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**EDUCATION**  
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## Security measures for Yemeni Jews increased after the murder of a Jewish teacher

Trail starts on Tuesday of the air force officer who had shot a prominent Yemeni Jew in Raidah, Amran last Thursday. The murderer was dismissed from work four years ago, and was not imprisoned for the murder of his own wife two years ago because of being mentally unstable.

By: Mohammed bin Sallam

AMRAN, Dec. 14 — High level instructions ordered an urgent trail of Yemeni Jewish citizen's murderer. The victim's family insists on capital penalty as the only "just" verdict against the killer, who had escaped this fate the last time he killed based on mental disturbance.

Having high level instructions ordering the urgent trail is a good sign for the relatives who refuse to bury their relative until the case is resolved.

Meanwhile, security forces in Amran and Sana'a have increased protection measures for the Jewish community and visitors in preparation for the funeral of Moshe bin Yaish bin Yusuf Nahari, 30, who was shot last Thursday by a Muslim extremist.

Nahari was a prominent activist in the community and a teacher in the local Jewish school. Although his mother and four sisters emigrated to Israel, he insisted on staying in Yemen with his father as he is the only son in his family and to help the remaining Jewish community in the country. He had previously studied Jewish religion and the Hebrew language in the USA for six years before returning to Yemen

to live with his wife and five daughters and four sons.

Saeed Al-Ammar, rabbi of the entire Jewish community in Yemen, admitted in press statements that the community had been receiving threats recently by extremists demanding them to leave the country.

"As Yemenis we have the right to live here and feel safe. The state should protect us as minorities who just want to live in their country in peace," said Al-Ammar who acknowledged the government's support for Jews in Yemen but demanded it be increased, especially in light of the recent threats.

Many of Nahari's relatives and members of the Yemeni Jewish community now living in Israel, the USA and Europe are currently traveling to Yemen in order to attend the funeral which is expected to take place this week.

Nahari's family in Israel had a car accident soon after their arrival in Yemen. The car accident took place on the road to Amran from Sana'a airport on Friday, and both Nahari's mother and one of his sisters were hospitalized for a few days before released to the care of relatives. Their conditions are stable but have not yet seen the body of their relative who was shot on Thursday in the central market of Raidah, the family's home town where the small Jewish community of less than a thousand resides.

The mother and sisters insist on taking Nahari's body back with them to be buried in Israel according to Yahya Yahouda Dhahiri, a member of the community currently living in London,

especially since the father is very likely to leave Yemen with them after the death of his only son.

The killer, Abdulaziz Hamoud Al-Abdi, is from the same town which had hosted Muslims and Jews for centuries. He is currently in custody after confessing to the murder, and security is investigating another eight men who were arrested on Friday in connection to the killing.

The incident was the first of its kind for decades, according to Raidah local council's director.

"Until the rigid Salafi group infiltrated our community and spread extremist ideas, we lived in peace and as members of the same community," said a tribal source from the area referring to the recent problems caused by the fundamentalists and their targeting Jewish minorities and harassing their children in school.

Those close to the deceased claim that the extremist had met with Moshe Nahari three days before the murder to give him an ultimatum either to become a Muslim, leave Yemen or die.

"We demand the President of the Republic who is a president for all Yemenis to investigate the murder and ensure justice is carried out against the



Moshe Nahari (left) teaching younger Jews how to repair house furniture. Nahari was shot by a Muslim radical last Thursday in Raidah, Amran.

murderer and those who wish to spread hatred and violence on earth," said Abraham bin Yahya bin Yusuf a member of the community.

Simultaneously, the Jewish community's leaders held consecutive meetings on Thursday and Friday at Shiekh Kahlan Mujahid Abu Shawarib's house to discuss the consequences of this murder. Abu Shawarib is the local sheikh of Kharef and is respected by both the Muslims and Jews in his area.

Yahya Yaish, son of a former rabbi, declared that the community decided against burying Nahari's body until his murder is resolved according to the Yemeni tribal tradition, even though Nahari's mother and sisters demand to bury him in Israel.

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# Yemen's most wanted terrorist blames state for terror attacks

By Jane Novak  
For the Yemen Times

MAREB, Dec. 13 — Yemen's intelligence services orchestrated some terror attacks in order to manipulate US and international perceptions, Hamza Ali Saleh al Dhayani said in an interview last week. Al Dhayani is Yemen's most wanted fugitive in the September 17 suicide attack on the US Embassy in Sana'a that killed 16, including an American citizen.

Yemen also named al Dhayani as mastermind of the March 2008 mortar attack on the US Embassy and the July 2007 suicide car bombing in Mareb that killed ten. Dhayani is Mareb under the protection of Jahm tribe and granted the interview to Mareb Press after taking several security precautions.

"I am ready to prove the reality that some attacks were planned in co-ordination and agreement of the Political

Security and its agents to gain foreign support and to confirm to America that they (the Yemeni state) launch war against terrorism," Dhayani said in the interview.

Yemen's Political Security Organization (PSO) is an internal intelligence arm that reports directly to President Saleh. It is responsible for much of the regime's efforts to stifle the free press and silence journalists, political opposition, and critics. The PSO has absorbed numerous former al Qaeda operatives and contains some al-Qaeda sympathizers. Galib al Qamish, the head of the PSO, is often tasked with negotiating security agreements with current and former militants. Some analysts have postulated that the PSO deploys militants within Yemen for political ends.

Dhayani's accusations came in context of a warning that the Yemeni intelligence services are gearing up to target

Mareb tribal leaders and social figures under the cover of al Qaeda. Many Mareb tribes have a history of opposition to President Saleh's Sanhan tribe. Dhayani offered to provide details of the planned operations to the targeted figures.

Dhayani said September's assault on the US embassy was perpetrated by some would-be jihadists who were prevented from traveling to Iraq. The Yemeni government benefited from the attack by "reviving its role in fighting terror and its claim to be on the front line," he said. Yemen was able to "correct its tarnished reputation", and gained international support after warnings that Saudi and UAE embassies were future targets for al Qaeda.

In July 2007, a suicide car bomber attacked a convoy of Spanish tourists at an ancient temple in Mareb. Eight elderly Spanish tourists and two Yemenis were murdered in the bombing.



Hamza Ali Saleh al Dhayani

Officials allege Dhayani was the bomber's recruiter and driving instructor. Dhayani refuted the charge, saying he is unable to drive and employs a driver himself. Preceding the attack, he and his family were in Wadi Abida Valley where he was searching for work, Dhayani said, claiming security

forces know that he is innocent. Official statements in 2007 indicated the terror cell's hide out was in Wadi Abida.

The Gulf Research Center identifies Dhayani as the leader of the Yemen Soldiers Brigade, "This group is responsible for the majority of operations over the past two years," the center noted. "Since the beginning of this year, 'Kataeb al Jund al Yemen' has released a number of statements claiming responsibility for many operations, including targeting oil installations, government buildings, the Hadda compound used by western residents, and the US and Italian embassies." The quality of the Yemen Soldiers Brigade's attacks has been "poor," the Gulf Research Center said, noting the group has a "lack of battle and planning experience, technical skills, training, and the lack of resources."

Dhayani characterized the dozens of

attacks by saying some are "reactions by those young people who suffered from torture in prisons, in addition to, some of it was made by the security apparatuses and its agents." None were the work of al Qaeda he said, noting Osama bin Laden prohibited attacks within Yemen and focused jihadists' efforts elsewhere.

Dhayani traveled to Afghanistan for Jihad in 1999 when he was 16 and stayed until the collapse of the Taliban. Yemenis were frequently in bin Laden's inner circle, and some remain in indirect contact. Other Yemenis who previously had personal relationships with bin Laden, including Abu al Feida and Abu Jindal, also assert that a component of bin Laden's central plan includes a restriction on attacks within Yemen.

*From The Long War Journal.org with permission*

## Indian Navy captures 23 Yemeni and Somali pirates

By: Mohammed Bin Sallam

SANA'A, Dec. 14 — The Indian Navy announced Saturday that it arrested as many as 23 Somali and Yemeni pirates who attacked a merchant vessel in the Gulf of Aden.

In a statement distributed to media outlets, a naval spokesman declared that Indian Special Forces boarded a ship carrying an Ethiopian flag after receiving a distress call from a shipping vessel.

The Indian Navy said that 12 Somalis and 11 Yemenis surrendered, adding that all the pirates and their weapons have been handed over to the relevant authorities, and indicated that the Indian warship will continue patrolling the Gulf of Aden.

Last month, the Indian Navy said it destroyed a boat used by pirates near the Somali coast. The U.S. Department of Defense warned on Friday that the problem of piracy in the Horn of Africa cannot be resolved by the use of force.

In the meantime, U.S. officials began Friday circulating a draft resolution in the UN Security Council with the intention of enhancing efforts to fight piracy along the Somali coast by allowing foreign forces to attack pirates in their land bases.

U.S. Department of Defense spokesman Bryan Whiteman refused to say whether U.S. forces are ready to launch military operations if the UN Security Council approves the draft resolution.

lution submitted by Washington.

U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice is expected to visit the UN Security Council on Tuesday to join her counterparts from UN member states in a meeting on fighting piracy.

U.S. Deputy Ambassador to the UN Alexander Wolf said, "There is good solidarity in the council, plus a consensus on the necessity of dealing with piracy and thwarting the phenomenon by all the available means."

"With regard to the threat posed by pirates to international navigation and the Somali government, we will spare no effort in dealing with the problem. And any military operation on the ground should be accepted by the Somali government," Wolf told journalists.

Yet fears of civilian casualties and questions of national sovereignty have undermined widespread support for foreign military operations within Somali territory.

U.S. Secretary of Defense Robert Gates added on Friday that the U.S. also lacks the necessary intelligence information to wage a war on pirates in Somali territory.

"Through the information we obtained recently, we are not in a position to launch such operations, as we still need accurate intelligence information to identify who stands behind piracy," he said at the Regional Security Conference in Bahrain.

Hinting that two or three families sup-

port pirates to attack vessels along the Somali coastline, Gates said, "If we could identify these families, we will be able to launch operations under the UN supervision."

As a result, the mandate of foreign military forces remains limited solely to the protection of shipping vessels.

### Ransom payments to pirates opposed

UN diplomats who had access to the draft resolution said it focused on taking all the necessary measures including air strikes to attack pirates in their land bases and called for establishing a central body to share intelligence about pirates in the region and prevent paying ransoms to them.

The draft resolution also suggested that states, authorized by Somalia, may take all necessary procedures within the Somali territory to arrest those who use Somali for piracy purposes.

According to the London-based Al-Sharq Al-Awsat, Somali sources maintain that the American project is intended to enable U.S. intelligence agents to officially pursue members of al Qaeda currently seeking refuge along the Somali coast.

The resolution is privately opposed by certain diplomats who hold the view that the UN Security Council has been traditionally unwilling to offer the resources necessary to ensure stability in Somalia.

### International piracy conference

An international conference on piracy began on Wednesday in the Kenyan capital city of Nairobi. The two-day conference, sponsored by the UN, brought together officials from more than 40 countries, as well as representatives from regional and international organizations. On the first, technical experts discussed the issue, and ministerial-level meetings were held on Thursday.

The conference sought to develop an improved approach to pursuing, arresting, and charging pirates. The UN Office on Drugs and Crime is reported to have proposed a \$1.3 million program to enhance justice and law enforcement efforts in Djibouti, Kenya, Tanzania, and Yemen.

The meeting began just one day after the European Union outlined a new security mission off the coast of Somalia. Operation Atalanta joins existing deployments from NATO, Russia, and other countries to combat a sharp rise in piracy in the area in recent months.

Meanwhile, the German government approved a deployment of up 1,400 troops and one naval vessel for the mission. The German parliament is expected to vote on the deployment by December 19.

An official with the East African Seafarers' Association, Andrew Mwangura, said that international efforts would have little lasting impact without involving the local population in Somalia.

"If you are not going to involve the local community, it cannot achieve anything," he said.

Mwangura said a strategy to combat piracy needs to be part of a coordinated effort against other illicit activities in the region.

"If we want to stop piracy we need to fight all illegal activities in this region, because they are connected. Let us say piracy is connected to toxic dumping. Toxic dumping is connected to drug trafficking. Drug trafficking is connected to gun running. Those mafia-like businessmen are part of piracy, they do control

pirate groups in Somalia. The real pirates are outside Somalia. In fact they do not go out to sea. Some of them are based in Nairobi, some are in Dubai," said Mwangura.

There have been more than 100 pirate attacks this year in the Gulf of Aden or the Indian Ocean off the coast of Somalia, and some 40 ships have been captured. Pirates are holding more than a dozen ships and 300 crew members, in the hopes of receiving ransom payments that often exceed millions of dollars.

Among the ships presently held are a Saudi Arabian supertanker, carrying USD 100 million worth of oil, and a Ukrainian ship carrying more than 30 military tanks.

The Yemeni army-affiliated 26Sep.net reported on Friday that seven Yemeni fishermen escaped pirates and returned to the shore safely aboard a small boat, while 12 other fishermen were aboard the Falloja Vessel when it was caught by pirates. The website did not say when the most recent piracy incident in the Gulf of Aden occurred.

## New reform strategy for mosques and religious practice

By: Ismail Al-Ghabri

SANA'A, Dec. 13 — The Ministry of Endowments and Religious Affairs is carrying out a reform strategy to guide religious teaching in religious schools and mosques in Yemen.

The strategy is in line with the president's electoral program to improve the ministry's services and ensure religious ceremonies are constructive and do not preach hatred or instigate violence.

The ministry had drafted a guidance strategy plan for imams and preachers to strengthen faith while keeping up with modern needs as members of the global community.

The guidance strategy seeks to oblige preachers to commit to ethics, freedom of speech and constructive dialogue to promote virtue and fight vice, informing concerned authorities to assist when needed.

It encourages religious leaders to avoid "takfeer" [accusations of infidelity] and the defamation of individuals or authorities, as well as factional, sectarian, racial and regional fanaticism.

It seeks to promote deliberation before issuing a fatwa so as not to insult the prophet's followers or Islamic doctrines, and stresses that the mosque should not be used as a forum for electoral propaganda.

The production of a guidance strategy is a direct result of the lack of both legalization to steer religious guidance and monitoring in the more than 53,000 mosques in Yemen, as recorded in a previous report issued by the Ministry of Endowment.

The ministry has formed a body to monitor the performance of religious preachers and religious teachers in



Al-Saleh Mosque inaugurated recently is one of the largest mosques in the region. It includes a college for teaching Sharia and Islamic studies.

schools, and is to create different district offices for guidance in mosques and religious schools in the near future. It also seeks the authority to oversee the religious syllabus taught in schools and to supervise charities and religious associations in the civil society sector.

To this end, the ministry has proposed establishing two laws, the first to define the role of preachers, imams and workers in mosques and the second to define the concept of religious guidance and its limits.

To counteract recent trends harmful to national unity and instigating hatred and violence within the community, the ministry's new strategy includes an immediate plan to endorse positive dia-

logue and tolerance, while redistributing preachers demographically so that every 1,000 citizens have a single religious leader.

The strategy also includes creating a supreme council for endowment and guidance and amending the ministry's by-law to cancel its investment section, an alternative to which might be setting up an endowment establishment for development and investment.

Finally, the strategy proposes to establish an intellectual dialogue center in Sana'a and to upgrade institutes for higher studies in religious guidance in Sana'a and Aden to become specialized colleges, along with establishing new ones.

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7. Samples (80 paper A4) from each group for testing them

- A foreign bidder may provide the equivalent documents indicated in 2, 3 and 4 from its country of registration as appropriate.
- The deadline for submission and bids opening will be on 28/1/2009 at 11.00 AM Wednesday.
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- Potential bidders may inspect bidding documents before purchasing during working hours for a period (40 days) starting from advertisement.



## Their News

**Japan Provides Additional Emergency Aid to the Flood-Affected Population**

To alleviate sufferings of those affected by the devastating floods in late October in the south-eastern governorates, and in response to Yemen Floods Response Plan submitted by United Nations and endorsed by the Government of Yemen, the Government of Japan has decided to provide USD 800,000 as additional humanitarian emergency aid to the flood-affected population in Yemen.

The Government of Japan will provide USD 500,000 of this assistance through UNHCR to help covering part of the financing gap of the projects that UNHCR intends to implement. These projects will include distribution of emergency relief items including shelter materials (tents, plastic sheets, mattresses, blankets and shelter kits) and collecting data on the affected population, monitoring access to basic assistance and services for the most in need, and support government program to recover loss documentation.

The other amount of USD 300,000 of this assistance will be provided through UNICEF to help covering part of the financial gap of the projects that UNICEF intends to carry out. These projects are targeted for preventing further deterioration of the water and sanitation situation for vulnerable households in affected areas; improving access to save drinking water and adequate sanitation facilities; reducing avoidable mortality and morbidity; and improving the health and nutritional status of the concerned population. The projects will evaluate child protection needs through establishing child protection monitoring mechanisms and provide services. They will also support the return of children to school in the aftermath of the floods.

It is worth mentioning that the Government of Japan provided last month USD 200,000 worth of emergency items for the flood-affected population in Yemen. These items included large family size tents, sleeping pad, blankets, water purifier and plastic sheets. This makes the total amount of Japanese assistance to the flood-affected population is USD 1,000,000 (one million US dollars).

**EC allots Euro19 million to support health, administration in Yemen**

The European Commission (EC) allocated on Saturday Euro19 million to support fields of health and public administration in the country.

A press release issued by the EU, made clear that the grant is within the EC annual assistance program to Yemen for 2008 to support two components in theses to fields.

According to the press release, half of the amount (Euro9.5 million) would be appropriated to finance the second phase of the reproductive health and population in governorates of Hajjah, Amran and Mahweet, noting that this program is an

expansion to the current EC-financed program in the governorates of Taiz, Lahj and Hodeidah.

The second half of the grant has been allocated for the program of supporting reforms in juvenile's justice, rule of law and administrative reform and aiming at strengthening the capabilities of Yemeni public authorities and civil society in the filed of juveniles' justice in accordance with the United Nation standards.

**Former Indonesian Foreign Minister, Ali Alatas Passed Away**

Former Foreign Minister Ali Alatas died of a heart attack on Thursday morning (11th December 2008) at Mount Elizabeth Hospital in Singapore. He was 76.

Mr. Ali Alatas was born in Jakarta on Nov. 5, 1932. In his late teenage years, Ali became a journalist for the Newsgierf daily (1952) and worked as an editor for Aneta News Portal (1953-54).

Following his marriage at the age of twenty two, Ali was assigned as Secretary II in Bangkok (1956-1960), after which he held the post of Information and Cultural Relations Director at the Foreign Ministry (1965-66), going on to become a Councilor at the Indonesian Embassy in Washington DC (1966-70).

Upon his return to Indonesia, Ali was again appointed Director of Information and Cultural Relations, a post he held from 1970-72. He was later appointed Secretary of the Foreign Ministry Directorate General (1972-75), following which he became a member of Special Staff and Head of the Foreign Ministry's private secretariat (1975-76).

Ali became the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Indonesia to the UN in Geneva from 1976-78 and, on his return, was Secretary to the Vice President for four years. He was reassigned as Indonesia's Permanent Representative from 1983-87 -- this time in New York.

As Foreign Minister from 1988 to 1999, Ali Alatas was the public face abroad during President Soeharto's era. The late Ali Alatas continued as Foreign Minister under Soeharto's successor, B.J. Habibie. He continued to act as foreign policy advisor to successive presidents -- Abdurrahman Wahid, Megawati Soekarnoputri and now Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono.

Indonesia has a lot to thank him for, as he managed to maintain the nation's standing and integrity in the international community when the country was beset with problems at home that could have sullied its image. His biggest contributions as Indonesia's chief diplomat included helping to negotiate peace in Cambodia and to some extent, the southern Philippines.

He was also the main driver in the development and expansion of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) in the 1990s, which would become one of the most successful regional organizations in the world.

His leadership, personality, character, negotiating skills and articulation helped to bring international accolades for Indonesia.

Last but not least, he was also one of the leading Hadramy communities in Indonesia that surely play an important. In June 2005, he visited Yemen, and had a chance to have a trip to Hadramout as his ancestral hometown in which he was greeted with proud and honor by the people of the town.

The Book of Condolences would be prepared at the Indonesian Embassy in Sana'a starting on Monday, 15th December 2008.

**Poynter invites college students to multimedia boot camp**

College juniors, seniors, graduate students or recent graduates are sought for an intensive, multimedia boot camp to take place in Florida, in the United States. Deadline to apply: January 30, 2009.

The Poynter Institute will welcome 40 writers, photojournalists, graphic artists, designers, broadcast and multimedia journalists to be fellows through the program, the "Fellowship for College Journalists."

Fellowships will run from May 17 to 29. Tuition is free, but fellows are responsible for transportation to the U.S., obtaining a visa and paying for housing.

By January 30, interested applicants must send a completed application, which includes a 500-word essay, a bio, one letter of reference from a faculty adviser, and three to five work samples.

**World's Press Condemns Travel Restrictions on Arab Journalists**

Authorities in Tunisia, Saudi Arabia and Syria have prevented four Arab journalists and human rights activists from attending the Arab Free Press Forum, an annual gathering in Beirut, Lebanon, that examines how independent media can be effective despite widespread repression in the region. The travel restrictions drew condemnation from the World Association of Newspapers, the organiser of the event.

"The journalists were prevented from attending to keep them from testifying about press freedom restrictions in their countries," WAN said in a statement, which condemned the actions and called on the Tunisian, Saudi Arabian and Syrian governments to stop harassing independent journalists and bloggers and allow them to travel and to speak freely.

Airport police in Tunisia on Wednesday prevented journalist Litfi Hidouri and human rights lawyer and writer Mohamed Abbou from boarding a plane to Beirut, where the two-day conference begins on Friday. Mr Hidouri was placed in detention, where he was reportedly still being held Thursday evening, and Mr Abbou was allowed to return to his home. WAN called for the immediate release of Mr Hidouri.

Saudi blogger Fouad Al-Farhan, who was scheduled to speak on a

panel examining the changing face of Arab blogging, was prevented from boarding his flight on Wednesday. He had recently been released from prison but was unaware that he was banned from traveling.

Mazen Darwish, Director of the Syrian Center for Media and Freedom of Expression, was also prevented from leaving his country. It was the second time he was prevented from attending the Forum.

Mr Abbou and Mr Hidouri were scheduled to participate on a panel that will examine the increased censorship and harassment facing journalists and civil society activists in Tunisia.

The Arab Free Press Forum, organised by WAN and the Lebanese daily An-Nahar, annually draws independent journalists from across the Arab world to Beirut to address the challenges and opportunities facing Arab media. Full details of the conference can be found at <http://www.wan-press.org/arabfreepressforum>

The Paris-based WAN, the global organisation for the newspaper industry, defends and promotes press freedom and the professional and business interests of newspapers world-wide. Representing 18,000 newspapers, its membership includes 77 national newspaper associations, newspaper companies and individual newspaper executives in 102 countries, 12 news agencies and 11 regional and world-wide press groups.

**Al Jazeera Goes Into Citizen Journalism**

A citizen-journalism upload portal has been launched by Qatar-based Arabic satellite network Al Jazeera, "seeking eyewitness news reports from its vast international audience." According to an English translation of the project's website, posted by Yelvington's blog, Al Jazeera's aim is to "raise awareness" of issues of public interest and be a "bridge" between peoples and cultures by providing "unbiased coverage of events."

Yelvington speculates that Al Jazeera "will have quite a challenge protecting itself from fraud and manipulation," as citizen journalism can be skewed. The network commits itself to "the principles of professionalism in the institutional framework" through a code of conduct, which requires it to present and "provide views and different opinions without bias or partiality to any of them."

The use of citizen journalism in such a volatile region could lead to the

network's exploitation. However, despite the opportunity for false and slanted reporting, citizen journalism also offers an opportunity for the community to express its opinion.

Al Jazeera's code of conduct calls for "transparency" by the network, and requires that all sources be named and verified. Provided that the network follows through with its principles, this project could be a transforming force for the region in both its approach and progression to multimedia.

**Embassy of Japan****Senior Clerk Required****Job description**

- Analyze and compile reports in English, daily and monthly, on politics, economics, security and other issues of Yemen and the region, based on articles, public documents and other sources
- Gather all kinds of information that the Embassy needs
- Contact to governmental authorities, academic institutes, media, international agencies and others
- Prepare drafts of the diplomatic notes in Arabic and English
- Translate and interpret Arabic into English and vice versa
- Make various arrangements for Japanese officials
- Do other duties as required by officials of the Embassy

**Qualifications**

- University degree in political science, international relations, public administration, economics or other similar faculties
- Working experiences at least 5 years in government, educational or research institutes, mass media, international agencies or others
- Excellent command of both English and Arabic, particularly in writing
- Full capacity of using personal computer and its soft programs
- Yemeni nationality

**Applications**

Send curriculum vitae and detailed personal history, not later than December 24, 2008, to Administration Section of the Embassy of Japan

P.O.Box 817,Sana'a  
Fax: +967-1-417850  
E-mail:

[jkawashima@japanembassy.gov.ye](mailto:jkawashima@japanembassy.gov.ye),  
[ymurakawa@japanembassy.gov.ye](mailto:ymurakawa@japanembassy.gov.ye)

**The Supreme National Anti Corruption Committee (SNACC) & The National Democratic Institute (NDI)****Announce****The opening of the application period for Small Grants in Support of Anti Corruption Initiatives**

SNACC and NDI are pleased to announce the opening of a Small Grants Program in support of local anti-corruption initiatives. The project is designed to enhance and support non-governmental organizations (NGOs) who contribute to combating corruption. Under this project, SNACC and NDI announce a call for proposals from NGOs in the following project areas:

- Conducting awareness campaigns to educate the public on specific aspects of corruption
- Activities on public expenditures tracking and performance measurement
- Public policy advocacy initiatives
- Public service delivery monitoring and evaluation
- Enhancing public financial disclosures
- Strengthening anti-corruption initiatives within local governance
- Public opinion research regarding national anti-corruption agencies
- Research on Legislatures and their efforts in combating corruption
- Research on preventive measures against corruption in public administration and the civil service
- Research on curbing corruption in public procurement
- NGO support for government efforts in combating corruption
- Activities and initiatives to enhance the access to information and the media's role in combating corruption
- Improving public complaints mechanisms and responsiveness

Proposed projects should be able to be initiated by January 1, 2009 and completed by March 30, 2009.

To request an application package please contact Ms. Bushra Al Lesswas at [ballesswas@ndi.org](mailto:ballesswas@ndi.org). Proposals that do not follow the application package will not be accepted.

Applications should be submitted not later than December 24, 2008 to the following address:

**The National Democratic Institute**  
**Hadda District**  
**Sana'a - Yemen**  
**Tel: 01/427519 or 01/427520**  
**Fax: 01/427518**  
**E-Mail [ballesswas@ndi.org](mailto:ballesswas@ndi.org)**  
**P. O. Box: 19904**

Proposals will be reviewed by SNACC and NDI and the final announcement of selected recipients will be made on December 30, 2008. Grants will be awarded in amounts ranging from \$1500 to \$9999. Funding for this project is made possible by the US Agency for International Development.

**Islamic Relief Qurbani project**

Islamic Relief Yemen with support from IR branches concluded the Qurbani project by which poor families in six governorates benefited from the sheep distribution on the occasion of Al-Adhha Eid. Mahwait, Sa'ada, Sana'a, Ibb, Taiz and Hadramout communities benefited from the 25,425 euro project which provided 339 sheep to be used

during Eid Al-Adhah by 1,356 families.

The families were selected according to a field survey targeting the poorest communities in those six governorates and providing them with meat and helping them celebrate the occasion.

Islamic Relief (IR) has been working in Yemen since 1998 on

Ramadhan and Qurbani projects. In 2003 IR registered a field office to implement large-scale projects that would have a long-term impact on Yemen's development.

Projects include water, health, orphans support and building partnerships between Muslim organisations and other aid agencies working in Yemen.







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Sheikh Taskhiri to the Yemen Times:

# “The enemies of Muslims are responsible for sectarian conflicts in Islamic nations.”

**S**heikh Mohammed Ali Taskhiri, Secretary-General of the Global Body to Bring Islamic Sects Together (GBBIST), was born in the Iraqi city of Najaf on October 19, 1944 and his father is originally from Mazdan governorate in north Iran.

Taskhiri is an eminent Islamic scholar. He urges the various Islamic sects to come together and abandon fanaticism. In addition to his being a scholar of Islamic Sharia, Taskhiri is a poet and a professional writer. He had authored more than 50 books on poetic, literary and linguistic sciences and participated in more than 500 international conferences. He is also a well-known member in the Religions Dialogue Committee.

Mohammed bin Sallam met Taskhiri when he visited Sana'a to attend the inauguration of Al-Saleh Mosque at the end of November and conducted the following interview with him.



Sheikh Mohammed Ali Taskhiri

**Can you brief us on the most important positions you have held recently?**

I am one of those working for GBBIST, a representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the Islamic Jurisprudence Body in the Saudi city of Jeddah and Vice-President of Global Federation for Muslim Scholars.

**What is the main objective of your visit to Sana'a?**

In fact, we adore Yemen. When we visit Yemen, we needn't be asked about the purpose of our visit. I came to Yemen with the purpose of inaugurating the Saleh Mosque, which I saw as great and huge, and therefore deserves celebration across the Muslim nations. I hope that next generation benefits from its services. I also met with some senior Yemeni officials and scholars.

**Muslims from the various sects meeting inside the mosque demonstrated their unity, most notably as they prayed together. Do you see the meeting as a political one or as an indicator of Muslims' unity?**

I think that this is the real prayer favored by Islam. It was not a political prayer, as it was performed for the sake of worshiping Allah.

We aspire to see stronger solidarity and unity between Muslims, even if we sometimes disagree over our thoughts and ideologies. We strongly believe that this disagreement is natural since everyone of us is allowed by Islam to think freely. Most importantly, we live under the umbrella of Islam and our collective prayers at the Saleh Mosque reflect the fact that all the Islamic nations are unified. As Muslims, we are not affected by the geographical borders of our states, the different languages, races or any sec-

tarian ideologies. We are all members of a unified nation.

**We often hear about dialogue between Islamic sects. Has it reached any positive results? And how do you assess current sectarian conflicts in some Muslim states?**

My brother, I would like to tell you that today's dialogue between sects is a humanitarian one, which is really favored by Islam and the Holy Quran. Many intellectuals and university professors are interested in the dialogue, and I hope that it transfers from the elite to the ordinary citizens in order for them to feel that they are members of a unified nation. I think that there are political motives behind current conflicts in Lebanon, Iraq or Pakistan and such conflicts have nothing to do with sectarian disagreement. In fact, enemies of Islam are responsible for the spread of sectarian conflicts among

Muslims.

A few days ago, I met with Shiite and Sunni leaders in Pakistan, who collectively confirmed to me that disagreements in their state are political, and added that foreign forces plan to serve their interests in the Islamic state through these disagreements.

The disagreement in Iraq is purely political too, most notably as the Arab state has undergone hard conditions. Shiite and Sunni Muslims coexist peacefully countrywide while many large clans in Iraq have been found to be comprised of Shiite and Sunni Muslims. The disagreement in Iraq is political and has nothing to do with Islamic sects in the nation.

I don't see a conflict between Shiites and Sunnis as a problem, nor do I think that sects must be engaged in resolving such a kind of conflict. All the Zaidi, Maliki, Hanafi, Hanbali, Shafai and Ithnaashari sects are Islamic and move on the same orbit. It is our enemies who want us to lose our unity and who label conflicts between Islamic sects as religious.

**Can you give us a glimpse of the dialogue between religions?**

The dialogue between religions is also promoted by Islam and the Holy Quran. This dialogue is natural as all religions have common features. And there are numerous issues we can dialogue on, as well as cooperate to solve. Religions constitute a source of pride for all civilizations and an essence for all cultures, and therefore we can transfer dialogue from religions into cultures and then to the level of civilizations.

We are willing to dialogue with other religions for the sake of resolving any pressing issues and promoting peace, love, justice and equality. By doing so, we will consequently reject all the

forms of extremism, terrorism and unjustified violence.

**Do you have something to say about the campaign against Islam that started in September 2001? Was it designed to insult Islam before other religions or conducted spontaneously with no intention to hurt Islam?**

Western animosity towards Islam is very old and so is the conflict between Islam and Western values. In the past, Islam expanded into the western world and the Ottoman armies destroyed fences constructed by the West. The West used to think according to a unified strategy, and agreed on a unified strategy and unified international system. The West had already halted advancement of the Ottoman armies and started occupying the Islamic nations in the 17th Century.

The Western occupation of the Islamic state of Indonesia began in 1646 and lasted for 300 years. The Westerners then thought about occupying almost all the Islamic states in the 50s of the 20th Century. They also concentrated on fragmenting the Islamic nations, but Muslims woke up after fifty or sixty years when they saw the Iranian Revolution led by the late Imam Khomeini, and the defeat of the Soviet Union at the hand of Afghan militants.

Afterward, several false and baseless charges were directed towards Islam and the Westerners exploited them to dominate Islamic states under the guise of fighting terrorism, and therefore established military bases in Muslims' land. They occupied Iraq and Afghanistan and have been planning to attack Iran, Syria and other Islamic states. However, they were surprised by the Islamic resistance that foiled their plots and other Zionist projects to help Israel extend from the Euphrates to the

Nile. Consequently, the Zionists started to construct the separation wall to protect themselves from the Palestinian resistance, which is pondered upon as an unprecedented failure.

I think that Islam will not back out on the decision to liberate all the Muslims' lands. By establishing unified projects and utilizing its available material and human resources, the Islamic nations will restore their power and prestigious status on earth, as well as their glorious civilization. To achieve this objective, Muslims need to demonstrate a serious will.

**Who is in charge of documenting your work and activities?**

I don't think that I have produced something that is worth documenting. I am a student and a knowledge seeker. I am a young soldier of Islam and a herald interested in promoting Islam and serving my culture and nation.

**How many books have you so far authored?**

I have authored nearly fifty books, attended more than 500 international conferences on jurisprudence, politics and economics, submitted tens of scientific dissertations and held several key political posts.

**Do you have any final comment?**

I would like to assure my brothers in Yemen that their brothers in Iran, be they leaders, scholars or ordinary people, highly respect them and appreciate their culture and values. All of us know that the Yemeni-Iranian relations date back to the pre-Islamic ages before they were strengthened by Islam. And, I hope those relations become stronger over time. I have already said to President Saleh that Yemen's relations with Iran are strategic and need to be enhanced.

# Call for Applications

## Nexen Inc.'s Yemen Scholarship Program

### Sponsoring Yemeni Scholars to Study in Canada

**As a reflection of friendship and commitment to assist in Yemen's human resource development, Nexen Inc. is pleased to announce a further 10 scholarships for post-secondary studies at the University of Calgary and SAIT Polytechnic in Calgary, Canada. Nexen's Yemen Scholarship Program was originally initiated to celebrate the company's 10th anniversary in Yemen. A total of 100 scholarships have been awarded to deserving Yemeni secondary school graduates to date. This highly successful initiative was extended in October 2008 to include an additional ten scholarships to be awarded by Nexen Inc. and the Scholarship Steering Committee to qualified secondary school students to study in Canada.**

- The ten (10) scholarship recipients will commence their respective study programs in September 2009 or September 2010.
- Post-secondary study programs currently available for the Nexen Scholarship competition:

Southern Alberta Institute of Technology Polytechnic (SAIT Polytechnic)  
4 Year Bachelor of Applied Technology (B.A.T.) Degree Programs  
For more information on the program offered visit [www.sait.ab.ca](http://www.sait.ab.ca)

B.A.T. — Information Systems

University of Calgary (UofC)

4 Year Degree Programs

For more information on the programs offered visit [www.ucalgary.ca](http://www.ucalgary.ca)

B.Sc — Electrical Engineering\*  
B.Sc — Civil Engineering\*  
B.Sc — Chemical Engineering\*  
B.Sc — Mechanical Engineering\*  
B.Sc — Manufacturing Engineering\*  
B.Sc — Mathematics  
B.Sc — Geophysics

\*B.Sc. Engineering Applicants can choose to undertake a specialization in Biomedical Engineering.

- To qualify for a Nexen Scholarship, all applicants must satisfy the following requirements:
  - Must be a Yemeni citizen residing in Yemen for the past two years
  - Age 17-22 years
  - Possess English-language abilities or be willing to commit to up to 400 hours of Yemen- based English-language training
  - Minimum of 85% overall average on secondary school certificate
  - Commitment to return to Yemen after completion of his/ her studies in Canada

- Submission of all the required documents that are requested in this announcement

#### Selection Process:

Candidate selection will be based on high academic achievement, possession of English language abilities, and a personal interview. Both the University of Calgary and SAIT Polytechnic will not grant formal admission to their respective institutions until the scholarship recipient achieves a minimum TOEFL score of 220 (computer based exam), 560 (paper based exam) and 83 (iBT). Applicants who are in a position to sit for the TOEFL/ITP exam are encouraged to do so prior to submitting their applications. In order to broaden the accessibility of the Nexen Scholarship program, high-achieving Yemeni secondary students from rural areas, who have not been able to access necessary English language training, are given the opportunity to complete intensive English language training at AMIDEAST in Sana'a, Aden or Al Mukalla (fully paid for by Nexen) if selected as a Nexen scholarship recipient.

For more details on the selection process, a detailed guide can be downloaded from the websites of Nexen and AMIDEAST (see section 4 of this announcement for more information).

#### Required Documentation:

- An application form completed in English
- Copy of secondary school grades or transcript
- Copy of personal ID card or passport

- The Nexen Scholarship application forms can be obtained in person from the following application distribution/collection centers:

**AMIDEAST, Inc.**  
Off Algiers St.,  
Sana'a  
Tel: 01-400279/80/81  
**Contact Person:**  
**Ms. Asmaa Al-Shafey**

**AMIDEAST, Inc.**  
162 Miswat Street, Khormaksar  
Aden  
Tel: 02-235069/70/71  
**Contact Person:**  
**Mr. Shakeeb AbdulHamid**

**Mohamed Ali Othman School**  
Near Road Constr. Authority  
Taiz  
Tel: 04-223671/2  
**Contact Person:**  
**Ms. Samar Ahmed Moh'd**

**Hodeidah University**  
Hodeidah  
Tel: 03-250600  
**Contact Person:** Mr. AbdulKarim Al-Ward

**AMIDEAST/Hadramout University**  
University Campus, Al-Fowah Area  
Mukalla  
Tel: 05-371560  
**Contact Person:**  
**Mr. Omar Al-Tamimi**

Applications may also be downloaded from the following websites:

[http://www.nexeninc.com/Sustainability/Community/Yemen\\_Scholarships.asp](http://www.nexeninc.com/Sustainability/Community/Yemen_Scholarships.asp)

or

[http://www.amideast.org/whats\\_new/announcements/nexen.htm](http://www.amideast.org/whats_new/announcements/nexen.htm)

- Completed application forms and requested documentation must be returned in a sealed envelope to any of the above noted application distribution/collection centers. Failure to comply with any of the information requirements will result in disqualification.
- The closing date for accepting applications is **Saturday, December 27, 2008**. Under no circumstances will applications be accepted after this date.
- Nexen Inc. and the Scholarship Steering Committee are committed to giving all Yemeni scholarship applicants equal, fair and competitive opportunities.

Nexen Inc., headquartered in Calgary, Alberta, Canada, is the parent company of Canadian Nexen Petroleum Yemen.



## Words of Wisdom



At this juncture of human history, the lies of politicians have hit record levels. It may be that the lies of politicians have been at about the same level throughout history, but that now we are more aware of them given the extent of information flow. Even if that were the case, I contend that Yemeni politicians are working hard to hit the Guinness Book of Records in this aspect.

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

OUR  
OPINION

## The enemy within

**A**l-Qaeda leader Al-Dhayani, under the protection of Jahn tribe in Mareb, has accused the government of plotting terrorist attacks within Yemen and throwing the blame on Al-Qaeda.

In an interview with Mareb Press, Al-Dhayani said that, of the dozens of attacks in Yemen over the last two years, "some were reactions by those young people who suffered from torture in prison, and some were fabricated by the security apparatuses and its agents." He added that "Osama bin Laden prohibited attacks within Yemen and focused jihadist efforts in Iraq and Afghanistan."

The interviewee also claimed that there will be coming attacks targeting Mareb tribal leaders and social figures under the cover of Al-Qaeda, as many of the Mareb tribes have a history of opposition to President Saleh's Sanhan tribe.

Now there are two points to ponder here. First, how messed up does a state need to be to plot attacks against itself in order to claim that it is in danger? As if there are no battles to fight and Yemen's stability is not naturally under the test.

Second is the notion of protecting Al-Qaeda figures in Yemen and taking advice from them. The terrorist attacks in the last two years might not have been up to Al-Qaeda standards, as not many victims were killed.

The whole concept is absurd. I am neither confirming nor denying the doubt shed by this interview on the country's ruling system's sincerity in fighting terrorism, but I am questioning its ability to control a country in which tribes take advice from Al-Qaeda and tortured prisoners take revenge against innocent citizens.

It does not take much intelligence to realize that there has to be a drastic change in the way this country is handling its security. Perhaps a master plan to civilize tribal structures needs to be put in place. I remember reading that Ibrahim Al-Hamdi, former president of Yemen, had started this process because he realized the potential disturbance of a state's rule by the existence of strong tribal entities who view themselves as equals to the state.

Although the people of Yemen are not the enemy, they are always the ones to pay the price. Eventually, Al-Qaeda members are content with living a Jihadi's life in the wild waiting for an opportunity to become "martyrs", and those in power have enough money in international bank accounts to give them a comfortable life somewhere else if things get out of control in Yemen.

But where will the twenty something million people go when the country crosses the point of no turning back?

Nadia Al-Sakkaf

## Use of force is not a good solution

By: Abdulhakim Al-Manj

**H**ow much time do we need in order to be credible and honest with ourselves? Credibility and clarity with oneself is the first steps for reforming dire situations, and it is impossible for us to improve our living conditions and prosper without credibility and clarity with oneself.

The esteemed readership may suspect that this introduction is not relevant with what I say regarding the Supreme Commission for Elections and Referendum (SCER), with the exception that being incredible with ourselves made us ignore seeing things as they really appear on the ground. Seemingly, we see what is wrong as correct and vice versa.

I have already reviewed some remarks and comments presented by Joint Meeting Parties (JMP) in the context of proposed amendments to the General Election Law, which are worth-discussing. Those proposed amendments need to be discussed in order to help SCER perform in a way accepted by all

the political parties.

I don't know why SCER hasn't taken the initiative to suggest fundamental solutions to issues related with the voter registers. I don't know why it has not initiated endorsement of complete transparency in its operations and decisions. Had these requirements been fulfilled by SCER, we wouldn't have realized that many citizens are suspicious about its performance, and therefore direct certain charges to it.

By the end of the third millennium's first decade, we have ignored the fact that there are systems approving the thump-based detection, which nobody may be suspicious about. So, why the SCER should put an end to widely-spread suspicion about its integrity and performance, and therefore responds to what can help enhance trust in its performance and eliminate people's suspicion about its performance.

Regretfully, the government authorities gave orders to some security and military units to confront JMP demonstrators, stand in their way and direct guns at them. Such a

decision was taken in an unexpected manner. Consequently, it fomented defiance on the part of demonstrators, who were not allowed to protest even for one day at Al-Tahrir Square, thereby increasing the number of participants in the demonstration, even from outside the JMP bases, while the main streets of the capital city turned out to be venues for protests.

## Use of mind and logic is better

This is a prudent conclusion we reach after a serious of failed attempts. It is now that we realized our being imprudent when we decided to use force hurriedly in Sa'ada, thereby destroying our morale during the armed clashes. It is not possible for force to solve pressing problems in the nation, nor can it tackle issues of individuals.

As the use of force is an exception while mutual understanding-reliant coexistence is the best solution, no party is entitled to resort to using force unless there is a great risk threatening the nation. In addition, force must not be used domestically except under

particular circumstances stipulated by the law.

Does the authority that issued a decision promoting confrontations with JMP protesters want to repeat the same mistakes it committed in previous events and create hatred and animosity toward the opposition? Certainly, it is prudence shown by some participants in the demonstration and some military and security leaders that helped put an end to clashes between protestors and police before they led to negative consequences.

It is neither in favor of the ruling party, its leadership nor anyone else to see bloodshed. In general, our problems are numerous and will never end with resolving the issue of SCER composition. Therefore, the workable solution to them must begin with dialogue, mutual understanding, as well as preferring logic and mind to force. Only through this we can reach satisfactory solutions to our pressing problems.

Source: Marebpress.net

## A mistake that is required to be committed

By: Abdurrazaq Al-Jamal

**M**ost of the time, I understand the position of those who oppose bequeathal of power, but I don't understand why they don't read real facts on the ground in a proper manner. The main cause of the problem in Yemen is that we deal with terms and principles without taking their grounds into consideration. We apply strategies on a non-strategic ground, which under no circumstance may accept them.

We are against bequeathal of power to the sons, too, but in principle. However, when there is an urgent need, I side with bequeathal of power because I don't believe that there is a real democratic system, nor do I blame the authority for this issue as long as the ground still is unprepared to apply rules of the democratic game.

Power bequeathal opponents committed two mistakes at two different points of time. First, they stood against the principle without

differentiating between it, as a painful scratch on the heart of democratic action and as a public need. The second mistake occurred when those opponents misled people through this position that democracy in Yemen is good while in fact they see otherwise.

Those opponents understand bequeathal of power as a wrong principle aside from what is taking place on the ground. This is the main source of the problem. They would have avoided such a mistake if they said, "it is a wrong principle in a democratic state."

However, I suspect that they don't want to say this because they always talk about a state lacking its real principle and presence of democracy as a chanted slogan not a real fact on the ground. And, this is due to take them into a dilemma of discussing issues without seeing their real grounds.

The opposition is probably needed to discuss such matter as it appears on the ground, as well as understand how weak their visions are. If the chance, miracle or destiny help the opposition reach power and rule the country, this step will under no circumstance

mean a success. It will instantly transform into a complicated problem, which is hard for one to resolve.

## Limitless powers for limitless allegiance

Influential constituents of the government are excessively dependent on unlimited powers in exchange for unlimited allegiance and loyalty with President of the State. These constituents are merely in the form of overlapping and interrelated networks until the extent that reproduction of these networks becomes rampant nationwide.

Mr. President is involved in his influential constituents more than the opposition and people are involved in them. But, presence of the opposition as an ambitious political partner makes the matter of retaining these constituents an urgent necessity, taking into account that the main issue is alliances.

A corrupt individual may be the luckiest one in terms of establishing a closer relation with the government. However, what does matter here is that making any change, in case the opposition reaches power, may work only

through reducing powers of influential constituents in the various state's institutions to the minimum possible level. This is an impossible matter, but the real issue relates with fighting against what they realize as a personal possession (bequeathal of power to the relatives).

In this case, I don't know whether the opposition will quit power after a reasonable reign, will be engaged in non-equivalent confrontations or will hope that it already disfigured how comfortable it is to stay aside from the democratic process. Having been engaged in conflicts over power, the opposition may admit that Ahmad Ali Abdullah Saleh, Son of Yemen's current President, is the best option to rule the nation for the coming stage of Yemen's history.

The opposition will realize that it must start from the zero point if it wants to practice another political action, represented by the necessity of creating a useable ground for this action.

Source: Al-Wasat Weekly

## The current authority is the source of all pains in Yemen

By: Moneer Al-Mawri

**W**hen foreign researchers discuss Yemen's problems, they attempt to be more objective. They also warn against Yemen changing into a failed state. I don't know when our state proved being successful in order to be feel concerned about its potential

failure. Our state has been failed since the very beginning and there is no need to worry about this fact.

And, as researchers don't know Yemen like I and other Yemenis do, they deal with things as they appear and diagnose symptoms of the disease, but never investigate the real causes of the disease or sources of the pain. As a result, they describe the primary challenges currently facing Yemen as follows:

**One:** The issue of South Yemen, which is being described by President Saleh and senior ruling party leaders as "meaningless", while in fact it made them concerned during the daytime and overnight.

**Two:** The inflammable Houthi-led rebellion in Sa'ada for the sixth time, plus its expansion to the provinces of Al-Jawf, Dhamar and Sana'a before or after the latest presidential elections, particularly as Saleh doesn't see the rebellion as "meaningless". He rather sent negotiators to Qatar and dealt with Houthis as a real field force that defeated his army troops.

**Third:** The problem of Al-Qaeda Organization in the Arabian and its past collaboration with the regime. Despite the fact that Al-Qaeda in Yemen is not that strong in a way posing a real threat to the current authority in Sana'a, it encourages other foreign forces against Yemen's regime and attacks foreign interests in the country. The Qaeda Organization in Yemen has become more able to change Yemen into a starting point for launching massive terrorist

offensives outside Yemen, most notably as the regime exploits Al-Qaeda as a means to beg money from foreign organizations, however, it doesn't exert hard efforts in fighting Qaeda comrades.

**Fourth:** The problem of pervasive tension among people and opposition parties' bases because of rampant corruption, oppression, barbarism and piracy. In the meantime, we don't know what Yemen armed forces may do if people revolt against comprehensive oppression the government practices against them. Iran's Shah was the fourth strongest power in the world when the Iranian people revolted against his corruption. That was only one year after President Saleh assumed power in north Yemen.

**Fifth:** The problem of presidential replacement and competition over legacy. This is also an ambiguity about effectiveness of a president amid absence of real democratic tool, under which contenders rely on ballot boxes, not no the armed forces, to achieve their dreams of assuming power. I hope that Yemen doesn't experience conflict between the central security personnel and republican guards over who will be the next President.

## Conflict over power

This is the real problem (conflict over power) as visualized by foreign researchers. They hold the view that the problem is urgent and requires workable solutions. In the meantime, we agree with those researchers that the

problem is dangerous, but we differ with them over its causes. The problem and its alikes are merely symptoms of a dangerous disease, which is the source of all pains in Yemen.

Yemen's current authority is the source of all these pains, particularly as we are currently suffering the negative consequences of its poor policies. Since the current ruler assumed power, his policies have not only threatened our lives, as they will also continue threatening lives of next generations.

The current leadership in Yemen exercises absolute financial, administrative and military powers, however, it behaves in an irresponsible way. This leadership, without an exaggeration, can be described as "Weapon of Mass Destruction" due to the absolute powers it holds. The way this authority behaves may lead to fragmenting the nation and threatening its future, plus destroying all what Yemenis have so far built throughout their history.

Having made a deep glance at the above-mentioned five problems highlighted by foreign researchers, we would have realized that the current authority in Yemen is their sole source. This authority is the primary reason for formation of Faithful Youth Organization in Sa'ada and its policies are responsible for escalated political congestions in the southern governorates.

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# Yemen Press Review



**Almotamar.net, affiliated with the General People's Congress (Ruling Party)**  
**Saturday, Dec. 13, 2008**

## Top Stories

- Kenya-based Conference recommends establishing piracy information center
- Yemenis appreciate currently televised film "loser betting"
- Saleh praises success of the electoral process's first stage

President Ali Abdullah Saleh praised last week success of the first stage in the process of preparation for the 4th parliamentary election in Yemen represented by the stage of voter registration review and correction, the website reported.

It quoted Saleh as saying, "Our people are preparing for practicing their democratic and constitutional right through the upcoming parliamentary elections that, in praise for God, has successfully completed the first stage of preparing for the process for holding the elections on 27th of April 2009."

Saleh considered interaction of the Yemeni people with the first stage of the elections and their big interest in it from different political and social activities and civil society organizations that have the right to register themselves in accordance to the law by going to offices of electoral committees to register them-

selves as a proof of their democratic awareness and their keenness on practicing their electoral rights. He added people's interaction with the process will surely help enhance pluralism that Yemen has committed itself to through the keenness on success of the parliamentary elections and holding them in free and honest climates with a high level of transparency.

In his speech delivered on Eid Al Adha the President said with that interaction they proved their adherence to democracy as a national option for construction and making advancement for the homeland. He continued that such interaction is key to achieving the peaceful transfer of power and rejecting all the attempts of outflanking democracy or impeding its progress or hindering efforts of construction and development. "People's interaction with the process reflects their enthusiasm to stand in the face of all acts of piracy and sabotage or promotion for he culture of hatred as well as the calls for regionalism, sectarianism and division.

The Yemeni leader affirmed that the march of construction, development and reform continues towards the achievement of the aspired goals despite all challenges and difficulties resulting from internal circumstances and scarcity of resources or steady population growth, or those resulting from consequences and ramifications of the global financial crisis and the big drop in internal oil production or in its prices globally.

The President said, "We feel satisfied

that much of what has been promised in the election platform has found its way to implementation and translation on the ground, whether concerning enhancement of judicial independence or in the area of developing the experiment of local councils and transferring it to broader horizons through expanding their powers and election of governors. This also includes preparation for moving to the local rule system entertaining large authorities."

He went on to say, "It is also with what has been achieved in the field of combating corruption and adoption of transparency and good governance through formation of tenders and bidding committee, issuance of financial possession law, as well as activation of the apparatuses of monitoring and accountability. All these procedures aimed to strengthen the building of the state of institutions, imposition of sovereignty of law and order, expansion of areas of people's participation, support for the freedom of expression and opinion and the woman participation in politics."

According to Saleh, the issuance of new legislation package fostered reconstruction of areas affected by the disaster of floods in Hadranout and Mahara as well as other areas. The reconstruction also includes areas damaged because of the war in Saada, in addition to accelerating efforts of development at different levels."

The President also hailed the armed forces and security authorities for the role they are playing in preserving all

achievements of the revolution, the republic, the freedom and democracy, emphasizing commitment to continuation in developing and enhancing them.



**26September.net, affiliated with the Yemeni Army**  
**Saturday, Dec. 13, 2008**

## Top Stories

- Deputy Interior Minister: Those attempting to hurt their homeland will eventually lose
- Aden-based Public Money Prosecution discusses 500 cases
- Yemen prepares first human rights strategy

Yemen's Human Rights Minister Dr Huda Al-Ban said Yemen is preparing the first national strategy for human rights in Yemen, the website reported in its lead story.

It continued that Dr Al-Ban said the strategy is founded on a number of premises, the most important of which are the partnership of human rights organizations and women, especially the political rights.

She added the government has amended a number of laws to be in compatible with international legislations and conventions that Yemen already ratified, particularly those related to child and women rights.

In her statement to Al-Thawra daily

the Human Rights Minister affirmed that the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the World Declaration of Human rights Day comes this year at a time Yemen has traversed distinguished distance in this field, which was also accompanied by development of national legislations and commitment to implement them on the ground with a high sense of responsibility.



**Al-Sahwa.net, affiliated with the Islah Party**  
**Saturday, Dec. 13, 2008**

## Top Stories

- Modern study: No positive impacts of economic efforts to alleviate poverty
- As many as 15 car thefts reported during the Eid vacation
- German Researcher: Constitution of the Republic of Yemen is not put into practice

A German researcher labeled Constitution of the Republic of Yemen as a valuable old book which is not put into practice, saying that real democracy and popular participation would not be achieved in the state until Yemen's judiciary becomes unbiased and fair, the website reported in a front page story.

In a seminar on Yemen's judiciary held in Taiz before the Eid vacation, Schulz recommended that the government teaches and trains judges and

lawyers in specialized universities and allocates enough resources for judicial system in Yemen.

He further stressed the necessity of creating well-established judiciary which is provided with all necessary means to enable it be fair and independent.

On a side note, the website reported that Ali Al-Sarari, top leader of the Joint Meeting Parties (JMP), also known as Yemen's major opposition alliance, said that Yemen's judiciary is not independent, urging the opposition to focus on the case of creating a fair and independent judicial system.

"If the state managed to create a fair judicial system, then the ruling party will be disbanded on charges of plundering public funds as happened in Thailand," said Ali Al-Sarari, a member of the political bureau of the Yemeni Socialist Party. "Our problem in Yemen is that the judicial system is the weakest among all institutions".

The Thailand's Constitutional Court had dismissed the Prime Minister Somchai Wongsawat from office on Tuesday and dissolved three political parties involved in his ruling coalition, concluding that the government was involved in vote buying and other irregularities in last year's elections.

According to the website, legal analysts and civil society leaders say Yemen's judiciary is theoretically independent not practically, and it includes in practice provisions that contradict the constitutional protection of the judiciary's independence.

## On the 60th anniversary of Human Rights Declaration: To Make a difference is not mission impossible

**By: Pratibha Mehta**  
**UN Resident Coordinator**

To live with dignity, to have a proper shelter, to provide food for your family, to decide your future, to be of any race or religion with no fear or shame, to speak freely, to be a man or a woman with no differences, to get proper education etc., etc., all of these are basic rights everyone should have, but is this the case?

Can most Iraqi children play safely? Can Somali or Afghani people forget a long history of wars and instability? Can people living under authoritarian regimes speak freely? In our lives, we see few privileged, and so many underprivileged. Or, as someone put it, the world became an island for the rich, surrounded by seas of poor. In short, Utopia is very far.

This year, along with Human Rights Day, we celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It was the first international agreements to proclaim Human Rights for all. It is true that after all these years, as UN Secretary General Mr. Ban Ki-Moon put it "the challenges we face today are as daunting as those that confronted the Declaration's drafters", but I do believe there is a silver lining coming from that cloud. Life is not the same as it used to be. People perspective about human rights is different now. Many nations thought of human rights as a conspiracy theory to challenge their culture and tradition. They would have fought against it, in principal, if they had the chance back then. Nowadays, people look up to human rights activists. Human Rights have become part of our daily life morals. Life is changing. Few days ago, we celebrated together the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, while few decades ago, Palestinians were off the map. Hope is still there.

Looking at Human Rights in our beloved Yemen, everyone realizes that the country is facing big challenges. In the fourth periodic report (2004) to the Human Rights Committee, the government summed up the challenges succinctly, saying:

"Despite Yemen's achievements ..., however, the experience is still a novelty, and as a result some forms of human-rights violations have persisted. The situation requires more effort, patience and persistence .... Yemen's legislation is still feeling its way toward the promotion and safeguarding of human political rights. The political will to strengthen and protect those rights is there, but the Government is confronted with real difficulties and obstacles in its efforts to attain its objectives in that area. For the most part, those difficulties and obstacles may be attributed to economic, social and cul-

tural factors" etc....

Despite all of that, we can still say that the country is going on a better track than many countries in this region. The promotion and protection of human rights is a commitment professed by the Government of Yemen (GoY) in its constitution. Many organs have been created for that specific objective. This process culminated in 2003, when a Human Rights Ministry (MoHR) was created to oversee the realization of this objective.

On their turn, UN agencies, with all their different mandates, focused their efforts to touch all aspects of Human Rights in Yemen.

United Nations Development Programme UNDP for example, supported to strengthen national governmental and non-governmental capacity to promote, protect, and respect human rights in Yemen. The mentioned project, ended last month, provided enormous support to the MoHR. Mainly, it supported women's access to ICT, it supported complain department, establishing Human Rights information center and women access to Human Rights legal information. The project was a success. Having it ended doesn't mean the end of UNDP's works in that field, as they started already preparing a new phase for that project.

Also, UNFPA has three mandates representing core of Human Rights; reproductive health "RH", population and development, and gender. The agency supports legislation and policy dialogue with decision makers, Midwifery Training, building national capacity, improving data system and national studies to identify innovative and best approaches that improve the reproduction health services. It also supports rights-based approach (reproductive rights) to access reproductive health services and guarantee better health for women and girls in general. UNFPA has promoted for that through awareness on gender aspects of reproductive health for both reproductive health providers and seekers. Basically, works has been focusing on behavioral and attitude change and have worked with influential and opinion maker groups such as local decision makers, religious leaders, etc.

World Health Organization WHO Constitution states clearly "the enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health is one of the fundamental rights of every human being..." therefore it is everyone's responsibility to ensure that the right to health is fulfilled and integrated in health policies, programmes, and plans of action. As proven, health policies and programmes can promote or violate human rights in their design or implementation. The human rights perspective in health will minimize discrimination patients are suffering from, and it will allow policy makers to see the health development

from a humanitarian perspective. Violations or lack of attention to human rights can have serious health consequences (e.g. harmful traditional practices, slavery, torture and inhuman and degrading treatment, violence against women and children).

Beside, UNICEF's programme of cooperation epitomizes the human rights approach to programme. The core value emanates from the Declaration of Human Rights, Convention on the Rights of the Child and Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination Against Women. Impressive programmes are being pursued that enshrine the value of engaging young children and adolescents. Notable among these are programmes in which Yemen's Children Parliament plays a pivotal role. Young people and children are learning more about human rights and demonstrating their commitment to ensuring that these rights are met. To continue the momentum young people need adequate information, skills, motivation and inspiration to undertake the action needed to make respect for human rights become a reality.

WFP has one of the most important mandates. As we all know, food is a powerful instrument to support human rights. Food has the power to move beyond cultural and religious barriers. Since the mid-1980s, gender issues have guided WFP's work. WFP uses a range of activities to empower women including food for education and through activities to improve the nutritional status of pregnant women and lactating mothers and their children. WFP strives to empower women by involving them in the decision-making and leadership aspects of our programmes. In crisis and conflict situations WFP is among the first to know the impact on women because WFP works closely with female beneficiaries in assessments as well as project implementation, including food distributions: in camps for refugees and internally displaced persons WFP allocates a large proportion of family food vouchers to women. It is clear to see that the challenges facing vulnerable groups, especially women and children, are mounting. High food prices are having a serious impact on vulnerable groups as food is being priced out of reach for many of the world's most vulnerable. This means that WFP's work is more important now than ever to help nations address the current needs and the growing challenges

Even UN Information Centre (UNIC), every year, in a close cooperation with all UN agencies in Yemen, it commemorates this occasion through organizing a variety of awareness raising and advocacy activities to promote Human Rights in Yemen. UNIC disseminates a lot of materials and publications produced by UN Department of Public Information (DPI) to mark this

important day.

Other agencies are extending their hands too in that field such as FAO, ILO, UNHCR and the World Bank. UN is saving no effort to the relief and prosperity of the Yemeni people.

After 60 years, UN has reached the

development heart of hearts, and it has touched directly people's life and needs. During the recent disaster in Hadramut and Al-Mahara, UN agencies, collectively, worked together with the Government of Yemen to relief affected people by the floods.

Providing shelters, food, relief, medicine and other basic needs, all of these are our duties and mandates that make us proud to be UN staff. UN always wants to be there, in war, in disaster, in hunger and in suffer. Can UN make it for all? I truly believe this is the UN right to claim!

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2. Construction Works (Civil, Mechanical and Electrical Works).
3. Engineering and Consulting Services (any of the following disciplines: design of drawings, development of specifications, quantity assessment & survey, development of Bill of Quantity, construction supervision, Social Analysis and studies ...etc).
4. General Services (Translation, office cleaning, office security, general office maintenance, printing & design, travel and local transportation, conference facilities etc).

Interested Companies are encouraged to visit the website of UNDP Yemen [www.undp.org.ye/procuremnt.php](http://www.undp.org.ye/procuremnt.php) under (Vender Registration) for the registration purposes. The registered Companies shall be considered for UNDP's upcoming procurement activities under each of the above listed disciplines.

For any enquiries please contact the focal point in UNDP Yemen Office:

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# Mehar, neglected right of wife

By: Qazi Dr. Shaikh Abbas Borhany  
For the Yemen Times

‘Mehar’ which means dowry in the Islamic tradition is an important Right of a wife in Islam, which becomes the responsibility of the husband to pay, soon after the Marriage, even if it is not mentioned in writing. It is one of the 7th essential conditions for a valid Marriage. It means that although at the time of solemnization of Marriage, Mehar may not have been specifically fixed, still it will be presumed that it has been agreed to be paid. It is an essential aspect, and it is assumed that there is an intention on the part of the bridegroom to pay Mehar and intention on the part of the bride to receive it. A Marriage becomes annulled if the couple foregoes it, whatsoever it should be paid by the bridegroom and demanded by the bride. In Islam, Marriage is a contract and Mehar is the name of that ‘Right’ which a wife gets from her husband. Qur’an says:

“Pay off the dowry of women willingly” (Verse No.4, Surah al Nisa)

Allah has ordained that you should pay Mehar to your wives in lieu whereof you have legitimized sexual relations with them”. (Qazi al Numan, “Da’em ul Islam”, Vol. 2)

Therefore, the person who does any injustice to his wife regarding her Mehar, should understand that he has established relationship with his wife, as one commit Zina (fornication). A Hadith transmitted by Ali Ibn Abi Talib says:

“Allah would forgive every sin but He would not forgive the person who has usurped the Mehar of his wife”.

Muslim jurists have made this point clear that after Marriage a woman is not legal to the husband unless her dowry is paid to her. Ali al Murtaza explained that without fixing an

amount of Mehar no Marriage is legal. Alas the actions of the nation in regard to it are simply conjectural. Majority of the husbands don’t follow this clear injunction of Qur’an regarding this very important Right of Wife.

In Marriage, if no Mehar is specifically fixed and if the husband gives divorce to his wife before consummating the marriage, he is not liable to pay any it whatsoever, nor is his estate liable to pay anything if he dies prior to consummating the marriage. If it is specifically fixed at the time of solemnization of Marriage but if husband pronounces divorce, before the intercourse, the wife is entitled to half the daory, but if he dies before the sleeping with the wife then his estate is liable to pay full Mehar which has been fixed. (“Da’em ul Islam”, vol. No. 2, Qazi al Numan, Egypt). After the Marriage and before the intercourse, wife is entitled for half of the dowry, which was fixed at the time of Marriage. Before consummating the marriage wife commits adultery, she is not entitled to any dowry whatsoever even if it was specifically fixed.

## Guidelines to fixing eh dowry:

The fixing of an exorbitant amount is a practice of less learned class. Today it is very difficult for a common man to earn his livelihood. Prophet Mohammed (MPBH) and his descendants extended glorious Talim of simplicity in all phases of life. According to ordinary people there are two reasons for the fixation of excessive amounts of dowry. One of the reasons is:

A girl whose dowry is of a lesser amount, is less valued. An excessive amount is sort of protection from divorce & kind of undue pressure on the husband.

Above mentioned approaches are incorrect. In fact, motivations are not fulfilled by fixing excessive amounts.

## Example from the Prophet's practice

The best example of Mehar is certainly that of Fatima daughter of Prophet Mohammed (MPBH) who had inquired from Ali Ibn Abi Talib as to what he has for the payment of Mehar of Fatima? Ali al Murtaza replied:

“My financial condition is very well known to you. I have one armor, one sword, and one horse only.

Prophet Mohammed (MPBH) replied:

“Sword and horse are essential for Jeh’ad, but the armor might be sold out to arrange for the payment of Mehar”.

The armor of Ali was sold for four hundred eighty Dirhams and payment of Mehar of Fatima was arranged.

Now see how Prophet Mohammed (MPBH) spent the amount of 480 Dirhams. Distributing this amount, He directed his Ash’ab, to purchase following items:

1. 160 Dirhams for fragrance (Attar).
2. 160 Dirhams for clothes.
3. 066 Dirhams for house-hold goods.
4. 094 Dirhams to be saved.

Ash’ab purchased following goods:

1. One white dress
2. One head scarf
3. One Bed-sheet
4. One Lota
5. One bed made of date-skin
6. Two quilts or beddings out of which one was stuffed with the wool of a sheep and other one was stuffed with leaves of palm tree.
7. One Mat
8. One pillow made of sheep’s skin stuffed with grass.
9. One pair of hand flour mill
10. One cup of copper
11. One leather beg for filling water
12. One tray for washing clothes
13. One pot
14. One utensil for drinking water
15. One wool curtain
16. One earthen pitcher for water
17. Two earthen cups
18. One goat skin for the floor
19. One Arabi dress

(“Masnud”, by: Ahmad b. Hanbal, Vol. 6, pg. 207, Egypt).

When Prophet Mohammed (MPBH) observed the above items, for her beloved daughter Fatima, tears rolled down from his eyes. He offered a prayer - ‘May Ahl al Bait be blessed, Bless this couple, whose property are these few utensils’.

This example indicates that less dowry of high-caliber-lady is a sign of blessings. Huge amounts often create obstacles in the opening phase of marital life and this causes decrease in love and sincerity. Demand of high amount of Mehar also discourages young men for late marriages. The golden example of dowry of Fatima has set a precedent that the Canon Source of Islam does not consider it better to demand an excessive amount. Contrary to the Talim of Islam, people proudly say that our daughter’s Mehar has been fixed in million or billions. Such an excessive amount is like a sin without any pleasure.

Islam persuades the youngsters to enter into the wedlock as early as possible, so that the society may be saved from illegitimate-sexual-association. It is a Talim of Islam that the amount should be such that could easily be borne by the husband. If Prophet Mohammed (MPBH) wished, he could have spend lavished on her daughter Fatima’s wedding, but by his action he set an excellent example for us that when the Muslims get their daughters married, they should remember the wedding of Fatima.



The sum total of the Talim of Islam is that the amount, which a husband pays willingly and gladly, is alone the cause of love. A Hadith says:

“The best girls of my nation are those who are beautiful and whose dowry is of fewer amounts”. (“Wafi”, Kitab-un-Marriage, page 15, Beirut, Lebanon).

This means that despite being beautiful the less amount of Mehar is a sign of eminence and excellence of a woman.

## Mehar: Sign of Woman’s Dignity:

In Islam Marriage is a contract, in which a woman regards the other party as a husband in lieu of Mehar. Contrary to this, Marriage is quite a different thing among Hindus, where there is no concept of contract, but a concept of life-time unbroken relationship. Rather Marriage is an essential requirement for male and female both. It is a legal way to take benefits from each other. Abi Jafar Imam Mohammad al Baqir says:

“Marriage is a contract according to which the husband would keep his wife with good manners, and whenever he terminates the contract of Marriage, he should so do with kindness”.

From the point of view of Islam, it is an important matter. In the Qur’an, which is the primary source of Religious Injunctions this matter has been clarified at several places and it has been defined as an obligation.

## Treacherous practice of snatching Mehar:

Before the advent of Islam, it was a common practice in Arabia that when a husband released his wife through Divorce he used to snatched wealth gifted as Mehar from her as much as could be possible. He then gifted that snatched amount, adding something to it, to the new bride. If the ex-wife refused to return the Mehar, the cruel husband used to blackmail her with adultery charges. As a result of it a noble woman for the sake of her chastity, used to forego her Rights to the tyrant husband. Alas this evil practice is still prevalent in our society, while Islam has not only condemned it, but also declared it Har’am. Qur’an says:

“If you have made up your mind to bring another wife instead of the present wife, then you should not take back the amount, which you have paid to her. Would you take back that amount by way of accusation and allegation, which is an open sin? And how would you take back the Mehar, although you have derived pleasure and those women have also obtained firm promises from you?

(Verse No. 20, Surah Nisa)

The practice of snatching the dowry at the time of Divorce is an act of a perfidious person. Islam has severely condemned this act. After enjoying with his wife, and spending much time with her in privacy, it is a cruel act. If by means of force or by any pretext the wife is made to forego her Mehar, then whatever the Court’s decision might be, it would not be considered exempted in the Court of Allah. Even Ibr’aa is not permissible by Force. Ibr’aa is a term of Islamic legislation, which means that if a wife after receiving the wealth as it returns it to her husband, it is called gift and if she forgoes it without receiving it, it is called Ibr’aa.

## Responsibilities of the Intelligentsia to protect Rights of Wife:

It is the duty of the Muslim Scholars that they should explain the importance and forcefully try to eliminate these evil practices regarding the dowry. The woman and her relatives who demand lots of money have been described as unlucky. (“Mun-La-Yahzaruhul-Faqih”, Qum, Iran). The moral significance of Mehar is a symbol of man’s interest and love which should not be higher than its financial status. It is a financial Right of wife in Islam, which becomes the responsibility of the husband, immediately at the time of the Marriage, even if it is not mentioned in the contract. Qur’an says:

“And give women their dowry as a Gift” (Verse No.4, Surat No. 4).

Mehar, according to Islam is a sort of Gift which a husband should offer to the wife as a token of love and fidelity. Islam has provided dowry for the following few considerations:

Every husband should pay to his wife according to his financial status, sincerely before consummating the marriage.

It is the Talim of Islam that wife



should not demand an exorbitant amount, which is literally beyond the limit of her husband.

Majority of the Seminar Organizers on Women’s Rights are those who don’t know the ABCD of the Women’s Rights, provided by Islam. These Ignorant Friends of Women always prepare the grounds for more exploitation of women. Their restricted spheres give the colonialist valid and ample excuse to condemn Islam and tell women: “This is the Islam you have, it gives you no honor, position or status”. This group practically encourages the foreigners to misled Muslim women.

It is my sincere advice and recommendation to all women and Muslim Women Rights activists that they also invite Competent Religious Scholars in their programs, and time to time gatherings to discuss and explain issues for the benefit of women and explicitly explain about their rights, bestowed by Islam.

Intelligentsia, especially Media constantly discourages the positive contribution of the Genuine Religious Scholars on Women’s Rights. If the responsible people of the Media

refrain from encouraging positive approach and constructive understanding, masses will not change their negative attitude towards the Rights of Women.

Immediately on the conclusion of Marriage, whatever has been fixed as dowry becomes the property of the wife. If it is a piece of land, a house or a sum of money, its benefits accrue exclusively to her. Only with the wife’s consent it can remain in the custody of the husband and the benefits accruing from it can be utilized for conducting their common life.

Maheer is a sign of honor, in consideration of women’s personality and independence, and not as her price to be paid to her. This Divine Gift conferred by Qur’an, established woman’s economic independence, since it is considered as worthy of proprietorship.

The writer is Attorney at Law & Religious Scholar. PhD (USA), NDI, Shahadat al A’alamiyyah (Najaf, Iraq), M.A., LLM (Shariah).Member, Ulama Council of Pakistan. He could be reached at qazishkborhany@hotmail.com



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**Maintenance Planner Position 4-35 @ CPF/ Terminal**

**Job Duties:**

- Plans and coordinates manpower and equipment/materials required for routine maintenance work and major maintenance projects. Includes collecting and analyzing equipment maintenance data and manufacturers' manuals to establish equipment maintenance schedules. Refers to P+ID to plan for maintenance work, isolates appropriate area for work, plans for equipment shut down and coordinates all maintenance requests related to that area, to minimize production loss. Consults with Foremen to determine scope of job and estimates the materials, tools and manpower deployment required for the job.
- Generates daily work schedule. Includes attending daily planning meetings with functional Superintendents and Foremen, and other departments as required, to review and plan for maintenance work order requests.
- Administers the maintenance management computer system (MMS). Includes entering data and generating reports and historical data for analyzing performance statistics and trends. Oversees the Administrative Clerk in entering the daily timesheet data into MMS. Generates time-keeping and man-hour reports.
- Generates weekly and monthly reports to management. Reports, such as Maintenance Volume and Efficiency Report, are distributed to Operations Manager and other departments.
- Ensures that maintenance work progress is updated and on schedule. Includes updating the MMS with job status information obtained from Foremen. Advises supervisor of projects that are off-track.
- Carries out other similar or related duties such as creating and maintaining spreadsheets to produce statistics/charts for specific maintenance activities.

**Minimum Requirements:**

- Bachelor's degree Mechanical or Electrical engineering.
- 6 years' experience in a maintenance trade including 3 years' manpower deployment and work planning in a process industry.
- Excellent computer skills including Word, Excel, database applications.
- Very good knowledge of English

❖ To Apply for this Job please apply to: [recruiting\\_yemsana@nexeninc.com](mailto:recruiting_yemsana@nexeninc.com)  
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### **Drilling Operations Engineer Position # 04-197 @ BAK PF**

#### **Job Duties:**

- Provide technical advice to the Drilling Superintendent on operational decisions to ensure they are technically sound and cost effective. This includes but is not limited to bit selection, BHA design, drill string design, directional proposals, coring, drilling parameters, mud and hydraulic properties, casing and liner running procedures and risk/reward decision making.
- Review all drilling programs issued from Calgary. Advise Calgary Engineering of any areas for improvement or optimization opportunities for these drilling programs.
- Act as "Performance Champion" in the field and encourage and highlight optimal drilling performance.
- Assist Drilling Superintendent during operational problems by providing support on location as required.
- Ensure technical aspects of the Yemen General Drilling Program (GDP) are being followed in the field.
- Compile an End of Well Review highlighting key learning for each well drilled in consultation with the Drilling Superintendent and Drilling Supervisors. This report should be completed within 1 week of rig release and forwarded to the Yemen and Calgary based Drilling Departments
- Ensure that key learning are quickly assimilated into future wells by communicating these initiatives to the Rig Supervisors, participating/observing implementation and reporting on progress to Supt and Calgary engineering team.
- Attendance at critical cement jobs (liner hangers, deep strings). Recording of critical data and monitoring quality of cementing contractor performance while pumping slurry. This will be a shared responsibility with the Drilling Optimization Engineer.
- Responsible for the field implementation of any non-standard or new technology (e.g. coring services, whip stock re-entries, etc).
- Assist Rig Supervisor in holding pre spud meetings in the office. Highlight optimization initiatives and/or relevant learning from past wells.
- Participate in morning and afternoon calls to rig and afternoon call to Calgary (when available).

#### **Minimum Requirements:**

- Completion of Petroleum or Mechanical Engineer degree or Petroleum Engineer Technology diploma
- Minimum experience of 1 year in drilling or production engineering departments.
- Excellent computer literacy (e.g. MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, DIMS)
- Valid Yemeni driver's license
- Second Line Well Control Certification

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### **Communication Technician Position # 0843 @ CPF/ Terminal**

#### **Job Duties:**

- Installs, maintains, programs and repairs mobile, handheld radios and associated RF Repeaters at various locations. Tests radio equipment using complex test gear to ensure they are operating within manufacturer specs.
- Installs and maintains Camp Entertainment Systems (TV Satellite Decoders, Receivers, Modulators and Cable Systems) at various locations including Drilling Rigs. Installs satellite dish and receivers and aligns the dish to ensure appropriate reception.
- Performs routine preventative and repair maintenance on Communications Systems utilizing complex test equipment such as Communications Monitors, Spectrum Analyzers, Oscilloscopes and RF Power Meters.
- Installs and maintains wireless telephone links (Voice & Data) to remote locations such as drilling rigs and temporary contractor sites.
- Installs and maintains telephone systems. Includes the physical installation of telephones, and cross connect terminations. Maintains PABX Systems (including Voice Mail) by making the required programming and administrative changes.
- Routine troubleshooting and repair on various other electronic equipment as required including but not limited to closed circuit camera systems, Emergency Siren systems etc.
- Maintains, aligns and repairs Microwave Link Systems which include Digital Radios, associated transmission lines, alarm control Systems and remote diagnostics.
- Maintains and repairs Data Multiplexers from various manufactures.
- Maintains, aligns and repairs SCADA Communication Systems which include RF Data Transceivers, RF Data Repeaters and associated control equipment. Analyze Scada Communication issues and resolve them.
- Maintain, align and repair complete Satellite Communication Earth Station and Inmarsat Terminals.
- Install, maintain and repair complete solar power systems which supply power to various radio sites.
- Install, maintain and repair complete data communication systems which include data radio network, DSL link, DSU's and CSU's.
- Maintain the company cellular phones and accessories.

#### **Minimum Requirements:**

- Degree in Electronics/Communications from a recognized University or Technical College or equivalent.
- 3 years of communications experience including basic understanding of communications software.
- Very good knowledge of English.
- Valid Yemen driving license.
- Must not be colour blind.

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### **Drilling Superintendent Position # 02125 @ CPF**

#### **Job Duties:**

- Participates in Yemenization training program (IDP's), holding planned rotation interviews with National staff and discussing in detail any training requirements.
- Developing action plans to enhance and fulfill training needs of National staff, arranging schedules to accommodate training needs.
- Review drilling programs, thus ensuring compliance to all governmental and environmental concerns are properly addressed.
- Advise Calgary Engineering of operational concerns to promote reductions in areas of loss control and enhance continues improvement goals.
- Works together with the Safety Supervisors' to ensure matters of EH&S are properly addressed.
- Reporting of incidents and investigation of same are done correctly and in a timely manner.
- Participates in Emergency Response and accident / incident investigation as required.
- Reports directly to the In Field Drilling Manager, on all areas of concern.
- Chairs regular scheduled meetings with contractors', communicates effectively all areas of concern with the appropriate contractors' to minimize loss in productivity and areas of contractual concerns.
- Negotiates rates with suppliers and ensures invoicing for rates is being performed correctly.
- Actively participates in rig inspections, safety meetings, pre-spud meetings and identifies areas of hazards via a vie through the "Stop Card" program.
- Assists in follow up of all action items generated through incidents and other sources.
- Regularly monitors contractors for compliance in the areas of contractor camp EH&S issues.
- Schedules and chairs quarterly Supervisors' meetings. Sets agenda ensuring clear lines of communication are being adhered too.
- Encourages subordinates to give feed back on all areas of their duties to mitigate any downgrading incidents as well to improve overall operations.
- Reviews all site specific ERP's to ensure functionality.
- Maintains a documented archive of daily activities.
- Performs a quality check on all DMS daily reports for content and accuracy of critical items. Ensures daily costs have been entered correctly from the field, prior to reports being sent to head office.
- Monitors cost control items, advises appropriate individuals of potential cost overruns, together with anticipated increased values.
- Maintains supervisor's schedules, reducing manpower shortages.
- Performs annual performance reviews on supervisor's, and reports findings to In Field Drilling Manager.
- Makes necessary SAP corrections as per error reports generated twice daily.
- Participates in budget reviews and formulation of future budget requirements.
- Authorizes travel expense and timesheets of subordinates, as well as flight requests and camp accommodations.
- Maintains a documented file of personnel corrective actions taken and interviews to discuss same.
- Assists in developing contractual strategies by defining contractors' scope of work and itemized equipment requirements.
- Is an active participant in all pre-spud meetings

#### **Minimum Requirements:**

- 10 - 15 years minimum in the Drilling industry, holding a minimum of 6 years in a supervisory capacity.
- Second Line Well Control Certificate (Valid) (PITS minimum or equivalent).
- Incident Investigation course.
- First Aid certificate, advanced classification.
- H2S Alive certification.
- WHMIS and TDG.
- On complex legal, contracting and strategic matters;

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### **Drilling Optimization Engineer Position # 98149 @ CPF**

#### **Job Duties:**

- Provide technical advice to the Drilling Superintendent on operational decisions to ensure they are technically sound and cost effective. This includes but is not limited to bit selection, BHA design, drill string design, directional proposals, coring, drilling parameters, mud and hydraulic properties, casing and liner running procedures and risk/reward decision making.
- Review all drilling programs issued from Calgary. Ensure required materials/services are available to execute each well as per program.
- Responsible for monitoring the well schedule, and type of wells on the schedule, to ensure that equipment inventory and/or pending delivery is fit for purpose and of sufficient quantity to execute the planned schedule. This includes but is not limited to casing, liner hanger equipment, wellheads, bits, swell packers, etc.
- Advise Materials Planner and Logistics personnel of any order requirements and ensure that schedules incorporate equipment inventory and/or delivery times that meet the requirements of the longer term drilling schedule.
- Provide technical input to Contracts/Logistics Dept to assist in their preparation of J&R's, Sole Source Justifications, Contract Value Increases, Inventory Justifications and Air Freight Justifications.
- Responsible for total engineering and planning of cement job execution including:
  - Slurry testing and verification of slurry properties well in advance of upcoming Cement job
  - Cement job pre-planning with the cementing contractor
  - Final determination of cement volumes
  - Centralizer placement programs
- Attendance at critical cement jobs (liner hangers, deep strings). Recording of critical data and monitoring quality of cementing contractor performance while pumping slurry. This will be a shared responsibility with the Drilling Operations Engineer. Verify cement charges based on lab test slurry additives. Review cement jobs with Drilling Supervisor and Cementing Contractor for continuous improvement opportunities. Preparation of the drilling component of a Cement Evaluation Report for each production casing cement job.
- Daily plotting of drilling curves (actual vs target and pace setter) including notations identifying NPT events.
- Generate and distribute final as-built Wellbore Schematics within 1 day of rig release.
- Assist Drilling Superintendent with daily reporting tasks as required.
- Coordinate and participate in all pre-spud meetings in the office.
- Participate in morning and afternoon calls to rig and afternoon call to Calgary.
- Technical liaison with Field Production Engineers on well issues that relate to both disciplines, for example, cement quality, well! Configuration for ESP placement, offset injection wells that may require shut in, wellbore condition for whipstock sidetracks, etc.

#### **Minimum Requirements:**

- Completion of Petroleum or Mechanical Engineer degree or Petroleum Engineer Technology diploma.
- Minimum experience of 1 year in Nexen drilling or production engineering departments.
- Excellent computer literacy (e.g. MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, DIMS)
- Valid Yemeni driver's license

- ❖ To Apply for this Job please apply to: [recruiting\\_yemsana@nexeninc.com](mailto:recruiting_yemsana@nexeninc.com)
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Contact: 711098682

■ Badr Ali, 2007-2008 Dip. in "Hydraulic and Pneumatic" technical Industrial Institute (Alhawban - Taiz)  
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## NOTICE

Indian Embassy School, Sana'a would like to announce that Dr. G. Manulal, holder of Indian Passport No: B 3754096, no longer works for the School and is no way connected to the institution. He has resigned from his post of Principal with effect from 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2008 and thus has no authority to act on behalf of Indian Embassy School, Sana'a.

It is hereby informed that the School will have no responsibility for any dealings with the above mentioned person under the School's name w.e.f 23-11-2008 itself.

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# Entertaining society for free

**A'ad Numan organizes entertainment events for the community and helps Yemeni youth and children express themselves through art.**

By: Yemen Times Staff

With a bright yellow scarf and styled hair to match his bubbly character, A'ad Numan, 24, is a Yemeni IT graduate from Aden who wants to do something for his society.

He juggles two jobs—one as a computer engineer and the other as a science teacher in a private school in Hadda—and dedicates his spare time to organizing drawing exhibitions and concerts for the benefit of those around him.

"Children's rights are lost in Yemen," he says, and this is why he organizes regular exhibitions of children's drawings.

The multi-talented activist used to lead a group of 13 intellectuals in Aden who, at Al-Mina Sport and Cultural Club, organized activities to provide—in his words—“free entertainment for the public”.

"We sing, dance, act, draw and do everything to bring smiles to people's faces," said Numan.

He spoke of his friends Ghufraan Rafeeq who teaches hip-hop, Arzaq and his sister Rowa who sing, Ali Naser and Eyad Al-Risha who are talented actors, the scenarist and director Omar Al-Masri, and talented singer Adel Taha.

His brother now organizes the group's activities in Aden, while Numan tries to establish a new group in Sana'a.

"My mother tells me I am an idiot because I spend all my money and time on a society that does not appreciate it. But I continue because I love it and I want to do something for my community," he said.

His new group includes Fuad Al-Matari and Rami Dubae who are talented artists, as well as Mohammed Al-Maumoni and Yousif Al-Aghbari who help him with organization.

He has organized three exhibitions in Sana'a so far, the latest taking place last



**A'ad Numan: "I want to be a good member of the society."**

month under the title: "Drawing gatherings us", where pupils from three governmental schools in Sana'a showed their artwork to the public for the first time.

Aged between six and 17 years-old, students of Saba, Al-Thulayya and Al-Meethaq governmental schools exhibited over 150 drawings for parents, friends and the general public to admire in two classrooms in Saba school.

"The exhibition was to encourage children to thrive through art," enthuses Numan. "Children can express themselves better by drawing that by speaking."

Displayed on large colorful posters along the classrooms walls were portraits of traditional Yemeni families, detailed sketches of old Yemeni buildings, colorful depictions of seaside holidays, rural scenes of women working in fields, caricatures of qat chewers and even a portrait of the country's president.

The children loved the idea and appreciated the opportunity Numan gave them to express themselves freely with paint and pencils. "I drew a man chewing qat. It's unhealthy and brings nothing to Yemenis," said Hussein, 17, nevertheless admitting with a grin that he does chew from time to time.

While the older participants in the exhibition had put their artistic talents to critical use, younger contributors were simply happy to be holding colored pencils. Hossam, 10, drew a red flower and Soraya, 7, drew an egg because she likes eggs.

Numan's previous exhibition was entitled "Life is sweet" and the children drew about their positive impressions of life.

The first exhibition in Sana'a was entitled "Aden children greet Sana'a children" and took place in February. He received criticism and accusations of trying to segregate Yemeni children.

"I will now take the drawings of the Sana'a children to Aden and early next year we will have a reverse theme. The new exhibition will be "Sana'a children

greet Aden children", and I hope it will be received well," he said.

Not only do children love these exhibitions, but the community appreciates them too because they see how proud and happy their children are to exhibit their work for all to see.

Numan believes that the community, especially girls, needs support and entertainment, and this is why he hopes to create a new exhibition for female students to promote women's rights.

"I am afraid that society will not let me work with female students to organize this exhibition, but I hope that someone will share my dream and want to support me to make this ambition a reality," Numan said.

He looks forward to working with anyone. "I am not doing it for money," he said. He would like the private

sector to consider donating awards and prizes for children participating in all events, whether drawing, singing, acting or dancing.

He also encouraged decision makers at the Ministry of Education to include more arts in the national curriculum and give marks for subjects like fine art and music so that students take it seriously and develop their talents.



**Many students chose to portray traditional Yemeni houses and families.**



**Numan and children from Sana'a celebrate the last day of his latest drawing exhibition.**

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# Education

A free monthly Supplement offered by Yemen Times and presented by Dr. Ramakanta Sahu

No. 34

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## Spare the rod and spoil the child How to discipline and win the hearts of our students



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To discipline and deeply influence students in a classroom, particularly large and over-crowded classes is the biggest concern and challenge for most teachers. Until quite recently, there has been a widespread belief that tolerat-

ing the students is a sign of weakness and of no use; teachers should be strict with them, otherwise they will be pampered and difficult to control. Although teachers have authority; they should use it carefully and wisely lest students should become frustrated and rebellious. They should not only establish a strong and lasting bond with their students but also warmly embrace them. Furthermore, they should be more understanding and caring.

Undoubtedly, a teacher is the backbone of the teaching-learning process; therefore, he can touch the hearts of his students to the core, earn their respect, or even impose anything on them without using force and verbal abuse.

Continued on page 3

## Education, education and English education

It has been ten years since we first started the Education page in the Yemen Times. Led by Dr. Ramakanta Sahu, Associate professor of English at the University of Science and Technology, the idea started to fill a gap for Yemeni youth, especially university students, aspiring to improve their English.

Ten years have passed since then and there has been enormous feedback, as well as many contributions from students and readers. Although many of the educational materials are written by non-Yemeni professors, those who benefit are mostly Yemenis.

The Education page, which today is a monthly supplement, aims at creating a platform for Yemenis to learn more about English, education and to interact with each other, especially as university communities.

The "Improve Your English" series, today a pack of 323 lessons, is a comprehensive wealth of educational materials for middle level English students on grammar, linguistics, phrases and idioms and many other English language skills. We plan to publish it in a booklet format and make it available at a discounted price as a package to English language students in Yemeni universities and all interested.

We also plan to expand the Education Supplement to include more interactive features and perhaps competitions between university colleges around the country.

However, the most exciting point is that the number of readers among the Yemeni youth is increasing rapidly. They understand that English is an important language and even their ticket to a better and global career. This is why we are encouraged to take this service further for the sake of youths' development and the country's prosperity as a whole.

Finally, all our gratitude to Dr. Sahu who has been the man behind this project, and who has given it his uttermost, even in the darkest hours and when he was very ill. As we celebrate the Supplement's tenth anniversary, we hope that we continue to provide and inform in a professional way, to fulfill the newspaper founder's dream for Yemen through the Yemen Times: "To make Yemenis good world citizens."



Nadia Al-Saqqaf  
Editor-in-Chief  
Yemen Times

**The Education Supplement team feels complimented by the remarks of Ms. Nadia Al-Saqqaf, Editor-in-Chief ("Our Opinion" issue 1206, 10 November, 2008). On the glorious occasion of completing one decade of our service to Yemen's academia, we reiterate our resolve to work towards achieving the objectives of the mission. May the Education Supplement be a spring-board for the vibrant Yemeni youth, and make them forerunners in the global platform - fulfilling the dream of the founder and the expectation of the Editor-in-Chief.**

## Prof. Peter Lucantoni's response

Dear Dr. Sahu

I was impressed by the [Education] Supplement - quite practical and useful for teachers. I think anything which helps teachers to get through the teaching day is invaluable! Best wishes

Peter Lucantoni,  
Director, Response

peter@response-education.com.cy

Peter Lucantoni is a leading ELT expert and teacher-educator from Cyprus. He is Director of Response, the new name for teacher training in Cyprus. He was recently in Yemen at the invitation of the British Council, Yemen, and offered a few workshops at Sana'a, Hodeidah and other places.

### I. What to Say

Situations and Expressions (103):

Crime words (VI)

**Due process:** The guidelines set by which criminal cases must be followed in order to ensure a fair trial.

**Electronic monitoring (tagging):** An offender or person on bail, on a curfew order or Home Detention Curfew at the end of a prison sentence, has an electronic tag which alerts staff in a control center if they leave the house during certain parts of the day when they are supposed to be home.

**Fine:** A sentence of the court which involves the offender paying money to the court as a punishment. If the fine is too big to be paid immediately the offender can usually pay it in weekly or monthly installments over a period of months up to a year.

**Fixed penalty notice:** An on-the-spot fine that can be given to any person aged 16 or older for engaging in certain types of behavior.

**Grievous bodily harm (GBH):** Serious injury inflicted by one person on another.

### II. How to Say it Correctly

Correct grammatical or idiomatic errors, if any, in the following sentences

- We must not complain that roses have thorns but rather grateful that thorns bear flowers.
- She wrote an essay so well that her teacher was exceedingly pleased at her.
- On my request, Qaid introduced me to his friend who is a singer and a scientist.
- Mohammed's habit of delaying his work put his colleagues to a lot of trouble.
- Moin arrives at the office as fresh as he starts from home even though he commutes a long distance.

Answers to the previous issue's questions

- The man who I have often mentioned, is one whose friendship I **would** wish to acquire, because he is respectable.
- In my youth I used to visit **Al-Rowaishan** and **Al-Zubairy's** company.  
**Note:** Since 'company' is singular, *Al-Rowaishan and Al-Zubairy will have to be turned into a collective singular by removing the first apostrophe 's'.*
- The doctor said that **the** patient should not have wasted a whole week before coming for help.
- The apples **which** he gave me are too expensive to be had.
- We have been **studying the lessons** regularly since the beginning of the term.

### II. Increase Your Word Power

(A) How to express it in one word

- Designed to have functions
- Those which must be learnt first and on which everything that follows depends.
- Burial of a dead person with the usual religious ceremonies
- Eighth of a mile
- Enclosed fire place for heating buildings with hot water or steam

# Improve Your English: 323

## 10th Year of Publication (1999 -2008)

Answers to the previous issue's questions

- Person running away from justice, danger, etc.: **fugitive** (n)
- Point on which a lever is supported when it is pressed: **fulcrum** (n)
- Handle or deal with something nervously: **fumble** (vi)
- Strong smelling smoke, gas, or vapor: **fume** (n)
- Person with official functions: **functionary** (n)

(B) Words often confused

Bring out differences in meaning of the following pairs of words

- functionary, functional
- haply, happily
- marshal, martial
- sceptic, septic
- seasonal, seasonable

Answers to the previous issue's questions

- lever** (n) (bar on other tool turned on a fulcrum to lift something): They lifted the huge mass of stone using a lever.  
**liver** (n) (large, reddish-brown organ in the body which produces bile, and purifies the blood): He is suffering from liver enlargement.
- congenial** (adj) (in agreement with one's tastes, nature): There is a congenial atmosphere here to study.  
**genial** (adj) (kindly, cordial, sympathetic): Dr. Mahmood Akhter has a genial nature.  
**disarmed** (adj) (someone who had arms and has been deprived of them): The disarmed soldiers were taken into custody.  
**unarmed** (adj) (someone who has no arms): We were taught unarmed combat in the army.
- euphemism** (n) (a polite or less objectionable term for the obvious and unpalatable term): 'Physically handicapped' is an euphemism for 'crippled.'  
**euphuism** (n) (a style of writing popularized by John Lyly. It is ornate using big words and trying for effect): Euphuism is discarded in modern style of writing.
- reiterate** (vt) (to say something several times): The minister reiterated the government's resolve to fight corruption at all levels.  
**repeat** (vt) (to say or do again): Let me repeat what I said now.

(C) Synonyms and Antonyms

(i) Synonyms

Choose the word that is closest in meaning to the one in bold in the following sentences.

- He has been **implicated** in the bribery case.  
a. influenced b. affected  
c. involved d. interested
- The police arrested the **accomplice** of the accused.  
a. companion b. victim  
c. ringleader d. culprit
- Jobs in Saudi Arabia are highly **lucrative**.  
a. satisfactory b. challenging  
c. profitable d. frustrating
- He always gives **judicious** opinions.  
a. helpful b. nervous  
c. cautious d. sensible
- The debator won the debate competition by virtue of his **persuasive** arguments.  
a. eloquent b. clever  
c. encouraging d. convincing

Answers to the previous issue's questions

- | Word          | Synonym    |
|---------------|------------|
| 1. held up    | detained   |
| 2. fury       | rage       |
| 3. vivid      | simple     |
| 4. gratifying | pleasing   |
| 5. adequate   | sufficient |

(ii) Antonyms

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

- He is unpopular among his friends for his **radical** views.  
a. narrow b. outmoded  
c. conservative d. childish
- 'The Pigtail' is a **humorous** poem.  
a. dejected b. disappointed  
c. dismayed d. pathetic
- Her **vivacity** and charm attracts everybody to her.  
a. humor b. truthfulness  
c. beauty d. apathy
- The repeated denial of the culprit to the crime earned the **indignation** of the police officer.  
a. anger b. displeasure  
c. orderliness d. happiness
- He lacks any sense of proportion and behaves in an **unscrupulous** manner.  
a. conscientious b. dedicated  
c. single-minded d. superfluous

Answers to the previous issue's questions

- | Word         | Antonym    |
|--------------|------------|
| 1. dauntless | cowardly   |
| 2. slackened | quickened  |
| 3. modesty   | vanity     |
| 4. futility  | usefulness |
| 5. veracity  | falsity    |

(D) Spelling

Choose the correctly spelt word

- |                     |                  |
|---------------------|------------------|
| 1. a. affair        | b. afair         |
| c. affiar           | d. afiar         |
| 2. a. affectionet   | b. affectionate  |
| c. affectionate     | d. affectionet   |
| 3. a. afeedavit     | b. afidaveet     |
| c. affidavit        | d. afidavit      |
| 4. a. afiliate      | b. afiliat       |
| c. affiliet         | d. affiliate     |
| 5. a. afforestation | b. aforestation  |
| c. afurestation     | d. afforastation |

Answers to the previous issue's questions

- |             |               |
|-------------|---------------|
| 1. aerial   | 2. aerobatics |
| 3. aeronaut | 4. aesthetic  |
| 5. affable  |               |

(E) Phrases and Idioms

Use the following in sentences of your own

- come into one's own
- the game is not worth the candle
- an olive branch
- to hold (something) against (someone)
- one's ears are burning

Answers to the previous issue's questions

- read between the lines** (to understand more than is actually written or spoken): In order to appreciate a poem, you need to read between the lines.
- cross the Rubicon** (to do something which commits one to a particular course of action without allowing one to reverse one's decision): Faiz had crossed the Rubicon after he said that he would sell his house.
- flip one's lid** (to become very angry): My father is sure to flip his lid when he learns that I have failed in the exam.
- the well has run dry** (there is nothing left in what was once a plentiful source of something): The supermarket was once so rich in goods, but after it caught fire the well has run dry.
- get your skates on** (to hurry up): You had better get your skates on if you are going to catch the flight.

### IV. Grammar and Composition

(A) Grammar

Match the sentences (a-j) with the sentences (1-10) given below that are closest in meaning

- |                             |                             |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| a. He must be told          | 1. He might have been told  |
| b. He must have been told   | 2. He should have been told |
| c. He should be told        | 3. He can't be told         |
| d. He should have been told | 4. He can't have been told  |
| e. He can't be told         | 5. He might be told         |
| f. He can't have been told  |                             |
| g. He might be told         |                             |

- He might have been told
- He shouldn't be told
- He can be told

- It's possible to tell him
- I'm sure that nobody told him
- Perhaps somebody will tell him
- It's wrong that nobody told him
- I'm absolutely sure that someone told him
- It isn't possible to tell him
- It is essential that someone tells him
- Perhaps someone told him
- Someone ought to tell him
- It's wrong to tell him

Answers to the previous issue's questions

- |               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| 1. attractive | 2. indecisive |
| 3. shocked    | 4. innocence  |
| 5. disconnect |               |

(B) Composition

Expand the central idea contained in the following maxim

141: ARS LONGA, VITA BREVIS

Topic 140

FULL WISE IS HE THAT CAN  
HIMSELF KNOW

Geoffrey Chaucer, the 14th century English poet, underscores the significance of self awareness in the above dictum. The distinguishing feature of humans lies in their capacity for self-awareness. Other living creatures may have the ability to perform a greater variety of tasks, or may have developed superior sensibilities in certain areas. But we, the humans, alone have the capacity to look at ourselves and be aware of ourselves. Aristotle, the Greek philosopher, enunciates that humans have the most evolved form of thinking and feeling so far. What is more, we alone have the potential to grow and evolve into spiritual dimensions. What precisely sets us apart from other living creatures is the faculty of reasoning, the fact that we are rational. S. H. Venkatramani is right when he says, we can attain knowledge. But what is unique about us is that we can also reflect about how we could attain that knowledge. A human being is like a computer that can see how it has been programmed, and thereby transcend the programming itself. Thus, self-awareness is the cream of human intelligence. Alexander Pope, the Augustan English poet, succinctly sums up the essence of the maxim in these words: "Know then thyself, presume not God to scan."

V. Pearls from the Holy Quran

"Do not mischief on the earth, after it hath been set in order, but call on Him with fear and longing (in your hearts): for the Mercy of Allah is (always) near those who do good." — S7:A56

VI. Words of Wisdom

"Our duty is to believe that for which we have sufficient evidence, and to suspend our judgment when we have not."

—John Lubbock



## ELT Panorama

## Why English?



**Mohammed A. Khoshafah**  
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What is noticed now a days, is the spread of institutions, schools and universities which teach English in the Arab countries. Yemen, as part of this Arabic peninsula, is concerned with teaching Yemeni people English both in public and private sectors. Fifteen years ago, I remember that there were only one or two institutes for teaching foreign languages in Ibb City. Number of students was very few in these institutes.

I remember also that the number of students then was relatively low in the first batches at the College of Education, Ibb. The picture today is completely different. Many institutes, private schools, and colleges are full of students who want to study English.

The basic question is: Why do people study English? And why do they want to learn, understand and communicate through English, and not through other languages such as Chinese, Hindi, or Spanish, and so on? The answer here is rooted in the importance of English in people's life.

Many sciences are taught through English here in Yemen, for instance medicine and engineering. Most of the famous authors in different fields in the world wrote and published their works in English. No one can forget that English is the language of computer and internet.

English is necessary for all researchers who are doing their post-graduate studies, because most of the references and valuable sources are

in English. Another important claim of English to become a world-language is due to the fact that the best of world's literature, cultural heritage and civilization of mankind have been translated from many languages into English, printed, bound and catalogued in libraries. Thus, the continuity of mankind's heritage is preserved in English. It can, perhaps, be said that no other language has been the medium of such staggering and widespread translation and publication as English. One more virtue English has, it comes from a democratic and relatively free world.

On the other hand, one of the forces that might make English a world language is power- power of all kinds, political, economic and military. As we know English is the native tongue of the United States and Britain. These countries have now great power, great wealth, international trade around the world.

In this way, the English language gets the first position in regard to distribution of speakers around the world. No other languages had spread

so widely as English. It's the native speech of more than 50 million in Europe. About 150 million speak in the Western Hemisphere, over 25 million in Asia, over 5 million in Africa, and about 10 million in Australia and New Zealand. A few more million people speak English in addition to their mother tongue. This shows that English is used by people over one fifth of the earth's land surface. The last factor which I want to mention here is that English has simple grammar and a rich system of vocabulary. Since it is a member of Germanic group of Indo-European family of languages and since it has borrowed words extensively from Romanic languages, it would be easy for foreigners, especially Europeans, to learn it.

All these factors come together to make English an international language. But if English now is on the peak of all languages, will that be forever? Actually, we don't know. Everything has an end and the examples of dead languages of the past are known.

## A letter to the learners of English: 16

The Yemeni English Education:  
A recollection

**Prof. M.N.K. Bose**  
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I've come back to teach in Yemen after a year, one full year being away from you, against my willingness though. When I landed in Sana'a International Airport on a Ramadhan afternoon, one of the officers guided me to the counter in English, which was gratifying, because my earlier experience was a lot different; the officer in the past used to avoid me because he knew that I would ask him questions in English. Can I say that English Education is improving? Not just that, in addition to appreciating the new care and comfort the government has brought to the travelers by the new arrangements in the airport, I enjoyed hearing more English in the airport, more than what I could hear earlier, thanks to the teachers of English in the country.

The recent issue of Yemen Times (18 September) carries several interesting writings by young Yemenis like Majed, who has 'lost his mind and heart' at the same time. I read other young Yemeni writers with more pleasure and less pain. That these contributions are going up in number and more and more readable is proof enough that Yemeni youth are willingly and encouragingly improving in the international variety of English.

There is no doubt that the government is seriously considering the status and growth of English in this country; I hear about the painstaking attempts to replace 'The Crescent English for Yemen' Readers with new text books that are being tried out, teachers being trained regularly by the Training Department of the Ministry of Education and so on, all these aiming at the improvement of English, especially at the primary and secondary levels. A happy and welcome climate, indeed.

I also see that most of my Yemeni colleagues have comeback with Ph.D.s, a glowing sign of development of native resources; some of them are efficiently handling the Depts. too. All this should show a good result in the years to come! English education in Yemen should prosper and grow from strength to strength. Yemeni youth should stop looking outside for higher studies now; of course, the scholarship is attractive, but so is the hardship.

The University Depts. of English are being equipped by the outside and inside talent; reference books are no more a problem with every university being hooked to the world wide web though the large number of computers; I see old and useless computers dumped in the junk corner of the Faculties, all that have been replaced by the new ones, so many for the use of the students and teachers! Why should you, young Yemeni aspirants for higher degrees, go abroad for your higher studies, when you can bring the world knowledge and other necessary resources on your lap? Think well and think wisely; Yemeni Universities are as good and as resourceful as many other universities abroad. Good luck.

Exist with fame; or else don't exist. (Kural)

*Yours affectionately,  
Dr M N K Bose.*

## Cultivating reading for pleasure



**Hussein Omer Aqeel**  
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Reading like sports or music, requires lots of practice. The best way to become a better reader is by reading a lot.

The best readers are people who love to read and who read often. If you don't already love reading, you can learn to love it by reading for pleasure, and follow the tips suggested below:

1- Choose a book that interests you. Ask your teacher, your friends, your family, and your classmates for suggestions. But choose the book that is best for you, not for them!

2- Preview the book to help you decide if you want to read it. Paperback book covers provide plenty of information for that. Pictures on the front cover can give some idea of what the book is about. On the back cover there is usually some information about the book's contents.

3- Choose a book that is not too easy

or too difficult, you are likely to become discouraged. By reading the first few pages you can tell if the book is too easy or too difficult for you. A book is easy if there are no unknown key words on a single page (a key word is a word you must know in order to follow the author's general meaning).

4- Choose a book that is printed clearly. Make sure the print is not too small. The size and clarity of the print will make a difference. You can read longer if the print does not make your eyes tired.

5- Remember, you are reading for pleasure. You do not need to memorize what you read when you read for pleasure! The important thing is to follow the story or the ideas presented by the author.

6- Some popular books have been made into movies. Avoid reading a book if you have already seen the movie. You may get bored if you already know what happens in the story. But do see a film version after you have read a book. It's often interesting to see how a film director has brought a book to life. You may enjoy comparing the director's ideas with your own.

7- Do not choose a book that you have already been familiar with; it may make it less interesting. Also, do not choose a book that has been translated from another language. A translation is not always natural English. so it might be more difficult to read.

I hope all these tips can help you to choose a book and make the act of reading worth it.

## Lack of cooperation



**Rashad Almagrebi**  
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It is time to start talking about the relationships between teachers and students. In this article, we would like to move together to see how cooperative some of our

teachers are.

Students are suffering a lot of difficulties because of teachers' ignorance. A small problem may take a few seconds of teacher's time but it may take days of student's time. So a teacher whether in schools or universities has to cooperate and encourage his students by one way or another. There are so many ways to be followed, one of which is encouraging students to speak and participate independently. Some students say that their teachers do not allow them to speak even a word. This is a living situation that indicates the lack of cooperation between teachers and students. Ten days ago, I went to one of my friends, who graduated two years ago from the department of English, with the aim of getting

some benefits from him. I thought it was a useful idea to practice my language with him; I was really shocked to see his weakness in speaking English. I was trying to speak with him in English but he was speaking only in Arabic. I asked him about the reasons behind that. He gave a deep sigh and said in a sorrowful voice, "the reason behind that is the teachers who never allowed me to speak or participate. I am good at writing but whenever I tried to speak I found no sign of encouragement but rather frustration," he added. He said that some of the teachers did not offer a helping hand to him and to many of his classmates. It is not only this case, in fact there are so many instances that some teachers ignore their students. I personally had the same prob-

lem. I graduated from the stage of secondary school not knowing what pronouns of English are. Of course, students are not totally out of the blame but they have to work harder and harder.

I take this opportunity to appeal to my dear teachers to cooperate with students as they are their second fathers. Students really feel sad and disappointed when they do not find a helping hand from their teachers. It is also worth mentioning here that there are some brilliant teachers who do help their students, but we need all teachers to cooperate with each other to create a brilliant generation.

To conclude, I wish my dear teachers will offer a helping hand to their students.

## Translation: The meaning and the message (Part 3)

**Dr. Ramakanta Sahu**

In so far as translation is a process of communication, the translator must, as a communicator, possess the relevant knowledge. The psycholinguistic model of the process of translation had drawn its inspiration from recent work in cognitive science, text processing and systemic linguistics apart from highlighting the specification of translator competence. More and more scholarly attention is now being devoted to translation studies as a multilevel cognitive process.

Therefore there is a need to focus on the potential pedagogic value of translation in English as Second Language (ESL) or English as a Foreign language (EFL) situation.

The basic premise translation is based on and relates to is bilinguality. A cursory glance at the history of learning theories would show that right from the days of Grammar Translation Method (GTM) many foreign language teachers have taken a pretty dim view of the usefulness of translation in Foreign

Language Teaching (FLT). Their criticism of translation as a pedagogic device was based on the following two factors:

i) Translation was considered a specific skill and taken to be different from the four traditional foreign language skills such as listening, speaking, reading, and writing. Hence translation had no legitimate position in the FLT matrix.

ii) Translation was perceived as a difficult and complex form of language skill that puts a lot of intellectual and stylistic demand on the FL learner, who feels defeated and intimidated at any translation task. So the time invested in translation within the GTM framework was considered a waste. The successive learning theories such as Direct Method (DM) with accent on being as 'natural' as possible in the classroom as well as the Audiolingual Method (AM) with its sole repetition approach were unable to live up to pedagogical expectations precisely because these were built on a monolithic behavioristic FLT model.

Later there was the emergence of 'Cognitive Code Learning Theory.' It

emphasized the cognitive analysis of the phenomena to be learned as predicator to efficient learning as opposed to the stimulus-response oriented habit formation by *reinforcement learning theory*. Consequently, there was a revival of interest in translation. It was believed that translation has immense potential to help the FL learner in the following fourfold ways:

i) *Descriptively*, e.g. by showing the learners how a language offers several possibilities of roughly equal qualitative rank for the target language reformulation of a source language sentence.

ii) *Explanatively*, i.e. by characterizing translation as a stylistic working process. It can be shown how the target language result largely depends on the stylistic preferences of the respective translation.

iii) *Evaluatively*, i.e. by providing a semantic and stylistic equivalence dimension.

iv) *Applicatively*, i.e. by throwing light on the 'unidirectionality' or 'irreversibility' of the translation process. Back translation of the TL sentence into the SL brings into focus the specific

organization of the individual languages.

The role of translation in FL/SL pedagogy continues to be a pedagogically unclarified issue because it does not fit into the paradigm of the modern foreign language teaching theories. Several ESL/EFL theorists have posited the existence of a 'translation bridge' intervening in the process of second language acquisition. As Allen (quoted in Wills, C 1983) points out:

*Teachers and psychologists .... Have proved that the chief obstacle to real competence and fluency is the presence of a translation bridge in the mind of the halting speaker.*

It is possible to see translation as an impediment for efficient acquisition of the target language. However one thing that is clear is that translation ability is a built-in component of the basic mental equipment of the language user which is a premise that contrastive linguistics is based on. **To be concluded**

## ANY GUESSES?

1. What is meant by the language of ☐doublespeak☐?
2. What is ☐circumlocution☐?
3. How to use ☐referral☐?
4. What does the expression ☐vertically challenged☐ mean?
5. What is the origin of the expression ☐to pay through one's nose☐?

**Answers to the previous issue's questions**

1. An *airhead* is a ☐stupid person☐ someone who speaks or acts unintelligently. The word is usually used with women. Especially, women who are good-looking, but stupid.
2. The sentence ☐His native is Mahweet☐ is incorrect. A more idiomatic expression is ☐He is a native of Mahweet☐. The more common expression nowadays is ☐hometown☐. The expression ☐hometown☐ is American in origin. Ramzy's hometown is Taiz. In the 19th century, the phrase ☐native place☐ was used by English writers and speakers but it is rarely used these days in the UK.
3. When someone says he's cool, it means he's fine. It's a slang. The word ☐cool☐ can be used with things as well. If somebody asks you how your vacation was, you could reply ☐cool☐ or ☐pretty cool☐ to mean that it was great.
4. ☐Inside☐ is the opposite of ☐outside☐. ☐He is inside the building☐. It is also used with reference to people who work with others and have private information. ☐He has inside knowledge of the working of the government as he is close to the corridors of power☐. ☐Interior☐ also means ☐inside☐ but we use it when we want to refer to the structure of the inside of something. ☐The interior of the mosque is magnificent☐. ☐Interior decoration☐ is the decoration suited to the inside of a house. ☐Interior designer☐ refers to a person who specializes in the design of inside of a house. The interior features of the country refer to the inland part of the country. ☐He went to the interior of Yemen☐ means he traveled to the remote corners of Yemen. ☐Minister of Interior☐ means ☐Home Minister☐.
5. The expression ☐making a splash☐ means ☐to create a sensation☐. Arundhati Roy's Booker Award winning book ☐God of Small Things☐ made a splash a few years ago. We can also use the expression with people as well. Mr. Obama has made a splash in the history of American Presidential election.



## A dose of 60-minute learning



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Yemeni learners find it a bit difficult to pick up English quickly and easily. They would like to make progress in this language for all the promises it holds for them. As a language incorporates the four skills of listening, speaking, reading and writing, here is a dose of sixty minutes that might make things easy to help these eager learners.

Each one who is interested in learning English, needs to invest just about sixty minutes of one's time everyday. These sixty minutes have to be exclusive and personal when there is no intervention or interruption. However, this is not one continuous stretch of sixty minutes. What does it mean? Let me put forth my point more clearly.

Every morning, when you are fresh, turn on your radio and listen to a broadcast from BBC or any American channel and listen to the news in English. This will take just ten minutes of your time. Mind you listen to the radio, do not watch the news on the television. Yes, do not watch, and there are strong reasons for this which you will understand by and by.

Now, you have fifty minutes left with you. Pick up a newspaper or a magazine or a book in English and read it for about twenty minutes. No matter how old the newspaper is or what the point of discussion in the book is. Read it with some concentration. Try to understand.

In the next thirty minutes, try and summarize the news you have listened and the passage you have read in your own language. Read out what you have written. Do not worry about committing errors. Errors will not stay with you for long.

That accounts for your sixty minutes. Now do one more additional task. Become courageous and talk in English whenever you can and with whosoever you can. Make it a habit, and I bet English will not shy away from you. It may sound somewhat cyclic and repetitive dosage, but the result is redeeming. Keep in mind that "Practice makes one perfect".

## SCIENCE QUIZ LINE

Tick (✓) the most appropriate choice

- An iron that has a positive and negative charge on the same group of atoms is known as  
☐ Zwitter ion  
☐ Ampholyte ion  
☐ Both (a) and (b)  
☐ None of these
- A technique that detects radioactivity labeled molecules by their effect on photographic film is known as  
☐ Crystallography  
☐ X-ray  
☐ Autoradiography  
☐ Photography
- According to Law of gravitation the attraction between two bodies increases when distance between them is  
☐ increased  
☐ decreased  
☐ kept the same  
☐ none of these
- A hand pump water is cold in the winter and warm in the summer. Why?  
☐ It is due to hot gases under the earth.  
☐ It is because of the temperature difference. During the winter the outside temperature is lower than that of water which comes out from the ground. Reverse is the case in the summer.
- The lines on the map joining places having same atmospheric pressure are known as  
☐ Isotherms  
☐ Isobars  
☐ Isolines  
☐ None of these

Suggested answers to the previous issue's questions

- Of the following natural phenomena such as meteorites, tides, volcanoes, and earthquakes **volcanoes** can affect weather conditions on our planet.
- Antiviruses** fail to act on viruses because viruses have no metabolism of their own.
- When farmers talk of biological control, they mean **the use of biological organisms to control pest**.
- Any harmful, poisonous or irritating substance is ejected through **vomiting** — a protective reflex. It is ejected from the stomach.
- A dynamo is often said to generate electricity. It actually acts as a source of **electromotive force**.

Continued from page 1

## Spare the rod and spoil the child

He can do such things through his amazing and captivating personality. Unfortunately, some teachers have an obsession to enforce the law and discipline their students at any cost which might beget hatred, lack of faith, and hostility on the part of the students. Most students tend to resist authority on the grounds that it represents a threat to their freedom and individuality. Accordingly, new approaches and less provocative methods should be employed to overcome this major problem. This article attempts to address this seri-

ous problem and come up with perfect solutions in terms of how to win our students' hearts without using excessive force unjustifiably.

First and foremost, teachers should set some rules for their students to follow. An agreement should be made from the very outset. Students should be aware of the consequences in case they break these rules. These tips are extremely significant for any teacher who wishes to maintain good relations with his students irrespective of their ages.

## REPORT

# 2nd C.V. Raman Memorial Art & Science exhibition held at Indian Embassy School

The 2nd C. V. Raman Memorial Art & Science Exhibition was inaugurated at Indian Embassy School on 5th November, 2008 by Dr. Ramakant Sahu, Associate Professor of Science and Technology University, Sana'a. The Exhibition included working models, still models and charts apart from Art & Craft and Philately.

The Inaugural Function started with the Welcome Speech by Mrs.

Renu Mariam, the Convener of Science Club. The function was presided by the School Principal Dr. G. Manulal. In his speech he mentioned that one of the main objectives of the school is the holistic development of its children. Every year the school is holding an Art & Science exhibition to develop a scientific temper in the students through healthy competitions. He continued to say that such an Exhibition is a befitting tribute to Dr.

C. V. Raman, the eminent scientist from India and a Nobel Prize winner for his famous Raman Effect. The Principal concluded by saying that success is possible only through untiring efforts. The PTA President Mr. S. Suresh Kumar and the Secretary Mr. Thomas Mathew were the other invitees on this occasion.

In his Inaugural Speech, Dr. Ramakant Sahu said that he was highly impressed by the Art & Science Exhibits displayed by the young and vibrant minds of Indian Embassy School. He said, "it was a wonderful experience. I could imagine everyone grows up in future to be a C. V. Raman. This age is an age of science which will determine the course of 3rd millennium." He continued to say that a teacher is a 'maker of minds'. The latent brilliance of the young kids must be nourished through inflaming their minds because they are the harbingers of the civilization of tomorrow. It is important to develop a spirit of creativity and positive attitude to science in the young minds. Science with a human face is the need of the hour and the fruits of science should be used for the service of humanity. He concluded by saying that he was touched by the hospitality and love of the Indian Embassy School and felt as if he was a member of the school family.

The main attractions of the Exhibition were working models such as Electro Magnetic Crain, Hydro Electric Generator,



Dr. Sahu inaugurates the Art and Science exhibition.



Guests at the inaugural ceremony.



Guests at the closing ceremony.



A section of the enthusiastic audience.



A glimpse of the brilliant array of exhibits.

## Key points for lesson planning

There are 3 main parts to a lesson plan:  
**WHO** are you going to teach?  
**WHAT** are you going to teach?  
**HOW** – what are the stages and procedures?

### A) WHO?

#### Class profile

- This should be a brief description of the class.
- Include information such as the number of students, age, level, cultural background and individual characteristics (e.g. strong and weak students.)
- This helps to remind yourself of things about the class and demonstrates to the observer that you know your students.

### B) WHAT?

#### Aims

- This is what you intend to achieve in your lesson. Try to be realistic about what you can achieve in the time – don't be over-ambitious.
- Make sure the aims are as clear and focused as possible – don't make them vague.
- There should be one main aim, which refers to what you want the learners to achieve by the end of the lesson (related either to a skill or a language point).
- Use language such as:

By the end of the lesson students will

- have a better understanding of
- know that ...

- be better able to ...
- have developed their ability to ...

You can also include:

- Subsidiary aims**, which may be related and support the main aim (e.g. to give students more speaking practice).
- Personal aims**: Points that have been highlighted from the previous lesson in feedback and which you want to work on in the lesson (e.g. to be more effective at drilling new language).

#### Assumptions

- What do you assume the students know already or perhaps don't know?
- What have they learnt in previous lessons that will influence this one?
- This shows that you are aware of what the learners bring to the classroom and how you can build on that or use pre-existing knowledge to your advantage.

#### Anticipated problems and solutions

- Think through the lesson and try to identify where your students may have difficulties. These may be related to:
  - the language being presented or practiced (form, meaning, or pronunciation).
  - skills activities, e.g. a speaking or writing activity

- Then decide how you might overcome these problems and think of some possible solutions.

#### Materials / Aids

- Decide what you will need to help you carry out each stage effectively to achieve your aims
- Clearly state all the materials and aids you will use in the lessons:
  - The course book (name, unit, page number, exercises).
  - Supplementary materials (specify the source).
  - Aids (flashcards, OHP transparencies, tapes).
  - Equipment (tape player, OHP, whiteboard).

#### HOW

##### Stages

- Select appropriate stages and activities for your lesson, which will help you to achieve your aims.
- Give each stage a title. This makes it easier for you and the observer to follow your lesson plan. The following are possible examples of stages:

Lead-in, presentation, listening for gist, reading for detail, warmer, language focus, drill, mingle, vocabulary pre-teach, freer practice, game, round up

Source: Yemen Summer School 2007, British Council



# Hodeidah University Two-day workshops on the Professional development for the teachers of English

Dr. Nemah Al-Zabidy  
Head, English department  
Fac. of Edu, university of Hodeidah

Department of English in the Faculty of Education at Hodeidah University collaborated with the British Council in Sana'a and organized two-day workshops on the "Professional Development for the teachers of English in Hodeidah". Those workshops were generally intended to develop the teachers of English professionally. They aimed to update the knowledge of in-service teachers and consequently enable them to cope with the latest in the field of English language Teaching. The workshops were five with different topics and they took place in the Meeting Hall in the Faculty of Education, on 15-16 November 2008.

The British Council in Sana'a brought the visiting speaker, Mr. Peter Lucantoni, from Cyprus. He is a teacher educator and a trainer for the teachers of English, having a rich experience of teaching in the Middle East and Europe. He trained the participants for two days.

Faculty of Education selected and invited thirty-four practising English teachers from fifteen government

schools for both boy and girl- students of different levels. Those schools are affiliated to the three main urban-districts in Hodeidah: Al-Hawak, Al-Meena' and Al-Haly.

On the first day (15 Nov.), inaugurating the workshops, the Rector of Hodeidah University, Dr. Qassim Burieh, welcomed the guests and thanked them for being able to come to Hodeidah and run such workshops. He expressed his wish that the council would organize many workshops in future for the benefit of the teachers of English. Then, the assistant of ELT manager, Ms. Huda Saleem, introduced the visiting speaker and thanked the Faculty of Education, Hodeidah University for organizing such workshops for English teachers.

The first workshop which lasted for two hours was on 'Teenagers' in which Mr. Lucantoni involved the participants in some interesting and feasible activities to enable them to face the problems of the student-teenagers. The participants eagerly took part in all the activities.

The second workshop began at 11.30 after the coffee break and was on 'Literature for Language Teaching', in which Mr. Lucantoni provided different activities to show that literature can be used as a rich



Mr. Peter Lucantoni, the visiting speaker, providing the participants with some interesting activities.

resource for language teaching. The participants found the activities interesting and mind-engaging.

In the afternoon, the third workshop was on 'Speaking: Fluency and Accuracy' and lasted for 2 hours. Mr. Lucantoni engaged the participants in several challenging activities through which they can develop their students' speaking skills in the classes.

The second day began with a very brief address by Dr. Julia Cave Smith, the ELT Manager in the British Council - Sana'a, who apologized for not being present on the first day because of her pressing engagement. She expressed her gratitude to the Faculty of Education, Department of English, particularly Dr. Nemah Al-Zabidy for her great efforts to make the workshops possible and for arranging such activities for the benefit of the teachers.

The fourth workshop was on 'Integrating Skills' in which there were many feasible activities to illustrate how to integrate the basic language skills usefully to accelerate the students' learning of English at all levels.

The fifth and the last workshop after the coffee break began at 11.30 and lasted 2 hours. It was on 'Monolingual Classes' in which Mr. Lucantoni distinguished between bilingual and monolingual classes, focusing on the disadvantages and advantages of each of them and how teachers can make the best use of the advantages in monolingual classes. It was stressed that most of the English classes in the world are monolingual classes.

All the five workshops were useful and interesting as they were activity-based and all the participants tried to get the maximum benefit from them. The two-day workshops, which focused on the professional development of the teachers of English, were enriching and a pleasant experience to those in-service teachers. The Participants' responses to the evaluation-questionnaires given to them, expressed their gratitude to the Dept. of English in the Faculty of Education at Hodeidah University and showed that the participants look forward to such workshops with longer duration in future.

## Faculty Of Education

Faculty of Education is the core of Hodeidah University as it is the biggest among the different faculties/colleges.

It was established in 1986-1987. It has got eleven departments for different majors; Islamic Studies, Quranic studies, Arabic, English, Mathematics, Chemistry, Physics, Kindergarten, Computers, Educational Sciences and psychology.

Department of English distributes demonstrators/teachers to teach English to the students of these departments.

Also, the Department of English provides B.Ed undergraduate program (four-years) and M.Ed postgraduate program (two-years). B.Ed program is considered as the pre-service teacher-training program in Hodeidah. Furthermore, this Department of English is totally interrelated with in-service teachers in the Yemeni schools.



Republic Of Yemen  
Hodeidah University  
Department Of English

# Sana'a University Teachers Professional Development



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The University of Sana'a established a centre for University Education Development (UEDC) in 2006. As the name suggests, the centre is responsible for

developing programmes and curriculum, as well as strengthening the skills of the teaching staff.

Among the units of the centre there is quality assurance unit. One of its goals is to provide guidance and advice to the departments and colleges of the university on how to evaluate their own programmes, i.e. how to conduct internal evaluation. The practice of internal evaluation will help pinpoint the strengths and weaknesses of any programme in the university. This will also pave the way for external evaluation and, ultimately, prepare for accreditation by the institutions concerned.

Every summer, since its establishment, the UEDC conducts a professional development programme for the university teachers. This summer,

a comprehensive training programme was delivered at the premises of the centre from 2nd to 20th August, 2008. The audience comprised inexperienced and experienced faculty members who belonged to different colleges of the university.

The programme was mounted as a part of Sana'a University policy that aims to enhance and develop the university teaching profession so as to meet the needs of the local as well as the regional market.

This summer programme focused on the teaching-learning process. It covered various areas and themes which relate to three stages of teaching: pre-teaching, during teaching and post-teaching. Among these are:

1. Planning Teaching and Delivery of Content

2. Course Description
3. Teaching Large Groups: Engaging Students
4. Teaching techniques: Enquiry and solving problems
5. Educational Technology: Using PowerPoint in Teaching
6. Assessment Methods and preparation of achievement tests
7. Evaluation: analysing tests and writing reports.

As we can see, areas 1 and 2 relate to pre-teaching stage; areas 3, 4 and 5 relate to during teaching stage; points 6 and 7 are concerned with during as well as post-teaching stage.

It is hoped that such programmes continue every summer and prove useful, fruitful and productive to almost all the participants.



Participants deeply engrossed in deliberations.



## POETRY CORNER

### She at her vanity box

Parveen Shakir

Droplets glistening on tresses,  
Like strings of crystal beads.  
Each orifice exuding the odor of a nubile frame.  
The center parting resplendent  
With a thin vermilion line.  
A chaplet of jasmine buds around dark, wavy locks;  
Another adorning curvaceous arms.  
Gold rings, thick and lustrous, hanging from earlobes.  
Around the neck a garland  
The greenish light of glowworm.  
White dots of sandalwood paste  
Over the arched eyebrows.  
A bindiya coruscating in between.  
Two lines of kajal gracing  
Green, razor-sharp eyes.  
Crimson cheeks betraying  
The ayes and ways of the heart.  
Luscious lips turned ruby red  
Thanks to the beau's forwardness.  
Each tinkling bangle proclaiming  
Who of all the world he is.  
Though gently does she try to walk,  
The house echoes with the rhythm  
Of her jingling payals.  
She looks at herself in the mirror and blushes;  
She looks and turns scarlet.  
Is it this youthful female form  
That makes the world throb?

Parveen Shakir is a renowned Pakistani poetess  
Translated by late Dr. Mahmood Al-Hasani

### Listen to me

Fatima Al-Tawily  
Al-Khansa School  
Al-Mahweet

My heart whispers the saga of my  
life.

Your love is my only mission,  
Please believe,  
Listen to me before you go away.  
Before knowing my love  
Don't break my heart,  
See the eternal treasure trove

## YOUTH FORUM

### A memory

In each person's life sundry memories,  
Some happy and some gloomy.  
You were the most pleasant that rose  
To spread your holy breeze,  
Upon my snowy hills and plains.  
That I had the birth of my pretty life;  
The inert fire flamed on my virgin breast  
To melt that ice into green velvet,  
After it was buried and barren in my heart  
It became filled with the nectar of flowers  
That was meant only for love and lovers.  
And so my heart weaned of his fast  
And became intoxicated with rosy bust



Then I knew the meaning of love and life.  
But, ah! Soon light packed its holy scent  
Left me knocked out and bereft of sight  
As a child deserted in the dead night  
In a vast desert with no moonlight.  
By Hussam Al-Abssy  
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Level 4  
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### When I look into her eyes

When I look into her eyes  
I can't feel myself on earth or on the sky  
And I lose myself among the people  
When I look into her eyes  
I forget the passage of time and all my sufferings  
And all my feelings towards them become sublime  
I can't stop thinking about her eyes  
I always tell the guys  
What a beautiful secret I do cherish!  
When I look into her eyes  
I see a sparkle as star light  
That makes my dark mind shine bright  
And my darkest days glitter like light

If only I could see her eyes all day and all night  
I feel I'm the monarch of the world  
And fervently adore the queen of my heart  
Those eyes will never let me down, I always feel them by my side  
For those eyes my heart has defied me  
And made me a pygmy before my pride  
I knelt and became their slave  
All I wanna say I love you  
Would you believe in love at first sight!

Abdullah Saleh Ali Ali  
Department of English  
Faculty of Arts  
Ibb University

## READERS WRITE

Dear Dr. Sahu,

As far as I know, there is no academic journal in Yemen for English language studies. I consider the educational page as the first, if not the only, academic journal in English where academicians, scholars, students, teachers publish and get access to new works in English studies. Such rich domain for various audiences needs to be investigated and analyzed in terms of register, structure from a sociolinguistic perspective.

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