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# YEMEN TIMES

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## Cole suspects deny knowledge of evidence

BY MOHAMMED AL-QADHI  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Prosecution looking into the case of the 6 suspected operatives of the USS Cole asked the Sana'a Criminal Court to uphold the case for final hearings, while the third suspect Fahd al-Qas'e denied the material evidences submitted by the prosecution against him.

The court continued the procedures of the tribunal despite the absence of the advocates for the defendants.

On July 7th the court charged the six alleged operatives of the Al-Qaeda terror network in connection with the bombing of the USS Cole October 12th 2000 in Aden port.

The prosecutor accused the suspected terrorists of forming or setting up an armed gang, and joining Al-Qaeda, and planning and plotting terrorist acts against the USS Cole, which affected the Yemeni-U.S. relationship, putting Yemen as a target in the war on terrorism. In the attack in 2000, two suicide bombers, Hasan al-Khameri and Ibraheem al-Thawr, in an explosive-laden boat, rammed into the USS Cole as it was refueling in the port city of Aden. The attack on the U.S. Navy destroyer killed 17 American sailors and wounded 39 others.

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Suspects shown at the courtyard

(YT photo by Mohammed Al-Qadhi)

## Fighting against Al-Houthi supporters continues

BY MUHAMMAD SALLAM  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Despite the announcement by Major General Ali Mohammed Salah, Deputy Staff General, on last Thursday - 12th August 2004 that the Yemeni forces have

tightened the noose on Sheik Hussain Badr-el-Din and his followers in the hilly areas where they are fortifying themselves, some other information from Saadah Governorate assures that the confrontations between the army and al-Houthi's supporters continue in more than one area. And this information indicates that the army's artillery fire at Nushoor and Al Shafeah areas, and the villages close to them, has not stopped at the time of writing this news, Saturday - 14th August. These sources add that Dhahyan, Al al-Sayfi and Bani Muath & Walad Masood areas are witnessing random chases and arrests, leading people to escape to the surrounding hills, besides, other random arrests targeting those sympathizing with the Sheikh Al-Houthi in Sanaa, Hajjah, Sharafyn, and Haraz towns, in addition to some other Yemeni areas.

In the same area, the Yemeni News Agency "Sabaa" quoted last Thursday, as stated by the Deputy Staff General of the Military Operations affairs, Major

General Ali Muhammad Salah, that Hussain Badr-el-Din and those who remained with him are living their last breaths, after having been noose-tightened in Mran hills chains.

The Major General Salah added that Al-Houthi and a group of his followers are split up in some of the houses in Al-Jaleel, Al-Jumaimah, and Al-Khureb areas in an attempt to hide themselves.

The Military and Security men are currently following up and chasing that group in the places they are hiding themselves.

To that, a statement on the Internet in both the languages has been addressed in the following manner:

"In name of Saadah men we address the humanitarian organizations and associations and those of consciences and the Worlds Free men to relieve them and cease this wild war which the Governmental authority is practicing against them in addition to the villager militians, the Arabs and the Yemeni Afghanistanis".

The statement mentioned that the mediation tribunal failed due to directions by influentials to block the paths before the good people of the country men, and added, "that the war events and those falling, killed men, and the wounded people are still going on and the dead bodies have not yet been collected; these bodies are causing sickness and diseases." The statement warned that the world's silence at the Saadah events foreshadows massacres. They appealed for relief and duty of humanity and fraternity towards children, women and old men.

"The state's forces could have defeated Al-Houthi and his followers, and settled

the crisis within one week," said one resident from Saadah in a telephone conversation with the Yemen Times on August 14th.

"There are however some military leaders who do not want to put an end to this problem and stop battles quickly, because they would be deprived of millions of Riyals given daily to sustain the military operations. The continuity of military attacks will ensure they get a continuous flow of money and they do not care about killing people, as long as they keep themselves away from the battlefield. They also do not care about the increasing burden on the national economy and destabilizing the country," added the man.

### Further Analysis Concern mounts over Saadah clashes

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Yemeni government said last week that the fighting between Yemeni forces and Hussein Al-Houthi and his armed supporters is coming to an end.

"Sheikh Hussein Badruddin Al-Houthi and whoever is still with him are living their last breath after the noose has been tightened on them," said Major General Ali Mohammad Salah to the SABA news agency. "Army and security forces will continue to track them down in their hiding places until they are caught and brought to justice."

Continued on page 12

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### 35th Anniversary of burning al-Aqsa' mosque

Islamic Resistance Movement HAMAS, Sana'a Office, has organized a workshop on the dangers encircling Al-Aqsa and the duty to support the liberation, in a sideline of last Monday's dinner reception which was attended by local national and official newspaper representatives. They reviewed several functions commemorating the incident of the burning of al-Aqsa' Mosque. The workshop was attended by Mr. Jamal Al-Eys, representative of Hamas movement in Yemen, sheikh Muhammad Seyam, a preacher of Al-Aqsa Mosque. The workshop displayed Hamas Movement's standpoint on the current events.

### Prisoner goes on food strike

BY YEMEN TIMES STAFF

Ghaleb Abdullah Al-Zaidi, a prisoner of the Political Security, has gone on a hunger strike, well-informed sources told the Yemen Times.

Lawyer Mohammed Naji Allow said Al-Zaidi's health has started deteriorating and is at risk.

The authorities arrested Al-Zaidi one year ago following his meeting with the President when he, along with director of Sirwah District, was assigned to mediate with Abu Asem (Mohammed Al-Ahdal). The mediation failed.

The Hood organization has called, in more than one statement, for the transfer of prisoners charged with terrorist acts, or whatever, from the Political Security's prison to the Central Prison, but requests have fallen on deaf ears.

### Training course

The Olympic Committee finished on Monday, 9th August, a training course for female volleyball coaches that took place in the Olympic Center.

The training course, which started on the 1st of August, hosted 20 participants from different governorates; Sana'a, Ibb, Aden, Hodiedah, Lahj, Abyan, Taiz and Dhamar.

Ms. Manal Taha, the Jordanian International Coach, was in charge of instructions throughout the training course.

## Yemen prepares a five-year development plan

BY YASSER AL-MAYASI  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

A press conference was held at the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation on Monday, August 9, on the occasion of the visit of the delegation of UN millennium project to support Yemen in the development of a strategy to alleviate poverty.

The mission, consisting of six experts, included Dr. Tarq Yousef, a professor at American George Town University. He is a consultant and a

mediator between the international organization and Yemen.

The Director of the millennium development project said that Yemen was receiving the support of the international community to accomplish the 2006-2010 development plan, which was based on achieving the goals of the millennium development project so as to raise Yemen to the status of the average developing country by 2015.

He also praised the official Yemeni sense of direction in implementing the strategy. He said that Yemen was cho-

sen among eight countries of the world to receive the support of the millennium development project in order to carry out a development plan that would meet the ambitions and expectations of the Yemeni people: a development plan that would alleviate poverty, provide education for all, conserve the environment and create new job opportunities. He confirmed that the joint meetings between the Yemeni team and the mission enabled Yemen to come up with a final-drafted strategy to present to the United Nations.

## Health workers are striking

Health workers in the Taiz Governorate are threatening a general strike because of a delay in paying their salaries on time i.e. at the end of each month, as they have not received their salaries and it is already the 10th of the current month August whereas they are committed to feed their children and families. To this, the Technical and Medical Professions Syndicate have addressed a memoran-

dum on this effect to the Judge, Ahmed Abdullah al-Hejri, Governor of Taiz, in which it demanded the execution of the Civil Service Law, to pay salaries on time, in compliance with Article (65) para. (b) of the executive regulations. They hold the Governor as the first responsible person for this, in Taiz, and asked him to pass his instructions to the concerned authority to pay the salaries in accordance with

the law.

In fact, the Syndicate has delayed this workers strike since 21st July 2004 but threatened to resume the strike, which it says is forced upon it by the concerned authority which hinders the payment of the workers payment in time. Some have claimed that delay in handing salaries is meant for cutting them. They called for putting an end to these "farces".

## Symposium on women's rights in Islam

Within the framework of Women's Rights program activities performed by WFRT since early January until the end of October, 2004, the Forum holds its first seminar in Sana'a on Monday 16th August and Tuesday 17th August 2004 at Haddah Hotel hall at 8.00 a.m. in which the following will be discussed:

Firstly, the connotation and philosophy of social justice and the impact of its non-existence on women rights. Social justice means not only justice and the making of law and its procedures but also the efforts which must be made to facilitate and secure the individual's practice and for obtaining all the rights and freedoms for both the male and female genders, especially, in developmental plans. Secondly, about closing the discretion clause and its impact on women's rights. Thirdly, dis-

cussing the evidences which are favored by some, to use for depriving women's rights and abandoning their roles within the community with a contradicting description according to Islam's vision that comprises justice in individuals' relations with each other and their relations with society. And the topic of most sig-

nificance in the symposium is the of violence against women, especially, domestic violence, being the most violent type practiced against women, and the technique of fighting it factually. Doctors, professors, researchers and those interested will participate in discussing these themes.

## Al-Hakimi commemoration marked

BY ISMAIL AL-GHABIRI  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The national symposium on the fiftieth death commemoration of revolutionary Abdullah Al-Hakimi, organized by the Yemen Center for Study and Research was concluded on Wednesday August 11.

The symposium was attended by political party leaders, intellectuals and social dignitaries.

Workpapers presented at the symposium were enriched by a several interventions, comments, and discussions from participants, who stressed the importance of organizing such functions to inspire generations with the feats of their forefathers.

At the end of the symposium, Dr. Abdulziz Al-Makalih, cultural advisor to the President, director of the Yemeni Center for Studies and Research, said researches introduced at the symposium as well as comments and discussion would be published soon in a book or two so that benefit prevails, and researchers and interested people have access to the papers of the symposium.

Dr. Al-Makalih, who is also head of the symposium preparatory committee, emphasized the significance of referring to the heritage of the pioneers' heritage to know the problems and issues that drew their attention, because "some of them are still proving a headache for us today." He called for a close scrutiny of the works and exploits of the previous

## Al-Mansourah Local Council demands resolution for administration board

ADEN BUREAU

The case of the 14 members of Al-Mansourah local council remains unresolved since the members announced their collective resignation and suspension of their activities, mid of last June, in protest to the performance of their administration board. This performance could be described as random work, according to the statement of Mr. Omr Nasser Ali, one of the members of the local council who had

resigned.

The local council complained that the administration board was not reacting accordingly to major issues of concern in the province, such as to the constant misuse of state lands in the province and further unrealistic investment projects.

The resignation of the majority of the members of the local council was not decisively settled during the last meeting of the local council in July amid their absence.

## Inauguration of Grand Sales (Electrex 2004)

The Festival of grand sales of electronic and electric instruments (Electrex 2004) was inaugurated on Monday - 9th August 2004, at Sanaa Expo Center. This will continue on till 16th of the current month.

International companies working in the line of manufacturing electronic and scientific instruments are participating in this exhibition where such companies are competing in offering new and dynamic products.

## Israeli fishing nets flood Aden's market and sea

ADEN BUREAU

A number of traditional fishermen in the Aden area stated that disruption of the migration of fish to spawning grounds and the destruction of a large quantity of small fish in the area were attributed to the using of Israeli-made fish nets, that consist of three layers with small holes. Thus preventing small fish escaping.

The fishermen consider these types of nets as a major threat to fish stocks in the country. The nets are behind the current increase of prices on a number of fishes that have been overfished in coastal and regional waters. This has caused instability in the fish market, which had begun to settle after legislation was passed to restrict large-scale, foreign fishing in Yemeni waters.

The fishermen called on Fisheries minister to immediately intervene to confiscate the Israeli nets and to hold the people involved responsible before it is too late to safeguard our fish wealth.

## Readers' Voice

Yemen Times features "Readers' Voice" a popular way for our readers to interact with us. This is your opportunity to have a say on world and local affairs.

This edition's question:

What do you think would the ongoing violence in Najaf lead to?

- Killing or arrest of Moqtada Sadr.
- Moqtada Sadr will surrender
- US forces would give up and accept Sadr's terms
- Something else

last edition's question:

Do you think that Al-Houthi would finally surrender himself to government?

- |               |     |
|---------------|-----|
| No            | 79% |
| Yes           | 15% |
| I do not know | 6%  |

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# Saleh Social and Development Corporation seeks donors aid

BY HASSAN AL-ZAIDI  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The President's corporation was recently established. Much of the public consider it a 'non-charitable' corporation unaware that it was mainly established to carry out charitable activities for the poorest segments of society. If it were named President Saleh's charity Corporation, thousands of the poor and needy from urban and rural areas would no doubt be forming long lines at its door - especially since it bears the President's name - as Yemen has thousands of the needy, poor and deprived citizens.



Dr. Mohamed Saleh Al-Qadhi

Yemen Times' Hassan Al-Zaidi met with Dr. Mohamed Saleh Al-Qadhi, the General Director of the corpora-

tion, for more enlightenment on the activities of the corporation.

**Q: What is the main scope of activities of this corporation?**

**A:** It was founded in January 2004. It was founded by the President's sons, headed by Ahmed Ali Abdullah Saleh, the current president of the corporation. It is one of the civic society organizations working in Yemen in various fields. We have currently a headquarters and a branch for women and we hope that our activities would cover all regions of Yemen.

**Q: Was the corporation established only to implement the charitable projects of the sons of the President?**

**A:** The corporation was established based on the desire of the President's sons to contribute to the social and charitable work with the objective of developing Yemeni society. The idea, to establish this corporation, bore in mind the aspiration of the President, to

constantly care and attend to the handicapped and the needy, either directly or indirectly.

**Q: Does this mean that the President's charitable activities would be connected with corporation?**

**A:** Not necessarily. This corporation could be a tool for the organization and coordination of such activities, but they are not limited to this corporation.

**Q: Would not this corporation hamper the work and activities of other charitable associations which the President, from time to time, inaugurates, to serve the opposition political organizations and parties?**

**A:** This corporation was established to serve Yemeni society in general regardless of the political affiliation of the benefiting citizens and authorities.

**Q: What are the main scopes and activities of the corporation?**

**A:** There are several foci the corporation is trying to embark on. The development focus: The corporation seeks to develop popular neighborhoods. Works have been undertaken at two areas of Sana'a. A health awareness project has been launched with the cooperation of Meningitis

Combating Association.

The social care focus: the corporation is facilitating marriage related matters. A group wedding ceremony was held recently by the corporation. We are preparing an administration and supervising project on the distribution fast-breaking meals and meat that would be slaughtered for Eid Al-Adha. We also have an early intervention project to reduce the risk of permanent disability, by establishing a complete and integrated medical center to meet and serve the demands and needs of the handicapped at an early phase.

These and more, are parts of the corporation's activities and projects. We have great ambitions. We have accomplished a lot in a short period of time.

**Q: Is there coordination with international donor organizations?**

**A:** We seek the cooperation of international donor organizations in fields that would strengthen the efforts of Yemeni organizations. As this corporation is one of the civic society organizations and thus we hope to obtain the cooperation of international donor organizations in funding some of the corporation's projects. We look forward to expanding and strengthening cooperation and partnerships for the sake of better serving Yemeni society.

## Strategic planning and creative thinking at YCH

BY MOHAMMED BIN SALLAM  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Yemen Consultant House (YCH) has concluded on Wednesday 11th August a one-week course on strategic planning and creative thinking with the participation of a number of intellectuals affiliated with public and private sector organizations.

The course aimed at defining the nature of strategic planning the style adopted by high administrations to reach their goals.

The course gave information about strategic planning which requires analysis, understanding of the surrounding

environment to identify available opportunities, recognition of present and future threats, which may obstruct the attainment of goals, as well as analysis of predicted self potential, to identify points of strength and weakness.

The program was run by Mr. Ahmed Al-Mawri, an expert in political science at Sana'a University.

The YCH is the first consultation house in Yemen, which was established in 1984, and provides integrated consultation services.

The YCH depends on a team of Yemeni experts in many specializations propped by an efficient technical and administrative apparatus.

It has established cooperation relations with many consultation firms, centers, and offices with international reputation.

The head of the YCH is Dr. Abdullah Hussein Al-Hamadani, a politically and socially active, lecturing professor at Sana'a University.



YCH course trainees

## Introductory workshop set up


BY YT STAFF  
TAIZ

Events for an Introductory Workshop on life safety which was organized by the General Authority for Environment Protection and the national program for Life Safety was set up at al-Saeed hall in Taiz, on Sunday - 8th Aug. 2004 in collaboration with the al-Saeed Establishment for Science and Culture. After a Qura'an recitation, the speeches began. It was declared to YT by Mr. Abdul-keem Rajeh, coordinator of the national program for Life Safety, that the workshop targeted 80 trainees representing staff in the manufacturing, food stuffs, agricultural products sectors and the scientific research establishments specializing in Technology & Life education

which comes within the workshops aegis. It has been organized by the Authority in a number of the Republics governorates, to introduce this essential theme along with the path of admitting the national program for life safety in conformity with the Carthage protocol relating to the life safety agreement in connection with biological variety.

Dr. Mansoor el-Aqel of the Research Authority for Agriculture and a member of the National Committee for Life Safety has submitted a paper on vast variety of living organisms in land based and oceanic eco-systems. Dr. Aref al-Hammadi of Life Science section of the science faculty in Sana'a University has also submitted a paper on essential technology & life safety. Then, Dr. Amin al-Hakeemy from the Hereditary Origins center at the faculty of agriculture, in Sana'a University has also disclosed the variety of crops and their significance in sustainable agriculture development in the Republic of Yemen. Dr. Jaafer Showtah submitted a paper also on the legal organization of life safety. Finally, Dr. Mufeed al-Athwary submitted his paper in connection with the nutrition of genetically modified foodstuffs and their impact.

The trainees have received visual aids and displays during the workshop which was concluded by issuance of numerous recommendations. The workshop's inauguration was attended by Mr. Muhammad al-Hayajem, Deputy Governor of Taiz Governorate, Mr. Faisal Saeed Farae - General Manager of al-Saeed Establishment for Science & Culture, and Mr. Sadeq Mohsen Salah - General Manager of Tourism & Environment Office in Taiz as well as Mr. Ammar al-Mua'llem - Director of Information & Public Relations Office of Taiz Governorate in addition to a number of scholars, researchers and interested persons and a number of those affiliated to the commercial and industrial sector in Taiz Governorate.



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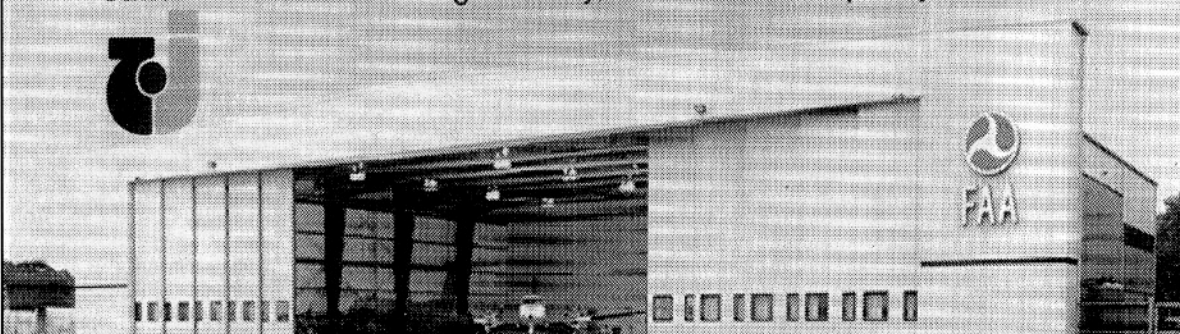
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## Apology

In our issue No. 763, on "community" page a technical mistake was made as the article titled "Yemeni-American community in NYC organizes forums" it was mentioned as (1-2) the correct thing is (1-1), we would therefore extend our apology to our readers and the author for the unintentional mistake.

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Turkish International Schools' students Nour Ali Shaban & Marwan Sami Zaid represented Yemen at the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Computer Project Olympiad & won Bronze Medals. The 2<sup>nd</sup> ICPO in Turkmenistan was a great success with the participation of 46 projects from 29 countries during the five day event (25<sup>th</sup> - 29<sup>th</sup> April).

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# Fighting set to resume in Iraq's Najaf, talks fail

NAJAF, Iraq, Aug 14 (Reuters) - U.S. and Iraqi forces were poised on Saturday to resume fighting rebel Shi'ite militia in the holy city of Najaf after peace talks aimed at ending an uprising that has killed hundreds collapsed.

Iraq's national security adviser Mowaffaq al-Rubaie told a news conference in Najaf that the embattled U.S.-backed interim government had given up trying to reach a deal with radical cleric Moqtada al-Sadr and his Mehdi Army in the southern city.

"It is with deep sorrow and regret that I announce the failure of efforts to end the crisis in Iraq peacefully.

Our goal was to spare more blood, preserve security and for the militias to lay down their arms," Rubaie said. "The Iraqi interim government is resuming military clearing operations to ... establish law and order in this holy city."

An uneasy truce has held in Najaf since Friday, when U.S. troops and tanks loosened their noose around the Imam Ali Mosque and an ancient cemetery where Sadr and his followers have holed up.

The firebrand cleric has vowed to fight to the death.

Najaf's 10-day conflict has ignited fighting in seven other cities and mass street protests that threaten to undermine the authority of Prime Minister Iyad Allawi barely seven weeks since he took power from U.S.-led occupiers. Thousands of protesters from other parts of southern Iraq have streamed to Najaf and joined Sadr in the Imam Ali Mosque, the holiest Shi'ite Islamic site in Iraq.

The peace talks failed on the eve of a national conference aimed at advancing Iraq's stuttering progress towards democracy.

A Sadr aide blamed Allawi for the collapse.

"You have to know, we had agreed with Rubaie on all points but Allawi called him back and he ended the issue," Ali Samseem told Al Jazeera television without elaborating. Rubaie said too little progress had been made.

"My government felt that after three



Iraqi Shi'ites arrive after marching from other cities to the holy city of Najaf in a show of support for the radical cleric Moqtada al-Sadr and his militia of Mehdi Army August 13. The uprising in Najaf has killed hundreds and threatened to undermine the rule of interim Prime Minister Iyad Allawi, who is walking a tightrope trying to crush the radical Shi'ite rebellion across southern Iraq that has hit oil exports. Picture taken August 13. REUTERS

days, enough is enough."

Another Sadr aide claimed Allawi would order an assault on the shrine within the next day or two.

#### Fighting in other cities

In fresh fighting elsewhere, U.S. forces said they killed about 50 insurgents near the northern Iraqi town of Samarra, a mainly Sunni Muslim area where U.S. troops have launched repeated raids to flush out guerrillas. Warplanes dropped 500-pound bombs, while insurgents responded with rifle fire and rocket-propelled grenades, a U.S. military statement said, adding there were no U.S. casualties.

Fighting also raged between U.S. troops and Sadr followers in the southern Shi'ite town of Hilla overnight.

Forty fighters and three police were killed, Iraq's interior ministry said, although the health ministry said 10 people were killed. Before the talks collapsed in

Najaf, some residents ventured out to inspect damage from more than a week of fighting. Militiamen remained in some streets around the Imam Ali Mosque and the nearby vast cemetery, while U.S. forces patrolled other parts of the city. U.S. troops and Sadr militia fought sporadically on Saturday in Baghdad's Shi'ite Sadr City slum, a routine occurrence in the 16-month insurgency since last year's U.S.-led invasion. The health ministry said 21 people, mostly civilians, had been killed and more than 270 wounded in clashes involving U.S. forces, Iraqi police and insurgents in Baghdad, Kut and the western al-Anbar province in the past 48 hours.

#### Growing public support

Allawi said last week the political process was open to all, but Sadr, buoyed by growing public support even from Iraqis who oppose his radical views, had

appeared in no mood to cut a deal.

The national conference will open in Baghdad on Sunday under intense security, including the imposition of curfews in several parts of the capital. Some 1,300 delegates will pick a 100-member council to oversee the interim government, itself tasked with steering the country to elections in January 2005.

Sadr appeared before his supporters wearing bandages late on Friday, apparently confirming reports by aides that he had been wounded in fighting earlier in the day.

U.S. forces say they have killed more than 360 Sadr fighters so far in Najaf. Sadr's spokesmen say far fewer have died in what is the second rebellion by the militia in four months. Separately, the U.S. army said one soldier and one marine were killed on Friday in western Iraq, bringing the toll of U.S. troops killed in combat since last year's invasion to 693.

## Tender Announcement



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For detailed specification of the car, companies can contact us with the above address

## Sudan police exploit displaced Darfur women - U.N.

KHARTOUM, Aug 14 (Reuters) - Sudanese police officers sent to restore security in the troubled Darfur region are sexually exploiting displaced women, a U.N. report said.

Khartoum has said it deployed 10,000 police to the western Darfur region where the government has around two weeks to show the U.N. Security Council it is serious about improving the security situation or face unspecified sanctions.

"IDPs (Internally Displaced People) report increasing incidents of sexual abuse and exploitation in Abu Shouk Camp near el-Fasher committed by police officers," said the U.N. humanitarian situation report received by Reuters on Saturday.

Khartoum pledged last week to set up safe areas for the 1 million people the United Nations says have been uprooted by what it calls the world's worst humanitari-

an disaster, triggered by fighting which erupted in early 2003.

The United Nations says up to 50,000 people have died as a result of the conflict. The government says the figure does not exceed 5,000.

"According to the IDPs the police are exploiting women's inability to venture outside of the camp to collect firewood out of fear of Janjaweed attacks by collecting the firewood for the women in exchange for sexual favours," the report added.

Rights groups and the two main rebel groups in Darfur say Khartoum armed Arab militiamen known locally as Janjaweed — a term derived from the Arabic for "devils on horseback" — to loot and burn African farming villages.

The report also said some of the police officers had threatened women looking for firewood with violence if they did not comply with their demands.

## Oil mkts oversupplied, output hike not needed -Iran

TEHRAN, Aug 14 (Reuters) - OPEC can do nothing to douse scorching oil prices when markets are already oversupplied by 2.8 million barrels per day (bpd) of crude, Iran's OPEC governor said on Saturday.

Oil prices have raced to 21-year highs on the back of buoyant industrial demand in China, fears about Shi'ite Muslim insurrection in Iraq and U.S. refinery bottlenecks.

"Now there are more than 2.8 million bpd of crude more than demand," Hossein Kazempour Ardebili was quoted as saying on the Iranian Oil Ministry Web site.

"There is no reason for OPEC members to increase production," he added. "This organisation is unable to do anything at present."

Iran is the cartel's second-biggest producer with an output capacity of around 4.2 million bpd.

Analysts say Iran is pumping close to capacity and does not enjoy Saudi Arabia's ability to open the taps in a bid to cool prices.

"It seems that prices will continue to go up without taking into consideration the basic elements of the market, supply and demand," he said.

"The current trend of prices stems from political and military developments. NYMEX September crude futures <CLC1> closed at a scorching \$46.58 on Friday, after touching yet another record high of \$46.65. But Kazempour reiterated that oil prices could still crash if security returned to the oversupplied mar-

ket. "If a calm political and military situation prevails in the market, the amount added to crude reserves will pressure the price," he continued. Yet the fighting in Iraq has intensified over the past week and a total of about 90 insurgents had been killed in the northern town of Samarra and the southern city of Hilla on Friday and Saturday.

Fears that a rebel militia could strike Iraqi infrastructure also forced authorities to stop oil export flow from the main pipeline in southern Iraq, an oil official said on Saturday.

Analysts said concerns over disruptions to global oil supply could drive up prices to \$47 a barrel soon, before heading for \$50.

### REPUBLIC OF YEMEN

#### GROUNDWATER AND SOIL CONSERVATION PROJECT EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR CONSULTANT SERVICES

The Republic of Yemen has received a Credit from the International Development Association (IDA) to assist in financing of the Groundwater and Soil Conservation Project (GSCP) and intends to apply parts of the proceeds for consultant services for:

(i) survey, designs and predation of bidding documents for small and medium spate diversion works spread in ten FUs; (ii) carrying out a base-line survey in the project area for M&E of the future project performance in regard to key monitoring indicators; (iii) Establishing MIS system at PCU, MAI field offices (17 IAS) and at CWMU; and (iv) Satellite Imagery/Data Analysis Study for Monitoring of Changes in Irrigated Areas and Cropping Pattern for some selected sub-basins.

#### The project is geographically spread country wide in fifteen goverorates.

The period for carrying out any one, or more or all of the four studies together will be 4-6 months except for the study at number (iv) in which case the period of study shall be in two spells during 2004 and 2009.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation (MAI) represented by the Project Coordination Unit (PCU) of the GSCP, now invites eligible consultants to indicate their expression of interests (EOIs) in providing the services for carrying out any one, or more or all of the four studies together, as indicated above. The interested consultants must provide, for each of the four studies separately, their approach and methodology, in brief, to undertake the above studies and other supporting information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services in the most personnel and specific information regarding their relevant qualifications, description of their experience in similar assignments etc.

A consultant will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank's Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers, January 1997 (revised September 1997 and January 1999).

Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours from 9.00 a.m. to 2.00 p.m. Expression of interest must be delivered, in a sealed envelop, to the address below by at or before 2.00 p.m. on September 8, 2004.

Firms submitting EOIs will be considered for short-listing, and a formal Request for Proposal (REP) will be provided to the short-listed firms.

**Engr. Hamoud Al Rubaidi, Project Director,  
Groundwater and Soil Conservation Project,  
Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation,  
P.O. Box 2805, Sana'a ( Republic of Yemen)**

**Al-Hay Al-Seuasi Street, Near Dijibouti Street, Sana'a (Republic of Yemen)  
Phone: (+967) 1 443219, Fax: (+967) 1 445261, Email: GSCP@yemen.net.ye**

### VACANCY



CARE International in Yemen is looking for 1 project Field Office Coordinator

Hajja to work in a new Rural Community Development project funded by EU.

The purpose of the Field Office coordinator is to ensure that within the Field office, all aspects of project implementation are managed in a proper and professional manner. The Field Office coordinator is also responsible to ensure that coordination between the CARE project and other stakeholders (Ministry of Agriculture, YWU, other projects, beneficiaries etc.) is carried out in an efficient and constructive manner.

The Field office Coordinator reports to the Project Manager. The field office coordinator is responsible for the Driver, Project book keeper (together with the CARE Finance officer), PIT team., The field office coordinator is also responsible to ensure good coordination with the DED worker assigned to the project.

#### The ideal candidate will have the following characteristics;

- A bachelor degree in Social Science, Economics, Agriculture or any other related fields.
- Willing and able to spend nights in remote rural areas, and sometimes work long hours.
- At least 5 years work and supervisory experience in the above fields preferably with NGO managed projects.
- Posses enough computer knowledge (WORD/EXCEL) to be able to communicate in this media.
- Good knowledge of Spoken and Written English.
- Valid driving license and be able to drive in a safe manner on both mountain and urban roads
- Female candidates are encouraged to apply.
- Resident in either Hajja or Al Mahweet.

Deadline for submission of CVs will be Aug,15<sup>th</sup> 2004.Only short listed candidates will be called for interview. Please send your CV to CARE office, 68 Arwa School street, near Mujahed Street, Sana'a. Tel. 01

## Pakistan's Musharraf vows to end Islamic militancy



A Pakistani boy walks past a billboard featuring a picture of Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf with national flag on the eve of country's 58th independence day celebration in Islamabad August 14. Musharraf vowed on Saturday to crush Islamic militancy, saying there would be no let up in the Muslim nation's biggest ever crackdown on al Qaeda operatives and other radicals. **REUTERS**

ISLAMABAD, Aug 14 (Reuters) - Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf vowed on Saturday to crush Islamic militancy, saying there would be no let up in the Muslim nation's biggest ever crackdown on al Qaeda operatives and other radicals.

Musharraf, a key ally in the U.S.-led war on terror, said foreign militants linked to Osama bin Laden's network and their local allies posed the biggest challenge to Pakistan, which was celebrating its 57th anniversary of independence on Saturday.

"We will crush them and will not allow them to move forward," he said, speaking at a musical show held to mark the anniversary.

Musharraf made no direct reference to a spate of recent arrests across the country, including top al Qaeda operatives, which have raised hopes that security forces may be getting closer to bin Laden or his deputy Ayman al-Zawahri.

In its massive sweep since July, Pakistan has caught about 30 foreign and local militants, revealing growing evidence of links between al Qaeda and local militant groups.

The local militants developed links to al Qaeda guerrillas in the 1980s when they jointly fought in the U.S.-backed Afghan

war against Soviet occupation with the active support of Pakistan's powerful military.

But Islamic militants turned against Musharraf's government after he joined the U.S.-led war on terror in the wake of September 11 attacks on the United States in 2001.

The southwestern Baluchistan province, of which Quetta is the capital, has been wracked by religious and sectarian violence in recent months but police suspect local nationalists vying for more political and economic rights were behind such attacks.

### Assassination Attempts

Musharraf survived two assassination attempts in December blamed on al Qaeda-linked militants and his hand-picked prime minister-designate Shaukat Aziz narrowly escaped a suicide attack last month.

But Musharraf said his government would remain undeterred in its hunt against militants.

"In my view, the biggest challenge to this country is the spread of terrorism by some elements of foreign countries with the collusion of some Pakistani religious and sectarian extremists," Musharraf said.

"But we can't be scared of terrorism. We can't be defeated."

A computer seized from Khan last month showed the bin Laden's network was considering attacking financial institutions in the United States and Heathrow airport in London, intelligence officials said.

As the crackdown on Osama bin Laden's shadowy network gathered pace, security has been stepped up in major Pakistani cities for Saturday's independence celebrations, reflecting government concerns about a militant backlash.

The official APP news agency said Pakistani security agencies had unearthed a plan to sabotage the August 14 celebrations and attacks on government installations.

"A number of potential terrorists, who were planning the attack, have been picked up by the security agencies from different parts of the country," the report said quoting unspecified security sources.

Interior Minister Faisal Saleh Hayat said there were no "specific" security threat.

"However, we did get some reports that there could be some sort of security threat on the independence day or on the eve of independence day," he told Reuters.

## Nigerian fetish shrine death toll rises to 83

LAGOS, Aug 14 (Reuters) - Nigerian police said on Saturday they had so far recovered 83 decomposing, mutilated corpses following a raid on fetish shrines in a teak forest in south-eastern Anambra state last week.

Police arrested 30 witch-doctors in last week's raid on Okija village, initially discovering around 50 bodies — many with their heads and genitals missing — and 20 human skulls, after a resident alerted them saying the sorcerers were eating the flesh of their victims.

"To date, we have found the remains and skeletons of 83 bodies, including one fresh corpse, along with

the 20 skulls. We have also arrested nine more suspects," said police spokesman Chris Olakpe.

Olakpe said police were investigating local residents' reports that hundreds more had died at the shrines in the last 3 years.

"We are exploring that allegation. You certainly cannot rule it out," he said.

Police reported that many of the victims had been engaged in an animist ritual before their death. They suspect the priests may have killed people to obtain their property by false pretences, or to run a human parts market.

Ritual killing is common in

Nigeria, Africa's most populous country, with many people believing they can become instant millionaires by using human organs to make charms. Many Nigerians mix traditional beliefs with Christianity or Islam.

The shrines at Okija were traditionally used by high priests as a place to settle disputes between local residents. But residents say that the priests used their position to extort money from innocent people, often asking for hefty administration fees.

Nigerian media have reported that the priests enjoyed the patronage of rich businessmen and influential politicians.

## Namibia's Herero mark centenary of German massacre

HAMAKARI, Namibia, August 14 (Reuters) - Namibia's Herero people on Saturday marked the centenary of a massacre seen as the first genocide of the 20th century, urging a visiting German minister to back compensation for the colonial atrocity.

Herero chief Kuaima Riruako told thousands of cheering supporters he had thrown away a prepared speech after listening to an acknowledgment of responsibility for the 1904 massacre from German Development Minister Heidemarie Wiecek-Zeul.

Germany, Namibia's main source of development aid, has expressed "deep regret" for the killings in which an estimated 65,000 people died when German troops put down a Herero revolt and tried to wipe out the cattle-herding, semi-nomadic tribe.

The atrocities happened too long ago to file a civil suit in Germany and a \$4 billion lawsuit filed in the United States is seen as having a limited chance of success.

Flanked by a group of bare-chested Herero men chained together by the neck,

and placard-carrying descendants of Herero women raped by German soldiers, Wiecek-Zeul made a speech which she said amounted to an apology. "I am painfully aware of the atrocities committed... I remember with great respect your ancestors who died fighting against German oppression," she said. "We Germans accept our historical and moral responsibility and the guilt incurred by Germans at that time... So in the words of the Lord's prayer that we share I ask you to forgive us our trespasses."

At that point several people in the listening crowd — many carrying red, white or green tribal flags — cried out saying: "Where is the apology?" "Everything I said in my speech was an apology for crimes committed under German colonial rule," the minister replied, to scattered applause.

Her speech followed a colourful ceremony in which many Herero rode on horseback, while others paraded in long dresses or German colonial-style military uniforms.

"How is Germany going to own up to the apology? There has to be a form of

redress, the injustice has to be undone," said Kaiere Mbundu, a Herero, and former government official.

The Hereros revolted when German soldiers and settlers colonised south west Africa.

The settlers seized land and cattle, raped women, lynched men and hunted down Herero, whom they sometimes called "baboons" according to "Words Cannot Be Found", a new edition of the British government's 1918 account of German occupation. "I see myself as a Namibian," said Michaela Hubschle, a woman farmer of German descent. "I fully support the case for reparation — the minister's apology was important but there has to be dialogue," she told Reuters.

Germany, which has paid billions in compensation for victims of the Holocaust, has argued that the Hereros have no case for compensation because international laws on the protection of the civilian population did not exist at the time of the conflict. Wiecek-Zeul will also discuss regional development with the Namibian government and meet Herero representatives.

# VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

## SUPPORTING REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH, POPULATION AND DEVELOPMENT IN YEMEN

The UNFPA Country Office in Yemen, Sana'a, is looking to fill the following posts:

The UNFPA Country Office in Yemen, Sana'a, is looking for candidate proficient in IT/website technologies as well as having substantive knowledge in development programme support services

### 1) National Programme/IT Associate (NP-ITA)

Under the supervision of the Assistant Representative or Programme Officer, the Programme Associate support the design, planning and management of UNFPA's country programme by providing IT and managing data inputs, providing logistical support, monitoring project implementation and following up on recommendation. He/She is instrumental in facilitating programme/project implementation using and developing appropriate mechanisms and systems and ensuring compliance with established procedures.

#### The National Programme/IT Associate:

- Participates in the identification and formulation of the country programme and component projects, by compiling and analyzing information in the subject areas of UNFPA assistance to the Government, drafts project documents and work plans and prepares tables and statistical data.
- Evaluation project and programme activities, establishing and implement and implementing mechanisms to systematically assess the achievement of results, conducting field visits, participating in review meetings and evaluation missions and preparing regular inputs to status and progress reports. Analyzes basic factors affecting the achievement of results, recommends corrective actions and follows up on recommendations.
- In coordination with national counterparts and project personnel guides routine implementation of assigned projects, coordination the delivery of project inputs, ensuring participation of national counterparts in training activities and study tours.
- Provides logistical support to projects by coordinating review meetings and other project related workshops and events. Trains and guides project personnel and staff on national execution and programme policies and procedures.
- Contributes to the creation and sharing of knowledge by synthesizing and documenting findings and lessons learned, success stories and best practices, strategies and approaches of the Country Office and drafting relevant materials for dissemination.
- Supports the advocacy and resource mobilization strategy of the Country Office by compiling and synthesizing relevant background material for use in discussions and public events. Establishes and maintains network of donor and public information contacts and provide assistance in organizing and conducting donor meetings and public information events.
- Ensures office electronic equipment operations general software update and upgrade.

#### We are looking for candidates who have:

- A track record in innovation and marketing of new approaches.
- The ability for advocacy and advancing a policy oriented agenda.
- Integrity, commitment, and respect for diversity.
- Skills to manage relationships communicate and develop people.
- An ability for analytical and strategic thinking and results orientation.
- Provide IT services including the following:
  - Ensures office hardware and software are up-to-date;
  - Tackles troubleshooting of office electronic equipment;
  - Ensures UNFPA server and networking are permanently operational;
  - Advices on the procurement of electronic equipment of UNFPA office and projects;
  - Liaises with UNFPA MIS Branch;
  - Stays updated on the newest developments in IT areas and coaches UNFPA staff in new computer technologies, including his/her office backstopping persons.

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Under the supervision of the Country Office Representative or Deputy Representative, the NPO substantively contributes to the effective management of UNFPA activities in the area of population and development, reproductive health and gender. He/She analyzes and assesses relevant political, social, and economic trends and provides substantive inputs to programme/projects formulation management, and evaluation, joint programming initiatives and national development frameworks.

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- In collaboration with Government counterparts, UNFPA/CST technical advisors, NGOs and other partners contributes substantively to the formulation and design of the country programme and its component projects in advocacy cases in line with Government priorities and according to UNFPA programme policies and procedures. Ensures quality of programme/project design incorporating lessons learned, newly developed policies and best practices and establishing appropriate execution and monitoring mechanisms and systems.
- Analyzes and interprets the political, social and economic environment relevant to population and development, reproductive health and gender and identifies opportunities for UNFPA assistance and intervention. Keeps abreast of new policy developments and strategies analyzing policy papers, strategy documents, national plans and development frameworks and prepares briefs and inputs for policy dialogue, technical assistance coordination and development frameworks.
- Analyzes and reports on programme and project progress in terms of achieving results, using existing monitoring and evaluation tools and introducing new mechanisms and systems; identifies constraints and resource deficiencies and recommends corrective action. Monitors project expenditures and disbursements to ensure delivery is in line with project budgets and to realize targeted delivery levels.
- Expedites and coordinates project implementation establishing collaborative relationships with executing agencies, experts, government counterparts and other UN agencies facilitating timely and efficient delivery of project inputs and addressing training needs of project personnel.
- Helps create and document knowledge about current and emerging population development and RH and gender issues, by analyzing programmes, projects, strategies approaches and ongoing experience for lessons learned, best practices, and shares with management for use in knowledge sharing and planning future strategies.
- Assists advocacy and resource mobilization efforts of the Country Office by preparing relevant documentation, i.e. project summaries, conference papers, speeches, donors profiles and participating in donor meetings and public information events.
- Leads the preparation and conduct of the events serving as an advocacy tools for promoting ICPD and MDG Agencies.

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- The ability for advocacy and advancing a policy oriented agenda.
- A track record in innovation and marketing of new approaches.
- Integrity, commitment, and respect for diversity.
- Skills to manage relationships communicate and develop people.
- An ability for analytical and strategic thinking and results orientation.

#### Other Requirements:

Successful candidates must have a master's degree in public health and/or other health related or social science field. We expect professional experience of 3 to 5 years, preferably in programme/project management in the public or private sector. Language requirements are: fluency in English and Arabic. Candidates are expected to be proficient in current office software applications.

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- Helps create and document knowledge about current and emerging population development and RH trends, by analyzing programmes, projects, strategies approaches and ongoing experience for lessons learned, best practices, and shares with management for use in knowledge sharing and planning future strategies.
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- The ability for advocacy and advancing a policy oriented agenda.
- A track record in innovation and marketing of new approaches.
- Integrity, commitment, and respect for diversity.
- Skills to manage relationships communicate and develop people.
- An ability for analytical and strategic thinking and results orientation.
- Willingness for in country travel.

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# Pope in Lourdes says keep Church in society

LOURDES, France, Aug 14 (Reuters) - Pope John Paul staked a claim for religion's role in modern life on Saturday, saying the Roman Catholic Church could contribute to society in full respect for the separation of church and state.

Arriving for a two-day pilgrimage to the "miracle shrine" at Lourdes, the ailing pontiff told President Jacques Chirac the Church could work with secular governments to realise the French ideals of liberty, equality and fraternity.

His comments were a challenge to secular France, which this year barred state school pupils from wearing religious insignia and torpedoed Vatican efforts to have the European Union constitution mention the continent's Christian heritage.

Chirac, who backed both those initiatives, avoided any hint of difference with the Vatican, hailing the 84-year-old Pope as a "tireless pilgrim ... a universal pastor and man of peace".

"With respect for the responsibilities and competences of all, the Catholic Church desires to offer society a specific contribution," the Pope said at the airport arrival ceremony.

It wanted to promote a world based on the "great ideals of liberty, equality and fraternity".

John Paul has publicly criticised France's ban on religious symbols in school — which is aimed mostly at Muslim headscarves — and the refusal to include Christianity in the EU constitution as efforts to sideline religion from modern life.

The Pope and Chirac both opposed the war in Iraq. Chirac, in his address, appeared to take a veiled swipe at U.S. President George W. Bush, saying the struggle for peace should be "governed by law" and not "a policy of fait accompli".

Church leaders in France, a traditionally Catholic country where now only 12 percent of Catholics regularly attend Mass, have been less outspoken, stressing they cooperate well with the state and the Muslim, Protestant



Pope John Paul II and Father Raymond Zambelli rector of the Sanctuary pray at the Virgin Mary shrine cave in Lourdes Pope John Paul II and Father Raymond Zambelli (L) rector of the Sanctuary pray at the Virgin Mary shrine cave in Lourdes, August 14.

and Jewish minorities.

### No miracle prayer

John Paul, whose Parkinson's disease and arthritis have made him weaker than many of the pilgrims, has no plans to ask for one of the miracles that have made Lourdes famous, aides say.

His programme will focus on the traditional Catholic devotion to the mother of Jesus Christ in prayers at the grotto where Saint Bernadette Soubirous said she saw visions of Mary in 1858 and in an open-air Mass for about 300,000 on Sunday.

About 150,000 cheering pilgrims lined the streets and packed the grotto site as he arrived in his popemobile and prayed amid pealing church bells and a chanting choir at the shrine.

About 2,700 police were on hand for the visit, backed up by surveillance

helicopters and a battery of anti-aircraft missiles. But security officials said the ill, old and pious pilgrims attracted to Lourdes posed no serious problems.

The Polish-born pontiff, once known as "God's athlete" for his love of skiing and hiking, has continued his trademark globe-trotting but cut back his activities considerably.

Nestled in the Pyrenees Mountains region near the border with Spain, Lourdes is the most popular Catholic pilgrimage site in Europe. Six million believers visit it annually to take its holy waters and pray for miracles.

The Church has recognised 66 cases of what it calls miraculous healings among the thousands of pilgrims who have said they left Lourdes free of their ailments. Now on his seventh visit to France, the Pope made his first pilgrimage to Lourdes in 1983.

# U.S. to pull 70,000 troops from Europe, Asia

WASHINGTON, Aug 14 (Reuters) - The United States plans to withdraw about 70,000 U.S. troops from Europe and Asia in a major restructuring of military forces prompted by the end of the Cold War and the beginning of the war on terrorism, U.S. officials said on Saturday.

President George W. Bush will unveil the realignment in a speech on Monday to the Veterans of Foreign Wars in Cincinnati, Ohio, said the officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

"The president is going to make an announcement about a major initiative to reduce the burden on our forces overseas," said one of the U.S. officials.

The officials confirmed a report in the Financial Times of a total reduction of about 70,000 troops in U.S. deployments overseas. The British newspaper, citing people briefed on the plan, said two-thirds of the reductions would be made in Europe, mostly in Germany.

There are more than 100,000 U.S. troops in Europe, including about 70,000 in Germany, and another 100,000 in the Pacific region and Asia. About 150,000 troops are stationed in Iraq and Afghanistan.

A senior administration official traveling with Bush in Portland, Oregon, said the president "will be discussing next week how the United States will structure its military capabilities to meet the threats of the 21st century with new technologies and new capabilities."

"It's important not that our military posture reflect the Cold War but the new threats of the 21st century," said the senior official.

Like the official traveling with Bush, officials in Washington refused to provide details, beyond saying there would be a major realignment. One official said there would be a "fairly significant reduction" in forces.

"This is not a diminished commitment to our allies or to our responsi-

bilities in the world," said another official.

The U.S. military announced earlier this year that it was removing about 12,500 of the 37,000 troops stationed in South Korea for decades and sending many of them to Iraq or Afghanistan. One U.S. official said, however, some of those troops could be returned to South Korea.

"Germany is definitely a place where there will be a major re-arrangement," said an official.

Pentagon officials have been studying U.S. commitments overseas for more than two years in an initiative to re-arrange the ponderous global deployments of U.S. forces adopted in the Cold War and make the American

military more mobile in the new war on terrorism.

The proposed move includes plans to use bases in Eastern European countries of the former Soviet bloc as transit points to send U.S. forces to trouble spots such as the Middle East and northern Africa.

While many troops would be brought home, sophisticated weaponry, including fighter planes, would be sent overseas to some bases to make up for the smaller number of ground troops. The U.S. Air Force, for example, was currently discussing plans to deploy heavy bombers and new F/A-22 jets to Guam in the Pacific to address possible future threat from North Korea and China.

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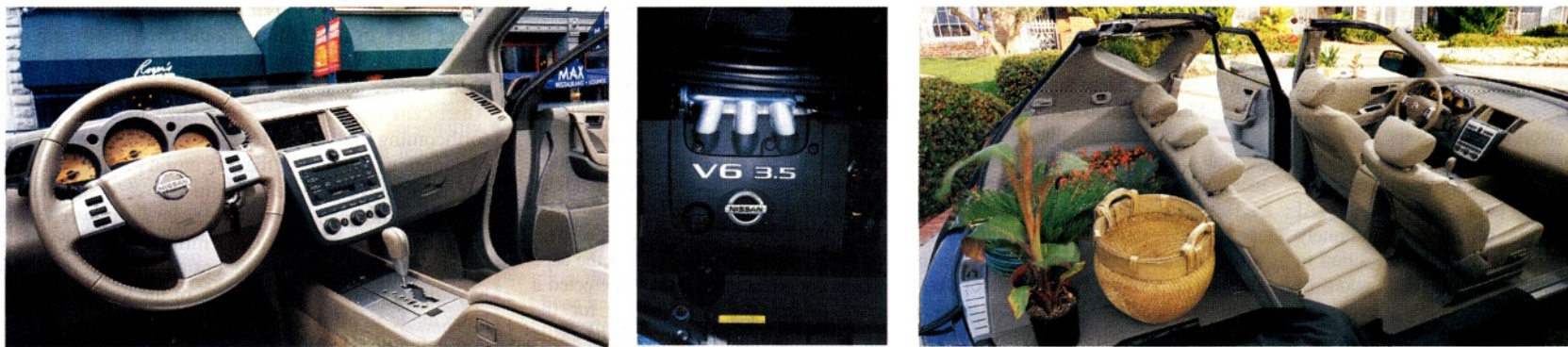
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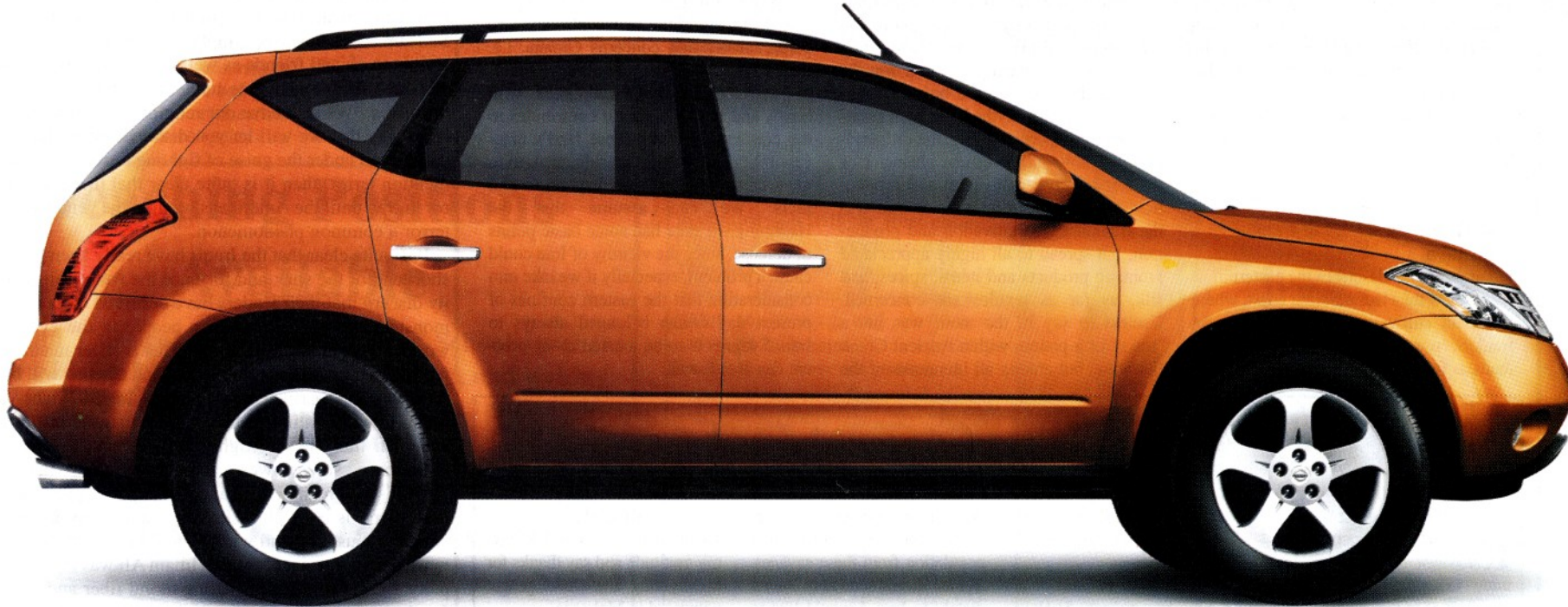
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# مورانو.. بدون منافس!

لقد أعطي مصممو نيسان مورانو الحرية الكاملة لرسم خطوط خارجية عصرية وطيبيعية. فلم يتركز التصميم على الشكل الجميل وحسب بل جاءت مورانو عملية وأمنة إلى أبعد الحدود.. فمحرك السيارة ذو الأسطوانات الست وبسعة ٣.٥ لتر بقوة ٢٤٥ حصانا يوفر أكبر قدر ممكن من القوة والعزم مع إبقاء عامل استهلاك الوقود في حالته الدنيا.. وكل هذه القوة واكتبتها جوانب السلامة فمع أكياس الهواء الجانبية والأمامية إضافة إلى الستائر الهوائية الأمامية والخلفية المدعومة بأحزمة أمان ستمتص الصدمات المباشرة. أما التجهيزات الداخلية للسيارة فقد بلغ إبداع مصممو نيسان حد الترف فمقصورتها الواسعة والعملية وكثافة الأماكن المخصصة للتوضيب وبالأخص في الخلف حيث أسهم نظام التعليق الذي يعتمد مبدأ الوصلات المتعددة في زيادة حجم مقصورة التحميل.. كل هذه التجهيزات ستقضي مضاجع السيارات المنافسة.. لقد وصلت نيسان مورانو... وبدون منافس

## Words of Wisdom



The role of ethics is central to establishing acceptable norms and relations among members of the community. Degeneration of values can only lead to more trouble. Even from an economic point of view, high morals are important. I can remember a time when many deals were done on the basis of a handshake or a person's word. These days, you cannot depend even on a notarized contract, unless you have the power to make it stick.

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

## OUR OPINION

### Elite leaders make model countries

More and more, I get convinced that leaders are indeed the foundation stone for real progress. Looking at examples of countries that excelled and developed extensively in all walks of life, we would find that it was mainly the countries' leaders who pushed for this success. Many countries were fortunate to have visionary leaders who upheld the values of democracy, civil liberties, honesty, enhancement of the standard of living, and overall development. Hence, those leaders marked the beginning of a much brighter future.

Among the good examples that come to my mind is Malaysia. This South East Asian country emerged as one of the fastest growing countries in the world mainly because it ensured that the elite of the community take charge. There is no doubt that the country's successive leaders have drawn the right lines for the country's prosperity.

Malaysians insisted that those who are willing to take charge of their country's affairs be voted to power based on their eligibility and qualifications. This is something we, as Arab countries, should truly consider.

With so much at stake for our future, we find that it is almost impossible that we could reach the level of countries such as Malaysia, without first bringing the elite to the top. Our leaders should be leaders in vision, education, experience, knowledge, wisdom, and public relations.

It may be too simple to say that a good leader makes a good country, but taking into account the fact that good leaders have applied in the past, the chain reaction to put elites in various positions of the government makes this theory closer to reality.

It is indeed common sense that those who are qualified for their positions can easily recognize that posts of other decision makers should also be allocated to qualified individuals. This would spread throughout government bodies to create a whole layer of excellent and efficient leaders in their respective fields. Eventually, this would result in an overall effective government that could - with no exaggeration - make miracles.

But let us look into our case as Arab countries. Usually, the ones in charge are below average people, who themselves do not have the qualifications required in such an era. Those rulers would then fail to select qualified people to take the ranks of government, resulting on many occasions in the appointment of people who destroy rather than build, and people who eat up public funds, rather than enforce the law through transparency and accountability. Then comes the inescapable end result of a very weak nation that is ranked at the bottom in comparison to the rest of the world.

So as not to be misquoted, I am not suggesting that our rulers should simply step-down and let university professors take their place, but should rather focus on qualifications and eligibility before any appointment. Just as the process can be implemented from top to bottom, it can also be implemented from bottom to top. Even if our leaders are not the elite of the community, they must have accumulated enough experience to realize that raising a generation of qualified politicians, engineers, doctors, and civil servants would be instrumental in the country's progress. He should then work out a way of choosing the ones who are the best in their fields, to be put in positions, which would enable them to implement their visions for the betterment of the country.

I know it is not an easy process, but if our leaders have the will to do it, and if this will is supported by a public consensus, then we can expect a much better rank for our Arab countries among world nations.

*The Editor*

**YEMEN TIMES**

Independent Cultural, Economic & Political Weekly  
First English Newspaper in Yemen, founded in 1991  
by Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf

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# Reforms and change (9)

By Prof. Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Tarb  
For Yemen Times

We are in a position of considering the issue of making changes and required reforms, before they are imposed upon us.

We know very clearly, based on his daily encountering and handling of many cases, that President Saleh does not accept to be dictated to by any person. And we also realize that each President has his way of governance, based on what he envisions as the best way.

It would be very difficult to implement a vision and due processes, if we were not to embark on them suddenly, similarly to a military action, launched suddenly and surprisingly to confuse the enemy. The action without warning could give a 25% advantage over the enemy. Well, there is no enemy here. The people and the President of the country are in the same trench. Therefore, there is no need for a lot of precautions to be taken since both have the same interest. If the general public demand and urges for change at all levels, there would be no escape except to accept the inevitable.

Mr. President, you have been in power since the unification of the country, as a matter of fact, you have been in power since you were elected

in 1978, following the tragic incident of 1978. There is no objection since you have accomplished a lot. You have achieved the unification of the country and you were able to protect the country in the 1994 civil war, when you expartner backed off from the process of building the country. We say, that there is no objection to you to continue to govern until the expiration of the constitutional period as you are still in health and capable. And there are still some objectives to be achieved, primarily the foundation of the state of law and order, and the modern state of Yemen that has become your dream and ambition to achieve since unification of the country.

Mr. President, democracy and the peaceful transition of power give strength and improvement to your image and that of the system.

Mr. President, you need a strong opposition and state corporations that actually work and present proposals, studies and analysis on everything. You need advisors that would occasionally say 'no' to you, and not to just 'yes' all the time.

Mr. President, you were sincere when you said that Yemen extends to everyone. You were honest when you issued directives that permitted the return of former presidents if they wished to, and to grant them privileges. This has happened only in Yemen and during your era only.

Several files were closed permanently, the bloody January 13th file and the secessionist's file. You issued the general amnesty decision, even if some military commanders and others have not positively reacted to it. But, they are added to your credentials.

Thus, I say that your exclusive bearing of the responsibility confiscates the rights of the opposition. And that is a threat to the country. You, Mr. President, are the rescuer of the country as is evidently shown by the hardships we have encountered and overcome. You are above all the parties and their leader, therefore, why would not you leave the things to go their normal and natural path? Why not leave the system and the position react to each other in the benefit and interest of the country, whilst you remain above this, as the father for all?

It should become very clear to you, Mr. President, that the General People's Congress needs great attention, and requires you to perform an internal operation on its components before the next general conference, for more than one reason.

Why do you have to bear the mistakes of others, in the government apparatuses? And when would you begin holding them accountable and treating them according to the principle of reward or punishment, so that there would not be any power center too difficult for you to remove?

## Country in Education, and more particularly in Humanities (2)

By Prof. Dr. Muhammad Shamsaddin MEGALOMMATIS  
For the Yemen Times

### 3. The market of Kane

Paragraph 28 gives us insightful information on the trade and the merchandises that frequent the port of call Kane. The text reads as follows:

"Here is imported from Egypt limited quantity of wheat and wine, as precisely is the case at Mouza, and in addition one can find types of Yemenite clothing, either with the common decoration, or without decoration, or with stamped decoration that is the largest part of the trade. Equally imported are copper, tin, corals and stryx officialis, as well as all sorts of merchandises imported at Mouza. For the king are made available silverware with curved decoration, currency in cash, and in addition horses, statues, and several types of clothing without decoration. The correct time to sail from Egypt until here is the same we mentioned for Mouza, and even earlier."

These references to the Kane trade center help us to understand its real significance, and make appropriate comparisons. Kane was not as rich as Mouza (Al Mokha) as a port of call, but it definitely held the undisputed central position in the frankincense trade. The kingdom of Eleazos seems simpler and less exquisite, if compared to that of Kharibael, i.e. the united Sheba and Himyar. This is stressed by the fact that Eleazos' court did not have high level sculptors and artists, and the kingdom was purchasing (in form of taxes) statues. The taxes extracted by Eleazos would certainly not be envied by Kharibael! But here, we have good reason to feel that the author fell victim of the smart and sophisticated Eleazos intelligence service. The continuation of text brings forth such information that makes any philologist eager to interpret the traditional frankincense trade state strategy of Eleazos.

### 4. The mystical land of frankincense cultivation

Paragraph 29 describes the easternmost confines of the Hadramawi coast, where the main cultivation and production of frankincense was taking place. The text reads as follows:

"Beyond Kane, the coast looks more coiled, and there another gulf is formed; it is very open, and it is called Sahalites. This is the precise location of the Frankincense-bearing land that is mountainous and difficult to traverse. The atmosphere is very heavy and the weather is constantly cloudy; the wind blows to the direction of the trees that bear the frankincense. The trees are not big or tall. On their trunks, flows progressively the opaque frankincense, as flows the gum from the trees that produce it in our country, in Egypt. All the work of the collection and the transportation of the frankincense is the work of the servants of the king, as well as of all those who have been condemned to forced works. These parts of the world are very detrimental to health, perilous for contagions to the navigators, and fatal for those working there, since - in addition to all the rest - they face extreme difficulties ensuring food provisions".

We reach therefore the area of present day Al Mukallah, and its truly 'very open' gulf. The author calls the gulf and the coastal area Sahalites, but there is no mention to village, town or city.

This paragraph ends an international aperture in regards to the literature of the world of frankincense and spices. This is the starting point in a long series of similar literatures related to the incense trade and to the cultivation of aromatic trees. Since these commodities became more and more demanded by kings and emperors, courts, temples, as well as simple citizens of a 'global' incense civilization, took special measures in order to prevent to foreign powers from any immediate access to the cultivation and production area, so that the privilege and the ensuing wealth be permanently ensured for the kings of the Frankincense bearing country. In this regard myths have been created about the inaccessibility, the unfriendly, unhealthy, and awesome character of the frankincense cultivation and production area. This literature was not limited to the frankincense cultivation and production, but spread to all highly appreciated aromatic products and items, spices, and silk, as far as textiles are concerned. Useless to say it, the motif was not a 'topos' or a pattern within Ancient Greek literature, but among all literatures of the

world. It seems that the more the demand was pressing, the more elaborate and perplexing were the myths compiled, and of course the subject of the awe became omnipresent, absolutely inevitable, and more convincingly mythologized, involving dragons, winged snakes, griffons, flying cats, and all sorts of human imaginative and narrative skills. The conviction left with the ancient readers should be such that they would be totally disoriented from paying a visit to those lands...

What is quite striking with the description of the author of Periplus is that, although he seems to have fallen a victim to the Hadramout Frankincense bearing state's propaganda, he gives accurate and pertinent physical details, namely that the trees are not big, and that the opaque frankincense flows progressively on their trunks, etc.

### 5. At the confines of Yemen

Paragraph 30 completes in its first part, the narration about the eastern coast of Dhofar, allowing the author to focus on Omana throughout paragraphs 32 and 33. We finish our itinerary through sailing around these precincts; the text reads as follows:

"Beyond this gulf, in the east, a great promontory is formed, ending in the cape that is called Syagos. There is erected a great castle that is necessary for the defense of the land. In front of the castle are located the harbour and the storehouses where the congregated frankincense is collected".

The rest of paragraph 30 serves the author to narrate details concerning the 'Dioskouridou nesos', i.e. the Suqutra island. And then the text continues with paragraph 31 that concerns Omana, i.e. the eastern part of the present day Oman.

Syagos means in Ancient Greek 'wild boar', and in this regard it contributes to the concept of frankincense land's inaccessibility, although the reference to a great castle may truly correspond to real facts. We can assume that the Hadramawi state had some basic points of defense, since the vicinity of Iran could cause a problem, especially if we take into consideration that the eastern confines of present day Oman belonged always to Iran. Syagos is to be located at the present day Ras Fartak.



## COMMON SENSE

By Hassan Al-Haifi

### The varnage in Iraq

## Who is responsible?

It is simply difficult for the observer to come to a sensible reasoning behind all this carnage one is hearing about in Iraq. Hundreds of lives are being wasted away as though all these people were simply set up for target practice. Yet the attitude from Washington indicates that the Administration of George W. Bush is so enmeshed in confronting his Democratic opponent that what happens to Najaf or the hundreds of Iraqis that are loosing their lives is just an unexpected nuisance that simply will have to take a back seat to the Florida hurricane. After all, his brother is the Governor of the state and it was the state that assured him an unsure presidential office. But the helpless Iraqis are really tired of trying to find justifications for Uncle Sam, while their blood is spilled endlessly in what has long been regarded as a relatively peaceful area in occupied Iraq. With the joy of the end of Saddam Hussein's regime now worn out and the obvious clear intentions of Washington to make the "handover" no more than a ceremonial stunt, the Shiite south of Iraq decided to make its real feelings felt about the American true intentions in Iraq: No! Iraq will simply not be a vassal state of the United States or an open field for opportunists, on whom the Bush Administration counts on for its political power now and in the next presidential period. Furthermore, the Iraqis are not content with also seeing the Americans rely on their fellow Iraqis to do their fighting for them, while the Americans hide cozily behind their heavy gear or unleash their weapons of mass destruction on mostly helpless Iraqi civilians. This is the good life, which Mr. Bush is continuously raving he has given the Iraqis. Assuring the whole world, he did not care to even listen to, when it cautioned him that there was really no justification for an invasion of Iraq, he says the Iraqis should be grateful for all he has given them.

Yet, the Iraqi government is at a loss in dealing with a general insurgency that is finding Sunnis and Shiites really united against it and their American superiors, who really determine how the peace with Moqtada Al-Sadr is to be made, depending on the tactical positions that they can occupy, which will enable them to crush the rebellion against an apparently long term occupation.

The question then still arises? What do the Americans want from Iraq? For that matter, what do the Americans want from the rest of the world? Hegemony is an agenda that breeds self destruction and it is obvious that many of the poor allies that are beginning to decrease one by one, because they realize that hegemony based on opportunism and contempt for the interests of others is not acceptable. Yes, Mr. Bush, you are fighting your "War on Terror", on the wrong grounds and what is happening in Iraq has in fact turned your Administration into one that will be called to account for the thousands of innocent lives wastefully being taken in Iraq. Why should the Iraqis hang on endlessly to see when your good side will ever turn up, if indeed there is a good side to Mr. Bush? Even the Americans are beginning to realize that this side is not forthcoming and surely the American people are a people of conscience to realize that the moral grounds for the Iraqi adventure have gone up in thin smoke with every lethal explosive unleashed by American airpower or heavy artillery. The American military command daily announces the hundreds of casualties that they proudly have done away with and speak of the good progress they have made in eliminating the "insurgents". But what we are seeing now is more than the work of a few fly by night operations. The Iraqis are simply now telling the Americans that they have no intention of being governed by puppets, many of whom have been living under CIA or other covert operations funds. Now the Shiites are saying, we fought Saddam and you were supporting him and we told you thank you for your belated awareness about Saddam. But now, we simply want you to pack up your Halliburtons and friends as well as your scores of unwanted Israeli firms and agents and let us decide how to govern ourselves. We also have our religious sanctities and there is no way that we will let you dishonor our religious heritage, even under the guise of fighting terror. If we have to mention terror, then it is quite clear that there was no terror in Iraq until the Americans brought the venue that made terror a common phenomenon.

It is quite clear that the Iraqis have really been giving the short end of the stick and for once the Americans can easily discern that their leaders have deceived them and made monsters out of the American people in the eyes of the world. This is not leadership. This is sheer madness and for whom and for what, not even Dick Cheney will be able to wiggle his partner out of, when the Al-Mighty starts doing the accounting. Maybe, the hurricane in Florida is an omen that the Al-Mighty has detected a flaw in the American superpower arrogance that the Bush Administration and Hurricane Charley was meant to show that there is still the Heavens that even superpower America must contend with. The timing could not be any more persuasive accordingly. Imam Ali was known for his piety and revered for his strong moral fiber and advocacy for the malcontent. To disturb his peace, will simply not be tolerated by those who revere him. Certainly God Al-Mighty, who knows Ali as one of the greatest champions of sound moral conduct and chivalry, will not allow the disruption of the eternal peace of one of the greatest champions of justice and moral conscientiousness. After all, the latter is simply something the Bush Administration has failed to show by any means, domestically and internationally.

## Letters to the Editor

### Appreciation for YT cartoonist

I just want to congratulate the Cartoonist Samer about his wide imagination and clear expressions in his cartoons. His cartoons are excellent and I urge him to keep up the effort.

If it wasn't because of his cartoons I do not think I would visit the Yemen Times website very often because many of the articles are geared to satisfy the United States especially with regards to the issue of terrorism

and even, sometimes, Palestine.  
Zeid Alshameeri  
mda99zak@sheffield.ac.uk

### A question to Haifi

I would like to ask Al-Haifi and the rest: Please explain to me how the terrorist killing of innocent Christians and Muslims has anything to do with the Zionists. You are trying to divert attention from the fact that these terrorists are not living in accordance with Allah's wishes, the Koran or the

## Letters to the Editor

### About "MALAYSIA BOLEH"

I would like to extend to you my gratitude and say thanks for highlighting the development witnessed in Malaysia.

I hope you could keep on writing about Malaysia and its success and achievements. Who knows, maybe our president and businessmen would learn from the country's experience and comply with it.

Aburahil A.  
aburahil2000@yahoo.com

Prophet Muhammed. It is the duty of Muslim Arab brothers to help the Iraqis protect their population from these savages. Yemen should send help immediately to Iraq. I would like to point out that had the Arab countries stopped Saddam years ago, you would have saved the lives of hundreds of thousands of innocent Arab brothers.

Byron Allen  
balleen@novolink.net



# YT Business

## Leaders Magazine features investment opportunities in Yemen

INTERVIEWED BY SHAKER AL-MOLSI  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

**M**r. Patrick J. Gillis, President International of Leaders, global American quarterly magazine specializing in economy and business, is currently visiting Yemen.

Leaders Magazine is now enjoying its 27th year since its establishment in 1977, having 40,000 readers world wide, and is read by heads of state and cabinet members in every country of the world. Its readers mainly include chairmen and CEO's of multinational corporations, leaders of business banks, investment firms, and firms of human endeavor. In the following interview with Mr. Patrick, we are presented with many interesting facts about the investment reality in Yemen, and are given insights into prospective developments.

**What is the purpose of your current visit to Yemen?**

First of all Leaders Magazine in one of its issues in 2000 featured a special report on the country and its leaders. Now, we are invited back to feature a brand news special report on Yemen, which will be featured in our January 2005 issue. During my short stay here, my agenda includes meeting government and business leaders of the country who will discuss investment opportunities in Yemen, and to allow the leaders of this country to share with our readers why they should come here to invest, and do business. This is the primary purpose of our special report.

There will be a wide spectrum of leaders from Yemen among whom are HE the President, the Prime Minister, several Cabinet members such as ministers of culture and tourism, agriculture, industry and trade, fishery wealth, and a few other ministers. I will also be meeting leaders of the Yemeni business community both Yemeni-based companies and foreign investor-based companies.

My schedule covers a visit to Hadramout to meet the governor and meet the business leaders from that part of Yemen, as well as a trip to Aden to interview the governor, the officials of Aden Free Zone and of course the business leaders. I am working with our colleague here in Yemen, Mahbub Ali, Chief of the Yemeni journalist Syndicate, who is also a Leaders Magazine's Middle East representative. He is doing with me the interviews and securing all the materials for the special report.

**What encouraged your doing a special report on Yemen in 1999?**

Leaders Magazine is mailed to our readers in every country around the world. We make a concerted effort to share with our readers information on investment opportunities in countries in every part of the world. There has been no region in the world where Leaders has not published investment guides on

countries throughout its 27 years of publication. So when the opportunity came to us in 1999 to come to Yemen, Leaders had up until that time never featured a report on Yemen. We thought it would be an excellent opportunity to share with our readers information on a country that is not well known in the world primarily due to distance. Besides, Yemen is strategically and geographically positioned next to a very large neighbor, Saudi Arabia, which dominates publicity. So Yemen and many other countries in the middle east- Bahrain, Qatar, UAE, Oman, Kuwait, and others- do not receive as much publicity as Saudi Arabia does. But Leaders Magazine has conducted reports on all of those countries and many others in the Middle East. So we try to cover the world.

I came back because the leaders of Yemen expressed to us that they were pleased with the first report and wished us to come back to feature Yemen again. The leaders of the country do recognize that Yemen has the ability to overcome the misperceptions we have been talking about.

**How was the response to the first report? And how will you go about this report?**

It was very good. Leaders, unlike other publications, does not take editorial license. In other words, I do not come here to write about my opinions of the country. As we conduct interviews, we keep a pretty simple formula: we want to share with our readers, for example, why a country has decided to invest in Yemen. For instance, when I interview the Hunt Oil Company, I will ask them why they chose Yemen to invest and why they have maintained their investment here for many years. Then I will ask them what their impressions are about doing business in Yemen; what they find good about it; what they find may be challenging about it. Also, I will ask them about their future plans as well as their current activities. Finally, I will ask them about their advice for our readers about doing business and investing in Yemen.

Our framework does not involve gossip things, political intrigue, or rather the personality type of story. We allow each leader that we interview, to share with our readers their own words about their ministry, company, or why they are active here and doing business.

With the head of state and other high ranking officials, we allow them to share their vision, what has been happening in their country, and things they foresee will happen in coming years, in addition to bilateral relations with other countries. I ask the President about Yemen's efforts in the global war on terrorism.

So, we keep it very simple, the World appreciates our style that it is different from other publications. It is very focused on those types of questions and we do not inject our own editorial view or personal opinion into the reporting that we do.



Mr. Patrick J. Gillis

**What do you think of the development process in Yemen in comparison to its state in your previous visit?**

I think it is very good. Infrastructure has improved since I was here five years ago. People here are very optimistic about Yemen's future, because oil prices are upright now. This is helping Yemen's energy industry. I talked to some tourism officials who are optimistic that Yemen's tourism will be on the increase. The ministries of agriculture and fish wealth, for example, are also very optimistic about their industries here. I met some officials in the banking and financial services who were encouraged and said Yemen is a rising and promising market in the Middle East. I have been to some 70 countries over the past ten years and Yemen is one of my favorite countries to come to. People are very nice here. There is a desire I detect among the leaders of the country and business to really keep moving forward to attract more investments and investors to the country. Indeed they would not be supporting these kinds of project if they were not optimistic about Yemen's future.

**How is the image of Yemen in the western press and does that affect investment?**

Well, you know in the aftermath of the USS Cole incident in Aden and the ongoing battle against global terrorism, Yemen in the western press, television and newspaper press primarily, only receives publicity when something negative is attached to it. CNN which you receive here made a big deal of the USS Cole incident, the fact that Osama bin Laden has family ties here in Yemen, and that there are al-Qaeda terrorists who allegedly use Yemen as a hiding place or a place to gather. So, the western mindset about Yemen is viewed with that in mind. I believe there is very little information that Americans and people from North America know about Yemen. I think its one of those countries that do not receive a lot of positive publicity that has to do with investment opportunities. Thus, that is the purpose of the Leaders Magazine's second effort: to share with the World's readers information about Yemen, as this publication is sent to every country in the world, read by every head of state, cabinet member, prominent CEO, and investors in every

country of the world, solely the movers and shakers of capitals.

But, there are not, to my knowledge, many international publications that go to the extent that Leaders has, in sharing with the World's leaders community what Yemen has to offer in the way of investment opportunities. So, from the United States' standpoint, I believe that President Saleh has made it very clear that Yemen is an ally to the US and other countries in battling the threat of global terrorism, and in fact, the reality of global terrorism.

The President has demonstrated again that Yemeni security forces, police, and counter-terrorism forces are arresting and cracking down al-Qaeda terrorists. Again that does not receive enough publicity in the western press. From everything I have read and learned about the relationship between the US and Yemen, Bush's administration is very pleased with the cooperation it has received from President Saleh and other government leaders.

**Can you share with our readers the type of US investment in Yemen and what is the impact of terrorist attacks on them?**

I will give you two examples. Hunt Oil is a long time investor in Yemen. It is a very prominent longstanding petroleum company based in Texas in the US. The Hilburton Company, which US vice president Dick Cheney used to be its chief executive, is very active too in the oil sector. Both are prominent US companies that I will be meeting with.

I have heard from the chairman of the Yemeni Refining Company and minister of industry and trade that there has been a reluctance on the part of US investors to invest in Yemen in the aftermath of USS Cole incident and because Yemen has undeservedly in my view been tagged as a country where it is dangerous to go or to operate business. I have been here twice now and have talked to other Americans residing here. We have never felt insecure. Here people treat us very well. So, I believe that one of the major things that Yemen has to overcome in the coming years is this perception. Generating more publicity that Yemen is indeed an ally in the war against terrorism will improve the mindset of US investors who want to invest but have hesitated because of the current publicity.

**What are your expectations about the**

### Exchange Rate for the Yemeni Rial

Currency	Buying	Selling
US Dollar	184.7100	184.8700
Sterling Pound	339.2500	339.5400
Euro	226.7000	226.9000
Saudi Rial	49.2500	49.3000
Kuwaiti Dinar	626.5600	627.1000
UAE Dirhem	50.2900	50.3300
Egyptian Pound	29.8600	29.8900
Bahraini Dinar	489.9500	490.3700
Qatari Rial	50.7400	50.7800
Jordanian Dinar	260.5200	260.7500
Omani Rial	479.8000	480.2200
Swiss Franc	147.3800	147.5100
Swedish Crown	24.6900	24.7100
Japanese Yen	1.6667	1.6661

Source: Central Bank of Yemen

**future of cooperation between Yemen and the US?**

I think it will be greatly improved if public relations and information is improved about Yemen's not being a safe haven for terrorists for example, or being a dangerous place to do business in. That is simply is not the case. Every minister and every high level leader in Yemen whom I talked to both in 1999 and this year have made it very clear that US investors are very welcome. They are encouraging and doing everything they can to make sure that if an investor from the United States wants to invest in Yemen, he will be most welcome to do so. They will even go the extra mile to see that every opportunity is made to try to get them to come here.

**What are other fields of cooperation between Yemen and the US?**

There is a bilateral trade and exchange in the Yemeni community in New York City where I live, for example. There are many students that go from Yemen to study in the US and come back to Yemen to their careers. So there has been and will continue to be a relationship in education, trade, and business between the two countries. I have given you some examples in the energy industry where prominent US companies are active. And every minister that I talked to said that there are good ties between his ministry and the US counterpart ministry, and that efforts are ongoing to increase trade and economic ties. But I think the thing that must be overcome is the misperception that developed in the US, viewing Yemen as a place that you have to be careful in, because of al-Qaeda and because of what happened to USS-Cole. There are bad apples in every country. It is not just exclusive to Yemen, to Sudan or to any other country in the Middle East. It is not fair for Yemen to be characterized thus. The claim that al-Qaeda elements may be hiding or hanging out, is not a reason that business can not be conducted by US investors in Yemen.

We have seen terror attacks in multiple countries around the world. I think the global campaign against terror will be successful as it is being successful now, and the relationship will be strengthened in the long run between the two countries. I predict that Yemen and the US will do lots more business together in the future.

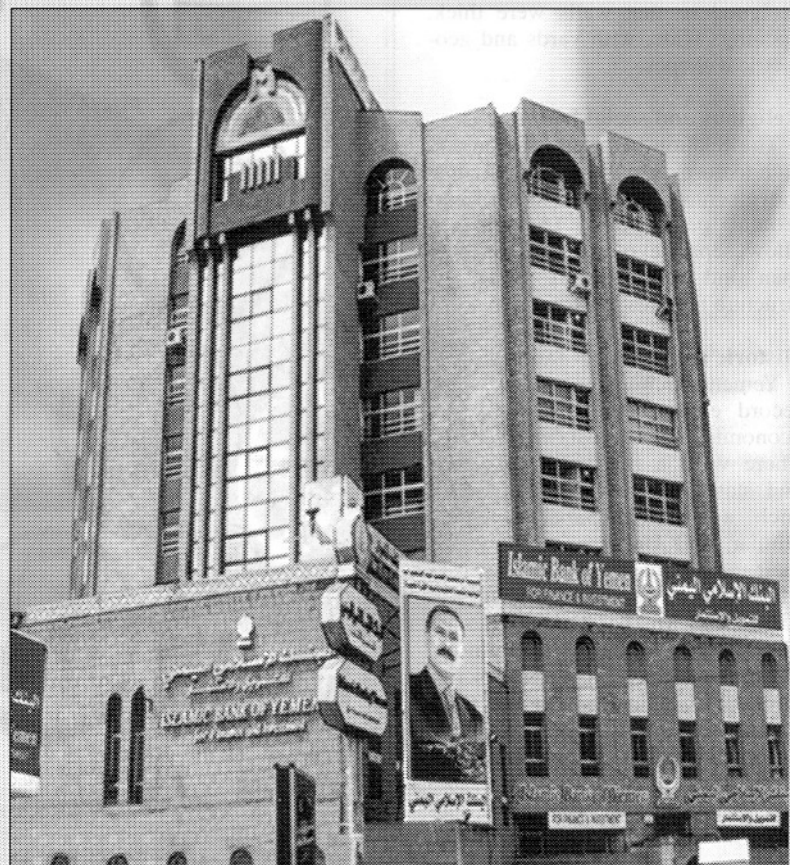
## Islamic banks in Yemen win their customers' confidence

By MAHYOUB AL-KAMALI  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

The Islamic banks in Yemen are capturing confidence of their customers by a rate amounting to 56% in comparison with the trust granted to commercial and specialized banks. That has enabled Islamic banks to occupy an advanced position and status in banking and investment activities in Yemen. It is especially so because they are managed by commercial and financial firms entertaining high reputation in economic and trading activity in the country of Yemen.

Statements issued recently report that the share of Islamic banks out of the total unified budget of commercial banks has raised by 18% compared to 8% in 1998 and by 25% last year with a difference of \$% for the commercial banks that amounted to 21% in 2003.

The statements also point out that confidence of the clients dealing with the Islamic banks and their banking activities has contributed to increase the volume of their annual



Yemen Islamic Bank building in Sana'a

budget last year by an amount of 55% against 21% for the commercial banking sector, as the budget of the Islamic banks has reached to about YR 138 billion at the end of 2003.

The Tadamun Islamic Bank has occupied the second position among other banks with regard to the total budget and the Saba Islamic Bank the eighth position and the Yemeni Islamic Bank scored the 11th position.

Bank data indicate that the volume of deposits has seen a rise in Islamic banks that were until 1998 only YR 11 billion and rose to YR 73 billion in 2002 and in 2003 reached at YR 116 billion.

These indicators emphasize that the Islamic banks in Yemen are enjoying confidence of depositors who find their banking activities as depending and based on the Islamic law and spare the depositors the suspicion of prohibited interests. Therefore the proportion of deposit in Islamic banks in Yemen has jumped to 24.5% out of the total amount of deposits in the Yemeni banking establishment.

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# The characteristics of Yemeni architecture

BY ISMAIL ALI AL-GHABRI  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

**E**xcavations and discoveries which occur every now and then, indicate clearly that Yemeni architecture is rooted in a 4000-year-old cultural heritage.

The characteristic of Yemeni architecture that distinguishes it among other types, is that construction was an art, practiced by Yemenis building their humble, durable but nice houses.

Architecture was meant to satisfy the individual's needs, withstand the climate and match building resources available at the time. Therefore, a tourist gets amazed at architectural variations seen over short distances. Yemeni bricklayers used construc-

**Mountainous areas:**

A series of mountains at different elevations and steep slopes among which there are wide valleys and agricultural terraces extending along coastal plains. The climate is cold, moderate, and dry, the fact that affected the design of the buildings and diversity of construction materials.

**Plateaus and semi-desert plains:**

They extend along mountainous areas sinking into the Empty Quarter. They have special construction materials, and buildings are made of clay.

**Geological factor:**

Architecture has been affected by materials found on ground such as stone, soil, wood, copper, iron, or marble. Yemeni bricklayers used stone and palm fronds in early historic periods in building religious and public facilities especially in

tics:

Though so-called modernization and technology is accused of distorting the texture of ancient Arab cities, its effects are less discernable in the case of Yemeni cities in comparison to ancient Arab towns like Damascus, Cairo, and Tunis, whose styles are fading after the invasion of new architecture.

Yemen is still preserving its own artistic architectural identity, and its architecture. It is deemed to be the best sort of architecture that has embedded its traditional style. It has also incorporated the new into an unique model deserving admiration and the continuous interest of architects. The characteristics of Yemeni architecture differ from place to place across Yemen depending on the origin and nature of each local version:

**Spatial formation:**

The spatial formation of Yemeni

cities reflects the religious and social conditions of their dwellers. We find the skyline stretching with vertical minarates frequently crossing it. There are also public squares and shrines. This collection is characterized by natural realistic dimensions that fit into the human behaviour scheme.

**Building heights:**

The skyline is usually uniformly distributed at almost the same height. This is one of the secrets of the

Islamic city in its organization and spatial formation that contributes to a feeling of safety for all residents, resulting in strong inseparable social bonds.

**Architectural style:**

Whoever contemplates the art of Yemeni architecture, can recognize its traits and variations. The style of coastal areas, for example, is different from that of valleys, and mountainous areas. The architecture of the old city of

Sana'a is different from that of Shibam. Thus, every area has its own identity that distinguishes it from others.

The architectural style of Yemeni cities exposes the spirit and concepts of traditional architecture, and the fact that it depends on local construction materials. It interacts with the Yemeni man's environment, utilized to serve his life. The elements of architectural style are still developing, but retain their original character.



Sana'ani House architecture building



Wadi Hadramout architecture building

tion materials available in the surrounding environment. A building was made of stone or clay depending on whether it was located in a rocky area or not. Houses were made of hardened volcanic lava if the environment was volcanic, and so on.

Yemeni Islamic architecture was expressed simply, and planned flexibly in terms of design, details, elements and patterns.

These features no doubt contributed to the contentment and happiness of the dwellers, as well as adding to the serene and solemn atmosphere. The same thing was preserved in building up places of worship and teaching.

**Factors influencing Yemeni architecture:**

When we examine the architectural formation of Yemeni cities, we can describe them as one visual, cultural and social entity. Yet, each city has a location and functions differently from the others, which creates a local spirit and personifies the 'unity in diversity' doctrine. So, we can detect in a Yemeni city two levels of identity: one general which links the area culturally and historically, and the other special which pertains to a specific location with distinguished traits and events.

There are a number of factors that have influenced this identity:

**The geographical factors:**

Areas along the coastal line have volcanic lands. Buildings in these areas are basically made of stone.

Qana city and settlements in Dawan Valley, Hadramout.

**Climatic factor:**

Because most of Yemen is in the hot tropical area with different temperatures, and face winds saturated with water vapour, buildings were designed so that walls were thick, openings wide, with yards and geometrical shapes.

**Religious and social factors:**

The relation between religion and architecture is obvious in the dual movement system in the form of horizontal projections. The designs allow separate movements of both men and women, and posed the structure towards the Kaaba.

**Historic and political factors:**

Yemeni architecture has a long record expressing civilization and economic and political development. There were a host of civilizations and states before Christ in Yemen such as Ma'in, Saba, Qataban, Himiar, and Hadramout. They had their metropolises and cities such as Marib, Shabwa, Sana'a, Ma'afir, Zabid, and Makha. There are other cities like Shibam, Hadramout, Tarim mentioned in ancient scriptures and are located on the trade routes.

Some cities have put on an Islamic dress. For example, Sana'a, Zabid and Tarim are still civilization centres with original architectural style.

Yemeni architecture characteris-

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# Afghanistan: Victims of war and poverty

BY PETER WILLEMS  
YEMEN TIMES STAFF

**A**riana is busy everyday on Flower Street in central Kabul, Afghanistan's capital. Selling local newspapers and magazines, she eagerly approaches any potential customer - she sees to try and sell enough to make a living.

Ariana is an eight year-old who helps her mother, four brothers and three sisters, to get by.

"My father was killed by the Taliban when he fought with the Northern Alliance," explained Ariana. "My mother has to take care of my brothers and sisters, so one of my brothers and I work. We pay the rent and buy food for the family."

Ariana is one of millions of Afghan children working to help their families get through the harsh conditions of the

war-torn country. Although there are no official figures in Afghanistan on the widespread phenomena of working children, the Afghan Street Working Children and New Approach (Aschiana), a humanitarian aid organization that helps working children, estimates that up to 60,000 children in Kabul alone are working on the streets. The figures do not include a vast number of children who are working in family businesses, factories or shops.

"It is a different situation in Afghanistan than in most other countries," said Edward Carwardine, Communication Officer of United Nation Children's Fund (Unicef) based in Afghanistan. "Most children work in one way or another during their early years. To be realistic, it is normal in Afghanistan for children to help their families by working, be it in the family business, agriculture, and so forth. Up to now, it has been a part of life in

Afghanistan."

What Afghanistan has faced over the last two decades has forced more children to work. The country has gone through 25 years of ongoing warfare that has left its economy in a shambles. As many as 80% of the population lives in poverty and the majority are jobless. Many families have lost their breadwinners to armed conflict; there have been a number of droughts over the last few years; and over two million Afghans returned to their country after the Taliban regime fell in late 2001 which has pushed unemployment even higher.

Aschiana found that the number of working children on the streets in Kabul has nearly tripled between 1996 and the end of last year. In the northern city of Mazar-i-Sharif, children taking to the streets to make a living jumped from 1,000 to 5,000 in less than five years.

A number of steps have been taken to persuade children to go to school during the rebuilding process in the last three years. Financial aid from donor countries has supported the constructing or rebuilding over 200 schools and has sent millions of textbooks to urban and rural areas.

But programs assisting working children have had to adapt to the situation in Afghanistan today: Under such difficult conditions, the aim is to get children to go to school while working.

"This is an economic reality. It is common for children to go to school half the day while working the rest of the day," said Carwardine.

With education being critical, Unicef has initiated an awareness program to teach parents that if children are allowed to go to school, there will be better returns for the family in the future.

"What we teach is that education is a good investment," said Carwardine. "A child will get a better job later in life if he or she is educated, which will benefit the family down the road."

Unicef also tries to reach out to children who are living far from school. The Community Based School program has set up many schools in villages using any building available, such as empty houses, restaurants or shops, and has recruited local teachers.

Afghanistan also had to overcome the



A group of Afghan children that work regularly on the streets in Kabul, the capital of Afghanistan (Yemen Times Photo by Peter Willems)

lack of educating girls in the past when the Taliban banned girls from going to school. Unicef, working with the Ministry of Education, was able to add 400,000 girls to enrollment last year and aims at a 600,000 increase in 2004.

Aschiana, the largest organization assisting children carrying out jobs on the streets, provides education for children that are working to support their families.

"Some organizations have tried to send children to school and give up their jobs," said Mohammad Yousef, Director of Aschiana. "But what about food? Shelter? Clothes? The children eventually return to the streets, so our solution is to combine education and work."

Aschiana, which now works with over 3,600 children in Kabul, gives working children basic education and provides accelerated programs for children who need to catch up. The organization also offers vocational training and helps children search for jobs once they have completed their studies.

Even though efforts have been made to assist working children, the conditions the children are living in have not improved much in recent years. Soon

after President Hamid Karzai took office in 2001, he requested \$27.5 billion over a seven-year period to reconstruct the country. Up to now, the money coming in has not kept up with the amount needed each year, which has slowed down rebuilding the country.

The majority of the population is still without running water and electricity and most of the roads are in need of repair. The Afghan economy has barely moved forward, jobs are scarce and there has been very little local or foreign investment since the Taliban regime was ousted.

The remnants of the Taliban have regrouped, and fighting against 20,000 US troops has intensified. Up to 900 people have been killed in the last 12 months. Violence has also spread to the north with the Taliban attempting to destabilize the country and derail the upcoming elections. Over 25 aid organizations have pulled out of the country while many others have streamlined their work due to security concerns.

Government officials believe that violence will increase between now and the presidential elections scheduled to be held on October 9<sup>th</sup>.

"The Taliban and other groups will

increase their attacks as we get closer to the elections," said Syed Alamudin Ather, Deputy Director of Counter Narcotics Directorate. "All they want is to prevent the establishment of a strong central government."

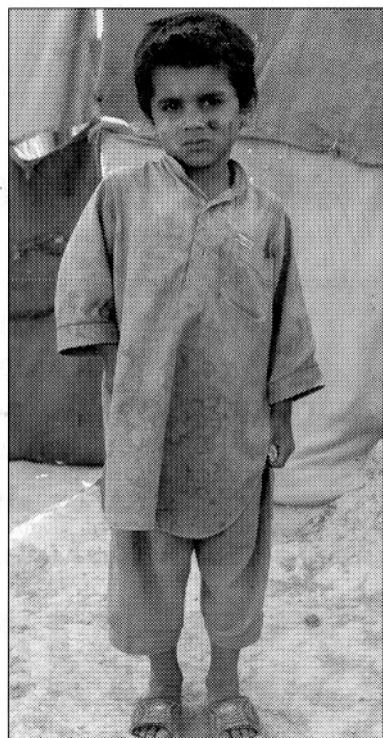
NATO has promised to send 1,500 more troops in September to help provide security for the elections. Up until now, the peacekeeping force has included only 6,500 soldiers, mostly stationed in Kabul. NATO will also keep 2,000 more soldiers on standby if needed. The United States continues to train Afghanistan's forces with the goal of establishing a 70,000 strong army by 2011.

Analysts believe, however, that the number of security forces stationed in Afghanistan is not enough to stabilize the country in the near future. They claim that if peacekeeping forces are not beefed up considerably, violence will continue.

Although the future of Afghanistan is not clear, Ariana wishes to have a better future. "I go to school every morning and come here to Flower Street and work hard to help my family," said Ariana. "I hope to have a good job in the future."



An Afghan girl working on the streets in Kabul, Afghanistan's capital (Yemen Times Photo by Peter Willems)



An Afghan child who lives in a refugee camp outside Kabul. His family returned to its country after the Taliban regime fell in late 2001 (Yemen Times Photo by Peter Willems)

**The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) announces for an immediate job opening within its organization.**

**"Democracy and Governance Adviser"**

The incumbent serves as USAID's local democracy and governance expert. In this role, s/he serves as the principal advisor and analyst on areas such as training and strengthening representative institutions; promoting more efficient and accountable local governments; strengthening of rule of law, fostering free and open elections, supporting the development of a civil society, and strengthening legal systems and processes in support of democratic and economic reforms.

S/he provides input into the implementation, management, and monitoring and evaluation of assigned activities and projects. S/he also conducts related discussions with officials from the Yemen Government, private sector, non-governmental organizations, and donors.

**Required Qualifications:**

- Education:** Degree in Political Science, Social Science, Humanities or related field is required.
- Prior Work Experience:** Minimum of five years work experience managing projects. Experience must demonstrate an increasing responsibility for managing, analyzing, coordinating, and guiding project management efforts. Experience in monitoring, evaluating, and analyzing programs and overseeing grantee and contractors is desirable.
- Language Proficiency:** Level IV, strong oral and written proficiency in English.
- Knowledge:** Demonstrated program management, planning, and problem solving skills. Demonstrated success in pro-active management and attainment of one's work responsibilities, forward planning to meet a variety of contingencies, and working effectively as a member of a team.
- Skills and Abilities:** Demonstrated managerial skills to effectively manage assigned activities. Excellent communication and writing skills to conduct clear and effective discussions and to draft clear and accurate documents. Good analytical and presentation skills to assemble, analyze, evaluate and present data. Computer skills, especially with word processing, spreadsheet design, web research, and presentation software is required.

Grade/Salary: Ordinarily Resident/Non Ordinarily Resident: GS-12 to be confirmed by Washington).

**How to apply:** All Interested Americans should complete OF-612 or submit a current C.V. (with awards, recommendation letters, copies of degrees earned) that addresses the qualifications and requirements of the position, as listed above, and send it to the Human Resources Office, American Embassy, Dhahr Himyar Street, P.O. Box 22347, Sanaa, Yemen, Tel: 303-155, no later than August 30, 2004.

**NOTE: ALL ORDINARILY RESIDENT APPLICANTS MUST BE RESIDING IN COUNTRY AND HAVE THE REQUIRED WORK AND RESIDENCY PERMITS TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR CONSIDERATION.**

**The Embassy of the United States of America announces for immediate part time job opening within its organization.**

**"Information Assistant"**

Under the general supervision of the Public Affairs Officer (PAO) and direct supervision of the Information Specialist (IS), the incumbents will monitor the Yemeni media, place and program USIA materials, and maintain contacts in Ministry of Information and among the media.

**Desired Qualifications:**

**Education:** Completion of secondary school is required. Completion of a college education in the liberal arts, political science, economics, journalism, international relations, or related field is useful. Some journalism experience is acceptable.

**Prior work experience:** Two to four years of progressively responsible experience in communication or media related work as journalist, researcher or writer desirable. Some translation experience is desirable.

**Language proficiency:** Level IV (fluent) in written and spoken English; Arabic is required.

**Skills and abilities:** Ability to work under time pressure. Ability to scan, comprehend and summarize quickly. Flexibility to adjust to shifting priorities and focuses. Ability to develop and maintain excellent contact and working relationship with journalists, newsmen and Government Officials. Ability to draft and translate. Excellent knowledge of work processing. Satisfactory typing skills (Level III).

**Grade/Salary:** \*EFM/MOH/Non Ordinarily Resident: FP-07 (to be confirmed by Washington)  
\*Ordinarily Resident: FSN-07 (WAE for six months)

**How to apply:** All interested nationals should complete OF-612 or submit a current C.V. (with awards, recommendation letters, copies of degrees earned) that addresses the qualifications and requirements of the position as listed above and contact the Embassy Human Resources Office, American Embassy, Dhahr Himyar Street, Sanaa. Tel: 303-155, Fax: 303182 no later than the August 31, 2004.

**NOTE: ALL ORDINARILY RESIDENT APPLICANTS MUST BE RESIDING IN COUNTRY AND HAVE THE REQUIRED WORK AND RESIDENCY PERMITS TO BE ELIGIBLE FOR CONSIDERATION.**



By Yahya Al-Olfi  
alolfi@hotmail.com

# Reflections

## Benign Spanish Involvement, Eritrean Servility and YSP's sympathy with "The Death Loving Youth"

Recently news spread about a Spanish desire to put an end to the continued misery of the people in Western Sahara, which Spain for the period from 1958 until 1975 considered as an Overseas Spanish province. It was partitioned between Morocco and Mauritania in 1976. The Polisario Front declared the independence of the "Democratic Saharan Arab Republic" in 1976. Mauritania renounced its claim in 1979 while Morocco practically annexed the northern two thirds of Western Sahara in 1976 (formerly Spanish Sahara) as well as the rest of the territory in 1979, directly following Mauritania's withdrawal. A guerrilla war was launched against Moroccan occupation and led by POLISARIO FRONT that contested Rabat's sovereignty and ended in a 1991 cease-fire.

Since then a UN sponsored referendum on final status has been repeatedly postponed. The declaration by José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero, the Spanish premier, in that a solution is possible within six months' time is most welcome because Spain is held morally responsible for what is taking place and the suffering perpetuated due to the continued cul-de-sac situation. Spain must and should do something for the Saharans unlike the British who have long ago left the poor Palestinians as an unprotected prey for the Nazi Death Camps graduates' side effects. Zapatero insists that Spain has nothing more to add to James Baker's plan apart from activating it and finding an immediate solution to the long time suffering of the people there.

France, Israel and USA have close ties with Morocco and this is the quintessence for this unresolved crisis. These three countries by their attitude on this matter show that they are after their own interests and that humanity and human rights are but excuses to pressurize other regimes when the need arises.

Spain alone has the possibility to pressurize the Moroccan regime to dilute its stiff stance, knowing that Spain still occupies Ceutha, Melilla and some other islands which can serve as a bait beside other factors known to both sides.

Many Eritreans felt happy when at last Eritrea became independent, thinking that a new luminescent page shall open in their life, which until now was predominantly characterized by continued bloody fighting. To their dismay the current regime is taking them from a futile battle into another so as to hide its failure and the fact that it has failed to project Eritrea as a peace-loving country where investors can invest their moneys and help in the long awaited development of the country. Asmara could have attracted investors from regional and international countries if it was not for the foolish mentality that had led many to shy away from investing their moneys in a land where lunatic behavior is the norm. I have recently read about Eritrea's permission for "Sudan's Liberation Movement" and "The Sudanese Movement for Justice and Equality" to establish training camps in different Eritrean regions. It is known that both fronts are involved in fighting against the Sudanese Central Government in Darfur. Anyhow, we have all been accustomed to such eccen-

tricity by the Eritrean regime but have always hoped for a change to take place in the dismal life of the Eritrean people who have suffered a lot and do really deserve to have some peace, for what is the use of independence when many Eritrean refugees are still refugees in Sudan, Yemen and elsewhere.

We all know that the Yemeni Socialist party was a true defender of the Yemeni unity and aspirations in the past and does not need anybody's testimony on that but one cannot avoid to criticize the status quo of the party. Due to the continued changes in the world, the party should have shed off its monotonous apparel by changing its name for example which still drives people away in the south more than in the north. Also, it needs to revitalize its structure and do away with its mummified mentality which can just be compared with the stagnancy of USSR's Communist Party at the time of Brezhnev. It seems unable to budge any further and still deplorably looking for the custody of its past leaders who have been consumed and cannot deliver anymore. It is pathetic when reading its mouthpiece "Alhawry" to notice their sympathy with the brain-washed death loving youth in Saada as well as opening their pages for the whining secessionists. Whatsoever are the defects of the rulers vis a vis this problem, the attitude of the YSP showed its miserable status quo because the party now does not seem as one that is partisan of progress and modernism let alone being Islamically influenced, in short it needs a complete revolution and rearrangement in order to go with the times and be worthy of its past.

Continued from page 1

## Cole suspects deny knowledge of evidence

During the sixth hearing session last Wednesday, the prosecution continued presenting to the court a pile of material evidence against the defendants including contracts for camcorders, scientific demolitions reports, a boat purchase report, rental of four houses and others. Attorney Saeed al-Aki said that the prime suspect Abdulrahman al-Nasheer, in US custody and tried in absentia, along with the USS Cole suicide bombers Hasan al-Khameri and Ibrahim al-Thawar, rented some houses in Aden for preparing the boat for the terrorist operation and monitoring the USS Cole while it was refueling at Aden port. He said that the first house was rented from Saleh Hussein al-Akil and used for preparing the boat in its first phase, a second house looking upon the port was rented for monitoring the US destroyer, the third one was used for the final preparations of the boat and filling it with explosives while the fourth for filming the explosion. The prosecutor said that a fifth house was rented in the Hodedah governorate, wherein the boat was kept when brought from Jizan in Saudi Arabia before carrying it to Aden. He presented the purchase document of the boat that was bought from a Saudi national called Hamoud Bin Hashem, as well as the custom clearance of the boat purchased by the second suspect Jamal al-Badwi, who was absent from the two

most recent hearings as he is receiving medical treatment for a wound in his leg resulting from gunfire when he was arrested last March. The prosecution also exhibited deeds of sale for some cars used in carrying the boat. The Nissan jeep, as well as the trailer, were exhibited in the courthouse courtyard before the defendants Fahd al-Qas'e and Mamoon Ahmad Amshaw. The court judge and attorneys were present too.

The prosecutor decided that lawsuits can not be made against four people including Hasan al-Khameri and Ibraheem al-Thawar, who died in the suicide bombing, and Taha al-Ahdal who died in Afghanistan; the prosecutor refused to mention the name of the fourth one.

The prosecution also showed a Sony video camera that al-Qas'e was supposed to have used to film the bombing but he overstepped. The pager through which he was to be informed to start of filming was also presented at the hearing. It also displayed other reports and reports like the inspection report of the rented houses, a 12-page report submitted by the US government on the damage incurred to the USS Cole, medical reports on the deaths of the 17 US sailors and injuries of 33 others.

Defendant al-Qas'e denied his acquaintance with, or knowledge of, the material evidences like the Nissan car and trailer, when he was

asked by the judge about the pager and camera, he said they were given to him by Jamal al-Badwi to keep them with him. The prosecutor said he would read to the court his confessions relating to the evidences, but al-Qas'e said he would prefer doing that in the presence of his advocate. In the hearing, the identity cards forged by the suspects Murad al-Sorori and Ali Saleh Murakab were shown; the prosecutor said they were issued under the name of Abdullah Mohammed Saeed Musawa (Hasan al-Khameri). The two suspects refused to comment on these charges only in the presence of their advocate Abdulaziz al-Samawi.

Al-Samawi told the media he would present a message to the court justifying why he and his friend Khaled al-Anisi decided to boycott the tribunal. He said they were not allowed access to copies of the investigation report, which shows that the trial procedures will lack justice. "There is no need for advocates in this case. We are truly frustrated and pessimistic about achievement of justice in this case," he said. Advocates earlier quit the tribunal of the other 15 al-Qaeda suspects on trial for operating several terrorist acts, mainly the attack on the French Oil Tanker Limburg. They were not allowed to copy the investigation report. The judge looking into this issue Ahmad al-Jermozki banned journalists from attending the hearings for two hearings.

## Concern mounts over Saadah clashes

But some are worried about how long the fighting has lasted and the possible consequences in the future.

The remnants of the militants have kept the clashes going for nearly two months and Al-Houthi has yet to be captured. "The capacity of Al-Houthi's fighters must have been a surprise to the government's forces," said an analyst in Yemen. "These are guerrilla tactics that are not easy to deal with and it may take more time to end the fighting."

Some analysts are worried that if the rebel group, believed to have been between 1,000 and 3,000 followers, is not defeated soon, other groups may emerge.

"If the government forces don't win decisively, it will show that [the government] is weak and this will encourage more groups to pop up," said Khaled Al-Akwaa, Professor of Public Policy at Sana'a University. "The government must carry out its campaign to defeat the group or make Al-Houthi face justice. It's important at this time for the government to establish law and order across the country."

Anti-US and anti-Israeli sentiment is running high in the Middle East with the US-led occupation in Iraq and Israeli-Palestinian conflicts continuing. "If there were no US troops in Iraq and a Palestinian state was established, the motivation behind terrorist groups would drop off considerably," said one analyst.

Al-Houthi, a leading Zaidi Shiite leader - a minority Muslim sect in Yemen that makes up around 30% of the population - is charged with provoking violent protests against the United States and Israel, leading attacks on government institutions and raiding mosques. He established a group called the "Believing Youth" and is believed to have secretly trained

his followers to form an armed militia at his stronghold in the north.

President Ali Abdullah Saleh sent groups of leading religious scholars and politicians to persuade the cleric to surrender on three separate occasions since the clashes began, but all have failed. Al-Houthi has either said he would rather fight than give himself up or gave the government conditions that were unacceptable.

Since the clashes began, terrorist groups have shown renewed interest in Yemen. In early July, the Abu Hafs Al-Masri Brigade, a group linked to Al-Qaeda, said that it would "drag the United States into a third quagmire, that is after Iraq and Afghanistan, and let it be Yemen, God willing." The group has claimed responsibility for attacks in Iraq, Turkey and the March 11th railway bombings in Madrid.

A month later, a little known Islamic group, Tawhid Wa Al-Hijra (The One Faith and emigration), posted on its website support for Al-Houthi and condemned the Yemeni government because it "opened a country of Muslims to the crusader forces."

In a bid to avoid other groups emerging, the Yemeni government ordered the overhaul of the country's education system and close down a large number unregistered schools soon after the clashes began. Hundreds of religious schools, many of them unlicensed, are believed to be operating across the country. Analysts believe that radical Islamic teaching, which promotes extremism may take place in these schools. Some fear, however, that the immediate closing of schools focusing on religious studies might lead to a violent reaction or students going underground.

"It is a sensitive issue, and the government

made a mistake to allow religious schools to function with a license for years and suddenly decide to close them down," said a member of the Yemeni parliament. "Some of the schools may react and go underground which is putting oil on a fire."

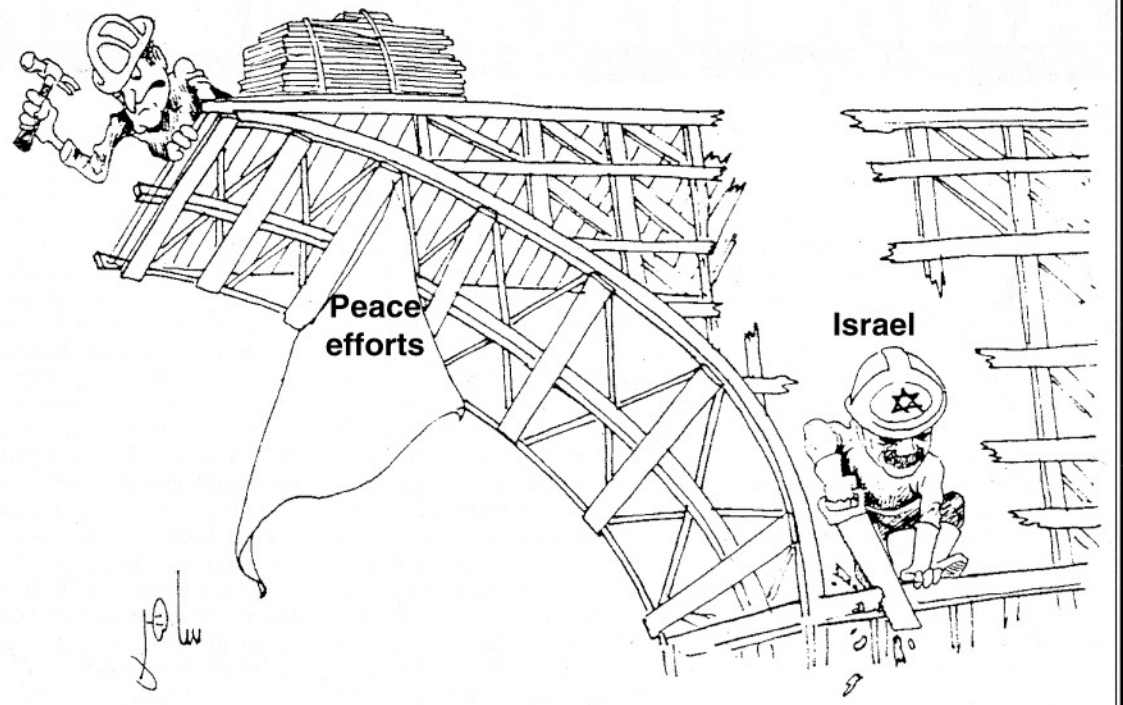
Some fear that Yemen's poverty can make the country vulnerable to terrorism. Yemen is the poorest country in the Gulf region. Forty-two percent live below the poverty line while a further 25% may easily slip into poverty in the near future. Between 25% and 35% of the population is out of work.

Abdullah Al-Faqih, Professor of Political Science at Sana'a University, said that if the government does not act soon to reform its economy, "Yemen will undergo periods of instability, conflict and lawlessness. It will be a breeding ground for extremism and terrorism. It will serve as a destabilizing force in the region."

Another concern is the cost of the clashes. The number of people killed is between 300 and 600. When the government launched a major offensive earlier this month, it was reported that up to 100 government soldiers and rebels were killed. Many families have had to flee their homes near the battle area and Amnesty International has asked the government to investigate the death of innocent civilians due to misguided missiles and artillery fire.

"It has been a shame from the beginning because it isn't fair that so many people have died," said Mohammed Al-Muttawakil, Assistant Secretary General of Yemen's Popular Forces Union party and former Minister of Supply and Trade. "At the beginning, the situation probably could have been solved in other ways."

SKETCHED OPINION



By Samer A.

## مطلوب مصممين

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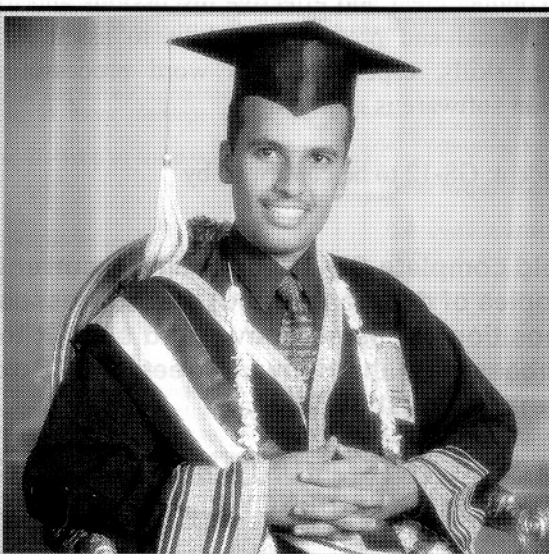
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# 249

## I. What to Say

Situations and Expressions (69)  
'Thank you' wishes (I)

**C**ourtesy costs nothing, but pays much. 'Thanks' go beyond a mere expression of a gesture of goodwill. 'Thanks' verily depict the largeness of the speaker's heart and bear an eloquent testimony to the sensitivity of the person to accept and acknowledge a kind word, a fine sentiment or a nice gesture.

Thanks are but small gifts of a thoughtful heart.

- The smallest of pebbles that's tossed in a pond, makes ripples that reach far and wide, just as the smallest of kindness shown can touch someone deeply inside. So we shouldn't dismiss any word that we've spoken, nor the small thoughtful gestures we've made, for they've reached someone's heart, with a comfort that won't quickly fade.
- Thank you. It's the small and warm gestures of kindness and concern, that one shows, that always seem to touch the deepest chords of the heart. And I take this chance to let you know, how much you're appreciated for your willingness, to extend a helping hand ever that lightens the heart and gives a new perspective to life, always. With much gratitude.
- A bouquet of thanks is sent to you in gratitude for all that you've done. The thoughtfulness that you've shown and the special ways in which you've cared, have given my life a richer meaning and joy beyond compare. Thank you for your kindness. It meant so very much for me. With heartfelt gratitude.
- A 'Thank You' note for you. Small gestures of kindness make a big difference when they're done at the right moment. I'm really grateful to you for this timely help. Thanks a lot once again.
- Thanks a lot. You really brightened up my day. It was really appreciated.
- Your kindness and help are such a source of joy and inspiration that 'thanks' is not enough but just a start!

## II. How to Say it Correctly

Correct errors, if any, in the following sentences

- He is going by the 7.30 O'clock bus to Aden.
- The captain said with delight that they had won the match.
- Politics are a dirty game played by the ruthless people.
- My brother who stays in India has a Ph. D.
- Mohammed Agabi who is an army officer is my neighbor.

## Suggested answers to last week's questions

- The Government promised that the loyal workers **would** be given promotion.
- When I **go** to London, I shall meet my brother.
- You are one of those who **help** others.
- Each of the clerks in this office is loyal and efficient.
- The Dean **ordered** the students to go away at once.

## III. Increase Your Word Power

(A) How to express it in one word

- To make fear, anger, doubt, pain, trouble, excitement etc. less.
- A statement that charges someone with doing something bad but without proof.
- Loyalty, faith, and dutiful support to one's country.
- A story or poem in which the characters and actions represent good or bad qualities.
- A condition of being unusually sensitive to something.

## Suggested answers to last week's questions

- An unhealthy fear of open spaces: **agoraphobia** (n)
- The continued and habitual drinking of alcohol in great quantities: **alcoholism** (n)
- A local government officer having various duties:

- alderman** (n)  
4. The act of forming or arranging into a line: **alignment** (n)  
5. A substance that forms chemical salts when combined with acids: **alkali** (n)

(B) Literary terms of foreign origin  
Give the source of origin and meaning of the following

- riddle
- rime
- romance
- rubai'iyat
- satire

## Suggested answers to last week's questions

- pseudonym** (Gk. 'false name'): A name other than his own taken by a writer. Also known as a pen-name and a nom de plume.
- Renaissance** (Fr. 'rebirth'): The 'rebirth' of Classical Greek and Latin literature.
- rhapsody** (Gk. 'stitch song'): In a general sense, a rhapsody may be an effusive, emotional, perhaps even ecstatic utterance in verse or, occasionally, in prose.
- rhetoric** (Gk. 'rhetor': speaker in the assembly): Rhetoric is the art of using language for persuasion, in speaking or writing; especially in oratory.
- rhythm** (Gk. 'flowing'): In verse or prose, the movement or sense of movement communicated by the arrangement of stressed and unstressed syllables and by the duration of syllables. In verse the rhythm depends on the metrical pattern. In verse the rhythm is regular: in prose it may or may not be regular.

## (C) Words commonly confused

Bring out differences in meaning of the following pairs of words

- tamper, temper
- value, price
- humiliation, humility
- emigrate, immigrate
- discover, invent

## Suggested answers to last week's questions

- virtual** (adj) (almost what is stated): There is a virtual breakdown of law and order in the state.
- virtuous** (adj) (possessing or practicing virtue): He is a noble and virtuous soul.
- custom** (n) (an established socially accepted practice): Customs vary from country to country.
- habit** (n) (somebody's settled practice): Parents should regulate the habits of their children.
- doubt** (n) (uncertainty of mind): I have no doubt about your sense of honesty and integrity.
- suspect** (vt) (to believe to be true) (The police suspected him to be involved in the crime.)
- fair** (adj) (acting in a just and honorable manner): The competition was organized in a fair manner.
- fare** (vi) (progress): How did you fare in your mission?
- social** (adj) (living in groups): Man is a social animal.
- sociable** (adj) (friendly): His sociable nature is the secret of his popularity.

## (D) Idioms and phrases

Use the following idioms in illustrative sentences

- lie low
- follow suit
- learn the hard way
- the blind leading the blind
- change one's tune

## Suggested answers to last week's questions

- the burning question** (a question that is of great interest to many people): Of course the burning question is whether we can combat terrorism.
- strike while the iron is hot** (to act while the situation is favorable): My boss was really pleased with me today and so I decided to strike while the iron was hot and broach him for a promotion.
- look on the bright side** (to be hopeful and look for the best): Don't be pessimistic; look on the bright side of life.
- throw cold water on** (something) (to be very

discouraging about something): We were preparing for the picnic when, the superintendent's refusal of permission threw cold water on our spirit.

- pull one's weight** (to do one's share of a task): We have to pull our weight if the mission is to be successful.

## IV. Grammar and Composition

(A) Grammar

Match the words with their corresponding definitions

- |               |  |
|---------------|--|
| 1. to matter  | a. a person that you work for  |
| 2. to hire    | b. to need   |
| 3. promotion  | c. characteristics   |
| 4. employer   | d. the long-term plan for your professional life                         |
| 5. to require | e. to put in order of importance   |
| 6. career     | f. to be important   |
| 7. authority  | g. to give employment to someone   |
| 8. qualities  | h. a person who applies for a job  |
| 9. to rank    | i. the power to give orders  |
| 10. applicant | j. a movement to a more important job with more responsibility and money |

## Suggested answers to last week's questions

- Never **borrow** money from a friend.
- You could always get a bank **loan** to buy your new car.
- My mother said the money was a **loan**, but I'm sure she doesn't expect to get it back.
- I **borrowed** \$20 from him last week.
- He always **borrow**s things from Raydan but he never **lends** Raydan anything.
- I **lent** him my watch and he broke it.
- May I have the **loan** of your bicycle while mine is being repaired?
- You can **borrow** upto three books at a time from the library.

## (B) Composition

Expand the central idea contained in the maxim  
**75: LEND YOUR EARS TO ALL,  
TONGUE TO FEW**

## Last week's topic

### 74: LAUGH AND THE WORLD LAUGHS WITH YOU, WEEP AND YOU WEEP ALONE

It is a matter of common experience that during the days of prosperity there are many who flock to the person in position, power or enjoys high social status. Even those who have a distant relation with the blessed claim their closeness with the Fortune's favored one. But those very people turn their back on that person in days of adversity. Even the best of friends don't have any qualm of conscience to desert their friend who they were once proud of. Such people are fair-weather friends who are the worshippers of wealth and power. Hence, while there are many partakers of joy and good fortune, there are very few who stand by a person in misfortune. Robert Nathan is right when he echoes the same time-tested principle: "Joy has its friends, but grief its loneliness." The implication of the statement is that one should not feel frustrated if one is left alone in misery. One should not be gullible and should try one's utmost to exercise one's discretion in discriminating the real friend as different from fair weather friends.

## V. Pearls from the Holy Quran



## VI. Food for Thought

**"You gain strength, courage, and confidence by experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face. You must do the thing which you think you cannot do."**

—Eleanor Roosevelt

# A letter to the teachers of English: 56

## Asking questions in the classes is an art



**DR. M.N.K. BOSE**  
(BOSE@y.net.ye)  
Associate Professor of  
English,  
Faculty of Arts, Ibb.

Dear Fellow teachers,

I am sure all of you know the value of asking questions in the class while teaching. Asking questions in the tests is equally valuable. Questions are essential in the teaching process as they have learning potential (they help the learners much to learn in the classes).

The recent thinking in English language teaching values teacher questions in the classroom so much that several researches are carried out involving them. One of the researchers believes that questions maximize the interaction between the teacher and the learners thereby increasing the learning opportunities for the learners in the English classes and so teachers should ask more questions in the classes.

However, not all questions are of the same value. Experts talk of four kinds of questions that a teacher can use in the class. They are choice questions, product questions, process questions and metaprocess questions. Choice questions demand yes/no response from the learners; product questions demand factual response such as the year of an event or the place of an event etc; process questions ask for the learners' opinions or interpretations; and metaprocess questions demand reasoning for the answers. It is obvious that the first two are easier to answer than the last two, because the learners can pick out the answers from the text for them without much thinking, whereas the last two demand a lot of thinking by the learners. It is also true that the last two create interaction in the class that is essential for learning.

Most often we ask only the first two types of questions in the class as well

as in the examinations; the excuse that we give for this is that our learners may not be cut out for difficult questions, as English is a foreign language for them. This is only a lame excuse and does not merit any serious consideration. The real reason why our learners are not able to answer such questions even at the college level is that we have hardly exposed them to such questions at any level. Another reason is that framing such questions needs a bit more time and effort and most of us are not willing to invest this in our teaching.

Asking good questions in the class is an art and it needs a lot of practice and preparation. Take the format of the questions. Many of us ask questions such as 'When you came to college? Where you put your books?' very frequently, especially in our conversations with our students. Such questions are not uncommon in our classroom teaching. Unless we prepare the questions before the class, we are bound to make mistakes. Experienced teachers may be able to frame their questions on their feet but it is always good to prepare the questions for each lesson beforehand as a part of our lesson plan.

Then the quality of the questions. Each question we ask should make them think and answer and should not let them lift words or sentences from the book. Even a small twist in the question will make it challenging and this challenge is necessary for learning. For example, look at page 7 in Pupil's Book 5. When you ask questions about Salman Nasser, asking 'Why does Salman love his job?' will be challenging and demands thinking by the learners. The first two types of questions do have a role, especially in lower classes, but their number should be reduced as the course proceeds so that the learners may get used to challenging questions. Try them. Good luck.

Yours fraternally,  
Dr.M.N.K.Bose

# Education In Yemen

BY MUTAWAKIL AL-DHUBIBI  
FOR THE YEMEN TIMES

In Yemen the education system has seen considerable progress compared with that during the days of Imam. In that ear, there were not any schools and universities and people were only educated in mosques. Also at that time, few people were interested in studying and almost all women were forbidden to study. Now there are a number of schools and some universities, in addition to many others in the private sector such as institutes for learning foreign language and computer skills. Furthermore, both men and women are keen on learning, and illiteracy has been eradicated to a considerable extent.

Unfortunately there are still shortcomings in the education system in Yemen which need to be addressed. For instance, the huge number of students in classes at school. In some classes there are about a hundred students, therefore it is difficult for a teacher to do his or her job efficiently even if he or she is a sound professional and has a good manner of teaching. In such classes students do not have the opportunity to take part in the lesson activities and to practice what they

have been taught in the class. In addition to that, there is a lack of educational aids used in teaching such as, TV, radio, and computers.

Furthermore, cheating in exams has become a common phenomenon among students that indirectly affects not only the students' performance and knowledge but also the society as whole. Because, students can not be well educated, they may finish school with empty minds.

Although there has been an increase in the number of students at University, some fail to get any jobs and other graduates wait for years to get jobs in the government sector. Due to that, many students lose confidence and decide not to continue study after secondary school. This would consequently lead to a generation ill equipped for the modern world. Unfortunately the government chooses to bring in foreign teachers, who are paid much more than what Yemeni teachers are paid rather than use the money to ensure that Yemeni teachers are paid sufficiently well to motivate them.

The government should set up more schools and provide all facilities to enable teachers to offer students with better tuition. Also, it should help graduates to get jobs so as to reduce the level of unemployment.

# WONDERWORD

by DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: First read the list of words, then look at the puzzle. The words are in all directions — vertically, horizontally, diagonally, backward. Circle each letter of a word found and strike it off the list. The letters are often used more than once, so do not cross them out. It is best to find the big words first. When you find all the words listed in the clues, you'll have a number of letters left over that spell the Wonderword.

## CLUES

- |         |         |          |          |           |
|---------|---------|----------|----------|-----------|
| Acres   | Eggs    | Irrigate | Planting | Sell      |
| Apple   | Farmer  | Ladder   | Plants   | Shed      |
| Autumn  | Fence   | Land     | Pony     | Sheep     |
| Barns   | Field   | Leaves   | Pork     | Shovel    |
| Bluff   | Food    | Leeks    | Potatoes | Soil      |
| Breed   | Fowl    | Lettuce  | Process  | Silo      |
| Busy    | Fruits  | Loan     | Pumpkins | Spade     |
| Carrots | Garden  | Local    | Push     | Spring    |
| Carry   | Gloves  | Manual   | Quality  | Stock     |
| Cattle  | Goat    | Market   | Rain     | Summer    |
| Chicken | Grass   | Methods  | Rake     | Tools     |
| Control | Handle  | Milking  | Repair   | Trees     |
| Corn    | Harvest | Milk     | Ripe     | Trim      |
| Country | Haze    | Oats     | Rock     | Truck     |
| Cows    | Help    | Onions   | Rooster  | Vegetable |
| Crops   | Hens    | Orchard  | Roots    | Water     |
| Cutting | Herd    | Pack     | Rural    | Weather   |
| Dairy   | Horse   | Pick     | Seasons  | Wool      |
| Earth   | Hose    | Pigs     | Seed     | Yard      |

## ON THE FARM

Solution: 8 letters

P	C	A	T	T	L	E	S	S	A	R	G	S	E	L	L	H	E	N	S
L	O	R	T	N	O	C	S	S	S	R	E	T	A	W	Y	O	G	K	
A	W	T	R	S	P	R	I	N	G	E	L	D	C	N	F	T	N	S	E
N	S	O	A	D	L	O	C	G	O	K	C	O	T	S	A	I	E	Q	E
T	C	E	N	T	W	P	E	H	S	I	L	O	O	W	T	L	E	E	L
I	S	A	S	E	O	S	G	O	A	T	N	F	R	T	P	A	P	L	A
N	L	D	P	R	F	E	K	C	U	R	T	O	U	P	S	U	I	D	D
G	L	I	O	A	O	L	S	H	T	S	D	C	A	B	T	Q	C	N	D
L	R	E	R	E	H	E	H	A	S	U	S	T	O	R	A	C	K	A	E
D	A	M	T	A	T	R	P	U	M	P	K	I	N	S	O	R	S	H	R
M	E	R	V	T	V	E	I	P	N	E	B	L	U	F	F	E	N	U	I
R	I	E	U	E	U	R	M	A	C	A	R	R	Y	R	A	L	R	S	R
M	S	L	S	R	R	C	S	N	P	Y	M	A	E	S	F	Y	I	T	O
W	E	T	K	I	D	R	E	H	N	E	D	I	O	E	G	R	R	O	O
K	E	N	G	I	E	F	O	O	E	R	N	G	R	D	I	S	O	S	
P	R	A	K	E	N	V	P	C	H	V	S	P	A	C	K	A	P	R	T
E	T	O	T	B	A	G	O	S	K	T	E	K	R	A	M	D	A	E	E
E	E	L	P	H	U	R	E	M	M	U	S	L	D	R	A	Y	D	Z	R
H	G	L	O	V	E	S	T	E	L	B	A	T	E	G	E	V	E	A	L
S	C	O	U	N	T	R	Y	H	P	L	E	H	N	E	K	C	I	H	C

ANSWER NEXT WEEK

Last Week's Answer: Exchange

# YOUTH FORUM

**Traffic, the persistent headache**  
I am very sad and tired of the traffic in this city. It is so bad that I can never get anywhere on time. There are too many cars, buses and trunks in the road, and most of them don't obey the traffic regulations.  
Another problem is the buses. They are so old and uncomfortable that nobody wants to ride them. They are noisy, very dirty and their seats are too narrow.  
Also, the taxi drivers are rude and

greedy. There is no parking for taxis and they stop anywhere, even in the middle of the roads, to let customers on or off. Traffic lights are broken and the traffic policemen don't command any respect.  
Why are the roads too crowded and dangerous? What are we going to do? Why don't we get subways and highways?  
By Yassin Zaid  
Sana'a city

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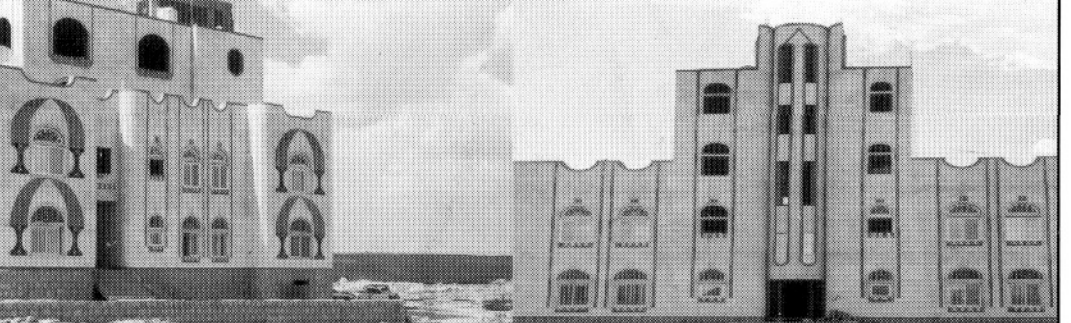
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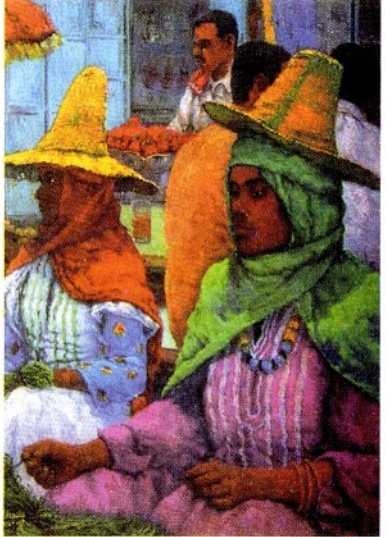
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# Hashem Ali, innovator admired by others

By YASSER AL-MAYYASI  
 YEMEN TIMES STAFF

An exhibition of the plastic artist, Hashem Ali Abdullah, was inaugurated on Sunday - 8th August 2004 at the Book Bureau. This plastic exhibition was inaugurated by the Minister of Culture & Tourism, Khaled al-Rowaishan, and contained over 35 artistic paintings, distinguished by their innovative depiction of the Yemeni's simple life and daily details. The paintings reflect the details and the Yemeni's peculiarities; his outputs and his insistence on living and struggling. The artist's nature is comes across in his paintings; they are the expres-



sive paintings of an innovative artist, who in spite of his humility, provides sufficient enough expres-



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tion for study and reflection upon the Yemeni community's idiosyncrasies. The artist could also display his paintings in festivals for dresses, crafts, trades and talents. His work, embodies the social atmosphere which characterizes the Yemeni, in addition to a portrait capturing the form of Yemeni architecture. The artistic show consisted of paintings that have previously occupied prominent positions in international exhibitions. The artist Hashem is enjoying the experience of a high public profile, now being considered as one of the plastic art movements pioneers, at the local, regional and international level. Additionally, he is enjoying major and prominent contributions in editing and preparing many of the cadres and young innovative talents in the plastic art line. He was born in 1945 in Hadhramaut town, speaks English fluently and has participated in more than 45 collective exhibitions in Yemen and abroad. He also owns 17 private exhibitions

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