students?

If these educators actually don't do anything, that's really funny for these parents who usually repeat this every year because they always search for such persons, although they doubt them at times.

On the other hand, if these educators really do something for these students, it's a real crisis within the field of education because such educators are responsible for acting against the law and moral principles; therefore, they should be blamed and punished.

However, parents also are to be blamed for their misunderstanding and all such behavior, which shows their ignorance of their children's educational levels. By doing such things, they also inadvertently encourage their children and those who care for them to grab as much money as possible via such fruitful methods.

I'm sorry to say all of this, but it's the simple reality of numerous instances that have happened in previous years. I'm not here to attack anyone, but rather to reveal the negative impacts of such acts, which are telling about the individual, society and our nation as a whole. All of us should be aware of this so that our education sector can improve its procedures and outcomes.

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

By: Noorin Mohammed Hassan

ne of my favorite channels is Al- Resala TV and although it usually displays a lot of interesting programs, only one has really caught my attention and certainly influenced my life forever.

A kid who couldn't have been older than 6 years old was reciting Qura'an on Al- Manar TV. Watching that kid struck me, I was embarrassed and even ashamed. The kid was not reading, but actually reciting verses. Verses I had no clue about. Not only did I not know the verses, but neither did I understand the drums and they all started to sing and even dance. They were singing the lyrics of an English song, a really popular one, at least among youth. But I had no clue as I was never interested in music and although I spoke English very well, I couldn't understand the words they were saying. As the fast rhythm continued to vibrate the bus all along the road to Aden, I had made a promise to myself. I promised myself to start following the latest songs, the trends. I was simply promising to myself to be cool.

To my detriment, I thought it would be a good idea to listen to all hip-hop songs and download their lyrics. Deep about how people in Britain and the western world in general have created a stereotype against Muslims, and that is when he was interrupted by the host who retorted that Muslims should indeed face trials and tribulations. The host continued to accuse Muslims of extremism, terrorism and fundamentalism.

The scholar was surprisingly calm and waited for the host to finish his comments. He then simply replied with part of a verse from the Qura'an: "O People of the Book! Commit no extremism in your religion, nor say of Allah aught but the truth. ..." (Surah al-Nisa, V: 171)

He also explained that the above verse was in reference to the "People of the Book" being extreme in their religion to the point that they considered Jesus (peace be upon him) to be the son of God, and that it has a general application to it, as is the case with all the verses of the Qura'an. But that did not do it, as the host retorted again and even louder this time. He was furious as he explained that nothing but extremist Islamic beliefs caused the attacks on the London underground tube network.

Wake up!

Practice happiness

to kill a human being, Muslim or non-Muslim, without an Islamically justified reason (such as someone who is guilty of murder, and this too is only permitted for those who have legal authority).

The killing of the innocents is against basic human rights, and has absolutely no place in Islam. The Shariah of the Messenger of Allah (may Allah bless him & give him peace) was sent to protect five fundamental interests or universals (maqasid/kuliyyat), these are: preservation of religion (hifz al-din), preservation of life (hifz al-nafs), preservation of intellect (hifz al-aql), preservation of lineage (hifz al-nasl), and preservation of wealth (hifz almal). Things that harm any of these five universals are contrary to the very foundations of "Divine Law."

had saved the life of all mankind. ..." (Surah al-Ma'ida, V: 32)

And He Most High states:

"Allah forbids you not, with regards to those who fight you not for (your) Faith nor drive you out of your homes, from dealing kindly and justly with them: for Allah loves those who are just." (Surah al-Mumtahina, V: 8) And:

"... Take not life, which Allah has made sacred, except by way of justice and law: thus dose He command you, that you may learn wisdom." (Surah al-An'am, V: 151) The host replied with a not so confident tone stating part of a verse he had seen in the Oura'an that orders Muslims to slay non- Muslims. This was, "And slay them wherever ye catch them. ... By that time I was feeling so tense, and into the show. Someone would've though I was sitting in the scholar's chair, because that was exactly how I felt. If I was ever in such a position, would I have the background and knowledge to defend my religion? I knew the answer and it hurt badly. Fortunately, the scholar was not ignorant like I was and replied with a very reasonable answer. He explained that this was only part of the verse 191 in chapter two (Al-Bagarah) of the Qura'an. He also added that taking half verses or phrases out of their original context can create altered insinuations

and even distort their full meaning. He then read all the related verses in full context, 190-192, which totally clarified the picture for both me and the host.

Later that day, I headed towards my library and took the "Mos-haf" (Qura'an).

I gently cleaned it as layers of dust covered the cover of the book.

Thinking that the smaller ones were going to be easier to understand, I opened the last section of it, in an attempt to avoid the larger verses.

Tears drew up on the rims of my eyes, as the words struck me. I read them very well, but did not know the

precise meaning of them. I knew it was talking about the afterlife, something about hell and heaven. Yet I did not know the precise meanings of the words.

Yes, I am an Arabic native speaker who was born in a Middle Eastern country, who was raised on Arabic and Islamic traditions, but somehow the words made no sense to me.

At that moment, a memory of a similar feeling flew into my head. Years back, when I was in secondary school, I had the exact same feeling, the feeling of ignorance, and I was similarly embarrassed. It was the last day of exams and the school had arranged a trip for us to Aden. As the bus sped toward the paved road through the mountains, the students began to hit down something was telling me that this was a really bad way to waste my holiday, but I fooled myself by convincing thinking that this was indeed the one and only one way to improve my English.

The holiday passed and I was extremely proud of my accomplishments, I had studied the lyrics, the rhythms and was feeling perfectly confident to step into high school.

Trying to wipe away these memories, I switched the channel and I have always been fond of debates. I decided to watch a debate held on a news show. The debate was between a Muslim scholar and the host.

It was mainly about the link people have created between Islam and terrorism. The scholar was complaining Amazingly, once again, the scholar remained calm and replied that these attacks and many others have nothing to do with our religion. He explained that: Islam does not allow the killing of innocent civilians and non-combatants under any circumstance. It is unlawful The host remained quite for few seconds and then asked the scholar to prove his statements from Qura'an.

It didn't take a second for the scholar to answer the host's question in a humble yet confident tone. Actually, he stated several phrases from the verses to prove his statements.

Allah Most High states clearly in the Qura'an:

"For that cause, We decreed for the Children of Israel that whosoever kills a human for other than manslaughter or corruption in the earth, it shall be as if he had killed all humanity; and whoso saves the life of one, it shall be as if he meaning of some of them. At each sentence there was at least one word that I did not understand. Some words made perfect sense, but I couldn't understand the whole context of what it was saying.

Since that day I have realized how ignorant I was to waste days and nights memorizing lyrics. After years and years of unawareness, remorse had finally found its way to my heart and I promised myself to really read this book rather than just hang it on the shelf.

I cry out to all people, especially youth, to wake up and realize that living in the virtual world will not defend Islam and will certainly only add to the misconceptions people have created about Islam and Muslims.

By: Tareq Al-Adil tareqaladil@yahoo.com

aving a happy and delightful life is an easy matter; you just have to start doing things that will make it so. One important thing is to look after and take care of yourself – without thinking that you're being selfish in doing so because a happy life starts with oneself. Discover who you really are and what interests you the most. Having a nice life requires, planning and applying to your life those plans that reflect who you really are. Understand yourself, making that your real friend and the supporter you need. Everyone has a power stored within, but this power must be guided in order to make one happy. The only one able to tap into this power and get it working on his or her happiness is oneself. Therefore, use it to direct yourself to the path of happiness and satisfaction. When you tap into this power, you'll discover how wonderful and capable you really are. Continue using this power to reach the true path, which will guide you to good dreams that will come true.

Most people who talk about happiness describe it like a bird in hand, meaning it easily can fly out of your hand like a bird. People who can't keep themselves happy don't distinguish between happiness and pleasure. We can attain happiness by polishing our values and then living according to them. People think that with faith, one can get all of the power to be happy and successful in life. Thus, this way, you can keep the bird in your hand.

Being happy means you're self-controlled. People like this are always successful in school and work – optimistic, realistic and happier. People who make life simple and, as the saying goes, "Take it easy," report greater happiness and satisfaction in life. And the happier you are, the better you perform.

When you're healthy, although not necessarily wealthy, you feel happy. Remarkably, many wealthy people aren't happy for many reasons; thus, wealth isn't a foundation for happiness, as true happiness reflects one's success, health and motivation. People say, "How we can be happy when we aren't?" Being happy may not always be easy because we sometimes don't possess positive, optimistic or realistic qualities or have such a nature; hence, it's difficult to change one's traits, habits and environment.

However, if one desires to be happy, he or she may practice happiness. For example, one who laughs practices happiness, so – Ha! Ha! Ha! Indeed, some things that make people happy include a fit and healthy body, realistic goals, good friendships, marriage, faith and

numerous other things that can be achieved with little patience. A smile is another key to happiness, so try to smile and laugh because this will make a big difference in your life.

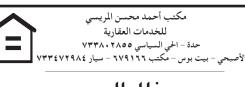
Another thing to do in order to be happy is to get rid of the bad things in your life, replacing them with good things. All of these things must be applied and practiced. Of course, some will be difficult and not easy to do at first, but with time and persistence in becoming happy, everything will be achieved, so practice, practice, practice. Hard life attitudes, crises, problems and tragic events affect happiness. No matter how happy you are, as a human being, problems will come. However, the one with a positive outlook and traits will be the first to return to a normal, happy life quickly, whereas those who concentrate on their problems, failures and misery will find themselves unable to shake them and be happy again. Instead, they can change all of this with courage, hope, power, faith and confidence.

Start doing these things in order to have a happy, satisfied and pleasant life. We live in a marvelous world that has good and bad things. To be happy, you must apply these things and put them to use in practical life. Put things you already have to work in your life. Be yourself and start living in a happy manner.

إعلانات مبوبة

للطد

15



فلل للبيع

فيلا جديد، دور واحد، حي المثلث الذهبي، مساحة الأرضية حوالي ٦،٦٦ لبن ر ، ۳۲ مليون ريال

فيلا جديد، دور واحد، حي الإسكان، ٥ غرف، حمامين، مساحة الأرضية ٧ لبن ىر، ٣٥ مليون ريال

دور وبدروم، شارعين ركن، المثلث الذهبي، ١١لبنه حر، ٦ غرف، ٣ حمامات طبخ، البدروم كامل، ٥٥ مليون ريال

دور وبدروم جديد، ١٣ لبنه، شارعين ركن، ٦ غرف، ٣ حمامات ومطبخ، كبير، للطيب ممتاز، حي المهندسين، ٨٠ مليون

دور وبدروم جديد، كبير، ٦غرف، ٣ حمامات ومطبخ، ١٥ لبنه، حي المثلث الذهبي، ۷ ملیون ریال

دورين وبدروم، جديد، ٧ لبن، ٦٥ مليون ريال

دورين وبدروم، حي شميله، قريب جداً من السوق، ١١ لبنه حر، شارع ١٤ متر. عر البيع ٨٠ مليون ريال



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- سكان هواء - زجاج اتوماتيك - مكيف

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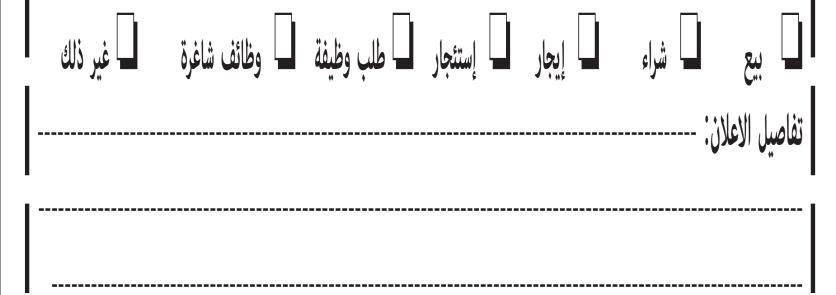
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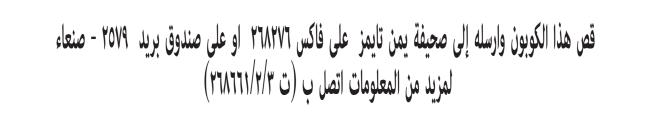
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فاکس:۲٦٠٨٢٤ ت: ۲٦٠٨٢٤–١–٩٦٧ بنك اليمن والخليج فرع عدن :ت/ ۲۳۷۸۲۹ - ۲. فاکس/۲۳۷۸۲٤ بنك التضامن الإسلامي ت: ١/٦٦٦٦٦٦ لبنك التجاري ت: ٢٧٧٢٢٤ فاكس : ٢٧٧٢٩١ مصرف اليمن البحرين الشامل ت: ٢٦٤٧٧٥,٢٦٤٧٠ فاکس: ۲٦٤٧٠٣,٥٠٣٣٥٠ ت: ۶۰۷۰۳۰ -۰۱

بنك اليمن الدولى لىنك العربي ت: ۲/٥٨٥/٢ -١٠ بنك التسليف الزراعي ت : ٠١-٥٦٣٨١٣ لبنك المركزي: ت: ۲۷٤۳۱٤ -۱۰

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ت: ۲۳۷۵۰۰ -۱۱ فنق شيراتون فندق موفمبيك ت: ٥٤٦٦٦٦ - ١٠ فاكس: ٥٤٦٠٠٠ فندق تاج سبأ ت:۲۷۲۳۷۲ -۰۱ فندق ریلاکس ان ت: ٤٤٩٨٧١ -٠١ فندق وأجنحة الخليج السياحي ت: ۸/۱۰۲۱۳۰ - ۲۰۲۱۳۰ -۱

فنادق

معاهد

معهد یالی ت: ۳۸-٤٤٨٠٣٩ ٤٤٥٤٨٢ فاکس: ٤٤٨٠٣٧ ت: ۲۰۰۹٤٥ معهد اللغة الألمانىه المعهد البريطاني للغات والكمبيوتر ت: ٢٦٦٢٢٢ فاكس: ٥١٤٧٥٥ معهد کاروکوس ت: ٥٣٢٤٣٤/٥ فاکس: ٥٣٢٤٣٦ معهدأیکتك ت: ۲۲۰۸۳۳ - ۵۱۰۶۱۳ فاکس: ۲٦٥٥٣٧

شركات للتأمين

الوطنية للتأمين ت :۲۷۲۷۱۳/۲۷۲۸۷۴ فاکس:۲۷۲۹۲٤ صنعاء ت: ۲۰٦۱۲۹/۸/۱۳ مأرب للتأمين الشركة اليمنية الإسلامية للتأمين وإعادة التأمين صنعاء ت: ۲۸٤۱۹۳، مدن ت: ۲٤٤۲۸۰ تعز ت: ۲٥٨٨٨١ شركة اليمن للتأمين صنعاء ت: ٢٧٢٨٠٦/٢٧٢٩٦٢/٤٣ عدن ت: ۲٤٧٦١٧ نعز ت: ۲۵۰۳٤٥

مدارس

ت: ٤١٤-٠٢٦/٤٢٤-٤٣٣ ىدرسة رينبو ت: ۳۷۰۱۹۱/۲ فاکس:۳۷۰۱۹۳ مدارس صنعاء الدولية ت: ۹/۸۵۲۸۶۶ مدرسة التركيه الدوليه مدرسة الماجد اليمنيه ت: ۲۰٦۱۵۹

مدغريات

ت: ۲۷۰۷۵۰ لنسيم للسفريات ت: ۲۰/۴۵۱۱۵۶۶ العالميه للسفريات والسياحه

مطاعم

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

YEMEN TIMES TIMES

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British Orientalist Painting at the Tate Gallery **The Lure of the East**

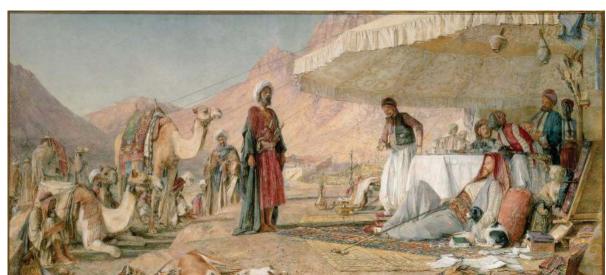
The Tate Gallery's exhibition on British Orientalist Painting explores the responses of British artists to the cultures and landscapes of the Near and Middle East between 1780 and 1930. Susannah Tarbush found out that the exhibits are more than just representations of an "imperialist gaze"

he cover of the catalogue for the exhibition "The Lure the East: British Orientalist Painting" shows the 1881 oil painting An Arab Interior by Scottish artist Arthur Melville. This captivating work portrays a white-bearded man, long tobacco pipe in hand, seated before a mashrabiyya, or latticed wooden screen. Exhibition curator Nicholas Tromans notes: "The patterns of strong sunlight falling through these screens into an interior became a favourite motif of British painters." The subdued interior is gently brightened by the rosy hues of the furnishings and the man's dress. An Arab Interior has an intimacy and warmth, and is an enticing introduction to the exhibition of some 115 works by 46 artists which runs at the Tate Britain gallery in London until the end of August.

Going East

The exhibition is organised in association with the Yale Center of British Art, in Connecticut, where it was first displayed in February-April this year. Following its run at Tate Britain the exhibition will move, in partnership with the British Council, to the Pera





According to John Ruskin "amongst the most wonderful pictures in the world": John Frederick Lewis's A Frank **Encampment in the Desert of Mount Sinai**

Museum in Istanbul (October-January) and Sharjah Art Museum (February-April).

Most of the pictures date from the 19th century, when the arrival of steam travel made parts of the Middle East and North Africa much more accessible. Many British artists visited the Eastern Mediterranean and its great cities. Some travelled directly by steamship. Others went via Spain and Morocco, or through Greece and the Balkans.

Among the artists who brought back images of the Orient were Edward Lear, William Holman Hunt, Thomas Seddon, David Roberts, Frank Dillon, Lord Frederic Leighton and William James Müller (son of a Prussian émigré).

New heights of achievement

The dominant presence in the exhibition is John Frederick Lewis, represented by 32 works. Lewis lived in Cairo for a decade from 1841, wearing local dress and living in a grand house. He executed nearly 600 watercolours and drawings during that time. Lewis is particularly known for his beautifully detailed interiors and harem scenes, of which the exhibition has fine examples including The

> Reception and Hhareem Life, Constantinople. In his masterpiece A Frank Encampment in the Desert of Mount Sinai, 1842, painted in

Debates on Orientalism in art

Inevitably, especially in a year that marks the 30th anniversary of publication of the late Edward Said's hugely influential but increasingly challenged book Orientalism, the exhibition is surrounded by debates on Orientalism in art. The exhibition organisers have tried to ensure that the issues are explored from both Western and Middle Eastern perspectives. Thirty prominent people, including Arab, Turkish and Jewish scholars and writers, have contributed their thoughts on particular works which are displayed alongside the exhibits.

Two of the four introductory essays in the handsome 224-page catalogue are by Arab women writers: Syrian Rana Kabbani and Moroccan Fatema Mernissi. Kabbani's essay, which is angry in tone, sees a link between pictures painted at a time when Britain enjoyed military and economic mastery over the peoples and places depicted, and the modern era "in which Britain has again participated in the occupation of an Arab country". She admits, though, that "many of these paintings have managed to preserve a poignant visual record of places that are now altered beyond recognition, or have vanished forever."

The West's attitude towards the dark - and the nude

Mernissi adopts a more forgiving approach in her essay Seduced by 'Samar', or: how British Orientalist painters learned to stop worrying and love the darkness. In her view the exhibition is "a wonderful opportunity to probe the link between the West's attitude towards the dark and its fear of Islam". She concludes that the pa

encounter with a different world "led not

to conflict but to creativity, and we have

Anyone coming to the exhibition in

much to learn from them."

It would be a pity if the mass of debate over Orientalist art acted as an invisible screen between visitors and the paintings on display. One visitor whose preconceptions were turned upside down was the British Asian Muslim columnist Yasmin Ablihai-Brown. She wrote in the Independent newspaper that she had gone to the exhibition prepared to detest the artists for presuming that through beauty they could deny the unforgivable truth, that they were upholders of illegitimate imperial privilege

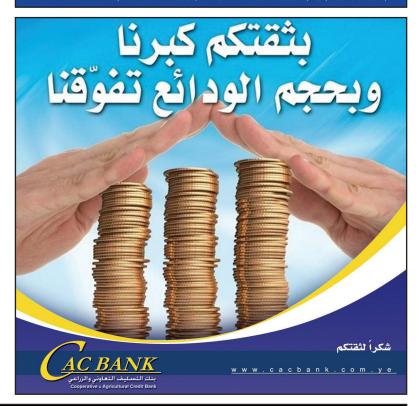
Instead: "All expectations fell away as I gazed upon painting after painting, many of which seemed, to my eye, expressions of undeclared love of the Middle East by white, Christian, upperclass gents, their secret pain and longings, the conflict between head and heart, between Antony and Cleopatra."

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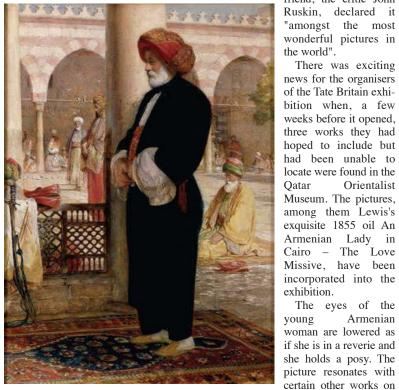


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Artistic master of his subject: John Frederick Lewis painted An Armenian Lady in Cairo in 1855



John Frederick Lewis lived in Cairo between 1841 and show, by Lewis and oth-1850. "Interior of a Mosque, Afternoon Prayer (The ers, in which the lan-'Asr)", was finished 1857, six years after his return to guage of flowers is an essential element. England

water colour technique reaches new heights of achievement. Commissioned by Viscount Castlereagh, the picture shows the aristocrat languidly

the world"

Oatar

exhibition.

young

There was exciting

news for the organisers

of the Tate Britain exhi-

weeks before it opened,

three works they had

had been unable to

locate were found in the

Museum. The pictures,

Cairo – The Love

woman are lowered as

if she is in a reverie and

Orientalist

the hope of seeing lurid and titillating examples of Orientalist art will be largely disappointed. One point made by the organisers is that there were marked difresting in his tent during a hunting expediferences between British Oriental artists tion. Lewis's close and those of certain other countries, in particular France. For all his numerous friend, the critic John Ruskin, declared it paintings of harem scenes, John Frederick Lewis, unlike some of his "amongst the most wonderful pictures in French counterparts, never painted a nude.

> Tromans points out: "The iconography of the odalisque - the Turkish sex slave whose image is offered up to the viewer as freely as she herself supposedly was to her master – is almost entirely French in origin." The odalisque is particularly associated with Jean-Auguste-Dominique Ingres, in paintings such as The Turkish Bath crowded with voluptuous nudes.

Combination of cruelty and eroticism exquisite 1855 oil An By way of drawing contrasts between the British and French Orientalist Armenian Lady in painters' approach, French painter Jean-Missive, have been Léon Gérôme's For sale: Slaves at Cairo incorporated into the is hung near the Scottish artist William Allan's The Slave Market. The eyes of the Constantinople. As typifies Gérôme's slave market paintings, For sale: Slaves Armenian at Cairo combines cruelty and eroticism - one of the slaves is naked, long dark hair cascading down between her she holds a posy. The breasts, others are revealingly clad. certain other works on Allan's painting, showing Turkish slavers on horseback splitting up the women of a captured Greek family, is melodramatic but has none of the prurience of Gérôme.

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The beginnings of English



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hen we look at the whole edifice of English literature, we find in it a mosaic of many

colours. That's because it bears the different shades of racial characteristics. The prismatic fancy of the Celt, the sombre passion of the Teuton, Scandinavian greys, Italian purples, and so on, all these with the passage of time have gone into its making. But of all these characteristics, the most predominant is the characteristic of the Anglo-Saxons who gave England its name, its language, and its culture.

The history of the British Isles goes far back to the Paleolithic and Neolithic Ages when the dark curlyhaired primitive race lived on the banks of the Thames and used tools and weapons made of stone. Later, these islands were subject to a series of invasions by the Celts, Romans, and Anglo-Saxons. The Celts were the ancient people of West Europe who came to these islands in the Bronze Age and settled in the north of England. In the first century BC, England was invaded by the Romans and remained under the Roman rule for about four hundred years. Time rolled on, and the Romans withdrew in 410, exposing the island to barbarous attacks by Germanic tribes. These tribes - the Angles, Saxons, and Jutes - came from the north-west of Europe, the region of Denmark, Holland, and Germany and started

the invasion of England in 449AD which continued for more than a hundred years. During this period, they established themselves in the south and the east of the island, gradually occupying its larger area.

These Germanic tribes originally lived on the shores of the Baltic and the North Sea in the eastern lowlands which the Roman historian Tacitus (55-120A.D) called by the general name of Germania. They were heathens and lived a pastoral life on the shores of the sea and in the clearings of the forest. They worshipped Odin, and their earlier literature had been oral. It consisted of songs and stories heroic and stirring in character. But with the passage of time, the

But with the passage of time, the Germanic tribes gave up their old ways of life and came under the influence of Christianity. While Rome was already the seat of Christian religion, a new monastery on the Scottish island of Iona was established by the Irish missionary St. Columba in the sixth century A.D. The sixth century A.D. wit-

nessed not only the foundation of the monastery on the island but also the landing of St. Augustine, the Roman missionary, in the Jutish Kingdom of Kent and the conversion of its Anglo-Saxon King Ethelbert to Christianity. In the seventh century A.D, most of the Anglo-Saxons were converted to Christianity and began to cultivate new culture and learning. The Venerable Bede, a scholarly churchman, produced in Latin a monumental work, Historia Ecclesiastica Gentis Anglorum, in the eighth century. He commanded great respect and is regarded as the father of English history. In the same century, Beowulf, "the greatest of Germanic epic poems", was composed in Old English. Besides this heroic poem, there are also some short elegies like "The Wanderer," "The Seafarer", and "Deor". These elegies are lyric laments - the laments of an exile, a hungry sailor on the wintry seas, and a wife parted from her husband.

In order to know the real strength of Old English, we must have a look

at its literature. The present context reminds me of the importance of literature in the history of a language suggested by A.C. Baugh:

The language of a past time is known by the quality of its literature. Charters and records yield their secrets to the philologist and contribute their quota of words and inflections to our dictionaries and grammars. But it is in literature that a language displays its full power, its ability to convey in vivid and memorable form the thoughts and emotions of a people.²

Beowulf is the first epic in English. It is a long narrative poem composed by an anonymous Christian scribe in Britain. But the material of which it is composed belongs to the distant pagan land of earlier times. The poem, therefore, is a mosaic of pagan tales placed in a Christian setting. It falls into two major parts. In the first part, Beowulf, a mighty warrior of royal Swedish blood, comes to the

court of King Hrothgar of Denmark in order to save him from the maneating monster Grendel. The monster often visits the King's great hall to prey upon his warrior. Beowulf fights against this monster and wounds him to death. When monster's mother comes to take revenge on Beowulf, he follows her to her under-water home. After a desperate struggle, he fortunately finds a huge sword with which he slays her. The second part takes place fifty years later when Beowulf, the nephew of King Hygelac of the Geats, is now himself the King of the Geats. A firebreathing dragon, guarding a hoard of treasures, has been disturbed and is, therefore, wreaking "slaughter throughout the land"3. Beowulf fights against the dragon and kills it. But he receives its venomous poison during the struggle and dies a heroic death. At the time of his death, he speaks boldly of his valour:

Continued on page 3

I. What to Say Situations and Expressions (103): Crime words

rime may be defined as an act or omission prohibited or punished by law. A 'criminal offence' includes any infringement of the criminal law. This is quite different from the 'civil law.' In the civil law proceedings are begun by persons, companies, or organizations claiming to have suffered a breach. Prosecutions in the criminal law are begun by an agency of the state. What is classified as a crime is supposed to reflect the values of society and to reinforce those values. If an act is regarded as harmful to society or its citizens, it is often, but not always (take smoking and drinking for examples), classified as a criminal offence. Those offences that are most harmful to us carry the harshest penalties.

Crime is what govt says it is. What is a crime one year might not be a crime the next, and that penalties for crime can also change a great deal.

Improve Your English: 317 s

Suggested answers to the previous issue's questions

- 1. Fatima is **more elegant** than Salwa.
- 2. I shall see you when I **come** back.
- 3. **Do** you understand the problem?
- 4. I spent the rest of the day at home.
- 5. He speaks English well.

III. Increase Your Word Power (A) How to express it in one word

- 1. Absurd or most unusual idea, act, or occurrence.
- Be so cold that water turns into ice.
 Money charged for the carriage of goods from place to place.
- A Violent excitement

miscreant was publicly contemned.

 intercede (vi) (to speak in favor of another, especially in order to save him from punishment): He interceded with the manager for me, and I was saved.
 supersede (vt) (be superior to): I was

disappointed when my junior superseded me in rank.

 detain (vt) (to keep a person from leaving during a certain time): The boy was detained by the Principal for his alleged misbehavior. retain (vt) (to keep possession of): The team retained its championship title for the second time in a row.

(C) Synonyms and Antonyms

| | c. return | d. escape | |
|-----|--------------------------|--------------------------------|---|
| 3. | The Chief guest v | was given a warm welcor | n |
| | a. cold | b. lukewarm | |
| | c. hostile | d. formal | |
| 4.7 | The boy spoke rud | lely to his mother. | |
| | a. softly | b. slowly | |
| | c. politely | d. loudly | |
| 5. | The city of Bahra | ain has broad roads. | |
| | a. wide | b. narrow | |
| | c. small | d. dirty | |
| | | | |
| C | | | |

Suggested answers to the previous issue's questions

| 1 | Word | Antonym |
|----|-----------|-----------|
| 1. | adopted | forsaken |
| 2 | appointed | dismissed |

hum and haw over such a crucial matter.5. in hot water (in trouble): Amin was in hot water when he was caught cheating.

unable to come to a decision): You should not

IV. Grammar and Composition (A) Grammar

Write sentences explaining what the following people do for a living

| 1. A dentist | 2. A joiner |
|------------------------|---------------------|
| 3. A plumber | 4. A postman |
| 5. An accountant | 6. A dress designer |
| 7. A waiter / waitress | 8. A publisher |

Suggested answers to the previous issue's questions

Have I ever told you about the man I met in the train in America? Well, this man on the train came to me and said 'Hello, my name's Adam Smith.' I was so surprised I didn't know what to say. He sat down and began to talk about himself. He said that he came from Arizona. He also told me that he was going to Europe for a year. He was worried because he couldn't speak any other language. I told him not to worry, and said that I thought he would be all right with just English. When he arrived at the station he said goodbye and thanked me for speaking to him. I don't know why, because he had done all the talking and I hardly spoke anything. Remember: tell needs a person as object, e.g. He told me his problem.

Crime words

- **Absolute Discharge:** The court takes no further action against an offender, but the offence and the discharge will appear on his criminal record.
- Acquittal: At the end of a trial the court finds a suspect of an offence not guilty.
- Amnesty: Usually used in reference to weapons when police ask people to hand in illegal weapons in the knowledge they will not be charged or prosecuted.
- Anti-Social Behavior Order (ASB): A civil order banning the subject from entering certain areas, associating with certain people, or doing certain things.
- **Appeal Court:** The higher court to which cases are sent when either the defence or prosecution (if it is an appeal about the sentence) wishes to challenge the order from a Magistrate or Crown Court case.
- Arrest: Someone suspected of an offence is lawfully detained by a constable.
- Association: Prisoners' leisure time spent outside of their cells.
- **Asylum seeker:** Any person seeking to be declared a refugee and living in this country after fleeing their own country due to the conditions there.
- Attendance Center Order: A court order which requires an offender (under 21) to undertake a structured program of activities.
- Attorney General: Government Minister responsible for prosecutions and the Crown Prosecution Service

II. How to Say it Correctly

Correct errors, if any, in the following sentences

- 1. Don't do that any more, do you?
- 2. Ahmed goes to school by foot.
- 3. He is the strong man in the city.
- 4. He is not eating too.
- 5. Mohammed doesn't play football, so does his brother.

5. Number of repetitions in a given time.

Suggested answers to the previous issue's questions

- Special right given by public authorities to a person or company: franchise (n)
- Showing clearly the thoughts or feelings: frank (adj)
- 5. Society of men who treat each other as equals: fraternity (n)
- 4. Willful killing of one's brother or sister: **fratricide** (n)
- 5. Person or thing that deceives: **fraud** (n)

(B) Words often confused

Bring out differences in meaning of the following pairs of words

- 1. intense, intensive
- 2. preserve, reserve
- 3. pity, piety 4. sources, re
- sources, resources
 rash, rush

J. Tasii,

Suggested answers to the previous issue's questions

- 1. **individualism** (n) (the idea that the rights and freedom of the individual are the most important rights in a society): Individualism needs to be upheld by the society at any cost. **individuality** (n) (the character and qualities which make someone or something different from all others): He is a spineless fellow and lacks individuality.
- adder (n) (a small poisonous snake found in northern Europe and northern Asia): Beware, there may be an adder in the grass.
 udder (n) (bag-like organ of a cow from which milk is produced): This cow has sizeable udder.
- condemn (n) (to express strong disapproval of someone or some action): We should condemn violence in any form.
 contemn (vt) (despise, disregard): The

| \sim , | by nonymb and mile | i y i i i s | |
|----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|
| i) | Synonyms | | 3. |
| | | osest in meaning to the | 4. |
| | e in bold in the followi | | 5. |
| | He was trying to put | across his idea to his | |
| | audience. | | (D) |
| | a. to convey | b. to cross | Cho |
| | c. to convince | d. to influence | 1. |
| | The growing disparit | y between the rich and | |
| | | of great concern for the | 2. |
| | government. | 0 | |
| | a. unity | b. diversity | 3. |
| | c. inequality | d. segregation | |
| | The man vehemently | denied all the charges | 4. |
| | of corruption leveled a | against him. | |
| | a. devoutly | b. serenely | 5. |
| | c. hysterically | | |
| | Hadhramout has an an | rid climate. | |
| | a. unproductive | b. useless | Sug |
| | c. withering | d. dry | ques |
| | The ascending tempe | rature in many parts of | 1. ac |
| | the world is due to glo | obal warming. | 4. ac |
| | a. rising | b. connecting | |
| | | | |

| Suggested | answers | to | the | previous | issue's |
|-----------|---------|----|-----|----------|---------|
| questions | | | | | |
| Word | | | S | vnonvm | |

| word | Synonym |
|-----------|--|
| congenial | suited |
| penchant | liking |
| draught | drink |
| cajole | coax |
| maiden | first |
| | word congenial penchant draught cajole maiden |

d. joining

ii) Antonyms

a. retire

c. sinking

Choose the word that is most opposite in meaning to the one given in bold in the following sentences

| He appears to b | e a phony person. |
|-----------------|--------------------------|
| a. beautiful | b. unreal |
| c. genuine | d. ugly |
| | a. beautiful |

- 2. The General ordered the troops to **advance** to the city.
 - b. retreat

| indigenous | foreign |
|------------|---------|
| exhaustive | short |
| friendly | hostile |

0) Spelling

| oose me correcuy speu v | voru |
|-------------------------|-------------|
| a. adhock | b. adhawk |
| c. aidhock | d. adhoc |
| a. adieu | b. adeiu |
| c. adiu | d. adew |
| a. adjasent | b. adjacent |
| c. adjascent | d. adjecent |
| a. adjurn | b. adjourn |
| c. adjown | d. aidjourn |
| a. adjudze | b. adzudge |
| c. adjudge | d. adjudg |
| | |

| Suggested | answers | to | the | previous | issue's |
|-------------|---------|-----|------|----------|---------|
| questions | | | | | |
| 1. addition | 2. | add | ress | 3. a | dequate |

iddnon 2. address 5. adequ idhere 5. adhesive

(E) Phrases and Idioms

Use the following in sentences of your own

- 1. be not in the same league as (someone)
- 2. keep one's nose to the grindstone
- 3. put a damper on
- 4. out of one's depth
- 5. the golden boy/girl

Suggested answers to the previous issue's questions

- 1. **on one's doorstep** (very near to where one lives): They should not be hostile to people on their own doorstep.
- 2. **see (someone) off** (to chase someone away): The cheat came to the door last night again, but I soon saw him off.
- 3. **thumb one's nose at (someone)** (to show defiance or contempt to someone): He is thumbing his nose at the magistrate by defying the court orders.
- 4. hum and haw (to express uncertainty and be

(B) Composition

Expand the central idea contained in the maxim 135: EDUCATION WITHOUT CHARACTER IS A SOCIAL SIN

Suggested answers to the previous lesson's topic 134: WE SEE ONLY WHAT WE KNOW

We see or hear only what we think. We are prone to see what lies behind our eyes rather than what appears before them. Our mind is full of thoughts, we choose our thoughts to think. Thus, every thought contributes to our experience in life. Thoughts are reality-building material. According to Donovan we create our reality moment by moment with the thoughts we choose to think and express. The post-realism in the American literature underscores the idea that what seems to be the reality to an individual is only an experience of the mind. Indeed, the world of manifest reality is only a matter of our selfprojection. So we look at things not as they are, but as we would like to see them as.

V. Pearls from the Holy Quran

"To every people is a term appointed: when their term is reached, not an hour can they cause delay, nor (an hour) can they advance (it in anticipation)" S7: A34

VI. Words of Wisdom

"It doesn't matter who you love, or how you love, but that you love." —Rod McKuen

Education

Panorama

Recreating knowledge societies The changing role of universities in a globalized world (1)



By Anil K Prasad, Ph.D. prasad@y.net.ye aniljyo@yahoo.com

Preamble

I begin by conveying the greetings of Ibb University of the Republic of Yemen and expressing my sincere thanks to the President, the Provost and Chief Academic Officer, the Dean, Biscayne College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, St. Thomas University, Miami, Florida for inviting me to the Inaugural Transpacific Forum on Globalization and Higher Education. Undoubtedly, it is my personal and professional satisfaction, pleasure and privilege to share my ideas with you and have an interaction to comprehend the current issues of

Education

must serve

sustainable

and help

society.

development

build a better

the interest of

higher education in a globalizing world of the 21st century in terms of global challenges and national/international responses in this crucial area of debate in the light of the fact recognized by almost all that more and more persons of the relevant age-group will attend colleges and universities in the next century than in all of human histo-

(Goodman's ry Preface to Philip G. Altbach and Patti McGill Peterson: 1999). This increase in the human capital is indeed inspiring in creating great expectations in an era "in which everything is possible and nothing is certain" to borrow the phrase of Vadav Havel (quoted in Altbach and Peterson, 1999). Undeniably, education, higher education enables the young people of today to "think and work globally" and as a means to create opportunities for the young people of today, it is unparalleled. We have come together to the Inaugural Transpacific Forum to explore the "issues, challenges, and opportunities in global education in the twenty-first century that face the countries and regions on both sides of the Pacific" as the CPF announces. We have come here to address some of the complex issues of higher education, their current state and future prospects. Here I would like to quote Altbach and Davis (1999 in "Global Challenge and National Response: Notes for an International Dialogue on Higher Education"). They observe: Higher education has profoundly changed in the past two decades, and those involved in the academic enterprises have yet to grapple with the implications of these changes. Academic institutions and systems have faced pressures of increasing numbers of students and demographic changes, demands for accountability, reconsiderations of the social and economic role of higher education, implications of the end of the Cold War, and the impact of new technologies, among others. While academic systems function in a national environment, the challenges play themselves out on a global scale. We can learn *much from both national experiences* and international trends. Ideas and solutions from one country or region relevant be in may *another*.(Emphases mine)

remarks the paper starts with evaluating the different definitions of globalization and then will explore its relationship with education in general and with higher education in particular looking at the changing role of universities in a post-Literate and post-Internet world of higher education today when technology and education symbiotically interact to make education socially relevant. Today such statements as 'higher education is a public good', 'knowledge is a cornerstone of development' and 'education is a basic human right' are going to acquire their true significance if we consider knowledge and digital divides and their future repercussions seriously in the light of unprecedented and fast-changing technological progress in production, distribution and communication technologies. To reduce the digital and knowledge divides between the most favoured countries and the developing and the least developed countries is the area where universities can play a significant role by making knowledge accessible to those disadvantaged people who live on the margins of digital and knowledge divides.

In the light of the above facts and

DISCUSSION

Review of previous literature The concept of globalization (2) is a highly contested one. It defies a single and comprehensive definition It (see Harvey 1989; Giddens 1990; Rosenau 1990; 1991; Jameson 1992; Robertson Scholte 1993; Nierop 1994; Johnston et al. 1995; Zurn 1995; Albrow 1996; Kofman and Youngs 1996; Held et al. 1999; and

Appadurai 1996) has been variously defined by different scholars taking into account its cultural, social, political, economic and technological ramifications. The concept of globalization has sociological, economical and geographical aspects and all these three have an effect on the field of education. Cogburn (1998); Mishra (1999) Kuehn(1999); Scholte (2000); Burbules and Torres (2000) and Smith (2002), have analyzed the role of globalization in education but somehow the incorporation of the disadvantaged groups of society in the mainstream of higher education has been overlooked. However, the paper argues for that the disadvantaged sections of the society such as women and aspirants from the poor background can be provided with the equity of access to higher education.

group attends postsecondary institutions. And therefore they think that access is an increasingly important issue everywhere, "as population demand it and as developing countries require skilled personnel." And demands for excess "come into conflict with another of flashpoints of controversy of the present era - funding", they further note. This controversy is further con-

nected with the view that whether higher The market is a education is somepowerful force in thing which is for the benefit of the indimaking higher vidual or a "public education relevant good." Kaul (2006) in his paper "Higher to employment. Education in India: But like a Seizing the opportunity" raises this cancerous growth, question: "Is Higher it can destroy love Education a marfor learning, crowd ketable commodity?" / "Is Higher out philosophical Education a comand literary mercial service or a public good?" In pursuits, stifle the GATS advancement of (General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs) knowledge, and and later its succesrender both sor WTO (World Trade Organization) theoretical and in 1995 under liberal education Article 3 has considered it as "educairrelevant. tional services." On the contrary, the World Conference

1994

on "Higher Education in the Twenty-First Century: Vision and Action" held at UNESCO headquarters in Paris from Oct 5 to 9, 1998 and attended by about 5000 participants from 180 countries adopted an Action Plan for reforms in the field of Higher Education. Its main theme was that Higher Education must serve the interest of sustainable development and help build a better society. It reiterated the principles of the Article 26.1 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights that Higher Education should be accessible to all on the basis of merit and secondly, Higher Education should be considered a

Shopping Malls (Beaconfield in the U.K.; when mother shop their children go to the e-learning centres) with the Internet facilities for the learners to have new learning experiences, tuition websites, and internet-based etutoring (Tutor-Vista in Bangalore, India, however, in India Broadband subscribers are just 0.61 million as compared to the taget of 3 million set for Dec. 2005) with

interactive sessions which are not only inexpensive but also convenient (see Kaul 2006).

Despite the fact that 44 million of the world's 84 million students who are getting higher education are in the developing countries, only 5/6 percent of the relevant age-group of the population attends postsecondary education as compared to 26 percent in highincome countries (Jayaram and Altbach: ND). Undeniably, market plays an important role in Higher Education globally as Chitnis (1999) concludes with the following remarks:

The market is a powerful force in

making higher education relevant to employment. But like a cancerous growth, it can destroy love for learning, crowd out philosophical and literary pursuits, stifle the advancement of knowledge, and render both theoretical and liberal education irrelevant. With the globalization of the economy the developed societies tend to impose the manpower needs of the higher education systems of less-developed societies and to push the latter into the background. These problems have to be consciously addressed.

The changing importance of higher

dren do not relapse into illiteracy. Basic education rarely serves as a meaningful level of education; and even if it imparts some valuable attributes, in terms of attitudes and skills, they are not sufficient. Although it helps reduce poverty, it only raises the poor just above the poverty line, and leaves them in danger of falling below the poverty line again.

Tilak's arguments are based on the fact that "[I] ncreased national and international concerns for Education for All have led to an overall neglect of post-primary education, and in particular higher education, in education strategies. Two recent analyses

of data in India and cross-national data from more than 100 countries suggest that this prejudices national economic growth." Tilak further believes that

The demand for highly skilled workers is increasing, especially in the context of globalization, leading to better employment opportunities and enhanced wages for the university graduate. This has a direct influence on the demand for higher education as reflected through the gross enrollment ratios. Rate of return analyses in the recent past have shown a reversal of pattern - return to tertiary education are increasing and those to primary education are declining widening earning differentials between university graduates and those with lower levels of education.

Tilak further corroborates the arguments given above with empirical research to show a strong relation between higher education and development. As

• higher education enhances the earnings of individuals and contributes to economic development;

• higher education makes a significant contribution to reduction in absolute as well as relative poverty;

• higher education National is related to human development indicaconcerns and tors which reflect social other dimensions of human poverty, as it expectations significantly reduces

opment.

Underlying the importance of the role of universities in higher education Varghese(2007:3) says,

Universities helped design curricula, develop textbooks, train teachers, and promote national language and cultures at all levels of education. Public universities contributed to the development of national educational policies with a secular outlook, thus promoting social cohesion and peaceful co-existence. Over time these initiatives and traditions, even when challenged by globalization.

Therefore

Today, higher education has become a commodity marketed across borders under the general agreement on trade and services (GATS)[and later under its predecessor WTO]. The rapid growth of the global market in higher education indicates how things have changed. National concerns and social expectations are being replaced by profit considerations, and market forces now decide the purpose and priorities of higher education.

Reasonably, it is imperative in the formulations of theoretical groundwork to eliminate, on the basis of the above arguments put forward by Varghese and Tilak, the claim that higher education has a tendency to serve the elite (Mark 2007:2) and it neglects the needs of the disadvantaged sections of the society. The very facts that "higher education institutions play a vital role in human resource development" (Nzioka 2007:7) and "Globalization has also heightened demand for knowledge as an economic resource" (2004:86, UNDP Human Development Report, Chapter 5: "Globalization and Cultural Choice)neutralizes the elitist claim. However, even in the age of globalization when "there are new

generations of global nomads with multiple identities who seek a cosmopolitan education" (Uvalic-Tumbic 2007), and an emergence of a new tribe of " 'global elite'(3), a global

Recreating knowl-Education is not edge societies Altbach and Davis

(1999) in the theme passing on chapter entitled "Global Challenge knowledge. It is and National also a means of Response: Notes for transmitting and an International Dialogue on Higher expressing identity, Education" and of ensuring observe that higher education systems shared values. It have also been movis a space where ing from elite to mass to universal this identity is access in North reworked and built America, much of upon, different Europe, and a number of east Asian from and yet countries. However, connected to the they also observe that in China and geographic space India, despite draof borders and matic expansion, under 5 percent of checkpoints. the relevant age-

public service.

Today when 84 million students are attending about 2000 universities and colleges worldwide (see Gupta: 2005) and we are witnessing the decline of the professoriate in China and India as Jayaram and Altbach (ND) conclude in their paper " Confucius and the Guru: Changing Status of the Academic Profession in China and India" that the profession of the guru has fallen from the pedestal, this is the time when the world is also witnessing the growth of

the Internet and eeducation in Higher Education as "the business of imparting education." Edubusiness has come up only a means of in the shape of Phoenix University which is a full time online university established by the Apollo Group and Universitas Global which is an online M.B.A Business School established by the 16 top-ranking universities of the world, McGill, namely; Colombia, British Virginia, Edinburgh, Sweden, Melbourne of Australia and others. The latter is a US\$50 Million project given to a private company, Thomson Learning. In addition to these we have

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education in a globalizing world

Most of us would agree with Varghese (2007: 1) that,

Universities play a crucial role in generating new ideas, and in accumulating knowledge, yet they have remained peripheral to development concerns. Although no longer the soul generators of knowledge needed for development, through their research and teaching they help to produce expertise, manage development, engineer social values and cultural ethos.

While underscoring the importance of higher education as the "major source of the human capital" and its " crucial role in enhancing a nation's capacity to absorb and use knowledge" he further points out,

The rich have easy access to facilities and resources, whereas the only asset of the poor is their labour power. Investing to enhance labour power in order to trade it for higher wages is the best way to increase income and reduce poverty. Educating the poor helps to reduce inequalities and poverty. Empirical evidence from India indicates that higher education contributes significantly to a reduction in absolute and relative poverty. (p 3)

Referring to the general assumption of the policy-makers that "literacy, basic and, at best secondary education rather than higher education" are important for "economic growth and development" Tilak (2007: 5) argues,

Yet, literacy and basic education rarely provide employment skills that can ensure a reasonable salary or standard of living. Few literacy and basic education programmes are imparting sustainable skills or ensuring that chilinfant mortality and increase of life expectancy.

Tilak convincingly concludes

In spite of this, development programmes in many developing countries still continue to focus exclusively on basic education, seriously neglecting higher education. Sustainable socioeconomic development implies that education systems focus on human capital as well as human development, on economic

growth as well as poverty reduction, on modern technologies as well as traditional methods, and on global as well as local concerns. Policy makers must not only provide for basic education bul also help to strengthen higher education. This will benefit society at large and have a positive effect on economic growth and devel-

are being replaced by profit considerations. and market forces now decide the purpose and priorities of higher education.

middle class that follows the same consumption style and prefers 'global brands' (2004:87, UNDP Human Development Report, Chapter "Globalization and Cultural Choice), issues of identity (Sen 1999) and clash cultures of (Fukuyama 1989, 2001; Huntington 1996; Said 2001) cannot be ignored. As Rigaud and Lapstun (2007: 12) observe:

Education is not

only a means of passing on knowledge. It is also a means of transmitting and expressing identity, and of ensuring shared values. It is a space where this identity is reworked and built upon, different from and yet connected to the geographic space of borders and checkpoints. (Emphasis mine)

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This is the text of the speech delivered at the Inaugural Transpacific Forum on Global Education at St. Thomas University, Miami, Florida on April 3, 2008

Education

How to improve your English

anguage has no barriers; it flies, slips, strolls, stammers and connects each to each. Language gives one the power of communication so one's mind reaches out to the others. It differentiates us from other creatures. It aids in understanding the emotions and ideas. There are several languages in the world: Arabic, English, Hindi, etc. English is spoken and understood in many parts of the world and considered an important and a major global



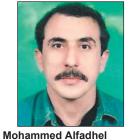
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means of communication although it was initially widespread only in the British colonial countries.

It has become extremely important to have a good command in English. It's not like wishing that we could improve it before sleep and have a command in it the next sunrise. To be a dab hand in the language one must devour English books voraciously. Newspaper and magazines of general interest should be read and later whatever the hand could grasp. The person who wishes to improve English must also write articles on different topics and cultivate the habit of expressing himself. One must communicate and talk in English as much as possible with like-minded people.

Reading books of important literary figures, referring to dictionary for the words, catching up phrases and words, keeping our ears open are some other techniques for improving one's creativity. This would make one fluent in English and enable one to impressively communicate in English.

None are so blind as those who will not see **Teachers of grammar insist on using old- fashioned methods (1)**



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espite the great progress that has been made in almost every aspect of education, we, teachers of English, still cling desperately to outdated methods, especially in teaching grammar. We live in ivory towers. Ironically, we become tools of destruction instead of construction. Worse than that, we are the major reason behind students' hatred of this course, whether we like it or not. Is it wise to bury our heads in the sand and pretend as if nothing happened? Or rather seek remedial measures to overcome this serious problem? To begin with, we need to emphasize the importance of studying and applying rules of grammar for all students irrespective of their levels. Grammar is not merely some dead rules we memorize and repeat like parrots; it is an effective tool for using and mastering the language, if used properly.

In my earlier article, entitled "To Kill two Birds with one Stone: Using Literary Texts to Teach Grammar", published in Education Supplement, No. 25, I shed some light on making use of an effective way to teach grammar using literary texts. In this article, I am going to highlight other approaches and reasons attributed to this problem.

Metaphorically speaking, teachers are called gardeners since they plant seeds and watch them grow, while students are like dough since we mould them into any shape we like. As such, we must take our share of the blame and admit responsibility for having this problem.

Some teachers prefer using the deductive approach rather than the

inductive approach or the other way round. It is not a matter of using this approach or that; it is more complicated. Therefore, we need to get to the root of the problem.

The real problem is teachers turning the entire class into grammar lesson, denying the students the right to participate and work on exercises. Students are passive learners and onlookers. They are not given the chance to put into practice what they have learned. There is no point in repeating the rules over and over without really using the language. Besides, some other teachers dictate the rules to their students in Arabic wasting their time. As a result, the students can hardly differentiate between tenses or other structures for they lack real exposure to English, not to mention lack of applying these rules in sentences.

One way to remedy this situation is to reconsider our approaches and devise new methods so as to create genuine passion in our students to such a degree that they are glued to their chairs. For example, teachers can allot some time to run competitions among students to stimulate and encourage them. They can divide the class into groups at the end of each topic. Each group is given copies of questions to be answered in a limited period of time. When the time is up, we can add the scores and announce the winners. This activity can be repeated once in a while. We can even make use of the internet (if available) to make our students have online-exams. I myself have always employed such outstanding methods in my classes and the results have always been fruitful and rewarding.

As has been mentioned, the problem lies with some teachers not students. They refuse to modify their approaches and keep pace with changes on the ground that they are experienced enough to make the lesson comprehensible, and as a result they lose their impact on their students. Some teachers may argue that using such methods requires great efforts and patience, but believe me, it is worth the effort. Next issue, I will elaborate more on the topic and present more examples.

To be continued

far between. It is a synthetic language in which the relationship between the words in a sentence is indicated by means of inflections. On the other hand, Modern English is an analytic

style and lent itself to the treatment of heroic deeds. William Morris's translations of the Scandinavian Sagas are valuable works suggesting the characteristics of early English poetry.

Whatever similarities and differ-



Kausar

And if I am mistaken, I don't bother about.

YOUTH FORUM

Miracles of the Four Letters:

These are the four letters which I can see

I remember some body told me long ago:

it might be this, it might be that. But what are they?

Can they be specifically defined in these terms?

high on the top of old grey church.

What they mean I didn't know.

W stands for whereabouts and

Class—VI Indian Embassy School, Sana'a

Car-war tips

N, E, W, & S

N stands for nowhere,

E stands for everywhere,

S stands for somewhere.

Do you use cars in your daily life?

If yes, then you ought to be careful because each time you get into a car, you participate in the Yemeni car-war. You will be sitting in peace thinking of yourself and things you want to do; your peace will be interrupted by cars from all sides, and you can never know when a crazy driver would hit you since you are in his way.

If you want to feel safer, you will have to follow some tips:

- Pray to God to forgive all your sins before you get into a car.
 Never forget to read as much as you can from the Holy Qura'an while you're in your way.
- 3. You finally arrived in peace, so go and pray again thanking God for arriving safely.

Eithah Ali Ahmed Mohammed Al-Maghafi Level 3 Arts, UST

On the sunset

Overcast sky, foggy minds, and the day is cloudy Time is up, knowledge is gained Happiness left, agony came Farewell to fellows, grateful salutations to our teachers, Strangers, to each other whence we came But brotherly united by knowledge we became Both boys and girls So difficult to say 'bye' though time for everyone To follow his own destination and ways Thus, I know that pains and sorrows dwell in your Heart Your sad eyes're filled with tears Let me wipe them with caring touches And we'll look on the sunset together Silently, politely, softly she is leaving without saying 'Goodbye' But a sense of beauty silence has In the core of my heart still Our love neither ends nor dies A source of beauty, inspiration, and purity she is So, let's celebrate the carnival of our love's fourth Anniversary Don't go further don't go alone Don't leave me with the moon.

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Continued from page 1

The beginnings of English

I have held the people fifty years; there was not any king of my neighbours, who dared to greet me with warriors, to oppress me with terror⁴.

Beowulf, the oldest surviving epic of

century, are distinguished by their genuine religious passion and remarkable craftsmanship. Christ deals with the three-fold coming of Jesus Christ – the Advent, the Ascension, and the Doomsday. The dialogue between Virgin Mary and St. Joseph creates a dramatic situation and serves as the earliest extant dramatic passage in English literature. Anglo-Saxon religious poetry in the hands of Cynewulf moves from the mere biblical paraphrase to the didactic and the mystical. It is not that the Anglo-Saxons wrote only poetry. Some of them came out as good prose-writers of their time. King Alfred of Wessex (871-899) was a remarkable genius indeed. There was in him a rare combination of a writer, a warrior, and a patron. He fought against the Danes, united all the kingdoms of southern England, and translated a series of Latin prose-works into Old English. He either translated Bede's Historia Ecclesiastica Gentis Anglorum in Latin into English prose or inspired its translation by another hand. He instituted the great Anglo-Saxon Chronicle, an annual record of important events in England. He was the greatest of the Anglo-Saxon kings and is regarded as the father of English prose. Aelfric, the pupil of the monastic school at Winchester, wrote Colloquy in the tenth century for teaching Latin by conversation. He produced a vocabulary which contributed to the production of the first Latin-English dictionary. But he made his name by writing two books of homilies and the lives of the saints. Aelfric's prose, unlike that of Alfred, is written mainly to be spoken to the people in the conventional sermonic tone of a priest. Hence, its rhythms are nearer to verse, and sentences are divided into groups more or less equivalent to

the metrical line. Because of this reason, scholars were for long uncertain whether to call Aelfric's writings either prose or verse. This poetic prose marks a great advance on that of Alfred. It aims at beauty, measure, and narmony. There is much less awkwardness and effort in the connection of phrases than in Alfred's prose Wulfstan, the Archbishop of York from 1002 to 1023, was first of all a preacher. The most remarkable of his homilies dates from 1012 when the English were suffering the evils of the Danish invasions. In his address to the English, he deplores the irreligion and immorality of the English people and proclaims the coming of the Antichrist. Though Wulfstan as an artist is inferior to Aelfric, the popular emphasis of his language on moral and political reform gives it rich colour and lively tones. The English language that we speak today conspicuously owes its origin to Anglo-Saxon prose and verse. Our use of similes, metaphors, and alliterations is not new. It is derived from the poetical method employed in the earliest English verse where the sun is described as "the candle of heaven" or "the jewel of the sky"7. In Anglo-Saxon verse, a line is normally divided into two parts by a strong caesura: and each part carries two stresses where one or two of the stressed syllables are alliterated:

rhythms of poetry. For example, the 'raven' sounds hoarser when it is used as 'hraefn' in Anglo-Saxon poetry. However, we have an example of so-called "Rhyming Poem" in Old English.

The poetry of the Anglo-Saxons is archaic. Generally, it reverts to the traditional turns of expression, to the words almost consecrated. But the case with the Anglo-Saxon prose is quite different. It tries to observe the rules of ordinary speech unless it has to copy the Latin prose of the clerks. Its object is not to move but to instruct and inform us. Since it develops our understanding, it obviously turns to the future. Therefore, it is not surprising to find that the prose- writings of the Anglo-Saxons are much nearer to our speech. No revolution seems to separate Alfred's pages from those of Caxton, Aelfric's from Wyclif 's. There is a change but no break. National and linguistic continuity seems to exist right from the days of the Anglo-Saxons to the present. However, there are some phonological and orthographical, lexical, and grammatical features which distinguish Old English from Modern English. For example, 'sh' in Old English has a typical sound represented by 'sc', as in 'scip' (ship) and *'biscop'* (bishop). The sound of *'k'* in Old English is represented by 'c', as in 'bæc' (back) and 'cynn' (kin). Much of the Old English spelling is not found in English that we speak today. Besides, Old English differs from Modern English in both vocabulary and grammar. Most of the Anglo-Saxon words have disappeared by now. Those that survive today express fundamental concepts like 'mann' (man), 'wif' (wife), 'cild' (child), etc. Old English is a highly inflected language, whereas inflections in Modern English are few and

words in a sentence is indicated by means of inflections. On the other hand, Modern English is an analytic language which largely depends on word order to show the relationship between the words in a sentence. Moreover, Anglo-Saxon poetry has a peculiar rhythm. Its movement is slow and leisurely. Its rhythm does not allow readers to hurry on but to linger on each line and pause before going on to the next. Nor are the poet's thoughts too light and swift; and he often says the same thing twice or thrice. Where a single 'he' can suffice, he prefers to describe a person in several ways, such as "the brave prince, the bright hero, noble in war, eager and spirited"9. Though these descriptions contribute very little to the mental picture, they impress us artistically and work upon our emotions, very much like repetitions and variations in music. These effects are chiefly produced by heaping synonym on synonym. For example, in Beowulf there are at least thirty six words for 'hero' or 'prince', twelve for 'battle' or 'fight', eleven for 'ship' or 'boat', and so on. The verse rhythm of Anglo-Saxon poetry is not regular. It has a lot of variations and is guided by the nature of the subject. There is no definite number of syllables which neither make rhyme nor form a stanza. Still, poetry in Anglo-Saxon period was sung. In early times, poetry and music were one and inseparable. The minstrel was free to modify the movement of the verse. But the modification made by a minstrel was not wanton. It was based on certain rules, and there were always four accented syllables and three alliterative syllables. The form of poetry used in Anglo-Saxon period was generally epic. It suited both the subject and

the Teutonic people, contains more than three thousand lines. Though its scenes and people are Scandinavian, the language is purely Anglo-Saxon. The original manuscript of the poem was written in the West-Saxon dialect of Old English and has been preserved in the British Museum. Beowulf is held in high esteem and regarded as *"the early English ideal* of virile courage and nobility"⁵. He is to the English what Achilles is to the Greek, Romulus to the Roman, and Charlemagne to the French.

Caedmon is the first Anglo-Saxon poet known to us. Bede in his Ecclesiastical History of the English Nation says Caedmon was a lay brother in the monastery at Whitby in Yorkshire. He had no gift of song and, therefore, always withdrew from the singing ceremony. One night, he had a vision in which he was commanded to sing a song. At this bidding, Caedmon sang verses, and in the morning, he was able to recall them. As he was unable to read the Bible, it was read to him by monks, and he went on to turn its pages into verse. These stories in verse known as Caedmon's Paraphrase were written in the seventh century and marked an early stage in the development of Anglo-Saxon religious poetry.

Cynewulf is the second Anglo-Saxon poet with remarkable contribution. He is a Northumbrian who wrote poems in the Northumbrian dialect and signed them in runic letters. His four Christian poems, *Christ, Juliana, Elene,* and *The Fates* of the Apostles written in the eighth Flod under foldan . nis that feor heonon.⁸

There is nothing new about it as all English verse is stressed and has alliterations here and there. But the sledge-hammer Anglo-Saxon stress, at times, mars the metrical effect, and the verse becomes quite unmelodious. The harsh combination of consonants do help in spoiling the ences between Old and Modern English be, it is evident that the English language had already taken root in the Old English pseriod and acquired with the passage of time enough vitality and strength to become the powerful and flexible medium of today. The large body of Anglo-Saxon literature, in both prose and verse, speaks of the beauty, variety, and competence of the Old English language and serves as great tradition for the writers of the future generations.

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YEMEN IMIES

Education

On children's stories

hildren's stories are a wonderland created to imbibe moral values for character building. They basically create a world of entertainment for the young readers whether they are fables of Panchtantra, Aesop's, Adventures of Alice, Robin Hood or Gulliver, or the story of Harry Porter. Some writers became immortal in the world of letters because of the world they created for children. Vishnu Sharma, Lewis Carroll, Jonathan Swift, James



Thurber, and J.K. Rowling are worthy of mention in this regard.

Some of the stories written by them are so carefully crafted that they can be read by both the adult and the young reader. For example, the fables of Panchatantra were primarily written to educate a young prince but they became so influential that they were translated into several languages including Arabic. Jonathan Swift's Gulliver's Travels is also such a kind of work which has been a popular book among children with its sheer fantasy used with a satirical purpose. The great Hindi poet Nirala has also written

stories for children to make them be aware of their traditions and culture. The Swedish Nobel Laureate Selma Lagerlöf wrote wonderful stories for children. The Indian Nobel Laureate Tagore wrote stories and poems for children. Bing Xin, the Chinese author, is a well-known contributor to the genre of Children's Literature. Today stories can be told through

the technique of animation. Animated cartoons have become very popular for children. Many novels (like George Orwell's Animal Farm) have been made into animated cartoons. In English and other European languages there is an abundance of adapted and illustrated classics for children. The classics of other literatures should also be adapted in their own language and translated into English for the benefit of children. They are truly a world of magic and moral values full of fairies and folktales.

Dr (Mrs) Jyotsana K Prasad is a freelance writer from India.

POETRY CORNER **Intimation**



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Muse's nudge at the lobes is a hushed whisper yet insistent a momentous epiphany: a delectable swell and surge of the senses straining at the seams

of an adolescent sage, wise for his age yet perennially curious ever-hungry for newer assurance

dismissive of the vulgar mass, pining just for her select embrace

goading the chosen one to pour out his molten will on a golden mould whose melody ages will explore

as the cast unfolds day after day what is daring, yet delicate perplexing but true unique and universal;

seeking out with singular indulgence the sweaty palm of the unsure acolyte in an inviolable complicit squeeze.

Exeter Conference was a precious and invaluable opportuinity to have and share experience and ideas with colleagues from different parts of the world. Such conferences are also very useful for teacher/teaching development and for developing academic and professional relationships with ELT practitioners all over the world.

In addition to academic events, there were also entertaining events and excursions. I attended an evening event - Language Players where Professor David Crystal explored the world of language play. It was an exceptional evening! Thanks to the organisers of the conference who thought of such entertaining activities, particularly after long hours of sessions, workshops,

Reflections on the Exeter Conference (UK), 2008

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n this article I would like to reflect on the 42nd international annual conference held by IATEFL (International Association of Teachers of English as a Foreign Language) -UK- in Exeter from 7th -11th April 2008. The conference was attended by circa 1700 participants from all over the world. It lasted for five academically and professionally busy days. The conference covered several major themes, including applied linguistics, English for Specific Purposes, learning/teaching technologies, teacher development, testing, evaluation and assessment, young learners, etc. (See the table below for more statistics.)

The IATEFL conference was preceded by Pre-Conference Events (PCEs) that took place on Monday 7th April 2008. The following Special Interest Groups (SIGs) organised these PCEs; the objective of the events was professional development.

ELT Management on How to Manage Projects Effectively

Business English on The Challenges of Globalisation

- ES(O)L on Good Practice in Teaching English to Migrants and Refugees

- English for Specific Purposes on ESP and EAP Advances in the 21st Century

- Learner Autonomy on Autonomy in Language Learning: Overcoming **Obstacles and Seizing Opportunities** - Literature, Media & Cultural

Studies on Reading Circles Teacher Development on The Learning Teacher

- Teacher Training & Education / Testing, Evaluation & Assessment on Portfolios for and of Professional



Dr. Ashuja in the company of eminent participants at the conference.

accessible to many thousands of participants online. Remote delegates were able to follow the sessions from their own countries via the use of a virtual learning environment (Moodle³) and other facilities. Assuredly, it was an exciting initiative; without the British Council, the initiative would not be possible. The conference

| No. of Presenters | 521 |
|--------------------------|------------|
| No. of Sessions per hour | 20 |
| No. of Sessions per day | 100 (on an |
| | average) |
| No. of Countries | |
| represented | |
| (including Yemen) | Over 65 |

In the conference there were three plenary sessions two of which are reported on in the following. On Tuesday 8th April, the first plenary session was delivered by Professor Alastair Pennycook, University of Technology- Sydney. It focused on Changing Practices in Global ELT. Professor Pennycook explored several key issues pertinent to global ELT. Among the topics discussed were:

- English and globalisation

- English as a trans-local language - Digital literacies and metroeth-
- nicities - English as a language always in translation
- Popular trans-cultural flows

classrooms. Further, we need to understand that English language is no longer the property of its native speakers. Rather, it is used by a huge number of people across the continents in order to achieve a set of instrumental objectives.

The second fruitful plenary session was delivered by Professor Zoltán D_rnyei -University of Nottingham- who has published over 60 academic papers and several books on various aspects of second language acquisition and language teaching methodology. He discussed many interesting issues relating to Motivation and the Vision of Knowing a Second Language. Prof. Zoltán divided second language (L2) motivation in the past four decades into three phases:

• The social psychological period (1959-1990) - characterised by the concepts of integrative and instrumental orientation/motivation.

• The cognitive-situated period (during the 1990s) - characterised by the concepts of intrinsic/extrinsic motivation; attributions; self-confidence/efficacy; and situation-specific motives associated with the learning environment (e.g. motives related to L2 course, teachers, peers).

• New approaches (past decade) - characterised by an interest in motivational change and the relationship between motivation and identity/self; relevant concepts are process-oriented conceptualisation of motivation; motivation as investment; ideal ought-to L2 selves.



The Big Ben (the British parliament)

of the motivation to learn a foreign/second language:

as an effective L2 speaker.

c. Positive learning experiences. • It is possible for teachers to consciously generate L2-learning vision in the learners. This will become easy if a repertoire of techniques is developed so as to ignite and enhance this vision.

In addition to these plenary sessions, many other presenters who world delivered very productive and

Michael McCarthy and Felicity

Academic Vocabulary in Use.

a. The learner's vision of oneself

b. The social pressure coming from the learner's environment.

useful talks and workshops, and participated in symposiums, panel discussions and Special Interest Group Forums.

O'Dell, who are the authors of the well-known In Use series, delivered an interesting presentation on Academic vocabulary. They examined frequency lists, key words and collocations and multi-word chunks which characterise academic discourse. The focus was on their book

Development

- Young Learners on Reaching out to Every Student: Differentiation in Primary and Secondary ELT Classrooms

IATEFL¹ at a glance:

• Its goal and mission revolve around the idea of linking, developing and supporting English language teaching professionals worldwide.

• It has more than 3,000 members from over 100 countries worldwide.

 70 Teachers' Associations from around the world are affiliated to it.

• It publishes a bimonthly newsletter, IATEFL Voices.

· It publishes the proceedings of the conference in a book form every year

• As mentioned above, it has 14 Special Interest Groups (SIGs); each SIG publishes a periodical newsletter in its area of interest.

The British Council² and IATEFL

The British Council provided great assistance and help to IATEFL by making the conference deliberations

Some of the statements emanating from the discussion were:

We cannot understand ELT without viewing the role of English in the context of globalisation.

- English has become a language of trans-local use across the world, constantly changing and mixing with other languages and cultures.

- English as a global language has no native speakers, only multi-competent language users.

- ELT teaching practices need to engage with local cultural and linguistic practices.

- ELT must be understood in relation to other languages: It is always in translation and we need to deal with translingual meanings.

In fact, these statements are in support of the production of teaching materials that take the learner's culture into consideration, as this would help in facilitating ELT in non-native contexts. They are also in favour of using translation in ELT. However, translation needs to be used judiciously by English teachers in the

Then, Professor Zoltán D_rnyei presented his model of motivation which has the following components:

• Ideal L2 Self, which is concerned with our desire to reduce the discrepancy between our actual and ideal selves because the ideal L2 self is a powerful motivator to learn the L2.

• Ought-to L2 self, which is concerned with the attributes that one ought to possess to avoid possible negative outcomes.

• L2 learning experience, which is concerned with situation-specific motives related to the immediate learning environment and experience (e.g. the positive impact of success or the enjoyable quality of a language course).

After a thorough and enlightening discussion of his ideas and concepts of motivation, Professor Zoltán D_rnyei ended up with these conclusions:

• There are three primary sources

1 For more information about IATEFL, visit www.iatefl.org

2 For more information on the activities of the British Council, visit www.britishcouncil.org/me

3 Moodle is a free software e-learning platform (also known as a Course Management System (CMS), or Learning Management Systems (LMS), or Virtual Learning Environment (VLE). Moodle is designed to help educators create online courses with opportunities for rich interaction. Source: www.wikipedia.org

Acknowledgements

I would like to express my deepest gratitude and appreciation to Sana'a University for sponsoring my travel to the UK. My heartfelt thanks go to the British Council, Sana'a- Ms Eilidh Hamilton- and the British Council. Bahrain- Ms Anne Wiseman- for their most generous sponsorship of my stay in the UK to attend the 42nd Annual International IATEFL Conference in Exeter, UK. Thanks are also due to Mr. Mark Krzanowski, Coordinator, ESP SIG- IATEFL for the support and assistance he extended to me before going to the UK and during my stay there.

came from different parts of the

For me, as a matter of fact, the

symposiums, etc.

Science & Technology Modern School: Language group observes Annual Day "Yes, to invest time, not to waste it!"

and cience Technology Modern School, Language Group, Sana'a observed on 28th April its Annual Day celebrations in the school premises on the theme "Yes, to invest time, not to waste it!"

The event was organized with a view to promoting sensitivity among students to the priceless treasure of time. Dr. Ramakanta Sahu, Department of English, University of Science and Technology and Dr. Shailendra Kumar Mukul, Head, English department, Amran University graced the occasion as guests of honor and addressed the gathering of members of Language Group and students. Mr. Mulataf Al-Hajjaji, Principal of the school extended a hearty welcome to the guests Mr. Yahya Al-Sharafi, English teacher and Head of the Language Group, Mr. Mohammed Al-Herdi and Mr. Abdul Fatah Al-Salahi, English teachers successfully coordinated the function.



Dr. Sahu and Dr. Mukul with the Language Group fraternity.



The guests in the midst of young members of Language Group.