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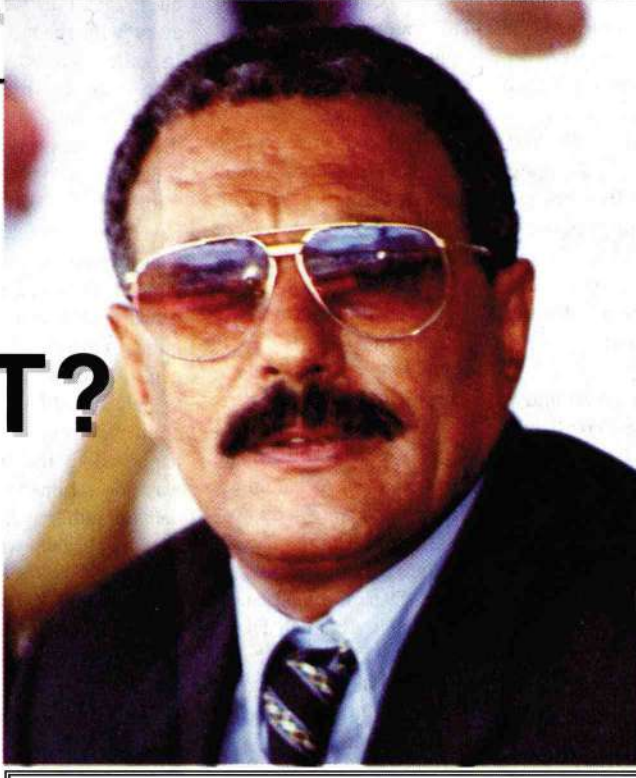
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THE PRESIDENT TO DECIDE: A COALITION GOVERNMENT?



Several newspapers have recently been publishing reports of possible cabinet reshuffle. However, the latest such report released by Al-Ayyam was denied by official sources saying that there are yet no intentions for any change in the government's cabinet. However, after the presidential elections, the president has given the government a 3-month period to solve its problems and show him its strategies for the coming year in terms of fighting corruption, establishing law and order, increasing efficiency, and other issues. Without doubt, these strategies and plans have not been revealed to the public giving the impression that the government was not able to do what it was supposed to within the deadline. Hence, when the president speaks about change, what comes to mind is the change in the government. The intentions of the president to make some changes were evident in many of his speeches, but no one yet knows the changes that will take place.

The people in Yemen are waiting for changes, and have expressed their hope in change that would bring them better conditions. However, regarding the expected change, there are two main speculations, which are based on different sources, and which are:

- 1- The President will keep the same government. Hence Prime Minister, Dr. Abdulkareem Al-Iryani would stay in his post as Prime Minister. However, very few and minor changes would take place in some ministries. This means that there would barely be some change in the government.
- 2- The drastic point of view, which is also preferred by the public, is the change of the whole government from top to bottom and bringing into it more efficient and qualified ministers. The new government would be a coalition government which will have representatives from most of - if not all - the political parties in the country. The new prime minister may be an individual from Hadramout with great political influence and a person trustworthy by the president and the public.

The two possibilities do not remove the possibility of no change whatsoever (as claimed by some official source.) However, at a time when economic conditions continue to deteriorate, and the public continue to suffer, some kind of change to the better would probably be in favor of the country and would get some satisfaction from the people of Yemen. Only time will tell what the decision of the president will be. After all, it is a critical decision that can change a lot, not only in Yemen's internal conditions, but also in global terms.

First Step in Establishing a Main Bourse in Yemen

The Minister of Finance Mr. Alawi Saleh Al-Sallami announced the plan to setup its first ever stock market for its banking sector in 2000 as a first step towards establishing a main bourse in the country. "The government is currently considering setting up a share market between banks this year... as part of steps to set up a main stock exchange in the country" the minister said. On the other hand, Yemen's Central Bank governor, Ahmed Al-Samawi, said that Yemen had begun preparations to set up a stock exchange as part of an economic reform program in coordination with the International Monetary Fund in 1997. Yemen is among the few countries that yet lack any stock exchange services and studies were being held in cooperation with relevant Arab and international institutions to establish the main bourse. "These studies are taking place gradually to set up a secure and stable market which is not subject to risks and upsets," the minister added.

Yemen has been undergoing an economic reform program under the direct supervision of the IMF and the World Bank. The step of establishing a main bourse in the views of economists will further strengthen the confidence of investors to invest in the country and bring about important changes in the national economy required to adopt to global market policies.

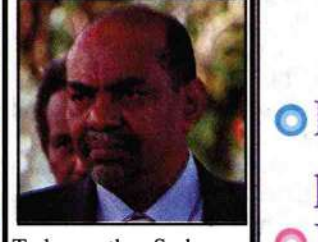
Djibouti's President Concludes a Successful Visit to Yemen

Djibouti president Ismael Omer Jeila arrived in Sana'a Saturday beginning a several-day state visit to Yemen in response to an invitation by president Ali Abdulla Saleh for having talks on consolidating bilateral relations and discussing developments on both Arab and international arenas. The Djibouti president was granted a grand official and popular welcome at Sana'a airport headed by president Ali Abdulla Saleh, vice-president Abdirabu Mansour Hadi, prime minister Dr Abdulkarim Al-Eryani, Mr Abdulaziz Abdulghani, chairman of the Consultative Council, deputy premier, the foreign minister Abdulqader Ba Jamal and the minister of supply and trade in addition to the Yemeni ambassador to Djibouti Abdulwahab Al-Wahabi and Djibouti ambassador to Yemen Yousif Omer Da'ala. The visiting president was also welcomed by the ministers, members of the consultative council and parliament, leaders of political parties and organizations, military commanders, the staff of Djibouti embassy in Sana'a and a number of the Djibouti community in Yemen.



Both presidents of Yemen Ali Abdulla Saleh and of Djibouti Ismael Omer Jeila held a closed-door meeting in which they discussed fraternal relations and ways of enhancing and developing areas of cooperation in realization of both countries joint interests. The two presidents had also reviewed developments in the African Horn region and reconciliation efforts in Somalia. The meeting also discussed the Arab situation and coordinating efforts of the two countries for strengthening Arab solidarity and for speeding up holding the Arab summit, called Yemen and a number of Arab countries.

Sudanese President In Sanaa Today



Today, the Sudanese President Omar Al-Bashir arrives in Sana'a on a formal visit to Yemen. During the visit, Al-Bashir will hold discussions with President Ali Abdullah Saleh regarding bilateral relations and means of boosting them further in addition to the new developments in the Arab and regional arenas. On the other hand, the discussions will also include the events in Sudan and the struggle in the South against the rebels. It is worth mentioning that conditions in Southern Sudan.

إقبال كبير على مسابقة الألفية الثالثة الكبرى

شهدت مسابقة الألفية الثالثة الكبرى إقبالا كبيرا وغير متوقع رغم فترة العيد في مدن الجمهورية حيث نفذت معظم المكتبات والأكشاك من العدد الأخير من صحيفة «يمن تايمز» في تعز وعدن وصنعاء. وسوف تستمر المسابقة التي جازتها الأولى مليون ريال نقدا لمدة أسبوعين آخرين حتى يتسنى للجميع المشاركة في المسابقة التي تعتبر أعظم مسابقة تنظمها صحيفة يمنية. شاركوا في مسابقة يمن تايمز قبل فوات الأوان وبأسرع وقت ممكن لتشاركوا في سحب المليون ريال في الشهر القادم. أنظر إلى المسابقة وتفاصيلها في الداخل..

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Words of Wisdom

"There is increasing worldwide criticism of human rights violations in the Republic of Yemen. Although the authorities continue to state their commitment to respect for human rights, the practice is a totally different matter. The problem seems to be the inability and/or unwillingness of the top politicians to control the security officers, especially those working in criminal investigations and political security."

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



YT Weekly Opinion Poll

Yemen Times Opinion Poll Question is at:
<http://www.yementimes.com/#poll>

Question

If the current government's actions against chewing qat continue, how long will Yemen take in your view to diminish the habit of chewing qat?

Result

Within 3 years 7%
Within 10 years 28%
Within 50 years 20%
After more than 50 years 14%
Never! 32%

THIS WEEK'S QUESTION

Do you think the president will decide on forming a coalition government from all parties, or will he maintain the same government (with probably minor changes)?

Editorial

Walid Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf
Chief Editor

Change Can Only Come if the Leadership Wants!

Throughout history, decision-makers were able to shape lives of nations. They were able to drag them to wars, implement strict rules that changes the environment they live in, and enforce changes that were reflected in their lives. Today, they continue to keep this power, and they are the ones who can implement real change. Decisions from powerful leaders are the first step in implementing true change in any environment, especially in third world countries, where direct involvement of the public in vital decisions is relatively weak. During the last several months, calls for change in the country has become the talk of the hour. People whisper here and there saying that it is about time for some change in an attempt to get the country a little bit closer to its neighbors in regards to economic growth, and the well being of its people. However, the change anticipated although important is still not in their hands. Any change that could have a lasting effect on our lives should come from the leadership.

President Saleh has for many times promised to establish a country of law and order, to draw new lines for the country's strategy in order to get it out of its current economic crisis. His words were shining and promising. But on the other hand, how can he implement this promised change if the executive machinery that is supposed to run the country (government) stays with the same mentality, inefficiency, and corruption.

The efficiency of a government of any country without doubt reflects the wisdom and efficiency of the President himself, of course the reverse is also valid. The President needs today to prove that there will be change. He should lead the change and bring more hope into the poor Yemeni citizen who undergoes a lot of economic and social pressure in a time we experience a global transformation into modern times.

As the founder of Yemen Times, Dr. Abdulaziz Al-Saqqaf (may his soul rest in peace) once said, "President Saleh has to lead with more change. If he blocks gradual change, there is a possibility of creating a bottleneck like a build-up behind a dam. The forces of change will gather forces and eventually burst the dam. He has to see this, and work to avoid this scenario...Change is an inevitable part of a dynamic society. We must embark on change, though we must pace ourselves with an eye to our socio-cultural conditions and reality. But, please do not stop cycling."

It is up to you Mr. President to accomplish this change. No matter what the normal citizen does, no matter how much he works for change, you are the one who can bring this change into reality.

Let us all hope that he will be enlightened and guided to the proper manner of accomplishing the great transition we expect and to achieve the long waited change to the better.

In Brief

Kuwaiti Minister of Planning in Sana'a

The Kuwaiti Minister of Planning, Dr. Mohammed Al-Dewaihesi arrived in Sana'a on January 16, 2000. He is visiting Yemen to head the Board of Trustees of the Arab Institution of Planning, which holds its final session. Our country is one of fifteen countries that attend this session. The Arab Institution holds two meetings a year.

The Yemen National Bank to Be Privatized

The World Bank, carries out measures of economic reforms, exercises great pressure these days on the Yemeni government to privatize the Yemen National Bank which according to reports of the World Bank conducted last year was one of the most successful banks in Yemen. The Bank used to be the formal bank in the southern governorates before the unification.

Privatizing the bank will be divided as follows: 10% for workers, 30% for the government and 60% to be for sale.

The World Bank statement stated that the 60% should not at all be monopolized by some specific officials. Privatizing the bank will be against the privatization law passed by the president of the Republic which reveals that privatization should include those bodies that are not at all active.

The World Bank is privatizing the bank under the pretext to attract investors and to show that the government does not privatize the failed bodies and institutions.

The Central Organization for Control and Audit objected to this action and stated that the evaluation of the assets of the bank and its structure was far from being proper. Therefore a committee was formed to make an evaluation and the result was completely different and is far more than that made by the Development and Planning Ministry.

Ports Employees ask for Wages Increase

Ports employees have warned the government that they would resume their strike unless it had raised their wages. On the other hand, the Ports Authority has agreed on an increase of 170% but this was rejected by the Ministry of Finance and agreed on an increase of only 70%. Ports employees have rejected the decision of the Ministry of Finance and said that they would go on a strike again if the Ministry did not accept the increase agreed on by the Ports Authority.

Number of Yemeni Diplomats to be Decreased

The government has recently decided to specify a work period of 4 years for ambassadors to brotherly and friendly countries. Following this decision

Yemeni ambassadors to Morocco, Iraq, China, Pakistan, Algeria, Djibouti, France, Qatar, Libya and Holland were called back home. The government seems to think about decreasing the number of diplomats who used to be appointed by high orders without taking into consideration the public interest or the international norms.

Tension mounts in Al-Jawf

Five people from Daham tribe in Al-Jawf were seriously injured and one was killed as a result of an explosion of a landmine. The injured were soon hospitalized in Najran in Saudi Arabia. Following this event, Daham tribe, headed by Sheikh Abdullah Daris, accused Wailah tribe, headed by Sheikh Ben Shage'a, of mining despite the peace treaty signed by the two tribes.

It is worth mentioning that the two tribes are the biggest and most important Yemeni tribes that are situated on borders between Yemen and Saudi Arabia. The two tribes possess light and heavy weapons which they usually use to fight each other.

Armed Clash in Mareb

An armed clash took place last Saturday between military troops stationed in I abab valley in Serwah - Mareb, near the house of sheik Faisal Jedhelan, and the person who had kidnapped two French people. There was an exchange in gunfire with different kinds of weapons. The citizens were frightened, and left their houses because of the shelling of heavy weapons. The shelling did not cause damage except that one house was destroyed.

Disappearance of University Girls

Disappearing girls has become a worry to many families that want their girls to study. This phenomenon has remarkably spread over the last five years especially among university students. Victims are often kidnapped either by force or seduction. Some people assume the identity of security men and force girls to go with them. Others are taken away by luxurious cars owners that they can not stand their allure. We have heard many stories of this kind. For example in this year one girl was found killed near the Presidency Palace, two girl students were kidnapped by a luxurious car owner in Al-Sitteen Street. Recently, we have heard about an Iraqi girl who was kidnapped forcibly from the Faculty of Medicine by people holding security cards last December.

Some people accuse playful men of carrying out such acts while others accuse security men. What is worse is that Security authorities in Sanaa do not raise a finger to stop such

phenomenon.

In a telephone call the Yemen Times talked to one of the officers in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs who said that kidnapped girls were not kidnapped, but in fact, they were taken away with their own will. In other words, they go with men by themselves either because they love them or because of other personal reasons. He also said that our society can never approve such events even if some people try to pretend to be security men because if a man tries to kidnap a girl all people happen to be on site will hurry to help her. At the end he confirmed that what had happened to the Iraqi girl was not a kidnapping incident but rather a disappearance by her own will.

18 Countries Want Consulates at Aden

Informed diplomatic sources report that nearly 18 foreign countries asked the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to agree for opening of Consulates and Trade Missions in Aden and that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs had agreed to some of them. They added that the United States, India, Pakistan and some members of the European Union are at the top of the list.

These demands come in the frame of international interest that is enjoyed by Aden as an economic and commercial capital for Yemen, and in accordance with the intention by government to restore the old status of the Foreign Affairs Office as it was after the 22nd. of May, 1990: a branch of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, not only an office as it is now.

Three Officers Killed on the Road of Harad

The security forces in the governorate of Hodeidah arrested an armed group, that killed three officers from the Central Security. Those officers are Mohammed Shageeb, Ali Gadi and soldier Reziq, and seven other soldiers were injured. Sources have mentioned that the armed group threw hand grenade at the people and military force that was blocking their way while they were attempting to escape on the road of Hodeidah- Harad. That group also robbed other citizens in addition to other

crimes.

Group of Yemen friends was formed in the European Parliament

Yemen's friends group was formed in the European Parliament last Tuesday Jan. 11 at the presence of Yemen Ambassador to European Union Jazem Abdul Khaleq and members from Britain's, German, Irish and EU Parliament. The major aim of forming the group set up for the first time in the history of Yemeni - European relationship is push up mutual cooperation existed between the two sides in particular and to protect Yemen interest inside the European Parliament. Yemen Ambassador said. Richard Baffle, a British parliamentarian has suggested for the friends of Yemen Group to organize special visit to Sana'a to be paid later.

He promised to organize a trip for the group to see the Yemeni unbelievable cultural and tourist sites, indicating that it will be unforgettable journey

Public health Ministry to inspect Private Medical Constructions

"Within the coming period the Ministry of Public health will begin its inspection campaigns on the private medical institutions to be assured of their commitment to the conditions adopted by the Public Health Ministry for the inauguration of such medical constructions". Deputy Minister of Public Health Dr. Abdul Karim Shaiban told (Saba) today.

He called on all the owners of private hospitals, clinics or any other health centers to display their licenses on a very noticeable place at their medical constructions presented with a list of their services and cost, within a period of two weeks otherwise the Public Health Ministry will adopt measures according to the law of private constructions.

Taiz University to hold Environment & Natural Resources 1st conference

Taiz University received different Arab and local researches, which are going to be discussed in the environment and natural resources first conference. The under way preparations for holding the conference are going in full swing.

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It was with deepest regret and great sorrow that the Royal Netherlands Embassy at Sana'a received the sad news of the sudden death on 5 January 2000 of

Mr. Gerrit Meijer (1966-2000)

Gerrit lastly worked for UNDP-Yemen at the National Water Resources Agency office in Sana'a.

During a well deserved holiday with his wife in Madagascar, Gerrit fell ill and has not recovered. He was buried on Wednesday 12 January 2000 in Winschoten, the Netherlands.

Gerrit loved living and working in Yemen. He and his wife were highly appreciated and loved for their warmth and hospitality by all who knew them and worked with them. They had many friends in Yemen from all nationalities, Dutch, Yemeni and others.

Together, they were still so full of plans for the future.

The Embassy wishes Gerrit's family, but especially his wife Sonja, all the strength which is needed to deal with this immense loss.

Condolence messages and correspondence can be addressed through the Netherlands Embassy at Sana'a, P.O. Box 463

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Yemeni Press Scanner

AL-THAWRAH Official

Two Earthquakes hit Al-Baidha'a

The population of Al-Baidha'a governorate and nearby areas felt two earthquakes during the night before yesterday. The first one occurred at 11.25 p.m. while the other at 3.30 a.m. next morning. Both quakes, which were accompanied with roar, didn't result in any material losses or casualties. They were 2.4 degrees strong as per Richter Scale. The Director of the Dhamar Seismic Observation Center considered both quakes as similar to a mild one that occurred on the 6th. of January in the same and surrounding areas.

Ministry of Health Warns Against Plastic Pistols

A number of hospitals in Sana'a and several governorates received tens of injury cases that resulted from playing with a new kind of plastic pistols during the Eid Al-Fitr holidays, the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Public Health announced. These injuries- especially eye injuries- resulted from plastic bullets shot by children pistols. Al-Thawrah Hospital at Sana'a alone received more than 15 cases. The Permanent Secretary warned that these toys which are imported for the first time as toys into Yemen are very dangerous for adults as well as children. He remarked that an eye that is hit by such a bullet might become blind as a result of that.

26TH SEPTEMBER Armed Forces Journal

A Yemeni-Sudanese-Djibouti Summit Mid-Next Week

His Excellency President Ismail Omer Jeila of the brotherly Republic of Djibouti arrived in Sana'a Saturday on a several-day state visit to Yemen in response to an invitation by President Ali Abdulla Saleh.

In the aftermath of the successful meetings held by the Joint Ministerial Committee, The President of Djibouti is scheduled to conduct important discussions aimed at enforcing the exceptionally cordial bilateral relations between both brotherly countries,

in addition to important developments in the Arab region and globally.

Within the same context, His Excellency President Omer Hasan Al-Bashir of the brotherly Republic of Sudan arrives in Sana'a on Monday on a three-day visit to Yemen. His Excellency shall acquaint President Saleh and other senior officials with recent developments in the Sudan in the light of measures taken previously by President Al-Bashir dissolving Parliament and declaring a state of emergency in Sudan. Informed sources confirmed to our newspaper that a Yemeni-Sudanese-Djibouti summit shall be held here in Sana'a on Monday. Bilateral relations, stability and security in the Red Sea and the Horn of Africa and safeguarding international navigation routes shall be the main topics, in addition to coordination on Arab issues and regaining Arab solidarity in the light of the call by Yemen for an Arab summit. The three leaders shall also discuss aspects of the dispute in Somalia in the aftermath of the initiative made by Djibouti to solve the crisis in Somalia which was met by widespread support in Yemen.

Naseem Resigns A Title

The International Yemeni hero boxer Naseem Hamid Kashmim has agreed to relinquish his title as World Featherweight Hero or World Hero according to the ratings of the International Organization. This move by Naseem comes after the Council demanded that he must relinquish one of his two titles. A statement issued in Mexico by the International Boxing Council said that both Naseem and the Council's Chairman agreed upon the move. Naseem held both belts after he defeated his Mexican challenger last October in the United States, but the International Boxing Council had by then warned that it won't recognize him as holding both titles and that he had to give up one of them.

Interesting Archaeological Discoveries at Tamna

An Archaeological team, that concluded its mission for the first season had made fantastic results and important results while digging in Wadi Baihan.

Dr. Yousef M. Abdulla of the Public Authority for Museums, Manuscripts and Archeology said in exclusive statement to our newspaper that the Italian-French mission that concluded its current activities at Tamna, the capital of Qatban, discovered an old temple dating back to the period between the 3rd. century B.C. and the 1st/2nd century of Common Era, i.e. the period during which Qatban was at its most prosperous life. The same temple was built over a yet another older temple, probably goes back to the 7th or 8th century B.C.

AL-AYYAM Independent

5 Ministers To Leave New Cabinet

Strong rumors say that Dr. Abdul Karim Al-Eryani may declare the formation of a new cabinet within the next few days. An informed source reports that five ministers shall not join the new Government because their ministries shall be merged with other ministries. Other sources said that the new cabinet should be declared simultaneously with other resolutions regarding civil and military appointments. These moves agree with approaches declared by President Saleh in his electoral program during the last presidential elections. In that program the President said that he was going to make changes in several aspects concerning the fulfillment by the structures of government of their missions and duties in developing the country.

A German Terrorist Sentenced

The Associated Press reports that Johannes Winrick, who was accused of blowing up the French Cultural Center in Berlin in 1983, shall be sentenced next week, after a four-year long trial. There are four other additional charges against him. He was arrested in Yemen in 1995.

New Cabinet Rumors Dismissed

A high-ranking official called us on phone to fully dismiss the news published last Wednesday about the new cabinet. The official said what was published by Al-Ayyam was completely groundless. He added that Al-Ayyam and other media should scrutinize any news before publishing. It is to be recalled that Al-Ayyam published last Wednesday that consistent whispers in the political streets speak about a new cabinet... so many officials refused when questioned by Al-Ayyam and other media to confirm or deny those whispers, which contradicts with law.

Amsurrah Water-Tank Blasted Again

There was a dreadful explosion at 10.00 p.m. last Tuesday when unknown persons threw a bomb near Amsurrah water tank, at Amsurrah, Abyan governorate. The tank is considered a vital source providing the population of Amsurrah and nearby villages with clean water. The culprits disappeared and the competent authorities continue looking for them. Till now their identities are not known. This is the 2nd attempt in less than two months to blast the water-tank.



INTERNATIONAL NEWS DIGEST

GROZNY

Russia Significantly Intensifies Attacks
Civilians Suffer as Russia has launched its heaviest every day of attacks against the Chechen capital of Grozny as it attempts to reverse the losses of recent weeks which have seen rebel forces thumb their nose at the former superpower's forces. On the other hand, Russia decided to relax conditions for the use of nuclear weapons as a new defense policy in Russia makes it easier for the nuclear weapons to be used in an international crisis.

ANKARA

Turkey delays execution of Kurdish rebel leader Ocalan
Turkey's coalition government Wednesday announced it has temporarily suspended the death sentence against Kurdish rebel leader Abdullah Ocalan until a European court can review it. The far-right Nationalist Action Party, which has pressed for Ocalan's hanging, agreed to wait for the European Court of Human Rights to review Ocalan's appeal before sending it to Turkey's parliament for debate. Prime Minister Bulent Ecevit warned that the hold on the execution can be lifted at any time. Analysts claim that Ecevit's warning to the rebel group was an apparent attempt to appease his partner in the coalition government, hard-line nationalist Devlet Bahceli, and relatives of thousands of people who lost their loved ones in fighting against the rebels.

JERUSALEM

Israel delays West Bank withdrawal over dispute with Palestinians
Israel decided Saturday to postpone a withdrawal from the West Bank for at least two weeks over a dispute with the Palestinians on the land to be included in the pullout. A spokesman for Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak's office said the Cabinet would not view the withdrawal maps in a meeting Sunday, which is a requirement for the withdrawal originally slated for Thursday.

EAST TIMOR

U.N. job seekers in East Timor turn violent
After a rumor spread that only English speakers would be hired, East Timorese applying for U.N. jobs in the capital of Dili turned violent, pelting international peacekeepers and police officers with stones. Flying rocks injured one of the peacekeepers, an Australian soldier and a television cameraman. The mob also set upon other East Timorese and beat them.

SOUTHERN SUDAN

Eight aid workers killed in Sudan
Eight aid workers were killed in southern Sudan when their

vehicle was set ablaze, apparently by rebels from Uganda, a Norwegian relief group said on Friday. Rebels of the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) were believed to have carried out the attack. On the other hand, Sudan's government has renewed its commitment to the civil war cease-fire that was due to expire on Saturday, the official newspaper Al-Anba reported Friday, a day after the southern rebels reaffirmed the truce.

LIBYA

Plane crashes off Libyan coast, at least 17 dead
A Swiss plane carrying oil workers crashed off the Mediterranean coast of Libya, killing at least 17 people, and investigators searched for six others still missing last Friday. Libyan and British sources said 18 people had survived Thursday's crash of the twin-engined plane carrying 41 people on board, the Swiss air accident investigation bureau said.

BELGRADE

War Criminal Arkan Shot to Death
Officials say the shooting death of Zeljko Raznatovic — also known as Arkan — was not much of a surprise and may make it more difficult to prosecute other accused Balkan war criminals. The notorious Serbian paramilitary leader was shot to death Saturday by unidentified gunmen while leaving a restaurant inside Belgrade's Hotel Intercontinental, according to independent news agencies Beta and Studio B. Two others were killed in the shooting, including Arkan's bodyguard, according to the official news agency Tanjug.

COLOMBIA

50 Killed in fighting between Colombian rebels and security forces
In some of the worst fighting in months, clashes between leftist rebels and security forces near Bogota killed 50 people Saturday, the same day Secretary of State Madeleine Albright visited northern Colombia. Rebels from the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, staged an early morning attack on Guayabetal, 30 miles southeast of Bogota, Colombia's capital. Fighting in the region continued throughout the day, and was still going on Saturday night.

CUBA

Cuban protests turn angry with Elian's return delayed
Increasingly frustrated and angry, Cubans calling for the return of Elian Gonzalez packed central Havana on Saturday, the day after thousands of mothers made the same demand during a demonstration in the capital of the Caribbean island nation.



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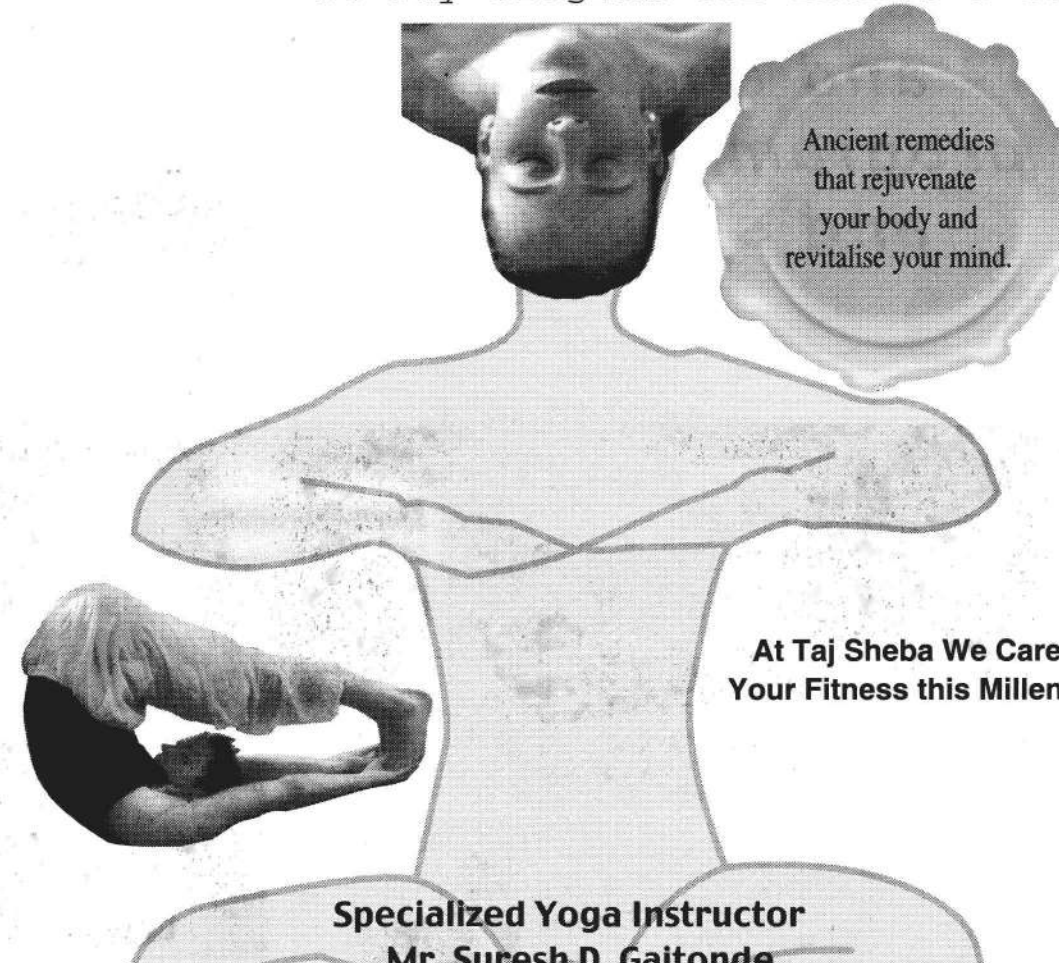
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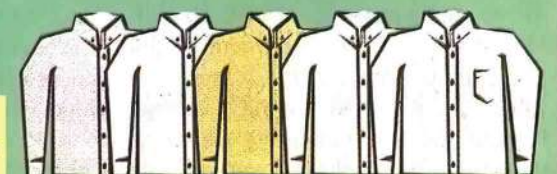
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COCA/NCA Symposium: A Change for the Better

As part of the cooperation between Yemen and Royal Netherlands, a symposium entitled (A Change for the Better) was inaugurated Saturday 19 for the technical cooperation project between the Central Organization for Control and Audit (COCA) and Netherlands Court of Audit (NCA.) The project aims at improving the COCA through conducting a number of technical projects under the supervision of Dutch experts.

In the beginning of the symposium, Chairman of COCA, Mr. Ahmad Mohammed Al-Iryani, welcomed the Minister of Construction and Planning, Mr. Ahmad Mohammed Soufan, Dutch ambassador to Yemen, H.E. Mr. Arend J. Meerburg, Member of NCA, Mr. Aan Pieter Zevenberge and the other attendants. Mr. Soufan pointed out that cooperation between COCA and the Netherlands in general

and NCA in particular started with the visit he paid to NCA in 1992. "This visit formed the real start for cooperation between COCA and NCA," he said. He also urged Yemenis to benefit from the experience of the Dutch experts.

HE. Mr. Meerburg also delivered a speech in which he said that courts of audits should keep any government out of their business because their task is to audit, to verify their governments. "The court of audit is an essential part of the public administration, of democracy, of a transparent society in which public money is properly administrated and efficiently spent.

It is part of good governance and a deterrent against corruption. It should be a strong but fair organization, not only looking at the legality of the accounts but also at the effectiveness of the government programs: do these programs really give 'value for money' and are the original objectives met," he added. He also talked about the most important factors which are essential for courts of audit to do their

work as follows:
 A truly effective court
 -Is completely independent from the government, and reports directly to Parliament, not to the Head of State, Prime Minister or anyone else.
 -Has professional management at the top, i.e. its audit staff is led by someone with internationally recognized professional qualifications.
 -Has enough staff at all levels to carry out its mandate.
 -Is free to recruit, manage and discipline its own staff.
 -Has financial independence from the government, without which some of the above 'desiderata' would be impossible (i.e. must not be subject to budgetary and other financial controls by the Ministry of Finance etc.)
 -Has good periodical external quality control by a competent



body outside the court and outside the government (for example a private auditing firm.)
 -Produces reports which are freely available to all members of the public at nominal or reasonable cost, and which receive the widest possible publicity from the news media

-Sees its recommendations enforced by the Executive, e.g. through punishment of, or recovery from, persons guilty of fraud or abuse, as a deterrent to others.

Yasser Mohammed Ahmad
 Yemen Times



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SILVER LINING

Mohammed Hatem Al-Qadhi,
 Managing Editor

When Youngsters Can Lead Change

We have been always repeating sweet an resounding phrases that youngsters are the power-house of energy of our nation. In fact, they are its future builders. This is fine. But what is more incongruous and inconsistent is that these phrases do not match with anything concrete and tangible. There is always a very wide gap between the word and the reality.

One of the vital ingredients of the success of nations is that there is always a match between what is said and what is done. But for us it is the reverse. We speak too much and work very little. This is actually our predicament.

We always shrug our shoulders and speak very proudly of our 'glorious' past. We hail at our bygone great achievements. We forget the fact that there is no match between our past and present. Our past was glorious but our present and future is uncertain and is full of despair and setbacks. What matters should be the present situation, not the past. We should live up to the challenges of the present moment. We should be fully aware of what is happening and what is to come rather than things of the had.

It seems that I have strayed away from my main point. This is because I am very much against giving much magnitude to the past and forgetting our present situation.

My main point in this respect is our youngsters. They are not really conscious of what is happening around them. To drive the point home, due to shaky educational system, they seem to be not educated; they are just literate. There are a good number of Yemeni students who join universities and then leave them without acquiring any useful information. They do not have adequate information to make the positive agents in the society. Some of the university teachers tend to make education examination-oriented. That is, students are given certain material to memorize and keep by heart and then reproduce them in the exams. This is the point at which the educational process terminates. Understanding seems to be exception in our education process. Therefore, because of such examination-oriented study, our students forget what they have memorized very easily because the aim was merely not to understand but to pass the exams and obtain a certificate in any way.

I was awfully appalled when I found that there are university graduates with distinction and they don't know, for instance, that Germany was divided into two countries and then was reunited. Another university female graduate doesn't know that Yeltsin is the ex-president of Russia. The problem is that she graduated with distinction. Not only that. Such students do not have even any idea of the current situation in Yemen, either political, social, economic or whatsoever. It seems that they have never read any book or a newspaper. They are of a very shallow culture and education. This is disconcerting and disappointing.

A person in this technological revolution era is valued by how much knowledge and information he has so as to be able to interact with the ongoing business around him. I feel really sad for our society to find that around half of the British children can handle and work on computer and internet while hundreds of Yemeni have heard about the internet. The gap is very wide, isn't it?

It is virtually well-known that well-informed people are more likely to be able take sound decisions that are of great impact on their lives. It is well-educated people who can lead the helm of development of their nations. Mentally handicapped people can never be a tool of change and effective figures who can render something of value to their societies. Our youngsters should be the means of change and therefore, they should have exposure to good education. Once our youngsters are well-informed, change becomes possible.

Congradulation Aziz

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 الاهل والأصدقاء،
 وكافة موظفي صحيفة يمن تايمز،

SEDU: A Grand Success Unit Needs Support

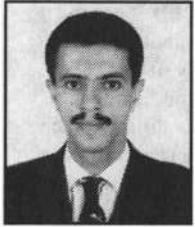


Ismail Al-Ghabiri,
Yemen Times

The Small Enterprise Development Unit (SEDU) is the first financial institution in Yemen that is providing credit and technical assistance on a national scale for small entrepreneurs with a business in manufacturing, trading or other services. In this way SEDU is contributing to increased domestic production, local employment opportunities and poverty alleviation. A Dutch company FACET B.V., is represented in Yemen by Mr Jan Bol, senior consultant.

SEDU Services:

- 1) Financing the purchase of fixed assets (machinery and equipment) for small business, either newly set-up or expanding small enterprises.
- 2) Financing working capital needs of small enterprises, i.e., assisting in the purchasing of raw materials, start-up cost of new enterprises or increased working capital needs of expanding small enterprises.
- 3) Assisting borrowers in the preparation of a feasibility study and cash flow forecast.
- 4) Providing technical assistance or consultation to small enterprises during different stage of development (establishment, operations, renewal or rehabilitation).



Mr. Nabil Ali Al-Azrak, a graduate of Sana'a University, the college of Commerce, economics and political sciences department,

works in the Youth Ministry and Environment safety and has been recently appointed as an executive manager for the SEDU was interviewed by Ismail Al-Ghabree of Yemen Times who filed the following:

Q: When was this Unit established?
A: It was established in 1990 and it started its lending activities in 1991.

Q: What was the objective of establishing this Unit?

A: The objective of establishing the SEDU was to enhance as well as support the pivotal role played by small enterprises in the social and economic development process. I can briefly state some of the goals that are highly stressed upon in the outstanding order of this Unit. They are as follows:

- 1) Providing job opportunities and making free work principles take roots in terms of increasing the awareness of the importance of the private sector in the small enterprises field.
- 2) Expanding as well as encouraging the scope and the prevalence of small enterprises so that they will perform their proper role in the emergence of strong medium-sized and big businesses.
- 3) Providing chances of productive work for the state.
- 4) Developing and encouraging handicraft and professional occupations and protecting them against extinction.
- 5) Developing ties with big, medium organizations and small ones in realization of mutual benefit.

Q: Where do you finance these loans from?

A: Loans granted to these small enterprises are financed by the donor organizations in terms of loans, aids, specifically the Dutch government and UNCDF. We also finance these loans from repayments of these loans and revenues of its commercial activities. We also aspire to establish big and wide-range cooperation relationship with the Social Fund for Development Fund in the future.

Q: What kind of loans do you provide? and who to?

A: At the first stages of the Unit and up to the mid of 1998, the activities of the Unit were restricted to funding productive industrial organizations, however, we had found that the field of the small enterprises is so large that can not be limited to a specific economic activity. Therefore, a new policy was adopted to finance all economic activities, the commercial and serv-

ice activities included.

These loans are granted to support small investors whose incomes can not cover the expenses of their projects.

Q: How many branches do exist and is there any plan to open new branches?

A: We have two branches so far; one in Aden and the other is in Hodeidah, besides the main branch in Sana'a. There are new plans to open new branches in Taiz and Hadramout.

Q: How much has been the total amount of loans granted for the year 1999?

A: The total amount of loans granted up to the end of November 1999 has run to about YR112.5 million.

Q: Are there any other organizations that support the Unit?

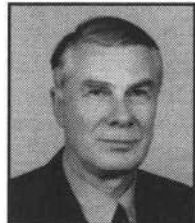
A: The only supporting organizations are the previously mentioned ones. We only receive encouragement from the Ministry of Industry and that of Planning and Development.

Q: What are the most outstanding obstacles that face the Unit?

A: The most outstanding obstacle we face is the absence of the governmental, national organizations and that of the private sector that render facilities and help the Unit in its development program. Besides, there is a scarcity in the potential resources to cover loans. Finally, there is also a gap between the outstanding order of the Unit and its developed activities. This is what makes us constantly ask for changing the Unit into a company that not only finances small enterprises but also provides assistance, coordination, cooperation, advice and consultation for small enterprises which will be able to contact organizations concerned.

Q: What is your plan for the new millennium?

A: The Unit is aiming at extending its activities of granting loans to all governorates of the country. It also aims at accomplishing a comprehensive change in its outstanding order.



The Yemen Times' Al-Ghabree has also conducted an interview with Mr Jan Bol, filing the following:

Q: What is the kind of assistance being given to SEDU?

A: SEDU has benefited in many ways from Dutch support. The project provided new equipment to replace equipment that was sometimes 9 years old. SEDU received new cars, fax machines, photocopiers, computers etc. Some old computers were upgraded and 'cleaned' from viruses and up-to-date 'Windows' and 'MS Office' software was installed in all computers.

SEDU had to move to other, more spacious premises from the cramped accommodation it occupied. This allowed the installation by the local agent of Compaq computers, Al-Engazat, of an up-to-date combined computer telephone network, linking all computers and printers and providing electronic links to the branches. Another change was an internal reorganization of SEDU. Initially there were three departments dealing with respectively loan appraisal, loans monitoring and debt collection. As staff in the Appraisal department, who were handling loan applications from clients, were not responsible for loan repayments, the quality of work and loan repayment suffered at times from lack of attention. Therefore the departments were merged and loan officers become responsible for the outcome of their work. They now handle all stages of the lending process, loan appraisal, monitoring of 'their own loans' and they are responsible for the repayment of 'their' loans.

SEDU's internal systems have also undergone an overhaul. First of all the method used to appraise loan applications was reviewed and changed after staff had been given training. The computerized accounting software was many years old and was replaced by new software provided by a local company, Yemen soft. This company

also provided training to accounts staff in SEDU. Furthermore, the loan administration system was as old as the accounting system specifically developed by FACET for use by its clients/financial institutions that serve small entrepreneurs in developing countries. It will provide much better loan and client information and statistics, which earlier on had to be assembled by hand.

Staff training of course, accompanied all changes. It started with training on some basic financial and accounting principles to loan officers. This was followed by a training course on specific credit management issues, given by a specialized trainer from FACET in Holland and by more in-house training on the use of the new loan appraisal system.

Assessment of sales data, as given by SEDU's clients on their business, is very important when appraising the viability of business proposals. SEDU staff, therefore, attended a training course on marketing for small entrepreneurs, given by a local consultancy firm, Techman. This training helps SEDU staff in providing advice to clients on the marketing plan for their business.

Q: Is SEDU only operating in Sana'a?

A: Before the start of this project clients from other governorates already traveled to Sana'a to obtain a loan from SEDU. SEDU staff was thus also traveling is costly and time consuming for both SEDU clients and SEDU staff, two branches were opened in Aden and Hodeidah as part of the project. Two more branches are planned to open in Mukalla and Taiz.

Q: How do you see small entrepreneurs benefiting from SEDU's activities?

A: Many small business are undercapitalized and need more working capital to expand their operations. At times they get credit from suppliers, but this may be costly and ties them to these suppliers. With a working capital loan from SEDU (generally with a loan repayment period of 1-2 years) they can often expand their business and increase sales or reduce operating cost and increase profit. Very often they also lack the capital to buy another machine to increase production or replace an old machine to improve quality and their competitive position in the market. An equipment loan from SEDU (with a loan repayment period of 1-3 years) helps to overcome these problems. Every business in the world, big or small, needs loan capital and small businesses in Yemen are no exception. In many countries, though, small entrepreneurs have difficulty in getting access to bank services. Loans from SEDU, therefore, help in increasing the size or quality of their business, which in turn creates more income and provides more employment in Yemen.

Q: How many loans have been disbursed by SEDU so far?

A: In the year 1999 the total disbursement (amount of loans paid out) up to the end of November was YR. 112 million through 240 loans. In the first 6 months of the year SEDU disbursed 150 loans to a value of YR. 40 million.

In 12 months in 1998 about the same number of loans (152) was disbursed as in the next 6 months in 1999, to a total of YR. 69 million. The volume of lending was substantially higher in (1999) than in (1998.)

The loan volume in 1998 was actually considerably lower than the year before (1997; 216 loans; YR. 107 million,) due to the changes introduced within SEDU IN 1998. Due to internal re-organization and shifting of responsibilities, staff had become much more careful in 1998 when appraising loans, causing a temporary drop in lending in that year.

Q: To what type of business do you give loans?

A: In the first 6 months of 1999 61 loans (YR. 22 million) were given to enterprises in the manufacturing sector, mainly food & beverage enterprises, clothing & textile producers and handicraft. 28 loans (YR. 13 million) went to the services sector, of which nearly YR. 9 million to medical and nursing services and YR. 2 million to 'professional services' (engineering and accounting officers, translation

bureaus and similar.) Another 41 loans helped to finance shops and trading with YR. 4 million.

Q: What do you mean by medical and nursing services? That is not an industrial activity.

A: That is true, but SEDU provides finance to many other businesses than just industry. We give loans to women (or men) to run a school, to medical doctors or dentists to buy medical equipment, to owners of restaurants, to shop owners etc. anything that is not purely agriculture. We do finance, though, agricultural processing; that means making something from products of the land.

Q: You mentioned loans to women. Are there many women entrepreneurs in Yemen?

A: No, there are not that many of them, but I believe that the government is actively encouraging more women to go into business. Due to low income in many families, there are many people and also officials in government who think that more women should go into business and help in raising living standards for their families. In the first half of 1999 SEDU has given 43 loans to women and 107 loans to men, but the loans to women were generally small compared to those given to men. Forty-three loans to women represent 29% of all loans over that period, but in Rial value it only comes to 4% with 96% of the total amount going to male entrepreneurs. SEDU will gladly support good male entrepreneurs with a sound business, but it will be happy to also see more women go into business. At the moment SEDU is well funded and has no shortage of funds for lending to good small business of either male or female entrepreneurs.

Q: Many women have no experience in business, whilst this is a requirement of any lending institution.

A: That is true, but in the first half of 1999 SEDU has given 50 loans (33%) to starting entrepreneurs, although these had usually obtained experience as an employee somewhere else. But, indeed, lending to start entrepreneurs presents increased risk whether they

are male or female.

As there seem to be no training courses on basic management issues in Yemen and no established institutions that give advice to small entrepreneurs, this project and FACET have taken the initiative to design training courses for starting entrepreneurs, be they male or female. This is done in co-operation with Techman, who as a local consultant, will be able to conduct these courses in Arabic, even after expiry of this project. There will be another course for experienced entrepreneurs, as most entrepreneurs can benefit from additional information to improve their business. The courses will be available early this, but Techman is still looking for donor support to finance the running of these courses.

Q: What are SEDU's plans for the future?

A: First of all we want to continue improving the quality of our work. In the year 2000 in particular we want to look again at our internal procedures and see how these can be improved and how we can help our customers better and faster. Furthermore, we will start using the new loan administration system that has just been installed; we must now start entering all loan data into it.

Having first looked at internal matters, this year we want to get more publicity and promotion as so to attract more customers and work with more small enterprises. This will include talking to business organizations and women organizations and look at further co-

operation with them. Internal training will, of course, continue and we hope that many starting and experienced male and female entrepreneurs will be able to benefit from the new management courses. We will also co-operate with the German project in Taiz and Aden that will support small enterprise. Before summer we want to open two more branches in Taiz and Mukalla and better spread our services over the country.

Given further initial support, in the medium term we would like to open small sub-branches in the country, as so to make our services more easily available to a greater number of small entrepreneurs and reduce the physical distance to many clients. This will allow increased lending away from large towns and will reduce SEDU's operating cost in those areas.

Another issue of major importance is SEDU's legal status. The government has taken the decision that SEDU Will become a company and must learn to operate as in independent organization, that ultimately will be able to stand on its own feet without donor support. We hope that this legal issue will be finalized in the next few months. It will allow us to set out our own rules within the legal framework for private enterprise in Yemen. We may be able to attract (foreign) institutions as a shareholder in the new Small Enterprise Finance Company as a step towards independence and the ability in the future to stand on our own feet without support from anyone, except our customers.

Loan disbursements according to the geographic distribution for the years from 1991 to 1998 (FIGURES IN MILLION YEMENI RIYALS)

Governorate	Number of loans Disbursed	Percentage	Amount of Loans Disbursed	Percentage
Sana'a	566	62.13	260.4	60.25
Amran	1	0.11	0.8	0.19
Taiz	31	3.40	34.4	7.96
Aden	63	6.92	27.8	6.43
Abyan	1	0.11	2	0.46
Lahj	6	0.66	6.1	1.41
Hodeidah	112	12.29	24	5.55
Ibb	35	3.84	25.7	5.95
Hajjah	73	8.01	16.2	3.75
Dhamar	13	1.43	18	4.16
Al-Beidha	5	0.55	5.2	1.20
Mahweet	2	0.22	0.5	0.12
Mahara	1	0.11	3.1	0.72
Hadramout	2	0.22	8	1.85
Total	911	100.00	432.2	100.00

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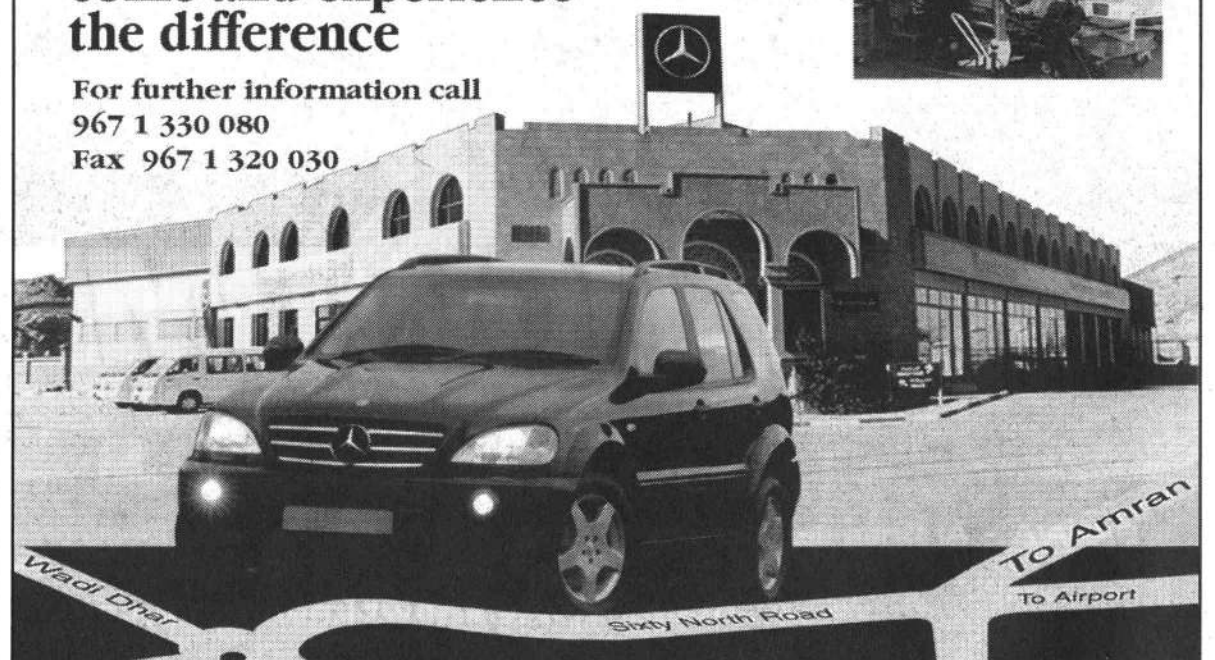
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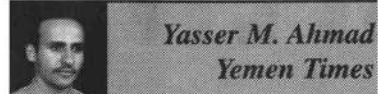
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Traffic Problems in Yemen: Is There Any Way Out?



Yasser M. Ahmad
Yemen Times

Many are the car accidents that lead innocent people to death. Reasons for such accidents are many. The most important factors are the following: Breakneck speed

speed. Such drivers are more often sons of officials, traders and businessmen who give cars to their sons at early ages as means of transportation and sometimes to show off. Unfortunately, the role of such parents, in most cases ends with giving cars to their sons and ignore or neglect how these cars are used by their sons. Despite the narrow and crowded streets, such young drivers drive as if

sons? Personally, I have noticed that most people who break traffic rules are officials. It is not difficult to notice the car board bearing governmental or police numbers. Do you think trafficmen can stop or even try to stop such cars? I do not think so, at least in our country. It is really disappointing to see the people who make rules and are supposed to protect them are the first to break them before the very eyes of everybody. Unfortunately, for such people traffic rules are nothing more than neglected colorful signs in books. Of course, this does not mean that the rest of drivers are infallible.

This is due to the fact that most of them do not know about traffic rules. They have not received any guidance from the authorities concerned. In my opinion, I think that Media must do something about this matter, especially TV, because it is watched by most of the people. The Ministry of Education also shares the responsibility

of the people's ignorance of such rules, for it can simply include all that should be known about traffic rules in schools curricula. Most of the traffic men nowadays are secondary schools graduates who are doing the compulsory military service in this field. Such students do not know the basic rules of traffics. This sometimes leads to misunderstanding and arguments between these young traffic men and drivers who sometimes respond by attacking them. It has been very painful to hear about arguments between traffic men and drivers that led to death ceases among traffic men. Do you think that these young people will dare confront such situations? I doubt it.



save people from accidents to some extent. Unfortunately, there are a few planned streets in our country. The plan of a street in our country may change according to the interest of

order to make more than one trip a day. Such drivers take advantage of such occasions and they even increase the bills.

I think that, traffic authority must con-



Breaking traffic rules
Vehicle's safety
Narrow streets
Careless young drivers

The above factors are part and parcel of the traffic problems found in our country.

I) Crazy speed and breaking traffic rules.

I find myself obliged to connect this point with the forth one which is careless young drivers who are always seen driving through the city at high

they are in New York or I do not know where. The consequences of such carelessness are always fearful and regrettable. Sometimes the drivers themselves become the victims. What if parents know what their own sons do with cars? What if fathers themselves do like their



Vehicle's safety:

Most of the drivers in our country do not know about their cars. Drivers should now something about the important parts in their cars in order to know how to deal with them if a problem occurs in a remote area. It has also been noticed that drivers in Yemen do not usually use the safety belt. It is only used by members of foreign organizations working in Yemen.

Narrow streets and street planing
Planning streets is one of the main factors that help

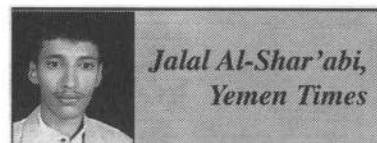
1999 Traffic Accidents Statistics

Number of accidents	Death cases	Injury cases
8123	1132	8591

certain people. Narrow streets, such as the main entrance to Sanaa from Taiz, Aden, Al-Dhalea, Ibb, Dhamar and Abian is also a reason for car accidents. Many are the accidents that take place in this narrow street due the great number of vehicles that come from these governorates to Sanaa. This street becomes very crowded in occasions like Eids, when many people are leaving for their villages and cities. Taxies in such occasions work continuously and at high speed in

control and organize the streets in such crowded occasions and provide buses with the capacity of more passengers. By this they will force taxi drivers to abide by roles and be more careful about people's lives. Unfortunately, traffic authorities says that it can not control all the streets due to shortage of facilities. For example, in April 1st 1997 controlling and observing Sanaa Taiz road was inaugurated with 8 police cars. This number of cars, of course, is not enough.

Hodeidah's Port Crying for Help



Jalal Al-Shar'abi,
Yemen Times

Hodeidah port has a high and special significance for being the important commercial outlet to the Red Sea which extends along the coasts of Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Sudan. It also represents an important yield for the national economy by supporting development through its financial revenues in foreign currency.

Ships continuously land at this port either to unload its cargo or transport shipments of oil and other products. However, the role of Hodeidah port as a strong participant in development stops at certain limits. The port is suffering many shortcomings. Press reports disclosed some embezzlements incidents that occurred in the Port's Corporation. Many workers in the port have also staged strikes demanding rises of their

salaries and wages. Hodeidah port encounters very clear flaws and its depth is decreasing day after day because of the wastes discarded by Grain Silos. Moreover, authorities in charge do not do any thing to put an end to these acts. If nothing were done, the port which supports the country with foreign currency would turn into a burden with the next few months.

The number of available launches and cranes is not sufficient and some of them are even having damage due to lack of care or maintenance. Now, the launches and cranes, which do the unloading, have become slow and lack many necessary equipment.

Businessmen complain about the old equipment and the procedures taken by Hodeidah port corporation, such as the Health Quarantine section in the port which is supposed to examine imported goods and check expired ones and those which do not meet the required standards. There are some bargains with traders which take place in the port to release some goods which are not suit-

able for human use. Statistics for previous years show the following: 2541 boats, 6557 ships and 30782 cars arrived at the port during the preceding 8 years. The total number of goods which arrived at the port was as follows: (3974104) in 1990, (4505948) in 1991, (1992159) in 1992, (4888197) in 1993, (4552714) in 1994, (4057525) in 1995, (5223334) in 1996, (4985927) in 1997 and (5020896) in 1998 and the total of the 8 years is (42730804). This means that there is an increase in the number of imported foodstuffs which may provide 3 bags per citizen.

The summary of the Yemeni ports activities (Hodeidah, Mocha, Saleef and Ra'as Eesa) in exports and imports in Ton per year are as follows:

- Hodeida's port: 4489107
- Mocha's port: 710390
- Saleef's port: 16366
- Ra'as Eesa; 6174640
- Total: 11390558

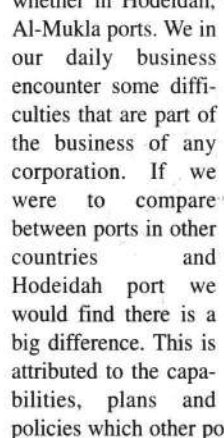
By comparing the exports and imports in Hodeidah port and its branches for the year 1999 we find: the exports and imports in 1997 of Hodeidah port (4628293), Mocha (472344), Saleef (26764) and Ra'as Eesa (7280661) summing up to a total of (12413062). In the year 1999 the number of imports from January to September were divided as follows:

- Foodstuffs: 1311844 Tons.
- Building and construction material: 267721 Tons.
- Miscellaneous substances: 3903462 Tons

port, it still suffers from many shortcomings and carelessness which can be seen very clearly in the absence of necessary equipment.



Mr. Ahmed Jazim Sa'aed, Regional Manager for Hayel Sa'aed Ana'am Group in Hodeidah which owns a navigation company at Hodeidah port, said: "Concerning the navigation company, there is a special company which runs navigation activities through extending lots of international navigation lines to Yemen whether in Hodeidah, Mocha, Aden or Al-Mukla ports. We in our daily business encounter some difficulties that are part of the business of any corporation. If we were to compare between ports in other countries and Hodeidah port we would find there is a big difference. This is attributed to the capabilities, plans and policies which other ports have.



Mr. Ma'atouq Abdul-Bari who works in the port, for Hayel Sa'aed Group for more than 20 years said: "Hodeidah port is one of the biggest ports in Yemen and perform several activities. However the carelessness prevails its facilities, or in other words there is a clear failure in the performance of the port. The absence of necessary equipment hinders the port from performing its work the way it should. There are also some measures in

the port cause delays without any logical reasons. Hodeidah port represents a massive resource which supports our national economy. We hope the port would get suitable care so it would perform its task the way it should.



Mr. Sameer Abd-Jaleel (holding a Masters Degree in International Marketing and Trade, US), the Deputy Manager for Hayel Sa'aed Group in Hodeidah, said: "We know that any port in the world is of big importance and is usually given much care on part of governments. However, we can notice that Hodeidah port contains few equipment which in turn hinders the speed of loading and unloading works. In other

Union has boycotted Belgium's products after this news and France closed more than 135 poultry farms which were suspected of using this substance as poultry food.

After hearing all these news, the Yemen Times interviewed Mr. Yousef Ma'ajam, Director of the Health Quarantine in the port who said: "After traders ship their goods to the port, we opens a customs report. Then, we examine the products to check their validity. We open the containers to check the number of types they contain, production and expiration dates and also the type of the product and where it came from. If we find that there is any indication that there is a change in smell, color or taste we confiscate the whole quantity, destroy it or return it to the country of its origin. We have discovered many substances which were not good and confiscated others because of their expiration date. Now, we contin-



words, the actions in the port have become slow and insufficient. You can see a big jam and some ships may not find a place where it could anchor and unload its cargo. The way in which the unloading process takes place is a very old and needs upgrading. We need to use suitable technologically developed equipment which concur with the approaching third millennium.

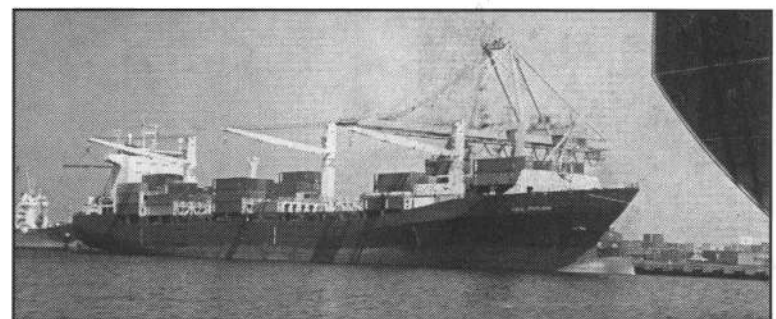
The Health Quarantine section in the port, which examines incoming goods' validity, suffers some drawbacks. Newspapers have recently published some news about the arrival of large quantities of food substances which do not meet the standards in an illegal way. There was a big public dispute about a substance which is called "Dioxin". This substance is poultry fodder and laboratory reports have revealed that they contain substances which cause cancer and are communicable through poultry. The European

ue to destroy and confiscate substances which have been proved unsuitable for human consumption.

To come closer to the truth the Yemen Times met the Director General of Ports and Maritime Affairs Establishment in the General Administration in Hodeidah who said: "If we were to evaluate the former Administration, we would find that it has done a laudable work"

As for the carelessness and burial of the port with wastes of grain silos he said: "The preserving of depths is necessary and critical. I think what you are talking about quay No. 8 which faces the grain silos. As a result of deposits the depths change. However, this quay is being renovated in the meantime. Our engineers were able to make an entire underwater scan starting from quay No. 1 till quay No.8. We have also scanned the container and cleared the deposits. Now, the corporation has got 7 cranes in Hodeidah port and in reality we need more."

This was a brief account on the condition of Hodeidah port that faces many hindrances, so would authorities in charge interfere to save it from decadence.



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A table showing unloading activities of Yemeni ports Hodeida, Mocha, during the last 5 years)

Year	Food stuffs	Construction material	Miscellaneous goods	Goods in containers	Total
1994	1736409	391660	340754	446241	291506
1995	1558677	467428	427461	486296	2939862
1996	1883115	395870	450095	567523	3296603
1997	1968164	325247	420489	574218	3293145
1998	1774141	396927	530983	664046	3366096
Total	8920506	1977158	2174782	273824	15810770

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- Question: When was the first issue of Yemen Times published (indicate date/month/year)?
Answer: _____
- Question: In which village and province is the Shamr fortress?
Answer: _____
- Question: What are the two products produced by ?
Answer: _____
- Question: What are the cooking oil products whose agent is Salim Bagirsh & Sons Est.?
Answer: _____
- Question: What are the main ingredients of Kaha Mango Juice?
Answer: _____
- Question: Which group does United Insurance Company belong to?
Answer: _____
- Question: Mention three brands that Artex Agency sell?
Answer: _____
- Question: In which city is United Company for Industrial Me als' main office?
Answer: _____
- Question: Mention three Suzuki Models being sold by Ba Maroof Group in Aden.
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الإجابة: _____
- السؤال الثالث: ما هما المنتجان اللذان تنتجهما شركة صناعة السجائر والكبريت الوطنية؟
الإجابة: _____
- السؤال الرابع: ما هي ماركة الزيوت التي وكيلها مؤسسة سالم عبد الرحمن باجرش وأولاده؟
الإجابة: _____
- السؤال الخامس: ما هي المكونات الرئيسية لمصير المانجو من قها؟
الإجابة: _____
- السؤال السادس: الشركة المتحدة للتأمين تتبع مجموعة معروفة في اليمن، ما هي هذه المجموعة؟
الإجابة: _____
- السؤال السابع: أذكر ثلاث ماركات عالمية وكيلها في اليمن شركة أرتكس التجارية؟
الإجابة: _____
- السؤال الثامن: في أي مدينة يمنية يقع المركز الرئيسي للشركة المتحدة للصناعات المعدنية؟
الإجابة: _____
- السؤال التاسع: أذكر ثلاث موديلات لسيارات سوزوكي التي وكيلها مجموعة بامرروف - عدن؟
الإجابة: _____
- السؤال العاشر: ما هي الشركة التابع لها مركز صنعاء التجاري؟
الإجابة: _____
- السؤال الحادي عشر: ماهو أشهر فندق سياحي يقع في منتصف العاصمة صنعاء؟
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90. Yemen took the view that it was clear from paragraph 526 of the Award on Sovereignty that it was for it, Yemen, in the exercise of its sovereignty, to ensure the preservation of the traditional fishing regime; that, while the 1994 and 1 Agreements might prove to be useful vehicles for that exercise in sovereignty, there was no question of Yemen's sovereignty having been made conditional and thus no agreement with Eritrea was necessary for the administrative measures that might relate to this regime; that the Tribunal had not made any finding that there should be joint or common resource zones; that the Tribunal's finding that Yemen's sovereignty entailed the perpetuation of the traditional fishing regime was a finding in favour of the fishermen of Eritrea and Yemen, not of the State of Eritrea; that Article 3(1) of the Agreement on Principles and Article 2(3) of the Arbitration Agreement meant that it would be ultra vires for the Tribunal to respond favourably to Eritrea's Prayer for Relief; and that the President's letter of 9 November 1998 indeed showed that the Prayer for Relief was irregular. Further, Yemen contended that there had traditionally been no significant Eritrean fishing in the vicinity of the islands.

91. The details of the positions taken by Eritrea and Yemen is recalled above at paragraphs 48-60.

92. The Tribunal recalls that it based this aspect of its Award on Sovereignty on a respect for regional legal traditions. The abundant literature on the historical realities which characterised the lives of the populations on both the eastern and western coasts was noted in the award of the Arbitral Tribunal in the First Stage of the Proceedings, paragraph 121, footnote 9 and paragraph 128, footnote 11. This well-established factual situation reflected deeply rooted common legal traditions which prevailed during several centuries among the populations of both coasts of the Red Sea, which were until the latter part of the nineteenth century under the direct or indirect rule of the Ottoman Empire. The basic Islamic concept by virtue of which all humans are "stewards of God" on earth, with an inherent right to sustain their nutritional needs through fishing from coast to coast with free access to fish on either side and to trade the surplus, remained vivid in the collective mind of Dankhalis and Yemenites alike.

93. Although the immediate beneficiaries of this legal concept were and are the fishermen themselves, it applies equally to States in their mutual relations. As a leading scholar has observed: "Islam is not merely a religion but also a political community (umma) endowed with a system of law designed both to protect the collective interest of its subjects and to regulate their relations with the outside world".(1)

94. The sovereignty that the Tribunal has awarded to Yemen over Jabal al-Tayr, the Zubayr group and the Zuqar-Hanish group is not of course a "conditional" sovereignty, but a sovereignty nevertheless that respects and embraces and is subject to the Islamic legal concepts of the region. As it has been aptly put, "in today's world, it remains true that the fundamental moralistic general principles of the Quran and the Sunna may validly be invoked for the consolidation and support of positive international law rules in their progressive development towards the goal of achieving justice and promoting the human dignity of all mankind".(12)

95. The Tribunal's Award on Sovereignty was not based on any assessment of volume, absolute or relative, of Yemeni or Eritrean fishing in the region of the islands. What was relevant was that fishermen from both of these nations had, from time immemorial, used these islands for fishing and activities related thereto. Further, the finding on the fishing regime was made in the context of the Award on Sovereignty precisely because classical western territorial sovereignty would have been understood as allowing the power in the sovereign state to exclude fishermen of a different nationality from its waters. Title over Jabal al-Tayr and the Zubayr group and over the Zuqar-Hanish group was found by the Tribunal to be indeterminate until recently. Moreover, these islands lay at some distance from the mainland coasts of the Parties. Their location meant that they were put to a special use by the fishermen as way stations and as places of shelter, and not just, or perhaps even mainly, as fishing grounds. These special factors constituted a local tradition entitled to the respect and protection of the law.

96. It is clear that the Arbitration Agreement does not authorise the Tribunal to respond affirmatively to paragraphs 6 and 7 of Eritrea's Prayer for Relief. Nor, indeed, would it have been able so to do even if the arbitration had been conducted within the framework of a single stage or phase, as originally envisaged by Article 3(1) of the Agreement on Principles.

97. However, Eritrea is entitled to submit to the Tribunal that its finding as to the traditional fishing regime has implications for the delimiting of maritime boundaries in the Second Stage; and the Tribunal is at liberty to respond to such submissions.

98. Indeed, it is bound to do so, because it is not otherwise in a position to respond to the submissions made by Yemen as well as by Eritrea in this Second Stage. It cannot be the case that the division of the Arbitration into two stages meant that the Parties may continue to debate whether the substantive content of the Tribunal's findings on the traditional fishing regime has any relevance to the task of delimitation, but that the Tribunal must remain silent. Such formalism was never the objective of the agreement of both Parties to divide the Arbitration into two Stages.

99. Of course, in making its Award on Sovereignty the Tribunal did not "prefigure" or anticipate the maritime delimitation that it is now called upon to make in the Second Stage, after full pleadings by the Parties. Beyond that the Tribunal is not to be artificially constrained in what it may respond to by the procedural

structures agreed for the Arbitration. The two-stage mechanism is not to be read either as forbidding Parties to make the arguments they wish, when they wish; nor as limiting their entitlement to seek to protect what they perceive as their substantive rights.

100. Article 15 of the Arbitration Agreement (the meaning of which is otherwise not readily intelligible) lends support to this view. Paragraph 2 speaks of the Arbitration Agreement as "implementing the procedural aspects" of the Agreement on Principles. And Paragraph 1 provides that:

Nothing in this Arbitration Agreement can be interpreted as being detrimental to the legal positions or to the rights of each Party with respect to the questions submitted to the Tribunal, nor can affect or prejudice the decision of the Arbitral Tribunal or the considerations and grounds on which those decisions are based.

101. As the Tribunal has indicated in its Award on Sovereignty, the traditional fishing regime around the Hanish and Zuqar Islands and the islands of Jabal al-Tayr and the Zubayr group is one of free access and enjoyment for the fishermen of both Eritrea and Yemen. It is to be preserved for their benefit. This does not mean, however, that Eritrea may not act on behalf of its nationals, whether through diplomatic contacts with Yemen or through submissions to this Tribunal. There is no reason to import into the Red Sea the western legal fiction - which is in any event losing its importance - whereby all legal rights, even those in reality held by individuals, were deemed to be those of the State. That legal fiction served the purpose of allowing diplomatic representation (where the representing State so chose) in a world in which individuals had no opportunities to advance their own rights. It was never meant to be the case however that, were a right to be held by an individual, neither the individual nor his State should have access to international redress.

102. The Tribunal accordingly now responds to the diverse submissions advanced in this Stage by the Parties, both as to the substantive content of the traditional fishing regime referred to in paragraphs 526 and 527(vi) of its Award on Sovereignty and as to any implications for its task in this stage of the Arbitration. The correct answer is indeed to be gleaned from the pagof that Award itself. Attention may in particular be drawn to paragraphs 102, 126-128, 340, 353-357 and 526.

103. The traditional fishing regime is not an entitlement in common to resources nor is it a shared right in them. Rather, it entitles both Eritrean and Yemeni fishermen to engage in artisanal fishing around the islands which, in its Award on Sovereignty, the Tribunal attributed to Yemen. This is to be understood as including diving, carried out by artisanal means, for shells and pearls. Equally, these fishermen remain entitled freely to use these islands for those purposes traditionally associated with such artisanal fishing - the use of the islands for drying fish, for way stations, for the provision of temporary shelter, and for the effecting of repairs.

104. In paragraph 1 of the Prayer for Relief, Eritrea asks the Tribunal to determine that "The Eritrean people's historic use of resources in the mid-sea islands includes guano and mineral extraction...". In the pleadings before the Tribunal Eritrea referred specifically in this context to guano extraction which had been licensed by Italy. Guano extraction is not to be assimilated to mineral extraction more generally. Further, as the Award on Sovereignty made clear, Eritrea's rights today are not derived from a claimed continuity from rights once held by Italy. The traditional fishing regime covers those entitlements that all the fishermen have exercised continuously through the ages. The Tribunal has received no evidence that the extraction of guano, or mineral extraction more generally, forms part of the traditional fishing regime that has existed and continues to exist today.

105. The FAO Fisheries Infrastructure Development Project Report of 1995 was a report on fishing in Eritrean waters. However, its findings on artisanal fishing would be of general application in this region. The 1995 Report makes clear that both the artisanal vessels and their gear are simple. The vessels are usually canoes fitted with small outboard engines, slightly larger vessels (9-12 m) fitted with 40-75 hp engines, or fishing sambuks with inboard engines. Dugout canoes and small rafts (ramas)

CHAPTER V

The Delimitation of the International Boundary

The Tribunal's Comments on the Arguments of the Parties
113. Since, as it will appear below, the international maritime boundary line decided upon by the Tribunal differs in some respects from both the one claimed by Yemen and the one, or the ones, claimed by Eritrea, it is right first to explain briefly where and why the boundaries claimed by the Parties have not been endorsed in this Award. This will now be done taking generally first the Yemen claim and then the Eritrean claim, as this was the order in which the Parties agreed to argue in the Oral Proceedings of this Second Stage of this Arbitration.

114. Yemen claimed one single international boundary line for all purposes. The single line it claimed was described as a "median line", because Yemen treated the westward-facing coasts of all of its islands as relevant coasts for purposes of the delimitation. For the Eritrean coast, Yemen used base points on the mainland coast of Eritrea and thus ignored the Eritrean mid-sea islands for the purpose of delimitation of the boundary. Yemen also claimed that its line can properly be described as a coastal median line. For Yemen the relevant coasts included not only the islands over which it has been awarded sovereignty, but also of certain among the Dahlak islands; thus Yemen, like Eritrea, was prepared to treat the Dahlaks as being part of the

Eritrean coast, and so used base points on the islets forming the outer fringe of the group. When on the other hand Eritrea spoke of what it called "the coastal median line", it meant the median line between what in the Eritrean view represented the mainland coasts of both Parties. At the same time Eritrea claimed a historic median line using only its own islands as base points, and thus ignoring those of Yemen. These variations produced different claimed median lines. See Eritrea's Maps 3 and 7, and Yemen's Map 12.1. See also Charts 1 and 2 showing the base points as provided by Eritrea.

115. It is in what Yemen called the northern sector of the boundary line where this difference caused the greatest divergence, actually of several nautical miles, between the lines claimed by the Parties because of the question of how much "effect" on the line should be given to the Yemen northern islands, namely the small sole mid-sea island of Jabal al-Tayr and the mid-sea groups of islands and islets called Zubayr. Yemen allowed them full effect on the line; Eritrea's line allowed them none.

116. In considering this marked divergence of view it is well to recollect that the boundary line in its northern stretch - including indeed both the opposing claimed lines - are boundaries between the Yemen and the Eritrean continental shelves and EEZ; and are therefore governed by Articles 74 and 83 of the 1982 Convention. In any event there has to be room for differences of opinion about the interpretation of articles which, in a last minute endeavour at the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea to get agreement on a very controversial matter, were consciously designed to decide as little as possible. It is clear, however, that both Articles envisage an equitable result.

117. This requirement of an equitable result directly raises the question of the effect to be allowed to mid-sea islands which, by virtue of their mid-sea position, and if allowed full effect, can obviously produce a disproportionate effect - or indeed a reasonable and proportionate effect - all depending on their size, importance and like considerations in the general geographical context.

118. Yemen understood this problem very clearly. Its argument was that, although these mid-sea islands and islets are small and uninhabitable (these questions figured prominently in the First Stage of this Arbitration), those considerations were nicely matched, or "balanced", by the complementary smallness and lack of importance of the outer islets of the Dahlak group which were the base points on the Eritrean side of the boundary. However, the situation of these Dahlak islets is very different from that of the mid-sea islands. The Dahlak outer islets are part of a much larger group of islands which both Parties were agreed are an integral part of the Eritrean mainland coast. Consequently, between these islets and the mainland, the sea is Eritrean internal waters. The Tribunal had therefore, as will be seen below, no difficulty in rejecting this "balancing" argument of Yemen, as it does not compare like with like.

119. In its assessment of the equities of the "effect" to be given to these northern islands and islets, the Tribunal decided not to accept the Yemen plea that they be allowed a full, or at least some, effect on the median line. This decision was confirmed by the result that, in any event, these mid-sea islands would enjoy an entire territorial sea of the normal 12 miles - even on their western side.

120. One practical result of the Yemen balancing argument regarding the northern mid-sea islands is that Yemen did not argue in the alternative about possible base points on the islands fringing the Yemen mainland coast - which islands could much more cogently be said to balance the Dahlaks.

121. The Eritrean argument concerning this northern stretch of the line was relatively simple: it argued strongly against the Yemen balancing suggestions, and here asked for the mainland coastal median line. At first, it was not clear what were the base points used by Eritrea. However, in answer to a question from the Tribunal, Eritrea did produce two complete sets of base points for the Eritrean coast and also a set for the Yemen coast. (See Charts 1 and 2.)

122. The latitude of 1425N - where the Yemen northern sector becomes the Yemen central sector - results from another factor on which the Parties differ. This line of latitude is not chosen at random by Yemen. It is the point at which the Yemen median line is no longer controlled by Zubayr as a base point but enters under the control of the north-western point of the island of Zuqar. The Eritrean lines, for indeed there are two of them, continue southwards, ignoring the possible effect of the Zuqar - Hanish group. The "historic" median line (Map 3) cuts through Zuqar, and the coastal median line cuts through the island of Greater Hanish (Map 7).

123. The Tribunal did not find it easy to resolve this divergence of method, but finally the Tribunal decided to continue its line as a mainland coastal line until the presence of Yemen's Zuqar-Hanish group compels a diversion westwards. (The Tribunal's line, as will appear below, is neither the Yemen line nor yet the Eritrean line.)

124. In support of its enclave solution for certain of the Eritrean islands, Yemen entered upon an assessment of the relative size and importance of the Eritrean islands; generally, as if they were islands whose influence on the boundary line falls to be assessed, not as being possibly in an area of overlapping territorial sea, but as if they were to be assessed solely by reference to Articles 74 and 83 of the Convention. This approach enabled Yemen to argue that these Eritrean "navigational hazards" were insignificant even when compared with the Yemen, Zuqar-Hanish group; and that accordingly the South West Rocks and the Haycocks ought to be enclosed and the boundary line taken onto the Eritrean side of them, thus leaving the two enclaves iso-

lated on the Yemen side of the boundary line.

125. The Tribunal, as will appear below, has had little difficulty in preferring the Eritrean argument, which brings into play Article 15. This solution also has the advantage of avoiding the need for awkward enclaves in the vicinity of a major international shipping route.

126. The Yemen "southern sector" began at the line of latitude 1320N. Again, this is not an arbitrary choice. It was the point at which Yemen's median line, which had hitherto been controlled by Suyul Hanish, first came under the control of the nearest point on the mainland coast of Yemen. The Yemen line then continued throughout the southern sector as a coastal median line.

127. In the main part of this southern sector, therefore, there were only differences of detail between the Yemen and Eritrean lines because there were no mid-sea islands to complicate the problem. There was indeed the large complication of the Bay of Assab and of its off-lying islands, but here Yemen rightly assumed that this bay is integral to the Eritrean coast and is internal waters, and that the controlling base points would therefore be on the low-water line of the outer coastal islands.

128. In the course of its passage from the overlapping territorial seas areas to the relatively simple stretch between parallel coasts of the southern sector, the Yemen line was again a median line controlled by the Yemen islands as well as by the Eritrean mainland coast. However, the line preferred by the Tribunal, mindful of the simplicity desirable in the neighbourhood of a main shipping lane, is one that would mark this passage directly and independently of the Yemen and Eritrean islands. It is not easy to trace the Eritrean median line in this area because of the complication of its box system for the traditional fishing areas. Indeed, this review of the Parties' arguments and the Tribunal's view of them does somewhat scant justice to the complicated and carefully researched Eritrean scheme for delimitation of the traditional fishing areas, but this matter has been dealt with in Chapter IV.

This chapter will now turn to describe the boundary line determined by the Tribunal.

The Boundary Line Determined by the Tribunal

129. The task of the Tribunal in the present Stage of this Arbitration is defined by Article 2 of the Arbitration Agreement, and is to "result in an award delimiting the maritime boundaries". The term "boundaries" is here used, it is reasonable to assume, in its normal and ordinary meaning of denoting an international maritime boundary between the two State Parties to the Arbitration; and not in the sense of what is usually called a maritime "limit", such as the outer limit of a territorial sea or a contiguous zone; although there might be places where these limits happen to coincide with or be modified by the international boundary.

130. Article 2 also provides that, in determining the maritime boundaries, the Tribunal is to take "into account the opinion it will have formed on questions of territorial sovereignty, the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, and any other pertinent factor". The reasons for taking account of the Award on Sovereignty are clear enough and both Parties have agreed in their pleadings that, in the Second Stage, there can be no question of attempting to reopen the decisions made in the First Award. The requirement to take into account the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 1982 is important because Eritrea has not become a party to that Convention but has in the Arbitration Agreement thus accepted the application of provisions of the Convention that are found to be relevant to the present stage. There is no reference in the Arbitration Agreement to the customary law of the sea, but many of the relevant elements of customary law are incorporated in the provisions of the Convention. "Any other pertinent factors" is a broad concept, and doubtless includes various factors that are generally recognised as being relevant to the process of delimitation such as proportionality, non-encroachment, the presence of islands, and any other factors that might affect the equities of the particular situation.

131. It is a generally accepted view, as is evidenced in both the writings of commentators and in the jurisprudence, that between coasts that are opposite to each other the median or equidistance line normally provides an equitable boundary in accordance with the requirements of the Convention, and in particular those of its Articles 74 and 83 which respectively provide for the equitable delimitation of the EEZ and of the continental shelf between States with opposite or adjacent coasts. Indeed both Parties to the present case have claimed a boundary constructed on the equidistance method, although based on different points of departure and resulting in very different lines.

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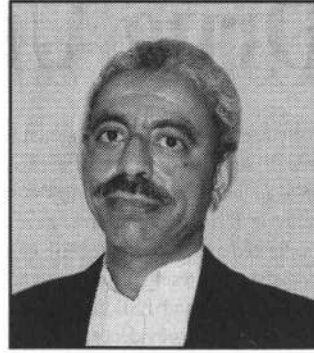
This program is based on a point bonus system. As most of the restrictions in the old program has been up-dated and/or waved (stop in Amman, full fare tickets for claiming rewards, expiry date of your accumulated points) it will give you the chance to pick & choose the reward on the sector you prefer on RJ's network. In addition to the new two level Royal Club Cards which will be issued, a top level card (Golden Card) will be issued to our distinguished frequent flyer members, which entitles the holder to a number of extended privileges.

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COMMON SENSE

By: Hassan Al-Haifi

Arabs Compensating Israel for the Golan Heights: That is Going too Far!



As complex as the Middle East conflict may sometimes seem to be, there are some fairly obvious pre-suppositions that may be easily assumed: 1) The conflict has its winners and losers, its villains and underdogs and its truths and fallacies; 2) The conflict entails many religious ethnic and nationalistic implications; and 3) the conflict involves many intertwining interests and paradoxes, as well as many unfortunate political realities that prevailed, as far as its victims are concerned.

It would take considerable space to try to recall the background of the Arab Israeli conflict, which evolved over the span of the last century and began late in the 19th Century. Although the events leading to the present situation are misunderstood by many people, especially in the West, one thing that cannot be overlooked is that for the indigenous population of the Levant (Palestine, Syria, Lebanon and Jordan) and the neighboring states, the tragic consequences of the conflict are and will continue to be potential breeding grounds for ethnic and religious strife that will continue for generations to come. The important fact to remember is that for the most part, the events in the area have been pretty much engineered outside the region and by players who are not from the area. The forces and strategists who set out the scenes for the area have on the whole taken little consideration of the actual people directly involved - the victims of "national aspirations" based upon misrepresentations of the "Old Testament", the authenticity of which is highly disputed. Whatever the case, the establishment and continued existence of Israel has exacted and continues to exact a heavy price, both for its sponsors and its indigenous victims. In fact, the very existence of Israel is a product of a series of embezzlements contracted by well placed Zionist lobbyists who have studiously reached sensitive positions of influence in the United States, the United Kingdom and other Western countries, notwithstanding their split national loyalties and the conflicts of interests this might give rise to.

For sure, the indigenous people of Palestine (which Zionists are quick to insist as never having been in existence), Lebanon and Syria have suffered and paid the heaviest price, losing their homes, farms, churches and mosques, and often their dignity as well, just so a mythical "national" dream can be realized, so that the will of God may be executed, as the proponents of Zionism wish people to believe. God forbid that His sense of justice should be corrupted by merciless opportunists and embezzlers, who have given themselves the liberty of "executing God's will", when God Al-Mighty has ordained that transgression on His part is prohibited: "...and Allah forbids oppression emanating from Himself", the Koran, Surah V-Al-Ana'am. But in the world at the climax of the Age of Imperialism, the White Man's Burden and Might Makes Right, morality and conscientiousness have been given a back seat. Even religious causes have been highly enmeshed with narrow minded interests and selfish motives, with the integration of mundane approaches, where "the ends justify the means" (which even many misguided present day Moslem activists have regrettably found to be appealing), although any truly faithful believer would regard this as an escape from the conscientiousness and extreme care called upon the faithful in the propagation and dissemination of the Message of the Lord, as delivered and practiced by the many prophets

and messengers from Adam to Mohammed (Peace of Allah upon them all). The oft forgotten fact in the Middle East conflict is that the events in the area have often been conceived and executed without any due consideration to the plight and pride of the people most directly involved - their rights, feelings and spiritual inclinations, as well as their dignity. The guilt of this neglect is not solely borne by the Zionist schemers and their sponsors at Whitehall, the US Congress and State Department and other Western centers, where a significant share of the events in the region are orchestrated. In fact, a good part of the guilt for this neglect lies also with the rulers of the Arab States directly or indirectly involved, most of who failed to work towards the development of modern democratic regimes for their people - if they did not actually counter such development repressively. It would not be an exaggeration to even state that the neglect of the former is a consequence of the failure of the latter to introduce accountability and responsibility into government for their countries. Thus, the continuous failure of these regimes to deal with the Arab Israeli conflict, in keeping with the feelings and sufferings of their people, are not subject to any questioning and the people of the area remain to this day deprived of the least amount of human rights and empowerment, with respect to deciding their fate and destiny. Quite often, these regimes work to placate outside forces and powers at the expense of the welfare and well being of their own people. As such, these regimes willfully or in the belief that their sustainability dictates accordingly, will succumb to the designs of the major powers for the region, the latter of who themselves are guided by Zionist influence peddlers, who have some-

how managed to create an illegitimate marriage between Zionist aspirations and Western interests.

In this context, at present, the factors at work in deciding the fate of the region have not changed much, even as the world overcomes the hangover from the celebrations for the entry to the Third Millennium. With the Cold War over, the omnipotence of the United States and the decreased need for Israel to act as the "policeman of the West" in the area, the peace is now being engineered for the area, in as much the same way as the creation and establishment of the State of Israel and all those wars that were fought in the region over the last Century were engineered. Again this peace is being designed without the involvement of the people most directly involved (except the Israelis - who enjoy a far greater degree of democratic rule than their unfortunate victims are enjoying). The "peace efforts" have so far produced "de-facto" recognition of Israel (with the states that have given this recognition not subjecting this to any national popular plebiscite) by its once former enemies - some of who vowed to "drive the Israelis to the sea", while in fact they only succeeded in driving their own people to the misery and despair that is found throughout the Arab States! On the other hand, the efforts have achieved some recognition - although meaningless on the ground - that the indigenous victims of the Zionist scheme are indeed worthy of some form of autonomous existence, in whatever little territory delicately remains in their hands, this of course being without prejudice to the hundreds of Jewish settlements that have been implanted in their midst - potential spearheads for further Zionist expansion under the guise of security and other

excuses, that the Zionists find give "legitimacy" to their designs for the achievement of an Eretz Israel that extends from the Euphrates to the Nile.

Throughout the "peace process", Israel has sought and obtained "concessions" and also exacted a high price for any of its "concessions" both from the states of the region and the sponsors of this peace process.

It is quite understandable that the Israelis should squeeze as much as possible out of their sponsors and defenders. But to also ask the Arab States to chip in the compensation for the withdrawal from the Golan Heights of Syria, one would think would really be adding insult to injury. Any objective observer of events in the region is bound to laugh at the recent call for the West and the "Arab oil-rich states" to scrounge up US \$ 17 Billion for the compensation of the "loss" of the Golan Heights that would be a part of any Syrian-Israeli Arab peace agreement. It is not enough that the indigenous inhabitants of Palestine, Syria and Southern Lebanon have lost all the territory under Israeli control today, without even being recognized as worthy of getting compensation for the thousands that were massacred by zealous Zionist gangs and for their homes farms and industrial plants, etc. But to ask the Arabs to compensate Israel for land it took by its own acts of aggression, one would think, is just going a little too far!

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EMBASSY OF INDIA SANA'A NOTICE

Registration of Birth of Minor children as Indian Nationals

For the information of the Indian nationals residing in the Republic of Yemen about the Indian citizenship to their children, the following provisions of the Indian Citizenship (Amendment) Act 1992 are notified below:

- 1) A child born abroad to an Indian father between 26.1.1950 and 9.12.1992 and a child born abroad on or after 10.12.1992 to an Indian father or mother can be deemed to be an Indian citizen "by descent".
- 2) In cases where the father or either of the parents, as the case may be, was himself/herself an Indian "by descent" at the time of birth of the child, the birth of the child has to be registered with the Indian Embassy within one year from the date of birth in order to be deemed an Indian citizen.
- 3) In case where the father or either of the parents, as the case may be, was Indian "by birth", then the birth of the child has to be registered with the Indian Embassy up to seven years from the date of birth.

All concerned are requested to promptly register the birth of their children with the Indian Embassy accordingly.

Also, all Indian citizens residing in Yemen are requested to send their particulars viz. Name, Passport number/date, address in India as well as postal address in Yemen, etc., to the Embassy for record and for imparting any information as and when the need arises.

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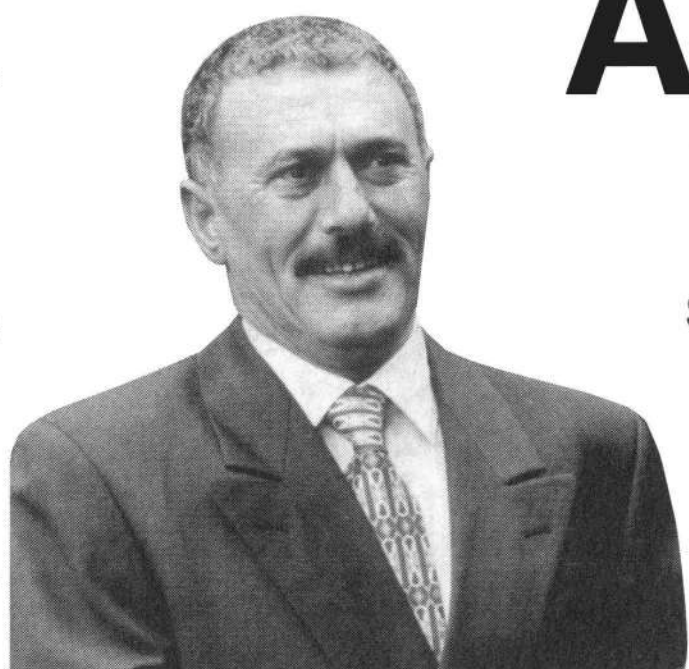
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QAT: A Dangerous Drug Under the Microscope

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1 of 1 (1993)

TI: Qat abuse fuels Somali conflict, drains economy [news].

AU: Randall-T
SO: JAMA. 1993 Jan 6; 269 (1): 12, 15

1 of 8 (1994)

TI: Qat chewing among Agaro secondary school students, Agaro, Southwestern Ethiopia.

AU: Adugna-F; Jira-C; Molla-T
SO: Ethiopia -Med-J. 1994 Jul; 32 (3): 161-6

AB: A cross-sectional study using a self-administered questionnaire was carried out to determine the prevalence of Qat chewing among secondary school students in Agaro, Southwestern Ethiopia in 1991. Two-hundred-forty-eight students randomly selected from grade 9 to 12 were included in the study with current prevalence of 64.9%. Qat chewing was found to be associated with being Muslim and male. The most frequent users were also in the age group of 15 to 22 years. The association between Qat chewing and grade attended was statistically significant. The health and socio-economic problems associated with the use of Qat are discussed and possible interventions suggested.

2 of 8

TI: [Qat from traditional usage to risk of drug addiction]

AU: Adam-F; Hasselot-N
SO: Med-Trop-Mars. 1994; 54 (2): 141-4
AB: In much of East Africa and the Arabian Peninsula, the leaves of the Qat tree (*Catha edulis* Forsk) are highly prized for their euphoric effects. Use is deeply anchored in regional customs and traditions. Once controversial, the chemical properties of Qat are now well-documented; the active agent responsible for the physical and mental effects observed when the leaves are chewed is cathinone or alpha aminopropiophenone. According to the definition of the World Health Organization, Qat is not classified as an inevitably addictive drug. However, recent reports of psychosis related to Qat abuse in Great Britain and the United States of America have raised new alarm in the Narcotics Commission of the United Nations. Should Qat be prohibited? International law on this issue is currently highly ambiguous. Importation of Qat is illegal in France as in Switzerland, but legal in the United States and Great Britain as in most African countries.

TI: [Qat—the stimulant drug of Yemen, Ethiopia and other Eastern countries.]

AU: Weiss-S
SO: Harefuah. 1994 Apr 15; 126 (8): 482-3

4 of 8

TI: Chiral resolution of cationic of forensic interest by capillary electrophoresis with mixtures of neutral and anionic cyclodextrins.

AU: Lurie-IS; Klein-RF; Dal-Cason-TA; LeBelle-MJ; Brenneisen-R; Weinberger-RE
SO: Anal-Chem. 1994 Nov 15; 66 (22): 4019-26

AB: Chiral resolution of a number of cationic drugs of forensic interest (amphetamine, methamphetamine, cathinone, methcathinone, cathine, cocaine, propoxyphene and various alpha-hydroxyphenethylamines) is achieved via capillary electrophoresis (CE) with added cyclodextrins (CDs), including novel mixtures of neutral and anionic CDs. In the latter studies, resolution and migration speed are readily adjusted by varying the ratio of the two added CDs as the anionic CD acts as a counter-migrating complexing reagent. The neutral CD, heptakis (2,6-di-O-methyl)-beta-CD, was found suitable for the analysis of illicit cocaine and Qat leaves (*Catha edulis* Forsk), which contain (-) alphaaminopropiophenone (-)-cathinone, (+)-norpseudoephedrine (cathine), (-)-norephedrine, and possibly (-)-pseudomerucathine. The use of mixtures of the neutral and the anionic CD (beta-CD sulfobutyl ether iv) was found suitable for the analysis of illicit amphetamine, methamphetamine, methacathinone, and propoxyphene. A model is presented for the impact of mixtures of neutral and anionic CDs on migration behaviour and chiral resolution in CE.

5 of 8

TI: Natural history of Qat psychosis.

AU: Jager-AD; Sireling-L

SO: Aust-N-J- Psychiatry. 1994 Jun; 28 (2): 331-2

AB: A paranoid psychosis, resembling amphetamine psychosis, caused by chewing Qat (stems and leaves from the plant *Catha edulis*) has been well described. Our case demonstrates the natural history of Qat which in previous case reports, has been vigorously treated with major tranquilizers.

6 of 8

TI: Qat an amphetamine-like stimulant.

AU: Kalix-P
SO: J-Psychoactive-Drugs. 1994 Jan-Mar; 26(1): 69-74

7 of 8

TI: Pharmacodynamics and pharmacokinetics of Qat: a controlled study.

AU: Widler-P; Mathys-K; Brenneisen-R; Kalix-P; Fisch-HU
SO: Clin-Pharmacol-Ther. 1994 May; 55 (5): 556-62

AB: OBJECTIVES: To show the subjective and cardiovascular effects of Qat leaves having a standardized content of cathinone. BACKGROUND: The main effect of Qat is an increase of energy and alertness. This effect is thought to be attributable to the phenylalkylamine cathinone, but no controlled clinical trials have been published. DESIGN: The design was balanced and double blind. Six drug-naïve volunteers received a single dose of Qat as a placebo. Psychological effects were evaluated by the Addiction Research Center Inventory (ARCI) and visual analog scales. Physiologic measures were systolic blood pressure, diastolic blood pressure, and heart rate. Plasma concentrations of cathinone and its metabolites norephedrine and R,R (-) norpseudoephedrine were determined by HPLC. RESULTS: Maximal plasma concentrations of cathinone (127±53 [SD] ng/ml) were after 127±30 minutes. The area under the plasma concentration-time curve from 0 to 9 hr. was 415 ± 207 mg/ml. Hr. and the terminal elimination half-life was 260±102 minutes. An effect of Qat was observed in the ARCI scales Abuse Potential (p < 0.005), Motor Stimulation (p < 0.001). CONCLUSIONS: Our results provide objective evidence for the amphetamine-like stimulatory effects of Qat leaves. These effects were closely similar to those observed after cathinone, 0.5 mg/kg body weight, although peak plasma concentrations of cathinone after Qat were delayed.

8 of 8

TI: Evaluation teratogenic potential of Qat (*Catha edulis* Forsk.) in rats.

AU: Islam-MW; al-Shabanah-OA; al-Harbi-MM; al-Gharably-NM
SO: Drug-Chem-Toxicol. 1994; 17(1): 51-68

AB: The embryotoxic and teratogenic effects of Qat (*Catha edulis* Forsk.), a plant chewed by the people of Eastern Africa and Southern Africa to attain a state of euphoria and stimulation, was studied in Wistar rats. Methanolic extract of Qat was administered orally by gavage to rats during days from 6 to 15 of gestation at doses of 0, 125, 250 and 500 mg/kg. body weight/day. Qat reduced the food consumption and material weight gain and also lowered the food efficiency index, as compared to control mothers. On day 20 of gestation, all dams were sacrificed by cervical dislocation, cesarean sections were performed and maternal and fetal toxicities were assessed. The administration of Qat had no effect on fetal sex ratio. However, at a dose of 125 mg/kg body weight and above, it produced a significant increase in resorptions and fetal wastage. Qat administration in utero also reduced the litter size and caused intrauterine growth retardation. External, visceral and skeletal examination of the fetus of treated dams showed several types of malformations and variations in all the groups of animals. However, a consistent tendency of abnormalities was observed in the highest dosed (500 mg/kg) group. The present observations indicate that Qat possesses both embryotoxic as well as teratogenic properties. The developmental toxicities of Qat are dose-related.

1 of 12 (1995)

TI: Use of drugs at 'raves'.

AU: Brown-ER; Jarvie-DR; Simpson-D
SO: Scott-Med-J. 1995 Dec; 40 (6): 168-71
AB: Widespread use of drugs at the currently popular 'raves' has caused concern prin-

cipally because of an increasing number of cases of serious toxicity and even death. The availability and use of drugs at raves, mainly in the Edinburgh area, have been investigated and self-reported use of drugs compared with results of urine screening. Use of ecstasy and LSD have been confirmed and there is evidence to support the use of Qat. A new preparation, Herbal Ecstasy, is readily available at Edinburgh raves and appears to be widely used. All urines tested positive for one or more drugs or drug metabolites and in general analytical results correlated well with self-reported use of drugs.

2 of 12

TI: Deleterious effects of Qat addiction on semen parameters and sperm ultrastructure.

AU: el-Shoura-SM; Abdelaziz. M; Ali ME; el-Said-MM; Ali-KZ; Kemeir-MA; Raouf-AM; Allam-M; Elmaliik-EM
SO: Hum-Reprod. 1995 Sep; 10 (9): 2295-300

AB: The semen parameters and sperm ultrastructural morphology have been described in semen samples from two groups of Yemeni subjects. The first exposed group comprised 65 Qat addicts, while the second control group included 50 non-Qat addict subjects. The mean age was 39.94 ± 13.85 and 35.72 ± 11.25 years in the exposed and control groups respectively, without a significant difference. The mean duration of Qat addiction among the addicts was 25.34 ± 12.96 years (range 6.0048.00). Statistically significant differences were detected between the semen parameters of the two groups. Such parameters, including semen volume, sperm count, sperm motility index and percentage of normal spermatozoa, were lower among addicts. Significant negative correlation was also found between the duration of Qat consumption and all semen parameters (ranged from 0.3 to 0.74). At the transmission electron microscopy level, a counting system was incorporated to compare the numbers of normal spermatozoa with deformed spermatozoa in ultrathin plastic sections. The total mean percentage of deformed spermatozoa was approximately 65%. Different patterns of sperm deformation were demonstrated, and included both the head and flagella in complete spermatozoa, flagellate heads, headless flagella and multiple heads and flagella. Deformed heads showed aberrated nuclei with immature nuclear chromatin and polymorphic intranuclear; these were associated with acrosomal defects. The deformed flagella demonstrated numeric aberrations with acrosomal defects. The deformed flagella demonstrated numeric aberrations of the axonemal 1+2 configuration and structural effects of their associated elements. Persistent cytoplasmic droplets were observed frequently. This study has shown for the first time the deleterious effects of Qat addiction on semen parameters in general and sperm morphology in particular of all addicts, especially those who have consumed Qat for longer periods of time.

3 of 12

TI: [Qat edulis]—a plant containing an amphetamine-like substance]

AU: Balint-GS; Balint-E

8 of 12

TI: Effect of (-)-cathinone a psychoactive alkaloid from Qat (*Catha edulis* Forsk) and caffeine on sexual behaviour in rats.

AU: Taha-SA; Ageel-AM; Islam-MW; Ginawi-OT
SO: Pharmacol-Res. 1995 May; 31(5): 299-303

AB: The effect of (-)-cathinone, caffeine and their combinations was studied on the sexual behaviour of male rats. Male sexual activities were assessed by recording the erectile responses (grooming of genitals, yawning/ stretching and homosexual mounting), in the absence of females. The copulatory behavior was observed by caging males with receptive females brought into estrous with S.C. injection of oestradiol benzoate and progesterone. The copulatory pattern of male rats (mounting, intermissions, ejaculations and refractory period) was recorded. The oral treatment of cathinone (5 mg/kg-1 day-1), caffeine (50 mg kg-1 day-1) and their combinations for 15 days increased arousal (motivation) in male rats as evidenced by increased mounting performance and anogenital investigatory behaviour. However, erectile and ejaculatory responses, measured in the present

study, showed no stimulant effect. It is conceivable from the present results that cathinone, the psychostimulant constituent of Qat cathinone when administered concomitantly. However, our data provide no evidence that cathinone could be considered as an aphrodisiac.

9 of 12

TI: Qat chewing and bladder neck dysfunction.

A randomized controlled trial of alpha 1-adrenergic blockade.
AU: Nasher-AA; Qirbi-AA; Ghafoor-MA; Catterall-A; Thompson-A; Ramsay-JW; Murray-Lyon-IM
SO: Br-J-Urol. 1995 May; 75 (5): 597-8

AB: OBJECTIVE: To assess whether the effect of chewing Qat leaves (*Catha edulis*) on the urodynamics of healthy males is already by the alpha 1-adrenergic blocking agent in prospective randomized double-blind controlled trial. SUBJECTS AND METHODS: The urodynamics of 11 healthy males were studied before and during a Qat chewing session preceded by indoramin or placebo.

RESULTS: Qat chewing produced a fall in average and maximum urine flow rate. This effect was inhibited by indoramin. CONCLUSION: The urinary side-effects of Qat chewing are probably medical through stimulation of alpha 1-adrenergic receptors.

10 of 12

TI: Qat chewing delays gastric emptying of a semi-solid meal.

TI: Qat Heymann-TD; Bhupulan-A; Zureikat-NE; Bomanji-J; Drinkwater-C; Giles-P; Murry-Lyon-IM
SO: Aliment-Pharmacol-Ther. 1995 Feb; 9(1): 81-3

AB: BACKGROUND: The leaves of Qat are chewed for their central stimulant effect, but their use may cause anorexia and constipation. METHODS: Gastric emptying of a radio-labeled semi-solid meal was measured in 12 healthy volunteers on two occasions a week apart. Subjects chewed either Qat leaves (*Catha edulis*) or lettuce for 2 hr before the study. RESULTS:

Gastric emptying was significantly (P < 0.02) prolonged after chewing Qat compared with lettuce. CONCLUSION: The sympathomimetic action of cathinone in Qat may cause the observed delay in gastric emptying.

11 of 12

TI: Qat on a hot tin roof. *Catha edulis* intoxication [published erratum appears in NC Med J 1995 Apr; 56 (4): 136]

AU: Mack-RB
SO: N-C-Med-J. 1995 Feb; 56(2): 112-4

12 of 12

TI: Fascioliasis due to imported Qat [letter].

AU: Doherty-JF; Price-N; Moody-AH; Wright-SG; Glynn-MJ
SO: Lancet. 1995 Feb 18; 345 (8947): 462.

1 of 2 (1996)

TI: Periodontal status of a subject sample of Yemen.

AU: Mengel-R; Eigenbrodt-M; Schunemann-T; Flores-de-Jacoby-L
SO: J-Clin-Periodontal. 1996 May; 23 (5): 437-43

AB: From August to October 1991, the periodontal status of 1001 Yemenis representing the age groups 12-14, 15-19, 20-14 and 35-44 years was recorded and evaluated with reference to the CPITN, the calculus index and clinical attachment levels. The impact of chewing Qat, the leaves of a cultivated, alkaloid shrub, and of using the traditional miswak chewing stick for oral hygiene purposes were investigated. The results show that 6.9% of the juvenile probands (15-19 years) had healthy periodontal tissue (CPITN 0), whereas bleeding on probing and calculus (CPITN 1+2) were registered in 84.2%. In the 35-44 year age group, 1.7% were periodontal healthy, whereas 84.5% displaced plaque retention or shallow pocketing (CPITN 2+3) and 12.5% deep pocketing (CPITN 4). The treatment needs in all age groups are confined primarily to calculus removal and instruction in oral hygiene. The clinical attachment level and the calculus index

2 of 2

TI: *Catha edulis*, a plant that has amphetamine effects.

AU: Kalix-P
SO: Pharm-World-Sci. 1996 Apr; 18 (2): 69-73

AB: The chewing of fresh leaves of the Qat bush (*Catha edulis*) is common in certain countries of East Africa and the Arab peninsula because this material has a stimulating effect. During the last decade, important progress has been made in understanding the pharmacology of this drug. Its actions are mainly due to the alkaloid cathinone, a substance that can be a natural amphetamine.

1 of 5 (1997)

TI: [Acute Qat-induced psychotic crisis (letter)]

TO: Episode psychotique aigu induit par le Qat.

AU: Mion-G; Ruttimann-M; Oberti-M; Aversenq-C

SO: Ann-Fr-Anesth-Reanim. 1997; 16(2): 201-2

ISSN: 0750-7658

PY: 1997

LA: FRENCH; NON-ENGLISH

CP: FRANCE

MESH: Acute -Disease; Adult -Leaves -adverse-effects

MESH: *Central-Nervous-System-Stimulants-effects; *Plant -Extracts-adverse-effects; *Psychoses-Substance -Induced-etiology

TG: Case-Report; Human; Male

PT: LETTER

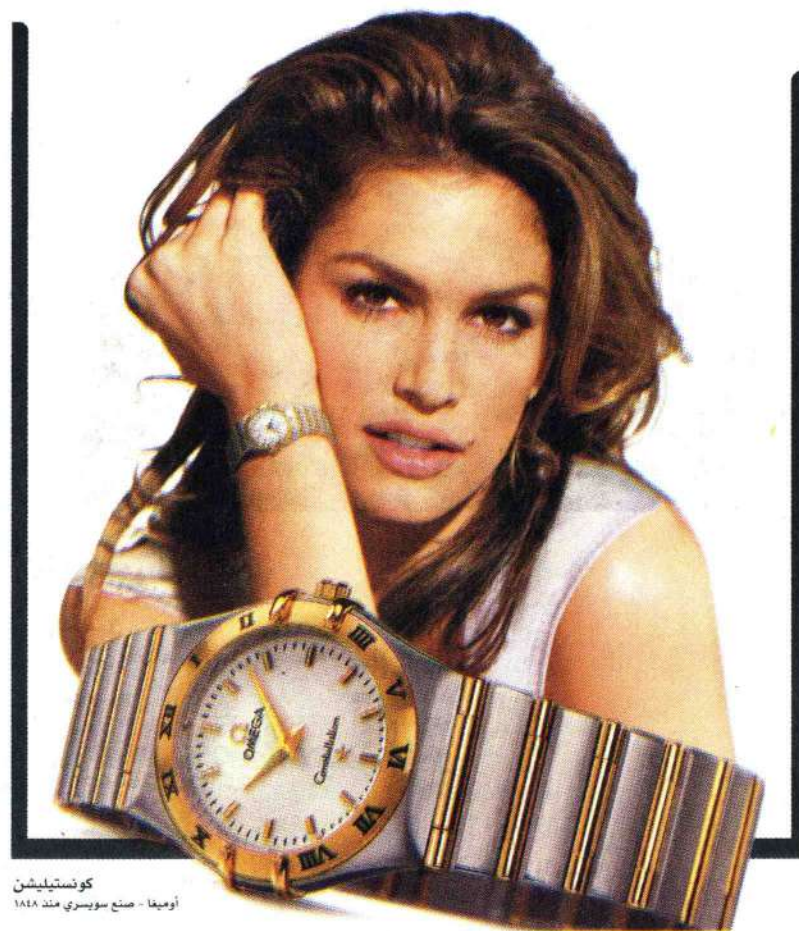
RN: 0; 0

NM: Central -Nervous- System -Stimulants; Plant- extracts

AN: 1998350700

UD: 199811

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Improve Your English



This weekly Education Supplement is presented by
Dr. Ramakanta Sahu,
Associate Professor,
College of Education, Mahweet

- 4- Period of two weeks
- 5- Person who makes speeches (especially a good speaker)

At the Post Office.

I. What to say

Customer: I would like to mail this letter to India. How much will it be, please?
Clerk: Do you want to send it by Registered post or by ordinary mail?
Customer: How much is Registered post and how long does it take?
Clerk: Let me weight it. (He weighs the letter). A Registered mail would cost YR 800. Normally it takes about ten to twelve days to India.
Customer: And how much is ordinary mail?
Clerk: It's a light package. Sending it by ordinary mail would be cheaper. It would be YR 70, but it may take about three weeks to arrive.
Customer: Oh, I want it to arrive earlier than that. I'll send it by Registered post.
Clerk: Will you then fill out this form?
(Gives the form to the customer.)
Customer: Please, help me fill that out, will you?
Clerk: O.K. What's in the package? I need to know in order to complete this form.
Customer: Some printed matter.
Clerk: Well, then, if you mention that on the envelope, it would cost you less.
Customer: Yes, I will do that. Before I do that I want to buy some stamps of the value of YR 70.
Clerk: How many?
Customer: Give me five stamps, please.
Clerk: Here you are. Your total bill is YR 1150
Customer: YR 1150, please. Thanks a lot.
Clerk: Thanks.

II. How to express it in one word:

- 1- A child who has lost one or both of its parents
- 2- Ability to read and write
- 3- Inability to read and write

YOUTH FORUM

Please, Wonderful Moon
Oh! How much you are beautiful, shining moon.
In this wonderful night
Do you know him, moon?
Do you know who I love?
Why not? He is my lover.
And loves madly just like me.
Lovers alone are your friends.
So will you look for my lover?
He is so close and so far away.
Find him and give him this kiss
Tell him that I will never forget him and forever wait for him.
Your beauty reminds me of my lover
I miss him much, his smile, his deep looks,
and wonderful eyes.
But oh, for the touch of his vanished hand
Please, tell him I love him and long to see him again.

RRJ

gle. The tale of their bravery is mentioned in the Holy Qura'an and it gives us the message and a glorious aura or picture about them as well as about their achievements, talents, their natural splendor and their ingenuity. They worked hard to utilize the natural resources to build Yemen into one of the strongest countries. Is it not a symbol of their power without which they wouldn't have completed that huge dam called "Ma'areb Dam" and have streams water everywhere in Yemen and make it paradise as stated in the Holy Qura'an? There are two gardens; one to the right and the other to the left. "The sustenance is provided by your Lord, and be grateful to Him: a territory fair and happy and a lord oft-forgiving."

Mohammed Ali Al-Shami
College of Education,
Mahweet

Civilization of Yemen

Yemen used to be the most famous land in the south Arabian region. It is an ancient civilization whose greatest virtues are austerity, fairness, contentment and forgiveness. These qualities characterize the Yemenis who are happy and prosperous. They enjoy the blessings of God who is gracious and doesn't punish us for the small human faults or weaknesses. Once upon a time, Yemen had reached its zenith in civilization due to the hardworking people and their power to strug-

Independent Thinking

Nowadays most of countries in the world talk about independence. But if any one asks us about the meaning of this word, Easily we answer him that it means our opinion should be justice, in other words, you should criticize whoever does bad action even if he is your brother. In return you should hail whoever does good action even if he is your enemy.

I'm as a reader of YT newspaper,

every issue I discover that I have new lesson on independent thinking.

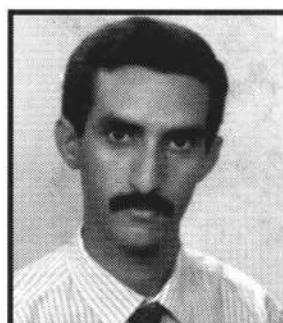
Let me show you two examples. 1st, when YT did a seminar a month ago entitled "Hand in Hand with our president". Without any doubt the aim of this seminar was hailing last good actions that President did.

2nd after two issues Mr. Walid criticize what happened in Habab area and said his opinion clearly. In my view this is the right track to independent thinking. So many thanks to Mr. Walid and all staffs and our independent school YT. And behalf my self and all reader of YT . We tell you Mr. Walid and all staffs go ahead and we all beside you.

Mohammed Al-Malahi
Faculty of Languages,
Sana'a University

Dear Editor,
On behalf of my self and students of English I would like to express our deep thanks and gratitude for your great efforts to bring out the newspaper and especially our education page which has become a real teacher we can never and will never give up. We are learning a lot from it. Reading this page has become a habit for me and many of my friends. We appreciate all your work and wish you all well and success.

Shafiq Abdullah Kasem
Taiz



أرقى آيات التهاني والتبريكات نهدبها
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والاستاذة رحمه القدسي
بمناسبة خطوبتهما
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جميل قاسم المحيا، عبد الوارث عبده علي، وجميع الأهل والأصدقاء.

A COUNTER-REJOINDER



Murari Prasad
Associate Professor of English
Faculty of Education, Sa'ada

Responses to a piece of writing are always welcome- either reassuring or enlightening, or even nipping ones. In the field of humanities where there is always room for divergent points of view informed critique helps us reduce our ignorance by fruitful disagreement as well as by agreeable fruits of arguments. However, when ignorance become our inspiration we tend to veil it by supercilious attitude to any intervention that interrogates the status quo. Lest such reactions should have the least laugh, we must guard our stand against misinterpretation. Which is why the rejoinder to my article titled "English literary Studies: Need for interfacing WLWE" by Dr. A.K. Sharma prompts this rebuttal. I will be brief and blow by blow since he has misconstrued the argument thoroughly, but to begin with, I would like to take up the point in his conclusion since it has a bearing on our professional equipment. The learned commentator mistakes some informal and idiomatic expressions for journalistic register, and to cap it all treats India Ink as a journal- whereas it is a well-known publishing house in New Delhi; and I used it as such in my article. Aren't we expected to be a little knowledgeable about things nearer home? Besides this, he forgets the fact that Yemen Times is a popular newspaper, not an academic journal suffused with howbrowish, heavy read.

Dr. Sharma horrendously equates the word 'genre' with 'English literary studies in Yemeni universities' and disregards the crux of my argument from the very beginning of his rejoinder. The implications of the term 'interfacing' and my concluding remarks cohere in that I set out reasons for curricular adjustment in view of the flourishing body of WLWE (World Literature Written in English) and the changing complexion of English literature across the world. Nowhere in the article have I suggested a whole-sale replacement of the mainstream Anglo-American authors with their WLWE counterparts. The author of the rejoinder prefers to be a prisoner of the tunnel vision approach to see language, literature and culture apart as watertight compartments. While responding to this I can stick my neck out and maintain that WLWE has multicultural perspectives and it does reflect the current pressures of the world around us. He misses the point of my critique of the current canonical English literary curriculum when I underscore the need of expanding it, bringing new texts to bear on the tradition, building up a new frame of reference. That doesn't mean throwing the old tradition overboard. I will counter his rejoinder point by point.

1) Thus my response to his observation No.1 is that English is both a polyglot language and a polyglot literature, and without WLWE components our courses in today's context are inadequate and irrelevant. He is unaware, and I repeat unaware, of the recent studies that have established the thriving nexus between British colonialism and English studies.

2) In regard to his second point I suggest that he takes an update on the English literary studies in Indian universities. Nearly half of these have introduced some variants of the new literatures in English. And the trend is on the increase. It is strange (or downright silly) to mention that the British intellectuals in the past did not suggest a countertrend in English studies. Why should they? They knew that the language would prove Britain's real black gold. What Dr. Sharma suggests is that we should remain hooked up to colonial preferences. This is all that I am arguing against. Reassuringly enough many British academics share our view, and I quote John McRae, the author of "Penguin History of Literature in English": "By the way, I notice a reluctance amongs English teachers in India to acknowledge the immense wealth of local writing. This is a dreadful mistake in post-colonial culture." (Focus on English, June 1993, p.5, published by British Council Division, Madras, India).

3) Dr. Sharma's comments on the academic outreach and possible provenance of commonwealth literature, comparative literature, postcolonial literature etc betray his lack of acquaintance with these new enterprises, so I will let it go at that.

4) Even at the best of times literature has been a minority pastime, and it is customary to be dismissive of a writer's talent without reading his or her work. His self-opinionated appraisals of writers are wonderful examples of extrapolation without any evidence.

5) This point does not hold water because in the context of Yemen English literature with its metropolitan canons is not culturally akin to it either. On the contrary, there are signifying transactions in the works of South Asian English writers as also in other strands of WLWE which are less alien to Yemeni readers. For example, a book like "In an Antique Land" by Amitav Ghose in which the early cultural contact between Yemen and India forms part of the backdrop. Let Dr. Sharma name a single work of this kind in the main stream English Literature.

6) The point is not well taken by the writer because it is an out of context observation just to pad out the rejoinder.

7) The comparison between the two books, viz., Shasthibrata's "My God Died Young" and Arundhati Roy's "The God of Small Things" is utterly invidious, grossly unfair and downright disproportionate. More to the point, new literatures in English have undergone staggering transformation since the former appeared.

I would like to end my response to the rejoinder with a quotation from H.L. Mencken the great pundit of American language, which summarizes the British attitude to American English in 1936, and by extension our colonial hangover in relation to de-colonizing strategies in the matters of language, literature and culture: "This occasional tolerance for things American was never extended to the American language."

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Social Insurance Affairs Office in Taiz: Well Done



By: Imad Al-Saqqaf
Yemen Times- Taiz

The Office of Insurance and Social Affairs in Taiz is carrying out extraordinary activities aimed at helping the social segments that are more stricken by poverty through the social security network and social welfare services. In an interview to Yemen Times with Mr. Sheikh Zain Allah Shagerah, director general of the Insurance and Social and Affairs office, he said "the office renders social services to different sections of the society as envisaged by the effective laws. The president was really appreciative of the importance of this issue so he gave clear directives to the government to improve social services and to extend the network of social insurance to different dimensions so that they are available to each and every district in the Republic. This attention and concern has helped to raise funds given to poor families. We are going to include another 20 thousand families by the end of 1999 and there were 16,630 families that had been already included in our office by the end of 1998. By this the overall number of the families who get the benefit from the social insurance

will reach to 36,630.

It is worth mentioning that during the first of half of this year we have prepared and implemented a plan of a field survey viewing old cases registered in the office till the end of 1997. This field survey was conducted by a 43-member team of university qualified in the field of sociology under contracts signed with them as starting from March 1999. We have also prepared a plan for the field survey. The 20,000 supported cases are going to be distributed fairly to different districts of the governorate according to the following factors:

- 1- Density of population
- 2- Viewing the cases registered till the end of 1998
- 3- The ratio of poverty

Few months ago the office had doubled efforts to carry out the policy of the government in this regard, especially after the activities of the office have come out with tangible good results among the poor families.

The ministry efforts will not stop at this level, it will rather extend to include the crippled and disabled people who will be trained and taken care of at the training centers existed in the governorate. We are attempting to make them able to get rid of their isolation and integrate them in the society.

Moreover, we are going to supervise and



monitor plans and programs pertaining to women, children which are carried out in nurseries and centers of productive families aiming at developing families socially, culturally and economically so that women can play a role in the development process. We are also interested in activating the NGOs and unions and pushing them to meet their goals that they are set up for, the chief among which being solidarity among the people.

Finally, I would like to express my deep appreciation of the governor of Taiz, Al-Hegri for all his commendable efforts to make easy all the difficulties faced by the office.

Yemen Times Weekly Competition

مسابقة يمن تايمز الاسبوعية

The Competition is discontinued for the period of Yemen Times Grand Competition

(3rd Millennium Competition)

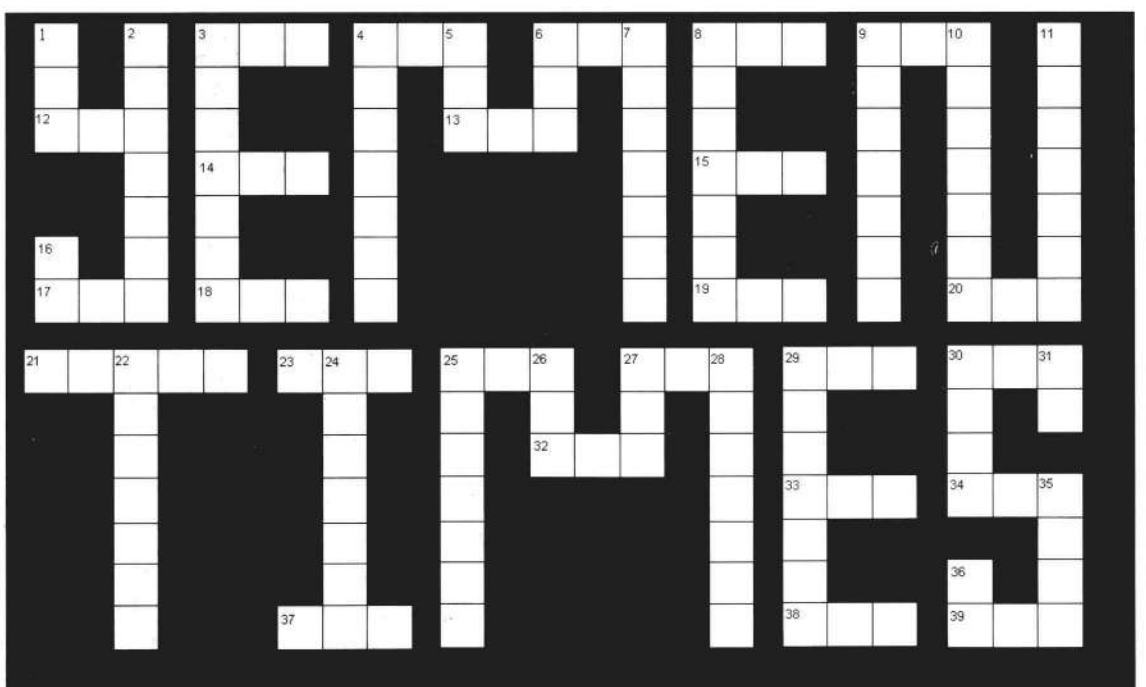
Why not participate in the Grand Competition for the YR 1,000,000 prize?

Details on pages 8 and 9.

****Names of the winners of the 52nd Issue will be published next week.**

Search Puzzle

Improve your English by solving the YT Weekly puzzle!



ACROSS

- 3 We uses to walk.
- 4 A is the young of goat.
- 6 A is a tool used by carpenter.
- 8 A n..... is between wrist and shoulder.
- 9 The pork comes from
- 12 It is the sound of cat
- 13 There are 365s in a year.
- 14 Another name of mouse.
- 15 It is liquid used for writing and painting.
- 17 It is used to open the lock.
- 18 It is a currency in Japan.
- 19 Boy bought bicycle at the shop.
- 20 We use to h.....
- 21 It is the third month.
- 23 The past of eat.
- 25 It is a number.

- 27 gives us eggs.
- 29 is an insect that eats nectar.
- 30 A is a faithful domestic animal.
- 32 raining. So I am
- 33 First, it is green, then black, finally it becomes red.
- 34 is a kind of snakes.
- 37 Plural of man.
- 38 The blood is
- 39 Young lion, bear, fox.

DOWN

- 1 Ali came to Sana'a, I
- 2 You buy earrings at shop.
- 3 A is a building for a collection of books kept there.
- 4 A country which is controlled by king.
- 5 Another name of father.
- 6 Be polite and please.
- 7 A man who his wife died.
- 8 It is round yellow orange with soft flesh.
- 9 A word is used in place of noun.
- 10 An animal has a long neck.
- 11 A man who looks after museum.
- 16 Abbreviation of okay.
- 22 A person who has been forced to flee from danger.
- 24 The small of frog.
- 25 Who learns students.
- 26 Opposite of old.
- 27 It covers the head of sunshine.
- 28 A system of, our body.
- 29 Your mother's husband's son.
- 30 A person who cannot talk.
- 31 I to school by car.
- 35 Yemen is country
- 36e is frozen water

تهانينا

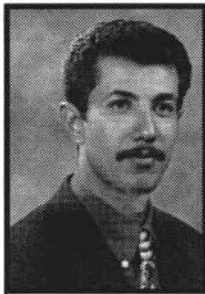
ازكى آيات التهاني والتبريكات مكللة بأريج الياسمين وعبق الجلنار نرفها إلى الزميل

الأستاذ/ نائف عبدالله السقاف

وذلك بمناسبة زفافه الميمون الذي سر أهله ومحبيه

المهزون:

طاقم يمن تايمز وجميع الأهل والأصدقاء



مبارك

أسمى آيات التهاني والتبريكات نرفها للأخ العزيز
محمود سعيد مهيوب الجعيد
وذلك بمناسبة عقد قرانه وقرب الزفاف
فمليون مبروك
المهزون:
عماد احمد السقاف، توفيق الشرعبي، فؤاد
حاتم القاضي.

يا هلا ايمان

نرف أسمى آيات التهاني للأخ جمال العواضي بمناسبة
ارتزاقه المولودة الجديدة ايمان، جعلها الله قررة عين والديها
المهزون
طاقم صحيفة يمن تايمز عنهم
ريدان السقاف

الف مبروك

نرف اسمى آيات التهاني والتبريكات مع باقات من الورد والياسمين للشباب الخلق
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Last Week's Solution

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

هذه الطفلة/

أميمة احمد سعيد

تعاني من مرض السل (TB)

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Aden Airport Repair in Full Swing

Radhwan Al-Saqqaf
Yemen Times
Aden

Preparations and works are in bounds and leaps to finish the project of Aden airport by the Group of Bin Laden Companies. To know more about the works executed by this group, we interviewed the engineer Mohammed Subhi Alikah, manager of the project who said "we have started right now with the department of Power House, and so far we have received all the equipment and machines needed to pursue works in the project. We have also finished the ter-

minal tarmac of the airport so as to keep Aden airport working. We are going to rehabilitate and repair Aden airport and also extend the tarmac so as to be 3100m long and 60m wide. By this, Aden airport will be able to receive big airplanes and use the latest technology applied in most of the airports of the world."

Q: What is the overall cost of the project?

A: This project costs more than \$ 24 million of which \$ 20 million is being offered by the World Bank and the rest by the Yemeni government.

Q: What are the stages of the project?

A: The current tarmac of the airport is asphalt and concrete and what we are doing right now is to remove the old

asphalt of 10cm thickness and use a new technology on the asphalt of the runway, by which Aden airport will be the third airport all over the world to use this new technology, after Kuala Lumpur and Cairo airports. This technology is composed of some chemical materials to which bitumen material is added.

This material changes the properties of the asphalt completely. The asphalt is going to have a strong resistance to any kind of oil which normally helps to melt the ordinary asphalt. This asphalt is going also to bear the heavy weights of heavy airplanes. Besides, it will also prevent any cracks.



Q: How many employees are working in this project?

A: Most of the employees working here are Yemenis who used to work with us in Saudi Arabia Kingdom. They have worked with us for a long time and are really qualified enough. We have around 226

Yemenis two of whom are engineers, supervisors and 42 foreign experts.

Q: What are the obstacles and difficulties you come to face?

A: As a matter of fact, the government is doing its best and is rendering all the facilities and services needed to help accelerate works in the project. I confidently say that works are executed in good and satisfying manner without any difficulties.

Q: When are you going to finish the works in this project?

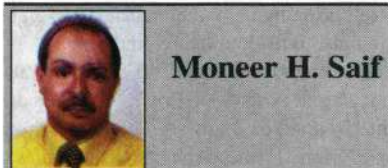
A: We are going to finish working in this project in due time if it is not before that, that is in 2001. We are going to repair the build-

ing of the international departure. We also are going to repair the technical department and build a control tower at a height of 40m.

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The Great Leap of The Great People: Hayel Saeed Group's Nonstop Success



Moneer H. Saif

We are aware of the distinctive feature of globalization: "there will be survival of the fittest". It reflects the worldwide integration of economies and markets through trade, financial flows, and cross-cultural currents. Trade as well as industrialization is the engine of globalization. So HSA group realize this fact and worked on to achieve a successful leap for themselves and the whole nation. Not only this, they establish markets outside to ensure awareness of con-

forming ability to join the global market successfully as the whole world are pushed by force into globalization.

It becomes a fact that the Group is the largest private employer in Yemen, and when talking about them that indicates a lot of success in the world of business today. Great achievements fulfilled by this group emphasized the good quality of its products-as a manufacturer. A lot of business projects have successfully established despite great challenges and obstacles it faces. The group has been involved in distributing a wide range of its products of various kinds. Moreover, they broadened their successful business projects to reach as many countries throughout the world as possible.

However, the local market has a strong manufacturing base and its products succeeded in laying a trustful bridge to reach all customers. No one denies the important role has played by this group in the field of manufacturing and trade in Yemen. Industrialization has been highly developed by them when compared with some countries of the area. To ensure the best quality of manufacturing, most productive companies, which they had been recently, given the (ISO). I believe that Globalization will give opportunity to the giants but the weak business institutions will not find a fit place for them. I believe in the capability of HSA group to take up a great leap to invade the global market. Still, the whole employees belong to this

group must be conversant with the globalization fact and be alert to that: "globalization is the baffling speed of communication on information highways and the revolutionary computer hardware and software technology, which have turned the gentle winds of the 'global Village' into a hurricane". The whole employees have to believe in developing the national products and services. Then they have to work hard taking into consideration the success of the nation lies in the success of its national capital. In addition, it is a must to build a trust, among us, of the national production seeking for decisive solutions to lift all restrictions imposed upon it. After, we should tend carefully towards Globalization and firstly,

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