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Local and international support continue to pour into Hadramout

By: Aqeel Al-Halali
 and Yemen Times Staff

SANA'A, Oct. 29 - Up to 180 people have died in Hadramout and Al-Maharah governorates due to the flash floods that took place late last week, according to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in a statement issued yesterday in Geneva.

Foreign governments, international non governmental and Islamic organizations, Yemenis living abroad and Yemeni private companies continue to assist in emergency relief to the affected areas.

Heavy flooding was caused by a tropical storm and 30 hours of torrential rain that lashed the region on 23 October 2008. To date, at least 180 people have been killed, 20,000 displaced, and 2,000 houses and 85 public buildings, of which five hospitals, have been destroyed or damaged. Many people remain missing with many feared to be buried under mud from collapsed buildings.

The UNHCR said, "These numbers cannot be confirmed as it is still difficult to reach many areas [in the devastated governorates]."

All districts of Hadramout have been affected and the roads linking Hadramout capital, Mukalla which is

Losses as of Oct. 29

Damage	Size	Note
Lives	180	Including six military people
Missing	NA	Could be still buried in the mud
IDPs	20,000	In two camps one north Sayoun and one West Sayoun
homes	2000	Completely destroyed
Public buildings	80	Damaged and needs reconstruction
Hospitals	5	Needs reconstruction all over again
Historical city of Shibam	30 houses	Damaged but not completely

Who is providing aid

Donor	Type of aid	Amount
UAE	Supplies	3 planes — 400 tons + mobile clinics
Oman	Supplies	2 planes
Egypt	Supplies	2 planes
Libya	Supplies	One plane
Yemeni businessman in UAE	Supplies	One plane
WFP	Tents	For two refugee camps each hosting 10,000 interanly displaced persons
WFP	Food	42 tons of dates and 3 tons of biscuits for 210 affected households
KSA	Money	US\$ 100 million
Japan	Money	US\$ 200,000
USA	Money	US\$ 50,000
Yemen	Money	US\$ 100 million
Germany	Money	100,000 euros
Islamic Relief	Money	US\$ 100,000
Islamic Conference Organization	Money	US\$ 250,000
Kuwait (Arab Dev. Fund)	Money	US\$ 3 million
Prince Talal bin Abdulaziz (KSA)	Money	562,000 Saudi Riyals
Hael Saeed Ana'am	Money	200 million YR
Islamic Tadamun Bank	Money	150 million YR
Sabafone	Money	30 million YR
MTN	Money	20 million YR
Yemeni Tobacco Company	Money	30 million YR
Yemenia	Money	20 million YR
Ghamdhan Corp	Money	20 million YR
Dome Co.	Money	12 million YR
Yemeni community in KSA	Money	12 million Saudi Riyals
Union of Yemeni Former MPs	Money	200 million YR

Table of the aid provided to Yemen as of Oct. 29 to the best of Yemen Times knowledge. For clarification email: yteditor@gmail.com

located by the sea shore, to the local airport and to the governorate of Aden have been damaged. Many other roads have been washed away.

The main valley of Sayoun sustained 75 percent of all damages.

WFP is offering logistical support to other humanitarian organizations, using capacity from its existing food assistance

operations in the country and has set up four camps, to the north and west of Sayoun, for internally displaced persons.

Rescue and relief teams continue their operations to search for the missing, shelter the affected and provide aid while aviation activities increased at Al-Mukalla and Sayoun international airports which are receiving aid.

Yesterday, a UAE military medical team arrived at Sayoun city to establish a field aid hospital to help treat those in need.

Hussein Al-Haddad, head of the Hadramout Health Office, said that the field hospital would be established in the university campus of Tarim city. He pointed out that the hospital would include a number of operation theaters for surgeons of different specializations



Over 2000 homes have been destroyed because of the storm leaving 20,000 persons homeless.

to perform operations.

Although there are no reports of outbreaks so far, the government has urged donors to give priority to health and environmental protection needs including prevention of water-borne diseases.

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Early Childhood Development diploma students make progress

By: Ola Al-Shami

SANA'A, Oct. 29 - A first of its kind diploma on early childhood education was introduced last year and gained wide interest from its first batch of 21 students. Now they have started the second and final year and looking forward to implementing their newly acquired knowledge in the Yemeni society.

The Early Childhood Development (ECD) diploma is an important step the efficiency of which we are testing for the first time at Sana'a University," said Dr. Najat Al-Faqih, Professor of Education at Sana'a University and the supervisor of the diploma.

Supported by the Supreme Council for Motherhood and Childhood (SCMC), UNICEF and Social Development Fund (SDF), this program was announced by the University's Postgraduate Studies Center towards the end of September 2007 and commenced a month later. The two-year program aims to train qualified specialists to deal with children in order to develop their mental and physical skills.

There are 21 students in the diploma program, 16 of them are girls. The students are expected to find work in NGOs, kindergartens and schools after their graduation helping children to enhance their communication skills.

The SCMC, UNICEF and SDF cooperate to support the funding of the diploma. Dr. Najat Al-Faqih said that the UNICEF organizes workshops and training with an ECD expert for the programs students, and that the SDF has provided the project with necessary equipment while the SCMC supervises



A puppet show by one of the kindergarten teachers to cultivate children's imagination. Students learn about children's behavior and the techniques to make them learn faster.

the whole program.

"This program is open to any graduate from any college," Al-Faqih explained, "It's a hands-on experience as we don't have a specific syllabus. Instead, students visit different child caring institutions, such as kindergartens and hospitals, and write reports on how children are being treated there. We then consult suitable references from the Central Library in Sana'a University or the faculty library, and teach the students according to feedback from their reports. This

data is mainly collected for research purposes."

The students study five days a week, with a lecture of more or less three hours each day.

Joining the program is easy and affordable. The prerequisite is a Bachelor's degree in any field. Most students join so as to later take on an active role in society by spreading awareness on how to treat children during their critical development period which is from 1 to 8 years.

Ashwaq Abo Talib, a psychologist and a current student of this diploma, said that she wants to change some social behaviors such as child neglect and abuse. In addition, she said that children in primary school should be taught according to guidelines by experts from the field of ECD to better deal with disruptive behavior and positively influence children's attitudes.

"We go to visit children in different settings [schools, hospitals, kindergartens] to interact with them in various ways and we take note of their responses," she said.

On the other hand, there are some students who aren't so optimistic. Abdulkaher Al-Homaidy, a supervisor at a number of primary schools in Sana'a and also a student in this diploma, said "There were many promises from the Ministry of Education to us as teachers, but these have not been kept,"



The children are encouraged to create items and feel a sense of achievement. Students of the early childhood development diploma carry out regular field visits to interact from children.

Acting Cuban Envoy to Yemen urges UN to end U.S embargo against his state

By: Mohamed bin Sallam

SANA'A, Oct. 29 - Chargé d'Affaires of the Cuban Embassy in Sana'a Mr. Roberto Michel held a news conference Tuesday at the embassy's premises during which he talked about the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the U.S. against his state since the 1950s. "The American embargo on Cuba is the longest and cruelest in human history," he said.

"The economic losses as a result of the embargo exceeded \$ 93 billion, a score which hurts the living conditions of Cuban citizens," Michel said, "The embargo leaves negative impacts on food, health, education, transportation, construction, housing and other sensitive sectors that are key to development

and prosperity of the Cuban people."

He added, "The past year saw the worse cruelty in applying the American embargo on our nation. The U.S. attempted to overthrow the current constitutional regime in Cuba, which was established by a referendum by the Cuban people. The U.S. also exploited all the available means to bring together, organize and fund Cuban nationals to work as hired individuals and practice espionage on the government's institutions with the intention of hurting security and stability countrywide."

The Cuban diplomat went on to say, "We hope that all the 192 UN member states unanimously vote for lifting the embargo. Last year, as many as 184 states voted for lifting the embargo while the U.S., Israel and other smaller

pro-America states voted against the idea. This proves refusal of the majority of world states of the genocide policy pursued by the U.S. against the Cuban people and international legislations. This policy contravenes UN conventions, principles of the International Law, and the international criteria that govern economic, commercial and financial relations between states worldwide." In conclusion, Michel said the Cuban people are indebted to the Yemeni government and people for their support for the various decisions taken by UN in this regard. He continued, "Cuba strongly believes that it will win support and solidarity of the international community with its legal demand to lift a fifty-year embargo imposed by the U.S. against its people."

Women's National Committee calls for raising minimum age for marriage

By: Almgidaj Mojalli

SANA'A, Oct. 27 - With the release of the sixth periodic report on achieving the goals of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), the Women's National Committee (WNC) has appealed to the Yemeni government to set the minimum age for marriage to 18 years old.

Deputy of the WNC Huria Mashhour said that this suggestion had already been presented to the parliament in 2000, but that it still had not been discussed.

According to Mashhour, the current personal status law sets the minimum age for marriage at 15 years old, but an

amendment made to the law in 1999 has left it up to the parents to decide when their child is ready.

In its appeal, the commission also suggested to include a punishment of one year in prison and a fine of USD 500 for those who violate the law.

Mashhour indicated in a press conference last Sunday that the report had been presented by the WNC to the 41st session of CEDAW at the UN headquarters in New York this past July.

The CEDAW committee indicated that Yemen had not yet fully implemented the CEDAW although it signed the convention 24 years ago.

The CEDAW committee inquired about the situation of woman in Yemen in terms of national strategies, policies

and legislation, violence against women and children as well as the situations of imprisoned women. It also asked about women's quota.

Member of Parliament Abdul Moamen Shuja'a Al-Deen stressed that signatories of CEDAW are obliged to apply the items that they have signed. He explained that the parliament has endorsed some items while others were still being discussed by the parliament.

The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), adopted in 1979 by the UN General Assembly and signed by Yemen in 1984, is often described as an international bill of rights for women.

Sa'ada detainees' families hold sit-in



"Where are our sons?" the signs of the protesters read. Today there are over 100 men between missing or illegally detained.

SANA'A, Oct. 29 - Families of detainees, human rights activists and representatives from human rights organizations held a three hour sit-in on Tuesday in front of the Prime Minister's office calling for the release of their relatives detained during the Sa'ada war.

The Committee for Defending the Detainees of Sa'ada, which organized the sit-in, issued a statement to Prime Minister Dr. Ali Mujawar in which they declared that the government's behavior in detaining innocent civilians was giving Yemen a bad reputation. They also stressed that President Ali Abdullah Saleh had already issued a directive to release all innocent detainees.

Carrying banners that read 'Where are our sons?' and pictures of their relatives, the families expressed their disappointment with the government for not fulfilling its promises. They said that, if the detainees were not released soon, they would be psychologically affected.

Ali Al-Dailami, an activist, said that what is happening to the prisoners violates Yemeni law and human rights. He said that they were workers, students and teachers in schools who never had direct contact with the Houthis, the

rebels of Sa'ada.

Fahd Al-Qarni, a Yemeni artist who was detained by the government for his songs criticizing government policy, expressed his happiness to see so many people at the sit-in and said, "We need to be free in order to live in dignity. Unfortunately, we lose our humanity as a result of such behavior [by the government]."

Mohammed Miftah, a legal studies teacher and former detainee, claimed that the Sa'ada detainees are suffering and have no rights at all. He said that what is happening in the political security prisons is worse than in Guantanamo.

"It is discrimination that drives the government to imprison the Hashemites. These people are innocent and unjustly treated," he said

The majority of Sa'ada detainees are of Hashemite origin.

Among the committee members were the National Organization for Defending Rights and Freedoms, also known as HOOD, the Al-Taghyeer organization, Reporters Without Borders and the Hiwar Forum.

The protesters waited for a response from the prime minister but there was none.



Vacancy Announcement The World Bank

The World Bank is in process of recruiting qualified personnel for its Yemen Office through a local hire for the following position:

OPERATIONS OFFICER (HEALTH)

Competencies required are:

The position advertised is for an Operations Officer, who will be a member of the Health Unit, participating in teams that also include specialists in the related areas of Health. These teams develop appropriate interventions through continued engagement with client country counterparts, and within the context of policy and strategic issues facing MNA countries. In this context, (s)he will; 1) contribute to specific Health operational activities at all stages of the project cycle in Yemen including participation in the design and development of specific project components, 2) carry out Health-related research and analytical tasks on a wide range of operational, country and sector issues, 3) interact with country or task team members and the client in the formulation and implementation of business plans, work program agreements, mid-year and retrospective reviews related to health operations, 4) draft, under guidance of more senior staff, sections of the loan package documentation and guide clients in the preparation of the health project operational manuals and participates as a member of Bank Health missions (preparation, appraisal, supervision), 5) conduct independent discussions with client representatives on selected problems and issues identified by team leaders, and participate in negotiations of health projects, 6) support for other countries in the MENA region may be required if need arises.

This is a three-year Term position; however if an internal applicant has been selected and is currently on an Open ended, s/he will remain on an Open-ended appointment.

Selection Criteria

- Master Degree in Public Health OR equivalent combination of education and experience.
- Technical Skills/Experience: At least 5 years of experience working on Public Health project or related issues
- Demonstrated knowledge of - and experience in the project management.
- Ability to effectively provide operational support to the Bank's Health team and missions.
- Ability to draft components of major reports, working papers, etc
- Advanced computer skills and full proficiency in the use of relevant software applications.

The World Bank Group is committed to achieving diversity in terms of gender, nationality, culture and educational background. Qualified candidates may apply on-line at <http://www.worldbank.org/careers> and choose job vacancy number 082207. The closing date is November 12, 2008.

Their News

Girls' education project increases enrollment in Taiz

JICA's Supported Girls' Education Project succeeds in increasing both boy's and girls' student enrollment, promoting community participation in school improvement, and strengthening management capacities of local educational authorities.

On October 29, 2008, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) held the final workshop at Shahrhan Hotel, Sana'a City, to share the experiences and achievements of its 42-month technical cooperation project, "Broadening Regional Initiative for Developing Girls' Education (BRIDGE)", which has been implemented with the assistance from Japanese Government in Taiz Governorate. Almost 120 key stakeholders including Mr. Abdusalam Al Goufi, Minister of Education, Ms. Fawzia Noaman, Deputy Minister of Education, MOE senior officials, BRIDGE Team in Taiz governorates, and GEO's Girls' Education managers and Community Participation managers from all the governorates and donors, participated in the workshop.

"BRIDGE guidelines for the whole school improvement initiative with a special focus on increasing girls' attendance in rural basic education in Taiz Governorate" were disseminated to the participants. The guidelines were developed through collaboration of Taiz GEO and JICA expert team based on the project experiences as one of the major achievements of the BRIDGE project. With the BRIDGE guidelines, Taiz GEO presented their achievements, lessons learned and their expansion plan. DEO representatives from Taiz also shared their experiences and changes occurred by the BRIDGE project at their target schools to share the impacts of the project.



One of the examples on how the BRIDGE project helped to increase girls' attendance is described in the following story, which was prepared by Ms. Basma Ali Bin Ali, a female contract teacher at Al Saeed School, Same District.

As shown in the article, the BRIDGE project has made significant impacts on the people at the target schools. One of the most effective activities was hiring contract teachers. BRIDGE allowed schools to recruit teachers from their community under the conditions that teachers should have completed at least secondary education, they are from the same community, and if there are both male and female candidates who meet these conditions,

schools should hire female teachers. As a result, in 2007 172 teachers were contracted at the 59 target schools. Out of the 172 teachers, 58 were female.

Female contract teachers became a role model to show female students the benefits of education and encouraged parents to send their daughters to schools. Even male teachers played indispensable roles. In the rural and disadvantaged schools, qualified female teachers cannot be found. In that case, local male teachers can teach female students since they are familiar with the community members. Schools tried to hire female teachers outside of the community, but found it difficult to keep these teachers due to the harsh living environment and high cost of transportation. Local teachers stayed in the community and attended schools everyday.

The BRIDGE's project goal was to increase the girls' enrollment rate at the 59 target schools, which was achieved by increasing female students' enrollment from 6,080 in 2004 to 9,307 in 2007, while male students' enrollment increased from 9,312 in 2004 to 11,958 in 2007. In this way, BRIDGE helped to increase both the number of female and male students. With a higher increase of female students, the female student to male student ratio was improved from 0.65 in 2004 to 0.78 in 2007.

BRIDGE also contributed to improve the school environment. The BRIDGE project provided direct funding to target schools in their bank accounts. JICA provided 84.5 million YER in the three years from 2005 to 2007 and Taiz Governorate provide 16.8 million YER in 2007. In addition, 7.6 million YER was mobilized by the community over the three years. This funding was used for hiring contract teachers, building and rehabilitating classrooms and school facilities, organizing school events and community awareness programs, and so on.

A major feature of BRIDGE is to combine whole school improvement and awareness raising program together. For example, schools opened literacy classes and sewing classes by using

the funding to encourage women to come to school for education. At many schools, it was the women's first time to come to school, which helped to know what the school is for their children. It also helped female drop-outs to come back to school. In addition, BRIDGE helped to organize community leaders' initiatives and women's initiatives by organizing a separate meeting to discuss what the community people can do with the school to improve their school for their children. BRIDGE helped schools and communities learn about what actions they can take for the school. Even though the progress was step by step, women's participation in school activities were encouraged with support from the head teachers and community leaders.

Based on experiences of the BRIDGE project, Ministry of Education is initiating a national program on school based management throughout the country by providing operational cost directly to schools in the 2008/2009 school year. Ms. Fawzia Noaman, Deputy Minister of Education mentioned, "We learned from BRIDGE that schools can play important roles in improving girls' education at the school level through managing their own funding. This made us decide to implement a national program on school based management."

Taiz Governorate has already started to implement the BRIDGE project with their own funding from 2007. In 2008, Taiz Governorate is providing 230,000YER to the same 59 schools

which JICA supported. GEO Team successfully took over the roles of managing the BRIDGE project. In 2009, Taiz Governorate plans to expand the BRIDGE project in 60 new schools in three additional districts. Dr. Mahdi Ali Abdulsalam, Director, Taiz GEO emphasized, "The BRIDGE project helped our GEO and DEO team members to strengthen their management capacities, including reporting, conducting monitoring of the school funding, organizing meetings among schools and communities, and helping women to actively participate in school activities."

In addition, BRIDGE helped us to recognize the importance of establishing good relationships with local councils."

Kawther is a little girl at her school age who lives in a village in Same. Every morning she was awoken by her father's shouting voice, commanding her to get up and go herd or bring water from a remote well. Her father's voice became a daily nightmare for Kawther and her donkey, announcing a start of a long unbearable morning of a heavy work load.

One early morning she got up and went to the well to collect water with her donkey. On the way to the well, she saw the girls walking to school quickly in groups, wearing school uniforms with their school bags on their backs. She stopped and gazed jealously at their smiling, happy faces, tidy clothes, white scarves, and colorful bags while her hungry donkey exploited these busy moments by trying to pick up some grass at the side of the road. She let out a deep sigh with a miserable feeling and said to herself, "How lucky they are! Why does not my father allow me to go to school like these girls?" Feeling hatred towards her father, she hit the donkey and headed toward the well. As she saw this scene repeatedly, her dream of going to school grew bigger and bigger every day, but who dares to persuade her father?

When JICA's activities started at Al-Saeed School in her village, fathers and mothers there started to talk about the importance of girls' education. The school committee members visited some parents for awareness raising.

Kawther realized that she could ride JICA's horse to reach the destination she dreamt of rather than her father's donkey. Thus after several days she approached her mother, begged her and cried, requesting her to talk to her father to allow her go to school like the other girls in the village. Seeing the tears flooding down her daughter's face, the kind mother mobilized the school committee members to persuade her husband who then later agreed.

As the time passed, the enthusiastic Kawther was advancing rapidly in her learning at school. A few months later her father visited the school to see her. Like every girl in the classroom, she was enjoying the drawing exercise while her father was observing happily at the door of the classroom. When she saw him, she grinned from ear to ear at her father while her eyes were sparkling. It was then that her father realized the meaning of being a father.

POSTPONED SUBMITTAL THE OFFER FOR TURN KEY DESIGN CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF SANA'A SEPTAGE TREATMENT PLANT

SWSL- Sana'a announces that further to the invitation appeared in Yemen Times on 15/09/2008 to submit best offer for turn key design Construction of Sana'a Septage Treatment plant (Arab Fund Grant) — Kuwait.

This is to announce that submittal of proposal has been postponed from 2/11/2008 till 23/11/2008, 12:00 noon to receive complete and comprehensive offers.

Suzuki announces 2009 model Grand Vitara to enhance performance and comfort with key modifications

Sporty front grille design and host of comfort features to complement the newly-designed petrol engines

Suzuki Motor Corporation (SMC) has announced the launch of the 2009 model Grand Vitara to enhance the SUVs' overall performance, looks and comfort. The move is expected to further boost sales of the Grand Vitara, which has created a niche for itself in global markets with its excellent on-road handling; uniquely sporty, tough-looking exterior design; and outstanding off-road performance.

One of the significant changes to the Grand Vitara will be the newly-designed petrol engines; the latest version of the SUV will be powered by a choice of 2.4-litre four-cylinder and 3.2-litre V6 petrol engines to enhance performance. Further, driving will be made quieter by a redesigned powertrain and new acoustic materials; off-road performance will be improved by hill hold control and hill descent control (applicable to the five-door vehicles with the 3.2-litre petrol engine only); and braking performance will be improved with the adoption of rear disc brakes.



The new Grand Vitara will also get a jazzier and tougher look with new designs for the front grille and bumper accentuating the sportier exterior. In addition, sporty, on-road-oriented 17-inch and 18-inch aluminium alloy wheels, outside door mirrors with built-in turn signal lamps, and new body colours add to the SUVs' overall appeal.

Other changes to the Grand Vitara, incorporated to maximise comfort and convenience, include, an information display integrated into the meter cluster to provide the driver with accurate vehicle information; a revised design for the air-conditioner control panel to improve operability; illumination added to the steering-wheel switches to improve visibility; an extension function for the sun visors and a slide function for the centre console armrest added to reduce driver and front-passenger fatigue; chrome-plated inside door openers and black wood-grain interior garnishes adopted for a stronger sense of sportiness in the cabin; and beige fabric seats and beige cabin trim, for five-door vehicles.



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From rural to urban, the attractive choice for Yemeni youth - Part 3

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. *Almigidad Mojalli* 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.

Despite the numerous success stories of youth emigrating to urban areas, agricultural lands and families are the first victims of this change. Endurance and deprivation often motivate youth to work hard and raise their standard of living while guilt of what they left behind often drives them to crime and eventually prison.

Naif Attam is a successful example for the rural youths who emigrated to Sana'a seeking better education and a brighter future. Attam moved to Sana'a twelve years ago after completing basic education. He entered a University, studied computer programming and after graduating at the top of his class, found a good position in a company with a high position.

"I studied and went to Sana'a not because I wanted to get a job in the future or I was suffering from poverty but because I had a desire to learn," Attam said.

He stated that his emigration to Sana'a didn't affected his land as his father wasn't too old and he was able to look after their lands, but the emigration affected his family emotionally, prompting him to visit them every two weeks. "My emigration to Sana'a didn't distance me from my village at all. I'm always in touch with my family as I call them at least once a day and visit them every month," he added.

Though Naif's family is always eager for his company, they understand his circumstances and can empathize with his desire to move to the city, especially because his absence does not affect the family nor the lands.

Fahd Al-Fahd came to Sana'a thirteen years ago to complete his studies. Despite his struggles and financial

situation, he completed secondary school with a high grade point average that qualified him to join the faculty of medicine and become a doctor.

In spite of the success that Al-Fahd has achieved, he always has the feeling of missing something dear to him. So he seizes all opportunities to visit his family in the village and work in the land, although he is now a medical doctor. "Though I have become a doctor, I never forget my family or my land. I think my absence affected them very much. When I was in the village I could look after my family and land very well, but now when I visit my land I notice that parts of it has deteriorated," he said.

Al-Fahd's father realized that the absence of his son affected the family and their land. According to him, he was the first son, responsible for the family's issues and lands'. But now his little brothers have replaced him, even though they aren't as capable.

While there are good examples of youth who proved their abilities to strive and become effective people in their society, many youth have deviated in the urban society and made their families regret their approval to allow them to move to cities.

Ahmed Nasser, 26, left his land and family to work and complete his education but when he arrived at the city, he worked in a cafeteria in the afternoon and studied in the school in the morning.

In school, Ahmed knew bad students from his class who used to steal Qat from Qat sellers in the fair. That developed into stealing from homes and shops. One night while Ahmed and two of his friends were breaking the lock of a shop, they were surprised to be caught by the owner of the shop who was



While for young men the cities are an attractive opportunity for a faster and more prosperous life it is the women and older men who suffer from the shortage of strong labor leaving them responsible for the abandoned farms and agriculture.

sleeping. That night, the owner of the shop and some of the neighbors beat Ahmed and his friends and led them to the police station.

Ahmed and his friends were sentenced to one year in prison. After a year Ahmed got out of prison, stayed with his friends and forgot school completely. Wanting to avoid the disappointment of his villagers back home, Ahmed decided not to go home any more.

Ahmed's father tries to forget the son who brought shame upon the family, and his mother is very miserable. "My son brought me shame instead of pride. I didn't want to send him to the city because we have no relatives there to look after him and I was always worried about him, but his mother urged me to let him go and now he won't return,"

Ahmed's father said with a very sad voice. "I'm not sad for him as much as I'm sad for his mother who is always crying for her son and work in the farm with his sisters instead of him," he added.

Jameel Al-Nassari is another example of the deviated youth. Jameel told his father that he would move to Sana'a to merchandise in raisins and took around half million Yemeni Riyals. When he arrived at the city, he opened a shop and worked well in the beginning but he

tried to appear before his friends and villagers as a millionaire. He used to spend much more than he could afford. After six months, he started borrowing large amounts of money from merchants and farmers without paying them back.

After two years, Jameel was taken to court and sent to prison to spend two years before being bailed out by his father for more than YR 12 million.

The cost of the Ali's emigration wasn't merely the money or the financial problems, but that his land went to

waste. Ali used to grow grapes, corn, almonds and wheat. But his father's old age and his absence changed the agriculturally thriving land to a waste land.

Not only that, in order to pay back the money that Ali borrowed, his father sold large areas of their land.

In spite of the wonderful achievements of some youth of rural areas, the emigration from rural areas to urban areas is considered a big loss for families and agriculture.

Crisis of Food, Fuel, and Finance holding developing countries down

Developing nations face a convergence of food, fuel and financial crises as development and finance ministers gathered for the World Bank and International Monetary Fund's earlier this month.

"We are meeting at a momentous time," said Bob Zoellick President, The World Bank Group

"In July at the G8 summit, I said that developing countries were facing a double jeopardy from the impact of high food and fuel prices. But what was then a double jeopardy is now a triple hit—food, fuel, and finance—threatening not just to knock the poorest people down, but to hold them down."

Some 28 countries are already fiscally highly vulnerable from the twin shocks of food and fuel, he said, and they are not expected to receive aid increases with G7 countries still behind on their Gleneagles commitments.

Countries already suffering food and fuel price inflation may now also see declines in exports, trade and investment as a result of financial turmoil that is becoming increasingly global, said Zoellick.

"While people in the developed world are focused on the financial crisis, many forget that a human crisis is rapidly unfolding in developing countries. It is pushing poor people to the brink of survival," Zoellick added.

"The financial crisis will only make it more difficult for developing countries to protect their most vulnerable people from the impact of rising food and fuel costs."

Number of Malnourished People to Rise

The number of malnourished people globally will grow by 44 million, to 967 million, in 2008, after several countries experienced double-digit food inflation, according to a new World Bank report.

The report, Rising Food and Fuel Prices: Addressing the Risks to Future Generations, is one of several being released just prior to the Annual Meetings that reveal a changing economic landscape after years of steady economic growth and poverty reduction worldwide. (Another background paper discusses fiscal vulnerabilities in developing countries.)

"The events of this year are a wake-up call," Zoellick said. "The international architecture designed to deal with such circumstances is creaking."

Zoellick said the world needs a new "multilateral network for a new global economy" with a steering group that includes the G7 and the rising powers of Brazil, China, India, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia and South Africa.

Possible 'Tipping Point' for Developing Countries

Zoellick warned the financial events of September, including the collapse or near-collapse of major banks, could be a "tipping point for many developing countries."

"The stark reality is that developing countries must prepare for a drop in trade, capital flows, remittances, and domestic investment, as well as a slowdown in growth," he said.

High food and fuel prices and food shortages hit several countries early this year, leading to riots, hardships, and malnutrition.

In response, the Bank created a \$1.2 billion rapid financing facility and called for a New Deal for a Global Food Policy to promote agricultural development and food security in Africa.

The Bank's Global Food Response Program has disbursed \$188 million in 19 countries as of October 2, with \$663 million earmarked for another 13 countries.

But Zoellick said the international aid system is not keeping pace with the

growing needs. The G7 as a whole is behind on fulfilling aid pledges made at the 2005 G7 Gleneagles Summit.

He said a new multilateral network would build a sense of shared responsibility for the health of the global political economy, including climate change, a key topic for discussion at the upcoming Annual Meetings, and stabilizing fragile and post-conflict states. (See Today story and external feature story on the Bank's work on fragile states.)

"We need this mechanism so that countries are not left to fail—with all the human, economic, and political consequences this entails for both them and their neighbors," said Zoellick.

"We need it so that global problems are not just mopped up after the fact, but anticipated. We need it to develop the habit of dialogue and the necessary relationships of trust before the crisis hits. We need it to shape multilateral solutions," Zoellick added.

What's the World Bank Doing on Food

The Global Food Response Program (GFRP) has disbursed \$188 million in 19 countries as of October 2.

The money is used to feed poor children and other vulnerable groups, provide for nutritional supplements to pregnant women, lactating mothers, infants and small children, to meet additional expenses of food imports or to buy seeds for the new season.

GFRP is providing \$130 million to Bangladesh and \$200 million to Philippines in the coming months to help address the food crisis.

Beyond GFRP funds, the Bank is approving \$90 million in IDA funding for food projects in Ghana, Burkina Faso, Eritrea, Malawi, Burundi and Togo and Madagascar.

The Bank is boosting overall agricultural lending to \$6 billion over the next year.

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As part of ceaseless up-dating Yemenia inaugurates new offices compound in 60-meter Road



As part of ongoing development and up-dating undertaken by Yemen Airways Company (Yemenia) H.E. Deputy Prime Minister for Local Affairs Sadeq Amin Abu Ra'as inaugurated the Yemenia Offices Compound in the Southern 60-Meter Road of Sana'a.

Such a distinctive compound with its strategic location will constitute an easy point for customers to get Yemenia services. It offers distinctive services to customers and includes various departments. In the compound, there are nine departments equipped with advanced and sophisticated techniques that proved to produce accurate and prompt outputs. Below is a list of departments in the new Yemenia Offices Compound:

- Sana'a Area Management
- Yemenia Holidays Management
- Frequent Flyer Passenger (FFP) Management
- VIP Section
- Oil Companies Services Management
- Sales Promotion Management
- Pre-paid Ticket Advice (PTA)
- Sana'a Area Sales Management
- Government Sales Management
- Commercial Sales Management
- Season Sales Management
- Agent Affairs Management
- Communication & System Control Center
- Systems, Agreements & Training
- Branches Sales Management
- Area Accounts Management
- Debit Control
- Invoicing & Collecting Office
- Control & Audit Section
- Yemenia Security
- General Services

As many as 58 employees work in these departments while air tickets numbered up to 3227 and reservations and re-reservations numbered up to 7740 during the last month of September.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by Minister of State, Mayor of

the Capital City Abdurrahman Al-Akwaa, Minister of Tourism Nabeel Al-Faqeh, many deputy ministers, ambassadors and diplomats of Arab and foreign states, bank managers and representatives of travel and tourism companies.

Following the inauguration, Deputy Prime Minister for Local Affairs Abu Ra'as expressed his happiness about the various achievements reached by Yemenia and its effective role in delivering multiple services to homeland and passengers.

Acknowledging Yemenia's capacity to cope with modern technological developments, Abu Ra'as said, "Since the very beginning when it initiated its business with two Dakota air carriers, Yemenia has continued to develop and prosper for 50 years now until it reached such a prestigious status. We hope that the successful airways company doesn't stop at this level of progress and development."

"Yemenia played a great role in connecting Yemen with other countries and helped establish good relation with our brotherly shareholders from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. We appreciate those shareholders' contribution and support for the company, as well as the ceaseless contact between us and them in this area," Abu Ra'as added, "We are entering a new phase of domestic flights, which was started yesterday with a plane. By the end of the year, the remaining carriers will do the same in order to resolve any problems faced by the company at the domestic level and internationally. Yemen has a large area, and therefore needs this kind of flights."

He continued, "Inaugurating this building means open development and progress of Yemenia. We hope that Yemenia continues progressing this way. I avail myself of this opportunity to thank the Yemenia leadership, specifically Captain Abdulkhaleq Al-Qadhi, Chairman of the Board of Directors at the company and his successors, who occupied the same post, be they alive or



Cutting the ribbon Deputy Prime Minister for Internal Affairs Sadeq Ameen Abu Ra'as with Captain Abdulkhaleq Al-Qadhi head of the board of directors of Yemenia.

dead. All of them contributed greatly to the distinctive success reached by Yemenia."

Abu Ra'as went on to say, "I also take the opportunity to express my deep gratitude to the Transport Ministry for its follow-up and supportive efforts to Yemenia. I am also indebted to the brotherly shareholders in Yemenia and Felix Airways and wish them the best of success and integration."

Mr. Fahd Al-Ariqi, Sana'a Area Director, warmly welcomed ambassadors of friendly states, travel agents, and representatives of tourist hotels and resorts.

Asked whether inaugurating Felix Airways Domestic Flights means Yemenia's withdrawal from this service or not, Al-Qadhi replied, "First, I would like to clarify that Felix Airways was born, thanks to Yemenia. Felix Airways was established under a decision taken by Yemenia Board of Directors. The first agreement in this regard stipulated that domestic flights should be separated from international flights, and then the idea of establishing a financially and administratively autonomous company

shifted from the manual system to the electronic system and adopted a new package of procedures aimed at developing society and individuals."

According to Al-Qadhi, society deserves better services although some areas are not eligible for establishing air service offices. "We are not only concerned about improving the company's services, but we work harder to improve the travel and tourism culture among citizens, as such is a good addition to the good and various services offered by the company anywhere," he explained.

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to offer services to the public arose."

He further said, "There is great and ongoing cooperation between Yemenia and Felix Airways. The former owns 25 percent of the latter and the remaining share belongs to brothers from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. We will continue cooperating with Felix Airways. We will not withdraw but give some domestic airports such as Socatra's and Al-Ghaidha's to Felix Airways. Yemenia will continue its flights to other airports as part of its international network like: Sana'a - Aden - Abroad. I think that Felix Airways will offer good services in its domestic flights."

Al-Qadhi confirmed that Yemenia will not compete with Felix Airways in domestic flights. "Yemenia has been working for 50 years to connect Yemen with other states, which was highlighted by Deputy Prime Minister for Local Affairs. Yemenia has been offering free domestic air tickets to boost tourism. For instance, any passenger flying from Rome to Sana'a would

be given free air tickets in domestic flights by Yemenia. I don't think that Felix Airways will do the same because it is financially and administratively autonomous. Yemenia, on the other hand, contributed to and will continue to boost tourism and connect Yemen with

the outside world."

Asked whether Felix Airways will use Yemenia offices, which may produce confusion on the part of customers, Al-Qadhi replied, "Felix Airways was established on the basis of being 'low cost carriers'. It will not open offices. It



Captain Abdulkhaleq Al-Qadhi

will use Yemenia offices for its sales as if we are their agents. In addition, Felix Airways is connected with an electronic system via CAC Bank and pays the price of electronic bills."

Having asked about a plan to launch new international airways to African and



Mr. Sadeq Amin Abu Ra'as

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Al-Ariqi explains to the visitors the Q-System via which customers can select and determine required services by using small cards

Latin American states, Chairman of Yemenia Board of Directors responded saying, "Any new plans must be studied on the basis of economic grounds. Some airways were opened in the past, but were closed later on due to limited flights. There are new airways to Africa, Europe and East Asia under study but will not be announced until their economic feasibility is verified, in addition to any agreements in this matter."

He confirmed that Yemenia's withdrawal from some domestic airways will help give it an additional air-service capacity to be used in other airways.

Responding to this question, "Can Yemenia compete in open airspace through its modest facilities?", Al-Qadhi explained, "The airspace policy exists. And the Finance Ministry and Civil Aviation and Meteorology Authority (CAMA) agreed to open airspaces. The Sana'a International Airport is open for Aljazeera, Al-Arabiya and other airways companies. If Yemenia did

not prove being competitive, it would not survive. Yemenia demonstrated strong competition although it has modest resources. Thanks to sincere efforts paid by patriots and qualified staff, Yemenia earned a distinctive international reputation despite dependence on its own resources."

"We are proud of Yemenia being an airways company affiliated with a state having limited resources. We strongly compete all the available airways in spite of such limited resources. The Yemenia record recognizes the company's safety measures and good services, Al-Qadhi ascertained.

Highlighting, Yemenia's patriotic and ethical role, Al-Qadhi said that Yemenia prefers patriotism to its commercial interests, and the various crises experienced by the nation proved this. With the exception of Yemenia, all the other institutions and companies disappear during any political and security crises.

It is impossible to compare Yemenia's components, environment, airports or resources with those of other companies.

Yemenia operates in a difficult environment and has limited resources, compared to other airways companies. It survived, thanks to sincere efforts expended by its staff, according to Al-Qadhi.

He confirmed that Yemenia will not stop at a specific limit. Rather it should compete and develop due to its daily, weekly and monthly updates. When we promise a passenger of delivering a particular service, we inevitably do so like what we did in the electronic air tickets and Oracle programs, which will be activated by the end of this year. Yemenia has developed an electronic system for financial revenues, which is used by the company's offices at the local level, however, the public don't approach this service.

Al-Qadhi was quoted as saying, "We have a new plan to add more carriers to our fleet, and are currently establishing an air cargo company. We plan to get shareholders or investors. In event this air cargo company is established according to the current study, it will be financially and administratively

autonomous."

Mr. Fahd Al-Ariqi, Sana'a Area Director, revealed that the 60-meter Road Offices Compound was first operated at the beginning of September, adding the compound made a distinctive move in updating the company's administrative systems. "We concentrate on effective performance to deliver good services to customers during the official working hours that exceed 12 hours per day," he noted.

Al-Ariqi clarified that the successful achievements reached by Yemenia are the fruit of direct support and supervision from the company's leadership, represented by Captain Abdulkhaleq Al-Qadhi. He told that the compound is equipped with Q-System via which customers can select and determine required services in a small card, pointing out that the compound's staff has been trained according to modern scientific programs, based on the successful vision approved by Yemenia in the field of training and qualification.

Cutting the cake



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Yemenia receiving its guests



Al-Qadhi having a good laugh, Abdurrahman Al-Akwaa' Capital Secretariat Mayor



Al-Qadhi in discussion with Abdullah Al-Kaboudi and Hafedh Fakher Miyad head of the board of directors of CAC Bank



A side photo for some of the diplomatic and business guests



Sudanese and Malaysian ambassadors



Al-Qadhi welcoming Abdu Al-Janadi head of the media sector at the Supreme Commission for Elections and Referendum



Al-Ariqi with Saleh Al-Awaji Felix Airways head of the board of directors and Amin Al-Haimi Deputy General Manager



Al-Ariqi explaining to the visitors the various high level facilities of the new offices



Al-Ariqi in a group photo with the hospitality crew



Reception lounge of the new premises



The new premises in Al-Siteen Road, a front view

Western state's intervention: Another type of piracy

By: Zeyad Abu Shawish

The U.S. and many European states showed a desire to send their warships to Yemeni and Somali coastlines, and the Red Sea to fight pirates and ensure protection for sailing ships in these areas. For the first time, this news seems to be normal and free of any troublesome backgrounds for us as Arabs.

The one, who closely observes aspects and developments of the problem faced by Yemen for two years now and how the vulnerable Arab state asked for relief and international cooperation to help it solve such a seemingly complicated problem because it is linked with the ongoing civil war with an Ethiopian occupation that receives secret support from another stronger party.

The problem got complicated amid absence role of the Arab League that is supposed to have helped one of its members. The one who closely observes the situation will find something terrible in such strange news and declarations, as

well as get shocked at such a sudden European attention toward Yemen's affairs and sharp description of what is taking place on the ground.

The UN Security Council's Resolution, approved by consensus, on the piracy operations that are practiced in the Somali coastline, which was taken on Oct. 7, will undoubtedly give legitimacy to the presence of pirates in other areas after they proved strong enough to intimidate owners of kidnapped ships, be they companies or governments. Those pirates also require big ransoms from companies or states in exchange for releasing any kidnapped vessels and innocent passengers.

The UN Security Council's Resolution on piracy and pirates is the second of its kind this year. As usual, the resolution was suggested by France, which demanded that more able states should take tough procedures to hunt for criminals, as well as use the military force including aircrafts, armored cruisers and other artillery in order for the job to be a success. The resolution left an open time-

frame for doing such a job.

The UN Security Council issued another resolution on this regard last July, however, it produced no fruitful results while the piracy operations continued to increase. Therefore, the situation raised cynicism and numerous questions, most important of which is that "What helps pirates practice their acts in the sea and be strong in seizing warships like the Ukrainian one, which led to taking the above-mentioned resolution against pirates?"

There are many possible answers to this question, one of which is the probable presence of an international plan administered by superpowers with a good capacity to achieve this purpose.

UN Resolution ignores real causes of the problem

The rage shown by some African countries toward the most recent UN Security Council's Resolution is justified because the resolution ignored the real causes of the problem and focused on addressing its consequences. We know that poor liv-

ing standards resulting from the Civil War in Somalia and intervention of Ethiopian troops, backed by the U.S. in Somali domestic conflicts and the UN and Arab League's indifference toward ongoing sufferings of Somali people lead to illegal immigration of Somali citizens to other neighboring states. Affected citizens resorted to such an illegal immigration to escape death while criminal groups turned to exploit lawlessness and people's starvation and poverty to practice piracy operations in the Somali coastlines, the Arab Sea and the Red Sea.

The UN, which paid close attention to the Ukrainian ship's issue and hasn't reacted to the problem until the piracy operations targeted citizens and ships belonging to western states, is supposed to have addressed the essential causes of the problem by sending international peacekeepers in lieu of the Ethiopian Occupation forces or African peacekeepers that lack even the necessary equipment.

Source: Al-Sahwa.net

Being proud of our forefather's civilization will not provide us food

By: Nabeel Haidar

I have not understood the real reasons that led to the current global financial crisis, however, I cast doubt that the crisis was caused by a single reason: the U.S. Stock Market. A friend of mine increased my suspicion by adding another reason that is of a secret related with the current oil prices.

What I quite understood in an exceptional manner is placing all the eggs in one box is the huge mistake, as well as the big devil that destroys economies of small and big countries worldwide. By this I mean, causes of the various problems should sort out one by one.

The horrible thing in this regard is that nearly one billion people are threatened by starvation worldwide. Seemingly, these people had been benefiting from external aids that help them survive. And due to the current global turmoil, the

source that had been feeding them depleted and did not suggest fundamental solutions to problems experienced by those starving people.

What concerns me in this regard is that the global financial crisis should ring the bells of risk at the local level and excessive dependence on oil revenues alone is a pre-paid death. One month ago, another bell rang while the world was facing a food crisis, and as a result, people increased the rhythm of their movements in search for food in various parts of the world.

In our homeland, we turned to lament the thousands hectares of wastelands. A very small number of farmers, who account for 75 percent of third world population swapped their previous trees for corn seeds and they are about to reap their fruits. On the contrary, other misfortunate farmers, planners and strategy designers chose to progress on the same way of the global crisis as if such a crisis did not

appear at all.

The world of today is giving us a slap in order to change the way we think and live. But as the slap was not that painful, we seem to be ready to turn the other cheek for another more painful slap. By this I mean, having heard about financial and food crises, we must care about our agricultural sector and work hard in order to produce our own food.

What we are waiting for. Are we waiting for more painful and less painful slaps? Or are we waiting until the hammers approach our heads? Only this will convince us to stop thinking in such a foolish manner.

Fears about global crisis

In order to avoid exaggeration, this trouble is global and it triggers fears about the financial turmoil and worsening food crisis, which has not yet ended. I don't suspect that the matter needs more intelligent thinking to help explore that this fear and

trouble constitute a black cloud over our heads while it is not this cloud's job to provide us with shadow, most notably as the donor states will tend to reduce their assistance to developing nations among them Yemen.

What we are looking at while we are proud of the Arabia Flex being the possessor of great civilizations and glories. I think it is time to search for the real causes that helped produce those civilizations and glories. Why we escape admitting the real effort exerted by our forefathers and ancestors to build their civilizations and glories.

We have to understand how our ancestors built their civilization and achieved self-efficiency of food and other necessities. Being proud of the achievements and civilization reached by our forefathers is not enough, nor will it provide us food.

Source: Al-Thawra State-run Daily

Culture is not a luxury

By: Adel Al-Shujaa

Once, I was invited to an evening party last Ramadan, which was attended by senior government officials, educated people and state's ministers. Although the party was enriched with talks about Sana'a city, being the political capital of all Yemeni people from the extreme south to the extreme north and attendees spoke about the historical value of the city and the problems it experiences due to poor sanitation and water systems and traffic jams, I was somewhat unsatisfied with

what happened during the event.

Although we were discussing traffic jams in the city's streets, we the participants in the party blocked the Qiyada Street in the center of Sana'a city with our cars parking in front of the hotel where the party was being held. The party has no yard for cars to park in. Admitting that we are people with a great history, anyone seeing the more three hundred thousand participants with their mouths filled with qat may cast doubt on how those participants can suggest workable solutions to pressing problems in their society.

I don't know when ministers and the educated people in our society will

believe that they are able to restore history or cope with contemporary developments while chewing qat leaves that force them to progress backward.

We talked about the civilized appearance of Sana'a, however, we drink stagnant water and chew prohibited leaves. Despite all this, we don't ask ourselves why our water has become stagnant and why our living is proceeding this way.

The qat sessions have been converted into pavilions for condolences. At these sessions, we regret our future, and in the meantime, don't know that we kill future of our children and deprive them of happiness. We don't find anyone lamenting our negative culture and the way we think. Frankly speaking, some of the attending ministers and educated people were not chewing qat, but they seem to be satisfied with the situation, however, they understand that Yemen is progressing toward unprecedented collapse due to food scarcity, price hikes and water shortage.

I found myself shouting loudly, but no one of the attendees listened to what I said. Irrespective of this, I had strong faith that the Yemeni man is more able to cope with life-related problems. Despite the hard conditions experienced by Yemen's consecutive generations for more than one 1100 years, the Yemeni people still are able to live.

Waiting for deliverance is Yemeni people's problem

I feel that the Yemeni man is more able to tolerate and return to life once again, a fact that might be imposed on him by his mountainous environment. But his great problem is that he always waits for deliverance and does nothing to resolve his own problems. The Yemenis already understand that qat is a malignant tree, but they don't quit the habit of chewing qat.

I don't know whether we are waiting for an inevitable fate. I feel that the current dire situation in our country warns of negative consequences as a result of our negative habits and practices. Yemeni citizens are recommended to have an eye on the phenomenon of price hikes and food scarcity worldwide.

In the world of today, knowledge has become the main commodity. So, why we do make a barrier of qat leaves, scattered her and there, between us and knowledge.

The habit of qat chewing is the real culture, which was founded to erase our history. We talk about civilization of our forefathers as if history stopped by the end of their generation without asking ourselves what we should do to solve our own problems.

The qat trees are responsible for our depleting groundwater and our fertile farms becoming wastelands. We don't have a glimpse of hope for a better future for our children. I concluded that the habit of qat chewing is an integral part of our Yemeni culture and culture is not a luxury.

Source: Nabanews.net

COMMON SENSE

What is Haaretz talking about? Qadhi Iryani is genuine in descent and in conviction

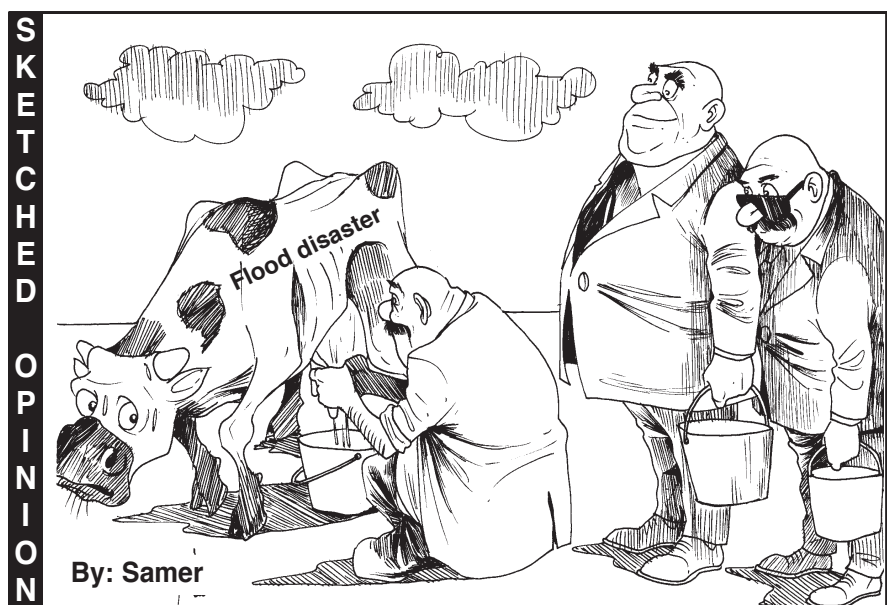
I am compelled to deviate from the discussion on the Palestine Problem and the elections in the United States by an article that appeared on Haaretz, which is sometimes called the New York Times of Israeli newspapers. In a long article on Yemeni affairs in 20 October 2008 ("last update"), by Yossi Melman

(www.haaretz.com/hasen/spages/1030121.html), the Israeli penchant for exaggerated "presence" and genuineness as being part and parcel of the region rather than the biggest rip-off of all millenniums was on display again in a distortion of facts and reality beyond belief. This observer would have let such nonsense pass by as all the other Zionist nonsense one has seen over the last century as just another misrepresentation of facts to overcome an obvious "out of place" situation the Zionist state has to endure as long as it remains the mutant western concoction it is, with no apparent historical, moral or even cultural affinity to speak of with the rich oriental culture and civilization of the region that gave vivacity to human existence.

Again, I will not delve into the mediocrity of the article's content in detail, except to assure the readers of Haaretz, the Yemen Times and the world at large that the late Qadhi Abdul-Rahman Al-Iryani is as genuine a Moslem and IRYANI as anyone can ever be and all the information of the article is no more than a wishy washy tale that surpasses the Trilogy of the Rings by H. Tolkien. Surely, the twisting of facts is not the occupational wisdom, which is expected of sound journalism, and this observer believes nothing could not fit such description as the article in question. Qadhi Abdurrahman Yahya Al-Iryani, or Iryani as some would write it, is well known to this observer and to all Yemenis as being the son of the late Qadhi Yahya Al-Iryani, one of the most distinguished Yemeni scholars, poets and historians of the last Century and a well known reference on all jurisdictional and religious issues. His son, the late Qadhi Abdurrahman Al-Iryani is in his own right also a distinguished scholar and Yemeni dignity, who rose to eventually become the first and only really and freely elected civilian President Yemen has had. His Presidency is still remembered as the only real manifestation of democratic "republican" rule since the Revolution and he was highly respected throughout the Arab World for his sagacity and reverence. He need not to have been of Jewish background to have such magnificent attributes and in fact, such character only comes from a long line of Zeidi scholarly tradition, that has brought on the likes of Dr. Abdul-Karim Al-Iryani, former Prime Minister and Special Advisor to the President, the late Qadhi Abdullah Al-Iryani, the late Ambassador Yahya Yahya Al-Iryani (brothers of Qadhi Abdurrahman), the late Colonel Mohammed Al-Iryani, the late Ahmed Al-Iryani (former Chairman of the Central Organization for Control and Auditing) and the list could go on and on. As a personal friend and acquaintance of several members of this honorable family, one cannot help but reject such blasphemy as given in Haaretz.

To add more insults to injury, the same article delved into the Yemeni Civil War (1962 – 1969) with the same penchant for "being involved", describing an unheard of active involvement in supplying the Royalists by parachute, etc. While not seeming to defend the Royalists, any Yemeni knows that such magnificent sensationalism of the greatness of Israeli covert activities is another bogus mis-rendition of history. For one thing such covert flights would certainly not have escaped the radars of so many states along the way from Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Egypt and the Yemen Arab Republic. On the other hand there was really no need for such great feats of intelligence work, as the long Saudi – Yemeni border provided sufficient safe passage of Royalist supplies and "mercenary personnel", to render such allusions as mere Israeli exaggerations of their own capabilities. In any case such sensationalism has now been rendered as obsolete after Hizb-Allah has shown Israel to have outlived its own fairy tales, past, present and its future. With such a sad situation, it would probably be better for Israel to start finding where its own roots really emanate from, namely in the ghettos of Eastern Europe and Russia before making any claims of ethnic and cultural superiority, which the non-oriental Israeli establishment has no basis to cling to. For the world at large, one is compelled to declare that the overwhelming majority of the people of Yemen indeed voluntarily converted to Islam en masse at the time of the Prophet Mohammed (Sixth Century AD), Peace of Allah be Upon Him, when the Yemeni population was then split between Jews and Gentiles (and some polygamists), and then went on to be the vanguards of the Islamic expeditions that fanned out from the Iberian Peninsula to the borders of China. That is a legacy even the Yemeni Jews in Yemen and Israel can claim some pride in sharing. On another note I am advised that the person discussed by the Haaretz article was actually adopted by the Iryani family and later went on to occupy the position of a soldier of the Republic, who was a special guard to His Honor the late President (Qadhi) Abdul-Rahman Al-Iryani, may God bless his soul. To give credence to the above the subject of the article studied with the father of this observer under his late father and later taught with him in religious jurisprudence, literature and other traditional scholarly fields.

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



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IT Skills Centers: Education and Making Money

A growing trend in Yemeni entrepreneurship market is to open IT training institutes especially during the summer vacation. The students are usually young ambitious Yemenis both men and women who want to learn a new skill and become more empowered in a competitive market place. By this, IT center represent both a successful business model and a service for building Yemeni human resources.

By: Ali Saeed

Year after year, the number of computer skills centers is increasing, especially in Sana'a. The latest statistics of the Ministry of Technical Education and Vocational Training show that there are more than 389 licensed centers around the country. In Sana'a alone there are more than 70 such centers and double this number are non-licensed centers, especially on Taiz Street.

Many students feel that it is easier from them to secure jobs if they are graduates of computer centers. "Graduates from IT skills centers get a job faster than university students," said Mr. Badr Al-Laithi, university student and center graduate.

The courses these centers provide are in the fields of Photoshop, computer maintenance, graphic design, Microsoft Office, and mobile maintenance.

Miss Ruqaiya, a teacher in private school and studying computer maintenance in one of these centers, said, "I have learned a lot and now I feel more technologically advanced and I can repair my own computer".

The requirements to establish a center are to apply the Ministry of Technical Education and Vocational Training. Then, the ministry sends a committee to the place to check the equipment and the building of the center. They evaluate and report what they have found. If the center is qualified, they are awarded the license to work. Mr. Ahmed Abuhadra, manager of IT Excellence Center in Sana'a said, "The Ministry also takes copies of the teacher's qualifications and syllabus content."

What makes these private centers dis-

tinguished from other educational sectors is that any person of any age can enroll at a center. In public institutes, the student must either have completed the 9th grades of primary education or secondary school. Abuhadra commented "Computer learning is a skill that can be acquired by anyone. It isn't conditioned by specific age or education level".

Another positive feature of these centers is their flexible hours. Almost all centers provide the option of morning or evening courses. This enables students to accommodate their classes with their busy schedules.

What makes these private centers distinguished from other educational sectors is that any person of any age can enroll at a center. Another positive feature of these centers is their flexible hours. Almost all centers provide the option of morning or evening courses. This enables students to accommodate their classes with their busy schedules.

IT Skills Centers as a successful business

Ahmed Abuhadra, manager of excellence center said that in the summer they make very good money since the students are on vacation, so many join these centers. He added that this helps them manage their income during the rest of the year. About the price of

courses fees, Mr. Adel Alsyani, Information Technology Center in Sana'a manager, said that ordinary people are able to study any course because the fees are affordable. He added that the prices are different according to the course type and period.

Centers' graduates and employment

Graduates from these centers have a better opportunity to get a job. Mr. Abdulmalik Yamen, Applied American Institute manager said that graduates from his center in Computer maintenance, graphics and mobile maintenance are now employees in big companies.

Moreover, Mr. Alsyani, manager of Information Technology Center, Sana'a, commented that students that graduated from his center got a job in the computer maintenance field in Yemen. He added that those students had bachelor degrees, but they took training courses in their majors and became qualified to have a job.

Problems and difficulties

Managers of IT centers are complaining of many problems and difficulties, but the biggest problems are the lack of approval for the diploma certificate, lack of official supervision, and lack of specific rules to establish a center, as well as the necessity of paying bribes.

The first problem, securing approval for the diploma certificate, started one year ago when the Ministry of Education who used to endorse diploma certificate stopped doing so. T. Mutahar Al-himyari, director of Lifemakers' institute said, "I don't know why they stopped diploma approving." This problem deprived the students who studied diploma programs of the accredited certificate, and made the centers stop teaching the diploma programs. Adel Alsyani, manager of Science and Technology Center, Sana'a, explained, "We used to teach diploma programs, but now we stopped because they were not approved. Now we just teach courses."

The second problem is the lack of official supervision. Most of the centers' managers saying that neither the



The IT centers' most sought after courses are in computer software applications, hardware and maintenance.

Ministry of Education nor the Ministry of Technical Education and Vocational Training is supervising them, except during the time of license renewing. This problem resulted in low quality. "Unqualified centers take this opportunity to hire poorly qualified teachers for little pay," said Mr. Abdulmalik Yamen, director of American Applied Institute.

The third problem is the lack of specific rules to establish a center. Hameed Abdulmoghni, executive manager of American Applied Institute explained that, "There are no standardized rules to establish a center; if you have money, can rent an apartment and get some computers, you can start without any criteria."

Lastly is the problem faced by almost all the centers, paying bribes to the Ministry of Education or the Ministry of Vocational Training for license renewal and certification. Mutahr Al-himyari said, "We pay bribes every year in order to renew the license." He further explained that the bribe has since doubled from last year.



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Guess where we went?

By: Salwa Yehia Aleryani
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This is a place which we have been watching beat like a pulse, come alive, grow and progress. We have always passed beside it and thought that it didn't match with any other views in Yemen. It gave a feeling, when looking at it, that maybe it was a unique relative of Taj Mahal. People argued about it a great deal. Some agreed with it and believed that it was about time Yemen had such a place and appreciated that the President was the decision maker for it. Others disagreed due to the poverty of people and believed that this poverty should have been the first point to solve rather than building such a luxurious place on a pale land like Yemen. They believed that governments should have priorities, instead of being imaginative like children who insist on making their dreams come true without making any calculations about the losses! They also said that we had many places which were for the same purpose, and therefore there was absolutely no reason other than arrogance for building such a place.

When Ramadhan began, people started to go there. They were amazed at the beautiful construction and fantastic features in all the details. With the passage of time, more and more people went there. In the middle of Ramadhan my family and I decided to go and see this place that both men and women were talking about whenever they gathered.

We went at about 5:00 PM. It wasn't crowded at all. I saw people heading towards it, inside its huge yard, bare-foot. They must have felt they were in the "ka'abah". I went with my daughters to the area which was for females. I heard two ladies in front of us regretting that they had forgotten to bring plastic bags in which to keep their shoes until they finished what they had come to do. I took a look at the left side and saw a big row of brown cupboards

with only shelves inside them for the men to keep their shoes. I wondered why they didn't reserve even two of them for the ladies. I felt sorry for females in our country! Even in a holy place like this, where all people were alike and were doing the same duty of worship, the masculine frame of mind couldn't help but look down on females and not consider equal them with men. I smiled because in Yemen this mentality always wins. No problem, shoes were not a big deal. Even if they got stolen, it was still nothing when one came to such a holy place.

We came closer to the entrance of the ladies section of this holy place. The ladies were standing in a line. Any lady, before she entered, was physically searched, searching inside the purses and bags and between fingers. I didn't complain because it is always better to be on the safe side and not give any enemy a chance to make problems occur. We should never forget what happened to the Twin Towers! I entered but didn't go up. I waited for my two daughters to enter. We were separated by the women who were pushing and forcing themselves to the front. My first daughter entered. Then we both waited for the younger one who was only 12 years old. I didn't get what had happened but I saw my daughter burst out crying and the policewoman raising her hand and shout. I tried to push myself back outside to understand what had happened but the flood of women entering just pushed me back inside. I wanted to reach my child and see what had happened and why she was crying but I frankly couldn't. My biggest daughter and I started to panic and yell and push because my child was still crying and we were yelling, "What happened?" Then the kind policewoman told me "Kids are not allowed!!" Oh! This put us down. I tried to stand beside the police woman to explain to her that she is not a baby or a child who would run here and there and cause noise or disorder. She refused. "Ok, can I go out to talk to my daughter?" I was begging her. My

daughter started to cry calling me "Mama." Honestly it was like an Indian movie. The police woman didn't stop me from going out but I just couldn't do that.

Every time I reached the door the ladies pushing to enter pushed me back inside. It was a curse. I felt we were in a jail and we wanted to see our relatives. I wished I was a witch who could stretch her fingers saying "Abra Cadabra" and make all the women vanish. My daughter and I started raising our voices in the hopes that maybe the policewoman would show mercy. We yelled, "We are not here to pray, we'll pray at home. We just came to see the place." Still she didn't try to help. She was busy searching the women who were giggling because it was difficult not to when one was searched in that way! I finally lost my temper, which hardly ever happens, and started pushing the ladies and saying, "Get out of my way!" My other daughter was pulling the back of my scarf in order not to separate her from me!

Finally we were outside. I hugged my daughter who was weeping and sniffing like a kitten. I told her not to cry because she would grow up and get to enter this marvelous place "some day". I told her that we came and we had to see the place and took her permission to enter without her while she waited for us until we came down. She looked at me with her wet cheeks, "But mom you said we would "all" go and see and not you and my sister only." I explained that it was out of my control. I asked her again to calm down and wait for us just for 5 minutes. She tried to smile to show her agreement but I knew she wanted to go back home. To say the truth, so did I! We turned around to re-enter and that didn't need any effort what so ever because we entered not by foot but by being swept inside by the force of pushing towards the inside of the place.

I surprisingly found myself with my daughter beside me exactly in front of the police woman. She wanted to search us again. I told her, "I am the

mother of the girl outside. You just searched us a minute ago." She shook her head and told me that as long as we had been out then we must be examined again! Maybe in those seconds we were given an explosive bomb or something. One should always be awake and never forget what had happened to the Twin Towers! I gave up and allowed her to search me and my daughter.

The place we wanted to visit was on the 3rd floor. I whispered in my daughter's ear, "Now let's go up ourselves!" While we were going up the stairs we saw some very old women who were very weak, crawling to go up the stairs. They were using their knees and palms to go up. I saw a lift on the left side of the stairs but it wasn't working. I expect it was only for those who were related "authority" in our country. It didn't matter if they were healthy and could go up hopping like deer or go down sliding like penguins, it was clear that the elevator would not move except for them. Yet, these weak, old and humble women were forced to crawl!!

I swallowed many words, and kept quiet. Then we were up. I neither saw anything fascinating nor even anything worth all that trouble. It was just a small hall and on the left side, a big room which was covered with long rectangular light blue carpets. The people who arranged this place didn't even bother to stick those carpets to the floor with strong glue. The carpets were all in tremendous disorder. They were straight and then at the end of them, start to go upwards exactly like waves. This was obviously a result for what was done on them. I mean a result of the prayer that was taking place on them. I stopped and couldn't but feel deep sorrow. What a scene! That room was a scandal. The carpets did not look like places for people to pray on but rather high waves for people to go surfing there. The idea made me laugh.

I looked at the wall. It was plain white. I had heard that the section for men was all covered with patterns and

designs. It was crowded with different decorations to the extent that one could not see any color for the wall!! This was making me feel insulted. I guess all women in Yemen feel that but what differs is the degree.

My daughter and I exchanged smiles. My daughter said, "Is that 'it' Mama?" I nodded. "Yup!" We rushed down. I hoped that they were intelligent enough not to search us again now at the exit door. Thank God they didn't.

When we left the place and were in our car I saw the beggars outside and thought about the people I knew suffering from being jobless. I remembered how many people I knew who were working in the morning and also in the evening just couldn't earn enough for a decent life. The question stood there in

front of me. Which should have been a priority, building this place or building a good hospital, a good school, good electricity, a good income, a good control for prices, a good anything? Actually, we didn't have anything good other than the weather which was from Allah, and had it been in our hands, it would have been ruined just as much. So it wouldn't have been a problem to find where to put all that money. Even going out to the street and giving the new beggars who had just become beggars yesterday would have been more humane.

Now that this place is built we can only and should merely say congratulations.

Congratulations. Congratulations. Congratulations.

The fairy lady

By: Mofeed Al-gaad
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In an isolated place I was sleeping
Peacefully and safely my head tossing/moving
With the coming of the bright moon I dream
By bright beam removes heart's gloom
A wind comes softly hovering
Sentimental emotions were bearing
And entering the room without knocking
Within its lap my lady comes
Around the room spreading pleasure and tenderness
Like a rainbow in front of me she stands
And attracts my attention by her various colors
What physical charms she possesses
From the bright wide eyes soft light shines
Attracts every one sight even the blinds
Her cheeks like two apples to eat
Her lips like a red red rose
Fascinating and forcing me to do no thing but to stare
Oh, what spiritual and intellectual virtues my lady has
Making me stand a mute before
Modesty and simplicity toward others she cares
Well-manners and honesty no one characterize but her
Like India my fairy lady looks
With several languages she speaks
And to the heart she inspires
The love language to combine
Ultimately she leaves with gentle pride
Leaving heart in a separated side



Invitation for General Bid No. (23) for the year 2008

The TV and Radio General Corporation declared its interest in inviting for general bid number (23) for the year 2008 for:

Importing, installing, licensing, testing and guaranteeing fire extinguishers of various sizes with their peripheries to the corporation.

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Tel: (01/ 230752)**

For buying the bid documents costing (\$100) non refundable.
The deadline of selling the documents is: 26/11/2008.

The bids must be presented in a red wax sealed envelopes t the bids and tenders committee's secretariat at the corporation. The names of the bidding company and of the project along with the tender number and the bidder's name must be written on the envelop, which should contain the following documents:

1. An unconditional bank guarantee of (US 1,600\$) valid for 120 days as of the date of Bid opening or a cashable check.
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4. A copy of valid registration and classification for the year 2008.
5. A copy of valid Zakat certificate for the year 2008.
6. A copy of valid commercial registration valid for the year 2008.
7. A copy of valid profession license certificate for the year 2008.
8. A copy of valid sales tax registration certificate for the year 2008.

The deadline for receiving the proposals is at 11:00 am on Saturday 29/11/2008 at the corporation's main premises.



Invitation for General Bid No. (24) for the year 2008

The TV and Radio General Corporation declared its interest in inviting for general bid number (24) for the year 2008 for:

Importing, installing, licensing, testing and guaranteeing computers with their peripheries to the corporation.

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

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

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الشيبياني
Basem M.A. ALshaibani

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عدن ت: ٣٤٤٢٨٠

شركة اليمن للتأمين صنعا ت: ٢٧٨٨٠/٢٧٧٩٦٦/٤٢
عدن ت: ٢٤٧٦١٧
تغر ت: ٢٥٠٣٤٥

مدارس
مدرسة رينبو ت: ٤١٤٠٠٢٦/٤٢٤-٤٢٣
مدارس صنعا الدولية ت: ٢٧٠١٩١/٣
فاكس: ٢٧٠١٩٣
مدرسة التريكة الدولية ت: ٤٤٨٥٨/٩
ت: ٢٠٦١٥٩
مدرسة الماجد اليمنية

سفريات
النسيم للسفريات ت: ٣٧-٧٥٠
العالمية للسفريات والسياحة ت: ٤٤١١٥٩/٦٠

مطاعم
مطعم ومخازنة الشيبياني (باسم محمد عبده الشيبياني)
تلفون: ٢٦٦٢٧٥ - ٥٠٥٢٩٠ فاكس: ٣٦٧١١٩

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شركة أو مؤسسة تجارية
للتواصل: ٧١٢٩٢٩٩٤١

• بكالوريوس علوم حاسوب - خبرة في تقنية المعلومات - خبرة في الصيانة - خبرة في مجال المبيعات - يرغب في العمل في مجال تخصصه

للتواصل: ٧٧٨١٨٤٢٠

• بكالوريوس حاسب آلي - حاصل على الشهادة العالمية CCNA في مجال الشبكات - حاصل على الرخصة الدولية لقيادة الحاسب ICDL - يرغب في العمل في مجال تخصصه

للتواصل: ٧١١٠١١٦٨

• فيزان فرج - بكالوريوس هندسة بترول - جامعة حضرموت للعلوم والتكنولوجيا - دورات في اللغة الإنجليزية من المعهد البريطاني للغات - دورات كمبيوتر - رخصة قيادة مع الشهادة - عضو في جمعية المهندسين (SPE) - يرغب في العمل في أي شركة نظفية

للتواصل: ٧٧٠٨٠٧٣٢٠

عقارات

• للبيع: فيلا مساحتها ١١٠٠ - حجر مسلح مكون من ٥ غرف وديوان و ٣ حمامات ومطبخ وصالة - الحوش دائري يتسع لعدة سيارات

للتواصل: ٧٧٧٤٠٨٧١١

• للبيع: أرض مساحتها عشرين لبنه على شارعين في منطقة حده جوار السفارة الألمانية بالقرب من شركة MTN

للتواصل: ٧٧٧٩٩١٢٤٨

للتواصل: ٧٧٧٩٩١٢٤٨

• خبرة في مجال الحسابات - جيد في اللغة الإنجليزية - مستوى متقدم في اللغة الفرنسية - يريد العمل في أي

تدريس مواد الكمبيوتر - خبرة في الصيانة - يجيد اللغة الإنجليزية - يرغب في العمل في أي مكان

للتواصل: ٧٣٣٨٠٣١٩٤

• صادق ناصر - بكالوريوس محاسبة - جامعة الأحقاف - دورات في اللغة الإنجليزية في معهد YALI - دورات كمبيوتر في البرامج التطبيقية والبرامج المحاسبية ونظام يمن سوفت - خبرة ٧ سنوات في مجال المحاسبة

للتواصل: ٧٣٤٧٨٠٥٠٨

• بكالوريوس محاسبة - جامعة صنعا - دبلوم سكرتارية كمبيوتر - النظام المحاسبي المتكامل (يمن سوفت) - خبرة في الحسابات والمراجعة والإدارة.

للتواصل: ٧٣٣٠٧٩٨٨٢

• ياسر محمد - بكالوريوس صيدلة - الهند - يجيد اللغة العربية والإنجليزية والهندية - يريد العمل كمندوب شركة أدوية - يفضل العمل في محافظة في محافظة الحديدة

للتواصل: ٧٣٥٦٠٢٥٢٢

• صادق - دبلوم محاسبة - دبلوم كمبيوتر - نظام محاسبي يمن سوفت - خبرة في مجال الحسابات والمراجعة - قادر على توفير الضمانة التجارية - يرغب في العمل في أي محافظة

للتواصل: ٧٧١٥٧٦٢٣٣

٧٧١٨٦٠٢٢٧

• خبرة واسعة في مجال المراسلات والترجمة.

للتواصل: ٧٣٤٧٨٦٢٢٩٥

• خبرة في مجال المراسلات والترجمة من الإنجليزية إلى العربية والعكس - يرغب في العمل مع أي منظمة أو شركة تجارية.

للتواصل: ٧٧٧٩٩١٢٤٨

• خبرة في مجال الحسابات - جيد في اللغة الإنجليزية - مستوى متقدم في اللغة الفرنسية - يريد العمل في أي

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• مطلوب عدد أربع خياطات ومصمات أزياء محلية وأجنبية براتب أو بالقطعة للعمل لدى جمعية الاشفاق الإجتماعية الخيرية على أن يكون لديهن الخبرة في هذا المجال

للتواصل: ٧١١٦٢٨٦٠
أو ١-٢٣٧٦٦٣

• مطلوب مصممين ومفصليين أزياء وكوفيرات وخياطات أو خياطين

للتواصل: ٧١٢٣٠٨٢٧٣

• مطلوب عدد من المندوبين أو المندوبات بالشروط التالية:

بكالوريوس صيدلة - إجابة اللغة الإنجليزية - لا يزيد العمر عن ٣٥ سنة - حسن المظهر والسلوك - يفضل من لديه خبرة سابقة.

للتواصل: ٧٧١٩٦١٨٣٦ أو ٠١/٤٠٣٦٧١

باحثون عن وظيفة

• دبلوم محاسبة المعهد الوطني - نظام محاسبي يمن سوفت - دبلوم سكرتارية كمبيوتر - يرغب في العمل في مجال

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تفاصيل الاعلان:

عنوان التواصل:

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

Assaid - Twinkling star in Shabwa

By: Nasser Abdullah Nasser Salah
For the Yemen Times

With a population of approximately 15,000, the picturesque town of Assaid is situated on a highland 35 kilometers southeast of Attaq, the capital of Shabwa governorate. Hidden among three mountains - Hide Bin Radhi, Hide Mura'ah and Hide Al-Burieh, the town is decorated with many trees of Nabk (Christ's thorn). In full bloom, Nabk trees fill the air with a subtle aroma, providing a relaxing atmosphere and flowers for bees to make excellent honey.

Distinguished by its ancient architectural masterpieces, the town is home to buildings that are hundreds of years old. A beautiful blend of the use of mud and classical design bear witness to their deep-roots and authenticity. Such buildings are known to be very strong, solid and resistant to most climatic conditions.

There were once some Jewish families, known as skilful silversmiths, who were inhabitants of Assaid. Many of them dwelled in the village of Algabieh, but most of them lived in Habban, a small town located on the Aden-Mukalla highway 40 kilometers northeast of Attaq, where they had their



Distinguished by its ancient architectural masterpieces, the town is home to buildings that are hundreds of years old.

own houses and cemeteries. Jews settled there for years until 1948, when they were removed under the protection of the British Government to Palestine.

The town has had a number of names throughout history. It was once called 'the location of the Sheikdom of Upper Awaliq and Khalifah' during

the time of the Federation of South Arabia under the power of the British colonizer. Then it was called 'the capital of the centre' shortly after national independence in November 1967. Following the blessed unification of Yemen 22 May 1990, it became 'the capital of the province'.

The people of Assaid are friendly,

hospitable, forgiving and cooperative. They would willingly spare no effort to do good for the country. They support the noble goals of 26 September as well as those of 14 October and stand by the Yemeni Unification. They are charitable and contribute to the betterment of social welfare. In the past, as there were fewer people in the town, they used to live together as one big family and supported each other, for example by building houses for the needy and providing rations for the voluntary builders.

The people of Assaid uphold their customs and traditions, handed down from one generation to another. Assaid is indeed a twinkling star that shines throughout the Yashbum Valley, one that will leave its imprint on memory for years and centuries to come.

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Saudi Airlines resume flights to Aden International Airport



October 27, 2008 — Saudi Airlines resumed its flights to Aden international Airport after it stopped for 18 years. The first flight was launched on the airplane Boeing MD90 which carries 121 passengers.

The Saudi consulate to Sana'a Mansoor Al-Mazmumi and the delegation that accompanied him launched the flight which started from Jeddah International Airport to Aden.

The Saudi delegation was received in Aden Airport by Ahmed Salem, deputy governor of Aden, Ahmed Salem, Assistant

deputy governor of Aden and Naji Al-Harbi, director of the Saudi Airlines in Yemen as well as head of Aden security Abdullah Abdu.

A reception was held in Aden international airport during which many speeches were delivered and the two sides exchanged congratulation on the occasion of the Saudi Airlines resumption of flights to Aden, which facilitates the movements of both passengers and goods between the two neighboring countries.



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