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Prisoners in Hodeida Political Security Organization on strike

By: Kawkab al-Thaibani For the Yemen Times

SANA'A, May 3 - The National Organization for Human Rights and Freedoms (HOOD) is calling on the General Prosecutor to investigate torture claims and take measures to end the hunger strike at the Political Security Organization (PSO) in Hodeida.

"Now politics have changed. In the past, they [Jihadist fighters] were supported but now they are not," said Khaled Attia, speaking of his brother Suleiman Mohammed Attia, 34, who went to Afghanistan in 1990.

Suleiman and up to 19 other detainees at the PSO prison have been on hunger strike for almost two weeks now in protest of their illegal detention. Illegal detention and ill-treatment of detainees prompted 19 families to sign a petition and send it to HOOD's office in Hodeida to work on their case.

"Our sons are now suffering psychologically and we are afraid that they might become insane," said the families. Around 40 detainees are illegally detained and on strike as well, according to the document.

Khaled Al-Raimi, the head of HOOD, said that he received 22 cases of alleged terrorism. "If those people have charges, they should be tried," he said. Al-Raimi added that it is habitual for security agencies to arrest people who have a past history of being a jihadist fighter when there is political turmoil in the country.

Suleiman Attia was detained in 2002 for two years and eight months, without trial, at the Political Security Organization (PSO) in Hodeida because he was allegedly an Al-Qaeda affiliate.

Suleiman was released upon presidential pardon during Ramadan 2005. He and eight other men were released on condition that they bring a guarantor who can accept responsibility for that person's conduct, according to Khaled. Mohammed Al-Matari, a business-

man in Hodeida, agreed to be the guar-

For Oilfield Services



Demonstrators in front of the cabinet in Sana'a demanding the release of their imprisoned relatives. There has been many demonstrations in the past four years to demand the release of Yemenis detained illegally in the Political Security prisons all over the country.

antor for all the men. The men were mandated to report to the PSO on a monthly basis.

However, a problem from one of the nine men prompted Al-Matari to cancel the guarantee for all the men. "So my brother was back in jail in November 2008," said Khaled Attia.

Khaled is finding it difficult to secure the release of his brother from jail. Initially, the political security did not ask for anything to release his brother, but later they asked for a guarantor. The brother made a huge effort to bring a guarantor in September 2008, but after all that, he was surprised that the head of the PSO in Hodeida still refused to release his brother.

Torture in prison

During his weekly Monday visits,

Khalid realized that Suleiman was subject to torture. Although visitors are separated from the prisoners by mesh and a small corridor, Khalid noticed wounds

on Suleiman's wrists because he was handcuffed while being tortured by soldiers. While Suleiman was telling his broth-

er about how this happened to him, one of the soldiers happened to walk by. Suleiman pointed to him and said, "This is one of the people who tortured me." The soldiers who heard him replied, "Hey! Go with your beard and sweep the prison floors."

Suleiman's health is at risk. Khaled adds that his brother was not able to stand on his own and distress was visible on his face. His two wives are also asking for divorce following pressure from their families. "I was at the court when



Suleiman Attia was detained in 2002 for two years and eight months, without trial

my brother asked his wife if she wants to stay with him. She replied that she wanted to, but her family's demands have more priority than hers," said Khaled.

HOOD urged the General Prosecutor to immediately send an investigation committee to the PSO in Hodeida to investigate Suleiman's case and to observe the whole situation. HOOD added that illegal imprisonment is a major crime punishable by law.

Ahmad Arman, the executive secre-

tary of HOOD, said that alleged terrorists are given the same treatment as convicted terrorists. Former Guantanamo detainees have to prove their attendance each month and cannot travel in the country without permission. In addition, they must have guarantors or they will be back in prison. "It is illegal to ask for a guarantor unless it is demanded by court and the prosecution," Arman noted.

The head of the PSO in Hodeida, Yahya Al-Qoudami, said that Suleiman was in Afghanistan and after was released in 2005 he became involved in other crimes. Al-Qoudami declined to add more information, saying that he will receive a warrant from the prosecutor if any complaints are sent to the office.

Dr. Abdullah Al-Olfi, the General Prosecutor, said that he has no information about Suleiman or the others who are on a hunger strike in prison but he will contact the PSO in Hodeida if he receives any complaints.

During the 80s, Yemenis who heeded the call to Jihad in Afghanistan against the former Soviet Union were officially hailed as heroes. But after the events of 9/11, such a background is considered as a criminal record related to terrorism.











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Around the Nation



Suspicious truce follows violence in Dale and Lahj

By: Ali Saeed

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SANA'A, May 3 — After more than a week of violent confrontations between state security and southern separatist elements in southern governorates, a mediation committee was formed Sunday to solve the dispute. Former Minister of Local Administration Abdulqader Hilal was instructed by the president to head the committee.

4 May, 2009

Soon after a small scale demonstration took place on Sunday, an unknown person threw a hand grenade causing the death of one person and injuring three more citizens in Al-Dhale. Spokespersons from the both state and the southern movement exchanged blame for this act.

Moreover, during the last four days southern movement elements completely destroyed the main water network in Al-Dale in addition to destroying a television broadcasting station in the governorate according to official sources.

Following the destruction, armed confrontations took place in the governorate between the movement and government security forces resulting in the death of Abdulaziz Al-Shiaf, an officer from the 35th brigade, and the injury of one soldier.

Simultaneously, clashes that took place last Saturday in Radfan, a district in Lahj, between the same movement and security forces resulted in five killed and 20 wounded from among the security forces.

State-run media confirmed that two citizens were killed in these clashes, both from outside the area.

Yasser Al-Yamani, First-Deputy governor of Lahj, confirmed that armed elements in Radfan set up checkpoints at the entries to Al-Habilain city to block military supplies to the security stationed at the area. He also accused armed elements of using citizens of Radfan as human shields and of fortifying themselves in citizens' houses in Al-Habilain city.

"Seven of the armed elements were arrested and all of them are wanted for the criminal acts they committed," stated Al-Yamani. Consequently, the Ministry of the Interior replaced some of its main heads of security departments in Hadramout, Al-Dale, and Lahj to face the rising challenges. Old grudges

"We do not recognize the unity," stated Hussein Ba Oum, one of the Southern Movement leaders to Al-Jazeera Channel. "We know that the 1994 civil war was based on deception and trickery by the Arab Republic of Yemen [name of the former North Yemen]. At the same time, unification was over at the time the 1994 war broke out, and this is what the Secretary General of the Yemeni Socialist Party Ali Salem Al-Beidh announced that time. From 1994 until now we have been living under the occupation of the Arab Republic of Yemen."

Ba Oum went on to say that the southern movement does not struggle to gain political partnership with the current state but instead seeks to recover the southern part state of Yemen as an independent entity. In addition, Ba Oum stated that if the southern movement elements find themselves obliged to use arms, they will replace the peaceful struggle with armed confrontations.

The state's response to such statements accuses the movement of breaking the law and of being secessionist rebels. "Armed elements of the southern movement in Lahj governorate continue violence against citizens and legitimate state security," said Yasser Al-Yamani. Although southern movement elements belong to the Yemeni Socialist Party, political circuits of the YSP in the violent governorates do not agree with the separatist movement and call for resolutions under the name of unification.

For his part, Fadhl Afif, head of the Islah Party circuit in Al-Habilain, called on the state to deal with current issues in the south wisely and to stop using force and tanks that just escalate the situation. "Tanks and military reinforcements

will lead to a slaughter of innocent citizens who expressed their rights and needs by peaceful demonstrations," stated Afif to News Yemen.

Abdulaziz Al-Hayajim, a Yemeni journalist and political analyst, said that what has been happening in the south for the past two years started under the idea that southern citizens are deprived from development projects and political participation. These demands started with retired military officers from the south after the 1994 war who were eliminated by the government from working with the state armed forces.

Retired military officer's demands to

Image: Image:

Clashes in the southern areas have become a national and international concern especially as they have received repeated media coverage.

join the state military forces were not met. In addition, the problems surrounding land distribution in the south have not yet been solved. According to Al-Hayajim, military officer's demands to resume their tasks, the conflict over lands and the feeling of deprivation resurrected violence again in the south. The current regime's corruption in dealing with such issues has only aggravated the situation.

Moreover, Al-Hayajim said that some analysts think that there are some terrorist organizations who are feeding the idea of southern independence. Tareq Al-Fadhli in Abyan who previously fought in Afghanistan against the Soviet with Al-Qaeda has recently announced his support for the southern movement.

Al-Fadhli, who participated in the southern movement demonstrations and pledged them to hold fast to their rights until they free the south from the northern occupation, was a partner in the 1994 war against those who fought out against unity. However, state-run media, which formerly praised him as a man among 'unification defenders,' has recently turned to criticize him as a man who 'plunders lands.'

Yemen tries 33 Somalis on suspicion of piracy

By: Aqeel Al-Halali For the Yemen Times

SANA'A, May 3 — Yemen is due to begin the trial of 33 Somalis next week on charges of practicing piracy and intercepting Yemeni and foreign vessels in the Gulf of Aden and other areas of Yemen's territorial waters.

The tribunal of Somali pirates was expected to begin yesterday but informed judicial sources confirmed to the Yemen Times that the tribunal was adjourned until next week without giving any further details.

Last week, Yemeni marine forces arrested 11 Somali pirates who held four commercial vessels approximately 13 miles off the Yemeni shore opposite Belhaf Port in Shabwa governorate.

Efforts to release the ship named "Qana" resulted in the killing of two pirates and injuring another. A Yemeni soldier and five of the ship's crew were injured in the operation.

Since last December, Yemeni security authorities have detained 12 Somali pirates who were handed over to Yemen by Indian marine forces, plus another 10 extradited by Russian marines last February. Hassan Al-Lawzi, Information Minister and official spokesperson for the Yemeni Government, confirmed at a press conference on Tuesday that relevant security authorities will finish investigating these Somali pirates before trying them according to Yemeni Law or before decisions are taken by the judicature.



Somali pirates handed over to Yemen by the Indian Marine last December.

According to local observers, Yemen's economy was negatively affected over the past time period as a result of growing piracy acts in the Gulf of Aden and Horn of Africa. The phenomenon increased the cost of insurance on ships traveling through the region.

Somali leaders, believed to be organizing piracy acts, attribute the phenomenon to an effort to defend Somali territorial waters, particularly as the east African state has a 3,300 km long coastline. These leaders accused powerful states of violating Somali waters and fisheries and using its shoreline as a dump for poisonous waste.

"We are not pirates. We defend our state. There are many vessels throwing

toxic waste in our territorial waters. Those ships also return home with catch from our waters," said Ahmad Abdullah Musa, leader of the armed group handed over by Indian marine forces to Yemen on suspicion of piracy.

"Our job is not to practice piracy, but we attempt to stop suspicious activities of those ships. It is my duty to defend the Somali coastline due to lack of a local government. A few years ago, we made much money from fishing, but when foreign vessels and soldiers entered our shores, they took everything," Musa told Saudi Riyadh Daily. "We appealed to the international community to stop the activities of such vessels, but to no avail. The sea has become empty and there is no

fish."

Nevertheless, Somali pirates make money from piracy operations. Nine vessels were intercepted or held in the Gulf of Aden since early 2009, according to Yemen's Transportation Ministry Undersecretary Yasser Al-Zamani. He declared that the regional center to exchange information on combating piracy and armed robbery against ships in Asia, based in Singapore, will provide all necessary facilities for the currently established Regional Sea Center for Combating Piracy in Sana'a.

The Yemeni government decided late in 2008 to establish three regional centers for combating piracy in the Gulf of Aden and the Arabian Sea. The specific aim of these centers is to protect the nearby international navigation route which was affected by piracy operations that numbered up to 1,845 between 2003 and 2008 worldwide, with an average of 330 operations per year.

Peter Chalk, expert from the RAND Corporation, revealed that 37 percent of these piracy attacks came from the Horn of Africa. The UN Security Council authorized the entry of warships into Somali territorial waters in mid-2008 to combat piracy.

Currently, three international marine forces are in charge of securing the region, the first of which is called "Atlantic Operation" affiliated with European Union. The second is affiliated with NATO and the third, which is Force 151, is with the US Marines.

Fishermen's income deteriorated in 2008

By: Ali Saeed

SANA'A, May 3 — The income of Yemen's fishermen deteriorated in 2008 as they suffer from exploitation from buyers, according to Mohammed Al-Eryani, member of the Yemeni Fish Exporters Association (YFEA) board.

The value of Yemen's fish exports decreased in 2008 by almost 40 percent in comparison to the previous year.

The country's total fish exports stood at USD 120 million in 2008, and at USD 197 million in 2007. In 2006 they were USD 259 million.

"Yemeni fishermen are suffering from the exploitation of individuals at fish unloading sites who take advantage of fishermen's daily efforts," explained Al-Eryani.

"We should not look at fishermen as public employees. We should look at them as being part of the private sector," he added.

"Fishermen are restricted by existing regulations of the Fish Cooperative Union, and some are in debt to them," stated Al-Eryani. "Fishermen are not doing their profession freely, yet they are exploited by fish cooperative unions who put subsidies from fishermen directly into their pockets instead of helping poor fishermen."

People working in the fishing sector represent 3.5 percent of Yemen's economically active population. The industry supports around 1.7 million people, or 8.6 percent of the total population residing in Yemen according to reports of the Ministry of Fishery Wealth.

"Fish production reached 127 thousand tons in the past year according to the Ministry of Fishery Wealth," said Qasim Al-Khadhri, member of the Executive Office at the Fishery cooperative Union. "However, fish exporters disagree with ministry statistics, saying that this figure is very low since Yemen has huge fishery resources. These resources allow fishing harvests of around 400,000 tons yearly comprised of up to 400 types of fish." "Figures of fish production are not precise because fish exporter associations hide their exported quantity in order to avoid the production fees," stated Mustafa Nassr, Director of Studies and Economic Media Center. "Production statistics are being manipulated between the Public Service Corporation and auctioneers at fish unloading sites that result in the false registration of produced quantities," stated Al-Khadhri. According to Al-Khadhri, production fees are broken down amongst a number of different entities. Three percent is paid to the government and the public service corporation which is collected by a representative from the Ministry of Fishery Wealth, two percent is paid to YFEA (Yemeni Fish Exporters Association), two percent is paid to the auctioneer, and one percent is paid to the owner of the auction land. "Fish unloading sites should be controlled by the Ministry of Finance, not by the Ministry of Fishery Wealth. Otherwise our fishery resources will be lost in the false statistics recorded by the public service corporation in order to lower production fees," suggested Al-Khadhri. Last March a workshop was held about the health and safety conditions of fisheries and was organized by YFEA in cooperation with the World Trade Organization. During this workshop, fish exporters explained that the

ministry's estimation of fish production in Yemen is incorrect due to the weak observation of the ministry at production points which leads to the lack of honest production registration.

"Fishery sector contribution to the national income is less than one percent," noted Ali Al-Habshi, General Secretary of YFEA.

Al-Habshi attributed this low percentage to the weak techniques used in traditional fishing, the lack of fishing investment, poor regulations that organize traditional fishing, and air shipment problems from production places in Yemen to destinations around the world. However, recently air shipment became liberalized which is beneficial for the fish industry since it would solve its air cargo problems. In addition to that, Al-Eryani revealed that prices of Yemeni fish exported to Europe cost less than the same fish found in Yemeni markets.

"The reasons behind that is the fishery associations are monopolizing production centers on Yemeni coasts," added Al-Eryani.

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) statistics indicate that Yemen was globally the first to produce and export squid, and the fourth in Arab countries in producing rockfish up to 2004.

According to the World Bank, Yemen's fish production is showing signs of leveling off. Owing to destructive fishing practices, a lack of private investments and rising sea piracy, fish production in Yemen is showing rapid signs of depletion. Recent figures for 2008 show an average of 25 percent increase in fish export revenue to about \$245.3 million, and a 30 percent rise in volume to 105 thousand tons. However, these figures mask an alarming decline in fish stock and production in some areas. The shrinking fish stock has become a phenomenon in Arabian Sea waters. The coasts off the Hadramout region have exhibited a huge decline in production: figures in 2005 recorded 63,000 tons which fell to 47,000 tons in 2006 and to 37,000 tons in 2007. This deterioration has alerted the government to act on finding solutions and protecting the economy and the livelihood of approximately 12,000 fishermen. In an effort to improve the situation, the Ministry of Fisheries Wealth is currently drafting new fishing regulations that will include measures to protect the marine environment from destructive fishing techniques. Proposed reforms include enhancing surveillance operations on fishery operations and unloading centers, improving the management of fishing ports, issuing bylaws that will organize the process of selling and purchasing of fish, and implementing new fish quality standards to facilitate exports. Recent announcements from the Ministry of Fisheries Wealth include the establishment of a modern fishing seaport in the Hodeida governorate at a of cost around \$7.5 million, complete with laboratories, ice factories and packaging facilities to accommodate needs of the producers and exporters and to encourage investment in the sector. Other fishery projects include a development project on the coastline of Hadramout governorate with a total cost of \$14 million. The project will be financed by the Arab Fund for Social and Economic Development which aims to increase fish production and facilities investments.

Woman Shadow Parliament elects its chairwoman, plans for activities

By: Mahmoud Assamiee

practiced against woman," said parliament Chairwoman Hanan Worsma'a.

said Worsma'a. "The shadow parliament will work on

its supporter the Democracy School to work on discuss their new action plan. They

SANA'A, April 29 — Supported by the Democratic School with funding from the Middle East Partnership Initiative, the Women's Shadow Parliament elected last Thursday Hana'a Worsma'a as chairwoman and Shafi'a Al-Siraji and Suhair Ibrahim as deputies. The parliament was first established in 2007.

Of the targeted 162 former candidates in the 2006 elections, ninety women from twelve governorates became a part of the women's parliament. The purpose of this project is to empower women in the political field as candidates and to prepare them to build campaigns for the coming elections.

Although a formal structure of the parliament has not been finalized yet, last week during the elections nine committees were formed: legal affairs, administrative affairs, education and higher education, health and environment, monitoring and inspection, media and public relations, rights and freedoms, practicality and creativeness, and training and qualification.

The idea of the parliament comes from the weak representation of women in parliament and in political life as well as from a lack of women's rights in the country.

"We started the idea in 2007 and got finance from MEPI (Middle East Partnership Initiative)," said Jamal Al-Shami, head of the Democracy School. "We started training 120 women in the capital Sana'a on their rights and we started advocating woman issues in general. Then the training continued in a number of governorates around the country."

"In creating this parliament, we wanted to seek out the rights of the other part of the society. We found there is violence "We wanted to do something for woman to help her get her rights. The effects women have here in Yemen are weak everywhere: in the government, in local councils and in every aspect of life," Worsma'a continued.

"The idea started two years ago by establishing a project of a shadow parliament to activate woman's role in social participation and to empower her to participate in decision-making," said Shafia Al-Siraji, Deputy Chairwoman of the shadow parliament.

Naming it 'Shadow'

"Because the parliament is not formal, it was named a 'shadow' parliament. There is no legislation to establish a parliament of women in the Yemeni government," said Muna al-Harethi, Director of the Shadow Parliament Project.

"It is not a separate parliament for women like the Children's Parliament. This parliament will work on making shadow reports on the work of the real parliament concerning women's issues," she added.

"The parliament will act as a shadow for the members of the existing parliament to work with them on defending our rights," said Worsma'a.

The aims of the Shadow Parliament

The aim of the parliament is to create a group of 90 women who can reach out to the formal parliament. They will specifically work on enabling woman to help in the decision-making processes via holding awareness campaigns and training workshops in major governorates.

"The shadow parliament will work on claiming the rights of the other half of society. It will work on the economic, social and political equality of women," abolishing decisions that promote violence against women made by the official parliament, such as allowing early marriage," said shadow parliament member Tahiah Husein.

"An example of the success of our work is that last year, parliament ratified a law entitled 'The House of Obedience' (through which the husband can bring back his wife from her family's house by force). We succeeded in abolishing this law," said Husein.

She made it clear that such laws are approved in parliament because of the absence of women's representation in it. "The only woman member in the parliament (Oras Naji) was absent when the parliament discussed and approved this law."

Nonpartisanship

Unlike other parliaments, the Shadow Parliament is nonpartisan in order to avoid the differences that occur between parties, leaving shadow parliament members free to defend woman issues.

"In this parliament we will work as women, advocating for women's rights and forgetting about our political affiliations," said Worsma'a, who insists on not mentioning parties while dealing with women's issues and talking to media.

"We are keen on separating the parliament's activity from partisanship issues in order to make woman concentrate on their issues. These women are affiliating with different parities but they need awareness, not use their political trends in the work of the parliament," said Al-Shami.

The action plan

On Tuesday, the leadership of the shadow parliament held its first meeting with approved a six-month initial plan.

"The plan is to pin our activities to the activity of the parliament till next October. Then we will draw up a longer strategy with the Democracy School that will cover a period of two years," said Al-Siraji.

Parliament without sessions but activities

"This parliament has no sessions in its agenda like the formal parliament does, but we will work on holding monthly meetings," said Worsma'a.

The work of the shadow parliament is different. Every committee will work in its own governorate on women's issues. They will hold awareness campaigns to raise awareness of women's rights and exercise pressure on members of the formal parliament concerning women's issues.

"Every committee will work on creating awareness program that will specifically target 160 women in every governorate. While discussing major issues concerning women in the real parliament, representatives of the shadow parliament will be invited from the governorates to attend this discussion," said Al-Harithi.

The parliament will operate its work with support and monitoring of the Democracy School. "The Democracy School will remain our consultant and our assistant in setting up our plans," said Al-Siraji.

"The School will remain the supporter of its project (the shadow parliament) and will remain in charge of financial matters when funding for women's activities is required. We will continue searching for other financers for the parliament," said Al-Shami.



Around the Nation

In Brief

SANA A

Yemen, US discuss women's political situation

Yemeni Parliament Member Awras Sultan held Wednesday talks with the US Political Affairs official on a number of issues regarding women's political and parliamentary role in Yemen.

The talks dealt with women's contribution to the Yemeni building community through their presence in decision-making positions.

During the meeting, Awras affirmed the importance of strengthening joint cooperation and exchanging experience between the two sides, pointing out to the steps undertaken by the Yemeni women in political life and participation in civil society organizations.

She affirmed the importance of providing more support to the Yemeni women to access social and political decision making.

More Somalis arrive in Yemeni coast

Around 79 Somali refugees, including 34 women, embarked arrived on Thursday at Thubab coast in Taiz province, Interior Ministry has reported.

The Ministry in collaboration with Yemeni Red Crescent gathered them and sent them later to Kharaz main camp in Lahj province.

In related news, Police of al-Mansoreyah area in Hodeidah province said that it has arrested an Ethiopian woman entered Yemen illegally.

Yemen participates in GCC's emergency meeting over Swine Flue

Yemen takes part in emergency meeting to health ministers of Gulf Cooperation Council over Swine Flue scheduled in Doha next Saturday.

Minister of Public Health and Population Abdul-Karim Rase'a will head Yemen's delegation in the meeting upon invitation of Qatari Health Minister to discuss Swine Flue epidemic and taking precautionary measure to face it across Gulf countries.

The Supreme National Committee for Combating Bird and Swine Flue recommended in its yesterday meeting to take precautionary measures and procedures to face swine flue by providing test equipments to people coming to Yemen via its air, ground and sea outlets.

Minister of Public Health and Population stated to Saba that there is no single case of Swine Flue registered till now in Yemen, in GCC countries or countries of the Mediterranean. He noted that his ministry has formed operation rooms working around the clock besides precautionary measures to epidemic surveillances across the country in the process of facing this epidemic.

Japanese-granted schools inaugurated

Yemen and Japan inaugurated here on Wednesday the first stage of the school projects granted by Japanese government to each of Sana'a governorate and the Capital Sana'a.

Minister of Education Abdul Salam al-Jawfi and the Japanese Ambassador Masakazu Toshikage took part in the inauguration party held in the al-Hadithah School in the Capital Sana'a.

In the inauguration, al-Jawfi talked about the significance of building schools as they are the reason of development, hailing the Japan's generous assistance to Yemen in education area, particularly in school construction, beginning from Taiz project, then Taiz and Ibb and now in Sana'a governorate and the Capital Sana'a and soon would be in Aden and Lahj governorates.

The main distinguishing feature of the Japanese educational projects is that they are integrated in terms of edifice, furniture, educational equipment, school management and society participation, he said.

The Minister finally praised the aid of the Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA) to Yemen that affects in increase of the student enrollment to school, particularly girls.

Undersecretary of the Education Ministry Abdul-Karim al-Jindary said that the first stage includes the inauguration of five schools worth of \$7 million. two of which in the Capital Sana'a and three in the governorate of Sana'a.

He added that the second stage, which is under construction, includes another five schools at cost of ¥ 687 million in the same areas.

The Japanese ambassador affirmed the contentious of the Japanese aid to Yemen in fields of school construction and outfitting them with all required educational equipment.

Japan has appropriate \$ 15 million to build and outfit schools in Yemen, Toshikage said. He added that the first stage accommodates 3700 students and the second stage targets 2800 students in the Sana'a governorate and the Capital

Sana'a.

The two stages aim to improve the basic education quality and to increase the umbers of students in schools.

HADRAMOUT

WB delegation inspects Mukalla, Ba-Wazir drainage projects

A World Bank (WB) delegation headed by the follow-up expert of water and sanitation projects in the Middle East Alex Bakelian inspected on Wednesday the ongoing works of Mukalha and Ba-Wazir drainage projects.

The delegation was briefed on the percentage of achievement in the two projects, ranged between 70%-97% at an amount of YR7.6 billion financed by the WB.

The reasons for the delay of completion, according to the contracts agreed on and specified at the end of 2008, were also reviewed.

The delegation emphasized the importance of expediting the completion of the projects according to the new specified date in September 2009.

Yemen, Oman to activate Hadramout, Dhofar twinning agreement

Hadramout governor Salem al-Khanbashi affirmed here on Wednesday the significance of activating the twinning agreement between Hadramout governorate and Dhofar governorate in Oman.

During a meeting between the gover-Omani-Yemeni nor and the Parliamentary

Friendship Group delegation, headed by Muslim al-Ma'ashani, they discussed ways of enhancing the cooperation relations and trade exchange between the two countries. The governor expressed Yemen's appreciation for Oman's support to face the consequences of rains affected provinces of Hadramout and Mahrah last October.

For his part, the delegation head, al-Ma'ashani, expressed his pleasure to visit Yemen to exchange experiences and deepen their relations as well as getting the benefit from the parliamentary experience to promote the partnership relations and cooperation between the two countries.

ADEN **Released Yemeni oil tanker arrives**

The Yemeni oil tanker, Qana, which was

released by Yemeni naval forces last Monday, arrived in Aden port on Wednesday after being hijacked by Somali pirates.

Local sources told Saba that the tanker, which belongs to the oil local fleet of Aden Refinery Company, would be subjected for some required technical repairs by a new Yemeni-Greek specialized company.

The Yemeni oil tanker was returning to Aden port coming from Mukalla city of Hadramout governorate where it had unloaded its cargo when Somali pirates seized it.

Two pirates were killed, one injured and eleven others were arrested as Yemeni marine troops tried to free the tanker, Qana, in the Gulf of Aden.

The pirates had seized three other vessels briefly before Yemeni forces freed them earlier last Sunday.

Seminar on fighting corruption in Dammar to be held

Dialogue Center for Human Right Culture Development is to organize in Dammar province a seminar on the partnership of civil society with country's foundation in fighting corruption.

Media coordinator of the center said to Saba that the seminar, which is expected to be launched on Thursday, will review the efforts exerted by anti-corruption body and steps done by the government to follow the corrupt sectors

TAIZ

Vice president inspects projects

Vice President Abdu Raboh Mansor Hadi inspected on Wednesday Mukha district of Taiz governorate.

During his inspection visit, the vice president visited a water desalination station in the district, which would be foundation for a big station, saying that tender of the big station would be announced on coming 22nd May.

Officials of the station briefed the vice president on station's capacity and plans to make the station bigger to cover needs of Ibb city as well.

Then, the vice president visited Mukha historical seaport where he listened from the officials about activities of the port and projects of deepening the port for further ten meters and building a new platform at length of 200 meters.

The vice president highlighted the activities of the port.

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- Arabic program from 12:00 noon 2:30 p.m.

Box 2002, Sanaa, Yemen Phone: 370 191-2 Fax: 370 193 Email: gordonblackie@qsi.org Web site: http://yem.qsi.org

Accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools (MSA) Member of Quality Schools International

SA ADA Houthis seek to ignite war in Sa'ada

Houthi elements continue sabotage and outlaw acts harming people's security and stability in a number of districts in the governorate aiming to ignite war and shedding more blood.

The outlaw elements, affiliated with Houthi rebels, want to ignite the war by collecting arms, creating new positions, attacking military locations and checkpoints besides assaulting citizens and private and public possessions, sources told state-run 26 September Weekly newspa-

"These elements are kidnapping citizens to exercise pressure on them to believe in their errant thoughts and destructive, racist and backward calls." The sources added that the elements

centered in areas of Juma'at Bani Fadhel,

Arriqa, Thaht al-Bait al-Abaidh, Bani Thabit and Kharban fired against military positions in Lahman Mountain, Muswah, Jabal Jariah and Majram before yesterday. "They also fired against military positions in Jabal Hubeish wounding two soldiers of al-Muswah battalion."

In Marran area, Haidan district, the terrorist elements are digging trenches, building fortifications and gathering people to listen to killed Hussein al-Houthi's addresses as well as delivering seditious lectures and speeches and halting people movements between the areas, said the sources.

Local sources also said that the terrorist elements used machine guns to fire against citizens in Saqeen District for three consecutive days. They killed Mohammad Qasem, wounded a woman and took over the electricity and water projects in Ghamer district in addition to seizing Zakhat funds.

Open Call for Individual Applications for the Global Model UN Conference

Deadline for Applications – 20 May 2009

The United Nations Department of Public Information (UNDPI) is organizing the first annual Global Model UN conference in Geneva, Switzerland, ment that UNDPI may use excerpts or quotes from the essays to promote the Global Model United Nations.

• Passport requirement Each applicant is required to provide a photocopy of his/her passport ID page (showing full name, nationality and

fellowships and scholarships for postgraduate research or study since 1972. AFUWQ is part of the International Federation of University Women.

A branch of AFUWQ, the Fellowship Fund Branch, Inc (FFI), was incorporated in 1983 to perform the management and administration of Fellowships.

FFI owns and manages the Academic Dress Hire Service (ADHS). It is a charPostgraduate Awards (APAs) plus 10%. As an indication, an APA in 2008 was worth \$22,020 per year. Number of Fellowships

Their News

FFI may vary the number of Fellowships awarded from year to year for any reason. As a guide only, the annual number of awards made in

recent years has been in the order of 5 -

6 Fellowships. FFI reserves the right not

line. Criteria for awarding the scholarship

the program by the scholarship dead-

The scholarship will be awarded to an appropriate female candidate on the basis of future professional and leadership potential as demonstrated by the quality of the essay submitted in support of the scholarship application, and a proven track record of success, (i.e. educational and professional background) demonstrated at the EMBA application and interview stages. The Scholarship Committee will also consider the original and personal contribution to the ongoing success of the Executive MBA expressed through the essay and to which the scholarship winner will commit as an ambassador of the EMBA program.

Italy: 14 PhD fellowships at Univ. of Rome-La Sapienza

Call for Applications to fellowships and admission of Foreign Nationals Educated Abroad

http://www.uniroma1 .it/studenti/

The Università di Roma "La

Sapienza" offers n. 14 Ph.D. fellow-

deadline 30 April 2009 (by email)

laureati/ dottorati/ fnea.php

from 5 - 7 August 2009, for university level students. The first conference will be a simulation of the UN General Assembly plenary sessions and four of the Assembly's Main Committees, with "The Millennium the theme Development Goals: Lifting the Bottom Billion out of Poverty."

UNDPI is now inviting individual students to apply to be delegates. This call follows the receipt of nominations from Model UNs around the world which were given first choice in sending their best delegates to the conference.

The criteria for acceptance of an individual delegate are as follows:

• Age requirements

All applicants must be at least 18 but not older than 24 years of age by 6 August 2009 and must be enrolled in a university during the 2008-2009 academic year.

• Model UN experience

Applicants must have at least one year of Model UN experience (full participation in a Model UN conference as a delegate or member of the secretariat) .

• Completion of application and other forms

- Complete and submit the "individual delegate application form" on the website.
- ii. Each applicant must complete the "proof of enrolment form" and have it signed by their university's administrative office.
- iii. Each applicant must complete an essay of no more 400 words on his/her experience as a delegate in a Model United Nations. Kindly be advised that the submission of the essay constitutes an implicit agree-

photo) along with the application form.

• Language requirements

Applicants should be fluent in English and/or French. Knowledge of another UN official language (Arabic, Chinese, Spanish and Russian) would be welcomed. UNDPI is looking into the possibility of providing interpretation services in other official UN languages based on need and numbers of delegates from different regions.

All the above must be submitted together by 20 May 2009 to the email address education-outreach @un.org. Students are asked to put Global Model UN Individual Application and their name in the subject line of the email when submitting their applications.

Please be advised that students accepted as delegates will be responsible for their travel to and from Geneva and for the cost of their accommodation, transportation and meals. See details on accommodation in Geneva and visa applications on the Global Model UN website - www.un.org/gmun.

The UNDPI will try to identify sponsors for students from developing countries who cannot afford to cover their expenses. However, they must show proof of their attempts to raise funds to cover their participation.

Scholarships for Women in Australia 2009 The Application for available on http://www.afuwqfellowships.com/inf

o.html Deadline is 30 June, 2009

AFUW QLD, the Queensland association of the Australian Federation of University Women, has been providing

itable organization and profits from its operations together with investment funds, provide Fellowships to women postgraduate students.

Our Fellowships have been awarded to women graduates from more than ten countries, and have supported studies in a wide range of disciplines, for example: marine biology, architecture, law, literature, radiography, mathematics, social work, archaeology, economics, molecular biology, management, music, information technology and performing arts.

Our aim is to assist women with tertiary qualifications to increase their knowledge and broaden their experience through studying or working in a different environment.

Graduates, on their Graduation day, are encouraged to contribute to the work of FFI by donating their refund cheque back to the organization for the provision of Fellowships.

Guidelines for Applicants

Applications for study in 2010 are due June 30th, 2009

Eligibility

Fellowships are open to women scholars who:

- are graduates of a recognized tertiary institution from any country and are intending to take up or continue postgraduate studies at a recognized tertiary institution in Queensland, Australia, or
- have graduated at a recognized tertiary institution in Queensland, and are intending to take up or continue postgraduate studies at a recognized tertiary institution elsewhere.

Value

The annual value of the Fellowships is linked to the value of Australian

to award Fellowships in any year Selection Criteria

FFI awards its Fellowships using a holistic review and selection process. Applications from all academic disciplines are welcome. FFI's decisions are final and no correspondence will be entered into in respect of any aspect of the applications and awards process. Applicants who miss out in any given year are welcome to reapply in subsequent years; however, as a matter of policy, FFI does not offer opinions or advice on the quality or future prospects of unsuccessful applications.

http://www.afuwqfellowships.com/in fo.html

Scholarship for Women-Executive **MBA Program**

Executive MBA Program Scholarship for Women

The Executive MBA program office is delighted to offer scholarship support for the September 2009 (SEMBA2011) for the female participant who has best demonstrated leadership potential and commitment to support the ongoing success of the Executive MBA program. This substantial scholarship of up to £23,850 (the final award to be determined at the review stage) will be deducted from the balance of the first year tuition fees for the program. Who is eligible?

Women who have been accepted for SEMBA 2011 and who are fully selffunding. Candidates may submit a scholarship application at the time of submitting their EMBA application, however essays will only be considered for the award if candidates have been offered and have accepted their place on

Judging panel

The judging panel is made up of members of the Admissions Committee and includes representatives from the Sloan and Executive MBA Admissions, Marketing and Program Management Teams, Faculty and Career Services. How to apply

You must submit the following documents:

- Completed scholarship application form
- A short essay of not more than 1,000 words (please supply the word count) in support of your application for the scholarship award. The topic of the essay is:

'As a female leader, please outline how you will personally support the ongoing success of the EMBA program'.

Deadline for submission

We must receive your scholarship application before 12 noon on Monday 13 July 2009. The decision will be communicated to applicants by 17.00 on Friday 17 July 2009.

Candidates will need to have their funding in place and make all the necessary payments as outlined in the fee schedule. The full amount of the award will be deducted from the balance of the first year tuition fees for the program.

ships for attaining the degree of "Dottore di Ricerca" (Ph.D.) in the Doctoral Schools listed in appendix.

Each fellowship amounts to 19.800,00 ¤ per year; this amount includes national insurance (INPS) contributions that fellowship recipients are required to pay (8,57% for 2009).The Ph.D. Programme lasts for three years and may be extended to a fourth year (without grant), subject to approval by the School authorities. At the end of the first and second year of attendance, students have to be evaluated as proficient according to the rules of the Schools.

Applications are opened to candidates who:

are not Italian citizens;

are not residents of Italy;

have obtained an academic qualification abroad by a non-Italian institution which satisfies the entrance requirements for admission to the Doctoral Programme, i.e., a degree equivalent to the Italian diploma di laurea/laurea specialistica/ laurea magistrale, or expect to obtain it before 31 July 2009. The equivalence of each qualification to the relevant Italian degree will be ascertained (for the sole purpose of this competition) by the Academic Board of the Schools.

Attachments

Call for Application [28KB]

http://www.uniroma1 .it/documenti/ studenti/ laureati/ dottorati/ fnea_call. pdf

Application Form [29KB]

http://www.uniroma1 .it/studenti/ laureati/ dottorati/ fnea.php

Appendix 1[18KB]

http://www.uniroma1 .it/documenti/ studenti/ laureati/ dottorati/ fnea_appendix1.pdf





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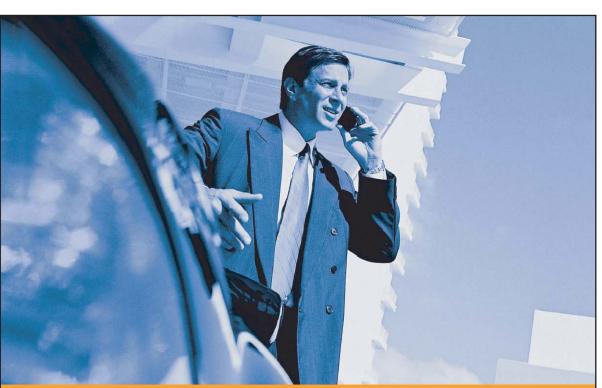
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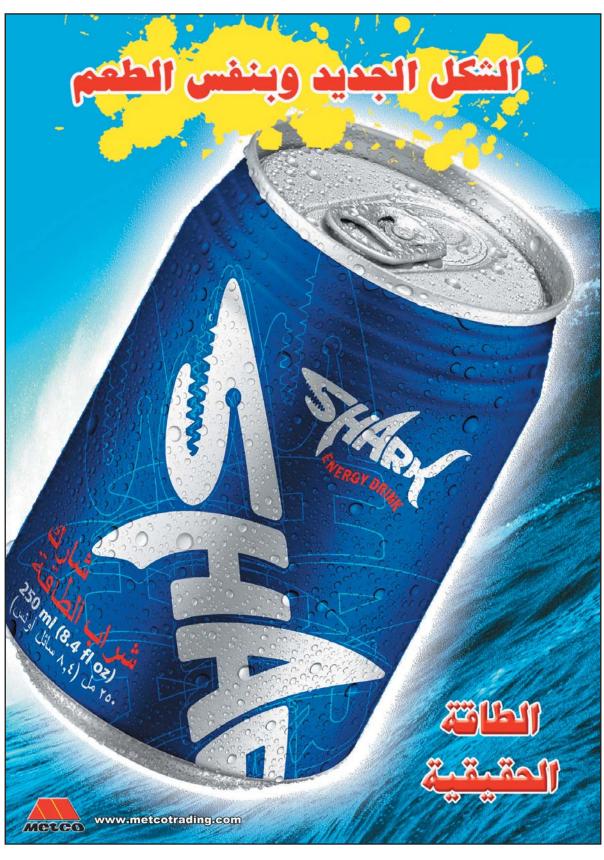
EBA

Every Friday 12.30 pm to 3.30 pm Reservations recommended on 272372 or Ext. 1123

:773, Ali Abdulmoghni Street, Sana'a, Republic of Yemen dandbeverage@shebahotel.com Website: www.shebahotel.com







للفترة من ٦ - ١٥/٥/٩، ٢٠٩ على قاعة السعيد للمعارض - جوار جامع السعيد

2009

تنظيم مؤسسة السعيد للعلوم و الثقافة المركز الرئيسي - تعز . ص . ب (٥٩٦٢) . تلفون : ٢١/٢١١٩/٢٠/٢ /٤ فاكس : ٢١٧٣٢٦ / ٤ - ٠٠٩٦٧

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Feature

Covering crises in the Middle East

By: Khaled Al-Hilaly

he Middle East is one of most tense areas in the world today, playing witness to many ongoing armed conflicts. Media plays a vital role through its coverage in either escalating a particular conflict or calming the situation. One of the oldest conflicts in the region is the Palestinian-Israeli conflict which has been ongoing for the past six decades.

This is where Crossing Borders comes in. Crossing Borders, or CB, is a non-profit, non-partisan, nongovernmental organization that provides youth, young journalists and educators from conflict zones with impartial dialogue space, communication equipment, various forms of media, and conflict management skills training. The aim of CB is to increase the possibilities for world peace with a special focus on the Middle East.

The most recent activity of the program was in Cairo where a group of



"Over 1,000 Palestinians souls were dispatched and over 4000 were injured on the 19th day of war on Gaza," said Gazan journalist Naser Barakat.

nine journalists from Yemen and Egypt met at the association of Egyptian Female Lawyers for a workshop on April 28. The workshop was about conflicts as an example of crises and how journalists can turn these events into challenges and opportunities. During the discussions there was a

comparison of the coverage of different Arab media during the most recent war on Gaza, especially coverage on television. Participants shared their experiences during the war and how they responded to the crisis on both professional and personal levels.

Dr. Enas Youssef, a professor of

journalism at the Media College of Cairo University, talked about crisis management for journalists.

"An example of how media plays a role in escalating conflicts is the way different journalists covered the war on Gaza in the beginning of this year, and how articles focused on political discrepancies between Fatah and Hamas. They decided to throw blame around instead of tackling the real issue of the war on civilians," she said.

The aim of the workshop was to give CB journalists the opportunity to meet and share their experiences about the latest development in the region and to rebuild their relationships following the Gaza war.

Participants talked about the effects of television and how different reporting styles can affect public opinion because television reaches such a large audience. Questions were raised about whether Al-Jazeera is biased in its coverage and whether it conveyed a political stance against Egypt, especially in its coverage of the Palestinian issue.

The nine journalists exchanged their experiences during covering the war on Gaza. Some travelled to the affected areas and talked to the people in Rafah on the Palestinian-Egyptian boarder, while others talked about how they could not report the Israeli point of

view because of logistical challenges and because they were not given permission to be there in person. Others tried to focus on civilians while the majority were reporting and sympathizing with the victims of the war



"People in Israel bump into sad reality: bombs from the Gaza strip fall on the sovereign state. Israeli civilians search for shelter while sirens do their part," said Israeli journalist Mark shulman.

Sana'a through the eyes of Malaysian artists

By: Amira Al-Sharif For the Yemen Times

he very first Malaysian art exhibition in Yemen is taking place from April 26 through May 3 at the Sana'a Cultural House under the title "Sana'a -Reinterpretation 2009." Up to 70 works from 15 different Malaysian artists are on display, including digital painting, printing, photography, pop art, drawing, mixed media and prints.

"Sana'a - Reinterpretation" was chosen as the theme of the exhibition. which emphasises the interpretation of the meaning and significance behind each artistic piece. The exhibition concentrates on images from daily life in Sana'a as seen through the eyes of the artists, focusing on subjects researched by each artist in Sana'a as experienced by them.

The artists' works utilize this theme to explore variations in art techniques of a certain subject, such as women or

to fully incorporate viewers' participation through touching, combining, and interrelating with the two- and three-dimensional works of art. Such interactions are intended to reflect all parts of the artistic process which in turn helps to reconstruct the

The exhibition was created by Malaysian lecturers from the MARA University of Technology (UiTM) which is attached to the International College at the University of Science and Technology in Sana'a. All 15 Malaysian artists who participated in the exhibition teach at the above International College.

The exhibition was launched by the Malaysian Ambassador to Yemen, H.E. Abdul Samad Othman, on April 26 at the Sana'a Culture House. Also in attendance were the Vice Chairman of the University of Science and Technology Board of Trustees Dr. Dawood Al-Malik Al-Hadabi and the Dean of the International College at the University of Science and

transportation. The works of art seek Technology Mr. Muhammad Shakirin Shaari.

> "Many artists used pop art to present Yemeni issues, such as veiled women and trash, as well as daily life in Sana'a, which perhaps no single Yemeni artist has done before," mentioned Mrs. Amnah Al-Nasiri, Professor of Art Philosophy at Sana'a University. "They are interested in using art as a way to show Yemen to Yemenis themselves."

Shahrel Nizar B. Baharom, one of the participants in the exhibition, specializes in graphic design and digital media, 3D animation and time media, professional based development, and the psychology of art and design. "My ideas come from what I see and experience in my life here in Sana'a," he said. "I chose pop art for this exhibition to show the motives behind what I see popular in Sana'a, such as Al-Hana beans and Al-Momtaz milk. I used digital print composition from Graphic software."

"We have a lot of professional photography here as well as graphic design, which is not surprising considering that Malaysian artists are well known for their proficiency in graphic art. Concerning the photography, we find humanitarian touches in the photos which reflect the reality and the beauty of the people



Mohammed Lim, showing his art to Malaysian Ambassador

B. Abdullatif said, "Painted in acrylic the eye of the subject in the and messages are shared and where on paper, the selected images I chose photographs. One of the objectives is interaction can take place between the explore cultural symbols and to introduce different forms of art to artists and the public. This will give

the public because not many Yemenis form, material, texture and color. It are aware of these kinds of things. We need artistic people with artistic backgrounds to fill in this gap. Art everywhere around the world is the art of reflection.



creative process for the viewer.



'I was inspired by the gigantic idea and concept from the distinguished Pop Art's Andy Warhol, but it is still relevant to be shown here in Sana'a as varied perceptions.' Said Sharel Nizar.



'All I touch and all I see is my experience... which I do not inherit, but something that I learn day by day.' Said Khairul Zikri, here showing his art to an interested audience.

around them," Al-Nasiri said.

"The exhibition presents the artists' perspectives who came from one Muslim country to another. They are presenting a view of Yemen with a human touch. Through art and art alone can we can build a civilization of human beings. In this instance, creative art has integrated two separate cultures into one Muslim community."

She called on the Yemeni Vice Minister of Higher Education, Dr. Mohammed Muttahar, to collaborate with the President of Sana'a University Saleh Baserah in creating a specialized department in Sana'a University for the arts, like at the University of Science and Technology.

Khairul Zikri Abdullah, who has a master's degree in fine art, chose to represent modern Sana'a.

"My work is made from wood cut prints, which are very technical. I carve the wood and print it on paper to create a sort of three dimensional textures," Abdullah said. "My idea for this exhibition concerns public transport in Sana'a, which is frequently used by Yemeni locals. My experiences during the past three years in Sana'a make me feel these pieces of daily life are the things that should be recorded.

I must say how proud I am of this exhibition and, God willing, this sort of dedication to art in Sana'a will continue.'

When asked about his paintings, architect and interior designer Azmi

expressions as depicted by the use of gives a sense of humanity which will explore the very existence of the Yemenis."

Muhammad Lim Abdullah, whose specialty is photography, said that, "my theme is 'Reflect' and the subject matter is children around the Old City. I tried to capture the innocence of the children, which forces adults to reflect on our own actions. It is also titled 'Reflect' because the photographer and his surroundings are reflected in

"The objectives are to exhibit the different 'accents,' different styles and expression by fifteen artists, with different outlooks, different approaches and different scopes," Lim Abdullah added. "We are using this exhibition as a platform to introduce the artists to the public, where ideas

Yemeni art lovers the opportunity to interact with Malaysian artists currently attached to the graphic design, digital media and interior architecture programs at the International College at the University of Science and Technology.

"The exhibition's main statement is made up of two factors that are pertinent when creating an artwork. Firstly, it's the personal experience of the artist, and secondly it's the connections with the people of the country," Lim Abdullah said.



أ / محمد متاش وجميع العاملين في البنك التجاري اليمني



Announcement

Project Manager Vacancy

Under the National Reform Agenda, the Government of Yemen, represented by the High Tender Board (HTB), is in the process of acquiring a Procurement Management Information System (PMIS.

Therefore, the High Tender Board seeks applications from Yemeni nationals for the position of PMIS Project Manager.

Job Description 1.FUNCTION OF DEPARTMENT

The High Tender Board (HTB) is currently the Yemeni government organization charged with responsibility for leading the procurement reform program. The Ministries of Finance & Planning are also closely engaged with the PMIS Project. It is possible that ownership of this program will transfer in the future to a new government organization responsible for all government procurement policy and monitoring. HTB has created a small department to provide the focal point for the acquisition and implementation of PMIS. It is envisaged that, in time this department will grow to manage the PMIS implementation and support its operation.

2.MAIN JOB PURPOSE

The role of the Project Manager is to plan, execute and deliver the PMIS Project according to strict deadlines and within budget. This includes acquiring resources and coordinating the efforts of team members and third-party contractors or consultants in order to deliver the project according to plan.

The work will include planning, coordinating, directing, and designing IT-related activities. Various methodologies may be employed but these must always be based upon structured methods which include appropriate quality processes and controls; ensuring that all activi ties are budgeted for, and remain within budget.

Defining project plans, including scoping, authorizing, estimating, risk management and scheduling is also a key responsibility; as is lead ing, managing and authorizing appropriate quality compliance and controls.

3.MAIN RESPONSIBILITIES OF JOB

- Define project scope, goals and deliverables that support business goals in collaboration with senior management and stakeholders Directing and managing the full project lifecycle.
- Develop full-scale project plans and associated communications documents
- Effectively communicate project expectations to team members and stakeholders in a timely and clear fashion and continually manage these expectations.
- Estimate the resources and participants needed to achieve project goals. Draft and submit budget proposals, and recommend subsequent budget changes where necessary.
- Delegate tasks and responsibilities to appropriate personnel.
- Track and manage, project milestones, deliverables, dependencies and critical paths. Develop and deliver progress reports, proposals, requirements documentation and presentations.
- Proactively manage changes in project scope, identify and manage issues and risks and devise contingency plans.
- Coach, mentor, motivate and supervise project team members and contractors, and influence them to take positive action and accountability for their assigned work.
- Build, develop and grow any business relationships vital to the success of the project
- Develop best practices and tools for project execution and management Promote and ensure use of appropriate project lifecycle methodologies
- Any other duties as appropriate to the position, as requested

4.DIRECTION GIVEN TO Project Team

5.DIRECTION RECEIVED FROM

Senior Management, High Tender Board.

Project Management Board

6.KEY RESULT AREAS

Management, Planning & Implementing, Client Focus, Delivery. Quality.

7. REQUIREMENTS

a) Qualifications

- University degree in the field of computer science and/or typically > 6 years equivalent work experience, and
- Certifications in structured project management methodology (e.g. PRINCE2) plus typically, 4 years direct work experience. b) Experience
- Typically > 6 years direct work experience in project management capability in a formal IT environment including all aspects and stages of an IT project lifecycle
- Experience of participation in supplier negotiations and contractual arrangements at a senior level for typically > 4 years.
- Experience of Government Procurement operations is an advantage but not a requirement.

Upon acceptance to occupy the position he/she shall provide evidence of being no longer employed or on unpaid leave from any Government or Non - Government Organization, as he/she shall be a full- time employee. Interested applicants should send their Resume (CVs) with copies of their certificates and work experience not later than May 27th 2009 to the following address

> **High Tender Board Office** Sana'a Hadda area, Political zone. Near building C of Ministry of Finance Tel: 440962, Fax: 440960 E-mail:yehyaa@hotmail.com

Republic of Yemen Ministry of Water and Environment Sana a Water Supply & Sanitation Local Corporation

Request for Expressions of Interest Consulting Services for preparation of Detailed Design and tender document, and Construction Supervision

1. The Republic of Yemen, has received a Credit from Arab Fund for Economic and Social Development (AFESD) toward the cost of Sana a Wastewater network project/ Sana a Wastewater Treatment Plant, and intends to apply part of the proceeds of this Credit to

VACANCIES

Dome

We are a Construction Company based in Yemen specializing in Electro-Mechanical Construction Projects in the oil & gas industry, in addition to trading activity and Maintenance contracts in the power sector. We are currently looking for the following qualified candidates to join our Engineering and Construction team.

1. PROJECT CONSTRUCTION MANAGER – 3 positions.

Job Profile: These are field based positions reporting to the Project Manager. **Qualification Criteria:-**

- Bachelor's degree Mechanical or Industrial Engineering.
- Six years work experience in project Management and as overall in-charge of the construction activity from start to completion, preferably within the oil and gas industry.
- Must be Knowledgeable of Quality and HSE standards.
- Computer literate and having good command of English language.
- Other relevant certifications will be an added advantage

2. QA MANAGER - 2 Positions.

Job profile: These are field based positions reporting to Project Manager and Corporate QHSE Manager.

Qualification Criteria:-

- Bachelor's degree in Mechanical or Electrical Engineering.
- Six years relevant work experience in construction QA/QC activities and project management.
- Able to create Quality Assurance plans based on project goals, resources, estimates, risks, etc.
- Must understand, interpret, and implement applicable regulations within project regulatory jurisdiction.
- Computer literate and having good command of English language.
- ISO Lead auditor certification or equivalent is preferred.

3. QC ENGINEER - MECHANICAL - 4 Positions.

Job profile: These are field based positions reporting to QA Manager.

- **Qualification Criteria:-**
- Bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering or related discipline.
- Must be AWS certified or equivalent.
- Five years relevant work experience in construction QC activities and project management.
- Able to Prepare Methods statements and final project dossiers.
- Computer literate and having good command of English language.
- ISO internal audit or any other certification will be an added advantage.

4. QC ENGINEER- ELECTRICAL – 3 Positions.

Job profile: These are field based positions reporting to QA Manager. **Qualification Criteria:-**

- Bachelor's degree in Electrical or Electronic Engineering.
- · Five years relevant work experience in construction QC activities and project management
- Able to Prepare Methods statements and final project dossiers.
- Computer literate and having good command of English language
- Knowledge of Electrical codes/standards.
- HV or any other certification and working in Commissioning will be an added advantage.

5. PROPOSAL ENGINEER – 2 Positions.

Job profile: These are office based positions reporting to the Deputy General Manager. **Qualification Criteria:-**

- Bachelor's degree in Electrical or Mechanical Engineering.
- Five years relevant work experience in contracts Management and administration function.
- · Good knowledge in tender bid preparation, commercial and insurance issues related to con-

payments under the contract for consulting services for Sana a New Wastewater Treatment Plant and Effluent Reuse Project. As the following: Phase I: Preparation of Detailed Design and tender document, and Phase II: Construction Supervision

- 2. Through Sana a Water Supply & Sanitation Local Corporation, the Ministry of Water and Environment now invites the interested Arab consulting firms to indicate their interest in providing the above services. Interested consultants must provide information that they are qualified to perform the services (brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff etc.) Joint Venture or association with foreign and local consulting firms is encouraged.
- 3. A consultant (or a joint venture/association) will be selected in accordance with and procedures set out in the Arab fund and Government of Yemen Guidelines.
- 4. Interested consultants may obtain further information between 09:00 hrs and 14:30 hrs at the address shown below.
- Two copies of the EOI must be delivered to the address below not later than 12:00 hours (Yemen Standard Time) on Wed June 10, 2009.

Office of the Project Director Sana a Water Supply & Sanitation Local Corporation Al-Hasaba Street. Al-Idha a Road B.O. Box 2659 **Beside the Ministry of Public Health & Population** Al-Hasaba. Sana a, Republic of Yemen Phone +967 1230656 Fax: +967 1230656

- 6. The minimum requirement for short listing any consulting firm (joint venture or association) is:
 - Submission of the latest company s prospectus (with attachments if necessary);
 - Successful experience as a consulting firm for at least ten (10) years. Additionally, a specific requirement is to have successful experience as a consulting firm over the last five (5) years in the Design and Supervision of at least two (2) projects each of a similar nature and size, preferably in Yemen or the region; and
 - References from previous or ongoing clients.

- tracts and subcontracts.
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- Understands the implications of health and safety regulations.

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.... and the Story Continues

Opinion



Words of Wisdom



Gentlemen, Yemen does not need more money! It needs a Yemen system. need accountable officials, and it needs people with some decency in the way they work. If the IMP. World Bank and other organizations pump loans into Yemen, where will it go? More importantly, how will it be paid?

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



National celebrations, opportunities for reflection

he month of May is very interesting for Yemenis. It starts with Labor Day on May 1 continues with World Press Freedom Day on May 3, the celebration of Yemen Unification on May 22 and, after several more international occasions, ends with World No-Tobacco Day on May 31.

May is also the beginning of summertime, schools close for around three months, the weather becomes relatively warmer, and many weddings take place during this season all over the country.

With the increasing number of civil society organizations in the country, a growing number of activities will take place throughout the month. Everyone -including the Yemen Times- will want to talk about press freedom in the second half of the month, and many media and civil society organizations are doing something to review press freedom in Yemen.

As the month goes by, relevant events will take place one after the other: among them are Red Cross Day on May 7, International Day for Families on May 15 Information Society Day on May 17, Cultural and Biological Diversity Days May 21 and 22.

Closer to the national celebration of unification, on May 22, political tension in the south are bound to peak with demonstrations organized by people who don't approve of unity. In return, state and state-related organizations will carry out activities to indicate that Yemeni unity is still a magnificent reason for celebration.

People will be lead to the streets by both sides, whether by force or of their own accord, just to show the world that most Yemenis in fact do or do not support a united Yemen.

And finally, health and youth organizations will definitely carry out anti-smoking activities to mark May 31. All of these activities are fine and quite interesting. Yet most of them focus on publicity and getting media coverage, without sustainable long term advocacy for the cause. There is no research being published on a particular issue to be highlighted along with the celebration. No actual long term lobbying for a particular cause such as no smoking, volunteerism or diversity.

The month starts with Labor Day, and employees have the day off. Yet for the majority of laborers who live on daily wages, a day off means less food on the table. Yemen has an unemployment rate over 40 percent. This means that almost one in two people in the productive age group is jobless. What is even worse is the predicted political tension during this month. As it is, there have already been a number of riots in southern governorates and celebrating Yemeni unity with a parade or otherwise is not really going to help achieve peace. We need to use these events to rethink our national policies and consider alternative ways to ensure peace and development.

Perhaps money spent on celebrations could be used in

The necessity of a national unified government

a new national realignment that

can solve the two crises without

Such a realignment can never

be achieved without partnership

between political parties in deci-

sion-making embodied through a

national unified government. A

unified government can easily

practice its constitutional rights

completely based on a primary

consensus of the principles, ini-

tiatives and mechanisms of the

reforms that this stage requires.

Third, oil enabled the Yemeni

government during the past sev-

eral years to hold on and contin-

ue to face many crises. However,

financial crisis and its impacts

lead Yemen into a crisis of a new

Thus, no individual political

power acting alone in the Yemeni

arena can face the potential

future damages caused by the

global financial crisis that threat-

ens the Yemeni government and

The choice of a national uni-

fied government is the sole nec-

essary condition that can create a

national realignment to face the

made Yemeni government reduce

public expenses in 2009 by 50

percent - a decision Yemeni citi-

Fourth, the future of Yemen

during the upcoming years will

depend on the current challenges

concerning the nature of the rela-

tions with regional and interna-

tional donors whose stands will

reflect choices and paths that the

zens won't take lightly.

social peace in the country.

any causing harm to any party.

By: Dr. Abdalla Al-Faqeeh

he Republic of This movement will likely turn Yemen is currently into an armed conflict, particularfacing a multitude of political, social and economic crises. These issues have not only started to threaten the already deteriorating political stability of Yemen but more importantly have started threatening the national and geographical unity

of the country. The agreement between the ruling General People's Congress (GPC) and Joint Meeting Parties (JMP) late last February to postpone the parliamentary elections originally scheduled for April 27 this year reflects the awareness of political powers in both the government and the opposition of the deep ongoing national

Although the agreement to postpone the elections didn't solve any of the crises affecting the country, it managed to put political powers on the right path to enable the country to avoid many dangers.

appears clear in spite of the vagueness that surrounds the Yemeni political scene and the lack of trust in the future. It will be difficult for Yemeni political and the opposition to oppose the choice of a unified government without paying a high cost.

The need for a national government under these current and precise historic conditions emerges from many considerations. First, the legitimacy of the current government and the parliamentary majority of the ruling GPC, which was based on the electoral process despite problems that took place during elections, will end. Instead, a new form of legitimacy will take its place and a new government will come to the surface. This new government is based on the agreement late last February to postpone the elections that would have been held this month.

It will be difficult and also wrong if any one party forms the government alone. If this happens, any government formed will lack legal, constitutional and political legitimacy that would enable it to face any nationwide crisis in many different fields such as politics and economics.

strong secessionist movement in country will take the southern part of the country.

The United States and European Union were dismayed by the agreement between the ruling party and the opposition to postpone the elections for two years as they looked at the elections as a chance to make some substantial reforms. Americans and Europeans suspect that the Yemeni regime is attempting to avoid making the required reforms via the postponement of the elections.

Dissatisfied with Yemen's achievements in its war on terror and other issues, America sent many implied messages to the Yemeni regime concerning attempts to control the situation.

To fully face the lack of international support of the Yemeni regime, there is a need to form a unified government that can appease the international community through its adopted programs. It will also be easier this way to obtain international financial support and employ that support competently to alleviate poverty and eradicate sources of terrorism.

Fifth, the performance of the successive governments formed by the GPC since 1997 has been characterized by weakness and corruption that only increases one year after the other. This was reflected in the deterioration of security and economic conditions in Yemen as well as the decrease in people's standards of living.

The government failed to obtain around USD 5 billion which donors committed to give Yemen at the London Donor Conference held late 2006. It attained and employed only five percent of these funds so far.

Addressing the supreme interests of the country which ought to concern all Yemenis requires forming a national unified government that exceeds narrow political loyalties. A national unified government will increases Yemen's opportunities to overcome its ordeals. The major obstacles that impede this ambitious national project are the powers that control the government who prefer their selfish, narrow and illegal interests to the interests of the Yemeni people. These are the people who raise the slogan, "My interest comes first and let others be swept away!'

Source: Mareb Press

SILVER LINING

Stop catastrophe in the south be before it is too late

here is no doubt the situation in the south is gradually deteriorating and growing dramatic. This worrying situation started about three years ago with protests for military and civil pensioners. The people in charge gave it a deaf ear and accused the protestors of being secessionists. Before these people took to the street, the socialist party has been advising the authorities since the infamy 1994 civil war to redress the subsequent devastating impacts of the war and the gulf it created in the hearts of the southern people who felt they were treated as spoils of war and defeated people.



Unfortunately, nobody listened. Now, the situation is getting violent. Southern protesters' demands are no longer limited to redressing wrongdoings by politicians after the war or recognizing what they used to call the "southern cause", but have gone further to calls for independence and splitting again. The peaceful protests are now becoming violent which shows things are steadily deteriorating.

The authorities thought these guys will take to the street several times but then will get tired. It is not the case as everyday the unrest is growing stronger and gaining ground as new influential southern personalities are joining.

Sheikh Tariq al-Fadhli, a former ally of President Ali Abdullah Saleh regime is an important addition to the movement. Al-Fadhli also played a pivotal role in mobilizing jihadists to fight with government troops against the socialists in the 1994 civil war. To demonstrate his power and challenge to the regime, al-Fadhli organized a big rally in Abyan, his own stronghold, and thousands took part in the event despite government efforts to stop it. Abyan has fought fiercely against division in 1994 and is well-represented at the power center. Throughout the last three years, Abyan did not receive rallies for the southern movement and now it is meant to lead the activities of this resentment.

In other words, the situation in the south is going through important developments which demonstrate these outraged protestors calling for independence are no longer isolated mob as envisaged by the people in charge. They are rather starting to convulse the country and pose a serious threat on its unity.

The meetings the president and vice president had last week demonstrated this fear. The president was right when he warned of another civil war that would rip Yemen into counties. I hope this warning is not a message that Yemenis have to accept the incumbent regime with its corruption or face Somalisation. Why should we get trapped in such a situation and who is responsible for this potential end?

The two officials admitted there had been government wrongdoing and corruption. Saleh said the state paid YR 52 billion to sort out the problems of southern pensioners. That is fine. But, the committee which was formed by the president came up with serious conclusions in September 2007. I think we still remember when the head of the official committee Saleh Basurah, the minister of higher education, said the president has either to forgo 15 wellconnected military and tribal corrupts who assumed control of large swathes of land in the south and or the stability of the country. I have learned that al-Fadhli is on the list of these influential corrupts supposed to be held accountable. It seems the man has chosen the second option and what is happening on the ground proves that as armed confrontation is going on in Radfan. I think after bloodshed, the government will accept to sit and talk with these protestors. Using civic means of attracting government attention to address people's problems does not work. People have to use force or kidnap to get the government response.

Mr. President, you said in your speech last week that all citizens are equal. Excuse me sir, I have to say you are wrong as we do not feel this equality; what we experience is completely the opposite.

Again, you voiced concern over the culture of hatred among youngsters in the south. These youngsters are supposed to be unionist and cherish the unification because they were born after 1990. Unfortunately, their frustration prompted by corruption-driven poverty and destitution have pushed them to take to the street and shout slogans against the government. Using force will not be effective to silence them; it rather makes them more hostile.

ly considering the lack of rational and responsible dealing with southern issues in all of their political, economic, social and cultural dimensions. In addition, the country is facing a strong rebellion in the north led by Houthi rebels. Successive wars that have been taking place since the beginning of 2004 have

only worsened the situation. The impact of wars reflected on the country's political system, economy and national unity. The Houthi challenge in the north and the danger of secession in the south are deep political crises which any political power cannot deal with positively without referring to the other political powers in the field. This requires

crises.

The choice for national unity powers in both the government

the consequences of the global kind that may destroy everything. destructive financial crisis which

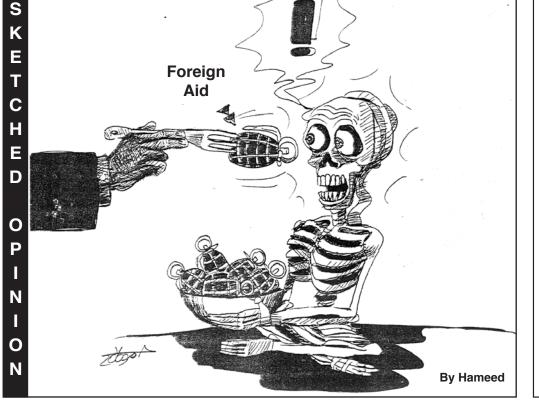
Second, Yemen is facing a

development projects to elevate poverty or unemployment, especially in troubled areas.

Maybe we can integrate all these events together and the Red Cross could work with the Yemeni government, media and civil society to create a volunteer camp in the three troubled governorates in the south to promote integration, and reach out to the people to understand their problems and demands. Maybe in this camp we can set up complaints' booths where the cases of citizens can be heard and reviewed seriously by relevant authorities to try and meet their demands. Such an initiative really would not cost much, and would make normal people feel hope and regain their faith in the state. All we need is political will and the desire to help the general public, who rightly demand their basic needs to be covered. If only we could simplify the issue, let our egos aside, and tackle problems one at a time. Reaching out to the people in the streets will help the state regain the legitimacy that is being threatened in the south by angry rebels.

Let us learn from our mistakes in the past, especially the recent past regarding the Sa'ada war which is threatening to resume. You can never fight masses with force, and you will never terminate religious or political conviction by imprisoning people. Let us celebrate Yemen's unity in a different way this year, a way that shows how serious and concerned we are about the unity and stability of Yemen.

Nadia Al-Sakkaf



However, the people behind the southern movement should realize that attacking ordinary citizens living in the southern governorates and considering them as "agents for the northern occupation" is completely ridiculous. They should understand that so many people in the north were completely supporting their peaceful strife for their rights and after their violent acts against people from the north, this sympathy will wither away and generate a counter hostility. Of course, this hatred does not harm the corrupt crooks but perpetuates their system and at the same time widens the gulf and achieves the division of the hearts among the people which is more serious. In addition, the separation cannot be the end to their ordeals, but a start for wrangling and infighting which would target everybody. Our joint enemy is corruption and absence of law which we have all to join hands and challenge rather than fetching genetic roots whether being northern or southern. This is absolutely nonsense and will never bring about fruitful outcome. It will create another Darfor.

In short, let us be a little optimistic and say there is still time to tackle the situation in the south. However, there must be a political will to do this through concrete actions against corrupt cronies at the power center. It is corruption and absence of the rule of law that would push the country and its national unity to the unknown. Can you guys stop the catastrophe and salvage the country before it is too late?! Fingers crossed.

Dr. Mohammed Al-Qadhi(mhalqadhi@hotmail.com) is a Yemeni journalist and columnist.

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Press Review / Op-Ed





EMEN

Al-Sahwa.net, affiliated with the Islah Party Thursday, April 30, 2009

Top Story

- Saleh warns against splitting Yemen into minor states, fueling conflicts

Yemeni president Ali Abdullah Saleh warned on Saturday against fragmentation of Yemen into ministates, fueling bloody conflicts and returning the country to the pre-May 1990 era, the website reported in one of its lead stories.

During a consultative meeting with high-ranking officials, Saleh cautioned people to avoid secession calls, pointing out that if those calls were fulfilled, Yemen could fall apart into several small entities.

"There are irresponsible acts which aim to return Yemen to pre-unification era," the website quoted Saleh as saying.

"Yemenis will not allow returning the clock back to the Imamate rule or the colonialist era, this is impossible," Saleh went on to say. " If there are troubles in Aden , Sana'a, Lahj or Shabwa governorates, then they should be tackled seriously via state institutions, particularly as Yemen usually favors multiparty and democracy as a positive option to end discrepancies".

Saleh further urged all people to care for development and combating terrorism which ,as he said, halted progress, and negatively affected tourism and oil explorations .

Furthermore, he admitted that mistakes have been committed, affirming, in the meantime, his insistence to prevent bloodshed of Yemenis.

He labeled the increasing protesting activates in the South as negative fallouts, calling for dialogue among all Yemeni political forces and refusal of hatred and regionalism culture and decisively rejected any referendum on the Yemeni unification.

He slammed prominent Yemeni figures and accused them of being colonialism agents and attempting to spark new conflicts in Yemen .

He also praised the Yemeni Socialist Party' role in achieving Yemeni unification and unifying sultanates and sheikhdoms of the South. "We support compromises and transparency" added

According the website, this meeting came prior to a mass rally of the southern opposition activists which is to be held in Abyan governorate and that this rally is sponsored by Sheikh Tariq

Al-Fadhli, former leader of the ruling General People Congress (GPC). The website reported earlier that Most Yemeni governorates witnessed

bad security conditions in the current month amid inability of security agencies to control tribal disputes, kidnappings, murders and land plundering.

In Marib province, Jahm tribes installed checkpoints to prevent Al-Jawf citizens from entering their province on grounds of robbing a car. In Shabwa, tribesmen seized equipments of a Chimes company, demanding to get job opportunities in the company.

In Saada, a senior intelligence officer, along with his escorts were kidnapped in mysterious circumstances. In Sana'a, armed confrontations broke out between the Special Forces belonging to the Republican Guard and citizens from Raid village as a result of land dispute.

In Ibb, two citizens were killed ant two others were wounded in a clash where heavy guns were used. Several similar incidents happened in most

Reserve reform



26September.net, affiliated with Yemeni Army Wednesday, April 29, 2009

Top Story

- President Saleh: Yemeni Unity is glory, honor and strength of our people

President Ali Abdullah Saleh delivered a speech on Saturday in the consultative meeting for the political, legislative, security and military leaderships over the situation in some provinces, the website reported.

In his speech, president Saleh highlighted events which have taken place for two years now in some provinces and districts, saying such events are aimed at returning the nation to the Pre-Unification Time.

He said that there were irresponsible acts from time to time to create new conflicts in the nation, adding that the nation is not for President Ali Abdullah Saleh or any one, the nation is for all Yemenis.

President Saleh highlighted the Yemeni unification, saving it is a title of dignity for all Yemenis and future of coming generations.

He made it clear that if there is issue in Saada, Rada, Abyan, Dhamar, Shabwa Lahi or Aden, it should be discussed seriously by the Parliament and government.

The president said that the main concerns are development, security and stability.

"We are facing terrorism, which puts restrictions on tourism, development and oil explorations," president Saleh said, "we have to go ahead with building human resources and combating terrorism."

He pointed out to the importance of the dialogue to resolve any issue apart from erupting violence, blocking roads and spreading the culture of disinclination among citizens of the nation, expressing worry about coming generations as they may be affected by this culture.

"I' m sure that all of us reject returning back to the Imamate ruling or colonization," president Saleh said.

He praised role of Yemen Socialist Party in achieving the unification and its role in unifying sultans and sheikhs in former south part of Yemen. "Thanks for the party and the Front of Liberation and all honest forces."

In his speech, president Saleh also said that the plots against the unification would not succeed.

Existence of disagreement and dispute is normal, but it should be under roof of the national principles, revolution, unification, freedom, democracy, security and stability.

He added that separation and regionalism concepts existed before revolutions of 26 September, and 14 October and 22nd May - day of the unification, and the people rejected to return to these concepts again.

He also explained the issue of land disputes, saying that it is the right of any Yemeni in the south to have land in the north and the citizen in the north has right to have land in the south.

President Saleh called both the government and opposition to confront outlaw elements, who target the national and its unification.

Moreover, president Saleh talked about the future tasks of the government, calling for joint work to make constitutional amendments to improve the political and democratic system and move toward the local governance.

By: Jose Antonio Ocampo



Financial System have called for a new global reserve system. That issue should be at the top of the agenda when the IMF's International Monetary and Financial Committee next meet.

The essential idea is quite simple: in the long run, an international monetary system cannot be built on a national currency – a point made a half-century ago by the Belgian-American economist Robert Triffin. Recognition of this fundamental problem was the reason why the IMF's Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) were created in the 1960's

The dollar standard with which the world has lived since the early 1970's has three fundamental flaws. First, as with all systems that preceded it, it puts the burden of adjustment on deficit

main exception is the United States, which, thanks to its reserve currency status, has so far been able to finance its deficit by issuing dollar liabilities that are held by the rest of the world.

Second, the system is unstable, because it makes the major reserve currency's value dependent on US macroeconomic policy and the vagaries of the US balance of payments and associated domestic deficits. Since the abandonment of gold-dollar parity in 1971, the world has experienced increasingly intense cycles in the value of the dollar and the US current account. The dollar has lost what any reserve asset should have: a stable value. The governor of China's central bank recently emphasized this basic point.

Third, the current system is inequitable, because it forces a transfer of resources from developing countries to the industrial nations that provide reserve currencies. This transfer has dramatically increased over the past two decades. Developing countries'

instability has been to accumulate international reserves.

At the end of 2007, developing countries, excluding China, held reserves equivalent to 20.6% of their GDP, compared to just 3.7% in 1990. This generated a huge asymmetry in the world economy, as industrial countries, excluding Japan, hold only 2.6% of GDP in reserves. One basic reason is that the only "collective insurance" available is limited and highly conditional IMF lending.

It must be emphasized that a system based on competing reserve currencies would not solve the instability and inequities of the current system. In fact, it would add another one: the instability of the exchange rates among major reserve currencies. Indeed, this problem is already present in the current system.

The deficiencies of current arrangements are why the world monetary system should be based on a truly global reserve currency: a fiduciary currency backed by the world's central banks. This is what was

the 1960's, and this process must be completed by transforming the SDRs into such a global currency.

A major advantage of an SDR-based system is that it would provide a mechanism for the IMF to provide finance with its own resources in an agile way during crises, thus operating in the same way as central banks have been doing on a massive scale in recent months. It would also be a much better mechanism with which to finance the IMF during crises than the credit lines to the IMF from a few countries ("arrangements to borrow") that the G-20 is again advocating, as it is truly multilateral financing that does not depend on any individual country.

For such a program to work, it is essential that developing countries recognize that IMF financing is good "collective insurance," so that their demand for foreign-exchange reserves would decline. This means that the IMF would have to lend rapidly during balance-of-payments crises, and do so without the overburdening

when crises stem from rapid reversal of capital flows or a sharp deterioration in terms of trade.

The IMF took steps in this direction in March, particularly by creating the Flexible Credit Line for crisisprevention purposes, as well as expanding other credit lines and overhauling conditionality (relying more on ex-ante conditionality and eliminating structural performance criteria). The major problem with the new credit line is that it runs the risk of unduly dividing developing countries into two categories, with significant additional risks for the latter.

A better alternative would be to go back to John Maynard Keynes's proposal of an overdraft (or, in IMF terminology, drawing) facility for all member countries, with countries that continue to use it eventually having to apply to a formal lending program. The overdraft facility could again be financed with counter-cyclical issues of SDRs.

The reform should also allow for a

their current dollar (and euro, yen, and pound) assets for SDRs, thus avoiding the disruptions that could be generated by the transition to the new system. As Fred Bergsten has reminded us, the mechanism is already available in the form of the "substitution account" that was negotiated in the IMF in 1980.

It is time to broaden the agenda of global financial reform, which so far has focused on an essential but still limited set of issues, particularly financial regulation. Reform of the global reserve system must be part of that broader agenda.

Jose Antonio Ocampo, Professor and Co-President of the Initiative for Policy Dialogue at Columbia University, is a member of the UN Commission of Experts on Reforms of the International Monetary and Financial System. He is also a former UN Under-Secretary General for Economic and Social Affairs and a former Minister of Finance of Colombia.

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countries, not on surplus countries. The

main defense against world financial hoped for when SDRs were created in conditionality of the past, particularly

The truth about climate change

By: John Theodore Houghton

any people ask how sure we are about the science of climate change. The most definitive examination of the scientific evidence is to be found in the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and its last major report published in 2007. I had the privilege of being chairman or co-chairman of the Panel's scientific assessments from 1988 to 2002.

Many hundreds of scientists from different countries were involved as contributors and reviewers for these reports, which are probably the most comprehensive and thorough international assessments on any scientific subject ever carried out. In June 1995, just before the G-8 summit in Scotland, the Academies of Science of the world's 11 largest economies (the G-8 plus India, China, and Brazil) issued a statement endorsing the IPCC's conclusions and urging world governments to take urgent action to address climate change. The world's top scientists could not have spoken more strongly.

Unfortunately, strong vested interests have spent millions of dollars on

spreading misinformation about climate change. First, they tried to deny the existence of any scientific evidence for global warming. More recently, they have largely accepted the fact of anthropogenic (man-made) climate change but argue that its impacts will not be great, that we can "wait and see," and that in any case we can always fix the problem if it turns out to be substantial.

The scientific evidence does not support such arguments. Urgent action is needed both to adapt to the climate change that is inevitable and to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, especially CO2, to prevent further damage as far as possible.

At the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro in 1992, the world's nations signed up to the Framework Convention on Climate Change (FCCC), the objective of which is "to stabilize the concentration of greenhouse gases in the atmosphere at a level that does not cause dangerous interference with the climate system..., that allows ecosystems to adapt naturally to climate change, that ensures food production is not threatened, and that enables economic development to proceed in a sustainable manner." Such stabilization would also eventually stop further climate change.

It is now recognized that widespread

damage due, for instance, to sea level rise and more frequent and intense heat waves, floods and droughts, will occur even for small increases of global average temperature. Therefore it is necessary that very strong efforts be made to hold the average global temperature rise below 2° Celsius relative to its preindustrial level.

If we are to have a good chance of achieving that target, the concentration of CO2 must not be allowed to exceed 450 parts per million (it is now nearly 390 ppm). This implies that before 2050 global emissions of CO2 must be reduced to below 50% of the 1990 level (they are currently 15% above that level), and that average emissions in developed countries must be reduced by at least 80% of the 1990 level. The United Kingdom has already committed itself to a binding target to reduce emissions by that amount, and President Barack Obama has expressed intention that the United States should also set that target.

One clear requirement is that tropical deforestation, which is responsible for 20% of greenhouse gas emissions, be halted within the next decade or two. Regarding emissions from the burning of fossil fuels, the International Energy Agency (IEA) in its "Energy Technology Perspectives" has set out in

detail the technologies and actions that are needed in different countries and sectors to meet these targets.

For the short term, the IEA points out that very strong and determined action will be necessary to ensure that global CO2 emissions stop rising (the current increase is more than 3% per year), reach a peak by about 2015, and then decline steadily toward the 2050 target. The IEA also points out that the targets can be achieved without unacceptable economic damage. In fact, the IEA lists many benefits that will be realized if its recommendations are followed.

What is required now is recognition that anthropogenic climate change will severely affect our children, grandchildren, the world's ecosystems, and the world's poorer communities, and that the severity of the impact can be substantially alleviated by taking action now.

John Theodore Houghton, a former professor of atmospheric physics at the University of Oxford, and founder of the Hadley Centre for Climate Prediction and Research, was the co-chair of the IPCC's scientific assessment working group and lead editor of its first three reports.

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Project Administration Unit (IDA Credits & Multi-Donors Trust Funds)

The Government of Yemen (GoY) has received support from the World Bank / IDA and other donors to achieve the objectives of Education for All (EFA) as part of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). The BEDP, SEDGAP and FTI projects are being undertaken by the GoY. Ministry of Education (MoE) is responsible for achieving the objectives of the GoY in accordance with their Basic Education Development Strategy (BEDS), National General Secondary Education Strategy (NGSES) and the Education for All Fast Track Initiative (EFA-FTI) Catalytic Fund Grants.

MoE has established Project Administration Unit (PAU) under a Project Director to facilitate implementation of BEDP, SEDGAP and FTI.

The Project Administration Unit (PAU) at the MoE now seeks applicants for the following two positions:

Monitoring & Evaluation Officer

- Main tasks would be: Responsible and report to the PAUs Head of the M&E Department
- Liaise closely with concerned PAU staff, M&E officers / specialists, various sectors of MoE and concerned M&E staff working in various governorates(GEOs) and districts offices (DEOs) involved in the projects;
- Responsible for preparing regular timely reports (weekly, monthly, quarterly, bi-annually) as needed (iii) on M&E issues and submit these reports for review to the Senior M&E Officer;
- Use all regular progress reports received from all implementing MoE agencies at central an (iv) governorates levels to prepare both Arabic and English timely BEDP, SEDGAP and FTI projects progress reports. The reports should contain narrative, tables and graphs with explanatory notes as needed:
- Undertake site visits to cross check M&E reports coming from field and from sectors;
- Follow-up on indicator progress; (vi)
- (vii) Collect data and verify data for indicator reporting;
- (viii) Report on Outcome and Output indicators;
- Establish and maintain a database on MoE statistics relevant for indicator reporting; (ix)
- Assist in generating indicators as needed with relevant MoE and IDA specialists and review these (X) with head of the MoE department;
- Contribute effectively in all projects review workshops;
- (xii) Contribute in the preparation and implementation of workshops;
- (xiii) Responsible to take any additional responsibilities assigned to him by the head of the M&E department and PAU Director.

Qualifications

- A minimum of a Bachelor s degree in Economics, Social Studies, Statistics or other related fields;
- Minimum of 5 years of professional experience in preparing projects monthly, bi-annually, and annual progress reports;
- Good team work efforts;
- Good interpersonal and strong communication skills as well as Strong oral and written capabilities in both Arabic and English;
- Good proactive personality highly desired;
- Ability for effective interaction and communication with management, staff as well as with local and international consultants and other international agencies;
- Have a good command of MS Office and specifically (Word, Excel and PowerPoint), internet and other computer skills.

Internal Auditor

Main tasks would be:

- Ensure that the related procedures, laws, regulations are implemented;
- Check the validity of project payments by making spot checks and ensuring that tasks for which payments have been claimed have been completed;
- Assist PAU in the financial and administration management services;
- Coordinate with external auditors to ensure various comprehensive coverage of the audit process (iv) either through internal or external audit:
- Suggest amendments and effect to the Operations Manual to ensure that it reflects the systems and (v)procedures developed by the internal Auditor and approved by the IMSC sub-committee:
- Monitor the compliance of PAU, MoE and GEOs to the Financial procedures given in the Operations (vi) Manuals of BEDP, SEDGAP and FTI;
- Suggest changes to procedures and operations Manuals as needed which may result from project implementation experience:
- (viii) Prepare quarterly reports to PAU Director outlining major internal control issues, deviations from the established systems, which will result in more effective compliance and greater efficiency in the implementation;
- Producing working papers to act as evidential support to audit work carried out. Investigating independently or jointly with management as considered necessary, and reporting upon, (X) irregularities reported to Internal Audit under financial management regulations, [the Governance and Anti-Corruption Policy and the Whistle blowing Policy] (xi) Consult with internal and external stakeholders to determine the extent, scope and risks associated with activities to be reviewed and to ensure proper audit coverage avoiding duplication of effort. (xii) Consulting in the related areas of fraud control, governance, risk management, safety and security and other areas of focus determined by the Project Director. (xiii) Review the quarterly Financial Monitoring Reports (FMRs) released 45 days from the end of each quarter. This review should be completed before the end of the 45 days and ensures all payments and reports are submitted in the appropriate time; (xiv) Perform any other activities as directed by the Project s Director.

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Qualifications

- · University degree in financial accounting and preferable qualifications (or a major of study) in internal auditing;
- Minimum of 5 years experience as an internal or external auditor;
- Member of an acceptable professional accounting or auditing association would be a plus; with knowledge of IPSAS, IFRS, ISA, Sarbanes-Oxley Section (SOX-404) Compliance by using the most widely recognized framework, that meets this definition is the framework designed by the Committee of Sponsoring Organizations (COSO) framework.
- Good working knowledge of English and Arabic.
- Experience in the World Bank IDAs financed projects would be an added advantage.
- Have command of MS Office and specifically (Word, Excel and PowerPoint), internet and other computer skills.

Period of Assignments:

We plan to utilize the above services, initially for a period of 12 months from the date of commencement of the assignments, which could be extendible at the discretion of the Project Director.

Candidates must be Yemeni national and all applications along with a detailed resume and supporting documents should be submitted not later than: Wednesday May 13, 2009, to the following address:

THE PROJECT DIRECTOR **Ministry of Education Project Administration Unit (PAU)** 60 m Southern Rd Bait Meyad Tel: 00967-1-619160, Fax: 00967-1-619219 E-mail: a.al-arashi@edpau.org

Health / Environment



Police receive HIV awareness training

By: Khaled Al-Hilaly

nce, in a small village in Hajah, north Yemen, a man started to lose weight and gradually became extremely skinny. People in the village started wondering about the reasons behind his sudden obvious physical changes. They keep asking until one of them suggested that this man might have AIDS. The rumor spread all over the village, and one day, the villagers seized him and tied him to a tree. They prevented anyone from coming near him, thinking he could transmit the infection to others by touch. He remained tied to the tree for several days, only supplied with food and water by his brother who finally appealed to the villagers to rescue him from certain death. The man's relatives from Sana'a came and took him to have an HIV test. The result was negative.

This was a real story retold by a Yemeni living with HIV. He was talking to a group of twenty of police leaders and personnel last week at the National Population Council during a training course that aimed to raise awareness about HIV.

Though the man in the story didn't have HIV, the story still clearly showed peoples' exaggerated and terrified reaction towards the word 'AIDS.'

This story was among other real stories shared by two HIV infected Yemeni men who were brave enough to reveal their own experiences. They also talked about other Yemenis who have been living with HIV and what their experience has been regarding the stigma in Yemeni society against people with AIDS.

Attendants listened to real stories of how people lost their wives, children, friends, neighbors and even jobs because of the misconceptions of AIDS in their community.

The police officials' reactions to the stories were obvious, showing shock and amazement in their facial expressions.

During the five day workshop, participants from different administrations of the Ministry of the Interior received training on how AIDS is transmitted, prevention methods, the effects on patients' lives, and patients' rights. At the end of the training course, many police officials admitted that the training helped them to correct their misconceptions surrounding this fatal dis-

Major Ali Ahmad Al-Sumbri, head of operations at Patrol Police, recalled how AIDS patients were quarantined or rejected either by police or members of society in the past and how this leads to AIDS patients hiding their infection.

"When there was a HIV patient, people were running away from him," Major Al-Sumbri said. "Now the situation is better regarding the conception of HIV. The patient can help prevent others from getting the infection," he stated, referring to those brave patients who are living with the virus but also helping to raise awareness in their community.

"My conception of AIDS and its transmutation was theoretical," he continued. "Having a chance to sit with a person living with the virus, shake hands with him and talk to him has corrected my misconceptions and made me see him as a normal person. I will be able to help the patient adjust in society."

Colonel Mohammed Abdullah Madkor, head of prisons administration in Sana'a, noted that his conceptions about AIDS and the patient have changed. "We learned about the four means of HIV infection," he said, "which helped us to understand AIDS and HIV better. Our conception of AIDS patients has changed and this is important. We previously refused HIV positive people in society, but now we hope we will be able to change this idea for our children, neighbors and everyone around us."

"I found a positive reaction by the participants," said Major Yahya Al-Masri, the representative from the Ministries of Defense and the Interior at the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, confirming that these officials were selected to receive this training and then train staff in their units. "Moreover, the participants belong to the Patrol Police, prisons security, morals police and women's police, who interact more with society's individuals and need to know how to react and deal with all kind of attitudes and behaviors," Al-Masri continued.

Many of the participates showed their surprise at their misconceptions they held for a long time regarding this disease

For the first time in her life, Abeer Abbadi, an official at the Passports and Immigration Authority, saw an AIDS patient while at the training.

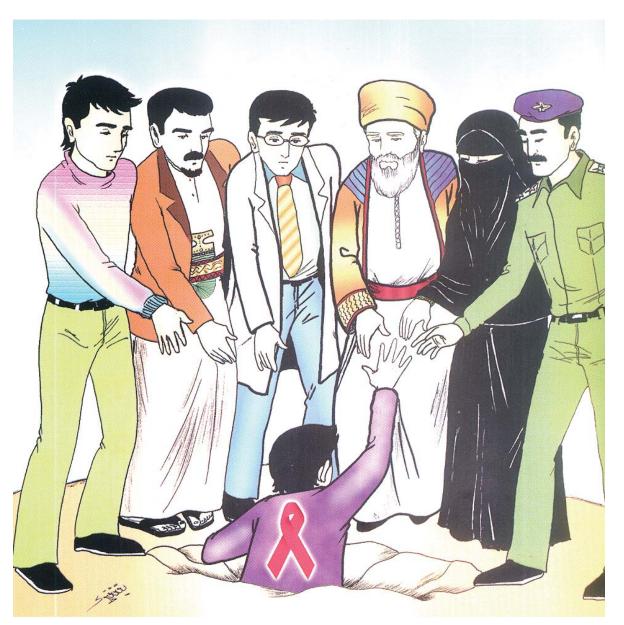
"AIDS has no cure and you can get it just by touching an AIDS patient. That was my idea about AIDS, but after what I learned from the trainers I have changed my mind. I am happy with what I have learned during the training"

"In this training workshop we know about the AIDS transferring methods," said Amatasalaym Al-Siraji, the head of women's police in Sana'a. "We learnt that AIDS doesn't transfer through hand shakes, exchanging clothes, or by food and drink," she said.

The fears and doubts in dealing with AIDS patient have vanished, according to Al-Siraji. She understands now that AIDS patients have the right to be dealt with as a human being. They should not be ostracized by family, friends and society.

"I will transfer the knowledge and skills I learned from this training to the women's police," she said.

AIDS patients living with the disease talked to the participants and surprised them by their high morale. They narrated not only stories of despair but



Poster reads: "We all are supporters of AIDS patients." The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculoses and Malaria, National Population Council and the UNDP created awareness publications such as posters and calenderers educating public about AIDS.

stories of hope for the future.

Al-Siraji showed sympathy for them and started wondering about HIV patients' rights to save their jobs, families and lives.

"I have the responsibility to transmit the right information. I now have to teach people who work with me," said Major Adel Abdulkhaleq, head of criminal investigations at Al-Basateen

police station in Aden. He suggested more awareness campaigns in the media and especially television to explain the disease and the patients' rights in society.

Water and sanitation across the country –Part 3 Salty water and lack of sanitation in Al-Jawf

By: Sharaf Mohammed and Yemen **Times Staff**

he arid governorate of Al-Jawf is one of the most deprived governorates with regards to water and sanitation networks in the whole country

Located on the northern border of

wells. The people of four districts in the governorate bring drinking water from a well in the district of Al-Ghail to their homes

houses from nearby

by trucks. There are over 369





Yemen with Saudi Arabia in the Empty Quarter, the Al-Jawf governorate has a population of less than 480,000 inhabitants according to the latest figures, and a density of only 11 inhabitants per square km.

"There is very scarce data in Al-Jawf because no hydrological survey has been carried out," said Dr. Naif Mohammed Abu-Lohom, research and studies department head at the Water and Environment Center at the University of Sana'a

But findings have shown that the water in the Ramla Al-Shaba'atain basin, the natural groundwater supply that the governorate shares with Shabwa, trickles down from the mountains in the neighboring governorates of Sa'ada, Amran, Dhamar and Sana'a, according to Abu-Lohom.

Among the 16 districts of the governorate, Al-Hazm, the governorate's capital, is the only district to benefit from a water network.

Governmental water networks ensure a daily supply of water to 480 subscribers and will soon be expanded to receive 750 more subscribers. Another network is under construction in Al-Saloub district to bring water to 600 extra households.

If the maximum target is achieved and assuming that each subscriber represents a ten-strong household, this would support barely a quarter of the governorate's population.

To compensate the government's negligence, people in many districts of the governorate have started developing their own water networks at their own cost. They usually bring water to their

wells in the governorate, only 51 of which are authorized by the government as tribesmen continue to dig wells to provide their families with water.

> The head of the Water and Sanitation Corporation in Al-Jawf, Naji Al-Qahqouh, said that the governorate's tribal nature makes it difficult to implement the law and prevent tribesmen from digging wells at random.

> > "At the time being, it

is difficult to apply the required procedures to prevent people from random well digging due to a low level of awareness of the consequences among the community," said Al-Qahqouh."When we try to inform them about the bad consequences of digging wells at random, they reply that it is their land and they are free to do what they want with it."

fetch water for domestic use.

Quality not quantity

"The problem in Al-Jawf is quality not quantity," said Abu Lohom, explaining that over-pumping leads to saline or salty water being drawn up to the surface when all the fresh water on the top layer of the aquifer has been depleted.

As most aquifers in Al-Jawf are not renewable in view of the near-absence of rainfall in the desert, the problem is not easily solved by nature, and the governorates' inhabitants have already started to feel its effects: "Farm owners have already been suffering and complaining from the quality of water," he added.

There are several solutions to solve the problem in the area, according to Abu Lohom. The first is to alternatively use groundwater and surface water collected from surrounding mountains instead of always solely depending on groundwater supply.

The second is to introduce more salt water-resistant crops such as palms or falfa into local agriculture instead of concentrating on fruit such as oranges and watermelons, and the third is to use more fertilizer to make the soil more permeable.

To conserve water, the government has built two dams, one funded by the United Arab Emirates. The local population has also built more water reservoirs supported by the UAE, and has spent about YR 15 million annually on renovations.

Poor sanitation

The government has so far not built any sanitation network in Al-Jawf, even in the governorate's capital of Al-Hazm. Instead, people dig open holes near their homes.

Inhabitants do not cover these open holes and they are only four meters from the houses. At times, wastewater pools up beside farms and threatening agricultural lands and the products that grow in them.

These open holes constitute a veritable death trap to the governorate's inhabitants as they are very close to people's homes and within close distances of

houses.

Ahmed Al-Hadashi lost his small daughter, Najwa, in one of these holes while she was playing with other children near it.

"My daughter was playing with her cousin next to our neighbors' house when suddenly she slipped and fell into the hole," he said. "Her cousin ran to us crying, but when we arrived to save her, we found her dead."

Mabkhout Daghloq, an eye witness to another accident, mentioned that a 22 year-old girl from the Al-Zaher district fell into hole near their farm. According to Daghloq, the girl remained in the hole for two days before she died.

Head of the Public Health and Population office in the governorate Hussein Al-Ghanemi stated that sanitation networks would be given priority during 2009, starting with the governorate's capital.

According to Al-Ghanemi, the absence of water and sanitation networks in Al-Jawf can be attributed to many reasons. If the projects are delayed each year, notably because of ill-functioning local districts, inhabitants are not active in demanding them.

Some inhabitants admit that it is their fault that they don't demand the government provide them with water and sanitation, but others think that some inhabitants won't agree to let up a part of their lands so that networks can run through them.

"Some people won't allow such projects to pass through their lands and this hinders the development of governorate," said Massawd Ayash, an inhabitant.

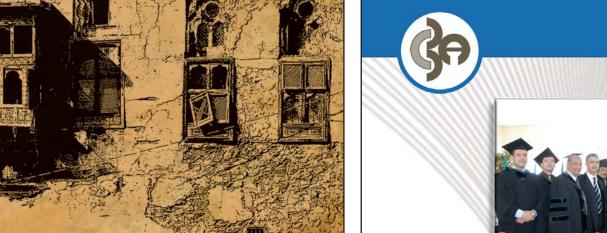
Because of the unavailability of water in homes in many rural areas around the country, women need to take their washing to the water sources and travel long distances to

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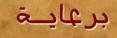
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Culture



Reenactment of sexual segregation in the Yemeni port town of Aden during the course of the 1990s

Aden, once a British military outpost and colony (1839–1967), later the capital of People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (PDRY, 1967–90), and today the "economic" and "winter" capital of the unified Yemen Republic, embraces multiple stratifications based on historical flows of people and goods, shifts in political systems, and changing tides of global economies. Aden is not only a post colony but also a post socialist outpost with legacies that carry from distant and recent golden eras.

Adopted from a research on morphologies of social flows segregation, time, and the public sphere, by Susanne Dahlgren

14 4 May, 2009

wo physical factors, climate and morphology, structure Aden as a town. They influence how daily life is organized, how houses are built and how sub communities are imagined. With sunshine and hot and humid weather most of the year, the position of the sun dictates where the open-air market is erected and food is served in street restaurants.

It also plays a role in everyday calculations on how and when to engage in outdoor activities or whether to settle for staying indoors.

Due to its morphology, Aden is not a unified area with a town center but consists of several towns, making it a polynucleotide city, with mountains and the surrounding sea dividing it into separate and detached sub towns in two distinct peninsulas.

New people flow in

Aden changed rapidly at the turn of the 1990s. In 1990, people without a permanent residence and income started to arrive in large numbers. Some were refugees from the horn of Africa and others returnees from Saudi Arabia and other Gulf countries following the Gulf crisis of the early 1990s. Congested refugee camps were erected with makeshift huts and no electricity or running water. Beggars and traffic-light peddlers from the North came next. Some of these people cleaned windscreens, others sold newspapers or items drivers were expected to need. For all these people, Aden offered a completely new market. Wealthy families who had fled from Aden after the radicalization of the government were the last group to arrive. When the post unification government started to give back nationalized housing and property, hotels filled with these people

Some claimed noble descent, and came to see if they could restore their lifestyle and position of respect (*karama*). After years of policies of downplaying social stratification, with the arrival of both the rich and the starving and huge rises in consumer prices, social status started to matter again.

Soon after unification, segregation of the sexes started to structure the town again. Particular areas became restricted to one sex only. In restaurants, separate "family areas" were reserved to allow women to sit undisturbed. Women disappeared from cinemas entirely. To see a film formerly "women's most popular entertainment", women rented a cassette from a video store and watched it at home, often in an all-female company. Women appeared on beaches draped in black cloaks and refrained from going into water. Still, public transportation remained unsegregated: passenger taxis and buses became places where men made efforts to allow women to be left alone. This challenged the widespread belief common at that time that, since men suddenly cannot control themselves, women have to disappear from public places.

refrained from using the covering costume were harassed in the streets while adolescent boys took the chance to pinch and grope them.

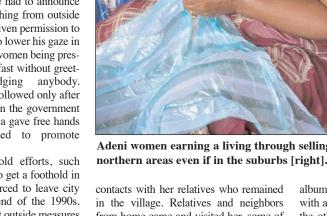
Avoidance spread to many homes, too. where it had not been the custom earlier. Most houses in Aden are small, with the entrance directly from the street to the living room. If a man wanted to enter a house, even his own, he had to announce his sex by uttering anything from outside the door. Once he was given permission to enter, he was expected to lower his gaze in anticipation of non-kin women being present and cross the room fast without greeting and acknowledging anybody. Segregation in schools followed only after the 1994 civil war, when the government in the new capital Sana'a gave free hands to forces that wanted to promote "Islamization" in Aden.

Despite their manifold efforts, such forces did not manage to get a foothold in Aden and they were forced to leave city administration by the end of the 1990s. Working places were left outside measures of putting segregation in place.

All these phenomena indicated the coming of a new era in gender regulation in comparison to the PDRY period, when a woman's role was declared to be alongside her "brother" in building up the society and when men were expected to respect every woman like his "sister." In the new era, "unregulated" male-female interaction was targeted, but not without resistance.

A lively debate flourished in newspapers and other forums on desired roles for women in society and in the family. The debate involved, among other issues, the question why an uneducated woman is more desirable as a bridal candidate than an educated one.

During the fifty years observed here,



In the vinage. Relatives and heighbors from home came and visited her, some of them who live in Aden, too. Even her married daughters had taken husbands who originate from the parents' home village. Life goes on and when the society outside her home has changed, it barely has brought anything new and radically different to her life.

As she put it, "Nothing changed after independence." Arwa lives in an apartment building on the sixth floor in a block of apartments built by the British in the late 1950s for families of colonial service personnel. She shares the two-bedroom apartment, which has a big living room and a kitchen, with two unmarried daughters and families of another two married daughters, altogether ten people.

Designed by a French architect to

album. The room has two sections: one with a sofa, an armchair, and a sofa table; the other with cushions on the floor circling the walls. This is quite typical living room furnishing solution of a family that has a room big enough to accommodate both "modern" (sofas and armchairs) and "traditional" (cushions on the floor) ways of life.

Arwa walks in from the kitchen and, with some effort, sits down in the cushions on the other side of the large room. Sitting is painful due to a hip problem she has. Quiet, she settles for observing us as we look at the photos. Alongside the usual family portraits taken in a photo studio, there are photos of Safa with her former work colleagues having a picnic by the seaside. Some three years younger in the photo, Safa poses unveile with her hair done by a coiffeur and makeup in her face.

During the fifty years observed here, three mutually very different periods of gender interaction become manifest. During the British colonial era, while women s own men folk controlled their movement outside the home, women ultimately emerged from the domestic sphere to participate in charities and political activities. During the PDRY, women took their place alongside men in all fields of life, as the widely repeated slogan put it. After Yemeni unification, women s free movement outside home became again a problem. Still, women continued to access higher education and work alongside men in all fields of working life. As part of lip service to foreign donors, selected women from the president s party, People s General Congress, were allowed visible but less ate, had an opinion of the country's state of affairs. Arwa was in the habit of having her TV set open in afternoons if no visitors were around to follow politicians speaking in the parliament in live broadcasts from the national capital Sana'a. She does not read newspapers, but her children and visitors always bring news to her. She is illiterate and always at home, but she is not ignorant of life outside her physical walls.

In Arwa's case, we could see that her social maps step out from the physical boundaries of her daily life. In her "sitting" at home, the society comes to her and she makes the best out of it. Still, for younger generation of women, such life is not enough. They want to accomplish something, experience new things, and acquire "knowledge"

(*macrifa*). Thus, they are mobile and their social maps resemble those of men. For them, acquiring knowledge means going to places where particular discussions are "made," and where social networks are built. The reemergence of segregation and new veiling has not meant that women withdraw from face-to-face activities with men; with the scarf, they can have a better say of the terms of that interaction. That is one of the reasons why the covering outfit became so widely accepted among the youngest generation of women in Aden.

Conclusion

While gender avoidance and segregation again became a norm in Aden after twenty-five years of downplay, the way these institutions are acted out and socially improvised today has little to do with the sex segregation that prevailed in Aden during the colonial era. This is partly due to the difference in positions out of which women in each era access the public sphere. While Arwa as characteristic to her youth in the late colonial period-when the issue was to establish an isolated park for women in seclusion-accesses the public sphere from "sitting," for Safa similar existentialcorporeal notion could be "walking." Such symbolic positions give room to a more action-oriented approach than what Taylor considers when he describes how particular action makes sense only as part of a larger predicament in understanding how we "continuously stand or have stood in relation to others and to power."19 People change their positions but also societies become more complex. With the knowledge Arwa obtained as a young woman in segregated colonial Aden, it is no more possible to move around in the present-day sex-segregated Aden. In this chapter, I have attempted to describe the city of Aden as a condensation of social relations and a product of social flows. By focusing on the pulse that makes the city and on everyday agency as constitutive of particular urban spaces, I have attempted to show how cities are made in spatialtemporal encounters that manifest particular social imaginaries. While in the 1950s, gender segregation was embedded in social hierarchies and accompanied by inter-ethnic avoidance and even constituted part of the ideology that informed state regulation, in the 1990s, it is still in the point of improvisation.



Adeni women earning a living through selling handicrafts [left], the culture of the older generations in Aden is less conservative from that for women in northern areas even if in the suburbs [right].

the old photos and Arwa watching us.

Now we become the audience in a per-

formance that Amal orchestrates to us.

Safa introduces me to Amal by saying that

I study "the new Yemeni woman" and this

inspires the old woman to tell stories about

what a great politician the world has lost in

her. "I am Ali Abdullah Saleh!" she

announces and starts imitating the north-

ern leader of the country. We all laugh and

Social maps and spatial segregation

While Safa's outfit changed, her social

maps barely altered. Cross-sex picnics no

more took place in her life and the new

working environment, the university cam-

pus, provided quite a different platform for

cross-sex interaction. With her new outfit,

she participated in this new moral space,

communicating that she accepted the

she continues her performance.

Putting segregation in place

Intersex avoidance and new veiling came about the same period. Some women started to cover their heads and took the *hijab* with great enthusiasm, while others had mixed feelings about it. Since *hijab* was considered a "religious" cloth, young people who thought the new costume just a new exciting fashion called it *mandu* (headscarf). Most middle-aged women resisted the new fashion, accustomed to wearing a dress and having the hair made by a hairdresser.

These women complained that the new dress was an interference in women's own affairs. Women adopting this new outfit was a result of a complicated process rather than the question of direct force used against them. By this time, ideologies that favored traditional family related role models for women were coming to the fore. In particular, among young women in marital age, such ideas gained response. In a society where marriage is considered a compulsion for women, for these women, "risking" marital possibilities with education or a career was out of the question. In addition to that, those who resisted and

three mutually very different periods of gender interaction become manifest. During the British colonial era, while women's own men folk controlled their movement outside the home, women ultimately emerged from the domestic sphere to participate in charities and political activities. During the PDRY, women took their place alongside men in all fields of life, as the widely repeated slogan put it. After Yemeni unification, women's free movement outside home became again a problem. Still, women continued to access higher education and work alongside men in all fields of working life. As part of lip service to foreign donors, selected women from the president's party, People's General Congress, were allowed visible but less influential positions in administra-

where the interaction could be less.

Women's presence in the male dominated Suqs or market places despite

being overly crowded is acceptable culturally compared to work place

The social map of a woman who never leaves her house

tion.

"Arwa,"13 a woman in her late fifties, is the kind of woman who never goes out. She is what is locally called a galisa fi'l*bayt*, the one who "sits" at home. But as she herself explains, she has so much to do at home that she never has time to go out and make visits. She is a widow, a mother of eight children who are already grown up. Her husband, whom she married when she was thirteen, had died some years earlier at the age of fifty-five. Both were born in the same village in Abyan, a tribal area some sixty miles northeast from Aden. After her wedding, she moved to Aden, where her husband had taken job as a driver. This was in the middle of 1950s, the height of colonial glory but at the same time, the era of beginning of anti-colonial struggle.

While living in the town, Arwa kept

accommodate European expatriate families' taste and class, the house lacks the usual conveniences that local women prefer, such as an open-air kitchen and a veranda. Three of Arwa's daughters who share the apartment work or study and one stays at home. All the women in the house

share the household chores. Arwa's daily routines are the same from day to day, with Fridays making an exception. Arwa gets up around six every morning and, after performing the sunrise prayers, she prepares breakfast. Then she goes back to sleep, to get up around eleven in the morning to start cooking lunch for the family. After lunch, she takes a nap and gets ready to receive visitors who often comprise of her neighbors and her children's friends. Later in the evening, she watches television with her family. When the daily late-night Arabic soap opera ends, she goes to bed. She complains about the lack of free time and that she can never go out.

But nobody stops her; she has become accustomed to her life "inside four walls," as the local expression has it. However, her life can hardly be described as uneventful. I was introduced to her by Safa, one of her daughters, a young woman in her late twenties who had two years earlier joined Aden University to proceed for a Bachelor's degree. Before that, she had worked several years as a clerk in a big corporation. Safa had recently14 acquired a dress that "our religion requires us to wear," as she put it. It was the typical Adeni young women's outdoor outfit of that period with headscarf (mandi) and a loose black overcoat (aba'a).

One afternoon, while sitting in a sofa in the living room, Safa, her younger sister, and I look at photos from the family

•

influential positions in administration.

She wears shirt and trousers and sits with a happy face together with young and middle-aged male coworkers, the only woman in the picture.

Everybody in the photo seems to have a good time and the atmosphere is relaxed. I point at the photo and tell Safa that she looks different there. "Oh yes, at that time we used to wear such clothes. We used to have a lot of activities outside the work. I really enjoyed working there and liked my work mates. But times were different then," she says. In another photo, Safa poses in a masquerade party, dressed as a man. She wears the male loincloth *futa*, with a men's scarf wrapped around her head like a turban. Moustaches and beard are painted in her face. The photo makes Safa and her younger sister laugh. It is from a party where she was the only crossdressed woman.

While we all laugh, Arwa sits quiet in front of us and smiles. She enjoys watching her children while they are happy, she explains to me. The door bell rings and a neighbor comes to visit. "Amal" is a woman in her early fifties and a housewife who lives next door. She does not greet others in the room in a formal way except me, whom she meets for the first time. She takes my right hand and kisses it: it is the way elder women still greet people they presume to be of higher status. Her presence makes the atmosphere simply explode. She is a talkative woman who always makes jokes. Safa explains that she is little bit crazy but always makes everybody laugh. I can see that she is a welcome visitor in the house. The air becomes electric when she starts what seems to be her version of stand-up comedy.

The setting before she arrived centered around the photo album and us giggling at

unwritten rules for modest behavior of a female university student. She explained to me the changes in moral expectations in a manner that times were simply different earlier. For her, it was not a big issue, even though she was aware of harassment and grouping that women who did not cover were subjected in the streets. Safa, already in her late twenties, wanted to get married and have children.

Typical of young women in her "late age" for marriage, she explained that after marriage, it will depend on her husband whether she will be able to carry on with her studies or to work. Getting married and having children was her primary goal and she was ready to allow her social maps to be curbed for that purpose. Still, the kind of life her mother lives—inside four walls-was not a realistic vision to her. Once, when we visited a home in the same street and I conducted some interviews. she started giggling when an elderly woman replied that she never goes out. Safa's mother was already very old in local standards, fifty-seven years old, and her generation's social patterns were past and gone. Even though, as a wife, Safa was ready to give up her work career, she could not imagine having a husband she meets in her wedding and with whom she does not discuss family decisions. Stopping to move outside home was no prospect for her. For her, the existential physical notion of "sitting" was not a realistic perspective even after marriage, which she otherwise viewed in terms of a compromise.

As we saw in Arwa's home, women can have a life full of events inside those four walls. Women also follow politics and public discussions at home. In the heated debates of the post unification era of the early 1990s, everybody, literate or illiter-

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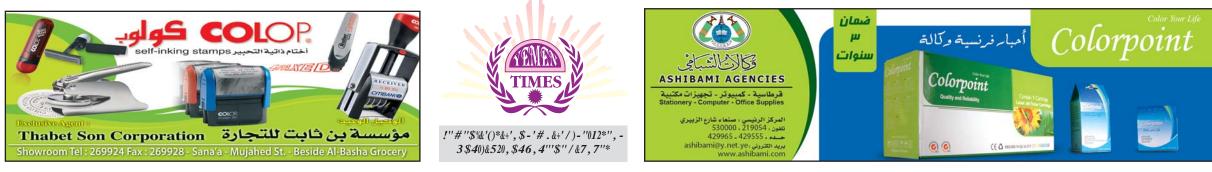
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Dar Al-Salam Organization honors Dutch couple

By: Yemen Times Staff

few days before their departure from Yemen, Jan Hoogendoorn and Heleen Janszen were invited to visit the Dar Al-Salam organization in Sana'a as the honored guests of an appreciation ceremony. "We don't want them to leave Yemen

thinking that their efforts to help the country's development were a waste of time or were unappreciated," said Abdulsalam Al-Marwani, director of the organization while giving a speech at the ceremony last Tuesday.

Heleen and Jan appreciated the role Dar Al-Salam played in their release and especially the organization's visit while they were held hostage. "I think Dar Al-Salam is a very good initiative to find peaceful solutions in Yemen. We are very grateful Dar Al-Salam visited us during our kidnapping," said Jan Hoogendoorn.

They also appreciated the role the media played in their release, including the Yemen Times, and how pressure was exerted on the Yemeni government not to use force. They are hoping to return to Yemen after a few months, especially now that there is hope for an extension for Jan's water project with Taiz Water and Sanitation Local Corporation.

Heleen expressed her gratitude to all who stood by them and stated that this ordeal made them realize new aspects of Yemen as well as gave them a chance to



make a lot of new friends.

"I wish you a lot of courage and strength to continue your aim and to enlarge your efforts. Never lose the dream of reaching peace in all parts of Yemen. Thank you very much," said Heleen Janszen during the appreciation ceremony.

Dar Al-Salam, which means House of Peace in Arabic, was established in 1997 to promote peace and to reinforce brotherhood and love among human beings. "Our efforts emerge from human visions and moderate religious values,"

said Al-Marwani. The organization works under three main themes: combating extremism and violence, reinforcing tolerance, peace values, and the universality of human rights, and mediating to peacefully solve armed conflicts and alleviate social suffering and discrimination.

Dar Al-Salam aims to combat kidnapping crimes and moves directly to remote and difficult areas to mediate the release of hostages.

"I was just another Sheikh of a tribe until experience, interaction with others and knowledge opened my eyes," said Al-Marwani. "God shone his light into my heart and I am now a better person who cares about others and wants to promote peace. And this knowledge and light is what I want to spread among Yemeni tribes especially and the world in general."



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