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Pro-government tribesmen trigger clashes with Houthi followers

By: Mohammed Bin Sallam

SA'ADA, Oct. 19 — The situation in Sa'ada has been calm with the exception of some localized disputes triggered by pro-government tribesmen against Houthi supporters in more than one district, tribal sources from the governorate said on Sunday.

Speaking on behalf of Houthi field leader Abdulmalik Al-Houthi, Sheikh Saleh Habra told the Yemen Times by phone that a group of armed men belonging to the pro-government Al-Bushr tribe had intercepted some Houthi supporters while they were on their way to a popular market in the area of Saqain.

The interceptors did not allow the Houthis to enter the market shop and quarreled with them, Habra said, adding that three Houthis were injured in the incident while one of the attackers from the Al-Bushr tribe was killed and another two tribe members wounded.

Asked about conditions in the refugee camps, Habra replied, "The refugees' situation is tragic and their living conditions are expected to

worsen with the advent of winter. What we hear via the official media on relief efforts are merely speeches with no real actions on the ground."

Habra urged humanitarian relief organizations to provide urgent aid to refugees including blankets, medicine and other medical equipment, and to restore water and sanitation systems.

Regarding local schools' preparation to receive students, Habra noted, "The authority said it would provide tents for students to attend classes in as an alternative to damaged schools in cooperation with international organizations. But until now, none of these promises has been fulfilled."

Defense Minister Mohammed Nasser Ahmad and Northern Military Flank Commander Ali Mohsen Saleh are attempting to control the situation in the Harf Sifyan district of Amran governorate after five soldiers were killed and many others injured in clashes between local tribesmen and republican guard members two weeks ago.

According to a well-informed source from Harf Sifyan, the clashes first broke out when members of the

Bin Aziz tribe went to Al-Ammar market where they met Brig. Hamid Muqbil Chairman of Harf Sifyan Local Council, who was accompanied by a dozen policemen aboard a police vehicle.

The policemen attacked the tribesmen, killing citizen Mohsen Haqula and disfiguring him in the market for being allegedly a Houthi loyalist, although he has no relation with Abdulmalik Al-Houthi.

"Black shame"

As a result, many members of the victim's tribe gathered in Harf Sifyan district, denouncing the way Haqula was killed and labeled it, according to the tribal tradition, as "black shame".

In an incident which was the first of its kind since the Sa'ada fighting ceased on July 17, members of the Bin Aziz tribe intercepted a military caravan and opened fire on it, thereby setting fire to two troop carriers and two military vehicles and killing five members of the republican guard including a senior officer, media sources reported.

Continued on page 2

Russian delegation discusses mutual trade and facilities for its navy

By: Yemen Times Staff

SANA'A, Oct. 18 — A Russian delegation chaired by President of the Russian Senate Sergie Mironov left Sana'a last Thursday after a 22-hour visit during which it met with President Ali Abdullah Saleh, Prime Minister Ali Mohammed Mujawar, Shoura Council Chairman Abdulaziz Abdulghani and other Yemeni government officials.

Speaking about military and strategic cooperation between Russia and Yemen, Mironov affirmed during a news conference in Sana'a that "Yemen agreed to allow Russian ships to use its ports for reaching strategic objectives, not as a station for them." This information was confirmed by Russian official Novocity News Agency.

"Yemen should approve the mooring of Russian ships along its shores in a gradual manner," he added, confirming the possibility of taking such a decision, most notably amid new moves contained in Russia's defense and foreign policies.

The Russian delegation's visit coincided with the 80th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations

between both states and the signing of the Friendship and Cooperation Agreement between the two states on 1 November 1928.

Unsatisfactory mutual trade volume

Regarding trade relations, Mr. Mironov stressed the necessity of exerting serious efforts to enhance trade and economic cooperation between both states, pointing out that the mutual trade volume, estimated at USD 178 million, is not good, nor does it fit the high level of political relations between Yemen and Russia.

Asked about progress in the field of education, the Russian official applauded cooperation between Russia and Yemen in higher education, and added that the Russian government would increase scholarships for Yemeni students, currently estimated at 50 scholarships per annum. He praised the level of scientific acquisition demonstrated by Yemeni students in Russian universities.

During the news conference, Mironov reviewed the latest developments in the Qoqaz region, clarifying his government's position about the war that broke out in the area as a result of a war announced by Georgia against Southern Republic of Ossetia, as well as the motives of why his state recognized the independence of Southern Ossetia and Abkhazia.

The Russian Senate President expressed his happiness about visiting Yemen, praising the strong move of cooperation between both countries over the past two years, which according to him, is symptomatic of the generous support shown by political leaderships of both friendly nations. In the meantime, he confirmed that his state is determined to promote mutual cooperation with Yemen in the various areas and applauded the balanced positions demonstrated by Yemen on Russian issues.

Continued on page 2

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Stand Up and Take Action Against Poverty Campaign

By: Ali Saeed

SANA'A, Oct. 19 — In line with the Global Campaign Against Poverty (GCAP) celebration of International Day for Poverty Eradication celebrated between 17 and 19 October this year, the Yemeni Coalition for the Global Campaign Against Poverty (YCGCAP) held an awareness campaign on the television and radio, as well as organized a festival at Sabeen Park in Sana'a last Saturday.

The YCGCAP-organized event aimed at raising awareness about poverty in Yemen, and educating decision makers on the urgency of creating projects to eradicate poverty in Yemen.

Over 40 percent of the Yemeni population lives under the upper poverty line and the number of no less than 35 percent of children in Yemen are malnourished.

Globally, 50,000 people in poor countries die every day from poverty and over one billion children are severely deprived from primary education in the developing world.

The YCGCAP coordinated awareness symposiums on the radio, brochures distribution and interviews with decision makers in government, and stressed the need for partnership with the Yemeni government to draw effective strategies and national policies to alleviate poverty in the country.

The YCGCAP has reached an agreement with Parliament to increase the transparency of managing loans and grants, and to include partnership with civil society when approving national budgets and plans in Parliament.

The festival at Sabeen Park on Saturday was attended by Yemeni Minister of Trade and Commerce Yahya Al-Mutawakel as well as many civil society organizations and development organizations working in Yemen.

In his key note speech, Al-Mutawakel called on civil society organizations and the private sector to work with the government to imple-



ment its five-year Poverty Reduction Strategy.

During the event, representatives of various disadvantaged groups in Yemeni society presented a session in which they conveyed their concerns and explained how poverty increases their suffering.

Participants from the handicap qualifying center demonstrated their concerns through a sketch, while other marginalized poverty-stricken Yemenis recited moving poems to describe their living conditions. Representatives from the Cancer Association presented a report indicating the direct correlation between poverty and cancer.

The Yemeni Coalition for the Global Campaign Against Poverty

YCGCAP was established in May 2005 and today consists of 84 associations and organizations. At the latest event for International Day for Poverty Eradication, 187 different organization and association participated.

The coalition, which lobbies for the support of the private and public sectors in alleviating poverty in Yemen, sent Yemenis, on International Day for Poverty Eradication this year, an educational SMS via Yemen Mobile saying "Poverty is the enemy of humanity."

"The activities of the coalition come in response to increasing poverty in

Yemen and around the world," said Mohammed Al-Haimi, executive manager of the Civil Society Organizations Network, which is working closely with YCGCAP.

He added that the coalition advocates for Yemen's case to convey the voices of its poor to world leaders in an attempt to pressurize rich countries to cancel Yemen's debts.

Yahya Al-Dab'a, coordinator of the coalition, commented that these efforts aimed at helping Yemen realize the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

According to Ali Al-Barmaki, deputy of the Civil Society Organizations Network, they and YCGCAP are working with government on a five plan strategy for poverty reduction that includes realizing the MDGs, good governance, justice in resource distribution, gender equality, education for all, health for all and the cancellation of Yemen's debts.

As for the means to achieving these goals, Al-Barmaki said that civil society organizations lobbied the various embassies in Yemen through e-mail, conferences and symposiums to ensure that the voice of the poor reaches the ears of world leaders.

As a result of such lobbying, Japan and Russia has canceled Yemen's debts and the United States has promised to reschedule Yemen's debts.

Students participate in handwashing campaign

By: Sahar Al-Ansi
For the Yemen Times

SANA'A, Oct. 19 — Thousands of Yemeni students from four schools participated in the handwashing campaign organized by UNICEF and the Ministries of Health and Education in Sana'a. The students were made aware of the importance of washing hands with soap in order to protect from germs and water born diseases.

Four hundred of these students participated on a march holding banners which advocate for this concept. The campaign was under the title "Proud to wash my hands with soap" and was concluded with a celebration at Raba'a Al-Adaweyah High School on Sunday.

The campaign was sponsored by Dr. Abdul Karim Ras'e, Minister of Public Health and Population, and Abdul Rahman Al-Akwa, Mayor of Sana'a.

Yemen Mobile the mobile company will send awareness sms messages on the importance of handwashing reaching one million people.

Kamal Bin Abdulla, UNICEF representative at the celebration, delivered a speech stressing the importance of washing hands to prevent occurrence of dangerous diseases that may cause death. For his part, Dr Majed Al-Junaid, Deputy Minister of Public Health commended the efforts exerted by the schools that organized the celebration including Raba'a Al-Adaweya School which hosted the activity.

Fatima Al-Zuhairi, principal of Raba'a Al-Adaweyah School,



Girls singing about the importance of handwashing at Raba'a Al-Adaweyah School.

expressed her delight with the occasion, noting that this is the first time that her school hosts such an activity. She pointed out that it is important for students to participate in this campaign as they are considered the target group and should be aware of good hygiene practices. She further maintained that students are the most susceptible group suffering from diseases in the society because of being most exposed to bacteria and germs in their daily routine.

Mushirah Al-Othmani, an eighth grade student, said that such a celebration is important as it raises awareness among people. She said that soon after the activities of the celebration were

over, students rushed to wash their hands with water and soap after they heard about the consequences of not washing hands with soap.

W'ad Al-Shaibani, another eighth grade student, called on the concerned bodies particularly those which participated in the celebration to launch an awareness campaign in all schools to educate students about the importance of washing hands.

She added that she had fallen ill in the past and when she went to hospital, doctors told her that germs and bacteria in her hands were the cause of ameba which is a bacteria in the intestines that made her sick.

Continued from page 1

Pro-government tribesmen

Some media outlets labeled the incident as clashes between Houthis followers and the army in the Al Ammar area, saying it is the beginning of a sixth war in Sa'ada, however, Abdulmalik Al-Houthi immediately denied that his followers have relations with the two incidents in Al Ammar and Harf Sifyan districts.

According to witnesses, the Sana'a-Sa'ada highway was blocked by members of the Usaimat tribe who thereby halted the movement of passengers to Sa'ada, Haradh and nearby districts and caused traffic jams along the road.

Usaimat tribesmen claim compensations from government

Local sources said that the tribesmen deliberately had blocked the highway in order to show their rage and press the government to compensate them for losing their sons in the Sa'ada fighting. According to the sources, more than three thousand soldiers from the Usaimat tribe were killed or injured during the four-year fighting between the army and Houthis in Sa'ada and other areas.

The same sources declared that security authorities in the Amran governorate had not reacted to the blocking of the Sana'a-Sa'ada Highway.

Russian delegation

From his side, Yemeni Shoura Council Chairman Abdulaziz Abdulghani described Yemeni-Russian relations as "strong and intimate", adding that these relations have gained in strength since both states signed the Friendship and Cooperation Agreement eighty years ago.

Abdulghani co-chaired the official discussions held on Thursday between Yemen's Shoura Council and the Russian Senate with Mironov. Both sides noted they were satisfied with cooperation between both official institutions, mainly after they signed cooperation protocols, due to function as a general frame for fruitful cooperation in the future.

Saleh's prospective visit to Moscow

Various news agencies have confirmed that Yemeni President Ali Abdullah Saleh will conduct an official visit to Moscow in the near future as part of an effort to prevent a potential American-European plan to internationalize the Red Sea, Bab Al-Mandab Strait and nearby islands under the pretext of increasing piracy in the area.

These developments coincided with a declaration by European Union

states to send troops to the region while ships from various states are heading toward Yemeni and Somali shores to drive pirates out and protect commercial ships sailing through the Bab Al-Mandab Strait.

The ships, currently present in Yemeni and Somali territorial waters, are from the U.S., France, Spain, Italy, Britain, India, the Netherlands, Germany and Malaysia, in addition to a Russian warship that arrived at Aden Harbor last week. Such steps were taken in response to over 55 piracy operations in the area since the beginning of 2008.

With regard to Saleh's prospective visit to Moscow, Yemeni observers and officials, who request anonymity, said that the visit comes as a response to an invitation from his Russian counterpart Dimitri Medvedev, and expect that the main purpose of the presidential visit is to import Russian arms to Yemen.

As evidence in support of the visit's purpose, these observers and officials stated that a Yemeni military delegation, headed by Defense Minister Mohammed Nasser Ahmad, had already made a visit to the Russian capital Moscow during which they discussed military and technical cooperation between both states with Russian military officials.

Moscow-based sources mentioned that the visiting Yemeni team discussed the subject of utilizing Russian experiences in developing Yemen's armed forces, adding that the MiG Corporation would work in this context in order to update the MiG aircrafts possessed by the Yemeni army.

According to the same sources, both sides would have discussed the possibility of equipping Yemen's armed forces with Cornet-1 model anti-craft systems and sophisticated K-52 model helicopters, plus the possibility of Yemen getting Su-35 model long-range fighter jets.

Weapon deals

The sources confirm that most of Yemeni officials' visits to Moscow were related to talks on military cooperation and weapon deals, adding that Yemen has good relations with Russia in this regard.

They indicated that both states have signed big deals on weapon import over the past ten years.

According to international media reports, Yemen stands fourth on the list of Russian weapon importers worldwide, while Libya is the biggest Russian weapon importer in the Arab world. Yemen is estimated to have imported Russian arms worth about USD 12 billion from the 1994 Civil War until the past year.

Media sources disclosed that Yemen annulled a weapon deal including MiG-29 aircrafts and armored cruisers with Moscow earlier this year, as the final arrangements were being made for Yemen to pay Russia. As to why the deal was annulled remains unclear, but the sources attributed it to budget deficits.

According to American sources, Yemen imported light and heavy arms from Russia between 1996 and 2003 for a total cost of USD 200 million, plus other arms worth USD 50 million from the U.S. between 2000 and 2003.

In addition, Yemen signed a deal with China to buy USD 100 million worth of Chinese arms. The country has also imported USD 50 million worth of weapons from some west European states such as France, the United Kingdom, Germany and Italy. It also imported other weapons worth USD 200 million from other European states within the same time period.

Criticism over military spending

The Yemeni government currently faces local and international criticism over imbalanced spending on arms import at the expense of development. According to a previous analytical study by Dr. Nasser Al-Awlaqi, Professor of Agricultural Economy at Sana'a University, Yemen is the third-largest military spender and its population the second poorest in the Arab world.

According to reports on imbalanced spending on armament, Yemen is one of the largest weapon importers although it is one of the poorest Arab states. The reports state that Yemen's military budget has increased three-fold between 1998 and 2003 while the American Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) estimated Yemen's military spending at nearly USD 885.5 million.

In late 2005, the Yemeni government announced a ban on purchasing arms via brokers and tradesmen, warning all local tradesmen against importing arms to the country. This procedure came after the U.S. government and North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) suspended three deals, which arm tradesmen were about to finalize in the Yemeni government's name to import arms from European states.

According to the sources, sellers clarified to Yemen that there are no international or regional legal risks related with purchasing arms, but the European and American oversight bodies had convinced countries of origin that Yemen is notorious for transferring imported arms to a third party, which may be an intermediary, adding that Yemen lacks a good storage system for its imported arms.

Global Hunger Index 2008: Yemen's score improves by almost one point

By: Alice Hackman

SANA'A, Oct. 19 — Despite price hikes and the global food crisis, Yemen has dropped 0.9 point compared to 1991 in the Global Hunger Index 2008 released by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) on World Food Day on 16 October last week.

In the Global Hunger Index, researchers evaluated each country surveyed on under-nourishment, prevalence of child malnutrition and rates of child mortality and gave them a score —the lower, the better— to reflect their performance.

Yemen, which scored 29.8 this year compared to 30.7 in 1991, was ranked 80th out of the 88 countries surveyed.

Mauritius, which came first on the index, scored only 5.0 points, while Ethiopia and Eritrea were ranked 82nd and 87th on the index with 31 and 39 points respectively.

Despite progress, child malnutrition in Yemen still severe

The Global Hunger Index pointed to levels of underweight children in Yemen as being among the worst in the world.

According to the WFP office in Sana'a, the current food crisis has had a profound affect on malnutrition levels in Yemen, seeing as the price of basic food staples has doubled since the same time last year.

"The World Bank has found that an additional six percent or more of Yemenis have fallen below the poverty line due to rising food costs," said the WFP office in Yemen. This means that around than half of the population are living below the poverty line.

Fuel price hikes and the global increase of the cost of food have affected the food situation in Yemen, a country that imports up to 80 percent of its food, it said.

WFP called on Yemeni farmers to



A proud farmer woman with her sons. According to the World Bank an additional six percent or more of Yemenis have fallen below the poverty line due to rising food costs.

replace qat with wheat and pulses in their fields to reduce dependency on foreign imports, and declared qat consumption to be directly related to malnourishment in Yemen, not only because it inhibits the body's ability to absorb nutrients, but also because it is given precedence over food in the spending of many Yemeni families' income.

Correspondingly, Yemeni Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation Dr. Mansour Al-Howshabi stressed the importance of the agricultural sector in achieving food security in Yemen.

He said this during a joint event

between the Ministry and FAO organized on the occasion of World Food Day last Thursday 16 October.

"[We are] planning to launch an emergency response to feed some 600,000 of the most poor and food-insecure Yemenis," the WFP office in Yemen said, adding that pregnant and lactating women would be specifically targeted to prevent malnutrition from being perpetuated from mother to child, especially since exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months of a child's life has been proven to be an excellent source of nutrition and protection against illnesses.

4U

You can help WFP's work in Yemen and worldwide by following its recommended 7 things to do on World Food Day and by making a donation online on their official website at <http://www.wfp.org/english/?ModuleID=137&Key=2959>. The two easiest ways to donate are via an online game called FreeRice (<http://www.freerice.com>) in which you test your knowledge in exchange for grains of rice for the hungry, and via a WFP initiative entitled Fill The Cup (<https://secure.my-websites.org/supporter/donatenow.do?n=gbs&dfd=1044253>) which provides a hungry child with a regular school meal.

In Brief

ADEN

Indian musical delegation to visit Yemen

ADEN, Oct. 17 (Saba) - The Indian Rajsha Astani Group is to arrive in Aden in October 28, consisting of 8 top Indian musicians to organize a number of cultural ceremonies in Sana'a and other governorates, General Manager of the Culture Office in Aden Abdullah Bakdadh told Saba on Friday.

"The Indian musical group's visit comes under relations of the cultural cooperation between Yemen and India in coordination with the Indian Council for the Cultural Relations in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of India," Bakdadh added.

He also made clear that it will organize on October 30 a musical ceremony in the Palestinian hall in crater district of Aden.

Aden marks Anti-violence against Children Day

On the occasion of International Day of Anti-violence against Children, Children's Safety Center in Aden, in collaboration with Save the Children Sweden, will organize on Monday.

About 35 participants from the center and the interested organizations for children as well as a number of school students in Aden will take part in the ceremony.

The ceremony aims to raise awareness on violence against children and identifying their problems as well as support children's issues in the society, the Children's Safety Center chairman Haiam Mubarek told Saba Monday.

The ceremony will include various musical and acting performances translating the impacts resulting from this phenomenon, she added.

TAIZ

Workshop on rehabilitating police cadres in dealing with juvenile issues launched

Taiz province launched on Saturday a workshop on raising building capacities of Interior Ministry cadres in dealing with juvenile issues for forty

policemen which will last for the ten days.

The workshop is aiming to provide the participants with skills on how to deal with the juvenile issues through introducing them to international agreements regarding juvenile issues within the framework of the Interior Ministry's efforts to raise the efficiency of police and improve standard of performance in terms of dealing with these issues transparently.

It is worth to mention that the workshop is organized by the General Management for Women Affairs and Juveniles at the Interior Ministry in collaboration with UNICEF.

SANA'A

Yemen to ratify Migratory Bird Treaty

Yemen is to ratify the International Migratory Bird Treaty, minister of Water and Environment Abdul Rahman al-Eryani has said

Upon his departure to the United Arab Emirates where he is set to take part in a meeting to be held at the secretariat for the convention in Abu Dhabi and that will start later today, al-Eryani said the agreement calls on countries to protect birds flying over them.

He said Yemen is one of countries where migrant birds from Europe and Asia visit their coasts heading to Africa.

The ratification will provide Yemen with the opportunity to establish investment projects at areas where migrant birds pass with the aim to promote its tourism, al-Eryani said.

UNFPA, NCW to organize human rights methods in programming

The National Commission for Women (NCW), in collaboration with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in Sana'a, will organize on Sunday a session on the gender dimensions and human rights methods in programming.

During the course, which will be lectured by the international expert Faizah

bin Hadid for three days, the participants will be introduced to the information on human rights in programming and community's role in this aspect.

"Yemen and al-Qaeda" to be discussed in Expo

A number of Yemeni academicians and intellectuals will hold on Sunday a symposium on terrorism and its effects on development and economy in Yemen and al-Qaeda.

In a symposium to be held at the Book Fair in the Expo Hall IN Sana'a under the title "Yemen and Challenge of al-Qaeda Second Generation", academicians and intellectuals will discuss objective mechanism to deal with the second generation of al-Qaeda and to protect youths against al-Qaeda's ideology.

Dr. Ameen al-Huthaifi, Saeed Obeid, the author of "al-Qaeda in Yemen", Sameer al-Abdali, Abdu Mohammad Salem, Mohammad al-Ghobari and journalist Hamoud Monasar will partake in the symposium.

Five talks round on Yemen's joining to WTO to be held in Geneva

The fifth negotiation round on Yemen's joining to World Trade Organization is to be held in Geneva on the period of 20-25 of this month.

Chairman of Communication and Coordination Office with WTO in ministry of industry and trade Hamoud al-Najar told Saba about importance of the round for it would discuss with member countries transformation from collecting facts stage into deciding stage.

He made it clear that during the negotiation to be co-chaired by Yemeni Minister of Industry and Trade Yahya al-Mutawakel, mutual talks with the United States, European Union and Japan would start next Monday before the multi-talks to be held next Friday on October 24.

Al-Najar indicated that the Yemeni part would discuss latest legislative amendments associated with trade and

Yemen's achievements in number fields concerning trade and investment, adding that there is great development in negotiation of Yemen joining the WTO.

Chinese vice parliament speaker to visit Yemen

Vice Parliament Speaker Mohammad al-Shadadi discussed on Saturday with advisor of Chinese embassy in Yemen preparations of Chinese Vice Parliament Speaker's visit to Yemen.

In the meeting, al-Shadadi expressed importance of the Chinese official visit to Yemen in enhancing unique relations between Yemeni people and people of Chinese Republic.

Government fears of increasing poor numbers

On the occasion of the International Day for the Eradication of poverty, October 17, Minister of Industry and Trade Yahya al-Mutawakel voiced his fears of increasing the poor numbers and dropping efforts to combat poverty and to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, all of that due to the global financial crisis.

During a ceremony organized by Yemeni Alliance for International Call to Reduce Poverty in cooperation with Civil Society Organizations Network (CSOs network), al-Mutawakel asserted Saturday the government's commitment to fight poverty and reinforce development plans.

He highlighted that Yemen has suffered from the world food crisis and its negative impacts on the national economy and development process.

The minister praised the role of the CSOs to combat poverty, calling the organizations to enhance their efforts and to strengthen partnership with government and private sector in this regard.

The chairman of the Yemeni Women Union Ramziyah al-Eriani called on the Eight Countries to meet their commitment to the Third World to alleviate its suffering from poverty and to realize the Millennium Development Goals,

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indicating to the efforts exerted by the government and its partner CSOs network concerning development management and alleviate poverty.

It is worth mentioning that the celebration of the International Day for the Eradication of poverty in the country is on 17 - 19 October.

Yemen seeks satellite surveillance system on regional waters

Minister of Fishery Wealth Mohammad Shamlan held talks on Saturday with Director of French CLS

Company David.

In the meeting Shamlan discussed with the company's director his ministry's intentions to obtain modern surveillance system via satellite system for monitoring Yemeni regional waters as well setting up joint operation room in cooperation with concerned bodies for protecting Yemeni waters.

Shamlan listened to detailed explanation on the company's modern surveillance systems on monitoring regional waters and boats for discovering any strange conduct.

Their News

Total farms into Block 70 with KNOC



TOTAL announces the signature of an agreement with Korea National Oil Corporation (KNOC) to farm into onshore exploration block 70 (Attaq Area, Shabwa Governorate) in Yemen with an interest of 30.875%. This agreement has been approved by the Yemeni Ministry of Oil and Minerals.

Block 70, which covers an area of 1,367 square kilometres, is located in the south-eastern part of Central Yemen's Marib Basin. Following the farm-in, Total has a 30.875% interest in the block, alongside KNOC (30.875%, operator), Samsung Corporation (19%), Daesung Industrial Co. Ltd. (14.25%) and Yemen General Corporation for Oil and Gas (5%). A 2D seismic has been acquired in 2007 and a well is being drilled.

Mr. Martin Deffontaines, the General Manager of Total E&P Yemen, stated "I would like to thank the Ministry of Oil and Minerals for approving this agreement with KNOC. The agreement is an indication of TOTAL's extensive expertise in the oil industry and of the trust TOTAL has built with both the Yemeni Government and the foreign investors in the oil sector in Yemen. This is a great achievement and I hope that our exploration efforts will substantially contribute to the Yemen's future oil production."

Already Yemen's leading foreign investor, with this acquisition Total will increase its portfolio of exploration acreage in the country, beyond its recently acquired interests in Blocks 69 and 71, and will bring its technical expertise to the Block 70 consortium.

Total in Yemen:

Present in Yemen for more than 20 years, Total is the operator of Block 10, East Shabwa and holds several other participations in oil exploration and production blocks. Since 1997 the Group has been producing from Block 10 and celebrated the milestone of 100

million barrels of production earlier this year.

Total is also the leader of the Yemen LNG project with a 39.6% interest. Two liquefaction trains with a combined capacity of 6.9 million metric tons per year are under construction and will be supplied with natural gas from developed fields in the Marib region of Central Yemen.

PM launches Felix Airways 1st flight to Aden

Prime Minister Ali Mujawar launched Saturday the low-cost domestic carrier Felix Airways' first flight from Sana'a to Aden.

The Premier expressed, in a press conference held in Aden after landing the plane, his satisfaction of launching the Felix Airways, noting that this company would open wide horizons assisting flowing of investments and facilitate the investors and citizens' transportation among governorates.

The Felix Airways is a fruit of Conference on Exploring Investment Opportunities, Mujawar said, voicing his appreciation to the Saudi investors, who have 75 per cent of the company's capital.

In return, the chairman of the company's board of directors Saleh al-Awaji expressed his thanks to government's direct support for this project.

He highlighted that good investment environment in the country that needs media propaganda. "Press has to play its key role in encouraging investments", al-Awaji said.

The executive director of the Felix Airways Mohammed al-Arashah said the company's fleet would be eight Canadian Bombardier 74-passenger planes by the end of August of 2009, four of which the company would receive till the end of this December.

German-Yemeni theatre project "Nathan, the Wise" at the Yemeni Cultural Center, Sanaa

The theatre piece "Nathan, the Wise" by German playwright Gotthold Ephraim Lessing focuses on the topic of tolerance. It takes place in Jerusalem during the reign of the Ayyubid Sultan Salahadin. Under the guidance of Mohammad Al-Qassab, director of the Theatre Department at Hodaidah University, the Yemeni theatre group "22nd of May" has transferred this seminal work of German intellectual

enlightenment into a Yemeni context.

After showing the Arabic Language performance "Nathan, the Wise" in Hodeidah, Taiz, Aden, Lahj, Abyan, Ibb and Dhamar, the tour concluded with a performance at the

Yemeni Cultural Center Sana'a on October 16, and an extra performance in the nearby

ancient village of Beit Baws, organized for poor children, orphanage organizations and the local population, on October 17, 2008.

This joint Yemeni-German production was a cooperation between the German Embassy,

German Technical Cooperation (GTZ), the European Union and the German House

Sana'a & Aden. Meanwhile the German Government awarded 2.600.000 YER for the construction of two classrooms in Bani Sowaid, Dhawran Directorate Dhamar Governorate last month.

The project will be implemented by the Bani Sowaid Welfare Association. With the German support, over 100 girls will benefit from the project and be able to attend school and courses to learn how to read and write.

UN Yemen cooperation is continuing

UN Resident Coordinator emphasized that Yemen is continuing its operations in Yemen despite what has been published in some media outlets. Pratibha Mehta the UN RC stated: "It is true that the UN Secretary General has temporarily increased the security level to phase 3 purely as an internal precautionary measure. Phase 3 is not the highest security level, all UN essential staff will remain and we will continue to implement all UN programs and operations. The UN agencies stand by their commitment to helping the government and the people of Yemen in achievement their development goals".

The rise of al-Mu'ayyad State manuscript

The manuscript investigating the revenue system during the time of Sultan Al-Mu'ayyad Dawood bin Yusuf al-Rasooli will be presented at the French Center for Archeology and Social Sciences in Sana'a on Tuesday at ten A.M.

The book is the work of Mohammad

Abdulrahim Jazim researcher at the center. In his book he investigates a valuable manuscript indicating the financial and revenue system during one of the strongest eras of the Rasooli rule.

Master's Scholarships for Public Policy and Good Governance (PPGG)

This new program is designed to academically qualify future leaders in politics, law, economics and administration according to the principles of Good Governance and to prepare them in a praxis-oriented course for their professional life. The program offers very good graduates with a first university degree (Bachelor or equivalent) the chance to obtain a Master's degree in disciplines that are of special relevance for the social, political and economic development of their home country. With the knowledge and experience acquired in Germany the scholarship holders should later contribute to the establishment of democratically devised economic and social systems aimed at overcoming social tensions. In addition, the training at German institutions of higher education should especially qualify the scholarship holders as partners in political and economic cooperation with Germany. With this program, DAAD intends to contribute to the support of Good Governance and civil society structures in selected partner countries and regions.

The scholarship scheme is open to candidates from Africa, Latin America, South Asia, Southeast Asia as well as from countries in the Middle East. Applicants must be very well qualified graduates with a first university degree (Bachelor or equivalent) who in the future want to actively contribute to the social and economic development of their home countries.

Scholarships for (generally) two-year Master courses at a German institution of higher education. The successful candidates will study on selected Master courses with one of the following focuses: Public Policy, Good Governance, International Relations, Public Management, Administration, Civil Society. The courses have an international orientation and are taught in German and / or English. The scholarship holders will study in groups and be offered special tutoring at their host institutes. Furthermore, there is the

possibility of networking events for participants in different courses and their attendance at tailor-made summer-schools. All scholarship holders will be placed in German courses for 4 to 6 months before taking up their Master studies.

DAAD pays a monthly scholarship rate of currently 750 €. The scholarship also includes contributions to health insurance in Germany. In addition, DAAD grants an appropriate travel allowance as well as a study and research subsidy and in applicable cases rent subsidies and / or family allowances.

Selection

In addition to the study results achieved so far, the main criterion for selection is a convincing description of the subject-related and personal motivation for the study project in Germany and the expected benefit after the return to the home country.

For Master courses taught in German or in German and English language good German knowledge (ideally at completed A 2 level at the time of application) is an advantage, as the universities generally require good German knowledge. For courses taught in English documented good English knowledge (generally a minimum of 550 TOEFL scores or equivalent) is required.

The university degree should have been obtained during the last six years before the application for the scholarship. Applicants cannot be considered if they have been in Germany for more

Yemenia inaugurates new service branch

Under the patronage of Amin Abu Ras deputy prime minister for internal affairs Yemenia inaugurated its latest branch at Sixty Meters Road. The event was attended by Minister of communication, tourism and transportation along with many VIPs and community figures. Representatives of the Yemenia partners in the gulf and Yemenia Head of the Board of Directors Captain Abdulkhalig Al-Qadhi were present at the event.

"This new branch would provide



excellent services to Yemenia customers and would help decrease the demand on the main branch in Al-Hasaba," said Fahd Al-Ariqi Sana'a Zone Director.

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BMW 3 Series

From rural to urban, the attractive choice for Yemeni youth (Part 1)

Internal emigration from villages to cities is a global phenomenon. Especially with the development of long distance transportation and telecommunication that allows people to stay in touch despite the distances. Migdad Mojali investigates this phenomenon in a three part series researching why youth travel to the cities, how this has hanged them and what happens to their farms and families back home in the countryside.

YT Photos by Amira Al-Sharif

During the past two decades cities, especially Sana'a, witnessed a large influx of youth coming from the country side seeking employment and better opportunities as well as the glamour of living in the capital city. According to official statistics, around one third of the two million inhabitants of Sana'a are temporary residents who come from the outskirts and villages from all around the country for work or education. This fact becomes quite visible during holidays and summer vacations as most of these immigrants return to their home in the villages leaving the main streets of Sana'a rater deserted.

The most prominent motives for rural youths to immigrate from their villages into cities is the shortage of water and population growth. In many districts of Yemen water has started to diminish since the late 1980s and caused drought in lands. As a result, people were compelled to decrease

the farmed areas which led to a decrease in the family income and obliged youths to look for job opportunities in cities.

Khalid Naser Al-Hamdani left for Sana'a city when he found that the income of their lands hadn't become enough for the whole family due to the drought that has befallen their district since seven years. "I left my village and family to work here and be able to provide my family with their needs.

If I stay in my village and depend on the sources of my land, I will not be able to meet the needs of my family," Al-Hamdani stated.

Many youths in the eastern districts of Sana'a city like Nehm, Khawlan and Al-Hada left their villages looking for the drinking water in the city of Sana'a. Mohammed Al-Nehmi explained that he and his family suffered from the shortage of water for many years and tried to confront the shortage of water by bringing water by trucks from distant places but when he couldn't find water for



While in the past the farms yield was good enough to sustain a comfortable life for Yemenis in the rural areas, the water shortage and increasing population has forced the rural men to abandon their lands and look for other means for income in the cities. Because they are usually not highly educated they land up working as laborers waiting to be given irregular assignments jobs for daily wages.



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drinking and washing, he decided to immigrate to the city.

The unemployment and the inflation of population are interrelated and considered main reasons for rural youths' travel to cities. During 1980s and beginning of 1990s most of the rural areas' youths weren't thinking of working in cities whether in the public or private sectors as the resources of their lands were more than enough and the rate of the individual's income was more than the salary of a manager of an administration. So, a lot of youths dropped out of schools and preferred to work in farms.

Due to the population growth, the rate of individual's income has decreased by the passage of time and hasn't become enough any more for the daily life requirements.

Therefore, many youths headed to the cities looking for the jobs which they have never thought to join before

like working in the military sectors as soldiers.

According to sheik Ali Mohammed Rassam, 56, many youths in his village, Bani Ali, have migrated to Sana'a city looking for any job opportunities.

"In the past I remember that youths of my village didn't accept to join the governmental sector as their income at that time was more than the salary that the state would give them but now they are despairing for any job even as soldiers at the borders," Rassam stated.

Izz Al-Deen Al-Sumaie, 40, a major in the Yemeni army stated that by the beginning of 1980s youths of the rural areas had happy life and refused to join the governmental sector especially the military department and the state at that time resorted to catching youths from streets to join the military department but now youths of the rural areas offer tens of

thousands to join the military sector.

Looking for good education is also an important motive for many youths of rural districts especially those who aspire to get university degrees.

Many complained that they don't have good education in their villages that may qualify them to join the scientific specializations in the universities to be able to get jobs in the future.

Therefore, they emigrate to cities and towns to join good schools and universities. Motleq Ahmed left his village to stay in Sana'a city looking for a school of scientific department to study his secondary school for the second time. "I finished high secondary school, arts department, two years ago and when I thought of joining university, I found that I have to join a scientific department to be able to get a suitable job after graduating. So, I will study the high secondary school again but scientific

department," he said.

Some students complain of the shortage of school staffs which affect the quantity and quality of the knowledge they obtain. As a result, they take to emigrating to cities to get better education. Abdul Kareem Kasem expressed his regret that he couldn't finish his education and consequently couldn't get a job. So, he decided to prevent the same fate from happening to his brother and took him to the city to get better education and then to get a job and better life.

But despite having the right in looking for good education and better life, youths of rural districts are negligent of the stress they cause on the public services like hospitals, schools, accommodations and other institutions. Also for many some of the habits in the cities are somewhat a cultural shock especially if they have never travelled outside their village before.

landlords and tenants

By: Ola Alshami

Sudden increase in rents, harsh conditions, water cuts and electricity blackouts are common conditions some landlords impose on their tenants which increase the hostility between the two parties.

Ahmed AlShaibani, a lawyer, assures that there is a law, issued in 2006, to control this type of behavior. Dr. Al Mortada Bin Zaid Almahatwary, the founder and chairman of Badr centre for Islamic studies, and Law Professor at Sana'a University, added that although the law is clear, only few people follow it and most landlords lease their homes without contracts.

Almahatwary, who is also a landlord, adds, "As a landlord I always make sure I have a contract to reserve my rights and the tenant's rights, whenever I rent my house".

On the contrary, Mohammed Abdullah, a house landlord, refuses to adhere to any contract. He says that he is the one to determine who to lease to and when to raise the rent. "Nobody

can force me to accept anything I don't want when it comes to my property," he claims.

Regarding the problems landlords face with tenants Almahatwary said there were not many problems between his tenants and him, but that some tenants postponed the rent that was due, had bad habits, and some even moved out suddenly without paying the rent.

Ali Al Thomaini, a tenant says, "If we delay the rent for two or three days till we get our salaries the landlord punishes us by disconnecting the electricity and we are left in the dark. What's worse is that if another tenant offers to pay a higher rental, he tells us to pay the same or move out" he adds.

Further talking about the common problems tenants face, Khalid Ali Mohammed, a tenant, said that the landlord denied his lease twice. "I tried to remind him that I have paid the rent but he continued to deny it". Furthermore, he asks Khalid to pay half of the electric bill although the landlord lives in two flats while Khalid lived in one. "He sends his children to beat my children while I'm at work" he added.

When the tenants were asked why they didn't move to another home with better living conditions, their answers varied. Ali Saleh, a bus driver and a tenant said, "Where can we go? The rents are increasing every day!" he said.

Although many tenants agree that there is some kind of hostility between them and their landlords, Abdullah Ahmed Al matary, a tenant, has another opinion. He says "I lived in the apartment below my landlord, and we live like one family. My landlord never increased the rent for three years, although we didn't have any contract". Abdullah, who now lives in his own house said, "When I moved to my new house, our two families were really sad and I felt as if I had left my family home."

Kind words and the creating of a family-like atmosphere between landlords and tenants are some ways to decrease the hostility. Although there are good tenants and landlords there are bad ones too. Both parties should be mindful of the others rights, make use of the law and treat each other in a more cooperative and respectful way.



Because of increasing poverty and sky rocketing process paying the rent has become a nightmare for many middle and low income level Yemenis.

YT Photo by Amira Al-Sharif



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

INTERNAL / EXTERNAL VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Title of Post: Programme Assistant
Post Number: 10008202
Category / Level: GL 6
Location: Sana'a

Entry on Duty: 1st January 2009
Duration: One Year
Closing Date: 02nd Nov. 2008

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Under the direct supervision of the Programme 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. Review proposals and prepare/scrutinize draft budgets against objectives. Prepare implementing instruments, agreements and amendments, as required.
2. Organize data and information, prepare and maintain records, documents, and control plans.
3. Monitor and report on programme/project activities. Review control plans, progress reports, project inputs, budget and financial expenditures, obligations and expenditures by using the required system. Follow up on any purchase requests
4. Work with implementing partners, as appropriate, and maintain good relations in support of successful programme implementation
5. Prepare background information for discussions and contribute to the preparation of reports, project documents, correspondence and submissions to governments, other interested organizations and UNHCR senior management.
6. Draft memos and other documents, as needed. Assist in formatting and editing reports and project documents;
7. Perform specific administrative operational/control tasks for project/programme activities;
8. Collect and distribute data for the production of statistics and contribute to the assessment of trends
9. Perform other duties as required.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Knowledge and Skills:

Secondary education and training in financial reporting and Administration Knowledge of UNHCR programming

Experience: 6 years of relevant work experience

Others: Excellent computer skills (in MS office, including Excel, Word and PowerPoint and People Soft/MSRP)

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:

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JOB VACANCIES

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Human Resources Manager

Main Duties and responsibilities:

1. To manage the HR Department activities.
2. Assist departments managers with recruitment, ensuring that all DHL requirements is managed to ensure that the best possible staff are hired promoted, including using regional guidelines.
3. To assist DHL staff and managers in identifying training needs and attending training or conference outside Yemen with necessary paperwork for visas, hotel booking and other arrangements as requested.
4. To liaise with other trainers in the ME Area to ensure that where possible we obtain ready developed courses and share ME developed program.
5. Maintain and drive the PEAP process, ensuring that all employees are able to participate in this on an annual basis.

Knowledge, Skills and Experience Requirements:

1. University Degree in Business Management or related subjects.
2. Fluent English & Arabic.
3. At least five years experience in this field.
4. Basic knowledge in using computer's main applications.
5. Proven knowledge in employees management / relationship and labour law and have a background in developing training performance.

Sales Territory Manager (2)

(Locations: 1 Sana'a / 1 Belhaf)

Main Duties and responsibilities:

1. Achieve territory sales target.
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5. Promote DHL brand image and values through own appearance and behaviour so that it reflects DHL high standards and develops customers' relationship.

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Republic of Yemen

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- Assist supervisors in identifying and ordering replacement parts.
- Follows all company safety procedures and practices.

MINIMUM REQUIRMENTS:

Experience:

- Minimum 10 years experience with a mechanical background, preferably in the petrochemical industry.
- Must be willing to work in desert location on 28/28 rotation.

Education/Skills:

- Engineering degree or High school/Equivalent with apprentice courses or technical school, and mechanical background.
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BALMAIN

swiss watches

Madrigal Chrono Gent XXL: Intense, refined living مادريغال كرونو جانت أكس أكس ألأسلوب حياة مميز وأنيق

Representing a stunning concentration of urban living, the new Madrigal Chrono Gent XXL from Swiss watchmaker Balmain is an elegant combination of action and composure. Exuding the force and vitality of its wearer, it also reveals a more restrained and elegant side. The power and fluidity of its lines underscore the hectic life of the contemporary businessman, confident and able to make the most of life.

With this Downtown chronograph, Balmain has once more managed to capture the aspirations and lifestyle of its customers. The superiority of its materials, the precision of its lines, the elegance of the dial's various indications and its reassuring circularity are not only at the service of its wearer, they speak out for him. Masculine, bold, and with an oversized case (42.6 mm in diameter, 11.4 mm thick), Balmain's Madrigal Chrono Gent XXL is resolutely stylish. Its sophisticated air is enhanced by a beautiful spiral dial, while the polished ring encircling Balmain's legendary arabesque markings behind the small second hand further intensify its distinction.

The materials employed are particularly appropriate. The seamless transition from brushed stainless steel to black PVD-coated steel for the case, the rectangular buttons, not to mention the bezel and crown all allow the innovative design of this fiercely beautiful timepiece to shine through



تشكل ساعة مادريغال كرونو جانت أكس أكس آل لصانع الساعات السويسري بالماين مثالاً واضحاً للحياة الحضرية، فهي مزيج أنيق من الحركة والهدوء. هي تعكس لقوة وحيوية من يرتديها كما أنها تكشف جانباً أكثر تحفظاً وأناقة. فالقوة والإنسياب التي تتسم بهما خطوطها تسلطان الضوء على نمط الحياة السريع الذي يعيشه رجل الأعمال الوافق من نفسه والقادر على الاستفادة القصوى من الحياة.

فع هذا النظام العصري، تمكنت شركة بالماين مرة أخرى من إظهار إهتمامات ونمط حياة عملائها. إن موادها المتفوقة ودقة خطوطها كما وأناقة مؤشرات القرص المتنوعة ودورتها الثابتة، ليست فقط موضوعة في تصرف من يرتديها بل هي تبرز ميزاته. هي ذكورية، جريئة وتنسم بإطار ذو حجم ضخم (قطر بحجم 42.6 مم، وسماكة 11.4 مم)، الأمر الذي يجعل من ساعة بالماين مادريغال كرونو جانت أكس أكس آل أنيقة بشكل حازم. كذلك، فإن طابعها المتطور يعززه قرص ساعة لولبي جميل، في حين أن الحلقة التي تطوق علامات بالماين الزخرفية العربية الأسطورية الموجودة خلف عقرب الثواني الصغير تشدد على تميزها.

يذكر بأن المواد المستخدمة مناسبة تماماً لتصميم هذه الساعة، حيث أن التنوع السلسل بين الفولاذ المصقول في الإطار إلى الفولاذ الأسود المغلف بنظام طبيا لترسيبات الأبخرة، والأزرار المستطيلة ناهيك عن الحافة والتاج اللذان ساهما في إنجاز وبروز التصميم المبتكر لهذه الساعة الجميلة.

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- سيدات أعمال وموقوفات بالجملة العسل اليميني.. صيدلية دواء
- نوال الزغبى.. للأسرة و التنمية: عبد الرب إدريس مفاجأة اليوم الجديد
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Words of Wisdom



In the final analysis, it is in the hands of the people in charge of this country to make our transformation towards democracy real and meaningful. It would be unfortunate if the change in Yemen remains merely a show or something superficial. Our politicians need to believe in preparing for the 21st century. To do that, they have to internalize some new values.

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

OUR
OPINION

A frog in a well

Perhaps one of the many ironies of Yemen is that our economy is so underdeveloped that it doesn't have much to lose amidst the ongoing global financial crisis, while neighboring Arab countries and other more sophisticated and more globalized economies are shaken by this crisis. Other developing countries strategize to sustain a certain level of trade and economic activity with neighboring countries to boost their economic growth, but Yemen doesn't. We sell oil for a living; this is our economy in a nutshell. Therefore, we find Yemen's top officials and economic policy makers claiming that Yemen will not be affected negatively by this crisis.

However, this also means that Yemen will not be affected positively in times of economic growth and prosperity in other parts of the world. A frog stuck in a well is not affected by the four seasons outside of the well, and this is the status of the Yemeni economy at the moment. It is not affected by the crisis, with the exception of the limited foreign reserves Yemen maintains overseas.

The Government needs to adopt measures that help the Yemeni economy become more prosperous and advance into these modern times of capitalization, instead of maintaining the worst characteristics of a medieval economy coupled with pumping foreign currency in to stop the local economy from crashing and maintain the Yemeni Riyal on life support.

Economic activity includes winning and losing. Countries establish economic ties and become economically inter-connected in order to increase the prospects for economic growth, as well as mitigate the consequences of any economic crashes and slowdowns. The world is calling for a unified action to deal with the financial crisis sparked by the U.S. mortgage crisis, and the world is on the way to recovering from this crisis, and moving towards becoming more integrated and more economic growth as a result. Will Yemen learn this lesson any time soon?

Nadia Al-Sakkaf

Sea piracy and Yemen's elections

By: Ahmad Abdulmalik Al-Maqrani

Piracy operations emerged suddenly in the Gulf of Aden in an unprecedented manner and have continued to increase over time.

The strangest thing is that the NATO ships, which frequently patrol the waters and inspect other ships, have done nothing in this regard.

Did such piracy operations appear suddenly via individual and random initiatives? Or was there something seriously wrong behind them? I don't think that such extensive operations and irresponsible actions are the direct result of individual and random efforts, particularly as individual actions usually lack the required accuracy, dexterity and capacity.

The beginning may be random or implemented by a certain individual. But seemingly, they are the sort of actions that attract attention from conspirers against

Yemen's security and stability. Meanwhile, international agencies gave the green light to pirates to do whatever they wanted, even if they had the intention to harm Yemen's security and stability. These international agencies also provided lavish support to pirates and backed them while implementing their irresponsible actions in the sea.

U.S military bases in the region are likely

Through such irresponsible actions taking place at sea, the involved international organizations and U.S. Administration are creating new cards for them to play in the region. These organizations and the U.S. Administration may promote further piracy activities until the situation requires that the latter suggest the necessity of establishing U.S. military bases in the region, and dispatch U.S. patrols to the Arab Sea, Gulf of Aden and Bab Al-Mandab Strait.

The current political situation in Yemen encourages the Americans to play with their cards in the region. And, the political

congestion, currently experienced nationwide, forces the Yemeni regime to easily deal with the U.S. demands. The Yemeni authority has no objection to responding to any U.S. demands and obeying its orders.

It has no objection to establishing further military access to the Americans, as well as agreeing to grant them a military base here or there.

Inevitably at this point, the Yemeni authority will stipulate that the U.S. Administration should support and back the upcoming electoral process in Yemen, according to the shape, image and result sought by the authority, which is surely against the opposition's will. Such a condition may be fulfilled, particularly as the U.S. Administration never hesitates to deal with any democracy-related demands worldwide.

Ambiguous statements are deceptive

It is enough for the Americans to throw

ashes on the eyes of others by producing ambiguous statements that hold the stick at the middle point with the malicious intention of deceiving both parties involved (ruling and opposition parties) into thinking such statements are in their favor. The U.S. Administration feels satisfied with granting certificates to a particular journalist, praising a particular newspaper or signing a contract with a particular organization, while in fact, it does nothing to address what is going wrong in the nation.

The U.S. Administration has proven that it will side with oppressive regimes and tyrannous authorities via providing material and spiritual support and any necessary logistic assistance. As a result, one may find that a large and unexpected number of local journalists are promoting suspicious activities funded by the U.S. Administration.

In fact, they don't know that this administration is responsible for the piracy operations taking place in Yemen's territorial waters.

Al-Moayad and the financial crisis:

Two serious tests before our government

By: Nashwan Al-Sumairi
n.sumairi@gmail.com

The cause of Sheikh Mohammed Al-Moayyad and the global financial crisis constitute two real challenges facing the Yemeni government. The first issue tests how successful and strong Yemen's foreign policy is in negotiating with the west and bringing home its detained citizens. The second tests how able the Yemeni government's economic policy is to overcome the worst problems at the level of its national economy and people's living conditions.

Yemeni citizens have been experiencing remarkably poor living standards since their purchasing power begin to decline. Additionally, they have been unable to afford the minimum costs of living.

A golden opportunity is now available

before the Yemeni government to bring home its citizens, Sheikh Mohammed Al-Moayyad and his companion Mohammed Zayed, who would have lost forever if trust in the American judiciary had not been restored.

With a scant glimpse of hope that began to expand as we learned about the government's interest in this issue, we realized that the ball was in the field of Yemen's foreign policy. This is considered as a real test before the government, thereby testing its ability to deal with an attainable matter, securing the release of the detained pair to correct a terrible mistake, committed as part of the efforts of fighting terrorism that were unwisely directed by the outgoing U.S. President George W. Bush.

There are many serious challenges facing efforts to achieve the ambitions of the two families and millions of Yemenis, who are hoping for a warm homecoming for Al-Moayyad and Zayed. Such challenges are expected to appear because the American

court's verdict to release both Yemeni citizens coincided with a great attention paid by the current U.S. Administration and other political elites to the currently inflaming electoral battle in the U.S.

Another obstacle is that the current U.S. Administration and politicians in the western nation are shifting their attention toward addressing a financial turmoil that may lead to an unprecedented collapse of both the American and global economies. The situation may help exacerbate challenges facing Yemeni government's efforts in this regard.

An ultimate challenge

However, we are still hopeful that Yemen may take the wise route and do its best to overcome the crisis peacefully. Time is running out with the 14-day period in which the U.S. General Attorney approves whether or not to file the case once again before the U.S. courts. This will constitute the ultimate challenge.

The other serious test is no longer possible to ignore. By this, we mean effects of the global financial turmoil on the Yemeni economy. We suppose that economic decision-makers in Yemen have formed a strong committee to hold regular meetings to confront any potential harm to our economy that may occur as a result of declining interest rates in the global stock markets, banks and other financial institutions.

It is now that we side with the earlier opinion that opposed establishing a stock market in Yemen.

This opinion is based on the fact that Yemen lacks the necessary components to establish a stock market.

There are numerous benefits related with an ailing economy, which we don't know. The most prominent of these benefits is that the majority of us (Yemeni people) didn't have the misfortune of losing money, which stock market speculators would have lost if Yemen had had a stock market.

Causes of the American financial turmoil
and its effects on the global economy

By: Mahmoud Al-Qassab

Despite the fact that the U.S. House of Representatives approved a financial rescue plan, many economists still hold the view that impacts

of the current financial crisis in the U.S. will be broad and deep, and continue for a long time period to come.

Such a rescue plan is based on establishing a fund to purchase deferred debts from financial institutions for a lump sum of \$ 700 billion.

The plan is considered the biggest governmental intervention in the stock markets since the very beginning of the economic recession which the whole world experienced between 1929 and 1932. The primary objective of the plan is to provide a necessary liquidity to avoid potential collapse of the American financial system.

To understand inevitable consequences of this crisis, we should first have a quick glance at its real causes. According to Dr. Fuad Shaker, Chairman of Arab Banks Union, the main cause of the crisis is the notable expansion of real estate debts in the American market, which mostly depends on the rising prices of real estate.

But, as the economic growth in the United States declines, prices of real estate decline too.

In the meantime, debtors stopped repaying any debts on them to banks, accompanied by an increasing unem-

ployment rate. Consequently, the banks found that they could not sell its assets to restore loans because the value of such assets have become simply less than the value of loans.

From his side, Ibrahim Al-Badawi, an economic expert at the World Bank, whose viewpoints reflect his personal positions and not those of the World Bank, said that financial institutions purchase securities with the guarantee of real estate debts. He adds that these securities are usually reproduced and resold in the secondary market many times over as long as there are people who buy them. In other words, real estate debts are exchanged in markets without any oversight or control.

It goes without saying that rotation of capital leads to creating new funding opportunities, but it carries great risks, particularly as a great part of these loans come without any guarantees if the real estate prices collapse. This is what has happened on the ground.

In short, the current state of turmoil clarified the weak oversight and control over U.S. stock markets and the enthusiasm of its managers to make interests with the highest levels of risks. As a result, the U.S. government found itself obliged to intervene and then nationalized "Freddie Mac and Fannie May companies", the two biggest real estate credit institutions in the United States.

Afterward, the government forwarded a financial rescue plan.

Different financial management

Fuad Shaker is of the opinion that this turmoil will lead to change in the methodologies the U.S. banks and financial institutions are currently using.

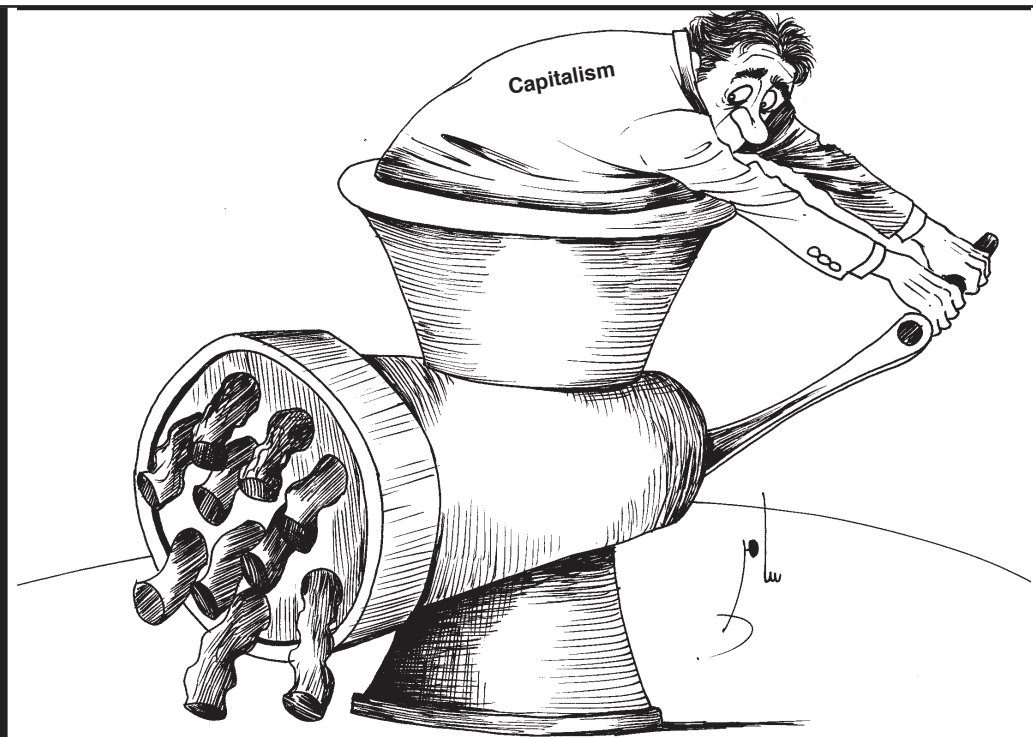
The institutions involved are recommended to impose greater restrictions on the processes of real estate credit, as well as on the process of loan sale between banks as invested assets. They are also recommended to rectify the margin of real estate credit along with changing the value of estate in the market.

According to Shaker, those concerned must question bank managers who concealed facts from depositors. This is a risky matter since it shakes depositors' trust in the banking system.

He also holds the view that the turmoil will lead to establishing a new international frame to organize stock markets in order for the global economy not to become a victim of American problems.

He expects that such a new international monetary system will be based on a greater European and Asian role but smaller American role.

Source: Al-Eshiteraki.net, quoted from BBC Arabic

SKETCHED
OPINION

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Wednesday, Oct. 15, 2008

Top Stories

- Global report: Influx of foreign investment into Yemen will decline
- Prime Minister: JMP must stop telling lies about alleged retirees' support for its member parties
- Retirees and protest activists in south Yemen declare their support for JMP to boycott upcoming elections

Following a declaration by Military Retirees' Council (MRC) via its official spokesman to back Joint Meeting Parties (JMP) in event it insists on boycotting the upcoming parliamentary elections and the broad activities undertaken by Yemeni Socialist Party (YSP) leaders in the southern government, the opposition coalition has expanded the scope of national support for it to take firm decisions regarding the upcoming elections, the website reported.

It went on to say that YSP expanded its activities in the southern governorates via meetings with its field leaders, backed by other activities implemented by Islah Party leaders, most notably in Hadramout, in preparation for a national dialogue that is expected to result in a new legislation in the electoral regard.

According to the website, YSP Secretary General Dr. Yasin Sa'eed Numan said that political actions taking place countrywide, most notably in the southern governorates, have proved to be an effective tool for change and

innovation, thereby making the regime tremble and fear more escalated actions to occur.

Numan noted that YSP proved able to restore its strength as a powerful party in South Yemen, thanks to political actions it implemented in cooperation with civil society organizations whose leaders are affiliated with the party. "Existence of YSP as a JMP member party constitutes a strong factor for the opposition coalition to take a decisive action with regard to the upcoming elections.

MRC Spokesman Abdu Al-Ma'atari, based in Al-Dhalea governorate, confirmed that retirees' associations and peaceful action groups in the southern governorates will back JMP in event it boycotts the upcoming parliamentary elections.



Al-Motamar.net, affiliated with General People's Congress (Ruling Party)

Wednesday, Oct. 15, 2008

Top Stories

- Relatives of martyrs in unity battles urge President to annul Attas' pardon
- First Turkish Hospital to be established in Yemen soon
- GPC Assistant Secretary-General exposes reasons behind JMP's failure in the electoral regard

Assistant Secretary General of the General People's Congress (GPC) and head of the party's parliamentary bloc Sultan Al-Barakani labeled escalated statements by JMP through its media

outlets as "a meaningless noisiness and hysteria the opposition coalition got affiliated with over the past few days, the ruling party's website reported in its lead story.

According to the website, Al-Barakani mockingly commented that the GPC would not remain a "nursery school" for scholars affiliated with the Islah Party and other JMP members.

Reacting to remarks raised by the JMP blocs at a Parliament's session on last August 18 that witnessed an oath taken by Abdurrahman Bafadh, Head of the Islah Party's Parliamentary Block, Al-Barakani accused JMP of telling lies and falsifying facts as well as confusing between the ethical responsibility and campaigning-oriented conduct.

Providing substantial evidence in support of what he says, Al-Barakani rejected JMP allegations concerning the number of present MPs in that session, advising MPs affiliated with JMP to ask law men and legal experts for consultation if they do not know. He also denied other JMP-affiliated MPs' allegations on the composition of the Supreme Commission for Election and Referendum (SCER) and its affiliate committees.

The GPC official clarified that issuing consecutive statements by the JMP under various pretexts and guises not to participate in the electoral committees is the result of hysteria affecting the JMP. He added that the JMP bloc doesn't understand the constitution and the law, and therefore are unable to comprehend the legislative process.

Al-Barakani pointed out that all JMP projects failed, thanks to ballot boxes and will of the voters, highlighting that JMP leaders were dreaming of winning the majority of votes in the most recent

presidential and local council elections of September 2006 through their fabricated facts and lies. He wondered why the JMP hadn't discussed reasons behind its failure in 2006 elections.



26September.net, affiliated with the Yemeni Army

Thursday, Oct. 16, 2008

Top Stories

- President Saleh: National Unity is a great and well-established achievement
- World Bank Director: Global financial crisis will not affect CBY operations
- President Saleh urges all political parties to participate in upcoming parliamentary elections

President Saleh called on political parties to carry on shoulder their responsibilities by standing with constitutional legitimacy and participate in the upcoming parliamentary elections, the website reported in its lead story.

"We will not exclude any political party. The homeland is embracing all people. We have called them several times to participate in the upcoming parliamentary elections, scheduled for April 2009," Saleh was quoted as saying during the military parade held in the Republican Guards School on Tuesday on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of the Yemeni revolution on 14th of October 1963.

He talked about the decision of halting war in Sa'ada saying "we have halted military operations to save

bloodshed and give a chance to deceived people to return to the right way and end rebellion, sabotage and terror."

He expressed sorrows over the terrorist acts that took place in the country and the latest bombings that targeted the US embassy in Sana'a, as well as acts targeting tourists in Hadramout and Mareb provinces, saying such acts are the result of misguided mobilization.

He reassured people that the "homeland is safe and stable and owned by all people not for a president or party but for all people," congratulating all Yemeni people on this occasion.



Al-Sahwa.net, affiliated with the Islah Party

Thursday, Oct. 16, 2008

Top Stories

- Politicians: Reviewing multi-party system means reviewing unity and democracy in Yemen
- Al-Sarari, an opposition leader: The authority changed the 26 Sept 1962 revolution's anniversaries into occasions to glorify the ruler
- MRA Spokesman vows to stand by JMP in case they boycott upcoming parliamentary elections

Official Spokesman of Military Retirees Association Abdu Al-Ma'atari has said that MRA would stand by the Joint Meeting Parties if it boycotted the up-coming parliamentary elections, the website reported in one of its lead

stories.

"We would stand by JMP if it boycotted the up-coming elections as we don't pay attention to elections and only focus on the southern issue" he told Al-Sahwa.net. The website quoted the social activist as saying, "If the southern issue was recognized, then we could talk about other issues such as elections."

Leaders of the opposition coalition described the Supreme Commission for Election and Referendum (SCER) as "lacking legitimacy and being coercively imposed on political life in Yemen".

They released a statement reading, "Since an early time, JMP has been working for the sake of carrying out a comprehensive political reform and this includes reforming the current election system in the country," adding, "JMP has been exerting hard efforts to suggest workable solutions through discussions and dialogue with the authority and the ruling party with the aim of conducting free and fair elections in Yemen."

The statement expressed regret that, "The authority and its ruling party, however, decided to run in the election alone, and therefore preferred to violate previous agreements they reached with other political parties." Both the authority and its party annulled the proposed amendments to the General Election Law, thereby contravening an agreement reached by both sides in this regard in "a comic play" at Parliament.

The statement also accused the government and the ruling party of violating the Parliament's bylaw and other legal procedures taken in the electoral regard, adding that SCER exploits all the election-related laws and regulations in a way contravening democratic principles.

Transforming Science Education

By: Leon M. Lederman

Throughout the West, declining standards in science education are threatening future prosperity. Since the mid-nineteenth century, the West has depended on technical innovation and scientific derring-do for its influence and growth. But the West now faces serious competition from the rising nations of Asia, where education in math and science is flourishing.

In general, competition in science and technology is a blessing – the more advanced a nation is, the better a customer it is. And collaboration and exchange of people make for profitable businesses and higher standards of living. But it must be recognized that falling educational standards will eventually hit economic growth.

The West, particularly the United States, has lived through such a moment of recognition before, when the USSR launched Sputnik in 1957. The so-called "Sputnik shock" convinced America and the West of the need for radical reform of science education, particular-

ly recruitment, training, and retention of teachers.

One reform that demands priority today concerns high school science. Mathematics, the foundation for all science, depends on its concise language and logical ordering. Physics, once the subject most dependent on mathematics, provides knowledge about the structure of atoms, and the use of mathematics there has now spread to chemistry and biology. Essentially all phenomena in chemistry find explanations in the quantum atom, while chemistry and physics undergird molecular biology, which, since the discovery of DNA in the 1950s, dominates modern biology. All other sciences – geology, astronomy, neuroscience, oceanography, and myriad hyphenated subjects – depend upon overlapping combinations of biology, chemistry, and physics. Yet today, the vast majority of high schools start the study of science with biology. In America, the requirement is usually for three years of science study, and, today, most U.S. students take science in this order: biology, chemistry, physics. This sequence of study was devised in 1893.

I believe that it is obsolete, pedagogically disastrous, and ignores the tremendous scientific advances of the twentieth century. Other industrial nations may cycle through pieces of the disciplines, missing the essential coherence of the P-C-B sequence. Studying science should begin with physics, not biology. In studying physics, students study algebra simultaneously, motivating them with a sense of the power of mathematics. Moreover, physics begins with everyday phenomena requiring few new words (as opposed to conventional ninth-grade biology): motion, velocity, acceleration, falling objects, a sense of gravity as a force, and some new concepts, e.g. mass, momentum, and energy, but with crisp definitions.

Ninth-grade physics, unlike ninth-grade biology, illustrates the grand sweep of the laws of nature, and the power of an equation to describe a vast number of different phenomena can be taught at this level. Classroom experiments make use of simple laboratory devices: inclined planes, pulleys, springs, simple pendulums, but the rules that are revealed have validity out in the

real world. The fall of a weight (or an apple!) can be connected to the moon's orbit around the earth and even to the structure of galaxies holding billions of solar systems.

Indeed, we can study, on a convenient classroom scale, the same forces that move atoms and planets. The last month or more of ninth-grade physics introduces atoms, invisible to the naked eye but with strong indirect support. Here physics introduces scales of distances, atoms to galaxies, scales of time, nanoseconds to centuries, and scales of energy from electron volts to megajoules. These orders of magnitude require metaphors and repetition, but they serve as crucial concepts in our world, especially in cosmology and in evolutionary biology.

Tenth-grade chemistry makes use of ninth-grade physics, deepening and enriching the student's grasp, but no basic chemical or biological principles are required for ninth-grade physics. Instead, qualitative applications of physics to chemistry and biology heighten interest and emphasize the connections. Chemistry is largely a

study of molecules, and when they are complex, there is the mysterious transition to life and biology.

At all stages of the science curriculum, basic questions must be asked. How does something work? How do we know? What are the common laws? It was not a physicist, but a biologist, Julius Meyer, who first proposed the law of conservation of energy from a study of biological energy processes. The chemist Dalton first gave a proof of the existence of atoms and the engineer Sadi Carnot first gave a proof of the Second Law of Thermodynamics.

The sequence Physics-Chemistry-Biology implies that continuous collegial professional development for teachers is essential. Teachers (including those in mathematics) should meet regularly to plot the evolution of their courses, their essential coherence, and the inclusion of stories that illustrate how science works. Teachers need time to talk together.

I know of more than 1,000 high schools that have implemented the P-C-B sequence. There is almost universal joy as students begin to grasp the whole

picture. Elective science courses zoom up in popularity. Because this sequence is for all students, what will be retained in the future are the stories and, most importantly, a scientific way of thinking. There is no job, no profession, civic activity that will not profit from this kind of education.

But to restore the vitality of science, we need to look at the entire educational system: teachers from pre-school through high school, state and national standards, productive and educationally reinforcing assessments, teaching materials and educational technology, and progress in the neurosciences, cognitive psychology, developmental biology, and nutrition. And leadership for this huge revolutionary effort will probably have to come from visionary business executives whose profits depend on education and rationality.

Leon Max Lederman, a Nobel Laureate in Physics, is Director Emeritus of Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory (Fermilab) in Batavia, Illinois. Copyright: Project Syndicate, 2008. www.project-syndicate.org

In Defense of International Justice

By: Jorge G. Castañeda

Not long after I took office as Mexico's foreign minister in 2001, a novel problem came across my desk. An Argentine naval officer who had resettled in Mexico under an assumed name was wanted by Spain on charges of genocide, torture, and terrorism. The officer, Ricardo Miguel Cavallo, was implicated in abuses committed in 1977 and 1978 at the notorious Naval Mechanics School in Buenos Aires. According to the Spanish indictment, Cavallo belonged to the operations unit of a group actively involved in kidnapping and torturing people whom the military regime perceived as leftist.

The question before me was whether

to extradite Cavallo to Spain, a third country, to face trial for human rights abuses committed in Argentina. Signing the papers would be groundbreaking, as it would signal for the first time that suspected rights abusers might face trial anywhere in the world if justice was not likely at home.

For me, the decision was straightforward: the crimes demanded justice, and Cavallo was more likely to be held to account in Spain than in Argentina. Amnesty laws in Argentina at the time shielded him from prosecution. I signed the extradition papers.

Since then, many inroads have been made to ensure that the world's most serious crimes no longer go unpunished. The International Criminal Court is up and running, and 107 states, including Mexico, have ratified the

treaty establishing the court and acceded to its jurisdiction.

National courts, such as those in Spain, play an increasingly strong role in combating impunity through the exercise of universal jurisdiction. The rise of these types of prosecutions has in turn motivated countries, including Argentina and Chile, to repeal their amnesty laws so that suspected war criminals can be prosecuted at home. The trials of Slobodan Milosevic and Charles Taylor have demonstrated that even heads of state are no longer safe from prosecution. The comfort level for perpetrators of these crimes is shrinking as the options for prosecution expand. Whether the progress in this battle against impunity continues or slides backwards is now in the hands of the United Nations Security Council.

On July 14, the ICC prosecutor, Argentine lawyer Luis Moreno Ocampo, announced that he was seeking an arrest warrant for Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir for orchestrating the atrocities in Darfur. Immediately after the announcement, Sudan's government and its allies began a diplomatic campaign aimed at securing a Security Council deferral of the investigations for 12 months. They are attracting wider support than they should – in part because of fear of retaliation against UN peacekeepers and humanitarian workers.

But the Security Council must be extremely cautious in considering any suspension of ICC proceedings. Such a decision would be a serious setback to the movement to end impunity for the most serious crimes. It would show that

indicted warlords and dictators can avoid justice by holding the Security Council hostage to threats of more violence. Suspending the ICC's work in this way would undermine its potential for deterrence, one of the purposes for which it was established. Postponing the case against al-Bashir would seriously undercut the important principle – which has gradually been taking root worldwide – that no one is above the law. The Security Council's decision to refer the situation in Darfur to the ICC prosecutor in March 2005 was itself a major milestone in the battle against impunity. That decision demonstrated, for the first time, that there was an institution that could investigate and prosecute the most serious international crimes regardless of where they occur.

Apart from being a victory for international justice, the referral was also a promise to victims of the horrific crimes in Darfur that the perpetrators of the crimes against them would one day be held accountable. For the Security Council to step back from that commitment would do more than abandon the victims in Darfur. It would be a major blow to those around the world who have struggled to put an end to impunity for perpetrators of humanity's most terrible crimes.

Jorge G. Castañeda, former Foreign Minister of Mexico (2000-2003), is a Global Distinguished Professor of Politics and Latin American Studies at New York University.

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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.

وظائف شاعرة

مؤسسة تعنى برعاية وتأهيل الأطفال في ظروف خاصة تعلن عن وظائف شاعرة و الموضحة أدناه :

١. وظائف إدارية و فنية

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مسئول برامج .

باحث اجتماعي.مسئول إعلام واتصال وتوعية.

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٢. استشاريين و مدربين

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استشاري و مدرب متخصص في التوعية و الإرشاد الأسري.

الشروط الواجب توفرها في المتقدمين لشغل الوظائف المذكورة أعلاه .

مؤهل جامعي في نفس التخصص مع خبرة عمل لا تقل عن ثلاث سنوات.

دبلوم فني لمدرسة الرسم ومدرية الحرف اليدوية مع خبرة لا تقل عن سنتين .

إجادة اللغة الإنجليزية واستخدام الحاسب الالى شرط أساس في المحاسب

(المساعد المالي والإداري).

القدرة على القيام بمهارات التخطيط والتنظيم وصياغة وإعداد التقارير .

بالنسبة للسائق فيشترط أن يكون لديه رخصة قيادة وخبرة .

فعلی من یجد فی نفسه الكفاءة إرسال طلب توظيف علی العنوان التالي فاكس (٠١٤٣٣٣٠٨) أو التواصل علی ت سيار (٧١١١٩٠٥٩٥) .
آخر موعد لاستلام طلبات التوظيف ٨ / ١١ / ٢٠٠٨م.



The TV and Radio General Corporation

Clarification

The TV and Radio General Corporation would like to clarify that the unconditional banking warranty relating to general bid number (20) for year 2008 for Renting a Lunar Satellite Channel to broadcast Yemen's Satellite Channel in addition the general Radio-one and Radio-two programs to Asia, North American and Europe, is **39,000 thousand US dollars** instead for what had been published in a previous advertisement of 36,000 US dollars.



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WARRANTY

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Taiz (04) 228 480
Ibb (04) 406 139

من أعماق قلوبنا نتقدم بخالص التهاني والتبريكات نهدبها للاخت:

ياسمين

بمناسبة الخطوبة
فألف ألف مبروك

المهنتون :

مديم اليميني - عائلة علوي الجراوي - عائلة اليميني - عائلة شاكر مرتجي - وجميع الأهل والأصدقاء

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الشروعبي / عبد الرحمن الصديق / تمام السقاف / خالد عبد الرحمن السقاف / مازن سليمان
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بمناسبة الزفاف اليمينيون
فألف ألف مبروك

المهنتون:

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محمد السقاف / مروان أمين السقاف / عبد الله كامل / ثامر الصهباني .
وكافة الأهل والأحبة



INTERNAL / EXTERNAL VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Title of Post: Programme Assistant

Post Number: New – SB

Category / Level: GL 6

Location: Sana'a

Entry on Duty: 1st January 2009

Duration: One Year

Closing Date: 02nd Nov. 2008

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Under the direct supervision of the Programme 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. Review proposals and prepare/scrutinize draft budgets against objectives. Prepare implementing instruments, agreements and amendments, as required.
2. Organize data and information, prepare and maintain records, documents, and control plans.
3. Monitor and report on programme/project activities. Review control plans, progress reports, project inputs, budget and financial expenditures, obligations and expenditures by using the required system. Follow up on any purchase requests
4. Work with implementing partners, as appropriate, and maintain good relations in support of successful programme implementation
5. Prepare background information for discussions and contribute to the preparation of reports, project documents, correspondence and submissions to governments, other interested organizations and UNHCR senior management.
6. Draft memos and other documents, as needed. Assist in formatting and editing reports and project documents;
7. Perform specific administrative operational/control tasks for project/programme activities;
8. Collect and distribute data for the production of statistics and contribute to the assessment of trends
9. Perform other duties as required.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Knowledge and Skills:

Secondary education and training in financial reporting and Administration Knowledge of UNHCR programming

Experience: 6 years of relevant work experience

Others: Excellent computer skills (in MS office, including Excel, Word and PowerPoint and People Soft/MSRP)

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.**

Fax: +967-1-469 770



INTERNAL / EXTERNAL VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Title of Post: Field Assistant (Engineering)

Post Number: 10013694

Category / Level: GL6

Location: Saada

Entry on Duty: 01 January 2009

Duration: 6 Months initially, with possible extension.

Closing Date: 29th October 2008

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Under the direct supervision of the Protection Officer at the UNHCR Office in Saada, and under the guidance of the Shelter Engineer in SO Aden, the incumbent is expected to perform the following duties for an initial period of 6 months with the possibility of extension based on availability of post funding, guided by the humanitarian principles and values of the United Nations, and adhering to the UN Code of Conduct:

Terms of reference

1. Rehabilitation of existing IDPs structures, technical construction of new shelters, cost calculation, organization of supply of material and equipment and supervision of the implementation of the project, including quality, progress and impact monitoring.
2. Technical planning of projects, including designs, specifications, Bills of Quantity, tendering procedures, developing tools and documents needed for quality monitoring and quantity survey, etc.
3. Identification, planning and implementation of small-scale projects intended to improve host families living environment, for example minor repairs / rehabilitation of houses and in or near-house infrastructure. This activity preferably takes place with a high degree of beneficiary participation.
4. Assist in managing ongoing building and infrastructure Refugee projects in Sana'a that include on-site supervision or monitoring of activities in coordination with Programme Section at Branch
5. Perform other duties as required.

QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS

Degree in civil engineering and/or architecture degree or equivalent background

Knowledge and Skills:

Experience: At least 5 years proven successful experience with project planning and management,

Others: Should be familiar with the use of computers, electronic utilities and common applications such as MS Word, MS Excel, MS Vision (desirable), MS Project (desirable), other technical design programs.

Very good command of Information Technology,

Languages: Very good knowledge of Arabic and English.

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**

Fax No.: + 967-1-469 770

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 مصلحة الضرائب عن رغبتها في إنزال المناقصة العامة رقم (8) لعام 2008م لطباعة وتوريد اثنين مليار طابع باندروول على السجائر المنتجة محلياً والتي سيتم تمويلها من مصدر حكومي 100%.

تعلن مصلحة الضرائب عن رغبتها في إنزال المناقصة العامة رقم (8) لعام 2008م لطباعة وتوريد اثنين مليار طابع باندروول على السجائر المنتجة محلياً والتي سيتم تمويلها من مصدر حكومي 100%.

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 وقدره (١٠٠.٠٠٠) مائة ألف ريال لا يرد . وآخر موعد لبيع الوثائق هو يوم الأحد الموافق ٩ / ١١ / ٢٠٠٨م

- 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 (١٠.٠٠٠.٠٠٠) 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 كمتطلب 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 ١٢ / ١١ / ٢٠٠٨م 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.

- موقعنا على شبكة الانترنت ! "http://www.tax.gov.ye" * * *

A Yemeni woman's struggle to prove herself

Soad Ahmed Al-Sofiani is a twenty years old Yemeni nurse working as the head of the nursing department at Al-Zahra Medical Center in a remote area in the outskirts of Sana'a City. She joined this field three years ago as a practitioner at Al-Manar Hospital in Sana'a and decided to empower herself further through availing a nursing diploma from the Vocational and Technical Institute in Sana'a. Today she is about to graduate and has proven herself in her work that she has been appointed head of nursing staff at the medical center where she works. Ola Al-Shami interviewed her to talk about her work, her personal life and many other things.

Isn't it out of the norm that a girl from your area is working in a public place?

Yes it is, in fact I am the only female in my large family and neighborhood who is actually working in such a public domain job. I have a cousin who is a teacher in an all girls' school and that is it. It was not easy to make such a choice but because of the encouragement of my family, especially my father, I was able to be what I am today.

Did you have to make any sacrifices for this?

I had to struggle to convince my family of allowing me to study nursing. Especially because it meant that I would travel for about an hour on my own everyday from my home to the training institute.

Also I had to break my engagement because my fiancé did not want me to work. He wanted his future wife to stay at home, and for me that was not possible. I wanted to prove myself. In fact I wanted to be a doctor, but because of many factors I had to settle for being a nurse.

Even my elder brother said that I should not study because I will get married, and will have children. He said there is no point of studying since I will eventually stay at home to raise my kids.

I owe it to my father who stood by me and recognized my love to learn and agreed to give me this opportunity. Today I try to pay back whether in helping at home financially or in sorting any issues that need someone on the outside.

Does this mean that your family now is appreciative of your work?

Definitely, they are really proud of me, and they often seek my advice or help on many issues which they don't ask other women of the family. I feel that I have proven myself as a worthy person and dependable. But I also understand that this may also mean that the men of my society would not accept me easily.

What do you mean by that? Do you fear you will not get married?

Most men in where I come from are very traditional and dominating. They

feel that a women can never do what a man does and would not accept a woman who is for example earning more than they do, or has more education or better skills. Even my male patients are like that. I would be giving them medical care and ensuring their treatment and they would be thinking low of me. The male patients or male companions of a female patient think that they own me. Sometimes to the extent of eve teasing me or talking to me in an unacceptable language hinting that I care for them because I want them or I need their masculine touch. It is disgusting some days I feel down and wish I never joined this profession.

Is this the only problem you face in your work?

Another big problem is the patients' ignorance. This is not only frustrating for me but it can be very dangerous for them. Some patients are very stubborn and would not take my medical advice. They would rather do it their own way which many times makes me wonder why they came to the health center in the first place. I remember once a woman came with her daughter to take a Penicillin injection. She had no medical record and I had to test for allergies before I administer the full injection. The mother would not wait for this, when I argued with her she simply grabbed the injection from my hand and injected her daughter so brutally that the poor young girl was crying in pain. I was so helpless because there wasn't anything I could do at that moment except pray that the girl does not have any allergies and that she would be fine. When I realized that the reason behind the mother's rush is that she wanted to go to some social function I was beside myself with anger. She could have killed her daughter, yet she didn't seem to care or comprehend.

Many patients who come to our center don't follow the instructions I give them. They don't take their medicines as told, they don't take care of hygiene. And they are very noisy and loud while they are in the center. When I ask them to be quiet they simply laugh at my face.

In addition, there is poverty. Sometimes the patient is really in need



to be cured as fast as possible, but because he is poor he asks for any thing to stop his pain temporarily.

Is this a common complaint by all those working at the center, or just you because you are a female?

It is mostly the Yemeni female health workers such as myself who get the bad treatment. Even the Indian nurses get more respect than us. In many cases, the Indian nurses shout at the patients and it works. But we can not be very vocal mainly because it is our nature as

Yemeni women, but also because our environment requires us to be soft spoken and docile.

What are your ambitions for yourself personally and career wise?

My first priority now is to get my degree and develop my professional skills further. I believe that is the most important thing I should focus on and everything else would follow.

I also hope that at some point of time I would not have to work so hard and that I would have more time for myself

and to visit friends and socialize more.

I want to minimize my work time. I prefer to work in the morning later. I have to see my friends and go to parties.

I also hope that a day would come when females in my area and everywhere would be treated with respect and as equal to men. That we would not get harassed simply because we put ourselves out there in the public life. I dream that our contribution to society would be acknowledged and appreciated.

Don't you hope to get married and start a family of your own?

I am not very optimistic on that front because I have seen how men treat their women when they come to the center for treatment. They are rough and uncaring even if the women is sick. They don't respect their opinions and think that they are ignorant and don't know anything. I think to myself if this is how they treat their wives in public, how would they be treating them behind closed doors. I just dread the thought of it.

A peace of water

By: Václav Havel et al

The global financial crisis may be grabbing all the headlines, but resolving it should not be allowed to crowd out other vital issues. In the Middle East, for example, Israelis and Palestinians – as well as many others around the world – are beginning to believe that the permanent status negotiations to determine the future of Palestine are going nowhere.

The situation may be more promising than it appears, but one cannot deny that hope for real changes on the ground has faded since talks were relaunched two years ago. This loss of faith is, sadly, establishing a dynamic that will itself inhibit the concessions that are needed if a permanent agreement is to be found.

Because an impasse beckons, it is vitally important to work on those areas where intensive negotiations have the potential to produce quick results. Fresh water is one such area.

Across the Middle East, water is a security issue. Indeed, people are now recognizing two important facts. First, nations faced with conflicting claims to water have historically found ways to collaborate rather than to fight. Even during the 60 years of conflict in the Jordan Valley, water has more often been a source of cooperation than of conflict.

Second, water scarcity is seldom absolute, and even less often an explanation of poverty. To quote the United Nations Human Development Report for 2006: "There is more than enough water in the world for domestic purposes, for agriculture and for industry....Scarcity is manufactured through political processes and institu-

tions that disadvantage the poor."

But almost every nation in the Middle East is using more water than arrives on a renewable basis. There simply is not enough water for everything these nations want to use it for, and the situation will only worsen. Yet, even in Palestine, the key water issue is not thirst, but arrested economic development. In the short term, Palestine needs more water to provide employment and income from farming; in the longer term, educational, cultural, and political changes are needed in order to develop a capacity to adapt.

The region's climate and geography mean that water resources are unavoidably shared. But only if water is shared in a rational manner that respects the region's fragile ecology will human life be sustainable.

Clearly, no final agreement on water will be possible until there are agreed-upon borders between the State of Israel and the State of Palestine, and some resolution of the Israeli settlements in the West Bank. But interim resolution of water issues does not need to wait for final resolution of the major issues. Finding rational ways to share and co-manage water may be easier than solving the "big" issues. In fact, water could help to create a climate of success that aids progress in other areas.

The good news is that the quantity of water that is needed for drinking, cooking, other household chores and sanitation is small. Most water is used to grow food, so, if a nation's economy is healthy, there is scope for saving water by importing a greater share of food, although every nation will want to maintain some assured food supply for security reasons.

The bad news is that water, unlike

land, cannot simply be divided. Water flows on the surface and underground. As it moves, it changes in quantity and quality, and it supports different ecosystems. Moreover, demand for water changes over time. Only a few percentage points of the Israeli GNP come from agriculture today; as a result, its economy requires less water than it once did. Exactly the same transition is likely to occur in Palestine, but it has not happened yet.

Few Israelis deny that Palestinians need more water. Similarly, there is wide agreement that some water currently used by Israelis will have to be allocated to Palestinian use. The current negotiations will inevitably deal with rights to water, which do not seem to be very contentious anymore, and the talks can suggest various mechanisms for transfer of management in some cases and for shared management in others.

These are eminently negotiable issues. A flexible and sustainable formula can certainly be found, almost surely including a transitional period that allows both sides to adjust to and account for their different water management systems, as well as for changing conditions and institutions in the future. The principle of a just division of water resources to meet the Palestinians' urgent needs for additional water should be taken as a starting point. Everything else can be worked out.

Shared water calls for flexible, continuous, cooperative water management, based on agreed-upon rights and responsibilities, as well as ongoing monitoring and dispute resolution mechanisms. One important point should be added: extensive public participation and transparency, in terms of

both process and outcomes, will be key to successful management.

We believe that progress in the peace process and in finding solutions for water issues between Israel and Palestine would also help to unblock progress in the broader region, between the parties on the Jordan, the Orontes, the Tigris, and the Euphrates rivers. Water can be a catalyst for regional cooperation, opening the way to a future comprehensive "Community of Water and Energy" to enhance the human environment. In such a forum, water and solar energy in tandem could help to move the Middle East from conflict to collaboration.

The cost of inaction or merely pretending to act is likely to be high for everyone in the Middle East. Future water policy should no longer be seen as an extension of current policy, but rather as a new opportunity. Water is the essence of life. People in Palestine and in Israel need it; people in the region need it. Cooperating to secure it is the only way forward.

Václav Havel is Former President of the Czech Republic, André Glucksmann is a French philosopher, Frederik Willem de Klerk is a former President of South Africa, Mike Moore is a former director general World Trade Organization, Yohei Sasakawa is a Japanese philanthropist, Karel Schwarzenberg is foreign minister of the Czech Republic, George Soros is a financier, El Hassan bin Talal is a Prince of Jordan, Desmond Mpilo Tutu is a Nobel Peace Prize laureate, Richard von Weizsäcker is a former president of Germany, Grigori Yavlinsky is a Russian politician. Source: Project Syndicate, 2008. www.project-syndicate.org

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Polygamy: The "Fruit-Vendor's" logic and the Islamic view – Part 2

Reflecting on an incident from her childhood, Hanan Al-Wadee, researcher with an M.A. in Human Rights, confronts polygamy from a religious point of view.

By: Hanan Al-Wadee
For the Yemen Times

Prophet Muhammad started a polygamous marital life when he was over fifty, an age after which the sex drive of men often diminishes. Sex is often the primary motive for cheating or marrying another woman, as it is alleged that a man's sexual needs exceeds that of a woman. Based on this allegation, which has since been proven wrong by dozens of scientific researches, one woman cannot suffice a man's sexual needs. This leads a researcher to an obvious question: why was Prophet Muhammad content with one woman in the beginning of his life during the prime of his youth and his sexual energy?

And from a religious-historical perspective, why didn't God create four Eves, or even two for Adam, considering that they were the first two who established and practiced sex on earth? If sex is an indisputable motive to practice polygamy, then it must have been a priority to accurately portray it through the first example that was given to mankind regarding this matter.

Masculine society originates from the family, the street, one's friends and the media, all of which promote intentionally or unintentionally that wrong perception of polygamy. And men tend to believe it so that they are able to justify their second, third, fourth and even tenth marriage, and are permitted to keep divorcing and marrying women until they have turned God's permission (for practicing polygamy) into what resembles prostitution.

In his book, "Fi Thilal Al-Quran" - "In the Shadows of Quran" - the martyr Sayed Kotob says about this matter: "If a generation misused that permission, made it an opportunity to make the marital life a stage for animals' delights, keeps moving between wives as a man between his mistresses and viewed women in such an awful way, then that generation is not related to Islam and does not represent it. Those

who plummeted to that level are far from Islam and didn't comprehend its pure and noble spirit. The reason is that they live in a society that is not ruled by Islam and its legislation, not ruled by an Islamic authority and guide people by Islam's directions, rules, morals and customs".

A while ago when I was still writing this article, I saw an episode of "Albeit Beitik" - "Be My Guest" - that was aired on February 2008 on The Egyptian Channel. On it, the Islamic preacher Khalid Al-Jundi, in a discussion with the T.V host Mahmoud Saad, said that the polygamy that is motivated by a desire to try different kinds of women is prohibited. He also emphasized that monogamy is the original type of marriage. This contradicts the method of the "fruit vendor", who turned women from being responsible human beings and accountable for their actions into fruits that could be eaten and thrown away, replaced by another.

The problem is that men from various backgrounds, religions and cultures do not start from a common ground when permitting and prohibiting things. Collaboration between women and men starts only after they have finished analyzing and distributing roles according to what satisfies them, using the interpretation that suits their desires, and arriving at conclusions; the partnership phase begins later, based upon those results.

That is why women's recent invasion into all the fields of life have started to

force men to reconsider and step back to stand side by side with women, their natural partner in life. It has also forced them to look at things through a common framework, through which they start analyzing the matters of life and distributing its roles, finding completely different results from the ones they were first confined to, one perspective and one form of logic.

I remember once when I was discussing polygamy with a religious scholar who lives in America, I asked him why Prophet Muhammad didn't marry another woman when he was married to Khadija, and why Ali did the same, yet polygamy was permitted for us women. "You are neither Khadija nor Fatima", He answered me quickly. "And you are neither Muhammad nor Ali", I replied. He despised comparing myself to those great women, but did not see any harm in comparing himself to those great men.

Back to the beginning of polygamy in Prophet Muhammad's life; if we started with the first wife that Prophet Muhammad married after a long time of devotion and mourning over Khadija (PBUH), we would find out that she was Sawda Bin Zama who was a fifty years old widow whose husband died after she became a Muslim, so she became afraid of her family's brutality, for they were non-Muslim. When Prophet Muhammad heard of her, he married her to save her from her family's brutality and provide safety for her. And that is the same case for the Prophet's marriage to Um Salamah Bint Umaiah, who was an old woman with children.

Verse number 3 of Al-Nisaa Sura states: "If ye fear that ye shall be able

to deal justly with the orphans, Marry women as seem good to you, Two or three or four; but if ye fear that ye shall not be able to deal justly (with them), then only one".

In Arabic, the word orphan is used to describe a female or male child without a father. When that child grows he is not called an orphan any more.

"As seem good to you" here indicates who it is that you are allowed to marry, and not who you desire to marry, as Dr. Taha Jabir Alawani explained to me when I met him at The Islamic University in Washington in 2003. That day, I took with me a lady who believed in polygamy the same way our "fruit vendor" understood it. I thought that she might be convinced with the other perception of polygamy after hearing an explanation from an Islamic scholar, but she was not convinced.

It is beyond the scope of this article to review the circumstances of each of the Prophet's marriages, but most of them were in one of two frameworks or models, with the exception of his marriage of Ayisha and Hafsa (PBUH) whose fathers attempted to use Prophet Muhammad to consolidate the social relationship between them and him. The first model is of a social nature (i.e. divorced woman, widow with children, slave that the Prophet would free and marry to uplift her position in a society that despised and oppressed slaves). This model implies a very important social message that promotes the concepts of social solidarity, support, and feeling with others.

The second one is of a legislative nature, as in the case of Prophet



Muhammad marrying the divorced wife of his adopted son, Zayd Bin Al-Harithah. God Almighty says: "Then when Zayad had dissolved his marriage with her (Zainab) we joined her in marriage to thee: in order that there may be no difficulty to the believers in the matter of marriage of the wives of their adopted sons. God's commands shall be done." This marriage was meant to illustrate that there shouldn't be any difficulty for a person to marry the divorced wife of his adopted son, and it shows the legislative aspect or aim of that marriage. So where can you find the fruit-vendor method in those two models, the social solidarity model or the legislative model?

Even in the model of Hafsa and Ayisha, which could be called a socio-political model, sexual purposes did not exist as many people claim, otherwise the Prophet would have sought the marriage of at least one of them, which is not what happened. The young age of Ayisha when Prophet Muhammad married her had a great impact in developing that wrong perception of polygamy without considering the real reasons and motives behind it. Many have emphasized her young age at the time of marriage, including scholars like Sheikh Khalid Al-Jundi, who repeated on more than one occasion that Ayisha was fifteen or sixteen when Prophet Muhammad married her, proving that with evidence that has not been accepted by other scholars, let alone the public.

Even if we discuss the usual story, which says that the Prophet married Ayisha when she was only a nine year old child, we should not ignore the different social circumstances that were prevalent at that time. In that era, throughout the whole world, people were marrying young girls. The West did not condemn the double crime that the Queen of Austria committed when she married her daughter, Marie Antoinette, who was a child at the time to the King of France who was a child also. Those marriages were socially accepted then. And just as the King of France did not sleep with his wife because he was embarrassed and ashamed, Prophet Muhammad did not sleep with Ayisha until she attained puberty and became a woman, because he was understanding and considerate of her age.

If sex was the first goal of Prophet Muhammad in marrying Ayisha, he wouldn't have acted according to the nobility of the prophets' morals and would have done like the husband of the eight years old Nujud who her story we have heard of, read, and seen recently, in which her husband who is in his thirties slept with her and kept following her from one room to another with no mercy.

Hanan Yahya Alwadee has an MA in Human Rights from University of London. She is the winner of Al Sada prize for her novel "Ahzan elktroniah - Electronic Sadness", 2004. She could be reached at: hananalwadee@hotmail.com

Traditions and customs of marriage in Hadramout

Families in Hadramout have their own style of life and traditions in different social occasions including wedding ceremonies. Family members gather around one table during main meals. Other families allocate a table for men and another for women. Families feel proud that they get up early morning to pray and read the Holy Quran. While men go to pray at the mosque, women stay home to perform prayer and read the Quran. There are numerous mosques in Hadramout particularly in Tarim city which contains more than 300 mosques.

When a man desires to get married, he first consults his family about the suitable woman he can choose as a

wife. When they agree on a specific girl, his mother and sisters visit her at and come back to describe the girl and tell the man about her advantages and beauty.

Following that, the "sebi" of the tribe (a man selected by the tribe members to manage their social affairs) goes to the family of the girl to tell them that someone desiring to get married into their daughter is coming to propose her hand. In relative families, there is no need of a sebi to go to the girl's family as the man's family can go and propose her hand alone.

The two families meet at the girl's house for the purpose of engagement. They agree on the dowry and assign the specific day of marriage. The day of engagement is called "al-medad" on which the man and the girl get engaged

officially and their families get together and invite other people to attend the engagement party. After the engagement, the man goes to prepare his room in order to receive his prospective wife and buys some jewelry for her depending on his ability.

Three days of continuous celebration

On the first day of wedding ceremony called "henna" day, men go to the groom's house while women go to the house of the bride. In the groom's house, men dance in a circle after the groom's family prepares a band to sing while people perform "sharh", i.e. dancing. The band consists of a woman to dance and performers of the musical instruments such as drum and clarinet. There are two kinds of sharh. The first one is called "Qutni" and the second is called "Dehifah". As some people are dancing, the others gather around the group of dancers and clap their hands in harmony. This session continues for the whole night.

In the bride's house, women gather on the first day of wedding ceremony to dance but they cannot see the bride's face as she is covered. The first person to see her uncovered is the groom at their first meeting. The other day, women gather around her since early morning and bring the "sabiha" (the bride's attendant who prepares her on the days of wedding). Women dance and sing, praising families of both the groom and the bride. The session continues until the evening.

On the second day which is called "harawah day", people who were invited gather at around nine o'clock in

the evening outside the groom's house. The groom comes out and sits on a chair while people dance around him in a circle. The Sabi comes holding water, soap and a comb. He washes the groom's hair and combs it. People dance in a circle while the sabi is washing and combing the groom's hair. Then the groom goes home to get dressed and mostly carries a stick and puts a shawl on his shoulder. Accompanied by the sabi, he goes out to meet people who wait for him again. At this time, the sabi collects money, called "Tarh", from all attendants to help the groom. When the sabi takes the money, he mentions the name of the person who gave the money and the sum of money he gave the groom. The aim of announcing names of people and the sums of money they grant is to encourage others to assist the groom. On the same day, women go to dance at the groom's house to receive the bride.

After they finish tarh, the groom's family selects some people to go and bring the bride to the groom's house. The selected people are called "harawah". Usually, father of the groom selects a man from every tribe in the area. This process aimed in the past to prevent highway men from intercepting the harawah way.

When the groom and the people who go with him arrive at the bride's house, the bride's family and their guests of relatives line up to receive them and shake hands. They have supper together and when they finish, they take the bride to the car allocated to carry the couple to their new nest. The bride is accompanied by a group of women



While the groom prepares for Al-Saherh Al-Henna'a party, men gather and sing to live up Al-Saherh. Then the men put henna on the groom at the end of the night.

called "rawakeb" who accompany her until she reaches the groom's house. When they arrive in the groom's house, the Rawakeb prepare the bride's stuff in her room. The groom's family serves sweet to the attendants. The Sabiah comes into the bride's room to uncover her face after the groom pays some money to the bride and shakes hands with his mother-in-law.

In the morning of the third day called "Sabha", people come to congratulate the groom on his getting together with his bride and stay until they have lunch. Women also go to the bride to congratulate her and see her face as this is the first time to see her uncovered since the first day of wedding

ceremony. They sing and dance until the evening with every two women dancing together. Wearing the bridal gown, the bride performs a special dancing called "Naeesh" in which she waves her hair. The bride tries her best to prolong Naeesh as it is an indicator of her strength. The party continues till late at night and the wedding ceremonies end. The eighth day of marriage is called "Khatrah" day on which the couple are invited to bride's house where they have lunch with relatives.

Curtsey of Hadramout Government website: www.hadramaut.info



Her father and relatives of the bride come one after the other and take the scissors to cut a little bit of the bride's hair

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Disney

Kawkaban: a city of silver and stone

By: Saddam Al-Ashmouri
For the Yemen Times

Perched on top of a mountain, the ancient city of Kawkaban is one of the most outstanding historical sites and most unassailable fortresses in Yemen.

The city, founded on Al-Dhil'a Mountain 45 kilometers to the North West of Sana'a, was the metropolis of the religious intellectual Sharaf Al-Din during the fifteenth century. Kawkaban's history dates back over ten centuries and it was the capital of many Yemeni kingdoms in the past. In every corner, the city retains tell-tale signs of its great history.

As in the case of many of Yemen's ancient cities, a huge wall encloses the ancient city of Kawkaban from one side, while natural barriers protect it from the other. Kawkaban has the appearance of a house with only one door, and the sole gate through which one can enter the city, Bab Al-Hadid, is part of the Al-Qashlah castle which was built during the ottoman rule in Yemen at the end of the 19th century.

According to Abdullah Ali Al-Tawili, a prominent local in Kawkaban, the city's original architecture has been preserved throughout the years and acts as witness of Yemen's great historical heritage. The Al-Mansoor Mosque, built by Imam Abdullah Bin Hamza approximately ten centuries ago, and the Kawkaban fortress are two of the city's most famous historical sites which overlook the city's mountain.

The Kawkaban fortress has been mentioned in the books of several Arab historians such as Abi Al-Hassan Al-Hamadani and Yaqt Al-Humawi who



A huge wall encloses the ancient city of Kawkaban from one side, while natural barriers protect it from the other.

the Ottoman occupation. The city's great architecture was an ideal structure of defense system in the Yemenis' war against occupation.

In the castle, a huge wooden gate covered with copper, shelters for archers and an underground tunnel from the castle to the center of the city ensured the city's defense.

The castles and fortresses of the city reflect its military importance since the Hemitite age. The city was used as a fortress and a store for crops, and both the Ayyobite and the A'amiria kingdoms used the city as a fortress before the Ottomans invaded Yemen and seized the city.

The city was an important center for poetry, religion, arts and literature in the past and, nowadays, many contemporary religious scholars renowned for

Originally called Hais, the city then came to be known as Shibam after Shibam Ibn Abdullah Ibn Hishm Bin Hashed, a famous Yemeni religious intellectual who once lived in the city.

According to historians, Shibam Kawkaban dates back to the seventh century BC. Its name was mentioned in victory carvings by Yemeni king Karb Eel Watar Bin Dhamar Ali according to which Shibam Kawkaban was part of the Nishin Kingdom ruled by the Sabaites.

Features of past Yemeni civilization can be observed in the city's mountain caves, the old dams and terraces surrounding the city.

The city's temple, on top of the Al-Lou Mountain, is considered to be one of its most important landmarks. Recently-discovered carvings on the walls of modern buildings have indicated that there were originally two temples on top of the mountain, named after the ancient goddesses Athter and Al-Muqah. Remnants of footpaths indicate that there was a stone road linking the city with the two temples, now called Aqabat Kawkaban.

The graveyards in Shibam Kawkaban, still visible today, were artistically carved into the rock face with a huge stone gate leading to rooms for the belongings of the dead.

The wall of Shibam Kawkaban dates back to the ninth century AD. Historian Qutb Al-Deen Al-Nahrawani described this wall as "a fence of mud, as strong as steel" before the ottoman invasion of the city led by Sinan Basha in the sixteenth century. Of the wall's four gates, only the gate of Bab Al-Medina remains today.

Beside Shibam Kawkaban's ancient features, old Islamic architecture also showcases the city's great history. A number of the city's mosques and shrines date back to the middle ages, such as the Grand Mosque built in the third century AH when Shibam was the metropolis of the Al-Yafariah kingdom. Its architecture and style are similar to those of the Grand Mosque in Sana'a, considered to be one of the first mosques built in Yemen after the

advent of Islam.

The Shibam Samsarah [caravansera] is an old three-storey building which was once a governmental complex and features an old path room dating back to the ninth century AD.

Between the fifteenth and eighteenth centuries, Shibam Kawkaban was a commercial center for the coffee trade and, between 1538 and 1653, the city was an administrative center for the first period of Ottoman rule.

Shibam is considered to be a major tourist site in Yemen because of its historical significance. Tourists from different parts of the world travel to it to wander in the city's old markets, admire its architecture and discover the ancient silver and coral handicrafts and traditional daggers or jambias it has to offer.



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said the fortress was called Kawkaban because "its palace was built of silver and stones". The interior of the palace was decorated with corundum and jewels and, at night, the palace resembled planets, hence the name Kawkaban.

The residents of the Kawkaban take pride in the fact that their city was a center for Yemeni resistance against

their knowledge, tolerance and openness are originally from Kawkaban.

Shibam Kawkaban

Although the City of Shibam Kawkaban belongs in its name to Kawkaban, it is connected with Kawkaban City only through a series of stony stepladders.

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