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Under five malnutrition among the worst in the world

By: Jamal Al-Najjar

SANA'A, Oct 15 — Malnutrition has become a major problem for children in Yemen due to several economic factors affecting the living standards of families, according to Professor Michael Golden, an international expert on nutrition programs, and his assistant Yvonne Grellety.

Golden maintained that efforts should be exerted by the government in order to rescue the lives of children in Yemen. He pointed out that both prevention and treatment should be systematic and based on accurate data and monitoring of the nutritional standards according to WHO standards.

"There should be political commitment and cooperation between all groups of society in order to tackle this problem," said Golden, noting that a solution to this problem shouldn't be restricted to the Ministry of Health and Population but also include the participation of other ministries and organizations in Yemen.

For his part, Majid Al-Junaid, Deputy Minister of Health for Primary Health Care, maintained that the issue of malnutrition is limited in the work of the ministry, noting that this issue should be highlighted at the political level in order to receive proper support.

During a recent meeting attended by Yemeni deputy ministers of Health and Population and representatives from UNICEF and Charitable Society for Social Welfare, Golden briefed deputy ministers on the issue of malnutrition noting that the phenomenon is increasing notably in Yemen and maintaining

that, unless group efforts are exerted to tackle this problem, the situation will worsen.

He said that manifestations of malnutrition including stunting and wasting in Yemen are amongst the highest in the world. More than 53 percent of children below five years old are stunted, 46 percent are underweight and 12 percent suffer from wasting (weight over height), according to Ministry of Public Health's statistics in 2003.

"Malnutrition underlies about half of all deaths among children. This issue is neglected by the Yemeni government which focuses its efforts on other health issues," said Golden. "Stunting in Yemen is among the highest in the world. Therefore, this issue demands immediate intervention by the government as a whole and not only by Ministry of Health."

Golden warned that the situation would be aggravated by several factors including price hikes, a global financial crisis and climate change.

"Due to price hikes, poor families can't afford to provide their children with necessary food, especially given that healthy food is expensive," said Professor Golden. "The assistance that Yemen receives from donors and international organizations will decrease due to the current global financial crisis. This will be reflected on the poor families that benefit from this aid."

Golden added that that among the factors that worsen child malnutrition in Yemen is climate change which has caused draught in most areas of the world including Yemen.

Continued on page 2



Improvised Yemeni kids finding simple joy in playing football. With over fifty percent of Yemeni children under-five suffering from malnutrition drastic measures need to be done to ensure better health for the future generations.

Saleh calls on political parties to participate in upcoming elections

By: Mohammed Bin Sallam and Aqeel Al-Halali

SANA'A, Oct. 15 — As Yemenis marked the 45th anniversary of 14 October 1963 Revolution against the British occupation of South Yemen on Tuesday, President Ali Abdullah Saleh called on all political parties to shoulder responsibility toward constitutional legitimacy and participate in the upcoming parliamentary elections.

In his speech at the Republican

Guards Division in Sana'a, Saleh also called on religious scholars, educated people, media personnel, writers and philanthropists to work together to raise a new generation armed with knowledge and free of complexes in order to conserve the achievements of the revolution.

Saleh called for promoting moderation and rejecting all the forms of extremism and fanaticism, advising people not to give a chance to what he called "malicious individuals" to fuel violence and sedition in the nation.

Saleh pointed out that those bearing malice against the nation are failed minorities, who only represent themselves, while Yemen's 23 million-strong population cares about security, peace, stability and development.

"Since Yemen was reunified on 22 May 1990, a new younger generation has appeared and is already seen as the army of the unity," Saleh said, "Unity is a great national achievement and is well-

established like mountains. Unity is not a commodity for sale and it is impossible for malicious individuals to harm such a glorious achievement."

According to Saleh, those plotting to harm national unity are individuals whose personal interests have been hurt and who claim to call for reforms and the rescue of the nation from an alleged crisis when, in fact, they should first be rescuing themselves from malice.

Numan: Reform is key to establishing fair electoral system

During his extraordinary meeting with political leaders from southern governorates on the 45th Anniversary of 14 October 1963 Revolution, Yemeni Socialist Party (YSP) Secretary-General Dr. Yasin Saeed Numan stressed the necessity of conducting comprehensive political and constitutional reform in Yemen in order to rescue the country from its current crisis and review building the modern state on the basis of

decentralization and democracy.

According to Numan, the comprehensive reform program, if implemented, will enhance national partnership and create a fair electoral system that helps democracy develop and allows women and the various parties to be represented in Parliament.

Media sources said that, during the meeting, YSP Secretary-General highlighted the one-side procedures taken by the authority and its ruling party while preparing for the upcoming parliamentary elections. Numan accused the authority of planning to control election results in advance in favor of its ruling party, and stressed that this violates the Constitution of the Republic of Yemen and the Parliament's bylaw.

Numan went on to say that the government and its ruling party had breached all previous agreements they signed with Joint Meeting Parties (JMP), under which both sides had undertaken to implement recommendations released

by European Union Election Observation Mission after Yemen's presidential and local elections in September 2006.

Al-Naqeeb, head of the Yemeni Socialist Party's parliamentary group, said in a statement to the Yemen Times that the participation of the JMP in the upcoming elections was dependent on the reformation of the Supreme Committee for Elections and Referendum (SCER) and it being voted on again in Parliament.

He explained that the JMP had refused to participate in the SCER due to its illegitimacy.

In a related event, JMP spokesman Mohammed Al-Mansour accused the Yemeni government, in a statement to Al-Jazeera Satellite Channel, of monopolizing the cards of the Yemeni political game, because it holds the majority in Parliament and controls the public media. He called on the ruling party to pull away from "crisis speech" and deal with issues in a responsible manner.

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Global Handwashing Day: Campaigning to save children lives

By: Yemen Times Staff

SANA'A, Oct. 15 — The first-ever Global Handwashing Day took place on Wednesday, Oct. 15, 2008. The UN General Assembly has designated 2008 the International Year of Sanitation, and Global Handwashing Day echoes and reinforces its call for improved hygiene practices. Global Handwashing Day will be the centerpiece of a week of activities that will mobilize millions of people in more than 20 countries across five continents to wash their hands with soap.

In Yemen, the event was delayed because of national holidays and will take place on Saturday Oct. 18 at Rabiea Al-Adwaia School in Sana'a. Young Child Survival and Development program with UNICEF is marking this day by organizing handwashing activities in four secondary schools in Sana'a. Four hundred ninth grade students from two girls schools: Mujama'a Al-Thawra in Nuqum and Rabiea Al-Adwaia in Al-Wihda district and two boys schools: Al-Wihda in Al-Tahreer and 30 Nov. in Shuob district will participate in a march starting from Apolo center at 9:30 heading to Rabiea Al-Adwaia School.

Before the march the schools will organize a handwashing session for all its students whereby they learn the right



way for washing hands. Soap has been provided by Hael Saeed Group and Thabet Brothers Group. Other companies in the private sector also contribute to this campaign such as Shamlan company for mineral water who will place the handwashing logo and educational tips on the bottles, and Yemen Mobile the mobile company will send awareness sms messages on the importance of handwashing reaching one million people.

Information and communication educational materials will be distributed in the schools such as stickers and posters and an education film will be displayed for the students. Ten thousand students between the 7th and 9th grades are targeted by these events.

Handwashing and infant mortality
Global Handwashing Day 2008 will revolve around schools and children. On Global Handwashing Day, playgrounds, classrooms, community centers, and the public spaces of towns and cities will be awash with activity to

drive handwashing behavior change on a scale never seen before, bringing the critical issue center stage. Such efforts will help achieve one of the targets of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG): 'Halve the proportion of population without sustainable access to safe drinking water and basic sanitation'. As part of the International Year the first "Global Handwashing Day" on October 15th 2008 aims to promote improved hygiene practices and draw attention to the world's enormous sanitation challenge.

According to the United Nations, a third of the global population has no access to adequate sanitation facilities resulting in the deaths of about 1.5 million children each year from diarrhea and other water borne diseases. Studies show that hand washing with soap decreases the number of incidences of these diseases and their severe impact on a community's health, economic and education situation. Sensitizing people to wash hands regularly with water is an achievement, but also using soap enhances the positive benefits. Soap breaks down the grease and dirt that carry the germs, bacteria or viruses and can interrupt the transmission pathway to the individual and to other people.

In Yemen, 88 percent of diarrhea cases in children are caused because of bad hygiene. With adequate handwash-

ing 35 percent of infections could be reduced. This is acknowledged as a low cost effective intervention to saving the lives of children.

In some places in Yemen, 17 percent of mothers admitted not to train their children on washing hands after using the toilet.

According to global health statistics from a research carried out by the World Bank in Africa, Asia and Latin America revealed that 450 million working hours are lost every year because diarrhea. This is equal to 180 to 200 billion US dollars of wasted money.

Handwashing with soap is the most effective and inexpensive way to prevent diarrheal and acute respiratory infections, which take the lives of millions of children in developing countries every year. Together, they are responsible for the majority of all child deaths. Yet, despite its lifesaving potential, handwashing with soap is seldom practiced and difficult to promote. In Yemen, 25 percent of child mortality causes is diarrhea.

Many organizations working in Yemen are promoting this cause through their field projects. The topics sanitation and personal hygiene are part of the GTZ water project "Community-based Water Use in Water Scarce Areas" in Amran which aims to improve water resources management

in four districts. In its broad awareness approach through female awareness trainers and so called Village Water Committees it addresses the different stakeholders, in particular women. Many of the tasks a woman fulfills each day are related or connected to water: cooking, washing, fetching water, taking care of children and elderly people.

Global Handwashing day

The challenge is to transform handwashing with soap from an abstract good idea into an automatic behavior performed in homes, schools, and communities worldwide. Turning handwashing with soap before eating and after using the toilet into an ingrained habit could save more lives than any single vaccine or medical intervention, cutting deaths from diarrhea by almost half and deaths from acute respiratory infections by one-quarter. A vast change in handwashing behavior is critical to meeting the Millennium Development Goal of reducing deaths among children under the age of five by two-thirds by 2015.

According to the United Nations, a third of the global population has no access to adequate sanitation facilities resulting in the deaths of about 1.5 million children each year from diarrhea and other water borne diseases. Studies show that hand washing with

soap decreases the number of incidences of these diseases and their severe impact on a community's health, economic and education situation. Sensitizing people to wash hands regularly with water is an achievement, but also using soap enhances the positive benefits. Soap breaks down the grease and dirt that carry the germs, bacteria or viruses and can interrupt the transmission pathway to the individual and to other people.

The guiding vision of Global Handwashing Day is a local and global culture of handwashing with soap. Although people around the world wash their hands with water, very few wash their hands with soap at the critical occasions.

Of the approximately 120 million children born in the developing world each year, half will live in households without access to improved sanitation, at grave risk to their survival and development. Poor hygiene and lack of access to sanitation together contribute to about 88% of deaths from diarrhoeal diseases, accounting for 1.5 million diarrhoea-related under-five deaths each year. Children suffer disproportionately from diarrheal and respiratory diseases and deaths. But research shows that children – the segment of society so often the most energetic, enthusiastic, and open to new ideas – can also be powerful agents of behav-

Yemeni-Turkish trade will rise to USD 400 million by end of 2008, says Ekren

By: Mahmoud Assamiee

SANA'A, Oct. 13— Turkish Deputy Prime Minister Nazim Ekren said trade between Yemen and Turkey had reached USD 194 million during the first seven months of 2008 and expected it would rise to "USD 400 million by the end of the year."

Ekren, who headed a high ranking delegation of Turkish ministers and businessmen in the fourth round of meetings of the Yemeni-Turkish Joint Ministerial Committee (ETJMC) which started on Sunday, asserted the existence of great possibilities of cooperation between the two countries, indicating the importance of developing trade between them.

He noted that, in view of the two countries' potential, the committee would set goals to increase trade between Yemen and Turkey to USD 1 billion for 2010, affirming his country's desire to expand relations with Yemen.

Minister of Trade and Industry Yahya al-Mutawakel, who co-chaired the committee's fourth round of meetings with Ekren, indicated that economic officials and businessmen from the two countries participated in the meetings, and asserted the keenness of both nations to promote good relations with one another to reach admirable partnership.

"The visit, with its economic value, affirms the two countries' willingness to support and encourage investments," says al-Mutawakel, calling on Turkish investors and businessmen to invest in Yemen.

He said that current cooperation between Yemen and Turkey, which focuses on activating trade and investment via the private sectors of the two countries, sought to promote good economic and trade relations between Yemen and Turkey in parallel with strong political relations between them.

He clarified that Turkey ranked eighth among exporting countries to Yemen in 2005, indicating that there are currently 27 Yemeni companies operating with Turkish partners and 151 Turkish agencies registered in Yemen.

Talks were additionally held between the two parties to review the level of implementation of the 24 treaties and protocols signed between the two countries up until the present.

On Monday, Yemeni and Turkish businessmen held talks at the Sana'a Chamber of Commerce and Industry on partnership between the private sectors in both countries.

They discussed the possibility of setting up joint economic, trade and investment projects, as well as neces-

sary programs to establish joint industrial zones in several Yemeni provinces.

The meeting also dealt with procedures Yemen has taken to offer more facilities for investors through the system of the "one-stop-shop".

Chairman of Sana'a Chamber of Commerce and Industry Hassan al-Kabous stated to the Yemen Times that more than 250 local companies and 9 Turkish ones attended the talks on Monday.

"These companies met today to discuss setting up joint investment projects in fields of oil, gas, electricity, telecommunications and in other industrial and vital fields" he said, adding that the two parties had signed 11 cooperation treaties in different fields. During the meetings, the Turkish delegation expressed an interest in buying liquefied gas from Yemen and agreed with its Yemeni counterparts on holding meetings to discuss this in the near future.

The Turkish delegation also showed its readiness to transfer its information and expertise in the field of energy to the relevant Yemeni authorities.

The two countries agreed on easing measures for truck drivers to obtain visas in both countries, taking into consideration the UN Land Transport Accord.

Thousands rally on the 45th Anniversary of 14 October 1963 Revolution

By: Foud Musid and Mohammed Bin Sallam

SANA'A, Oct. 15 – The Radfan district of Lahj governorate witnessed on Monday a huge popular rally on the 45th Anniversary of the 14 October 1963 Revolution. At the Jubail Jabr district of Radfan, participants in the rally also marked the first anniversary of the Al-Jabalin incursion that killed 4 citizens and injured 15 others last year.

Organized by the Lahj-based Peaceful Struggle Organization in cooperation with martyrs' families and relatives, the rally was attended by tens of thousands of citizens who came from various areas. Several speeches were given at the event before clashes between policemen and rally participants, who took to streets protesting against the government, injured four protesters when they threw stones at a security soldier.

Witnesses noted the clashes occurred in an area between Hebal Jabr and Al-Jabalain districts, adding that policemen fired live bullets and teargas at protesters and arrested many of them. Information obtained from witnesses revealed that as many as 23 protesters were arrested by the police during the event, while other sources indicated that 30 protesters were arrested after hurling stones at policemen.

Participants in the rally chanted slo-



Thousands rallied on the 45th anniversary of October revolution demanding acknowledgement of the Southern Issue.

gans criticizing the government while driving their cars on the road leading to the area of Rasd, but they were intercepted by a military checkpoint and clashes broke out between protesters and army members at the checkpoint. They called on lifting security check points and random arrests which targeted civilians from the south. A statement by the protestors demanded an international tribunal for the crimes committed against people from the south. It also emphasized that the coming elections are rejected absolutely

and does not concern the people from the south because their main concern is acknowledgement of their political struggle.

Speakers at the popular rally urged all participants to come together and continue their peaceful struggle against the regime in order to press it reform course of the unity and reconsider both October and September revolutions in Yemen. They said that military retirees in the southern governorate are ready to conciliate with other political groups.

PAI commemorates 10 years in Yemen

SANA'A, Oct. 15 – This month marks 10 years of Partner Aid International (PAI) providing rural community development assistance in Yemen.

Founded in 1988 as an international non-governmental organization (INGO), PAI initiated its work in Yemen in 1998 in Wadi Hajjar, west of Mukalla, with a community-based health education program. It selected this area at the recommendation of the Ministry of Planning because no other NGOs were working there and the health indicators were among Yemen's worst.

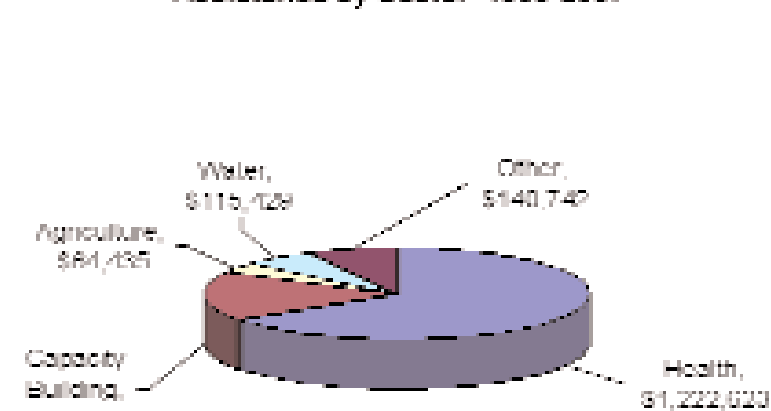
After five years of participative intervention, PAI successfully has left behind functioning health and water committees, trained dental helpers, midwives and other health workers, and expansions and renovations of schools and clinics.

As work in Mayfa'a was handed over to trained and capable local residents, PAI began a community-based development program in Al-Sawm, east of Tarim, at the request of the health office and the local population there.

The outcomes of this three-year project include trained traditional birthing attendants and health workers, school and clinic refurbishments and expansions, and water projects.

Shortly after beginning work in Al-Sawm, PAI conducted a comprehensive water resources study of Al-Mahrah governorate, logging thousands of wells in GIS format. As part of the project,

Assistance by Sector 1999-2007



PAI also tested and promoted solar desalination, efficient irrigation techniques and hydroponic agriculture.

In 2002, an Ibb-based sheikh approached PAI to continue community work previously supported by Jibla Hospital. Based on participative assessments within several communities, PAI began community-based health education with the goal of training health workers, midwives and school health educators.

Because local conflicts made traveling to project sites difficult, PAI moved north to Ibb's Hubaish district and, after conducting community surveys, found that it could continue similar programs there, where it continues its support to this day.

In 2007, community leaders in Khadeer, Taiz and the Abyan Health Office invited PAI to initiate projects in those two governorates. Project funding was secured for both governorates earlier this year and activities will officially begin once the Health Ministry concludes the sub-agreements.

About PAI

PAI works at the grassroots level, identifying felt needs that communities will support financially and through in-kind contributions.

Most of PAI's assistance is training and capacity-building so that communities will be empowered and motivated to take responsibility for their own future. This also results in sustainability

after project funds cease and PAI personnel leave the areas.

PAI frequently works in a networking capacity; for example, helping communities organize and solicit assistance from grassroots donors, Yemenis living abroad and local development institutions such as the Social Fund for Development and PWP [I don't know what this one is].

PAI recruits skilled and motivated professionals from around the world to volunteer their time, energy and skills to help advance developing countries. Volunteers learn both the language and culture, and most commit for multiple years. These professionals work in teams to provide project synergy, as well as mutual support in typically rural settings.

Local project personnel typically are community volunteers or personnel from partnering Yemeni government ministries.

Program funding for PAI is approximately \$350,000 for 2008 and 2009. Over the past 10 years, PAI's assistance has been nearly \$1.9 million; however, it would be valued at more than \$5.5 million had it been done by paid international staff rather than volunteers.

What's more amazing is that most PAI donors are individuals, small civic groups and smaller foundations – groups that wouldn't be contributing to Yemen had it not been for PAI's presence here

Continued from page 1

Under five malnutrition among the worst in the world

Najeb Abdul Baqi, director of Ministry of Health's malnutrition department, maintained that out of the 15 percent of children who suffer from wasting, three percent are suffering from severe wasting, which is equivalent to starvation.

He stated that this group of children needed special care and medication. "These children have difficulty absorbing food, weakness in the heat and other health problems due to malnutrition," said Abdul Baqi, adding, "As medication goes straight through their system, they have to be admitted into hospital and treated in several stages."

Thikra Al-Nuzaili, Malnutrition Program officer at UNICEF, said that malnutrition affects all the population, but that it was specifically concerned with its effects on mothers and children below five years old.

"Since Families fail to provide

their children with required nutrition, malnutrition will worsen in society," said Al-Nuzaili, adding, "Apprehensions are greater with regards to mothers and children below five years old, because these two groups are the most vulnerable in the society," she added, pointing out that UNICEF has been working since 2005 in cooperation with Ministry of Public Health on a program of management of acute, severe and moderate malnutrition among children.

She said that this program is being carried on three levels. The first is carried out by volunteers in Yemeni society, the second by medical centers in the country's districts, and the third in Al-Sabeen Hospital in Sana'a, Al-Wahdah Hospital in Aden and Yemeni Sweden Hospital in Taiz.

She said that, through this program, UNICEF offers food and proper medication to malnourished children below five years old including ready-to-use food and medicine for free.

In Brief

SANA'A
Training course for Yemeni female journalists to be organized

A workshop for Yemeni female journalists is to be organized next Saturday and it will center on mechanism to enhance professional and union work for the journalists.

During the one-day workshop, which would be organized by the Yemeni Journalists Syndicate, the participants will receive a training on how they coordinate among them, ways to promote their existence at syndicate committees and support their candidacy for syndicate elections.

Silviag Sydet, an expert at the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) will conduct the training.

Secretary general of the syndicate Marwan Damag said the workshop is designed to enhance Yemeni female journalists' professional and union work.

Furthermore, it will highlight their participation in annual and quarterly syndicate activities as well as developing ways of searching for better training opportunities.

Anti-violence against women session concluded in Aden

In cooperation with the UNFPA, Ministry of Endowment and Islamic Affairs concluded on Tuesday a training course on anti-violence against women session for 30 preachers repre-

sending the provinces of Aden, Hadramout and Ibb and lasted for three days.

During the session, the participants received lectures on the causes of the phenomenon of violence against women, understanding the social reality on the concept of the equality in rights and duties, the commitment of religious moderation.

The session raised awareness on combating violence against women and highlighted that the issue of violence against women is one of the mistakes that should be discarded.

Yemeni-Saudi ministerial committee to meet in Sana'a next November

Following up Ministerial Committee which emerged from Yemeni-Saudi Coordination Council (YSCC) is to hold its meeting in Sana'a next November.

Co-chaired by Minister of Planning and International Cooperation Abdul-Karim al-Arhabi from the Yemeni part and Minister of Industry and Commerce Abdullah Redha from the Saudi part, the committee would discuss a number of topics concerning preparations for holding the YSCC's 19th round late of 2008. The round would be presided over by Prime Minister Ali Mujawar and Crown Prince Sultan bin Abdul-Aziz.

Speaking to Saba, Yemen's ambassador to Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Ali al-

Al-Rifai said that holding YSCC's 19th round this year has great importance for being held after President Saleh's recent visit to the kingdom for enhancing cooperation between the two countries.

He said that the committee would study draft treaties for allocating SR 798, 5 million from the Saudi grant to Yemen the kingdom has committed itself to provide during London donor conference held two years ago in London.

He made it clear that the treaties would be signed during the 19th round's meeting are about supporting many development projects in Yemen as well as supporting exports between the two countries.

He added the YSCC's 19th round would focus on easing industrial and trade activities between the two countries, in addition to enhance cooperation between the two countries in fields of technical education, higher education and health.

Kuwaiti delegation arrives in Yemen for Sana'a 25th Int'l Book Fair

Secretary general of the Kuwaiti National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters (NCCAL) Bader Al-Rifai arrived on Tuesday along with a delegation accompanying in Yemen.

The aim of the visit is to take part in the Sana'a 25th International Book Fair which will start on October 15.

Al-Rifai said the Kuwaiti delegation will participate at the fair with 400 book titles including the six famous releases of the council Alam al-Ma'arefeh, Alam al-Fikr, the International theater, the Art Magazine and the World Culture Magazine along with some Kuwaiti writers publications.

Preparations for Global Hand Wash Day celebration discussed

Sana'a Capital Secretariat and UNICEF held Monday meeting for discussing preparations for holding the Global Hand Wash Day celebration, organized by Education Ministry and the organization, next Saturday.

The meeting dealt with role of schools and education cadre in rooting the "Al-Nadhafa min al-Eaman" doctrine. Arabic reading of purity is religious practice, among students and society and carrying out cultural and guiding message on purity practice topped by washing hands with water and soap.

Director General of Capital Secretariat's educational office Mohammad al-Fadhly and UNICEF's program coordinator Sami Abu Baker talked about health importance of health purity and washing hands with water and soap.

They indicated that studies made on national level showed that 34 percent of diarrhea infection cases among chil-

dren are because of mothers who do not wash their hands with water and soap and that only 17 percent women in Yemen wash their hands after cleaning their children.

Yemen wins membership of Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis in Geneva

Yemen, represented by the Ministry of Public Health and Population, won on Monday membership of the Board of the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria in Geneva.

Yemen won by obtaining 11 votes through competitive elections held on Monday in Cairo and now has become representative of the Middle East and North Africa for the two years.

It is worth to mention that the Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria is one of the most important international organizations supporting health areas at an annual budget of \$13 billion. Yemen signed on Sunday an agreement with the Fund of \$ 27 million to support programs to combat AIDS, tuberculosis and Malaria.

DHAMAR

Italy to restore 17 Yemeni antiques

The General Organization of Antiques and Museum (GOAM) is to transfer 17 antiques from Baynoun Museum at Dhamar governorate to Italy to be restored in University of Pisa.

The head of GOAM Abdullah Ba-

Wazir the antiques transfer would be under the cooperation agreement signed between GOAM and the University last July.

The antiques include statues, animals' heads handles and other pieces, belonging to the pre-Islamic times.

The restoration and then showing them in the Italian city of Pisa would take up about six months. The pieces will be accompanied by three of the GOAM's cadres, who will be trained on the antique restoration works.

ADEN

Health education for 30 cadres launched in Aden

Aden province launched on Monday a workshop on health education for 30 cadres from civil society organizations which will last for four days, organized by the Reproductive Health Program funded by UNFPA.

At the opening of the workshop, director general of Public Health Office Nasser al-Khader and director of Reproductive Health Nadia Program Sa'ad pointed out that the objective of targeting the two districts of Aden, al-Buraika and Dar Sa'ad, is to target more population and to improve the health of the individuals and society.

During the workshop, the participants will be introduced to the current situation of the two target districts and promotion of voluntary work in the areas of health.

Their News

UIC launched its first Takaful window in Yemen on 1 September 2008, offering all lines of insurance under supervision from the company's Shariah Board

General Manager and Member of the Board, Mr. Tarek A Hayel Saeed, said the new operation will benefit from the UIC's existing network of branches across the country in addition to the company's subsidiary Al-Tadhamon International Islamic Bank, the largest bank in Yemen.

He expects good business opportunities for the new operation as Takaful has been growing in the region, and believes it will score the same bright results in Yemen.

"We will launch a huge campaign to introduce our new operation and we expect positive response towards the Shariah-compliant services from Yemeni public. We intend to offer products from both life and non-life lines and we hope to attract new clients, help boost the insurance image and increase penetration rates."

He added: "UIC has great ambitions to develop the Yemeni market. The Takaful industry has lately witnessed significant developments in the Arab and Islamic worlds, and the UIC intends to keep up with such fast-paced progress." Mr. Saeed pointed out that



Tarek A Hayel Saeed

this initiative is proof of the UIC's commitment to the development of the insurance industry and the economic sector in Yemen.

Since 1995, the UIC has maintained a leading position in the Yemeni insurance market. In 2007, the company had the largest market share of 42% of the market's overall gross premiums, with market shares exceeding 50% in some lines such as marine, engineering, fire, and life.

United Arab Emirates (UAE) Hosts the 5th Forum for the Future in the Middle of this Month

The 5th forum for the future (2008) is held in the UAE in 15-17 October with the participation of the eight industrialized nations (G8) in the Middle East and North Africa BEMENA; international partners from Europe, Canada and Turkey; international and regional institutions, as well as civil society organizations and the workers sector in the Arab region. It is scheduled that the Forum program will include two parts: the first on the progress of democratic reform in which a number of figures from Lebanon, Egypt, Tunisia and Washington will talk, while the second part will review and assess the forum activities and its initiatives, and the role of civil society in the Forum, where the representatives of organizations from Yemen, Turkey, Bahrain, Jordan and the representative of the Foundation for the Future will participate.

Five workshops will be held in the forum the first on the political reform and will focus on: freedom of expression, media legislation from the perspective of human rights, pluralism and diversity, transparency and combating corruption. The second workshop would be on the legislative environment governing the work of civil society in the Arab region. The 3rd would be

on empowerment of women while the 4th on permanent development (reforming education, labor market, unemployment, youth, training). The final workshop would be on discussing the cooperation between governments, the private sector and the civil society (renewable energy, global food crisis, and humanitarian and development assistance).

Also, it is scheduled to hold two symposiums in the sidelines of the Forum the first on Foundation for the Future introduction, and the second on "The role of media in promoting democratic dialogue (Arab channels as a model).

The Forum will put out with recommendations will be presented by a delegation of the participants of the official Forum.

It is worthy noting that the Forum for the Future emerged from the summit of the eight countries (G8) in Sea Island, Georgia in America in June 2004, with the participation of leaders from the Middle East, Europe and North Africa. The first forum was held in Rabat in 2004, the second in Manama in 2005, the third in the Dead Sea in Jordan in 2006 and the fourth in Yemen in 2007.

The media source in the Human Rights Information & Training Center (HRITC), the Regional Organizational

Committee of the Forum has confirmed that the holding of Forum for the Future emphasizes the importance of civil society partnership in building the future, pointing out that the Forum for

the Future is consider as an important step for the work of civil society organizations and involving them in drawing up a vision of a safe and stable life where the human rights are preserved.



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Invitation for Bids

Extension Tender Advertisement no. (7 / 2008) for 1st Time
(One Envelope System - Technical + Financial)

The **Yemen Gulf of Aden Ports Corporation - Port of Aden** here announces its desire to invite bidders to Tender no. (7) for supplying **One New Twin Screw Survey Boat for Port of Aden** which will be financed from **Government sources**.

Bidders who are willing to participate in this Tender have to submit written applications to **Tender committee Secretary** to receive Bidding Documents for an amount **150 USD** non-refundable. Bidders have to apply during the official working hours at

Yemen Gulf of Aden Ports Corporation - Port of Aden
Tel : 00 967 02 202669/ 202083
Fax : 00 967 02 201541/205805
Email : planning2050@yahoo.com
YGAPCplanning@y.net.ye and e-chairman@y.net.ye

The deadline for selling BDs will be on **08 November 2008**

Bids must be submitted in sealed envelopes addressed to the **Chairman of the Board Executive Chairman**. The following documents must be contained in the bid:

- 1- A Bank Guarantee for a lump sum (**60,000 USD for one Survey boat**) (**Sixty Thousand American Dollars**.) 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 certificate (A foreign bidder who is not already doing business in Yemen may provide a copy of the appropriate VAT registration document from his home country.)
- 3- Valid Insurance Certificate. (Insurance certificate is required only from firms with employees in Yemen who are entitled to benefits from the Public Enterprise for Social Security in Yemen)
- 4- Valid registration and classification certificate. (In the event of an award of contract if the successful firm is not already registered it will be required to evidence registration with the concerned Entity in Yemen as a requirement for contract effectiveness.)

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 **(Monday) at 11:00 Am on 10 NOVEMBER 2008 instead of 22 OCTOBER 2008**. Bids received after this deadline will be returned unopened..

Bid Opening will take place at the **Office Chairman Executive - Headquarters** and at the same time mentioned above, in presence of bidders or their authorized representatives.



Save the Children in Yemen is looking for eligible candidates for the positions of:

Youth Program Assistants and Youth Program Officers

for its youth programs in Sanaa', Aden, Ibb and Abyan. The successful candidates for the position of Youth Program Assistant will be responsible for the implementation and monitoring of programs for and by youth that empower young people to take an active role in the development of their communities in Abyan, Ibb and Sanaa'. It will include the setting up of non formal skills development programs with youth groups and leadership skills training. The successful candidates for the position of Youth Program Officer, based in Aden or Sanaa', will plan and oversee program activities, supervise the assistants, be responsible for report writing and financial tracking and establish and maintain relationships with stakeholders.

Requirements:

- Youth Program Assistant:** At least 12th grade education, experience in youth work, community mobilization, willingness to do fieldwork, training skills an asset.
- Youth Program Officer:** Post graduate education in related field, at least 3 years experience in development work, preferably with children/youth, excellent communications and training skills.

We are looking for both men and women from the impact areas (Ibb, Abyan, Aden and Sanaa') with enthusiasm and commitment to improve the situation for vulnerable youth in Yemen.

Applications and requests for a detailed Job Description need to be addressed to:

Hisham Al Hakimi,
Administrator,
Save the Children Sweden Office,
Hadda, next to the Iranian Embassy.
Halhakimi@scsmena.org
P.O Box: 11391

The dead line for the submission of applications is the 22 of October 2008.

MARIE STOPES INTERNATIONAL

Tender Notice for Midwifery Kits Supply

Project Reproductive Health and Support to Basic Health Services (Consulting Services for Social Marketing of Contraceptives through the Private Sector) in Yemen

Contract no. BMZ Nr: 2004 65 740
IFB:MSI/GOU/KfW YEMEN CSM

The Government of Yemen through the Ministry of Public Health and Population, has received funding from Kreditanstalt fur Wiederaufbau for consulting Services for Social Marketing of Contraceptives through the private sector Project Phase (Project component : Social Marketing of Contraceptives)

On behalf of the Ministry of Public Health & Population, and under the above contract, Marie Stopes International- Yemen , Social Marketing Project invites for general bid for supplying the project with midwifery kits

Interested agencies may obtain further information and full bidding documents from:

Social Marketing Project
Marie Stopes International- Yemen
Hadda, behind AL-Bashiri House
Tel: 01-428738
Fax: 01-428739
E-mail Coordinator (mcsmcoord@y.net.ye)

Deadline for requesting documents 22nd October 2008.
Deadline for submission of proposals 5th November 2008.

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Halhakimi@scsmena.org
P.O Box: 11391

The dead line for the submission of applications is the 22 of October 2008.

يتقدم كلاً من

السيد / جريجور ماويني
الرئيس والمدير العام

و

الأستاذ / علي محمد السحيقي
المدير التنفيذي

لشركة كنيديان تكسن بتروليم يمن - قطاع المسيلة " ١٤ "
وشركة كنيديان تكسن بتروليم شرق الحجر المحدودة - قطاع " ٥١ "
والإدارة العليا وجميع موظفي القطاعين
بأحر التهاني والتبريكات إلى

فخامة الأخ / **علي عبدالله صالح** حفظه الله

رئيس الجمهورية اليمنية
بمناسبة الذكرى الـ ٤٥ لثورة الـ ١٤ من أكتوبر المجيدة
كل عام وأنتم بخير

Mr. Gregor S. Mawhinney,
President & General Manager

&

Mr. Ali Mohammed Sohaiki,
Executive Director

Of Canadian Nexen Petroleum Yemen-Masila Block (14)
&

Canadian Nexen Petroleum East Al Hajr Ltd. - Block (51)
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قطاع المسيلة (١٤)

CANADIAN
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Canadian Nexen Petroleum
East Al Hajr Ltd. - Block (51)

كنيديان تكسن بتروليم شرق الحجر المحدودة
قطاع شرق الحجر (٥١)

Dr Mohammed Baobaid to the Yemen Times: “There are many Muslim men and women who believe wrongly that Islam endorse men’s violence against women.”

A leading Yemeni academic, Dr Mohammed Baobaid was presented on 26 September with an Everyday Hero award by the Canadian Centre for Research and Education for Violence Against Women and Children (CRVAWC) for his role as project coordinator of the Muslim Family Safety Project, an initiative to help victims of violence in the Muslim community in Ontario where he lives. With a doctorate in Psychology and Criminology, Dr Baobaid advocates for men like him, as well as commu-

nity leaders, to be part of the solution to domestic violence against women in Yemen and in the Muslim community in Canada.

Head of the Department of Women Studies at the University of Sana’a from 1997 to 1999, Dr Baobaid now lives in Canada where he is a research associate in the CRVAWC, a board member of the Children’s Aid Society, and a men’s counselor for Changing Ways, a Canadian organization that helps men eliminate abusive behavior in their intimate relationships. Dr Baobaid answered Alice Hackman’s questions.

According to UNICEF, between 20 and 50 percent of women worldwide have been subjected to domestic violence during their lives. In many cases, these women remain silent out of shame and fear of society’s judgment. Is this shame any different for a female victim of domestic violence in an Islamic Arab society? Women who are victimized by their intimate partners are reluctant to ask for outside help because of the consequences on their status within their communities and their families.

I think the situation with victimized women in an Arab and Muslim society would be more difficult if they choose to ask for outside help. The main barriers that prevent Muslim abused women from asking for outside help is the fear of isolation from the community.

We come from a collective society, where relationship to family, network and community come prior to the self interest. So fear of isolation would be one of the major factors that make these women remain silent and not come forward with their stories. This is what I have whether from the research I conducted in Yemen as well as within the Muslim communities in Canada.

Most studies on domestic violence point to husbands as the main perpetrators of abuse against women. In Islamic Arab society, what are the risks taken by a victim of abuse in publicly seeking help and denouncing her husband?

The concept of domestic violence is new in Muslim and Arab countries. Usually people perceive any abuse [of] a woman by her husband or any other male figure in the family as a private and family matter. So, victimized women who brought their stories to the attention of the public would be stigmatized as “bad wives and bad mothers.” With this kind of stigmatization women’s safety could be in real danger.

The obstacles to speaking out are obviously greater for a non-English-speaking woman living in Canada. As coordinator of the Muslim Family Safety Project in London, Ontario, you oversaw the production of brochures in seven languages to inform members of the city’s Muslim community about domestic violence and family law in Canada. What has been the reaction to these brochures? Have the effects been positive?

This pamphlet was part of the public education campaign that aims to raise awareness among members of the Muslim community in London, Canada.

The information pamphlet is unique in its approach because it integrates Islamic perspective with Canadian legal framework, and shows that domestic violence is Islamically wrong and legally considered a crime.

The pamphlet was the outcome of open dialogue with religious leaders of the Muslim community in the city and especially the Imams. Two Imams agreed to put their names on the pamphlet and they helped in showing that Islam doesn’t support men’s violence against women. Because we have been able to include the Imams in our work, the pamphlet and the other activities of our public education campaign have had a positive impact on the Muslim community.

Beside the pamphlet, we have been able to work with the Imams to address domestic violence in their

Friday sermons. We have also been able to organize presentations on the issue of domestic violence in our community by inviting representative of mainstream service providers to the Mosques and the Islamic centre.

Q: In your writings, you argue that degrading attitudes towards women in Islamic societies do not derive from Qur’anic text, but rather from pre-Islamic and Ottoman cultural traditions incorporated into Islamic teachings over the centuries. You maintain that Islam rejects the abuse of women and advocates equality in rights and responsibilities between both sexes. To what extent is the role of religious figures such as Imams important in combating domestic violence against women in Muslim society?

A: Religion plays very significant role in the life of individuals and families of Muslim societies and communities. In particular, religion has a huge influence in understanding and shaping gender and family relationships. Muslims in general look for religious advice and direction regarding their family and intimate relationships.

There are many Muslim men and women who believe wrongly that Islam endorses men’s violence against women. This is why the role of religious leaders is very important in preventing and compacting domestic violence in Muslim societies and communities.

From your experience as a counselor for Changing Ways, a Canadian organization whose aim it is to help men eliminate abusive behavior in their intimate relationships, what do you perceive to be the main causes of violence within marriage?

The majority of victims of domestic violence are women and their children. Power imbalance to the advantage of men in intimate relationships is a major factor in domestic violence, especially in a patriarchal society.

However, in recent years many research studies have suggested that there are many other factors beside gender that intersect with domestic violence. Poverty, culture and race could be some of the major factors that influence domestic violence.

The concept of masculinity in many patriarchal societies is unfortunately associated with controlling attitudes and behaviors, which means that men within the patriarchal framework believe that they have the right to control their spouses. In this kind of environment, it is most likely that men would use violence against their wives if their authorities are challenged. In a collective society such as Yemen, violence within marriage could be easily justified in the name of family honor protection.

Within Muslim and Arab communities in Western societies such as Canada, the picture is a bit different. Based on my observations through my clinical work as a men’s counselor and through my research, I can tell you that most Muslim men who use violence in the intimate relationship have a traditional perception of their gender role and relationship within their family. These men feel that they are disrespected by their wives because of the support they receive from the Canadian justice system. So violence here is seen as a reaction towards triggers that challenge their masculinity and, on some level, as a reflection of failure to integrate in a

new society.

Honor [also] plays a significant role when you look at the causes of violence against girls in the Muslim and Arab community. This is mostly because parents think that their daughters will be assimilated into mainstream Canadian culture, while they live in isolation and struggle with integration challenges. This kind of situation creates tension, anxiety and fear of losing the kids and may lead some parents -especially fathers- to use violence to control the situation.

It is important to look at context to get better insight into the key factors of violence within marriage and the family.

In a recent study on domestic violence within the Arabic-speaking community in London, Ontario, you highlight a change in the structure of marriage for many Arab couples who move to Canada from the Middle East. What is this change and what are its effects? Can a similar phenomenon be observed in modern-day Yemen?

The major changes that have occurred to many Muslim and Arab families who have migrated to Canada are mainly related to gender roles and relationships.

When you are in your country of origin, you deal with any kind of marital or family conflicts in a familiar environment. In general, people resolve their conflicts by using traditional strategies where gender roles and family structures are simple and clear.

It is very challenging for many men who come from the Middle East to see their wives gain more power than they expected, perhaps be more successful in their integration process including making significant progress in terms of jobs, mobility and independence. These changes create a different dynamic within the family and the marital relationship.

In Yemen, marriage is still very traditional and gender role within marriage is very much consistent with the traditional rules of a tribal society. Of course, the situation in some cities is different where marriage is based on partnership between two equal people.

But if we talk about Yemeni society in general, we need to remember that we are talking about a society where more than 70 percent of women are illiterate and most of them live in poverty. The most important issue here is eliminating poverty and providing proper health care and education for women.

How many men voluntarily ask Changing Ways for counseling? How effective is counseling in preventing domestic violence?

Only 30 percent of Changing Ways clients are volunteers. The rest of them are mandated by court if they are convicted with domestic assault.

The program uses cognitive behavioral model to help men change their thought patterns. It also provides them with tools that help them to cope with conflict situations within the intimate relationship in a non-violent manner. Part of the program is also focused on encouraging men to take responsibility for their choices of using abusive tactics in their intimate relationship.

Counseling programs work very well as early intervention and are very effective in preventing further victimizations of women and children. The program at Changing Ways is very successful in helping men change



Dr Mohammed Baobaid advocates for men and religious leaders to be part of the solution to domestic violence.

their abusive attitudes and behaviours as well as keeping women safe in their intimate relationships.

Does an organization similar to Changing Ways exist in Yemen? If not, do you think such a project would be successful within the context of Yemeni society?

To my knowledge there is no such program in Yemen or any other Arab countries.

I believe this kind of program is much needed in Yemen and Arab countries. However to ensure the success of this kind of project, we need to take some aspects into consideration.

First, we need to develop a counseling program that is culturally compe-

tent and consistence with the Yemeni context.

Second, we need to start with a research project to identify the needs and explore challenges and opportunities and select the most effective model that fits within the Yemeni context.

Third, we should integrate this kind of initiative within a national domestic violence prevention and intervention strategy.

In your study on violence against women in Yemen published in 2002, you noted that only 3.4 percent of Yemeni women interviewed would choose the police as a way to cope with violence against them. Do you

think this statistic would change if more women were employed in the Yemeni police force?

I think the presence of female workers in the police force and the criminal justice system in general will encourage victimized women to ask for the help of the authorities.

[In addition,] the establishment of a national body that focuses on women’s and children’s safety would strengthen the role and the presence of female police officers. Women should have a leading role in this body and activists as well as professionals should be included.

Finally, from your experience fighting abusive behavior towards women in Canada, what additional advice can you offer Yemeni community workers and relevant authorities in the Yemeni government?

I think the most important thing in this stage of the campaign against violence against women in Yemen is to develop a comprehensive national prevention and intervention strategy.

We should start with a national survey about the prevalence of domestic violence. We should also take some steps back and evaluate the work have been done so far, whether by the governmental or non-governmental institutions. The evaluation should also focus on the real impact of our work on women’s situations by including their voices in any coming evaluation.

We need to see more collaboration between all the organizations and individuals involved in this field. In this regard, we need to be more creative in engaging men as well as key community leaders to be part of the solution. It is always very challenging to balance engaging people with authorities and, at the same time, avoiding being controlled by them.

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Economic situation encourages exchange marriages

By: Almigdad Mojalli and Maryam Al-Yemeni
Photos by: Amira Al-Sharif

Although the overwhelming majority of Yemeni people have become aware of the often horrible consequences of exchange marriages, many find themselves obliged to adopt it as the easiest way to get married.

An exchange marriage often aims to reduce the cost of entering into a marital union by giving the hand of a sister or daughter to the relative of a future bride. During the preparations

for the exchange marriage, the two families buy the same requirements in order to be as economical as possible.

According to Mohammed Saeed Naji, a villager from the Bani Hushaish district, "Instead of having two separate wedding ceremonies for a brother and sister, it is better to just have one ceremony for both."

Exchange marriage is widespread in Yemen and can be optional, but in some situations is an obligation. Sometimes a brother or father will refuse to give away his sister or daughter's hand in marriage unless the man who asks for it finds him a suitable bride in exchange.

"In our village there are only a few girls, so no one will let you marry his sister until you marry him to your sister or provide him with a bride," said Nawaf Ba Qarwan from the Hadramout governorate.

Most exchange marriages result in big problems, sometimes divorce, because one of the couples is compatible while the other isn't. The victims are usually women and children.

Oum Ahmed, 55, is a victim of exchange marriage. She stated that she was married to her husband in order to provide a wife for her brother. Her brother has been living in harmony with his wife, while she has

been struggling with a difficult marriage for more than fifteen years.

"My brother is happy with his wife and their kids but I live in hell with my husband; he never respects me and has no ethics" said Oum Ahmed. "I wanted a divorce after our wedding, but I thought that he would change with time. Unfortunately, he got worse and it was impossible for me to ask for divorce because I couldn't leave my six children," she added.

Eman Nasser Saleh, 32, and her two little daughters are also victims of exchange marriage. Saleh says that she was married to her husband at the same time as her brother was married

to her husband's sister. After a year and a half of marriage, problems started between her brother and his wife.

Three years later, Saleh's brother's wife and family asked for a divorce but her brother refused, unless Saleh's husband divorced her too. He asked for this knowing that Saleh and her husband had a happy marriage.

"My brother was merciless with his wife and with me too. He was inflexible and never accepted to divorce his wife until my husband divorced me because, for him, it became a matter of dignity," Saleh explained in a pathetic voice. She now lives away

from her daughters who are allowed to visit her only once a month.

In an effort to avoid bad consequences of exchange marriage, some people decide to lay down conditions prior to exchange marriages, such as agreeing that after the wedding, the marriages will be treated separately so the fate of one union doesn't affect the other.

According to Sheikh Ali Razaz, 56, the conditions are that if any one of the couples disagree and decide on divorce, the other couple is not affected by their quarrel and the union of each couple must be dealt with independently.



A women's marriage which happens through an exchange marriage agreement could be terminated just because the other couple involved in the exchange marriage is not happy.



A victim of exchange marriage with her child. Many Yemeni women are promised at a very young age to marriage because they are the price their father or brother pays in order to get married.



Invitation for Bids

Tender Advertisement no. (8) of 2008

(One Envelope System - Technical + Financial)

The Tax Authority here announces its desire to invite bidders to Tender no. (8 /2008) for the printing and supply of two billion banderol stamps on locally produced cigarettes which will be financed from the following sources:

a) 100% government Funding

Bidders who are willing to participate in this Tender have to submit written applications to Tax Authority Headquarter to receive Bidding Documents for an amount YR 100,000 non-refundable. Bidders have to apply during the official working hours at:

Tax Authority – General department of Financial Affairs / Procurement Department
Southern Safiah – Besides the Ministry of Finance – P.O. Box 11366-5746

The deadline for selling BDs will be on Sunday 9 .11.2008.

Bids must be submitted in sealed envelopes addressed to the Tax Authority 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 sum 10,000,000 of (YR or Convertible currency.) 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 registration documents 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 documents 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 11:00AM on Wednesday 12.11.2008. Bids received after this deadline will be returned unopened..

Bid Opening will take place at Tax Authority Headquarters, Office of the Deputy Chairman and at the same time mentioned above, in presence of bidders or their authorized representatives.

Potential bidders may inspect BDs before purchasing during working hours for a period of 27 days starting from advertisement.
site : WWW. Tax. gov. ye

إعلان المناقصة رقم (٨) لسنة ٢٠٠٨ م

تعلن مصلحة الضرائب عن رغبتها في إنزال المناقصة العامة رقم (٨) لعام ٢٠٠٨ م لطباعة وتوريد اثنين مليار طابع بندرول على السجائر المنتجة محلياً والتي سيتم تمويلها من مصدر حكومي ١٠٠٪.

على الراغبين المشاركة في هذه المناقصة التقدم بطلباتهم الخطية خلال أوقات الدوام الرسمي إلى العنوان التالي:

مصلحة الضرائب - الإدارة العامة للشؤون المالية / إدارة المشتريات

الصافية الجنوبية - جوار وزارة المالية - ص ب (٥٧٤٦.١١٣٣٦)

لشراء واستلام وثائق المناقصة نظير مبلغ قدره (١٠٠.٠٠٠) مائة ألف ريال لا يرد . وآخر موعد لبيع الوثائق هو يوم الأحد الموافق ٢٠٠٨ / ١١ / ٩ م

- يقدم العطاء في مظروف مغلق ومختوم بالشمع الأحمر إلى عنوان مصلحة الضرائب ومكتوب عليه اسم (المصلحة) والمشروع ورقم المناقصة، واسم مقدم العطاء، وفي طيه الوثائق التالية:

- ١- ضمان بنكي غير مشروط بمبلغ مقطوع قدره (١٠٠.٠٠٠.٠٠٠) عشرة مليون ريال، صالح لمدة (١٥٠) يوماً من تاريخ فتح المظاريف، أو شيك مقبول الدفع.
- ٢- بطاقة ضريبية سارية المفعول (على المتناقصين الأجانب الذين لا يقومون بأي أعمال في اليمن عليهم تقديم نسخة من وثائق التسجيل لضريبة القيمة المضافة في بلدانهم)
- ٣- بطاقة تأمينية، سارية المفعول (تطلب بطائق التأمين فقط من الشركات التي لديها عمال في اليمن والتي يحق لها الاستفادة من العوائد المقدمة من المؤسسة العامة للضمان الاجتماعي في اليمن)
- ٤- شهادة تسجيل وتصنيف سارية المفعول (في حالة إرساء العقد وإذا لم تكن الشركة التي فازت بالمناقصة مسجلة حينها سيطلب منها تقديم إثبات تسجيلها في الجهات ذات العلاقة في اليمن وذلك كمطلب لتنفيذ العقد).

٥- شهادة التسجيل لأغراض الضريبة العامة على المبيعات.

- آخر موعد لاستلام العطاءات وفتح المظاريف هو الساعة (الحادية عشرة صباحاً) من يوم (الأربعاء) الموافق ٢٠٠٨ / ١١ / ١٢ م ولن تقبل العطاءات التي ترد بعد هذا الموعد ويتم إعادتها مغلقة.

- سيتم فتح المظاريف بمكتب وكيل المصلحة بحضور أصحاب العطاءات أو من يمثلهم بتفويض رسمي موقع ومختوم.

- يمكن للراغبين في المشاركة في هذه المناقصة الاطلاع على وثائق المناقصة قبل شرائها وذلك خلال الدوام الرسمي لفترة ٢٧ يوم من فترة الإعلان.

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Many Happy Returns

تتقدم
الشركة العربية اليمنية
للأسمنت المحدودة
ممثلة برئيس مجلس ادارتها
المهندس عبدالله أحمد سعيد بقشان
بخالص التهاني والتبريكات إلى
فخامة رئيس الجمهورية
الأخ / علي عبدالله صالح
وإلى كافة أبناء الشعب اليمني بمناسبة
الذكرى الخامسة والأربعين لثورة الرابع
عشر من أكتوبر المجيدة
وكل عام وأنتم بخير



14 October Anniversary

Peace and justice: a dream we share with the American people

The American community pays attention to a report recommending that the U.S. Administration should change its policy in Iraq. This report, however, came after Malta was destroyed, the U.S. was converted into a beast in the eyes of people worldwide and the Americans themselves and the international economy turned to experience an unprecedented crisis.

Like the American people, we don't know the motive that encouraged the U.S. Administration to occupy other nations. We don't believe that the U.S. sacrificed its human and economic resources for the sake of making the whole world happy, even at the expense of the White House.

Some people may say that what America did was for the sake of protecting democracy and retaining a political status that helps it play roles of both a policeman and a judge at the same time.

The Arabs, either those who sympathize with the current U.S. President or those who fear his policy, don't know what is really taking place on the ground. The policy, currently pursued by President Bush, is taking the U.S. and the region into terrible catastrophes while opponents or proponents of this policy are experiencing growing rage and frustration.

It is a foolish policy that helps terrorism to spread worldwide and encourages terrorists to be more barbaric and vandalistic. It didn't address poverty or a natural disaster. This policy was set with the aim of toppling any regimes world-



By: Dr. Waheeba Farea

wide that disagree with the U.S. Administration and leave people suffering chaos and trouble.

Neither we nor the noble Americans understand why they thousands of American citizens are sent overseas and involved in wars whose causes and affects are known in advance. It is impossi-

ble for the military personnel serving overseas to tolerate what takes place on the ground forever, mainly as they see no satisfactory objective of their service or an incentive to wait for.

Tragic memories

The U.S. troops serving overseas face national resistance anywhere they are serving. And this resistance was legalized by all the earthly and divine legislations for patriots to defend their homelands. The U.S. service troops will eventually return home with multiple losses and tragic memories, which they leave behind or bring home with them. They will return home with a notorious record.

We don't know how many families and relatives of U.S. service troops who may forgive those, who deprived them of communicating with their beloved ones (troops), who were engaged in unfair wars. We don't know how survivors in these wars will regret what they have committed in unfair wars.

We don't know how long the American people will take to rehabilitate troops serving in Iraq in order to become normal citizens after being transformed into human beasts.

Defender of Democracy

We still don't know why the U.S. Administration sacrificed its status and why it insisted to wage an unfair war for unreal reasons and assumptive apologies. The entire world has been eying the U.S. as "Defender of Democracy" without firing even a single bullet. Afterward, the world learned that the U.S. is merely an oppressive state that mishandles justice and peace, according to the testimony of its friends and enemies.

Bush's current dilemma is what made him listen to the report of Becker Hamilton, which, as described by Bush himself, is tough and painful. However, pain is not the only cause that forced Bush to listen to other's viewpoints and comments on his policy.

Unless the Americans are preparing for the upcoming presidential elections that recently led to the emergence of numerous economic and financial policies, no one of the war brokers would have looked at the report.

The Bushism achieved no objective. Regrettably, the Bushism reached no objective, even hunting for Al-Qaeda comrades because its blind policies contributed to the emergence of further extremists while peoples of the region couldn't get rid of their seclusion.

The various battles waged by the U.S. Administration to allegedly promote democracy did nothing for other nations more than fomenting sectarian and ethnic seditions, which it then turned to name as "civil wars".

The current situation indicates a tragic end to a policy that didn't utilize any recommendations given by wise men, nor was this policy stopped. If the U.S. Administration had quit this policy, it

would have retained its status and avoided bloodshed in various parts of the world.

If the U.S. Administration had had more patience, it would have found out that what it spent on this adventure was sufficient to construct half of the sphere and fill it with peace and justice. If this administration had had more patience, it would have understood that those, who backed its policy, deserve harsh sanctions for what they did.

Behaving foolishly, the U.S. lost its real friends and joined a group of war brokers. Had it had more patience, it would have discovered that the Europeans were intelligent in dealing with the crisis.

Intelligence is the primary reason why the European economy has got stronger and stronger, compared to the ailing U.S. economy.

All people worldwide, Arabs and Americans are waiting for change. They are expecting that the next presidential term may erase the negative consequences, which the current administration's policy left behind.

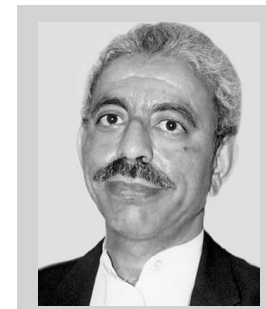
Same ambition for peace

There are tens of reports thereon, which the U.S. Administration did not pay attention to. These reports are more tough and painful, most notably those, which concentrated on the economic recession in the U.S., other financial problems and chaos in the various areas. Peace is to friendly people (the Americans) during any election. The main reason why we do love the American people is that we share them the same human ambition for justice and peace irrespective of the foolish policies followed by their government

COMMON SENSE

The Palestine Problem and the US Elections

Least anybody has forgotten, the Palestinian problem is still alive and well in the hearts and minds of thousands of Palestinians, who continue to suffer from the worst occupation of all times – a suffering that has persistently not seen the light of day since 1967. It is also a tragic blot on the dead hearts of many Yemenis, Arabs and Moslems throughout the world, who have forgotten that this is as much their problem as it is the misdeeds of a deadly international Zionist establishment that is determined to not only bring havoc to the



By: Hassan Al-Haifi

Middle East, but the world at large if necessary, just to make sure that the chauvinistic Zionist derma of conquering the Holy Land is attainable from the Nile to the Euphrates. The latest economic difficulties of the world are however beginning to worry so many people in every corner of the world, not the least of which are some of the diehard Zionist demagogues, who actually feel that their temporary conquest is doomed just like all the temporary conquests that have managed to gain a foothold on this dear territory of the world to so many people of faith and devotion to the Divine. Indeed the hold that the Zionists have on the Holy Land is beginning to reach its end. For one thing the biggest supporter and guarantor of this rapacious state is now enmeshed in an economic crisis the repair of which is yet to be seen in the near foreseeable future. When one has a sense of the gargantuan nature of the American economy, it becomes almost nightmarish to try to picture what this problem really means for the people of the United States, who have been misguided by the American demagogues of the right and their Zionist mentors into a hazy spate of unholy international adventurism and domestic economic experimentation at full gear laissez-faire. Indeed the results have come to light, with respect to the latter, as the American investment and financial markets become a venue of hopelessness, even with the Federal Government imposing nearly a trillion US dollars on the American taxpayer. All this just to bail out a few narrow interests that have gained riches beyond their dreams, as they abused the investments of their common stock shareholders, who once believed that their investments were rock solid, and now are expected to come out with the magic formula to make good on the expectations of the American taxpayer, who now has to continue financing the sleazy aspirations of diehard private sector bureaucrats, with unlimited budgets of extravagance on the grounds of pursuing the economic welfare of their stockholders and now on the grounds of pursuing the wishful thinking of the same government bureaucrats and neo conservative "think tanks" and bigoted priests, who brought on the demises in Afghanistan and Iraq, as well as Georgia, etc and now Wall Street. This establishment of war that has reigned in the United States of America for the last eight years has actually brought the prophesy of James Michener into reality more than a decade ago. At the time of the middle of the Clinton years of economic boom and prosperity, the great American novelist and historical commentator, James A. Michener (1907 – 1997), noted that the United States was in the beginning of its downfall, which he predicted would last some fifty years hence. For one thing, he said, that this was the ultimate fate that all empires must face sooner or later. For another thing he noted that there were apparent social and economic pitfalls that are signs of latent civilized and cultural decay apparent (mind you he was able to visualize this in a period of economic exuberance). Of course, he had not been witness to the years of gloom brought on by the Right Wingers and their Zionist mentors, not just, to the people of the United States, but to most of the people of this world.

For sure the Palestine problem had a lot to do with the erratic nature of the period and especially the unholy refrain from doing anything vis a vis the situation in the West Bank and Gaza, as the Israelis saw in this neglect a Godsend to do whatever they pleased in the Holy Land. On the contrary they were even "goaded" by the Bush Administration to wreak death and destruction in the Levant in the summer of 2006. Actually, one believes that the Israelis have always been doing the goading in Washington, but the Bush Administration is always penchant on being the champion of the Zionist agenda in Washington without any competition. Whatever the case, the United States should have really checked its decaying economic fabric, rather than chase after already desperate victims of Zionist oppression. More on this to come.

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

The shortest way to defeat terrorism

We gathered at a dinner table once in Ramadan in the house of U.S. Ambassador to Yemen, Steven Seche, which is located in the embassy's precinct. Tens of personalities, who were selected to represent various official, popular, media, political and economic institutions attended the event.

After breaking our fast with dates, we all rushed to perform the Maghreb



By: Dr. Abdullah Al-Faqih

Prayers in a hall prepared inside the Ambassador's house. The event coincided with Day Sunday, which is highly exalted by the Christians as much as the holy month of Ramadan is exalted by Muslims.

The whole event implies that the September 11 Terrorist Attacks against the U.S. – although

they killed many innocent people and lead to numerous wars in several parts of the world – helped bring people of different religions, colors and races together and taught them how important it is to understand each other and coexist peacefully.

It doesn't appeal to the mind of any of us on that day that the venue where many Yemeni citizens met with their American friends, who warmly received their guests at the dinner, will be a target for a terrorist operation just in 48 years following the dinner party. Those standing behind the operation

are merely mercenaries, who are only concerned about material earnings by illegal means.

They have no relation with the Islamic religion, nor does generosity or any of the Islamic values apply to them.

It is not surprising to see that such a malicious attack on the U.S. Embassy in Sana'a killed 11 innocent people. The event signifies a religion of terrorism, which only targets innocent people and exists in the swaps of killing and devastation.

What is impossible for terrorists to understand?

What was impossible for the terrorists to understand is that 'despite the fact they killed innocent people, they will not defeat the Yemeni people, who will eventually score victory over terrorism and beat terrorism through their wisdom, as well as in cooperation with brotherly and friendly Arab states'. These states should cooperate in order to eliminate this malignant disease (terrorism) that infected the 'Yemeni body' and began threatening citizens' right to lead a peaceful and free life.

The American friends proved to be wise when they decided not to close their embassy in the face of its commuters, be they local staff or visa applicants. Their determination not to close the embassy implies their high consideration and respect for the heroic soldiers, who were killed while bravely defending the Embassy of the friendly United States.

I hope that both Yemeni and U.S. governments cooperate in supporting the innocent families that lost their relatives (soldiers) in an unfair battle

imposed on them by irresponsible terrorists. The terrorists wanted to expand the gap between Yemenis and the outside world. And the normal reaction to their behavior is to confirm peaceful coexistence and forgiveness under the common interest, as well as ensure mutual respect for ideologies and cultural values and lifestyles.

If the war on terrorism requires that governments cooperate with the Yemeni government and people, we should under-

stand that it also necessitates more patience, plus firm legislations that don't punish innocent people or abuse rights.

Therefore, establishing good discrimination between terrorists and terrorism opponents in terms of the objectives and means is the shortest way to defeat terrorism.

The author is a professor of politics at Sana'a University
Source: Al-Tagheer.com



By: Samer

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Whose falafel is it anyway?

Call it the falafel wars, the hummus wars or just a plain old food-fight: Lebanon made headlines all over the world last week by threatening to take Israel to court over food theft.

By **TANIA TABAR**
MENASSAT

In one of Lebanon's most famous falafel stands, owner Fouad Moustafa Sahyoun only needed to utter the word Israel to set off a heated political discussion among his customers.

Sahyoun, whose shop is named after his family, was discussing a recent threat by the Association of Lebanese Industrialists (ALI) to sue Israel for appropriating what many consider to be traditional Lebanese foods, among them falafel, tabbouleh and hummus.

Fali Abboud, ALI's president, says Lebanon is losing "tens of millions of dollars" because Israel is claiming traditional Lebanese dishes as its own on the world market.

Yet, Abboud says, "These dishes existed long before the existence of Israel."

The feta precedent

Abboud says he was prompted to consider legal action against Israel after

receiving complaints from the Lebanese agricultural industry that Israeli manufacturers are increasingly marketing Lebanese foods as their own.

In the United Kingdom, for example, supermarket chains like Sainsbury's and Tesco carry mostly Israeli brands of hummus, tabbouleh and falafel mix.

"It is affecting our business and creating unfair competition," Abboud told MENASSAT.

Abboud has invested his hopes in the "feta precedent" as a legal basis for bringing a case against Israel before the international courts.

In 2002, the European Commission ruled that only Greece could label feta cheese as feta, and it could not be marketed as such by other countries, after the Greeks conclusively proved that Greece was indeed where feta cheese originated.

Of course, the differences between Lebanon and Israel transcend the culinary. The two countries have been at war with each other for decades, and Israel still occupies a piece of land,

Shebaa farms, which Lebanon claims as its own.

"Stealing is the part of the existence of Israel, unfortunately," Abboud said. "But in my opinion stealing our culture is as important as stealing the land. We cannot stand still and accept the stealing of our culture and cuisine."

But while the "falafel wars" currently dominate the headlines, there are also those who suggest that food is precisely what unites the peoples in the region.

Ari Cohen, an Israeli-Moroccan filmmaker based in Montreal, is currently working on a film about falafel, using the often-politicized food staple to explore the larger issues in the Middle East.

"I don't want to speak for anyone but I'm curious to see where does this come from, that you feel that another country has appropriated their dishes. I want to get a sense of how and why feel they have been robbed. It's obviously a sentiment they feel strongly about," said Cohen, who has traveled to a number of places, including Israel, Palestine, France, the United States and Canada, looking for falafel-related stories.

One of the questions Cohen continuously asks in his film is, Where does this food originate? And can we own food?

"No one really owns food but we can pay tribute to it," he believes.

"I think Israel should be appreciative and should acknowledge where these foods originated. But they are adding their own spice to the mix. It's a question of acknowledgment and respect but also there have been Jews that have been there for hundreds of years and have been involved in the creation of this food," Cohen told MENASSAT.

The recent controversy in Lebanon is nothing new to Cohen, who has interviewed many Arabs who share similar feelings about Israel's claim to the foods of the region.

"It's a way to make Israel accountable, from their perspective," he says.

Lebanese... or Palestinian?

But Lebanon may be opening up a can of worms by claiming falafel, tabbouleh and hummus as Lebanese because the Israelis are not the only ones in the game.

Siham Baghdadi Zurub, a Palestinian chef in Ramallah and author of *The Palestinian Cuisine*, staked her own claim in an interview with the Daily Telegraph.

Zurub argues that the Palestinians were in fact the first to make hummus from chickpeas given that they were plentiful in ancient Palestine, unlike in Egypt or Syria where the fava bean was more common.

But, said Zurub, "No one has the right to call hummus and falafel as his national dish. Putting copyright on certain dishes is a selfish trend that reflects insecurity and a lack of common sense."

In Beirut's Hamra district, Shady is underwhelmed by Lebanon's latest culinary offensive.

Shady is the manager of Barbar, a Lebanese fastfood chain selling shawarma and falafel among other things. Barbar is famous in Lebanon for staying open – and delivering – throughout any of Lebanon's political crises, including the 2006 war with Israel.

"There are a lot of things we can sue Israel for – much more important things," said Shady. "They didn't just steal the food; they stole a lot of things. There is the segregation wall – we can sue them for that."

"It's only propaganda, it won't lead to anything," he shrugs.

Shady is equally dismissive of the power of food to bring people together.

"Food will not erase 40 years or 50 years of abuse," says Shady. "It won't unite anybody."

A look at some of the best (and the worst) headlines inspired by the falafel wars:

- Food fight: Lebanon wants its hummus! (*National Post, Canada*)

- Lebanon takes aim at Israel over hummus (*Reuters*)

- Yallah, food fight! (*LA Times*)

- Lebanon in a bad hummus with Israel (*Sydney Morning Herald*)

- Don't mess with our hummus, warn Lebanese (*AFP*)

- Hummus war looms between Lebanon and Israel (*AP*)

- Chickpea wars: Israelis up in arms at bid to stop them selling hummus (*The Independent*)

- Falafel kerfuffle in Beirut (*The Guardian*)

Moustafa Sahyoun, in his falafel stand on Beirut's former Green Line, says he tends to avoid politics these days, preferring to listen to classical Arabic music as he serves his customers.

But, being Lebanese, he can't help taking one more shot at the Israelis for good measure.

"Maybe they are thinking of coming to destroy something here because of the falafel issue?"



Disarming the Middle East

By **Shlomo Ben-Ami**

Israel's desperate plea that the world act to curtail what its intelligence service describes as Iran's "gallop toward a nuclear bomb" has not gotten the positive response that Israel expected. With the United Nations sanctions regime now having proven to be utterly ineffective, and with international diplomacy apparently futile in preventing the Iranians from mastering the technology for enriching uranium, Israel is being boxed into a corner. What was supposed to be a major international effort at mediation is deteriorating into an apocalyptic Israeli-Iranian showdown.

This is an intriguing anomaly, for, notwithstanding Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad's vile anti-Semitic rhetoric, the implications of Iran's emerging power extend far beyond the Jewish state. Indeed, it

affects the entire Arab world, particularly the vulnerable Gulf countries, and even Afghanistan and Pakistan. The United States, as a major Middle East power, and Europe also have an interest in stemming the tide of nuclear proliferation that now threatens the Middle East. For a nuclear Iran would open the gates to an uncontrolled rush for the bomb across the region.

The international system's failure to address effectively the nuclear issue in the Middle East stems mostly from the Russia-US divide, to which wrong-headed American strategy has contributed mightily. Russia cannot want a nuclear Iran. But in its quest for leverage against what it perceives as hostile American policies, and as way to bargain for a more acceptable security framework with the West, the Russians refuse to join America's leadership in international efforts to curtail Iran's nuclear ambitions.

Russia holds the key not only to

Iran's diplomatic isolation, but also – through the weapons transfers that it has already pledged to Iran – to the Iranian government's capacity to protect its nuclear installations. In October 2007, Vladimir Putin became the first Russian leader since Leonid Brezhnev to visit Iran, bringing along five leaders of the Caspian Sea states. Since then, Putin has sought to expose the bankruptcy of America's policy of isolating Iran. Russia probably can tame the Iranian regime, but it will do so only in exchange for America's respect for its interests in the former Soviet Republics, and possibly also a revision of post-Cold War strategic agreements.

But, even if abandoned by the Russians, it is highly unlikely that Iran will give up its nuclear ambitions unless its regional concerns are addressed. Iran's nuclear drive reflects a broad national consensus, the result of a deep-seated sense of vulnerability and betrayal. The Iranians remember

how the international community remained indifferent when Saddam Hussein attacked with chemical weapons in the 1980's. Nor is the presence of America's formidable might in today's Iraq comforting to them. Iran believes that it is the victim of an international double standard – acceptance of Pakistan's and India's nuclear status, not to mention Israel's – which only fuels its sense of discrimination and its resolve to pursue its ambitions.

By exposing the inadequacy of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty, Iran, a signatory, has signaled to Israel that the regional order can no longer be based on Israel's nuclear monopoly as a non-NPT member. Hence, the solution lies not only in forcing NPT members like Iran and Syria to comply with their commitments, but in creating a broader regional security and cooperation architecture in the Middle East. But it is highly unlikely that the Arabs will agree to such a system so long as

Israel refuses to address her own nuclear capabilities.

Any regional security architecture will have to be premised on the Middle East becoming a zone free of all weapons of mass destruction, including nuclear, chemical, and biological weapons. The Middle East retains the infamous distinction of being the only region in the world to have used such weapons since the end of World War II.

Indeed, Arab states have both developed and used chemical and biological weapons – not against Israel, so far, but against others in the region. Iraq used them against Iran, Egypt in its war in Yemen of the 1970's, and Iraq against its own Kurds. In 1993, Israel signed the international treaty banning chemical weapons, but did not ratify it because of the Arab states' refusal to follow suit as long as Israel maintained its nuclear advantage.

The international community must recognize that the Middle East security

equation is not a simple linear one involving Israel versus the Arab world. The proliferation of nuclear weapons in a region that has seen fit to use weapons of mass destruction before threatens everyone.

So a concerted effort is needed by outside powers such as the US and Russia, not to act as spoilers of each other's policies in the region, but to create a WMD-free zone. Such a regional system cannot be built in a political vacuum. A major effort to assist in the solution of the region's major political disputes is a vital prerequisite. The nuclear clock is ticking.

Shlomo Ben-Ami is a former Israeli foreign minister who now serves as vice-president of the Toledo International Centre for Peace. He is the author of Scars of War, Wounds of Peace: The Israeli-Arab Tragedy. Copyright: Project Syndicate, 2008. www.project-syndicate.org

Blogging for a worthy cause — Global day on the Web to highlight plight of the poor

By **Laura Bashraheel** | Arab News

Organizers are hoping that Arabs will be blogging in a big way on Blog Action Day tomorrow, when the world is set to highlight the plight of the poor. This is the second edition of blogging for a theme.

But two Arabs, who are going to participate this year, are only cautiously optimistic.

Ahmed Badrah, a 20-year-old Palestinian video blogger who lives in Jeddah, studies in Malaysia and is the founder of Arab Video Blogging

Community, blames a lack of communication among bloggers for the poor response from Arabs.

"That's why I am promoting awareness through my blog," Badrah said. "Unfortunately, Arabs are not that active in sharing this event with the world; I don't know why. I think maybe because the event itself is not known to Arab bloggers. Earlier, I checked if anyone had written about the event, and I found no one had. Hence I posted an article in Arabic to create awareness, and the result was good."

Another effective promotion has been word-of-mouth advertising of

the event. That's how Essam Al-Zamel, the 28-year-old CEO of Remal Information Technology Company, got to know about the Blog Action Day. "I knew about the action day through a blogger friend of mine," Al-Zamel said.

He added that through his participation he hopes to shed some light on the root causes of poverty locally and internationally and how to eradicate the causes or alleviate the suffering.

"I will also write about the lack of real action from the wealthy nations because I can find no excuse for them for not acting effectively in solving

poverty around the world," he told Arab News.

Badrah, meanwhile, said that after posting the event on his blog he received good responses from bloggers.

The organizers have invited bloggers from all over the world to examine poverty from their own blog topics and perspectives. The Blog Action Day is organized as a nonprofit activity by a group of volunteer bloggers and the staff of Envato (<http://envato.com>), which has donated their time and resources.

Currently registered to participate until yesterday were 7,644 sites and

8,447,030 RSS readers.

"I hope there will be a lot of Arab bloggers who want to make an impact on society and bring about change in the region," Badrah said.

Blog Action Day is an annual event that aims to unite the world's bloggers, podcasters and videocasters to post about a select issue on the same day. The day started last year with environment as the theme.

According to the website administrators and creators, global issues such as poverty are extremely complex. There is no simple, clear answer.

The main aim of this action day is to

raise awareness and trigger a global discussion in order to find and enhance solutions.

"By asking thousands of different people to give their viewpoints and opinions, Blog Action Day creates an extraordinary lens through which one can view these issues. Each blogger brings his or her perspective and ideas, each blogger posts relating to their own blog topic and each blogger engages their audience differently," said one blogger. "By doing so on the same day, the blogging community effectively changes the conversation on the Web and focuses audiences around the globe on one issue."

أجمل التغمي وأطيب التبركات نغديها محملة بالفد
والبراحيه للأستاذ/
حامد محمود الأصبحي
بمناسبة عقد القراءه و قرب الزفاف
فألف ألف مبروك

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البلابل فرحاً و ابتهاجاً للاخ/
عمر عبدالعزيز الكميم
بمناسبة الخطوبة
وقرب الزفاف
فألف ألف مبروك

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فرحاً و ابتهاجاً للاستاذ/
أحمد محمد مقبل البرهني
بمناسبة الخطوبة
وقرب الزفاف
فألف ألف مبروك

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أجمل التغمي أسنى التبركات للأخ/
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عمر
فألف ألف مبروك ورحمة الله قرو عيه والديه

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The British Council Yemen wishes to recruit an

Projects Manager

Job Aim:

To manage the effective planning and delivery of products, services and networks to enable Yemen to achieve defined regional and local projects outcomes.

The Project Manager is responsible for:

- Supporting Assistant Director and Regional Project Managers on the development of agreed strategies and plans.
- Developing, delivering, publicising and evaluating of regional & local products and services.
- Developing and maintaining active relationships and networks.
- Supporting the development of a project team with effective knowledge-sharing between the team and with regional colleagues and UK sector team and stakeholders.
- Actively managing project staff, risks and finances.

Essential competencies and skills:

- Experience in project management skills
- Knowledge of the art scene in Yemen
- Yemeni national status, or the right to work in Yemen
- Excellent communication skills
- Good team-working skills
- Fluent written and oral Arabic and excellent written and oral English
- Computer literacy

How to apply?

You can download a copy of the application form and job description from our website <http://www.britishcouncil.org/me-about-us-working-with-us.htm>. Once you fill in the application form send to recruitment@ye.britishcouncil.org. For any enquiries email us or phone 01 448356.

CVs are NOT accepted.

Closing date for applications will be 1 November 2008

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The British Council is committed to a policy of equal opportunity. We welcome applications from all sections of the community. We guarantee an interview to disabled candidates who meet the essential criteria.



INTERNAL / EXTERNAL VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Title of Post: Database / Registration Clerk

Post Number: 10008199

Category / Level: GL 4

Location: Sana'a

Entry on Duty: 1st December 2008

Duration: One Year

Closing Date: 27th October 2008

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Under the direct supervision of the Assistant Protection Officer in the Branch Office Sana'a, the incumbent is expected to perform the following duties, guided by the humanitarian principles and values of the United Nations, and adhering to the UN Code of Conduct:

Terms of Reference

1. Responsible for the entering and update of data related to UNHCR persons of concern;
2. Participate in the registration activities;
3. Prepare statistics and data analysis on persons of concern to UNHCR as required;
4. Issues documents to asylum seekers and refugees;
5. Manages the filing room, and file movements;
4. Draft routine correspondence and reports;
5. Act as interpreter and translator when needed; &
6. Perform other duties as required by the supervisor.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Knowledge and Skills: Secondary education.

Experience: 5 years of relevant work experience in an international capacity.

Others: Excellent computer skills with knowledge of statistical methods.

Languages: Ability to speak and write well in English and Arabic.

For internal UNHCR candidates:

Staff may apply to vacant posts at their own level at any time. Staff with the required seniority may apply to posts that are one level above their grade. If no internal candidate with the required minimum seniority has applied, the post will be re-advertised internally with a reduced seniority requirement. Only qualified candidates who have completed at least half of the required seniority in grade may be considered.

Candidates who do not meet the criteria as internal candidates can be considered as external candidates.

For external candidates:

While priority will be given to Internal Candidates as per UNHCR guidelines, suitable External Candidates will be considered.

IMPORTANT:

Applications received after the above mentioned closing date will not be considered. All applications should be sent to:

The Administration Officer,

UNHCR BO Sana'a

P.O. Box:12093

Sana'a.

Tel. Contact: +967-1-469771/2

Fax: +967-1-469 770

International human rights organisation is seeking a Country Manager in Yemen

The purpose of this position is to supervise the country programme implementation in human rights carried out in partnerships with state institutions and civil society in Yemen. The Country Manager will supervise and engage in the following tasks:

- i. Donor cooperation
- ii. Programme coordination and management, including
 - internal flow of information and communication
 - overall planning and implementation
 - fundraising
 - monitoring of partner accounting and external audits
 - reporting and drafting of programme documents
 - participate in decision making
 - supervise local staff

Professional and personal skills required:

- BA or MA Degree in the field of political sciences or business and holding expertise in management, organisational development and project tools
- Knowledge and expertise in human rights
- Written and oral Arabic and English must be fluent
- Computer literacy: Word, excel, internet etc.
- At least 5 years professional experience in management, organisational development and project work
- Able to work under pressure and prepared to work long hours during e.g. times of missions and deadlines
- Sociable, cheerful and a good team player

The duty station is Sanaa and office facilities will be provided.

Further information about the position kindly e-mail us. Written applications with attached copies of relevant documentation such as cover letter including salary history, your resume/CV and 3 professional references (name, title, organization, relationship, phone number, email) should be addressed *Staff Department* and sent to this e-mail address hrYemen08@yahoo.com

Deadline for submitting applications is Thursday 30 October 2008

Only pre-selected candidates will be consulted

Our organisation is an equal opportunities organisation, and encourages all qualified candidates irrespective of age, gender, nationality, religion, ethnic origin etc to apply

Ministry of Education (MoE) Project Administration Unit (PAU) Basic Education Development Project (BEDP) Credit No. 3988-Yemen & Grant No. TF-053721 & KF (2004 66 268)

Request for Expressions of Interest Technical Assistance (TA) for Data Quality Diagnostic Study

The Ministry of Education is interested in improving the quality of education data collected by various agencies under:

- a) Ministry of Education (MoE)
- b) Ministry of Higher Education (MoHE)
- c) Ministry of Technical Education and Vocational Training (MoTEVT)

The objective of this consultancy is (i) to assess the quality and accuracy of the education data at all education sub-sectors (administered by Ministries of Education (MoE), Higher Education (MoHE) and Technical Education and Vocational Training (MoTEVT)); (ii) to make recommendations for improving the data quality and accuracy through improvement of data collection, and (iii) provide capacity-building training for improving data quality and accuracy.

The (MOE) is interested in conducting a comprehensive diagnosis of data accuracy and reliability. This study covers the stages of data collection, production and verification while the EMIS focuses on management and use of the data. The study also includes capacity building and training of selected staff from MoE, MoHE and MoTEVT.

This Request of Expressions of Interest follows the General Procurement Notice for this project that appeared in the Development Business and Dg Market dated of Feb 2, 2005. The Ministry of Education (MOE), Republic of Yemen, has received a credit from the International Development Association (IDA) and intends to apply part of the proceeds of this to payments under the contract for the above-consulting service.

The Project Administration Unit now invites eligible consulting firms to indicate their interest in providing the service for conducting Technical Assistance (TA) for Data Quality Diagnostic Study. Interested consulting firms must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the service profiles, description of similar assignments, experience in similar assignment, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills, etc. and experience in Yemen and other countries in the region.

The selection of the consulting firm will be made in accordance with the procedure set out in the World Bank's Guidelines: "Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers, May 2004." Interested consultants may obtain further information during working days Sat. - Wed. from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM at the address below to which the expression of interest must be delivered by October 30, 2008.

Basic Education Development Project

60 m Southern Rd - Bait Meyad

Tel: 00967-01-619160, Fax: 00967-01-619219 or to

Email: The Project Director: a.al-arashi@y.net.ye

Businesswomen in Yemen face obstacles in independent business

By: Yemen Times Taiz bureau

The involvement of Yemeni women in independent business and their participation in the development process through the establishment of small businesses is limited by some norms in Yemeni society, according to a new study.

Awareness of the importance of women's participation in business is increasing in Yemeni society where a poor economic situation has obliged all members of society - including women - to work in different fields, observers have said.

However, Yemeni social norms still represent an important obstacle to women who run small and larger independent businesses, and prevent their full participation in the development process.

Public opinion varies with regard to Yemeni women's participation in independent business. While some believe that women can be active and successful in independent business, others think that women should concentrate on other tasks.

Rahma Al-Shawish, a journalist, confirms that a woman can make a great success in business, even on the level of huge institutions. She pointed out that a lot of women in Yemen who run private projects and companies in spite of the obstacles they encounter.

"There are obstacles that hinder women from continuing work in independent business," said Al-Shawish. "The most important are lack of financial support and elements of planning for business. In addition, there are social norms that don't accept the work of women in business, which prompt them to be restricted to small projects."

Some Yemeni families have apprehensions that their daughters may be subjected to indecent behavior and fraud by employees who work in the institutions run by women.

Widad Mohammed, a housewife, maintains that the reason behind that is that a woman in the Yemeni society is deemed weak.

"I think that women have only recently imposed themselves in business in Yemeni society due to the difficult living standards in Yemeni families", says Mohamed.

"A Yemeni woman can succeed in a small project, but it is difficult for a woman to achieve success in running huge institutions since she is socially weak and, consequently, may be exploited by personnel of the institu-



Taqwa Al-Hababi, 40, runs three bridal gown shops with her four daughters in Sana'a. She started her career as a business woman with only one bridal gown four years ago. Now, she has over seventy bridal gowns in the three shops.

tion, particularly if a woman lacks adequate experience," she added.

While some people partially reject that a woman run an independent business due to the problems she may face, others completely reject the participation of women in business for moral reasons.

Ahmed Ali, owner of a stationary shop, believes that it is not necessary that a woman take part in independent business.

"A man is more competent and capable of dealing with different the different challenges of business," Ali said. "If a woman were to run a huge institution, she would have to deal with customers and competitors in the market and might be subjected to immoral treatment," he added.

Women who run independent businesses or hold management positions in different institutions are of a different opinion.

"No one can deny that a woman is capable of working in the field of business, both on small and big projects," says Awatif Al-Sharjabi, director of the international cooperation unit in the Yemeni Authority for Specifications and Standards.

"Yemeni women are active in different fields and can excel if they have a strong will, experience and financial support," she said, however adding that a man's support in legal and con-

sultancy matters is however necessary.

Asked about immoral behavior encountered in the workplace, a female manager of a small project said: "I haven't so far faced any immoral acts by customers against women in business, but I believe this depends on a woman's personality. If a woman is honest and behaves in accordance with Islamic principles, she will be met by respect from all people."

She further maintained that a woman can impose herself in the market if she is experienced and has the practical skills needed to run her business, and noted that the market doesn't differentiate between males and females since the obstacles facing both are similar.

Najat Juma'an, a professor in the Faculty of Commerce at Sana'a University and a prominent businesswoman, confirmed the amount of opportunities for the integration of women in business, but pointed out that the number of women present in the field was limited because of social obstacles that confine women's work to housework.

She called on Yemeni women to challenge these social misconceptions through hard work and the will to gain experience of laws and government policy related to business.

For his part, Abdul Hakim Al-Sharjabi, professor of sociology at

Sana'a University, maintained that efforts should be exerted to change misconceptions detrimental to women in the workplace, stressing the role of mass media in this regard. He called for awareness campaigns to confirm the importance of women's participation in free business, and prove their ability to excel in the market while keeping to the principles of Islam.

According to a study conducted by Fawziyah Nasher, director of the Businesswomen Office in Yemen, Yemeni businesswomen face obstacles related to absence of training in trade and lack of capital as obtaining loans from banks is difficult.

Rashida Al-Hamadani, head of the National Committee for Women, made clear that the committee had conducted a study in cooperation with the World Bank to address the obstacles that hinder women in the economic field. She said that the study would be published as soon as data analysis is completed.

Huriah Mshur, vice-head of the National Committee for Women, said that she hoped that the number of Yemeni businesswomen would increase in order for Yemeni women to play their role properly in the society.

She further said that, if a businesswoman excels in her business, there is nothing stopping her from reaching positions of economic decision-making.

Business In Brief

WB official: Int'l financial crisis will not affect the bank works in Yemen

The Executive Director of the World Bank Khwan Dabob expressed on Tuesday his satisfaction with the development of good governance in Yemen as well as the serious steps Yemen has taken to improve investment environment.

He affirmed that the international financial crisis will not affect works of the World Bank in Yemen, noting seriousness of the WB to support Yemen financially to face the increasing prices of foodstuff.

For his part, Minister of Planning and International Cooperation Abdul-Karim al-Arhabi, during his meeting with Dabob, expressed appreciation of the Yemen government for the WB decision to increase financial assistance for Yemen and allocate financial grants instead of soft loans which were offered for Yemen in the previous period.

Liberian oil tanker unloads 43,000 M. tons of diesels in Aden seaport

The Liberian oil tanker unloaded on Tuesday about 43,000 metric tons of diesel in the Aden refinery seaport.

A source told Saba that the shipment will be distributed to all fuel stations in the whole country according to the needed local consumption, pointing out that the situation has been stable in the presence of all petrol stations.

Yemeni-Turkish trade exchanging to reach \$1 bln by 2010: Akren says

Turkish Deputy Premier Nazim Akren expected on Tuesday raising the Yemen-Turkey trade exchange volume to \$ 1 billion by the end of 2010 compared to \$ 400 million in 2008.

Upon his departure, the Turkish official told Saba that the fourth round of Yemeni-Turkish committee has concluded its meetings in Sana'a with a number of cooperation agreements between the two countries.

Akren said that the meetings ended up with several outcomes including the establishment of the Yemeni-Turkish businessmen council in addition to holding a number of exhibitions for the export products to both countries.

Turkey says intends to buy Yemeni liquefied gas

At the end of the 4th round of the Yemeni-Turkish Ministerial Committee, the Turkish deputy prime minister Nazim Ekren said Turkey likes to buy liquefied gas from Yemen.

Ekren also expressed Turkey's readiness to exchange information on and experiences of energy and renewable energy.

The Turkish side discussed with the Yemeni side the possibility of holding meetings on the matters in the near future.

The two sides said the round had reflected the developed relations between Yemen and Turkey, and

expressed comfort with the deal reached between them for cooperation in the transport area.

The agreement was signed in February in Turkey and it was approved by Yemen during the current round.

They also approved measures to facilitate the entering of Yemeni and Turkish truck drivers into both countries.

At the round Yemen accepted a Turkish proposal regarding its membership in the UN Land Transport Convention, saying it will consider the proposal in an effort to facilitate transport between it and Turkey.

CBY pumps \$50 mln into exchange market

Central Bank of Yemen pumped on Monday \$ 50.7 million to feed local exchange market with its needs of foreign currencies.

An official source at the CBY told Saba that the bank would continue to monitor the exchange market and taken the necessary procedures to realize the stability.

It is worth mentioning that this is the third time in a week and eleventh time in 2008 when the CBY intervened to reinforce the national currency. The bank has pumped in the local market during 2008 about \$ 1.138 billion.

Yemen, Saudi Development Fund discuss carrying out technical projects

Deputy Minister of Technical Education and Vocational Training Alawi ba-Faqih discussed on Monday with the delegation of the Saudi Fund for Development (SFD) process of carrying out SFD-funded technical and vocational projects in Yemen.

The meeting discussed level of achievements in the 18 projects of establishing technical and vocational institutes with the cost of \$ 50 million from the fund.

The meeting dealt with topics concerning equipments of these institutes with other financial grant worth \$ 50 million from the fund.

Hampered projects and difficulties and problems facing accomplishing these projects also discussed.

The vice minister asserted importance of carrying out those projects on time and committing to quality and specifications, indicating that 4-6 institutes would be completed and handed them over this year.

Head of the delegation Mansour Azzughaibi indicated that field visits show that the process following up, evaluating and sponsoring some projects in some governorates is very week, noting to absence of consulting role and not committing to specifications and quality.

"Matters have turned into opposite directions making the contractor stronger and the advisor is loyal to the contractor a mater has led to weak execution process and not adhering to specifications and quality in some projects," said Azzughaibi.

The decent work imperative

By: Jomo Kwame Sundaram and Johan Scholvinck

Over the past decade, the ranks of the unemployed have swollen to close to 190 million worldwide.

That number captures only a fraction of the problem, since 80% of the global workforce is in the informal sector, without any unemployment benefits or other social protection. It is estimated that at least 43.5% of workers - 1.3 billion people - do not earn enough to lift themselves and their families above the \$2-a-day poverty line. Recent World Bank poverty recalculations are expected to raise the number even higher.

Evidently, the global economy's growth in recent decades - including the last half-decade when many developing countries did quite well - has not created enough good jobs. Nor have current economic and social policies compensated much for this shortfall.

Beyond the rising number of unemployed and underemployed, conditions for many of the employed have been deteriorating as well in most countries, especially for workers with little education and few skills. Globally, casual labor, outsourcing, and job contracting and subcontracting are becoming the norm, weakening entitlements for

workers and creating more job insecurity.

According to a recent report by the United Nations, The Employment Imperative: Report on the World Social Situation, national policies aimed at counteracting these trends and lowering unemployment have largely failed. The report shows that in their desire to remain or become more competitive, governments and employers around the world have taken many steps to increase labor market flexibility. But this has merely contributed to greater economic insecurity and greater inequality, while failing to achieve either full or productive employment, as promised.

Perhaps even more compelling, services' share of total global employment reached 42.7% in 2007, well ahead of agriculture (34.9%) and industry (22.4%). Many service-sector jobs are low-paying, precarious, and not covered by formal mechanisms of social protection.

Meanwhile, many more of the unemployed now have to demonstrate that they are "deserving" of unemployment assistance, which is increasingly given on a discretionary basis, contingent on fulfillment of specified behavioral obligations. In other words, entitlement to unemployment benefits is ceasing to be a social right.

While recognizing the challenges in designing policies to address such problems, there is an urgent need to move beyond rhetoric. Collective efforts by the international community, national governments, and civil society, including the private sector, are required to meet the employment challenge in the twenty-first century.

At the international level, cooperation and coordination among countries are needed to counteract the pressures of the current "race to the bottom" in the global competition for investment and markets. At the national level, reform of social protection systems in developed countries, and the expansion of such systems in developing countries, should seek to ensure greater economic security as well as labor flexibility.

Governments have been promoting individual savings accounts for pensions, health, and unemployment insurance; often, these are either mandatory or subsidized through tax incentives. As individual savings accounts figure increasingly in social protection systems, governments need to provide adequate economic security for those who cannot benefit from such social protection schemes.

Decent work - promoted by the International Labor Organization since 1999 - means productive, rewarding,

and secure jobs that provide safe working conditions, fair income, and social protection for the employed and their families. Decent work also implies equality of opportunity and treatment as well as good prospects for both personal development and social inclusion. This includes freedom for workers to express concerns, organize, and participate in decisions that affect their lives.

Ultimately, people will judge any change by what it means for their own lives. Secure and decent employment is surely at the top of most personal agendas, as it should be with respect to national agendas. Decent employment is the surest way for the poor to escape poverty, and must therefore be a priority of any serious effort to reduce poverty on a sustained basis. Decent work for all is not a policy option, but an imperative.

Jomo Kwame Sundaram, UN Assistant Secretary General for Economic Development, was in 2007 awarded the Wassily Leontief Prize for Advancing the Frontiers of Economic Thought. Johan Scholvinck is Director of the Division for Social Policy and Development, UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs. Copyright: Project Syndicate, 2008. www.project-syndicate.org

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- 1- In Funny Business: Where can you find information to help you write a Thank you letter?
- 2- Fun for kids: In My secret team, what is the new team name?
- 3- In 4 to Go: Ruba Saqer: fill in the blank: Ruba says the English helps her With the world.

Send your answers by email to:
huda.saleem@ya.britishcouncil.org (or) fax: 01448380
To the British Council by (25-10-2008)
And the first 3 correct answers drawn from a hat on that date will win.

The Questions Will be Changed Weekly For Six Weeks
Final Week Deadline is 25-10-2008



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14 OCTOBER REVOLUTION DAY

THE EMPLOYEES OF YEMEN LNG COMPANY SEND
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WISHING THE GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF YEMEN

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Following Al-Kholidy's lead

By: Salah Al-Warafy
salahawarafy@gmail.com

For three months, I had been trying to write about friendship out of my own experience. However, being hesitant at times and rushed off my feet at others, I was unable to get it done. Then I checked my messenger and found a link to Al-Kholidy's article "Mind and Heart" published on 19 September, and sent to me by Waleed

Farea, the Mind in the article.

I was jolted by Al-Kholidy's reference to "how people appreciate things only when they lose them".

My own experience consists in friendship with fellow students.

My friends and I called ourselves the Promising Morrow Batch, a name with aspirations to the future. We were a fraternity, and together we shared tears and laughter. When we got ourselves into trouble, the motto was "All for one and one for all".

We became a law unto ourselves,

bending the rules when they were not in our favor.

One day it was fun and adventure, the next we had to say farewell. We planned a party so that it didn't feel like an end to college life. We described ourselves as "not yes-men, people who say: yes sir, yes sir".

As separation neared, we were quiet in our corners; some might even have shed a tear.

We have now scattered around the country to make a living. College rooms two, three and four, the seats we spent

hours on, the trees—even the dust—have been confined to our memories.

One day, we will return to the college to take a trip down memory lane, and appreciate every moment spent together.

Dear friends, being without you is indescribable. I am really indebted to each of you, and will never forget the experiences we shared.

Dear readers, internal conflicts haunt me. I am vagrant in this materialistic world; I have set sail on a sea of materialistic illusions without end. My soul finds no repose as I yearn for times past.

Social traditions prevent the proper choice of a life partner

By: Mohammed Ahmed Saeed Al-Kaladi
radaagreen@yahoo.com

I am writing in response to Al-Kholidy's articles in the Yemen Times on marriage the core of which I perceive to be: "Are love and education ideal standards for successful marriage or not?"

Social traditions play a significant role in choosing one's marriage partner. In Yemen, for instance, parents choose partners for their children and the latter usually do not know their wives or

husbands before marriage. It is rare to see a young man choosing his future wife without consulting his family first, asking for its support and agreement.

Freedom to choose a partner for life in such an environment does not exist, and early marriages aggravate the matter, as persons who have not yet reached adulthood are not fully prepared for the responsibility marriage involves.

Thus criteria for marriage such as love or education are irrelevant. The satisfaction of one's family comes above all.

A boy cannot choose his wife, and the girl has no say in the matter since the

arrangement is in the hands of their families. Most of the time, the boy and girl are not even consulted.

Arranged marriages can be successful. Yemenis, in my opinion, have inherited the instinct of accommodation to their fate as determined by God.

This philosophy helps Yemenis to accept that, if not determined by fate, they cannot marry the person they love.

If love and education are so necessary for a successful marriage, Yemeni society mostly ignores their importance.

I call on all members of society to uphold the importance of love in

marriage and to consider a huge percentage of educated Yemeni women who are waiting their turn to marry.

Social problems related to marriage are many, with expensive dowries, cross-class marriages and tribe allegiance as just some of them. I invite Al-Kholidy to address some of them in his next columns.

Love and education are important in choosing a life partner for some, whereas they are not for others. But, however the union is decided, complete satisfaction of both partners must be achieved for the strong basis necessary to start a new family.

Through The Mind's Eye

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



To chat or not to chat, this is the question? Part 1

Chatting is a means of communication that has contributed to bring the word smaller and smaller. It makes people know each other in spite of the spaces among them. Chatting takes place via different networks like internet, intranet, T.V. space channels, and mobile network. In all cases, chatting can be a double-edged weapon, which can be used both positively and negatively, depending on the user him/herself. Because of this, a question is frequently posed by people: "Is it good to chat or not?"

In this article, I am going to shed light on some of the negative aspects of chatting, requesting you, dear readers, to respond to these aspects, exposing your viewpoints whether with or for chatting. In my next article, I will try to shed sufficient light on the positive aspects of chatting as well.

Some people look at chatting as a means of wasting time. It is, for them, spending time in nothing, gaining nothing. Some chatters spend hours a day for chatting. They forget many things, claiming that they are busy with this habit which burns up time. Spending such time in chatting may make them forget many other important duties such as work and study.

Some people look at chatting as soothing somehow useful. But they reject it because it wastes a lot of money in all means. Making relations with others is really good. But how much one spends to make a relation and keep it for the future. Of course, it is too much money. Regarding the internet, it costs money for each minute, and one can chat while he is doing other things in the internet like sending emails, researching and so on. But the crisis is in the cases of chatting in the TV space channels and mobiles. In these two cases, the chatters pay for each message they send. Chatting in mobile networks and TV space channels is, thus, worse than internet chatting from the financial point of view.

Chatting for some people is a means of evil. It helps those who run after immoral relations. A man wanting to make a relation with a woman for immoral purposes will be happy with chatting because he can just chat with any female nickname. Such a relation can be started only through exchanging messages, but later the relation may develop itself fast and it may reach to meeting, and sometimes com-

mitting immoral deeds.

Chatting is sometimes used as a means of deceiving. Chatters use the nicknames they want. That is to say, a male chatter can use a female nickname, claiming that he is female. Other chatters—male and female—deal with him, trusting him so that they give him some secrets and sometimes their cell phone numbers.

To illustrate the point, let us look at the following example. A man joined chatting with a female nickname. In his chatting, he always introduces himself to other chatters as a lady, giving them a false name and description. Female chatters, in particular, easily get deceived by this man, dealing with him as female like them. This may lead them to give them personal information, secrets, and may also give them their mobile numbers. They finally get realized they were deceived, and subsequently, may create many problems for them.

Chatting is also looked at negatively because it is taken as a means of exploiting others. Actually this commonly takes place with male and female chatters. A woman, for example, makes a relation with a man. Their relation may go further day after day for any reason. Such a woman may claim that she has hard circumstances so that she is in need for money or mobile credit cards, or any other demands. The man may believe her, thinking that she will pass these hard circumstances soon so that she gives back the money or other things he has given to her. To his surprise, she may stop chatting with him or she may change her nickname. In the two cases the man has nothing to do to recover what has given.

These are only some negative aspects of chatting. There may be some more. But it is left open for you, dear readers, to participate and give your own opinions about the topic. In my next article, I am going to shed some light on the positive aspects of chatting with an aim realize whether to chat or not

Maged Thabet Al-Kholidy is a contributing opinions writer from Taiz. He holds a Masters Degree from the English department at Taiz University and is the former editor of Taiz University's English-language magazine.

Valuable lessons

By: Mona Abdulrahman Hashem
somedagoodrem@hotmail.com

Life taught me that a true friend is the one who walks with you to the end of the road.

Life taught me that I can do anything as long as I believe I can.

Life taught me that, no matter how many times I argue with my family, they will be the ones who wipe my tears.

Life taught me it is not a shame if I fall down, but it is a pity if I cry about it.

Life taught me that if I want to measure my wealth, I have to see how many people love me.

Life taught me that if I want to see the truth, I have to look at it through both the mind and the heart.

Trilogy of Love

By: Waleed Mahdi

Fulbright Scholar/ MacArthur Fellow
PhD Student in American Studies
University of Minnesota
U.S.A.

In its issue No. 1191, *Yemen Times* featured an article that erupted my long suppressed feelings of solitude. "Mind and Heart" is the title; and a trilogy of love is its content. To my dismay, this love has been interpreted by some as an ultimate expression of an unjustified deviation from the unreasonable norms that have constructed, or rather awkwardly structured, the essence of relationships in Yemen.

However, this trilogy cannot be

crushed down to fulfill the need to wipe aberrations from a mainstream, which itself ironically is not straightened out. Whatever the case might be, I would like to record my response in this outstanding newspaper for future references to our forthcoming generations, of course in addition to sharing my vision of love.

As stated in Maged's article, friendship is "a supreme human relationship." It transcends boundaries of time and space to connect, and further nurture the individuals concerned.

Such a concept emanates from a selfless desire to devote oneself to be a part of a non-utilitarian reciprocal circle. I am fortunate to have been able to be a part of such a trilogy of which I have been considered the "mind."

However, this mind was on the verge

of collapse with a stroke caused, not by exposure to sun rays, but by lack of proper blood circulation due to being far from my heart. Happily, there was no need for an admission to any health care unit as my heart finally joined me in the United States; thereby energizing me to proceed well in my studies. Nonetheless, what a body is like but a functioning brain and a pumping heart if it lacks its soul? It is here where, my friend, your contribution is mostly needed.

Without you, we are still unable to figure a way to enjoy what we have accomplished or even come up with a meaning or a taste for the joys of this temporal world. Your spirit is what we severely need. We very much hope that we can re-unite so we can cherish our trilogy of love.

The brave boy

By: Juzer Murtuza Patanwala
Indian Embassy School

Once there lived a man in the village. He was very brave and helped people. But he was greedy and for saving people lives he took lots of money. Once the brave man saved a man who had a lot of money so, he took so much money from the man. Once the brave man was walking in

the jungle. After sometimes the man saw a tiger. The tiger tried to catch the man but someone killed the tiger. The man quickly ran to his village and told the people that he killed the tiger. The villagers were very impressed with what he said.

But he was not the one who killed the tiger it was a boy who lived in the jungle. When the brave man was telling the villager what happened to him in the jungle and how he killed the tiger. A

man came running and told them he is lying.

A boy in the jungle killed the tiger and his name is Tomy. The villagers told we want a proof. The man went to the jungle to find Tomy. After a long time the man found Tomy and told him what the villagers want, he said ok I will come with you. When the villagers saw Tomy and knew the brave man story they all started to respect the boy and considered him as BRAVE BOY.



Migration

By: Adnan Alhalmi
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With the advance of globalization, the world has become a small village. As a result migration has become a part and parcel of this age too. Basically, it is well known that migration became a generous source of income, as it had brought about a good life to many families worldwide in general, and in Yemen in particular. It has many advantages, people studied, knew other cultures, and get integrated with other people from other cultures. It is also said that it has reduced the level of poverty in the country, contributed in building the country and pushed up the wheels of development and evolution.

But at the same time it is argued that migration has left a negative impact upon our children, boys and girls. For instance, they have addicted on the western life, and wanted to imitate it in the real sense of the word at the account of losing their original one.

The boys used to imitate the westerners in the way of dressing, hair cutting styles, and even the way of walking. Similarly, girls used to go about without even headscarves, and adapted wearing jeans trousers without wearing the ebayah (long dress covering the whole body) like the western women, and there are some other moral things it is not necessarily to mention them.

Any way, some immigrants are close friends to me told me that some boys and girls can't or at least find difficult to speak in their mother tongue than speaking in the newly acquired language, so I think this is an effect of migration and lack of parents' care. However, I am not going to blame those boys and girls more than I blame their parents, whose responsibility is to grow up moral generation armed by science and knowledge. Some of you may say that fathers are engaged in working to gain livelihood and households, I know that but they must gather a sufficient information about their sons and daughters not to let them be victims of themselves, as they are

teenagers and need people to enlighten them to go in the proper path.

Specifically speaking, those boys and girls imitate the worst things which the westerners themselves want to get rid of.

To be much clearer I'm not against migration and immigrants, but rather I admire them and want to draw their attention to this touchy matter which concerns every patriotic and loving person towards his homeland and culture. To clarify this point immigrants are ambassadors for their countries abroad, thus they have to try their best to reflect a good picture of their countries, people, and culture, specially those who are living in the west because western people have got a bad impression about us from their policymakers, in consequence, we are in need of you to prove that we are not as they thought of us; by behaving well. In other words, you are the sample of millions, you should represent your nation properly, not to forget your culture, habits, customs, and language that contains your identities.

The greater bird of paradise

By: Fuad Noman
fn_0012000@yahoo.com

*Whilst mournful silence slays my cry,
In the blind nights, the tears of winter dry
Heaven's souls own the greatest influence
On the holy land and this unfair existence
Comrade, Mahmoud
The only Greatest Pen of Resistance
Fighting unfair death
Scorned off the birth of evil's injustice
Inspiring men of freedom and independence
Oh Mahmoud, you never died
Our nation buried in an unheard graveyard
Your astute heart embraced the honor of the sky
The celestial manuscript has chosen Thy white soul
The greater bird of paradise
As you were born on this universe
The giant of word and verse*

In full swing, uncertain and timorous

*clouds
Shedding bleeding rain
The Shaft of light is drowned
A nightmare shackling my dream's demarche
Swayed and fallen on ground
In my homeland
Barren nights and drought days
Arabism in the corridors of loss
A banner of peace is ruptured in gross
In your creativity of life
Only you could crush death,
Mahmoud
Thou art the prudence of time
In your clandestine land
The art of your heartache painted
The silhouette of a grapevine
The nectar of your verse engraved
The seas' rhyme
Your heart's patina can still shine
In thy soul's meadow you planted
The tree of olive and lime
Will the poets' pride die?
This wondering I deny
No way, I am not excellent at lament
I will not lament you for good
Swollen with pride of your soul
Oh Mahmoud, You never died*

*Our nation buried in an unheard graveyard
The echo of skies
Reciting your lament hymns:
Oh King of death
"Why do you prolong the agony negotiation?"
"If I died, I would be ashamed of my mother's tears"
"With the verse my survival"
"With the verse my removal"
There are undying lives for prophets
There you find the divine sacrifice
In your untimely heaven's tour
What has depressed your golden core?
What has narrowed your heart?
The oppressed survival
Or the dislocated victory of nation
Maybe the Sea's defeated zeal
Mahmoud's Spar is highly adamant
Thy ardent heart bearing the Palestine's gem
Will the poets' pride die?
This wondering I deny*

الشيبياني
Basem M.A. Alshaibani

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٧٣٥٤٤٤١٥٥

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٧١١٠٦٥٧٥١

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Notice

This is to announce that Miss Vijaya Singh (Indian national) and Mr. Mazen Gharzeddine (Venezuelan national) are intending to marry. If anyone has any objection to the marriage, please contact the Embassy of India in Sana'a (Tel: 01 441251, 441252; Fax: 01 441257; PO Box 1154, Sana'a)

للتواصل: ٧٧١٦٠٧١٤٠
• بك آداب انجليزي - خبرة واسعة في مجال الترجمة والمراسلات التجارية عبر النت - متمكن من اللغة الإنجليزية ويجيد استخدام الحاسب - يرغب في العمل في مجال تخصصه.

يرغب في العمل في مجال تخصصه.
للتواصل: ٧٣٣٢٣٧٤٨٨
• دبلوم برامج تطبيقية وصيانة كمبيوتر - دبلوم كمبيوتر من المعهد الوطني للعلوم الإدارية - دبلوم سياحة وسفر - دبلوم لغة إنجليزية - سنة ثانية محاسبة - رخصة وشهادة قيادة - دورات في اللغة الفرنسية

للتواصل: ٧٣٣٥٩٤٥٢٨
• جمال الأحمدى - بكالوريوس (مهندس دولة اختصاص تقنية معلومات وعلوم كمبيوتر) جامعة الجزائر - يجيد اللغة الفرنسية - يجيد الكمبيوتر
للتواصل: ٧٣٤٥٤٢٥٣

للتواصل: ٧٣٣٨٤٨٠٥٤
• مدير تجاري سوداني - خبرة سبعة عشر سنة في إدارة التجارة الدولية - يرغب في العمل في أي منشأة تجارية.
للتواصل: ٧٣٣٦٣٨٤٢٥
• بكالوريوس لغة إنجليزية - جامعة صنعاء - خبرة في مجال المراسلات الخارجية - يريد العمل في نفس المجال أو إعطاء دروس خصوصية بعد الظهر

عقارات

• للإيجار: شقة مفروشة، دور ثاني، غرف نوم عدد (٢)، غرفة جلوس عربي، إنتريه بالصالون، حمام عدد

باحثون عن وظيفة

• بكالوريوس علوم حاسوب - خبرة في تقنية المعلومات - خبرة في الصيانة - خبرة في مجال المبيعات - يرغب في العمل في مجال تخصصه
للتواصل: ٧٧١٨١٨٤٢٠
• بكالوريوس حاسب آلي - حاصل على الشهادة العالمية CCNA في مجال الشبكات - حاصل على الرخصة الدولية لقيادة الحاسب ICDL - يرغب في العمل في مجال تخصصه - حاصل على عدة دورات في اللغة الإنجليزية
• فيزان فرج - بكالوريوس هندسة بترولية - جامعة حضرموت للعلوم والتكنولوجيا - دورات في اللغة الإنجليزية من المعهد البريطاني للغات - دورات كمبيوتر - رخصة قيادة مع الشهادة - عضو في جمعية المهندسين (SPE) - يرغب في العمل في أي شركة نفطية
للتواصل: ٧٧٠٨٠٧٣٢٠
• عبدالله قاسم - بكالوريوس هندسة مدنية بتقدير جيد جداً - خبرة سنتين في مجال التخصص - يجيد اللغة الإنجليزية - معرفة جيدة بالكمبيوتر واستخدام البرامج الهندسية - يفضل العمل في مجال الطرق أو المساحة
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المستشفى الجمهوري : ت. ٠١-٢٧٤٣٨١/٧
مستشفى حدة الأهلي : ت. ٠١-٤١٢٩٨١
المستشفى الألماني الحديث : ت. ٠١-٦٠٠٠٠٠/٢٠٠٠٠٠
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IMPORTANT Numbers

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فندق ريلكس إن : ت. ٠١-٤٤٩٨٧١
فندق واجحة الخليج السياحي : ت. ١٠-٦٠٣٣٥٠-٦٠٣٣٥٠/٨

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إيميل: sts.yemen@gmail.com

معاهد

معهد يالي : ت. ٤٤٨٠٣٧
معهد اللغة الألمانية : ت. ٢٠٠٩٥٥
المعهد البريطاني للغات والكمبيوتر : ت. ٢٦٦٢٣٣
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معهد كاروكوس : ت. ٥٢٣٤٤/٥
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العالمية للسفرات والسياحة : ت. ٤٤١١٥٨/٧١

مطاعم

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تلفون : ٢٦٦٦٧٥ - ٥٠٥٢٩٠ - فاكس : ٣٦٦١١٩

البنوك

بنك اليمن والخليج : فاكس: ٢٦٠٨٢٤
فرع عبدن : ت. ٢٣٧٨٢٩
بنك التضامن الإسلامي : ت. ٠١/٦٦٦٦٦٦
بنك التجاري : ت. ٣٧٧٢٤٤
مصرف اليمن البحرين الشامل : ت. ٣٦٤٧٥٠٠
بنك اليمن الدولي : ت. ٠١-٤٧٠٣٠٠
بنك العربي : ت. ٠١-٣٧١٥٨٥/٢
بنك التسليف الزراعي : ت. ٠١-٥٢٣٨١٣
البنك المركزي : ت. ٠١-٢٧٤٣١٤

تأجير سيارات

زافيه (Budget) : ت. ٣٠٦١٨-٥-٢٧٧٧
يورب كار : ت. ٣٧-٥٧١
هيرتز لتأجير السيارات : ت. ٠١-٤٤٠٣٠٩
فرع شيراتون : ت. ٥٤٩٨٥٠
عبدن : ت. ٢٠٢٤٥٢٣٥

مراكز تدريب وتعليم الكمبيوتر

أبتك لتعليم الكمبيوتر (تركيز على الانترنت، مناهج، تجارة إلكترونية) شؤادة ايزو ١.

صنعا : ت. ٠١-٤٦٣٣٠٥
فاكس : ٠١-٤٠٧٤١٩
عبدن : ت. ٣٠-٣٣٧١٩٩
تلفون : ٤٠٢٥-٢٤٣٤
المكلا : ت. ٥٠٢-٧٤٩٢

Infnit Education T 444553
NIIT لتعليم الكمبيوتر : ت. ٤٤٥٥١٨٧٧-٤٤٢٠٧٣

البريد السريع

FedEx
Federal Express

صنعا : ت. ٤٤٠١٧٠/٧٧
الجبلة : ت. ٢٤٩٨٣
إب : ت. ٤١١٩٨٨
المكلا : ت. ٣٠٢٦٤٤
شوه : ت. ٢٠٣٣٦٦
سيئون : ت. ٤٠٢٤٦٩

DHL: 441099/8/7/6

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تفاصيل الاعلان:

عنوان التواصل:

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

Assaid: A twinkling star in the Yashbum valley

By: Nasser Abdullah Nasser Salah
For the Yemen Times

The picturesque town of Assaid is situated on a highland 35 kilometers southeast of Attaq, the capital of Shabwa governorate. It has a population of approximately 15,000, many of them officials, laborers and farmers, and is located at the head of Yashbum Valley, on a hill overlooking two valleys: Marboon on the right and Yaroomeh on the left. Both valleys eventually merge with Arbaheen and Aimanah which join other valleys and flow south downstream towards the Arabian Sea. Assaid is hidden among three mountains, Hid Bin Radhi, Hid Mura'eah and Hid Al-Burieh.

Many old Nabk trees (Christ's Thorn) make for a magnificent view. In full bloom, Nabk trees fill the air with a subtle aroma and, besides giving the town a calm and wholesome atmosphere, provide excellent nectar for bees to make delicious, excellent quality honey.

According to some beekeepers, interest in breeding bees is spreading among the locals because it is looked upon as a profitable business. "Such business is a good means of earning a living, although we suffer traveling from place to place as well as staying away from our families. Now everybody takes pride in how many beehives he has, because the more hives one has, the more profitable bargains one can make from honey," says Talib, a local Bedouin.

Assaid distinguishes itself by its architectural masterpieces, which are hundreds of years old. A beautiful blend of mud and classical design bear witness to its deep-roots and authenticity. Such buildings are known to be really strong, solid and fairly resistant to local climatic conditions. It is a pity that these buildings, particularly the ones in the

heart of town, are deserted and not preserved with care.

House owners and authorities concerned with these historical landmarks are to be held accountable for carelessness, and making no effort towards repairs. The buildings face constant threat because of the rainfall they are subjected to, not to mention the damage on the ground as a result of digging the surrounding surface. One cannot help but wonder why the ground hasn't been paved with stones following the example of other towns in Yemen.

It is noteworthy that there were some Jewish families, known as skillful silversmiths, who were inhabitants of Assaid. Many of them dwelled in Al-Gabieh, a village two kilometers from Attaq, the capital of the Shabwa governorate. However, their major dwelling was in Habban, a small town located on Aden-Mukkalla highway, and which is 40 kilometers northeast of Attaq. Habban was where they had their own houses and cemeteries. Jews settled there for years until 1948, when they were removed under the protection of the British Government in Palestine.

Assaid has had a number of names throughout history. It was once called 'The sheikhdom of upper Awaliq and Khalifeh' during the time of the Federation of South Arabia under the power of the British colonizer. Then it was called 'The capital of the centre' shortly after national independence in November 1967. Finally, following the blessed unification of Yemen on 22 May 1990 it was called 'The capital of the province'.

In the past, the people of Assaid used to breed livestock and cultivate a broad range of cereals including wheat, corn and sesame. Assaid was noted for its growing of citrus trees, potatoes and onions. However, today farming production is not as great. The reasons

for this are mainly drought and shortage of groundwater. The largest part of cultivated lands is entirely irrigated by rainwater all year round, but a small surface area is still irrigated by groundwater as well as rain. The antiquated tunnel of Al-Bawadhen is undeniable proof that this irrigation method has been used for generations. A crooked channel dug horizontally through the limestone hill from the Marboon Valley, the tunnel is 25 meters long and 4 meters high. The exact time it was built is still not known. Some hold that it is two hundred years old, whereas others, namely the elderly, say that there is hardly any credible account of how, who and when it came into existence.

Essential services have become a matter of considerable public concern in Assaid. The Gamal Abdul-Nasser hospital, the governmental building and a secondary school all date back to the 1960s, and they have been occasionally repaired and improved on. Over the years, the province has seen vital achievements in the fields of education, health care, communication, agriculture, as well as water and power supply. Following the unification, energetic steps were taken to open five new modern schools - one of which is for girls- and a new well-equipped hospital in the suburb of Al-Masaha. A reliable source in Assaid's local council, has declared that a new building for secondary education would be constructed soon. In addition to a new court building, additional infrastructure was implemented and the 17km asphalt road to Al-Dhal'ah was repaired. A sports' club and football field were opened in Al-Masaha suburb. For agricultural purposes, reservoirs were built in Marboon and Dhumareen.

However, it is worthy of remark that although there once used to be a post office in Assaid, it is no longer there with

the effect that pensioners have to travel to the main post office in Attaq to get their pension. "We are too old to go to the governorate's capital to get our pension and it costs us a lot of money to go to the trouble of collecting it," an aged pensioner commented, adding a complaint about the town's drainage system.

A water supply project has been started up as locally-run project, and continues so far to be treated as an independent charity, depending greatly on donations in cash or in kind for its financing. The construction of another well and tank are planned for the near future. It is worthy of remark that such rewarding activity continues only at the expense of an anonymous benefactor.

The erecting, repairing and improving of such public utilities and governmental buildings are enabled by government funding, not to mention unlimited support and contributions of citizens, local councils and the Netherlands office (TASH) in Shabwa for such projects and development projects.

The people of Assaid are friendly, hospitable, forgiving and cooperative. They would willingly spare no effort to do good for their country. They support the noble goals of 26 September as well as 14 October, and stand by the Yemeni Unification. They are charitable and contribute to the betterment of social welfare. In the past, as there were fewer people in the town, they used to live together as one big family. They cooperated and supported each other building houses for the needy and providing at least rations for the builders. They also adhere to their customs and traditions, handed down from one generation to the next. This is why one could say that Assaid is indeed a twinkling star in the Yashbum Valley, to be imprinted in memory throughout the years and centuries to come.



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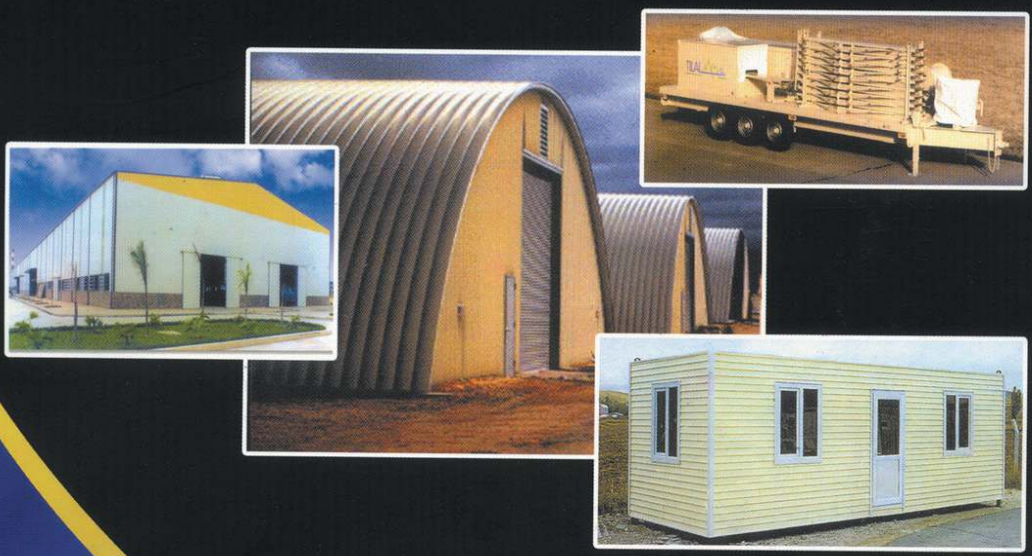
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