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Yemen starts uprooting qat trees in flatlands

By: Mahmoud Assamiee

DHAMAR, March 11 — In an unprecedented move, Yemen officially started uprooting qat trees from their soil last week.

The Governor of Dhamar Yahya Al-Amri, along with the governorates' officials and farmers, launched last Sunday the process of uprooting qat trees in the Jahran area.

Governor Al-Amri and farmers in the

area participated in the process of uprooting the trees from a number of agricultural fields. This project came as a direct response to President Saleh's directives to farmers in agricultural flatlands in Jahran and Al-Bawn in Amran

to limit the cultivation of qat trees and to replace them with agricultural crops.

The governor issued directives to the Company of Producing Improved Potato Seeds and the Corporation of Producing Improved Seeds to provide and supply farmers with all their seed needs that will replace qat trees. He highlighted the voluntary work of farmers for uprooting the tree.

General Manager of Dhamar Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation's Office Ali Al-Hamdi told the Yemen Times that farmers uprooted the tree willingly. They are convinced, through experience, that the tree damages the soil.

"The dangers of pesticides and the severe cold waves that hit the tree in winter are among the reasons that are convincing farmers to uproot the tree," said Al-Hamdi.

He confirmed that the tree has been uprooted from 3 hectares in flatlands in Jahran, the targeted area in the governorate, as well as in other 15 flatlands in the five governorates of Amran, Ibb, Dhamar, Sana'a, and Al-Baida'a.

Concerning alternatives the farmers will receive in place of qat, Al-Hamdi said that the government will provide people with improved seeds of potatoes and wheat as well as 26,000 coffee seedlings. They will be distributed to the farmers soon.

"The seeds will be distributed to farmers with a lot of help and for low prices," said Al-Hamdi. "Additionally, there are 300 harvesters coming from the Czech Republic to assist."

In addition to these alternatives, farmers will receive a modern irrigation system network and water tanks that will be installed near their agricultural fields.

Concerning World Bank cooperation with the government in this field, World Bank Officer of Rural Development, Water, and Environment in Sana'a Naji Abu Hatem said, "We provide technical support to the government."

This kind of support is represented in helping the government by providing experts in the fields of protecting water and soil as well as performing studies on the possibilities of alternative crops. Among these alternatives is the opuntia plant, or cactus. "The fruit of the cactus can be profitable for farmers. Just one fruit is sometimes sold for YR 50," Abu Hatem explained.

"Our studies are focused on protecting water, given that qat tree is the number one plant responsible for exhausting waters. Nearly 30 percent of water for cultivation is devoted to qat," he added.

Continued on page 2



Palm trees of Wadi Doa'an in Hadramout. Along with gradually fighting chewing qat as a destructive social habit, the initiative to uproot qat trees also aims at reserving the underground water for more useful agriculture products that would eventually support Yemenis national economy.

Sa'ada tensions increase amid expectations of war

By: Mohammed Bin Sallam

SANA'A, March 11 — An atmosphere of war prevails in Sa'ada amidst deployment of the government army in

several district and extensive mobilizations of Jihadist groups that came into Sa'ada from more than one governorate.

Some of these groups are assembling at a camp located in a desert area near the Yemen-Saudi Arabia border. The government is mobilizing tribal groups from several different sides, according to Sheikh Saleh Habra, political spokesman for the Houthis.

"Citizens of Sa'ada started feeling stable and optimistic about peace and security as did the rest of citizens throughout the Republic," said Habra in a phone call with the Yemen Times yesterday. "Their children resumed their study in tents and ruined schools in spite of dropping temperatures. However, there is no hope as war mongers who are intent on carrying out foreign agendas came back to resume the war in order to satisfy their masters who don't want to see Yemen enjoying stability, security, and peace since the Yemeni revolution took place."

Concerning assassination events that targeted Houthi leaders, Habra said,

"Well-known leaders pay YR 12 million to hire assassins to murder a tribal leader or a leader of our supporters. We have documents to prove that and we arrested some people who confessed that they received money and directives from Yemeni leadership to carry out such murders. We will disclose these leaders in due time."

Abdul Malik Al-Houthi, leader of the Houthis in Sa'ada, warned the government against launching a new war against them. He considered that the outcome of any potential war that the government may launch will be nothing more than another "failure and defeat," just like the previous wars.

"This time, if you launch a new aggression, your defeat and damage will be much greater than that what took place in the past," said Al-Houthi, addressing the government. "We are not afraid of anything committed by any aggressive tyrant."

He accused the government of sending repeated threats and said that the government's preparations are on track to launch a sixth war in Sa'ada.

Continued on page 2

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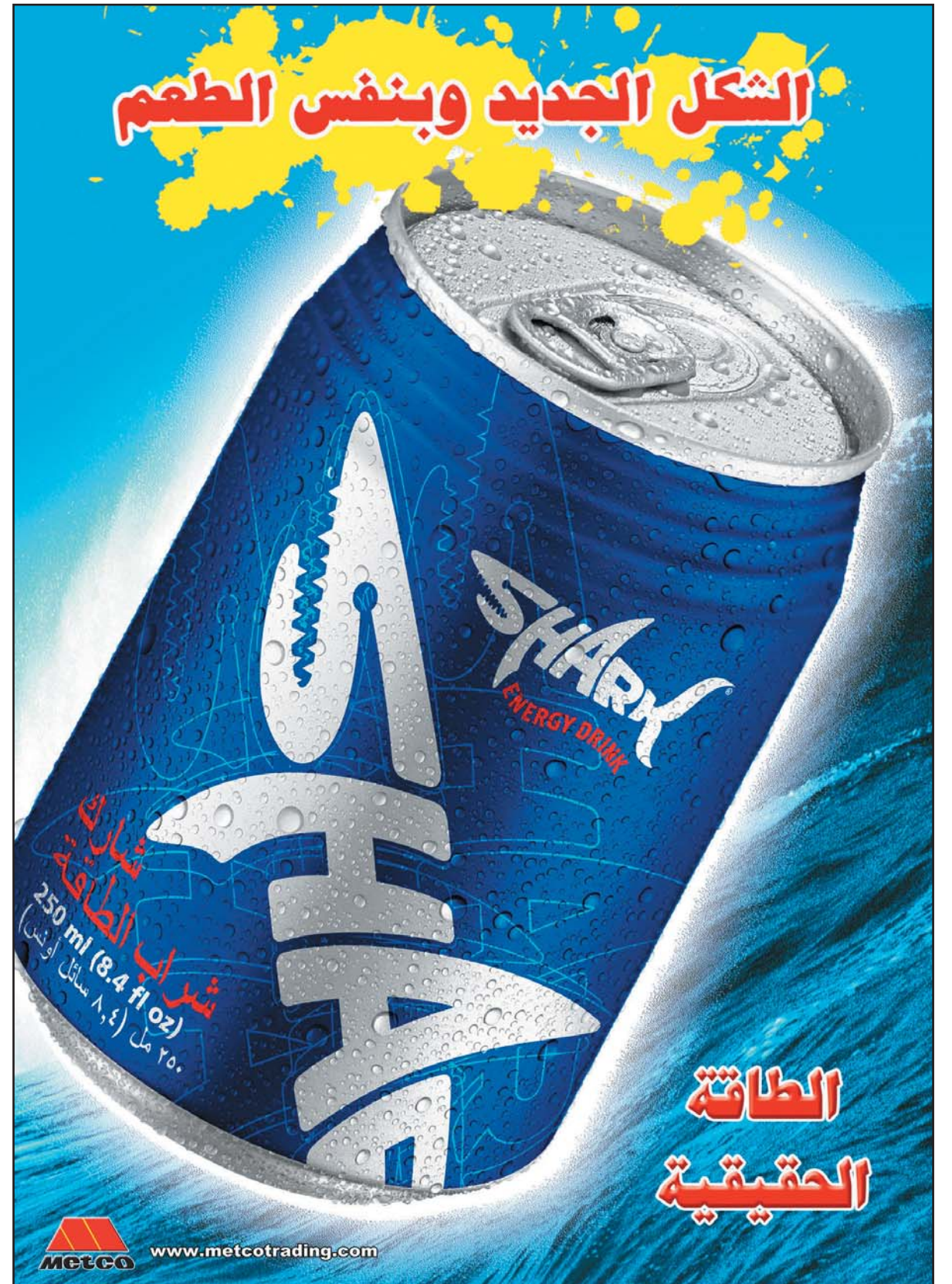
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A day with Asma'a Al-Shami A young female adventuring into the business world

By: Enas Al-Awami

Breaking stereotypes and aspiring to succeed, social red lines are no obstacle for Asma'a Al-Shami, a 22 year-old Economics student at Sana'a University. Not only has she started several small business projects, but she also juggles two public relations jobs in between her lectures five times a week at university.

Al-Shami made her first steps in business as soon as she graduated from high school in the summer of 2004. She successfully managed and turned around a swimming pool for eight months by ensuring that the pool was heated, starting a monthly membership system and bringing a swimming coach to the center.

Today, four and a half days later, Al-Shami jumps into her Toyota pick-up truck, reverses up the engine and makes her way towards Ibrahim Ali Eshaq Cooperation Quotation (IAESCQ) on Sitteen Street.

She started her day at nine in the morning full of energy and with an optimistic smile, leaving her family home where she lives and promising her father to bring his car back to his office by four in the after-

noon.

She steers her way through busy morning traffic, ignoring other driver's comments at the rare sight of a young Yemeni girl driving a pick-up truck.

"I believe that I'm talented, because I didn't study then work: I worked first and then I decided to study Economics," she says. "No one can excel in their degree unless they love their subject and are naturally talented at it."

Her phone rings. It's Al-Aqeel, an agent for Ynet, one of the companies she works for marketing Ynet SIM cards. She hesitates then picks up: "I'm on my way," she says, "just keep in mind that I need to have the SIM cards with the contracts papers now, and please make sure that they are 250 not less."

Next she calls the manager of IAESCQ to ask him if he is available as she wants to collect her paycheck. When she arrives, she cheerfully greets the company's employees and enters his office: "Do we have a deal? If yes, then let's sign," she says. "You can be sure you won't regret it."

The deal is for her to manage a new swimming pool on Taiz Road. She signs the contract and leaves in hurry to attend a small business training workshop in the

Yemeni Trading Bank.

Two years ago, Al-Shami started a business with a friend in the United States importing ipods, mp3s, mp4s and cameras and selling them to shops in Yemen.

"To start a business, you have to think of all its aspects and make sure of its potential benefits," she says. "Starting without thoroughly studying the case would be a big mistake: Think it over well and leave the rest to God."

When Al-Shami is not attending workshops, marketing SIM cards or managing a swimming pool, she works in public relations for graphic design company Design Group presenting their abilities to potential clients and trying to persuade them to hire the company's graphic designers to produce their advertisements.

But Al-Shami is also an artist. Interested in interior design, she copies drawings and designs on mirrors which she then sells on for a profit. For St Valentine's Day, she drew red hearts on her mirrors on order for friends and family.

"Working can sometimes prevent you from attending wedding parties during the week," she says, but stresses that she has a lot of friends and always tries to

keep in touch with the people she meets.

"Asma'a is so sweet and considerate," says one of her friends, admiration and love apparent on her face. "She is such fun and very kind, she helps everybody." "She is such an active girl. She is very dependable, and she loves money," said Ibrahim Ishaq the chairman of IAESCQ.

Asma'a has a very strong personality, and she believes that in Yemen girls have to be cautious with their interactions with men as they can be misunderstood. She also looks up to her father Abdullah Al-Shami who she believes in and strives to make her proud.

"My dad has helped me a lot and motivated me to improve myself," she says with happy eyes. "He always tells me to pursue my dreams, deal professionally with people. 'Be confident, stay with God and you won't come by harm,' he says."

The second oldest in her family, Al-Shami has three sisters and two brothers. As her elder sister is married, her mother and father trust her to help look after her younger siblings because they say she is dependable. She is also devoted to her nephew who she adores.

"I believe that my sister is very active and special," says her 15 year-old brother Nabeel.



Asma Al-Shami convincing a new client to sign a business contract.

"I wish her all the best: she is so lovely, kind and generous."

Al-Shami believes that Yemen has greatly improved in recent years, but that the country still needs lots of help. She asks all Yemeni families to educate their daughters, and let them work with no fear - just to be careful.

"When I say educate girls I don't mean high school, I mean a Bachelors degree or more," she explains. "Girls should go out to work and be careful of the street's

wolves - those who are unmoral, and have no values."

"My dream is help my country," she adds. "I'm so proud of those who work for a noble cause and I want to be one of them."

"I also really hope that the government can help youth because they are the future of this country," she says. "For example, think how much a factory built with the same budget as that huge mosque could have helped the country."

Banned from car windows

By: Almgidaj Mojalli

Tinted windows, photographs and posters, including those of the president, are no longer allowed on vehicles because they contradict traffic laws, according to the Ministry of Interior.

Following the decision to implement the 2005 law on February 24, traffic police were quick to act. There is not fine for offending drivers, but police have forcibly removed 589 posters and pictures from vehicles in Hadramout and Amran, as well as another 116 in Socotra so far.

The posters and pictures removed include those of former Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, President Abdullah Saleh of Yemen, the war-affected chil-

dren of Gaza and the murdered Dr. Derhem al-Qadasi from the Science and Technology University Hospital.

Though many people agreed on the decision many others consider it a violation of freedom of expression arguing that it doesn't offend others.

"It is not civilized to put posters or have tinted windows on your car, said Lieutenant Colonel Abdullah Al-Nuwairah of the Traffic Administration. "In any other country, people aren't allowed to put posters or pictures on their cars."

"Some of the slogans draw support from some political parties or insult others which can foster hatred and discrimination," agreed Mansour Al-Haimi, a university student. "In other countries, people never put pictures or any thing on the windows of their cars."

A traffic policeman, on condition of anonymity, said that although the decision was issued in 2005 it was applied for about five months and then neglected: "Suddenly we received orders from the Interior Ministry to implement the directive once again," he said. "We have collected twenty kilograms of the posters, pictures and tinted stickers within one hour."

Jamal Al-Nabhani, a businessman, is happy with the decision because people abuse the pictures and posters: "Many people use are used to take girls from streets and take them to some places close to the towns and use the pictures and posters as a cover to prevent people from seeing what's going on inside the cars," he said.

Saleem Abdulmoghni, a government employee, praised the decision but

expressed fear that it will be applied only on the ordinary citizen, not officials and sheikhs: "We are used to seeing that sheikhs, officials and their families are exempted from any governmental decisions," he said. "The decision is good if the officials in the Ministry of Interior implement it first."

An official in the Traffic Administration affirmed that they remove posters, pictures and writings from all the cars except for those of diplomats, and those who refuse have their car towed away to the Traffic Administration.

Other vehicle owners are against the decision for different reasons, but some think that the decision is issued to take off the pictures of Dr. Derhim Al-Qadasi who was murdered late last year inside the Science and Technology University Hospital. The government has yet to




catch all the killers and bring them to justice.

"People have put up pictures of many people like Hamas leader Hassan Nasrallah for many years without the government doing anything about it, but now it has come to this decision," said Ahmed Al-Kohali, a bus driver. "Why now? It is trying to take off the pictures

of Dr. Al-Qadasi embarrassing to the Ministry of Interior which refuses to bring the criminals to justice."

The Traffic Administration refused to comment on the reasons for launching the campaign during this period. The Ministry of Interior also refused to comment on the issue and referred the Yemen Times to the Traffic Administration.



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| <p>Title of Post: Legal Consultant Post Number: N/A Category / Level: (National Consultant) Location: Sana'a</p> | <p>Entry on Duty: 1st April 2009 Duration: 24 Months (2 Years) Closing Date: 23rd March 2009</p> | |
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DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:
In line with the UNHCR policy of enhancing operational flexibility by having a workforce that takes full advantage of national capabilities and expertise in refugee hosting countries and countries of origin, a recruitment needs to be made of a National Legal Consultant who will work under the direct supervision of the Senior Protection Officer in the UNHCR Branch Office work in Sana'a.

The consultant will assist in establishing appropriate structures that will be in charge of dealing with asylum institution in the country. This project will contribute to the enhancement of protection environment for refugees mainly in decreasing the number of refouled refugees and asylum seekers. The consultant, who should be a national of Yemen with substantial knowledge of local conditions, will perform in close cooperation with UNHCR Office in Yemen the following tasks while guided by the humanitarian principles and values of the United Nations, and adhering to the UN Code of Conduct:

Terms of Reference

- In Cooperation with National Refugee Committee (NACRA) and other competent authorities, to assist the Government of Yemen in establishing the proper legislative and Administrative structure that will result in the creation of a national entity that will be responsible of the Asylum Institution in Yemen, this will include drafting legislation, administrative structure and setting Standard Operation Procedures (SOPs) for the asylum process.
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- To submit periodic reports to the Senior Protection Officer as first reporting officer, and to the management. He will also be required to contribute to other regular period reports such as the annual protection report.

The final product expected is to have a functional asylum system including a drafted legislation and administrative procedures for RSD system.

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No more unhealthy or unsafe products in Yemen

By: Ali Saeed

To ensure good quality, safe and healthy products for consumers in Yemen, a new certification program will be implemented from next month onwards on all local and imported products.

"The International Conformity Certification Program (ICCP) will inspect all of the following: toys, electrical and electronic products, vehicles and spare parts, personal safety devices, gas cylinders, foodstuffs, bars for concrete reinforcement, timber for construction and vehicle tires," said Fuad Saeed Nasher, Director of the Hemayah Program Unit at the Yemeni Standardization, Metrology and Quality Control Organization (YSMQCO).

The conformity certification or ICC will be awarded to a product within certain conditions, and can be withdrawn at any time before its expiry date if these are not met. As the ICCP has an expiry date, all businessmen will have to update the certification on a regular basis.



The new conformity certification will ensure products are of good quality and, in the case of food, safe for consumption.

Two authorized companies, BIVAC and COTECNA, will award the ICC in Yemen according to Yemeni standardizations and procedures, but an importer can also obtain an ICC from another body, if his products to meet

sufficient international standards.

In addition to all the other requirements, the authorized company will record whether each product is local or imported, and evaluate whether a manufacturer has sufficient and qualified

personnel.

The certificate awarding companies will in turn be inspected by the YSMQCO to appraise their work, and the YSMQCO will receive traders and manufacturers' complaints about them, if any arise.

"To obtain the ICC, the importer or manufacturer must contact BIVAC or COTECNA. Once he has produced the appropriate documents and it has been checked that his products meet Yemeni standardizations, he will be awarded the ICC," said Nasher.

Unsatisfied consumers may file an official complaint with either of the YSMQCO, BIVAC or COTECNA, and their comments will be carefully recorded for any product.

"The program will have many good implications for Yemen," said Nasher. "New testing laboratories will be set up and jobs and training will be provided to Yemeni technicians."

"It will also boost health and safety, and ensure that products offered on the Yemeni market are healthy, safe and of good quality," he added.

Not only consumers but also traders will benefit from this program. The

ICCP will ensure a trader's reliability, all the while reducing the cost and time renewed inspections and testing.

"Both local and imported products will be evaluated and tested without discrimination," said Nasher.

"No doubt this program will have a good effect on the national economy and consumers," said Mohammed Jubran, Professor of Economics at Sana'a University. "The program will protect good local products from low quality imported ones with unknown trademarks, and will enhance the country's gross domestic product."

But Jubran doubted on the YSMQCO's ability to implement such a program.

"There are around 40 percent establishments that practice commercial activities without a license," he explained. "How can the YSMQCO control them if they are not licensed?"

"Up until now, merchants have also refused to follow the sales tax law," he continued. "How is the YSMQCO going to be able to implement a procedure that involves both passage through customs and a conformity test?"

"Finally, until now traders have not

submitted their accounts books for inspection despite the Ministry of Finance's demands. How will the ICCP be achieved?" he asked.

Economist Saif Al-Asali supported the professor's opinion. He called the ICCP an excellent step, but stressed that the current state of Yemen's economy must be considered as most imported products at the moment do not meet the required standards.

"It would be better to gradually implement such a program first on food and medicine," he said, "because both are more related to the life of citizens than other products."

The expert suggested to the YSMQCO conduct an awareness campaigns to educate citizens about required standards and good quality, but explained he was afraid the latest step would be exploited to aggravate corruption among personnel of the tax authority.

The Ministry of Industry and Trade represented by the YSMQCO signed the contract with BIVAC, a French company, and COTECNA, a Swiss company, in November 2008 to implement the ICCP in Yemen for two years.

Islamic finance and global security

Dr. Terry Lacey

When Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi opened the Fifth World Islamic Economic Forum (WIEF) in Jakarta, Indonesia in the first week of March he said that the Western financial system had collapsed because of "unbridled greed" and that Islamic finance was an alternative to a failed Wall Street model.

Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono also called for continuing support for free trade as a response to the crisis but that nations should work "toward a development oriented trade regime" via the World Trade Organization.

The Forum focused on three big issues, first how would the Muslim world and countries of the South be hit

by the global economic crisis, second how to deal with this, and third what role could Islamic banking and finance play?

The Forum discussed the impact of the global economic crisis and associated instability, including concerns over falling trade and revenues, negative impacts on global growth, food prices, and environmental and energy issues.

The Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC) played a key role in the formation of the World Islamic Economic Forum. Its influence on the agenda was clear, with underlying recognition that South-South co-operation, particularly between Arab and Muslim states, still fell far short of being able to absorb available liquidity in the Gulf States and Saudi Arabia, or to increase intra-trade between OIC members.

In practice Muslim countries still do

little trade with each other. When the World Islamic Economic Forum started in 2004 trade between its member was only 4 percent. It has now doubled in five years to 8 percent, but the OIC target is 25 percent.

The Forum discussed whether Islamic banking and finance had enough track record and substance to really compete with the Western financial system, or whether Islamic banking and finance, as it expanded, would slither down the same slippery slide as its Western counterpart, into derivatives and dodgy deals.

The debate on Islamic finance and global security was animated by Baroness Pauline Neville Jones, United Kingdom Shadow Security Minister and National Security Adviser (on the Conservative front bench) who made a keynote speech looking at the impact of the global crisis on Southern countries and relationships with the West.

Baroness Neville Jones said the United States Central Intelligence Agency estimated that one quarter of the countries in the world were already partly destabilized by the Western recession and global crisis.

She acknowledged that the biggest protests and direct political fall-out were hitting Europe and the United States.

But the biggest security problems arising are expected in Southern countries with low financial reserves, and less underlying economic strength than the Middle East or Asia.

So the hardest hit Southern countries will be in Africa, Latin America and parts of the ex-Soviet Union in Central Asia.

She also acknowledged that "We needed sounder banking practice and improved ethical codes and that Islamic banking might have something really important to teach other forms of bank-

ing".

Baroness Neville Jones foresaw a social as well as an economic function for Islamic banking and finance and that there was a need "to make banking and finance more socially aware".

Asked about the negative impact of the unresolved Israel-Palestine dispute on relations with the West, she said she was pleased that Palestine and Afghanistan would now be put at the top of the agenda by the new US administration.

After a decade of listening to Westerners on the Muslim threat, terrorism and the global war to end it, it made a welcome change to hear her say that the invasion of Iraq had been wrong, "I and my party supported invading Iraq and it was a mistake".

We learned a big lesson, she went on, observing that partnership for open societies and participation in economic pro-

perity was a better basis for Western policy towards Southern countries and that the West "should move away from a colonial style".

The Western world is now relying on countries in the Middle East and Asia, many of them Muslim-led, to help refinance the world economy and to supply economic demand to help get world trade and economic activity going again.

This is a good time to strengthen capacity and pursue the expansion of Islamic banking and finance as part of an emerging new international economic order, promoting Muslim modernization and global security through economic and social development.

Terry Lacey is a development economist who writes from Jakarta on modernization in the Muslim world, investment and trade relations with the EU and Islamic banking.

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

An International Development Agency is looking for a **media coordinator** to work in its Sana'a office.

The media coordinator will work for the agency's media projects in Yemen. These projects include media legislation, access to information, freedom of expression, strengthening the trade union sector of media, education and training of journalists and local radio. Projects are usually long term but also short term involvement is possible.

Responsibilities:

The coordinator will be especially responsible of the following:

- Donor and Agency coordination in the media sector
- Liaison with local and international partners
- Following up media sector development in the country and report on it
- Manage project cycle and day-to-day affairs connected to projects
- Organizing meetings, trainings and workshops
- Draft new project proposals in the media sector

Qualifications:

- Higher university degree in related area
- Oral and written fluency in English and Arabic
- Work experience with media (public, private, commercial) and international organizations
- Experience in project cycle management including monitoring and writing, reviewing and editing reports and project documents
- Good knowledge of Yemeni media and society
- Ability to travel both in Yemen and abroad

Candidates are required to submit an application with a one page cover letter explaining the applicant's interest and suitability for the position, indicating starting date if selected, updated CV and three professional references including their phone numbers. The application addressed to the Head of Office, TAO, should be sent by mail to Post Box 18159, Hadda area, Sana'a, Yemen or delivered to the reception of the German Embassy, Hadda, Sana'a latest by 28th of March 2009 by noon. The envelope must be marked **Media Coordinator**. No personal inquiries can be made. Only successful applicants will be contacted for interview.

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Post Title: **Managing Director for the Yemen Microfinance Network (YMN)**
 Organisation: **The Social Fund for Development (SFD)**
 Location: **Sana'a**
 Duration: **Full time, including 3 months probationary period**
 No. of Post: **1**
 Date Announced: **12th March 2009**
 Closing Date: **26th March 2009**

Background:

The Social Fund for Development (SFD) was established in 1997 as one of the measures to cushion the effects of the government's reform programs on vulnerable groups, especially the poor. The Small and Micro Enterprise Development (SMED) unit is part of the SFD's program of economic development and job creation. SMED provides both financial and non-financial services to microfinance institutions (MFIs) in order the poor are aided in increasing their income and improving their living conditions. To ensure that the MFIs reach the poor in the most effective and efficient manner, a joint initiative between SFD and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is being taken to establish a National Microfinance Network which will act as a secretariat for the MFIs of the country, creating the platform for MFIs to strengthen themselves into capable and viable institutions. SFD being the implementing partner of the initiative is looking to hire a Managing Director for the Yemen Microfinance Network.

Specific responsibilities:

The Managing Director will be responsible for the following deliverables:

- Developing a strategic plan and achievement of set deliverables of the strategic plan.
- Developing an annual work plan
- Identifying and attracting appropriate membership for YMN
- Ensure the recruitment and training of new staff for the network
- Developing operating systems and procedures
- Develop a set of training modules to be offered to members
- Develop information exchange strategy
- Developing a system for network self-monitoring
- Developing an external certificate program in microfinance
- Continuous communication and coordination with MFIs
- Produce reports to donors, stakeholders and board of directors on a regular basis
- Ensure the network produces the above specified results according to quality standards, within budget and a timeframe.

Qualifications and skills

The Managing Director must have the following:

- Minimum Bachelor Degree (Master Degree preferred in the Management field from a reputable university).
- Five years of experience in management.
- Proven ability to nurture a smooth working relationship with varied stakeholders (MFIs, banks, technical assistance providers, international donors, research agencies etc).
- Strong communication, public relations, organisation and leadership skills.
- Mature and very energetic and dynamic.
- Sound knowledge of microfinance products and delivery mechanisms.
- Possess the ability to produce accurate and precise reports to top management level.
- Experience of working with external agencies.
- Very competent with the use of computers.
- High proficiency in written and spoken Arabic and English.

Reporting:

The Managing Director will report to the network board of directors

Submission guideline:

The application should comprise of a **one page** cover letter explaining the applicants' interest and suitability for the position, indicating earliest joining date if selected, and a **CV**.

Interested candidates should submit their application by email to: ymn@sfd-yemen.org before 26th March 2009. Applications received after the closing date will not be considered. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted for interviews. Position only for Yemeni Nationals.

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.. فائق ألف مبروك

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و **بلال الخادم الرعود**

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المغنونه :
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عبد غالب - عبد الصمد عبد غالب
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Whom do I love?

By: Ali Al-onqobi
Onqobi1970@yahoo.com

In a full moon night, I was timely reminded.
Of my queen, whose shadow always presented.
Stricken by her tenderness, sensitiveness and kind,
I challenge to find a lady like my beloved.
It's a waste of time to search eyes compared;
Jealously the addax feels of hers and defeated.
The clear sky gives up to the face she gets;
God creates beauty and for all people He gifts,
Sweetheart alone the second half worthily takes.
Baby's soul beauty is purely innocent and real,
The heart bears no to upset any creature's feel;
Everyone likes her and finds her easy to deal,
Never upsets others and frankness she does reveal,
Tolerant, lovely, simple and knows no fulsome zeal.
Dwells her love in my lovesick heart so no blame,
You know not how her love to my heart came;
The gentle dove doubted I'd mistaken her name.
Attracted to the innocence and docility of the dame.
Since then, her love grows on me endlessly;
Shifting my care and cold senseless life; lily,
Two souls have vowed to live harmonically
Never ever to separate but to approach closely.
Our hearts will know no dispirited will,
Losing hopes of mating one day is nil,
Our sincere love was, is, be, and still.
The lady I love much haunts my body, forever,
Like my lady; a counterpart, is created never.

Rashad Qaed Ahmed
rashadHSE@gmail.com

A three-million-killer has gone away. About three million Iraqis and Afghans have been killed and more have been wounded and displaced. Who did that and where is he now? Is he having a good and nice retirement? Can any one believe this? Are we dreaming? Or we are in reality. I think we are dreaming because such news is unbelievable.

How can a three-million-killer go away without even questioning him of what he did. If it is real, then something is going to happen to those who supported him and to those who are not going to put him before justice. I think you have got an idea of his horrified and bloody history.

He is the terrible 21-century-killer.

History curse

Every one knows him and his brutal actions. He is the real terrorist who has been committing war crimes and genocides during the last eight years. He has now completed his task and returned back home..

But some questions raise themselves here that what is the role of Arab leaders in dealing with this issue. Will they continue keeping silent? Won't they raise a hand? These are some questions that only Arab leaders who can answer them.

If they don't answer them and keep on ignoring what happened. I assure you that the turn will come to them now or then. Have they forgotten what happened to the former president of one of the greatest Arab countries (Saddam)? History repeats itself! They are, actually, not out of the game, but they have played a filthy role in it.

Killing three million of humans is not an easy matter. History will punish and curse every butcher. It is said, in Arab culture, that a killer will be killed even

after a long period of time. What makes one mad is the change of facts. The one who is defending his rights in these days is called a terrorist, whereas the terrorist himself is called a defender.

The one who defends himself and his territories must not be given any kind of weapon, but the one who kills innocent children and women must be supplied with nuclear war-heads and every kind of weapon. Is this the reality of the current century? One really goes mad whenever trying to understand such facts.

More worse, our yes-rulers believe in such ideas and they do their best to help the founders of these ideas. They have forgotten that they are representing millions of people. They try their best to go against the public opinion of their people.

They really do not represent their people. When we read our history, we really feel ashamed of such rulers. It is really a history curse.

Through The Mind's Eye

By: Maged Thabet Al-kholidy
majed_thabet@hotmail.com



Postponing the elections: acceptable or not?

The parliamentary elections were about to be held. Their first phase was complete, with fears of undesired clashes between the ruling party and the opposition. Tensions persisted throughout the preparation of the second phase, the actual voting which was to take place by the end of next month. All of a sudden, the process of the election was postponed not for a month or two or even a year, but for two complete years.

What shakes many people is how the idea was negotiated and the decision announced in a few days. The event has met with both approval and criticism, but as usual without any real actions being taken. As an advocate for democracy and freedom of expression, I can hardly believe in the integrity of the elections in Yemen.

Those who have called the move to postpone the elections "unlawful" procedure are not wrong. They refer to the Constitution which states that Parliament cannot postpone elections unless exceptionally critical circumstances overcome the country, and they say that no such thing has happened. It is against the law and against the Constitution, they say, to postpone the parliamentary elections by two years.

Others say the decision violates the country's political tradition. For such people, the election is a holy and highly respected day on which each person has the right to act on their opinion. They can say a lot throughout the electoral period, but they only act in consequence by practicing their legal right to vote on such a historical day.

Others say that the decision has already been taken and that there are no means of canceling it. As protest would be in vain, they have nothing to do but to approve it. They add as a second, and I think logical, reason the lack of participation of the opposition in the planned elections before their postponement. As only the ruling party and one or two small unknown parties were to participate, such elections would have been unacceptable, both locally and internationally.

On the local level, there would have been no change since the ruling party would have been the only participant. There might have been independent candidates, but they would have been nominated by the ruling party itself.

The third reason to justify the elections' postponement is the escalation of political tensions between the ruling parties and the opposition. Such tensions could have led to clashes not only among the parties but also among individuals themselves.

The last justification is the financial crisis which has adversely affected Yemen's already-struggling economy. The country would not have been able to fund the election in view of the deficiency in the general budget as a result of such a crisis. In addition, donor countries may have decreased or cancelled financial support for democracy programs in the country. Finally, let the country keep its financial resources to resolve the more critical economical issues of the country.

In short, whether the postponement was legal or not, it is better for the country not only as a government but as a nation, especially in such times of political and economical instability – both globally and in Yemen.

Maged Thabet Al-kholidy is a writer from Taiz, currently doing his M.A. at English Dep. Taiz Uni. He is an ex-editor of English Journal of the University.

Solitude

By: Joydeep Sen
jd_sen@rediffmail.com

I, licked at the darkness.
Swallowed the taste; Bitter.
Wallowed in mystique caress;
Universe unknown.....

Other end of the tether,
Continues sojourn;
Knotted firmly unto me,
Thru velvet melancholy.

Sudden void all around;
Ethereal murmurs; And,
Tremors abound.
Wafted along muslin bends,
After eternity being forlorn
My Solitude ends.....

A journey begins.
Amidst smiles and a moan

I am born.....

Boundaries

By: Nandini Uppluri

I'm not sure what is across
The boundaries I cannot cross
There is nothing to win here-
But I know it's my own loss.

To step over the line
Has several times crossed my mind
But at all times I have turned around
And never looked back behind.

I imagine what I'll find
Over the rigid line
But the fancy daydreams of mine
Are lost as thoughts in my mind.

Should I step over it?
With that world, will I fit?
My world is where I sit
I look over, for me it's too brightly lit.

I know I am smart
For me is that part
Is it too late to cross over?
Is it too late to start?

Across the line
Is where I will shine
That part could be mine
Maybe, these two worlds I can combine.

But over there, what if I don't stand tall?
What if I break down in front of a wall?
What if it's not that nice after all?
What if I just slip and fall?

In myself, my fears are stronger than
my faith
I'm too afraid, of what before me is laid
If I cross over, I don't want to think I should've stayed
My decision, I have made...

Arabian Leopard

Arabian Leopard's population is low
They're endangered, did you know?
But we treat them like our foe.
Causing a roe

Where will this go?
Our love should show
The Arabian Leopard will bow
Out its existence
From the Earth
We both share
Very few people care
About leopards so rare
Too much for the cat to bare
Is this fare?
Human or Leopard they ask
But the Arabian leopard won't last
Cause at killing man is fast

Hunters listen them purr
Into traps they lure
Hunt them down for their fur
Cubs looking for her
But they'll know she's gone from their world
Makes wildlife lovers go 'Grr...'

The hunters are bad
They're killing us
Enough we had
Our situation is sad
Our skin is fad
Do you understand lad?
Says the cub's dad
Feeling mad

Hunters should go to jail
Arabian leopard skins on sale
On to our walls we nail
Head, torso, tail
Arabian leopard skin so pale
The world's love is stale
What should we do?
Most of our tries fail
To stop hunters trail
The beautiful Arabian Leopard
So frail

The Arabian leopard
Female weighs 44 and male weighs 66 pounds
You search and search
It's not often found
But it's never safe and sound
Because humans don't understand
The earth's also their ground.

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT



Campaign & Policy Officer (Based in Sana'a - Yemen)

Oxfam, an international NGO, works with others to find lasting solutions to poverty and suffering. Oxfam has been working in Yemen since 1983. Oxfam announces a vacancy for the post of Campaign and Policy Officer. This post is for 12 months covering maternity leave.

The role

- Facilitate and support the development of the campaign strategy, its objectives, monitoring indicators for measuring impact
- Support the partners to build campaign alliances
- Support the development of messages, media and communication strategy responsive and appropriate to the local and cultural context
- Assist in knowledge management and provide regular summary information and updates, overviews, newsletter, reports and communication material for learning within and outside of Oxfam
- Assist in budget tracking and its monitoring and prepare monthly and quarterly financial and progress reports
- Assist in the development of the proposal and funding plan for the campaign and provide donor reporting

What we're looking for

- Education in social sciences, economics or related fields or related discipline
- Good knowledge in project management preferably in policy and advocacy capacity
- Experience of program development work and a mature understanding of poverty and development issues
- Relevant knowledge, experience and good understanding of development, information, advocacy and campaigning work
- Experience of academic/action research
- Strong analytical and thinking and ability to present complex information to a wide range of people
- Excellent written and verbal communication (in English and preferably in Arabic) including representation skills, report writing skills and negotiation and influencing skills
- Ability to work within a team and at an individual level
- Commitment to all aspects of equal opportunity and diversity including promoting gender equality and strong commitment to the aims of Oxfam's work
- Able to travel within Yemen and if necessary outside of Yemen
- Good organizational skills and an ability to work under pressure and to deadlines

To apply

Please send a copy of your CV with covering letter clearly outlining how you meet the requirements of the job to:

The Human Resources Department, Oxfam GB Yemen
P.O. Box 1045, Sana'a, Republic of Yemen,
Fax no: 01 445 650 OR Email: yemenjobs@oxfam.org.uk

Closing date: 31st March 2009

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT



Good Governance Project Officer (Based in Sana'a - Yemen)

Oxfam, an international NGO, works with others to find lasting solutions to poverty and suffering. Oxfam has been working in Yemen since 1983. Oxfam announces a vacancy for the post of Project Officer, for its project Good Governance. This post is for 11 months.

We are looking for a dynamic and experienced Project officer to support civil society in policy engagement and monitoring, planning and budgeting, who can also promote partnerships between civil society and government. S/he will also build capacity of partners in the above areas and networking.

The project officer will have proven experience of working with civil society at national & local levels with an understanding of poverty and gender issues. S/he must have degree in social sciences or related disciplines with the ability to analyse and document related civil society, gender and poverty issues. Communication skills both written and Oral in Arabic and English are essential, as well as the ability to work with others as part of the team. Knowledge of computer skills, willingness to travel and eagerness to learn about organisational and financial procedures will be an added advantage.

To apply

Please send a copy of your CV with covering letter clearly outlining how you meet the requirements of the job to:

The Human Resources Department, Oxfam GB Yemen
P.O. Box 1045, Sana'a, Republic of Yemen,
Fax no: 01 445 650 OR Email: yemenjobs@oxfam.org.uk

Closing date: 18th March 2009



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

One Project Officer and 4 Project Assistants for its Child Protection In Emergencies Program in Saa'da Governorate

The successful candidate for the Project Officer position will be managing the implementation and monitoring of a project with community based CPIE activities through several partner-NGOs. Duties and responsibilities will include development of Child Protective Networks on community and district levels, with Child Friendly Spaces (CFS) and Child Protection Committees (CPC) establishing links with a national child protective structure. The position requires ability to impartially liaise and coordinate with community members, humanitarian organizations and Governmental service sectors (education, health, social, legal etc) to develop sustainable protection mechanisms for children's well-being (physical and psychosocial), safety and rights in emergencies.

The successful candidates for the Project Assistant positions will be assisting the project officer in the implementation of the above project.

Requirements for the Project Officer position: College degree, computer literate and verified work experience with child protection programs, community mobilization and training skills.

Requirements for the Project Assistant position: At least 12th grade education, and verified work experience with child protection programs, community mobilization and training skills.

For both positions Save the Children expects willingness to do fieldwork, demonstration of well-developed skills for interpersonal communication and an ability to maintain goal-oriented when sometimes exposed to stress in emergencies. Save the Children is looking for applicants, both men and women with enthusiasm and commitment to address the right of children to be protected from harm in emergencies.

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

Hisham Al Hakimi,
Administrator
hahakimi@scsmena.org
Fax: 203729
Save the Children,
P.O. Box 11391
Sana'a - Republic of Yemen

Visiting address: Algeria Street, (behind Tehama Co)

Closing date for the submission of applications is the 25th of March, 2009.

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مطلوب: موظفة للعمل في سكرتارية في الفترة الصباحية للعمل لدى مكتب إعلاني للتواصل: 81163410

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مطلوب: مدرسين لغة إنجليزية ذوي خبرة في مجال التدريس وكذلك مدرسين في صيانة الموبايل وسكرتارية عدد ثلاث.

كما هو مطلوب موظفين في العلاقات العامة والتسويق كادر نسائي ورجالي، ومطلوب أيضا شغالة للعمل في دوام واحد. للتواصل 0733000298، 051390 صنعا

مطلوب للعمل في السعوية
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عقارات

للإيجار: في مدينة الأصبحي دور ثاني منفصل في فيلا من دورين مكون من صالة ودول وثلاث غرف نوم ومطبخين وثلاثة حمامات ومطبخ وموقف لسيارتين مع حوش أشجار للفيلا. للتواصل: حامد 732246627

مطلوب: نظام المهندس اليمني، أربعة خطوط، أربع كابلات خشب، كدنتتر، مع ملحقات المركز بمبلغ مائتين وتسعين الف ريال غير قابل للتفاوض. الحالة المركز الممتازة والسعر المغربي. للتواصل: 0574521 أو 0532194 - عيسى السقاف

للإيجار: شقة مفروشة مكونة من ثلاث غرف وحمامين وصالة ومطبخ دور الثاني، مع مدخل سيارة، الإيجار سبعمائة دولار، الموقع حدة السكنية. للتواصل: 069973410

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- بريد إلكتروني: ttifuk@hotmail.com
- يوسف أحمد قائد الشامي بكالوريوس كيمياء، جامعة تعز، دورة في مجال البترول (شركة أسبوت لتكرير البترول - أسبوت مصر) إعادة استخدام برامج Windows - micro soft office إعادة اللغة الإنجليزية لكتابة - خبرة سنة واحدة كتراب تأكيد الجودة في مصنع الإسفنج والبولستيك- تعز عملت في مجال البحوث والترجمة (عربي إنجليزي والعكس) أرغب في العمل داخل الوطن أو خارجه للتواصل: 099609-77 أو 0882-7354
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Yemen's first Women Sports' Festival



By: Ola Al-Shami

Yemen's first-ever Women Sports' Festival was launched on March 1 at the Bilqis Sport's Club for Women in Sana'a, offering Yemeni women the chance to watch and try riding, tennis, badminton, volleyball, weightlifting, gymnastics, billiards and chess.

The event's success has caused in to be extended by a week to end on March 15. On International Women's Day on March 8, the Women Sports' Committee who organized the event

honored the female employees of the Ministry of Sports and Youth and former sportswomen.

Through the various activities of the festival, the Women Sports' Committee, which has branches in 15 governorates in Yemen, aims to promote social peace.

All through this week, visitors have trickled in and out of the festival's tents laughing and chatting. Children's faces are painted like butterflies or bears, and women gather around an aromatic promotional display of a stock-cube brand to receive free cookbooks and bowls of rice in between two sports events.

The Bilqis sports' club is only one of only two sports' clubs for women in Sana'a, the other one is called the Women's Union Sports Hall.

"This hall gives an opportunity to the women to have a space to practice different kinds of sports like tennis, volleyball and judo," said Salma Al-Masa'abi, Secretary General of the club, explaining that the festival aims to promote participation of women in sports and culture and recognize them as important members of society.

Girls on first semester holiday from different schools and universities are participating in the festival: "I'm really

happy to take part in this festival and it will certainly ensure that we start the second semester actively," said one participant.

As part of the festival, the sport's club has organized volleyball, chess and weightlifting competitions during the week-long festival twice a day from in both the morning and afternoon. Participants are from girls' schools from ten different districts in Sana'a.

"These competitions were held in schools previously, but this is the first time that a festival like this provides a venue for them to be attended by so many people," said Samira Al-Sabahi, director of the Women's Management Office in Ibb.

The rest of the time is dedicated to entertainment including songs, quizzes with prizes and a drawing tent. At the drawing tent female artists have portrayed women sewing, wearing large straw hats to protect them from the sun and wearing traditional silver jewelry.

The festival is not only an opportunity for women to watch sports, but also to support women with psychological difficulties or illnesses in Yemen. Volunteers have set up a charity bazaar the profits of which will be donated to the hospitals and organizations that

support these patients. On sale as part of the fundraising effort are traditional Yemeni handicrafts such as bags and loose embroidered garments decorated with silver.

The festival is supported by the Ministry of Youth and Sports and many other supporters including Yemen Mobile, Future University, Yemen Consult House, and Brands for Less.

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