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Local press rumors cause earthquake panic

By: Nadia Al-Sakkaf

SANA'A, Oct. 22 — Rumors of strong earthquakes up to 7 degrees on the Richter scale in the Gulf of Aden, Marib, Dhamar and Taiz governorates last Sunday have caused panic among people living in those areas and disturbed their daily lives.

Lutfi Bana, a mathematics teacher who teaches seventh to ninth grade students in a private school in Hadda, said that some of his pupils were scared by the news and kept asking about the earthquake.

"Some students told me that they had heard the earthquake was so strong that it would cause a gap between the cities of Aden and Taiz," the teacher remarked.

Older students were no better: Yousif Turais, a secondary level English teacher, said his students were anxious and enquired repeatedly about the to-be devastating earthquake.

In fact, some families in Aden and Dhamar left their homes that day in fear of the expected earthquake.

"The story started over two months ago when an article was published in the national newspaper Al-Thawra, in which a center I have never heard of for astronomy, minerals and oil predicted strong earthquakes of 7 Richter. The next day we published an article in the newspaper denying any of that news," said Jamal



Jamal Sholan, director of the National Seismology Observatory Center (NSOC)

Sholan, director of the National Seismology Observatory Center (NSOC) based in Dhamar.

The news was republished in different Yemeni media on several occasions, each time with a new location suggested for the so-called devastating earthquake.

Ibtisam Shaiban, 24 years old from Dhamar, now living in Sana'a, said her uncle's family was talking about another earthquake to happen at the end of the month in Dhamar. Some families have already secured arrangements to move to the local school's yard, the safest place in the area, in the event of a tremor.

"It is the families with old homes that are the ones most cared for, because they feel their homes would collapse on them if an earthquake took place. Were it to take place, the earthquake supposedly forecast for the end of the month would be as catastrophic as the 1982 Dhamar earthquake," she said.

Getting the facts right

Sholan was dismayed at the rumors, especially as they were spread by the media who he accused of fomenting panic among the people. Although he admitted that there had been a slight

earthquake on Sunday, he stressed that it had been no more than 4 degrees Richter.

"The point is that you cannot predict the time, intensity or location of an earthquake to the extent that is being spread around by the media. It is scientifically impossible," he said.

He added that, if there were any news of such events, the NSOC -which he leads and which is the official scientific body responsible for seismology observation in the country- would announce it on its website www.nsoc.org.ye and alert all concerned bodies such as the Disaster Management Unit at the Civil Defense Authority, the local councils, the Ministry of Interior and Yemen's various governors.

He assured that, since Yemen's worst earthquake which occurred in 1982 killing thousands and leaving another thousand homeless, there hadn't been a significant earthquake to date. Although some Yemeni areas do witness regular seismic events due to the region's tectonic geological structure, they are in the range of 2.5 and 4 degrees on the Richter scale, which is considered moderate and not harmful.

"A group from the Civil Defense went to check any casualties and damages when the latest earthquake took place at 10:30 PM on Sunday in the Bani Salama area about 42 kilometers northwest of Dhamar city, but, despite local fears, nothing had happened at all," Sholan explained.

He also explained that people living in the higher floors of multi-storey houses could feel an earthquake more strongly than those below, and added that it is very important to build homes according to the Seismic Code provided by NSOC to ensure the buildings' resistance to earthquakes.

"I have called on the authorities more than once to apply the code when giving construction permits. It is not the earthquakes that kill people, it is the buildings," he concluded.

The center recorded 2,485 seismic events in 2005 - 943 on Yemeni regional lands and 1,342 in Gulf of Aden and Red Sea territorial waters, in addition to 200 seismic events outside the above-mentioned regions. The civil report said Yemen had experienced extensive seismic activity during 2005 compared to previous years in regions like Sana'a, Hajja, Al-Mahwit, Al-Baidha, Yafa and Sa'ada.

Yemen's child mortality rate drops

By: Mahmoud Assamiee

SANA'A, Oct. 21 — The mortality rate for children under five years old in Yemen decreased from 102 to 78 per 1000 cases during the seven years up to 2006, according to results of a survey by the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) released on Sunday.

The MICS results, announced at a workshop held at the Ministry of Public Health and Population, also reveal that the mortality rate among newborns has dropped to 37 per 1000 in comparison to 69 per 1000 during the five years before the survey. Fifty percent of newborn mortality in Yemen occurs during the first month of age.

The study, which was carried out by the Ministry of Public Health and Population's Information and Research Department with support from the United Nation Children's Fund (UNICEF) and Pan-Arab Project for Family Health in 2006, showed that 68 percent of Yemeni children attend school at the appropriate age.

Conducted upon directions of the World Health Organization (WHO) toward achieving the health-related Millennium Development Goals, the study indicated that 28 percent of married women use contraceptives or birth-control and 47 percent of women receive health care during pregnancy, but only 24 of them deliver at health centers.

The results show that the fertility rate in Yemen is 5, 2 deliveries to every woman. They show that the fertility rate in rural areas is higher than in urban areas, with six and four deliveries average in these areas respectively.

The survey also reveals that 59 percent of Yemenis use improved water resources -74 percent in urban areas and 52 percent in rural areas- and that 52 percent of Yemenis live in houses with improved sanitation facilities while 31 percent lack this basic service.

"The survey has significant importance in the short term and long term planning process, in setting up the fourth five-year plan and updating national health indicators," said Abd Al-Karim Rase'a, Minister of Public Health and Population.

He said that this survey complemented the Family Health Survey car-



Children's health in Yemen has improved relatively because of the improving facilities although mal-nutrition and child mortality in Yemen is considered of the highest in the world.

ried out by the ministry in 2003 and 2004, and showed the positive results of his ministry's efforts to reduce the rate of child mortality and increase the number of women taking part in family planning in Yemen.

UNICEF's representative in Yemen Abdo Karim Adbjawi delivered a speech in which he indicated the importance of health indicators for preparing programs to protect children and called for enhancing the monitoring process on such programs.

Speaking to the Yemen Times, Director General of Information and Research Department in the ministry Abdul-Jabbar al-Ghaithi stated that these surveys are improving mother and child health and reducing mortality rates among them.

According to al-Ghaithi, the ministry will use these results in future programs to reduce fertility rates, curb child and mother mortality, and provide better access to healthcare to all citizens.

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Plans to reduce traffic congestion in Taiz

By: Salah Alwarafy
For the Yemen Times

TAIZ, Oct. 21 — Authorities of Taiz Governorate have made plans to ease traffic congestion in the main streets through limiting the number of motorcyclists and street vendors as well as move popular markets "suqs" to the outskirts of the city.

Taiz is one of the most populated cities in the republic, as it has more than three million inhabitants. The number of motorcycles in Taiz is estimated at about 5400, all of which are used as public transport. According to local traffic officers, motorcycles cause hazards on the streets mainly because of reckless driving.

The new law prohibits motorcyclists who do not have license plates, issued from the governorate, from driving within the city.

The law also prohibits driving motorcycles after 8pm in order to reduce noise pollution.

In his meeting with the staff of the Taiz Traffic Administration (TTA) in Taiz last Saturday, Abdulkadar Hatim, Deputy Governor for Financial and Technical Affairs, urged the TTA to deal firmly with any violators, confirming that the leadership of the governorate would back them up in solving traffic congestion.

"Motorcycles have become a source of fear to all, and because there are campaigns against motorcyclists in the other governorates, motorcyclists have moved to our city", Hatim said.

Fortunately, the plan also solves the problem of street vendors, and organizes the 'suqs' of the city in a way to reduce rush-hour traffic.

Shawqi Ahmad Hael, Chairman of



There are at least 5400 motorcycles in Taiz which caused traffic congestion and many traffic accidents.

Planning and Financial Committee in the Local Council, confirms the determination of the governorate, "Vegetable and fruit markets will be organized in the city, and certain places will be allocated to the vendors."

Hael called on the TTA to take firm action against law breakers, which do not have official plates and do not comply with the rules of driving motorcycles in the limited times. He also called on the Security Administration of Taiz Governorate to back The TTA in enforcing the law.

"The law does not allow motorcyclists to commercially transport people; but considering the difficult situation of livelihood, we allow them to work under certain conditions and public decencies", said Hael.

"We will provide the TTA with the basic and necessary requirements which enhance their duties", said Hael, adding "We will also provide the traffic officers with motorcycles and cell phones."

Although these efforts aim to reduce heavy traffic in the city of Taiz, there are people who will suffer such as the motorcyclists, vendors, Qat sellers, and greengrocers, who are the breadwinners in their families. However, some of the people who use motorcycles for transport admit that they would rather have a safer and less noisy city rather than motorcycles as cheap public transport. "If the law will organize traffic, I support it. I don't mind taking the bus instead," said Omar Al-Qubati a local resident of Taiz.

Government housing project to assist youth

By: Mahmoud Assamiee

SANA'A, Oct. 21 — The Ministry of Public Works and Roads (MPWR) is preparing a three year project to construct 18,000 housing units for citizens of limited income and government employees, at a total cost of YR 75 billion.

According to Qasem Atef, Director General of Housing Department in the MPWR, the project will provide more than 50,000 work opportunities, a matter that will not only help alleviate poverty but will also aid young couples who want to get married to find a house and start a family.

The project, says Atef, will assist a large number of public employees, who are unable to get married because of high rents and low income. Once the project is completed, the units are to be distributed to deserving people via local authorities.

Major cities in Yemen such Aden, Sana'a, Taiz and Hodeidah are heavily populated and it is difficult for young people to find an affordable house or apartment to rent in them. This is often an obstacle that forces young couples to postpone their marriage.

While most Yemeni people are very poor, marriage in Yemen is a costly endeavor because of high dowry and the customs accompanying a wedding. Some parents also impose very difficult conditions to marry off their daughters, among these the conditions that the bridegroom must first own a house or a flat.

The first phase of the Assaleh Project will cost YR 27 billion and is expected to be completed within 18 to 24 months from the date of handing over lands to contractors.



A blue print of how the residential areas that would include 18,000 unites for citizens of limited income and government employees

The units will be distributed among nine governorates: Aden, Lahj, Hodeida, Adhale'a, Hajjah, Hadramout, Abyan, Taiz and the capital Sana'a.

According to Atef, Aden received a greater portion of the units, amounting to 2,000 because it is heavier populated and receives migrants from different parts of the country. Sana'a and Taiz follow with 1,000 units each.

Atef says the greater part of the financing comes from the ministry's budget while the rest is from project's partners, insurance and pension authorities, and the Credit Agricultural Cooperative Bank.

He indicated that construction has already started in the governorates of Aden, Hodeida, Lahj and Hajjah where sites have already been handed over to

contractors who have received the 20 percent of the funds for starting the construction process. Construction in the other governorates is to be started as soon as land issues are settled.

The project will be constructed in the form of housing compounds of 5-storey buildings of 20 units each, four on each floor. Each unit, costing about YR 4.6 million, is to have an area ranging from 75 to 105 square meters.

The units will be distributed to individuals in employment on the basis of recommendations from local authorities in the governorates according to need. According to Atef, those chosen will pay for the units by installments to be deducted from their salaries over a period of 20 to 25 years, after which they will receive a document of possession to the unit.

Yemen exempts Egyptian migrant workers from over-stay fees

By: Salma Ismail

SANA'A, Oct. 20 — In tandem with efforts to further promote bilateral relations between Egypt and Yemen, Yemen has agreed that it will exempt Egyptians in Yemen from migrant worker over-stay fees.

According to Najwa Ahmed Ibrahim, labor consultant with the Egyptian embassy in Sana'a, "In the framework of promoting the Yemeni-Egyptian relations and the equal treatment of citizens on a bilateral level, the move is expected to lessen the financial burden on Egyptians who fail to get their visa within the allowed period of three months."

Ibrahim said that she had been aggressively pushing for this decision as part of her efforts towards getting Egyptian workers in Yemen to be treated the same way that Yemeni workers are treated in Egypt.

Egyptians entering the country do not require a visa and are allowed to stay for three months. After the three month period expires, the migrant over-stay fees were YR 150 [roughly USD 0.75] per day. Although there are no clear figures as to the number of Egyptian migrants in Yemen, Ibrahim said that the majority of them are in the medical field. She adds, "It has not been possible to assess the number of Egyptians in Yemen because no clear statistics have been conducted by the Yemen authorities and Egyptians do not require a visa to enter the country."

According to Ibrahim, the move is expected to better the working conditions for Egyptians that are already in Yemen and Egyptian women who marry Yemeni nationals, rather than to encourage more Egyptians to seek work in the country.

Tarek Al-Sayyad, an Egyptian nation-

al that has been working in Yemen for the past 10 years, said, "With this exemption, Egyptians are now being treated the same way Yemenis in Egypt are."

Ibrahim explained that she is currently working on several projects to ease the life of Egyptians working in Yemen, among them the personal insurance of medical practitioners working in the country and the recognition of cheaper Egyptian-based HIV/AIDS tests for Egyptian workers that want to travel to Yemen.

The Egyptian labor consultant, whose primary tasks entails resolving the issues faced by Egyptians workers, recommended that a copy of the work contract set out by the Yemeni Labor Law No.5 of 1991 be further circulated, and eventually adopted by Yemeni companies to greatly reduce the problems their employers and employees encounter.

Egypt's Minister of Workforce and

Social Affairs Ayesha Abdel Hadi recently said that the step marked the culmination of the bilateral relationship between the two countries. She added that the future would see this cooperation progress with delegations and committees from both sides exchanging visits to discuss issues and experiences in relation to professional training and safety.

Egyptian ambassador to Sana'a Mohamed Mursi recently affirmed, to Yemeni Deputy Foreign Minister Mohi al-Deen al-Dhabi, his country's keenness on strengthening bilateral relations.

Mutual relations between the two countries are governed by an integrated legal framework which organizes cooperation in all fields. The historically strong Yemeni-Egyptian associations played a fundamental role in supporting Yemen during the 1962 revolution, with Egypt being the first country to open an embassy in Yemen.

To Whom It May Concern

Qarnaw for Oilfield Services would like to announce that Anisa Shamshir Ali, a Yemeni national, no longer works for the company and is in no way connected to it. She was dismissed from her post and no longer has the authority to act on behalf of Qarnaw for Oilfield Services.

We hereby inform all Yemeni and Foreign oil companies operating in Yemen that the company will have no responsibility for any deals with the above mentioned person under the company's name as of the date of this ad.



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Extension announcement of the envelope opening of bid number 20/ 2008

The TV and Radio General Corporation announces the extension of the envelope opening date: bid number (20) for year 2008 for Renting a Lunar Satellite Channel to broadcast Yemen's Satellite Channel in addition to the general Radio-one and Radio-two programs to Asia, North America and Europe until **Wednesday (5/11/2008) as the envelopes will be opened at 11:00 AM of the same date at the corporation premises.**



The TV and Radio General Corporation

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The TV and Radio General Corporation

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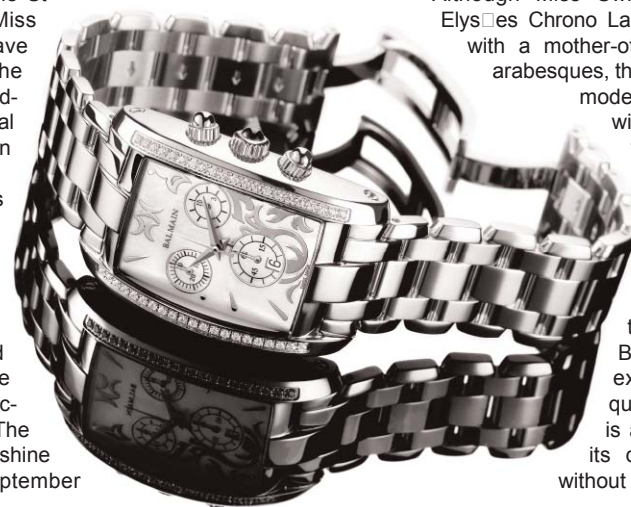
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For the fourth year in a row, Miss Switzerland will light up homes throughout Switzerland, wearing a Balmain watch. In the evening of 27 September, the new beauty queen will be presented with an Elysées Chrono Lady and at the same time will become ambassador for the St-Imier brand.

Some love affairs never stop producing sparks. And one of these is without doubt the idyll between Balmain watches and the most beautiful women in Switzerland. Since 2005, the St-Imier brand and the Miss Switzerland pageant have been intertwined with the utmost happiness. No wedding ring on the finger to seal their union, but a watch on the wrist.

The Balmain designers present an exclusive model at each pageant as a way of celebrating beauty, aestheticism, prestige and charm. Lauriane Gillieron, Christa Rigozzi and Amanda Ammann have already become more attractive by wearing a Balmain. The new Miss Switzerland will shine even more on 27 September



adorned with the new model from the Elysées collection, the Elysées Chrono Lady.

The Elysées collection has already been behind the Maison's reputation for about ten years, by making its mark on man- and womankind. This new chrono symbolises perfectly the qualities of the Misses just as well as those of modern women: elegant, independent, urbane, active and refined.

Although Miss Switzerland only wears one Elysées Chrono Lady, set with diamonds and with a mother-of-pearl dial enhanced with arabesques, there are no less than thirteen models in the entire collection with quartz workings: with or without inset diamonds, silvered, dark grey or mother-of-pearl and arabesque dials, steel, white leather or anthracite satin straps.

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Elysees Chrono Lady ساعة

دار بالمان ومملكة جمال سويسرا: عشق متبادل للجمال الإستثنائي

تشترك ملكة جمال سويسرا، وللسنة الرابعة على التوالي، عبر كافة أجهزة التلفاز السويسرية مساء يوم ٢٧ سبتمبر/أيلول وهي ترتدي ساعة **Elysees Chrono Lady** التي تضفي جمالا على جمال الملكة، لتصبح سفيرة جديدة لماركة **St-Imier** العالمية.

هذا العشق المتبادل للجمال ما بين دار بالمان الرائدة في صناعة الساعات الراقية وملكات الجمال السويسرية ليس وليد الساعة. فالتلاحم الجمالي لساعات بالمان وأجمل جميالات سويسرا يتواصل منذ العام ٢٠٠٥ حيث اتحد جمال ساعات **St-Imier** ومملكة جمال سويسرا حينها بسعادة يعجز الكلام عن وصفها. عشق يوحد ليس مجرد خاتم زفاف في الأصبع، بل ساعة فاخرة على معصم اليد.

إنطلاقاً من هذا الواقع، يعمل مصمموا دار بالمان على ابتكار تصاميم إستثنائية تتناغم وجمال كل ملكة سويسرية تقديراً منهم لمبادئ الجمال الراقية، واحتراماً لمركزهم الجمالي والسحر المميز للملكات: **Amanda Lauriane Gillieron, Christa Rigozzi and Ammann**

لتضفي جاذبية وجمالاً لدى ارتدائهم ساعات بالمان الفريدة. هذا التناغم الجمالي سوف يسعد به المشاهدون مجدداً مساء ٢٧ سبتمبر/أيلول مع إطلالة ملكة جمال سويسرا الجديدة وهي ترتدي الموديل الإستثنائي الجديد من

تشكيلة ساعات **Elysees**: ساعة **Elysees Chrono Lady**. ما يجدر ذكره هو أن تشكيلة ساعات **Elysees** قد لعبت دوراً هاماً في الشهرة العالمية التي حققتها دار بالمان لمدة ١٠ سنوات في مجال صناعة الساعات الراقية للرجال والسيدات. والموديل الجديد يعكس بجدارة سحر وجمال الملكات وكل سيدة عصرية تنقسم بالنشاط، والأناقة، والإستقلالية، والنزق الرفيع.

وبالرغم من ارتداء ملكة جمال سويسرا لموديل **Chrono Lady Elysees** المصنع بالالماس مع ميناء مصنوع من عرق اللؤلؤ وزخرفة عربية، توفر دار بالمان تشكيلة من الموديلات التي تعمل بالكوارتز لا تقل عن ١٣ موديل: موديلات مرصعة بالالماس أو غير مرصعة، مع موانئ تقسم

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وكما هي الحال في كافة موديلاتها، تتفخر دار بالمان بتوفير النوعية والتصميم السويسري المميز في كل موديل جديد تنتجه بما في ذلك الجمال الداخلي لكل منها. إنها فلسفة تتمحور حول التجدد الدائم في ابتكار

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1. OVERVIEW

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Output 2: Outcome Reviews of the different WFP interventions are conducted twice a year including meaningful, fact-based assessments of progress towards expected outcomes.
Output 3: all relevant information with regard to monitoring progress towards WFP-Yemen outcomes and outputs is updated and easily accessible.
Output 4: WFP-Yemen staff, especially programme unit staff, is offered information, training and relevant know-how on issues related to monitoring and evaluation of the relevant WFP interventions.
Output 5: a mid-term review and an evaluation of the different WFP interventions are prepared in accordance to the length of the respective projects.

3. EXPECTED OUTCOME

The expected outcome of the work of the M&E specialist with the WFP Programme Unit will be a significant improvement in the capacity of WFP to strategically plan and monitor its programmes in Yemen and hence increase its overall effectiveness, efficiency and impact. This will be achieved through the development of a technically sound M&E Framework supported by reliable qualitative and quantitative data, and enhanced inter-agency coordination and training.

4. COMPETENCIES

Technical Competencies:

- ¥ outstanding understanding of tools and techniques for monitoring of development programmes
- ¥ firm knowledge of result-based management, the logical framework analysis and the result chain
- ¥ extensive understanding of quantitative and qualitative data collection and analysis, including technical knowledge and practical experience of survey design and implementation rapid assessment procedures, participatory approaches
- ¥ understanding of the approach of the United Nations (WFP) to monitoring and evaluating progress;
- ¥ understanding and experience with design and management of evaluation processes, including with multiple stakeholders
- ¥ understanding of gender considerations
- ¥ understanding of Results Based Management (RBM) principles

Recruitment Qualifications

Education: University degree in one or more of the following disciplines: economics, agriculture, international affairs, business administration, social sciences, development studies or a field relevant to international development assistance.

Experience: At least three years experience with monitoring and/or evaluations. Experience must primarily relate to programme management or the management of M&E frameworks and/or strategic plans. Formal training in M&E is a strong asset.

Language: Fluency in both written and oral English and Arabic.

Applications must be received by the deadline and only short-listed candidates shall be contacted.
(Snr. Programme Assistant (Monitor & Evaluation Vacancy, YEM07/PRG/004 at the following address: WFP Sana'a , Villa No.22-Nwakshut St. No. 21, Diplomatic Area , P.O.Box 7181, Republic of Yemen, wfp.sanaa@wfp.org

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- Administer scholarship programs offered by AMIDEAST, including promotion, file collection and processing, interviews, testing, selection, pre-departure program orientations; and candidate support for all nominees with particular attention to supporting the needs of young and first-time applicants;
- Organize and conduct outreach and information sharing programs to varied public and private groups throughout Yemen about scholarship and exchange programs;
- Communicate with U.S. institutions, U.S. Department of State counterparts, foreign organizations, and AMIDEAST offices;
- Assure that standardized tests for scholarship candidates are delivered in a professional and transparent manner and assist with exam administration as necessary;
- Research non-USG scholarship options (such as university-funded scholarships) and promote them; and
- Maintain and track billing of scholarship programs and liaise with the office accountant to assure that accurate billings and invoices are issued and collected.

Application Requirements:

- ▶ Bachelor's degree in any field of study;
- ▶ Strong Arabic and English skills (over 550 on ITP TOEFL);
- ▶ Minimum two years' work experience;
- ▶ Proficiency with Microsoft Windows and Microsoft Office applications;
- ▶ Strong written and oral communications and public presentation skills;
- ▶ Ability to work flexible hours and is team oriented; and
- ▶ Preferred: Study abroad experience.

To apply, submit the following documents by November 5, 2008

- ✓ Resume;
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- ✓ ITP or iBT TOEFL scores (no more than two years' old);
- ✓ Two written references; and
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Driving Halal in America

By: Shaker Lashuel
For the Yemen Times

The phone rang and Fouad Alghaithi quickly picked it up to answer; "United Cab Service," he said with confidence. With one hand holding the phone and the other reaching for the pen, Fouad listened to the request of the caller and began to write the address on the piece of paper in front of him. He told the caller that the car would be in front of the caller's house in five to ten minutes. As the dispatcher of this work shift, Fouad then picked up his other cell phone and called one of the drivers working for his company. Fouad's company owns four cars and makes good money for him and the drivers. He hopes to expand it in order to take a bigger share of the car transportation business in the San Francisco area. Like a smart business-

man, Fouad is conservative with his estimates and very careful with his numbers. He talks about expanding his company to ten cars for now but he also talked admiringly about another Palestinian-American car owner who has almost 40 cars working for him.

Liquor Salary

Fouad's first job in U.S. was working in shops. He was not used to this kind of job in Yemen, but after arriving in the U.S. he realized how limiting and confining the stores were. More than that, Fouad loathed working at the counter in front of shelves of liquor bottles. He did not consider his money halal; it was a liquor salary. Halal money is that which comes from doing honest work and has nothing to do with selling beer or pork which is forbidden to consume or sell in Islam. In 1998, one of Fouad's Arab friends who was driving a cab led him through the process of getting a license. Before long,

Fouad was driving part time, and working in a grocery store part time. He was still learning the ropes and the roads. Fouad, a fast learner, began to pick up the language and navigation skills and soon driving became a full time work for him.

Halal Money

He is proud of his move, "it was good money, free hours and the best thing it was halal," he said with a smile. Fouad's pride is well deserved. He was one of the first Yemenis to drive cabs in the San Francisco area and never hesitated to share what he had learned with other Yemenis who saw his success and joined him. He made it his job to help the ones who wanted to leave the stores for the halal money, the flexibility and freedom driving a cab provided them. Fouad began to describe how he used to help others when his phone rang again. He ended the phone call and Abdulilah Alshaief, Fouad's brother-in-law who



Abdulilah Alshaief, Fouad's brother-in-law who works part time with him, stood up to leave the gathering and go wait for one of Fouad's dispatch.

works part time with him, stood up to leave the gathering and go wait for one of Fouad's dispatch. The phone kept ringing which meant the streets were busy and Abdulilah was going to get a piece of the action. We wished him luck as he left.

Lake Misa'd or Lake Merced

Fouad continued, "We had a hard time with the older drivers because they did not know the language, we had to use names of places they know from back home, and symbols for letters." We used codes like mathallah (umbrella) for "J" and gave areas names that sounded familiar to them so Lake Merced became "Lake Misa'd." Mohamed Albadany added, he "had to learn the Yemeni names because all the Yemeni drivers used them." Mohamed, a college student, took a semester off from school to make extra money to pursue a pharmaceutical degree. For Mohamed too, driving a cab in the San Francisco

area and making halal money away from the confinement of stores is worth the risk and difficulties involved with driving in a busy city like San Francisco.

Finding a New Way

Fouad had crossed the line that kept many Yemenis working in the grocery and liquor stores and because of his move many others followed. Along with Fouad's brothers and relatives, friends whom he grew up with in Yemen like Ahmed Abdulrab, and Abdullah Alfageeh also joined his company. Some of them work with him part time, some rent cars from him while others use their own cars.

Content with Halal

Ahmed and Abdullah are content and happy working as cab drivers for now. They are content with the fact that the money is halal and that they have full control over their working days. They decide

when to begin their working day, when to end it, when to go pray and when to go nap. For many young Yemenis who do not have their businesses the choice is between the "store or the cab" according to Abdullah. For Abdullah, Fouad, Ahmed the choice is obvious. Fouad is excited about building his new business and finding a niche in the bay area, while Abdullah, Ahmed and Mohamed are simply happy having freed themselves from standing in stores and surrounded by shelves filled with liquor bottles. They navigate the streets and freeways of San Francisco making the right turns living guilt free knowing that they are driving halal.

Shaker Lashuel is a freelance writer based in the United States of America. His writings have focused on Yemeni, and Yemeni-American issues. He can be reached by e-mail yalnet@yahoo.com



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Another failure! Why?

By: Ahmad Al-Haj

As usual, the ruler misses another opportunity while Yemen lost one of the most important strategic security and military projects, which, if exploited well, would have been the base of a strong infrastructure for Yemen's marine troops and coast guards. Such a precious opportunity is represented by a European-American project aimed at establishing forces to fight piracy in the Aden Gulf with Yemen's coast guards getting the biggest share in the project.

Had it been exploited well, this project would have helped Yemeni troops to improve their security and militaristic skills, which they have been lacking for a long time period because of either the destructive wars that took place in Yemen or mismanagement and the lack of the criteria of competence and experience when selecting military and security commanders to occupy sensitive posts in their institutions.

Until the past month, the Europeans, the U.S., Japan and Malaysia have been talking with the Yemeni government about the role Yemen's coast guards could play in fighting piracy activities in the Aden Gulf in cooperation with international troops serving in the region.

During a meeting with senior Yemeni government officials on last Sept. 10, ambassadors of EU states and the U.S. raised the issue of piracy in the Aden Gulf. They were inspiring for an integrated project in order for donor states to accept any funding proposals submitted by Yemen to contain any threats arising from piracy activities spreading in the Aden Gulf and Somali coasts.

The proposal submitted by the Yemeni side, represented by Deputy Prime Minister Dr. Rashad Al-Alimi, along with ministers of interior,

defense and transportation, and other senior military and security officials, was disappointing.

The proposal focused on the establishment of four security centers, topped by a main center to be based in Sana'a while its affiliate branches are based in Aden, Hodeida and Mukalla. It stated that a specific budget should be allocated for establishing a joint operation control room, plus the establishment of troops from Yemen's coast guards and marine forces for any immediate intervention in piracy activities in cooperation with international troops in the region. According to the proposals, the entire region should be divided into smaller geographic areas where responsibilities must be determined in light of the capacity and facilities of each side.

Yemen's proposal limited to financial claims

Through its preliminary reading of the Yemeni proposal that was presented at a non-transparent meeting and lacked clear visions to address the real problem on the ground, the European-American side remarked that this proposal is limited to financial claims at the expense of studying feasibility of the project.

A western diplomat, who attended the event said, "I think that the proposal of coast guards lacks a real content, and we are not ready to repeat the same mistake."

A decisive response came from Brussels a few days ago after six European states including France, the current holder of EU presidency, decided to form special forces from their armies to combat piracy acts in the Aden Gulf and Somali coasts. Observers in Sana'a labeled this as a European-American ignorance of the Yemeni role in this regard while Sana'a considered this step as an international conspiracy against states of the region. Local media outlets quoted senior

politicians as saying that the visit, conducted by President Ali Abdullah Saleh to Jordan and Egypt, came amid growing concern and fears in Sana'a about an American-European plot, allegedly aimed at internationalizing the Red Sea and Aden Gulf after many European states declared their desire to establish forces to immediately intervene in combating piracy in the Red Sea and Aden Gulf.

The sources indicated that Saleh and Jordanian Monarch King Abdullah Bin Hussein held discussions in Amman in this regard, which confirms that the Yemeni government doesn't try to avoid mistakes and it continues to commit further mistakes by fabricating illogical pretexts and justifications.

At this point, it is true to say that Sana'a warned against piracy threats at an early time, and therefore submitted an official note thereon to UN Secretary General late in 2004 to help in combating the phenomenon. In 2005, states of the region held a meeting during which they suggested some possible solutions to the phenomenon and concluded the meeting with two long-term and short-term visions.

The first vision focused on the significance of security and intelligence cooperation between states of the region, exchange of information and launching preemptive attacks against any suspicious boats that may belong to pirates.

The second vision depend on long term solution, which aims to rehabilitate Somalia and enhance its security and stability through backing the state and law and order countrywide.

An agreement to combat piracy

In 2006, states of the region held a meeting in the Omani capital Muscat where participants reached an agreement to combat the phenomenon. At the event, Yemen submitted a memorandum of understanding

containing plans to resolve the phenomenon and suggested establishing a regional center in Sana'a. However, many states at the time did not show any interest in Yemen's proposal due to unclear reasons.

When dialogues with EU states and the U.S. were resumed recently, matters on the ground varied while Yemen should have dealt with the developments seriously in order to win trust of donors and get necessary funding for a great project with a total cost estimated at millions of dollars. I think it is time for donors to understand what is happening on the ground and put a stop to piracy activities in Yemen's territorial waters.

The calculations, prepared by the Yemeni government, were wrong and limited; however, this did not surprise politicians observing the same policy pursued by the government over the past years since the first suicide attack against the U.S. Cole Destroyer in October, 2000, and the subsequent terrorist operations that targeted the U.S. and other states.

The Yemeni government missed numerous opportunities and did not utilize the international support for fighting terrorism in favor of the public interest of the nation. It only proved to be using any international support for enhancing its own security and serving limited interests of western alliance states, most notably the U.S.

The most dangerous thing is that the government exploited the issue of fighting terrorism to extort the Americans in particular and the western community in general through holding the stick at the middle point in order to serve narrow internal political purposes. Consequently, this policy helped the government to mislead the international community and the Americans, particularly when it comes to dealing with Al-Qaeda Organization and any terrorist groups.

COMMON SENSE

The Palestine Problem and the US Elections (ii)

Before carrying on with the discussion of the ongoing demise in the West Bank and Gaza, one is bound to relate how increasing trends of gory violence tend to arise in parallel with the needs of the neo-conservatives in the United States to overshadow their follies at home and abroad. There is no question in this observer's mind and the minds of most astute Moslem observers and analysts that the gory violence displayed by the heretic gangs, which have the audacity to cloak their ugly deeds as part and parcel to Islamic doctrine is indeed part of an ugly agenda, the end of which is yet to be visualized. This convinces the observer more than anything that indeed these hoodlums born out of a covert cult of "fundamentalists" of the deserts of Nejd, Saudi Arabia and covertly financed by the petrodollars of the Saudi regime are part and parcel of the Zionist agenda and the right wing establishments of many a western state, especially the United States. The misconception of the neo cons in the United States that Zionism works hand in hand with Christian perceptions of the coming of Armageddon is as ungodly as the raping of the Holy Land in order to make good on the Divine promise of the Holy Land to the Jews, etc. Surely, with God associating Himself with Justice, Mercy, Compassion and other nomenclature of the Lord that go hand in hand with God, there would be no room for such devious and mischievous corruption of the doctrinaire espoused by true believers of the Lord, who truly believe that God would never allow any Divine doctrine to contradict with human nature and the instincts that guide human sentiment. It is inconceivable to regard the gangs of gory bloodshed, in all their "Islamic" manifestations, which have spread throughout the world, as being Islamic. This also goes for the ungodly association of Zionist demagogues with Judaism, or the naive connection of Armageddon with the eventual annihilation of all the believers of Judaism in the Holy Land. That all three "religious" heresies can coexist in our times defies any other explanation, other than their commonality of purpose and designs. There is no historical coincidence here, but rather one of the biggest play on spiritual emotions of man since the pharaohs of Egypt claimed to be the essence of the Devine and insisted that their subjects also become their worshippers. Another clear illustration of the heresy of these misconceptions of religious belief is that the "Moslem" version of these trilogy of Godless inclinations is that there is a powerful hierarchical and mysterious "clergy" that brainwashes its followers into adhering to their unalterable directions and religious doctrine, a great proportion of which represents the farthest distance from true Islamic creed and practice as close to fifteen centuries has undoubtedly shown.

Undoubtedly, Islam does not sanction the existence of a clergy acting on behalf of the Lord on Earth. Now, back to the facts on the ground: when analyzing the political developments of the United State, it is not hard to see the obvious failure of deviations from standard and digestible doctrinaire, as the latest economic demise has shown in the United States, and the obvious calamities of an incongruous foreign policy that regards power and might as solid grounds on which to base foreign policy. The trend in the United States has now gone to reflect some of the underpinnings of the "change" that is beginning to appear there, which is being promoted as the upcoming trend in foreign policy thinking in the years to come or that is depicting the need to deviate from the horrible directions that have characterized the past eight years of the Administration of President George "W." Bush. To start with, let us see why the Israelis are worrying about any possible change in US policy thinking. One can just read these links for a synopsis of the worried mood among Israeli thinkers: <http://www.slate.com/id/2201849/pagnum/2/> and http://www.jewcy.com/post/why_us_candidates_should_stop_talking_about_israel. As for American thinking, this can perhaps be shown by what Timothy Noah of www.slate.com calls as possible wishful thinking on the part of many democrats, who are prematurely smelling the sweet taste of victory: "The United States should give Israel an ultimatum to settle its squabble with the Arabs over the Palestinian problem in six months or else have all its aid from the United States cut off!", or something to that effect (the observer is unable at this time to find the link to the article.) Needless to say, the observer has noticed this trend in thinking and in fact expected it way back in the Bush years, counting on his long sojourn in the United States sometime back and the latter's continuous monitoring of American thinking and political developments. More on this to come.

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



By: Hassan Al-Haifi

Israeli strategy to occupy Bab Al-Mandab Strait

By: Najeeb Al-Ghurbani

The first President of the Zionist government David Goryon expressed his state's aspirations to control the Red Sea in 1949. He rather said, "We are besieged from land frontiers while sea is the only pas-

sage to the outside world and the only means for establishing communication with other continents."

The Zionist President indicated that development of Eilat will be a primary objective, which our efforts are progressing toward achieving it. The Arab states overlooking the Red Sea felt they are at risk, which is the main reason

why Egypt cooperated with Saudi Arabia in 1950 for the sake of granting numerous islands of strategic significance to the former in order to control entrance to Al-Aqaba Gulf.

The two islands, Teran and Sanafeer have become under the Egyptian military control with the aim of restricting the Israeli navigation activities. Such a

procedure was taken as part of a package of Arab actions to prevent expansion of the Israeli occupation, thereby leading to the three-side aggression against Egypt in 1956.

When Egypt imposed a blockade on the Zionist state by occupying the Al-Aqaba Gulf, which was the primary reason behind war against both Egypt and Syria in June 5, 1967. The Zionist state launched a wider military operation, via which it occupied other new Arab lands.

At that time, the Arab states overlooking the Red Sea realized the potential risk threatening their security and stability. They also realized how important the Red Sea is to the Arab strategy, particularly in the Bab Al-Mandab Strait, which constituted a vital location for serving as a point of contact between the Zionist State, and Africa and Southeast Asia.

During the time period 1970 - 1973, the Zionist State increased its activities in the Red Sea, thus posing a real threat to states of the region, while Yemen prepared itself within this time period as a party in the Arab-Israeli conflict. That was evident through a position adopted by the Yemeni policy during the wars that took place between the Arabs and Israel.

During a meeting at the Arab League, Yemen presented the Zionist activities along the Eritrean coastline and in the vicinity of Bab Al-Mandab Strait. As a result, the Arab League exerted precious efforts in this regard, thereby discovering that the Zionist State is renting from Ethiopia the Abu Al-Tair, Halib and Dahlak islands and the lease was

made in cooperation with the United States.

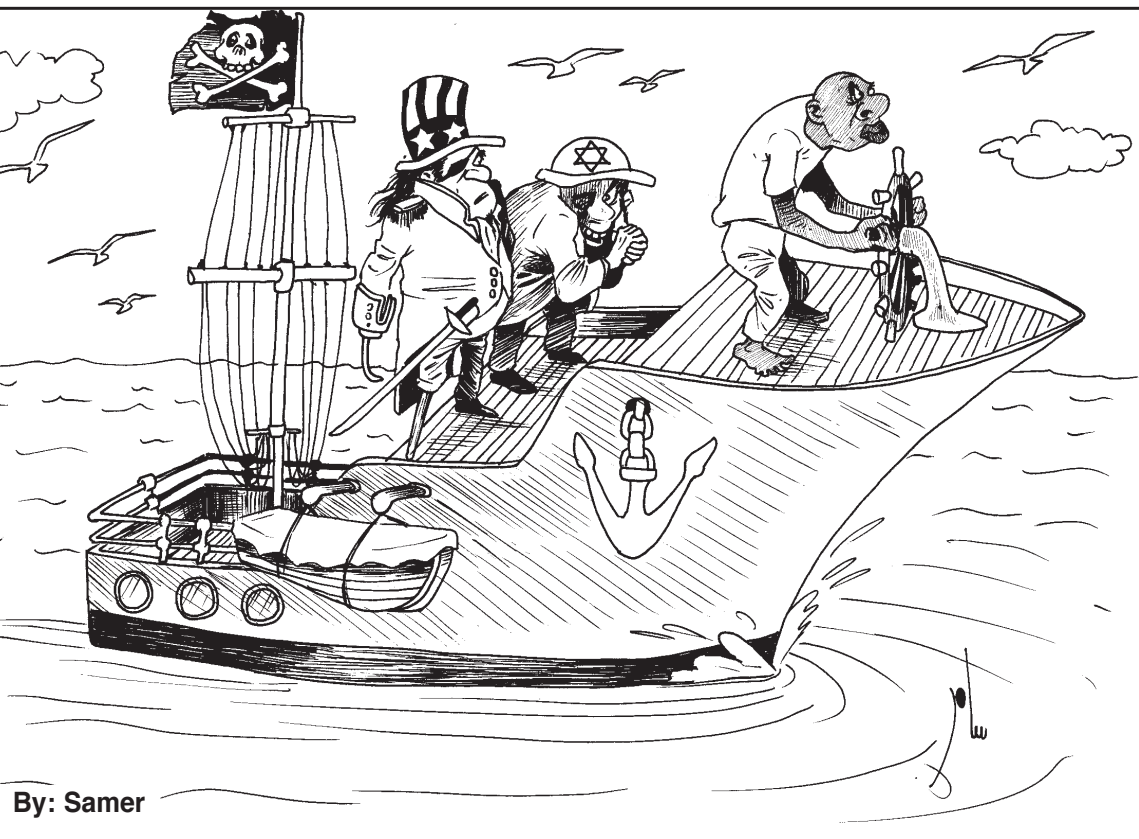
Yemen and other states overlooking the Red Sea were invited to a conference in the Saudi city of Jeddah on July 15, 1972 and on July 11, 1973 during which participants discovered an espionage network in the Tarim Island near Bab Al-Mandab Strait.

The espionage network was in charge of collecting information about southern entrance to the Red Sea and monitoring any Israeli ships, as well as protecting them and ensuring them safe

voyages through Bab Al-Mandab Strait.

On Oct. 6, 1973, the Egyptian and Syrian armies attacked Israel, and an Arab coordination was conducted for the first time in order to ensure the Arabs' right to embody their sovereignty over their territorial waters, most notably the Red Sea. That was also followed by closure of the Bab Al-Mandab Strait on the face of the Zionist state, and therefore Yemen sent troops to several islands in the Red Sea to prevent any an Israeli attempt aimed at occupying the islands.

SKETCHED OPINION



By: Samer

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Healing the Wounds of United Yemen

By: **Khaled Fattah**
Doctoral Candidate
University of St Andrews- UK

Like individuals, nations experience wounds and traumas. United Yemen is one of these nations that are struggling without success to recover and heal from multiple wounds inflicted by the 1994 civil war, bloody sectarian rebellions, terrorist attacks, violent economic riots, separation calls, social unrest, and aggressive penetration of domestic life by external players. Such wounds continue to bleed from the body of a fragile country which is carrying a heavy package of explosive problems of poverty, massive population growth, widespread illiteracy, rampant corruption, stagnant economy, very poor infrastructure,

depletion of natural resources, incomplete legislation, low levels of law enforcement, acute marginalization of women in all aspects of socio-political life, little parliamentary oversight, fragmented opposition, a fractured political culture, and a tense inter-elites power struggle.

Naturally, if such wounds are left open and exposed in such a heavily burdened country, the state in united Yemen will face the distinct possibility of going into a deep coma, and the well being of all the people living in Arabia Felix will be seriously threatened. What to do to arrest the fatal slide of Yemen into such a gloomy and dangerous scenario?

The answer is this: putting Yemen immediately into a healing process. Experiences from different parts of the world illustrate that nations can overcome the legacy of national bleeding and suffering, and that

political, social, economic and moral healings are possible.

To initiate and guide Yemen's healing process, Yemen's political elites should start without delay to create a context for national reconciliation which leads to recovery and healing. The first step in creating such a context is the release of all activists and journalists who were persecuted and imprisoned on the basis of political retribution. The door for a crackdown on democracy and human rights activists, on peaceful demonstrators and protesters, and on Yemen's journalistic community must be firmly closed.

Freedom of expression and the practice of democracy are part and parcel of any national healing process.

The second major step is launching a government-sponsored public addressing of the collective injustice that took place during the last 14 years. For the Yemeni nation to heal,

people in every city and village of Yemen must be given the opportunity to discover the truth about the wrongdoings that took place following the 1994 war, understand how and why wounds were developed, who was responsible, and who the victims are. To achieve this, I suggest the creation of an independent national reconciliation commission charged with the task of promoting retributive justice, which is essential for building societal trust and peace. Without such a justice, united Yemen will remain standing on foundations of injustice. But it must be remembered that the demand for retributive justice should be reconciled with the quest for forward looking healing. Retroactive justice should not be about revenge.

The Chinese wisdom teaches us that 'whoever opts for revenge should dig two graves'. Retroactive justice is a healing mechanism which enables

people to move forward, and to feel safe in the knowledge that they are living in a nation whose political system upholds their rights.

The proposed national commission should have no judicial function, and be comprised of representatives of pre and post unity politicians, political parties, religious leaders, tribal sheikhs, journalists, activists, artists, sportsmen, women, unions, teachers and students.

Bearing in mind that national healing processes consist of several symbolically-charged rituals, the commission should attract the attention of the public and the outside world by adopting creative symbolic ideas, for example erecting 'Tents of Dialogue' along Sana'a -Aden road. Discussions inside these tents should receive strong media coverage.

Attempting to comprehend the wounds within Yemen, and finding ways to assist in the healing process is

a formidable undertaking, which require many other steps, which should receive the support of all Yemenis, regional powers and the international community.

For united Yemen to move forward towards healing at any level, the current overwhelming sense of mistrust, fear and suspicion that dominate the socio-political landscape have to be replaced with some level of trust and confidence.

Before it is too late, Yemen's political elites must realize that Yemen is suffering badly at all fronts, and that denial, local anesthesia, tranquilizers, labels and drawing lines in the sand are harmful techniques that pose insurmountable obstacles to healing of Yemen. History teaches us that how countries choose to confront wounds of the past and the present has a very strong impact on the future course of their society.

It is time to reconsider democracy

By: **Abdul-Salam Al-Qarari***

“Democracy is irreversible choice”. This phrase reportedly uttered by president Ali Abdullah Saleh who has been bragging about Yemen's democracy experiment for years. But addressing an audience on the 45th anniversary of 14 October Revolution, he surprisingly said” democracy is not an end, it is a means and we might reconsider it.” However, he was perfectly right, it is high time for political forces to rethink about our democracy.

Both governing party, GPC, and opposition have continued to exchange

recriminations. The first is constantly accusing the later of abusing democracy and misunderstanding democratic practice, taking advantages of democratic climate to mislead public, defame the country's image and the list goes on. Meanwhile, the opposition, JMP, have been blaming the GPC for blocking efforts to redress imbalances and adopt genuine democratic reforms.

In the wake of 1994 summer war, balance of powers gravely disappeared, leaving the country under conservative coalition, GPC and Islah. Then, constitutional amendments had been made to give the executive authority free hand in running the country and to establish a tailored made democracy. Ever since, democracy has turned into

periodic elections and nothing more. The governing party went on broadening its control over state's institutions, in exchange, Al-Islah allowed to increase its financial resources and recruit large number of supporters.

The legislative elections in 1997 had secured GPC vast majority in parliament, which ever since has turned to a rapper-stamp institution, heavily used by executive authority to legitimate its policies and reduce democratic margin. Then, a new phase of deals and compromises began between GPC and opposition parties, mainly Al-Islah.

Even though lines between a governing party and opposition ones disappeared, as in 1999 presidential

elections when Al-Islah decided to nominate Ali Abdullah Saleh, a leader of GPC as their candidate, and other parties, except YSP, followed suit..

At that time, Al-Islah leadership along with other opposition parties' argued that they did so to enhance democracy. They had argued that our country was not ready for peaceful transfer of power. That was not true, simply because Al-Islah did not only initiate to nominate the ruling party's leader as their candidate, but they refused to recommend the YSP' s candidate.

If they really wanted to bolster democracy, they should have nominated their own candidate, as they did in 2006 presidential elections. As democracy is better served by

contested elections not with periodic votes.

Now, when opposition parties want to reform electoral system to ensure fair and free vote, they have been unfairly accused of being anti-democracy. And when they decided to consider boycotting a foregone conclusion election, president Saleh felt a bit fed up so that he declared openly that democracy is not an end by itself, forgetting that once he said ” Democracy may be not perfect, or even bad, but its absence is worse.”

So, it is time for political forces both ins and outs to reconsider democracy. If it is just to hold elections periodically, it would be much better to save our time and not waste the nation's limited resources over such

farce. True, democracy is a build up process need to be developed gradually and it would take time to be up to standards, but the first steps should be correct and in the right direction, otherwise we would never reach the desirable end, whatever we keep on running.

Holding election or taking part in should not be an end, it is rather a means. There is really an urgent need to reconsider our democracy, which almost has been a travesty, and bring it back to the right path before it is too late to do.

Abdul-Salam Al-Qarari is deputy Editor-In-Chief of Afak Gadidah Magazine, he can be reached at: alkorari55@hotmail.com

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

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

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

مصلحة الضرائب - الإدارة العامة للشئون 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 ٢٠٠٨ / ١١ / ٩م

- 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 كمطلب لتنفيذ العقد).

٥- شهادة التسجيل لأغراض الضريبة العامة على المبيعات.

- آخر موعد لاستلام العطاءات وفتح المظاريف هو الساعة (الحادية عشرة صباحاً) من يوم (الأربعاء) الموافق ٢٠٠٨ / ١١ / ١٢ 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 شراؤها وذلك خلال الدوام الرسمي لفترة ٢٧ يوم من فترة الإعلان.

- موقعنا على شبكة الانترنت ! " # \$ % & ' () * + , - . / : ; < = > ? @ [\] ^ _ ` { | } ~ ¨ ¡ ¢ £ ¤ ¥ ¦ § ¨ © ª « ¬ ® ¯ ° ± ² ³ ´ µ ¶ · ¸ ¹ º » ¼ ½ ¾

Shoura Council's report:

There are 38 reasons behind poverty and unemployment

By: Mohammed Bin Sallam

According to a recent report released by Yemeni Shoura Council, discrimination between individuals and groups in light of their race and regions, appointing relatives and protecting them against oversight in high positions, accepting removing senior posts from accountability, and the illegal earning acquisition of money and wealth by a particular social group constitute the most prominent reasons for poverty and unemployment. Additionally, social security allowances paid to vulnerable people are not even enough to cover their daily expenses.

The report listed as many as 38 reasons for poverty and unemployment, which the nation suffers during their expansion and growth, saying that poverty and unemployment need no evidence to prove their severe expansion. However, there are many statistical tables containing scores on the poor and jobless people unemployed.

The report also indicated that absent the absence of accountability and questioning in many sensitive state's institutions is responsible for the waste of public funds and the exploiting exploitation of government jobs to practice for illegal earning. It highlighted that the Central Organization for Control and Audit (COCA) is one of the few institutions, which are excepted exempt from oversight and accountability.

Poor qualifications and incompetence of some state leaders in state's institutions, in addition to favoritism and nepotism in appointing government servants, embezzling public funds, unequal opportunities in appointments and promotion in government institutions, unfair criteria followed in the public and mixed sectors, violating effective laws and regulations and using power and influence to achieve certain interests are among the actual reasons behind poverty and unemployment in Yemen.

The Shoura Council's report also highlighted mismanagement and migration of local capital for investment abroad due to corruption and job inflation in institutions of the public and mixed sectors where without eligibility verification is not applied for the selection of job applicants for jobs as some of the reasons behind the phenomenon.

According to the report, people's incomes are not enough to cover the cost of their basic necessities and provide them basic services such as water, electricity, transportation and communication. It pointed out that recent surveys confirm that 80 percent of citizen's expenses go for food, most notably among vulnerable groups that are deprived of basic services and luxury means.

The report argued that 41 percent of Yemen's rural population lives on less than two dollars per day, and 85 percent of Yemen's poor population live in rural areas. It clarified that 47 percent of Yemen's population are illiterate, which is another reason for poverty and unemployment.

Additionally, the low domestic production doesn't help provide the basic necessities and services for citizens while the country's agricultural production accounts for only 19.2 percent of Gross Domestic Product (GDP). The agricultural sector contains only 30.9 percent of the national workforce.

The report noted that poverty is also symptomatic of poor basic services, scarce financial resources and low returns from natural wealth such as oil, gas, minerals and fisheries while revenues from public investments and taxes are exposed to corruption and embezzlement.

The Shoura Council held Yemen's big external loans, poor coordination between relevant government agencies in project implementation, conflict of interests, and extravagant spending on celebrations, travels and constructing

new facilities responsible for poverty and unemployment.

The actual reasons behind poverty and unemployment also included Yemen's inability to cope with rapid technological and scientific advancements in the areas of higher and technical education and vocational training, plus the lack of scientific research centers.

The Shoura Council's report clearly identified the real causes of economic crisis and poor living standards in the country. Before it was submitted to President of the Republic, the report was amended. A reliable source said the copy of the report, which was submitted to the Presidential Office, was amended and some of the report's text that focused on poverty and unemployment factors was deleted.

The report suggested many recommendations to overcome poverty and unemployment, thereby advising the government to expand the social security network, mainly as in terms of the current allowances, which as the amount that vulnerable people currently get from social security funds don't cover their basic necessities.

Yemeni children in international reports: labor, sexual abuses and school dropouts

Recent scientific studies revealed that there are around 30 thousand child laborers in streets of main cities countrywide. Prepared by the Center to Rehabilitate Child Laborers (CRCL), the study confirmed that younger boys account for 80 percent of child laborers in street while the remaining 20 percent are girls.

According to the study, Dhamar tops the list of Yemeni governorates in terms of the number of child laborers with 21 percent of the total laborers nationwide, followed by Sana'a with 19 percent and Hodeidah stands third with 18 percent. The remaining percentage of child laborers is distributed over other urban areas in the republic.

The study explained that 40 percent of

child laborers in streets of main cities sell newspapers, mineral water, food-stuffs and other fast food items in hand-carts. Other child laborers work in caskets and shops. The scores indicate that at least 50 percent of child laborers work with their parents while others work with relatives or alone. Other scores highlight that more than 15 thousand Yemeni children under age 12 suffer hard living conditions, and therefore were forced to drop out of schools and go to streets in search for work.

Another academic study on child labor, which was released in the fourth quarter of 2007, disclosed that nearly 49 percent of child laborers are girls, who are forced by their families to work in farmlands at an early age while the majority of boys sell commodities and other stuffs.

According to a study, submitted by Yemeni Minister of Trade and Industry Khalid Rajih Sheikh, there are as many as 30 thousand Yemeni child laborers, most of who sell newspapers, water, domestic commodities, cassettes, fruits and vegetables or clean cars in streets. The study pointed out that 41 percent of those child laborers sell agricultural products and fish in streets, and are often exposed to crackdown by municipality officers.

Child laborers work for 17 hours a day

The Yemeni Trade and Industry Minister's study labeled poverty as the primary factor behind child labor, adding that families don't encourage their kids to go to school as they are unable to afford school expenses. It stated that 40 percent of child laborers in Yemen work from 11 to 17 hours per day while 46 percent of them work for 6 – 10 hours per day, pointing out that Yemeni Labor Law doesn't allow children to work except in specific areas.

Article (45) of the Law, issued in 1995, reads stipulates that children must not work more than seven hours a day or

Business In Brief

Malaysian Quality, Innovation Center to help Yemen with industry strategy

The Malaysian Quality Innovation Center has announced its readiness to send a technical expert team to take part in setting up the general framework of the industry strategy in Yemen. The move comes in response to a request from the ministry of Industry and Trade.

The announcement was made at the meeting that gathered a delegation from the Hadramout chamber of commerce and industry, currently visiting Malaysia, and officials at the center.

The meeting discussed the center contribution to the conference of "Made in Yemen" which would be manifested by presenting a review including all the phases of industry development in Malaysia as well as conducting studies on five investment projects offered by the private sector in Hadramout during a visit by a delegation from the center to the province in the recent months.

The meeting, moreover, dealt with the vision on how the center will participate in the conference which would be organized by the Hadramout chamber of commerce and industry in collaboration with the ministry of Industry and Trade and the Yemeni Businessmen Club in Mukala on 22-23 December, 2008.

The delegation appreciated Malaysian efforts to support development potentials in Yemen and the center initiative regarding its participation in the conference.

Yemeni businessmen delegation heads for Moscow

A delegation of Yemeni businessmen headed by Yusef Abdul-Wadood headed to Russia on Monday to participate in the Arab-

Russian Businessmen Conference which is to be held in Moscow in current October 22-24 in which all Arab countries would participate in the conference.

Upon his departure, head of the Yemeni delegation said to Saba that the conference would discuss a number of existing trade and service issues among participating countries and their extending fields.

He pointed out that the meeting will boost economic relations, improve trade exchange and deepen cooperation among Arab and Russian capitalists.

The exhibition which to be held in the sidelines of the conference would give the way to get acquaintance with various national products and enable Arab and Russian businessmen to discuss available investment opportunities in Yemen.

Special program to qualify rural women economically

The MADA Foundation, in collaboration with the French fund for social development and French embassy inaugurated in Sana'a on Tuesday human rights program for the rural women and qualifying them economically.

The Deputy of Social Affairs and Labor for the social development sector Ali Abdullah affirmed the necessity of coordination and cooperation between the governmental bodies and the civil society organizations in supporting democracy in order to qualify the rural women and their qualification scientifically, socially and economically.

For her part, the French embassy representative Halin Alrt indicated in her speech efforts the Yemeni government and civil society organizations made in taking care of rights of rural women in Yemen at the health, educational, cultural and economical fields.

percent of the total number of child laborers, of whom 24 percent are girls.

According to a report prepared by the Committee of Human Rights, Freedoms and Civil Society at the Shoura Council, 92 percent of child laborers work in the agricultural sector, 4.8 percent in the field of services and 2.5 percent of them constitute unprofessional workforce. The report states that some child laborers work for up to 17 hours per day for very low wages while official scores released in 2003 found that child laborers number up to more than 3.2 million.

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نظم معلومات حاسوبية

تفقد البرامج في كلية العلوم المالية والمصرفية بالتعاون مع جامعة العلوم والتكنولوجيا
نظام الدراسة في الفترة المسائية (٥-٨)

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Staff Engineer (Electrical Technical Specialist) Position # 0844
Location @ the CPF Rotation 28/28

Basic Function:

The Staff Engineer Position supervises all Engineering aspects and has full technical responsibility and accountability for all technical operations in area of responsibility within Facilities Engineering either electrical or Instrumentation disciplines as well as review all technical aspects of a project or operating equipment as required to provide answers to solve operating problems and effect solutions.

Job Duties:

- Maintain Company awareness of regulatory requirements and ensure engineering standards are current and available for use. Ensure design documentation (drawings, operating manual, etc.) are properly prepared and are maintained current. Provide technical advice, training, and guidance to Facilities Engineer staff on routine and specialized activities, in the development of their Engineering skills, and concerns that affect them. Maintains Company awareness of improved and developing technologies.
- Produces, directs and approves by signature, the following work done by the engineering staff:
 - Engineering studies and memos
 - Engineering standards and deviations
 - Drawings
 - Provides mentoring to staff under his direction and participates in all Skill Ladder and IDP reviews.
- Participates in Performance Management of staff within team.
- Provide technical recommendations in the optimization of existing facilities, the development of various new facilities projects, and written responses to engineering requests. Provide technical assistance and recommendations to other departments including Production and Operations.
- Develop or gather and organize various types of information such as equipment specifications, operating procedures, operating agreements, permit approvals, technical publications, guidelines, reports, etc.;
- Manage special projects as assigned.
- Identifies requirements for process and equipment changes for submission to MOC system. Prepares reviews and / or approves entries into the Modification or Change process. Creates action items for completion. Leads / conducts PHA and HAZOP reviews
- Identifies and implements opportunities to optimize production, reduce operating and maintenance costs, and improve plant capacity, reliability, availability and maintainability, while also ensuring excellent safety and environmental performance. Identifies, quantifies and implements continuous improvement opportunities. Advances ideas for new projects, develops project justifications and review annual budgets to ensure that all projects are progress or initiated.

Supervisory Responsibility:

Supervises all engineering aspects, technical studies and services, related to Facilities design/optimization activities. Provides additional technical guidance and job skills Training to engineering staff on day-to-day operational level. Provides continual Performance Management feedback to engineering staff members.

Minimum Requirements:

- University degree in Electrical Engineering.
- Minimum of 15 years of experience in plant operations and other associated technical industrial activities
- Fluent in written and spoken English
- Good Physical Health


- To Apply for this Job please apply to: Recruiting_yemsana@nexeninc.com
- Applications should be submitted NO later than November 6th, 2008. Faxed applications will not be considered.
- Only short listed candidates will be contacted






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Production Engineering & Completions Manager Position # 3501
Location @ the CPF Rotation 35/35

Position Overview:

- Responsible for leading and providing the direction for all Production Engineering & Completions Department personnel to ensure the safe and efficient operation of all Daily activities for Yemen Operations, comprising of Block 14 and Block 51.
- Ensure that the most cost-effective technology is applied to reduce both capital and operating expenditures for both Blocks. Oversee and prepare the budgets for both Blocks. Monitor mentoring of National Engineering staff. Ensure Responsible Care and Nexen EH&S policies and procedures are followed. Direct and coordinate Yemen Production Engineering and completion staff for both Blocks.
- Responsible for the management of operational risks, and for the business assessment of short and long-term operating plans.
- The Production Engineering & Completions Department is comprised of approximately 110 multinational and multicultural workforce personnel, and includes supervisory, technical, professional, and operational staff.
- This position requires creative thinking and considerable judgment in the solution of complex operational and business problems in frequently changing and diverse situations.

Job Duties:

- Provide leadership and guidance in the development of goals and objectives for the Production Engineering & Completions Department based on the general goals and objectives for all Yemen Operations. In conjunction with direct reports, manages the preparation of all workover programs including ESP repairs and installations, detailed water shut-off, zonal re-completion, water injector (disposal and pressure maintenance), stimulation, production logging, and slickline survey programs.
- Oversees & advises in the preparation of all budgets related to Production Engineering & Completions and manages the tracking of both Opex and Capex budgets.
- Reviewing daily workover rig schedules to ensure production targets are maintained.
- Work closely with all departments, both internally, and externally, to ensure that quality control is maintained for equipment and services utilized in conducting well programs.
- Ensures cost estimates and justifications for operational expenditures are completed as part of workover programs. Monitors well servicing costs, to ensure yearly budgets are adhered to wherever possible.
- Oversee the Daily, Weekly and Monthly reporting requirements.
- Evaluate and approve departmental expense and capital forecasts for the Company's annual Operating Plan and Budget. Accept administrative accountability for the relevant Production Eng & Completions, Opex and Capex Budgets, and manage operations to achieve budget targets, while ensuring value creation for the Company.
- Assist in the development of general EH&S Policies and Procedures for Yemen Operations in accordance with all appropriate Company and Industry EH&S standards. Oversee the development and administration of specific policies and procedures for the Department.

Minimum Requirements:

- Degree in Petroleum Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, or related discipline.
- Above average competency in report writing, making presentations, communicating with large groups, and conducting effective meetings.
- Advanced PC skills including word processing, spreadsheet applications and e-mail.
- Minimum of 20 years of experience in well operations & production, particularly in ESP operations
- Sound understanding of Completions & Production techniques & the use of artificial lift methods, especially ESPs.
- A sound understanding of business and economic analysis concepts is necessary.
- Experience in working with a multinational and multicultural workforce.
- Excellent organizational and communication skills.

- ❖ To Apply for this Job please apply to: recruiting_yemensana@nexen.com
- ❖ Applications **should be submitted NO later than November 3rd, 2008** Faxed applications will not be considered.
- ❖ Only short listed candidates will be contacted.



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To select an educated or uneducated life-partner

By: Mofeed Al-gaad
mofeed336@yahoo.com

I write this article as a response to Omar al-Jaasheni's article "To choose or not to choose an educated woman," published on 2 of October, issue No 1195.

These days some readers misunderstand a lot of issues, evaluating matters from the apparent view. I agree with Mr. Omer about one

point but at the same time I stand against him regarding some points he misinterpreted.

His statement "It happens to be that uneducated woman who haven't been to school or university are talented in managing their home duties and respectful to their husbands," is expressing a naked truth supported by numerable examples from real life.

However, Mr. Omer ignored the crucial role of education and its effect

on human beings as a whole. He gave the wives of our prophet Mohammed (pbuh) as an example of a good uneducated woman, forgetting that the mother of believers Aisha (may God be pleased with her) narrates 1000 Hadiths. That means she was educated and clever, and that is maybe why our prophet Mohammed (pbuh) loved her dearly over her peers.

Moreover Mr. Omer misunderstood the prophet's hadeeth "A woman is married for four things: her wealth, her family status, her beauty and her religion. So you should marry the religious woman (otherwise) you will be a loser." I want to know who is more religious, the educated woman or the uneducated one? Actually, the knowledgeable and educated woman is the one who worships God properly, following the instructions of God and his prophet Mohammed (pbuh).

Uneducated women, on the contrary, don't have a clear knowledge about their religion, so they may worship God incorrectly, neglecting the significant value of Islam like the disbelievers of Qureesh who claimed that they worshipped idols in order to be close to God.

I also wonder why Mr. Omer said that "The woman should be of the same social status as her husband." Should couples be from the same class, or should they have the same color? If so, why have presidents and kings gotten married to women from middle and low classes? Love has the strength to combine two different persons from different countries. Shakespeare, a great English writer, showed that in his masterpiece "Othello". In this play, a governor's daughter who was so white with physical charms got married Othello, an ugly black man.

To sum up, education modifies the character of woman to be a kind mother, attractive wife and good housewife. Therefore, the educated woman generally is the ideal woman within her society. Distance, color and social status don't matter if a real love is deeply planted within lovers' hearts.



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.

Through The Mind's Eye

By: Maged Thabet Al-kholidy
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To chat or not to chat, this is the question (Part 2)

In my last article, I have highlighted the negative aspects of chatting either through internet, TV channels or mobiles. Again I am going to talk about the same topic, focusing on its positive aspects. As usual, my purpose is to make a survey of the good and bad sides of chatting so that one can realize them and decide whether to chat or not to chat.

Chatting is one of the means that has contributed to make the world smaller in terms of communications. Although there are other communicating means like mobile, chatting is has many features which make it widespread so that many people consider it essential in the modern world of globalization and internet.

As a feature, chatting is not as costly as other means of communications like mobile calls and post mails. In the case of internet chatting, one can chat and do other things in the network like researching, sending emails. The cost is calculated as the time minutes for doing all these.

One, for example, can make a search in any researching sites; meanwhile, he can chat and communicate others. In the case of mobile chatting, the chatting messages do not cost as much as the other text messages. For this, many mobile users prefer to contact their friends through chatting messages rather calls or normal messages.

In MTN network, for example, the cost of normal message for prepaid

lines is 7 YR, postpaid 5 YR, while is it only 4 YR for chatting messages in prepaid and postpaid lines.

Another feature of chatting is its being faster than other means of communications. It makes people know each other in spite of the spaces among them. It offered people chances to talk and even to see each other especially in the internet chatting. Similarly, the TV channels and mobile chatting bring people to know and contact each other faster and more easily though they may not know each other.

Actually, chatting changed the world to a small village. Now people can know and communicate each other though the spaces between them are very long. Through the internet chatting, using programs like yahoo or hotmail messenger, one can establish relations in all the parts of the world.

Similarly, chatting in TV channels produce people to each other so that they can build personal relations which can be developed to friendship, love, and sometimes marriage. The same thing also takes place in the case of mobile chatting.

Such relations may get stronger than the normal relations with friends or relatives. Some people like friendship relations through chatting, claiming that they take it as a chance to express feeling and opinions freely to them and sometimes revealing to them secrets.

For them such friends deal with them only as friends away from any benefits. A friend of mine, for

example, once told me that he likes to make relations through chatting rather than normal relations. He justified that such friends may share him his ideas and feeling and since they do not him in reality, he never gets afraid that they may reveal his secrets and personal affairs.

For some people, chatting is life. They justify their idea by saying that it offers them good chances to communicate with known and unknown people. Such chatters can exchange information, news and ideas with each other, paying nothing except the subscription fees or the tariffs of messages. As it has been seen in many cases, some people create their own world which consists of a group of chatters.

Through chatting one can get an idea on how other think and behave. It gives a chance to get an idea of the beliefs and thoughts of the others. This thing may help to develop one's style of thinking and sometimes the manner of living.

Of course, there are many other positive aspects of chatting. These are what I know. Other good features can be suggested by you, dear readers, so that we can draw a complete idea about the topic, and take the final decision whether to chat or not chat accordingly.

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



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• مطلوب شراء سيارة كرسيدا - موديل ٩٠ تكون بحالة ممتازة

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عقارات

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قص هذا الكوبون وارسله إلى صحيفة يمن تايمز على فاكس ٢٦٨٢٧٦ او على صندوق بريد ٢٥٧٩ - صنعا لمزيد من المعلومات اتصل ب (ت ٢/٣/٢٦٨٦٦)

By: Khaled Al-Hilaly

"An average of 40,000 visitors comes to the fair every day and this number increases significantly on weekends," he said.

"The timing of the fair was not convenient this year because it came both in the middle of the month and after the Eid holiday which caused some of the books to arrive late to the fair due to delayed custom procedures," said Mohammed Jabr from Jordanian publishing house Dar Al-Maseerah, adding that he hoped that Yemeni



An average of 40,000 visitors comes to the fair everyday and this number increases significantly on weekends.

"About 400 local and Arab publishers are taking part in the fair," said Al-

Saqqaf,

"This year we have an outdoor tent called 'Reading for All' which offers books at cheap prices and a special part of the fair for children's books and electronic chips."

Ekrami Al-Deshi from the Egyptian Alpha Publishing House said that books about herbal medicine and Islam are those most demanded by the Yemeni reader.

The book fair's popularity has increased this year with more publishing houses displaying their books at the fair's stands.

During the inauguration on Oct. 15, Minister of Culture Mohammed Al-Maflahi expressed happiness that Yemenis were eager to read and buy books. "Sana'a book fair has gained a good reputation regionally and internationally and it is considered the

second largest book fair in the Arab world," he said.

Marwan Al-Ariqi from Yemeni publishing house Dar Al-Hikma Al-Yamaniya said, "This year there are more participating publishing houses and the demand for books has doubled," adding that as a consequence the lanes between stands were very narrow at this year's fair.

Rasslan Aladdeen from Syria suggested a larger venue for the Sana'a book fair next year to match its growing importance.

Al-Saqqaf agreed with this notion and hoped that by the time of the 26th fair, the National Library's exhibition hall, to be constructed next year, would be ready to host the event.

Some publishing houses complained that book fair organizers had given preferential treatment and better stand locations to certain publishers, and protested at the bribes they have to give book-purchasing committees in order for them to buy their books. They added that they would prefer the Ministry of Culture to directly organize the book fair in the future. In response to this, the exhibition's management explained that there had to be some preferences as they had placed country representatives in the front of the exhibition in order to avoid conflict, but that they tried to give all publishing houses a fair chance by reaching a compromise with those left out in other years.

On the sidelines of the book fair, the Ministry of Culture organized a number of cultural activities including poetry readings, a film and a concert, as well as literary and political symposiums.

According to Al-Saqqa, additional activities included a signing ceremony for the first collection of poems by Yemeni poet Abdullah Abdulwahab Nemen (otherwise known as Al-Fadhul) and an honoring ceremony for Dr. Abdulwahab Al-Maqalihin, the translator of "Salmon Fishing in the Yemen", a novel by British writer Paul Torday.

The fair will run until Oct. 26 with special days devoted for schools and university students.



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